



CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr Rakoen M Maertens

BSc MSc PhD (Cantab) DPhil (Oxon) FCPS CPsychol

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Phone

Available on request.

Location

Oxford (United Kingdom)

Updated

23rd May 2024

Website

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Academic Positions

- [2023 - 2026] **J C Matthews Junior Research Fellow (JRF) in Psychology**
(New College, University of Oxford)
- [2023 - 2024] **Departmental Lecturer**
(Department of Experimental Psychology, University of Oxford)
- [2022 - 2024] **Guest Lecturer**
(Department of Psychology, University of Cambridge)
- [2022 - 2023] **Bye-Fellow in Behavioural Science**
(Downing College, University of Cambridge)
- [2022 - 2023] **Postdoctoral Research Associate**
(Cambridge Social Decision-Making Lab, University of Cambridge)

Education

- [2019 - 2022] **University of Cambridge**
PhD in Psychology (CSAR Award)
The Long-Term Effectiveness of Inoculation Against Misinformation
- [2017 - 2019] **Ghent University**
MSc in Experimental Psychology (Summa cum laude)
Best result in Department of Psychology with a final year average of 91%.
- [2017 - 2018] **Ghent University**
Honours Programme (Honours certificate)
One of the 20 selected students across Ghent University to join Honours Programme.
- [2014 - 2017] **Ghent University**
BSc in Experimental Psychology (Magna cum laude)

Innovation

- [2023] **AI-Based (GPT) Misinformation Susceptibility Test (MIST)**
Co-inventor of the world's first misinformation susceptibility test. Featured on the University of Cambridge homepage. **100k+ users**. [Press Release](#) | [Publication](#) | [Online Quiz](#)

Awards

- [2023 - 2024] **Google Jigsaw Grant #2**
Research grant to develop new tools to measure susceptibility to misinformation holistically and evaluate the various dimensions of intervention effectiveness with psychometric validity.
- [2023 - 2024] **WhatsApp Grant**
Research grant for the evaluation of a WhatsApp-based counter-misinformation intervention.
- [2020 - 2023] **Google Jigsaw Grant #1**
Helped secure a grant from Google for research on video-based inoculation against misinformation. Active as senior PhD researcher on the project.
- [2022] **CSAR PhD Award for Applied Research**
Winner of the CSAR award for applied research.
- [2020 - 2022] **UK Cabinet Office Grant**
Part of a grant from the UK Cabinet Office for the development and testing of a misinformation susceptibility test across cultures, as part of a large inter-governmental vaccine confidence

project. Active as senior PhD researcher on the grant.

[2019 - 2022] **Economic and Social Research Council DTP Award**

[2019 - 2022] **Cambridge Trust European Scholarship**

[2020] **Best Master Dissertation in Psychology in Belgium**

Belgian Association for Psychological Science (BAPS)

Royal Academies for Science and the Arts of Belgium (RASAB)

[2019] **Best Master Dissertation in Psychology
(Ghent University)**

Teaching & College Duties

Saïd Business School (University of Oxford)

[2023 - 2024] **Tutor (10 students)**

OBA Organisational Behaviour and Analysis (*10 students*)

Department of Experimental Psychology (University of Oxford)

[2023 - 2024] **Tutor (5 students)**

Social Psychology (*5 students*)

[2023 - 2024] **Lecturer**

Social Psychology

- 1) *Personality, Social Influence, and Norms*
- 2) *Misinformation & Influence and Persuasion in the Digital Age*
- 3) *Nudging & Applied Behavioural Insights*

Department of Psychology (University of Cambridge)

[2022 - 2024] **Lecturer**

PBS7 Advanced Topics in Social and Applied Psychology
Influence and Persuasion in the Digital Age

2022–2023 Lecturer Evaluation: 8.4/10

[2019 - 2024] **Supervisor (246 students)**

PBS3 Social and Developmental Psychology (*23 students*)

PBS5 Research Dissertation (*2 students*)

PBS7 Advanced Topics in Social and Applied Psychology
Applied Behavioural Insights (*26 students*)

Influence and Persuasion in the Digital Age (*43 students*)

3E6 Organisational Behaviour – Engineering Tripos (*107 students*)

MS1 Organisational Behaviour – Management Studies Tripos (*45 students*)

2021–2022 Supervisor Evaluation: 8.8/10

2020–2021 Supervisor Evaluation: 8.6/10

[2022 - 2023] **Examiner**

PBS3 Social and Developmental Psychology (*written exams*)

PBS7 Advanced Topics in Social and Applied Psychology (*oral exams*)
Influence and Persuasion in the Digital Age

Downing College (University of Cambridge)

[2022 - 2023] **Undergraduate Admissions Interviewer**

PBS Psychological and Behavioural Sciences

Memberships

- [2019 - 2024] **Chartered Member of the British Psychological Society (CPsychol)**
[2019 - 2024] **Member of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)**
[2020 - 2024] **Fellow of the Cambridge Philosophical Society (FCPS)**

Conferences Committees

- [2023 - 2024] SPSP 2024 Misinformation & Belief Science Preconference
[2022 - 2023] SPSP 2023 Misinformation & Belief Science Preconference
[2022 - 2023] RUC 2023 Risk and Uncertainty Conference
[2021 - 2022] CUBIT 2022 Cambridge Behavioural Insights Conference
[2021 - 2022] ESRC DTP 2022 Cambridge Conference of the Economic and Social Research Council

Reviewer Service

Applied Cognitive Psychology (ACP)
International Journal of Communication (IJOC)
Journal of Environmental Psychology (JEVP)
Journal of Experimental Psychology: General (JEP: General)
Journal of Social and Political Psychology (JSPP)
Nature Human Behaviour (NHB)
Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin (PSPB)
Social Science & Medicine (SSM)

Additional Training

- [2019 - 2023] **University of Cambridge**
Research Ethics | Ethics in Data Collection and Use | Issues in Measurement: Validity and Reliability | Psychometrics | Conducting Robust Behavioural Science
- [2014 - 2019] **Ghent University**
Analysis of Repeated Measures | Instruments of Experimental Psychology | Psychometrics | Research Methods in Psychology | Research Methods I | Research Project Experimental Psychology | Statistics I | Statistics II | Case Studies in the Analysis of Experimental Data
- [2018 - 2019] **Master's Thesis II** **Prof Frederik Anseel**
Can Inoculation Theory be Used to Combat Climate Change Misinformation?
- [2017 - 2018] **Master's Thesis I** **Prof Wim Notebaert**
Dismantling the Interaction Between Motor Preparation, Reward, and Task Difficulty: Evidence From TMS Research
- [2017 - 2018] **Research Project Experimental Psychology** **Prof Wim Notebaert**
How Probability of Meaningless Feedback Affects Attention: An Orienting Account
- [2015 - 2016] **Psychopathology and Affective Neuroscience Lab** **Prof Ernst Koster**
Research Assistant

Data Science

R (Advanced) | SPSS | C (Tscope5) | E-Prime | Python

Publications

Articles: 17 | Citations: 728 | *h*-index = 9 | *i10*-index = 9

Capewell, G*, **Maertens, R.***, Remshard, M., van der Linden, S., Compton, J., Lewandowsky, S., & Roozenbeek, J. (2024). *Misinformation interventions decay rapidly without an immediate post-test*. PsyArXiv. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/93ujx>

Kozyreva, A., Lorenz-Spreen, P., Herzog, S. M., Ecker, U. K., Lewandowsky, S., Hertwig, R., Ali, A., Bak-Coleman, J., Barzilai, S., Basol, M., Berinsky, A. J., Betsch, C., Cook, J., Fazio, L. K., Geers, M., Guess, A. M., Huang, H., Larreguy, H., **Maertens, R.**, Panizza, F., Pennycook, G., Rand, D. G., Rathje, S., Reifler, J., Schmid, P., Smith, M., Swire-Thompson, B., Szewach, P., van der Linden, S., & Wineburg, S. (2024). Toolbox of individual-level interventions against online misinformation. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 1–9. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-024-01881-0>

Leder, J., Schellinger, L., **Maertens, R.**, van der Linden, S., Chryst, B., & Roozenbeek, J. (2024). *Feedback exercises boost discernment and longevity for gamified misinformation interventions*. PsyArXiv. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/7k2mt>

Maertens, R., Roozenbeek, J., Simons, J., Lewandowsky, S., Maturo, V., Goldberg, B., Xu, R. & van der Linden, S. (2024). *Psychological booster shots targeting memory increase long-term resistance against misinformation*. PsyArXiv. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/6r9as>

Götz, F. M.*, **Maertens, R.***, Loomba, S., & van der Linden, S. (2023). Let the algorithm speak: How to use neural networks for automatic item generation in psychological scale development. *Psychological Methods*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1037/met0000540>

Loomba, S., **Maertens, R.**, Roozenbeek, J., Götz, F. M., van der Linden, S., & de Figueiredo, A. (2023). *Ability to detect fake news predicts sub-national variation in COVID-19 vaccine uptake across the UK*. medRxiv. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.05.10.23289764>

Maertens, R.*, Götz, F. M.*, Golino, H. F., Roozenbeek, J., Schneider, C. R., Kyrychenko, Y., Kerr, J. R., Stieger, S., McClanahan, W. P., Drabot, K., He, J., & van der Linden, S. (2023). The Misinformation Susceptibility Test (MIST): A psychometrically validated measure of news veracity discernment. *Behavior Research Methods*, 1–37. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13428-023-02124-2>

Traberg, C. S., Harjani, T., Basol, M., Biddlestone, M., **Maertens, R.**, Roozenbeek, J., & van der Linden, S. (2023). Prebunking against misinformation in the modern digital age. In T. D. Purnat, T. Nguyen, S. Briand (Eds.), *Managing infodemics in the 21st century* (pp. 99–111). Springer. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-27789-4_8

Roozenbeek, J., **Maertens, R.**, Herzog, S. M., Geers, M., Kurvers, R. H., Sultan, M., & van der Linden, S. (2022). Susceptibility to misinformation is consistent across question framings and response modes and better explained by myside bias and partisanship than analytical thinking. *Judgment and Decision Making*, 17(3), 547–573. <https://journal.sjdm.org/22/220228/jdm220228.pdf>

Uenal, F., Sidanius, J., **Maertens, R.**, Hudson, S. T. J., Davis, G. K., & Ghani, A. (2022). The roots of ecological dominance orientation: Assessing individual preferences for an anthropocentric and hierarchically organized world. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 81, Article 101783. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2022.101783>

Maertens, R., Roozenbeek, J., Basol, M., & van der Linden, S. (2021). Long-term effectiveness of inoculation against misinformation: Three longitudinal experiments. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*, 27(1), 1–16. <https://doi.org/10.1037/xap0000315> [Altmetric score 900+] [Selected for APA Spotlight]

Maertens, R., & van der Linden, S. (2021). A psychological vaccine against fake news. *Microbiologist*, 22(1), 14–17. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/349693716_A_Psychological_Vaccine_Against_Fake_News

Roozenbeek, J., **Maertens, R.**, McClanahan, W., & van der Linden, S. (2021). Disentangling item and testing effects in inoculation research on online misinformation: Solomon revisited. *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, 81(2), 340–362. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0013164420940378>

van der Linden, S., Cook, J., **Maertens, R.**, Goldberg, M. H., Kerr, J. R., Lewandowsky, S., Maibach, E., & Leiserowitz, A. (2021). *Do climate change consensus messages cause reactance? A comment on Chinn and Hart (2021)*. PsyArXiv. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/kqsfz>

van der Linden, S., Goldberg, M. H., **Maertens, R.**, Kerr, J. R., Maibach, E., & Leiserowitz, A. (2021). *The effects of consensus messages and the importance of a pre-test: A comment on Chinn and Hart (2021)*. PsyArXiv. <https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/6fua5>

van der Linden, S., Roozenbeek, J., **Maertens, R.**, Basol, M., Kácha, O., Rathje, S., & Steenbuch Traberg, C. (2021). How can psychological science help counter the spread of fake news? *Spanish Journal of Psychology*, 24, Article e25. <https://doi.org/10.1017/SJP.2021.23>

Maertens, R., Anseel, F., & van der Linden, S. (2020). Combatting climate change misinformation: Evidence for longevity of inoculation and consensus messaging effects. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 70, Article 101455. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2020.101455>

Tonkin, H., & **Maertens, R.** (Eds.). (2020). *Gvidilo al la 17 celoj por daŭripova evoluigo de Unuiĝintaj Nacioj*. Mondial. ISBN 9781595694102

Talks

Maertens, R.*, Götz, F. M.*, & Thalmayer, A.G.* (2024, February). *Psychology at the United Nations. Development session co-chaired* at the 2024 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), San Diego, CA, USA.

Fazio, L. K.*, & **Maertens, R.*** (2024, February). *Misinformation and belief science. Preconference co-chaired* at the 2024 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), San Diego, CA, USA.

Maertens, R. (2024, January). *The Psychology of Misinformation Understanding and Countering Misinformation Through a Behavioural Lens and AI. Invited talk* and panel member at the 2024 Frankfurt Days on Media Law, Frankfurt (Oder), Brandenburg, Germany.

Maertens, R. (2023, July). *La psikologio de misinformoj kaj miskomprenoj: Kiel protekti vin kaj altigi interkomprenon kaj pacan kunlaboron*. Talk presented at the 2023 World Esperanto Congress, Turin, Piedmont, Italy.

Maertens, R. (2023, May). *Towards a psychological vaccine against misinformation. Invited keynote speaker* at the 2023 Psych Young Researchers Day, UCLouvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium.

Maertens, R. (2023, March). *Can journalists give a "jab" against misinformation? Invited talk* and panel member at the 2023 World Conference of Science Journalists, virtual.

van der Linden, S., & **Maertens, R.** (2023, March). *New frontiers in the psychology of misinformation: Impacts on behaviour, cognitive mechanisms, and field experiments. Symposium co-chaired* at the 2023 International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS), Brussels, Belgium.

Maertens, R. (2023, March). *Psychological booster shots targeting memory increase long-term resistance against misinformation*. Talk presented at the 2023 International Convention of Psychological Science (ICPS), Brussels, Belgium.

Fazio, L. K.*, & **Maertens, R.*** (2023, March). *Misinformation and belief science. Preconference co-chaired* at the 2023 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), Atlanta, GA, USA. **[new preconference]**

Maertens, R. (2023, February). *Stimuli development*. Talk presented at the 2023 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), Atlanta, GA, USA.

Geers, M., & **Maertens, R.** (2023, March). *New frontiers in misinformation research. Symposium co-chaired* at the 2023 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), Atlanta, GA, USA.

- Maertens, R.** (2023, February). *Long-term effectiveness of inoculation against misinformation: Memory, threat, and motivation*. Talk presented at the 2023 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), Atlanta, GA, USA.
- Maertens, R.** (2022, December). *La psikologio de misinformoj kaj miskomprenoj: Kiel protekti vin kaj altigi interkomprenon kaj pacan kunlaboron*. Talk presented at the 2022 African Congress of Esperanto, Thiès, Senegal.
- Maertens, R.** (2022, August). *La psikologio de falsaj novaĵoj: kiel protekti sin kontraŭ la influo de misinformoj*. Talk presented at the 2022 World Esperanto Congress, Montreal, QC, Canada.
- Maertens, R., & Hall, A.** (2022, February). *Belief science: Misinformation susceptibility, science attitudes, and social motives*. **Symposium chaired** at the 2022 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), San Francisco, CA, USA. **[best attended symposium of SPSP 2022]**
- Maertens, R.** (2022, February). *The Misinformation Susceptibility Test (MIST): A psychometrically validated measure of news veracity discernment*. Talk presented at the 2022 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), San Francisco, CA, USA.
- van der Linden, S., & **Maertens, R.** (2021, February). *Fake news: Novel interventions to tackle the spread of misinformation*. **Symposium co-chaired** at the 2021 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP). Virtual. **[best attended symposium of SPSP 2021]**
- Maertens, R.** (2021, February). *Long-term effectiveness of inoculation against misinformation: Three longitudinal experiments*. Talk presented at the 2021 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), virtual.
- Maertens, R.** (2021, February). *Automated item generation: Using neural network based language models for scale development*. Talk presented at the 2021 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), virtual.
- Maertens, R.** (2021, January). *Pre-bunking: Long-term effectiveness of psychological inoculation against misinformation in two applied interventions*. Talk presented at the 2021 Annual Conference of the University of Cambridge Economic and Social Research Council Doctoral Training Programme, Cambridge, United Kingdom.
- Maertens, R.** (2020, May). *Combating climate change misinformation: Longevity of inoculation and consensus messaging effects*. Talk presented at the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Belgian Association of Psychological Sciences (BAPS). Virtual.
- Maertens, R.** (2020, February). *Inoculation theory: Long-term effectiveness of fake news vaccine; Two longitudinal experiments*. Poster presented at the 2020 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), New Orleans, LA, USA.
- Maertens, R.** (2020, February). *Combating climate change misinformation: Longevity of consensus and inoculation messaging effects*. Talk presented at the 2020 Annual Convention of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), New Orleans, LA, USA.
- Maertens, R.** (2020, January). *Long-term effectiveness of the fake news vaccine: Two longitudinal experiments*. Poster presented at the 2020 Conference on Research on Online Political Hostility (ROPH), Aarhus, Denmark.
- Maertens, R.** (2019, December). *Falsaj novaĵoj: Vakcino kontraŭ misinformado*. Talk presented at the 7th African Congress of Esperanto (AKE), Bujumbura, Burundi.
- Maertens, R.** (2019, April). **Invited keynote speaker at United Nations** Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC) Youth Forum (incl. meeting with Secretary-General António Guterres), UN Headquarters, New York City, NY, United States.
- Maertens, R.** (2017, November). **Speaker at the UNESCO plenary session**. 39th General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France.

Committees & Policy Work

- [2020 - 2024] **Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)**
Co-Founder and Co-Chair of the SPSP United Nations Committee
- [2020 - 2024] **Rotary Action Group for Addiction Prevention (RAG-AP)**
Senior Behavioural Scientist. Project Leader for the development and implementation of a behavioural insights and impact measurement toolkit. Supervisor of the Global Behavioural Science internship.
- [2016 - 2024] **Universal Esperanto Association (UEA)**
World Esperanto Youth Organisation (TEJO)
Representative to the United Nations and UNESCO. Member of the General Assembly and Commission for External Relations. Organiser of side event at Belgian Mission to the United Nations (High-Level Political Forum). Responsible for liaison between Belgian Delegation to the UN and UN-partnered NGOs. Meeting with Secretary-General António Guterres. Organised in-person presentations and workshops in Israel, Brazil, Burundi, France, Germany, South Korea, Togo, Portugal, Spain, Finland, Poland, Russia, and Slovakia.
- [2023 - 2024] **Oxford University Belgian Society (OUBS)**
Member of the Advisory Board (2023), Co-President (2024).
- [2023 - 2024] **Cambridge University Belgian Society (CUBS)**
Co-Founder of Task Force to re-establish the society.
- [2020 - 2023] **Cambridge University Behavioural Insights Team (CUBIT)**
Co-Founder and Member of the Committee
- [2017 - 2022] **United Nations Associations**
Committee member, advisor, and contributor to UN Associations of Cambridge, Ghent, Flanders, UK, and Europe, incl. work with the Atlantic Treaty Association (ATA).
- [2020 - 2021] **Department of Psychology (University of Cambridge)**
Postgraduate Student Representative.
- [2016 - 2018] **Faculty of Psychology & Educational Sciences (Ghent University)**
Student Representative, Faculty Board, and Working Group Internationalisation.
- [2016 - 2018] **Model United Nations**
Participant in the role of Delegate, Head Delegate, Vice Chair, and Director-General at Model United Nations conferences in Belgium (GhentMUN; BruxMUN), Panama (Harvard WorldMUN), and the UK (LIMUN; OxIMUN).
- [2016 - 2018] **Flemish Youth Council**
Contributor to Working Group on the United Nations.
- [2016 - 2017] **Flemish Union of Students (VVS)**
Contributor in General Assembly, Working Groups on Psychologist Policy and International Matters. Delegate to Board of Flemish Interuniversity Council (VLIR), Commission Internationalisation of Flemish Education Council (VLOR), and Working Group International Higher Education (VLOR).

Organisations Founded

- [2020] **Cambridge University Behavioural Insights Team**
Co-founder of platform within the University of Cambridge aiming to connect researchers and practitioners within the domain of behavioural science across different departments, with a focus on translating behavioural science into practical solutions.
- [2019] **United Nations Youth Platform of the United Kingdom**
Organisation uniting United Nations Youth Associations and Platforms. Co-founder and first Chairman of the Board of Strategic Advisors.
- [2017] **Ghent Model United Nations vzw**
Organisation that organises diplomatic training for young people. Main responsibilities included management of the GhentMUN conference. Co-founded the project and became its first President and Director-General.
- [2014] **Deduction**
Organisation implementing motivational psychology in an innovative and cooperative learning platform for university students. The organisation also provided training and workshops to students, aiming to boost intrinsic motivation towards studying and university. Co-founded the project in 2014 and became its first President.

Languages

English (British)	C2 - Primary Language	TOEFL iBT (116/120)
Dutch (Flemish)	C2 - Native Speaker	
French	C2 - Advanced Proficiency	CULP Certificate
Esperanto	C1 - Advanced Proficiency	CEFR Certified Exam
German	B1 - Basic Proficiency	

Sports

Krav Maga, Parkour, Polo, Rowing

Other

High Contributor Certificate at the Flemish Union of Students, Student Venture Recognition Certificate at Ghent University (UGent Student Entrepreneur), Diversity Coach at Ghent University (UGent Diversity Role Model), Business Admin in Flanders Certificate (VLAIO CEC Business Basics), Acting & Voice Techniques Course Certificate (WISPER Artistic Courses), Actor in High School (KABC School Theatre), Debater in High School (Flemish Debating Contest; Humanist Debating Contest), Public Speaker in High School (BBC ESU Public Speaking Awards; IES EU Politics Simulation), Glider Pilot Training (KBAC Glider Pilot Courses), Business Simulation in High School (VLAJO Business Simulation), Intercultural Communication Certificate (TEJO), International Leadership Certificate (TEJO), Voluntary Work in India (SISP Social Development Project).