

# Regional European Organisation of the FDI

## National Report

**Country: ITALY**

**Association: ASSOCIAZIONE NAZIONALE DENTISTI ITALIANI**

**Venue: GENEVE**

**Year: 2017**

Changes in the association and its organisation.

No changes have occurred.

Trends and developments:

On May 27-28 2016 ANDI has held its 10° Congresso Politico. The Congress discussed and voted a document outlining the Association's policies for the next two years, directed towards its members and institutions, and related to the many and complex situations affecting the dental profession.

The approved **political and programmatic document** laid down the lines on which ANDI had to operate, bearing in mind the general 'picture' of a very slow economic recovery, the uncertain future of Europe and finally the Italian political situation.

Recession and economic and political problems accustomed us to an evolution and "natural selection" of the profession, without disrupting the 'Self-employed professional' model supported by ANDI.

The new rules of the 'Act of address and coordination', approved by the State-Regions Conference on the requirements for the authorization of professional practices, have not had any concrete fallout in professional activity to this day. But since some practices, already authorized, could face problems, should they forced to adapt them to new structural requirements, ANDI **filed an appeal to the Administrative Court against the Ministry of Health and the Regions**, eventually to be used in case of a member will suffer any damage by this measure

ANDI bodies have approved the creation of the "**Network ANDI**" to intercept and manage the integrative dental health. A "historic step" in the association's policy, made possible by the increasing awareness to intercept the increasingly wide range of intermediated healthcare, which is governed by rules aimed only to lower the costs and not to the protection of professional quality.

In order to **enhance the brand ANDI and the belonging to the Association**, and thus its political weight, ANDI has invested resources to a national media campaign, through commercials on the major RAI networks, starting in November 2016. The commercials and advertisements will then be made available to the ANDI provincial and regional departments to be used locally. This project was also aimed to increase the number of patients in the members' practices.

ANDI's commitment is constant and concrete, and the attention to these major issues has not reduced the association's daily work in **support of the profession by means of lobbying, political meetings** and alliances to support ANDI thesis, proposing amendments to the laws that may affect us or pushing the adoption of measures of interest.

In the first weeks of 2017, ANDI has been very active in terms of confrontation with the politics. The clash with the **Dental Chains** on the draft bill on Competition is just one of the topics that ANDI was able to bring to the attention of Parliament and public opinion, not forgetting the problem of the illegal practice, the battle against the so-called "spesometro" ("Expense-meter"), the bureaucracy and the reform of the civil liability for professionals.

The practical results are few compared to the undertaken efforts, but the fact that, for the first time in association history, many of ANDI proposals have ended up in Parliament and many have been translated into amendments or articles of law, gives the positive sign of the action. Although the Italian parliamentary system and the political climate in perpetual election campaign do not help to see these instances transformed into definitive laws, it is good to note how ANDI, mainly due to its **Policy Office and its lobby actions**, has become a **valid interlocutor for the political Institutions**, enough to see accepted its demands. The downside is that political world is unreliable and our current political system does not allow to approve regulations - that are not only desirable but in most cases 'obvious' - in a short time.

That said, we cannot state that results were not achieved: for example, the enormous media debate that our amendments to the draft bill on Competition DDL allowed to activate.

Among the proposals, but not translated into new rules, there is one on the **minimum fee**. ANDI is trying to have a provision on the minimum fees included in the government's "Job Act" related to the professional self-employment, but the question is complex for the various aspects of our profession. The intent is to give a correct **guidance to citizens on the quality of care**, giving indications stating that, under a certain level of tariffs, it is not possible to guarantee the **quality of dental performances and materials**

At the same time, ANDI, as required by the document approved during the Political Congress, is working to propose a revision of the current **legislation on the regulation of healthcare advertising**. ANDI legal advisers and the Policy office have been activated to propose a draft

bill of popular initiative, which could lead to the desired changes. ANDI is now studying the best time to begin the collection of signatures, as the law requires, keeping in mind the possible evolution of the current political situation. ANDI wants to give a voice and a concrete follow-up to the many colleagues eager for a regulation of advertising in health advertisements and then to make new rules protecting practitioners and citizens finally approved.

### Further information (activities, concerns).

- In October 2016, ANDI held the '**Month of Prevention**', whose 37<sup>th</sup> edition is currently under organization. 10,000 ANDI members are involved to give the population free dental visits and oral healthcare promotional materials and info.
- ANDI celebrates the **World Oral Health Day** on March 20, organizing, together with the ANDI Foundation, a public event in a major square in Rome meeting the population and distributing printed materials. Promotional posters and booklets on dental care, derived from the related templates supplied by the FDI, have been translated into Italian and printed.
- The ANDI **62<sup>nd</sup> National Scientific Congress** will be held on September 15-16 in Riccione. The quite self-explicative title is "Practical and Practising".
- **World Sleep Day (WSD)**: ANDI/ANDI Foundation is participating to the 2017 celebration (17 March) with a project for a public awareness in regard of sleep disorders, and specifically the OSAS, "Obstruction Sleep Apnea Syndrome".
- ANDI signed – with other parties - the agreement for the "**FlxO project**", which after a few months dedicated to its finalization, was diffused, in early 2016, to the Association's members. This project ("*Formation and Innovation for the Employment*") is a program fighting the youth unemployment, focusing on a more rapid and effective transition from education and training to the world of employment system. At the end of September 2016, 125 apprenticeship contracts were signed, permitting to these dentists, under 30 years of age, to be employed in ANDI members' practices.
- **Earthquake in Central Italy**. ANDI and its Foundation have activated immediately, making themselves available to the competent authorities to provide immediate medical-dental assistance to affected populations.  
From 26 September to 30 November, at the PASS (Place of Social and Health care) located in Amatrice, a mobile unit was in operation ensuring free dental care to those affected by the earthquake but to the rescuers as well.  
During this two-month time, many people were visited and cared for, all in need of urgent

treatment, including conservative therapy, minor surgery, and periodontal disease. Not to mention the need for new dentures, especially removable. A few numbers:

- 43 Volunteer Dentists were involved.
- 248 patients were taken into care.
- 304 treatments have been performed, of which: 117 conservative, 55 surgery, 22 sessions of oral hygiene, 51 checkups.

