



The Accounting and Auditing Profession in Mediterranean Countries

-A Comparative Study-

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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

FCM (Fédération des Experts Comptables Méditerranéens / Federation of Mediterranean Certified Public Accountants – www.fcmweb.org) is the representative body for the accountancy profession in the Mediterranean area. Its membership consists of 20 professional institutes of accountants from 15 Mediterranean countries (Albania , Bulgaria, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Romania, Serbia - including the special status territory of Kosovo - Spain, Tunisia, Turkey), plus two associate members, ACCA and FIDEF. FCM member bodies are present in 8 member States of the European Union, and represent more than 320.000 professionals.

The survey on “The accounting and Auditing profession in the Mediterranean area”, the first reasoned study to be released on the topic, was compiled gathering relevant information from 18 institutes in 15 countries (Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Romania, Serbia - including the special status territory of Kosovo, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey).

The study aims at achieving a better understanding of the accountancy profession in the area, by providing an informed overview on the rules governing the admission to and exercise of the profession, as well as on the range and scope of activities performed by professional accountants in the Mediterranean.

The survey has been structured into three sections.

The first section provides a comparative overview and **general information** on issues such as the regulatory framework governing the profession; use of professional titles by members of each national professional society; mandatory requirements of citizenship/residency as a condition for membership of the relevant national body; distribution of members in public practice, industry or governmental bodies; restrictions imposed by national law on the establishment and legal form of professional partnerships; general statistical information; statutory audit reports and listed companies audited.

The second section offers an overview of the rules governing **access to the profession** as well as to professional bodies, and investigates the requirements for admission to the institute. In particular, the section presents a reasoned comparison of: training and trainee programmes of each country; competent entities for the setting and managing of national admission examinations; incompatibilities with the exercise of other professions and/or functions or; regulations on the recognition of professional qualifications of foreign professionals; special rules of statutory auditing.

The last section of the study focuses on **the practice of the profession** in the Mediterranean Area. An in depth analysis is offered on, *inter alia*, the range and scope of activities performed by members of each national professional body , thereby including activities reserved exclusively to the members, as well as limitations and/or prohibitions imposed by national law on the performance of certain categories of activities on the part of members; accounting, auditing, practice and rules of professional conduct governing the exercise of the profession.

1.2 Summary/Results

Professional titles

The professional title is protected in all the countries surveyed except in Serbia, where only the functional title of Auditor is protected.

Mandatory Citizenship/Residency as a condition for Institute membership

Country citizenship is mandatory only for five institutes (those in Albania, Egypt, Morocco, Romania and Turkey), while residency is mandatory to gain membership in the majority of the institutes. Residency is not mandatory for IDES in Bulgaria, ICPAC in Cyprus, , CNCC in France, ICPAS in Israel, CNRPC in Italy, MIA in Malta SAAA in Serbia and SKAAK in the Kosovo region.

Restrictions on professional partnerships

Professional partnerships are not allowed only for CNCC and CSOEC in France; they are allowed for all the other responding Institutes, but in most of these institutes there are restrictions to the legal form of professional partnerships. There are no restrictions for IEKA in Albania, ICPAC in Cyprus, OEC in Morocco, OECT in Tunisia and SKAAK in the Kosovo region.

A firm can register with the institute within the large majority (11 out of 18) of the responding institutes. A firm cannot register in ESAA-Egypt, ICPAS-Israel, CNDC and CNRPC in Italy, MIA-Malta, SAAA-Serbia and SKAAK in the Kosovo region.

University degree as a requirement for admission to the institute

13 out of 18 respondents require a university degree as a condition for admission to the institute. Of the five which do not require a university degree:

- CNCC and CSOEC in France require a national diploma in accounting, which is a state diploma delivered by the Ministry of Education;

A university degree is not necessary either to be admitted in ICPAC-Cyprus, ICPAS-Israel and SAAA-Serbia.

Training and Trainee programs

For all institutes surveyed a trainee period as pre-access requirement is obligatory. The length of the training period is of at least three years in 15 institutes. ICPAS-Israel, SAA-Serbia and TURMOB-Turkey require two years of training. Special trainee courses are organised by 13 institutes, of which 6 in addition have trainee courses organised by external entities.

OEC-Morocco and ICPAC-Cyprus do not have training courses organised by their institutes but instead by external entities.

As regards ICPAS-Israel, MIA-Malta and CNDC-Italy, there exists neither internally nor externally organised trainee courses.

In all institutes except for SKAAK in the Kosovo region, special criteria exist as for in what type of firm the training must be done in order to be valid.

12 out of 18 institutes recognise a trainee period done abroad, but conditions vary between these institutes as for how long and in what countries the training must be done in order to be valid. For IDES in Bulgaria, ESAA in Egypt, CNRPC in Italy, OEC in Morocco, TURMOB in Turkey and SKAAK in the Kosovo region a training period abroad is not recognised.

14 out of 18 institutes have a special section for trainees in their institutes register. Such a special section does not exist in IEKA-Albania, ICPAS-Israel and SKAAK in the Kosovo region.

Admission examination

The examination regulations are set by the institute itself as regards IDES-Bulgaria, ICPAC-Cyprus, ESAA-Egypt, CECCAR-Romania, SAAA-Serbia, TURMOB-Turkey and SKAAK in the Kosovo region. For MIA-Malta the regulations are set by the University of Malta together with the ACCA (The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants).

For all the other Institutes the examination regulations are set by a public entity.

The examination is managed by the same entity that sets the regulations in 11 Institutes. For SOEL in Greece, CECCAR in Romania and CGCEE in Spain the examinations are managed jointly by the institute and a public entity. For IEKA in Albania, CNCC in France and OEC in Morocco the examinations are managed by the profession. As regards ICPAC in Cyprus the examination is managed by the institute itself together with the ACCA.

As regards the frequency of the examinations, four institutes out of 18 hold examinations every year, and 10 institutes hold examinations every two years. For OEC-Morocco, exams are held every three years.

For CGCEE in Spain there is for now no periodicity as to the frequency of examinations, but there will be shortly.

As regards TURMOB in Turkey and CNDC in Italy the frequency of examinations varies depending on whether they are held for accountants or for auditors.

In 8 out of the 18 responding institutes there exist special exemptions for people with other academic/professional qualifications.

Incompatibilities

In all responding institutes except for IEKA in Albania and SCAAK in the Kosovo region, a member is submitted to incompatibilities with the exercise of other functions or professions (i.e. being a public servant, director, lawyer etc.).

Foreign professionals: regulations on recognition of professional qualifications.

The IEKA in Albania is the only institute out of the 18 participating ones which does not have special regulations on the recognition of professional qualifications of foreign professional.

Regarding the entity that grants the recognition, it is the institutes themselves for IDES in Bulgaria, ICPAC in Cyprus, ESAA in Egypt, SOEL in Greece, CECCAR in Romania and SAAA in Serbia. For IEKA in Albania it is the institute together with a public entity. For MIA in Malta it is the Accountancy Board. For all the other Institutes the recognition of foreign professionals is granted by a governmental entity.

In ICPAC in Cyprus, in CNCC and CSOEC in France, in SOEL in Greece, in ICPAS in Israel, in CNRPC in Italy, in OEC in Morocco and in CGCEE in Spain, a difference is made between different categories of foreigners (i.e. from the EU/not from the EU). To note is that 6 out of these 8 are EU member states and follows European regulations on mutual recognition of qualifications.

Residency requirements for the applicant foreign professional is required in all institutes but IDES in Bulgaria, ICPAC in Cyprus, ICPAS in Israel, CNRPC in Italy, MIA in Malta, SAAA in Serbia and SCAAK in the Kosovo region.

Statutory auditing

Special rules on admission, applicable only to become a statutory auditor, exist for ESAA in Egypt, CNCC and CSOEC in France, CNRPC in Italy, SAAA in Serbia, CGCEE in Spain, OECT in Tunisia, TURMOB in Turkey and SKAAK in the Kosovo region.

Activities in which members are usually engaged

Apart from the core activities of the profession, auditing and accounting, professionals in the Mediterranean are usually engaged in:

- **Internal Control**, except for the members of IDES in Bulgaria and CNCC in France, as well as of SCAAK in the Kosovo region.
- **IT**, except for the members of IDES in Bulgaria, CNCC in France, CNDC in Italy, OEC in Morocco, as well as of SCAAK in the Kosovo region.
- **Management Consulting**, except for the members of IDES in Bulgaria and CNCC in France.
- **Financial Services** (such as *Business Valuation, Due Diligence, Investment Analysis, Financial Planning, Debt Restructuring, Portfolio Management, Brokerage* etc.), except for the members of CNCC and CSOEC in France.
- **Human Resources Services** (such as *Payroll Preparation, Employment Contracts, Social Security, and Recruitment* etc.) except for the members of IEKA in Albania, IDES in Bulgaria, CNCC in France and CNDC in Italy.
- **Tax Advice**, except for the members of CNCC in France.

- **Legal Assistance in Court**, except for the members of IDES in Bulgaria, ICPAC in Cyprus, SOEL in Greece, OEC in Morocco, CSOEC in France, OECT in Tunisia, CGCEE in Spain, as well as for the members of SCAAK in the Kosovo region.

- **Legal Advice on Corporate Law**, except for the members of IEKA in Albania, IDES in Bulgaria, ICPAC in Cyprus, CNCC in France, SOEL in Greece, CGCEE in Spain, and SCAAK in the Kosovo region.

- **Insolvency Procedures**, except for the members of IEKA in Albania, IDES in Bulgaria, CNCC and COEC in France, OEC in Morocco, and SKAAK in the Kosovo region.

For the CECCAR in Romania, all the above activities are reserved to the members of the profession.

For 11 institutes auditing is an activity exclusively reserved for the members of the institutes.

For the French institutes, accounting as well is a reserved activity, and for the Turkish profession the reserved activities are three: auditing, accounting and tax advice.

No other activities are exclusively reserved for the accountancy professionals in the Mediterranean area.

ESAA in Egypt, CNDC and CNRPC in Italy, MIA in Malta, SAAA in Serbia and SKAAK in the Kosovo region answered that there are no activities exclusively reserved for their members.

Accounting standards

In all the countries surveyed except for in Morocco, IFRS are applied, either directly as mandatory standards, or indirectly after adaptation to national context.

Auditing standards

In all the countries surveyed, ISAs are applied, either directly as mandatory standards, or indirectly after adaptation to national context.

Practice standards

There are local practice standards applicable to members of IEKA in Albania, ESAA in Egypt, SOEL in Greece, CNDC and CNRPC in Italy, MIA in Malta, OEC in Morocco, CECCAR in Romania and CGCEE in Spain, as well as to members of SKAAK in the Kosovo region.

Ethics rules

All answering institutes have an Ethics Code for members and for 11 of them it is established by the institute itself. For IEKA members, in Albania, the institute has its own rules but the Code is established by the Government. Members of IDES in Bulgaria follow the IFAC Ethics Code. In Tunisia the Ethics Code is established jointly by the institute and the Ministry of Finance

For the remaining institutes the Ethics Code is established by different public entities.

1.3 Respondents to the Survey

The questionnaire was completed by FCM Member Bodies: 18 institutes in 15 Countries, plus a special status territory, Kosovo.

The following institutes have contributed to this survey:

Albania	the Albanian Institute of Authorised Chartered Accountants (IEKA)
Bulgaria	the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Bulgaria (IDES)
Cyprus	the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Cyprus (ICPAC)
Egypt	the Egyptian Society of Accountants and Auditors (ESAA)
France	Compagnie Nationale des Commissaires aux Comptes (CNCC)
France	Conseil Supérieur de L'Ordre des Experts Comptables (CSOEC)
Greece	the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Greece (SOEL)
Israel	the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Israel (ICPAS)
Italy	Consiglio Nazionale Dottori Commercialisti (CNDC)
Italy	Consiglio Nazionale dei Ragionieri e Periti Commerciali (CNRPC)
Malta	the Malta Institute of Accountants (MIA)
Morocco	Ordre des Experts Comptables du Maroc (OEC)
Romania	the Body of Expert and Licensed Accountants of Romania (CECCAR)
Serbia	Serbian Association of Accountants and Auditors (SAAA)
Kosovo region	Society of Certified Accountants and Auditors of Kosovo (SCAAK)
Spain	Consejo General de Colegios de Economistas de Espana (CGCE)
Tunisia	Ordre des Experts Comptables de Tunisie (OECT)
Turkey	Union of Chambers of Certified Public Accountants of Turkey (TURMOB)

SECTION 2: GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1 *Laws governing the profession in your country.*

Table 1 - Information by Country

Legenda:

SL : Supranational Law (such as EU directives etc.)

NL: National Law

IS: International Standards

GR: Governmental Entities Regulations

PR: Professional Self Regulations

Country	Ethics	Accountancy	Auditing	Education and admission	Disciplinary action
Albania	GR PR	GR PR	IS GR PR	GR PR	GR PR
Bulgaria	PR	NL IS	NL IS	NL	PR
Cyprus	IS PR	NL IS	SL NL IS	SL NL PR	PR
Egypt	NL ¹ PR	NL ² IS ⁶ GR ⁷ PR	NL ³ IS ⁷	NL ⁴ GR ⁸ PR ¹⁰	NL ⁵ GR ⁹ PR ¹⁰
France	NL	SL NL	PR	NL	NL
Greece	NL IS PR	NL IS GR	SL NL IS GR PR	SL NL PR	NL PR
Israel	NL PR	IS PR	NL IS PR	IS	NL PR

Country	Ethics	Accountancy	Auditing	Education and admission	Disciplinary action
Italy	SL ¹ IS PR	SL ² NL ⁵ IS GR PR ⁶	SL ³ NL IS PR	SL ⁴ NL IS PR ⁷	NL PR
Malta	NL	NL	NL	NL	NL
Morocco	NL ¹ PR ⁶	NL GR ⁴	NL ² IS ⁴ PR ⁷	NL ² GR ⁵	NL ³ PR ⁶
Romania	PR ⁴	NL ¹ IS PR ⁵	NL ² IS PR ⁶	NL ³ IS PR ⁷	IS PR ⁸
Serbia	IS PR	NL IS	NL IS	IS PR	PR
Kosovo region		GR ¹	GR ²		
Spain	PR ⁹	SL ¹ NL ³ IS ⁷	SL ² NL ⁴ IS ⁸ PR ¹⁰	NL ⁵	NL ⁶
Tunisia	PR	NL	IS	NL	GR
Turkey	NL PR	NL IS GR PR	NL IS GR PR	NL PR	NL PR

Notes/ Laws: see end notes to section 2

Table 2 - Information by law(s)

AL: Albania, BU: Bulgaria, CY: Cyprus, EG: Egypt, FR: France, GR: Greece, IS: Israel, IT: Italy, KO: Kosovo region, MA: Malta, MO: Morocco, RO: Romania, SE: Serbia, SP: Spain, TU: Tunisia, TUR: Turkey.

Country	Ethics	Accountancy	Auditing	Education and admission	Disciplinary action
Supranational law (i.e. EU directives)	IT	FR, IT, SP	CY, GR, IT, SP	CY, GR, IT	
National law	EG, FR, GR, IS, MA, MO,	BU, CY, EG, FR, GR, IT, MA, MO, RO, SE, SP, TU, TUR	BU, CY, EG, GR, IS, IT, MA, MO, RO, SE, SP, TUR	BU, CY, EG, FR, GR, IT, MA, MO, RO, SP, TU, TUR	EG, FR, GR, IS, IT, MA, MO, SP, TUR
International standards	CY, GR, , IT, SE	BU, CY, EG, GR, IS, IT, SE, RO, SP, TUR	AL, BU, CY, EG, GR, IS, IT, MO, RO, SE, SP, TU, TUR	IT, RO, SE	RO
Governmental entities regulations	AL	AL, EG, GR, IT, KO, MO, TUR	AL, GR, KO, TUR	AL, EG, MO,	AL, EG, TU
Professional self regulations	AL, EG, BU, CY, GR, MO, RO, SE, SP, TU	AL, EG, IT, RO, TUR	AL, FR, GR, IS, IT, MO, RO, SP, TUR	AL, CY, EG, GR, IT, RO, SE, TUR	AL, BU, CY, EG, GR, IS, IT, MO, RO, SE, TUR

2.2 Professional title used by the members of the Institute

Country	Professional title	Protection of the title by law
Albania	Chartered Auditor	Yes
Bulgaria	Certified Expert Accountant, Registered Auditor	Yes
Cyprus	Certified Public Accountant	Yes
Egypt	Member of ESAA	Yes
France (CNCC)	Commissaire aux Comptes	Yes
France (CSOEC)	Expert Comptable	Yes
Greece	Certified Public Accountant/ Auditor	Yes
Israel	Certified Public Accountant	Yes
Italy (CNDC)	Dottore Commercialista	Yes
Italy (CNRPC)	Ragioniere e Perito Commerciale	Yes
Malta	Accountant	Yes
Morocco	Expert Comptable	Yes
Romania	Expert Accountant and Licensed Accountant	Yes
Serbia	Accounting technician, Chartered Accountant, Certified Public Accountant	Only for statutory auditors
Kosovo region	Certified Accountants, Licensed Auditors	Yes
Spain (CGCE)	Economista ¹	Yes
Tunisia	Expert Comptable	Yes
Turkey	SM (Independent Accountant); SMM (Certified Public Accountant); YMM (Sworn-in Certified Public Accountant)	Yes

Note:

(1) REA members are all registered auditors authorised to carry out statutory audit and registered in the ROAC, therefore they can use the professional title “auditor”. Additionally they can use the professional title “Economista” as members of CGCE.

2.3 *Mandatory citizenship/residency as a condition for Institute membership*

Country	Citizenship	Residence
Albania	Yes	Yes
Bulgaria	No	No
Cyprus	No	No
Egypt	Yes	Yes
France (CNCC)	No	No
France (CSOEC)	No	Yes
Greece	No	Yes
Israel	No	No
Italy (CNDC)	No	Yes
Italy (CNRPC)	No	No
Malta	No	No
Morocco	Yes	Yes
Romania	Yes	Yes
Serbia	No	No
Kosovo region	No	No
Spain	No	Yes
Tunisia	No	Yes
Turkey	Yes	Yes

2.4 Distribution of members.

Country	% of members in public practice	% of members in industry (employees)	% of members in governmental bodies (public accountant servants)
Albania	100 %	-	-
Bulgaria	More than 90 %	Less than 10 %	Less than 1 %
Cyprus	46 % ¹	46 %	8 %
Egypt	62 %	18 %	20 %
France (CNCC)	100 %	-	-
France (CSOEC)	100 %	-	-
Greece	90 %	-	-
Israel	82 %	N/A	4,4 %
Italy (CNDC)	97%	1,5 %	1,5 %
Italy (CNRPC)	98 %	1 %	1 % ²
Malta	45 %	45 %	6 %
Morocco	100 %	-	-
Romania	47%	48 %	5 %
Serbia	24 %	59 %	18 %
Kosovo region	40 %	45 %	15 %
Spain	53 %	32 %	15 %
Tunisia	100 %	-	-
Turkey ³	About 54 %	35 %	8 %

Notes:

- (1) 23 % with practising certificate + 23 % employed by the practising members
- (2) Members in industry and governmental bodies cannot be in public practice but are temporarily enrolled in a special Roll kept by the local Branches.
- (3) Approximately 3% of members are not working

2.5 Restrictions on professional partnerships

Country	Allowance of professional partnerships in the country	Restrictions to the legal form	Possibility for a firm to register with the institute
Albania	Yes	No	Yes
Bulgaria	Yes	Yes ¹	Yes
Cyprus	Yes	No	Yes
Egypt	Yes ²	Yes	No
France (CNCC)	No	-	Yes
France (CSOEC)	No	-	Yes
Greece	Yes	Yes	Yes ³
Israel	Yes	Yes ⁴	No
Italy (CNDC)	Yes ⁵	Yes ⁵	No
Italy (CNRPC)	Yes	Yes ⁶	No
Malta	Yes	Yes	No
Morocco	Yes	No	Yes
Romania	Yes	Yes	Yes
Serbia	Yes	Yes ⁷	No
Kosovo region	Yes	No	No
Spain	Yes	Yes ⁸	Yes
Tunisia	Yes	No	Yes
Turkey	Yes	Yes ⁹	Yes

Notes:

- (1) It could be either partnership or Limited Liability Company.
- (2) Can have its own legal form.
- (3) Members can act as auditors only under audit firms
- (4) No limited partnership allowed.
- (5) In Italy only the form of professional association are admitted. Only for the purpose of audit activity the law offers the possibility to adopt incorporated entities, in accordance with the 8th Directive.
- (6) Only the so called "studi associati" are allowed - law no 1815 of 23.11.1939
- (7) Must be formed as legal entity.
- (8) Although there are no restrictions to the legal form there are restrictions requiring professional partners.
- (9) More than one professional member can form a partnership firm, a joint stock company, Limited Liability Company or a corporation by coming together. Professional members who do not have a licence cannot be partner of a partnership or a company.

2.6 Statistical information

Country	Total no. of members (including firms) of the Institute	No. of firms within the Institute	No. of registered auditors in the country	No. of registered firms in the country
Albania	120	26	120 statutory auditors	26 firms, both national and foreign
Bulgaria	670	86	570 statutory auditors	86 firms
Cyprus	2.452	299	520 statutory auditors	299 audit firms
Egypt	1.266 active numbers (firms are not allowed)	not allowed	20.000 accountants	N/A
France (CNCC)	18.442	4.016	N/A	N/A
France (CSOEC)	39.405	14.687	N/A	N/A
Greece	About 2000	20	550 registered auditors	N/A
Israel	10.964	N/A	16.000 auditors	N/A
Italy (CNDC)	About 61.000	none	140.000 auditors	N/A
Italy (CNRPC)	40.160	none	140.000 auditors	N/A
Malta	1.254	N/A	700 auditors (626 MIA members)	approx. 20 firms
Morocco	380 members	82	380 individuals	N/A
Romania	24.336	4.256	466	N/A
Serbia	5.500	N/A	140 auditors	N/A
Kosovo region	51	N/A	51 auditors	2 audit firms
Spain	44.000	448	17.497	1.187
Tunisia	482	47	480 auditors	N/A
Turkey	Approx. 70.000	Approx. 1500 firms	Approx. 40,000 auditors	N/A

2.7 Statutory audit reports and listed companies audited

Country	No. of companies on which a statutory audit report is given	No. of listed companies audited
Albania	1900	no listed companies
Bulgaria	No current data available due to recent changes in the legislation. Annual financial statements of the enterprises which exceed at least two of the following criteria for the preceding year are subject to an independent financial audit by a registered auditor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - total assets - 1,500,000 leva - net amount of the operating revenue – 2,500,000 leva - full time equivalent of 50 employees. 	Approx. 350
Cyprus	50,000 no limits	150
Egypt	Approx. 28000	Approx. 700
France (CNCC)	There are around 200.000 assignments in France (but take into account the fact that in France there is a joint appointment of at least two auditors from separate audit firms in the case of companies required to draw up consolidated accounts)	Approx. 600
France (CSOEC)	N/A	N/A
Greece	Approx. 11.000	350
Israel	N/A	600
Italy (CNDC)	Data non available	300
Italy (CNRPC)	Unknown / the threshold for statutory audit is: Joint-stock companies (all); limited liability companies: equity => €120.000.	300
Malta	19,000 limited liability companies. Legal limits not to exceed any two of: Balance sheet total Lm20,000 (46,000 Euro), Turnover Lm40,000 (92,000 Euro), Employee average: 2	13
Morocco	No statistical information available (approx 4000 firms)	59
Romania	N/A	N/A
Serbia	3.000	150
Kosovo region	According to UNMIK Regulation 2001/30, business organisations having either an annual turnover or total assets worth in excess of 250,000 € shall have their general purpose financial statements audited by licensed auditors in accordance with applicable auditing standards.	NONE (no active financial stock/exchange market in Kosovo)
Spain	Approx. 31.997	7.371
Tunisia	Any "Société Anonyme" + any "SARL with the following 2 out of 3 thresholds applying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - total assets more than 100 KTND - total of sales more than 300 KTND - number of employees more than 30 	50
Turkey	Approx. 21.000	Approx. 300

SECTION 3: ADMISSION TO THE PROFESSION AND TO THE PROFESSIONAL BODY

3.1 Education

3.1.1. Is a University degree a requirement for admission to the institute?

Country	University degree required	Limitations of the faculties	No. of years/degree level required
Albania	Yes	Yes	3-5 years
Bulgaria	Yes	No	A bachelor's degree
Cyprus	No	No	-
Egypt	Yes	Yes	4 years, BC of Commerce
France (CNCC)	No ¹	No	7 to 8 years after end of secondary school examination
France (CSOEC)	No ¹	No	7 to 8 years after end of secondary school examination
Greece	Yes	Yes	4 years
Israel	No	No	-
Italy (CNDC)	Yes	Yes	3 + 2
Italy (CNRPC)	Yes	Yes	3 or 5
Malta	Yes	Yes	BA Hons (Accty) - 5 year and equivalent (ACCA qualification with local variants)
Morocco	Yes	Yes	8 to 10 years
Romania	Yes	Yes	University degree
Serbia	No	No	See note2
Kosovo region	Yes	No	University degree in any discipline
Spain	Yes ³	Yes	Between 4 and 5
Tunisia	Yes	No	7 to 8 years after end of secondary school examination
Turkey	Yes	Yes	4 years

Notes to 3.1 a:

(1) In France, the statutory auditor needs to have the national diploma in professional accounting, the Diplôme d'Expertise Comptable, which is not a University degree, but a State diploma delivered by the Ministry of Education. This is then followed by a professional training program of three years.

(2) Criteria for professional qualification of Accounting Technician:

- Candidate/The applicant has finished (at least) High School and has at least three years of practical experience in accountancy;

- Candidate has completed the professional examination for acquiring this professional qualification:

Criteria for professional qualification of Chartered Accountant:

1. Candidate has either:

University degree and at least three years of practical experience in keeping business records and preparing financial statements; or

University (undergraduate degree) three-years degree and at least four years of practical experience in bookkeeping and preparing financial statements; or

Higher education two-year degree and at least five years of practical experience bookkeeping and preparing financial statements; or

Professional qualification of an “accountant” and at least five-year practical experience in this field; or

A professional qualification of “independent accountant” and at least three-year practical experience in this field;

2. Candidate has completed the professional examination for acquiring this professional qualification:

Criteria for professional qualification of Certified Public Accountant:

1. Candidate has the professional qualification of a “Chartered Accountant” and at least three-year practical experience in the field under the supervision of already qualified CPA.

2. Candidate has completed the professional examination for acquiring this qualification.

(3) The requirement stated in the law is a University Entry degree plus an education program that, in practice, is equivalent to a University degree plus a specialisation in audit.

CGCE requires a university degree in Economics or business Administration, be registered in ROAC (Official Register of Auditors within Spain) after passing an exam (theory and practice) as well as three years of experience in auditing and be registered in a Colegio de Economistas.

3.2 Training and Trainee programs

Country	Obligatory trainee period as pre-access requirement	Trainee courses organised by the institute	Trainee courses organised by external entities	Recognition of trainee periods abroad	Special criteria for trainee periods	Special section for trainees in Institutes register
Albania	3 years ¹	Yes ²	No	No	Yes ³	No
Bulgaria	From 3 to 7 years depending on the type of graduation.	Yes ¹	No	No	Yes ²	Yes
Cyprus	3 years for membership + 2 years post-qualification experience ¹	No	Yes ²	Yes ³	Yes	Yes
Egypt	3 years	Yes ¹	Yes ²	No	Yes	Yes
France (CNCC)	3 years	Yes ¹	No	Yes ²	Yes ³	Yes
France (CSOEC)	3 years	Yes ¹	No	Yes ²	Yes	Yes
Greece	6 years	Yes ¹	No	Yes ²	Yes	Yes
Israel	2 years	No	No	Yes ¹	Yes ²	No
Italy (CNDC)	3 years	No	No	Yes	Yes ¹	Yes
Italy (CNRPC)	3 years	Yes	Yes ¹	No	Yes ²	Yes
Malta	3 years	No	No	Yes ¹	Yes ²	Yes
Morocco	6 semesters,	No	Yes ¹	No	Yes ²	N/A
Romania	3 years	Yes ¹	Yes	Yes ²	Yes ³	Yes
Serbia	2-3 years depending on professional qualification.	Yes	Yes ¹	Yes ²	Yes ³	Yes
Kosovo region	3 years ¹	Yes ²	No	No	No	No
Spain	3 years	Yes ¹	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Tunisia	3 years	Yes ¹	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Turkey	2 years ¹	Yes ²	Yes ³	No	Yes ⁴	Yes

Notes to 3.2:

Albania:

(1) during the three years of practical experience, at least 40 hours per year must be devoted to training courses.

(2) For such purpose IEKA has established its team of trainers within a "phare program". Our trainers as well as other trainers if required, deliver training courses to trainees on subjects such as accounting and financial reporting, auditing, management, financial analysis, financial management, taxation, MIS, etc..

(3) The period of secondment which is three years, has to be done in an auditor's office or in an audit firm with good reputation and experience in the field of auditing.

Bulgaria:

- (1) Accountancy, auditing
- (2) It must be done in an audit firm or with a registered auditor.

Cyprus:

- (1) With a firm of accountants in Cyprus or a firm of accountants in any EU member state for a practising certificate.
- (2) Mainly Intecollege and Cyprus College
- (3) A trainee period in any world country is recognised and there exists certain criteria to receive a practising certificate.

Egypt:

- (1) Audit, accountancy, income tax and sales tax
- (2) By the American University in Cairo.

France (CNCC):

- (1) Compulsory 24 days training during the 3 years period. And 15 days for the aptitude test.
- (2) 3 years in other EU countries: 2 of which should be spent within an audit firm and the last one within a company.
- (3) 2 years minimum in practice.

France (CSOEC):

- (1) Compulsory 24 days training during the 3 years period
- (2) 2 years in other EU countries, or 1 year outside the Union

Greece:

- (1) Courses covering the syllabus.
- (2) But it must be done in an EU member country.

Israel:

- (1) But it depends on the country and the professional standard of the applicant
- (2) Only auditing bodies recognised by the Auditors Council.

Italy (CNDC):

- (1) The training period could be done only in the office of a registered professional

Italy (CNRPC):

- (1) By private organisations and universities
- (2) The trainee period must be done in a practice with at least 5 years membership.

Malta:

- (1) Only trainee periods in countries regulated by conditions equivalent to or more onerous than Malta
- (2) Must be done in an auditing and/or accounting environment.

Morocco:

- (1) By the institute of Commerce (ISCAE)
- (2) The company or the manager of the company should be member of the Institute. (It is possible to spend no more than 1 year in a company or any organism which are not members of the professional body, only if these entities have a professional relationship with a body member.

Romania:

- (1) A. Training Courses organized for 9 mandatory disciplines:
 1. Understanding and applying IAS/IFRS.
 2. Financial audit.
 3. Financial accounting.
 4. Management accounting.

5. Taxation.
6. Financial and economic business appraisal.
7. Capital markets.
8. Doctrine and deontology / expertise.
9. Law – European legislation.

B. In addition to the 9 mandatory disciplines, for the intermediate and advanced levels, the knowledge improvement and development is organized for:

- Preparing financial statements
- Financial information for management use
- Human resources management;
- Information systems;
- Business law;
- Business taxation;
- Financial management;
- Financial reporting;
- Internal and external audit;
- Audit and assurance services;
- Business information management;
- Strategic business planning and development;
- advanced corporate reporting;
- Strategic financial management;

(2) Provided that the professional accountant is trained by an IFAC member body

(3) The training must take place in an Institute member of IFAC.

Serbia:

(1) Entities need to adopt education programme of SAAA.

(2) Period must be recognized by national professional body – IFAC member

(3) Period must be recognized by national professional body – IFAC member

Kosovo region:

(1) The training period for the first phase (Pre-Professional) consists of five lecture courses (144 lecture hours) followed by four exams. The second phase of training (Professional) consists of four lecture courses (144 lecture hours) followed by four exams. To become an auditor, an individual is required to attend two lecture sessions (100 lecture hours) followed by two exams.

(2) Training courses are organised for individuals who wish to become Accounting Technicians, Certified Accountants and Licensed Auditors, as follows:

Accounting Technician courses:

Financial Accounting 1

Financial Accounting 2

Management Accounting

Management Information System

Commercial Regulations

Certified Accountants:

Financial Accounting 3 (Kosovar Accounting Standards)

Financial Accounting 4 (Kosovar Accounting Standards)

Business Case Studies

Professional Ethics

Introduction to Auditing

Licensed auditors

Advanced Auditing 1

Advanced auditing 2

Spain:

(1) Different courses and seminars within a training program.

Tunisia:

(1) The Institute organises 2 trainee courses per year.

Turkey:

(1) Entry exam for practical experience as well as required practical experience of two years.

(2) The trainee courses are organised by TESMER (Centre of Education and Training) of TURMOB. TESMER is TURMOB's education and training branch.

(3) Special training institutions

(4) Students should exercise their training under the control and supervision of a SMM (Certified Public Accountant) or YMM (Sworn-in Certified Public Accountant)

3.3 Admission examination

Country	Entity competent for setting examination regulations	Entities that manage the examination	Frequency of examinations	Special exemptions for persons with other academic/professional qualifications
Albania	The Government	The Professional Examination Body ¹	Once a year	No
Bulgaria	The Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Bulgaria	The Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Bulgaria	Once a year	No
Cyprus	ICPAC	Joint Examination Scheme between ICPAC and ACCA	Twice a year	Yes
Egypt	ESAA	ESAA	Twice a year	Yes
France (CNCC)	Ministry of Justice	CNCC	Once a year	No
France (CSOEC)	Ministry of Education	Ministry of Education	Twice a year	No
Greece	The Greek Oversight Board (ELTE)	ELTE in co-operation with SOEL	Twice a year	Yes
Israel	Auditors Council (a governmental body governed by law)	Auditors Council	Twice a year	Yes
Italy (CNDC)	University for accountants and Ministry of Justice for auditors	University for accountants and Ministry of Justice for auditors	Twice a year for accountants, once a year for auditors	No
Italy (CNRPC)	Ministry of Justice	the University	Biannually	No
Malta	ACCA/University of Malta	ACCA/University of Malta	Twice a year	No
Morocco	Ministry of Education	The Business Institute ISCAE	Twice a year	No
Romania	CECCAR (the syllabus being validated by the Ministry of Economy and Finance)	CECCAR and the Ministry of Economy and Finance	Once a year	Yes (for ACCA members)
Serbia	The examination board of SAAA	The examination board of SAAA	Twice a year	Yes ²
Kosovo region	SCAAK	SCAAK	Three times a year	No
Spain	Instituto de Contabilidad y Auditoria de Cuentas (ICAC)	ICAC and the three Spanish Professional bodies ³	After the modification of the audit law the examination will be held annually	Yes
Tunisia	Ministry of	Ministry of	Twice a year	No

Country	Entity competent for setting examination regulations	Entities that manage the examination	Frequency of examinations	Special exemptions for persons with other academic/professional qualifications
	Education	Education		
Turkey	TURMOB	TESMER (the education branch of TURMOB)	YMM (Sworn-in Certified Public Accountant) exams twice a year, SMMM (Certified Public Accountant) exams three times a year.	Yes ³

Notes to 3.3:

It is an independent body comprising members representing the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Finance, the National Accounting Council, the Ministry of Justice and one member of the Institute's Council.

(1) SAAA Committee for exemption resolves these cases.

(2) According to the Law No. 3568, the prospective SMMMs passing the examination for SMMM; Persons who have been authorized for tax inspection in compliance with the relevant laws and who have passed in the professional proficiency examination and those who have become professors in the aforementioned subjects are not required to take examination and also the stated foreign SMMM mentioned in the Article 8 of the law no. 3568.

3.4 Incompatibilities

3.4.1 When a member is in public practice, is he submitted to a series of incompatibilities with the exercise of other functions or professions (i.e.: being a public servant, director or lawyer)?

Country	Incompatibilities
Albania	No
Bulgaria	Yes
Cyprus	Yes
Egypt	Yes
France (CNCC)	Yes
France (CSOEC)	Yes
Greece	Yes
Israel	Yes
Italy (CNDC)	Yes
Italy (CNRPC)	Yes
Malta	Yes
Morocco	Yes
Romania	Yes
Serbia	Yes
Kosovo region	No
Spain	Yes
Tunisia	Yes
Turkey	Yes

3.5 Foreign professionals

3.5.1 Does your Institute/Country have special regulations on recognition of professional qualifications?

Country	Special regulations on recognition of professional qualifications	Entity that grants recognition	Difference between different categories of foreigners (i.e. from the EU/not from the EU)	Residency requirements for applicant
Albania	No ¹	The Institute and the Ministry (commission for registration)	No	Yes
Bulgaria	Yes	IDES	No	No
Cyprus	Yes	ICPAC	Yes ²	No
Egypt	Yes	ESAA	No	Yes
France (CNCC)	Yes	Ministry of Justice	Yes ³	Yes
France (CSOEC)	Yes	Ministry of Education	Yes ⁴	Yes
Greece	Yes	SOEL	Yes ⁵	Yes
Israel	Yes	Ministry of Justice	Yes ⁶	No
Italy (CNDC)	Yes	Ministry of Justice	No	Yes
Italy (CNRPC)	Yes	Ministry of Justice	Yes ⁷	No
Malta	Yes	The Accountancy Board (regulator)	No	No
Morocco	Yes	The Ministry for the degrees held and the Institute for the professional qualifications	Yes ⁸	Yes
Romania	Yes	CECCAR	No	Yes
Serbia	Yes	SAAA	No ⁹	No
Kosovo region	Yes	The Kosovo board on standards and financial reporting under the Ministry of Finance and Economy	No	No
Spain	Yes	The Ministry of Economy	Yes	Yes
Tunisia	Yes	The Ministry of Education	No	Yes
Turkey	Yes ¹⁰	Upon proposal of the Ministry of Finance the Prime Minister gives his approval	No	Yes

Notes to 3.5 a:

- (1) The only addition requirement is to pass an examination on the Albanian law that is related to the exercise of the audit profession)
- (2) Holders of qualifications other than EU Member States, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa are not qualified to be admitted as members of ICPAC. Holders of qualifications from these countries need to pass an aptitude test (Tax and Corporate Laws) in order to be eligible to practise in Cyprus.
- (3) Specific European regulation on mutual recognition of qualifications. (Directive 2005/36/EC of 7 September 2005, on the recognition of professional qualifications published in the Official Journal of the European Union).
- (4) Specific European regulation on mutual recognition of qualifications.
- (5) Only professional from EU countries can become members.
- (6) A committee formed by the Auditors Council made special requirements.
- (7) In line with EU directives.
- (8) The foreigner should be citizen of a country linked to our country by a convention authorizing the nationals of each country to practice in the other country territory.
- (9) Differences are in regard to professional body that issued the qualification of the applicant.
- (10) But according to the Article 8 of the Law No. 3568, "Individuals who are citizens of the countries which have officially codified the profession of certified public accountancy may, under the condition of reciprocity, be authorized to render the services relevant to the rights they have acquired in their own countries, that are included within the scope of Article 2, upon the proposal of the Ministry of Finance and Customs, by the approval of the Prime Minister."

3.6. Statutory auditing

Country	Special rules on admission - applicable only to become statutory auditor	Special training	Special examination
Albania	N/A	No	No
Bulgaria	N/A	Yes	Yes
Cyprus	N/A	Yes	Yes
Egypt	Yes ¹	Yes	Yes
France (CNCC)	Yes ²	Yes ³	Yes ⁴
France (CSOEC)	Yes	N/A	Yes
Greece	N/A	Yes	Yes
Israel	N/A	No	No
Italy (CNDC)	N/A	Yes	Yes
Italy (CNRPC)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Malta	No	No	No
Morocco	No	No	No
Romania	N/A	Yes	Yes
Serbia	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kosovo region	Yes	Yes	Yes
Spain	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tunisia	Yes	No	No
Turkey	Yes	Yes	Yes

Notes:

- (1) The statutory auditors according to Law 1330 of 1951 are required to have training 8 years at a public accountant firm. ESAA grants the same title within 3 years and after passing the intermediate exam and final exam
- (2) To become statutory auditor, the candidate must first obtain the diplôme d'expertise comptable.
- (3) It lies in a professional training program of three years under a CRCC appointed training supervisor (directeur de stage).
- (4) An aptitude test in relevant French law, completing the educational qualification of the national diploma.

SECTION 4: EXERCISE OF THE PROFESSION

4.1 Exercise of professional activities

4.1.1 What activities are the members of your Institute usually engaged in? (Part one)

Country	Auditing	Public entities auditing	Accounting	Internal control	IT	Management consulting
Albania	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bulgaria	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Cyprus	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Egypt	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
France (CNCC)	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
France (CSOEC)	Yes ¹	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Greece	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Israel	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Italy (CNDC)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Italy (CNRPC)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Malta	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Morocco	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Romania	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Serbia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kosovo region	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Spain	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tunisia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Turkey	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Notes:

(1) Except statutory audit and specific assurance engagements reserved by the law to statutory auditors

4.1.2 What activities are the members of your Institute usually engaged in? (Part two)

Country	Financial services*	Human recourses services**	Tax advice	Legal assistance in court	Legal advice on corporate law	Insolvency procedures
Albania	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A
Bulgaria	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No
Cyprus	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Egypt	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
France (CNCC)	No	No	No	No	No	No
France (CSOEC)	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Greece	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Israel	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Italy (CNDC)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Italy (CNRPC)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes ¹	Yes	Yes
Malta	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Morocco	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Romania	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Serbia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kosovo region	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Spain	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Tunisia	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Turkey	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

* Such as Business Valuation, Due Diligence, Investment Analysis, Financial Planning; Debt Restructuring, Portfolio Management Trusteeship, Brokerage.

** Such as Payroll Preparation, Employment Contract, Social Security, Recruitment, etc.

Notes:

(1) Limited to tax cases

Additional services offered by the institute:

Italy (CNDC): Expert witness, forensic audits.

Italy (CNRPC): Consultancy, expert in bankruptcy cases (nominated by court), auction sales (by appointment of the magistrate), experts for courts, etc.

Morocco: Judicial investigations.

Spain: Economic education in School and University

4.1.3 *Are all the activities mentioned in question 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 within the scope of the profession in your country?*

Country	Answer
Albania	Yes
Bulgaria	No
Cyprus	No
Egypt	Yes
France	No
Greece	Yes
Israel	Yes
Italy	Yes
Malta	Yes
Morocco	No
Romania	Yes
Serbia	Yes
Kosovo region	No
Spain	No
Tunisia	Yes
Turkey	Yes

4.1.4 *Activities reserved exclusively to the members of your Institute.*

Country	Reserved activities
Albania	Statutory auditing
Bulgaria	Auditing
Cyprus	Auditing
Egypt	none
France (CNCC)	Statutory auditing
France (CSOEC)	Non-statutory auditing and accounting
Greece	Statutory audit
Israel	Auditing
Italy (CNRPC)	none
Italy (CNDC)	Auditing is shared with CNRPC and registered auditors
Malta	none
Morocco	Statutory and any external audit or certification
Romania	all
Serbia	none
Kosovo region	none
Spain	None. Only statutory audit and some assurance engagements stated by law are reserved to auditors registered in ROAC (ICAC)
Tunisia	Auditing
Turkey	Accounting, auditing and tax service

4.1.5. *Activities forbidden to the members of your Institute.*

Country	Forbidden activities
Albania	Administrative and human resources services - performed in the condition of being employed to an entity
Bulgaria	None, other than the activities prohibited by independence rules.
Cyprus	Legal assistance in court, legal advice on corporate law, portfolio management, brokerage and employment contract
Egypt	None
France (CNCC)	General prohibition of handling cash and activities reserved to lawyers (assistance in court) for all chartered accountants
France (CSOEC)	General prohibition of handling cash and activities reserved to lawyers (assistance in court)
Greece	None
Israel	None
Italy (CNRPC)	None
Italy (CNDC)	Portfolio Management, Trusteeship, Brokerage
Malta	None
Morocco	Legal assistance in court
Romania	None
Serbia	None
Kosovo region	None
Spain	Legal assistance in court and incompatibility regime established by the Auditing Law
Tunisia	Legal assistance in court
Turkey	No, but the members making independent audit are forbidden to give other services that audit.

4.2 Accounting standards

Country	IFRS as mandatory standard in your country	IFRS indirectly applied after adaptation to national context	IFRS applied as recommended standards in specific circumstances	Standard setter
Albania	No ¹	Yes ²	Yes	The National Accounting Council
Bulgaria	Yes ³	No	No	IFRS are adopted. For a transitional period national accounting standards for small and medium size enterprises are set by the Council of Ministers
Cyprus	Yes	No	No	ICPAC
Egypt	No	Yes	Yes	ESAA drafts the Egyptian Accounting Standards and submit them to the ministry of investment to approve and issue them
France	Yes ⁴	Yes ⁵	No	The Accounting Regulatory Committee (CRC, Comité de Réglementation Comptable)
Greece	Yes ⁶	No	Yes	ELTE
Israel	No	Yes	Yes	IsASB
Italy	Yes ⁷	No	No	Organismo Italiano della Contabilità (OIC) participated by CNDC, CNRPC and representatives of preparers and users
Malta	Yes	Yes	Yes	The Accountancy Board (regulator)
Morocco	No	No	Yes	Conceil National de la Comptabilite
Romania	No	Yes	Yes	Ministry of Economy and Finance
Serbia	Yes	No	Yes	IFRS are national standards
Kosovo region	No	Yes ⁸	Yes ⁹	The Kosovar Board on Standards and Financial Reporting under the Ministry of Finance and Economy
Spain	Yes	Yes ¹⁰	Yes	ICAC
Tunisia	No	Yes	Yes	Conseil National de la Comptabilité - Ministère des Finances
Turkey	Yes	Yes	Yes	TMSK (Turkish Accounting Standards Board)

Notes to 4.2:

- (1) But will be starting from January 2008 for a limited number of companies.
- (2) The new National Accounting Standards prepared by the National Accounting Council, that will be applied from January 2008 are prepared in line with the IFRSs.
- (3) For certain companies, for others it's voluntary.
- (4) For consolidated accounts of listed entities
- (5) Local standards converging to IFRS for consolidated accounts of non-listed entities and individual accounts of all entities.
- (6) For listed entities, banks and insurance companies.
- (7) But only for a particular kind of enterprises (listed companies, banks and insurance companies).
- (8) Accounting standards are an adaptation of IFRS which are applied in the Kosovo region.
- (9) According to UNMIK Regulation 2001/30 Section 4, business organisations may prepare general purpose financial statement in accordance with IAS.
- (10) We are now in the process of adapting our General Accounting Plan. This reform that on the other hand can not depart from principles stated in the 4th and 7th EU Directives dealing with the individual and consolidated annual accounts will lead into a national accounting framework very next to IFRSs with few differences.

4.3 Auditing standards

Country	Direct application of ISAs as mandatory	Adaptation of ISAs to national context	Standard setter in your country
Albania	Yes	N/A	The Council of IEKA has adopted ISAs as its standards.
Bulgaria	Yes	No	IFAC standards are adopted
Cyprus	Yes	No	ICPAC
Egypt	No	Yes	ESAA drafts the Egyptian accounting standards and submit them to the ministry of investment to approve and issue them
France (CNCC)	No	Yes	Audit standards are homologated by the Ministry of Justice after approval by H3C (statutory audit oversight board)
France (CSOEC)	No	Yes	Audit standards are set up by the institute by delegation by the Ministry of Justice
Greece	Yes	No	ELTE
Israel	No	Yes	The auditing committee of the institute
Italy	Yes	Yes	CNRPC and CNDC
Malta	Yes	No	The Accountancy Board (regulator)
Morocco	Yes	No	The professional body O.E.C.
Romania	No	Yes	The Ministry of Economy and Finance and The Chamber of Financial Auditors of Romania (CAFR)
Serbia	Yes	No	IFRS are national standards
Kosovo region	Yes	No	The Kosovar Board on Standards and Financial Reporting under the Ministry of Finance and Economy
Spain	No	Yes	ICAC
Tunisia	Yes	Yes	Ordre des Experts Comptables de Tunisie
Turkey	Yes	Yes	TUDESK (Turkish Auditing Standards Board)

4.4 Practice standards

4.4.1 Are there national practice standards applicable to your Institute?

Country	Answer
Albania	Yes
Bulgaria	No
Cyprus	No
Egypt	Yes
France (CNCC)	No
France (CSOEC)	No
Greece	Yes
Israel	No
Italy(CNRPC)	Yes
Italy(CNDC)	Yes
Malta	Yes
Morocco	Yes
Romania	Yes
Serbia	No
Kosovo region	Yes
Spain	Yes
Tunisia	No
Turkey	No

4.4.2 If there are national practice standards applicable to your Institute, please specify.

Country	Specified national practice standards
Albania	In addition to the application of ISAs published by IAASB, in IEKA there exists a manual on auditing especially for SMEs.
Egypt	Egyptian Auditing Standards
Greece	On the bases of IFAC standards
Italy(CNDC)	CNDC and CNRPC enacted professional guidance for the "collegio sindacale"
Italy(CNRPC):	Quality Assurance Recommendation
Kosovo region	According to UNMIK Regulation 2001/30 Section 6, certified accountants shall be required to have had three years of practical experience in an accounting capacity. In order to become a licensed auditor, an individual must be a certified accountant, so the individual must have three years of practical experience
Malta	The Institute issues technical guidance from time to time, the application of which may be mandatory or strongly recommended.
Morocco	Legal and contractual audit standards manual
Romania	Accounting Law no.84/1991 and the Ministry of Finance Order no. 1752/2005 for the approval of the accounting regulations complying with the European Directives.
Spain	In addition to audit standards issued by ICAC, the CGCE issues audit recommendations and other technical documents such as audit guides.

4.5. Ethics rules

Country	Ethics Code for members	Entity that establishes the Ethics Code	Special incompatibilities between different professional activities / tasks (i.e. auditing and consultant services)
Albania	Yes	The Government, but the Institute has its own rules.	No
Bulgaria	Yes	IFAC	Yes ¹
Cyprus	Yes	ICPAC	Yes
Egypt	Yes	The Commercial Syndacate	No
France (CNCC)	Yes	Ministry of Justice on proposal of H3C	Yes ²
France (CSOEC)	Yes	Conseil d'Etat (Council of State, the highest public jurisdiction)	Yes ³
Greece	Yes	SOEL	N/A
Israel	Yes	The Institute of CPAs in Israel	The auditors council is currently in the process of establishing such incompatibilities
Italy (CNDC)	Yes	CNDC	Yes ⁴
Italy (CNRPC)	Yes	CNRPC	Yes ⁵
Malta	Yes	The Accountancy Board (regulator)	No
Morocco	Yes	O.E.C.	Yes
Romania	Yes	CECCAR	Yes
Serbia	Yes (IFAC Code of Ethics)	SAAA	Yes, as defined by IFAC Code of Ethics.
Kosovo region	Yes (IFAC Code of Ethics)	SCAAK	There is currently no regulations that limit the services that an accountant or auditor may perform that may be incompatible.
Spain	Yes	Consejo General de Colegios de Economistas (Codigo Deontologico Economistas)	Yes
Tunisia	Yes	Ordre des Experts Comptables de Tunisie + Ministère des Finances	Yes, for the same client
Turkey	Yes ⁶	TURMOB	No

Notes to 4.5:

- (1) The provision of consultant services to an audit client is allowed as far as the auditor does not participate in the process of taking the management decisions.
- (2) A statutory auditor cannot deliver accounting, tax, or any other service to his audit client. These are called incompatible activities, and are not within the statutory audit mission, gathering: a) activities unconnected with verification of accounts, b) advice in fields such as marketing and communication, c) advice on legal and tax matters, d) advice on organisation or management, e) advice or participation in negotiations on mergers or acquisitions, f) keeping of accounts, g) personnel recruitment, h) valuation services apart from audit verification of proposed valises.
Also any service whereby the statutory auditor would be called to act as advocate of the audit client company or be involved in management decisions.
- (3) A statutory auditor cannot deliver accounting, tax, or any other service to his audit client.
- (4) Auditing and consultant services to the same client are prohibited.
- (5) The profession of Ragioniere Commercialista is incompatible, notably, with those of notary public, journalist, minister of religion, commerce, public servant (to the extent the law sets an incompatibility with any liberal professions) – For a complete list of incompatibilities, see Art. 3 of Presidential Decree n. 1068 of 27/10/1953.
- (6) The law of Professional Ethics of Independent Accountants, Certified Accountants and Sworn-in Public Accountants.

End notes to section 2

Albania:

Government Decree Nr 150 date 31.03.2000

Cyprus:

The Companies Law, Cap.113

Egypt:

- 1 - 133 of 1951, 159 of 1981
- 2 - 133 of 1951, 159 of 1981
- 3 - Egyptian Accounting Standards 159 of 1981
- 4 - 133 of 1951
- 5 - 394 of 1955
- 6 - IFRS
- 7 - ISAs
- 8 - 133 of 1951
- 9 - 394 of 1955
- 10 - ESAA

France (CSOEC):

Ethics:

- Ordinance 45-2138 of September 19, 1945
- Decree 45-2370 of October 15, 1945
- Code of ethics has to be homologated by the Conseil d'Etat in July 2006 and 2007

Accountancy:

Consolidated accounts of listed entities

- EU regulation 1606-2002 of September 11, 2002

Consolidated accounts of non-listed entities

- Code of Commerce art L 233-16 to L 233-26
- Decree of March 2, 1987
- Order of June 22, 1999 (CRC regulation 99-02)

Individual accounts of all entities

- Code of Commerce art L 123-12 to L 123-38
- Decree 83-1020 of November 29, 1983
- Order of June 22, 1999 Plan comptable general

Auditing:

- Audit standards approved by the Conseil Supérieur as of December 14, 2000

Education and admission:

- Ordinance 45-2138 of September 19, 1945
- Syllabus set up by decrees of Ministry of Education

Disciplinary action:

Ordinance 45-2138 of September 19, 1945

Decree 45-2370 of October 15, 1945

Italy:

- 1 - (CNDC) EU Recommendation
- 2 - EU Regulation
- 3 - CNRPC
- 4 - For auditors - 8th Directive
- 5 - Civil Code
- 6 - (CNDC) standard setter is OIC
- 7 - CNDC

Italy (CNRPC): (list of the major domestic laws regulating the profession of Ragioniere Commercialista)
 Regulation n. 327 of 15.07.1906 (setting up the local Collegi and professional rolls)
 Presidential Decree 27.10.1953 n. 1068 (setting up of CNR)
 Law n. 183 of 12.02.1992 and DL n. 107 of 10.06.2002 and Law n. 173 of 1.08.2002 (on qualification requisites)
 Law n. 1815 of 23.11.1939 (on professional partnerships)
 Ministerial Decree n. 622 of 8.10. 1996 (on the State Exam for qualification)
 Law Decree n.115/92 receiving EC Directive 89/48 (on mutual recognition)
 Legislative Decree n. 88 of 27.01.1992 (implementing Directive 84/253/EEC on statutory auditor qualification)

Italy (CNDC): Presidential Decree 27.10.1953 n. 1067 (setting up of CNDC)
 Legislative decree 28.6.05 n. 139 (unified accountancy profession)
 Legislative Decree n. 88 of 27.01.1992 (implementing Directive 84/253/EEC on statutory auditor qualification)
 Law Decree n.115/92 receiving EC Directive 89/48 (on mutual recognition)

Kosovo region:

1. UNMIK Reg. 2001/30
2. UNMIK Reg. 2001/30

Morocco:

- 1 - O.E.C. rules
- 2 - Law nr.15-89
- 3 - O.E.C rules
- 4 - ISA
- 5 - Ministère de l'Education National
- 6 - Code of professional duties.
- 7 - Legal and contractual audit standards manual

Romania:

- 1 – a) Government ordinance 65/1994, b) Accounting Law no. 82/1191, c) Minister of Finance ordinance 1752/2005 for approving the regulations compliant with the European Directives.
- 2 - The Government Emergency Ordinance no.75/1999
- 3 – a) Romanian Government’s Decision no. 562 / 2000 regarding the Rules for the access to the profession. b) The regulation regarding the practical training and the aptitudes examination for expert and licensed accountants
- 4 – The Body of Expert and Licensed Accountants of Romania adopted the IFAC Code of Ethics as its own National Ethics Code for Professional Accountants
- 5 - Professional standard 21 “The bookkeeping engagement, preparing and presenting financial statements”
 Professional standard 22 “The accounting review engagement, preparing and presenting financial statements”
 - Professional standards: conduct, work and reporting standards
- 6 - - Professional standard 23 “The censor’s activity in business entities”
 - Professional standard 24 regarding the financial audit engagements
 - Regulation regarding the quality assurance.
- 7 - The National Continuous Professional Development Program
 - International Education Standards
- 8 - The Regulation of the Disciplinary Commissions published in the Official Journal 305/08.05.2007.

Spain (CGCE)

- 1 - IV Directive, VII Directive
- 2 – VII Directive (84/253/CEE)
- 3 - Ley 19/1989, de 25 de julio, reforma parcial y adaptación de la legislación mercantil a las directivas de la Comunidad Económica Europea (CEE) en materia de sociedades.
 (Código de Comercio Act 19/1989, of 25 July, on company law)
 Code of Commerce”Real Decreto 1643/1990 (aprueba el Plan General de Contabilidad)
 (Royal Decree 1643/1990 that approves the General Accounting Plan)
- 4 - Ley 19/1988, de Auditoria
 (Act 19/1988, of 12th July, on auditing)

Real decreto 1636/1990(Royal decree 1636/1990, of 20th December, that approves the regulations to develop act 19/1988, of 12th July, on auditing)

5 - RD 1/1998, de 9 de enero, que aprueba los Estatutos del Consejo General de Colegios de Economistas

Decreto 871/1977 (Estatuto Profesional de Economistas)

6 - real decreto 302/1989, de 17 de marzo, por el que se aprueba el estatuto y la estructura organica del instituto de contabilidad y auditoria de cuentas

7 – IAS

8 – IAS

9 - Código Deontológico de los Economistas (“Deontology Code” of Economistas)

10 – Reglamento del REA (bylaws by REA)

Tunisia:

Loi N° 88-108 du 18 Août 1988, portant refonte de la législation relative à la profession d'Expert Comptable.

Décret N° 89-541 du 25 Mai 1989, fixant les modalités d'organisation et de fonctionnement de l'Ordre des Experts Comptables de Tunisie

Arrêté du Ministre des Finances du 26 Juillet 1991, portant approbation du Code des devoirs professionnels des experts comptables

Arrêté du Ministre des Finances du 26 Juillet 1991, portant approbation du règlement intérieur de l'Ordre des Experts Comptables.

Turkey:

The Law of Independent Accountants, Certified Public Accountants and Sworn-in Public Accountants No. 3568

Capital Market Law No: 2499 (in addition regarding TMSK (Turkish Accounting Standards Board) Appendix Article No.1 of the added with the Law No. 4487 to the Capital Markets Law No. 2499)

Insurance Auditing Law, No: 7397

Communiqué On Principles of Auditing in Capital Markets (Serial: X, No: 16)

Communiqué On Principles Regarding the Determination of Corporations Subject to Special Purpose Auditing (Serial, No: 7)

Regulation on Principles and Procedures of Independent Auditing

The Law of Professional Ethics of Independent Accountants, Certified Public Accountants and Sworn in Public Accountants

Regulation on Disciplinary Matters of the Law of Independent Accountants, Certified Public Accountants and Sworn in Public Accountants No: 3568

TESMER Guideline

TUDESK (Turkish Auditing Standards Board) Guideline