

# DR. NADJA-MIRA YOLCU

Esslingen, January 2026

## WORK ADDRESS

University of Mannheim  
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[Website](#)

## BRIEF PROFILE

- Post-doctoral researcher at the University of Mannheim; from 02/2026 Heidelberg University
- Focus on philosophy of language and mind – mainly psychological expressivism and pragmatics

## RESEARCH AREAS

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| AoS | Philosophy of Language and Mind (mainly psychological expressivism, pragmatics)  |
| AoC | Epistemology, Philosophy of Fiction, Thought Experiments, Semantics of Proper names and Descriptions, Wittgenstein, History of Analytic Philosophy |

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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|------------------------------|--|
| from 02/2026<br>(planned)    | <b>Post-Doctoral Researcher</b> , Heidelberg University<br>Chair of Theoretical Philosophy, principal: Prof. Dr. Jochen Briesen  |
| 05/2024–01/2026<br>(ongoing) | <b>Post-Doctoral Researcher</b> , University of Mannheim<br>Chair of Theoretical Philosophy/Philosophy of Language, principal: Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Freitag  |
| 07/2018–04/2024              | <b>Academic Staff Member &amp; Doctoral student</b> , University of Mannheim<br>Chair of Theoretical Philosophy/Philosophy of Language, principal: Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Freitag  |
| 04/2023–05/2023              | <b>Academic Staff Member</b> , Goethe University Frankfurt<br>Chair of Theoretical Philosophy, principal: Prof. Dr. Alexandra Zinke <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Short-time project work in the research project “Dimensions of Doubt”, PI: Alexandra Zinke</li></ul> |
| 01/2021–09/2021              | <b>Research Assistant</b> , University of Connecticut<br>Department of Philosophy, principal: Prof. Dr. Dorit Bar-On <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Research assistance for the project “Expression and Self-Knowledge”</li></ul>                                       |
| 10/2013–12/2017              | <b>Student Research Assistant</b> , University of Freiburg<br>Chair in Epistemology and Theory of Science, UCF, principal: Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Freitag  |

## EDUCATION

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09/2018–04/2024

### Doctoral Studies in Philosophy

Chair of Theoretical Philosophy/Philosophy of Language, University of Mannheim

- Dissertation “Expression and Negation: An Expressivist Account of Disavowals” (submitted 12/2022, defended 04/2024): *summa cum laude*
- Examiners: Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Freitag (University of Mannheim), Prof. Dr. Dorit Bar-On (University of Connecticut)

10/2015–07/2017

### BPhil in Philosophy (Master’s Degree)

University of Oxford, Trinity College

10/2012–05/2015

### Bachelor in Philosophy (75%), Psychology (25%)

Heidelberg University (advisor: Prof. Dr. Andreas Kemmerling)

## FUNDING AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

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### FUNDED GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS (total $\approx$ 52,600 EUR)

05/2025

Stipend, Baden-Württemberg/Connecticut Faculty Mobility Program  
stipend for travel and accommodation costs (2,250 EUR)  
for a short research visit at the University of Connecticut in October 2025

11/2019

Women Go Abroad – Mobility Grants for Young Female Researchers,  
University of Mannheim (5,000 EUR)  
for research stay at the University of Connecticut (March 2–April 24, 2020)

07/2019

IDEUM grant, University of Mannheim (500 EUR)  
participation in “The Norwegian Summer Institute on Language and Mind”

09/2015–07/2017

Study abroad scholarship, Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes (tuition fee contribution of 20,000 EUR; monthly maintenance grant of 350 EUR)

12/2012–07/2017

Scholar, Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes (German National Academic Foundation, Germany’s largest and most prestigious scholarship foundation) (monthly maintenance grant of 300 EUR)

### GRANT APPLICATIONS (PI)

12/2025 submitted

*Expressing the Mind: Language, Attitudes, and Reasons* (Olympia-Morata Program, Heidelberg University), proposal submitted

### SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS AND GRANTS

in preparation

Support for the research proposal for the project “Because We Give Reasons: An Expressivist Approach”, PI: Wolfgang Freitag, DFG, 3 years, volume roughly 314,500 EUR

- Literature review and co-writing of the proposal, including work schedule and budget plan

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|------|--|
| 2022 | Support for the research proposal for Start-up Funding by the University of Mannheim for the project “Reason and Expression”, PI: Wolfgang Freitag, granted: 8,300 EUR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Literature review and co-writing of the proposal</li> </ul>  |
| 2020 | Support for the research proposal for extension of the funding period for the project “Mind the Meaning: The Philosophy of Psychological Expressivism”, PI: Wolfgang Freitag, Fritz Thyssen Foundation, granted: 123,560 EUR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Literature review and co-writing of the proposal, including work schedule and budget plan</li> </ul> |
| 2020 | Support for the Funding Proposal for the Conference <i>Varieties of Philosophical Expressivism</i> (PI: W. Freitag)<br>Fritz Thyssen Foundation, granted: 9,000 EUR, GAP: 500 EUR  |
| 2019 | Support for the Funding Proposal for the Conference <i>Perspectives on First-Person Thought</i> (PI: W. Freitag)<br>DFG, granted: 3,500 EUR, GAP: 500 EUR  |

## RESEARCH VISITS AND AFFILIATIONS

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| 07/2020–today   | <b>Affiliated Member</b> , Research group “Expression, Communication and the Origins of Meaning”<br>Director: Prof. Dr. Dorit Bar-On, University of Connecticut  |
| 10/2021–09/2024 | <b>Member</b> , Network “Thinking About Suspension”<br>Coordinators: Prof. Dr. Verena Wagner (HU Berlin), Prof. Dr. Alexandra Zinke (University of Frankfurt)  |
| 04/2023–05/2023 | <b>Member</b> , Project “Dimensions of Doubt”<br>PI: Prof. Dr. Alexandra Zinke, Goethe University Frankfurt  |
| 07/2018–06/2022 | <b>Member</b> , Project “Mind the Meaning: The Philosophy of Psychological Expressivism,” PI: Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Freitag, University of Mannheim   |
| 03/2020–04/2020 | <b>Visiting Researcher</b> , Department of Philosophy, University of Connecticut<br>Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Dorit Bar-On, research stay for 8 weeks (from March 18 onwards digitally from abroad due to the global outbreak of Covid-19) |
| 07/2019–08/2019 | <b>Participant</b> , The Norwegian Summer Institute on Language and Mind: Cognition, acquisition, and representation, University of Oslo (summer school, two weeks)  |

## PROFICIENCIES

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|---------------|--|
| 10/2024–today | <b>Baden-Württemberg Certificate for Teaching and Learning at University Level</b> , University of Mannheim <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Module 1 &amp; 2 completed, Module 3 ongoing</li> </ul> |
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## PUBLICATIONS (total 8, peer-reviewed 5 (\*))

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accepted\* “Expressing the Absence of Emotion” (for special issue “Expressive Acts” of *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*)

2026\* “Negative Avowals and Expressing Absence”, *Synthese*.

2025\* “Moores Paradox”. WSK Semantik & Pragmatik, Dictionary, in German (with W. Freitag).

2024 *Expression and Negation: An Expressivist Account of Disavowals*. Doctoral Dissertation, University of Mannheim Library.

2022\* “Vindicating Avowal Expressivism: A Note on Rosenthal’s Performance-Conditional Equivalence Thesis”, *Phenomenology and Mind*, 188–198.

2021\* “An expressivist solution to Moorean paradoxes”, together with Wolfgang Freitag, *Synthese*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-020-03012-4>.

2019 *Edmund L. Gettier: Is Justified True Belief Knowledge? / Ist wahre, gerechtfertigte Überzeugung Wissen?* German translation and commentary, edited together with Marc Andree Weber, Reclam.

2015 “Eine kurze Einleitung in die Freiburger Philosophie”, with Katharina Kraus, Chinese translation in: Huang Yusheng (ed.), *Tsinghua Studies in Western Philosophy* vol. 1 no. 2, Tsinghua University Beijing, China.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

(in preparation, submission planned: 02/26) “Illocution and Expression: The Case of Assertion” (with W. Freitag)

(in preparation, submission planned: 03/2026) “Expressing Suspension of Belief”

(in preparation, advanced) “Expressing Epistemic Reasons”

(in preparation, advanced) Several entries for WSK Semantik & Pragmatik, in German: Eigenname, Einstellungsbekundung (avowal), Expressivismus (with W. Freitag), Gattungsname, Kausalität (with W. Freitag), Kausaltheorie der Bezugnahme, Kausalkette,

(in preparation, submission planned: 03/2026) Book Proposal for *Expression and Negation: An Expressivist Account of Disavowals*. Based on the Doctoral Dissertation.

(in preparation) “The Status of Fictive Utterances: Plot Twists as an Argument for the Assertion View?”

## **PRESENTATIONS** (total 45; invited 13 (°), peer reviewed 14 (\*))

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01/2026 (planned) *Expressing Suspension of Belief*, Job Talk, HU Berlin

01/2026° *Expressing Epistemic Reasons*, RMN Epistemology Workshop Heidelberg–Mannheim–Cologne, Heidelberg University

12/2025° *The Reason-Giving ‘Because’* (joint work with Wolfgang Freitag), Bochum Language Colloquium, University of Bochum

12/2025° *Negative Avowals: Expressing Absence and Expressing Suspension*, Goethe University Frankfurt, pre-read and talk in research seminar (Prof. Dr. Alexandra Zinke & Prof. Dr. Cornelia Ebert)

11/2025 *Ebenen des ‘Weil’* (with Wolfgang Freitag), Workshop on “Because” with Hans Rott, Eric Raidl and Werner Frey, University of Mannheim

10/2025° *Expressing Suspension of Belief*, ECOM Speaker Series, University of Connecticut

10/2025° *The Reason-Giving “Because”* (with Wolfgang Freitag), Departmental Brown Bag Talk, University of Connecticut

09/2025\* *The Reason-Giving “Because”* (with Wolfgang Freitag), Conference “GAP.12”, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf

07/2025 *Expression and Negation: An Expressivist Account of Negative Avowals*, Job Talk, University of Tübingen

06/2025 *The Status of Fictive Utterances: Plot Twists as an Argument for the Assertion View?* Job Talk, Heidelberg University

05/2025° *The Reason-Giving “Because”* (with Wolfgang Freitag), Workshop “WiPP”, Saarland and Heidelberg University

05/2025\* *The Reason-Giving “Because”* (with Wolfgang Freitag), Conference “PhiLang 2025,” Łódź

05/2025° *Expressing Suspension*, Colloquium of Theoretical Philosophy (Alexandra Zinke), Goethe University Frankfurt

01/2025° *Ausdruck und Negation: Eine expressivistische Analyse negativer Selbstzuschreibungen mentaler Zustände*, Gastvortrag (Guest lecture in German), Saarland University

12/2024° *Expressing Suspension*, Colloquium of Theoretical Philosophy (Jochen Briesen), Heidelberg University

12/2024 *The Reason-Giving “Because”*, Mannheim-Frankfurt Meeting, University of Mannheim

10/2024 *The Reason-Giving “Because”,* Workshop with Manfred Krifka, University of Mannheim

09/2024\* *Expressing Suspension with Disavowals,* XXVI. Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Philosophie (DKPhil 2024)

06/2024° *Negative Arowals and Expressing Absence,* Workshop “WiPP”, Saarland University

03/2024\* *Précis of my dissertation “Expression and Negation: An Expressivist Account of Disavowals,”* book symposium at the G27 group meeting, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg

09/2023\* *Expressivism for Negative Arowals,* Conference “ECAP.11,” University of Vienna (talk withdrawn)

05/2023\* *The Expressive “Because”* (with Wolfgang Freitag), Conference “PhiLang 2023,” Łódź (talk withdrawn)

04/2023° *Negative Selbstzuschreibungen mentaler Zustände: Eine expressivistische Analyse,* Guest lecture, Saarland University (talk withdrawn)

09/2022\* *Expressive Denegation: Presenting myself as not being in a mental state,* Conference “GAP.11: Philosophie & Öffentlichkeit”, HU Berlin

07/2022° *Psychological Expressivism and Expressive Denegation,* Workshop “Rhineland Expressivism Workshop Event (REWE)”, University of Bonn (online)

05/2022 *Psychological Expressivism and Expressive Denegation,* Workshop “Varieties of Philosophical Expressivism”, Mannheim

04/2022° *Psychological Expressivism* (together with Felix Bräuer) Workshop “Mind the Meaning: The Philosophy of Psychological Expressivism”, Tsinghua University of Beijing (online)

02/2022\* *Expressive Denegation,* ECOM Graduate Conference “Kinds of Expression”, University of Connecticut (online)

09/2021\* *Vindicating Arowal Expressivism: A Note on Rosenthal’s Performance-Conditional Equivalence Thesis,* 2021 San Raffaele School of Philosophy “Mind, Language, and the First-Person Perspective”, Milan (online)

09/2021\* *No Expressivism for Disavowals? I don’t think so.* XXV. Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Philosophie (DGPhil 2020/2021; online)

05/2021\* *Illocution and Expression* (with Wolfgang Freitag), PhiLang 2021, Łódź (online)

05/2021\* *The Dual Use of Arowals and its Methodological Relevance for Empirical Research* (together with Felix Bräuer), First-Person Science Consciousness, Witten/Herdecke University (online)

03/2021 *Disavowals: A Challenge for Expressivism?* ECOM Spotlight Series, University of Connecticut (online)

09/2020 *An Expressivist Solution to Moorean Paradoxes* (together with Wolfgang Freitag), Workshop “Mind the Meaning: The Philosophy of Psychological Expressivism”, Tsinghua University of Beijing  
(postponed to 2021/22 due to the Covid-19 outbreak)

09/2020\* *No Expressivism for Disavowals? I don't think so.* XXV. Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Philosophie (DGPhil 2020)  
(postponed to 2021/22 due to the Covid-19 outbreak)

05/2020 *TBA* (together with Wolfgang Freitag), Workshop “Varieties of Philosophical Expressivism”, Mannheim  
(postponed to 2021/22 due to the Covid-19 outbreak)

03/2020 *Solving Moore's Paradox: Going Expressivist* (joint work with Wolfgang Freitag), Expression, Meaning, and Self-Knowledge (graduate seminar, Instructor: Prof Dr Dorit Bar-On), University of Connecticut

10/2019\* *Wittgenstein's True Solution to Moore's Paradox* (joint work with Wolfgang Freitag), 130 years Ludwig Wittgenstein: 1889-2019, Sofia

09/2019 *An Expressivist Solution to Moorean Paradoxes* (together with Wolfgang Freitag), Mini Workshop with Dorit Bar-On, Mannheim

09/2019\* *Is there Expressive Denegation?* SOPhiA 2019, Salzburg

07/2019 *Disavowals and Expressive Denegation* (poster presentation), Summer School “The Norwegian Summer Institute on Language and Mind: Cognition, acquisition and representation”, Oslo

05/2019 *Is there Expressive Denegation?* Workshop “Perspectives on First-Person Thought”, Mannheim

05/2019\* *Is there Expressive Denegation?* PhiLang 2019, Lódź

09/2018\* *Explicit Cancellability of Conversational Implicatures*, SOPhiA 2018, Salzburg

11/2016 *A Reply to Stone's Unlucky Gettier Cases*, Ockham Society, Oxford

## TEACHING

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| Summer term 2026<br>(planned) | <i>Life, Death and Freedom: The Philosophy of Suicide</i> , seminar, Heidelberg University, undergraduate level, in German<br><i>Philosophical Perspectives on Digital Communication</i> , seminar, Heidelberg University, undergraduate level, in German |
| Winter term 2025              | <i>Introduction to Metaphysics</i> , seminar, University of Mannheim undergraduate level, in German<br><i>Philosophy of Fiction</i> , seminar, University of Mannheim undergraduate level, in German  |
| Spring term 2025              | <i>Introduction to Formal Logic</i> , Übung, University of Mannheim undergraduate level, in German<br><i>Philosophy of Language: Pragmatics</i> , seminar, University of Mannheim undergraduate level, in German  |
| Winter term 2024              | <i>Philosophy of Language: Semantics</i> , seminar, University of Mannheim undergraduate level, in German   |
| Spring term 2024              | <i>Thought Experiments</i> , seminar, University of Mannheim undergraduate level, in German   |
| Spring term 2023              | <i>The Philosophy of Fiction</i> , seminar, University of Mannheim undergraduate level, in English<br><i>Speech Act Theory and Political Philosophy</i> , seminar, University of Mannheim undergraduate level, in English                                 |
| Winter term 2022              | <i>Introduction to Analytic Philosophy</i> , seminar, University of Mannheim undergraduate level, in English  |
| Spring term 2022              | <i>Assertion: Insincerity, Lies and Bullshit</i> , seminar, University of Mannheim with Dr. Helge Rückert, graduate level, in English   |
| Winter term 2021              | <i>Introduction to Epistemology</i> , seminar, University of Mannheim undergraduate level, in English   |
| Winter term 2019              | <i>Analytic Philosophy: seminal papers</i> , seminar, University of Mannheim undergraduate level, in English  |
| Spring term 2019              | <i>Knowledge and Skepticism</i> , seminar, University of Mannheim with PD Dr. Marc Andree Weber, undergraduate level, in German   |
| Spring term 2018              | <i>Two-hour weekly tutorials</i> , accompanying Prof. W. Freitag's lecture "Perspectives on Science", University of Freiburg, in English (2x)   |
| 10/2013–09/2015               | <i>Two-hour weekly tutorials</i> , accompanying the lecture "Introduction to formal logic", Heidelberg University, in German (3x, once for PD Dr. Marc Andree Weber, twice for Dr. Miriam Wildenauer)   |

## ORGANIZED WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

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| 11/2025  | <i>“Because”</i> : <i>Philosophy, Logic and Linguistics</i> , Workshop with Hans Rott, Eric Raidl and linguist Werner Frey, University of Mannheim (with Wolfgang Freitag)  |
| 03/2025  | <i>Workshop with Wolfgang Spohn</i> , University of Mannheim (with Wolfgang Freitag and Alexandra Zinke)  |
| 10/2024  | <i>Workshop with Manfred Krajka</i> , University of Mannheim (with W. Freitag)  |
| 05/2023  | <i>Workshop with Mitchell Green</i> , University of Mannheim (with W. Freitag and F. Bräuer)  |
| 05/2022<br>(originally<br>planned for<br>2020; postponed<br>due to Covid-19) | <i>Varieties of Philosophical Expressivism</i> , International Conference, University of Mannheim (with Wolfgang Freitag & Felix Bräuer)<br>External Speakers: Stephen Barker, Jochen Briesen, Matthew Chrisman, Katharina Felka, Stephen Finlay, Luca Incurvati, Christa Peterson, Benjamin Schnieder, Mark Schroeder, Michael Scott<br>Acquired funding: FTS 9,000 EUR, GAP 500 EUR                             |
| 09/2019  | <i>Mini Workshop with Dorit Bar-On</i> , University of Mannheim (together with Wolfgang Freitag, Marc Andree Weber and Joachim Bromand)   |
| 05/2019  | <i>Perspectives on First-Person Thought</i> , International Conference, University of Mannheim (together with Wolfgang Freitag, Katharina Kraus, Marc Andree Weber and Maik Niemeck)<br>External Speakers: José Luis Bermúdez, Manuel García-Carpintero, Mitchell Green, Daniel Gutzmann, Tim Henning, Max Kölbel, Ursula Renz, Gianfranco Soldati, Eunike Wetzel<br>Acquired funding: DFG 3,600 EUR, GAP 500 EUR |

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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| 07/2024–today | <b>Member, editorial board</b> of journal <i>Zeitschrift für philosophische Literatur</i>   |
| 10/2023–today | <b>Referee Work:</b> <i>Theoria</i> , <i>Philosophia</i> , <i>Philosophical Quarterly</i> , <i>Oxford Handbook of Expressivity</i> , <i>Review of Philosophy and Psychology</i> |
| 01/2026       | <b>Reviewer</b> , ECOM Kinds of Agency Graduate Conference 2026   |
| 01/2023       | <b>Reviewer</b> , ECOM Kinds of Actions Graduate Conference 2023<br>Areas: Philosophy of Action, Philosophy of Mind   |
| 07/2017       | <b>Reviewer</b> , Oxford Graduate Philosophy Conference 2017<br>Areas: Philosophy of Language, Epistemology   |

## COMMITTEE WORK AND ACADEMIC SELF-GOVERNMENT

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11/2025–today      Member of the selection committee for the Junior Professorship in Political Philosophy, University of Mannheim

2024–today      Member of the task force “Bachelor KUWI”, University of Mannheim

- Redesign of the study program “Bachelor Kultur und Wirtschaft”