

# Precongress Workshop of the IPA Subcommittee Migration and Refugees: Migration, Trauma, and the Analyst's Position – A Challenge to Neutrality

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## Chair of Workshop

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## Content

### Martha Bragin – *Beyond Neutrality: Creating the Analytic Third*

Inability to bear real-world violence shapes the psyches of exiled people from conflict zones.

Psychoanalytic concepts will be discussed, along with how the far right exploits these dynamics to divide migrants and host communities. A clinical case illustrates the creation—and limits—of an analytic “third space” where forbidden emotions can emerge, be contained, and allow recognition of shared humanity.

### Marianne Leuzinger-Bohleber – *Threatened Caring Culture: On the Medea Myth*

Growing contempt for the vulnerable attacks the innate “caring system”. Drawing on the Medea myth, this paper examines how unconscious fantasies and early trauma are projected onto migrants and refugees, fueling populist and extremist ideologies. Case material from the MODE study shows how care can bridge polarized groups but also provoke narcissistic rage and destructive end-time fantasies.

### Elisabeth Haworth – *Internal Migration and the Fracture of the Community Fabric*

Peru's ongoing displacement reflects deep historical inequalities—from colonial stratification to the Shining Path conflict and current political violence. Migration ruptures community bonds and symbolic continuity, producing trauma understood as a psychic wound that disrupts time and meaning. Psychoanalytic work offers collective spaces to process violence, rebuild connection, and sustain professionals' capacity to care.