

# PROFESSIONAL COMPETITIVE EVOLUTION AND QUANTIFICATION MODELS IN ACCOUNTING SERVICE ELABORATION

Associate Professor Ph.D. **Gheorghe FATACEAN**  
Babes Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca, Romania  
[gheorghe.fatacean@econ.ubbcluj.ro](mailto:gheorghe.fatacean@econ.ubbcluj.ro)

**Abstract:**

*The objective of this article consists in using an assessment framework of the accounting service elaboration. The purpose of this model is the identification and revaluation of an elite group of expert accounts from Romania, which should provide solutions to solve the most complex legal matters in the legal field, in the field of criminal, tax, civil, or commercial clauses making the object of law suits.*

**Key words:** professional competence, assessment, quantification model, accounting service, expert accountant

**JEL classification:** H11

## 1. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The scientific research methodology used in this article is based on the observance of the indestructible relation between quantitative and qualitative, combining qualitative and quantitative research, in order to increase the results obtained following the research. The qualitative approaches consider the interferences of the accounting service elaboration with various fields of the human society, contributing to the presentation of the part played by the accounting service elaboration in the settlement of ardent issues in the economic and social fields.

The quantitative point of view, the methodological process of research has been raised by revising the specialized literature in the field. Among the research methods used during the investigation, the observation method and the descriptive narrative method are highlighted. The descriptive method was applied on the main fields where judicial or extrajudicial accounting service is requested, and on the tax objectives within the judicial accounting expertise carried out by the court.

The objective of the descriptive/narrative method is to emphasize the main activities that quantify quantitatively and qualitatively the professional competence of the experts. The scientific field, given the strong practical character of the accounting expertise activity, is mostly based on inductive approaches, departing from practice to theory. The work instrument used consists in the analysis of bibliographic sources, but also of numerous works of judicial or extrajudicial accounting expertise. The issue of setting a professional competence assessment model in accounting expertise is supported and argued, departing from these aspects:

- defining elements of the accounting expertise activity;
- the dimension of the accounting activity and implicitly of the accounting expertise activity, as social practice;
- the part played by the accounting expertise in providing social order;
- the size of the accounting profession from the point of view of certain remarkable specialists in the field.

## II. DEFINING ELEMENTS OF THE ACCOUNTING EXPERTISE ACTIVITY

The defining elements of the accounting activity are presented on two columns, respectively: definition of accounting expertise, and, respectively, the principles and values on which the accounting expertise activity is based.

The generic definition of expertise comes from the Latin language, from the word “expertus”, which is translated as “skilled”, therefore expertise, by definition, means competence, knowledge and abilities.

According to other members, the accounting expertise is a form of scientific research carried out in order to clarify the manner in which certain facts, circumstances, economic-financial situations are reflected in documents and in the technical-operative and accounting evidence. (Boulescu, M. Ghiță M., 1996).

The accounting expertise, as dimension of the accounting profession, claims the observance of certain principles and values that give it relevance and credibility among users. Among these principles, the professional competence, joined by prudence, represents the gravity center of the profession. The professional competence and prudence, as requirements of the Ethical Code of the Accounting Professionals, claim that the professional accountant should keep his/her professional knowledge and skills at the required level to make sure that a client or employer takes over competent professional services based on the latest progresses in practice, legislation and techniques, and acts in accordance with the technical and professional standards in force.

Together with this principle, the Optional Ethical Code, inspired from the IFAC code, claims the observance of other principles, respectively: integrity, objectivity, confidentiality and professional behavior (professionalism).

### **The dimension of the accounting activity and implicitly of the accounting expertise activity, as social practice**

The purpose of accounting diversified and evolved together with the society, and the accounting acquired three important functions (Capron M. 1993), namely:

- it creates a climate of trust among the participants in the economic life;
- it constitutes an auxiliary of the decision-making power at the microeconomic level;
- it plays the part of mediator in the social process, among the protagonists of the economic and social life that are found in the producers of accounting information and the users of accounting information.

In this sense, both the accounting in general, and the activity of accounting expertise, in particular, represents a stake for the economic and social actors, and the expert accountant becomes an activity bearer, manifesting himself when the monopoly of carrying out the profession has been fractured, an authority built on competence and knowledge.

### **III. THE PART PLAYED BY THE ACCOUNTING EXPERTISE IN PROVIDING SOCIAL ORDER**

The capacity of expert accountant reflects the highest degree of competence that the professional accountant may manifest and exercise. Departing from these assertions, some prestigious authors of the accounting literature of our country define the part played by the expert accountant also in optimizing the structural organization of the accounting activity (Horomnea, E 2008).

The expert accountants play a specific role in the accounting production, considering that the accounting user circle has widened way beyond those who are permanently endowed with the induction of the enterprise (Capron Mecheel 1994, pag. 116-117).

The current configuration of the ratio between society-State and economy identifies a series of users of the information that are found in the judicial accounting expertise reports, respectively:

- the State, which is interested in the level of taxes and fees making the object of additional decisions of taxation, and also making the object of litigations of tax disputes, where the expert accountant is appointed to set the additional taxation made by the correctly performed tax inspection;
- the social bodies managing the issue of setting the premiums calculated for the former employees based on the retirement decisions, documents which many times make the object

of disputes that later become tax litigations or work conflict litigations, whose object is to establish the average pension score;

- the courts of law who take into consideration the settlement of criminal causes concerning the setting of the prejudice caused to the State budget or to the social security budget, acknowledged by the tax control bodies, and which enter the scope of production;
- the courts of law specialized in the field of commercial law, who must clarify the level of the commercial debts under litigation;
- the National or County Commissary for the Protection of Consumers who introduced actions before the court concerning abusive contract clauses of loan agreements, and who wish to know their impact on the consumers;
- the banking companies that ask the expert accountants to establish the level of the outstanding debts or of the debts that are under foreclosure.

Departing from these provisions, we believe it is of great topicality to have the appraisal of arbitrators as regards the dimension of the accounting profession, of the expert accountant, in modern society where the “accountant profession”, from its beginnings until present days, has remained one of the noblest, but also one of the hardest and most responsible professions. Accounting has become the current profession of modern times. By extending the services brought to the national economy, it is technically unlimited and indispensable both for the enterprise, and for the collectivity (Stefan I. Dumitrescu, Dumitru Toma, 1973, p.146).

Departing from these challenges of the expert accountant activity, the issue of assessing the accounting expertise and implicitly the expert accountants, through a system of quantitative and qualitative indicator, is imperative.

The purpose or goal of this assessment is to classify experts, according to their social recognition, to the level of professional competence manifested in order to train them, in the most complex and difficult judicial accounting expertise, claiming a high level of knowledge.

This assessment activity must be based on two categories of indicators, respectively:

- one system of quantitative indicators;
- one system of qualitative indicators.

The use of these indicators represents the mirror of the activity carried out by the expert accountants, and have the purpose to emphasize the biggest professionals in the field of judicial and extrajudicial accounting expertise.

In the system of quantitative indicators by means of which the activity of a proposed expert may be identified, we notice:

- the number of judicial accounting expertise ordered to be performed during one year by the expert accountant;
- the number of judicial accounting expertise carried out by an expert accountant during one year;
- the ratio between the number of judicial accounting expertise ordered to be performed and the number of accounting expertise actually performed, the unit value of the indicators having relevance in the profession in the conditions of approximately 10-12 accounting expertise carried out;
- the number of fields in which an expert accounts carries out accounting expertise, their maximum value being included in the chart of options, and the performance of accounting expertise in all the fields is not a certain level of professional competence;
- the number of judicial or extrajudicial accounting expertise carried out by an expert throughout his/her entire activity, a number of 50-70 accounting expertise suggesting the image of an experienced, competent expert accountant.

Together with the quantitative assessment indicators, an important part is played by the system of qualitative indicators, such as:

- the ratio between the number of accounting expertise for which the quality audit visa has been granted, and the number of accounting expertise carried out, its unit value is an attestation of professional competence;

- the ratio between the number of accounting expertise whose opinions have been accepted by the courts of law as evidence before the justice, and the number of accounting expertise carried out;
- the level of the hourly rate set and accepted by the court, a level as high as possible of the professional competence of the expert;
- the configuration of the professional reasoning joining the decisions of the expert accountant, and which is accompanied by as many arguments as possible.
- The professional reasoning, designed as an instrument of the expert accountant, is based on the following activities and habits:
- knowledge and application of the principles of national category and the concept and criteria of recognition;
- knowledge and application of the fundamental principles and of the normative principles of accounting;
- obtain knowledge in the field of law and tax legislation.

We may actually assert that the professional reasoning is the main factor making the difference between experts, as regards their good image among the users of accounting expertise.

One final indicator which, although it is numeric, is considered to be qualitative, is the number of expertise carried out as expert assistant on the parties' recommendation, an activity which represents an interface of the recognition of the competence and professionalism of an expert accountant.

Following the numerous judicial accounting expertise carried out following the appointment as expert designated by the court, the expert accountant becomes known in the professional, business environment and in the society and, as such, his/her services are requested by an increasing number of applicants, appointing him/her as expert party designated by the parties under litigation.

During the judicial accounting suits ordered by the court, the bodies ordering the performance of accounting expertise take into account the qualification of the expert accountant. The more sound knowledge they have, the more trust they inspire to the legal bodies (Henegaru Liviu, pag. 241, 1976 – Control financiar și expertiză contabilă – Ed. Didactică și Pedagogică București, 1976).

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

Departing from the aspects presented in the contents of the article, we consider that, in the accounting expertise activity, the following intercessory is required:

- institute a competence assessment model based on the quantitative and qualitative indicators enumerated and developed in the contents of the scientific field;
- strict evidence of the judicial and extrajudicial accounting expertise works, kept by the expert accountants, an intercessory made both at the level of the subsidiaries of the body, and at the level of courts of law: first instance courts, tribunals, respectively the Court of Appeal;
- classification of the expert accountants per fields and at the level of activity carried out, allowing the court to provide such strategies, in the most complex and difficult causes, through the most competent expert accountants;
- assert and recognize the profession of expert accountant in the frame of liberal professions in the society and in the business environment.

#### V. REFERENCES:

1. Boulescu Mircea, Ghiță Marcel, (1996). *Control financiar și expertiză contabilă*, Editura Eficient, București, (Financial Control and Accounting Expertise)
2. Crăciun Stefan, (2002), *Controlul și auditul financiar, Expertiza contabilă*, Editura Economică. (Financial Control and Audit, Accounting Expertise)

3. Briciu Simion, Todea Nicolae, Socol Adela, Teiușan Ciprian, Luka Vasile, Sicoe Alina, Dobra Ioan, (2003), *Controlul și expertiza*, Ed. Risoprint. (Control and Expertise)
4. Henegaru Liviu, (1970), *Control financiar și expertiză contabilă*, Editura Didactică și Pedagogică București. (Financial Control and Accounting Expertise)
5. Capron Mecheel, (1994) *Contabilitatea în perspectivă*, Editura Humanitas București, , (Perspective Accounting)
6. Standardul Profesional 35, Editura CECCAR (2011), Ediția a IV revizuită (Professional Standard, CECCAR, Publishig House, Edition IV revised)
7. Dumitrescu I Stefan, Toma Dumitru, (1973), *Principiile contabilității*, Editura Didactică și Pedagogică București. (Principles of Accounting)