

Focusing on the world's
digital revolutionaries

Bridging the blogospheres

She was one of the first to provide a voice to the Arab Spring when dictatorship came to an end in 2010. Lina Ben Mhenni not only convinced the Bobs jury in 2011 – thousands of users from around the world voted for her blog “A Tunisian Girl” as well.

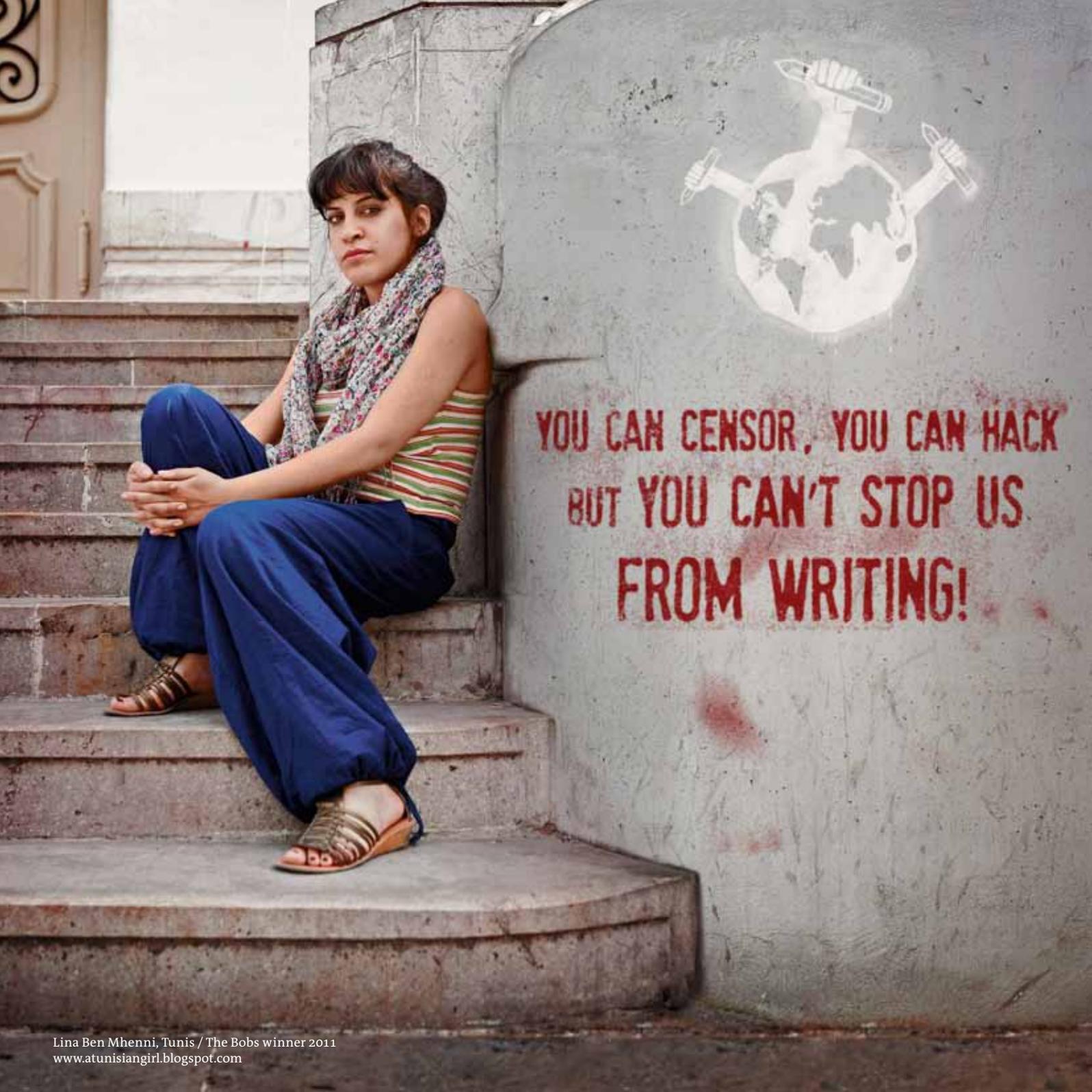
Her simple message reflects DW and its blog awards: You can censor, you can hack, but you can’t stop us from writing!

We are always looking for brave and creative people like Lina for the Bobs. The Deutsche Welle Blog Awards showcases people who are going online to fight for freedom, transparency and justice.

Broad-minded people who foster intercultural dialogue and transcend boundaries, just like us.

The Bobs rewards individuals who go to great means to advocate free speech and freedom of opinion online.

People who encourage others to speak their mind – and thereby do their part to strengthen civil society and democracy worldwide.



YOU CAN CENSOR, YOU CAN HACK
BUT YOU CAN'T STOP US
FROM WRITING!



The crossroads of diversity and individuality

The back roads have never before been closer to the big cities than now. The raw material of digital information is becoming more and more accessible daily – for more and more people.

New perspectives and opinions are rocketing around the world at breakneck speed – via classic media like DW and new means like blogs and social networks.

We are looking for the most exciting stories – in 11 languages and 17 categories – and are providing their creators with a stage that is founded on more than 50 years of journalistic experience.

The nominees and winners of the Bobs are given the opportunity to spread their message far beyond their known blogosphere.



IF WE DON'T TALK ABOUT
WHAT IS HAPPENING,
WE BECOME ACCOMPLICES
TO MASSACRES, MASS
MURDERS AND WARS.



Building a network of networkers

The Bobs recognize individuals and groups that drive the online world and create publicity for their activities and projects. It is the only competition of its kind worldwide that rewards creativity and spirit in web production with no regard for linguistic and cultural barriers.

And the Bobs has earned its online credentials: The winners are chosen by the online community and an international, impartial jury and have been since the beginning.

The Bobs represent one of Deutsche Welle's ongoing efforts to promote freedom of expression and the upholding of human rights around the world. Find out more at www.thebobs.com.

A man in a striped shirt and light-colored pants stands with his arms crossed in front of a grey wall. The wall has graffiti that reads 'SELF-CENSORSHIP IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE SO PRACTICE FREEDOM OF SPEECH EVERYDAY!' and a purple silhouette of a person with raised arms. Green leaves are visible in the top right corner.

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Be part of the revolution

We are always looking for like-minded organizations to work with. Partners like Reporters Without Borders have helped create an entire awards category. And we are always looking to expand our network of media partners from around the world. For a full list, go to www.thebobs.com.



Mark Glaser, San Francisco / The Bobs jury member
www.pbs.org/mediashift



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A photograph of a wooden fence made of vertical planks. The fence is weathered and has a message stenciled on it. Below the text is a dark silhouette of a crowd of people with their arms raised. A single strand of barbed wire is visible at the top of the fence. The background shows green trees and a white post.

THIS IS ABOUT PEOPLE
WHO ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN THEIR COUNTRIES.
SPEAKING OUT AND
RISKING THEIR LIVES.

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