



*Exploring language to explain social phenomena:  
The case of leadership*

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Language is an important tool to explain social phenomena, and linguistic research is already making significant contributions to many fields of research in the social sciences and beyond. And yet, in some areas, researchers outside linguistics are often unaware of the insights gained by linguistic research. This is particularly true for leadership studies where researchers largely work in different disciplinary silos with only very little intellectual exchange and cross-fertilisation of ideas taking place between mainstream leadership researchers and linguists. However, as this talk illustrates, linguistic research has the potential to make important contributions to leadership studies – especially with regards to conceptualisations and methodological approaches. Exploring leadership through language has the potential to generate new insights and contribute to a better understanding of this complex phenomenon.