

**EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE ON THE GLOBAL
DEVELOPMENT OF ACCOUNTANCY EDUCATION
DURING THE PERIOD 2000 – 2010**

The Case of the Czech Republic



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Project of the Quality Enhancement

The general aim of the project was to assure compliance of the Union of Accountants (UA) and Chamber of Auditors (CACR) systems with the IFAC IES requirements.

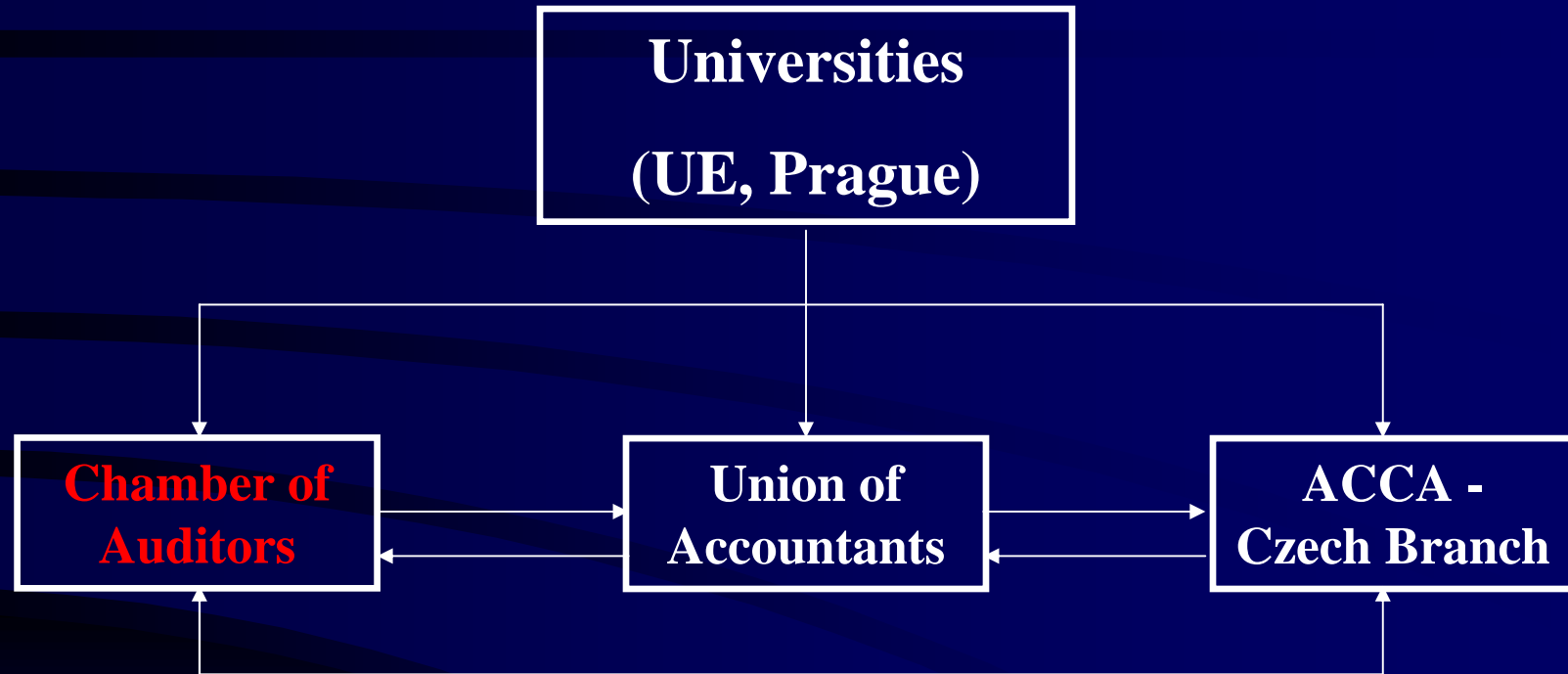
However, as the means how to enhance the quality of both systems it was also approved to carry out detailed comparative analysis of both systems with the aims:

- To identify common body of knowledge of professional accountants and auditors which would enable to educate and assess future professional accountants in both systems in mutual consistency, and – conversely
- To identify the interface of common body of knowledge to those parts of the pre-qualification education and certification systems which should be – due to differences in profiles of both professions – solved separately.

Reached results (Spring 2009)

- We have succeeded in development of contentually and structurally designed common base of knowledge
- We have succeeded in support the base by the broad set of textbooks, manuals and other teaching instruments
- We have succeeded in support the base by the strong structure of experts – especially university professors which participate in both systems
- We have succeeded in development of the continual update and quality enhancement system
- We have succeeded in removing legislative limitations for the system development of the mutual recognition of those exams which create the common knowledge base (April 2009)

System of the Exam Recognition



Recent stage (Autumn 2009 – Spring 2010)

- Recent stage is characteristic not only by continuous process of common body of knowledge development, but also by the effort to fulfil consequent project aim: to elaborate by a better way **those parts of both pre-qualification education and certification systems which should be** – due to differences in profiles of both professions – **solved separately.**
- This is the reason why recently the next course of both systems analyses has been undertaking, now with the main emphasis to the **necessity of their user differentiation.**

Recent stage (Autumn 2009 – Spring 2010)

- The whole process is run by a simpler way at CA CR; in principle, it has led to extension to the auditing area knowledge and consequently to decision to split former one Auditing exam into two ones.
- In this regard, the Auditing II syllabus has been developed; it is aimed on relatively very specific and detailed aspects of the International Standards of Auditing as well as Czech Auditing Standards usage in practice.
- This exam is **not recognized** on the basis of preceding university or professional studies or exams.

Recent stage (Autumn 2009 – Spring 2010)

The process of differentiation is more complex at UA; its system development has been influenced especially by following important aspects:

- In former stage we have succeeded to educate relatively broad base of technicians who successfully passed first level but who also considered second level too difficult; therefore, it has been important to motivate them by a new way;
- It has been necessary to address by a newly formulated aim also new generation of accountants which live substantial part of their professional life in market environment;
- It has been necessary to harmonize these tendencies with new ACCA syllabus so that UA system keeps broad base of permeability and recognition.

Recent stage (Autumn 2009 – Spring 2010)

Substantial changes of the UA system:

- Concentration of the system from three into two levels and corresponding changes in structures of connecting subjects (especially in those which have been split into two courses examined in two subsequent levels) have been their principle outcomes.
- Also implementation of new subject “**Professional behaviour and communication**” whose part are – besides others - the questions of professional and business ethics is an important innovative element which has been leading to stronger compatibility of the system with the IES requirements.

New structure of the Union of Accountants System

1st Level – Chartered Accountant	2nd Level – Chartered Expert Accountant
Accounting – principles and Techniques	Management Accounting
Financial Accounting and Reporting	IAS/IFRS
Law	Company management
Taxation	Financial Management
Managerial Finance	Auditing and Internal Control
Managerial Economics	
Quantitative Methods and IT	
Professional Behaviour and Communication	

CONCLUSIONS - project

- The higher level of compliance of both systems with the IES is the most important benefit. This is visible in those areas which have been newly framed by IES in comparison with IEG 9.
- Project has led not only to higher level of harmonization of requirements which creates common base, but also to better specification of differences in educational profiles of professional accountants and auditors.
- For the future, the project solution has founded a basis for more intensive collaboration of both professional bodies with universities, especially in the area of the teaching instruments development.
- The project solution contributed to the atmosphere development of positive collaboration on the basis of the “win-win” solutions

Questions – how to proceed in the future

- How to support interdisciplinary approach?
 - Integrity, multidimensionality
- How to implement in a broader way ethical and moral attitudes and values into the contents of individual taught /assessed areas (subjects)?
- How to deal with ICT aspects of individual disciplines (subjects)?

Conclusion - Role of IES and other worldwide respected documents in the process

- The decision about IES Adoption has been the „starting shot“ for the project
- The aims, content and structure of IES, but also of other accompanying documents including Framework have give us the inspiration how to aim and structure our project as well
- From all these documents we learnt a lot about inter-relations between education process, acquisition of professional skills and development of business and professional ethics, values and attitudes
- Finally – they give us benchmark “where we are and what direction to follow for the future”.

**Ladies and gentlemen,
thank you for your attention!**

If you are interested in my presentation, please address me at my e-mail
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