Anyone who knows a person that is working or has worked on a PhD also knows that this is more than just a study or more than just work but it is a journey. In my case the journey was long but I was lucky enough to have wonderful people around me to keep me on the right track.

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Hande Sungur was born on 16 May 1985, in Bursa, Turkey. After completing high school in 2003, she started her major in Psychology at Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey. She completed the final semester of her study at Simon Fraser University, Canada and graduated with honors in 2007. The same year she started her research master’s degree in Cognitive Psychology at Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey, which she completed in 2010. In 2010, she received the Huygens Scholarship of Excellence from Nuffic which made her possible to come to the Netherlands to pursue her own PhD project in the Netherlands. Between 2010 and 2012, she worked at the Social, Health & Organizational Psychology department of Utrecht University and carried out her PhD research in the field of embodied social cognition. In 2013, she changed her field and started anew with her PhD project at the Communication Science department at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. In 2016, she started working as a full-time lecturer at the Communication Science department at the University of Amsterdam. In 2017, she started a post-doc project at the Health Communication group of Communication Science department at the University of Amsterdam where she developed a digital tool to improve communication between older migrant cancer patients living in the Netherlands and their healthcare providers. In January 2019, she completed this project. Currently, she continues to work as a lecturer in the same department.