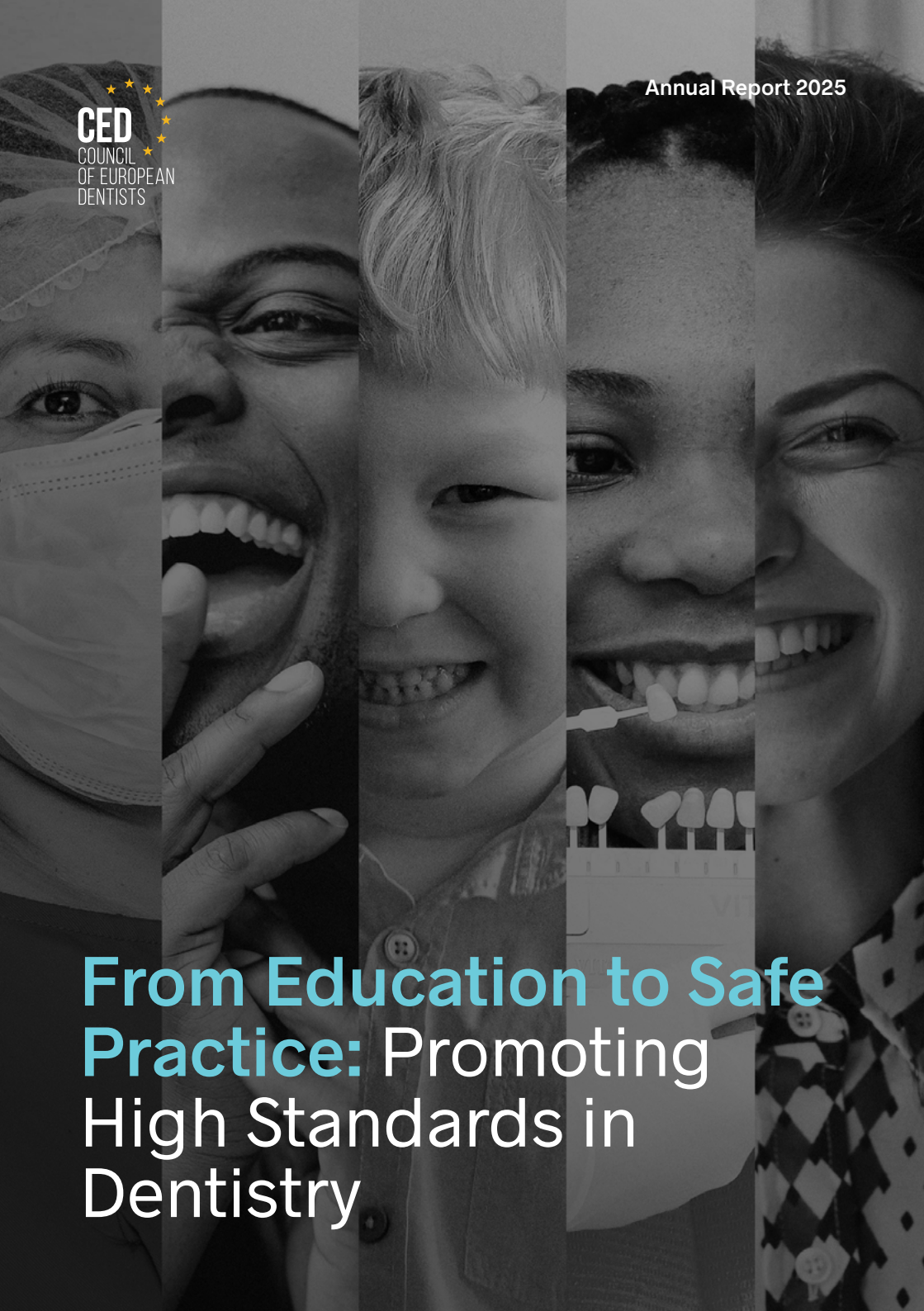
CED
COUNCIL OF EUROPEAN DENTISTS

Annual Report 2025



# From Education to Safe Practice: Promoting High Standards in Dentistry

# About the CED

**The Council of European Dentists (CED) is a European not-for-profit association and representative organisation for the dental profession and over 350,000 practicing professionals.**

**It is composed of 32 national dental associations from 30 European countries (28 Full Members and 4 Affiliate Members)**

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**Dr. Freddie Sloth-Lisbjerg**
President (Denmark)

# President's perspective

The first year of my second mandate as CED President, 2025, was also marked by ongoing challenges for the dental profession, in the midst of growing global political instability. Dental professionals, alongside other healthcare workers, witnessed the impact of these uncertainties and security challenges on the European economy and workforce, including a significant shift in national and European policy priorities and the sharp rise of international reactionary and far right political parties.

This political shift not only raises democratic and cohesion concerns for our European nations but also poses a certain threat to the prioritisation of oral health within government budgets and national health insurance benefit packages, impacting the conditions and practice of the European dental profession and the overall accessibility of dental treatments.





The situation for global oral health, as well as the working conditions and rights of dental professionals and humanitarian workers practising in countries impacted by wars, armed conflicts and political instability was also a main topic of concern for the CED. We joined the international civil society call, issuing a statement condemning the deliberate targeting of medical and dental professionals and facilities, and calling for unconditional respect of health neutrality and the protection of healthcare workers.

We have also seen priorities within the European agenda shift towards enhancing the competitiveness of European markets and simplifying existing regulations. In this context, the free movement of professionals within the EU Single Market has become a key objective of the Commission, aimed at boosting skills and labour mobility. The European Skills Portability Initiative, announced in 2025 and expected to be developed in 2026, will therefore be a key priority for the CED in the year ahead.

On the other hand, reflecting on 2025, I am proud to say that it was a highly productive year for our organisation. We developed and adopted 9 policy papers addressing a diverse set of topics from artificial intelligence, novel tobacco products, to custom-made athletic mouthguards, as well as prepared 6 official CED positions in response to European public consultations, launched 5 surveys for the collection of data, published several articles and statements in European dental and policy journals, and co-organised the first joint policy event gathering all five main European oral healthcare professional organisations, bringing a common voice to European policy makers in Brussels.

Despite the challenging political environment, the CED is hopeful of this year's advancements and future European initiatives in the field of public health. I could cite here initial steps taken in the direction of the necessary and long-awaited revision of the Medical Devices Regulation, the adoption of the European Health Data Space at the start of 2025, as well as signs of enhanced political will to tackle key risk-factors, with the revision of the Tobacco Tax Directive and the launch of the crucial EU Cardiovascular Health Plan.

Finally, the CED has and will of course continue its collaboration with other European dental organisations and strive to strengthen interprofessional cooperation with other healthcare professionals, for a better and more resilient European health workforce!

# 2025 at a glance

**15 January –** CED Working Group Oral Health meeting

**21 January –** CED online participation to the JAMRAI II Thematic Webinar

**22 January –** CED President at the IDS Press Conference in Cologne, Germany

**28 January –** CED Working Group Dental Materials and Medical Devices meeting

**30 January –** CED online attendance to the European Health Data and Innovation Summit

**3 February –** CED Working Group Patient Safety, Infection Control and Waste Management meeting

**5-6 February –** CED Board Director and Policy Officer at the ADEE GED Workshop in Dublin, Ireland

**18 February –** CED participation in the Medical Device Coordination Group (MDCG) plenary session in Brussels, Belgium

**26 February –** CED Working Group Oral Health meeting

**27 February –** CED Working Group eHealth meeting

**27 February –** CED at the European Medicines Agency Healthcare Professionals Policy Officers Group meeting

**5 March –** CED attendance to the MDCG UDI meeting

**13 March –** CED Board Task Force Internal Market meeting

**14 March –** CED Board Meeting in Brussels, Belgium

**17 March –** CED Working Group Dental Materials and Medical Devices meeting

**20 March –** CED attendance to the Standing Committee of European Doctors' Parliament event on Workforce Challenges in Brussels, Belgium

**1 April –** Visit of the BZÄK Board of the Dental Chamber of Saxony-Anhalt to CED offices in Brussels

**3 April –** CED participation in the Medical Device Coordination Group (MDCG) plenary session in Brussels, Belgium

**8 April –** CED Joint Policy Event at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium

**24-26 April –** Germany CED President at the Szeged Symposium in Szeged, Hungary

**28 April –** CED Working Group Oral Health meeting

**2-3 May –** CED Vice-President at the ERO Plenary Session in Almaty, Kazakhstan

**9 May –** CED President at the Panel of Regulatory Bodies of the Adria Region by the Croatia Dental Chamber in Plitvice Lakes National Park, Croatia

**22 May –** CED Board Meeting in Gdańsk, Poland

**23-24 May –** CED General Meeting in Gdańsk, Poland

**30 June –** CED Working Group Oral Health meeting

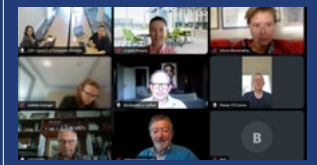
**1 July –** CED at the European Medicines Agency Healthcare Professionals Policy Officers Group meeting

**1 August –** CED online participation in the first Polish Medical Device Cybersecurity Task Force

**20 - 22 August**
CED President and Board Director visit to the ADEE 50th Annual Meeting in Dublin, Ireland

**1 September-** CED Working Group Education and Professional Qualifications meeting

**10 September –** Visit of the Royal Dutch Dental Association (KNMT) to CED offices



**15 September –** CED Working Group Patient Safety, Infection Control and Waste Management

**16 September –** CED Working Group Dental Materials and Medical Devices meeting

**17 September –** Policy Officer at the Joint Action HEROES Policy Dialogue: European health workforce development supporting health system transition and sustainability

**24 September –** CED Board Meeting in Brussels, Belgium

**3 October –** CED President at the 43rd Panhellenic Dental Congress Roundtable Discussion

**8 October –** CED Working Group Oral Health meeting

**16 October –**CED Working Group eHealth meeting

**31 October - 1 November**
CED President attendance to the Federal Assembly of the German Dental Association BZÄK in Berlin, Germany.

**4 November –** Policy Officer at the TEHDAS2 Workshop on Collaboration on data discovery and multi-country applications under EHDS

**5 November-** CED Board Task Force Internal Market meeting

**13 November –** CED Board Meeting in Brussels, Belgium

**14 November-** CED General Meeting in Brussels, Belgium

**25-29 November –** CED President attendance to the ADF (French Dental Association) General Assembly in Paris, France.

**1 December –** CED participation in the Medical Device Coordination Group (MDCG) meeting on the MDR and IVDR

# Policy

## CED updated Resolution on Artificial Intelligence

The 2020 CED Resolution was updated with the inclusion of new recommendations and additional background information based on AI developments from the last few years. More wording was also included on clarifying dentists' liability when working with AI, use of white box AI, as well as reference to key legislative updates.

## CED updated Statement on the implementation of the MDR

The Statement from 2022 was updated ahead of the envisioned MDR evaluation, particularly stressing the risk of shortages of provenly safe medical devices, the need to address the lengthy recertification times, and other ongoing issues surrounding the MDR, underscoring that these regulatory hurdles must not compromise the availability of essential dental equipment or the continuous delivery of high-quality care to patients.

## CED updated Resolution on tobacco, alternative tobacco and tobacco-free nicotine products

The 2013 CED Resolution on tobacco, previously on the proposed Tobacco Products Directive, was updated with regards to the current situation of tobacco consumption, related oral disease prevalence in Europe and industry technological advancements. This update brings support the common call for a revision of the EU Tobacco legislation. This updated version indeed drastically broadens the scope of the paper by including mention of alternative tobacco products, snus, and nicotine products, as well as the understanding of the oral cavity in the paper, and the role of dental practitioners in the detection and diagnosis of oral cancers and diseases relating to tobacco consumption.

## CED Resolution on reducing sugar consumption and preventing oral diseases

The update to the 2016 Resolution brings in new key additions relating to the mention and outline of sugar overproduction, import and consumption in Europe, but also integrates a tighter focus on the risk factor approach, the social-economic burden of sugar consumption, oral health promotion strategies, the role of dental practitioners in sugar consumption reduction and prevention, and EU's nutrition policy.





## Health and Oral Health: An Integrated Cross-Sectorial Approach

The updated Resolution was developed in recognition of ongoing European efforts in the field of AMR, with strong focus on the One Health principle, current situation of antimicrobial resistance in the healthcare sector and linking availability and accessibility of care.

## CED Statement on Quality of Dentistry across Borders

The Statement developed by BTF Internal Market, reflects some of the challenges and concerns of European dentistry specifically in relation to third country (foreign educated) dentists on matters such as linguistic knowledge, professional ethics, familiarity with the healthcare system of their country of work, and reaffirms that the primary focus must always be on safeguarding patient safety and preserving the integrity of dental practice across the European Union.

## CED White Paper on Ageing and Oral Health

The White Paper calls policymakers and Commission officials to develop an oral health strategy for healthy ageing, and to redouble efforts on education, training and working conditions of the healthcare workforce dealing with the older population. This activity aligns with ongoing EU-level efforts to address the needs of an ageing society, including recent high-level discussions and policy developments across Member States.

## CED Recommendation on Custom-Made Athletic Mouthguards

The Recommendation paper highlights the importance of preventive measures to reduce the risk of orofacial injuries in sports. While athletic activities offer significant health benefits, they also increase exposure to traumatic dentofacial injuries, particularly in high-contact disciplines. Custom-made mouthguards and preventive oral care programs play a key role in protecting athletes by reducing the impact of trauma. Their wider adoption requires shared responsibility among athletes, coaches, parents, sports organizations, and dental professionals.

## CED Statement on Violations of Medical Neutrality and Protection of Healthcare Professionals in Conflict Zones

The Statement brings together the EU community of dental professionals to stand in solidarity with all healthcare professionals, humanitarian workers and victims of war and armed conflicts. It condemns the deliberate targeting of medical and dental professionals and health facilities in all areas of the world.

# CED Activities

## CED Joint Policy Event

The CED co-organised and took part in the first joint policy event organised at the European Parliament in Brussels that gathered all five main European dental organisations. These include the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE), the Federation of European Dental Competent Authorities and Regulators (FEDCAR), the European Dental Students' Association (EDSA), the Platform for Better Oral Health in Europe, and the Council of European Dentists (CED).

These organisations convened to discuss the topic of "Better oral health on the European agenda" with an intervention from the CED with considerations for "Improving workforce challenges in dentistry for better oral health". The event was co-hosted by MEP Dr Vytenis Andriukaitis (S&D) and MEP Dr András Kulja (EPP). Furthermore, the roundtable discussion included participation from policymakers from both the European Parliament and the European Commission (DG EMPL).

## European Manual of Dental Practice

The work around the 6th edition of the European Manual of Dental Practice, with data collection work launched in 2022, was on-going throughout 2025. This edition is being developed in cooperation with the European Regional Organisation of the World Dental Federation (ERO-FDI).

2025 was dedicated to updating existing country chapters in the European Union and the EEA, with the creation of additional chapters for countries included under the WHO European Geographical Area. This includes countries across Europe and Central Asia. New and updated chapters are accessible on the CED website, under "Library" and "European Manual".



# Working Groups

**Dr. Edoardo Cavallé**
(Italy) Chair

## Working Group Dental Materials and Medical Devices

In 2025, the Working Group focused on navigating the complexities of the Medical Devices Regulation (MDR) to safeguard the interests of dental practitioners and patient care. Throughout the year, the WG actively engaged with the European Commission's targeted evaluation of the MDR, notably through the submission of detailed feedback to the public consultation in the first quarter.

One of the key developments was the adoption of the Updated CED Statement on the implementation of the MDR in May 2025. Through this position, the CED called for a pragmatic approach to clinical data requirements, particularly for proven dental devices that have been on the market for years without incident. Additionally, the CED was approached by the European Commission with a request to nominate healthcare professional representatives for an in-person workshop regarding the ongoing MDR evaluations. Active participation in this meeting ensured that CED priorities on the topic were highlighted, particularly to advocate for reduced administrative burdens and the continued accessibility of medical devices.

In the latter half of the year, the WG addressed the targeted revision of EU rules for medical devices, submitting a robust reply to the Commission's October call for input. The CED's contributions consistently emphasized the need for a pragmatic legislative framework that prioritizes clinical focus over bureaucracy. The WG remains committed to ensuring that the voice of the dental profession is central to the future of EU medical device policy.

**Dr. Peter Kukolík**
(Slovakia) Chair

# Working Group eHealth

In 2025, the Working Group e-Health focused on the digital transformation of dentistry, prioritizing cybersecurity, artificial intelligence (AI), and the implementation of the European Health Data Space (EHDS).

Early in the year, the WG focused on updating the CED Resolution on Artificial Intelligence in Dentistry, which was formally adopted in May 2025. This work was central to setting strategic goals for digital dentistry through 2030 and ensuring a clear professional framework for AI integration. Following the publication of the EHDS in the EU Journal in March 2025, the group remained active in monitoring its transition toward implementation. In the context of the TEHDAS2 Joint Action, the WG expressed critical concerns regarding the administrative and financial burdens that secondary health data use could impose on smaller dental practices.

The WG prepared a response to a questionnaire within the framework of the Polish EU Presidency, emphasizing the need for clear information from manufacturers and guidance for dentists to ensure patient data protection. Additionally, the group examined and provided feedback to the European Commission's Action Plan on Cybersecurity for healthcare providers, noting that while it aims to strengthen sector resilience, certain obligations may pose practical challenges for small-scale dental settings.

Furthermore, the WG closely followed the interplay between the AI Act and the Medical Device Regulation, ensuring that AI integration in dentistry remains ethical, safe, and clinically effective. Moving forward, the WG remains committed to advocating for proportional and feasible digital policies that support the dental profession without adding undue bureaucratic complexity.

**Prof. Dr. Katalin Nagy**
(Hungary) Chair

# Working Group Education and Professional Qualifications

In 2025, the Working Group Education and Professional Qualifications pursed its work for the advancement, strengthening and better harmonisation of dental education across Europe. This year, strong emphasis was placed on undergraduate dental education, towards clarifying and realigning clinical training requirements with the current requirements and competences of today's dental professionals.

This work was guided by the expected publication of the Professional Qualifications Directive Implementation Report and of the launch of the Union of Skills in March 2025, associated with the announcement of a future Skills Portability Initiative.

The Working Group also continued its efforts for international cross-collaboration in the field of dental and oral health education, including with the Association for Dental Education in Europe (ADEE), the European Dental Students Association (EDSA), and well as the Federation of European Dental Competent Authorities and Regulators (FEDCAR), the latter particularly regarding policy issues.

The WG participated in ADEE's stakeholder review event of the Graduating European Dentist (GED) curriculum framework in February and maintained regular exchanges throughout 2025.

Other on-going priorities include continuing professional development (CPD), recognition processes for EU and third-country incoming dentists, competence-based requirements and theoretical and practical training of undergraduate dentists, as well as the structure of the dental team, and the practice of dental specialists across Europe.

**Dr. Vasileios Stathopoulos**
(Greece) Chair

# Working Group Oral Health

Working Group Oral Health had a very productive year, with the development and adoption of 4 important policy papers. These include several updates, such as the CED Resolution on Reducing Sugar Consumption and Preventing Oral Diseases, the CED Resolution on Tobacco, Alternative Tobacco and Tobacco-Free Nicotine Products, and the CED Resolution on Antimicrobial Resistance, One Health and Oral Health. We also published a new paper, providing fresh insights into the role of dental professionals in promoting oral health and healthy ageing, in collaboration with an expert in the field.

At the same time, our group actively engaged in several European public consultations and maintained active monitoring of on-going legislative developments, including in the field of cardiovascular health, and legislation addressing major risk factors such as tobacco, sugar, alcohol and ultra-processed foods.

We have also continuously emphasised the importance of acknowledging oral health within broader health considerations. We therefore call for the systematic inclusion of oral health professionals in conversations on associated health conditions, including diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, obstructive sleep apnea, and cancer.

I can mention a major win in this direction, with the adoption of the UN Political Declaration on NCDs and Mental Health, incorporating oral diseases among the main NCDs threatening human health. The WG will continue its efforts in this direction and promote the role of dental professionals in improving the overall conditions and outcomes of patients suffering from these diseases.

**Prof. Dr. Ioannis Tzoutzas**
(Greece) Chair

# Working Group Patient Safety, Infection Control and Waste Management

In 2025, the Working Group addressed various aspects of clinical safety and infection control within dental practices. Throughout the year, the group focused on technical topics such as instrument sterilisation, wipes' performance in disinfection, and the practical application of safety protocols in the dental setting.

The WG also monitored developments from the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) regarding the potential reclassification of ethanol under the REACH Regulation. This monitoring aimed to assess any potential implications for the availability of disinfectants and other dental-related applications.

In parallel, the WG progressed in its work on custom-made athletic mouthguards, discussing practice standards and regulatory considerations. This work led to the adoption of the CED Recommendation Paper on Custom-made Mouthguards at the November General Meeting, providing an updated reference for dental professionals across Europe. Moving forward, the WG will continue to follow infection control trends and chemical regulations to ensure they remain practical for the profession.

# Task Forces

**Dr. Anna Lella**
(Poland) Chair

## Task Force Internal Market

In 2025, the Board Task Force Internal Market continued its work on the evolving professional landscape in Europe, with a particular focus on workforce quality and the impact of corporate dentistry.

One of the key developments during the year was the adoption of the CED Statement on Quality of Dentistry Across Borders. Through this position, the CED emphasizes that policy initiatives regarding the dental profession should prioritize patient safety and clinical quality over economic considerations. The statement addresses the necessity of a thorough evaluation of third-country qualifications to ensure they meet EU training requirements, while also highlighting the importance of language proficiency and a comprehensive understanding of national healthcare systems for dentists entering the workforce.

In parallel, the BTF continued its collaboration with the European Regional Organisation (ERO) of the Fédération Dentaire Internationale regarding corporate dentistry. This year saw the completion of a joint survey spanning 45 countries, providing updated data on market trends and regulatory frameworks. This 2025 data was utilized for a comparative analysis with 2022 findings to develop academic articles for submission to the European Commission. These activities reflect the CED's ongoing efforts to support a regulated practice environment and a robust dental workforce across the European Union.





## Task Force Communications

In 2025, the CED re-launched its newsletters, with the publication of 3 newsletters, in May, October and December. These include sections on Board and General Meetings, President activities and published articles, CED Priority Themes from its Working Groups and Contributions by CED members and partners.

The CED also collaborated with national and international journals for the publication of 4 CED articles, including in Open Access Government, the iSanidadental 2024 Yearbook, the European Journal for Dental Implantologists, and the French Dental Association's CDF Mag.

# 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. Anna Lella**
Vice-President (Poland)

**Dr. Christof Ruda**
Treasurer (Austria)
- from Nov 2025

**Dr. Romy Ermler**
Board Member (Germany)

**Dr. Robin Foyle**
Board Member (Ireland)

**Dr. Charlotte Heuzé**
Board Member (France)

**Dr. Miguel Pavão**
Board Member (Portugal)

**Dr. Katalin Nagy**
Board Member (Hungary)

**Prof. Dr. Ioannis Tzoutzas**
Treasurer (Greece)
- to Nov 2025



# CED Secretariat

The CED Secretariat 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, and organises policy events.

**Ainhoa Zamacona**
Office Manager

**Nikoleta Arnaudova**
Senior Policy Officer

**Clara Luciani**
Policy Officer

**Elif Dincher**
Policy Officer
- from July 2025

# Members & Affiliate Members

Austria

Belgium — CMD

Belgium — VVT

Bulgaria

Greece

Hungary — Dental Section of the Hungarian Medical Chamber

Hungary — Hungarian Dental Association

Iceland

Croatia

Cyprus

Czech Republic

Denmark

Ireland

Italy — AIO

Italy — ANDI

Latvia

Estonia

Finland

France

Germany

Lithuania

Luxembourg

Malta

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Slovak Republic

Slovenia

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

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# CED: The voice of dentists and oral health in Europe for 60 years

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