



EUROPEAN
COURT
OF AUDITORS



Ladislav BALKO

Born in Slepčany, Slovakia, in 1954

Education:

- 1978 Diploma in law – Faculty of Law, Comenius University in Bratislava
- 1980 Degree Doctor of law, and a PhD (2000)
- 2002 Associated Professor of financial and commercial law

Professional experience:

- 1980 – 1990 Journalist at Czechoslovak Radio
- 1990 – 1991 Chief lawyer at the Customs Directorate of the Slovak Republic
- 1991 – 1999 Various managerial posts including that of Deputy Director-General at the largest Slovak commercial bank - Všeobecná úverová banka (VÚB)
- 2001 – 2004 Vice-Governor and member of the Bank Board of the Export-Import Bank of the Slovak Republic
- 2003 Chief Executive Officer of the governmental Slovak Investment and Trade Development Agency (SARIO)
- 2004 – 2006 Member of the Bank Board -the highest governing body of the central bank- the National Bank of Slovakia (NBS)
- 2006 – 2010 Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of the state-owned Slovak Guarantee and Development Bank (SZRB)
- 2006 – 2010 Adviser to the Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic for finance and foreign investment
- 1995 – 2010 Lecturer, later Head of the Financial Law Department of the Faculty of Law of the Comenius University in Bratislava; lecturing in public finance, budget law, financial controls, tax and customs law, currency and foreign exchange and financial markets law. He has written many scientific and professional articles on these subjects, as well as several textbooks of financial law.

Mr Balko became a Member of the European Court of Auditors on 7 May 2010.

Until 30 January 2014, he was a Member of Chamber IV, responsible for DAS audit of research and other internal policies and for the performance audit in the same field. From April 2012 he was the alternate member for Chamber IV in the CEAD Chamber and from 1 February 2013 was the alternate member for Chamber IV in the Administrative Committee. Moreover, Mr Balko was member of the Internal Audit Committee from 12 February 2012 and Chairperson of that Committee from 24 April 2013 to 28 February 2014.

As of February 2014, Mr Balko was appointed as a Member of Chamber II “Structural policies, transport and energy” and was, until the end of his first mandate at the Court in May 2016, Rapporteur for the Annual Report’s Chapter 6 “Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion” and responsible for DAS audit and for several performance audits in the same field. He was furthermore the Member representing Chamber II in the Chamber CEAD.

In May 2016, Mr Balko was reappointed for a second mandate as Member of the Court. He continues as Member of Chamber II where he is responsible for several performance audits.

Publications:

- “Importance of the research for the Presidency and for the EU, especially in the context of the economic and financial crisis” [Simplification Seminar ‘Simplification and strengthening the efficiency of research programmes’ - Belgian Presidency event - Brussels, 14 July 2010]
- “New requirements for legal regulation of the EU budget and budgetary control” and “Legitimacy of own taxes of the EU” [Conference ‘Law as a Unifying factor of Europe- Jurisprudence and Practice - Bratislava, 22 October 2010]
- Presentation of the work of the Court, with emphasis on audit of research expenditure and, more precisely, of funding channelled through the ERC [Scientific Council of the European Research Council - 29th Plenary Meeting - Brussels, 9 February 2011]
- “Holding research programmes to account” [Framework and the Innovation Union conference - Brussels, 1st June 2011]
- “Decreasing the error rate and improving accountability” [EPP Group Hearing on Horizon 2020 ‘The Future of the Research in the EU’ - European Parliament - Brussels, 6 June 2012]
- Contribution of the ECA to the anniversary publication, SAO SR [Seminar on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the Supreme Audit Office of the Slovak Republic – Bratislava, 4 April 2013]
- Control power of the state and the role of the audit in addressing the current economic crisis [Legal Forum 2013 - Bratislava, 10-11 October 2013]
- “The contribution of auditors to the improvement of the implementation system under Cohesion policy, the European Court of Auditor’s perspective” [23rd Annual meeting of European auditors of Structural actions - The Homologues Group, Bratislava, 22 September 2014]
- “Past Evidence, Current Experience and Future Perspectives” [Panel Discussion on Performance and result orientation of the ESIF, EU Cohesion Policy Conference – Bratislava, 15 September 2016]