



European
Psychoanalytical
Federation



INTERNATIONAL
PSYCHOANALYTICAL
ASSOCIATION



LISTENING UNDER PRESSURE GENDER VARIANCE, PSYCHOANALYTICAL PRACTICE AND THE PRECARIETY OF RIGHTS

November 27-29, 2026 - Brussels and Online

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LISTENING UNDER PRESSURE



In keeping with tradition, the IPA's 'Sexual and Gender Diversity Studies' **Committee** is once again pleased to announce this season study weekend in Brussels. This year, the event has been organised in collaboration with colleagues from the EPF's 'Sexuality, Gender and Identity' **Committee**. We are therefore all together delighted to invite you to join us for a two-day event enriched by clinical work and wide-ranging reflections.

The theme that has been selected collectively is 'Listening under pressure', and the objective is to examine the dramatic transformations currently occurring on a global scale, which have a significant impact on the quality of life, fundamental rights and access to care for millions of individuals who are reevaluating their gender identity.

The primary focus of these discussions will be on the clinical and psychoanalytic dimensions. It is imperative that analysts engage in introspection regarding the pressures with which our patients are confronted. We shall be honoured to share this space for reflection and study with you all. The study weekend is open to IPA and EPF members, IPSO candidates and fellow clinical psychotherapists.

You can attend either in person (at the EPF House in Brussels) or online. For those wishing to attend in person, a dinner (optional) will also be organised so that we can continue to exchange views and learn about each other's professional and interpersonal experiences.

Bruxelles, Belgium and online



Committee on Sexuality Gender & Identity
European Psychoanalytic Federation



Sexual & Gender Diversity
Studies Committee
International Psychoanalytical Association



Our Committees invites you to the study weekend

LISTENING UNDER PRESSURE

Gender Variance, Psychoanalytical Practice and the Precarity of Rights

27-29 November 2026 - Brussels and Online

November 27th, Friday

(In presence only)

17:30-18:00 **WELCOME RECEPTION**

18:00-18:30 **WELCOME SPEECHES**

Esther Hutfless, Chair of the EPF Committee.

Silvia Acosta, Chair overall of the IPA Committee.

18:00-19:00 **WELCOME PARTY**

November 28th, Saturday

(In presence and OnLine)

09:30-11:00 **PANEL: ETHICS AND LISTENING**

09:00-9.30 **WELCOME ADDRESS AND OPENING REMARKS**

Esther Hutfless, Vienna Psychoanalytic Association.

Bernd Heimerl, German Psychoanalytic Society.

Chair: Esther Hutfless, Vienna Psychoanalytic Association.

9.30-10.00 Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick: An Introduction and Contextualization.

10-11.00 Shared Reading: Paranoid Reading and Its Limits

A joint discussion of Sedgwick's concept of paranoid reading and its relevance for psychoanalytic practice

Presenter: Bernd Heimerl, German Psychoanalytic Society.

10:00-11:00 Discussion

11:00-11:30 **COFFEE BREAK**

Chair: Bernd Heimerl, German Psychoanalytic Society.

11:30-12:30 Transitions and Translations: Trans* Subjectivity Beyond Causality – Toward a Depathologizing Psychoanalytic Practice

Presenter: Esther Hutfless, Vienna Psychoanalytic Association.

12:30-13 Discussion

13-14:30 **LUNCH BREAK**

November 28th, Saturday

(In presence and OnLine)

14:30-16:00 **PANEL: INSTITUTIONS**

Chair: Esther Hutfless, Vienna Psychoanalytic Association.

14.30-15.30 Are We Afraid of Change? Discourse and Practice of Sexuality and Gender in Psychoanalytic Societies

Presenter: Mette Hvalstad, Norwegian Psychoanalytical Society

Eija Repo, Finish Psychoanalytical Society

Ewa Glod, Polish Psychoanalytical Society

15:30-16:00 Discussion

16:00-16:30 **COFFEE BREAK**

Chair: Silvia Acosta. Portuguese Psychoanalytical Society and the Cordoba Psychoanalytical Association.

16:30-17:30 Gender Dysphoria/Incongruence: Historical and Clinical Aspects.

Presenter: Jack Drescher, William Alanson White Psychoanalytic Institute (NY)

17:30-18:00 Discussion

18:00: End of Saturday

Study Weekend's Dinner

(In presence only)

20:00-23:00 **DINNER (Optional)**

Led Petits Oignons

Rue de la Régence 25, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgio

November 29th, Sunday

(In presence and OnLine)

9:00-13.30 **PANEL: PSYCHOANALYTICAL PRACTICE**

Chair: Nicolas Evzonas, French Psychoanalytical Association Institute

9.00-10:00 The Disarmed Clinic. Theoretical, methodological, and existential transformations within a lifetime.

Presenter: Malde Vigneri, Società Psicoanalitica Italiana.

10:00-10:30 Discussion

11.30-11:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

Chair: Louise Lyon, British Psychoanalytical Society

11.00-12.00 How can we think about healthy trans development?

Presenter: Elisabeth Imhorst, German Psychoanalytic Association

12:00-12:30 Discussion

12:30-13:00 CONCLUSIONS AND FINAL REMARKS

Presenter: Anna Cordioli, European Chair of the IPA Committee

13:00-13:30 Concluding Discussion

13.30: **FARWELL RECEPTION**



Conference Information

Conference venue:

EPF House

(Rue Gérard 35, 1040 Etterbeek, in Brussels, Belgium)

Recommended accommodation:

There is special arrangement with **Park Hotel** especially for this conference to be booked until September 24.

Each attendant makes their own booking by contacting the Park Hotel, with the following code: EPF

Single person 132 € per night. Double room with two persons 154 €. Executive Double Room: €196 in single use. Breakfast included.

Park Hotel - Avenue De L'ysse 21, Etterbeek, 1040, Belgium

Tel: +32 (0) 2 737 09 88, email: info@parkhotelbrussels.be

Friday evening dinner:

Please feel free to explore the city.

Saturday evening dinner (optional):

The dinner will take place from 8.00 pm to 11.00 pm at [Les Petits Oignons](#). Booking is optional and must be made and paid for at the time of conference registration. The cost is €75. Bookings can be made until 15 November.

Registration details

Registration is open to the following categories.

- IPA members
- IPA analysts-in-training
- Qualified psychodynamic psychotherapists
- Students

Fees:

€ 70 for in-person attendance

€ 50 for online attendance

€ 40 for Analysts in training (IPSO) and Psychotherapist in training.

Registrants for online attendance will receive links to connect on November 21.

Register via the following link:

[REGISTER HERE](https://sites.google.com/view/ipaep-f-study-weekend/)

<https://sites.google.com/view/ipaep-f-study-weekend/>



In case of general questions,

please contact

sexualitygenderipa@gmail.com

Organizing Committee

Marta Areny, Silvia Acosta, Anna Cordioli, Bernd Heimerl, Esther Hutfless, Louise Lyon and the EPF House's Staff.

