

Social Psychology Days 2021

# ABSTRACT BOOKLET



Social Psychology  
Days 2021

#2021paivat  
@sopsypaivat



University of Helsinki

5. Sofia Silva-Ribeiro (Centro de Investigação e Intervenção Social (CIS-IUL), ISCTE-IUL, Lisboa, Portugal): Systematic review of predictors of adjustment to lupus and disease activity

Potentially modifiable factors, such as social factors, have been associated with lower disease activity and increased positive illness adjustment in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) patients, but no systematic review on their impact is available. The aim of this study was to conduct a systematic review on the modifiable predictors (psychological, social and behavioral) of adjustment to SLE and disease activity. Search was conducted in eight databases (e.g., PsycArticles, PubMed), with over 40 keywords' combinations (e.g., adjustment, predictor, social). Two phases of screening, according to pre-specified inclusion criteria, were performed independently by two authors for the first 35% of references (91.4% agreement), and by one author for the remaining, with disagreements resolved by a third author. A standardized form was used for data extraction, including predictors, outcome measures and effect sizes. A qualitative data synthesis is taking place using the Framework of Adjustment to Chronic Disease, and the National Institute of Health (UK) tools for study quality assessment. A total of 2007 references were initially identified, with 80 retained for synthesis. Preliminary findings stress the most relevant categories of psychological (n=8; self-perception, catastrophizing, knowledge/literacy, coping, perceived stress, illness/treatment cognitions, control perception and dispositional factors), social (n= 3; stigma, interaction with others/groups, relation with healthcare system and professionals) and behavioral factors (n=4; physical activity, diet, additive behaviors and miscellaneous) that are related with lupus adjustment and disease activity. These results highlight the potential for multidisciplinary components, as social interactions, to be integrated in interventions to improve adjustment in SLE patients.

19. The role of Social Identity in a changing society, Chair: Saija Benjamin (University of Helsinki), Slot 4

1. Jovan Ivanović & Iris Žeželj (University of Belgrade): Role of Social Identity in Building Solidarity and Well-Being amid the COVID-19 Pandemic

Sense of shared group membership can be a powerful socio-psychological tool in mobilising large numbers of people and buffering against uncertainty during a societal crisis. We investigated if ethnic identity can prove as such a resource in preserving emotional well-being and building solidarity to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic. Using correlational design in Study 1 (N=465), we confirmed that higher ethnic identification predicted less emotional distress and more willingness to help compatriots suffering from the pandemic via higher collective efficacy. Although the same indirect effect was absent in the case of adherence to COVID-19 health guidelines, there was an unexpected direct negative relationship between ethnic identification and adherence to health measures. Aiming to anchor COVID-19 response in a collective narrative, in Study 2 (N=107), we introduced the control and experimental group in which we primed the participants with a widespread historical narrative of Serbian resilience facing an external threat. As expected, the ethnic identity framing manipulation predicted more willingness to help and adherence to health guidelines via collective efficacy, except among low-identifying individuals. The same indirect path

predicted lower emotional distress, but unexpectedly not in the group of high-identifying participants. Our results demonstrate that shared identity can be an asset in responding to an epidemiological crisis, yet it can also manifest as an obstacle hindering health behaviour. We discuss the implications of social identity framing in public communication to curb the pandemic without worsening intergroup relations.

## 2. Catriona Shelly (University of Limerick): A Social Identity Approach to Appraising Brexit in Northern Ireland

In 2016, the UK voted to leave the European Union (EU). Brexit is now a reality. The Irish Sea border, and the new procedures placed on the movement of goods to and from Great Britain, exemplify some of the implications of this political change. Like the rest of the UK, Brexit represents a division in Northern Ireland (NI) as people think about winners and losers, 'leavers' and 'remainers'. However, the extant identity issues in NI, adds another layer of complexity to the Brexit debate. For people in NI, Brexit represents a symbolic threat to identity, namely for the Irish-Catholic and British-Protestant identities who wish to remain distinct from one another. In contrast to threat, Brexit also offers opportunities for these distinct national and ethno-religious identity groups to pursue action that enhances their group's ideological agenda. For example, Brexit may be viewed as an opportunity for the British to strengthen the union with the UK, or for the Irish to push for a united Ireland. However, without closer inspection it remains unclear when and how these identities in NI came to view and respond to Brexit as a potential threat and/or opportunity. Using the Integrated Social Identity Model of Stress (ISIS; Haslam et al, 2005), this paper aims to examine how people's social identities in NI are framing their experience of Brexit. Through application of the ISIS model, the paper will assess its utility in explaining the Irish-Catholic and British-Protestant perception and adaption to Brexit in NI.

## 3. Aleksandr Zamiatin (University of Helsinki): Meanings of Finno-Ugric identity in the political discourse in Finland

Finno-Ugricity, originally a concept of the discipline of historical linguistics, has quickly transcended its original meaning and been used in identity and nation building projects. My study explores how Finno-Ugric identity is used in the (transnational) identity politics of Finland to make claims regarding "kindred" minorities in Russia. Particularly, I examine the meanings attached to Finno-Ugric identity in the political discourse in Finland and discuss possible implications of these meanings for the "kindred" peoples' policy. I focus on how Finno-Ugric identity is constructed in the contemporary political discourse in Finland and what positions the constructions assign to kindred minorities. The data for this study consists of verbatim records of parliamentary debates and public speeches by recent Finnish presidents. This study employs a critical discourse analysis that is understood as a theoretical and analytical perspective to critically describe and interpret constructions of social phenomena. The findings of this study show that in their speeches, Finnish officials construct a transnational "imagined community" encompassing all speakers of Finno-Ugric languages. However, the aim of this construction does not seem to be a pan-nationalist movement or ideology. Finnish politicians, especially recent presidents, capitalize on Finno-Ugric identity within the transnational dimension of the EU cooperation. At the same time, the transnational dimension