

International Summer conference of group analysis



THE CIRCLE OF LIFE

What does the ending of
group and practice bring?

13 - 15 June 2025

VILNIUS
LITHUANIA

www.lgad.lt



LITHUANIAN GROUP ANALYTIC SOCIETY

The circle of life

to find our place in the circle of people
to find our place in the circle of life

"Now go. An actor should know when to leave the stage, a poet when the lay is finished, and a bard when it is time to put aside the lute."

Raymond E. Feist

Lithuanian Group Analytic Society invites practitioners, teachers and students of group analysis and group psychotherapy to the traditional 7th International Summer Conference of Group Analysis in Lithuania.

The theme we are going to explore this year makes us reflect on the long way we traveled from the start of group analysis in Baltic States in 1995 up to where we stand in our enlarged Society today, with numbers of highly qualified group analysts and group psychodynamic psychotherapists, as well as group analytically oriented organisational specialists.

The first generation of Lithuanian group analysts is gracefully reaching the time of frequent dilemma, choosing between professional activities and grandchildren.

Contemplating this stage of our Society we believe it should be a fitting moment to examine this difficult but unavoidably emerging part of professional life. Saying goodbye and leaving our professional activities, terminating working with groups, individual patients and closing practices. As Robert L. Frost wrote, "Nothing gold can stay".



What challenges do we meet or will meet? How can we prepare and be more or less ready for this stage of our lives; and when it is the right time to start thinking of it? How do we go through this process, how do we prepare ourselves, our groups, our patients?

Moreover, the decision to end the group or to quit psychotherapeutic practice can be built on many different reasons, appearing as inevitable forces of our lives. After all, we have learned in our training, "Termination process in groups teaches both therapists and patients that 'nothing is forever' in our object relations, our self-strivings and desires, and our lives. This awareness can lead to a new perspective and a new beginning" (Schermer, Klein 1996).

Thus, we wish also to talk about what awaits us after finishing our main professional projects. What can be our new beginning? How to enjoy having time for something we used to dream about? How to leave the professional stage to the others to enter, to trust the younger generation and to enjoy our exit into merely observers position?

How to meet wisely, accept and embrace the inescapable circle of life?

With these thoughts, we heartily invite you to save the date and to get ready to come to Vilnius to exchange, to share and discuss, and to celebrate life!

We also encourage you to actively participate in the organisation of the conference by submitting proposals for lectures, workshops, and other types of activity that you like to be included in the program (deadline 30th of November 2024). Contact us by e-mail: grupines.analizes.draugija@gmail.com

LGAS Organising Committee

