

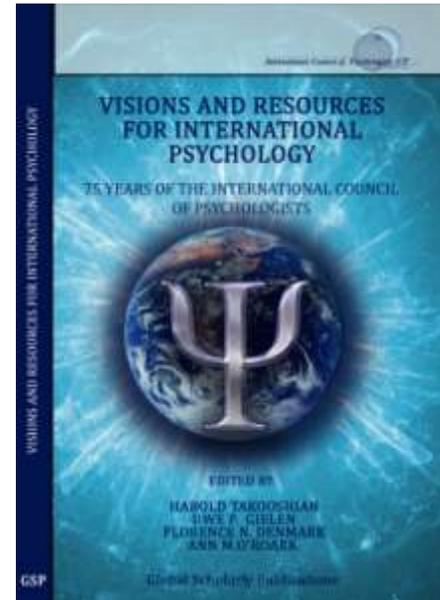


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PART 3:

Visions of Psychological Science in the 21st Century

"What is the role of psychology organizations to address the emerging challenges of the 21st Century?" Since psychological science was born in 1879, this "new" science and its practice have grown apace across the world's more than 200 nations, and it is now totaling roughly one million psychologists (Zoma & Gielen, 2015).

Challenges? In 1941, when 253 women joined to form what is now the International Council of Psychologists, the world was in the grip of a bleak World War Two. Over the past 75 years, humanity has surely prospered in some ways, and not in others. In the 21st Century, we continue to face perennial problems that are as old as human civilization, as recently described in the context of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs, in Note 2 below): poverty, hunger, disease, education, inequality, sanitation, energy, economy, natural resources, conflict [see Note 1 below]. But the new millennium was not yet 12 months old on 9/11/2001, humanity witnessed the launch of a new world order, with new challenges one could hardly have imagined in 1941: weaponized drones and trucks, WMDs (Weapons of Mass Destruction), IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices), airport shoe-bombs, home-grown radicals, the "dark internet," ransomware, and more. As of 2017, small groups of determined zealots spend their waking hours to devise diabolic new technologies to maim and kill as many innocent children and adults as possible, and use new social media to spread their zeal globally. Some may agree with psychologist Stanley Milgram's pessimism, that "our species [has] only a modest chance for survival" (Milgram, 1974, p. 188), while others prefer the optimism of the blind-deaf sage Helen Keller, "Although the world is full of suffering, it is full also of the overcoming of suffering."

Psychology. Since 1879, we now have about one million psychologists, a world population which is increasingly "psychologically literate" about the nature of human behavior, and at least a dozen global psychology organizations--each advancing the science and practice of psychology in its own ways. A look at humanity today raises four urgent questions: **(1) After some 200,000 years on this earth, will homo sapiens survive?** **(2) What old and new challenges face humanity in the 21st Century?** **(3) Do these challenges include a behavioral component?** **(4) If so, can modern psychological science and practice somehow help to address these challenges?**

Here, 31 international leaders offer their own diverse visions for the future of international psychology organizations. Most note how psychology has become more international in recent years, expanding far beyond its western roots, and its organizations are adopting more global and 'glocal' frameworks to be of optimal service to the highly diverse world community.

Notes: 1. Zoma, M., & Gielen, U. P. (2015). How many psychologists are there in the world? *International Psychology Bulletin*, 19, 47–50.

2. The 17 UN SGDs:

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>

3. Milgram, S. (1974). *Obedience to authority*. New York, NY: Harper & Row.

Using Behavioral Research to Combat Global Terrorism

Ambassador T. Hamid Al-Bayati ²²

As a UN Ambassador for many years, I see one of the most difficult, dangerous and complicated challenges of the 21st century is global extremism, including fundamentalism and terrorism. The terrorist group al-Qaeda committed many atrocities against civilians, including elderly people, women and children throughout the world. In the 9/11 terrorist attacks, almost 3,000 innocent people were killed, and many more were injured.



Al-Qaeda in Iraq (AQI), committed genocide and crimes against humanity, and evolved into the infamous Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS), committing the most brutal terrorist attacks in the world. Taking women as slaves and selling them in open markets, beheading hostages and putting gruesome videos of their heinous crimes on the internet, planning and inspiring terrorist attack throughout the world including Europe, the US, Canada and Australia in which hundreds have been killed and many more have been injured.

The world has up to now failed to stop al-Qaeda terrorist attacks, and also failed to stop the emergence of more extreme and more brutal terrorist groups than al-Qaeda, such as ISIS, as well as newer sole violent terrorists. Current strategies of counterterrorism have many shortcomings that allow terrorists to continue their operations. My book “*A New Counterterrorism Strategy: Why the World Failed to Stop Al Qaeda and ISIS/ISIL, and How to Defeat*

²² **Ambassador T.Hamid Al-Bayati, PhD**, is an author, behavioral scientist, and the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations (2006-2013), where he co-founded the annual International Day of Happiness (IDOH) in 2012. He completed his PhD in Political Science at Manchester, and now works closely with other behavioral scientists at the UN. Science at Manchester University, and now works closely with other behavioral scientists at the UN.

Terrorists” (Praeger/ABC Clio, 2017) identifies the shortcomings of present approaches, and uses behavioral evidence to offer a comprehensive 12-point strategy for counterterrorism.

As a leader of the opposition against the terrorist regime of Saddam Hussein, and as an Iraqi official after 2003, I have an insider’s perspective about the war on terrorism. I was arrested and tortured, until I fled Iraq. From the UK, I continued involvement in unfolding political events, until returning to post-Saddam Iraq to assume high political appointments. As a Deputy Foreign Minister of Iraq, I participated in writing the National Counterterrorism strategy with Iraqi officials and US military commanders.

These special insights are interwoven with accounts of detailed interactions and policies that provide the background for my explanation of the failures of counterterrorism strategies to date, and lessons learned from those mistakes. I spotlight the problems of terrorist cells, lone wolves and foreign fighters developing in all parts of world, where members work from safe havens to plan attacks, acquire weapons, and gain fighting experience.

My proposed 12-point strategy further emphasizes issues neglected in current counterterrorism strategies, such as undermining the ideology of terrorists, interrupting their use of the internet to promote evil, understanding the motivations and psychology of terrorists, deterring youth from joining ISIS, creating effective media campaigns against terrorism, and shutting off the flow of funding that currently maintains the financial resources of terrorist organizations.

Terrorism is like cancer, if we don’t stop it, the disease will spread all over, and terrorism is already spreading throughout the world. We need to diagnose the problem and to find the right remedy for it. International psychology organizations can help in diagnosing the roots of the problem and in finding the solution.

Understanding the mind, motivations and emotional appeals of terrorists is a psychologist’s territory. Different motives drive different people. Some lone wolves in the west for example would like to join a terrorist group but are prevented from doing so perhaps because of security scrutiny, especially in the United States. Other lone wolves may have personal problems such as social, financial, and psychological problems. Some lone wolves are

motivated by feelings of guilt like those who are drug addicts, criminals, and alcohol abusers.

These terrorists allow themselves to be convinced that they can change their future by conducting holy war (jihad) against non-Muslims, disbelievers, infidels, and Muslim apostates, according to their distorted ideology. Some lone wolves in the West blame society for their situation, claiming that society is responsible for their bad behavior that may include using drugs or committing petty crimes. Therefore they are motivated by a desire for revenge and punishment of the very society that they believe encouraged them to be criminals.

What the Past Can Tell Us about the Future of International Psychology Organizations

David B. Baker ²³

As a historian of psychology, it is reflexive when looking to the future to consider the past. Examining the history of international psychology organizations provides perspective that can serve for speculation about the future.



Discipline specific international meetings and congresses became fashionable in the latter part of the 19th century. These included meetings of statisticians, physicians, and anthropologists (Montoro, Tortosa, & Carpintero, 1992). Against this backdrop, Polish philosopher and parapsychologist, Julian Ochorowicz published an article in 1881 in a French journal detailing a proposal for an international congress of psychology (Nicolas & Söderlund, 2005). In 1889, the idea became reality as the first International Congress of Psychology convened in Paris, France. From parapsychology to the new laboratory

²³ **David B. Baker, PhD** is the Margaret Clark Morgan Executive Director of the Cummings Center for the History of Psychology, and Professor of Psychology at the University of Akron. He is Past-President of the Society for the History of Psychology (2011).

psychology of Wundt, attendees mixed and mingled in an expression of their shared interest in the exciting and growing field of psychology. A phenomenon familiar to all of us was observed by one attendee, William James (1889):

The open results were, however (as always happens at such gatherings), secondary in real importance to the latent ones-- the friendships made, the intimacies deepened, and the encouragement and inspiration which came to everyone from seeing before them in flesh and blood so large a part of that little army of fellow-students from whom and for whom all contemporary psychology exists. (p. 615)

This inaugural international meeting of psychologists stimulated interest in greater dissemination of the new psychological literature and a number of journals publishing international bibliographies appeared during the 1890s.

By the 1920's those interested in *psychotechnics* (what we now term applied psychology) organized the International Congress of Psychotechnics Applied to Vocational Guidance (in 1955 the name was formally changed to the International Congress of Applied Psychology). The rise of industrialization and the aftermath of World War I brought a focus on maximizing the fit between individuals and jobs. Vocational guidance was seen as a means of increasing efficiency in preparing and mobilizing a workforce that was needed for a new world order (Benjamin & Baker, 2012).

Without question, international psychology has been shaped by, and responded to, the effects of war. Not only has the subject matter of psychology been influenced by war (personnel selection, human factors, clinical psychology, etc) so too its geographic coordinates. The devastation and destruction of two world wars helped shift the focus of psychology from Europe to the United States.

Reflecting the growth of many new national psychology organizations, the International Union of Scientific Psychology was established in 1951. Today it is known as the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) and for more than 50 years it has promoted international meetings and cooperation among psychologists. Through its national members, affiliates, and liaisons (including ICP) the IUPsyS concerns itself with issues that impact all of us including worldwide programs to develop sustainable water use, the revision of the international classification of diseases,

and the promotion of world peace to name but a few (Benjamin & Baker, 2012).

It is rather astonishing to think that international psychology organizations have spanned three centuries. As mentioned at the start of this essay, looking forward necessitates looking back. No need for a crystal ball or futuristic leaps of imagination. Our past and present tells us that psychology is international, it's benefits to society many, and that it has shown the ability to be adaptive in the rough-and-tumble of world events. The impulse of international psychology organizations has always been to bring psychologists together to share information, develop sustainable networks, and work toward world improvement. It is a history that has staying power, the structure and function of international psychology organizations surprisingly constant. What continues to increase are the number of participants as well as the challenges we all confront.

I find a certain calm and continuity in all this, a sense that we are striving to do the right things and that we recognize the value of our shared goals, the benefits of diversity, and the many satisfactions of friendship. Let us continue.

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A Vision for the Future of ICP

Maria Consuelo Barreda-Hanson ²⁴

The present Mission Statement of our International Council of Psychologists (ICP) is a great reflection of what we want to achieve and mostly do, so there is not much I can add. However, I would like to expand on some points and add three new ones. More specifically I would like to see the following:



1. Connect and create international partnerships with universities and allied health professionals - such as Psychiatry, Medical Doctors, Social Workers, Nurses, etc. - to facilitate exchange of ideas across disciplines and engage in collaborative, complex interdisciplinary research and projects, particularly addressing challenges presently facing the world, such as the effects of global warming on world health, the effects of an aging population and how the world can prepare for this and manage it, effects of same sex parents on children and families, effective ways to deal with the outcomes of war, various crimes, trauma and PTSD, effects of migration and refugees and ways to promote better overall health, and how to use new technological developments to improve health around the world.

2. Increase and be a dedicated partner with governments, health organizations, such as WHO and universities, to foster sustainable health care internationally, formulate policies for the international regulation of psychology, and propose best practice

²⁴ **Maria Consuelo Barreda-Hanson, PhD**, has been a long-standing ICP board member, and President (2010). She started the Department of Psychology at the Canberra Hospital in Australia, and was its first Director from 1991 until her retirement in 2014. She also taught at Melbourne, Monash and Canberra Universities. Her many awards are noted in three "Who's Who" publications.

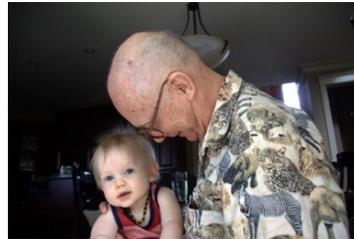
guidelines. And to foster internationally available, accessible, and quality services.

3. Introduce psychology and ICP in high schools, colleges and universities, through talks about what we do, tell stories of how we help people, and give workshops, in such a way that it will create excitement and the desire to follow our profession and become an ICP member. By creating partnerships with schools and universities we could encourage small psychology research projects, to be sent to us for awards. There could be diplomas and a free one year membership. We could also create a Youth Membership, for a very small amount, with the privilege to receive our newsletter. As this is our future, we need to think of what we can do to excite young people.

Will International Psychology Organizations Sound the Tocsin for Our Imperiled Planet?

Michael Harris Bond ²⁵

We members of international psychology organizations are educators of all we meet, especially students and those for whom we provide psychological services. In these professional contexts, we have accepted the responsibility of



providing psychological insights and appropriate interventions for the lives of those we encounter. Based on the training and skills we have acquired in the domains of our expertise, we do so.

²⁵ **Michael Harris Bond, PhD**, is a prolific researcher, editor and author on topics at the interface of psychology and culture, Past-President of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology, and currently teaches cross-cultural management as Chair Professor of Psychology in the Business Faculty of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. In this photo, he is holding a member of our planet's at-risk generation, his grandson, Kai Declan Bond Jones.

In my case, I have crafted a career over four decades by living and working as an academic social psychologist outside my birth country, Canada. In the United States, Japan, and now Hong Kong, I have niched my career by trying to figure out how our cultural heritage shapes our behavior; my thinking, writing, and teaching is all about culture and the ways our cultures make us different yet similar to one another. I have been greatly aided in doing so by the wider diversity movement in so-called Western countries, by the initiatives undertaken through multi-national bodies like UNESCO, and by collaborators met in international psychology organizations, especially IACCP and ICP.

Having flourished through the study of culture in the 21st century, I now find myself confronting a decidedly 21st century problem, a problem facing every member of the planet, and one that renders our differences from one another irrelevant - the collapse of civilization as we know it. As the Ehrlichs contend,

The likelihood of such a collapse is, of course, the result of the perfect storm of environmental problems that now threaten all nations. Those problems are all related to Earth's severe overpopulation, continuing population growth, and associated vast overconsumption, especially by the rich. Climate disruption alone, closely tied to human population size, could end the society we know. (<http://mahb.stanford.edu/blog/a-confused-statistician>). The enormity of this puts "business as usual" in sobering perspective for us all, whatever our business.

As an informed member of our planet, I realize that we are confronting what has come to be called, "the tragedy of the commons," raised to an ominous inter-national level (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tragedy_of_the_commons). As a trained social psychologist, I realize just how difficult it will be for nations, particularly political democracies, to mobilize the cooperative zeal and necessary sacrifice to short-circuit our tragedy in time. As a teacher and researcher in cross-cultural management, I realize that managing the commons is *the* meta-management problem rendering all issues of innovation and efficiency that we explore in our sub-discipline secondary. If we are to succeed in this, the ultimate management conundrum, it will require that we forego claims to the national, ethnic, linguistic, regional identities that, ironically, I have made it my life to understand. Instead, we

must foreground our identities as citizens of our world, and forge a way through this dark, descending night.

I sound this tocsin to anyone I meet, especially my students. I propose that this over-riding doomsday scenario to be the foremost agenda item for every international organization and its members, psychology organizations and psychologists perhaps foremost. As Benjamin Franklin is said to have uttered at the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, “We must learn to hang together, or assuredly we will hang separately”. Have we yet learned this fundamental social truth, and if not, how and when? As Willy Loman blurted out in *Death of a Salesman*, “The woods are burning; the woods are burning!”

Psychology’s Role in Preventing Human Rights Violations

Yosef Brody ²⁶

Why belong to a professional psychology organization? Why should such an organization exist? Whose interests should it serve? Such questions invite a deeper discussion about the true purpose of psychology.

Broadly speaking, there are two different missions that psychologist groups can adopt. One is to further the interests of the field of psychology, including acting as a guild for psychologists. The other is to elevate the implicit contract that all professions make with society and optimize service to the public.

These two missions may at first appear to be one and the same, and they are often conflated. But headlines in recent years remind us that they are not necessarily synonymous: the largest psychology organization in the world reportedly curried favor with



²⁶ **Yosef Brody, PhD** is Past-President of *Psychologists for Social Responsibility (PsySR)*, and a member of the *Coalition for an Ethical Psychology*.

a global military power, leading to a major torture scandal (Risen, 2015).

Around the world over the last century, there have been many cases of psychologists and other health professionals, at the behest of state interests, participating in human rights violations. The involvement of psychologists is no coincidence: the social and legal authority of health professionals as moral actors makes them particularly susceptible to recruitment, in part to legitimize abuses.

If there is no guarantee that the professional interests of the field of psychology and the basic rights of individuals are always aligned—if these two purposes sometimes conflict—which should psychologists prioritize? Is it possible for us to improve the health and well-being of humanity without first protecting individuals from the worst case impacts of professional psychology?

Put another way, should international consensus be sought on appropriate limits for the profession? Many psychologists are employed by or have livelihoods that depend upon militaries, police forces, and criminal justice systems. They evaluate, treat, and recruit personnel; perform and assist interrogations; work to enhance effective war-making (e.g., by evaluating drone operators); assess the competence of defendants for execution; analyze intelligence; and experiment, sometimes in secret, on human subjects. Psychologists also play important roles in evaluating and treating the mental health of prisoners, including those subjected to torture.

Other psychologists work in private industry, maximizing profits for their employers. Some with high security clearances are recruited by government agencies to devise classified, adversarial psychological operations against non-consenting individuals (Arrigo, Eidelson, & Bennett, 2012; Behavioral Scientist, 2017). Other psychologists in the corporate world help create sophisticated youth marketing campaigns that manipulate the values and behaviors of young children with still undeveloped capacities for critical thinking.

Some of the above areas of work are consistent with professional ethics, and some are not. Who should decide which is which?

The profession of psychology must do its part to ensure that we and our colleagues first do no harm, that the autonomy and dignity of individuals is respected, that violators of these basics

tenets are held to account, and that vulnerable groups are protected from psychologists who might use their knowledge and expertise to violate human rights. We must take responsibility for our profession's moral boundaries—and guarantee its continued strength and legitimacy—by taking it upon ourselves to consider, codify, and sanction human rights violations and other severe ethical breaches. Where legal guidance may be necessary in setting professional limits, international law should be used as essential direction.

Psychologists must be prohibited from researching and practicing in areas determined by international consensus to be incontrovertibly unethical. Admittedly, the prospect of drawing bright lines that constrain opportunities may not sit well for some, especially those focused on tapping government treasuries for themselves and their teams, expanding employment prospects for their graduate students, or creating cozier relationships with powerful interests. But if we take ethics seriously as a profession, then there will be some roles and activities that are off-limits for psychologists because they are morally untenable. By failing to implement professional limits for psychologists, the likelihood of continued human rights violations, especially by state actors, increases significantly.

Our primary collective obligation must be to protect the public from harm by psychologists themselves. In the process, we will enhance the beneficent force of psychology around the world and nourish the confidence of the public. No one else can do this but us.

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Vision of the Future of International Psychology

Merry Bullock ²⁷

I would like to begin by distinguishing the term “international psychology” and the activity of international engagement. For me, the long term future of the term “international psychology” is to vanish as a needed term, because engagement across borders and awareness and understanding of the variety of perspectives on behavior will have become integral to our science and practice. Even now, the term “international psychology” sets up a false “us” and “the rest” dichotomy.



Thus, in my envisioned future, international engagement will be the norm. We will have embraced an inclusive, equitable, humble definition of psychological expertise, we will have expanded our science base well beyond its current “WEIRD” status (Henrich, Heine, & Norenzayan, 2010), we will have come to understand more deeply how to think about culture and its many influences, and we will have identified appropriate levels of analysis to think about universal, local, and “glocal” phenomena and constructs.

²⁷ **Merry Bullock, PhD**, has occupied diverse leadership roles in the past quarter-century, including Officer in the International Union of Psychological Science, Sr. Director of International Affairs at APA, Board of Directors and Secretary-General of the International Council of Psychologists, and President-Elect of the APA Division of International Psychology. Contact: MerryBullock@Mac.com

We will have been able to do this because psychology around the world will thrive in undergraduate and graduate programs that have strong communication and collaboration experiences across borders. Students and early career psychologists will lead the way in seeking and achieving international immersion experiences as a regular part of their professional training and lives. Psychology will have stepped up to its potential to address global psychosocial issues, explored what “do no harm” means at a global level, and lived up to its potential to be an integrative, “bio-psycho-social” science with a strong voice for application and policy.

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Vision Ahead for ICP

Jean Lau Chin ²⁸

The 21st Century is characterized by rapid change, instant communication, and fluid borders of increasingly diverse communities around the world. With this comes the challenges and opportunities to address the issues we all face together of promoting human rights, and developing a sustainable environment for our future generations amidst climate change, economic and military threats.



²⁸ **Jean Lau Chin, EdD, ABPP** is Professor at Adelphi University in New York. She is past-President of Division 52 (International Psychology of the American Psychological Association), and 2018 President of the International Council of Psychologists. Her email is: ceoservices@yahoo.com

As such, international psychology organizations have an opportunity to be leaders in promoting how psychology can make a difference for our global well-being and citizenship. As countries become increasingly diverse and communities become increasingly global, how we engage one another will be central to achieving a world that is marked by peaceful coexistence, harmonious collaboration, and inclusion of all in a society that is marked by good health, psychological well-being, and productive lives and global citizenry.

Psychology Must Serve All of Humanity

Saths Cooper ²⁹

Science has come under increasing public scrutiny and scepticism recently, with certain established facts being willfully discarded – even ridiculed – when these become inconvenient and happen to controvert populist and narrow nationalistic rhetoric.



Our discipline, “rightly called the nicest and the most worthy of man”³⁰ has had its own share of stressors and detractors. But the challenges confronting psychology have arisen largely from within, partly due to lack of rigorous internal review mechanisms, objective reality checks, and the abiding intellectual requirement to disagree agreeably, especially when we perceive that our national, belief, organizational or other

²⁹ **Saths Cooper, PhD**, is President of the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS) and the Pan-African Psychology Union (PAPU), and Vice President of the International Social Science Council (ISSC).

³⁰ Julian Ochorowicz, quoted in Sabourin, M. & Cooper, S. (2014). *The First International Congress of Physiological Psychology (Paris, August 1889): The birth of the International Union of Psychological Science. International Journal of Psychology, 49(3), 222-232. DOI: 10.1002/ijop.12071*

value system is under threat. We have sometimes unfortunately chosen the facile path of eschewing critical introspection and engagement with the gravamen of disagreement, to our discredit and public diminution. Adopting defensive positions when these are palpably found wanting, unsustainable and a violation of basic human rights have excited media and consequent public clamor, discrediting our discipline.

Nevertheless, psychology has burgeoned and developed in ways that are difficult for the best amongst us to keep up to date with. However, psychology as a science and applied profession is not value free. Like other disciplines, psychology is influenced by the context in which the individual scientist and practitioner operate. The scientist explains, describes and predicts behavior contextually. Our error is to generalize this to all situations mechanistically, especially to the majority world where psychology is on an exponential growth trajectory. We should humbly acknowledge that psychology as we know it is overwhelmingly a predominantly Western discipline that is yet to fully understand, explain, describe and predict behavior in most global South majority world contexts.

There is no field of human endeavor that does not entail some form of psychological knowledge and expertise. Policy makers ought to therefore turn to and rely on psychological underpinnings where humanity is concerned. The perennial questions of relevance, appropriateness, self-correction, and serving society – indeed the very validity and reliability that have distinguished our discipline – have to be critically revisited, lest psychology as a science, legitimate repository of knowledge on the human condition, and ubiquitous field of applications becomes reduced to notional self-ascriptions and affirmation.

Without negating extant research and intervention sets, it is opportune for psychology to tackle the big questions for which there are no easy answers. The sheer scale of the geo-political crises we confront, where for instance millions of people are physically dislocated and psychologically impugned, should make us ponder the terrible state of our world, in order to at least mitigate the colossal human tragedy that is rapidly unfurling around us. An injustice anywhere in the world ought to affect us, even if we may seem powerless to do anything about the larger conditions of economic uncertainty and social insecurity that are simply not

about to disappear. This requires a more considered reflexive response by psychology in collaboration with other disciplines, particularly in the face of unbridled bigotry, intolerance and violence. Such a psychology would be more compassionate and firmly located within a human rights culture where we act ethically almost axiomatically. And, are we able to rise above the marks of our origins and accept our human family for what it is or will we constrain the wealth of humanity onto a procrustean bed of familiarity and deny the larger environment to retain our own comfort?

Psychology must consider efficacious and enduring ways that our science and practice may ensure that how we treat or ignore the least fortunate and worst off amongst us will continue to reveal our own claim to being human. Psychology must and can serve all of humanity. It is up to us to make the mediocre leadership that afflicts our world appreciate the indelibility of psychology.

The Turbulent History and the Future of the PRACTICE of Psychology

Nicholas A. Cummings³¹

The history of the PRACTICE of psychology has been successively triumphant, turbulent, and regrettably for the profession and unfortunately for those suffering from psychological problems, supplanted by psychotropic medications which mounting research reveals have been ineffective and even deleterious (Cummings & Cummings, 2013).



Clinical/counseling psychology has abandoned practice and has become essentially an academic profession. Because they

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possess a doctorate (Ph.D. or Psy.D.), they qualify for well-paying faculty and industrial positions. Though largely identifying themselves as clinicians, they enjoy comfortable tenured positions and no longer have to brave the vicissitudes of earning a living. They suffer from delusions of clinical adequacy and pass this on to their students. So we now have non-practitioners who long ago have forgotten how to perform hands-on practice teaching and supervising future generations of clinical/counseling psychologists. No wonder psychiatry today "possesses" mental health practice, and has reduced it to what it has become: a psychotropic dispensing medical profession which is largely ineffective. If one psychotropic doesn't do it, prescribe a second, and even a third and fourth.

In today's culture, a sizeable population suffers from moderate to severe anxiety, which is regarded by the sufferers to be due to disease for which they seek medical treatment. Twice as many women than men thus suffering seek medical treatment, as men are more prone to "tough it out" or turn to alcohol or other so-called "manly" solutions.

Regardless of a plethora of research that can be shared by all, why are some therapists more skilled and derive greater successful outcomes than most of their fellow practitioners? It is because therapy is largely a skilled art above and beyond knowledge, and inevitably some psychotherapists are naturally more skilled than others. This difference was first noted early in Great Britain (Balint, 1957) and much more recently among surgeons in extensive research conducted by the Mayo Clinic (Cummings and Cummings, 2013). Yes, psychotherapy, as is surgery, is a skilled art, a concept that makes science-strapped professors shudder as they remain mired in scores of research projects that might render an answer more "scientific" than art.

The actual *practice* of clinical psychology was born during World War II under the auspices of the United States Military, when drafted masters-level teachers of psychology were given a crash course in treatment and sent to the front lines to intervene in "battle neuroses" immediately as they occurred (Cummings, 2017). This immediate intervention by the military was so highly successful that clinical psychology emerged as one of the inordinately innovative successes of World War II. So much so that the civilian press heralded clinical psychology as the probable

solution to many of society's problems. The Veterans Administration (V.A.) and the newly created National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) financed new programs in doctoral clinical psychology with most universities unable to resist such a largess. Unfortunately, these programs were almost always shams shamefully created to cash in, using these funds to support their experimental programs.

Clinical psychology was regarded a national hero. Being in clinical practice in 1948, I was constantly featured in the press, radio and the fledgling TV. While practicing psychology is now struggling while psychotherapy has been replaced by medications, one may ask, "What went wrong?" Simply but sadly stated, practicing psychology has brought about its own demise. All one has to do is look at our own erroneous decision to remain part of academia instead of founding our own professional schools as did medicine, nursing, podiatry, and even social work.

As one of the veterans in graduate school in 1946, I recall how we bootlegged our clinical training without knowledge of our faculty, which would have promptly dismissed us from the program if they knew. We paid friendly psychiatrists to conduct psychotherapy training evenings in their homes. In that era psychotherapy was always preceded by a battery of psychological tests. Soon we were doing the testing for our mentors as payment, and in time they trusted us enough to conduct therapy with their patient overflow. Yes, it was in secret that we became practicing psychotherapists behind the APA's back! How sad.

In 1969 it became apparent to me that as long as professional psychology was part-and-parcel of general university psychology, incisive psychotherapists could not and would not be trained. So I founded the four campuses of the California School of Professional Psychology, and by 1972 there were 28 professional schools, most of them surprisingly on university campuses. Our practice training would have been solved had not the following happened. I had been elected APA president, so as I exited the professional school association, Gordon Derner became president and he persuaded the association to become part of the APA accreditation system. This was because he was running the fourth time for APA president and he wanted to curry votes from the general membership. Paradoxically he lost while I was elected APA President that year.

Realizing that clinical psychology would never be apart from the APA, a newly formed organization of practitioners calling themselves the Dirty Dozen (named after a famous World War II fierce combat group) decided to seek control of the APA presidency. This was surprisingly accomplished within a few short very aggressive years, and I became APA president in 1979. Practitioners also got control of the APA Council, and thus the APA became practitioner dominated. The science psychologists formed their own organization with Janet Spence the first president. Now that practitioners controlled the APA, the Dirty Dozen disbanded. As noted, we now see clinical psychologists in ineffective and tenured academic positions.

At the invitation of the innovative President of Arizona State University, and with the enthusiastic aid of Provost Betty Capaldi, we formed a new independent practitioner degree apart from psychology, the Doctor of Behavioral Health (DBH). Three years ago when Dr. Capaldi retired the ASU program regressed into traditionalism. My colleagues and I have formed our own independent university named the Cummings Graduate Institute (CGI) in Chandler, Arizona. Licensure was acquired in record time and CGI began classes while it works toward full accreditation. But that is another forthcoming chapter in the turbulent history of clinical practice.

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A Vision for Global Psychology

Jessica Henderson Daniel ³²

Internationalism is a community theory of society which is founded on economic, spiritual, and biological facts. It maintains that respect for a healthy development of human society and of world civilization requires that mankind be organized internationally.

– Christian Lous Lange, Norwegian Politician

As the daughter of a U.S. Air Force mechanic and crew chief, I grew up in an international context, living in the Philippines, Hawaii, California, Bermuda and North Carolina. Throughout our moves, I observed my father's exceptional technical and leadership abilities. My mother – a Sunday school teacher, Girl Scout leader, seamstress and employee of the Social Security Administration – not only adapted to new environments, but brought people together so they could thrive as a community. My parents intuitively understood how internationalism leads to well-being and contributes to civil society. Thanks to my mother and father and the international opportunities they provided me as I grew up, I came to understand the importance of curiosity, flexibility and developing competence in one's field through continuous learning. They taught me to value making a difference through organizational service.



My personal vision as a global leader in psychology arises from the powerful impact my parents had on my career. They understood international contexts and the influence that the broader world has on our everyday experiences and opportunities. My parents also understood the value of making contributions to society and recognizing the contributions others make, in part because of the work they did in a variety of settings and contexts. The experiences my family shared and the values demonstrated by

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my parents as we lived across the country and the world helped me arrive at my mission of promoting the “citizen psychologist.”

In my role as a leader in psychology on an international stage, I aim to promote the important contributions of psychologists who lead on a daily basis and improve lives of all of their community members. Using technology, we can easily communicate across national borders. Psychologists at every stage of development can initiate collaborations by inviting their international counterparts to join them at international meetings. The discipline of psychology must have a presence in the room, at the table and often at the head of the table at the local, state, national and international levels. The continuous development of leadership and negotiation skills among our colleagues will facilitate this participation.

I know that the public policies, science and practice of psychology lead to improvements in local, national and global well-being. Often, the contributions of our field go unnoticed and the individuals who champion psychology are not recognized. My vision is to see a psychologist in every room and at every table within the United States and beyond the United States. As a leader, I aim to elevate psychology and psychologists to places of recognition as leaders, researchers, teachers, clinicians and contributing citizens to a healthier and more civilized world.

Our Vision for an International Organization

Florence L. Denmark & Josephine Tan ³³

With globalization rapidly taking place, the discipline of psychology is going through an exciting time. Psychologists are involved in discussions relating to the internationalization of the psychology curriculum, research on cultural differences and similarities of psychological phenomena within different subfields of the discipline, and promoting sensitivity to cultural and other diversity issues in the education and training of psychological professionals, to name a few. This movement to go beyond the boundaries of Western conceptualizations of our discipline offers a unique opportunity to connect psychologists from all over the world for a meeting of minds. It also provides us with an opportunity to reflect on where psychology can go to best serve the needs of society through research, education, training, practice, and advocacy. For international psychological organizations to be true to their names, their membership has to reflect diversity across the globe. Membership outreach would need to take place in different world regions and countries. Members of psychological groups based in other countries could automatically be considered for membership with the international psychological associations upon application.



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Josephine Tan, C. Psych., PhD, is a former President of the Canadian Council of Professional Psychology Programs, the current ICP Awards Coordinator and Director at Large, a psychology faculty member with Lakehead University in Canada, and a clinician who works primarily with the Indian Residential School survivors. Her teaching, and research activities and publications focus on culture, gender, and mental health, with a specific focus on the Canadian Indigenous populations and Syrian refugees.

Advocacy for psychology and for emerging and early career psychologists are essential to increasing membership diversity. This could take the form of mentorship and networking events, as well as financial assistance with membership dues and conference travels. Mentorship is a two-way process. Not only does the mentee benefit from the mentor but the opposite is often true as well. This meeting of minds reduces silo thinking and enables us to see psychology on a more global level.

Currently, psychology is dominated by Western viewpoints. International psychological associations can help to bring in perspectives from other countries and societies so that the discipline is inclusive of a diverse world lens. The history of psychology within the different world regions could be taught along with the history of European and American psychology. Research, education, training, and practice can be undertaken with a sensitivity to differences between cultures and societies.

As interest in expanding psychology beyond the Western boundaries increases, the work that has been done toward that end has variably been referred to as global psychology, international psychology, and cultural psychology. These terms lack definitional clarity. International psychological associations could help to alleviate the confusion by working toward the standardization of diversity-related lexicon.

International psychological associations have the distinct advantage of working toward the common good of humankind through advocacy and actions to promote social justice for children, adults, and older persons that is consistent with the universal declaration of human rights. While some international psychological associations might refrain from taking political stands, they can still do much to promote the betterment of human welfare by working with local organizations on projects, such as collecting educational books and eye glasses to be used by those in need, in different parts of the world. Representatives from different world regions can bring up local needs and issues for attention, identify appropriate ways of helping, and facilitate the distribution of aid to the groups in need.

In sum, international organizations must be representative of psychologists from around the globe. They should go beyond treating psychology as a Western discipline and bring forward their various perspectives. Furthermore, regardless of the political

stance of international psychological associations, they should still work towards promoting the betterment of human welfare.

The Impact of International Issues and Organizations in Psychological Testing

Kurt F. Geisinger ³⁴

My field is psychological testing, so I am mostly restricting my vision to that context. There are many reasons why testing in the 21st Century is rapidly becoming more international, and there are both advantages and pitfalls of testing across borders.



First, why is testing becoming increasingly international? The multiple reasons are related to one another. Perhaps to begin, our psychological theories are becoming more stable and better known. So, for example, we have extended the Big Five Theory of personality and our conceptions of intelligence to other countries. Sometimes these conceptions hold, and sometimes they do not. Cheung, for example, has demonstrated that the Big Five becomes the Big Six in eastern countries such as China, where a factor that might be termed collectivism is needed to explain test results and is therefore added to the model (Cheung, et al., 2001). A second driving factor is that test publishers, test users, and psychologists themselves have become international. The primary reason for this is marketing; if one can sell an item in multiple countries, the company is likely to increase revenues over selling in a single country and when a measure is seen as successfully used in one country, it is often tried in others. In many (but not all) cases it is easier, faster, and less expensive to adapt an existing measure from one country to another and indeed, of the 10 measures most used

³⁴ **Kurt F. Geisinger PhD**, is a prolific author, editor, consultant, and the Director of the Buros Center on Testing at the University of Nebraska, where he is the W. C. Meierhenry Distinguished University Professor. He is currently the President-elect and Treasurer of the International Test Commission and President-elect of the Assessment and Evaluation Division of the International Association of Applied Psychology.

in Europe, eight have been adapted from US measures. There has also been an amalgamation of testing companies. The company, Gartner, has absorbed such companies as SHL and CEB; Pearson bought Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, including the Psychological Corporation; Educational Testing Service bought Questar and Prometric; and ACT bought both Pacific Metrics and Proexam. These companies hold world-wide influence and reach. There is a substantial market for assessments that can be used in different languages and countries; the increase in the number of international corporations has accentuated this change, so that information on employees and potential employees is available worldwide and throughout a corporation. A final reason for the increase in international assessment issues relates to the desire to compare individuals across countries. Such comparisons have become especially prevalent in education.

One can go through a doctoral program in psychology with nary a word about cultural differences. Yet, to adapt a measurement instrument from one country, language, and culture to another demands that one consider experiential, environmental, and cultural differences as well as language ones (Ercikan & Lyons, Thomas, 2013; Geisinger & McCormick, 2012). To be involved in a successful test adaptation (the term of choice rather than translation), one must understand the construct, know both cultures, be fluent in both languages, and have skills in test construction. For one person to have all such skills is rare. Many experienced in the test adaptation task believe that adapting measures almost certainly involves a panel, within which the above skill set is shared. The newly adapted instrument will also require considerable research work to demonstrate that it is reliable, valid, and fair in the new setting. Some people simply believe that doing a confirmatory SEM or factor analysis of the measure and showing that the factors replicate in the new setting demonstrates validity, but others believe and such a confirmation is only available after a series of studies relating test results and behavior consistently across cultures. Moreover, to interpret test results or scores with the instrument requires not only validation work but review of the scoring protocols and results.

The International Test Commission is the primary organization that has produced guidelines on test adaptation and various types of test use to facilitate test use internationally and to

upgrade testing practice internationally. They have advanced the practice of test adaptation in particular and their work has been recognized around the world for their so doing. As such, the International Test Commission, founded in large measure by the International Association of Applied Psychology, has advanced testing around the world, has facilitated discussions of the leaders in psychological testing from many, many nations, and has provided outreach to developing nations. While it started as a primarily European organization, its reach is now worldwide.

To do cross-cultural work demonstrating that one has equivalence of measurement across languages and cultures is often a monumental undertaking. Too many tests have been subjected to quick linguistic translations with too little concern with cultural and other important differences. Even subtle differences can generate large impacts. Clearly, to engage in testing internationally, understandings of specific cultures, cultural differences, testing science and practice, and test use are needed. Groups such as the International Test Commission are leading the way.

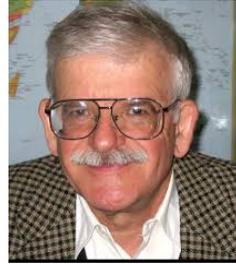
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Three Suggestions for International Psychology Associations to Consider

Uwe P. Gielen ³⁵

During the past few decades, I have been involved in several internationally and cross-culturally oriented psychology organizations such as ICP, SCCR and APA's International Psychology Division. During this time psychology became an active presence in most major countries, cross-cultural psychology evolved into a much more visible field than held true in prior years, and American psychology finally began to show a certain amount of interest in ideas and research initiated in other regions of the world. At the same time psychologists began to get more involved in nongovernmental organizations represented at the United Nations. For instance, they helped to include mental health and well-being, and the promotion of the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, among the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals for 2016-2030. Nevertheless, the impact of international psychology organization on the lives, research practices, professional activities, and teaching interests of the world's more than one million psychologists and on their students has often been limited in scope and for some barely visible.



In this context, let me introduce three rather idiosyncratic suggestions that might be helpful in strengthening this impact. These should be understood as going beyond the usual organizational efforts and activities that leaders of international psychology associations are expected to perform.

³⁵ **Uwe P. Gielen, Ph. D.**, was an ICP representative at the United Nations in 1985-1991, served as Editor (together with Leonore L. Adler and Noach A. Milgram) of ICP's 50th anniversary volume in 1992, served as its President in 1994-1995, and was the editor of ICP's journal *World Psychology* in 1995-1997. In 2017, he received ICP's Fukubara Advanced International Psychology Research and Service Award.

(1) Internationalize the teaching of psychology. Many psychology courses are taught on the basis of textbooks that tend to present a largely westernized, “rich-country” view of a given area, with contributions from nonwestern experts and in languages other than English being routinely ignored. This is simply not good enough for our students, who will need to function in a globalized world where they are likely to interact with peers, competitors, potential spouses, bosses, and clients from a broad variety of cultural and multicultural backgrounds. In this context, international psychology organizations should set up teaching committees that supervise the review of pertinent literature, provide useful practical advice to their teaching members, and critically evaluate ethnocentric textbooks. In addition, several volumes have recently appeared with practical advice for psychology instructors desirous of internationalizing their courses (e.g., Rich, Gielen, & Takooshian, 2017).

(2) Support organizational efforts to link our discipline to other disciplines. If psychology is to have a real impact in many arenas of life, its proponents need to work together with economists, political scientists, historians, health scientists, anthropologists, and other professionals. Solving large-scale practical problems almost always requires that we cross disciplinary borders and listen to those who endorse perspectives different from our own ones, are asking different questions while attempting to answer them with the help of methods insufficiently known to us, rely on different intuitions about what truly counts in public and private life, and prefer more extended time horizons than many psychologists do. International psychology organizations should endorse organizational strategies that encourage interdisciplinary cooperation such as forming broadly based and problem-oriented committees, initiate joint meetings with non-psychologists, and encourage awareness of different disciplines among their members.

(3) Help psychologists foreground fundamental worldwide problems such as global climate changes and unsustainable population increases. When in the 1980s scientists and the public began to seriously confront the possibility of global climate changes, it was still unclear how rapidly these changes might progress and how central the role of humans might be in causing them. In the meanwhile it has become clear to scientists that global

warming is accelerating, sea temperatures are rising, coral reefs are dying, glaciers are rapidly melting away, and human activities are causing most of these changes. Moreover, scientists are now worried about the serious threat of a catastrophic, uncontrollable and potentially irreversible greenhouse effect that would have a disastrous impact on the lives of our children and grandchildren. In my humble opinion, every international psychology organization is morally obligated to explore and support public policies that can help slow down and counteract the highly dangerous warming process. Social psychologists, for instance, could clarify the often misguided process of opinion formation and decision-making that induces too many persons such as President Trump, leader of the world's second most polluting nation, to claim that "global warming is a hoax" or, at best, a shaky hypothesis.

Psychology has grown influential in a considerable range of culturally quite varied countries such as, for instance, Argentina, Indonesia, Israel, and the Netherlands. Given this development, we need to broaden and internationalize the field in its theoretical, professional, applied and teaching aspects. This will increase psychology's value to humanity at large while weakening its ethnocentric aspects and the professional tunnel vision it sometimes induces in some of its proponents.

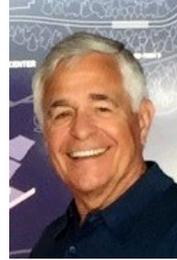
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These Are Tough Times for us Optimists

Milton D. Hakel ³⁶

For me, today's world looks too much like the 1930s, with economic distress, rampant nationalism and ethnocentrism, and threats of economic and military conflict. Oh, yes, don't forget about climate change, migration, rising sea levels, and increasing automation. Then too, consider instant global communication, coupled with high cynicism about political and civic affairs, all compounded by "universal omniscience" – the belief that every person's opinion is as good as anyone else's. Hmm, maybe it's worse than the 1930s. Tough times indeed. What's a psychologist to do?



Well, first off, keep this in mind: *All evils are caused by insufficient knowledge.*

David Deutsch presents this statement as the principle of optimism. He writes, "Optimism is, in the first instance, a way of explaining failure, not prophesying success. It says that there is no fundamental barrier, no law of nature or supernatural decree, preventing progress. Whenever we try to improve things and fail, it is not because the spiteful (or unfathomably benevolent) gods are thwarting us, or punishing us for trying, or because we have reached a limit on the capacity of reason to make improvements, or because it is best that we fail, but always because we did not know enough, in time." (David Deutsch, *The Beginning of Infinity: Explanations that Transform the World*, 2011, p. 212)

Next: *Lighten up and look at the big picture.*

Examine current world-wide levels of long and healthy living, educational attainment, and standards of living, as

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documented in the United Nations *Human Development Reports* (<http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-index-hdi>). Or better yet, see the trends illustrated in Hans Rosling's captivating data-visualization *The Best Stats You've Ever Seen* (www.ted.com/talks/hans_rosling_shows_the_best_stats_you_ve_ever_seen/transcript?language=en).

Much remains to be done –the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals set out 17 challenges to be met by 2030. See them at www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html. These are soluble problems, and research will be needed to solve them. That said, the state of the world has never been better.

And last: *Keep researching for better explanations.*

I use the word “researching” because that is what we do to explain and improve the world. Psychologists have been refining and expanding reliable and useable knowledge for well over a century. Science in general and psychological science in particular claim neither infallibility nor finality. Yesterday's practices and theories have been supplanted by those of today, and they will be supplanted by tomorrow's. We have a long way to go.

Beware of universal omniscience, both as proclaimed in public media (e.g., fake news) and as asserted by expert authorities – all opinions are NOT equally good. Don't let postmodernists and deconstructionists get you down with claims that all ideas, including scientific theories, are conjectures, nothing more than stories. David Deutsch again: “Mixing extreme cultural relativism with other forms of anti-realism, [postmodernism] regards objective truth and falsity, as well as reality and knowledge of reality, as mere conventional forms of words that stand for an idea's being endorsed by a designated group of people such as an elite or consensus, or by a fashion or other arbitrary authority” (p. 314).

Evidence and rationality provide the basis for better opinions, both personal and scientific. So let's get on with improving psychological science.

International Unions: What They Should Be Doing to Advance Psychology and Improve the World

Diane F. Halpern ³⁷

We cannot have a psychology based on data from only one region of the world or only the middle class or only the dominant religious and racial groups. In order to live up to its definition, psychology must be the study of the mind, brain, and behavior of all people. Of course, readers of these essays do not need to be convinced about the imperative of internationalizing psychology.



Although many psychological associations and societies exist, single country or regional groups cannot meet the challenge of creating an international psychology. We need a psychological society that is devoted solely to that purpose. International unions can serve the needs of psychologists, the general public, and national governments and other agencies in multiple ways. Here is my wish list of what an international union will do in the coming decades:

1. An international union will facilitate the exchange of research and treatment ideas, data, and practices across countries and language barriers. For example, what practices have been successful in treating PTSD in different regions of the world or how have psychological principles for learning been successfully applied in different countries and with various ethnic groups? No single researcher has the language abilities to read the literature relevant to their field of knowledge from different countries. An international union will serve as a clearing house which will make the best research available regardless of the language in which it was published so that it can be used by psychologists who are not

³⁷ *Diane F. Halpern, PhD, is Dean of Social Sciences, Emerita, Minerva Schools at KGI, Professor Emerita at Claremont McKenna College, and Past-President of the American Psychological Association (2004).*

able to break the language barriers. This goal could be accomplished in multiple ways including compendia broken down by topical areas that contain research published in different languages translated into a common language. Yes, it will strike many readers as ethnocentric to suggest that one of the common languages used for translations be English, but that is the language of much of science so it is a logical choice. Additional language translations could be made available for the largest language groups.

2. In addition to making the research and practice literature available, an international union would also facilitate the interaction of researchers and practitioners from different regions of the world. International research projects are difficult to conduct because of the distances, differences in laboratory procedures, funding issues, languages used, and many more. Despite the difficulties there is much to be learned when we incorporate diverse practices and procedures into our research and practice. An international union would maintain an up-to-date list of researchers in different fields who are open to international cooperation. The union would help find funding for international teams and encourage individual governments to make international collaborations a funding priority. Ideally, it would have the expertise to assist with visa and work issues across borders and offer guidelines for successful cooperation such as having clear understandings about maintaining data, confidentiality issues, research and treatment ethics, authorship in publications that might result from collaborations, and the myriad of other issues that inevitably arise.
3. An international union should be a force for good throughout the world. It would freely disseminate best practices (if known) for a range of disorders and applied issues, such as how to treat victims of rape, best practices for neuroscience, recognizing and resisting propaganda, the ethical treatment of participants and other individuals, and much more. It would highlight peaceful practices for resolving differences on the individual, group, and country level. This can be difficult because of cultural and political issues specific to different regions, but it is critical in creating a more peaceful and prosperous world for all.

4. Another essential role for an international union is to maintain focus on cultural, religious, political issues that may be particular to one time and place. Effective counseling for alcoholism or organizing a large company will vary depending on many specific issues. Thus, the goal is to identify what may be universal principles and what may be culture-bound. Contemporary psychologists need to walk the razor edge between overgeneralizing from samples taken in one time and place and failing to use information that was generated in one place at a particular time in history in new contexts.
5. International unions provide a safe place to explore controversies—controversies that can be difficult and intractable such as prejudice against specific groups and cultural barriers to mental health treatment. Thus, it is not a place where difficult questions go unasked because someone will be upset. It will provide a model for responsible and respectful discourse about difficult topics.

I have generated a long list of objectives that will be difficult for any international union to achieve, but the important issues for psychology are not easily addressed with pat answers, glib agreements, photo ops, or insincere smiles and handshakes. If we move toward achieving these goals, psychology will create a legacy of which we can all be proud.

Psychology: An Abysmal Science?

David Y. F. Ho ³⁸

Economics has long been dubbed as a dismal science. If so, psychology may lay claim to being an abysmal science. Let us first take a look at the record of psychology in the U.S., where the psychological establishment dwarfs all those in other countries—a record that may be best depicted as collective impotence.



Witness the deadly shooting in Las Vegas on October 11, 2017, the latest in a seemingly unending repetition of senseless mass slaughters in American society. One noteworthy—and perverse—reaction was the rise in stock prices of firearm companies following the shooting, which means that more people will die from mass shootings in the future.

Even more alarming is what I call the Trump phenomenon. Contrary to what many have said about him, Trump is highly predictable in terms of the consistency of his words and deeds “on many sides,” such as impulsivity, get-even mentality, chauvinism, narcissism, total lack of self-reflection, and other qualities too numerous to catalog. His “America First” smacks of “Deutschland, Deutschland über alles,” the phrase that begins the Deutschlandlied (“The song of Germany”). Americans who voted for Donald Trump shouldn’t be surprised that white supremacists and neo-Nazis, emboldened by their President, have inflamed ethnic tensions. Yet, he was voted to be the U.S. President; even now, he still has a large following. This is what I mean by the Trump phenomenon, one that portends unprecedented perils facing humankind, far more than Trump as a person per se.

³⁸ **David Y. F. Ho, PhD** introduced professional clinical psychology into Hong Kong. He has authored numerous scholarly contributions in psychology, psychiatry, sociology, and education. With extensive multicultural experiences, he has held professorial appointments in various countries in Asia as well as North America. He was the first Asian to serve as President of the International Council of Psychologists.

Confronted with such psychosocial pathologies, psychologists have no answer. Here again is a paradox: A society that has an army of psychologists appears nowhere near to solving its psychosocial problems. Why? It is partly because psychologists, preoccupied with micro phenomena, tend to neglect macro problems relevant to the human condition. Misguided by psychologism, they expend their energies on curative measures (e.g., psychotherapy) rather than on preventive actions (e.g., community-based programs aimed at enhancing the developmental health of individuals and of communities, strategies for tension reduction and peace).

What about outside of America? Psychology has yet to make its mark at the macrolevel, in dealing with societal problems (e.g., crime, poverty, social injustice) or with survival problems confronting humankind as a whole (e.g., overpopulation, pollution, war).

We are now prepared to provide an answer to the question: What is the optimal role of international psychology organizations to address the emerging challenges of the 21st Century? The first point to be acknowledged is that the challenges of the 21st Century are grave, exemplified by the menace of the Trump phenomenon leading to an escalation of tension and strife “on many sides.” The second is the need to formulate strategies for social action that are rational, effective, and possible within the constraints of our limited powers.

Attention should be drawn to the fallacy of panpsychological approaches to solving recalcitrant problems that have their roots in the pathology of the sociopolitical system. Let us examine, for instance, the application of psychology in the realm of mental health. Psychologists are fond of talking about self-actualization. But what is the point of unleashing the individual’s creative potentialities, only to witness that they cannot be fulfilled because of social conditions? How honest is it to say that the individual has unlimited choice, when in fact most people in this world are locked in their situation and are severely limited in what they can choose? Self-actualization is escapism unless it entails active participation in social change.

Finally, I must ask if ICP is ready to take a stand on moral issues and assume responsibility for collective actions to meet the grave challenges of the 21st Century.

International Organizations Can Transform Trauma into Resilience

Ani Kalayjian ³⁹

ICP and other international psychology organizations increasingly face multiple challenges to humanity, both human-made and natural. Multiple traumatic events are occurring more frequently throughout the world, and can adversely affect the communities that experience these events.



Incidents deemed as "traumatic" can take several forms but are generally considered life-threatening and include both natural and human-made disasters, such as earthquakes, war, military occupation, and forced relocation. Exposure to traumatic events is well documented to negatively impact one's psychological wellbeing (Kalayjian & Eugene, 2010). After experiencing a traumatic event, individuals suffering from post-traumatic stress present with disruptions in meaning-making systems, loss of faith, and feelings of helplessness as the result of an inability to manage one's emotions (Kalayjian & Paloutzian, 2010). These can develop into syndromes such as depression, anxiety, acute stress disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder (Kalayjian, 1995). Some level of post-traumatic stress is common following a traumatic event, with PTSD being one of the most prevalent psychiatric diagnoses given to those who have experienced trauma (Kalayjian, 2010). While both post-traumatic stress and PTSD are associated with decreased psychological wellbeing, PTSD is characterized as the more severe disorder with long-term outcomes. According to the *Diagnostic and*

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Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders-5th Edition (DSM-5; American Psychiatric Association, 2013), diagnostic criteria for PTSD include exposure to a traumatic event in which at least two symptoms from each of three symptom clusters are present: (1) intrusive recollections, (2) avoidant/numbing behavior, and (3) physiological hyperarousal lasting more than one month and causing distress or impairment. (American Psychiatric Association, 2013). When left untreated, PTSD symptoms can become chronic and interfere with one's ability to function adaptively in society (Yehuda, 2002).

Psychology and mental health organizations are in a unique position to step into positions of humanitarian action for individuals and communities affected by traumatic events due to their knowledge of mental processes involved in responding to trauma, as well as promoting healing following traumatic events. Humanitarian international psychology is an emerging field that makes use of psychologists' skills with the goal to heal communities either through direct services provided to affected individuals or by training healthcare workers to perform specific jobs and subsequently increase access to healthcare in affected countries (American Psychological Association, 2016). This work is inherently connected to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outlined by the United Nations (2015) which seek to increase global access to education and health, as well as establish peace, justice and strong institutions partnering for peace throughout the world.

ICP has the potential to increase to outreach to communities in distress; or partner with like-minded humanitarian organizations. Such outreach organization is the Association for Trauma Outreach & Prevention (ATOP), Meaningful world. Meaningful world provides an example of humanitarian action applied to global communities affected by trauma. Meaningful world has been committed to serving humanity in over 45 countries and 25 states in USA, fostering healing, instilling peace and justice, and transforming generational and horizontal pain and suffering.

My vision is that all international psychology organizations apply their talents to provide emotional healing around the world, expanding from the office, academia, and the couch to other countries and to tents and camps where refugees are held in distress with helplessness and vulnerability. In addition, I envision

ICP, as well as all international organizations get involved in leadership, ranging from one's country to the United Nations; placing emphasis on preventive policies that promote lasting and real peace, and ensuring that the Millennium Development Goals are not only met, but oneness nurtured and true peace is cultivated within each and every heart.

Can We Become a Psychology for All People?

Kenneth D. Keith ⁴⁰

We know what we are, but know not what we may be.
--William Shakespeare

As an undergraduate in the 1960s, I had little visionary sense of psychology. It was a discipline, along with sociology, physics, art, mathematics (my major), biology, and all the rest. It did not occur to me that the world was divided—into disciplines, courses, semesters, races, nations, religions, and cultures—simply because *homo sapiens* had decreed it so. It was the era of nature *versus* nurture; when our textbooks mentioned other cultures, they often managed to work the word *primitive* into the conversation; and discussions of race frequently involved assertions about comparative IQs. Now, a half-century on, I see things through the lens of experience and (one would hope) a different kind of wisdom than I could muster in those long-ago days. And yet the divisions persist and seemingly proliferate, while at the same time widening and deepening.



Our science is not immune to these divisions, as evidenced by the existence of more than 50 *divisions* within the American

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Psychological Association, development of numerous additional organizations committed to the study of specialized aspects of psychological science, and the rise of indigenous psychologies around the world. Some of these developments are healthy, and some perhaps not. For far too many students, like me and my 1960s classmates, psychology has been essentially American psychology, with the occasional smattering of European thought from people who looked and acted more or less like us.

It was not, of course, the intention of most psychologists to foster division, in the field or in their cultures. Yet when the study of behavior proceeds with apparent oblivion to the role of cultural forces, it should come as no surprise when divisions arise. My friend Walt Lonner recounts a story he heard about a professor who dismissed cultural variation as mere “noise” in his research data. Today we hear plenty of cultural noise, but an increasing number of psychological scientists hear music in that noise, and seek to bring harmony to it.

That harmony, in my view, should be the vision to which we aspire. Not the harmony of unquestioned agreement or acquiescence, but the harmony that could come from a common purpose. I suggest that our common purpose should be a multidimensional integration of psychological science across subdisciplines and across cultures. This need not mean the hegemony of a cross-cultural perspective that minimizes indigenous behaviors and interests, and it need not signal methodological uniformity. There is not one scientific method, nor is there any psychology (including Euro-American) that is not indigenous to the time and place from which it arose.

I am encouraged by the work of scientists who are exploring biological and cultural diversity side by side, by developing work on the genetic-cultural connection, and by those who examine the multiple ways in which cultural context may give rise to behavior. Our vision for the future should include efforts to support research along these lines, and many others consistent with the aim of integrating psychology not only along cultural dimensions, but also along methodological and disciplinary dimensions. In the process, we should be striving to expand our capacity for explanation of behavior—not just describing cross-cultural differences or an imagined biological-psychological dichotomy.

Our teaching no doubt reflects a more globalized approach than it did when I was a student. But there is work to do, not only in terms of the quantity of material to which we expose our students, but also in its qualitative nature. Michael Stevens and his colleagues, for example, have suggested that we speak in terms of contextualized global education—recognizing that many contextual influences (e.g., economic, historical, political, religious) may not be, strictly speaking, cultural, but are nevertheless critical to understanding. And Robert Sapolsky, among others, has demonstrated the importance of conducting science across disciplines. Integration, with the aim of teaching a science of all people, is within reach.

Finally, our efforts to integrate science, across cultures and across disciplines, will be to little avail if we fail to realize the aim of fostering human welfare. The world's most pressing challenges--healthcare, hunger, climate change, global conflict, economic inequality, and more--will be addressed only through changes in *behavior*. Behavior change at multiple levels, whether that of global policy makers, or of ordinary individuals, will be the key to the welfare and survival of our kind. This is the purview of psychology, and it will require a global approach, geographically and intellectually. Although I do not expect to live to see my vision for psychology realized, we have come a long way since the 1960s. Let's hope the students of today will recognize the importance of a global psychology, and that they have the psychological skills to take us another step toward realizing that end.

What is the Role of International Psychology Organizations in Addressing the Emerging Challenges of the 21st Century?

Michael Knowles ⁴¹

This question is profoundly important for the growth and development of psychology, and our answers will shape the content and flavor of psychology in the decades to come. The present article will concern two challenges that international psychology organizations are in a prime position to address substantially.



The first challenge is a product of the fact that psychology has evolved as a discipline along three very different lines of development which is not surprising because each had very separate starting points. (a) One path was scientific and commenced with the establishment of Wilhelm Wundt's laboratory in Leipzig in 1879; (b) one was applied and began around the commencement of the 20th Century with the work of Binet in France and Burt in England in the areas of education and mental health; (c) and one was professional and originated with the founding of the American Psychological Association (APA) in 1892.

While at the beginning there was considerable overlap in these fields of interest as time progressed the divergence between them became greater and greater, as did the difficulties and problems that lay in its wake. Because these have become such a threat to the unity of the discipline they have been described a little more fully in a previous article (Knowles, 2017) but are summarized for today's purposes for two reasons.

The first is because of the magnitude of the threat which will remain unless dedicated positive action is taken to meet the challenge. The second reason is, as described previously, is that

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international psychology organizations through their congresses and conferences seem to be best placed to bring like-minded colleagues together not only to build bridges between the three different movements but also to shape another of the powerful unifying forces for the discipline. This is mainstream psychology which now becomes the principal focus of the present article.

Mainstream Psychology

This section concerns the epistemology of our discipline, the what, the why, and the how of the treasured body of knowledge which defines the profession of psychology and, as intimated, focuses upon the role that congresses and conferences play in its determination. This is because much of the time and energy of international psychology organizations revolve around these scientific conventions, and for many decades those who attended them came mainly from countries across Europe and from North America. Hence, with regard to the nature of mainstream psychology, it could scarcely be otherwise as has been delicately put in relation to one particular area, the “North-America/Europe focus is difficult to overlook” (Boehnke, 2010).

While technically this remark was made in connection with one particular area of our discipline it could have been said about any other and thus about the whole. Some commentators have been blunter and described it as narrow in scope. Others have hit another nerve by highlighting one of its consequences, namely, that what is taught and practiced elsewhere is derivative. But, as the popular saying puts it, times are a-changing. This is illustrated in the following table, based on the experience of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP) for the period between 1990 and 2016.

Table 1. Changing Membership by Region of the International Association of Applied Psychology, 1990-2016, Expressed in Percentages

	Europe	North America	Rest of World
1990	40	40	20
2001	46	30	24
2005	41	32	27
2009	44	26	30
2013	34	22	44
2016	38	24	38

In Table 1, the 1990 distribution shows the Association’s membership as it was then and depicts what it had been for many years beforehand, namely, dominated by European and North American interests. Since then, however, the winds of change have started to blow and be effectively felt so that there has been a continuous increase proportionally in membership from the Rest of the World countries. While this appears to be at the cost of North American participation it should be stressed that the data are only indicative and do not take into account that membership is very much influenced by the location of the Association’s congresses.

In other words, because the last in North American congress was in San Francisco in 1998, the absence of proximity is bound to have affected the above figures. On the other hand, as the next congress will be in Montréal in 2018, the level of North American participation is most likely to rebound so that the tri-partite distribution is bound to become again more evenly distributed across all three regions. Data like this are refreshing because they show that international psychology is undergoing a process of dynamic change as the importance of being part of an international community is being progressively recognized around the world.

The advantages of conference participation are many and include broadening of horizons, especially from increasing awareness of variations in research and practice between countries, making new friends with like-minded colleagues and building collegiate support, networking and establishing research collaboration, and perhaps novel for many, developing a deeper

understanding of culture and its fundamental importance in shaping beliefs, attitudes and behavior.

From the point of view of the present article, however, the greatest value of the congresses and conferences lie in providing the ways and means of fostering the ever-increasing international content of their scientific programs. This is to be seen in the wealth and variety of the topics enveloped by their keynote addresses, symposia, paper and poster presentations, and panel discussions and workshops, especially of organizations such as IAAP, the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS), the International Association of Cross-Cultural Psychology, and the International Council of Psychologists (ICP), as well as regional associations such as the European Federation of Psychologists' Associations (EFPA), the Sociedad Interamericana de Psicología (SIP), and the Asian Psychological Association (APsyA).

The other importance of such events is that they are a primary stepping stone for the participants gaining access to international journals, which can occur in four ways. One, by gaining a better understanding of the scholarly requirements for their articles to be raised to the required level; two, especially for young scholars, by attending Workshops on, for example, 'How to Publish in International Scientific Journals'; by collaborating in a cooperative research project; and four, by becoming being better known and building a research reputation.

Thus, the journals, like the congresses and conferences, hold another of the principal keys to fostering the increasing internationalization of mainstream psychology.

In summary, this article focuses upon two major challenges facing international psychology. One is the diversification of the discipline into three streams of activity which, apart from the huge impetus this has given their growth and development, have severely challenged the unity and identity of the profession. The other is the duopoly of knowledge upon which mainstream psychology is based.

The main thrust of the article is that international psychology organizations through their congresses and conference are playing a major role not only in building bridges between scientific, applied and professional psychology but also in fostering the internationalization of mainstream psychology.

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An Optimal Role for International Psychology Organizations

Ann Marie O'Roark ⁴²

My vision for the science and practice of psychology in the 21st century and optimal roles for a constellation of psychology organizations links to the constellation Sagittarius. Half human-half horse, the myth-wisdom of centaur-archer was preserved by pre-scientists as a major astrological sign. Like Sagittarius, the discipline of scientific psychology aims high. Psychology's arrows target complexities and wellbeing of the human-animal. The goal is understanding and extending species survival, behavior and mental potentials.



One Constant: *Change*

⁴² **Ann Marie O'Roark, PhD, ABAP**, lives in St. Augustine, Florida and continues to provide pro bono consulting services following a 40 year practice in leadership and organizational development. She is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, Divisions 1, 13, 32, 49 and 52, and of the Society of Personality Assessment. Her awards include the International Council of Psychologists, Inc. Frances Mullen Award for Distinguished Contributions to International Psychology and ICP, Inc.

Biosketches of elected leaders in psychology's professional associations are like "klexa"¹ flashcards, capturing changes in psychological specializations and interests of respected leader-scientists. Emphasis shifted from *experimental* and *IQ measurement*, to *academic* education and training, to *applied* attention to work, then citizens' wartime distresses. Today, shifting may be at an apex, a post-*applied era*, fueled by emotionally charged psychologist-advocates for social justice, welfare work, environmental politics, and celebrity-cause health problems. In addition, bio-photos reveal a demographic diversification in elected psychologists. Today's leadership-spotlights shine on women and individuals researching or championing awareness of racial, cultural and/ or interpersonal orientations.

This vision forecasts continuing dramatic shifts across the 83 years remaining in the 21st century. Moreover, the pendulum may follow a "regression to the mean" pattern; and, if *future shock* researchers were on target with their projections, those shifts will increase in "*speed, novelty and complexity.*"

The *business* of a scientific psychology discipline will require that psychologists remember to "tend to the knitting" and not let the discipline become entangled or snared in emotionally appealing aspects of other disciplines, such as social work, environmental salvation, or political-governmental traumas. Therefore, we need the following in the future:

A Constellation of Hierarchical Professional Associations

✚ A Primary International Professional Association. The forum for addressing discipline standards, ethics and knowledge base. Their mission would be to articulate, codify and authorize quality assurance procedures. The Primary Association will emerge in order to consolidate and update the knowledge base upon which psychology as a scientific discipline must be founded.

✚ Each Nation will have a Primary Professional Association that is aligned with the International Primary Professional Association.

❖ *Individuated Psychological Associations.* Interest zones within the discipline, Individuated-associations will be aligned with and monitored by a primary discipline knowledge-base

authority that will develop standards and ethics endorsed and followed by all recognized

- ❖ Intervention and Trauma Associations with multi-specialty Deployment Units

- ✚ Interdisciplinary Linking and Collaboration Association

- Theory Consilience Building between individuated testable models developed in diverse scientific disciplines.

- Multi-disciplinary Deployment Units for missions to assist in immediate traumatic circumstances.

A fundamental hallmark of a scientific discipline will continue to be its methodological research procedures.⁴ A radical increase in international and interdisciplinary streams of research will use artificial intelligence [AI] tools to organize the confluence of multitudes of streams. AI clearing houses for access to information about problems diagnosed by practitioner psychologists will enrich treatment plans and intervention strategies.

Individuated specialization theories will flourish. Lifespan “models” will guide formulations that address human life from birth, through final stages of maturation and development. Individuation theories, “the realization of a phenomenon’s unique potential”⁵ will link with related theory in interdisciplinary and international streams of research, moving toward consilience,⁶ a merging of information developed in silo specializations.

Pre-scientists concocted myths about gods and demons, archiving their insights about human nature in constellations mapped in the sky. Future scientists will communicate through media to connect with people who need to utilize their knowledge. That may sometimes occur in graphic books, and certainly through electronic social media. However, this should not mean projecting psychology as a god, a cure-all, or rescuer. Chiron of the Sagittarius constellation illustrates the mind-body range of psychological research. Unlike Chiron who sacrificed himself to rescue Prometheus from punishment for giving fire to humans, psychology’s practitioners are not obligated to become firefighters. Scientific risk-taker-researchers develop advanced mind-body tools of insight for use by others specialized in cultural, social and environmental sciences. Some will volunteer for field work with Multi-Disciplinary Deployment Units.

Sagittarius Ψ The Archer. The zodiacal constellation Sagittarius represents the centaur Chiron. Most of the centaurs were regarded in myth as bestial- they were, after all, half horse. However, the ancient Greeks had a great deal of respect for the horse, and so were reluctant to depict the centaurs as entirely bad. In fact, Chiron was renowned for his gentleness. He was an excellent archer, musician, and physician, and tutored the likes of Achilles, Jason, and Hercules. The latter, however, accidentally shot and wounded Chiron. The arrow inflicted great suffering on Chiron--so great, in fact, that even is talented physician could not cure himself. In agony, but as an immortal unable to find release in death, Chiron instead offered himself as a substitute for Prometheus. The gods had previously punished Prometheus for giving fire to man by chaining him to a rock. Each day an eagle would devour his liver, and each night it would grow back. Jupiter, however, had at the request of Hercules agreed to release Prometheus if a suitable substitute could be found. Chiron gave up his immortality and went to Tartarus in place of Prometheus, and in recognition of his goodness, Jupiter placed him in the stars (Paschoff, 1999, p. 139).⁷

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Psychology's Prospect for Being a Global Discipline

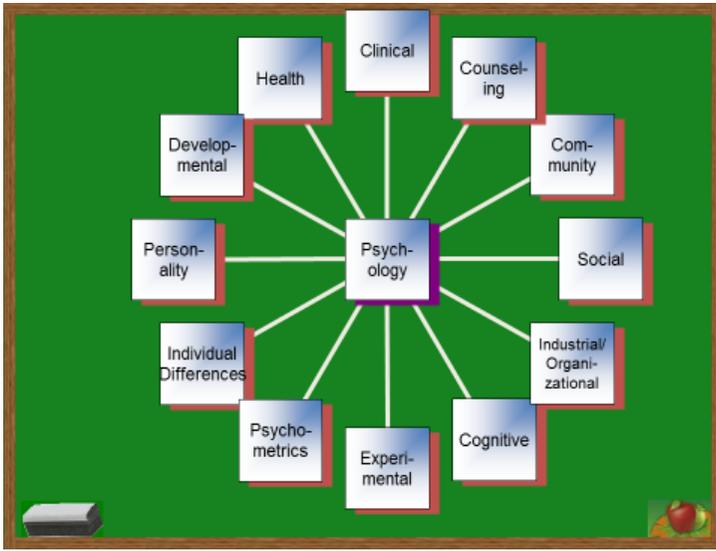
J. Bruce Overmier ⁴³

Psychology as a scientific discipline—long of interest in the Western world since Spencer's "foundation" text (e.g., Spencer, 1855)—is now exploding around the globe (e.g., Wedding & Stevens, 2004). "Exploding" is the apt metaphor for this process because psychology is flinging its different aspects out from the historical scientific laboratory core—the American Psychological Association has recognized more than 50 specialties—into a myriad of specialties and applications. These offer to improve the lives, literally, of billions around the globe (see the prize-winning *LAAP Handbook of Applied Psychology*, 2011). This is illustrated in Fig. 1.



I like to think of the study of perception, motivation, and learning as the central core of modern psychology; in doing so, I hark back to the 19th century and the works of Wilhelm Wundt, Ernst Weber, Gustav Fechner, Hermann Ebbinghaus, James McKeen Cattell, Robert Thorndike, John B. Watson, and Daqi Chen. Of course others might dispute this and put clinical psychology at the core harking back to Pierre Janet, Lightner Witmer, Shoma Morita, Jadunath Sinha. Still others could make the case for applied psychologists such as Francis Galton, Alfred Binet, and Hugo Munsterberg as at the core of psychology. Of course, the historical origins of all psychology can be traced back millennia, for examples, to Roman-Greek questions in the 2nd century C.E. of locating the "mind" in body material (Galen) and to the Indian discussion in the 4th century C.E., *Ashtangabridaya* that describes how spirit and emotions lead to psychosomatic and mental diseases.

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Humans all function in various natural and cultural contexts, and these environmental factors cannot help but shape the human cognitive processes, cognitions, and resultant behaviors. This is the domain of cross-cultural psychology. Thus, indigenization of psychology capturing these environmental factors is appropriate—even necessary—for an effective modern psychology and its adaptations around the world. “Yet indigenization and internationalization need not be inherently incompatible. Solutions for advancing the discipline toward both must come from within the locally-based discipline. There is considerable strength within the indigenous psychologies tailored to the local culture. They share a common perspective on methodology and goals with psychologies from other majority-world countries (Adair, 2007, p. 23).

Nonetheless, despite the potential for multicultural origins of modern psychology, psychology as currently taught is relatively uni-cultural. This is sometimes bemoaned, but I argue that humans share a common biology and that there is a large common core to human motivations, emotions, and behavior that should be of interest to all members of the human family and, to the extent that behavior is lawful, many core principles of psychology should have worldwide applicability. Moreover, this should increase as modern

societies meet, integrate, and develop common social and functional structures, as is occurring more and more.

Psychology commonly describes itself as the “science of behavior,” and as a science, it should be cumulative and have sets of established and recognized principles and laws that all psychologists know. Knowing these psychologists, should then be able to function in any institutional setting in the world.

That is how the science of physics works. Although there are a variety of specialties in physics, all physicists know dozens of constructs and basic laws across the spectrum. For example: in Mechanics there are Newton’s three laws of Motion and Hooke’s Law; there are Laws of Thermodynamics; in Fluids there are Bernoulli’s Law and osmotic pressure; for Gases there are Boyle’s Law and Stokes’ Law; in Optics the concepts for concurrence of particle and wave forms of light; in Electricity and Magnetism there are Ohm’s Law, Coulomb’s Law; in Quantum physics Heisenberg’s Uncertainty Principle, electron shells; and on and on. Any physicist trained anywhere in the world can tell you about *all* of these and, hence, can work and communicate as a physicist anywhere in the world.

Alas, the same cannot be said of psychologists trained around the world; indeed, they often cannot even communicate with those trained elsewhere in their own country due to specialization within very narrow areas and without a common solid grounding in the historical and scientific cores of psychology. In some countries, clinical practice is being “trained” as a simple set of procedures and techniques with no education to provide understanding of the empirical foundations of those procedures and techniques.

Specialization needs to be recognized as a divisive force in our discipline narrowing the individual’s knowledge, methods, content of journals, contacts at meetings, and even impeding respect for other areas of psychology and fostering ignorance of what those other areas can teach—even about the specialization itself. Of course, specialization can be understood as arising from (a) trying to understand deeply the determinants of mind and behavior and (b) trying to meet the special needs of those persons we serve—worthy causes, indeed. But it comes at a cost to the discipline as a whole. And, it accounts in part for why psychologists often do not and cannot communicate with each other.

The lack of common language of constructs in psychology and lack of common core knowledge interfere with transnational mobility of psychologists. Yet, such mobility is desired by many psychologists around the world. The inability to communicate effectively impedes our using psychology internationally to address the global “grand challenges” before us. International psychology organizations such as International Union of Psychological Science (and indeed broader ones such as the International Council of Science) try to represent all of psychology and bring its many aspects to bear on the global challenges. There are basic discoveries in psychological science waiting for adoption and adaptation as applications to meet humanity’s needs. But only when we psychologists get our own house in order and become a coherent international discipline can psychology play its role as full partner in addressing the world’s grand challenges. International psychological organizations can play a key role in this by setting basic knowledge expectations, educational standards, and guiding licensing for scope(s) of practice for psychologists.

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International Psychology: Opportunity and Challenge

Kurt Pawlik ⁴⁴

Transnational perspectives have a long tradition in psychology. Ever since the first International Congress of Psychology (ICP), 1889 in Paris, exchange and cooperation among psychologists from different language areas and different cultures became recognized as indispensable for the development of psychology as a science and profession. The experimental study of human learning, memory and cognition confirmed the profound functional universality of human behavior.



Yet this is paralleled by equally profound diversity, within and between cultures, in content, context and contingencies of human behavior. Similarly, demands on (and opportunities for) psychological expertise vary greatly within and between societies. International psychology builds on the interplay between functional universality and indigenous diversity of human behavior as we travel around the world. And it builds up knowledge and capacity to enable psychology to play a supportive and guiding role in this, from the individual level up to levels of public policy and governance*.

To this end, ways had to be sought that will provide for continuous cross-national transfer, cooperation and exchange, both within the discipline and beyond. Here psychology followed two approaches, which in a productive way proved complementary to each other:

(i) by establishing international associations of *individual* psychologists working in the same field (like applied psychology, cross-cultural or neuropsychology) or region (like Latin America or

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Africa); and, in the tradition that grew out of the 1st ICP back in 1889 and following the UNESCO recommendation to all sciences:

(ii) by founding one single worldwide *International Union of Psychological Science* (IUPsyS) covering all fields of psychology, its members being *national psychological societies* (associations, committees, etc.), each one representing the full breadth of psychology in any one country.

Many type-one associations chose affiliation with the Union (as the International Council of Psychologists did in 1961) for a multitude of purposes: international scientific exchange via media and on-site (from regional to global scale); regional psychological capacity building; programs for promoting young psychologists internationally; establishing worldwide standards of professional ethics and competencies in psychology; and other more specific tasks.

In my view and experience, this twofold mode of approach proved of great advantage to international psychology as interactive source and toolbox for bringing our science to bear at transnational levels, while also being in accord with other sciences and international governance. Present-day economic and political globalization asks for multicultural orientation at all levels, psychology included. Examples are numerous, such as coping with new forms of mass-migration (ever so often in greatest despair), new developments in demographic and technological change, or social conflict originating in differing value systems. International psychology still needs to make more progress also within the UN system to bring its professional knowledge and ability to bear upon global problems. If other sciences have been more effective than psychology in this, it also relates to one grave deficit: In many countries, psychology still is not considered an obligatory part of 'general education', is still not a regular subject in high-school education. What an anachronistic pity: How can we ever expect psychological competence to play its role in international governance, if such knowledge is not shared, not offered by way of a standard school subject everywhere, like other basic cultural competencies. Surely working toward this goal must become a high priority in international psychology as well.

Finally there is still another great agenda for international psychology: to engage our science in solving research problems and

action mandates that extend beyond national boundaries and need to be dealt with at transnational levels: Global climate change (so-called global warming) is a pertinent example, loss of species diversity or risks for human security would be others. Typically research on such topics is not only transregional (up to transcontinental), but also multidisciplinary in nature and scope, involving multiple causation and effects, many of them of a human nature. So international psychology was able to play an active role in climate-change research from early onwards, in world-wide networking through IUPsyS membership in the International Social Science Council (ISSC) and the International Council of Science (ICSU). International psychology must stay responsive to expectations of neighboring sciences, for taking our part in meeting pressing global research needs for a better tomorrow.

I close with this hope and vision: that more and more colleagues around the world will become inspired to contribute to the challenging tasks and opportunities in international psychology!

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Challenges and Opportunities for Psychology in a “Glocal” World: What Can International Psychology Organizations Contribute?

José M. Peiró ⁴⁵

Globalization is a current trend that is producing important changes and challenges in many facets of nature, human life and societies. A number of technological developments, socioeconomic and demographic changes, human capital mobility, transformation of ideologies and value systems, sociopolitical dynamics, and social media and connectivity of people represent important factors in the transformation of current societies. Moreover, local and regional communities are very diverse and local realities are also significant for the wellbeing and human life of individuals, groups and communities.



Thus, ‘glocal’ demands are posed to Psychology as a scientific discipline and profession. For instance, the contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN and its development and implementation in the different regions of the globe requires combining global and local approaches.

Psychology in itself is experiencing important changes in its nature as a science, an academic discipline and a profession. In this context, the appropriate balance of the disciplinary and professional identity and diversity of Psychology in the international scene is a key challenge. During the last decades, the awareness of differences in psychology across regions has increased and these differences may be, at least partly, explained by contextual, socioeconomic, political, cultural and legal factors, as well as historical traditions.

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At the same time, scientific and professional mobility, international professional markets, global communication media, international scientific and professional associations, world or regional scientific events, international cooperation promote a higher visibility, identity, image and reputation of psychology worldwide. The current situation is, therefore, a complex one and results from a dynamic tension between centrifugal and centripetal forces. In a context where globalization is increasing, the question about the identity or identities of psychology, both as a science and as a profession, is more relevant than ever. This dynamics has become even more complex in recent decades when psychology has spread across the world. During this growth process, different traditions, especially cultural and linguistic, have predominated in different regions with the result that the landscape has been enriched with the emergence of indigenous psychology movements.

The strong development of new information and communication technologies provides new opportunities to achieve a 'glocal' approach. The growth of electronic publications, the increasing possibilities of virtual team-work, opportunities for virtual cooperation and education, as well as virtual conferencing, may contribute to a more shared view and to a global identity for psychology. This virtual reality also facilitates the development of cross-national and cross-disciplinary networks in science and professional practice, the cooperation of professional bodies and organizations and scientific associations.

The mission of psychology aiming to promote wellbeing, human and social development, and the quality of life through scientific research and development and through professional interventions is shared worldwide. To promote the fulfillment of this mission it is important to acknowledge the critical role of culture, socioeconomic, legal, linguistic and historical factors, in the scientific study of Psychology and in an evidence-based professional practice. What grounds a scientist-practitioner model in professional practice is scientific evidence, which may be understood differently depending on whether we consider psychological science as producing both universal and contextualized knowledge.

Thus, international organizations of Psychology may contribute to identifying the essential core that promotes a global

identity of psychology while also paying respect to regional and cultural ways of understanding, producing and implementing psychological knowledge, tools, methods, and services. This challenge requires attention and debate.

The identity of Psychology is acknowledged by large groups of people, societies and cultures around the world. Evidence-based practice is also an important inspiring principle for professional interventions. So, many customers, clients and actors involved in educational systems, policy makers, governments, NGOs, social agents, and international bodies around the world identify the services and contributions of psychology and acknowledge its scientific nature. In this context, the processes of socialization and training of new scientists and professionals in the discipline and the dissemination of psychological knowledge among a broader interested public are important to develop both the identity and the productive diversity of psychology around the world.

In this endeavor, information and communication technologies (ICT) have an extensive and intensive impact in areas such as scientific communication systems, virtual interaction and cooperation among institutions and individuals around the world, and the offer of worldwide on-line or blended education programs. The increased availability of information about psychology curricula and of information offered on university web-sites are excellent sources that can help to improve access to better psychology education in many regions of the world. Yet another possibility offered by ICT is the development of electronic platforms and repositories with which to communicate and exchange teaching experiences, methods, course design, research outputs, etc. International organizations of Psychology that have a worldwide membership represent an important human and social capital worldwide. ICT provide new opportunities to facilitate effective cooperation among these actors in internationalizing and improving education in Psychology.

The increasing mobility of students, teaching staff, researchers and professionals also brings opportunities for international organizations to promote the internationalization of Psychology. Regional and international travel, particularly related to research and study visits, has increased considerably over the last decades and seems likely to continue to do so in the near future. Networking among the members of international associations may

facilitate the mobility of scientists, academics, students and practitioners analyzing the conditions that would guarantee the quality of research, education, and practice in the different contexts. Moreover, promoting contacts among universities from different regions could contribute to the submission of joint applications for travel and cooperation related to existing international programs, such as Erasmus Mundus, Atlantis, etc. Finally, facilitating multicultural enrollment of students and the exchange of scholars in psychology programs may foster and promote international awareness and cooperation within the national contexts.

Global and international demands for psychological knowledge and professional practice are also growing and represent another source of opportunities for international associations. For instance, the international profile of psychology research and professional intervention is growing and diversifying in a number of fields, as witnessed by the worldwide consultancy firms in Work and Organizational Psychology, psychologists working in International Non-Governmental Organizations and in World Organizations such as UN, WHO, World Bank, UNESCO, ILO, in missions across the world. In this context International Psychology organizations may be supportive of international programs to facilitate the education of psychologists for these international profiles (e.g., organizing meetings of Directors of International Psychology Programs). They can also identify new demands in the international practice of psychology and formulate guidelines for institution delivering international Psychology programs.

Opportunities also arise from the growing interest of psychologists in international participation. Especially students and young scholars are becoming more and more active in regional and international associations and organize their own congresses, workshops and “schools.” All these initiatives are opportunities for well-established international associations to reach broader audiences and actors in many regions of the world. Supporting and promoting international “schools” and seminars for PhD students and young researchers in cooperation with universities in different disciplines of psychology could promote the emergence of research networks across countries and cross-fertilize teaching and research experiences through exchange of good practices.

The growing diaspora of psychologists coming from a region and working in another one is also an important asset in the challenge of internationalization of Psychology. Such psychologists are likely to have a rich experience in cross-cultural research, professional practice, education and training. This experience may be a great capital. International associations could identify, analyze and disseminate these contributions in promoting cross-national cooperation.

Finally, the increasing number of countries where research on psychology is being carried out is also an important asset for internationalization. The number of published articles with data obtained from countries other than those in North America or Western Europe is growing and represents a rich source of knowledge to extend psychology's theoretical models and empirical evidence obtained. As the evidence available is increasingly international, future meta-analyses should systematically incorporate country variables in their studies and identify differences derived from cultures in the pursuit of psychological scientific knowledge. International Associations promote these trends in their own journals and could stimulate "cross-cultural research incubators" and other initiatives to facilitate international cooperation in research during their congresses. This is especially needed for applied psychology because its practices benefit largely from contextualized research.

Moreover, efforts should be made toward the clarification and formulation of core features, contents and standards of an international framework of professional psychology competences. The development and consensus on the International Competence model for professional practice represents important progress toward the formulation of criteria for quality and standards of educational systems and form common ground for the certification of professional practice.

Thus, International Psychology Associations may contribute to coping with some relevant challenges of Psychology in the 21st Century in cooperation with other relevant partners. First, they may promote knowledge production and exchange internationally. Here it is important to identify and organize existing information in the different regions of the world with the participation of relevant actors from those regions. Moreover, they may support and stimulate cooperation among relevant actors (institutions and

leading individuals) around the world to facilitate international cross-fertilization and quality of relevant interventions. They should also provide common virtual and physical platforms, for international dialogue among scholars, students, researchers, and professionals and to facilitate international cooperation. The International Association of Applied Psychology, since its foundation in 1920, has been contributing to this important mission and is renewing its commitment in the coming century. Moreover the International Council of Psychologists significantly contributes to the development of Psychology internationally, and is prepared to continue working to successfully answer the new challenges ahead. Congratulations to ICP for its longstanding contributions and achievements.

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Three Proposals for a New Psychology

Antonio E. Puente ⁴⁶

The future of psychology is shaped by our history but also by our vision. Whereas psychology has experienced two great epochs of approximately half a century each, academic and more recently professional. Both serve as a foundation of the beauty of psychology in that we are one of the few societal enterprises where both science and practice come together for the common good of understanding and serving simultaneously. This unique interface not only projects different horizons than is typical but also forces us to address more challenging questions and situations.



In this essay, I will propose three solutions for these challenges with the hopes that the reader will consider, revise, and adapt what could be useful as psychology begins to assume and serve a historically unprecedented leadership in a present world of darkness and chaos.

1. **We must expand.** The focus of psychology as being historically tied closely to European and American heritage must expand beyond a discipline focused on approximately 15% of the world's population. As a consequence, ideas and services must become generalizable to the remaining 85%. In doing so, the foci of psychology should consider two major aspects of mind and behavior. First, an assumption is made that a percentage of what is mind and behavior is biologically determined. According to my mentor, Roger W. Sperry (the first psychologist to win a Nobel Prize), most of it is hardwired, maybe as much as 95%. The remainder, however, is more important. Whereas, the hardwire portion is genetic and sets the foundation, the remainder controls or at least directs the large bulk of who we are. In addition, that portion is cultural, indigenous and affected by both external and

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internal stimuli. Furthermore, the 5% is what is not only psychological but what is most important. And it is here that we must put our resources and our hopes for understanding, as Freud said, the “riddles of life”.

2. **We must deliver.** Psychology is one of the most popular courses in high school and one of the most popular majors in college. For example, in the United States alone, over one million students enroll in a psychology course each year. Similarly, psychological science is expanding at an unprecedented rate, with the corpus of knowledge in the American Psychological Association PsychInfo now exceeding 4 million abstracts. Many of those have been emerging from outside of the US. Despite this explosive growth of psychology, we find a paucity of widely accepted theories which were so prevalent during psychology’s first century. Moreover, again despite this unforeseen germination, our world is plagued with darkness and chaos. During the last year, we have seen mass shootings, immigration problems across the globe, a rise in racist nationalism, xenophobia, misogyny, and a continuing shift toward corporate profits instead of focusing on individual suffering. The question becomes, what has psychology delivered to better understand and resolve these problems? The internal validity of our discipline is no longer sustainable. We have no choice but to deliver better understanding of these and related issues and to provide the services and leadership that can replace the institutions that have historically provided them.

3. **We must integrate.** Finally, psychology has been considered as a discipline involving pedagogy, service and science. However, we often consider each of those in a silo fashion, not interfacing with each other. Some of us engage in one of these activities but not many of us consider engaging in all three of them simultaneously. In doing so the importance and impact of each increases and the resulting outcome will be substantial. The practice of considering what we do in one realm while ignoring its impact and value to the other two is no longer sustainable. In this context, psychology brings as its core its methodology and science. As we move forward in an integrated fashion, the single and binding value is science. Science has no bias and produces the knowledge necessary to make critical moral decisions. The

challenge will then become not how we produce our corpus of knowledge but what we do to make the moral decisions facing our society and planet. Once this proposed integration occurs, then our next horizon will be how to deal with the data that have been produced to make the best decisions for our future. In this decision-making process, we cannot rely on the promises of such things as artificial intelligence to guide us toward the next phase of psychological history.

The psychology of the present is unsustainable in a world plagued with darkness and chaos. It is our time, it is our duty to replace prior paradigms for robust ones that will address and remediate the difficulties that we are presently facing.

International Positive Psychology and Positive Education

Martin Seligman ⁴⁷

I hate to say it, but in my opinion, international psychological organizations have been quite impotent, accomplishing lots of talk, but much less action than they might. This may stem from psychologists' proclivities to do "process" rather than "outcome." So my limited international experience has been quite action-oriented.



The two most significant international endeavors that I have been part of are the International Positive Psychology Association and the International Positive Education Network.

IPPA. In 1998 I was president of the American Psychological Association and my most lasting initiative was "Positive Psychology." In addition to identifying and relieving what cripples mental life, Psychology should, I argued, identify and build what makes life worth living—happiness. The elements of happiness in my view are Positive emotion, Engagement, good

⁴⁷ *Martin Seligman, PhD, of the University of Pennsylvania, was President of the American Psychological Association in 1998.*

Relationships, Meaning, and Accomplishment (PERMA). There are now thousands of scientists and practitioners across the globe who call themselves Positive Psychologists and who work on measuring and building PERMA.

In response to the popularity of Positive Psychology, the International Positive Psychology Association (IPPA-www.ippanetwork.org) was formed and held its first World Congress in 2009 in Philadelphia, with more than 1,000 delegates from more than 30 nations. This congress is now held every other year. In 2017, the fifth was held in Montreal with over 1,200 attendees from more than 50 nations. The sixth will take place in Melbourne July 18-21, 2019. Twenty national Positive Psychology Associations now have a total membership that is well into the thousands and comes from more than 70 nations. IPPA's mission is:

- To promote the science of positive psychology and its research-based applications.
- To facilitate collaboration among researchers, teachers, students, and practitioners of positive psychology around the world and across academic disciplines.
- To share the findings of positive psychology with the broadest possible audience.

IPEN. "Positive Education" grew up as the educational outlet of Positive Psychology.

What would the fulcrum for the growth of PERMA be? Our children, of course, so the teaching of Positive Psychology in the schools and colleges became a central goal. Could school children learn happiness in school and how would their increased well-being influence their academic studies?

Research and practice on this question have flourished. Hundreds of schools across at least one dozen nations now teach and embody Positive Education. In response, IPEN, the International Positive Education Network www.ippanetwork.org, formed in 2015.

Its mission is to bring together teachers, parents, academics, students, schools, colleges, universities, charities, companies, and governments to promote positive education. Its goals are to

support collaboration, change education, practice, and reform government policy.

IPEN held its first World Congress in Dallas in July 2016, with 800 educators from more than thirty nations. Its second World Congress will take place in Dallas in June 2018.

My fondest personal hope is that building human flourishing, and not just alleviating suffering, will become a guiding principal of political and religious life in the future, and that by 2051, 51% of the world's population will be flourishing by PERMA measures.

In summary, the challenge of international organizations in psychology is not to talk but to find action items—centered on science, not on political fads—which are common ground for all psychologists.

What Can Psychological Science Contribute in the 21st Century?

Robert J. Sternberg ⁴⁸

I entered the study of psychology at a time (1968) that was tremendously exciting. At the university where I studied (Yale), Leonard Doob was investigating psychology in Africa, Bob Abelson was studying political psychology, Irving Janis was formulating his theory of groupthink. In another strong department, Harvard, David McClelland was studying achievement motivation, Jerry Kagan was exploring child-rearing in Guatemala, Bob Rosenthal was looking at the damage self-fulfilling prophecies can inflict in schools. At Cornell, Urie Bronfenbrenner was recognizing the centrality in our lives of the embedded contexts in which we all live. All of these psychologists had lived through World War II,



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and they knew what was at stake for the future of our planet. I mention all this because my guess is that none of these distinguished scientists would be hired by these institutions today—they were not, first and foremost, neuroscientists or strict experimentalists. They had bold, big ideas, but such ideas often do not go far in today's world of psychological science. Quite the contrary. And that's a problem.

The world is facing enormous and, in many cases, frightening problems, such as climate change, pollution, poverty and income disparity, hate and prejudice, the risk of nuclear war, terrorism, and the rise of illiberal and, in some cases, evil leaders around the world. The United States has proven itself not to be immune—far from it. Where and how present is psychology in dealing with the pressing problems of the world? In my view, it is further away from confronting the challenges facing the world than it has been perhaps at any time in its history. There are organizations (such as ICP!) and people within and outside those organizations that are rising to the challenges facing the world today. But the dominant paradigms have shifted away from the world in which we live to the world of laboratory settings that are about as far removed as they could be from the current challenges facing the world. Leading departments such as Yale and Harvard largely have gone “neuro,” which would be fine if somehow there were a close connection between such work and global challenges. At present, I believe many and probably most of the connections are small and remote. There are scholars who are exceptions in these and other departments, but the main direction is clear.

Of course, in basic science, connections to world challenges often are remote. That is fine. We need basic science, including neuroscience and all the other basic disciplines of psychological science, and we need scientists who are seeking to do good but in the longer term. But we also need to provide a bridge between psychology and the problems facing the world. One could argue that other disciplines will make that bridge. But what discipline is better equipped to do the bridging than psychology? Envy of biology and other hard sciences in itself is not a negative, but it is not clear that we have a lot of time to address the serious problems in the world while we emulate biologists.

The rebellion of many of the have-nots who have been attracted to toxic leaders in the United States and elsewhere tells us

that time may be running out. Civilized society, which seemed to have moved so far in the era after the Enlightenment and especially after World War II, is backsliding. Hate groups are on the rise, would-be dictators are popping up all over the world, and some of them, as in Venezuela, are taking over countries. If we do not rise up to confront these challenges, the challenges will rise up and confront us. Research funding will be gone and we will have invited not only our own financial bankruptcy, but also our moral and intellectual bankruptcy as well.

These may sound like harsh words. But can anyone look at what is happening every single day in, say, the United States, and not feel a sense of alarm—at least a glimmering that publishing another article whose main purpose is our own professional advancement just will not fill the bill in terms of what is needed right now? I believe we need to rise to the challenge of backsliding civilization before we are left, like Pastor Niemöller, with no one to save us because the forces of nihilism had not yet “come for us.” Those forces are coming and ducking our heads in our laboratories will not head them off. There is still time—I hope.

International Psychology's Critical Roles in Global Change and Benefit

Chris E. Stout ⁴⁹

Globalization is upon us all, no matter where we live or what we do. This interconnectedness will likely become more ubiquitous and deeply ingrained into our lives—sometimes to our benefit, sometimes to our harm. Psychology holds both a unique role and keen responsibility on the world stage via the diverse venues in which our work is done.



As this author has noted, “Without mental health, there is no health. Many public health factors, such as violence, substance abuse and obesity, are behavioral. Mental health is on par with physical health in determining the person's quality of life, productivity and mortality rates; yet, there is a perplexing disconnection between behavioral health and primary care. In addition, people's psychosocial well-being is greatly affected by poverty and unemployment, which we know are barriers to creating social development. If it is not addressed, risk of trauma is heightened from conflict, war and terrorism. There has been increasing recognition within the United Nations system of the negative social and economic impact of impaired mental health and

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mental illness. The secretary general's report to the 48th General Assembly made recommendations based on research findings that served as a basis for courses of action for governments to consider.”

Much psychological research has been done that is focused on avoiding conflict. When we consider what leads to wars, psychology is at the forefront of understanding root causes—be it obedience to authority or simple passivity. Another well-supported theory is that of circumstance. This idea holds that war is less the result of malevolent dictators or the actions of inhumane ethnic or religious zealots, but rather disproportionate and unfair socioeconomic circumstances, a generally dangerous or unsafe environment, and real or perceived risk of physical harm or loss to one's self, family, property or community.

The link from war to poor health is clear: Wars kill and injure soldiers and civilians. They also destroy infrastructure and social structures. Both cases produce adverse effects on the population's general health. What's less obvious is that there's also evidence of the reverse effect of health on war. Combatants in today's wars are often the socially excluded, even if they only act as proxies for more socially advantaged groups. Poor health shortens people's lifespan, making them more likely to engage in risky behavior. Conversely, strong democracies with broad support from healthy populations are less likely to engage in conflict. To prevent war, we might look more closely at the means to bring health and social stability to poor countries.

Research has indicated there is a distinct relationship between health and economics. At the microeconomic level, improved health status is associated with economic growth. The most direct mechanism that explains this effect is the fact that improved health increases productivity and reduces worker absenteeism. Most notably, research suggests that the effects of improved health are probably greatest for the most vulnerable – the poorest and the least educated. Ill health, including poor mental health, leads to vicious spirals, aggravating insecurity and decreasing the return on all investments in the future by reducing the economic productivity. This leads to isolation from the global economy, where connectivity is the key to prosperity.

I believe that psychology is one of the most culturally mindful health care professions. Our undergraduate and graduate

training incorporates a cultural competence and literacy in all that we do. This is particularly important in these more globalized times when we find ourselves working in different cultures and with immigrant or refugee populations.

How Can Psychological Scientists Best Partner with Policy-Makers?

Harold Takooshian ⁵⁰

Through the centuries, humanity has always struggled to overcome challenges. This 21st Century is no exception, as we see dire new forms of violence and suffering across the globe. What can our psychology organizations do to be a positive influence in this struggle? I respectfully offer seven points below to consider - three positive points followed by three cautionary questions and one suggestion.



1. **Behaviors.** If social problems are rooted in human behaviors - violence, prejudice, unhealthy life styles - then the solutions can also be behavioral.

2. **Scientists.** From the start in 1879, the magical appeal of psychology is that it can apply objective scientific methods to examine human relations, helping us to better understand and address negative behaviors.

3. **The public.** Since the 1990s, the number of psychologists has "exploded" outside North America, so the concepts of psychological science and practice ("psychological literacy") are spreading globally, to the general public across many of the world's more than 200 nations.

But in my view there are three cautionary issues as well.

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4. **Scientific roots?** As psychology has moved outside the laboratory in the past century -into schools, clinics, courts and corporations - how much are we psychologists losing our scientific roots as we deal with real-world issues?

5. **Advocacy?** Thomas Huxley opined that "Science commits suicide when it adopts a creed." When our psychology organizations are drawn into becoming advocates for specific social values that may not be based on research, are we trading our public image as nonpartisan scientists for an image as partisan advocates, who stifle "politically incorrect" views among us?

6. **Image?** To be taken seriously by policy-makers and the public when discussing social issues, can our psychology organizations combine the roles of scientist and advocate, or should these two roles somehow be kept separate? Can science remain a free and nonpartisan referee above the "culture wars," rather than an active participant on the ground?

It is notable that when the United Nations was formed in 1945, only a few psychology organizations from 1945-2000 accepted the UN invitation to register as a "Non-Governmental Organization" (NGO) with the UN. One of them was ICP. But between 2000-2011, over 10 major organizations (including APA, IAAP, SIOP) quickly registered with the UN, and have now formed a "Psychology Coalition" at the UN. [See Note 1 below.] In 2016, many of us psychologists who now serve this Coalition saw UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon accept a bold new 18-page report on how our behavioral science can aid in the UN mission to promote its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). [2] This report is available on-line [3]. I suggest this may well serve as a roadmap for how psychology organizations can partner with policy-makers to promote positive social changes in the coming century.

*Notes: 1. UN Psychology Coalition:

<http://psychologycoalitionun.org>

2. United Nations SDGs:

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>

3. behavioral science at the UN:

www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/development-impact/behavioural-insights-at-the-united-nations--achieving-agenda-203.html

On the Role of International Associations in Cross-Cultural Communication

Fons J. R. van de Vijver⁵¹

We live in an era where globalization has met boundaries and where it has become clear that globalization is more beneficial for the more affluent and educated groups in Western societies. How can we proceed from here? What role can international associations of professionals play in these dynamics? The emphasis in my contribution is on cross-cultural psychology (as the current President of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology, although the views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the Association). In my view communication within, with and by international associations is pivotal to achieve its international role.



It is easy to become overwhelmed by the recent waves of nationalism and ethnocentrism in many parts of the Western world and to think that globalization is heading toward a crisis or even coming to an end. However, this viewpoint is myopic in nature in my view. International trade has never been bigger, multinational companies have never been more powerful. My focus here is narrower and deals with opportunities for intercultural communication. Social media have been able to organize individuals within neighborhoods, cities, regions, and national boundaries, but also across national boundaries. The amazing new infrastructure that has become available in the last decades to reach out to people, not just in affluent countries, but also in remote places, offers tremendous opportunities for international associations. This infrastructure is already used but can be extended

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much more in the future to achieve the aims of the international associations: facilitating communication within the association and discipline (internal function) and facilitating communication with other disciplines and policy makers in various parts of the world (external function).

The internal role of communication in international associations is very important. These associations can create a sense of belonging, professional identity, and serve various other functions beyond their obvious role in communicating about relevant developments in the association and the field. What I find particularly powerful in this communication is the amazing reach of communication tools, such as home pages, listservs, tweets and Facebook groups linked to international associations. In many countries where psychology is underdeveloped or fledgling, a good line of communication with local psychologists is essential to help them build up the discipline and profession in their countries. International conferences serve the same purpose although they are often easier to observe as people physically meet and discuss their work. International associations play a pivotal role in providing a community of peers from multiple countries with a common focus and interest. Communication with colleagues abroad can help to exchange knowledge (so as to gain mutual understanding of local issues), set up new studies, etcetera. It is my experience that modern facilities, such as videoconferencing, file sharing systems, and computerized test administration tools are still underutilized. The International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology has a tradition of organizing schools back-to-back with their international conferences. The social consequences of these schools have been tremendous by helping to build friendships, collaborative networks, and long-lasting links with the cross-cultural community. For extending a discipline to new parts of the world, all these ways of communication are essential. These schools overcome an important limitation of much current digital communication in associations, which is unidirectional and goes from officers in the association to members, although a more bidirectional interaction is desirable, yet hard to achieve.

External communication is equally important. This communication not only refers to other organizations within psychology but also, and primarily, communication with external parties, such as policy makers. Some professional organizations

have been successful in seeking contacts with international bodies, such as UNHCR and the European Commission. A good example is the Society for Research in Child Development. What I see in cross-cultural psychology is that several colleagues work with policy institutions but this cooperation is often done on an individual basis and is not integrated. One of the problems in this type of communication is that cross-cultural psychologists often express “an inconvenient truth”; for example, cross-cultural psychologists will point to the many long-term consequences of discrimination of ethnic groups and various other “inconvenient” facts about multicultural societies. Some disciplines, such as developmental science, have provided good examples of informing policy (without playing the political card). There is a fine, yet clear line between political engagement and a professional perspective on ongoing societal developments. For example, it is important to inform policy makers and the public about what we know in science about refugees and forced migration. Intercultural communication will continue to be vital for cross-cultural psychology, both as a topic of study and as a vital ingredient for the cross-cultural community. Professional associations can play a pivotal role in facilitating this communication.

Good Social Science Facilitates Good Social Policy

Randall P. White⁵²

Populist movements have had a significant impact in the last two years, notably in the United States, the United Kingdom with Brexit, and throughout Europe.

As psychologists, it is important that we not invalidate the underlying needs, fears and scarcity that are causes of



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this upheaval against the status quo and, more specifically, globalism and corporatism. Moreover, as psychologists, we now have a more portentous opportunity to advise, recommend, counsel and cajole leaders of governments, businesses and NGOs to be guided by ethical, moral and humane principles. In the midst of upheaval, these markers are too easily overlooked or even intentionally obliterated.

It is easy to understand how socioeconomic pressures have bred discontent in populations that have become disenfranchised by the post-2008 financial recovery, but history and our own science inform us of the possible danger of opportunistic leaders—if not demagogues—to wrest power from more democratic leadership with results that are not beneficial to society as a whole and in many cases ultimately hostile to human diversity, intellectualism and science itself.

I believe international psychological organizations can play a role as:

Guardians of human rights—political remedies, like medicine, should first do no harm. We must be a voice against inhumane policies—not the least of which are torture and ethnic profiling—as leaders attempt to assuage class resentment with policy maneuvers that can be devastating.

Advocates of learning—in my own practice as a professor of leadership and as an executive coach with global organizations, I am convinced that leaders are shaped by their ability and willingness to learn. The greatest charlatans are those who attest to have “arrived” at the pinnacle of leadership. As a psychologist, I want to be part of organizations that engender erudition, experimentation, feedback and development.

Mediators of conflict—we may seldom actually be directly involved in mediations, but we can make ethically sound and scientifically based public statements to inform actors in a conflict about moral and mutually beneficial ways forward. Our organizations’ mission statements can articulate principles of true leadership and rationality.

Acolytes of science—our organizations must, of course, continue to adhere to the highest standards of scientific method in our own work, but there is also a need beyond the social sciences. As political leaders maneuver for advantage, physical science becomes a chess piece in policy gambits that call into question the

validity of preceding science, making it difficult to continue the evolution of science beyond its current state. In some cases, we see an effort to move in reverse. We have a duty to defend the scientific method and consensus of our colleagues.

In 1972, Howard S. Becker wrote, “Good sociology is sociological work that produces meaningful descriptions of organizations and events, valid explanations of how they come about and persist, and realistic proposals for their improvement or removal.” Today, I would further suggest that good sociology—indeed, good social science— facilitates good social policy.

Vigilance is not too strong a word for our role as psychologists in the evolving 21st Century. Our own work is often derided in a backlash against what is being labeled as “political correctness.” This may be more dangerous today than in past decades as it merges with the vocabulary of scapegoating and vilification. More importantly, real human suffering can be the result of toxic leadership and divisive rhetoric wielded by those in power in any corner of the world.

International psychological organizations have an imperative to continually review their own policies and practices to be up-to-date, future-seeking, and scientifically grounded in ways that set an example for a professional balance of rationality, stability and compassion.

In addition to these obvious and basic tenets, I want our professional organizations to be bold in their statements and advisements that can often have the power to form thought leadership well beyond our practice; and by implication carry us to an unknown, uncertain future.

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