

# Report of the December 2025 vote of the ACM Multimedia Steering Committee

Report written by Xavier Alameda-Pineda, in December 2025.

## Introduction

The Steering Committee of ACM Multimedia met and voted regarding three issues:

1. The Desk-rejection Policy
2. The Awards Policy
3. The Themes and Topics of Interest of the Conference

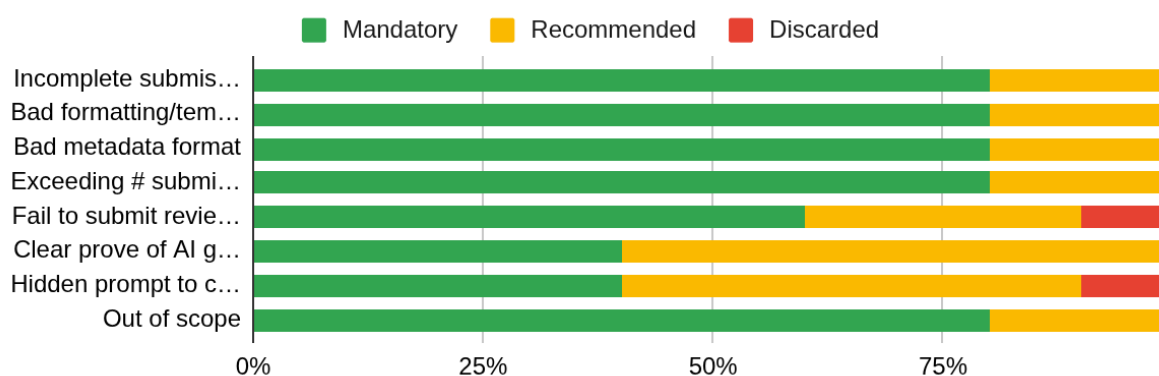
The meeting was held on 11 December 2025, and the texts regarding the items above were adapted following the discussion. The vote regards the new texts. There were a total of 10 votes casted.

## 1. Desk-rejection Policy

**Context:** The desk-rejection policy consisted of eight independent questions (detailed in the corresponding document):

1. Incomplete submission
2. Bad formatting/template
3. Bad metadata format
4. Exceeding # submissions / author
5. Fail to submit review on time
6. Clear proof of AI generated review
7. Hidden prompt to condition automatic AI reviews
8. Out of scope

**Vote:** For each question, every vote could cast either “Mandatory”, “Recommended”, or “Discarded”. Here are the results:



**Outcome:** As per the bylaws of the Steering Committee the following policies are mandatory (in green) and recommended (in yellow):

1. Incomplete submission
2. Bad formatting/template
3. Bad metadata format
4. Exceeding # submissions / author
5. Fail to submit review on time
6. Clear proof of AI generated review
7. Hidden prompt to condition automatic AI reviews
8. Out of scope

### Further comments

Regarding point 5:

- 5 & 7 are very strict towards all authors. For 5, i suggest for every submitted paper, 4 papers shall be reviewed (regardless of authors).
- Responsible review. I agree on this but I would make the authors select who among the authors is the selected reviewer. I think asking all authors to be possible reviewers with a desk-rejection policy is critical.

Regarding point 6:

- Clear prove of AI generated review. I am happy to consider desk-rejection if we are sure that we can have real concrete and objectives criteria on this. I like a lot what ICML will implement next year (here <https://neurips.cc/Conferences/2025/LLM>). Btw I think we should use it for authors as well (example <https://icml.cc/Conferences/2026/Intro-LLM-Policy>)

Regarding point 7:

- 5 & 7 are very strict towards all authors. For 7, often senior authors do not have access to latex file to check this issue. investigation can be done to clarify
- I'm putting these as recommended just because there are not official ACM tool to prove AI text yet.
- The wording of desk rejection clause n 7 can have a nasty infect in terms of propagation because of collaborations. I am in favor of rejecting the specific paper in question.

Points 6 and 7 can be treated later on as they are only recommended. Regarding point 5, we must also think about the simplicity/feasibility of the rule. Selecting only one author is not enough (half of our reviewers are authors). As a reminder, there will be a limit to the number of papers per author-reviewer (as stated in the rule) of 4, the PCs must also ensure enough reviewing time.

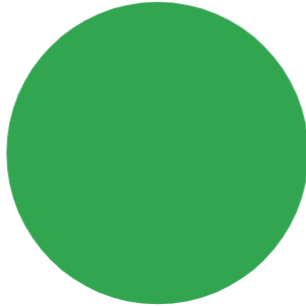
## 2. Award Policy

**Context:** The award policy could be summarised as having 5% of the papers receive an Outstanding Paper Award and 1% receive a Best Paper Award. This will be implemented per topic, and the policy specifies a way to take care of topics with few accepted papers. The

policy also specifies how to select the Award Committee co-Chairs, and the Award Committee Members (i.e. avoid Col with Program and General co-Chairs).

**Vote:** The votes were cast to agree or disagree with the entire policy. The results are unanimous.

### Award Policy



**Outcome:** As per the bylaws of the Steering Committee, the Award Policy is accepted.

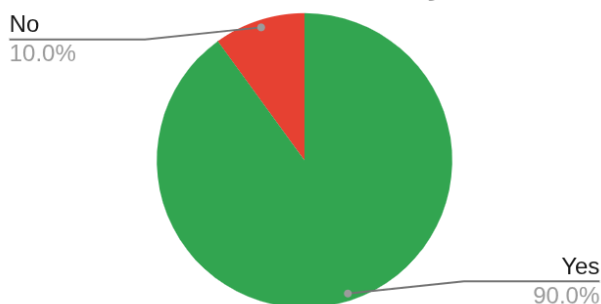
## 3. Themes, sub-themes and topics

We also voted in a re-organisation of the themes and topics of the conference. The vote happened in two stages. First, regarding the hierarchy of themes and sub-themes. Second, regarding the topics.

### 3.1. Hierarchy themes/sub-themes

**Context & vote:** The votes were cast either to agree or disagree on deleting the hierarchy between themes and sub-themes. The results of the votes are as follows:

#### Remove theme hierarchy

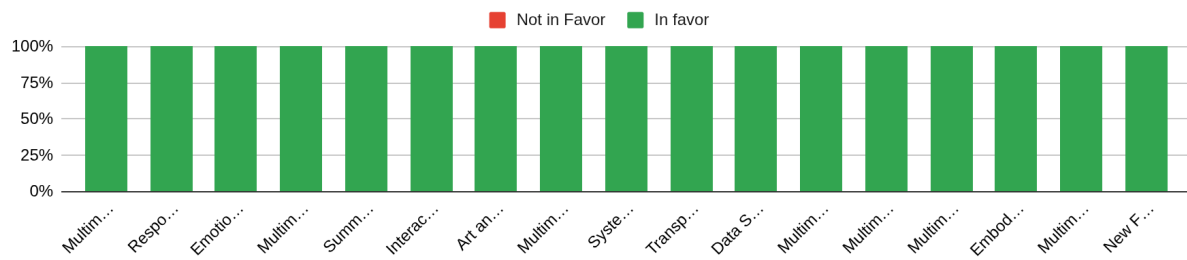


**Outcome:** As per the bylaws of the Steering Committee, it is approved to remove the theme/sub-theme hierarchy and to have a list of topics.

### 3.2. Topics

**Context:** The last vote was related to the topics to be included in the various calls for papers of the conference. Proposals of topic merging, modification, and creation were consolidated and then shown to the Steering Committee.

**Vote:** The votes could be “In favour” or “Not in favour” individually per each topic. The results of the vote are unanimous for all topics:



**Outcome:** As per the bylaws of the Steering Committee, the calls for contributions of the conference will consist on these topics.

**Further comments:**

- I believe some flexibility should be allowed to each year organizers to accommodate trending topics or some other relevant topic.

It is proposed to provide some freedom to the chairs of each year to propose new topics and modifications of existing topics to the Steering Committee.