

Abstract for the dignilogue, S. Dinkelbach

Trauma, loss of dignity and violence in the context of human history: an interdisciplinary perspective

In this presentation, I will look at the loss of connection to the self and to others that can be caused by trauma in the context of individual psychology and by humiliation and shame in the social context. In each case, this loss can cause and facilitate violence. I will refer to studies from neurobiology, psychology and psychotherapy, sociology, history as well as anthropology and attempt to outline approaches that have the potential to counter this loss thereby establishing and preserving dignity and paving a path to peaceful co-existence. I will also look at the role of vulnerability in this context.