

## Vaughan Smith

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is a freelance cameraman who was shot - the bullet fortunately lodging in his mobile telephone - while exclusively filming the Prekaz massacre.

In 1998 Vaughan organised and filmed the first unmasked interview with a member of the Kosovo Liberation Army, Femi Lladrovici, and filmed the aftermath of the Obrije massacre. In 1999, having secretly walked into Kosovo from Macedonia, he recorded the British Parachute Regiment arriving in Kosovo by helicopter during NATO's intervention.

Vaughan was heading to the airport with them to interdict the Russians when they were recalled by British General Sir Mike Jackson.

Vaughan is a news pioneer who founded the Frontline Club in London in 2003 as a social enterprise to champion independent journalism and promote better understanding of international news and its coverage.

During the 1990s Vaughan worked as an award-winning independent cameraman and video news journalist covering wars and conflict in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia, Chechnya, Kosovo and elsewhere.

During that time he also set up and ran Frontline Television News, an agency established to represent the interests of young journalists who wanted to push the envelope of their profession.

During those turbulent years, beginning with the fall of Communism through to post- 9/11, Frontline freelancers captured some of the best conflict footage around the world.

Vaughan himself filmed the only uncontrolled footage of the Gulf War in 1991, after he bluffed his way into an active-duty unit, disguised as a British Army officer.

The workings of Frontline Television News captured the imagination of a generation of young freelancers. Its history has been detailed in the 2005 book "Frontline: The True Story of the British Mavericks who Changed the Face of War Reporting," by David Loyn of the BBC.

The risks that Frontline journalists took were great and eight members or former members were killed while working in the field. The Frontline Club is dedicated to their memory. Vaughan himself was shot twice, but escaped both times with light injuries.

As a freelance cameraman Vaughan won, either individually or as part of a team, 28 news awards. Many of them for "The Valley" (1999), a film Vaughan produced about the Kosovo War, which remains one of the most acclaimed documentaries broadcast by the UK's Channel 4 Television.

During Vaughan's time as a freelancer he worked for many of the world's leading television stations and became an advocate of improved support for freelancers operating in war zones.

Prior to setting up Frontline, Vaughan was a captain in the British Army's Grenadier Guards, serving in Northern Ireland, Cyprus and Germany. He captained the British Army shooting team and won the inter-army rifle shooting championship.

Vaughan is the elected Chair of the Frontline Freelance Register, FFR, a unique body with more than 1,500 registrants that promotes responsible, safe journalism and represents freelancers and local journalists worldwide.

## Orla Guerin

Orla Guerin, BBC Middle East correspondent  
Orla Guerin became the BBC's Africa correspondent, based in Johannesburg, in January 2006.

Before that she had reported from the BBC's hub bureau in Jerusalem as Middle East correspondent for five years. She reported extensively on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and covered stories from Iraq.

Orla joined the BBC as a news correspondent in 1995 and in January 1996 was posted to the West Coast of America (based in Los Angeles) where she handled a variety of stories including the Oscars.

She was BBC's Southern Europe correspondent - based in Rome - from July 1996 to June 2000. During this period she reported regularly on the Kosovo conflict.

In 1999 she was expelled from the regional capital Pristina by Serb forces at the outset of the fighting.

She reported from Macedonia on the plight of the refugees fleeing the border. Upon re-entering Kosovo - as Nato forces took control - she covered the eventual return of thousands of refugees who had been forced from their homes.

Orla also reported extensively on the conflict in the Basque country in Northern Spain. She broke the story of the cease-fire by the Basque separatist group ETA in October 1998, which was a world exclusive.

Her documentary on ETA for BBC TWO's Correspondent programme was nominated for a Bafta award.

Between June and November 2000, she reported from Moscow on stories including the Kursk submarine disaster and bomb attacks in the Russian capital.

Prior to joining the BBC, Orla worked as a newscaster, presenter and foreign correspondent for Ireland's RTE News.

While with RTE she travelled widely, covering Eastern and Central Europe, the former Soviet Union, the break-up of the former Yugoslavia and the siege of the Bosnian capital, Sarajevo.

She qualified as a journalist in 1985 with a Certificate in Journalism from the College of Commerce in Dublin. She also holds a Masters Degree in Film Studies from University College Dublin.

In 2002 Orla was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Essex and won the Broadcaster of the Year Award from the London Press Club. In 2003, she was awarded the News and Factual Award by Women in Film and Television UK.

In 2004, she was awarded an MBE(Hons) for services to broadcasting.

## Jeremy Bowen

Since March 2003 Jeremy Bowen has been a special correspondent for BBC Television News. He previously co-presented BBC One's Breakfast for two years after its launch in October 2000.

Jeremy joined the BBC in 1984 as a news trainee. He then spent spells in the Radio Newsroom and as a Television News correspondent before becoming Geneva correspondent for Radio News in 1987.

As a seasoned war correspondent, he has reported from more than 70 countries, covering conflicts in the Gulf, El Salvador, Lebanon, the West Bank, Afghanistan, Croatia, Bosnia, Chechnya, Somalia and Rwanda.

Jeremy became the Middle East correspondent in 1995 and won Best News Correspondent at the New York Television Festival. He repeated this success the following year, when he won Best Breaking News report for his coverage of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's assassination.

During the Kosovo crisis of 1999, he reported extensively from the region, often in dangerous conditions, which included being robbed at gunpoint by bandits whilst reporting from the Albanian border.

In August 1999 he presented a special programme examining the aftermath of the Turkish earthquake.

Born in Cardiff in 1960, Jeremy was educated at Cardiff High School. He attended University College London and then went to John Hopkins University in both Italy and the USA.

## Mathew Price / BBC Middle East correspondent

Mathew Price has been a BBC Middle East correspondent based in Jerusalem since March 2004.

Prior to this, he was the BBC's Belgrade correspondent from 2002 and covered events across the former Yugoslavia and Albania.

Mathew joined the BBC in 1994 as a trainee reporter for local radio. He went on to work as a reporter for BBC Radio Lincolnshire between 1995 and 1997 and for BBC Newcastle from 1997 to 1999, where he covered both television and radio news. In 1999 he joined Newsround, the BBC's flagship current affairs programme for children. He has received a number of awards for his work. In 2000 he was voted the Royal Television Society's Young Journalist of the Year.

Two years later in 2002, along with producer Audrey Neil and cameraman Mark McCauley, he won a Bafta for his work in Afghanistan following the Taliban's fall from power. During 2003 he reported from the Gulf and Baghdad during and after the Iraq war. In March 2004, he became a BBC Middle East correspondent, working across the range of BBC outlets, for television, radio and online. Born in London in June 1972, Mathew graduated from Cambridge University in 1994 with a degree in Geography.

## **Fergal Keane** / BBC special correspondent

Fergal Keane is a special correspondent for BBC News, based in London in the BBC's World Affairs unit.

Fergal Keane joined the BBC in 1989 as Northern Ireland correspondent.

In August 1990 he was appointed Southern African correspondent, having covered the region during the early 1980s.

From 1990 to 1994 Fergal's reports covered the township unrest in South Africa and the first multi-racial elections following the end of apartheid and the genocide in Rwanda.

In 1995 he was appointed Asia correspondent based in Hong Kong and two years later returned to be based in the BBC's World Affairs Unit in London.

Fergal returned to Rwanda in 2004, for a special BBC Panorama programme which marked the 10th anniversary of the genocide.

He was named as overall winner of the Amnesty International Press Awards in 1993 and won an Amnesty television prize in 1994 for his investigation of the Rwandan genocide, *Journey Into Darkness*.

He began his career in journalism in 1979 as a reporter on the Limerick Leader and Chronicle before moving to the national daily newspaper, *The Irish Press*.

In 1996 Fergal Keane was awarded an OBE for services to journalism.

## **Paul Wood** / BBC defence correspondent

Paul Wood was appointed as BBC defence correspondent in May 2005.

He was previously the BBC's Middle East correspondent covering the Arab world. He was in Baghdad during the 2003 invasion of Iraq and in Fallujah during the battle for the city.

In 2004 his Iraq coverage won both the television prize at the Bayeux awards for war correspondents and a Golden Nymph at the Monte Carlo television festival.

These were awarded for his report of a devastating suicide attack on Iraqi pilgrims in Karbala. Paul carried on broadcasting while several bombs exploded around him and the BBC team.

More recently he was runner up at the 2005 Royal Television Society Awards for best international report, for coverage of Fallujah.

He was previously the BBC's Belgrade reporter, and its Balkans reporter, filing stories from behind Serbian lines while travelling with Kosovar guerrillas during the NATO bombing in June 1999.

He has also reported from Croatia, Bosnia, and Macedonia, Chechnya, Algeria, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Sudan, including Darfur.

He was previously a correspondent for the BBC in Northern Ireland and a producer in the World Service newsroom at Bush House.

Before joining the BBC he worked for local and national papers. He graduated from the LSE in Political Science.

## **Kate Aide** / BBC, From Our Own Correspondent Presenter

Kate Adie, author and broadcaster, became a familiar figure to viewers through her work as the BBC's Chief News Correspondent. She is considered to be among the very finest reporters, as well as one of the first British women, sending despatches from danger zones around the world. She is also familiar as the presenter of Radio 4's *From Our Own Correspondent* and a guest on many other radio and television programmes.

Kate has been named 'Reporter of the Year' twice by the Royal Television Society; the first occasion was for her coverage of the SAS end to the Iranian Embassy siege in 1973. She also won the Monte Carlo International Golden Nymph Award in 1981 and 1990, and was awarded an OBE in 1993.

Kate grew up in Sunderland and gained her BA from Newcastle University where she read Swedish. She was a member of the National Youth Theatre and still attends the theatre and visits galleries when time permits. She is an avid reader of both fiction and history, and has served as a judge for literary prizes, including the Orange Prize for Fiction, the old Whitbread and the Costa. Kate has also served as a trustee of the Imperial War Museum, and her illustrated, companion history to the museum's exhibition about women in uniform, *Corsets to Camouflage*, was published by Hodder & Stoughton to coincide with its opening in the autumn of 2003.

Her first book, *The Kindness of Strangers*, an account of her work as a reporter and how she came to undertake it, was published by Headline in 2002 and remained on the Sunday Times best seller list for 37 weeks. Hodder & Stoughton has now published *Nobody's Child: The Lives of Abandoned Children* (2005) which formed the basis of the BBC 1 documentaries series, *FOUND*, and, most recently, *INTO DANGER*, (2008) a study of men and women who risk their lives for work.

## Ben Brown

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Ben Brown joined the BBC TV News in 1988 and was a Foreign Affairs Correspondent until 1991, reporting the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Gulf War, from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

He was appointed Moscow Correspondent in 1991, where he witnessed the final collapse of Communism and the fall of Mikhail Gorbachev.

in 1993, and the following year he was in Chechnya for the start of the civil war. His coverage of that conflict won him several international prizes, including the Bayeux War Correspondent of the Year Award and the Golden Nymph Award from the Monte-Carlo Television Festival.

In January 1995, Brown resumed his roving role as a foreign correspondent, based in London. He covered the break-up of Yugoslavia extensively, reporting from Bosnia - Herzegovina, Croatia and Kosovo where his stories helped to secure several awards for the BBC, including a BAFTA (British Academy of Film and Television Arts) award. Reporting House is screening 30 of the reports he made during his trips to Kosovo from 1998-2000.

To produce these TV Reports, Ben and Vaughan worked with translators and local producers such as Fisnik Abrashi, Belma Bajrami, Safet Gashi, Visar Kryeziu & Jeta Xharra.

## David Loyn

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David Loyn is an author, journalist and analyst who specialises in Afghanistan, South Asia and imperial history. He is on an advisory panel to the FCDO on South Asia policy, and co-convenor of a mid-career course for diplomats for the FCDO International Academy on South Asia and Afghanistan. He is a visiting senior fellow in the War Studies Department at King's College, London, and writes regularly on Afghanistan for the Spectator.

As a BBC correspondent for more than three decades, David won awards in both Radio and Television reporting, including Journalist of the Year from the Royal Television Society for his reporting of the Kosovo conflict in 1998. His book *Frontline* was shortlisted for the Orwell Prize. His last BBC posting was as correspondent in Afghanistan, a country he has been visiting since 1994, including several trips during Taliban control.

From 2017-2018 David worked as Strategic Communications adviser in the office of Afghan President Ashraf Ghani. He holds an MA in Modern History from Oxford University, and is a qualified barrister.

David is a board member of Peace Direct, and an Associate of the Imperial War Museum.

## Donika Shahini Lami

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Donika Shahini Lami is a well-known journalist, clinical psychologist, and activist, founder and Director of the Center for Psychological Well-being "ORA", providing counselling, psychotherapy, and treatment services for various psycho-social issues, including post-traumatic stress and domestic

## Ilaz Bylykbashi <sup>1</sup>

Ilaz Bylykbashi, born on May 16, 1955, in Baicë, Lipjan, developed an early interest in photography during high school in Gjilan. He pursued studies in Literature and Albanian Language in Pristina but faced interruptions due to personal issues.

Needing employment as a student, Bylykbashi began working as a crime journalist for the student newspaper "Bota e Re." His career shifted towards photography when he filled in for absent photographers.

In July 1982, Bylykbashi became a photojournalist for "Rilindja," where he captured significant historical events in Kosovo from the 1970s to the 1990s.

His work documented key moments, including the massacre of Jashari and 58 others in Prekaz.

He faced violent mistreatment by Serbian authorities during the 1990s and was known for photographing critical incidents, such as the removal of the "Rilindja" sign and its replacement with "Gracanica" in Serbian Cyrillic following the revocation of Kosovo's autonomy by Slobodan Milosevic in 1989.

## Hazir Reka <sup>3</sup>

Born in 1961 in Ferizaj, he lives and works between Ferizaj and Pristina. He started working as a professional photographer in 1984 for Bota e Re magazine.

His photographs have been published in leading former Yugoslavian magazines (Mladina, Delo, Oslobodenje, Vreme, Start) as well as in some of the most prestigious magazines in the world (New York Times, Herald Tribune, Liberation, Time, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal).

In 1998 he started working for the news agency Reuters. He covered the protests and the war in Kosovo, as well as the entrance of NATO into Kosovo.

Reka also spent time covering the war in Iraq. He has exhibited his works in solo exhibitions in Zagreb, Geneva (Switzerland), Nevers (France), with Jean-François Baptiste, in Saudi Arabia and Barcelona.

In Kosovo he held an exhibition in 2014 at the National Gallery of Kosovo. In 1991 he published the volume of photographs Walking Through the Darkness – Kosovo 1988-1990.

*Info on career found and paraphrased from:*

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.kultplus.com/intervista/ilaz-bylykbashi-shkrepjet-e-te-cilit-u-bene-rufeja-qe-goditi-boten-me-te-verteten-e-kosoves-nen-okupimin-serb/>  
<https://balkaninsight.com/2024/04/19/witness-to-violence-photojournalist-recalls-decades-of-documenting-kosovos-turbulent-times/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://balkaninsight.com/2024/06/07/framing-suffering-kosovo-war-photographer-opens-his-archive/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://imagomundicollection.org/artworks/hazir-reka-exit-light-2/>

<sup>4</sup> info provided by the artist

## Besnik Mehmeti <sup>2</sup>

Besnik Mehmeti, an ethnic Albanian photographer from North Macedonia, entered Kosovo in June 1999 with NATO troops, documenting the destruction and aftermath of the war, including scenes of burnt bodies in houses in the Pristina region.

Now he is based in London as a video editor at Al Jazeera.

Mehmeti began his career documenting the lives of the ethnic Albanian community in North Macedonia in 1995, as well as the protests by Albanians in London following the turmoil in Kosovo. He returned to the region in 1998 during the Kosovo war and covered the NATO bombings from March to June 1999.

During this period, he also documented the refugee crisis, capturing the difficult conditions faced by displaced Kosovo Albanians.

After keeping his wartime photographs for 25 years, Mehmeti is now ready to share his work and is planning to publish a book with his photographs documenting the Kosovo war.

## Eliza Hoxha <sup>4</sup>

Eliza is an architect by trade, but the public remembers her from her engagements in music, photography, writing, arts, and politics. Above all, she is an urban activist in both times of war and peace.

In the 1990s, she worked with the Political Weekly "Zëri" as an external photography collaborator. After the war, she practiced photography for individual projects only, combined with music and other forms of artistic expression, she expanded her range of communication with the public. We recall her projects on the missing persons from the Kosovo war, victims of sexual violence, the parallel education system of the 1990s, etc. Her entire artistic engagement is artistic activism. With more than 25 personal exhibitions, she was also part of many collective exhibitions inside and outside Kosovo.

In 2018, she represented Kosovo at the Venice Biennale for Architecture with the project "The City is Everywhere." She is the author of the book "The City and Love" and editor of the book "The City is Everywhere." Beyond her solo exhibitions, she has curated a series of exhibitions, some with a special emphasis on women's art and activism in Kosovo. Since 2003, she has worked at the Faculty of Architecture / Department of Urbanism. Currently, she is also a Member of the Kosovo Assembly.



## Thomas Dworzak <sup>5</sup>

Thomas Dworzak, born in Germany in 1972, is a renowned photographer who has covered major news events since the 1990s. He began traveling and photographing conflicts at 16, including those in Northern Ireland, Israel/Palestine, and Yugoslavia. Dworzak pursued photography and language studies in Spain, the Czech Republic, and Russia. He spent the 1990s in Georgia, producing the book "Kavkaz" in 2010.

His notable works include "Taliban" (2003), "M\*A\*S\*H IRAQ" (2007), and "Feldpost" (2013–18), documenting World War I's memory with 1,568 postcards. Dworzak has photographed revolutions in former Soviet republics and covered stories in many countries. He is also a curator, exploring digital culture through Instagram memes.

During the 2015 refugee crisis, he created and distributed "Europe – a photographic guide for refugees." His project "War Games" shifted focus to the virtual "Zoom" world during the Covid-19 pandemic. In 2021, he published "Khidi – The Bridge," a screenplay/photobook about Georgian troops. Dworzak joined Magnum Photos in 2000, became a full member in 2004, and served as president from 2017 to 2020.

## Paul S. Refsdal <sup>7</sup>

Pål Refsdal was born in Kongsvinger, Norway. He graduated from the Norwegian Army Officer School in 1983 at the age of 19.

Refsdal reported on various conflicts during the 1980s, including the Soviet-Afghan war, where he met British writer Jason Elliot, and he worked with Tamil separatists. He also covered guerrilla groups in Latin America, including the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity and the Shining Path in Peru. In 1999, he collaborated with the Kosovo Liberation Army, during which he was injured and later rescued with the help of Norway's foreign minister.

In 2009, Refsdal received funding to produce a documentary about the Taliban. While gathering material in Afghanistan, he was kidnapped and held for ransom. He converted to Islam during his captivity and was released on November 12, 2009, after negotiations involving the Norwegian Foreign Ministry.

The documentary "Fanget av Taliban" was released in 2010, followed by an international version, "Taliban: Behind the Masks," broadcast by CNN. Refsdal was nominated for the Rory Peck Award and contributed to a series that won the National Headliner Awards. His book "Geriljareportereren" was also published in 2010.

In the summer of 2013, Refsdal spent six weeks with Muslim rebel fighters in Syria during the civil war, describing them as sympathetic but militarily amateurish.

## Alan Chin <sup>6</sup>

Alan Chin is an American photographer, professor, and writer who has worked as a freelance photojournalist in various global hotspots since 1996, including China, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Iraq, Central Asia, Egypt, and Tunisia. In the U.S., he has documented the Civil Rights Movement trail, the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and the 2008 presidential election.

His career began with photographing the Tiananmen Square crackdown in 1989.

Chin contributes to Newsweek and The New York Times, works as an editor and photographer at BagNews, and serves as the Managing Director of Facing Change: Documenting America (FCDA). He also teaches photojournalism at Columbia University. He is currently working on a book about Taishan, his ancestral region, and is a founding partner of Red Hook Editions.

Chin's work in Kosovo earned him Pulitzer Prize nominations in 1999 and 2000, and he won the 2017 Knight Foundation Detroit Arts Challenge. His photography is included in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art and the Detroit Institute of Arts. He was born and raised in New York City's Chinatown.

*Info on career found and paraphrased from:*

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.magnumphotos.com/photographer/thomas-dworzak/>

<sup>6</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alan\\_Chin\\_\(photographer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alan_Chin_(photographer))

<sup>7</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P%C3%A5l\\_Refsdal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P%C3%A5l_Refsdal)

## Andrew Testa <sup>8</sup>

In a career spanning more than thirty years Andrew Testa has worked extensively in the UK, the Balkans and the Middle East photographing issues around conflict, human rights and the environment.

Andrew was born in London, England in 1965. He began his photographic career in the early 1990s working as a freelance for the Guardian and Observer newspapers. Throughout the decade he documented the growing Environmental Protest and Animal Rights movements in the UK. In 1999 he shifted his attention to the Balkans covering the war in Kosovo.

At the end of 1999 he moved to Kosovo, which he used as a base to cover events throughout Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Middle East. In 2005 he moved to New York where he was based for five years. He now lives in London with his wife and two children.

In recent years he has focused his attention on the political upheaval caused by Brexit and its long term consequences for the United Kingdom and Ireland.

He is a regular contributor to the New York Times and his work has been widely published in magazines such as Newsweek, Time, Stern, Geo, Paris Match, Der Spiegel, The Sunday Times Magazine, The Independent Magazine, Mother Jones, Mare and Granta.

## Sei Motoda <sup>10</sup>

I was born in Himeji, Japan in 1953. I joined Nippon Television(NTV) in Tokyo in 1978 and started working as a news reporter. First I covered domestic news such as politics. Then in 1989 world history changed: The Berlin Wall collapsed, and Bush and Gorbachev met in Malta to declare the end of the Cold War. I went to Malta as a member of the news team and I was thrilled by the dramatic change of the history.

I asked my boss to send me to Europe and I was assigned the London bureau chief in 1994. At that time the Balkan peninsula was in turmoil. I visited Bosnia, Albania and Kosovo to cover the conflicts. I was surprised to see that hot wars broke out even in twentieth century Europe. I made the Kosovo report in the summer of 1998 and not many Japanese knew anything about Kosovo until then.

The Kosovo report was my last report from Europe as I was called back to Tokyo in August.

I became the foreign news editor in 2001. I left NTV in 2014 and taught journalism at Hakuoh University in Tochigi, Japan until March 2024.

## Paul Lowe <sup>9</sup>

Paul Lowe is an award-winning photographer whose work has been featured in prominent publications like Time, Newsweek, Life, The Sunday Times Magazine, The Observer, The Independent and The Telegraph magazine. He has covered significant global events such as the fall of the Berlin Wall, Nelson Mandela's release, famine in Africa, the Yugoslavian conflict, and the destruction of Grozny.

Notably, his photos from April 1999, taken in refugee camps in Macedonia and Albania, were published in the Telegraph magazine, The New York Times, and a French magazine.

Paul is also the Course Director of the Masters program in Photojournalism and Documentary Photography at the London College of Communication, University of the Arts London. He played a key role in upgrading the program to a full Masters degree in 2004.

Additionally, he has written several books, including "Bosnians," which documents the war and post-war situation in Bosnia, and co-authored "Understanding Photojournalism." His research primarily focuses on the photography of conflict, contributing to books like "Picturing Atrocity: Photography in Crisis" and "Photography and Conflict."

*Info on career found and paraphrased from:*

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.andrewtesta.co.uk/profile>

<sup>9</sup> <https://thevifoundation.org/profile/paul-low/>  
<https://www.panos.co.uk/photographer/paul-low/>

<sup>10</sup> *Biography provided by the journalist*

**Max Stahl** / Christopher Wenner

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This courageous British independent documentary maker began his career as Christopher Wenner, a theatre actor and director then co-presenter of the BBC's flagship children's TV program Blue Peter in the late 1970s. In the 1980s he started travelling to conflict zones - central America, Lebanon and others – to make documentaries.

From the 1990s he adopted the alias Max Stahl as a measure to enable his continued access to dangerous places - particularly Timor-Leste (East Timor), where he made his name filming a massacre by Indonesian troops in 1991.

That and his later contribution to the documentary 'Death of a Nation' were major contributions to the East Timorese cause. His work in the 1990s took him also to Russia, Chechnya and the Balkans.

He lived his final years in independent Timor-Leste, founding the Max Stahl Audiovisual Centre for Timor-Leste, accumulating an archive of over 5000 hours of footage shot during the decades of independence struggle. He died of throat cancer in 2021.

Max (Chris) came to Kosovo in autumn 1997, both to make documentary pieces for UK Channel 4 News and as an independent observer of Serbian elections in the then province. His first reporting is on those elections.

Alex Anderson, the Prishtina- based long-term observer of the OSCE election observation mission at that time, recalls: "Chris had an Indiana Jones vibe about him, even down to the hat."

Max kept up his visits to Kosovo into the spring of 1998, making reports that valuably documented this period of simmering conflict beginning to explode, before it caught the attention of the world's media.

On 9 March 1998 he was filming a mass demonstration in Prishtina, gathered to protest Serbian military violence in Drenica, when three leather-jacketed, armed Serb men pounced on him, dragged him through a doorway, robbed and beat him. His description of what happened can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BSMgsQjvOws>

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*Info on career found and paraphrased from:*

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.andrewtesta.co.uk/profile>

<sup>9</sup> <https://thevijfoundation.org/profile/paul-lowel/>  
<https://www.panos.co.uk/photographer/paul-lowel/>

<sup>10</sup> *Biography provided by the journalist*



## EMIR SULJAGIĆ

Dr. Emir Suljagić is a journalist, author, professor, and Director of the Memorial Center Srebrenica since 2019. Suljagić holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Hamburg.

He served as Minister of Education of Sarajevo Canton from 13 January 2011 until 29 February 2012 and was also Deputy minister of Defense from 31 March 2015 to 10 December 2015.

He worked as an English interpreter for the United Nations in Srebrenica and began his career as a journalist working for the award-winning weekly Dani (Days). At the Institute for War and Peace Reporting, he worked as a correspondent reporting from the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). Suljagić has published for The New York Times, the Boston Globe, AlJazeera, El Pais, Die Zeit, and Oslobođenje (Liberation) among others.

Suljagić taught International Relations at the International University of Sarajevo. His memoir "Postcards from the Grave" (2003) is the first account of a Srebrenica survivor to be published in English and was subsequently published in eight other languages.

## DENIS DŽIDIĆ

Denis Džidić has been the executive director and editor of BIRN Bosnia and Herzegovina (Detektor portal) since 2019. He started his journalistic career in the daily newspaper Oslobođenje in 2006.

He joined BIRN BiH in 2008. He devoted most of his career to transitional justice and reporting on war crimes in the 1992-1995 war in BiH. He also reported from The Hague. Džidić worked at the "Institute for War and Peace Reporting" in Sarajevo and The Hague.

He is the winner of several awards, among others, from the "Biti Novinar" Association) for continuous reporting and contribution to uncovering the truth about the genocide in Srebrenica.

Under his leadership, Detektor (BIRN BiH) won the 2020 European Press Prize for reporting on war crimes trials, transitional justice issues and the problems faced by victims of the 1990s conflict. He is currently a member of the Preparatory Committee of the European Press Prize. He graduated from the Journalism Department of the Faculty of Political Sciences in Sarajevo, and received his master's degree in international law.

## Marija Ristic

Marija Ristic is an investigative journalist, with a decade-long experience in war crimes reporting, open-source research and emerging technologies. She is currently a manager at Amnesty International Crisis Evidence Lab, running Digital Verification Corps – a network that supports Amnesty International teams in human rights documentation and fact-finding.

Evidence Lab brings together investigators, engineers, developers and others to pilot new and expanding tools such as artificial intelligence, remote sensing, weapons identification and big-data analytics. Before joining Amnesty, Marija was an executive director of Balkan Investigative Reporting Network, leading media non-profit in Southeast and Central Europe.

For her work as a journalist, she received numerous awards, including the Reporters Without Borders Annual Press Freedom award. Marija Ristic produced many documentaries and reports on alleged war crimes in Kosovo, including the documentary "the Unidentified" and authored the mass graves databases from the wars in former Yugoslavia.

She graduated from Geneva Academy for International Humanitarian Law, as previously held fellowship positions at Columbia University New York and Free University Berlin.

*Info on career found and paraphrased from:*

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.andrewtesta.co.uk/profile>

<sup>9</sup> <https://thevijfoundation.org/profile/paul-lowe/>  
<https://www.panos.co.uk/photographer/paul-lowe>

<sup>10</sup> *Biography provided by the journalist*