ERO/FDI - Working-Group

“Liberal Dental Practice”
Third party financed dental ambulatory health care centers conducted by non dentists

In an increasing number of ERO member states and even around the world, third party financed dental ambulatory health care centers, whose shareholders are non-dentists open, own and manage dental clinics.
The members of the ERO Plenary Session emphasize in several resolutions and in their paper from 2018 “Is liberal independent dental practice in danger? Assessing forms of dental practice in the European Regional Organization (ERO) zone of the FDI World Dental Federation” that commercial interests of outside investors are a potential disadvantage for patients and our profession because they:

- influence the decisions about dental therapy
- compromise the quality of dental care
• influence negatively the social and private dental care systems in case that third parties run dental offices

• interfere with the basic right of the patient to freely choose his dentist

• encourage “over-treatment “. 
The basic principle of FDI and ERO is to emphasize the guarantee of liberal dental practice, to avoid a negative influence on liberal professions due to a commercialisation of our profession.

The sensible healthcare market must be regarded separately and may not form the basis for general market policy related principles.
Therefore the European Regional Organisation of the FDI calls upon dental organisations and political decision-makers in our member countries to prevent the establishment of only profit oriented, non professional corporations without any reference to the ethical principles of our medical obligation.
Thank you very much to all the members of the ERO-working-group “Liberal Dental Practice” and for your attention!