

# X. Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science

24 May – 27 May 2018, Dubrovnik, Croatia

## Communication, Pragmatics, and Theory of Mind



### **Invited Speakers:**

Nausicaa Pouscoulous (UCL, UK)  
Paula Rubio-Fernández (MIT, USA)  
Arthur M. Jacobs (FU Berlin, Germany)  
Ira Noveck (CNRS Lyon, France)  
Deirdre Wilson (UCL, UK)  
Noah Goodman (Stanford University, USA)  
Judith Holler (MPI for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, NL)

### **Chairs:**

Bálint Forgács, Lilla Magyari

### **Organizers:**

Francesca Bonalumi, Paula Fischer, Birgit Knudsen, Barbu Revencu, Laura Schlingloff,  
Georgina Török

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## Personal attitudes towards ambiguity and risk in relation to the framing effect in Russian and Azerbaijani doctors

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Medical doctors undergo an extensive and fundamental education, yet their decision-making in ambiguous conditions may be subject to cognitive biases, such as the framing effect. Susceptibility to the framing effect was studied in Russian (N=48) and Azerbaijani (N=40) doctors. Both groups were educated under equivalent systems in the same language. Therefore, the established dissimilarities may be attributed to cross-cultural differences.

Participants completed the following measures. (1) The Asian Disease Problem. (2) The Personal Decision-Making Factors Questionnaire, assessing rationality and risk-readiness. (3) The Melbourne Decision Making Questionnaire, assessing vigilance, hypervigilance, procrastination and buck-passing. (4) Budner's questionnaire for assessing tolerance and intolerance of ambiguity.

The framing effect was shown in 52% of the Azerbaijani doctors and in 36% of the Russian doctors. Azerbaijani doctors were more prone to ineffective patterns of coping with decisional conflict: buck-passing, procrastination and hypervigilance. Medical doctors in Azerbaijan showed more intolerance to ambiguity that was linked with unproductive coping patterns in both samples. Azerbaijani doctors, demonstrating the framing effect, were less risk-ready and showed higher hypervigilance. In Russian doctors, demonstrating the framing effect, riskiness was positively related to tolerance of ambiguity, while rationality was associated with vigilance.

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*Keywords: framing effect, risk readiness, tolerance of ambiguity, medical doctors, cross-cultural differences*

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