Institute for Autism Ljubljana

invite to

International Conference

AUTISM IN INFANCY: DETECTION AND INTERVENTIONS

Keynote speaker:

dr. Hanna A. Alonim
Mifne Center, Israel

May 24 - 25, 2019
SMELT Hall,
Dunajska 160,
Ljubljana
**Dr. Hanna A. Alonim** PhD in Mental Health, is an expert and researcher on the autism spectrum in infancy, Founder and Head of the Mifne Center in Israel, for Treatment, Training, and Research, since 1987. She is the Head of the Therapists Training School for Autism in Infancy at Bar Ilan University in Tel Aviv since 2001. Since 2005, Alonim has developed the ESPASSI © screening scale for the detection of the autism prodrome in the first year of life, which is studied worldwide. She established the first unit for the detection of autism in infants at the Tel Aviv Medical Center. Dr. Alonim is a committee member of the ICF Core Set for ASD, Stockholm.

**Raffaella Devescovi** is a child neuropsychiatrist working at the Institute of Maternal and Child Health IRCCS Burlo Garofolo-Public Hospital and Medical Research Institute in Trieste, Italy. She has got high specialization assignment for the clinic of ASD. She is the principal investigator of the project funded by the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region, named SFIDA, concerning the evaluation of the effectiveness of a regional program for the early diagnosis of ASD and intervention in regional public services according to the Early Start Denver Model.

**Esther Thomas** holds an MSc in Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) - with a distinction from Bangor University, Wales (United Kingdom) and is a Board Certified Behaviour Analyst (BCBA). Esther has been working in the field of autism education and ABA for the past 20 years. She worked as a Senior Behaviour Analyst at TreeHouse School for 6 years and at Ambitious about Autism for 2 years. She is currently the Director and Senior Behaviour Analysts at Achieve with Autism Consultancy Ltd in London.

**Dr. Jasmina Stošić** is an assistant professor at the Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences University of Zagreb. She teaches courses in the field of autism spectrum disorder on undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate studies. Through the ERF's clinical centre, she works with children with autism and their families, undertaking diagnostic assessments and providing consultation and support for parents, in addition to undertaking assessments and providing recommendations for school support. Jasmina has coordinated and participated in 5 Croatian and 4 international research projects.

**Ana Bezenšek** is a special education teacher, worked at the Institute for Autism Ljubljana. She is involved in assessment of children and youngsters, provide interventions for children and support for parents. She was additionally trained in behaviour approaches in term of Applied Behaviour Analysis. She is also a licensed trainer for Picture Exchange Communication System, as well as for Early Bird Plus support programmes for parents and carers. Besides, she has a position of an assistant professor at Faculty of Education in Ljubljana.

**Dr. Marta Macedoni Lukšič** is a paediatrician and leading health professional in the field of autism spectrum disorders (ASD) in Slovenia. She was head of the out-patient clinic for children with ASD at Univ. Pediatric Hospital in Ljubljana from 2005-2012. In 2013 she moved to the Institute for autism Ljubljana, founded by her in 2006. In 2014 she got the position of the associative professor at Faculty of Medicine, University of Maribor. At Ministry of Health of Slovenia she led the group of professionals working on guidelines in the health, education and social networking in the field of ASD. Her research spans areas including child neurology, developmental paediatrics and ASD.

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**Programme**

**Friday, May 24**

8:00-9:00  **Registration**

9:00-9:30  **Marta Macedoni Lukšič:**  
**Welcome and introduction**

9:30-10:15  **Hanna A. Alonim:**  
**Detecting the prodrome of autism**

10:15-11:00  **Raffaella Devescovi:**  
**Early Start Denver Model**

11:00-11:30  **Coffee break**

11:30-12:15  **Esther Thomas:**  
**Applied Behaviour Analysis**

12:15-12:45  **Jasmina Stošić:**  
**Working with parents and families**

12:45-13:00  **Discussion**

13:00-14:00  **Break for lunch**

14:00-14:30  **Ana Bezenšek:**  
**Education and support for special education teachers**

14:30-15:30  **Hanna A. Alonim:**  
**Intervention in infancy:**  
**The Mifne Approach**

15:30-16:00  **Discussion and conclusions**

**Saturday, May 25**

9:00-12:00  **Workshop**  
**Hanna A. Alonim; Einat Kadosh:**  
**The family concept of intervention in infancy**
GENERAL INFORMATION

The conference will take place at the SMELT Hall, Dunajska 160, Ljubljana. The language will be English. Translation in Slovene will be provided at the first day.

REGISTRATION

Registration is required for all participants. The Registration Form can be found on the website of the Institute for Autism Ljubljana: www.instavtizem.org.

The Registration fee is for the first day 110 eur for professionals and 85 eur for parents and students. The fee for both days is 145 eur for professionals only. The fee should be paid on the bank account of the Institute for Autism, number SI56 6000 0000 0562 380 (Lon d.d.). Drinks and small food during the coffee breaks are included.