PHOTOGRAPHY

2026 ANDREI STENIN INTERNATIONAL PRESS PHOTO CONTEST

DEADLINE

28 FEB 2026

ENTRIES CLOSED

POSTED	ENTRY FEE	ONLINE
2 Feb 2026	SEE ARTICLE DETAILS	VISIT ORGANIZER

DETAILS / KEEP FOR REFERENCE

SOURCE: GRAPHIC COMPETITIONS

The Andrei Stenin International Press Photo Contest is a prestigious annual photography competition dedicated to supporting and promoting contemporary photojournalism on a global scale. Organised by Rossiya Segodnya under the auspices of the Russian Federation's Commission for UNESCO, the contest was established in memory of photojournalist Andrei Stenin and aims to preserve high professional standards in documentary and press photography. It provides an influential international platform for photographers to present powerful visual stories that reflect major social, political, cultural and humanitarian issues shaping the modern world.

Open to participants from across the globe, the competition focuses on discovering, encouraging and showcasing talented photographers working in the field of press and documentary photography. Submissions typically span a wide range of categories, including news, sports, portraits, nature and environmental photography, highlighting both single images and photo series. Particular emphasis is placed on visual storytelling, ethical journalism and the ability of photography to capture authentic moments that communicate complex realities and human experiences.

In addition to supporting young photojournalists, the contest has expanded its scope with the inclusion of the "Energy of Life" category, allowing more experienced photographers to participate and share long-term, in-depth projects. Winners and finalists benefit not only from financial awards but also from extensive international exposure through exhibitions, media coverage and professional networking opportunities. As a result, the Andrei Stenin International Press Photo Contest has become a significant event in the global photography calendar, attracting thousands of entries each year and contributing meaningfully to the development of press photography worldwide.

There is no entry fee.

ELIGIBILITY

Open to photographers worldwide, with categories for photojournalists aged 18 to 33 and a category for those aged 34 and older ("The Energy of Life").

PRIZE

The prize structure includes a Grand Prix award of RUB 700,000 and prizes in each category of RUB 125,000 for first place, RUB 100,000 for second and RUB 75,000 for third, with additional sponsor prizes possible, offering significant recognition and financial awards to top entrants.