WAPOR Awards Ceremony 2025

78th Annual Conference – May 12-15, 2025 – St. Louis, United States

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The 2025 Naomi C. Turner Prize for the Best Paper Written by a Student

Naomi C. Turner Prize
for the Best Paper Presented by a Student

This award is for the best paper presented by a graduate student at the annual conference. This prize was endowed by WAPOR past president Fred Turner in memory of his mother. Fred was president of WAPOR from 1989-1990. Award comes with a cash prize of 1000$.

Committee members in 2025:

- Thomas Roessing (Germany) (Chair)
- Colin Irwin (UK)
- Alice Siu (USA)
- Jui Shrestha (Nepal)
- Rima Sinicke (Lithuania)

Two papers in competition in 2025.

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The 2025 Naomi C. Turner Prize for the Best Paper Presented by a Student

Recipient: Chloe Mortenson (Northwestern University, USA)

Title: Benefit-Seekers or Principle-Holders? A Behavioral Experiment Assessing Americans' Preference's for Democratic Governance

This paper makes a valuable contribution to our understanding of trust in government within a complex political context. It thoughtfully integrates theoretical perspectives with strong empirical analysis. The methodological approach is robust, and the writing effectively guides the reader through the findings. The study's insights deepen our grasp of how citizens navigate institutional trust in turbulent times, offering lasting value to both democratic theory and the practice of public policy.

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PRESENTS THE

Naomi C. Turner Prize

TO

Chloe Mortenson

FOR THE BEST CONFERENCE PAPER PRESENTED BY A STUDENT
AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*Benefit-Seekers or Principle-Holders? A Behavioural Experiment
Assessing Americans' Preference's for Democratic Governance*

78TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ST. LOUIS, UNITED STATES
MAY 12-15, 2025

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CHRISTIAN W. HAERPFER, PRESIDENT

AAPOR-WAPOR 2025 Janet A. Harkness Student Paper Award
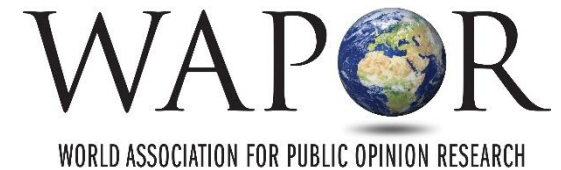
Janet A. Harkness WAPOR- AAPOR Student paper Award for a paper in 3MC research

This award is given in memory of Dr. Janet A. Harkness, internationally recognized for her contributions to cross-cultural survey methodology, who passed away in 2012. The award is open both to current students (graduate or undergraduate) and to recent graduates. Award comes with a cash prize of 750$.

Committee members (WAPOR and AAPOR)

- Chanhoong Leong, National University of Singapore, Singapore (Chair)
- Angela Ambitho (Kenya)
- Lydia Repke (Germany)
- Sunghee Lee, University of Michigan, USA
- Heather Smalley, Willamette University, USA
- Evgenia Kapousouz, University of Illinois Chicago, USA

Two papers in competition in 2025.

The 2025 AAPOR-WAPOR 2024 Janet A. Harkness Student Paper Award

Recipients: Phuong Linh Nguyen (University of Essex, UK)

Title: Studying Language Switching in Multilingual Survey Interviews

This paper tackles an important and underexamined issue in survey methodology: language switching in multilingual interviews. Drawing on over 800 recorded survey interactions in Zambia, it provides rare empirical insight into how language shifts affect data quality. The author reframes language switching as a signal of interactional difficulty, linking it to cognitive challenges and interviewer behaviour. Using rigorous behavioural coding and multilevel modelling, the paper shows that language switching is both systematic and consequential. The study stands out for its originality, methodological care, and relevance to the global practice of survey research.

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WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

PRESENTS THE

Janet A. Harkness Prize

TO

Phuong Linh Nguyen

FOR THE BEST CONFERENCE PAPER ON MULTI-NATIONAL/ MULTI-REGIONAL/ MULTI-CULTURAL SURVEY RESEARCH PRESENTED BY A STUDENT AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Studying Language Switching in Multilingual Survey Interviews

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CHRISTIAN W. HAERPFER, PRESIDENT

The 2025 Elizabeth H. Nelson Prize for the Best Paper from a Society in Transition

The 2025 Elizabeth H. Nelson Prize for the Best Paper from a Society in Transition

This award is presented to the best paper written and presented at the annual conference by one or more persons from a society in transition. This prize was endowed by WAPOR past president Elizabeth Nelson who was president of WAPOR from 1991-1992. Award comes with a cash prize of 1500$.

Committee members in 2025:

- Eva Aizpurua, NatCen Social Research, UK (Chair)
- Chase Harrison (USA)
- Nedal Swehli (Libya)
- Bilal Gilani (Pakistan)
- Adam Zammit (Australia)

One paper nominated in 2025.

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The 2025 Elizabeth H. Nelson Prize for the Best Paper from a Society in Transition

Recipient: Nebil Belaam (EMRHOD Consulting, Tunisia)

Title: What are the factors that lead to better accuracy of pre-election polls in the Tunisian context? Analysis of comparative experiences between the 2019 and 2024

This paper tackles an important and underexamined issue in survey methodology: language switching in multilingual interviews. Drawing on over 800 recorded survey interactions in Zambia, it provides rare empirical insight into how language shifts affect data quality. The author reframes language switching as a signal of interactional difficulty, linking it to cognitive challenges and interviewer behaviour. Using rigorous behavioural coding and multilevel modelling, the paper shows that language switching is both systematic and consequential. The study stands out for its originality, methodological care, and relevance to the global practice of survey research.

WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

PRESENTS THE

Elizabeth Nelson Prize

TO

Nebil Belaam

FOR THE BEST PAPER FROM A SOCIETY IN TRANSITION PRESENTED AT THE
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*What Are the Factors that Lead to Better Accuracy of Pre-election
Polls in the Tunisian Context? Analysis of Comparative Experiences
Between the 2019 and 2024 Elections*

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CHRISTIAN W. HAERPFER, PRESIDENT

The 2025 Alexis de Tocqueville Prize for the Best Paper on Democracy and Public Opinion

2025 Alexis de Tocqueville Award
for the Best Paper on Democracy and Public Opinion

This award is given annually for the best conference paper concerned with democracy and public opinion, whether in a consolidated or in an emerging democracy. De Tocqueville is best known for his still highly cited book On Democracy in America. A panel of public opinion scholars drawn from WAPOR's membership will judge submissions. The de Tocqueville Award, founded jointly by three WAPOR Presidents (Marita Carballo, Claire Durand and Timothy Johnson). Award comes with a cash prize of $500.

Committee members in 2025:

- Robert Chung (Hong Kong) (Chair)
- Timothy Johnson (USA)
- Marita Carballo (Argentina)
- Claire Durand (Canada)
- Kathy Frankovic (USA)
- Alejandro Moreno (Mexico)
- Christian Haerpfer (Austria)

Three papers in competition in 2025.

WAPOR
WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

The 2025 Alexis de Tocqueville Award
for the Best Paper on Democracy and Public Opinion

Recipients: Thomas Roessing (Germany), Kristina Beckmann (Germany), Leonie Krzistetzko (Germany), Günther Rager (Germany) and Michael Steinbrecher (Germany)

Title: Tackling the peculiar connection between media skepticism and dissatisfaction with democracy in Germany

This paper offers a thoughtful and empirically grounded investigation into the link between media skepticism and democratic dissatisfaction in contemporary Germany. Drawing on multi-year survey data across journalists, politicians, and the general public, it reveals how perceptions of journalistic bias—especially the hostile media effect—are associated with declining trust in both journalism and democracy. The authors carefully connect economic anxieties, institutional trust, and political identity to these attitudes, highlighting how material and symbolic factors shape democratic confidence. Its insights are timely, policy-relevant, and of broad interest to scholars of public opinion, media, and democratic resilience.

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WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

PRESENTS THE

Alexis de Tocqueville Prize

TO

Thomas Roessing

FOR THE BEST CONFERENCE PAPER CONCERNED WITH DEMOCRACY AND PUBLIC OPINION

Tackling the Peculiar Connection Between Media Skepticism and Dissatisfaction with Democracy in Germany

78TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
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WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

CHRISTIAN W. HAERPFER, PRESIDENT

Robert M. Worcester Prize
for the Best Paper Published in IJPOR

Robert M. Worcester Prize
for the Best Paper Published in IJPOR

This award is for the (last) year's outstanding paper contributed to the *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*. An award committee appointed by the WAPOR council, with input from the IJPOR editorial board, selects the winning article. Award comes with a cash prize of 750$.

Committee members in 2025:

- Rico Neumann (Germany)
- Anna Andreenkova (Russia)
- Jaeho Cho (USA)
- Yariv Tsfati (Israel)

45 papers and research notes in competition.

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International Journal of
Public Opinion Research

Robert M. Worcester Prize
for the Best Paper Published in IJPOR

Recipients: Jennifer Brundidge (The Ohio State University, USA), Kelly Garrett (The Ohio State University, USA)

Title: The "Clinching Effect" and Affective Polarization: Exposure to Incivility via Social Media in the Presence of Online New

Nearly 80 years ago, Lazarsfeld and Merton wrote that direct personal contact and local discussions serve to reinforce the effects of mass media content. Brundidge and Garrett reexamine this 'clinching effect' against the backdrop of today's heavily fragmented and information-rich media environment ripe with divisive debates. Using a three-wave panel survey administered during the 2016 U.S. presidential election, they analyze how digital news use and exposure to incivility on social media - individually and jointly - influence affective partisan polarization. They find that both pro- and counter-attitudinal news use reinforce the effect of exposure to incivility, intensifying affective polarization, but that nonpartisan news use combined with perceived incivility online attenuates that effect. Their study is conceptually sound, analytically rigorous, and provides novel empirical insights into relevant mechanisms of influence in the contemporary media environment and thus a better understanding of the drivers behind polarization.

WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

PRESENTS THE

Robert M. Worcester Prize

TO

Jennifer Brundidge

FOR THE BEST PAPER CONTRIBUTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF
PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

*The "Clinching Effect" and Affective Polarization: Exposure to
Incivility via Social Media in the Presence of Online News*

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WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

CHRISTIAN W. HAERPFER, PRESIDENT

WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

PRESENTS THE

Robert M. Worcester Prize

TO

Kelly Garrett

FOR THE BEST PAPER CONTRIBUTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF
PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

*The "Clinching Effect" and Affective Polarization: Exposure to
Incivility via Social Media in the Presence of Online News*

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WAPOR
WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH

CHRISTIAN W. HAERPFER, PRESIDENT

The 2025 Helen H. Dinerman Award for Career Contributions to Innovative Research and Methodology

Helen H. Dinerman Award for Career Contributions to Innovative Research and Methodology

Given since 1981, this award honors particularly significant contributions to survey research methodology. The award, presented annually to an individual or individuals, is in memory of Helen Dinerman's scientific achievements over three decades of public opinion research. Award: $3000

Committee members in 2025:

- Robert Chung (Hong Kong) (Chair)

- Timothy Johson (USA)

- Marita Carballo (Argentina)

- Frits Spangenberg (Netherlands)

- Christian Haerpfer (Austria)

Two nominations received in 2025.

Helen H. Dinerman Award for Career Contributions to Innovative Research and Methodology

Recipient: Ian McAllister (Australia)

WAPOR is pleased to present the 2025 Helen Dinerman Award to Professor Ian McAllister of The Australian National University, in recognition of his exceptional and enduring contributions to the field of public opinion research.

Professor McAllister is one of the world's leading scholars in electoral studies, political behavior, and democratic attitudes. As the long-time director of the **Australian Election Study**, he has built one of the most respected longitudinal survey programs globally, providing vital insights into how public opinion evolves over time in response to political, institutional, and social change. His comparative work, including contributions to the Comparative Study of Electoral Systems (CSES), has advanced cross-national understanding of voting behavior and democratic legitimacy.

Professor McAllister's career exemplifies the values the Helen Dinerman Award seeks to honour: methodological excellence, international collaboration, and a profound commitment to understanding how citizens engage with democracy. His research has shaped scholarly debates, guided policy conversations, and trained generations of researchers in Australia and beyond. By honouring Ian McAllister, WAPOR recognizes not only a leading figure in public opinion research, but also a lifelong contributor to strengthening democratic inquiry and evidence-based political understanding.

WAPOR

WAPOR 2025 Conference Abstract Reviewers

- Andrew Dawson, York University, Canada
- Benjamin Schapiro, NORC at the University of Chicago, USA
- Burova Olga, National Academy of Sciences, Ukraine
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- Christian Haerpfer, University of Vienna, Austria
- Claire Durand, Université de Montréal, Canada
- Colin Irwin, University of Liverpool, UK
- Constanza Cilley, Voices Research & Consultancy, Argentina
- David Jodice, D3 Systems, United States
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- Henning Silber, GESIS Institute for the Social Sciences, Germany
- Jibum Kim, Sungkyunkwan University, Republic of Korea
- Jonathan Evans, Pew Research Center, United States
- Linda Luz Guerrero, Social Weather Stations, Philippines

- Malina Voicu, University of Bucharest, Romania
- Marita Carballo, Voices research and Consultancy, Argentina
- Michael Traugott, University of Michigan, United States
- Natalia Soboleva, HSE University, Russia
- Olga Maslovskaya, University of Southampton, UK
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- Wolfgang Aschauer, Paris Lodron University Salzburg, Austria
- Yulia Baskakova, Langer Research Associates, United States

Thank You!
Congratulations to all Awardees!

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