

ECP 2027 – Belgrade, Serbia

Psychology Contributing to the 2030 Agenda

SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT

The 20th European Congress of Psychology (ECP2027) is committed to supporting the **United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** and contributing to the achievement of the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, and abide to **EFPA sustainability policies and guidelines**.

ECP2027 recognises that international scientific congresses have environmental and social impacts. At the same time, bringing people together provides unique opportunities for scientific exchange, collaboration, learning and the development of collective responses to shared challenges. Sustainability is understood as an integral principle of both the ORGANISATION of the congress and its scientific and professional PROGRAMME.

Our objective is to minimise the environmental impact of the Congress while preserving the essential value of an international, in-person scientific event: the opportunity to meet, exchange knowledge, establish collaborations and strengthen the European and global psychological community. Through responsible organisation, inclusive participation, sustainable resource management and a scientific programme addressing the major challenges of technology and humanity, ECP2027 aims to contribute to a more sustainable future for people, organisations, communities and societies.

Our Commitment to Sustainable Congress Organisation

Venue and Location:

ECP2027 will take place primarily in the center of Belgrade, with the main scientific programme hosted at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, together with additional activities at the Faculty of Philology and the University of Belgrade Rectorate Building.

The selected venues are centrally located and well connected by free public transport.

Their location enables many participants to reach hotels, restaurants, museums, cultural institutions and major historical sites on foot, thereby reducing the need for additional transportation during the Congress.

The venues provide established educational infrastructure and technical facilities, reducing the need for additional equipment transport and temporary infrastructure. They include large indoor spaces suitable for scientific sessions and are designed to accommodate large academic gatherings. Most of the facilities are spacious, bright, and airy, with abundant natural daylight and a constant supply of fresh air.

Relevant information regarding the Congress location, transportation, accessibility, accommodation and local services will be provided through the respective sections of the ECP2027 website, enabling participants to make informed and sustainable travel and mobility choices.

Sustainable Mobility:

Belgrade is an accessible European capital with international air connections and extensive road and rail connections. Airport, bus and railway stations are connected with the city center by public transport.

Within the city, participants will be encouraged to use free public transportation and walking whenever possible. The central location of the main Congress venues makes walking a practical and sustainable option for many journeys between Congress facilities, accommodation and cultural attractions.

Participants will also be encouraged to consider the environmental impact of their travel choices and to select lower-carbon travel options whenever these are practical and accessible. Our aim is to support sustainable mobility by providing clear and practical information on:



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travelling to Belgrade; public transportation; walking routes between Congress venues and key locations; accessibility of the venues; accommodation within convenient distance of the Congress facilities.

Sustainable Resource Management:

ECP2027 will seek to minimise unnecessary resource consumption throughout the planning and delivery of the Congress. Key measures will include: prioritising digital communication and electronic information; providing an electronic Congress programme; minimising printed materials; supporting electronic and digital presentation formats, including e-posters where appropriate; reducing the use of single-use plastics; providing access to drinking water and encouraging reusable water solutions; supporting waste separation and recycling practices; promoting efficient use of energy and resources; selecting sustainable materials whenever possible.

Particular attention will be paid to the environmentally responsible selection and management of resources used in the planning and delivery of the Congress. Water bottles made from sustainable materials will be provided to encourage participants to refill them at water fountains. The conference pack will not include single-use or non-sustainable items. Gifts for speakers will consist of small, locally produced items.

Sustainable Catering and Support for the Local Economy:

ECP2027 recognises that sustainable event organisation also involves supporting local communities and economies. Whenever feasible, catering and related services will prioritise: local and regional food suppliers; locally sourced products; local service providers; sustainable catering materials; responsible waste management; the reduction of unnecessary packaging and disposable materials.

The Congress will also support the involvement of local communities through the participation of volunteers and local support staff.

In order to minimize food waste, the quantity of food will be carefully planned according to the number of registered participants, served in appropriately sized portions, and complemented by a greater range of plant-based options.

Where gifts or promotional materials are provided, preference will be given to useful, locally produced and responsibly sourced items.

Accessibility, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion:

ECP2027 is firmly committed to ensuring that the Congress is accessible, inclusive and welcoming to participants from diverse backgrounds and circumstances.

We support equal opportunities for participation regardless of: age; gender; disability; ethnicity; nationality or country of origin; religion; economic circumstances; sexual orientation; opinions or other personal characteristics.

Accessibility considerations will include physical access to Congress facilities and the provision of appropriate information and support for participants with different needs.

The Congress will also seek to promote participation from countries and communities with more limited economic resources through appropriate registration policies and other measures designed to improve accessibility where feasible.

Diversity, equality, inclusion and mutual respect are fundamental principles guiding both the organisation and the scientific programme of ECP2027.



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Transparent and Responsible Congress Governance:

ECP2027 is committed to transparent, fair and accountable organisational and scientific procedures. The processes related to abstract submission, registration, scientific evaluation and participation will be clearly communicated and designed to promote fairness and equal opportunities.

The scientific review process will follow appropriate standards of independence and confidentiality, including double-blind peer review procedures. Through transparent decision-making processes and clearly defined criteria, the Congress aims to minimise inequalities and ensure fair treatment of participants throughout all stages of the Congress.

ECP2027 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals are interconnected and mutually reinforcing. Rather than treating them as isolated objectives, ECP2027 adopts an integrated approach in which psychological science contributes to multiple dimensions of sustainable development.

The Congress particularly aligns with the following SDGs:

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being: Human well-being. Psychology has a fundamental role in promoting health, psychological well-being and quality of life across the lifespan. Through its scientific programme, ECP2027 will contribute to knowledge and discussion concerning: mental health and psychological well-being; prevention and intervention; resilience and coping with uncertainty; digital mental health; loneliness and social connection; healthy ageing; the psychological consequences of technological and societal change.

The organisation of the Congress will also support healthy and safe public environments in accordance with applicable regulations and institutional policies.

SDG 4: Quality Education: Learning and Human Development. Psychological science makes a fundamental contribution to learning, education and human development.

The technological dimension of ECP2027 makes this goal particularly relevant, including discussions concerning: learning and cognitive development; educational psychology; digital transformation of education; artificial intelligence and learning; lifelong learning; psychological literacy; education for democratic citizenship; social responsibility and human development.

ECP2027 aims to facilitate the exchange of scientific knowledge that can support inclusive, equitable and high-quality learning throughout the lifespan.

SDG 5: Gender Equality. ECP2027 supports gender equality and the equal participation of women and men in scientific, professional and organisational activities. The Congress will promote equal opportunities for participation and representation in relevant decision-making, scientific and organisational processes. Gender equality will also be reflected in the broader commitment of ECP2027 to diversity, inclusion and equal opportunities.

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy. The Congress will seek to promote responsible and efficient use of energy throughout its organisation and delivery. By using established university facilities and existing infrastructure, ECP2027 aims to minimise unnecessary temporary infrastructure and resource consumption. Attention will also be given to energy efficiency and responsible resource management at Congress venues.



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SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth. Technology and the Future of Work. The future of work represents one of the most important areas in which psychology can contribute to sustainable development. Relevant ECP2027 topics include: the future of work; artificial intelligence and automation; employee well-being; decent and sustainable work; leadership and organisations; sustainable careers; workplace inclusion; digital transformation and human resources; psychological safety; employee voice.

The Congress will also support knowledge exchange, creativity, innovation and international collaboration. Through its organisation, ECP2027 will seek to contribute to the local economy by engaging local service providers, suppliers and support staff where possible.

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities. Equality and Inclusion. Psychology plays an important role in understanding and addressing inequalities and social exclusion. ECP2027 will provide opportunities for scientific discussion and knowledge exchange concerning: social exclusion; discrimination and prejudice; migration and intercultural relations; inequalities in access to technology; the digital divide; gender and social inequalities; disability and inclusion; algorithmic bias; artificial intelligence and discrimination.

Equality, inclusion and non-discrimination are fundamental principles of the 2030 Agenda and are also central to the values of ECP2027.

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities. The Congress will support sustainable engagement with the host city by encouraging participants to use public transportation and walking routes whenever possible.

Clear information will be provided to support efficient and sustainable movement through Belgrade and to facilitate access to cultural, historical and community resources. The central location of the main Congress venues contributes to reducing unnecessary transportation within the city.

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production. ECP2027 will promote responsible consumption and resource management through: waste reduction; waste separation and recycling; reduced use of printed materials; digital communication; reduced use of single-use plastics; sustainable procurement where feasible; responsible catering practices; environmentally conscious selection of Congress materials and resources.

The Congress aims to raise awareness of sustainability among participants and to demonstrate how scientific events can reduce unnecessary consumption.

SDG 13: Climate Action. Human Behaviour and Planetary Sustainability. Climate change represents not only an environmental challenge but also a profound psychological and social challenge. ECP2027 will provide opportunities for discussion and knowledge exchange concerning: climate anxiety and psychological adaptation; environmental behaviour; behaviour change; climate communication; collective action; community resilience; psychological barriers to sustainable behaviour.

These themes broaden the Congress perspective beyond technology alone and recognise that humanity faces interconnected technological, social and planetary challenges.



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SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. Peaceful and Resilient Societies. Considering the contemporary European and global context, psychology has an important contribution to make to peaceful, inclusive and resilient societies. Relevant areas include: conflict and reconciliation; social and political polarisation; misinformation and disinformation; trust in institutions; democratic participation; intergroup relations; violence prevention; social cohesion.

Through transparent, fair and accountable organisational and scientific procedures, ECP2027 will also seek to promote the principles of responsible and inclusive institutional practice.

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals. Collaboration for Sustainable Futures. ECP2027 brings together: psychologists from across Europe and beyond; researchers and practitioners; different psychological subdisciplines; universities and professional organisations; psychology and other scientific disciplines.

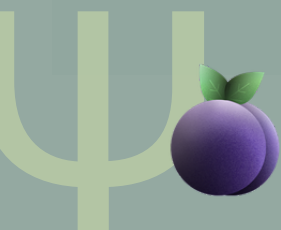
The Congress promotes international cooperation, interdisciplinary dialogue, scientific exchange and knowledge-sharing. SDG 17 represents not only a thematic area but also an important way of working for ECP2027.

We believe that psychology can make its strongest contribution to sustainable development through: international collaboration; interdisciplinary dialogue; partnerships between science and practice; knowledge-sharing; cooperation among universities, professional organisations and communities.

Congress organization SDG goals alignments: SDG 5 Gender Equality; SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy; SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities; SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production

Scientific Programme & Conference Topics: SDG goals alignments: SDG 4 Quality Education; SDG 13 Climate Action
Conference Organization and Programme SDG goals alignments: SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being; SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities; SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

CONNECTING FRAMEWORK: SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals



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