

EHPS EC: It was a pleasure serving the EHPS, have you thought of doing that?

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It has been a pleasure as well as a privilege to serve on the EHPS executive committee (EC) as President Elect,

President and, finally, as Past President. I will now step down from this EC as its term concludes with the end of this year's conference in Bratislava. Wendy Hardman will serve as the new President, Evangelos Karademas as Past President and David French will be the new President Elect of this new EC. Nothing makes me happier than observing the functioning of our vibrant democratic society! Working on the EHPS EC continuously reminded me that there are a lot of excellent and competent people in the EHPS. I am sure the society will continue to be led effectively and grow in a sustainable way, supporting the scientific field of Health Psychology and contributing to scientific dissemination, inspiring scientific synergy, training and networking.

The work of a society such as ours is never finished, and this work is rich, fulfilling and innovative reflecting its members proactivity. The EHPS is in a very strong situation and I wish the new EHPS EC a continuation of the positive developments in recent years.

In a world plagued by several "wicked" problems, plenty of those with an impact on our survival as a species, the EHPS and its members want to be part of the solution, and we are working to that effect and will continue to do so.

Through my work on the EHPS UN committee, and as a representative of the EHPS-EC at the PCUN (Psychology Coalition of NGOs Accredited at the United Nations), we have promoted and strengthened the participation of EHPS members in

several of its standing committees (programme committee, advocacy committee, publication committee, outreach committee). As part of our engagement with the PCUN this year, 2022, myself, Efrat Netter and a colleague based in the US, Kalyani Gopal, have organized (with the support of the PCUN programme committee) the 15th Psychology Day at the United Nations in April 2022. You can see the whole event in the PCUN YouTube channel: <https://bit.ly/3NhTuAD>. Almost 3000 people registered for this event. On this event Prof. Ann De Smet represented Health Psychology, following on Professor Susan Michie that represented us in 2020 and Molly Byrne in 2021. Our colleague Philipp Kadel has led on the re-writing of an advocacy piece on "One Health" in celebration of the World Day of Health.

With colleagues at the EHPS SIG on Equity, Global Health and Sustainability, and led by Lisa Warner, we wrote a piece that aimed to give our conference delegates suggestions on "How to make EHPS Conferences More Climate -Friendly" , published here at the European Health Psychologist.

Leaving the EHPS EC in the hands of such capable people makes me feel very calm. If you ask me what future plans I would have for the EHPS I would say:

- Reinvesting in the Sustainability Task & Finish Group that has been inactive due to the pandemic.
- Continue working to make our society more climate-friendly.
- Continue working to assure that knowledge created by health psychologists on behaviour change and on implementation science is used to support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- Continue working with colleagues from other societies across the world to disseminate the potential for impact of Health Psychology.

Being part of the EHPS I felt connected to a team that, shapes and proactively leads the development of the society and of health psychology in Europe. Working in a team where everyone has a voice increases the probability of success and expands our society's horizons. I am sure this will continue to happen.

My journey with the EC of the EHPS has come to an end. After six very active years I know that it is time to go and see this new EC thrive and further honour our members and our scientific branch of psychology. Of course, I will still be here for all that this society will need from me in my capacity as a Fellow of the EHPS.

In the end, I have no regrets about the time I dedicated working with the EC: I have gotten to know and work with amazing people. Hence, my question: Have you thought about it? There are plenty of ways of proactively engaging with EHPS. Think about CREATE, Synergy, the special interest groups (SIGs), and the EHPS UN committee, just to name a few (there is also our journals and the Blog!). There are plenty of opportunities to engage with the EHPS. I would encourage you to think about how you can contribute to further shape this society.

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