

Document Title: Triennial Report WPA Transcultural Psychiatry Section
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1. Members list (Position, First Name, Last Name, Country, E-mail) on website (with elected officers and date of elections) form is attached.

2. Action plan (completed for year 2025 and planned for 2026, according to Section's triennium plan):

- a. **Hold regular Section meetings during the World Congress of Psychiatry.**
- b. **Support Section members in actively participating in the World Congress of Psychiatry and other WPA meetings and conferences, while increasing the visibility of transcultural psychiatry.**
- c. **Continue publishing the WPA–TPS Newsletter on a regular basis, with four issues per year.**
- d. **Continue the WPA–TPS Webinar Series, with three to four webinars per year.**
- e. **Publish a Special Issue of *Transcultural Psychiatry* in 2026/2027. The Call for Abstracts is attached.**
- f. **Support the conference “Living in the Aftermaths: Trauma, Politics, and Survival in Yugoslavia and Successor States, 1945–Present” (University of Rijeka, Croatia; 23–24 April 2026), which will explore the historical, political, cultural, and psychiatric dimensions of trauma in Yugoslavia and its successor states.**
- g. **Develop a Textbook on Cultural Psychiatry in memory of Dr. Wintrob, former Chair of the WPA Section on Transcultural Psychiatry.**
- h. **Participate in the GLADET Congress (Guadalajara, Mexico, March 2026).**
- i. **Strengthen regional collaboration by partnering with national psychiatric organisations and WPA Member Societies to organise regional educational events and webinars.**
- j. **Promote active outreach and membership growth, with a particular focus on engaging early career psychiatrists.**
- k. **Expand collaboration with international organisations, including the World Association of Cultural Psychiatry (WACP), the European Psychiatric Association (EPA), the World Federation for Psychotherapy (WFP), and other relevant partners.**

3. Information about organized symposia:

23rd World Congress of Psychiatry in Vienna, 2023.:

a. Symposium (563): PROMOTING ETHICS AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN POSTGRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAMS IN PSYCHIATRY.

Chairs: Marisa Casanova Dias, United Kingdom, Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Germany

Speakers:

1. Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Germany

How to improve mental healthcare access for migrants and refugees - which strategies are needed?

2. Slađana Štrkalj-Ivezić, Croatia

A comprehensive recovery approach in training of psychiatrist facilitates implementation of the rights to optimal treatment of persons diagnosed with a mental disorder

3. Victor Pereira-Sanchez, United States of America

Developing a human rights curriculum for psychiatric trainees worldwide

4. Krzysztof Krysta, Poland

The phenomenon of machiavellianism among medical students and young doctors - implications for training programs in psychiatry

b. Symposium (393): IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON MIGRANTS, REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

Chairs: Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Germany, Davor Mucic, Denmark

Speakers:

1. Robert Kohn, United States of America

Covid-19 and its impact on the mental health of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers

2. Davor Mucic, Denmark

Digitalization and its impact on the treatment of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers

3. Jibril Handuleh, Somalia

Covid-19 and its impact on the mental health in a LIC

4. Levent Küey, Turkey

Recommendations to reduce the risk of developing mental health problems in vulnerable groups

c. WPA INTERSECTIONAL SYMPOSIUM: THE EMERGING FIELD OF 'TRANSCULTURAL SUICIDOLOGY' THROUGH RECENT RESULTS ABOUT REFUGEE'S SUICIDALITY IN GERMANY AND IN SWEDEN, AND ITS RELEVANCE FOR INTERVENTIONS

Chairs: Ellenor Mittendorfer-Rutz, Sweden, Iris Tatjana Graef-Calliess, Germany

Speakers:

1. Ellenor Mittendorfer-Rutz, Sweden

Risk of suicide attempt and suicide in young adult refugees compared to their Swedish-born peers: a register-based cohort study

2. Vera Mohwinkel, Germany

Suicidal ideations of refugees seeking psychiatric-psychotherapeutic and psychosocial help in Germany: data from the stepped-care refuKey project for need-adapted treatment

3. Sara Sutori, Sweden

The example of digital suicide preventive interventions to support low- and middle-income countries, and the need for adaptation of interventions

d. Symposium (396): VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS - HOW CAN THEY BE ENGAGED AND SUPPORTED?

Chairs: Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Germany, Peggy Maguire, Ireland

Speakers:

1. Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Germany

Violence against women - what are the psychological consequences?

2. Ekin Sönmez Güngör, Turkey

Intimate partner violence in the context of pandemic and its aftermath, the impact of (withdrawal from) Istanbul Protocol

3. Margaret Ojeahere, Nigeria

Consequences of violence against girls in conflict areas

4. Peggy Maguire, Ireland

How to improve prevention against violence against women and girls?

e. Course on Forced Displacement, Refugees, and Mental Health

Chairs: Meryam Schouler-Ocak, Germany, Levent Küey, Turkey

Course director's / speaker's educational experience and expertise in the related field

The course directors / speakers are well experienced in the field and are mostly members of the "WPA Working Group on Providing Mental Health Care for Migrants and Refugees", besides other similar international task forces. This is an updated and developed version of previous similar courses organized during various international congresses with a high positive feed-back.

24th World Congress of Psychiatry in Mexico City, 2024.:

a. 1990 - TRAUMA EXPERIENCED BY MIGRANTS DEPICTED IN LITERATURE (ID 37)

Session Type Accepted Symposia Date 15.11.2024

Session Time 13:30 - 14:30 Room Hall - Olmeca 1

Chair(s): Sergio Javier J. Villaseñor Bayardo (Mexico) Ekaterina Sukhanova (United States of America)

Session Description: This joint symposium between Literature and psychiatry & Transcultural Psychiatry Sections is entitled: Migration, social discourse and Literature. It is well known that writers have a sensitivity many times greater than that of clinicians in psychiatry. The issue of migrations is no exception. Here we will examine a couple of literary works that describe the trauma experienced by migrants, whether due to internal or external migration. Dr. Delanoë will talk about the work of Marie Cosnay, a French writer and activist for welcoming migrants. Marie Cosnay shows all the violence that befalls people who try to leave Africa by sea, to the Canary Islands from Morocco, or to the Greek island of Lesbos, coming from Turkey. Dr. Villaseñor will address the work of Arturo Azuela, a Mexican writer author of "The Size of Hell". Novel that occupies a prominent place in contemporary Latin American literature. It is the story of a family that is dragged by the historical processes of the last century and goes from being a well-defined nucleus in a rural society to a group disintegrated by its own growth and by the urban environment. Dr. Sukhanova, will address the issue of "Laughter and social discourse: between carnival and parade". Her paper uses a Bakhtinian reading of selected early XX century European novels from to analyze the link between the failure of laughter and the failure of language in totalitarian societies.

25th World Congress of Psychiatry in Prague, 2025.:

a. 2460 - STATE OF THE ART SYMPOSIUM ON LITERATURE, CULTURE AND MENTAL ILLNESS. STATE OF THE ART LECTURE (INTERSECTIONAL). LITERATURE AND MENTAL HEALTH SECTION, ART SECTION, TRANSCULTURAL PSYCHIATRY SECTION (ID 73)

Session Type State of the Art Symposia Date Tue, 07.10.2025

Presenter: Sergio J. Villaseñor-Bayardo (Mexico)

Chair(s): Ekaterina Sukhanova (United States of America) Claudia L. Castellanos (Mexico)

Session Description: How have "health and "illness" been distinguished at different times and within the framework of different cultural paradigms? There are clinical pictures that arise in a defined period of time and that, despite manifesting objective biological data, arouse the suspicion of also being a cultural artifice. The plague, syphilis, hysteria, depression: all of them provoked and continue to provoke countless scientific investigations, but they can be understood, at the same time, as an expression of the "great emotional states of a society." This conference is built around the idea that literature is capable of generating novel cultural knowledge that challenges preconceptions, provokes productive digressions and dissolves simplistic codifications. Medical and literary observations obey different interests of knowledge and develop different knowledge. While medicine and psychiatry, as etiological sciences, aim at the diagnosis, therapy and cure of diseases, literature and art are capable of making aesthetic and cultural evaluations of the state of affairs at a given moment. For Molière in: "The Imaginary Sick", it seems a matter of faith to know if one is sick or not. Sontag in: "Illness and its metaphors", turns the relationship between literature and illness into an important topic of literary criticism. The illness in Musil is the disappearance of genius. Neurasthenia, paranoia and schizophrenia are pathologies that became very popular around 1900, while the clinical and cultural diagnoses made of them remained ambiguous. Literature produces knowledge with and through illness. The knowledge of art and literature must be available to society.

a. 1940 - RETHINKING MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS IN A GLOBAL WORLD: ENSURING CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS IN SCREENING TOOLS AND DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENTS (ID 355)

Session Type Accepted Symposium

Date Mon, 06.10.2025 Session Time 13:30 - 14:30

Room South Hall 1B

Chair(s): Dina El-Gabry (United Arab Emirates) Iris T. Graef Calliess (Germany)

Session Description

As migration and globalisation increase, mental health services must account for linguistic diversity and

varying cultural conceptualisations of psychological distress and wellbeing. Without careful adaptation, screening and diagnostic processes risk misdiagnosis, exclusion, or the pathologisation of culturally normative experiences. This symposium will explore challenges in ensuring the cultural responsiveness of screening tools, diagnostic assessments, and interpreter-mediated evaluations, offering recommendations for best practices. The first presentation examines the evidence behind the cultural adaptation of commonly used mental health screening tools, critically assessing existing approaches, identifying gaps, and providing recommendations for best practice. The second presentation explores the role of interpreters as both linguistic and cultural mediators, analysing the complexities of therapeutic triads and their impact on diagnosis and treatment. The next presentation discusses “ethnic matching” between patient and clinician, sometimes presented as a way to adapt diagnosis and treatment to a patient’s cultural background. This presentation examines the interplay between ethnic matching and broader efforts to enhance cultural competency in the healthcare system. The final presentation introduces an anthropological approach to screening tool development. Local idioms of distress are identified in ethnographic fieldwork, then operationalised and tested to ensure cultural robustness. It is scientifically invalid to worship the false god of translation-backtranslation. Whatever is being measured (e.g. grief, depression) has to be salient, not imposed on the local community. This symposium will provide practical strategies for enhancing cultural responsiveness in mental health assessments. Addressing these challenges is essential for ensuring equitable mental health outcomes.

Presenters:

1. Rodrigo Ramalho (New Zealand)

CROSS-CULTURAL ADAPTATIONS OF MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING TOOLS. CURRENT APPROACHES, GAPS, AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS (ID 942)

2. Meryam Schouler-Ocak (Germany)

THE ROLE OF AN INTERPRETER IN A PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC SETTING (ID 943)

3. Goran Mijaljica (United Kingdom)

ETHNIC MATCHING” OR INCREASING CULTURAL COMPETENCY IN THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM - CONCEPTUAL QUESTIONS IN WORKING WITH TRAUMATISED REFUGEES (ID 945)

4. Maurice Eisenbruch (Australia)

BUILDING TOOLS FROM THE INSIDE OUT: PERSPECTIVES FROM MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY AND CULTURAL PSYCHIATRY (ID 944)

b. 3280 - INTEGRATING PSYCHOTHERAPY INTO PSYCHIATRIC CARE: CURRENT PRACTICES WORLDWIDE AND FUTURE PROSPECTS (ID 551)

Session Type Accepted Symposium Date Wed, 08.10.2025

Chair(s): Solmaz Golsabahi-Broclawski (Germany) Sam Okpaku (United States of America)

Session Description: Since the introduction of specialist qualifications in psychiatry and psychotherapy, psychotherapy has become an integral component of mental health treatment, alongside psychopharmacotherapy. According to the EU Commission’s Green Paper on Mental Health, more than 27% of adult Europeans experience mental illness each year, with anxiety disorders and depression being the most prevalent. However, only 3–8% of those affected receive pharmacological treatment or minimal psychotherapeutic interventions, while just 2–3% undergo psychotherapy. No European country has sufficient psychotherapy services to meet the demand. The status of psychotherapy in North America parallels that of Europe, as evidenced by recent surveys and available statistics. Demand for services has increased, particularly following the COVID-19 pandemic, yet there remains a relative shortage of professional therapists. The financing of services—including insurance coverage and public health funding—varies by state and place of service, as do licensing and regulatory frameworks. The growing demand has been partially met by online services and telepsychiatry. However, significant inequities persist, such as disparities in waiting times between publicly funded services and private (insurance-covered) care. Given these challenges, adopting innovative strategies could help alleviate service shortages. One such example is bench therapy in Southern Africa, which not only helps address the demand for psychotherapy but also plays a role in reducing stigma. The aim of this symposium is to compare and present leading psychiatric and psychotherapeutic services across Europe, North America, Asia and Africa, illustrating them with current research findings and best practices.

1. Solmaz Golsabahi-Broclawski (Germany)

PSYCHIATRIC AND PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC CARE IN EUROPE (ID 1502)

2. Goran Mijaljica (United Kingdom)

POSITIONING PSYCHOTHERAPY WITHIN PSYCHIATRIC TRAINING IN THE NORDIC COUNTRIES (ID 1503)

3. Robert Kohn (United States of America)

A REVIEW OF DATA ON PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES IN THE US AND CANADA (ID 1505)

4. Sam Okpaku (United States of America)

THE STATUS OF PSYCHOTHERAPY IN NORTH AMERICA (ID 1504)

Note: WPA Section on Transcultural Psychiatry (WPA–TPS) Board members and Section members have consistently contributed to previous World Congresses of Psychiatry as symposium organisers, presenters, chairs, co-chairs, and course organisers/presenters. The activities listed above represent only a selection of the Section's contributions to previous WCPs.

4. Other activities (link or documents)

a) Annual report 2023.

Transcultural Psychiatry Section meeting was held on 30th September 2023, 15:00-16:00 pm at the WCP in Vienna.

The section meeting was held at the World Congress of Psychiatry in Vienna. A presentation of activities during the past term was presented by Meryam Schouler-Ocak, including events at all the WPA congresses in the mandate period. Among other activities, there were also state of art lectures, WPA course, activities at the WACP congress.

Two position papers were presented in the mandate of the board, including the position statement on Covid 19 and mental health of migrants and refugees; and revision of the position statement on Migration and displacement. Together with the Working Group on Providing mental health for migrants and refugees.

The WPA – TPS organized e.g. three webinars:

- War in Europe – Mental health of refugees and forcibly displaced people from Ukraine;
- Working with migrants and refugees – why do we need cultural competence? and
- Racism and discrimination in mental health care of migrants, refugees and forcibly displaced people.

The WPA TPS was very active at the WPC in Vienna, please see the list above.

New Board was elected as follows:

Sergio Villaseñor Bayardo (Mexico) WPA TPS Chair

Maurice Eisenbruch (Australia) WPA TPS Vice – Chair

Samuel Okpaku (USA) WPA TPS Treasurer

Goran Mijaljica (Sweden) WPA TPS Secretary

Maosheng Ran (China) WPA TPS Board Member

The discussion about the Action plan 2023 – 2026, with the following highlights:

- regular email communications to all members via mailing list (eg once a month)/ to keep the communication going
- Establishing a LinkedIn or FB group/page
- Newsletter (quarterly)
- Webinars organized by the section regularly - at least twice per year
- Discussion about the representation and outreach at conferences (both WPA and other conferences) - this includes discussion which symposia are going to be supported by the section
- Plan on outreach and inclusion of new members, including trainees
- Educational material and recorded material (lectures, etc) available at the website for free
- Discussion about potential publications of the section
- Agreement on how the Executive board will function and communicate and work with section's bylaws. We would like to prepare a manual of operations.
- We would like to invite early career members to participate. We can add the recordings of our

previous congresses on the website.

b) Annual Report 2024.

1. Board Meetings

The World Psychiatric Association Transcultural Psychiatry Section (WPA TPS) Board meets regularly at the annual meetings of the WPA and, periodically, on Zoom meetings and, in addition, has regular communication via email and other platforms.

2. Webinars

The Section has had three webinars during 2024. All the section members were invited to the webinars, which were also an opportunity for the Section members to meet in between World Congress of Psychiatry Meetings in person.

The following webinars were held in 2024:

1. What is cultural competence? Professor Kamaldeep Bhui.

Tuesday, March 5th 14.00 - 15.30 UT (15.00 - 16.30 CET), digitally via Teams

Summary: Drawing on studies of ethnic inequalities in the experience and outcomes of severe mental illnesses, Professor Bhui describes some of the key elements of cultural competence, using case studies including the specific case of coercion and compulsory detention and treatment under the powers of legislation. At the heart of reform, lived experience data hold evidence on which we can act and by which we can assess the impact of our practice and policy interventions. Taking a clinical, cultural, and anti-racist perspective the presentation will explore how practitioners, policy makers, commissioners and managers must consider and act on a more eco-socio-cultural, historical, and syndemic approach to overcome epistemic injustice in care systems. This is difficult emotionally demanding work and requires collaborative and emotionally intelligent leadership and kindness to overcome historical and contemporary obstacles.

Our speaker, Kamaldeep Bhui CBE is Professor of Psychiatry, University of Oxford and Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist at East London NHS FT and Oxford Health NHS FT. He leads the CHIMES Collaborative at University of Oxford, integrating creative arts, social sciences, psychiatric, and lived experience perspectives in mental health care and research. He is currently investigating the role of adverse childhood experiences in mental health trajectories, experience-based methods to co-design interventions to reduce the use of the mental health act, and the complex systems and syndemic drivers of multiple morbidities in psychoses. He is a Trustee at Centre for Mental Health and ThinkAhead, and a clinical academic advisor to UKHSA. He is the former Public Health Lead and Chair of the Publications Management Board at Royal College of Psychiatrists, and former Editor in Chief of the British Journal of Psychiatry.

2. Cultural responsiveness in psychiatry: Clinical ethnography of Suicide, Abnormal Grief Reaction, and Intimate Partner Violence. Professor Maurice Eisenbruch.

June 5th 2024 at 5.00 AM Melbourne, Australia time

Summary: Psychiatry faces continuing challenges meeting the call for cultural responsiveness in a global world. Recent attempts have been made to achieve “cultural responsiveness” through initiatives such as the Cultural Formulation Interview (CFI) of the DSM-5. In this webinar, Professor Eisenbruch demonstrated how, with the help of local religious and traditional healers, we can gain invaluable insights into the cultural construction of mental suffering and illness of local communities, insights often overlooked by western-trained psychiatrists. Professor Eisenbruch argued that the effectiveness of our rapport and interventions with asylum-seekers, refugees and others who have resettled in the global north can be enhanced by “going upstream”, in order to explore the cultural context of mental illness in their countries of origin. Drawing on his extensive clinical ethnographic experience gained in Cambodia between 1990-2024, Professor Eisenbruch presented case material on topics such as suicide, abnormal grief reaction, and intimate partner violence, and consider the implications for nosology, diagnosis and treatment in multicultural settings.

Our speaker, Professor Maurice Eisenbruch MD MPhil (Cambridge), MEdSt, DPM, FRAI, IDFAPA, FRCPsych, FRANZCP, CertChildAdolPsych, AFBPsS, MAPS, MACE, is a transcultural psychiatrist and medical anthropologist. He is Adjunct Professor at the Department of Psychiatry at Monash University and Honorary Professorial Fellow in Anthropology at the University of Melbourne, in Australia. He has worked

at Harvard Medical School and the National Centre for Scientific Research in France, and has been a consultant with UNESCO, WHO, and UNFPA. He is an International Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and a Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute, and Co-Chair of the Transcultural Psychiatry Section of the World Psychiatric Association. Professor Eisenbruch is also a psychoanalytic psychotherapist and can work with patients in half a dozen languages.

3. Many faces of war: conceptualizing war trauma and PTSD. Goran Mijaljica.

Wednesday, October 23rd 2024 at 15.00 h CET (Central European Time)

Summary: War trauma can be considered a consequence of traumatic experiences faced during wartime, and can include many different types of events, such as loss, destruction, violence, torture, etc. However, studies report that even experiences such as lack of water, food or shelter have been experienced as traumatic by those who have lived in a conflict zone. Research shows that the prevalence rates of psychiatric conditions, such as depression, anxiety and PTSD are two to three times higher in persons exposed to armed conflict.

This talk provided an overview of knowledge on war trauma, discuss different concepts of war trauma and PTSD, as well as reflected upon the cultural aspects of understanding the complexity of experiences during the times of war in patients seeking psychiatric treatment.

Our speaker, Goran Mijaljica, is a trained psychiatrist currently working at the Haukeland University Hospital in Bergen, Norway and the Transcultural Centre, Region Stockholm, Sweden. His clinical work involves psychiatric evaluation and treatment, as well as individual psychotherapy of, among others, patients with traumatic experiences related to war and torture. He has also trained other mental health professionals in trauma and PTSD at the regional and national level in Sweden and Norway. Goran is the Secretary of the WPA Transcultural Psychiatry Section and member of the WHO Research Ethics Committee.

4. Newsletter

The WPA TPS newsletter is an important part of the Section activities. Section members can contribute with different types of communications, such as articles, short communications, announcements, etc. There were 4 Newsletter editions sent out to our members in 2024 (January, April, September and December edition).

The following articles were published in the newsletter in 2024:

- Review Article: Psychotherapy in the Arab World, Challenges and Chances

Authors: Mohamed Elsheikh, Mohamed Adwi, Seba Khalid

- Article: The concept of death among Mexicans. Author: Sergio J. Villaseñor-Bayardo
- Article: "Deepening the analysis of suicide from an ethnopsychiatric perspective". Author: Marcos de Noronha

5. World Congress of Psychiatry 2024, Mexico City

Section Members and Board Members were actively participating at the WCP2024 as faculty members, presenters and chairpersons of different sessions.

The Section meeting took place on November 16th 2024.

1. Introduction and summary of the activities the past year: Sergio Villaseñor Bayardo summarizes the activities of the section, including the webinars, newsletter, participation at the WCP 2024, where many of the section's members contributed actively.

2. New members: We have a growing membership and are happy to see an increasing interest in joining the section. The work revising the membership list is ongoing and all members will be asked them to confirm their status and update their contact information.

3. Newsletter: *All the members of the section are invited to contribute to the webinar.* We discussed the potential of the newsletter – for example as a platform which can be used to exchange of ideas, etc. *We agree that members can be approached* actively and asked to contribute to the newsletter.

4. Web page: We informed the members that the WPA TPS website will be moved to the main WPA website, as a part of our efforts to centralize the main functions of the section, including we bank account and website, and merge them with the WPA main ones.

5. Collaborative research proposals and activities: *We discussed different ideas, such as the potential of developing research, looking for opportunities for funding, and similar. Some research areas of potential interest for the Section members that were mentioned were: death, suicide, bereavement, etc. We plan to continue to exchange ideas during the upcoming year.*

6. Update from the Transcultural Psychiatry Journal: Eric Jarvis, the Journal Editor gives the membership an update regarding the performance of the Journal. Professor Jarvis took over editorship of the Journal last year from Prof. Kirmayer, who is also a member of the Section. Last year the journal received 211 submissions this year, and there is a healthy interest in the field. The impact factor is 2,5. We discussed the possibility of having thematic issues, and motivating the members to contribute with individual submissions.

There is also an agreement in principle from 2009, stating that Transcultural Psychiatry is the official journal of the WPA TPS, however, the agreement needs to be reassessed.

The Section members contributed to this point by proposing points for continued collaboration. Professor Kirmayer reminded the members that up to 1 issue per year thematic could be prioritized for WPA TPS, which might be a practice worth continuing.

Prof. Villaseñor Bayardo proposes a thematic number for next year, and

Prof. Alarcón reaffirms his faith to contributing to world psychiatry in this period of uncertainty. Prof.

Schouler – Ocak suggests to prioritise topics such as climate change, wars and conflict – with a proposed special issue on climate change and migration and war/conflict and migration, including the fear of war.

Dr. Sonam Saxena discusses the issue of substance use amongst different cultures of India, and mentions that she would like to present it at an upcoming conference, and perhaps the Section publications, such as the Newsletter.

Professor Eisenbruch proposed that a commitment be made for the Section to create and disseminate a series of of position statement. Examples include global alarm, climate change, etc. In addition, intersectional symposia would be a good way of shifting focus to some important issues.

7. Webinars in 2024 and plans for 2025: Section members are invited to contribute to upcoming webinars. We could also collaborate with others, e.g. other WPA sections and consider having shared webinars. Prof. Jarvis proposes to send out a questionnaire and ask the membership to suggest topics for upcoming webinars. There is also a proposal for developing regionally based webinars. It is envisaged that the an online library of webinars would be established.

8. Next World Congress of Psychiatry in Prague, 2025: Two symposia and one State of the Art Lecture were proposed, and one of these symposia was accepted by the Congress organisers. It is important that we seek collaboration with othe WPA sections, for example, WPA TPS + Psychotherapy Section and WPA TPS and Religion section and that the production of a joint proposal for symposia would be a useful first step

6. WPA TPS Travel Stipend WCP2024

The WPA TPS Section offered two travel stipends to facilitate participation of medical students and early career psychiatrists with proven interest in transcultural psychiatry at the WPA Congress in Mexico City, 14-17 November 2024.

Applicants from countries listed as D and C were encouraged to apply, although we welcomed applications from around the globe. Each stipend amounted to 1200 USD, for funding participation fee, travel or accommodation in Mexico City during the conference.

The recipients of the WPA TPS Travel Stipend 2024 are Dr Sonam Saxena, Psychiatry Resident Doctor from India, and Dr Claudia Castellanos, Early Career Psychiatrist from Mexico. The Section hopes to continue offering the stipend to Early Career Psychiatrists and Medical Students for upcoming conferences.

c) Annual report 2025 presented at the World Congress of Psychiatry Section meeting on October 7th

2025.

Sergio Villaseñor Bayardo presented an overview of the Section's activities and collaborations in 2025.

- Webinars in 2025:

- Prof. Ana Antić: Entangled histories of transcultural psychiatry and decolonisation, held on March 19th 2025.
- Prof. Samuel O. Okpaku: "Reflections on Global Mental Health: Ethical and Humanitarian Considerations", held on June 10th 2025.
- Dr. Sonam Saxena, titled "Whose Normal Is It Anyway?" Ethical Dilemmas in Diagnosing Mental Illness Across Cultures", held on August 25th 2025.
- Fourth Webinar in 2025, titled "Depression and Culture," presented by Prof. Dina Elgabry on November 24th at 14:00 CET.

- Newsletter in 2025:

- We have published 3 Newsletter editions in 2025.
- Members of the Section are welcome to contribute with articles, short reports, project descriptions, or other brief communications.
- Collaboration and endorsement of projects, conferences and other activities:
- **The WPA TPS section is co-organising the conference Living in the Aftermaths: Trauma, politics and survival in Yugoslavia and successor states, 1945 – present.** The conference is taking place in April 2026 (23.04. - 24.04.2026) in Rijeka, Croatia, and aims to explore how war-related psychological distress was experienced, narrated, debated and reframed in Yugoslavia in the second half of the twentieth century.
- **The WPA TPS is an associated partner of the MiM2M Project: Advancing Multilingual Mental Health Care for Migrants Project.** MiM2M is a four-year (2022-2026) project funded by the Volkswagen Foundation and coordinated by the University Medical Center Hamburg. It brings together a multidisciplinary team of researchers from Germany, China, South Africa, the Netherlands, and Romania to address the critical challenges of providing effective mental health care to migrants when language barriers exist. The project's core goal is to improve communication between healthcare providers and migrants, ultimately leading to better mental health outcomes.
- **Special Issue of Transcultural Psychiatry.** Transcultural Psychiatry intends to publish a Special Issue on "Transcultural Psychiatry from a Historical Perspective: Lessons Learned and New Challenges." The editors' aim is to explore the historical development of transcultural psychiatry across different parts of the world, while connecting this history to urgent present-day challenges and future directions for the field. The issue seeks to examine how transcultural psychiatry emerged within distinct political, cultural, and historical contexts; what forces have shaped its trajectory; and how its past continues to inform contemporary debates and dilemmas. The Special Issue will be co-edited by the World Psychiatric Association, Transcultural Psychiatric Section (WPA-TPS)