

## ERO NEWS 17.

November 2018

Dear Colleagues,

Almost 3 months passed since the FDI and ERO meetings in Buenos Aires.

Please find the update on latest developments regarding ERO and its member organizations as well as some other important events in European dentistry.

### **FDI General Assembly in Buenos Aires**

The important role of ERO was again evident at this year's FDI GA.

The policy statement on continuing medical education in dentistry adopted in Buenos Aires is, as we remember, the result of ERO's initiative. It reaffirms that oral health is an integral component of general health and that the role of dental practitioners is not only limited to maintaining the oral health of their patients, but also includes promoting their overall health. We need to continue our advocacy to make everyone aware of this – both on international and national levels. The FDI policy statement should undoubtedly be helpful in this.

Most candidates from ERO member organizations were successful in elections to FDI council and committees. Congratulations to all colleagues who succeeded and best wishes for their work.



In her report the FDI President dr Kathryn Kell put much emphasis on her good impressions from ERO Plenary Session in Salzburg. We

appreciate dr Kell's kind words about ERO and look forward to continuing our good relations.

### **ERO Plenary Session in Buenos Aires**

The ERO Plenary Session which took place in Buenos Aires was a very interesting and productive gathering.

The Plenary meeting traditionally followed meetings of the working groups where recent activities were summed up and proposals for the Plenary Session were drafted.

At the plenary session we had a passionate discussion about the worrying events that recently took place in Spain which are connected to the phenomenon of commercialization of dentistry and external investors who treat dentistry mainly as source of profits.

In view of this we adopted a resolution prepared by the working group on liberal dental practice wherein we call upon dental organizations and political decision-makers to prevent the establishment of only profit-oriented, non-professional corporations in dentistry which do not follow the ethical principles of our profession.

We approved the set of recommendations regarding dental care for aging population which were elaborated by our working group led by Philippe Rusca.

Now we should strive to use these documents in our national work to achieve the results set there.

### **CED statement on corporate dentistry**

At its general meeting on 16 November the Council of European Dentists which represents national dental organizations from the European Union and countries which apply the certain laws of the

European Union, including many ERO member organizations, also responded to the issue of so called corporate dentistry and adopted a resolution.

In my correspondence with CED President dr Marco Landi we agreed that this issue may have a far going impact on our profession and dental care systems throughout Europe, not only within the EU. We stressed that a common approach of European dental organizations is needed and we have to act together to preserve the liberal character of the dental profession.

The CED resolution is available at <https://cedentists.eu/> in English, French and German.

### **New FDI CE Regional Programme Director Europe**



Hande Sar Sancakli was nominated by the FDI as the next CE Regional Programme Director for Europe replacing Alex Mersel. ERO extends many thanks to Alex Mersel for all his work and engagement over the last years and congratulates Hande Sar Sancakli.

We know her as a person with vast expertise and experience in the field of continuing medical education.

Without doubt continuing medical education is crucial for the development of our profession and its proper exercise for the benefit and safety of our patients. Best quality continuing education organized by the dental profession itself – like those within the frames of the FDI CE Programme – are of utmost importance for us – it is our role to provide the continuing education possibilities for European dentists.

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### **ERO's cooperation with the European Dental Students' Association**



Alyette Greiveldinger took over the presidency of EDSA. We wish her

a successful term of office and we hope to strengthen our cooperation. ERO and EDSA have already defined the common fields of interest and best forms of collaboration. Now it is time to start to realize these objectives.

### **Astana Declaration on Primary Health Care**

Officials from about 60 countries attended the 2nd Global Conference on Primary Health Care in Astana, Kazakhstan ( 25 - 26 October) where they adopted "Declaration of Astana on Primary Health Care".

This new declaration aims to renew and reinvigorate the ideas of the 1978 Alma-Ata Declaration. 40 years have passed since the adoption of that historic document which for the last 40 years formed the foundation of global primary health care efforts.

This year's Declaration of Astana confirms the commitment of states and governments to the fundamental right of every human being to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health.

As regards health professions, it includes a commitment to create decent work conditions and appropriate compensation for health professionals and other health personnel working at the primary health care level to respond effectively to people's health needs in a multidisciplinary context. It also indicates that building health literacy should be guided by health professionals.

As dentists we must point out and make clear to the public and to the policy makers that the principles of the Declaration of Astana also regard dentistry and the role of dental professionals.

### **ERO Board meeting on 8 December**

The next meeting of ERO Board is planned on 8 December in Frankfurt.

We will discuss all the current issues and we plan to meet the President of European

Society of Dental Ergonomics (ESDE) dr Werner Betz to talk about possibilities of closer cooperation. It is an important issue for each dental practitioner – taking care of our patients we should remember about maintaining our health as well in particular by knowing and applying best practices in the field of ergonomics in dentistry.

### Other events

The last months of each calendar year are always full of national and international dental events.

The Czech Dental Chamber organized the 21st Prague Dental Days on 20 – 21 September. An interesting debate entitled “Central European Round Table of the Leaders of Dentistry in Prague” took place alongside chaired by the Czech Dental Chamber’s President dr Roman Šmucler. Participants discussed the issues related to aesthetic dentistry and the future role and regulation of the dental auxiliary professions. I stressed that ERO has been analysing this for a long time and has elaborated a number of policy statements referring to the dental auxiliaries and their role within the dental team.

At the same time in Poznań the Polish Dentistry Union Congress accompanied the 27th Central European Dental Exhibition (CEDE) included lectures under the auspices of ERO and FDI.

The 24th International Dental Congress of the Turkish Dental Association in Ankara (27 – 30 September) included a special ERO interdisciplinary session with diabetologists entitled: “General and oral health relationship. Implantation and it’s challenges in diabetic patients”.



Expo 2018 Opening in Ankara

Apart from the Congress and accompanying exhibition a meeting of Dental Associations from the Neighbouring Countries was organised “Collaboration Platform and Thematic Meeting on Dental Education”.



8<sup>th</sup> Neighboring Countries Dental Associations Collaboration Platform

Congratulations for Turkish colleagues for what proved to be a good idea and a successful event.

In Porto between 8 and 10 November the Portuguese Dental Association held its 27th Congress. It included a debate regarding the role of professional organizations in regulating the exercise of the profession and safeguarding the public interest.



20 anniversary of OMD Portuguese Dental Society

The German Dental Day on 9 and 10 November in Frankfurt was as always attended by representatives of many national dental organizations.

On 11 November we celebrated 100th anniversary of the end of 1st World War. On the same day in Poland the 100<sup>th</sup> independence was celebrated. On this occasion a large conference was organized to discuss the role of medical doctors and dentists in shaping the democratic society.

In Paris the annual ADF Congress begins on 27 November.

**Dates:**

**8 December 2018**, Frankfurt GER  
ERO Board Meeting

**Spring 2019**, (26/27 April) Frankfurt, GER  
ERO Plenary Session

**September 2019**, San Francisco, USA  
ERO Plenary Session (FDI WDC)

**Spring 2020**, Kazakhstan, Almaty  
ERO Plenary Session

Best regards,



Anna Lella