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# 15<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the World Association for Infant Mental Health

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May 29 – June 2, 2016

Clarion Congress Hotel | Prague براغ | Czech Republic

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Theme

**Infant Mental Health in a rapidly changing world: Conflict, adversity, and resilience**



WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR  
INFANT MENTAL HEALTH

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## Call for Papers & Registration

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**Abstract Submission Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2015**

**Early Registration Deadline: Sunday, March 1, 2016**

[www.waimh2016.org](http://www.waimh2016.org)

## Welcome from the Local Organising Committee

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

We are very happy to be able to update you on the progress of the preparation of our 2016 Congress. As many of you know, we have decided to relocate the Congress and it has been transferred to Prague, while keeping the unique format that had been planned for Tel Aviv. Our joint Israeli Palestinian Local Committee (altogether 10 people), has taken on itself the challenging task of bringing a bit of our Middle Eastern sounds, voices, stories, and pictures... to Prague. Creativity and flexibility are needed to organize a Congress in such unusual circumstances, and the process itself creates a lively dialogue and joint work among our two people, with and in spite of our complex geo-political context. On the practical level, we work together with Guarant, a local Congress Organizer in Prague with an extensive experience in international congress organization. Moreover, the Czech Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Association is very happy to host us, and this will be an important occasion for our Czech colleagues to learn about Infant mental health and early psychopathology.

Last but not least, Prague, at the crossing point between East and West Europe, is a very inspiring site for our WAIMH Congress on Conflict, Adversity and Resilience. Indeed, Prague has been a political, cultural, and economic centre of central Europe with waxing and waning fortunes during its 1,100-year existence. Founded during the Romanesque and flourishing by the Gothic and Renaissance eras, Prague was not only the capital of the Czech state, but also the seat of two Holy Roman Emperors and thus also the capital of the Holy Roman Empire. It was an important city to the Habsburg Monarchy and its Austro-Hungarian Empire and after World War I became the capital of Czechoslovakia. The city played major roles in the Protestant Reformation, the Thirty Years' War, and in 20th-century history, during both World Wars and the post-war Communist era. Prague is home to a number of famous cultural attractions, many of which survived the violence and destruction of 20th-century Europe. Main attractions include the Prague Castle, the Charles Bridge, Old Town Square, the Jewish Quarter, the Lennon Wall and Petřín hill. Since 1992, the extensive historic centre of Prague has been included in the UNESCO list of World Heritage Sites. Prague has been called a „3D architecture textbook“. Romanesque chapels and cellars, Gothic cathedrals, Baroque palaces and gardens, worldly Art Nouveau buildings, and unique Cubist architecture make it a place with no parallel in the world. Prague is also well-known for its music: every summer, Prague's islands and parks come alive with the multi-genre music festival United Islands.

We believe that Prague atmosphere will be a wonderful facilitating environment for our far-from-home Congress...

We look forward seeing you among us,



**Miri Keren, M.D.**  
WAIMH President and LOC chair



**Sam Tyano, M.D.**  
LOC Co-Chair

## Plenary Presenters

**Sam Tyano (Israel)** – Promised Childhood

**Karlen Lyons-Ruth (United States)** – Fight or Flight versus Pursue and Woo: Toward a Developmentally Graded Neurobiological Theory of Trauma

**Alicia Lieberman (United States)** – Attachment, Trauma, and Fathers' Role in Early Child Development: Cultural Context and New Directions in Child-Parent Psychotherapy

**Marian Bakermans-Kranenburg (The Netherlands)** – The Impact of Abuse and Neglect and Possibilities for Intervention

**Jean Decety (United States)** – Development of Empathy in Infants

## Message from Chair of the Scientific Program Committee

Dear Colleagues,

Our world is constantly changing, and change is very much a feature of the interaction between Homo sapiens and the physical environment, and especially upon ourselves as social beings. Mostly evolutionary change seems to be for the better, but sometimes it is clear that infants, toddlers and their families may suffer. Infants are our most vulnerable people and it is crucial that we try and understand how we can help infants achieve optimal development in the context of conflict and adversity. Babies and toddlers are exposed to the trauma of conflict and adversity from the 'micro' to the 'macro': experiencing the impact of parental depression and distress, the impact of being born too soon or with physical illness, being the intimate yet silent witness to family violence, through to the impact of intergenerational trauma, poverty and cultural and social disruption, and with their families, and on the largest scale being the innocent victims of the major human catastrophes of war, refugee internment and massive natural disasters. Our world has not changed enough that our babies are spared these phenomena.

WAIMH is devoted to the better understanding of the mental health of infants and families, and how we may better intervene to support them. The theme of our 15<sup>th</sup> World Congress in Prague is *Infant Mental Health in a Rapidly Changing World: Conflict, adversity and resilience*. On behalf of WAIMH and the Scientific Program Committee I warmly invite you to join us in Prague to participate in the Congress.

Our committee has proposed a range of ways in which you may be able to present your research with infants and families, your clinical work and other innovations. We are keen to hear from as many of you as possible and to facilitate lively, and collegial exchange of ideas. Consequently, we offer you the opportunity for short and long multi-presenter symposia, workshops, video workshops and especially poster presentations, poster workshops, brief oral presentations as creative ways to share your work with others. We also hope you will enjoy the masterclasses delivered by a series of invited clinical and research experts early each morning during the Congress. For this Congress there will be a choice of two abstract formats, one for clinical presentations and one for more scientific research presentations.

Over the next months we will provide regular updates about the Congress and the plenary keynote speakers who are Miri Keren and Sam Tyano from Israel, Karlen Lyons-Ruth from Boston, Alicia Lieberman from San Francisco, Marian Bakermans-Kranenburg from the Netherlands and Jean Decety from Chicago. Their presentations will lead us through many things, in particular the impact of trauma upon infants and families, crucial approaches to treatment, understanding differential response to trauma and the importance of empathy for infants engaging with others. During these presentations, we will also reflect upon the importance of engaging fathers in our work with babies and family.

The local organising committee comprised of Palestinian infant mental health colleagues and the Israeli Infant Mental Health Association, chaired by Miri Keren and Sam Tyano and in collaboration with the Czech Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Association will present a very creative and lively integration of life in the Middle East and the Czech Republic.

All in all, we anticipate that it will be an exciting, welcoming and most importantly creative and thought-provoking Congress. We look forward to your active participation.



**Cambell Paul**  
Chair,  
Scientific Program Committee

### **Programme Committee Members:**

Mark Tomlinson (South Africa)  
David Oppenheim (Israel)  
Tawfiq Salman (Palestinian Authority)  
Kaija Puura (Finland, WAIMH Central Office)

## WAIMH Review Panels

### 1. Advocacy and infant mental health policy

Tuula Tamminen (chair), Robert Emde, Astrid Berg, Margaret Holmberg

### 2. Antenatal and perinatal practices

Martin St-André (chair), Keiko Yoshida, Gisele Aptér, Frances Thomson-Salo, Maria Muzik

### 3. Attachment: research, security of attachment and disorders of attachment

Neil Boris (chair), Kikuyo Aoki, Bob Marvin, Tom O'Connor, Saara Salo, Kari Slinning

### 4. Caregiving contexts

Hiram Fitzgerald (chair), Lori Roggman, Päivi Kaukonen, Karlen Lyons-Ruth, Nina Koren-Karie, Brigid Jordan

### 5. Cross cultural studies – Global strategies for infants, families and communities

Mark Tomlinson (chair), Tawfiq Salman, Tejinder Kondel, Alexandra Harrison, Paul Spicer

### 6. Early development, child health and mental health

Kaija Puura (chair), Anna Huber, Jukka Leppänen, Stephen Matthey, Holly Brophy-Herb, James Swain

### 7. Evaluation and outcomes: scientific studies and early interventions

Kai von Klitzing (chair), Judith Harel, Judy Davies, Daphna Dollberg, Daniel Schechter, Monica Hedenbro, Katherine Fitzgerald

### 8. Infant mental health services, training, teaching, supervision and consultation

David Oppenheim (chair), Jacqueline Wendland, Sam Tyano, Lynn Priddis, Beulah Warren

### 9. Observation and assessment: diagnosis, treatment and clinical issues

Miri Keren (chair), Mirjami Mäntymaa, Nicolas Favez, Maree Foley, Arja Siirtola

### 10. Parent-infant interaction and early relationship development

Zeynep Biringen (chair), John Oates, Miriam Oosterman, Lorraine McKelvey, Paul Barrows, Sebastian Kramer, Gal Meiri

### 11. Parenting and family process

Jorma Piha (chair), Silvia Mazzoni, Laurie Van Egeren, Christine Puckering, Florence Schmitt, Catarina Furmark, Richard Fletcher

### 12. Prematurity and high-risk infants

Reija Latva (chair), Nils Bergman, Megan Chapman, Helen Shoemark, Eva Müller Cignacco

### 13. Problems, symptoms and disorders of the infant

Paul Campbell (chair), Marina Altmann, Jacqueline Barnes, Barak Morgan, Laurence Robel, Tessa Baradon, Eun Young Mun

### 14. Problems with parenting and high risk families (e.g. adolescent parenting, parental substance abuse, family violence and child abuse)

Massimo Ammaniti (chair), Annette Klein, Vibeke Moe, Rina Das Eiden, Alexandra Loukas, Charley Zeanah, Julie Larrieu, Jean Wittenberg, Ilona Luoma

### 15. Promotion and prevention in community context

Deborah Weatherston (chair), Robin Balbernie, Jane Barlow, Rochelle Matacz, Marjaana Pelkonen, Tammy Mann, Catherine Maguire

## Instructions for the Submission of Abstracts

### Abstract Submission Deadline: Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Authors wishing to submit an abstract are requested to submit a maximum of 300 words (excluding title). All abstracts must be submitted via the Congress website [www.waimh2016.org](http://www.waimh2016.org).

### Abstracts are invited under the following oral and poster presentation types:

Poster,  
Poster Workshop,  
Video Presentation,  
Brief Oral Presentation,  
Workshop and Symposium.

### Abstracts are invited under the following themes:

1.	Advocacy and infant mental health policy
2.	Antenatal and perinatal practices
3.	Attachment: research, security of attachment and disorders of attachment
4.	Caregiving contexts
5.	Cross cultural studies – Global strategies for infants, families and communities
6.	Early development, child health and mental health
7.	Evaluation and outcomes: scientific studies and early interventions
8.	Infant mental health services, training, teaching, supervision and consultation
9.	Observation and assessment: diagnosis, treatment and clinical issues
10.	Parent-infant interaction and early relationship development
11.	Parenting and family process
12.	Prematurity and high-risk infants
13.	Problems, symptoms and disorders of the infant
14.	Problems with parenting and high risk families (e.g. adolescent parenting, parental substance abuse, family violence and child abuse)
15.	Promotion and prevention in community context

For full guidelines on abstract submission please visit [www.waimh2016.org](http://www.waimh2016.org)

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## How to Register

To register for the Congress, please visit [www.waimh2016.org](http://www.waimh2016.org).

### Registration Fees

Registration Fee	until February 29, 2016	from March 1, 2016
Members	425,00 €	475,00 €
Non Members	480,00 €	530,00 €
Students/Developing Country (Low/Lower Middle)*	155,00 €	205,00 €
One Day Registration	170,00 €	170,00 €
Developing Country (Upper Middle)	210,00 €	260,00 €

\*Please note that we offer two 'Developing Country' rates, depending on whether you are registering from a Low/Lower Middle or Upper Middle income country. More information is available on [www.waimh2016.org](http://www.waimh2016.org).

### The main Congress registration fee includes:

- Attendance at all sessions and entrance to the exhibition area
- Delegate bag and Congress materials
- Attendance at Welcome Reception
- Morning and afternoon refreshment breaks

Separate tickets are sold to Gala Dinner. Accompanying persons can also buy tickets to Welcome Reception.

### Additional Courses

	until February 29, 2016	from March 1, 2016
Pre Congress	80,00 €	90,00 €

## Call for Nominations

WAIMH offers five important awards recognising valuable contributions to Infant Mental Health. Nominations for these awards are now open.

WAIMH Award  
Sonya Bemporad Award  
Serge Lebovici Award  
René Spitz Award  
New Investigator Award

More information about WAIMH can be found at [www.waimh.org](http://www.waimh.org).

**Winners will be announced at Prague 2016.**

### Congress Secretariat

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