



**Europäische Regionale Organisation
der Fédération Dentaire Internationale**



**ERO-FDI WORKING GROUP
“LIBERAL DENTAL PRACTICE IN EUROPE”**

Draft Resolution for ERO-FDI Plenary Session, Dubai, 2007

EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE IN DENTAL PRACTICE

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

— In an increasing number of European countries commercial non-professional corporations, whose shareholders are non-dentists take advantage of new legislation that may enable such corporations to open, own and manage dental clinics.

Commercial interests of outside investors, who do not apply to ethical standards, are a potential disadvantage for dentists and patients because:

- they may influence the decisions about dental therapy
- may compromise the quality of dental care
- may negative influence the social and private dental care systems in case that an insurance companies run dental offices
- may interfere with the basic right of the patient to freely choose his dentist

— The dentists who are employed by such entities may be unduly pressured and compromised by their duties to their commercially-motivated employers, and consequently must ignore the ethical guidelines and their primary obligations to the oral health and welfare of their patients.

The European Regional Organization of the FDI expresses its strong objection to the interference of external providers in the delivery of dental care.

ERO-FDI DRAFT RESOLUTION

EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE IN DENTAL PRACTICE

— Liberal dental practice provides a good basis for a patient treatment which is not focused on commercial interests and is carried out in the dentist's own therapeutic responsibility, based on mutual trust between dentist and patient. This form of dental practice in no case demands external investors.

Therefore, any external interference, any government privileges for commercial types of occupational activity would endanger this special relationship between patient and dentist and, in the long run, it would jeopardize health in general.

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