

# psicologia sociale

Social Psychology Theory & Research

## Call for papers Identity patterns and sustainable choices

*Special issue editors: Silvia Collado, Ferdinando Fornara and Francesca Tiroto /  
University of Zaragoza (Spain), University of Cagliari (Italy),  
University of Plymouth (UK)*

Reducing our ecological footprint to contrast climate change is one of the 17 goals of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (UN, 2015). Among other factors, it has been widely acknowledged that identity processes play a meaningful role in shaping pro-environmental actions (Fritsche *et al.*, 2018). These processes act as both drivers and barriers to sustainable choices. On the one hand, if a sustainable alternative choice is perceived as part of the self or related to a significant part of the self, this option is likely to occur despite personal costs (Vesely *et al.*, 2021) such as high economic costs (e.g., purchasing of organic food or photovoltaic panels installation), or high perceived difficulty or discomfort (e.g., poor public transport or bicycle paths). On the other hand, a strong identification with a group or place could represent a barrier to pro-environmental actions and project developments. For example, opposition at local, regional, and national levels could occur in the case of project developments that are interpreted as threats to traditional socio-economic uses of the land and/or to characteristics of the place (e.g., Devine-Wright, 2009).

In this regard, different kinds of identity patterns have been examined, including place-related constructs, such as place identity, place attachment, place belongingness (i.e., feeling that a place is part of me or that I am part of such place: e.g., I am a Parisian); environmental identity or self-identity (e.g., I am an environmentalist, I am

a green consumer); and connectedness with nature (e.g., I am part of nature, I struggle to defend the natural environment). These different identity patterns are grounded on cognitive processes that link the feeling of belongingness to an overarching entity (i.e., a group or a place) to a positive conception of the self, in line with the Social Identity Theory (SIT, Tajfel & Turner, 1979) and its developments. Such links can play the role of drivers of pro-environmental behaviours.

This Special Issue aims to include papers that address the relationship between one or more identity patterns and one or more behavioural choices that affect the quality of the environment at local or global levels. Examples of these choices include conservation of environmental resources, transport mode, energy and water use, waste differentiation, food consumption, lifestyle, etc. We are particularly interested in understanding under which conditions and in which category of setting such relationship occurs. Regarding the latter, we encourage also (but not only) submissions that focus on the workplace – including organizational macro-level approaches (e.g., corporate social responsibility) – which is still an understudied setting with reference to the observation of environment-related behaviours (Carmeli *et al.*, 2017).

We welcome innovative and impactful studies carried out using different methods, i.e. experimental and/or correlational and/or qualitative.

## **Deadlines**

Authors should submit their paper by **September 15th, 2022**. To submit the paper, please send your manuscript with the online platform <https://submission.rivisteweb.it/index.php/ps>. Please, indicate in your cover letter that the submission is to be considered for the special issue on «Identity patterns and sustainable choices». Also, consult the authors' guidelines before submitting your manuscript.