Northern Cyprus, or what I like to call, a little piece of heaven that fell by mistake to make the most gorgeous spot on planet. From the amazing weather to the great nature, this country held so much love to stay at from the very first sight. Northern Cyprus is a part of the Turkish republic that is located at the north of Cyprus Island, landing near both Lebanon and Turkey boundaries. It has a soft, cool air in the day, and a bit of cold in the night that only a light jacket can restrain. The location by the sea is more than magnificent as one wakes up and indulges with the view of a blue, serene sea and calm sky. As a scientific IADS program, the expected exceptional lectures handled the recent subjects’ dental students needed to know, from the correlation of systematic diseases to implant abutment impression at a pro level. Professor Bezgin shed lights on a recent endodontic regeneration technique in young permanent teeth that has become a controversial important subject discussed for dental students worldwide. Another interesting subject was the use of laser in dental field suggested by Professor Yilmaz in both soft and hard tissue implications. Nevertheless, the conference was not missing its lovely orthodontic lecture handling every patient’s attention nowadays: invisalign; that is the transparent braces of our era. Digital work flow, stem cell regeneration, minimal invasive techniques in dentistry where discussed as well including all recent dental filed applications away from extension for prevention and Black’s old rules. Overall, updated dentistry was discussed for both undergraduate and post-graduate dental students handled at ease with simple, understandable, English words. As a part of the IADS program, training where held to increase the intellectual student capabilities. Doctor Marc from France, gave a treasury training session, that discussed how a treasurer manages to make his tasks without undergoing any miscalculation mistakes using Excel and Google Drive. Another training session included teambuilding, which is one of the most beneficial programs that helps being a part of a group without the ego of only being a leader, learning how to share, help, and listen; oh and much fun activities! Near East University (NEU) and Northern Cyprus dental student association (NCADS) lead by Dr. Ferdyte hosted a peaceful Dental Congress in cooperation with Puzzle Travel agency that contributed to logistics preparations from A to Z for both
both the scientific and social programs along with accommodation in the beautiful Merit Park Hotel and Casino in North Cyprus. Their preparations where extraordinary leveling both quality and time management. At the general assembly, the heart of IADS, the delegates of each country gathered on a round table to share the country profile along with Executive Board review for their past work. The most important issues to be noted are the adoption of a new constitution and the joining of Iraq, Lithuania, Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda to the association, they’re most welcomed! Another issue discussed was the next MYM meeting, and it was set to happen in Strasbourg and you’re all welcome to join. As always, the working groups came up with great new ideas for how we can keep on improving our association. The program also included a presentation from ROCS, an elite dental brand that’s now sponsoring IADS by their fine products in either whitening the teeth or protecting them. ROCS not only handle prevention and esthetics but are also leaders in implants and prosthesis and their main concept with IADS included dental hygiene practice and how to handle with their products.

As it is very important to relax after a day full of meetings and lectures, the social programme was one that indeed helped us cut back, enjoy ourselves and make some friendships and memories that we will never forget. On the first night, the opening ceremony was held in the Near East University Car Museum, which stunned everyone and not just those who have a passion for cars. Afterwards, the party continued in Retro Lounge, and it was followed by a room party, as they already became a tradition between us. On the second night, we had a traditional dinner where we tried all kind of different, and absolutely delicious, Northern Cypriot foods.

The next day, it was time for Exchange Fair. The weather allowed us to have our favorite party in an open space, which made this night even more amazing. Traditional food, drinks, outfits and gifts were brought from all over the world for us to get to know better the culture of our new friends. On our last night, the Gala Dinner was held in the hotel. Everyone dressed in their fancy outfits came to celebrate one more time together, and enjoy the time that was left of this meeting. Since we did not want to stop the party so early, we went back to Retro Lounge and then partied in the hotel. What is also important to mention about the social part of the MYM is that the bartenders in the hotel lobby bar quickly became our buddies since both IADS and TNRC people are some of the friendliest kinds.

The post-congress was also held on Kyrenia, for those who were lucky enough to spend two more days there. The group went sightseeing, discovering the city, the old monastery and the harbor, together with a local guide who told them all about the history of those places. The fun continued at night with clubbing and karaoke so it was, as Martina from Finland said, “an awesome ending to the week”.

As a conclusion, it is fair to say that the overall experience was one that no one will forget for sure. The local organizing committee did an amazing job in helping us have the time of our lives and through this article we want to thank them again for all the efforts that they put in making this happen. The sea, the weather, the venues, the scientific programme, the parties and most importantly the people around us are merely pieces of this puzzle that was put together by the LOC and the result is one of the greatest weeks of our year. Hoping to see you all soon, we say “See you in Taiwan”, because “Together is better”.

Alexa Dogaru / Romania
Zeinab Jaber / Lebanon