

SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO
2004

18th EFPSA Congress

COMMUNICATION

Organised by UPSA
Serbia and Montenegro

Table of Contents



18TH EFPSA CONGRESS

Dear All,

You are in the right place at the right time: this is The Congress! The annual congress, which is the main event of the European Federation of Psychology Students' Associations. This is the largest meeting of psychology students from all around Europe.

EFPSA is ending a wonderful year: We created brand new Internet tools that will promote the mobility and the interaction amongst thousands of students in the following years. We presented the results of our largest joint research about the European Diploma at many conferences. Half of our active member countries participated in bilateral and trilateral group exchanges. We established contact with many new countries, and facilitated the foundation of more national level psychology student organisations. More of our member organisations held its very first national congress this year. We multiplied our cooperation with other international student organisations. We developed a lot in our working methods and came up with sophisticated solutions for improving our organisational structure. EFPSA became more conscious, more transparent, more functioning... You will hear about all this, and much more on the General Assembly.

During this week, you will probably be amazed seeing how different we are. Different faces, different tastes, different mentalities. This variety makes EFPSA so colorful, so creative, and so strong. But if you listen carefully, you will be even more amazed when realize, how similar we are. Similar goals, similar dreams, similar motivations. And I think that this silent, deep similarity is what helps us to understand each other, and to step forward together.

While we are celebrating the enlargement of the European Union, we must keep in mind that there are about 25 other countries in Europe that are not part of it. EFPSA's doors are always equally open for all 50 European countries, and we are waiting for all of them...

We are here to do something good. Something incredibly good, something unforgettable... something together! We all have a wonderful opportunity during this week - let's live with it! You already made the biggest step with coming to the congress, now you only have to look around and: Communicate! You have the chance to share all your ideas and listen to the experiences of others, you have the chance to initiate new international activities: exchange programs, joint research projects, or whatever you want. In the following days you will experience the power of voluntary teamwork if people are working together for something they believe in, they are really able to do miracles. I know that miracles exist, because I have seen quite some in EFPSA... One of them is the way on which this congress was organised. With the incredible contribution of many-many committed people, who practically did not do anything else in the last one year but preparing in a crazy work pace for this week. So enjoy it, take part of it, be part of it, and I ensure you that you will meet some miracles yourself!

Welcome to the 18th EFPSA Congress!

Attila Andics

President, EFPSA

Little EFPSA-vocabulary

EFPSA membership The members of EFPSA are not individuals, but national psychology student organizations. These organizations are represented by a national representative (the EB-member). We often refer to our members as member countries, but precisely they are organizations. Some of our members are not national organizations, but local or regional organizations, or simply a well-organised group of psychology students. The real membership criterion is: the organization/group has to be committed to represent all psychology students of the country, preferably in a form of a national organization. When this congress begins, EFPSA has 19 member organizations...and this is the most it ever had since its foundation in 1987.

General Assembly It is always referred as the GA. This is the most important controlling and decision-making body of EFPSA. The GA is the place where all member organizations and not-yet-member organizations, and the whole delegation of all countries show themselves. Furthermore, this is the place where the Executive Board will report about all the activities that was going on in EFPSA last year. This is the place to present proposals for the next year. And this is the place where we vote on all candidacies and proposals. This is the place where everyone can take part of the decision-making process. These are the meetings (3 times during the congress) that make our huge one-week event literally a congress. If you are curious, what has happened, or if you feel responsible for what will be happening in EFPSA and in Europe, be there - be part of it! You will find a more detailed schedule of the 3 GA sessions in this program book / page XX.

Executive Board We always refer to this board as EB. The EB is the team, which works continuously during the year on EFPSA services and projects. No doubt, they are the heart of EFPSA. This team consists of one representative (the EB-member) per country, plus the president and vice-president, plus those service-coordinators who are not EB-members in the same time. So the point is: every EB-member is member of the EB, but not every member of the EB is EB-member... The two essential forums of the EB are: the EB-list, and the EB-meetings.

EB-list This is the mailing list of the EB; most of the communication (more than 1000 emails per year) is going on here. People subscribed for this list are: all members of the EB; still active members of previous Executive Boards as advisors; and representatives from countries that are not members of EFPSA yet, but who are planning to become EFPSA-members and are also willing to be involved in the EB-activities and discussion (we refer to them as observers)... EFPSA also has a public discussion list, open for everyone. That is usually referred as EFPSA-list.

EB-meeting This is the “living version” of the EB-list, with the participation of members of the EB, advisors and observers. These are the meetings where the Executive Board meets, discusses all the organizational matters, works on its services and projects, creates new proposals and makes decisions. And this is indeed the most important executive forum of EFPSA. On the EB-meetings there are plenary discussions and workgroup-discussions as well. We are also preparing for the GA here... Now comes the tricky part. Several EB-meetings take place during the congress. But there is a separate EB-meeting in October/November, which is also referred as “the EB-meeting”. For example, this year’s EB had its first EB-meeting at the end of the last congress in Porto, then we met at the EB-meeting in Belgium in November, and now we will have several EB-meeting sessions during this congress. And at the end of this

PREVIOUS EFPSA CONGRESSES:	
1987	Lisbon, Portugal
1988	Liege, Belgium
1989	Lund, Sweden
1990	Lyon, France
1991	Geneva, Switzerland
1992	Bergen, Norway
1993	Amsterdam, The Netherlands
1994	Lancaster, UK
1995	Pula, Croatia
1996	Jyväskylä, Finland
1997	Jurmala, Latvia
1998	Skofja Loka, Slovenia
1999	Troia, Portugal
2000	Jäneda, Estonia
2001	Budapest, Hungary
2002	Avanos, Turkey
2003	O'Porto, Portugal

congress, the new EB will meet here first time. For helping the continuity, it is very much recommended that the new EB-member comes and observes all the EB-meetings during the congress.

Services EFPSA has four services, offered for individuals or groups of psychology students: Activities Service, Research Network, Study and Work Abroad, Travel Network. These services are coordinated and maintained by the EB. Activities Service. This service helps any type of student mobility: exchanges between groups from two or more countries, international summer schools, seminars, etc. Research Network. This service aims to help psychology students engage in joint research projects and promote their own research on an international level. Study and Work Abroad. The goal of this service is to gather information on the differences in educational and professional practice of psychology within European countries, and offer information about the possibilities of studying abroad. Travel Network. The aim of this service is creating and maintaining a network of psychology students who want to provide their colleagues with free lodging, in exchange for the same service. You will hear much more about it at this congress...

Projects EFPSA has several projects that are dealing with a certain aspect of a service, or with a task/activity/idea that is independent from all services. Usually workgroups are organized within the EB to take care of these projects.

WorkGroup-Sessions Usually referred as WG-Sessions. There will be thematic WG Sessions during the congress, organized by the EB. The WG-Sessions are open for all participants, and everyone is warmly invited to participate in them: to share ideas, to listen to each other's experiences, to create something new... You will find more information about these WG-Sessions in this program book / page XX.

WorkGroup Sessions

This is something new! Many of us, congress participants have a large amount of experiences in organising various activities; many of us are involved in different international projects. And for all of us, EFPSA is a common, rich source of these experiences. On the other hand, many of us, congress participants have huge creativity, thousands of ideas, and probably all of us are eager to contribute to the development of EFPSA. The aim of the WG Sessions is to offer a platform, where we can share our experiences and ideas, give tips and useful information to each other, discuss problems and concerns, create and develop new plans, new projects. Everybody is welcome to join these WG Sessions, which will be coordinated by members of the Executive Board. If you are curious to hear some possible answers or if you think you have some possible answers to the questions asked in the WG Sessions' titles, if you want to get more involved in EFPSA activities or if you are simply interested, be there! (You will get a more detailed introduction about each WG Session on Monday, at the first General Assembly.)

WG Session No.1:

- How to build up a national organisation?
- How to write a project application?
- How to organise an international exchange program?
- How to develop the new Travel Network?
- New ideas without frontiers...do you have some?

WG Session No.2:

- How to manage a national organisation?
- How to find a place to study abroad?
- How to coordinate an organisation like EFPSA?

- How to develop the EFPSA-homepage?
- New ideas without frontiers...do you have some?

WG Session No.3:

- How to organise an EFPSA-congress?
- How to set up an international research project?
- How to cooperate with other organisations?
- How to develop the new Travel Network?
- How to develop the organisational structure of EFPSA?

General Assembly (GA)

General Assembly No.1 (Monday, 11-14h):

Opening and EFPSA introduction

A short, mind-mapping introduction about what is EFPSA, why are we here and what do we do. Country presentations.

The main part of the first GA. Delegations of each country introduce themselves and make a quick, entertaining presentation about their national organisation and the last year's activities.

WorkGroup Sessions introduction

WG Sessions will take place 3 times during the congress, offering a new platform to share experiences and ideas. On the first GA, the coordinators of each workgroup will try to convince you, why to join their WG Session.

General Assembly No.2 (Friday, 15-18h)

Yearly report

The Executive Board will report about its activities; present the last year's results, achievements; and evaluate the developments. Anyone can ask questions.

Candidacies

Applicant countries for EFPSA membership; applicant organisations for organising the next EFPSA congress; and applicants for presidency and vice-presidency will present themselves and their ideas. Anyone can have questions to the applicants.

Proposals

All kinds of EB-proposals and individual proposals: about initiating an EFPSA-level activity, about changing the statutes etc. will be presented here. Every proposal has to be handed in to the chairman of the GA in advance. Anyone can make proposals, and anyone can have questions or comments.

General Assembly No.3 (Saturday, 10-14h):

Discussion and voting

Proposal modifications can be presented. Each proposal will be discussed, and voted on if needed. Anyone can have questions or comments. The first voting will be on membership candidacies. Each member country (the national representative) has one vote.

Election and presentation of the new EB

The new EFPSA president and vice-president will be elected here; members of the new Executive Board will be presented.

Program shedule

SUNDAY, 2ND MAY 2004
ARRIVAL DAY

17 – 20 h Executive Board meeting No.1
21 h Welcome party

MONDAY, 3RD MAY 2004
1ST DAY

9³⁰ – 10 h GRAND OPENING
10 – 11 h Introductory lecture: Physical Environment and It's Influence on Human Behaviour, Prof. Žarko Korać, Ph.D., Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade
11 – 14 h General Assembly No.1
15 – 18 h Students' papers and poster presentations Vol.1
18 – 20 h WorkGroups session No.1
22 h Cultural evening feat. International Disaster Bend

TUESDAY, 4TH MAY 2004
2ND DAY

10 – 18 h Seminars
18 – 20 h Executive Board meeting No.2
22 h Games without frontiers!

WEDNESDAY, 5TH MAY 2004
3RD DAY

10 – 12 h Lectures
12 – 14 h WorkGroups session No.2
15 – 18 h Executive Board meeting No.3
15 – 18 h Workshops Vol.1
18 – 20 h Students' papers and poster presentations Vol.2
22 h DJ Party

THURSDAY, 6TH MAY 2004
4TH DAY

10 – 18 h Excursion
18 – 20 h WorkGroups session No.3
20 h Traditional dinner

FRIDAY, 7TH MAY 2004
5TH DAY

09 – 12 h Executive Board meeting No.4
10 – 12 h Lectures
12 – 14 h Workshops Vol.2
15 – 18 h General Assembly No.2
18 – 20 h Special lecture: *Total Communication*, **Dragan Sakan**, New Moment New Ideas Company
22 h Live bend Party

SATURDAY, 8TH MAY 2004
6TH DAY

10 – 14 h General Assembly No.3

18TH EFPSA CONGRESS

15 – 17 h	Evaluation of the Congress
17 – 18 h	Projects and organisations presentations
18 – 20 h	Sports & free time
21 h	Official closing of the Congress
22 h	Goodbye party

SUNDAY, 9TH MAY 2004

DEPARTURE DAY

9 – 11 h	Executive Board meeting – The Next EB Generation
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MEALS

EVERYDAY

08 – 10 h	Breakfast
14 – 15 h	Lunch
20 – 21 h	Dinner

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