

Call for Papers

The Interplay of Memory and Decision Making: Developmental and Aging Processes

A Special Issue of *European Psychologist*

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Memory plays a key role in judgment and decision making. In numerous situations, people's choices depend on memory because relevant information is not directly available in the environment (e.g., Dougherty et al., 1999; Schooler & Hertwig, 2005; Stewart et al., 2006). Preference construction from memory explains a wide variety of behavioral phenomena (Reyna et al., 2003; Weber & Johnson, 2006) and helps us to predict feelings and utility following choices (Kahneman & Snell, 1990). Neuroeconomic research has also demonstrated a close link between valuation processes and brain regions that are relevant for memory functioning (Shadlen & Shohamy, 2016). However, research has only begun to address how developmental and age-related differences in memory functioning impact judgments and decisions (e.g., Del Missier et al., 2013; Horn et al., 2020; Mata et al., 2007; Spaniol & Bayen, 2005).

Concept of the Special Issue

In this special issue, the aim is to cover recent behavioral, cognitive neuroscience, and modeling research on the influence of memory processes on judgment and decision making from a developmental lifespan perspective. In what follows, a few exemplary themes are highlighted: One theme is the role of different memory systems or functions that have diverging developmental trajectories. For instance, lifespan research on episodic remembering suggests that associative memory is relatively mature by middle childhood and involves brain structures that later show pronounced decline in older adulthood (Shing et al., 2010). By contrast, strategic memory (e.g., control processes that regulate encoding and retrieval) shows a different pattern, with protracted development across adolescence/young

adulthood and early decline in aging (Shing et al., 2010). A second theme is the role of metacognition. With declining memory abilities, aging decision makers have to consider potential changes in the validity of memory for making decisions. How do older adults deal with increased mnemonic uncertainty and select strategies? Initial research suggests that both younger and older adults adaptively rely on simple memory cues for their judgments, but older adults appear to be more selective than younger adults and rely more on the first cues that come to mind (e.g., Horn et al., 2016; Mata et al., 2007). Such findings suggest that older adults tend to use decision strategies that save mnemonic effort. People's strategy selection for memory-based decisions can also reflect a preference towards better-remembered information: people often prefer to choose options that they remember better – even if other (less well-remembered) options would promise better outcomes (e.g., Gluth et al., 2015). A third theme refers to developmental changes in motivational orientation that likely affect memory-based evaluations. Younger and older adults often evaluate positive and negative information differently (Murphy & Isaacowitz, 2008). For instance, older adults might remember relatively more positive or less negative information than younger adults, as people become increasingly motivated to regulate their affective well-being with increasing age (Mather & Carstensen, 2005). Age-related increases in the motivational orientation to prevent losses can also result in higher sensitivity to negative than positive information when information is retrieved for judgments and decisions (Freund & Ebner, 2005).

To cover these and related themes, this special issue attempts to bring together work from researchers from different areas and welcomes multi-methodological approaches. The focus will be on developmental and age-related differences in the interplay between memory and decision making.

Deadlines

We invite interested researchers to submit their abstracts (max. 300 words) to the Guest Editors (Sebastian Horn horn@psychologie.uzh.ch, Yee Lee Shing shing@psych.uni-frankfurt.de)

- until **June 15, 2023**.
- Initial responses on submitted abstracts can be expected **mid July**.

Submissions should be submitted exclusively via the online submission system <https://www.editorialmanager.com/ep>

- until **November 30, 2023**.

The target publication date for the special issue is

- **April / May 2024**.

Manuscript Preparation

Original articles should not exceed 7,500 words including abstract, references, figures, and tables, but may be allowed more space on a case-by-case basis. Manuscripts should be prepared in accordance with the journal's author guidelines available on the journal's website at

<https://www.hogrefe.com/j/ep>

Only papers that have not previously appeared in or are currently under consideration for another publication can be considered for publication. Manuscripts are subject to peer review and may be returned to authors for revision.

Contact Details

If you have any questions concerning editorial matters, please contact

- the Managing Editor of *European Psychologist*:
Kristen Lavallee: editorep-psych@hu-berlin.de, or
- the Special Issue Editors:
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Should you have any technical queries regarding the online submission system, please contact production@hogrefe.com.

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