Dr Sandy Schumann

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Current position: Lecturer in Security and Crime Science, University College London (UCL)

Qualifications

Postgraduate Certificate History and Philosophy of Science, UCL (UK)   **2024-2026**

PhD Social Psychology, Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium)   **2010-2014**
Supervisors: Prof. Olivier Klein and Prof. Karen Douglas (University of Kent, UK)

Erasmus Exchange Student, Rijksuniversiteit Leiden (The Netherlands)   **2005-2006**

Diplom Psychology, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena (Germany)   **2003-2009**

Research

Lecturer   **from 2020**
University College London, Department of Security and Crime Science (UK)
Current research projects

I.   Assessing risk assessment files of individuals who were convicted on terrorism-related charges in England and Wales, I examine associations between specific types of internet use and the likelihood of attack planning/execution (with Dr Jonathan Kenyon, HMPPS)
II. In experimental studies, I assess whether expressions of anger and humour decrease and increase, respectively, desensitisation to hate speech online (with Dr Florence Enock, The Alan Turing Institute)

Post-doctoral Research Assistant   **2017-2020**
University College London, Department of Security and Crime Science (UK)
I.   I designed and analysed two three-wave longitudinal studies to assess the impact of online intergroup contact programs run by the NGO Soliya
II. GRIEVANCE (PI: Prof Paul Gill): With Dr Kurt Braddock (American University, USA), I analysed if factors of the dark tetrad enhance the persuasiveness of terrorist narratives
III. Minerva (PI: Prof Noémie Bouhana): I implemented and analysed a postal survey, administered in 30 000 households in London, to assess the social-ecology of homegrown radicalisation; I compiled an open source data set of more than 1000 homegrown terrorists to identify hotspots of radicalisation in the UK, the Republic of Ireland, and the USA

Post-doctoral Research Associate   **2014-2017**
University of Oxford, Centre for the Study of Intergroup Conflict (UK)
I.   I conducted experimental studies to assess whether computer-mediated intergroup contact reduces prejudice
II. With Prof. James Liu (Massey University, New Zealand), as part of a larger cross-cultural project, I analysed a longitudinal survey study in Germany to examine the relationship between social media use on support for populist radical right parties

Research Assistant   **2009-2010**
Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, Unit of Intercultural Communication (Germany)

I.   Using archival data, I mapped inter- and intra-organisational communication patterns of police and fire departments; I undertook expert interviews and A/B tests to explore attitudes towards software solutions for inter-organisational communication

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Teaching

University College London, Department of Security and Crime Science (UK)   **2019-present**
Module convenor
I.   Master's: Online Extremism and Hate Crime (Spring 2022, 2023, 2024; Winter 2024)
II. Undergraduate: Terrorism (Spring 2022, 2023, 2024)
III. Undergraduate: Introduction to Research (Autumn 2019, 2020, 2021)
IV. Undergraduate: Probability, Statistics, and Modelling II (Spring 2020)
V.   UCL Summer School: Social Media and Terrorism (Summer 2019, 2023)

University of Oxford, Department of Experimental Psychology (UK)   **2015-2017**
Undergraduate Tutorials (including assessment of weekly essays)
I.   Extremism and Social Psychology (Spring 2015)
II. Introduction to Social Psychology (Spring 2015, 2016, 2017)
III. Groups in Contact and Conflict (Autumn 2015, 2016)

Fellowships, Awards, and Grants

Replication Games   **2024**
UCL Research Culture Seed Fund, £ 1270
Methods for Studying Hate and (Violent) Extremism Online   **2023**
Workshop funded by the Lorentz Center Leiden (NL), € 30 000
Lead with Dr Isabelle van der Vegt (Utrecht University, NL) and Dr Ryan Scrivens (MSU, USA)
State of the Union: Multilevel Drivers of Involvement in Terrorism   **2020**
Funded by the Center for Research and Evidence on Security Threats, £ 6 000
Co-I, with Prof Noémie Bouhana (PI)
Policy Workshop: The Social Ecology of Radicalisation   **2019**
Funded by a UCL Public Policy Expert Engagement Award, £ 2 282
Co-I, with Prof Noémie Bouhana (PI)
The Social and Physical Settings of Bystander Invention in Ethnic Hate Crime   **2019**
Funded by a UCL Social Sciences Plus grant, £10 000
PI, with Dr Tristan Caulfield (UCL) and Dr Julia Eberlein (Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium)
Selective Exposure and Populist Radical Right Attitudes   **2018-2019**
Funded by European Association of Social Psychology Seedcorn Grant, € 2 316
PI, with Dr Franziska Ehrke and Dr Julia Dupont (University Koblenz-Landau, Germany)
Inclusive Communities Through Computer-mediated Intergroup Contact   **2016-2017**
Funded by Economic and Social Research Council, £ 44 000
Research associate with Prof Miles Hewstone (PI) and Prof Anthony Heath (Co-I)
German Scholars Organization   **2016-2017**
Leadership Academy Fellowship, € 2 500
European Association of Social Psychology   **2015**
Early Career Best Paper Award

New College Oxford (UK)   **2014-2016**
Non-stipendiary Junior Research Fellowship, £ 3 000
Wiener-Anspach Foundation (Belgium)   **2014-2016**
Post-doctoral Research Fellowship**,** £ 54 000
Fonds de Recherche National Belgique, FRS-FNRS (Belgium)   **2010-2014**
Doctoral Research Fellowship, € 96 000

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Supervision

UCL MSc dissertations
2020-2021
Kit Wong; Daniel Proud; Florence Beaney; Michael Barton
2021-2022
Yue Jia; Georgia Binnie; Maria Rossi; Yiesha Wills
2022-2023
Andra Lazar; Anqi Hu; Charles Godec; Fiona Specker; Maria Litvinova; Nena Hendriks; Patrick Wollenhaupt
2023-2024
Victoria Bowland; Louisa-Jayne Ryan; Darlene Tete Gomes; Finley Thomas

University of Leiden MSc dissertation
2024-2025
Victor Nonea

UCL BSc dissertations
2021-2022
Russell Huang
2023-2024
Amy Robertson; Lucy Williams; Catherine Hearnshaw
2024-2025
Erin Ju; Carolina Cardosobotelho

Oxford BSc dissertation
2016-2017
Maya Potishman

University Koblenz-Landau BSc dissertation
2017-2018
Tisa Bertlich

PhD students
Second supervisor: Nuraishah Mokhtar (2020-present): Using counter-narratives to prevent violent extremism in Malaysia - upgrade completed

Second supervisor: Mary-Ann Cherry (2020-present): Developing a dictionary to assess the role of contempt in terrorist propaganda - upgrade completed

Second supervisor: Maria Vau (2023-present): Using LLMs for influence campaigns

Second supervisor: Yue Jia (2022-2024): The effect of counter-speech on online hate speech (passed away) - upgrade completed

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Second supervisor: Tiago Garrido (2022-present): Preventing hostile behaviour in online gaming communities - upgrade completed

Second supervisor: Sergi Bray (2021-present): Measuring the deepfake porn ecosystem - upgrade completed

Second supervisor: Donia Khanegi (2021-2023): The nexus between recreational drug use and the negative societal impacts of the illicit drug trade: A comparison between the UK, Mexico, and Uruguay - completed

Service

University College London, Department of Security and Crime Science (UK)   **2023-present**
Director and admissions tutor of the MSc Countering Extremist Crime and Terrorism
University College London, Department of Security and Crime Science (UK)   **2021-present**
Member of the PhD admissions committee
University College London, Department of Security and Crime Science (UK)   **2021-2023**
Member of the extenuating circumstances committee
University College London, Department of Security and Crime Science (UK)   **2020-2023**
Post-graduate tutor
Université Libre de Bruxelles, Unit for Social Psychology (Belgium)   **2011-2014**
Organised forth-nightly doctoral research seminars
New School Psychology Bulletin (USA)   **2009-2010**
Editorial Board Member
Ad-hoc Reviewer for Journals   **2009-present**
e.g., Nature Human Behavior, European Journal of Criminology, Group Processes & Intergroup Relations, Journal of Social Issues, Media, War & Conflict, European Journal of Social Psychology, American Behavioral Scientist, Social Psychological and Personality Science, Cyberpsychology, Behavior, & Social Networking, Computers in Human Behaviour …
Grant Reviewer   **2021-present**
Austrian Academy of Science (PhD grant), ERC (Starting grant, Consolidator grant)

Open Science Activities

UK Reproducibility Network   **2023-present**
Local network co-lead (initiated and lead the UCL Open Science Awards, developed case studies for HR policy documents, coordinate the UKRN London regional network)
Criminology Open   **2019-2022**
Member of the Advisory Board to develop an open-access repository for criminology
University College London, Department of Security and Crime Science   **2018-2023**
Founder and organiser of the fortnightly JDI Open Science Talks (jdiopen.github.io)

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Knowledge Exchange and Advisory Positions

London Violence Reduction Unit Online Harms Steering Group   2024-present
Permanent member (advise on research priorities and intervention design)

UK Home Office Accelerated Capability Environment Research Network   2022-present
Permanent member (provide advice on extremist threats posed by emerging technology)

UK Commission for Countering Extremism Academic-Practitioner Network   2020-2023
Permanent member (advised on risk factors of radicalisation)

Tony Blair Institute for Global Change   2020
Designed and implemented an impact evaluation of an online intercultural dialogue program

United Arab Emirates Ministry of Culture and Knowledge Development   2019-2020
Member of an co-creative action research group (I worked with representatives of civil society organisations and artists to develop art-based interventions to counter violent extremism)

Borough of Waltham Forest Citizens' Assembly on Hate Crime   2019
Speaker and discussant

European Union Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange   2018-2021
Member of the Advisory Board (Advised on monitoring and evaluation tools and data analysis)

University of Oxford, US-UK Policy-Academic Exchange on Radicalisation (UK)   **2014-2016**
Contributed talks to three meetings at the UK Home Office and Foreign Office

Publications (in alphabetical order)

Articles in Peer-reviewed Journals

1. Braddock, K., Schumann, S., Corner, E., & Gill, P. (2022). The Moderating Effects of" Dark" Personality Traits and Message Vividness on the Persuasiveness of Terrorist Narrative Propaganda. Frontiers in Psychology, 13.

2. Bratanova, B., Vauclair, C., Kervyn De Meerendre, N., Schumann, S., Wood, R., & Klein, O. (2015). Savouring morality: Moral satisfaction renders food of ethical origin subjectively tastier. Appetite, 91, 137-149.

3. Breznau, N., Rinke, E. M., Wuttke, A., Nguyen, H. H., Adem, M., Adriaans, J., ... & Van Assche, J. (2022). Observing many researchers using the same data and hypothesis reveals a hidden universe of uncertainty. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 119(44), e2203150119.

4. Clemmow, C., Schumann, S., Salman, N., & Gill, P. (2020). The Base Rate Study: Developing Base Rates for Risk Factors and Indicators for Engagement in Violent Extremism. Journal of Forensic Sciences, 65(3), 865-881.

5. Clemmow, C., van der Vegt, I., Rottweiler, B., Schumann, S., & Gill, P. (2023). Crowdsourcing Samples for Research on Violent Extremism: A Research Note. Terrorism and Political Violence, 36(3), 267-282.

6. Gill, P., Clemmow, C., Hetzel, F., Rottweiler, B., Salman, N., Van Der Vegt, I., Marchment, Z., Schumann, S., Zolghadriha, S., Schulten, N., Taylor, H., & Corner, E. (2020). Systematic Review of Mental Health Problems and Violent Extremism. The Journal of Forensic Psychiatry & Psychology, 32(1), 51-78.

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7. Leys, C., & Schumann, S. (2010). A nonparametric method to analyze interactions: the adjusted rank transform test. Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, 46, 684-688.

8. Liu, J. H., Zhang, R. J., Vilar, R., Milojev, P., Hakim, M. A., de Zúñiga, H. G., Schumann, S., & Páez, D. (2020). A typology of masspersonal information seeking repertoires (MISR): Global implications for political participation and subjective well-being. New Media & Society, 23(9), 2729-2753.

9. Marques, T. G., Schumann, S., & Mariconti, E. (2024). Positive behaviour interventions in online gaming: a systematic review of strategies applied in other environments. Crime Science, 13(1), 14.

10. Masciantonio, A., Schumann, S., & Bourguignon, D. (2021). Sexual and gender-based violence: to tweet or not to tweet?. Cyberpsychology: Journal of Psychosocial Research on Cyberspace, 15(3).

11. Ramos, M. R., Schumann, S., & Hewstone, M. (2022). The role of short-term and long-term immigration trends on voting for populist radical right parties in Europe. Social Psychological and Personality Science, 13(4), 816-826.

12. Schumann, S., & Barton, M. (2024). Does Attitudinal Inoculation Confer Resistance to Violent Extremist Propaganda? Assessing Mechanisms, Long-term Effects, and the Advantage of Visuals. Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology. Online first.

13. Schumann, S., Clemmow, C., Rottweiler, B., & Gill, P. (2024). Distinct patterns of incidental exposure to and active selection of radicalizing information indicate varying levels of support for violent extremism. PLoS one, 19(2), e0293810.

14. Schumann, S., & Zohny, H. (2024). Does attitude importance moderate the effects of person-first language? A registered report. Plos one, 19(3), e0300879.

15. Schumann, S., & Moore, Y. (2023). The COVID-19 outbreak as a trigger event for sinophobic hate crimes in the United Kingdom. The British Journal of Criminology, 63(2), 367-383.

16. Schumann, S., & Wolfowicz, M. (2023). Can We Compare Attitudes Towards Crime Around the World? Assessing Measurement Invariance of the Morally Debatable Behavior Scale Across 44 Countries. Journal of Quantitative Criminology, 1-29.

17. Schumann, S., & Moore, Y. (2022). What can be achieved with online intergroup contact interventions? Assessing long-term attitude, knowledge, and behaviour change. Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy, 22(3), 1072-1091.

18. Schumann, S., Rottweiler, B., & Gill, P. (2022). Assessing the relationship between terrorist attacks against ingroup or outgroup members and public support for terrorism. Frontiers in Psychology, 13.

19. Schumann, S., Thomas, F., Ehrke, F., Bertlich, T., & Dupont, J. C. (2021). Maintenance or Change? Examining the Reinforcing Spiral Between Social

Media News Use and Populist Attitudes. Information, Communication & Society, 25(13), 1934-1951.

20. Schumann, S., Salman, N., Clemmow, C., & Gill, P. (2020). Does Cognitive Inflexibility Predict Violent Extremist Behaviour Intentions? A Registered Direct Replication Report of Zmigrod et al., 2019. Legal and Criminological Psychology, 27(2), 329-353.

21. Schumann, S., Gill, P., Osborne, D., Fell, B., & Hewstone, M. (2020). Radical News? Immigrants' Television Consumption, Acculturation Challenges, and Support for Terrorism. Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression, 13(4), 320-336.

22. Schumann, S., Boer, D., Hanke, K., & Liu, J. (2019). Social Media Use and Support for Populist Radical Right Parties: Results from a Panel Study in Germany. Information, Communication & Society, 24(7), 921-940.

23. Schumann, S., Van der Vegt, I., Schuurman, B., & Gill, P. (2019). Towards Open and Reproducible Terrorism Studies: Current Trends and Next Steps. Perspectives on Terrorism, 13.

24. Schumann, S., Klein, O., Douglas, K., & Hewstone, M. (2017). When is Computer-Mediated Intergroup Contact Most Promising? Examining the Effect of Out-Group Members' Anonymity on Prejudice. Computers in Human Behavior, 77, 198-210.

25. Schumann, S., & Klein, O. (2015). Substitute or Stepping Stone? Assessing the Impact of Low-threshold Online Collective Actions on Offline Participation. European Journal of Social Psychology, 45(3), 308-322. *EASP Early Career Best Paper Award

26. Schumann, S. (2013). Jan Van Dijk: The Network Society. MedieKultur, 29.

Full Papers in Peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings

1. Nestler, S., Artinger, E., Coskun, T., Yildirim-Krannig, Y., Schumann, S., Mähler, M., Wucholt, F., Strohschneider, S., & Klinker, G. (2010). Assessing Qualitative Usability in Life-threatening, Time-critical and Unstable Situations. In: P. Schmücker and U. Gansert (Eds.), 10th Workshop Mobile Computing in Medicine. Aachen, Germany: Shaker Verlag.

2. Schumann, S., Klein, O., & Douglas, K. (2012). Talk to Act: How Internet Use Empowers Users to Participate in Collective Actions Offline. In: M. Bang and E. L. Ragnemalm (Eds.), Lecture Notes in Computer Science: Persuasive 2012 (pp. 79-89). Heidelberg, Germany: Springer.

3. Schumann, S., Yildirim-Krannig, Y., Mähler, M., Wucholt, F., & Strohschneider, S. (2010). Kulturund Technik– ein kulturanalytischer Ansatz als Grundlage der Entwicklung eines mobilen Endgeräts für Einsatzkräfte in Großschadenslagen [Culture and Technology – an anthropological approach to develop a hand-held device for emergency staff in mass casualties]. In: K.-P. Fähnrich and B. Franczyk

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(Eds.), Lecture Notes in Informatics: Series of the German Society of Informatics (pp. 187-191). Bonn, Germany: German Society of Informatics.

Book

1. Schumann, S. (2014). How the Internet Shapes Collective Actions. London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan.

Book Chapters

1. Cherry, M. & Schumann, S. (in press). The Role of Emotions in the Radicalisation Process. In: Sociology of Violent Extremism (Eds. S. Lakhani and A. Amarasingam). Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
2. Schumann, S. & Bouhana, N. (in press). The Social Ecology of Radicalization. In: Research Handbook On Radicalization (Ed. K. Braddock). Edward Elgar Publishing.
3. Schumann, S. (2010). Values, Generalized Attitudes and Dealing with Terrorist Threat in Germany. In: W. Frindte & N. Hausecker (Eds.), Staged Terrorism: Media Constructions and Individual Interpretations. Wiesbaden, Germany: VS Verlag.

Pre-prints

1. Jia, Y. & Schumann, S. (2023). Tackling the Prevalence and Spread of Hate Speech Online: The Effect of Counter-speech on Subsequent Bystander Reactions. https://doi.org/10.33767/osf.io/9jmza
2. Schumann, S. & Moore, Y. (2023). Examining Bystanders' Decisions to Not Intervene in Incidents of Hate Speech Online and Offline. https://osf.io/preprints/psyarxiv/e7q5n/

Publications Targeted at the General Public

1. Schumann, S. (2016). Here's how radical groups like Islamic State use social media to attract recruits. The Conversation. Available at: https://theconversation.com/heres-how-radical-groups-like-islamic-state-use-social-media-to-attractrecruits-58014
2. Schumann, S. (2015). It's more than just a click! Why we should stop referring to online activism as slacktivism. Project for the Study of the 21st Century. Available at: http://projects21.com/2015/06/15/its-morethan-just-a-click-why-we-should-stop-referring-to-online-activism-asslacktivism/
3. Schumann, S. (2015). Digital conflict resolution: Using Internet-based platforms to improve intergroup relations. Betterplace Blog Digital for Social. Available at: http://www.betterplace-lab.org/en/blog/digitalconflict-resolution-using-internet-based-platforms-to-improve-intergroup-relations

4. Schumann, S., & Luong, F. (2011). Tool for or source of action? A social psychological perspective on the influence of virtual worlds on reality. First Monday, 6. Available at: http://firstmonday.org/htbin/cgiwrap/bin/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/3494

5. Schumann, S. (2010). Ihr macht mir Angst, ich mag Euch nicht! - Wenn Gefühle der Angst und Bedrohung zu Vorurteilen führen. [You scare me, I don't like you! - When perceived threat and fear lead to prejudices]. In-mind Magazine, 1. Available at: http://de.in-mind.org/content/ihr-macht-mir- angst-ich-mag-euchnicht-wenn-gef%C3%BChle-der-bedrohung-und-angst-zu-vorurteilen-

Invited Talks

1. Schumann, S. (2024). Towards an Affordance-based Approach: Exploring When and How Internet Use Facilitates Radicalisation. UK Home Office Homeland Security Group, 9th October, London, UK.

2. Schumann, S. (2023). When Does Exposure to Extremist Content Online Pose a Threat?. The Alan Turing Institute, 9th May, London, UK.

3. Schumann, S. (2022). Beyond the person: Examining the interaction between individuals' susceptibility to radicalisation and exposure to radicalising messages. Tackling radicalisation at its roots! - Prevention and repression of radicalisation: The role of authorities and organisations at local, national and EU-level. German Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community and the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, 7-8th September, Nuremberg, Germany.

4. Schumann, S. (2022). The Puzzle of Inoculating Against Radicalisation. Doctoral Seminar Université Libre de Bruxelles, 5th May, Brussels, Belgium.

5. Schumann, S. (2019). Predicting the Risk of Radicalisation: Lessons from Survey Studies in the UK and Germany. Qatar University, 7-8th September 2019, Doha, Qatar.

6. Schumann, S. (2019). Predicting the Risk of Violent Extremism: Evidence from a Representative Survey Study in Germany. Annual meeting of the European Network for the Protection of Public Figures, 04-06th September, Berlin, Germany.

7. Schumann, S. (2018). The Social Ecology of Radicalisation. Terrorism Society Brooks University, 30th April, Oxford, UK.

8. Schumann, S. (2017). The effects of diversity on support for (populist) radical right parties. US-UK Dialogue Initiative on Countering Violent Extremism and Deradicalisation, 24th January, Foreign and Commonwealth Offices at Whitehall, London, UK.

9. Schumann, S. (2017). I am Afraid, Therefore I Vote: How Perceived Threat of Immigrants Leads to Support for Populist Radical Right Parties. Universität Koblenz-Landau, 25th April, Koblenz, Germany.

10. Schumann, S. (2015). Mideast social media from the Arab Spring to ISIS. The Project for the Study of the 21st Century, 17th February, London, UK. (Discussant)

Selected Recent Conference Talks

1. Schumann, S., Kenyon, J., & Binder, J. (2024). Assessing the Relationships Between Active and Passive Internet Use and the Likelihood of Planning or Committing Terrorist Attacks. Behavioural and Social Sciences in Security, 16th-18th July, St. Andrews, UK.
2. Schumann, S., Clemmow, C., Rottweiler, B., & Gill, P. (2023). Levels of Incidental Exposure to and Active Selection of Radicalising Information as Indicators of Support for Violent Extremism. Behavioural and Social Sciences in Security, 11th-13th July, Bath, UK.
3. Schumann, S. (2022). The Puzzle of Inoculating Against Radicalisation. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, 16th-19th November, Atlanta, GA, USA. (Speaker and Panel Chair)
4. Schumann, S. (2022). What Matters Online? Exploring Factors that Increase the Willingness to Report Online Hate Speech to the Police. The Aarhus '22 Conference on Online Hostility and Bystanders, 9th-10th June, Aarhus, Denmark.
5. Schumann, S. (2021). Maintenance or Change? Examining the Reinforcing Spiral Between Social Media News Use and Populist Attitudes. CyberPsychology, 6th-7th July, online.
6. Schumann, S., & Bouhana, N. (2019). The Moral Ecology of Extremism. Nordic Conference on Violent Extremism, 31st October-1st November, Aarhus, Denmark.
7. Schumann, S., Van der Vegt, I., Schuurman, B., & Gill, P. (2019). Towards Open and Reproducible Terrorism Studies. Society for Terrorism Research, 20-21st June, Oslo, Norway.