

Report from the Krakow conference

Dear Delegates

The 1st combined conference of EFPP Adult and Child & Adolescent section with the title "Siblings, Rivalry and Envy – Coexistence and Concern" has been successfully achieved. The conference was held on the 14-16th of October 2011 in Krakow, Poland and was organized by the Polish Association of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy in collaboration with EFPP. The Conference Centre of Krakow Medical School, Centrum Dydaktyczno-Konferencyjne UJ, was an outstanding venue for the conference.

The conference was attended by almost 400 participants from all over Europe, the Ukraine and Russia in the East, from Portugal and Ireland in the West, from Scandinavia in the North, from Greece Italy and Spain in the South and all the countries in between. This broad participation from all over Europe signed the very profound experience of being siblings from across Europe working together.

The main speakers, Angela Joyce (United Kingdom), Jeanne Magagna (United Kingdom), Franz Wellendorf (Germany), as well as the paper and panel presentations gave the scientific but also the emotional spirit which inspired the participants and transmitted and discussed in the discussion groups. The on-going workshops, i.e: the infant-observation, the transcultural and the trauma and violence workshop were run with big success. In addition, the peer-review workshop as well as the research workshop attracted with success many participants.

Apart from this, the impact from all the participants was very good especially concerning the organization, the warm and facilitating atmosphere, as well as the different group experiences during the conference. It seemed that this atmosphere along with the Krakow history has created many deep feelings to the participants which seemed to be contained so well by our Polish colleagues. Just to give you some of the words of the participants: *"I am very satisfied and grateful for it all: the place, the cakes - the organisation of it all: the speeches, the translators, the workshop holders.... "It was a perfectly organized conference in a friendly and inspiring atmosphere with issues of a broad relevance...". "What moved me most was something that happened during the dream-matrix. Afterwards I think I can sum it up to an increased awareness of all the defences in our countries. What are the differences between finding a safe place intra – and interpsychicly in the different countries? Almost like looking more deeply into the differences between brothers and sisters – but (more) specifically....."*

The Executive Board of EFPP wants again to thank our Polish colleagues Anna Chrostowska, Anna Dyduch-Maroszek, Danuta Golec, Monika Jakubowicz, Beata Kaczmarek, Beata Maciejewska, Katarzyna Skrzypek, and Zuzanna Stadnicka-Dmitriew for their dedication and professional organisation which led to the big success of the conference.

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Honorary Secretary