

CELEBRATING THE LAW 180 THAT LED TO THE CLOSURE OF ALL THE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS IN ITALY

In Italy are being celebrated the 40 years of the Law 180 that led to the closure of all the Psychiatric Hospitals. Local governments, public services, associations and the media are carrying out a wide campaign with public events, press articles and videos about this reform.

In this context the Mental Health Department of Trieste, the WHO Collaborating Center for Research and Training in Mental Health, organizes the International Meeting [Democracy and Community Mental Health Care](#) which takes place from June 21 to 23, 2018.

The Law 180, approved on May 13, 1978, started a national process to eliminate mental hospitalizations by the end of the 90s, closing all asylums and introducing at the same time new territorial services that allow mentally disabled people to conduct their lives in a normal social context. This law, which was the first in the world, has radically changed the care and assistance methods in psychiatry.

The Law originates in the thought and revolutionary work carried out by Franco Basaglia in Trieste, where he assumed in 1971 the direction of the psychiatric hospital, starting with a team of professionals at the first experience of closing the structure and implementing the services in the territory.

The international meeting in Trieste is organized in partnership with the WHO headquarters in Geneva and Copenhagen and its objective is to strengthen the network of international collaborations established in recent years between the WHO Collaborating Center of Trieste and the mental health reform experiences under way in different countries of the world.

The meeting focuses on different topics related to the reforms of mental health systems, in order to strengthen, through a collective debate, the practices of the participating countries' representatives. WHO contributes to the program by presenting its documents on mental health policies promoted at international level.

The Meeting will take place in Trieste, in Parco San Giovanni via Weiss 5, Department of Mental Health. The event is free of charge and it will be carried out both in English and Italian.

To know more and participate

[Website of the Meeting](#)

[Program of the Meeting](#)

[Registration](#)

[Archive of WHO Collaborating Center documents](#)

[IDEASS brochure](#)



On 2010 the World Health Organization has designated the Mental Health Department of Trieste, as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health. The international functions of the Center are developed through periodic plans. For more information about the WHO Collaborating Centre of Trieste, [visit the website](#).

