

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 Masten**, Institute of Child Development, University of Minnesota Twin Cities
Reflections on Resilience of Young People in the Context of Catastrophic Collective Trauma Experiences

13:45 **Michael Pluess**, School of Psychology, University of Surrey
Risk and Resilience in Syrian Refugee Children

14:25 Coffee

14:55 **Ali Jawaid**, Lukasiewicz Research Network-PORT Polish Center for Technology Development, Wroclaw
Lipid-Microglia Interplay in Resilience and Susceptibility to the Long-Term Effects of Collective Trauma

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
How the X-chromosome Shapes Resilience in Female Brain Development

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 Neuroscience (CCM) & Institute of Gender in Medicine, 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 Theologist's Perspective

10:20 **Vaishnavi Ramalingam**, Graduate/Alumni, Advanced LL.M. International Children's Rights, 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