

The logo for the European Regional Organisation of the Fédération dentaire internationale (ERO) consists of the letters 'E', 'R', and 'O' in a bold, sans-serif font, each enclosed in a thin red rectangular border. The three letters are arranged horizontally and are contained within a larger white rectangular area with a red border.

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ERO statement on « FDI Vision 2020 »

- The FDI paper has been discussed by the delegates of the ERO Plenary Session with respect and appreciation.

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- The paper calls for oral health to be a fundamental human right.

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- It is stated that current educational models and forms of dental practice have not sufficiently considered the lack and diversities in oral health. Therefore, this paper describes in detail a new way how to solve this problem.

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- However, the requirements demanded to achieve this goal verge on a remarkable change of our professional profile, our treatment philosophy as well as our educational systems around the world.

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- The FDI document recommends to generate new educational systems focusing on tasks in public health and to create new types of job like oral healthcare professionals with qualifications that are not specified.

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- A new healthcare model has been considered changing the role of the dentist to become the leader of the dental team delegating tasks and monitoring the oral healthcare professionals.

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- The price level for dental treatment is viewed critically and regarded as the reason for disparities in oral healthcare.

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- There are complaints about a lack of information on treatment innovations further a lack on oral health promotion, prevention and research efforts in this respect.

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- The delegates of the ERO Plenary Session declare the following:
- Document “FDI Vision 2020” states a lack in oral healthcare on several points providing a good and practicable way how to eliminate disparities and showing structurally weak areas in the world how oral health could be improved in their countries.

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- For countries with good healthcare structures the acceptance of this concept would however involve the danger, that an unnecessary comprehensive redefinition of the liberal dental profession working on its own responsibility had to be made which runs the risk of delegating parts of the range of oral healthcare to new professional groups.

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- This would inevitably be associated with relevant legislative and regulatory components that would have a significant effect on the profession – not being determined by the dental profession itself but directed by legislative or other professional groups and institutions.

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- Therefore, the current concept of “FDI Vision 2020” cannot be applied on all points to the majority of the ERO member countries.