



Martin Teicher will present the first plenary session. He is Associated Professor at the Harvard Medical School. He took part at the Harvard University Brain Working Group and is member of the Scientific Advisory Council of the Juvenile Bipolar Council Foundation. Recent studies suggest that clinical sequelae may stem, at least in part, from enduring adverse effects on brain development. Generally, early onset and longer duration of abuse have been associated with greater brain changes, but this may be an oversimplification. An alternative hypothesis is that stress-susceptible brain regions have their own unique sensitive periods (or windows of vulnerability) to the effects of early stress. Further, some of the adverse consequences of exposure to early stress may remain hidden until they are unmasked by subsequent maturational events.

Saturday afternoon, **Ana Gomez**, founder and director of the Agate Institute (US), will present the second plenary. Ana is an expert in the use of the EMDR therapy with children and adolescents with complex trauma, generational wounding legacies and dissociation. She is the author of “EMDR Therapy and Adjunct Approaches with Children: Complex Trauma, Attachment and Dissociation”. Ana will tell us about how complex trauma often is passed through implicit non-conscious procedural messages of unresolved trauma and attachment styles can be transmitted at a intergenerational level, within the parent-child relationship. This presentation will show us how these hidden burdens in memory can become key elements in organizing the individual’s sense of self.

Sunday afternoon, **Andrew Moskowitz** will present the final plenary session. He is Professor in Psychology at the Touro College in Berlin, President of the European Society for Trauma and Dissociation, as well as author of many publications in the field of trauma, dissociation and psychosis and first editor of the book “Psychosis, Trauma and Dissociation”.

Andrew Moskowitz will talk about the relationship between dissociation and psychosis, addressing several fields which have had interesting developments in the past 9 years, such as the relationship between auditory hallucinations/voice hearing and dissociation and the similarity between the changes in the brain caused by trauma during childhood and those found in schizophrenia.