

Regional European Organisation of the FDI

National Report

Country: **Switzerland**

Association: **SSO**

Venue:

Year: **2019**

Please classify your national report by following subjects:

Changes

in the association and its organisation

After 5 years as president and more than 30 years of dental politics, Dr. Beat Wäckerle quit the board of SSO. Dr. Jean-Philippe Haesler was elected as new President.

Dr. Lorenzo Reali was newly elected to the board of SSO.

Dr. Philippe Rusca, former President of ERO handed over his mandate as head of international affairs and as NLO to Dr. Oliver Zeyer and will stop his international activities in 2020.

Trends and developments:

in professional politics

The board of the Swiss Dental Association SSO is reinforcing its efforts to take younger dentists on board. A working group has been created to find out about the needs of students and young dentists.

in health and social politics

since 2002, after the bilateral agreements between EU and Switzerland, more than 6'000 diplomas from Europe have been recognised. Many of these dentists come to Switzerland to practise their profession. Specially in agglomerations there are

too many dentists. Some of the immigrated dentists quit Switzerland after a few years, realising that, due to the high salaries, high costs of living and the lack of patients, practising in Switzerland isn't financially that attractive anymore.

Efforts for the treatments of the aging population have been increased by the Swiss Dental Association. But an increasing life expectancy an average of more than 83 years to live, makes this part of the population grow fast.

in educational politics

In 2019, 143 students graduated. This is the highest number since 1972. 66% were females. 20% of them will do a specialisation training at universities, which lasts between 3 and 4 years.

in the insurance system (incl. the public health insurance and private insurance schemes)

A voting about a referendum in the canton (district) of Geneva, for a mandatory insurance for dental care, was rejected by the population. The SSO was fighting this referendum because SSO stands for a free and independent relation between patients and their dentists.

Corporate Dentistry

position of NDA towards dental chains

Not favourable because we fear the same problems that occurred in Spain, France and other countries. Dentistry shouldn't become a field for profit maximising investors

problems with dental chains

Investors buy dental offices for a price that is way over the market price and therefore make it difficult for young dentists to open their own office.

Aggressive advertising, misleading the patients occurs frequently with such chains.

possible solutions

Owners of the office should be dentists. Limited number of employed dentists per office. Change in law is needed.

Changes in fees:

None

Information regarding promotion of the World Oral Health Day:

The SSO will finally change the date for the promotion of the WOHD to the official date in March. Until now it was (historically) in September.

Further information (activities):

What are your 3 main concerns?

- Immigration of dentists and the differences in their qualifications
- Dental chains from investors
- New EU regulations like data protection or medical devices

3 points you would like to discuss

- Immigration of dentists and the differences in their qualifications
- Dental chains from investors
- New EU regulations like data protection or medical devices