

General Assembly of the Council of European Dentists

White Paper on ageing and oral health

The member associations and associate member associations of the Council of European Dentists (CED) met in Brussels for their biannual General Assembly, chaired by CED President Dr Freddie Sloth-Lisbjerg.

Prof. Chris Vernazza from the School of Dental Sciences at Newcastle University, and a partner in the EU-funded Horizon Europe PRUDENT project ("Priority, incentives and resource utilisation for sustainable dentistry") on oral-health financing, contributed to the meeting with a presentation on PRUDENT.

The project aims to bridge the gap between research, policy and practice in oral-healthcare financing by developing an innovative, context-adaptive framework.

The General Assembly also heard from the European Dental Students' Association (EDSA), represented by its president, Saulė Skinkytė, and vice president for external relations, Eliška Jandová. They provided an overview of the newly elected EDSA board, the association's annual objectives and the key activities planned for the current term of office.

The 2025 board elections were likewise held during the General Assembly. The CED delegates elected Dr Charlotte Heuzé and Dr Christof Ruda of the Austrian Dental Chamber as treasurers. Ruda will begin his first term of office on the CED board following the General Assembly.

Members were also informed about the work of the CED working groups and task forces. Three policy documents were adopted:

White Paper

The White Paper calls on political decision-makers and Commission officials to develop an oral-health strategy focusing on healthy ageing and to increase efforts in education and continuing professional development and improving working conditions for healthcare professionals involved in caring for older people. This initiative is in line with ongoing efforts at EU level to address the needs of an ageing society, including recent high-level discussions and policy developments in the member states.

The document is available here:

CED recommendation on custom-made sports mouthguards

The recommendation highlights the importance of preventive measures to reduce the risk of oral and maxillofacial injuries in sport. While sporting activities offer significant health benefits, they also increase the risk of traumatic injuries to the teeth and



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facial region, particularly in contact sports. Custom-made mouthguards and preventive oral healthcare programmes play a key role in protecting athletes by mitigating the impact of trauma. Wider use requires a shared responsibility among athletes, coaches, parents, sports organisations and dentists.

The document is available here:

CED statement on violations of medical neutrality and the protection of healthcare professionals in conflict zones

This statement expresses the solidarity of the EU dental community in expressing solidarity with all healthcare professionals, humanitarian workers and victims of wars and armed conflicts. It condemns the targeted attacks on medical and dental personnel and healthcare facilities in all regions worldwide.

The document is available here:

Source: CED press release, 20 November 2025

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