GW, June 4, 2018

Gunther Beyer Award[[1]](#footnote-1)

Gunther Beyer was born in Berlin in 1904. For a great many years after the Second World War, he worked tirelessly to further the cause of population organisation in Europe. In 1969, he became secretary / treasurer of the *Centre Européen d' Etudes de Population/ European Centre for population studies*, founded by Alfred Sauvy in 1954, and editor of the *European Demographic Information Bulletin*. Gunther Beyer died in January 1983. Only a few months later, a new generation of European demographers decided that Gunther Beyer's initiatives should be continued. The *European Association for Population Studies* (EAPS) was established as a direct successor to the Centre Européen and the EDIB was replaced by the *European Journal of Population.*

As a tribute to one of the founding fathers of EAPS, the Gunther Beyer prize is awarded for the best paper by an early career scholar at each *European Population Conference*. Papers by scholars who have no more than 5 years of experience since completion of their PhD at the time of the *European Population Conference* may be nominated for this award. Nominated papers are judged by a Jury of EAPS Honorary Presidents on the basis of the following criteria:

* choice of topic and originality,
* underlying theoretical foundation, or theoretical notions used,
* technical competence as displayed in the analysis and presentation of the data,
* use of professional literature,
* structure of the paper and the quality of its text.

Three papers were nominated this year for the Award and the choice of a winner was difficult, as all three papers were of a very good quality. Finally, we had to decide. Based on the fact that the topic explored is of concern to many million people in the world, that the background to the study is quite comprehensively examined, that the theoretical arguments are well presented, that the quality of the data is thoroughly discussed, and that the data analysis is subtly conducted, the Gunther Beyer prize 2018 is awarded to Ridhi Kashyap, from the University of Oxford, for her paper: “*Does prenatal sex selection reduce gender gaps in child mortality?*”.

1. Based on the EAPS website and on a document by Dirk van de Kaa. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)