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Uncertainty in flux

The temporal dynamics of attitudinal ambivalence and risk perception

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Supplementary Materials Chapter 5

1. Study 2

1.1 Behavioral intention scale

Intentions for climate-related behaviors were assessed on 10 items (based on Lange & Dewitte, 2019; Nielsen et al., 2021; Tobler et al., 2012), two of which were general items assessed on 7-point scales ranging from *completely disagree* to *completely agree*.

Subsequently, we assessed willingness to engage in specific behaviors to counteract climate change with a list of eight items, measured on 7-point response scales ranged from *no to always*, with an omission option anchored by *only for reasons other than climate change*.

Valid responses were standardized and averaged ($\alpha = .75$).

- General behavior

- I am willing to take actions to counteract climate change

- I will not engage in environmentally sustainable behaviours if these are more inconvenient or expensive (-)

- Specific behaviors

- Are you willing to engage in any of those behaviours to counteract climate change?

- Shopping

- Consuming seasonal food whenever possible

- Eating significantly less meat (or none)

- Reducing, reusing, or replacing plastic

- Energy consumption

- Removing the power supply plug of electronic devices when these are not in use

- Buying green energy

- Other

- Flying significantly less (or not at all)

- Showering less

- Giving money to environmental charities, e.g. Greenpeace

1.2 Results for alternative variables potentially involved

We sequentially included the variables as second moderators to partial out their effects as potential alternative moderators (Hull et al., 1992; Yzerbyt et al., 2004) and we additionally included them as covariates in separate analyses. Negative affect was a significant covariate, $\beta = .26$, 95% CI [-.37, -.15], $p < .001$, but a nonsignificant second moderator, $\beta = .03$, 95% CI [-.07, -.14], $p = .527$, and the interaction effect of benevolence with control perceptions on psychological distance remained significant when including

negative affect as a covariate, $\beta = -.13$, 95% CI [-.23, -.02], $p = .019$. Hope for scientific progress did not emerge as a significant covariate, $\beta = -.04$, 95% CI [-.13, .04], $p = .319$, or second moderator, $\beta = .03$, 95% CI [-.06, .11], $p = .518$. Political orientation was a significant covariate, $\beta = .12$, 95% CI [.001, .23], $p = .049$, but a nonsignificant second moderator, $\beta = .09$, 95% CI [-.03, .20], $p = .137$, and the interaction of benevolence with control remained significant when including the variable as a covariate, $\beta = -.16$, 95% CI [-.27, .05], $p = .004$. Age, education, and gender did not have significant effects, $ps > .10$.

2. Study 3: Personal control scale

We devised four items to measure personal control (based on Ajzen, 2002; Armitage & Conner, 1999; Zur & Klöckner, 2014): “How much personal control do you feel you have over the impact that your meat consumption has on the world?”, “How much personal control do you feel you have over the impact that your meat consumption has on your personal health?”, “How much control over outcomes in daily life do you experience at this moment in time?”, “How confident are you that if you wanted to, you could reduce meat in your diet?” (i.e., behavioral control; BC). BC was assessed on a 7-point scale ranging from *not at all* to *very much*. All other items were assessed on scales ranging from -5 – *much less than I would like* to 0 – *just the right amount* and 5 – *much more than I would like*. Note that the BC item was excluded from the scale due to poor inter-item correlations, as described in the main manuscript. However, the exclusion of the BC item did not change the findings of the present study.