

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear International Visitor,

You are visiting the official website of the Hellenic Court of Audit, the Supreme Financial Court and Audit Institution of Greece. Whilst *our Institution is at the same time a Jurisdiction and an Audit Authority*, in this website, without neglecting our judicial remits, *we give substantial emphasis in our audit work*.

Our audit is a common sense audit, because our criteria of review are conceived to be understood by the main users of our audit products, namely members of Parliament, ministers, high ranked administrators, the press and the public in general. We do not produce sophisticated reports demanding special abilities by their readers.

In parallel, *our audit is smart* in the sense that it is performed on the basis of the most advanced audit tools and approaches in the audit world. It is not technology which makes our audit smart. Our audit's smartness lies in advanced ideas, such as *game theory* to track irregular behavior, *calculus* to make the best use of our resources, *probabilities theory* to proceed to risk analysis, and *rational decision theory* to appreciate good governance.

We have full conscience of the fact that our Institution is the external auditor of a country which has recently experienced a severe financial crisis. Our analysis of the origins of that crisis, as exposed in a [document](#) you can find in this website, is that it is the *lack of appropriate legislation for a robust internal and external audit*, which created almost all the related problems. And by our action, sustained by radical legislative reforms, we are now in a position to assume the role which should have been ours.

A word before closing, with reference to the information available to you. Our website, as regards its content, is under construction, and it will take some more time to fill in the respective English texts under the appearing in it titles. We hope, however, that the English version of the Court's website already provides its international visitors with a good picture of our Institution, and mainly of the kind of audit work we are currently performing.

We welcome you and invite you to browse our website, hoping it succeeds in familiarizing you with the mission, the activities and their underlying vision of the Hellenic Court of Audit.

Ioannis Sarmas
President of Hellenic Court of Audit.