

# Regional European Organization of the FDI

## National Report

**Country: ESTONIA**

**Association: Estonian Dental Association**

**Venue: Baku**

**Year: 2016**

I. Changes in the association and its organization.

Dr. Tenno Jänes stepped down as a board member. Two new Board members were appointed: Dr. Eva Vakra and Dr. Martin Martma

II. Trends and developments:

- In professional politics;
  - i. Certification of competencies for medical doctors and dentists has been a major issue for discussions
  - ii. Discussion about the need to change the limited possibility to prescribe medicines for patients by dentists
  - iii. Developments for better cooperation with dental technicians: to provide a special programme for them during Annual Dental Meeting
  - iv. Development of professional standards for dental assistants and hygienists
  - v. The terms of licensing dentists originating from third countries by Estonian Health Board follow the principle that all recognition should respect in any case minimum training conditions established in EU. Also, the knowledge of the language of the host Member State and the possibility to carry out controls can (and should indeed) be carried out in case of a serious and concrete doubt about the sufficiency of the professional's language knowledge, this before the professional has direct contact with patients (Article 53 of Directive 2005/36/EC). This requirement has not been always followed.

- vi. Participation in the workshops for elaboration of professional standards for dental assistants and hygienists.
- In health politics;
  - i. Obvious need to introduce financial compensation for dental treatment for Estonian adult population by the Estonian Health Insurance Fund has been a political issue widely discussed in media and by government
- In educational politics;
  - i. Post-graduate 3-year training in pediatric dentistry was started as a subspecialty in the restorative dentistry programme for residents
  - ii. EDA recognizes the need to start educating dental hygienists, initiating negotiations with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of Education and Science
- In the insurance system (incl. the public health insurance and private insurance schemes).
  - i. List of treatment procedures and fees for dental services are currently under revision by the Health Insurance Fund in order to more exactly reflect the cost of dentistry and to serve better citizens in the limited resources condition which conflicts the need of dentists to provide the most up-to-date treatments for their patients
  - ii. Negotiations with P&C Insurance Company for the responsibility insurance to follow the membership. After 1 month of seceding from the EDA the responsibility insurance will be invalidated for those dentists

### III. Further information (activities, concerns).

- Estonian Annual Dental Meeting held on 27-29.08. 2016 ,in Tallinn was a great success with 699 dentists, 277 auxiliaries and 72 exponents participating
- Estonian Dental Association's Summer school in Saaremaa 31.07-01.08. 2015
- 8 board meetings and two council meetings (April 10, November 6)
- Editing professional journal "Hambaarst" (The Estonian Dentist)
- Two conferences for Estonian Dentists held

- i. Conference “Contemporary dentistry” supported by FDI, on March 6, 2015 in Tartu
- ii. December 4 2015 in Tallinn

February, 23, 2016

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mare Saag', is written over a light blue grid background.

Professor Mare Saag  
Estonian Dental Association, board member  
University of Tartu, Head of the Institute of Dentistry