# Vortragsankündigung

Der Sonderforschungsbereich 991 "Die Struktur von Repräsentationen in Sprache, Kognition und Wissenschaft" lädt herzlich ein zum Vortrag von

## Tobias Kalenscher

**Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf**
**Donnerstag, 11.02.2016, 12:30 – 14:00 Uhr**
**23.21.U1.69**

# Conceptual representation of the social world of rats

Inequity aversion (IA) is a behavioural response to an inequitable outcome distribution between oneself and a conspecific, given joint efforts to obtain the reward. We have recently shown that rats exhibit advantageous IA (preferring equal outcomes over being better off than a conspecific), as well as disadvantageous IA (preferring equal outcomes over being worse off than a conspecific). Importantly, rats are indifferent to inequitable reward distributions if rewards are delivered to an inanimate toy instead of a real conspecific. This suggests that rats can conceptually discriminate between social and non-social contexts, or in other words, that they reveal true social preferences. In project D3, we plan to use Frame Theory to conceptualize the conditions and consequences of a 'social partner' frame representation in contrast to a 'toy' frame. In my talk, I will present empirical evidence supporting the existence of social preferences in rats. I will furthermore depict a tentative Frame model of a 'social partner' frame and describe preliminary evidence for a possible neural implementation of the conceptual representation of a 'social partner' frame.