

Nikkei Asia wins Human Rights Press Award for its coverage of online fraud

16 May 2023 –Nikkei Asia, Nikkei’s English-language outlet, has won a leading international human rights journalism prize for an investigation of the post-pandemic explosion in online fraud in several Southeast Asian countries.



The Human Rights Press Awards, which are focused on Asia, gave the honor in the explanatory feature writing category of the English language section.

Nikkei Asia's winning piece, "Asia's scamdemic: How COVID-19 supercharged online crime" (<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/The-Big-Story/Asia-s-scamdemic-How-COVID-19-supercharged-online-crime>), revealed a desperate escape of young Thais who were forced to be part of Chinese fraud groups based in Cambodia by human trafficking amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The visually-rich project -- lead reported by Dominic Faulder with contributions by Thompson Chau, Kyokuto Murayama, Anchalee Romruen and Sun Narin -- was also honored in March by the U.S. Society for Advancing Business Editing and Writing.

The Human Rights Press Awards are organized by Human Rights Watch and Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University.

The awards had been organized by the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Hong Kong for a quarter of a century, but Human Rights Watch and Walter Cronkite School took over responsibility this year as the club suspended its annual human rights press awards just days before it was due to announce winners after Beijing imposed a sweeping new national security law in 2020.

The prizes were chosen among 406 entries from 33 countries reported in English and Chinese. Agence France-Presse's "The Defiant Women of Afghanistan" won the Breaking News Writing category, while Reuters' "Myanmar military abuses against the Rohingya and democracy activists" won the Investigative Feature Writing category.

Shin Nakayama, Nikkei Asia's editor-in-chief, said: "We are grateful for the recognition of Nikkei Asia's reporting stance that values human rights, which is the essence of media outlets. We will continue our in-depth reporting that covers various problems facing countries and regions in Asia."

About Nikkei Asia

Nikkei Asia is an English-language online and magazine publication with a network of reporters and editors across the region and beyond. It aims to break stories on important economic and political trends and to offer a distinctively Asian lens on the global stories that matter most.

Nikkei Asia is part of the Tokyo-based media group Nihon Keizai Shimbun, or Nikkei. It publishes translations of the best of Nikkei's Japanese-language coverage of Asia.

About Nikkei

Nikkei Inc. is a world-renowned media brand for Asian news, respected for quality journalism and for being a trusted provider of business news and information. Founded as a market news provider in Japan in 1876, Nikkei has grown into one of the world's largest media corporations, with 37 foreign editorial bureaus and approximately 1,500 journalists worldwide. Nikkei acquired the UK-based Financial Times in 2015. Our combined digital and print circulation totals about 2.5 million, and we are continually deploying new technologies to increase our readership.

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