

Statement for Candidacy as WPA Zone 8 Representative for Southern Europe

I am honored to stand as a candidate for Zone 8 Representative for Southern Europe of the World Psychiatric Association (WPA). My professional and academic work has been closely linked to psychiatry education, research, clinical practice, and international collaboration, and I see this candidacy as an opportunity to contribute actively to the WPA's mission in our region.

My vision for Southern Europe is built on three strategic priorities:

First, strengthening continuous psychiatric education. Psychiatric education should extend from core training for residents and early-career psychiatrists to advanced courses for researchers, academic psychiatrists, and teaching staff. Although important initiatives already exist, I believe there is room for a more systematic structure, greater use of digital platforms, and the development of certification pathways that add value to WPA educational activities. Collaboration with other international associations could further strengthen these efforts.

Second, translating research into clinical practice. One of the most important tasks for an international scientific organization is to help clinicians make sense of rapidly evolving evidence. I believe the WPA can further support this by promoting the distillation of research findings into consensus statements, position papers, and treatment guidelines that follow evidence-based principles. Such work can also stimulate the development of practical educational resources, including books, manuals, and teaching materials.

Third, promoting networking and collaboration. Southern Europe includes many talented early-career psychiatrists, researchers, and established academic groups. A major priority for me would be to support stronger networking across the region, both for younger colleagues seeking mentorship and opportunities, and for mature scientific groups that can build collaborative projects in research, education, and policy. Stronger networks can reduce fragmentation and strengthen the regional contribution to international psychiatry.

If elected, I will work to promote a Southern European zone that is more connected, more educationally active, more evidence-driven, and more supportive of younger colleagues. My aim is to help create a productive bridge between clinical psychiatry, academic development, and international cooperation under the WPA umbrella.

I would be honored to serve and to contribute to the advancement of psychiatry in Southern Europe through this role.

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