

## ***Regional European Organisation of the FDI***

### ***National Report***

**Country: Portugal**

**Association: OMD – Portuguese Dental Association**

**Venue: Porto**

**Year: 2022**

*Please classify your national report by following subjects:*

#### ***Changes***

*in the association and its organisation No changes*

#### ***Trends and developments:***

*in professional politics*

**There is a legislative proposal that reduces the autonomy of the "Dental Chamber"**

*in health and social politics*

**The new Minister of Health announced the intention to establish a structured career path for dentists.**

*in educational politics*

**The higher education assessment and accreditation agency did not approve a new dental medicine course.**

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

**The existing public and private health insurance schemes are insufficient to ensure access to dental care for the entire population**

#### ***Corporate Dentistry***

*position of NDA towards dental chains*

**Our association wishes for dental medicine companies to also comply with the code of ethics of dentists.**

*problems with dental chains*

**Our association is concerned about aggressive advertising strategies, financing policies based on loans, and financial insolvencies of some dental medicine companies, which leave patients without clinical support and with unfinished treatments.**

*possible solutions*

**Our association wishes for dental medicine companies to also comply with the code of ethics of dentists.**

*Changes in fees: No changes*

*Information regarding promotion of the World Oral Health Day:*

The celebration of the World Oral Health Day 2022 in Portugal was organized by OMD in collaboration with FDI World Dental Federation and the Portuguese Directorate General for Health and Intercity Community Dão Lafões.

This celebration had the presence of the President of the FDI World Dental Federation, Prof. Doutora Ihsane Ben Yahya.

The event had several moments, which we highlight the official presentation of the Social Innovation project - "Eat well, smile better", in partnership with Portuguese Nutritionists Association; and two debates dedicated to: "Literacy and Health Promotion: from Healthy Eating to Oral Health, a benefit set" and "Oral Health and General Health: A priority for the 2022-2026 legislature?".

*Further information (activities):*

***What are your 3 main concerns?***

- the increasing number of dental professionals in Portugal, which may lead to a saturation of the market and affect the quality of dental care provided to patients.
- the excessive number of dental students, as this may result in limited opportunities for hands-on clinical training, ultimately compromising the quality of education and future practice of dental professionals.
- growing legislation and regulation in dentistry without comprehensive adjustments to conventional dental offices, which may provide undue advantages to corporate business clinics, potentially compromising the autonomy and quality of care of independent dental practitioners."

***3 points you would like to discuss***

***Nothing to add.***