

# AM2021

ISPSO AM BERLIN 5-11 JULY 2021

# ISPSO

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY  
FOR THE PSYCHOANALYTIC  
STUDY OF ORGANIZATIONS

## The Walls Within

Working with Defenses against Otherness

Online Conference 5-11 July 2021



*\*students, retirees and  
low income earners*

**Professional  
Development  
Workshops  
Paper Presentations  
Panel Discussions  
Social Dreaming  
Social Events**

Unexpectedly, walls have undergone a renaissance: During the coronavirus pandemic, walls – also in terms of isolation and self-distance – have proven to be an effective protection against infection. In Europe many countries even closed their borders temporarily. However, the outbreak of the COVID-19 was marked by a lack of respect towards certain boundaries – such as animals’ habitats. Indeed, it seems to be an unsolvable problem of mankind to find a good closeness-distance relationship, not least towards its socio-cultural environment. This can be seen in the fact that in many parts of the world, more than thirty years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, walls are back in business to exclude ‘otherness’. Such walls have recently provoked protests, for example, against the racial injustices made all the more apparent by COVID-19. While real and virtual barriers are being raised at the behest of neo-authoritarian leaders, walls are also being constructed as internal defenses against the disruptions that arise from the digital innovations of ‘others’. In this sense, the Berlin Wall still symbolizes the futile attempt to prevent people from coming into contact with unwanted peculiarities, ideas or changes coming from the other side.

**ISPSO’s 37th Annual Meeting 2021 in Berlin** is dedicated to examining these walls as defenses against otherness. The planning committee on behalf of the ISPSO Board is pleased to invite ISPSO members and non-members from all countries to join our online conference.

**Program & Information**

Continuing Education Credits Available



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