



World Health Day 2021

European dentists: Health care should know no borders

Frankfurt, 6 April 2021. On the occasion of tomorrow's World Health Day, which the World Health Organisation (WHO) has chosen as this year's motto "Creating a fairer, healthier world", the European Regional Organisation (ERO) of the World Dental Federation (FDI) also emphasises the importance of international cooperation - especially in times of pandemic.

"The spread of the novel coronavirus has affected everyone, but it has not affected everyone equally. The pandemic has made the disparities in health systems and medical care even more apparent, and it is a global task to reduce these inequalities. If access to healthcare is to be improved for all, this can only be achieved through international cooperation between health organisations, academia and policy-makers, because inequality, especially when it comes to pandemic containment, is a threat to us all. It is not least for this reason that European dentists have set the goal of closer cooperation with the European Regional Office of the World Health Organisation," says ERO President Dr Michael Frank.

"Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have had very good experiences with the exchange of dental organisations in Europe and have learned a lot from each other. The fact that dental practices are still not a place of increased risk of infection is also due to this exchange on hygiene measures and procedures in the pandemic. It is our goal to intensify this also beyond the Corona pandemic and thus to sustainably improve access to dental care for all people. Because oral health care, as the pandemic has also shown, is also prevention for general health," Frank continues.

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World Health Day has been held annually on 7 April since 1950 to commemorate the founding of the World Health Organization. Each year, it has a different motto that highlights current issues and focal points of the WHO's work and kicks off longer-lasting campaigns and actions.

ERO

The European Regional Organisation (ERO) of the World Dental Federation (FDI) brings together under its umbrella the dental organisations and associations of 35 countries. In various committees and working groups, it coordinates international cooperation on topics such as the practice of dentistry, research, dental education and public health.

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