



Dr Rolf Vollmer
1st President & Treasurer of DGZI

International activities of **DGZI**

Dear colleagues, dear friends,

Some of our colleagues probably wonder why a professional association such as DGZI, which is so successful in Germany, is also increasingly playing a role on the international level. Of course, other countries too, practice good implantology under medical aspects, meeting international requirements. Nevertheless, it is more important that dentists and colleagues from many countries meet to discuss and exchange their experiences regarding the opportunities provided by modern implantology care for the benefit of our patients. Major topics of the international meetings eg with top functionaries from the General Dental Councils include the establishment of uniform quality standards both for the training of our colleagues and for the equipment of surgeries. The DGZI's opinion on this matter is sought-after. In particular in a tense international situation characterized by trouble spots, getting to know one's colleagues, building bridges and making friends is more important than ever. Our current issue includes reports about as many as four implantology conferences, where our DGZI played a major role: In the United Arab Emirates on the occasion of the "3rd Arab German Implantology Meeting of DGZI", the AO Meeting in San Antonio, in Kuwait and in Sudan. In all these places across the globe, colleagues met to exchange their experiences, to discuss cases encountered in their surgeries or to meet outside the conference during events. I was delighted to see how international DGZI and how renowned it is around the world. For example, more than 75 dentists from Iraq—a novelty, bearing in mind the tense situation—attended the conference in Dubai; together with more than 150 other participants, for three days in Dubai, they improved their skills, discussed and communicated and made friends with colleagues from other countries. On the fringes of this year's annual meeting of the AO, the American Academy of Osseointegration in San Antonio (Texas), representatives of a wide variety of international professional associations met for a top-level meeting to discuss further cooperation on the business level—a great success for our association, which is the leading coordinator in this area. Allow me to return to the beginning of my editorial: Yes, dear colleagues, it is important that we take a pioneering role here in dental implantology in Germany. For more than 35 years, we as DGZI have faced this leadership role on the occasion of the Consensus Conference, during our conferences, and also during the many, many further training events held under the aegis of the DGZI. However, our activities abroad—this issue includes a lot of information about them—are just as important. Why don't you attend one of our annual conferences, this year's international annual congress in Düsseldorf or the "4th Arab German Implantology Meeting of DGZI" in Dubai next year? We would be delighted to meet you there! Any maybe you will make friends with colleagues from other parts of the world.

Now go ahead and enjoy our current issue of 'Implants'!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr Rolf Vollmer". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

Dr Rolf Vollmer