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Annual Report

WPA Section on Conflict Management and Conflict Resolution

During the current triennium, the WPA Section on Conflict Management and Conflict Resolution has continued to strengthen its international profile and expand its academic and collaborative activities. The Section currently includes **more than 70 members representing diverse geographical regions**, reflecting the growing recognition of conflict management as an important dimension of psychiatric practice, leadership, and mental health systems.

In **2023**, the Section conducted **formal elections for the Scientific Section Committee and Section officers**, ensuring transparent governance and continuity of leadership. At the beginning of the mandate, the newly elected leadership presented a **strategic plan of action**, outlining the **mission, vision, and priority objectives** of the Section for the triennium. The plan emphasized advancing scientific dialogue on conflict management in psychiatry, fostering international collaboration, and promoting knowledge exchange across clinical, academic, and policy contexts. We also elected a Leadership Committee to make the internal processes even more efficient.

A central focus of the Section has been the **development of scientific activities within WPA congresses and meetings**. In the period between General Assemblies, the Section organized activities and **symposia at WPA international meetings**:

- **WPC Vienna - 2023 - intersectional symposium with Ecology Section**
- **WPC Mexico - 2024 - Women Leadership Symposia**
- **WPC Prague - 2025 - Symposia honouring Prof.Eliot Sorel**

These activities addressed key topics related to conflict management and resolution in psychiatric settings, including organizational conflict in healthcare systems, ethical dilemmas in clinical decision-making, and conflict dynamics in crisis and disaster contexts.

In addition to congress-based activities, the Section has actively implemented initiatives outlined in its work plan. This included the **organization of international webinars**, bringing together experts from different regions to discuss contemporary issues in conflict management and resolution relevant to psychiatric practice, leadership, and healthcare systems.

The Section has also prioritized **interdisciplinary and inter-sectional collaboration** within the WPA. Productive partnerships have been established with other WPA Sections, particularly:

- the **WPA Section on Disaster Psychiatry (common work on publications and symposia, ACRE committee)**
- the **WPA Section on Ecology (joint symposia during World Congress of Social Psychiatry in Marrakesch, January 2026)**

These collaborations aim to explore the intersections between conflict, environmental challenges, disasters, and mental health, thereby strengthening the Section's contribution to broader global mental health discussions.

To enhance communication and visibility, the Section has maintained an **active digital presence**, regularly updating the WPA website with information on Section activities, educational initiatives, and **recent publications by Section members**. These efforts support knowledge dissemination and facilitate networking among psychiatrists interested in conflict management and resolution.

Overall, the Section continues to contribute to the **advancement of scholarship, education, and international collaboration** in the field of conflict management within psychiatry. Through scientific activities, educational initiatives, and partnerships with other WPA Sections, it seeks to promote constructive dialogue, strengthen professional competencies in conflict resolution, and support the development of resilient and collaborative mental health systems worldwide.

Best Regards

Ruta Karaliuniene Section Chair

Enrico Suardi, Section Co-Chair

Fabian Kraxner, Section Secretary