

**MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE  
GROUP ANALYTIC SOCIETY (LONDON) ATTENDING THE  
INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY  
AT COPENHAGEN, AUGUST, 1980**

Report by Elizabeth Foulkes  
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The President, Mrs. M. L. J. Abercrombie, and the Committee of the Group Analytic Society (London) had invited all members of the Society attending the Copenhagen congress to come to a lunch-time meeting. Over seventy persons came in spite of an unfortunate clash with another meeting - and we had a lively exchange which could have gone on much longer than the time we had carved out of a busy conference program.

The calling of this meeting had been prompted by a letter to GROUP ANALYSIS (XX/2) from Dr. Juan Campos (Spain) in which he expressed the wish to have a more formal contact with the London Society, and raised the possibility of an international society, not necessarily based in London.

A European Coordinating Committee and a Liaison Committee have been meeting over the years at European Workshops, Symposia and other conferences (see GROUP ANALYSIS V/2, 122-123:V/2; VI/1, 32-32: VII/1, 67-68; VIII/1, 53-54; X/1, 89-90). These were mainly concerned with what went on in the respective countries, often with an emphasis in the training facilities available. The question of a formal European or international association had been raised but had until now been felt to be premature.

Mrs. Abercrombie asked Dr. Juan Campos to repeat the views expressed in his letter, in particular his important question: WHAT ARE THE PROSPECTS OF AN INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GROUP ANALYSIS? The discussion suggested that the time WAS ripe to set up such an international association, though it was not possible at this meeting to make a formal start. The hope was expressed that we could do so at the next European Symposium of Group Analysis to be held in Rome on September 1981. The constitution will have to be drafted and discussed in the various centers. One of the basic points to decide is how far local or regional or language-based centers, societies or institutions should be responsible in deciding such matters as the qualification required for membership.

Overseas members of the Group Analytic Society (London) are looking for more involvement in our activities: the journal GROUP ANALYSIS is so far our main forum, and we had a lovely discussion at Copenhagen and lively in its format and contents... PLEASE LET US HAVE YOUR VIEWS: preferably for publication in GROUP ANALYSIS: or to the Hon. Secretary of the Group Analytic Society (London) (Dr. Andrew Powell, at 1 Bickenhall Mansion, Bickenhall Street, London W1 3LF)