

Dear Colleagues all over Europe,

The present crisis has brought us to start a pan-European call for photos of this situation to record it for all of us and posterity; and also because we feel that Europe must stick together at such a difficult time.

My name is Oliver Heinl. I am an architectural photographer from Germany and would like – supported by another photographer and friend, Christian Höhn – to join forces with you, i.e. 46 other fellow photographers from all European capitals, to realise a unique photo project: we want to visualise the special state of Europe in times of the Corona virus.

We are writing to exactly one photographer in each capital whose imagery we think matches our idea. We had this e-mail translated into English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Croatian, Polish, Romanian and Russian. It is available in the above languages as a PDF download at www.lockdown-europe.org.

All Europe is currently being shaped by the Corona virus. In most countries, curfews have been imposed; each nation implemented plans to get its citizens back home. Europe that had gradually been growing together seems to have started disintegration again.

Our idea: we want to put the pieces of the puzzle, i.e. Europe, together again – at least visually. To be able to do this, we hope that we will find one photographer in each of the 47 European capitals who is willing to work on our joint photo project called **“LOCKDOWN Europe”** by taking meaningful photos of the present state of his/her capital.

The purpose of this project is to initiate an exhibition that will move all around Europe. This exhibition will be accompanied by a publication. This, of course, depends on potential funding. But since time is pressing upon us and we do not know how long this state will last, we would like to start the photograph work timely.

If you like to be part in this project, we ask you to send us (e.g. by WeTransfer) a selection series of 1-5 digital pictures (.jpg or .tiff format) that show the impact of the Corona virus on urban and other life in your capital. It is up to do how you implement this subject. All submitted photos should have a size of at least 3400x4600 px at 355 dpi; location and shooting date should be specified. The photographs will document a state of our continent we have not known before. Nobody knows what impact this time will have on our lives and on Europe. Our lives are currently dominated by many fears and uncertainties. But now we have the opportunity to record this state with our pan-European photo project. We would also appreciate if you share your experiences and feelings that you had when you were taking the pictures.

Within crisis are the seeds of opportunity! For this reason, we would like to implement this idea with you – now! We will (hopefully) not have much time to do this before life in our cities is more or less back to normal.

We will construct a website that shows your submitted pictures. But this is all at some future time. Now it is time to implement our common idea photographically!

The project is a non-profit project and we hope we can get you enthusiastic about it!

Please let us know by the 28th of April 2020 whether or not you want to be part of this project. If not we will contact another photographer.

Please let us know if you have any questions. Please communicate in German or English.

Thank you very much and sunny greetings from Bavaria! Stay safe!
Oliver & Christian

Important: Please observe the relevant partial or total curfew imposed in your country while you work for our project! In case of a total curfew, you might e.g. want to take pictures of your home environment...