

What Explains the Belief in Conspiracy Theories? Composite Concepts as a New Approach to Studying Conspiracy Theories

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Section 1 – Extended results

Extended results Table 1 | Results of regression models

	Model 1			Model 2			Model 3				Model 4			
<i>Predictors</i>	<i>Est.</i>	<i>std. Beta</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>Est.</i>	<i>std. Beta</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>Est.</i>	<i>std. Beta</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>std. p</i>	<i>Est.</i>	<i>std. Beta</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>std. p</i>
(Intercept)	0.42	0.08	<0.001	0.5	0.01	<0.001	0.37	-0.02	<0.001	0.269	0.34	-0.06	<0.001	0.004
Gender (Reference = Man)	0	0	0.955	-0	-0.04	0.002	-0	-0.04	0.004	0.004	-0	-0.04	0.003	0.003
Age	0.08	0.1	<0.001	0.07	0.1	<0.001	0.08	0.1	<0.001	<0.001	0.2	0.1	<0.001	<0.001
Secondary edu. (Reference = Primary)	-0	-0.14	<0.001	-0	-0.04	0.201	-0	-0.03	0.214	0.214	-0	-0.03	0.241	0.241
Tertiary edu. (Reference = Primary)	-0	-0.14	0.002	0	0	0.96	0	0.01	0.882	0.882	0	0	0.986	0.986
Size of municipality	-0	-0.05	0.001	-0	-0.03	0.022	-0	-0.03	0.006	0.006	-0	-0.03	0.006	0.006
Net pers. income	-0.1	-0.09	<0.001	-0	-0.04	0.001	-0	-0.04	0.001	0.001	-0	-0.04	0.002	0.002
Cognitive reflection test	-0.1	-0.11	<0.001	0.01	0.02	0.106	0.01	0.02	0.177	0.177	0.01	0.02	0.162	0.162
Information literacy	-0.2	-0.18	<0.001	-0	-0.05	0.001	-0	-0.05	<0.001	<0.001	-0.1	-0.06	<0.001	<0.001
Anxiety	0.1	0.11	<0.001	-0	-0.01	0.485	-0	-0.01	0.444	0.444	-0	-0.01	0.66	0.66
Personal need for structure	-0	-0.02	0.224	-0.1	-0.05	<0.001	-0.1	-0.05	<0.001	<0.001	-0.1	-0.05	<0.001	<0.001
Macro-social adhesion (MSA)				-0.7	-0.57	<0.001	-0.3	-0.57	<0.001	<0.001	-0.2	-0.56	0.009	<0.001
Pseudoscientific spirituality (PS)				0.23	0.23	<0.001	0.2	0.22	0.012	<0.001	0	0.23	0.965	<0.001
Media consumption orientation (MCO)				0.23	0.12	<0.001	0.4	0.13	<0.001	<0.001	0.43	0.13	<0.001	<0.001
MSA : PS							-0.2	-0.04	0.004	0.004	-0.2	-0.03	0.034	0.034
MSA:MCO							-0.6	-0.05	<0.001	<0.001	-0.6	-0.06	<0.001	<0.001
PS : MCO							0.3	0.03	0.014	0.014	0.24	0.03	0.048	0.048
PS^2											0.21	0.04	<0.001	<0.001
MSA : AGE_R											-0.3	-0.06	<0.001	<0.001
Observations	3443			3443			3443				3443			
R ² / R ² adjusted	0.138 / 0.136			0.525 / 0.523			0.534 / 0.531				0.540 / 0.537			

Extended results Table 2 | Frequency and wording of items included in the BCT scale. Items that are included in the reduced scale containing only statements referring to a secret plot are highlighted.

Cluster	Item	Wording	Strongly agree	Rather agree	About half-half	Rather disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Health and history	Q1A_R1	5G transmitters cause significant harm to human health.	4%	7%	12%	25%	26%	26%
	Q1A_R2	Information about serious harmful side effects of COVID-19 vaccination is being deliberately withheld.	18%	18%	19%	22%	14%	8%
	Q1A_R3	Trails behind planes contain secretly added dangerous chemical or biological agents.	3%	4%	8%	21%	45%	18%
	Q1A_R4	There is a lot of evidence suggesting that Princess Diana was murdered and that her accident was staged.	7%	18%	17%	22%	15%	21%
	Q1A_R5	Western medicine refuses to address the causes of disease, only dealing with the consequences. It is essential for a healthy body that one harmonizes the mind and works with the energies of nature.	13%	21%	30%	16%	8%	10%
<i>Cultural threats to European civilization</i>	Q2A_R1	Illegal migration from African countries is an organized operation designed to achieve the domination of Europe by half-breeds.	9%	13%	17%	28%	22%	13%
	Q2A_R2	Islam is a totalitarian ideology that proclaims the subjugation of all cultures and the establishment of Sharia law.	21%	25%	17%	12%	6%	18%
	Q2A_R3	The adoption of the so-called Istanbul Convention on combating violence against women and domestic violence will lead directly to the destruction of the traditional family.	4%	5%	8%	18%	38%	26%
	Q2A_R4	The billionaire George Soros is trying to subvert European states and their cultures.	5%	5%	8%	14%	15%	54%
<i>New world order</i>	Q2A_R5	The world is being directed by hidden elites that are more powerful than individual governments; politicians are only their puppets.	12%	18%	20%	20%	17%	12%
	Q3A_R1	The results of the 2020 US election were rigged to help Joe Biden win over Donald Trump.	5%	7%	10%	24%	29%	25%
	Q3A_R2	The 9/11/2001 attacks on the New York skyscrapers were the work of the US Government or the secret services.	4%	8%	11%	23%	35%	20%
	Q3A_R3	The COVID-19 pandemic was invented as an excuse to control people.	9%	11%	14%	20%	38%	7%
	Q3A_R4	COVID-19 vaccination is part of a plan to globally reduce the number of people on Earth.	9%	9%	11%	19%	41%	10%
	Q3A_R5	There is a secret society of satanist pedophiles that tried to overthrow former US President Donald Trump.	2%	2%	3%	13%	37%	43%
<i>Pro-Russian, Czech specific narratives</i>	Q4A_R1	Russia was pushed into the war in Ukraine because of hostile actions by NATO countries.	5%	6%	10%	16%	51%	12%
	Q4A_R2	Western civilization is corrupt, while Russia is saving traditional values and the family.	2%	2%	8%	13%	68%	7%
	Q4A_R3	The Velvet Revolution in 1989 was pre-arranged.	9%	15%	17%	21%	19%	19%
	Q4A_R4	The results of the 2023 presidential election in the Czech Republic were rigged.	7%	7%	7%	16%	53%	9%
	Q4A_R5	Slavic nations are like brothers and sisters, and Russia is defending their interests.	4%	5%	10%	16%	52%	14%

Extended results Table 3 | Frequency and wording of items included in the Pseudoscientific spirituality (PS) scale

Concept	Item	Wording	Strongly agree	Rather agree	Rather disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Eco-awareness spirituality	Q10_1	I meditate to gain access to my inner spirit.	4%	18%	24%	39%	15%
	Q10_2	I live in harmony with nature.	8%	49%	24%	8%	10%
	Q10_3	I believe there is a connection between all things that I cannot see but can sense.	10%	32%	22%	20%	16%
	Q10_4	My life is a process of becoming.	18%	46%	13%	9%	14%
	Q10_5	I believe in a Higher Power/Universal Intelligence.	11%	28%	22%	24%	16%
	Q10_6	The earth is sacred.	11%	30%	19%	18%	23%
	Q10_7	I use silence to get in touch with myself.	11%	31%	25%	22%	10%
	Q10_8	I have a relationship with a Higher Power/Universal Intelligence.	4%	13%	25%	39%	20%
	Q10_9	My spirituality gives me inner strength.	7%	22%	23%	29%	20%
	Q10_10	My faith in a Higher Power/Universal Intelligence helps me cope with challenges in my life.	7%	21%	24%	33%	15%
	Q10_11	Prayer is an integral part of my spiritual nature.	5%	9%	19%	57%	10%
	Q10_12	I often take time to assess my life choices as a way of living my spirituality.	4%	20%	30%	32%	14%
Pseudoscientific beliefs	Q11_1	All the cells of our body store memories (cellular memories), both our own and those of our ancestors.	13%	43%	14%	6%	24%
	Q11_2	The collective memory inherited and shared by the organisms belonging to the same species ("morphic field" or also "morphic resonance") explains several biological phenomena.	7%	26%	12%	6%	49%
	Q11_3	Osteopathy and/or chiropractic are scientifically backed branches of physiotherapy.	9%	33%	9%	4%	45%
	Q11_4	There are areas of our body surface, such as the feet, hands, and/or ears in which we find representations of our entire anatomy.	15%	40%	14%	6%	26%
	Q11_5	While it is true that evolution is a fact, there are issues that require an intelligent intervention to be explained.	12%	33%	20%	9%	26%
	Q11_6	It has been scientifically proven that some people have extrasensory abilities (such as telepathy or precognition).	15%	44%	16%	7%	18%
	Q11_7	Due to well-demonstrated biological reasons, negative emotions and unsolved conflicts or traumas increase the probability of having cancer.	15%	42%	14%	5%	25%
	Q11_8	There is archeological evidence of ancient contacts with "astronauts" or "space visitors" (e.g., in cultures such as Sumerian, Egyptian, Mayan, and Nazca).	11%	32%	19%	9%	28%

Extended results Table 4 | Frequency and wording of items included in the Media consumption orientation (MCO)

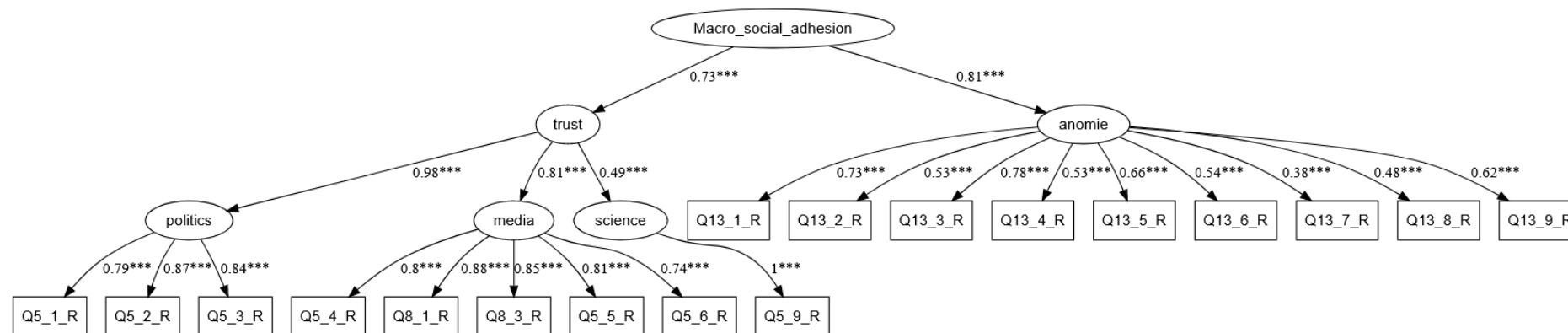
Concept	Item	Wording	Many times a day (more than 2 times)	1–2 times a day	Several times a week	About once a week	Less often	Never
Mainstream media consumption	Q6_2	Czech television (CT1, CT2, CT24...)	11%	18%	27%	13%	19%	11%
	Q6_3	Czech radio (Radiožurnál, Plus, Dvojka...)	5%	7%	13%	11%	30%	34%
	Q6_4	Daily newspapers such as Lidové noviny, Hospodářské noviny, Právo, Deník, MF DNES	2%	5%	11%	12%	33%	38%
	Q6_6	Weekly magazines such as Respekt, Reflex	1%	2%	5%	9%	34%	50%
	Q6_8	News websites such as Seznam zprávy, iDNES, Novinky, Aktuálně	21%	24%	25%	11%	12%	7%
	Q6_9	News websites such as Echo24, Deník N, Deník Referendum, Forum 24	2%	4%	10%	11%	28%	45%
Alternative media consumption	Q6_10	News websites such as Parlamentní listy	0%	1%	4%	7%	24%	64%
	Q6_11	News websites such as Aeronet, Sputnik, AC24	0%	1%	1%	2%	13%	83%
	Q6_13	Messaging services such as Telegram, WhatsApp	13%	9%	12%	7%	19%	39%
	Q6_14	Emails from friends and acquaintances	13%	16%	19%	10%	23%	19%

Extended results Table 5 | Frequency and wording of items included in the scale of institutional trust that is part of macro-social adhesion (MSA)

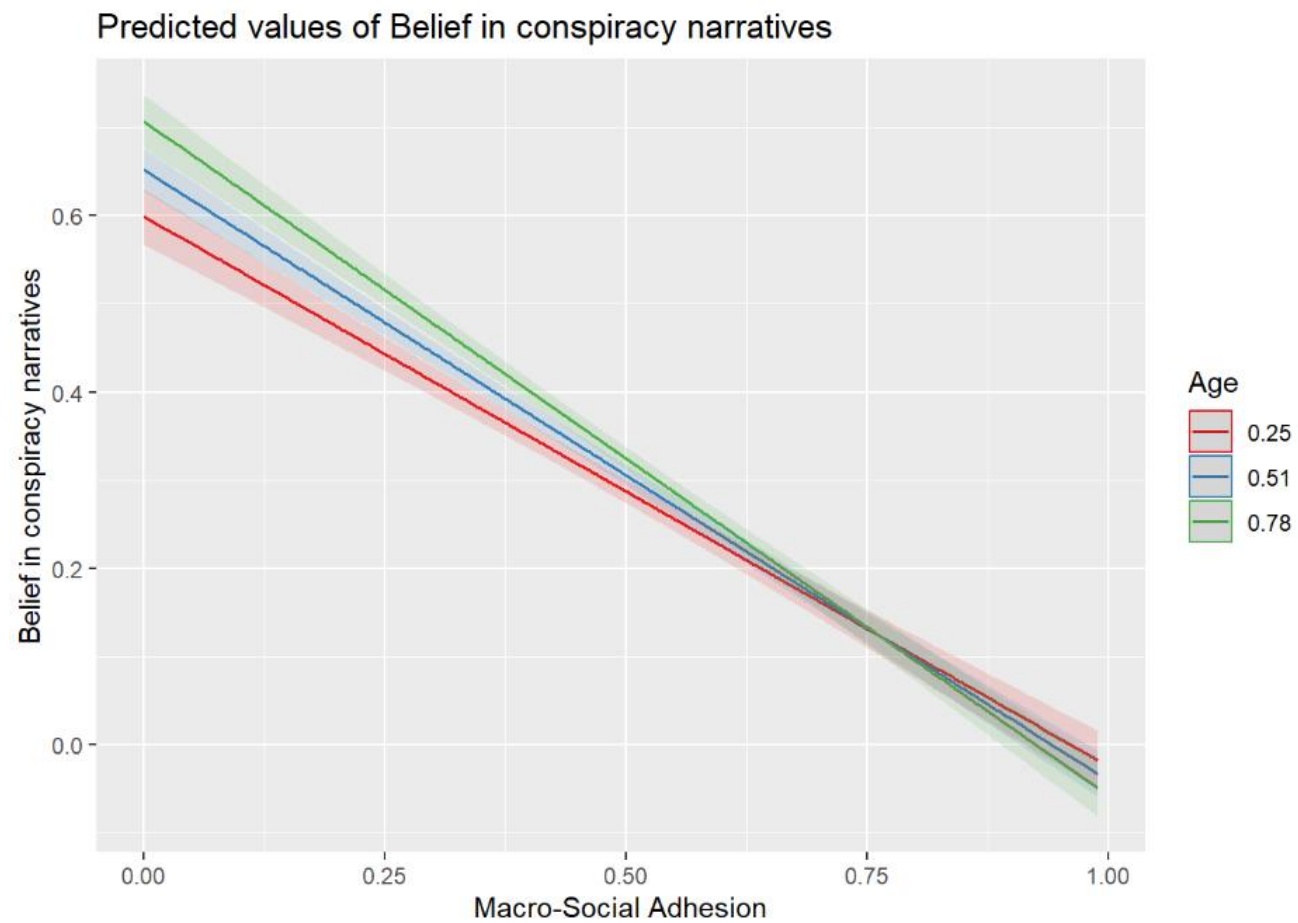
Concept	Item	Wording	Strongly trust	Somewhat trust	Somewhat distrust	Strongly distrust	Don't know
Trust in political institutions	Q5_1	The President of the Czech Republic	14%	41%	19%	14%	11%
	Q5_2	The Government of the Czech Republic	2%	24%	31%	38%	5%
	Q5_3	The Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic	1%	20%	36%	35%	7%
Trust in media	Q5_4	The press	1%	32%	41%	19%	7%
	Q5_5	The television	1%	34%	38%	20%	6%
	Q5_6	The radio	3%	45%	33%	10%	9%
	Q8_1	Public service television (Czech Television)	12%	42%	22%	17%	7%
	Q8_3	Public service radio (Czech Radio)	10%	38%	22%	14%	16%
Trust in scientists	Q5_9	Scientists	21%	63%	9%	2%	6%

Extended results Table 6 | Frequency and wording of items included in the scale of anomie that is part of macro-social adhesion (MSA)

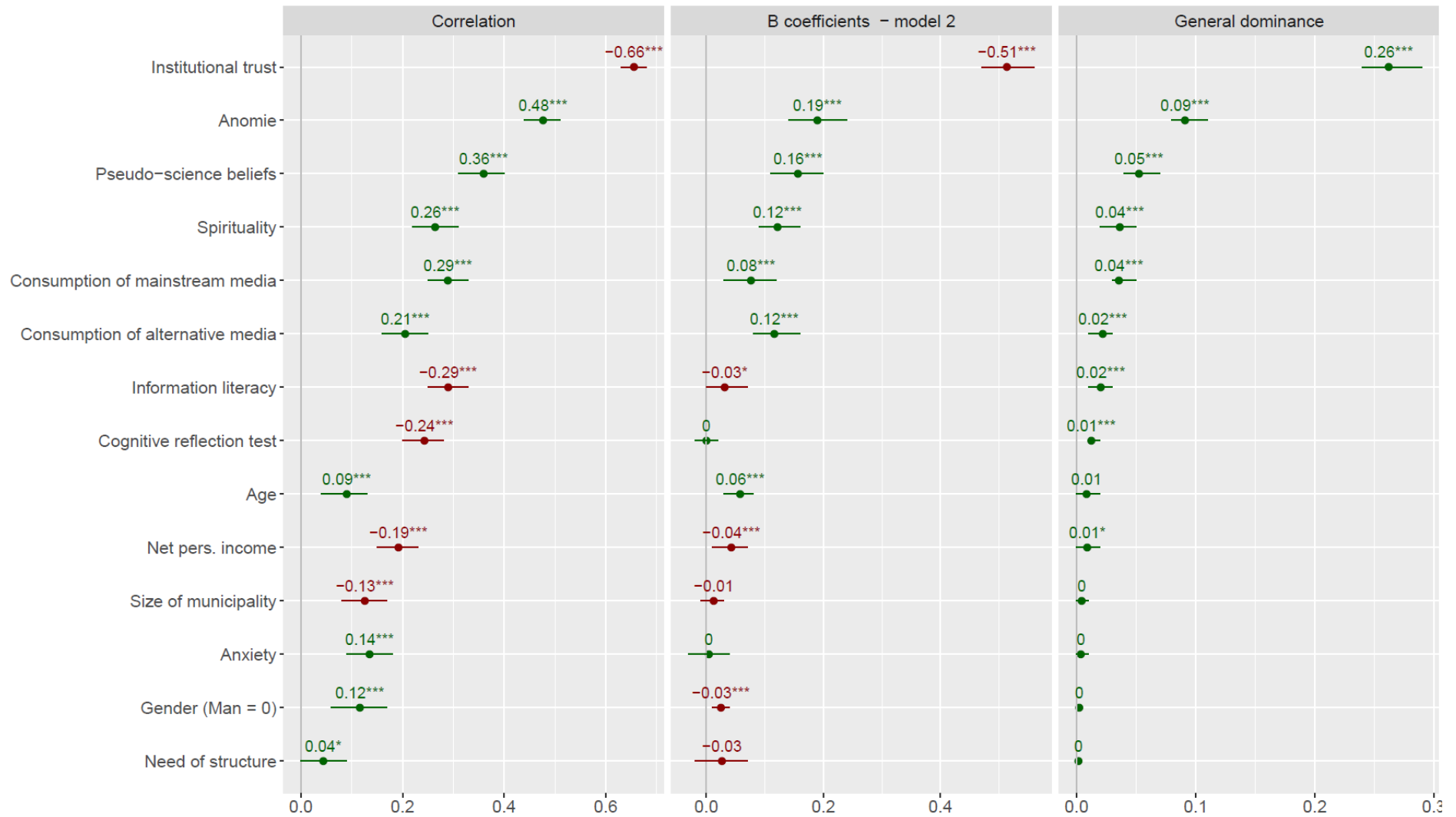
Item	Wording	Strongly agree	Rather agree	Rather disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Q13_1	There's little use going to public officials because they often aren't really interested in the problems of the average man.	18%	37%	30%	8%	7%
Q13_2	Nowadays, a person has to live pretty much for today and let tomorrow take care of itself.	10%	22%	37%	23%	8%
Q13_3	In spite of what some people say, the lot condition of the average man is getting worse, not better.	24%	37%	23%	9%	8%
Q13_4	It's hardly fair to bring a child into the world with the way things look for the future.	8%	19%	36%	28%	9%
Q13_5	These days a person doesn't really know whom he/she can count on.	25%	48%	18%	4%	4%
Q13_6	Most people really don't care what happens to the next person.	23%	51%	18%	3%	6%
Q13_7	Next to health, money is the most important thing in life.	17%	38%	29%	11%	5%
Q13_8	You sometimes can't help wondering whether anything is worthwhile.	16%	47%	22%	9%	6%
Q13_9	To make money there are no right and wrong ways anymore, only easy and hard ways.	13%	34%	25%	14%	13%



Extended results Fig. 1 | MSA factor structure



Extended results Fig. 2 | Predicted values of the interaction between macro-social adhesion and age (Model 4). Mean and effect of one standard deviation are shown. Confidence intervals are at the 99% level.



Extended results Fig. 3 | Strength of relationship between BCT and individual concepts. The figure shows in columns (1) zero-order correlations with BCT; (2) linear regression coefficients, where all variables and education enter as independent variables at once and are standardized to range from 0 to 1; and (3) general dominance, reflecting additional contributions to the explained R^2 of each variable within all subset models.²³ Confidence intervals at the 99% level are constructed using bootstrapping with 2,000 resamples to account for quota sampling. Positive coefficient values are shown in green and negative coefficient values are shown in red. *** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$.

Extended results Table 7 | Confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) of individual concepts

Composite concepts	Variable	Robust CFI	Robust RMSEA	Number of items	Number of dimensions
Macro-social adhesion	Institutional trust	0.99	0.067	9	3
	Anomie	0.996	0.029	9	1
Pseudoscientific spirituality	Pseudoscientific beliefs	0.988	0.051	8	1
	Spirituality	0.994	0.046	12	1
Media consumption orientation	Mainstream media consumption	-	-	6	1
	Alternative media consumption	-	-	4	1

Section 2 - Data representativeness

Table S2.1: Sample representativeness - quotas (%)

		Population	Data	Deviation
Gender	Man	50.1	50.3	0.2
	Woman	49.9	49.7	-0.2
Age	18-24 years old	10.6	10.2	-0.4
	25-34 years old	21.6	20.3	-1.2
	35-44 years old	26.2	25.0	-1.2
	45-54 years old	23.2	23.8	0.7
	55-65 years old	18.5	20.6	2.1
Education	Primary + secondary education without diploma	33.6	40.9	7.3
	Secondary education with diploma	39.9	35.6	-4.4
	Higher education	26.5	23.5	-2.9
Region (NUTS3)	Capital City Praha	13.3	14.0	0.8
	Central Bohemian Region	13.3	12.7	-0.6
	South Bohemian Region	6.1	5.7	-0.4
	Plzeň Region	5.6	5.4	-0.2
	Karlovy Vary Region	2.8	2.6	-0.2
	Ústí nad Labem Region	7.3	7.1	-0.3
	Liberec Region	3.9	4.0	0.1
	Hradec Králové Region	5.1	4.8	-0.3
	Pardubice Region	4.9	4.8	-0.1
	Vysočina Region	4.7	4.6	0.0
	South Moravian Region	11.0	11.8	0.8
	Olomouc Region	5.5	5.9	0.4
	Zlín Region	5.5	5.3	-0.1
	Moravian-Silesian Region	11.2	11.2	0.0
Size of municipality	Less than 1,000	18.0	16.6	-1.4
	1,000 - 5,000 inhabitants	23.0	21.7	-1.3
	5,001 - 20,000 inhabitants	18.0	18.0	0.0
	20,001 - 100,000 inhabitants	20.0	20.8	0.8
	More than 100,000 inhabitants	21.0	23.0	2.0

Section 3 – Description and validity tests of standard scales

Frequencies and polychoric/tetrachoric correlations are presented for the standard scales. In addition, alpha and omega reliability coefficients are calculated and unidimensional confirmatory factor analysis is performed using the WLSMW method. The scales either have no missing values or their number does not exceed 20%. Therefore, analyses are performed only on complete data.

Need of structure

Table S3.1: Frequencies of questions – Need of structure

Q9_1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I enjoy having a clear and structured mode of life.	
Strongly agree	26.7
Somewhat agree	57.2
Somewhat disagree	11
Strongly disagree	1.4
Don't know	3.8
#Total responses	3880
Q9_2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I like to have a place for everything and everything in its place.	
Strongly agree	37.3
Somewhat agree	51.4
Somewhat disagree	7.3
Strongly disagree	1.2
Don't know	2.7
#Total responses	3880
Q9_3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I don't like situations that are uncertain.	
Strongly agree	33.5
Somewhat agree	52.2
Somewhat disagree	9.6
Strongly disagree	1.9
Don't know	2.8
#Total responses	3880
Q9_4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I hate to change my plans at the last minute.	
Strongly agree	34
Somewhat agree	45.8
Somewhat disagree	15
Strongly disagree	2.5
Don't know	2.7
#Total responses	3880
Q9_5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I hate to be with people who are unpredictable.	
Strongly agree	26.2
Somewhat agree	46.9
Somewhat disagree	17.5
Strongly disagree	2.6
Don't know	6.8
#Total responses	3880
Q9_6 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I find that a consistent routine enables me to enjoy life more.	
Strongly agree	17.6
Somewhat agree	53.1
Somewhat disagree	17.8
Strongly disagree	2
Don't know	9.5
#Total responses	3880

Table S3.2: Number of missing values – Need of structure

Number of missing values	Relative frequency
0	0.8440722
1	0.0979381
2	0.0324742
3	0.007732
4	0.0028351
5	0.0036082
6	0.0113402

Table S3.3: Polychoric correlation matrix – Need of structure

	Q9_1_R	Q9_2_R	Q9_3_R	Q9_4_R	Q9_5_R	Q9_6_R
Q9_1_R	1	0.64	0.46	0.47	0.38	0.61
Q9_2_R	0.64	1	0.42	0.47	0.33	0.52
Q9_3_R	0.46	0.42	1	0.5	0.46	0.39
Q9_4_R	0.47	0.47	0.5	1	0.44	0.43
Q9_5_R	0.38	0.33	0.46	0.44	1	0.33
Q9_6_R	0.61	0.52	0.39	0.43	0.33	1

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Need of structure

Alpha: 0.83
Omega Total 0.84

Results of confirmatory factor analysis – unidimensional – Need of structure

lavaan 0.6.17 ended normally after 20 iterations

Estimator DWLS
Optimization method NLMINB
Number of model parameters 12

	Used	Total
Number of observations	3275	3880

Model Test User Model:

	Standard	Scaled
Test Statistic	83.795	201.189
Degrees of freedom	9	9
P-value (Chi-square)	0.000	0.000
Scaling correction factor		0.417
Shift parameter		0.479
simple second-order correction		

Model Test Baseline Model:

Test statistic	5189.704	3034.274
Degrees of freedom	15	15
P-value	0.000	0.000
Scaling correction factor		1.714

User Model versus Baseline Model:

Comparative Fit Index (CFI)	0.986	0.936
Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI)	0.976	0.894
Robust Comparative Fit Index (CFI)		0.986
Robust Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI)		0.976

Root Mean Square Error of Approximation:

RMSEA	0.050	0.081
90 Percent confidence interval - lower	0.041	0.071
90 Percent confidence interval - upper	0.061	0.091
P-value H ₀ : RMSEA ≤ 0.050	0.453	0.000
P-value H ₀ : RMSEA ≥ 0.080	0.000	0.565
Robust RMSEA		0.052
90 Percent confidence interval - lower		0.046
90 Percent confidence interval - upper		0.059
P-value H ₀ : Robust RMSEA ≤ 0.050		0.271
P-value H ₀ : Robust RMSEA ≥ 0.080		0.000

Standardized Root Mean Square Residual:

SRMR	0.041	0.041
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Parameter Estimates:

Standard errors	Robust.sem
Information	Expected
Information saturated (h1) model	Unstructured

Latent Variables:

	Estimate	Std.Err	z-value	P(> z)
need_of_structure =~				
Q9_1_R	1.000			
Q9_2_R	0.914	0.032	28.716	0.000
Q9_3_R	0.863	0.032	27.095	0.000
Q9_4_R	1.023	0.039	26.405	0.000
Q9_5_R	0.814	0.036	22.704	0.000
Q9_6_R	0.907	0.031	29.015	0.000

Variances:

	Estimate	Std.Err	z-value	P(> z)
.Q9_1_R	0.216	0.009	23.293	0.000
.Q9_2_R	0.257	0.010	25.999	0.000
.Q9_3_R	0.318	0.012	25.539	0.000
.Q9_4_R	0.357	0.012	29.616	0.000
.Q9_5_R	0.437	0.014	32.306	0.000
.Q9_6_R	0.293	0.010	28.860	0.000
need_of_strctr	0.217	0.012	18.774	0.000

Anxiety

Table S3.4: Frequencies of questions – Anxiety

Q12_1 Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?	
- Feeling nervous, anxious or on edge	
Not at all	49.7
Several days	35.7
More than half the days	8
Nearly every day	6.6
#Total responses	3880
Q12_2 Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?	
- Not being able to stop or control worrying	
Not at all	61.7
Several days	27.7
More than half the days	6.1
Nearly every day	4.5
#Total responses	3880
Q12_3 Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?	
- Worrying too much about different things	
Not at all	42.9
Several days	41.2
More than half the days	8.4
Nearly every day	7.5
#Total responses	3880
Q12_4 Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?	
- Trouble relaxing	
Not at all	49.8
Several days	34.9
More than half the days	8.8
Nearly every day	6.5
#Total responses	3880
Q12_5 Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?	
- Being so restless that it is hard to sit still	
Not at all	74.3
Several days	17.8
More than half the days	5
Nearly every day	2.9
#Total responses	3880
Q12_6 Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems? - Becoming easily annoyed or irritable	
Not at all	41.2
Several days	43.2
More than half the days	8.9
Nearly every day	6.7
#Total responses	3880
Q12_7 Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?	
- Feeling afraid as if something awful might happen	
Not at all	67.6
Several days	23.4
More than half the days	5.1
Nearly every day	4
#Total responses	3880

Table S3.5: Polychoric correlation matrix – Anxiety

	Q12_1	Q12_2	Q12_3	Q12_4	Q12_5	Q12_6	Q12_7
Q12_1	1	0.79	0.75	0.76	0.71	0.6	0.72
Q12_2	0.79	1	0.8	0.75	0.73	0.6	0.75
Q12_3	0.75	0.8	1	0.7	0.65	0.58	0.69
Q12_4	0.76	0.75	0.7	1	0.71	0.6	0.63
Q12_5	0.71	0.73	0.65	0.71	1	0.57	0.7
Q12_6	0.6	0.6	0.58	0.6	0.57	1	0.52
Q12_7	0.72	0.75	0.69	0.63	0.7	0.52	1

Reliability of unidimensional scale - Anxiety

Alpha: 0.94
Omega Total 0.94

Results of confirmatory factor analysis – unidimensional - Anxiety

lavaan 0.6.17 ended normally after 22 iterations

Estimator DWLS
Optimization method NLMINB
Number of model parameters 14

Number of observations 3880

Model Test User Model:

	Standard	Scaled
Test Statistic	19.105	119.585
Degrees of freedom	14	14
P-value (Chi-square)	0.161	0.000
Scaling correction factor		0.161
Shift parameter		0.948
simple second-order correction		

Model Test Baseline Model:

Test statistic	11206.326	3766.251
Degrees of freedom	21	21
P-value	0.000	0.000
Scaling correction factor		2.987

User Model versus Baseline Model:

Comparative Fit Index (CFI)	1.000	0.972
Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI)	0.999	0.958
Robust Comparative Fit Index (CFI)		0.998
Robust Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI)		0.998

Root Mean Square Error of Approximation:

RMSEA	0.010	0.044
90 Percent confidence interval - lower	0.000	0.037
90 Percent confidence interval - upper	0.020	0.052
P-value H ₀ : RMSEA ≤ 0.050	1.000	0.902
P-value H ₀ : RMSEA ≥ 0.080	0.000	0.000
Robust RMSEA		0.018
90 Percent confidence interval - lower		0.015
90 Percent confidence interval - upper		0.021
P-value H ₀ : Robust RMSEA ≤ 0.050		1.000
P-value H ₀ : Robust RMSEA ≥ 0.080		0.000

Standardized Root Mean Square Residual:

SRMR	0.021	0.021
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Parameter Estimates:

Standard errors	Robust.sem
Information	Expected
Information saturated (h1) model	Unstructured

Latent Variables:

	Estimate	Std.Err	z-value	P(> z)
anxiety =~				
Q12_1	1.000			
Q12_2	0.921	0.018	50.933	0.000
Q12_3	0.956	0.017	56.171	0.000
Q12_4	0.928	0.018	52.453	0.000
Q12_5	0.696	0.020	34.018	0.000
Q12_6	0.720	0.021	34.429	0.000
Q12_7	0.752	0.020	36.884	0.000

Variances:

	Estimate	Std.Err	z-value	P(> z)
.Q12_1	0.232	0.010	24.222	0.000
.Q12_2	0.193	0.008	23.092	0.000
.Q12_3	0.293	0.012	25.391	0.000
.Q12_4	0.312	0.012	25.157	0.000
.Q12_5	0.252	0.010	25.478	0.000
.Q12_6	0.458	0.015	31.360	0.000
.Q12_7	0.288	0.011	25.081	0.000
anxiety	0.530	0.020	26.916	0.000

Table S3.6: Frequencies of questions – Information literacy

Q24 The most reliable, verified, concise and comprehensive description of an unknown specialized concept can be found in	
daily newspaper	0.7
bilingual dictionary	1.9
<u>lexicon or encyclopedia</u>	72.2
research article	10.7
Don't know	14.5
#Total responses	3880
Q25 In which list have the information sources been correctly ordered from the least to the most formally established and verified?	
<u>blog, daily newspaper, scholarly journal, standard</u>	40.1
blog, standard, daily newspaper, scholarly journal	8.3
daily newspaper, blog, standard, scholarly journal	7.5
standard, scholarly journal, blog, daily newspaper	8.3
Don't know	35.9
#Total responses	3880
Which of the data listed below are "raw" unprocessed data?	
<u>share prices published at the end of a trading day</u>	11.9
weather maps	18.9
population growth data presented in tables	7.2
population growth data presented diagrammatically (in graphs)	5.4
Don't know	56.6
#Total responses	3880
Compared to a search within the title and abstract, a fulltext search in a database results in...?	
the same number of hits	1.7
a smaller number of hits	6
this has no effect on the number of hits	8
<u>a larger number of hits</u>	15.7
Don't know	68.6
#Total responses	3880
Which statement on GMO (Genetically Modified Organisms) is not the author's personal opinion?	
GMO will bring about a global food crisis.	2.4
<u>According to inventories, 15 new GMOs were registered in the EU in 2013.</u>	21.8
GMO experimentation should be banned.	6.4
Most GMO researchers have been paid off by large corporations, such as Monsanto.	5.5
Don't know	63.9
#Total responses	3880

Highlighted answers are coded as correct answers. All other responses are coded as incorrect.

Table S3.7: Polychoric correlation matrix – Information literacy

	Q24_R	Q25_R	Q26_R	Q27_R	Q28_R
Q24_R	1	0.45	0.19	0.28	0.36
Q25_R	0.45	1	0.29	0.37	0.51
Q26_R	0.19	0.29	1	0.31	0.47
Q27_R	0.28	0.37	0.31	1	0.41
Q28_R	0.36	0.51	0.47	0.41	1

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Information literacy

Alpha: 0.74
Omega Total 0.75

Results of confirmatory factor analysis – unidimensional – Information literacy

lavaan 0.6.17 ended normally after 34 iterations

Estimator DWLS
Optimization method NLMINB
Number of model parameters 10

Number of observations 3880

Model Test User Model:

	Standard	Scaled
Test Statistic	45.657	72.712
Degrees of freedom	5	5
P-value (Chi-square)	0.000	0.000
Scaling correction factor		0.629
Shift parameter		0.073
simple second-order correction		

Model Test Baseline Model:

Test statistic	1495.438	1288.612
Degrees of freedom	10	10
P-value	0.000	0.000
Scaling correction factor		1.162

User Model versus Baseline Model:

Comparative Fit Index (CFI)	0.973	0.947
Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI)	0.945	0.894
Robust Comparative Fit Index (CFI)		0.973
Robust Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI)		0.945

Root Mean Square Error of Approximation:

RMSEA	0.046	0.059
90 Percent confidence interval - lower	0.034	0.048
90 Percent confidence interval - upper	0.058	0.071
P-value H ₀ : RMSEA ≤ 0.050	0.691	0.096
P-value H ₀ : RMSEA ≥ 0.080	0.000	0.002
Robust RMSEA		0.047
90 Percent confidence interval - lower		0.038
90 Percent confidence interval - upper		0.057
P-value H ₀ : Robust RMSEA ≤ 0.050		0.687
P-value H ₀ : Robust RMSEA ≥ 0.080		0.000

Standardized Root Mean Square Residual:

SRMR

0.031

0.031

Parameter Estimates:

Standard errors	Robust.sem
Information	Expected
Information saturated (h1) model	Unstructured

Latent Variables:

	Estimate	Std.Err	z-value	P(> z)
IL =~				
Q24_R	1.000			
Q25_R	1.763	0.115	15.379	0.000
Q26_R	0.624	0.062	10.033	0.000
Q27_R	0.849	0.071	11.878	0.000
Q28_R	1.417	0.101	14.043	0.000

Variances:

	Estimate	Std.Err	z-value	P(> z)
.Q24_R	0.174	0.003	49.891	0.000
.Q25_R	0.159	0.006	26.902	0.000
.Q26_R	0.094	0.004	26.603	0.000
.Q27_R	0.114	0.004	31.687	0.000
.Q28_R	0.118	0.004	28.437	0.000
IL	0.026	0.003	9.529	0.000

Cognitive reflection test

Table S3.8: Frequencies of questions – Cognitive reflection test

Q29 Simon decided to invest 80,000 CZK in the stock market one day early in 2008. Six months after he invested, on July 17, the stocks he had purchased were down 50%. Fortunately for Simon, from July 17 to October 17, the stocks he had purchased went up 75%. At this point, Simon has...	
broken even in the stock market	17
is ahead of where he began	38.3
<u>has lost money</u>	44.8
#Total responses	3880
Q30 Jerry received both the 15th highest and the 15th lowest mark in the class. How many students are there in the class?	
14 and less (recoded)	4.8
15	22.4
16	0.3
20	0.1
23	0
25	0.1
28	0.2
<u>29</u>	24.9
30	44.5
31	2.5
32 and more (recoded)	0.2
#Total responses	3880
Q31 A bat and a ball cost £1.10 in total. The bat costs £1.00 more than the ball. How much does the ball cost?	
0	0.6
1e-06	0
1	0.1
1.1	0.1
<u>5</u>	24.1
9	0.2
10	70.9
15	0
19	0.1
20 and more (recoded)	3.9
#Total responses	3880
Q32 In a lake, there is a patch of lily pads. Every day, the patch doubles in size. If it takes 48 days for the patch to cover the entire lake, how long would it take for the patch to cover half of the lake?	
23 and less (recoded)	13.7
24	47.9
25 – 46 (recoded)	3.4
48	1.6
49	0.1
50 and more (recoded)	1.9
#Total responses	3880

Highlighted answers are coded as correct answers. All other responses are coded as incorrect.

Table S3.9: Polychoric correlation matrix – Cognitive reflection test

	Q29_R	Q30_R	Q31_R	Q32_R
Q29_R	1	0.51	0.48	0.61
Q30_R	0.51	1	0.64	0.64
Q31_R	0.48	0.64	1	0.68
Q32_R	0.61	0.64	0.68	1

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Cognitive reflection test

Alpha: 0.85
Omega Total 0.86

Results of confirmatory factor analysis – unidimensional – Cognitive reflection test

lavaan 0.6.17 ended normally after 26 iterations

Estimator DWLS
Optimization method NLMINB
Number of model parameters 8

Number of observations 3880

Model Test User Model:

	Standard	Scaled
Test Statistic	11.560	25.027
Degrees of freedom	2	2
P-value (Chi-square)	0.003	0.000
Scaling correction factor		0.462
Shift parameter		0.018
simple second-order correction		

Model Test Baseline Model:

Test statistic	3082.365	2516.735
Degrees of freedom	6	6
P-value	0.000	0.000
Scaling correction factor		1.225

User Model versus Baseline Model:

Comparative Fit Index (CFI)	0.997	0.991
Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI)	0.991	0.972
Robust Comparative Fit Index (CFI)		0.997
Robust Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI)		0.991

Root Mean Square Error of Approximation:

RMSEA	0.035	0.054
90 Percent confidence interval - lower	0.017	0.037
90 Percent confidence interval - upper	0.056	0.074
P-value H ₀ : RMSEA ≤ 0.050	0.872	0.312
P-value H ₀ : RMSEA ≥ 0.080	0.000	0.017
Robust RMSEA		0.037
90 Percent confidence interval - lower		0.025
90 Percent confidence interval - upper		0.051
P-value H ₀ : Robust RMSEA ≤ 0.050		0.941
P-value H ₀ : Robust RMSEA ≥ 0.080		0.000

Standardized Root Mean Square Residual:

SRMR	0.019	0.019
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Parameter Estimates:

Standard errors	Robust.sem
Information	Expected
Information saturated (h1) model	Unstructured

Latent Variables:

	Estimate	Std.Err	z-value	P(> z)
CRT =~				
Q29_R	1.000			
Q30_R	1.025	0.045	22.914	0.000
Q31_R	1.033	0.045	22.787	0.000
Q32_R	1.302	0.053	24.789	0.000

Variances:

	Estimate	Std.Err	z-value	P(> z)
.Q29_R	0.181	0.004	42.635	0.000
.Q30_R	0.117	0.004	29.150	0.000
.Q31_R	0.112	0.004	28.440	0.000
.Q32_R	0.101	0.005	20.387	0.000
CRT	0.066	0.004	15.918	0.000

Section 4 - Description and validity tests of the pseudoscience spirituality and its subscales

Pseudoscience beliefs

Table S4.1: Wording of the questions – Pseudoscience beliefs

Q11_1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - All the cells of our body store memories (cellular memories), ours or of our ancestors
Q11_2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - The collective memory inherited and shared by the organisms belonging to the same species (“morphic field” or also “morphic resonance”) explains several biological phenomena
Q11_3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - Osteopathy and/or chiropractic are scientifically backed branches of physiotherapy
Q11_4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - There are areas of our body surface, such as the feet, hands and/or ears in which we find representations of our entire anatomy
Q11_5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - While it is true that evolution is a fact, there are issues that require an intelligent intervention to be explained
Q11_6 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - It has been scientifically proven that some people have extrasensory abilities (such as telepathy or precognition)
Q11_7 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - Due to well demonstrated biological reasons, negative emotions and unsolved conflicts or traumas increase the probability of having cancer
Q11_8 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - There is archeological evidence of ancient contacts with “astronauts” or “space visitors” (e.g., in cultures such as Sumerian, Egyptian, Maya or Nazca)

Table S4.2: Number of missing values – Pseudoscience beliefs

Number of missing values	Relative frequency
0	0.3118557
1	0.1425258
2	0.1396907
3	0.1219072
4	0.093299
5	0.0569588
6	0.046134
7	0.0255155
8	0.0621134

Only 31% of the cases have all the answers. We proceed to analyze two datasets. One with only complete responses and the other with imputed responses with respondents who answered at least 2/3 of the questions.

Table S4.3: Polychoric correlation matrix – Pseudoscience beliefs – complete data

	Q11_1_R	Q11_2_R	Q11_3_R	Q11_4_R	Q11_5_R	Q11_6_R	Q11_7_R	Q11_8_R
Q11_1_R	1	0.74	0.63	0.73	0.58	0.67	0.62	0.64
Q11_2_R	0.74	1	0.62	0.66	0.53	0.6	0.6	0.62
Q11_3_R	0.63	0.62	1	0.67	0.49	0.59	0.58	0.54
Q11_4_R	0.73	0.66	0.67	1	0.56	0.73	0.62	0.61
Q11_5_R	0.58	0.53	0.49	0.56	1	0.62	0.53	0.67
Q11_6_R	0.67	0.6	0.59	0.73	0.62	1	0.53	0.66
Q11_7_R	0.62	0.6	0.58	0.62	0.53	0.53	1	0.51
Q11_8_R	0.64	0.62	0.54	0.61	0.67	0.66	0.51	1

Table S4.4: Polychoric correlation matrix – Pseudoscience beliefs – imputed data

	Q11_1_R	Q11_2_R	Q11_3_R	Q11_4_R	Q11_5_R	Q11_6_R	Q11_7_R	Q11_8_R
Q11_1_R	1	0.62	0.46	0.6	0.43	0.56	0.47	0.51
Q11_2_R	0.62	1	0.45	0.54	0.39	0.54	0.5	0.48
Q11_3_R	0.46	0.45	1	0.5	0.36	0.44	0.41	0.4
Q11_4_R	0.6	0.54	0.5	1	0.38	0.58	0.48	0.48
Q11_5_R	0.43	0.39	0.36	0.38	1	0.58	0.34	0.61
Q11_6_R	0.56	0.54	0.44	0.58	0.58	1	0.47	0.62
Q11_7_R	0.47	0.5	0.41	0.48	0.34	0.47	1	0.36
Q11_8_R	0.51	0.48	0.4	0.48	0.61	0.62	0.36	1

Table S4.5 Results of optimal parallel analysis - Pseudoscience beliefs – complete data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	74.6414*	25.5865	32.4001
2	8.4235	21.2781	25.4212
3	5.2037	17.5538	20.4673
4	4.6407	14.0721	16.789
5	3.9715	10.6103	13.6722
6	1.9014	7.2133	10.6637
7	1.2178	3.6859	7.4683

* Advised number of dimensions: 1

Table S4.6 Results of optimal parallel analysis - Pseudoscience beliefs – imputed data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	73.0674*	25.7428	33.0799
2	12.4544	21.4586	26.1366
3	6.5765	17.6705	21.4175
4	4.2865	13.9914	17.2808
5	2.6218	10.4884	14.2786
6	0.8349	7.0771	11.0678
7	0.1586	3.5712	7.8167

* Advised number of dimensions: 1

Table S4.7 Results of exploratory factor analysis - Pseudoscience beliefs – complete data

variable	loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q11_1_R	0.85	0.73	0.27
Q11_2_R	0.8	0.64	0.36
Q11_3_R	0.75	0.56	0.44
Q11_4_R	0.84	0.71	0.29
Q11_5_R	0.72	0.52	0.48
Q11_6_R	0.81	0.65	0.35
Q11_7_R	0.72	0.52	0.48
Q11_8_R	0.77	0.59	0.41

Explained variance 0.61

Table S4.8 Results of exploratory factor analysis - Pseudoscience beliefs – imputed data

variable	loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q11_1_R	0.76	0.58	0.42
Q11_2_R	0.72	0.52	0.48
Q11_3_R	0.61	0.37	0.63
Q11_4_R	0.74	0.54	0.46
Q11_5_R	0.62	0.39	0.61
Q11_6_R	0.79	0.63	0.37
Q11_7_R	0.62	0.38	0.62
Q11_8_R	0.71	0.51	0.49

Explained variance 0.49

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Pseudoscience beliefs – complete data

Alpha: 0.93
Omega Total 0.93

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Pseudoscience beliefs – imputed data

Alpha: 0.88
Omega Total 0.88

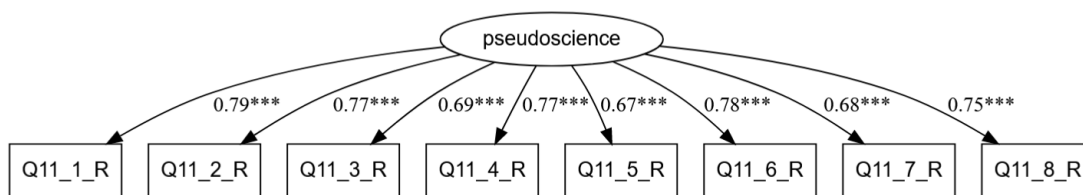


Figure S4.1 Confirmatory factor analysis – Pseudoscience beliefs – complete data

RMSEA robust 0.036

CFI robust 0.996

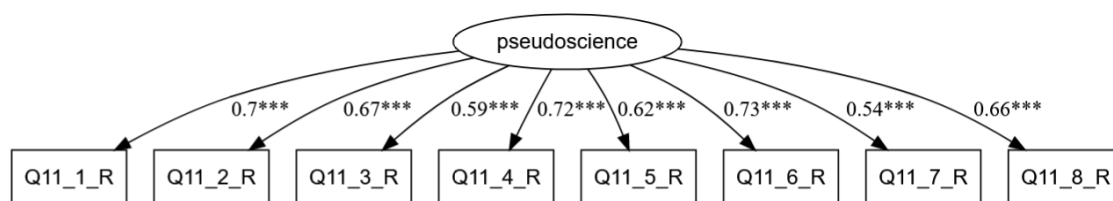


Figure S4.2 Confirmatory factor analysis – Pseudoscience beliefs – imputed data

RMSEA robust 0.051

CFI robust 0.988

Table S4.9: Wording of the questions – Spirituality

Q10_1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I meditate to gain access to my inner spirit.
Q10_2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I live in harmony with nature.
Q10_3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I believe there is a connection between all things that I cannot see but can sense.
Q10_4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - My life is a process of becoming.
Q10_5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I believe in a Higher Power/Universal Intelligence.
Q10_6 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - The earth is sacred.
Q10_7 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I use silence to get in touch with myself.
Q10_8 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I have a relationship with a Higher Power/Universal Intelligence.
Q10_9 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - My spirituality gives me inner strength.
Q10_10 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - My faith in a Higher Power/Universal Intelligence helps me cope with challenges in my life.
Q10_11 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - Prayer is an integral part of my spiritual nature.
Q10_12 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I often take time to assess my life choices as a way of living my spirituality.

Table S4.10: Number of missing values – Spirituality

Number of missing values	Relative frequency
0	0.511083
1	0.147423
2	0.080155
3	0.063918
4	0.052577
5	0.03866
6	0.027577
7	0.017526
8	0.011083
9	0.008505
10	0.010567
11	0.008247
12	0.02268

Only 51% of the cases have all the answers. We proceed to analyze two datasets. One with only complete responses and the other with imputed responses with respondents who answered at least 2/3 of the questions.

Table S4.11: Polychoric correlation matrix – Spirituality – complete data

	Q10_1_R	Q10_2_R	Q10_3_R	Q10_4_R	Q10_5_R	Q10_6_R	Q10_7_R	Q10_8_R	Q10_9_R	Q10_10_R	Q10_11_R	Q10_12_R
Q10_1_R	1	0.51	0.71	0.58	0.71	0.52	0.69	0.74	0.8	0.74	0.68	0.74
Q10_2_R	0.51	1	0.48	0.46	0.46	0.5	0.5	0.47	0.5	0.44	0.36	0.49
Q10_3_R	0.71	0.48	1	0.6	0.76	0.56	0.61	0.73	0.74	0.73	0.61	0.7
Q10_4_R	0.58	0.46	0.6	1	0.59	0.51	0.59	0.55	0.64	0.59	0.48	0.61
Q10_5_R	0.71	0.46	0.76	0.59	1	0.54	0.57	0.81	0.74	0.8	0.68	0.68
Q10_6_R	0.52	0.5	0.56	0.51	0.54	1	0.48	0.52	0.51	0.5	0.44	0.51
Q10_7_R	0.69	0.5	0.61	0.59	0.57	0.48	1	0.6	0.65	0.58	0.46	0.63
Q10_8_R	0.74	0.47	0.73	0.55	0.81	0.52	0.6	1	0.8	0.81	0.74	0.73
Q10_9_R	0.8	0.5	0.74	0.64	0.74	0.51	0.65	0.8	1	0.82	0.74	0.78
Q10_10_R	0.74	0.44	0.73	0.59	0.8	0.5	0.58	0.81	0.82	1	0.77	0.75
Q10_11_R	0.68	0.36	0.61	0.48	0.68	0.44	0.46	0.74	0.74	0.77	1	0.69
Q10_12_R	0.74	0.49	0.7	0.61	0.68	0.51	0.63	0.73	0.78	0.75	0.69	1

Table S4.12: Polychoric correlation matrix – Spirituality – imputed data

	Q10_1_R	Q10_2_R	Q10_3_R	Q10_4_R	Q10_5_R	Q10_6_R	Q10_7_R	Q10_8_R	Q10_9_R	Q10_10_R	Q10_11_R	Q10_12_R
Q10_1_R	1	0.47	0.63	0.47	0.63	0.49	0.66	0.68	0.75	0.71	0.62	0.68
Q10_2_R	0.47	1	0.41	0.36	0.39	0.39	0.45	0.4	0.43	0.37	0.26	0.43
Q10_3_R	0.63	0.41	1	0.49	0.73	0.52	0.54	0.66	0.67	0.69	0.54	0.6
Q10_4_R	0.47	0.36	0.49	1	0.48	0.44	0.52	0.44	0.53	0.48	0.34	0.52
Q10_5_R	0.63	0.39	0.73	0.48	1	0.55	0.52	0.74	0.68	0.75	0.59	0.59
Q10_6_R	0.49	0.39	0.52	0.44	0.55	1	0.45	0.48	0.46	0.49	0.41	0.5
Q10_7_R	0.66	0.45	0.54	0.52	0.52	0.45	1	0.54	0.58	0.55	0.43	0.61
Q10_8_R	0.68	0.4	0.66	0.44	0.74	0.48	0.54	1	0.76	0.79	0.72	0.62
Q10_9_R	0.75	0.43	0.67	0.53	0.68	0.46	0.58	0.76	1	0.79	0.7	0.71
Q10_10_R	0.71	0.37	0.69	0.48	0.75	0.49	0.55	0.79	0.79	1	0.73	0.68
Q10_11_R	0.62	0.26	0.54	0.34	0.59	0.41	0.43	0.72	0.7	0.73	1	0.64
Q10_12_R	0.68	0.43	0.6	0.52	0.59	0.5	0.61	0.62	0.71	0.68	0.64	1

Table S4.13 Results of optimal parallel analysis - Spirituality – complete data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	70.6794*	16.7942	20.3433
2	7.2119	14.9993	17.2257
3	4.9176	13.4588	15.3817
4	4.2356	11.9346	13.7295
5	3.4232	10.5017	11.9878
6	2.5857	8.9881	10.4206
7	2.0586	7.5706	9.0796
8	1.8951	6.1142	7.9367
9	1.4706	4.7592	6.8177
10	0.9773	3.205	5.1106
11	0.545	1.6743	3.4489

* Advised number of dimensions: 1

Table S4.14 Results of optimal parallel analysis - Spirituality – imputed data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	70.7455*	16.7814	20.7668
2	7.0413	15.0044	17.5505
3	5.2552	13.5278	15.5595
4	3.4922	12.0169	13.9521
5	2.8775	10.5301	12.1216
6	2.5082	9.0761	10.7377
7	2.3961	7.5985	9.1692
8	1.9241	6.0856	7.9262
9	1.8467	4.596	6.5224
10	1.5548	3.1409	5.35
11	0.3584	1.6424	3.5879

* Advised number of dimensions: 1

Table S4.15 Results of exploratory factor analysis - Spirituality – complete data

variable	loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q10_1_R	0.86	0.74	0.26
Q10_2_R	0.57	0.33	0.67
Q10_3_R	0.83	0.7	0.3
Q10_4_R	0.7	0.49	0.51
Q10_5_R	0.85	0.73	0.27
Q10_6_R	0.62	0.39	0.61
Q10_7_R	0.72	0.52	0.48
Q10_8_R	0.88	0.77	0.23
Q10_9_R	0.91	0.82	0.18
Q10_10_R	0.88	0.78	0.22
Q10_11_R	0.77	0.6	0.4
Q10_12_R	0.85	0.72	0.28

Explained variance 0.63

Table S4.16 Results of exploratory factor analysis - Spirituality – imputed data

variable	loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q10_1_R	0.83	0.69	0.31
Q10_2_R	0.51	0.26	0.74
Q10_3_R	0.79	0.62	0.38
Q10_4_R	0.6	0.36	0.64
Q10_5_R	0.82	0.67	0.33
Q10_6_R	0.61	0.37	0.63
Q10_7_R	0.7	0.49	0.51
Q10_8_R	0.84	0.71	0.29
Q10_9_R	0.87	0.76	0.24
Q10_10_R	0.87	0.76	0.24
Q10_11_R	0.74	0.55	0.45
Q10_12_R	0.8	0.64	0.36

Explained variance 0.57

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Spirituality – complete data

Alpha: 0.95
Omega Total 0.95

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Spirituality – imputed data

Alpha: 0.94
Omega Total 0.94

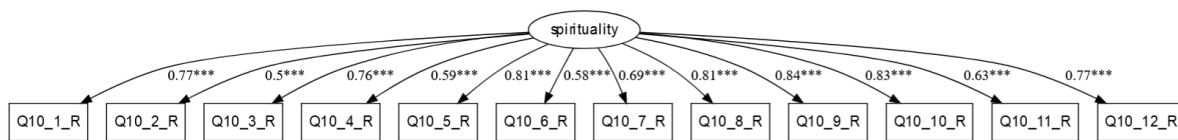


Figure S4.3 Confirmatory factor analysis – Spirituality – complete data

RMSEA robust 0.042
CFI robust 0.994

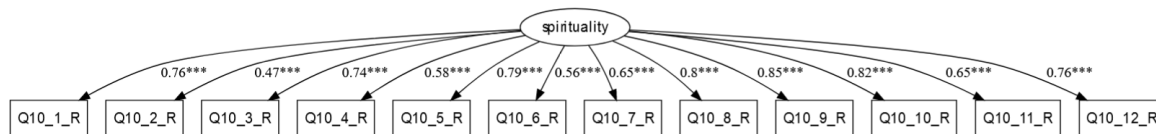


Figure S4.4 Confirmatory factor analysis – Spirituality – imputed data

RMSEA robust 0.046
CFI robust 0.994

Pseudoscience spirituality

Table S4.17: Number of missing values – Pseudoscience spirituality

Number of missing values	Relative frequency
0	0.249485
1	0.116753
2	0.096907
3	0.089175
4	0.075258
5	0.06701
6	0.064175
7	0.04433
8	0.043557
9	0.033505
10	0.02268
11	0.019588
12	0.014433
13	0.011083
14	0.008247
15	0.007732
16	0.004639
17	0.005928
18	0.004124
19	0.004639
20	0.016753

Only 24% of the cases have all the answers. We proceed to analyze two datasets. One with only complete responses and the other with imputed responses with respondents who answered at least 2/3 of the questions.

Table S4.18: Polychoric correlation matrix – Pseudoscience spirituality – complete data

	Q11_1_R	Q11_2_R	Q11_3_R	Q11_4_R	Q11_5_R	Q11_6_R	Q11_7_R	Q11_8_R	Q10_1_R	Q10_2_R	Q10_3_R	Q10_4_R	Q10_5_R	Q10_6_R	Q10_7_R	Q10_8_R	Q10_9_R	Q10_10_R	Q10_11_R	Q10_12_R
Q11_1_R	1	0.72	0.59	0.76	0.55	0.67	0.58	0.61	0.44	0.44	0.63	0.53	0.55	0.5	0.43	0.48	0.52	0.48	0.35	0.48
Q11_2_R	0.72	1	0.62	0.66	0.56	0.63	0.54	0.57	0.41	0.4	0.54	0.5	0.54	0.52	0.4	0.48	0.51	0.49	0.36	0.46
Q11_3_R	0.59	0.62	1	0.66	0.46	0.51	0.53	0.53	0.29	0.39	0.41	0.36	0.4	0.46	0.34	0.31	0.37	0.36	0.22	0.32
Q11_4_R	0.76	0.66	0.66	1	0.55	0.71	0.64	0.59	0.47	0.45	0.58	0.48	0.54	0.5	0.51	0.49	0.56	0.57	0.38	0.45
Q11_5_R	0.55	0.56	0.46	0.55	1	0.67	0.46	0.66	0.47	0.33	0.57	0.44	0.53	0.46	0.34	0.5	0.53	0.52	0.45	0.47
Q11_6_R	0.67	0.63	0.51	0.71	0.67	1	0.58	0.65	0.5	0.46	0.65	0.43	0.62	0.48	0.44	0.55	0.57	0.6	0.44	0.47
Q11_7_R	0.58	0.54	0.53	0.64	0.46	0.58	1	0.48	0.34	0.4	0.43	0.41	0.44	0.43	0.38	0.37	0.4	0.44	0.31	0.36
Q11_8_R	0.61	0.57	0.53	0.59	0.66	0.65	0.48	1	0.44	0.36	0.57	0.44	0.53	0.4	0.39	0.47	0.46	0.49	0.34	0.43
Q10_1_R	0.44	0.41	0.29	0.47	0.47	0.5	0.34	0.44	1	0.51	0.68	0.53	0.7	0.55	0.69	0.74	0.8	0.74	0.69	0.75
Q10_2_R	0.44	0.4	0.39	0.45	0.33	0.46	0.4	0.36	0.51	1	0.52	0.47	0.53	0.59	0.5	0.49	0.56	0.51	0.41	0.58
Q10_3_R	0.63	0.54	0.41	0.58	0.57	0.65	0.43	0.57	0.68	0.52	1	0.64	0.79	0.62	0.61	0.74	0.76	0.73	0.64	0.72
Q10_4_R	0.53	0.5	0.36	0.48	0.44	0.43	0.41	0.44	0.53	0.47	0.64	1	0.63	0.6	0.59	0.55	0.61	0.54	0.39	0.62
Q10_5_R	0.55	0.54	0.4	0.54	0.53	0.62	0.44	0.53	0.7	0.53	0.79	0.63	1	0.64	0.58	0.79	0.77	0.79	0.63	0.69
Q10_6_R	0.5	0.52	0.46	0.5	0.46	0.48	0.43	0.4	0.55	0.59	0.62	0.6	0.64	1	0.53	0.64	0.62	0.63	0.55	0.6
Q10_7_R	0.43	0.4	0.34	0.51	0.34	0.44	0.38	0.39	0.69	0.5	0.61	0.59	0.58	0.53	1	0.58	0.61	0.6	0.44	0.65
Q10_8_R	0.48	0.48	0.31	0.49	0.5	0.55	0.37	0.47	0.74	0.49	0.74	0.55	0.79	0.64	0.58	1	0.79	0.81	0.71	0.72
Q10_9_R	0.52	0.51	0.37	0.56	0.53	0.57	0.4	0.46	0.8	0.56	0.76	0.61	0.77	0.62	0.61	0.79	1	0.81	0.73	0.8
Q10_10_R	0.48	0.49	0.36	0.57	0.52	0.6	0.44	0.49	0.74	0.51	0.73	0.54	0.79	0.63	0.6	0.81	0.81	1	0.75	0.74
Q10_11_R	0.35	0.36	0.22	0.38	0.45	0.44	0.31	0.34	0.69	0.41	0.64	0.39	0.63	0.55	0.44	0.71	0.73	0.75	1	0.66
Q10_12_R	0.48	0.46	0.32	0.45	0.47	0.47	0.36	0.43	0.75	0.58	0.72	0.62	0.69	0.6	0.65	0.72	0.8	0.74	0.66	1

Table S4.19: Polychoric correlation matrix – Pseudoscience spirituality – imputed data

	Q11_1_R	Q11_2_R	Q11_3_R	Q11_4_R	Q11_5_R	Q11_6_R	Q11_7_R	Q11_8_R	Q10_1_R	Q10_2_R	Q10_3_R	Q10_4_R	Q10_5_R	Q10_6_R	Q10_7_R	Q10_8_R	Q10_9_R	Q10_10_R	Q10_11_R	Q10_12_R
Q11_1_R	1	0.69	0.54	0.63	0.45	0.57	0.52	0.52	0.33	0.32	0.44	0.38	0.41	0.36	0.31	0.32	0.32	0.31	0.2	0.27
Q11_2_R	0.69	1	0.58	0.56	0.42	0.56	0.52	0.53	0.32	0.26	0.42	0.36	0.41	0.35	0.31	0.32	0.36	0.32	0.2	0.27
Q11_3_R	0.54	0.58	1	0.62	0.38	0.47	0.49	0.45	0.25	0.24	0.28	0.29	0.27	0.29	0.24	0.19	0.22	0.19	0.08	0.17
Q11_4_R	0.63	0.56	0.62	1	0.44	0.64	0.51	0.53	0.37	0.28	0.43	0.36	0.41	0.33	0.34	0.31	0.35	0.35	0.24	0.26
Q11_5_R	0.45	0.42	0.38	0.44	1	0.61	0.36	0.62	0.31	0.23	0.45	0.25	0.47	0.28	0.23	0.41	0.36	0.4	0.36	0.31
Q11_6_R	0.57	0.56	0.47	0.64	0.61	1	0.52	0.65	0.37	0.35	0.53	0.3	0.51	0.36	0.3	0.42	0.42	0.44	0.32	0.35
Q11_7_R	0.52	0.52	0.49	0.51	0.36	0.52	1	0.39	0.3	0.3	0.36	0.29	0.36	0.29	0.31	0.27	0.32	0.32	0.21	0.27
Q11_8_R	0.52	0.53	0.45	0.53	0.62	0.65	0.39	1	0.33	0.28	0.46	0.25	0.42	0.33	0.25	0.33	0.31	0.34	0.23	0.23
Q10_1_R	0.33	0.32	0.25	0.37	0.31	0.37	0.3	0.33	1	0.49	0.62	0.49	0.64	0.49	0.66	0.69	0.75	0.69	0.64	0.7
Q10_2_R	0.32	0.26	0.24	0.28	0.23	0.35	0.3	0.28	0.49	1	0.44	0.39	0.44	0.46	0.47	0.46	0.5	0.45	0.36	0.5
Q10_3_R	0.44	0.42	0.28	0.43	0.45	0.53	0.36	0.46	0.62	0.44	1	0.54	0.74	0.53	0.55	0.66	0.69	0.7	0.55	0.61
Q10_4_R	0.38	0.36	0.29	0.36	0.25	0.3	0.29	0.25	0.49	0.39	0.54	1	0.56	0.46	0.53	0.49	0.57	0.51	0.4	0.53
Q10_5_R	0.41	0.41	0.27	0.41	0.47	0.51	0.36	0.42	0.64	0.44	0.74	0.56	1	0.53	0.55	0.76	0.72	0.76	0.62	0.61
Q10_6_R	0.36	0.35	0.29	0.33	0.28	0.36	0.29	0.33	0.49	0.46	0.53	0.46	0.53	1	0.44	0.51	0.5	0.49	0.43	0.5
Q10_7_R	0.31	0.31	0.24	0.34	0.23	0.3	0.31	0.25	0.66	0.47	0.55	0.53	0.55	0.44	1	0.56	0.61	0.59	0.45	0.61
Q10_8_R	0.32	0.32	0.19	0.31	0.41	0.42	0.27	0.33	0.69	0.46	0.66	0.49	0.76	0.51	0.56	1	0.75	0.81	0.71	0.68
Q10_9_R	0.32	0.36	0.22	0.35	0.36	0.42	0.32	0.31	0.75	0.5	0.69	0.57	0.72	0.5	0.61	0.75	1	0.79	0.71	0.75
Q10_10_R	0.31	0.32	0.19	0.35	0.4	0.44	0.32	0.34	0.69	0.45	0.7	0.51	0.76	0.49	0.59	0.81	0.79	1	0.75	0.7
Q10_11_R	0.2	0.2	0.08	0.24	0.36	0.32	0.21	0.23	0.64	0.36	0.55	0.4	0.62	0.43	0.45	0.71	0.71	0.75	1	0.66
Q10_12_R	0.27	0.27	0.17	0.26	0.31	0.35	0.27	0.23	0.7	0.5	0.61	0.53	0.61	0.5	0.61	0.68	0.75	0.7	0.66	1

Table S4.20 Results of optimal parallel analysis - Pseudoscience spirituality – complete data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	61.8574**	9.578	10.6945
2	9.6547*	8.9193	9.7443
3	4.556	8.4033	9.0982
4	3.335	7.916	8.5439
5	2.7751	7.4215	7.998
6	2.5916	6.9686	7.4924
7	2.1004	6.5293	6.9883
8	2.007	6.078	6.5171
9	1.7963	5.6446	6.0726
10	1.5361	5.1967	5.6291
11	1.4367	4.7496	5.2039
12	1.2753	4.3142	4.8181
13	1.2084	3.8619	4.403
14	1.0677	3.421	3.9807
15	0.8784	2.9762	3.5247
16	0.7515	2.5303	3.0918
17	0.5194	2.0832	2.6591
18	0.3151	1.632	2.2123
19	0.1966	1.1466	1.7295
20	0.1413	0.6297	1.1716

** Advised number of dimensions when 95 percentile is considered: 1

* Advised number of dimensions when mean is considered: 2

Table S4.21 Results of optimal parallel analysis - Pseudoscience spirituality – imputed data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	51.9584*	9.5403	11.0373
2	13.3985*	8.9846	10.3119
3	5.2894	8.4692	9.5829
4	3.3426	7.9814	8.8158
5	3.2284	7.5215	8.3219
6	2.9382	7.0621	7.8186
7	2.6198	6.63	7.3139
8	2.4726	6.1645	6.7775
9	2.2604	5.7084	6.3071
10	2.175	5.2154	5.8319
11	1.8421	4.742	5.3062
12	1.584	4.2696	4.9182
13	1.444	3.803	4.4823
14	1.3894	3.3662	4.0131
15	1.2934	2.9063	3.6217
16	0.9557	2.4713	3.2238
17	0.9135	1.9955	2.7252
18	0.4463	1.534	2.2627
19	0.346	1.0669	1.6984
20	0.1023	0.5678	1.1368

* Advised number of dimensions: 2

Table S4.22 Results of exploratory factor analysis - Pseudoscience spirituality – complete data

variable	FA1 - loadings	FA2 - loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q11_1_R	0.01	0.84	0.72	0.28
Q11_2_R	0.03	0.78	0.64	0.36
Q11_3_R	-0.15	0.83	0.55	0.45
Q11_4_R	0.03	0.83	0.73	0.27
Q11_5_R	0.2	0.57	0.5	0.5
Q11_6_R	0.16	0.7	0.66	0.34
Q11_7_R	-0.01	0.7	0.49	0.51
Q11_8_R	0.08	0.68	0.55	0.45
Q10_1_R	0.91	-0.08	0.74	0.26
Q10_2_R	0.47	0.21	0.4	0.6
Q10_3_R	0.69	0.24	0.75	0.25
Q10_4_R	0.5	0.26	0.49	0.51
Q10_5_R	0.75	0.16	0.75	0.25
Q10_6_R	0.56	0.23	0.55	0.45
Q10_7_R	0.63	0.1	0.5	0.5
Q10_8_R	0.89	-0.02	0.77	0.23
Q10_9_R	0.9	0.01	0.83	0.17
Q10_10_R	0.86	0.04	0.79	0.21
Q10_11_R	0.86	-0.14	0.61	0.39
Q10_12_R	0.89	-0.05	0.74	0.26

Explained variance 0.38 0.26

Factor correlation 0.65

Table S4.23 Results of exploratory factor analysis - Pseudoscience spirituality – imputed data

variable	FA1 - loadings	FA2 - loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q11_1_R	-0.01	0.79	0.62	0.38
Q11_2_R	0	0.77	0.59	0.41
Q11_3_R	-0.13	0.76	0.5	0.5
Q11_4_R	0.01	0.77	0.61	0.39
Q11_5_R	0.16	0.55	0.41	0.59
Q11_6_R	0.12	0.73	0.63	0.37
Q11_7_R	0.05	0.62	0.42	0.58
Q11_8_R	0.04	0.69	0.51	0.49
Q10_1_R	0.81	0.02	0.67	0.33
Q10_2_R	0.49	0.14	0.33	0.67
Q10_3_R	0.67	0.23	0.66	0.34
Q10_4_R	0.55	0.15	0.41	0.59
Q10_5_R	0.74	0.17	0.71	0.29
Q10_6_R	0.52	0.19	0.4	0.6
Q10_7_R	0.67	0.05	0.49	0.51
Q10_8_R	0.87	-0.02	0.74	0.26
Q10_9_R	0.9	-0.02	0.79	0.21
Q10_10_R	0.9	-0.02	0.79	0.21
Q10_11_R	0.84	-0.14	0.61	0.39
Q10_12_R	0.87	-0.09	0.68	0.32

Explained variance 0.35 0.22

Factor correlation 0.5

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Pseudoscience spirituality – complete data

Alpha: 0.96

Omega Total 0.97

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Pseudoscience spirituality – imputed data

Alpha: 0.94

Omega Total 0.96

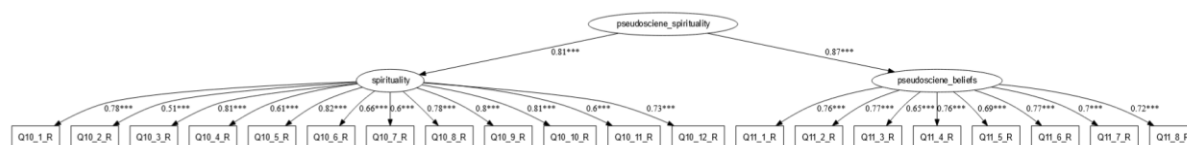


Figure S4.5 Confirmatory factor analysis – Pseudoscience spirituality – complete data

RMSEA robust 0.039

CFI robust 1

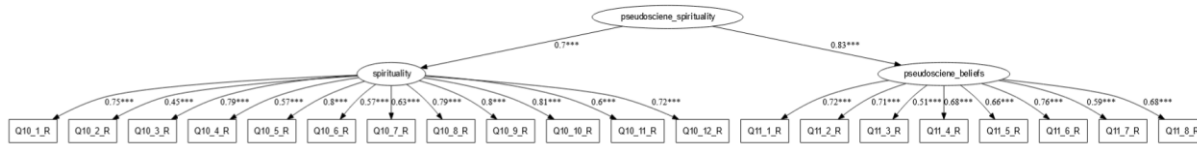


Figure S4.6 Confirmatory factor analysis – Pseudoscience spirituality – imputed data

RMSEA robust 0.051

CFI robust 0.986

Section 5 - Description of Media consumption orientation index

Table S5.1 Wording of the questions — Media consumption orientation

Q6_1 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- TV stations such as Nova, Prima, Barrandov
Q6_2 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- Czech Television (CT1, CT2, CT24...)
Q6_3 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- Czech Radio (Radiožurnál, Plus, Dvojka...)
Q6_4 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- Daily newspapers such as Lidove noviny, Hospodářské noviny, Právo, Deník, MF DNES
Q6_5 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- Daily newspapers such as Blesk, Aha
Q6_6 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- 6. Weekly magazines such as Respekt, Reflex
Q6_7 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- Radio stations such as Impuls, Frekvence 1, Evropa 2, Blaník
Q6_8 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- News websites such as Seznam zprávy, iDNES, Novinky, Aktuálně
Q6_9 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- News websites such as Echo24, Deník N, Deník Referendum, Forum 24
Q6_10 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- News websites such as Parlamentní listy
Q6_11 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- News websites such as Aeronet, Sputnik, AC24
Q6_12 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- Social media and posts on them, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
Q6_13 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- Messaging services such as Telegram, WhatsApp
Q6_14 How often do you read or watch news about politics and social happenings in the following media and sources?- Emails from friends and acquaintances

Table S5.2: Polychoric correlation matrix – Media consumption orientation

	Q6_1_R	Q6_2_R	Q6_3_R	Q6_4_R	Q6_5_R	Q6_6_R	Q6_7_R	Q6_8_R	Q6_9_R	Q6_10_R	Q6_11_R	Q6_12_R	Q6_13_R	Q6_14_R
Q6_1_R	1	0.54	0.18	0.19	0.37	0.14	0.41	0.26	0.1	0.13	0.17	0.17	0.19	0.35
Q6_2_R	0.54	1	0.53	0.41	0.29	0.4	0.26	0.4	0.35	0.13	0.06	0.07	0.14	0.23
Q6_3_R	0.18	0.53	1	0.5	0.28	0.54	0.25	0.29	0.45	0.25	0.24	0	0.14	0.14
Q6_4_R	0.19	0.41	0.5	1	0.47	0.61	0.26	0.36	0.48	0.38	0.28	0.12	0.17	0.18
Q6_5_R	0.37	0.29	0.28	0.47	1	0.49	0.26	0.23	0.31	0.35	0.38	0.22	0.23	0.32
Q6_6_R	0.14	0.4	0.54	0.61	0.49	1	0.17	0.28	0.58	0.4	0.38	0.11	0.21	0.13
Q6_7_R	0.41	0.26	0.25	0.26	0.26	0.17	1	0.29	0.12	0.17	0.24	0.19	0.26	0.35
Q6_8_R	0.26	0.4	0.29	0.36	0.23	0.28	0.29	1	0.42	0.22	0.04	0.2	0.19	0.26
Q6_9_R	0.1	0.35	0.45	0.48	0.31	0.58	0.12	0.42	1	0.47	0.4	0.15	0.15	0.1
Q6_10_R	0.13	0.13	0.25	0.38	0.35	0.4	0.17	0.22	0.47	1	0.58	0.13	0.17	0.17
Q6_11_R	0.17	0.06	0.24	0.28	0.38	0.38	0.24	0.04	0.4	0.58	1	0.21	0.27	0.21
Q6_12_R	0.17	0.07	0	0.12	0.22	0.11	0.19	0.2	0.15	0.13	0.21	1	0.38	0.34
Q6_13_R	0.19	0.14	0.14	0.17	0.23	0.21	0.26	0.19	0.15	0.17	0.27	0.38	1	0.52
Q6_14_R	0.35	0.23	0.14	0.18	0.32	0.13	0.35	0.26	0.1	0.17	0.21	0.34	0.52	1

Table S5.3 Results of optimal parallel analysis – Media consumption orientation

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	39.0373**	14.5183	18.1253
2	13.8793*	13.2201	15.9368
3	11.4050	12.0528	14.3107
4	8.1830	10.9209	12.6266
5	5.7821	9.8004	11.3523
6	5.6302	8.6604	9.999
7	4.7182	7.5790	9.0867
8	3.9105	6.5436	8.0908
9	2.5315	5.4984	7.1502
10	1.8974	4.4274	6.3221
11	1.6873	3.3562	5.2198
12	0.9721	2.2832	3.8274
13	0.3661	1.1393	2.5362

The optimal parallel analysis recommends one dimension based on the upper 95% confidence interval. However, it is also possible to include dimensions that are above the lower confidence interval. In the following analysis, we therefore examine results with one to three dimensions.

S5.4 Results of exploratory factor analysis – oblimin rotation

	1 factor solution	2 factor solution		3 factor solution		
	MR1	MR1	MR2	MR1	MR2	MR3
Q6_1	0.44	0.10	0.51	-0.08	0.46	0.43
Q6_2	0.57	0.44	0.23	0.12	0.11	0.79
Q6_3	0.60	0.65	-0.01	0.48	-0.08	0.41
Q6_4	0.69	0.72	0.04	0.60	0.00	0.27
Q6_5	0.62	0.44	0.30	0.42	0.29	0.11
Q6_6	0.71	0.83	-0.06	0.75	-0.07	0.18
Q6_7	0.44	0.12	0.48	0.05	0.44	0.22
Q6_8	0.50	0.35	0.25	0.20	0.19	0.35
Q6_9	0.64	0.75	-0.08	0.72	-0.08	0.11
Q6_10	0.53	0.52	0.07	0.68	0.10	-0.22
Q6_11	0.50	0.41	0.17	0.63	0.25	-0.33
Q6_12	0.29	-0.02	0.46	0.06	0.49	-0.09
Q6_13	0.39	0.02	0.57	0.08	0.59	-0.05
Q6_14	0.42	-0.07	0.77	-0.05	0.74	0.08

Explained variance 1 factor solution 0.29

Explained variance 2 factor solution 0.24 0.14

Explained variance 3 factor solution 0.21 0.13 0.11

Factor correlation 2 factor solution 0.36

Factor correlation 3 factor solution MR1-MR2: 0.31

Factor correlation 3 factor solution MR1-MR3: 0.28

Factor correlation 3 factor solution MR2-MR3: 0.15

S5.5 Results of exploratory factor analysis – varimax rotation

	1 factor solution	2 factor solution		3 factor solution		
	MR1	MR1	MR2	MR1	MR2	MR3
Q6_1	0.44	0.20	0.52	-0.02	0.47	0.44
Q6_2	0.57	0.47	0.30	0.10	0.84	0.14
Q6_3	0.60	0.64	0.11	0.42	0.55	0.00
Q6_4	0.69	0.72	0.17	0.56	0.46	0.09
Q6_5	0.62	0.48	0.38	0.43	0.28	0.34
Q6_6	0.71	0.80	0.09	0.68	0.40	0.03
Q6_7	0.44	0.21	0.50	0.10	0.29	0.44
Q6_8	0.50	0.39	0.31	0.20	0.44	0.22
Q6_9	0.64	0.73	0.06	0.66	0.32	0.02
Q6_10	0.53	0.52	0.16	0.66	0.01	0.19
Q6_11	0.50	0.43	0.25	0.64	-0.09	0.33
Q6_12	0.29	0.07	0.45	0.12	0.00	0.48
Q6_13	0.39	0.12	0.57	0.16	0.06	0.59
Q6_14	0.42	0.07	0.74	0.05	0.17	0.71

Explained variance 1 factor solution 0.29

Explained variance 2 factor solution 0.23 0.15

Explained variance 3 factor solution 0.18 0.15 0.13

Section 6 - Description and validity tests of the Macro-social adhesion and its subscales

Institutional trust

Table S6.1 Wording of the questions — Institutional trust

Q5_1 Please tell me how much you trust or distrust...? President of the Czech Republic
Q5_2 Please tell me how much you trust or distrust...? The government of the Czech Republic
Q5_3 Please tell me how much you trust or distrust...? The Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic
Q5_4 Please tell me how much you trust or distrust...? The press
Q5_5 Please tell me how much you trust or distrust...? Television
Q5_6 Please tell me how much you trust or distrust...? The radio
Q5_9 Please tell me how much you trust or distrust...? Scientists
Q8_1 Please tell me how much you trust or distrust...? - Public Television (Czech Television)
Q8_3 Please tell me how much you trust or distrust...? - Public Radio (Czech Radio)

Table S6.2 Number of missing values – Institutional trust

Number of missing values	Relative frequency
0	0.6698454
1	0.1639175
2	0.0688144
3	0.0368557
4	0.0231959
5	0.0131443
6	0.006701
7	0.0059278
8	0.003866
9	0.007732

Only 67% of the cases have all the answers. We proceed to analyze two datasets. One with only complete responses and the other with imputed responses with respondents who answered at least 2/3 of the questions.

Table S6.3 Polychoric correlation matrix – Institutional trust – complete data

	Q5_1_R	Q5_2_R	Q5_3_R	Q5_4_R	Q5_5_R	Q5_6_R	Q5_9_R	Q8_1_R	Q8_3_R
Q5_1_R	1	0.78	0.7	0.61	0.62	0.58	0.49	0.7	0.68
Q5_2_R	0.78	1	0.91	0.63	0.64	0.56	0.48	0.7	0.65
Q5_3_R	0.7	0.91	1	0.66	0.65	0.57	0.43	0.69	0.65
Q5_4_R	0.61	0.63	0.66	1	0.84	0.81	0.47	0.72	0.73
Q5_5_R	0.62	0.64	0.65	0.84	1	0.81	0.43	0.76	0.72
Q5_6_R	0.58	0.56	0.57	0.81	0.81	1	0.45	0.72	0.75
Q5_9_R	0.49	0.48	0.43	0.47	0.43	0.45	1	0.5	0.53
Q8_1_R	0.7	0.7	0.69	0.72	0.76	0.72	0.5	1	0.94
Q8_3_R	0.68	0.65	0.65	0.73	0.72	0.75	0.53	0.94	1

Table S6.4 Polychoric correlation matrix – Institutional trust – imputed data

	Q5_1_R	Q5_2_R	Q5_3_R	Q5_4_R	Q5_5_R	Q5_6_R	Q5_9_R	Q8_1_R	Q8_3_R
Q5_1_R	1	0.76	0.67	0.56	0.57	0.51	0.45	0.67	0.62
Q5_2_R	0.76	1	0.9	0.59	0.58	0.52	0.44	0.67	0.62
Q5_3_R	0.67	0.9	1	0.62	0.6	0.52	0.4	0.65	0.61
Q5_4_R	0.56	0.59	0.62	1	0.83	0.76	0.44	0.67	0.68
Q5_5_R	0.57	0.58	0.6	0.83	1	0.79	0.38	0.69	0.67
Q5_6_R	0.51	0.52	0.52	0.76	0.79	1	0.42	0.66	0.71
Q5_9_R	0.45	0.44	0.4	0.44	0.38	0.42	1	0.44	0.46
Q8_1_R	0.67	0.67	0.65	0.67	0.69	0.66	0.44	1	0.93
Q8_3_R	0.62	0.62	0.61	0.68	0.67	0.71	0.46	0.93	1

Table S6.5 Results of optimal parallel analysis – Institutional trust – complete data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	73.3662*	22.7379	28.4759
2	9.308	19.5201	23.869
3	7.1802	16.4036	19.4485
4	4.7753	13.625	15.9503
5	1.9687	10.9293	13.4198
6	1.7189	8.2441	11.0641
7	1.3857	5.691	9.092
8	0.297	2.849	5.6897

* Advised number of dimensions: 1

Table S6.6 Results of optimal parallel analysis – Institutional trust – imputed data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	70.1751*	22.5529	29.006
2	10.1924	19.3861	23.8306
3	8.2838	16.6282	19.7604
4	5.9904	13.8964	16.7496
5	2.0268	11.0234	13.9925
6	1.6567	8.2527	11.3073
7	1.4368	5.5579	9.033
8	0.2379	2.7023	5.7826

* Advised number of dimensions: 1

Table S6.7 Results of exploratory factor analysis – Institutional trust – complete data

variable	loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q5_1_R	0.79	0.63	0.37
Q5_2_R	0.82	0.68	0.32
Q5_3_R	0.81	0.66	0.34
Q5_4_R	0.85	0.72	0.28
Q5_5_R	0.85	0.73	0.27
Q5_6_R	0.81	0.66	0.34
Q5_9_R	0.56	0.32	0.68
Q8_1_R	0.9	0.81	0.19
Q8_3_R	0.88	0.78	0.22

Explained variance 0.66

Table S6.8 Results of exploratory factor analysis – Institutional trust – imputed data

variable	loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q5_1_R	0.76	0.58	0.42
Q5_2_R	0.81	0.66	0.34
Q5_3_R	0.79	0.63	0.37
Q5_4_R	0.83	0.68	0.32
Q5_5_R	0.82	0.68	0.32
Q5_6_R	0.78	0.61	0.39
Q5_9_R	0.52	0.27	0.73
Q8_1_R	0.87	0.77	0.23
Q8_3_R	0.86	0.74	0.26

Explained variance 0.62

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Institutional trust – complete data

Alpha: 0.94
Omega Total 0.95

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Institutional trust – imputed data

Alpha: 0.93
Omega Total 0.94

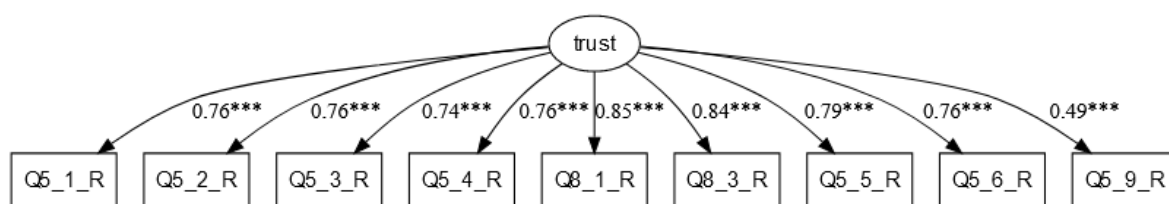


Figure S6.1 Confirmatory factor analysis – Institutional trust – complete data

RMSEA robust 0.088
CFI robust 0.983

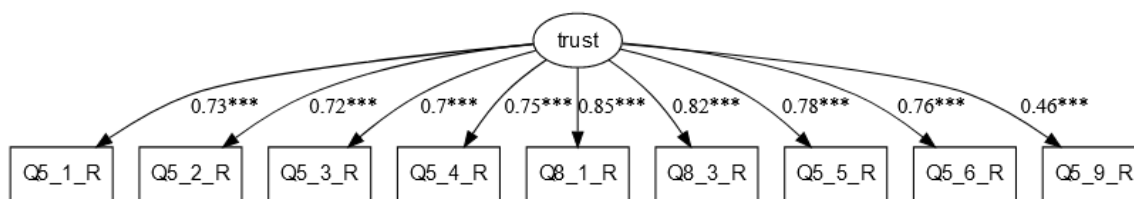


Figure S6.2 Confirmatory factor analysis – Institutional trust – imputed data

RMSEA robust 0.095
CFI robust 0.978

Although the exploratory factor analysis results indicate a single factor solution, the confirmatory factor analysis does not have acceptable RMSEA values. Therefore, based on the theory, we divided the items into three sub-factors - politics, media and science - which have acceptable RMSEA and CFI values.

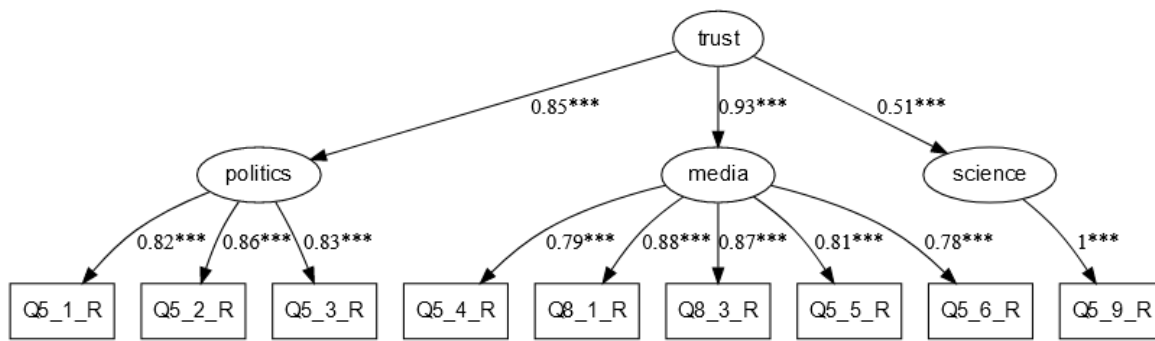


Figure S6.3 Confirmatory factor analysis – Institutional trust – complete data

RMSEA robust 0.058

CFI robust 0.993

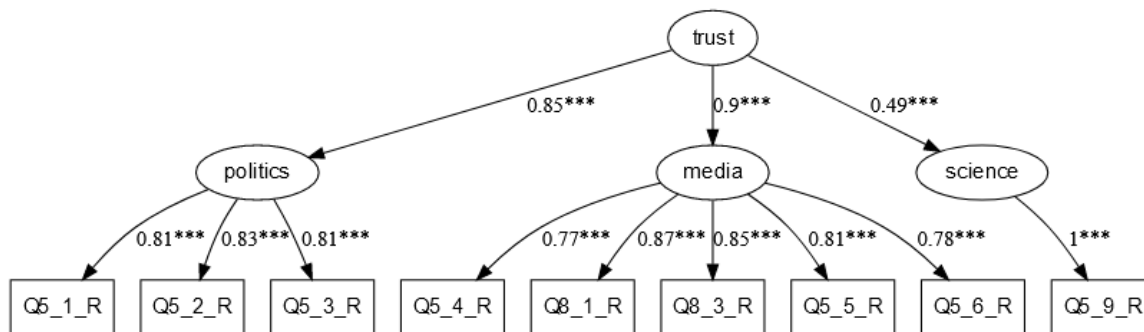


Figure S6.4 Confirmatory factor analysis – Institutional trust – imputed data

RMSEA robust 0.063

CFI robust 0.992

Table S6.9 Wording of the questions — Anomie

Q13_1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - There's little use going to public officials because they often aren't really interested in the problems of the average man.
Q13_2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - Nowadays, a person has to live pretty much for today and let tomorrow take care of itself.
Q13_3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - In spite of what some people say, the lot condition of the average man is getting worse, not better.
Q13_4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - It's hardly fair to bring a child into the world with the way things look for the future.
Q13_5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - These days a person doesn't really know whom he can count on.
Q13_6 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - Most people really don't care what happens to the next fellow.
Q13_7 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - Next to health, money is the most important thing in life .
Q13_8 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - You sometimes can't help wondering whether anything is worthwhile.
Q13_9 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - To make money there are no right and wrong ways anymore, only easy and hard ways.

Table S6.11 Number of missing values – Anomie

Number of missing values	Relative frequency
0	0.7262887
1	0.1381443
2	0.0631443
3	0.0247423
4	0.0126289
5	0.0064433
6	0.0041237
7	0.003866
8	0.0015464
9	0.0190722

Only 72% of the cases have all the answers. We proceed to analyze two datasets. One with only complete responses and the other with imputed responses with respondents who answered at least 2/3 of the questions.

Table S6.12: Polychoric correlation matrix – Anomie – complete data

	Q13_1_R	Q13_2_R	Q13_3_R	Q13_4_R	Q13_5_R	Q13_6_R	Q13_7_R	Q13_8_R	Q13_9_R
Q13_1_R	1	0.39	0.56	0.4	0.51	0.45	0.29	0.4	0.46
Q13_2_R	0.39	1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.32	0.36	0.37	0.5
Q13_3_R	0.56	0.4	1	0.45	0.55	0.45	0.41	0.45	0.54
Q13_4_R	0.4	0.4	0.45	1	0.45	0.35	0.36	0.4	0.43
Q13_5_R	0.51	0.4	0.55	0.45	1	0.54	0.34	0.49	0.46
Q13_6_R	0.45	0.32	0.45	0.35	0.54	1	0.26	0.38	0.38
Q13_7_R	0.29	0.36	0.41	0.36	0.34	0.26	1	0.31	0.41
Q13_8_R	0.4	0.37	0.45	0.4	0.49	0.38	0.31	1	0.41
Q13_9_R	0.46	0.5	0.54	0.43	0.46	0.38	0.41	0.41	1

Table S6.13: Polychoric correlation matrix – Anomie – imputed data

	Q13_1_R	Q13_2_R	Q13_3_R	Q13_4_R	Q13_5_R	Q13_6_R	Q13_7_R	Q13_8_R	Q13_9_R
Q13_1_R	1	0.4	0.57	0.4	0.49	0.44	0.28	0.41	0.46
Q13_2_R	0.4	1	0.41	0.42	0.37	0.29	0.36	0.4	0.47
Q13_3_R	0.57	0.41	1	0.42	0.53	0.44	0.38	0.44	0.53
Q13_4_R	0.4	0.42	0.42	1	0.41	0.31	0.27	0.41	0.4
Q13_5_R	0.49	0.37	0.53	0.41	1	0.56	0.36	0.5	0.45
Q13_6_R	0.44	0.29	0.44	0.31	0.56	1	0.31	0.37	0.39
Q13_7_R	0.28	0.36	0.38	0.27	0.36	0.31	1	0.29	0.44
Q13_8_R	0.41	0.4	0.44	0.41	0.5	0.37	0.29	1	0.4
Q13_9_R	0.46	0.47	0.53	0.4	0.45	0.39	0.44	0.4	1

Table S6.14 Results of optimal parallel analysis – Anomie – complete data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	58.0040*	22.9699	28.9328
2	9.5902	19.6084	24.194
3	8.3397	16.555	19.6377
4	7.0221	13.6211	16.2812
5	6.1822	10.8979	13.6204
6	5.2357	8.1899	11.3587
7	3.9897	5.3842	8.7401
8	1.6364	2.7737	6.1166

* Advised number of dimensions: 1

Table S6.15 Results of optimal parallel analysis – Anomie – imputed data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	56.0045*	22.9957	30.1257
2	10.6376	19.7033	24.3467
3	8.1099	16.4334	19.3413
4	8.0295	13.7314	16.3528
5	6.7944	10.8942	13.6603
6	5.3871	8.0996	11.4525
7	4.3893	5.4103	8.9586
8	0.6477	2.732	5.9274

* Advised number of dimensions: 1

Table S6.16 Results of exploratory factor analysis – Anomie – complete data

variable	loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q13_1_R	0.68	0.46	0.54
Q13_2_R	0.6	0.36	0.64
Q13_3_R	0.75	0.57	0.43
Q13_4_R	0.62	0.38	0.62
Q13_5_R	0.73	0.54	0.46
Q13_6_R	0.61	0.37	0.63
Q13_7_R	0.52	0.27	0.73
Q13_8_R	0.62	0.38	0.62
Q13_9_R	0.7	0.49	0.51

Explained variance 0.42

Table S6.17 Results of exploratory factor analysis – Anomie – imputed data

variable	loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q13_1_R	0.68	0.46	0.54
Q13_2_R	0.6	0.36	0.64
Q13_3_R	0.74	0.55	0.45
Q13_4_R	0.58	0.34	0.66
Q13_5_R	0.73	0.53	0.47
Q13_6_R	0.61	0.37	0.63
Q13_7_R	0.51	0.26	0.74
Q13_8_R	0.62	0.39	0.61
Q13_9_R	0.69	0.48	0.52

Explained variance 0.42

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Anomie – complete data

Alpha: 0.87
Omega Total 0.87

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Anomie – imputed data

Alpha: 0.86
Omega Total 0.86

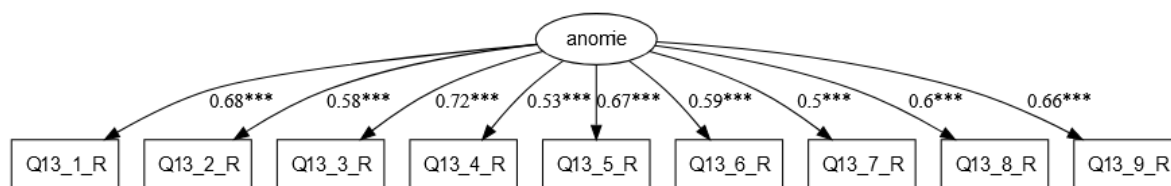


Figure S6.5 Confirmatory factor analysis – Anomie – complete data

RMSEA robust 0.037
CFI robust 0.994

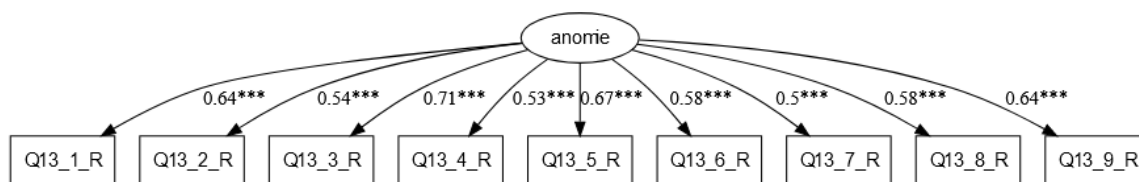


Figure S6.6 Confirmatory factor analysis – Anomie – imputed data

RMSEA robust 0.029
CFI robust 0.994

Macro-social adhesion

Table S6.18: Number of missing values – Macro-social adhesion

Number of missing values	Relative frequency
0	0.5435567
1	0.182732
2	0.0987113
3	0.0554124
4	0.031701
5	0.021134
6	0.0131443
7	0.0108247
8	0.0074742
9	0.0110825
10	0.0061856
11	0.0046392
12	0.0020619
13	0.0020619
14	0.0018041
15	0.0010309
16	0.0018041
17	0.0005155
18	0.0041237

Only 54% of the cases have all the answers. We proceed to analyze two datasets. One with only complete responses and the other with imputed responses with respondents who answered at least 2/3 of the questions.

Table S6.19: Polychoric correlation matrix – Macro-social adhesion – complete data

	Q5_1_R	Q5_2_R	Q5_3_R	Q5_4_R	Q5_5_R	Q5_6_R	Q5_9_R	Q8_1_R	Q8_3_R	Q13_1_R	Q13_2_R	Q13_3_R	Q13_4_R	Q13_5_R	Q13_6_R	Q13_7_R	Q13_8_R	Q13_9_R
Q5_1_R	1	0.8	0.69	0.59	0.61	0.54	0.49	0.7	0.68	0.45	0.21	0.45	0.26	0.38	0.31	0.16	0.25	0.28
Q5_2_R	0.8	1	0.89	0.61	0.6	0.56	0.48	0.7	0.66	0.52	0.28	0.55	0.28	0.44	0.36	0.21	0.26	0.35
Q5_3_R	0.69	0.89	1	0.63	0.63	0.54	0.43	0.66	0.66	0.5	0.27	0.53	0.31	0.41	0.37	0.2	0.24	0.35
Q5_4_R	0.59	0.61	0.63	1	0.83	0.77	0.5	0.72	0.72	0.38	0.18	0.3	0.17	0.3	0.26	0.08	0.15	0.23
Q5_5_R	0.61	0.6	0.63	0.83	1	0.8	0.46	0.75	0.72	0.35	0.14	0.27	0.2	0.29	0.23	0.01	0.16	0.19
Q5_6_R	0.54	0.56	0.54	0.77	0.8	1	0.47	0.7	0.72	0.31	0.11	0.23	0.17	0.25	0.21	0.03	0.13	0.21
Q5_9_R	0.49	0.48	0.43	0.5	0.46	0.47	1	0.51	0.55	0.29	0.27	0.28	0.21	0.19	0.13	0.09	0.11	0.2
Q8_1_R	0.7	0.7	0.66	0.72	0.75	0.7	0.51	1	0.94	0.42	0.2	0.4	0.22	0.34	0.28	0.12	0.19	0.29
Q8_3_R	0.68	0.66	0.66	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.55	0.94	1	0.43	0.25	0.4	0.24	0.35	0.3	0.13	0.21	0.31
Q13_1_R	0.45	0.52	0.5	0.38	0.35	0.31	0.29	0.42	0.43	1	0.43	0.61	0.39	0.54	0.48	0.32	0.42	0.48
Q13_2_R	0.21	0.28	0.27	0.18	0.14	0.11	0.27	0.2	0.25	0.43	1	0.44	0.43	0.41	0.35	0.39	0.37	0.47
Q13_3_R	0.45	0.55	0.53	0.3	0.27	0.23	0.28	0.4	0.4	0.61	0.44	1	0.43	0.56	0.51	0.42	0.46	0.53
Q13_4_R	0.26	0.28	0.31	0.17	0.2	0.17	0.21	0.22	0.24	0.39	0.43	0.43	1	0.42	0.36	0.3	0.4	0.42
Q13_5_R	0.38	0.44	0.41	0.3	0.29	0.25	0.19	0.34	0.35	0.54	0.41	0.56	0.42	1	0.56	0.31	0.54	0.45
Q13_6_R	0.31	0.36	0.37	0.26	0.23	0.21	0.13	0.28	0.3	0.48	0.35	0.51	0.36	0.56	1	0.3	0.42	0.42
Q13_7_R	0.16	0.21	0.2	0.08	0.01	0.03	0.09	0.12	0.13	0.32	0.39	0.42	0.3	0.31	0.3	1	0.32	0.46
Q13_8_R	0.25	0.26	0.24	0.15	0.16	0.13	0.11	0.19	0.21	0.42	0.37	0.46	0.4	0.54	0.42	0.32	1	0.43
Q13_9_R	0.28	0.35	0.35	0.23	0.19	0.21	0.2	0.29	0.31	0.48	0.47	0.53	0.42	0.45	0.42	0.46	0.43	1

Table S6.20: Polychoric correlation matrix – Macro-social adhesion – imputed data

	Q5_1_R	Q5_2_R	Q5_3_R	Q5_4_R	Q5_5_R	Q5_6_R	Q5_9_R	Q8_1_R	Q8_3_R	Q13_1_R	Q13_2_R	Q13_3_R	Q13_4_R	Q13_5_R	Q13_6_R	Q13_7_R	Q13_8_R	Q13_9_R
Q5_1_R	1	0.78	0.7	0.57	0.59	0.54	0.48	0.69	0.64	0.41	0.23	0.45	0.27	0.34	0.26	0.13	0.22	0.24
Q5_2_R	0.78	1	0.9	0.6	0.59	0.55	0.47	0.69	0.62	0.49	0.27	0.55	0.3	0.41	0.32	0.21	0.23	0.33
Q5_3_R	0.7	0.9	1	0.62	0.61	0.53	0.41	0.65	0.62	0.48	0.26	0.52	0.31	0.4	0.34	0.2	0.24	0.34
Q5_4_R	0.57	0.6	0.62	1	0.85	0.76	0.46	0.69	0.7	0.39	0.17	0.35	0.25	0.33	0.3	0.08	0.17	0.22
Q5_5_R	0.59	0.59	0.61	0.85	1	0.8	0.42	0.72	0.71	0.37	0.14	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.27	0.04	0.16	0.17
Q5_6_R	0.54	0.55	0.53	0.76	0.8	1	0.43	0.68	0.73	0.3	0.12	0.26	0.17	0.24	0.23	0.05	0.11	0.19
Q5_9_R	0.48	0.47	0.41	0.46	0.42	0.43	1	0.47	0.48	0.2	0.24	0.26	0.2	0.16	0.08	0.05	0.07	0.16
Q8_1_R	0.69	0.69	0.65	0.69	0.72	0.68	0.47	1	0.93	0.39	0.19	0.42	0.23	0.3	0.23	0.11	0.15	0.25
Q8_3_R	0.64	0.62	0.62	0.7	0.71	0.73	0.48	0.93	1	0.39	0.23	0.42	0.24	0.33	0.27	0.13	0.18	0.28
Q13_1_R	0.41	0.49	0.48	0.39	0.37	0.3	0.2	0.39	0.39	1	0.4	0.56	0.39	0.51	0.44	0.25	0.4	0.44
Q13_2_R	0.23	0.27	0.26	0.17	0.14	0.12	0.24	0.19	0.23	0.4	1	0.4	0.39	0.39	0.32	0.34	0.35	0.43
Q13_3_R	0.45	0.55	0.52	0.35	0.3	0.26	0.26	0.42	0.42	0.56	0.4	1	0.41	0.53	0.42	0.35	0.41	0.5
Q13_4_R	0.27	0.3	0.31	0.25	0.2	0.17	0.2	0.23	0.24	0.39	0.39	0.41	1	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.39	0.41
Q13_5_R	0.34	0.41	0.4	0.33	0.3	0.24	0.16	0.3	0.33	0.51	0.39	0.53	0.4	1	0.53	0.33	0.5	0.45
Q13_6_R	0.26	0.32	0.34	0.3	0.27	0.23	0.08	0.23	0.27	0.44	0.32	0.42	0.3	0.53	1	0.26	0.39	0.37
Q13_7_R	0.13	0.21	0.2	0.08	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.11	0.13	0.25	0.34	0.35	0.3	0.33	0.26	1	0.28	0.42
Q13_8_R	0.22	0.23	0.24	0.17	0.16	0.11	0.07	0.15	0.18	0.4	0.35	0.41	0.39	0.5	0.39	0.28	1	0.38
Q13_9_R	0.24	0.33	0.34	0.22	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.25	0.28	0.44	0.43	0.5	0.41	0.45	0.37	0.42	0.38	1

Table S6.21 Results of optimal parallel analysis – Macro-social adhesion – complete data

Variable	Real- data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	47.3336*	11.265	13.0077
2	16.7291*	10.4621	11.9316
3	5.1576	9.7619	11.0011
4	4.7425	9.0595	10.0577
5	3.6606	8.382	9.2782
6	3.4318	7.728	8.5515
7	3.0996	7.0807	7.8233
8	2.706	6.443	7.126
9	2.4525	5.8125	6.5041
10	2.31	5.2086	5.9494
11	2.1722	4.592	5.4055
12	1.8782	3.9313	4.8098
13	1.5385	3.3174	4.1291
14	1.3146	2.6869	3.5693
15	0.9335	2.076	2.9803
16	0.3143	1.4352	2.2248
17	0.2255	0.7579	1.4308

* Advised number of dimensions: 2

Table S6.22 Results of optimal parallel analysis – Macro-social adhesion – imputed data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	51.1624*	11.2506	13.2854
2	17.3870*	10.4815	12.178
3	5.4666	9.7487	11.1048
4	4.5882	9.0955	10.243
5	4.0107	8.4219	9.4187
6	3.267	7.7862	8.6899
7	2.9222	7.1209	8.0136
8	1.9459	6.4926	7.3013
9	1.8379	5.8208	6.647
10	1.668	5.1946	6.0667
11	1.4766	4.5457	5.5041
12	1.2517	3.9132	4.9128
13	0.9115	3.2929	4.3844
14	0.7324	2.6677	3.7958
15	0.5705	2.0443	3.0963
16	0.5132	1.3999	2.3959
17	0.2881	0.7228	1.4918

* Advised number of dimensions: 2

Table S6.23 Results of exploratory factor analysis – Macro-social adhesion – complete data

variable	FA1 - loadings	FA2 - loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q5_1_R	0.7	0.17	0.62	0.38
Q5_2_R	0.66	0.31	0.71	0.29
Q5_3_R	0.64	0.28	0.64	0.36
Q5_4_R	0.89	-0.04	0.76	0.24
Q5_5_R	0.9	-0.09	0.75	0.25
Q5_6_R	0.87	-0.12	0.68	0.32
Q5_9_R	0.54	0.05	0.31	0.69
Q8_1_R	0.89	-0.01	0.8	0.2
Q8_3_R	0.87	0.03	0.78	0.22
Q13_1_R	0.19	0.61	0.51	0.49
Q13_2_R	-0.03	0.61	0.36	0.64
Q13_3_R	0.15	0.69	0.58	0.42
Q13_4_R	0	0.63	0.39	0.61
Q13_5_R	0.07	0.67	0.5	0.5
Q13_6_R	0.03	0.59	0.37	0.63
Q13_7_R	-0.18	0.59	0.29	0.71
Q13_8_R	-0.1	0.64	0.37	0.63
Q13_9_R	-0.04	0.74	0.52	0.48

Explained variance 0.32 0.23

Factor correlation 0.43

Table S6.24 Results of optimal parallel analysis – Macro-social adhesion – imputed data

variable	FA1 - loadings	FA2 - loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q5_1_R	0.7	0.11	0.57	0.43
Q5_2_R	0.68	0.26	0.69	0.31
Q5_3_R	0.65	0.25	0.64	0.36
Q5_4_R	0.84	-0.04	0.68	0.32
Q5_5_R	0.88	-0.09	0.71	0.29
Q5_6_R	0.88	-0.09	0.7	0.3
Q5_9_R	0.51	0.05	0.28	0.72
Q8_1_R	0.9	-0.03	0.79	0.21
Q8_3_R	0.86	0.02	0.76	0.24
Q13_1_R	0.21	0.58	0.49	0.51
Q13_2_R	-0.04	0.63	0.37	0.63
Q13_3_R	0.14	0.7	0.59	0.41
Q13_4_R	0.01	0.59	0.35	0.65
Q13_5_R	0.03	0.72	0.54	0.46
Q13_6_R	0.05	0.64	0.43	0.57
Q13_7_R	-0.13	0.6	0.31	0.69
Q13_8_R	-0.09	0.68	0.42	0.58
Q13_9_R	-0.04	0.73	0.51	0.49

Explained variance 0.32 0.23

Factor correlation 0.46

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Macro-social adhesion – complete data

Alpha: 0.92
Omega Total 0.94

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Macro-social adhesion – imputed data

Alpha: 0.92
Omega Total 0.94

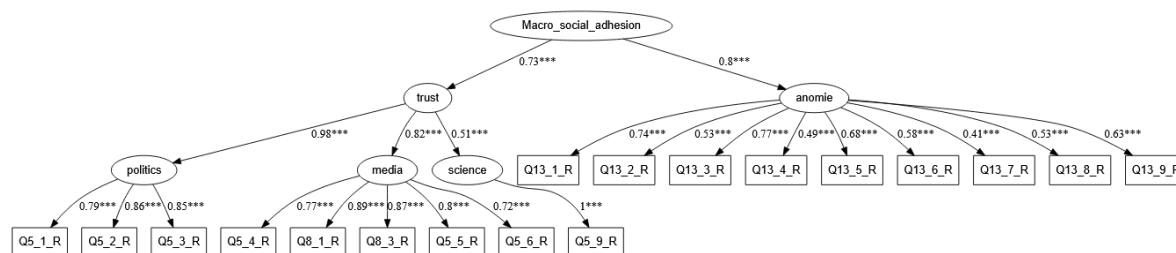


Figure S6.7 Confirmatory factor analysis - Macro-social adhesion – complete data

RMSEA robust 0.044
CFI robust 0.991

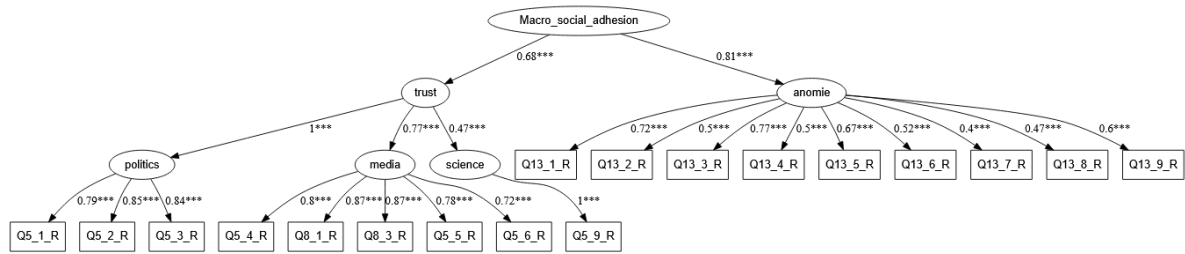


Figure S6.8 Confirmatory factor analysis - Macro-social adhesion – imputed data

RMSEA robust 0.047

CFI robust 0.986

Section 7 - Description and validity tests of the Conspiracy narratives

Table S7.1 Wording of the questions – Conspiracy narratives

Q1A_R1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - 5G transmitters cause significant harm to human health.
Q1A_R2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - Information about the serious harmful side effects of the COVID-19 vaccination is being deliberately withheld.
Q1A_R3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - Traces behind the planes contain secretly added dangerous chemical or biological agents.
Q1A_R4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - Much evidence suggests that Lady Diana was murdered and her accident was staged.
Q1A_R5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - Western medicine refuses to address the causes of disease, it deals only with the consequences. It is essential for a healthy body that one harmonizes the mind and works with the energies of nature.
Q2A_R1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - Illegal migration from African countries is an organised action that is intended to lead to the domination of Europe by a mixed race.
Q2A_R2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - Islam is a totalitarian ideology that proclaims the subjugation of all cultures and the establishment of Sharia law.
Q2A_R3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - The adoption of the so-called Istanbul Convention on combating violence against women and domestic violence will lead immediately to the destruction of the traditional family.
Q2A_R4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - The billionaire George Soros is trying to subvert the states in Europe and their culture.
Q2A_R5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - The results of the 2020 US election were rigged to give Joe Biden the win over Donald Trump.
Q3A_R1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - The attacks on the New York skyscrapers on 11 September 2001 were in fact the work of the US Government or the secret services.
Q3A_R2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - In fact, the COVID-19 pandemic was invented as an excuse to control people.
Q3A_R3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - Vaccination against COVID-19 is part of a plan to reduce the number of people on the earth.
Q3A_R4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - There is a secret society of satanic paedophiles that tried to overthrow former US President Donald Trump.
Q3A_R5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - The world is actually run by hidden elites who are more powerful than individual governments, politicians are just their puppets.
Q4A_R1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - Russia was pushed into the war in Ukraine because of the hostile behaviour of NATO countries.
Q4A_R2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - Western civilisation is corrupt, while Russia is preserving traditional values and the family.
Q4A_R3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - The Velvet Revolution in 1989 was pre-arranged.
Q4A_R4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - The results of the 2023 presidential election were rigged.
Q4A_R5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - The Slavic nations are like brothers and sisters, and Russia is defending their interests.

Table S7.2: Number of missing values – Conspiracy narratives

Number of missing values	Relative frequency
0	0.2257732
1	0.1458763
2	0.1260309
3	0.0956186
4	0.0902062
5	0.0608247
6	0.0615979
7	0.0404639
8	0.0350515
9	0.0278351
10	0.0185567
11	0.0195876
12	0.0108247
13	0.0074742
14	0.0074742
15	0.0069588
16	0.0036082
17	0.0020619
18	0.0043814
19	0.003866
20	0.0059278

Only 23% of the cases have all the answers. We proceed to analyze two datasets. One with only complete responses and the other with imputed responses with respondents who answered at least 2/3 of the questions.

Table S7.3: Polychoric correlation matrix – Conspiracy narratives – complete data

	Q1A_R1_R	Q1A_R2_R	Q1A_R3_R	Q1A_R4_R	Q1A_R5_R	Q2A_R1_R	Q2A_R2_R	Q2A_R3_R	Q2A_R4_R	Q2A_R5_R	Q3A_R1_R	Q3A_R2_R	Q3A_R3_R	Q3A_R4_R	Q3A_R5_R	Q4A_R1_R	Q4A_R2_R	Q4A_R3_R	Q4A_R4_R	Q4A_R5_R
Q1A_R1_R	1	0.66	0.67	0.54	0.52	0.52	0.23	0.42	0.56	0.6	0.59	0.57	0.63	0.65	0.69	0.61	0.59	0.51	0.61	0.57
Q1A_R2_R	0.66	1	0.7	0.59	0.58	0.63	0.36	0.47	0.64	0.68	0.75	0.71	0.81	0.85	0.63	0.67	0.67	0.61	0.67	0.61
Q1A_R3_R	0.67	0.7	1	0.59	0.57	0.67	0.34	0.55	0.71	0.71	0.7	0.73	0.75	0.78	0.75	0.67	0.71	0.58	0.68	0.68
Q1A_R4_R	0.54	0.59	0.59	1	0.42	0.46	0.27	0.35	0.51	0.59	0.55	0.6	0.67	0.67	0.58	0.47	0.5	0.49	0.58	0.5
Q1A_R5_R	0.52	0.58	0.57	0.42	1	0.5	0.22	0.31	0.44	0.52	0.5	0.51	0.54	0.56	0.55	0.42	0.42	0.41	0.52	0.44
Q2A_R1_R	0.52	0.63	0.67	0.46	0.5	1	0.54	0.59	0.68	0.73	0.65	0.61	0.71	0.72	0.6	0.61	0.6	0.63	0.67	0.56
Q2A_R2_R	0.23	0.36	0.34	0.27	0.22	0.54	1	0.28	0.39	0.4	0.33	0.23	0.39	0.37	0.25	0.28	0.35	0.34	0.39	0.17
Q2A_R3_R	0.42	0.47	0.55	0.35	0.31	0.59	0.28	1	0.58	0.45	0.55	0.56	0.52	0.56	0.54	0.52	0.6	0.41	0.53	0.43
Q2A_R4_R	0.56	0.64	0.71	0.51	0.44	0.68	0.39	0.58	1	0.73	0.7	0.65	0.73	0.74	0.6	0.65	0.66	0.59	0.7	0.56
Q2A_R5_R	0.6	0.68	0.71	0.59	0.52	0.73	0.4	0.45	0.73	1	0.67	0.67	0.75	0.8	0.62	0.64	0.63	0.68	0.7	0.6
Q3A_R1_R	0.59	0.75	0.7	0.55	0.5	0.65	0.33	0.55	0.7	0.67	1	0.76	0.8	0.81	0.7	0.72	0.75	0.66	0.8	0.63
Q3A_R2_R	0.57	0.71	0.73	0.6	0.51	0.61	0.23	0.56	0.65	0.67	0.76	1	0.79	0.79	0.7	0.67	0.74	0.59	0.66	0.6
Q3A_R3_R	0.63	0.81	0.75	0.67	0.54	0.71	0.39	0.52	0.73	0.75	0.8	0.79	1	0.9	0.73	0.66	0.72	0.64	0.75	0.67
Q3A_R4_R	0.65	0.85	0.78	0.67	0.56	0.72	0.37	0.56	0.74	0.8	0.81	0.79	0.9	1	0.72	0.7	0.74	0.64	0.75	0.67
Q3A_R5_R	0.69	0.63	0.75	0.58	0.55	0.6	0.25	0.54	0.6	0.62	0.7	0.7	0.73	0.72	1	0.58	0.69	0.54	0.67	0.64
Q4A_R1_R	0.61	0.67	0.67	0.47	0.42	0.61	0.28	0.52	0.65	0.64	0.72	0.67	0.66	0.7	0.58	1	0.85	0.59	0.72	0.7
Q4A_R2_R	0.59	0.67	0.71	0.5	0.42	0.6	0.35	0.6	0.66	0.63	0.75	0.74	0.72	0.74	0.69	0.85	1	0.59	0.71	0.77
Q4A_R3_R	0.51	0.61	0.58	0.49	0.41	0.63	0.34	0.41	0.59	0.68	0.66	0.59	0.64	0.64	0.54	0.59	0.59	1	0.69	0.54
Q4A_R4_R	0.61	0.67	0.68	0.58	0.52	0.67	0.39	0.53	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.66	0.75	0.75	0.67	0.72	0.71	0.69	1	0.65
Q4A_R5_R	0.57	0.61	0.68	0.5	0.44	0.56	0.17	0.43	0.56	0.6	0.63	0.6	0.67	0.67	0.64	0.7	0.77	0.54	0.65	1

Table S7.4: Polychoric correlation matrix – Conspiracy narratives – imputed data

	Q1A_R1_R	Q1A_R2_R	Q1A_R3_R	Q1A_R4_R	Q1A_R5_R	Q2A_R1_R	Q2A_R2_R	Q2A_R3_R	Q2A_R4_R	Q2A_R5_R	Q3A_R1_R	Q3A_R2_R	Q3A_R3_R	Q3A_R4_R	Q3A_R5_R	Q4A_R1_R	Q4A_R2_R	Q4A_R3_R	Q4A_R4_R	Q4A_R5_R
Q1A_R1_R	1	0.52	0.61	0.39	0.46	0.42	0.21	0.31	0.47	0.46	0.48	0.44	0.47	0.56	0.5	0.45	0.46	0.39	0.45	0.4
Q1A_R2_R	0.52	1	0.55	0.47	0.48	0.51	0.29	0.34	0.57	0.6	0.59	0.55	0.69	0.76	0.49	0.5	0.52	0.44	0.56	0.46
Q1A_R3_R	0.61	0.55	1	0.46	0.41	0.46	0.23	0.41	0.53	0.5	0.55	0.53	0.6	0.69	0.59	0.49	0.51	0.37	0.52	0.5
Q1A_R4_R	0.39	0.47	0.46	1	0.31	0.34	0.21	0.2	0.38	0.47	0.4	0.51	0.48	0.5	0.46	0.31	0.35	0.4	0.4	0.34
Q1A_R5_R	0.46	0.48	0.41	0.31	1	0.38	0.2	0.19	0.36	0.45	0.39	0.4	0.42	0.45	0.36	0.33	0.3	0.32	0.34	0.3
Q2A_R1_R	0.42	0.51	0.46	0.34	0.38	1	0.48	0.48	0.66	0.64	0.55	0.51	0.55	0.59	0.44	0.5	0.49	0.5	0.52	0.41
Q2A_R2_R	0.21	0.29	0.23	0.21	0.2	0.48	1	0.21	0.4	0.34	0.25	0.2	0.31	0.31	0.18	0.18	0.21	0.29	0.24	0.18
Q2A_R3_R	0.31	0.34	0.41	0.2	0.19	0.48	0.21	1	0.49	0.35	0.46	0.38	0.34	0.4	0.38	0.43	0.47	0.24	0.42	0.4
Q2A_R4_R	0.47	0.57	0.53	0.38	0.36	0.66	0.4	0.49	1	0.68	0.65	0.55	0.59	0.63	0.53	0.57	0.6	0.51	0.55	0.51
Q2A_R5_R	0.46	0.6	0.5	0.47	0.45	0.64	0.34	0.35	0.68	1	0.61	0.61	0.62	0.65	0.53	0.55	0.55	0.54	0.56	0.43
Q3A_R1_R	0.48	0.59	0.55	0.4	0.39	0.55	0.25	0.46	0.65	0.61	1	0.64	0.63	0.66	0.6	0.61	0.64	0.52	0.65	0.52
Q3A_R2_R	0.44	0.55	0.53	0.51	0.4	0.51	0.2	0.38	0.55	0.61	0.64	1	0.6	0.64	0.64	0.6	0.6	0.53	0.57	0.49
Q3A_R3_R	0.47	0.69	0.6	0.48	0.42	0.55	0.31	0.34	0.59	0.62	0.63	0.6	1	0.83	0.59	0.52	0.54	0.46	0.56	0.51
Q3A_R4_R	0.56	0.76	0.69	0.5	0.45	0.59	0.31	0.4	0.63	0.65	0.66	0.64	0.83	1	0.65	0.54	0.56	0.47	0.63	0.56
Q3A_R5_R	0.5	0.49	0.59	0.46	0.36	0.44	0.18	0.38	0.53	0.53	0.6	0.64	0.59	0.65	1	0.5	0.59	0.39	0.56	0.56
Q4A_R1_R	0.45	0.5	0.49	0.31	0.33	0.5	0.18	0.43	0.57	0.55	0.61	0.6	0.52	0.54	0.5	1	0.8	0.5	0.65	0.59
Q4A_R2_R	0.46	0.52	0.51	0.35	0.3	0.49	0.21	0.47	0.6	0.55	0.64	0.6	0.54	0.56	0.59	0.8	1	0.49	0.65	0.66
Q4A_R3_R	0.39	0.44	0.37	0.4	0.32	0.5	0.29	0.24	0.51	0.54	0.52	0.53	0.46	0.47	0.39	0.5	0.49	1	0.48	0.37
Q4A_R4_R	0.45	0.56	0.52	0.4	0.34	0.52	0.24	0.42	0.55	0.56	0.65	0.57	0.56	0.63	0.56	0.65	0.65	0.48	1	0.56
Q4A_R5_R	0.4	0.46	0.5	0.34	0.3	0.41	0.18	0.4	0.51	0.43	0.52	0.49	0.51	0.56	0.56	0.59	0.66	0.37	0.56	1

Table S7.5 Results of optimal parallel analysis – Conspiracy narratives – complete data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	66.7394*	10.1158	11.2585
2	5.4859	9.3467	10.1843
3	4.1779	8.7554	9.4998
4	3.2575	8.1999	8.8185
5	2.8767	7.6801	8.2862
6	2.4354	7.1717	7.7083
7	2.1301	6.6765	7.1885
8	2.0585	6.192	6.6649
9	1.8838	5.698	6.1639
10	1.5882	5.2139	5.7024
11	1.4904	4.7245	5.2015
12	1.3297	4.2609	4.8059
13	1.0631	3.7742	4.3899
14	0.9506	3.2908	3.845
15	0.8497	2.8089	3.3506
16	0.6851	2.3197	2.8861
17	0.4983	1.8038	2.415
18	0.2849	1.2634	1.8226
19	0.2149	0.7037	1.2617

* Advised number of dimensions: 1

Table S7.6 Results of optimal parallel analysis – Conspiracy narratives – imputed data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	52.4990*	10.1151	11.8967
2	7.1528	9.4781	10.8358
3	6.102	8.9259	10.1334
4	5.0129	8.3874	9.3956
5	4.3651	7.8414	8.7803
6	3.6574	7.2882	8.1491
7	3.582	6.7289	7.4256
8	3.0224	6.2125	6.834
9	2.6957	5.6965	6.3198
10	2.3084	5.1818	5.8191
11	1.9653	4.7099	5.4345
12	1.823	4.2123	5.0054
13	1.6861	3.7105	4.522
14	1.3229	3.2237	4.1577
15	0.9999	2.7201	3.5797
16	0.8693	2.1994	3.0841
17	0.5946	1.6551	2.6069
18	0.3188	1.1246	1.8238
19	0.0223	0.5886	1.2381

* Advised number of dimensions: 1

Table S7.7 Results of exploratory factor analysis – Conspiracy narratives – complete data

variable	loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q1A_R1_R	0.73	0.53	0.47
Q1A_R2_R	0.84	0.71	0.29
Q1A_R3_R	0.86	0.74	0.26
Q1A_R4_R	0.67	0.45	0.55
Q1A_R5_R	0.6	0.36	0.64
Q2A_R1_R	0.79	0.62	0.38
Q2A_R2_R	0.41	0.16	0.84
Q2A_R3_R	0.62	0.39	0.61
Q2A_R4_R	0.81	0.65	0.35
Q2A_R5_R	0.83	0.69	0.31
Q3A_R1_R	0.87	0.75	0.25
Q3A_R2_R	0.83	0.7	0.3
Q3A_R3_R	0.9	0.82	0.18
Q3A_R4_R	0.93	0.86	0.14
Q3A_R5_R	0.8	0.65	0.35
Q4A_R1_R	0.8	0.64	0.36
Q4A_R2_R	0.84	0.7	0.3
Q4A_R3_R	0.73	0.53	0.47
Q4A_R4_R	0.85	0.72	0.28
Q4A_R5_R	0.75	0.57	0.43

Explained variance 0.61

Table S7.8 Results of exploratory factor analysis – Conspiracy narratives – imputed data

variable	loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q1A_R1_R	0.64	0.41	0.59
Q1A_R2_R	0.75	0.57	0.43
Q1A_R3_R	0.73	0.53	0.47
Q1A_R4_R	0.56	0.31	0.69
Q1A_R5_R	0.51	0.26	0.74
Q2A_R1_R	0.71	0.5	0.5
Q2A_R2_R	0.36	0.13	0.87
Q2A_R3_R	0.52	0.27	0.73
Q2A_R4_R	0.78	0.61	0.39
Q2A_R5_R	0.77	0.6	0.4
Q3A_R1_R	0.8	0.64	0.36
Q3A_R2_R	0.77	0.59	0.41
Q3A_R3_R	0.79	0.63	0.37
Q3A_R4_R	0.86	0.73	0.27
Q3A_R5_R	0.73	0.54	0.46
Q4A_R1_R	0.74	0.55	0.45
Q4A_R2_R	0.77	0.59	0.41
Q4A_R3_R	0.62	0.38	0.62
Q4A_R4_R	0.76	0.57	0.43
Q4A_R5_R	0.67	0.45	0.55

Explained variance 0.49

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Conspiracy narratives – complete data

Alpha: 0.97
Omega Total 0.97

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Conspiracy narratives – imputed data

Alpha: 0.95
Omega Total 0.95

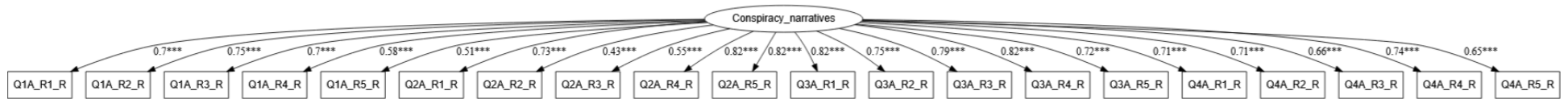


Figure S7.1 Confirmatory factor analysis - Conspiracy narratives – complete data

RMSEA robust 0.041
CFI robust 0.990

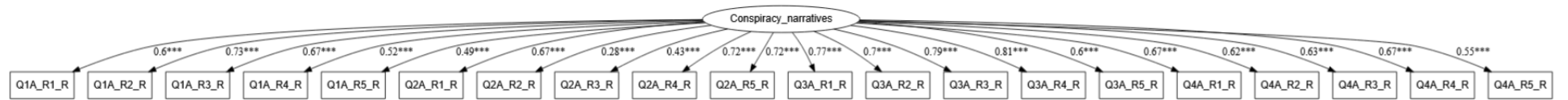


Figure S7.1 Confirmatory factor analysis - Conspiracy narratives – imputed data

RMSEA robust 0.046
CFI robust 0.985

Reduced scale

The reduced scale includes only those items that refer directly to a secret conspiracy. These items are: Q1A_R2, Q1A_R3, Q1A_R4, Q2A_R1, Q2A_R4, Q2A_R5, Q3A_R1, Q3A_R2, Q3A_R3, Q3A_R4, Q3A_R5, Q4A_R3, Q4A_R4

Table S7.9: Number of missing values – Conspiracy narratives – reduced scale

Number of missing values	Relative frequency
0	0.2623711
1	0.1865979
2	0.1533505
3	0.1103093
4	0.0842784
5	0.0608247
6	0.0445876
7	0.0363402
8	0.0198454
9	0.0154639
10	0.0072165
11	0.0043814
12	0.0059278
13	0.0085052

Only 26% of the cases have all the answers. We proceed to analyze two datasets. One with only complete responses and the other with imputed responses with respondents who answered at least 2/3 of the questions.

Table S7.10: Polychoric correlation matrix – Conspiracy narratives – reduced scale - complete data

	Q1A_R2_R	Q1A_R3_R	Q1A_R4_R	Q2A_R1_R	Q2A_R4_R	Q2A_R5_R	Q3A_R1_R	Q3A_R2_R	Q3A_R3_R	Q3A_R4_R	Q3A_R5_R	Q4A_R3_R	Q4A_R4_R
Q1A_R2_R	1	0.64	0.53	0.59	0.63	0.65	0.69	0.59	0.76	0.81	0.59	0.54	0.61
Q1A_R3_R	0.64	1	0.59	0.58	0.63	0.64	0.62	0.61	0.68	0.75	0.7	0.44	0.62
Q1A_R4_R	0.53	0.59	1	0.4	0.44	0.6	0.56	0.61	0.57	0.58	0.53	0.44	0.56
Q2A_R1_R	0.59	0.58	0.4	1	0.65	0.67	0.63	0.58	0.63	0.67	0.54	0.53	0.61
Q2A_R4_R	0.63	0.63	0.44	0.65	1	0.71	0.72	0.56	0.65	0.68	0.57	0.55	0.65
Q2A_R5_R	0.65	0.64	0.6	0.67	0.71	1	0.69	0.66	0.71	0.74	0.6	0.62	0.63
Q3A_R1_R	0.69	0.62	0.56	0.63	0.72	0.69	1	0.73	0.74	0.76	0.68	0.63	0.77
Q3A_R2_R	0.59	0.61	0.61	0.58	0.56	0.66	0.73	1	0.69	0.71	0.61	0.57	0.57
Q3A_R3_R	0.76	0.68	0.57	0.63	0.65	0.71	0.74	0.69	1	0.86	0.69	0.52	0.66
Q3A_R4_R	0.81	0.75	0.58	0.67	0.68	0.74	0.76	0.71	0.86	1	0.74	0.52	0.69
Q3A_R5_R	0.59	0.7	0.53	0.54	0.57	0.6	0.68	0.61	0.69	0.74	1	0.51	0.65
Q4A_R3_R	0.54	0.44	0.44	0.53	0.55	0.62	0.63	0.57	0.52	0.52	0.51	1	0.61
Q4A_R4_R	0.61	0.62	0.56	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.77	0.57	0.66	0.69	0.65	0.61	1

Table S7.11: Polychoric correlation matrix – Conspiracy narratives – reduced scale - imputed data

	Q1A_R2_R	Q1A_R3_R	Q1A_R4_R	Q2A_R1_R	Q2A_R4_R	Q2A_R5_R	Q3A_R1_R	Q3A_R2_R	Q3A_R3_R	Q3A_R4_R	Q3A_R5_R	Q4A_R3_R	Q4A_R4_R
Q1A_R2_R	1	0.58	0.47	0.5	0.59	0.59	0.62	0.54	0.73	0.78	0.46	0.43	0.53
Q1A_R3_R	0.58	1	0.47	0.45	0.53	0.53	0.55	0.54	0.61	0.69	0.63	0.38	0.53
Q1A_R4_R	0.47	0.47	1	0.33	0.39	0.45	0.46	0.5	0.49	0.5	0.45	0.36	0.41
Q2A_R1_R	0.5	0.45	0.33	1	0.63	0.62	0.54	0.48	0.55	0.56	0.42	0.54	0.52
Q2A_R4_R	0.59	0.53	0.39	0.63	1	0.66	0.67	0.55	0.59	0.62	0.54	0.52	0.58
Q2A_R5_R	0.59	0.53	0.45	0.62	0.66	1	0.6	0.59	0.62	0.62	0.46	0.53	0.55
Q3A_R1_R	0.62	0.55	0.46	0.54	0.67	0.6	1	0.61	0.65	0.67	0.6	0.53	0.67
Q3A_R2_R	0.54	0.54	0.5	0.48	0.55	0.59	0.61	1	0.61	0.62	0.6	0.53	0.52
Q3A_R3_R	0.73	0.61	0.49	0.55	0.59	0.62	0.65	0.61	1	0.84	0.6	0.47	0.56
Q3A_R4_R	0.78	0.69	0.5	0.56	0.62	0.62	0.67	0.62	0.84	1	0.64	0.45	0.6
Q3A_R5_R	0.46	0.63	0.45	0.42	0.54	0.46	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.64	1	0.4	0.54
Q4A_R3_R	0.43	0.38	0.36	0.54	0.52	0.53	0.53	0.53	0.47	0.45	0.4	1	0.5
Q4A_R4_R	0.53	0.53	0.41	0.52	0.58	0.55	0.67	0.52	0.56	0.6	0.54	0.5	1

Table S7.12 Results of optimal parallel analysis – Conspiracy narratives – reduced scale - complete data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	71.7186*	15.6763	18.2078
2	6.1701	14.124	16.0614
3	5.0433	12.73	14.3336
4	4.1375	11.3436	12.6479
5	3.2824	10.1014	11.2387
6	2.6143	8.8044	9.8247
7	2.0086	7.61	8.8141
8	1.7149	6.4045	7.6606
9	1.3532	5.1753	6.5195
10	1.1007	3.9339	5.4714
11	0.7783	2.6702	4.1587
12	0.0781	1.4264	2.736

* Advised number of dimensions: 1

Table S7.13 Results of optimal parallel analysis – Conspiracy narratives – reduced scale - imputed data

Variable	Real-data % of variance	Mean of random % of variance	95 percentile of random % of variance
1	63.1330*	15.7685	19.4509
2	7.4685	14.2252	17.1449
3	6.2251	12.8104	14.9623
4	5.4257	11.5097	13.1454
5	4.7462	10.1385	11.5015
6	3.3202	8.8839	10.3648
7	2.5173	7.5964	9.0533
8	2.2617	6.3314	8.0183
9	1.6359	5.0365	6.9819
10	1.5536	3.8308	5.6203
11	1.3435	2.5574	4.1703
12	0.3693	1.3113	2.7894

* Advised number of dimensions: 1

Table S7.14 Results of exploratory factor analysis – Conspiracy narratives – reduced scale - complete data

variable	loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q1A_R2_R	0.81	0.65	0.35
Q1A_R3_R	0.79	0.62	0.38
Q1A_R4_R	0.66	0.44	0.56
Q2A_R1_R	0.74	0.55	0.45
Q2A_R4_R	0.78	0.61	0.39
Q2A_R5_R	0.83	0.69	0.31
Q3A_R1_R	0.87	0.75	0.25
Q3A_R2_R	0.79	0.62	0.38
Q3A_R3_R	0.87	0.75	0.25
Q3A_R4_R	0.91	0.82	0.18
Q3A_R5_R	0.78	0.61	0.39
Q4A_R3_R	0.67	0.45	0.55
Q4A_R4_R	0.8	0.64	0.36

Explained variance 0.63

Table S7.16 Results of exploratory factor analysis – Conspiracy narratives – reduced scale - imputed data

variable	loadings	communality	uniqueness
Q1A_R2_R	0.77	0.6	0.4
Q1A_R3_R	0.73	0.53	0.47
Q1A_R4_R	0.58	0.34	0.66
Q2A_R1_R	0.69	0.47	0.53
Q2A_R4_R	0.77	0.6	0.4
Q2A_R5_R	0.77	0.59	0.41
Q3A_R1_R	0.81	0.66	0.34
Q3A_R2_R	0.75	0.56	0.44
Q3A_R3_R	0.84	0.7	0.3
Q3A_R4_R	0.87	0.76	0.24
Q3A_R5_R	0.71	0.51	0.49
Q4A_R3_R	0.62	0.39	0.61
Q4A_R4_R	0.73	0.53	0.47

Explained variance 0.56

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Conspiracy narratives – reduced scale - complete data

Alpha: 0.96

Omega Total 0.96

Reliability of unidimensional scale – Conspiracy narratives – reduced scale - imputed data

Alpha: 0.94

Omega Total 0.94

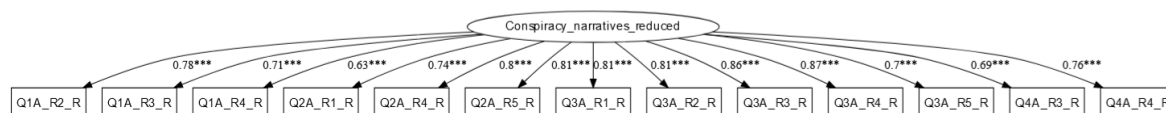


Figure S7.3 Confirmatory factor analysis - Conspiracy narratives – reduced scale – complete data

RMSEA robust 0.031

CFI robust 0.996



Figure S7.4 Confirmatory factor analysis - Conspiracy narratives – reduced scale – imputed data

RMSEA robust 0.045

CFI robust 0.991

Section 8 – Additional results of regressions

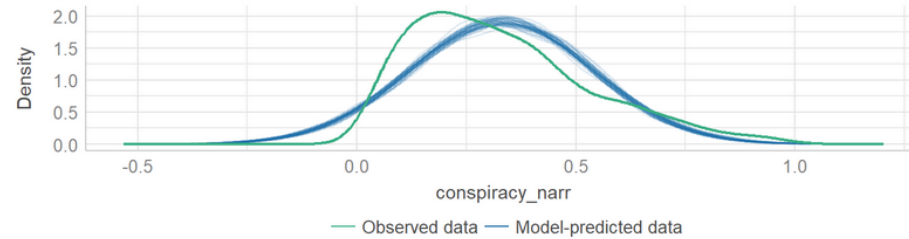
Table S8.1 Regression statistics

models	R squared	Adj r squared	sigma	statistic	P value	df	logLik	AIC	BIC	deviance	df residual	nobs
1	13.9%	0.14	0.19	55.27	0	10	852.75	-1682	-1608	122.8	3432	3443
2	52.5%	0.52	0.14	291.64	0	13	1877.59	-3725	-3633	67.7	3429	3443
3	53.4%	0.53	0.14	245.14	0	16	1909.35	-3783	-3672	66.5	3426	3443
4	54.0%	0.54	0.14	223.21	0	18	1932.12	-3824	-3701	65.6	3424	3443

Assumptions

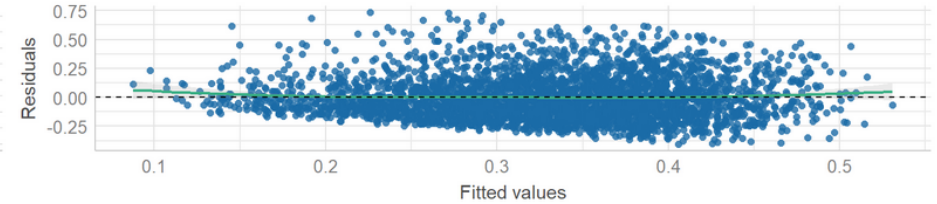
Posterior Predictive Check

Model-predicted lines should resemble observed data line



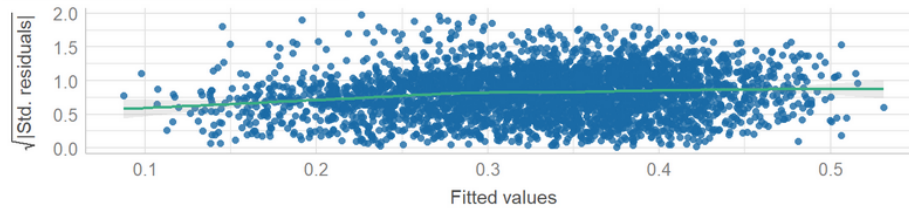
Linearity

Reference line should be flat and horizontal



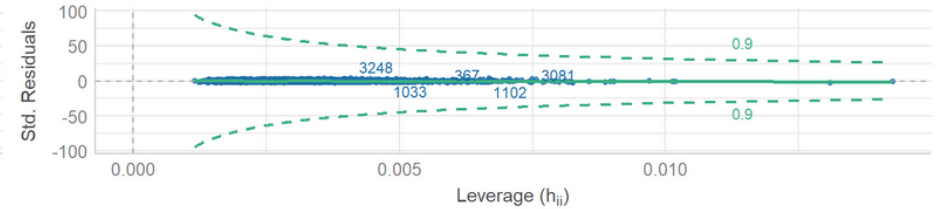
Homogeneity of Variance

Reference line should be flat and horizontal



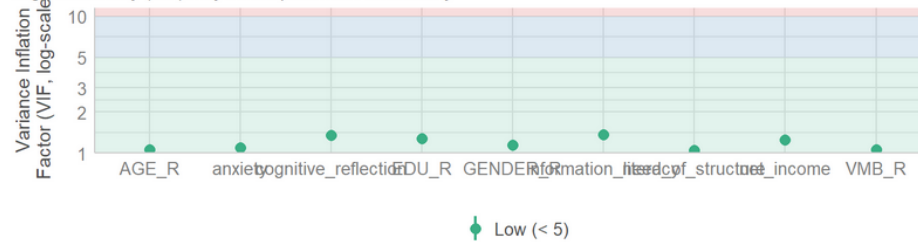
Influential Observations

Points should be inside the contour lines



Collinearity

High collinearity (VIF) may inflate parameter uncertainty



Normality of Residuals

Points should fall along the line

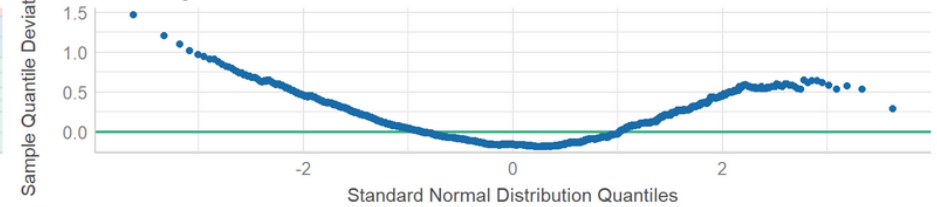
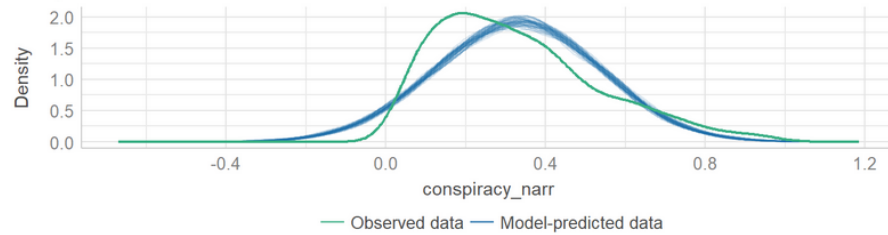


Figure S8.1 Regression Assumption Tests - Model 1

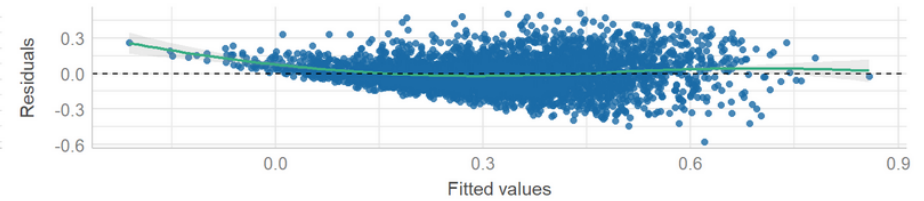
Posterior Predictive Check

Model-predicted lines should resemble observed data line



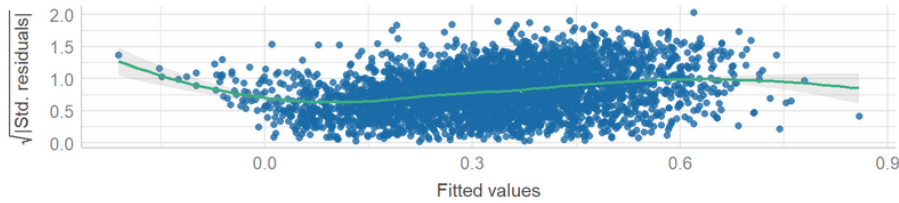
Linearity

Reference line should be flat and horizontal



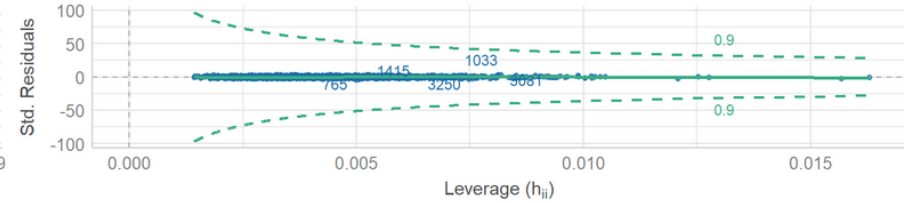
Homogeneity of Variance

Reference line should be flat and horizontal



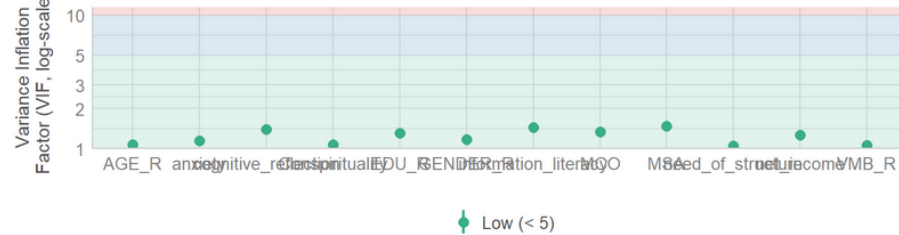
Influential Observations

Points should be inside the contour lines



Collinearity

High collinearity (VIF) may inflate parameter uncertainty



Normality of Residuals

Points should fall along the line

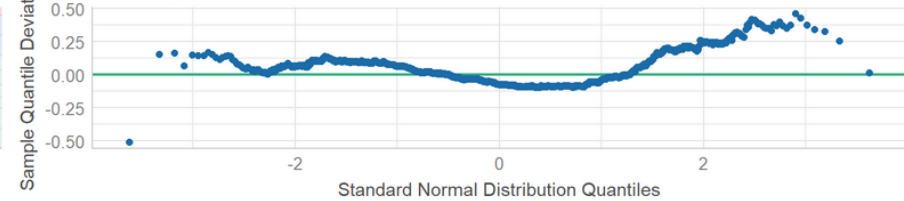
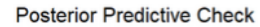
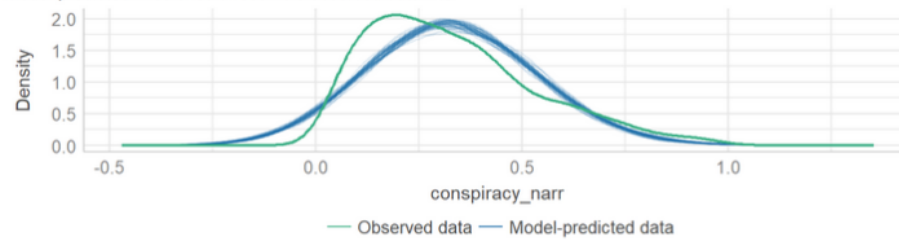


Figure S8.2 Regression Assumption Tests - Model 2

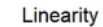


Model-predicted lines should resemble observed data line

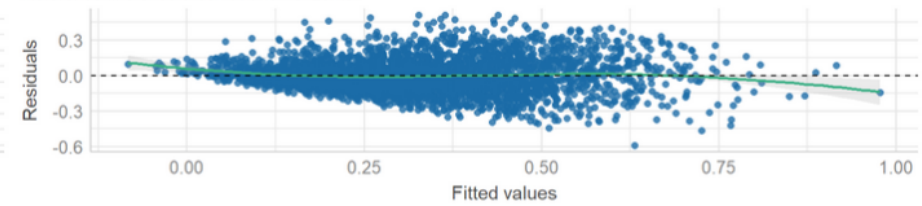


conspiracy_narr

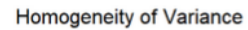
— Observed data — Model-predicted data



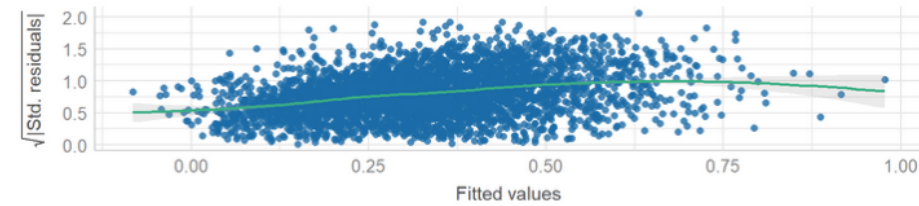
Reference line should be flat and horizontal



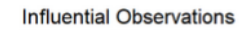
Fitted values



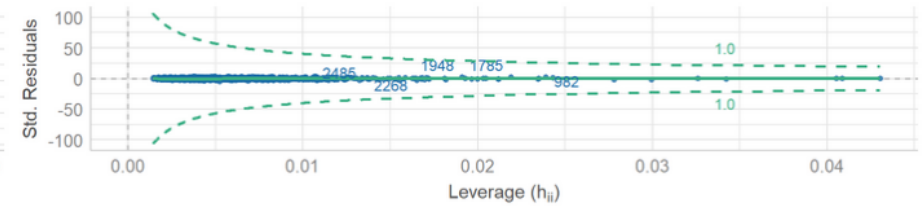
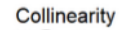
Reference line should be flat and horizontal



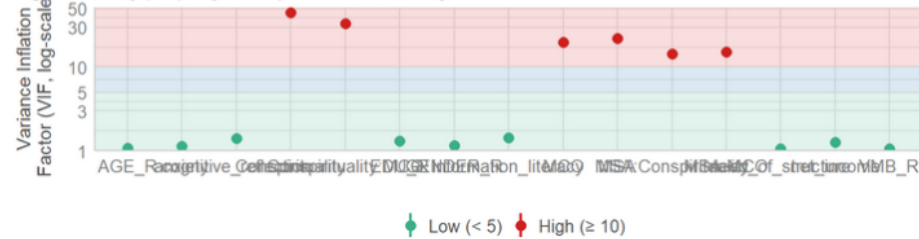
Fitted values



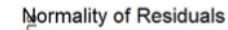
Points should be inside the contour lines

Leverage (h_{iii})

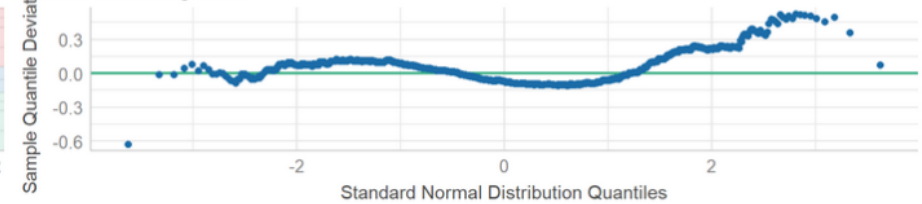
High collinearity (VIF) may inflate parameter uncertainty



● Low (< 5) ● High (≥ 10)



Dots should fall along the line

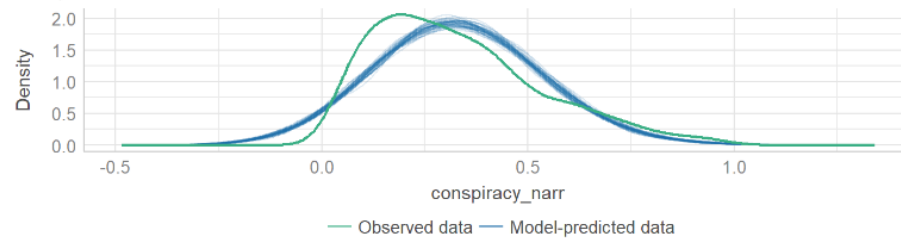


Standard Normal Distribution Quantiles

Figure S8.3 Regression Assumption Tests - Model 3

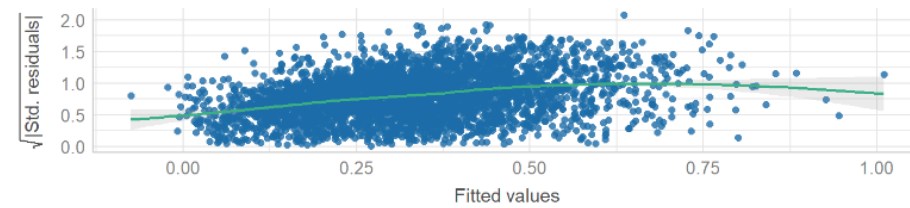
Posterior Predictive Check

Model-predicted lines should resemble observed data line



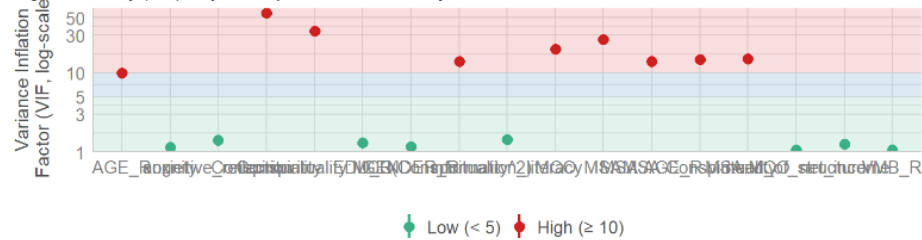
Homogeneity of Variance

Reference line should be flat and horizontal



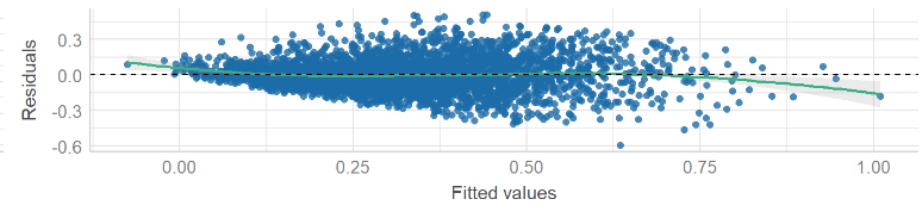
Collinearity

High collinearity (VIF) may inflate parameter uncertainty



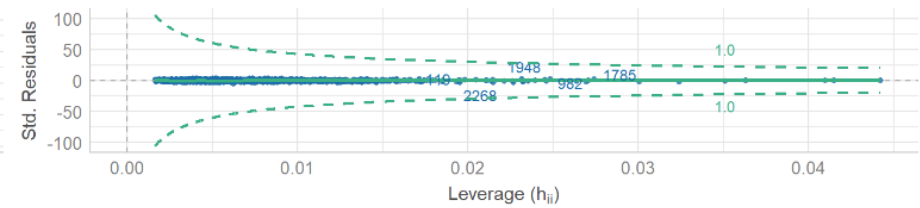
Linearity

Reference line should be flat and horizontal



Influential Observations

Points should be inside the contour lines



Normality of Residuals

Points should fall along the line

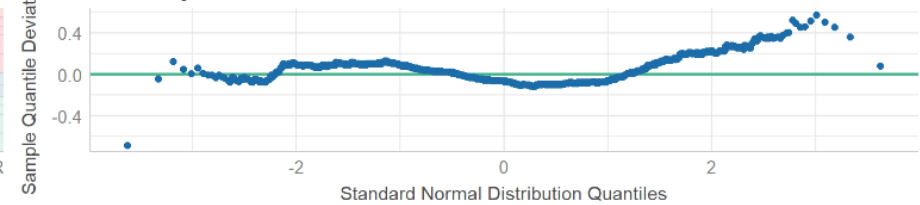


Figure S8.4 Regression Assumption Tests - Model 4

Test of linearity of interaction MCO x MSA

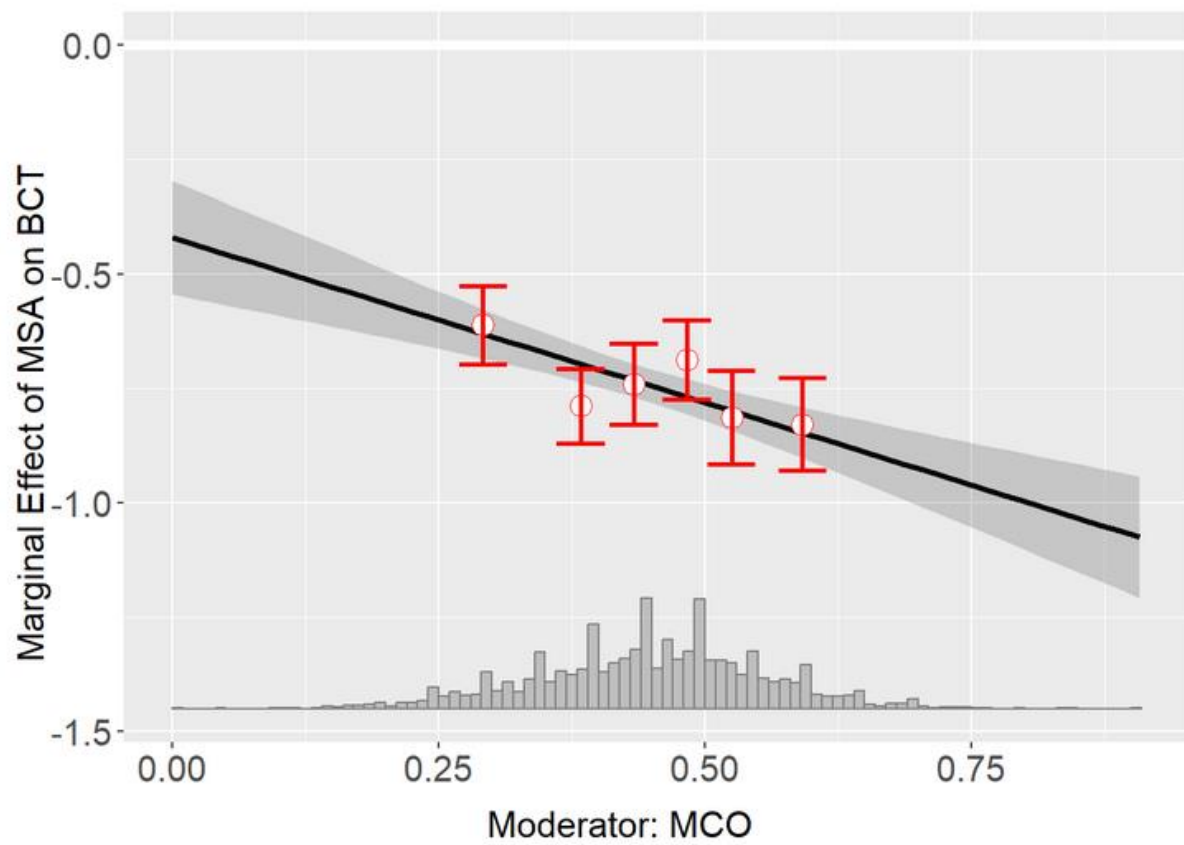


Figure S8.5 Estimated marginal effects using both the conventional linear interaction model and the binning estimator

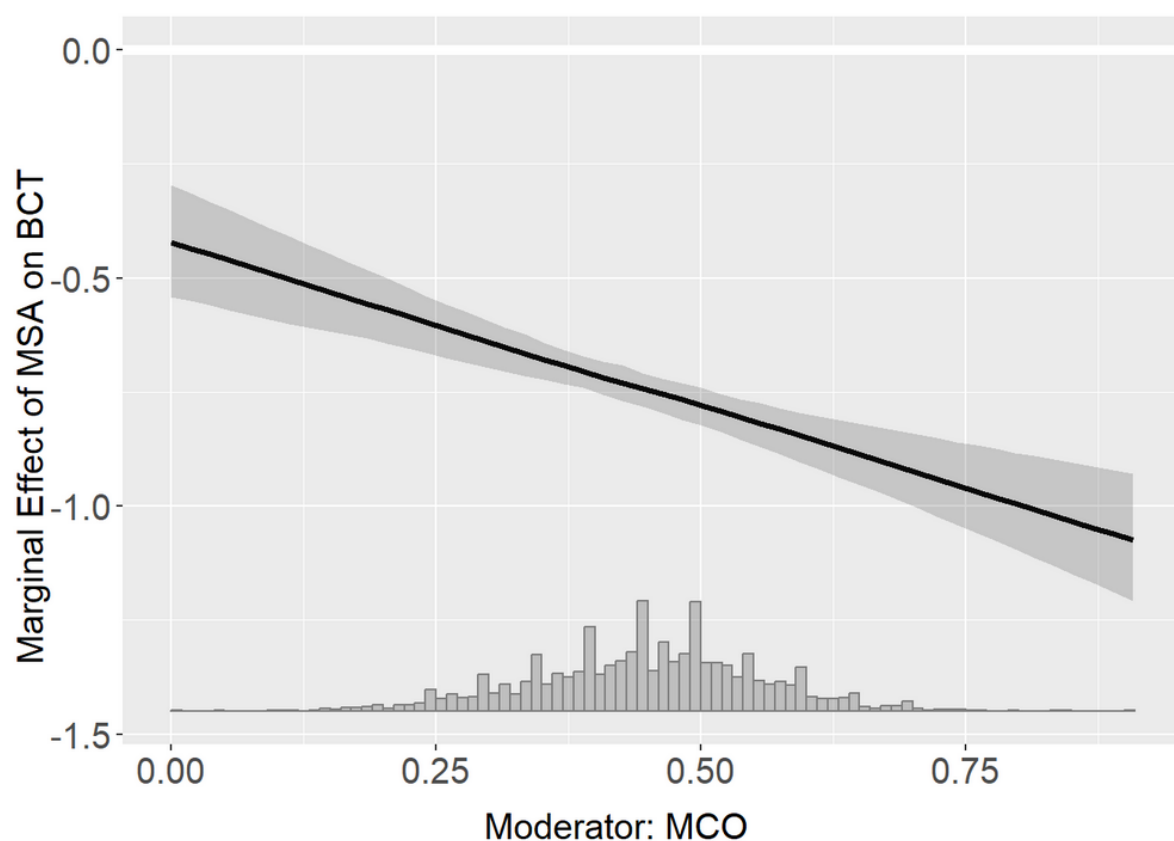


Figure S8.6 Estimated marginal effects using the kernel estimator

Dominance analysis

Table S8.2 Results of dominance analysis – general dominance

Parameter	General_Dominance	Percent	Ranks
MSA	0.305	58.2%	1
PS	0.067	12.7%	3
MCO	0.072	13.7%	2
GENDER_R	0.002	0.4%	11
AGE_R	0.009	1.8%	8
EDU_RSecondary edu. (Reference = Primary)	0.011	2.1%	6
EDU_RTertiary edu. (Reference = Primary)	0.011	2.1%	6
VMB_R	0.004	0.8%	10
net_income	0.010	1.9%	7
cognitive_reflection	0.014	2.7%	5
information_literacy	0.024	4.6%	4
anxiety	0.006	1.0%	9
need_of_structure	0.001	0.2%	12

Table S8.3 Results of dominance analysis – complete dominance

Subset	dmn_MSA	dmn_PS	dmn_MCO	dmn_GENDER_R	dmn_AGE_R	dmn_EDU_R	dmn_VMB_R	dmn_net_income	dmn_cognitive_reflection	dmn_information_literacy	dmn_anxiety	dmn_need_of_structure
MSA	NA	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE
PS	TRUE	NA	NA	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE
MCO	TRUE	NA	NA	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE
GENDER_R	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
AGE_R	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	FALSE
EDU_R	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	TRUE	NA	NA
VMB_R	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
net_income	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
cognitive_reflection	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	TRUE	NA	NA
information_literacy	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	NA	NA	FALSE	NA	NA	FALSE	NA	NA	NA
anxiety	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
need_of_structure	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	NA	TRUE	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Regression with subscales of composite concepts

Table S8.4 Regression results – separate concepts

<i>Predictors</i>	Belief in conspiracy theories		
	<i>Estimates</i>	<i>std. Beta</i>	<i>p</i>
(Intercept)	0.32	0.02	<0.001
Gender	-0.03	-0.06	<0.001
Age	0.06	0.08	<0.001
Secondary edu. (Reference = Primary)	-0.01	-0.04	0.22
Tertiary edu. (Reference = Primary)	0	-0.02	0.568
Size of municipality	-0.01	-0.02	0.088
Net pers. income	-0.05	-0.06	<0.001
Cognitive reflection test	0	0	0.989
Information literacy	-0.03	-0.04	0.008
Anxiety	0	0	0.772
Need of structure	-0.03	-0.02	0.095
Institutional trust	-0.51	-0.49	<0.001
Anomie	0.19	0.17	<0.001
Pseudoscience	0.16	0.15	<0.001
Spirituality	0.12	0.13	<0.001
Consumption of mainstream media	0.08	0.07	<0.001
Consumption of alternative media	0.12	0.1	<0.001
Observations	2861		
R ² / R ² adjusted	0.571 / 0.568		

The explained variance is higher than for the composite concept model. Part of the higher explained variance is due to fewer respondents entering the model. The following table shows Model 2 with Composite Concepts when only those respondents who entered the model with separate concepts are included.

Table S8.5 Regression results – composite concepts with respondents entering model with separate concepts

<i>Predictors</i>	Belief in conspiracy theories		
	<i>Estimates</i>	<i>std. Beta</i>	<i>p</i>
(Intercept)	0.5	0.01	<0.001
Gender	-0.02	-0.05	<0.001
Age	0.07	0.1	<0.001
Secondary edu. (Reference = Primary)	-0.01	-0.03	0.39
Tertiary edu. (Reference = Primary)	0	0	0.895
Size of municipality	-0.02	-0.03	0.024
Net pers. income	-0.04	-0.05	0.001
Cognitive reflection test	0.01	0.02	0.241
Information literacy	-0.03	-0.04	0.016
Anxiety	-0.02	-0.02	0.172
Need of structure	-0.07	-0.05	<0.001
Macro-Social Adhesion	-0.72	-0.57	<0.001
Pseudoscientific spirituality	0.28	0.25	<0.001
Media consumption orientation	0.23	0.12	<0.001
Observations	2861		
R ² / R ² adjusted	0.549 / 0.547		

Section 9 – Content analysis of disinformation and conspiracy websites

List of websites

ac24.cz
aeronet.cz
bezpoliciekkorektnosti.cz
casopis-sifra.cz
ceskoaktualne.cz
eportal.cz
euportal.cz
freeglobe.cz
czechfreepress.cz
novarepublika.cz
nwoo.org
outsidermedia.cz
pravyprostor.cz
protiproud.cz
rukojmi.cz
skrytapravda.cz
stredoevropan.cz
svobodnenoviny.eu
tadesco.cz
vlasteneckenoviny.cz
zvedavec.org

List of coding categories

Deep state and political affairs
False flag operations
New world order
Anti-Islam
Anti-Catholic
Deceptions, disasters, diseases and medicine
Assassinations - dead and alive and historical figures
Alien civilizations and esoteric topics
Official pro-Kremlin disinformation narratives
Czech Republic specific disinformation narratives
Black—and white—genocide

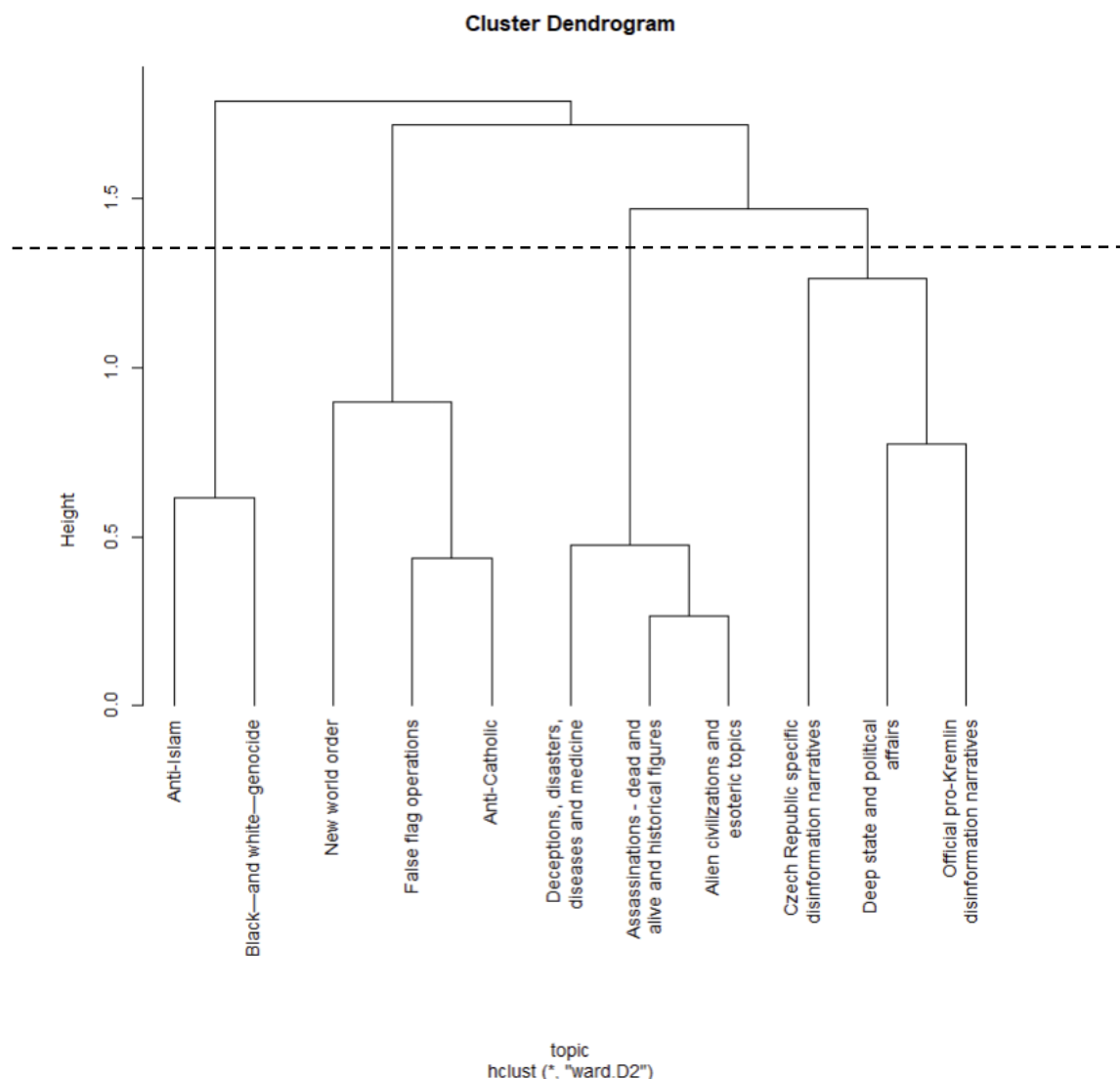


Figure S9.1 The result of a hierarchical cluster analysis based on the similarity of the relative occurrence of the categories on the studied websites. The dashed line indicates the level at which the thematic groups were identified