

THE PONTIFICAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

International Conference

Depression: State of the Art 2016

26 January 2016 - Casina Pio IV - Vatican City



VATICAN CITY 2016



Index

International Conference
**Depression: State
of the Art 2016**
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Introduction

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Depression is different from feeling down or sad.

WHO, in 2015, stated that depression is a common illness worldwide, with an estimated 350 million people affected. Especially when long-lasting and with moderate or severe intensity, depression may become a serious health condition and can cause the affected person to suffer greatly and function poorly at work, at school and in the family. At its worst, depression can lead to suicide. Suicide results in an estimated 1 million deaths every year.

Ensuring that science works to advance of the human and moral dimension of man is one of the goals of The Pontifical Academy of Sciences.

Therefore, the International Conference “Depression: State of the Art 2016” to be held under the auspices of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences on January 26, 2016 at the Casina Pio IV, Vatican City, aims to give updates on pathophysiology, clinical presentation, diagnosis and treatment of depression.

H.E. Msgr. Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo

Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences

Prof. Mario Maj

Professor of Psychiatry and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry
of the University of Naples SUN.

Prof. Stefano Maria Zuccaro

Vatican Health Officer

9.00 - **Welcome: H.E. Msgr. Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo, Stefano M. Zuccaro**

9.15 - **Introduction H.E. Msgr. Jean Louis Brugùès**

Chairmen: M. Maj (Naples, I)
S.M. Zuccaro (Rome, I)

9.30 -10.00 Opening Lecture:
The Pharmacological Treatment of
Depression: Current and Future
Clinical and Regulatory
Perspectives and Guidelines
Luca Pani (Cagliari, I)

10.00 - 10.20 Depression and Diagnostic Systems
Alfredo Carlo Altamura (Milan, I)

10.20 - 10.40 Physical Comorbidities of Depression
Andrea Fagiolini (Siena, I)

10.40 - 11.00 Psychobiology of Depression
Philip Cowen (Oxford, UK)

11.00 - 11.20 Break

11.20 - 11.40 Cognitive Functions in Depression
Miguel Ángel Roca Bennasar
(Palma de Mallorca, S)

11.40 - 12.00 Depression and Cognitive
Dysfunctions in Elderly
Antonio Nieddu (Sassari, I)

12.00 - 12.20 Pharmacological Treatment of
Depression: State of the Art and
Future Perspectives
Ferdinando G. M. Nicoletti (Rome, I)

12.20 - 12.40 Drug Treatment of Depression in
the Clinical Practice
Siegfried Kasper (Vienna, A)

12.40 - 13.00 Discussion

13.00 - 15.00 Lunch

15.00 - 15.20 Psychological Treatment of
Depression With Focus on
Cognitive Dysfunction
Pim Cuijpers (Amsterdam, NL)

15.20 - 15.40 Depression: Time for Personalized
Medicine
Koen Demyttenaere (Leuven, B)

15.40 - 16.00 Discussion

16.00 Conclusions and Closing Remarks
Mario Maj, Stefano M. Zuccaro

List of speakers

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Alfredo Carlo Altamura

Professor of Psychiatry, University of Milan,
Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry,
Fondazione IRCCS, Ospedale Maggiore,
Policlinico of Milan - I

Jean-Louis Brugès

Archivist and Librarian H.R.C.
Vatican City

Philip Cowen

Professor of Psychopharmacology
University of Oxford - UK

Pim Cuijpers

Professor of Clinical Psychology
Head of Department of Clinical Psychology
VU University Amsterdam - NL

Koen Demyttenaere

Professor
Chair of the University Psychiatric Center
Faculty of Medicine
Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven - B

Andrea Fagiolini

Professor and Chairman, Department of
Mental Health, University of Siena
Medical Center, Siena - I

Siegfried Kasper

Professor and Chairman
Department of Psychiatry
and Psychotherapy
Medical University of Vienna - A

Mario Maj

Professor and Chairman,
Department of Psychiatry,
University of Naples SUN - I

Ferdinando Giovanni Maria Nicoletti

Professor of Pharmacology,
Faculty of Medicina e Chirurgia
University "La Sapienza" of Rome - I

Antonio Nieddu

Director of Geriatric Department
Policlinico Sassarese - Sassari - I

Luca Pani

General Director
AIFA, Rome - I

Miguel Ángel Roca Bennasar

Professor of Psychiatry, University of Balearic
Islands, Palma de Mallorca, - S

Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo

Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences
Vatican City

Stefano Maria Zuccaro

Vatican Health Officer, Rome - I

ALFREDO CARLO ALTAMURA

A. Carlo Altamura, MD, is Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Milan, Italy, and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry, Fondazione IRCCS Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico of Milan, Italy.

He graduated as Medical Doctor in 1972 at the University of Milan where he completed the Residency School of Psychiatry in 1976. He attended as visiting scientist in different Academic Institutions (University Psychiatry Hospital Aarhus, DK; "Mario Negri Institute" for Pharmacological Research, Milan; Hospital Medical College, London; "Laboratoires d'Etudes et Recherches Synthelabo, Paris; Case Western University, Cleveland, Ohio).

He has received Scientific Awards from the "European Science Foundation Training Programme in Brain and Behaviour Research" (Strasbourg) and for "Scientific Production and Activities" at the University of Milan.

He is Author of more than 450 Scientific Publications in the fields of Psychopharmacology, Biological Psychiatry and Psychogeriatrics.

He is Member and Councilor of the following Professional Societies:

- European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (Executive Committee Member 1998-2002);

- Collegium Internationale NeuroPsychopharmacologicum (CINP) (Councilor 2002-2004);

Member of the CINP Nominating Committee since 2007);

- World Psychiatric Association (Member of the Section of Pharmacotherapy);

- World Federation of Societies of Biological Psychiatry (WFSBP);

- International Society for Bipolar Disorders (ISBD) (Councilor from 2010);

- Italian Societies of Psychiatry, Biological Psychiatry, Neuro-Psychopharmacology, Neuroscience and Psychogeriatrics.

Prof. Altamura is Co-Author of International "Consensus Statements" and "Treatment Guidelines" as following:

- ECNP (Guidelines for Depot Antipsychotic Treatment in Schizophrenia [Kane et al., Eur Neuropsychopharmacol. 1998;8(1):55-66]; Negative, depressive and cognitive symptoms of schizophrenia. Nice, March 2004 [Montgomery et al, Eur Neuropsychopharmacol. 2007;17:70-77]) - Manifesto for European Anxiety Disorders Research Network [Baldwin et al., 2010 Eur. Neuropsychopharmacol. 2010;20:426-432]

- WPA (SSRIs/Antidepressants and Suicide Risk [Moeller et al., Eur Arch Psychiatry Clin Neurosci. 258 Suppl 3:3-23. 2008]; Comparative Effectiveness of Antipsychotics in the Treatment of Schizophrenia [Tandon et al., Schizophr Res. 2008;100(1-3):20-38])

- WFSBP (Guidelines for the Treatment of Schizophrenia [Falkai et al., 2005 World J Biol Psychiatry. 2005;6(3):132-91]).

He is Member of the Editorial Board of several International Scientific Journals including International Journal of Neuropsychopharmacology, International Clinical Psychopharmacology, Journal of Affective Disorders, The World Journal of Biological Psychiatry, European Archives of Psychiatry and Clinical Neuroscience, International Journal of Psychiatry in Clinical Practice, Neuropsychiatry, Open Journal of Psychiatry (OJPsych).

Prof. Altamura is reviewer for Journals like Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica, American Journal of Psychiatry, Archives of General Psychiatry, Biological Psychiatry etc.

Prof. Altamura is also Chairman of the Innovation in Psychiatry (INNOPSY), an International Forum held biennially in Milan on clinical and therapeutic innovations in Psychiatry.

JEAN-LOUIS BRUGUÈS

Born on 22 November 1943, Bagnères-de-Bigorre (Hautes-Pyrénées), France

ACADEMIC DEGREES

- High School at Béziers (France)
- Licences in economics (Montpellier and Paris, France), 1965
- Laurea from the Faculty of Law of Montpellier (France), 1962
- Diploma from the Institute of Political Science (Paris, France), 1966
- Diploma of Graduate Studies in Political Science (Strasbourg, France), 1972
- Doctorate in Theology (Toulouse, France), 1989
- Doctor honoris causa from the Aquinas Institute of Theology (University of Saint Louis, USA), 2002

MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF PREACHERS (DOMINICANS)

- Entrance in Province of Toulouse in September 1968
- Solemn Profession, 2 October 1972
- Ordination to the Priesthood, 22 June 1975
- Prior of the Friary of Toulouse, 1980-1986
- Prior of the Friary of Bordeaux, 1987-1990
- Provincial of the Province of Toulouse, 1992-1997

ACADEMIC CAREER

- Teacher of General Moral Theology at the Institut Catholique de Toulouse (France) from 1976 to 1997. Chair of Moral Theology in 1992.
- Professor of Fundamental Moral Theology at the Université de Fribourg (Switzerland), from 1997 to 2000
- Courses : fundamental moral theology, ethics and sexuality, ethics and aesthetics
- Member of the International Theological Commission from 1986 to 2002
- Member of the National Consultative Committee on Ethics (France), from 1998 to 2000

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS

- Nominated the Bishop of Angers on 20 March 2000; episcopal consecration in the Cathedral of Angers on 30 April 2000, the same day canonical possession of the diocese was taken
- President of the Doctrinal Commission of the French Bishops' Conference from 2002 to 2006
- Nominated Consulter to the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life in 2006
- Nominated Secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education by Pope Benedict XVI on 10 November 2007. Assumed this role on 1 February 2008
- With this last nomination, became the Archbishop Emeritus of Angers
- Consulter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (2010-2012)
- Member of the Scientific Committee of the J. Ratzinger/Benedict XVI Foundation since 2010
- Nominated Archivist-Librarian of the Holy Roman Church by Pope Benedict XVI on 26 June 2012

Preacher of the Lenten Conferences at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Paris, 1995-1997

Knight of the Order of the Legion of Honor, 2004

PHILIP COWEN

Professor of Psychopharmacology.

My research focuses on the psychopharmacology of depression. I am interested in the biochemical changes that are associated with depression and how drugs work to alleviate the symptoms that depressed patients experience.

Clinical depression is an important public health problem and one of the leading contributors to the global burden of disease. Current treatments, although very helpful, are not effective for an important minority of patients, particularly those referred to mental health services. The rate of discovery of new drug treatments for depression is low partly because our knowledge of the underlying neurobiology is limited.

My group uses a variety of brain imaging methods as well neuropsychological techniques to clarify the brain changes in depression. We also study the effects of psychotropic drugs in these models. We study people who are acutely unwell as well as those at risk of depression because, for example, they have a previous history of the illness or a family history of mood disorder. In the latter respect much of our current work focuses on identifying neurobiological risk factors for young people at risk of depression in the hope of finding simple interventions to help prevent the onset of depression.

KOEN DEMYTTENAERE

Koen Demyttenaere is professor at the faculty of Medicine of the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium and currently chair of the University Psychiatric Center at the university.

Koen Demyttenaere is a specialist in depression and anxiety. His main interest fields are compliance with antidepressants, scales in depression and anxiety, quality of life and epidemiology of depression and anxiety. He has published over 190 international papers and book chapters, and he is member of several international advisory boards

ANDREA FAGIOLINI

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Andrea Fagiolini graduated from Liceo Scientifico (60/60) in Livorno (Italy) and received his medical training in Italy at the University of Pisa (Italy) School of Medicine (110/110 lode). After completing his psychiatric residency (70/70 lode) at the University of Modena (Italy), he spent more than 10 years on the faculty of the University of Pittsburgh Medical School (USA), where he served as Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Medical Director of the Bipolar Disorder Center and of the Depression and Manic Depression Prevention Program. More recently, he has joined the faculty of the University of Siena School of Medicine, where he serves as associate professor, medical director and residency training director of the Division of Psychiatry in the Department of Molecular Medicine. He also serves as Chairman of the Department of Mental Health (DAI) in the University of Siena Medical Center (AOUS) and USL7 Community Trust. He has published over 200 books and papers and seats in the Editorial Board of several peer reviewed international journals. He is principal investigator or coinvestigator in several internationally funded research studies (mainly phase 3 trials). His research interests and publications have primarily focused on the treatment of mood and anxiety disorders, suicidality, functional impairment and quality of life in patients with mental diseases.

RESEARCH PROGRAM

Dr. Andrea Fagiolini specializes in the pharmacological treatment and in the conduct of treatment research protocols of mood and anxiety disorders. He is conducting research on the pharmacological treatment of mood and anxiety disorders, the prevention and treatment of medical comorbidities in individuals with bipolar disorders, and the importance of comorbid sub-threshold psychiatric symptoms for the outcome of the primary psychiatric disorders.

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS AND HONORS

Full Professor of Psychiatry, School of Medicine Department of Neuroscience, Division of Psychiatry, University of Siena - I

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS

Fagiolini A, Buysse DJ, Frank E, Houck PR, Luther JF, Kupfer DJ: Tolerability of a combined treatment with lithium and paroxetine in bipolar depressed patients. *J Clin Psychopharmacol* 21:474-478, 2001.

Fagiolini A, Frank E, Houck PR, Mallinger AG, Swartz HA, Buysse DJ, Ombao H, Kupfer DJ: Prevalence of obesity and weight change during treatment in patients with bipolar I disorder. *J Clin Psychiatry* 63:528-533, 2002.

Fagiolini A, Kupfer DJ, Houck PR, Novick D, Frank E: Obesity as a correlate of outcome in patients with bipolar I disorder. *Am J Psychiatry* 160:112-117, 2003.

Fagiolini A, Frank E, Scott JA, Turkin S, Kupfer DJ. Metabolic syndrome in bipolar disorder: Findings from the Bipolar Disorder Center for Pennsylvanians. *Bipolar Disorders* 7: 424-430, 2005.

SIEGFRIED KASPER

Dr Siegfried Kasper is Professor of Psychiatry and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy at the Medical University of Vienna, Austria. Born in Salzburg, Austria, he was educated at the medical schools of the University of Innsbruck, Austria and the Universities of Freiburg and Heidelberg, Germany. Dr Kasper gained clinical and research experience in psychiatry at the Central Institute of Mental Health, Mannheim, Germany, the Psychiatric Department of the University of Heidelberg, Germany, the Clinical Psychobiology Branch of the National Institute of Mental Health, Bethesda, Maryland/USA, and the Psychiatric Department of the University of Bonn, Germany; in neurology at the Neurological Department of the University of Heidelberg in Mannheim; and psychotherapeutic and psychoanalytic training at the Ausbildungsinstitut für Psychotherapie und Psychoanalyse in Heidelberg/Mannheim, Germany.

Dr. Kasper published 633 in ISI (<http://portal.isiknowledge.com>) listed publications (Citation Index: 5962) and 195 book chapters, in various areas of psychiatry. He concentrates on the biological bases of mental disorders and their possible treatment approaches. Furthermore, he has conducted studies in psychopathological as well as clinical areas. Dr Kasper is a frequent national and international speaker and continues to be actively involved in research programmes studying depression, anxiety, psychosis, and dementia.

Dr Kasper serves on the executive committees and advisory boards of several national and international societies, such as the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP) and the Collegium Internationale Neuro-Psychopharmacologicum (CINP). He is president of the Austrian Society of Drug Safety in Psychiatry (ÖAMSP) and past-president of the Austrian Society of Neuropsychopharmacology and Biological Psychiatry (ÖGPB). Furthermore, he is an honorary member of the Czech and Romanian Societies of Neuropsychopharmacology, the Hungarian Psychiatric Association and a Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, UK, as well as of the Ukrainian Association of Psychiatry. In 1997, he was the president of the 10th ECNP Congress, was the chairman of the local organizing committee of the WPA Thematic Conference in 2004 and is the co-chair of the local organizing committee of the WFSBP Congress 2005 in Vienna. Furthermore, he has recently been appointed honorary professor at the University of Hong Kong, China. Dr. Kasper has been elected as president of the World Federation of Societies of Biological Psychiatry (WFSBP) for the term 2005-2009.

Dr Kasper serves on the editorial boards of numerous learned journals (total 41), including Journal of Clinical Psychiatry, European Archives of Psychiatry and Neuroscience, Comprehensive Psychiatry, and European Neuropsychopharmacology. He is co-editor-in-chief of the International Journal of Psychiatry in Clinical Practice, Regional Editor for Europe of the World Journal of Biological Psychiatry, and Field Editor of the International Journal of Neuropsychopharmacology.

As a result of his research expertise he is involved in projects of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and is also an adviser to the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products (EMA).

MARIO MAJ

Born in Naples on 20 June 1953.

CURRENT POSITIONS

Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Naples since 1985. Director of the Department of Psychiatry, University of Naples SUN, and of the Collaborating Centre of World Health Organization for Research and Training in the field of Mental Health since 1995.

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Head in Geneva of the Section of Neuropsychiatry of the Global Programme on AIDS of the World Health Organization (1989-1991).

President of the World Psychiatry Association (2008-2011).

President of the European Society of Psychiatry (2003-2004).

President of the Italian Society of Psychiatry (2000-2002).

Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and of the American College of Psychiatrists. Honorary Degree in Medicine at the University of Craiova.

Editor of the journal World Psychiatry (impact factor: 14.225) and member of the Editorial Board of several international scientific journals. Member of the Steering Committee for the Chapter on Mental Disorders of the ICD-11. Coordinator of the Working Group on Mood and Anxiety Disorders for the ICD-11. Member of the Working Group on Mood Disorders for DSM-5. Active as a teacher and as a researcher in several European countries, Africa, Asia and Latin America.

PUBLICATIONS

Author of more than 700 works in scientific journals and several monographs.

FERDINANDO GIOVANNI MARIA NICOLETTI

Born in Catania on 12 september 1959.

EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC CARREER

November 1982: Graduation in Medicine at University of Catania, School of Medicine (Italy) cum laude. Title of dissertation: "Effects of sex hormones and prolactin on the extrapyramidal motor system".

December 1982 - December 1983: Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute of Pharmacology, University of Catania, School of Medicine (Head, Prof. Umberto Scapagnini).

January 1984 - October 1985: Postdoctoral fellow, Laboratory of Preclinical Pharmacology, NIMH, St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Washington D.C., USA (Head, Prof. Erminio Costa).

November 1985 - January 1987: Visiting Assistant Professor of Pharmacology, Georgetown University, School of Dentistry, Washington D.C., USA. (Head, Prof. Erminio Costa at the FIDIA Georgetown Institute for Neuroscience).

1987 -1992: Research Associate, Institute of Pharmacology, University of Catania, School of Medicine (Head, Prof. Umberto Scapagnini).

July 1987: Specialist in Neurology (with laude). Title of dissertation: "Signal transduction coupled to excitatory aminoacid receptors in cultured cerebellar granule cells".

November 1992 - October 1995: Associate Professor of Pharmacology, University of Perugia, School of Pharmacy.

CURRENT POSITIONS

Professor in Pharmacology at "La Sapienza" University of Rome.

He was speaker in about 100 International conferences.

ANTONIO NIEDDU

He is Director of Geriatric Department of Policlinico Sassarese. Prof. Nieddu is Supervisor of Alzheimer evaluative Unit, and Professor of Geriatric and Gerontological Specialized School. He is Sardinia Section's President of Geriatric and Gerontological Italian Society, Policlinico Sassare Viale Italia, 11 - Sassari.

Type of sector: Hospital

Type of employment: Clinic Geriatriist, Department area's Supervisor in hospital setting.

Current position: Secretary/Administrator of Società Italiana Geriatri Ospedalieri.

LUCA PANI

After his degree and specialization, he completed his background abroad with a Post-doc at Illinois University in Chicago (from 1990 to 1992). Then he became an associate professor of Georgetown University at Washington D.C. (from 1993 to 1994). When he returned in Italy he worked as researcher at Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche in Cagliari, but he is always linked to USA; he is currently Volunteer Professor at Miami University.

He is Research Supervisor at CNR from 2002 and Presidente-Administrator of Neurosciences PharmaNess Scarl. He was Operating Unit's Supervisor of Biomedical Technologies Institute.

In 2008 he was the main creator of the first full public corporation Society dedicated to Pharmacologic Studies.

In 2010, he was Permanent Representative for Italy at Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use CHMP of European Medicines Agency (EMA), also confirmed in 2013. Luca Pani is Management Board Telematics Committee (MBTC)' and European Risk Management Strategy Group (ERMS)'s Chair.

MIGUEL ÁNGEL ROCA BENNASAR

Profesor titular de Psiquiatría en el Departamento de Psicología de la Universidad de les Illes Balears (UIB). Coordinador del Area de Neurociencia del Instituto de Investigación en Ciencias de la Salud (IUNICS) e investigador principal del grupo 'Trastornos mentales de alta prevalencia en Atención Primaria'. El grupo forma parte de la Red de Investigación Temática 'Red de Actividades Preventivas y de Promoción de la Salud (Rediapp)' del Instituto Carlos III, del Ministerio de Sanidad y sus líneas de investigación se centran la epidemiología, diagnóstico y tratamiento de los trastornos afectivos y de ansiedad en Atención Primaria, así como en la comorbilidad de estos trastornos con enfermedades no psicopatológicas. Ha sido y es investigador principal o colaborador en diferentes proyectos de ámbito nacional y autonómico. Actualmente coordina uno de los paquetes de trabajo del proyecto europeo 'Multi-country collaborative Project on the role diet, food-related behaviour and obesity in the prevention of depression (MoodFOOD)'. Ha publicado como autor o editor diez libros de psicopatología y psicofarmacología y más de 85 artículos en revistas internacionales, en el marco de las líneas de investigación señaladas. Fue profesor visitante en la Carnegie Mellon University y el Western Psychiatric Institute (Pittsburgh, EEUU). Figura en el consejo editorial y de redacción de numerosas revistas de la especialidad y es editor de 'Actas Españolas de Psiquiatría'. Forma parte del Board de la World Psychiatric Association y es secretario de la Fundación Española de Psiquiatría y Salud Mental.

MARCELO SÁNCHEZ SORONDO

Date and place of birth: 8 September 1942, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Appointment to the Academy: 5 October 1998

Scientific disciplines: Theology and Philosophy

Academic title: Professor of the History of the Philosophy

MOST IMPORTANT AWARDS, PRIZES AND ACADEMIES

Academic Appointments: Lecturer in the History of Philosophy (1976-82) and Full Professor (1982-98), Pontifical Lateran University; Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, Pontifical Lateran University (1987-96); Professor of the History of Philosophy, Libera Università Maria SS. Assunta (1998-); Ordained Bishop by His Holiness John Paul II on 19 March 2001.

Awards: Cavaliere di Gran Croce, Italy (1999); Officier de la Légion d'honneur, France (2000), Grão Mestre da Ordem de Rio Branco, Brazil (2004); Official of the Republic of Austria (2004); Knight of the Republic of Chile (2006); Francesco Vito Award, Univ. Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan (2001); Légion d'honneur, France (2002); Neruda Prize, Chile (2004); Grão Mestre da Ordem de Rio Branco, Brazilian Embassy to the Holy See (2004); "Bernardo O'Higgins" Grand Officer, Chile (2005); Award of the International Association of Catholic Doctors (2010).

Academies: Pontifical Academy of St Thomas Aquinas (1989) and Secretary Prelate (1999-); Chancellor, Pontifical Academy of Sciences (1998-); Chancellor, Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences (1998-); Member of the Accademia dei Georgofili (2008);

Member of the Accademia Italiana del Vino (2010).

SUMMARY OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

My early work centred around an innovative examination of the primary function of the idea of participation in the core theological approach of St. Thomas Aquinas, especially with regard to the crucial point of the question of the "participation (of man) in the divine nature" (2 Pt 1:4).

The main and new conclusion was that man, because he is free, i.e. *causa sui*, his own cause in the order of the re-creation not only of his own growth but also of the communication of divine grace to another human being, to a "you" who freely wants that grace. As a subsequent follower of the contemporary philosophical current which seeks the "rehabilitation" of Aristotle, I emphasized that the "Stagirite" was the first to expound a positive notion of spiritual reality beginning with the human experience of superior activities such as feeling, thinking, wanting and enjoying. Aristotle did this through his meta-categories of power and energy which, although they serve initially to explain movement, subsequently allow a metaphysical explanation of the living human subject, of the suffering and acting "self" – a question discussed in detail by modern philosophy. Drawing upon the most recent developments in critical research into the structure of the thought of Aristotle (N. Hartman, P. Ricoeur and my teacher C. Fabro), I examined the different interpretations of this philosopher, especially those propounded during the medieval period by Thomas Aquinas and during the modern era by Hegel. In his *Encyclopaedia* (§ 482) Hegel rightly observes that no concept has been more subject to misunderstanding than that of freedom, which expresses the essence of the spirit.

This was the new anthropological idea that the classical world, including Aristotle, was light years away from. For this reason, I have recently argued, "realised freedom" or freedom achieved by the truth (John Paul II) became the new criterion for the hermeneutics of history, culture and religions. I also proposed that realised freedom, as a real quality of the human being and not mere potentially, should be the criterion to be employed in the analysis of Christian history.

STEFANO MARIA ZUCCARO

Prof. Stefano Maria Zuccaro was born in Rome in 1949.

EDUCATION

Medical degree University of Rome in 1975 (magna cum laude).

Specialty Geriatrics and Gerontology, Cardiology Residency Chief of Geriatrics, Oncology and Broncopneumology Departments of the Ospedale Israelitico of Rome.

Health Officer of the State of Vatican City and physician of the Salesian Community of the Vatican.

CLINICAL INTERNSHIPS AND ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

1975-1977 3rd Clinic of Internal Medicine of Rome University

1977-1980 Medical Assistant, Ospedale Addolorata of Rome

1980-1985 Medical Assistant, Ospedale Israelitico of Rome

Since 1985 Director of Geriatrics Department of the Ospedale Israelitico of Rome

Since 2005 Chief of the Alzheimer Unit of the ASL RM D.

In 1990 he was elected member of the Board of the Italian Society of Hospital Geriatrics – SIGOs, in 1994 National Secretary and from 2002 to 2006 President of this Society. In 2010 he has been nominated Honorary President of SIGOs. In 1980-1992 he was Medical Assistant at the Health Services Direction of Vatican City and he is still Health Officer of this State. In 1996-2004 he was Adjunct Professor of the Specialty School of Geriatrics and Gerontology of the University of Rome “La Sapienza”.

Since 2009 he is member of the Health Ministry Commission “Palliative Care and Pain Therapy” and of the Geriatric Working Group created by the Italian Agency for Drugs.

Since 2006 he is member of the Ethical Committee of the IRCCS San Raffaele and Ospedale Israelitico of Rome.

Prof. Zuccaro attended as speaker and chairman in more than 100 International and National Meetings. From 2002 to 2006 he was Editor of “Geriatrics” Edizione CESI.

He has published more than 50 scientific papers. In cooperation with Prof. Massimo Palleschi he wrote four books on Geriatrics (Geriatrics Ed. SEU; Geriatrics rivoluzione nella sanità e negli ospedali Ed. CESI; Rapporto sulla cronicità in Italia Ed. CESI; Linee guida di Terapia Geriatrica Ed. CESI).

Con il patrocinio di



With the educational grant



VENUE

The Conference will be held at:
Casina Pio IV
Vatican City

ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT

**CONGRESS
LINE**

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