Material Constraints Enabling Human Cognition

Fact Sheet

Project Information

MatCo
Grant agreement ID: 883811

DOI
10.3030/883811

EC signature date
15 September 2020

Funded under
EXCELLENT SCIENCE - European Research Council (ERC)

Total cost
€ 2 499 580,00

EU contribution
€ 2 499 580,00

Coordinated by
FREIE UNIVERSITAET BERLIN

Germany

Start date
1 October 2020

End date
30 September 2025

Project description

New biological models to answer long-standing questions in linguistics

Compared to our closest living relatives, who typically use fewer than 100 words, humans can build vocabularies of tens of hundreds of thousands of words. The EU-funded MatCo project will find out why. It will use novel insights from human neurobiology. These will be translated into mathematically exact computational models to find new answers to long-standing questions in cognitive science, linguistics and philosophy. The project will also explore how semantic meaning is implemented for gestures and words and, more specifically, for referential and categorical terms. To identify human cognitive capacities, MatCo will develop models
replicating structural differences between human and non-human primate brains. The results will shed light on the biologically constrained networks.

**Fields of science**

- natural sciences > biological sciences > zoology > mammalogy > primatology
- humanities > languages and literature > linguistics
- natural sciences > biological sciences > neurobiology > cognitive neuroscience
- social sciences > psychology > cognitive psychology
- humanities > philosophy, ethics and religion > philosophy

**Programme(s)**

H2020-EU.1.1. - EXCELLENT SCIENCE - European Research Council (ERC)  

**Topic(s)**

ERC-2019-ADG - ERC Advanced Grant

**Call for proposal**

ERC-2019-ADG

See other projects for this call

**Funding Scheme**

ERC-ADG - Advanced Grant

**Coordinator**

FREIE UNIVERSITAET BERLIN  

Net EU contribution  

€ 2 499 580,00
Beneficiaries (1)

FREIE UNIVERSITAET BERLIN
Germany
Net EU contribution
€ 2 499 580,00
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Kaiserswerther strasse 16-18
14195 Berlin
Region
Berlin > Berlin > Berlin
Activity type
Higher or Secondary Education Establishments
Links
Contact the organisation  Website  Participation in EU R&I programmes  HORIZON collaboration network
Other funding
€ 0,00