

**5th Congress of Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
and Allied Professions of Serbia – DEAPS**

REPORT

The fifth congress of DEAPS, with international participation, was held traditionally on Zlatibor, beautiful mountain in the heart of Serbia, from 23th - 26th May 2019. Congress theme was "Mental health of children and youth - Current challenges, possible solutions".

A large number of eminent experts from our country and the region participated in the congress (Bulgaria, Croatia, North Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Slovenia), as well as experts from other countries (Japan, UK). The Congress was attended by over 200 participants from various professions (pediatricians, child and adolescents psychiatrists, psychiatrists, social workers, defectologists, speech therapists, medical technicians and nurses, psychologists, representatives of education, parents). Numerous important topics and research works have been presented. After the lectures, discussions were opened and the participants were very satisfied with presented topics.

At the very beginning of the Congress, two workshops were held: Jasminka Markovic and Jelena Srdanovic Maras (Serbia) - *Nonsuicidal self injury of adolescents* and Miodrag Stankovic and Nenad Rudic (Serbia) - *Diagnostic classification of mental health and developmental disorders of early childhood - DC:0-5*.

After the workshops came an opening ceremony, where the President of DEAPS, dr Vojislav Curcic, gave a welcome speech followed by the video presentation of the ESCAP President-elect, prof. Dimitris Anagnostopoulos, who talked about perspectives of ESCAP. The opening ceremony was embellished with musical performance by the students of the Secondary School of Music "Vojislav Rale-Lale Stefanovic" from city Uzice. Milica Pejovic Milovancevic introduced participants to the *Status of child and adolescent psychiatry in Serbia* and presented the book *Adolescence - Chance, Romance and Psychopathology*, edited by president of DEAPS.

Next day two plenary sessions were held with the theme *Mental health of children and youth*, which included the latest achievements in this field.

After plenary sessions, the satellite symposium Sanofi was held with the theme *Vaccine – Myths and Misconceptions* along with the poster presentation. Six symposiums were organized: *Early Development* (in collaboration with UNICEF office of Serbia), *Psychopathology of Adolescence I*, *Psychotherapy I*, *Presentation of Modules for Patrone Nurses* (in collaboration with UNICEF office of Serbia), *Autism Spectrum Disorders I*, and Round Table of the Psychoanalytic Society of Serbia were conducted within smaller groups but were extremely interactive. At the end of the second day of the congress, the annual and election assembly of the DEAPS was held, at which a new representatives and members of board were elected. DEAPS earned the prize from Serbian Medical Association for the best conference in 2017 held in Nis (*Lets speak about autism*).

On Saturday, 25 May, another two plenary sessions were held - *Mental health problems in children and youth*. After the plenary sessions was the satellite symposium, named *Use of Aripiprazole in clinical practice with children and adolescents*. Workshops led by Mima Simic (UK), *Family*

therapy for eating disorders - Maudsley hospital approach (London), and Branko Aleksic (Japan), *Developmental disorders and genetics: Bridging the gap between research and clinical work*, introduced us with a new approach and way of working with children and youth. Another six symposia were organized *Adverse Childhood Experience – research in Serbia*, *Autism Spectrum Disorders II*, *Adolescence Psychopathology II*, *Social Protection*, *Psychotherapy II* and *Childhood Psychopathology* closed the third day of the congress. After that, there was a formal dinner attended by many members and friends of DEAPS.

On Sunday, last day of the Congress, reports from symposiums, workshops and plenary sessions were presented, which resulted in positive conclusions and formal closing of the congress.