

## IMPORTANCE OF THE COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION OF BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

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**Introduction:** National association of experts dealing with psychiatry in our country named Psychiatric Association of Bosnia-Herzegovina (PABH) was formally started with its work on March 17<sup>th</sup> 2008, as the first national associations in the post-war Bosnia-Herzegovina (BH). Since 2009 has been actively promoted and profiling as one of the best organized professional associations in BH. Recognition on the international level and the active role of the PABH substantially achieved in 2010 in the World (WPA), and from 2011 in European (EPA) Psychiatric Association. The Third Congress of Psychiatrists of BH with international participation is the first in a series of future Congresses organized by PABH with the full support provided by EPA and WPA.

**Aim:** To show importance of the roles of EPA and WPA for the future PABH achievements.

**Methods:** A retrospective review of the significance of the PABH collaboration with major psychiatric association both nationally and internationally through the documentation and archives of the PABH development.

**Results:** The PABH is included in major psychiatric events in the country (active participation in the organization, logistics and scientific programme) and had strong collaboration with EPA and WPA, particularly on the national Congress in Tuzla 2012.

**Conclusions:** The PABH is the leading BH psychiatric association, an active member of the most important international organizations, with a continuous increase of the number of members who recognize the importance, relevance and quality of the PABH and further progress in its development and tendencies to harmonize psychiatric practice in the country and internationally.