

# Best Story: Migration and the Refugee Crisis in the EU

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The Award for Best Story: **Migration and the Refugee Crisis in the EU** rewards outstanding work from 2016, which cover matters relevant to EU and relating to migration and the refugee crisis.

## Competition Rules

- ✓ Entries must be submitted by **the deadline of 17 March 2017 at 23:59 CET**. There will then be a nine day evaluation period and winners will be announced after March 26.
- ✓ This competition is **peer evaluated** by participants, supported by the technology of Octorank. In order to win, applicants must **evaluate at least 5 other submissions**.
- ✓ Each applicant can only apply with one story.
- ✓ There are no submission fees.

## Who is eligible for prizes?

- ✓ Full-time journalists and freelancers are eligible to apply with a text story that they wrote and was published.
- ✓ Works must have been published between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016.

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### Octorank

<https://www.octorank.com>

### Contact

✉ [info@octorank.com](mailto:info@octorank.com)

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- ✓ The submitted story must be digitally published through an official organization, media outlet, NGO, etc. Stories on personal platforms such as Medium, a personal blog or Facebook are not eligible.
- ✓ All stories must be accessible via a valid URL during the competition.
- ✓ Works must have been published in either English or German.
- ✓ Works must relate to the EU, either involving an EU country, EU policies or EU citizens.
- ✓ Works must also incorporate migration or the refugee crisis. This could include everything from governmental policy decisions to NGO activities to personal stories of refugees. It is up to the author to defend how the story is connected to the two themes.
- ✓ Entries are allowed to be an individual work or a series of works.
- ✓ Works produced by teams or in a collaboration are also eligible for entry. However, the applicant must have written consent from the other members of the team.
- ✓ Team members of HackPack, S&S Media and Octorank are not eligible to apply.

Winners will also be asked to confirm their identity and that they are the original authors of the story.

## Evaluation Criteria

### Quality of craft

Entries should be engaging, relevant, and appropriate for the audience; it's clear and concise and it works in the medium. They should take a stand and have a clear voice and a point of view. It may be informative, useful, or funny, but it always leaves you wanting more.

Stories should meet high journalism standards. When evaluating, consider whether the work presents well-researched facts, a clear storyline and avoids sensationalism, while remaining relevant.

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## Originality

This work pushes the boundaries of what's been done before. When considering originality, examine whether the idea is new. Is the work fundamentally different from existing ideas and stories or does it show the topic in a new light?

## Significance

The creation of great story demands that it spreads far and wide. When considering significance, ask yourself: Does the story compel you to share it? Does it have longevity? Does the story bring to light new information and have the potential to influence or change public opinion?

## Creative use of the medium's unique capabilities

Presentation is not just text, but integrates sound, design, infographics, maps, data and/or video. Does the story make use of all the opportunities to engage the audience and relay the message?

## About

**HackPack** is a global network, helping media outlets find, hire and manage journalists, photographers and videographers. The platform stands at +7500 media professionals in 138 countries and works with publications such as Al Jazeera, BBC and NPR.

**Octorank** is an awards platform that uses a peer review technology to guarantee speed and high quality for evaluating awards.

**Software & Support Media** is an international publishing house with a focus on the IT sector. The portfolio covers conferences, trainings, specialized magazines, online services and books.

## For more information, please contact:

Justin Varilek, CEO HackPack.press [justin.varilek@hackpack.press](mailto:justin.varilek@hackpack.press)

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