KHALED ALKHATEB
INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL AWARDS
Khaled Alkhateb International Memorial Awards recognize the brave media professionals working in conflict zones. The Awards welcome contributions from freelance journalists, those working for alternative media or who are part of global news platforms alike.
Khaled Alkhateb was reporting for RT Arabic when he was killed in a shelling outside of Homs, Syria on July 30, 2017. He was 25 years old. Since the beginning of the Syrian Civil War in 2011, more than 100 journalists, including Khaled, have died in the conflict. RT’s Editor-in-Chief Margarita Simonyan established the awards in honor of Khaled’s sacrifice — and as a tribute to all the courageous war correspondents who shed light on the horrors that war brings to a land.
AWARD CATEGORIES:

1. BEST VIDEO JOURNALISM FROM A CONFLICT ZONE
   Any news report, news feature, or continuing news coverage up to 5 pieces on one theme/conflict.
   Submissions are expected to put the spotlight on the complexities and ramifications of continuous war and armed conflict.

2. BEST WRITTEN JOURNALISM FROM A CONFLICT ZONE
   Any news report, news feature, or continuing news coverage (maximum 5 articles on one theme/conflict) totaling 10,000 words or less published in print or online media, including independent journalism platforms.
   Submissions are expected to put the spotlight on the complexities and ramifications of continuous war and armed conflict.

3. BEST HUMANITARIAN JOURNALISM: AFTER WAR
   A documentary or a special report focusing on the post-war recovery of communities, whether immediately following the conflict or dealing with multi-year trauma, and tell the stories of people who were affected.
   Submissions are accepted in video or written format.
Judging is conducted by an international jury of news media professionals and experts on the subject of war and armed conflicts.
THE FIRST YEAR OF THE COMPETITION SAW SUBMISSIONS FROM MORE THAN 20 COUNTRIES IN 10 LANGUAGES. THE WINNING WORKS SHED LIGHT ON CONFLICTS IN SYRIA, IRAQ, AND THE PHILIPPINES.

2018 WINNERS

THE JURY OF THIS YEAR:
EVGENNY PODDUBNY  EVA GOLINGER  PHILIP ITTNER  PAYLA SLIER
IRADA ZEYNALOVA  TOM WRAGG  VIJAY PRASHAD
Special Dispatch from Inside Syria

After seven years of bloodshed, the ongoing civil war in Syria is this century’s deadliest. The defeat of the Islamic State didn’t end it but, along with the lifting of the siege in Aleppo, it marked a significant turning point. In this piece, Jason travels to Aleppo to talk to people, mainly women, who have somehow maintained a semblance of normal life for their besieged families during almost non-stop bombing. Elsewhere, he examines the reality of communities trying to rebuild amid the horrific divisions inflicted under IS.

Get Real: Escape from Marawi

On May 23, 2017, ISIS affiliated terrorists wrestled control of Marawi, the biggest Islamic city in the Southern Philippines. “Get Real: Escape from Marawi” gives a comprehensive account of why the city fell and the fallout that ensued. Through mobile phone videos, taken by the Philippine Military, the Suicide Squad (team of civilian volunteers), and the residents themselves, this program highlights the threat of terrorism that has become too real to ignore, as well as the scars that will stay for generations to come.

ISIS Children

This piece examines the fate of the children and families of ISIS militants following the expulsion of the terrorist organization by Iraqi forces. The family members who have remained in the country are detained in camps where they are denied access to the outside world, and children are denied access to education, health and nutrition.
JASON O'BRIEN, Winner
BEST WRITTEN JOURNALISM

ASAAD AL-ZALZALEE, Winner
BEST VIDEO JOURNALISM: SHORT FORM

ANNA KARENINA TOLENTINO, Winner
BEST VIDEO JOURNALISM: LONG FORM

2018 WINNERS AT THE RT STUDIOS
As journalists we make a lot of sacrifices: for me - it is time with my family, for Khalid - it cost him his life. I sincerely hope that this awards will be an inspiration for more people in the years to come.

Anna Karenina Tolentino

The ability of journalists to do their work in conflict zones has been eroded to a worrying degree. No one should go to work and not come home. It is the only hope we have if we are to stop this thing that happening over and over again.

Jason O’Brien

Reporters keep putting their lives on the line every day in Syria, Yemen and Iraq, just like Khaled, and they do so for the sake of life there against the will of those who wish to crush it. Without awards like this, reporting as a profession might die, because just like any other craft it needs support and encouragement.

Asaad Al-Zalzalee
The second year of the competition saw submissions from 25 countries in 8 languages. The winning works focused on conflicts in Syria, Libya and Iraq. Two winners have been chosen in category Best Video: Long Form.

The winners of 2019:

The Jury of this year:

Evgenny Poddubny
Irada Zeynalova
Eva Golinger
Tom Wragg
Maria Finoshina
Salam Mosafir
Palmyra Ravaged By Daesh, A Bid to Rise Like The Phoenix
The Temple of Baalshamin, the Victory Arch and The Temple of Bel were all destroyed with reportedly 10,000 tons of explosives. Palmyra is now a ghost town. Meet Ahmed Shalil, who hopes the 150,000 tourists that used to come to Palmyra every year will return soon.

Raqqa. Life after war
After a massive bombardment of Raqqa, considered to be the capital of the Islamic State, the once-thriving city evokes Stalingrad in 1943. According to the different estimates, bombardments of the US-led coalition resulted in the death of 2000 civilians and destruction of 80% buildings of the city. How to survive in a ghost city?

After ISIS
In a series of stories from the conflicts in Syria and Iraq, writer Kenneth R. Rosen journeys across the divide of both countries to learn what will come after the fall of the Islamic State’s caliphate.

The battle of Tripoli
The battle of Tripoli is raging among the government forces and the troops of General Haftar. Despite the fierce fighting the situation is stalling. The Libyan civil war is increasingly similar to the Syrian scenario, but on Europe doorstep. The shadow of foreign military interference stands out against the conflict. And the flow of migrants to Europe, by sea, is ready to restart.
2019 WINNERS AT THE RT MEDIA TALK

FAUSTO BILOSLAVO, Winner
BEST VIDEO JOURNALISM FROM A CONFlict ZONE: SHORT FORM

AMITABH P REVI, Winner
BEST VIDEO JOURNALISM FROM A CONFLICT ZONE: LONG FORM

ANTON STEPANENKO, Winner
BEST VIDEO JOURNALISM FROM A CONFLICT ZONE: LONG FORM
To mark the Khaled Alkhateb International Memorial Awards, RT was hosting a special event honouring the war correspondents in conflict zones. Bringing together leading journalism and media professionals, as well as this year’s Awards winners, we pay tribute to Khaled’s life and work, recognizing excellence in reporting on conflict the world over. Four different sessions explore topics such as the changing nature of war reporting, bias and objectivity in media coverage of conflicts, the potential use of artificial intelligence as a tool against fake news, and other media issues related to covering conflicts.
2020 WINNERS

The third year of the competition saw submissions from 16 countries in 7 languages. The winning works focused on conflicts in Iran and Syria.

The jury of this year:

Evgeny Poddubny
Murad Gazdiev
Eva Golinger
Tom Wragg
Gian Micalessin
Ahmed Gomaa
Konstantinos Antonopoulos
Why Iran Is Deporting Scores of Afghan Refugees

Last December, my colleague and I travelled to the border between Iran and Afghanistan— a designated neutral zone called Zero Point—used by Iran to deport thousands of refugees daily, many of whom have suffered abuse and violence. As one of the largest mass deportation it has already reached a critical stage. This story was published just ahead of Coronavirus crisis and was a point of discussion during debate in Afghanistan over closing the border with Iran, one of the worst hit countries.

MOHAMED ALI, Syria
BEST VIDEO JOURNALISM FROM A CONFLICT ZONE: SHORT FORM

Idlib frontline calm as ceasefire goes into effect

Calm prevails in Syria’s Idlib province as a ceasefire deal between Russia and Turkey is largely holding. The ceasefire came after months of ferocious fighting between the Syrian army and Turkish-backed armed groups. This report takes you to the heart of the strategic town of Saraqeb and shows terrorists strongholds.

ALEXANDER KONEVICH, Russia
BEST VIDEO JOURNALISM FROM A CONFLICT ZONE: LONG FORM

Russian military in Syria

Syrian armed forces have set into operation an air base in the north-east of Syria, which had been previously illegally occupied by the US troops.
THE 2020 WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT

Maya Manna, The head of RT Arabic

RUCHI KUMAR, winner
BEST WRITTEN JOURNALISM FROM A CONFLICT ZONE

ALEXANDER KONEVICH, winner
BEST VIDEO JOURNALISM FROM A CONFLICT ZONE: LONG FORM

MOHAMED ALI, winner
BEST VIDEO JOURNALISM FROM A CONFLICT ZONE: SHORT FORM
In 2020 restrictions caused by the global pandemic canceled our plans for commemoration, but it couldn’t stop the tradition of honoring brave journalists who continue to risk their lives on the front line to tell us the truth.
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HONORING TODAY'S FEARLESS WAR JOURNALISTS ALL OVER THE WORLD