

Federation of European Accountants Fédération des Experts comptables Européens

FEE Qualification and Market Access Working Party

Structure and Organisation of the Accountancy Profession

Key features

Poland

Status: March 2012

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Poland



Flag:



Population: approx. 38,000,000

Capital: Warsaw

Languages: Polish

In the EU since: 2004



Professions

Professions	Statutory auditor (Biegły rewident) – practises the profession on behalf of the entity authorised to audit financial statements
Protected title	Yes
Reserved activities	The basic subject matter of operation of an entity authorised to audit financial statements shall be performance of audit activities .
Included authorisations	The subject matter of operation of an entity authorised to audit financial statements, apart from performance of audit activities, <u>may be</u> : 1) maintenance of accounting books and tax registers; 2) tax counselling;
	 3) conduct of bankruptcy and liquidation proceedings; 4) publishing or training activity within the scope of accounting, audit and taxes; 5) preparation of expert opinions or economic and financial opinions; 6) provision of certification services, counselling and management requiring knowledge in the area of accounting or audit; 7) provision of services foreseen in the auditing standards, as well as other services reserved in separate provisions for performance by statutory auditors.



Supervision

	Statutory auditor (Biegły rewident)
Regulated profession	Yes
Supervision	Yes
Competent authority	The Audit Oversight Commission (AOC)



Statistics

	Statutory auditor (Biegły rewident)
No. of qualified	7521, including:
professionals	3564 – practitioners,
	3957 – non-practitioners
No. of new trainees per year	1100-1200



Qualification

	Statutory auditor (Biegły rewident)
General initial education steps	Higher studies in the Republic of Poland or foreign higher studies deemed equivalent in the Republic of Poland;
(without possible exemptions)	A one-year accounting practice in a European Union Member State and at least a two-year internship under oversight of a statutory auditor aimed at practical preparation for independent practice of the profession;
	> 10 written examinations;
	> Final oral diploma examination.



Market access resident professionals

	Statutory auditor (Biegly rewident)
Registration required	Yes
Competent authority for registration	The National Chamber of Statutory Auditors (KIBR - Krajowa Izba Biegłych Rewidentów)
Cost of appointment/ registration	No registration fee (annual membership fee: 80 EUR)
Oath required	Yes
Insurance required	Yes (but it concerns an entity authorised to audit financial statements)
Professional address required	Yes



professionals from other EU Member States

Temporary provision of non-audit services*

Pro-forma declaration	n/a
Requested data	n/a
Requested documents	n/a
Competent authority	n/a
Factual checks	n/a
Standard form	n/a
Compliance with host Member State rules	n/a

^{*} Not relevant for statutory audit services



professionals from other EU Member States

Establishment of Statutory Auditors

Required procedure	Aptitude test plus registration. A natural person who is authorised to practice the profession of a statutory auditor in another European Union Member State may also be entered in the register after passing the examination in the Polish language before the Board with respect to economic law binding in the territory of the Republic of Poland within the scope necessary for performance of audit activities.
Infrastructure	Required
Professional address	Required
Competent authority	KIBR

Aptitude test		
Competent authority	The Examinations Committee, KIBR	
Frequency	Twice a year	
Form	Written and oral	
Main Subjects	Economic law	
Language	Polish	
Repetition	Unlimited	
Statistics- Number of applicants	126 (since 1992 until now)	



professionals from other EU Member States

Establishment of other accountants not providing statutory audit

Compensation measure	n/a
Competent authority	n/a
Procedure	n/a



professionals from Third Countries

Establishment of Statutory Auditors

Required procedure	A natural person who is authorised to practice the profession of a statutory auditor in a third country may also be entered in the register upon the principle of reciprocity on the condition of compliance with requirements regarding professional qualifications in line with the conditions determined in the Act or equivalent conditions and after passing the examination in the Polish language before the Board on economic law binding in the Republic of Poland within a scope necessary for performance of audit activities.
Infrastructure	Required
Professional address	Required
Competent authority	KIBR

Aptitude test		
Competent authority	The Examinations Committee, KIBR	
Frequency	No applicants until now	
Form	Written and oral	
Main Subjects	Economic law	
Language	Polish	
Repetition	Unlimited	
Statistics- Number of applicants	No applicants until now	



Market access professionals from Third Countries

Establishment of accountants not providing statutory audit

Compensation measure	n/a
Competent authority	n/a
Procedure	n/a



Professional Bodies

	Statutory auditor (Biegły rewident)
Professional bodies	The National Chamber of Statutory Auditors (KIBR - Krajowa Izba Biegłych Rewidentów)



FEE Member Bodies

	KibR
Membership	Mandatory
No. of members	7521, incl. 3564 practitioners
Institute staff	46
Date of establishment	1992
Local branches	Yes (27)
Subject to public oversight	Yes
Oversight authority	The Audit Oversight Committee (AOC)



FEE Member Bodies

Involvement in Qualification and Market Access

	KibR
Initial education	Yes (higher education needed to become a candidate for statutory auditor; practical training needed to complete qualification proceedings)
Examination	Yes
Approval and registration	Yes, under the supervision of AOC
Continued Professional Development	Yes, under the supervision of AOC

Activities

	KibR
Standard setting	Yes, under the supervision of AOC
Quality assurance	Yes, under the supervision of AOC
Disciplinary measures	Yes, under the supervision of AOC
Representation of interests	Yes