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## Joint gathering of dentists for Saint Apollonia's Day in Latvia

On February 9, the Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches celebrate the day of St. Apollonia, and every year on this day, dentists all over the world find time to remember St. Apollonia, as the patron saint of dentists, and on the day of her memory, they celebrate the International Day of the Dentist!

In our country the Latvian Dental Association (LZA) also holds a solemn meeting every year in honor of St. Appolonia, her holy, unshakable faith in values, thereby strengthening our spirit and faith in a positive solution to any professional difficulties. These meetings are always held in a very positive atmosphere with an emphasis on strengthening spiritual values, because on this day dentists can finally think about their own health.

This year's meeting was unusual because it was held in partnership with ICD (International College of Dentists), Section V Europe, District 15 Central and North Eastern Europe, which also includes the Baltic Subdistrict. This wonderful collaboration between LZA and ICD made the meeting very emotional, warm, inspiring and heartfelt.



The meeting was opened by Professor Anda Brikmane, President of the Latvian Dental Association, Professor Ingrida Chema and Professor Egita Senakola, fellows of the International College of Dentists. In their very emotional speeches, they reminded us how lucky we are to have a peaceful sky and a roof over our heads, and how important it is in this difficult time to keep our spirits up, and never forget how strong and indomitable the spirit of St. Apollonia was, and urged us to be more sincere, understand and support each other to make our stay together in Latvia and around the world happier.

Dr. Aiva Pakulje in her speech very briefly emphasized the main values of the International College of Dentists dedicated to improving dental health worldwide



The President of the European Section of the ICD Dr. Walter van Driel (Netherlands) honored us with his presence at the celebration of St. Apollonia's Day and delivered a welcome speech. At the end, the European President of the ICD together with the regent of District 15, Serhiy Radlinsky, presented the ICD flag to Dr. Aiva Pakule, as a symbol of the authority of the vice-regent.



Next, Dr. Serhiy Radlinsky gave a lecture on the image of St. Apollonia in world art and presented to Professor Anda Brickmane, president of the Latvian Dental Association, the special gift: an oil copy of the stained glass window of St. Apollonia, which was created by Volodymyr Radlinsky, the eldest son, and this original is located in Poltava in the dental clinic-studio “Apollonia”.

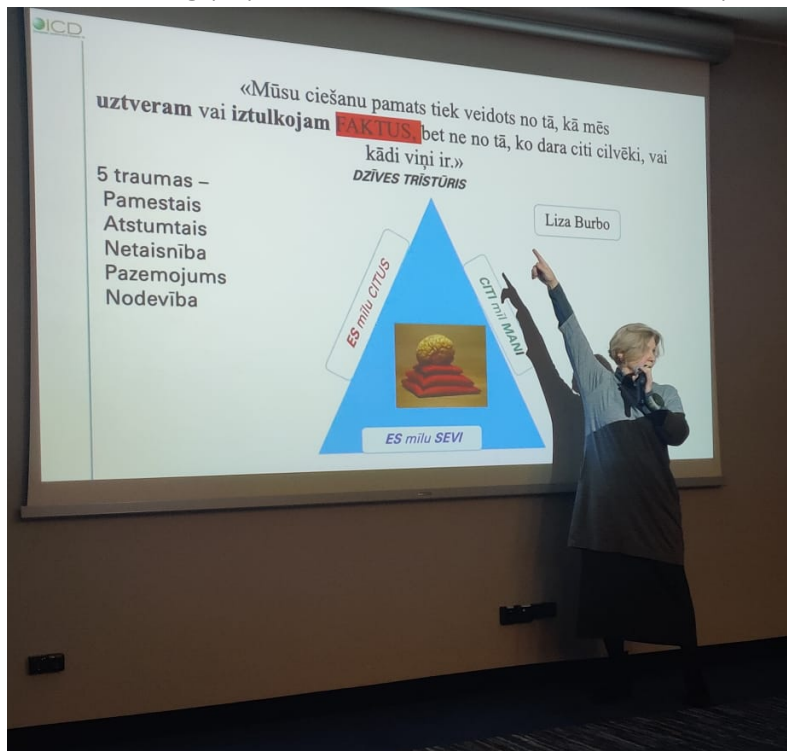


In the scientific part of the meeting Dr. Arta Sirgeda shared her experience of Reconnection practice, outlining Reconnection as one of the safest healing systems,

where the quality of life is restored by balancing or improving the flow of energy in a person's physical or etheric body.



A fellow of the International College of Dentists Dr. Ingrida Markane gave a lecture "Maintaining psycho-emotional balance in interpersonal relationships."



Dr. Serhiy Radlinsky delivered a lecture on the systematic restoration of worn teeth with composites in direct technique according to the author's algorithm, at the beginning of which he also presented the volunteer activity of Poltava dentists.

This day of St. Appolonia was special and emotional in another way, because among us there were about 30 dentists from Ukraine, who are now forced to stay in Latvia, but continue their professional activity here as well. We support our Ukrainian colleagues and the Ukrainian people in every possible way in this terrible time, expressing deep respect and human love.



In honor of this meeting, we, the Baltic family of the International College of Dentists and guests, continued the conversation at the festive table...





And this day of professional international communication of dentists ended with an elegant concert of classical music "Schumann's Rhine Symphony and Alaskan Landscapes" performed by the "Symphonietta Riga" symphony orchestra.

I am very grateful to everyone for participating in this joint meeting of the Latvian Dental Association and the International College of Dentists dedicated to St. Apollonia's Day!