

Call for Artivism

Mental Health in Times of Uncertainty

21st Biennial ESHMS Conference
Hamburg, Germany
19-21 August 2026

Artivism combines artistic expression with activism to reveal hidden inequalities and foster social change. We invite artists, researchers, and practitioners to submit projects addressing the intersection of art, mental health, and social justice.



Five Thematic Research Areas

1

Uncertainty, Trauma & Resilience

Art mediating individual and collective trauma in contexts of social, political, and economic instability.

2

Social Justice, Discrimination & Mental Health

Using art to challenge health inequalities, amplify marginalized voices, and address LGBTQI+ youth mental health crises.

3

Embodied Lives: Pain, Care, and Uncertainty

Artist contributions can interrogate exhaustion, precarity, role conflict, and the collision between human rhythms and institutional demands.

4

Margins, Voices, and Silences: Whose Mental Health Counts?

This area calls for works that amplify marginalized voices—migrants, caregivers, LGBTQI+ youth, patients, and families—challenging stigma and reclaiming narrative authority.

5

Narrating Care Otherwise: Art, Participation, and Non-Medical Futures

This area foregrounds co-production, visual storytelling, comics, spiritual care, and non-pharmacological practices as tools for collective healing, resistance, and imagination.



Submit Your Project

Submission Guidelines

- Abstract: max 350 words (Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion)
- Keywords: 3-5 keywords
- Visual elements strongly encouraged
- Author Information (names, affiliations, and contact details)

Important Dates

Submission Deadline	30 April 2026
Notification of Acceptance	End of May 2026
Conference	19-21 August 2026

Submit via email to : veronica.moretti4@unibo.it



Practical Info

For the selected artists, the fee for the social program (including only lunch and coffee breaks) will be covered by the Society. However, if artists would like to take part in the conference then the regular fee will be applied

Selected artists will be invited to print their projects in poster format and show them during the conference

Best Artivism Project: €500 Award