# Editorial

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The edition of this issue in {PSOCIAL} finds us going through an adverse context, marked by the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite this, we are glad to inform you that since our previous issue the Editorial Board has deepened the visibility of the journal, which has been accepted and included in:

- ERIH PLUS (European Reference Index for the Humanities and Social Sciences)
- CARHUS PLus +
- Latindex (Regional Cooperative Online Information System for Scholarly Journals from Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal)
- Psicodoc (Online Bibliographic Database Madrid Official College of Psychologists)
- MIAR (Information Matrix for the Analysis of Journals)
- LatinRev (Cooperative network of journals and associations of academic journals in the field of social sciences and humanities)
- Latinoamericana (Association of Academic Journals of Humanities and Social Sciences)
- CLASE (Latin-American Citations in Social Sciences and Humanities)
- Open Aire
- Sherpa Romeo.

Likewise, thanks to the technical support of Lucía Correa and Guillermo Banzatto from the Visibility of Scientific and Academic Production Department at the National University of La Plata, we have begun to work on the layout of the articles using markup software AmeliCA XML compliant with JATS standards offered by AmeliCA.

In order to meet all these objectives, the journal has expanded its Editorial Team, including as editorial assistants Julia Evangelina Velisone, Gisela Matrángolo, Cecilia Yaccarini and Mercedes Olivera, undergraduate and graduate scholarship holders from the University of Buenos Aires and the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research. For his part, Daniel Travis, Researcher at the Universidad Argentina John F. Kennedy, joins as a copyeditor for academic articles published in English. We trust that these additions can contribute to the growth of {PSOCIAL}.

Finally, starting this year we welcome Gastón Becerra as the upcoming Editor-in-Chief, following our former Editor-in-Chief Hugo Simkin (2017-2019) and our Founder Editor Clarisa Voloschin (2014-2016). We trust that Gastón will continue to contribute to the strengthening of this journal from this position.

# Dossier background: academic cooperation between the University of Buenos Aires and Tel Aviv University

On this occasion, this dossier is put forth within the context of a general cooperation agreement, still in progress, between the University of Buenos Aires and Tel Aviv University, from which it seeks to promote exchange in teaching and research between students and professors from both institutions. To this end, we lectured the course "Social Psychology: Issues on cross cultural research" (Course number 1041.3595.01) this semester at the the Department of Sociology and Anthropology of Gershon Gordon Faculty of Social Sciences in Tel Aviv University, which aimed to connect students of the latter institution with students of the Social Psychology course (cod. 266), which we teach regularly in the Sociology Department of the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires, together with professors Gabriel Paz, Marcelo De Leonardis, Gisela Matrángolo and Gabriela Armani.

This dossier includes five research reports authored jointly by students from both institutions, with focus on the topic of Argentine migration to Israel, from a psychosocial perspective.

## Dossier topic: Argentine Migration to Israel

Since the formation of the State of Israel in 1948, about 92,000 Jews migrated from Latin America and well over half of this group have come from Argentina (Babis, 2016). A number of reasons for migration to Israel, such as ideological, political, and religious ones, have been highlighted in the academic literature (Babis, 2016; Klor, 2016). Additionally, in the case of Argentinian migrants, financial and political factors, and anti-Semitism, have played a role (Rein, 2013; Siebzehner, 2016). For instance, the cyclical behavior of the Argentine economic crisis and the 2-year anti-Semitic campaign that followed the kidnapping of Eichmann contributed to a surge in the number of Argentine immigrants to Israel in 1963 (Rein, 2001) and, at the same time, most were seriously impacted by the country's economic fluctuations, recessions, and currency devaluations (Krupnik, 2020). During the 1970s, political persecution during military regimes has also been pointed out as an influential factor (Babis, 2016). More recently, the 1992 attack on the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, and the 1994 bombing of the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, along with Argentina's political and economic crisis between 1999 and 2002 have also been considered among events that have led to Argentinian emigration to Israel (Krupnik, 2011; Sznajder, 2015; Babis, 2016).

Migration from Argentina to Israel has been widely examined from a historical and sociological point of view (Babis, 2016; Rein, 2010; Krupnik, 2020; Klor, 2016). Even though migration to Israel has been studied within social psychology, most of the research has focused on Russians (Roccas et al., 2000; Tartakovsky, 2012) or Africans (Nakash et al. 2016). Hence, there is a lack of research on Argentinian migration to Israel within social psychology. Many topics have been identified for research (Simkin, 2020). As Babis (2016) has indicated, post-migration stressors for Latin Americans are strong and go beyond language barriers: the integration/isolation process among immigrants is relevant to the community as a whole. Given the level of intergroup conflict in Israel, acculturation is particularly relevant (Ditlmann and Samii, 2016; Dugas et al., 2018). Also, migration to Israel could be considered a Central Event in Migrants' Identities, having either a positive or negative impact on well-being. In order to clarify what variables might be mediating this association future research is needed (Simkin, 2020).

## Articles included in this dossier

The first article. "Perception of Threat in Argentinian Immigrants to Israel: Personality, Out-Group Exposure, Social Dominance Orientation and Right-Wing Authoritarianism", by Safaa Abusalok (TAU), Daniella Dahan (TAU), Emiliano Axelirud (UBA) and Jochay Ben Tovim (UBA) examines several psychosocial variables that affect perception of out-group threat in Argentinian immigrants living in Israel. The findings reveal negative correlation between Agreeableness and threat perception, a positive correlation between both Right Wing Authoritarianism, Social Dominance Orientation and Threat Perception, while providing no evidence for correlation with exposure to the outgroup as measured by the time spent in Israel. While intergroup conflict between Israelis and Palestinians has been widely studied (Klar, 2020), research is in need to explore how this conflict is perceived within Argentinian immigrants communities.

Next, "On the Obedience of Argentinian Immigrants in Israel: An Exploration of Right-Wing Authoritarianism, Social Dominance Orientation, Economic System Justification, Personality and Positive Affect", written by Ian Link (UBA), Ofelia Tenenbaum (TAU) and Dorin Yosef (TAU), explore those variables that influence compliance of COVID-19 health measures. The results show that obedience to the Iaw is mainly explained by the economic system justification directly, while positive and negative affect also play a secondary role. As the COVID-19 outbreak continues to impact many of our lives, further research is needed in order to understand public compliance with laws.

In the third article, "Acculturation in Jewish Argentines Migrating to Israel" Mela Friedrich (TAU), and Fernando Alvarez (UBA) explore the topic of acculturation in Jewish immigrants to Israel. Their findings show the relevance of employment, social adaptation, negative and positive affect, the migrant's display of consciousness, and the desire to migrate play a significant role in acculturation. Future research is in need on the topic of acculturation as literature shows it 's strongly connected to mental health (Klein et al., 2020).

In fourth article "Political Identity Movement in Times Crisis: of Impact of **Right-Wing** Authoritarianism and Economic System Justification on Political Views during the COVID-19 Pandemic", Conrado José Cuello (UBA), Daniel Dzavsarov (TAU) and Eleanor Paz (TAU) show that there is a strong correlation between Social Dominance Orientation, Right Wing Authoritarianism, Economic System Justification and supporting a liberal-capitalist State as opposed to a social-democratic state and that these positions intensified with the coronavirus pandemic. As most psychological research on the current pandemic focuses on its impact on mental health (Rajkumar, 2020), more studies within social psychology and political psychology may provide further information on how worldviews are changed out of Covid-19 outbrake (Cuello et al., 2020)

Finally, "Subjective Well-Being, Spirituality, Acculturation and Personality Traits: Understanding Argentinian Immigrants in Israel". by Robert Levy (TAU), Walter Mac Allister (UBA), Roxanne M Pomerantz (TAU), Rebecca Roizman (TAU) and Husam A. H. Za'rour (TAU), reflects upon mental health in Argentine immigrants in Israel. Results show that Extroversion, Neuroticism, Spirituality, and Acculturation play a relevant role in Subjective Wellbeing (Levy et al, 2020). Research on subjective well-being on Immigrants from Latin American Countries is in need as when migration is triggered by economic motivations it can be a stressful and traumatic event and may have a negative impact on mental health (Finklestein & Solomon, 2009).

#### **Future directions**

International cooperation among universities plays a significant role in teaching and research. Israel and Argentina have held a longtime bond both between states and academic institutions. Connecting professors and students from Tel Aviv University and the University of Buenos Aires seems like a promising bet for increasing research and knowledge, enriched by different points of view and cultural backgrounds. The papers included in this dossier are tokens of that promise. We will work on strengthening this collaboration in the future.

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