



THE
GROUP ANALYTIC
SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL

Abstract
Book

**Crossing
Borders
Social,
Cultural
and
Clinical
Challenges**

**17th
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Symposium
of the
Group Analytic
Society
International**

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Welcome to the 17th international symposium of the Group Analytic Society International

Welcome to the academic programme and the very extensive booklet of Abstracts printed so that you can create your own programme for the Symposium.

The chairs of the Scientific Committee had the great good fortune to have read them all and that, in itself, is an experience we invite you to follow.

Although we can only attend a small number of presentations, reading them all awakens us to the extent of commitment, originality of ideas and fascinating cultural interpretations of group analysis throughout our international community.

The standard of the presentations is very high so do take risks and attend ideas that not only fit your own work but also to others that take you to new dimensions.

004 Workshop

Becoming Comfortable with Uncomfortable Feelings

Ronnie Levine (USA)

Keywords: containing, holding, emotional communication

In order to be effective with working with feelings generated in the group, we group leaders need to be comfortable with feelings: our own and our group members. The group leader needs to be sufficiently comfortable with his/her feelings in order to be emotionally available for addressing the group members feelings of love, hate, shame and vulnerability and all that surrounds them. And provide what is therapeutically necessary: curiosity, exploration, holding/containing, surviving/withstanding - without destructive retaliation, an being a maturational agent. This workshop is designed to help therapists understand and work more comfortably with uncomfortable feelings. We will explore how love, hate, fear and shame can be difficult for the group member and the therapist. The workshop will study how we as a group can become more effective in working with these feelings. We will begin with the leader's and the group member's reluctance to have these feelings, examining what the obstacles communicate from various perspectives.

005 Workshop

Whispers of the „Untold Known“

Leyla Navaro (Turkey), Yael Doron (Israel)

Keywords: transgenerational memory, secrets, black holes, trauma

Our memory is furnished with family stories, either reported, told, half-told or never told. Some of the silenced stories form „black holes“ that may unconsciously pop up when-never expected. This workshop will explore the effect of forgotten stories, unattended ghosts and the „untold known“ of our trans-generational memory.

006 Sub-plenary

Group Analysis and Forensics – Foundations and Clinical Practice

Klaus Hoffmann (Germany)

Keywords: criminology, forensic psychotherapy

In 1943, SH Foulkes, one of the founders of group analysis, published his paper about psychoanalysis and criminology in which he formulated principles of both disciplines which are still quite valid today. Penal measures including forced treatments in hospitals are central political and justice issues including unconscious processes in society and in all the individuals involved in the system – justice, police, prison and hospital staff, and the perpetrators and offended persons by the crime. Mainly the British prison system has a very long tradition of therapeutic community and group analytic practice with the inmates, and there are more and more reports about those experiences in the German justice and forensic service. Foulkes already stressed that it is very important to study the internalizations of the traumatized and disadvantaged person as well as of the person who behaves and acts traumatizing fellow human beings. All these processes are repeated in the prison as well as in the forensic hospital setting, towards staff as well as towards other inmates. Qualified group therapists working with the inmates and in the teams are very important, the same applies for a reliable group analytic setting with regular therapeutic sessions. Research can show that this furthers a good rehabilitation of the patients and reduces criminal acts in future.

007 Workshop

Crossing Borders: how the Body Shapes the Mind

Monique Leferink op Reinink (Netherlands)

Our body is always talking to us, we just need to learn to listen. In this workshop you will get the opportunity to discover what happens in the contact with others through movement and dance. Starting from a warming-up focusing on bodily sensations, feelings and images, we will deepen the contact with our body and attune to the group.

Our theme for this workshop is Inclusion/Exclusion. This theme is very urgent today, where groups tend to stand in opposition towards each other. Being part of a group or not influences our opportunities in life immensely. In this workshop we will experience and investigate how we interact with others, how being part of a group or being excluded from a group will give rise to different physical sensations and movements and different emotions. Listening to these signals and getting aware of them, will tell us more about how bodily experiences shape our mind. This will shed more light on who we are and how we react to others. Verbal sharing in the group will bring to awareness the full content of what happened to the individual and the group on a physical, emotional and cognitive level.

Ps. Participants are asked to wear comfortable clothes and if possible, move without shoes.

008 Paper Presentation

Silent Witness, Bystander, ‚Mitläufer‘ - Where Does Collaboration Begin

Angelika Gölz (United Kingdom)

Keywords: bystander, ‚Mitläufer‘, collaborator, Nazi Germany, moral duty, neutrality, guilt

My starting point is a personal, emotional experience after having co-conducted a large group in a country with a recent history of war and violence. Several days after the conference I became aware of guilty feelings. Had I done enough to voice the tabooed subject of the terrible violence that had taken place? Had I collaborated with the consensus? Had I failed in a moral duty?

In this workshop I would like to think about our moral duties as citizens, as well as group conductors and psychotherapists. I will draw on the experiences of my father during Nazi Germany, as well as on daily experiences as citizen when I witness wrongdoing.

What are my duties? When my silence is in the service of non-interference and protecting others am I nevertheless being a collaborator? I will discuss these and other dilemmas in this presentation, and will use the discussion to question whether the neutrality of the group conductor is necessarily ethical.

010 Workshop

Healing Doctors through Groups

Clare Gerada (United Kingdom)

Keywords: doctors, mental illness, groups

Caught between an idealised past and an impossible future, health professionals are confronted with a series of unhelpful paradoxes; They are expected to make their patients their first concern yet at the same time adhere to their industrial masters. They are expected to be tough and resilient, yet also be compassionate and kind (at all times). Their lives inside and outside the consulting rooms are under increasing scrutiny and whilst standards and quality improve, complaints and litigation increase. Since 2009 I have been witness to the outcome of these paradoxes, as the doctors-doctor. Running the largest confidential mental health service for doctors in the United Kingdom I have now seen more than 3000 practitioner-patients with many more presenting each week. The service runs psychotherapy groups, groups for suspended doctors, alcohol dependent doctors, doctors early and late in their careers and open support groups for junior doctors. Group work helps heal doctors. Groups help reduce the fear and isolation many feel when they present and also allow doctors to create attachments to the group, allowing them in so doing to become patients. They literally and metaphorically feel less alone.

I will present a decade of group work and explore in the work shop how groups can restore mental health to health workers and ways of making groups more accessible given the barriers to care many of those who care for others experience.

012 Paper Presentation

Struggles of Participation and Belonging: Citizenship, Difference and Mental Health in the Multicultural City

Sasha Roseneil (United Kingdom)

Keywords: participation, belonging, citizenship, multicultural difference, migration, inequality

The experience of mental illness is often one of fractured selfhood and ruptured relationships – of loneliness, psychic alienation and almost unbridgeable emotional distance from family, friends and community. People suffering in this way, particularly those from lower socio-economic and migrant, minoritised and racialised groups, often lack a sense of themselves as citizens, as full members of society able to exercise agency in intimate, social, economic, cultural and political life. In this talk I draw on my experience of running a group analytic group in an inner city NHS psychotherapy department, bringing this clinical work into dialogue with my sociological research on citizenship in multicultural Europe. The paper explores how the struggle to participate and belong is central to both the practice of group analysis and to the practice of citizenship. In doing this I argue for a psychosocial conceptualisation of citizenship that takes seriously the vulnerability of the relational citizen, and the psychic challenges of living with difference in contemporary urban contexts of super-diversity, hyper-mobility and intensified inequalities.

013 Paper Presentation

Leadership and Authority in Groups: Two New Concepts

Amelie Noack (United Kingdom), Sarah Tucker (United Kingdom)

Keywords: Leadership, authority, normative authority, matrix and patrix, democracy

This paper presentation combines two discrete but interconnected papers. In Amelie Noack's paper the concept of 'patrix' - describing benign and thoughtful authority - is presented as a term to initiate a group analytic theory of leadership and as necessary to fully understand processes of ego-training in action. This paper is complimented by Sarah Tucker's paper, which focusses on the nature of authoritative processes that reside in the group as opposed to the authority of the conductor. It suggests the introduction of the concept of 'normative authority' to capture the nature of these processes.

014 Paper Presentation

Many Groups for Many - One Group for All

Cosmin Chita (Switzerland)

Keywords: median group, acute psychiatric ward, transpositions, social context of disease

Despite the fact that there is a lot of group work on an acute psychiatric ward, it remains difficult to implement a group-analytic working model.

Difficulties are related to the heterogeneity of the patients, the limited and varying duration of treatment and the final aim of the therapy, which is not the healing, but the empowerment of the patients to face their difficulties better with outside.

In our psychiatric unit we developed the model of a weekly median group with three basic characteristics:

- (1) the group is inclusive, and not selective, this means open for all patients in the ward,
- (2) the group is complementary to not in contradiction with the other offered therapies has no stated purpose but is self determining.

The aim of the group is to explore and promote a dialogue about the experience of the participants in the wider social context of their mental disease.

Another significant aspect of the group is to give the participants a frame of thinking about the meaning of living in the temporary here and now of a therapeutic environment. It can also enable them to challenge the loss-making aspects of themselves in relation to others and facilitate new more integrative experiences.

Two main transpositions were observed in the group: the demonization of the outside world (in there and now) and the glorification of the past (in there and then). These transpositions were connected to unconscious fantasies of the group, specially about the destructive aspects of the group and

the omnipotence of the group leader.

The translation and elaboration of these themes led to a better understanding of group functioning by the group themselves and thus promoted dialogue inside the group.

015 Workshop

From Exclusion to Inclusion: the Inner Ability to Grow in a Process of Transformation

Bracha Hadar (Israel), Orit Mass-Goldman (Israel)

Keywords: psychodrama, exclusion-inclusion, corrective experience

What do feelings of exclusion arise in me? Am I the master of these feelings?

This workshop will be dealing with feelings of exclusion and the inner capacity of oneself to transform these feelings into an experience of being included.

The potential to feel excluded, whether individually or on social grounds (ethnic, religious, gender, age) is always there.

The exclusion phenomena will be explored as an outcome of interaction between individual and group.

We will work experientially, offering the opportunity to learn new alternatives for inner feelings and behavior through the possibility for corrective experience in psychodrama.

017 Workshop

An Exploration of the Meaning of Boundary

Michael Tait (United Kingdom)

Keywords: boundary, transition, state of mind, adolescence, adult eating disorder, pre-verbal communication

Key phrase: ‚Before I built a wall I’d ask to know what I was walling in or walling out and to whom I was like to give offence.‘ [Robert Frost in ‚Mending Wall.‘]

Proposal: This workshop would be aimed at exploring the psychological and developmental meaning of ‚boundary‘ in relation to a variety of settings. This is a co-operative workshop and participants are encouraged to bring along vignettes, ideas or even 5 minute papers to widen and deepen the conversations and to encourage the sense of a thinkers co-operative. How does an understanding of boundary inform the nature of the journeys within which we engage our clients? What is a group-analytic state of mind outside the boundaries of a group-analytic group in a residential or hospital setting? This workshop will begin with short demonstrative role-plays emerging out of group-work in an eating disorder unit for adults and in a residential adolescent setting.

018 Workshop

The Art of Building Bridges: from Boundaries to Bonding

Marcia Honig (Israel)

Keywords: borders, bridges, connections, differentiation

The encounter of individuals in a group is an encounter between different ideas, feelings and fantasies with potential for growth and regeneration. However, it has a destructive potential as well.

It creates conflicts that require mediation and appropriated connections: „bridges“.

In order to „build bridges“ from one to another, we have to recognize the existence of boundaries between people, and to seek for the right ways to connect.

In the rest of the workshop we will have a discussion of this material Winnicott (1989) mentioned the need to recognize the individual’s own boundaries in order to understand the other. The workshop will encourage the members to investigate their boundaries and interactions with others.

„How much I open myself to others? In which ways I „touch“ others? How it affects the whole group?“

Nitzun (2006) emphasizes the importance of differentiation within the group, allowing integration.

It is important to recognize and acknowledge the differences in order „to build a beneficial bridge“ .

Inside the group, there is a dialectical relationship between the longing to be flexible toward the others boundaries and the desire to challenge it. Creating a beneficial bridge requires learning skills,

creativity, sensibility and flexibility at our borders.

It is important to keep our borders in order to feel safe; but there is also an innate curiosity which drives us to „taste the fruits“ from other regions.

There is always an open and a hidden dialogue within the group about the benefits and the risks in „building bridges“.

This dialogue will be investigated in the workshop, through expressive and creative tools (art, writing, ...) combined with psychoanalytic thinking.

019 Workshop

Who Is Sitting in the Circle? Body, Mind or Bodymind?

Bracha Hadar (Israel)

Keywords: body, bodymind, physical events, face-to-face, body metaphors, setting

To begin with I will summarize a paper I wrote for the project of the group-analytic dictionary: The body in group analysis.

This will include: critical events in the foundation matrix of psychoanalysis and group analysis.

The ambivalent attitudes towards the body and the difficulty to hold it in our mind while sitting in the group facing each other.

Reactions of group members to each other's body.

How to encourage group members to talk about their bodies.

How to talk about sexuality.

The use of body metaphors in the professional language and the meaning of it to the setting of the group.

Body sensations of the conductor and their meaning in terms of countertransference.

Physical events in the life of the conductors and how to address them in the group.

Potential death of the conductor or a group member.

Then I will offer an experiential „exercise“ to get in touch with the bodymind. In the rest of the workshop we will have a discussion of this material.

020 Sub-plenary Social Unconscious

The Social Unconscious and the Tripartite Foundation Matrix: Key Concepts in Group Analysis

Haim Weinberg (United States), Earl Hopper (United Kingdom), Dieter Nitzgen (Germany)

The Social Unconscious refers to the existence, restraints and constraints of social, cultural and communicational „arrangements“ in a particular social system of which people are „unaware“. It includes, among other phenomena, patterns of anxiety, fantasy, defences, myths, collective memories, collective defences, and various socio-cultural-economic-political forces. The social unconscious is a function of the tripartite matrix of a particular societal social system which is comprised of the foundation matrix, dynamic matrix, and personal matrices of the members of the particular societal social systems.

In this continuous sub-plenary, lasting for four days, chaired by Earl Hopper and Haim Weinberg, the authors who have contributed to the three volume series of The Social Unconscious in Persons, Groups and Societies, will present their own ideas about this topic. The presentations will focus on theory, empirical studies, and applications to clinical work. On the first day Hopper and Weinberg will open the series of panels, to be followed by three brief panel presentations each day, followed by discussion. On the last day there will be an open discussion among all the presenters and the audience. Participants are encouraged to attend all meetings, but are also welcome to come to any one session.

022 Paper Presentation

Clinical Challenges: Small Group as ‚Envelope of Suffering‘. Lasting Impact of Traumatic Border Crossings

Wendy Delyse Schaffer (Australia)

Keywords: group psychotherapy, skin, trauma, pain

In this paper my central focus is on certain patients who have experienced traumatic border crossings and are left indelibly imprinted with intense and lasting pain that threatens the psyche's integration with the body, affecting capacity to desire and disturbs thinking.

Anzieu's research informs that in extreme cases, inflicting a real envelope of suffering on oneself may be a desperate attempt to restore the skin's containing function not performed by the mother or those in one's early environment. It was of concern to me whether the group could offer protection and shielding so that the patient could bear the pain and maintain hope in the possibility of recovery. I shall provide illustrations from clinical group sessions as a time of reform in a hospital community clinic in the face of a new opportunistic model of complex needs care.

I shall present some of my clinical efforts to understand the way certain treating staff in the wider work group contributed to my battles and the patient's predicaments as they tried to manage their suffering.

023 Workshop

Group Analysis and Education Cultural Diversity, Cultural Boundaries and Confusion of Identity. Workshop for Social Workers, Teachers and Supervisors

Angela Schmidt-Bernhardt (Germany), Renate Jorkowski (Germany)

Keywords: cultural diversity, refugees, pedagogical work, cultural identity, educational practice

In Germany we have had cultural diversity for a long time. However, since 2015, the social discussion has changed and became more explosive. The arrival of refugees and the increase in cultural diversity have an impact on educational practice. Those of us who are in social work and in educational practice have changed.

Working with people from other cultures who bring different experiences creates changes in all of us, in the people coming here as well as in the supervising professionals. It can create confusions of identity. This can be seen in prejudices, in fantasies, in dreams, in projections. Changes of attitude are often hardly noticed.

In our workshop we want to look at these changes from a group analytic perspective. We want to explore in which way, in a group analytic atmosphere, these - often unconscious - changes can be discovered.

After a short introduction, we would like to share and discuss our experiences with workshop participants we would like to discover what is being mirrored in the group as well as explore what can be dissolved through our working together, in the group.

025 Workshop

Creative Writing in Group Analysis

Angela Schmidt-Bernhardt (Germany)

Keywords: creative writing

In this workshop I will show and discuss the way in which I apply creative writing in the group analytic process.

I will show you some methods, like Clustering, working with pictures, photos and music.

The roots of creative writing in the therapeutic process are to be found in the ideas of C.G. Jung as well as in the poetry therapy of Arthur Lerner (in the 70s of the last century).

In the therapeutic group process as well as in supervision groups creative writing can be helpful to initiate the process of free association and the way of pronouncing and sharing feelings and experiences in the group. Particularly it could be an access

- to different perspectives,
- to the diversity existing in each group,
- to get different perceptions,

- to an empathetic understanding of the group members and of the group itself.
Creative writing can represent an approach to the unconscious.
In the workshop we will do creative writing together to give you an idea of how it works.
Then, in a second part, we will discuss your experiences.

026 Paper Presentation

Processes of Inclusion and Exclusion in Ongoing Modern Group Analysis: The Burden of the Barbarian within Us: Exploring Projective Mechanisms and Countertransference Feelings Andreas von Wallenberg Pachaly (Germany)

Keywords: alien/scapegoat, pity-empathy, barbarian, shame-sadness, repair-revenge, projection, identification

Victims of extreme traumatization in therapy groups often come from another country, another culture. They represent the alien/scapegoat upon which even we professionals project all that is “evil” within us.

Chattopadhyay and Biran (1998) reported on a meeting of group-psychotherapists, where this process could be studied. M. F. Davids (2011) discussed internal racism. Our own professional group processes, considering for example, how rivaling psychotherapeutic schools at times attack and shame each other, prove this too.

Projective mechanisms are relevant to the question of pity versus empathy. Pity allows us to keep distance and serves to reaffirm our prejudices towards the other as the inferior. When empathy grows, we become disturbingly confronted with the barbarian within us.

Our initial countertransference feelings in response to the victim of extreme traumatization are shame and sadness. This can lead to feelings of wanting to repair and to revenge the atrocities. The psychotherapy group members too, will be torn at first between doing repair work to the victim/fellow-group-member and fantasizing about the striving for revenge.

As a reaction to the loss of basic trust in humans, the group itself may feel petrified and absolutely powerless.

As a defense against these extreme feelings of envy and identification with the aggressor can be observed within the group.

Consequently the danger of enmeshment for the therapist becomes a paramount challenge. If traumatic feelings overwhelm us, we may regress, at times, identify with the victim-patient's projections, become the aggressor and verbally attack the patient.

Tasks for group-psychotherapy will be discussed.

027 Workshop

Group-analysis with Victims of Extreme Traumatization Andreas von Wallenberg Pachaly (Germany)

Keywords: extreme traumatization, safe container, good internal objects, countertransference-feelings, shame, revenge

This workshop will start by giving a theoretical introduction on the rationale of group-therapeutic work with victims of extreme traumatization and continue opening a safe container where participants will be able to put up for discussion vignettes of their own clinical work.

The therapeutic group may provide the safe space within which it becomes possible to look once more at the feelings that are chronically numbed in the patient, that were initially experienced as so traumatizingly overwhelming. Extreme feelings of loneliness, isolation, abandonment, loss of trust in one's own perception, total powerlessness and dissolution of self.

Therapy can succeed when the traumatic feelings are accepted and contained. This offers a chance to restore some familiarity with our everyday, reasonably secure world.

Group-psychotherapy carries the power to support, sustain, and reinforce the good internal objects if we succeed to understand and work through our own and the group's countertransference-feelings of shame and sadness, of wanting to repair the traumatized man or woman and wanting to revenge the suffered atrocities.

028 Paper Presentation

In Transition. A Combined (In- and Out-patient) Psychotherapeutic Group for the Elderly Kaja Pavlin (Slovenia), Vid Vanja Vodušek (Slovenia)

Keywords: group psychotherapy and group-analytic technique, in- and out-patient treatment, the elderly and gerontopsychiatry, depression, anxiety and working through losses.

We present a gradual development from a small in-patient psychotherapeutic group with a high frequency of member change towards an in- and out-patient group with a more slow-open structure. The latter group has a semi-fixed timeframe from the point of view of the individual member (from three months to one year), usually starting at the time of the hospitalisation. The group size is variable, from five to fifteen members. The main inclusion criteria are: (i) a psychiatric diagnosis of a depressive and/or anxiety disorder; (ii) no acute psychotic symptoms; (iii) no robust cognitive decline; (iv) hospitalisation at the Gerontopsychiatric Unit (GU) (at the University psychiatric hospital Ljubljana); (v) a declared motivation for group work.

The members meet once weekly for 75 minutes, the method is a modified group-analytic technique (unstructured conversation, supporting mirroring and other interpersonal processes...) with elements of psychoeducation and cognitive techniques (clarification, cognitive restructuring...).

The group is conducted by a constant therapist (a psychologist employed at the GU with group-analytic training) and a temporary co-therapist with experience in group psychotherapy that can ensure a longer participation in the process.

The main therapeutic goals are: (i) symptom alleviation/understanding; (ii) adapting to transitions between the hospital and home environment and vice versa; (iii) neutralizing feelings of loneliness (psychiatric and „old age“ stigma) and instillation of hope (iv) working through and integration of the experience of decompensation; (v) working through losses in the group (=members leaving) and individual life process.

029 Workshop

„Meet and match the moment of hope‘ [Winnicott]

Michael Tait (United Kingdom)

Keywords: hope, intractability, symptomatology, delinquency, hate, adolescence

This workshop would be aimed at exploring Winnicott's idea of therapeutic intervention as „meeting and matching the moment of hope‘ - even when that hope is expressed in extreme symptomatic behavior. This also echoes Foulkes's thoughts of symptoms „mumbling to themselves secretly hoping to be overheard.‘ It would be an interactive workshop with participants encouraged to bring along vignettes and ideas - perhaps even 5 minute papers - to encourage a sense of a thinkers co-operative. It may involve reflecting on working in a variety of ways with a range of younger and older clients - often with apparently unpromising presentations. „What works‘ and „what is a group-analytic state of mind‘ may be relevant questions when a more traditional group-analytic frame seems impossible.

030 Paper Presentation

The Crisis in the Unconscious – on the Economy of the Psyche in Times of Crisis

Helga Klug (Austria)

Keywords: globalization, economic crisis, individual and social unconscious, traumatic experiences, loss of values

In times of globalization borders between nations, ethnic and social groups are breaking down as well as new ones being established, as a result of economic turbulence which goes hand in hand with uncertainty, anxiety and violence.

In this presentation I am going to examine how the economic crisis as a consequence of the financial blow of 2008 influences our psychic processes. Beside the social changes arising from the financial crisis (austerity politics, increasing debt, unemployment, loss of income) which obviously affect many people, what are specific psychological reactions to the crisis? Persons whose working lives are more or less directly involved with the effects of the financial crisis are in a particular position to inform us on how external conditions can influence the physical and psychological well-being of those affected. With the help of interviews with such persons, which I did for my doctorate, these di-

mensions of the crisis can be more clearly illuminated in order to ascertain what price, and in what currency, the psyche is called upon to pay for the economic crisis.

The concepts of the individual and social unconscious are leading concepts to understand these processes. I would like to discuss, whether we can understand the experience of economic crisis as a traumatic experience, where we are compelled to act out instead of understand what happens in our society. I going to examine, which defense mechanisms are in the foreground, what has to remain unconscious and who benefits. I would also like to discuss, how we can understand the laments of the loss of values in times of crisis as a revaluation of values based on a new economy, also a psychic one.

031 Workshop

GASi Summer School Bridging Workshop

David Glyn (United Kingdom), Regine Scholz (Germany), Tija Despotovic (Serbia), Bessy Karagianni (Greece), Denisa Schuckova (Serbia)

Keywords: International Summer School

This workshop will follow the model which we established in Lisbon for a bridging event to carry forward the GASi International Summer School. There have been three schools, now, and it is intended that these should continue to take place, in a different host country, each summer apart from in years of the symposium.

In order to maintain continuity and momentum, this workshop provides an opportunity for past and future participants, both staff and students, to reflect on what has been learned from experience, to review how the school's culture is evolving and to discuss plans for the next summer school.

032 Paper Presentation

Words not Swords: Will It Make a Difference to the Differences?

Svein Tjelta (Norway)

Keywords: Group Analysis, practice, terminology, taxonomy

In our world seemingly chaotic war in many places have become the means of doing politics with unprecedented consequences for the future. This calls us as group analyst into urge for action. But what kind of action could a group analyst contribute with? Often words and action are divided: "Stop talking do something" is the demand often heard. But what do we as group analyst have to offer? Assumption is that we have, and that we agree on what this is. But is that true and if so what is it? Maybe there is some resistance against looking into these differences in grasping realities. There seems to be a curious ambivalence in finding out what the similarities and differences between group analyst within and between different countries are.

My empirical reference for this is the reactions or lack of reactions that the reception of the Group Analytic Dictionary (GAD) is met with. With the GAD we are trying to find out if we have a common language or if we just pretend we understand the same with the words we use?

033 Workshop

Migration History, Lost Memory

Sue Lieberman (United Kingdom)

Keywords: migration, memory, history, silence transgenerational

Jewish diaspora communities outside mainland Europe are predominantly descended from people who migrated west from Tsarist Russia in the late 19th and earliest 20th centuries. Ours is fundamentally a migration history, one which has had significant implications for questions of identity, attachment and roots.

This migration history was accompanied by a profound forgetting. Interviews and conversations held with dozens of Jewish descendants of this history indicate a pattern of near-total silence amongst the immigrants as to their families of origin and the life they left. Migration-descended Jews today live in a psychic world inflected by an underlying experience of rootlessness. It has been

suggested that the associated rupture in family connections has resulted in epidemiological patterns of depression.

What value can this affective Jewish experience offer present-day migrants and those who work with them? In this workshop, I shall invite participants to reflect on their own family experiences of migration, and on the emotional, psychic and cultural implications for subsequent generations.

034 Paper Presentation

Concurrent Individual and Group Therapy

Hermann Staats (Germany), Dorothe Türk (Germany)

Keywords: combined psychotherapy-concurrent individual and group therapy

Concurrent Individual and Group Psychotherapy and Combined Psychotherapy in private practice. In specific cases and for particular reasons combined and concurrent treatment could be superior to sole individual or sole group therapy.

Combined psychotherapy reduces the drop out rate and the fear of group psychotherapy of those patients who need group therapy more than any other kind of therapy but are too afraid to join a psychoanalytic group. Their fear of the group can be reduced to a tolerable level by weekly individual sessions until they feel safe enough.

Concurrent Individual and Group Psychotherapy enriches transference and countertransference work in both settings. It enables a dense and intensive therapeutic process. Especially patients with pronounced superego disorders, severe shame and social anxieties can benefit from concurrent treatment.

Two case reports with groups conducted within the German health care system are presented. We would like to discuss the combination of group and individual settings from a group analytic, cultural and health-provision perspective and are interested in sharing experiences with these treatments.

035 Workshop

Poland and Germany – Borders in History and in our Minds; Free Floating Discussion Is the Way of Crossing Psychological Borders

Joanna Skowronska (Poland), Angela Schmidt-Bernhardt (Germany)

Keywords: common history, separation, construction of borders, free floating discussion, ambiguous feeling

Based on experiences from practice in Poland and in Germany, this workshop examines the construction of borders and overcoming of borders in our minds.

As group analysts from Poland and Germany, we both have had the experience of examining the construction of borders and overcoming of borders between our countries, our cultures and our minds.

We felt that our free floating discussion permits us to contain ambiguous feelings and is a way of crossing psychological borders.

In this workshop we want to share with you our experience of looking for the meaning and the role of borders, and to invite you to partake in a similar experience of exploring the beginning of understanding and of crossing borders.

The theoretical basis for our thinking is Foulkes' concept of matrix (Foulkes, 1964, 1990) and free floating discussion (Foulkes 1957), Robi Friedman's concepts of relational disorders (2007) and the soldier's matrix (2015).

036 Paper Presentation

The National Leader's Response to Social Upheaval

Ronnie Levine (USA), Frances Griffiths (United Kingdom), Leyla Navaro (Turkey)

Keywords: group analytic perspectives: national leader /national group

There have been unsettling, tumultuous social, political, and economic changes arising in the world. These changes have fractured national groups and have shaped the national leadership responses. In some cases, national and governing stability have been threatened and democratic institutions have

been undermined.

This panel will explore the national leader's response to social upheaval in 3 countries: USA: Clinton vs Trump election and aftermath; UK: Brexit; Turkey: End of Republic?. Each participant, a participant/ observer of her country, will study the group dynamics of the leader and national group from a group analytic perspective.

037 Paper Presentation

Aspects of the Greek Social Unconscious. From Superego Fragmentation and Splitting Processes to Foreclosure of the Symbolic

Anastasios Koukis (Greece)

Keywords: social unconscious, superego, splitting, real, imaginary, symbolic

By extrapolating from the ancient Hellenic to the modern Greek culture, this study explores some basic aspects of the Greek social unconscious as it is expressed through major trends of the Greek mentality, from a psychoanalytic and a group-analytic perspective.

Behaviors and habits linked with what Foulkes called the foundation matrix, the origin of which can be traced back to the fall of ancient Greece, are investigated from a historical, socio-political, ideological and economic viewpoint; they are interrelated with the peculiarity of the Greek society, as representing a mixture of pre-bourgeois structures and post-modern features that are conceived as manifestations of an underlying multi-layered trauma linked primarily with a fragmented superego and the use of splitting processes described by Freud and Klein.

The Greek trauma is further conceptualized as resulting from the overflow of the real and the imaginary and the foreclosure of the symbolic as described by Lacan, thus leading to severe disturbances and irrational attitudes on the level of both the individual and social unconscious.

038 Paper Presentation

One Group Analysis or Many? Quantum Theory and Mathematical Symmetry / Asymmetry Perspectives in the Group-analytic Group

Anastasios Koukis (Greece)

Keywords: quantum theory, uncertainty principle, mathematical group, symmetry/asymmetry, group-analytic group

In this paper, the meta-theoretical and epistemological foundations of group analysis, as first explored in my book *On Group Analysis and Beyond*, are further extended and examined by drawing analogies from quantum theory and mathematical group symmetry and asymmetry, and applying them to major group-analytic principles and phenomena on both the psychoanalytic and anthropological level.

The study indicates in particular the ways in which the uncertainty principle, the cornerstone of quantum mechanics, together with the mathematical notion of the group, can be applied to and expressed by the matrix, dynamics and evolution of the group-analytic group as a whole, thereby influencing central themes of the group-analytic situation such as its maternal ingredients, the paternal function of the conductor or leader, the communication, mirroring, mourning and musicality of the group, and others.

This approach seeks to open new paths in the epistemology of group analysis, and inspires new ideas that could optimally lead to exercising group-analytic psychotherapy with greater accuracy, art and effectiveness.

039 Workshop

How Does Group Dynamics Sound? The Group as an Elementary Orchestra

Annegret Körber (Germany)

Keywords: analytical group music therapy, free improvisation, free association, group dynamics

Analytical group music therapy is a variant of group analytical therapy. Every form of expression, be it verbal, tonal, mimic or gestural, is regarded as communication and treated in relation to its communicative content. The medium of music touches and opens up a space beyond language. In-

ner mental states are synchronized by means of resonance, and this is experienced directly in the musical interaction. In these phases an intensifying of experience takes place, and we understand the music created in this way to be a sound metaphor for individual communications. Making music and producing free improvisation corresponds to group association by means of which resonance brings the unconscious into the dynamic matrix of the group. The bridge of sound makes it sensorily perceivable and available to understanding. The group then associates the musical material it has produced and works on access to the group dynamics by way of the themes and dynamics of the music. We experience the simultaneity of audible expression in music making, in contrast to the succession of verbal communication, yet analogous to the simultaneity of mental states, emotions and thoughts. In the workshop we experiment with elementary instruments which sound by means of a simple body movement. The audiographed group improvisations are listened to in the group and form the material for understanding the group dynamics.

10-12 participants, no musical experience or knowledge required, instruments will be provided

040 Sub-plenary Research

We Becomes Me: Personality Change after Group-therapy for Eating Disorder

Johanna Levallius (Sweden)

Keywords: personality, eating disorder, psychotherapy

Psychoanalytic theory poses eating disorders (ED) to arise from inadequate mirroring by attachment figures in early infancy, leading to poor affect regulation, mentalizing capacity and ability to form and maintain close relationships (Clinton, 2006). This is supported empirically by patients also deviating in personality on the majority of facets in the Five-factor model of personality (FFM, Levallius et al., 2015). The aim of the study was to investigate how intensive group-therapy focused on the proposed antecedents of ED would affect personality. 130 patients with longstanding EDs underwent a 16-week multimodal treatment, with group-therapy twice a week (MBT, Karterud, 2015). Personality was assessed at baseline, termination and six-month follow-up. At follow-up, 72% had remitted from ED. Hierarchical linear modeling showed significant and large decrease over time in Neuroticism, paralleled by increases in Extraversion, Openness and Conscientiousness ($p < .05$). At the detailed facet-level of personality the pattern was increased Emotional Stability ($d = 0.85$), Trust ($d = 0.40$), Competence ($d = 0.51$) and decreased Impulsivity ($d = 1.00$). This study gives preliminary support to the notion that addressing underlying features of ED not only results in a high remission rate, but also strengthens patients belief in their own capacity to handle life's challenges, builds greater trust in others, and improves their ability to regulate emotion and withstand destructive impulses.

041 Paper Presentation

"... if you could only begin to tell us"

Paola Ceccon (Italy), Roberta Biolcati (Italy), Enrico Stenico (Italy)

Keywords: group, tolerance, identity

"... if you could only begin to tell us"

Psychoanalysis and group analysis have shown that the child's psychological apparatus is essentially constructed in relation to the social and familial environment. A default in this process leads to the construction of a fragile identity, and consequently to a relationship where the Other can represent a potentially threatening unknown, with the result that the dimension of tolerance is heavily constrained. Through some clinical vignettes we will highlight how group therapy promotes the achievement of a more informed and at the same time more supportive and tolerant identity. The dimension of identity does not stop at the borders of the physical and psychological self, but expands to reach the Other which, in this way, contributes to its definition (Bitbol). At the macro and social level, this may indicate an aggregation process; for example:- the European Union can exist only if there is also a focus upon enhancing diversity.

042

Crossing Language Borders in a Continuous Online Group

Robert Hsiung (USA), Vincenzo Sinisi (South Africa), Jeffrey D. Roth (USA)

Keywords: online, internet, experiential, boundaries (between GASi members and non-members, group analysis and other approaches, and Berlin and the rest of the world)

The Continuous Online Group (COG) is an opportunity to experience and learn about online group dynamics. The event shares commonalities, e.g., the appearance of broader social themes, with unstructured large groups, but also allows for an exploration of being distant, having a subgroup come together for the Symposium, and separating. Members may repeat personal patterns, be surprised by the strength of their reactions and connections, and develop a sense of how the online medium can both facilitate and restrain group and member development.

The group is convened 24/7 from 7 Aug through 24 Aug. It is open to GASi, BIG, and D3G members even if they do not come to Berlin.

Interaction is text-based and takes place online, either by e-mail or on a web site. Group members may use computers, tablets, or smartphones from anywhere in the world. Technical sophistication is not required.

Online groups differ from groups that meet in person in that members have more control over how they present themselves (for example, they may participate under pseudonyms or even „lurk“ invisibly) and may be disinhibited (for example, they may self-disclose or act out more), interaction is „asynchronous“ (not in real time) and „threaded“ (about multiple topics at the same time), and a transcript is automatically generated and available for analysis during the group and afterwards.

044 Workshop

The Forbidden Talk - the Contribution of the Conductor's Self-disclosure – a Supervision workshop

Liat Warhaftig Aran (Israel)

Keywords: conductor's self-disclosure, transference, countertransference, negative countertransference, group impasse

„Our hands are not clean“ said Hoffman (1998, PP: 75) to denote that the therapist is never neutral or objective. Foulkes an intersubjective pioneer in many ways (Friedman, 2014) remained loyal to neutrality and objectivity (Foulkes, 1975), which might explain why the conductor's self-disclosure had received little attention in the group analytic literature (Warhaftig-Aran, 2016). This workshop aims to challenge the boundaries of the group analytic tradition and to add relational ideas such as the conductor's self-disclosure as a legitimate and valuable intervention.

The workshop will discuss the contribution of the conductor's emotional self-disclosure of his countertransference as a „Live Company“ (Alvarez, 1992) especially in the face of massive usage of projective identification and its advantage over interpretation or translation.

The participants will be invited to explore their fears and professional resistance to self-disclose countertransference (Warhaftig-Aran, 2016) and especially the avoidance to disclose negative countertransference (Mermelstein, 2000) and its potential outcome in a group therapeutic impasse (Aron, 1996) and in contrast, the potential for growth for the conductor and the group when the conductor uses judicious self-disclosure.

Through a brief theoretical introduction and case studies of the participants, we will also outline situations when the conductor's self-disclosure is not recommended and guidelines for the technique.

045 Workshop

Crossing the Border to Uncharted Waters - the Contribution of Group Analysis to the Working through of Love and Passion

Liat Warhaftig Aran (Israel)

Keywords: love, desire, intimacy, analytic space, passion, relationship

The group is a „theatre of desire“ said Tylim (2003:448), indicating that love, intimacy and passion are dominant factors in group psychotherapy. These can be explored historically via life stories but I would like to emphasize their possible emergence between members of the group (Nitsun, 2006,

2015) and that their working through in the group could be a turning point in the lives of participants, helping them achieve meaningful and possibly enduring relationships outside the group (Nitsun, 2006). This view is a challenge to the boundaries of psychoanalytic theory in which expressions of love in psychotherapy may be perceived as defensive or an enactment (Freud, 1915 ; Bion, 1961) and to group analytic theory in which these themes have received little attention (Nitsun, 2006). I suggest that experiencing those feelings requires courage and overcoming internal boundaries connected to past traumas, social restrictions (Nitsun, 2006) and the complexity of integrating intimacy, commitment and passion (Sternberg, 1986). The process may be a challenge to the group, including the conductor.

Through a brief theoretical introduction and experiential work we explore together the conductor's role of holding the setting in order to maintain an analytic space and at the same time expanding its limits; encouraging full verbal expression of love and desire without acting it out (Nitsun, 2006; Moeller, 2002).

046 Paper Presentation

Angst, Heimweh and Abenteuer: a Group Analyst's Reflections on Living for a Year in Berlin Antony Froggett (United Kingdom)

Keywords: foreigner, Berlin, identity, dislocation, adventure, belonging

This paper is a collection of group-analytic reflections about the experience of moving to Berlin for a year (August 2016-August 2017). This decision was prompted by my wife and I turning fifty and deciding as a family that we would have an experiment of „being German for a year“. My wife is German and our children (aged 9 and 12) have English and German passports. We thought we would switch from being an English family with a foreign mother to being a German family with ein Ausländer father. Overshadowing our move was the Brexit vote and the decision for the UK to leave the EU. Within a few weeks of our arrival, the German Far Right Nationalist Party (with the election slogan Ausländer raus - foreigners out) also won 14% of the vote for the Berlin Senate.

This paper explores the emotional experience of being ein Ausländer in Berlin, a city of foreigners. Is this exposure to foreignness a desirable thing or one that leaves us feeling psychologically disturbed? What do group analysts have to say about these processes that are both cultural/political and intensely personal? I argue that there a parallel between joining an analytic group and the living in a different country. Both involve crossing a border into another land. The metaphor of „free movement of labour“ is used to describe that which is intensely feared and also desired. How do we manage these contradictions that are both within us and which threaten the stability of our current politics?

048 Paper Presentation

Displacement, Occupation, and Resilience in Palestine; a Report on a School-based Program in Mental Health

Sherein Abdeen (Israel), Elizabeth Berger (USA)

Keywords: Palestine, student, occupation, diaspora, displacement, resilience, school, mental health

The vast migrations of today make it easy to forget that the Palestinian people remain one of the largest and most long-standing displaced populations worldwide. Since the Nakba or catastrophe of 1948, millions of Palestinians have been displaced from their communities and survive today under harsh conditions of daily violence and oppression. The issues of migration, displacement, collective memory, inclusion and exclusion are thus deeply relevant to the Palestinian experience. We report here on a school-based mental health program, organized by the international NGO the Palestinian Medical Education Initiative and funded by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, which was carried out by the authors in a private school in East Jerusalem during the academic year 2015-2016. The program developed a number of trainings, programs, and workshops for the entire school staff, student body, and parents aimed at enhancing psychological resilience, resolving interpersonal conflict, and raising self-esteem among the school community as a whole. The mental health needs of specific youngsters with identified problems were also addressed individually. We describe in this presentation the program, its measured outcomes, and its implications.

049 Workshop

Shame as the Common Third – Reflexions on Sex Education in Groups of Minor Refugees

Helge Jannink (Germany)

Keywords: shame, refugees, sex education, groups

During my work as a sex pedagogue with groups of so-called unaccompanied minor refugees arises regularly a situation in which juveniles ask me to explain how “you [as Germans] handle it”. They address me as a representative of a group they consider different to themselves. And they regard me as someone who could make general statements about this group. A similar phenomenon appears during further training courses I hold for groups of professionals working with (young) refugees. They regularly ask me to explain, “how adolescents who fled are”. Thus, the idea of them being a homogenous group appears on this side, too. In addition some professionals consider refugees as especially shamefaced, so they assume it would be better not to talk to them about sexual issues – an argument also professionals happily lean on, who have the general task to work on sexual topics i.e. in school classes.

While it is not basically wrong to consider refugees as shamefaced when they meet ‘others’, professionals also tend to loose out of sight their own feelings of shame during this encounter.

In this workshop I would like to reflect on working encounters with or as refugees while discussing the function of shame. In connection with the topic of sexuality the two-sidedness of shame gets into focus – as on the one hand hiding and on the other hand producing intimacy – but plays it’s role in every encounter with ‘others’. The workshop gives room for an exchange about the concept of shame as a simultaneously separating and connecting phenomenon and its opportunities.

050 Paper Presentation

Rage (Capacitor/Thunderbolt Phenomena) and Reward in Groups: 1. Reward and Neuroscience

Konstantina Menouti (Greece), George Menoutis (Greece), Vassilis Menoutis (Greece)

Keywords: clinical work in group analysis: Reward, Brain Reward System, self

It is impressive the fact that a systematic occupation and research on Reward is absent in Group Psychotherapy in general including Group Analysis; especially when considering that, for some years, Sociology has looked into it and Neuroscience has defined not only the Reward System as-a-whole, but also its areas: Striatum, left Post-Central Gyrus, right Cingulate Cortex, right Ventro-Posterior Thalamus, right Occipital Cortex and Accumbens Nucleus.

This paper refers to beneficial circumstances that occur from rewarding, such as the therapeutic improvement through supporting, encouraging, understanding and praising, improved self-attitude, interest and attention and also intimacy. Furthermore, Reward is being investigated with regards to components, like process, structure, meta-structure and content (verbal and non-verbal) taking into account both the static-predefined and the dynamic-unforeseen dimensions as well as the time duration/frequency (instantaneous, short-medium-long term).

Its possible ineffectiveness or even its anti-therapeutic effect is being examined, too. Moreover, a special reference and research on the Voluntary Delay of Reward is considered significant. In addition, Reward is related with Self Theories. In our opinion, it constitutes a valuable therapeutic factor for the development of the Self under the – each time - right decisions and consequently a necessary requirement of the Therapeutic Alliance.

051 Paper Presentation

Rage (Capacitor/Thunderbolt Phenomena) and Reward in Groups: 2. Rage and Neuroscience

Vassilis Menoutis (Greece), George Menoutis (Greece), Konstantina Menouti (Greece)

Keywords: clinical work in group analysis: rage, reward, neuroscience, Condenser/Thunderbolt and Lightning Rod Phenomena

Rage constitutes a particular form of painful, eruptive, acute and primitive affect, evincing massive discharge-diffusion and arising from the unconscious as a result of narcissistic traumata connected with shame, envy etc. Such traumata are being experienced as external or internal threats and

attacks, thus allowing fears of annihilation to surface. Rage is unbounded, unforeseeable and uncontrollable.

Building on the Condenser Phenomenon, a work of S.H. Foulkes, we can achieve a further correlation between rage explosions, like 'volcanic' eruptions, and natural Capacitor/Thunderbolt Phenomena. Thus, we seek to explore the concept of the Capacitance of a human being.

Therapeutic passion for coping with rage presupposes:

i. The increased capacitance of group analysts to tolerate the passion of our patients/clients as well as our own passion, mirrored through the empathy-related mirror neurons. This passion must not be avoided through distancing.

ii. The constant and patient endeavour of group analysts to improve our patients/clients, returning to them the process and material of their provocations- explosions appropriately modified (6 types of Projective Identification) and arranging their charges like Lightning Rods.

In our opinion, it is of particular importance the combinational effect of Empathy and Reward correlated with Neuroscientific findings and data.

052 Paper Presentation

Rage (Capacitor/Thunderbolt Phenomena) and Reward in Groups: 3. Rage, "Koinonia" and Large Groups in Hellenic Armed Forces

George Menoutis (Greece), Vassilis Menoutis (Greece), Konstantina Menouti (Greece)

Keywords: clinical work in group analysis: rage. large groups, Koinonia, self-destructiveness

"Koinonia" is a monthly Large Group which started on December of 2003. Until today (November 2016) it has reached as many as 133 meetings and 1531 participants.

The manifestations of Extroversive Rage have always been remarkable. However, it should be noted that since 2010, when the financial destruction of the Hellenic State began, these manifestations have increased significantly. As a result, there were drop-outs, mostly because of conflicts between fanatics of political parties. These people came from the public and usually were proud of their democratic conscience but in the end, they had no relation with the democratic dialogue. Numerical data as well as typical examples of convenors coping with rage are given, especially in relation to Empathy, Reward and the Neuroscientific approach of all the phases of "Koinonia".

Four (4) years before there were manifestations of passive-Introversive Rage as (self-destruction) in the Hellenic Armed Forces. The organization of the handling this issue network (2007-2011) was based on the function of Large Groups in meetings of many hundreds in uniform in which the convenors, acting as Lightning Rods, facilitated appropriately the turning of rage towards the outside. The results have been impressive and their relevant numerical data are given.

053 Paper Presentation

Archetypes at Work: Using an Object in a Group-analytic Group

Alexandros Argyropoulos (Greece)

Keywords: archetypes, Jung, art, unconscious, nonverbal communication, therapeutic process

In Group-Analytic Group, language is the main form of communication among members and the therapist(s). This paper will examine the emergence of unconscious thoughts, feelings and fantasies in a Group-Analytic Group that has introduced art as an object and has used it periodically in its sessions. In interpreting the unconscious content of group and members' expression and interaction, as it emerges in the members' artwork, the paper will focus on examining the activation of Jungian archetypes.

The main questions that we will deal with are (a) the various archetypal events, figures and motifs that have been activated in the group's work; (b) the degree to which the emergence of the unconscious can be influenced, if at all, by the parallel activation of verbal and nonverbal communication; and, finally, (c) the therapeutic consequences from the activation of those archetypes for members and the group-as-a-whole.

054 Sub-plenary

The Development of Trainee and Trainer Group Therapists/Analysts during one Year of Group Analytic Training: a Process-outcome Study of Interpersonal Problems, Therapist Factors and Group Processes

Kai Leitemo (Norway), Hanne Vestbø (Norway)

Keywords: group-analytic training, process-outcome study of group-analytic training

We study trainees (n=53) and group conductors/leaders (n=8) as well as graduated students (n=12) over one year of group-analytic training in Norway. A selection of outcome measures as well as process and moderators were obtained in four waves. For the trainees, interpersonal problems decreased significantly over the period, and perspective-taking and online simulation (both different aspects of cognitive empathy) increased and decreased respectively, both significantly. There were no significant changes among the group conductors. Preliminary results show that both individual (trainee), group and group conductor's characteristics (factors) influence the change in interpersonal problems.

The group conductors with higher ego development and positive self-doubt as well as lower online empathy, achieved better results; the groups with lower interpersonal problems, online cognitive empathy and attachment anxiety, higher self-esteem, proximate affective empathy and attachment avoidance achieved better results; and the individual trainees with motivation to get something from the process (as opposed to satisfy training requirements), higher proximate affective empathy and lower online cognitive empathy and attachment anxiety, achieved better results. Group processes such as bonding and working alliance to group, members and leaders were significant and contributed to the observed change.

055 Paper Presentation

Feeling, Standing, Dreaming: Psychodynamic Observing Function and Therapeutic Effects in a Group for Cocaine Addiction

Silvia Formentin (Italy), Angelo Silvestri (Italy)

Keywords: observing function, psychodynamic group, cocaine addiction

The aim of current treatment models for cocaine dependence is oriented to offer to the patients a short-term therapy based on focus themes and strategies, to help them to be more efficient facing addiction problems. However, clinical experience shows that the feeling of efficiency is related to the use of cocaine.

The present work will examine a slow open group implemented eight years ago in a public facility in Italy. It will show how the psychodynamic model of group therapy can conduct the cocaine users to a more reflexive mindset and relinquish the illusion of power and efficiency.

The work focuses on the "observing function" as a therapeutic factor concerning „how“ the therapist enters into a relationship with the group. The aim is witnessing its clinical and therapeutic value and implications for the outcome of therapy. Initially, the "observing function" is operating inside of the therapist but changes along the process occurring during treatment, growing in all participants, allowing the acquisition of self-awareness. On a more strictly clinical level, the examination of some cases will highlight the change through the group. It will discuss the ways in which this capacity transmits and then used by the participants themselves.

056 Paper Presentation

How Many Sessions? With whom? Conjoint and Combined Therapy for Severe Personality Disorders

Angelo Silvestri (Italy), Lorenita Colombani (Italy), Maurizio Frassin (Italy), Alessandra Furin (Italy)

Keywords: clinical work, personality disorders, psychoanalytic group psychotherapy, conjoined and combined psychotherapy

People with severe personality disorders suffers from Self fragility, unstable mood, deep fear of abandonment and complexes dependency needs that make hard to attend regularly a psychotherapy for the time required for a deep change. The drop-out rate is usually very high.

We will describe a decennial experience of heterogeneous psychoanalytic group psychotherapy for patients with severe personal disorders integrated with individual psychotherapy from the same or another therapist, pharmacological support from a psychiatrist and family members treatment. Four situations are considered: inpatient group and individual psychotherapy; two sessions of group combined with one or two sessions of individual psychotherapy; one session of group combined with one session of individual psychotherapy; biweekly group psychotherapy conjoined with another individual psychotherapy.

The aim of this work is to discuss the setting's characteristics and criticality, the benefit of multiple relational modalities into the therapy, the specific meaning and value for these patients to experience a very containing situation, where to explore their inner worlds and relations reciprocally.

057 Workshop

Towards a New Group-Analytic Model

Konstantinos Morogiannis (Greece), Anastasios Koukis (Greece)

Keywords: group analysis, configuration, language, communication, power relations

The aim of this workshop is to attempt to show the way in which social groups, including the Group-Analytic ones, consist of configurations of individuals who are interdependent and interconnected. At the same time configurations are communicational fields with channels of communication creating a plexus between the individuals involved. The constraints between individuals and the concept of power differentials will be discussed in relation to the particular position an individual occupies within a given configuration. One of the subsequent factors to be explored includes power relations. Within such configurations, information is communicated some of which is hopefully mutative. Language, a symbol according to Elias, is important, here, within the context of post-structuralism as it precedes and preexists, thus, allowing an individual to be permeated by the social while simultaneously constructing the social. Configurations are subject to reconfigurations. An individual within a configuration is both socialized and individualized at the same time, as stated by Elias.

The presentation aims at contributing to the development of a Group-Analytic Paradigm by referring to the group description as was stated by Foulkes and developed by Dalal.

058 Workshop

Languaging our Internal Responses: Establishing the Foundations of Emotional Connection in Psychotherapy Groups

Joseph Acosta (USA)

Keywords: emotional communication, affect regulation, interpersonal neurobiology

In this workshop, we will explore developmental and functional aspects of the human nervous system and how these aspects may affect the capacity to engage emotionally in groups. We will review key interpersonal neurobiology concepts of Stephen Porges, Daniel Hill, Allan Schore and Iain McGilchrist. As the highlights of the theories of these authors are reviewed, we will look at ways of developing the foundations of affectively engaged psychotherapy groups.

This workshop will focus on an interpersonal neurobiology perspective of developing emotional safety in groups, particularly what might be necessary to establish what Stephen Porges calls the social engagement system. In addition, we will look at self-regulation, co-regulation and group regulation of emotional states. Throughout the workshop, we will focus on how understanding our neurobiology can help clinicians and group members develop more dynamic and effective psychotherapy groups.

Key group concepts of bridging, emotional communication and emotional insulation will be covered during the workshop.

This workshop will include a demonstration group to apply the concepts discussed. The demonstration group will consist of 10 volunteers from the workshop participants. After the demonstration group, all workshop participants will have an opportunity to talk about their experiences. At the end of the workshop, all participants will have an opportunity to ask questions about the material covered and the demonstration group experience.

060 Sub-plenary Research

Research on Therapeutic Alliance during the Course of Dyadic Psychotherapy in an Outpatient Group Analytic Psychotherapeutic Center

Dimitris Livas (Greece), G. Gioukakis (Greece), A. Kakouri (Greece), K. Lianos (Greece), I. K. Tsegos (Greece)

Keywords: Therapeutic Alliance, psychotherapeutic process, rupture & repair cycle

The Therapeutic Alliance affects and shapes the course of the therapeutic process and outcome. Once structured and reinforced early into therapy, it constitutes a favorable prognostic factor of outcome, across different psychotherapeutic approaches.

Our research was focused on whether the above findings are valid for the Dyadic type of Psychotherapy, which is practiced in a Group-Analytic Outpatient Psychotherapy Center (OPC) as preparation phase for long term group analytic psychotherapy. The aim of our study was to investigate whether and to what extent the Therapeutic Alliance contributes to the final psychotherapeutic outcome, by enhancing the patients' consistency and reinforcing their motivation towards a favorable collaboration with their therapists.

Methodology: the Working Alliance Inventory Short Version was administered to a random sample of 43 adult patients and therapists at two different phases of Dyadic Psychotherapy (at the 4th and 8th session).

Results: Our research confirms the finding that the Therapeutic Alliance constitutes a significant factor that reinforces the therapeutic progress. It also confirms the existence of the developmental cycle of "Rupture-Repair" of the alliance. Further findings suggest that the above developmental cycle begins in the very first sessions, contrary to the widely accepted theoretical perception that it appears at later, more mature stages of therapy. Therapists should give priority to the immediate processing and repair of possible ruptures as part of the therapeutic process, otherwise running the risk to endanger a positive longevity of the therapy and the overall therapeutic outcome.

061 Paper Presentation

Northfield Reloaded

Cosmin Chita (Switzerland)

Keywords: Northfield, Bion, Rickman, Foulkes, war, matrix

75 years after Northfield (1942) will be a good time to think about it not only as a „myth of creation“ (T. Harrison). Starting from a merely incidental remark from Marina Mojovic about the “survival skills for disrupted matrices” in Northfield and under consideration of recent group analytical concepts (“soldier matrix” – Robi Friedman, “groups leaking container” – Haim Weinberg) I will try to describe Northfield not only as a welcome extension of the psychoanalytical method, but as a necessary development in order to integrate “the internal representation of the social” (Foulkes) into the therapeutic field.

I will dare a threesome approach. First about the role of psychiatry in wartime, considering the social effects of the general conscription in Great Britain 1939 and the rather paradoxal effects of the “Blitz”. Second about the conflictual relation of the psychoanalytical mainstream and the concept of war neurosis, under consideration of the Freud-Klein-controversies, with Rickman and Foulkes as participants. Third, considering the former attempts of therapeutic implementation in inward settings (Jung, Ferenczi, Simmel, Menninger and Tosquelles), with regard of the “meaning in action” (Foulkes) of a therapy for the group through the group.

Further, under consideration of our “insecure world” (M. Nitsun) and the new pathology of “break down” (A. Ehrenberg, B. Chul-Han, M. Dornes) there is a lot what we still can learn from Northfield.

062 Paper Presentation

Philosophy and Catastrophe Events: Reading Philosophy Text in a Group, Interpersonal Conflict and Effective Communication

Roit Dahan (Israel)

Keywords: practical philosophy, bibliotherapy, group dialogue, free floating communication, freedom, meaning of life, Holocaust survivors, traumatic experiences

One of the main goals of philosophy inquiry is finding the way to happiness and a good life. The investigation of the truth in a group should lead the participant to reflect on their emotions and thoughts and achieve a strong human nature.

This lecture presents how reading philosophical texts and discussing them in a group enable the participants to conduct a dialogue that gives meaning to internal conflicts emerging out of traumatic experiences. In this group the participants experience different levels of communication. Consequently, they can gain objective validation to their subjectivity and increase freedom and cognitive flexibility. This process enables inner transformation as well as an effective communication and brings new meaning to their life.

In order to exemplify these ideas, I describe a group meeting of Holocaust survivors that took place in the Amcha Center for psychological and social support for Holocaust survivors and their families in Tel-Aviv.

063 Workshop (*please see Abstract Part 2 on page 88*)

Workshop on Psychoanalysis and Group Analysis

Peter Potthoff (Germany), Michael Lacher (Germany), Fotini Tilkeridou-Wolf (Germany), Dominique Mylona (Greece), Nikos Lamnidis (Greece), Sofia Maria Moraitu (Greece)

Keywords: Potthoff: cross-fertilization psychoanalysis-group analysis, intersubjectivity, elaboration of Foulkes theory, modernization of group analysis;

Mylona, Lamnidis, Moraitu: history of group analysis in Greece, connection of group analysis to psychoanalytic institutions, integration of contemporary psychoanalytic developments into Group Analysis

Group analysis and contemporary intersubjective/relational psychoanalytic theories: natural partners in thought?!

Although group analysis was originally devised by psychoanalysts both disciplines have drifted apart over the last seventy years due to divergences in theory and political differences. The author contends that group analysis and some intersubjective/relational currents in contemporary psychoanalysis show a considerable degree of overlap and possible cross-fertilization with group analysis. In his 1948 book Foulkes initiated intersubjective theorizing without really refining it in his later writings. Conversely, American intersubjective analysts and post-Bionian analysts – obviously not knowing Foulkes - created a theory of intersubjectivity that bears close resemblance to group analysis, in a way constituting an elaboration of Foulkesian theory for individual psychoanalysis. Central concepts like the jointly created analytic field, which implies the embeddedness of the analyst and the principle of co-construction, the importance of dissociation and enactment etc. could be fruitfully used for a modernized, refined group analytic theory. The very detailed case descriptions of psychoanalysis that include considerable revelation of countertransference issues may also guide group analytic publications. Conversely, psychoanalysis could benefit from a group analytic perspective that takes into account the “groupishness” of human beings, the importance of historical and cultural context and the importance of group phenomena for psychoanalytic institutions.

065 Workshop

Reflexive Group Supervision: an Affect Focused Model

Robert M. Moore (Ireland), Kathleen Hubbs Ulman (USA)

Keywords: supervision reflection, affect focus

Group supervision can facilitate depth of self-awareness, breadth of theoretical understanding and focus of practical interventions. This workshop, for supervisors and supervisees, will present a Process Framework for Reflexive Supervision that gives participants an opportunity to enhance their emotional, cognitive, and practical intelligence.

This workshop will include: an overview of the Process Framework, a demonstration of a reflexive supervision group and discussion of the demonstration group with sharing of insights and challenges. Attention will be paid to the application of learning to participants' experiences as supervisor or supervisee.

At the outset, the process framework is organized around a verbal presentation of affective material related to the supervisory case. The presenter then steps back and the group free associates to the case material. The presenter then rejoins the group and responds to the groups' material. The factual details of the case are then presented and integrated into the larger discussion. At the end, the leader asks the presenter how this supervisory experience will inform his/her future work with the group.

066 Paper Presentation

Patients with Cancer in Analytic Groups

Ioannis Nikolis (Greece), Anastasia Patrikiou (Greece), Fotios Giotakis (Greece)

Keywords: patients with cancer, psychosomatic medicine

Literature regarding cancer patients in Analytic Groups is limited. On the other hand there is extensive bibliography that supports the psychosomatic consideration of cancer. Besides, another corpus of knowledge refers the psychosomatic contributions and innovations regarding psychotherapeutic applications in somatic illness.

This paper describes the reason for starting psychotherapy, the therapeutic process, the achievements and changes during therapy as well as the outcome of seven (7) patients with cancer in Analytic Groups. These data are discussed in association with psychosomatic theories and practice. The reason for starting psychotherapy was the link that patients made between cancer, behavior and life events. During therapy they worked through themes of separation, care for self, mentalization and expression of negative affects. The results are very promising since 5 of them had no relapse and they returned to work and continuing their daily activities. One dropped out and one member died.

Our findings support the psychosomatic consideration of cancer and the use of Group Analytic Psychotherapy for patients with neoplastic diseases.

067 Paper Presentation

Death in an Analytic Group

Ioannis Nikolis (Greece), Anastasia Patrikiou (Greece), Fotios Giotakis (Greece)

Keywords: death, separation, purpose of life

Literature regarding deaths of members in Analytic Groups is limited although Death as a theme in psychotherapy has been widely discussed.

This paper describes the death of a member in an Analytic Group. A 32 years old woman with malignant melanoma, joined the group because of her difficulties in expressing negative emotions and her tendency to be "good", amiable and cooperative. She herself considered that cancer was a consequence of these personality traits.

During group analytic therapy she developed strong relations with the members and started changes especially in themes of self esteem and the expression of negative feelings. But unfortunately the melanoma relapsed, her health worsened and she finally died.

During the last sessions in which she participated the group helped her in a very tender way helping her to sustain a sense of purpose of life to better cope with the consequences of cancer.

After her death, the group dealt with this difficult separation as a defining event and spent time working through its meaning and feelings. Repressed separations involving other members emerged and the group proceeded in a new more mature period.

068 Paper Presentation

Endings and Loss in Mergers and Acquisitions: an Exploration of Group Analytic Theory **Corina Grace (Ireland)**

Keywords: mergers and acquisition, inclusion and exclusion, change and culture, loss & mourning

This paper is about an applied piece of consulting work I was asked to do on a merger and acquisition of two global organisations (East meets West) in the Irish Market. This Paper aims to discuss how

group analytic and psychodynamic theory and concepts can contribute to our understanding of what is activated at a human level during mergers and acquisitions (M&As), focusing particularly on endings and loss. The hope is that this understanding will better equip those of us working in the field to deliver a more 'regenerative' than 'murderous' outcome. My view is that such theory can offer unique insights into human behavior at an unconscious level, in an organization experiencing major change. And through the gaining of these deeper insights into the inner turmoil generated by such change, people may be helped to navigate the tricky terrain of the unconscious and become better equipped to heal and move forward in their own and their organization's development.

069 Paper Presentation

Across the River of Desire: the Frailty of Working with the Other

Roberta Mineo (Italy), Mona Rakhawy (Egypt)

Keywords: encounter, rivalry, inclusion-exclusion, polarity, complementarity

The encounter of two individuals may trigger several dynamics: it may either engender discovery of distances, mutual alienation and struggle for survival, or bring opportunities of integration, investment of complementarity and creativity (Morin, 2007). This study is conducted by two professionals from different backgrounds on both geographical/cultural (Italy and Egypt) and professional levels (organizations and medicine), yet they both work in the education field, run groups and focus on transformation.

Moving from the analysis of differences in their epistemological models, professional practice and theories of settings, this paper attempts to unveil the fundamental (unconscious) endeavors that lies beneath rivalry and competition when two colleagues attempt to 'work together'. In particular, this paper moves from two training experiences that both professionals have shared, both in the role of convener and attendee. Such experiences are presented and discussed, also in the tradition of Lacan's analysis of signifiers (1968). But unlike conventional psychodynamic work, such analysis aims at designing and planning a new intervention of professional 'togetherness'. In fact, the presenters also introduce and comment the first phases of their journey toward conducting an organization consultancy course in Egypt. A distinct understanding of the underlying institutional dynamics are at basis of the design and implementation of such OC program (Anzieu, 1984; Kaes 2009). Polarities, competitiveness, multicultural questions are all benchmarks of this new program: the ultimate goal being to comprehend, elaborate, and find ways toward constructive collaboration.

070 Workshop

Closing Borders and Opening Boundaries

Roberta Mineo (Italy), Andreas Silva (Sweden)

Keywords: political, transpersonal, boundaries, protectionism, complexity

An open mind is one that is prepared to be influenced by the experiences, perspectives and beliefs of others. One that embraces continuous and diverse solutions and dreads 'purity'. In a world that is not likely to thrive on simple answers, but desperately seems to be seeking them, what are the paths to increasing complexity and uncertainty? Is that even desirable?

This workshop offers a chance to the participants to experience one's own boundaries, challenging them with the potentials of encountering the Other. Focus will be on curiosity, on surprise, on the ideas of being affected and 'touched'.

Starting from the individual's plexus (Foulkes, 1975) we will move to the institutional dimension and the political transpersonal (Di Maria & Lo Verso, 1995): that's where we can explore each others' "shrinking" tendencies, the defensive mechanisms of protectionism and reductionism (Kaes & Enriquez 2011). We shall use a 'contaminated' paradigm that intertwines a "liquid society" (Bauman, 2012) with group relations work (Aram et al., 2015).

We welcome you in challenging boundaries of acceptance and resistance to the unknown, of compassion and curiosity to what can be embraced and introjected, and what can be indigestible.

071 Paper Presentation

Exploring Sexuality by Means of Visual Depiction of Dreams in Group Analytically Oriented Art Psychotherapy

Konstantinos Liolios (Greece)

Keywords: immigrant/refugee, ego identity, basic human rights, solidarity

Despite the fact that it is generally agreed that sexuality has a profound and prominent effect upon one's psychopathology, as far as group psychotherapy is concerned, sexuality issues are usually neglected or hardly touched. There is this notion that due to a perceived lack of safety, groups cannot be trusted with the most vulnerable and intimate aspects of self. Sexuality is a sensitive subject, often difficult to address openly and honestly, especially in cases of problematic nature, but when the obstacles against sexual disclosure are overcome, then good therapeutic perspectives are offered. The visual depiction of a dream may present both the manifest and the latent content of the dream, while free associations can be traced upon the paper as well. In the group, the presence of a greater audience allows for the enhancement of wider meaning-generation processes, adding the group and the social dimensions. The visual depiction of dreams in group analytically oriented art psychotherapy context ("dream depicting") and its conscious processing ("dream reflecting") are vital components of the whole process, especially when dealing with sexuality issues. Some basic topics considered are:

- The management of traumatic events of the past (both real and fantasized ones), especially those of sexual nature, by means of the healing capacity of artistic expression.
- The improvement in dealing with difficulties with the actual experience of one's sexuality.
- The social influence upon the internal and individual nature of sexuality.

The presentation is going to be supported by rich clinical material.

072 Paper Presentation

Solidarity and Understanding: an Attempt to Approach the Immigrant/Refugee Psychological Condition

Konstantinos Liolios (Greece)

Keywords: Immigrant/refugee, ego identity, basic human rights, solidarity

E.H. Erikson's concept of "ego identity" (1968, p. 211) considers the individual's childhood experiences, societal circumstances and "sameness of self through time" having varying feelings and thoughts in different situations, but still remaining the same continuous person, with a past, present and anticipated future. The immigrant/refugee meets a new society, where he/she seems to be compelled to compare and question the homeland identity and a state of incongruence usually occurs. Any form of severe trauma may be expected to cause a feeling or condition of "not knowing who one is". Faced with a new value system that may be different from his/her own, the immigrant/refugee is forced to compare and question values on a conscious or unconscious level. Probably, the values and traditions of the homeland have little or no meaning for inhabitants in the new, and may sometimes even be considered ridiculous or wrong. Rootlessness is reported to be experienced as having "no ground or base" and appears to be an unconscious, wordless feeling that seems to cause serious mental anguish. A person can become enveloped by bitterness, which often seems to be underpinned by deep disappointment and sorrow, which the individual is unconscious of, or cannot express. Suspicion and prejudice are easily raised upon meeting the unknown. Immigrants/refugees may already feel the lack of self-confidence, lowered self-esteem, passivity, helplessness and self-hatred to which scapegoating gives rise. A better understanding of the immigrant/refugee psychological condition, in conjunction with a strong support of basic human rights can defend the coherence and solidarity of our societies.

073 Sub-plenary Research

Crossing Identities: the Birth of New Potential Self Configurations in the Adolescent Group Treatment. A Qualitative Research

Angela Sordano (Italy)

Keywords: self, intersubjectivity, adolescents, group, qualitative research

The Self Psychology focuses the attention on the co-creation of developing relational experiences and considers the Self strictly linked to the intersubjective field.

The personal Self is normally composed of two aspects: the biological and the phenomenological. The first nucleus is linked to the biological motivational systems, while the phenomenological is linked to the Self States deriving from the interpersonal contexts.

Our work will treat the clinical changes of two adolescents treated through a setting able to mix a group analytic approach with role-playing and the intersubjective psychological perspective.

The goal is to demonstrate how the intersubjective process in the group crosses individual identities favouring the birth of new configurations in the personal self, a better differentiation Self-other, the ability to move through triadic relational patterns and the change of the Self image.

To codify these qualitative aspects will be used a scale based on the categorization of the different levels in the Self-Other differentiation (Blatt e al.2010) and some reports about the use of an observational tool elaborated toward the department of Psychology in Turin, Italy (Sordano, Guarnaccia, Molina, Nives, 2015).

074 Paper Presentation

Twin phenomena during a transformation process

Anneli Bittner (Germany)

Keywords: intersubjectivity, dreams, psychosis, clinical group

The development of a clinical out-patient analytic group over a period of six months will be presented.

Based on twin phenomena in dreaming and dreamtelling, the influence of real and transference twin-experiences on the dynamic matrix with the appearance of diffuse ego boundaries vs. wishes for complementarity will be proved.

And it is demonstrated how projective mechanisms of psychotic transference and countertransference help the group in dealing with deep issues by intersubjectively connecting with the psychotic experience of one participant.

It will be shown that the use of the transpersonal is beneficial in these intense situations of permeability and reciprocity and therefore for the treatment of severe psychic disorders.

075 Workshop

The Near Impossibility of “We”

Adrienne Candy (Ireland), Eve-Marie Kimmerling (Ireland)

Keywords: applied group analysis, team conflict, containment, boundaries, social unconscious, dynamic administration

The workshop presenters recently presented the basis of this workshop at an IGAS study day in Dublin. Without knowing, the presenters were separately contracted to work with a team in a Voluntary Organisation that works on the borders of society with those considered as other.

The team was deep in conflict. Us and them dynamics prevailed between management and staff.

There was high staff attrition and people left the organisation in destructive ways. There were formal and informal investigations based on identifying who was at fault. Several staff members and managers were excluded, marginalised and blamed as they carried the mantle of other for the group. The presenters informal collaboration, initially by breaking the normal borders of confidentiality, became an important container that helped to put seemingly impossible team conversations on the table. This helped to create an environment where different perspectives could be considered, in the societal context of the team's work, rather than judgement and marginalisation being the default reactive position.

The workshop will outline how we applied Group Analysis to this assignment and introduce exercises and educational models used. We will invite thinking and feeling associations from workshop participants, encouraging reflection and dialogue on the professional situations they have encountered and where the controversial crossing of borders helped to create the possibility of We.

076 Paper Presentation

Queering the Social Unconscious: an Exploration of the Transgender Zeitgeist

Anne-Marie Cummins (United Kingdom)

Keywords: queer theory, social unconscious, sexual difference

There are 71 options available to subscribers on Facebook to describe their sexual identity and gender orientation. The purpose of this paper is to offer some introductory thoughts on the unconscious social dynamics of the transgender 'tipping point' and the entry into mainstream culture of multiple sexual identities organised around some notion of gender fluidity, intersexuality or transsexuality. The paper seeks to describe and understand the social and cultural moment when the topic of trans-sexualities became widely visible. It asks whether and how changes in the social unconscious have made this moment possible. If we begin from the proposition that the social visibility of non-binary sexualities is also telling us something about transpersonal processes in social systems, then it follows that any such analysis of the 'queering' of the social unconscious will need to link the relationship between culture and the social efflorescence of sexual categories with what this might be telling us about the refusal of hard differences in the wider social matrix and with the way in the acceptance of multiple sexual identities has become a way of articulating the presence of shared anxieties, defences and fantasies about unlimited potential for intense mutual recognition. The paper goes on to consider the trauma of sexual difference and the impossibility of transcending this: however, many sexual categories are identified the binary remains.

078 Workshop

Strangers in the Same Homeland

Kalliopi Panagiotopoulou (Greece)

Keywords: inclusion, exclusion, double outsiders, isolation, chosen trauma, Winston Parva community

After 1923 Lausanne Treaty, Greece accepted Greek refugees from Asia Minor. Their hopes for a new home in the country they shared long lasting stable national bonds were bitterly erased. Greek citizens confronted them as threatening foreigners and excluded them from the community as an extrinsic menace to their own welfare, forcing them to isolation. Hence, they felt like double outsiders. Even though they had their national identity, language and religion in common, it was difficult to be included in the Greek society because of differences regarding everyday life and financial interests that occurred during their evolution in Asia Minor, as a result of the adaptation process to social and environmental conditions. The cohesion within the two subgroups and the power game between them resembles to 'Winston Parva' community. Factors enabling their incorporation were the adoption of new roles, similar musical modes, culinary recipes, marriage and funeral traditions, love affairs, the need to belong. The alteration in the way of thinking of the new generation-which bearing the 'chosen trauma' functioned in the present- resulted in a unifying assimilation of diverse aspects, leading to inclusion and prosperity.

079 Paper Presentation

Crossing the Borders of Therapeutic Languages

Leah Chaikin (Israel)

Keywords: bibliotherapy, children, languages, location, metaphores

Bibliotherapy is psychotherapy using texts (like stories, poems, projective play), in which: we leave the here-and-now and, through the story, enter other spaces; and move with a third voice, the text, to another place and time. This process allows access to deep areas in our souls, to an internal world rich with metaphors and symbolic motives - the space where the treatment takes place.

In contrast, Group Analysis focuses on the interactions between group members. Although these interactions bring memories, transferences, projections, thoughts and a wide and deep unconsciousness, the center of the work is the here-and-now of the meeting itself.

Are the two approaches at odds with each other? Do we take the occurrences in the room to a distant time and space, or focus on the on-going relationships - sometimes complicated and painful? In my experience, a border-crossing dialogue between Bibliotherapy and Group Analysis happens, in the room and inside me, a therapist who works with both languages. How does such an integrated therapy, using two parallel languages, work? How do my group analytic studies influence my bibliotherapeutic practice?

I will apply Foulkes' concept of Location. Location presupposes that the conductor divines the language and metaphors with which the group speaks at any one moment. Only by speaking with the group in that same language, using the group's metaphors, can he be properly understood.

In the paper, I will present my work, using a few examples from my experience in a special-education school conducting groups for 12- year-old boys with complicated learning disabilities.

080 Workshop

From Babel to Polyphony – Group Analytic Dictionary

Rachel Abramovicz Chejanovsky (Israel), Svein Tjelta (Norway), Marina Mojovic (Serbia), Carmen O'Leary (United Kingdom)

Keywords: Group Analytic concepts, project, dictionary

The Group Analytic Society founded by Foulkes and his associates has developed into a huge mosaic of views, theories and practices that although Group Analytic in essence, have also their own nuances.

It is in the midst of this situation that the need for a Group Analytic Dictionary has become apparent.

The project conceived and started by Soeren Aagard and some of his Scandinavian colleagues together with Robi Friedman, is now led by Svein Tjelta and supported by the Group Analytic Society. An organisational and management structure has already been set up.

A short Progress Report on the last developments has been published in Contexts (2016).

The aim of the workshop is to bring to awareness of the group analytic community the usefulness of a GA dictionary, and to stimulate motivation to join the project.

The first part of the workshop will be experiential consisting of exercises that will aim to encourage creative thinking focused on the challenges of the project. There will also be a short formal presentation on the work carried out so far.

The second part of the workshop will consist of a discussion on the most relevant Group Analytic concepts, particularly those related to the main theme of the Symposium.

The emphasis will be on participation and joint thinking.

081 Workshop

"Life without music would be a mistake" (Nietzsche)

Oded Handel (Israel), Elad Tammy (Israel)

Keywords: Foulkes, music, emotion processing, resonance

Music and group analysis are both fundamentally concerned with emotions, and above all with the communication of emotions.

It was Foulkes who said : "I feel like a conductor but I don't know in the least what music will be played".

In a 3-hours workshop we will explore and experience Foulkes idea by listening together to some pieces of music which will be brought by members of the group.

We will try to create a musical matrix including resonance to the music itself and deal with the unconscious of the individuals and the group.

Participants of the group will be invited to express feelings, associations and memories through the music and to the music.

Participants, who would like to bring to the workshop a piece of music of their choice that relate in

any-way to the theme of symposium – „crossing borders „, are requested to do it on their smart phone.

082 Workshop

Diversity Aware Work with Groups of Children in Institutions of Early Day Care (0-3 years)

Ute Schaich (Germany)

Keywords: diversity aware work, day nurseries, migration-related heterogeneity

For a scientific and action-oriented understanding of children under three years in families and institutions, we need an approach which is based on a critical reflection of the conditions of growing up in society and on a thorough consideration of how children deal, psychologically speaking, with the experiences they gain in families and institutions. This is because public offers in terms of education and child care do not always compensate class- or origin-related disadvantages but reinforce social inequality on their part if qualitative aspects go short.

Against this background, concepts of working at day nurseries will be presented by means of an introductory lecture from the perspective of migration-related heterogeneity. Moreover, hints will be given for putting these ideas into practice. It will be shown how students of Social Work can qualify for this through research in practice. Following a further discussion, we will have the opportunity to reflect exemplary cases presented by the participants with the help of group-analytical supervision.

083 Paper Presentation

A People's Migration Journey: to the Promised Land?

Tamar Eyni Lehman (Israel)

Keywords: migration, identity construction, collective memory, co-conduction, promised land, Group Analysis Therapy

The lecture tells the story of one of the first groups in ancient time: the creation of the people of Israel's group identity, while migrating from the land of bondage to the Promised Land, focusing on the co-conduction of Moses and God. This co-facilitation encounters all sorts of difficulties and obstacles, some between the conductors themselves, and leads to mutual growth in their interpersonal relationship. Their ability to help and complete each other allows the group establish its own identity and expand their mental and physical boundaries.

The lecture is based on the Exodus story, still present in the collective memory of the Jewish people as well as in other cultures. As such, it crosses national or religious boundaries.

As a professional, I suggest another perspective to the known narrative: referring to the immigrating nation as a dynamic and process task group, including concepts from psychodynamic therapy and group analysis therapy.

AS a result, one might, perhaps, remember groups he knows, look back at himself as a facilitator, an analyst, or a member of a group, in the group context of his or her life, entering the wonderful, painful and enriching story of Moses, God and the immigrating people.

084 Workshop

Experiential Workshop: Transgenerational Perspectives in Women life (EATGA Methodology)

Giovanna Cantarella (Italy), Bettina Fink (Austria)

Keywords: gender, transculture, transformation

Participants of the transcultural group will be invited to share their experience on the transformation of their families from past generations to the present, thus acknowledging how social, economic, political, historical, psychological, religious background and traumatic experience has influenced their present life.

In the developing group process we will focus on how different cultures have influenced consciously and unconsciously individual and social life.

Working with these past processes in the present transcultural group will allow to develop new perspectives on daily life and to reflect on the influence of globalization on women's life and values.

(max 15 participants)

085 Paper Presentation

Beyond Faiths and Values: a Catholic Institution in a Muslim Society

Roberta Mineo (Italy), Hind Zahdeh (Palestine)

Keywords: dialogue, inter-religious, complexity, Christian-Muslim, research

This work aims at ‘crossing borders’ focusing on the challenges and criticalities of an inter-religious institution. It also crosses boundaries of disciplines and research models, by addressing the topic through the complexity paradigm (Morin, 2014) ‘Complex thought’ refers to the integration of diverse forms of research and theories (Ceruti, 1996). It also refers to the intertwined relation between object and subject of study: a crucial characteristic of complex thought is the inclusion of stakeholders in defining research objectives and strategies. Specifically, this study presents a short research program run at the Bethlehem University in Palestine, on how inter-religious dialogue is carried out within a Catholic educational institution that operates in a widely Muslim society. The aim of the study was to investigate on and reflect upon the institutional mission of “perseverance and courage in the face of adversity and injustice”, together with some specific stakeholders of the university, namely students and faculty. The research team conducted three focus groups of students (one representing the 23% of student Christian population, and two the Muslim students); it also carried in-depth interviews to selected faculties (esp. deans and heads of programs). Analysis of qualitative data is made through an ethnographic method of text and content analysis of the transcripts. The team put a special emphasis into the analysis of gender issues, as 62% of academics are males whereas only 22% are male students.

The study is an attempt to true ‘action-research’, co-constructing new knowledge and helping stakeholders understand and incorporate the results learned in the research.

086 Paper Presentation

The Pie: the Struggle of Women to Emerge from the Background and Occupy a Space of their Own

Liat Ariel (Israel)

Keywords: alienation, oppression, ineffective communication, environment -mother, silenced feelings, recognition, belonging, interpersonal and intrapersonal freedom

Mothers, in their nurturing and care taking capacity, struggle with their status as real, internalized and phantasmal objects of gender (J. Benjamin). This struggle often goes unnoticed, but manifested in continuous alienation, a sense of oppression and ineffective communication.

A vignette from an analytic group will be used to present the difficulty in substituting the stance of a selfless ‘environment-mother’ (D. Winnicott) by a stance of presence, where refusal out of concern for one’s self and for one’s relations is possible. The discussion will elaborate on the way in which the group dealt with the tendency to be a passive and pleasing ‘object’.

Group work turned around the heroic yet victimizing story of a mother, who brings a homemade pie to a family event. She ends up with her feet immersed in spilled oil and her bleeding hand lifted up, a grotesque statue of liberty. The image provided a painful mirror that resonated with the group members’ own silenced feelings.

An attitude emphasizing relationship and pleasure was revitalized in the group. This, in turn, made it possible to explore positioning oneself as a ‘subject’, experiencing recognition, belonging, and enhanced interpersonal and intrapersonal freedom.

087 Sub-plenary Research

Supervisors’ Experiences of Evaluating Psychotherapy Trainees

Elizabeth O’Connor (Ireland)

Keywords: supervision, evaluation, supervisor-anxiety

Supervision is an integral component of psychotherapy training. The group supervisor has the task of establishing and sustaining both the supervisory relationship and the group as the context for the supervisee’s learning and developing clinical practice. At the same time the supervisor must manage the task of evaluation over the course of the supervisee’s training which may involve vulnerabilities and developmental crises. Research has shown that the potentially contradictory demands of this

advocacy-evaluation tension, likened by some to an experience of being between Scylla and Charybdis, can result in supervisor evaluation-anxiety and lead to failures in effective evaluation. The psycho-dynamic processes in group analytic supervision have been written about extensively but little has been written about how supervisors carry out the task of evaluation from a training/ educational perspective. What might an educational model of supervision have to contribute to group analytic supervision as a cross-cultural rather than counter-cultural development?

In this paper the results of a qualitative research study of supervisors' experiences of evaluating, undertaken as part of an MSc in Clinical Supervision, Trinity College, Dublin, will be presented. Some issues arising will be highlighted and discussed in relation to their relevance to supervision practice in group analytic training.

088 Sub-plenary

Crossing Borders in Group Analytic Training – Round Table with: EGATIN, GASI, IAGP and EFPP

Paula Carvalho, Chair of EGATIN

Jutta Gliem (EGATIN), Robi Friedman (GASI), Kate Bradshaw Tauvon (IAGP),

Ulrich Schultz-Venrath (EFPP)

Keywords: Group Analytic essential training standards, international standards, mutual recognition, international cooperation

'Crossing Borders in Group Analytic Training' EGATIN' Sub Plenary Sessions 1 and 2-Round Table with: EGATIN, GASI, IAGP and EFPP The European Group Analytic Training Institutions Network (EGATIN), has been represented and involved during the last few years in a series of meetings and contacts, with other organizations, European, American and International, to discuss issues pertaining to training standards in group psychotherapy.

At the present time, EGATIN is in a process of reflection upon new perspectives in Group Analytic training regarding transfer, convictions and values of training standards.

EGATIN would like to foster the exchange with GASI, IAGP, EFPP (and hopefully in the future, with other organizations) and invites representatives of these three international, non-certification organizations, for an open Round Table discussion in order to create a crossing-border-think tank, about the issues:

- How can we define and transfer international standards to group therapists and therapeutic practice in order to come to mutual recognition?
- For which kind of reasons do we want or have to move away from our own standards?
- How far are we able to/interested in integrating different approaches and cultures in analytic group therapy?
- Do we need further international certificates or would it be better to acknowledge difference and diversity in different (training) cultures as inspiring platforms by mutual exchange? Could we work in a kind of partnership? What are the needs and interest of developing countries for standards, diplomas and certificates in GT and/or GA?

089 Paper Presentation

The Therapist Facing the Group. Theoretical and Clinical Reflections

Mário David (Portugal)

Keywords: addictive patients, group analysis, group analyst, narcissistic personalities

The therapist has a huge influence over the dynamics of the Group (Matrix). Besides his personal analysis in a group setting, training and supervision, there are the personal and psychological characteristics (mental and emotional) which are organized around his Personality and Character's traits features which conditions his own affective/emotional and mental capabilities (empathy, internal availability, curiosity, acceptance of others and their differences, etc.) that he displays, offers and interacts with each member of the group.

The author presents a brief and succinct review over the different perspectives from the main authors, from group-analytic references and other trends. Afterwards he presents a personal reflection over some problems faced by a group-analytic therapist when he deals with different types of pati-

ents with addictions and personality disorders (narcissism) in a group and what are the disposition and attitudes with each one of them, illustrated with some clinical notes over these difficult patients.

090 Sub-plenary Working with Children

Children's Therapy in Groups

Klelia Galani (Greece), Bessy Karagianni (Greece), Thalys Papadakis (Greece),
I. K. Tsegos (Greece)

Keywords: children's group therapy, adolescents' group therapy, parents' groups,
group analysis, identified patient, growth, developmental stages, day center

During the last 30 years, children's and adolescents' groups are operating in the Child and Family Therapy Department of Open Psychotherapy Centre (OPC).

The Skynnerian Open-Systems approach and the Foulkesian group-analytic approach to the group (giving emphasis both to communication/interaction and relations in the here and now -MATRIX- of the group), have formed an original therapeutic scheme, which concerns both the operational framework of the groups and their way of functioning.

The paper describes this type of therapy where the patients are treated in parallel with their parents (conjoint/multifactorial). Children participate in a weekly multiple-activities group and adolescents participate in a psychodrama group, while parents attend a fortnightly or monthly group. Both groups are conducted by pairs of co-therapists.

The goal of this treatment scheme is the growth and development of the two parts in a new mode of relationships (mobilization of the healthy potential, practice of social skills, dealing with the deficiencies through the developmental stages, differentiation of both, children and parents etc). Finally, special emphasis is given to staff meetings, where the group mind of the therapists unifies the entire therapeutic system.

091 Paper Presentation

Travelling like a Refugee: a Large Group Experience

Valerie Preston (Ireland)

Keywords: regression, identity, attacks on linking, containment, trauma, acceptance

We traveled from Ireland to volunteer with Syrian refugees in Greece this year. There were obstacles to overcome before we were accepted as volunteers on a small Greek island near Turkey.

We were unable to find official contacts. We had little information. We were unsure if we were in the right place. We felt uncertain. We feared we would be rejected. This experience appeared to mirror some aspects of the refugees journey.

It took three days for us to find the refugee centre once on the island. Three volunteers per shift had simple tasks. Our main role was to distribute food to 100 refugees.

The unconscious dynamics of this large group meant there was regression, experienced as ,attacks on linking', regularly ,forgetting' how to complete simple tasks. The mostly unspoken traumas of the refugees seemed to generate forces of destruction. The boundaries were continuously being tested and containment felt fragile. Survival instincts were evident as the kitchen was broken in to and food stolen. There were language barriers and a sense of anonymity for volunteers and refugees alike. Identity felt precarious.

092 Workshop

Do Teachers Need or Want Group Analysis?

Joan Fogel (United Kingdom), Belinda Moller (Ireland)

Keywords: teachers, education, reflective practice, Balint, exclusion

Burnout among educators and the number leaving the profession is increasing. Places for teachers to gather to reflect on their work are rare and often resisted. Why?

Emerging from our experience as educators and work in groups in Dublin and London, we brought together some colleagues supporting teachers in various ways. It is simply called a working group; a year old, it is thriving.

We hear about teachers overwhelmed by the emotional, social and moral tasks with which they are charged. Technical-rational approaches seem to dislodge the capacity for reflection, resulting in a culture of blame, reputational fragility and relational insecurity. Scapegoats, sub-groups and social defence mechanisms become the norm.

This workshop will start by presenting some themes which the group has discovered in considering the teacher's role, education systems and their place in society - exclusion, trans-generational trauma, commodification, power, leadership, competition, envy, safety, trust, community, language...

Using the same cascading notion that prompted the group's formation, we will invite participants to reflect further and explore the question in the workshop title by sharing and hearing about schools and education systems, reflective practice groups or similar, in different countries...

093 Paper Presentation

Application of Group Analysis – School for parents

Patrícia Poppe (Portugal)

Keywords: group analytic groups of parents, support for parenting, internal resources, emotional development

The intervention with groups of parents according to the group analytic model in the last 3 years will be presented. School for Parents was designed to support parents who are willing to accept and engage in a short term group analytic intervention to deal and elaborate the difficulties of parenting. It is based on the concepts and training skills of group analysis and influenced by approaches of John Bowlby (1958), Garcia Badaracco (2000), Isaura Neto (1997, 2003) and Eva Rotenberg (2014), including "Multifamily Psychoanalysis/Multifamily Group Analysis".

Parents' groups, with the aim of developing parental functions and internal resources were evaluated concerning group analytic factors, group attendance, motivations, feelings in the group, self-perception on self and child understanding, relationship to child and others as well as changes. Parents who participate in School for Parents report a higher understanding of their own needs, desires and competences as well as those of their children. The results show an improvement of parents' relationship to their children and an enhancement of parenting confidence.

The group analytic principles and technique applied to this different context have positive effects, even in a short term intervention. It can mobilize the development of internal resources of parents, bringing along the possibility of enrichment and change.

094 Sub-plenary Working with Children

Grandparents – Anchoring New Generation

M.J. Maher (United Kingdom)

Keywords: totems, Attachment Theory, separation anxiety, object relation, ethnicity, immigrant, internalisation, multicultural marriages/unions, sexuality, skin colour

In my presentation I will explore the relationship between Zimbabwean grandparents and their grandchildren comparing my relationships as a grandchild and as a grandmother. I will look at traditional values, cultural norms and beliefs; the impact of multicultural unions and how family roles are changing, for example around sex education. I will also look at other family traditions such as teaching of morals through story-telling, proverbs and idiophones. These traditional values used to be carried and be passed on from generation to generation by grandparents in support of child development. Through migration, intercultural marriages and other changes the tapestry of the family structures is changing – what is the impact on the new generation? What gaps are being created and what is filling or falling into these gaps? Are we, therapists, ready to step in and offer the containing secure base once provided by the grandparents? Can we learn from the relationship between grandparents and their grandchildren so as to enhance our knowledge and skills necessary in working with children who now find themselves caught between the different worlds, worlds of vast diversity which might make them feel ashamed of who they are or of their traditional practices, after all Freud referred to totems as the practice of the uncivilised. Fear of the unknown always breeds misinformation and destructive forces. How can we begin to untangle this ball of multicultural wool in order to create a beautiful picnic blanket that we can all sit on and enjoy our diversity drinking grandparents' home-made brew stirred into our analytic thinking?

096 Paper Presentation

Balint Groups – Training and Research Groups of the Doctor-patient Relationship

Nuno Florêncio (Portugal)

Keywords: Balint Group, conductor, doctor-patient relationship

Michael Balint was a Hungarian general practitioner and psychoanalyst. He was born in 1896, son of a Jew general practitioner and made his personal analysis and supervision with Ferenczi. He was particularly interested in the real mother-child relation, “difficult” patients and focal psychotherapy. In 1939, he moved to England and in 1950 he and his wife Enid started weekly case discussion seminars for general practitioners, at the Tavistok Clinic, about “difficult” patients. These seminars and his clinical work led to the basic fault theory, in which “difficult” regressed patients use primitive preverbal forms of communication. In the case discussion seminars he adapted the Hungarian psychoanalytic method of supervision, focusing on countertransference to study the emotional aspects of the doctor-patient relationship.

In this paper, we review theory and process of Balint Groups, historic evolution and the author’s experience in conducting Balint groups with general practice residents.

097 Workshop

Trauma, Group and Human Resiliency: how Culture Influences and Informs both our Interventions and our Self-Care

Richard Beck (USA)

Keywords: trauma, group, resiliency, culture, self-care

This didactic, experiential and sharing of experiences workshop will demonstrate how group is the modality of choice for clinicians of all disciplines to respond to disasters of all types; natural disasters and/or man-made ones.

Types of interventions while leading trauma groups will be illustrated and contrasted to interventions made while leading great variety groups. Attention will be placed to the influence/impact of culture on how the disaster is metabolized by the group members as well as by the group leader. The unique circumstances that need consideration when the leader is also traumatized by the same event that traumatised the members of the group will be highlighted and review. Those unique traumatic countertransferences will be discussed.

Attention to the dynamics that are unique to the culture in which a disaster or trauma occurs will be explored and discussed. Therapist self-care will be included in both the didactic and experiential component of the workshop.

098 Paper Presentation

Crossing Borders and Paths to Inclusion: Small Psychotherapy Groups as Observatories of Cultural Exchanges and Integration

Stefano Mennella (Italy)

Keywords: migration, integration, small psychotherapy group

Those who experience integration issues – as migrants or as receivers – know that integration is the result of a very long – and sometimes very hard – mediation effort. Both parties need to take up the responsibility of the negotiation, that often gives rise to strong emotions and requires to compromise between resources and opportunities of a economic, as well as psychological and affective, nature. In the introduction possible relationships between foreigners and the land they have moved to are outlined, and possible fantasies prompted by their arrival.

The paper focuses on the crossing of borders by new entries in a small psychotherapy group, and the dynamics of hospitality, acquisition and integration. The arrival of a new patient in a group bears similarities to the arrival of a newborn sibling, but also with the arrival of a foreigner from a different culture. A number of clinical vignettes will show how the borders of the therapy group change after each new entry and the extensive work that must be done to re-define and re-shape the identity and culture of the group. As migrants take a stance about those who have never left home, new patients prompt fantasies about siblings who have left the small therapy group.

099 Workshop

Bordercrossers Experience – Participative Creation of Transformational Spaces

Katrin Ackerl Konstantin (Austria), Johannes Brachthäuser (Germany), Yvonne Brandl (Germany), Dorothee Dietrich (Germany), Bernd Heimerl (Germany), Regina Klein (Austria) and guests

Keywords: trans-boundary management, transgressing internal and external borders, transitional spaces

Currently rough global changes are shifting national, cultural, individual and intra-psychic borders. These bordercrossing processes are strongly shaping life and identity balance, whilst upsetting the familiar and common demarcation lines between self/other, internal/external, friend/foe, insiders/outside, norm/deviation, real/intangible, evident/uncanny etc.

How do we face borders? How do we deal with border experiences? The popular preconception defines border: as a wall, being clashed against; a fence, dividing territories; a barrier, blocking access; a frontier line, excluding the unwanted or at least as a point of (no) return. We focus on emphasizing the border as a reproduced social construct. This embraces a limited perception, claiming to understand the other from an imperial universalizing western point of view, tinting our outlook.

Tracing back the 'border' to its etymological origin we are trying to reveal a broad borderland. What is happening in this transitional space, trading fragile, veiled, boxed, wrapped and submerged, either material or immaterial goods? Which border patrols do we send out, when and why? Whom and what do we let pass, stop or deport and why? Which movements are permitted, tolerated or forbidden and why? What about the bordercrossing position of a group conductor and translator?

A bordercrossing group of psychoanalytically orientated experts with a diverse range of professional overlapping backgrounds share their borderlinking experiences with the audience interactively. Based on cross-border situations from clinical, social, cultural and technological practice, we open up a participative experimental lab. We intend to transgress borders while provoking irritations in order to co-create new transformational and transitional spaces.

100 Sub-plenary Working with Refugees

How does Group Work in Arabic?

Ulrike Kluge (Germany), Jens Preil (Germany)

Keywords: refugees, group therapy, setting, translators, gender, transcultural

The need for psychotherapeutic care has become enormous for refugees who seek asylum in Germany. Many of them are traumatized by violence, war, and their protracted flight. Once arrived in Germany they are confronted with the complex asylum procedure, and the difficulties and vicissitudes of their stay in a foreign country with an alien culture. A large number of these refugees urgently need specialized care and treatment to prevent the associated mental problems from having a life-long impact. This situation will significantly shape our future society, and also applies to the psychotherapeutic care right into our treatment rooms.

Since mid of 2015, we have been running two analytic groups with Arabic speaking men and women in a specific setting with language-cultural translators and social workers. At this workshop we would like to share our experience presenting case vignettes on three different main themes which we found particularly relevant for our work: culture, gender, and our specific setting. Far from having found the "right approach" we are keen to discuss the following question with the participants: To which extent is group analysis a culture technology, and what determines its limits? What are our blind spots and how to use them in therapy? Connecting to the matrix - how can the setting be modified to establish sustainable relationships between group members that allow for growth and development? What is it that makes the difference between working with men and women in this setting? How to work with language-cultural translators in an analytic group? How political are our interventions?

101 Paper Presentation

The Role of Border Crossing in Dismantling and Forming Alliances with the Stranger

Tal Alon (Israel)

Keywords: border crossing, interpersonal, matrix, alliances

As an Israeli, daily I witness long-lasting armed conflict, not only between Israelis and Palestinians but also within the Israeli society. The mix and clash of cultures and the danger of social disintegration with those I knew so well in „my courtyard“ has become a worldwide scenario, and as such a demanding ‚giant‘ who cannot be satisfied.

This paper presentation will take a look at an opportunity to influence differently the voluntary creation of a negative matrix among individuals who are strangers one to the other. Derrida, Levinas, Buber, have all referred to the fear combined with the deep craving of humans to meet ‚the other‘. Can we support the life instinct of individuals within the painful situations of wars, immigration and terror? Can we develop alliances and nurturing matrixes?

Relational Concepts in Psychoanalysis refer to the way „parts of selves“ can be better expressed and emphasizes the detailed exploration of interpersonal interactions that enable it. I would like to elaborate this argument and illustrate the role of border crossing in forming alliances with ‚the stranger‘ in a few events, taken from the work in Group Relations conferences of B’esod Siach Association (Organization for the Promotion of Dialogue Between Conflict Groups in Israeli Society).

103 Paper Presentation

Applied Reflective Citizens as a Bridge in the Challenge of Migration

– Example from Novi Sad, EU Capital of Culture 2021

Marija Jevtic (Serbia), Marina Mojovic (Serbia)

Keywords: reflective citizens, migration challenge, identity, dialogue, cultural spaces

Reflective Citizens as ‘psycho-social transitional spaces’ began in 2005, when Serbia joined the International Listening Posts (LP) Network of OPUS (Organization for Promoting Understanding of Society).

Recognizing the need for more reflective citizens spaces, for continuous ongoing work with social trauma and its impact on identity and the need for reconnection with lost aspects of collective memories, the Psycho-Social section (PSS -GAS Belgrade) began organizing reflective citizens spaces more often. We also held training for conveners.

Over the years, Serbian Reflective Citizens developed its specific conceptualization and methodology, (carefully integrating aspects of LP, group analysis, group relations, and social dreaming). This is still in the process of evaluation and improvement. A Series of International Conferences and Workshops of the Psycho-Social section were very important and meaningful in building the framework.

Reflective Citizens in Novi Sad started in 2014, with the huge enthusiasm and team-work of the Psycho-Social section members and leader. It is recognized that Novi Sad, as a multinational and specifically multicultural environment could develop an applied Reflective Citizens dialogue in cultural spaces in Novi Sad, European Capital of Culture 2021. It could be a supportive and open space for all citizens (and visitors) who wish to develop themselves, multiculturalism, tolerance and a better social environment.

104 Paper Presentation

Growing up in Between - Tensions and Dangers of Living in a Divided Land

Christine Christie (North Ireland)

Keywords: border, troubles, other, discrimination, identity

Group Analysts working in the North of Ireland are aware of the difficulties in speaking freely, as being seen to be ‚other‘ can lead to discrimination, or even death. The ‚Border‘ separating ‚North‘ from ‚South‘, is not recognised by some, and fiercely defended by others. Tensions arise at boundaries, which can wound or heal. Group Analysts also struggle with their own experiences of the so called ‚Troubles‘, and sometimes confused identities - British, Irish, or Northern Irish, and need to find ways of making peace with their own cultural backgrounds.

The paper explores the „Troubled Matrix‘ of the North, the impact of the conflict on ordinary people, and how Group Analysis can work with distance and division, and help to find a common ground.

105 Paper Presentation

Singing Lullabies in a Strange Land: Group Supervision of Parent and Baby Groups in Multi-cultural Settings

Margaret Gallop (United Kingdom)

Keywords: secure base play secure attachment ambivalence parallel process diversity resonance

The paper will explore the dynamics and resonances of the supervision group which provides a secure base for parent infant therapists bringing their work with groups of parents and infants from many countries, some recently arrived, held in community settings. The parent infant dyads had been recommended to the group because of difficulties in bonding noticed by health and community workers. As parents come together, they offer a multiplicity of views on parenting and find what they have in common. By accepting their ambivalence and surmounting cultural and language barriers they move towards helping each other in being able to respond playfully to their babies. They become more able to engage in the local community. The supervision group provides a secure base where the dynamics of the parent infant groups are mirrored and reflected upon, and differences can be explored and used to enrich thinking and reflection.

106 Sub-plenary Working with Children

A Friendly Mirror - Combining Watch Wait Wonder with Video Interaction Guidance in Parent Infant Groups

Monika Celebi (United Kingdom)

Keywords: parent infant groups, infant mental health, video interaction guidance, watch wait wonder, embodied mentalization

Parent infant groups have a vital role to play in promoting infant mental health. This is in particular important, when the extended family network has broken down, or is not available, whether due to the parent being a refugee or ‘just’ an economic migrant.

The presence of babies in the groups challenges conventional rules of conduct and boundaries, as well as provides a strong focus on the present moment. Babies are great levelers, they have an innate desire to connect, and can function akin to co-therapists.

The theoretical framework for this work draws on research from the field of neuroscience, intersubjectivity and group analysis. The method described combines a stance of nonjudgmental curiosity, as practiced in Watch, Wait Wonder, embodied mentalization as basis for mind mindedness and Video Interaction Guidance, a strength based intervention, which uses better than usual images to enhance attunement.

The purpose of this work is to create a benign group space, akin to a mini community , where parents can connect verbally and nonverbally with their babies, each other and where thinking and reflection can occur.

The presentation will include video footage of clinical work in a community setting.

107 Paper Presentation

A Staff Ongoing Large Group in a Psychiatric Hospital - 4 Years of Experience

Ido Peleg (Israel), Marit Joffe Millstein (Israel), Ilana Kremer (Israel)

Keywords: Large Group, psychiatric institute, communication, belonging, staff

Psychiatric hospitals are organizations aimed at the alleviation of mental suffering. Working with patients toward this end, the hospital staff faces paranoia and despair, splitting, projections and anti-group phenomena, as well as stigma and feelings of exclusion. To enable the hospital to function as a therapeutic milieu, it is essential to provide staff members with a space to process these phenomena. For that end, we established a staff’s ongoing large group in „Mazor“ mental health center- a

360 beds psychiatric hospital at the north of Israel. This group was part of a larger scale project in which all wards' staff were given group supervision once a week in their ward. The group meets once a month and is conducted by two group analysts, one that works at the hospital and one from outside. Participation is voluntary, and the group includes 30-60 workers from all the hospital's sectors.

The group is conducted according to group analytic principles. A focus is laid on promoting open communication and dialogue between sub-groups, individuals and the group as a whole. Another focus is constructing a sense of belonging, ability to influence and continuity.

In its 4 years of existence, the group has become a pulsating emotional centre of the hospital's life, as well as a source of controversy. It changed from a space used for complaining to the management to a space enabling all to share their responsibilities and pain and also influence life within the hospital. In this presentation, we will demonstrate some of the processes and principles used in conducting this group, as well as share some of the reflections of the hospital manager and other participants.

Watch, Wait Wonder, embodied mentalization as basis for mind mindedness and Video Interaction Guidance, a strength based intervention, which uses better than usual images to enhance attunement.

The purpose of this work is to create a benign group space, akin to a mini community, where parents can connect verbally and nonverbally with their babies, each other and where thinking and reflection can occur.

The presentation will include video footage of clinical work in a community setting.

108 Paper Presentation

Reflections after the Encounter of Russian, Ukrainian and German Colleagues in a Group Analytical Conference 2015 >Trialog-Conference<

Stephan Alder (Germany)

Keywords: psycho-historical work, transgenerational transmission, identification, authority, Trialog

There is a need and an interest to meet and to talk to each other – Russians, Ukrainians, Jewish/Israelis and Germans instead and because of the traumatized past and present.

We carry pain, guilt, atrocities, hope and love of our grandparents and parents which can be faced, clarified and changed by group work. Together we can find the openness and the authority to create new relations/relationships and a new network that carries the power for crossing and respecting cultural and individual borders.

Concepts like the matrix (Foulkes), the soldiermatrix (Friedman) and the large group identity (Volkan) help us to name and differentiate individual and societal/collective identification and authority.

I want to describe my experience based on analytical work in Russia, Ukraine, other countries and the experiences after the first Trialog-Conference in 2015 in Potsdam, Germany. Group work is possible in small groups and in the large group.

The truth begins when we are two and it differentiates when we are in a group.

I will discuss ethnic tension, traumatic experience as a part of large-group-identity (Volkan) and how it can be transformed and can be seen in symbols of power, subordination and rescuing. The narratives and symbols which emerged in group processes help us to understand, to acknowledge our inner psychic landscape(s) and they can bridge the splitted parts.

The transgenerational transmission and how the second and third generation deals (carries, suffers, questions) with their heritage becomes one of the main subjects. We saw the "chosen heroes" and the collective "chosen traumas" (Volkan). Difficulties with mourning will be discussed.

109 Workshop

A Bridge over Troubled Waters – how to Cross it Safely with the Help of Social Drama Experiences

Ofra Faiman (Israel)

Keywords: drama techniques for, understanding the other, bridging narratives

In this workshop we shall experience, through drama exercises, the meaning of being the “Other” in our own society.

We shall meet each other and get to appreciate our different views and narratives on the realities of life within multicultural societies.

Our work as group leaders has taught us how, often, misunderstandings and lack of communication can create feelings of exclusion and gaps in our togetherness.

We shall try, in experiential ways, to enact familiar situations from our daily lives, in order to explore possible changes of attitude and behavior.

The use of theater games and improvisation on real life events and behavior, is based on many elements which are basics in our work with groups. Such games demonstrate the importance of listening, use of our imagination, spontaneity, creativity, and developing open mindedness towards dialogue, other ideas and new solutions. This technique can be a useful component of our “basket of tools” as group therapists. It follows on from the work of Aristo, Moreno, Boal, Yalom, Way, Spolin, etc..

The session will end with a group discussion for sharing our various experiences and the new ideas that we have learned from participation in the group.

110 Workshop

Talking without Words

Stephan Heyne (Germany), Beate Grunert-Baillet (Germany)

Keywords: group analytic setting, nonverbal communication, East-German dialect of group analysis, transcultural dialog

The talking cure lives on the spoken word and its relationship to the unconscious mind in the group matrix. In our workshop we want to pay attention to the unspoken, the nonverbal communication in the group. Our experience is based on the east-German way (we like to say dialect) of group analysis. It has developed a specific group setting to integrate the nonverbal communication. We want to give special attention to this setting and want to share our experiences, for example about our bilingual selfexperience group in Moscow. We want to shine a light into the border area between verbal and nonverbal communication or between different cultures. Some practical exercises may give an impression of our work and inspire to talk together - in the room between private and professional experience.

111 Workshop

Short Term Psychodynamic Group Psychotherapy for Young, Adult and Old People in an Outpatient Mental Health Services: “What works for whom?”

Glòria Mateu i Vives (Spain)

Keywords: dynamic group-psychotherapy, breakdown, treatment adherence, attrition, anxiety, depression and phobias

The goal of the current article is to present the results of a naturalistic study of Short Term Psychodynamic Group Psychotherapy (STPGP) Study in the treatment of moderate-to-severe depressive, anxious, phobic and somatic symptomatology. One hundred fifty four patients were referred to group psychotherapy ranging from 18 years old to elderly people for 40 weeks of psychotherapy (STPGP-40). Results indicated that there are significant differences related to treatment adherence, drop outs, and recovery from symptomatology associated to anxiety, depression, somatic complaints and phobias. Also there are significant differences between ages.

113 Workshop

Contemplative Median Group - Double Session on Friday

Jale Cilasun (United Kingdom), Lawrence Ladden (United Kingdom)

Keywords: contemplative group, foundations of mindfulness, experiential median group

We propose to conduct an afternoon 2 session group using the Contemplative Group Dynamics model.

Theoretically the model inquires into the nature of self, other and group as living processes requiring attention and resonance. The model integrates individual mindfulness with group process. Periods of silence and speech are alternated as we sequentially work with body sensation, feeling, mental-emotional events, and experience (the four foundations of mindfulness). The practice cultivates a stronger quality of individual and group attention. The stronger attention helps us not to be hijacked by reactivity (e.g., to exclude) and to see the roots of our impulses to create difference and to hold on to or push away. Supporting conference attendees' capacity to understand these processes seems particularly relevant for the powerful themes of this conference.

A brief orienting talk will link mindfulness practice with group themes.

Contemplative group conversation is not narrative but oriented to the momentariness of the given foundation. This enables participants to distinguish the difference between the fluid and aggregated nature of experience (sensation, feeling, mental events) in contrast to when we solidify into identities of self and other.

114 Workshop

The Use of Actual Mirrors as Means to Find „Sameness“ and Overcome „Otherness“ in Times of Crossing Borders Social, Cultural and Clinical Challenges

Sima Ariam (USA)

Keywords: group therapy, mirroring, "sameness", isolation

Mirror is perceived as a tool for self-reflection and/or isolation from the other (as in the famous tragedy of Narcissus). Yet, One of the earliest references to the use of mirrors found in a Biblical Midrash-commentary on the Bible- is telling the story of the redemption of Israel from slavery by women using mirrors as connection tool with the „other“, overcoming isolation and improving self-esteem and communications. Based on theories on the importance of early mirroring starting with Mahler, Bion, Lacan, Kohut, Winnicott, Kernberg, Foulkes and Pines, and more recent research done on Mirror Neurons by Rizzolatti, Gallese, Iacoboni, Cosolino and Ramachandran participants of this workshop will come to appreciate the concept of utilizing actual mirrors in groups as tools for facilitating new pathways of connection with the other, while overcoming isolation and improving other's communications.

115 Sub-plenary Working with Children

Wildness, Feeling Sheltered and Taming in the Space of the Group

Ursula Wienberg (Germany), Matthias Wenck (Germany)

Keywords: theory and clinical practice of analytic groups with children or adolescents, developmental processes, clinical examples

The impact of participating and experiencing from early on in multiple group settings on emotional growth has been well known. Still children suffering from developmental problems or trauma are referred to individual psychotherapy or individual support mainly. Having worked with children groups now for 10 years we thereby discovered remarkable potentials, children and adolescents can profit from therapeutically. Obviously a high amount of therapeutic possibilities and self rightening strength can be developed and made use of on the basis of S.F. Foulkes 's well known concepts in application to group therapy with children or adolescents. This is mainly due to the fact, that a group offers sufficient psychic space to healthy enactments of developmental conflicts and deficits. We are convinced that young people do need their peer groups in order to develop their identity within a society which fosters single individuals.

In the same way we work with parent groups parallel to children groups. In the holding environment of the parent group wishes, desires, phantasies, anxieties, and fears can be verbalized and

shared with other parents. This way powerful strivings which could have disrupted attachments and arrest developmental thrust can be mentalized and worked through constructively.

116 Sub-plenary

Malcolm Pines in a Group Analytic Interview with Israeli Group Analysts. On the Founding and Growth of Group Analysis; a Trans-personal View

Anca Ditroi (Israel), Miriam Berger (Israel), Avi Berman (Israel), Robi Friedman (Israel), Joshua Lavie (Israel), Gila Ofer (Israel), Suzi Shoshani (Israel)

Keywords: personal history, professional identity, migration, inclusion, alienation, Foulkes, belonging, exclusion, unspoken issues

Our aim is to explore the interplay between Malcolm Pines' personal history and his professional choices as this appears consciously and unconsciously in the group process we went through together.

We created a group-analytic interview of 4 consecutive sessions including Malcolm and us as participants. It became a moving, thought provoking and intimate process for all of us as it comes across in the film we made.

Major issues in Malcolm's personal history, the relationships with Foulkes and Group Analysis unfolded and were re-experienced and reviewed together.

We will focus on 3 main topics :

1. Belonging, foreignness and alienation, inclusion and exclusion in Pines' and in Foulkes' lives and their traces in Group Analysis.
2. Pines' and Group Analysis' complex relationships with Jewish roots and with Israel.
3. Unspoken issues from the past in Pines' life and in Group Analysis and new bridges of communication.

A main theme underlying these topics is Inclusion-Exclusion in Malcolm's and Foulkes' lives and also in Group Analysis.

Presentations will be accompanied by sections from our film and followed by an open discussion.

This project is both a group-analytic document and also our way of thanking Malcolm Pines for his being and generous sharing of his life experience.

117 Paper Presentation

Using Expressive Arts Therapy in a Support Group for Siblings who Have Lost a Sibling to Cancer

Orna Megides (Israel), Ifat Ezer Cohen (Israel)

Keywords: Group Therapy, Support Group, Expressive Arts Therapy, Grief, Loss, Bereaved Siblings, Pediatric Cancer

Background: Studies on bereaved siblings report that the loss of a sibling can result in intense grief and can be categorized as a traumatic loss.

Setting: The support group was composed of 10 children who lost a sibling to cancer and was moderated by a social worker and an expressive arts therapist over 10 weeks. The therapeutic goal of the group was focused on processing the loss of the sibling. The group structure was divided into three phases: 1) Focusing on loss related feelings and difficulties; 2) Identifying internal sources of strength from the past and the present; and 3) Saying good-bye and focusing on the future.

Outcomes: The use of art therapy was effective for processing the loss and trauma of losing a sibling to cancer. The use of art allowed the children to express their pain, which did not have an outlet in words. The supportive group setting allowed the children to come into contact with their feelings of guilt and conflict over the death of their sibling. Finally, the group allowed the children to develop an internal dialogue with their deceased sibling, and in the process, also say good-bye to them and turn their attention to the future.

118 Workshop

Group Analytically Informed Balint Groups

Maria Papanastassiou (United Kingdom) and Alan Larney (United Kingdom)

Keywords: Balint, group analytic application, doctors, group analysts, trainees and students, NHS

The doctors of all grades in the British national health service (NHS) spend a lot of time attending conferences about reducing risk of complaints from patients and mastering the art of suicide prevention and responding formally to outcomes of investigations. They constantly struggle to navigate themselves in an institution where they can rapidly become the scapegoats of a faulty system that is perceived as pointing the finger of blame. It comes as no surprise to anyone that there is hardly any time for meaningful reflection during these difficult times where the individual gets lost in the institution's demands and one's identity rapidly disintegrates into a number and an object to be used by the system. Trainee doctors and group analytic trainees in NHS placements are also victims of this system.

We propose that it is paramount for the trainee's survival to attend group-analytically informed Balint groups where the focus is not only on the therapist-patient relationship but on all relationships developed and played out in the complex trainee -patient-balint group leader and institutional group matrix .

We will demonstrate this through presentation of material from our Balint groups in the NHS via a group analytic adaptation of the Balint groups, trusting the group to process and support the therapists' complex journey not against but alongside the patients' journey during their most vulnerable moments. In our opinion this contributes to empowerment and validation of both experiences , the doctors'-therapists' and the patients' where they both are no longer a number , a particle or a commodity but rather a whole person worthwhile connecting and relating to.

119 Workshop

Large Group in Training: Inclusion and Exclusion in Identity Formation

Jale Cilasun (United Kingdom), Maria Papanastassiou (United Kingdom), Andy Thomas (United Kingdom)

Keywords: training, Large Group

The Large Group in training discloses how readily the members identify themselves as being 'new' or 'been here before', an 'in group' and an 'out group' are formed precipitously, each year without fail. Although these in and out categorisations are abhorrent to most members of the groups, the training large group shows us that it is the very dynamics of the Large Group with its threat on the individual identity (Turquet,1975) that brings out these categories. The struggle in the large group is to articulate the inarticulate, to make the non verbal verbal and to put the feelings into words whatever those might be.

The categorisation which sets up 'We' and 'The other' seems to be the first step in identity formation, when the anxiety about existence is felt. The expectation is that someone else will tell us what the large group is and how to be in it.

The Large Group has had a place in group analytic training since the earliest days (Skynner,1975).

In this workshop we will describe our experience of the training Large Group of IGA London, including how we work as a staff team. We will also present the results of our student evaluations.

The workshop format will enable the participants to share their experiences in training Large Groups in other settings. There will be a discussion on the potential of the Large Group setting to work with, understand further and perhaps ameliorate the destructiveness of 'we and the other' as proposed by de Mare (1991).

120 Workshop

Application and Further Development of Group Therapy Mediated by several Interpreters for Refugee Patients from Different Cultural Backgrounds

Johanna Winkler (Germany)

Keywords: group therapy with interpreters, mentalization based group therapy, group therapy with refugees

Background: At the psychiatric outpatient clinic at the Charité Psychiatric University Clinic at St. Hedwig Hospital in Berlin, patients include people from a refugee background who are suffering from severe psychological disorders and do not speak much German and therefore remain isolated in their extended everyday environments. Group therapy mediated by interpreters, which has been developed at the day clinic for treating victims of torture in Berlin (bzfo/zentrum überleben), is provided for these patients.

Method: With this kind of group therapy in a multilingual context, it is particularly important to develop interpreting techniques that have as little as possible negative impact on the group therapy effect. A balance needs to be achieved between effective treatment and the costs of interpreting, which are not covered. Intermittent non-verbal or non-interpreted therapy units can also be offered.

Results: Modified, mentalisation-based group therapy moderated by an interpreter is accepted by a great many people from various cultural and social backgrounds as a very helpful, beneficial and healing treatment. The observations, developments and specific features of this kind of therapy should be processed.

121

Bike the Wall

Dale C. Godby (USA),

Keywords: borders, inclusion-exclusion

This is an initial inquiry to see if you would be interested. We would like to bike the wall. About 100 miles. We think we could get 30 people from Israel, Serbia, Ireland and other countries with walls to take 3 days before the conference to bike the wall. A local tour company would supply the bikes and participants would pay their own way. We would have a median group each night after our ride. This median group would continue through the conference and be open to new members. We'd anticipate some people doing the ride for 1,2 or 3 days. This would give us the experience of people coming and going. Also as we arrive at the conference there would be the experience of a subgroup coming into a new „country“. This would allow the experience of travel like the refugees have and also allow the experience of the wall that separates so many countries.

I have been in touch with Michael Cramer who wrote a book on biking the wall. This all seems logistically possible. If you like the idea I will develop it more with colleagues from Dallas who biked Ireland when we met there and hopefully you might suggest a German colleague who might want to

join us and perhaps help plan. If interested I can send you all of my correspondence with the Berlin on Bike company that I have been working with. Thanks.

122 Sub-plenary Working with Refugees

We are Refugees too

Christiane Bakhit (Germany)

Keywords: arrival of refugees in Munich, latent individual and social tremors, therapeutic group, envy, rage, deeper understanding

How the arrival of refugees at Munich Central Station in the late summer 2015 triggered latent individual and social tremors, which mirrored in a therapeutic group.

In August and September of 2015 thousands of refugees arrived daily at Munich Central Station, where they were warmly welcomed by many Germans. The voices of the small minority of people displeased with this were hardly registered in public debates. This was in sharp contrast to a running therapeutic group, in which one member opened up every session after the summer break with the refugee situation. Contrary to the mainstream „welcoming culture“ (Willkommenskultur“) she

openly expressed her anger, her deep anxiety and her fear of the refugees who arrived daily and by whom she felt pressured and ignored. In the group she saw herself as a „bad German“ in opposite to all the other „good Germans“. The group grappled with her accusations and anxieties over many sessions. Slowly it became clear that the arriving refugees triggered in everyone former experiences of deprivation, envy and insecurity as well as were seen as a threat because of the fragile societal context. Through interactions within the group, rage and envy gradually transformed into a deeper understanding for oneself, each other and the arriving refugees.

I want to illustrate this group process presenting several group sessions following each other during a period from September until November 2015.

123 Sub-plenary Working with Children

Crossing the Border into Motherhood

Sheila Ritchie (United Kingdom)

Keywords: perinatal, parent infant psychotherapy, repetition compulsion, trauma, serious mental illness

Crossing the border into motherhood with a history of traumatic experiences can create a unique crisis, further complicated for the mother by the urgency of the need to respond to her baby. Bringing mother and baby together in a group offering parent-infant psychotherapy provides a context where ruptures can be repaired. Babies are treated as equal group participants with their innocent contribution valued in helping mothers think about negative attributions to their own babies, to have a maternal instinct activated for the first time, which is possible to transfer in turn to her own baby.

In work with adults difficulties in relationships are for the most part reported. Working with the mother-baby relationship itself brings the nature of these difficulties into the room directly to be worked on in real time. Most women think that they will not make the same mistakes as their parents did with them. It comes as a shock when repetition compulsion means that they repeat rather than repair their own early childhood experiences. The perinatal period is a crucial time for the building of babies' brains and experiences of relating. There is a window of opportunity at this time to see the potential to break inter-generational patterns. To this end the group has a preventative function with trajectories into adulthood potentially more hopeful.

Through the use of video material this session will take participants into a group session. The Getting to Know You Group is run in a children's centre in the community as part of a tier 3 Perinatal Parent Infant Mental Health Service (a National Health Service) in North East London, UK.

125 Sub-Plenary Working with Refugees

PEGIDA: A Challenge for Group Analysis?

Holger Brandes (Germany)

Keywords: right-wing populism, xenophobia, large group dynamics

PEGIDA („European Patriots against the Islamisation of the Occident“) is a right-wing movement. Since 2014 they are demonstrating each week in the historical city of Dresden causing increasing xenophobia, rage, and violence against immigrants. PEGIDA is a heterogeneous movement; the participants are connected in the feeling of not being represented by politicians and the public media. From the perspective of large group dynamics (Volkan) we can notice that PEGIDA is trying to modify the German „collective memory“ und offers „marker“ of a large Group identity: Taking up the bombing of Dresden (13th February 1945) as a „chosen trauma“ the responsibility for the Second World War and the Holocaust is denied. By presenting itself in direct tradition of the demonstrations against the GDR-Regime in 1989 as a „glorious deed“ PEGIDA reactivates and integrates the feeling of being unprivileged and occupied by the West Germans. Thus feelings of envy and rage towards the West Germans are transformed on the refugees.

How does this development challenge group analysis? Mainly because PEGIDA incites a strong polarisation within the population, bringing conflicts to neighborhoods, parishes, and families.

Vignettes of a workshop with social workers and of community work, combining group analyses and methods of social work, are presented.

126 Sub-plenary Working with Children

Curriculum Development for Group Analysis with Children and Adolescents. A Transgenerational Group-Process from 2006-14 between Members of six German-Speaking IGAs

Katrin Stumptner (Germany)

Keywords: workshop for GA with children and adolescents, curriculum development, training for GA for children and adolescents, transgenerational approaches

I describe the development of a curriculum for transgenerational GA with children and adolescents and parents* in German-speaking countries.

The story started in 2005 with an invitation for a workshop from four GAs of two German-speaking IGAs.

Additionally to the annually conducted workshop, an interdisciplinary group of GAs from six different German-speaking IGAs started to meet twice a year from 2006 up to 2014, to develop a curriculum. This process of research, playing, thinking, discussing, reflecting and writing lasted about 8 years.

In working out characteristics in the therapeutical and pedagogical group analytical work with children and adolescents, based on the theory of S. H. Foulkes, this group itself went through different stages of autonomy development in finding out differences to GA work with adults and finally moving into curriculum development, which is published in a small booklet.

One of these characteristics is the capability and responsibility of the conductors to establish the specific setting for the different developmental ages and needs. This includes the creation and the protection of a group playing space, where all interactions and re-enactments can take place spontaneously and in synchrony, without being judged. Training for GA in this setting requires reconnecting with the own experience and capability of playing, in order to deal well with countertransference-feelings like shame, aggression and anxiety of loss.

The creation of parallel parent groups enables a transgenerational individuation process and opens up a „triangular matrix“ (Katrin Stumptner) between the children-group and the parent-group.

* parents=psychological- parents

127 Paper Presentation

Walking together: The Sandwich Model - A Group Analytic Application to Conflict-Dialogue. Enabling, Acknowledgement and Recognition of the Way to Transform the Dialogue between two Different Narratives: Israeli Arabs and Jews in Israel 2016/2017

Robi Friedman (Israel), Pnina Rappoport (Israel), Marit Joffe Milstein (Israel), Sahar Rouhana (Israel)

Keywords: narratives, conflicts, inclusion, exclusion, unspoken issues, mirroring, exchange, recognition

The Israeli Institute of Group Analysis (IIGA) was invited by the movement "Walking together", create a setting in which Arab and Jewish Israelis members could improve communications.

The formal aim of this meetings was to help them to arrive to a declaration in which there will be a mutual recognition of each other's narratives, and a wish to live together in a society based on equal rights, and respect, in peace with each other.

Marit Joffe Milstein - the chair of IIGA and Dr. Robi Fiedman lead the project, with the help of 11 Group Analyst from the institute and 4 experienced Arabs conductors.

The Panel will include presentation of the methods applied in this complex intervention together with thoughts and feelings expressed by the participants and the conductors (Dr. Pnina Rappoport, Sahar Rouhana, Suzi Shoshani) during the project, and the results of the meetings. The work done in Median Group for some months after the first intervention will be presented and discussed.

128 Workshop

The four Levels of Communication Group Analysis and in the Kabbalah

Leah Chaikin (Israel), Gila Ofer (Israel)

Keywords: Foulkes, levels of communication, levels of interpretation, transference, countertransference, social unconscious

Little has been written about the impact of Judaism on Foulkes' theory formation. He himself had never referred to such an influence. In this presentation we would like to relate to the four levels of communication which he describes, and argue that there are parallel meanings between the four levels of communication he describes and the four levels of interpretation mentioned in the Kabbala, namely, "Pardes".

„Pardes“ is the Hebrew translation of the word orchard. It is also the acronym of four words that represent four levels of interpretation of the bible:

PaRDeS = Pshat, Remez, Drush and Sod. Each type of Pardes interpretation examines the extended meaning of the text.

Pshat means simple. It is referring to what we understand from the text when we read it as it is.

Remez means a hint. It refers to a deeper meaning, beyond the literal meaning of the text, an allegorical meaning. One event is understood by finding resemblances to another events.

Drush are stories that were told in the Jewish literature (the Talmud and other Hasidic stories), that give metaphorical meaning to the biblical text.

Sod means secret, and it refers to the Kabbala, the hidden level that is built on symbolic language.

Comparing the two systems of communication can help us understand the possible influence of the Jewish holy and literary sources on Foulkes in his theorizing about group analysis as well as widen our understanding of his theory of communication.

129 Workshop

Novelty, Harmony and Invention: Listening to the Music of the Group

Ido Peleg (Israel), Linde Wotton (United Kingdom), Marit Joffe Milstein (Israel), Tiziana Baisini (United Kingdom)

Keywords: inclusion/exclusion, musicality, repetition, variation, novelty, concord/discord, matrix

These linked workshops represent the meeting of various recent writings that use musical metaphors to understand group processes - from the operatic level of complexity involved in an exchange to the repetition & variation in the co-creation of hope and the importance of conflict in the group acting like dissonance necessary for harmonic progression. Musical analogies have a particular significance for group analysis because human communication is underpinned by our musicality and music itself profoundly reflects the way we organise our experience of being together - both as our sense of self and in our social arrangements. The particular communicational rhythms of each community are embedded in its foundation matrix, conveying information about wholes, relationships and things in context in a way that words cannot and we come to embody them through the improvisation of belonging. They are therefore deeply implicated in the process of inclusion and exclusion. Being able to listen to the music of language – and to the music of the group – seems particularly important in our contemporary context, where phenomena such as globalization, migration and ease of international communication challenge the possibility of understanding each other if we merely rely on the content of the communication.

The workshops offer participants the opportunity of exploring in/exclusion by participating in the ‚music‘ that emerges in a newly formed group. Participants are asked to attend both workshops as each session will involve a different experiential exercise and the purpose is to learn from the similarities and differences that emerge as a result of the two different formats.

130 Sub-plenary

Boundaries not to be Crossed. The Impact of Sexual Boundary Violations on Psychotherapy Organisations

John Hook (United Kingdom)

Keywords: sexual boundary violations, harm, psychotherapy organisations

Sexual boundary violations by professionals who have responsibility for vulnerable people are reported regularly in the media. Yet psychotherapy and other health/mental health organisations remain reluctant to discuss the problem and take adequate steps to minimise the risk of violations occurring and mitigate the harm that follows.

I will set sexual boundary violations in the context of harm in psychotherapy; discuss their impact on psychotherapy organisations and suggest actions that aim to reduce risk and harm.

The subject of harm in psychotherapy is itself a problem that receives little acknowledgement. I will review some of the literature and discuss reasons why harm and sexual boundary violations are so little discussed.

Research into sexual boundary violations demonstrates long term harmful effects in psychotherapy organisations and their members. I will discuss typical defensive reactions. Assertive action is required to repair wounds. I will discuss what has been found to be helpful.

A particular concern is the fate of the perpetrator. Responses tend to divide into punishment or remediation with strong feelings on both sides. I will describe an evaluation of perpetrators that provides an assessment of risk of repetition and probability for remediation as essential factors in determining appropriate sanction.

131 Workshop

Groupanalytic Experience in Karthoum / Sudan il Karthoum / Sudan

Aisha Balola (Sudan) Maaly Gurashi (Sudan)

Keywords: group analysis, trauma, women, Sudan

We want to speak about our situation in Karthoum in our Trauma Centre at the University of Afhad. Over the last two years we have had two workshops in „Training in Group Analysis and Trauma Group Counselling“ given jointly by the German - Sudanese teaching in Counselling and Psychotherapy.

The first workshop outlined the basics of group analysis and the second deepened the basics of group psychotherapy / group analysis with a special focus on the treatment of trauma in groups. The aim of this paper is to share our theoretical and clinical knowledge and experience with our Sudanese psychotherapeutic colleagues and German group analytic psychotherapists.

Secondly we want to tell you about our first experiences with our clients who are women who have experienced violence and are also refugees and war victims.

132 Sub-plenary Research

Evaluating Patients for Group Psychotherapy. A Group Specific Diagnostic Tool Based on Operationalized Psychodynamic Diagnostics (OPD-2)

Claudia Oberbracht (Germany), S. Pless (Germany), Ole Karkov Ostergaard (Denmark), Dieter Nitzgen (Germany)

Keywords: evaluating patients for group psychotherapy, group specific interview, OPD-2

Looking at the relevant literature on group psychotherapy, one is surprised to find that as yet there is no psychodynamic interview specifically adapted to the diagnostic needs and evaluation of patients for group psychotherapy. In our presentation, we will present such a tool based on the Manual of Operationalized Psychodynamic Diagnostics And Treatment Planning (OPD-2). In our paper, we will briefly examine and summarize the five axes of OPD and the semi-structured OPD interview for individual patients. Then, we will then outline the group specific items we have added to the individual interview. Finally, we will introduce the newly founded OPD-2 work group in the application of OPD to groups and group psychotherapy.

133 Workshop

Trumpism in us - Crossing Borders between the Virtual and the Real

Mary Spreng-Courtney (Switzerland), Rudolf Olivieri (Switzerland)

Keywords: virtual space, real space, addiction, countertransference

The grandeur of Twitter-in-Chief Trump, with his trademark of the long red tie and the straw-blond hair, can nourish our own phantasies of grandeur. This grandeur is without responsibility and with no „response ability“. Trump’s boundless presence in virtual space is in stark contrast to his concrete tasks in the real world. This boundlessness can become a seductive dream, a drug and a projection screen for our hopes or our fears. We are constantly crossing unawares borders between the virtual and the real.

In our work with patients, how do we reach patients who mostly live in virtual space? It can be crucial to know where the virtual ends and the real begins. How is our countertransference affected by patients, who have retreated into a virtual space? In this experiential workshop participants are invited to bring their own experience in their clinical work, in groups, or in individual therapy. It is recommended that all workshop participants attend all three sessions.

134 Workshop

Crossing Borders and Being Crossed: the Matrix of Conference

Anca Ditroi (Israel), Bruce Oppenheimer (Israel)

Keywords: group analytic approach to differences, professions, power, volunteering, transferences

This workshop aims to share and explore the conscious, unconscious and social unconscious aspects of organizing and administering a three-day exclusively experiential group work conference. For the past two years, three organizers, each from a different theoretical orientation (Group Analytic, Group Relations and Lacanian), have joined forces and collaborated in planning and directing this conference in Israel. In the workshop we will focus on borders that are crossed in the process both organizationally as well as in the context of personal relations.

The conference, which has been run annually for the past 13 years, is conceptualized as an ongoing „object of desire“ and the invitation to conduct a group is very much sought after. The conference is made up of small groups, large groups and morning groups, and is run in the spirit of group analysis with much flexibility. Both conductors and participants undergo a complex process, involving shifts between individual, group and general society arenas. A passionate search for identity and belonging characterizes the conference, which provides space for resonance of inclusion/exclusion issues in the professional community and in society.

Based on our experiences as administrators and co-directors, we will delineate through this model a number of core issues, both conscious and unconscious, of crossing borders: across different theoretical languages; shifting back and forth between the managerial and the professional roles within us; between safety and danger; communication patterns in the matrix; issues arising when professionals work without pay, as volunteers, when intense investment serves as a basis for entitlement to cross interpersonal boundaries and to power issues, especially around the selection of the staff.

136 Workshop

Reflective Citizen Matrix in Post-factual World

Stefan Cerovina (Serbia), Sanja Dimitrijevic (Serbia), Marijana Ajdukovic (Serbia),

Pavle Milosevic (Serbia)

Keywords: Reflective Citizen Matrix, post-truth world, cross-border thinking

Reflective Citizens (RC) is a methodology of applied group analysis combined with other sibling disciplines, founded by our GAS-Belgrade trainers Mojović and Satarić. In RC matrix citizens from various walks of life are invited to participate from their various roles and identities in the society and the world, engage in meaningful dialogues, ever crossing borders of their external and internal worlds. In here and now, we are witnessing a growing distrust of facts offered up by the establishment colluding with fragmented globalised matrices in 4th ba I:A/M, emotions often being abused. The phenomena of post-factuality appeared in different forms in our recent RC work.

After a short introduction, we as RC conveners (trainees in group analysis and RC) will offer to the participants the experience of sample of RC matrix. In the joint endeavor to open reflective spaces to explore the phenomena brought about by post-factuality – could it be an invitation to find new ways to cross borders searching for the other? (post truth -“relating to or denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief” Oxf. Dict.).

138 Paper Presentation

Crossing Borders - Serbian Reflective Citizens and their Matrices in Dialogues

Marijana Ajdukovic (Serbia), Sanja Dimitrijevic (Serbia), Stefan Cerovina (Serbia), Pavle Milosevic (Serbia)

Keywords: Reflective-Citizens, cross-border dialog, matrices in dialog

Serbian Reflective-Citizens (RC) is a carefully developed methodology for psycho-social work with citizens, founded by training group analysts Mojović and Satarić: applied group analysis combining dynamic shifts between large and small sized groups with social dreaming, social drawing, inter-group events, review and planning. Significant principle - everything free of charge, includes our training for RC-conveners. Network of workshops, spread over the region, constantly attuning to changing circumstances, entails also applied RCs in areas of education, art, history, police, etc.

In this paper we wish to share our experience as conveners of RC: even in continuous social trauma it is possible to be in co-created psycho-social reflective spaces imbued with layers of difficult feelings of exclusion and inclusion; us and other; feelings that are new, as well as those trans-generationally transmitted in their mutual inter-change. It is a process of ongoing crossing borders external and internal: Not only that citizen-participants learn the art of dialogue, but over the time, we found evidence on very interesting phenomena of different engaging matrices in dialogue. We will share vignettes from our work.

139 Workshop

DBT and Group Psychotherapy: an Integrative Lens

Claudia Arlo (USA)

Keywords: Integrative Group Therapy - Dialectical Behavior Therapy - psychodynamic group

This workshop will explore the value of integrating aspects of Dialectical Behaviour Therapy with Group Therapy in providing services for hard to treat populations.

The presenter is a clinician and coordinator of an Addiction Service in a Mid-town Manhattan Hospital, New York. She is also a group analyst trained to the Modern Psychoanalytic Model at the Centre for Group Studies New York; and a specialist in Dialectical Behavior Therapy for which she has trained through Linehan's training group. She has been teaching and presenting on the integration of models and modalities of practice over many years.

This workshop offers an account of a New York-based programme offering group treatment integrated with dialectical behavior therapy. The programme caters for difficult-to-treat patients who are common in our practices, whether we work in clinics/hospitals or in private practice. Many of these complicated individuals have a history of multiple trauma and may also be the result of a 'bad fit' during their upbringing, involving significant invalidation.

Integrating tools from different perspectives has been proved valuable in these situations. This workshop will provide an overview of DBT; of the Modern Analytic approach in group therapy; and will then demonstrate how they can be integrated in group treatment. Examples will be drawn from the presenter's and the attendees' clinical practices.

140 Workshop

Is how we Practise Dynamic Administration Anti-democratic, Anti-group and Based on Myth?

James Conway (United Kingdom)

Keywords: dynamic administration, praxis, inclusion, myth, anti-group, experiential, exploration, structure, structural dynamics, anarchy, democracy

„God is dead. God remains dead. And we have killed him. How shall we comfort ourselves?“ asked Nietzsche in „The science of Joy“. Perhaps in today’s world of political and social upheaval we can repeat the same question but replace God with Authority / Politics / Community / Group Analysis. I have little experience of group analysis, no special knowledge, no power and no answers but I have questions that I would like to explore with others:

1) Myth: Why according to the theory of Group Analysis is Dynamic Administration reserved exclusively for the conductor? If an individual is an abstraction that can only be understood within a matrix of relationships and valencies does the same apply to the group’s conductor? Is dynamic administration based on the myth of individuality? Is dynamic administration done by the group, for the group, including the conductor?

2) Anti-group: To what extent is dynamic administration without a transparent explanation for group participants anti-group? Can the practices of Dynamic Administration be proven as effective empirically? Should they be explained to participants for their consideration? Is Dynamic administration based on the conductor’s preconceptions and assumptions? Is dynamic administration without a democratic mandate a benign dictatorship? Can a group without the ability to consciously challenge and change structure, including dynamic administration, ever be empowered to reach self-knowledge and communion?

3) Brave new world: Can we survive without the authority of others: God, politicians, Group Analysts?

Perhaps we can commune and in so doing perchance we will create an experience of dynamic administration together.

141 Joint Sub-Plenary Working with Refugees and Working with Children Increasing the Resilience

Irene Mitraki (Greece)

Keywords: refugee crisis, trauma, resilience, group analysis

The recent mass migration of asylum seekers and migrants to Europe has been the largest movement of people Europe has seen since World War II. Refugees have experienced various extremely stressful events because of political or religious oppression, war, migration, and resettlement. Within the relocation they must adapt to a new place and language under uncertain circumstances. Pre/post-migration stress may differentially predict specific kinds of symptoms in both children and adults. It is during the period of resettlement where stress is high, when health care workers might start to reverse the effects of trauma, by providing culturally sensitive care. Despite the war associated trauma, and the risk for mental health symptoms after exposure to the numerous hardships, research and clinical experience suggest that war-affected adults and children demonstrate remarkable resilience.

Refugees as a group tend to be resistant and resilient to psychiatric disorders. Promotion of resilience by helping the refugee regain important lost resources, is a critical function of the health-care personnel in the early weeks and months after arriving in the host country. It is also essential to eventually restore their belief in humanity, reconstruct close relationship with significant others and rebuild their feeling of belonging to a community. The psychodynamic group model is the best way to achieve these goals. The group analytic group and the therapeutic community can help in increasing resilience. In this concept, an „international emergency model“, based on group analytic group theory that involves both local and foreign therapists, might be a promising project.

142 Sub-plenary Working with Children

„Is that a fish in your ear?“ - Translation as a Transformable Process in Communication in a Deaf Analytic Group

Toby Shechter (Israel)

Keywords: translation, transformation, communication

The Presentation demonstrates the therapeutic process of an analytic group conducted by me for the past 5 years. The Group takes place in „Meitar“ A unique Residential Treatment Academy for hearing impaired children and adolescents (MYRT). I have been head of MYRT since its foundation. Residents of „Meitar“ cannot receive services from ordinary rehabilitation institutes for deaf, cultural and communicational reasons. Communication in „Meitar“ is conducted in „Israeli sign language“ The children in addition to being hearing impaired are diagnosed with learning disabilities, severe emotional mental and behavioural disturbances due to environmental and emotional neglect. As a hearing conductor in a group which all participants are deaf, it is only natural that the term „Translation“ also has a special interest for me. At first for communicational reasons since the group is conducted in sign language. But in addition I would like to present my understanding of the parallel meaning of the term from two fields of knowledge; that of language and of group analysis. Foulkes talks of the term „Translation“ as the equivalent of “making conscious the repressed unconscious”... „translation from one type of expression, from one language to another ... from symptomatic and symbolic meaning to a clear understanding”, (Foulkes 1975:111).

During the therapeutic process I came to realize the important contribution of “translation”. It is far more than just understanding what the members of the group were saying, but also came to reveal, understand and promote the transformable process of members from primal, preverbal, unconscious A.O to verbal communication through authentic discourse.

143 Paper Presentation

Transformative Potential at the Borders of Life and Death of a Small Analytic Group

Tija Despotović (Serbia)

Keywords: group analytic psychotherapy, destructive process, group borders, transformative potential, forgiveness

To what extent a small analytic group is capable to contain harm when done by its members to each other within or outside the group borders, and under which conditions that group could maintain the function of a therapeutic group?

Dealing with acting is part of group analytic perspective and process, but violating its borders by breaking confidentiality or making relationships outside the group brings the group close to its destruction and those situations are usually regulated by the rules. But sometimes the real transformative potential appears within the group or/and individual when the group comes close to, touches or steps across the borders of acceptable and tolerable communication and behavior of its members, including the conductor.

If therapy is serving as a witness to unacknowledged experience (Dalal, 2016), then there are times when we as the conductors need to acknowledge that the group space and internal worlds of its members become equated and devoid (of good objects), especially if the same is going on in the outer societal reality. The work of forgiveness as an ongoing process and the only clue, is a chance for survival and change within the group.

144 Workshop

Group Analytic “Music” in Harmony and Disruptions across GASl Landscapes. Listening, Playing, Reflecting & Dreaming the Future of Relationships among our Fields

Marina Mojović (Serbia), Marita Barthel-Rösing (Germany)

Keywords: music across GASl fields, dialogue: harmony and disruption, dreaming the future of GASl

GASl members from different towns, countries and regions of the world communicate as individuals or communities in liveliness of ways and languages jointly conceiving, developing and exchan-

ging group-analytic stories and poetry, images and dreams, rhythms and melodies, across the GASI landscapes. However, some of the field-areas encounter communicational struggles and obstacles, some feel isolated, either geographically, culturally or otherwise - unheard, invisible, or excluded - by others or by themselves. With all interested GASI members we wish to co-create a space for careful, appreciative listening of the varieties of music of and between our fields - understanding the silences or cacophonous-disruptions from the wider perspectives.

During preparation phase we will have online exchanges with a group of colleagues from different countries. This frame builds on the previous 'dialogue and internationalization workshop' during the London Symposium „Keeping the Group-Analytic Flame Burning in spite of Toxic Influences from the Social Context“ and on methodology of Reflective-Citizens.

Two subsequent 90-minutes-sessions will contain: short social-dreaming, median and small-sized groups, inter-group-event, social-drawing, individual or group mini-presentations, all this as a joint endeavor in reflecting, imagining and planning future activities.

145 Workshop

What to Do with our Phantasies about the Others? How to Manage the Social Experiences of our Ancestors and of the past? One German and one Israel Perspective

Kathrin Albert (Germany) and Michal Eilon (Israel)

Keywords: unaware social elements in our thoughts and behaviour, strange feelings, prejudice, resentments - how to speak with each other?

We, Michal from Tel Aviv and Kathrin from Berlin, first met at one of the Israeli-German Group Analytic Conferences ‚Voices after Auschwitz‘. At the Berlin Symposium we want to speak about our personal experiences with the participants of the workshop:

Who are the participants of the previous three conferences, what different family histories do we have?

How nowadays can we speak with each other considering the different collective memories and transgenerational transmission? Because of these what are the differences in commonplace life in Tel Aviv and in Berlin?

What special things happened in the small and large groups, music and film discussions in Nahsholim and Ginosar? How can the changes of the Large Group Process be described from the perspective of an Israeli and from a German view? What are preconditions to be able to speak with each other without resentment, encroachment and exclusion of the past? And what has this done to us, personally? How are we still speaking despite strange feelings and (unconscious) prejudice?

All these questions are important, we think, not only for the relationship between Jews and Non-Jews, Israelis and Germans but also for all the participants in ethnic conflicts recently and in the past.

146 Paper Presentation

The Challenges of Living in a Globalised Technological World

Tiziana Baisini (United Kingdom)

Keywords: migration, identity, narcissism, internet, diversity

We live longer
But less precisely
and in shorter sentences
(W. Szyborska)

We live immersed in the so-called Culture of Narcissism, as capitalism and narcissistic personality traits share some important features. Our times are marked by consumerism and global corporations, whose aim seems to be to flatten differences and to make us, to some extent, all the same, since it would be far easier to produce goods for a homologated society than for a diverse one. Also, this characteristic recalls a narcissistic trait, where it is difficult to have in mind, or sometimes even recognise, the other. The ubiquitous presence of the Internet risks reinforcing this solipsism, since we are constantly connected, but quite often disconnected by our surrounding environment. But, in times of large migration flows, the Internet can also work as a virtual homeland where peop-

le who moved abroad look for a reconnection with their cultural identity, particularly through social networks.

Internet corporations have increasingly personalised the user experience, transforming what could be a place of diverse interactions into a sum of isolated echo chambers. So, while people think that they surf the internet in order to get in touch with their cultural roots, and with what is happening in their country of origin, what they really find is a homologation on another level, finding opinions, experiences and points of view that are similar to their own.

How much can this phenomenon reinforce the culture of narcissism we already live immersed in?

How much our capability to deal with difference can be affected by that?

These themes will be explored from both a theoretical and a clinical point of view.

147 Paper Presentation

Stumbling at the First Step. Existential fears in children group analysis

Anja Khalil (Germany), Carla Maria Weber (Germany)

Keywords: analytic groups with children, clinical examples, role of group therapist, many ways of group analysis

Having mainly worked with adults sitting regularly in a circle of chairs during group therapy, we indeed had to adapt to therapy with children in a playground. In this workshop, we would like to illustrate specific processes of children group analysis based on clinical examples from our weekly work with an outpatient group of children, and a monthly one with their parents.

It was remarkable how the children were creative in expressing their inner needs, how they mutually benefited from each other, to the extent that it elicited powerful countertransference. We were confronted with diverse attacks on linking in and outside of the group. How does therapy work with mostly nonverbal communication and fast interaction? Besides the biographical traumata of the children, we had to pay attention to additional traumata, that of their parents. How could we ensure the survival of the group when there exists the destructive jealousy of the parents? It became a big challenge to overcome re-enactments of existential fears.

This workshop will address newcomers and experts to discuss processes of children group analysis and the role of the group therapist in children groups. We would be glad if we could fuel your enthusiasm for you to get involved in the many ways of group therapy.

148 Workshop

"Did you really say that?"

Self Disclosure, Trust and Shame in the Supervision Matrix

Thor Kristian Island (Norway)

Keywords: group analysis, group supervision, training, self-disclosure, trust, shame

In this paper I will talk about the topics of self-disclosure, trust and shame within the framework of group analytic training and practice. Building on Winnicott's (1971) notions of „potential space“ and „experience which leads to trust“ as a requirement for „creative living“, I will discuss the importance of trust as a requirement for the learning process and a prerequisite for creativity.

In supervision the supervisor becomes trustworthy by the way he manages and dynamically administers the supervision group. i.e. his form and actions.

Shame is closely connected to the feeling of „loosing face“, of being exposed to something that we would have preferred kept hidden. The supervision group, where unconscious processes and counter-transference reactions are exposed, is therefore often experienced as a challenging and vulnerable situation regarding shame.

However, the group format also provides a possibility for support and identification when experiences are shared.

In my presentation I will discuss factors of importance for creating a working supervision group characterized by trust and ability to reflect. I will look at dynamic factors that supervisors have to acknowledge and be aware of in order to create a supervision group with an optimal learning climate. Supervision within a training program, where assessment and control are part of the process, represents additional challenges regarding trust and activation of narcissistic vulnerability and shame. How to deal with this will be addressed.

149 Paper Presentation

A Jewish Consultant in East Jerusalem: Professionalism as a Bridge over the Muddied Waters of National Hostility

Hedda Amir (Israel)

Keywords: boundaries ,intercultural distance, national hostility

Dedicated to the memory of Ahmed Awaad This is the story of my experiences in East Jerusalem as a Jewish organizational consultant and group leader, assigned by the Ministry of Education to work with schools that teach according to the Palestinian program under the supervision of the Education Ministry and the Jerusalem Municipality.

I came to this position under the auspices of the Israeli Education Ministry as a consequence of a government decision from 2010 to transfer all of the schools in the country to self-administration. The Authority insisted that East Jerusalem also be included in this process, which was implemented after numerous delays and postponements.

I offered myself to be a consultant in East Jerusalem for a mixture of reasons: a sense of adventure, a desire to discover entire unknown worlds that are so close and yet so far from my home; a sense of social responsibility; and a desire to confirm my professionalism in difficult circumstances. To be honest – not too many people were competing for the position..

As organizational consultant to East Jerusalem from 2012-2016, I consulted to 31 schools. The purpose of this article is to describe my intercultural journey as a Jewish consultant to Arab schools, and the role of professionalism as a bridge over cultural boundaries and the muddied waters of national hostility.

150 Paper Presentation

„The Face of the Father in the Face of the Other“ – Inter-Generational Dialogue in the Social Dream Matrix as a Key for Social Transformation

Hanan Sabah-Teicher, speaker (Israel), Or Netanel (Israel), Hanni Biran (Israel), Judith Ezra (Israel)

Keywords: Social Dreaming Matrix, inter-generational dialogue, second / third generation immigrants, traumatized society, group identity, social transformation, Israel

„When will we admit the truth?

We’ve abandoned the parents. ...

The movement of the world that we motivate Will turn their homes into an exile”

(“Abandonment” / Shlomi Hatuka)

This paper is based on a social initiative by the authors, who hosted a series of social dreaming matrix (SDM) gatherings, open to their community in Tel Aviv, to enable an alternative space for dialogue in the Israeli society which is torn by conflict and trauma.

The authors describe how SDM gatherings enliven and enrich the way participants identify themselves - from a self affirming signifier, to a node in a complex matrix of significance.

At the culmination of the more open discourse, afforded by the dreams, the authors highlight an inter-generational theme that allows dialogue with Otherness. E.g.: in one dream, a man driving to Egypt worries that his appearance will associate him with his father who fought in a war there, thus putting him in danger, but surprisingly for him, the women’s and children’s faces resemble his father’s face, and he is receiving honor for his blood-relation.

The authors discuss how the inter-generational theme, as well as the dialogue between different generations within the gatherings, create a deep link between self and other, between ‚us‘ and ‚them‘. The authors argue that in the traumatized, unstable, immigrant society formed in Israel, there is a tendency to run away from the ghosts of the past. This escape in itself becomes a haunted reality, overshadowing the search for a deeper truth. However, in order to deal with the painful reality and the ongoing cycles of violence, ancestors and descendants must connect to bring transformation.

151 Workshop

Impassable Borders, Gender and Finance: Blind Spots or Spots before our Eyes?

Frances Griffiths (United Kingdom), Teresa von Sommaruga Howard (United Kingdom)

Keywords: gender, politics, finance, money

Does an impassable border exist between men and women and between those who want to know about finances and those who do not? What happens to decision-making when women hold key roles in our psychotherapy organisations, particularly that of treasurer?

In the workshop we will explore our relationship to money. How does it influence our capacity to take responsibility for the financial affairs of our organisations and how does it affect our relationships with each other as group analysts?

How might gender contribute to how things are managed?

What is our need to conform to the status quo?

Do we see money as grubby, unfit for conversation?

How are our attitudes to money framed by our culture or family history?

When financial resources are restricted, how do we think about equality of access?

Before the workshop we will conduct an informal survey with the management groups of our various psychotherapy organisations to gather thoughts about the role of a treasurer. We will begin the workshop by presenting our findings and then open for dialogue.

152 Sub-plenary Working with Children

The Vocal Matrix and Group Attachment. The Importance of Listening and Speaking in Experiencing Otherness and Self

Helga Felsberger (Austria)

Keywords: vocal matrix, listening and speaking, social feedback process, group attachment

Otherness is an essential aspect in the development of the self, a fact which is closely connected to language. What is experienced as “we” and “they” has to do with language. The various regional and social and individual colours of the voices surrounding you give you the coordinates in the social matrix.

Already in 1934 G.H. Mead referred to the enormous importance of language as a social feedback process, i.e. the acoustic and vocal dimension of language. Language starts off as a very bodily experience, whereby listening and speaking function as bodily senses in order to get connected. Very early in life the foetus can hear and feel his mother’s voice and through out life our mother tongue with its regional and social colour remains a point of reference for our self, fostering a secure attachment in order to get connected in social contexts, to find a place within the “acoustic matrix of our group“. Listening and speaking can be regarded as embodied intersubjectivity and acquiring our language as mentalizing the intersubjective matrix. Maybe this is what Foulkes had in mind when he said „in learning to communicate, the group can be compared to a child learning to speak. (Foulkes & Anthony 1957, 263)The social expectations for resonance are embodied in the vocal matrix of a group, the very matrix of what and how something is uttered and heard or unsaid and unheard within a group. Then fear of annihilation can be seen as an equivalent of the absence of social expectations for resonance, the absence of the affection of contact, which triggers a state of dis-sociation, the opposite of group attachment.

154 Sub-plenary

Inside Out— Inter and Intra Group Analysis from Psychotherapists in Contemporary South Africa

Zamo Mbele (South Africa), Loyiso Maqubela (South Africa), Batetshi Matenge (South Africa)

Keywords: psychoanalysis, identity, social context, blackness, contemporary South Africa

Psychoanalysis is concerned with self-knowledge – inherent some would argue in the project of undergoing an analysis. Knowing of oneself, however, requires recognition that we exist in context, and perhaps specifically within social contexts, as has been explored in more contemporary psychoanalytic writings. In Fenichel’s Psychoanalytic Theory of Neurosis, there is recognition of the place of the social: “Neuroses do not occur out of biological necessity [...] Neuroses are social diseases

[...]“(cited in Rozmarin, 2011, p. 364). In her book, Whiteness just isn’t what it used to be, Steyn (2001) cites three critical quotations. She refers to Nadine Gordimer’s unique essay Living in The Interregnum and highlights her observation that “the interregnum is not only between two social orders but between two identities, one known and discarded, the other unknown and undetermined” (cited in Steyn, 2001, p. iix). The second of the three quotes emphasizes the malleability and historicity of identity: “a new identity is always post-some-old-identity” (Appiah, 1990, cited in Steyn, 2001, p. iix). These two quotations encapsulate a central argument in Steyn’s writing that resonates with our own project, namely, that personal identity is both determined and predetermined and that a social identity that can be entertained to be fluid, when cascaded to an intuitive identity, is experienced as relative and contingent. We hope to explore, elucidate and engage our lived interregnum, foregrounding our intersectional identity encapsulated in ‘unsettled blackness, as evidenced in our white mask, our black guilt, and our indulgence as house niggas in contemporary South Africa.

156 Sub-plenary Working with Refugees

The Psychotherapeutic Approach of the Psychological Migration Trauma in Cultural Epidemiology

Catherine Mela (Greece)

Keywords: cultural epidemiology, migration, refugees, PTSD

Cultural Epidemiology evaluates several parameters in migration like: age, gender, conditions at work, acute and chronic stress, financial status, family and the need of a container, nutritional habits and the way of living, immune tolerance to changes, religion parameters, education, local diseases and vaccination, epidemiology in the new country, vaccination.

Especially in migration and refugees, PTSD is expressed as a psychological, physical and organic trauma with trauma related situations. The syndrome of multiple losses is evaluated according to the stages of mourning and grief and in parallel to PTSD and losses.

PTSD seen in thousands of refugees resettled in western countries is characterized by flashbacks, sleep disorders and insomnia, panic attacks, anxiety, lack of trust, un-capability to form positive relationships, feelings of helplessness and despair.

The psychological migration trauma asks for evolutionary refugee - focused therapies, to help victims to face not only one traumatic event but multiple traumas such as rape, war and torture. PTSD symptoms as a mirror phenomenon can be also seen in many NGO’s staff members and caregivers.

The techniques applied in many “hot spots” both to the refugees and to the NGO’s staff members will be presented and further analyzed.

157 Sub-plenary Working with Children

Trust in Times of Terror and Risk? Group Analytic Perspectives on Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)

Kerstin Sischka (Germany)

Keywords: migration, globalization, transnationalism, extremism, de-radicalization, family counselling, family dynamics, social defense mechanism

The starting point for this presentation is the public discourse on the terrorist acts committed in Germany in 2016 and the political management of risks such as the persistently high risk of terror. The triangulation of media reports, public opinion and political responses will be further analysed. The first hypothesis is that social defence mechanisms against anxiety are playing an important role in this interaction. The present notion of „security“ and the fantasy of a „total security“ has an impact on the outlines for governmental security and preventative strategies.

But to what extent is the current „security policy“ based on fantasies and fueled by social defense mechanisms? We will discuss the implications for the professional work of a non-governmental CVE project. The thesis of a „manic social defence“ in the landscape of projects and programmes countering violent extremism is examined and can be described as a lack of containment. It raises the question, how the everyday practice of professionals in this field can be supervised (for example with group analytic methods) to improve the work with radicalised individuals and families.

158 Sub-plenary Working with Children

The Diagnostic-Therapeutic Network Extremism – How can Psychoanalytic Thinking Contribute to the Prevention of Extremism and to the Practice of De-radicalization?

Christoph Bialluch (Germany)

Keywords: migration, globalization, transnationalism, extremism, de-radicalization, family counselling, family dynamics, psychodynamics, social defense mechanism

In the presentation we would like to introduce you to the idea and work of the model project “Diagnostic-Therapeutic Network Extremism” (DNE) (www.dne-deutschland.de). It was founded in 2015 in Germany to address the increasing problem of radicalization and extremist violence from a psychoanalytic point of view. In collaboration with the counsellors of HAYAT (see Julia Berczyk’s abstract) the psychoanalysts and psychologists from DNE support individuals and families, who are concerned about radicalization. Basically we are trying to understand the individual underlying psychological structure of the radicalisation process and we are searching for possibilities of disengagement and de-radicalization. Reflecting on our work we conceptualize the cases in different ways: in general psychoanalytic, family-dynamic and systemic, in particular with a great variety of concepts like splitting, narcissistic structures, trauma, delegation etc. In many cases we are confronted with malign relationships between father and son and mother and daughter, often affected from transgenerational processes in their families caused by flight or migration. At the end we would like to give you a short insight in a case and discuss the transitional field between family and radical groups as well as the innovative collaboration between HAYAT and DNE.

159 Sub-plenary Working with Children

HAYAT-Germany: Family Counselling and De-radicalization in the Context of Islamist Extremism, Radical Salafist Groups or on the Path of a Violent Jihadist Radicalization

Julia Berczyk (Germany)

Keywords: migration, globalization, transnationalism, extremism, de-radicalization, family counselling, family dynamics, psychodynamics, social defense mechanism

The first part of the panel (first paper presentation) will introduce the audience to the counselling service Hayat-Germany (<http://www.hayat-deutschland.de/>). Hayat was founded in 2011 and is an initiative of the ZDK (<http://www.zentrum-demokratische-kultur.de/>), a non-profit NGO based in Berlin, Germany. Hayat provides counselling to relatives and friends of radicalized persons to eventually prevent, decelerate and invert a radicalization process. Moreover, HAYAT is working directly with radicalized persons in order to demonstrate the prerequisites and possibilities of desistance from radical behaviour, ideologies and groups. In recent years also many relatives of persons who are about to travel abroad, are already staying in Syria and Iraq or have returned to Germany, turn to HAYAT for advice.

The presentation will describe the need for as well as the workings of the counselling service in further detail. It will also shortly address the development of Salafism as a transnational radical movement and describe the attractiveness of Salafist movements, particularly on youth.

Finally, the presentation will reflect on the possibilities and limits of family counselling as a prevention and intervention tool against radicalization.

160 Paper Presentation

Primordial Memories Eternally Present: our Primordial Experience Examined as the Elemental Experience for Humanity - and Group-analysis

Kevin Power (United Kingdom)

Keywords: Primordial, hunter-gatherers, band, language and story, interaction, sharing, absence of leadership, fire, singing

Prior to 10 000BCE all humanity lived as hunter-gatherers. While Foulkes mentioned the Primordial once or twice as the deepest level of human interaction, this paper looks into the actuality of the primordial experience of all humanity, as ascertained from past and current anthropological and archaeological research into surviving hunter-gatherer peoples.

There are direct links in this research with group-analysis as clinical practice, as tool for understand-

ding human interaction, as the basis of all human development since at least the rise of language and most likely prior to this. Bringing this prehistory to light includes revealing research into the uses of language among Hunter-Gatherers', including the high importance of story-telling. All this is set against a human world devoid of bureaucracy, screens, engines, gasoline, factories, processed foods, maps, motorways, etc, yet was the human origin from which has evolved our existing world. Hunter-Gatherers' reflexive group-living elucidates how the fundamental humanising influence of group-analysis evolved, explaining how present-day group-analysis originates with the way humans learnt to live together in bands of 25-40, without leadership as we know it; this band-living was supplemented by larger group gatherings of up to about 150 people once or twice a year. All this for very many millennia until the Agricultural Revolution of around 10,000 BCE. These numbers are acutely relevant to group-analysis in its small, median and larger group range. I shall finish with a resume of how current humanity might use some of the living practices that hunter-gatherers have developed, and which the current world ignores.

**161 Joint Sub-Plenary Working with Refugees and Working with Children
Exploring the Multiple Practical and Psychological Needs and Resiliencies of Young Asylum Seekers and Refugees in the UK**

Bitenge Makuka (United Kingdom), Sheila Melzak (United Kingdom), Justin Phipps (United Kingdom)

Keywords: unaccompanied asylum seeking minors, holistic integrated therapeutic community approach

The Baobab Centre is a non-residential therapeutic community in London. We work with young people who have experienced child and adolescent specific human rights abuses, violence, loss and much unplanned change. Some have been present when parents were humiliated, violated, imprisoned or murdered and all have experienced violence to their bodies, in different contexts, during conflicts in their communities, in prison, as child soldiers or as survivors of trafficking. We offer individual psychotherapy and a variety of therapeutic and psychotherapeutic group based activities including regular community meetings. All our community members have been forced to leave their original communities and we aim that they find ways that each young person will find a place in the community of exile where they feel free to be themselves and can contribute to community life. We will present fundamental challenges and possibilities of our work, each speaking for ten minutes from our different perspectives as respectively, an African refugee working as a Therapeutic group worker (Bitenge Makuka); a Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist (Sheila Melzak) and as an individual and group psychotherapist (Justin Phipps).

We hope this will lead to a lively discussion and the emergence of diverse ideas and themes.

162 Paper Presentation

Mentalization-based Group Therapies (MBT-G) in Comparison with Psychodynamic Group Therapies (PDGT)

Ulrich Schultz-Venrath (Germany)

Keywords: mentalization based group therapy - adherence - rating scale - process-outcome - group climate

Mentalization-based group therapy (MBT-G) has developed from group analytic psychotherapy, originally as a specialized kind of (conjoint) treatment for borderline personality disorder. The MBT-G manual is now available also in English. The principles of MBT-G will be outlined in the presentation. Differences and similarities with the theory and technique will be discussed on research results of a randomized process-outcome study of MBT-G versus psychodynamic group therapy (PDGT) in a psychotherapeutic day treatment of heterogeneous patients with predominantly F3- or F4-diagnoses. In a third step we present and discuss the data of the development of the group climate (measured by GCQ-S) with more than 6,000 questionnaires related to therapeutic outcome of different diagnostic groups. These results are connected to the different therapeutic stances, goals and postulated change mechanisms of the treatment conditions.

163 Sub-plenary Working with Children

The Praxis of Group Analysis: to Use the Praxis and Thinking of Group Analysis to Promote Attachment and Relationship Development between Infants and Parents

Anna Malmquist Saracino (Sweden)

Keywords: infant-mother group, relationship psychotherapy, group specific therapeutic factors

An overview presentation of a Group Based Integrative Relationship Treatment for infants and parents at our Infant and Preschool team at the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in Stockholm. In focus are the Group Specific Therapeutic Factors, in the infant-mother group. This psychotherapeutic slow open group has been going on since 1989.

The base of description, evaluation and qualitative studies will be presented.

The treatment was described 1994 and evaluated in 1997.

The importance of specific activities in the group have been studied, such as:

Psychotherapists' methodology, stance and interventions 2001.

Singing and Rhyming 2007. A study of the singing and rhyming in the group context as a psychotherapeutic intervention to forming vital bonds.

Eating and feeding 2008. The importance of sharing meals to treat eating and feeding problems.

Infant to Infant Interaction 2011. Current, interdisciplinary infant research claims that babies are born with a general relational capacity in addition to the dyadic program that generates attachments. (theory of companionship).

What is common to these group activities is that they work to: regulate affects, promote development, enhance mentalization capacity, carry meaning, on individual, dyadic and group levels and provide insight into what is fundamental to human growth and maturation.

The presentation is illustrated with video clips.

164 Sub-plenary

Group Analysis in Rwanda

Justin Phipps (United Kingdom), MJ Maher (United Kingdom), Anne Morgan (South Africa)

Keywords: inclusion and exclusion - we and the other

In our presentation we will describe our work on the Rwandan Foundation course, cooperating with local Non-Governmental organisations. Thirty trainees participate in the course, which comprises four weeks of training spread over a period of two years.

We will draw on our experience of field trips to help us understand the wider social and cultural context.

Working in a post-genocide society influences the process and content of group analytic work.

We will explore how running a training course in a very different society challenges our basic assumptions as group analysts. In particular we will think about issues such as social identity, belief systems and attitudes to authority.

Working in a diverse team means we have to confront our own attitudes towards gender, race and colonialism.

MJ Maher is a black Zimbabwean woman working in London;

Anne Morgan is a white British woman working in South Africa;

Justin Phipps is a white British man who has worked in different parts of Africa.

165 Paper Presentation

„The Tao in Group Analysis“ with a Video Presentation

Werner Beck (Germany)

Keywords: the Tao, Yin & Yang, Chi, 5 Elements, I Ching, Matrix & Patrix, the Network-Theory of Neurosis, Scenic Understanding

What is the Tao and its meaning in our modern world and its relevance for working with Group Analytic Groups? Do the old Chinese concepts of Tao, of Yin and Yang and Chi contribute to understanding Group Analytic Groups and working with them? Where can the 5 Elements of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) be found in a Group Analytical process, and can it help to a better and deeper understanding of the process? In the perspective of the TCM the concept of the Matrix is

closer to the Chinese concept of Yin, the receptive, female, material aspect of what is happening in the group and should be complemented by a Yang aspect, a dynamic, active, male, fertilizing aspect: I call it „Patrix“. The concept of network in Group Analysis can be found in the Chinese concept of Chi circulating in the Meridian vessels, with the central Meridians of the Governing Vessel and the Serving Vessel, two central functions of each group conductor. Pulsation, stagnation or blocks in the flow of the Chi are central in TCM and as well in our groups. All the time we are working with blocks, with stagnation or a free flow of energies in our groups and are tending and hoping to facilitate a free flow in the course of the process. The old classic, the I Ching, deals with patterns of change and mutation in the course of time, which is an important element of the group process as well. Can these patterns, the way they are described in the I Ching, help us in describing characteristic stages of the group process and understanding the change and progress in our groups and in our work? Finally, the flow of the Chi and of group associations will be illustrated by a video extract of a football match.

166 Workshop

Crossing Borders - in all Sensual Qualities: Body, Sound, Rhythm, Image and Words in Dialogue

Katrin Stumptner (Germany), Christa Franke (Germany), Dietlind Köhncke (Germany)

Keywords: stage fright, sense of shame, public appearances

In this special group analytical workshop for professional musicians, we will concentrate to themes like stage fright and sense of shame. These are feelings and experiences professional musicians are confronted with in public appearances.

What is shame? Why stage fright is arising? What happens when I realize to be seen from others?

We will follow these questions in trying to decode body signals in connecting them with knowledge about the development of human feelings and personal histories.

We are working in the group analytical setting in using the whole complexity of communication (nonverbal and verbal).

168 Paper Presentation

The Centre Cannot Hold – or Loosening the Grip of the Ethnic Tent

Christine Thornton (United Kingdom)

Keywords: migration, other, division, fear, hate, exchange, koinonia, crisis, uncertainly, instability, context, injustice, justice, Brexit, leave

Recent social and political lurches have profoundly shaken many living in the comfortable developed world. In the UK, the referendum on departure from the EU revealed deep division, both between the ‘haves’ and ‘have nots’ in British society, and economic injustice between nations globally; a struggle for many people with complex identifications, including me, living in the UK but not ‘British’; against many black Britons, an upsurge of racially motivated attacks and abuse. Nevertheless, contextually the UK is, by any measure, privileged in a global context.

Group analysis means engaging meaningfully with others, different from us and holding different views: a crucial discipline in holding any possibility of navigating these challenges. I conducted large groups immediately after Brexit, reported in Contexts September 2016 [link above], and will be conducting further groups this Spring. I would love to work with European/ UK/ global colleagues to develop a workshop on these themes, to consider how to exchange ideas, retrieve complexity, modulation and individual voices in public discussion. If European/UK Weds would seem more appropriate, and if global then perhaps Thursday, as fear of migration was a crucial factor in the vote to ‘pull up the drawbridge’ and leave the EU.

169 Paper Presentation

Towards a Group Analytic Praxis Working with Teams / in Organisations

Christine Thornton (United Kingdom)

Keywords: praxis, team, organisation, stranger, context, complexity, difference, leader, nuanced communication, exchange, coaching

Several aspects of group analysis render it a useful discipline for consulting to organisations and working with teams in complex post-modern environments. These include attention to the individual in the group, sophisticated grasp of the nuances of interpersonal communication, attention to context, tolerance and value of multiple perspectives, creative incorporation of difference, and a flexible developmental approach to managing anxiety & leadership projections. The importance assigned to context, and the value placed on multiple perspectives as holding elements of reality, mesh with systems and complexity theories so that group analysis offers a coherent intellectual framework for understanding interplaying processes in the system, from individual, through team, departmental and organisational, to societal and global levels.

The group analyst's praxis in organisational work has fundamental differences from that of the therapist, though based in the same theory. The presentation explores common ground and differences, illustrated from the presenter's practice, that of supervisees, and of students on the IGA Diploma in Reflective Organisational Practice, of which she is the Convenor.

170 Paper Presentation

On the Beauty of Having and Keeping Boundaries

Helena Klímová (Czech Republic)

Keywords: post traumatic disorders, boundaries, identity, false collective self, time rythmization

Group analytic identity should be rooted in the scientific cognition. It is influenced, too, by the conscious and unconscious contents of the person, including the group analyst's concern as a citizen. However, our experience as citizens differs.

The topic of the Berlin Symposium certainly reflects, too, the contemporary European reality. The chosen traumata may exist which do not reflect only one's own group dramatic suffering, but, too, the trauma and suffering caused by one's own group to others: then one's own group attitude to other groups may be (unconsciously) led by guilt-feeling (as a part of the collective unconscious), which later influences the decision-making, till the time it is made conscious. This moment of the group self reflection can be speeded up in dialogue among participants of variety of origins.

The parental generation of the contemporary central Europeans had been exposed to the experience of the double totality in the last century. Besides the obvious disadvantages of the post traumatic disorder transgenerational transference, the signs of the post traumatic growth are evident, too.

The double experience of totalitarianism enabled the recognition of its basic nature and the ability to notice the post-totalitarian and pre-totalitarian patterns of behavior soon enough. Such patterns are not bound to the nature of the ruling system. These patterns may appear independently. Their growth in number signalizes danger.

Groups that were saved from this historical experience may be lacking the ability to recognize the totalitarian patterns soon enough. Then the dialogue among groups is vitally necessary.

171 Workshop

Painting as Complementary Therapy for Psycho-dynamic Group Therapy

Petra Herwig (Germany)

Keywords: complementary therapy, non-verbal techniques, painting

Our institute in Potsdam, Germany (called Brandenburgische Akademie für Tiefenpsychologie und analytische Psychotherapie e.V.) has been offering self-experience in groups combined with painting and movement therapy for more than 25 years. In our groups, participants get the chance to express themselves through paintings which are created in a group process and without any certain topics. Based on the Intended Dynamic Group Therapy, which originated in the former GDR, this method has constantly been extended in various creative ways. Our positive experiences encourage us in a further integration of non-verbal techniques in our psycho-dynamic group therapies. Nowadays,

the use of language seems to be decreasing as one possible way of expressing emotions in daily life. Thus, the integration of non-verbal techniques in group therapy can be used as “translation tool” in order to contribute to a verbalization of thoughts and emotions.

The workshop starts with a description of the method and the setting. Then, the participants - as a group - will have the opportunity to try out the method of painting, followed by a reflection of the exercise and the group painting. The concluding talk focuses on different ways of painting as a medium for diagnostics and therapy in group therapy. For this purpose, sequences of pictures from previous groups will be shown and discussed.

Max. number of participants: 10

172 Sub-plenary Working with Refugees

Psychosomatic Care for Traumatized Refugees - Model of Good Practice: the Outpatient Clinic for Transcultural Psychosomatic Medicine of Heinrich-Heine University Düsseldorf (LVR-Klinikum)

Monika Schröder (Germany), Dieter Kunzke (Germany), Ljiljana Joksimovic (Germany)

Keywords: refugees, posttraumatic stress disorders, group therapy, psychosomatic

Recent studies show that there is an increased probability for refugees to suffer from severe and complex mental disorders, especially post traumatic stress disorders. Not only due to language and socio-cultural barriers it is a challenge to provide adequate psychotherapeutic treatment within the German Health Care System.

In our outpatient Clinic for Transcultural Psychosomatic Medicine we offer in-depth, psychodynamically oriented diagnostic and individual psychotherapeutic care, particularly for traumatized refugees. Diagnostic approaches as well as psychosomatic/ psychotherapeutic/ psychopharmacological treatment are (culturally) adapted to meet individual needs of the patients; treatment offers are provided in different native or foreign languages by a multicultural and multiprofessional team; professional language and integration mediators are involved whenever necessary.

After a general presentation of the so called “Düsseldorfer Modell” in this lecture we want to focus on our positive experience with a variety of group therapies for traumatized refugees as a means of stimulation of personal contact and exchange of experiences.

173 Sub-plenary

The Castration of Foulkes’s Heritage

Joshua Lavie (Israel)

Keywords: castration, encroachment, blurring of personal boundaries

My lecture is about the castration of essential parts of S. H. Foulkes’s contributions, and the negligence of not writing his Biography, all the more so producing his Collected Works with proper scientific editorial board; something which is regularly done with personalities with the same, or even less, stature than S. H. Foulkes’s. The fact is that until now the only editor of Foulkes’s articles was done just by his latest wife Elizabeth: a careless, sloppy, negligent unscientific editing.

41 years after Foulkes death, nothing has been done to repair this sad and grave situation. If this 17th International Symposium aims to deal with the theme of Crossing Borders in the social, cultural and clinical domains, I wish to discuss the encroachment to the personal creative zones of the father of Group Analysis, blurring the boundaries between him and his followers.

In my lecture, I will bring evidence to my argument from Dieter Nitzgen’s work and from my own investigations of Foulkes’s published materials and from his literary remains in the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine in London.

I believe that time has come to discuss these hard facts (with double meaning...) in a critical way and without fear and favour. And last but not least just to illustrate my point, the fact that after Foulkes’s death we established a beautiful tradition of Foulkes (day) Lecture, which gives scientific large space to his follower’s contributions, and at the same time during the last 41 years (41 Foulkes’s Lectures) we neglected his own contributions; this fact alone requires profound and courageous investigation of the castration of the father of group analysis!

174 Paper Presentation

Movement Possibilities between Leadership Positions in Group Analytic Psychotherapy

Göran Ahlin (Sweden)

Keywords: Group Analytic Psychotherapy, praxis of Group Analysis, conductor-ship, leadership positions and roles, vicissitudes of leadership over time

Group leadership in Group Analysis has, from S. H. Foulkes' days onward, been discussed in many different ways. The leadership of therapeutic groups is more than limited to one single role and function. This author has earlier suggested such leadership as possibly moving in a four-field area between positions of CONTROL, CATALYSIS, KNOWLEDGE SEEKING and CONTAINMENT. This Sub Plenary offers deepening comments on the four-field diagram of possibilities and restrictions, pros and cons, resulting from such an approach to CONDUCTOR-ship in Foulkes' terms, followed by shared group dialogues about what enhances and what restricts group leadership in Group Analytic Psychotherapy groups. All interested are warmly welcome!

Participant number up to 40 persons.

175 Workshop

Leaderless Groups within the Training Institute GRAS in Germany

Cornelia Krause-Girth (Germany), Erhard Tietel (Germany)

Keywords: group analysis, training, leaderless groups

The Group Analytic Seminars (GRAS) founded in 1977 by Michael Lukas Moeller trained 502 psychoanalysts and psychotherapists in group analysis in the last 40 years. One third (173) came back to GRAS after graduation for further self experience in small groups of group analysts without leader in the framework of GRAS. These autonomous groups are a feature of GRAS invented by the founder Moeller, who was called the 'father of self-help groups' because of his research and his engagement for these kinds of groups. Qualitative research results can illustrate some effects of these leaderless groups.

1. 25 participants of these groups (14 women, 11 men, 57,7 years on average) were interviewed about their experience within GRAS and the impact it had on their life. The findings show: The effects of GRAS can be regarded as substantive with positive influence on private and professional life.
2. Participants of 7 leaderless groups described the specificity of their group in a plenary session.
3. The interpretation of a group discussion. Eleven members with in average of 13 year of experience in leaderless groups took part in a group discussion exchanging their experience. The group discussions proved to be a suitable method to explore the complexity, ambiguity and contrariness of group analytic work

177 Workshop

Observations from Trialog Conference - Russian, Ukrainian and German Encounter

Marie-Luise Alder (Germany)

Keywords: book presentation, group process, resonance, therapeutic self disclosure, conversation analysis

I would like to present a book Prof. Michael B. Buchholz and I edited. The book is a collected edition of texts written by observers from the Trialog Conference in May 2015. Small and large group processes will be illustrated on the material and be reflected.

Method: The observers were students from the International Psychoanalytic University, one therapist in training and one sociologist. Two observers participated in each small group and four observers in the large group. They were not part of the group but sat outside the group circle. Together with the staff it was agreed that we would not speak during the group sessions. Every observer protocolled during and after the sessions what was of their own interest. In the evenings the observers met alone and discussed their observations and feelings. After the conference was held the observer group met a several times and discussed possible subjects to write about.

The aim was to show the developing process within the group sessions. I would like to talk and discuss about three things: 1. The therapeutic self-disclosure helped the group to tell their personal

stories. 2.) The speciality of group-talk in comparison to face-to-face interaction (conversation analysis). 3) Resonance phenomenon during the large group sessions through joke-telling, laughter and tears.

178 Paper Presentation

Re-thinking “Role-Playing” as an Extended Group Analytic Training Method for Community Based Facilitators

Tony Hamburger (South Africa) and Assie Gildenhuys (South Africa)

Ububele an NGO situated within greater Alexandra Township, a partially seriously disadvantaged community. Ububele has for the past 17 years been training both mental health professionals and lay persons. The overall training model for the various trainings is psycho-analytically informed. For the past 15 years Ububele has run an annual group analysis training course over six 3-day weekend blocks. The training runs over 2 years. Each weekend block consists of small and large experiential groups, theoretical seminars and work discussion groups.

In addition the second year support group facilitators need to design, set up and run a 10 session support group. The majority of the groups have consisted of participant from disadvantaged communities.

Our GASI Berlin presentation will describe and illustrate a novel training method which has been developed in-house over the past 6 years and is used during this 2nd year course as preparation and support for their actual task of facilitating a community support group.

The “Role playing” method.

Each learner is asked to create a ‘persona’ who will attend a support group dealing with various kinds of problematic family relations. The learner/group member will retain this ‘persona’ for 1 year. The role-playing offers participants, on rotational basis, experiential learning as a member and as facilitator. As the role-playing develops over the year participants form multiple perspectives on group facilitation. A primary reflective stance through in- and out-group discussions, a personal learning journal, role reflections and role analysis generates a free-floating discussion on the shared observations. This touches on personal, theoretical and group process awareness and formulation. The extending developmental frame of the role playing runs parallel to tasks related to the development and running of the support group in community practice. We will also share some ideas on how this model assists in their development as group facilitators.

This training method has a lot of immediate benefits for GA in the context of community work but are optimistic that the results so far indicate that it has wider training potential for professionals.

179 Sub-plenary Social Unconscious

Introduction to the Social Unconscious and to our Panel, with Examples from the Israeli SU Haim Weinberg (USA)

Keywords: social unconscious, Foundation Matrix

A simple way to explain the Social Unconscious is to say that just as our personal and family history unconsciously affects our life, so does society unconsciously impacts our behaviour, attitude, feelings and thoughts, and just as traumatic events in our life are embedded in our memory in a way that we might be unaware of, massive social traumas influence people who belong to that society in ways that are beyond their awareness.

However, although social trauma is one important element of the Social Unconscious, and usually its most dramatic one, there are other elements that can be included in it, such as language and non-verbal communication. People from each specific society are unaware of the myths, collective memories, specific anxieties and the defenses against them, that are part of the Social Unconscious and Foundation Matrix of that society, and how they influence their daily practice.

In my introductory presentation to this 4 day panel, I will describe the Social Unconscious project in which we are involved for several years together with colleagues from all over the world, which produced a series of 3 books and many lectures, workshops and panels such as this current one. I will summarize our main understandings of this subject and main dilemmas we encountered in developing our ideas, through a continuous dialogue among us and with our colleagues.

180 Paper Presentation

Aspects of Migration and Globalization within Group Analytic Supervision in Organizations

Marita Barthel-Rösing (Germany), Ruth Beckenbauer (Germany), Harald Küster (Germany)

Keywords: wanderer between the worlds, complex supervision assignments, migration and globalisation in organizations, enactments of loyalty, sibling rivalry and rejection, large group, agent of democracy

Presentations:

1. Harald Küster: The Supervisor as a Wanderer between the Worlds - 'Purity' and 'Pollution'

Case supervision with a team of psychologists, social workers and doctors in a psychosomatic rehabilitation clinic moved to team supervision and further was changed to a complex counselling situation: The supervisor took over the task of counselling the clinic management as well. A step of migration and globalization in the organization?

The paper will explore the pollution of the group analytic process, the wishes of all and the supervisor's aspiration for Mother Hulda.

2. Ruth Beckenbauer: The Struggle for a Place in an Organization

How can enactments of loyalty conflicts, sibling rivalry and rejection in the process of a group analytic supervision in an organization be contained by the supervisor and be worked through in the supervisory process?

Can there be a place for all? What is the legitimation for getting a place? How can good enough places and structures be built in an organization?

3. Marita Barthel-Rösing: The Large Group as a Symbol of Globalization and an Agent of Democracy in an Organization

In which way do complex supervision assignments in an organization comprehend aspects of globalization? Which chances and which risks are embodied in this? How can a single supervisor take over such a task without becoming too powerful? How can he preserve the essentials of group analytic work and resist the temptation to move into a leading position in the organization? On the basis of an organization's vignette, it will be explored what impact the large group offers in this connection.

181 Sub-plenary Social Unconscious

The World in a Nutshell - how Foundation Matrices Show up in Dynamic Matrices

Regine Scholz (Germany)

Keywords: foundation matrix and dynamic matrix - connection and development, basic power dimensions

The concept of foundation matrix often is considered too abstract, too far away from every day group work to be useful, except for perhaps large group conductors or antropologists. Small group dynamics more often are conceptualized along the lines of family dynamics, only stating that these of course are shaped by the larger cultural context.

In this presentation I will argue and exemplify that small group situations/dynamics can very well inform us about the larger context of the society of which it is a part. Examples from Egypt, the UK and Germany are analyzed describing what they can tell us about their underlying foundation matrices. Basic power dimensions of every foundation matrix like relations between the generations, gender relations, questions of authority and of belong (or not belonging) to a group, i.e. inclusion and exclusion, are examined and outlined along the theoretical concept of foundation matrix. Special attention is given to the inseparable process of foundation matrices only to be observed and developed in and through dynamic matrices.

182 Sub-plenary Social Unconscious

ISIS, Myth & Reality: from the Abrahamic to the Reversed Family

Eran Shadach (Israel), Shulamit Geller (Israel)

Keywords: terror, mental pain, social trauma, reverse family, incohesion, founding myth

ISIS is a Salafi-Jihadi terror entity that aspires to enforce Islamic law across the world through violent actions justified by its ideology. Currently under siege, it continues to defy the western world

and its values, as well as Arab and Islamic regimes that do not recognize its supremacy. Applying psychoanalytic and group analytic conceptualizations for describing the phenomenon of ISIS, we suggest that a basic motive for the emergence of ISIS was the need to deal with the mental pain and social trauma originated in the collapse of the golden age of Islam, reactivated during the Arab spring.

Communities that had experienced mental pain and social trauma are often characterized by failed dependency and incoherence. In an attempt to re-find cohesion, people and communities tend to look at founding myths that bind them together in order to reconcile themselves with the situation and to re-adjust the interrelations between the dynamic and the foundation matrices.

Under such circumstances of conflict and of massive changes accompanied by the collapse of authority, a radical form of an immature family is likely to emerge, namely, the reversed family. The reversed family is equipped with magic solutions, offering an immediate and total elimination of mental pain, and negates learning processes.

During this presentation, we will describe ISIS as a large group ‚reversed family-like‘ entity, which works within both the foundation and the dynamic matrices. For that purpose, we will illustrate how the family as a central institution in Islam, and the primal Abrahamic family as a founding myth, is used and abused by ISIS in order to control the world rather than to understand it.

183 Sub-plenary Working with Children

The Conductor’s Inter-functional Model as Mirroring of the Process in a Group of Children Working through a Period of Terrorist Attacks

Hernan Favelukes (Israel)

Keywords: children with learning disabilities, mirroring, Group Analysis, Drama Therapy, psychodrama, terrorism, identity

A therapy group for pupils in a small class for children with learning disabilities will be presented. The working model includes group analysis, drama therapy and psychodrama. Parallel to the working of members in the group on developing identity issues, they find themselves threatened by an intense wave of terror attacks by young terrorists, not much older than the group members. This national crisis reflects in the group work, which deals with issues of splitting between aggressor and victim, Israelis and Palestinians, divides over religious, gender, handicap and other identity issues. A mirroring model is shown to explain the group process and its relation to national conflicts.

184 Workshop

Writing the Group - a Phenomenographic Workshop

David Glyn (United Kingdom), Peter Zelaskowski (Spain)

Keywords: phenomenographic research

This workshop will offer participants an introductory experience of the phenomenographic approach to researching groups. This method involves all group members independently writing their own accounts of a session; it seeks to capture the multifaceted character of the group. Participants will be encouraged to write in their mother tongue.

It is intended that all of the written accounts will be published side-by-side in Contexts.

185 Sub-plenary Social Unconscious

The „fear of miscegenation” in Matrices and its Relevance to Europe Today

Carla Penna (Brazil)

Keywords: social unconscious, fear of miscegenation, unconscious fantasies, blood, matrices

The twentieth century has left a legacy of great wars, totalitarian regimes and atrocities that bequeathed to the twenty-first century not only a new world map that redistributed Europe, but new countries following the reconfiguration of borders. Some of them still suffer the traumatic consequences of unmentioned losses which remain entrenched on the social unconscious of persons, groups and societies. Recently, the painful reality of masses of war refugees, unemployment and uncertainly are affecting the matrices and the life of persons and communities. Moreover, new ideologies and

right wing movements are giving space for the expansion of intolerance, fundamentalism, racism, terrorism and polarizations that are threatening the Western world.

This paper will introduce the group analytic and psychoanalytic discussion on some of the fantasies involved in ethnic conflicts - the “fear of miscegenation”, the fear of the breed mix. Fantasies around race, purity, contamination, sacrifice and destruction connected to the idea of mixture of blood will be discussed aiming to understand the recrudescence of fear, hate and massive projections that haunts, but are underway in European matrices.

186 Sub-plenary Social Unconscious

Crossing Borders Social, Cultural and Clinical Changes

Helena Klímová (Czech Republic)

Keywords: social unconscious, boundaries, role of regression, of social times differences

Some phenomena seem to be characteristic for the recent years: some people attempting to diminish or to negate differences between men and women, thousands of refugees searching new homes, Russians overtaking part of Ukrainian territory, Britons departing from existing ties... all such events have something in common, i.e. handling with some sort of boundaries: to overcome some boundaries, to neglect them...or to build them, to strengthen another sort of boundaries. Together with the boundaries it is the structure and the meaning that is under change and reconstruction. There is no unity among various groups and the tension seems to be rising.

The explanation of the phenomenon may be sought for in the sphere of the social unconscious, which is what the paper is attempting to do.

187 Sub-plenary Working with Violence

New Film Series on Group Process Research: Group Dynamics and the New Heroism; The Ethical Alternative to the Stanford Prison Experiment

Bill Roller (USA)

Keywords: Zimbardo's Stanford Prison Experiment, Berkeley Civic Courage Experiment

The Berkeley Civic Courage and Heroism Experiment, created by Philip Zimbardo and Bill Roller, is a pioneering study that begins with a different premise than the Stanford Prison Experiment: What group dynamics bring out the best in human beings and allow them to act together in alignment with their moral beliefs--even at possible risk to themselves?

I shall screen a 90 minute clip of the six hour film series which captures the unscripted, spontaneous group process of eight individuals as they learn how to work together and form a group that will motivate and sustain non-violent courageous action in the public interest. Our film tracks them as they obey their conscience and act in concert with each other. The viewer can follow the steps of the group as they organize themselves and then see them carry their project to fulfillment.

Our film offers an alternative interpretation to the standard take away from the Stanford Prison Experiment: The guards were not instructed explicitly to abuse prisoners. However, the guards were encouraged implicitly by Zimbardo, in his role as warden, to continue abuse once they began to do so. The implicit message was clear: „If you begin to abuse, we will not stop you.“

188 Sub-plenary Working with Violence

Definitions of Terror: Fort Hood and Cross-cultural Empathy Applied to US Drone Strikes

Bill Roller (USA)

Keywords: state terror, armed drones

I shall conduct a thought experiment in cross-cultural empathy. I shall focus on the United States current policy of political assassination by ferociously armed drones.

Overall, US drone strikes and other counterterrorism operations have so far, killed between 3,155 and 5,285 people, including around 563 to 1,213 civilians in Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia (2015 data). A report by the human rights organization Reprieve found that US drone strikes kill 28 unknown people for each intended target. Only 2% of those killed by drone strikes in Pakistan are top level al-Qaeda leaders. The rest of those killed are either lower-level fighters who pose little existen-

tial threat to the US, or else they are simply civilians or other unknown individuals. Stanford and New York University Law Schools released a joint report in late 2012 revealing that not only do drone strikes cause physical harm, they also „terrorize men, women, and children, giving rise to anxiety and psychological trauma among civilian communities.“ Because of the harm, terror, and anxiety they inflict, drone strikes breed anti-American resentment and are a useful recruitment tool for militant groups to bring people into their fold.

189 Sub-plenary Working with Refugees

Refugees Lost In Transition. The Current Crisis In Europe

John Schlapobersky (United Kingdom)

Keywords: Refugee convention; asylum; trauma; cruelty; loss; recovery; rehabilitation

The presentation gives a brief account of The Refugee Convention of 1951 and The European Convention On Human Rights from 1953. They share a history in Europe's circumstances at the close of World War II and arose out of unprecedented violent and genocidal conflict. The implications of these conventions for the signatory countries are reviewed in the context of current political turmoil in Europe and the USA; past and current definitions for the status of asylum and its different forms; the demography of refugees' current influx into Europe and a perspective on the countries where they come from will be offered.

These Conventions put an obligation on signatory countries to grant asylum to those with “a well-founded fear of persecution” in their countries of origin. In the European Union, this is complicated by the Schengen convention that allows for the free movement of people within the borders of its (current) 28 member-states. The implications for these procedures are discussed, when whole countries are being dismembered on Europe's borders; when people in flight from political persecution and organized violence, call for sanctuary and asylum. The presentation tries to indicate how survivors arriving as refugees are best helped, so that they are not permanently lost in transition.

190 Sub-plenary Working with Refugees

Flight, Displacement and Exile: The Refugee Challenge

John Schlapobersky (United Kingdom), Regine Scholz (Germany)

Keywords: refugees, displacement, forced migration, organised violence, stabilisation, rehabilitation, integration

This Sub-Plenary will occupy a full afternoon on each of the Symposium's four days from Wednesday – Saturday. Each of the four meetings will have four invited speakers presenting on topics ranging from the sociological to the clinical. Together we will address one of the world's most urgent, challenging issues – the plight of refugees lost in transition and the impact of their arrival on their host countries.

We will consider refugees' need for asylum and safety; their prospects for community within or beyond the borders of their home countries; their outlook on return or in permanent exile; and the dynamic impact of their arrival or transition, on those they come to live amongst. Our panel of sixteen speakers will include dedicated, specialist contributors in their fields of application whose work accords with basic group-analytic principles.

Each of the four days will be marked by specialist contributions. Thematic material will run through the programme as-a-whole and each of the four days will be marked by specialist contributions. We anticipate attendance from people drawn to special topics and from those wishing to join us on all four afternoons.

191 Workshop

Making a Difference to Difference two Group-Analytic Authors Interview Each Other. About Words in Group Analysis

John Schlapobersky (United Kingdom), Svein Tjelta (Norway)

Keywords: relational, reflective and reparative dimensions of psychotherapy monologue, dialogue and discourse structure, process and content Foulkes's Four Levels re-described as domains transference and counter-transference in groups longing and belonging location, translation and interpretation

John Schlapobersky is the author of a new book, *From The Couch To The Circle: Group-Analytic Psychotherapy In Practice* (Routledge 2016) that is acclaimed by reviewers and has been taken up across a wide readership. Svein Tjelta is the editor of the developing *Group Analytic Dictionary* (GAD) that promises a coherent, integrated vocabulary for group analytic theory and practice world-wide.

In this 90-minute workshop the two authors will interview one another about their respective writing projects and they will bring the audience into the exchange. Do we have a common language in group analysis? Do we need to pretend to a common one, or are we uncertain if we understand it? We will explore similarities and differences between group analysis in different countries and the ambivalence shown in the field about putting words to work when describing what we do and when seeking to understand how group analysis works.

192 Sub-plenary Working with Refugees

Flight, Displacement and Exile: The Refugee Challenge

The UK Perspective on the 'Migrant Crisis' and Helen Bamber's Model of Integrated Care

Cornelius Katona (United Kingdom)

Keywords: cruelty, torture, organized violence, human trafficking, integrated programme of care, stabilization, intervention, rehabilitation

My presentation will address the UK perspective on the 'migrant crisis', outline the range of experiences and adversities consequent on human rights abuse and the importance of post-migration experiences in determining mental health outcomes. I will discuss concepts of complex trauma and their implications for treatment in more detail. Clinical responses to complex trauma and its aftermath include feelings of loss, pain, and shame, loss of trust or a sense of agency, and dissociative behaviour. These impair survivors' ability to tell their story clearly and consistently, and perpetuates the disbelief and rejection they experience. An integrated approach to client care is crucial in ensuring that key needs are identified and addressed. Statutory and non-governmental agencies need to work together to ensure a holistic approach to assessing clients' needs comprehensively - even where these extend beyond the range of needs that an individual service can meet. Signposting and inter-agency communication and joint working is crucial to the care of survivors of human rights abuses and facilitates their sustained recovery. In this context, I will outline the Model of Integrated Care (MoIC) developed by the late Helen Bamber.

193 Sub-plenary

The Therapeutic Challenge Group Analytic Therapy applied to those "excluded and misunderstood" from and by Society

Estela V. Welldon (United Kingdom)

Keywords: forensic patient, sexual abuse victims and perpetrators, violence, perversion

Group analytic psychotherapy is frequently the best form of treatment for those individuals who commit acts against society and also against themselves, usually considered „untreatable“. Forensic Psychotherapy's aim is the psychodynamic understanding of the offender and his consequent treatment. The purpose is not to condone the crime or excuse the criminal, but to help him acknowledge responsibility for his/her actions.

Group Analytic Psychotherapy is a challenge successfully met by this method of treatment not only for those severely disturbed perverse patients but also for sexual abusers and sexually abused patients. This has been well demonstrated by more than three decades using this method at the Tavistock.

tock-Portman NHS Clinics since I started in the early 70s. Group analytic therapy breaks through patterns of self-deception, fraud, secrecy and collusion presented in antisocial actions. I shall concentrate in two specific areas, the emergence of manic defences against the therapeutic alliance and our work with victims and perpetrators of sexual abuse in the same therapeutic group.

Estela Welldon is the Founder of the IAFP, a Fellow of the RCPsych. Honorary member of the IGA In 1997 Oxford Brookes University awarded Dr. Welldon with a D.Sc. Honorary Doctorate of Science degree for her contributions to the field of forensic psychotherapy and in 2014, she was invited to become an Honorary member of the American Psychoanalytic Association for her work in helping to understand women who harm children. Author of several books, her first *Mother Madonna Whore, the Idealization and Denigration of Motherhood* (1988); *Playing with Dynamite* (2011)

194 Sub-plenary Social Unconscious

The Musical Foundation Matrix and the Improvisation of Belonging

Linde Wotton (United Kingdom)

Keywords: communicative musicality, foundation matrix, presentational knowledge, non verbal language, belonging

I understand the matrix as a ‘musical’ process - a complex self-reflexive organising process that rests on our innate communicative musicality. Music has the capacity to communicate presentational knowledge, i.e. information about wholes, relationships and events in context - unlike the discursive symbolism of verbal language, which breaks experience up into identifiable elements. It is this capacity that makes the non-verbal aspects of the ‘language of the foundation matrix’, to which Foulkes referred, particularly powerful in transmitting unconscious social processes - information about social relations and figurations - and therefore warrants our attention.

The theory of communicative musicality offers a way of conceptualising how we come to embody our past and that of our community (those culturally firmly embedded values and reactions) as well as the potential for future change, through the construction of musical narratives based on our innate (biological) musicality. This musicality is fundamental in allowing human bodies to be radically open and responsive systems – open to the transpersonal processes that form us, while at the same time those processes are formed by our interaction. The foundation matrix can be seen as the shared implicit knowledge of the constraints within which it is possible to improvise new meaningful communications and relationships. However, within this, each community elaborates its own peculiar rhythms and patterning of belonging, which at the same time inevitably alienate us from those of neighboring communities, so that we are always out of step when we cross the border.

195 Paper Presentation

Introducing into the Landscape of German Speaking Institutes

Delegates of the Institutes / Marita Barthel-Rösing (Germany)

Keywords: various institutes, praxis of group analysis

Landscape of German Speaking Group Analytic Institutes

The landscape of German Speaking Group Analytic Institutes – in Austria, Germany and Switzerland – contains various Group Analytic Training Institutes. The first of them were founded and developed with the support of group analysts of the IGA London since 1976. Others developed later on. BIG Berlin for example was founded 2003. Each of those Institutes represents a different history, different traditions and different offers of training possibilities.

Delegates of 16 German Speaking Institutes work together for the Symposium and would like to represent their Institutes, the shapes and specialities of their organizations and the group analytic training possibilities they use to offer with the following themes. The time of two sessions will be shared on Wednesday afternoon.

1. Session

Introductory Remarks on the Group Analytic Training Institutions in the German Speaking Countries, Dieter Nitzgen

Group Analytic Seminar GRAS, Bonn, Prof. Dr. Cornelia Krause-Girth „GRAS: Selfexperience without examination“

Internationale Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Gruppenanalyse Bonn/Altaussee

Prof. Dr. phil. Jutta Menschik-Bendele

„From a participant in an experiential group to an junior therapist: At the start to be almost a patient, then to be in the observer position and finally to be trained as co-conductor“

Institut für Therapeutische und Angewandte Gruppenanalyse Münster, Prof. Dr. Yvonne Brandl

„Observation and co-conducting as group analytic training settings“

IGA Heidelberg, Dr. Mariagrazia Bianchi-Scheffer, Dieter Nitzgen, „IGA Heidelberg - In a Nutshell“

Seminar für Gruppenanalyse Zürich SGAZ, Klaus Rettenmayr, Vera Demant, Bernhard Huwiler

„SGAZ Zürich – deciding together“

ÖAGG, Fachsektion Gruppenpsychoanalyse, Wien, Mag. Florian Fossel, Dr. Günter Dietrich,

Dr. Bettina Fink, „Group analysis in Austria – The model of ÖAGG“

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Gruppenpsychotherapie und Gruppenanalyse – AGG Göttingen,

Prof. Dr. Hermann Staats

“Enabling variability within a unifying conceptual framework: The ‘Goettingen Model of Group Psychotherapy’ offers groups tailor made according to setting, task and participants”

2. Session

Deutscher Arbeitskreis für Intendierte Dynamische Gruppenpsychotherapie DADG, Berlin

Harald Küster, “Group analysis playing with body and soul – grown out of the GDR”

Akademie für Psychoanalyse und Psychotherapie München, Martin Pröstler

“Understanding various facets of groups: Group analysis as a framework for training in both group therapy and organizational consulting“

Münchner Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Psychoanalyse MAP, München,

Ursula Wienberg, Dr. med. Josef Zierl

“Develop together - Grow with each other. How to become a group psychoanalyst:

A concept for a combined training of psychotherapists for children and adolescents as well as for adults - together in stable semester groups.”

Arbeitskreis Gruppenpsychotherapie der Psychoanalytischen Arbeitsgemeinschaft

Köln-Düsseldorf, Fotini Tilkeridou-Wolf

„How the combination of psychoanalysis and group analysis helps to flourish as an institute“

Arbeitskreis Gruppenanalyse Stuttgart AGS, Andrea Mayer, Michael Pavlović

“Connected by a shared interest – three analytic institutes offer a training program in group analysis”

Arbeitskreis Gruppenpsychotherapie - AKG – am Michael-Balint-Institut, Hamburg,

Christiane Claussen

“Our new group analytic organization brings enriching voltage ratio in to our traditional and long established psychoanalytic institute”

Arbeitsgemeinschaft für integrative Psychoanalyse, Psychotherapie und Psychosomatik Hamburg

APH, Hamburg, Tita Heyn, Dr. med. Klaus Augustin

“How to integrate different trends of psychotherapy into the group analytic training”

Brandenburgische Akademie für Tiefenpsychologie und analytische Psychotherapie BATAF, Potsdam

Petra Herwig

„Painting in a multicultural group all participants are speaking the same language“

Berliner Institut für Gruppenanalyse BIG, Berlin, Beate Cohrs

„#BeBIGinBerlin - Changing group dynamics in society“

Chair: Marita Barthel-Rösing

**196 Sub-plenary Social Unconscious
Trauma, Shame, Guilt, and the Social Unconscious in Japan
Kaoru Nishimura (Japan)**

Keywords: the Social Unconscious, trauma, shame, guilt, nationalism

This presentation aims to illuminate some aspects of the Japanese Social Unconscious by showing how the Japanese society handles shame and guilt feelings evoked by traumatic event in the society. We can stretch back to typical reactions to such situation in Japanese myths. Behind traumatic experiences in the characters, a sense of shame to protect guilt feelings can be observed: Instead of feeling guilty about his own deed, shame of being involved with something „foul“ was emphasized. This pattern is unconsciously shared in the society as a whole and an oscillating process of aggregation and massification (Hopper) takes place repeatedly.

There still remain unresolved conflicts in Japan as well as among countries around Japan after the Second World War. Kibel considered the social dynamics of the post-war Japan by analysis of the film „Rashomon.“ But Rashomon Effect is observed here because it is just an American view. There may be other stories about it; inter-connectedness of the Social Unconscious among countries should be considered.

Japan was allied with Germany and Italy during the war. But after the war, the fact was felt shamed, denied or even distorted; different variations of the history can be seen implicit in some popular culture works.

The presenter also refers to the current situation after the 2011 mega-disaster, especially the nuclear plant meltdown. Instead of examining the governmental responsibility of the nuclear plant policy, the society as a whole is willing to underestimate its damages and neglect the people of the affected area.

Discussion follows for us to work with such difficult processes of traumatized societies.

**197 Sub-plenary Working with Children
Modified Group Analytic Therapy with Adolescents in Psychiatric Institution: our Model and our Experience**

Danilo Pesic (Serbia), Milica Lazarevic (Serbia), Marija Jeric (Serbia), Radica Stancetic (Serbia)
Keywords: adolescents, modified group analytic therapy, institutional setting, therapeutic community

We present our model of modified analytic group with adolescents at the Day Hospital for Adolescents in the Institute of Mental Health in Belgrade. Furthermore vignettes will be presented where we show how we deal in group matrix with serious clinical phenomenon such as acute depersonalization.

Modified group analytic therapy is a powerful way to organize deep therapy focusing on here and now in an institutional setting and to make compromise taking into account internal and external (social, economic, cultural) realities and evidence based demands.

Therapeutic community together with the group analytic therapy is an essential combination: in addition to strict structure wards need strong culture which has to be developed. Even without the deep analysis in supportive and protective atmosphere of free dialogue and acceptance (including expressing of aggression) self could be develop. Group analytic culture works in all directions: help providers to help others, help themselves and care for health of the institution.

Learning from the experiences about process and structure could improve mentalisation skills in adolescents, teach them to have continuous dialogue with brotherhood (koinoinia), and to develop healthy interdependence.

198 Sub-plenary Working with Refugees

I-thou Philosophy – Meeting Strangers in Sweden – a Personal Reflection 2017

Kate Bradshaw Tauvon (Sweden)

Keywords: refugees, strangers, immigration, inclusion and exclusion, propaganda, asylum, trauma, disappearance, nation states, “we” and “the other“, globalization

Traditionally Sweden welcomed refugees from the world's danger zones. The present increase in immigration challenges that humanitarian open policy. Providing shelter and sustenance has been problematic. Society is split between engaged citizens, those who ignore and those who spread racial, religious and culturally prejudiced propaganda. Resentment has grown toward refugees mainly amongst less privileged groups. Since 2016 the Swedish Government restricted asylum seeking and granting permanent residence.

Painfully slow bureaucratic procedures govern the fate of immigrants, most with traumatic histories and unimaginable futures. Many are “unaccompanied children”, who frequently “disappear” to unknown fates. How do we maintain decent human values in our encounters with people escaping from ongoing catastrophe?

The nation states served to unite our predecessors but they are obsolete. To unite people in an increasing “we” we've had to refer to external enemies. We have not learnt to define a “we” without a “they” against whom to define ourselves. This is our new predicament. To solve global problems, we need the next „we“ to be global, but no one can say how it should happen. Morality is not pretending we have no enemy but trying to understand them.

199 Sub-plenary Social Unconscious

A Shared Language? Gender, Desire, and the Social Unconscious

Gila Ofer (Israel)

Keywords: gender, language, stereotypes, social unconscious

Stereotypical males and females in our social unconscious from time immemorial are a major source in the creation of our gendered sense of self. Other factors which are also resources in the creation of our gendered self are language and technology. I will discuss the interrelationship of linguistic styles, technologies and gender and how they are formed and reformed in our social unconscious with regard to desire and passion. I will demonstrate it with clinical examples from individual and group analysis.

200 Sub-plenary Working with Violence

Terrorism: the Underside of Non-recognition

Miriam Berger (Israel)

Keywords: terrorism, non-recognition, relational, analytic group, revenge violence

I'll present shortly the idea that terrorism is the underside of non-recognition. I'll argue that lack of recognition in its most extreme form can become a deadly weapon against others: it amounts to the radical negation of the other; it delegitimizes a person's right to realize his own sovereignty over his life. Non-recognition encompasses a wide spectrum of interactions, ranging all the way from usual hostilities between individuals which occur occasionally in any relationship, into bloody, violent fights between groups or nations. Non-recognition produces a relational reality imbued with pain, fear, helplessness and rage. It makes one irrelevant and dehumanizes one's existence as a separate subject in one's own right. It generates ever growing cycles of revenge and counter revenge. Terrorism presents a break in the capacity for acknowledging a person's quintessential uniqueness; this capacity, as I see it is a major component in the struggle against violence. In terms of clinical practice, resuming human connectedness and repairing the broken social bonds caused by non-recognition is a challenging process which involves all participants of an analytic group, including the conductor. The mutual acknowledgment of injuries received as well as injuries inflicted is a vital part of this process.

201 Sub-plenary Research

Process-Outcome Relationships in Short- and Long-Term Psychodynamic Group Psychotherapy: a Randomized Clinical Trial

Steinar Lorentzen (Norway)

Keywords: group psychotherapy, group analytic, short- and long-term, process-outcome relationship, cohesion, therapeutic alliance

We studied the associations between alliance, cohesion, and outcomes in short-term (STG) and long-term group analytic therapies (LTG). Outpatients (N=144) with complex diagnoses were randomly assigned to STG or LTG. Outcome was measured with the self-rated global severity index (GSI) of the SCL-90-R and Inventory of Interpersonal Problems (IIP-C), and also with the observer-rated Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF). Positive criteria of personality disorders (PD) were established based on a Structured Clinical Interview for DSM Axis II disorders. Cohesion and alliance correlated with outcome measures in bivariate analysis, but there were fewer associations using Structural Equation Modeling techniques, e.g. a higher initial GSI predicted lower cohesion in LTG, while more initial PD-pathology predicted lower cohesion and alliance in STG. In LTG, the process variables were not associated with self-reported outcome. However, in STG, higher cohesion ratings predicted lower GSI scores at the end of therapy (6 months). In LTG, cohesion was negatively and alliance positively associated with the observer-rated GAF at the 3-year follow-up. In STG, we found no significant association between the process variables and the GAF ratings. In LTG, initial PD-pathology was associated with a better GAF at the end of therapy; whereas, it was associated with a higher IIP at the 3-year follow-up in STG. Our results indicate cohesion plays a significant role in STG; whereas, therapeutic alliance seems more important in LTG. The relationships between alliance, cohesion, and outcome were much weaker than expected.

202 Sub-plenary Research

Short-Term Group Analytic Psychotherapy (STGAP)

Panel with Kristian Valbak (chair), Christer Sandahl, Steinar Lorentzen, and Bernhard Strauss
Steinar Lorentzen (Norway)

Keywords: group analytic, short-term, group psychotherapy

Development of group analysis and group-analytic approaches should be based on systematic research. Taking evidence from research on time-limited, psychodynamic individual and group therapy, we have refined our guidelines for time-limited Group-Analytic therapy, 20 weekly sessions, in closed groups. The therapy is suited for patients with circumscribed problems, who can agree on a treatment focus, and who are motivated for change. Patients should have a moderate to high level of structural integration and some degree of psychological mindedness. Mild to moderate personality pathology and certain types of acting out can be successfully treated, provided aspects of this behavior can be identified and acknowledged as a potential threat to the therapy, and maybe also made the focus of therapeutic work.

Suitability for this therapy, evaluation, interventions and aspects of the group process will be illustrated through presentations of clinical vignettes.

203 Sub-plenary Working with Violence

At the Mouth of the Volcano: On the Presence and Absence of Traumatic Shared Reality in Therapy

Avi Berman (Israel)

Keywords: terrorism, Collective mind, helplessness, hatred, vengefulness, agency

The brutal terror attacks around us might make us feel helpless, and in extreme cases may lead to deep disappointment in humanity itself.

Experiences of helplessness on one hand and hatred and vengefulness on the other may paralyze our ability to translate our feelings into dialogue. Moreover, these experiences may overcome compassion and reconciliation.

Our personal and interpersonal experiences meet in the matrix that functions as a „Collective Mind”. The collective mind is the mental space where a group of people can feel a sense of shared belonging. The collective mind acts like a massive interpersonal processor that turns general experience into private one, and turns private experience into collective one. National sentiments as well as terrorist intentions might become an active part of the collective mind of each group. The individual might lose his sense of agency as a result of belonging in the current collective mind. Group psychotherapy may create an alternative collective mind in which sense of individual agency is restored and human values wins over. A vignette from a group therapy session will be presented.

204 Sub-plenary Social Unconscious Collective Black Holes and Social Unconscious

Yael Doron (Israel)

Keywords: social unconscious

In my lecture I will talk about 2 mechanisms of the social unconscious: Collective Black Holes and Social Hashtag. I will demonstrate each of them with examples from the Israeli society although they exist in every society. The first mechanism - Collective Black Holes - deals with traumatic and painful phenomena by silencing, denying and pushing them back to the unconscious. The latter - Social Hashtag - works in the opposite direction and promote sub-groups or ideas which represent something important for the society in the deep social unconscious level. These processes may seem opposing, but in fact, both of these phenomena have the same purpose: Defend the traumatized society from intense, existential emotions related to annihilation, separation and death anxieties (Hopper, 2005), and thus increase social resilience. Although these mechanisms mean to help the societies and individuals within them, naturally, as every defense mechanism, they are not only positive and they do have costs. Using them massively may result in distorted reality perception, and it may also prevent individuals and societies from dealing efficiently with the political and social situation, and thus keep those traumatized societies in an everlasting position of soldiers' matrix (Friedman, 2016) instead of helping them promote dialogue, reconciliation and peace.

205 Sub-plenary Working with Refugees The Reception of Refugees in Germany

Karin Weiss (Germany)

Keywords: refugee data, volunteers, integration educational system, labour force, professional training for helpers

As almost a million refugees came to Germany in 2015, lots of Germans volunteered to assist and support them. All in all, 42 per cent of the German population engaged in some form. State and local government would have been unable to cope with the situation without the volunteers. In a joint effort they were able to feed and house the refugees but integration will take a long time. Many volunteers are still active. However, with increasing numbers and terrorist attacks the situation has become controversial. The government tries to limit the flows and to discourage refugees to come to Germany. Xenophobic attacks frighten the refugees, and right wing political movements gain ground.

The paper will trace the reception of refugees between failure and overwhelming efforts of administration and volunteers, and give details to numbers, origins, education, demography and attitudes of the refugees, their legal status and basic rights. The process of reception and integration measures will be described as well as the contribution of volunteers. Challenges for the support and educational system and the integration into the labour force will be addressed as well as needs for professional training of care takers, educators and volunteers.

206 Sub-plenary Working with Refugees

Flight, Displacement and Exile: The Reception Policies of Refugees in Italy, between European Inadequacies, Attempts to Good Practice and Group-analytic Transcultural Experiences

Antonio d'Angiò (Italy)

1) Inadequacy of the European Union in the management of migration and refugee reception policies in Italy.

If 2015 was the year of the motto “refugees welcome” addressed by the European citizens, from Lesbos in Berlin, to the million refugees arrived in the continent, especially from Syria, 2016 was the year of the reintroduction of internal border controls, the building of walls, the repatriation agreements - such as the agreement that Brussels signed on March 18, 2016 with Ankara to close the so-called „Balkan route“ permanently - the record deaths in the Mediterranean Sea - according to data collected by the UN in 2016, 5,011 people have lost their lives, 1,300 more than died in 2015 - and the militarization of the borders where the Frontex budget between 2005 and 2016 has increased by 3,688 per cent „, and has gone from 6.3 million to 254 million euros. The beneficiaries of these policies are primarily military, technological and security companies. (5 minutes)

2) From the pilot project of humanitarian corridors from Lebanon to the optimization of the protection System for asylum seekers and refugees (Sprar).

Among a lot of bad news regarding immigration, 2016 was also marked by two pieces of good news: the first relates to the opening of humanitarian corridors from Lebanon to Italy for Syrian refugees, a project entirely funded by the Community of Sant’Egidio, the Waldensian church and the Italian evangelical churches which, through the humanitarian corridors have given shelter to about 500 Syrian refugees in Italy from Lebanon, in a legal and safe manner. The second piece of good news was the upgrading of the asylum seekers and refugee protection system (Sprar), a virtuous reception model for asylum seekers and refugees. (10 minutes)

3) An experience of group-analytical supervision with two Groups of reception workers and cultural mediators from the Sprar system who have in their charge refugees and asylum seekers of the city of Naples. (15 minutes)

207 Joint Sub-plenary Working with Children and Working with Violence Therapeutic Setting ‘RaDity’ for Children of War in Ukraine

Julia Vynnytska (Ukraine)

Keywords: children of war, rehabilitation, groups, special therapy, therapeutic frame

Therapeutic Setting ‘RaDity’ for children of war in Ukraine The authors created an original conception for rehabilitation of children whose parents died or were fighting in the war at the eastern part of Ukraine. „Prostir RaDity“ is situated in the Carpathians mountains. The camp functioned in period of the summer holidays in 2015 and 2016. Each group of children consists of 12 to 18 persons, at the ages of 6-14 years, who stayed at the camp for 10 days. Permanent staff of the camp consisted of 5 people: 3 therapists, a philosopher, art critic and artist theatergoer. Groups of people of different professions (cooks, athletes, artists, natural scientists) usually volunteer at the camp. All necessary costs and things were provided by sponsors. Children were usually involved in therapeutic group processes and interactions. Therapeutic frame included 2 dynamic groups, twice a day and focused on integration. Depends on every actual needs or problems of children, special art therapy, musical therapy, body-oriented therapy, and psychodrama focus groups were organized, at the period of time between groups. Two art therapy collections of children’s works ‘Bodies’ and ‘Eyes’ are the most creative results of camp activities. Both exhibitions were presented in Lviv and Kyiv galleries and in the UN building (by special invitation).

The exhibition of ‘Eyes’ will be on display in the Maritim Hotel.

208 Sub-plenary Working with Refugees

The German Welcoming Culture - Some Thoughts about its Psychodynamics

Regine Scholz (Germany)

Keywords: welcoming culture, German guilt feelings, transgenerational, flight, displacement, group composition, large group psychology

When Germany opened the borders in August 2015, the reactions that followed were a big surprise inside as well as outside the country. The so called “Welcoming Culture” was initially based as much on official policy as on the generosity of large parts of the population.

But it elicited intense and polarized reactions from idealized admiration to the shaking of heads and to strong and even violent disapproval.

This presentation traces the psychodynamics of this mass movement and of international reactions to it. The argument that this welcoming culture is a result of German guilt feelings resulting from WW II and the Holocaust is discussed in some depth. It will be connected to the lesser known German history of flight and displacement following WWII, when between 1945 – 1948 roughly 12 Million refugees from the former Eastern parts of the German Reich migrated to the 4 occupied zones. From the 50s onwards West Germany took in some more million workers and asylum seekers. This influx is considered as an important background factor in public reaction to the actual situation. Furthermore, the role allocated to Germany after the crimes of fascism and WW II, and the psychic functions this role serves for other countries is explored.

209 Sub-plenary Social Unconscious

Reparative Grand-Mothering. „Knitting/Patching” the Trauma Cracks in the Foundation Matrices

Marina Mojović (Serbia)

Keywords: reparative grand-mothering, conception trauma of group analysis, collective trauma transmission, resilience of foundation matrix

Helplessness regarding trans-generational transmission of collective trauma is especially strong in relation to the first generation. Collapses of containment-resources easily turn into vicious inter-generational mirroring of people's uncontainable pain with beta elements - disintegrative forces flooding the matrices across families and communities, while at the same time desperately searching-around for some soothing/humanizing relational "homes".

Although in massive traumas most citizens get involved, gender differences are often meaningful in resilience and transmission. In this presentation the reparative/healing role of grand-mothering will be in focus – metaphorical "knitting/patching" of the cracks and holes of the mutilated foundation matrices.

With aging the capacities for reconnecting with the archaic layers of the social unconscious are often discovered. Distance of the third - or more generations may create space for more empathic listening and witnessing, weaving in strings of ancient wisdom with attuned „musicality" for storytelling and other esthetics, whispering to the matrices of the future. Those patches of matrices may resurface as resourceful "islands of hope" and surprise.

Contemporary paradigm shifts, like new perspectives about Sigmund & Anna Freud's trauma transmission onto our fields, seem also to involve optimal generational distance for taking seriously and with care "conception traumas" of group analysis.

210 Joint Sub-plenary Working with Refugees and Working with Children

Refugee Families in the Group and as a Group

Joachim Walter (Germany)

Keywords: refugee families, war, political persecution, exile, group processes

Families in the Group“: Based on 40 years of experience of working with families in exile the presentation will take up the topic of differential adaptation and meaning of between families and within families referring to

- the social process in the country of origin
- the process of identification and disidentification with other families with differing cultural / political opinions within the same national group
- the conflict between families about differential adaptation to the host country
- and the differential adaptation within families in exile using examples from different backgrounds in time and origin.

211 Sub-plenary Working with Violence

Transformation of Gender Identity of Personality in the War, and the Impact of Changes that Identity in the Relationship between Man and Woman

Vilena Kit (Ukraine)

Keywords: gender identity, war, changes, relationship between man and woman, violence

The man went to war, stay the Defender of the Fatherland, learned to do without daily conjugal intercourse fully immersed in combat and service problems. Lost the habit of his roles and responsibilities, which was used during the previous peaceful life. He began to feel more independent of the emotional attachment of his woman, needs, continual stay in a relationship. The man who saw violence in the war, took part in it. Now he returned to civilian life in his family. What has this mark. What he does do with this?

The woman stayed at home, waiting for him once without his support. On her shoulders fell perform all the duties and roles, which skillfully coped with this man. She has become self-sufficient, now she takes all the decisions herself, she is unable (or not), she sees benefits from responsibility she takes for her own live, learn to handle without emotional attachment of her men (husband). Both of them are getting the changing of sistem of values.

Does always relationships can help her and him endure long separation? In different ways solves such problems Ukrainian women who are left without man (husband) and forced to survive without him; and man who change during their staying in the combat zone. What could unite them after the meeting on his return? How is going the adaptation together, a new redistribution of social roles, the problems with which we meet.

Gender roles, general trends in the transformation of gender identity of personality during the war; the impact of new acquired traits to develop interpersonal relationships between men and women; strengths and weaknesses of understanding of modern Ukrainian androgynism concept.

212 Joint Sub-plenary Working with Refugees and Working with Children

A Transgenerational Nightmare

Hubertus Adam (Germany)

Keywords: family therapy, transgenerational transmission of trauma

A seven year old Girl, born in Berlin, was presented with nightmares: figures without a face dressed like concentration camp prisoners made her anxious and led to a strong dependency on her mother, who suffered from depression. Regarding the background of Jewish family history and mothers engagement for refugee children in Berlin the approach by a multifamily setting at a daytime clinic will be presented.

213 Sub-plenary Working with Violence

Coming Back: what Would Erich Maria Remarque Write if he Would Be in the Todays-Ukraine

Halyna Tsyhanenko (Ukraine), Olha Kukharuk (Ukraine)

Keywords: group of military

Military actions in Ukraine are dividing people into subgroups which differ in their assessment of the situation. During now three years of ongoing war activities these subgroups have been creating different identities depending on how intensely they are involved in military actions: soldiers; civilians in the Eastern Ukraine in the zones of „anti-terror-operations“; civilians from other less involved regions. These new identities have also created new social attitudes and defense mechanisms against more or less vigorous conflicts.

We work with methods of social psychology (focus group and interviews) to define these identities in their relation to the self and others involved in current events in Ukraine. How do these identities and attitudes need to be adequately considered in an understanding of traumatic experiences? How can they effect these experiences and aggravate or facilitate posttraumatic recovery?

There has been a somewhat menacing tendency to perceive a military person returning to civilian life as a person with post- traumatic condition and to consider him/her (such person) the one who requires a mandatory psychological rehabilitation.

214 Sub-plenary Working with Violence

Usage of Psychodynamic Principles and Techniques in Complex Therapy of Traumatic Stress Effects among Victims of Military Conflict in Ukraine

Olena Podolyan (Ukraine), Natalia Shaposhnik (Ukraine)

Keywords: traumatherapy, psychoanalysis, Ukraine

Trauma theory lies at the origins of psychoanalytic branch of psychotherapy. Radical for its time approach, which is based on the assumption that traumatic life events can cause mental disorders, has evolved and expanded sphere of its application over subsequent century. Psychoanalytic theory and practice has been enriched with experience of treatment of veterans of two world wars, Holocaust victims, Vietnam veterans, other victims of traumatic events.

During last three years in Ukraine took place a sharp evolution of different branches of trauma therapy, which is related to military events, territory occupation, internal migration of population, mobilization of civilians in the rank of the army, taking of hostages and prisoners of war.

Peculiarities of psychological traumas in current Ukrainian real life are represented by significant prevalence of dissociative, paranoid defenses, formation of addictions, psychosomatic symptoms.

In most cases, we deal with regression of personality phenomena, which hampers rehabilitation and re-socialization. At the same time, we rarely see a picture of classic PTSD, in most cases to the foreground evolve adaptation disorders.

Case presentation of comprehensive support of a client who represents one of the beneficiary's priority groups.

217 Sub-plenary

East-West-Forum

Kurt Höhfeld (Germany), Jens Preil (Germany), Ulrike Kluge (Germany), Irene Misselwitz (Germany), Christoph Seidler (Germany)

Keywords: east-west

Berlin is a place steeped in history for an East-West-Forum. On 13 August 1961 a wall was erected unannounced on the side of the GDR, which was opened unexpectedly on the evening of 9 November 1989 after 28 years. Now, again 28 years later, only historical remains of the wall are preserved. But how is this part of our history reflected in the feelings and behaviors of the Germans? What is the role of borders and how do they change people when borders are impenetrable? Four speakers will put forward arguments and theses for discussion:

Kurt Höhfeld will inform about the historical background of this demarcation, and will touch upon the encounters between „East“ and „West“ group therapists after 1989 onwards. Behaviors and feelings of groups of people are determined by their past, present and imagined future. Jens Preil and Ulrike Kluge will investigate whether - and how - this interaction produces different social and mental „traditions“, along which many Germans still identify as „East Germans“ or „West Germans“.

Irene Misselwitz will report on her experiences from the perspective of a critical East German analyst and group analyst, and Christoph Seidler will describe the history of group therapy in the „East“ and its development towards group analysis.

218 Paper Presentation

Meeting the Mental Health Challenge for those with Personality Difficulties

Shama Parkhe (India), Anando Chatterji (India)

Keywords: mental health, personality difficulties, therapeutic community, group analytic services

Mental health care in India continues to be predominantly biomedical in nature, with the existence of personality disorder still being questioned on one hand, and those with personality difficulties being misdiagnosed on the other. Insufficient understanding, knowledge, and training as well as scanty empirical literature of apparently less prevalent personality difficulties does not demonstrate the necessity for a mental health service, leaving those in need with no access to long term, affordable mental health care. Hank Nunn Institute (HNI) is setting up one-on-one and group analytic services for people with personality difficulties in an attempt to bridge this treatment gap, and so-

wing seeds for Therapeutic Community (TC) methodology, a robust, low-cost, long term, culturally congruent, affordable, bio-psycho-social treatment model. The purpose of this presentation would be to

1. Give a descriptive account of HNI's journey so far 2. share road blocks experienced in meeting the mental health challenge for those with personality difficulties 3. narrate stories of our learnings and challenges as „new entrants“ in the professional space and the reactions to the desire of being radical and out-of-the-box to include those excluded for their mental health challenges

219 Workshop

Sibling Relationships in Group Analysis

Einar Gudmundsson (Iceland)

Keywords: sibling relationships, group analysis

This workshop will focus on the sibling relationships place in Group Analysis, and Group Therapy in general. Themes like Sibling Transference, Sibling Rivalry, Sibling leadership styles will be discussed amongst others. Participants will be invited to explore their own sibling relationships and also sibling issues from the therapy room.

220 Sub-plenary Working with Violence

Transitional Space in Treatment of ATO Veterans in a Psychiatric Hospital

Oleksandr Filts (Ukraine), Zoriana Koshulyns'ka (Ukraine)

Keywords: posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), veterans

Because of lack of special rehab centers for veterans with PTSD in Ukraine, in 2014 they were treated in psychiatric hospitals. It was seen as forced and stigmatizing; a special online concept of therapy had to be created for them. 430 patients were admitted in 2014-2016; 79% of those had PTSD. The rest suffered from psychotic, affective disorders, etc. Almost all patients abused alcohol. The therapeutic frame considered: 1) presence of PTSD; 2) the vengeful affect due to unfair treatment by state institutions.

We created a dynamic hospital setting called „transitional adaptation space“, with two strategies: 1) individual psychodynamic therapy; therapy in small and large groups; 2) hospital holding as a 'protective container' with structured supportive activities. The holding included special nutrition and physical rehabilitation supported by volunteers (organizer - Dr. A. Posikira); culture activities; and art and music therapy workshops.

The main idea is the hospital transitional space to adapt to real life after the war – a secure frame for the patients where they could, in a partly regressed state, rebuild the adaptive mechanisms, not suitable for war, but effective in civil life.

221 Sub-plenary Working with Violence

Pam Kleinot – Growing up under State Terrorism in South Africa

Pam Kleinot (United Kingdom)

Keywords: state terrorism, social experiment

Pam Kleinot about growing up in South Africa with the threat of a revolution looming over me from childhood and subsequently working as a journalist.

Living in a regime of oppression and state terror where any opposition was banned and silenced, the ANC began a struggle for freedom with peaceful protests until the Sharpeville massacre in 1961 where police shot fleeing women and children in their backs. Thereafter ANC in exile began an armed struggle bombing strategic installations to sabotage the country but trying to preserve human life. This led to the Rivonia Trial where Mandela and his comrades were sentenced to life imprisonment. International economic boycotts later followed which paralysed the country and eventually the government held secret talks with Mandela while in prison, eventually freeing political prisoners, unbanning the ANC and democratic elections took place in 1994 with Mandela's becoming

president. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission followed as a social experiment about letting go of the past and moving forward. It is based on the notion of Ubuntu a Zulu word meaning “I am what I am because of who we all are”.

223 Sub-plenary Social Unconscious

Fairy Tales and the Social Unconscious: the Case of Palestinian Women

Ravit Raufman (Israel)

Keywords: social unconscious, fairy tales, foundation matrix, Palestinian

This presentation examines some of the ways in which a traditional folk-tale of a particular ethnic community functions in the social unconscious of the members of it. Focusing on the unique situation of the Palestinian women in society, I will discuss a popular Palestinian tale named „Jbene“, and some of the ways in which it reflects and echoes various unconscious conflicts, desires and dynamics, which can be understood in terms of their foundation matrix. This presentation is part of a panel dedicated to the social unconscious.

224 Sub-plenary

The Cipher and the Hyphen: On Being My Grandfather's Grandson

Benjamin Mayer Foulkes (Mexico)

Gossip? Recollection? Unearthing? Speculation? Memoir? Fill-in? Reflection? Myth? Interrogation? Documentation? Conversation? Elision? Fiction? What might be adequate tone in which to ponder a certain family history, which here has a singular ring, uncannily involving both S.H. and myself? To what extent might my own family and personal stories shed light, retroactively, on that of Michael Foulkes? More widely, what might we consider as the narrative responsibilities of the descendants of analytic pioneers? And how might the persistent chiasmus of sociality and the psyche be, yet again, fruitfully deployed in the course of this risky undertaking? I have no responses to these questions as yet. For now, I have only a few intuitions, which I believe can be grouped around two motifs: the Cipher and the Hyphen. Ciphers are numbers, lasting marks, keys to enigmatic formations... As for Hyphens, they join as much as they disconnect; so they might well serve as indices of frontiers, separations, displacements, exiles... But of rejoinders too. Between S.H. and myself. As between me and you ...

225 Sub-plenary Working with Violence

Violence as Social Bond: Reflections on Trafficking in Contemporary Mexico

Benjamin Mayer Foulkes (Mexico)

At the turn of the century, Mexican media and public discourse became flooded by references to crime and violence. At first, such references appeared isolated, as if each kind of dreadfulness had no relation to the others. Yet, the atrocities were clearly bound-up in various darkly-productive ways. In an effort to understand this newly visible bloodletting industry, some colleagues and myself embarked on a number of initiatives. They led me to propose a conception of a perverse psycho-social bond that seemed to underpin this state of affairs. I hope to describe such a bond on the basis of the perspective afforded by French psychoanalyst Jacques Lacan's doctrine of the Four Discourses. Beyond the illicit activities traditionally named by it, Trafficking is a psychic and social formation that accounts for many of the increasingly visible, abusive and violent trends of globalization, including its recent neo-fascist backlash. What are the subjective formations correlative to Trafficking as social bond? To what extent does Trafficking, thus understood, help us to account for whole domains of the state of affairs in which we find ourselves in today? How might such an account assist us in responding critically and clinically to the challenges posed by it?

**226 Sub-plenary Working with Violence
Persecution of Psychoanalysts in Argentina's Dirty War
Estela V. Welldon (United Kingdom)**

I shall first attempt to describe the system of the Pervert State. Secondly I will deal with some of the basic similarities and differences between pervert individuals who commit actions in an open conflict with the law and torturers, whose actions are sanctioned by the State. Thirdly, I shall speculate about our own response as therapists regarding professional ex-torturers who might refer themselves for analytical psychotherapy. Fourthly, I shall use some material from the play by Chilean author Ariel Dorfman "Death and the Maiden" to demonstrate relevant points. Is it possible to treat an ex-torturer? This becomes painfully poignant and relevant when studying the Dirty War, in Argentina when the psychoanalytical profession was an important target for the State's persecution and terrorization. This made me aware of the conflictual dilemmas that could easily emerge from the practice of our profession under a repressive regime or a dictatorship. Many professionals in our field were subjected to torture and they and members of their families were among the many "desaparecidos". In dictatorships it is common for psychoanalysis to become the object of persecution since its main goal is the liberation of individuals.

**227 Sub-plenary
Group Analysis in China
Xu Yong (China), Earl Hopper (United Kingdom), Robi Friedmann (Israel)
Keywords: group analysis, blocktraining, China**

The Chinese Culture is based on families and collectivism. The psychological therapies have been introduced in China one to two decades ago, corresponding with the opening up for a more market oriented economy. Private companies offer psychological counseling, and more and more trained psychologists work privately. In some of the big psychiatric hospitals in Beijing and Shanghai work extensively with psychotherapy, and psychiatrists and psychologists receive training in psychoanalytically oriented individual psychotherapy. There are several private training programmes, supported by the government, as partnership between Chinese and foreign teachers, conducted as blocktraining programmes. There do not seem to be any formalised training programmes in group psychotherapy let alone group analysis. However several group analysts have been working in China on and off. In 2011 there was a well attended IAGP conference in Beijing.

Xu Yong, Shanghai, is a well known group psychotherapist China and has on several occasions presented the state of art of Chinese group psychotherapy at GASi in London. He will give a paper on the role - actual and potential- of group psychotherapy in the Chinese society. Earl Hopper has lectured in China and will talk about the Social unconscious and China. Robi Friedmann will tell about Dream workshops in Shanghai. The presentation will be chaired by Anne Lindhardt who for the past two years have been a teacher at the Sino-Norwegian training programme for psychoanalytic psychotherapy and has held workshops on group analysis within the programme.

The event will be a joint venture with IAGP.

**228 Paper Presentation
The Group Analytic Approach: Working in Traumatized Communities
Patricia Johnson-Peterson (South Africa)
Keywords: community, foundation matrix, race, loss, shame, ,otherness'**

This paper is an attempt to reflect on ideas about what it means to work within a group analytic approach in South Africa; a country that is still grappling with the experiences of Apartheid and the traumatic consequences of the violence and oppression which accompanied it. The reflections are drawn from my work in two settings; an inner city primary school for girls and a group in a community based diversion programme for first offenders. Both settings can be viewed as spaces of transition and displacement. The inner city is a space occupied by migrant communities; internal economic migrants as well as migrants from other African countries. The community, in which the diversion programme is based, is still grappling with the massive social disruption created by the apartheid era. Within this cauldron of loss, shame and 'otherness', young people and children have to make

sense and understanding of themselves, others and the society they live in.

Based on Foulkes's notion of the foundation matrix, I find it helpful to be aware that each group member walks into the group with a whole world and the experiences informed by that world. The troubling continuities of race, exclusion, and 'othering' from the apartheid era prevail in the present. These reflections are discussed using vignettes that hopefully demonstrate the potential of groups to facilitate 'a reaching out' and a space to connect with the individual's own world and through using the language of dialogue to the other and her/his world. This is done by focusing on the relational moments in the group, and how it facilitates moving to connecting and 'seeing the other.'

229 Workshop

Culturally Induced Shame in Pregnancy: a Group Analytic Response

Anne Mccarthy (Ireland)

Keywords: inclusion; exclusion, transnationalism, cultural taboos, transformative education, group analysis

150 students over the past ten years have taken part in a postgraduate university course aimed at therapists, health and social care professionals to care for women and girls experiencing an unwanted pregnancy also termed a crisis pregnancy. The course explores pregnancy as a human experience in all its complexity. It was developed in response to Irish government health policy in a context where termination of pregnancy is a criminal offence within the State.

Students come from organisations with both pro life and pro choice positions and some in between. The course mediates these positions over an academic year through reflective practice and expert in out, informed by group analytic methods and understanding. Thus, the unconscious is activated in the personal societal, political, religious and professional life of the group.

The strong and emotively expressed positions harbored and ultimately expressed by students are responded to and held in the matrix of the group which brings about increased awareness and understanding of the complexity of the experience being lived by their patient and client.

As a group analyst and adult education teacher the course is informed by group analytic theory and practice.

A safe space is created where challenge is possible to foster the group become a community of learning, incorporating elements such as boundaries, beginnings, change, attachment, mourning and loss, ambivalence, empathy, being authentic, self reflection, endings.

231 Sub-plenary Working with Violence

Management of Psychological Service of Maidan

Volodymyr Pogorilyy (Ukraine)

Keywords: psychological help, management of psychological help, crisis psychological help

Psychological Service of Maidan (PSM) of Revolution of Dignity was formed after the brutal beating of students. It was a part of the medical service. In tents and in areas which were taken by the participants of the revolution there were established clinics where psychologists were on daily duty together with the doctors.

The structure of PSM: head of the service, five coordinators and psychologists. Weekly meetings gave psychologists an opportunity to share experiences and challenges. Together we analyzed the complex issues of practice and organizational issues, psychiatrists highlighted some disorder symptoms. There was created a special Facebook group for sharing cases of psychological support.

To avoid the burn-out the daily duty should not last for more than three hours 2-3 times per week.

But our colleagues who came to Kyiv on shift method have been working for 9-12 hours per day.

They were on duty at night and morning hours when Kievites were sleeping and working.

Psychotherapists of PSM were from different areas of psychotherapy. Beginners quickly burnt out, experienced therapists ensured the sustainability of the service.

It should be noted that we did not earn any salaries, we worked as volunteers, but we ate the food cooked on Maidan.

The methods proved to be the most effective in the field were general conversations, focused education on sleep disorders, anxiety, anger and despair, art therapy, group discussion of the current situation.

232 Sub-plenary Research

Research in Group Analytic and Group Psychodynamic Psychotherapy. What have we achieved so far? What strategy can we have for the future?

Panel with Kristian Valbak (chair), Christer Sandahl, Steinar Lorentzen, and Bernhard Strauss
Kristian Valbak (Denmark)

Keywords: research, data based research, group analytic psychotherapy,
group psychodynamic psychotherapy, strategies

The panelists will present and discuss what they think are the most interesting results in the data based research area within the last decade. They will explain why and evaluate the influence on the working with patients and clients.

After the presentations there will be discussion with the audience. This will include views on future strategies and the possible role of GASI in stimulating interest and development in this field.

233 Workshop

**Mirroring Group for Leaderless Groups -
invited are all participants of leaderless groups and interested others**
Cornelia Krause-Girth (Germany)

Keywords: leaderless groups intervention, resonance of leaderless groups, leaderless groups in a mirror

The mirroring group is a kind of intervention-group for leaderless groups. It has been invented by Michael L. Moeller, founder of the group analytic training institute Gras and „father of self-help groups in Germany“ as a kind of „self-help group for self-help groups“. For 35 years the leaderless groups within the group analytic training institute Gras have conducted such a mirroring group each time they meet for a 5 days seminar. Each group has the same amount of time to describe how they experienced their group. The other group members can give a short feedback. After all groups showed up and got a resonance/feedback the floor is open for discussion of questions and impressions about what has been going on in these groups. Interested observers can participate in this workshop even if they have not participated in a leaderless group. The mirroring group throws a flash and gives a brief impression at the different current processes in the different leaderless groups.

234 Joint Sub-plenary Working with Children and Working with Violence

What are the Roots of HATRED?

Sheila Melzak (United Kingdom)

Though I was asked to speak about ‘hate’ in relation to child soldiers, our population of former child soldiers all come from very functional and caring families where they experienced love, involvement and emotional connections. Even after experiences of forced recruitment and violence many are able to reflect on evil and hatred and to experience love. Our experience of working with these young people made me think. I will share some thoughts about the internal and the external sources of hatred and how these interact to influence the functioning and development of young asylum-seekers and refugees who have experienced abuse and neglect and significant child and adolescent specific human rights abuses. In our work it is clear that hatred and evil are rooted in situations where young people are treated as objects, abused and exploited in social contexts where they are marginalised through prejudice, racism and xenophobia, persecuted or invisible.

235 Workshop

Night-Train to Berlin - a Workshop on Heglian Logic and Group-Analysis
Mogens Petersen (Denmark)

Keywords: G.W.F. Hegel, classical and dialectical logic, negation, Ignacio Matte Blanco,
Bi-logic, exclusion, inclusion, group analytical therapeutic technique

With the creation of his idealistic philosophical system G.W.F. Hegel (1770-1831) proved, that there are two forms of logic - a static and a dynamic. And thereby two forms of thinking – an exclusive

and an inclusive.

Based on such a finding - but (strangely enough) without direct reference - Ignacio Matte Blanco (1908-1995) relying on mathematical distinctions and analysis with considerable ambition and power demonstrated to what great extent the bi-logical thinking has provided a foundation for the entire psychodynamic theoretical development since Freud.

In this workshop, after a brief introduction, we will try to capture in an experimental-experiential demonstration group some glimpses of a practical (and theoretical) dialectical methodology, that can be used as a tool for the clarification, the confrontation and interpretation processes in group analytic group psychotherapy.

236 Workshop

When Does a Revolution Start? A Reflection on Feminist Movements in Middle East: What Can Be Learnt from Iranian and Arab Feminists?

Dizadji Farideh (United Kingdom), Shahin Nawai (Iran)

‘Women have been veiled and unveiled by force but they will remain enfolded and covered by physical and psychological traces of their modes of acceptance or rejection of the veil’.

The condition of unveiling (1936) or veiling (1979) has been imposed on women in Iran by political powers for the last 80 years, as a result women have been deeply concerned with the notions of exposure and concealment for some time. What should be remembered is that, whilst these physical conditions appeared overnight, the individual psychological and emotional response has obviously not followed the same timeline. Farzaneh Milani’s description of women responding to veiling in its psychical and metaphorical forms brings to attention a very contemporary concern surrounding veiling specially among the feminists of Middle East.

This workshop will address some of the above issues and invites the participants to contribute to the discussion.

237 Sub-plenary Working with Children

Introduction

Katrin Stumptner (Germany)

Throughout children’s development to become themselves, children need groups, where they feel contained, well orientated and taken seriously in their curiosity to explore themselves in relation to their significant others. Before birth children are involved in the ‘musical’ communication of their parents and their environments. This creates unconscious dynamic processes which are then rebuilt in the matrix of communication in groups. These complex ‘compositions’ of trans-generational, trans-cultural, social and political communicational experiences are important in the development of an identity, which is a fragile ‘construction’ in process, especially during adolescence.

The SP-Working with children:

The first session starts with trans-generational patterns and the beginning of listening and ‘talking’ together. Participants will be able to ‘listen’ to the baby-parent-group contributions on Wednesday and on Thursday.

In the second session on Wednesday we will look at the struggle for an identity in the crises of adolescents and the dynamic in families with themes such as radicalisation- de-radicalisation. We will also look at how these issues are taken up in the GA work with children.

On Thursday the SP – Children and the SP – Violence will join together with a panel of presentations showing GA work in war situations. There will also be an exhibition of paintings from Ukrainian children.

On Friday the SP – Children and the SP – Refugees join together with clinical panel presentations on working with children who are also refugees.

On Saturday we finish the SP with a panel presentation on the “Anchoring”- Position of Grandparents.

Katrin Stumptner will end with a brief introduction to the first Curriculum for a Group Analytic Training for Group-Work with Children and Adolescents.

You are welcome to attend all meetings, or to join those that interest you most.

238 Film

Coach to Vienna (Kočár do Vídně, Czechoslovakia, 1966)

A Group Analytic Film on the Reception and Perception of the Illusory boundary between good and evil.

Aleš Vápenka (Germany) Kerstin Frommhold (Germany), Hanna Reinhardt-Bork (Germany)

The Czech director Karel Kachyňa presents a stirring drama set in the dying days of the Second World War. Krista, a country woman, seeks revenge for the murder of her husband against two soldiers of the Wehrmacht fleeing from the Russian front who were not involved in the actual act. Kachyňa's undogmatic approach broke the traditional unambiguous negative view that existed at the time in Czechoslovak society, that of evil Germans and good Czechs. His work offered a completely novel treatment of the war theme in general by portraying the widespread degradation of man in a decayed, violent era. He dared to cross the boundaries of national myths, of simplified views of historical events, and of polarising constructions of national and personal identities.

Setting: First, there will be a short introduction to the director and the history of the film. This is to be followed by the film's screening. Afterwards, a group analytic space will be opened so that the participants can discuss the resonance of film, thereby allowing for a deeper interpretation of it. Participation in both events, that being the film viewing and the group analytic session, is only possible upon prior registration.

239 Sub-plenary Research

Gap between Available Evidence and Group Analytic Treatment

**Panel with Kristian Valbak (chair), Christer Sandahl, Steinar Lorentzen, and Bernhard Strauss
Bernhard Strauss (Germany)**

There is an incredible gap between the available evidence for small group treatment as a whole and psychodynamic and group analytic treatment.

This gap, of course, is partly determined by the different research traditions but also by the different attitudes towards empirical research in general.

I will summarize the current evidence and present some thoughts about how research within the psychodynamic field of group treatments could be increased.

240 Sub-plenary Research

Can another Approach to Research Stimulate Curiosity among Clinicians?

**Panel with Kristian Valbak (chair), Christer Sandahl, Steinar Lorentzen, and Bernhard Strauss
Christer Sandahl (Sweden)**

Given the empirical evidence for the efficacy, applicability and efficiency of group therapies it has long been argued that they are underutilized, in spite of the fact that several well controlled studies are published year after year. Might it be that such research fails to stimulate curiosity among clinicians? Group psychotherapy remains an abstract idea for those with little or no experience of it.

A complementary approach, which will be exemplified, is to perform small case studies with simple data collection methods, which focus on the work of the psychotherapist in the group.

242 Workshop

“Let us talk peace“ – The Role of Group Analyst in Conflicts Groups

Herzel Yogev (Israel)

Within these peace-wishing groups, difficulties and conflicts may arise out of the inability to truly understand another's pain and point of view, and the lack of relevant theorems to solve such problems. Clearly then, the group analyst can fulfill an important role in peace and dialogue groups, and so in the promotion of peace and coexistence between conflicted social groups. The participant on the workshop and I wish to examine the role of Emotional Availability in peace-promoting dialogue groups. Emotional availability refers to an individual's capability to know and expresses his or her

inner emotional world honestly and authentically. We will work on five principles for the promotion of emotional availability in groups - parental sensitivity/majority sensitivity; interaction structuring; non-intrusiveness; non-hostility; exploration and reaction. In our conception of the „group as a whole“, we follow in Foulkes footsteps, seeing the group as a:“... living organism, (as) distinct from the individuals composing it. It has moods and reactions, a climate, an atmosphere...” (Foulkes, 1948, p. 140).

The participants will be divided to two conflict group. (Depend on the characters of the members like Syrian refugees Versus European people Or radical Islamic Versus European Christians, Israel Versus Palestinians) , the group will be conduct according to the principles of the theory. Two sessions with discussion at the end of each session about the process and the interventions. The aim is that the participant will receive the tools that can help the group analyst to fulfil an important role in peace and dialogue groups, and so in the promotion of peace and coexistence between conflicted social groups.

243 Sub-plenary Working with Violence

Detention and Interrogation of Palestinian Children and Youth by Israeli Military: A Mental Health Perspective

Sarah Kalai (Israel), Michal Fruchtmann (Israel), Varda Amir, Dorit Gurney, Sharona Komem, Elana Lakh, Tali Lernau, Psychotherapist

Although detentions of Palestinian minors have been monitored and studied by human rights organizations, the extent of this phenomenon, and the experiences undergone by these youth in the process, are largely disavowed and unacknowledged by the general Israeli public and by the mental health community. We aimed at achieving and disseminating an understanding of these experiences and of their ramifications from a mental health perspective. Our work, first published in 2013, is based on an intensive study of affidavits given by Palestinian minors, aged 9 to 17, who underwent detention and interrogation. Our understanding continues to evolve as mental health professionals in our group gather more information through interviews with Palestinian children and youth currently undergoing the same processes, through attendance at trials of Palestinian youth, and through reading of soldiers' testimonies.

In this paper we trace the detention and interrogation process as it was reported in the affidavits: nighttime arrest followed by stimulant deprivation, threats, battering, deprivation of basic needs such as sleep, food and toilet use, hostile interrogation and abrupt, open-ended separation from familiar environments. We examine the implications of the reported experiences and the emerging pattern of maltreatment, and identify potential psychological damage to the children's development and wellbeing. In addition, we suggest that recurring detention of children and youth may result in severe disruption of the family and communal matrix, which in turn might further compromise the psychological recovery and rehabilitation of the children and youth involved.

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063 Workshop

Workshop on Psychoanalysis and Group Analysis

On the Genealogy Of Group Analysis: Our Version of the Greek Context

Mylona, D., Lamnidis, N. & Moraitou, S.
(Institute of Group Analysis 'S.H.Foulkes', Athens, Greece)

This paper aims at pinpointing some aspects of Group Analysis, especially in inter-relationship to Psychoanalysis, as they have emerged and have been personified in the context of current Greek Group Analytic (and Psychoanalytic) Institutions.

Although Group Analysis was meant, by definition (Foulkes), as an analysis of the collective/individual dichotomy, e.g. an integrative project that would serve as a therapeutic tool and as a method of

understanding human affairs, Group Analysis in our country has been institutionally and collectively trapped and rigidified:

- As a 'therapeutic-community-oriented', anti-psychoanalytic polemic and intransigent project
- As a 'Psychoanalytically-informed-group-work' applied in institutional settings and attributing secondary importance to group matrix project
- As a 'Phenomenological', a-theoretical, non-specific, supportive 'group therapy' project.

This situation has been amplified by the prevailing Psychoanalytic Institutions' tendency (in opposition to Freud's legacy) to minimize the social origins of the unconscious processes.

Some historically implemented traumatic roots of this situation are examined and some interpretative assumptions are put forward.

In our current Greek context, the recent 7th Group Analytic institution (The Institute of Group Analysis 'S.H.Foulkes', founded by us and another 18 colleagues, with a more or less 30-years-presence in the Greek Group Analytic and Psychoanalytic scene), has as its core aim a 'healing' return to the original, integrative Foulksian vision: A search for integration of contemporary psychoanalytic developments and the legacy of Group Analysis.

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Meet the authors and editors

Many of our colleagues write and even more of us read about Group Analysis. We are introducing this new initiative for the Symposium - an opportunity to meet with colleagues who have recently written books about their work. It will also include a time to meet with the editors of Group Analysis and Contexts.

Each Day either during the lunch break or the afternoon coffee break in the Foyer Maritim 1st floor two or three authors will talk about their books with each other and those of you who wish to participate.

Authors

Marie-Luise Alder and Michael B. Buchholz (Ed)
T R I A L O G - Beobachtungen einer Konferenz der Begegnung ukrainischer, russischer und deutscher Psychotherapeuten (German)

Klaus-Jürgen Bruder (Ed), Christoph Bialluch (Ed), Elisabeth Rohr (Feb 2017)
Migration und Rassismus: Politik der Menschenfeindlichkeit

Farhad Dalal
(Oct 2011) Thought Paralysis: The Virtues of Discrimination

Yael Doron (Ed), Robi Friedman (Ed) (Jun 2017)
Group Analysis in the Land of Milk and Honey

Sue Lieberman (Jan 2015)
After Genocide: How Ordinary Jews Face the Holocaust

Steinar Lorentzen (2013)
Group Analytic Psychotherapy: Working with Affective, Anxiety and Personality Disorders

Gila Ofer (Aug 2017)
A Bridge Over Troubled Water: Conflicts and Reconciliation in Groups and Society.

Ravit Raufman, Haim Weinberg (2017)
Fairy Tales and the Social Unconscious: the Hidden Language

Christer Sandahl, Hjärdis Nilsson Ahlin, Catharina Asklin-Westerdahl, Mats Björling, Anna Malmquist Saracino, Lena Wennlund, Ulf Åkerström, Ann Örhammar (2014)
Gruppens potential : att leda och utveckla gruppbehandling. (Swedish)

Christof Seidler (Jun 2015)
Psychoanalyse und Gesellschaft: Ein Lehr- & Erfahrungsbuch aus Deutschlands Osten (German)

John Schlapobersky (Jan 2016)
From the Couch to the Circle: Group-Analytic Psychotherapy in Practice

Ulrich Schultz-Venrath (Ed) & Helga Felsberger (Oct 2016)
Mentalisieren in Gruppen: Mentalisieren in Klinik und Praxis (German)

Ivan Urlic & Miriam Berger (Jan 2017)
Opferidentität, Rachsucht und die Kultur der Vergebung: Traumaverarbeitung in der analytischen Einzel- und Gruppenpsychotherapie. (German)

Vamik D. Volkan (Dec 2016)
Immigrants and Refugees: Trauma, Perennial Mourning, Prejudice, and Border Psychology

Estela V. Weldon (Nov 2016)
Sex Now, Talk Later.

Earl Hopper, Haim Weinberg (Eds.) (Aug 2017)
The Social Unconscious in Persons, Groups and Societies: Volume 3: The Foundation Matrix Extended and Re-configured

Gerhard Wilke (Apr 2014)
The Art of Group Analysis in Organisations: The Use of Intuitive and Experiential Knowledge

Editors

Dieter Nitzgen (Group Analysis)
Peter Zelaskowski (Context)



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