



**YOUNG REPORTERS FOR  
THE ENVIRONMENT**

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## **PRESS RELEASE – Winners of the International YRE Competition 2020**

The finalists of the 2020 Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) International Competition have now been assessed by the International Jury, and the awarded entries have been selected. Over 275,000 students participated in the YRE programme this year, and they produced over 16,000 pieces of environmental journalism for national YRE competitions. The number and quality of entries reflects the continued motivation and dedication of YRE students around the world despite the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The entries awarded this year showcase YRE students' great journalistic talent and a deep understanding of the complex environmental issues affecting their local communities. The International Jury has based their assessment on the students' topic selection, their reflections on how the topic connects to the Sustainable Development Goals and their overall journalistic skills. The awarded entries represent some of the top youth environmental journalism in the world today.

*"YRE gives youths a great platform to tackle global environmental challenges in innovative ways through photos, videos and articles. I was very inspired by the submissions and pleased to see complex environmental issues addressed as well as clear connections to Sustainable Development Goals,"*

– Siiri Mäkelä, UNEP and YRE Jury Member.

The YRE International Competition would not be possible without the hard work of our YRE National Operators, whose inspiring efforts have enabled thousands of teachers and students to participate in this year's competition. It is humbling to see this level of engagement, which empowers more students every year to take an active role in the future of their communities.

### **This year's International YRE Jury**

This year's International Jury meeting took place virtually from the 15th–17th of September. The jury has assessed each shortlisted entry thoroughly, and awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes, as well as Honourable mentions, based on their technical quality, level of investigation, originality, and dissemination. The International Jury represents expertise across a wide spectrum of fields, and consists of professionals in environmental journalism, corporate social responsibility and Education for Sustainable Development.

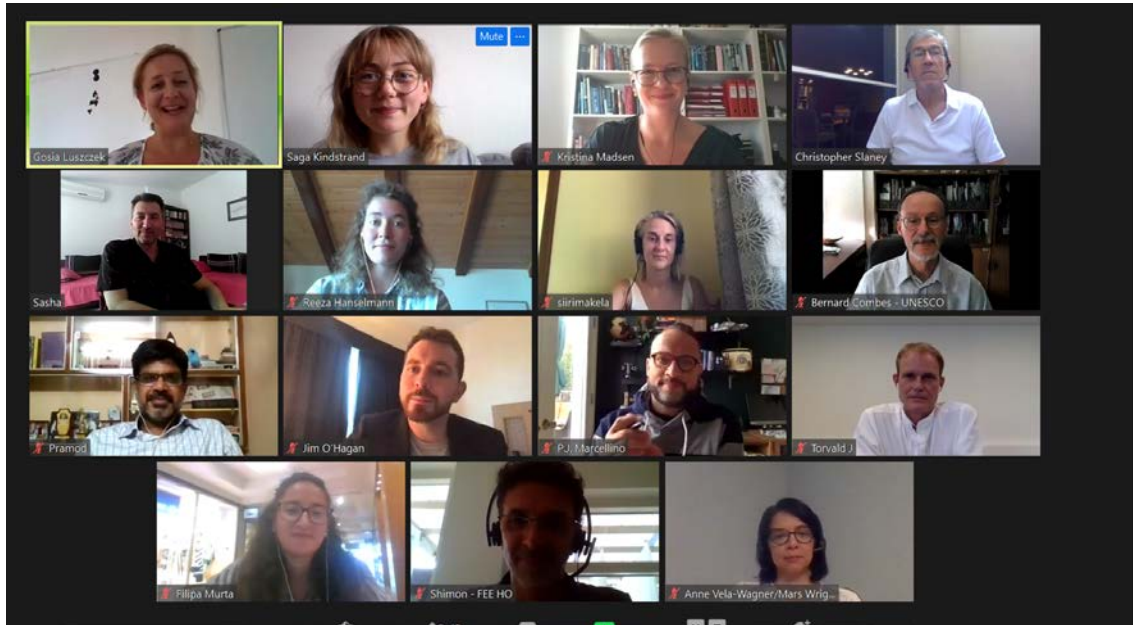
*"I am happy to rejoin the YRE Jury as I was a member many years ago. I am very impressed by*



## YOUNG REPORTERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

*how over the years the quality of the reporting and of the themes chosen for the articles, videos and photos has improved. What has struck me is how committed and engaged the Young Reporters have become and how they have taken on the challenge to tackle key environmental issues at their local level."*

– Bernard Combes, UNESCO



### List of Jury Members 2020:

- Bernard Combes – UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization)
- Anne Vela-Wagner – Mars Wrigley Foundation
- Torvald Jacobsson – IIIIEE (Independent Institute for Innovation, International Institute for Industrial Environmental Economics), Lund University
- Christopher Slaney – Freelance Journalist
- Siiri Mäkelä – UNEP, Kenya
- P.J. Marcellino – Portuguese-Canadian filmmaker, and a former YRE. Head of Development, Anatomy of Restlessness Films. Founder, Baobab Film Collective
- James O'Hagan – Reporter in Euronews' Dubai bureau
- Sasha Karajovic, Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) Executive Board member with responsibility for YRE, Montenegro



## YOUNG REPORTERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- Filipa Murta – YRE Alumna from Portugal

Find detailed information about each Jury Member [here](#).

### About Foundation for Environmental Education

Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) is the world's largest environmental education organisation, with members in 77 countries around the world. Through its five ground-breaking programmes, FEE empowers people to take meaningful and purposeful action to help create a more sustainable world. FEE is recognised as a world leader in the fields of Education for Sustainable Development, environmental education and sustainable tourism.

### About the International YRE Competition

All entries competing in the YRE International Competition have been awarded 1st place in their respective countries' National YRE competitions earlier this year. The entries are divided into three age groups (11–14, 15–18 and 19–25) as well as three media categories (articles, photos and videos). There is also a special category for International Collaboration. YRE students in countries participating in the Litter Less Campaign have the opportunity to submit entries concerned with litter and waste issues, which have been assessed separately. All entries have been uploaded on the YRE Competition's [Exposure page](#).

## The International YRE Competition winners for 2020 are:

### Article, 11–14 years

#### 1st Place

Title: [Toxic Finger Food](#)

Country: Slovakia

#### 2nd Place

Title: [Is the Teardrop of Europe weeping?](#)

Country: Montenegro

#### Honourable Mentions

Title: [Be The Right Change You Want to See in the World](#)

Country: Singapore

Title: [Reducing livestock mortality caused by household plastic waste](#)

Country: Morocco

### Article, 15–18 years



## YOUNG REPORTERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

### 1st Place

Title: [Residents Demand Better Used Clothes Recycling](#)

Country: Slovakia

### 2nd Place

Title: [Fireworks – beautiful environmental villains](#)

Country: Sweden

### 3rd Place

Title: [Biomimicry: The Salvation of the Dunes](#)

Country: Puerto Rico

### Honourable Mentions

Title: [Fuel your body, not pollution: the rise and the problems of online food delivery](#)

Country: International School in Bahrain

Title: [Pollution: A Matter of Life and Death](#)

Country: South Africa

## Article, 19–25 years

### 1st Place

Title: [Once A Month](#)

Country: Puerto Rico

### 2nd Place

Title: [A paradise for endangered species of wetland birds created thanks to a neglected irrigation system](#)

Country: Czech Republic

### 3rd Place (shared)

Title: [Living Zero Waste As Told By A Singaporean Eco-Warrior](#)

Country: Singapore

Title: [Slovak Cities Benefit from Using Rainwater](#)

Country: Slovakia

## Single Photo Reportage, 11–25 years

### 1st Place

Title: [The „Red Lake“ near Dobro Selo in B&H](#)

Country: Bosnia and Herzegovina

### 2nd Place

Title: [Deadly Demand](#)

Country: Singapore

### 3rd Place



## YOUNG REPORTERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Title: [Footprint](#)

Country: Israel

### Honourable Mentions

Title: [EAT LOCAL!](#)

Country: India

Title: [Cooking Yam in a Traditional Kitchen](#)

Country: Ghana

## Single Photo Campaign, 11–25 years

### Honourable Mentions

Title: [Nature, rest in peace](#)

Country: Montenegro

Title: [It's Time To Solve This Puzzle](#)

Country: Portugal

Title: [Congratulations, Humanity!](#)

Country: Iceland

## Photo Reportage of 3–5 Photos, 11–25 years

### 1st Place

Title: [Five Alternative Solution Models to The Eco-Apocalypse from The New Rurals](#)

Country: Turkey

### 2nd Place

Title: [Mining: a scar on the planet](#)

Country: Portugal

### Honourable Mentions

Title: [Kilometres Eaten](#)

Country: Slovakia

Title: [Making face masks for people of Murugu in Tamale, Ghana](#)

Country: Ghana

## Video, 11–14 years

### 1st Place (as Reportage Video)

Title: [Green Algae in Brittany](#)

Country: France

### Shared 2nd Place (as Reportage Videos)

Title: [How to survive and not dry out](#)



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Country: Czech Republic

Title: [Hands-on river revival: A community Fixing Their Environment!](#)

Country: South Africa

**3rd Place (as Reportage Video)**

Title: [Polystyrene Snow](#)

Country: Slovakia

**3rd Place (as Campaign Video)**

Title: [The most dangerous pandemic is still human ignorance](#)

Country: Portugal

**Honourable Mention (as Reportage Video)**

Title: [Small Scabious Mining Bee](#)

Country: Scotland

### Video, 15–18 years

**1st Place (as Reportage Video)**

Title: [Is there a solution to internet pollution?](#)

Country: Iceland

**1st Place (as Campaign Video)**

Title: [Selfish and Hotdog](#)

Country: Republic of Korea

**2nd Place (as Campaign Video)**

Title: [Ocean Acidification](#)

Country: Puerto Rico

**3rd Place (as Campaign Video)**

Title: [Air Pollution in Sarajevo](#)

Country: Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Honourable Mention (as Campaign Video)**

Title: [Driving Green](#)

Country: Israel

### Video, 19–25 years

**1st Place (as Reportage Video)**

Title: [Climate Urgency – Manifestation](#)

Country: Portugal

**2nd Place (as Reportage Video)**

Title: [Cigarette Butts](#)

Country: Argentina



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Honourable Mention (as Campaign Video)

Title: [What if Human Extinct?](#)

Country: Malaysia

### International Collaboration

1st Place (shared)

Title: [Food Waste and Climate Change](#) (video)

Countries: Malaysia and Singapore

Title: [Plastic Waste – An Intercontinental Problem](#) (video)

Countries: Wales and Spain

Honourable Mention

Title: [Trash – A buried nightmare](#) (article)

Countries: Portugal and Montenegro

## Litter Less Campaign Category:

### Article, 11–14 years

1st Place

Title: [Oh we do like to be beside the seaside](#)

Country: Wales

2nd Place (shared)

Title: [The Natural Respirator](#)

Country: Northern Ireland

Title: [To waste our life](#)

Country: New Zealand

Honourable Mention

Title: [The Pollution of the Valdemembra River](#)

Country: Spain

### Article, 15–18 years

1st Place

Title: [Prestige nightmare still haunts Spanish government](#)

Country: Spain

2nd Place

Title: [The problem with electronic waste](#)

Country: Northern Ireland

3rd Place



## YOUNG REPORTERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Title: [Use of water fountains to reduce plastic waste](#)

Country: Malta

### Article, 19–25 years

Honourable Mention

Title: [A journey from littering less to litter- less](#)

Country: India

### Single Photo Reportage, 11–25 years

1st Place

Title: [Recycling makes good business sense](#)

Country: India

2nd Place

Title: [Sustainable surfer seeks waste at summer](#)

Country: New Zealand

Honourable Mentions

Title: [The scream](#)

Country: Malta

Title: [Smart shopping choices, why the plastic netting?](#)

Country: Northern Ireland

### Single Campaign Photo, 11–25 years

Honourable Mentions

Title: [Are you a prisoner to plastic?](#)

Country: Northern Ireland

Title: [Shift to glass](#)

Country: Malta

### Photo story (3–5 photos), 11–25 years

Honourable Mention

Title: [Bench with a view](#)

Country: Malta

### Video, 11–14 years

1st Place (as Reportage Video)

Title: [From the Seine River to the Pacific Ocean](#)

Country: France





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2nd Place (as Reportage Video)

Title: [Reusable present wrappings – a gift to the environment](#)

Country: Malta

3rd Place (as Campaign Video)

Title: [Not just a dream](#)

Country: New Zealand

### Video, 15–18 years

2nd Place (as Reportage Video)

Title: [Plastic pollution awareness](#)

Country: Malta

### Video, 19–25 year

1st Place (as Reportage Video)

Title: [Recycled Wood Furniture](#)

Country: France

Honourable Mention (as Reportage Video)

Title: [Another way our upcycling](#)

Country: India

**Congratulations to all winners!!!**