

## **PANEL: Mental Health Policies and Professional Networks**

Researching the sociocultural dimensions of professional networks in mental health care (ARPA project)

**Maria Valasaki** (University of Crete), **Manolis Tzanakis** (University of Crete), **Gabriela Kelemen** (Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad), **Mihaela Gavrilă-Ardelean** (Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad), **Laurence Fond-Harmant** (Luxembourg Institute of Health). Researching the sociocultural dimensions of professional networks in mental health care (ARPA project).

The development of communal psychiatry in most western countries, after the 1960s, had as a result the prominence of the mental health professionals' networks significance for the operational qualification of the new therapeutic paradigm. However, at the degree that communal psychiatry is based on a direct relation with local communities, the cultural characteristics of the latter and the dominant social displays affect the way in which mental health professionals' networks institute and develop.

The report is based on data that has been drawn on the context of a European program Erasmus+ (ARPA). We aim to designate crucial cultural and social parameters that affect the way in which the mental health professionals' networks operate and are invited to deal with elderly people with psychiatric disorders among different European countries.