DESCRIPTION

Effective 1 January 2021 Acta Psychologica became an open access journal. Authors who publish in Acta Psychologica will be able to make their work immediately, permanently, and freely accessible. The journal utilizes the same rigorous peer review.

Acta Psychologica is a peer-reviewed, open access journal that invites high-quality submissions in six different sections: cognition, social psychology, clinical and health psychology, language psychology, individual differences, and lifespan development. Acta Psychologica has published seminal papers in the past and intends to do so in the future; hence, contributions that have limited theoretical or practical impact will not be prioritized, nor will studies with limited statistical power. We aim to publish articles that serve as solid building blocks for a research field while still being accessible for readers outside this field. We welcome research studies (including replications), review articles, meta-analyses, and registered reports. Proposals for special issues should be made via the Section Editors. The journal embraces all aspects of open science and, to that end, researchers are encouraged to preregister their studies and/or share their data.

Clinical and Health Psychology

The clinical and health psychology section publishes research studies and systematic review articles in any area of clinical psychology or health psychology. These are applied areas of psychology and, consequently, papers reporting the results of research in an applied setting are particularly welcome. We are also keen to receive papers reporting theoretical advances that have implications for applied clinical or health psychology. Papers must report the findings of research conducted with a robust methodology, where the findings will forward knowledge or practice in clinical or health psychology. The research methodology is not restricted. The section publishes research using quantitative or qualitative approaches and also publishes papers reporting the development of new research methods or designs that are particularly relevant to clinical or health psychology. We expect that authors will conform to the most appropriate reporting guidelines when writing their research paper (www.equator-network.org).

Cognition

The cognition section publishes research studies, review articles, and special issues in any area of cognitive psychology, excluding language research as there is a section devoted to language psychology. The majority of the articles deal with perception, attention, working memory, long-term memory, decision making, cognitive and/or affective control, and motor cognition. Research studies
should be focused on increasing our understanding of human behavior and cognition. We publish behavioral and neuroscientific papers (EEG, fMRI, TMS, etc.). Papers outside this scope and papers with limited theoretical value will not be considered. Special issues are typically by invitation, but authors can contact the Section Editor for an informal inquiry. Acta Psychologica has published seminal papers in the past and intends to do so in the future. We aim to publish articles that serve as solid building blocks for a research field while still being accessible for researchers outside this field. We strive to publish well-powered studies rather than deciding about papers exclusively from the viewpoint of originality. Hence, we will also consider replication studies.

**Individual Differences**

The individual differences section welcomes papers that make an important contribution to our understanding of core individual differences in personality, intelligence and other cognitive abilities, mood, and motivation and their measurement. We particularly welcome submissions that enhance our understanding of the mechanisms by which individual differences develop and operate by relating questionnaire and test scores to behavioral, developmental, social, physiological, genetic, and cognitive variables and processes. We are also pleased to consider work that relates scores on questionnaires or tests to important real-life behaviors. However, other journals are more suitable for language-translated questionnaires, routine validations, cross-cultural comparisons, and correlational studies, which do not advance our understanding of core individual differences.

**Language Psychology**

The language section publishes research studies, review articles, and special issues in any area of research related to the cognitive science of language. Studies of language acquisition, language comprehension, and language production, as well as studies looking at the interplay between cognitive and linguistic processes, will be considered. Replication studies and registered reports are welcome. Contributors interested in developing a special issue should consult with the Section Editor. We aim to publish robust findings. As such, in addition to considerations of a manuscript's theoretical and empirical contribution, we will consider issues related to the reproducibility of research findings (e.g., adequate sample sizes, replications of the main research findings, adherence to open science practices).

**Lifespan Development**

The lifespan development section is committed to publishing high-quality empirical studies across the lifespan in the following general areas: cognition, emotion, language, motor, parenting, perception, and socialization. Studies involving samples of children, parents, and families in any developmental period from prenatal to gerontological are invited. We welcome basic and applied research addressing development using a variety of rigorous methodologies from qualitative, to quantitative, or mixed that involve cross-sectional or longitudinal designs, as well as intervention research to inform educational and clinical practice and policy. Measures can be behavioral, self-report, physiological, or computational, ideally from multiple sources. Article formats can include empirical reports, theoretical and methodological reports, brief reports (short communications), and review papers including systematic reviews or meta-analyses.

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The social psychology section publishes novel and innovative studies that investigate how people's feelings, thoughts, and behaviors are influenced by others. Topics can cover all aspects of basic and applied social psychological research. Although the typical submission contains original data, theoretical articles and reviews, as well as replications of previous research, are also welcome. A strong focus is on the replicability of the presented findings. Hence, we ask for well-powered studies that employ sound measures. Detailed power considerations (including a justification for the expected effect size) should be reported and authors are encouraged to preregister their studies. Authors should also explicitly indicate whether there were any data exclusions and whether all manipulations and measures are reported. Upon acceptance, authors are encouraged to share their data and materials publicly.

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