

Forum of Psychoanalytic Ethics: Dresden 2025: Freedom

M. C. Sanz¹, B. Chervet², Y. Korkut³

¹ *Madrid Psychoanalytical Association, Madrid, Spain*

² *Paris Psychoanalytic Society, Paris, France*

³ *Psike Istanbul, Istanbul, Turkey*

Abstract Content (EN)

The title of this congress, "Freedom," by its definition would seem to imply certain restrictions of individual freedom, in parallel with the development of culture, as Freud showed in *Civilization and its Discontents* (1930). What freedom are we talking about when we speak of freedom? Psychoanalytical institutions, while serving a protective function, can also become pathologically disturbed. This can lead exercise of power and politicization, and when psychoanalytic institutions deviate from ethical principles, they risk becoming dangerous entities. In her trilogy *Upheavals in the Psychoanalytical Institutions* (2013), specifically in the volume dedicated to fanaticism, Manuela Utrilla reflects lucidly on the dangers that beset psychoanalytic institutions when they impede freedom of thought. They are often masked as an evolution of psychoanalytical thinking and practice when in fact they evolve into fanatical positions intolerant of scientific debate.

In the discussion part, we will focus on the relationship between freedom to think and the imposition of one-track-thinking. Our ethics depend on the renunciation to satisfy our Oedipal cathexes, and our free thinking depends on our Oedipal mourning. Psychoanalytic institutions can be affected by various deviations because of the power of resistance to the founding renunciation.