



International Conference Contextual Therapy

ICCT2025 Antwerp

27-28-29.10.2025

*The Need for Connection
Relationship Challenges in Today's World*



Welcome & Foreword

Welcome to the 5th International Conference Contextual Therapy – ICCT2025 Antwerp.

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to this international gathering of therapists, counselors, researchers, social workers and educators inspired by the contextual approach of Ivan Boszormenyi-Nagy.

The theme of this conference, “The Need for Connection – Relationship Challenges in Today’s World,” invites reflection on what connection truly means today. In an age marked by increasing individualisation, digital proximity yet relational distance, we are challenged to re-examine what genuinely binds people together — across generations, cultures, and systems.

The contextual approach reminds us that every relationship is sustained by reciprocity, reliability, and care. Throughout these days, we will explore how these values take shape in our clinical practice, in families, in organisations, and in the wider society.

We hope this conference inspires you — through encounters, insights, and genuine dialogue.

Thank you for being part of this living network of connection.

The ICCT2025 Organising Committee,
Luc Claes
Paul Heyndrickx
Sabine Bogaert
Yvette Desmet
Krsitien Schoevaerts



Practical Information

- **Wi-Fi access:**
 - name: congress
 - password: laptop!internet
- **Translation & Headsets:**
 - On day three there is simultaneous translation from English to French and French to English
 - Ask the reception for your headset.
 - your passport serves as a deposit and will be returned to you when you return it.
- **Any questions:**
 - You can ask all your questions at the reception.
- **Contact/Emergency / First Aid:**
 - Text or call Luc Claes 0032/474 88 73 03
 - Mail academiecontextueelwerk@gmail.com
- **Thank you for putting your phone on silent or turning off during the conference**
- **Certificate of Attendance and invoice**
 - Will be sent by email after the conference.

Keynote Speakers



Program Overview

Time	Formula		Presenter: Title (Language)	Location
Day 1		27/10/2025		
08:00		Registration and coffee		Reception Cafeteria
09:00	Plenary	Welcome and opening	President of the conference – Paul Heyndrickx Music: Sound of connection – Marie Boey	Aula
09:30	Plenary	Keynote 1	Catherine Ducommun-Nagy: The theory of change in contextual therapy and the place of the approach in the world of postmodern therapies. (E)	Aula
10:45	Break			Cafeteria
11:15	Workshop	Session 1a	Tatiana Glebova & Suzanne Bartle Haring: The Study of Intergenerational Effects of Sociocultural Trauma and Its Implications for Contextual Therapy. (E)	-01.019
		Session 1b	Heather Warren & Thomas Stone Carlson: Narrative Means to Contextual Ends: Using Narrative Therapy Practices to Invite Due Consideration in Contextual Therapy. (E)	-01.020
		Session 1c	Joke van Ballegooijen, Karin Jonker & Chantal van Wijngaarden-Timmermans: Contextueel werken in de huisartsenpraktijk. (NL)	Aula
		Session 1d	Catherine Lebrun & Natacha Boxus: Attaque du Corps et dépression chez un jeune adulte: quand les mots ne sortent pas, les symptômes auto destructeurs forcent à briser le silence et à ouvrir la porte difficile du dialogue sur les injustices du passé. (F)	-01.021
12:30	Lunch Break			Cafeteria
13:30	Workshop	Session 2a	Heather Warren & Tatiana Glebova: Living Childfree. (E)	-01.019



		Session 2b	Greteke De Vries & Hanneke Meulink-Korf: Experiences from Contextual Pastoral Care-and-Counselling and Interfaith Encounters, inspired by Contextual Therapy. (Eng/NL)	-01.020
		Session 2c	Ard Nieuwenbroek: Elviskinderen, Leven in de schaduw van je overleden broer of zus. (NL)	Aula
		Session 2d	Rudy Gavage en Christophe Gabriel: La partialité multidirectionnelle à l'épreuve de la co-intervention : réflexions sur l'équilibre relationnel et la justice dans le sous-système thérapeutique. (F)	-01.021
14:45	Break			Cafeteria
15:15	Workshop	Session 3a	Cymone Damon Sams & Tatiana Glebova: The Intergenerational Balance of Give and Take: Destructive Entitlement and Relational Dynamics in Black Families – An Autoethnographic Study. (E)	-01.019
		Session 3b	Tanya Defferary: Understanding Dissociation through a Contextual Therapy Perspective. (E)	-01.020
		Session 3c	An Van Herck: Vastgeschroefd: tussen taal, theorie en ontmoeting. (NL)	Aula
		Session 3d	Cathy Van Gorp & Kelly Vercaigne: Wat als de enige weg naar veilige connectie disconnectie is? (NL)	-01.021
16:15	Plenary	Closing day 1	Music: Sound of connection – Marie Boey	Aula



Day 2		28/10/2025		
08:00		Registration and coffee		Reception Cafeteria
09:00	Plenary	Opening	President of the conference – Paul Heyndrickx Music: Sound of connection – Marie Boey	Aula
09:15	Plenary	Keynote 2	Peter Adriaenssens: Intergenerational Trauma & Resilience integrated in Contextual Family Therapy. (E)	Aula
10:15	Workshop	Session 4a	Mayumi Y. Douglass & Heather Warren: Conflicting loyalties and legacies in multicultural families and communities. (E)	-01.019
		Session 4b	Peter Rober: The Person of the Therapist in Family Therapy Practice: about the therapeutic process, and the therapist's experiences in the session. (E)	-01.020
		Session 4c	Pieterjan van den Akker: It's all about reading the balance Hoe de relationele ethiek ons helpt om onze relaties te verstevigen in een complexe wereld en zo preventief in families te werken aan een netwerk waarbinnen vertrouwen hersteld en onderhouden kan worden. (NL)	Aula
		Session 4d	Catherine Lebrun: Souffrance psychique et retard de développement chez l'enfant: réhumaniser les liens grâce à l'approche contextuelle. (F)	-01.021
11:30	Break			Cafeteria
12:00	Workshop	Session 5a	Thea Bombeek: Family ties at work: how loyalty towards your family or origin shapes your work relationships and career path. (E)	-01.019
		Session 5b	Emoke Tarjan, Dia Czipor, Erika Putnoki, Patrik Pál Wächter & Tamás Wittmann: From the Past to the Future. (E)	-01.020
		Session 5c	Jan Permentier: 'The medium is the message' (M.Mc Luhan).(NL)	Aula



		Session 5d	Natacha Boxus Apport de la théorie contextuelle et responsabilité du thérapeute contextuel face au défi écologique. (F)	-01.021
13:00	Lunch Break			Cafeteria
14:00	Workshop	Session 6a	Grant Morales, Gabrielle Malloney, Rikki Patton & Phyllis Swint: Using Contextual Therapy in Couple Therapy with Partners who have a History of Intimate Partner Violence in Previous Relationships. (E)	-01.019
		Session 6b	Kees Verduijn & Danielle van de Koot: Loyalty and family ties in kinship foster care (E)	-01.200
		Session 6c	René Knip: Ring the bells that still can ring. Op weg met tekst en muziek van Leonard Cohen. (NL)	Aula
		Session 6d	Sophie Houben: La responsabilité à l'adolescence dans le monde d'aujourd'hui : quels apports de l'approche contextuelle? (F)	-01.021
15:15	Break			Cafeteria
15:45	Workshop	Session 7a	Mayumi Y. Douglass & Tatiana Glebova: Contextual Therapy's Five-Dimensional Framework on Trustworthiness in Online-Only Relationships. (E)	-01.019
		Session 7b	Catherine Ducommun-Nagy: The Dialectic Theory of the Personality in the Area of Virtual Relationships. (E)	Aula
		Session 7c	Yvette Desmet: Parentificatie in transitie. Hoe 'verantwoordelijkheden' van kinderen mee evolueren met maatschappelijke tendensen. (NL)	-01.020



		Session 7d	Oscar Westra van Holthe: Het mentaliseren, belichamen en visualiseren van meerzijdige partijdigheid: hoe kan je werken met dader- slachtofferdynamieken in de kamer van een contextueel therapeut? (NL)	-01.021
16:45	Plenary	Closing day 2	Music: Sound of connection – Marie Boey	Aula



Day 3		29/10/2025		
08:30		Registration and coffee		Reception Cafetaria
09:00	Plenary	Opening en welcome participants	President of the conference – Paul Heyndrickx Music: Sound of connection – Marie Boey	Aula
09:30	Plenary	Keynote 3	Manijeh Daneshpour: Restoring Balance: Building Love Through Fairness, Justice, and Trust. (E)	Aula
10:30	Break			Cafetaria
11:00	Plenary	Keynote 4	Peter Rober: Family Secrecy and Selective Disclosure: About what is said in families, and what is not yet said (E)	Aula
12:00	Lunch break			Cafetaria
13:00	Plenary	Keynote 5	Stéphanie Haxhe: Prendre soin du lien fraternel/adelphique: un challenge pour la thérapie contextuelle d'aujourd'hui. (F)	Aula
14:00	Break			Cafetaria
14:30	Plenary	Keynote 6	Albert van Dieren: From Personal Conversation to Professional Practice: The Many Facets of Dialogue and Relational Ethics. (E)	Aula
15:30	Plenary	Closing of the conference	Music: Sound of connection – Marie Boey	Aula
16:15		Reception		Cafetaria
18:00		Closing doors		



Reflections & Notes

“What touched me today in the stories I heard?”

“Where do I recognise my own need for connection?”

“Which relational challenges do I carry forward into my practice?”





