



INSIDER NEWS



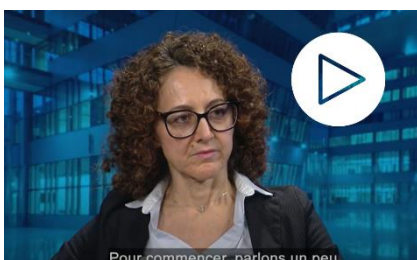
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Transparency and accountability are core values of NATO. That is why, shortly after the signing of its founding treaty in 1949, NATO created two audit boards, one in 1952 and the other in 1953. The two boards merged in 1967 into a unique Board, namely the International Board of Auditors for NATO (or IBAN).

IBAN's mandate is to assure the North Atlantic Council (NAC) and the governments of NATO member countries that funds have been used according to authorization and that the financial statements are accurate and give a fair view of NATO's financial situation. IBAN also evaluates NATO's activities with regard to their economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.



IBAN Board members



The IBAN team consists of 6 Board members, 1 principal auditor, 2 senior auditors, 19 financial and performance auditors, and an administrative team. The team is led by the Chair of IBAN, currently Ms. Daniela Morgante. You can watch an [interview about IBAN with Ms. Morgante here](#).

Core Values

The three core values that guide the International Board of Auditors' work are independence, integrity and professionalism.



Independence

Independence is IBAN's essential value, without which it would not be able to carry out its mission. IBAN is solely responsible to the NAC for its work. It neither seeks nor receives instructions from any other authority.



Integrity

IBAN conducts its work in a fair, objective, balanced, unbiased, and non-political manner.



Professionalism

IBAN's work is planned, executed and reported in accordance with international auditing principles and standards.

The Work

IBAN performs 3 types of audits:

- Financial audit – an examination of the financial statements of NATO entities to check whether they are true and fair and their funds were properly used in accordance with the regulations in force.
- Performance audit – an evaluation of the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of NATO's activities, operations and programmes.
- Audit of NATO Security and Investment Programme Projects (NSIP) – an examination of expenditures for these projects, which relate to, for example, infrastructure, equipment or information and communication systems.



IBAN conducts approximately 30 financial audits per year and also between 50 and 100 audits of NATO Security and Investment Programme projects (NSIP) expenditures. In addition, two to three performance audits are carried out each year. The audit teams travel to NATO and non-NATO nations to carry out their work.

How Is an Audit Carried Out?

1. Notification: auditees are formally notified of the audit and points of contact are requested.
2. Fieldwork: including site visits, interviews, review of documents, data analysis, and data collection.



3. Drafting: preparing a report with findings and recommendations. The auditee may provide factual and formal comments to the draft report.
4. Report: submitting the report to the NAC who may authorise its disclosure to the public.



If an audit reveals shortcomings or errors, the NAC may invite the entity to address IBAN's recommendations, on which IBAN will follow up in forthcoming audits.

IBAN in the Future

IBAN will continue to support the strengthening of NATO's transparency and accountability. It is essential that taxpayers know how their money is spent and that it has been used for the intended purposes. To increase transparency, the NAC decided that most of IBAN's audit reports are published on the [NATO website](#). IBAN will continue to contribute to NATO's accountability to its citizens and to cooperate with the other Supreme Audit Institutions of the NATO nations.

Further Reading

[IBAN topic page on the NATO site](#)

[IBAN Organigram](#)

[Leaflet about IBAN](#)