

EU and public sector accounting: trust, accountability and transparency

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ICAEW – EU engagement



ICAEW has 20 years+ Brussels experience



In keeping with our founding Royal Charter of 1880, EU engagement has been pursued in the public interest.



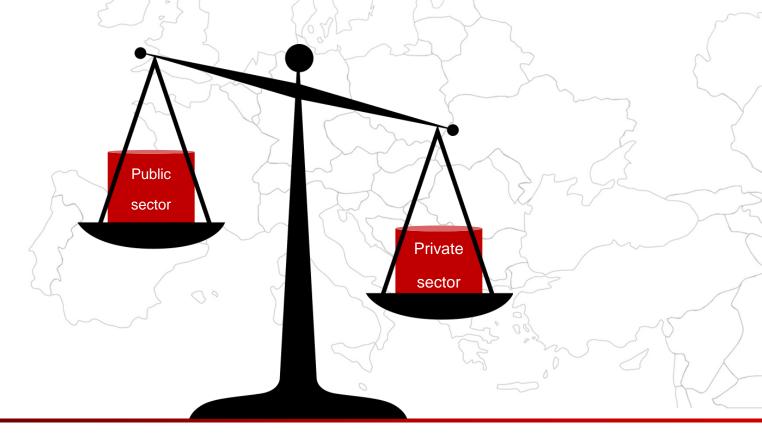
We formulate policy and thought leadership positions and lead discussion on key public interest issues

EU policy making - post-crisis

Public sector accounts for almost half of the EU's GDP (48.1%, EU28)

Why is this weighting insufficiently reflected in the EU's post-crisis policy-

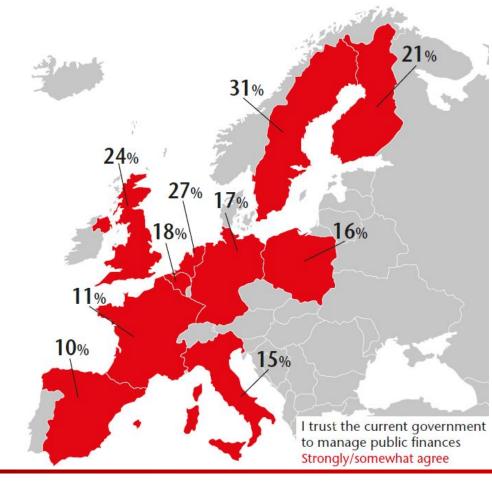
making?



Trust in public finances

ICAEW-PwC survey of 10,000 citizens in 10 EU countries)

- 2 in 3 have no solid understanding of public finances
- 7 in 10 call for action from their governments to reduce debt levels
- 8 in 10 want government to do more to ensure value for money



ICAEW – PwC EU discussion series



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Sustainable Public Finances: 10 Key Insights

Public sector Lessons can be drawn from faceted and international Debate over tired organisations standards **Shortcomings** mask the real must focus on needed picture information Financial EU can play a markets have leadership role a role to play Accountability Accounting is critical – but one piece of functioning The cost of democracies the jigsaw **Financial** not reforming literacy needs is higher than to improve the cost of reform

Charting a way forward at EU level: ideas...

Obstacles/objections to date	Possible solutions
High cost of reform	Generate consensus over risks and costs of non-reform Tailored roadmaps Materiality and subsidiarity
Lack of democratic legitimacy	Enshrine key principles in EU legislation
Suitability of standards	Establish mechanism for upstream EU influence and EU endorsement
Governance and control	EU participation in international Oversight and EU mechanism on enforcement and comparability
Insufficient drivers of change	Engage citizens and international financial markets to complement legislative requirement

Take part in the discussion!

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