

Jakob Kasper

Ph.D. Researcher in Political Psychology

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Education

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| Ph.D. Communication & Political Science, University of Amsterdam , The Netherlands | 2023–Present |
| Supervisors: Dr. Bert N. Bakker & Prof. Gijs Schumacher | |
| Project: MSCA Doctoral Network "Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Politics of Adolescence and Democracy" | |
| M.Sc. Psychology, University of Heidelberg , Germany | 2020–2023 |
| Supervisors: Prof. Tom Gilovich & Dr. Klaus Fiedler | |
| Thesis: <i>Do People Prefer to Share Political Information that Boosts their Ingroup or Derogates the Outgroup?</i> | |
| Graduate Exchange Student, Cornell University , USA | 2021–2022 |
| Supervisors: Prof. David Pizarro & Prof. Tom Gilovich | |
| B.Sc. Psychology, University of Heidelberg , Germany | 2017–2020 |
| Supervisors: Prof. Klaus Fiedler & Prof. Florian Kutzner | |
| Thesis: <i>On the Role of Exploitation and Exploration Strategies in the Maintenance of Cognitive Biases</i> | |

Grants, Awards & Honors

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| Cornell Center for Social Sciences Research Grant (\$6,505.00, Role: Co-PI) | 2025 |
| Polarization Research Lab Successful Application Partisan Animosity Survey Time Sharing ($N = 1000$) | 2024 |
| Horizon Europe Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship | 2023 |
| Konrad Adenauer Foundation Academic Scholarship for Graduate Studies | 2021 |
| Baden-Württemberg Foundation Travel Scholarship | 2021 |
| University of Heidelberg Undergraduate Psychology Conference Poster Price, 2. Rank | 2021 |
| Konrad Adenauer Foundation Academic Scholarship for Undergraduate Studies | 2019 |
| St. Hildegard School Association Award for Exemplary Social Attitudes | 2017 |

Publications

- Kasper, J., Lee, R. T., Pennycook, G., Binnendyk, J., & Sezer, O. (in prep). *People Overestimate How Much Others Would Support Them Getting “cancelled” Over Speech.*
- Kasper, J., Schumacher, G., ten Brinke, L., Crone, E., & Bakker, B.N. (in prep). *The Development, Level, and Malleability Adolescent Affective Polarization among Adolescents.*
- Kasper, J., Bakker, B.N., Lelkes, Y., & Schumacher, G. (under review). *Beyond Valence: Arousal as a Core Dimension of Affective Polarization.* doi: 10.31234/osf.io/5dfbj_v1
- Kasper, J., Schumacher, G., & Bakker, B.N. (2025). *Establishing the construct and predictive validity of brief measures of affective polarization.* European Journal of Political Research. doi: 10.1111/1475-6765.70022
- Laffineur, C., Kasper, J., te Brinke, L., Bakker, B. N., & Schumacher, G. (2025). *Political Interest, Activism, and Affective Polarization: Dutch Adolescents and Adults are not that Different.* Tijdschrift voor Communicatiewetenschap. doi: 10.5117/TCW2025.2.006.LAFF
- Kasper, J., & Gilovich, T. (2025). *Do people prefer to share political information that boosts their ingroup or derogates the outgroup?* Journal of Experimental Psychology: General doi: 10.1037/xge0001683
- Kasper, J., & Bakker, B.N. (2025). *Alexa Bankert. When Politics Becomes Personal: The Effect of Partisan Identity on Anti-Democratic Behavior.* Public Opinion Quarterly. doi: 10.1093/poq/nfaf025
- Kasper, J., Fiedler, K., Kutzner, F., & Harris, C. (2023). *On the role of exploitation and exploration strategies in the maintenance of cognitive biases: Beyond the pursuit of instrumental rewards.* Memory & Cognition. doi: 10.3758/s13421-023-01393-8

Conference Presentations

- Kasper, J., Bakker, B.N., Lelkes, Y., & Schumacher, G. (2025, November). *Beyond Valence: Arousal as a Core Dimension of Affective Polarization.* Talk presented at the Polarization Consortium Workshop.
- Kasper, J., Bakker, B.N., Lelkes, Y., & Schumacher, G. (2025, July). *Beyond Valence: Arousal as a Core Dimension of Affective Polarization.* Talk presented at the Political Identities Workshop of the Amsterdam Centre for European Studies.
- Kasper, J., Schumacher, G., ten Brinke, L., Crone, E., & Bakker, B.N. (2025, November). *The Development, Level, and Malleability Adolescent Affective Polarization among Adolescents.* Poster presented at the IP-PAD Doctoral Network Conference.
- Kasper, J., Bakker, B.N., Lelkes, Y., & Schumacher, G. (2025, July). *Conceptualizing and Measuring Affective Polarization: The Role of Valence and Arousal.* Talk presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for Political Psychology.

- Kasper, J., Schumacher, G., & Bakker, B.N.** (2025, July). *Conceptualizing and Measuring Affective Polarization: The Role of Valence and Arousal*. Talk presented at the Dutch Political Science Conference 2025.
- Kasper, J., Schumacher, G., & Bakker, B.N.** (2024, September). *Putting the Affect into Affective Polarization: New Insights into Conceptualization and Measurement*. Talk presented at the German Political Psychology Meeting 2024.
- Kasper, J., Schumacher, G., & Bakker, B.N.** (2024, February). *Establishing the Construct and Predictive Validity of Brief Measures of Affective Polarization*. Talk presented at the 24h Communication Science Conference.
- Kasper, J., & Gilovich, T.** (2022, May). *Do People Prefer to Share Political Information that Boosts their Ingroup or Derogates the Outgroup?* Talk presented at the 2022 Six College (Columbia, Cornell, CUNY, NYU, Princeton, Yale) Conference.
- Kasper, J., Kaulhausen, F., Lob, A., & Scholten, F.** (2018, October). *Too far to change? How psychological distance shapes our pro-environmental behavior*. Poster presentation at the Undergraduate Psychology Research Conference at the University of Heidelberg.

Popular Press & Dissemination

- Bakker, B.N., Kasper, J., & Schumacher, G. (2025, July). *Vanaf 16 stemmen? Jongeren is er klaar voor*. *Algemeen Dagblad*. <https://www.ad.nl/opinie>
- Kasper, J., & Gilovich, T. (2025, June). *Why Do Hostile Posts Go Viral When Most People Prefer More Positive Communication?* *SPSP Character & Context Blog*. <https://spsp.org/>
- Schumacher, G., & Bakker, B.N., Kasper, J., & Zaslove, M. (2024, December). *Alarmisme over antidemocratische jongeren is misplaatst*. *StukRoodVlees*. <https://stukroodvlees.nl/alarmisme-over-antidemocratische-jongeren-is-misplaatst/>
- SYNC Lab & HotPoliticsLab (2023, December). *Fact Sheet: Hoe denken jongeren over politiek?* link to fact sheet

Teaching Experience

- Lecturer, Research Seminar - Experiments, University of Amsterdam** 2026
FILL IN AFTER TEACHING
- Co-Lecturer, Visualization Workshop, IP-PAD Doctoral Network** 2025
Workshop on common plots in the social sciences, introduction to ggplot2, visualization best practices, and interactive coding challenge.
- Guest Lecturer, Good Research Practices, University of Amsterdam** 2025
Guest lectures on p-curve analysis, multiverse analysis, and causal inference in statistical control.
- Research Internship Supervisor, University of Amsterdam** 2025
Supervision of 10 student theses during internship, including literature review, data collection, data analysis, and report writing.
- Graduate TA, Introduction to Social Psychology, Cornell University (Prof. Tom Gilovich)** 2021–2022
Office hours for student support, creation of multiple-choice exam questions, exam instruction and administration, grading of research proposals and essays.
- Graduate TA, Research Seminar Cognitive Illusions, University of Heidelberg (Dr. Karolin Salmen)** 2021
Office hours for student support, creation of multiple-choice exam questions, exam instruction and administration, grading of research proposals and essays.

Research Experience (Prior to the PhD)

- Graduate RA, Max-Planck-Institute for Research on Collective Goods (Prof. Susanne Fiedler)** 2022–2023
Literature reviews, teaching preparation, design of surveys/experiments, data analysis, coding of studies for a meta-analysis.
- Graduate Researcher, Cornell University (Prof. Thomas Gilovich)** 2021–2022
Independent project on polarizing political content on social media, literature review, survey and material design (Qualtrics), data collection and analysis, lab presentations, manuscript preparation.
- Graduate Researcher, Cornell University (Prof. David Pizarro)** 2021–2022
Independent project on deliberate ignorance, literature review, survey and material design (Qualtrics), data collection and analysis, lab presentations, manuscript preparation.
- Graduate RA, University of Heidelberg (Prof. Klaus Fielder)** 2021–2022
Independent project on pseudo-contingencies, literature review on experience sampling and racial profiling, study and survey design (SoSciSurvey), data collection and analysis.

Academic and Community Service

Reviewer: *The Journal of Politics, Political Psychology, Social Cognition, European Journal of Political Research.*

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| Organization of the IP-PAD Doctoral Network Conference | 2025 |
| Organization of a conference with 60 attendees, including 2 keynote talks, roundtable discussions with academics and practitioners, and 22 research posters. | |
| HotPoliticsLab: Charing of Weekly Speaker Series | 2023-2025 |
| PsyArXiv: Emergency Moderation of Pre-Prints | 2025 |
| Malengo: Mentoring of a student from Uganda concerning living and studying in Germany | 2022-2025 |
| PrEVENTion Heidelberg: Foundation of a non-profit organization for the prevention of depression | 2019-2023 |
| University of Heidelberg: Member of Faculty Council | 2018-2019 |
| University of Heidelberg: Member of Subject Council | 2017-2021 |

Professional Experience

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| Junior Consultant at CF Consulting | 2021 |
| Joint moderation of digital assessment centers, preparation and implementation of online assessments, design of interviewer trainings (German/English). | |
| Internship at PE Systemtraining | 2020 |
| Development of employee training materials, introduction of new IT tools and email system, contribution to website design. | |
| Internship at the Psychosis Ward of the State Hospital Andernach | 2020 |
| Psychological interviews and psychoeducational group sessions. | |