



## Communications of the European Society for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

### Presidential Column

By adopting new byelaws at the Conference in Helsinki in 2011, the European Society for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry entered a new phase in its history. It is a nonprofit association, whose aim and purpose is to promote the mental health and wellbeing of children, adolescents and their families, to improve the quality of their lives and to ensure children's right to good mental health through appropriate preventive and therapeutic mental health services and interventions. In order to achieve each of these goals ESCAP will be adapting its organizational structure.

A key objective is to foster best clinical practice based on scientific evidence in the field of child and adolescent psychiatry and mental health. Allied to this is the need to encourage and support research in the field, promote research training and the continued expansion of the scientific base of child and adolescent psychiatry and mental health, to encourage and support educational programs in child and adolescent psychiatry, and through staging scientific congresses, high level meetings and publications, disseminate information and research findings. It is vitally important to collaborate with other organizations engaged in public health advocacy so as to promote the importance of mental health in Europe.

ESCAP is a federative body of national societies for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in European countries (according to WHO definition). ESCAP has 32 members stretching all across Europe from Portugal to the Ukraine. These 32 members, notwithstanding their diverse cultural backgrounds, differing levels of service development and scientific research capabilities are committed to the aims of the Society.

ESCAP has formulated its aims into three main areas and adopted a new structure that will facilitate achievement of its goals. The new structure is comprised of three divisions, namely Academic, Clinical and Policy. The role of the Academic Division is to act as a forum for exchange of scientific research and to promote education and training, especially research training. The role of the Clinical Division is to promote the quality of clinical practice in the field of child and adolescent psychiatry. The role of the Policy Division is to promote health policies, increase public awareness and advocacy related to the mental health of children and adolescents, and in so doing increase the standing and position of the Society both in Europe and within the European Union.

Fostering best clinical practice based on scientific evidence is a core objective of ESCAP. The increase in both quantity and quality of scientific output of European researchers in child and adolescent psychiatry in the last two decades has made it possible to organize the ESCAP Congresses not once in four years but every two years, since the ESCAP Congress in Florence in 2007. The Congresses in Budapest 2009 and Helsinki 2011 were driven by a powerful International Scientific Advisory Board with many of the top European researchers as members. The dissemination of “**Scientific Research**” has always been at the front of what the ESCAP congresses strive to offer.

In the coming years, Dublin in 2013, Madrid (2015), and Geneva (2017) we will endeavor to broaden the program of content of congresses guided by our newly expanded goals. In Dublin we will place greater emphasis on evidence based care, that will make the program even more relevant for clinicians working in our field, including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and others such as teachers and youth workers. “**Quality of care**” will be an important

component of the program we plan to deliver. This will be one step in broadening the scope of our congresses on into the future.

An allied objective is to focus on the topic of **“Policy”**. How do we foster development of appropriate services that will deliver quality care for young people who need help and support and coordinate developments across European countries?

The ESCAP Congress in Dublin, July 6th–10th 2013 will be both interesting and stimulating, an opportunity to learn

about the latest research, up-to-date information on quality of care and policy developments, a forum for meeting and interaction and exchanging ideas among clinicians, scientists, and policy makers so as to promote the mental health wellbeing who are in need of our care.

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Dear readers of ECAP,

This journal, European Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (ECAP), and the European Society for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (ESCAP) are going to build up a new cooperation. Our aim is to work with ECAP as the official journal of our society and to establish regular reports about the activities of ESCAP. For this reason, you will find newsletters in the next issues, in which we would like to communicate some of the topics we are actually discussing. Two of our most important topics will be mental health care for children and adolescents in different European countries and an exchange on treatment guidelines. In one of the forthcoming issues our colleagues from Greece will also report on the impact of the economic crisis on children's well-being in their country.

However, in this newsletter and in supplement to the message by our president, Ruud Minderaa, the Board of ESCAP would like to introduce its members.

There are representatives from twelve European countries, who were all elected by the General Assembly during the congress of ESCAP in Helsinki last year. Six are new members with their first term on the board; six are "old" members since 2007 and longer. We shall all try to do our best to promote children's well-being in Europe.

If you have any questions concerning ESCAP and its work, do not hesitate to refer to the representative of your country or to one of your choice. If you have proposals or ideas for the upcoming newsletters, please contact me.

Beate Herpertz-Dahlmann, Corresponding Editor (ESCAP).

**ESCAP Board 2011–2015**President

**Ruud Minderaa**, The Netherlands: Ten years on the board of ESCAP. Since 2011: President. Emeritus Professor in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in the University Medical Center, Groningen. Until May 2012: Director of the Academic Department in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in Groningen, Member of the board of Accare, in- and outpatient Clinic for Academic and General Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in the Northern Netherlands; and Head

of the Dutch Expert Center in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in Amsterdam.

*Research interests:* research and care in ADHD, autism spectrum disorders and Gilles de la Tourette. Quality of care.

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Board Secretary

**Brendan J. Doody**, Ireland. Five years on the board of ESCAP. Clinical Director of the Health Service Executive Linn Dara Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, serving a population of 0.6 million and Senior Clinical Lecturer in Psychiatry, Trinity College Dublin. Previously Chair of the Child and Adolescent Faculty of the Irish College of Psychiatrists, and member of the Health Service Executive Expert Advisory Group on Mental Health.

Served as a Member of the Mental Health Commission from 2007 to 2012. Currently part-time advisory role with the Health Service Executive on the development of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services,

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Past President

**Tuula Tamminen**, Finland. Thirteen years on the board of ESCAP. Professor of Child Psychiatry at the Tampere University and Chief Medical Officer of Child Psychiatry in the University Hospital. Honorary President of the World Association for Infant Mental Health. Chair of the Health Research Council, Academy of Finland, and a member of European Medical Research Council and European Science Foundation. Expert tasks and positions in WHO and EU.

*Research interests:* Infant psychiatry, early interaction, parenthood and parenting, depression, emotional development and regulation.

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Board Members

**Dimitris C. Anagnostopoulos**, Greece. One year on the board of ESCAP. Director of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, 1<sup>st</sup> Department of Psychiatry, Medical School, University of Athens. Specialisation in neurology and psychiatry, in child and adolescent psychiatry and in psychoanalytic psychotherapy.

Membership of working parties and committee; among others, during the last decade: Vice Chairman of the working party for the Development of Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Services in Greece, Ministry of Health; Member of the Mental Health Committee, Ministry of Health; Member of the Children's Rights Committee, Ministry of Youth; Member of the Planning Committee in Health Education, Ministry of Health; Member of the

Education Committee, Hellenic Society of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; Member of the Education Committee, Hellenic Psychiatric Association.

Member on the Board of numerous Greek and international professional organizations including the Hellenic Psychiatric Association (general secretary 2005–2011), currently chair of the section of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; the Hellenic Society of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry; currently member of the Ethics Committee; the World Psychiatric Association, honorary member, chairman of the section on Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (2005–2011).

*Research interests:* specific developmental disorders, learning disorders, community psychiatry and child psychotherapy.

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**Claude Bursztejn, France:** five years on the board of ESCAP. Head of the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, University Hospital of Strasbourg. Specialization in child and adolescent psychiatry. Former president of the French Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions.

*Research interests:* Autism and PDD, ADHD, conduct disorder, adolescence, classifications.

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**Sofie Crommen, Belgium:** one year on the board of ESCAP. Specialisation in child and adolescent psychiatry, systemic therapy and hospital management. Manager of a private practise in Zutendaal. President of the Flamish Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (VVK). Board member of the Belgian Society of Psychiatry (VBS-Psychiatrie). Member of the Belgian professional recognition commission. Editor of *De Psychiater*.

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**Füsun Çetin Çuhadaroğlu, Turkey:** one year on the board of ESCAP. Professor and chair of the Adolescent Psychiatry Outpatient Clinic in the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Hacettepe University Medical School, Ankara, Turkey. Specialisation in adult psychiatry, child and adolescent psychiatry and psychodynamic psychotherapy training. Co-Editor of the Turkish Journal of CAP, Editorial Advisory Board of the journal *Adolescent Psychiatry*, President of the Turkish Assoc. for CAP, faculty of the MH/DD (Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities) program of FIC/NIH (Fogarty International Center of the National Institute of Health in USA) for Training of Researchers in Turkey, vice-president of ISAPP, member of the Executive Committee of IACAPAP, consultant member of the Adolescent Committee of AACAP.

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**Stephan Eliez, Suisse:** One year on the board of ESCAP, treasurer and associated director of the International Advisory Board. Director of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry of the Geneva University School of Medicine and the Director of Special Education for the State of Geneva. Specialisation in child psychiatry and training and research in neurosciences in Stanford (California, USA). Faculty member at the Department of Psychiatry of the Geneva University School of Medicine since 2001.

*Research interests:* long-term follow-up of children with 22q11 deletion syndrome, neuroimaging, genetics.

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**Beate Herpertz-Dahlmann, Germany:** Five years on the board of ESCAP. Chair and director of the University Clinics of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Psychosomatics and Psychotherapy at the Technical University of Aachen. Specialisation in paediatrics and child and adolescent psychiatry. Former president of the German Scientific Society for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, editor of the German journal for child and adolescent psychiatry and field editor of “*Journal of Neural Transmission*” for *Biological Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*.

*Research interests:* Eating disorders, autism spectrum disorders, conduct disorders, disorders of early childhood.

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**Oscar Herreros, Spain:** One year on the board of ESCAP. Five years on the board of AEPNYA (Spanish Society of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry). Psychiatrist, Consultant in the Clinics of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Hospital Virgen de las Nieves, Granada, Spain. Editor of the Spanish Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and the Spanish version of the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

*Research interests:* ADHD, paediatric psychopharmacology.

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**Agnes Vetro, Hungary:** five years on the board of ESCAP. Head of the Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Szeged University Medical Faculty Paediatric Clinic in Szeged. Specialisation in paediatrics, paediatric neurology

and child and adolescent psychiatry. Former president of the Hungarian Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Field editor of the Journals of Psychiatria Hungarica, Paediatrics, Paediatric Medical Education.

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„Old“ and „new“ board of ESCAP, Helsinki Congress, 2011