

# Taking an affective stance: How affectivity is mobilized in mediated political debates.

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Despite a rich and diverse literature on stance and stancetaking (Du Bois 2007; Englebretson 2007; Dancygier 2012), the role of gesture, posture, and prosody, as aspects of this communicative activity remains only scarcely studied. Moreover, stancetaking often becomes a vibrant *multimodal* activity when people are highly engaged affectively. This is the starting point for the argument presented in this talk and of an ongoing DFG/NCN research project (<http://mmstance.home.amu.edu.pl/>). Extending previous work on ‘expressive movement’ as a key concept for the analysis of multimodal phenomena (in face-to-face interaction and in audiovisual composition) multimodal stancetaking is considered as dynamic *interaffective* process (Kappelhoff & Müller 2011; Müller 2019; Müller & Kappelhoff 2018). Drawing on analyses of political debates in the German Bundestag, it will be illustrated how the concept of ‘expressive movement’ serves as an analytical tool to capture affective stance taking as a dynamic, multidimensional and multimodal movement gestalt displaying characteristic *affective profiles*. The talk concludes on the specific media-aesthetic dimension of taking an affective stance in mediated political debates – and suggests how affectivity is mobilized in audio-visual broadcasts of political debates.

## References

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