

Report of Prof. Victor Makarov

Professional Psychotherapeutic League unite psychotherapists from over 26 countries, mostly from Russian Federation, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

We are intensively discussing the psychotherapeutic aspects of the situation in Ukraine. We are about to organize two conferences dedicated to the crisis in Ukraine. On a voluntary basis PPL is giving professional assistance to refugees from Ukraine.

We continue to advocate for professional psychotherapy as a independent profession, requiring special education and functioning under the special rules established by the professional community. Unfortunately, the vision of psychotherapy as a profession for psychologist and social workers is getting more popular.

PPL is organizing international conferences for psychotherapy annually. More than 2,000 counsellors, psychotherapists and psychiatrists from over 40 countries attended the First United Eurasian Congress for Psychotherapy across Moscow in July 2013. The event was organised by the Professional Psychotherapeutic League of Russia (PPL), the largest professional psychotherapeutic organisation in Russia, and was the first joint congress of the European Association for Psychotherapy (EAP) and the Asian Federation for Psychotherapy (AFP).

The theme of the three-day congress was 'Psychotherapy without borders: past, present, and future'. More than 750 papers were presented, with practical workshops running alongside. The congress also covered coaching and mediation. Young psychotherapists and students had a sector-specific conference within the main program.

Pre- and post-congress events attended by Russian and foreign psychotherapists took place in cities all over Russia and included several Decadniks, a unique Russian form of intensive immersion in the world of psychotherapy.

A post-congress conference in Vladivostok, 'Depression: methods of treatment', attracted psychotherapists, psychologists and psychiatrists from all over the far eastern regions of Russia. The highlight of the post-congress programme was 'The Road to the East', an epic psychotherapeutic train journey from Moscow to Vladivostok, along the world's longest railway, the Trans-Siberian railway. Participants included psychotherapists from Germany, Austria, Serbia, Slovenia, Romania, Brazil and Russia. Workshops and talks were given by international psychotherapists throughout the six-day journey, and delegates also had the opportunity to meet local psychotherapists at stations along the route.

The 2013 congress has played an important part in helping to create a space where the psychotherapy of West and East can interface, and has given impetus to the development of psychotherapy in Russia and other countries of Europe and Asia.

We are supporting the World Certificate for Psychotherapy. A lot of qualified psychotherapists from eastern Europe are receiving WCP certificates annually. For the moment Russia is in chair position by Asian Federation for Psychotherapy. PPL is managing also the official homepage of the AFP. We are working on congress

schedule for the coming years. Next congress of the AFP is going to take place in Kuching, Malaysia from 30.08 till 02.09.2015.

After the last World Congress in Australia, we have released a new issue of the world scientific and practical journal for psychotherapy „Psychotherapy“. For the first time it went to the online version. We plan to continue these publications. We have started to prepare for the World Congress for Psychotherapy in Russia: Moscow, Saint-Petersburg and Baikal lake.

Our suggestions:

1. To promote professional psychotherapy as an independent profession, requiring special education and functioning under the special rules established by the professional community.
2. To hold the world congress for psychotherapy by WCP every two years. To hold also continental congresses at the year of the world congress.
3. To vote for Russia as a hosting country for the next 9th world congress after the one Paris.
4. To continue to publish the online version of World Journal for Psychotherapy.