



World Association of Social Psychiatry Newsletter
March 2025

Introduction by Andrew Molodynski, Secretary General



Dear All,

Welcome to the latest WASP newsletter. There is a lot going on at the moment so I will keep my introduction brief. Firstly, we are delighted to share the initial details of our anniversary World Congress of Social Psychiatry with you. It will be in Marrakesh/ Marrakech January 15-17 2026. Marrakesh is a wonderful city with excellent travel links

and we hope to have a fantastic celebration of diversity and thought about social psychiatry. Please do consider coming along- you will be made very welcome!

I have attached the Yves Pelicier prize and Election notifications also, along with an exciting event being organised soon in Pakistan. Please do note that **countries wishing to make nominations will as always have to be up to date with their membership fees.**

One of the most important things for me as Secretary General is to rebuild the links with our worldwide family that became weakened through the Covid pandemic and its aftermath. It feels like progress is happening but that there is much to be done. We are looking forward to the challenge going forwards and hoping that Marrakesh can be an important positive milestone for us all. Thank you to all who engage with this newsletter and separately through events, sections, and working groups. I hope that WASP can go from strength to strength over the coming years with ever more members, more interactions, and more diversity.

Andrew, Oxford, 14th March

**Announcement by Driss Moussaoui, WASP past-president (2010-13)
and Vincenzo Di Nicola, WASP current president**

25th World Congress of Social Psychiatry

15-17 January 2026

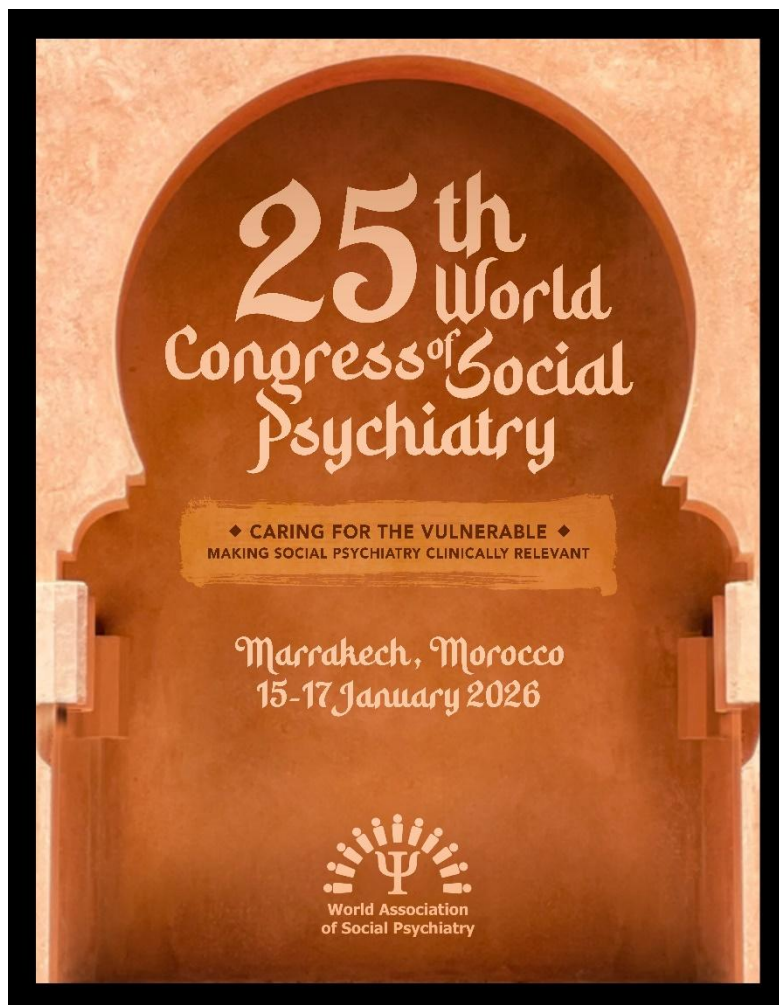
Marrakech, Morocco

The World Association of Social Psychiatry (WASP) was created in 1964 in London, more than 60 years ago. A lot of work was done in the field since, among other things the organization of 24 world congresses of Social Psychiatry. The 25th one will take place in Marrakech, Morocco, from 15th to 17th January 2026. The main theme is: “Caring for the Vulnerable: Making Social Psychiatry Clinically Relevant”

January is a magnificent month in Marrakech. In this historical city, with much to give from the cultural point of view, weather is ideal, with a beautiful sight of snowy High Atlas Mountains. Touristically speaking, Moroccan handicraft is among the most beautiful in the world, and the visit of the old town, almost one thousand years old, is a must. The surrounding of the city (Ourika valley, Essaouira on the Atlantic Ocean, among others) is also worthed before or after the Congress.

The World Congress of the WASP is an important moment to learn more about novelties in the field of Social Psychiatry. It is also important in the institutional life of our association because of activities such as the WASP Yves Pelicier Prize awarded during the opening ceremony, election of new officers of the Executive committee during the General Assembly, meeting of the WASP Council (past-presidents), review of the statutes, reinstating scientific sections and creating new ones,...

We do hope that many of us will join next January in the magnificent city of Marrakech, to meet old friends and to make new ones in an ever-changing world, with massive challenges ahead of us. It will be also important to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the World Association of Social Psychiatry during the World Congress.



Other News

1. The Indian Academy of Mental Health (IACAMH) CME on child psychiatry on 8-9 Feb 2025 was held at AIIMS, New Delhi.

The event was co-sponsored by WASP. There were more than 300 delegates. Faculty included experts from India, as well as the US, the UK and the middle east. The CME was also supported by UNICEF and National Academy of Medical Sciences- NAMS (India). Rakesh, our President Elect, attended as WASP representative as well as NAMS Observer.

2. The World Association for Dynamic Psychiatry will have its 21st World Congress from 22.03.2027- Fr. 26.03.2027 in Vienna, Austria, at the university of Vienna. The congress title is Identity: Person, Group, Society - Implications for Psychotherapy and Psychiatry

It's still a long time away so plenty of time to put it in the diary and make advance plans to attend!

3. Hearty congratulations to Dr Savita Malhotra the new President of the Indian Psychiatric Society. She is only the sixth woman president in the 77-year-old history of the society. Former Dean and Professor & Head of psychiatry at the Postgraduate Institute of medical education& research-PGIMER Chandigarh, she is an internationally acclaimed child and adolescent psychiatrist. She is also former President of the Indian Association of Social Psychiatry (IASP)- a member society of WASP.



4. 13th International Congress Of Adolescentology, Assisi, Italy, October 24-26, 2025

Call for abstracts

Assisi 2025 wants gather investigators and theorists engaged in studying adolescence health in the resilience perspective. The purpose of the Congress is to advance the formalization of the health concept change in accordance with the epistemological change of medicine: the Person-centered medicine paradigm

The person's dignity is based on the right interpretation of experience possibilities, right choices that result in a new psycho-neuro-endocrine-immunological allostatic process. Health is the result of the human freedom, where and when it is based on the objective truth for interpreting and building internal and external reality. In adolescence, when in accordance with kairological theory and [Person-centered theory of adolescence](#), the main unconscious commitment is to answer natural questions of truth-love-beauty discovered in this time, the health fundamentals, based on personal possibilities, right experience interpretation and choices, are posed

For more information, please visit: <https://www.personcenteredhealth.it/> Prof
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5. News from the Argentine branch of WASP

I believe that establishing a paradigm that focuses on the social determinants of health as an essential part of social psychiatry is important to effectively address the complex challenges of mental health and mental health care.

A social perspective on psychiatry requires research to focus on individuals, their families and the community, rather than on the individual in isolation from his or her social context.

According to research published in the American Journal of Psychiatry in May 2022, there has been 'no significant improvement' in mental health care over the past 20 years. It suggests that the socio-economic and community context of the individual needs to be addressed in order to make progress.

The effective implementation of this model in the world, and in Argentina in particular, continues to face major difficulties.

This will be addressed and developed in an article entitled 'The essence of social psychiatry', which has been submitted for publication in the next issue of World Social Psychiatry.

Dr Alejandra Maddocks