

Supplementary Materials for

Climate Engagement in a Digital Age: Exploring the Drivers of Participation in Climate Discourse Online in the Context of COP21

Supplementary Table 1. *Operationalization of Media and Interpersonal Communication Variables*

| | M (SD) ¹ | never | less | several times a month | at least once a week ² | daily ³ |
|---|---------------------|-------|------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| reception of information on COP21 from ... | | | | | | |
| television | 4.1 (1.6) | 7% | 18% | 8% | 47% | 21% |
| print media | 2.6 (1.8) | 44% | 19% | 4% | 23% | 10% |
| online newspapers | 2.1 (1.7) | 63% | 12% | 4% | 16% | 6% |
| social networks sites | 2.4 (1.9) | 64% | 11% | 4% | 10% | 10% |
| Twitter | 2.1 (1.8) | 86% | 5% | 2% | 4% | 3% |
| weblogs | 1.4 (1.1) | 83% | 7% | 2% | 6% | 2% |
| active information seeking online on COP21 | 1.9 (1.4) | 63% | 17% | 6% | 11% | 3% |
| interpersonal conversations about COP 21 with... | | | | | | |
| family and friends | 2.4 (1.6) | 41% | 26% | 7% | 22% | 5% |
| colleagues | 2.1 (1.5) | 54% | 21% | 7% | 15% | 4% |

Notes: ¹Mean (M) and standard deviation (SD) on a 7-point scale of 1 'never', 2 'less', 3 'several times a month', 4 'once a week', 5 'several times a week', 6 'daily', 7 'several times a day'; ²points 4 & 5 on the scale; ³points 6 & 7 on the scale; n=1.392 people

Supplementary Table 2. *Operationalization of Interest in Climate Politics*

| | M (SD) ¹ | not strongly at all (1) | not very strong (2) | somewhat strong (3) | rather strong (4) | very strongly (5) |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| How strong is your interest in politics in general? | 3.2 (1.0) | 6% | 13% | 45% | 28% | 8% |

Notes: ¹Mean (M) and standard deviation (SD) on a 5-point scale of 1 'not strongly at all' to 5 'very strongly'.

Supplementary Table 3. *Operationalization of Personal Relevance of Climate Change Politics*

| | M (SD) ¹ | not important at all (1) | not very important (2) | somewhat important (3) | rather important (4) | very important ' (5) |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| How important to you are the problems due to climate change? | 3.8 (1.2) | 3% | 7% | 24% | 40% | 27% |

Notes: ¹Mean (M) and standard deviation (SD) on a 5-point scale of 1 'not important at all' to 5 'very important'.

Supplementary Table 4. *Operationalization of Attitudes Towards Climate Change*

| | M (SD) ¹ | strongly disagree (1) | somewhat disagree (2) | neither agree nor disagree (3) | somewhat agree (4) | strongly agree (5) |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| It is not certain that there is a long-term trend of global warming. | 2.4 (1.2) | 27% | 28% | 26% | 12% | 7% |
| Scientists exaggerate the dangers of climate change. | 2.4 (1.1) | 26% | 32% | 27% | 11% | 5% |
| Human activities are the main cause of the current climate change | 3.8 (1.1) | 4% | 7% | 27% | 27% | 35% |
| Climate change has serious consequences for humans and nature | 4.2 (1.0) | 1% | 4% | 19% | 23% | 53% |

Notes: ¹Mean (M) and standard deviation (SD) on a 5-point scale of 1 'strongly disagree' to 5 'strongly agree'.

Supplementary Table 5. *Summary of Correlational Relations*

| Correlational relations | | | r | p |
|---------------------------------------|-----|---|------|-------|
| interest in climate politics (strong) | ← → | climate scepticism (strong) | -.37 | <.001 |
| climate scepticism (strong) | ← → | personal relevance of climate change (strong) | -.59 | <.001 |
| interest in climate politics (strong) | ← → | personal relevance of climate change (strong) | .59 | <.001 |
| a1_television | ← → | a2_print media | .35 | <.001 |
| a1_television | ← → | a3_online newspapers | .23 | <.001 |
| a1_television | ← → | a4_information seeking online | .16 | <.001 |
| a1_television | ← → | a5_social networks sites | .09 | .001 |
| a1_television | ← → | a6_Twitter | .07 | .007 |
| a1_television | ← → | a7_weblogs | .08 | .002 |
| a2_print media | ← → | a3_online newspapers | .32 | <.001 |
| a2_print media | ← → | a4_information seeking online | .28 | <.001 |
| a2_print media | ← → | a5_social networks sites | .22 | <.001 |
| a2_print media | ← → | a6_Twitter | .28 | <.001 |
| a2_print media | ← → | a7_weblogs | .25 | <.001 |
| a3_online newspapers | ← → | a4_information seeking on COP21 online | .41 | <.001 |
| a3_online newspapers | ← → | a5_social networks sites | .32 | <.001 |
| a3_online newspapers | ← → | a6_Twitter | .31 | <.001 |
| a3_online newspapers | ← → | a7_weblogs | .36 | <.001 |
| a4_information seeking online | ← → | a5_social networks sites | .45 | <.001 |
| a4_information seeking online | ← → | a6_Twitter | .43 | <.001 |
| a4_information seeking online | ← → | a7_weblogs | .51 | <.001 |
| a5_social networks sites | ← → | a6_Twitter | .50 | <.001 |
| a5_social networks sites | ← → | a7_weblogs | .49 | <.001 |
| a6_Twitter | ← → | a7_weblogs | .62 | <.001 |