



# BULLETIN

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The International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology



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# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

When I wrote my first Bulletin column as President, I shared a vision for IACCP's future built around three words: Impactful, Inspirational, and Inclusive. Now, as we move into the second half of 2025, I am reflecting on the progress we have made together and on the many possibilities that still lie ahead.

In this issue, I reflect on the highlights of the Brisbane Regional Conference, share why Leuven Congress will be a landmark moment for our community, and express my heartfelt thanks to those whose contributions are helping to shape the next decade of IACCP. Together, we are building the next phase of IACCP's life cycle - not just an association, but a vibrant, inclusive, and future-focused global community.

## **We Dared to Care! – Reflections from Brisbane 2025**

The 2025 Joint Conference of IACCP and IAIR in Brisbane, our first-ever collaboration, was more than a meeting of minds. It was a declaration of values. Together, we dared to care\*.

We brought to the forefront the most urgent and uncomfortable questions of our time: war, climate crisis, leadership failures, migration, the rights and wellbeing of Indigenous communities, systemic discrimination, racism, and the enduring need to decolonize knowledge. We created a program that did not shy away from complexity, but leaned into it, with intellectual rigor, emotional courage, and moral clarity.

Over four days, participants engaged in open and honest dialogue that bridged disciplines, geographies, and lived experiences. We heard from Indigenous scholars and practitioners working to reclaim narratives and shape policy; from researchers tackling refugee wellbeing, youth mental health, and intercultural education; from voices challenging us to rethink leadership, sustainability, and global governance through diverse lenses.

Just as important as the topics was the tone. We fostered psychological safety, ensuring that every participant - especially those who may feel in the minority within the scholarly community - could speak, question, and challenge. We invited and amplified VOICE in its fullest sense: valuing perspectives often underrepresented.

We dared to push boundaries - ontologically, by questioning what we assume to exist, and epistemologically, by reimagining how we come to know it. The result was a conference that not only showcased cutting-edge research but also modelled the kind of scholarly community we aspire to be: inclusive, engaged, and unafraid to confront the global disruptions shaping our shared future.



**Zeynep Aycan**  
President  
Loughborough University, UK



# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I would like to extend my deepest thanks to our three keynote speakers – Professor Patricia Dudgeon, Professor Matthew Hornsey, and Professor Mohan Dutta – for their thought-provoking and courageous presentations. Each, in their own way, pushed the boundaries of our thinking, challenged us to confront truths, and inspired us to imagine more just, inclusive, and sustainable futures. Their insights set the tone for a conference that truly dared to care.

Brisbane 2025 will be remembered not just for its historic collaboration between our associations, but for its spirit. We dared to care and in doing so, we affirmed that scholarship, when coupled with courage and compassion, can be a powerful force for change.

## **Looking Ahead: Leuven 2026 – A Landmark International Congress**

As we reflect on the success of Brisbane, it's heartening to turn our gaze toward the future—most notably, the XXVIII International Congress of IACCP, scheduled for Leuven in 14–18 July 2026 <https://iaccp2026.com/>

This Congress is our flagship scientific gathering – it is the main biennial IACCP event, uniting global scholars from all corners of cross-cultural psychology. Unlike Brisbane, which was a Regional Conference, Leuven will be our moment to convene as an internationally diverse academic community, sharing research, dialogue, and vision on the grandest scale.

It's also important to note: **there will be no Regional Conference in 2027**. That makes Leuven 2026 our only opportunity to come together until the next Congress in 2028. This is the single best chance in the next two years to meet in person, renew connections, and chart the course for IACCP's future.

A series of online activities will take place during 2027 for the first-ever strategic planning for IACCP. More information on the year-long activities will be forthcoming. The first set of activities will take place in the Leuven Congress, including several dedicated workshops and sessions to facilitate collaborative discussions on our Association's roadmap for the next decade. This is our opportunity to co-create IACCP's future, its priorities, structures, and ambitions together.

So please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Leuven 2026 is not just a conference; it's the launchpad for IACCP's next chapter. Don't miss it!

## **With Gratitude: Thank You for Supporting IACCP**

In May 2025, we held our first-ever IACCP fundraising event, a milestone for our Association. I am deeply grateful to the following colleagues for their generosity and commitment to our mission:

Ype Poortinga, Emma Buchtel, Peter Smith, Shalom Schwartz, Marta Fulop, Patricia Greenfield, Klaus Boehnke, Lusine Grigoryan, David L. Sam, Thomas Talhelm, Wolfgang Friedlmeier, Thomas J. Higging. Your contributions have made a real difference, enabling us to expand our initiatives and support the next generation of cross-cultural scholars.

As we look ahead, I invite all members to engage with IACCP in the following ways:

- Submit your proposals for papers, symposia, and provocative sessions for the Leuven Congress in 2026.
- Encourage colleagues, and former and current graduate students to become members of IACCP.
- Attend our next fundraising event in May 2026.
- Contribute to the next Bulletin in November with your news—publications, practice-related work, trainings, research programs, or other initiatives.



# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Your active participation keeps our community vibrant, relevant, and impactful. Together, we can ensure IACCP continues to grow and thrive in the years ahead.

(\*) I gratefully acknowledge the inspiration of this phrase from Adler & Hansen (2012).

Adler, N. J., & Hansen, H. (2012). Daring to care: Scholarship that supports the courage of our convictions. *Journal of Management Inquiry*, 21(2), 128–139. DOI: 10.1177/1056492611427801.



# \* iacp 2026

14-18 July 2026 | Leuven, Belgium

We have the pleasure to invite you to the **IACCP 2026 congress** which will be held in **Leuven, Belgium from July 14 to July 18, 2026**. The ultimate aims of the conference are to welcome and connect scholars across generations and across the globe and to value and foster the thematic breadth and internal diversity of the work we do within cross-cultural psychology. Rather than defining one overarching theme, IACCP 2026 will therefore highlight multiple thematic streams, including (but not limited to) ...

- Acculturation and Culture Change
- Cultural Variation and Similarities
- Intergroup Relations, Prejudice, Recognition, Conflict and Peace
- Decolonizing Science, Education and Society
- Novel and Better Methods for Cross-cultural Research
- Cultural Clinical Psychology and Transcultural Psychiatry
- Human Development in Cultural Context
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Practice
- Religion, Social Class ...

Within each thematic field the conference offers inspiring **Keynote Lectures and Spotlight Symposia** that showcase exemplary integrative and innovative lines of inquiry. As the main event for our IACCP community, the conference will also host the bi-annual **Lonner Lecture, Triandis Award, and Early Career Award ceremonies; the Witkin-Okonji Award** supports members who do not otherwise have the means to attend the conference. In addition to your own proposals for Symposia, Individual Papers and Posters, there will be thematic Provocation Sessions and Roundtables to respectfully challenge each other's ideas and to debate new directions and translational issues at the forefront of cross-cultural psychology. More news on Keynote Speakers and other aspects of the conference program is coming soon on the conference webpage <https://iaccp2026.com>.

Against the backdrop of today's democratic backsliding, rampant global inequalities and exclusions, and escalating geopolitical tensions, violence and war, we remain strongly committed to actively upholding the global mission of the IACCP and we aim to include and bridge scholars and perspectives from all regions and across global divides. The conference organization offers invitation letters (upon registration) and a **special opportunity for early submission from Sept 15 to Nov 30 2025** (to be evaluated on a rolling basis and preceding regular submission) so as to accommodate lengthy visa procedures in some countries. The conference fee structure provides **reduced rates for IACCP members, student attendees, and attendees from LMICs** (Low Middle Income Countries).

**Registration will be open from September 15 2025;**

Early Bird registration closes March 15 2026;

late registration is possible until July 1<sup>st</sup> 2026.

For more information on submission and registration, please go to <https://iaccp2026.com>.



XXVIII International Congress of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology

ISSUE 3 AUGUST, 2025

\*  
iaccp 2026

14-18 July 2026 | Leuven, Belgium

Dating back many centuries as a hub of cultural and academic exchange in the heart of Europe, Leuven offers an ideal background for the exchange of new ideas and the creation of lasting ties among conference participants. We are working with the KU Leuven Congress Bureau and the City of Leuven to make sure you will enjoy your stay and to create memorable experiences, from social events in unique historic settings to guided tours and cultural excursions. To explore affordable accommodation in Leuven, please go to <https://iaccp2026.com>

To watch a video about Leuven and its university, click [here](#) and scroll down.

**Karen Phalet, Chair**

**Batja Mesquita, Jozefien De Leersnyder and Johnny Fontaine, Co-Chairs**

## IACCP Travel Support Awards – Brisbane 2025

As part of this summer's **IAIR-IACCP Conference in Brisbane, Australia**, the IACCP was pleased to offer travel support to 16 members, with a total award amount exceeding **\$18,000**.

We received **29 applications** by the March 1 deadline. A dedicated review committee, comprising the **President-Elect, Treasurer**, and the **Regional Representative for the Insular Pacific**, carefully evaluated each submission. Award amounts ranged from **\$350 to \$1,500**.

Unfortunately, a few recipients were unable to attend due to **visa delays** or **institutional travel restrictions**.

To celebrate those who made it, we invited awardees to share a few words about their experience. Here's what some of them had to say:



**Hashini Madarasinge**

Department of Psychology

PhD Candidate

University of Otago – Ōtākou Whakaihu

Wakat

"Attending the joint IAIR and IACCP conference in Brisbane was an incredibly inspiring experience. It provided me the opportunity to learn from leading voices in cross-cultural psychology and to connect with supportive mentors and a diverse international community, making the experience especially rewarding."

## IACCP Travel Support Awards – Brisbane 2025

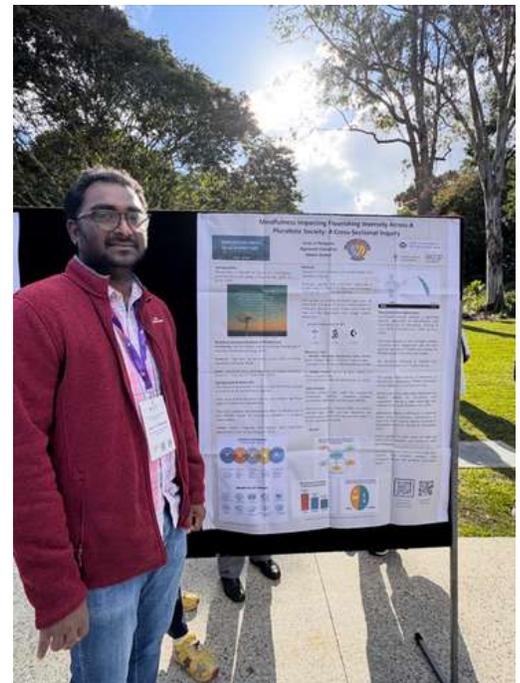


**Aashlesha Marathe**

University of Tsukuba, Japan

"I am a young, early-career researcher, and the IACCP and IAIR Joint Conference was a wonderful opportunity to present my research on such a large international platform. I shared insights from my study on how Indian migrants leverage contact opportunities in Japanese society and negotiate with their Japanese counterparts. At the same time, I made the most of many "contact opportunities" myself—connecting with wonderful, like-minded scholars from around the world. I have read publications by many esteemed researchers in the field, and meeting them in person led to many fun moments."

" This is my first attendance at any IACCP conferences, and I can assure that this will be the first of many yet to come. As an early career researcher, the IACCP-IAIR joint conference was the best platform to present my work on the cultural and religious reflections in Positive Psychology and receive valuable feedback from eminent researchers and scholars worldwide".



**Jerin V Philipose,**

Birla Institute of Technology and Science-Pilani in Rajasthan, India

## IACCP Travel Support Awards – Brisbane 2025



**Brien Keith Ashdown**

Albizu University Miami Campus,  
USA

“Attending IACCP conferences is always a highlight of my academic year, and the conference in Brisbane did not disappoint! The conference was full of diverse and presentations, many of which gave me ideas for my own research. It was great to reconnect with old friends and collaborators and to meet new ones. The conference organizers did an amazing job - it is no easy task to plan a successful conference. I’m grateful to IACCP for providing some financial support to allow me to attend the 2025 conference in Brisbane”.

“Attending this year’s IACCP/IAIR conference was truly inspiring and enriching. While the scientific program was outstanding with thought-provoking sessions and brilliant presenters, the real highlight for me was the in-person connections with fellow cross-cultural enthusiasts. I’m grateful to the amazing organizers for creating such a high-quality experience, and to IACCP for the Travel Support Award that made it possible for me to be there and reconnect with my academic family”.



**Adela Cernigoj**

Victoria University of Wellington,  
New Zealand

## IACCP Travel Support Awards – Brisbane 2025



**Ojaswita Bhushan**

Ph.D. Scholar

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

IIT Bombay, India

"I recently had the wonderful opportunity to attend the IACCP-IAIR Joint Conference in Brisbane. I presented my paper, "Understanding Antecedents of Sense of Purpose: A Cross-Cultural Study among Indian and U.S. College Students." The conference was exceptionally well-organized and provided a valuable platform for me to share my research, receive insightful feedback, and connect with like-minded peers from around the world. The engaging discussions and new connections have opened up exciting possibilities for future collaboration. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the organizers for hosting such a fantastic event. I thank the committee again for selecting me for the Travel Support Award".

We're proud to support our members and look forward to continuing this tradition of fostering global participation and collaboration.

**David L. Sam, President-elect, IACCP**

## Cultural Conceptions of Attachment in Costa Rica: 40 Years of Collaboration in Cross-Cultural Developmental Psychology between Osnabrück University, Germany, and the Universidad de Costa Rica, San José, Costa Rica

On the initiative of **Prof. em. Dr. Heidi Keller** (first in Mainz, Darmstadt and since 1984 at Osnabrück University) in cooperation with several colleagues at the Universidad de Costa Rica, the cross-cultural research program on socialization and development in the first years of life in Costa Rica has been running for over 40 years. The research project "**Cultural Conceptions of Attachment in Costa Rica**" (2015–2023), co-directed by **Dr. Keller and Dr. Mariano Rosabal-Coto** from the Institute of Psychological Research at the University of Costa Rica, represents a milestone on this important path.

### About

The goal of the project was to investigate the cultural specificity of attachment concepts and attachment development in three different communities in Costa Rica. The selected groups represent a diversity of cultural and historical roots and socio-demographic contexts, including (1) urban middle-class families from the central metropolitan area, (2) indigenous families from the Bribri indigenous group in the south of the country, and (3) rural lower and middle-class families from the western province of Guanacaste.

The project produced five articles published in peer-reviewed journals, one doctoral dissertation, six undergraduate and master theses, one book chapter, and a derivative doctoral project, all of which are listed below. Main funding was provided by the Sievert Foundation for Science and Culture, Osnabrück. Doctoral fellowships were awarded to Wiebke Schmidt (Friedrich Ebert Foundation, DAAD) and Esteban Durán-Delgado (ICALA Stipendienwerk Lateinamerika-Deutschland).



Dyadic play between mother and child in urban San José. The mother privileges verbal communication and object stimulation, constantly asking the child for his preferences. Both show positive emotions and focus their attention on the toy, representing a shared intentionality in the WEIRD mode.

## Cultural Conceptions of Attachment in Costa Rica: 40 Years of Collaboration in Cross-Cultural Developmental Psychology between Osnabrück University, Germany, and the Universidad de Costa Rica, San José, Costa Rica



Family gathering on the porch in the afternoon in rural Guanacaste. The child grows up in an extended family network, including grandparents and older siblings, all involved in the child's upbringing.



This Bribri child is being fed by his older brother while sitting on his mother's lap. Older siblings are involved in child care from an early age and are considered important socialization partners.

### Articles

Aschemeyer, F., Rosabal-Coto, M., Storm, S., & Keller, H. (2020). The role of culture and caregivers' formal education for babies' learning environments: The case of two Costa Rican communities. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 52(2), 103–128. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022022120981715>

Schmidt, W. J., Keller, H., & Rosabal-Coto, M. (2021). Development in context: What we need to know to assess children's attachment relationships. *Developmental Psychology*, 57(12), 2206–2219. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dev0001262>

Schmidt, W. J., Keller, H., & Rosabal-Coto, M. (2022). The influence of ecocultural contexts on grandmaternal caregiving and Grandmother-Grandchild relationships. *Personal Relationships*, 29(4), 727–750. <https://doi.org/10.1111/per.12454>

Schmidt, W. J., Keller, H., & Rosabal-Coto, M. (2023a). The cultural specificity of parent-infant interaction: Perspectives of urban middle-class and rural indigenous families in Costa Rica. *Infant Behavior & Development*, 70, 101796. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.infbeh.2022.101796>

Schmidt, W. J., Keller, H., Rosabal-Coto, M., Gamboa, K. F., Guillén, C. S., & Durán-Delgado, E. (2023b). Feeding, food, and attachment: An underestimated relationship? *Ethos*, 51(1), 62–80. <https://doi.org/10.1111/etho.12380>



## Cultural Conceptions of Attachment in Costa Rica: 40 Years of Collaboration in Cross-Cultural Developmental Psychology between Osnabrück University, Germany, and the Universidad de Costa Rica, San José, Costa Rica

### Book chapter

Funk, L., Scheidecker, G., Chapin B.L., Schmidt W.J., Ouardani C.E. & Chaudhary N. (2023) Feeding, Bonding, and the Formation of Social Relationships: Ethnographic Challenges to Attachment Theory and Early Childhood Interventions. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009306300>

### Dissertation

Schmidt, W. J. (2023). Cultural attachment theory: How children form relationships in three cultural contexts in Costa Rica [Doctoral thesis]. University of Osnabrück, Germany. <https://doi.org/10.48693/397>

### Master Theses

Aschemeyer, F. (2019). Perception of the paternal role and relationship formation with their infants among rural and urban fathers in the region of Guanacaste, Costa Rica [Master thesis]. Universität Osnabrück.

Schmidt, W. J. (2019). Perception of the grandmaternal role and relationship formation with their grandchildren among rural grandmothers in the region of Guanacaste, Costa Rica [Master thesis]. Universität Osnabrück.

### Licenciate Theses

Blanco Madrigal, D. (2022) Sistematización de experiencias de investigación, psicología intercultural y gestión del conocimiento: ¿Ejercicio académico o responsabilidad ética?: Propuesta de una metodología de sistematización de experiencias para el proyecto 723-B6-346: conceptos culturales del apego en Costa Rica: un estudio de caso [Tesis de licenciatura]. Universidad de Costa Rica. <https://repositorio.sibdi.ucr.ac.cr/handle/123456789/19357>

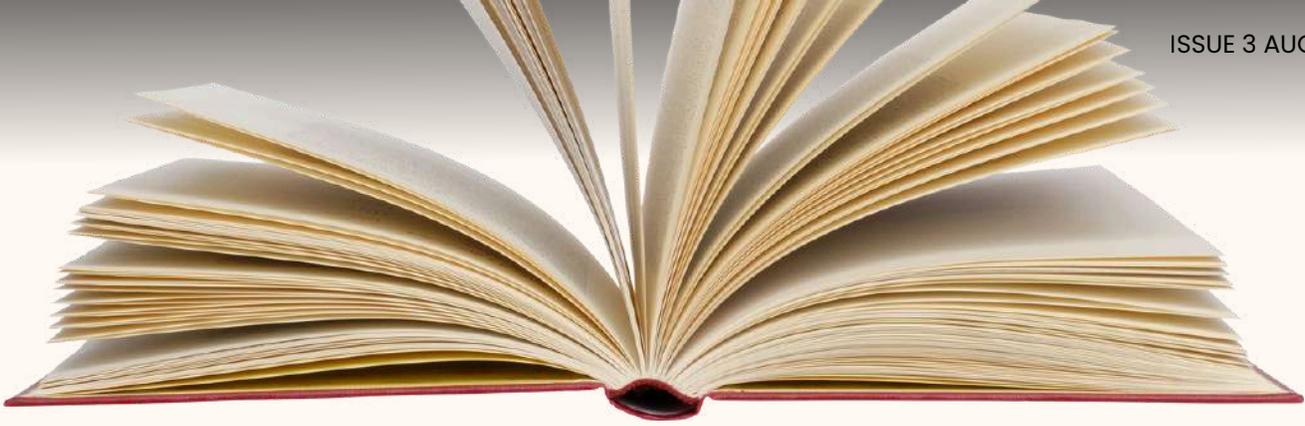
Carrillo Calderón, Gloriana María (2022). Diseño de una academia de crianza con sensibilidad y relacionalidad hacia las creencias y prácticas de parentaje en la comunidad Bribri de Talamanca [Tesis de licenciatura]. Universidad de Costa Rica. <https://repositorio.sibdi.ucr.ac.cr/handle/123456789/19794>

Fallas, K., & Solís, C. (2020). Características del parentaje intensivo en familias urbanas del Grand Área Metropolitana [Tesis de licenciatura]. Universidad de Costa Rica. <https://repositorio.sibdi.ucr.ac.cr/handle/123456789/18078>

Guerrero-Cerda, F. M. (2020). Etnoteorías y prácticas de parentaje de las personas bribri de las comunidades de la zona atlántica y el impacto de la aculturación y del cambio histórico en las mismas [Tesis de licenciatura]. Universidad de Costa Rica. <https://repositorio.sibdi.ucr.ac.cr/handle/123456789/18079>

### Derivative Doctoral Project

Durán-Delgado, E. (2024). Caregiving in contexts of poverty and migration in three ecosocial settings in Costa Rica [Doctoral thesis]. University of Osnabrück, Germany. <https://doi.org/10.48693/591>



## Book of Abstracts And Conference Proceedings

**Check out our recently published Book of Abstracts** [Bridging Intercultural Divides in a Digitally Interconnected World!](#)

Three keynotes of the Brisbane Conference will be published on the [IACCP YouTube](#) channel soon!

**Check out our Bali Conference Proceedings** [Globalization in Context!](#) Since November 2024 there were 894 downloads! The second part of the Bali Conference Proceedings will be out soon!



## Conferences in Psychology

### **The Society for Personality and Social Psychology**

Annual Convention

**February 26 - 28, 2026** – Chicago, IL

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## Awards and Grants

### **ISSEP Cross-Cultural Existential Psychology Research Grants**

ISSEP's Cross-Cultural Research Grants support projects that adopt a cross-cultural theoretical and methodological approach to the science of existential psychology, such as including samples of participants in non-WEIRD cultural contexts

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

## Editorial opportunities and Publishing

### **Journal for Advancing Sport Psychology in Research**

Call for Editorial Board Applications - **Apply by September 30, 2025**

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

# MEMBERSHIP

## Renew your IACCP Membership Or Become A Member Today!

Your support is invaluable to the IACCP's mission of fostering collaboration and understanding in cross-cultural psychology. We appreciate your commitment to our community and eagerly anticipate another year of shared knowledge and discovery.

Renewing your membership or becoming a member ensures uninterrupted access to a myriad of resources, networking opportunities, and a platform to engage in enriching conversations with like-minded professionals. It also contributes to the growth and global impact of culture and psychology.

We are keen to keep the membership fees at a reasonable rate, ranging from \$10 to \$ 85, depending on the income level and status (student vs. professional).

Most of the following are for members only. While others are open to everyone, members benefit from receiving information in a timely fashion. Here are some membership benefits for your consideration.

- Free access to online Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology.
- IACCP Bulletin.
- Reduced congress and conference registration fees.
- Access to the IAACP Member Directory.
- Small research grants ([see here](#)).
- Travel support to congresses and conferences ([see here](#)).
- Research webinars ([see here](#)).
- Culture & Psychology PhD Summer School ([see here](#)).
- Tilburg University Cross-Cultural Research Workshops ([see here](#)).
- Triandis Award for outstanding dissertations ([see here](#)).
- Online Readings in Psychology and Culture (ORPC) ([see here](#)).
- Participation in the IACCP discussion list.
- Publishing in congress books.

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# MEMBERSHIP

## How to become a member

To become a member please visit our

[IACCP PAGE](#)

OR

contact one of the

[REPRESENTATIVES](#)

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**Plamen Akaliyski**, Special Representative – Early Career, Hong Kong, [akaliyski.plamen@gmail.com](mailto:akaliyski.plamen@gmail.com)

## Enjoy JCCP as a Paperless Digital Journal!

We are pleased to announce that the Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology (JCCP) is available exclusively in digital format for our members.

The Journal is just a click away (see below):



This reflects an increasing trend in the publishing world and among scientific associations like IACCP to promote environmental and financial sustainability.

Prestigious journals from APA, APS, and BPS now provide digital-only copies (e.g., *Psychological Methods*, *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, *Journal of Applied Psychology*, *Developmental Psychology*, *Psychological Review*, *Psychological Science*, and the 11 journals of the British Psychological Society).

Below are some key advantages of moving to a paperless, online journal:

- **Significant savings for IACCP:** Under our current contract negotiations with Sage Inc. (the publisher of JCCP), the cost of providing a printed version of the journal is quoted at \$40 per member. Continuing to offer printed copies would place a strain on our already limited budget.
- **Environmental responsibility:** Going paperless is a step toward a more environmentally sustainable practice for IACCP. More about the climate responsibility of scholarly publishing in this [article](#).
- **Enhanced features:** The online format offers benefits that print cannot, such as EarlyView papers, virtual special issues, supplementary content, hyperlinked references, and more.
- **Space-saving:** Printed journals not only take time to arrive but also occupy significant space in our libraries—not to mention the dust they collect. With the online version, members can still print selected articles, annotate them, and store them in their personal files.
- **Improved accessibility:** The digital format provides better accessibility for visually impaired readers through zoom functionality and easy navigation.
- **Stay updated:** Readers can register for email alerts for the table of contents, ensuring they stay up-to-date with newly published issues.
- **Access when you travel:** Readers can access the Journal via their smartphones when they travel for conferences, work, or pleasure.



## About the Bulletin Editor

**Liliyana Mbeve**, MSc, MA, is a PhD researcher at the Psychology Department at the University of Limerick, Ireland. She earned her MSc degree in social and cultural psychology pursuing an international master program Global-Minds from the SWSP (Poland), Koc University (Turkey), University of Limerick (Ireland) Liliyana's PhD research is dedicated to uncovering effects of identification strategies on well-being and social inclusion among professionals in multinational companies in Ireland. Originally from Belarus, Liliyana has resided in Ireland for more than 5 years, dedicated to pursuing her academic career.



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**Rachana Bhangaokar, PhD**  
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