ECIIA INSIDER

Your News around Europe

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to the latest edition of ECIIA Insider, bringing you news, developments and insights from across our European internal audit community.

Through this newsletter, we aim to keep our National Institutes informed, highlight key initiatives and opportunities, and encourage the exchange of knowledge and experience across our network.

We look forward to seeing you in Breukelen, IIA NL, for the requested strategy planning session, followed by the General Assembly on 1st and 2nd December respectively.

Together, we continue to strengthen our European community and speak with one voice for internal audit.

One European Community, One Stronger Voice



In a **LinkedIn message**, ECIIA President Andrea Bracht reflected on her first months in office and reaffirmed her commitment to strengthening the collective

voice of internal audit across Europe. As ECIIA celebrates its 25th anniversary, its network continues to grow: with IIA Malta joining as its newest member, the Confederation now brings together 36 National Institutes representing more than 58,000 internal auditors.

Andrea highlighted the importance of close cooperation with ECIIA's National Institutes, Management Board, CEO Rachel Barlow and The Institute of Internal Auditors. She also expressed her gratitude to her predecessor, Massimiliano Turconi, for his leadership, and to DIIR for its longstanding support.

Her message is a reminder of what makes our European community strong: collaboration across borders, shared expertise and a collective commitment to ensuring that the voice of European internal audit is heard.

Read Andrea's message on LinkedIn

ECIIA Conference 2026

Celebrating 25 Years Together



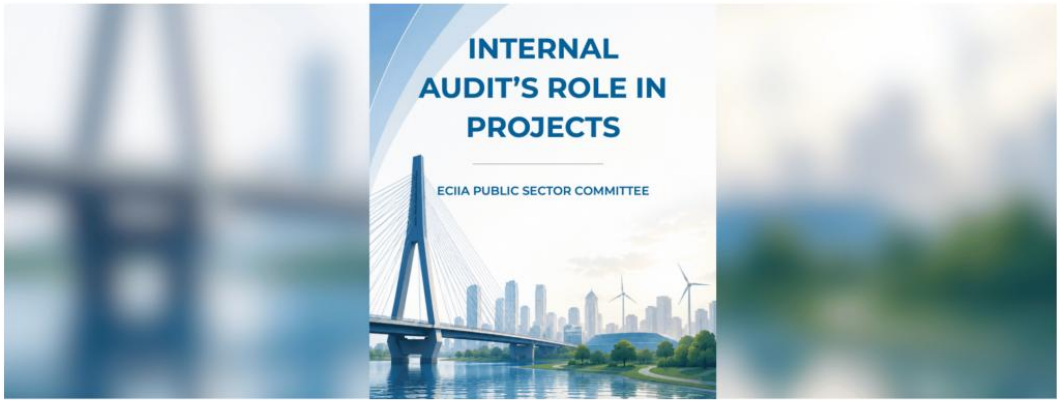
On 15–16 October, the European internal audit community came together in Brussels and online for the ECIIA Conference 2026, co-hosted by IIA Belgium. Marking ECIIA's 25th anniversary, this special edition brought professionals, regulators and governance experts together under the theme "Internal Audit at Europe's Crossroads – Navigating Change Towards Tomorrow."

From artificial intelligence and cybersecurity to leadership, geopolitical uncertainty and organisational resilience, the conference provided two days of valuable discussions and knowledge sharing. The anniversary also offered an opportunity to recognise the former Presidents and National Institutes whose dedication and collaboration have helped shape ECIIA over the past 25 years.

Our sincere thanks go to IIA Belgium for co-organising the conference, and to all speakers, moderators, sponsors, partners and participants who contributed to this special edition. Above all, thank you to our European internal audit community for its continued engagement. Together, we are building on 25 years of cooperation to strengthen the profession and its collective voice across Europe.

New ECIIA Paper

Internal Audit's Role in Projects



How can internal audit contribute to effective project governance while safeguarding its independence? The ECIIA Public Sector Committee addresses this question in its new paper, "Internal Audit's Role in Projects," exploring how a risk-based approach can help internal auditors provide valuable assurance and advice throughout the project lifecycle.

From planning and initiation to implementation, monitoring and post- project review, the paper examines key considerations including governance arrangements, risk management, independent oversight and the assessment of expected benefits. It also explores how early involvement can add value while ensuring that internal auditors remain independent of project decision-making.

This publication reflects the valuable contribution of ECIIA's Public Sector Committee to strengthening governance and promoting the role of internal audit across Europe. We encourage our National Institutes to explore the paper and share it with their members, helping bring these insights to the wider European internal audit community.

Read the paper

Honouring the Leaders Behind 25 Years of ECIIA



On 14 October 2026, former ECIIA Presidents and current leaders gathered in Brussels for a special dinner celebrating 25 years of shared commitment to European internal audit. Held ahead of the ECIIA Conference 2026, the evening was an opportunity to reconnect, share memories and recognise the people whose leadership and dedication have helped shape the Confederation.

A special anniversary film brought together reflections from former Presidents on the achievements, experiences and aspirations that have defined ECIIA's journey. Also featured during the conference, the film highlighted how successive generations of leaders have contributed to building a stronger, more connected European internal audit community.

Our sincere thanks go to all former ECIIA Presidents for their lasting contributions, and to everyone who has supported the Confederation throughout its history. Their legacy reminds us that ECIIA's strength lies in the people, partnerships and shared commitment that unite our National Institutes, providing a strong foundation for the years ahead.

ECIIA Banking Forum 2026

Bringing AI Perspectives Together



On 20 October 2026, the ECIIA Banking Forum gathered the leading voices from academia, Audit Committees, ECB Banking Supervision and the banking sector to explore a key question: How can Internal Audit turn artificial intelligence from hype into genuine value?

Through discussions on AI innovation, governance, supervisory expectations and practical implementation, the Forum connected research and oversight perspectives with real-world experience from BBVA and Barclays. This exchange highlighted the importance of approaching AI adoption not only as a technological opportunity, but also as a matter of accountability, effective governance and professional judgement.

Our sincere thanks go to Virpi Vuorinen, Chair of the ECIIA Banking Committee, for her leadership, and to all speakers, moderators and participants. We also extend our appreciation to the Banking Committee, our colleagues at DIIR and the AVS team for their contributions to the preparation and delivery of the Forum.

Watch the replay

New Research: Closing the AI Governance Gap



As artificial intelligence adoption accelerates, are organisations developing the capabilities needed to manage its risks? A new research report published by AICPA & CIMA, “Developing Dynamic Capabilities for AI Risk Governance,” explores this growing challenge. Co-authored by Matej Drašček of IIA Slovenia, alongside Sergeja Slapničar, Dessalegn Mihret and Tina Vuko, the study draws on 61 interviews and an international survey to examine how organisations are responding to the governance challenges posed by AI.

The research highlights critical gaps in accountability across the Three Lines Model, AI-related competencies and assurance capabilities. It introduces a practical framework to help organisations identify emerging risks, mobilise expertise and embed effective governance into their processes, moving beyond experimentation towards sustainable oversight.

We encourage our National Institutes to explore this research and share it with their members. It offers valuable insights for internal auditors seeking to strengthen AI risk governance and contribute to responsible technological transformation across organisations.

Read the Research Report

Thank you for being part of our European internal audit community.

Your continued engagement, collaboration and contributions are essential to strengthening our network and advancing the profession across Europe. Together, we can share knowledge, build stronger connections and ensure that European internal audit speaks with one strong, collective voice.

We always welcome your ideas, feedback and suggestions. Feel free to get in touch with us at **info@eciia.eu**.

Warm regards, The ECIIA Team

European Confederation of
Institutes of
Internal Auditing