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SPRO  SOCIETY FOR
PSYCHOTHERAPY
RESEARCH

Call for Submissions

58th International Annual Meeting

Münchenbryggeriet, Stockholm, Sweden

Wed, June 30 - Sat, July 3, 2027

Submission Portal Dates

Open: Monday, 19 October 2026

Close: Friday, 18 December 2026

Notification of acceptance: By the end of January 2027

Conference Theme

Beyond Boundaries -

Connecting Global Psychotherapy Research

It is an enormous pleasure to invite you to **SPR's 58th International Annual Meeting** in Stockholm, Sweden! The meeting will take place near the old city of Stockholm from **June 30 - July 3, 2027**.

The theme of the 58th International Annual Meeting is **Beyond Boundaries - Connecting Global Psychotherapy Research**. We envision opportunities to reinvigorate dialogues and self-critical thinking across orientations, languages and research interests, united by a shared focus: Eager to listen to others!

Despite decades of effort, psychotherapy and psychotherapy research tends to be involved in smaller communities with particular interests, somewhat neglecting that others are working on comparable challenges. There remains significant room to enhance the collaborative momentum to understand mechanisms of psychological therapies and create solutions for the challenges in the mental health concerns of modern societies.

Around the world and within different theoretical communities, important developments in psychological therapy are taking place. Yet these advances too often remain isolated in separate silos. To truly benefit the field, dialogues, fostering mutual learning and cross-fertilization, may be useful. The Society for Psychotherapy Research (SPR) is uniquely positioned to facilitate this exchange, bringing together diverse research traditions, theoretical perspectives, modalities, and cultural contexts.

With this spirit of openness and collaboration, the international annual meeting offers a remarkable opportunity to take another step forward in advancing psychotherapy research and practice.

Stockholm is the capital and largest city of Sweden, spread across 14 islands where Lake Mälaren meets the Baltic Sea. Often called the "Venice of the North," Stockholm combines medieval streets, elegant architecture, abundant parks and open water with a vibrant contemporary cultural scene. Beyond the city lies an archipelago of more than 30,000 islands. Visitors may also enjoy exploring Stockholm's famous subway system—often described as the world's longest art gallery—with over 90 stations featuring artwork by more than 150 artists. If you extend your stay, you can catch an overnight train to the north of Sweden where the sun never sets in the summer, go hiking in the Scandinavian mountains or see the rural landscapes and vast forests of inland Sweden. Between sightseeing and conference sessions, don't forget to enjoy a Swedish fika. Officially it's a coffee break; unofficially it's one of Sweden's greatest cultural institutions.

Münchenbryggeriet, the conference venue, is one of Stockholm's most distinctive historic buildings. Originally a brewery that supplied beer to Stockholmers for more than a century, it has been transformed into a modern conference centre while preserving its industrial character. Centrally located on the waterfront in Södermalm, a hip neighborhood characterized by its creative and relaxed atmosphere, trendy indie culture, and a rich mix of historic working-class roots and modern-day style. The venue is approximately a 20-minute walk from the Old Town (Gamla Stan) and about 15 minutes by subway from Stockholm Central Station. It offers panoramic views across Riddarfjärden toward Stockholm City Hall, where the Nobel Prize Banquet is held each December, and the medieval Old Town. During conference breaks, participants can enjoy spacious terraces overlooking the water or take a short walk to the cafés, restaurants and lively streets of Södermalm.

Scope of submissions

Along with submissions related to the specific conference theme, the programme committee invites submissions on all areas of psychotherapy research, practice, training, and supervision. We welcome a full range of contributions to the field of psychotherapy, including reports of innovative research methods and empirical studies of varied treatment modalities (individual, couple, family, group, and milieu therapies); diverse patient populations (children, adolescents, adults, and seniors); a wide range of diagnostic and problem categories (e.g., various psychological/psychosomatic disorders as well as the effects of cultural, political or economic oppression and migration) and a broad spectrum of orientations and its shared communalities (e.g., behavioral, CBT, interpersonal, psychodynamic, systemic, counseling, existential, humanistic, etc.).

As in all previous calls for submissions to SPR conferences, we invite research that draws on a diversity of methods including qualitative and quantitative studies, single case research, process and outcome studies, mixed methods, meta-analyses, methodological contributions, research on psychotherapy measures, literature reviews and so forth.

Conference Format & Participation Options

This year's conference will again offer both in-person and online participation, following last year's successful model. Please review the guidelines carefully when submitting your proposal:

1. Key Decision

- When submitting your proposal, you must choose to present **either in person OR online**.
- **Hybrid sessions** (mix of remote and in-person presenters) will not be supported.
- Some in-person sessions will be **livestreamed for viewing only**—remote attendees can watch but **cannot participate live**.

2. In-Person Sessions

- **Presentation types**: Pre-conference workshops, semi-plenaries, panels, structured discussions, posters, and brief papers.
- **Attendance**: All presenters in these sessions must be **physically present** in the designated room.
- **Livestreaming & Recording**: Select sessions will be livestreamed and recorded for limited-time access by attendees, unless presenters opt out.
- **Format changes**: In-person sessions can be switched to online **if the group cannot attend in person**.

3. Online Sessions

- **Presentation types**: Panels, structured discussions, brief papers, and posters.
- **Schedule**: Sessions will run concurrently with the in-person program, **8:00–17:00 Central European Time**. Please consider your time zone difference when submitting.
- **Recordings**: Presentations will be recorded and made available for limited-time access by attendees, unless presenters opt out.
- **Poster presentations**:
 - Posters will be displayed online and presented in **5-minute live summaries** (groups of 5–6).
 - Sessions will include moderated Q&A, led by **SPR Past Presidents**, to encourage discussion and engagement.

Submission types

In keeping with SPR tradition, we offer five types of presentation. Here is an overview of each type and what you need to consider:

Preconference Workshops

Workshops will be held on Wednesday, June 30, prior to the evening session that opens the conference. They are scheduled for 3 hours. We invite two types of pre-conference workshops:

1. To provide training in specific areas of psychotherapy research, methods, or data analysis.
2. To present a clinical assessment, treatment, and/or training method followed by a discussion that facilitates an exchange between clinical and research perspectives.

Please note: This year, we specifically encourage workshop proposals that address the conference theme. The total number of pre-conference workshops will be limited.

Panels

Panels should consist of 3-4 presentations focused on a common theme and a panel discussant. We encourage inclusive panels with authors from different research groups, as these often have the largest attendance. We also encourage including a discussant who can provide a clinical perspective and/or a research perspective related to the conference theme.

Panels will be 60–90 minutes long, including a minimum of 15 minutes for open discussion. The panel organizer will be asked to moderate the session and submit the full session, including the panel introduction and all included paper abstracts together. The organizer will need to provide the abstract, author and co-author names, their affiliations, and email addresses for each presenter.

Structured Discussion

Structured discussions provide an opportunity for group discussion on a specific topic relevant to our field (e.g., specific methods, theories, new developments in research and practice, EDI issues, etc.). These sessions will be 60 or 75 minutes long and should include position statements (of up to 5 minutes each) from designated discussants to stimulate active participation from audience members. The session should be moderated by the organizer. The organizer should submit the abstract and provide the names, affiliations, and email addresses of the discussants.

Brief Papers

Brief papers are 10-minute presentations about ongoing or completed studies. Brief paper sessions will be 60–90 minutes long and will include several short presentations, with time allotted for discussion. The programme committee will group these by topic and designate moderators for the brief paper sessions.

Posters

Posters are suitable for a wide full range of research reports, including completed projects, single case studies, pilot studies, and work-in-progress. They provide a good opportunity for detailed discussion with interested colleagues during the conference poster session events. Poster dimensions should approximate 24" x 36" (61 cm x 91 cm). For online poster display and brief presentation, they should be available in PDF format. We encourage in-person posters to also be made available online. All posters should be in a vertical format.

Submission Process

Submissions should be in the form of an abstract limited to **250 words**. For panels and structured discussions, the moderator/organizer should provide an overview of the session as a whole. Brief papers, papers in a panel, and posters should be structured using the following headings: Aim, Methods, Results, Discussion.

It is a joy to witness the steady increase in active participation at SPR conferences. However, it poses a challenge for organizers to accommodate everyone without causing disappointments. Therefore, we ask that you **limit your involvement to one presentation as the first author** and participate in **no more than five roles**, including as presenter, moderator, or discussant in panels and structured discussions, and poster presenter. (Invited roles for plenaries are not included).

Depending on the number of submissions and possible time constraints, the programme committee may request changing the type of presentation (e.g., oral presentation to poster).

Please use the submission portal's free-text box if there are any days/times when you are unable to present (e.g., due to religious observance). Note that pre-conference workshops will only be offered on Wednesday, June 30. Delegate presentations will begin on Thursday, July 1, in the morning and end on Saturday, July 3, in the afternoon. Please bear in mind that it might not be possible to make changes on short notice; thus, to avoid disappointment, let us know as soon as possible. Also, please bear in mind that [SPR's Member Communication Policy](#) applies to the conference participation.

Continuing Education Credits

We will seek support from Division 29 of the American Psychological Association to offer continuing education (CE) credits for workshops and for semi-plenaries and panels. After presentations are accepted for the conference, we will invite authors who wish to offer CE Credits to submit the required application to Division 29.

Want to collaborate with colleagues?

If you have an idea for a conference contribution and wish to collaborate with colleagues with similar interests, please consider using the SPR mailing list: list@psychotherapyresearch.org

You can also contact SPR members directly through the SPR directory on the members' pages.

If you have any questions about the 58th International Annual Meeting 2027 in Stockholm, Sweden, please contact us by email at: info@sprconference.com

Dates to remember

- Online submissions will be open from October 19, 2026, to December 18, 2026.
- Notifications of acceptance will be emailed by the end of January 2027.
- Online revision period: Presenters will be able to modify their abstracts from March 15 to April 15, 2027.

We look forward to receiving your submissions and seeing you in Stockholm in June 2027!



Christoph Flückiger
Program Chair



Fredrik Falkenström
Local Host