



**ISTP
2024**



unine
Université de Neuchâtel



20th Conference of the International Society for Theoretical Psychology
Theory as Engagement
May 20-24, 2024, University of Belgrade, Serbia

2nd Call for Papers

A call for engaged theorising has a long history, however it seems as timely and needed today as ever, particularly in psychology. It asserts that theorising is not held aside from or even in opposition to the real world – it is because we hold the world and people, their complexity, institutions, cultures, and power seriously that we need to theorise. Theorising is inclusive, it requires dedication and time, and it is always a dialogical endeavour. Whether we theorise alone or with others, through our encounters with the authors of the past, other persons, or the world to which we belong or we imagine as a possible future. It is therefore our communal and collaborative interaction with and for the world, whether as critique, reconstruction, creation, or as an integrative account. Even more, as the world has been inflamed and seems to lose its mind, theorising is more than ever an ethical demand. Good theory is an inevitable tool for engaging in the world and contributing to individuals and communities in navigating complex environments and potential futures. The beauty of theorising is that it transcends national, historical, social, and linguistic barriers while simultaneously serving as a tool for their critical examination, provided that it is respectful, honest, transparent, dialogical, and reflexive. Theory done in an engaged way creates a shift in thinking and practice that can direct social and personal transformation.

We invite scholars from around the world and belonging to different theoretical and critical traditions in psychology and beyond to join us in presence for the 20th ISTP conference, which will take place at the University of Belgrade, Serbia, May 20-24, 2024 – our first in-person meeting since Copenhagen in 2019! We, therefore, invite communication and discussion that bring back to the fore the vital, engaged, dialogical nature of the exercise of theorising as well as its historical, institutional, ethical, or societal implications.

We welcome symposia submissions, round tables, oral presentations, posters, or any other format to convey your ideas about theory as engagement.

Submissions deadline: before November 1st, 2023



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Submission formats:

Symposium – symposium description (250 words abstract, 5 keywords) and individual paper description (250 words abstract, 5 keywords); up to 4 submissions per symposium. We encourage a discussant.

Round table – argument of the table: 250 words abstract to describe the theme, 200 words to describe the modality of the dialogue (which should be clearly different from a classical symposium).

Oral presentation – 250 words abstract, 5 keywords.

Poster – 250 words abstract, 5 keywords.

Other formats – 250 words abstract, 5 keywords for the content; 250 words to present the format.

Limitation: Each participant should not present more than two papers (yet they can chair or discuss one extra session).

Financial assistance: A limited number of travel stipends will be available to students or scholars who present a paper or a poster and need economic support.

For additional information and updates on the conference, as well as submission and registration, check the [conference website](#)

Finally, we are thrilled to announce our **keynote speakers**, including:

Ivana Marková, Professor Emeritus in Psychology at the University of Stirling, UK
Theorising through dialogical tensions

Alex Gillespie, Professor of Psychological and Behavioural Science at LSE, UK and Visiting Professor II at the Oslo New University, Norway
Pragmatism: Humble theory for an uncertain world

Sanne Akkerman, Professor of Educational Sciences at Utrecht University, Netherlands
Educational and learning sciences: Theory and research in the midst of motion

Rastko Močnik, Retired Professor of sociology at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia and Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Media and Communications, Belgrade, Serbia
Theory in action

