

IFRS ADOPTING PROCESS IN ROMANIAN BANKS - IMPACT ON INDEPENDENT AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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ABSTRACT: The purpose of this paper is to study the manner in which the banking independent auditors' mission could be influenced by the International Financial Reporting Standards IFRS adoption in Romanian banks beginning with the financial year ending 31 December 2012. The paper aims to develop a theoretical and empirical comparative analysis of IFRS and Romanian Accounting Standards applied in the banking field by examining a bank's Financial Statements (Balance Sheet) for the financial exercise ending 31 December 2011. Our analysis illustrates the differences between these two categories of standards and configures the causes of the differences and the way in which the new IFRS may affect the independent audit process of the financial statements of banks. Our approach represents a forward-looking landing of the challenges of the audit of the IFRS banking financial statements, because the financial statements of the year ending to 31 December 2012 will be the first issued according to the new accounting rules based on IFRS. We study the Auditors' Reports for the year 2011 of the listed Romanian banks at the Bucharest Exchange Stock and emphasize the auditors' fear regarding to the subsequent events, after the beginning of 2012, referring to the new IFRS standards applicable from 1 January 2012.

Key words: IFRS applying, active banks from Romania, independent audit, financial statements of banks

JEL codes: M42, G21, G28