



**The EUROPEAN CONFEDERATION OF
PSYCHOANALYTIC PSYCHOTHERAPIES**

**A Statement on behalf of the Board of ECPP
Concerning the ECPP in Russia**

From the very foundation of the ECPP, the community of psychoanalysis in Russia has been highly respected – and just as highly influential. There are few places where psychoanalysis is as alive and vibrant, as in Russia. And the Russian branch of ECPP in particular, flourishes in our organisation.

So, it has been particularly distressing to the Board of ECPP in the last couple of years, to hear of the professional and personal conflicts within the Russian Branch, which has led to a split in the ECPP branch in Russia. We all know that, beneath the measured way in which psychoanalysis presents itself clinically, it is a very passionate profession; as a result, conflict and splits have been a part of our history from its early days. Nevertheless, it has been saddening and disturbing to hear and witness from outside, the conflicts within the ECPP in Russian – and between colleagues who are respected beyond national boundaries.

The conflict was brought to the Board at the General Meeting and the Board Meeting in September 2018, in Vienna. Having heard from both sides, the Board of ECPP concluded that the disagreement was of such depth that there was a *de facto* split. The Board was particularly mindful of the effect this could have on the individual practitioners in Russia, who look to their professional body for support, accreditation, professional standards and to provide further professional development.

After discussion and due consideration, the Executive of ECPP was asked to work to create a temporary, 'two-branch' solution to the problem. The Executive has worked hard to do that – working closely with Prof. Mikhail Reshetnikov and Ms. Tatiana Mizinova. Proposals to move forward were presented to the Board at its meeting in Vienna on 21st February 2019. With minor amendments, the plan was accepted by the Board and by the representatives of the two parties.

So, what are the main outcomes of the agreement reached in the Board?

1. From 22/02/19, the former ECPP-Russia will be succeeded by two organisations. Both of these bodies will be equal 'legacy-bodies' of the former ECPP-Russia – sharing the history, the status and the achievements of the parent body.
2. Practitioners who have Certification with, or membership of, ECPP, will retain that membership.

Those who wish to continue in membership through either (or both!) of the two legacy-organisations, will be able to do that;
Some practitioners may, temporarily, wish to be 'non-aligned'; ECPP will, through the Certification Committee, create a mechanism for them to retain membership of ECPP, in a 'neutral' place.
3. The two legacy organisations will be known as (alphabetical order):

ECPP-Russia (NFP)	(headed up by Prof. Mikhail Reshetnikov)
ECPP-Russia (MOO DDP)	(headed up by Ms. Tatiana Mizinova).
4. Both organisations will continue to recognise those Certified by ECPP – and will be able to nominate practitioners for Certification, as in the past.
5. Over the next six months, the Executive will be working with both organisations to verify their legal status, structures, Certification procedures, Statutes, training standards, Codes of Ethics etc. We anticipate this will be a simple process – but it is necessary to ensure continued parity with other ECPP branches.

The Executive will report back to the Board at their meeting in August 2019 – where the new arrangements will be formally ratified.
It was reported to the Board that ECPP-Russia (NFP) will have to ratify the new arrangements at a general meeting in June 2019.
6. As a part of that verification process, in order to have confidence in Membership lists, the ECPP Certification Officer will to a partial audit of membership lists of both organisations. We are sure that ECPP members in Russia will understand and will co-operate in this task.

7. As part of the agreement, both organisations are expected to act respectfully to one another.

The Board understands that the two organisations do have different perspectives within the field of psychoanalytic psychotherapies.

We sincerely hope that this will encourage a dynamic development of our profession within Russia.

We also hope that the ongoing scientific activities, conferences and scientific meetings of the two bodies will be made open to all.

8. ECPP sees this split as a time-limited arrangement. We hope that in the relatively near future, it will be possible to share activities such as Certification & Accreditation and Standard setting. The Board will review the arrangements in 2 years' time.

The Board and the Executive Committee are grateful to Ms. Tatiana Mizinova and Prof. Mikhail Reshetnikov – and their organisations - for their help and their patience in developing this agreement. We know that not everything in this agreement is perfect, nor to everyone's liking. But with an amount of good will and tolerance, we can move beyond this current difficult period.

On behalf of the Board and the Executive of ECPP, I extend good wishes to all ECPP colleagues in Russia. We anticipate that many members of ECPP will travel to Moscow in 2020 for the "9th World Congress for Psychotherapy" – where we hope ECPP will have a distinctive presence. I, personally, hope to meet many colleagues there.

Should anyone wish for clarification about this agreement, I will be happy to try to answer your questions.

Adrian M. Rhodes,
President,
ECPP.
Vienna, 22/02/19