

Back to core values to better address old and new challenges

About the CED

The Council of European Dentists (CED) is the representative organization for the dental profession in the EU and over 340,000 practicing professionals. It is composed of 33 national dental associations from 31 European countries (28 Full Members, 4 Affiliate Members and 1 Observer).

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President's perspective

In my first year as the President of the CED, I have taken a future-oriented approach. Our work in 2022 reflects that. We set the goal to ensure that the future generation of dentists are well equipped to face the challenges the future holds for our profession. We produced policy documents and engaged in discussions and consultations on topics such as digital dentistry, eSkills of dentists and dental workforce challenges.

During our General Meetings, we confirmed to our member dental associations that our core priority is to support their interests, to get involved in the issues that are important to them, as well as to provide representation at their events. I have personally attended conferences

and meetings organised by our member associations in Germany, Lithuania and Norway, discussing workforce challenges, corporate dentistry, and oral health provision and financing.

We have also worked on consolidating the external relations with partners, such as the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) and confirmed our intention to work closely on the European Health Data Space, Artificial Intelligence, medical devices and workforce, the European Health Union, antimicrobial resistance, pharmaceutical policy and health technology assessment. We took part in the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE) annual meeting and the workshop organised by the European Federation of Periodontology. We have also collaborated with European institutions, such as the European Medicines Agency (EMA). In 2022, we joined other EMA eligible organisations in meetings and trainings organised by the EMA, and were happy to welcome the EMA representative during our General Meeting in Brussels. Moreover, we kept a strong collaboration with the European Region Organization (ERO) of the Fédération Dentaire Internationale, working together on Antimicrobial Resistance awareness and joining forces for the update of the EU Manual of Dental Practice.

The year 2022 was challenging in many ways. Post COVID-19 recovery was impaired by the conflict in Ukraine, energy crisis and high inflation across the EU. The CED has taken the time to reassess our strategy and core values, making sure that we focus on promoting the interests of European dentists. The CED remains the only representative body of dentists at EU level with the necessary capacity and expertise to monitor and influence EU legislation. We are therefore aiming to further consolidate our presence in Brussels, to improve communication with our members and the functioning of our working bodies.

Dr. Freddie Sloth-Lisbjerg
President (Denmark)

2022 at a glance

11 January

CED Press release on COVID-19 Vaccination, CED at the Climate and Health in Europe Thematic Network meeting

25 January

CED at the Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) One Health event at the European Commission

7 February

CED Working Group Oral Health meeting

2 March

CED and the European Regional Organization of the World Dental Federation (ERO) publish a common statement expressing European dentists' solidarity with colleagues and all people in Ukraine

10 March

CED Board Task Force Internal Market meeting



11 March

CED Board meeting

14 March

CED Working Group eHealth meeting



30 March

CED President Freddie Sloth-Lisbjerg speaking at the BZAEEK Europatag event

1 April

CED at the European Medicines Agency multistakeholder workshop

6 April

CED and ADEE Presidents meeting

20 April, 24 May, 5 July

CED at the EMA Healthcare Professionals Policy Officers Group meetings

17 May

CED at the Members of the European Parliament interest group on AMR



19 May

CED Board Meeting in Porto, Portugal



20 -21 May

CED General Meeting in Porto, Portugal

24 June

CED President meets the President of CPME

28 June

IMMUNION & CED webinar on vaccination tailored for dentists

29 June

CED President welcomes the Board of Schleswig-Holstein Dental Chamber in Brussels

30 June

CED Secretary General Nina Bernot and Senior Policy Officer Nikoleta Arnaudova attend the first Health Union event at the European Parliament

7 July

CED attends the Medicines Disposal Meeting

22-26 August

CED Director Paulo Melo attends ADEE meeting in Palma de Mallorca

7 September

Board Task Force Internal Market meeting



8-9 September

CED Strategy and Board Meeting in Brussels

23 September

Working Group Patient Safety Infection Control Waste Management meeting

29 September

CED meeting with European Commission Directorate General Environment



5 October

Working Group Education and Professional Qualifications meeting



10 October

Working Group eHealth meeting



12 October

Working Group Dental Materials and Medical Devices meeting

17 October

Working Group Oral Health meeting

17-19 October

CED at the EMA Annual Training Sessions for stakeholders



27 October

CED at the "Engaging with patients and closing knowledge gaps to fight AMR" event in the European Parliament

28 October

CED President speaks at the Round Table Conference of the Baltic region countries "Financing and delivering oral health care: practical insights"

4-6 November

CED President speaks at the Norwegian Dental Days in Oslo, Norway

6 November

CED Director Paulo Melo represents the CED at the European Federation of Periodontology Workshop in Segovia, Spain

15 Nov

CED at the EMA Annual Meeting

17 Nov



CED Board meeting in Brussels

18 Nov



CED General Meeting in Brussels

Policy

CED Statement on eSkills for dentists

“To rise to the challenges of digital transition in dentistry, dentists need to broaden their understanding of how dental applications, telemedicine, digital workflow models, digital health information and AI equipment are evolving and affecting traditional dental practice. Dentists must learn how to use these emerging digital health tools and fine-tune their eSkills.”

Updated CED Statement on Dentistry and patient safety during the ongoing COVID-19 era

“The benefits of the authorised vaccines are, in terms of protecting people against diseases, much greater than any potential risks of side effects which may be related to vaccines, just as to any other medicinal product. Bearing this in mind and as scientific developments in the area of combatting the pandemic keep moving forward, the testing and full vaccination of dental practice staff and patients is going to play a crucial role.”

CED White Paper on Workforce Challenges

“In light of the existing imbalance in numbers of dentists between countries, EU action to support Member States on healthcare workforce education and retention is crucial, especially in relation to encouraging the sharing of best practices and expertise between countries.”

CED Statement on the implementation of the Medical Devices Regulation

“From May 2024 – unless the legislator makes urgently needed corrections – the supply situation with dental medical products will be jeopardised and patients will no longer be able to receive dental care in the tried and tested form. The CED calls on the European Commission and competent national ministries of health to advocate for pragmatic measures to ensure the future treatment of patients in the EU with medical devices.”

CED Statement on recognition of dental qualifications

“The recognition of dental qualifications (Directive 2005/36 EC) obtained outside the European Union must be complete and in accordance with the applicable EU requirements before a dentist may start practising dentistry for the first time in the European Union. The safety of our patients and the need for high-quality dental care must not be undermined under any circumstances. This applies even if a simplified recognition at national level is intended to combat dental shortages in certain regions.”

Working Groups



Dr. Edoardo Cavallé
(Italy) Chair

01—Working Group Dental Materials and Medical Devices

In 2022, the Working Group focused on the topic of medical devices with the CED Statement on “Implementation of the Medical Devices Regulation (MDR)”. The Statement was adopted during the November General Meeting and expressed the dental profession’s deep concern at the delays in implementation of the MDR, particularly in re-certification of medical devices resulting from the lack of Notified Bodies. The document highlighted that unless the legislators made urgently needed corrections, the supply of dental medical products will be jeopardised, and patients will no longer be able to receive dental care in the tried and tested form.

The Working Group focused on dental materials. The subgroup on dental amalgam engaged actively in the ongoing Revision of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury, contributing to a targeted stakeholder survey in February and a European public consultation on the topic in April. The subgroup members participated in the final targeted stakeholder workshop on the issue in September. The subgroup members also highlighted the dental profession’s priorities in relation to the mercury regulation revision through several meetings with European Commission representatives from the Directorates-General for the Environment (ENV), and for Health (SANTE).

Other topics of interest were classification of cobalt and the EU delegated act amending the Classification, Labelling and Packaging Regulation (CLP Regulation), focusing on the establishment of new hazard classes for endocrine disruptors that apply horizontally across EU legislation. The Working Group monitored the topic of nanomaterials, especially in relation to the new European Commission nanomaterials definition recommendation from June.

In 2023, we will continue working on the topic of medical devices and their future availability. Additionally, the Working Group will be engaging in the process on the revision of the EU mercury regulation, ahead of the expected European Commission proposal on the topic. Nanomaterials, endocrine disruptors and titanium dioxide will also be the agenda of the Working Group.



Alexander Tolmeijer
(Netherlands) Chair

02—Working Group eHealth

In 2022, the Working Group finalised the CED Statement “eSkills for dentists”, which was adopted during the May General Meeting. The document focuses on the digital transition in dentistry, and the importance for dentists to broaden their understanding of how dental applications, telemedicine, digital workflow models, digital health information and AI (Artificial Intelligence) equipment are evolving and affecting traditional dental practice.

The Working Group also engaged in the ongoing legislative process on the European Health Data Space (EHDS). The members prepared a set of recommendations and key asks in relation to the EHDS Proposal for Regulation from the European Commission.

The Working Group began discussing the topic of AI and orthodontics. The topic is gaining importance, with a lot of reports from different Member States (MS) on the emergence of ‘do-it-yourself’ orthodontics, bypassing the diagnosis and involvement of a dentist in the process, and therefore placing patient safety at risk.

In 2023, the Working Group will continue focusing on ongoing eHealth legislation updates, especially in relation to the EHDS as the file progresses at the European Parliament and Council level. The Working Group will engage on AI and orthodontics from the dentists’ perspective, producing a concrete document on the topic.



Prof. Dr. Paulo Melo
(Portugal) Chair
- until November 2022

03—Working Group Education and Professional Qualifications

In 2022, the Working Group updated its mandate to include the topics of radiation protection and of recognition of qualifications of third country nationals. A questionnaire on Dental Specialties was conducted and the CED Statement on specialties will be updated based on the survey results.

The CED continued to advocate for the update of the Annex V.3/5.3.1 of the Professional Qualification Directive, despite the inaction of the European Commission on the issue. In cooperation with the Task Force Internal Market, the Working Group produced a document on Workforce Challenges. This document will also be used to ask the World Health Organization to consider the specificity of the European situation in its Global Strategy on Oral Health, regarding the recognition of mid-level providers.

In 2023 the Working Group is planning to prepare a CED position on the Recognition of Qualifications of third country nationals, will update its documents on the “profile of the dentist of the future” and on dental specialties and will continue advocating for the update of the Professional Qualifications Directive.



Dr. Henk Donker
(Netherlands) Chair
- until November 2022



Dr. Alessandra Rossi
(ANDI, Italy) Chair
- from November 2022

04—Working Group Oral Health

This year the Working Group continued to focus on its core activity topics. On antimicrobial resistance, we stayed involved in the AMR Stakeholder Network Group, as well as submitted our application for membership as a stakeholder within the European Commission AMR One Health Network. Moreover, we replied to several related consultations published by the Commission, such as the AMR Future Proofing Plan and the study on barriers in AMR policies. The CED participated again in the European Antimicrobial Awareness week in November coordinated by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

At the beginning of the year, we published a press release encouraging COVID-19 vaccination. In collaboration with the Coalition for Vaccination and the IMMUNION project, the CED organised a webinar tailored for dentists and dental students on vaccination and continued to deliver expertise and endorse initiatives and documents of the Coalition. We also supported European campaigns on vaccination against COVID-19 and influenza and replied to the call for evidence on vaccination against Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and Hepatitis B.

In 2022 the collaboration with the European Medicines Agency (EMA) was also a priority and we took part in several eligible organisations' meetings, the EMA annual meeting and trainings and welcomed Ivana Silva, the EMA representative, to our November General meeting in Brussels. The Working Group was very active to engage in the multiple European initiatives on health and replied to many consultations relevant to oral health, such as the European EU4HEALTH programme, global health, nutrient profiles and labelling. Finally, the Working Group welcomed a new Chair in November and will reassess its priorities for the following years.



Prof. Dr. Ioannis Tzoutzas
(Greece) Chair

05—Working Group Patient Safety, Infection Control and Waste Management

In 2022, the Working Group continued monitoring the COVID-19 situation and related developments. In light of this, the Working Group also updated the CED Statement "Dentistry and patient safety during the ongoing COVID-19 era". The updated version reflects further the importance of vaccination and aims to capture the pandemic status quo and its impact on dentistry.

The Working Group continued monitoring relevant EU legislative developments, specifically focusing on dentistry and waste, considering upcoming policy files on this topic, such as the EU Waste Framework Directive. It remained engaged on the topic of medicines disposal through the continuous participation of the CED in the #Medsdisposal campaign. The campaign brings together various health stakeholder organisations and is raising awareness on how to dispose of unused or expired medicines appropriately in Europe, bringing information on current disposal schemes in European countries.

In light of the numerous emerging issues on patient safety, infection control and waste management, the Working Group started curating an online overview of current articles and information on these topics, available on the Members' section of the CED website.

In 2023, the Working Group will explore in more detail the topic of dentistry and waste management. Work will also continue on monitoring and reacting to EU legislative updates, as well as on any relevant developments related to patient safety and infection control.

Task Forces



Dr. Freddie Sloth-Lisbjerg
(Denmark) Chair
- until March 2022



Dr. Anna Lella
(Poland) Chair
- since March 2022

01—Task Force Internal Market

In 2022, the Board Task Force focused actively on the topic of workforce challenges. In collaboration with the Working Group Education and Professional Qualifications, the Board Task Force produced the CED White Paper 'Workforce Challenges for Dentistry'. The document was adopted during the CED November General Meeting and highlights the need for action aimed at ensuring a balanced distribution of dental professionals and high-quality oral health care for patients across Europe. The document underlines the importance of workforce planning for addressing the overall number and distribution of dental professionals, as well as its interplay with other significant factors, such as societal and demographic changes, education, task shifting.

The Board Task Force also focused on the issue of corporate dentistry, through the preparation of a robust and encompassing survey on the topic. The survey covered a variety of issues such as the types of business models for dental chains, employment conditions, urban versus rural distribution of dental chains, to name a few. Following its launch in September, the survey received detailed, expert feedback from the CED members and will be used as the basis for future activities on corporate dentistry.

The Board Task Force continued monitoring other issues of relevance to dentistry, such as developments in relation to the Proportionality Test Directive and to partial access. In 2023, the Board Task Force will continue monitoring and engaging on the abovementioned priority issues. Work will also continue on the topic of workforce challenges, specifically through the creation of a policy document.



Nina Brandelet-Bernot
Secretary General

02—Task Force Communications

In 2022 we focused on the social media presence through regular posts on the CED Twitter account. Works on updating the CED website and EU Manual of Dental Practice have started, and we published another Annual Report, summarizing the work of the CED in 2021.

CED Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is composed of eight members, elected by the General Meeting every three years. The Board carries out political leadership and secures proper and efficient administration of the CED.



Dr. Freddie Sloth-Lisbjerg
President (Denmark)



Dr. Doniphan Hammer
Director (France)
- until November 2022



Prof. Dr. Paulo Melo
Director (Portugal)
- until November 2022



Dr. Henk Donker
Treasurer (Netherlands)
- until November 2022



Dr. Henner Bunke
Director (Germany)



Dr. Anna Lella
Vice-President (Poland)



Dr. Robin Foyle
Director (Ireland)



Prof. Dr. Ioannis Tzoutzas
Treasurer (Greece)
- since November 2022



Dr. Miguel Pavão
Director (Portugal)
- since November 2022



Dr. Charlotte Heuzé
Director (France)
- since November 2022



Dr. Katalin Nagy
Director (Hungary)
- since November 2022

CED Secretariat

The CED Secretariat is composed of a permanent staff of four. It constantly monitors policy developments, maintains contacts with the European Institutions and stakeholders and implements the decisions taken by the General Meeting and the Board of Directors.



Nina Brandelet-Bernot
Secretary General



Ainhoa Zamacona
Office Manager



Daniela Timus
Policy Officer



Nikoleta Arnaudova
Senior Policy Officer

CED Intern



Zeno Olimini
(Italy) Intern

In 2022 the CED welcomed an intern in its office in Brussels. The intern was involved in the day-to-day work of the office and had the possibility to contribute to Working Groups, prepare working documents and participate in meetings and events with partner organisations and the European Institutions.

Our intern supported the activity of Working Groups Education and Professional Qualifications and Oral Health, participated in several events in the European Parliament and contributed to the preparatory work for the new EU Manual of Dental Practice.

Members, Affiliate Members & Observers



Albania



Austria



Belgium – VVT



Belgium – CSD



Bulgarian Dental
Association



Croatia



Cyprus



Czech Republic



Denmark



Estonia



Finland



France



Germany



Greece

Hungary - Dental
Section of the
Hungarian Medical
ChamberHungary -
Hungarian Dental
Association

Netherlands



Norway



Poland



Portugal



Iceland



Ireland



Italy – ANDI



Italy – AIO



Slovakia



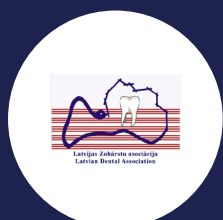
Slovenia



Spain



Sweden



Latvia



Lithuania



Luxembourg



Malta



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