

4th European Conference On Positive Psychology

1 – 4 July 2008, Opatija, Croatia

Hotel Ambassador

www.pospsy.ffri.hr



First Announcement

Dear colleagues,

It is both our privilege and our pleasure to invite you to the *4th European Conference on Positive Psychology* to be held in Opatija – Croatia in July 2008.

Positive psychology is rapidly growing field of psychology with the aim to bring solid empirical research into areas of well-being, personal strengths and resources and positive groups and institutions. Positive psychology uses psychological theory, research, and intervention techniques to understand the positive and emotionally fulfilling aspects of human behavior. Research findings from positive psychology are intended to supplement what is known about human suffering, weakness, and disorder. The intent is to have a more complete and balanced scientific understanding of the human experience. The conference aims at a broad coverage of the research topics within positive psychology. The major purposes of the conference are to present an outstanding scientific program and to promote international exchange.

Since 1998 up to now literally hundreds of articles have appeared in the scholarly and popular press on the topics of positive psychology including well-being, flow, wisdom, creativity, life aspirations, spirituality, strengths and virtues and many others. Books have begun to appear summarizing the empirical findings and the methods used in the science. We are inviting you to participate in this new and exciting field of psychology.

Come to learn, teach, enjoy and meet your old and future friends! Welcome to the 4th European Conference of positive psychology in beautiful city of Opatija.

Conference Topics

Positive psychology studies optimal human functioning and aims to discover and promote the factors that allow individuals and communities to thrive. It addresses positive aspects of experience to improve the quality of individual and community life.

Positive psychology covers topics such as well-being, happiness, positive emotions, psychological health, personal strengths, positive experiences and states (mindfulness, flow, creativity), positive environments and the positive characteristics of individuals, groups, institutions and communities.

Invited speakers

Ed Diener, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA
Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, Claremont Graduate University, USA
Randy Larsen, Washington University at St. Louis, USA
Alan Carr, University College Dublin, Ireland
Wilmar Schaufeli, Utrecht University, Netherlands
Márta Fülöp, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary

Organization

Department of Psychology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, University of Rijeka
Psychological Association PGZ Rijeka
Under auspices of European Network of Positive Psychology

Organizing Committee

Vladimir Takšić, chair
Hrvoje Gligora, co-chair
Igor Kardum, co-chair
Ingrid Brdar
Ivana Ilijašić Mišić
Petra Orlić
Tamara Mohorić
Dubravka Miljković
Sanja Smojver-Ažić
Alessandra Pokrajac-Bulian
Asmir Gračanin

Scientific Committee

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Antonella Delle Fave
Majda Rijavec
Stephen Joseph
Mladenka Tkalčić
Svjetlana Kolić-Vehovec
Jasna Hudek-Knežević

International Advisory Board

Chair Csikzentmihalyi Mihaly, Claremont Graduate University, USA

Members Jane Henry, Open University Business School, UK
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Sean Cameron, University College London, UK
Robert Manchin, Gallup Europe, Hungary
Marie P. Wissing, North West University, Potchefstroom, South Africa
Zélia Maria Mendes, University of São Paulo, Brasil
Ljiljana Kaliterna Lipovčan, Institute for Social Sciences Ivo Pilar, Croatia

Call for Papers

The Programme Committee invites submissions for symposia, individual papers, workshops, and posters. Submissions are welcome from students, faculty and researchers interested in all fields of positive psychology. Presentation proposals can be focused on theoretical models or on empirical research studies.

Symposia should include presentations on a specific theme and integrate findings from different research projects. Symposia are organized by a convenor, and will be scheduled for 1 hour and a half or 2 hours. They will include 4 or 5 presenters (normally speaking for about 20 minutes each), plus 15 minutes for a discussant stimulating interaction with the audience.

Individual papers

Papers presenting original research and/or research reviews are invited. Individual papers will be grouped into thematic sessions, according to their topic.

Round table discussions

Some of the thematic sessions might be organised as round tables, with a discussant that chairs the session and invites the presenters to illustrate and debate their findings in a prominently interactive environment.

Workshops

Workshops offering practical illustrations of best, evidence-based practice are invited.

Poster Presentations

Poster presentations will be made during poster sessions.

Registration

On-line payment will start after July 1st, 2007

	Early before March 15, 2008	Middle March 15 to April 30, 2008	Late From May 1, 2008 or on site
Normal fees	€300	€360	€450
Reduced student fees	€150	€180	€220
Accompanying persons	€100	€100	€120

Important Dates

Second announcement:	October 2007
Final announcement:	May 2008
Deadline for abstract submission:	31 December 2007
Information to presenters on abstract admission:	29 February 2008
Deadline for early congress registration fee:	15 March 2008
Deadline for middle congress registration fee:	30 April 2008

Contact Information

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Location

Opatija is situated at the eastern coast of Istria in the Rijeka Bay, 13 km southwest of Rijeka. The Italian and Slovenian borders are nearby. It takes less than two hours drive from international airports in Zagreb (Croatia), Ljubljana (Slovenia), and Trieste (Italy). It is only a few hours drive from a number of Western European centres (Milan, Munich, Vienna, Graz, Budapest).

The town is often called the Nice of the Adriatic and is one of the most popular tourist resorts in Croatia and a place with the longest tourist tradition on the eastern coast of the Adriatic.

Attractive contrasts of the Adriatic, islands and mountains, the green of the parks and the blue of the sea, refined historic beauty spots and modern comfort, all determine Opatija as an attractive tourist destination.

Favourable climate, well-maintained landscape, maintained beaches and lively entertainment throughout the year make this place one of the most elite summer resorts in Croatia today.



It is a popular summer and winter resort, with average temperatures of 10°C in winter, and 25°C in summer. Beautiful nature, parks, old Austrian villas, seaside promenade and beaches attract tourists from Europe and world for more than 160 years. Opatija owe its name to a Benedictine abbey, built between 1400 and 1440, right by the sea. The tourist development of Opatija begins in 1844. The pearl of the Austro-Hungarian Riviera at the end of 19th C., it gains an attribute of the tourist destination of the Austrian and European high society - emperors, famous artists and celebrities like Wilhelm II, Franz Joseph, Empress Sissy... Gustav Mahler, Isadora Duncan, Anton Pavlovich Chekhov and many others. Numerous luxurious villas, summer houses, hotels, sanatoriums, pavilions, bathing places, promenades and parks come to existence at that period.

Accommodation

A wide variety of hotel rooms in the city of Opatija will be available to the conference participants. We have secured a sufficient number of rooms at different hotel categories ranging from 2 to 5 stars (prices presented in the table below).

Since the conference will take place during the high-season period, accommodation in hotels presented in the table should be reserved until **June, 6th 2008**. We strongly recommend to book as soon as possible. After June, 6th 2008 we cannot guarantee accommodation in the area. Most hotels can provide half and/or full board service, if requested. There are plenty of restaurants to eat out.

Reservations and payments should be made on-line, directly to hotels, with a comment that reservations are made for conference participants (www.liburnia.hr). Presented hotel prices are guaranteed from June, 28th to July, 6th, 2008. All these hotels are in walking distance from conference venue (hotel Ambassador).

Prices are in EUR, per person, per day (bed and breakfast)

Hotel	Single	Double (per person)
Ambassador *****	88	63
Villa Ambassador ****	77	52
Imperial***	47	32
Kvarner ***	47	32
Hotel Palace-Bellevue ***	47	32
Belvedere **	41	26

SOJOURN TAX: 1 EUR daily per person **REGISTRATION** 0.50 EUR per person

Information about other hotels in Opatija and nearby places can be found on the web sites:

- <http://www.opatija-tourism.hr>
- www.opatija.net
- <http://www.ugohoteli.hr>

Bursaries

Students and researchers in the early stages of their career and with limited resources can apply for a financial support. We plan to offer some of these bursaries to delegates from Eastern Europe and other countries that are not as well supported as most Westerners. A limited amount of bursaries is available, covering registration fees, meals, and accommodation.

To apply for a bursary on-line application form, together with their abstract submission form should be completed. A Scientific Committee will evaluate the scientific and methodological quality of received proposals and offer bursaries to the presenters of the best abstracts.