MIND FOUNDATION

The APT Network - Building a Professional Community for Psychedelic Therapists

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The MIND Foundation's Augmented Psychotherapy Training (APT) is a 15-month professional training program for psychotherapists, medical doctors, and other health professionals seeking to deepen their competencies in psychedelic therapy. Since the program's launch in 2021, five APT courses have started—three in English and two in German. While the German-language courses primarily attract participants from Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, the English-language courses draw people from Europe and around the globe.

Together, the current participants and alumni form the *APT Network*—a growing international community of professionals who share common training foundations and a common set of professional values. With currently 142 members and two new APT courses starting in November 2024 and March 2025, this community is becoming an essential hub for professional support, development, and collaboration. Its members are at the forefront of integrating psychedelic therapy into mainstream mental health care. Some of them are involved in clinical studies testing substances like psilocybin for the treatment of various mental disorders, and many are already providing ketamine- or breathwork-augmented psychotherapy within clinical settings. Others offer integration-focused psychotherapy and harm reduction services to clients who use psychedelics in non-clinical settings.

In monthly online meetings, members of the APT Network meet to exchange knowledge, present treatment cases, and discuss current developments in the field. These sessions have already become a valuable space for learning, peer support, and inspiration.

A major milestone will take place in April 2025, when the network will come together in Berlin for its first in-person event, the *APT Network Convention*. For two days, participants will have the opportunity to connect, exchange knowledge, and learn from each other. Among other things, lectures, workshops and panel

discussions are planned, all of which will be organized by members of the network. Topics will range from the latest research findings to clinical-practical and ethical considerations to the cultural, legal and social changes brought about by the growing global interest in psychedelic substances. In addition to professional exchange and networking, the APT Convention will also be an opportunity to celebrate the progress we have made together in the implementation and further development of psychedelic-augmented psychotherapy.

Want to take part in the APT Network Convention?

Coordinating the APT Network are two APT alumni: Maja Koutsandréou, a psychotherapist based in Leipzig (Germany), who graduated from the first German-language APT course, is excited about the future: “The process of co-creating the APT Network with all present and future alumni, the APT team and mentors is really exciting. I’m looking forward to the APT Network Convention in April 2025 as the first big summit on our journey together. This will offer a good view on our collective and individual efforts, insights and learnings of the last few years as well as a forecast of what we can build together in the years to come: a strong and diverse community that offers mutual support and inspiration, professional collaboration and companionship”.

Maja’s co-coordinator is Eugen Secar , a psychotherapist from Cluj-Napoca (Romania) and alumnus of the very first APT course. He adds: “It’s remarkable to see how much knowledge there is in our network and how our shared foundation in training begins to translate into real-world impact. Augmented therapy is often used for the most challenging cases, and practitioners require a strong network of support. The APT Network provides a vital community where we can share knowledge and expertise, strengthen our skills, and ensure we’re offering the highest standard of care—both to ourselves and to the people we serve”.