

International Conference

Belgrade
October 2nd - 3rd 2015

Reflective Citizens / Paralyzed Citizens

In Societies and Organizations



Farhad Dalal & Marina Mojović
co-convenor and convenor

with staff

**Angelika Golz, Carla Penna, Christopher Scanlon,
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Svein Tjelta and Tija Despotović**

Organized by:



Group Analytic Society-Belgrade
Psycho-Social Section



Consulting-Art Belgrad

ABOUT the CONFERENCE

Introduction

In agony of **'Guernica's' creation**, hundreds of sketches were emerging (like the one on our flyer), linked to horrific civilian destruction, which was unimaginable ever before, in artistic struggles against life paralysis (**'thought paralysis'**, Dalal, 2003) - **Picasso** was shaping and reshaping images of screams both of people, and of animals, facing bombing of small Spanish town Guernica – the 20th centuries very first bombing. The last centuries bombing of a European town, in 1999, was of our Belgrade, and of whole Serbia, over three spring months, each day without break – actually being its 4th bombing in the same century (either by its Nazi enemies, by allies, or by ex-allies).

Picasso ended his painting *'Guernica'* by putting an electric bulb, **'bombia'**, diminutive of the word **'bomb'**, as a sarcastically-poetic metaphor for the sinister power of technology in the world running towards further catastrophes.

- How to transform peoples paralysis or their perverse defenses like, when Serbian citizens were sarcastically/regressively/manically dancing and singing on bridges to *'protect them from bombs'*, into more mature ways of bearing and thinking?
- How in our families and communities to cope more effectively with consequences of social trauma, wounds and scars, social shame, despair, death and guilt?
- How to disentangle complex ways of our *unconscious collusion with social destruction and self-destruction*?
- How to move forward from **'paralyzed citizens'** towards **'reflective citizens'** and **'engaged citizens'**?
- From passivity and *'keeping blind eyes'* regarding varieties of our citizens' responsibilities-like are our conscious and unconscious involvements in vicious psycho-social circles of being victims-perpetrators-bystanders with trans-generational transmission of such patterns?
- How to become more engaged in careful transformation of such patterns- mutually support old a new ways for social containment of unbearable feelings,
- ... understanding *'the other'* and improvement of our capacities for dialogue with fellow citizens of our neighborhood, our town and region? ***Is this an impossible task?***

Brief Social-Historical Background of the Serbian Reflective Citizens Project

Serbia – being over the centuries homed at the social-cultural crossroad, ‘*being the East for the West and the West for the East*’ (St Sava, 13th century), therefore repetitively historically involved into ‘*clashes of cultures*’ (Huffington, 1996), was psycho-socially over long periods stuck in paralysis due to suffering major civilian and other losses (only in WWI 60% of male population-third of all). On the other hand, paradoxically or not, people were somehow also able jointly, to create varieties of transitional spaces for their community survival, within ‘*psycho-social retreats*’ (Mojović, 2011), intellectual, artistic and other kinds of ‘*guerilla movements*’, or to mention the interesting social-political facts, that during the Cold War Era, in 1961, Belgrade hosted the foundation of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) of which Yugoslavia was a co-founder, as well as, in 2011 50th NAM’s anniversary. Sadly, immediately after the Ending of the Cold War, when many in the West were celebrating its glorious era of liberal democracy (Fukuyama’s ‘*End of History*’), at the same time began the **horrific Destruction of Yugoslavia**.

Beginning of the Serbian Reflective Citizens Project (RC)

May we understand our **Reflective Citizens Workshops** as *psycho-social transitional spaces* - even as a new sort of citizens’ ‘*peaceful guerilla movement*’ or ‘*peaceful resistance*’ of our times, when the world is being repetitively flooded with so many mindless areas of new destructions *of* humans and *by* humans? Did our **RC** emerge as screams/appeals of people in this region paralyzed in pain by facing the ‘*Ugliness of War Gorgons*’ (Mojović, 2007), the unthinkable disasters of humanity over the Nineties during the Destruction of Yugoslavia, which were by many citizens experienced as a real **Hell on Earth!** ‘*Can anything ever be the same again!?*’ In need for mutual holding of social despair, the preparations for **RC** project, actually started soon after our Revolution, 5th October 2000 - Whether it would have been possible before the ending of the communist regime, we can’t be sure.

We take as the official beginning for our **RC** project, when Serbia joined the International Listening Posts (LP) Network of OPUS (Organization for Promoting Understanding of Society www.opus.org.uk), which we continue to convene regularly at every ‘*Dawn of the Year*’ in the Tavistock and OPUS tradition.

Development of Serbian Reflective Citizens Project

In addition to those winter LPs, recognizing the need for more reflective citizens' spaces, for continuously ongoing working through of social trauma and their impact onto identity, for reconnection with lost aspects of collective memories regarding both dark and bright psycho-social areas,

- two colleagues, psychiatrists/group analysts, **dr. Marina Mojović** as the project leader and **dr. Jelica Satarić** as the co-leader, began organizing them more often, all without charge, as well as holding a training for conveners also without charge.
- By time, there emerged few branches of **RC in Belgrade**, then **few branches in other towns in Serbia and Bosnia**, now preparing also to begin **RC in few Serbian villages**.
- Over the years Serbian **RC** developed its specific **conceptualization and methodology**, (carefully integrating aspects of LP, group analysis, groups relations, and social dreaming), which are still in processes of **evaluation and improvement**.
- Of special significance are efforts for **good relationships with sibling projects, networks and movements**, and possibilities of learning from each others.
- **Series of International Workshops** of the Psycho-social Section of GAS Belgrade were very important and meaningful support in building the frame, with gratitude to all staff-colleagues and participants, who took part.

This year celebrating the 10th anniversary

RC are now a network of cooperative workshops (keeping its concept of *'free of charge'* both workshops and training for conveners), which continue to make efforts to self-organize RC on various places, both indoors and outdoors, with support of those more experienced - reach **local ownership and sustainability**. Like a *'train'* (Penna, 2013 in Belgrade), or a *'moving circle'* (metaphor from one of the last RC), its conveners and organizing groups are traveling, when possible, supporting others to join in the *'RC culture of dialogue'*, eventually become motivated to begin training for RC organizers and conveners in their micro-environment. Significant support by our colleagues from the international arena, who were willing to participate, reflect and seriously engage in our work on RC, to overcome isolation and loneliness, are of invaluable help. An exp. from a recent workshop, as a containment for citizens' horror a memory was voiced: *'luckily Carla's train from Brazil with colleagues traveled over this country, took in many of our demons, to hold them long-enough for us, so that now we might take them back, try to sooth and integrate. Hopefully we are now able'*.

Aim and design of this Conference

Farhad Dalal and **Marina Mojović** with colleagues, distinguished group analysts from **UK, Germany, Brazil, Norway, Sweden** and **Serbia** as staff, will over two days jointly with conference participants work on the theme **Reflective Citizens/Paralyzed Citizens in Societies and Organizations**.

We will have **presentations, round tables and fishbowl discussions, discussion groups** of median size, **small and large group analytic groups, supervision groups** and **a space for final joint reflection/integration** of the conference experience.

Most of the staff members already participated directly in RC workshops, or in evaluations and reflections about RC project. This time we wish to **continue exploring the theme, review, discuss, and refine the RC concept and methodology**. Publishing about aspects of the conference process and of its results is planned as one of its outcomes.

In hope the ‘artistic bombia’ to enlighten darkness of ourselves and of our human surroundings, to help us find the strength in ‘vital sparks’ of humanity, which are still alive, although indeed often paralyzed!

Conference staff



Farhad Dalal started out as a school teacher, working for fourteen years in comprehensive schools in East London. He completed two trainings in psychotherapy, the first in 1985 in Humanistic and Integrative Psychotherapy and then as a Group Analyst in 1991. He has had an extensive psychotherapy and supervision practice for over twenty five years, initially in London, and then Devon. He writes, teaches and internationally. In his first book *Taking the Group Seriously* he argues against individualism and for the relational nature of human life. His second, *Race, Colour and the Processes of Racialization* focuses on the causes of the hatred of Others in general and racism in particular. His latest book *Thought Paralysis: The Virtues of Discrimination*, is a constructive critique of the Equality movements.



Marina Mojović MA, MD, psychiatrist, psychoanalytic psychotherapist, group analyst, organizational consultant in Serbia. She is a full member of the Group Analytic Society International, of the International Association for Group Psychotherapy and Group Processes, of the European Society of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy, the International Society for Psychoanalytic Studies of Organizations, and the Organization for Promoting Understanding of Society. In Group Analytic Society-Belgrade she is a training group analyst, supervisor and the founder of its Section and Training in 'Psychoanalytic and Group Analytic Approach to Understanding Institutions, Organizations and Society'. She develops the Serbian Reflective Citizens Project, and other projects of exploring the Social Unconscious in Serbia and abroad.



Angelika Golz began working therapeutically with people whilst studying 'Social Education' in Berlin in the early 1970's. Her first role was counsellor to parents at a Family Therapy Centre. 1977 she came to England to study Biodynamic Psychotherapy at the Gerda Boyesen Centre, a form of therapy working directly with the body. For several years Angelika taught at the Gerda Boyesen Centre and as visiting teacher at training courses in Germany. Her deep interest in the relational aspects of the led her towards a more psychoanalytic approach in her work, where the psychotherapeutic relationship is seen as the container for all that is explored. This led her eventually to study Group Analysis with Group Analysis South West (Bristol). She qualified in 2003 and is now also a Member of the Institute of Group Analysis (London). Angelika's work has included consultation to teams in crisis, supervision to mental health teams, and also supervision to people working with individuals, groups, and training courses. She teaches regularly on the clinical psychology doctorate program in Plymouth University, and also on other psychotherapy courses. For 12 years Angelika also worked with outpatient groups in the NHS.



Carla Penna, PhD, is a psychoanalyst and group analyst in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Member of Psychoanalytic Circle of Rio de Janeiro, affiliated to International Federations of Psychoanalytic Societies and full member of Group Analytic Society International. She is past president of Brazilian Association of Group Psychotherapy, and past president of Group Analytic Psychotherapy Society of the State of Rio de Janeiro. She works in private practice and is a visiting professor of Medical Psychology at the University of the State of Rio de Janeiro. She is publishing in Portuguese the book *Large Groups and Social Unconscious*.



Christopher Scanlon, MSc. DPhil Consultant Psychotherapist in general adult and forensic mental health in the NHS in London; Training Group Analyst and member of Faculty at *Institute of Group Analysis (IGA)* and Visiting professor Psychosocial Practice, University of East London. He is also Founder member of the *Association for Psychosocial Studies (APS)*; associate member of *Organisation for Promotion of the Understanding of Society (OPUS)* and member of the *International Society for the Psychoanalytic Study of Society (ISPSO)*.



Göran Ahlin, PhD, MD is an Associate professor (Docent) in psychotherapy at the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm. Group analyst, trained as a psychiatrist and later as a psychotherapist focusing on group analysis, psychoanalytic individual treatment and family treatment. Teacher and supervisor and responsible director for training in psychotherapy in Sweden from 1982 to 2000 in public health care and then in a private University College, in Stockholm from 2000 to 2011. Member of Group Analytic Society International, International Association for Group Psychotherapy and Group processes and European Federation of Psychoanalytical Psychotherapy and others.



Ivanka Dunjić psychiatrist, training psychoanalyst and training group analyst from Belgrade. Member of Belgrade Psychoanalytic Society (IPA). Chair of Belgrade Society for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy (EFPP). President of Group Analytic Society Belgrade (EGATIN, EFPP). She works in private practice in Belgrade. She wrote several papers on psychoanalysis and group analysis.



Jelica Satarić, MD, is a psychiatrist, individual psychotherapist, and group analyst in private practice in Belgrade. She is member of Serbian Medical Chamber, Serbian Psychiatric Association, Serbia Psychoanalytic Society of Psychotherapists and Group Analytic Society Belgrade (GAS Belgrade), in which she is a training group analyst and co-leader of its Psycho-social Section. Active involvement in the Serbian Reflective Citizens Project.



Svein Tjelta Studies in philosophy, anthropology and psychology since 1975. Licenced psychologist since 1984. Worked in psychiatry, with children in school- psychology, and with family-therapy. Contract specialist in clinical psychology member NPF, private practice since 1989. Training therapist in Group Therapy for the Norwegian Psychological Association 1990 – 2000. Diploma in Group analysis 1993, member of teaching staff IGA Norway since 1999; training-analyst, supervisor and lecturer. Psychoanalytical Psychotherapist 1995, member IFP; training psychotherapist and supervisor since 2000. Former chief editor of Matrix; Nordic journal for psychotherapy. Published the book “Unconscious Interplays” 1987; about projective identification, with co-authors. Published several articles about groups in Matrix, Journal of the Norwegian psychological association and recently Group Analysis.



Tija Despotović is a psychiatrist, psychoanalyst from Belgrade. Member of the Belgrade Psychoanalytic Society (International Psychoanalytical Association), training group analyst, Chair of IGAB Training Committee. Chair of IGAB Training Committee. She is Director of Training in Individual Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy (Association of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapists of Serbia, European Federation of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy). She works in private practice in Belgrade, Serbia and wrote many papers in field of individual and group psychotherapy.

Conference Program

PROGRAMME DAY 1

Day 2	Time	session
Friday, 2nd October	8.45 – 9.45	<p>Registration for participants</p> <p>Staff meeting at same time</p>
	10.00 -10.30	<p>Welcoming and Introduction to the workshop</p> <p>Chaired by Dalal and Marina</p> <p>Together all staff</p>
	10.30 – 11.15	<p>Presentation 1. with discussion</p> <p>Farhad Dalal <i>“Forgiving the Unforgivable: Mortals, Saints & Sinners”</i></p>
	11.15 – 12.00	Round table / fishbowl
	12.00 – 12.15	Coffee break
	12.15 – 13.30	Discussion groups median size
	13.30 – 14.30	<p>Lunch (large break)</p> <p>Staff meeting</p>
	14.30 – 16.00	<p>Small groups (Carla, Svein, Goran, Chris, Tija, Jelica, Marina)</p> <p>/ supervision groups (Farhad, Ivanka, Angelika)</p>
	16.00 – 16.15	Coffee break
	16.15 - 18.45	Large group (Farhad, Angelika, Ivanka)
	19.00 – 20.30	Staff meeting with dinner

PROGRAMME DAY 2

Day 3	Time	session
Saturday, 3rd October Whole day	9.30 – 11.00	Small groups (Carla, Göran, Svein, Chris, Tija, Jelica, Marina)
	11.00 -11.15	Coffee break
	11.15 – 12.45	Presentation time 2 (trainees in RC about their experience) with round table/fishbowl discussion
	12.45 – 13.00	Coffee break
	13.00 – 14.15	Discussion groups (median size)
	14.15 – 15.15	Lunch time (staff meeting)
	15.15 – 16.45	Small group/ supervision (?)
	16.45 - 17.00	Coffee break
	17.00 – 18.30	Large group (Farhad, Angelika, Ivanka)
	18.30 – 18.45	Coffee break
	18.45 -19.45	Reflection/integration/review space with Closing
	19.45 -20.30	Time for Good-buys with Refreshment

Registration Fees in euro:	Before July 1st t	Before September 1stth	After September 1st
Trainees GAS-Belgrade	130	140	150
GAS-Belgrade members	140	150	160
GAS-international, IAGP ISPSO, OPUS members	160	170	190
Others	170	180	200

Lunch, coffee and refreshment included in fee

All questions regarding registration, fees & payment and accommodation should be directed to office consultingartbeograd@gmail.com or to Marina Mojović dr.marinamojovic@gmail.com mob. +381 (0) 63 77 87 642

Venue: Consulting-Art doo. Belgrade, Banovo Brdo, 115 Petra Lekovića Street

Venue photos: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/belgrade-conference-june-2013/sets/72157633097384770/show/>

