

National Awarding Committee (NAC) for *EuroPsy* in TURKEY: Overview

Date of submission of this report: 25-02-14

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Latest update of this overview: 28-2-2014

Website of the NAC with documentation on *EuroPsy* in Turkish:

<http://psikolog.org.tr/index.php?Kurullar=13&Calisma=1&sayfa=1>

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1. Composition of NAC and S-NAC

1a NAC composition and operation

Number of members in the NAC: 9

Frequency and dates of meetings: 2/year, (First one was held on 10.1.2014); and conference calls via internet when needed.

Names of the members: see Appendix 1

Number of *EuroPsy* Certificates issued that are listed in the Register: 14

1b S-NAC for Psychotherapy

An S-NAC for psychotherapy has been established

Number of member in the NAC: [1] (Gonca Soygüt Pekak)

Frequency and dates of meetings: 2/year, (First one was held on 10.1.2014); and conference calls via internet when needed.

Names of the members: see Appendix 2

Number of *EuroPsy* Specialist Certificates (PT) awarded that are listed in the Register: 13

2. Psychology programmes

2a. Recognition of university education programmes as meeting *EuroPsy* requirements:

- Under the auspices of NAC
- In cooperation with NAC (e.g. by universities)
- By a national accreditation authority (Higher Education Council & Turkish Psychological Association), of which the judgements are accepted by NAC.

2b Structure of accredited / recognized education programmes

- Programs follow the format of 3 years BA + 2 years MA
- Another format is followed: 4 years BA/BS + 2 years MA (Appendix 3)

2c List of programmes that meet EuroPsy requirements

Names of universities in alphabetical order + Names of programs /degrees at Master Level

| Name of University | City | Degree Programmes |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Ankara University | Ankara | Psychology |
| Boğaziçi University | İstanbul | Psychology |
| Ege University | İzmir | Psychology |
| Hacettepe University | Ankara | Psychology |
| Koç University | İstanbul | Psychology |

New Applications pending for the Approval:

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------|------------|
| İstanbul Bilgi University | İstanbul | Psychology |
| İstanbul University | İstanbul | Psychology |
| Middle East Technical U. | Ankara | Psychology |

3. Supervised practice arrangements (for the EuroPsy Certificate)

3a Please describe the arrangements for one year (or equivalent) supervised practice

All graduate programs in clinical psychology and some of the other applied psychology programs include practice under qualified supervision during the summer and thesis periods. However, since the second year of the master programs are officially defined as the thesis period, all of these practices cannot be recorded on the academic transcript. TPA and psychology departments have begun to launch an initiative for legislative arrangements on this issue until the end of transition period.

Currently there is no legal arrangement for supervised practice. However, the plans for implementing supervised practice for entry into the profession were covered in the accreditation regulations. In these regulations, supervision starts following the first year of the master's program, conducted by a faculty member who has either a PhD in clinical psychology or a master's degree and at least a total of 10 years of experience in the psychotherapy field. The supervision has to take place for at least one academic year and can be conducted with only one student or with groups of two to three students, but must involve one hour per student each week. Students should have experience in various accepted contexts (the psychotherapy education laboratory or centers in the institution, in student health/counseling centers, hospitals and I/O settings etc.). The implementations will be evaluated via standard forms, being consistent with

the EuroPsy supervision criteria. Students can also complete the supervised practice after graduation. However, details and duration of this practice as well as the quality of the supervisor are to be certified by NAC.

3b Training of supervisors

National arrangement for training of supervisors is in place,

- arranged by the NAC
- arranged by the national psychologists' association
- offered by universities
- other

Various arrangements for training of supervisors are in place

X There is no organised training program in the country (Appendix 4)

3c Level of training of supervisors (see Appendix V of the EFPA Regulations on EuroPsy)

- X Most supervisors meet Level 1 criteria
- Most supervisors meet Level 2 or Level 1 criteria
- Most supervisors meet Level 3 or higher criteria
- Most supervisors meet Level 4 or higher criteria
- Most supervisors meet Level 5 or higher criteria
- Most supervisors do not meet *EuroPsy* training requirements

European Certificate in Psychology

4. Recognition of Title, Licence to Practice, Revalidation & Continued Professional Development (CPD)

4a Recognition of title

- "Psychologist" is not a legally recognized and protected title
- "Psychologist" is a legally recognized and protected title
- X "Psychologist" is a legally recognized and protected title for some areas of practice (Appendix 5)

4b License to practice

- X There is no license or entry in a register needed for practising psychology
- There is a license or entry in a register needed for practising in some areas of practice
- License or entry in a register is needed for practising psychology

4c Revalidation

- X There is no license or registration (see 4b); hence there is no revalidation
- License or registration is not restricted in time (No revalidation is required)
- Revalidation of the license to practice or entry in a register is required after XX years

5. Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

- X Currently no requirements for CPD exist.
- Requirements for CPD exist, but less stringent than for *EuroPsy* revalidation
- Requirements for CPD exist, at least as stringent as for *EuroPsy* revalidation

6. Transitional arrangements

- No transitional arrangements apply currently for any category of *EuroPsy* applicants (special cases like education and training in a foreign country are accepted)
- X Transitional arrangements apply until 31.03.2016.

1- Applicants, who had been recognized by the previous standing committee on psychotherapy, and were officially informed that “they have been approved by the SC-Psychotherapy as having met the requirements to be given the letter of recognition for psychologist with specialist expertise in psychotherapy” in the period of 2009-2010 were re-approved on 10-01-2014.

2- Awarding certificate through transitional ‘grandparenting’: during the transition period the applicant should show evidence of professional work as a psychologist and also should be able to show explicit evidence of duration and the quality of supervised practice. After the transition, this route will not be possible and only psychologists who have a university education in psychology of at least master’s level and 1 year of certified supervised practice will be eligible for EuroPsy.

European Certificate in Psychology

Appendix 1: Members of the NAC

| Name | M/F | Area of expertise | Term of office | Association |
|--|-----|---------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Elif Barışkın (Chair) | F | Clinical Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |
| Güler Okman Fişek | F | Clinical Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |
| Gonca Soygüt Pekak (Member & S-NAC Liaison) | F | Clinical Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |
| Melike Sayıl | F | Clinical Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |
| Mehmet Eskin | M | Clinical Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |
| Güliden Güvenç | F | Social Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |
| Canan Sümer | F | Industrial/Org. Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |
| Sezen Zeytinoğlu | F | Developmental Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |
| Zeynep Aycan | F | Industrial/Org. Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |

EuroPsy
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Appendix 2: Members of the SNAC

| Name | M/F | Area of expertise | Term of office | Association |
|---|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Gonca Soygüt Pekak (Chair & S-NAC Liaison) | F | Clinical Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |
| Perin Yolaç | F | Clinical Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |
| Ayşe Yalın | F | Clinical Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |
| Ferhunde Öktem | F | Clinical Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |
| Hanna N. Scherler | F | Clinical Psy | 2013-2016 | TPA |

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Appendix 3: Structure of Accredited Psychology Programs

Undergraduate education in psychology lasts for 4 years, and just like in the US, is institutionalized on the basis of academic competence and scientific model, yet grounded on the ‘member of a profession’ definition. Many psychology departments consider the APA and EFPA standards together and have established master’s and doctoral programs in a number of sub-areas of psychology. In this regard, psychology departments focus on a specific practice and allow for six years of higher education including an internship with supervision. Considering the priorities and resources of undergraduate education in Turkey, the basic principles and achievement standards of the curriculum to be implemented and the qualifications that graduates should possess are extensively defined, and an accreditation process has been started. The Turkish Council of Higher Education authorized the TPA to accredit psychology departments and programs.



Appendix 4: Arrangements for evaluation and training of supervisors

- i) NAC & SNAC have evaluated supervisor candidates in line with the EFPA Regulations on EuroPsy. Up until now, 14 TPA members approved as Level-1 supervisor defined in the guideline.
- ii) A guideline for supervision in psychotherapy practices is decided to be developed by the S-NAC.
- iii) A call for supervisors candidates is to be publicised via web and e-lists of TPA.



Appendix 5: Legal Regulations about recognition of psychologist title in Turkey

In Turkey, the title of clinical psychologist is regulated by Ministry of Health in the frame of “bag bill”. Accordingly, only clinical psychologists are entitled for psychotherapy practices.

In the related article of “bag bill”, the definition of Clinical Psychologist is regulated by three different formulas, as follows:

- i) 4-year undergraduate program in Psychology + 2-year master’s program in Clinical Psychology;
- ii) 4-year undergraduate program in Psychological Counseling + 2-year master’s program in Clinical Psychology;
- iii) Non-psychology graduates: 4-year undergraduate program in a different area + 2-year master’s program in Clinical Psychology + 4-year PhD program in Clinical Psychology (totally 6-year education in Clinical Psychology)

Note: In the category of iii, completion of 1-year Preparatory period in an undergraduate program of psychology is generally mandatory. Accordingly, a total of 7 years of education in Psychology are completed by non-psychology graduates.