

ERO

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ERO Plenary Session – Sofia 2026



ERO

EUROPEAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION
OF THE FEDERATION DENTAIRE INTERNATIONALE FDI

24-25 APRIL 2026

The ERO Plenary Session 2026, organized by the European Regional Organization of the FDI World Dental Federation (ERO-FDI), was successfully held on 24–25 April 2026 in Sofia, Bulgaria, hosted by the Bulgarian Dental Association.

The meeting brought together delegates from national dental associations across Europe, reaffirming its role as the key platform for dialogue, collaboration, and policy development within the European dental community.



ERO President Dr. Edoardo Cavallé addressed a warm welcome to all participants and guests, followed by the Bulgarian Vice-Minister Petar Gribnev and the Deputy Mayor of Sofia Irina Dakova.

Greetings were also addressed by the President of FDI Assist. Prof. Dr. Nikolai Sharkov and the President of the Bulgarian Dental Association Dr. Borislav Milanov.



ERO Secretary General Dr. Doris Seiz confirmed the establishment of the quorum.

The report of the President and the Board was presented by Dr. Edoardo Cavallé, ERO President and Prof. Dr.



Paula Perlea, ERO President-Elect, followed by the report on Finances presented by ERO Treasurer Dr. Oleg Gladkov and the approval of the new ERO Ethic Code, presented by ERO President Dr. Edoardo Cavallé.

presented by Prof. Dr Kinga Grzech-Lesniak, on behalf of WG Chair Prof. Dr. Marzena Dominiak, the report of the WG Dental Team was presented by WG Chair Dr. Kristjan Gutman, the report of the WG Digitalization in dentistry – E-Health – Artificial Intelligence was presented by WG Chair Prof. Dr. Roman Smucler and the report of the WG Oral Health & General Health was presented by WG Chair Dr. Mick Armstrong.



An update of the ERO-CED project Manual of European Dental Practice was presented by Dr. Simona Dianišková followed by the report from EDSA presented by Adam Javorček. He highlighted the objective of strengthening the collaboration between ERO and EDSA, with a focus on awards, visibility, webinars, continuity, and long-term cooperation. ERO recently received from EDSA 35 essays to be evaluated and winners of the ERO-EDSA Award to be announced late August 2026, during the EDSA Summer General Meeting in Budapest. It is a significant increase of

number of essays to be evaluated, compared to previous years. The ERO-EDSA Award will focus on two key topics, The Role of Dentists in Tobacco Cessation and Oral Health for Elderly Patients. The papers will be evaluated according to the following criteria: Demonstration of understanding of the related topics, Quality of work and innovative potential, Use (and correct citation) of references to support the concepts considered in the essays and reviewed by a team lead by Prof. Dr. Paula Perlea.

The plenary session was honored by the presence of distinguished representatives of the FDI World Dental Federation, FDI President Assist. Prof. Dr. Nikolai Sharkov, ERO Executive Director Enzo Bondioni and members of FDI Council, Assist. Prof. Dr. Duygu Ilhan, underlining the strong connection between ERO and the global dental community.



Their participation reinforced the alignment between European and global strategies and emphasized the role of ERO as a vital regional pillar within FDI. FDI President Assist. Prof. Dr. Nikolai Sharkov presented strategic insights on global oral health priorities and highlighted the importance of European engagement within FDI structures and initiatives, but also encouraged continued collaboration between ERO and FDI in areas such as advocacy, education, and public health.



The next ERO Plenary Session will take place in September, in Prague, during the World Dental Congress 2026 and FDI World Dental Parliament. The ERO Plenary Session spring 2027 will take place in Croatia, hosted by the Croatian Dental Chamber.

Following a full schedule of business meetings, the participants also enjoyed a social program which included the Cocktail at the Opening Ceremony, Gala Dinner at Chevermeto Restaurant, Exclusive Dinner at Cosmos Restaurant and Sofia Walking Tour.



The ERO Plenary Session in Sofia 2026 facilitated constructive exchanges between member organizations, contributing to a stronger alignment on common European challenges and opportunities in oral health. It was marked by active participation, high-level discussions, and a strong spirit of cooperation.

The presence of FDI leadership further strengthened the global dimension of the discussions and reinforced the importance of coordinated action at both European and international levels. The outcomes of the ERO Plenary Session in Sofia 2026 will guide future initiatives and enhance collaboration among member associations, ensuring continued progress in addressing the evolving challenges of dentistry in Europe.

On behalf of the ERO Board,
Prof. Dr. Paula Perlea

27/04/2024

