

## Partner Presentation Form

Name of the organisation :	Associazione per l'EMDR in Italia	
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Name of communication contact person:	Valentina Martini	
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Function:	<i>Project manager Quality contact</i>	
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**Type of organisation:**

SME     School     University     Public Authority   
 Training     No Profit     NGO

Other (Specify)

**Fields of action :**

SMEs     Youth     Universities     Public Authorities   
 Equal opportunities     Schools     Unemployed

Other (Specify)

### **Description of the organisation**

EMDR Italy Association is the official professional association of psychologists and psychiatrist experts who are trained in EMDR treatment for trauma. The Association establishes, maintains and promotes the highest standards of excellence and integrity in EMDR therapy practice, research and education in Italy and Europe.

EMDR Italy Association has conducted around 700 interventions in the field of acute traumatization of individuals and communities. EMDR Italy Association can count on 8.100 members. EMDR Italy Association is part of EMDR Europe Association, composed by 32 countries and around 27.000 members.

EMDR Italy Association conducts research, provides resources for treatment and high standard accredited training, as well as research projects designed to advance the field of EMDR's application in the context of crisis, disasters and traumatization.

EMDR Italy Association is a scientific society endorsed by the Ministry of Health. EMDR Italy Association has been awarded an official recognition by the President of the Italian Republic for its contribution to society and to public mental health. EMDR Italy Association usually intervenes after some hours after a disaster, in the acute phase of trauma, and in the long term as well, helping communities to recover and promoting resilience. EMDR Italy Association works with teachers, children and parents exposed to critical events.

### **Experience of the organization in previous European projects**

EMDR Italy Association is a newcomer in European projects.

Nevertheless

EMDR Italy Association very involved in EMDR Europe association and in the organization of international Congress.

### **Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area**

EMDR Italy Association has already provided psychological support in the aftermath of critical incidents occurred in schools (suicides, sudden death of students or teachers) and also in mass disasters (like earthquakes, floods, Genoa bridge collapse, Coronavirus pandemic). EMDR Italy Association has intervened in the last 4 major earthquakes in Italy, providing support to population, children, emergency workers, decision makers and schools.

EMDR Italy Association collaborates with the Police, the Army, with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, providing training, psychoeducation and interventions with the personnel exposed to traumatic events.

In total EMDR Italy Association has conducted 700 interventions in the last years. Currently, EMDR Italy Association is conducting almost 200 interventions in the context of the Covid 19 emergency. The support guaranteed by EMDR Italy Association is addressed to the entire population, including health workers, families and schools. EMDR Italy Association carries out all these interventions in agreement and requested by the Institutions, hospitals, the National Health service, schools, senior citizens homes, town halls, and Civil Defense.

### **Contributions that can be provided to the project**

EMDR Italy Association has already involved in several trainings of Early Intervention psychotherapists in many courses in presence and online. Especially in the Corona Virus lockdown period in 2020 more than 6.000 psychotherapists were trained by EMDR Italy Association in online courses in streaming.

### **Reasons of involvement in the project**

EMDR Italy Association has been growing know how and expertise in the field of Emergency Psychological intervention. The gist of its contributes is to support traumatized victims involved in traumatic events or humanitarian emergency, to support sanitary and first aid workers, to contribute to the coordination with all the emergency stakeholders involved.

### **Contact Person's Experience and Expertise**

Isabel Fernandez is a clinical psychologist working in Milan. She has been trained in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and has been on the faculty of the Italian School of Cognitive Behavior for 18 years, providing specialization training in psychotherapy. She has worked as a consultant psychologist at the psychiatric ward of Niguarda Hospital, conducting clinical research projects. Currently, she is Director of the Psychotraumatology Research Center of Milan and has published many papers, articles and books on trauma, EMDR and other topics. She is Chairman of the EMDR Italia Association, President of EMDR Europe Association and member of the Board of Directors of the Italian Federation of Scientific Psychological Societies. She has been a member of the Standing Committee Trauma and Disasters and the Board Prevention and Intervention (of the European Federation Psychological Associations) from 2005 to 2014. She has organized interventions with EMDR in mass disasters and has worked in cooperation with Civil Defense, Military and Law enforcement and firefighters to provide psychological support and trauma treatment for emergency workers. She trains graduates, students and clinicians in trauma, EMDR and crisis intervention in Italy and Spain. She has done research and published on Post-traumatic stress reactions in children and adults in emergency settings and mass disasters. In 2019, she received the title of Knight Commander from the President of Italy, for the contribution given to public health and to the population through the Italian EMDR Association, especially in early intervention in the aftermath of mass disasters.

Valentina Martini

Graduate in Foreign Languages for International Communication at the University of Genoa and specialist in the field of education and training. She took a Master's in Human and Children's Rights at INPEF Institute in Rome in 2018 and started working especially with children living in disadvantaged areas or coming from a context of migration. To gain more specific insight into international cooperation and EU funding policies, Valentina has also completed courses in "Project Cycle Management", "Humanitarian Aid", and "Managing ECHO Humanitarian Actions" at ISPI in Milan. Since 2019 she collaborates with EMDR Italia and EMDR Europe Association as Executive Assistant, participating in the organisation of international projects and events aimed at promoting and supporting people's mental health. In addition, Valentina serves as a liaison between the internal management, the President, the Board, the Committee members, and the 34 EMDR National Associations of EMDR Europe. She is also in charge of managing the contents of the EMDR Europe website. Furthermore, she takes care of the advocacy activities of both Associations at a European and international level.

Giada Maslovaric

Psychologist, psychotherapist, EMDR supervisor and trainers in Psychology and Emergency Communication areas. Professional experience in conducting/teaching behavioral training projects to health personnel, psychologists, psychotherapists, law enforcement and other state and private bodies in Psychology and Emergency Communication. Expertise in emergency management, vicarious traumatization, bad news communication, post disturbances traumatic and dissociative disorders.

Stefania Sacchezin

Psychologist, psychotherapist, EMDR supervisor and facilitators. Trainers in Psychology and Emergency. Emergency team coordinator in maxi-emergency settings. Counselor of Ministry of Defence to support peace contingents in Afghanistan and

in Inner Ministry, Ministry of Grace and Justice and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Serena Zucchi

Psychologist, Health Psychology psychotherapist, EMDR psychotherapist practitioner and a Bio and Neurofeedback psychotherapist. She has achieved a Master degree in Prevention Science in University of Medicine, Piemonte Orientale (2016). She is in charge in ASL TO3 S.C Psychology as psychologist and psychotherapist, member of ASL TO3 Emergency team and EU researcher in ASL TO3 S.S. European Project Service. She has got previous experiences as scientific researchers and project manager in Be Healthy project EU, Youth in Action (2014-2016) and in Erasmus plus Softis-Ped project (2017-2018) and in Move your hands for Dementia (2020-2022).

Martina Gervasoni, Psychologist (2017-) (110/110 Dissertation: Work fatigue in Emergency healthcare contexts).

Psychotherapist trainee at ASL TO3 in Primary Care centre (2017-). Experience in European Projects, Erasmus Plus Projects and Health promotion interventions for Adults and adolescents. Trained in research and revision of reports and articles, database management (use of SPSS software, Excel, Word, databases, catalogues and online journals). Researcher in charge of first level analysis of qualitative and quantitative data for Fondazione Carige and Compagnia di San Paolo Torino, support in the project design and implementation of psychosocial projects and training activities. 1 publication in Internal and Emergency Medicine Journal.

Elvira Lai, psychologist, Degree in public relations from IULM. I've been working for 15 years in human resources management. Degree in clinical psychology (March 2020) from e-Campus university with a thesis on trauma. Post-graduate internship at the association of studies and research in psychotraumatology EMDR Italy.