



Ukrainian
Umbrella
Association of
Psychotherapy



EAP
European Association
for Psychotherapy



Serbian Union of
Associations of
Psychotherapists

UKRAINIAN AND EUROPEAN PSYCHOTHERAPY ALLIANCE ELEVENTH SYMPOSIUM, IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SERBIAN UNION OF ASSOCIATIONS OF PSYCHOTHERAPISTS

Friday June 19th 2026 09.30am – 4.00pm CEST

“PRESERVING HUMANNESS IN SPITE OF THE CATASTROPHY OF WAR.”

Cost – Free. The Symposium will be held in Ukrainian and English with simultaneous translation of presentations. All times given are Central European Summer Time (CEST)

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| 09.15am | Introduction to the technical details of the Symposium. |
| 09.30am | <p>OPENING ADDRESSES</p> <p>Patricia Hunt FRSA, Chair of the Ukrainian and European Psychotherapy Alliance, Former President of the European Association for Psychotherapy.</p> <p>Professor Roman Kechur, Ukrainian Umbrella Association of Psychotherapy.</p> <p>Professor Nevena Calovska, Serbian Union of Associations of Psychotherapists.</p> <p>PRESENTATIONS:</p> |
| 10.00am | Dr. Zoran Milivojević , President of the Serbian Union of Associations of Psychotherapists. “Processes of Dehumanisation and Rehumanisation in a Situation of War.” |
| 10.30am | Professor Josef Estermann , Philosopher and Theologian, Focused on Latin America. “Humanity Under Pressure: Some Remarks from Indigenous Thinking and Dialogical Philosophy.” |
| 11.10am | COFFEE BREAK |
| 11.15am | <p>LARGE THERAPEUTIC GROUP</p> <p>Conducted by Professor Eugenijus Laurinaitis (Former General Secretary of the European Association for Psychotherapy) and Professor Roman Kechur (Ukrainian Umbrella Association of Psychotherapy).</p> |
| 1.15pm | LUNCH |
| 1.40pm | <p>AFTERNOON SESSION PRESENTATIONS:</p> <p>Dr. Marina Mojović, Psychoanalyst, Psychiatrist, Group Analyst. “Searching for Oases of Humanness throughout the Fields of War Destructiveness.”</p> |
| 2.10pm | Oleksandr Mironenko MD , Senior Lecturer Ukrainian Catholic University. “Homo Homini... Humanness in Inhuman Conditions.” |
| 2.40pm | SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS |
| 3.10pm | <p>ROUND TABLE OF ALL SPEAKERS</p> <p>Moderators: Professor Larysa Didkovska and Milena Marković.</p> |
| 4.00pm | CLOSE OF THE SYMPOSIUM |

TO TAKE PART IN THIS FREE EVENT FOR PSYCHOTHERAPISTS IT IS NECESSARY TO REGISTER. PLEASE REGISTER BEFORE MIDNIGHT CEST ON THURSDAY 18th JUNE 2026 BY VISITING THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE:

[LINK: UASYMPOSIUM.ONLINE](https://uasymposium.online)

A CERTIFICATE WILL BE SENT TO YOU AFTER THE SYMPOSIUM CONFIRMING YOUR ATTENDANCE. PLEASE NOTE THAT FULL ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE FOR THE SYMPOSIUM.

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Friday June 19th 2026 09.30am – 4.00pm CEST

“PRESERVING HUMANNESS IN SPITE OF THE CATASTROPHY OF WAR.”



Patricia Hunt FRSA

*Chair of the Ukrainian and European Psychotherapy Alliance,
Former President of the European Association for Psychotherapy
patricia.hunt@europsyche.org*

I am delighted to announce the Eleventh Joint UAP and EAP Symposium, organised by the Ukrainian and European Psychotherapy Alliance. The support which these Symposiums are giving to Ukrainian Psychotherapists during the full-scale war in Ukraine seems to be increasing as more and more join our Symposiums. The Tenth Symposium had 1515 Registrants – the largest number so far, and around 900 of these were from Ukraine. It is quite remarkable and something to celebrate! Together we can do so much, and the spirit of the Symposiums - and of Ukraine during the war - is of working together; supporting each other; bringing the best wisdom from our profession of Psychotherapy to enrich, strengthen, give insight and hope to Ukraine and sustain her during the war.

For our Eleventh Symposium the Alliance is very pleased and honoured to be joined by the Serbian NAO, and our colleagues Professor Nevena Calovska and Milena Markovic, to jointly host and fund the Symposium. This is excellent for us and, we hope, for their organisation as well.

Our theme for the Eleventh Symposium is “Preserving Humanness in Spite of the Catastrophy of War.” This theme is chosen with great care to reflect the state of the terrible full-scale war in Ukraine which is now in its fifth year, and the toll this is taking on Ukrainian Psychotherapists to sustain themselves and their work. To preserve humanness in their lives and in their work is now a monumental challenge. We hope this theme and our Eleventh Symposium will bring support; renew a sense of hope; and enable Ukrainian Psychotherapists to preserve their humanness which is such an essential quality.

Humanness is defined as: “The state or quality of being human, encompassing the essential characteristics, emotions, vulnerabilities and traits that define human nature. It highlights the relatable, imperfect and emotional aspects of our humanity.” *Source: Merriam-Webster Dictionary.*

Humanness is distinct from humaneness which means compassion and kindness. Our Symposium focusses on Humanness, and the ways in which war dehumanises, and most importantly the ways in which we can rehumanise to recover and sustain humanness.

We are honoured to have excellent speakers for our Eleventh Symposium, and the full programme details will be available soon. We decided to hold a Large Therapy Group for this Symposium. It will be the third Large Therapy Group which we have conducted, and this will give all of the participants of the Symposium the opportunity, and containment, within which to articulate their experience of their humanness being challenged by the catastrophe of war, and the ways in which they seek to preserve their humanness.

We cordially invite all Ukrainian Psychotherapists to join us for the Eleventh Symposium. We cordially invite all European and Global Psychotherapists to be in support of Ukrainian Psychotherapists by being present at the Eleventh Symposium on Friday June 19th 2026.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Symposium!

SPEAKERS



DR. ZORAN MILIVOJEVIĆ

President of the Serbian Union of Associations of Psychotherapists.

Lecture “Processes of Dehumanisation and Rehumanisation in a Situation of War.”

In wartime, the perception of the enemy becomes inevitably dehumanized. Members of the opposing group are seen as dangerous and evil - often as less worthy, or even as having no value at all. This is rooted in the nature of war itself, which brings death and destruction and, at the individual level, ultimately comes down to killing another human being. As long as a soldier can identify with the opposing soldier, killing is accompanied by guilt. However, once the image of the other is dehumanised, killing the enemy can be experienced as morally justified - and even as a source of pride.

Dehumanisation can be understood at both the individual and social levels. Individually, it manifests as indifference (a lack of sympathy and empathy), contempt, and hatred. Socially, especially in pre-war and wartime contexts, it becomes a broader phenomenon shaped by powerful forces such as explicit and implicit propaganda, interpersonal dynamics, and social pressure. In such circumstances, dehumanising the enemy may come to be seen as a civic duty, while those who continue to recognize the humanity of the other risk being viewed as disloyal and, even, as traitors.

The image of the enemy loses nuance and internal differences. The idea that “they are all the same” becomes dominant, forming the basis for attributing collective guilt. Since war involves two sides – “us” and “them” – this process unfolds simultaneously on both sides, often following a dynamic of “persecuting the persecutor.”

When hostilities end, dehumanised perceptions tend to persist. A slow process of rehumanisation then begins, gradually rebuilding trust. Although some individuals and groups continue to dehumanize the other group, their influence typically diminishes over time. Rehumanisation requires sustained, conscious effort at both individual and societal levels, restoring the capacity to see the other as human rather than as an enemy. Rehumanisation is a slow and demanding process that calls for conscious effort at both individual and societal levels, through which the other can gradually reappear – not as an enemy, but as a human being.

Zoran Milivojević, M.D., is a psychotherapist, supervisor, trainer, and author. He serves as President of the Serbian Union of Associations of Psychotherapists. He was the first professional in Eastern Europe to attain the highest qualification in Transactional Analysis – Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst in Psychotherapy.

He is the author of nine books and the author of a comprehensive theory of emotions within psychotherapy. In 1990, prior to the outbreak of war in the former Yugoslavia, he was among the founders of the initiative “Physicians for the Prevention of War,” the only joint initiative bringing together Serbian and Croatian physicians. He is also the originator of the concept of “social psychotherapy,” which involves the use of mass media by psychotherapists to promote and strengthen public mental health. In addition to his psychotherapeutic, educational, and supervisory work, he is a public figure and activist.

SPEAKERS



PROFESSOR JOSEF ESTERMANN

Philosopher and Theologian, Focused on Latin America.

Lecture “Humanity Under Pressure: Some Remarks from Indigenous Thinking and Dialogical Philosophy.”

Actually, we are confronted with a growing number of wars, genocides, civil wars and huge movements of refugees, due to authoritarian, fascist and dictatorial government all over the world. The counter-values the leaders of many countries, including democratic ones, promote, reveal a new anthropology based on the power of the fittest, of the ones with more money and arms. Humanity, as it is conceived in most religious traditions, the Enlightenment and indigenous spiritualities, has become obsolete and under great pressure. It seems that human dignity and the fundamental equality of human beings are no longer guaranteed, not only in situation of war as in the Ukraine or Iran, but also in most democracies and civil societies. I'd like to contrast this panorama by two philosophical anthropologies which defend human dignity and the principle of equivalence among persons despite their differences: Indigenous Andean philosophy of South America, and Emmanuel Levinas' anthropology of alterity.

Professor Josef Estermann. *Born in Switzerland in 1956, with a long career in the Andean region, he holds a doctorate in philosophy and a degree in theology. He worked in a poor neighborhood in Cusco, Peru (1990–1998), focusing on Liberation Theology. He served as director of the Missio e.V. Institute of Missiology (MWI) in Aachen, Germany (1998–2004), and as a professor and researcher at the Andean Ecumenical Higher Institute of Theology (ISEAT), at the Bolivian Catholic University “San Pablo” (UCB), at the Universidad Mayor de San Andrés (UMSA), and at the Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar (UASB) in La Paz, Bolivia (2004–2012). From 2012 to 2021, he worked as head of Fieldwork & Research with Comundo at “Casa Romero” and as a lecturer at the University of Lucerne (Switzerland). Today he is retired and committed to a better world.*

The author’s major works (most in Spanish or German): “Andean Philosophy: Indigenous Wisdom for a New World” (1998; 2006; 2018); “Andean Theology: The Diverse Fabric of Indigenous Faith” (Ed.) (2006); “If the South were the North: Intercultural chakanas between the Andes and the West” (2008); “Interculturality: Living Diversity” (2010); “Compendium of Western Philosophy from an Intercultural Perspective” in five volumes (2011); “Cross and Coca: Toward the Decolonization of Religion and Theology” (2013); “Beyond the West: Philosophical Notes on Interculturality, Decolonization, and the Andean ‘Living Well’” (2015); “Why the South is under: Intercultural contributions to decoloniality and well living” (2019); “Overcoming Eurocentrism: Selected Texts” (2023); “Dominance and Liberation: Fifty years of Liberation Theology – a balance” (2025).

SPEAKERS



DR. MARINA MOJOVIĆ

Psychoanalyst, Psychiatrist, Group Analyst.

Lecture “Searching for Oases of Humanness throughout the Fields of War Destructiveness.”

Edgar Morin, among the most prominent global philosophers and holder of the UNESCO Chair in Complex Thinking (105 years old), in his “Crises of Humanity Failing to Become Humanizing,” advocates the creation of oases of fellowship with relative autonomy devoted to solidarity and the overcoming of hatred. Despite horrendous surroundings, engaged psychotherapists often weave oases of humanness, even if not fully aware of. However, unconsciously, we can also easily get taken over by various “vicious spirals” of the fields.

Unfortunately, psychotherapists in our country had already learned throughout the Nineties, in the first War in Europe after WWII (Destruction of Yugoslavia and NATO Bombing of Serbia) to learn-through-experience how to work in extreme situations. Due to widely traumatized citizenship, among other factors, in our efforts to apply psychoanalytic and group-analytic fields more broadly, we established new methods, including the voluntary Reflective Citizens Koinonia Method, International Reflective Citizens, and cooperation with “sibling” methods, such as the Sandwich model (Friedman, 2025). The latter is throughout the years of the Ukraine war organized continuously for psychotherapists in Ukraine by our senior colleague Taras Levin from Kiev together with group-analysts from many countries. From EFPP we organized immediately an international online weekly large group-analytic group (I co-conducted over few months), as well as discussion groups and other work groups in cooperation with EGATIN and IAGP. Our institutions provide certain “reflections spaces” (Levin,2025), although much more is needed.

In times of war destructiveness and of other escalating poli-crises, as psychotherapists, we need to continue jointly creating oases of humanness both in our institutions and throughout the wider fields.

Marina Mojović, MA, MD, psychiatrist, training group analyst, psychoanalytic psychotherapist, supervisor, and organizational consultant in Serbia in her private practice. She is the founder and director of the Belgrade “School for Integrative Group Analysis Koinonia-Art”, president of the Psychotherapy Section in the Serbian Medical Society, member of the Serbian Society for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy.

She is the Founder of the Reflective Citizens Koinonia Method (RC) of working voluntary with citizens groups (since the late Nineties) and the International Reflective Citizens (IRC since 2020) with branches spreading in several countries. She is a full member of the International Association for Group Psychotherapy and Group Processes and member of its Group Section team, European Society of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy (and delegate for Serbia), International Society for Psychoanalytic Studies of Organizations, Organization for Promoting Understanding of Society, International Association for Relational Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy and Group Analytic Society International, where she was member of management committee.

In Group Analytic Society-Belgrade founder of its Section and Training in ‘Psychoanalytic and Group Analytic Approach to Understanding Institutions, Organizations and Society’, Training for Conveners of Systems-psychodynamic groups, Training for Conductors of Large Groups and a co-founder of the Section for ‘Large and Median Groups’.

SPEAKERS

She founded the Training program for conductors of large groups, co-conducts a monthly large group (now hybrid) for nine years with participants from various countries; co-conducted large groups on international conferences. She founded the Reflective Citizens Training Program, Belgrade Social Dreaming Training, develops the Applied and Traveling Reflective Citizens projects, and other projects of exploring the Social Unconscious in Serbia and abroad. In the Koinonia-Art Training Community she organized a number of international conferences and workshops. Presents, and publishes internationally in areas of the Social Trauma, Social Unconscious and Large groups, conceptualized the 'Social-Psychic Retreats', 'Conception Trauma' of organizations and societies, 'Internationalization' in the Spiraling Dialectics through Tripartite Matrices.



OLEKSANDR MIRONENKO

MD. Senior Lecturer at the Ukrainian Catholic University.

Lecture “Homo Homini... Humanness In Inhuman Conditions.”

The presentation begins with the notion “Homo Homini Homo Est”. Human beings need another human being. The experiences of Solidarity and Competition on different levels – interpersonal, group and social are discussed. Especially in the context of lack of solidarity in the modern world and the special value of solidarity in times of war, Humanness is not an individual experience but interpersonal and intersubjective. Different experiences of Humanness during the war in Ukraine will be presented.

***Oleksandr Mironenko**, MD. Senior Lecturer Ukrainian Catholic University, Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy. Registrar of the NAO of the UUAP.*

<https://www.uasymposium.online/>