



WHO CC for Research and Training in Mental Health Trieste - Azienda Sanitaria Universitaria Integrata di Trieste

FRANCA AND FRANCO BASAGLIA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL - THE PRACTICE OF FREEDOM

The right [and opportunity] to have a [whole] life

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL & CONFERENCE

**Trieste,
15-18 November 2017**

Best practices for empowerment, self determination,
community resilience, wellbeing and human rights

www.triestementalhealth.org

ABSTRACT FORM

Name/Nome	Katerina Nomidou	Country/Paese	Greece
Affiliation/Organizzazione (University/Agency/NGO)/(Università /Azienda/ONG)	Global Alliance of Mental Illness Advocacy Networks GAMIAN- Europe, Belgium; Association of Families/Carers and Friends for the Mental Health, Alzheimer's disease and related disorders SOFPSI N.SERRON, Greece		
Address/Indirizzo	P.Kostopoulou 12 – 62123 Serres, Greece		
Phone-mobile/Telefono	+30 697 380 22 05	Fax	+30 23210 99 645
E-mail	wordland@otenet.gr – aikaterininomidou@gmail.com		
Title of the contribution/Titolo del contributo	De-institutionalization and reforms in Greece		
Objectives/Obiettivi			

Contents-text/Contenuto-testo:

The mental health system in Greece has been undergoing radical reforms for over three decades, however, not as a genuine change coming from within but rather as a result of international pressure following the scandal of Leros asylum in the 1980's. The Psychargos mental health reform programme (1999) has been the main mechanism for the modernisation of an asylum care-based mental health system through de-institutionalization, closure of psychiatric hospitals, development of community-based services, social and professional rehabilitation of chronic patients, and staff capacity building. Despite any positive aspects, this reform is still incomplete given that sectorisation, adequate primary care policies, inter-sectoral coordination, and community-based and specialised services are under-developed. At the same time, inequality in the development of services around the country gives the impression that real needs have not been taken under consideration, and unambiguous commitment from a critical mass of "reformist" professionals and political leaders are still to be seen.