

## STATEMENT FOR WPA General Secretary NOMINATION for prof KN Fountoulakis

Prof Fountoulakis has served as zonal 8 representative and section chair in more than one section, and he is active in many WPA activities since many years. He is also vice-President of the Hellenic Psychiatric Association. He has long experience in administration both in scientific societies as well as in academia but also in the administration of mental health facilities. He has almost 30 years of experience with congress organization, journal editorialship and administration of societies. His vision for the WPA includes the following four axis:

1. The first is an axis of **continuous training and education** from basic knowledge for residents and young psychiatrists to more advanced courses for researchers and teaching staff. This is of course, already in place but a more systematic structure with the use of the internet and the development of an academic 'certification' will give further credit to the WPA efforts. This could be done also in collaboration with other associations and/or universities.
2. The second concerns the **promotion of the research process** especially in regions where research is not sufficiently developed as well as the distilling of research findings and their interpretation and embedding in clinical practice in the form of various consensus papers and treatment guidelines, which all will follow the evidence based rules, with the utilization of the recent developments in the AI area. This means that there will be an encouragement of the development and materialization of research protocols and projects, the engagement of colleagues in the research process, book publications etc after the development of specific guidelines. Translation of basic science and preclinical data as well as of psychosocial research into clinically useful guidelines is a challenging task.
3. The third is **networking** both for younger scientists but also for already scientifically mature individuals or groups, in order to incorporate various areas of intense interest, like climate change, mass destruction, war and trauma, immigration (ethnopsychiatry and psychiatry of mass destructions), always within the framework of our discipline. The WPA work network should be strengthened, expanded and become even more fruitful.
4. The fourth concerns the **influence of policy-makers and opinion leaders** in the community as well as the dissemination of knowledge and developments in the area of psychosocial rehabilitation, psychotherapy, neurosciences and neuropsychopharmacology to the general lay audience in a responsible and comprehensive way, so that stigma is reduced, acceptance and adherence to psychiatric treatment is enhanced and more realistic and scientific understanding of mental disorders and their treatment is encouraged. This, in turn, hopefully will lead to better mental health policies and to the implementation of the most evidence-based and efficacious policies world-wide.