



6th Bergen International Conference on Forensic Mental Health

-Youth and Emerging Adults: The Intersection of Risk and Vulnerability-

25-26th March 2026

Bergen, Norway

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

TUESDAY 24TH MARCH 2026

Kevin DOUGLAS

Dr Douglas received his law degree (LL.B.) in 2000 from the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver, Canada, and his PhD in Clinical-Forensic psychology from Simon Fraser University in 2002. He is a Researcher (Forsker) at the Centre for Research and Education in Forensic Psychiatry at Haukeland University Hospital in Bergen, Norway, and research advisor at the Centre for Research and Education in Forensic Psychiatry at Oslo University Hospital in Oslo, Norway. Dr Douglas is also Professor of Clinical-Forensic Psychology at Simon Fraser University, Canada, and Director of the Mental Health, Law, and Policy Institute, Simon Fraser University. His research and professional activities include violence risk assessment and management; implementation of risk assessment protocols into forensic and correctional systems; psychopathy; the association between mental disorders and violence; dynamic risk factors; and the intersection of law and mental health more broadly. Dr Douglas was the recipient of the Saleem Shah Award for Early Career Excellence in Psychology and Law (2005), awarded jointly by the American Psychology-Law Society and the American Academy of Forensic Psychology. He was President of the American Psychology-Law Society (Division 41 of the American Psychological Association) in 2018-2019, and Treasurer of the International Association of Forensic Mental Health from 2013-2018. Dr Douglas is the lead author on the latest (third) version of the HCR-20 violence risk assessment measure, published in 2013, which is the most commonly used violence risk assessment instrument worldwide, used in 45+ countries and translated into 25+ languages. He is also leading the developmentally informed version of the HCR-20 V3, called the *Youth and Emerging Adult Risk and Strength System*, or YEARSS. He has authored over 225 journal articles, books, or book chapters, and has given over 250 invited presentations or workshops across 20+ countries and has been listed on Stanford University's publication "Top 2% of World Scientists" (top 2% of 8 million scientists, all fields of science).

Øyvind HEEN OTTESEN

Specialist in Clinical Psychology. He has worked as a clinician within forensic care for the majority of my professional career, primarily with young inmates in prison, but also in forensic psychiatric wards, group treatment of violent offenders and in prison health care. I have also worked with children who have parents with substance abuse problems as well as a year with palliative care. Currently primarily working with research, supervision and education within the forensic system.

CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH 2026

Randy BORUM

Dr. Randy Borum is a Professor and Director of Intelligence and National Security Studies at the University of South Florida. Before coming to USF, he was an Assistant Professor of Medical Psychology at Duke University School of Medicine. Dr. Borum supported three Directors of National Intelligence (DNI) on the Intelligence Science Board (ISB), served on the Defense Science Board Task Force on Understanding Human Dynamics, and served on the Steering Committee for the National Academy of Sciences' Study on Sociocultural Data to Accomplish Department of Defense Missions. He has taught courses on terrorism, intelligence analysis, strategy and decision making, and criminal psychology and is author/co-author of more than 180 professional publications including the Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth (SAVRY) and the Assessment of Risk for Extremist Violence in Adolescents (AREVA), structured professional judgment tools for assessing violence risk in adolescents. He was also awarded the Commissioner's Medal, from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, FDLE's highest civilian honor. He is a Board Certified forensic psychologist and has served as an instructor with the BJA State & Local Anti-Terrorism Training (SLATT), a Senior Consultant to the US Secret Service, advisor to the FBI's Behavioral Analysis Unit-1 (Threat Assessment & National Security), Senior Behavioral Scientist in the National Security Directorate at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), and is listed on the United Nations' Roster of Experts in Terrorism. He has previously served as a sworn police officer and as Chief Psychologist for a 120-bed acute admission unit of a regional state psychiatric hospital.

Elisabeth HARNES

Elisabeth Harnes works as a Special Advisor, at the Resource Centre on Violence, Traumatic Stress and Suicide Prevention (RVTS Vest), where she has served for the past eleven years as a project leader in the center's work on Radicalization and Violent Extremism. She is also a member of the interdisciplinary operative consultation team on radicalization to violent extremism in Bergen Municipality, known as TOT Radicalization. In 2015, Harnes co-developed the National Mentor Training for

prevention of radicalization to violent extremism in Norway (the municipal model), a program she has led since its inception.

Harnes is an interdisciplinary expert with extensive experience in psychosocial, therapeutic, cross-cultural, and dialogue-based work with marginalized individuals and groups, including international and diaspora communities. Her background includes work on the therapeutic reintegration of juvenile delinquents and adult offenders in the USA, teaching newly arrived immigrants in Norway, and serving as a university lecturer in Intercultural Understanding, Violence and Trauma. She has also worked as a Diversity Advisor on honor-based violence at the Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi), contributed to anti-radicalization initiatives and training within Somali and mosque communities, and worked on reconciliation and dialogue between bereaved and affected families on both sides of terror-related conflicts in Norway and Marocco.

Internationally, Harnes has served as an expert in the HOPE (Holistic Radicalisation Prevention Initiative) project in Europe, contributed to the UNOCT Hub on Behavioral Insights to Counter Terrorism, and is an expert member of the EU Knowledge Hub on Prevention of Radicalization, in the thematic panel “Lone Actor and Mental Health.”

She holds a master’s degree in religious studies with a focus on conversions to Islam in the context of collective trauma, a bachelor’s degree in Intercultural Studies, and is a psychotherapist and licensed family therapist with specialization in Narrative Therapy (Life Story Work), cross-cultural work with children and families, and advanced training in Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET), Complex Dissociation and Sensorimotor Psychotherapy.

Harnes has co-edited the professional anthology *Efforts Against Extremism in Theory and Practice* together with Professor Elisabeth Ivarsflaten at the University of Bergen (UiB), and has authored several academic chapters on radicalization, including topic such as individual and collective trauma and violent extremism, the grooming of transnational children into violent extremism, the use of Narrative Therapy in de-radicalization work, and mentorship programs and cross-agency operational collaboration in Prevention and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE). She has also co-authored a chapter on the Norwegian Mentor Scheme in de-radicalization work with Professor David Hansen at KRUS (Norwegian Correctional Service College) in *The Handbook of the Psychology of Terrorism*, edited by Moskalenko, McCauley, and Gina Scott Ligon (De Gruyter, 2026).

Kari ØVERLAND

Kari is a psychologist specialising in child, adolescent, and community psychology. She has worked for 14 years as a clinical psychologist in the juvenile unit at Bjørvin Prison. She trained as a forensic expert in childcare and custody cases, having conducted such evaluations for the past 15 years. Kari is currently pursuing a PhD in the CHILDCRIM project, studying how forensic assessments of children's criminal insanity and violence risk consider developmental factors.

Zemir POPOVAC

Zemir Popovac is a specialist psychologist educated at the University of Oslo. His areas of expertise include child and adolescent psychology, migration health, and community psychology. He teaches developmental and trauma psychology at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), in the specialist training program for Norwegian psychologists, and at several other educational institutions. He publishes professional articles and essays, and has recently released a Norwegian academic book titled “Children and Adolescents Who Use Violence.”

Zainab Al-ATTAR

Honorary professor of Terrorism and Mental Health - Cardiff Metropolitan University
Adjunct professor in Counter-Terrorism - Victoria University
Honorary Research Fellow – University College London
Consultant Psychologist – Psychiatry-UK
HCPC Registered & BPS Chartered Forensic Psychologist, Counter-Terrorism, UK

Professor Al-Attar specialises in Counter-Terrorism as an academic and practitioner. She has worked in Forensic Psychology for 25 years and academia for 27 years, with most of her career focussed on counter-terrorism. Following post-doctoral research at Oxford University, Zainab taught post-graduates at Oxford University and University of Central Lancashire and guest lectured at other universities. She delivered teaching on forensic mental health, neurodiversity and extremism/terrorism in Australia, Europe, and the US. Zainab has led and supervised research projects on neurodiversity and extremism for Avert, CREST, Prevent and Oxford University. She is the author of the *RAN Handbook and eLearning on Radicalisation and Mental Health*, and several papers and chapters in the same field. She is a co-author of the BPS Ethical Guidelines for psychologists working with extremists and the author of the FARAS and FARAH frameworks for risk assessment with neurodivergent offenders. Zainab has trained thousands of practitioners and authored practice guidelines in her field of specialism, including guidelines on working with young people, and is a member of numerous international expert groups in terrorism and mental health. Zainab is a practising UK Forensic Psychologist and honorary and adjunct professor of counter-terrorism and mental health.

Atte OKSANEN

Atte Oksanen is a Professor of Social Psychology at Tampere University, Finland. Oksanen’s research focuses on youth, digital environments, violence, and risk behaviors, with a particular interest in the intersection of social media, online communities, and psychological well-being. Oksanen has published extensively on topics including cyberbullying, online radicalization, and the impact of digital platforms on youth risk and resilience.

THURSDAY 26TH MARCH 2026

Lorraine JOHNSTONE

Dr Lorraine Johnstone is a Consultant Clinical Forensic Psychologist and former Visiting Professor at the University of Strathclyde Centre for Child and Youth Justice. Chartered in both clinical and forensic psychology, she has extensive experience working clinically, managerially, academically, and strategically across NHS, secure, care, justice, and third-sector settings. She has developed and led services for people impacted by mental disorder, complex trauma, violence and harmful behaviour. She is passionate about ensuring approaches that are developmentally informed yet also balance the tensions among rights, responsibilities, and risks. She has won various awards and prizes, including, most recently, the Butler Trust Award from HRH Princess Anne in recognition of her contributions to forensic and youth services.

Berit RITCHIE

Dr Berit Ritchie is a Consultant Clinical Psychologist and Managing Director of Reflective Minds Ltd. She worked for the National Health Service (NHS) for 23 years before moving into full-time independent practice. Throughout her career, she has worked extensively in forensic services across the lifespan, including holding leadership roles in Forensic CAMHS and adult community forensic services. Her experience also includes working with Looked After Children services, residential schools, inpatient units, and edge-of-care service provisions.

Dr Ritchie has extensive experience working with children and young people affected by gang violence and criminal and sexual exploitation, areas she has focused on throughout her career and continues to be actively involved in today. She collaborates with a range of services, including NHS commissioners, Youth Justice Services, and Social Services, to address complex risk presentations and support effective systemic responses. She also regularly appears as an expert witness in family and criminal courts, often in cases involving exploitation and risk.

As a side note, Dr Ritchie was born and raised in Norway but remained in the UK after completing her academic training. She is especially delighted to be presenting here on her 'home ground,' so to speak.

Donna McEWAN

Since qualifying as a social worker in 2006, Donna has gained extensive experience across Children and Families and Justice services in both prison and community settings. She joined the Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ) in 2016, where her work focuses on improving responses to risk, harm, and justice for children and young people.

Her research has examined bail and remand practice, the Whole System Approach, early and effective intervention, and reducing the risk of serious harm. Donna is currently involved in projects using service design to create rights-upholding justice

services, including the *Reimagining Justice Project* and the redesign of secure care in Scotland. She also contributes to national work reframing criminal exploitation and trafficking as child protection concerns, advocating for trauma-informed and rights-based approaches that prevent harm and reduce the criminalisation of children and young people.

Michael CALDWELL

Dr. Michael F. Caldwell is a Senior Staff Psychologist at the Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center and an Emeritus Lecturer in Psychology at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. With over 48 years of clinical experience in both high-security and outpatient settings. Dr. Caldwell has authored and co-authored over 50 research publications and book chapters, with a focus on the assessment and treatment of adolescents who have committed violent offenses. His recent research has focused on the treatment of adolescents with psychopathic personality features and callous/unemotional symptoms. His work also explores the neurological correlates of these conditions and the risk assessment of adolescent violent offenders. He is the co-developer of the Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center; a program designed to rehabilitate and reduce violence in severely aggressive and treatment-resistant youth. Research on the program has shown a significant reduction in violent recidivism and homicide perpetration among participants. He has served as a consultant to numerous courts, law schools, research foundations, and legislative bodies including the MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Juvenile Justice, the National Academy of Sciences International Scientific Forum on Neuroscience and the Law, and many others.

Terje OGDEN

Terje Ogden (born 1948) is a senior researcher affiliated with NUBU (Nasjonalt Utviklingscenter for Barn og Unge) or in English, the National Centre for Child Behavioral Development (NCCBD) in Oslo, Norway. He is originally trained as a teacher and got his civil service exam in pedagogy (cand.paed) in 1979. In 2010, he got his doctoral degree (PhD) in psychology from the University of Bergen (2010) (thesis: Family-based treatment of serious behavioral problems among children and adolescents). He has practised as a teacher and principal in the municipality of Oslo and was later employed as an assistant professor at the Faculty of Psychology at the University of Bergen. For nine years, he was the Director of the Norwegian Centre for Child Welfare Research in Oslo. He has had adjunct professorships at the Universities of Oslo (Psychology and Education), Bergen (Community Psychology) and Stavanger (Behavioral research in schools). From 1998, he was Project Director at the Behavior Project, Institute of Psychology at the University of Oslo, and, from 2003, Research Director at the Norwegian Centre for Child Behavioral Development (NCCBD) until his retirement in 2018. He is still active and associated with NCCBD as a senior researcher. Research interests include the evidence-based prevention and treatment of antisocial behavior in children and youth, and the implementation and evaluation of evidence-based programs and practices in schools and child welfare.

Kevin DOUGLAS

Dr Douglas received his law degree (LL.B.) in 2000 from the University of British Columbia, in Vancouver, Canada, and his PhD in Clinical-Forensic psychology from Simon Fraser University in 2002. He is a Researcher (Forsker) at the Centre for Research and Education in Forensic Psychiatry at Haukeland University Hospital in Bergen, Norway, and research advisor at the Centre for Research and Education in Forensic Psychiatry at Oslo University Hospital in Oslo, Norway. Dr Douglas is also Professor of Clinical-Forensic Psychology at Simon Fraser University, Canada, and Director of the Mental Health, Law, and Policy Institute, Simon Fraser University. His research and professional activities include violence risk assessment and management; implementation of risk assessment protocols into forensic and correctional systems; psychopathy; the association between mental disorders and violence; dynamic risk factors; and the intersection of law and mental health more broadly. Dr Douglas was the recipient of the Saleem Shah Award for Early Career Excellence in Psychology and Law (2005), awarded jointly by the American Psychology-Law Society and the American Academy of Forensic Psychology. He was President of the American Psychology-Law Society (Division 41 of the American Psychological Association) in 2018-2019, and Treasurer of the International Association of Forensic Mental Health from 2013-2018. Dr Douglas is the lead author on the latest (third) version of the HCR-20 violence risk assessment measure, published in 2013, which is the most commonly used violence risk assessment instrument worldwide, used in 45+ countries and translated into 25+ languages. He is also leading the developmentally informed version of the HCR-20 V3, called the *Youth and Emerging Adult Risk and Strength System*, or YEARSS. He has authored over 225 journal articles, books, or book chapters, and has given over 250 invited presentations or workshops across 20+ countries and has been listed on Stanford University's publication "Top 2% of World Scientists" (top 2% of 8 million scientists, all fields of science).

Linda GRÖNING

Linda Gröning is Professor of Law at the University of Bergen and researcher at Centre for research and education in forensic psychology and psychiatry at Haukeland University Hospital (SIFER vest). Gröning's research focuses on criminal law and criminal responsibility, with particular emphasis on individuals with mental illness and children within the criminal justice system. Gröning leads the Research Group for Crime, Responsibility and Security, as well as the RCN projects DIMENSIONS, CHILDCRIM, PROTECT (with Marit Skivenes), and COMPLEX (ERC CoGrant). Gröning also chairs the Norwegian Criminal Law Commission.