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## A two-day conference on

Mental States of War: A Jungian Perspective on Individual and Social Dimensions on Trauma.

On Saturday and Sunday October 11-12 2025 in "Kulturhuset Indre By", Charlotte Ammundsens Plads 3, 1359 København K by:

Monica Luci, Ph.D (Uk/Italy), Jungian and relational analyst, lecturer at the Dep. of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytical Studies of Essex.Iryna Semkiv, Ph.D (Ukraine), Jungian analyst, associate professor of the Ukrainian Catholic University of Lviv.



Hell, suffering, (pixabay, free picture)

Torture Survivors in Analytic Therapy: Intrapsychic, Interpersonal, Socio-Political Dimensions of Complex Trauma – Monica Luci

Individuation Under the Pressure of War Trauma: The Paradox of Post-Traumatic Growth- Iryna Semkiv



Monica Luci, PhD (UK/Italy), is a Jungian and relational psychoanalyst in private practice, and a Jungian training analyst within AIPA and IAAP. She works as a lecturer in the Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies and serves as the Deputy Director of the Centre for Trauma, Asylum and Refugees at the University of Essex. For 25 years, she has been providing clinical therapy and conducting research with survivors of torture who are refugees, as well as advising international organisations on psychosocial interventions for displaced groups. She is teaching internationally, and her

research interests and publications concentrate on topics such as trauma, displacement, collective violence, human rights, gender issues, analytical psychology, and psychoanalysis. She is a board member of scholarly journals, including the *Journal of Analytical Psychology*. Her works include the monographs *Torture*, *Psychoanalysis & Human Rights* (Routledge, 2017); *Torture Survivors in Analytic Therapy: Jung, Politics, Culture* (Routledge, 2022); *Lockdown Therapy: Jungian Perspectives on How the Pandemic Changed Psychoanalysis* (Routledge, 2022) and *Psychoanalytic, Psychosocial, and Human Rights Perspectives on Enforced Disappearance* (Routledge, 2024). Email: dr.monicaluci@gmail.com

# Torture Survivors in Analytic Therapy: Intrapsychic, Interpersonal, Socio-Political Dimensions of Complex Trauma

Drawing on decades of clinical work with survivors of torture and severe collective violence, this presentation examines the distinct nature of the resulting complex trauma and its defining characteristics. The Jungian model of the self-emphasising the interplay between the multiplicity of a complex psychology and its archetypal unity—serves as a foundation for understanding many of the phenomena that emerge in the therapeutic encounter. This model is supplemented by contemporary psychoanalytic approaches, including object relations theory and relational psychoanalysis, which address areas where Jung's insights are less developed, particularly about interpersonal dynamics and group experience. Together, these frameworks offer a basis for exploring the continuum of intrapsychic, interpersonal, and socio-political dimensions of trauma, which, it is proposed, is key to understanding both clinical and social phenomena. Attention is given to the phenomenology of victims, bystanders, and perpetrators, whose experiences often reverberate within both the clinical setting and the social context of these patients. Special emphasis is placed on the role of bodily countertransference in analytic trauma work, highlighting the embodied dimensions of therapeutic engagement.

In the second part of the day, a detailed clinical case involving a survivor of torture will illustrate and integrate these theoretical and clinical perspectives.

### Time Schedule for Saturday, October 11, with Monica Luci

10.00-10.15: Welcome

10.15-11.30: Presentation 1: Torture survivors in Analytical Therapy: Intrapsychic, Interpersonal,

Socio-Political Dimensions of Complex Trauma. See more above.

11.30-12:00: BREAK

12:00-12.30: Dialogue in the plenary

12.30-13.30: LUNCH

13.30-15.00: Presentation 2: A clinical case will illustrate and integrate these theoretical and clinical

perspectives. See more above.

15.00-15.30: BREAK

15.30-16.00: Dialogue in the plenary.

16.00-16.30: Closing the day.



**Iryna Semkiv, Ph.D.** (Ukraine), is the author of numerous articles in the fields of trauma, political psychology, social psychology, clinical psychology, psychoanalysis, and psychotherapy. She serves as a scientific editor for psychoanalytic books translated into Ukrainian from English, German, and Polish. Dr. Semkiv is an Associate Professor at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, where she leads the Master's Programme in Clinical Psychology with the Fundamentals of Psychodynamic Therapy. She has developed and taught courses for clinical psychologists on topics such as developmental psychology, the science and art of psychoanalysis, analytical psychology, trauma, and dream interpretation. In addition to her academic work, Dr. Semkiv is an

Analytical Psychologist (IAAP) and maintains a private psychoanalytic practice in Ukraine. Her articles — War: Mentalization and Totalitarian State of Mind, Day 59 of War, Film Review: Border Guards, and Recovery through Music: An Initiative in the Lviv Philharmonic during the War in Ukraine — were published in English during wartime, offering important insights into the depth of war trauma and its potential for individuation and growth. Email: <a href="mailto:semkiv@ucu.edu.ua">semkiv@ucu.edu.ua</a>

#### Individuation Under the Pressure of War Trauma: The Paradox of Post-Traumatic Growth

In this conference, war trauma will be explored as an archetypal and transpersonal experience, radically altering the internal world of individuals and entire societies. War, as a confrontation with archaic evil, acts as a psychological initiator, pushing the Ego into a transformative process beyond its familiar structures, sacrificing naivety. Drawing on *Jungian individuation theory and alchemical symbolism*, the presentation will outline how war trauma confronts the psyche with *calcinatio*, *nigredo*, *mortificatio*, *albedo*, *and rubedo*, leading either toward deep internal change of identity or, conversely, to stagnation and trauma entrapment. Through the lens of *neuroscientific metaphors*, with a focus on brain processes, the discussion will illuminate how trauma impacts both the *reflexive and reflective capacities* of the mind and how these neural dynamics parallel the alchemical stages of psychological transformation.

Special attention will be given to the *Gorgon Medusa metaphor*, representing how unprocessed trauma can fossilize the psyche and foster a *totalitarian state of mind*, where subjectivity becomes frozen. Alongside this, pathways of *mentalization, creative expression, and reflective functioning* will be highlighted as avenues for individuation even under extreme wartime conditions.

Clinical examples will be integrated, on how war trauma activates personal complexes, both obstructing and accelerating individuation processes. A *film review* of *Border Guards* will be incorporated revealing how *film-art* serves as a symbolic mirror of collective individuation, capturing both the suffering and creative rebirth of identity in times of war.

Ultimately, this presentation reflects on the *opportunities and limitations of post-traumatic growth*, portraying war as a psychological crossroads—capable of both tragic fragmentation and profound renewal.

#### Time Schedule for Sunday, October 12, with Iryna Semkiv

9.30 - 9.45	Welcome
9.45 - 11.00	Presentation 1. War Trauma as Archetypal and Transpersonal Experience: The
	Collapse of Old Identity and the Call for Individuation
11.00 - 11.30	Break
11.30 - 12.00	Plenary Discussion
12.00 - 13.00	Lunch
13.00 - 14.30	Presentation 2. Two Kinds of Suffering: Real Transformative Suffering or
	Entrapment in the Trauma Complex
14.30 - 15.00	Break
15.00 - 15.30	Dialogue in the Plenary
15.30 - 16.00	Closing of the Day

#### **Practicalities:**

The conference is arranged by the Conference Group (Mei-Fun Kuang, Petrusjka Jeiner Svane, Christel Bormann) on behalf of the C.G. Jung Institute of Copenhagen.

**Time and place:** The conference takes place on Saturday October 11 and Sunday October 12 2025 in "Kulturhuset Indre By",

Charlotte Ammundsens Plads 3.

1359 København K.

The fee: includes coffee/tea and lunch.

**Ordinary fee:** 1.300, - DKK for one day, 2.600, - DKK for two days.

**Members of Jung Foreningen:** 1.100, - DKK for one day, 2.200, - DKK for two days. **Reduced price for students:** 800, - DKK. for one day, 1600, - DKK for two days.

Members of the DSAP: 160, - DKK for one day, 320, - DKK for two days.

Attendance at the seminar is free of charge for candidates at the C.G. Jung Institute,

as they have paid for their attendance via their training fee.

#### **SEATS ARE LIMITED - REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY!**

**REGISTRATION** is binding and must be submitted by e-mail to **konference@cg-jung.dk** marked: **Trauma**, stating **name** and if relevant, **memberships**. Registration is valid when the fee has been transferred to the following bank account: Danske Bank reg. no. 1551, account no. 1594907 IBAN DK4630000001594907 BIC/Swift DABADKKK

**Registration:** at the latest **September 20, 2025**. You will receive a confirmation mail from the administrator Martin Klitgaard.

If you need an electronic receipt, please give us the following information: name and address of your work place, EAN-number and name of address.

In case of overbooking, you will be informed by e-mail, and your payment returned. For further information, contact konference@cg-jung.dk

Best regards from the Conference Group.

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