

Psychological Test Adaptation and Development

Official Open Access Organ of the
European Association of Psychological Assessment (EAPA)

Call for Papers

Special Collection: Challenges in Translating and Adapting Psychological Measures to Spanish/Portuguese

Proposal deadline May 31, 2022

Psychological research and assessment heavily rely on psychometric measures. Many research findings and assessment procedures were derived in specific cultures with instruments in a certain language. Oftentimes it is not easy to directly transfer these into other languages or cultures. Thus, psychometric instruments and assessment procedures have to be translated and adapted and new data need to be collected. Aim of such endeavors typically is to test the usefulness of existing measures/assessment procedures in other languages or cultures. However, simply translating a measure/procedure into the new language might not suffice to showcase the usefulness of the so adapted measures. To complicate things, there are languages which are used in cultures with different norms or values. Spanish and Portuguese are prime examples. Those languages are spoken by more than 600 million people around the world. Importantly, there are language and culture specifics which might even make it difficult to transfer psychometric findings from the same language version (e.g., Portuguese) to a different cultural setting (Portugal to Brazil). The planned special issue wants to provide an overview of typical problems arising in such translation and/ or adaptation processes. In the following is a non-exhaustive list of possible topics:

- The state of the art of psychological assessment (areas) in Portuguese/Spanish speaking countries;
- Assessment practices in Portuguese/Spanish speaking countries (including outlooks on the use of machine learning or artificial intelligence);
- Psychometric evaluations of scores derived from highly-cited scales and for often used constructs to be used by scholars and practitioners from Portuguese and Spanish-speaking countries;
- Difficulties to deal with dialects in large languages (e.g., differences between Iberian, central American or south American Spanish) or how to proceed when assessing people in contact areas in non-native language tests (e.g., Catalan, or Quichua);
- The role of response styles/method factors in Portuguese/Spanish. Do we observe similar constructs of method and response styles to those identified in worldwide literature? Are response styles observed in these languages? How strong are the influence response styles in Portuguese/Spanish languages?

- How does heterogeneity of educational level, cognitive skills, and socioeconomic status across subregions of Portuguese/Spanish speaking countries influence evidence for construct validity and/or other types of validity?
- Applications of modern natural language processing (deep learning models) in psychometrics fostering test adaptations;
- Measurement invariance studies of original language vs. Portuguese/Spanish languages;
- Applications for IRT method of linking/equating test forms of Portuguese/Spanish languages vs. test original languages. Can we build equivalent metrics across cultures?

In terms of format and methodology, researchers are welcome to submit:
Brief Research Reports, Original Research Papers, Empirical Research (Quantitative and/or Qualitative), Systematic Reviews, and Meta-Analyses

Proposals

Proposals in English with title, author name(s), contact details, and abstract (max. 120 words) should be submitted via email to Matthias Ziegler at zieglema@hu-berlin.de before May 31, 2022.

Selected authors will be asked to submit their final manuscripts via the journal's online submission system by December 31, 2022. All submissions will undergo peer review.

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