



EUROPEAN  
ORGANIZATION  
OF REGIONAL  
AUDIT INSTITUTIONS

**STATEMENT BY EURORAI  
ARISING FROM THE 8<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
HELD IN HALLE (GERMANY) ON 17 AND 18 OCTOBER 2013**

In the wake of the debate sparked recently in Spain with the announcement of the Spanish Public Administrations Reform Commission's conclusions regarding the work of the regional public sector audit offices, the Management Committee of the European Organisation of Regional External Public Finance Audit Institutions (EURORAI), with the support of the General Assembly of the member institutions of the Association, has decided to issue the following statement:

In these times of general economic recession and budget reductions in European countries, EURORAI firmly believes in the importance of a strong and effective public audit conducted on the spot by **regional, public** and **independent** institutions:

- **regional**, because the proximity of the organisations on which they exercise their auditing powers affords regional audit institutions rapid access to the required information, which enables the drafting of up-to-date reports that are available in time for the appropriate measures to be adopted or even redress situations, when required.
- **public**, because public auditors play an important role, especially in times of economic change, by analysing and reporting data on risks, performance and financial management, thus providing essential information for governments and parliaments to ensure high standards, efficiency and value for money.
- **independent**, because the independence of public auditors from the executive authorities and the audited bodies is essential to ensure that they can report to parliaments and the public without the risk of being restricted by governments or auditees.

In addition, EURORAI as an association of public sector audit offices with more than 80 members in 16 European countries would like to express the full commitment of its member institutions to supporting regional and municipal governments and parliaments through their audit work and their endeavours to achieve economy and efficiency in the audit resources employed.

Finally, EURORAI will continue to comply with the objectives set out in its Statutes by promoting among its members an exchange of knowledge, experience and best practice in public sector auditing and encouraging improvements in European regions and municipalities.