



wiki loves
EARTH

2014 INTERNATIONAL JURY REPORT

Wiki Loves Earth is a photo contest of the natural monuments, where participants picture protected areas and upload their photos to Wikimedia Commons. The goal of the project is, on one hand, to picture under a free license as many natural monuments and protected areas as possible, on the other hand, to contribute to nature protection by raising public awareness.

After years of successful organisation of Wiki Loves Monuments there was an idea of a similar contest for natural monuments. The idea of Wiki Loves Earth was born in April 2012 during a discussion between representatives of Wikimedia Ukraine and Wikimedia RU. The idea was realised for the first time in Ukraine, where the contest was held from 15 April to 15 May 2013.

In 2014 Wiki Loves Earth became international with 16 countries participating from four different continents - Europe, Asia, Africa and America. Most of countries organised the contest from 1 May to 31 May 2014, while some countries extended the contest period till 30 June, and Serbia was the last to finish on 15 July. During the contest over 70,000 pictures were submitted by more than 3,000 participants.

Similarly to Wiki Loves Monuments, the contest was organised through numerous national contests, coordinated by local volunteers. The national juries submitted then up to 10 pictures to the international stage of the contest. With 16 participating countries, the international jury had to consider a total of 156 candidating pictures. This report includes a summary of the process steps and announces the winning pictures.

ABOUT WIKI LOVES EARTH

INTRODUCE THE JURY

Diego Delso is a Spanish electrical engineer, amateur photographer for 20 years. He has uploaded over 11,500 pictures to Wikimedia Commons, and almost half of them have been recognized as Quality Images and around 150 pictures as Featured Pictures.

Muhammad Mahdi is a photographer and an avid contributor to Wikimedia Commons. He was born in Tanzania and is living in Bangalore, India. He has more than a hundred of featured pictures on both English Wikipedia and Wikimedia Commons, especially nature shots.

Julián Monge-Nájera is a Costa Rican ecologist, scientific editor, educator and photographer. He has acted as scientific adviser for the BBC and the National Geographic Society. He is author or co-author of 20 books.

Susanne Plank lives in Vienna and loves nature, photography and good looking photos of nature. She is a Wikipedian and an active member of Austrian photography community.

Esther Solé is an art historian and photographer from Lleida (Catalonia, Spain) and Wikipedian. She previously served as a Wikipedian in Residence in two Catalan museums.

Oleg Zharii is a professional photographer from Ukraine. Apart of being professor of Mechanics, he is a winner of numerous photo contests. He had photo exhibitions in Kyiv, London and Nairobi.

[[User:Wikimk]] is a Macedonian interested in photography since the age of 15. He was a jury member of Macedonian photo contests.

HOW THE JURY WORKS

Winners were determined by the 7-person international jury. Each participating country could nominate one member to the international jury, although only 5 countries used this right. Two further jury members were added by the international organising team to increase diversity of the jury.

156 nominations were submitted to the international organising team by the national juries of the 16 participating countries. Each country was allowed to submit up to 10 images, but some countries decided to submit less images. Andorra and Spain submitted their images in a double nomination.

The nominations were collected in a judging tool managed by non-voting jury moderators. On the first stage, each jury member could in-

dependently nominate 10 pictures he/she found of sufficient quality to be among the winners. In total 49 images made it to the next round. On the next stage, each jury member independently rated all images with stars from 1 (poor) to 10 (very good). Jury moderator collected the images with an average rating over 5.0: 28 images were selected to the final round.

On the final stage, jury members were invited to rate and comment on these 28 images. Comments were visible to other jury members, while rankings were not. Each jury member ranked the images, giving points from 20 to the best picture to 1 point for the lowest-ranked one. These points were added together, and a combined jury ranking was produced. In case of equality of points in the final round, points from the previous round were used as a tiebreaker.



CARPATHIAN NATIONAL PARK

Photographer: Dmytro Balkhovitin (Balkhovitin)

Site: Carpathian National Park

Location: Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast,
Ukraine

View of Carpathian National Park from Hoverla. Carpathian National Park is located in Western Ukraine and is one of the largest in Ukraine. It is covering the highest parts of the Carpathian mountain range, including the highest point of Ukraine — Hoverla. Its goal is to preserve unique forest ecosystems of Central Europe.

[English]

Вид на Карпатський національний парк з Говерли. Карпатський національний парк розташований у Західній Україні та є одним із найбільших в Україні. Він включає

Jury comments

“ Very balanced composition with strong diagonals from top and bottom center. Very good level of detail and great moment.

Great crepuscular rays. I love how the edits have been kept to a minimum, with the scene looking natural and mesmerizing.

”

найбільш високу частину Українських Карпат, в тому числі й найвищу точку України — Говерлу. Його метою є захист унікальних лісових екосистеми Центральної Європи.

[Ukrainian]



SERRA DOS ÓRGÃOS

Photographer: Carlos Perez Couto

Site: Serra dos Órgãos
National Park

Location: State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

God's Finger Rock in the Serra dos Órgãos National Park. Serra dos Órgãos („Organs Range“) is a mountain range which was turned into a national park in 1939. God's Finger Rock is the best known rock formation in the park, symbol of Brazilian mountaineering and of the entire state of Rio de Janeiro. [\[English\]](#)

Serra e pico Dedo de Deus no Parque Nacional da Serra dos Órgãos. O Parque Nacional da Serra dos Órgãos é uma unidade de conservação situada no maciço da Serra dos Órgãos

“

Jury comments

The layered composition reminds me of classic Chinese paintings. Photographer chose the appropriate time of the day and there are no over-exposed or under-exposed parts. The plants in the foreground allow the viewer to relate to the landscape.

”

criado em 1939. O dedo de Deus é o símbolo do montanhismo brasileiro e também do Estado do Rio de Janeiro. [\[Portuguese\]](#)



MUKRI NATURE PARK

Photographer: Janno Loide (Amadvr)

Site: Mukri Nature Park

Location: Rapla County, Estonia

Mukri bog in the morning October mist. Mukri Nature Park is located in Kehtna Parish of Rapla County and covers the area of 2147 ha. It was established to protect Mukri and Ellamaa bogs and their species. [\[English\]](#)

Mukri maastikukaitseala. Hommik rabas. Mukri maastikukaitseala on maastikukaitseala Rapla maakonnas Kehtna vallas. Kaitseala pindala on 2147 ha. Kaitseala on moodustatud 1992. aastal, et kaitsta Mukri ja Ellamaa raba ning seal olevaid kaitsealuseid liike. [\[Estonian\]](#)

Jury comments

“

Lovely scene. I like the composition and the contrast of almost a black and white picture with the red notes of the sky, despite the clouds are a bit blurry.

Nice bog scene in Estonia, with a magic sky and the typical fog in this kind of scenery. The almost chromatic picture in combination with the red sky makes the picture interesting and the level of detail and depth is really good.

”

Photographer: Oleksandr Chernykh (A4ernyh)

Site: Mount Shaan-Kaya

Location: Yalta Natural Reserve, Crimea,
Ukraine

Mount Shaan-Kaya in clouds. Yalta Natural Reserve. Shaan-Kaya is a rocky mountain next to Ay-Petri in Crimean Mountains. Yalta Natural Reserve is a Strict Nature Reserve protecting mountain forests. [\[English\]](#)

Шаан-Кая у хмарах, Ялтинський гірсько-лісовий природний заповідник. Шаан-Кая — скеляста гора поруч із Ай-Петрі в хребті Кримських гір. Ялтинський гірсько-лісовий природний заповідник є заповідником суворого режиму, де охороняються високогірні ліси. [\[Ukrainian\]](#)

Jury comments

“ Very good quality, composition and atmosphere. The evolving clouds around the mountain stand it out and give it a magic touch. The level of detail is furthermore really good and the noise level, also in darker areas, good managed.

”

MOUNT SHAAN-KAYA



Photographer: Martin Dimitrievski

Site: Mount Krchin

Location: Mavrovo National Park,
Republic of Macedonia

Horse at the top of the Peak of Golem Krchin in Mavrovo National Park. Golem Krchin is the highest peak (over 2300 m) of the Mount Krchin. Mavrovo National Park is the largest of the three national parks of the Republic of Macedonia. [\[English\]](#)

Коњ високо на Голем Крчин, дел од Националниот парк „Маврово“. Голем Крчин, највисокиот врв (над 2.300 м) на планината Крчин. Националниот парк Маврово е најголем е меѓу трите национални паркови во Македонија. [\[Macedonian\]](#)

Jury comments

Simply beautiful. The composition is superb, drawing the eye to the horse which in itself is a treasure of information. The background adds another layer of encyclopedic value.

Beautiful composition, I like the foreground lighting and the information the picture can provide with just a glimpse.



Photographer: Uberprutser

Site: Aekingerzand

Location: Drents-Friese Wold National
Park, Netherlands

Sheep on Aekingerzand, Drents-Friese Wold National Park. Aekingerzand is a vast area with sand dunes, which is a part of Drents-Friese Wold National Park. Aekingerzand is located near Appelscha on the border of Drenthe and Friesland provinces. [\[English\]](#)

Schape op het Aekingerzand, Nationaal Park Drents-Friese Wold. Het Aekingerzand is een uitgestrekt gebied met zandverstuivingen, dat

Jury comments

Taking the photo from the level of the sheep with the blue sky as the background in addition to the lovely green trees and shrubs makes for a colorful and dynamic photo.

deel uitmaakt van het Nationaal Park Drents-Friese Wold. Het Aekingerzand ligt nabij Appelscha in het grensgebied van de provincies Drenthe en Friesland. [\[Dutch\]](#)



Photographer: Vitaliy Bashkatov (Vian)

Site: Novyi Svit Sanctuary

Location: Crimea, Ukraine

„Peninsula“: View of Novyi Svit Sanctuary from Cape Qapçıq. Qapçıq is a long and narrow rocky cape on the southern edge of Novyi Svit Sanctuary. It is the final point of the famous ecological route Golitsyn's Trail and can be seen in numerous films. Novyi Svit Sanctuary was created in 1974 to protect coniferous forests with numerous rare species. The shore of the Black Sea is also protected as a part of the coastal aquatic system between Novyi Svit and Sudak. [\[English\]](#)

«Півострів»: вид на Ботанічний заказник «Новий Світ» з мису Капчик. Капчик — довгий, вузький та скелястий мис у південній частині заказника. Він є завершальною точкою відомого екологічного маршруту «Тропа Голіцина» та був знятий в багатьох фільмах. Ботанічний заказник «Новий Світ» був створений 1974 року для захисту хвойних лісів із численними рідкісними видами. Узбережжя Чорного моря також перебуває

Jury comments

The best photograph of well-known views of the Eastern Crimea I ever seen. Violating of one of the rules of landscape photography, dividing of the picture by horizon by halves, is in this case justified.

Striking composition with the eye following the path from the foreground to the peninsula in the background. The level of detail is extraordinary and the only problem I see here is the white balance, there is some green cast.

під охороною як гідрологічна пам'ятка природи «Прибережний аквально-лісовий комплекс між Новим Світом і Судаком». [\[Ukrainian\]](#)



ZUIVSKYI LANDSCAPE PARK

Photographer: Vitaliy Bashkatov (Vian)

Site: Zuivskiy Regional
Landscape Park

Location: Donetsk Oblast, Ukraine

„Morning Palette“: sunrise in Zuivskiy Regional Landscape Park. Zuivskiy Regional Landscape Park was created in 2002 to preserve the picturesque area. The park covers mostly steppe area with rocky hills. The edges of the Mount Zuy are covered with oak forests that include some rare species. [\[English\]](#)

«Ранкова палітра»: світанок у Регіональному ландшафтному парку «Зуївський». Регіональний ландшафтний парк «Зуївський» був створений 2002 року для збереження мальовничої місцевості.

Jury comments

I find the combination of autumn colours of this picture especially beautiful. The fog in the background rounds the atmosphere, taking the spectator almost inside the scene.

Парк включає переважно степові ділянки зі скелястими пагорбами. На схилах Зуй-гори поширені дубові ліси, серед яких є рідкісні формації, що підлягають охороні. [\[Ukrainian\]](#)



Photographer: Chettouh Nabil

Site: Haizer, Djurdjura Massif

Location: Bouira Province, Algeria

Lake in Haizer, Bouira Province. Haizer is a town situated in the middle of Djurdjura Massif, part of the Atlas Mountain System. Part of Djurdjura Massif is protected as Djurdjura National Park.

[English]

Lac à Haïzer, Wilaya de Bouira. Haïzer est une ville au milieu du Massif de Djurdjura, qui appartient à la chaîne de l'Atlas. Une partie du Massif de Djurdjura forme le parc national de Djurdjura. [French]

Jury comments

If I had to take one picture from this competition it would be this. A very powerful image which shows how we destroy the beautiful world around us.

Interesting composition stressed with the contrast of pollution and calm landscape. The depth of field is great along with the quality.



AÏN LEGRADJ CASCADE

Photographer: Chettouh Nabil

Site: Aïn Legradj Cascade

Location: Bordj Bou Arréridj Province,
Algeria

Aïn Legradj Cascade is a waterfall near Bordj Bou Arréridj. It is approximately twenty meters high and is located in a semi-arid area especially known for its sirocco winds. Several fresh water sources from the area converge on the top of the rock to form the waterfall. [\[English\]](#)

Cascade de Aïn Legradj est une cascade à proximité de Bordj Bou Arréridj. La cascade est haute d'une vingtaine de mètres et se trouve dans une zone semi-aride surtout connue pour ses siroccos. Quelques sources fraîches con-

“

Jury comments

I'd like to see more of the surroundings, there is much „nothing“ on the left, but what's on the right? Nevertheless it's an interesting image with very high quality.

”

vergent sur une falaise pour donner naissance à la cascade. [\[French\]](#)



Photographer: Volodymyr Khirash

(Хіраш Володимир)

Site: Mount Kukul

Location: Carpathian National Park,
Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast &
Carpathian Biosphere Reserve,
Zakarpattia Oblast, Ukraine

Jury comments

Good detail, great colors, nice composition and endless calmness.

Mount Kukul in winter. Kukul is located in Ukrainian Carpathians near Chornohora range, its height is 1539 m. The top of the mountain is covered with spruces. Administratively Kukul belongs to two regions and natural sites: its eastern part is in Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast and is a part of Carpathian National Park, while its western part is in Zakarpattia Oblast and is a part of Carpathian Biosphere Reserve. [\[English\]](#)

Гора Кукуль взимку. Кукуль (або Кукул) розташований в Українських Карпатах поруч із масивом Чорногора, його висота 1539 м. Верхівка гори поросла смереками. Адміністративно Кукул належить до двох областей та двох природоохоронних територій: його східна частина розташована

в Івано-Франківській області та входить до Карпатського національного природного парку, а західна частина розташована в Закарпатській області та є частиною Карпатського біосферного заповідника. [\[Ukrainian\]](#)



Photographer: Isiwal

Site: Nationalpark Kalkalpen

Location: Upper Austria, Austria

Zaglbauernalm Beech. This beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) is located on the so-called „Zaglbauernalm“ (alpine pasture of farmer Zaglbauer) approximately 920 m above sea level in Nationalpark Kalkalpen (Limestone Alps National Park). In 2014 the tree is already heavily attacked by fungi. Nationalpark Kalkalpen contains Central Europe's largest forest region, as well the largest karst in Austria. [\[English\]](#)

Buche auf der Zaglbauernalm. Die Buche (*Fagus sylvatica*) auf der Zaglbauernalm steht auf einer Höhe von ca. 920 m im Nationalpark Kalk-

Jury comments

The picture makes a statement about new life coming out of a dying nature. The chosen detail is interesting and the image quality is very high.

Nice atmosphere, balanced composition, interesting and original subject. The picture quality is also over the average.

alpen. Der Baum ist (2014) stark von Baumschwämmen befallen. Nationalpark Kalkalpen enthält Mitteleuropas größtem Waldregion und die größte Karst in Österreich. [\[German\]](#)



Photographer: Mikipons

Site: Pool of Cortalet

Location: Aiguamolls de l'Empordà
Natural Park, Catalonia, Spain

Pool of Cortalet in Aiguamolls de l'Empordà Natural Park. The Pool of Cortalet lake is a wetland located in the town of Castelló d'Empúries covering some 146 hectares. Pool of Cortalet is an artificial pond built in order to facilitate observation of birds by park visitors, as the park is mostly ornithological. [\[English\]](#)

Estany del Cortalet, Parc Natural dels Aiguamolls de l'Empordà. L'estany del Cortalet és una zona humida localitzada al municipi de Castelló d'Empúries d'unes 146 hectàrees de superfície. L'Estany del Cortalet és una gran

Jury comments

I like the composition of the tree in the water, the framing by the grass and the sky; nevertheless the image as a whole is a little bit boring.

bassa artificial dissenyada i construïda és facilitar l'observació dels ocells a bona part dels visitants del Parc, essent el seu interès ecològic bàsicament ornitològic. [\[Catalan\]](#)



Photographer: Bayke de Vries (Baykedevries)

Site: Ezumakeeg

Location: Lauwersmeer National Park,
Netherlands

Barnacle Geese at Ezumakeeg, Lauwersmeer National Park. Ezumakeeg is a natural water reserve in the western part of Lauwersmeer area. Lauwersmeer National Park was created on 12 November 2003. In 1969 Lauwers Sea was enclosed and separated and gradually became a freshwater lake. In a few years new fauna and flora appeared. The national park was created to protect this young nature area. [\[English\]](#)

Jury comments

Nice composition of this capture with a living pattern.

Brandganzen bij de Ezumakeeg, Nationaal Park Lauwersmeer. Ezumakeeg is een natuurgebied in het westen van het Lauwersmeergebied. Het Nationaal Park Lauwersmeer is op 12 november 2003 tot Nationaal Park verklaard. Na de afsluiting van het Lauwersmeer in 1969 zijn de hooggelegen zeebodems droog komen te staan. In de eerste jaren zijn grote delen hiervan vrijwel aan hun lot over gelaten, zodat veel natuur ontstond. [\[Dutch\]](#)



MOUNT THALETAT

Photographer: Chettouh Nabil

Site: Mount Thaletat

Location: Bouira Province, Algeria

Mount Thaletat, also called Main du Juif, with the height of 1638 m, is a part of Djurdjura Massif in Kabylie. Its name Thaletat means „little finger“ in Kabyle, while French called this mountain Main du Juif (Jew's Hand), either because of its shape similar to raised hand with six fingers or because it was a place of worship of a Jewish ascet. Part of Djurdjura Massif is protected as Djurdjura National Park. [\[English\]](#)

Thaletat, aussi appelé la Main du Juif, qui culmine à 1 638 m d'altitude, est l'un des sommets du Djurdjura en Kabylie. Son nom Thaletat signifie « auriculaire » en kabyle. Les Français

Jury comments

Beautiful image but I find it hard to believe that there were fireworks there and that in that case, you could get the stars, the fireworks and the clouds right with just one image. I do not want to be unfair for suspecting a strong image manipulation, though.

ont donné au mont le nom de « Main du Juif », soit de son apparence d'une main levée à six doigts, soit parce que le mont était le lieu de prière d'un ascète juif. Une partie du Massif de Djurdjura forme le parc national de Djurdjura.

[\[French\]](#)



16th place

Photographer: Robert Labchuk (Robert-Erik)

Site: Mount Hoverla

Location: Carpathian National Park, Ivano Frankivsk Oblast & Carpathian Biosphere Reserve, Zakarpattia Oblast, Ukraine



17th place

Photographer: Bruno Rodrigues Rausch
(Brunorr)

Site: Salto do Sucuriú

Location: Rio Sucuriú Municipal Park,
Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil



18th place

Photographer: Pavlo Mokrytskyi
(Мокрицький Павло)

Site: Lake Svitiaz

Location: Shatsk National Park,
Volyn Oblast, Ukraine



19th place

Photographer: Anastasiya Sak

Site: Aktove Canyon

Location: Granite-steppe lands of Buh
Regional Landscape Park,
Mykolaiv Oblast, Ukraine



20th place

Photographer: Valen1988

Site: Feather Grass Steppe

Location: 3 km North-West from
Amasia, Armenia

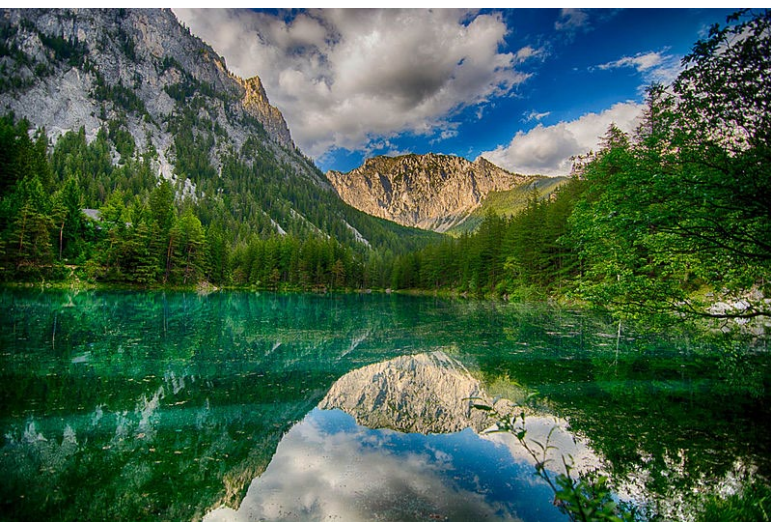


21st place

Photographer: Mikipons

Site: Cove's Rocks in Cala des Frares

Location: Lloret de Mar, Catalonia, Spain



22nd place

Photographer: Martin Toedtling

Site: Grüner See

Location: Styria, Austria



23rd place

Photographer: Bijaya2043

Site: Ice Lake

Location: Manang district, Nepal



24th place

Photographer: Sherparinji

Site: Road descending from
Nara La (pass) 4535 m
to the border of Tibet

Location: Humla district, Nepal



25th place

Photographer: Vladimir Mijailović

Site: Ovčar-Kablar Gorge and
meanders of West Morava

Location: Moravica District, Serbia



26th place

Photographer: Eduardo Muruci

Site: Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*)
at Praia do Sancho

Location: Fernando de Noronha,
Pernambuco, Brazil



27th place

Photographer: Rehman2112

Site: Pandion haliaetus in Azerbaijan

Location: Unidentified location.
Azerbaijan



28th place

Photographer: Janno Loide (Amadvr)

Site: Rookse elm (*Ulmus laevis*)

Location: Võnnu Parish,
Tartu County, Estonia

IMAGES

1. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Карпатский_05.jpg
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