

L'ÉTAT DU MONDE 2025

STATE OF THE WORLD 2025

Assurer la curation de l'exposition « L'État du monde » de cette année a été pour moi profondément émouvant. Si la tragédie de Gaza a, à juste titre, captivé notre attention – et je suis personnellement bouleversé par ce génocide en cours –, j'ai souhaité mettre en lumière d'autres histoires venant du monde entier qui méritent également d'être vues. Les 30 projets que j'ai sélectionnés illustrent des moments de conflit et de lutte, mais aussi la résilience, l'espoir et le quotidien qui perdure dans de nombreux coins du monde.

La photographie a le pouvoir de nous connecter par-delà les distances et les cultures, de nous inciter à la réflexion. Ces récits nous confrontent aux enjeux urgents de notre époque, tout en célébrant le courage, la créativité et l'espoir qui perdurent même dans des circonstances difficiles.

J'espère que les spectateurs porteront ces histoires en eux, réfléchiront aux liens qui nous unissent et seront inspirés à s'engager avec le monde avec compassion et compréhension.

Curating this year's "State of the World" exhibition has been deeply moving for me. While the tragedy in Gaza has rightly dominated our attention—and I am personally devastated by this ongoing genocide—I wanted to highlight other stories from around the world that also deserve to be seen. The 30 works I've selected show moments of conflict and struggle, but also resilience, hope, and the everyday lives that continue in many corners of the globe.

Photography has the power to connect us across distances and cultures, to make us pause and reflect. These stories confront us with the pressing issues of our time, while also celebrating the courage, creativity, and hope that endure even in difficult circumstances.

I hope viewers will carry these stories with them, reflecting on the threads that connect us, and be inspired to engage with the world with compassion and understanding.

Hossein Farmani

Save the Forests

Sarah Barker, Australia





On 23 March 2025, over 9,000 people united in a powerful call to all candidates in the upcoming Australian federal election to end native forest logging.

Cease Fire Now!

Ian Flanders, Australia



A 15 month reportage of the United for Palestine rallies in and around Sydney.

Thousands of people continued to protest week after week for 15 consecutive months because of a deep moral outrage at the ongoing illegal occupation of Palestinian territories and the repeated war crimes committed against the Palestinian people. These protests were united in their refusal to remain silent in the face of what they saw as a humanitarian catastrophe and a gross violation of international law.



Generation Z Revolution in Bangladesh

Syed Mahabubul Kader, Bangladesh



In 2024, Bangladesh saw a mass uprising after 15 years of authoritarian rule. Sparked by student protests on June 5, the movement grew amid state violence. Between July 7 to August 5, over 1,581 protesters were killed, including 70 children and 25,000 injured. Long-term curfews and internet blackouts failed to stop the movement. On August 5, defying all odds, people forced PM Sheikh Hasina to flee to India. In fury, they burned ministers' homes, the PM's residence and office, and toppled 10,000 statues of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman — symbols of long-standing oppression.



Threats to Inuvialuit Lands

Natalya Saprunova, France



In Canada, permafrost-ground frozen for thousands of years—is thawing at an alarming rate due to climate change. This is especially visible in the Northwest Territories, where Indigenous communities face severe erosion, collapsing ground, and widespread infrastructure damage. As the land vanishes, mercury trapped in the frozen soil is released into the ocean, threatening marine ecosystems and traditional food sources. These changes are not only environmental but deeply cultural, and some communities, like the Inuvialuit, may soon be forced to relocate—becoming Canada’s first climate refugees.



More Necessary than the Sun

Matteo Trevisan, Italy



"More Necessary than the Sun" is a photographic journey into the environmental and human toll of extreme pollution in the Central Balkans. Begun in 2022, the project captures the alarming impact of outdated coal plants, vast lignite mines, and weak oversight, which have led to some of Europe's highest pollution levels.

Through this series, the project confronts viewers with the stark consequences of environmental exploitation often fueled by foreign corporations in what is seen as neo-colonialism.



Ma France à moi!

Alfonso Pinto, France



Since the beginning of the IDF's indiscriminate attacks on Gaza's civilian population, thousands of people in many French squares have expressed their anger at what has now taken the form of a full-fledged annihilation process. On 7/11/2023 a large gathering of people took place in one of the symbolic squares of the French capital: Place de la République. The most recurrent cry was: stop the genocide.





Saving Haitians from Tuberculosis

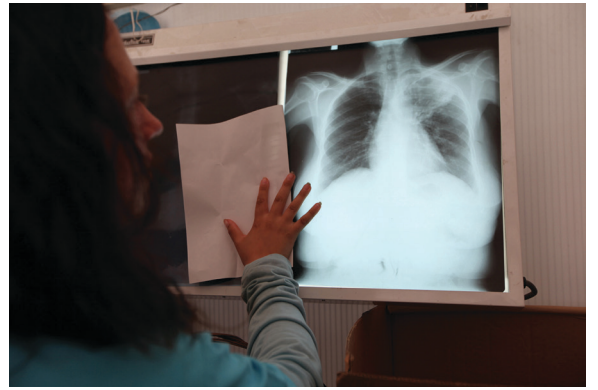
Richard Street, United States



Working seven days a week, 12 hours a day, Dr. Megan Coffee directs a team of volunteer doctors and Haitian and American nurses who care for a vulnerable population in a country afflicted with the highest TB infection rate in the Western hemisphere. In two portable buildings and a tent surrounded by the ruins of Port-au-Prince, Coffee treats patients diagnosed with both HIV and TB. She -- and a constantly evolving staff of volunteer doctors and physicians -- save lives for pennies a day.



TB vividly illustrates the massive gap between rich and poor.



The Rivers of Faith

David Marciano, Italy



The Maha kumbh Mela of 2025, the twelfth of twelve years, takes place every 144 years and it is estimated that about 600 million people have passed through it. Ascetics during the festival offer blessings to the participants, the air is dense with prayers and incense fumes. The ritual bath are the most important event. A mass gathering that challenges our understanding of faith and human interaction. An extraordinary and engaging show, halfway between mysticism and fairground where sharing becomes social content and the light of mobile phones replaces the sacred fire of the faith.





But We Were So Strong

Fereshteh Eslahi, Iran



Since the start of the Woman, Life, Freedom movement in 2022, life in Iran has been turbulent. Women long oppressed are boldly demanding freedom. Despite government attempts to suppress protests and silence unveiled women, many have been arrested or threatened. The younger generation shows courage—living freely without hijab and ignoring intimidation. They can no longer return to the past. Now, with Israeli attacks and unpredictable government strategies, the future of this inspiring regional movement is uncertain.

I follow a part of this everyday resistance.



Twenty Years Later

Deanne Fitzmaurice, United States



On Oct. 10, 2003, as he walked home from school, a 9-year-old Iraqi boy named Saleh Khalaf picked up something on the roadside that looked to him like a toy ball. Seconds later it exploded ripping open his abdomen, tearing off his hands, and blowing out his left eye. Days afterward, Saleh's father, Raheem, persuaded doctors at a U.S. Air Force base to perform emergency surgery to keep his son alive. It marked the beginning of an international mercy mission to save the boy whose indomitable spirit earned him the nickname Lion Heart. Saleh was airlifted to America for life-saving treatment.





W Sant'Agata!

Giuseppe Cardoni, Italy



Every year on 3, 4 and 5 February Catania offers her Patron Saint a celebration so extraordinary that it can only be compared to Holy Week in Seville or Corpus Domini in Cuzco, Peru. In those three days the city forgets everything to concentrate on the festival, a mixture of devotion and folklore, which attracts up to a million people every year. A ritual that is experienced every year thanks to a multitude of candles, faces, looks, gestures, voices, passions that are consumed in an uncontrollable explosion of faith and civic passion for identity.



50 Years Later: Where Do I Go?

Rania Matar, United States



2025 marks the 50th anniversary of the Lebanese Civil War. Lebanon still suffers its consequences. This work is a creative, personal, urgent collaboration with women in Lebanon. I see my younger self in each of them. Every image has a narrative. The project is my love letter to them.

Doua and the Missile was my last picture of 2024, right after the ceasefire with Israel. During the last hours of the war, the missile hit the building next Doua's family. It was the middle of the night. They thought they were going to die. Doua and I went inside the destroyed building and found the missile.





Desert of Stones

Denys Kutsevalov, Singapore



Madagascar is believed to supply around 40% of the world's sapphires — a staggering figure for a country where most mining is done by hand. This photo story takes you into the heart of Ilakaka, capturing the quiet intensity of the hunt for these coveted gems. It reveals the raw, unfiltered reality behind the sparkle. Miners, often working without protective gear or stable income, labor under harsh conditions. Madagascar's sapphires may light up luxury showcases around the world, but their journey begins in fragile soil, shaped by resilience, risk, and hope.



Charreada, a Stylish Rodeo

France Leclerc, United States



The charreada, a traditional Mexican rodeo-like event, dates back to the 16th century. It features a series of scored equestrian suertes—or skills—performed under strict rules. The charros (Mexican horsemen) are truly impressive, executing daring maneuvers and displaying incredible skill with the rope.

However, what I enjoyed most at this charreada held in Atzompa, Oaxaca state, was the ceremonial aspect of the event, especially watching the women and young girls dressed in colorful Adelita dresses, a traditional outfit named after a legendary female fighter of the Mexican Revolution. Olé!





The Israel-Gaza War in the Netherlands in Four "Photo Diptychs":

#ceasefirenow vs #bringthemhomenow

Bernard Blasband, Netherlands



The Israel-Gaza war continued to rage. The war is also felt in Dutch society. The pro-Gaza/Palestine protests call for an end of the fighting through "#ceasefirenow". The pro-Israel protests call for the release of the Israeli hostages that were taken to Gaza through "#bringthemhomenow". This photo series aims at showing the similarities between the "#ceasefirenow" and the "#bringthemhomenow" through four "diptychs", which each show a similar scene from both sides. These scenes are: 1) the group of protesters; 2) the message of the protester; 3) the scream of the protester; 4) the portrait.



The Kalash: Challenging Tradition and Religious Conformity

Maro Kouri, Greece



This portfolio highlights my personal work in the Kalash Valleys of Pakistan, during the Spring Celebration. The Kalash, a small ethnic group believed to trace its origins to Alexander the Great, have lived in isolation, resisting religious and cultural conformity. Despite modern pressures, they maintain their ancient animistic beliefs and traditions. During the "Joshi" festival, Kalash women sing and dance, celebrating their unique culture. The community faces serious challenges, including healthcare issues, limited resources, and environmental threats.





Nowhere to Escape: Gaza's Civilian Ordeal

Abdelrahman Alkahlout, Palestine



This series documents the ongoing war on Gaza's civilians, which began in October 2023 and continues to this day. It follows families with nowhere to flee from neighborhoods erased by airstrikes, to overcrowded hospitals and displacement camps. Each frame reveals a face of loss, injury, and survival: parents carrying wounded children, doctors working with bare hands, kids clinging to life in ruins. The final image, a mass prayer atop rubble, stands as a symbol of unbroken spirit. This is not just about destruction it's a visual testimony to a genocide unfolding in real time.





Sinulog: Where Faith Meets Fiesta

France Leclerc, United States



The Sinulog Festival is one of the most significant religious celebrations in the Philippines. It honors the revered Santo Niño de Cebu. The festival features three processions, during which thousands of devotees walk through the streets, praying and carrying their Santo Niño statues in hopes of receiving a blessing. Throughout these days, masses at the Basilica are held continuously. The festivities culminate in the Grand Street Parade. The parade showcases dazzling dance performances from groups representing various regions across the Philippines, sending massive crowds into a joyful frenzy.





The Forgotten Children of Bongao

Christophe Moëc, France





Bongao is an island located southern Philippines with various armed groups active in the region. For the 50th anniversary of the creation of Tawi-Tawi province late 2023, the Secretary of Tourism welcomed the efforts to maintain order and peace in the area, and highlighted the opportunities for development. But at the same time there is a drama there: the Bajau tribe (sea nomads) struggles to survive due to overfishing, pollution and climate change, the stunted children are forced to beg and perform small jobs. Stateless and without social rights, elderly people die in undignified conditions.

Khartoum: After Two Years of War

Giles Clarke, United States



Sudan's civil war has been raging for two years, and to date has left tens of thousands dead and some 13 million displaced to other regions of the country or over neighboring borders.

The fighting erupted on the streets of Khartoum on April 15, 2023, between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), the country's military, and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), which former Sudanese leader Omar Bashir created to quell insurgents in the Darfur region approximately 25 years earlier.

This series was photographed shortly after the RSF militants fled the heavily destroyed capital in late March of 2025.





Giving a future for Tanzanian Orphans

Naama Zeevi Rivlin, Israel



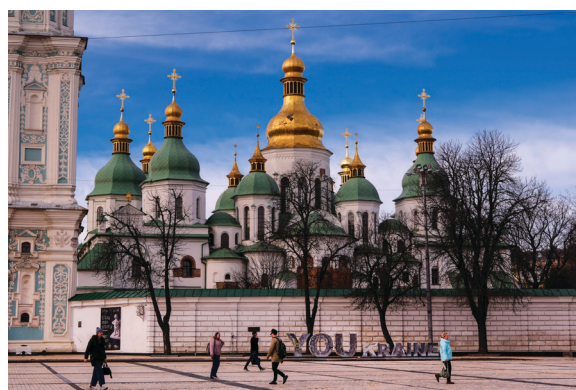
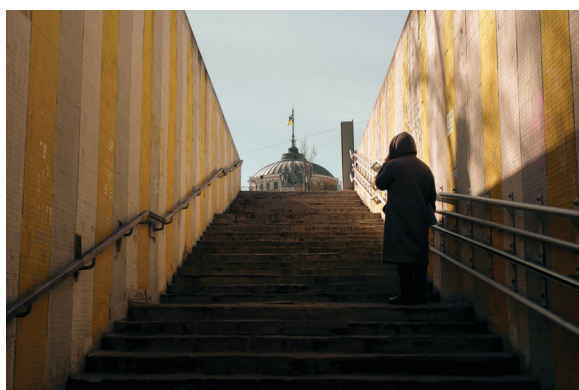
HalevAfrica Tanzania.

An NGO organization that focuses on locating and supporting orphaned, abandoned and vulnerable children from remote villages and orphanages in accessing educational opportunities, food and health care.

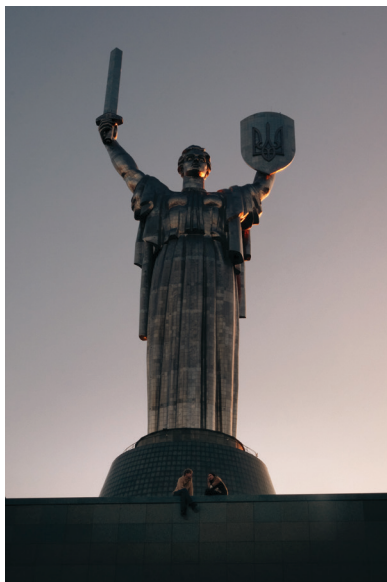


Breathing Under War: Strength Amidst Numbness

Jiayu Ma, China



After three years of war, Ukrainians continue to live under the constant shadow of missiles and drones. In Kyiv, Odessa, Kharkiv, and Dnipro, people coexist with air raid sirens and the remnants of shattered buildings, adapting to a life where danger is always imminent. No one knows when death will arrive, yet there is an unspoken understanding of its presence. Behind the numbness lies a quiet resilience — a strength born from the depths of human endurance, even as it carries the profound weight of helplessness.



The End of Dissent

Denise Laura Baker, United Kingdom



On July 5th 2025 the UK protest group Palestine Action was proscribed, branding them a terrorist organisation, after they broke into Brize Norton airbase spraying red washable paint on planes they believed were to be used against Palestine. They are the first non-violent, direct action group to be proscribed, setting a legal precedent.

These photographs were taken at the final two legal London protests prior to proscription; one at the Royal Courts of Justice as a last minute reprieve was sought, the second at Trafalgar Square as the proscription announcement was made.





Chimps Paradise

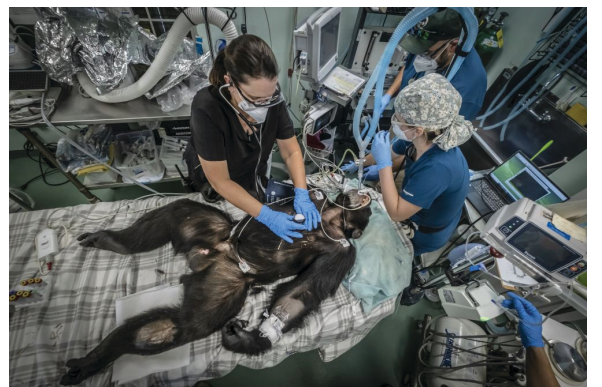
Alain Schroeder, Belgium



Founded in 1997, Save the Chimps is the largest privately funded chimpanzee sanctuary in the world. Its mission is to provide a safe haven to captive chimps that have been exploited by humans for research, testing and entertainment.

The 150-acre state-of-the-art facility in Florida is home to over 220 rescued chimpanzees living their best possible lives among peers, thanks to a team of passionate veterinarians, caretakers and volunteers who provide personalized care, and nutritious individual feeding and enrichment plans, in a spacious island habitat.

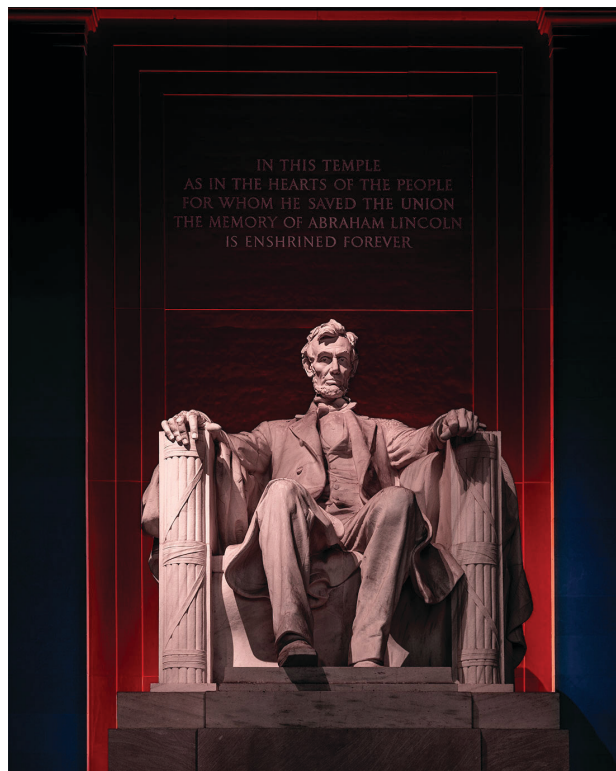




Echoes of a Fractured Union

Jan-Tore Oevrevik, United States





This series confronts the symbolic heart of American democracy as it teeters under the weight of corruption, unrest, and betrayal. Familiar monuments—once revered—are reinterpreted through a darker lens, revealing a nation haunted by its past and uncertain of its future. Through stark contrasts and somber tones, these images foreshadow the rise of internal conflict, as silence grows louder and unity dissolves.



120,000 Hands Off! Protest in New York City

Keith Manning, United States





For a few hours, NYC's 5th Ave. between 42nd and 25th streets was occupied by people of all generations. The crowd included people from unions, religious groups and political organizations. They marched with intense energy; chanting, singing, carrying pre-printed and hand-written signs opposing a plethora of attacks by the newly elected Trump administration. The march security team directed traffic with almost no police presence. NY was one protest of over 1,200 in cities throughout the US and some in Europe as well.



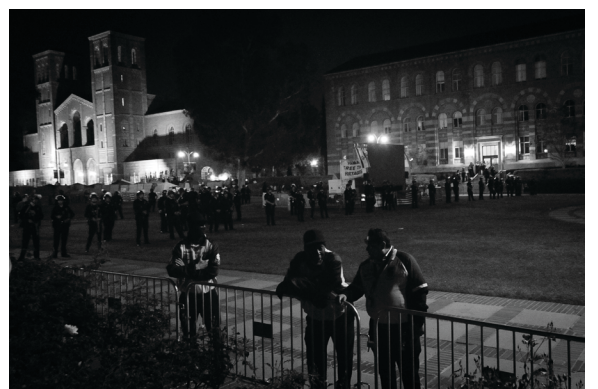
The Encampment

Ray Teoh, United States



A powerful glimpse at the pro-Palestine movement and protests at UCLA on May 1 and 2, 2024. Through harsh, raw visuals, this series captures a modern frontline of free expression, resistance, and democracy in action. By revealing moments of solidarity, resilience, and compassion, it seeks to foster understanding and the pursuit of peace.





Jews Protest to Free Palestinian abducted by ICE

Keith Manning, United States



The protest "First They Came for Mahmoud" was organized by Jewish groups If Not Now, Jews For Racial and Economic Justice, Rabbis for Ceasefire and Bend the Arc. Mahmoud Khalil negotiated for Columbia Univ. students during talks with university officials about ending the tent encampment opposed to US/Israel genocide of Palestinians. Khalil was abducted by Immigration and Customs Enforcement on March 8. The slogan is taken from the famous German Lutheran pastor Martin Niemöller: "First they came for the Communists..." He supported the Nazis in 1933, opposed them '34 and was arrested in 1937.

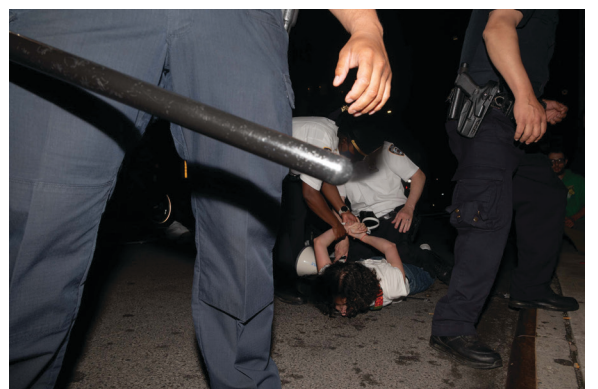
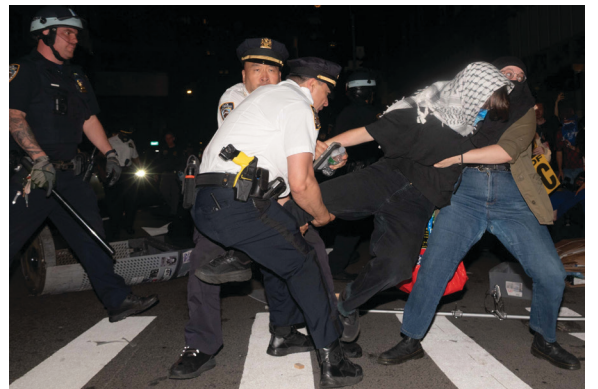


ICE Fuera de NYC

Ike Wood, United States



On January 20, 2025, the 47th President of The United States of America, Donald Trump, was inaugurated into his second term in the Oval Office. After a historically tumultuous campaign, Trump assumed his position of power with a heavy fist. In his first 48 hours commanding the White House, he hastily signed an executive order invoking the National Emergencies Act of 1976. Using this declaration, he enacted a flurry of anti-immigrant policies which had immediate ramifications on documented and undocumented immigrant families and citizens. During these unprecedented times, protests have erupted across the country in an effort to mobilize against the federally funded program Immigration, Customs, Enforcement (ICE); increasingly, Americans across the country have taken to the streets in an attempt to punch back at this administration for the crack down on deportations, especially unlawful deportations such as Kilmar Abrego Garcia who was sent to an El Salvadorian prison, Centro de Confinamiento del Terrorismo (CECOT), where he and several other criminally-clear Americans experienced torturous environments due to “administrative errors” according to ICE. This photo story highlights the turmoil on the streets of New York City as this crisis continues to escalate and ICE kidnaps more individuals from our community.



How Long Does a War Last? - Vietnam, 50 Years Later

André Clemetsen, Norway

How Long Does a War Last? – Vietnam, 50 Years Later

This photo series explores the emotional and generational impact of the Vietnam War. Through portraits and scenes from Vietnam and Norway, it tells the story of South Vietnamese refugees and their children. Themes of exile, memory, and reconciliation unfold alongside reflections on today's global conflicts—showing how the trauma of war continues to shape identity, relationships, and life across generations, long after the fighting ends.





