

# Catherine Molho

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, TOULOUSE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

✉ catherine.molho@iast.fr | 🌐 <https://catherinemolho.github.io/>

## Academic Positions

- 2024- **Assistant Professor**, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, *Toulouse School of Economics*  
2022-2024 **Assistant Professor**, Department of Experimental and Applied Psychology, *VU Amsterdam*  
2021-2022 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, Center for Research in Experimental Economics and Political Decision Making (CREED),  
Amsterdam School of Economics, *University of Amsterdam*  
2019-2021 **Research Fellow**, *Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse (IAST)*  
2015-2019 **PhD Candidate**, Department of Experimental and Applied Psychology, *VU Amsterdam*  
2014-2015 **Research Assistant**, Network Institute, *VU Amsterdam*

## Education

### PhD Psychology

VU AMSTERDAM

2019

Netherlands

Thesis title: "The psychological underpinnings of cooperation and the punishment of non-cooperators: Insights from the lab to the field"

### MSc Social Psychology

VU AMSTERDAM

2015

Netherlands

### BA Psychology

PANTEION UNIVERSITY FOR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES

2012

Greece

## Publications

### STAGE-1 REGISTERED REPORTS AND PRE-PRINTS

**Molho, C.**, Soraperra, I., Schultz, J., Shalvi, S. (2023). Guilt- and Shame-Driven Prosociality Across Societies. Stage 1 Registered Report in principle accepted in *Nature Human Behaviour*. <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.22656502.v1>

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Fan, L., **Molho, C.**, Kupfer, T.R., Tybur, J.M. (2024). Moral violations that target more valued victims elicit more anger, but not necessarily more disgust. Manuscript accepted for publication in *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 112, 104597.

Fan, L., **Molho, C.**, Kupfer, T.R., Sauter, D.A., Tybur, J.M. (2024). Beyond outrage: Observers anticipate different behaviors from expressors of anger versus disgust. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*. 15, 450-460

Mol., J., **Molho, C.** (2024). Information about changes in platform economy taxation diminishes optimism regarding future use. Manuscript accepted for publication in *Journal of the Economic Science Association*.

**Molho, C.**, De Petrillo, F., Garfield, Z. H., Slewe, S. (2024). Cross-societal variation in norm enforcement systems: A review. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, 379, 20230034.

**Molho, C.**, Peña, J., Singh, M., Derex, M. (2024). Do institutions evolve like material technologies? Current Opinion in Psychology, 101913. Advance online publication.

Vu, L., **Molho, C.**, Soraperra, I., Fiedler, S., Shalvi, S. (2024). Giving (in) to help an identified person. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 110, 104557.

Spadaro, G., **Molho, C.**, Van Prooijen, J.-W., Romano, A., Mosso, C.O., Van Lange, P.A.M. (2023). Corrupt third-parties undermine trust and prosocial behavior between people. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 7, 46–54.

Balliet, D., **Molho, C.**, Columbus, S., Dores Cruz, T.D. (2022). Prosocial and punishment behaviors in everyday life. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 43, 278–283.

- Columbus, S., **Molho, C.** (2022). Subjective interdependence and prosocial behaviour. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 43, 226–231.
- Maitner, A.T., DeCoster, J., Andersson, P.A., ..., **Molho, C.**, ..., Wu, J. (2022). Perceptions of emotional functionality: Similarities and differences among dignity, face, and honor cultures. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 53, 263–288.
- Molho, C.**, Twardawski, M., Fan, L. (2022). What motivates direct and indirect punishment? Extending the ‘Intuitive Retributivism’ hypothesis. *Zeitschrift für Psychologie*, 230, 84–93.
- Shalvi, S., Mol, J. M., **Molho, C.**, Vu, L., Leib, M., Soraperra, I. (2022). Psychological science for a responsible sharing economy. *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 44, 100–105.
- Dores Cruz, T.D., Thielmann, I., Columbus, C., **Molho, C.**, ..., Balliet, D. (2021). Gossip and reputation in daily life. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, 376, 20200301.
- Molho, C.**, Wu, J. (2021). Direct punishment and indirect reputation-based tactics to intervene against offenses. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, 376, 20200289.
- Columbus, S.\*, **Molho, C.\***, Righetti, F., Balliet, D. (2021). Interdependence and cooperation in daily life. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 120, 626–650. \* shared first authorship
- Molho, C.**, Tybur, J.M., Van Lange, P.A.M., Balliet, D. (2020). Direct and indirect punishment of norm violations in daily life. *Nature Communications*, 11, 3432.
- Peperkoorn, L.S., Becker, D.V., Balliet, D., Columbus, S., **Molho, C.**, Van Lange, P.A.M. (2020). The prevalence of dyads in social life. *PLOS ONE*, 15, e0244188.
- Righetti, F., Balliet, D., **Molho, C.**, ..., Arriaga, X. (2020). Fostering attachment security: The role of interdependent situations. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17, 7648.
- Tybur, J.M., **Molho, C.**, Çakmak, B., das Dores Cruz, T.D., Singh, G.D., Zwicker, M. (2020). Disgust, anger, and aggression: Further tests of the equivalence of moral emotions. *Collabra: Psychology*, 6, 34.
- Karinen, A.K., **Molho, C.**, Kupfer, T., Tybur, J.M. (2019). Disgust sensitivity and opposition to immigration: Does contact avoidance or resistance to foreign norms explain the relationship? *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 84, 103817.
- Molho, C.**, Balliet, D., Wu, J. (2019). Hierarchy, power, and strategies to promote cooperation in social dilemmas, *Games*, 10, 12.
- Gerpott, F., Balliet, D., Columbus, S., **Molho, C.**, de Vries, R.E. (2018). How do people think about interdependence? A multidimensional model of subjective outcome interdependence. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 115, 716–742.
- Eriksson, K., Strimling, P., Andersson, P.A., ..., **Molho, C.**, ..., Yamagishi, T. (2017). Cultural universals and cultural differences in meta-norms about peer punishment. *Management and Organization Review*, 13, 851–870.
- Molho, C.**, Tybur, J.M., Güler, E., Balliet, D., Hofmann, W. (2017). Disgust and anger relate to different aggressive responses to moral violations. *Psychological Science*, 28, 609–619.
- Molho, C.**, Roberts, S.G.B., de Vries, R.E., Pollet, T.V. (2016). The six dimensions of personality (HEXACO) and their associations with network layer size and emotional closeness to network members. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 99, 144–148.
- Tybur, J.M., Inbar, Y., Güler, E., **Molho, C.** (2015). Pathogen disgust requires no defense: a response to Shook, Terrizzi, Clay, Oosterhoff (2015). *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 36, 502–504.
- Tybur, J.M., Inbar, Y., Güler, E., **Molho, C.** (2015). Is the relationship between pathogen avoidance and ideological conservatism explained by sexual strategies? *Evolution and Human Behavior*, 36, 489–497.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

- Molho, C.** (2023). Harnessing outrage to create social change. In I. Vermeulen (Ed.), *Connected World*. VU University Press.
- Molho, C.**, Balliet, D. (2020). Navigating interdependent social situations. In D. Funder, J. Rauthmann, R. Sherman (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Psychological Situations*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Tybur, J.M., **Molho, C.**, Balliet, D. (2018). Moralized disgust versus disgusting immorality: An adaptationist perspective. In N. Strohminger, V. Kumar (Eds.), *The Moral Psychology of Disgust* (pp. 11–27). Rowman Littlefield.

## Awards, Scholarships, & Grants

---

- 2024 **New Investigator Award**, *Cognition, Behavior, and Evolution Network (CBEN)*  
2024 **APS Rising Star**, *Association for Psychological Science*  
2021 **Multidisciplinary Research Grant**, *Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse*, Co-PI on project 'Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action'  
2020 **Multidisciplinary Research Grant**, *Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse*, Co-PI on project 'TEAM-3PP – Testing Evolutionary Alternative Models of Third-Party Punishment'  
2017 **Research Excellence Award**, Social and Organizational Psychology, *VU Amsterdam*  
2014; 2015 **William James Scholarship**, William James Graduate School, *VU Amsterdam*

## Presentations

---

### INVITED TALKS

- October 2024.* Guilt drives prosocial behavior around the world. Social, Economic and Organisational Psychology, Institute of Psychology, Leiden University.
- April 2024.* How do collective threats influence the design of punishment institutions? Center for Research in Experimental Economics and Political Decision Making (CREED), University of Amsterdam.
- March 2024.* Psychological and cultural foundations of norm enforcement. Toulouse School of Economics.
- September 2023.* Moral emotions motivate and communicate distinct responses to norm violations. Laboratory of Agent Based Social Simulation (LABSS).
- July 2023.* Distinct emotions communicate tendencies to confront or exclude norm breakers. RPTU Kaiserslautern-Landau.
- March 2023.* Moral emotions motivate and signal distinct responses to norm violations. Interdisciplinary Conference on Social Norms, Nuffield College, University of Oxford.
- October 2022.* The punishment toolkit: distinct antecedents of direct and indirect punishment tactics. Saxelab, Social Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory, McGovern Institute, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- June 2022.* Direct and indirect punishment of norm violations in daily life. Workshop on 'Social Norm Change: Drivers and Consequences,' Institute for Future Studies.
- February 2022.* Direct punishment and indirect reputation-based tactics to intervene against offenses. Conflict and Cooperation Lab, Leiden University.
- October 2021.* Third-party punishment in a relational context. French Experimental Talks (online).
- November 2019.* Personality and situational antecedents of punishment. Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods.

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- July 2024.* Guilt- and shame-based mechanisms to promote prosociality across 20 countries. Cognition, Behavior, and Evolution Network (CBEN) meeting, Maastricht, Netherlands.
- July 2024.* Guilt- and shame-driven prosociality across societies. International Conference on Social Dilemmas (ICSD), Leiden, Netherlands.
- May 2024.* Guilt- and shame-driven prosociality across societies. Human Behavior and Evolution Society (HBES) conference, Aarhus, Denmark.
- November 2023.* Impartiality in third-party punishment across relationship categories. French network for the Evolutionary Study of Humans (FRESH) Conference, Paris, France.
- July 2023.* People use emotional cues to infer others' gossip tendencies. Force of Gossip Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands.
- July 2023.* Personality and situational antecedents of gossip in daily life. European Association of Social Psychology Conference, Krakow, Poland.
- July 2023.* Discussant in symposium 'Post-transgression behavior as communication'. European Association of Social Psychology Conference, Krakow, Poland.

*July 2022.* Aggressive, not prosocial, individuals are more inclined to punish moral offenses. International Conference on Social Dilemmas, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark.

*May 2022.* Exposure to corrupt third parties undermines trust and prosocial behavior. CBESS-CeDEx-CREED Meeting, Tinbergen Institute, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

*April 2022.* Aggressive—not prosocial—individuals are more motivated to punish. European Human Behaviour and Evolution Association (EHBEA), Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology. (poster)

*November 2021.* What motivates direct and indirect punishment? Extending the ‘intuitive retributivism’ hypothesis. Cognition, Behavior, and Evolution Network (CBEN) meeting, Tilburg, the Netherlands.

*February 2021.* Retribution motivates direct and indirect punishment. Morality and Justice Preconference. Online meeting, Society for Personality and Social Psychology. (poster)

*January 2021.* When do people gossip about norm violations in daily life? Force of Gossip talk series, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. (flash talk)

*January 2021.* Using ecological momentary assessment methods to study social behaviors in the field. Online Epistemology workshop, Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse

*November 2020.* Who punishes norm violations? Aggressive, but not prosocial traits, predict motivations to punish. Online meeting of the Cognition, Behavior, Evolution Network (CBEN). (flash talk)

*November 2020.* The social functions of distinct moral emotions. Online meeting of the Réseau transdisciplinaire prioritaire ‘Evolutionary Human Sciences’. (flash talk)

*February 2020.* Direct and indirect punishment of norm violations in daily life. Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, New Orleans, USA.

*February 2020.* Personality antecedents of second- and third-party punishment. Evolutionary Psychology Pre-Conference, Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, New Orleans, USA. (flash talk)

*January 2020.* Power and cooperation in social dilemmas: A meta-analysis. 5th Pyrenean Interdisciplinary Research Event (PIREN), Ax-les-Thermes, France.

*November 2019.* Sketching the mechanisms and functions of distinct punishment strategies. Cognition, Behavior, Evolution Network (CBEN) meeting, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

*June 2019.* Direct and indirect punishment in daily life. International Conference on Social Dilemmas, Sedona, USA.

*May 2019.* Situational, relational, and emotional antecedents of punishment in daily life. Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Boston, USA.

*July 2018.* Second- and third-party punishment are characterized by different emotions and different aggressive tactics. Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

*April 2018.* Angered or disgusted by immoral behavior? Antecedents and consequences of distinct moral emotions. Consortium of European Research on Emotion, Glasgow, Scotland, UK.

*March 2018.* Disgusting immorality: Moral disgust relates to indirect aggression against moral offenders. Society for Personality and Social Psychology Convention, Atlanta, USA.

*November 2017.* Mapping interdependence in daily life. Cognition, Behavior, Evolution Network (CBEN) meeting, Leiden, Netherlands.

*July 2017.* Disgust and anger relate to different aggressive responses to moral violations. European Association of Social Psychology Conference, Granada, Spain.

*December 2016.* Asymmetric power and deterrence strategies in social dilemmas: Power leads to more (direct) punishment tactics. Human Evolution and Behavior Network Conference, Antwerp, Belgium.

*December 2016.* Power leads to less cooperation and more (direct) punishment tactics. Dutch Association of Social Psychology Researchers (ASPO) Conference, Leiden, the Netherlands.

*June 2016.* Asymmetric power and cooperation in social dilemmas: Does power influence the use of punishment and gossip strategies to promote cooperation? Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference, Vancouver, Canada.

*April 2016.* Functional Interdependence Theory: How has evolution shaped interdependent minds? Kurt Lewin Institute Conference, Zeist, the Netherlands.

## Teaching Experience

---

- 2024 **Punishment and Norm Enforcement**, *Toulouse Summer School in Quantitative Social Sciences, Toulouse School of Economics*
- 2024 **Experience Sampling Methods to Study Social Psychology in the Field**, *Kurt Lewin Institute*
- 2023 **Introduction to R for Behavioral Sciences**, Research Master's in Social Psychology, *VU Amsterdam*
- 2023 **Expert Workshop on Interdependence**, Research Master's in Social Psychology, *VU Amsterdam*
- 2023; 2024 **Motivation and Emotion**, Research Master's in Social Psychology, *VU Amsterdam*
- 2022 **Behavioral Business Ethics, co-teacher with Shaul Shalvi**, Master's Business Economics, *University of Amsterdam*
- 2022 **Neuroeconomics, tutor**, Master's Business Economics & Brain and Cognitive Sciences, *University of Amsterdam*

## GUEST LECTURES

- October 2024. Evolutionary and cultural foundations of punishment. Invited lecture for course 'The science behind our choices: decision-making across species and societies', Newcastle University.
- October 2023. Experience sampling methods: Introduction and applications. Invited lecture for 'Advanced Research Methods' course, VU Amsterdam.
- October 2022. Evolutionary and cognitive foundations of punishment. Invited lecture for course 'The science behind our choices: decision-making across species and societies', Newcastle University.
- May 2021. Evolutionary perspectives on punishment. Invited lecture for 'Evolutionary Psychology' course, Kurt Lewin Institute.
- September 2020. Informal punishment in daily life. Invited lecture for 'Bridging Social Psychology' course, VU Amsterdam.

## Student Supervision

---

- |           |   |             |
|-----------|---|-------------|
| 2022-2024 | <b>RM theses supervision</b> , Research Master's in Social Psychology, <i>VU Amsterdam</i>                            | 10 theses   |
| 2022-2024 | <b>RM first-year group project supervision</b> , Research Master's in Social Psychology, <i>VU Amsterdam</i>          | 10 students |
| 2022      | <b>MA theses supervision</b> , Amsterdam School of Economics, <i>University of Amsterdam</i>                          | 4 theses    |
| 2020      | <b>M1 internship supervision</b> , <i>Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse</i>                                    | 2 interns   |
| 2015-2018 | <b>MA theses and internship supervision</b> , Department of Social and Organizational Psychology, <i>VU Amsterdam</i> | 9 theses    |
| 2015-2018 | <b>BA theses supervision</b> , Department of Social and Organizational Psychology, <i>VU Amsterdam</i>                | 13 theses   |

## PHD STUDENT SUPERVISION

**Supervisor:** Xiyan Song (2024-); **Co-Supervisor:** Sofia Pelica (2023-)

## Professional Service

---

### PEER REVIEW

- 2020- **Associate Editor**, *Collabra: Psychology*
- 2020- **Editorial Board**, *Cooperation Databank*
- 2020- **Editorial Board**, *Current Research in Ecological and Social Psychology*

**Ad Hoc Reviewer:**, Cognition and Emotion, Communications Psychology, Current Research in Ecological and Social Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Emotion, European Journal of Personality, European Journal of Social Psychology, Evolution and Human Behavior, Evolutionary Behavioral Sciences, Evolutionary Psychological Science, Human Ethology, Human Nature, Journal of Behavioral Decision Making, Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied, Journal of Experimental

Psychology: General, Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, Journal of Neuroscience, Psychology, and Economics, Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Journal of Research in Personality, Motivation and Emotion, Nature Human Behaviour, Nature Communications, Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes, Personality and Individual Differences, Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, PLOS One, Political Behaviour, Political Psychology, Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Psychological Review, Psychological Science, Royal Society Open Science, Scientific Reports, Social Cognition, Social Psychological and Personality Science, Sustainability, Zeitschrift für Psychologie

#### DEPARTMENT SERVICE

- **Group Leader, Expanded Morality Research Team**, *Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse* (2024-present)
- **Research Data Manager**, *Department of Experimental and Applied Psychology, VU Amsterdam* (2023-2024)
- **Research Master's Program committee**, *Department of Experimental and Applied Psychology, VU Amsterdam* (2022-2024)
- **Organizer of weekly seminars**, *Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse* (2019-2020)
- **PhD representative**, *Social Psychology Department, VU Amsterdam* (2016-2018)
- **Committee member for best dissertation award**, *Dutch Association of Social Psychology Researchers (ASPO)* (2017-2018)
- **Organizer of PhD and Research Assistant meetings**, *Social Psychology Department, VU Amsterdam* (2016-2017)
- **Committee member for best M-thesis award**, *Social and Organizational Psychology, VU Amsterdam* (2016)

#### CONFERENCE CO-ORGANIZATION

- **Pre-conference "Cross-Cultural Research in Social Dilemmas and Beyond"**, (International Conference on Social Dilemmas (ICSD), Leiden, the Netherlands, 2024)
- **Workshop "Cooperation is not WEIRD: Cross-cultural methods and insights"**, (Institute for Advanced Study (IAS), Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 2024)
- **Human Behavior and Evolution Society Conference**, (Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 2018)
- **International Conference on Social Dilemmas**, (Taormina, Italy, 2017)
- **William James Study Association Symposium**, (Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 2015)

#### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Psychological Science (APS), European Association of Social Psychology (EASP)