

# # RESILIENCE 2026

12TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON  
RESILIENCE RESEARCH

DIFFERENT PEOPLE,  
DIFFERENT CONTEXTS

23 – 25

SEPTEMBER 2026

MAINZ

GERMANY

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

# WEDNESDAY SEPT 23

## INTRESA BUSINESS MEETING

10:00 intresa business meeting (non-public)

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

13:00 WELCOME

### SESSION 1: RESILIENCE IN COLLECTIVE TRAUMA

13:05 **Ann S. Masten**, Institute of Child Development, University of Minnesota Twin Cities

13:45 **Michael Pluess**, School of Psychology, University of Surrey

14:25 Coffee

14:55 **Ali Jawaid**, Lukaszewicz Research Network-PORT Polish Center for Technology Development, Wroclaw

15:35 **Japhet Niyonsenga**, University of Parma & College of Medicine and Health Sciences Kigali

16:00 Coffee

16:15 PANEL DISCUSSION

16:45 **EARLY-CAREER SCIENTIST SHORT TALKS**  
Selected poster abstracts

17:30-19:00 **POSTER SESSION**  
with snacks

20:00 **SPEAKERS' DINNER**  
Speakers' dinner (non-public)

# THURSDAY SEPT 24

### SESSION 2: SEX AND GENDER IN RESILIENCE RESEARCH

09:00 **Birgit Derntl**, Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, University of Tübingen  
*Sex, gender and hormones: on the way to individualized resilience?*

09:40 **Ben Samuels**, Department of Psychology, Rutgers University  
*Neural Circuits Mediating Chronic Stress Effects on Motivation and Reward Behaviors In Male and Female Mice*

10:20 Coffee

10:50 **Susann Schweiger**, LIR & University Medical Center Mainz

11:30 **Seema Bhatnagar**, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania  
*Limbic substrates for sex specific effects in resilience to stress*

12:10 **EARLY-CAREER SCIENTIST SHORT TALKS**  
Selected poster abstracts

13:00 **POSTER SESSION**  
with lunch

14:30 **Claudia Barth**, Department of Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences, Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin  
*What Makes the Female Brain Vulnerable and Resilient? Lessons from the UK Biobank"*

### SESSION 3: RESILIENCE IN MENTAL AND PHYSICAL DISORDERS

15:10 **Michèle Wessa**, DKFZ Heidelberg & Central Institute for Mental Health Mannheim  
*Resilience Research in the Context of Cancer Survivorship*

15:50 Coffee

16:20 **Henrik Walter**, Department of Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences, Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin  
*Resilience to Relapse in Depression*

17:00 **Nikolaos Koutsouleris**, Precision Psychiatry, LMU Munich

19:00 **SOCIAL**, tba

# FRIDAY SEPT 25

### SESSION 4: ETHICAL, LEGAL, AND SOCIETAL IMPLICATIONS OF RESILIENCE RESEARCH

09:30 **Joanne Bryant**, School of Social Sciences, UNSW Sydney  
*A sociologist's perspective*

09:55 **Jochen Sautermeister**, Catholic-Theological Faculty, University of Bonn  
*A theologian's perspective*

10:20 **Vaishnavi Ramalingam**, Department of Health and Child Law, Leiden University  
*A lawyer's perspective*

10:55 Coffee

11:20 **POSTER AWARD CEREMONY**

11:30 **Signe Mežinska**, Faculty of Medicine and Life Sciences, University of Latvia  
*A bioethicist's perspective*

11:55 **Anne-Laura van Harmelen**, Leiden University  
*A resilience researcher trying to reply*

12:10 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

13:00 **FAREWELL**

13:10 **LUNCH**

TUESDAY SEPT 22

**SATELLITE METHODS WORKSHOP**  
Quantification of Resilience in Humans