When Divided Worlds Meet

Confluences of Identity, Culture,
Continuity and Change

18th International GASi Symposium Belgrade, 23 - 27 August 2023

We cordially invite participants of the Belgrade Symposium 2023 to submit proposals for workshops (W), sub-plenaries (SP) and paper presentations (PP) for consideration by the Symposium Scientific Program Committee (SSPC).

It is important to link your proposal to the overall topic of the Symposium and with one of the daily themes:

The opening lecture will provide an outline of the Balkan context and then each full day of the symposium will have its own theme.

Thursday – Theory: Complexity of Paradigms. There is a wide range of theoretical paradigms that feed into group analysis and help us understand the transpersonal process that shape us. To what extent does this confluence produce a creative mix and foster social creativity and to what extent are the paradigms irreconcilable or contradictory?

Friday – Sociopolitical: Diversity and Dialogue. Is it possible to create true dialogue across difference – ethnic, religious, class, gender, cultural, etc? What are the limits of our tolerance of ideas that contradict our own and even offend us? Many group analysts are involved in attempting to promote dialogue in areas of conflict – to what extent is this successful and indeed possible in areas of the world with complex histories?

Saturday – Clinical and Training: Working on the future of Group Analysis. Group analytic practice and training have been severely challenged by the pandemic and associated societal disruption which often highlighted underlying power dynamics and many group analysts found themselves doing what had previously seemed theoretically impossible – conducting online therapy groups, running whole training courses without meeting in person etc. What will group analytic training look like in the future and how can we adequately prepare trainees to meet the social tensions which have been exposed and will appear in all our groups?

CALL FOR PAPERS

There are two different sessions for these each day, one of 90 minutes and one of 75 minutes.

The Different Formats for your Proposals are:

1. Sub-plenaries: these involve oral presentations which may include audiovisual support. Two or three presenters have 20 minutes each to present their material on the topic of the sub-plenary. The chair may use a few minutes to summarize the main issues that arise before opening the discussion to the floor.

Sub-plenaries may vary in length with the themes continuing over more than one session or day. The abstract should provide a title for the sub-plenary and a summary of the topic to be covered. It should state how many sessions are envisaged and list the presenters and themes on which each will speak.

2. Paper Presentations: offer space for two (for a 75-minute session) or three (for a 90-minute session) contributions on similar themes. Each contributor, facilitated by the chair, can give a short presentation of 20 Minutes. The chair will then coordinate a discussion between the contributors and their audience.

The abstract should state whether the author already knows of other presenters with whom they would like to present on a similar theme or if they wish the SSPC to group their paper with others that have been submitted and seem to complement each other.

3. Workshops are more experiential. They offer shorter theoretical material which will then be illustrated by discussion and exercises. The presenters are expected to encourage participants to share thoughts and experiences in a more informal way.

Please choose a suitable format for your contribution and state whether you are planning to attend in person or online, and if in person, whether you feel your contribution could be adapted to suit an online only format if necessary.

Abstracts should be submitted via the website. The SC may offer suggestions to clarify your text. If your submission is provisionally accepted you will need to register before final acceptance can be made, it will then appear in the programme on the website of the symposium.

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Group Analytic
Society Belgrade