

Annual Highlights

Prizes and recognition

CULTMIND researchers received important international recognition this year. In May 2023, Centre leader Ana Antic received the Dan David Prize, the largest history prize in the world:

<https://dandavidprize.org/winners/ana-antic/#:~:text=Ana%20Antic%20is%20a%20social,at%20the%20University%20of%20Copenhagen.>

CULTMIND Co-PI and head of research at the Competence Centre for Transcultural Psychiatry Jessica Carlsson Lohmann won the prestigious 2023 International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS) Sarah Haley Memorial Award for Clinical Excellence: <https://www.psykiatri-regionh.dk/centre-og-social-tilbud/kompetencecentre/transkulturel-psykiatri/nyheder/Sider/Sarah-Haley-Memorial-Award.aspx> The award is given to a clinician or group of clinicians in direct service to trauma-affected individuals.

On 18 March 2024, Co-PI Associate Professor Peter Leese successfully defended his Dr.Phil dissertation entitled *Migrant Representations: Life-story, Investigation, Picture*, which was published by Liverpool University Press in 2022.

Publication highlights

CULTMIND scholars published extensively not only in their own disciplines but as a result of cross-disciplinary collaborations. A group of the Centre's historians and anthropologists led by Dr Gabriel Abarca-Brown published a programmatic article in order to chart out new avenues for humanities research contributions to the field of global mental health: 'Toward a new relationship between history and global mental health', *Social Science and Medicine*, 2023:4. We have taken great pride in publishing not only journal articles and book chapters but also books. In February 2024, CULTMIND hosted a book launch for our postdoc Anna Toropova's co-edited volume *Technologies of Mind and Body in the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc* (Bloomsbury 2023). CULTMIND's postdoc Lamia Moghnieh and Ana Antic have been selected to co-edit Bloomsbury's new series *Cultural History of Madness*, vol. 6 (Madness in the modern age), which will be published in 2025.

Internationalization

CULTMIND has established collaborations with leading international institutions in our field. In November 2023, we hosted a network meeting with guests from Transcultural Centre, Stockholm, and Karolinska Institute, led by Dr Sofie Baarnhielm, in which we exchanged research projects and plans, and worked on developing a collaborative research project between our institutions. This event will be followed by CULTMIND's visit to Stockholm in autumn 2025.

In March 2024, the CULTMIND team visited McGill University's Division of Social and Transcultural Psychiatry, the most prestigious transcultural psychiatry institution in the world, in order to exchange research projects and experiences with running an international interdisciplinary centre focused on cross-cultural studies of the mind. CULTMIND researchers co-organized an international workshop with colleagues at McGill and conducted oral history interviews with some of the most important figures in the history of transcultural psychiatry. We have also developed plans for future research exchange (through CULTMIND's visiting scholars programme) and for collaborating in the development of CULTMIND's summer school.

Keynote lectures

CULTMIND scholars have been invited to give keynote lectures at leading international universities. Lamia Moghnieh and Ana Antic gave keynotes at Humboldt University, Berlin, in September 2023,

as part of the interdisciplinary conference ‘Decolonizing Mental Health: On a Reflexive Understanding of Health and Suffering in Transcultural Research Contexts’. Jessica Carlsson Lohmann was the keynote speaker at the 23rd Nordic Conference for Professionals working with Traumatized Refugees in Gothenburg in December 2023. Ana Antic gave the keynote lecture at Northwestern University’s inaugural symposium ‘Media and Mental Health: Exploring Contemporary Representations of Madness, Melancholy, and Trauma’ in May 2023.

Grants

In its first year, CULTMIND has already hosted its first Marie-Curie fellow Ana Cergol Paradiz, whose project is titled RETROCHILD: The impact of war and political violence on children. This project relies on the multidisciplinary techniques of medical humanities in order to explore how children were affected by the Second World War and the post-war redrawing of state borders in the area between Italy and Slovenia. In 2023, Jessica Carlsson Lohmann has also won a DFF grant to work on her project Patient engagement in PTSD treatment (PEP): Advancing PTSD Treatment Outcomes. CULTMIND has also integrated two externally funded research projects, which now both function under the umbrella of the centre’s first strand. The projects are: ERC Starting Grant Decolonising Madness: International order, transcultural psychiatry, and the emergence of the concept of a global psyche in the aftermath of the Second World War (2020-2025, PI Ana Antic), and NNF- funded Covid-19 and Global Mental Health: Importance of Cultural Contexts (2022-2025, PI Ana Antic).