



Association
of International
Certified Professional
Accountants®

The unified voice of AICPA and CIMA

PIBR
Polska Izba Biegłych
Rewidentów

The Polish Chamber of Statutory Auditors and the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants signed a memorandum of wider cooperation to support the audit profession

This historic agreement is aimed at developing the competences of professionals providing audit and advisory services in Poland and raising their professional qualifications in order to allow them to fully use the potential of new technologies and enable to spread their wings in the digital era, thus building the future of finance in our country.

On 13 February 2020, the Polish Chamber of Statutory Auditors (PIBR) and the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants® (the Association), the unified voice of the American Institute of CPAs® (AICPA®) and The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants® (CIMA®) – signed a cooperation agreement to support the audit profession.

Members of the Polish Chamber of Statutory Auditors (PIBR) who, while carrying out the mission of providing audit and advisory services, aim to ensure the reliability of financial information and the security of business transactions in Poland, will be supported in this pursuit by the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants, which is the largest organisation in the world representing the public and management accounting industry.

The Association will be aiming to support PIBR in exploring mutual recognition for PIBR members to qualifications: both the US CPA and CIMA. This includes accelerated entry route to the CIMA Professional Qualification (and the globally recognized CGMA® designation which is offered to qualified AICPA and CIMA members) as well as accelerated entry route to the US CPA designation for all active members of PIBR. Similarly, under this memorandum of wider cooperation, PIBR will be aiming to realize fast-tracked access for active US CPAs who are members of the Association and for the members of CIMA, so holders of the following designations: CPA, CGMA, ACMA, FCMA.

*– The signing of the memorandum on cooperation between PIBR and the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants is a very important event in the history of our chamber. As a profession, we are facing challenges brought on by new technologies, the development of artificial intelligence, as well as cyber security problems. It requires us to gain new competences, future competences in the field of audit and attestation, including data analytics, blockchain, and use of effective technologies in auditing. Our main goal - as an authority - is to support all members in raising their qualifications by providing access to training, information materials and expert knowledge. Participation in the **Auditing in the Future** project also gives us a chance to overcome barriers faster and adapt to new expectations. The agreement opens a way for more rapid development and provides an opportunity to draw on resources and experience. We want the Polish Chamber of Statutory Auditors to be an active organisation, keeping pace with the expectations of a secure economy, – says **Barbara Misterska-Dragan**, President of the National Chamber of Statutory Auditors.*

– The signing of the cooperation agreement between the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants and PIBR is a milestone in the development of our business in Europe. But it also an extremely important event from the perspective of the future of finance, and above all audit in Poland. In this way we want to support and enable raising the qualifications of



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*professionals providing audit and advisory services in Poland for the benefit of the entire Polish economy. The Association is already active in this regard on the international arena. As part of the **Auditing in the Future** project, we are increasing access to resources and materials focused on new technologies and are working on raising awareness and interest in providing new services among auditors. We do it because we believe in the value of continuously improving qualifications. Investing in people is the best investment for the future of our profession, says **Jakub Bejnarowicz**, Regional Director, Europe, Association of International Certified Professional Accountants.*

Statutory auditors who are PIBR members are guided in their daily work by high standards and principles of professional ethics, such as: honesty, objectivity, respecting confidentiality of information and professional conduct of the statutory auditor. Raising their qualifications and investing in their skills is an additional guarantee of the quality of services they provide.

Members of the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants and members of CIMA, i.e. people with one of the following titles: CPA, CGMA, ACMA, FCMA, often holding strategic roles in both Polish and international organisations, for years have been receiving support from the Association in achieving their full potential and acting in line with the belief that ethical business is the foundation of a healthy economy.

CPA firms and their clients now have access to more data than ever before, and information technology systems are becoming smarter and more robust. Additionally, businesses are seeking assurance services on subject-matter areas beyond financial statements. That is why the *Auditing in the Future* initiative undertaken by the Association seeks to educate CPAs and firms about these changes and opportunities, provide thought leadership on the changing profession, develop tools and resources to help CPAs and firms adapt and grow to new marketplace demands, lead the discussion about the need and opportunity to transform the traditional financial statement audit, and raise marketplace awareness of evolving assurance services such as SOC for Cybersecurity and sustainability reporting assurance.

Additional information:

As part of the memorandum signed by PIBR and the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants, cooperation between organisations will also include among others:

- Striving to provide active PIBR members and candidates with access to CPD (Continuing Professional Development) resources enabling professional development in such areas as management and financial accounting, auditing and assurance, data analytics, artificial intelligence, blockchain, cybersecurity, ethics, valuation, fraud, forensics, business partnering and business acumen.
- Striving to host webinars for all active PIBR members and candidates including topics like: skills of the future, technologies for auditing; key trends addressing the future of accounting profession as well as providing a free of charge dedicated portal for PIBR via which CPD resources could be available for all active PIBR members.
- Allowing members of both organisations to participate in events organised by PIBR and the Association and striving to organise a joint annual conference dedicated to the public sector in Poland.