



Fig. 1

# Arabian **flair** and **French** charm

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Author details



On 12 and 13 May 2017, the 10<sup>th</sup> Arab German Congress of Dental Implantology took place in Morocco while, simultaneously, the 1<sup>st</sup> German Maghreb Countries Meeting of Dental Implantology was inaugurated. The foundation for the congress had been laid in the previous year with an agreement between DGZI and Universiapolis, Université Internationale d'Agadir. Dr Ali Elmalih, DGZI representative for the Maghreb states, organised the event in cooperation with the private University in Agadir.

Almost 150 participants and speakers from countries such as Germany, Morocco, Jordan, Qatar, Libya, Sudan and Ireland, travelled to Agadir to attend the event. The programme of the two-day congress was designed by 18 German speakers from the Maghreb countries. At the opening ceremony, congress president Dr Mazen Tamimi and scientific manager

Dr Rolf Vollmer, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Treasurer of the DGZI, both emphasised the importance of international contacts and exchange. Special thanks went to Dr Aziz Bouslikhane, President of the university, and Dr Ilias Majdouline, Vice President, for enabling the event to take place at the university.

Dr Vollmer went on to explain the global importance of dental implantology, pointing out that all participants could benefit, particularly from the exchange of experiences. Furthermore, he referred to the importance of international friendships which evolve from congresses like these and help to strengthen the global community. International cooperation partners from countries such as the United States of America, Japan, the Middle East, Brazil, Australia and Africa, confirmed Dr Vollmer's statement. Another important point made by Dr Vollmer referred to the DGZI Postgraduate Programmes and the importance to open up participation in order for other countries to equally profit from the shared expertise. Those programmes have been proven successful for more than 15 years and are an essential part of dental education in Germany. While sitting in the auditorium next to someone who is pursuing his profession somewhere else in the world under different conditions, and utilising different methods, provides a unique

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Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

opportunity to widen one's own knowledge and gain another perspective on this specialist field, Dr Vollmer said.

The scientific programme was complemented by two workshops held by Dr Mazen Tamimi as well as Dr Arzu Tuna and Dr Umut Baysal. Dr Tamimi provided his workshop for implantswiss®, while Dr Tuna and Dr Baysal were sponsored by MIS Implants®. Fully booked with more than 45 participants, those practical sections of the congress were met with great interest. Dr Tuna and Dr Baysal addressed a variety of interesting questions in detail and provided a great deal of practical advice to the highly engaged workshop participants.

The lectures, however, dealt with more general medical aspects such as patient guidance, risk of bleeding, diabetes and implant surgical techniques, e.g. sinus lift, treatment in the atrophic jaw as well as aesthetic and minimally-invasive treatments.

In addition, keynote speaker Michael Anger introduced on day two of the congress the use of new and innovative materials in dental technology, hence covering the technical field of dental prosthetic. Keynote speaker of the first day was oral surgeon Dr Dr Manfred Nilius, M.Sc. who skilfully illustrated digitalisation in dental implantology and cosmetic surgery. Concluding his presentation, Dr Dr Nilius pointed out that "without a perfect coordination between the different specialties and fields of expertise, an excellent result can never be achieved". Dr Vollmer agreed with the statement, poignantly adding: "You always get what you plan."

Also from Germany, members of the New Generation study group, amongst them Dr Navid Salehi, Dr Rabi Omari, Dr Christopher Stüber, Dr Rainer Valentin and Dr Martina Vollmer, had been travelling to Agadir to participate in the event. The first successful day ended with a get-together and a speakers' dinner.

After the scientific programme came to a close on the second congress day, participants were invited to a gala evening at Domaine Villate Limoune. The beautiful farm offered a festive setting for the evening's gala dinner and the presentation of certificates. At the evening event, Dr Rolf Vollmer once again thanked the President and the Vice President of Universiapolis for the excellent organisation provided by all involved. Thanks also went to DGZI representative Dr Ali Elmalih, who had once himself successfully participated at one of the DGZI post-graduate programmes.

A second German Maghreb Countries Meeting of Dental Implantology is intended to be held on 30 and 31 March 2018.

**Fig. 1:** Participants of the 10<sup>th</sup> Arab German Congress of Dental Implantology.

**Fig. 2:** DGZI board Dr Rainer Valentin and Dr Rolf Vollmer.

**Fig. 3:** Dr Umut Baysal and...

**Fig. 4:** ...Dr Arzu Tuna, both members of the extended DGZI board and DGZI New Generation study group.

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About the society



**Fig. 5:** Dr Navid Salehi (right) and dental technician Michael Anger (second from right) were also speakers in Agadir.



Fig. 5