

Freedom and the development of Psychoanalysis in Eastern Europe

D. G. Stantchev¹, I. M. Kadyrov², P. Fonda³

¹ *Bulgarian Psychoanalytic Society, Sofia, Bulgaria*

² *Moskow Psychoanalytic Society, Moskow, Russian Federation*

³ *Italian Psychoanalytic Society, Trieste, Italy*

Abstract Content (EN)

Psychoanalysis, its often-dramatic fates (at one point referred to as Eros of Impossible), and its impressive development in Eastern Europe - more precisely in the countries of the former Socialist bloc - has been and remains a compelling subject and a compelling object for reflection. Looking it from the angle of freedom, especially in its metapsychological and technical dimensions opens up the possibility of discussing how the pursuit *of* and the escape *from* it can manifest themselves in the psychoanalytic setting (freedom and/or not freedom of association and in the analyst's attitude), in the formation and functioning of psychoanalytic groups and societies, and in the social domain in general. Discussion of these issues is especially important today, when the tightening of the regimes of "non-freedom" in some countries of the former Soviet Union and the ongoing war cannot but affect psychoanalytic practice, training and the functioning of psychoanalytic groups. The contributors to this panel - Dimo Stantchev (President of the Bulgarian Psychoanalytic Society), Paolo Fonda as chair (PIEE director, 2002-2014), and Igor Kadyrov (EPI director, 2014-2023) will explore these and other pertinent issues from their roles and vantage points in this process in active discussion and interaction with the audience.