



2024 Manifesto for the new EU mandate

European dentists call on EU decision makers to:

Prioritise patient safety and oral health across Europe by focusing on:

- **Prioritising and promoting prevention** in relation to oral health at EU and national level alike, placing specific focus on access to oral healthcare and social inequalities.
- Working hand in hand with dentists in order to **save lives by raising awareness about oral cancer prevention** and the importance of facilitating access to screenings and treatment options for patients.
- Developing effective policy strategies for **responsible antibiotic use to combat antimicrobial resistance** through close collaboration with the dental profession.
- **Ensuring that provenly safe medical devices are allowed to remain on the market** under the Medical Device Regulation (MDR 2017/745) in a streamlined manner, to avoid placing patients' oral healthcare needs in jeopardy.

Ensure that EU policy works for a balanced European dentist workforce by focusing on:

- **Updating the provisions on basic training of the Professional Qualifications Directive (PQD 2005/36)** through its Annex V.3/5.3.1. which remains outdated and fails to capture the requirements of modern dentistry.
- Helping **ensure that the recognition of dental qualifications, obtained outside the EU is complete and in accordance with the applicable requirements.**
- Prioritising actions that enable Member States national governments to implement policies that **support the creation and retention of a robust dental workforce across the EU.**

Work towards a digital health future that does not impede the profession and delivery of care by focusing on:

- **Ensuring that developments in EU digital health policy (e.g, European Health Data Space) account for the financial and administrative burdens they bring for dentists** from across all practices, especially for small and micro enterprises.
- Ensuring that **digital exchange of information on patients' data and records is failproof** and protected from misuse and exploitation at all costs.
- Placing the safety of patients first, by ensuring that they are **protected from exploitation by commercial entities that use AI** (artificial intelligence) advancements to deliver dangerous treatments that exclude the dentist from the process.

Did you know:



There are on average 76 practising dentists per 100.000 people in Europe



Dentists continue being the 5th most mobile profession in Europe



On average, Europeans have 1.3 consultations with a dentist per year, a figure that dropped by 15% during the COVID-19 pandemic



Untreated dental caries remains the most common non-communicable disease worldwide (NCD)



The European region has the highest prevalence of major oral health diseases, affecting 50.1% of the adult population



Oral cancer is the 13th most common cancer worldwide



Spending on dental services represents on average about 5.1% of total health expenditure in European countries, below average as compared to pharmaceuticals and medical devices



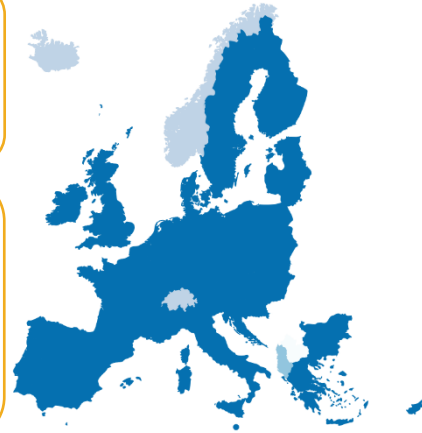
In 2022, 4.8% of the EU population aged 16 or over had an unmet need for a dental examination or treatment

About the Council of European Dentists:

The Council of European Dentists (CED) is the representative organisation for the dental profession in the EU, representing over 340,000 practising dentists

over
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practising dentists

33
national dental
associations
(28 full members;
4 affiliate members; 1
observer)



* Membership as of 1/03/2024

through 33 national dental associations. Established in 1961 to advise the European Commission on matters relating to the dental profession, the CED promotes high standards of oral healthcare and effective patient-safety centred and evidence-based professional practice across Europe.

Resources:

World Health Organization, Global oral health status report: towards universal health coverage for oral health by 2030. Summary of the WHO European Region;
<https://www.who.int/europe/publications/i/item/9789289058988>

European Commission, Regulated Professions Database; <http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/regprof/index.cfm>

European Commission, Eurostat, Unmet health care needs statistics, https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Unmet_health_care_needs_statistics#:~:text=In%202022%2C%204.8%20%25%20of%20the%20population%20aged%2016%20years%20or,care%20than%20for%20medical%20care.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Health at a Glance: Europe 2022: State of Health in the EU Cycle; <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/e4ba581d-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/e4ba581d-en>

European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, Oral health care in Europe: Financing, access and provision; <https://eurohealthobservatory.who.int/publications/i/oral-health-care-in-europe-financing-access-and-provision>

World Health Organisation (WHO), Oral Health, <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/oral-health>