

Winter 2021 | Volume 3 Issue 1

Dear Young Researchers,

Much has happened since our last newsletter published in Autumn of 2020. We hope that it has been a period of re-connection, of sharing stories, experiences, thoughts and laughs – perhaps as well a period of new connections which inspire you or which you have inspired. In this spirit we proudly present to you our Winter 2021 Newsletter – enjoy the read!

## Recent Conferences:

The following CCP-YRN members (in bold) have presented at the following conferences:

### 2020:

Bernays, F., **Eising, C. M., Rohner, S. L., & Thoma, M. V.** (2021). *The role of socio-economic factors in the understanding of health disparities in Swiss older adult survivors of child welfare practices and child labor*. Presentation conducted at the 38<sup>th</sup> symposium of Clinical Psychopathology and Psychotherapy of the DGPs, May 12-15, 2021, Mannheim, Germany.

**Mc Gee, S. L., Maercker, A., Carr, A., & Thoma, M. V.** (2020). *Childhood trauma and adult psychological adjustment: Resilience in older adult survivors of institutional abuse*. Presentation conducted at the GSA 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting Online, November 4-7, 2020, Philadelphia, U.S.A.

### 2021:

**Dworschak, C., Maercker, A., & Kleim, B.** (2021). *Schlaf und Einsamkeit: Analyse bidirektionaler Zusammenhänge anhand von Tagebucheinträgen und Biomarkerdaten in vulnerablen Individuen*. Presentation conducted at the DGPPN Kongress, November 24-27, 2021, Berlin, Germany.

**Dworschak, C., Heim, E., & Maercker, A.** (2021) *Entwicklung und Wirksamkeitstestung einer internet-basierten Intervention zur Verringerung von Einsamkeit im Alter: ein Studienprotokoll*. Presentation at the Tagung 2021: Kultur und Geschichte der Psychologien in der Schweiz und ihrer europäischen Netzwerke – Fokus auf Klinische Psychologie(n) [Conference 2021: Culture and History of Psychologies in Switzerland and its European Networks – Focus on Clinical Psychology(s)], September 23-25, 2021, Ascona, Switzerland.



CCP-YRN Team

## Interview with Eva Heim

August 16, 2021

1. Could you tell us about your work as a professor of cultural clinical psychology at the University of Lausanne?

a. What are you currently teaching?

*I am currently teaching a BSc course „Introduction to cultural clinical psychology” (1 semester), a MSc course „Introduction to cultural clinical psychology” (2 semesters), a MSc seminar „Global mental health”, and a BSc seminar (2 semesters): “Developing a research project”.*

b. What are you currently researching?

*My research is situated within the field of (cultural) clinical psychology and global mental health. From the beginning of my research, I have been interested in the extent to which our theories and methods in clinical psychology are applicable in cross-cultural contexts, and how evidence from transcultural research can feed back into our theoretical models and psychological interventions. Aside from my disciplinary research in*

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## Recent Conferences (continued):

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**Eising, C. M., Voekle, M. C., Rohner, S. L., Pfluger, V., Maercker, A., & Thoma, M. V.** (2021). *Die Rolle von kontextuellen Aspekten fürsorglicher Zwangsmaßnahmen in Kindheit und Jugend auf die Lebenszeit Posttraumatische Belastungsstörung in älteren Menschen* [The role of contextual aspects of caring coercion in childhood and adolescence on lifespan post-traumatic stress disorder in older people]. Poster presented at the Jahrestagung der Deutschsprachige Gesellschaft für Psychotraumatologie (DeGP) [Annual Conference of the German-speaking Society for Psychotraumatology (DeGPT)], March 17-20, 2021, Würzburg, Germany.

**Eberle, D., J., & Maercker, A.** (2021). *Zur Entwicklung des transdiagnostischen Ansatzes in der Psychopathologie* [On the development of the transdiagnostic approach in psychopathology]. Presentation conducted at the Tagung 2021: Kultur und Geschichte der Psychologien in der Schweiz und ihrer europäischen Netzwerke – Fokus auf Klinische Psychologien(n) [Conference 2021: Culture and History of Psychology(s) in Switzerland and its European Networks – Focus on Clinical Psychology(s)], September 23-25, 2021, Ascona, Switzerland.

**Höltge, J., Thoma, M. V., Eising, C. M., Pfluger, V., & Rohner, S. L.** (2021). *A systematic perspective on how child welfare practices affect the interplay of resilience-supporting factors and perceived stress in later life*. Presentation conducted at the 38<sup>th</sup> symposium of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy of the DGPs, May 12-15, 2021, Mannheim, Germany.

**Michel, J., Maercker, A., Carr, A., & Thoma, M. V., & Rohner, S. L.** (2021). *Understanding socio-interpersonal contexts of childhood trauma and disclosure: A qualitative comparative study of survivors*. Presentation conducted at the 38<sup>th</sup> symposium of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy of the DGPs, May 12-15, 2021, Mannheim, Germany.

**Rohner, S. L., Höltge, J., Maercker, A., & Thoma, M. V.** (2021). *Sense of Coherence-Revised: Validation of a new conceptualisation and measurement instrument in an older adult sample*. Presentation conducted at the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Salutogenesis, June 17-18, 2021, Girona, Spain.

**Rohner, S. L., Maercker, A., Carr, A., & Thoma, M. V.** (2021). *From childhood trauma to adult mental health: Resilience factors in Irish survivors of childhood institutional abuse*. Presentation conducted at the 38<sup>th</sup> symposium of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy of the DGPs, May 12-15, 2021, Mannheim, Germany.

*clinical psychology, I integrate methods from the social sciences and collaborate with non-academic partners, to increase the likelihood that results from my research are integrated into policy and practice. I have conducted research with Step-by-Step, an e-mental health intervention developed by WHO for the treatment of depression among people affected by adversity. We tested Step-by-Step in two randomized controlled trials in Lebanon (with Lebanese people and Syrian refugees). In addition, we culturally adapted Step-by-Step for Albanian immigrants in Switzerland. I also conduct research in the field of stigma and discrimination related to mental disorders. In my future projects, I aim to examine cultural aspects in Complex-PTSD, and we are planning to culturally adapt a manual for the treatment of C-PTSD among refugee populations in Switzerland.*

2. How did you come to work in the field of cultural clinical psychology? Could you tell us a little bit more about your experiences (e.g., travels, research projects abroad...)?

*After I completed my studies in clinical psychology, I obtained a research grant which allowed me to stay in Bolivia for four years. For my PhD, I conducted a longitudinal study on the decision of battered women to stay with / leave their partners. Upon completion of my PhD in 2009 at University of Bern, I worked as a research manager at the NCCR North-South, a network of Swiss Universities and partners in low- and middle-income countries. Their research focused on global change (i.e., climate change, migration, poverty, health, nutrition, conflicts, etc.), and I looked into the transfer from research to policy and practice. When the NCCR North-South came to an end, I started my psychotherapy training and worked in a clinic for three years, before starting my post-doc with Prof. Maercker at University of Zurich. During my post-doc, I was in Beirut, Lebanon, for 1.5 years, where I coordinated the RCTs in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health and World Health Organisation.*

3. What do you think the future holds for the field of cultural clinical psychology?

*Cultural clinical psychology is a growing field which will gain more and more importance, due to global migration, conflicts, and increasingly diverse societies.*

4. Do you have any advice for young researchers who are working in the field of cultural clinical psychology?

*It is important to be open-minded, to cross the borders of academic disciplines, and to collaborate with partners in the field, such as NGOs, Ministries, international organizations, etc. Networking is key! In addition, sound methodological knowledge and skills, both qualitative and quantitative, are essential.*

## Recent Conferences (continued):

**Rohner, S. L., Maercker, A., Carr, A., & Thoma, M. V.** (2021). *Historical adversity in Ireland: Resilience and disclosure in older adult survivors of childhood institutional abuse*. Presentation conducted at the Tagung 2021: Kultur und Geschichte der Psychologien in der Schweiz und ihrer europäischen Netzwerke – Fokus auf Klinische Psychologie(n) [Conference 2021: Culture and History of Psychology(s) in Switzerland and its European Networks – Focus on Clinical Psychology(s)], September 23-25, 2021, Ascona, Switzerland.

**Rohner, S. L., Maercker, A., Carr, A., & Thoma, M. V.** (2021). *Aging in the Aftermath of Adversity: Later-Life Impact of Institutional Child Abuse and Disclosure*. Presentation conducted at the GSA 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting, November 10-13, 2021, Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A.

**Rossi, S., Maercker, A., & Heim, E.** (2021). *Metaphors and Related Expressions in Older Adults in the Field of Trauma and Stress-Related Disorders*. Presentation conducted at the 25<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology, July 27-31, 2021, online.

**Rossi, S., Maercker, A., & Heim, E.** (2021). *Metaphors and Related Expressions in Older Adults in the Field of Trauma and Stress-Related Disorders*. Presentation conducted at the Tagung 2021: Kultur und Geschichte der Psychologien in der Schweiz und ihrer europäischen Netzwerke – Fokus auf Klinische Psychologie(n) [Conference 2021: Culture and History of Psychologies in Switzerland and its European Networks – Focus on Clinical Psychology(s)], September 23-25, 2021, Ascona, Switzerland.

**Thoma, M. V., Bernays, F., Eising, C. M., Maercker, A., & Rohner, S. L.** (2021). *Ein Vergleich der Gesundheitsprofile von ehemaligen Betroffenen von Fürsorgerischen Zwangsmassnahmen und/oder Fremdplatzierung in der Schweiz und Kontrollpersonen* [A comparison of the physical and mental health profiles of Swiss older adult survivors of compulsory social measures and/or placements and non-affected control individuals]. Presentation conducted at the Tagung 2021: Kultur und Geschichte der Psychologien in der Schweiz und ihrer europäischen Netzwerke – Fokus auf Klinische Psychologie(n) [Conference 2021: Culture and History of Psychologies in Switzerland and its European Networks – Focus on Clinical Psychology(s)], September 23-25, 2021, Ascona, Switzerland.

**Thoma, M. V., Bernays, F., Eising, C. M., & Rohner, S. L.** (2021). *Mental health in Swiss older adult survivors of child welfare practices and child labor and the protective role of self-esteem*. Presentation conducted at the 38<sup>th</sup> symposium of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy of the DGPs, May 12-15, Mannheim, Germany.

## Member Publication List (members in bold)

**Eberle, D., J., & Maercker, A.** (in press). Preoccupation as psychopathological process and symptom in adjustment disorder: A scoping review. *Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cpp.2657>

**Eising, C., Voelke, M. C., Rohner, S. L., Maercker, A., & Thoma, M. V.** (2021). Lifetime post-traumatic stress disorder in older individuals with a history of institutional upbringing in childhood: The role of social acknowledgement and stressful life events. *European Journal of Psychotraumatology*, 12(1). 1915578. <https://doi.org/10.1080/20008198.2021.1915578>

**Maercker, A., Bernays, F., Rohner, S. L., & Thoma, M. V.** (in press). A cascade model of complex posttraumatic stress disorder centered on childhood trauma and maltreatment, attachment and socio-interpersonal factors. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*.

**Pfluger, V., Rohner, S. L., Eising, C. M., Maercker, A., & Thoma, M. V.** (in press). Associations between complex trauma exposure in childhood/adolescence and psychopathology in older age: The role of stress coping and coping self-perception. *Journal of Child & Adolescent Trauma*.

**Rohner, S. L., Bernays, F., Maercker, A., & Thoma, M. V.** (2021). Salutary mechanisms in the relationship between stress and health: The mediating and moderating roles of Sense of Coherence – Revised. *Stress & Health*, 1-14. <https://doi.org/10.1002/smi.3093>

**Thoma, M. V., Bernays, F., Eising, C. M., Maercker, A., & Rohner, S. L.** (2021). Child maltreatment, lifetime trauma, and mental health in Swiss older survivors of enforced child welfare practices: Investigating the mediating role of self-esteem and self-compassion. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 113, 104925. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2020.104925>

**Thoma, M. V., Bernays, F., Pfluger, V., Eising, C. M., & Rohner, S. L.** (in press). An exploratory comparison of resilience profiles of Swiss older adult survivors of child welfare-related maltreatment and controls. *Clinical Psychology & Psychotherapy*.

**Thoma, M. V., Bernays, F., Eising, C. M., Pfluger, V., & Rohner, S. L.** (2021). Health, stress, and well-being in Swiss adult survivors of child welfare practices and child labor: Investigating the mediating role of socio-economic factors. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 111, 104769. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2020.104769>

**Thoma, M. V., Rohleder, N., & Rohner, S. L.** (2021). Clinical ecopsychology: The mental health impacts and underlying pathways of the climate and environmental crisis. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 12:675936. <http://doi.org/10.3389/fpsy.2021.675936>

### CCP-YRN TEAM

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