Clinical Psychology in Europe

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Editorial

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A New Chapter: Clinical Psychology in Europe Moves On

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The very first issue of Clinical Psychology in Europe (CPE), published in March 2019, opened with an editorial by the founding editors-in-chief, Winfried Rief and Cornelia Weise (Rief & Weise, 2019). In this editorial, as well as introducing the journal and its aims, they also acknowledged the scepticism that a new journal may face and raised the hope that CPE might become a valuable platform for exchange and dissemination in clinical psychology across Europe. A look through the archive of the past 8 years will make it immediately clear just how successful the journal has been in achieving this aim, both in the quality of the articles, and in the importance and breadth of the topics addressed. Submissions to the journal have continued to grow, with 2025's record of 194 submissions (more than double the number received in 2024) already broken by mid-September in 2026. Indexed in Scopus and recognised with an official impact factor, CPE can now claim to be a well-established, highly competitive, and sought-after outlet for publication.

An additional contributor to the journal's rapid success has been its hosting by PsychOpen GOLD, the open access publishing platform of the Leibniz Institute for Psychology (ZPID); this hosting allowed CPE to operate a Diamond Open Access publishing model, that is, making every article freely available, with no charges to either readers or authors. This in turn was possible via federal and state funding to ZPID. However, the

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funding landscape is always changing, and earlier in 2026 it was announced that due to financial constraints, PsychOpen GOLD would be discontinued, and that the journals it was hosting would need to find new publishing platforms.

Following this announcement we started to explore how it might be feasible to guarantee the continuation of Clinical Psychology in Europe as a viable journal. After careful consideration of several options, we are very pleased to announce that as of 2027, Clinical Psychology in Europe will be published by Hogrefe. Hogrefe has a long history with psychology publishing (Hogrefe, 2024), and will provide a stable and professional platform for CPE to continue to grow and thrive. Perhaps fittingly, this change also comes at what was already a transitional phase for the journal; in 2025 Cornelia Weise and Winfried Rief started to step back from their roles with CPE, and over the course of 2026 the journal has transitioned to a new editorial team comprising Nadine Messerli-Bürgy (who joined as editor-in-chief in January 2025), Claudi Bockting, and Marcella Woud as editors-in-chief, as well as Simon Blackwell as managing editor. Given the increasing number of submissions, changes to the journal's operating model were clearly needed. In this context the move to Hogrefe comes at a particularly opportune moment, offering an opportunity to free ourselves from some of the extensive day-to-day administrative work of keeping the journal operational, and in turn giving us more time and space to reflect on the journal's aims and direction, and to focus on how best to fulfil its mission.

One major change resulting from the transition is that the journal will no longer be Diamond Open Access, as the funds that had originally supported this are no longer available. However, this does not mean that the articles will not be widely accessible: Many authors' institutions have agreements with Hogrefe that will cover open access article processing charges, and we will support authors from other institutions who wish to publish open access without charges to make the most of the possibilities offered by Hogrefe's Green Open Access policies. For example, authors can share submitted and accepted manuscripts at any time via pre-print servers and other repositories.

The present issue of Clinical Psychology in Europe therefore marks the end of a first chapter for the journal, a chapter in which, starting from scratch, it has grown into a huge success story. To have reached this state is a tribute to the work of Cornelia Weise and Winfried Rief in establishing the journal and bringing it to this point. We would therefore like to sincerely thank them for handing over the journal in such great shape, as well as the PsychOpen GOLD team for their support, our teams of editors, assistants, reviewers, everyone who has contributed submissions, and of course you, our readers, whom we hope we can continue to engage and inspire as the journal develops. Stay tuned for the next volume!

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