

JAN PFÄNDER

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER · SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF AQUATIC SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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| Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (Eawag) <i>Postdoctoral researcher</i> | 2025 - <i>Zurich, Switzerland</i> |
| • Advisor: Viktoria Cologna | |

EDUCATION

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| École Normale Supérieure (ENS-PSL), Institut Jean Nicod <i>PhD Psychology</i> | 2022 – 2025 <i>Paris, France</i> |
| • Supervisors: Hugo Mercier & Kevin Arceneaux | |
| • Thesis: Essays on Understanding Trust in Science | |
| École Normale Supérieure (ENS-PSL) <i>MA Cognitive Science</i> | 2020 – 2022 <i>Paris, France</i> |
| • Supervisor: Hugo Mercier | |
| • Thesis: Can we infer people are accurate and competent merely because they agree with each other? | |
| Universität Freiburg <i>MA Journalism, 1st year</i> | 2019 – 2020 <i>Freiburg, Germany</i> |
| Universität Konstanz <i>BA Political Science and Public Administration</i> | 2014 – 2018 <i>Konstanz, Germany</i> |

WORK EXPERIENCE

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| Direction Interministérielle de la Transformation Publique (DITP) <i>Research Intern</i> | June 2021 – August 2021 <i>Paris, France</i> |
| Assemblée Nationale <i>Parliamentary Assistant</i> | September 2018 – July 2019 <i>Paris, France</i> |
| University of St. Gallen <i>Research Assistant</i> | June 2017 – July 2018 <i>St. Gallen, Switzerland</i> |

PUBLICATIONS

¹first author

Peer Reviewed Publications

- [1.] **Pfänder, J.**¹, Rouilhan, S. de, Mercier, H. (2025). Trusting but forgetting impressive science. *Journal of Cognition and Culture*. <https://doi.org/10.1163/15685373-12340227>
- [2.] **Pfänder, J.**¹, Kerzreho, L., Mercier, H. (2025). Quasi-universal acceptance of basic science in the United States. *Public Understanding of Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/09636625251364407>
- [3.] **Pfänder, J.**¹, & Altay, S. (2025). Spotting false news and doubting true news: A systematic review and meta-analysis of news judgements. *Nature Human Behaviour*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-024-02086-1>
- [4.] **Pfänder, J.**¹, de Courson, B., Mercier, H. (2025). How wise is the crowd: Can we infer people are accurate and competent merely because they agree with each other? *Cognition*, 255, 106005. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2024.106005>

Conference Proceedings

- [5.] **Pfänder, J.**¹, de Courson, B., Mercier, H. (2024). How wise is the crowd: Can we infer people are accurate and competent merely because they agree with each other? *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 46(0). <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/4ms2n8wd>

Large collaborations

- [6.] Cologna, V., Mede, N. G., Berger, S., Besley, J., Brick, C., Joubert, M., Maibach, E., Mihelj, S., Oreskes, N., Schäfer, M. S., Linden, D. S. van der., ..., Mercier, H., ..., **Pfänder, J.**, ... et al. (2024). Trust in scientists and their role in society across 67 countries. *Nature Human Behaviour*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-024-02090-5>
- [7.] Mede, N. G., Cologna, V., Berger, S., Besley, J., Brick, C., Joubert, M., Maibach, E., Mihelj, S., Oreskes, N., Schäfer, M. S., Linden, D. S. van der., ..., Mercier, H., ..., **Pfänder, J.**, ... et al. (2024). Perceptions of Science, Science Communication, and Climate Change Attitudes in 67 Countries: The TISP Dataset. *Scientific Data*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-024-04100-7>

Working Papers

- [8.] **Pfänder, J.**¹, Mercier, H. (2025). The French trust more the sciences they perceive as precise and consensual. https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/k9m6e_v1 (*Under review*)

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences

- [1.] **Belief in & interventions against misinformation** 2025
15th Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association, Madrid
- [2.] **The rational impression account of trust in science** 2025
Explaining culture: an interdisciplinary approach, Paris
- [3.] **Spotting False News and Doubting True News. A Meta-Analysis of News Judgments (Keynote)** 2025
Infox sur Seine, Paris
- [4.] **How wise is the crowd – Can we infer people are accurate and competent merely because they agree with each other? (Poster)** 2024
46th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, Rotterdam
- [5.] **Processus sous-tendant la confiance dans la science** 2024
5ème édition des Rencontres Jeunes Chercheur·euse·s, Grenoble
- [6.] **Spotting False News and Doubting True News: A Meta-Analysis of News Judgments** 2024
EDMO Scientific Conference on Disinformation, Amsterdam

Invited talks

- [7.] **Trust in science** 2025
Paris School of International Affairs, Paris

TEACHING

Courses

- Fact-Checking and Critical Thinking | Université PSL (Paris Sciences & Lettres)** 2022 – 2025
- A hands-on introduction to research design for the interdisciplinary BA program "Sciences pour un monde durable"
 - Sole instructor & creator of the course
 - 30h in-class per semester; one semester a year

Workshops

Meta-analysis for beginners

- Laboratoire de Psychologie du Développement et de l'Éducation de l'Enfant (LaPsyDÉ) 2024

Student internship supervision

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| [1.] Mateo Pivert, <i>undergraduate</i> | 2024 |
| [2.] Ludivine Million, <i>undergraduate</i> | 2024 |
| [3.] Prune Lefevre Jachimowicz, <i>undergraduate</i> | 2024 |
| [4.] Lou Kerzreho, <i>graduate</i> | 2023 |
| [5.] Kevin Chen, <i>undergraduate</i> | 2023 |
| [6.] Théodore Lellouche, <i>undergraduate</i> | 2022 |

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Ad-hoc reviewer for

Nature Climate Change (1), *Public Understanding of Science* (3), *PNAS Nexus* (1), *Social Science & Medicine* (1), *Društvena istraživanja* (Croatian social science review) (1), *Behavior Research Methods* (1), *Educational Research Review* (1), *Artificial Intelligence Review* (1) — **Total: 10 reviews**

EXTERNAL COURSEWORK & SUMMER SCHOOLS

Diverse Intelligences Summer Institute

Hosted by the University of St. Andrews and organized by Indiana University Bloomington

July 2024

St. Andrews, UK

SKILLS

Languages: German, English, French, Spanish

Programming: R, Git (basics), Python (rudimentary)