

PhD student: Büşra Kaplan, UU

Title: Intergroup attitudes among ethnic minorities in Western-Europe

My PhD project is part of the overarching INTER-MIN project that takes a broader perspective on social cohesion. INTER-MIN goes beyond the commonly studied relations between ethnic majorities and ethnic minorities and offers a first systematic investigation of inter-minority relations in Western Europe. The main aims of INTER-MIN are to map inter-minority relations across a large number of ethnic groups in the Netherlands, Germany, and the UK and reveal the underlying mechanisms that explain inter-minority relations.

My PhD project focuses specifically on **attitudes** among different minorities and relies primarily on **social-psychological** literature and theorizing. I will examine intergroup feelings and stereotypes, as well as social distance (the willingness to have a neighbor, boss, or in-law from another ethnic minority background) between a large variety of ethnic minority groups, as well as consider behavioral intentions of intergroup solidarity. Relatively few studies have examined inter-minority attitudes, and these existing studies mostly focus on only two specific minorities in a given context. The innovative aspect of my project is that I will study attitudes of multiple minority groups toward multiple minority outgroups. My aims are to 1) uncover ethnic hierarchies (the ranking of outgroups in terms of perceived warmth and status) and compare them among participant minority groups themselves as well as against the hierarchy that the majority group holds, 2) apply latent profile analyses to identify different classes or profiles of people with different constellations of attitudes toward other minorities (e.g. a profile that favors religiously similar outgroups vs. a profile that favors groups with a migration history similar to their ingroup, etc.), and 3) conduct factorial survey experiments in which the characteristics of the minority outgroup members will vary (e.g. skin color, migration motive, religion) to predict willingness to support the political cause of the minority outgroup in question. On the explanatory end, I will draw primarily on social identity theory, contact theory and intergroup threat theory. I will particularly zoom in on the role of group identification at different levels of abstraction (ethnic identity, minority identity, host national identity).

Supervising Team: Borja Martinović, Meta van der Linden, Sauro Civitillo

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