

EASP Small Group Meeting on:

Motivational, cognitive and affective sources of knowledge formation process

27th – 29th of June, 2013; Kraków - Przegorzały , Poland

Program Committee: Małgorzata Kossowska, Arie W. Kruglanski, Arne Roets, Marcin Bukowski, Katarzyna Jaśko

Local organizing team: Małgorzata Kossowska, Marcin Bukowski, Katarzyna Jaśko, Piotr Dragon, Paweł Strojny, Aneta Czernatowicz – Kukuczka

REPORT

The EASP Small Group Meeting on *Motivational, cognitive and affective sources of knowledge formation process* took place from the 27th to the 29th of June 2013 in Przegorzały, Kraków (Poland). Participants started to arrive already on the 26th of June and after registering could attend an informal dinner in the guesthouse “Przegorzały”. In total 37 participants from 21 universities registered and took part in the meeting (one person did not arrive due to health problems), 19 participants were current members of the EASP.

The scientific programme started on Thursday the 27th at 9.00 a.m. with an official opening of the Small Group Meeting and Małgorzata Kossowska, who welcomed the participants and introduced the goals of the meeting on behalf of the programme and organizational committee. The introduction was followed by a keynote talk provided by Andrzej Nowak (co-authored with Agnieszka Rychwalska & Michał Ziembowicz) on *Novelty, coherence and construction of knowledge*. The first session entitled *Basic mechanisms of knowledge formation* started with a talk by Jeff Sherman, who described how “New Knowledge Depends on Old Knowledge” in the domain of stereotype formation, person perception, and attitude change. Next, Małgorzata Kossowska talked about the impact of need for closure and ability to achieve this need on heuristic information processing. Gabriela Czarnek followed by showing evidence for neurocognitive correlates of the need for closure. The session was closed by a talk of Grzegorz Sedek and Klara Rydzewska who talked about the interaction of aging and depression on impairment of sequential decision making. After a lunch break started a set of two thematically related sessions on *Motivational and affective underpinnings of knowledge formation*. In the first part Edward Orehek talked about the assessment regulatory mode and accuracy during interpersonal knowledge formation. Betty Chang addressed a question of “How do people monitor their progress on personal goals?” and Sherwin Ignatius Chia talked about the locomotors' decision and assessor's discomfort, that is the effects of regulatory mode on epistemic motivation and predilection to present. After a coffee break Marcin Bukowski continued with the topic of the session by talking about two routes to closure, that is, how time pressure and goal activation affects information processing. Ulrich Von Hecker raised the question, whether spatial reasoning can support social reasoning and Katarzyna Jaśko examined

the effects of need for closure on decision-making process. The first intensive day finished with a dinner in the Przegorzały guesthouse.

On the second day of the topics of the small group meeting moved from more basic, intrapersonal processes of knowledge formation to its consequences for interpersonal and intergroup phenomena. We could not receive a better keynote address than the one of Arie Kruglanski, who fascinated the audience by showing some real world effects of epistemic motivation in the form of research on immigration, islamophobia, and support for terrorism performed across the globe. The next session entitled *Epistemic motivation, social influence and communication* started with a presentation from Gennaro Pica, who argued that “seeking closure induces the inhibition of undesired memories”, specifically in the context of eyewitness memory. Next, Patrizia Catellani talked about the impact of prior knowledge and epistemic motivation on message framing in policy communication. The session followed with a presentation of Stefano Livi about compliance, the use and effectiveness of power tactics under need for closure. Celina Kacperski closed the session with her talk on the effects of online communication on knowledge formation. After a lunch break started a session on *Epistemic motivation and intergroup relations*. First, Arne Roets talked about “the roots of the prejudiced personality” and pointed to need for closure as the motivated cognitive basis of (all) prejudice. Next, Ambra Brizi reflected upon the effects of uncertainty and need for closure on outgroup discrimination and Agnieszka Golec de Zavala discussed the interplay between motivated social cognition and salient worldviews in predicting out-group hostility. Closing the session, Piotr Dragon talked about need for closure as a moderator of uncertainty influence on out-group derogation in intergroup comparisons context. The day continued with walks and discussions in the Old Town of Kraków and a conference dinner in a charming place in the city center called Chimera Restaurant.

On the third day of the small group meeting the contextual and applied consequences of epistemic motivation were mainly raised. The keynote talk provided by Rex Wright regarded effortful processing of new information and created a theoretical inspiration stemming from the Motivation Intensity Theory perspective. The first session of the day called *Epistemic motivation in context: Culture and creativity* consisted of three talks. The first one provided Małgorzata Gocłowska, who raised the question, whether “an Eskimo on the desert make us more creative?” and argued that schemata violation increases flexibility when need for structure is low. Next, Tommaso Alioto talked about creativity by fulfilling personal needs and the self-group dynamic in group performance. Finally, Ying-yi Hong discussed “How Does Epistemic Motivation Underlie Cultural Processes?”. The last session of the meeting considered the topic of *Epistemic motivation in applied social contexts*. In the first talk of the session Avigail Yinon discussed the influence of teachers' epistemological beliefs on their instructional practices when facing students' difficulty and failure. In the next talk, Nicolas Sommet discussed the issue of detrimental effects of numeros clausus on self-efficacy, mastery goals and learning. Yoram Bartal in his presentation described the Cognitive Motivational Model that explains the effect of stress on cognitive structuring. Last but not least, Sindhuja Sankaran closed up the session talking about “Thinking good vs. Thinking bad”, that is the role of biases in information processing affecting sports performance.

The small group meeting ended with a summary of the meeting provided by Arie Kruglanski, who integrated the various strands of research discussed in the meeting into a cohesive whole. The meeting turned out to be exceptionally inspiring and thought provoking. The meeting gave

the participants a unique opportunity to exchange their ideas during many discussions that hopefully will lead to fruitful research projects and new collaborations.

We would like to thank the EASP for supporting this excellent Small Group Meeting!

The Organizing Team

List of Participants

1. Tommaso Alioto, University of Bologna, tommaso.alioto@unibo.it
2. Yoram Bar-Tal, Tel Aviv University, yoramb@post.tau.ac.il
3. Mauro Bertolotti, Catholic University of Milan, mauro.bertolotti@unicatt.it
4. Jenny Bittner, University of Twente, j.v.bittner@utwente.nl
5. Ambra Brizi, University of Rome "La Sapienza", ambra.brizi@uniroma1.it
6. Marcin Bukowski, Jagiellonian University, marcin.bukowski@uj.edu.pl
7. Patrizia Catellani, Catholic University of Milan, patrizia.catellani@unicatt.it
8. Betty Chang, The University of Sheffield, b.chang@sheffield.ac.uk
9. Aneta Czernatowicz-Kukuczka, Jagiellonian University, aneta.czernatowicz-kukuczka@uj.edu.pl
10. Sherwin Ignatius Chia, Nanyang Technological University, chia0311@e.ntu.edu.sg
11. Chi-Yue Chiu, Nanyang Technological University, cy.cychiu@gmail.com
12. Gabriela Czarnek, Jagiellonian University, gczarnek@gmail.com
13. Piotr Dragon, Jagiellonian University, dragon.piotr@gmail.com
14. Małgorzata Gocłowska, University of Amsterdam, m.a.goclowska@uva.nl
15. Agnieszka Golec de Zavala, CIS IUL, Lisbon, agnieszka.golec@gmail.com
16. Ying-Yi Hong, Nanyang Technological University, yingyi.hong@gmail.com
17. Katarzyna Jaśko, Jagiellonian University, kasia.jot@gmail.com
18. Celina Kacperski, University of Western Ontario, ckacpers@uwo.ca
19. Mirosław Kofta, University of Warsaw, kofta@psych.uw.edu.pl
20. Małgorzata Kossowska, Jagiellonian University, malgorzata.kossowska@uj.edu.pl
21. Arie Kruglanski, Maryland University, kruglanski@gmail.com
22. Stefano Livi, University of Rome "La Sapienza", stefano.livi@uniroma1.it

23. Andrzej Nowak, University of Warsaw, andrzejn232@gmail.com
24. Edward Orehek, University of Pittsburgh, orehek@pitt.edu
25. Gennaro Pica, University of Rome "La Sapienza", gennaro.pica@uniroma1.it
26. Arne Roets, Ghent University, Arne.Roets@UGent.be
27. Klara Rydzewska, Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, klara.rydzewska@gmail.com
28. Sindhuja Sankaran, Jagiellonian University, sindhuja.p.s@gmail.com
29. Grzegorz Sędek, Warsaw School of Social Sciences and Humanities, gsedek@swps.edu.pl
30. Jeff Sherman, University of California, Davis, jsherman@ucdavis.edu
31. Nicolas Sommet, University of Lausanne, nicolas.sommet@unil.ch
32. Paweł Strojny, Jagiellonian University, strojny.pl@gmail.com
33. Ewa Szumowska, Jagiellonian University, ewa.szumowska@uj.edu.pl
34. Ulrich von Hecker; Cardiff University, vonheckeru@Cardiff.ac.uk
35. Rex Wright, University of North Texas, Rex.Wright@unt.edu
36. Avigail Yinon, Bar-Ilan University, avigail.yinon@gmail.com
37. Yoel Yinon, Bar-Ilan University, Yinony@mail.biu.ac.il