

# Session ID #280 POLITICAL ABUSE OF PSYCHIATRY: ONGOING CASES WORLDWIDE

Session Type: Symposium

Topics: AS68 Other

## Session Description

Political abuse of psychiatry refers to the misuse of psychiatric diagnosis, treatment and detention for the purposes of obstructing the fundamental human rights of certain individuals and groups in a given society. The practice is common in, but not exclusive to, countries governed by totalitarian regimes. Over the past years, an increasing number of reports on the internment of political activists in several countries has led to a resumed interest and necessary concern on the issue. The present session gathers experts in field to explore the current situation in different regions, and discuss ways forward to avoid the misuse of the discipline nefarious purposes, and protect practitioners and other professionals while ensuring the upholding of human rights.

Session Chairs	Moderator	Facilitator	Affiliation
Enric Garcia Torrents	•		Spain
Dinah Gardner	•		Spain

Session Presenters	Abstract Title	Affiliation
<a href="#">Rob Keukens</a>	Mr. Rob Keukens is supervisor for the World Health Organization on Community Mental Health Capacity Building in Ukraine, mental health consultant to GGZ-Ecademy and the Global Initiative on Psychiatry, and a lecturer in mental health nursing in the Netherlands and internationally.	Netherlands
<a href="#">Robert van Voren</a>	Chief Executive of the Global Initiative on Psychiatry. Director of the Andrei Sakharov Research Center for Democratic Development at Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania. He is also a Honorary Fellow of the British Royal College of Psychiatrists and Honorary Member of the Ukrainian Psychiatric Association. In 2005, he was knighted by Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands for his work as a human rights activist.	Lithuania
<a href="#">Manuel Llorens</a>	Professor and researcher at Universidad Católica Andrés Bello. Co-director of the Red de Activismo e Investigación para la Convivencia.	Venezuela
<a href="#">Peter Gøtzsche</a>	Director of the Institute for Scientific Freedom, Copenhagen. Visiting Professor at the Institute of Health & Society, University of Newcastle, England. Co-founder and former member of the Governing Board of Cochrane.	Denmark

**Is this proposal a section symposium?**

✓ No

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