

Alex Koch, Ph.D.

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Areas of Research

Social perception and cognition, content and relation of (group) stereotypes, social and economic behavior, data-driven methods, similarity (assessment), valence asymmetries, conversational norms, truth judgment

Education

2016	Visiting postdoc, Princeton University, NJ, USA
2016-	Postdoc, University of Cologne, Germany
2016	Ph.D. (summa cum laude), University of Cologne, Germany
2016	Visiting graduate student, Utrecht University, Netherlands
2012-2016	Graduate student (psychology), University of Cologne, Germany
2010-2011	Visiting undergraduate student, University of New South Wales, Australia
2006-2012	Undergraduate student (psychology), University of Heidelberg, Germany

Publications in Peer-Reviewed Journals

2017	<p>[14] Koch, A., Kervyn, N., Kervyn, A. & Imhoff, R. (in press). Studying the cognitive map of the U.S. states: Ideology and prosperity stereotypes predict interstate prejudice. <i>Social Psychological and Personality Science</i>.</p> <p>[13] Lammers, J., Koch, A., Brandt, M., & Conway, P. (in press). The political domain appears simpler to the politically extreme than to political moderates. <i>Social Psychological and Personality Science</i>.</p> <p>[12] Alves, H., Koch, A., & Unkelbach, C. (2017). The "common good" phenomenon: Why similarities are positive and differences are negative. <i>Journal of Experimental Psychology: General</i>, 146, 512-528.</p> <p>[11] Imhoff, R., Koch, A. (2017). How orthogonal are the Big Two of social perception? On the curvilinear relationship between agency and communion. <i>Perspectives on Psychological Science</i>, 12, 122-137.</p> <p>[10] Alves, H., Koch, A., & Unkelbach, C. (2017). Why good is more alike than bad: Processing implications. <i>Trends in Cognitive Sciences</i>, 21, 72-82.</p>
2016	<p>[9] Koch, A., Alves, H., Krüger, T., & Unkelbach, C. (2016). A general valence asymmetry in similarity: Good is more alike than bad. <i>Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition</i>, 42, 1171-1192.</p> <p>[8] Koch, A., & Imhoff, R., Dotsch, R., Alves, H., & Unkelbach, C. (2016). The ABC of stereotypes about groups: Agency / socio-economic success, conservative-progressive beliefs, and communion. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, 110, 675-709.</p> <p>[7] Alves, H., Koch, A., Krüger, T., & Unkelbach, C. (2016) My friends are all alike – On the relation between liking, knowledge and perceived similarity. <i>Journal of Experimental Social Psychology</i>, 62, 103-117.</p>

- 2015 [6] Alves, H., Unkelbach, C., Burghardt, J., Koch, A., Krüger, T., & Becker, V. (2015). A density explanation for valence asymmetries in recognition memory. *Memory & Cognition*, *43*, 896-909.
- 2014 [5] Krüger, T., Fiedler, K., Koch, A., & Alves, H. (2014). Response category width as a psychophysical manifestation of construal level and distance. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, *40*, 501-512.
- [4] Matovic, D., Koch, A., & Forgas, J. P. (2014). Can negative mood improve language understanding? Affective influences on the ability to detect ambiguous communication. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, *52*, 44-49.
- 2013 [3] Koch, A., Forgas, J. P., & Matovic, D. (2013). Can negative mood improve your conversation? Affective influences on conforming to Grice's communication norms. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, *43*, 326-334.
- 2012 [2] Koch, A., & Forgas, J. P. (2012). Feeling good and feeling truth: The interactive effects of mood and processing fluency on truth judgments. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, *48*, 481-485.
- 2011 [1] Unkelbach, C., Bayer, M., Alves, H., Koch, A., & Stahl, C. (2011). Fluency and positivity as possible causes of the truth effect. *Consciousness and Cognition*, *20*, 594-602.

Other Publications

- 2016 [4] Koch, A., & Imhoff, R. (2016). Towards an ecologically valid model of spontaneous stereotypes about groups. *The Brunswik Society Newsletter*, *31*, 25-27.
- 2015 [3] Fiedler, K., Hofferbert, J., Woellert, F., Krüger, T., & Koch, A. (2015). The tragedy of democratic decision making. In J. Forgas, W. Crano, & K. Fiedler (Eds.), *Social psychological approaches to political psychology* (pp. 193-208). New York, NY: Guilford Press.
- 2013 [2] Forgas, J. P., & Koch, A. (2013). Mood effects on cognition. In M. Robinson, E. Watkins, & E. Harmon-Jones (Eds.), *Handbook of emotion and cognition* (pp. 231-252). New York, NY: Guilford Press.
- [1] Koch, A., Forgas, J. P., & Goldenberg, L. (2013). In the mood to break the rules: Happiness promotes language abstraction and transgression of conversation norms. In J. P. Forgas, O. Vincze, & J. László (Eds.), *Social cognition and communication* (pp. 83-100). New York, NY: Psychology Press.

Invited Revisions / Under Review / In Preparation

- [6] Koch, A. & Imhoff, R. Rethinking the nature and relation of fundamental dimensions of meaning. *Invited revision*.
- [5] Imhoff, R., Koch, A., & Flade, F. (Pre)occupations: A data-driven map of job and its consequences for categorization and evaluation. *Under review*.
- [4] Alves, H., Koch, A., & Unkelbach, C. A cognitive-ecological explanation of intergroup biases. *Under review*.

[3] Koch, A., Nicolas, G., Imhoff, R., Unkelbach, C., Terache, J., Yzerbyt, V., & Fiske, S. Stereotypes about groups' communion / warmth are not consensual: Implications for reconciling the ABC of stereotypes with the SCM. *In preparation.*

[2] Koch, A., Imhoff, R., Dotsch, R., Unkelbach, C., & Alves, H. Ideology stereotypes help to solve the tradeoff between exploitation and exploration. *In preparation.*

[1] Koch, A., & Unkelbach, C. Solving the puzzle of the valence-validity relation in judgments of truth: it depends on morality and competence. *In preparation.*

Awards and Grants

2017	<p>[16] Dissertation Award 2017, US Society of Experimental Social Psychology (SESP)</p> <p>[15] Publication Award 2017 (€ 750), German Society of Social Psychology (DGP-FGSP)</p> <p>[14] Finalist for Dissertation Award 2017, German Society of Cognitive Psychology (DGP-FGAP)</p> <p>[13] Junior Start-Up Grant (€ 2,880) "Fundamental stereotype dimensions: How people make sense of the social world", Center for Social and Economic Behavior, University of Cologne, Germany</p> <p>[12] International Fellowship Program Grant (€ 3,480) "Learning generalized mixed-model analysis from the expert: A methods workshop with Professor Charles Judd" (with PI Adam Hahn), Center for Social and Economic Behavior, University of Cologne, Germany</p>
2016	<p>[11] Dissertation Award 2016 (€ 900), Faculty of Human Sciences of the University of Cologne, Germany</p> <p>[10] Finalist for Best Paper Award 2016, European Social Cognition Network (ESCON)</p> <p>[9] Visitor Program Grant (€ 2,280) "Reconciling the SCM and ABC models of stereotype content", Center for Social and Economic Behavior, University of Cologne, Germany</p>
2015	<p>[8] Junior Start-Up Grant (€ 2,500) "Do people prefer conservatives (progressives) for joint exploitation (exploration)?", Center for Social and Economic Behavior, University of Cologne, Germany</p> <p>[7] Five-week full scholarship (€ 1,500) for research at Utrecht University, Netherlands, Faculty of Human Sciences of the University of Cologne, Germany</p> <p>[6] Junior Start-Up Grant (€ 3,800) "Creating a website to measure the similarity of lots of stimuli in little time", Center for Social and Economic Behavior, University of Cologne, Germany</p>

2014	<p>[5] Travel grant for SPSP 2015 (€ 1,200), Faculty of Human Sciences of the University of Cologne, Germany</p> <p>[4] Advanced PostDoc Grant (€ ~170,000) "Content and application of fundamental stereotype dimensions" (with PI Roland Imhoff), University of Cologne, Germany</p>
2013	<p>[3] Travel grant for SPSP 2014 (€ 1,600), German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)</p> <p>[2] Best Paper Award 2013 (with PI Hans Alves), European Social Cognition Network (ESCON)</p>
2010	<p>[1] One-year full scholarship (€ ~10,000) for research at the University of New South Wales, Australia, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)</p>

Invited Talks

2017	<p>[9] The ABC of content dimensions in social cognition. University of Sheffield, UK</p> <p>[8] Good is generally more alike than bad: Investigating the case of (the ABC model of) group stereotypes. SESP 2017, Boston, USA</p>
2016	<p>[7] Why good is more alike than bad: Processing implications. University of Basel, Switzerland</p> <p>[6] Refining the ABC model of spontaneous stereotypes about social groups. Catholic University of Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium</p> <p>[5] Refining the ABC model of spontaneous stereotypes about social groups. Princeton University, NJ, USA</p> <p>[4] Data-driven approaches to the content of social perception. University of Vienna, Austria</p> <p>[3] The ABC of stereotypes. Utrecht University, Netherlands</p>
2015	<p>[2] Using spatial arrangement to map people's mind. University of Heidelberg, Germany</p>
2012	<p>[1] Not in the mood to go with the flow: Negative mood eliminates reliance on processing fluency in judgments of truth. University of Heidelberg, Germany</p>

Conference Contributions

2017	<p>[24] Stereotypes about conservative-progressive beliefs serve as guides for managing the tradeoff between exploitation and exploration. German Society of Social Psychology (DGP-FGSP), Ulm, Germany</p> <p>[23] An ecological perspective of psychological phenomena. German Society of Social Psychology (DGP-FGSP), Ulm, Germany</p> <p>[22] Ideology stereotypes help to solve the trade-off between exploitation and exploration. European Social Cognition Network (ESCON), Gdansk, Poland</p>
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- [21] Refining the ABC model of spontaneous group stereotypes. European Society of Social Psychology (EASP), Granada, Spain
- 2016 [20] Stereotypes about conservative-progressive beliefs are consensual, and people use them to strike a balance between exploitation and exploration. Dutch Society of Social Psychology (ASPO), Leiden, Netherlands
- [19] The ABC of stereotypes about social groups. European Social Cognition Network (ESCON), Lisbon, Portugal
- [18] The ABC of attitudes about social groups. European Society of Social Psychology (EASP) small group meeting, University of Cologne, Germany
- [17] The ABC of stereotypes about social groups. Conference on motivation and social perception, University of Gdansk, Poland
- 2015 [16] Spatial arrangement: A powerful research tool for C-SEB and beyond. Center for Social and Economic Behavior, University of Cologne, Germany
- [15] The ABC of stereotypes. German Society of Social Psychology (DGP-FGSP)
- [14] The ABC of stereotypes (poster). Conference on social cognition, Cologne, Germany
- [13] The ABC of stereotypes: Spontaneous stereotypes reflect agency, beliefs, and (some) communion. Conference on social perception, Sopot, Poland
- [12] The ABC of stereotypes (poster). Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), Long Beach, CA, USA
- 2014 [11] More representative ways to examine how people stereotype groups. European Social Cognition Network (ESCON), Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium
- [10] Semantic maps reveal that representatively sampled positive information is more alike than negative information (poster). European Society of Social Psychology (EASP), Amsterdam, Netherlands
- [9] Reassessing the role of warmth in spontaneous, default social perception. Cologne-Nijmegen meeting, Cologne, Germany
- [8] Self-drawn similarity maps reveal valence asymmetry in the density of naturally sampled concepts. German Society of Experimental Psychology (TEAP), Giessen, Germany
- [7] Conversational norms influence the credibility of a message (poster). Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), Austin, TX, USA
- 2013 [6] Norm-congruent communication is more likely to be perceived as true than norm-deviant communication. European Social Cognition Network (ESCON), Vilnius, Lithuania
- [5] Disapproval has many faces; approval has only one face! Nijmegen-Cologne meeting, Nijmegen, Netherlands

	[4] Information valence impacts category-split effects. German Society of Experimental Psychology (TEAP), Vienna, Austria
	[3] Mood influences language abstraction and transgression of conversation norms (poster). Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), New Orleans, LA, USA
2012	[2] Does information valence moderate unpacking effects? Cologne-Nijmegen meeting, Cologne, Germany
	[1] In the mood to break the rules: Happiness promotes language abstraction and transgression of conversation norms. European Association of Social Psychology (EASP), small group meeting, Pécs, Hungary

Ad Hoc Reviewer

	Cognition & Emotion, Emotion, European Journal of Social Psychology, Frontiers in Psychology, Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, NeuroImage, Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, Social and Personality Psychology Compass, Social Psychology
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Teaching

2017/18	Cognitive Heuristics and Biases
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2017	Stereotypes / Stereotyping (Seminar, Eval.: 4.5 / 5)
2017	Emotion and Motivation (Experimental research practicum, Eval.: 4.21 / 5)
2016/17	Stereotypes / Stereotyping (Seminar)
2016/17	Basic and Social Emotions (Seminar)
2016	Judgment and Decision Making (Seminar)
2016	Emotion and Motivation (Seminar)
2016	Stereotypes/Stereotyping (Experimental research practicum)
2015/16	Friendship and Intimate Relationships (Seminar)
2015	Friendship and Intimate Relationships (Seminar)
2014/15	Friendship and Intimate Relationships (Seminar)
2014	Valence Asymmetries in Cognitive Processing (Seminar)
2012/13	Friendship and Intimate Relationships (Seminar)

Supervision

2017	Philipp Henzel, "Social perception is context-dependent: Stereotype diagnosticity increases stereotype usage" (BS thesis).
	Max Alt, "Social perception is context-dependent: Stereotype diagnosticity increases stereotype usage" (BS thesis).
	Ruth Bernardy, "Stereotypes in private and public life (translated)" (BS thesis).
2016	Zoe Dahl, "Refining the ABC of stereotypes about groups: A (agency) and B (beliefs) stereotypes are consensual, C (communion) stereotypes are a function of perceivers' A and B." (BS thesis).
2015	Anne Theis, "Giving more to gain, taking less to not lose (translated)" (BS thesis).

References

Main:

Dr. Christian Unkelbach, University of Cologne, Germany
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Dr. Roland Imhoff, University of Mainz, Germany
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Dr. Klaus Fiedler, University of Heidelberg, Germany
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