

CURRICULUM VITAE | Olaf Borghi

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EDUCATION

- Since Sep. 23** **Doctoral Candidate in Psychology | Royal Holloway, University of London**
Supervisors: Prof. Manos Tsakiris, Dr. Kaat Smets
Member of the MSCA Doctoral Network: "IP-PAD (Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Politics of Adolescence & Democracy)" www.ippad.eu
Working thesis: Cognitive and emotional contributions to the making of the political mind
- Jul. 23** **M.Sc. in Psychology | University of Vienna** (*with distinction / summa cum laude*)
Track: Social Neuroscience, Cognitive Psychology and Research Methods
Supervisors: Dr. Magdalena Boch; Prof. Claus Lamm
Thesis: *Modulation of the Action Observation Network: Investigating Action, Agent and Observer Factors in an fMRI Study*
- Jul. 21** **B.Sc. in Psychology | University of Vienna** (*with distinction / summa cum laude*)
Supervisor: Dr. Ulrich Tran
Thesis: *Differential associations of the two higher-order factors of mindfulness with trait empathy and the mediating role of emotional awareness*

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- April-July 25** **Visiting Researcher at the Joint Research Centre – European Commission, in Brussel, Belgium**
Unit for Science for Democracy and Evidence-Informed Policymaking
- Since Sep. 23** **Early Career Research Fellow | Department of Psychology at Royal Holloway, University of London**
Centre for the Politics of Feelings and Lab of Action and Body supervised by Prof. Manos Tsakiris
- 2021-23** **Student Research Assistant | Social, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience at the University of Vienna**
MRI data collection at the Social Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience Unit supervised by Prof. Claus Lamm
- 2022-2023** **Student Teaching Assistant | Psychological Methods at the University of Vienna**
Methods and Statistics tutor supervised by Prof. Frank Scharnowski and Dr. Ulrich Tran
- 2022-2023** **Research Internship | Psychological Methods at the University of Vienna**
Research intern in applied statistics and mindfulness research supervised by Dr. Ulrich Tran
- 2020** **Research Internship | Social, Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience at the University of Vienna**
Support in MRI data collection at the Comparative Canine Neuroimaging Unit supervised by Dr. Magdalena Boch
- 2020-2021** **Student Tutor | Department of Developmental and Educational Psychology at the University of Vienna**
Teaching of Supervised Orientation Tutorium for first year students under the supervision of Dr. Birgit Leidenfrost & MMag. Christoph Burger

PUBLICATIONS

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9724-2839> Google Scholar: [googlescholar/olafborghi](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=olafborghi)

Reproducibility Report: Borghi, O., & Shankar, S. (2025). A comment on 'Bayesianism and wishful thinking are compatible' (I4R Discussion Paper Series No. 198). Institute for Replication (I4R).
<https://hdl.handle.net/10419/309441>

Borghi, O., L., Voracek, M., & Tran, U. S. (2024). Day-to-day associations between mindfulness and perceived stress: Insights from random intercept cross-lagged panel modelling. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 15.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2024.1272720>

Borghi, O., Mayrhofer, L., Voracek, M., & Tran, U. S. (2023). Differential associations of the two higher-order factors of mindfulness with trait empathy and the mediating role of emotional awareness. *Scientific Reports*, 13(1). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-023-30323-6>

PREPRINTS & WORKING PAPERS

OSF: osf.io/2a896 Github: <https://github.com/olafborghi>

Under review (submitted to *Advances in Psychology*): **Borghi, O.,** Niraki, M., Seremeta, E., Smets, K., & Tsakiris, M. (2025). Facing a dark future: Young people's future anxiety and political attitudes in the UK and Greece.

Preprint (R&R at *Cognition*): **Borghi, O.,** Tappin, B. M., Smets, K., & Tsakiris, M. (2025, June 3rd). Mind over bias: How is cognitive control related to politically motivated reasoning? https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/sjfxq_v3

Working paper: **Borghi, O.***, Günes, M. T.*, Tsakiris, M., Lamm, C. & Martins, M. J. D. (in preparation). Uncovering the Moral Foundations of Polarised Movie Reviews

Working paper: **Borghi, O.** & Boch, M. Modulation of the human action observation network: Investigating action, agent, and observer factors. https://github.com/olafborghi/AON_ACTION

*Equal author contributions

CONFERENCES PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

Panel co-organiser and co-chair (2025): Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Young People's Political Agency and Voting Rights. 48th annual scientific meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP) in Prague.

Panel chair (2025): Biological and Psychometric Approaches. 48th annual scientific meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP) in Prague.

Individual talk (2025): Mind over bias: How is cognitive control related to politically motivated reasoning? 48th annual scientific meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP) in Prague.

Individual talk (2024): The link between cognitive control and motivated reasoning from an interdisciplinary perspective. PGR Conference, Department of Psychology, Royal Holloway, University of London.

Individual talk (2023): Day-to-day association between mindfulness and perceived stress and how to investigate psychological chicken-and-egg problems. PGR Conference, Department of Psychology, Royal Holloway, University of London.

Poster presentation (2023): Borghi, O., Lamm, C., & Boch, M., Modulation of the Action Observation Network by Action, Agent and Observer Factors: Insights from an fMRI Study on Dog-Experts and Non-Experts. ECR Poster Session, Faculty of Psychology, Vienna.

SUMMER/WINTER SCHOOLS ATTENDANCES

Winter school (2025): ISPP Virtual Academy Fellow (2024)

Summer school (2024): Birmingham-Leiden Summer School Computational Social Cognition

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

2024	Scholarship for excellent academic achievements, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria (931€)
2023	Scholarship for excellent academic achievements, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria (750€)
2022	Scholarship for excellent academic achievements, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria (750€)

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

Data acquisition

- Extensive training and certification for Siemens Magnetom Skyra MR system

- Eye-tracking with Eyelink 1000 Plus, SR Research, Ontario, Canada
- Online questionnaire construction with Qualtrics and SoSci Survey, online experiments using Gorilla and Prolific

Data analysis I Coding

- Advanced proficiency in R (data cleaning, visualization and advanced statistical analyses such as SEM and multilevel modeling with the tidyverse, lavaan, lme4, brms)
- Python (data analysis using various libraries such as *numpy* and *pandas*, data visualization, MRI data analysis using *Nipype*, *Nilearn* and *Nibabel*)
- fMRI data analysis in FSL; basic knowledge of bash scripting
- Basic knowledge of Git and version control
- State-of-the-art open science methods such as pre-registration and safeguard power analysis
- Other software: JASP and SPSS (multivariate statistics), G*Power (power analysis), ITK-snap (manual brain segmentation)

Languages

- German (native)
- English (C2 level; proficient in writing, reading, and speaking)
- Italian (B2/C1 level)

OTHER

Ad-hoc peer reviewer for the journals "Cognition" and "Mindfulness"

PGR representative of the Department of Psychology, Royal Holloway, University of London (academic year 2024/25)

Doctoral Candidate representative of the Marie Curie IP-PAD network (academic year 2025/26)

Member of the International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP)