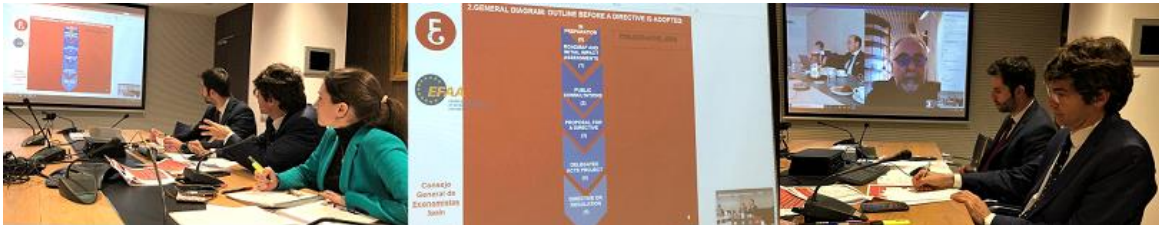


Press release

EFAA Holds Inaugural Meeting of New Expert Group on EU Professional Regulations

EFAA President, Mr. Salvador Marín, presented the goals and objectives of this new expert group. During this first meeting, the experts agreed on priorities and working procedures. Access to the profession and regulation, provision of services, qualification and recognition of the profession are the priority areas of interest.



Brussels, 28 January, 2020 – The European Federation for Accountants and Auditors for SMEs (EFAA) launched, at the end of the last year, a new Expert Group on EU Professional Regulations. The first meeting took place on Tuesday 28 January. Experts are representatives of several EFAA Member organizations, *Ordem Dos Contabilistas Certificados* of Portugal (OCC), *German Association of Tax Advisors* (DStV), *Consejo General de Economistas of Spain* (CGE), *Chamber of Accountant Services of Slovenia* (CCSI-CAS) and EFAA staff led by EFAA President, Mr. Marín, Mr. Thompson, EFAA Director and Mrs. Zambelli, Head of Secretariat and of Public Affairs. The *Nederlandse Beroepsorganisatie van Accountants of Netherlands* (NBA), the *Institute for Tax Advisors and Accountants of Belgium* (ITAA) and *Chamber of Auditors of Azerbaijan Republic* (CAAR) have also nominated an expert.

The idea of creating an Expert Group focused on European Professional Regulations answers the need to develop opinions and intervene throughout the legislative process on behalf of Europe's SMPs. This approach goes hand-in-hand with the unique objective of EFAA: representing SMPs and accountants working in SMEs. The EG will provide a forum for exchanging views on how to address relevant issues as well as cooperate with members in taking appropriate actions. In this way, the European Union will be able to hear and understand the general opinion of EFAA's members as a united European profession. EFAA for SMEs, with more than 25 years of experience, is the only regional organization representing only SMPs providing services mainly to SMEs. This being its only role, activity and objective, EFAA's opinion on EU issues is of great relevance .

Access to the profession, provision of services, qualification and recognition of the profession are the four key areas of interest on which the group will focus. The expert group will first look at initiatives to strengthen the single market in professional services. In due course the expert group may also work on other issues EFAA members consider especially relevant such as European Green Deal

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EFAA, the European Federation of Accountants and Auditors for Small and Medium-sized enterprises, is the umbrella organisation for national accountants and auditors' organisations whose individual members provide professional services primarily to SMEs. EFAA members are small- and medium-size professionals (SMPs) that provide a wide range of professional services (auditing, accountancy, as well as tax, commercial, economic, financial and strategic advisory) to the SMEs. EFAA has 12 members throughout Europe representing over 350,000 accountants and auditors.