



Sándor Ferenczi loved to travel and, whenever possible, was guided by aesthetic, historical, and cultural interests.

On September 30, 1928, he left Budapest to begin what was, at first, a carefully planned journey through Spain. At that time, travel and work could not be entirely separated. He travelled with Gisella and with “a patient in his luggage,” Elisabeth Severn.

He arrived in Madrid and stayed at the *Hotel Florida*, in the Plaza de Callao, from where he sought contact with those interested in psychoanalysis, among them, Freud’s Spanish translator.

What began as a touristic journey soon became something else.

Through his meeting with Luis López Ballesteros, Ferenczi was invited to give a lecture at the *Residencia de Estudiantes*, before a circle of intellectuals engaged with Freud's work. It is likely that he prepared the lecture in German, that it was translated into French, and delivered in a shared effort of transmission.

During the visit, he wrote to Freud that he would insist on a fundamental point: the analyst must himself undergo analysis, *a conditio sine qua non*, what he would call the second fundamental rule of psychoanalysis.

His lecture in Spain left a lasting impression. Writing afterwards, he described the experience as “exceptionally interesting” and encouraged Freud to visit a country rich in historical and artistic treasures.

In October 2026, we will gather in Madrid for the **15th International Sándor Ferenczi Conference**, organized by the International Sándor Ferenczi Network (ISFN) together with the local group Grupo Internacional de Estudio Sándor Ferenczi (GIESF).

At the COEM (Calle Mauricio Legendre, 38, 28046 Madrid), participants from different countries and traditions will come together to reflect on:

**“Disavowal, Pain and Suffering in Today's World.”**

We look forward to welcoming you this autumn in Madrid.



Registration and information:

<https://www.ferenczimadrid2026.com/>

Warm regards,

**International Sándor Ferenczi Network (ISFN)**

<https://www.ferenczimadrid2026.com/>

## References

- Cabré, L. M. (2019). *El contexto histórico-científico del texto de Ferenczi sobre el proceso de la formación psicoanalítica*. *Revista de Psicoanálisis (APM)*, 85, 31–36.
- Moreau Ricaud, M. (n.d.). *Ferenczi en la bella España: Contribución a la cuestión de la formación analítica*. In *Artículos sobre Ferenczi. Ferenczi y otros autores*. Retrieved from <https://www.alsf-chile.org/Indepsi/Articulos/Ferenczi-Autores/Ferenczi-en-la-bella-espana-contribucion-a-la-cuestion-de-la-formacion-analitica.pdf>