

ISPS



THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL
APPROACHES TO PSYCHOSIS



ISPS
LAUSANNE
2026

ISPS international congress

Back to the future inspired by pioneers

isps2026.com

Université de Lausanne
6-8 July 2026



THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL
APPROACHES TO PSYCHOSIS



Introducing Keynote Speaker

Jan Olav Johannessen

ISPS 2026

Modern understanding of psychosis: from brain disease to stress disorder

In this keynote I will summarise how we, in 2025, understand mental disorders in general, and psychosis in particular. During the last decade we have gained new insights into these disorders, and most textbooks are outdated and convey an old-fashioned understanding of the causes, the possible courses and the treatments needed for serious mental suffering. I will give an overview over the crucial importance of intervening early in these disorders, hopefully in the prepsychotic phases. Finally, I will outline an ideal organisation of "a psychosis early detection and treatment system".

About Jan Olav Johannessen:

Jan Olav Johannessen is a Norwegian professor of psychiatry, affiliated with Stavanger University Hospital/University of Stavanger. Previous Chair of ISPS international for two terms (2001-2006 and 2015-2019) and Initiator of the TIPS-project (Early intervention in psychosis). Former president of the Norwegian Psychiatric Association. A trained psychotherapist, at present working as a clinical psychotherapist for young people with first-episode psychosis, supervisor, researcher and educator.



Welcome to Lausanne!

Ladies and Gentlemen

Dear colleagues

In 1956 Christian Müller and Gaetano Benedetti founded the ISPS movement in Lausanne, opening wide the field of psychotherapeutic approaches to psychosis. 70 years later, we hope to keep up the pioneering attitude and welcome professionals, expert by experience and family members to this congress in Switzerland.

SAVE THE DATE 6-8th July 2026 AND CELEBRATE WITH US THE

70 YEARS OF THE ISPS

Today, we are still in need of political strength to implement psychosocial values for treating psychoses in all countries in the world. And we want to support pioneers of today who are building teams where experts by experience and family members work together with mental health professionals both in clinical settings and research projects.

We look forward to welcoming you to the ISPS International Congress 2026 in Lausanne next year.

Kind regards on behalf of the organizing committee,

The Co-Congress Chairs

Dag Söderström Philippe Conus

ISPS International ISPS Switzerland

Executive Committee Vice President

Registration is open

Participation fees (all days)

ISPS Member *500.00 / 640.00

Non-member *700.00 / 820.00

Student / pensioner 300.00

Person from developing country 300.00

Family member / Lived experience 300.00

***Early-Bird fee:** This rate is applicable for registrations until March 15, 2026.

Registrations after this date are only possible at the regular rate.

All prices in Swiss Francs (CHF). Prices may be subject to changes.

Register [HERE](#)

Conference Awards and Scholarships

Find out [HERE](#) if you could be considered for the **David B. Feinsilver Award**, A scholarship to fund travel expenses to the ISPS Congress.

Find out about the conference **Poster Prizes** [HERE](#)

Final call for Abstracts!

Submission guidelines can be found at [HERE](#)

The abstract submission deadline has been extended until 12:00 midnight CET on 24th November 2025

Submitters will be informed about acceptance or rejection during December.

We invite you to consider submitting an abstract on one of the below suggested topics / themes:

Topics and Themes

- T1 - Psychotherapy
 - 1.1 Individual psychotherapy - Psychodynamic
 - 1.2 Individual psychotherapy - Cognitive
 - 1.3 Individual psychotherapy - Trauma
 - 1.4 Individual psychotherapy - Other
 - 1.5 Family and network
 - 1.6 Group therapies
 - 1.7 Art therapies
 - 1.8. Integrative therapies
- T2 - Milieu: Inpatient, ACT, Residential
 - 2.1. Soteria
 - 2.2 Safewards
 - 2.3 Home treatment
 - 2.4 ACT
 - 2.5 Other
- T3 - Society & Psychosis, Social and Cultural research, human rights issues
-
- T4 - Lived Experience
 - 4.1 Lived experience of psychosis
 - 4.2 Family member experience
- T5 - Digital applications
-
- T6 - Training programs
 - 6.1 Training programs
 - 6.2 Case presentation for supervision
- T7 - Other

More information on how to submit your abstract [HERE](#)

Confirmed Keynote Speakers include

Luc Ciompi

Françoise Davoine

Jacqui Dillon

Oleksandr Filc

Dorothea von Haebler

Courtenay Harding

Jan Olav Johannessen

James Kirkbride

Pat McGorry

Nev Jones

John Read

Dag Söderström

Erik Thys

Will you join us?

Delegates at previous ISPS international conferences have often commented on how ISPS events stand out. They refer to the unique mix of opportunities not only to learn from high quality presentations, but also to join a rich dialogue between people with a wealth of experience and expertise, the mix of professionals from a wide range of disciplines, and people whose experience and expertise comes through personal experience of psychosis.

ISPS conferences are traditionally friendly and welcoming gatherings, where people go away feeling inspired and reinvigorated. We hope this one will be no exception and look forward very much to welcoming you to Lausanne in July next year.

Registration is already open! Save your place by registering [HERE](#)



Welcome to the land of the ISPS Pioneers

1956 – The first International Symposium for the Psychotherapy of Schizophrenia was held in Cergy (Lausanne), Switzerland. [Read more](#)



The venue for ISPS 2026 is the "Amphimax" of the University of Lausanne, on the shores of Lake Geneva.

Find out more about the **congress venue** and how to get there by plane and public transport [HERE](#)

Information about **accommodation options** and a 10% discount for ISPS delegates can be found [HERE](#)