

The best part of my job

Being a news reporter might sound like a very boring and dull job to most of you, but I would like to share some of the highlights and unique experiences from this job. The best part of being a news reporter is no other than the opportunity to meet different people. Throughout my career, I have met and interviewed a plethora of diverse individuals. From influential party leaders to citizens, from elementary school children to elderly retirees, from billionaires and technological pioneers to street-sleepers in the most crowded slums, every single one of them brings a unique and intriguing story.

I remember when I had to travel to Greece during the financial crisis of 2008 to write an article, I was wondering about on the empty streets when a little girl came up to me, her face as pale as snow, and asked me if I had any food. That touched me deeply and my article about the incident helped to support a crowd funding event to relieve those who were affected.

To spread the stories of different people, and to really walk in their shoes is what I truly enjoy and value of this job, and it keeps me motivated and driving me forward.

The biggest challenge I have ever faced in my job

Being a news reporter isn't an easy task. More than often, you'd find yourself in some sticky situation. For me, it would undoubtedly be the time when I had to travel to Afghanistan for a news article during the Afghan War. I was one of the dozen news reporters invited by the US military to write about the Afghanistan War. We travelled on a cargo plane towards the battlefield. Moments before we landed on a temporary airport, I tried to take some birds-eye-view photos with my camera, when suddenly I saw an Afghan insurgent on a nearby building aiming at us with an 'RPG' (Racket Propelled Grenade) launcher! Fortunately, he was quickly taken out by a US sniper before he could pull the trigger. If he were a mere second late, then we'd sure to have bitten the dust!

Although life-ending risks sound scary, the thrills of going through near-death scenarios really makes news reporting an exciting part for me.

My school day

Back when I was in school, the most memorable experience, and the most influential to my career is studying History, I'd often ask my History teacher where'd all the pictures and photos in our textbooks came from. His reply was 'These pictures were taken by the brave news reporters. They put their lives on the line, often bringing no more than a notebook and a camera with them, to give the world a clearer picture on what was going on.' This inspired me and driven me towards being a news reporter.

Where I'm going next

For my future plans, I'm going to travel to Ukraine in a few short days to bring all of you some more in-depth insights on the Russian-Ukrainian War. I hope to interview people such as emergency response workers, soldiers and civilians from both sides, so stay tuned!