



WORLD REPORT AWARD
Documenting Humanity

About World Report Award 2025 Edition

The **World Report Award|Documenting Humanity** aims at a new form of social commitment through photography.

The award is open to both professional and amateur photographers from all over the world.

The award will give attention to works focusing on people and their social or cultural stories; public or private, minor or crucial; major human tragedies or smaller daily life stories; intimate and personal relationships connecting human beings. Environmentally focused wildlife conservation projects and solution-oriented photojournalism projects are also welcome.

Every year the contest creates a fresco that celebrates the best **photojournalism** and **documentary photography** reportages.

The **World Report Award|Documenting Humanity** isn't simply a contest that through its prizes economically supports those who are actively engaged in this difficult sector of photography, but it also represents a way for all participants to enter into a supportive community we have built over the past 15 years and composed of professionals who are already collaborating with our organization.

The award is managed by the **Festival of Ethical Photography**. The event was born in 2010 with the intention of focusing on ethical content of great relevance, bringing the general public closer to social issues. We believe photography is, and has been, a vital tool in communicating the reality of social injustice around the world and we want to emphasize the relationship between ethics, communication and photography through an innovative and diverse festival.

Over 20 exhibits by international and award-winning photographers, meetings, workshops, portfolio reviews, screenings, book presentations, photography labs, educational projects for students and numerous other events.

Other than the annual event taking place every fall, the organization of the Festival works daily to make sure that the photographers' work is seen and their voices heard.

AWARDS & BENEFITS

- **15,000** euros in cash prize
- **Printing** of the **winners' exhibits** and the **special mentions exhibits**
- **Winners exhibits** during the Festival of Ethical Photography in the **World Report Award area** of the Festival
- Opportunity to travel to Italy in the month of October to present the projects
- Opportunity **for the winners to travel to Italy** in October to present their projects
- Opportunity **for all the shortlisted projects** (10 per category) to be included in the **screening program** within one of the Festival's venues
- Exposure in Italy and abroad through the **Traveling Festival** exhibit project for 3 years
- International press exposure
- Visibility with industry professionals
- Publication in the annual Festival catalogue for the 2025 edition
- The Festival commits to giving visibility for a year to all the future projects and publications of the winning photographers within our communication channels
- All shortlisted photographers will be featured in the permanent online gallery on our site

How to enter

Donation Details

1. REPORTAGE CATEGORY (Master Award/ Spotlight Award)

General rule:

N.1 project entered: 30 euro

From the 2° projects onward the fee is increased by 15€ for project

Examples:

- N.1 Project 30€;
- N.2 projects 45€ (for example 1 project in the Master section and 1 project in the Spotlight section). One photographer can enter the same project or different projects;
- N.3 projects 60€ (for example 2 projects in the Master section, 1 project in the Spotlight section OR 3 projects in the Master section).

NOTE: There is no limit to the number of projects that a photographer can enter.

2. SHORT STORY AWARD CATEGORY

General rule:

N.1 project 20€;

From the 2° projects onward the fee is increased by 10€.

NOTE: There is no limit to the number of projects that a photographer can enter.

3. STUDENT AWARD

General rule:

N.1 project 10€;

From the 2° projects onward the fee is increased by 5€.

NOTE: There is no limit to the number of projects that a photographer can enter.

4. SINGLE SHOT AWARD

General rule:

N.1 project (1 picture) 5 euros

Examples:

- N.1 Project 5€;
- N.4 projects 20€

5. NONPROFIT OPEN CALL

General rule:

Free to enter.

NOTE: There is no limit to the number of projects (pictures) that a photographer can enter.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON THE SUBMISSION PROCESS:

*To upload multiple projects, you will need to click on "Add Project" at the bottom of the screen **before** proceeding with the payment. Once you complete the payment you can submit another project only by logging back again to the platform and creating a new profile*

If you decide to upload additional projects at a later stage, you can do so by logging back into the platform within the contest deadline.

PLEASE NOTE

A project can be entered in multiple categories, but can only be awarded in one category of the contest.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

If the juries, at their own discretion, believe that some works, other than the ones selected for each category, are of honorable mention, they could be included by the organization of the Festival in the official program of the Festival 2025.

Judging criteria

The jury's assessment is based on the photographer's ability to tell impactful stories through a series of compelling images with **strong sequencing** and **cohesive narration**.

Reportages can either be in **color** or **black & white**, and should form a focused and meaningful story.

PLEASE NOTE, the award doesn't have a specific theme but the submissions will have to focus on people and their social or cultural stories; public or private, minor or crucial; major human tragedies or smaller daily life stories; intimate and personal relationships connecting human beings. Environmentally focused wildlife conservation projects and solution-oriented photojournalism projects are also welcome.

The contest awards the best **documentary photography** and **photojournalism** projects.

Categories

The World.Report Award 2025 is divided in 5 categories:

1-REPORTAGE

2-SHORT STORY AWARD

3-STUDENT AWARD

4-SINGLE SHOT AWARD

5-NONPROFIT OPEN CALL

1 - REPORTAGE (2 sections)

Master Award

This category is open to **all photographers**, with no restrictions of any kind. Reportages must consist of 20 images minimum and 30 images maximum.

There are no geographical or temporal limits regarding the place or time in which the reportage was taken.

1° classified

- The prize will be **7,000 Euros**, before taxes

- Printing of the exhibit
- Opportunity to be included in the screening program within one of the Festival's venues

Spotlight Award

This category is open to **all photographers** who have never received one of the following awards before December 31st, 2024: ***World Press Photo, W. Eugene Smith Grant in Humanistic Photography, Pulitzer Prize, POYi Picture of the Year and World Report Award.***

Mentions and multimedia category are not considered as awards, so participating in the category will still be possible.

Reportages must consist of 20 images minimum and 30 images maximum.

There are no geographical or temporal limits regarding the place or time in which the reportage was taken.

1° classified

- The prize will be **3,000 Euros**, before taxes
- Printing of the exhibit
- Opportunity to be included in the screening program within one of the Festival's venues

2 - SHORT STORY AWARD

This category is open to **all photographers**, with no restrictions of any kind. Reportages must consist of 5 images minimum and 10 images maximum.

There are no geographical or temporal limits regarding the place or time in which the reportage was taken.

1° classified

- The prize will be **2,000 Euros**, before taxes

- Printing of the exhibit
- Opportunity to be included in the screening program within one of the Festival's venues

3 - STUDENT AWARD

This category is open to **students currently enrolled** in a school of photography or **who graduated** from a school of photography after 31st December 2023. Reportages must consist of 20 images minimum and 30 images maximum.

There are no geographical or temporal limits regarding the place or time in which the reportage was taken.

1° classified

- The prize will be **1,500 Euros**, before taxes
- Printing of the exhibit
- Opportunity to be included in the screening program within one of the Festival's venues

4 - SINGLE SHOT

This category is open to **all photographers** with no restrictions of any kind.

Every photographer can submit as many pictures as one likes. Only one picture per photographer can be selected in the top finalists and eventually be elected as the winner of the category.

There are no geographical or temporal limits regarding the place or time in which the reportage was taken.

The category, like all the others, does not have a specific theme. Participants can submit any type of image (for example, from news photography to nature photography)

There are no restrictions in entering a single photograph to the Single Shot category even if it is also part of a project entered in other categories of this award.

1° classified

- A single shot will be awarded. The prize for first classified will be **1,500 Euros**, before taxes

30 finalists

- The top **30 finalists** of the Single Shot category section will have their photos exhibited during the 2025 edition of the Festival
- The top **30 finalists** of the Single Shot category section could be included in the screening program within one of the Festival's venues

Please note:

The jury has the faculty to pick a single picture that is part of a project submitted to other categories of this award and include it in the Single Shot category selection made of 30 pictures in total. The picture picked doesn't have to be chosen from any of the projects shortlisted in the categories of this award.

5-NONPROFIT OPEN CALL

This category is open to **NGOs, volunteer organizations, foundations, cultural associations, public institutions, public schools** (all levels) and **universities**.

- Reportages must consist of **15 images minimum and 25 images maximum**;
- Every organization can present an **unlimited number of photographic works**;

The photographic work/works selected will be exhibited at the Festival of Ethical Photography in Lodi, Italy and it/they will be included in the official program of the event.

Reportages can either be in **color** or **black&white**, and will have to form a ***focused and meaningful story***, related to **the work of the non-profit entity** and **the context** in which it operates.

The assessment of the jury will award the ability of the photographer to build a narrative and emotional story with a compelling series of images.

The reportage has to represent the ***subjects with dignity and with respect of fundamental human rights*** in the context in which they live. The purpose of the photographic reportage is to spread knowledge on the themes of ***international cooperation, sustainability and global development*** in the civil society.

The reportage will only be considered if submitted by the nonprofit entity itself as the commissioner and NOT by a photographer.

Submissions sent by photographers will not be taken into consideration.

There are no geographical or temporal limits regarding the place or time in which the reportage was taken.

The jury can select up to 4 organizations

- The reportages they submit and selected as winners will be printed and exhibited in the nonprofit area of the 2025 annual edition of the Festival (the printing cost will be covered by the Festival)
- The selected organizations will have the opportunity to organize promotional and advocacy activities during the Festival (***in accordance with the Festival on the format and structure of such activities***)
- Opportunity to be included in the screening program within one of the Festival's venues

For all categories

- The categories of this contest **have no specific theme;**

The award will give attention to works focusing on people and their social or cultural stories; public or private, minor or crucial; major human tragedies or smaller daily life stories; intimate and personal relationships connecting human

beings. Environmentally focused wildlife conservation projects and solution-oriented photojournalism projects are also welcome.

- The contest awards the best **documentary photography** and **photojournalism** projects that tell impactful stories with **strong sequencing and cohesive narration**;
- The jury has the faculty to **pick a single picture that is part of a project** submitted to other categories of this award and **include it in the Single Shot category selection** made of 30 pictures in total. **The picture picked doesn't have to be chosen** from any of the projects shortlisted in the categories of this award;
- The jury has the faculty to select projects that are shortlisted in some sections to include them in **screenings** within one of the Festival's venues;
- **There are no restrictions** in entering a single photograph to the Single Shot category even if **it is also part of a project entered in other categories** of this award;
- **There is no limit** to the **number of projects** that **a photographer can enter** to the categories of this World Report Award;
- **There is no limit** to the **number of projects** that a **non profit organization can enter** to the Open Call for the nonprofit world;
- The photographic work presented in the categories of this award **doesn't necessarily have to be unpublished** and **there is no time limit and no geographical boundaries**.

Example: a photographer could enter the same project to all the other categories (Reportage, Short Story Award, Student Award, Single Shot Award). To learn more, please see the guidelines.

TRAVEL TO ITALY

The organization may cover travel and accommodation expenses (according to budget availability) for some of the winners inviting them to travel to Lodi, Italy in the month of October to present their projects.

TERMS and CONDITIONS

Verification process

The Festival of Ethical Photography staff will contact via email/phone the photographers who will be asked to provide the official jury with the RAW files, negative files, or scanned negatives. If you don't have the RAW files, negative files or scanned negatives the jury will accept the JPG original files as recorded by the camera that must be sent by **May 10th, 2025**.

If the requested file will not be sent by the due date the jury is entitled to eliminate the reportage from the shortlist.

Post production

Post-production is allowed as long as nothing is added or removed to and from the original RAW file. Image cropping is allowed.

Property of the images

The participant declares himself/herself to be the author of the images presented, to own the rights of it and to be authorized to use all images by the people present in it. The participant takes full responsibility for using the pictures sent to the award.

Rights to use the images of the SHORTLISTED photographers

Copyright and ownership of photographs remain with the photographers at all times.

All entrants agree to grant the Festival of Ethical Photography permission to use the images submitted for promotional and communication purposes with no time limits (online and offline material, social networks, newsletter, screenings, etc). The Festival will always note the credits of the photographer. All rights will remain with the photographer.

Rights to use the images of the WINNERS

The photographer grants the use of the images of the awarded reportage for the creation of an exhibition that will be shown during the Festival of Ethical Photography 2025 (*the organization of the Festival reserves the right to exhibit a lower number of images compared to the original submission for the contest due to space issues in some of the locations designated for the exhibition of the award*).

At the discretion of the organization, the exhibitions of the winners (or a reproduction of the same exhibits, also in other formats and size) can be held in other locations in Italy and abroad until the 31st of December 2029. After these dates, the photographer can ask the organization of the Festival to return the prints by post and the costs will be covered by the recipient.

The organizers reserve the right to use the images of the awarded reportage for the promotion of the Festival and communication purposes with no time limits (online and offline material, catalogue of the Festival, social networks, newsletter, screenings, etc). The Festival will always note the credits of the photographer. All rights will remain with the photographer.

Captions and texts

The captions and the story text must be complete and accurate, providing information about the subject photographed and the circumstances in which the photographs were taken. Omitting, disguising or misrepresenting the content is cause for disqualification.

In any case the author relieves the Festival from all responsibilities related to the content of the work submitted.

If at any time after an award is announced a submission is found to have broken one or more rules, it can be disqualified.

Participation in the contest implies that all the World Report Award application requirements and submission guidelines have been fully read, understood and accepted.

Prizes

The Gruppo Fotografico Progetto Immagine, the association in charge of organizing the Festival, is a nonprofit entity and will grant the winners the prizes for every category according to budget availability and in any case not later than March 15th, 2026.

The organization declines any responsibility for damages to persons and things directly and indirectly caused by the activity of the award. The regulations of the World Report Award might change for reasons beyond the control of the organization.

It is possible to withdraw from the competition at any moment simply by sending an email to info@festivaldellafotografiaetica.it; the withdrawal from the competition does not imply the reimbursement of the participation fee.

FAQs

If you need further details, explore the [FAQs](#) to learn more about the prize.

CONTACT

If you haven't found the answer to your question, do not hesitate to contact us info@festivaldellafotografiaetica.it