

Workshop on Public Sector Accounting

**“Better Accounts, Better Budgets,
Better Spending?”**
Luxembourg, 25-26 January 2016

Auditors advocating reform



EUROPEAN
COURT
OF AUDITORS

Eduardo Ruiz García

The case for reform...



- Lack of accounting framework: standards, principles and procedures
- Poor quality of information
- Incorrect valuation: revenue and expenditure as negative transactions
- Non respect of annuality: advances as final payments
- Inadequate recording of assets
- Poor control procedures
- Incorrect consolidation
- ...

“... no assurance of financial position, results and cash flows...”

The tools of the auditors...



- The ECA Annual Report
- The Statement of Assurance
- Opinion on legislative reforms
- Providing advise

Drivers and enablers...



- Legislative process: the Financial Regulations
- Legislative scrutiny: EU Parliament and Council – the discharge procedure.
- Public scrutiny
- Legitimacy and accountability crises

Contact Details

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References:

Ruiz García, E. *The Role of the Court of Auditors in Modernising the Accounting System of the European Institution*

[Original title: *El papel del Tribunal de Cuentas europeo en la modernización del sistema contable de las instituciones europeas*, published in *Revista Española de Control Externo*, Nº. 44, Vol XV, Mayo 2013]

