



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Computers in Human Behavior

journal homepage: <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/comphumbeh>

Towards a cross-cultural assessment of binge-watching: Psychometric evaluation of the “watching TV series motives” and “binge-watching engagement and symptoms” questionnaires across nine languages^{☆,☆☆}

Maëva Flayelle^{a,b,1,*}, Jesús Castro-Calvo^{c,1}, Claus Vögele^d, Robert Astur^e, Rafael Ballester-Arnal^f, Gaëlle Challet-Bouju^{g,h}, Matthias Brandⁱ, Georgina Cárdenas^j, Gaëtan Devos^{k,1}, Hussien Elkholy^m, Marie Grall-Bronnec^{g,h}, Richard J.E. Jamesⁿ, Martha Jiménez-Martínez^o, Yasser Khazaal^{p,q}, Saeideh Valizadeh-Haghi^r, Daniel L. King^s, Yueheng Liu^t, Christine Lochner^u, Sabine Steins-Loeber^v, Jiang Long^{k,t}, Marc N. Potenza^w, Shahabedin Rahmatizadeh^x, Adriano Schimmenti^y, Dan J. Stein^z, István Tóth-Király^{aa,ab}, Richard Tunney^{ac}, Yingying Wang^t, Zu Wei Zhai^{ad}, Pierre Maurage^k, Joël Billieux^{a,b,**}

^a Addictive and Compulsive Behaviours Lab (ACB-Lab), Institute for Health and Behaviour, Department of Behavioural and Cognitive Sciences, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg

^b Institute of Psychology, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

^c Department of Personality, Assessment and Psychological Treatments, University of Valencia, Spain

^d Clinical Psychophysiology Laboratory (CLIPSLAB), Institute for Health and Behaviour, Department of Behavioural and Cognitive Sciences, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg

^e Department of Psychological Sciences, University of Connecticut, United States

^f Departamento de Psicología Básica, Clínica y Psicobiología, Universidad Jaime I de Castelló, Spain

^g Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Nantes, France

^h UMR1246, Universités de Nantes et Tours, France

ⁱ General Psychology: Cognition and Center for Behavioral Addiction Research (CeBAR), University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany

^j Facultad de Psicología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico

^k Louvain Experimental Psychopathology research group (LEP), Psychological Sciences Research Institute, UCLouvain, Belgium

^l Service Universitaire d'Addictologie de Lyon (SUAL), CH Le Vinatier, France

^m Neurology and Psychiatry Department, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, Egypt

ⁿ School of Psychology, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom

^o Human Development, Cognition and Education Group, Universidad Pedagógica y Tecnológica de Colombia, Colombia

^p Addiction Medicine, Department of Psychiatry, Lausanne University Hospital, Switzerland

^q Faculty of Biology and Medicine, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

^r Department of Medical Library and Information Sciences, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, School of Allied Medical Sciences, Iran

^s College of Education, Psychology and Social Work, Flinders University, Australia

^t Department of Psychiatry, The Second Xiangya Hospital, Central South University, China

^u SA MRC Unit on Risk and Resilience in Mental Disorders, Department of Psychiatry, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa

^v Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy, Otto-Friedrich-University of Bamberg, Germany

^w Connecticut Council on Problem Gambling, Connecticut Mental Health Center and Yale University, United States

^x Department of Health Information Technology and Management, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, School of Allied Medical Sciences, Iran

^y Faculty of Human and Social Sciences, Kore University of Enna, Italy

^z SA MRC Unit on Risk & Resilience in Mental Disorders, Department of Psychiatry & Neuroscience Institute, University of Cape Town, South Africa

^{aa} Institute of Psychology, ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary

^{ab} Substantive-Methodological Synergy Research Laboratory, Department of Psychology, Concordia University, Canada

[☆] GCB and MGB declare that the University Hospital of Nantes has received funding from gambling industry (FDJ and PMU) in the form of a sponsorship. ITK was supported by a Horizon Postdoctoral Fellowship from Concordia University. PM is funded by the Belgian Fund for Scientific Research (FRS-FNRS, Belgium).

^{☆☆} MF, JCC, CV, RA, RBA, GCB, MB, GC, GD, HE, MGB, RJEJ, MJM, YK, SVH, DK, YL, CL, SSL, JL, SR, AS, ITK, RT, YW, ZZ, PM, and JB declare no conflicts of interest with respect to the content of the manuscript. DJS has received honoraria from Lundbeck and Sun. MNP has consulted for and advised Shire, INSYS, RiverMend Health, Addiction Policy Forum, Game Day Data, the National Council on Problem Gambling, Opiant/Lightlake Therapeutics, and Jazz Pharmaceuticals; has received unrestricted research support from Mohegan Sun Casino and grant support from the National Center for Responsible Gaming; and has consulted for and advised legal and gambling entities on issues related to addictions and impulse control disorders.

^{*} Corresponding author. Université de Lausanne, Institut de Psychologie, Quartier UNIL-Mouline, Bâtiment Géopolis, CH-1015, Lausanne, Switzerland.

^{**} Corresponding author. Université de Lausanne, Institut de Psychologie, Quartier UNIL-Mouline, Bâtiment Géopolis, CH-1015, Lausanne, Switzerland.

E-mail addresses: Maeva.Flayelle@unil.ch (M. Flayelle), daniel.king@flinders.edu.au (D.L. King), Joel.Billieux@unil.ch (J. Billieux).

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2020.106410>

Available online 16 May 2020

0747-5632/© 2020 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

^{ac} Aston University, United Kingdom^{ad} Middlebury College, United States

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords:

Binge-watching
TV series
Questionnaires
Cross-cultural
Confirmatory factor analysis
Measurement invariance

ABSTRACT

In view of the growing interest regarding binge-watching (i.e., watching multiple episodes of television (TV) series in a single sitting) research, two measures were developed and validated to assess binge-watching involvement (“Binge-Watching Engagement and Symptoms Questionnaire”, BWESQ) and related motivations (“Watching TV Series Motives Questionnaire”, WTSMQ). To promote international and cross-cultural binge-watching research, the present article reports on the validation of these questionnaires in nine languages (English, French, Spanish, Italian, German, Hungarian, Persian, Arabic, Chinese). Both questionnaires were disseminated, together with additional self-report measures of happiness, psychopathological symptoms, impulsivity and problematic internet use among TV series viewers from a college/university student population (N = 12,616) in 17 countries. Confirmatory factor, measurement invariance and correlational analyses were conducted to establish structural and construct validity. The two questionnaires had good psychometric properties and fit in each language. Equivalence across languages and gender was supported, while construct validity was evidenced by similar patterns of associations with complementary measures of happiness, psychopathological symptoms, impulsivity and problematic internet use. The results support the psychometric validity and utility of the BWESQ and WTSMQ for conducting cross-cultural research on binge-watching.

Viewers of television (TV) series are currently enjoying unprecedented levels of choice and convenience. No longer dependent on linear TV programming, they can now access as many TV series episodes as they want, regardless of time and place, due to the expansion of on-demand viewing services (e.g., Netflix, Hulu, Amazon Prime) widely available on internet-connected devices. In this context, online TV series watching is increasingly becoming a major part of many individuals’ daily lives (Deloitte’s digital media trends survey, 2018, 2019). However, this major shift in TV series viewing patterns has also led to the emergence of binge-watching which, in the absence of a consensual definition, may be referred to as watching multiple episodes of TV series in a single sitting (Exelmans & Van den Bulck, 2017; Flayelle et al., 2020). Binge-watching has evolved into a common practice, especially among young viewers (Exelmans & Van den Bulck, 2017; Panda & Pandey, 2017; Spangler, 2016; YouGov Omnibus, 2017): recent market reports revealed binge-watching habits among 91% of 14- to 20-year-old and 86% of 21- to 34-year-old individuals (Deloitte’s digital media trends survey, 2018).

While binge-watching may provide an enhanced viewing experience due to a deeper sense of immersion (Erickson, Dal Cin, & Byl, 2019; Matrix, 2014; Merrill & Rubenking, 2019; Petersen, 2016; Shim & Kim, 2018; Steiner & Xu, 2018), social inclusion or group affiliation (Bakar, 2018; Flayelle, Maurage, & Billieux, 2017; Panda & Pandey, 2017; Pittman & Sheehan, 2015; Ramayan, Munsayac Estella, & Abu, 2018; Steiner & Xu, 2018), and personal enrichment (Adachi, Ryan, Frye, McClurg, & Rigby, 2017; Mikos, 2016; Perks, 2015; Tukachinsky & Eyal, 2018), there have been academic and clinical concerns about the potential development of heavier viewing patterns that may generate negative consequences for some individuals. These concerns have prompted a recent proliferation of studies on binge-watching, identifying potentially deleterious effects on academic and professional performance (De Feijter, Khan, & Van Gisbergen, 2016; Petersen, 2016; Rubenking, Bracken, Sandoval, & Rister, 2018), sleep hygiene (Brookes & Ellithorpe, 2017; Exelmans & Van den Bulck, 2017; Kruger, Karmakar, Elhai, & Kramer, 2015a), physical activity and healthy eating (Kubota, Cushman, Zakai, Rosamond, & Folsom, 2018; Morris, Bradbury, Cross, Gunter, & Murphy, 2018; Vaterlaus, Spruance, Frantz, & Kruger, 2019), as well as quality of social life (De Feijter et al., 2016; Hernández Pérez & Martínez Díaz, 2016; Vaterlaus et al., 2019). Given these data, along with other findings reporting associations between binge-watching and

mental health concerns like anxiety and depression (Ahmed, 2017; Kruger, Karmakar, Elhai, & Kramer, 2015b; Sung, Kang, & Wee, 2015; Tukachinsky & Eyal, 2018), and the potential predictive role of poor self-control in its onset and maintenance (Hasan, Kumar Jha, & Liu, 2018; Merrill & Rubenking, 2019; Tukachinsky & Eyal, 2018), binge-watching is increasingly viewed as an addiction-like phenomenon (e.g., Granow, Reinecke, & Ziegele, 2018; Orosz, Bóthe, & Tóth-Király, 2016; Riddle, Peebles, Davis, Xu, & Schroeder, 2017; Shim, Lim, Jung, & Shin, 2018; Starosta, Izydorczyk, & Lizińczyk, 2019; Steiner & Xu, 2018; Sung et al., 2015; Tukachinsky & Eyal, 2018) that should be further investigated and characterized (Brookes & Ellithorpe, 2017; Flayelle, Maurage, Vögele, Karila, & Billieux, 2019a; Merikivi, Bragge, Scornavacca, & Verhagen, 2019; Shim et al., 2018; Spruance, Karmakar, Kruger, & Vaterlaus, 2017; Starosta et al., 2019; Sung, Kang, & Wee, 2018; Walton-Pattison, Dombrowski, & Presseau, 2018).

A key concern currently limiting the expansion of this field is the lack of standardized measurement instruments across research teams for quantifying binge-watching behaviors and motivations (Erickson et al., 2019; Exelmans & Van den Bulck, 2017; Granow et al., 2018; Riddle et al., 2017). Initial efforts were arguably inconclusive, as illustrated by a review of several preliminary measurement tools, which consisted of: 1) exploratory measurement items without proper psychometric validation (e.g., Granow et al., 2018; Panda & Pandey, 2017; Pittman & Sheehan, 2015; Shim et al., 2018; Shim & Kim, 2018); 2) pre-adaptations of existing TV scales (“TV Addiction Scale”; Horvath, 2004; “Viewing Motivation Scale”; Rubin, 1983), which were limited by their lack of direct reference to binge-watching of TV series (Riddle et al., 2017; Starosta et al., 2019; Sung et al., 2018); and 3) quantitative tools evaluating problematic binge-watching from a “confirmatory” approach (e.g., through adopting assessments of the core features of substance-use disorders (SUD); “Problematic Series Watching Scale”, PSWS; Orosz et al., 2016; “Questionnaire of Excessive Binge-Watching Behaviors”; Starosta et al., 2019). The use of the latter in the framework of recreational activities has been subject to considerable criticism for the potential risk of over-pathologization (Billieux, Schimmenti, Khazaal, Maurage, & Heeren, 2015; James & Tunney, 2016; Kardefelt-Winther et al., 2017; Starcevic, Billieux, & Schimmenti, 2018), particularly because applying SUD criteria to such behaviors may not appropriately discriminate between addiction and high engagement or passion (Billieux, Flayelle, Rumpf, & Stein, 2019; Charlton & Danforth, 2007; Kardefelt-Winther, 2015). Finally, to our knowledge, the only measure of TV-series-watching engagement that has arguably overcome these limitations, the “Series Watching Engagement Scale” (SWES; Tóth-Király, Bóthe, Tóth-Fáber, Gyöző, & Orosz, 2017), has other

¹ Please note that Maëva Flayelle and Jesús Castro-Calvo equally contributed to this paper and are willing to share first authorship.

weaknesses. In particular, this instrument does not address the specific construct of binge-watching, but rather focuses on auxiliary and supporting factors (e.g., motivational aspects of “social interaction” and “self-development”), and facets with a relatively controversial status in the media psychology literature (e.g., “identification”, which is not empirically supported and considered by some too simplistic to report on connectedness with media; Hoffner & Buchanan, 2005; Konijn, 1999; Konijn & Hoorn, 2005; Oatley, 1994; Zillmann, 1994; Zillmann, Hezel, & Medoff, 1980).

By contrast, recent work (Flayelle et al., 2019) on the development and validation of the “Watching TV Series Motives Questionnaire” (WTSMQ) and the “Binge-Watching Engagement and Symptoms Questionnaire” (BWESQ) constitutes a step towards meeting the need for valid and sound assessments of binge-watching-related phenomena. These questionnaires assess two constructs, whose analysis of their relationships is hypothesized to be central in early-stage investigation of binge-watching behaviors (Flayelle, Muraige et al., 2019a; Pittman & Sheehan, 2015; Rubenking & Bracken, 2018; Shim & Kim, 2018; Sung et al., 2018). First, the WTSMQ was developed to assess TV series watching motivations, which are likely key for the understanding of the development and maintenance of binge-watching behaviors (e.g., Uses-and-Gratifications and Selective Exposure theories; Katz, Blumler, & Gurevitch, 1973; Knobloch-Westerwick, 2015; Rubin, 2009; Zillmann & Bryant, 1985). Second, the BWESQ was developed to assess the type of binge-watching engagement experienced (from non-problematic to unregulated and deleterious binge-watching). In particular, this questionnaire allows dissociating high (but not unhealthy) binge-watching involvement from problematic involvement. Building upon prior qualitative focus-group research of binge-watching (Flayelle et al., 2017), both scales were disseminated in a large sample of French-speaking viewers of TV series. Exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses were undertaken in two independent subsamples to assess the structural validity of the scales. Findings indicated sound factorial designs with good psychometric properties and fits for both questionnaires (Flayelle et al., 2019). The WTSMQ involves the following four-factor model: (1) *social* (i.e., interest in bonding with others through watching TV series); (2) *emotional enhancement* (i.e., desire to watch TV series to experience intense affective states); (3) *enrichment* (i.e., interest in developing one’s intellectual experiences and knowledge through watching TV series); and (4) *coping/escapism* (i.e., desire to watch TV series to avoid thinking about real-life problems or to cope with negative affect). The BWESQ consists of the following seven-factor model: (1) *engagement* (i.e., extent of involvement in watching TV series); (2) *positive emotions* (i.e., emotional benefits derived from watching TV series); (3) *pleasure preservation* (i.e., use of strategies aimed at maintaining or enhancing pleasure relating to watching TV series); (4) *desire/savouring* (i.e., amount of desire for and appreciation of watching TV series); (5) *binge-watching* (i.e., severity of continued viewing); (6) *dependency* (i.e., difficulty abstaining from watching TV series); and (7) *loss of control* (i.e., negative consequences associated with binge-watching). Their construct validity was reflected in shared positive relationships, as well as associations with supplementary measures of affect and problematic internet use, attesting to the discriminatory ability of the BWESQ in distinguishing high (but healthy) involvement from problematic involvement in binge-watching. Building on the strength of this psychometric validation as well as a firm anchoring in prior phenomenological knowledge of binge-watching, the WTSMQ and BWESQ therefore appear valid and reliable assessment instruments, that are particularly relevant for developing knowledge about binge-watching. On the one hand, the WTSMQ may facilitate additional research into key determinants of and motives for binge-watching. On the other hand, by avoiding *a priori* consideration of binge-watching as an addictive disorder while acknowledging elevated involvement in itself, the BWESQ allows problem binge-watching research to move forward without inappropriately pathologizing passionate watching of TV series.

Nevertheless, given the widespread availability of on-demand

viewing and online streaming technology (e.g., Netflix, the leading service in this area, currently reaches over 190 countries with 167 million subscribers worldwide; Netflix Media Center, 2020), the investigation of binge-watching should also consider cross-cultural factors, using measurement invariant assessment instruments to integrate and compare findings. The aim of the current study was, therefore, to test the psychometric properties of the WTSMQ and BWESQ across nine languages (i.e., Spanish, French, English, Hungarian, Italian, German, Arabic, Persian, and Chinese) in a large international sample of TV series viewers, and to examine their measurement equivalence according to language and gender. The general assumption underlying this research effort was that both measures would operate similarly across cultures represented in this study. Additionally, drawing on the known correlates of binge-watching (i.e., diverse mental health issues, poor self-control) and the proposal that binge-watching may be problematic, relationships with relevant independent measures (e.g., self-reported happiness, psychopathological symptoms, impulsivity and problematic internet use) were investigated to assess construct validity in the nine translated versions.

1. Method

1.1. Participants and procedure

An online survey was disseminated mainly among a college/university student population ($N = 12,616$) across seventeen countries and nine languages: Spanish ($n = 3,312$), French ($n = 3,088$), English ($n = 2,580$), Hungarian ($n = 777$), Italian ($n = 673$), German ($n = 652$), Arabic ($n = 540$), Persian ($n = 512$), and Chinese ($n = 482$). The respondents’ countries of residence for each sub-sample are shown in Table 1, and their sociodemographic characteristics are reported in Table 2. Following an identical structure across languages, the online survey successively included: (1) a short demographic questionnaire and questions about TV series watching behaviors (i.e., viewing frequency, average time spent watching during a typical working day/day off, number of episodes usually watched in one viewing session); (2) the “Watching TV Series Motives Questionnaire” and the “Binge-Watching Engagement and Symptoms Questionnaire” (WTSMQ and BWESQ; Flayelle et al., 2019); (3) the “Subjective Happiness Scale” (SHS;

Table 1
Countries of residence for the survey respondents.

Survey language	Country of residence	n (% of participants)
Spanish ($n = 3,312$)	Spain	728 (22)
	Mexico	742 (22.4)
	Colombia	1762 (53.2)
	Others	80 (2.4)
	France	1940 (62.8)
French ($n = 3,088$)	Belgium	599 (19.4)
	Switzerland	463 (15)
	Others	86 (2.8)
English ($n = 2,580$)	United Kingdom	532 (20.6)
	United States	529 (20.5)
	Australia	316 (12.2)
	South Africa	1121 (43.5)
	Others	82 (3.2)
Hungarian ($n = 777$)	Hungary	735 (94.6)
	Others	42 (5.4)
Italian ($n = 673$)	Italy	650 (96.6)
	Others	23 (3.4)
German ($n = 652$)	Germany	490 (75.2)
	Luxembourg	120 (18.4)
	Others	42 (6.4)
Arabic ($n = 540$)	Egypt	535 (99)
	Others	5 (1)
Persian ($n = 512$)	Iran	511 (99.8)
	Other	1 (0.2)
Chinese ($n = 482$)	China	478 (99.2)
	Others	4 (0.8)

Table 2
Sociodemographic characteristics of the samples.

Sociodemographic variables	Total sample (n = 12,616)	Spanish (n = 3,312)	French (n = 3,088)	English (n = 2,580)	Hungarian (n = 777)	Italian (n = 673)	German (n = 652)	Arabic (n = 540)	Persian (n = 512)	Chinese (n = 482)
Age (year), M (SD); range	24.2 (7.9); 18–83	24.3 (8.4); 18–70	25.7 (8.5); 18–83	22.8 (7.7); 18–75	23.1 (5.9); 18–62	29.2 (8.4); 18–69	24.8 (7.7); 18–70	21.9 (2.9); 18–49	22.8 (4.6); 18–53	19.6 (1.5); 18–33
Female (%)	69.6	62.6	68.2	73.6	76.6	78.9	78.7	61.5	68	81.1
Educational level (%)										
High school degree	43.7	61.1	5.3	57.5	65.1	37.6	65	52.4	38.2	60.2
Bachelor degree	36.3	29.4	48.7	31.5	27.3	25.6	24.8	47	38.2	38.6
Master degree	17.1	7.9	41.6	8.1	7.2	25.4	9.4	0.4	19.9	1
Doctoral degree	2.9	1.6	4.4	2.9	0.4	11.4	0.8	0.2	3.7	0.2
Relationship status (%)										
Married or in a civil partnership	11.9	13.4	14.1	9.3	12.6	22.4	8.3	2.6	13.5	0.6
In a relationship	27.9	19.6	33.7	33.1	35.7	42.4	44	0	9.7	13.5
Divorced or widowed	5.5	1.5	2.5	1.1	0.6	1.2	0.8	0	0.2	0
Single	54.7	65.5	49.7	56.5	51.1	34	46.9	97.4	76.6	85.9

Lyubomirsky & Lepper, 1999); (4) the “Brief Symptom Inventory” (BSI-18; Derogatis, 2001); (5) the “Short Impulsive Behavior Scale” (s-UPPS-P; Billieux et al., 2012); and (6) the “Compulsive Internet Use Scale” (CIUS; Meerkerk, Van Den Eijnden, Vermulst, & Garretsen, 2009). The original validated French versions of the WTSMQ and BWESQ were first translated into English, in accordance with the conventional translation and back-translation procedure (Beaton, Bombardier, Guillemin, & Ferraz, 2000), and all discrepancies² that emerged from the comparison between the back-translated and initial French versions were deliberated (between the first and last authors of this study and the French-English translator) until optimal agreement was found. The English versions of both scales were then shared with each national coordinator who replicated the same standardized process with the help of bilingual translators on site to adapt them into the remaining languages. The majority of the additional validated questionnaires included in the survey were already available in all languages and, if not, another round of translation³ was conducted by the local investigator.

All language-specific surveys were hosted on the same online platform (Qualtrics) and each national coordinator was responsible for distributing them in their respective academic environments (e.g., through advertisements during lectures, emails to students, announcements among university research participant pools and university social networks)⁴. Data were collected between May 2018 and January 2019. Inclusion criteria were identical to those applied in the initial validation study (Flayelle et al., 2019): being at least 18 years of age, being fluent in the targeted language and having watched TV series episodes on a regular basis or more intensively (several episodes in one session) on DVD, computers, digital platforms or streaming devices, over the last six months. Participants provided informed consent before completing the survey with an average response time of 20 min. Although the online survey participation was entirely voluntary, some study sites (Australia, South Africa, and the United States) provided participants with incentives (course credits or prize drawing) to boost participation rates. Anonymity and confidentiality were ensured throughout the survey completion as no data allowing the identification of participants were collected (e.g., internet protocol [IP] address), with the sole exception of email addresses when incentives were put in place. In such cases, the email contact list was only used for the draw purpose or the attribution of academic credits. This study obtained approval from the Ethics Review Panel⁵ of the University of Luxembourg in addition to receiving

clearance from the local Institutional Review Boards of some partner universities (those in Australia, Egypt, Hungary, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States).

1.2. Measures

1.2.1. Watching TV Series Motives Questionnaire (WTSMQ)

The WTSMQ (Flayelle et al., 2019) is a 22-item scale assessing TV series watching motivations with four core dimensions: *social* (e.g., “I watch TV series to relate to others more easily, because TV series give me something to discuss.”), *emotional enhancement* (e.g., “I watch TV series to be captivated and experience extraordinary adventures by proxy.”), *enrichment* (e.g., “I watch TV series to develop my personality and broaden my views.”), and *coping/escapism* (e.g., “I watch TV series to escape reality and seek shelter in fictional worlds.”). Items are scored on a 4-point Likert scale ranging from 1 (*not at all*) to 4 (*to a great extent*), with an average score calculated for each subscale. The internal consistencies for all language-specific samples are presented in the following results section.

1.2.2. Binge-Watching Engagement and Symptoms Questionnaire (BWESQ)

The BWESQ (Flayelle et al., 2019) is a 40-item scale assessing binge-watching engagement and features of problematic binge-watching. The questionnaire consists of seven scales: *engagement* (e.g., “Watching TV series is one of my favorite hobbies.”), *positive emotions* (e.g., “Watching TV series is a cause for joy and enthusiasm in my life.”), *pleasure preservation* (e.g., “I worry about getting spoiled.”), *desire/savoring* (e.g., “I look forward to the moment I will be able to see a new episode of my favorite TV series.”), *binge-watching* (e.g., “When an episode comes to an end, and because I want to know what happens next, I often feel an irresistible tension that makes me push through the next episode.”), *dependency* (e.g., “I get tense, irritated or agitated when I can’t watch my favorite TV series.”), and *loss of control* (e.g., “I sometimes try not to spend as much time watching TV series, but I fail every time.”). Items are scored on a 4-point Likert scale ranging from 1 (*strongly disagree*) to 4 (*strongly agree*), with an average score calculated for each subscale. The internal consistencies for all language-specific samples are presented in the following results section.

1.2.3. Subjective Happiness Scale (SHS)

The SHS (original English version; Lyubomirsky & Lepper, 1999) is a 4-item measure of global self-report happiness with respondents rating the extent to which they feel happy and unhappy (e.g., “In general, I consider myself a very happy person.”). Participants evaluated each item on a 7-point rating scale, a mean total score (ranging from 1 to 7)

² 11% of both WTSMQ and BWESQ items were concerned.

³ These additional translations concerned the SHS (Hungarian, Persian), BSI-18 (Arabic, Chinese, Persian) and CIUS (Chinese, Hungarian, Persian).

⁴ Note that the study was also advertised in the popular press in France.

⁵ Project identification code: ERP 18–008.

being then computed. The internal consistency of the SHS ranged from 0.65 (Chinese version) to 0.88 (German version).

1.2.4. Brief Symptom Inventory-18 (BSI-18)

The BSI-18 (original English version; Derogatis, 2001) assesses general psychological distress with 18 descriptions of physical and emotional complaints distributed over three facets: *depression* (e.g., “Feeling no interest in things.”), *anxiety* (e.g., “Feeling tense.”), and *somatization* (e.g., “Trouble getting breath.”). Respondents have to specify on a scale from 0 (*not at all*) to 4 (*very much*) to what extent they are troubled by such experiences. A total score is computed for each of the three subscales. The internal consistencies for all language-specific samples were high, ranging from 0.76 (Persian version; *somatization*) to 0.89 (Spanish version; *depression*).

1.2.5. Short Impulsive Behavior Scale (s-UPPS-P)

The s-UPPS-P (original French version; Billieux et al., 2012) is a 20-item scale evaluating five facets of impulsivity: *negative urgency* (e.g., “When I am upset I often act without thinking.”), *positive urgency* (e.g., “When I am really excited, I tend not to think on the consequences of my actions.”), *lack of premeditation* (e.g., “I usually think carefully before doing anything.” – the item is reverse scored), *lack of perseverance* (e.g., “I generally like to see things through to the end.”), and *sensation-seeking* (e.g., “I sometimes like doing things that are a bit frightening.”). Items are scored on a 4-point Likert scale ranging from 1 (*strongly agree*) to 4 (*strongly disagree*). A total score is calculated for each of the five subscales. The internal consistencies of the s-UPPS-P subscales ranged from 0.60 (German version; *positive urgency*) to 0.92 (Italian version; *lack of perseverance*).

1.2.6. Compulsive Internet Use Scale (CIUS)

The CIUS (original English version; Meerkerk et al., 2009) is a 14-item scale assessing problematic internet use on five scales: *loss of control* (e.g., “Do you find it difficult to stop using the internet when you are online?”), *preoccupation* (e.g., “Do you think about the internet, even when not online?”), *withdrawal symptoms* (e.g., “Do you feel restless, frustrated, or irritated when you cannot use the internet?”), *coping or mood modification* (e.g., “Do you go on the internet when you are feeling down?”), and *conflict* (e.g., “Do you neglect your daily obligations (work, school, or family life) because you prefer to go on the internet?”). Items are scored on a 5-point scale ranging from 0 (*never*) to 4 (*very often*), and are summed to yield a total single score. Internal consistencies were high across all language-specific samples, ranging between 0.86 (Arabic version) and 0.93 (Spanish version).

1.2.7. Statistical analyses

For data analyses, only full sets of responses⁶ were explored, explaining sample size variations within the same language-based sample. In a first step, descriptive statistics concerning sociodemographic characteristics and TV series viewing patterns were computed to compile a profile of the whole and individual samples using SPSS statistical package (version 24.0). Confirmatory factor analyses (CFAs) were then conducted for each language-specific sample, as well as for the overall sample to examine the adequacy of fit of the 4-factor and 7-factor models derived from the initial WTSMQ and BWESQ validation (Flayelle et al., 2019). The software used to perform these analyses was EQS (6.4) (Bentler, 2006). Non-normal distributions of items from the WTSMQ and BWESQ scales (see Supplemental Table 1 available from: <https://osf.io/pxzw8/>) were addressed by applying robust estimation methods (robust Maximum Likelihood, ML; Finney & DiStefano, 2013). In line with best practice in Structural Equation Modeling (Kline, 2015; Hooper, Coughlan, & Mullen, 2008) to respect original factorial

integrity of both scales and to ensure the comparability between countries, we did not apply any modification to the models based on modification indices, even when minor changes (e.g., correlations between error terms) significantly increased the models' fit. Goodness of fit for the CFA models was assessed through the following indices: the root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA), the comparative and incremental fit indices (CFI and IFI, respectively), and the standardized root mean square residual (SRMR). An excellent model fit was identified when the CFI and the IFI were $\geq .95$, the RMSEA ≤ 0.05 , and the SRMR ≤ 0.05 (Bagozzi & Yi, 2011; Schermelleh-Engel & Müller, 2003). Using less restrictive criteria, values ≥ 0.90 for the CFI and the IFI, ≤ 0.08 for the RMSEA, and $\leq .10$ for the SRMR were considered acceptable (Hooper et al., 2008). For the sake of transparency, Satorra-Bentler chi-square (X^2), general model significance (p), and relative chi-square (X^2/df) were reported; however, given that X^2 is highly sensitive to sample size (Jöreskog & Sörbom, 1993; Markland, 2007), which in our study exceeds by far the standards required for conducting this type of analysis (Hair, Black, & Babin, 2010), these indices were not employed to assess the adequacy of the CFA models.

To assess whether the factor structures of the WTSMQ and BWESQ were valid for their use across different languages and in both genders⁷, multi-group CFAs according to language and gender were conducted. Specifically, we tested four levels of measurement invariance: 1) configural (test whether items load on the same factor across groups), 2) metric (test whether item factorial loadings are equal across groups), 3) scalar (test whether item intercepts are equal across groups) and 4) error variance invariance (test whether items measurement error are equal across groups). The adequacy of the increasingly constrained models was assessed through the difference between pairs of nested models (Δ) in the RMSEA, CFI and SRMR. A change ≥ 0.01 in the CFI, ≥ 0.015 in the RMSEA, and $\geq .03$ in the SRMR indicates a significant decrease in the model fit when testing for measurement invariance (Chen, 2007). This procedure was also used to assess the adequacy of merging into a single dataset the data obtained in different countries for the same language (these results can be found in Supplemental Tables 2 and 3 at: <https://osf.io/pxzw8/>), a procedure that was performed before conducting the individual CFAs in each language-based dataset.

Reliability of the WTSMQ and BWESQ total scores and factors was assessed through the ordinal Cronbach's alpha (α) and the McDonald's omega (ω). Both indices were calculated using the R package “user-friendlyscience” (Peters, 2014). According to the criteria proposed by Hunsley and Mash (2008), reliability indices between 0.70 and 0.79 were considered appropriate, between 0.80 and 0.89 good, and $\geq .90$ excellent. Finally, the construct validity of the WTSMQ and the BWESQ was appraised by investigating their relationships with age and SHS, BSI-18, s-UPPS-P and CIUS scores across all samples by means of Spearman's correlational analyses⁸, while Pearson point-biserial correlations were used to explore links with gender⁹. To account for multiple comparisons, the Benjamini-Hochberg procedure (Benjamini & Hochberg, 1995) was also performed to hold the false discovery rate at 5% in order to mitigate against Type I errors.

2. Results

2.1. Descriptive statistics

TV-series-watching characteristics and average scores for all

⁷ Given the very low prevalence of participants having reported “transgender” and “other” about their gender identity, only male and female data were considered in such analyses.

⁸ Spearman's correlations were used to address non-normal distribution of data.

⁹ In line with the above-mentioned reason, only two categories of data (i.e., male and female) were included in the correlational analyses.

⁶ A total number of 14,672 respondents started to fill in the questionnaires, with 73% of them completing the entire survey.

questionnaire study variables are reported in [Table 3](#).

2.2. Watching TV Series Motives Questionnaire (WTSMQ)

2.2.1. Structural analysis and measurement invariance across language and gender

The adequacy of the four-factor model from the preliminary WTSMQ validation was tested through CFA. This model proposes that the 22 items comprising this scale may be grouped into four correlated first-order factors (for a comprehensive description of the factorial structure and items distribution, see [Flayelle et al., 2019](#)). Given the confirmatory nature of this study, other competing models were not tested (e.g., unifactorial models, second-order factors). Results from individual CFAs for each language and across all samples are reported in [Table 4](#). As expected, given the datasets' sample sizes, the Satorra-Bentler χ^2 value of significance did not exceed the 0.05 value to consider the models' fit as satisfactory. In addition, the CFI and IFI were consistently under the 0.90 threshold in all the assessed models, except for the Arabic sample and the whole dataset, in which both indices were near an acceptable value (0.89). As for the χ^2 , CFI and IFI are sensitive to sample size ([Rigdon, 1996](#)), as well as to the item response scale (in particular, ordered categorical answer scales; [Finney & DiStefano, 2013](#), p. 703). As a result, [Rigdon \(1996\)](#) advised that the CFI is better suited to assess the adequacy of exploratory research designs (i.e., studies comprising small sample sizes) whereas alternative indices such as the RMSEA are better suited to confirmatory contexts (i.e., studies comprising large samples). Furthermore, [Kenny and McCoach \(2003\)](#) argue that the CFI tends to deteriorate in models comprising a large number of variables and indicators, especially for correctly specified models (note that the models described in this paper for the WTSMQ and BWESQ comprise 203 and 719 *df* respectively). In contrast, the RMSEA consistently demonstrates an opposite pattern: i.e., a systematic decrease in models comprising an increasing number of variables ([Kenny & McCoach, 2003](#)). Given these limitations, we analysed the goodness of fit of our CFA models by relying on the recommendation made by [Kenny and McCoach \(2003\)](#), who suggest that complex models involving lower Tucker-Lewis index (TLI) and CFI values give no real cause for concern insofar as the RMSEA seems better. In our CFA models, the RMSEA and the SRMR were below the thresholds of 0.08 and 0.10 in all the language-based datasets as well as in the whole sample. The best adjustment according to these indices was obtained for the whole sample (RMSEA = 0.060; SRMR = 0.051) whereas the worst was obtained for the Persian dataset (RMSEA and SRMR of 0.079).

To test measurement invariance of the WTSMQ according to language and gender, we conducted a series of multi-group CFAs. As displayed in [Table 5](#), language and gender configural invariance of the WTSMQ was supported (RMSEA = 0.065; SRMR = 0.067 [according to language]; RMSEA = 0.060; SRMR = 0.051 [according to gender]), so we subsequently estimated models with increasing levels of constraints to test higher levels of invariance. Regarding metric invariance, changes in the RMSEA and SRMR did not show a significant worsening in the model fit neither for language (Δ RMSEA = 0.001; Δ SRMR = 0.010) nor for gender invariance (Δ RMSEA = 0.001; Δ SRMR = 0.005). Similarly, the models' fit did not significantly decrease when subsequent levels of gender invariance were tested (Δ in RMSEA and SRMR were always below 0.015 and 0.03, respectively), thus supporting a complete equivalence of the WTSMQ in males and females. However, the significant Δ in SRMR when scalar and error invariance according to language was tested (0.117 and 0.116) suggested the presence of differences at these levels of measurement according to the language of administration.

For language (not for gender) invariance, values for the Δ in CFI exceeded the threshold of 0.015 (Δ CFI of 0.017, 0.012, and 0.022 for metric, scalar and error invariance). However, following the same approach as individual CFAs, this CFI-based index was not considered to assess the adequacy of the invariance models.

2.2.2. Internal consistency

Reliability indices for the WTSMQ total score and factors are displayed in [Table 6](#). Few differences between ordinal Cronbach's alpha (α) and McDonald's omega (ω) were observed. Convergence between both indices was considered as a good indicator of scale reliability under different conditions ([Zinbarg, Revelle, Yovel, & Li, 2005](#)). For the whole sample as well as for the majority of the different language-based samples, both indices clearly exceed the criterion of 0.70 established by [Hunsley and Mash \(2008\)](#) to consider the reliability of a scale appropriate. The only exception was found in the Chinese dataset, where reliability for factor 4 was below 0.70 (α and ω of 0.60). Reliability for the other language-based datasets and for the whole sample ranged between 0.71-0.92 and 0.82-0.90 respectively, with most values indicating good to excellent scale reliability. Thus, the WTSMQ can be considered a reliable measure in each language-based sample.

2.2.3. Binge-Watching Engagement and Symptoms Questionnaire (BWESQ)

2.2.3.1. Structural analysis and measurement invariance across language and gender.

The adequacy of the seven-factor model from the preliminary BWESQ validation was tested through CFA (following a similar data-analytic approach to the one used for the WTSMQ). This model proposes that the 40 items comprising this scale may be grouped into seven correlated first-order factors. As displayed in [Table 4](#), goodness of fit indices for the BWESQ individual CFAs were acceptable for all the language-based dataset (RMSEA ranging between 0.056-0.062 and SRMR ranging between 0.057-0.074) and in the whole sample (RMSEA = 0.059; SRMR = 0.063). Consistent with our expectations that the low CFI and IFI values were linked to the degree of complexity of our CFA models (in terms of number of indicators and latent variables) and not to a truly poor fitting factorial structure, we observed a significant decrease of these indices in the results for this scale (note that the BWESQ has 516 *df* more than previously); conversely, results for the RMSEA are slightly better (the tendency documented by [Kenny and McCoach](#) in increasingly complex models; [Kenny & McCoach, 2003](#)).

Results from measurement invariance of the BWESQ across languages and gender are displayed in [Table 5](#). Results are notably similar to those reported for the WTSMQ. Configural invariance according to language (RMSEA = 0.058; SRMR = 0.067) and gender (RMSEA = 0.059; SRMR = 0.063) was confirmed during the first step of the multi-group CFAs. The small changes in the fit indices at the next steps also supported metric invariance according to language (Δ RMSEA < .000; \square SRMR = 0.012) and gender (Δ RMSEA = 0.001; Δ SRMR = 0.006). Furthermore, the increase in the level of measurement constraints at the subsequent steps did not result in a significant deterioration of the models' fit (Δ RMSEA = 0.001; Δ SRMR < 0.000 [scalar invariance]; \square RMSEA = 0.001; Δ SRMR = 0.006 [error invariance]) across gender groups, providing strong evidence that the BWESQ operates similarly in males and females. However, scalar invariance according to language was only partially supported (Δ RMSEA = 0.007 and Δ SRMR = 0.031; i.e., extremely near to 0.03 threshold) and error variance invariance rejected (Δ SRMR = 0.037). Even when Δ in CFI was not considered to assess the adequacy of multi-group models, all the values except for the language error variance invariance (Δ CFI = .011) were below 0.01, thus supporting different levels of measurement equivalence between the language versions of the BWESQ and in both genders.

2.2.3.2. Internal consistency. Reliability indices for the BWESQ total score and factors are displayed in [Table 6](#). Again, few differences between ordinal Cronbach's alpha (α) and McDonald's omega (ω) were observed, and the majority of reliability values were good to excellent (even better than for the WTSMQ). Apart from the Cronbach's alpha from factor 7 in the Chinese dataset (α = 0.68; ω = 0.71) and from factor 5 in the German dataset (α = 0.67; ω = 0.71), reliability was always

Table 3
Descriptive statistics of the samples

TV series viewing patterns	Total sample (n = 12,616)	Spanish (n = 3,312)	French (n = 3,088)	English (n = 2,580)	Hungarian (n = 777)	Italian (n = 673)	German (n = 652)	Arabic (n = 540)	Persian (n = 512)	Chinese (n = 482)	
Frequency of watching (%)											
Less than once a month	12.6	16.1	5.3	10.6	4.9	11.7	4.8	18.5	44.5	30.9	
Once/several times a month	22.3	24	19.1	23.5	21	21	19.5	24.4	27.1	25.7	
Once/several times a week	42.4	40.2	42.7	46.8	50.2	44.4	54.7	32.5	21.6	30.3	
Once/several times a day	22.7	19.7	32.9	19.1	23.9	22.9	21	24.6	6.8	13.1	
Watching time/working day (%)											
Less than 2 hours	53.6	45.9	51.7	54.3	61.1	61.8	59	55.2	65.2	69.1	
2-4 hours	37.4	41.3	39.3	39.7	29.9	33.3	34.6	35.9	25.4	22	
5-7 hours	5.4	7.8	5.3	3.9	5.8	2.1	3.3	5.4	5.5	6	
More than 7 hours	3.6	5	3.7	2.1	3.2	2.8	3.1	3.5	3.9	2.9	
Watching time/day off (%)											
Less than 2 hours	31.9	34.5	27	24.4	41.3	41.5	29	24.3	47.7	51.7	
2-4 hours	47	43.9	50.9	50.9	42.7	46	52.3	44.4	39.2	35	
5-7 hours	14	13.9	14.4	17.3	10.9	7.3	13.3	18.5	10.4	8.9	
More than 7 hours	7.1	7.7	7.7	7.4	5.1	5.2	5.4	12.8	2.7	4.4	
Quantity of episodes seen in one session (%)											
1 episode	13.8	18.4	8.4	10.5	10.4	11.7	6.6	15.2	46.5	16.6	
2 episodes	32.3	31.9	33.3	32.9	36.6	37.4	33.4	20.4	21.9	32.8	
3 episodes	25.4	22.2	29	28.1	28.8	25.6	28.8	17.2	12.9	21	
4 episodes	12.4	12.4	13.1	14.2	10.3	11.7	14.7	13	6.6	6	
5 episodes	5.9	6.6	5.9	5.5	4.1	4	6.4	11.1	2.2	6.4	
6 episodes	2.2	2.4	2.3	1.5	2.1	2.8	2	4.4	1.8	1.9	
More than 6 episodes	8	6.1	7.9	7.4	7.7	6.7	8	18.7	8.2	15.4	
Questionnaires											
	Total sample (n = 10,454-12,616)	Spanish (n = 2,788-3,312)	French (n = 2,526-3,088)	English (n = 2,096-2,580)	Hungarian (n = 564-777)	Italian (n = 558-673)	German (n = 569-652)	Arabic (n = 430-540)	Persian (n = 468-512)	Chinese (n = 455-482)	
	Range	M (SD)	M (SD)	M (SD)	M (SD)	M (SD)	M (SD)	M (SD)	M (SD)	M (SD)	
Watching TV Series Motives Questionnaire (WTSMQ)											
Social	1-4	1.50 (0.55)	1.36 (0.45)	1.50 (0.55)	1.60 (0.58)	1.38 (0.43)	1.31 (0.39)	1.53 (0.54)	1.41 (0.50)	1.53 (0.54)	2.45 (0.48)
Emotional enhancement	1-4	2.57 (0.72)	2.19 (0.69)	2.86 (0.60)	2.62 (0.72)	2.82 (0.66)	2.42 (0.69)	2.79 (0.61)	2.79 (0.74)	2.28 (0.74)	2.62 (0.56)
Enrichment	1-4	2.38 (0.70)	2.21 (0.67)	2.63 (0.63)	2.15 (0.66)	2.73 (0.72)	2.36 (0.68)	2.31 (0.65)	2.42 (0.78)	2.20 (0.72)	2.87 (0.48)
Coping/ Escapism	1-4	2.19 (0.67)	1.97 (0.60)	2.16 (0.63)	2.44 (0.70)	2.23 (0.67)	2.04 (0.58)	2.40 (0.65)	2.51 (0.74)	1.98 (0.62)	2.34 (0.48)
Binge-Watching Engagement and Symptoms Questionnaire (BWESQ)											
Engagement	1-4	2.12 (0.59)	2.10 (0.59)	2.20 (0.61)	2.10 (0.57)	2.25 (0.59)	2.03 (0.58)	2.11 (0.54)	2.29 (0.64)	1.82 (0.57)	2.06 (0.46)
Positive emotions	1-4	2.50 (0.61)	2.31 (0.67)	2.64 (0.53)	2.59 (0.58)	2.81 (0.52)	2.41 (0.56)	2.46 (0.49)	2.68 (0.57)	2.12 (0.64)	2.44 (0.43)
Pleasure preservation	1-4	2.12 (0.77)	2.08 (0.80)	2.20 (0.78)	2.06 (0.72)	2.19 (0.77)	2.14 (0.75)	1.97 (0.76)	2.54 (0.83)	1.92 (0.70)	2.09 (0.54)
Desire/Savoring	1-4	2.70 (0.70)	2.33 (0.71)	2.89 (0.63)	2.89 (0.64)	2.89 (0.63)	2.65 (0.63)	2.90 (0.57)	2.87 (0.66)	2.26 (0.68)	2.70 (0.46)
Binge-watching	1-4	2.19 (0.66)	2.09 (0.66)	2.37 (0.67)	2.24 (0.67)	2.07 (0.56)	1.96 (0.60)	2.03 (0.56)	2.44 (0.62)	1.83 (0.62)	2.28 (0.51)
Dependency	1-4	1.72 (0.60)	1.77 (0.60)	1.57 (0.58)	1.75 (0.58)	1.73 (0.58)	1.61 (0.52)	1.52 (0.51)	2.15 (0.65)	1.75 (0.60)	2.08 (0.47)
Loss of control	1-4	1.87 (0.63)	1.78 (0.62)	1.91 (0.65)	1.98 (0.66)	1.72 (0.55)	1.57 (0.53)	1.76 (0.60)	2.14 (0.63)	1.76 (0.56)	2.10 (0.51)
Subjective Happiness Scale (SHS)	1-7	4.53 (1.27)	4.71 (1.23)	4.49 (1.29)	4.64 (1.26)	4.36 (1.41)	4.37 (1.25)	4.59 (1.29)	3.91 (1.21)	4.27 (1.28)	4.47 (1.04)
Brief Symptom Inventory-18 (BSI-18)											
Depression	0-4	1.04 (0.97)	1.17 (1.03)	0.75 (0.83)	1.07 (0.97)	1.31 (1)	1.22 (0.99)	0.93 (0.86)	1.50 (1.11)	1.17 (0.90)	0.70 (0.82)
Anxiety	0-4	0.95 (0.90)	0.93 (0.89)	0.70 (0.79)	1.18 (0.96)	1.15 (0.87)	1.17 (0.93)	0.77 (0.67)	1.40 (1.05)	1 (0.76)	0.69 (0.83)
Somatization	0-4	0.65 (0.76)	0.83 (0.85)	0.46 (0.65)	0.60 (0.73)	0.57 (0.69)	0.81 (0.81)	0.49 (0.62)	0.92 (0.85)	0.73 (0.68)	0.61 (0.77)
Short Impulsive Behavior Scale (s-UPPS-P)											
Negative urgency	1-4	2.42 (0.74)	2.47 (0.74)	2.34 (0.75)	2.42 (0.75)	2.44 (0.79)	2.45 (0.76)	2.29 (0.69)	2.56 (0.71)	2.48 (0.67)	2.43 (0.68)

(continued on next page)

Table 3 (continued)

Positive urgency	1-4	2.56 (0.65)	2.54 (0.64)	2.65 (0.66)	2.55 (0.62)	2.57 (0.68)	2.27 (0.75)	2.41 (0.58)	2.80 (0.59)	2.75 (0.60)	2.41 (0.66)
Lack of premeditation	1-4	1.89 (0.63)	1.85 (0.56)	1.91 (0.67)	1.81 (0.61)	1.97 (0.71)	1.89 (0.75)	1.79 (0.61)	2.02 (0.65)	1.94 (0.57)	2.11 (0.61)
Lack of perseverance	1-4	1.93 (0.68)	1.86 (0.60)	1.96 (0.74)	1.90 (0.64)	2.04 (0.78)	1.93 (0.85)	1.81 (0.67)	2.13 (0.64)	1.94 (0.60)	2.12 (0.58)
Sensation-seeking	1-4	2.57 (0.73)	2.63 (0.75)	2.51 (0.73)	2.74 (0.66)	2.55 (0.72)	2.26 (0.76)	2.39 (0.71)	2.41 (0.72)	2.79 (0.67)	2.32 (0.71)
Compulsive Internet Use Scale (CIUS)	1-5	2.43 (0.82)	2.27 (0.90)	2.53 (0.76)	2.44 (0.79)	2.35 (0.72)	2.03 (0.78)	2.34 (0.70)	3.04 (0.69)	2.78 (0.75)	2.51 (0.71)

Table 4

Individual CFAs for each language and across all samples.

	n	χ^2	df	χ^2/df	RMSEA (CI)	CFI	IFI	SRMR
Watching TV Series Motives Questionnaire (WTSMQ)								
Spanish	3,312	3,008.47	203	14.82	.065 (.063; .067)	.868	.868	.062
French	3,088	2,541.58	203	12.52	.061 (.059; .063)	.854	.854	.059
English	2,580	2,300.84	203	11.33	.063 (.061; .063)	.888	.889	.053
Hungarian	777	899.25	203	4.42	.066 (.062; .071)	.855	.856	.065
Italian	673	815.40	203	4.01	.067 (.062; .072)	.856	.857	.063
German	652	804.82	203	3.96	.067 (.063; .072)	.836	.837	.065
Arabic	540	635.90	203	3.13	.063 (.057; .068)	.893	.894	.059
Persian	512	842.80	203	4.14	.079 (.073; .084)	.836	.838	.079
Chinese	482	751.89	203	3.70	.075 (.069; .081)	.758	.761	.090
All languages	12,616	9,503.15	203	46.81	.060 (.059; .061)	.891	.891	.051
Binge-Watching Engagement and Symptoms Questionnaire (BWESQ)								
Spanish	3,066	7,675.31	719	10.67	.056 (.055; .057)	.871	.871	.063
French	2,870	7,898.33	719	10.98	.059 (.058; .060)	.820	.820	.065
English	2,373	6,339.12	719	8.81	.057 (.056; .059)	.859	.859	.057
Hungarian	688	2,629.91	719	3.65	.062 (.060; .065)	.793	.795	.072
Italian	612	2,310.22	719	3.21	.060 (.057; .063)	.822	.823	.072
German	611	2,172.09	719	3.02	.058 (.055; .060)	.817	.818	.074
Arabic	483	1,896.91	719	2.63	.058 (.055; .061)	.856	.857	.064
Persian	493	1,850.41	719	2.57	.057 (.053; .060)	.879	.880	.062
Chinese	467	1,789.68	719	2.48	.057 (.053; .060)	.783	.786	.068
All languages	11,663	30,303.95	719	42.14	.059 (.059; .060)	.840	.840	.063

Note. CFA = confirmatory factor analysis; χ^2 = Satorra-Bentler chi-square; df = degrees of freedom; χ^2/df = normed chi-square; RMSEA = root mean square error of approximation; CFI = comparative fit index; IFI = incremental fit index; SRMR = standardized root mean square residual. All models are significant at $p < .001$.

Table 5

Multigroup CFAs according to language and gender.

	χ^2	df	χ^2/df	RMSEA (CI)	CFI	SRMR	Comparisons	Δ RMSEA	Δ CFI	Δ SRMR
Watching TV Series Motives Questionnaire (WTSMQ) (n = 12,616)										
Language invariance										
Configural invariance	12,694.44	1827	6.94	.065 (.064; .066)	.865	.067	NA	NA	NA	NA
Metric invariance	14,167.58	1971	7.18	.066 (.065; .067)	.848	.077	Conf. Vs. Metric	.001	.017	.010
Scalar invariance	35,300.30	2147	16.44	.079 (.078; .080)	.860	.194	Metric. Vs. Scalar	.013	.012	.117
Error variance invariance	16,086.46	2003	8.03	.071 (.070; .072)	.838	.078	Scalar. Vs. Error	.008	.022	.116
Gender invariance										
Configural invariance	9,676.36	406	23.83	.060 (.059; .061)	.891	.051	NA	NA	NA	NA
Metric invariance	9,889.18	430	22.99	.059 (.058; .060)	.888	.056	Conf. Vs. Metric	.001	.003	.005
Scalar invariance	10,651.10	448	23.77	.060 (.059; .061)	.890	.056	Metric. Vs. Scalar	.001	.002	.000
Error variance invariance	9,879.57	428	23.08	.059 (.058; .060)	.890	.051	Scalar. Vs. Error	.001	.000	.005
Binge-Watching Engagement and Symptoms Questionnaire (BWESQ) (n = 11,663)										
Language invariance										
Configural invariance	34,530.67	6,471	5.33	.058 (.057; .058)	.843	.067	NA	NA	NA	NA
Metric invariance	36,327.13	6,735	6.25	.058 (.058; .059)	.835	.079	Conf. Vs. Metric	.000	.008	.012
Scalar invariance	63,986.02	7,055	9.06	.065 (.065; .066)	.841	.110	Metric. Vs. Scalar	.007	.006	.031
Error variance invariance	42,100.64	6,791	6.19	.063 (.063; .064)	.830	.071	Scalar. Vs. Error	.002	.011	.039
Gender invariance										
Configural invariance	30,325.17	1,438	21.08	.059 (.058; .059)	.843	.063	NA	NA	NA	NA
Metric invariance	30,792.51	1,492	20.63	.058 (.058; .059)	.841	.069	Conf. Vs. Metric	.001	.002	.006
Scalar invariance	32,209.15	1,525	21.12	.059 (.058; .059)	.842	.069	Metric. Vs. Scalar	.001	.001	.000
Error variance invariance	30,473.26	1,478	20.61	.058 (.058; .059)	.841	.063	Scalar. Vs. Error	.001	.001	.006

Note. CFA = confirmatory factor analysis; χ^2 = Satorra-Bentler chi-square; df = degrees of freedom; χ^2/df = normed chi-square; RMSEA = root mean square error of approximation; CFI = comparative fit index; IFI = incremental fit index; SRMR = standardized root mean square residual; Δ RMSEA = change in RMSEA compared with the previous model (expressed in absolute values); Δ CFI = change in CFI compared with the previous model (expressed in absolute values); Δ SRMR = change in SRMR compared with the previous model (expressed in absolute values). All models are significant at $p < .001$.

Table 6
Reliability indices (Cronbach's alpha and McDonald's omega).

	Spanish		French		English		Hungarian		Italian		German		Arabic		Persian		Chinese		All languages	
	α	ω	α	ω	α	ω	α	ω	α	ω	α	ω	α	ω	α	ω	α	ω	α	ω
WTSMQ	.92	.92	.86	.86	.91	.91	.87	.87	.90	.90	.87	.87	.89	.89	.92	.92	.89	.89	.90	.90
Factor 1: Social	.83	.83	.83	.83	.82	.82	.71	.72	.79	.80	.79	.79	.79	.79	.81	.81	.60	.60	.83	.83
Factor 2: Emo. Enh	.85	.85	.75	.75	.84	.84	.78	.78	.84	.84	.74	.74	.84	.84	.86	.86	.78	.78	.83	.83
Factor 3: Enrichment	.84	.84	.76	.77	.84	.84	.84	.85	.81	.82	.79	.79	.87	.87	.84	.85	.79	.80	.82	.82
Factor 4: Cop. Escapism	.88	.89	.85	.85	.88	.88	.87	.87	.87	.87	.84	.85	.89	.89	.86	.86	.80	.81	.87	.87
BWESQ	.97	.97	.95	.95	.97	.97	.95	.95	.96	.96	.95	.95	.96	.96	.97	.97	.95	.95	.96	.96
Factor 1: Engagement	.87	.87	.86	.86	.84	.85	.85	.85	.88	.88	.84	.84	.89	.89	.90	.90	.84	.85	.86	.86
Factor 2: Pos. Emotions	.85	.85	.72	.74	.80	.81	.77	.77	.80	.81	.67	.71	.79	.79	.84	.84	.70	.71	.79	.80
Factor 3: Pleas. Preserv	.81	.83	.74	.76	.73	.75	.72	.79	.74	.77	.79	.82	.83	.86	.76	.78	.68	.71	.75	.77
Factor 4: Desire/Savoring	.88	.88	.85	.85	.89	.89	.84	.85	.87	.87	.81	.81	.90	.90	.90	.90	.78	.78	.88	.88
Factor 5: Binge-watching	.89	.89	.85	.85	.89	.89	.83	.83	.88	.88	.83	.84	.86	.87	.90	.90	.83	.84	.87	.87
Factor 6: Dependency	.85	.85	.86	.86	.84	.85	.82	.83	.83	.84	.84	.85	.83	.83	.86	.86	.73	.73	.85	.85
Factor 7: Loss of control	.91	.91	.88	.88	.91	.91	.86	.86	.80	.81	.89	.89	.87	.87	.87	.88	.85	.85	.89	.89

Note. WTSMQ = Watching TV Series Motives Questionnaire; BWESQ = Binge-Watching Engagement and Symptoms Questionnaire; α = Cronbach's alpha; ω = McDonald's omega (hierarchical).

above 0.70. In particular, reliability for the rest of the language-based datasets and for the whole sample ranged between 0.72-0.97 and 0.75-0.96 respectively, once again with a clear preponderance of values indicating excellent scale reliability. As a result, the BWESQ can be considered a reliable measure for each language-based sample, even more reliable than the WTSMQ (which might be due to the higher number of items comprising each scale as well as the whole scale).

2.2.3.3. Scale inter-correlations and convergent validity. The correlation ranges obtained among all samples between the WTSMQ and BWESQ with one another, and between each of them with additional measures (i.e., age, gender, and scores on the SHS, BSI-18, s-UPPS-P and CIUS) are reported in Tables 7–9. The comprehensive review of language-specific correlations together with the nine language-versions of the WTSMQ and BWESQ can be found at: <https://osf.io/pxzw8/>.

On the whole, positive relationships emerged in all samples between the various subscales of the WTSMQ and BWESQ. In this regard, the *emotional enhancement* and *coping-escapism* motivations systematically encompassed the largest associations with all BWESQ-related dimensions, with non-problematic binge-watching factors (i.e., *engagement*, *positive emotions*, *pleasure preservation*, *desire/savoring*) being more strongly related to *emotional enhancement*, whereas problematic-binge-watching-related facets (i.e., *dependency*, *loss of control*) were more

Table 7
Spearman correlations ranges between the WTSMQ (N = 482–3,312) and the BWESQ (N = 467–3,066) across all languages.

	WTSMQ-Social	WTSMQ-Emotional enhancement	WTSMQ-Enrichment	WTSMQ-Coping/Escapism
BWESQ-Engagement	0.25–0.41	0.39–0.62	0.20–0.44	0.33–0.55
BWESQ-Positive emotions	0.18–0.37	0.46–0.69	0.26–0.47	0.42–0.57
BWESQ-Pleasure preservation	0.18–0.39	0.28–0.50	0.14–0.36	0.15–0.44
BWESQ-Desire/Savoring	0.08–0.33	0.40–0.65	0.17–0.48	0.28–0.49
BWESQ-Binge-watching	0.18–0.38	0.30–0.58	0.04–0.35	0.31–0.56
BWESQ-Dependency	0.23–0.41	0.29–0.53	0.07–0.28	0.39–0.51
BWESQ-Loss of control	0.19–0.33	0.17–0.46	0.03–0.24	0.32–0.53

Note. WTSMQ = Watching TV Series Motives Questionnaire; BWESQ = Binge-Watching Engagement and Symptoms Questionnaire.

Table 8
Spearman correlations ranges between the WTSMQ (N = 482–3,312), age and gender (N = 482–3,312), SHS (N = 465–3,006), BSI-18 (N = 462–2,955), s-UPPS-P (N = 457–2,861) and CIUS (N = 455–2,788) across all languages.

	WTSMQ-Social	WTSMQ-Emotional enhancement	WTSMQ-Enrichment	WTSMQ-Coping/Escapism
Age	−0.23–0.04	−0.23–0.07	−0.31–0.03	−0.22–0.14
Gender ^a	−0.16–0.07	−0.01–0.10	−0.12–0.10	0.02–0.19
SHS	−0.14–−0.04	−0.13–−0.04	−0.04–0.10	−0.40–−0.16
BSIdep	0.10–0.23	0.11–0.23	−0.03–0.18	0.33–0.49
BSIanx	0.06–0.21	0.09–0.23	−0.04–0.17	0.27–0.44
BSIsoma	0.10–0.21	0.02–0.19	0.01–0.15	0.23–0.36
s-UPPS-P-NU	0.08–0.17	0.03–0.14	−0.04–0.07	0.17–0.27
s-UPPS-P-PU	0.05–0.19	0.05–0.15	−0.06–0.12	0.11–0.23
s-UPPS-P-LPR	0.05–0.14	−0.12–0.12	−0.13–−0.01	0.02–0.24
s-UPPS-P-LPE	0.03–0.19	0.02–0.17	−0.10–0.07	0.08–0.24
s-UPPS-P-SS	0.02–0.15	−0.05–0.15	0.04–0.19	−0.06–0.15
CIUS	0.18–0.33	0.20–0.34	−0.04–0.21	0.31–0.45

Note. WTSMQ = Watching TV Series Motives Questionnaire; SHS = Subjective Happiness Scale; BSIdep = Depression; BSIanx = Anxiety; BSIsoma = Somatization; s-UPPS-P-NU = Negative urgency; s-UPPS-P-PU = Positive urgency; s-UPPS-P-LPR = Lack of premeditation; s-UPPS-P-LPE = Lack of perseverance; s-UPPS-P-SS = Sensation-seeking; CIUS = Compulsive Internet Use Scale. Gender was coded as 1 for males and 2 for females.

^a Pearson point-biserial correlations.

strongly connected to *coping-escapism*.

As for external correlates, although exhibiting a small effect size (Cohen, 1988), what particularly stands out across all languages is a stronger positive association between gender and the *coping/escapism* motivation. *Coping/escapism* also consistently presented the strongest small to moderate negative relationships with happiness (i.e., SHS total score), and a similar relationship was observed with *dependency* in the BWESQ. Similarly, all the BSI-18 domains (i.e., *depression*, *anxiety*, *somatization*) displayed more pronounced small to medium relationships with *coping/escapism* and *dependency*, followed by *binge-watching* and *loss of control*. In all samples, although small in magnitude, the association between impulsivity and motivations for viewing TV series was higher for *coping/escapism* with *negative urgency*, *positive urgency*, *lack of premeditation* and *lack of perseverance*, whereas *sensation-seeking* was more related to the *enrichment* motive. Among the BWESQ-related domains, the s-UPPS-P subscales' scores were repeatedly associated to a greater extent (small to medium effects) with problematic binge-watching

Table 9

Spearman correlations ranges between the BWESQ ($N = 467-3,066$), age and gender ($N = 467-3,066$), SHS ($N = 464-3,006$), BSI-18 ($N = 461-2,955$), s-UPPS-P ($N = 456-2,861$) and CIUS ($N = 454-2,788$) across all languages.

	BWESQ-Engagement	BWESQ-Positive emotions	BWESQ-Pleasure preservation	BWESQ-Desire/Savoring	BWESQ-Binge-watching	BWESQ-Dependency	BWESQ-Loss of control
Age	-0.18-0.00	-0.21-0.09	-0.22-0.03	-0.27-0.03	-0.17-0.02	-0.16--0.01	-0.19-0.00
Gender ^a	-0.05-0.12	-0.01-0.13	-0.25--0.01	0.01-0.16	-0.06-0.16	-0.05-0.09	-0.03-0.11
SHS	-0.21--0.06	-0.18-0.03	-0.16-0.02	-0.14-0.04	-0.21--0.11	-0.26--0.15	-0.25--0.09
BSIdep	0.14-0.25	0.14-0.30	0.13-0.22	0.09-0.26	0.20-0.32	0.22-0.33	0.17-0.32
BSIanx	0.12-0.24	0.15-0.28	0.11-0.19	0.05-0.27	0.19-0.29	0.20-0.31	0.17-0.29
BSIsoma	0.10-0.25	0.13-0.24	0.10-0.20	0.04-0.18	0.17-0.26	0.19-0.28	0.15-0.27
s-UPPS-P-NU	0.07-0.20	0.08-0.17	0.05-0.19	0.08-0.21	0.13-0.27	0.17-0.27	0.14-0.25
s-UPPS-P-PU	0.06-0.22	0.03-0.18	0.05-0.24	0.08-0.22	0.09-0.31	0.06-0.26	0.06-0.26
s-UPPS-P-LPR	-0.03-0.27	-0.13-0.25	-0.03-0.14	0.01-0.22	0.00-0.28	0.01-0.30	0.03-0.32
s-UPPS-P-LPE	0.05-0.22	0.02-0.19	0.04-0.16	0.00-0.18	0.02-0.25	0.06-0.26	0.11-0.32
s-UPPS-P-SS	-0.06-0.13	-0.05-0.11	-0.04-0.14	-0.04-0.09	-0.08-0.10	-0.11-0.16	-0.08-0.09
CIUS	0.22-0.39	0.26-0.39	0.21-0.38	0.22-0.36	0.28-0.52	0.32-0.47	0.25-0.54

Note. BWESQ = Binge-Watching Engagement and Symptoms Questionnaire; SHS = Subjective Happiness Scale; BSIdep = Depression; BSIanx = Anxiety; BSIsuma = Somatization; s-UPPS-P-NU = Negative urgency; s-UPPS-P-PU = Positive urgency; s-UPPS-P-LPR = Lack of premeditation; s-UPPS-P-LPE = Lack of perseverance; s-UPPS-P-SS = Sensation-seeking; CIUS = Compulsive Internet Use Scale. Gender was coded as 1 for males and 2 for females.

^a Pearson point-biserial correlations.

factors (i.e., *binge-watching*, *dependency*, *loss of control*), with *negative urgency* and *sensation-seeking* being more specifically connected to *dependency*, *positive urgency* to *binge-watching*, and both *lack of premeditation* and *lack of perseverance* to *loss of control*. Finally, and concurrent with the afore-mentioned relationships, the CIUS total score was in all instances more strongly related to problematic binge-watching factors (i.e., *binge-watching*, *dependency*, *loss of control*), as well as to the *coping/escapism* motivation, involving mainly moderate to large positive associations.

3. Discussion

The present study investigated the psychometric properties of the “Watching TV Series Motives Questionnaire” (WTSMQ) and the “Binge-Watching Engagement and Symptoms Questionnaire” (BWESQ), two recently developed quantitative instruments measuring TV series watching motivations and binge-watching engagement and symptoms, among nine language-specific samples (i.e., Spanish, French, English, Hungarian, Italian, German, Arabic, Persian, and Chinese) in 17 countries.

This work is particularly relevant in the context of the rapidly growing body of research on binge-watching worldwide, where the provision of valid and reliable instruments that perform well across different languages has become a central requirement to ensure accurate and meaningful comparisons of findings across studies. From this perspective, the goodness of fit of each measurement model was tested in all languages by means of individual CFAs, followed by the examination of the language and gender factor equivalence of both instruments using multi-group CFAs. Finally, the construct validity of the nine language-versions of the WTSMQ and BWESQ was considered through the correlational patterns identified with additional measures of happiness, psychopathological symptoms, impulsivity and problematic internet use.

Consistent with the initial validation study (Flayelle et al., 2019) and with our main hypothesis, the factorial structures of both scales replicated appropriate adjustments across all languages in the light of the fit indices (e.g., RMSEA, SRMR) considered better suited in view of our confirmatory framework and the complexity of the assessed models (Kenny & McCoach, 2003; Rigdon, 1996). As such, the theoretical factor models underlying these two instruments hold across languages/cultures represented in this study. Additionally, overall

measurement invariance according to language and gender was supported for both, thus implying that, whichever the language spoken, male and female TV series viewers interpreted the WTSMQ and BWESQ items in a conceptually similar manner. Beyond indicating their validity for use across the nine languages at hand, in both genders, this statistical property ensures that potential comparisons of results based on these quantitative tools express genuine differences in the constructs being measured. Finally, as further evidence of their high reliability, both scales were consistently characterized by good to excellent internal consistency, sharing very close coefficients’ values from (language) version to version. Backed by the present evidence of their good psychometric properties, both the WTSMQ and BWESQ thus prove to be reliable invariant measures in the nine different languages investigated.

The construct validity of all translated versions of the WTSMQ and BWESQ was supported by the nature of their relationships with each other, as well as with extra measures, showing similar patterns of associations across the different language-versions of the scales. Importantly, the BWESQ domains considered as non-problematic (i.e., *engagement*, *positive emotions*, *pleasure preservation*, *desire/savoring*) consistently displayed stronger connections to the *emotional enhancement* motivation assessed by the WTSMQ. This seems consistent with evidence that the main reason many individuals binge-watch is simply because this is entertaining (Panda & Pandey, 2017; Pittman & Sheehan, 2015; Ramayan, Munsayac Estella, & Abu Bakar, 2018; Shao & Benezza, 2018; Sung et al., 2018); this motive, in turn, most typically promotes pursuit of leisure activities.

In contrast, the *coping-escapism* factor of the WTSMQ showed stronger links to the BWESQ domains, which are considered to reflect problematic binge-watching (i.e., *dependency*, *loss of control*), just as in their initial validation. This not only resonates with recent findings highlighting the incentive role played by escapism motivation in binge-watching behaviors (Panda & Pandey, 2017; Rubenking et al., 2018; Starosta et al., 2019), but also may relate to relationships to problematic involvement in recreational behaviors that are often implemented to face adverse emotional states (e.g., problematic internet use or gaming; Ballabio et al., 2017; Bowditch, Chapman, & Naweed, 2018; Kardefelt-Winther, 2014; Tang et al., 2014; Whang, Lee, & Chang, 2003; Yee, 2007). In this respect, it is worth noting the stronger association identified across samples between *coping/escapism* and being female, which is somewhat reminiscent of the higher rates of depression in women (Albert, 2015; Cyranowski, Frank, Young, & Shear, 2000;

Nolen-Hoeksema, 1990). Furthermore, other potentially addictive behaviors (e.g., gambling) are more strongly related to negative reinforcement motivations in females as compared to males (Zakiniaez & Potenza, 2018). The current findings therefore suggest problematic binge-watching may involve maladaptive coping or emotion-regulation strategies, as in other potentially addictive behaviors (Flayelle, Maurage et al., 2019a, 2019b; Rubenking & Bracken, 2018; Tukachinsky & Eyal, 2018).

Finally, the reciprocal stronger positive relationships that systematically were observed between *coping/escapism* and problematic binge-watching factors (i.e., *binge-watching, dependency, loss of control*) on the one hand, and self-reported unhappiness, psychopathological symptoms (i.e., *depression, anxiety, somatization*), impulsivity domains and problematic internet use on the other, are further suggestive of the construct validity of the nine language-versions of the WTSMQ and BWESQ, and highlight important clinical relationships across cultures. These findings are in accordance with previous studies reporting associations between binge-watching and depression (Ahmed, 2017; Sung et al., 2015; Tukachinsky & Eyal, 2018), anxiety (Kruger et al., 2015b; Sung et al., 2015; Tefertiller & Maxwell, 2018), and heightened impulsivity (Flayelle, Maurage et al., 2019b; Riddle et al., 2017). Therefore, beyond supporting the construct validity of both scales, such patterns of correlations, that are seen across all samples, suggest the potential ability of the BWESQ to distinguish problematic from elevated but non-harmful binge-watching in each of its translations.

This unique feature of the BWESQ instrument thus represents an important added value to the assessment of binge-watching behaviors, given the relevance of discriminating between high and problematic engagement for establishing “disordered” use of technology (Billieux et al., 2019; Brockmeyer et al., 2009; Charlton & Danforth, 2007, 2010; Deleuze, Long, Liu, Maurage, & Billieux, 2018; Gentile, Coyne, & Bri-colo, 2013). Such a notion applied to the context of TV series watching resonates with recent work drawing on the *Dualistic Model of Passion* (Vallerand, 2015; Vallerand et al., 2003), which has emphasized that harmonious passion (i.e., significant involvement performed in harmony with other aspects of one’s life) is especially related to adaptive correlates of TV series watching, while obsessive passion (i.e., excessive involvement that generates conflict with other activities) is more specifically linked to maladaptive ones (Orosz, Vallerand, Bóthe, Tóth-Király, & Paskuj, 2016; Tóth-Király, Bóthe, Neszta Márki, Rigó, & Orosz, 2019). Taken together, the current results emphasize the reliability and validity of the WTSMQ and BWESQ over the nine languages, and provide evidence of their utility for future cross-cultural research on problematic binge-watching that is able to avoid pathologizing such a popular leisure activity.

Several limitations should be underlined. First, from a methodological standpoint, the means employed to collect data varied between sites (notably with some relying on the use of incentives), thereby generating gaps in the local sample sizes obtained. Still, no major differences exist as for the models’ goodness of fit between the samples where incentives were offered or not. Second, as the data are cross-sectional and self-reported, biases related to social desirability, lack of introspection or memory recall might be present, potentially reducing their temporal and ecological validity. Third, some Cronbach’s alpha values for the WTSMQ/BWESQ subscales were slightly below the recommended threshold of 0.70 (Hunsley & Mash, 2008) in their Chinese and German language-versions, while McDonald’s omega values were considered appropriate (with the exception of factor 4 of the Chinese version of the WTSMQ). This may reflect methodological issues (e.g., language adaptation of the scales). Fourth, one weakness of the WTSMQ and BWESQ psychometric structures across all languages is that CFI and IFI values were also systematically below the optimal recommended thresholds (Hooper et al., 2008). These particular indices were, however, not the most suitable to evaluate the appropriateness of the currently assessed models. Fifth, in striving to balance participant’s burden with information gathered, we did not collect highly detailed information on

sociodemographic measures. For example, data on ethnic characteristics were not collected and should be considered in future studies. Finally, our sampling of mainly university students may limit the generalizability of the results. Future studies aimed at continuing the assessment effort of the cross-cultural psychometric validity of both quantitative instruments should therefore be undertaken in other populations.

4. Conclusion

Overall, the cumulative positive results of this study confirm the cross-cultural robustness of the WTSMQ and BWESQ assessment instruments examined across nine languages in a multinational sample of 12,616 TV-series viewers from Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, North America, Oceania, and South America. The study not only demonstrated the psychometric validity of the instruments across widely distributed geographic locations, but also provided evidence of similar patterns of relationships between motivational and behavioral aspects of binge-watching and negative health measures, suggesting that common features may be linked to problematic binge-watching across cultures. At a time when binge-watching is a popular activity warranting research across jurisdictions, valid measures enabling comparability of data are key to promote an understanding of binge-watching across cultures. The WTSMQ and BWESQ will allow the further examination of binge-watching and the underlying motivations, helping to ensure the integrity and coherence of such research.

CRedit authorship contribution statement

Maëva Flayelle: Writing - review & editing, Writing - original draft, Visualization, Project administration, Methodology, Investigation, Formal analysis, Conceptualization. **Jesús Castro-Calvo:** Writing - review & editing, Writing - original draft, Visualization, Methodology, Investigation, Formal analysis, Conceptualization. **Claus Vögele:** Writing - review & editing. **Robert Astur:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Rafael Ballester-Arnal:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Gaëlle Challet-Bouju:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Matthias Brand:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Georgina Cárdenas:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Gaëtan Devos:** Writing - review & editing, Investigation. **Hussien Elkholy:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Marie Grall-Bronnec:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Richard J.E. James:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Martha Jiménez-Martínez:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Yasser Khazaal:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Saeideh Valizadeh-Haghi:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Daniel L. King:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Yueheng Liu:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Christine Lochner:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Sabine Steins-Loeber:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Jiang Long:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Marc N. Potenza:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Shahabedin Rahmatizadeh:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Adriano Schimmenti:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Dan J. Stein:** Writing - review & editing, Investigation. **István Tóth-Király:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Richard Tunney:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Yingying Wang:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Zu Wei Zhai:** Investigation, Writing - review & editing. **Pierre Maurage:** Writing - review & editing, Investigation. **Joël Billieux:** Writing - review & editing, Supervision, Methodology.

Acknowledgments

The authors would like to warmly thank Ahmed Hussien Ibrahim Abbass, Georgios-Petros Lazaridis, Maram Mahmoud, Hadeer Hassan Ahmed Mohammed, and Marwa Nofal for their support in implementing data collection procedures, as well as Dr. Fairouz Tawfik for her help in conducting the Arabic translation work.

References

- Adachi, P. J. C., Ryan, R. M., Frye, J., McClurg, D., & Rigby, C. S. (2017). "I can't wait for the next episode!": Investigating the motivational pull of television dramas through the lens of Self-Determination Theory. *Motivation Science*, 4, 78–94. <https://doi.org/10.1037/mot0000063>.
- Ahmed, A. (2017). New era of TV-watching behavior: Binge-watching and its psychological effects. *Media Watch*, 8, 192–207. <https://doi.org/10.15655/mw/2017/v8i2/49006>.
- Albert, P. R. (2015). Why is depression more prevalent in women? *Journal of Psychiatry & Neuroscience*, 40, 219–221. <https://doi.org/10.1503/jpn.150205>.
- Bagozzi, R. P., & Yi, Y. (2011). Specification, evaluation, and interpretation of structural equation models. *Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science*, 40, 8–34. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11747-011-0278-x>.
- Ballabio, M., Griffiths, M. D., Urbán, R., Quartiroli, A., Demetrovics, Z., & Király, O. (2017). Do gaming motives mediate between psychiatric symptoms and problematic gaming? An empirical survey study. *Addiction Research and Theory*, 25, 397–408. <https://doi.org/10.1080/16066359.2017.1305360>.
- Beaton, D. E., Bombardier, C., Guillemin, F., & Ferraz, M. B. (2000). Guidelines for the process of cross-cultural adaptation of self-report measures. *Spine*, 25, 3186–3191. <https://doi.org/10.1097/00007632-200012150-00014>.
- Benjamini, Y., & Hochberg, Y. (1995). Controlling the false discovery rate: A practical and powerful approach to multiple testing. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, 57, 289–300. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2346101>.
- Bentler, P. M. (2006). *EQS structural equations program manual*. Encino, CA: Multivariate Software.
- Billieux, J., Flayelle, M., Rumpf, H. J., & Stein, D. (2019). High involvement versus pathological involvement in video games: A crucial distinction for ensuring the validity and utility of gaming disorder. *Current Addiction Reports*, 6, 323–330. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40429-019-00259-x>.
- Billieux, J., Rochat, L., Ceschi, G., Carré, A., Offerlin-Meyer, I., Defeldre, A. C., et al. (2012). Validation of a short French version of the UPPS-P impulsive behavior scale. *Comprehensive Psychiatry*, 53, 609–615. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.comppsy.2011.09.001>.
- Billieux, J., Schimmenti, A., Khazaal, Y., Maurage, P., & Heeren, A. (2015). Are we overpathologizing everyday life? A tenable blueprint for behavioral addiction research. *Journal of Behavioral Addictions*, 4, 119–123. <https://doi.org/10.1556/2006.4.2015.009>.
- Bowditch, L., Chapman, J., & Naweed, A. (2018). Do coping strategies moderate the relationship between escapism and negative gaming outcomes in World of Warcraft (MMORPG) players? *Computers in Human Behavior*, 86, 69–76. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2018.04.030>.
- Brockmeyer, J. F., Fox, C. M., Curtiss, K. A., McBroom, E., Burkart, K. M., & Pidruzny, J. N. (2009). The development of the game engagement questionnaire: A measure of engagement in video game playing. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 45, 624–634. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jesp.2009.02.016>.
- Brookes, S., & Ellithorpe, M. (2017). *Good for your mood, bad for your health: Narrative involvement, health behaviors, and binge watching*. San Diego, CA: ICA Annual Conference. Paper presented at the 67th.
- Charlton, J. P., & Danforth, I. D. W. (2007). Distinguishing addiction and high engagement in the context of online game playing. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 23, 1531–1548. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2005.07.002>.
- Charlton, J. P., & Danforth, I. D. W. (2010). Validating the distinction between computer addiction and engagement: Online game playing and personality. *Behaviour & Information Technology*, 29, 601–613. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01449290903401978>.
- Chen, F. F. (2007). Sensitivity of goodness of fit indexes to lack of measurement invariance. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 14, 464–504. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705510701301834>.
- Cohen, J. (1988). *Statistical power analysis for the behavioral sciences*. Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum (Lawrence, Associates).
- Cyranowski, J. M., Frank, E., Young, E., & Shear, M. K. (2000). Adolescent onset of the gender difference in lifetime rates of major depression: A theoretical model. *Archives of General Psychiatry*, 57, 21–27. <https://doi.org/10.1001/archpsyc.57.1.21>.
- De Feijter, D., Khan, J. V., & Van Gisbergen, M. S. (2016). Confessions of a 'guilty' couch potato: Understanding and using context to optimize binge-watching behavior. *TVX '16 proceedings of the ACM international Conference on interactive experiences for TV and online video*. Chicago, IL: ACM. <https://doi.org/10.1145/2932206.2932216>, 2016.
- Deleuze, J., Long, J., Liu, T. Q., Maurage, P., & Billieux, J. (2018). Passion or addiction? Correlates of healthy versus problematic use of videogames in a sample of French-speaking regular players. *Addictive Behaviors*, 82, 114–121. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2018.02.031>.
- Deloitte's digital media trends survey. (2018). "A new world of choice for digital consumers". Retrieved from https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/insights/us/articles/4479_Digital-media-trends/4479_Digital_media%20trends_Exec%20Sum_vFINAL.pdf, 12th ed..
- Deloitte's digital media trends survey. (2019). "Piecing it together". Retrieved from https://www2.deloitte.com/content/dam/insights/us/articles/4782_digital-media-trends-13th-edition/DI_Digital-media-trends-13th-edition.pdf, 13th ed..
- Derogatis, L. R. (2001). *Brief symptom inventory (BSI)-18: Administration, scoring and procedures manual*. Minneapolis, MN: NCS Pearson.
- Erickson, S. E., Dal Cin, S., & Byl, H. (2019). An experimental examination of binge watching and narrative engagement. *Social Sciences*, 8, 19. <https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci8010019>.
- Exelmans, L., & Van den Bulck, J. (2017). Binge viewing, sleep, and the role of pre-sleep arousal. *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine*, 13, 1001–1008. <https://doi.org/10.5664/jcs.m.6704>.
- Finney, S. J., & DiStefano, C. (2013). Nonnormal and categorical data in structural equation models. *Structural Equation modeling: A second course* (2nd ed.). Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.
- Flayelle, M., Canale, N., Vögele, C., Karila, L., Maurage, P., & Billieux, J. (2019). Assessing binge-watching behaviors: Development and validation of the "watching TV series motives" and "binge-watching engagement and symptoms" questionnaires. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 90, 26–36. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2018.08.022>.
- Flayelle, M., Maurage, P., & Billieux, J. (2017). Toward a qualitative understanding of binge-watching behaviors: A focus group approach. *Journal of Behavioral Addictions*, 6, 457–471. <https://doi.org/10.1556/2006.6.2017.060>.
- Flayelle, M., Maurage, P., Karila, L., Vögele, C., & Billieux, J. (2019b). Overcoming the unitary exploration of binge-watching: A cluster analytical approach. *Journal of Behavioral Addictions*, 8, 586–602. <https://doi.org/10.1556/2006.8.2019.53>.
- Flayelle, M., Maurage, P., Ridell Di Lorenzo, K., Vögele, C., Gainsbury, S. M., & Billieux, J. (2020). Binge-watching: What do we know so far? A first systematic review of the evidence. *Current Addiction Reports*, 7, 44–60. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40429-020-00299-8>.
- Flayelle, M., Maurage, P., Vögele, C., Karila, L., & Billieux, J. (2019a). Time for a plot twist: Beyond confirmatory approaches to binge-watching research. *Psychology of Popular Media Culture*, 8, 308–318. <https://doi.org/10.1037/ppm0000187>.
- Gentile, D. A., Coyne, S. M., & Bricolo, F. (2013). Pathological technology addictions: What is scientifically known and what remains to be learned. In K. E. Dill (Ed.), *The Oxford handbook of media psychology* (pp. 382–402). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Granov, V., Reinecke, L., & Ziegele, M. (2018). Binge-watching & psychological well-being: Media use between lack of control and perceived autonomy. *Communication Research Reports*, 35, 392–401. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08824096.2018.1525347>.
- Hair, J. F., Black, W. C., & Babin, B. J. (2010). *Multivariate data analysis: A global perspective*. Boston: Pearson.
- Hasan, R., Kumar Jha, A., & Liu, Y. (2018). Excessive use of online video streaming services: Impact of recommender system use, psychological factors, and motives. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 80, 220–228. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2017.11.020>.
- Hernández Pérez, J. F., & Martínez Díaz, M. A. (2016). Nuevos modelos de consumo audiovisual: Los efectos del binge-watching sobre los jóvenes universitarios [new forms of audiovisual consumption: Binge watching effects on university students] en *adComunica. Revista científica de Estrategias. Tendencias e Innovación en Comunicación*, no. 13. Castellón (pp. 201–221). Asociación para el Desarrollo de la Comunicación adComunica y Universitat Jaume I. <https://doi.org/10.6035/21740992.2017.13.11>.
- Hoffner, C., & Buchanan, N. (2005). Young adult's wishful identification with television characters: The role of perceived similarity and character attributes. *Media Psychology*, 7, 325–351. https://doi.org/10.1207/s1532785XMEP0704_2.
- Hooper, D., Coughlan, J., & Mullen, M. R. (2008). Structural equation modeling: Guidelines for determining model fit. *Electronic Journal of Business Research Methods*, 6, 53–60.
- Horvath, C. W. (2004). Measuring television addiction. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, 48, 378–398. https://doi.org/10.1207/s15506878jobem4803_3.
- Hunsley, J., & Mash, E. J. (2008). *A guide to assessments that work*. Oxford University Press.
- James, R. J. E., & Tunney, R. J. (2016). The need for a behavioural analysis of behavioural addictions. *Clinical Psychology Review*, 52, 69–76. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cpr.2016.11.010>.
- Jöreskog, K., & Sörbom, D. (1993). *LISREL 8: Structural Equation modeling with the SIMPLIS Command language*. Chicago, IL: Scientific Software International Inc.
- Karddefelt-Winther, D. (2014). A conceptual and methodological critique of internet addiction research: Towards a model of compensatory internet use. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 31, 351–354. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2013.10.059>.
- Karddefelt-Winther, D. (2015). Problems with atheoretical and confirmatory research approaches in the study of behavioral addictions. *Journal of Behavioral Addictions*, 4, 126–129. <https://doi.org/10.1556/2006.4.2015.019>.
- Karddefelt-Winther, D., Heeren, A., Schimmenti, A., van Rooij, A., Maurage, P., Carras, M., et al. (2017). How can we conceptualize behavioural addiction without pathologizing common behaviours? *Addiction*, 112, 1709–1715. <https://doi.org/10.1111/add.13763>.
- Katz, E., Blumler, J. G., & Gurevitch, M. (1973). Uses and gratifications research. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 37, 509–523. <https://doi.org/10.1086/268109>.
- Kenny, D. A., & McCoach, D. B. (2003). Effect of the number of variables on measures of fit in structural equation modeling. *Structural Equation Modeling: A Multidisciplinary Journal*, 10, 333–351. https://doi.org/10.1207/s15328007SEM1003_1.
- Kline, R. B. (2015). *Principles and practice of structural Equation modeling* (4th ed.). New York: Guilford University Press.
- Knobloch-Westerwick, S. (2015). *Choice and preference in media use*. New York: Routledge.
- Konijn, E. A. (1999). Spotlight on spectators: Emotions in the theater. *Discourse Processes*, 28, 169–194. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01638539909545079>.
- Konijn, E. A., & Hoorn, J. F. (2005). Some like it bad. *Media Psychology*, 7, 107–144. https://doi.org/10.1207/s1532785XMEP0702_1.
- Kruger, J. S., Karmakar, M., Elhai, J., & Kramer, A. (2015a). *Screening for sleep problems: Binge watching in the internet era and its relationship to sleep habits*. Chicago, Illinois: APHA Annual Meeting and Exposition.
- Kruger, J. S., Karmakar, M., Elhai, J., & Kramer, A. (2015b). *Looking into screen time: Mental health and binge watching*. Chicago, Illinois: APHA Annual Meeting and Exposition.

- Kubota, Y., Cushman, M., Zakai, N., Rosamond, W. D., & Folsom, A. R. (2018). TV viewing and incident venous thromboembolism: The atherosclerotic risk in communities study. *Journal of Thrombosis and Thrombolysis*, 45, 353–359. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11239-018-1620-7>.
- Lyubomirsky, S., & Lepper, H. (1999). A measure of subjective happiness: Preliminary reliability and construct validation. *Social Indicators Research*, 46, 137–155. <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1006824100041>.
- Markland, D. (2007). The golden rule is that there are no golden rules: A commentary on Paul Barrett's recommendations for reporting model fit in structural equation modelling. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 42, 851–858. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2006.09.023>.
- Matrix, S. (2014). The Netflix effect: Teens, binge watching, and on-demand digital media trends. *Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures*, 6, 119–138. <https://doi.org/10.1353/jeu.2014.0002>.
- Meerkerk, G. J., Van Den Eijnden, R. J., Vermulst, A. A., & Garretsen, H. F. (2009). The compulsive Internet use scale (CIUS): Some psychometric properties. *CyberPsychology and Behavior*, 12, 1–6. <https://doi.org/10.1089/cpb.2008.0181>.
- Merikivi, J., Bragge, J., Scornavacca, E., & Verhagen, T. (2019). *Binge-watching serialized video content: A transdisciplinary review*. Television & New Media, online first publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1527476419848578>.
- Merrill, K., & Rubenking, B. (2019). Go long or go often: Influences on binge-watching frequency and duration among college students. *Social Sciences*, 8, 10. <https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci8010010>.
- Mikos, L. (2016). Digital media platforms and the use of TV content: Binge watching and video-on-demand in Germany. *Media and Communication*, 4, 154–161. <https://doi.org/10.17645/mac.v4i3.542>.
- Morris, J. S., Bradbury, K. E., Cross, A. J., Gunter, M. J., & Murphy, N. (2018). Physical activity, sedentary behaviour and colorectal cancer risk in the UK Biobank. *British Journal of Cancer*, 118, 920–929. <https://doi.org/10.1038/bjc.2017.496>.
- Netflix Media Center. (2020). *About Netflix*. Retrieved from <https://media.netflix.com/en/about-netflix>.
- Nolen-Hoeksema, S. (1990). *Sex differences in depression*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.
- Oatley, K. (1994). A taxonomy of the emotions of literary response and a theory of identification in fictional narrative. *Poetics*, 23, 53–74. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0304-422X\(94\)P4296-S](https://doi.org/10.1016/0304-422X(94)P4296-S).
- Omnibus, Y.ouGov (2017). *58% of Americans binge-watch TV show*. Retrieved from <https://today.yougov.com/news/2017/09/13/58-americans-binge-watch-tv-shows/>.
- Orosz, G., Böthe, B., & Tóth-Király, I. (2016). The development of the problematic series watching scale (PSWS). *Journal of Behavioral Addictions*, 5, 144–150. <https://doi.org/10.1556/2006.5.2016.011>.
- Orosz, G., Vallerand, R. J., Böthe, B., Tóth-Király, I., & Paskuj, B. (2016). On the correlates of passion for screen-based behaviors: The case of impulsivity and the problematic and nonproblematic Facebook use and TV series watching. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 101, 167–176. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2016.05.368>.
- Panda, S., & Pandey, S. C. (2017). Binge-watching and college students: Motivations and outcomes. *Young Consumers*, 18, 425–438. <https://doi.org/10.1108/YC-07-2017-00707>.
- Perks, L. G. (2015). *Media marathoning: Immersions in morality*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.
- Peters, G.-J. Y. (2014). The alpha and the omega of scale reliability and validity: Why and how to abandon Cronbach's alpha and the route towards more comprehensive assessment of scale quality. *European Health Psychologist*, 16, 56–69.
- Petersen, T. G. (2016). To binge or not to binge: A qualitative analysis of college students' binge watching habits. *Florida Communication Journal*, 44, 77–88.
- Pittman, M., & Sheehan, K. (2015). *Sprinting a media marathon: Uses and gratifications of binge-watching television through Netflix*, 20. First Monday. <https://doi.org/10.5210/fm.v20i10.6138>.
- Ramayan, S., Munsayac Estella, A. L., & Abu Bakar, I. A. (2018). The effects of binge watching on interpersonal communication among Department of Communication and Liberal Arts (DCLA) students. *Idea*, 3, 127–143.
- Riddle, K., Peebles, A., Davis, C., Xu, F., & Schroeder, E. (2017). The addictive potential of television binge-watching: Comparing intentional and unintentional binges. *Psychology of Popular Media Culture*, 7, 589–604. <https://doi.org/10.1037/ppm0000167>.
- Rigdon, E. E. (1996). CFI versus RMSEA: A comparison of two fit indexes for structural equation modeling. *Structural Equation Modeling*, 3, 369–379. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10705519609540052>.
- Rubening, B., & Bracken, C. C. (2018). Binge-watching: A suspenseful, emotional, habit. *Communication Research Reports*, 35, 381–391. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08824096.2018.1525346>.
- Rubening, B., Bracken, C. C., Sandoval, J., & Rister, A. (2018). Defining new viewing behaviours: What makes and motivates TV binge-watching? *International Journal of Digital Television*, 9, 69–85. <https://doi.org/10.1386/jdtv.9.1.69.1>.
- Rubin, A. M. (1983). The uses and gratifications: The interactions of viewing patterns and motivations. *Journal of Broadcasting*, 27, 37–47. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08838158309386471>.
- Rubin, A. M. (2009). Uses-and-gratifications perspective on media effects. In J. Bryant, & M. B. Oliver (Eds.), *Media effects: Advances in theory and research* (pp. 165–184). New York: Routledge.
- Schermelleh-Engel, K., & Müller, H. (2003). Evaluating the fit of structural equation models: Tests of significance and descriptive goodness-of-fit measures. *Methods of Psychological Research*, 8, 28–74.
- Shao, C., & Beneza, P. M. (2018). Binge-watching: Social and psychological factors behind audience's binge behaviour. In *Paper presented at the AEJMC Annual Conference, Washington*. August.
- Shim, H., & Kim, K. J. (2018). An exploration of the motivations for binge-watching and the role of individual differences. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 82, 94–100. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2017.12.032>.
- Shim, H., Lim, S., Jung, E. E., & Shin, E. (2018). I hate binge-watching but I can't help doing it: The moderating effect of immediate gratification and need for cognition on binge-watching attitude-behavior relation. *Telematics and Informatics*, 35, 1971–1979. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tele.2018.07.001>.
- Spangler, T. (2016). *Binge nation: 70% of Americans engage in marathon TV viewing*. Retrieved from <https://variety.com/2016/digital/news/binge-watching-us-study-de-loitte-1201737245/>.
- Spruance, L. A., Karmakar, M., Kruger, J. S., & Vaterlaus, J. M. (2017). "Are you still watching?": Correlations between binge TV watching, diet and physical activity. *Journal of Obesity & Weight Management*. online first publication.
- Starcevic, V., Billieux, J., & Schimmenti, A. (2018). Selfitis, selfie addiction, Twitteritis: Irresistible appeal of medical terminology for problematic behaviours in the digital age. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, 52, 408–409. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0004867418763532>.
- Starosta, J., Izydorczyk, B., & Lizińczyk, S. (2019). Characteristics of people's binge-watching behavior in the "entering into early adulthood" period of life. *Health Psychology Report*, 7, 149–164. <https://doi.org/10.5114/hpr.2019.83025>.
- Steiner, E., & Xu, K. (2018). *Binge-watching motivates change: Uses and gratifications of streaming video viewers challenge traditional TV research*. Convergence. online first publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1354856517750365>.
- Sung, Y. H., Kang, E. Y., & Wee, L. (2015). *A bad habit for your health? An exploration of psychological factors for binge-watching behavior*. Paper presented at the 65th ICA Annual Conference, Puerto Rico.
- Sung, Y. H., Kang, E. Y., & Wee, L. (2018). Why do we indulge? Exploring motivations for binge watching. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, 62, 408–426. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08838151.2018.1451851>.
- Tang, J., Yu, Y., Du, Y., Ma, Y., Zhang, D., & Wang, J. (2014). Prevalence of internet addiction and its association with stressful life events and psychological symptoms among adolescent internet users. *Addictive Behaviors*, 39, 744–747. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2013.12.010>.
- Tefertiller, A. C., & Maxwell, L. C. (2018). Depression, emotional states, and the experience of binge-watching narrative television. *Atlantic Journal of Communication*, 26, 278–290. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15456870.2018.1517765>.
- Tóth-Király, I., Böthe, B., Neszta Márki, A., Rigó, A., & Orosz, G. (2019). Two sides of the same coin: The differentiating role of need satisfaction and frustration in passion for screen-based activities. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 49, 1190–1205. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ejsp.2588>.
- Tóth-Király, I., Böthe, B., Tóth-Fáber, E., Gyöző, H., & Orosz, G. (2017). Connected to TV series: Quantifying series watching engagement. *Journal of Behavioral Addictions*, 6, 472–489. <https://doi.org/10.1556/2006.6.2017.083>.
- Tukachinsky, R., & Eyal, K. (2018). The psychology of marathon television viewing: Antecedents and viewer involvement. *Mass Communication & Society*, 21, 275–295. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15205436.2017.1422765>.
- Vallerand, R. J. (2015). *The psychology of passion: A dualistic model*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.
- Vallerand, R. J., Blanchard, C., Mageau, G. A., Koestner, R., Ratelle, C., Léonard, M., & Marsolais, J. (2003). Les passions de l'âme: On obsessive and harmonious passion. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 85, 756–767. <https://doi.org/10.1037/0022-3514.85.4.756>.
- Vaterlaus, J. M., Spruance, L. A., Frantz, K., & Kruger, J. S. (2019). College student television binge watching: Conceptualization, gratifications, and perceived consequences. *The Social Science Journal*, 56, 470–479. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.soscij.2018.10.004>.
- Walton-Pattison, E., Dombrowski, S. U., & Presseau, J. (2018). "Just one more episode": Frequency and theoretical correlates of television binge watching. *Journal of Health Psychology*, 23, 17–24. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1359105316643379>.
- Whang, L. S. M., Lee, S., & Chang, G. (2003). Internet over-users' psychological profiles: A behavior sampling analysis on internet addiction. *CyberPsychology and Behavior*, 6, 143–150. <https://doi.org/10.1089/109493103321640338>.
- Yee, N. (2007). Motivations of play in online games. *Journal of CyberPsychology and Behavior*, 9, 772–775. <https://doi.org/10.1089/cpb.2006.9.772>.
- Zakiniaiez, Y., & Potenza, M. N. (2018). Gender-related differences in addiction: A review of human studies. *Current Opinion in Behavioral Sciences*, 23, 171–175. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cobeha.2018.08.004>.
- Zillmann, D. (1994). Mechanisms of emotional involvement with drama. *Poetics*, 23, 33–51. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0304-422X\(94\)00020-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/0304-422X(94)00020-7).
- Zillmann, D., & Bryant, J. (1985). Affect, mood, and emotion as determinants of selective exposure. In D. Zillmann, & J. Bryant (Eds.), *Selective exposure to communication* (pp. 157–190). Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- Zillmann, D., Hezel, R. T., & Medoff, N. J. (1980). The effect of affective states on selective exposure to televised entertainment fare. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 10, 323–339. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1559-1816.1980.tb00713.x>.
- Zinbarg, R. E., Revelle, W., Yovel, I., & Li, W. (2005). Cronbach's α , Revelle's β , and McDonald's ω H: Their relations with each other and two alternative conceptualizations of reliability. *Psychometrika*, 70, 123–133. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11336-003-0974-7>.