# **Research Image Competition 2022**



1 - The effect of structural factors and precarity on refugees' vulnerability to and responses to scabies



2 - Investigating the overlap in usability of accessible switches and buttons for disabled users and dogs



3 - When nature is smothered by plastic, green minds struggle to grow



4 - May the sun never set on friendship



5 - If you see lithium, what are you looking at?



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### **Competition Entries**



13 - The effect of structural factors and precarity on refugees' vulnerability to and responses to scabies

## The effect of structural factors and precarity on refugees' vulnerability to and responses to scabies - Addisu Tsegaye (Brighton & Sussex Medical School)

Nguenyyiel Refugee Camp is inhabited by more than 100,000refugees. However, there is only one health centre and two health posts in the camp. This is against the standard of both the Ethiopian Federal Ministry of Health and the United Nations Higher Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) which recommend a health centre for a setting with a population of 15,000 to 20,000, and 15,000to 25,000 respectively. More than 300 people, on average, visit the health centre per day. Thus, the health centre is operating with its critical capacity. Disease perpetuating socio-economic factors and agonizing environmental conditions make refugees experience myriad communicable diseases including scabies. Scabies is one of the top five common reasons for people to visit the health centre. However, too much waiting time and reports of lack of treatments at the centre discouraged scabies patients from seeking healthcare services thereby leaving them untreated. This picture elucidate s how structural factors and precarity affect refugees' vulnerability to and responses to scabies.



14 - Investigating the overlap in usability of a ccessible switches and buttons for disabled users and dogs

## Investigating the overlap in usability of accessible switches and buttons for disabled users and dogs - Alice Torjussen (School of Engineering and Informatics)

The field of Animal-Computer Interaction looks at how animals interact with the increasing amount of technology around them. It examines animals' relationships with technology and also if there are cases where technology can be designed to allow them to use it more easily. Dogs, in particular, have many reasons to use technology interfaces. For example: medical alert dogs s ounding an alarm to save a life, children with autism support dogs using technology, or pet dogs playing games with humans (multi-species games). By finding out what sort of ways a dog can interact with a computer (by pressing buttons, pulling, biting, barking, nose press, and others), we learn what works and what doesn't, and help both humans and dogs. This photo is from a study that looked at the degree of overlap in the usability of accessible switches and buttons for disabled users and dogs.



15 - When nature is smothered by plastic, green minds struggle to grow

When nature is smothered by plastic, green minds struggle to grow - Anna Ridgewell (School of Education and Social Work)

The sign on the fence invites little hands to have a go at digging. Perhaps they will find some interesting mini-beasts, pretty stones, or simply enjoy the feel of the earth crumbling through their fingers. But the digging area has been covered over with artificial plastic grass, so it will be hard to connect with nature here. The artificial grass lands an extra blow on the environment, preventing access to food for soil dwellers, shedding microplastics and being unsustainable. My PhD investigates whether children are able to develop a connection to nature at nursery and school and develop the 'green minds' needed for the future. Often the intention is there – as the sign suggests – but the resources to implement nature contact (staff, time, money) are not. In the most under-funded childcare settings, green minds struggle to grow, as easy options like fake grass take precedence over more authentic natural environments.



16 - May the sun never set on friendship

#### May the sun never set on friendship - Avanka Fernando (School of Global Studies)

The silhouette of two friends emblazoned against the sky, Galle Face, Sri Lanka Galle Face, a popular hangout place for friends and family, has also become contested space for urban development projects like Port City, a hub in Chinese driven global development. In 2022, Galle Face also became a demonstration site drawing many Sri Lankans, including my research participants to protest the excesses and misdemeanours of he government. This image reflects my research study which explores the impact of urban development related projects on the construction of home and

belonging of urban communities. The everyday lives of these two friends who belong to an urban informal community are severely affected by crises in Sri Lanka, their future bleak. Yet, invigorated by the sea breeze, the excitement of protests and momentary freedom from parents, their troubles are forgotten. Linking hands, they watch the sunset.



17 - If you see lithium, what are you looking at?

#### If you see lithium, what are you looking at? - Daniela Soto (School of Global Studies)

As part of mainstream ideas of the energy transition, lithium has been framed as a key mineral in building the lithium-ion batteries of electric cars. Equally, the Atacama salt flat in the Atacama Desert (Chile) has been included as part of the so-called "lithium triangle", a reach-lithium zone in South America. My research constitutes an effort to contest these Western imaginaries and the misleading understanding they carried of the Atacama Desert as deserted of everything-but lithium. Rather, based on the Lickanantay indigenous people's worldview, I defend the Desert as a sacred, complex, and abundant territory. By doing so, I aim to highlight the value of other-landscapes and the effects of obscuring everything else when focusing on lithium, including environmental damage. Therefore, I invite you to see this beautiful salt flat, the vivid colours and the sacred mountains shown in the picture, who protect the Desert's people and all non-human beings.



18 - Transforming the abandoned

#### Transforming the abandoned - Diana Ramirez Sarmiento (Institute of Development Studies)

This abandoned school in a rural area of Huila reflects a Colombian countryside that has been affected by poverty, violence and State neglect. I took this photo during a family trip a few days before travelling to the UK to start my PhD and I keep it on my laptop to remind me why am I dedicating 4 years of my life to research. For me, the trees emerging from a completely deteriorated building symbolise the contribution that I want to make with my study, which is to analyse and cocreate pathways to transform these rural realities of exclusion, from a participatory approach. I believe in participation as a transformation tool and I aim to understand how to guarantee this transformative process in the rural territories of my country.



19 - Neurons that innervate muscles

### Neurons that innervate muscles - Eleni Christoforidou (School of Life Sciences)

What may look like a flower bouquet to some, is in fact what certain neurons look like under the microscope. Filaments of motor neurons (the neurons that instruct muscles to contract or relax) are shown in green, and the connection between neurons and muscles is shown in red. Part of my research is trying to find the reasons why these neurons begin to die in motor neuron disease (also known as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), thus causing muscle weakness and ultimately paralysis and death. Because there is currently no cure for this disease, understanding the mechanisms behind

neurodegeneration will lead to the development of new treatments that will hopefully change human lives for the better.



20 - A rainwater coffee

A rainwater coffee - Jorge Adrián Ortiz Moreno (Institute of Development Studies)

My research focuses on how marginalised populations in the outskirts of Mexico City are adopting rainwater harvesting facilities as an alternative to cope with water scarcity. During my fieldwork, I interviewed Mrs Hilda, who got the opportunity of getting a rainwater harvesting system from a philanthropic organisation in 2012, a few years after she immigrated to the capital from a town in a neighbouring state. 'I was about to leave here, because we can be without electricity, without gas, but we can't be without water.', she told me. She didn't want to move back because there were not many opportunities in her hometown. Nowadays, fortunately, their children finished university and when I interviewed her, she even had enough water to share with me a rainwater coffee. I learned a lot about development that day, but also about life.



21 - Greater horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus ferrum equinum)

Greater horseshoe bat (Rhinolophus ferrum equinum) - Katie Allan (School of Life Sciences)

Here is a close up shot of my study species, the greater horseshoe bat. The aim of my PhD is to assess the permeability of landscapes to this rare species of bat using the MOTUS wildlife tracking system. This system uses static radio receivers to determine the position of animals at any given time in the network. In order to attach radio tags to the bats, we have to capture them in mist nets at their roosting sites.



22 - Double-Masked

Double-Masked - Louise Dobson (School of Media, Arts and Humanities)

In a 1927 photograph by Berenice Abbott, Janet Flanner, an American journalist who masqueraded as "Genêt", a French flâneur, is dressed as "Uncle Sam", a personification of the United States

When Flanner accepted the pseudonym of "Genêt" writing the "Letter from Paris" column for the New Yorker magazine in 1925, she was an inexperienced journalist with an inconvenient past.

She also, like other pseudonymous writers, found secrets seductive, enjoyed a prank, displayed addictive and compulsive behaviours, and had difficulty making intimate connections.

At first, the androgynous-sounding pseudonym was freeing, allowing Flanner access to maledominated spaces and keeping her private life private. But later in the Cold War era, maintaining an anti autobiographical stance took on new urgency as Flanner struggled to conceal careerthreatening secrets.

This image of me posing as Flanner, pretending to be "Genêt", dressed as "Uncle Sam", represents the layers of immersion this research has plunged me into.



23 - Sightseeing for citizenship

#### Sightseeing for citizenship - Marie Tuley (School of Law, Politics and Sociology)

Men and women from origins including India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Bulgaria, Romania, and Russia, gather under the golden autumnal sun on the Groenplaats - one of the main squares in the Flemish city of Antwerp. They are all participants of a civic integration course, mandatory for many arriving in Belgium from outside the EU. They are waiting for a walking tour of the historic city centre to start, organised as part of the course. How do migrants experience a mandatory civic integration course? This is one of the main questions framing my research which compares the approaches of two regions in Belgium. My research aims to move the conversation away from being for or against such (mandatory) courses to a more nuanced debate about the differing potential pedagogical and ideological content and the subsequent varied experiences of participants.



24 - Fluorescent fish

Fluorescent fish - Ragnheidur Gudjonsdottir (School of Life Sciences)

Zebrafish are immensely useful in research. The larvae are optically transparent, they can be genetically modified to express fluorescent protein in specific areas, and they develop quickly. This fish is 3 days old and already swimming on his own, and expresses green fluorescent protein (GFP) in all motor neurons.