**European Federation of Psychologists’ Associations AISBL (EFPA)**

**Work plan 2025-2027**

This first draft of options to include in the work plan and form appropriate delivery vehicles, is based on the analysis of topics considered important by FMs under “What Are Your Priorities?”; “What Products/Deliverables Would You Like from EFPA?”; and Under “On What Topics Do You Want to Exchange Experiences and Knowledge Between FMs?”, as set out in the document “Report Analysis Roundtables with FMs in Preparation of the EFPA Work Plan 2025-2027”.

FMs will be asked both to rank order the project proposals and indicate whether or not they want them. FMs will be asked to indicate whether or not they would take an active part in the exchange proposals.

Suggested criteria for FM prioritisation:

1. Is this genuinely useful for your association, do you need it, will you use it? In other words, do you actually want it for yourself (not just think it’s a nice idea)?
2. Have you already done work in this area? Do you have resources to bring to this area? Will you contribute to it? In other words, do you want it enough that you will actively join in either yourself or by contributing personnel from your association that have decision making capacity in your organisation on the topic?

The proposals are made under the following categories:

**Project[[1]](#footnote-1) proposal**

Projects such as (examples to be developed / refined / discarded in discussion with FMs)

With **FM requested** **type of deliverable –**

**Policy Documents and Position Papers:**

**Guidelines and Best Practices:**

**Advocacy for the Profession:**

**European Standards and Knowledge:**

**Knowledge Sharing Platforms:**

**Exchange[[2]](#footnote-2) proposal**

With as FMs requested

**Concrete Objectives for Groups:**

**Access to Expertise:**

**Knowledge Sharing Platforms:**

**Other proposal**

**(Specific Initiative**

**FM Level Initiative**

**Associate Member)**

**Synergies with Other Organizations:**

**CONTRIBUTING TO SOCIETY**

**Responding to Societal Challenges**

**Exchange – NA**

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**Proposed projects and specific initiatives (per thematic areas):**

**1. Public Health and Well-being**: Promotion of mental health and well-being across society, especially in schools, workplaces, and the broader community, was a consistent priority and advocacy for the active role of psychologists in improving public (mental) health was emphasized, particularly regarding accessibility to mental health services in primary care and educational settings.

**Project 1:**

*A policy paper for use at the national and municipal level setting out 2-3 evidence based approaches to mental health support for children and young people in schools, both whole school and individually targeted. To include the role(s) psychology play, using 2-3 country level examples.*

**Advocacy for the Profession: Knowledge Sharing Platforms:**

Italy: Scholastic psychologist – first level psychologist (with National Order)

**Project 2:**

*Building on the policy recommednations of the EU funded (and recognised as Best Practice) project H-Work, and in cooperation with EAWOP and EAOHP, develop and disseminate policy asks, to be used also by FMs if interested.*

**Policy Documents and Position Papers:**

**Project 3:**

*Identify 2-3 national examples of improving public accessibility to mental health services in primary care and educational settings, and write up the examples. Use as examples to develop existing policy asks*

**Policy Documents and Position Papers:**

**2. Climate Change**: Several FMs expressed concern about the societal impact of climate change and its relevance to psychology, particularly in terms of mental health and coping strategies.

**Project 4:**

*A set of (six to 7) short statements as policy asks for use at the EU and national level, taken from the evidence base in the EFPA opinion paper “*[*Climate Crisis and the Human Factor: 10 Psychological Keys to Unlocking Climate Action | EFPA”*](https://www.efpa.eu/climate-crisis-and-human-factor-10-psychological-keys-unlocking-climate-action)*. Policy asks to be used by a European Psychology delegation to a UNFCCC COP using EFPA’s new accrediation. + to be used also by FMs if interested*

**Policy Documents and Position Papers:**

**3 Democracy and Equality:** Topics related to social justice, diversity, inclusion, and the role of psychologists in promoting democratic values were mentioned.

**Specific Initiative 1:**

*Democracy: Commission a special issue of European Psychologist focused on systematic reviews / meta analysis to explore the evidence base for the relationship between democratic values and citizen wellbeing.*

**Specific Initiative 2:**

*Equality: Handbook (inter)cultural Psychology. Interlinking Theory, Practice and Application) as part of the Hogrefe / EFPA book series (series agreement in process).*

**Specific Initiative 3:**

*Misinformation thought errors, and information warfare: Commission a special issue of European Psychologist focused on systematic reviews / meta analysis to highlight the evidence base.*

**Specific Initiative 4:**

*Misinformation thought errors, and information warfare: Commission a special issue of EJPO to bring forward new empirical work on misinformation and strategies to combat it.*

**4. Elderly Population**: There was one mention of addressing the role of psychologists in the workforce and in care systems for the elderly, a growing area of concern due to demographic shifts and a second mention of this as a new niche area for psychoogist to play a role beyond pure mental health related interventions.

Psychological interventions using new technologies (e.g., smart homes, virtual reality, social robotics)

**Project 5:**

*Promotion material (e.g. paper and a guide/outline for a webinar that FMs can use to make a webinar) on the role of psychologists in the workforce and in care systems for the elderly, demonstrating where psychologists can contribute beyond traditional mental health interventions, using 2-3 country level examples. Also paper to be used at the national and municipal level.*

**Advocacy for the Profession: Knowledge Sharing Platforms:**

**5. Migrant Integration**: In several ways, FMs expressed the importance of addressing challenges re migrant movements, particularly in terms of adaptation, identity, and social inclusion.

**Specific Initiative 5:**

*Migrant Integration: Commission a special issue of European Psychologist focused on systematic reviews / meta analysis to highlight the evidence base related to successful practice to address challenges related to migration, particularly in terms of adaptation, identity, and social inclusion.*

**6. Digitalisation and technology**: In several ways, FMs expressed interest on the impact of digitalization on psychology, including the use of telehealth, teleconsultation, and artificial intelligence (AI), challenges related to the ethical implications of these technologies in practice.

**Project 6:**

*EFPA’s policy position on digitalisation and AI*

Users’ perception and aptitudes, usability, acceptability, etc.

**Policy Documents and Position Papers:**

**Project 7:**

*Digital Navigator (if Erasmus funding comes through) – This is already work in progress so committed*

**Guidelines and Best Practices:**

**DEVELOPING PSYCHOLOGY**

**Fostering Professional Development and Education**

**Exchange**

**E1: Enhancing Professional Development and Conduct:**

**Covering the follwoing main topics**

* Ethics: Ways to achieve a continued focus on ethical standards in practice.
* Supervision: Using EuroPsy Standards as a baseline, exchange knowledge on enhancing how supervision is implemented and fostered in both training and ongoing in independent practice.
* CPD: using EuroPsy Standards as a baseline, consider the appetite for and feasibility of establishing a European delivery framework for CPD, with emphasis on creating relevant, high-quality training opportunities for psychologists
* Training and specialisations: ways to achieve better cooperation between academia and practice.
* Establish a common position on the role of AI in psychology, and how digital tools and AI are affecting the profession.

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**Proposed projects:**

**Project 8:**

*Revise the Model code of ethics in line with the Meta code of ethics revised in 2025.*

*(FM to be asked how many will use it in their associations if revised, given all associations already have a national code)*

**Guidelines and Best Practices:**

**Project 9:**

*Using WHO guidance as the baseline: Guideline on the role of psychology in management of (societal) emergencies and preparedness, focusing on the role psychologists can play.*

**Guidelines and Best Practices:**

**Specific Initiative 6:**

*Work with the publisher for ways to increase accessibility and public utility of scientific publications. Work with the publisher specifically to link our advocacy work and scientific publications*

**SERVING PSYCHOLOGISTS**

**Achieving Recognition and Clarity of Regulation**

**Exchange**

**E2: Regulation and Recognition of the Profession:**

Covering the follwoing main topics:

* Regulation of Psychology as a Recognised (Health) Profession: Ways to achieve clearer recognition of psychologists as (health) professionals. Approaches to regulating the psychotherapy profession and defining professional boundaries in relation to other (healthcare) professions, such as psychiatrists. Whether and if yes among which countries to develop / progress plans for prescribing rights.
* Legal and Regulatory Frameworks: Sharing examples of helpful legal and regulatory frameworks to support the profession. Discussing and ways of harmonising / controlling standards across Europe to ensure consistent quality.

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**Proposed projects:**

**Project 10:**

*Digital Nomads: Scoping paper that identifies and lists the various implications, agencies that are relevant, and areas* *where work may need to be done to address the problem.*

**Analysis and action planning Document**

**Specific Initiative 7:**

*Work with the European Parliament Intergroup for Mental Health re raising awareness of the potential harm caused by misinformation, particularly in sensitive areas such as eating disorders, trauma, and other psychological domains. Promoting trust in licensed professionals and protecting the public from pseudoscientific claims.*

**Supporting Development and Activities at the National Level**

**Exchange**

**E3 Strategic Development of Associations:**

Covering the following main topics:

* Knowledge exchange on how to successfully implement organisational transformation and change.
* More alignment with societal / policy strategic objectives.
* Share ideas on to engage young professionals and students more actively in the development of the profession through mentorship, education, and volunteering opportunities.
* Learning how to succeed in political advocacy.
* Make more use of EFPA’s platforms for information sharing
* Establish a common position on the role of AI in psychology, and how digital tools and AI are affecting the profession.

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**Regional networks**

* An important way to share common interests and areas of focus, especially for cross-border issues and student exchanges.
* Council Members will be able to meet regionally, EFPA will set up a scheme of regional co-ordination in collaboration with Council.

1. A project is considered to be a time limited task and finish exercise undertaken by a group of people specifically brought together for the specific task. It will have terms of reference including a defined outcome and timeframe for delivery. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. An exchange group is considered to be a group of FM responsibles for an area coming together for a defined period to exchange national experiences and share dilemmas in a specific area with a desired outcome of the learning and sharing exercise. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)