

ERO NEWS



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ERO Board Advances Key Priorities Ahead of Prague Plenary Session



EUROPEAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION
OF THE FEDERATION DENTAIRE INTERNATIONALE FDI

12 AUGUST 2026

The Board of the European Regional Organization of the FDI World Dental Federation (ERO) met online on 12 August 2026 to review ongoing activities, take decisions on key organizational matters and prepare for the upcoming meetings and plenary session in Prague.

The meeting brought together ERO President Dr. Edoardo Cavallé, ERO President Elect Prof. Dr. Paula Perlea, ERO Secretary General Dr. Doris Seiz, ERO Treasurer Dr. Oleg Gladkov, ERO Councilor Dr. Ariel Slutsky and ERO Secretariat Monika Lang. Discussions focused on financial governance, preparations for the Prague meetings, collaboration with dental students, communications and social media, working-group activities and future ERO initiatives.

Strengthening financial governance and transparency

The Board reviewed the organization's financial situation and the completion of the arrangements concerning bank signatures. The forthcoming plenary discussions will include information on proposed constitutional amendments and financial developments, underlining ERO's continued focus on good governance and accountability.

Strong engagement with the next generation through the EDSA Award

A major topic of the meeting was the ERO–EDSA Award initiative. A total of **36 essays were evaluated by four reviewers**, demonstrating strong engagement from dental students and young professionals.

Four winners were ultimately selected, allowing recognition of excellent contributions in both major thematic areas represented in the competition: **tobacco cessation and dental care for elderly people**. The Board also agreed that each of the two third-place winners should receive the full prize, rather than dividing it between them.

ERO will also be represented at the EDSA Plenary Session in Budapest on 27 August by ERO President Elect Prof. Dr. Paula Perlea, who will present ERO and introduce the award winners during a dedicated session. The presentation will highlight ERO's history, its activities and its work over the past years.

The Board further discussed an EDSA-related webinar planned for October, with the final timing and format to be coordinated in Prague. The webinar may be organized as a single session or divided into two parts, depending on the content and organizational requirements.

Expanding ERO's communication and social media activities

The Board welcomed the progress of the ERO Social Media Task Team. Since the Sofia Plenary Session, 36 social media posts have been produced, reflecting ERO's efforts to increase the visibility of its activities and improve communication across the Regional Organisations too.

The Task Team is also developing a more organized and semi-automated system for collecting content from National Dental Associations. Content Contact Persons within the NDAs will be invited to contribute to this initiative, helping establish a more regular and coordinated flow of news and information from across ERO's membership.

The Board expressed satisfaction with the ongoing cooperation supporting ERO's social media activities and confirmed the continuation of this work.

Preparing for the Prague meetings

Preparations are progressing for the next ERO meetings in Prague on 3 September 2026. The ERO Board Meeting will take place from 09:00 to 11:00, followed by a joint meeting of the Board and Working Group Chairs from 11:00 to 12:30.

The Board emphasized the importance of active in-person participation in Working Group meetings during the plenary period. Working Groups will also be asked to provide concise reports during the plenary session, helping ensure focused and efficient exchanges between delegates.

Particular attention was given to the Working Group on Ageing Population, which has prepared a draft of a new poster. The document will be reviewed with a view to exploring potential sponsorship opportunities.

Prague will also provide an important opportunity to continue discussions on ERO finances, constitutional developments and future activities and to coordinate forthcoming projects among Board members and Working Group Chairs

Technology and accessibility at ERO meetings

The Board additionally considered the use of AI-supported translation services for ERO activities. Following discussion of the available options, it was agreed that such translation support would be most relevant for plenary sessions rather than for Board meetings.

The decision reflects ERO's interest in exploring new technologies where they can contribute meaningfully to participation and communication among delegates from across Europe.

Looking ahead

The 12 August Board meeting confirmed a number of concrete priorities for the coming months: strengthening financial governance, preparing for the Prague plenary discussions, supporting young dental professionals through cooperation with EDSA, developing ERO's communications network and advancing the work of its Working Groups.

The Board will reconvene in Prague on **3 September 2026**.

With several initiatives progressing simultaneously, ERO continues to reinforce cooperation among National Dental Associations, Working Groups, students and partner organizations, while promoting effective governance, professional exchange and the advancement of oral health across the European region.

Prof. Dr. Paula Perlea
President-Elect
on behalf of ERO BOARD

