



Document Title: Section on Psychiatry Law and Ethics Triennial Report (2023-2026)
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Executive Summary

The Section on Psychiatry, Law and Ethics is one of the most active Sections of WPA. The Section deals with legal and ethical issues related to the practice of psychiatry and draws on international conventions, past and present, as well as the moral philosophy and its application to psychiatry. The membership of the Section has more than doubled from 34 to 72 during this triennium reflecting the interest and academic enthusiasm it has generated among our member societies. It fully complies with WPA requirements regarding membership diversity, governance renewal, scientific and academic programmes and remains committed to expanding its global network and its mission and the goals of WPA.

Office- bearers for 2023- 2026

Chair: Roy Kallivayalil (India)

Co-chair: Tsuyoshi Akiyama (Japan)

Secretary: Neeraj Gill (Australia)

Committee Members: Harneet Kaur (India), Rodrigo Ramalho (New Zealand), Kuruvilla Thomas (India), Manuel Trachsel (Switzerland), Christos Tsopelas (Greece)

1. New Members:

There is a remarkable increase in membership which has more than doubled from 34 to 72 in three years. Many regions and countries hitherto unrepresented in our Section have found a place, including Romania, Paraguay and Chile, Kenya, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka, Turkey, Malaysia, USA, UK and South Africa

2. Action Plan

2023-2026 Activities (Completed)

1. **WFMH and WPA Section on Psychiatry, Law and Ethics Symposium** on “Mental Health, Human Rights and Legislation” was held during the 75th (Platinum Jubilee) Annual Conference of the Indian Psychiatric Society at Kochi India Jan 18- 21, 2024.
2. WPA Section on Psychiatry, Law and Ethics Symposium was held during the 25th World Congress of Psychiatry, Prague, Oct 5-8, 2025. Title: “Psychiatry, Law and Ethics- Challenges in contemporary times”.
3. **Section meeting:** An in-person meeting of our Section was held during WPA World Congress Prague on October 5th . All members of our Section attending the Congress joined the meeting. We decided to keep the section active and dynamic and also to admit new members who are keenly interested.
4. **WPA Scientific Sections Meeting:** Our Section attended this meeting during WPA Prague on October 7, 2025 convened by the WPA Secretary for Sections Prof Armen Soghoyan. Roy Kallivayalil presented a report on our Section and participated in the deliberations.

5. WASP Congress, Marrakech Jan 2026 : Symposium in collaboration with the World Association for Dynamic Psychiatry on “ Creative Dimensions in Psychiatric and Psychotherapeutic Treatment of the Vulnerable
6. The WPA Section on Psychiatry, Law and Ethics symposium was held during the 77th Annual Conference of the Indian Psychiatric Society in New Delhi, January 27–31, 2026. The session was titled "Challenges in South Asia, MHCA 2017, Forensic Psychiatry, Digital Psychiatry and Data Privacy,"
7. Collaboration with the World Association of Dynamic Psychiatry: Keynote address on “Dynamic Psychiatry and Ethics in the Contemporary World “- by Roy A Kallivayalil (Section Chair), Raipur, India, April 24-26, 2026
8. Strengthening of Inter Sectional Collaboration: with
 - Ecology, Psychiatry and Mental Health Section
 - Preventive Psychiatry Section

3. Scientific Output and Publications:

(more than 10 publications listed separately)

4. Book Publications

The Glow of Synthesis: Twelve Beacons of Light in Social Psychiatry 2025: [ROY KALLIVAYALIL](#) [RAMA RAO GOGINENI](#) and [SALMAN AKHTAR](#)

Neeraj Gill and Norman Sartorius (eds). Mental Health and Human Rights – The challenges of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to Mental Health Care. Springer Nature, Switzerland. 2024.

5. Action Plan: Upcoming Activities in 2026

- Section Symposium on “PSYCHIATRY, LAW AND ETHICS IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD: HUMAN RIGHTS, NEUROSCIENCE, CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC CHALLENGES AND END-OF-LIFE CARE” at **WPA World Congress of Psychiatry, Stockholm, Sept 23- 26, 2026**: Accepted for presentation.
- Section Meeting during WPA World Congress Stockholm
- Participation in international research projects.
- Preparation of peer-reviewed publications
- Expansion of collaboration with WADP and WFMH.
- Strengthening Inter Sectional Collaborations.

We thank WPA President Prof Danuta Wasserman and Secretary for Sections Prof Armen Soghoyan for their valuable guidance and support.

Prof Roy Abraham Kallivayalil (Chair)

Neeraj Gill (Secretary)

WPA Section on Psychiatry, Law and Ethics