



AUSTRIAN RED CROSS

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Mental Health Care for Asylum Seekers in the European Union – addressing the needs of specifically vulnerable groups

PROGRAMME

30.06.2009

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|----------------|---|
| 11:00-12:00h | Registration and Welcome |
| 12:00-12:15h | Welcome by Dr. Wolfgang Kopetzky, Secretary General, ARC |
| 12:15-12:45h | Welcome address by Dr. Barbara Juen |
| 12:45-13:15h | Keynote speech: Dr. Charles Watters
<i>Setting the Scene: Asylum and Mental Health</i> |
| 13:15-14:15h | Lunch |
| 14:15-15:45h | Keynote speeches:

Dr. Eliza Moussaeva - <i>Living with Uncertainty - Families with Missing Relatives: The Example of Chechnya</i>

Mr. Luc Quintyn, - <i>Asylum Seekers and Mental Health: A Government Perspective</i>

Ms. Linda Awanis – <i>Mental Health Care: A Refugee Perspective</i> |
| 15:45-16:00h | An Introduction to the Project: Mr. Johannes Guger |
| 16:00-16:30h | Coffee break |
| 16:30-17:00h | Conclusion |
| 18:20h | Dinner – Meeting point at the Hotel Lobby |
| 18:30h (sharp) | Departure for dinner “Heurigen” |



01.07.2009

09:00-12:30h Presentation of nine projects demonstrating outstanding approaches and methodologies (coffee break included)

Community Oriented Approaches:

- Mind-Spring (Netherlands): Training programme equipping refugees to provide psycho-social education and support to fellow refugees and asylum seekers
Room "Ernani" (ground floor)
- Refugee Therapy Centre (UK): Community development workers providing mental health information to refugee communities
Room "Hamlet" (first floor)
- MAPP (Netherlands): Programme for the early detection of mental health problems among asylum seekers
Plenary room (ground floor)

Approaches for Specific Target Groups:

- Refugee Reception Centre (Lithuania): Empowerment of unaccompanied minors and elderly refugees in Lithuanian refugee reception centres
Room "Ernani" (ground floor)
- Danish Red Cross (Denmark): Child psychotherapy assisted by puppet theatre
Room "Hamlet" (first floor)
- Hemayat, NIPE (Austria): Dr. Barbara Preitler: Working with persons who have broken family links
Plenary room (ground floor)

Therapeutic Approaches:

- Helen Bamber Foundation (UK): Body-focused therapy
Room "Ernani" (ground floor)
- Zentrum ÜBERLEBEN (Germany): Internet-based therapy for elderly persons
Room "Hamlet" (first floor)
- Centre for Transcultural Psychiatry (Netherlands): A resilience-oriented empowerment model
Plenary room (ground floor)



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12:30-14:00h

Lunch

14:00-14:30h

Plenary session:

Dr. Rossanka Venelinova – *Introduction to the Psychological, Political and Daily-Living Aspects of Mental Health Care*

14:30-14:45h

Introduction to the workshops and their goals

14:45-17:00h

Workshops (to be conducted concurrently)

WS1: Therapeutic Approaches:
Input by Mr. Ruud Jongedijk
Plenary room (ground floor)

WS2: Strategies for Improving Daily-Living Conditions to Promote Mental Wellbeing:
Input by Mr. Kasper Koch
Room “Hamlet” (first floor)

WS3: Mental Health Policies on the National and EU Level:
Input by Ms. Marcela Buzgova
Room “Ernani” (ground floor)

15:40-16:00h Coffee break

02.07.2009

09:00-10:00h

Plenary session:

- Feedback from the workshops, including first recommendations
- Open discussion regarding the findings of the three working groups, with a focus on common themes.

10:00-11:20h

Working groups reconvene to complete the final draft of their recommendations

11:20-11:40h

Coffee break

11:40-12:10h

Presentation of final recommendations

12:10-12:30h

Summing up and closing remarks

Lunch and departure



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Keynote speakers and lecturers:

Ms. Linda Awanis: *President of the RCO "Council of Refugee Women in Bulgaria", Bulgaria*

Ms. Marcela Buzgova: *Head of the Social and Healthcare Department for the Administration of Refugee Facilities, Czech Republic*

Mr. Hannes Guger: *Head of International Affairs of the Austrian Red Cross, Project Manager, Austria*

Mr. Ruud Jongedijk: *psychiatrist / director; head of the in-patients clinic and the treatment-innovation platform Centre '45, the national institute for diagnostics and treatment of psycho trauma complaints resulting from persecution, war and violence, Netherlands.*

Dr. Barbara Juen: *Department of Psychology, University of Innsbruck, Austria*

Mr. Kasper Koch: *Project manager in the field of asylum seekers and mental well-being, Danish Red Cross, Denmark*

Dr. Eliza Moussaeva: *Psychologist from Chechnya, human rights expert and member of the Austrian Helsinki Association for human rights and International Dialogue, Russian Federation*

Mr. Luc Quintyn: *Advisor and expert-psychologist for the Home Office of the Belgium Government, Asylum Department (Psychosocial Support). Former Director of the Belgian Centre for Crisis Psychology, Belgium*

Dr. Rossanka Venelinova: *Psychiatrist and Head of the Bulgarian NGO "Nadja Centre Foundation", Bulgaria*

Dr. Charles Watters: *Director of the European Centre for the Study of Migration and Social Care (MASC), Kent University. Author of a number of studies on the mental health and social care of refugees and co-author of a study into good practice in the field, UK*