



## World Psychiatric Association Geopsychiatry Special Interest Group

Geopsychiatry is an exciting intersectoral field focusing on the interface between geopolitical events and their impact on the practice of psychiatry across all ages and subspecialties.

There is a growing global awareness that geopolitical factors such as climate change, pandemics, conflict, natural and manmade disasters, displacement, and erosion of human rights play a major role in the mental health and wellbeing of individuals<sup>1</sup>. These geopolitical events are creating environments where many determinants of poor mental health are exacerbated and add to the global mental health burden across nations, regions, and communities, thus presenting some of the most fundamental inter-national geopolitical challenges in psychiatry.

Geopolitical factors have always influenced health and as the world is grappling with this myriad of simultaneous challenges it is time for a new global conceptualization of Geopolitical Determinants of Mental Health<sup>2</sup>. Securing and spending scarce mental health resources has never been more challenging. A more progressive approach to fund mental health would be the utilization of the CAPE Vulnerability Index<sup>3</sup>.

Psychiatric medical education, research, policy, and practice are changing to meet these global challenges. The WPA has recognized the impact of these current geopolitical changes on mental health and how appropriate responses are still poorly understood; and has thus established a special interest group - [WPA Geopsychiatry Special Interest Group](#), with a clear explicit strategic aim to summarize current evidence and propose strategies to tackle geopolitical challenges on mental health.

I am pleased to share with you these **3 short Geopsychiatry videos**; Study them and consider how to build a research reservoir that can shape global mental health policies and improve practice and how we collectively approach the challenges in global psychiatry.

[What is Geopsychiatry?](#)

[Geopsychiatry -CAPE Vulnerability Index codifying countries and prioritising aid for mental health](#)

[Geopsychiatry - climate change, migration, advocacy, research, and mental health](#)

I want to congratulate Professor Helena Ferreira Moura, University of Brasilia, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Brazil, and head of the Centre for Geopsychiatry in Brazil for writing, directing, and producing these 3 states of the art videos.

If you would like to be part of this dynamic Geopsychiatry movement:  
email [info@geopsychiatry.com](mailto:info@geopsychiatry.com)

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<sup>1</sup> Persaud A, Bhugra D. Geopsychiatry, global vulnerability, mitigation and psychiatry. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*. 2022;68(8):1537-1538. doi:[10.1177/00207640221110068](https://doi.org/10.1177/00207640221110068)

<sup>2</sup> Ventriglio A. Geopolitical determinants of mental health: Towards a global perspective. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*. 2023;69(1):229-230. doi:[10.1177/00207640221112319](https://doi.org/10.1177/00207640221112319)

<sup>3</sup> Persaud, A., Day, G., Bhugra, D., Castaldelli-Maia, J.C., Torales, J., Valsraj, K., et al. (2020) CAPE Vulnerability Index. *Int Rev Psychiatry* **33**, 43–55.

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