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TRENDS IN PUBLIC AUDIT ORGANIZATION
IN THE CONTEXT OF EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE

The European integration vector of development of Ukraine extremely actualizes the necessity of transformation of the national system of state financial control (SFC) in the direction of establishment of a public-audit model of SFC, which provides maximum consideration of contemporary global trends in the development of democratic governance, standards and rules of international organizations, the legislation of the European Union (EU), as well as EU experience in this field.

Significant contribution to the development of the ideas of reforming the mechanisms and concepts of external audit in accordance with international and European standards was made by such domestic scientists as I. Basantsov, Z. Varnaliy, I. Drozd, V. Maksimova, V. Nevidomiy, V. Pihotsky, V. Symonenko, Yu. Slobodyanyk, I. Stefaniuk and others.

The objective of the paper is the generalization of advanced research and practical experience in functioning of public audit in the EU and isolation of unified tendencies of its organization.

The article reveals the role of International Organization of Supreme Audit (INTOSAI) as the main founder of the association of supreme audit institutions of various countries under conditions of establishment public audit model of state financial control. An objective necessity for utilization of International Standards INTOSAI in auditing practice in the system of public administration was substantiated and their components were structured. The institutional structure of bodies providing public audit / financial control in the European Union was studied and the features of functioning of the European Court of Audit (ECA) and national supreme audit institutions in different EU countries were specified.

On this basis, the following tendencies in organization of public audit in the European countries were proved:

1) the conditions necessary for the organization and development of public audit in the EU are created both at state level and at the level of activity of international organizations (INTOSAI);

2) an absence of a unified system of legal regulation of activity of public audit institutions and order of maintaining procedures of independent external audit since the EU chose different models of regulation that were formed by many factors (specific historical conditions, social system, form of government, political traditions, degree of integration to supranational institutions, etc.);

3) an important factor in ensuring systematic interaction between different public institutions in the European practice are INTOSAI standards, which determine the increase of efficiency in public audit by forming unified approaches, principles and rules for its organization and conduction methodology;

4) independence of SAI from the executive and the legislative powers, based on the principles of openness and accessibility / publicity of audit results (SAI report directly to the Parliament and the public, that act as the main target audience of the reports). Furthermore, the legal basis for the organization and functioning of the Accounting Chamber and bodies similar to them are constitutions and specific laws passed on their basis, which clearly define powers of SAI and other essential aspects of their activities;

5) activity of SAI is not limited to traditional and conventional functions of supervision, it takes a consultative and advisory nature, as not only it aims at identifying offenses in the management of public resources, but also at finding ways to overcome them.

Thus, we believe that consideration of the best international experience on organization of the functioning of public audit in the EU will significantly increase the effectiveness of the national system of SFC, create a more powerful tool for providing the state and society with good quality, objective information needed to increase efficiency, transparency and accountability public administration.