

ERO-FDI Resolution 2018

Third party financed dental ambulatory healthcare centers run by non-dentists

In an increasing number of ERO member states and even around the world, third party financed dental ambulatory healthcare 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 external investors are a potential disadvantage for patients and our profession because they:

- influence decisions about dental therapy
- compromise quality of dental care
- influence negatively 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 and to avoid a negative influence on liberal professions due to a commercialisation of our profession. The sensitive healthcare market must be regarded separately and may not be formed on the basis of 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 profession.

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