



The Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
and Allied Professions of Serbia

7th DEAPS Congress

Mental Health of Children and
Adolescents
-Trauma Within and Around Us

May 29 - June 1, 2025
Hotel Sloboda, Šabac



**7th DEAPS Congress
Mental Health of Children and Adolescents –
Trauma Within and Around Us
With International Participation**

First Announcement

Dear colleagues, collaborators, and friends of DEAPS,

We recently faced an enormous challenge—an unprecedented trauma in our community. Within two days, a school massacre in central Belgrade and a mass killing in villages near Belgrade claimed the lives of 18 children and adolescents, as well as one adult. Nineteen people were killed, dozens injured, and many more traumatized in various ways. The perpetrators of these two heinous acts were a 13-year-old boy and a 20-year-old young man.

Our professional calling immediately led us to those who needed and will continue to need our help and support for a long time. In those moments and in the times ahead, we understand that how children and adolescents cope with trauma—emotionally, cognitively, and physically—greatly depends on the people around them. Above all, it depends on the adults they trust and rely on, who must be there to offer understanding, encouragement, support, and ultimately, love.

In caring for children, young people, and their parents, we may have unfairly overlooked professionals—doctors, police officers, teachers, psychologists, decision-makers, and citizens. Everyone experienced and will continue to deal with the trauma in their own way. We heal and help; we do not seek blame—that is for others to handle.

For this reason, the theme of trauma naturally emerged as the focus for our 7th Congress. The renowned trauma expert Gabor Maté once said that even the hardest news carries a seed of hope. We have endeavored to learn anew, offer the best of what we already know, turn to our collaborators, and strengthen intersectoral cooperation. The key words are the well-being and welfare of children, adolescents, and their most cherished adults.

At the Congress, we aim to gain even deeper insights, contributing to a better understanding that may lead to more effective prevention. The Congress will be a place to explore possible reasons, understand the "how," examine our own responsibilities and intentions, and ultimately help ourselves and others.

Regular updates will be shared via the DEAPS mailing list and on our website: <http://deaps.org.rs>. Save the dates – May 29 to June 1, 2025 – and join us as we reflect on trauma within and around us.

President of the 7th Congress
Prof. Dr. Milica Pejović Milovančević

President of the Scientific Committee
Prof. Dr. Miodrag Stanković

President of the Organizing Committee
Prim. Dr. Ana Kesić



Technical Organization:
Miross Travel Agency IATA Code: 95 - 2 2167 4
19/I Majke Jevrosime St., 11000 Belgrade, Serbia
+381 (11) 30-33-225, 30-33-226, +381 (11) 30-34-615
office@miross.rs