

European Grief Conference

Bereavement, Grief and Loss:
Responding Collaboratively to Local and Global Challenges

EGC

European Grief
Conference



September 9 Pre-Conference Workshops | Conference 10 - 11, 2026 | Porto, Portugal



#EGC2026

#EuropeanGriefConference

Conference App

We would like to invite you to download the app for the EGC 2026 Conference. Here you will find all relevant information about the programme, speakers and have the opportunity to interact with other delegates.

The app can be downloaded from App Store and Google Play. We recommend that you accept notifications so you can receive messages during the conference.

App name: The Event App by EventsAIR

Event code: Once you download The Events App, login with the email address you registered for the conference with and the unique code which will be sent to you by the conference organisers.

App Store



Google Play



Welcome from the Steering Committee

Welcome to the 3rd European Grief Conference

On behalf of the Steering Committee, we are delighted to welcome you to the 3rd European Grief Conference in Porto.

When the first European Grief Conference was held in Copenhagen in 2022, the ambition was to create something that did not yet exist: a shared European space for grief and bereavement. A place where knowledge, practice and lived experience could meet across national and professional boundaries.

Four years later, after Dublin in 2024 and now Porto in 2026, that ambition has grown into a community. Each conference has brought new voices, new countries and new perspectives into the conversation – strengthening our conviction that we can achieve more when we connect what is happening locally with what we can learn from one another across Europe and beyond.

This year's theme, **Bereavement, Grief and Loss – Responding Collaboratively to Local and Global Challenges**, captures an important part of that ambition. The challenges surrounding grief and bereavement are shaped by very different social, cultural and political contexts, yet many of the questions we face are shared. How can we ensure that people receive the support they need? How do we translate research into practice? And how can we build stronger responses to grief within our communities and societies?

The European Grief Conference is a place to explore these questions together. It brings different perspectives into conversation, creates opportunities to challenge established thinking and enables new ideas and collaborations to emerge. Above all, it reflects a shared commitment to ensuring that grief is recognised, understood and responded to with knowledge, compassion and appropriate support.

We are grateful to everyone who has contributed to building this European community and to our local hosts in Porto for making this third conference possible.

Over the coming days, we invite you to be curious, to share your knowledge and experience, to seek out perspectives different from your own, and to make connections that continue beyond the conference.

We hope that Porto will mark another important step in what we are building together.

Welcome to the 3rd European Grief Conference.

*The Steering Committee of the European Grief Conference
Bereavement Network Europe, Irish Hospice Foundation, Danish National Center for Grief*

Welcome from the Local Organizing Committee

Welcome to the 3rd European Grief Conference

On behalf of the Local Organizing Committee, we extend a heartfelt welcome to the 3rd European Grief Conference, held in the city of Porto at the Superbock Arena Congress Center.

This edition gathers researchers, practitioners, volunteers, policymakers, educators, around a theme that speaks urgently to our time: Bereavement, Grief and Loss — Responding Collaboratively to Local and Global Challenges. Grief is not confined by borders, disciplines, or professions, and our response to it cannot be either. It is our sincere hope that this programme will offer a space in which local knowledge meets global perspective, in which different fields of practice inform one another, and in which the shared work of supporting the bereaved is strengthened through genuine collaboration.

This conference is proudly hosted by the Portuguese Emotion Focused Society (SPTFE), in academic partnership with the University of Maia, whose dedication to advancing the science and practice of grief and emotion-focused care has made this gathering possible. We are sincerely grateful for their support.

Porto offers, we believe, a fitting setting for this conversation: a city shaped by resilience, memory, and continuity, where past and present stand side by side along the river. We hope that, between sessions, you will find moments to discover its streets and its light, and that the connections formed here – both professional and human – will accompany you home.

To every speaker, delegate, volunteer, and partner who has contributed to this conference, we offer our sincere thanks. It is your presence, your questions, and your willingness to engage with difficult and important subjects that give this gathering its meaning.

We wish you a rich, thoughtful, and meaningful conference.

Daniela Alves Nogueira
Director of the Local Organizing Committee

Members of the Local Organizing Committee:

Daniela Alves Nogueira, Carla Cunha, Eunice Silva, João Salgado, Nuno Pires, Carla Branco, Isabella Shimpó, Eunice Barbosa and Joana Soares.

Conference Venue: SuperBock Arena Congress Center



Address

The conference will be held at:
Rua de Dom Manuel II Jardins do Palácio de Cristal
4050-346 Porto

Located in the heart of Porto, within the historic Palácio de Cristal gardens.

GPS Coordinates:

Arena: 41.146892, -8.625894
Gardens Access: 41.148491, -8.625350

Website

<https://www.superbockarena.pt/en/>

Getting to Super Bock Arena by public transport – bus and subway (Metro)

Address: Rua de Dom Manuel II, 4050-346 Porto, Portugal

Metro

The nearest metro stations are:

- Casa da Música
- Carolina Michaelis

Both are served by lines A, B, C, E, and F, and are approximately 1.5 km from the venue (21 min walk).

Bus

The closest stop is "Palácio," served by several STCP routes, including 200, 201, 207, 208, 303, 501, 507, 601, 12M, and 13M.

Train

São Bento Railway Station (city center) is approximately 1.7 km from the venue. From there, you can take bus routes 201, 208, or 501, or enjoy a scenic walk through Porto's historic center.

Car

The venue offers a 24-hour underground parking facility with 453 spaces, accessible via Rua Jorge de Viterbo Ferreira. Additional parking facilities are available nearby. The venue is also just 5 minutes from the VCI (Porto's inner ring road) and main highway access points.

Taxi and Ride-Sharing Services

Taxis and app-based transport services (e.g., Uber, Bolt, Cabify, Kapten) operate 24/7. When booking, mention "Super Bock Arena – Pavilhão Rosa Mota" or "Jardim do Palácio de Cristal" (Crystal Palace Gardens) as a reference point for drivers.

Floor Maps at SuperBock Arena

Registration and Plenaries will be held at SUPERBOOK ARENA Congress Center
(-1 floor)



Breakout areas and poster displays are at Superbock Arena Congress Center (floor -1).

AUDITORIUM SA (AUDITORIUM SUPERBOCK ARENA)



Breakout Rooms

SAUDADE (MISS YOU)
MEMÓRIA (MEMORY)
ABRAÇO (HUG)
AURORA (DAWN)





AUDITORIUM BAG (LIBRARY ALMEIDA GARRET)

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS



Ally Pax Mair

Workshop 1

Understanding the Neurodiversity of Grief: An interactive and experiential workshop on neurodivergent experiences of grief and loss

Ally Pax Mair is a PhD candidate and tutor in Clinical Psychology at the University of Edinburgh. Their research focuses on neurodivergent experiences, perceptions, and understandings of grief and loss. Drawing on both academic and lived expertise of neurodivergence and grief, Ally works as a researcher and advocate to champion compassion and neuroinclusivity in grief support and palliative care.

Their research uses qualitative and participatory approaches that centre the lived experiences and expertise of neurodivergent individuals. While their work examines grief and loss broadly within neurodivergent communities, Ally has a particular interest in non-death losses, especially those arising from transitions in care and support.

Alongside their research, Ally consults with third-sector organisations on neurodiversity and neuroinclusion, and teaches at both undergraduate and postgraduate level on courses spanning clinical psychology, health, neurodiversity and neurodevelopment, and disability.



Danai Papadatou

Workshop 2

Psychosocial intervention in the aftermath of a disaster

Danai Papadatou is an Emeritus Professor of Clinical Psychology at the School of Health Sciences of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, in Greece. Her clinical, research experience and publications focus on issues related to pediatric palliative care, childhood and family bereavement support, community trauma, and the impact of death on professionals who care for the dying and the bereaved. She has also been actively involved over the course of a decade in the training of field workers who support unaccompanied refugee minors, and conducted extensive research. Danai is the chair of the Board of Directors of "Merimna", a non profit organization, which operates two childhood and family bereavement support services, and a pediatric palliative care home care service in Greece. She has been honored by several international awards for her teaching, research, publications and community service in pediatric palliative care, death education, and bereavement support. She is a member of the International Work Group on Death, Dying and Bereavement a group of leaders in thanatology since 1990 and has served as chair and member of its board of directors.

*Rafael Jódar**José Gamoneda**Alejandro de la Traba López*

Workshop 3

Working with Emotions in Grief: An EFT Perspective

Rafael Jódar, PhD, is a clinical psychologist, researcher, and lecturer at Universidad Pontificia Comillas, and a psychotherapist, supervisor, and trainer accredited by the International Society for Emotion-Focused Therapy (ISEFT). With more than two decades of clinical, teaching, and research experience in humanistic-experiential psychotherapy, his work centers on Emotion-Focused Therapy (EFT) and the emotional, relational, and therapeutic processes of change. He combines clinical practice with the supervision and training of psychotherapists, and has published in indexed scientific journals on emotional processes, self-criticism, grief, and psychotherapeutic change — particularly the empty-chair task in grief. His approach brings together clinical and scientific perspectives to help therapists intervene with greater precision, humanity, and effectiveness.

José Gamoneda, PhD, is a clinical psychologist, researcher, and lecturer at Universidad Pontificia Comillas, with extensive experience in grief. He is also an accredited Emotion-Focused Therapy (EFT) trainer and supervisor with the International Society for Emotion-Focused Therapy (ISEFT). His research focuses on grief and emotional processing from an Emotion-Focused Therapy perspective, with particular attention to emotional processes and the empty-chair task in the context of grief.

Alejandro de la Traba López is a Clinical Psychologist, doctoral researcher at Universidad Pontificia Comillas (Spain), and an internationally certified Emotion-Focused Therapy (EFT) therapist and supervisor. His work integrates clinical practice, research, teaching, and supervision, with a doctoral focus on the emotional transformation processes involved in empty-chair work for individuals experiencing complicated and prolonged grief.

*Maja O'Connor**Paul Boelen**Christina Buur*

Workshop 4

How to identify and treat Prolonged Grief Disorder with evidence-based methods – an interactive workshop

Maja O'Connor is a professor in clinical psychology at Department of Psychology, Aarhus University, Denmark, where she since 2017 has managed Unit for Bereavement Research. She is employed part time at The Danish National Center for Grief as a senior researcher. She has worked with bereavement research for over 25 years with a special focus on complicated grief reactions and has published more than 80 peer reviewed research papers and book chapters. She is an authorized clinical psychologist and formally qualified specialist in geriatric psychology. Her main research interest is the transition from adaptive grief to complicated, treatment-demanding grief reactions and how to identify and treat Prolonged Grief Disorder in adults.

Paul Boelen is full professor of clinical psychology at Utrecht University. As a researcher, he is also affiliated with the ARQ National Psychotrauma Centre, and he works as a BIG-registered psychotherapist, health psychologist, and clinical psychologist at ARQ Centrum'45. He has been conducting research on grief for more than 25 years. He developed and evaluated a cognitive-behavioral treatment for complicated grief (now termed prolonged grief dis-

order) for adults, as well as a similar treatment for children who struggle with processing loss. More recently, he has been involved in developing and evaluating online interventions for complicated grief tailored to specific target groups, including people who lost loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic and individuals confronted with loss due to traffic accidents. He has (co-)authored more than 250 publications in the field of grief and, more broadly, psychotraumatology.

Christina Buur Steffensen is a licensed clinical psychologist at the Danish National Center for Grief and an external lecturer at the Unit for Bereavement Research at Aarhus University. Her clinical and research work focuses on grief in adulthood, particularly complicated grief reactions and prolonged grief disorder. She investigates factors that may increase the risk of complicated grief and how grief can best be understood and treated. Christina has published research on adult grief and prolonged grief disorder. She has also contributed to the development of assessment tools, including questionnaires and a clinical diagnostic interview for prolonged grief disorder. Christina is involved in several research projects, including international collaborations, and is committed to communicating research-based knowledge about grief to professionals and the wider public.

Welcome Speaker



Teresa Almeida

Teresa Almeida is an artist working mainly with glass, living in Porto, Portugal, and a professor at the Fine Art Faculty, Oporto University, since 2009. Since 2006 is part of the research Unit I&D "Glass and ceramics for the arts" (VICARTE), and in 2011 she became part of the i2ADS Research Institute in Art, Design and Society, Faculty of Fine Art, Oporto University. She got grants from the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) to do the PhD and the Pos doctoral research.

She has participated in several international art exhibitions and also lectured at international conferences, as well as lecturing and giving workshops. Her work has been published in international journals, and her artwork displayed publicly and privately. Teresa Almeida's artistic practice focuses on glass as a sculptural and expressive material, through which environmental issues are explored.

Plenary Speakers



Lauren Breen

Level 0: Society: Grief Literacy, Advocacy & Community (Societal Grief Literacy & Awareness)

Prof Lauren Breen

Lauren Breen PhD FT is a psychologist, researcher, TEDx speaker, and a professor of psychology at Curtin University, Australia. She works to understand the psychology of grief and loss over the lifespan and the intersections with mental health and wellbeing. She has published 180 journal articles, 22 book chapters, and co-edited 1 book, *The Routledge International Handbook of Child and Adolescent Grief in Contemporary Contexts*. She was managing editor of *Death Studies* for 4 years, a board member for Grief Australia for 9 years, and currently is a board member for Lionheart Camp for Kids, an organisation supporting grieving children and families. In harnessing strong partnerships, Lauren's research has informed policy and practice locally and around the world. In 2022, she received the Research Award from the Association for Death Education and Counseling (USA). In 2023 and 2024, she was recognised as Australia's top researcher in the category Hospice and Palliative Care. She is member of the International Work Group on Death, Dying and Bereavement and is a Fellow of the Australian Psychological Society.



Kate Woodthorpe

Level 1: Grief: General Awareness & Support (General Support & Information)

Prof Kate Woodthorpe

Professor Kate Woodthorpe is a sociologist at the University of Bath where co-directs the world leading research center, the Center for Death and Society (CDAS). Over two decades Kate has published and conducted funded research on funeral practices and costs, families at the end of life, and the deathcare sector. Her latest work is on family disputes, dying at home, and death administration.



Nina Vaswani



Inês Rothes

Level 2: Bereavement Support, Prevention & Risk Factors (Extra Support)

Dr Nina Vaswani

Dr Nina Vaswani is the Senior Research Fellow at the Children and Young People's Centre for Justice at the University of Strathclyde. Nina's key research interests are the experience and impact of loss, bereavement and trauma in young people and how these experiences interface and influence contact with the justice system, and her PhD focused on the bereavement experiences of boys and young men in prison. Nina is also interested in young masculinities and how marginalisation, disadvantage, loss and trauma might shape young men's developing identities, mental health, behaviours and outcomes. Nina was the PI on the Men Minds Project (www.menminds.org), which was coproduced with young men aged 16-24 to better understand marginalised young men's mental health, and she is currently PI on the Challenging Justice Inequalities project (www.challengejustice.org).

Prof Inês Rothes

Inês Rothes was born in Porto and has been a psychologist since 1999, having graduated from the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences of the University of Porto (FPCEUP). Throughout her professional and academic career, she has specialised in suicidology and suicide prevention, developing research, training, and clinical and community intervention in this field. She is currently the President of the Portuguese Society of Suicidology and a member of the suicide prevention working group of the National Coordination for Mental Health Policies (Ministry of Health).

She began her clinical practice in the field of drug addiction and is a specialist in Health and Community Psychology recognised by the Portuguese Psychologists' Association. She has worked on various community and public mental health projects while maintaining clinical activity, mainly with young people and adults. She holds a Master's degree in Psychological Intervention with Children and Adolescents and a PhD in Psychology from the University of Porto, with a European Doctorate title, having completed an international research internship at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Leuven in Belgium. She is currently an Assistant Professor at FPCEUP and a researcher at the Psychology Research Centre of the University of Porto (CPUP).

*Alison Penny**Clare Killikelly*

Level 3: Complicated grief reactions: Diagnosis & Treatment (Therapy Support)

Plenary Panelists

Dr Alison Penny

Alison is Director of the Childhood Bereavement Network, the hub for those working with bereaved children and young people across the UK. She is also Coordinator of the National Bereavement Alliance, a strategic collaboration of organisations and individuals working with bereaved people in England. She keeps the sector updated with relevant developments, and helps the field to develop consensus on key policy and practice topics, contributing to gains in national policy in bereaved people's interests. She was awarded an MBE for her work in 2021. Alison has a particular interest in the social and policy influences on bereavement, and in supporting bereavement services to demonstrate the effectiveness of their work. She is a member of the International Work Group on Death, Dying and Bereavement.

Prof Clare Killikelly

Clare Killikelly is a clinical psychologist and assistant professor at the University of Zurich specialising in grief across cultural contexts, with a particular focus on prolonged grief disorder and global mental health. Her work examines how cultural meanings, social practices, and structural factors shape the experience, expression, and assessment of grief, and how these insights can be translated into effective, culturally responsive and scalable interventions.

A central strand of her research focuses on the development and evaluation of digital mental health interventions for grief, including internet- and app-based therapies designed to improve access to evidence-based care for underserved and hard-to-reach populations. She works at the intersection of clinical science, cultural psychology, and digital innovation, with a strong emphasis on ethical and scalable care.

Clare has authored over 60 peer-reviewed publications and collaborates widely in international and interdisciplinary research networks advancing culturally informed grief care.

*João Salgado**Maja O'Connor**Allan Køster***Prof João Salgado**

João Salgado is a psychotherapist with a PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Minho also an Associate Professor at University of Maia, where he is vice-Rector of International Affairs and the PhD program in Clinical Psychology. He teaches courses on emotion-focused therapy and narrative and dialogical approaches in clinical psychology within that program.

He represents Portugal on the European Federation of Psychologists' Associations (EFPA) working group on e-health, represents the Portuguese Psychologists' Association (Ordem dos Psicólogos Portugueses) at the National Telehealth Center, and is a member of the Association's e-health working group. Throughout his career, he has also provided clinical support to individuals experiencing grief.

Prof Maja O'Connor

Maja O'Connor is a professor in clinical psychology at Department of Psychology, Aarhus University, Denmark, where she since 2017 has managed Unit for Bereavement Research. She is employed part time at The Danish National Center for Grief as a senior researcher. She has worked with bereavement research for over 25 years with a special focus on complicated grief reactions and has published more than 80 peer reviewed research papers and book chapters. She is an authorized clinical psychologist and formally qualified specialist in geriatric psychology. Her main research in-

terest is the transition from adaptive grief to complicated, treatment-demanding grief reactions and how to identify and treat Prolonged Grief Disorder in adults.

Panel Facilitator: Dr. Allan Køster

Allan Køster conducts research on grief from an existential perspective, focusing on grief as a lived experience. His work explores themes such as: What characterises our relationship with death? What is grief as a phenomenon? How do we find comfort in the face of profound and irreversible loss? What characterises our relationship with those who have died? What is the emotional nature of grief? And what ethical questions arise in relation to grief—for example, which losses should be recognised as grievable?

Allan regularly publishes in international journals on grief and other forms of physical and psychiatric suffering. He is a keynote speaker at national and international conferences and also contributes to podcasts and similar media formats, both in Denmark and internationally. His methodological approach is phenomenological, drawing extensively on qualitative methods. In addition, he has experience in psychotherapy and specialist clinical training in narrative therapy.

Schedule

Final Program

European Grief Conference 2026

WEDNESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2026						
13.30-18.00	Registration open at Superbock Arena Conference Center					
14.00-17.30	PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS at Superbock Arena Conference Center					
ROOMS	SAUDADE (Miss you)	MEMÓRIA (Memory)	ABRAÇO (Hug)	AURORA (Dawn)		
	Workshop 4: PGD - interactive workshop <i>Paul Boelen, Maja O'Connor, Christina Buur</i>	Workshop 3: Working with emotions in grief <i>José Gamoneda, Rafael Jódar, Alejandro de la Traba</i>	Workshop 2: Psychosocial intervention in the aftermath of a disaster <i>Danai Papadatou</i>	Workshop 1: Understanding the neurodiversity of grief <i>Ally Pax Arcani Mair</i>		
18.30-20.00	WELCOME Reception at Cooperativa Árvore					

THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2026						
07.00-8.30	Registration is open and submission of slides for oral presentations, Superbock Arena Conference Center					
	Hanging of designated morning posters Research Part I					
9.00-09.30	Official Opening EGC 2026 (Auditorium SA - Superbock Arena Conference Center)					
9.30-10.00	Keynote Welcome Address					
10.00-11.00	Level 0: Society: Grief Literacy, Advocacy & Community (societal grief literacy & awareness)					
	PLENARY SESSION: (Auditorium SA - Superbock Arena Conference Center)					
	Speaker: Prof Lauren Breen: A grief literate world for young people					
11.00-11.15	Coffee on the go / move to next location					
PARALLEL SESSIONS						
11.15-12.45	RESEARCH	PRACTICE	POLICY & EDUCATION	SPECIAL THEME ARTS	SPECIAL PARALLEL SESSION	SYMPOSIUM (90 MINUTES)
ROOMS	SAUDADE (Miss you)	MEMÓRIA (Memory)	ABRAÇO (Hug)	AURORA (Dawn)	AUDITORIUM BAG (Biblioteca Almeida Garret)	AUDITORIUM SA (Superbock Arena)
11.15-11.30	Grieving without a coffin: Living and anticipated losses among young relatives of serious familial illness in Denmark Presenter: Anne Vinther Søndergaard	Bereaved for Life – Death, Bereavement and Grief in Maltese Society Presenter: Graziella Vella	Educating about Death to Educate for Life: A Pedagogical Project on Grief in a Secondary School Presenter: Laura Ferret	The Grief Gallery: An Arts-Based, Object-Centred Approach to Community Bereavement Support in a Public Hospital Presenter: Charlene Lam	Suicide Prevention and Postvention: Updates on Research and Evidence-based Interventions Presenter: Ella Arensman	The Public Health Model of Bereavement Support: Evolutions and Opportunities Moderator: Ng Yong Hao
11.30-11.45	Imagine talking about death... Effects of a psychotherapeutic imagination intervention on end-of-life communication: a randomized controlled trial Presenter: Sophie Kievernagel	Filling the Gap: Young Adults Navigating Connection in the Context of Grief Presenter: Machteld Van Barchjansen	Kitchen Table Grief-Talk - Action Research for Grief Literacy Connected Education (GLCE) Presenter: Ruth-marijke Smeding	Diversity of Loss: Collaborating to Create Intergenerational Arts-Based Grief Support Presenters: Maegan Parker Brooks, Madeleine Lee Maes		

ROOMS	SAUDADE (Miss you)	MEMÓRIA (Memory)	ABRAÇO (Hug)	AURORA (Dawn)	AUDITORIUM BAG (Biblioteca Almeida Garret)	AUDITORIUM SA (Superbock Arena)
11.45-12.00	Between Grief and Duty: Family Members Delivering Sudden Death News <i>Presenter: Ronit Leichtentrirt</i>	Consolation and the limits of therapeutic thinking <i>Presenter: Allan Køster</i>	Erasmus+ as a Catalyst for Innovation in Grief and Bereavement Care: Lessons from the AURORA Project <i>Presenter: Carla Cunha</i>	Clay shapes of grief; giving voice to bereaved individuals in Portugal <i>Presenter: Adela Pakandlova</i>		
12.00-12.15	Supporting vocational education students affected by bereavement and illness in the family – challenges and possibilities <i>Presenter: Thomas Mackrill</i>	Transforming Bereavement Signposting <i>Presenter: Yvonne Tulloch</i>	Cocreating good grief care in the workplace; From position to practice <i>Presenter: Amy Gibney</i>	Through the Lens of Loss: A Photo-voice Group Intervention to Foster Meaning-Making in Bereavement <i>Presenter: Margarida Ferreira De Almeida</i>		
12.15-12.30	Falling Between Systems: Institutional Invisibility Following Parental Death in Emerging Adulthood <i>Presenter: Terumi Okaku</i>	Developing, and assessing capacity to deliver, a public health approach-based bereavement service model for specialist palliative care in Ireland <i>Presenter: Amanda Roberts</i>	Informing Innovation Through Grief Literacy: A Framework for Integrating Bereavement Science into Digital Legacy Technologies <i>Presenter: Michelle Desmond</i>	Under Ireland's Skin: Memorialising the Infants and Children who Died in Ireland's Mother and Baby Homes through the Babóg Project <i>Presenter: Jennifer Moran Stritch</i>		
13.15-13.45	Lunch in the lobby (bring your lunch along to the poster area)					
	POSTER PRESENTATIONS 13.15-13.45 Presenters will be presenting their posters: Research Part I 13.45: Taking down posters and hanging of designated afternoon research posters Research Part II					
14.00-15.00	Level 1: Grief: General Awareness & Support (general support & Information)					
	PLENARY SESSION: (Auditorium SA - Superbock Arena Conference Center) Speaker: Prof Kate Woodthorpe: Family disputes after death and deceased people's wishes: who takes priority?					
	Coffee on the go / move to next location					
PARALLEL SESSIONS						
15.15-16.45	RESEARCH	PRACTICE	POLICY & EDUCATION	SPECIAL THEME - FUNERALS	SPECIAL THEME - SUICIDE	SYMPOSIUM (90 MINUTES)
ROOMS	SAUDADE (Miss you)	MEMÓRIA (Memory)	ABRAÇO (Hug)	AURORA (Dawn)	AUDITORIUM BAG (Biblioteca Almeida Garret)	AUDITORIUM SA (Superbock Arena)
15.15-15.30	Building the Evidence for a Public Health-Based Bereavement Service Model in Irish Specialist Palliative Care <i>Presenter: Wendy G. Lichtenthal</i>	Nondeath Loss and Grief: Conceptualization, Clinical Examples, and Intervention <i>Presenter: Darcy Harris</i>	Multidisciplinary Bereavement Support Training Programme (FMAL): A Fulbright Specialist Initiative for Professional Development in Portugal <i>Presenter: Cristina Felizardo</i>	From Iranian Mourning Rituals to Moral Challenge: Moral Distress and Symbolic Revenge After Human-Caused Spousal Loss <i>Presenter: Parastou Yousefali</i>	Debunking the myth that suicide prevention ends when a suicide occurs – a suicide bereavement educational initiative <i>Presenter: Fiona C Tuomey</i>	Frontiers of Childhood Bereavement: Credible Innovation through Modality, Participation, and Influence <i>Moderator: Martin Blinkenberg Lytje</i>
15.30-15.45	Cultural Scripts of Grief in Chinese Bereavement: A Qualitative Study with consideration of cultural values <i>Presenter: Yucong Wen</i>	Together We Can: Building a Collaborative Community of Grief Support Services in Western Australia <i>Presenter: Jacqueline Reid</i>	Support for Patients and Families on the Grief Continuum: An Interprofessional Curriculum for Healthcare Professionals <i>Presenter: Elizabeth Schandelmeier</i>	From Interfaces to Points of Contact: Collaborative Bereavement Care in Local Networks <i>Presenter: Willi Heuse</i>	Understanding Bereavement-related Suicidality in Prolonged Grief Disorder: The Perspective of Experts and Individuals with Lived Experience <i>Presenter: Laura Melzer</i>	

ROOMS	SAUDADE (Miss you)	MEMÓRIA (Memory)	ABRAÇO (Hug)	AURORA (Dawn)	AUDITORIUM BAG (Biblioteca Almeida Garret)	AUDITORIUM SA (Superbock Arena)
15.45-16.00	Responding to grief-related needs in older adults: Developing a community-based matched-care program (GriefDiff) <i>Presenter: David Dias Neto</i>	A pilot randomized cluster trial to assess the feasibility and acceptability of a community co-designed intervention for grief and bereavement in rural communities <i>Presenter: Eve Namisango</i>	Building Grief Education in Greenland: A Collaborative Effort <i>Presenter: Tina Graven Østergaard</i>	Garden of Grief: Practice-Based Grief Communities for Men 50+ in Cemetery Environments <i>Presenters: Jens Fogh, Allan Køster</i>	Postvention for people bereaved by suicide in Flanders (Belgium): 25 years of evidence-based practice <i>Presenter: Eva Vergaert</i>	
16.00-16.15	The experiences and support needs of young people caring at the end of life and into bereavement <i>Presenter: Emily Harrop</i>	Caring with Love at the Moment of Loss: Supporting Perinatal Bereavement through Interdisciplinary Work with Midwives <i>Presenter: Bárbara Fonseca</i>	Fostering dialogue about death in educational and family contexts through picturebooks and traditional tales <i>Presenter: Laura Escuela Magdaleno</i>	Grief-Informed Funeral Celebrancy: Integrating Bereavement Psychology and Ritual Design in Community Practice <i>Presenters: Jan Suren Möllers, Anja Franczak</i>	Needs of people bereaved by suicide: findings from a cross-sectional study in Flanders <i>Presenter: Lore Vonck</i>	
16.15-16.30	Undoing Death: Counterfactual Thinking and Emotional Adaptation to Bereavement <i>Presenter: Maarten C Eisma</i>	Developing and Implementing a Level 1 Bereavement Link Person Role to Support Families <i>Presenter: Breffni Mc Guinness</i>	Bridging the gap between theory and practice: designing and delivering bereavement education using lived experiences of anticipatory grief <i>Presenter: Mary Elizabeth Butler</i>	Where We Say It Out Loud: Suicide and Ceremony at The Last Hurrah <i>Presenters: Montarshan Jones, Ashley Hudson</i>	Understanding the Complexity of Suicide Loss: PTSD, Complex PTSD and Prolonged Grief Disorder following Suicide Bereavement <i>Presenter: Laura Hofmann</i>	
16.45-17.15	POSTER PRESENTATIONS 16.45-17.15 Presenters will be presenting their posters: Research Part II 17:15 Taking down posters					
19.00-23.00	SOCIAL PROGRAMME: CONFERENCE DINNER (for those who signed up)					

FRIDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2026

8.00	Arrival at Superbock Arena Conference Center & coffee will be served Hanging of designated morning posters Policy & Education					
8.30-9.15	Networking possibility					
9.15-9.45	POSTER PRESENTATIONS 9.15-9.45 Presenters will be presenting their posters: Policy & Education 9:45 Taking down posters, hanging posters for designated afternoon posters Practice					
10.00-11.00	Level 2: Bereavement Support: Prevention & Risk Factors (extra support)					
	PLENARY SESSION: (Auditorium SA - Superbock Arena Conference Center) Speaker: Dr Nina Vaswani: Disenfranchised grief in the disenfranchised: marginalisation and inequality in bereavement Speaker: Prof Inês Rothes: Beyond Prevention: Postvention as a Critical Strategy in Suicide Risk and Bereavement Care					
	Coffee on the go / move to next location					
PARALLEL SESSIONS						
11.15-12.45	RESEARCH	PRACTICE	POLICY & EDUCATION	SPECIAL THEME - FAMILY	SYMPOSIUM (90 MINUTES)	SYMPOSIUM (90 MINUTES)
ROOMS	SAUDADE (Miss you)	MEMÓRIA (Memory)	ABRAÇO (Hug)	AURORA (Dawn)	AUDITORIUM BAG (Biblioteca Almeida Garret)	AUDITORIUM SA (Superbock Arena)
11.15-11.30	Experiences of Gay Men with Pregnancy Loss via International Surrogacy <i>Presenter: Itay Ressler</i>	Strengthening Parenting After Parental Death: Digital, Brief Research-Informed Tools for Caregivers of Bereaved Children <i>Presenter: Rebecca Hoppe</i>	Group for be-reaved people in Brazil: Experience in a university extension project <i>Presenter: Jose Valdeci Grigoletto Netto</i>	Psychological adjustment during early perinatal bereavement: Preliminary findings from a (three-wave) longitudinal family-oriented study <i>Presenter: Emilia Alves</i>	The Stories We Carry: What Pet Loss Teaches Children and Their Families About Death <i>Moderator: Maria Gore</i>	Grief and Coping in Ambiguous Loss <i>Moderators: Birgit Wagner, Lucia Emmerich</i>
11.30-11.45	How to improve bereavement services for people from ethnically diverse groups: Findings from the national Equitable Bereavement Care For All study <i>Presenter: Lucy Ellen Selman</i>	Leigheas na Coille – Forest Medicine A Hermeneutic Phenomenological Exploration of the Lived Experience of Forest Therapy for bereaved adults <i>Presenter: Liz Gleeson</i>	Fostering knowledge, learning and skill development through communities of practice (CofP) on carer/ caregiver grief <i>Presenter: Zelda Freitas</i>	Meanings and memories: Supporting family members to view sensitive coronial documents <i>Presenter: Jane Mowll</i>		
11.45-12.00	The social dimensions of bereavement and grief: Refugees in Norway and their experiences with grief support <i>Presenters: Kristina Johansen, Kari Bergset, Sarah Khasalam-wa-Mwandha</i>	Adapting Dignity Therapy for Paediatric Palliative Care: Legacy-oriented Intervention with Children and Adolescents <i>Presenter: Lynnette Schöller</i>	Estimating future needs for formal bereavement support following cancer death in Europe <i>Presenter: Maja Furlan De Brito</i>	Beyond outcome measures: Understanding change in family-oriented grief therapy for bereaved children using case-based data triangulation <i>Presenter: Line Engel Clasen</i>		
12.00-12.15	Parents experiences of bereavement support in primary care following unexpected, sudden or violent child loss <i>Presenter: Trine Giving Kalstad, Iren Johnsen</i>	Development, Implementation and Feasibility of a Person-Based Group Intervention for Bereaved Older Adults: The GriefDiff Project <i>Presenter: Sara Albuquerque</i>	Developing and Empowering Societal Grief- and Loss-Literacy through a Large-Scale Reform Movement <i>Presenters: Günter Czasny, Max Geiger</i>	Heterogeneous Pathways of Grief Transmission in Families in Daily Life <i>Presenter: Lonneke Lenferink</i>		

ROOMS	SAUDADE (Miss you)	MEMÓRIA (Memory)	ABRAÇO (Hug)	AURORA (Dawn)	AUDITORIUM BAG (Biblioteca Almeida Garret)	AUDITORIUM SA (Superbock Arena)
12.15-12.30	Children and Young Adults' Mental Health and Support Needs following Divorced Parental Cancer Death <i>Presenter: Jette Marcussen</i>	The 6 Foci Model: A Clinical Guide for Helping Parents Facilitate Their Children's Grief <i>Presenter: Alba Payàs</i>	Enhancing Bereavement Care Through Standardised Training: Evaluation of a National eLearning Programme for Level 2 Providers <i>Presenter: Nicole Forster</i>	Tailored implementation of an evidence-informed BEereavement SupportT pathway in Swiss specialized palliative care (BEST for Family): a two-site mixed-methods evaluation with hospital-based palliative care professionals <i>Presenter: Marco Riguzzi</i>		
13.15-13.45	Lunch in the lobby (bring your lunch along to the poster area)					
	POSTER PRESENTATIONS 13.15-13.45 Presenters will be presenting their posters: Practice Taking down posters					
	Level 3: Complicated grief reactions: Diagnosis & Treatment (therapy support)					
PARALLEL SESSIONS						
14.00-15.30	RESEARCH	PRACTICE	POLICY & EDUCATION	SPANISH CONTRIBUTIONS	SPECIAL THEME - GRIEF & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE	SYMPOSIUM (90 MINUTES)
ROOMS	SAUDADE (Miss you)	MEMÓRIA (Memory)	ABRAÇO (Hug)	AURORA (Dawn)	AUDITORIUM BAG (Biblioteca Almeida Garret)	AUDITORIUM SA (Superbock Arena)
14.00-14.15	Reciprocal temporal associations between grief rumination and daily affect in bereavement <i>Presenter: Suqin Tang</i>	The Butterfly Project in a Brazilian Neonatal Intensive Care Unit: a bereavement-sensitive practice following perinatal loss in multiple pregnancies <i>Presenter: Laura Teixeira Bolasell</i>	From Tacit to Shared Knowledge: A Model for Developing Healthcare Professionals' Communication with Relatives and Bereaved Individuals in Acute Care Settings <i>Presenter: Anne-marie Dencker</i>	SYMPOSIUM (60 minutes) Ambiguous Loss and Delayed Disenfranchised Grief: The Spanish Experience of Historical Trauma <i>Moderator: Nereida Bueno-Guerra</i>	Integrating AI safely into Bereavement Support. <i>Presenter: Debbie Kerslake</i>	Beyond the Clinic: Next-Generation eMental Health for Underserved and Hard-to-Reach Populations <i>Moderators: Celestin Mutuyimana, Clare Killikelly</i>
14.15-14.30	Treating Prolonged Grief Disorder in adults: evidence- and consensus based clinical practice recommendations <i>Presenter: Maja O'Connor</i>	Internet Cognitive Therapy for Prolonged Grief Disorder (ICT-PG): A developmental case series <i>Presenter: Kirsten Smith</i>	When bereavement and problematic substance use intersect: grief reactions and support needs <i>Presenter: Sari Kaarina Lindeman</i>		Assessing Prolonged Grief Severity from Narrative Text Using AI-Based Methods. <i>Presenter: Chusi Xie</i>	
14.30-14.45	Identifying Response Patterns in Psychotherapy for Prolonged Grief Disorder: Growth Mixture Models of Symptom Trajectories <i>Presenter: Bianca Schreyer</i>	Treating Prolonged Grief Disorder with CBT for Insomnia: A Replicated Single-Case Experimental Study Protocol <i>Presenter: Thomas Abel de Lang</i>	Strengthening Standards in and Equity of Access to Bereavement Counselling Through Strategic Collaborations <i>Presenter: Catherine Tierney</i>		Block by block: Co-designing children's cancer literacy using Minecraft Education. <i>Presenter: Oliver Clabburn</i>	

ROOMS	SAUDADE (Miss you)	MEMÓRIA (Memory)	ABRAÇO (Hug)	AURORA (Dawn)	AUDITORIUM BAG (Biblioteca Almeida Garret)	AUDITORIUM SA (Superbock Arena)
14.45-15.00	The Disruption of Meaning in Bereavement Scale: A Multi-Domain Assessment Across Self, World, and Relationship with the Deceased <i>Presenter: Evgenia Milman</i>	Stories Withheld: Secrecy, Prognosis and Anticipatory Grief in Paediatric Palliative Care <i>Presenter: Michelle Hartnett</i>	Extending bereavement care to families following sudden and unexpected child death: addressing a major inequity through the QUIN-TET programme <i>Presenter: Seilin Uhm</i>	Crisis Management Following the Death of Law Enforcement Officers: Insights from 35 Police Psychologists <i>Presenter: Christina Pinilla</i>	Navigating Grief in the Digital Age: Exploring the Role of Griefbots <i>Presenter: Laura Skov Illum</i>	
15.00-15.15	Using Machine Learning to Identify (Interactions Between) Risk Factors for Prolonged Grief <i>Presenter: Paul Boelen</i>	Postpartum care: The potential flaws in traditional mental health screening for bereaved parents <i>Presenter: Kathleen Rose-Penkala Massmann</i>	The Effect of a Structured Bereavement Support Program on Mechanisms of Grief Adaptation and Symptoms of Prolonged Grief Disorder in Slovenian Adolescents: A Mixed-Methods Longitudinal Study <i>Presenter: Urška Petak</i>	Not All Grief Is the Same: Ideal Typologies of Grieving Clients Attending Emotion-Focused Therapy <i>Presenter: José Gamoneda</i>	(Im)mortality Over Dinner: An Experimental, Cross-Cultural Approach to Studying Grief in the Age of AI <i>Presenters: Katarzyna Nowaczyk-Basińska, Anja Franczak</i>	
	Coffee on the go / move to next location					
15.45-16.00	EARLY-CAREER POSTER AWARD					
16.00-17.00	PLENARY PANEL DISCUSSION: (Auditorium SA - Superbock Arena Conference Center) How does Level 3 relate to the public health model, cultural context, and life course (across all age groups)? Speaker: Dr Alison Penny Speaker: Prof Clare Killikelly Speaker: Prof Maja O'Connor Speaker: Prof João Salgado FACILITATED DISCUSSION Chaired by Dr. Allan Køster					
17.00-17.30	Closing Session: Europe Connects - Call for action! Looking towards 2028					

Posters

Poster Presentations - Research Day 1 · Thursday, 10 September · 13:15		
Abstract no.	Title	Presenters
4	Trauma, depression, and self-blame following stillbirth	Eran Shadach
6	Transitional Bereavement Support in the Flemish Healthcare Landscape: An Exploratory Analysis of Protocols and Practices	Sophie Elizabeth Frans Albrecht
13	The factors that promote and hinder the coping of siblings of homicide victims after a homicide death in Finland	Anna Liisa Aho
74	Cultural Scripts of Grief: A Cross-Cultural Qualitative Research with consideration of temporal associations	Jiaqi Liu
106	Posttraumatic growth among siblings bereaved by a drug-related death: a mixed-method study	Monika Alvestad Reime
111	Navigating childhood grief. Developing parent-child communication when a parent has a terminal illness: A scoping review of family-focused, pre-bereavement interventions.	Kate Wells
114	Bereaved siblings' stories of drug-related death	Gunhild Meen
118	Young Children's Grief After Parental Loss: Perspectives from Children Aged 3–8	Malene Hoffmann Buskbjerg, Maja O'Connor, Rikke Smedegaard Rosbjerg
123	Learning to Care for the Dead and the Bereaved: Nursing Students' Experiences in Emergency Departments	Dorthe Gaby Bove
139	Including children in intensive care bereavement: an experience-based co-design approach to family challenges at end of life	Annelies Rowland
140	A Qualitative Investigation of Prolonged Grief Symptoms and Post-traumatic Growth in People Who Experienced Loss During the COVID-19 Period	Melis Gun Ertan
147	Interspecies Grief Experiences Supported by Literary Art Therapy (Short Stories) in Middle Childhood: A Phenomenological Approach	Luis Smith Guzmán Mercado
149	Same or Different? Comparison of Grief Experiences Following Bereavement, Romantic Relationship Dissolution and Relocation	Antje Janshen
150	Loss Experiences, Grief, and Recovery in Forensic Psychiatric Inpatients: A Qualitative Study	Berber Brouwer
192	Factors Associated with the Experience of Bereaved Adults: Preliminary Results from an Umbrella Review	Deborah Ummel
233	Understanding Loss and Grievability: An Existential Framework	Allan Køster

247	Significant Losses and Perceived Social Support in University Students: Beyond Bereavement Due to Death	Cristina Sota Rodrigo
252	When the World Breaks: Grief and Loss in Illness and Old Age	Carl Bäckersten
262	The Role of Emergency Chaplains in a Coherent Bereavement Response	Annemarie Dencker
269	Grief, a Private Matter? Social Issues in Fragmented BereavementSupport	Aurélie Jung
274	“Acknowledge my grief” - experiences and needs of bereavement support in Sweden following the death of a loved one	Josefin Sveen
300	Bereavement and Parenting. A Longitudinal Thematic Analysis of Bereaved Parents with Minor Children	Marie-Frédérique Bacque
311	Making Invisible Grief Visible: Supporting Bereaved Friends	Orna Shemer
320	Factors that Shape Bereaved Relatives’ Experience of Care at End of Life: Findings from an Irish National Survey	Sonia Rennicks
335	When What Was Left Unsaid Still Matters: Unfinished Business, Prolonged Grief and Posttraumatic Growth	Margarida Ferreira De Almeida
336	When Kinship Is Not Enough: Relationship Quality, Proximity and Prolonged Grief in Portuguese Bereaved	Margarida Ferreira De Almeida
349	Bereavement support guidelines for caregivers in palliative care: a scoping review	Alexandra Coelho
350	Development and Validation of the Relational Needs in Grief Scale (RNGS)	Alexandra Coelho
355	Financial Consequences of Bereavement: Evidence from a National Survey in Ireland	Amanda Roberts
385	Grief Politics: COVID-19-related Loss and Collective Action in Brazil	Natashe Lemos Dekker
386	Background Factors and Prevention of Intrafamilial Homicides in Fin-land	Anna Liisa Aho
391	Bereavement need and support in palliative and cancer care: A pub-lic health perspective	Wendy Lichtenthal, Amanda Roberts, Maja Furlan De Brito, Nicole Forster
403	Local Bereavement Networks: situating and supporting bereavement in the community	Nicole Forster
406	Co-creating a Specialised Bereavement Support Training Curriculum: An Educational Design Research Study in Portugal	Cristina Felizardo
411	On Grief in Contemporary Sweden	Johanna Karin Skoglund
418	Reconstructing the “Good Death”: A Bibliometric and Critical Interpretive Synthesis	Ekaterina Bochanova
419	Latent profiles of Prolonged Grief, PTSD, and Depression following pandemic and non pandemic losses in a Brazilian sample	Alice Abadi, Laura Bolaséll
423	Investigation of Variables Predicting Posttraumatic Growth in People with Death-Related Loss: Core Beliefs, Ruminations, and Self-Compassion	Melis Gun Ertan

425	Reimagining grief through creativity and aesthetics: presenting 2026 book 'Creative and Aesthetic Ways of Grief: All Things Reimagined'	Mórna O'Connor
427	Relationship between Religiosity and Awareness of Death: Resulting a Quantitative Study	Nikita Bogachev
462	Translation, adaptation and validation of the Prolonged Grief Disorder Revised (PG-13-R) for the Portuguese population in a palliative care setting	Mayra Delalibera
465	Social Functioning in Parents Bereaved by Cancer: A Qualitative Exploration	Maya Goldman

Poster Presentations – Research

Day 1 · Thursday, 10 September · 16:45

Abstract no.	Title	Presenters
30	The Influence of Policies and Professional Expectations on Teachers' Leave Decisions and Well-Being Following a Miscarriage	Mandie Dunn
42	Exploring emotion regulation flexibility in bereavement using ecological momentary assessment	Fiona Maccallum
62	Profiles of mental health indicators among Ukrainian people recently bereaved in the context of the full-scale Russian invasion	Justina Pociūnaitė-Ott
66	Parents' Experiences of Facing their Child's End-of-Life	Avital Gershfeld-Litvin
82	Embodied Identity Reconstruction in Grief: A Tripartite Model	Liza Barros-Lane
103	How Loss Shapes Mental Processes: A Review of Implicit Biases	Ben Joris Mischer
109	Group versus individual grief therapy for older adults: Results from a randomized non-inferiority trial	Malene Hoffmann Buskbjerg
116	Grief Over the Loss of a Partner: The Bed as a Trigger for Emotional Distress	Valentin Rodil Gavala
133	Does Treatment Effectiveness for Prolonged Grief Disorder Differ Between Younger and Older Adults?	Franziska Prüller
136	Quality over Quantity in Social Contact? - An Ecological Momentary Assessment Study with Bereaved Adults.	Julia Achtenberg
141	Mental Imagery After Natural and Unnatural Loss: Associations With Prolonged Grief Symptoms and Wish for Image Change	Katja Pia Schnitzler
158	Measuring Counterfactual Thinking In Grief	John Arthur Leman
180	Testing the Body-Focused Emotional Acceptance and Release Technique (BEAR) in Severe Grief: A Randomized Controlled Experiment	Kelly Elvira Maria Leenen

181	"We miss being on the map alongside others." Civil society organizations and bereavement support in cases of drug-related deaths in Norway.	Aina Løberg, Monika Reime, Kjersti Halvorsen
185	Symptom profiles and cognitive-behavioural correlates of symptoms of prolonged grief disorder, depression and suicidality in PGD patients	Sarah Debus
186	The Role of Attachment Dimensions and Grief-Related Cognitions in Treatment-Related Symptom Change in Prolonged Grief	Anna-Maria Rummel
187	Attention biases towards loss-related images	Stefanie Seeman
205	Can Prolonged Grief Follow Companion Animal Loss? Evidence From a Prospective Study	Marcin M. Sekowski
209	Parents experiences of peer support following unexpected, sudden or violent child loss	Trine Giving Kalstad
213	Development and pilot evaluation of an Ecological Momentary Intervention for subclinical grief, for bereaved Swiss adults	Ayala Licht-Handler
225	Narrative Exposure Therapy for Traumatic Grief: A Bayesian Evaluation of Treatment Outcomes Jagoda Jurewicz	
226	Qualitative insights on the lived experience of prolonged grief disorder	Lars Petter Bergsmark
227	Imagery Rescripting in the Treatment of Prolonged Grief Disorder	Franziska Lechner-Meichsner
228	Development and Initial Validation of the Grief Training Needs Assessment Scale (GTNAS)	Alexandra Coelho
238	Emotional Transformation as a Mechanism of Change in Brief Videoconference Emotion-Focused Grief Therapy	Alejandro De la Traba
239	Working Through Loss: An Emotion-Focused Therapy Case Study of Prolonged Grief Disorder	Pablo Cortina
242	Between Death and Captivity: Ambiguous Loss and Multisystemic Disrupted Bereavement of Deceased-Hostage Families	Einat Yehene
272	Exploring reactivity effects of self-monitoring prolonged grief reactions in daily life: A randomized waitlist-controlled trial using experience sampling methodology	Minita Franzen
273	Development of the GriefSupportApp for prolonged grief following traumatic loss: Study protocol for co-creation, micro-randomized trial and mixed-method pilot study	Veerle Van Garling
279	Crisis management plans in Swedish primary schools: do they address death and grief?	Josefin Sveen
281	Being in School After a Family Member's Death: Children's, Young Adults' and Parents' Experiences of Grief in Swedish Primary School Context	Josefin Sveen
296	Collaborative development of an arts and compassion-focused bereavement programme for women following pregnancy loss: Findings from The PEARL Study Pilot Trial	Áine Aventin
301	Effects of a Self-Management Mobile Health App for Grieving Adolescents: A Randomised Controlled Trial	Josefin Sveen

308	An Experience Sampling Assessment of Grief Symptomatology in Switzerland, Rwanda, and Viet Nam	Pelin Sila Gelmez
325	Women's Mental Health across the Life-Course: Grief Experiences in Non-Terminal Female Cancer Patients	Taegen Michelle Josephine Mcphee
342	Twice Bereft: Understanding Psychological Impact and Supporting Bereavement Care	Emma Quadlander-Goff, Jill Meyer
361	Unfinished business as a mediator between posttraumatic stress symptoms and prolonged grief symptoms	Eunice Liliana Dias Barbosa
375	A longitudinal study of help-seeking during the first year of bereavement: Implications for practice and policy	Fiona Maccallum
395	My Grief My Way: Development of an online Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) resource to improve coping and quality of life after bereavement.	Anne Finucane
396	Psychosocial Support for Family Members in Specialist Palliative Inpatient Care	Anu Soikkeli-Jalonen
399	A comprehensive overview of risk factors for complicated grief reactions	Christina Buur
405	The development and validation of a short form of the Traumatic Grief Inventory Self-Report Plus (TGI-SR+)	Frida Berglund
410	Social modulation of empathy relates to salivary oxytocin levels and predicts changes in prolonged grief symptoms in Japanese bereaved adults	Takuya Yoshiike
432	Bridging the Gap After Caregiving: Implementing a Telehealth Outreach Program (TOP) for Bereaved Caregivers in Québec, Canada	Patrick Durivage

Poster Presentations – Policy and Education

Day 2 · Friday, 11 September · 9:15

Abstract no.	Title	Presenters
55	Building a Grief-Literate University: Collaborating to Train Students and Faculty	Madeleine Lee Maes, Meagan Parker Brooks
68	Love and Loss: Children using picture books to learn about bereavement	Anna Lise Gordon
211	An Exploratory Mixed-Methods Study of Grief in China: Interviews and a Pilot Online EMI	Chenchen Lin
241	CBT Griefhelp for Prolonged Grief in Children: Mechanisms of Change	Paul Boelen
248	Prevalence of Prolonged Grief Disorder Among Spanish University Students: A Cross-Sectional Study Using the PG-13-R	Cristina Sota Rodrigo
270	Hospital-Based Bereavement Care After Organ Donation: An Annual Memorial Meeting for Donor Families	Laura Teixeira Bolasell
305	Supporting Family Involvement in the Child Death Review Process in England: A National Review of Key Worker Provision	Seilin Uhm
306	Inequities in bereavement support following multi-agency investigations of sudden unexpected child death.	Seilin Uhm
314	The Hope Collective: Poetry as language for the unspeakable	Seilin Uhm
317	Models and Components of Care Following Sudden and Unexpected Child Death: A Systematic Review	Seilin Uhm
318	Family Experiences and Outcomes Following Sudden and Unexpected Child Death: A Systematic Review	Seilin Uhm
321	Voicing the Void: a transdisciplinary approach to naming parental grief and child loss	Seilin Uhm
416	When a Portuguese, a Norwegian, and a Ukrainian Walk into a Zoom Room: Building Bridges in Death and Grief Education	Cristina Felizardo
440	Responding Collaboratively to Bereavement Inequity: A Public Health Approach Operationalised Through Training	Sonia Rennicks, Amy Gibney, Catherine Tierney, Nicole Forster
457	Strengthening Community Responses to Childhood Bereavement Through Collaborative Training	Sonia Rennicks
475	From Training Gap to Curriculum Foundations: Designing Multidisciplinary Bereavement Support Training as an Entry Point for Specialised Bereavement Education in Portugal	Cristina Felizardo
477	Suicide Bereavement Postvention in Practice: Building Literacy, Reducing Stigma, and Supporting Safer Care Pathways	Ana Félix
478	From Training to Local Action: Linking Multidisciplinary Education with Municipal Bereavement Support and Community Grief Literacy	Cristina Felizardo
482	From Clinical Practice to Public Policy: A Pioneering Experience in Bereavement Support in Latin America	Aldana Di Costanzo

Poster Presentations – Practice

Day 2 · Friday, 11 September · 13:15

Abstract no.	Title	Presenters
1	The Illusion of Control: Grief and the Fear of Falling Apart	Sandra Hunter
5	The Wheel of Morning in Motion - In Search of the Lost in the Lasting	Dorothea Gabriele Stockmar
52	Adaptive Grief Education and Exploring International Collaboration	Amy Kashiwa Heather Taylor
53	Exploring Grief Awareness Initiatives for University Communities: A Public Health Approach	Amy Kashiwa
58	Twilight Grief: Exploring Pre-death Ambiguous Loss and Addressing the Disenfranchisement of Pre-death Grief	Elizabeth Schandelmeier
63	Grief and Personal Identity: A Human Developmental Perspective & Practical Workshop Intervention.	Shannon Michelle Collier
93	Bridging the Gap in Holistic Perinatal Bereavement Care in an Irish Maternity Hospital	Brenda Casey
95	Therapeutic writing as peer-support: experiences of implementing a low-threshold digital intervention	Olga V Lehmann
96	“Don’t Worry, I’m a Ducktor”: A Symbolic Object as an Emotional Anchor in Bereavement and Psychological Distress	Ana Félix
98	Disenfranchised Grief After Abortion: A Therapeutic Group for Healthcare Professionals	Ana Félix
105	Using Hybrid Bereavement Support Groups (Simultaneously In Person and Online), Streamed by Time Since Death (1yr, 2yr, 3yr), to Help Parents Cope with the Death of Their Child	Breffni Mc Guinness
124	Outpatient Clinic Bereavement groups: a guideline for children and adolescents	Hege Sandanger
125	Outpatient Clinic Bereavement groups: a guideline for adults	Hege Sandanger
126	Developing a Dynamic and Active Memorial Garden Onsite at a Children’s Hospice to Help Parents Cope with the Death of Their Child	Breffni Mc Guinness
130	Peer Support in Motion: A Walking Group for Adult Men Bereaved by Suicide	Fiona C Tuomey
132	Harnessing Meaningful Memories After Suicide; a memorial quilt needle felting workshop to facilitate connection, emotional expression, regulation, and compassionate conversations.	Fiona C Tuomey
153	Participant experiences in a new, acceptance-based and body-focused therapeutic technique for problematic grief (BEAR)	Tim Michaël Schoenmakers
177	Strengthening grieving families in Germany - Adapting and piloting the program ‘Resilient Parenting for Bereaved Families’	Sophie Charlotte Faber

195	A Qualitative Study on Career Reconstruction of Women After Spousal Loss	Betül Tanacioğlu Aydın
196	A system perspective on child grief: Experiences and needs of parents and school counsellors in the face of childhood grief	Betül Tanacioğlu Aydın
217	Workplaces Supporting Life's Final Chapter	Kate Wells
264	The TrauerKaleidoskop: An Integrative Framework for Bridging Grief Research and Practice	Jan Suren Möllers
284	Analytical listening to music - a guided fantasies method in the case of a woman with mixed trauma and vanishing twin syndrome	Ranka Radulovic
287	Evaluating the effectiveness of online pre-bereavement support groups for partners of parents with cancer	Kate Wells
292	When Another's Loss Touches Mine: Anger and Injustice in Infertility-Related Grief	Ana Félix, Kathleen Massmann
295	Developing a Person-Based Digital Intervention (GriefDiff) to Support Grief Adaptation in Older Adults	David Dias Neto
298	Sharing knowledge about grief with the school community	Carl Bäckersten, Åza Svensson, Kristina Kolferud
312	Digital Peer Support for Parental Child-Loss Grief: Development and Early Outcomes of the Kids Connecting Parents App	Kimberly Anne Stevens
326	Enhancing Professional Skills for Supporting Diverse Families in Bereavement	Krista Nuutinen Susanna Uittomäki
351	Impact of a Primary Care-Based Group Grief Intervention: A Mixed-Methods Study	Laia Rodríguez-Cintas
356	The Bereavement Journey - AtaLoss' award-winning, church led community support	Yvonne Tulloch
358	Advancing System-Wide Responses to Bereavement, Grief and Loss: A Collaborative Hospice-Led Model of Evidence-Based Traumatic Grief Care	Seilin Uhm
363	Towards inclusive remembrance: reflections on designing an annual service for bereaved families.	Grainne Murtagh, Frances Neville
368	The Experience of Therapeutic Presence in Group Interventions for Prolonged Grief: The Voice of Participants	Joana Isabel Soares
370	Developing resources to facilitate communication about the grieving process: A Brazilian experience.	Cibele Marras
374	Emergency psychological intervention in a company following an employee's suicide: a Brazilian experience in the corporate world.	Cibele Marras
377	Re-envisioning recovery after loss following the death or severe injury of a family member from a Motor Vehicle Incident	Jane Mowll
389	The incorporation of psychology students in clinical internships into individual sessions from a relational psychotherapy approach: co-therapy.	Edward Van Herreweghe

390	The incorporation of the family and immediate environment into individual sessions: breaking the silence and strengthening bonds.	Edward Van Herreweghe
393	The bereavement codebook: a tool developed to support the analysis of qualitative evaluation/feedback data collected by bereavement services	Emily Harrop
417	Responding to Sudden Loss in a School Community: Implementing a Bereavement Support Group Through School-Academia Collaboration	Cristina Felizardo
426	Don't Assume, Just ASK: A Youth Led Approach for Supporting Bereaved Children and Young People in Education	Letizia Perna
433	After Caring Ends: A Group Model for Navigating Carers/ Caregivers Grief	Zelda Freitas
459	When Care Meets Grief: Bridging Informal Caregiver Burden and Evidence-Based Pathways Towards Healthy Bereavement	Sonia Azevedo Castro
464	Medical Social Work Service - Supporting patients seeking International Protection in Ireland – exploring complex grief & loss.	Ciara Mc Kenna
471	Group intervention and marital adjustment in mourning for the loss of a child	Joana Isabel Soares

Early-Career Poster Awards

We are pleased to introduce the new Junior Early-Career Poster Awards, recognising excellence and innovation in grief, bereavement, and loss research. The awards celebrate early-career researchers and practitioners whose work advances understanding across diverse contexts and communities.

By highlighting emerging scholarship, the conference reaffirms its commitment to supporting the next generation of researchers and practitioners.

There are 3 individual awards:

- Research (2 sessions, 1 award)
- Policy and Education
- Practice

Delegates will have 4 opportunities to vote during each of the poster sessions and will be emailed a unique voting link 1 hour before each poster session, voting will close 1 hour after each session.

The awards are sponsored by Maiêutica, the founding body of University of Maia, and the Bereavement Network Europe.

Social Programme



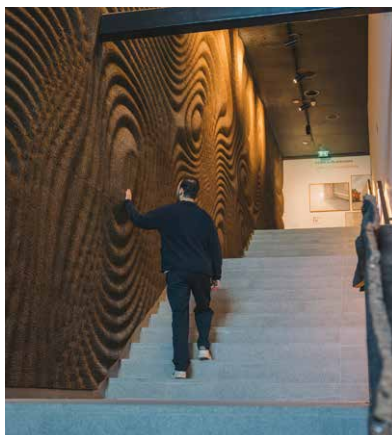
Welcome Reception at Cooperativa Árvore

Please join us at the historic buildings of an artistic Cooperative in Portugal for an opening reception for European Grief Conference 2026.

Time & Date: 18.30 to 20.00 on Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Address: Casa das Virtudes
Rua Azevedo de Albuquerque, nº 1
4050-076
Porto – Portugal

The reception is free of charge, but inscription is required.



Social Get together (with dinner) at WOW – Planet Cork

Time & Date: 19.00 to 22.30 on Thursday, September 10, 2026

Address: Rua do Choupelo 39, 4400-088 Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal

Description: Informal social and dinner with Portuguese music

Prebooked tickets only.

For any queries, email: participants@discongress.com

Conference Partners



Bereavement Network Europe

Bereavement Network Europe (BNE) is a broad European network bringing together organisations, researchers, practitioners, educators and volunteers working to improve understanding and support for bereaved people across Europe. Our vision is a **Europe-wide culture of compassion and provision of excellent support for bereaved people.**

BNE connects people across countries, disciplines and different cultural approaches to grief and bereavement. Through networking, knowledge exchange, research, webinars, resources and collaborative projects, we support the development of high-quality, evidence-based and culturally sensitive bereavement care across Europe.

The network also works to strengthen the visibility of grief and bereavement within research, education, practice and policy. BNE is a founding partner of the **European Grief Conference and is hosted by the Danish National Centre for Grief.**

In order to realise this vision, BNE needs your expertise and help. Please scan the QR code and let us know how BNE could best support your work. The anonymous survey takes approximately five minutes.



Scan to take the BNE survey or follow the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BNE>

Let's build BNE together – thank you for participating.

Find out more at bereavement.eu.



The Danish National Centre for Grief

The Danish National Centre for Grief (DNCG) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation built around a clear vision: **Grief should never ruin a life.** We bring specialised treatment, research, education, volunteer-based support, knowledge dissemination, advocacy and international collaboration together under one roof.

Appointed by the Danish Health Authority, DNCG works to strengthen knowledge about grief and ensure access to evidence-based support and treatment. Across Denmark, we provide specialised grief therapy to people of all ages and families, as well as support for children and young carers living with serious illness in their families.

Alongside our clinical work, we train professionals across sectors, collaborate with universities and research institutions, and coordinate volunteer-based peer support through grief groups, helplines, cafés and other services.

We also work to create a **more open and supportive grief culture in Denmark**, where grief is recognised as a natural part of life and people experiencing loss are met with understanding and support in their families, communities, workplaces and across society. DNCG initiated Sorgalliancen (the Danish Grief Alliance), bringing organisations and stakeholders together to advance grief as a shared societal agenda.

International collaboration is an integral part of our work. In Greenland, we partner with the **Government of Greenland, educational institutions and municipalities** to strengthen bereavement support, professional capacity and specialised grief care. We also collaborate with partners across Europe and internationally to advance bereavement care and knowledge.

DNCG is the administrative host of **Bereavement Network Europe** and a **founding partner of the European Grief Conference**, having hosted the inaugural EGC in Copenhagen in 2022.

Learn more: <https://sorgcenter.dk/>



Irish Hospice Foundation

Irish Hospice Foundation (IHF) is a national charity that addresses dying, death and bereavement in Ireland. We were founded in 1986, and our vision is an Ireland where people experiencing dying, death and bereavement are provided with the care and support that they need.

We believe that support through bereavement nurtures healing and resilience. As leader in the development of end-of-life and bereavement care, we work in collaboration with bereavement care providers and charities to provide information, resources and programmes for individuals, families, communities and workplaces.

Leading on national collaborative projects, we have developed the Adult Bereavement Care Pyramid as a framework for policy, planning and provision of bereavement care across Ireland. With support from the statutory service charged with care for children (TUSLA), we host the Irish Childhood Bereavement Network as a supportive platform for those supporting bereaved children. Through our Bereavement Support Line, we offer a confidential space for people to speak about their loss, and signpost them to additional supports if needed.

We provide a range of training and education programmes in bereavement and loss, including postgraduate programmes through our university partner, the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. International and European collaboration is something we value highly, and networking is a core part of our work. We were proud to have hosted the second European Grief Conference in Dublin in 2024.

Visit hospicefoundation.ie and bereaved.ie to learn more.



Portuguese Society of Emotion Focused Therapy

The European Grief Conference is proud to be hosted by the Portuguese Emotion Focused Society – Sociedade Portuguesa de Terapia Focada nas Emoções (SPTFE), based in Porto.

SPTFE is the professional body dedicated to promoting Emotion-Focused Therapy (EFT) in Portugal – an evidence-based humanistic and experiential approach to psychotherapy that places the understanding and transformation of emotional experience at the center of the therapeutic process. Through training, supervision, and certification pathways for practitioners, the Society works to strengthen the quality and reach of EFT across the country, supporting a growing community of therapists committed to compassionate, research-informed care.

The Society has extended its work beyond national borders through active participation in European research and training initiatives. SPTFE was a partner in empoweringEFT@EU, an Erasmus+ initiative bringing together institutions from Portugal, the United Kingdom, Germany, Spain, and Ireland to develop training, supervision, and best-practice resources for EFT practitioners across Europe. The Society members has also taken part in AURORA@COVID19-EU, a transnational study examining the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on grief processes and emotional wellbeing across several European countries, reflecting SPTFE's commitment to advancing the understanding and care of bereavement in times of collective crisis.

It is this commitment to advancing emotionally-focused, evidence-based approaches to human suffering – and to fostering dialogue between research and clinical practice – that makes SPTFE a natural and generous host for the European Grief Conference, bringing together its own community of practitioners with the wider European field of bereavement and grief care. Learn more at: www.sptfe.org



University of Maia

The University of Maia (UMAIA) is proud to serve as academic partner of the 3rd European Grief Conference.

Located in Castêlo da Maia, in the north of Portugal, UMAIA has, for more than 35 years, established itself as a leading private higher education institution in the region, having trained over 28,000 students and awarded more than 12,000 scholarships since 2010. The University operates as part of the Maiêutica Cooperative of Education, alongside the Instituto Politécnico da Maia and a dedicated Lifelong Learning Centre, reflecting a broad and integrated commitment to education at every stage of life.

UMAIA offers a diverse academic portfolio spanning Psychology, Sports Sciences, Health Sciences, Human Resources Management, Communication Sciences, Design, Tourism, and Criminology, among other fields. Its programmes in Clinical and Health Psychology — from undergraduate studies through to doctoral research — reflect a long-standing commitment to advancing the science and practice of psychotherapy, human development, and psychological wellbeing, carried forward through the work of its research units and more than twenty doctoral researchers in Clinical Psychology.

Guided by its "Healthy Campus" philosophy and an active network of international and Erasmus+ partnerships, UMAIA fosters an academic community centred on wellbeing, inclusion, and scientific rigour, welcoming students and researchers from Portugal and abroad.

It is this shared commitment to rigorous, compassionate, and evidence-based approaches to human suffering and care that underpins UMAIA's partnership with the European Grief Conference, and its ongoing collaboration with the Portuguese Emotion Focused Society in advancing the study and practice of grief and bereavement support.

Learn more: <https://www.umaia.pt>



The Center for Psychology at the University of Porto (CPUP) is an FCT-funded R&D unit dedicated to advancing cutting-edge research in psychological science, human development, and mental health. Recognized for its scientific excellence and international impact, CPUP brings together researchers across specialized thematic groups to foster evidence-based practice, innovation, and societal wellbeing. Building on this academic foundation, UMAIA hosts a dedicated research hub within the center (CPUP-UMAIA), where several UMAIA researchers involved in the local organization of the 2026 EGC, also integrate the Research Group on Relational Dynamics, Change Processes and Well-being and pioneer national evidence-based interventions.

Organizing and Scientific Committee

European Grief Conference 2026

Contributors & Scientific Committee

CONFERENCE STEERING COMMITTEE	
NAME	INSTITUTION & COUNTRY
Daniela Alves Nogueira (host)	University of Maia & SPTFE, Portugal
Carla Cunha (host)	University of Maia CPUP, Portugal
Heidi Mueller	University Hospital of Giessen, Germany
Tina Graven Østergaard	Danish National Center for Grief, Denmark
Orla Keegan	Irish Hospice Foundation, Ireland
Eva Zsak	Semmelweis University, Hungary
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NAME	INSTITUTION & COUNTRY
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Eve Griffin	National Suicide Research Foundation, Ireland
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Marita Hennessy	University College Cork, Ireland

RESEARCH SCIENTIFIC SUBCOMMITTEE

NAME	INSTITUTION & COUNTRY
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Yong Hao Ng	National University of Singapore, Singapore

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Compassio



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Tap air



Cooperativa Árvore



InLuto



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Special thanks for support in Portugal

SPTFE staff and volunteers

UMAIA staff and student volunteers

Amazon staff volunteers

With heartfelt thanks to the artists, coordinator, and support team behind the exhibition featured during our conference at the Welcome Reception:

Exhibition: **'Por Saudade'** ('For Longing')

Artists:

Ana Cristina Sousa (Portugal)

Cláudia Teixeira (Portugal)

Inês Ribeiro da Silva (Portugal)

Kalejaye Tosin (Nigeria)

Letícia Macêdo (Brazil)

Luis Rodrigues (Portugal)

Mariana Cerqueira (Portugal)

Mariana Maia Rocha (Portugal)

Mônica Nogueira (Brazil)

Sara Laranjeiro (Portugal)

Coordination: Domingos Loureiro (FBAUP/i2ADS)

Support: Beatriz Vieira, Manuel Sousa, Dan Gaina, Tiago Reis

'Por Saudade' brings together the work of ten undergraduate and postgraduate students in Fine Arts at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Porto, who reflect on grief as a universal experience of loss, memory, and transformation. Through a range of artistic practices, the exhibition invites a dialogue around absence, the persistence of affection, and the processes of meaning-making that accompany the experience of grief.

Each artist's work evokes different ways of engaging with grief, or of coping with loss drawing on experiences of family loss, imposed distance, emotional absence, abandonment, and even the conditioning of memory.

'Por Saudade' thus stands as an exhibition that addresses the complexity of grief and saudade as fundamental dimensions of human experience, and the role they play in shaping the identity of each artist – and of each of us.

Venue: Galeria Principal da Árvore – Cooperativa de Atividades Artísticas, Porto

We are deeply grateful to everyone involved for sharing this moving and thought-provoking work with our conference community.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the artists for this moving performance at the conference:

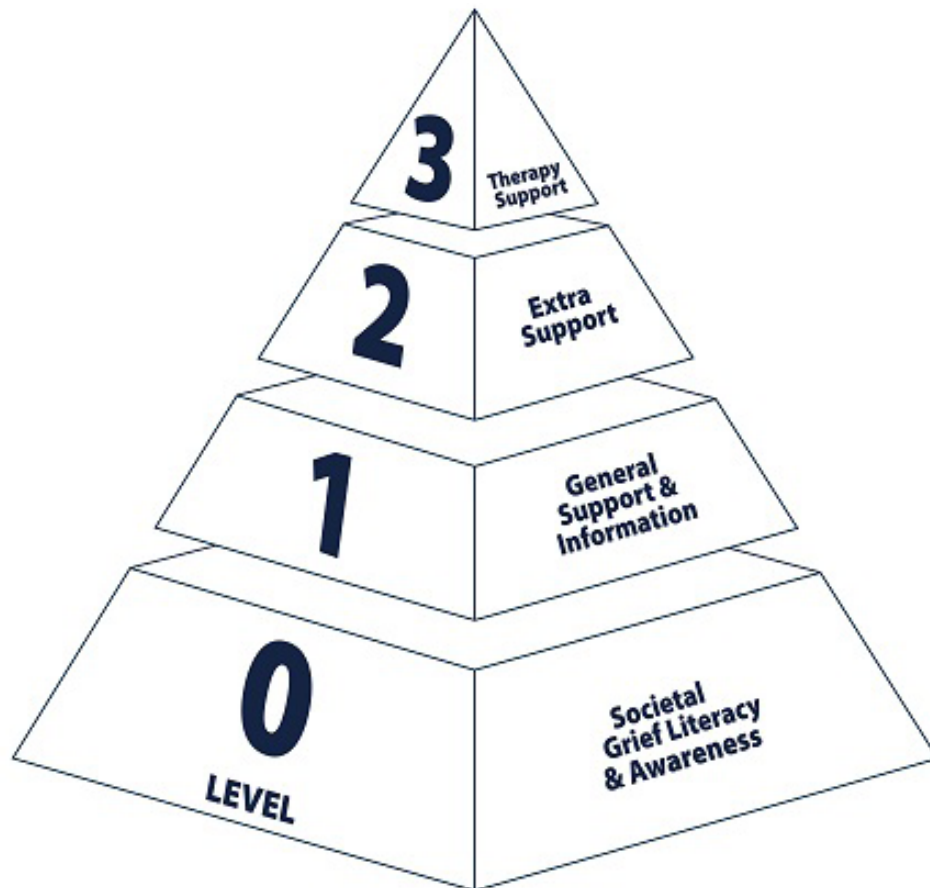
DANCE

'From the Ashes'

Choreography: Sara Garcia / A Sineira - Cultural Association

Performance: Mariana Osório and Margarida Teixeira

Music: 'Sacrifice' by Jocelyn Pook



European Grief Conference 2026 has four overarching themes:

Level 0: Grief Literacy, Advocacy & Community (societal grief literacy & awareness). Here public education about grief empowers individuals, communities, and decision-makers to increase the public's understanding of bereavement and support needs of bereaved persons.

Level 1: Grief: General Awareness & Support (general support & Information). Here the focus is on having access to information and adequate support, for example, available from family, social, and care networks.

Level 2: Bereavement Support: Prevention & Risk Factors (extra support). A range of identifiable risk factors contribute to the fact that some bereaved people need additional organized support, for example in the form of peer-led groups, psycho-education in community settings.

Level 3: Complicated grief reactions: Diagnosis & Treatment (therapy support). Smaller proportions of bereaved people with additional stressors and disruptions to their grief will require specialist therapeutic responses.



<https://europeangriefconference.org/>



SAÚDE

