

The SOPA 2021 Awards for Editorial Excellence - Awards Winners List

Excellence in Reporting on Women's Issues

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	VICE World News	Al Jazeera English
Title of Entry:	When They Killed Our Men	India's Highway of Shame
Award Recipients:	Natashya Gutierrez	Drew Ambrose, Rhiona-Jade Armont, Savitri Choudhury, Ashish Malhotra, Nick Olle
Judges' Comments:	Powerful storytelling and research. A detailed and important piece of journalism which showed the impact on women of the people left behind by Duterte's violent anti-drug war. A lot of work went into tracking down the relatives and piecing together their stories. Shines a spotlight on what is going on in the Philippines today and the struggles of its poor population with the women bearing a lot of the burden. A disturbing, important piece of painstaking journalism well told.	Moving, horrific and important piece of journalism. Seeks to tell the story from all sides - the girls, the men, the police and the families -and how it has gone on for so long. Reporting the story took bravery but it was told in an objective way which sought to show all the dimensions of the issue. The journalist and producers did not inject their own emotion into the story but allowed the story to tell itself. An important piece of journalism which highlights the continued exploitation of women in India particularly the poor and the lower caste. Well done.

Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	GMA News Online	Rappler
Title of Entry:	The Children Are All Grown Up Now	Nowhere to run: To cross coronavirus border, prostituted women are abused by cops
Award Recipients:	Kaela Malig, Margaret Claire Layug, and Jannielyn Ann Bigtas	Ralf Rivas and Michelle Abad
Judges' Comments:	Really harrowing account on a phenomenon unfortunately too common in the Philippines. The use of illustrations is extremely powerful and the writing here is also very strong. An ambitious and evocative account of the impact of incest and sexual violence on children. Sensitively told. The piece makes good use of art, includes a content warning and provides resources for fellow survivors.	Really devastating account of the kind of exploitation and harassment women face at the hands of those in power, exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic. A story that ties together several important topics of today - the pandemic and impact on daily wage earners and especially those in the shadow economy like prostitutes.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Initium Media 端傳媒	BBC Chinese BBC 中文
Title of Entry:	Female activist Li Qiaochu: "I have a hero complex, but my fantasy hero is myself" 女性抗爭者李翹楚：「我有英雄情結，但我幻想的英雄是我自己」	Representing the crisis and victories of women in East and Southeast Asia 《助守在异乡》：揭开台湾家庭印尼佣工的真实生活
Award Recipients:	Xueqin Huang 黃雪琴	Lara Owen
Judges' Comments:	The choice of interviewee helps the story stand out. The details reported also testify to the success of the reporter in building trust with the interviewee.	This collection of reports broadens the horizon of the audience by bringing to them lesser known endeavors and struggles of women in East and Southeast Asia.

Excellence in Journalistic Innovation

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Bloomberg	The Wall Street Journal
Title of Entry:	The Covid Resilience Ranking	How the Coronavirus Spread
Award Recipients:	Jinshan Hong, Rachel Chang, Kevin Varley	Yasufumi Saito, Andrew James and Rosa de Acosta
Judges' Comments:	The vaccine tracker was comprehensive and easy to follow. An enormous volume of information has been put together. Showing the variables and how changes in actions, decisions or circumstances can affect this is a useful methodology for continuous tracking and for future use. Clever idea that clearly provides a public service. It was compelling how some countries ranked so highly on certain Covid data points but stumbled on others. Well-documented data visualization across multiple jurisdictions.	A phenomenal amount of information was gathered in a short and busy period of time. This has been presented in an easy to consume visual. The clean, clear graphics in this package made the spread of Covid so obvious, especially when contrasted with SARS containment 20 years earlier. The story was easy to follow, gasp-worthy at times and delivered much greater impact than simply writing about it in words alone. Interesting and well-illustrated work.

Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	GMA News Online	ABS-CBN News
Title of Entry:	What I Wore That Day	TAAL: Through Eruption and Pandemic
Award Recipients:	Kaela Malig, Lala Lacsina, Yvan Limson, Margaret Claire Layug, Kristel Serrano	Katrina Domingo, Jonathan Cellona
Judges' Comments:	Brilliant and powerful journalism riding on a social media wave of anger highlighting the prevailing assault and rape culture.	Impressive use of formats (video, slide show, photos, graphics, text) to tell a multi-platform story on the human, very personal side of the double-whammy that hit people in the towns surrounding the Taal volcano.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Reporter 報導者	United Daily News 聯合報
Title of Entry:	25 Years Controversy over Tainan Urban District Railway Underground Project 從租用到迫遷——南鐵東移，25 年政策與地貌的轉變	Her story 她們的故事
Award Recipients:	Yu-Yo Lin, Roger Wen-Ting Yen, Fu-Nien Tsao, Tzu-Lei Yang, Hao-Hsiang Ko, Chung-Jen Yu, Gina Lin, Yu-Chen Huang, DaDa Wu, Shih-Yun Chang, Chin-Hsuan Hung, Szu-Hua Chen, Hui-Chun Yang, Po-Chun Ho 記者：林雨佑、嚴文廷、曹馥年 攝影：楊子磊 數位製作：柯皓翔 工程：余崇任 設計：林珍娜、黃禹禎、吳政達 編輯：張詩芸、洪琴宣、陳思樺 監製：楊惠君、何柏均	Hsu Wei-Lin, Hsieh Wen-Chun, Hsu Ia-Wun, Huang Wei-Ting, Chang Hsin-Tzu, Lin Guan-Yu, Chou Jung-Sheng, Tu Chien-Tsung, Lin Hao-Yi, Lin Po-Tung, Yu Cheng-Han, Chi Hsiang-Ju, Tung Ku-Ying, Lin Hsiu-Tzu 許瑋琳、謝汶均、許藹雯、黃微庭、張心慈、林冠宇、周融聖、杜建重、林浩一、林伯東、余承翰、季相儒、董谷音、林秀姿
Judges' Comments:	Integration of multi-modal data to tell a story about urban development and skillful use of geo-locational application. But the most innovative part is the open source of a storytelling development tool.	An innovative series that tells the stories of how women in Taiwan have struggled to break free of the sexist constraints that a patriarchal society imposes on them. The impact of the stories, told through first-person audio narratives by women pioneers of different generations, is amplified by animated drawings that lead readers to visualize their pain and anguish.

Excellence in Video Reporting

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The New York Times	Agence France-Presse
Title of Entry:	Wearing a Mask? It May Come From China's Controversial Labor Program	Eight Days in Wuhan: Cut Off From the World
Award Recipients:	Muyi Xiao	Leo Ramirez
Judges' Comments:	A remarkable investigative report on an important human-rights issue. The thoroughness belies any possible rebuttal from the Chinese government or authorities. Top-class!	A basic tenet of journalism is to be in the right place at the right time. Leo Ramirez was at ground zero of the global pandemic before it actually became a global pandemic. And he tells the story in a clear, factual, dispassionate fashion. The video is short, rich with amazing shots and access and voiceover that not only tells you what you're seeing but puts it into a broader, global context. This is textbook excellent video journalism.

Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	ABS-CBN News	Rappler
Title of Entry:	Pangarap ni Chito: Kuwento ng jeepney driver na naninirahan sa nakaparadang jeep (Driver lives inside his jeepney as lockdown halts public transpo)	Exiled by pandemic, seafarers face peril
Award Recipients:	NXT Team	Ana P. Santos
Judges' Comments:	By focusing on one jeepney driver's struggles and heartache, this piece conveys in searing detail the cost of Covid and the lockdown that followed. Haunting.	This video tackles a complex story by successfully marrying animation with photos, video streams and other content produced by the seafarers themselves to tell their story. It has a raw feel to it that matches the harshness of the men's lives and the tragedy in their midst. The simplicity of the animation supports the story -- and enhances the impact of the video, particularly that of the men clinging onto the net as they're moved by crane from one ship to the other. Besides being an extremely important topic, the systemic abuse of labor at sea, the creativity of the storytellers makes this a worthy SOPA Award winner.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Initium Media 端傳媒	Initium Media 端傳媒
Title of Entry:	What's Left of Hong Kong After Over 16000 Tear Gas Bombs? 超過 16000 枚催淚彈，給香港留下了什麼？	Hit hard by sanctions and structural weaknesses, how can Hong Kong manufacturers survive? 制裁風暴，行業積弱，誰能拯救香港製造？
Award Recipients:	Lin Kexin, Stanley Leung, Iris Yang, Irene Chan 林可欣、梁詩聰、楊鈺、陳倩兒	Lin Kexin, Stanley Leung, Lam Chun Tung, Irene Chan 林可欣，梁詩聰，林振東，陳倩兒
Judges' Comments:	This is an incredibly well-researched explainer that managed to strike the right balance between educational and engaging. The topic is of great public interest and relevant to our times, not only in Hong Kong but also to grassroots movements around the world.	Gives an understanding of the influence of the "China–United States trade war" from another perspective through video reports and incisive interviews.

Excellence in Human Rights Reporting

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Associated Press	The Wall Street Journal
Title of Entry:	China Cracks Down - The Uighurs	Facebook: A Conduit for Hate in India
Award Recipients:	Dake Kang and colleagues	Newley Purnell and Jeff Horwitz
Judges' Comments:	This series is distinctive in reporting, through the compilation of a large data base, the scale of serious abuses against Uighur human rights ranging from enforced IUDs, abortions, sterilizations to separation of families. It also shows that Uighurs are discriminated against not just for political reasons but religious, too. The difficulty of reporting such issues in China also makes this series deserving of high marks. A knockout series: broad, deep, exclusive and lucidly told.	Impressive for the scale and detail of its reporting on how Facebook's conflict of interest in India led to it to ignore its own rules about promoting violence in order to avoid upsetting India's Hindu-nationalist government. Importantly, the stories were picked up locally and internationally and had a swift positive impact with the departure of FB executives and bans on those behind anti-Muslim and anti-Christian posts. Excellent on Facebook's cravenness in India and kind of a scoop.

Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Wire	Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism
Title of Entry:	From Segregation to Labour, Manu's Caste Law Governs the Indian Prison System	Philippine Jails are a Covid-19 Time Bomb
Award Recipients:	Sukanya Shantha	Aie Balagtas See
Judges' Comments:	An important investigation, highlighting discrimination left over from the past, and bringing change. Reporting that made a difference. This was a thorough investigation on the antiquated rules inside India's state prisons that allow unlawful caste-based discrimination to be practiced openly.	A timely examination of the shocking conditions in overcrowded Philippine jails as Covid-19 spreads. This in-depth investigation does a great job putting the spotlight on the abhorrent conditions in the jails and detention centers across the Philippines -- they're increasingly overcrowded, and they're poorly equipped to protect the detained from the pandemic. In the April story, the reporter presented a clear case on how high the health risks were in the detention centers, and followed up with detailed anecdotes by people in the detention cells. The timeline also made clear how Covid-19 cases rapidly spread in different facilities. Overall a very impressive package.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Stand News 立場新聞	Stand News 立場新聞
Title of Entry:	Voices of the Castle Peak Bay Immigration Centre: Hunger strike for detainees' rights. 青山灣的呼聲：羈留者絕食抗爭	Human rights cover-up: Lawyers, families and supporters looking for ways to rescue twelve Hong Kongers detained in mainland 黑箱維權記：十二港人送中 內地律師、香港家屬與協助者奔走營救
Award Recipients:	Olivia Cheng, Sebastian So 鄭祉愉、蘇曼詩	Yang Ziqi 楊子琪
Judges' Comments:	Excellent in-depth reporting enhanced by personal stories of refugees.	Stories like this are not uncommon on the Mainland, so it's jarring to be reading about Hongkongers and their families and lawyers contending with China's opaque legal system. What makes this piece outstanding is not only the well-researched and well-presented facts but also the interviews and profiles of the various individuals involved in the "rescue", which greatly humanize a story that may become commonplace in Hong Kong.

Excellence in Feature Writing

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Economist's 1843 Magazine	The Wire China
Title of Entry:	The coronavirus cruise: on board the Diamond Princess	Death of a Quantum Man
Award Recipients:	Joshua Hunt	Shen Lu
Judges' Comments:	A well-researched and well-paced piece that perfectly captures the fear, pathos and uncertainties of the early days of the Covid crisis.	Well-resourced and lucid. This story of a personal tragedy addresses the ongoing US-China decoupling from an unusual angle, and deals with the subject with empathy and insight.

Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	GMA News Online	VOD
Title of Entry:	The Children Are All Grown Up Now	Medical Waste Collectors
Award Recipients:	Kaela Malig, Margaret Claire Layug, and Jannielyn Ann Bigtas	Gerald Flynn
Judges' Comments:	It's very hard to draw a reader into a subject so repellent as child rape. The authors have brought a number of issues to bear - confused families, indifferent authorities, traumatic processes as well as the permanently scarred victims - to present a compelling narrative.	While much has been written about the bravery of frontline workers in the Covid pandemic, this story looks at the backline heroes - the medical-waste workers often most at risk, and least prepared. A moving and enraging story.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Reporter 報導者	Stand News 立場新聞
Title of Entry:	357 Days of Waiting Compensation: A Death of a Thailand Migrant Worker 357 天等待職災補償的折磨：一名泰國移工之死	Human rights cover-up: Lawyers, families and supporters looking for ways to rescue twelve Hong Kongers detained in mainland 黑箱維權記：十二港人送中 內地律師、香港家屬與協助者奔走營救
Award Recipients:	Yung-Ta Chien 簡永達	Yang Ziqi 楊子琪
Judges' Comments:	A moving piece that sheds light on migrant workers' predicaments. The journalist exhibited exceptional interview and storytelling skills to bring together various voices of a tragedy, which has important implications for labor-rights policies and their enforcement. This is a timely and comprehensive investigative piece. The death of the worker is the tip of an iceberg, and the reporter dived deep to reveal the system failure and the cruel reality faced by the migrant worker community. Interviews with different parties including social workers, lawyers, and professors etc. offer multidimensional perspectives, and the data support was also right to the point. The fact that the reporter was able to pull such a well-written and balanced piece together within a week is also worth highlighting.	An engrossing feature that tells the backstory of the "Save 12 Hongkongers" campaign. The writing epitomizes a delicate balance between personal voices and structured context, which smoothly guides readers through a complicated legal case that reflected the drastic change of Hong Kong's political environment.

Excellence in Magazine Design

Combined Global & Regional

Global & Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	S&P Global Platts	This Week In Asia
Title of Entry:	Insight magazine - September 2020	TOURISM WAKES UP
Award Recipients:	Emma Slawinski	Quoc Huy Truong
Judges' Comments:	Clean, tight data graphics with the Hin Leong and Asia's Oil recovery as standout graphical presentations. This is what great business reporting should be like every day. Research graph is helpful to understand the pathways to net zero and a good variety of stories to mark key industry changes from the Covid-19 era.	Important perspective on current events, in an easy-to-read story form. Good clean magazine design.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	CITY MAGAZINE 《號外》	LIFE MAGAZINE 《生活》月刊
Title of Entry:	NOWNESS ASIA 亞洲當下的美學啟動 電子超級高速公路 上的藝術短片發展	Continue to Grow 境转新生
Award Recipients:	Journalists: Chan Fung King, Nico Tang Graphic Design: Jim Yiu Designer: Wai Li 記者：陳奉京、鄧焯榕 平面設計師：姚偉豪 美術設計師：李海威	China Life Magazine Team 《生活》月刊团队
Judges' Comments:	A collectible issue! The "Moving Optical illusions" design on the cover gave readers an amazing experience and broke through the stereotyped imagination. Audacious. Creative and provocative design bursting with ideas, from the interactive cover to the horizontal page layouts, explosive typography and choice of photography. I simply couldn't get enough of this magazine.	Outstanding implantation of space and graceful symbols design for articles. You can't rush this magazine. The design is like a soft, well-articulated whisper you strain to hear. Beautifully paced with peaceful typography, the pages reveal quiet tones and alluring photography which slowly wash over the reader. Sublime.

Excellence in Arts & Culture Reporting

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Financial Times	The Economist
Title of Entry:	South Korea confronts the challenges facing women in the country	The space between the lines: Culture in Xi Jinping's China
Award Recipients:	Edward White, Song Jung-a, Kang Buseong	Simon Rabinovitch and Stephanie Studer
Judges' Comments:	In the wake of the worst case of sexual exploitation in the country's history, this series of reports and interviews provides timely insights into the tenacious grip of sexism in South Korean society. This series of articles is an excellent showcase of the complexities and dark side of South Korea's pop-culture boom. It also offers a timely insight into the country's struggle with gender equality and what that can mean for its millions of women. A strong package of well-reported articles that show how South Korea's deep-seated bias against women, including sexual violence, overhangs all aspects of the country's culture even as the K-Pop wave reaches greater heights globally.	Fascinating trio of articles illustrating how forms of creativity flourish in mainland China even as Beijing tightens its grip over all aspects of society. A TV station that produces edgy hit shows, tattoo parlors that somehow coexist with a Communist Party that decries body art, and a trip to the controversial Shaolin monastery round out the package.

Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Frontier Myanmar	Sixth Tone
Title of Entry:	Dubious legends: The Tatmadaw's propaganda fail	Future Nostalgia: China's Video Games Plug Into Ancient Culture
Award Recipients:	Frontier Myanmar	Kenrick Davis
Judges' Comments:	Disturbingly prescient. This timely review of a Myanmar television drama financed by the military offers clues as to why the Tatmadaw failed to win an election they rigged heavily in their favor and why international observers failed to see the coup coming.	China rightly considers itself a superpower but the nation's pop culture often fails to translate universally. A fascinating example is 'TapTap, Mortise & Tenon' a hugely popular digital game about the 7,000-year-old craft, joinery. Kenrick Davis uses this game to drill deep into modern Chinese culture and explores why China's ambition to become a soft power has a tendency to fall flat.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Apple Daily 蘋果日報	WHYNOT 歪腦
Title of Entry:	Hong Kong's Low Desire 香港低慾望時代	Hong Kong Arts Creators: Can an Unbending Flower be Brought Forth in Forbidden Soil? 香港文艺创作者：在禁忌的土地上，能生出倔强的花吗？
Award Recipients:	Leung Chung Sing, Wong Hiu Ting, Ngai Tsz Long, Cheung Chi Man, Hui Sin Yuk, Wong Chau Ting 梁中勝、黃曉婷、魏子朗、張志孟、許先煜、王秋婷	Ariel Chan Ka-pui 陈嘉佩
Judges' Comments:	Impeccable stories of all the ordinary people in HK. Insightful observations and great explorations.	Great exploration of a city with originality and a diverse culture. Different artists depicted their own voice for HK. Great reporting.

Excellence in Explanatory Reporting

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Wall Street Journal	Reuters
Title of Entry:	Xi Jinping's "China Solution"	Democracy Darkens in Hong Kong
Award Recipients:	Jeremy Page, Lingling Wei, Liza Lin	Anne Marie Roantree, James Pomfret, Jessie Pang, Pak Yiu, Marius Zaharia, Tyrone Siu
Judges' Comments:	A very good example of explanatory journalism. Among the articles, however, the profile of Xi stands out as a very well reported and illuminating portrait of the Chinese leader. It takes the reader through his entire life history in a way that offers real insights into the kind of leader he became and the policy direction he has chosen. That alone would merit serious consideration for the award. Fascinating series of stories that help pull back the curtain a bit on the party narrative around the Chinese leader and provides context to his politics and policy-related decisions since coming into power, both at home and abroad.	This series on the aftermath of the 2019 protests in Hong Kong certainly leaves an impression on the reader. The stories bring together voices from across the diminishing pro-democracy landscape in Hong Kong, giving each person space to share their thoughts and recollections in the wake of the protests and the ensuing political developments within the special administrative region. The photo essay is especially effective, combining powerful images of the protests with an origin narrative on Hong Kong's chief executive that provides context to her current positioning vis-a-vis Beijing.

Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Sixth Tone	Rappler
Title of Entry:	China's Two-Child Policy, Five Years On	Filipino seafarers face perils, death at sea
Award Recipients:	Ni Dandan, Fan Yiyang, Wang Lianzhang	Ana P. Santos
Judges' Comments:	A comprehensive and broadly reported look at the ramifications of China's shift to a two-child policy. The detailed interviews with parents and grandparents help to bring the issues to life, giving the stories a more intimate tone.	Heart-wrenching stories of the men who work for months on deep-sea fishing boats and the post-traumatic stress they struggle with after returning to the Philippines. Through in-depth interviews with them and their families, Santos conveys the risks and inhumane conditions they face, and the impact it has on their lives.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Taiwan Public Television Service	CommonWealth Magazine 天下雜誌
Title of Entry:	China, regular of Taiwan's ADIZ 2020 Cross-strait relations 解讀共機擾台政治意涵 台海成中美角力戰場	Taking on U.S. Pork: How Taiwan Can Win 《天下雜誌》707 期〈迎戰美豬 台灣怎麼贏?〉
Award Recipients:	Kuan-Chi Cho, Lin Chien-Hsun, Tseng Hsin-min, Chen Po-Feng, Hsu Jia-Jia 卓冠齊、林建勳、曾芯敏、陳柏逢、許家嘉	Laura Kang, Kuo-Chen Lu, Cathy Chiang, Ching-Kang Wang, Shu-Ren Koo, Sophie Lin, Yun-Ting Huang 康育萍、呂國禎、江慧琄、王慶剛、辜樹仁、林綺薇、黃韻庭
Judges' Comments:	Rich visual and audio elements make the article easy for readers to digest. A clean review of history and explanation of the current status offer a great reading experience by connecting the dots.	Nice reporting, clean analysis and very smart and well-edited charts made the article a great read. The authors explained the ins and outs of the business in a simple way that a layman can understand, and in a fun way readers would want to read again.

Excellence in Business Reporting

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Wall Street Journal	The New York Times
Title of Entry:	Facebook: A Conduit for Hate in India	With Technology, China Seizes Control
Award Recipients:	Newley Purnell and Jeff Horwitz	Paul Mozur, Raymond Zhong, Aaron Krolik, Ronen Bergman, Edward Wong,
Judges' Comments:	Brave reporting and data-mining, exemplary writing and editing that had an immediate impact. Proof that good journalism still packs a punch governments can't ignore.	Excellent insights into China's emergence as a power in the technologies of the future. The use of these capabilities during the coronavirus outbreak illustrates the potential for misuse as well as for good. Very well-reported and written.

Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Frontier Myanmar	Frontier Myanmar
Title of Entry:	Myanmar's billion-dollar border racket	KBZ takes Yangon port operator to court over massive debts
Award Recipients:	Naw Betty Han and Thomas Kean	Thomas Kean and Kyaw Lin Htoon
Judges' Comments:	<p>What fun coverage. It's rare to read such blatant examples of officials skirting the law, and benefiting from it. While the smuggling activities described in these articles were to some degree hiding in plain sight, the journalists deserve enormous credit for bringing them into the public eye -- and apparently at great risk to their own safety. The reporting is careful and judicious and the writing is snappy and engaging. Most of all, the stories provide a window into a deeper culture of corruption that all readers should be aware of in Myanmar. Well done. This pair of illuminating stories sheds light on darker aspects of Myanmar's political economy. Bravely told in great detail, the excellent articles are well-illustrated and provide readers with a clear idea of what's at stake for the region.</p>	<p>A masterclass in smart enterprise reporting, providing real value to the public. Myanmar has always been one of the hardest places to uncover information in Asia, but in this case the reporters did what all good journalists do, working sources, showing up at hearings and pulling documents until they were able to piece together a picture of a financial mess of great consequence and relevance whose details might never have been revealed without their efforts. Bravo. Important story that reveals to the public an important development in Myanmar's economy: that the country's biggest bank had initiated a civil suit against the operator of its largest ports over unpaid debts. Frontier set the agenda in terms of issues facing Myanmar's banking sector, showing the importance of following the money.</p>

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Initium Media 端傳媒	Business Weekly 商業周刊
Title of Entry:	Volkswagen's "dependency" on China: easier to speed up, difficult to slow-down 德國大眾汽車的中國「依賴」：加速容易 減速難	100 Trends in the Post-Pandemic World 後疫情世界 100 關鍵趨勢
Award Recipients:	Ning Hui, Zhu Yi, Luo Songsong 甯卉、朱易、羅松松	製作人：田習如 文：蔡靚萱、楊少強、李雅筑、侯良儒 研究員：李大任 攝影：駱裕隆 編輯：周盼儀 設計：陳疇
Judges' Comments:	A good and comprehensive case study on the dilemma global corporations face in operating in China.	As the name indicates, an impressive series that explores the impacts of Covid-19 on every aspect of life. An excellent piece on topic selection, sources, analysis and writing.

SOPA Award for Young Journalists

Combined Global & Regional

Global & Regional

Award for Excellence

Publication:	Los Angeles Times
Title of Entry:	Xinjiang Camp Survivors Speak
Award Recipients:	Alice Su
Judges' Comments:	Alice Su is a talented writer with a keen eye for detail, and she keeps the reader riveted with first-hand experiences covering difficult and sometimes dangerous situations. Her determination in following through with reporting these sensitive stories clearly shows, especially through the many voices of subjects putting themselves at risk for speaking. In addition, Alice shows a talent for analysis and explanatory journalism for her insightful portrait of Xi. Ms. Su's work blends intrepid reporting, a keen eye for detail, and great storytelling and writing, covering difficult subjects that the Chinese authorities want to keep hidden.

Chinese

Award for Excellence

Publication:	Initium Media 端傳媒
Title of Entry:	確診名單外的死亡患者
Award Recipients:	Wang Xi 王浠
Judges' Comments:	This entry shines in multiple ways. The fact that the reporter stayed in Wuhan soon after the virus spread is laudable. The reporting conditions, both political and logistical, would have been difficult. Despite the constraints, the reporter succeeded in poking holes in the Chinese propagandistic narrative by gathering first-hand information and integrating second-hand reporting of the feelings, experiences, and events encountered by affected individuals. The writing also communicates the mood of the time well. The reporting from Wuhan during the 76-day lockdown is astounding and the reporter's ability to bring color to the people, the city, and life under lockdown from the original epicenter provides readers an up-close view of how the citizens of Wuhan survived this public health crisis.

Excellence in Information Graphics

Combined Global & Regional

Global & Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Reuters	South China Morning Post
Title of Entry:	Visualising the coronavirus pandemic	Coronavirus: the disease Covid-19 explained
Award Recipients:	Manas Sharma, Marco Hernandez, Simon Scarr, Jane Wardell	Darren Long, Adolfo Arranz, Marcelo Duhalde, Pablo Robles, Dennis Wong, Han Hang, Yaser Ibrahim
Judges' Comments:	Clean data visualizations that tell different aspects of the pandemic story. Strong presentations that drill home specific scientific points of interest that have both local and universal interest.	An excellent set of visual explainers on different aspects of the coronavirus pandemic. The topic demanded graphics from the start and the only way to cover it was to continue tracking developments one angle at a time. The breadth of the subject gave the SCMP team a good opportunity to deploy a range of maps and chart types to the highest standards.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	READr	Stand News 立場新聞
Title of Entry:	COVID-19 Disinformation War : 5000 Fact-checking Reports Analysis 五千篇事實查核報告分析：武漢肺炎假訊息戰役	Statistics on cases in Anti-Extradition Law Amendment Bill Movement 反送中案件統計系列
Award Recipients:	Lee Yu Ju, Chen Yi Chian, Hsiung Kai Wen, Chen Wen Yen, Chien Hsin Chan, Meg Wu, Yu-Chung Cheng'investigas team at National Chengchi University 李又如、陳怡蓀、熊凱文、陳玟諺、簡信昌、吳冠賢、政治大學鄭宇君研究團隊	Rebecca Lai, Kathy Leung 黎嘉琪、梁敏琪
Judges' Comments:	Nice presentation to analyze a large dataset of misinformation about Covid-19 with the support of National Chengchi University's academic input.	Unlike many other submissions, the data itself in this project is not publicly available but the journalists did an excellent job to collect the data from multiple sources and tried to maintain the data quality. Presented in a reasonably comprehensive way to tell a story to contrast with the police's narrative.

Excellence in Reporting Breaking News

Combined Global & Regional

Global & Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Wall Street Journal	The New York Times
Title of Entry:	Rushing Into Wuhan	Inside Wuhan
Award Recipients:	Chao Deng, Stu Woo, Kersten Zhang, Wenxin Fan, James T. Areddy	Chris Buckley, Amy Qin, Sui-Lee Wee
Judges' Comments:	<p>The early reports that Covid cases in Wuhan were being undercounted and misdiagnosed and that hospitals were overwhelmed was a comprehensive work of on-the-ground reporting that countered the official narrative coming out of the city. Excellent reporting from inside Wuhan. Throughout, the entry captures a sense of confusion and foreboding in China. Given what has transpired globally, that feeling of rising peril was well warranted. The entry also captures the human side of the emerging pandemic and nicely balances firm information with the experiences of those living through the early days of the crisis.</p>	<p>Fantastic on-the-ground reporting and compelling writing that gives a strong sense of the mood in Wuhan. The comprehensive reporting on frontline medical workers falling victim to Covid with a shortage of resources was a powerful work of journalism. Fascinating reporting from ground zero of the pandemic, despite the Chinese government's efforts to keep a lid on the story. These stories really capture the human dimension of the pandemic in Wuhan. Looking back from more than a year later, the stories of human suffering, fear and tragedy have been repeated worldwide. The Times did a great job, very early on, to get to the heart of a vast and complex story.</p>

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Business Weekly 商業周刊	The Reporter 報導者
Title of Entry:	Frozen China 冰封中國關鍵報告	COVID-19 : Virus, Humanity, New World 世紀之疫：病毒、人性、新世界
Award Recipients:	製作人：田習如 文：馬自明、黃靖萱、林洵楨、管嫻媛、楊少強、李玟儀 研究員：李大任 攝影：程思迪 編輯：潘思辰、周盼儀 設計：李佳靜	Hui-Chun Yang, Hui-Chun Yang, Tze-Wu Chang, Fu-Nien Tsao, Hui-Chen Lin, Hao-Hsiang Ko, Chieh Chen, Yu-Yo Lin, Wen-Ting Yen, Chih-Wei Yu, Wei-Ming Su, Yu-Chien Hsu, Shih-Yun Chang, Chin-Hsuan Hun, Szu-Hua Chen 監製：楊惠君 記者：楊惠君、張子午、曹馥年、林慧貞、柯皓翔 共同採訪：陳潔、林雨佑、嚴文廷 攝影：余志偉、蘇威銘、許菁倩 編輯：張詩芸、洪琴宣、陳思樺
Judges' Comments:	This story showed a tremendous reporting effort under an uncertain and fast-developing situation. It picked a sharp angle and really drilled down deep into it from various perspectives, showing the huge impact the virus and the shutdown of China had in the supply and how it affected Taiwanese business.	The unexpected Covid-19 caught the world completely off guard. A prompt in-depth analysis of the pandemic, well-organized and enlightening.

Excellence in Opinion Writing

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Bloomberg	The Economist
Title of Entry:	Why I'm Losing Hope in India	The Economist's Chaguan column
Award Recipients:	Andy Mukherjee	David Rennie
Judges' Comments:	A masterclass in writing with authority about a subject close to the writer's heart, perfectly balancing conveying the facts while telling a very personal story. Eloquent and unflinching.	David Rennie is the master of clarity, deep insight and informed analysis, always with his finger on the pulse of what is going on behind the scenes.

Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Sixth Tone	Hong Kong Free Press
Title of Entry:	Legal Scholar He Haibo on the Overdue End of China's 'Custody and Education' Program	Hong Kong's protest movement in perspective
Award Recipients:	He Haibo	Stephen Vines
Judges' Comments:	The best opinion pieces educate as well as illuminate. He Haibo's encyclopedic yet eminently readable pieces peel back the veil that the political and cultural forces in China have pulled over prostitution, and how the harsh treatment of the accused ruins lives without stopping abuses in the sex trade.	Vines rises to the challenge of writing about such a momentous moment in Hong Kong with historic sweep, courage and a sense he knows what makes his community tick.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Paper 澎湃新闻网	Yazhou Zhoukan 亞洲週刊
Title of Entry:	Why People Don't Like "Civilization Code" 人们为什么不喜欢“文明码”	The origin of Taiwan "Electoral Dictatorship", the phenomenon of DPP "New Authoritarianism" 台灣民選獨裁幕後 綠營新威權主義現象
Award Recipients:	Cheng Shicai, Xia Zhengyu, Chen Cai 程仕才、夏正玉、陈才	Tung Ching Feng 童清峰
Judges' Comments:	In a world where intrusive apps are almost a norm, the Paper makes a stand to say no, and succeeded in halting one. Congratulations!	It's not difficult to go after an authoritarian state everyone hates but it takes insight and courage to criticize a democracy everyone loves. YZZK does it, and with huge impact.

Excellence in Reporting on the Environment

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Washington Post	The Economist
Title of Entry:	How China is choking the Mekong	The Outlaw Sea
Award Recipients:	Shibani Mahtani, Ore Huiying	Dominic Ziegler
Judges' Comments:	Meticulously put together, combining old school boots-on-the-ground investigative journalism with video and photographs for a truly outstanding package.	A hugely important and influential contribution to the campaign to protect ocean biodiversity and basic human rights and working conditions for fishermen. Impressive.

Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The World of Chinese	Sixth Tone
Title of Entry:	China's Hidden Rural Waste Crisis	The Fierce Debate Over Shanghai's New Forest
Award Recipients:	Tina Xu, Jiacheng Li	Li You
Judges' Comments:	Strong package with a compelling narrative supported by impactful visuals and carefully curated data that fleshes out the portraits of the individuals while also giving the story a global perspective. The interview with Zhang Jingning gives the reader insight into the thinking and ambitions of an activist who stands out for his persistence and his humility. The package informs on an intellectual level but also appeals on a personal level.	Beautifully produced package, which stands out for the amazing photography and insightful storytelling that shows the reader both sides of the argument in detail, with good use of data to back up the main thrust of the story. An informative and enjoyable read that leaves you with an indelible sense of what's at stake in this clash between the Goliath of central planning and the David of local environmental action groups.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Taiwan Public Television Service	CommonWealth Magazine 天下雜誌
Title of Entry:	Garbage Island: Taiwan's Endless Waste Dilemma 《垃圾滿島》台灣燒不盡的廢棄物困境	Solar Power Fueling Dreams of Riches 《天下雜誌》714 期〈瘋狂光電 發財夢〉
Award Recipients:	Kuan-Chi Cho, Li-Ping Yu, Dai-Ping Chang, Ting-Ni Wu, Yen-Ju Lin, Hsin-Ming Tseng, Po-Feng Cheng 卓冠齊、于立平、張岱屏、吳亭霓、林燕如、曾芯敏、陳柏逢	Kwang-Yin Liu, Kuo-Chen Lu, Yen-Cheng Su, Sophie Lin, Kai Ting Tsao 劉光瑩、呂國禎、蘇彥誠、林綺薇、曹凱婷
Judges' Comments:	Very strong impact with attractive presentation. A story with rich content.	The publisher must be congratulated for devoting 6-months' resources to this good investigative reporting!

Excellence in Photography

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Agence France-Presse	The New York Times
Title of Entry:	Wuhan: Coronavirus Ground Zero	Adam Dean and Thailand Protests
Award Recipients:	Hector Retamal	Adam Dean
Judges' Comments:	This is what photography does that mere words cannot. The majority of us can only imagine what Covid looks like in Wuhan. Retamal's photos show us exactly what it does.	Evocative photos that make the viewer feel they're right there.

Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Sixth Tone	The World of Chinese
Title of Entry:	Floating Life: China's Flood Victims Pick Up the Pieces	Of Ice and Men: The Thousand-Year Ice-fishing Tradition on Chagan Lake
Award Recipients:	Wu Huiyuan	Tina Xu
Judges' Comments:	Excellent series of pictures that depicts the devastation of the flood, the humdrum of life in its aftermath. The photographer spent several days in Youdunjie, which allowed him to capture multiple dimensions of the disaster. Magnificent photos to show an awful situation.	These images take you to that cold place to tell by themselves the portrait of tradition. They are rich in details and contrasts. Simply fascinating.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Initium Media 端傳媒	Initium Media 端傳媒
Title of Entry:	Protests and Trials in Hong Kong 抗爭與審判	Wuhan's Spring 武漢之春
Award Recipients:	Lam Chun Tung, Chan Cheuk Fai 林振東、陳焯輝	ZuoZuo
Judges' Comments:	A series of photos full of tension. An excellent perspective of view!	The static photos faithfully reflect the quarantine of Wuhan people's life in the Covid-19 pandemic situation.

The Scoop Award

Combined Global & Regional

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Associated Press	Financial Times
Title of Entry:	China Confronts COVID-19	Wirecard: Germany's fintech giant that turned out to be a fraud
Award Recipients:	Dake Kang and colleagues	Stefania Palma, Dan McCrum, Olaf Storbeck, John Reed
Judges' Comments:	No story was more important in 2020 than the coronavirus outbreak. And no outlet did a better job than the Associated Press in uncovering the early missteps that led to a global pandemic that killed millions. Dake Kang and colleagues from the Associated Press used document searches and saturation reporting to unearth a plethora of Covid cover-ups in China. Deliberate delays in genome testing, late warnings, outright censorship; test blunders and secret deals; the pros and cons of the WHO's presence—all were brought to light even as the government resisted publication. These were blockbuster scoops that reflected careful, exact, thoughtful research and much work behind the scenes to pull off.	A wild ride of an entry co-mingles a major fraud investigation—nearly 2 billion Euros gone missing! Forged documents!—with "spies and smears" against the reporters as German regulators circled their wagons. A compelling read. A blockbuster series of scoops delivered via persistence and patience on the part of the reporters, and despite heavy pressure to stop the chase. The scandal has permeated well beyond business to politics in Germany.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Apple Daily 蘋果日報	FactWire 傳真社
Title of Entry:	GFS conducted surveillance on speedboat of 12 fleeing Hongkongers under police order 飛行服務隊兩度出動疑追蹤 12 人快艇 「不知情」說法揭警謊	Police: Crowd flees before CID arrives; 7/21 footage from FactWire shows riot police allowed “White Shirts” to drive away 警：CID 未到群眾已走 傳真社 721 片段 顯示防暴警讓路予白衣人駕車離開
Award Recipients:	Apple Investigation Team 蘋果調查組	FactWire Investigation Team 傳真社記者
Judges' Comments:	This piece used various reporting methods, reconstructing the events and revealed evidence that confronts the police's statements. A great example of investigative reporting and of an impactful scoop.	This piece provides key clues for an incident of great concern to the Hong Kong community.

Excellence in Investigative Reporting

Global

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Associated Press	International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, Malaysiakini, The Asahi Shimbun, BuzzFeed News and more than 100 other media partners around the world
Title of Entry:	Fruits of Labor	The FinCEN Files
Award Recipients:	Margie Mason and Robin McDowell	International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, Malaysiakini, The Asahi Shimbun, BuzzFeed News and more than 100 other media partners around the world
Judges' Comments:	In its stunning two-year investigation, the Associated Press exposed ongoing massive labor exploitation in the palm oil industry in Indonesia and Malaysia -that is supported by international banks and businesses. The investigation had deep convincing documentation and interviews and deftly wove the stories of enslaved workers, including women who are sexually assaulted and of the financial machinations that fund the industry and the corporations producing and using palm oil that turn a blind eye to the rampant abuses. Palm oil from one of the largest producers was blocked by U.S. officials shortly after the AP stories appeared.	Reporters used a vast array of leaked documents, public filings and extensive interviews to reveal a vast corrupt financial system that allows and profits from money laundering around the world. The investigation also showed that weak laws and insufficient law enforcement efforts have been a deep part of the problem.

Regional

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	Sixth Tone	Frontier Myanmar
Title of Entry:	Inside China's Black Market for Foster Children	Shining light on Shwe Kokko
Award Recipients:	Zhang Wanqing and Dominic Morgan	Naw Betty Han and Andrew Nachemson
Judges' Comments:	Zhang Wanqing and Dominic Morgan demonstrate initiative and nerve in this investigation into a shocking aspect of modern China. Deeply-researched and engaging, their piece powerfully highlights the stakes involved in authorities turning a blind eye to the exploitation of vulnerable children. Great story, excellently reported and well told with strong visuals.	Solid and interesting read on the nexus of Chinese investment in South-east Asia, with a deep dive on Chinese businessman, She Zhijiang, and his ties to armed groups and local authorities. Well-written with solid on-the-ground reporting. Powerful on-the-ground reporting exposing the illegal immigration routes between China and Myanmar and how the fraught political situation in the border areas creates a dangerous state - something Covid has only highlighted.

Chinese

	Award for Excellence	Honorable Mention
Publication:	The Reporter 報導者	CommonWealth Magazine 天下雜誌
Title of Entry:	Drug Lords, Death Row Prisoners, Drug Addicts: Taiwanese's Long March in Asia's Illegal Drug Trade 安毒幽靈——毒梟、死囚、施用者，台灣人在亞洲的毒品「長征」	Solar Power Fueling Dreams of Riches 《天下雜誌》714期〈瘋狂光電發財夢〉
Award Recipients:	Sherry Hsueh-Li Lee, Will Chih-Chiang Yang, Te-Lien Kung, Tzu-lei Yang, Chih-Wei You 李雪莉、楊智強、孔德廉、楊子磊、余志偉	Kwang-Yin Liu, Kuo-Chen Lu, Yen-Cheng Su, Sophie Lin, Kai Ting Tsao 劉光瑩、呂國禎、蘇彥誠、林綺薇、曹凱婷
Judges' Comments:	Revealing details about the latest change in drug smuggling in Asia and why Taiwan has played a significant role.	Very comprehensive. Balanced reporting with emphasis on the human side of affected people.

SOPA Award for Public Service Journalism

Award for Excellence

Publication:	Radio Television Hong Kong 香港電台
Title of Entry:	Hong Kong Connection:7.21 Who owns the Truth 鏗鏘集：7.21 誰主真相
Award Recipients:	Executive Producer: Paul Lee Producer: Bao Choy, Sze-sze Cheng, Flora Yeung, Judy Chan 監製：李賢哲 編導：蔡玉玲、鄭思思、楊月芬、陳婉蓉
Judges' Comments:	Excellent use of public information and private CCTV records to reconstruct events of the 7.21 Yuen Long Attack in Hong Kong. Meticulous investigative forensic work that uncovered essential information to serve the public's right to know.