

# National Report on Activities – 2025

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## General Information

**Country:** SLOVAKIA.....

**Association:** SLOVAK CHAMBER OF DENTISTS .....

**Reporting Period:** January–December 2025

**Contact Person (Name / Position):** Dr. SIMONA DIANISKOVA - Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Member of the Council of the Slovak Chamber of Dentists

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## Instructions

Please complete this form clearly and concisely. Where applicable, you may attach additional documents or provide references. If a section is not applicable, please indicate "N/A".

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## 1. Changes in the Association and Its Organisation

Please describe any significant structural, strategic, leadership, or membership-related changes during 2025.

- The Slovak Chamber of Dentists founded the Slovak Society of Pediatric Dentistry in 2025, which achieved a significant milestone by becoming a full member of the International Association of Pediatric Dentistry (IAPD).

This step strengthens the society's international connections, creates opportunities for the exchange of professional knowledge, and increases the visibility of Slovak pediatric dentistry in a global context. The Slovak Society of Pediatric Dentistry thus confirms its active role in professional education, in supporting the quality of care for pediatric patients, and in the systematic development of pediatric dentistry in Slovakia in accordance with international standards.

- The Chamber also actively participated in legislative processes. During the reporting period, it sent proposals to the Minister of Justice to amend the Act on Free Access to

Information. The proposed changes were based on the practical experience of professional chambers, which in many cases receive requests for access to information unrelated to the performance of their activities in the public interest.

The President of the Slovak Chamber of Dentists also addressed issues related to new obligations in the field of cybersecurity, as well as the impacts of the introduction of a transaction tax on the operation of outpatient clinics. Negotiations with banking institutions aimed at maintaining and expanding favorable conditions for members of the Chamber.

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## 2. Main Concerns

Please list the three most important concerns currently facing your association.

**a)** Illegal workforce from third countries – the Slovak Chamber of Dentists launched the portal **overzubara.sk** (“Verify Your Dentist”) in response to the occurrence of illegal dental practices in Slovakia

**b)** eHealth – current outputs from the national programme called “eZdravie”. The main problems concern:

- health-care providers non-contracted with public health insurance companies to be able to do electronic medicine prescription,
- to access all previous dental data input into patient's electronic health record from other dentist(s),
- X-ray images sharing.

**c)** Insufficient predictability of funding within the intersectoral allocation of specialized outpatient care, which also includes dentistry.

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## 3. Key Discussion Points

Please indicate three topics or issues you would like to discuss at international level.

**a)** Illegal dental practice

**b)** individually custom-made appliances in the context of current legislation and new technologies available in dental clinics (e.g., 3D printing)

**c)** Internship of newly graduated dentists (Are newly graduated dentists, after five years of study, fit for independent practice? Have they had sufficient practical training with patients?)

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## 4. Trends and Developments

Please describe relevant trends and developments in the following areas:

### a) Professional Politics

- Roundtable with the Minister of Health of the Slovak Republic and representatives of healthcare institutions, organizations and chambers on the education of future healthcare workers, with an emphasis on middle and lower level healthcare personnel, as well as on the functioning of institutional healthcare.

- A significant milestone was the signing of a memorandum of cooperation between the Slovak Chamber of Dentists and the Health Care Supervision Authority.

In practice, the signing of the memorandum of cooperation means:

- the exchange of important information and experience,
- educational activities through seminars and workshops,
- discussions and the search for solutions to current issues.

Our common goal is to inform and protect both patients and dentists.

### b) Health and Social Politics

- Prevention remains a long-term priority of the SKZL. The President of the Chamber, together with the Chairwoman of the SKZL Committee for Prevention of MDDr. Michaela Lífková, PhD., actively spoke on the occasion of World Oral Health Day and drew attention to the state of oral health of the population, as well as the impacts of the cancellation and subsequent reintroduction of dental benefits.

### c) Educational Politics

- Dental medicine studies in Slovakia have historically been six years in duration; however, as part of recent curriculum reforms, the programme is being shortened to five years from the 2025/26 academic year onwards at the Jessenius Faculty of Medicine in Martin (Comenius University in Bratislava) and at the Faculty of Medicine of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice. At these faculties, future dentists will complete their studies in one year less. The other 2 faculties of dentistry - the Faculty of Medicine of Comenius University Bratislava and the Slovak Medical University Bratislava are switching to a 5-year system from 2026/2027. A transitional period is expected, during which both five- and six-year cohorts may coexist.

- An important area of activity was the support of education and work with the young generation of dentists. The President of the chamber participated in several professional congresses and conferences, including the Congress of Young Dentists, where hundreds of dentists and dental students met.

The Chamber actively communicated with dental students through personal and online meetings. The topics were the functioning of the chamber, the importance of membership, opportunities for further education and issues related to the shortening of dental studies to five years. The President of the Chamber repeatedly emphasized that changes in the education system must maintain the quality of professional and practical skills of graduates.

Special attention was also paid to certification education, especially in the field of implantology, where the SKZL advocated the preservation of professional training within the system of further education of dentists.

The culmination of the activities was the Chamber's participation in the national event MEDIFUTURA, organized by the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic. The event was aimed at students of general medicine and dentistry. The Chamber's presentation stand was among the most visited and offered visitors practical demonstrations of modern digital technologies in dentistry. In his address to the students, the President of the Chamber focused on the importance of the professional chamber as a guarantor of expertise, ethics and solidarity. He emphasized that membership in the Chamber is not just a formal obligation, but a natural part of the professional identity of a dentist.

#### **d) Insurance System**

*(including public health insurance and private insurance schemes)*

Annual negotiations are held with all three health insurance companies (one public health insurance company and two private health insurance companies) to ensure more realistic reimbursement rates from public health insurance.

## **5. World Oral Health Day Promotion**

Does your association promote World Oral Health Day?

Yes     No

If yes, please describe the type of activities (e.g. campaigns, events, media outreach, partnerships):

Slovak Chamber of Dentists, in cooperation with the Prevention Committee of the Slovak Chamber of Dentists and the Slovak Dental Students' Association, carried out several events during March and April focused on educating the public across Slovakia (educational booths, counseling and awareness-raising activities, interactive educational events for children).

- Road show – a nationwide preventive program in cooperation with the Slovak Association of Dental Students.

- Online lesson – the Slovak Chamber of Dentists, in cooperation with the Slovak Association of Dental Students and the Slovak Medical University, launched an online educational lesson as part of the awareness campaign "Say Aaah... I'm Not Afraid of the Dentist." Primary school pupils will learn, in an age-appropriate way, how to keep their teeth healthy throughout their lives.



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**Signature (optional):** .....

**Official Stamp (if applicable):** .....

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