



CONSIGLIO
NAZIONALE
ORDINE
PSICOLOGI

Wisdom in Practice

From Existential Training to Therapeutic Encounter

Rome, Italy
May 21>23
2025

with the patronage of:
CNOP (Consiglio Nazionale degli Ordini degli Psicologi)
Italian Republic Senate¹

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Scientific Director

Gianfranco Buffardi

Managing Director

Fernando Boscaino

SCIENTIFIC BOARD

Paola Pomponi

Michela Pucci

Kirk Schneider

Yaqui Martinez Robles

Gideon Menda

Ferdinando Brancaleone

SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT

Rita Desiderio

Rosalba D'Avino

Silvana Figlioli

Federica Grilanda

Maria Gabriella Restifo

Carmine Verino

12:00 - 13:00 **The wisdom of emptiness: the mysterious conundrum of human presence**

Erik Craig

SCHEDULED BRIEF TALK

Alexey Bolshanin

13:00 - 13:20 **Can wisdom be taught?**

Claire Arnold-Baker

14:30 - 15:15 **CONFERENCE OFFICIAL OPENING**

Greetings from the authorities and scientific referents

Andrea Catizone

Consigliere del Ministro dell'Università e della Ricerca

Antonio Tomassini

Senatore, Presidente Associazione d'Iniziativa

Parlamentare e Legislativa per la salute e la

Prevenzione

Domenico Razza

Coordinatore Ufficio V Scuole Specializzazione in

Psicoterapia - MUR

Maria Antonietta Gulino

Presidente Consiglio Nazionale Ordini degli Psicologi²

Raffaele Zinno

Presidente PSAF

15:15 - 16:00 **INTRODUCTION**

Gianfranco Buffardi

Chair **F. Boscaino – F. Brancaleone**

16:00 - 18:00 **Unmet needs of Existential Therapy**

Chair **G. Menda – G. Buffardi**

Ernesto Spinelli

Evgenia Georganda

Kirk Schneider

Stephen Diamond

Jason Upton

Yaqui Martinez-Robles

¹Patronages are requested

²To be confirmed

18:00 - 19:00 **Unmet needs and Introduction FETE 10th**
Emmy van Deurzen



19:00 - 20:00 **FETE ten years Ceremony**
Presentazione e testimonianze
Gideon Menda
Claire Arnold-Baker

20:00 - 21:00 **Guitar-Flute duo concert**
Piero Viti
Salvatore Lombardi

21:00 - 23:00 **DINNER BUFFET**
(optional, with a participation fee)

MAY

09:00 - 10:30 **PHILOSOPHY AND PSYCHOTHERAPY:**
presentations and round table
Chair **G. Traversa**
The significance of phenomenology in existential analytic psychotherapy
Alfried Längle
Navigating today with Karl Jaspers
Mario Castellana
Historicist existentialism & Daseinsanalyse of Binswanger
Luigigiovanni Quarta
L'importanza dell'umorismo in psicoterapia
Paolo Soru

10:30 - 10:45 **BREAK**

10:45 - 13:30 **Schools Training Round Table**
Discussion among the schools:

- **HUMANISTINÈS IR EGZISTENCINÈS PSICHOTERAPIJOS INSTITUTAS**
- **CIRCULO DE ESTUDIOS EN TERAPIA EXISTENCIAL**
- **VAROLUSCU AKADEMI**
- **SCUOLA DI PSICOTERAPIA NEOESISTENZIALE**

SCHEDULED BRIEF TALKS

Jason Upton

Susana Signorelli

Katerina Zymnis

Semyon Yselsson

Edgar Correia

Presents the new handbook of Existential Therapy

Yaqui Martinez Robles



14:00 - 15:00

WORKSHOP²

**Existential-humanistic and
existential-integrative therapies**

Kirk Schneider

SCHEDULED BRIEF TALKS

M. Roberta Cappellini

15:00 - 17:45

**Psychotherapies and Psychiatry:
round table and presentations**

Chair **P. Scapicchio - R. Boccalon**

Psychiatry, psychotherapies and training

Silvana Galderisi

Integrated treatment and recovery in Psychiatry ⁴

Armida Mucci

Existential psychology and mental health

Stephen Diamond

Psychiatry and Dasein

Digby Tantam

Dignity therapy approach in mental disorders

Luigi Grassi

Crisis of Psychiatry and Existential Analysis

Vincenzo Di Nicola

17:45 - 18:00

BREAK

18:00 - 19:30

Discussion Room: Relatedness

Ernesto Spinelli

Raffaele De Luca Picione

SCHEDULED BRIEF TALKS

Maria Galani

Katerina Zymnis

Ferdinando Brancaleone

³ || conference workshops are limited in number; those who wish to participate have to register for the individual workshop at secretariat desk

⁴ Provisional title

09:00 - 11:30 ET Development

Chair **P. Pomponi - K. Zymnis**

**Bringing Wisdom to the World:
applied philosophy as existential therapy**

Emmy van Deurzen

Por qué, para qué y cómo de la terapia existencial

Susana Signorelli

**Existential Dilemmas & "Dialectical Tensions":
An Existential-Developmental understanding
of "inner conflicts"**

Evgenia Georganda

**Psicoterapia neo-esistenziale e scienze di confine.
Il problema della "coscienza" nel dibattito scientifico
contemporaneo.**

Ferdinando Brancaleone

11:30 - 11:45 BREAK

**11:45 - 13:30 Psychotherapies Integration:
lectures and round table**

Chair **Y. Martinez Robles - C. Wurm**

**Embracing Existence: A Hellenic Model
of Psychotherapy Training**

Katerina Zymnis

**The dynamics of psychic change in the light
of liminality**

Raffaele De Luca Picione

**Presentation of the handbook: A History and
Applications of Existential Psychology**

Zoltàn Kovàri

15:00 - 17:00 **ET and Well-Being in the World of Work**

23

Chair **P. Pomponi - F. Boscaino**

The Existential Edge: Where True Performance Begins in High-Stakes Roles

Gwenn Dunne-Henry

Neurodivergent Staff Support: Training, Coaching, and Community

Danny Smith van Deurzen

Olivetti Industries, where SYSTEMS and SHAPes meet for the development of people and territory. Best practice for the future.

Matteo Olivetti

17:30 - 17:45 **BREAK**

17:45 - 19:30 **OTHER PRESENTATIONS**

Chair: **R. Desiderio - C. Verino**

From Therapy Training to Trauma Treatment - expanding and exploring existential supervision

Bo Blåvarg

The Home you cannot buy: the phenomenon of feeling at Home in an Era of Global Change

Nataliia Gladka

The Psychosis of Existential Training: Towards an Inclusive and Equitable Therapeutic Practice for Young Therapists

Neresia Osbourne

The extraordinary human experience - a modern psychological perspective

Yaryna Kaplunenko

Narrazione, LLM, ChatBot e psicoterapia

Paolo Quagliarella

19:30 - 20:00 **CONCLUSIONS**

Ferdinando Brancaleone

Fernando Boscaino

Gianfranco Buffardi

DISCUSSION ROOMS2

9:00 – 10:15 **SHORT COMMUNICATION**

Existential Therapy

Chair **E. Farinella - R. D'Avino**

Orthodox Anthropology as one of the possible foundations of existential therapy

Alina Krasnova

Perspective and Critical Thinking About Existential Psychotherapy

Will Wadlington

Exploring the intersections between existential therapy and narrative approach

Ani Margaryan

Existential challenges of a psychologist in working with involuntary dislocated people in Ukraine

Inna Hlazkova

10:15 – 11:30 **SPECIAL LITTLE ROUND-TABLE**

The phenomenon of evil in existential therapy

Stephen Diamond

Holding Space for the Devil: Exploring Evil as Human Potentiality in Existential Therapy

Vaggelis Lempesis

11:30 – 12:15 **WORKSHOP**

Liberated Body: Body as an anchor for meaning and regulation

Burcu Tuncel

12:15 – 13:40 **Existential psychotherapy and training**

Chair **S. Figlioli - F. Grilanda**

Would You Go to a 25 Years Old Therapist? Nurturing Identity and Addressing Biases While Training Young Psychotherapists

Katya Kiiaeva

What Makes Existential Supervision Effective?

22

Paulius Skruibis

Existential psychopathology: course for students of the second, professional level of training existential therapists of the International Institute of existential consultancy (MIEK)

Alexey Bolshanin

Ikigai and Logotherapy: Parallel paths to meaning

Ralf Müller

Ethics of Memory in Existential Dialogue

M. Roberta Cappellini

Modern teenagers and world classical literature.
Way to wisdom. Experience of psychologist.

Kateryna Chupika

14:30 – 15:30 DISCUSSION ROOM

SUBSTANCE USE AND "LOSS OF CONTROL"

Discussion room: proposed by

Christopher S. E. Wurm

Barbara Parisi Presicce

SCHEDULED BRIEF TALKS

Existential approach in psychorehabilitation of addicts

Olga Samara

An Existential Approach to Addiction:
The Role of the Unconscious

Mert Ulusoy

15:30 – 15:45 BREAK

15:45 – 17:45 WORKSHOP

An existentially grounded approach in working
therapeutically with terminally ill cancer patients

Monika Ulrichová & Michaela Launean

Tell it again

Yuliya Bayramova

LONG PRESENTATION

We live in history. On the formation of the concept of
psychotherapy and the profession of psychotherapist.

Semyon Yesselson

10:45 - 11:45 SHORT FILM (15 minutes each)

Chair **S. Yesselson - E. Farinella**

Dealing with uncertainty in the fog of life

V. Martiusheva & E. Shustikova

The time of my life. Awakening through art.

N. Matveeva

Choice as an important and difficult part of life.

K. Morgan & Z. Rusina

11.45-13.30 SHORT COMMUNICATION

Inconsistency of existence

Chair **R. Desiderio - M. G. Restifo**

Experiences of existential psychotherapeutic approach to limiting situation/s

Maria Isabel Perez

Liminal Spaces: Mutuality in Existential Encounters

Burcu Tuncel

Creating a Multidimensional Scale to Measure Existential Anxiety with Contingency Included

Sabina Musliu

Searching for truth to rely on: Ukrainians making life choices in the face of uncertainty

Kristina Malysheva

Continue to live, you say? That's easy to tell.

Olga Tolmachova

Balancing Depth and Relief: Existential Therapy in an Anxious World

Anna Micheli & Alexandros Herling

Is there life after death?

Irina Maria Sarau

15:00 - 17:00 WORKSHOP

Alison Strasser & Adam McLean

15:00 - 15:45 The obstacles to teaching existential therapy

16:00 - 16:45 The Wheel of Supervision

17:00 - 17:15 BREAK

17:15 – 19:30 **WORKSHOP**

The Existential Wisdom of Zorba: Exploring the Possibilities of Kazantzakian Thought for Enhancing Personal and Therapeutic Vitality

Georganda Evgenia & Erik Craig

Unravelling the Wisdom of the Youth a proposal for existential practice with young people and young adults in psychotherapy

Anghel Ruxandra

Co-travelling on The Hero's Journey: an exploration of a significant rite of passage in young adulthood

Anghel Ruxandra

Third Room

MAY 

SHORT COMMUNICATION

9:00 – 11:00 **Existential therapy and crossing boundaries**

Chair **R. Desiderio – C. Verino**

Worldview of Existential Phenomenology from the Mexican Movement of Analysis and Existential Therapy

Max Jiménez

**Bracketing in an unstable world:
What might the demands look like
for the existential therapist?**

Bo Blåvarg

Epoché in art and art of epoché

Victoria Martiusheva

**Cosmo-Psycho-Logos:
Cultural Diversity by Georgy Gachev**

Vlad Borodulin

**Dao, I – Thou, Borders and Quantum physics.
Finding the right language and images
for existential experience**

Dmitri Ometsinsky

**Paradoxical Intention:
reflection on the complexities of application
in psychological practice**

22

Sergei Ishanov

11:00 – 11:15 BREAK

11:15 – 11:30 SHORT COMMUNICATION

Cycle of live

Chair **F. Grilanda – S. Figlioli**

**Psychometric properties of the Existential Scale
and the Existential Motivations Test for adolescent
population**

María Laura Asid

**From Creative Expression to Existential Reflection:
Emotional Support Groups for Parents of Children
with Neurodevelopmental Disorders**

Kyriaki Kentigkeleni

War and pregnancy. Kyiv 2022-25

Oksana Morozova

**From inner peace to peace with others. Contributions
from Contemporary Existential Analysis to democratic
and peaceful coexistence**

María Laura Asid

**Supporting Animal Guardians:
Experiences from the Greek Population**

Paraskevi Skrempou

**Existential supervision: enhancing interdisciplinary
teams in children's and adolescents' psychotherapies
and special education**

Dionysios Sourelis

14:30 – 15:30 WORKSHOP

**Expanding from inner Wisdom into Existential
Practice**

Gideon Menda & Yali Sar-Shalom

15:45 – 17:45 WORKSHOP

Beyond Words: How Do Our Bodies Speak?

Anna Micheli

Helpline in the era of epidemics and wars

Alexey Bolshanin

Encounter in Existential Coaching – The Process of Personal Existential Analysis (PEA) according to Alfried Längle

Annete Fährmann

MAY  **23**

11:45 – 13:30 **SHORT COMMUNICATION**

Mind and body

Chair **M. Pucci - R. D'Avino**

**Neuroscience & Existential Psychotherapy;
A Facet of the Mind-Body Connection**

Despoina Georgakopoulou Toli

**Loneliness and connection: existential aspects
of working with elderly involuntary dislocated
people in Ukraine**

Helen Kaminska

"Losing Myself, I Find Another":

An Existential Approach to Premature Dementia

Maria Koulouri

Body Image Dissatisfaction: how it arises and what it hides

Louisa Yetumyan

"Blissful ignorance" in psychotherapy

A. Lelyk

14:30 – 16:00 **EXPERIENTIAL GROUP**

**Training in Psychotherapy: The Experiential Group as
a Matrix of Change**

Michele Battuello & Nicole Guido

16:00 – 18:00 **WORKSHOP**

**Embodied Encounters:
Integrating Existential Therapy
and Psychodrama**

Max Karlin

**Dancing Around the Existential Maypole:
a Discourse Between Stances, Views,
Therapeutic Tools, Beliefs and Biases**

Anna Kourtis & Dimitris Dimitriadis

Scientific Chair **R. D'Avino**

Chair **L. Rendina - A. Mesolella**

9:00 – 11:00 POSTER SECTION I DISCUSSION I.1

Heart Intelligence: A Neurophysiological, Emotional, and systemic perspective

A. Borgoni

"On the Stage of Life": Exploring the existential resources for the resilience of professional actors

D. Dobрева-Hristova

Role-playing in ET training

R. M. Buffardi

VIVERE FILOSOFARE:

An online community for a living philosophy

F. Levy

15:45 – 17:45 POSTER SECTION I DISCUSSION I.2

Existential Psychotherapy Institutions Worldwide, Part I: A Replication Study

R. Estanislau - C. Correia

Existential Psychotherapy Institutions Worldwide, Part II: A Questionnaire Study

R. Estanislau - C. Correia

The Emotional and Existential Impact of Relational Dynamics on Special Education Teachers

R. D'Avino - M. Gaudino - L. Rendina - G. Buffardi

Trauma and Existential Shattering:

A phenomenological exploration of the impact of health trauma on a person's lifeworld

A. Ioannou

15:00 – 17:00 POSTER SECTION II DISCUSSION II.1

Finding ways in existential counseling and working with parents how not to “fix” but to nourish children

O. Kuzina

Working with unpredictability through the Shadow Aspects of Personality

V. Mikhailowa

The Condition of the Elderly Through the Lens of Existential Needs

S. Figlioli - A. Mesolella - C. Verino - G. Buffardi

17:15 – 19:30 POSTER SECTION II

Metaphorical Language of Cinema in Existential Therapy

V. Martiusheva

Metaphorical Language of Cinema in Existential Therapy

N. Matveeva

“Fear of the Gene: Existential Implications of the Risk of Genetic Transmission in Relatives of Individuals with Major Psychiatric Disorders”

M. G. Restifo - R. Desiderio - M. Sequino

G. Sampogna - G. Buffardi

The impact of the concept of incomparability on the self esteem of neurodivergent children and adolescents after diagnosis.

F. Grilanda - G. Buffardi

Introduzione



[clicca qui / scansiona](#)

Abstracts



[clicca qui / scansiona](#)

Thanks to our supporters



Circulo de Estudios
en Terapia Existencial
Por Una Co-existencia Apasionada



Humanistinės ir
egzistencinės
psichoterapijos institutas



Varoluşçu Akademi
Existential Academy of Istanbul