

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The main objective of the project is to check, whether collective action – any action that promotes the interests of one's in-group (e.g. protest participation) – may be viewed as a context-dependent and dynamic phenomenon. We claim that engagement does not take place in a social vacuum, but rather emerges from the interplay of the institutional landscape, ideological climate, interpersonal relationships and individual attributes. At the same time, we propose that, instead of being an isolated event, collective action is a continuous process. It seems that some established sources of collective action, such as identification with a social movement, need time to develop in order to spur actual engagement. On the other hand, the outcomes of collective action may feed back to its antecedents and promote or undermine further participation. In the current project we propose 13 studies aimed to verify our postulates.

RESEARCH TO BE CARRIED OUT

The project is divided into research lines. **Line 1**, including a single, longitudinal representative survey ($N_{T1} \approx 1300$, $N_{T2} \approx 800$, $N_{T3} \approx 500$), examines the correlates of collective action in the population of Poles. This part of the project is intended to reveal long-term processes related to engagement. On the other hand, two studies (30-50 participants each) in **Line 2** employ a complete network design to investigate the mutual relationships between individuals' network position and their engagement-related attributes. Using longitudinal data collected from the real-life activists engaged in two SMOs with ecological and feminist agenda, respectively, we plan to assess the degree to which the relationships with other members of a social movement shape one's beliefs, emotions and actions (social influence processes), and to what extent these beliefs, emotions and actions determine one's position in a network (selection processes). **Line 3** addresses rapid changes elicited by the participation. In two field studies ($2 \times N = 180$) we plan to employ the intensive longitudinal design to examine the participants of regular demonstrations taking place in Warsaw. Multiple repeated measurements would allow us to check, if participation in a collective action event increases the salience of politicized identity, group-based emotions and group efficacy. **Line 4** aims to rigorously test the psychological processes involved in the relationship between engagement and attitudes toward the political system. To establish causal chain between system justification, group efficacy, need for change and collective action, we devise a series of four experiments ($3 \times N = 315$, $1 \times N = 256$). Finally, **Line 5** uses Twitter data ($4 \times N \geq 40000$) and text analysis to examine short-term psychological and social processes related to collective action.

REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE RESEARCH TOPIC

There are two reasons for choosing the current research topic. First, we aim to fill in theoretical and empirical gaps present in the collective action literature. Although social psychological research provides a vast body of knowledge concerning individual sources and consequences of engagement, it tends to overlook relational and contextual correlates of collective action. Furthermore, the literature is dominated by cross-sectional studies, which prevents firm causal conclusions and hides the dynamic nature of engagement. Second, our project addresses events and processes that take place in Poland and other European countries nowadays – facing the increase in the number of protests and the growing degree of social interdependence, we make an attempt to understand these phenomena.