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Sebastian Rotella

Biography

Sebastian Rotella has been the Paris bureau chief of the *Los Angeles Times* since 2001. He was recently short-listed for the Pulitzer Prize and won the prestigious senior Weitz prize for European reporting honoring a series of stories that foretold this year's riots in France.

Starting at the paper in 1987, Sebastian was a writer who gave particular focus to the U.S/ Mexican border and while Buenos Aires bureau chief, completed his book on the subject, *Twilight on the Line*. Named a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year, it was immediately optioned for film adaptation and became the inspiration for three songs on Bruce Springsteen's seminal *Tom Joad* album. Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism awarded Rotella its Maria Moors Cabot Prize for distinguished career coverage of Latin America.

In recent years, Rotella has turned his focus to coverage of Islamic terrorism, an endeavor that won he and his colleagues at the LA Times an Overseas Press Club Award in 2002 and finalist honors for the Goldsmith Prize for investigative reporting from Harvard University. In 2006, Rotella completed his first novel, *Triple Crossing*, which he will adapt for the screen.

Later this year, Rotella will look beyond borders to concentrate exclusively on the subject of international terrorism, a special posting created for him by his newspaper.