Ukrainian Umbrella Association of Psychotherapy

EAP European Association for Psychotherapy

UUP and EAP Joint Online Symposium

Friday February 23rd 2024 09.30am – 16.00pm CET

"The Tragedy of Childhood in the Time of War"

Cost – Free. The Symposium will be held in Ukrainian and English with simultaneous translation.

All times given are Central European Time (CET)

09.25 am	**Introduction to the technical details of the Symposium**
09.30 am	**OPENING ADDRESSES:**
	Patricia Hunt FRSA, Former President of the European Association for Psychotherapy and Chair of the Symposium.
	Madame Zelensky, First Lady of Ukraine (To be confirmed).
	Alexander Mironenkov, Ukrainian Umbrella Association for Psychotherapy.
	PRESENTATIONS:
09.45 am	**Dr. Vera Zimprich "The Effect of War on the Souls of Children."**
10.45 am	**Professor Halyna Katolyk "War and Children: The View of a Ukrainian Child Psychotherapist."**
11.45 am	**Coffee Break**
12 noon	**Professor Dr Mykhailo Pustovoit and Associate Professor Kataryna Dzivak "Clinical and Psychopathological Characteristics of Children and Adolescents of Internally Displaced Persons who Suffered from Hostilities in Ukraine."**
1.00 pm	**Dr Irena Bezić "The Games which Children Play in Times of War."**
1.15 pm	**LUNCH**
1.45 pm	**SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS**
2.45 pm	**Coffee Break**
3.00 pm	**ROUND TABLE OF ALL SPEAKERS**
	Moderators: Professor Roman Kechur and Professor Eugenijus Laurinaitis.
4.00pm	**CLOSE OF THE SYMPOSIUM**

TO TAKE PART IN THIS FREE EVENT FOR PSYCHOTHERAPISTS IT IS NECESSARY TO REGISTER. PLEASE REGISTER BY 17.00 CET ON WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 21st 2024 BY VISITING THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE:

- **https://uasymposium.online**

A certificate of attendance will be sent to all those who attend the Symposium.

In this Fourth Symposium, which is organized and held jointly by the Ukrainian Umbrella Association of Psychotherapy and the European Association for Psychotherapy, we are turning our attention to children and the effect of war on children. Children are our future, and they are the future of humanity, and we are united in our concern for them and the impact of war upon them. We are very pleased and proud to have distinguished speakers at our Symposium who are experts in the field of Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy: Dr. Vera Zimprich, Professor Halyna Katolyk, Professor Dr. Mykhailo Pustovoit, Associate Professor Kataryna Dzivak and Dr. Irena Bezić giving their important presentations for Ukrainian Psychotherapists and European Psychotherapists. It is so important for the world to hear the story of the children of Ukraine in this terrible time of war.

The small group discussions are a very important part of our Symposiums, because they offer the opportunity for dialogue and interaction between Ukrainian Psychotherapists and European Psychotherapists. In this Symposium the focus for the small groups will be the games which children play in the time of war. We wish to place ourselves in the perspective of children – their innocence and vulnerability, and also their wisdom – and focusing on their games will help us to do that.

We are delighted to have invited Madame Zelensky to give a short speech to our Symposium, and we very much hope that she is able to attend.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY VERA ZIMPRICH is a clinical and health psychologist, integrative Gestalt psychotherapist, and child and adolescent psychotherapist in private practice. Founder and chairwoman of the Austrian Society for Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy "Ökids" and head of the "Ökids" training program for child and adolescent psychotherapy. She is internationally active in the field of child psychotherapy. Numerous publications.

Many people often suffer from the physical and psychological injuries that children experience in war for the rest of their lives. How can children be helped in a situation of absolute defenselessness? Where parents themselves are unprotected and at risk, child-centered networks are needed to enable children to develop without fear. This presentation will show how children can playfully express their frights and anger without fear of punishment.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

HALYNA KATOLYK is a Professor of the Department of Practical Psychology at the Institute of Management, Psychology and Security of Lviv State University of Internal Affairs. Head of the Crisis Counselling Centre at the Institute of Management, Psychology and Security at Lviv State University of Internal Affairs. Head of the Ukrainian Institute of Child and Youth Psychotherapy and Psychological Counselling. Deputy Chairman of the Board of the Association of Practicing Psychologists of Lviv Region. Head of the UUP Section for Child and Youth Psychotherapy.

WAR AND CHILDREN: THE VIEW OF A UKRAINIAN CHILD PSYCHOTHERAPIST, 2024!

The Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine reported on November 29, 2023 that at least 511 children were killed as a result of Russia's armed aggression in Ukraine. More than 1,100 were injured. And this is only according to officially confirmed data. The real figures may be several times higher than the official ones.

The war in eastern Ukraine has become a great challenge for everyone. It has become a psycho-traumatic factor for many children, including those who survived the occupation or are under occupation. Those who were tortured, raped or witnessed these events. Those who witnessed the death of their parents, sisters and brothers. Also, those who, after massive abuse and rape of their own bodies, became silent, sometimes forever (because this is how the Brock Centre functions), having no other means of compensating for their experiences. Those who sit in bomb shelters every night and day, have panic attacks... The list goes on and on.

Psychological assistance and support for children of war, whose number in Ukraine alone reaches more than a million, is the focus of special attention of Ukrainian scientists and practitioners. The war has posed new challenges to Child Psychotherapists, in particular due to the need to create Ukraine's own system of psychological assistance to children and adults affected by the war.

It has been proven that psychological assistance to children cannot be provided only by individuals; it must permeate all dimensions of life: family, peer groups, community, society, and culture in general. Currently, the situation in the field of assistance to children of war is rather crisis: on the one hand, there is foreign experience accumulated over the years, and on the other hand, it is partly contradictory and difficult to adapt to the realities of modern Ukraine, where the war is still ongoing, and therefore it is too early to talk about a completely safe space in which effective psychological assistance can be provided. In this presentation I will share new achievements of Ukrainian Child Psychotherapists.

DOCTOR OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, PROFESSOR MYKHAILO PUSTOVOIT is a Psychoanalyst and Head of the Department of Psychiatry, Narcology, and Medical Psychology at Ivano-Frankivsk National Medical University (Ukraine).

War not only has a destructive effect on normal child mental development but is also associated with a high risk of stress disorders, affective disorders, psychosomatic disorders, and co-morbidities. Additional pressure on the psyche is the need to leave their homes and the subsequent integration into society in a new place. This problem poses a significant risk for the whole of Ukraine, so it should become an object of scientific interest and discussion.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

MEDICAL DOCTOR KATERYNA DZIVAK is a psychiatrist, teacher assistant on department of psychiatry, narcology and medical psychology at Ivano-Frankivsk National Medical University (Ukraine).

The situation our country is facing is one that is beyond normal human experience. Active military operations, information attacks, forced displacement and evacuation - all this causes a significant disruption in people's daily life, in particular, it concerns children.

In Ukraine, this issue is very relevant and requires further research.

DOCTOR OF SCIENCE IRENA BEZIĆ, Gestalt psychotherapist and EAGT licensed supervisor, in private practice in Zagreb, Croatia. Since 1996 leader of educational training in Gestalt-psychotherapy for IGW-Croatia. She has PhD in clinical psychology and PhD in social politics/social work. Since 2005 she is a delegate for Croatia in EAP, later chairing Ethical guidance committee, and National umbrella committee – now she is the President of EAP. Through these years Irena Bezić was fighting for the Psychotherapy Law in Croatia, until 2018, when the national law was established. From 1991 until 2001 she worked with war-traumatized people, in Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo in different roles – as UNICEF national program officer for psychosocial rehabilitation, trainer and supervisor in psychosocial projects, and psychotherapist for various victims of war.

Irena Bezić will present us about the games which children play in times of war.

PATRICIA HUNT FRSA is Former President of the European Association for Psychotherapy, Chair of the UUP and EAP Collaborative Group, and Chair of the Symposiums. In 2022 she was made a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Arts in recognition of her work as President of EAP, and in the Health and University Sectors in the UK. She is a World Council for Psychotherapy Board Member. Patricia was Head of Department for Psychotherapy and Counselling at the University of Nottingham UK. She founded a new Psychotherapy Department in the University of Ningbo, China, Nottingham University's international campus. Former Vice Chair of the UK Council for Psychotherapy and International Officer. Patricia is a Psychotherapist, Consultant and Advisor.

Patricia Hunt FRSA is the Chair and Moderator of the Symposium.

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