



PERMANENT MISSION OF MEXICO
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**13th Annual
PSYCHOLOGY DAY at the UNITED NATIONS
UN75 The Multilateralism We Want:
Psychological Contributions to Building Bridges
Among and Within Nations**

**Wednesday, 27 May 2020
11:00am – 1:00pm**

**Website: unpsychologyday.org
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/UNPsychologyDay>
Twitter: @UNPsychologyDay
#PsychDayUN2020
Email: unpsychday@gmail.com**

Co-Sponsored by*
The Permanent Mission of Palau to the United Nations
The Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations
The Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations

**See the final page of this program for a complete list of co-sponsors.*

Welcome to the Thirteenth Annual Psychology Day at the United Nations!

The Psychology Coalition at the UN is delighted to welcome you to the Thirteenth Annual Psychology Day. We hope this year's program will stimulate your interest in the 75th anniversary of the UN and Multilateralism, and psychological contributions in support of the UN agenda. To find out about ways to become more involved in this work and related issues, please go to our website: www.unpsychologyday.com.

We are very grateful for the support we have received for this year's conference. First, we would like to thank our Mission co-sponsors, the Permanent Mission of Palau to the United Nations, the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations, and the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations. And we want to thank the members and interns of the Psychology Coalition at the UN (PCUN) for their dedication and effort. We would also like to thank the American Psychological Association for its generous logistical support this year and in many previous years.

Special thanks to this year's core Psychology Day Planning Committee members for the amount of time and effort they devoted to organizing this year's event: Leslie Popoff Ph.D., Rashmi Jaipal Ph.D., Walter Reichmann Ed.D., Nélida Quintero Ph.D., Vera Araujo Soares Ph.D., Maysa Akbar Ph.D., Ayokor Gaba Ph.D., Cynthia Grguric Ph.D., Sonya Suchday Ph.D., Michelle Bell Ph.D., Comfort Asanbe Ph.D., Laura Lopez-Aybar.

PROGRAM

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL PSYCHOLOGY DAY at the UNITED NATIONS

THEME: UN75 The Multilateralism We Want: Psychological Contributions to Building Bridges Among and Within Nations

Currently, there is a global increase in nationalist movements, anti-immigrant sentiments, xenophobia and intolerance in many parts of the world. These trends are impacting attitudes towards the United Nations (UN) and the concept of Multilateralism upon which it is based. This year, 2020, is the 75th anniversary of the United Nations and it is an important opportunity for governments to reaffirm their commitment to the UN Charter. Psychology Day at the UN can contribute to understanding the challenges to multilateralism such as xenophobia and anti-immigrant sentiments, as well as facilitate international cooperation. The Psychology Day Program will consist of a panel of experts from cross-cultural, social and health psychology. They will discuss psychological research related to these challenges and ways to facilitate international collaboration to tackle public health crises such as the global pandemic of COVID-19.

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Leslie Popoff, Ph.D. President, Psychology Coalition at the UN (PCUN)

Rashmi Jaipal, Ph.D. Main Representative, American Psychological Association at the UN

PANEL 1: Building Bridges Within Countries

Walter Reichman, Ed.D. (Moderator)

Main Representative of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP) at the UN, Professor Emeritus, Industrial/Organizational Psychology, Baruch College and the Graduate Center of CUNY, Partner and Vice President of OrgVitality.

PANELISTS:

Fathali Moghaddam, Ph.D.

*Professor of Psychology, Georgetown University
Director, Interdisciplinary Program in Cognitive Science
Editor, Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology (APA)*

Title of Presentation: “The Role of Psychological Science in Better Understanding and Strengthening Open Societies and Multilateralism”

Susan Michie, Ph.D.

*Director of UCL Centre for Behaviour Change
Professor in Department of Clinical, Educational and Health Psychology,
University College London*

Title of Presentation: "Limiting Covid-19 Transmission: A Psychological Perspective"

Q&A and DISCUSSION

PANEL 2: BUILDING BRIDGES AMONG NATIONS

PANELISTS:

Michele Gelfand, Ph.D.

*Distinguished University Professor
Department of Psychology, University of Maryland
2017 Outstanding International Psychologist Award from the American Psychological Association*

Title of Presentation: "The Culture of Populism"

Sarah Lyons-Padilla, Ph.D.

UX Researcher, Tech Industry. Formerly with the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START), and Research Scientist at Stanford SPARQ, a psychology "do-tank".

Title of Presentation: "When Disconnection Breeds Extremism: Marginalization, Discrimination and Risk for Radicalization"

MODERATOR:

Maysa Akbar, Ph.D.

Representative, American Psychological Association to the UN, Assistant Clinical Professor at Yale School of Medicine, Author, Urban Trauma, and Chief Executive Officer, Integrated Wellness Group.

Q&A and DISCUSSION

CLOSING REMARKS

**Walter Reichman
Rashmi Jaipal
Leslie Popoff**

BIOGRAPHIES OF PROGRAM SPEAKERS

(Listed in Order of Presentation)



Fathali M. Moghaddam, Ph.D. is Professor of Psychology and Director of the Interdisciplinary Program in Cognitive Science at Georgetown University, Washington D.C., U.S.A. Since 2014 he has served as Editor-in-Chief, *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology* (published by the American Psychological Association). Dr. Moghaddam was born in Iran, educated from an early age in England, and returned to Iran with the revolution in 1979. He was researching and teaching in Iran during the hostage taking crisis and the first three years of the Iran-Iraq War. After work for the United Nations, he researched and taught at McGill University, Canada, from 1984, before moving to Georgetown in 1990. He has conducted experimental and field research, as well as been involved in applied projects, in numerous cultural contexts and published extensively on the psychology of conflict, terrorism,

democracy, and dictatorship. His most recent books are ‘The Psychology of Dictatorship’ (2013), ‘The Psychology of Democracy’ (2016), ‘Questioning Causality: Scientific Explorations of cause and Consequence Across Social Contexts’ (2016, with Rom Harré), ‘The Encyclopedia of Political Behavior’ (2 vols. 2017); ‘Mutual Radicalization: The Psychology of How Groups and Nations Drive Each Other to Extremes’ (2018), ‘The Psychology of Radical Social Change’ (with B. Wagoner and J. Valsiner, (2018). Dr. Moghaddam’s most recent book is ‘Threat to Democracy: The Appeal of Authoritarianism in an Age of Uncertainty’ (2019). Dr. Moghaddam has been recognized for his academic work by a number of prestigious awards, most recently in 2020 by the International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP). More about his research and publications can be found on his website: fathalimoghaddam.com.



Susan Michie, Ph.D., FMedSci, FAcSS is Professor of Health Psychology and Director of the Centre for Behaviour Change at University College London (www.ucl.ac.uk/behaviour-change). She is co-Director of NIHR’s Behavioural Science Policy Research Unit, leads UCL’s membership of NIHR’s School of Public Health Research and is an NIHR Senior Investigator. Professor Michie’s research focuses on behaviour change in relation to health and the environment: how to understand it theoretically and apply theory to intervention development, evaluation and implementation. Her research, collaborating with disciplines such as information science, environmental science, computer science and medicine, covers population, organisational and individual level interventions. Examples include the Human Behaviour-Change Project (www.humanbehaviourchange.org) and Complex Systems for

Sustainability and Health www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/environmental-design/research/research-projects/cussh. She is an investigator on three Covid-19 research projects. She serves as an expert advisor on the UK’s Scientific Pandemic Influenza Group on Behavioural Science (Covid-19) and is a consultant advisor to the World Health Organisation on Covid-19 and behaviour. She is also expert

advisor to Public Health England and the UK Department of Health and Social Care, is Chair of the UK Food Standard Agency's Social Sciences Advisory Committee and chaired the Academy of Social Science's 'Health of People' project. Website: <https://tinyurl.com/susan-michie> Email: s.michie@ucl.ac.uk Twitter: @SusanMichie



Michele Gelfand, Ph.D. is Distinguished University Professor at the University of Maryland, College Park. Gelfand uses field, experimental, computational and neuroscience methods to understand the evolution of culture and its multilevel consequences. Her work has been published in outlets such as *Science*, *the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Psychological Science*, *Nature Human behavior*, *Academy of Management Review*, *the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, *Journal of Applied Psychology*, *American Psychologist*, among others. Gelfand is the founding co-editor of the *Advances in Culture and Psychology annual series*. Her book *Rule Makers, Rule Breakers: How Tight and Loose Cultures Wire the World* was published by Scribner in 2018. She is the Past President of the International Association for Conflict Management, Past Division Chair of the Conflict Division of the

Academy of Management, Past Treasurer of the IACCP, and co-founder of the Society for the Study of Cultural Evolution. She received the 2016 Diener award from the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, the 2017 Outstanding International Psychologist Award from the APA, the 2019 Outstanding Cultural Psychology Award from SPSP, the 2020 Katzell Award from SIOP, and the Annaliese Research Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. She was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2019.



Sarah Lyons-Padilla, Ph.D. A social psychologist by training, Sarah Lyons-Padilla is a UX Researcher at a tech company. In her prior academic work, she explored the psychological foundations of radicalization among Muslims with immigrant backgrounds in the United States and Germany. Lyons-Padilla received her B.A. in Psychology from the University of Virginia and her Ph.D. in Social, Decision-Making, and Organizational Science from the University of Maryland, where she was involved with the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START). Before entering the tech industry, Lyons-Padilla worked as a Research Scientist at Stanford SPARQ, a psychology "do-tank" that partners with industry leaders and changemakers to reduce societal disparities and bridge social divides using insights from behavioral science. Her research has been featured in media outlets such as The

Washington Post, PolitiFact, Politico, The New York Times, and The Guardian. She has also reported on her findings to policymakers at the U.S. Capitol and at TEDx Stanford.

BIOGRAPHIES OF MODERATORS

(Listed in Order of Appearance)



Walter Reichman, Ed.D. is a Professor Emeritus with a long and impressive career in I/O psychology, from Baruch College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, where he chaired the psychology department at Baruch College for 17 years (*with well over 120 students receiving their Masters and PhDs under his tutelage*). He is now a Partner and Vice President of OrgVitality a management consulting firm (*that helps organizations make sustainable improvements in their operations and increase their Vitality*). and is active in the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations representing the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP). He applies the science of psychology to improve the deliberations and programs of the United Nations. He co-hosts Brown Bag luncheons for (*the staff of*) the United Nations Development

Program, and writes about *health, work and opportunities* for developing entrepreneurship among disenfranchised women *for the Council*. In general, you would be hard pressed to find someone that is more connected with Industrial and Organizational Psychologists in the New York area than Walter - whether in academia, the public sector, private industry, or consulting.



Maysa Akbar, Ph.D. is a groundbreaking psychologist, best-selling author, and healer. Her work in defining the existence of Urban Trauma, a framework developed by her, unpacks how people of color are in a state of crisis due to oppressive societal systems. Her seminal work has been featured in corporations with social responsibility initiatives, philanthropies that advance racial equity, nonprofits, urban school districts, and social service agencies. She brings wisdom, courage, and passion to both the learned community and a wider audience. Dr. Akbar is a board-certified clinical psychologist and an Assistant Clinical Professor at Yale University, School of Medicine. She is a media expert addressing the role of Urban Trauma in community tensions and violence, race relations, and educational disparities. In addition, she is a representative of the American Psychological Association

at the United Nations and serves on the board of Connecticut Psychological Associations and the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.

BIOGRAPHIES OF CHAIRS

(Listed in Order of Appearance)



Leslie Popoff, Ph.D. began her career working as a school psychologist in Pennsylvania, including Scranton State School for the Deaf. After receiving her Ph.D. from Fordham University she spent 10 years as the psychologist for the Helen Keller National Center for the Deaf Blind. She retired from the New York City Department of Education after 15 years as a Supervisor of Psychologists. Trained in divorce mediation and dispute resolution, Dr. Popoff also holds a Postdoctoral Certificate in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy from Adelphi University. She maintains a private practice in Great Neck, NY. Dr. Popoff is currently the President of the Psychology Coalition at the United Nations, and a UN representative for the International Council of Psychologists.



Rashmi Jaipal, Ph.D. is Professor Emeritus of Psychology from Bloomfield College, New Jersey, and currently Main Representative of the American Psychological Association at the UN. Alongside psychologists at the UN, she advocated for the inclusion of mental health and wellbeing in the UN 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development. She has actively engaged in raising awareness of the contributions of psychology at the UN. She has co-chaired and helped to organize the annual Psychology Day events and many UN NGO panels and side events. Dr. Jaipal has a PhD in clinical and cross cultural psychology from the New School for Social Research. At Bloomfield College she started a Diversity Training Certificate program and founded a Center for Alternative Visions for the Future to research cultures of sustainability and build bridges between the local and the global. Dr Jaipal's research interests include the role cultural conditioning and cultural identity plays in inter-cultural relations. She was a Fulbright scholar in Sikkim India, and did capacity building for counseling, suicide prevention and mental health services, and researched the psychological costs of development for youth from 2016-2018. She has published and presented on these topics at the UN, international conferences and the annual APA convention. She has traveled extensively and cultural diversity is central to her life and work.

2020 Co-Sponsors

The Permanent Mission of Palau to the United Nations

The Permanent Mission of Dominican Republic to the United Nations

The Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations

The following organizations are listed according to level of sponsorship.

Advocates

International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP)
European Health Psychology Society

Partners

Institute for Multicultural Counseling and Education Services, Inc (IMCES)
OrgVitality

Supporters

Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)

Friends

Armenian Behavioral Science Association
International Council of Psychologists (ICP)
The Society for Environmental, Population and Conservation Psychology (APA Div 34)

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

The American Psychological Association (APA) for in-kind contributions, APA Office of International Affairs, Amanda Clinton, Ph.D. (Senior Director), Gabriel Twose, Ph.D. (Senior International Affairs Officer), Sally Leverty (International Affairs Assistant), Juliana Mayhew (Communications and Digital Media Associate), and Jung-Yun Min (Administrative Assistant, APA NGO).

The United Nations Psychology Day logo was developed and donated by Dr. Rachel Ravich (SPSSI) and Mr. Eli Rosenbloom, 2010