

Contact Committee Europe 2020 Strategy Audit Network

**Joint Seminar Fiscal Policy Audit Network and
Europe 2020 Strategy Audit Network**
Budapest, 29th March 2019 – State Audit Office of Hungary

Ana Furtado - Tribunal de Contas, Portugal



10 years ago in Budapest...

**Resolution
on bench-marking of methodologies and practices of SAIs
in fiscal policy audit and Lisbon strategy audit**

CC-R-2009-03

The Contact Committee,

1. *Recalling* the Resolution adopted at its meeting in Luxembourg in December 2008 on the 2009 future activities of the EU SAI Contact Committee in which the Contact Committee endorsed that the activities on bench-marking of methodologies and practices of SAIs in fiscal policy audit would be started in 2009.
2. **Acknowledges** the work having started with two consecutive workshop meetings hosted by the SAI of Finland in Helsinki on the 23 and 24 September 2009 under the themes "The Audit of Financial Sustainability and other Fiscal Policy Related Themes" and "The Audit of Lisbon Strategy Related Topics".
3. **Notes** the progress report presented of the work done in the workshops
4. **Recognises** the establishment of two Networks i.e. the Network on Fiscal Policy Audit chaired by SAI of Finland and the Network on Lisbon Strategy Audit chaired by SAI of Portugal
5. **Encourages** all interested EU SAIs to participate and contribute in the work of the Networks to share knowledge and working methods, to operate as facilitators for professional information sharing and to organize one-day working sessions, with the objective to bring auditors working on similar themes together to compare methods and results.
6. **Decides** to make this resolution available on the public part of the Contact Committee website.

Budapest, 1 December 2009

Contact Committee Europe 2020 Strategy Audit Network

1. Sept. 2009 – Helsinki meeting – **18 SAIs**
2. Dec. 2009 – **CC Resolution**
3. Sept. 2010 – Luxembourg Seminar – **12 SAIs**
4. June 2012 – Paris Joint Seminar – **14 SAIs**
5. June 2013 – Potsdam Joint Seminar – **15 SAIs**
6. June 2014 – Vienna Joint Seminar – **16 SAIs**
7. June 2015 – Lisbon Joint Seminar – **17 SAIs**
8. June 2016 – Helsinki Seminar – **16 SAIs**
9. May 2017 – Malta Joint Seminar – **18 SAIs**
10. May 2018 – Paris Joint Seminar – **18 SAIs**

ECA participated in all seminars

1. Sept. **2009** – Helsinki meeting
 - Need to promote this issue among SAI
2. Dec. **2009** – CC Resolution
 - Through Network

3. Sept. 2010 – Luxembourg Seminar

- Clarification of what is the Strategy
- Network as a platform to promote this issue among SAls

4. June **2012** – Paris Joint Seminar

Diagnosis:

- Substantial public resources allocated to the Strategy;
- SAIs did not have a systematic approach to monitor and assess national measures

RESOLUTION
Network on Europe 2020 Strategy audit

CC-R-2012-XX

1) Considering:

- a) The objectives and targets established in the Europe 2020 Strategy (following the Lisbon Strategy) and the substantial public resources allocated to it, both European and national;
- b) The control of the implementation of these resources and the results reached are essential to achieve the proposed objectives, for the correct and transparent application of the funds and for citizens' trust in its institutions;
- c) The Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs), with its independence and technical capacity, are in position to carry out this control;
- d) In the presence of common objectives, the SAIs should act in an articulated way and share audit experiences (planning, working methods, results, etc.);
- e) The "Network on Lisbon Strategy/Europe 2020 Audit" proved to be an important forum for sharing experience and knowledge in the audit of Lisbon Strategy related topics and a useful tool in the articulation of the activity of SAIs.

2) The Contact Committee decides:

- a) The continuation of the "Network on Europe 2020 Strategy Audit";
- a) The "Network on Europe 2020 Strategy Audit" should act in a close articulation and collaboration with the "Network on Fiscal Policy Audit".

Estoril, 19 October 2012

5. June **2013** – Potsdam Joint Seminar

- SAls are encouraged to reinforce the monitoring and the assessment of the national implementation of the Strategy

6. June **2014** – Vienna Joint Seminar

- Questionnaire results:
 - ✓ the EU2020 Strategy has been receiving SAIs attention through audits pursued at the level of government policies aimed at attaining the 5 specific strategy targets
 - ✓ there is still not a comprehensive approach linking those targets and the new economic governance roadmap, namely in the field of the National Reform Programmes
 - ✓ there has been more emphasis on audits related to employment and environment and less to inequalities or innovation
- Reinforcement of SAI work
- Explore common objectives and methodologies

7. June 2015 – Lisbon Joint Seminar

- Reinforcement of SAI work
- Strengthening cooperation and leveraging audit results within the EU framework
- Propose to the CC the launch of parallel audits
“Use of public/EU funds to promote education and labour market needs”

8. June **2016** – Helsinki Seminar

- The importance of parallel audits and of sharing knowledge on methods and results from national audits
- Auditing challenges: the quality of Europe 2020 indicators and targets
- Propose to the CC the conduct of a survey in order to collect information on audits carried out by SAls since 2012
- Bring European Commission representatives to our seminars

9. May **2017** - Malta Joint Seminar

- Work from the parallel audits presented at the Seminar proved to be an important way to develop common approaches.
- Questionnaire results:
 - ✓ since 2012, 16 SAIs worked on 155 audits, covering the five headline targets
 - ✓ education was identified as a priority for auditing at a national level and climate and energy was identified as the most relevant issue to be worked at a coordinated level
 - ✓ there is a diversity of approaches on auditing the Europe 2020 Strategy and still not a common set of indicators making possible a comparable approach
- Participating SAIs were called to reflect on the future of the Network.

10. May **2018** - Paris Joint Seminar

- Questionnaire results:
 - ✓ reinforced the continuity of the Network given the benefits that can be obtained from future work
 - ✓ looking forward, suggested the usefulness of a landscape review on SAI's audit results and main recommendations concerning the Europe 2020 Strategy
- Participating SAIs agreed to set up a core group with the aim of coordinating a review on the Europe 2020 Strategy, in order:
 - ✓ to produce a synthesis report/communication on results and recommendations of audit reports already carried out by SAIs
 - ✓ to present the synthesis report/communication to the 2020 CC

Gross domestic product – European Union

