

The liberal professions are a pillar of any free society

ERO

European Regional Organisation of  
the Fédération dentaire internationale



# The ERO COMMUNICATOR

2<sup>nd</sup> Issue - September 2011

## President's Welcome

Dear colleagues,

the ERO Communications 2<sup>nd</sup> issue do reach you right before the FDI Annual World Dental Congress in Mexico City. Since an excellent Spring plenary session organized by the Bulgarian Dental Association in Sofia, Bulgaria, a lot of work has been done. Another milestone has been set and it has become the header of this edition.

Since its new definition, as from the Constitution adopted one year ago, ERO is about to strengthen its continental character. An outstanding meeting in April has produced important resolutions and as a "novum" the Political Discussion has been a well attended and successful event. All of you have received the extensive minutes which are also available on the ERO website. ERO's backbone is the Working groups. Especially the work of the WG Liberal dental Practice in Europe has, and will, set the trends in the Organizations future efforts.

I wish each and everybody a nice and safe travel to Mexico City and I am looking forward to meeting with all of you at ERO's Plenary session on Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

## Trends

In the ERO-region different cultures, languages and politics have influenced our life-styles and thus our professions. Oral health, as an integrated part of general health is more important than ever in order to support actively prevention programs and strategies throughout Europe. Only this way it will be possible to guarantee and to maintain actual levels of quality of life for the future generations. A fundamental

prerequisite, shall this goal be reached is the liberty in the dental profession. Dentists have to in for this by means of social responsibility.

## ERO-Working groups

**WG Liberal Dental Practice in Europe**  
Chair: Ernst-Jürgen Otterbach

The WG has developed two important resolutions – available on the ERO-website – for our Region's professionals. "Strengthening liberal dental practice" has been adopted unanimously in Sofia. The key sentence of this policy statement is "The liberal professions are the pillar of any free society!" It has been chosen as the motto for the new ERO-brochure – an initiative of ERO-secretary general Anna Lella and supported by the Polish Dental Association. It will be proudly presented in Mexico City.

The WG is now investigating on another interesting topic: "definition of fees in dentistry". Third party interests in terms of political and economic influence are often times contrary to a liberal profession. The WG meets on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> of September for discussion in Mexico.

**WG Relation between Dental Practitioners and Universities**

Chair: Nermin Yamalik

The results of the questionnaire addressed to the NDAs have been published. Nermin Yamalik's enthusiasm and determination based on her huge experience are the reason for the WG's success. Now we are expecting the outcome of the questionnaire sent to the universities. More at the Plenary session on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

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## WG Integration

Chair: Elena Ivanova

WG-chair Elena Ivanova is working eagerly since the Sofia Plenary session. The WG's task is to bring all eastern NDA-presidents together in order to define needs and interactive work with the Organization. A congress has been organized with the Commonwealth International Association so far. More news on the WG's workflow are to be expected at September 14<sup>th</sup>.

## WG Prevention

Chair: Denis Bourgeois

The Prevention WG has developed its work on the relationship between cardiovascular disease/stroke and periodontal disease in terms of a common risk factor approach and definition. The first step, a selective literature review, has been performed. As a result in a workshop in Geneva the basic elements for the realization of a questionnaire have been defined. The purpose is to elaborate ERO guidelines/recommendations for the dentist. This will be the final result after all data have been discussed in a specific consensus conference. The project integrates perfectly into FDI's Global Oral Health Initiative and will support actively FDI's Non-Communicable-Disease-Policy. The ERO-region can contribute significantly to a positive outcome. Denis Bourgeois will present the questionnaire in Mexico City.

## WG Education

Chair: Alex Mersel

The WG has been active in realizing questionnaires and has presented an evaluation to be presented at the next Plenary session. Unfortunately, Prof. Mersel will not be able to be

with us in Mexico City. On his behalf Prof. Paulo Melo will chair the WG.

## WG Women in Dentistry

Chair: Vesna Barac-Furtinger

The WG is going on with its work in the identification of differences between man and women dental practice focussing mainly on deficient post-graduate education, inequality in specialisations and poor representation on decision-making levels. More news in terms of new tasks and conclusions will be delivered soon.

## WG Quality in Dentistry

Chair: Roland L'Herron

The WG has had a workshop in Paris recently. The task is to "define quality of care and quality of care environment". A drafted questionnaire relates to education, a second part relates more specifically to quality tools and a third part completes the information on practice in the ERO member-country. A presentation will be made in Mexico and results are to be expected by the end of the year.

## WG Dental Team

Chair: Edoardo Cavallè

The WG met in Frankfurt recently and has investigated on the profile of the dental hygienist and the institution of other auxiliary human resources. There will be a presentation and a discussion at the upcoming Plenary session.

## Let's tell more

ERO-treasurer Michael Frank has worked on a working model for the ERO to make the Organizations work more

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effective and to involve more and more the working groups to contribute to tasks proposed by the Board and set by the Plenary. The model has been extensively discussed before its presentation in Mexico City.

## Future ERO Plenary Sessions

### Spring Session 2012 in Prague, Czech Republic

We will have a presentation from the CDC

### Fall Session on behalf of FDI AWDC Mexico City, Mexico

The Plenary session in Mexico City on behalf of FDI's AWDC takes place in room Canal 10 at 2:15 p.m. in the Banamex Convention Center.

### Future candidates for Spring plenary session

For 2013 the German BZAEK has announced its candidature in the city of Potsdam, Germany.

## FDI matters

The FDI headquarter has renewed its hospitality for our Regional Organization. As a matter of fact the ERO headquarter is now the same as the one of its roof organization. The last Prevention WG meeting has been held there on July 27<sup>th</sup>.

FDI has been very active with its Non-Communicable-Disease policy and will discuss this matter with all the NLOs.

FDI elections will take place in Mexico City. The following positions will be redefined.

1 post for President-elect  
1 post for Speaker  
5 posts for Councillor  
and several posts for the FDI Committees.

### Future FDI Annual World Dental Congresses

2012 Hong Kong, SAR China, August 29<sup>th</sup> – September 1<sup>st</sup>

2013 Seoul, Korea, August 29<sup>th</sup> – September 1<sup>st</sup>

more details on [www.fdiworldental.org](http://www.fdiworldental.org)

### The ERO Board and Secretary

Dr. Gerhard Seeberger (President),  
Dr. Philippe Rusca President-elect,  
Dr. Anna Lella (Secretary general),  
Dr. Michael Frank (Treasurer "in spe"),  
Prof. Bedros Yavru-Sakuk (Councillor) and  
Mrs. Monika Lang (ERO Secretariat)

wish you a successful work and are looking forward to  
welcoming you all in Sofia!

Visit the ERO website [www.erodental.org](http://www.erodental.org)

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