

# Workshop: Advances in the study of Affect and Politics

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KONINKLIJKE NEDERLANDSE  
AKADEMIE VAN WETENSCHAPPEN



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## April 21: Day 1

Location: the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW)

Room: Johan Huizinga room

### Program:

9.00 – 9.15 Welcome and opening Bert Bakker

9.15 – 10.00 [Carsten de Dreu](#) (University of Leiden) – “*On Being Unpredictable and Winning*”

Eruptions of anger and erratic mixing of cooperation and competition can make competitors unpredictable to outside observers and opponents. According to Rational Choice Theory (RCT), being unpredictable can be strategically advantageous. However, core assumptions underlying RCT have been questioned and cognitive science suggests that people have difficulty making themselves truly unpredictable. Here we examine the biobehavioral origins and consequences of unpredictability when aiming to outmaneuver one’s competitor, or to protect against being exploited. Meta-analyzing nine interactive contest experiments ( $N=650$ ) shows that individuals are unpredictable especially during attack and this increases their probability of winning. In contrast to RCT, however, unpredictability emerges in part because individuals invest out-of-equilibrium, which is irrational from a payoff-maximizing perspective. Follow-up experiments ( $N=53$  dyads) uncover that attacker (but not defender) unpredictability associates with elevated pre-contest testosterone and cardio-vascular stress reactivity. Being unpredictable originates in competitive arousal and increases the likelihood of winning at a cost to both victor and victim.

10.00 – 10.45 [Lene Aarøe](#) (Aarhus University) – “Politicians’ communication and audience engagement on Facebook: Is engagement with political content in politicians’ Facebook posts contingent on negative sentiment?”

10.45 – 10.15 break

11.15 – 12.00 [Manos Tsakiris](#) (Royal Holloway) – “*Feeling the body-politics: the view from interoception*”

12.00 – 13.00 Lunch

13.00 – 13.45 [Disa Sauter](#) (UvA) – “*Theories of emotion: Implications for studies of emotions in the voice.*”

13.45 - 14.15 [Maaïke Homan](#) (UvA) – “*Facing emotional politicians: how people respond to the emotional expressions of politicians and how this matters for political decision making*”

14.45 – 14.45 [Christian Pipal](#) (UvA) – “They all sound the same?! Rhetoric Change in Parliamentary Speeches”

14.45 – 15.00 coffee

15.00 – 15.45 [Agneta Fischer](#) (UvA) – “Emotions, populism and conspiracy thinking”

15.45 – 16.00 Walk to the Rembrandt house

16.00 – 17.00 Tour through the Rembrandt House: “Rembrandt and the Affects”

17.00 – 19.00 Drinks or time to refresh yourself

19.00 - Dinner – if you don’t want to join please drop me an email.

## **April 22: Day 2**

*Location: the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW)*

*Room: Johan Huizinga room*

9.00 – 9.45 [Vin Arceneaux](#) (Sciences Po) – “What can emotions teach us about democratic representation”

9.45 – 10.30 [Lala Muradova](#) (Dublin City University, Ireland / University of Barcelona, Spain) “Can intergenerational empathy transform environmental attitudes, policy preferences, and behavior during climate change crisis?”

10.30 – 11.00 break

11.00 – 11.30 [Isabella Rebasso](#) (UvA) – “*Interest, not political knowledge, drives emotional responses to politics*”

11.30 – 12.15 [Gijs Schumacher](#) (UvA) – “Introducing MEXCA: Multimodal Emotional Expression Capture Amsterdam”

12.15 – 13.00 Lunch

13.00 – 13.45 [Alan Sanfey](#) (Radboud University) – “Social motivations in choice: insights from decision neuroscience”

13.45 – 14.30 [Frederic Hopp](#) (UvA) – “Media and the Moral Brain”

14.30 – 15.00 coffee

15.00 – 15.45 Bert Bakker (UvA) – “Concordance in Emotional Processing and Political Attitudes”

## **Location**

*Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW)*

Trippenhuis complex

Kloveniersburgwal 29

Amsterdam

## **Wireless internet**

There will be wireless internet for all participants in the room and building of the conference

## **Presentation**

Please prepare a presentation of max 30 minutes (15 minutes if you are PhD student). There will be a projector and regular presentation formats (powerpoint, pdf) are supported. There will also be a clicker. The sessions will not be recorded.

## **Contact**

Email: [b.n.bakker@uva.nl](mailto:b.n.bakker@uva.nl)

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## **Hotel**

International guests stay in the Eden Hotel. Individual reservations are send to you.

Eden Hotel Amsterdam Amstel

Amstel 144

1017 AE Amsterdam

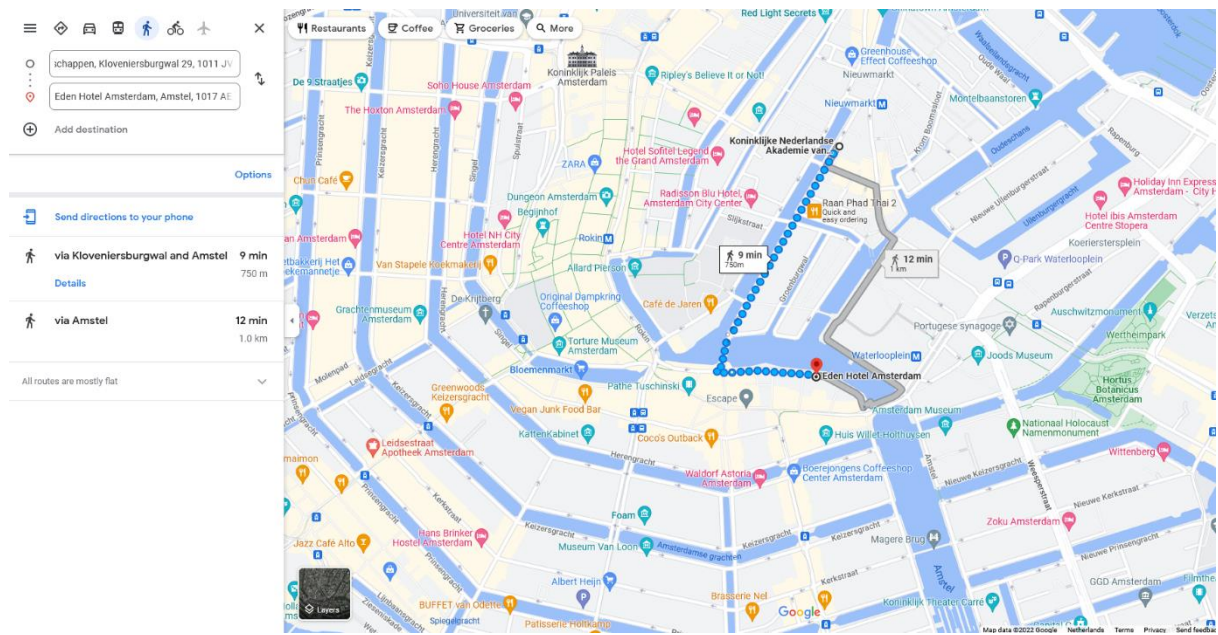
## **COVID policies**

We will follow the COVID policies of the University of Amsterdam ([link](#)). At the time of writing this guide, the policies are:

- National COVID measures have all been lifted but the basic recommendations remain in place: keep 1.5m distance if possible, cough and sneeze in your elbow, wash your hands regularly, avoid shaking hands.

Obviously, you are free to wear a face mask. Moreover, I'd stimulate everybody to self-test (I will) before the workshop.

## Route from the Eden Hotel to the KNAW



## Route from KNAW to Rembrandt House

