

The SOPA 2025 Awards for Editorial Excellence - Awards Winners List

Excellence in Reporting on Women's Issues

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | The New York Times | Bloomberg News |
| Title of Entry: | <u>The Brutality of Sugar</u> | <u>The Egg</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Qadri Inzamam (The Fuller Project); Megha Rajagopalan, Saumya Khandelwal (The New York Times) | Natalie Obiko Pearson, Kanoko Matsuyama, Cindy Wang, Sinduja Rangarajan, Fani Nikiforaki, Vicky Kaiyi Feng, Naila Khan, Advait Palepu, Smitha T.K., Kurumi Mori |
| Judges' Comments: | An eye-opening, deeply reported series revealing the horrendous conditions facing women in India's sugar industry, the collusion of politicians and the shortcomings of multinational companies' pledges to police their supply chains. | This series exposes the largely unregulated global trade in human eggs and reveals the hidden costs of the \$35 billion fertility industry. Through meticulous reporting across five continents, Bloomberg uncovers how this booming market often prioritizes profit over donor welfare, with devastating consequences for vulnerable women. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | The Wire | Myanmar Now |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Breaking The Nets</u> | <u>Women of Myanmar: Navigating Civil War</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Shamsheer Yousaf, Monica Jha, Sriram Vittalamurthy | Su Chay, Nora Pyae, Mohammed Zonaid |
| Judges' Comments: | These stories from small communities in remote parts of India are individually notable for explaining the challenge of survival and fight for resources faced by women. As a collective, they offer a fascinating insight into the knock-on effects of India's patriarchal society and how women have found a variety of different ways to contend with it. Presented with beautiful film work and clear storytelling in a creative array of different forms. | These three pieces display clear, straightforward writing that effectively introduces readers to the complexities of life in Myanmar today and the impact of the turbulence on women. The piece about the Rohingya women in the Bangladesh refugee camps is particularly well-reported with vivid details putting you right in the incredibly hard position those women are in. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | 報導者 The Reporter | 端傳媒 Initium Media |
| Title of Entry: | <u>代孕求子「天堂路」：他們的夢碎風險及道德難題/Surrogacy to Fulfill Parenthood Dreams? The Risks of Shattered Hopes and Ethical Dilemmas</u> | <u>走進 LGBT 婚禮前，一對香港女同志歷經離婚與飄泊建立了真正的家/From Divorce to Home: A Hong Kong Lesbian Couple's Journey to Their LGBT Wedding</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 曹馥年 Fu-Nien Tsao、藍婉甄 Wan-Chen Lan、陳德倫 De-Lun Chen、洪琴宣 Chin-Hsuan Hung、林彥廷 Yen-Ting Lin、陳曉威 Hsiao-Wei Chen、楊子磊 Tzu-Lei Yang、黃世澤 Sei-Tei Huang、張詩芸 Shih-Yun Chang、黃鈺婷 Yu-Ting Huang | 伍詠欣 Ng Wing Yan |
| Judges' Comments: | This series stands out for its broad perspective, moving beyond local Taiwanese issues to explore the global surrogacy industry. It demonstrates a strong awareness of issues and investigative skills through in-depth interviews with surrogate families, industry analysis, and discussions on the legal and ethical complexities. By addressing current political controversies in Taiwan, the report serves to inform and sheds light on women's rights and challenges. | The story carefully portrays the situation of lesbian couples starting families in Hong Kong and explains why same-sex partners in Hong Kong need marriage to secure basic rights. It illustrates how women navigate various social roles such as wife, mother, daughter, and creates a fresh understanding of marriage, love, and family. |

Excellence in Journalistic Innovation

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Publication: | CNN International | Nikkei Asia |
| Title of Entry: | <u>A shrinking life: Why some Asian youth withdraw from the world</u> | <u>Tokyo runway collision</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Jessie Yeung, Sophie Jeong, Carlotta Dotto, Woojin Lee, Kenneth Uzquiano, Hilary Whiteman, Saki Toi, Moeri Karasawa, Noemi Cassanelli, Matt Demspey | Hirofumi Yamamoto, Gaku Ito, Hiroki Sakuragi, Shota Fujii, Kento Awashima, Yuichiro Kanematsu |
| Judges' Comments: | The visual structure of this piece is outstanding, immediately establishing the report's framework through clear indicators of place, subject, story, and consequence. This formula effectively guarantees narrative consistency in these compellingly dark tales, beautifully unveiled with each scroll. The impactful decision to deliver a more human and less technical perspective greatly amplifies the emotional resonance and reinforces the intensity of the testimonies. It is truly rewarding to witness work that is both deeply inspired and acutely responsible to its audience. | The visual solutions are both intelligent and inspiring, achieved through a relatively simple execution without the need for an elaborate workflow, offering the significant advantage of easy editing. The combination of visual resources is particularly interesting as it delivers information at the optimal time. In short, this is a complete and very well-planned piece of visual journalism that also reveals significant research and coordination, serving as an excellent example of the appropriate use of information resources. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | The Wire | CNA |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Breaking The Nets</u> | <u>Walk the Line: An interactive journey through perilous China-US migration route</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Shamsheer Yousaf, Monica Jha, Sriram Vittalamurthy | Wei Du, Andersen Xia, Derrick A Paulo, Liew Zhi Xin, Kevin Kwang, Lee Long Hui |
| Judges' Comments: | Fantastic use of high quality video and overdubbed audio to give a real sense of place. Truly absorbing. Elegant design and typography. Made with mobile viewing in mind. The multimedia experience goes beyond what traditional media can achieve to capture the women's individual stories. | This project did a terrific job bringing to life the details and consequences of a news story that gets a lot of headlines but is often told through a more general political lens. Being able to piece together the physical and personal journeys of these families is a great example of the power of immersive news platforms. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | 歪腦 WHYNOT | 報導者 The Reporter |
| Title of Entry: | 六四三十五周年系列报道/June 4 35th Anniversary Series | 觀測儀表板：你家立委 4 年來為哪些議題發聲?/How Taiwan Lawmakers Speak Up: A Four-Year Breakdown of Legislative Priorities by Parties and Politicians |
| Award Recipients: | 覃朗 Mimi Qin、江雪 Jiang Xue、 张泰格 Tiger Zhang | 簡毅慧 Helene Yi-Hui Chien、江世民 Ethan Kong、 黃禹禎 Yu-Chen Huang、何榮幸 Jung-Shin Ho、 柯皓翔 Hao-Hsiang Ko、黃鈺婷 Yu-Ting Huang、 陳思樺 Szu-Hua Chen、汪彥成 Yen-Chen Wang |
| Judges' Comments: | The multimedia series effectively captivated a young audience unfamiliar with the historic event through text, audio, and an engaging interactive game. The centerpiece creatively retells the story by bridging events from the past to the present, offering an immersive experience. | An excellent textbook example of big data analytics in news reporting. Rigorous methodology of topic modelling and human coding, which is usually conducted by academic scholars, but now for a news story. Important public service reporting with an innovative approach. |

Excellence in Audio Reporting

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Publication: | The Economist | The World |
| Title of Entry: | <u>The Modi Raj</u> | <u>Bougainville: The World's Next New Country?</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Avantika Chilkoti | Patrick Winn |
| Judges' Comments: | A compelling, courageous, and comprehensive profile of one of the world's most consequential leaders - Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India. The series is fair but pulls no punches, as it looks both at Modi's populist appeal and at his efforts to transform India from a secular state to a Hindu nationalist one, with the rights of Indian Muslims and other minorities too often trampled in the process. The storytelling is rich and nuanced, with great use of sound to create a sense of place, and a wide range of interviews, across the political spectrum, and from the village level to corporate boardrooms and government offices. | This rigorously reported and sound-rich series gives a vivid sense of place, a good grounding in history, and a strong case for how Bougainville's quest for independence from Papua New Guinea matters to the world - in no small part because Bougainville is both strategically located and has one of the biggest mother lodes of copper and gold on earth. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Publication: | Mongabay | Frontier Myanmar |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Wild Frequencies: How listening to India's animals inspires people to protect wildlife</u> | <u>'It felt like hell on earth': The burning of Buthidaung</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Kartik Chandramouli, Shreya Dasgupta, Abhijit Shylanath | Win Zar Ni Aung |
| Judges' Comments: | With a rich audio-scape and creative sound design, rigorous reporting and engaging storytelling, these reports from the field (and forests and wetlands) around India offer listeners a deeper understanding of how the sounds made by creatures in the natural world, and what those creatures and their bioacoustics can tell us about whether an ecosystem is healthy or imperiled, in ways that can also affect our lives and our world. | Compelling eye-witness accounts of arson destroyed the Rohingya village of Buthidaung in Myanmar over a weekend in mid-May 2024. Well-reported, with good historical context in this 13-minute story. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | 端傳媒 Initium Media | 中央廣播電臺 Radio Taiwan International |
| Title of Entry: | <u>走線，未完成/Unfinished Line: Unsung Stories of Chinese Leaving Their Homeland</u> | <u>我的孩子不是你的孩子 - 代理孕母系列報導/Challenging Perceptions of Surrogacy Parenthood</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 甯卉 Ning Hui, 楊一 Yi Yang, 馮兆音 Feng Zhaoyin, 陳莉雅 Chen Liya, Meiyang Wu, 王伯維 Wang Powei, 孫聖峰 Sun Shengfeng, 林柏聞 Lin Powen, 陳宏威 Leeby | 陳林幸虹 Peggy Chen |
| Judges' Comments: | This is a comprehensive audio report on 'Zou Xian 走线' that combines both macro-level context and analysis with intimate personal narratives. Through excellent sound design, it skillfully weaves together journalist interviews, news clips, and music to create an engaging listening experience that draws listeners into the story. | This audio report provides a comprehensive exploration of surrogacy issues that have come to occupy a limelight spot of public discourse. The solid and well-researched interview content made up for fairly conventional audio production methods. |

Excellence in Video Reporting

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | BBC News | CNN International |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Malnutrition and disease ravages Afghanistan's children</u> | <u>CNN witnesses high-stakes confrontation at sea between China and Philippines</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Yogita Limaye, Imogen Anderson, Sanjay Ganguly, Mahfouz Zubaide, Jacky Martens | Rebecca Wright, Ivan Watson, Yasmin Coles, Kevin Broad |
| Judges' Comments: | Heartbreaking story told through the faces of children who are starving and dying in Afghanistan. Why pictures are worth a thousand words. | Great scoop. Terrific piece on the confrontation between Beijing and Manila. Great work by CNN to get the access and the piece itself touched all the right bases. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | The Fourth Alliance and Malaysiakini | The Straits Times |
| Title of Entry: | <u>The Forgotten Babies</u> | <u>How accessible is Singapore? We travel with a wheelchair user to find out.</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Claire Anthony, Zinc Chew Tze Ying, S.Vinothaa, Nicholas Yap Chien Shing | Chee Wei Xian, Hannah Ong, Joseph Ricafort, Lee Pei Jie, Shannon Teoh |
| Judges' Comments: | The Forgotten Babies is an important story that blends in-depth reporting with sensitive storytelling, highlighting the grave injustice stateless mothers face. The story brings to light invisible and often ignored struggles through extensive field reporting, making it a masterclass in investigative reporting and empathetic storytelling. | Through Alister Ong's eyes, the reporters capture several minute details which often remain overlooked, highlighting how minor changes can improve accessibility. The story's creative treatment makes it compelling and an important guide for people unfamiliar with the lived experiences of persons with disabilities. An essential story for building more inclusive societies. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | 華視新聞 CTS | 天下雜誌 CommonWealth Magazine |
| Title of Entry: | <u>失智怎麼伴/How to Care for Family Members with Dementia</u> | <u>台灣好棒棒，卻有垃圾山！爆量、排擠、回收不確實...看懂失控的垃圾危機/The Crisis of Taiwan's Garbage Mountain</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 李柏儒 Li Bo-Ru、許雅筑 Syu Ya-Jhu | 李洛梅 Lo-Mei Lee、陳文越 Canelle Chen、 俞子堯 Zi-Yao Yu、張志彬 Shawn Chang、 林有成 Yu-Cheng Lin |
| Judges' Comments: | A comprehensive examination of the dementia community - a delicate, long gaze at a difficult question: with unstoppable waves of dementia approaching, is Taiwan truly prepared for it? | An explanatory news series that utilizes a narrative style popular with the younger generation but avoids sensationalism. Kudos for the reporting team who visited multiple landfills, incinerators, and climbed over numerous "mountains" of waste to help viewers better understand the severity of the situation. |

Excellence in Human Rights Reporting

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | Reuters | Financial Times |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Myanmar's conflict</u> | <u>A disappearance in Xinjiang</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Devjyot Ghoshal, Poppy McPherson, Ruma Paul, Shoon Naing, Wa Lone, Vijdan Mohammad Kawoosa, Steve Stecklow | Edward White |
| Judges' Comments: | Reuters journalists from five countries produced groundbreaking reports on the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar, particularly in conflict-ridden Rakhine state. Exposing previously unreported atrocities by both the ruling junta and rebel forces, the stories unveiled a range of abuses, from the burning of a Rohingya town to a military cover-up of a widespread food security crisis. The team leveraged cross-border sources, encrypted apps, and satellite imagery to corroborate their findings, underscoring the depth of their investigative work. | An outstanding piece of work, utilizing deep reporting to tell a compelling story with sensitivity, fairness and balance. FT's fresh reporting and fine long-form narrative shed light on an important topic where journalistic access is nearly impossible. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | Malaysiakini | Kontinentalist |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Heavy metals found in Kelantan Orang Asli blood, community fear poisoned by mining</u> | <u>Pakistan's untold war: No justice for Balochistan's disappeared</u> |
| Award Recipients: | S Vinothaa, Azneal Ishak, Khoo Shiyuan, Aidila Razak, Ooi Choon Nam, Amin Landak | Somaiyah Hafeez |
| Judges' Comments: | Powerful reporting, with scientific tests and data strengthening the case beyond personal reportage. Very impressive multimedia and data visualization techniques helped to clarify and amplify the written words. The perseverance, commitment and courage of the reporters are other factors that raised it to the top. | A comprehensive explanatory piece that makes great use of graphics to lay out the history of the Balochistan conflict as well as how enforced disappearances have gone up during this time. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | 集誌社 The Collective HK | 歪腦 WHYNOT |
| Title of Entry: | <u>反修例五年：他們好嗎？/Five Years After Anti-Extradition Law Amendment Bill Movement: How are they?</u> | <u>作为思想犯的王建兵与黄雪琴：在互助与连结中获得滋养的灵魂/Jailed but Not Silenced: Huang Xueqin, Wang Jianbing, and the Ties of Civil Society</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 廖俊升 Liu Chun Sing、何珮瑜 Ho Pui Wu、陳萃屏 Chan Sui Ping | 张泰格 Tiger Zhang |
| Judges' Comments: | Professional, high-quality reports of four interesting personalities in the 2019 social movement about their inner-self, changes in their life and Hong Kong. Full of drama, but stays clear of dramatization and emotive writing. | The article tells a touching story of two jailed labor activists and their campaign for human rights through in-depth talk with friends and family members, as if the pair were speaking. It sheds light on their thoughts and beliefs and, importantly, on the NGOs and civil society activities amid tightened social control in mainland China. |

Excellence in Feature Writing

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | Bloomberg News | 1843 Magazine, The Economist |
| Title of Entry: | <u>The Deadly Mining Complex Powering the EV Revolution</u> | <u>The cruise that will get you chased by the Chinese coastguard</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Matthew Campbell, Annie Lee | Sue-Lin Wong |
| Judges' Comments: | I really don't like handing out perfect 10's, but this feature might force me to - the piece is everything a feature should be: It starts in medias res, engaging the reader with a harrowing disaster story, then connects the story to a global phenomenon (energy transition). The writing is warm and engaging without veering too far into the novelistic. The author deftly moves between politics, economics, environmentalism, global trade and human interest. Its visuals range from a step-by-step guide to nickel production to sweeping landscape photos and intimate portraits to an infographic on the global EV supply chain, and never along the way does the reader feel lost. The connective tissue is seamless. And a wonderful concluding paragraph. | This is good storytelling with humor and keen observation that reflects the power struggle playing out on a remote island in the South China Sea and highlights the power imbalance as the Philippines uses a few hundred fishermen living in huts to stake its claim against the Chinese military. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | The Australian Financial Review | The Japan Times |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Inside the 'unending chaos' at Andrew Forrest's Fortescue</u> | <u>Noto communities</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Primrose Riordan | Alex K.T. Martin |
| Judges' Comments: | An ambitious undertaking and very thoroughly researched and investigated, leaving no stone unturned. It's an impressive portrait of a fascinating individual who has played a major role in the ups and downs of tackling climate change. A great amount of care was taken to make sure the piece was balanced, and the result is an excellent example of how to cover sensitive issues. | Impressive reporting, with vivid scenes and insightful conversations from the front lines of the post-quake rescue. The reader is brought into the urgency of the effort with well-crafted, descriptive writing. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | 端傳媒 Initium Media | 誌傳媒 HK Feature |
| Title of Entry: | <u>替俄羅斯打仗的中國人：錢，刺激，當網紅</u> <u>/Chinese Fighting for Russia: Money, Thrill, and</u> <u>Becoming Influencers</u> | <u>民主鳳梨「上架國際」路難行 兩岸政治角力之</u> <u>間左右為難/‘Democracy pineapple’ caught in</u> <u>political dilemma across the Taiwan Strait</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 呂曉章 Lu Xiaozhang、吳婧 Susie Wu | 劉彥汶 Lau Yin Man |
| Judges' Comments: | This in-depth report, the first of its kind in Chinese media, sheds light on the individuals' circumstances, the geopolitical context, and the impact of war on their lives. The article has sparked significant attention and discussion, prompting other media outlets to follow up on the story. It not only provides a detailed narrative but also contributes valuable insights to the international discourse on the conflict. | A journalist's on-site investigation captured the real voices of local farmers and businesses, and revealed a different reality from the conventional narrative. The article provides a fuller picture of how Taiwan agriculture struggles to sustain itself in an increasingly politicalized environment. |

Excellence in Technology Reporting

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | Nikkei Asia | The Wall Street Journal |
| Title of Entry: | <u>China's tech industry fights back</u> | <u>How China is Trying to 'Delete' American Technology</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Cheng Ting-Fang, Lauly Li | Liza Lin, Raffaele Huang, Stu Woo |
| Judges' Comments: | A well-reported exploration of China's drive for tech primacy in the face of U.S. restrictions. Photos, floating summary points and Nikkei's useful, at times striking, charts amplify insights into a tit-for-tat conflict. | Detailed, insightful work into the China chip industry and Huawei's role, throwing a spotlight on how China is responding to U.S. sanctions challenges. An important topic in an environment where media coverage in China is under challenge. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Publication: | Frontier Myanmar | Rest of World |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Myanmar's cyberscam scourge</u> | <u>TSMC's debacle in the American desert</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Ya Nwe, Emily Fishbein, Naw Betty Han, Andrew Nachemson | Viola Zhou |
| Judges' Comments: | The story brings to life the human stories and the joyless environments that they are transported to and enslaved in. The depth of the investigation and the vastness of the reporting makes this series a standout. | Tens of thousands of jobs, billions of dollars in investment, the world's most critical of high-tech sectors in the backdrop of geopolitical tensions make for eye-popping elements and the story highlights them all. TSMC's Arizona travails continue and this story is a great deep dive into the why. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | 天下雜誌 CommonWealth Magazine | 端傳媒 Initium Media |
| Title of Entry: | <u>台日半導體最強島鏈/The Japan-Taiwan chip alliance</u> | <u>AI 邊界：審查、語言消亡與隱形勞工系列/The Frontiers of AI: Censorship, Vanishing Languages, and Invisible Labor</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 陳良榕 Liang-rong Chen 、 黃亦筠 Elaine Huang 、林以璿 Yi-Hsuan Lin 、 吳廷勻 Ting-Yun Wu | 吳婧 Susie Wu 、吳政霆 Wu Cheng-Ting 、 Yiyi Zhang 、卓琳 Zuo Lin |
| Judges' Comments: | The reporting team traveled across several Japanese cities to delve into the revitalization of Japan's semiconductor industry, witnessing how Taiwan's TSMC sparked a semiconductor revolution within Japan. Beyond industrial development, the coverage highlighted the cultural and management challenges Taiwanese companies face when operating internationally amid geopolitical tensions. | The entry stood out in the way they tackled the hot topic of artificial intelligence: unlike other media reports that solely focus on the hardcore technology, this reporting series reminded us of often-forgotten aspects: the labor that teaches AI and how low-resource languages suffer from discrimination. |

Excellence in Magazine Design

Combined Global, Regional/Local and Chinese groups

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Publication: | South China Morning Post | Bloomberg Businessweek/Chinese Edition |
| Title of Entry: | <u>The new PostMag</u> | <u>ESG 特輯/The ESG Issue</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Naomi Chan, Kwok Wang Chow | 陳家恒 Chan Ka Hang Richard |
| Judges' Comments: | An elegant, 'quiet' design which allows the wonderful photography to drive the visual interest of the magazine and to do the work of drawing the reader into the content. The typographical choices for this revamp very much follow current editorial design styles, contemporizing this well-known title. The layout design is based on a grid system, featuring a clean and vibrant style without overly empty design elements. | The designer uses different colors for categorization, achieving a high level of harmony among the various shades. This demonstrates a mature application of color theory, complemented by hand-drawn illustrations and a well-crafted layout, enhancing readability. |

Excellence in Arts and Culture Reporting

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | 1843 Magazine, The Economist | The Economist |
| Title of Entry: | <u>How I became the Taliban's portrait artist</u> | <u>Consider the monster: What a 70-year-old firebreathing lizard reveals about humanity</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Andrew North | Noah Sneider |
| Judges' Comments: | The author's own kidnapping and detention reveals an unexpected side of today's version of the Taliban in Afghanistan. Where artworks were once forbidden, jailers now pose for sketches of themselves. A gripping account. | The writer's ability to show how the monster serves as a metaphor for nuclear devastation illuminates how a fictional creature can serve as a mirror to humanity's deepest fears and aspirations. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | Frontier Myanmar | PostMag |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Dead man's hand: Gambling takes over funerals</u> | <u>Academic bars? Craft beer meets intellectual discourse at Shanghai's Bunker, sparking a trend across China</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Ya Nwe | Vincent Chow |
| Judges' Comments: | This piece stands out for its bold and unflinching reporting on a surreal yet deeply revealing phenomenon. The writer takes us into a world where grief, ritual, and opportunism collide - crafting a story that is as disturbing as it is illuminating. The article makes excellent use of on-the-ground voices, building a sense of place and urgency without overexplaining. Rather than offering neat conclusions, it leaves the reader with a sharp sense of discomfort - and that's exactly what strong journalism should do. | The writing captured the essence of a unique cultural phenomenon that blends casual socializing with academic engagement. Structurally, the piece effectively balances personal narratives with broader societal trends, illustrating how Bunker has inspired similar venues across China. By situating the story within the context of increasing public life controls in China, the article adds depth and relevance, highlighting a grassroots movement fostering open dialogue and community connection. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Publication: | 鏡週刊 Mirror Media | 彭博商業周刊/中文版 Bloomberg Businessweek/Chinese Edition |
| Title of Entry: | <u>留住一切親愛的/Revisiting 11 Vanishing Traditional Bookstores in Taiwan</u> | <u>溫柔的力量/The Gentle Power</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 王思涵 Szu Han Wang | 黃舜煬 Huang Shunyang、楊澄瑋 Yang Yingwei、尹琛 Yin Chen |
| Judges' Comments: | A heartfelt tribute to preserve the memories from a vanishing treasure. The smart use of 360-degree images shortens the distance between the readers and the subject matter: those traditional bookstores are a product of the times and reflect the changes of an era. The author has found the small details within the larger context, and rather than dwelling on depicting the inevitable tragic fate of old bookstores, the author focuses on portraying human emotions, making it a gripping account. | In a comprehensive exploration of the art world, this entry showcased a wide array of perspectives, from international art figureheads to local talents. Through a series of insightful interviews and nuanced profiles, it vividly portrayed female professionals in the field, each contributing uniquely to discussions on gender equality, industry structures and artistic expression. |

Excellence in Bahasa Indonesia News Reporting
(Penghargaan Karya Jurnalistik Kategori Bahasa Indonesia)

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Publication: | BBC Indonesia service | Project Multatuli |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Nasib masyarakat adat O'Hongana Manyawa di sekitar rantai pasok Tesla di Halmahera/The fate of the O'Hongana Manyawa indigenous people around Tesla's supply chain</u> | <u>Gurita Bisnis Raffi Ahmad: Ditopang Keluarga Presiden, Bos Nikel, hingga Petinggi Partai Golkar/Raffi Ahmad's Business Octopus: Supported by the President's Family, Nickel Bosses, and Golkar Party Officials</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Viriya Singgih | Alfian Putra Abdi |
| Judges' Comments: | The work reveals the dark side of industrialization destroying the indigenous community and its forests in the name of technological advance. Violation of basic human rights and environmental disasters are the main theme of this brave journalistic piece. | This piece of journalism demonstrates why solid, balanced reporting matters so much to storytelling and narrative building. Its writing style is both graceful and accessible. |

Excellence in Explanatory Reporting

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | Bloomberg News | Financial Times |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Japan's Massive Money Experiment</u> | <u>The battlegrounds that could decide a US-China war over Taiwan</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Dayu Zhang, Kurumi Mori, Aria Chen, K. Oanh Ha, Yang Yang, Naomi Ng, Lisa Du, Eddy Duan, Akemi Terukina | Demetri Sevastopulo, Kathrin Hille, Lucy Rodgers, Dan Clark, Justine Williams, Irene de la Torre Arenas, Sam Learner, Sam Joiner, Steve Bernard, Ian Bott |
| Judges' Comments: | Outstanding simplification of the 30-year history of Japan's economic bubble. Very helpful explainer for readers outside - or indeed in - Japan as the country's economic outlook starts to shift after decades. From the moment the video started, you had a feeling that this story was going to be explained clearly, imaginatively and compellingly - and so it proved, in copy and audio, making up a superb multimedia package. Most of all, it achieved a key thing: you remembered what it told you, because of the choices made in how to tell the story, from key context to the reaction of ordinary Japanese to the new interest rate environment. | A clear backgrounder to a complex military situation in one of the most important areas of the world. This package is visual storytelling at its best, and the animated maps added a lot to the reporting. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism | Kontinentalist |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Renewed Attention on Political Dynasties in the Philippines</u> | <u>Singapore's divisive ethnicity-based housing policy</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Carmela Fonbuena, TJ Burgonio, Guinevere Latoza, Joseph Luigi Almuena, Aaron John Baluis, and PCIJ Research Interns | Melissa Zhu, Nabilah Said |
| Judges' Comments: | This is an excellent series on how family dynasties dominate politics in the Philippines. It goes beyond the best-known examples to show how the dynamic pervades even local elections and governments. It shined important light on the continued role of political dynasties in the Philippines - as well as the tactics used to stay in power. | This interactive explainer stands out for the rigorous data work underpinning it, which shows some of the unintended consequences of Singapore's ethnic integration policy. The presentation is engaging, clear and careful about what can - and can't - be proved by the data. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | 端傳媒 Initium Media | READr |
| Title of Entry: | <u>國安最大案紀錄：香港 47 人案法庭報導系列</u> <u>/Records of the Biggest National Security Trial:</u> <u>Court Coverage of the Hong Kong 47</u> | <u>透視臺灣政治新局：5 萬篇社群文章裡三黨支持</u> <u>者的價值與對話/Unveiling Taiwan's New Political</u> <u>Landscape</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 葉脈 Yip Mak、杜海 To Hoi、盧其微 Lo Kei Mei、郭瑾燁 Athena Kuo、顏育嶼 Ngan Yuk Yu、梁庭瑋 Elk Leung | 李又如 Lee Yu Ju、曾立宇 Tseng Lee-Yu、徐湘芸 Syu Siang-Yun、簡信昌 Chien Hsin-chan |
| Judges' Comments: | This is an admirable feat to distill testimony from the city's largest national security trial and meticulously explain to readers what was at stake. The data visualization also assisted readers in understanding the complicated background information in an accessible way. | The outstanding aspect of this piece lies in its clear organization and structure. It seamlessly weaves accounts by individuals from different spectrums, skillfully interspersed with effective references. |

Excellence in Business Reporting

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | The Wall Street Journal | The New York Times |
| Title of Entry: | <u>The Bitter Truth About China's Economic Miracle</u> | <u>China's E.V. Revolution</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Rebecca Feng, Brian Spegele | Keith Bradsher, Agnes Chang, Daisuke Wakabayashi, Claire Fu, Li You |
| Judges' Comments: | Terrific on-the-ground China reporting packed with memorable anecdotes, lively color and strong human elements that helped bring to life the story of China's investment driven boom and bust over the past decade. Top notch storytelling that ably executes on an ambitious narrative with loads of sweep. Each article stands on its own, but taken together they constitute a sober analysis of structural problems now besetting the Chinese economy - and the Chinese people. | Rich and detailed reporting from China and Southeast Asia that vividly charts the turbocharged rise and global spread of China's electric car industry. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | Frontier Myanmar | The Australian Financial Review |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Smugglers' paradise</u> | <u>No more wise guy: The downfall of 'LinkedIn Lecher' Richard White</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Mg Htin | Nick McKenzie, Max Mason, Kate McClymont |
| Judges' Comments: | An amazing feat of exclusive reporting that takes the reader into the fishing industry and the lives of workers, wholesalers, exporters and how they deal with the reality of a corrupt navy paired with a government bureaucracy squeezed for cash. Rich in detail and full of color, the story brings to life so many different topics, from the everyday life of the workers collecting seafood to the struggles of the brokers transporting the produce across the border to the Thai market. | Admirable persistence and shoe-leather reporting, excellent sourcing that showcases the depth of the reporters' contacts in the industry and the trust they were able to build despite the sensitive subject matter. The execution of the spot reporting stories was mostly excellent and well-designed, using visuals to provide further insight. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Publication: | 報導者 The Reporter | 商業周刊 Business Weekly |
| Title of Entry: | <u>出口禁令下的紅線交易 - 揭開 MIT 工具機流入俄羅斯隱蹤/Illicit Trade Under Export Bans: Unveiling How Taiwan-Made Machine Tools Flow into Russia</u> | <u>台灣螺絲王國存亡戰/Taiwan's Screw Empire: A Battle for Survival</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 李易安 Yi-An Lee、Andrey Zayakin、方德琳 De-Lin Fang、陳曉威 Hsiao-Wei Chen、張詩芸 Shih-Yun Chang | 呂國禎 Kuo-Chen Lu、林洧楨 Webber Lin、吳美欣 Meihsin Wu、陳宗怡 Chungi Chen、鄧孟沄 Michelle Deng、陳騫 Haw Chen |
| Judges' Comments: | The reporting team, through rigorous data mining, expertly reveals how Taiwan machine tools flow into Russia through third countries - an excellent series of stories that exposed the loopholes in export control with real impact. | This report delves into the story of a small town in Taiwan known for its screw factories and deftly traces its trajectory as the U.S.-China trade war rages on and globalization drastically slows down. |

Excellence in Infographics

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | Financial Times | Reuters |
| Title of Entry: | <u>The battlegrounds that could decide a US-China war over Taiwan</u> | <u>Japan's bear problem</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Demetri Sevastopulo, Kathrin Hille, Lucy Rodgers, Dan Clark, Justine Williams, Irene de la Torre Arenas, Sam Learner, Sam Joiner, Steve Bernard, Ian Bott | Adolfo Arranz, Han Huang, Sakura Murakami and Rebecca Pazos |
| Judges' Comments: | A comprehensive analysis using a string of imaging techniques skillfully knitted together in a compelling narrative on a consequential geopolitical situation. | Infographic caviar! Immersive storytelling using original illustrations and a variety of infographic styles. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Publication: | The Straits Times | The Straits Times |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Taylor Swift infographics that make up a giant poster</u> | <u>How food diary videos on social media can impact your body image</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Yamini Chinnuswamy, Billy Ker, Cel Gulapa | Alyssa Mungal, Charlene Chua, Chee Wei Xian, Elizabeth Law, Stephanie Adeline |
| Judges' Comments: | A revival of an infographic posters trend from 20+ years ago. This brave decision is a sign of the newspaper's closeness to its audience and also reveals a collaborative effort between journalism, design, production, and promotion, resulting in a piece of data-driven journalistic design, a piece of trivia that is highly valuable and appreciated by Taylor Swift fans. | A truly brilliant example of visual journalism, this piece is innovative and coherent, providing intuitive ways to understand complex analysis. The incisive research, supported by professional expertise and robust findings, strategically identifies areas for deeper investigation and comparison. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Publication: | 天下雜誌 CommonWealth Magazine | 報導者 The Reporter |
| Title of Entry: | 0403 花蓮震後追蹤：太魯閣上如何重建? <u>Taiwan's Post-Earthquake Landscape: Taroko Park's Long Road to Recovery</u> | 當土地開發與國土保育持續衝突－《國土計畫法》上路風暴/ <u>Functional Zone of Spatial Planning in Turmoil</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 林綺薇 Chi Wei Lin、陳盈諭 Ying-Yu Chen、楊時鈞 Steven Yeo、李郁欣 Sylvia Lee、史書華 Silva Shih、王建棟 Chien-Tong Wang | 柯皓翔 Hao-Hsiang Ko、嚴文廷 Roger Wen-Ting Yen、林雨佑 Yu-lou Lin、江世民 Ethan Kong、黃鈺婷 Yu-Ting Huang、方德琳 De-Lin Fang |
| Judges' Comments: | Used aptly as a great storytelling tool that creates a sense of space, the 3D technique is seamless and to the point - bringing people into the mountainous region - and not just to be cool. The story is also a great example of marriage between data and on-the-ground reporting - the two work together harmoniously to make this a strong story. | Neat and clear infographic design and excellent indications of content flow to illustrate an important but demanding topic. |

Excellence in Reporting Breaking News

Combined Global & Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | Reuters | Agence France-Presse |
| Title of Entry: | <u>South Korea's martial law crisis</u> | <u>Bangladesh revolution</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Seoul bureau and Asia graphics teams | Shafiqul Alam, Munir Uz Zaman, Parvaz Ahmad Rony, Abu Sufian Jewel, K M Asad, Noah Seelam, Mohammad Mazed |
| Judges' Comments: | Reuters' swift and comprehensive coverage kept global audiences informed about one of the biggest breaking stories last year. Under deadline and media control threats, the team stayed agile, dispatching rapid alerts, detailed analysis, and interactive graphics, culminating in insights on the defense minister's role and subsequent arrest. | AFP's team bravely covered country-changing events with speed and accuracy, even amid risks and threats, largely due to the agency's longstanding commitment to covering the country. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | 端傳媒 Initium Media | 香港 01 HK01 |
| Title of Entry: | <u>珠海撞人系列/Zhuhai Random Attack Report Series</u> | <u>香港駐倫敦經貿辦間諜案/Spy Case of Hong Kong Trade Office in London</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 槐蔭 Huai Yin、林艾瑞 Lin Airui、卜榮奕 Bu Rongyi、王曉楠 Wang Xiaonan、石步與 Shi Buyu | 梁祖饒 Leung Cho Yiu Joe、李穎霖 Lee Wing Lam、勞顯亮 Lao Xianliang、周偉強 Chow Wai Keung |
| Judges' Comments: | A laudable effort to unearth the truth behind the Zhuhai car attack and how the government controlled the narrative of the incident. While it was extremely hard to get victims and their family members to talk, the reporters tried to show the fallout of the incident and the impact on these peoples' lives. | The report effectively handled the myriad details of the sudden event, with a clear and highly readable structure. |

Excellence in Opinion Writing

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | Bloomberg News | Financial Times |
| Title of Entry: | <u>How the US Lost the Solar Power Race to China</u> | <u>From 'punycorns' to oodles of noodles - columns on business in Japan</u> |
| Award Recipients: | David Fickling | Leo Lewis |
| Judges' Comments: | Fickling's work is so good, particularly in the first article on the unforced error of the US ceding the solar power industry to China. The solar power story on the highest level is a clash of two systems, both operating within the confines of capitalism, and responding differently to the same resource constraints of solar power. Lots of detailed research, which backs up the two opinion pieces - they make a clear argument, with compelling use of data. The author should develop a book out of this. | All three of these essays are wonderful, and operate from a strong viewpoint that is clearly expressed. They illustrate what Lewis says are a "moment of historic emergence" and each tells the story in a different way. They are also highly original in their analysis, and offer a different way of looking at business in Japan. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | The Straits Times | Culpium |
| Title of Entry: | <u>No country for young men: Where is Malaysia's next generation of leaders?</u> | <u>TSMC Built a Bamboo Ladder. Trump Might Yet Shake It</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Shannon Teoh | Tim Culpan |
| Judges' Comments: | An expansive prose that delves into Malaysia's national discourse following the passing of a reformist figure. It demystifies the complex web of personalities shaping Malaysian politics, revealing how personal ambitions and alliances drive the country's political dynamics. | Culpan compellingly connects the personal to the geopolitical via the contentious issue of laws and practices around identity, for a business story. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | 香港 01 HK01 | 亞洲週刊 Yazhou Zhoukan |
| Title of Entry: | 財赤、發債、撤辣 - 從朱鎔基問董建華說起：怕什麼？/Fiscal deficit, bond issuance, and withdrawal of stimulus measures - on Zhu Rongji asking Tung Chee-hwa: What are you afraid of? | 香港雨傘運動十年一夢，此間非少年人面也全非 /A decade after Hong Kong's Umbrella Movement, young activists melt into the air |
| Award Recipients: | 黃雲娜 Wong Wan Na | 黃宇翔 Wong Yu Cheung |
| Judges' Comments: | A solid analysis telling us where Hong Kong was coming from and where it should be going to, fiscally speaking. The article delves into the intertwining temporal contexts of economic recession, fiscal deficits, debt controversies, and pessimism faced by Hong Kong in both 2002 and 2024. It examines the conservative fiscal management approaches of past financial secretaries, highlighting how the current developmental challenges in Hong Kong can be traced back to these traditional practices. | A unique piece that took a nuanced and mature look at the metamorphosis of student leaders over the two social movements in Hong Kong. It eschews valorizing or vilifying perspectives, and skillfully goes beyond the black-and-white narratives of mainstream media. |

Excellence in Reporting on the Environment

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | The New York Times | Bloomberg News |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Is a 'Green' Revolution Poisoning India's Capital?</u> | <u>Uncovered</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Maria Abi-Habib, Bryan Denton | Coco Liu, Jing Li, Colum Murphy, Sheryl Lee, Dingmin Zhang, Nao Sano, Aaron Clark, Taiga Uranaka |
| Judges' Comments: | This story was head and shoulders above the competition, containing both the anecdotes of people plagued by pollution and the scientific data confirming the nature and scale of the problem. Terrific, precise reporting, conducted over years. The editing process must have been fraught as an array of photographic and narrative elements were either included or ditched to end up with a taut, searing account. | An in-depth examination of how climate change is destabilizing the global insurance industry, a critical mechanism for managing risk. The series delves beyond the surface-level impacts on consumers, such as rising premiums and reduced coverage, to explore systemic issues in countries like China and Japan. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | Rest of World | Internews' Earth Journalism Network |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Riders in the smog: Pollution is poisoning gig workers</u> | <u>Ground Truths: A Collaborative Special Report on Soil in Asia</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Zuha Siddiqui, Samriddhi Sakunia, Faisal Mahmud | Vo Kieu Bao Uyen, Fu Yuxin, Ronna Nirmala, Sam Schramski |
| Judges' Comments: | A great example of climate change journalism focusing on fossil fuels burning at street level, not just the broad effects of the warming planet. This article explores the effects of pollutants trapped closer to the ground through the daily lives of three gig workers - in three of the world's most-polluted cities - whose livelihoods depend on motorbikes. Equally impressive is how the investigative reporting team gathered its own data and presented a transparent look at how they used that data for its article. | This extensive investigative report on ground soils across the region and the myriad factors involved keenly demonstrates the value of collaboration when it comes to environmental reporting in Asia Pacific. Each article dives into a very localized aspect of the issue while also tying it into broader regional perspectives that serve to illustrate the complexity of the issue. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Publication: | 今周刊 Business Today | 端傳媒 Initium Media |
| Title of Entry: | <u>綠電棄嬰/Abandoned Green Electricity</u> | <u>中國土地下沉/Sinking China</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 陳燕珩 Chen Yen Heng 、 朱偉銓 Chu Wei Chuan 、陳禹綦 Chen Yu Chen | 符雨欣 Fu Yuxin 、楊亞 Yang Ya |
| Judges' Comments: | The report provides a unique perspective on the corruption issues within Taiwan's green energy industry, including vivid character stories and analyses of bureaucratic systems and local cultures, helping readers gain a deeper understanding of the corruption problems arising from the development of green energy facilities. The report has led to a series of government investigations, showcasing the media's role in overseeing society and those in power. | This series tackles a weighty subject matter with a scientific reporting method that doesn't rely on strong characters but on multiple research papers and interactive tables and charts. |

Excellence in Photography

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | The New York Times | Reuters |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Tormentors Change, but Not the Torment</u> | <u>Mad honey</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Adam Ferguson | Navesh Chitrakar |
| Judges' Comments: | A powerful series of portraits that gives a human face to the ongoing suffering of the Rohingya community. The images are carefully composed and respectful, allowing the subjects to be seen not only as victims, but as individuals with strength and resilience. It's thoughtful, deeply personal work that brings attention to a crisis often overlooked...The careful lighting makes these photos oil paintings. | 'Mad Honey' stands out for its access, detail, and sense of place. The photo essay captures a rare and visually striking tradition with care and curiosity, offering a glimpse into a disappearing practice few get to witness firsthand. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | Bollo.id | Philippine Daily Inquirer |
| Title of Entry: | <u>The Apocalypse Has Arrived</u> | <u>Tragedy in Talisay</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Iqbal Lubis | Richard Reyes |
| Judges' Comments: | A searing and intimate visual chronicle of life in Bantaeng, where the effects of nickel industrialization cut across landscapes and lives. Through a mix of shots, this series does what only photojournalism can—making visible what might otherwise remain unseen. It not only documents an urgent environmental issue, but does so with a deep respect for the people living through it. | A dramatic and striking photograph, reminiscent of a Baroque painting, effectively conveys the profound grief of losing a loved one in the aftermath of the tragic seasonal typhoons. The artist's choice to crop the upper parts of the figures in the background adds to the overall emotional intensity of the scene. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Publication: | 端傳媒 Initium Media | 報導者 The Reporter |
| Title of Entry: | 花蓮 403 地震 災難與重生/Hualien Earthquake: Disaster and Rebirth | 國會風暴/Taiwan's Parliamentary Turmoil |
| Award Recipients: | 陳焯輝 Chan Cheuk Fai | 黃世澤 Seitei Huang、陳曉威 Hsiao-Wei Chen、林彥廷 Yen-Ting Lin、楊子磊 Tzu-Lei Yang |
| Judges' Comments: | From multiple angles, the lens faithfully documents the aftermath of the earthquake, capturing the relentless power of nature and the emotions of the affected people. Rescuing animals amid the rubble is a highlight. | Conveys intense emotions, reflecting the anxiety and helplessness of the crowd. Through the images, readers can deeply immerse themselves in the event and empathize with it. |

The Scoop Award

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | Reuters | The Information |
| Title of Entry: | <u>China's macroeconomic policy</u> | <u>TSMC's High-Wire Act to Please Both China and the U.S.</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Greater China economy, finance and markets team | Qianer Liu |
| Judges' Comments: | Exceptional reporting on a particularly hard target. Turned out to be completely correct and market-moving. | Excellent scoop on a key issue of our geopolitical times, gotten by a sole reporter for a relatively small publication. punching well above its weight, widely followed. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | Frontier Myanmar | Malaysiakini |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Dissent in the junta's ranks</u> | <u>Sabah Corruption Scandal</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Ye Mon, MK, Ya Nwe | RK Anand, Ng Ling Fong, Hariz Mohd, Alyaa Alhadjri |
| Judges' Comments: | The stories showed how reporters were able to gain access within the military to detail how deep the internal resentment was against the junta leader. It was great to have direct quotes from military officials, albeit anonymously. it is so difficult to do reporting in Myanmar that this entry is particularly notable. | This entry stands out for exposing alleged corruption by state leaders in Malaysia through multiple, secretly recorded videos provided by a whistleblower. The large reaction to the stories, includes an investigation by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Publication: | 報導者 The Reporter | 端傳媒 Initium Media |
| Title of Entry: | <u>獵童風暴：揭開未成年性剝削影像的暗黑產業鏈/Uncovering Abuse: The Illegal Industrializing of Child Sex Abuse Images in Taiwan</u> | <u>替俄羅斯打仗的中國人：錢，刺激，當網紅/Chinese Fighting for Russia: Money, Thrill, and Becoming Influencers</u> |
| Award Recipients: | 李雪莉 Sherry Hsueh-li Lee、孔德廉 Te-Lien Kung、張子午 Tze-Wu Chang、洪琴宣 Chin-Hsuan Hung、黃世澤 Seitei Huang、林彥廷 Yen-Ting Lin、鄭宇辰 Yu-Chen Cheng、馬雨辰 Yu-Chen Ma、黃禹禎 Yu-Chen Huang、張詩芸 Shih-Yun Chang | 呂曉章 Lu Xiaozhang、吳婧 Susie Wu |
| Judges' Comments: | A gut-wrenching series of stories that exposed why it has been so difficult to put a stop to child sex abuse and child pornography in Taiwan. The sensitivity of the subject makes the reporting even more valuable. | A well-reported story with in-depth interviews and a well-crafted narrative focusing on a subgroup of society otherwise largely overlooked by mainstream Chinese and English media. It uses a narrow focus to examine the broader impact of China's foreign policy in the Russia-Ukraine war. |

Carlos Tejada Award for Excellence in Investigative Reporting

Global

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Publication: | The Associated Press | The Wall Street Journal |
| Title of Entry: | <u>South Korea's Adoption Reckoning</u> | <u>Inside China's Global Espionage Machine</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Kim Tong-Hyung, Claire Galofaro | Wall Street Journal Staff |
| Judges' Comments: | An affecting and convincing set of stories on South Korean adoption mills and their continuing impact. Solid and fair factually, but the most impressive part is the way the stories bring the situation home at a personal level. The AP/Frontline investigation into the adoption of Korean children is a classic of this genre -- exhaustive in its detail, relentless in its pursuit of the truth, filled with emotionally compelling personal stories, and hugely impactful. | Well-reported, edited and packaged. A very important story that had a big impact on Washington. The gumshoe reporting is especially impressive. Hyper-competent on all levels. |

Regional/Local

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | Mekong Eye | Hong Kong Free Press |
| Title of Entry: | <u>Cattle Hustle</u> | <u>Investigation: Hong Kong's role in illegal deforestation of the Amazon rainforest in Brazil</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Kannikar Petchkaew, Gebu, Konlaphat Siri, Aung Myo Htut, Vũ Thanh, Nattakit Meesakul, Chris Trinh | Mercedes Hutton, Piero Locatelli |
| Judges' Comments: | Seven journalists from six newsrooms across Southeast Asia collaborated to expose the dangers of cattle smuggling, revealing intricate networks sustaining China's beef demand. Despite risks like disease transmission and corruption, the investigation sheds light on neglected public health threats and the trade's role in regional conflicts. | A best-in-class piece of investigative journalism resulting from an increasingly important source of such work - collaboration between independent journalists and publications. |

Chinese

| | Award for Excellence | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Publication: | 端傳媒 Initium Media | BBC 中文 BBC Chinese |
| Title of Entry: | 「走線，未完成」系列報導/Walk the line, the journey continues | 大學假學歷風波：拆解中國學生天價「保錄」背後的香港高校收生漏洞/The Price of Admission: How Fake Degrees and 'Guaranteed' Offers Exploit Hong Kong's University System |
| Award Recipients: | 馮兆音 Feng Zhaoyin、傅蓓夢 Fu Beimeng、董孟渝 Mengyu Dong | 李澄欣 Joyce Lee |
| Judges' Comments: | Solid field investigations and multi-dimensional perspectives have redefined the observation framework of Chinese-language media on the phenomenon of immigration smuggling. The series consistently regards immigrants as active agents rather than passive victims, and this ethical reporting distinguishes it from simplistic disaster narratives. A valuable account of contemporary social mobility. | This investigation, with impressive on-site reconstruction and institutional analysis, elevates the issue of cheating in university admissions from individual cases to systemic public concern. The report not only exposes the dark side of the cross-border education industry chain but also demonstrates the power of journalistic supervision over educational equity. |

SOPA Award for Young Journalist**Combined English and Chinese-language groups**

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| | Award for Excellence |
| Publication: | The Information |
| Title of Entry: | <u>The U.S. - China Tech Conflict</u> |
| Award Recipient: | Qianer Liu |
| Judges' Comments: | This outstanding body of work highlights Qianer Liu's exceptional talent for uncovering and breaking stories that offer unique insights into the tech competition between the U.S. and China, as well as broader implications across Asia. This is a deeply impressive enterprise reporting on one of the most geopolitically sensitive and commercially consequential beats today. What elevates this submission is not just the detail, but the originality and impact. Several of these stories drove follow-up investigations or public scrutiny, showing real-world consequences - a gold standard in journalism. |



The Society of Publishers in Asia
The SOPA 2025 Awards for Editorial Excellence
Awards Winners List

SOPA Award for Public Service Journalism

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| | Award for Excellence |
| Publication: | The Wall Street Journal |
| Title of Entry: | <u>A Vicious New Scam Industry Metastasizes</u> |
| Award Recipients: | Feliz Solomon, Rachel Liang, Patricia Kowsmann, Jemal R. Brinson, Clarence Leong |
| Judges' Comments: | This deep-dive investigation exposes the brutal reality of “pig butchering” cyber fraud, a global criminal enterprise that has devastating reach across continents and has defrauded victims of billions. Through meticulous reporting and unprecedented access to both victims and rescued scammers, the series reveals the inner workings of a sophisticated criminal enterprise that has trapped hundreds of thousands. The direct prevention of scams and subsequent victim support demonstrate journalism’s power to create immediate positive change, even when covering complex transnational crimes. |