



The 4th European Stress Conference

formerly „The Munich Winter Conference on Stress“
by the Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry

March 16-18, 2025 | Innsbruck, Austria | <https://www.psych.mpg.de/4th-esc>

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Saturday, March 15, 2025

- 15:00 – 19:00 Arrival & Registration
- 19:30 – 22:00 Welcome Reception, Travel Award Ceremony & Dinner

Sunday, March 16, 2025

08:30 – 10:30 Developmental Stress and Early-Life Impact

Chair: Ron de Kloet

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|---------------|-----------------------|---|
| 08:30 - 09:00 | Elisabeth Binder | The Impact of Glucocorticoids on Brain Development: Insights from Human Cerebral Organoid Studies |
| 09:00 – 09:30 | Catherine Peña | Dynamic Consequences of Early-Life Stress on VTA Development |
| 09:30 – 10:00 | Cristiana Cruceanu | Stress Hormone Regulation in the Placenta-Brain Axis |
| 10:00 – 10:15 | Emily Brookes | Uncovering the epigenetic mechanisms shaping the brain after early life adversity |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | Amalia Floriou-Servou | How early-life experiences are encoded in the paraventricular thalamus (PVT) to influence motivated adult behaviors |

10:30 – 11:00 Open debate

11:00 – 16:00 Scientific group discussion / Outdoor activities

16:00 – 17:15 Stress-related disorders and therapeutic intervention – part 1

Chair: Juan Pablo Lopez

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|---------------|---------------------|---|
| 16:00 – 16:30 | Christina Dalla | Sex Differences in GPER1 Estrogen Receptor as a Novel Target for Stress-Related Disorders |
| 16:30 – 17:00 | Aniko Korosi | Combating Early-Life Stress with Nutrition |
| 17:00 – 17:15 | Gali Umschweif Nevo | MDMA as a potential preventive treatment against post-traumatic stress disorder |

17:15 – 17:45 Coffee break



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17:45 – 19:00 Stress-related disorders and therapeutic intervention – part 2

Chair: Tallie Z. Baram

17:45 – 18:15	Birgit Kleim	From Lab to Clinic: Enhancing Treatment Approaches for Stress-Related Disorders
18:15 – 18:45	Christiaan Vinkers	Targeting Childhood Trauma to Increase Resilience – Where Are We
18:45 – 19:00	Gavin Petrie	The Impact of Elevated Anandamide on Symptom Severity in Patients with PTSD

19:00 – 19:30 open debate

20:00 – 23:00 Dinner & Poster presentation 1

Monday, March 17, 2025

08:30 – 10:30 Neurobiology and behaviour

Chair: Johannes Bohacek

08:30 - 09:00	Michael Bruchas	Stress-Induced Noradrenergic-Amygdalar Neural Network Recruitment Amplifies Avoidance Behavior
09:00 – 09:30	Yihui Cui (online)	Stress Dynamically Modulates Neuronal Autophagy-Dependent Habenular Homeostasis to Gate Depression-like State
09:30 – 10:00	Manuel Mameli	Habenular astrocytes dynamics for coping strategies
10:00 – 10:15	Sian Nina Duss	Stress and noradrenaline trigger distinct response profiles in neurons and astrocytes
10:15 – 10:30	Conny Quaedflieg	Triad of Stress: Exploring Different Systems and Their Key Regulators

10:30 – 11:00 Open debate

11:00 – 16:00 Scientific group discussion / Outdoor activities



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16:00 – 17:15 Molecular and immune Mechanisms

Chair: Alessandro Bartolomucci

16:00 – 16:30	Scott Russo	Neuroimmune Mechanisms of Stress and Depression
16:30 – 17:00	Orna Issler	Insight on Depression from the Dark Side of the Genome
17:00 – 17:15	Gentenaar Max	Single-nucleus sequencing in R6/2 mice reveals Huntington's disease specific cell populations and partial transcriptional normalization by GR antagonism

17:15 – 17:45 Coffee break

17:45 – 19:00 Hippocampus and Stress Responses

Chair: Gal Richter-Levin

17:45 – 18:15	Conor Liston	Probing and Rescuing Dysfunctional Brain Circuits in Depression
18:15 – 18:45	Luisa Pinto	Impact of Hippocampal Adult-Born Neurons for Brain Circuitry and Behavior in Depression
18:45 – 19:00	Serena Dudek	Hippocampal area CA2: a hot spot of stress signaling?
19:00 – 19:30	open debate	
20:00 – 23:00	Dinner & Poster presentation 2	

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

08:30 – 10:30 Resilience and Adaptation Mechanisms in Stress

Chair: Carmen Sandi

08:30 - 09:00	Chris Anacker	Hippocampal Regulation of Stress Vulnerability and Resilience
09:00 – 09:30	Michal Slezak	Acute and chronic effects of stress hormones converge on astrocytes
09:30 – 10:00	Martin Picard	Mitochondrial Regulation of Endocrine Stress Responses
10:00 – 10:15	Jeniffer Sanguino Gomez	Exploring coping strategies and resilience profiles induced by early-life stress through data-driven behavioral sequencing
10:15 – 10:30	Yair Shemesh	A paradigm shift in translational psychiatry through rodent neuroethology
10:30 – 11:00	Open debate	
11:00 – 16:00	Scientific group discussion / Outdoor activities	



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16:00 – 17:30 Impact of Psychosocial Factors on Brain and Health

Chair: Raffael Kalisch

16:00 – 16:30	Iris Hovatta	Myelin Plasticity in Psychosocial Stress and Anxiety
16:30 – 17:00	Cecilia Flores	Decoding the Impact of Social Stress During Adolescence on the Maturing Prefrontal Cortex
17:00 – 17:30	Mika Kivimäki	How Social Disadvantage Shapes Lifestyle and Accelerates Biological Aging

17:30 – 18:00 Coffee break

18:00 – 19:00 Intergenerational effects of stress

Chair: Cristiana Cruceanu

18:00 – 18:30	Katharina Gapp	Epigenetic transmission of trauma-inducible glucocorticoid signalling within the male germline
18:30 – 18:45	Vincent Fischer	Lasting effects and responsiveness to chronic stress during early adulthood and its subsequent impact on naïve, mature offspring
18:45 – 19:00	Felix Reichelt	Heritability and Shared Genetics among Stress Exposures and with Personality: Insights from the Multigenerational Lifelines Cohort Study

19:00 – 19:30 open debate

20:00 – 23:00 Dinner & Poster presentation 3

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

07:30 – 13:00 Breakfast, Poster/Talk Award Ceremony & Departure