

THREE PUBLICATIONS NOMINATED FOR THE MEDIA AND DEMOCRACY KAROL JAKUBOWICZ AWARD 2025

Three outstanding scholarly publications have been shortlisted for the 2025 edition of the Media and Democracy Karol Jakubowicz Award.



On April 7, 2025, the Selection Committee reviewed proposals submitted for the 8th edition of the Media and Democracy Karol Jakubowicz Award, which honors significant academic contributions to media systems, policies, ethics, and public service media. Members of the Leadership team of the International Association of Public Service Media Researchers (IAPMR), Editors, and Associate Editors of “Central European Journal of Communication” (CEJC), previous Award winners and the Selection Committee submitted scholarly contributions published in 2024 and 2025.

The Committee assessed submissions based on three interrelated criteria:

- methodological correctness,
- contribution to media knowledge,
- impact on democratic society.

Based on this evaluation, the following works and authors have been nominated for the 2025 edition of the Award:

VÁCLAV ŠTETKA & SABINA MIHELJ (2024). THE ILLIBERAL PUBLIC SPHERE: MEDIA IN POLARIZED SOCIETIES. CHAM, SWITZERLAND: PALGRAVE MACMILLAN.

Nominated for their unique perspective in research on media, communication, human rights, and democracy, as well as for their meticulous analysis of the role of media in the rise of illiberalism, based on original theoretical frameworks and extensive empirical research conducted in Eastern Europe.

MARIUS DRAGOMIR (2025). MEDIA CAPTURE MONITORING REPORT. VIENNA, AUSTRIA: INTERNATIONAL PRESS INSTITUTE (REPORT CO-AUTHORED WITH ZSUZSA DETREKÖI).

Nominated for the originality and thoroughness of his research, offering a systematic and pioneering perspective on media ownership, regulatory frameworks, and the complex relationship between media and politics.

TALES TOMAZ (2024). MEDIA OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL IN EUROPE: A MULTIDIMENSIONAL APPROACH. EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF COMMUNICATION, 39(5), 498–511. [HTTPS://DOI.ORG/10.1177/02673231241270994](https://doi.org/10.1177/02673231241270994)

Nominated for his theoretical and methodological contribution to research on media ownership transparency by applying a broader understanding of media control that goes beyond public policy and market structures.



Established in 2018 by Małgorzata Semil-Jakubowicz and the Polish Communication Association, the Media and Democracy Karol Jakubowicz Award commemorates the legacy of Dr. Karol Jakubowicz, a prominent scholar in media and democratic communication. The winner of the 2025 Award along with the justification are announced publicly on April 28th – marking the anniversary of Dr. Jakubowicz's passing. For more information, please visit the Polish Communication Association's website: <https://www.ptks.pl/en/awards/the-media-and-democracy-karol-jakubowicz-award>.

Dagmara Sidyk-Furman and Michał Głowacki
UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW, POLAND