Global mental health summit

«Mind Our Rights, Now!»

France will host a high-level international conference on mental health entitled «Mind our rights, Now!» on October 5 and 6, 2021 in Paris and on line.

After London in 2018 and Amsterdam in 2019, this third summit will be a key event in the mobilisation for rights in mental health and quality care systems that respect human rights. It will bring together health ministers, international organisations, civil society actors, service users, carers, professionals, experts by experience, opinion leaders, foundations and academic institutions.

The promotion of rights in mental health is not only an end in itself, but a powerful lever to reform policies and care organisations towards better access and quality of care.

Reflecting the current health context, «Mind Our Rights, Now!» mental health summit will focus on three objectives:

- To accelerate the international momentum for human rights in mental health;
- To promote an approach that respects people’s dignity and rights in services addressing mental health;
- To share positive lessons learned between practitioners, civil society representatives and policy makers in order to accelerate the evolution of practices in psychiatry and mental health.
TWO MAIN TOPICS

The integration of mental health in health during and after the COVID-19 pandemic

The aim will be to address the immediate and future consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on mental health; to take stock of the challenges, opportunities and emergencies faced; and to present and discuss the action of international organizations (including the WHO, UN, the Global Fund, OECD). Therefore, in response to a greater awareness due to this health crisis. Through this crisis, to mobilize the international community to integrate mental health in all fields of health, and thus to make mental health a means to better strengthen health systems, achieve universal health coverage and ensure international health security.

Innovative practices for rights in mental health

Demand is growing all over the world to ensuring rights are upheld in mental health; underpinned by international law and recent innovations in program delivery. There are many experiences around the world that demonstrate the feasibility of innovative practices in psychiatry and mental health, and these make it possible to reach the extremely high standards set by international texts and conventions. Initiatives, testimonies and local and international experiences promoting the respect of rights in mental health care will be presented by professionals, representatives of civil society and political decision-makers, including reforms made through legislative changes.

The ambition and contributions of this summit are to:

» Produce recommendations for the promotion of rights as a lever for change in mental health care practices;

» Build on the international mobilisation generated by the health crisis to integrate mental health into national and international public health policies;

» Propose transnational tools to maintain this mobilisation in the long term.

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