
Dr. M. Olf

All ESTSS Members

Dear Colleagues,

Please find a recent update on the ESTSS and its activities. You will find this message translated to French, Polish, Italian, German, Georgian, Netherlands, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish and Turkish, on our website estss.org/<link to translation> as a first expression of our wish to reach more members in their own language!

ESTSS Board meeting & ESTSS Workshop (EWOTS) in Warsaw

From 19-20 September a very successful ESTSS Workshop took place in the beautiful city of Warsaw. Many thanks again to the organisers: Maya Lis-Turlejska and her team from the Polish Society for Traumatic Stress together with the University of Warsaw. They did a wonderful job in organizing a regional meeting hosting around 300 participants. There was also a lot of interest in the workshops that served to gain points for the ESTSS General Certificate in Psychotraumatology.

On Sunday 21 September 2009 we have had a very fruitful ESTSS board meeting in Warsaw where we have decided on some important issues about which you can read below.

Membership

Membership of the ESTSS has continued to increase. At present there are around 1100 members!

The membership consists of all members from member societies; individual members from affiliated societies and regular individual members.

Currently there are 5 *member societies* (alphabetically): Aforcump, a French society, the Georgian Society of Psychotrauma, the NtVP (the Dutch speaking traumatic stress society), the Polish Traumatic Stress Society, the UK Psychological Trauma Society.

Several countries or regions are in the process of creating an ESTSS member society, like Italy and Cyprus.

There is also a growing number of applications of other trauma related societies to become an ESTSS *affiliated society*, which allows their membership to become full member of ESTSS for a reduced rate (e.g. in Belgium and Germany). We aim to reach more members in South and South-East Europe.

Member societies are local, regional or language based traumatic stress societies. A Member society should have:

- (i) *objectives consistent with those of ESTSS (see below),*
- (ii) *more than 20 members and*
- (iii) *membership open to all professional groups.*
- (iv) *a formal agreement that the entire membership of the Member society will become members of ESTSS.*
- (v) *their own secretariat of their membership*

Affiliated societies can be Europe-wide, international, national and regional societies which

- (i) have more than 20 members,
- (ii) are not in a position to become member societies
- (iii) and whose objectives are at least partially consistent with those of ESTSS.

Members of *Affiliated societies* apply as individuals and are entitled to a reduced fee for a full ESTSS membership

European council on psychological trauma

ESTSS intends to lead on forming a council of European organisations on psychological trauma. This council will be the body that all European associations which wish to can link to ESTSS and have an advisory role to the ESTSS board.

Fees

The ESTSS board has decided to introduce a simplified fee structure.

There will be full membership (including voting rights) and student membership:

- regular individual members: 75 euro (student 24 euro).
- individuals of *Affiliated societies*: 36 euro (student 15 euro)
- *Member societies*: 15 euro per member (student 10 euro) (to be paid by the member society),

Reductions for low income countries will be available.

Certificate

The ESTSS General Certificate in Psychotraumatology continues to thrive. Over 30 ESTSS members have now registered and are taking part in qualifying workshops. We encourage member societies and affiliated societies to organise workshops that qualify to the certificate. Please contact Jon Bisson at bissonji@cf.ac.uk for more information. Full details of future workshops and how to register are available on our website www.estss.org.

European Trauma Bulletin

Within the coming year The European Trauma Bulletin will develop towards a *scientific journal* including contributions like brief reports, full scientific articles, systematic reviews, book review etc. We do aim to have ETB indexed and after a few years to obtain an impact factor. All the more interesting to submit your articles, other contributions and suggestions by e-mail for the ETB (v.ardino@londonmet.ac.uk)!

Task Forces

The various ESTSS task forces (children's, disaster mental health, treatment and clinical, old age, human rights, uniformed services and trauma and forensic) can all be joined via the website. A new task force has been formed on the *Prevalence of trauma and PTSD*, led by Siri Thoresen (siri.thoresen@nkvtv.unirand.no). Please feel free to join whichever ones interest you.

Website

Please note the latest information on publications, past events (with pictures) and upcoming events, information on task forces etc on the ESTSS website (www.estss.org). As part of a PR strategy the board has decided to revise the website to make it more user friendly (e.g with downloads of important information) and easier to update. We would also greatly value your thoughts and contributions (Contact: brigitte.lueger-schuster@univie.ac.at).

Secretariat

Last but not least we are happy to announce we have a new secretariat which is run by Wendy Beenen. Wendy began in mid September has enthusiastically taken on the new role which is based in Amsterdam. More details about the secretariat can be found on our website.

If you have any suggestions for the Society in general or would like to discuss anything please do not hesitate to contact us via the secretariat: secretariat@estss.org

Best wishes.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. Miranda Olf
President of the ESTSS
On behalf of the ESTSS Board

The main objectives of ESTSS, contained within the ESTSS mission statement, are:

- To increase and disseminate knowledge of traumatic stress based on good science.
- To identify cross European issues, such as differences in training and certification.
- To stimulate cross European training for different levels of certification.
- To stimulate and help to set up local societies in different European countries.
- To help establish European wide research on traumatic stress.
- To focus on European issues relating to traumatic stress, e.g. disaster response, uniform services, child abuse etc.
- To liaise with pan-European and international organisations/bodies.

Upcoming Events: [please click here](#)