

***** CALL FOR NOMINATIONS – DAVID A. RIST PRIZE *****

The Military Operations Research Society (MORS) invites nominations for the coveted
David A. Rist Prize.

Overview: The David A. Rist prize recognizes the practical, real-life benefit of applied national security operations research and rewards outstanding examples of implemented studies that have impacted major decisions or practices. Finalists compete at the annual MORS symposium. The first-place winner receives \$3,000, while any honorable mentions may receive up to \$1,500.

Suspense: Please send all documents to recognition@mors.org no later than **2-Mar-2026** (extended from the previous 16-Jan-2026 deadline).

Eligibility: Nominees may be individuals or a group of individuals, conducting work up to the SECRET classification level. Nominations must be for original, implemented, and self-contained analysis that has provided recognizable new insights and impacted major decisions.

Requirements: Three documents must be received to complete a nomination.

1. Study Abstract: The abstract may be up to three pages (8.5” by 11”, single sided, minimum 10pt font, minimum 0.75” margins). Abstracts must be UNCLASSIFIED.
2. Abstract Disclosure: MORS Disclosure Forms (either Government or Non-Government) can be found at <https://www.mors.org/Professional-Development/Prizes/David-Rist-Prize>.
3. Signed Letter of Endorsement: A Flag/General Officer, Government SES Civilian, or company VP (or equivalent/higher), from the organization using the analysis results must compose a letter that addresses, on behalf of the nominee:
 1. The importance of the problem
 2. The contribution of the insights, solutions, and/or results
 3. The impact of the analysis

Process: A panel of MORS Prizes and Awards Committee judges will review and evaluate nomination packets, selecting up to four finalists based on established criteria of impact, professional quality, and overall contribution (see <https://www.mors.org/Professional-Development/Prizes/David-Rist-Prize> for criteria and more about the award). All nominees will then be informed of their selection status (finalist / not finalist).

Finalists: Finalists will be assigned a senior mentor of the society, who will guide the nominee through the final competition. Each finalist will prepare an annotated briefing up to the SECRET classification level, which they will then present to select judges during the Annual MORS Symposium, with 30 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for questions. The winning finalist and honorable mention(s) will be announced at the Symposium.

Publication: Finalists for the David A. Rist prize will be invited to submit their work for review and publication in the *MOR Journal* (<https://www.mors.org/Publications/MOR-Journal>).