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RESULTS OF CED GENERAL MEETING IN RIGA

Representatives of CED member and observer organisations met in Riga, Latvia on 29 and 30 May 2015 for a regular six-monthly General Meeting, under the chairmanship of CED President Dr. Wolfgang Doneus. The meeting was hosted by the Latvian Dental Association, in the context of the Latvian EU Council Presidency and started with a welcome address by the Deputy Secretary of State on Health Policy Matters at the Latvian Ministry of Health Egita Pole. CED delegates were also welcomed by the President of the Latvian Dental Association Dr. Andis Paeglitis.

STANDARDISATION OF HEALTHCARE SERVICES

In context of recent initiatives, European dentists expressed their opposition to standardisation of healthcare services and especially treatment at EU level. Development of such standards would infringe on existing professional and national competences and would limit dentists' professional autonomy and ability to adapt treatments to patients' individual needs and requirements thus ensuring the highest possible level of quality and patient safety and the best outcome for patients.

[CED Resolution: Standardisation](#)

DENTAL TEAM RELATIONSHIP WITH PATIENTS

The CED unanimously adopted a Resolution on the dental team relationship with patients. The Resolution stressed the importance of the dentist's leadership role within the dental team to ensure effective patient safety. The Resolution clarified the composition of the dental team as it exists in the majority of EU countries and the dentist's relationship with dental technicians who as manufacturers of custom-made dental devices cooperate with the dental team. It also clarified the responsibilities and competences that dentists expect of their dental team members and their relationship with patients.

[CED Resolution: Dental team relationship with patients](#)

WHITENING LAMPS

The CED unanimously adopted a statement on whitening lamps which are increasingly used for toothwhitening. European dentists stressed that there is no evidence that the use of whitening lamps contributes to the whitening process; it may result in adverse effects such as burning the gums and causing nerve damage. The CED firmly discourages the use of whitening lamps and advises dentists to abstain from their use.

[CED Statement: Whitening lamps](#)

COMMON TRAINING PRINCIPLES

The CED unanimously adopted a statement on common training principles under Directive on the recognition of professional qualifications 2005/36/EC. The development of common training principles in dentistry would create unnecessary risks for patient safety and quality of education and for treatment in dentistry. European dentists expressed concerns that this might jeopardise principles of high quality of professional education and training, as well as cohesiveness of their profession.

[CED Statement: Common training principles under Directive 2005/36/EC](#)



HEALTH IN TRANSATLANTIC TRADE AND INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP (TTIP)

European dentists are concerned about the treatment of health in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership agreement (TTIP). The CED called on EU TTIP negotiations to adhere to the Article 168 of the Lisbon Treaty which establishes that Member States are responsible for their health policy and for the organisation and delivery of health services which include dental care. The CED requested not only the exclusion of public services and of services of general interest but particularly of health services from the scope of the TTIP negotiations.

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The Council of European Dentists (CED) is a European not-for-profit association which represents over 340,000 practising dentists through 32 national dental associations and chambers from 30 European countries. Its key objectives are to promote high standards of oral healthcare and effective patient-safety centred professional practice across Europe, including through regular contacts with other European organisations and EU institutions.