

17th Conference

IATSO



International Association for the
Treatment of Sexual Offenders



Sex Offender Treatment in a Lifespan Perspective

New Challenges from Social Media and from Young Persons
Displaying Harmful Sexual Behavior

Conference Information Map

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Welcome to IATSO 2023

Sex offender treatment in a lifespan perspective –

New challenges from social media and from children and adolescents with harmful sexual behavior

On behalf of the Scientific and the Local Organizing Committees, we invite you to the 17th conference of The International Association for the Treatment of Sexual Offenders (IATSO) in **Trondheim**. The conference takes place from **August 30th to September 1st, 2023** at the **riverside hotel Scandic Nidelven** located in the very city center.

The conference theme is sex offender treatment in a lifespan perspective. Some start their offending career as a child or an adolescent, others when they are grown-ups. In many cases, perpetrators basic emotional needs might have been ignored or even been seriously violated from early childhood on.

To meet the complexity of sexual offending behavior, it is necessary to have a lifespan perspective. Developing treatment programs for children and young persons with harmful sexual behavior is a way of reaching the persons on their pathway from childhood to adulthood. Here we can see how childhood and adulthood is interacting with each other. Here we can also see that sexual offending behavior should not be understood just in the light of individual, psychological factors. Ideas about masculinity, femininity and sexuality are a part of overarching, general, ideological attitudes in society.

When focusing on treatment in a lifespan perspective, we will also look into the challenges from the new electronic media. A rapid growing internet disrupts the dividing lines between fantasy and reality. Wide ranges of questions emerge; such as the understanding of what a sexual offence might be, what is the difference between fantasy and reality, the relations between online offences and hands on offences. And so on.

We welcome you to three exciting days in Trondheim!



Framework Conditions

IATSO 2023 will be a hybrid conference which can be attended

on-site

or

virtually



All sessions are on-site sessions and will be live-streamed as well. It will also be possible to access the conference virtually and watch the presentations online. **All presentations (except for the pre-conference workshops)** will be stored in our video gallery and will be accessible for 3 months (until December 1st, 2023) to all registered participants of the 17th IATSO conference 2023. IATSO does not provide any option for downloading and distributing them.

Presenters need to attend the conference on-site in order to give their presentations. Except for the keynotes, all presenters have to register for the conference and pay the conference fee for on-site participation.

Pre-conference workshops are offered this year for on-site participants only and will not be live-streamed. Attendance is included in the on-site conference fee. However, participants who want to attend a pre-conference workshop have to sign up for it, when they register.

If you have any questions, please contact: office@iatso.org

Conference Venue

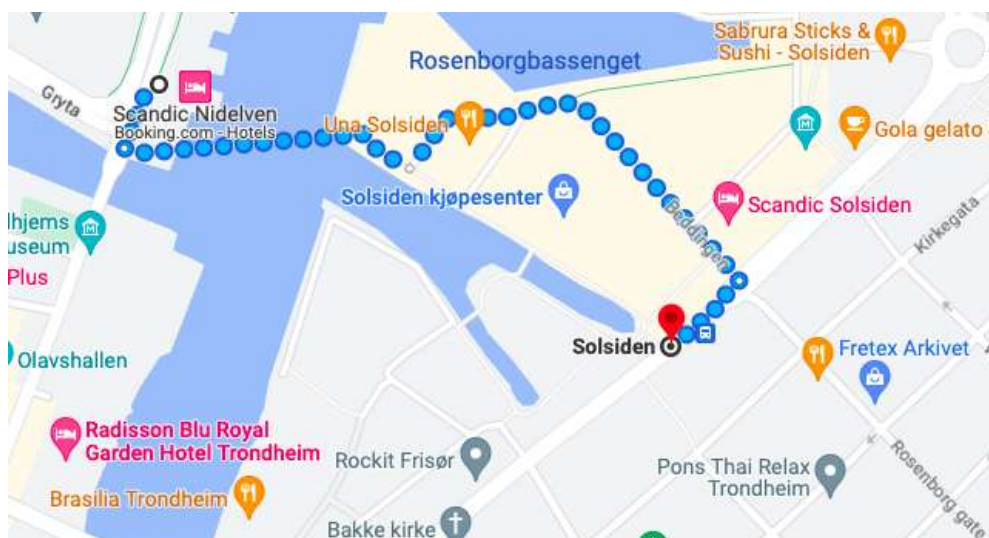


IATSO 2023 will take place at the riverside hotel **Scandic Nidelven**, which is located in the very city center:

To check out the hotel, click [HERE!](#)

How to get there:

Assuming you arrive at Trondheim airport, the easiest way to get to the conference hotel is by bus. The **Vaernes Ekspresen – Unibuss** takes you directly to the city center and it is only a 25 minutes ride. You get off at the first bus stop, which is **Solsiden**. The hotel is across the bridge and only a five minutes' walk away.



You want to book a room at the conference hotel?

The **Scandic Nidelven** offers discounted hotel room rates for IATSO on-site participants. Please contact the hotel to check for hotel room availability.



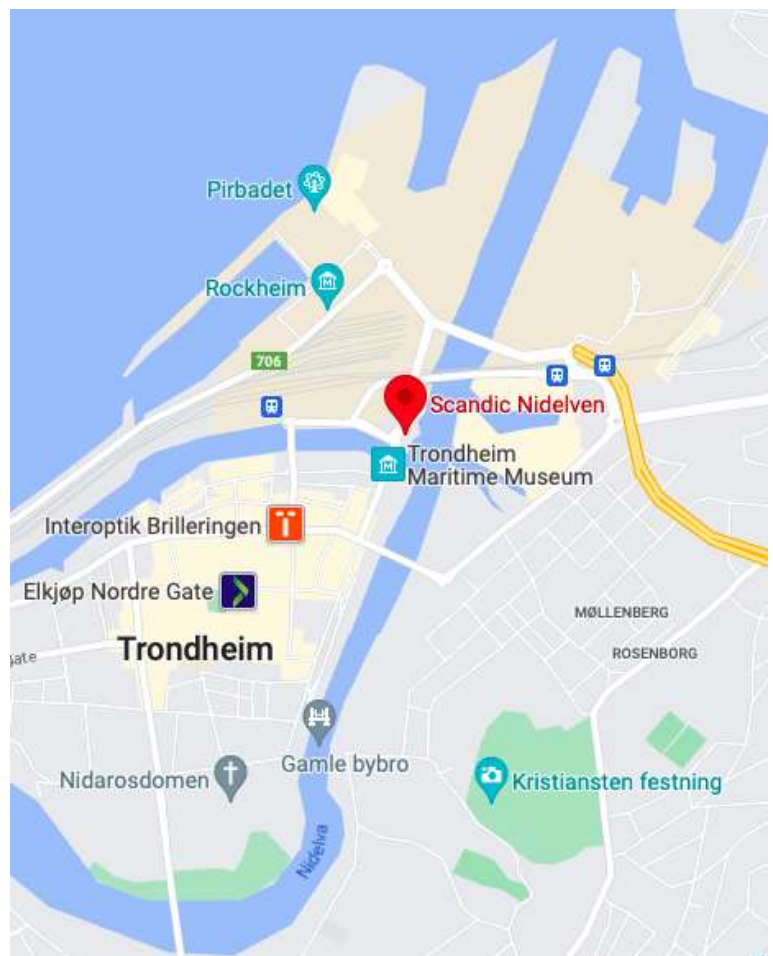
Conference hotel contact information:

Address: Havnegt 1-3
7010 Trondheim
Norway

Phone: +47 73 56 80 02

Email: nidelven@scandichotels.com

Or: www.scandichotels.com/nidelven



Schedule at a Glance

This schedule is subject to change. Everything written in *blue* AND *italics* is for on-site participants only and will not be live-streamed:

Day 1: Wednesday, August 30th, 2023

09:00 AM -11:30 AM: *Pre-conference workshops (open to all on-site participants)*

11:30 AM -12:30 PM: *Lunch for all on-site conference participants*

01:00 PM-01:30 PM: *Opening ceremony (incl. musical performance)*

01:30 PM -02:15 PM: *Opening lecture by Knut Hermstad (Norway): Sex offender treatment in a lifespan perspective. New challenges to treatment, research and prevention strategies*

02:15 PM-02:30 PM: *Short break*

02:30 PM-03:15 PM: *Liam Marshall (Canada): Effective treatment for those who have engaged in sexually inappropriate behavior*

03:15 PM-04:00 PM: *Keira Stockdale (Canada): Assessing and Managing Offense Analogue and Offense Replacement Behaviors (OABs and ORBs) in Sexual Offense Treatment Contexts*

04:00 PM -04:30 PM: *Break*

04:30 PM-05:30 PM: *Free presentations (seven parallel sessions)*

05:30 PM-06:30 PM: *Meet and greet (incl. finger food) & Poster Session*

07:00 PM-08:00 PM: *Concert in the Nidaros Cathedral (Organ concert and the cathedral's girl choir (conductor: Anita Brevik))*

Day 2: Thursday, August 31st, 2023

08:45 AM-09:00 AM: *Opening of the day (incl. musical performance)*

09:00 AM-09:45 AM: *Simon Hackett (United Kingdom): Children and adolescents with harmful sexual behaviour. The development of the field and prospects of the future*

09:45 AM-10:30 AM: *Oddfrid Skorpe Tennfjord (Norway): Harmful sexual behaviour among children and adolescents: Prevention strategies and proposals for interventions*

10:30 AM-10:45 AM: *Short break*

10:45 AM-11:30 AM: *Mark Olver (Canada): The Role and Relevance of Protective Factors in Dynamic Sexual Violence Risk Assessment and Management*

11:30 AM-01:00 PM: *Lunch*

01:00 PM-02:40 PM: *Free presentations (seven parallel sessions)*

02:40 PM -03:10 PM: Break

03:10 PM-05:30 PM: Free presentations (seven parallel sessions)

07:30: Conference dinner at the hotel

Day 3: Friday, September 1st, 2023

09:00 AM-09:45 AM: David Prescott (USA): *How do we thrive in this work and become more effective?*

09:45 AM-10:30 AM: Anja Emilie Kruse (Norway): *The Why, the Who and the Wherefore. Explanations, self-change and social friction in men's narratives of sexual violations*

10:30 AM-11:00 AM: Break

11:00 AM-Noon: Free presentations (seven parallel sessions)

12:15 PM-01:00 PM: Closing ceremony including musical performance

01:00 AM-02:00 PM: Lunch for all on-site participants

Pre-Conference Workshops

Pre-Conference Workshops take place on August 30th in the morning and are free for all on-site participants. They will not be live-streamed and will not appear in the video gallery.

- **Workshop 1: *Therapeutic Approaches with High Psychopathy Sexual Offending Populations: Evidence, Issues, and Practice Implications* (Mark Olver, Canada)**

Despite being a notoriously challenging population to treat, a growing body of research has provided increasing support that individuals with psychopathic traits can make risk-relevant changes from evidence informed programs. This half day workshop provides a review and discussion of treatment issues and approaches with psychopathic sexual offenders to promote client retention in treatment and minimize attrition. Practical research findings to illustrate clinical applications will be presented and information and guidelines for working clinically with this challenging population will be provided. Participants will also have an opportunity to discuss their own clinical cases.

- **Workshop 2: *Collaboration between police and psychiatry: an innovative approach to reduce risk for new Child Sexual Exploitation Material offences* (Svein Øverland, Norway)**

The workshop will present the Norwegian SOBI/Proteus project. This project consist of a collaborative effort between police, psychiatry and researcher with the aim of both reducing risk of new CSEM-offences and to gain more knowledge about consumers of child sexual exploitation material offenders. The workshop will present how a task force at the Trøndelag police plan and execute “knock and talk” procedures, and how skilled psychologists will start treatment within the next hour. The work shop will further present the background for the Joint collaboration of research and prevention of sexual offences against children on the internet (SOBI) and preliminary result from the research from the treatment of the CSEM-offenders being referred from the police.

- **Workshop 3: *Working with individuals who deny responsibility for offending sexually* (Liam Marshall, Canada)**

While most individuals convicted of a sexual crime make excuses for their behavior through omitting or underplaying certain aspects or its consequences, a small number of these individuals will steadfastly continue to deny responsibility. These individuals maintain that they are innocent and have been wrongly accused or convicted and are often released to the community not having participated in treatment. These individuals pose assessment, management, and treatment challenges. Clinicians often describe significant difficulties engaging and working with these individuals. Practitioners also appear to have polarized views about this group of offenders, most notably in

terms of whether or not denial equates to an increased risk of recidivism, if deniers can be treated, or even if they should receive treatment at all.

This preconference workshop will present a review of the literature on what is known about deniers and present new data about the function of categorical denial. Then, the methods and effectiveness of a range of treatment approaches to overcoming denial will be described. Finally, the description and effectiveness of an approach where denial of having sexually offended is not challenged and instead focuses on empirically identified criminogenic issues will be presented. Workshop participants will be provided a rationale for this treatment approach as well as practical assessment, risk assessment, and treatment guidance. This will include use of case studies and examples.

Selected Abstract References (omitted from text):

- Marshall, W. L., Thornton, D., Marshall, L. E., Fernandez, Y. M., & Mann, R. E. (2001). Treatment of men with sexual convictions who are in categorical denial: A pilot project. *Sexual Abuse: A Journal of Research and Treatment*, 14, 205-215..
- Ware, J., Blagden, N., & Harper, C. (2018). Are categorical deniers different? *Understanding demographic, personality, and psychological differences between denying and admitting individuals with sexual convictions. Deviant Behavior*, 29, 1-4.
- Ware, J., Marshall, W. L., & Marshall, L. E. (2015). Categorical denial in convicted men with sexual convictions: The concept, its meaning, and its implication for risk and treatment. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, 25, 215-216.
- **Workshop 4: Risk Assessment approaches for Youth who have Sexually Offended: The Violence Risk Sexual-Youth Sexual Offense version (VRS-YS) (Keira Stockdale, Canada)**

This workshop provides an overview of assessment approaches, recent findings, and issues in sexual offense risk assessment with male juvenile populations. The Violence Risk Scale-Youth Sexual Offense version (VRS-YSO; Olver, Rojas, Lewis, Gordon, & Wong, 2017), a dynamic risk assessment and treatment planning tool for youth who have sexually offended, will be reviewed in detail as an illustrative approach. Attendees will have the opportunity discuss practice cases employing the VRS-YSO and to discuss their own cases. Implications for sexual offense risk management and support for youth and families to prevent future sexual offending and promote healthy functioning and wellbeing is discussed.

- **Workshop 5: Practical application and implementation of the Good Lives Model (GLM) (David Prescott, USA)**

The GLM is a strength-based rehabilitation model originally developed for treating individuals who have sexually abused. It is adapted for use with both adults and adolescents, male and female. Properly implemented, it adheres to the principles of risk, need, and responsivity, and can be delivered in accordance with principles of motivational interviewing and cognitive behavioral treatment. This training focuses on key theoretical underpinnings, principles, and applications of the model. It will focus on newly developed ideas for monitoring fidelity to the GLM, as well as tips for implementation efforts.

- **Workshop 6: *Problematic and harmful sexual behaviour and autism spectrum disorder - implications for practice* (Carol Carson, UK)**

Due to Practitioners, internationally, reporting rising numbers of children and young people on their caseloads who are either diagnosed or possibly autistic and where there are also concerns about their sexual behaviours, there was an identified need for practice guidance on assessment and interventions regarding autism and problematic/harmful sexual behaviours.

This workshop will provide an overview of Carol Carson's research PhD and her Practice Guidance on Autism and Problematic/Harmful Sexual Behaviours. The Practice Guidance looks at the implications for practice and the need for a proportionate, balanced approach. The focus is on understanding the individual and the Practice Guidance includes a tool for creating individual autistic profiles and provides suggestions for how practice can be adapted. to facilitate their understanding and engagement in the process.

- **Workshop 7: *An introduction to the Violence Risk Appraisal Guide - Revised (VRAG-R): Development and Subsequent Cross-Validation on Europe, Canadian, and Other Samples* (Brian Judd, USA) & L. Maaik Helmus, Canada)**

Following its publication in 2015, the Violence Risk Appraisal Guide – Revised (VRAG-R) has been cross-validated on multiple samples of treated and untreated European and Canadian adult male offenders, and older juveniles. To date, cross-validation of the VRAG-R has generally demonstrated large effect sizes for the prediction of violent and general recidivism and moderate effect sizes for the prediction of sexual recidivism. Additional developments include the publication of risk ratios for 5-year recidivism rates (Davies, Helmus, & Quinsey, 2020) and translation of the VRAG-R into German, Dutch and French. This workshop will summarize recent developments with the VRAG-R including the cross-validation research, application to various populations, and the utility of risk-ratios in communicating relative-risk to triers of fact. This workshop will also serve as a foundation for formal training on administration of the VRAG-R should attendees wish to begin utilizing the VRAG-R for clinical or research purposes.

- **Workshop 8: *Technology-assisted harmful sexual behaviour among children and adolescents – understanding and intervention* (Jennifer Allotye, UK)**

Children and young people are growing up in a digital world which brings many benefits but is also an area in which they can harm and be harmed. This interactive workshop will explore types of technology-assisted harmful sexual behaviour (TA HSB) displayed by children and adolescents, with both vulnerability and risk considered. A summary of the research base will be presented, with space for discussion on recognising and responding to TA HSB.

Prevention of TA HSB will be considered with reference to cyber-safety and safety planning. The focus will then move to assessment and intervention when TA HSB has taken place.

Keynote Presentations

- **Opening Lecture: *Sex offences in a lifespan perspective. Experiences and new perspectives* (Knut Hermstad, Norway)**

This lesson will give a brief over-view of the history of sex offender treatment and discuss some of the most important challenges for the future.

Adults committing sex offences have once been children and young persons; some of them started their offending career already as a child or an adolescent. In therapy, we can see how childhood and adulthood interact with each other. Sometimes it seems arbitrary who becomes a victim and who becomes an offender. However, psychological factors alone do not explain why some persons offend sexually. Ideas about masculinity, femininity and sexuality are part of overarching, general, ideological attitudes in the society, influencing on how we understand sexual behavior as well as sexual offences.

In the recent years, internet and electronic media have created new challenges to the treatment field. Internet disrupts the differences between fantasy and reality. A wide range of questions then emerge; such as the perception of what a sexual offence might be, what is the difference between fantasy and reality, and how should the relation between online offences and hands on offences be understood.

To meet the complexity of sexual offending behavior, we have to realize that there are victims and predators on both sides of the line, from early childhood to late adulthood. When developing new strategies for treatment and prevention we therefore must have a lifespan perspective on the plans.

- **Keynote Presentation 1: *Children and adolescents with harmful sexual behaviour. The development of the field and prospects of the future* (Simon Hackett, UK)**

Concern about harmful sexual behaviour in childhood is, perhaps, at an all-time high. In some jurisdictions, cases of young people coming to the attention of the criminal justice system because of their sexual behaviour now outstrip those of adult sexual offenders. Increasing concern about young people's 'technology assisted' and 'online' sexual behaviours challenge orthodox thinking about the origins, manifestations and responses to the problem. Drawing on his own and others' research, Simon will take stock of current evidence, theoretical models and practices for children and young people displaying harmful sexual behaviours. Arguing that a developmental and contextual approach is vital, Simon will discuss ways in which harmful sexual behaviour may be better conceptualised and identified, and what this means for intervention responses.

- **Keynote Presentation 2: *The Why, the Who and the Wherefore. Explanations, self-change and social friction in men's narratives of sexual violations* (Anja Kruse, Norway)**

In this address, I ask and try to answer the question of what we can learn from the stories that men convicted of sex offenses tell about their sexually violent acts – and the stories they tell about themselves as a person who has committed such acts.

From a narrative criminology approach, the stories told of past harmdoing by those responsible for doing harm may affect their future behavior. This is so because experience is simultaneously represented and (re-)constructed in the telling of narratives, the meaning-making it entails and how storytelling contributes to (dis-)integrate harmdoing into a broader narrative of self, identity and future. The first part of this address will zoom in on the explanations – the *why stories* – that the 17 men I interviewed for my PhD project (2015-2020) gave in response to questions about how they ended up committing sexual violence.

Social responses to violence – and to *stories* of violence – may (re-)produce dominant understandings of violence and the harm resulting from it. However, social responses also carry subversive potential to redefine such understandings, potentially recognizing new forms of violence or harm and pushing narratives about selves and acts in new directions.

In the second part of the address, I will discuss the *meaning* and *impact* of social responses *in* and *on* developing narratives of committing and being convicted for sexual violence. The *interpersonal responses* that the participants encountered after having committed and been convicted for sex offences turned out to be important factors in the processes they engaged in to make sense of, and come to terms with, their acts and experiences. Some responses were pushing the men to re-evaluate their concepts of violation, violence and consent. Other responses were reinforcing experiences of having been unfairly treated by a victim-centered, over-vigilant justice system, and yet other responses caused stigma, fear and social isolation. Examples of responses and their impact *in* and *on* the men's stories will be discussed in relation to narrative criminological thinking, as well as theorization on what helps or hinders desistance, rehabilitation and reintegration.

- **Keynote Presentation 3: *The Role and Relevance of Protective Factors in Dynamic Sexual Violence Risk Assessment and Management* (Mark Olver, Canada)**

Protective factors refer to salutary agents that mitigate risk for antisocial behavior and increase the potential for prosocial functioning and wellbeing. The last 10 years has witnessed a major rise in protective factors and their role and relevance in the assessment, treatment, and management of justice involved populations, including persons with a history of sexual offending. The use of formalized operationalizations of protective factors such as the Structured Assessment of Protective Factors (SAPROF; de Vogel et al., 2009), and its variants, the Sexual Offence (SAPROF-SO) and Youth Versions (SAPROF-YV), have furthered research and clinical application, as well as bolstered the credibility of the protective factors construct. This plenary will discuss recent lines of applied research featuring SAPROF-measured protective factors with sexual offending populations. Lines of research are presented to show that: 1) protective factors predict decreased recidivism, 2) predict increased positive outcomes, 3) can be increased for the better with treatment or other purposive change agents (including sexual offense specific services), 4) that such changes are often associated with decreased risk and recidivism, and 5) protective factors are often incrementally predictive of such outcomes beyond formalized measures of risk. Debate remains as to what extent changes in protection are independent of decreases in risk as well as optimal methods for integrating risk and protection factor information in case planning. I conclude with some suggested guidelines and applications of recent findings for clinical practice along with recommendations for further research.

- **Keynote Presentation 4: *Effective treatment for those who have engaged in sexually inappropriate behavior* (Liam Marshall, Canada)**

A recent evaluation of the Rockwood treatment program for adult males who have engaged in sexual offending found our participants to have a statistically significantly lower rate of reoffending than did two groups matched for risk and time-at-risk, namely a Treatment As Usual and Untreated group (Olver et al., 2020). This statistically significant reduction in reoffending was also found for violent offending. In a subsequent report (Marshall & Marshall, 2021), we

evaluated the costs versus benefits of providing this treatment in the Canadian federal prison system and found, besides less victimization, significant savings to the public. These results and the treatment program approach, content, and delivery (Marshall et al., 2011) will be described and discussed.

Selected Abstract References (omitted from text):

- Marshall, W. L., & Marshall, L. E. (2021). A cost–benefit analysis of a treatment program for adult males who have offended sexually, *Journal of Sexual Aggression*. DOI: 10.1080/13552600.2021.1934133
- Olver, M. E., Marshall, L. E., Marshall, W. L., & Nicholaichuk, T. P. (2020). A Long-Term Outcome Assessment of the Effects on Subsequent Reoffense Rates of a Prison-Based CBT/RNR Sex Offender Treatment Program with Strength-Based Elements. *Sexual Abuse*, 32, 127-153. DOI: 10.1177/1079063218807486
- Marshall, W.L., Marshall, L.E., Serran, G.A., & O'Brien, M. D. (2011). *Rehabilitating Sexual Offenders: A Strength-Based Approach*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association
- **Keynote Presentation 5: Harmful sexual behaviour among children and adolescents: Prevention strategies and proposals for interventions (Oddfrid Skorpe, Norway)**

Problematic and harmful sexual behaviour among children and adolescent is not rare. It is estimated that among 20-30 % of sexual assault is committed by a person under 18 years (Barbaree & Marshall, 2008), and about 50 % of adult sexual offenders report deviant sexual interests in adolescence (Finkelhor, Omrod and Chaffin, 2009). Why children and adolescents show problematic and harmful sexual behaviour will however, vary. Studies often look into individual characteristics e.g. developmental problems, traumatization and learning disabilities (Hackett, 2014; Sandvik, Nettet, Berg og Søndena, 2017; JanusCentret 2021). Cultural and more community based approaches are more scarce.

This presentation will shed light to understand the link between causes of problematic and harmful sexual behaviour and different prevention strategies, in order to promote healthy sexual behaviour, or «sexual decency», in children and adolescents. The presentation will include an overview of different tools developed in the recent years to enhance healthy sexual behaviour. More targeted interventions where children and adolescents have shown problematic or harmful sexual behaviour, will also be offered.

- **Keynote Presentation 6: Practical application and implementation of the Good Lives Model (GLM) (David Prescott, USA)**

While our field has rightly discussed the importance of self-care in our work, very little focus has been placed on what research shows about becoming more effective as a practitioner. This presentation will illustrate what research has found about what does and doesn't contribute to professional development and will offer observations on current trends in self-care and compassion.

- **Keynote Presentation 7: Assessing and Managing Offense Analogue and Offense Replacement Behaviors (OABs and ORBs) in Sexual Offense Treatment Contexts (Keira Stockdale, Canada)**

Dynamic security involves constructively utilizing staff interactions with correctional clientele—including persons with a history of sexual offenses—to contribute to a safe and rehabilitative environment. Offense linked proxy behaviors, known as offense analogue behaviors (OABs), represent criminogenic needs expressed in controlled

institutional and community settings and can jeopardize safety, security, and/or release success. By contrast, offense replacement behaviors (ORBs) represent prosocial alternative behaviors that can supplant OABs, contribute to safe and effective corrections environments, and promote successful reintegration. This plenary session provides an overview of the OAB and ORB concepts in the context of sexual offense risk assessment and treatment—their assessment, monitoring, intervention and management through both formal and informal means. In addition to correctional programming, interpersonal interactions, per core correctional practices, are crucial to reducing the presence of OABs and increasing ORBs, which also enhances dynamic security. I conclude with recommendations for assessing and managing sexual offense OABs and ORBs through routine day-to-day operations.

Non-Academic Highlights

Day 1: Wednesday, August 30th, 2023

05:30 PM-07:30 PM: Meet and greet (incl. finger food) at the conference site

07:00 PM-08:00 PM: Concert in the Nidaros Cathedral

Organ concert and the cathedral's girl choir

(conductor: Anita Brevik):

- lyrics from a concentration camp during WWII
(Norwegian composer)

Click [here](#) to check it out!

- Norwegian folk song

Click [here](#) to check it out!



Day 3: Thursday, August 31st, 2023

07:30 PM: Conference dinner at the conference hotel

Note: All events are included in the on-site participant conference fee. Conference dinner tickets for accompanying persons are 60 Euros and can be bought upon your conference registration.



Apart from the events organized by IATSO, there are plenty of other things you can do in Trondheim should you have any spare time. To check them out, click [HERE!](#)

IATSO Team 2023

Reinhard Eher

IATSO President

Reinhard Eher was born in 1963 in Vienna, Austria. He is a psychiatrist and clinical psychotherapist. He is a co-founder of the International Association for the Treatment of Sexual Offenders (IATSO). He was its secretary general from 1998 to 2016 and president elect from 2016 to August 2021 and is now the IATSO president. Since 2001, he is the head of the Federal Evaluation Centre for Violent and Sexual Offenders (FECVSO) in the Austrian Ministry of Justice in Vienna, Austria. He has written numerous original research papers and given numerous presentations on national and international conferences, mainly about sexual abusive behaviour and risk assessment in sexual offenders. He is professor for forensic psychotherapy at the Medical University in Ulm, Germany.



Martin Rettenberger

IATSO President elect

Martin Rettenberger is the Director of the Centre for Criminology (Kriminologische Zentralstelle – KrimZ) in Wiesbaden, Germany, and is Professor at the Department of Psychology at the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (JGU), Germany. From 2016 to August 2021, he was the Secretary General of the International Association for the Treatment of Sexual Offenders (IATSO), since August 2021, he is president elect. He is also editor-in-chief of the IATSO open access e-journal "Sexual Offending: Theories, Research, and Prevention" (SOTRAP).

Sabrina Eberhaut

Conference Organizing Committee

Sabrina Eberhaut works as a clinical psychologist at the Federal Evaluation Centre for Violent and Sexual Offenders (FECVSO) of the Austrian Ministry of Justice in Vienna, Austria, and is a doctoral student at the Medical University in Ulm, Germany. She works for the International Association for the Treatment of Sexual Offenders (IATSO) since 2015.



Knut Hermstad

Chair of the Local Organizing Committee

Knut Hermstad is a specialist in clinical sexology and one of the leading professionals in the field of treatment of persons who have committed sexual offences in Norway. Back in the early 1990-ties, he was leading one of the first government-supported treatment projects in Norway for this group. Since that, he has been central to the development of treatment programs for young people with harmful sexual behavior as well as for adult offenders. He made his PhD in forensic sexology on a research work on men sentenced to long-term prison punishment for child sex offences. Now he is working as a senior adviser at the University Hospital of Trondheim. He is doing education, supervision and support to health professionals in primary care and in specialized institutions, besides having his own private, therapeutically praxis as in the field.



Oddfrid Skorpe Tennfjord

Vice Chair of the Local Organizing Committee

Tennfjord works at The regional center on violence, traumatic stress and suicide prevention, Region Mid-Norway (RVTS Midt). From 2015- 2021 she also worked as an Associate Professor at the Regional Centre for Child and Youth Mental Health and Child Welfare at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. Tennfjord is the head of the Norwegian Competence Network of children and adolescents displaying problematic or harmful sexual behaviour as well as REBESSA (Resource team children and adolescents with problematic and harmful sexual behavior). Tennfjord is also project manager of the web site www.seksuellatferd.no



Members of the Local Organizing Committee

- Olav Burkeland
- Anne Iversen
- Nanna S. Kayed
- Eva O. Langvik
- Morten J. Lundgren
- Torkil Ramstad
- Marita Sandvik
- Anders Sunde-Eidem
- Svein Øverland
- Venke Aarethun