

This book explores the various forms and functions of follow-ups in a range of political speech events. Follow-ups are conceptualized as communicative acts, in and through which a prior communicative act is accepted, challenged, or otherwise negotiated by ratified participants in the exchange or by third parties. The broad view suggested here accommodates a large variation in the functions of follow-ups, e.g. positioning, third-party involvement, evaluation and argumentation, ratification, support, challenge and attendance to face wants. These variations are explored in a range of cultural environments, such as the UK, The Netherlands, Israel and France. Inter-cultural exchanges are studied through the analysis of diplomatic discourse, interpreting and cross-cultural comparison.

“The contributors to this volume build a fascinating picture of the layering of political discourse that goes far beyond focusing simply on the words of politicians themselves. Instead, through the notion of follow-up they cast new light on the discourse processes and practices that govern the circulation and uptake of political discourse. This is an important book that will fundamentally change the way we think about political communication.”

Martin Montgomery, *University of Macau*

“This provocative and stimulating book is not only just extraordinarily timely, but prophetic. It is an ambitious and path-breaking approach to the expending field of political communication, one that is of interest for communication researchers, political scientists, social psychologists, and linguistics.”

Ofer Feldman, *Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan*

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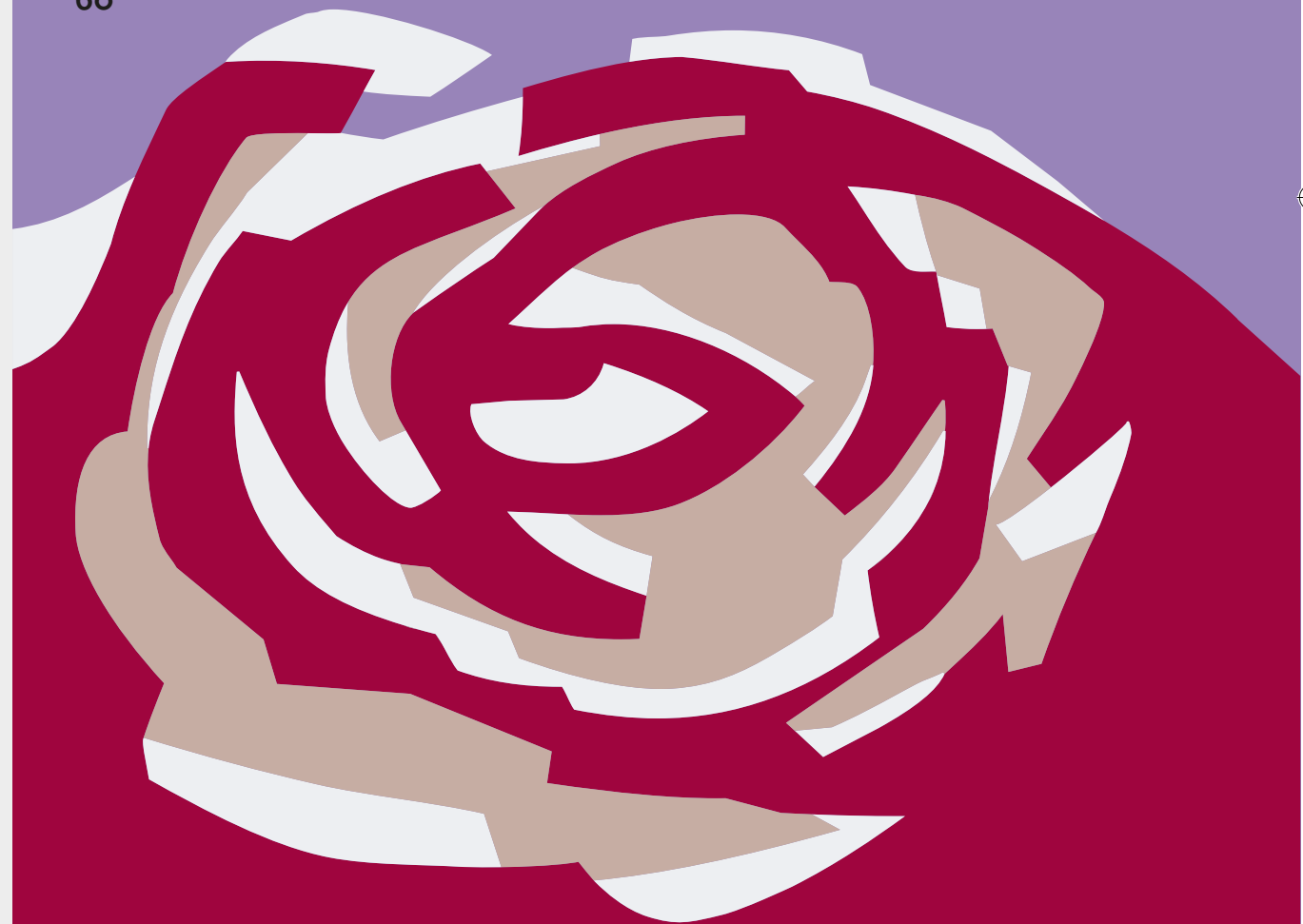
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