

Human “super-recognizers” and automatic face recognition for policing



[Photo: Christophe Kuhn pour am@chele]

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Abstract

Over the past decade, the domain of face identity processing has seen a surging interest in inter-individual differences, alongside a focus on individuals with superior skills — so-called Super-Recognizers (SRs). Their study can provide valuable insights into brain-behavior relationships and advance our understanding of neural functioning. Despite increasing research and general interest, exactly how SRs should be identified and deployed — in the lab and real-world scenarios — currently remains unclear.

Here, I will summarize findings from collaborations with different international police agencies. Collectively, they emphasize the limited utility of tests developed for research purposes for personnel selection in policing. To provide a solution, I will present **beSure** — a bespoke assessment tool developed over the past 5 years to identify SRs via professionally relevant procedures and authentic police material among the 25K employees of the Berlin State Police. Finally, I will offer an outlook into what SR identification and deployment could look like in the future, using an integrative approach that combines neuroimaging and automatic solutions.

About the speaker

Prof. Dr. Meike Ramon is a cognitive neuroscientist funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF). She received a Diploma from the Ruhr-University Bochum (Germany) in 2006, with a major in clinical neuropsychology, followed by a PhD from the Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium), and then spent 5 years as a Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Glasgow (Scotland). After having joined the University of Fribourg (UniFR) in 2015, she was awarded a SNSF Promoting Women in Academia (PRIMA) grant in 2018. Since March 2019 Prof. Ramon is a Principal Investigator and Group Leader heading the Applied Face Cognition (AFC) Lab, which is funded by a PRIMA grant to investigate the Mechanisms of Superior Face Recognition. She has collaborations with several international security agencies, advises governments on issues related to face recognition and acts as a scientific advisor to the Berlin State Office of Criminal Investigation and Berlin Police. She is a founding member of the 500 Women Scientists in Bern, advisor in Simply Neuroscience's Action Potential Advising Program, Guest Editor with Neuropsychologia, Associate Editor with Swiss Psychology Open, and local node Leader in the Swiss Reproducibility Network.

Pour participer à cet événement en présentiel, il est nécessaire de s'inscrire via le site web

<https://tinyurl.com/ConfESC03032022> (l'accès est limité aux personnes disposant d'un certificat COVID-19).

Cette conférence sera également diffusée par webinaire Zoom: <https://unil.zoom.us/j/98856427955>