

Sandra Geiger

PhD RESEARCHER

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Research interests

I am a PhD researcher in Social and Environmental Psychology. My work focuses broadly on **pro-environmental behavior change**, including what people think others think and do about climate change (pluralistic ignorance and **second-order beliefs**), as well as how interventions affect non-targeted behaviors (spillover effects). I am also interested in (Bayesian) **statistics** and **Big Team Science** and hope to contribute to making psychological research more transparent, reproducible, and sustainable (**Open Science**).

Education


PhD Researcher 2021 – 2025
Social & Environmental Psychology, University of Vienna (Austria)
Supervisors: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Sabine Pahl, Dr. Mathew White

MSc Psychology Research (9.0, cum laude) 2018 – 2020
University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands)
Specializations: Social Psychology & Psychological Methods
Thesis: Spillover effects of interventions in the environmental domain: A Bayesian meta-analysis


BSc Psychology (1.1) 2014 – 2018
University of Freiburg (Germany)

Academic Exchange Semester (92%) 2017
University of British Columbia (Canada)

Publications

14 publications in international peer-reviewed journals (including 4 as first or last author). For first-authored articles, the pre-registration, data, and analysis code are available by clicking on the OSF icon, where applicable .

Spillover & second-order beliefs

1. **Geiger, S. J.** (2022). Pro-environmental behavior spillover. *Nature Reviews Psychology*, 1, 191-191.
2. **Geiger, S. J.**, Brick, C., Nalborczyk, L., Bosshard, A., & Jostmann, N. B. (2021). More green than gray? Toward a sustainable overview of environmental spillover effects: A Bayesian meta-analysis. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, Article e101694. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2021.101694> 
3. Ruggeri, K., Većkalov, B., Bojanić, L., ... **Geiger, S. J.**, ... M., Cikara, M., Lees, J., & Folke T. The general fault in our fault lines. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 1-15. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-021-01092-x>

COVID-19 pandemic

4. Buchanan, E. M., Lewis, S. C., Paris, B., Forscher, P. S., Pavlacic, J. M., ..., **Geiger, S. J.**, ... & Vega, D. (2023). The Psychological Science Accelerator's COVID-19 rapid-response dataset. *Scientific Data*, 10(1), 87. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-022-01811-7>
5. Legate, N., Ngyuen, T. V., Weinstein, N., Moller, A., Legault, L., ... **Geiger, S. J.**, ... & Ogbonnaya, C. E. (2022). A global experiment on motivating social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 119(22), Article e2111091119. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2111091119>
6. Wang, K., Goldenberg, A., Dorison, C., Miller, J., ... **Geiger, S. J.**, ... IJzerman, H., Forscher, P. S., & Moshontz, H. (2021). A global test of brief reappraisal interventions on emotions during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 1-22. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-021-01173-x>
7. Dorison, C. A., Lerner, J. S., Heller, B. H., Rothman, A. J., Kawachi, I. I., ... **Geiger, S. J.**, ... & Pantazi, M. (2022). In COVID-19 health messaging, loss framing increases anxiety with little-to-no concomitant benefits: Experimental evidence from 84 countries. *Affective Science*, 3(3), 577-602. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42761-022-00128-3>
8. Tanis, C. C., Leach, N., **Geiger, S. J.**, Nauta, F., Dablander, F., van Harreveld, F., ... Blanken, T. (2021). Smart Distance Lab Art Fair - An experimental data set on social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Nature Scientific Data*, 8, Article e179. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-021-00971-2>

Big team & open science

9. Crüwell, S., Aphthorp, D., Baker, B. J., Colling, L., Elson, M., **Geiger, S. J.**, ... & Brown, N. J. (2023). What's in a badge? A computational reproducibility investigation of the Open Data badge policy in one issue of Psychological Science. *Psychological Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/09567976221140828>
10. Jarke, H., Anand-Vembar, S., Alzahawi, S., Andersen, T. L., Bojanić, L., Carstensen, A., ... & **Geiger, S. J.** (2022). A roadmap to large-scale multi-country replications in psychology. *Collabra: Psychology*, 8(1), Article e57538. <https://doi.org/10.1525/collabra.57538>
11. Ruggeri, K., Panin, A., Vdovic, M., Večkalov, B., Abdul-Salaam, N., ... **Geiger, S. J.**, ... & García-Garzon, E. (2022). The globalizability of temporal discounting. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 6(10), 1386-1397. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-022-01392-w>

Other

12. Pröpper, H. Y., **Geiger, S. J.**, Blanken, T. F., & Brick, C. (2022). Truth over identity? Cultural cognition weakly replicates across 23 countries. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 83, Article e101865. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2022.101865>
13. **Geiger, S. J.**, Vintr, J., & Rachev, N. R. (2022). A reassessment of the Resistance to Framing scale. *Behavior Research Methods*, 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13428-022-01876-7> 
14. Rachev, N. R., **Geiger, S. J.**, Vintr, J., Kirilova, D., Nabutovsky, A., & Nelsson, J. (2022). Actively open-minded thinking, bullshit receptivity, and susceptibility to framing: Evaluating the dual-process account in North America and Bulgaria. *European Journal of Psychological Assessment*. <https://doi.org/10.1027/1015-5759/a000685>

Grants & awards

Pre-registration Grant (8.500€) Leibniz Institute for Psychology (Germany)	2022
PhD Research Grant (7.000€) Vienna Doctoral School in Cognition, Behavior, and Neuroscience, University of Vienna (Austria)	2022
Best Poster Award (1st Place) SPSP Sustainability Preconference (US)	2022
Best Poster Award (2nd Place, 100€) Psychology Research Master's Conference of the University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands)	2021
DAAD Scholarship (12.500€) Merit-based international scholarship (Germany) for a master's program	2019 – 2020
Open Science Award (250€) Group award for the Student Initiative for Open Science (SIOS) by the National Open Science Festival (The Netherlands)	2020
Baden-Württemberg Scholarship (2.400€) Merit-based national scholarship (Germany) for an exchange semester	2017

Conference & workshop contributions

- Geiger, S. J.** (March 2023). *Coastal proximity and visits are associated with better health but may not buffer health inequalities* [Poster]. International Convention of Psychological Science 2023, Brussels, Belgium.
- Geiger, S. J.** (February 2023). *What we Think Others Think About Climate Change: An 11-Country Study* [Conference talk]. CoBeNe Academy 2023, Vienna, Austria.
- Geiger, S. J.** (December 2022). *Big Team Science in Environmental Psychology* [Symposium talk]. International Conference on Sustainable Development: Interdisciplinary Trends and Practices, Delhi, India.
- Geiger, S. J.** (October 2022). *More green than gray? Toward a sustainable overview of environmental spillover effects: A Bayesian meta-analysis* [Conference talk]. IAAP Early Career Marathon 2022: Integrating Research and Practice, online.
- Geiger, S. J.** (September 2022). *Coastal proximity and visits are associated with better health but may not buffer health inequalities* [Conference talk]. Austrian Environmental Psychology Conference 2022, Vienna, Austria.
- Geiger, S. J.** (August 2022). *Coastal proximity and visits are associated with better health but may not buffer health inequalities* [Poster]. Junior Researcher Programme Conference, Cambridge, United Kingdom.
- Geiger, S. J.** (June 2022). *Coastal proximity and visits are associated with better health but may not buffer health inequalities* [Poster]. Junior Researcher Programme Summer School, Siena, Italy.
- Geiger, S. J.** (February 2022). *More green than gray? Toward a sustainable overview of environmental spillover effects: A Bayesian meta-analysis* [Poster]. SPSP Sustainability Preconference, online.

- Geiger, S. J.** (October 2021). *More green than gray? Toward a sustainable overview of environmental spillover effects: A Bayesian meta-analysis* [Conference talk]. Psychological Science Accelerator Conference, online.
- Geiger, S. J.** (October 2021). *More green than gray? Toward a sustainable overview of environmental spillover effects: A Bayesian meta-analysis* [Conference talk]. International Conference of Environmental Psychology, Syracuse, Italy.
- Geiger, S. J.** & Köhler, J. K. (September 2021). *Why it is hard to act on climate change and what we can do about it* [Invited talk]. Max-Perutz Lab, Vienna, Austria.
- Rachev, N. R., **Geiger, S. J.**, Vintz, J., Bühler, V., Kirilova, D., Nabutovsky, A., & Nelsson, J. (August 2020). *Actively open-minded thinking, bullshit receptivity, and susceptibility to framing: Evaluating the dual-process account in North America and Bulgaria* [Conference talk]. Junior Researcher Programme Conference, online.
- Geiger, S. J.** & Jostmann, N. B. (July 2020). *Environmental spillover effects of interventions: A Bayesian meta-analysis* [Poster]. Open Conference, online.
- Student Initiative for Open Science** (February 2020). *Pre-registration: Why, how, and what-if? A SIOS workshop for students* [Workshop]. University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- Student Initiative for Open Science** (February 2020). *Pre-registration: Why, how, and what-if? A SIOS workshop for PhD students* [Invited workshop]. Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- Geiger, S. J.** (November 2019). *Always connected, always stressed: How organizational identification and social support influence work-related smartphone use and stress after work* [Conference talk]. WAOP Conference, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- Geiger, S. J.** (July 2019). *Always connected, always stressed: How organizational identification and social support influence work-related smartphone use and stress after work* [Poster]. Open Conference, Siena, Italy.

Teaching & supervision

Bachelor's thesis supervision

Supervision of 14 bachelor's theses in Environmental Psychology 2021 – 2024
University of Vienna (Austria)

Bachelor's courses (> 1.100h)

Scientific Readings & Bachelor's Thesis (96h) 2022 – 2024
University of Vienna (Austria)
Average evaluation: 1.4 (1 highest to 5 lowest)

Interdisciplinary courses Decision Making II & Solidarity (393h) 2021
PPLE, University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands)
Average evaluation: 9.8 (1 lowest to 10 highest)

Cognitive Psychology I & II (640h) 2015 – 2017
Teaching assistant, University of Freiburg (Germany)

Master's courses (80h)

Structural Equation Modeling I & II (80h) 2020
Teaching assistant, University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

Ad hoc reviewing

Journal of Environmental Psychology (6x) • Appetite (2x) • Translational Issues in Psychological Science • Systematizing Confidence in Open Research and Evidence (SCORE) from the Center of Open Science

For verified peer reviews, see also [Web of Science](#).

Academic services

Scientific organization of a Summer School 2021 – 2023
Junior Researcher Programme, Siena (Italy)

Data Analyst 2020
CorrelaidxNL & dance4life, Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

Head of Workshop Team 2019 – 2020
Student Initiative for Open Science, Amsterdam (The Netherlands)

Research Assistant 2018
Strathmore Business School, Nairobi (Kenya)

- Accompanied sessions of the [Student Training for Entrepreneurial Promotion](#) in Kenya
- Evaluation of the training and data collection (surveys, interviews, case studies)
- Local contact person for researchers, trainers, and students

Technical skills & languages

R, Mplus, JASP, Qualtrics, and E-Prime Psychology Software Tools (advanced)
HTML and CSS (basics)
German (native), English (C1), French (B2), Dutch (A2/B1)

Media coverage

My research has been featured in the Austrian media by the Austrian Press Agency (e.g., [Instabile Wirtschaftslage verstärkt Tendenz zum "Spatz in der Hand"](#)), Die Presse (e.g., [Krisen machen ungeduldig](#)), Vienna.at (e.g., [So verändert uns die instabile Wirtschaftslage](#)), and several international blog posts (e.g., In-Mind).