Winners of the 2019

Ahmad Gharabi / Palestine / Photo of the Year 2019
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permission from Istanbul Photo Awards.

All the photographs submitted were taken in 2018.

Cover Photography: Ahmad Gharabli / Photo of the Year 2019
The five-year journey of Istanbul Photo Awards was not an easy task. Every obstacle we faced encouraged us to support photojournalism more since we knew deep down that it will not be easy to raise voice for the vulnerable people around the world, and against inequalities, political turbulences or environmental disasters.

The world of news evolves every year; the job of photographers becomes even more challenging due to wars and conflicts around the world, in addition to natural calamities.

This year our jury awarded Ahmad Gharabli’s photograph called “Israel – US - Palestinian Conflict” as the Photo of the Year 2019. The photograph not only covers a story from the last century but also highlights how technology affects the way in which ordinary citizens defend their rights.

Moreover, this photo makes a statement, “everyone can photograph everything”. Without our jury of photography maestros and leading editors, the contest would not have reached this prominence.

I would like to thank all of them for their valuable contributions to the contest. I would also like to thank all the winners and applicants for their efforts and photographs that helped us know the world better through their lenses.

Şenol Kazancı
Chairman of the Board
Director-General

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The Istanbul Photo Awards is an international news photography contest organized by Anadolu Agency. This year is the fifth anniversary of the contest, which aims to support professional photojournalism. The awards acknowledge the endeavors of courageous and talented photojournalists from around the world.

The Istanbul Photo Awards 2019 received nearly 15,000 photographs from over 100 countries. This year the contest focused on news and sports photos in four categories: Single News, Story News, Single Sports and Story Sports.

Conflicts, refugee crises, protests and natural disasters have dominated headlines in 2018. This photobook highlights key moments and stories in 2018 with striking news photographs and noteworthy sports images.

The Istanbul Photo Awards 2019 jury members contributed a significant role in what was an impressive competition, and we would like to thank them all for their invaluable role.

Through their work, photojournalists have documented the year’s most important events. Here, you will read the stories behind the award-winning photos and witness their power.
Photo of the Year
2019
The decision of U.S. President Donald Trump to announce the holy city of Jerusalem as a capital for Israel in December 2017 has angered hundreds of thousands of Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Palestinians there took to the streets in droves to protest the Trump administration’s move before these protests ballooned to confrontations with the Israeli army in different parts of the occupied West Bank.

Jerusalem, along with the refugees’ issue, constitute the core of the conflict between Palestinians and Israelis which erupted in 1948 following the Palestinian Nakba “Catastrophe.”

Palestinians hope for East Jerusalem being their capital in any future state.

Trump’s unilateral decision drew wide condemnation among Arabs and Muslims with many protests held against the move in Tunis, Rabat, Istanbul, Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur.

The Trump administration officially relocated its embassy from Tel Aviv to the holy city in May 2018.

U.S. President Donald Trump recognized the disputed city of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital, a decision that overturns decades of U.S. policy and risks triggering a fresh spasm of violence in the Middle East.

Trump also kicked off the process of moving the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, making good on a campaign promise dear to evangelical Christian and right-wing Jewish voters -- as well as donors.

A Palestinian woman takes a picture of a member of the Israeli security forces as he takes her picture in a street in Jerusalem.
Photo of the Year
Single News / 1st Prize Winner
Ahmad Gharabli / AFP - Palestine
Israel - US - Palestinian Conflict
The Photo of the Year is a special award granted by the jury to the first-prize winner of the Single News category. Covering an unforgettable event from the previous year, the winning image should have the power to mobilize people and be technically excellent. The Photo of the Year 2019 was awarded to Ahmad Gharabli’s image “Israel – U.S. – Palestinian Conflict”. The photo portrays a Palestinian woman and a member of the Israeli security forces taking photos of each other with their cell phones.

Ahmad Gharabli is a Palestinian news photographer working for AFP since 2006. He was born on Nov. 14, 1979 in Jerusalem. He studied photography at the Dada High School of Jerusalem. Gharabli started working as a stringer with AFP at the Jerusalem Office and has been a staff member since 2016.

He has covered all major events in Jerusalem and in the West Bank in the last 13 years. He has also been on assignment to Yemen to cover the war between Al-Qaida and the regime in 2010 and the Spring revolution in 2011. He has also covered the Syrian civil war in Aleppo in 2013, the war against Daesh in Mosul in 2017 and the annual pilgrimage to Mecca in 2016. Gharabli has been awarded many times for his breaking news images.

- 2011: Honorable mention in International News Picture Story at the NPPA.
- 2017: 1st prize of the Arab Journalism Award in Dubai.
- 2019: 1st prize in the News Story and Photo of the Year at the Istanbul Photo Awards.

Photo of the Year 2019 Winner
Ahmad Gharabli /AFP
Three days of visual awe began from the moment we landed at Istanbul’s brand-new airport, our mouths agape. “Wow!” we said, as the jury of the 5th Annual Istanbul Photo Awards took in the architectural majesty of the new space. “Wow!” soon became our near constant refrain, as we sat in the dark, quietly nibbling on Turkish delicacies generously provided by our hosts to choose the best of the best from this year’s crop of photos. Our verbal lingua franca switched seamlessly back and forth between English and French with a smattering of Turkish, but our visual lingua franca was universal: a global language of storytelling that rises above our cultural differences and is unified by our search for that picture or pictures worth a thousand words: in other words, that nearly impossible-to-describe “wow” factor.

We found our first “wow” in the form of the winning photo taken by photographer Ahmad Gharabli: an Israeli policeman and a Palestinian woman in a tense stand-off, only instead of rocks or bullets between them, they wield a much more powerful weapon: their cameras. Behind them the word was practically screams out in lower case. Though taken in a specific place and time, it also could have been taken anywhere at any time, as the job of bearing witness to suffering and injustice—which used to fall solely on the shoulders of photojournalists—now falls on all of us as citizen journalists.

Second prize went to Daniel Ochoa De Olza, whose photo of Central American migrants reminded us of a movie scene. Third place went to Elyxandro Cegarra, whose image of the yellow vest movement in Paris struck us as the real story of that struggle: an injured woman on her knees, begging for help.

Guillermo Arias, Chris McGrath, and Ulet Ifansasti won first, second and third prizes in the news story category, covering everything from Central American migrants to Jamal Khashoggi’s murder to the Indonesian earthquake and tsunami.

In the sports category, Matzke Stefan captured our imagination the minute his image of a big wave surfer appeared on the screen. American Terrell Groggins, a close second, presented a black and white image of an Olympic female boxer, her face rippling from a punch. Belgian Lenoir Francois nabbed third place with his image of a Grand Prix crash. Perhaps our most intense awe, however, erupted when we saw the work of Forough Alaei, who used her prodigious talents to uncover the lengths a female sports fan in Iran must go -- literally dressing as a man, like Shakespeare’s Rosalind in As You Like It -- in order to do what most of us consider the most mundane of activities: attending a sporting event. Third and fourth place went to Ezra Shaw and Alain Schroeder, whose images of a legless coach and kids doing Taekwondo in North Korea respectively made us gasp anew.

On our third and final day in Istanbul, we had the opportunity to go on a sightseeing cruise on the Bosphorus. There we were -- two French, a Belgian, a Russian, an American -- traveling down one of the most important trade routes of all time, with Europe to our right, Asia to our left. “Wow!” we said in unison, one last time.

This is what photography does best: it brings us together, no matter who we are or where we come from, to gasp and gaze in mutual awe. Wow, indeed.
Discouraged by the long wait to apply for asylum through official ports of entry, many central American migrants from recent caravans are choosing to cross the U.S. border wall and hand themselves in to border patrol agents.

Daniel Ochoa De Olza
AP – SPAIN
Massive Jump of the USA / Mexico Border Fence
Mexico

Single News / 2nd PRIZE WINNER

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Single News
Single News / 2nd Prize Winner
Daniel Ochoa De Olza / AP - Spain
Massive Jump of the USA / Mexico Border Fence / Mexico
Yellow Vest Protest Against Rising Fuel Taxes in Paris, France

An injured woman sits on the ground as police officers intervene with tear gas during a Yellow Vest protest against rising fuel taxes near Arc de Triomphe de l’Etoile in Paris, France on Dec. 1, 2018.
Single News / 3rd Prize Winner
Elyxandro Cegarra / Freelancer - Spain
Yellow Vest Protest Against Rising Fuel Taxes in Paris / France
Story News Prize

1st PRIZE WINNER
Guillermo Arias
AFP - Mexico

2nd PRIZE WINNER
Chris McGrath
Getty Images - Australia

3rd PRIZE WINNER
Ulet Ifansasti
Freelancer – Indonesia
Story News / 1st PRIZE WINNER

Guillermo Arias
AFP - MEXICO

Thousands of Central American Migrants
Mexico

Thousands of Central American migrants, mostly Hondurans, have trekked for over a month in the hopes of reaching the United States.
A Honduran migrant joining a caravan heading to the U.S. pushes a stroller with two children on his way from San Pedro Tapanatepec to Santiago Niltepec, Oaxaca state, Mexico on Oct. 29, 2018.

Aerial view of Honduran migrants heading in a caravan to the U.S., as they leave Arriaga on their way to San Pedro Tapanatepec, in southern Mexico on Oct. 27, 2018.

Honduran migrants joining a caravan heading to the U.S. get on a truck near Pijijiapan, southern Mexico on Oct. 26, 2018.

Story News / 1st Prize Winner
Guillermo Arias / AFP - Mexico
Thousands of Central American Migrants / Mexico
Honduran migrants joining a caravan heading to the U.S. leave Arriaga on their way to San Pedro Tapanatepec, southern Mexico on Oct. 27, 2018.

Migrants -- mostly Hondurans -- help a child catch a ride on a truck on the road linking Sayula de Alemán and Ixla, Veracruz state, Mexico, on Nov. 3, 2018.

Aerial night view of Central American migrants -- mostly from Honduras -- moving toward the United States, camping at a makeshift shelter near the U.S.-Mexico border.
People who have been travelling in a caravan of Central American migrants hoping to get to the United States, run along the dry riverbed of the Tijuana River in an attempt to get to El Chaparral port of entry, in Tijuana, Baja California State.

Children cry as a group of Central American migrants surrender to U.S. Border Patrol agents after jumping over the metal barrier separating Playas de Tijuana in Mexico from the U.S.

Central American migrants look through a border fence as a U.S. Border Patrol agent stands guard near the El Chaparral border crossing in Tijuana, Baja California State, Mexico, on Nov. 25, 2018.

A group of Central American migrants -- mostly from Honduras -- run along the dry riverbed of the Tijuana River in an attempt to get to El Chaparral port of entry, in Tijuana, Baja California State.
Jamal Khashoggi, a U.S. resident, Washington Post journalist and a critic of the Saudi regime, went missing on Oct. 2, 2018 after entering the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul. After investigations it was discovered he had been killed inside the consulate by a 15-man hit squad.
A woman speaks to security personnel at the front door of Saudi Arabia’s consulate on Oct. 11, 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey.

An unidentified man tries to hold back the press as Saudi investigators arrive at the Saudi consulate on Oct. 15, 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey.


Story News / 2nd Prize Winner
Chris McGrath / Getty Images - Australia
A Journalist’s Murder / Istanbul

A Turkish police officer stands watch after sealing off an area in front of the Saudi Arabian consulate on Oct. 15, 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey.

Turkish forensic police arrive at the back garage entrance of the Saudi consulate on Oct. 18, 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey.

A Turkish police officer looks around the Saudi Arabian consulate on Oct. 15, 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey.
Turkish police move media from in front of the Saudi consul-general’s residence on Oct. 16, 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey.

Turkish forensic police work in the garage inside the Saudi Arabian consul-general’s residence on Oct. 17, 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey.

A mannequin dressed as murdered journalist Jamal Khashoggi during a commemorative ceremony held on Nov. 11, 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey.

A man walks from the studio during a live broadcast of a news show at Belqees TV of Yemen on Oct. 30, 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey.
A deadly tsunami and soil liquefaction triggered by a magnitude 7.5 earthquake hit Indonesia’s coastline on the island of Sulawesi, displacing more than 200,000 people on Sep. 28, 2018. More than 2,000 people have reportedly been killed and authorities warn another 5,000 people remain missing and feared buried in mud and rubble. Indonesia is located in the Pacific Ring of Fire, a cluster of volcanoes and a meeting point for a number of earth plates, making it prone to natural disasters.
An aerial view of an area affected by liquefaction in Balaroa village following the earthquake on Oct. 6, 2018 in Palu, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia.

People walk along a damaged area which was hit by liquefaction in Petobo village following the earthquake on Oct. 5, 2018 in Palu, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia.

The elderly wait to board a military aircraft to evacuate at the airport in Palu which has re-opened after an earthquake triggered a tsunami in the area on Oct. 1, 2018 in Palu, Indonesia.

Damaged cars lie in the rubble of an area affected by liquefaction in Petobo village following the earthquake on Oct. 10, 2018 in Palu, Indonesia.

Story News / 3rd Prize Winner
Ulet Ifansasti / Freelancer – Indonesia
Deadly Earthquake / Indonesia
Ephy, 59, crying as she prays at a mass grave after she lost her daughter in an earthquake on Oct. 6, 2018 in Palu, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia.

A soldier opens a body bag recovered by Indonesian soldiers and search teams at Balaroa village following the earthquake on Oct. 6, 2018 in Palu, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia.

Bodies seen partially submerged in a pool of water in an area which was hit by liquefaction at Balaroa village following the earthquake on Oct. 6, 2018 in Palu, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia.

Story News / 3rd Prize Winner
Ulet Ifansasti / Freelancer – Indonesia
Deadly Earthquake / Indonesia
A damaged mosque is seen after the earthquake and tsunami on Oct. 3, 2018 in Palu, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia.

Story News / 3rd Prize Winner
Ulet Ifansasti / Freelancer – Indonesia
Deadly Earthquake / Indonesia

A boy stands in front of a stranded ship after a deadly tsunami struck the area on Oct. 2, 2018 in Donggala, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia.

Children read the Quran at a temporary shelter after the tsunami and earthquake on Oct. 9, 2018 in Palu, Indonesia.
Single Sports Prize

1st PRIZE WINNER
Matzke Stefan
Sampics Photographie – Germany

2nd PRIZE WINNER
Terrell Groggins
Freelancer – U.S.A.

3rd PRIZE WINNER
Lenoir Francois
Reuters – Belgium
Matzke Stefan
SAMPICS PHOTOGRAPHIE – GERMANY

Wipeout
Portugal

Big wave surfer Sebastian Steudtner of Germany with a wipeout on the famous Praia do Norte / Nazare in Portugal.
Single Sports / 1st Prize Winner
Matzke Stefan / Sampics Photographie - Germany
Wipeout / Portugal
There are a few women paving the way to bring women’s boxing on an international, highly publicized stage. One is an Olympic champion who has risen to the challenge of potentially changing the sport forever. “I’m not here because I fell down in life, I’m here because I got up.” In the ring Shields survives knockdowns and outside the ring she is facing a multitude of unique obstacles.
Single Sports / 2nd Prize Winner

Terrell Groggins / Freelancer - U.S.A.
The Greatest Woman of All Time / Shields Strikes Back / U.S.A.
McLaren’s Fernando Alonso and Sauber’s Charles Leclerc crash at the first corner during the Belgian Grand Prix in Spa Francorchamps, Belgium.
Single Sports / 3rd Prize Winner

Lencif Francois / Reuters - Belgium
F1 crash at Spa-Francorchamps / Belgium
1st PRIZE WINNER
Forough Alaei
Freelancer - Iran

2nd PRIZE WINNER
Ezra Shaw
Getty Images - U.S.A.

3rd PRIZE WINNER
Alain Schroeder
Freelancer - Belgium

Story Sports Prize
Zeinab is a 22-year-old girl who was born in Ahvaz, Iran. A staunch fan of football, she was among the first women who disguised themselves as men to enter football stadiums. It takes about 15 hours to travel from Ahvaz to Tehran by train for her to watch a match. Since the Islamic Revolution of 1979, women have been banned from attending live football matches. Despite the ban, female football fans have never given up and have tried different methods to enter stadiums. Although they might get arrested, their passion for football as well as their diligence to recover their rights has kept them going.
Zeinab dressed in red as always, her favorite color, in Ahvaz, Iran.

Zeinab goes to a café with her friends and they have fun until late at night.

Playing football is Zeinab’s hobby that she does every weekend.

Story Sports / 1st Prize Winner
Forough Alaei / Freelancer - Iran
Stadium Girl / Iran
Zeinab uses contact lenses to hide her green eyes because she says her identity has always been revealed by her eyes.

Zeinab came to Tehran to watch a match; the last night before the game, she went to the hotel to get a selfie with the soccer players.

Zeinab uses makeup to disguise herself as a man.

Zeinab sits below photos she took with her favorite football player Ali Karimi and pictures of moments she went to stadium disguised as a man.
After she entered the stadium, Zeinab took selfies with male fans. As a female photographer, I’m not permitted to take my camera there. So, I had to pass myself off as a boy and took the photo by iPhone.

In order to enter the stadium, Zeinab has to bandage her breasts to disguise herself as a man.

The only time women were allowed to enter Azadi Stadium in October 2018 at the ACL final match between Persepolis and Kashima Antlers, however only a select few were allowed to join the game.
Rob Mendez was born without arms and legs. He does not let that stop him from being a football coach. Mendez, now 30 years old, lives with his friend and caregiver, Mike McAvoy, in Gilroy not far from where he grew up. For the last 12 years, Mendez has held different coaching jobs at numerous schools. This is his first year as head coach, leading the Prospect High School Junior Varsity team in Saratoga, California. He led the team to an 8-2 season.
Rob Mendez, the head coach for the Prospect High School Junior Varsity football team, shouts instructions to his team during their home game against San Jose High School on Sep. 21, 2018.

Rob Mendez, the head coach for the Prospect High School Junior Varsity football team, talks to his offensive players during practice on Aug. 7, 2018 in Saratoga, California.

Players run out to huddle with Rob Mendez, the head coach for the Prospect High School Junior Varsity football team, before their game against James Lick High School on Sep. 28, 2018.

Story Sports / 2nd Prize Winner
Ezra Shaw / Getty Images - U.S.A.
Inspiring Coach Leads Team to Winning Season / U.S.A.
Assistant coach Nate Nathanson helps coach Rob Mendez eat a hamburger before their game against Mt. Pleasant High School on Oct. 19, 2018.

Rob Mendez, the head coach for the Prospect High School Junior Varsity football team, uses his nose to write down notes during their game at James Lick High School on September 28, 2018.

Rob Mendez, the head coach for the Prospect High School Junior Varsity football team, cruises to a bus stop near his house on the way to the end of year team celebratory banquet on Nov. 15, 2018.

Friend and caregiver Mike McAvoy helps Rob Mendez, the head coach for the Prospect High School Junior Varsity football team, brush his teeth at home on Nov. 18, 2018.

Assistant coach Nate Nathanson helps coach Rob Mendez eat a hamburger before their game against Mt. Pleasant High School on Oct. 19, 2018.
Captain Tyler Giffin of the Prospect High School Junior Varsity team pushes head coach Rob Mendez off the field after their game against San Jose High School on Sep. 21, 2018.

Assistant coach Anthony Martinez of San Jose High School congratulates Coach Rob Mendez after Prospect beat San Jose 25-0 on Sep. 21, 2018.

Rob Mendez, the coach for the Prospect High School Junior Varsity football team, watches his team practice before their first game of the season against Santa Clara High School on Aug. 24, 2018.
Influenced by a combination of historical events in Korea and Japanese traditions, the modern incarnation of Korea’s national martial art Taekwondo ("way of kick and fist") was created in 1955 by General Choi Hong-hi, born in what is now North Korea. Taekwondo is extremely popular in North Korea. It is taught in every school and is part of the daily sports and health routine of all North Korean citizens. After 50 years of existence, the art of kicks has 60 million practitioners in more than 120 countries and Taekwondo became a medal sport at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.
Discipline is severe and the tension is palpable during Taekwondo classes at Mirae Primary School in Pyongyang. A boy wraps a consoling arm around his friend who has suffered a heavy blow.

At the Taekwondo Palace in Pyongyang, a group of athletes simultaneously execute a full series of offensive and defensive techniques against one or several virtual adversaries.

At the end of the demonstration, having followed the entire presentation, the headmistress of Mirae Primary School congratulates and comforts the children who are between 7 and 12 years old.

Students from Mirae Primary School in Pyongyang spar. A young girl fends off her adversary in self-defense or hosinsul with an energetic yop chagi (lateral kick).
On the football field adjacent to Mirae Primary School, with the typical skyscrapers of Pyongyang in the background, children practice the synchronized execution of a tul.

At Mangyongdae Children’s Palace the best students follow the workout of older students, under the eye of the supervisor, who is wearing a hanbok, the traditional Korean dress.

At Mangyongdae Children’s Palace the best students follow the workout of older students, under the eye of the supervisor, who is wearing a hanbok, the traditional Korean dress.

Here in training, the athlete executes a nopi chagi, a flying high front kick against a training pad to improve strike precision and reaction time.

**Story Sports / 3rd Prize Winner**
Alain Schroeder / Freelancer – Belgium
Taekwondo North Korea Style / North Korea
During the Mass Games, soldiers demonstrate Taekwando in a 90-minute event showcasing numerous tightly choreographed scenes synchronized to music.

Story Sports / 3° Prize Winner
Alain Schroeder / Freelancer – Belgium
Taekwondo North Korea Style / North Korea

A moment of concentration for the children of Pyongyang’s Mirae Primary School in front of a wall with representations of the various movements of Taekwondo and the flag of North Korea.

During the Mass Games, Taekwondo athletes and in the back 17,000 students are forming an image of a fore-fist middle section punch. Each person represents a pixel in the overall image.
Jury Members Of
Istanbul Photo
Awards 2019

“The jury deliberations were eye-opening. It’s been really fascinating hearing everybody’s opinions about which photos are good and which aren’t. Photo of the Year says a lot about the Is-

rael-Palestine conflict and also something about what is going on in the world of news gathering right now, that we all become ci-
tizen journalists.”

Deborah Copaken / Chair of the
Istanbul Photo Awards 2019 Jury
Photojournalist and Author

“I think what makes the compe-
tition different from others is that you have pictures from countries that are not usually seen. There is a great diversity of origins of pi-
tures and photographers. From one year to the other, you can see lots of different news topics not only news coming back, like immigration in all different conti-
nents and social unrest, but also amazingly moving human sto-
ries.”

Marion Mertens / Istanbul Photo
Awards 2019 Jury Member
Senior Digital Editor / Paris Match

“I think one thing that makes the contest different is the fact that it takes part in a city sitting ac-
ross two continents. You can see entries from western Europe, from Asia, Central Asia, and Iran.”

Georges De Keerle / Istanbul
Photo Awards 2019 Jury Member
Photographer and Visual Media Adviser

“Photo of the Year 2019 is a powerful example of how narrati-
ve war has become more impor-
tant than physical war due to the new technology.”

Yuri Kozyrev / Istanbul Photo
Awards 2019 Jury Member
Photojournalist / NOOR Agency

Photo: Arif Huda Hakan Yaman
Anadolu Images is the most important photo portal in Europe and Middle East. The portal offers to reach the most recent images of the Anadolu Agency and international photojournalists from all over the world as well as being the editorial photo archive of Anadolu Agency.

www.anadoluimages.com
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Deborah Copaken
Chair of the Jury