

August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Lena Sophie Pflüger, Dipl.-Biol., PhD

Current positions: Senior Scientist, Department of Behavioral and Cognitive Biology, University of Vienna, Austria, Lecturer at the University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria

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## SCIENTIFIC EDUCATION

12/2016 **Doctoral degree (PhD) in Biological Sciences** (passed with distinction)  
Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Vienna, Austria

03/2010 **Master degree (Diploma) in Biological Science**  
Institute of Zoology, Faculty of Natural Science, University of Hohenheim/Stuttgart, Germany

2008 ERASMUS semester at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Uppsala, Sweden, with major in genetics and cell biology

2007 Summer school at the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria.  
*Project: Nonverbal communication in human mate choice*

2006 Internship at the Konrad Lorenz Research Station, Grünau, Austria.  
*Project: Nutrition and behaviour in grey geese (*Anser anser*)*

2004-2006 **Bachelor studies (Prae-Diploma) in General Biology**, University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

11/2022-  
02/2023 **Invited Guest Researcher**, Wildlife Research Centre (former PRI), Kyoto University, Japan

Since  
11/2020 **Senior Scientist**, Affenberg Research Station, Dep. of Behavioral and Cognitive Biology, University of Vienna, Villach, Austria

Since  
2015 **Scientific Director**, Affenberg Zoobetriebsgesellschaft mbH, Villach, Austria

2014-2015	<b>Research coordinator</b> of the cooperation between the Department of Anthropology, University of Vienna and the Genomics Core Facility (VetCore), University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna.
2011-2014	<b>Prae-doc</b> at the Cognitive Science Research Platform, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria
2011	<b>Research Assistant</b> at the Department of Anthropology, University of Vienna (in cooperation with the National Institute of Health).
Since 2010	<b>Lecturer</b> (winter term) at the University of Vienna. Ongoing: 300009 PP Practical course in animal behavior; 300199 UE Exercise on behaviour observation and behavioural genetics using the example of Japanese macaques

## OTHER RESEARCH-RELATED ACTIVITIES (Selected)

**PI of the project** “SMART MONKEY LAB” (FFG Bridge, Project No. FO999898920)

*Aim:* Developing digital solutions for field observations and Citizen Science programs. Duration: April 2023 – End of March 2026

**Co-PI of the project** “Rethinking Behavioural Observations – A Direct Comparison of Sampling Method Performance” (British Academy Research Grant, SRG23/231253)

*Aim:* Evaluating trade-offs between different sampling methods for collecting behavioral data for social network analyses in nonhuman primates. Duration: October 2023 – End of March 2024

**Scientific Workshop-lead and keynote speaker (invited)** at the ISHE Summer Institute 2025. Multi-day workshop on behavioral coding techniques using video footage of free ranging Japanese macaques

**Collaboration with the Minoo City Office, Japan, and regular research visits** to the Wildlife Research Centre (formerly PRI), Kyoto University, Japan.

*Aim:* Collecting behavioral data on free-ranging Japanese macaques in Minoo, Japan

**Reviewer** for the *American Journal of Primatology*

**Member of MacaqueNet**, a global network of macaque researchers

*Aim:* Collaborative studies on macaque sociality in a comparative framework.

**Active engagement in research communication and outreach programs** at Affenberg Landskron

*Aim:* Developing and conducting science workshops and science days for the public and school classes.