

Bodily-based conceptualization in a cross-linguistic perspective, with special attention to German and Dutch

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In 2019, Publishing House Brill started *Embodiment in cross-linguistic studies*, a book series in which each volume focuses on conceptualizations based on a specific body part. After volumes on 'Head' (2019), 'Eye' (2021), and 'Face' (2022), a volume on 'Heart' is about to be published (2023). Each volume offers contributions from a variety of languages, but, unfortunately, German and Dutch, and, by the way, Indonesian language as well, stay out of the picture.

Inspired by the book series, I will present a first exploration of German and Dutch conceptualizations which are motivated by the body parts dealt with in the volumes mentioned (and if time allows some other body parts). As will be shown, even such closely-related languages as German and Dutch feature 'micro-variation'. Again, as in all linguistic descriptive work, the ultimate question is: How wide is the variational range, and can universals be detected 'behind' the variation in bodily-based conceptualizations of experience?