

How can supreme audit institutions ensure their work continues to be trusted by the public, media, and government?

The Young EUROS AI Congress 2019 recognises the need to ensure that Supreme Audit Institution's remain trusted by government, media and the public.

The members of this committee perceive the following challenges to ensuring supreme audit institutions remain trusted institutions today and in the future.

Challenge One

Presenting our findings appropriately

This poses a challenge because it is important to get the right balance of volume, technical content and types of product to engender trust and ensuring it is understandable and accessible to the public.

Challenge Two

Proximity with our stakeholders

This poses a challenge to trust because if the issues the SAI's are investigating is too far removed from public concerns it may be considered that we are not looking at the right issues. Similarly, if the SAIs are too close to the audited bodies then this poses a risk to our independence and trustworthiness.

Challenge Three

Recognisability and visibility

There is a risk that the public and MPs expectations of our organisations are not aligned with our purpose and role and consequently eroding trust when we do not meet these false expectations.

To address these challenges today and in the future Supreme Audit Institutions need to take the following actions

Action One

One size does not fit all

For the work we undertake as SAIs, we need to ensure that we do not take a one size fits all approach to our outputs but instead tailor our outputs to the intended audiences ensuring our messages resonate and are trustworthy. This can include using different mediums to engage audiences.

Action Two

A framework of engagement

SAIs should have a defined framework which ensures an independent approach to engaging with the public, media and MPs and enable collaboration with other bodies, including universities, accountancy training providers etc, to increase awareness of our role.

Action Three

Get creative

An increased use of data visualisation to help promote our outputs, and engage a wider range of audiences.
