

What are Opinions? Integrating Theory and Methods for Automatically Analyzing Opinionated Communication (OPINION)



WORKING GROUP MEETING

COST ACTION CA21129 OPINION, 13-14 January 2025

University Claude Bernard Lyon 1

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2 PROGRAM

Monday, 13 January 2025

09:00-09:30 *Arrival & Coffee (D92, adjacent to Fontannes)*

09:30-10:00 **Welcome Plenary** ([stream](#))

Room *Fontannes*

- **Welcome** - *Christian Baden, Bruno Yun*
- **Introduction of Project Space & Workshop Sessions** - *hosts*
- **Practical issues** - *Bruno Yun*

10:00-12:30 **Working Group Sessions I** (*parallel sessions*)

Theory	Tools	Data & Application	Dissemination & Inclusion
Room <i>Fontannes</i>	Room D204	Room D205	Room D206
Chair: <i>Agnieszka Stepinska</i>	Chair: <i>Johannes B. Gruber</i>	Chair: <i>Hajo Boomgaarden</i>	Chair: <i>Carlos Arcila Calderon</i>

12:30-14:00 *Lunch*

14:00-15:15 **Masterclass:** ([stream](#))

Room *Fontannes*

What also non-nerds need to know about recent advances in computational methods

Damian Trilling, VU Amsterdam

15:15-15:45 *Coffee (D92)*

15:45-17:15 **Project Space & Workshops** (*parallel sessions*)

Shaded entries are closed groups; ★ marks new initiatives. Any initiatives beyond those listed are welcome to meet in the open space.

"Team 5"	Literacy on computational methods	Misgendering on YouTube/Reddit	Multifunct. political opinions	★ Beyond fact checking
Room <i>Fontannes</i>	Room D204	Room D205	Room TBD	Room D206
Hosts: <i>Aleksandra Krstic & Dimitra Milioni</i>	Host: <i>Edlira Gugu David Herrero-Blanco</i>	Host: <i>Jurate Ruzaitė</i>	Host: <i>Gabriella Szabó</i>	Host: <i>Peter Maurer</i>

17:30-19:30 *City Walking Tour (voluntary)*

20:00 **Working Group Dinner** (*voluntary, self-paid*)

Theory	Tools	Data & Application	Dissemination & Inclusion
<i>Ludovic B</i> <i>90 Rue Masséna</i>	<i>Bouchon</i> <i>Comptoir Brunet</i> <i>23 Rue Claudia</i>	<i>TBA</i>	<i>L'Autre Monde</i> <i>231 Rue Marcel</i> <i>Mérieux</i>

Tuesday, 14 January 2025

09:00-09:30 *Coffee (D92)*

09:30-12:00 **Working Group Sessions II** (*parallel sessions*)

Theory	Tools	Data & Application	Dissemination & Inclusion
Room D204	Room Fontannes	Room D205	Room D206
<i>Chair:</i> Agnieszka Stepinska	<i>Chair:</i> Johannes B. Gruber	<i>Chair:</i> Hajo Boomgaarden	<i>Chair:</i> Carlos Arcila Calderon

12:00-13:30 *Lunch*

13:30-15:00 **Project Space & Workshops** (*parallel sessions*)

Shaded entries are closed groups; ★ marks new initiatives. Any initiatives beyond those listed are welcome to meet in the open space.

Public opinion in a digitaliz. world	LLMs vs. humans in cont. analysis	Public opinion as discursive proc.	★ Europ. public opinion on China
Room Fontannes	Room D204	Room D205	Room D206
<i>Host:</i> Agnieszka Hess, Elena Negrea Busuioc & Agnieszka Stepinska	<i>Host:</i> Ljubisa Bojic, Anela Mulahmetovic Ibrisimovic & Selma Veseljevic Jerkovic	<i>Host:</i> Christian Baden	<i>Host:</i> Jelena Gledic

15:00-15:30 *Coffee (D92)*

15:30-16:30 **Working Group Sessions III** (*parallel sessions*)

Theory	Tools	Data & Application	Dissemination & Inclusion
Room D204	Room Fontannes	Room D205	Room D206
<i>Chair:</i> Agnieszka Stepinska	<i>Chair:</i> Johannes B. Gruber	<i>Chair:</i> Hajo Boomgaarden	<i>Chair:</i> Carlos Arcila Calderon

16:30-17:00 **Closing Plenary & Wrap-up** ([stream](#))

Room Fontannes

- **Next Steps** - Working Group Chairs
- **Reimbursements Update** - Christian Baden

17:15-18:30 **Management Committee Meeting** (*hybrid*)

Room Fontannes

- The Agenda for this meeting will be emailed directly to all members of the OPINION Management Committee

18:30-19:00 **Core Group Coordination Meeting**

Room Fontannes

3 PRACTICAL INFORMATION: Before the meeting

Travel

Participants are required to make their own travel arrangements, the costs for which will be reimbursed afterwards, subject to the rules detailed below.

The University Claude Bernard Lyon 1 is located North-East of Lyon's city center. From Lyon's primary train station, Lyon Part-Dieu, tram lines T1 or T4 take you straight to the university. To travel between Lyon Saint-Exupéry Airport and the city, there are two main options:

Faster & Recommended: The Rhônexpress direct line operates every 15 minutes, 7 days a week, from 04:25 am to midnight between Lyon Part-Dieu train station and the airport. The journey takes about 30 minutes. Tickets cost approximately €15, with discounts for return trips, and can be purchased [online](#) (cheaper) or on-site.

Cheaper & Slower: TCL Bus line 47 runs between the airport and Meyzieu Z.I., where you can transfer to tram line T3 and continue to Lyon Part-Dieu train station.

On the TCL public transport network (bus, tram, metro, funicular), a €2.10 ticket is valid for any number of round trips or connections as long as the final connection was made at most 1 hour after validation. Fares are capped at €6.70 per day, so after three trips, no additional charges apply. Credit cards can be used for contactless payment on the network (look for the red device; see image), but only for one person at a time. For ticket inspections, simply present the credit card or smartphone used for payment.



If you need a taxi, you can book it on +33 04 7210 8686 or via mobile app: <https://taxilyon.com/application-taxi-lyon/>.

Accommodation

Participants need to arrange their own accommodation, the costs for which will be reimbursed afterwards, subject to the rules detailed below.

For participants who require accommodation in Lyon, we recommend staying at one of the following hotels, which offer decent quality at reasonable cost. All price indications are including breakfast (ordered by distance; however, if you choose something different, that is up to you):

- **Ibis Styles Villeurbanne Parc de la Tête d'Or** (12 min walking): €100 to €150
to book: +33 0478899595 all.accor.com/hotel/9012/index.fr.shtml
- **Hôtel Mercure Charpennes Parc de la Tête d'Or** (18 min walking/9 min by tram):
€100 to €150.
to book: +33 0472444646 all.accor.com/hotel/1625/index.fr.shtml

- **Appart'City Classic Lyon Part-Dieu Villette** (20 min by tram): €100 to €150.
to book: +33 0437919921 appartcity.com/fr/destinations/rhone-alpes/lyon/lyon-part-dieu-villette
- **Hôtel Silky by HappyCulture** (20 min by metro/tram): €100 to €150.
to book: +33 0478371717 www.hotel-silky.com/fr
- **Lyo Hôtel** (26 min by metro/tram): €80 to €150.
to book: +33 0478370746 www.lyo-hotel.fr

4 PRACTICAL INFORMATION: During the meeting

Attendance Lists

In order to receive reimbursements for your expenses, you are required confirm your participation via eCOST prior to the event, and to document your participation by signing the attendance list. If you do not sign the attendance list, we will not be able to reimburse you, so please make sure you do not forget this. Please note that separate attendance lists will be available for each day the program, so if you attend the entire duration of the meeting, you will need to sign multiple times.

Wifi

For the duration of the Working Group meeting, you will be able to connect to the eduroam network, as well as the network of University Claude Bernard Lyon 1 (UCBL-Portail).

If you choose the second option, you will need to [create a personal account](#) by filling in a quick form (First name, Surname, Email, check both boxes) to receive your personal ID and password by email.

Hybrid Participation / Streaming

The Lyon WG meeting is an in-person meeting.

The Working Groups and Project / Workshop Sessions may decide to offer hybrid participation at their own discretion.

Project Collaboration / Workshop Sessions

To facilitate the formation of collaborations among members of the network, the program includes time dedicated to project collaborations. This is time that you can use to work on your current collaborations with other network members, or to meet other members and come up with new ideas for collaboration.

The following table gives an overview over the planned Sessions. Please note that shaded sessions are closed groups; white ones are open for anyone to join.

Tuesday 11 June 2025

Session Title	When?	Where?	Contact	Open?
"Team 5" project group meeting	Monday 15:45-17:15	Room <i>Font.s</i>	<i>Aleksandra Krstic</i> <i>Dimitra Milioni</i>	no
A framework for qualitative analysis of MEPs' and MPs' cross-platform expression of opinion" regarding our ongoing project, its methodology and codebook we drafted for the purposes of the study and the chapter in the edited OPINION book.				
Literacy on computational methods	Monday 15:45-17:15	Room D204	<i>Edlira Gugu</i> <i>David Herrero-Blanco</i>	no
The authors will work on the paper with the data already collected in Salamanca. They will advance or finalize the writing of the manuscript, solving some existing issues, and finding a journal to submit it.				
Project on Opinions on Misgendering on YouTube and Reddit	Wednesday 14:30-16:00	Room D205	<i>Jurate Ruzaitė</i>	no
This is work-in-progress research. A paper on its initial results has been submitted for an edited volume (planned to be published with Springer), and another paper is currently being prepared for the final OPINION volume (paper titled " <i>Framing the Self and the Enemy in Flame Wars: Antagonistic Opinions on Misgendering on Reddit and YouTube</i> ").				
Multifunctional perspective on expressing political opinions	Wednesday 14:30-16:00	TBD	<i>Gabriella Szabo</i>	no
Paper project: Unpacking citizens' opinion manifestation in multicultural societies. Toward a multifunctional perspective on expressing political opinions.				
★Beyond fact checking: Detecting frames & disinformation	Monday 15:45-17:15	Room D206	<i>Peter Maurer</i>	yes
Starting in September, this 4-year project funded by the Anne-Marie & Gustaf Anders foundation aims to develop and apply state-of-the-art methods for automated frame classification in news and social media in the domain of climate change politics and other issues. The idea is to compare Sweden with other countries. The project is open for collaborations with similar projects and researchers invested in the same field.				
Open Space	Monday 15:45-17:15			yes
The open space is kept available for any ad hoc or new project collaboration meetings that may arise - feel free to discuss new ideas and initiatives!				

Tuesday 14 January 2025

Session Title	When?	Where?	Contact	Open?
How to study public opinion in a digitalized world?	Tuesday 13:30-15:00	Room <i>Font.s</i>	<i>Agnieszka Hess Elena Negrea Busuioc Agnieszka Stepinska</i>	no
During this meeting, we aim to discuss the findings of the survey conducted among the experts. We will collect our observations and plan the content of two publications (a book chapter and a journal paper).				
LLMs vs. humans in content analysis	Tuesday 13:30-15:00	Room D204	<i>Ljubisa Bojic Anela Mulahmetovic Ibr. Selma Veseljevic Jerkov.</i>	yes
In our first paper, we evaluated the consistency and quality of large language models in latent content analysis across sentiment, political leaning, emotional intensity, and sarcasm. We're sharing our findings and data to support colleagues writing further papers—we've already initiated three groups focused on fine-tuning, and everyone is welcome to join.				
Public opinion as discursive process: Implications for study	Tuesday 13:30-15:00	D205	<i>Christian Baden</i>	no
Building upon our theoretical framework and paper, we are going to discuss concrete methodological, operational and practical implications for studying public opinion as a discursive process via opinionated discourse. The meeting serves to organize our book chapter for the WG1 book project.				
★ European public opinion on China during COVID-19	Tuesday 13:30-15:00	Room D206	<i>Jelena Gledic</i>	yes
The Sinophone Borderlands project at Palacký U Olomouc surveyed public opinion on China in 2020 on representative general population samples in 13 European countries. There have been various resulting publications (see here: https://sinofon.cz/surveys/), but more can be done with the data. As part of the team that conducted the surveys, I invite interested colleagues to join me in discussing potential new research questions that can be tested on this data, including those about China and those of an overarching methodological nature.				
Open Space	Tuesday 13:30-15:00			yes
Additional free spaces are kept available for any ad hoc or new project collaboration meetings that may arise - feel free to discuss new ideas and initiatives!				

Coffee & Lunch

Coffee, tea, juice and water will be offered during breaks in the program.

The most straightforward lunch option is the **University Restaurant**, located in close proximity to the venue. However, COST-ACTION participants will be charged at the external guest rate: For a main dish plus one side/cheese/dessert, that's €15.89, €16.60 for two sides/cheeses/desserts, €17.31 for three, and so on.

Other nearby restaurant options within walking distance include:

- **Le Jardin d'Aline**, 4 Rue Jean-Baptiste Clément (15 min, or 2 tram stops)
- **Brasserie Park**, 77 Boulevard de Stalingrad (8 min)
- **SH Restaurant du Tennis Club de Lyon**, 3 Bd du 11 Novembre 1918 (10 min)

Nearby fast food options include:

- **Eat Salad**, 77 Boulevard de Stalingrad (8 min)
- **L'Instant Tête d'Or**, 81 Boulevard de Stalingrad, (11 min)

As per COST rules, participants are expected to cover the cost of lunch out of their daily allowance.

Dinner

Each Working Group will organize a joint dinner on Monday evening.

The joint WG dinners are voluntary and self-paid, as the costs for dinner are included in the daily allowance. Please do not forget to sign up through your WGs!

If you don't wish to join these dinner options, we encourage you to find some other network members and mingle at your own discretion. There are countless nice restaurants and bistros in Lyon.

5 PRACTICAL INFORMATION: After the meeting

Reimbursement

According to COST rules, all reimbursements will be processed after the meeting.

We can reimburse only participants who:

- a) were invited to physically attend the meeting, eligible to be reimbursed;
- b) confirmed their attendance via the eCOST system prior to the meeting;
- c) actually attended the network meeting, as documented by signing the attendance lists available at each session;
- d) submitted their reimbursement claims within 14 days after the meeting, via the eCOST system (you will receive an email once the meeting has ended).

Any long-distance travel costs (>100km) will be reimbursed at the value stated on presented tickets, up to a maximum of 1,500 Euro. Participants are expected to book well in time, as soon as you have received your formal invitation (so please avoid last minute bookings) and use economic connections (within reason, nobody expects you to take a train in the middle of the night or fly with three layovers), and book well in time to avoid unnecessary costs. You may include a cancellation insurance, the costs for which will be refunded as part of the ticket. If you use a private car for part of the way, costs are covered at 0.35 EUR/km, up to 2000 km - but please then make sure to keep documentation of the time line of this part of the trip.

You can also claim expenses for visa processing fees if you needed to obtain a visa specifically for attending the network meeting. Such costs will be reimbursed at the value stated on presented receipts or documentation. This does not include any costs related to visa obtained for purposes beyond the network meeting.

All (!) other costs (i.e., accommodation, local transportation <100km, food etc.) are covered by a flat daily allowance, which for France amounts to 201 Euro per full day. The daily allowance takes into account your actual travel time from and to your place of origin, not only the day of the event itself. For instance, if you travel to Lyon on Sunday afternoon and return on Tuesday night, you will be eligible for roughly two and a half days' worth of daily allowance, or three if you arrive at home only in the next morning.

Please note that we will not disburse daily allowances for the time that you spent traveling for reasons unrelated to the network meeting: If you put in additional days in France for your own reasons, that's up to you, but we will then only consider the time that you would have spent traveling without such intermissions toward your daily allowance.

Please note also that, if you arrive from or continue to a destination other than your home institution, we will ask you to explain that in your reimbursement claim. If you travel to multiple destinations, we will only refund your travel costs from the preceding and to the next destination, and assume that any other legs of your trip

needed, you should be able to find your account information also on your bank's website)

- 3) your **expense details** (everything marked *; you can copy most of this from the PDF that you downloaded when submitting the e-COST form), which include:
 - a. The VU reference number mentioned above
 - b. a short (<25 characters) and a longer description (the short one can be "travel costs to Lyon" or similar, the longer might be something like "travel costs to OPINION meeting in Lyon, as calculated by e-COST: flight [wherever you are] - Lyon and back, 3 days Daily Allowance")
 - c. Select "Travel and Expenses" as Description, and "Travel and Expenses abroad" as type of expense.
 - d. Please select EUR as currency code, and enter the exact same amount that was calculated by the e-COST portal as amount.
- 4) your **expenses documentation**. For this, please attach the same documents that you uploaded to e-COST, merged into a single PDF file. The total file size should not exceed 3MB (so if the merged file gets too big, try to reduce the resolution in the PDF settings).
- 5) Please also attach a **copy of the confirmation email** that you received **and the PDF** that you downloaded upon submitting your claims via e-COST.

If you have any questions, please contact the Financial Service Center at the VU under +31(0)20-5983478 or servicedesk.fsc@vu.nl.

We apologize for the extra work; the good thing is that with this form, the VU should be able to actually pay out your reimbursement within ~2 weeks after you submit this second form, which would be faster than what we had in the past.

Minutes & Recordings

All minutes and recordings of the Working Group meeting, concerning both the plenary sessions and the Working Group sessions, will be made available to all members, including those who did not participate in person, within two weeks after the meeting.

6 PARTICIPANTS

The fifth joint Working Group meeting of the OPINION COST Network includes a total of 63 participants from 27 countries who will participate in person. The entire network presently comprises 214 members from 42 countries.

Name	Surname	Institution	Country	WG1	WG2	WG3	WG4	MC
Jamal	Abdul Nasir	U of Galway	Ireland		◆	◆		
Kinga	Adamczewska	Adam Mickiewicz U Poznan	Poland		◆	◆		
Carlos	Arcila Calderón	U of Salamanca	Spain		◆		◆	◆
Maria Luisa	Azpiroz	U Panamericana	Mexico			◆	◆	
Anna	Baczowska	U Gdansk	Poland	◆	◆			
Christian	Baden	The Hebrew U of Jerusalem	Israel	◆			◆	◆
Barbora	Badurova	Matej Bel U Banská Bystrica	Slovakia	◆				
Snezana	Bajceta	U of Belgrade	Serbia	◆				
David	Blanco-Herrero	U of Amsterdam	Netherlands		◆		◆	
Ljubisa	Bojic	U of Belgrade	Serbia				◆	
Hajo	Boomgaarden	U of Vienna	Austria			◆		
Carlos	Cunha	Lisbon U Institute	Portugal	◆				
Ardita	Dylgjeri	U of Elbasan	Albania	◆			◆	
Heloise	Faure	Audencia	France		◆	◆		
Dren	Gerguri	U of Prishtina	Kosovo	◆	◆			
Jelena	Gledić	U of Belgrade	Serbia		◆		◆	
Roksana	Gloc	Jagellonian U Krakow	Poland		◆			
Valmora	Gogo	U College Bedër	Albania	◆				
Julia	Gottstein	Charles U Prague	Czechia	◆	◆			

Johannes B.	Gruber	Vrije U Amsterdam	Netherlands		◆		◆	
Edlira	Gugu	U of Elbasan	Albania		◆		◆	◆
Kemal	Gunay	Bahçeşehir U	Türkiye		◆			
Dana	Guy	U College Dublin	Ireland			◆	◆	
Damian	Guzek	U of Silesia in Katowice	Poland	◆				
Agnieszka	Hess	Jagiellonian U Krakow	Poland	◆	◆			◆
Marc	Jungblut	LMU Munich	Germany	◆			◆	
Ledia	Kazazi	U of Elbasan	Albania	◆		◆		
Neta	Kligler-Vilenchik	The Hebrew U of Jerusalem	Israel	◆				◆
Lydia	Kollyri	U of Amsterdam	Netherlands	◆				
Marios	Koniaris	National Technical U of Athens	Greece		◆	◆		◆
Ema	Kristo	U of Tirana	Albania		◆		◆	
Aleksandra	Krstic	U of Belgrade	Serbia	◆			◆	◆
Tamara	Kunić	Faculty of Croatia Studies	Croatia	◆			◆	◆
Barbara	Lewandowska-Tomaszczyk	State U of Applied Sciences	Poland	◆	◆			
Fabienne	Lind	U of Vienna	Austria		◆			◆
Artur	Lipiński	Adam Mickiewicz U Poznan	Poland	◆	◆			
Felicia	Loecherbach	U of Amsterdam	Netherlands		◆			
Manjola	Lumani Zaçellari	U Aleksander Moisiu Durres	Albania			◆		
Michaela	Maier	RPTU Kaiserslautern-Landau	Germany		◆			
Boris	Mance	U of Ljubljana	Slovenia		◆			◆
Peter	Maurer	Karlstad U	Sweden		◆			◆
Besjana	Mema Tosuni	Mediterranean U	Albania			◆	◆	◆
Ana	Milojevic	U of Belgrade	Serbia	◆			◆	

Larisa	Mistrean	Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova	Moldova			◆	◆	◆
Elena	Negrea Busuioc	National U of Political Studies & Public Admin.	Romania	◆				
Şule Yüksel	Özmen	Trabzon U	Türkiye	◆				
Marina	Popescu	Median Research Center	Romania	◆		◆		◆
Ardita	Reçi	U Aleksander Moisiu Durres	Albania	◆				
Jurate	Ruzaitė	Vytautas Magnus U Kaunas	Lithuania	◆				
Agnieszka	Stepinska	Adam Mickiewicz U Poznan	Poland	◆				◆
Sjoerd	Stolwijk	U of Amsterdam	Netherlands		◆			
Gabriella	Szabó	Hungarian Academy of Sciences	Hungary	◆	◆			◆
Ilija	Tomanic Trivundza	U of Ljubljana	Slovenia		◆			◆
Damian	Trilling	Vrije U Amsterdam	Netherlands		◆			◆
Aleksandra	Urman	U of Zurich	Switzerland		◆		◆	◆
Mariken	van der Velden	Vrije U Amsterdam	Netherlands				◆	
Selma	Veseljević Jerković	U of Tuzla	Bosnia and Hercegovina			◆	◆	◆
Srdjan	Vesic	CNRS	France		◆			◆
Christina	Viehmänn	GESIS	Germany		◆			
Lenka	Vochocová	Charles U Prague	Czechia	◆			◆	◆
Shubin	Yu	BI Norwegian Business School	Norway		◆			
Bruno	Yun	U Claude Bernard Lyon	France		◆			
Olga	Zagovora	RPTU Kaiserslautern-Landau	Germany		◆	◆		
Asta	Zelenkauskaitė	Vilnius Gediminas Technical U	Lithuania	◆		◆		◆

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COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.