EDITORIAL

Celebrating 10 years of the European Journal of Psychotraumatology

Miranda Olff a,b and Soraya Seedat c

aDepartment of Psychiatry, Amsterdam University Medical Centers (Location AMC), University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam Neuroscience, Amsterdam, The Netherlands; bARQ National Psychotrauma Centre, Diemen, The Netherlands; cDepartment of Psychiatry, Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa

ABSTRACT

It is 10 years ago that the European Journal of Psychotraumatology (EJPT) was launched. This was celebrated with a one day symposium on 1 February 2021 with all EJPT’s editors presenting on the state of the art developments in the field of psychotraumatology. The European Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ESTSS) is proud to have all these speakers together sharing their knowledge on a range of topics within the field of psychotraumatology, from genetics to clinical practice. In this editorial the programme with the presentations is presented, including links to both to short summaries of the lectures and to the online session itself. In line with the Open Access format of the journal, access to the symposium content is free of charge and thus available to all around the world without barriers.

The European Journal of Psychotraumatology (EJPT) has been in existence for 10 years. Last year, in a joint editorial of all editors working for the journal, we reflected on the past decade of psychotraumatology and presented our knowledge gaps to guide future research (Olff et al., 2019). With the symposium in 2021 we are closing a year that would have been – were it not for the COVID-19 pandemic – a festive year with real-life symposia. We ended this year with an online symposium on 1 February 2021 with all EJPT’s editors presenting on the state of the art developments in the field of psychotraumatology.

The European Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ESTSS), owner of the journal, is proud to bring all these speakers together to share their knowledge on a range of topics within the field of psychotraumatology, from genetics to clinical practice, from developmental trauma to neural networks.

In this editorial, we present the program, chaired by the editor-in-chief together with the newly joined associate editor Prof Dr Soraya Seedat, from Stellenbosch University, South Africa, and highlight the presentations, including links to both the short summaries of the lectures and to the online session itself. This is all in line with the Open Access format of the journal, where access to the symposium content is free of charge and thus available to all around the world without barriers.

Jana Javakhishvili, ESTSS president 2019–2020, opened the symposium with congratulations to the team of editors.

Miranda Olff, founding editor-in-chief of the journal, reflected on the past 10 years of European Journal of Psychotraumatology, and the decade to come, including plans for promoting Open Research (see also Olff, 2020).

In the session on trauma exposure, Ford (2021) presented on ‘Polyvictimization and Developmental Trauma in Childhood’, Armour (2021) on Identifying and characterizing adverse childhood experiences (ACE) in a Northern Irish military veteran population, and Birkeland (2021) addressed ‘Do different potentially traumatic events evoke different kinds of PTSS’.

Neurobiology of PTSD, is a field that is growing exponentially, reflected in the content coverage of the journal, including a call-for-papers for a special issue on ‘Biological mechanisms underlying adverse mental health outcome after trauma’ (guest editor Mirjam van Zuiden). Here we had three presentations. Amstader (2021) shared with us the exciting work of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortia on the ‘Molecular genetics of trauma exposure and PTSD’. Lanius (2021) spoke about ‘Restoring large scale brain networks in the aftermath of trauma: Implications for neuroscientifically-informed treatments’. And Bui (2021) addressed developments in pharmacotherapy with ‘Pharmacological treatments for PTSD: Where Are We in 2020?’

In the section on mental health outcomes, Hansen (2021) looked into symptom figurations with ‘Investigating centrality in PTSD symptoms across diagnostic systems using network analysis’. Greene

KEYWORDS

PTSD; psychotraumatology; trauma exposure; neurobiology; mental health; prevention; treatment

HIGHLIGHT

State of the art developments in the field of psychotraumatology are presented with regard to (child) trauma exposure, neurobiological aspects, mental health outcomes, prevention and treatment.

CONTACT

Miranda Olff m.olff@amsterdamumc.nl Department of Psychiatry, Amsterdam University Medical Centers (Location AMC), University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam Neuroscience, Meibergdreef 5, 1101AZ Amsterdam, The Netherlands

© 2021 The Author(s). Published by Informa UK Limited, trading as Taylor & Francis Group. This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/), which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.
Box 1. Program ESTSS symposium

Celebrating 10 Years of the European Journal of Psychotraumatology
Chair: Miranda Off
Co-chair: Soraya Seedat
Date: 1 February 2021

Opening
Jana Javakhishvili - Opening ESTSS president
Miranda Off (2020) - 10 Years of European Journal of Psychotraumatology

Trauma Exposure
Julian Ford (2021) - Polyvictimization and Developmental Trauma in Childhood
Cherie Armour (2021) - Identifying and characterising adverse childhood experiences (ACE) in a Northern Irish military veteran population
Marianne Skogbrott Birkeland (2021) - Do different traumatic events invoke different kinds of posttraumatic stress symptoms?

Neurobiology
Ananda Amstadter (2021) - Molecular genetics of trauma exposure and PTSD
Ruth Lanius (2021) - Restoring large scale brain networks in the aftermath of trauma: Implications for neuroscientifically-informed treatments
Eric Bui (2021) - Pharmacological treatment of PTSD: Where are we in 2020?

Mental Health Outcomes
Maj Hansen (2021) - Investigating centrality in PTSD symptoms across diagnostic systems using network analysis
Talya Greene (2021) - The dynamic interactions of PTSD symptoms in daily life
Siri Thoresen (2021) - Trust and social relationships in times of the COVID-19 pandemic

Prevention and Treatment
Neil Roberts (2021) - Development of expert recommendations for the treatment of PTSD with comorbid substance use disorder
Anke Ehlers (2021) - Processes of change in trauma-focused CBT
Marylene Cloitre (2021) - Complex PTSD: Assessment and Treatment

Discussion and Closure
All speakers
Jana Javakhishvili

(2021) presented on ‘The dynamic interactions of PTSD symptoms in daily life, linking ESM data to symptoms’. Thoresen (2021) addressed interesting social aspects of the Coronavirus pandemic in her presentation titled ‘Trust and social relationships in times of the COVID-19 pandemic’.

We concluded the day with a session on Prevention and Treatment. Roberts (2021) presented on the ‘Development of expert recommendations for the treatment of PTSD with comorbid substance use disorder’. Ehlers (2021) looked into ‘Processes of change in trauma-focused CBT’. And finally, Cloitre (2021) shared with us her insights on ‘Complex PTSD: Assessment and Treatment’.

The program is presented in Box 1, including links to short summaries of the lectures. The online symposium has been recorded and can be accessed through www.estss.org, in line with the Open Access format of the journal, free of charge and thus available to all around the world without barriers.

Disclosure statement
No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

ORCID
Miranda Off http://orcid.org/0000-0003-1016-9515
Soraya Seedat http://orcid.org/0000-0002-5118-786X

References
Amstadter, A. (2021). Molecular genetics of trauma exposure and PTSD. European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 12(1). doi:10.1080/20008198.2020.1866403

Armour, C. (2021). Identifying and characterising adverse childhood experiences (ACE) in a Northern Irish military veteran population. European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 12(1). doi:10.1080/20008198.2020.1866397

Birkeland, M. S. (2021). Do different traumatic events invoke different kinds of posttraumatic stress symptoms? European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 12(1). doi:10.1080/20008198.2020.1866399

Bui, E. (2021). Pharmacological treatment of PTSD: Where are we in 2020? European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 12(1). doi:10.1080/20008198.2020.1866411

Cloitre, M. (2021). Complex PTSD: assessment and treatment. European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 12(1). doi:10.1080/20008198.2020.1866423

Ehlers, A. (2021). Processes of change in trauma-focused CBT. European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 12(1). doi:10.1080/20008198.2020.1866421

Ford, J. D. (2021). Polyvictimization and developmental trauma in childhood. European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 12(1). doi:10.1080/20008198.2020.1866394

Greene, T. (2021). The dynamic interactions of PTSD symptoms in daily life. European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 12(1). doi:10.1080/20008198.2020.1866413

Hansen, M. (2021). Investigating centrality in PTSD symptoms across diagnostic systems using network analysis. European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 12(1). doi:10.1080/20008198.2020.1866412
Lanius, R. (2021). Restoring large scale brain networks in the aftermath of trauma: Implications for neuroscientifically-informed treatments. *European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 12*(1). doi:10.1080/20008198.2020.1866410

Olff, M. (2020). To share or not to share – 10 years of European Journal of Psychotraumatology. *European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 11*(1), 1844955.

Olff, M., Amstadter, A., Armour, C., Birkeland, M. S., Bui, E., Cloitre, M., … Thoresen, S. (2019). A decennial review of psychotraumatology: What did we learn and where are we going? *European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 10*(1), 1672948.

Roberts, N. (2021). Development of expert recommendations for the treatment of PTSD with comorbid substance use disorder. *European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 12*(1). doi:10.1080/20008198.2020.1866419

Thoresen, S. (2021). Trust and social relationships in times of the COVID-19 pandemic. *European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 12*(1). doi:10.1080/20008198.2020.1866418