

PRESS RELEASE

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AFP PHOTOGRAPHER MARCO LONGARI RECEIVES TIME MAGAZINE AWARD

PRESTIGIOUS AMERICAN MAGAZINE TIME TODAY ANNOUNCED IT HAS PICKED AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE PHOTOGRAPHER MARCO LONGARI AS ANNUAL "BEST PHOTOGRAPHER ON THE WIRES 2012" IN RECOGNITION OF HIS NEWS COVERAGE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

Time awarded its "Best photographer on the Wires" distinction to Marco Longari for his news coverage of Syria, Egypt, the West Bank and Gaza.

"Of the millions of pictures moving through the news services this year, the work of Agence France-Presse photographer Marco Longari stood markedly apart", said Time, who are featuring "a selection of remarkable works" by the photographer on their website (http://lightbox.time.com/2012/12/20/marco-longari-time-picks-2012s-best-photographer-on-the-wires/#3).

Time also added: "in quiet moments and in terrifying, violent environments, Longari made picture after picture this year that mattered...There is, simply, no way to envision the upheaval across the region in the past year without his work."

"I remember the very distinct feel that I was experiencing and sharing the same sensations as my Israeli and Palestinian colleagues, when I ended up under fire from both sides in turn", said Marco Longari.

Italian-born Marco Longari, 47, is a graduate of the *Istituto Superiore di Fotografia*, Rome. He covered the unrest in Kosovo in the late 90's as a freelancer before joining AFP in 2000 in Rwanda, and was later appointed head of photography for East Africa. He has been in charge of photo coverage in Israel and the Palestinian Territories since 2007.

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Press contact: Pierre Fernandez - Tel.: +33 (0)1 40 41 49 23 - pierre.fernandez@afp.com