

Message from the SOUPS 2025 Program Co-Chairs

Welcome to SOUPS 2025!

With the conference now in its 21st year, our SOUPS community has collectively ensured another excellent and exciting conference program. With 30 papers accepted out of 157 submissions (19.1% acceptance rate), the technical program covers a wide range of topics within usable privacy and security. The conference also includes workshops, posters, lightning talks, mentorship activities, networking, and a keynote.

In 2016, SOUPS became an independent conference body. Since then, we have partnered with USENIX for hosting and administrative support, a move that has enabled continued growth and stability for the conference. We thank all the members of the USENIX staff for their work in organizing SOUPS and supporting our community. Their team has been fantastic at making the process of running a high-quality conference seamless.

In 2018, we co-located with the USENIX Security Symposium for the first time, and we have continued that co-location for 2025. Co-locating the two conferences in-person allows for interactions and shared ideas between SOUPS and USENIX Security attendees. We have found this beneficial for both conferences and look forward to the opportunity again this year.

Next year, we are taking SOUPS 2026 on the road, and will not be co-located with USENIX Security as we have been for many years. This will just be just a one year pause, allowing us to hold SOUPS in Germany, creating a SOUPS which is more accessible to our European colleagues and other members of the community who have difficulty traveling to the United States. In 2027, we will return to the US and be once again co-located with USENIX Security.

SOUPS relies on a range of volunteers for all of its activities. Steering Committee members provide oversight and guidance and are elected for three-year terms. Organizing Committee members help determine the conference content for a particular year, often serving two-year terms to facilitate the transition of knowledge. Technical Papers Committee members are chosen by the Technical Papers Co-Chairs each year. SOUPS is a product of the hard work of many people, starting with the researchers who decide to submit their work to SOUPS, and including all of the SOUPS Organizers, the SOUPS Steering Committee, the technical paper reviewers, the student volunteers, the workshop organizers, the poster jury, and the USENIX staff. We are grateful and thank each and every one of you for your contributions to SOUPS 2025.

Patrick Gage Kelley has served as Vice and then General Chair of SOUPS since 2023 and will be staying on as General Chair in 2026, with a new-vice chair to be appointed soon. If you are interested in helping with SOUPS, in any capacity, please contact Patrick.

SOUPS would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors—thank you for supporting this community this year, and over the past two decades.

Please visit our website to view the recipients of the SOUPS 2025 awards. Congratulations to all recipients for their outstanding work.

Patrick Gage Kelley, *Google*
General Chair

Mainack Mondal, *Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur*
Kami Vaniea, *University of Waterloo*
Technical Papers Co-Chairs