

# GLOBAL FRONTIERS IN PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH: EMERGING TRENDS AND CHALLENGES



IUSVE  
International  
Congress

17.05.2025



IUSVE  
International Congress  
Global Frontiers  
in Psychological  
Research:  
Emerging Trends  
and Challenges



Istituto Universitario Salesiano Venezia

**Date**  
May 17, 2025

**Venue**  
Salesian University Institute of Venice-Mestre – Aula Magna and IUSVE Building

**Duration**  
8.30 AM – 6.45 PM

The International Congress “*Global Frontiers in Psychological Research*” will feature plenary sessions in the morning and parallel workshops/thematic sessions in the afternoon, offering participants the opportunity to deeply engage with topics of interest. At the same time, speakers will contribute their work and research through oral presentations (a maximum of 20 minutes) and more specialized poster sessions.

This event represents a significant academic and professional milestone, aiming to define future directions in psychological research while promoting effective integration between theory, practice, and technological innovation in the field. It is a unique initiative among the events previously organized by the IUSVE Department of Psychology.

On the one hand, the main objective is to explore and discuss emerging trends and current challenges in psychology; on the other hand, the event seeks to serve as a platform for the exchange of innovative ideas and scientific debate among international experts and participants from various academic and professional backgrounds, with the active involvement of students. For the first time, the congress will see university students not only as attendees but also as co-authors of some of the works presented. This marks an important step toward integrating students into high-level clinical and research activities, demonstrating our commitment to providing them with meaningful international training opportunities.

## / OBJECTIVES OF THE CONGRESS

- › **Foster Interdisciplinary Dialogue:** Facilitate the exchange of knowledge among disciplines interacting with psychology—such as neuroscience, psychotherapy, education, and social sciences—to enhance understanding of complex psychological phenomena.
- › **Explore Technological Innovations:** Deepen the examination of emerging technologies, such as virtual reality and artificial intelligence, in the treatment of psychological disorders and the enhancement of therapies and wellness practices.
- › **Stimulate Research on Emerging Topics:** Identify and discuss new trends in psychological research with significant implications for understanding and treating various psychological disorders.
- › **Promote International Collaboration:** Establish a platform for collaboration among researchers, clinicians, and educators worldwide, encouraging cultural and scientific exchange to address global psychological challenges.
- › **Encourage Student Participation:** Motivate psychology students and early-career researchers to present their work, providing them with an international stage and the opportunity to receive constructive feedback from field experts.
- › **Integrate Theory and Practice:** Showcase the effectiveness of psychological theories through empirical studies and practical case applications, emphasizing the importance of evidence-based approaches.
- › **Support Continuing Professional Development:** Offer learning and professional development opportunities through workshops, seminars, and expert interactions, strengthening competencies necessary to tackle contemporary psychological challenges.

## / DAILY PROGRAM

**8.30 AM-9.00 AM** / Welcome and Registration for the Congress

**9.00 AM-9.30 AM** / Institutional Greetings

- › don Nicola Giacomini – Director IUSVE
- › Luca Pezzullo – President OPPV
- › Davide Maria Marchioro – Head of Psychology Area IUSVE

**9.30 AM-10.15 AM** / Keynote

Prof. Ken Abrams (Carleton College, USA): «*The Application of Virtual Reality in Psychological Practice*»

**10.15 AM-11.00 AM** / Keynote

Prof. Aimée Argüero Fonseca (Universidad Autónoma de Nayarit – Mexico): «*Rewriting Our Story: Nature, Technology, and Mindfulness as Pathways to Psychological Restoration*»

**11.00 AM-11.15 AM** / Coffee Break

**11.15 AM-12.00 PM** /

Chiara Franceschi (IUSVE): «*OLTRE(TUTTO): Overcoming Limits Through Reflective, Expressive Techniques Using Theatrical, Transformative, Observational Tools*»

**12.00 PM-12.45 PM** /

Maria Lucia Caniglia – Davide Maria Marchioro (IUSVE): «*Beyond Time: Bridging Past and Present in Elderly Patients – The Impact of Virtual Reality on Reminiscence Therapy*»

**12.45 PM-1.00 PM** / Question Time

**1.00 PM-2.00 PM** / Lunch Break

---

**2.30 PM-5.30 PM**

WORKSHOP

**3.00 PM-5.00 PM** / Room I 302 – Iusve Building

Oltretutto: Narrativa psicodrammatica

**2.30 PM - 4.30 PM** / Room Pio Penzo – San Marco Building

Virtual Reality: Tools and Applications

POSTER SESSION

**2.30 PM-7.00 PM** / Outdoor pavillion

## THEMATIC SESSIONS

**2.30 PM-7.00 PM** / Oral presentations divided by thematic areas:

**3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – IUSVE Building / Room I 301 – Topic 1**

### **SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY & PSYCHOANTHROPOLOGY**

**Moderator:** Cinzia Tieuli (IUSVE)

**Panel 1 / 2.30 PM-3.40 PM / Where Reason Hesitates: Psychology, Symbolism, and the Sacred:**

- › In Praise of the Irrational: Symbolic Thought in Psychological Research (**Giovanni Frigo - IUSVE**)
- › Rational and Irrational Elements of Religious Consciousness: A Phenomenological Perspective (**Michele Marchetto - IUSVE**)
- › Social Research and Catholic Spirituality (**Giuseppe Manzato - IUSVE**)

**Panel 2 / 3.40 PM-4.50 PM / Youth, Future and Social Change:**

- › Facing the Future(s): Young Italian Adults Between Empowerment and Illusion (**Davide Girardi - IUSVE**)
- › Educational Communities for Minors: A Possible Challenge? (**Fabiana Filippi/Raffaele Zabotto -IUSVE**)
- › Planet Adolescence: Creative Processes and Health Promotion in Schools (**Roberto Boccalon -IUSVE**)

**Panel 3 / 4.50 PM-6.00 PM / Being (T)here: Presence, Absence, and Identity in the Digital Age:**

- › The Environmental Impact of the Digital Universe and the Role of the Humanities (**Enrico Orsenigo/Maria Valentini/Cecilia Pellizzari - UniMORE/UniPD**)
- › Body "Perception" and "Presence" in the Absence Era: Psychological Aspects of Post-Digital Spaces (**Giulia Pavan -IUSVE**)
- › Digito Ergo Ero: Explorations Beyond Onlife and Perspectives on Digital Immortality (**Enrico Orsenigo - UniMORE**)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – IUSVE Building / Room I 303 – Topic 2**

### **APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY FOR LEARNING, TECHNOLOGY, AND WELL-BEING**

**Moderator:** Tiziana Magro (IUSVE)

**Panel 1 / 2.30 PM-3.40 PM / Technology and Psychological Well-Being:**

- › Applying virtual reality nature simulations to promote affective, cognitive, and physiological restoration (**Isabel Folger - Carleton College USA**)
- › Cognitive Transference, Embodied Experience, and AI: a Case Study (**Lino Rossi -IUSVE**)
- › Well-Being Gaming and Video Game Therapy (**Giovanni Fasoli/Maria Vittoria Piran - IUSVE**)

**Panel 2 / 3.40 PM-4.50 PM / From Mindful Words to Bayesian Worlds: Paths of Applied Psychology:**

- › Applying Mindfulness to Language Learning: The P.S.P. (Personal, Simple, Positive) Model (**Riccardo Brett - IUSVE**)
- › New Educational Epistemologies: Between Psychology and Pedagogy of Learning in Adulthood (**Cristiano Chiusso - IUSVE**)
- › Bayes' Theorem as a Foundation for an Empirical and Consensual Epistemology (**Fabio Lot - IUSVE**)

**Panel 3 / 4.50 PM-6.00 PM / From Youth Care to General Well-being: Body-Oriented Psychological Practices:**

- › Adolescence, Movement and Well-Being: The Role of Sports Psychology (**Marta Gentile -UniPD**)
- › Kids on the Farm: An Animal-Assisted Therapy Project for Vulnerable Adolescents (**Michela Romano - OPPV**)
- › Neuroscientific Evidence for Autogenic Training Methods and Principles (**Roberto Baruzzo - IUSVE**)

**Panel 1 / 2.30 PM-3.40 PM / The Suffering Body: Sexuality, Psychosomatics, and Clinical Care:**

- › The Living Body in Clinical Practice (**Marisa Galbussera - IUSVE**)
- › Fragments of clinical sexology: microtrauma and sense of unworthiness (**Giada Mondini - IUSVE**)
- › Psychological, Relational, and Fertility-Related Characteristics of Italian Women with Vulvodynia: A Comparative Study with Controls (**Antonio Gattamelata -Universidad de Jaén ES**)

**Panel 2 / 3.40 PM-4.50 PM / From Paradigm to Person: Rethinking Psychopathology and Psychotherapeutic Change:**

- › Dynamic Psychotherapy: Achieving Change (**Giuseppe Filidoro - IUSVE**)
- › Psychopathology and Paradigms of Clinical Practice (**Franco Garonna - IUSVE**)
- › The Role of Clinical Phenomenology as Co-Writing Practice in Mental Healthcare (**Matteo Chiarani - IUSVE**)

**Panel 3 / 4.50 PM-6.00 PM / Families, Groups and Withdrawal: Clinical Reflections on Belonging and Separation:**

- › Destructive Family Dynamics: The Breaking Point (**Giorgio Vaccaro - IUSVE**)
- › Between Connection and Individuation: Group-Analytic Reflections on Social Withdrawal (**Giovanna Borsetto - IUSVE**)
- › Dynamic Graffiti: An Expressive Group Psychotherapy Experience in Short-Term Psychiatric Inpatient Care (**Roberto Boccalon - IUSVE**)

**Panel 1 / 2.30 PM-3.40 PM / From Cognition to Prediction: Emerging Approaches in Forensic Psychology:**

- › Artificial Intelligence in Forensic Psychology (**Valentina Allasia - IUSVE**)
- › Circular Models in Criminology and Victimology (**Marco Monzani - IUSVE**)
- › Cognitive Profiles of Paedophilic Behaviour: A Meta-Analytic and Systematic Review (**Alexa Schincariol - uniPD**)

**Panel 2 / 3.40 PM-4.50 PM / Across the Line: Violence, Victimization and Social Perception:**

- › Stalking Between Subjective Perception and Actual Behavior (**Camilla Fiscon - Associazione ARES APS**)
- › The Impact of the Giulia Cecchettin Case on the Perception of Gender-Based Violence (**Izabella Kartchner -IUSVE**)
- › Trauma and the Perpetrator of Violence (**Brian Vanzo - IUSVE**)

**Panel 3 / 4.50 PM-6.00 PM / Between Right and Real: Ethics, Law:**

- › The Boundary Between Legal and Illegal in Different Sports Contexts (**Lucrezia De Mari - IUSVE**)
- › Victimization from Environmental Crimes: Theoretical and Applied Aspects (**Marco Monzani - IUSVE**)
- › Informed Consent and Advance Directives in Palliative Care Teams in Veneto: Current Status and the Psychologist's Role (**Angela Toniolo - IUSVE**)

**Panel 1 / 2.30 PM-3.40 PM / Animal-Assisted Interventions in Clinical and Educational Settings:**

- › Donkey Assisted Education (**Sara Elettra Petrassi - UniBA**)
- › “The Healing Dog”: Animal-Assisted Interventions in Pediatric and Adolescent Hemato-Oncology – A Qualitative Study (**Giorgia Gasparotto - IUSVE**)
- › “Being the Brother Of”: A Qualitative Study on Animal-Assisted Interventions for Young Hemato-Oncology Patients and Their Siblings (**Simona Martucci - Azienda ULSS2**)

**Panel 2 / 3.40 PM-4.50 PM / Palliative Care: Tools, Roles and Clinical and Ethical Perspectives:**

- › Not Only Covid-19: Home-Based Oncological Palliative Care During the Pandemic – An Observational Study (**Eleonora Cason - IUSVE**)
- › Decoding Complexity: The Psychologist’s Role in Specialist Palliative Care (**Annagiulia Cirillo - IUSVE**)
- › Healthcare-Volunteers Recruitment Test (He-Vo Test 1.0): Development and Validation for Oncology, Hemato-Oncology and Palliative Care Volunteers (**Eleonora Cason - IUSVE**)

**Panel 1 / 2.30 PM-3.40 PM / Click, Point, Learn: Innovation and Intuition in Neuropsychological Assessment:**

- › Specific Learning Disorders: Between Neuroscience and Common Misconceptions (**Mavi Lodoli - IUSVE**)
- › Remote Assessment of Executive Functions in Children with ADHD Symptoms (**Agnese Capodieci - IUSVE**)
- › Finger-pointing: what improves and how to improve it? (**Eleonora Simoni - IUSVE**)

**Panel 2 / 3.40 PM-4.50 PM / From Diagnosis to Policy: Clinical Psychology Across Levels of Intervention:**

- › Personality Traits and Cognitive Functioning: Psychological Correlates and Clinical Implications (**Marco Zuini/ Vanessa Donadel - IUSVE**)
- › A Multidisciplinary Personalized Approach in Cocaine Use Disorder: Evidence from a Cohort of 1011 Patients (**Giulia Zaffaina - Luis J. Gómez-Pérez - Fondazione Novella Fronda**)
- › What do official regional documents in Northeastern Italy reveal about the family’s vision? A topic analysis and policy development using GPTs (**Mario Bolzan - uniPD**)

**Sede di Venezia**

(legale e operativa)

Via dei Salesiani, 15  
30174 Venezia-Mestre  
T. +39 0415498511

**Sede di Verona**

(operativa)

Regaste San Zeno, 17  
37123 Verona  
T. +39 0415498580