

There are confronting images in this issue 'A World in Crisis'. Many are distressing depicting the atrocities inflicted on Gaza and Ukraine. As we begin 2024 hoping for better outcomes globally than in 2023, further escalation of the war in Gaza has put the world on edge. I felt it important for the design of the cover to depict a less challenging image than those shown in this issue and chose a photograph taken by Brendan Hoffman, taken in 2023 in Ukraine during the Russian incursion.

Photojournalists Brendan Hoffman and Oksana Parafeniuk have been photographing the war in Ukraine since 2014 and have amassed a plethora of images depicting the lives of the Ukrainian people under Russian bombs and missiles. In their interview Brendan and Oksana remark that people seem unfazed by missile attacks, but at the same time are suffering, although occasionally life in Kyiv can seem normal. The photograph taken by Brendan Hoffman on the front cover captured:

Coloured smoke from signal flares obscures the independence monument in the centre of Maidan Nezalezhnosti, or Independence Square, during a rally and march held by family members and other supporters of Ukrainian soldiers and civilians being held prisoner by Russia or who have gone missing on Saturday, January 14, 2023 in Kyiv, Ukraine. Many of the participants urged Ukraine and Russia to come to an agreement to trade all the prisoners being held on both sides.

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