

Sustainability | Individual communication

IC - (21053) - CLIMATE CHANGE RISK PERCEPTION MODEL IN A SPANISH SAMPLE

Lucía Poggio¹; Jose Miguel Hernández¹; Raquel Pérez-López²; Laura Pasca¹; Juan Ignacio Aragonés¹

1 - Social Psychology department, Faculty of Psychology, Universidad Complutense de Madrid (SPAIN); 2 - Department of Research and Psychology in Education, Faculty of Education, Universidad Complutense de Madrid

Background and objectives

Climate change is a natural phenomenon that also has an anthropogenic component. The effects of this phenomenon are peculiar, difficult to observe, have global repercussions and affect those who are not yet able to make decisions. These characteristics pose a challenge to study it from a psychological perspective, i.e. how people perceive this phenomenon.

Process and methods (for empirical research)

This study is based on the adaptation to Spanish of the socio-psychological model of climate change risk perception (Van der Linden, 2015) to predict the risk perception of a Spanish sample. For this purpose, the questionnaire underwent several independent translation processes and a subsequent review by a mixed committee of language and field experts.

The model developed by Van der Linden was pilot tested with a sample of 217 Spanish university students who completed the questionnaire online.

Main results (or main arguments in the case of critical reviews)

A multiple regression analysis has made it feasible to establish relationships between the risk perception criterion variable and the cognitive, experiential, sociocultural and sociodemographic variables.

Implications for research and practice/policy | Importance and originality of the contribution

The development of this model in the Spanish population allows theorizing explanations of mitigation behaviors, as well as the study of the theoretical and practical implications of risk communication, and possible comparisons between different nationalities and social groups.

Palavras-chave : Climate change, Risk perception, risk communication