« Healing Trauma across Cultures: A Contextual and Developmental Approach to Assessment and Treatment »

One cannot fully understand the complexity of traumatic life events without framing them in “the ecological environment” of a survivor. In this lecture a contextual/developmental framework that can be used in intercultural trauma assessment, diagnosis and treatment with traumatised clients will be introduced. The lecture aims to combine knowledge from psychiatry, anthropology and social psychology, in an in-depth analysis of complex trauma reactions and PTSD. It describes how an authentic and productive intercultural encounter gradually takes place in trauma therapy. Within this framework, individual case histories are analysed within their “ecological environment”, through different phases of developmental life stages, and with respect to both resilience, and psychological damage upon exposure to traumatic experiences. In this lecture you will learn how to apply this paradigm in daily practice, and understand survivors’ problems in the wholeness of human existence.