

[NEWS & EVENTS](#) > Writers Bloc project links writers and education

POSTED ON
23 MAR 2012

COUNTRIES
[INDIA](#) [INTERNATIONAL](#) [PAKISTAN](#)

THEME
[ARTS EDUCATION](#)

DISCIPLINE
[LITERATURE](#)

Writers Bloc project links writers and education



[Writers Bloc](#) is a new international writer-led initiative. Launched at the Free Word Centre in London, it involves sending writers to different countries to investigate education and literacy. A series of insightful essays have been published.

Writers Bloc is a pioneering project established by **Zadie Smith**, **Hari Kunzru**, **Nick Laird**, **Rachel Holmes** and **Kamila Shamsie** to investigate education and literacy around the world. In the first stage of the project, ten writers visited ten different countries, including India, Palestine, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh and South Africa. Their resulting essays are published online by [Guernica Magazine](#). The project, which is funded by the **Open Society Foundation**, was launched in front of a specially invited audience of writers, commentators and policy makers at the Free Word Centre, London.

Writer Kamila Shamsie talked about the project and [her article on Pakistan's curriculum challenges](#).

What has Writers Bloc achieved so far?

The first stage of Writers Bloc has been to send ten writers out to ten different countries and we've been very lucky to start off with a group of really wonderful, thoughtful writers – **Chimimanda Ngozi Adichie**, **Aleksandar Hemon**, **Nathalie Handal**, **Tahmima Anam**, **Petina Gappah**, **Zukiswa Wanner** and **Hardeep Singh Kohli** – along with three of the trustees, Nick Laird, Rachel Holmes and me. The resulting articles, as well as Zadie Smith's essay introducing the project, are being published in [Guernica Magazine](#) from January 10 onward. We're particularly delighted to be partnered with Guernica, not only because it's an exciting and dynamic publication, but because the fact that it's web-based means people all over the world can engage with it. Hopefully people will be able to read these articles in the countries they're written about. Of course that's more likely in countries with high rates of literacy in English, but we're very open to – in fact, we'd like to encourage – potential translators approaching us, or for local newspapers and magazines to print the articles in paper-based formats for

approaching us, or for local newspapers and magazines to print the articles in paper-based formats for those who don't have online access.

[Read the full interview with Kamila Shamsie about Writers Bloc](#)

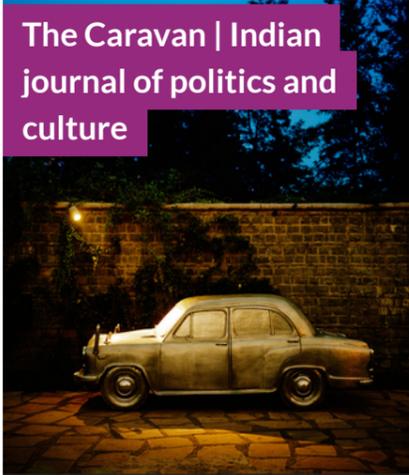
[Hardeep Singh Kohli in India](#)

Photo by Citizens Archive of Pakistan

Similar content

POSTED ON
06 MAR 2012

The Caravan | Indian journal of politics and culture



POSTED ON
02 JUL 2012

Call for articles | film.culture360.asef.org

connecting asia & europe through

film



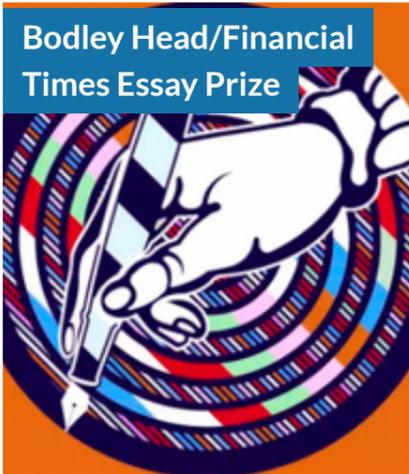
POSTED ON
11 NOV 2010

Call for articles on film.culture360.org



POSTED ON
21 DEC 2016

Bodley Head/Financial Times Essay Prize



POSTED ON
15 JUN 2012

Frieze Magazine | Frieze Writer's Prize 2012

R'S PRIZE

2



POSTED ON
05 JUN 2020

Frieze Magazine - memos to the world, in homage to Italo Calvino



ABOUT ASEF CULTURE360

culture360.asef.org brings Asia and Europe closer by providing information, facilitating dialogue and stimulating reflection on the arts and culture of the two regions.

[MORE ABOUT ASEF CULTURE360](#) | [FAQ](#)



ASEMUS
Asia - Europe
Museum Network

[Browse our Network of museums in Asia and Europe](#)