

Losing yourself in the restrictions of society

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Project:

The PhD-project addresses the role of institutional obligations and regimes in undermining personal choice and responsibility, and how such obligations affect the neurocognitive underpinnings of the sense of agency, that is, the pre-reflective experience of oneself being the author of one's own actions and resulting consequence in social and physical environments. We are also interested in how resistance to, and repeated experience with obligations impinge on these effects.

The project has two main objectives: (1) advancing a social-neurocognitive model that offers novel insights of human autonomy in societal context that are relevant for self-regulation, behavioral change and social behavior; and (2) developing tools to assess and distinguish the impact of institutional rules and regimes on sense of agency, responsibility and resistance. The project is part of a larger research program (Institutions for Open Societies) that aims to study and model how norms, rules and laws at the micro-macro level of institutions shape society at large.