



Dr. Ivan Ignjatov was appointed by the North Atlantic Council to the NATO International Board of Auditors (IBAN) as a Board Member for a four-year mandate from 1 August 2025.

Born in 1974 in Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia, Dr. Ignjatov has accumulated more than 25 years of professional experience in public finance management, external audit, internal control, and the oversight of EU financial assistance, including 23 years in external audit and 18 years in senior management positions. Before his appointment as Member to IBAN, he serves as Advisor to the Auditor General in the State Audit Office responsible for audit of EU projects and other international aid, and as Deputy Auditor General of the Audit Authority responsible for the audit of EU-funded Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) programmes. Since 2022, he has also been elected as an External Expert to the European Court of Auditors (ECA) in Luxembourg for several specialised audit fields (3.4, 9.0, 9.5, 11.0, 15.5, 15.6 and 15.8).

Following academic studies in economics, Dr. Ignjatov obtained a PhD in Economic Sciences with a dissertation dedicated to the development of audit and control systems for the efficient use of EU funds. He previously obtained a Master of Arts in Economics and a Bachelor's degree in International Economic Relations, complemented by working experience at the European Court of Auditors (2006–2007), where he served as a performance auditor during an intensive internship programme.

His career includes key responsibilities within the Audit Authority for IPA, the State Audit Office, and in extensive cooperation with European and international institutions. From 2007 to 2011, he served as Head of the Audit Authority / General IPA Auditor, leading the establishment and institutional structuring of North Macedonia's national audit system for the oversight of EU pre-accession assistance. He subsequently held multiple senior positions, including Assistant General IPA Auditor, Advisor to the Auditor General (State Audit Office and Audit Authority), Project Manager for EU technical assistance, Quality Control Officer, and official OLAF contact point from the Audit Authority, for potential fraud investigations in EU-funded programmes.

In these roles, he has overseen system audits, audits of operations, administrative and on-the-spot checks, audit planning, quality assurance, methodology development, and the preparation of annual audit opinions, audit reports and strategic documents in line with INTOSAI, IFAC and EU regulatory frameworks. His responsibilities have regularly involved coordination with DG NEAR/DG ENEST, DG REGIO, DG AGRI, DG EMPL, OLAF, the European Court of Auditors, the European Commission's Delegation, and audit bodies in EU Member States and IPA beneficiary countries.

Dr. Ignjatov holds numerous internationally recognized professional certifications, including Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE), Certified Chartered Accountant (CCA), Certified State Auditor (CSA), Certified Forensic in Finance (CFF), International Certificate in Corruption Risk Management (CIPFA ICCRM) and CIPFA Trainer-of-Trainers in Corruption Risk Management. He is also a Lead/External Auditor for ISO/IEC 27001, ISO 37001, and ISO 9001, and an ECDL Expert.

His international experience also includes contributions to regional cooperation through the establishment of the IPA Audit Authorities regional network and supporting the organization of regional conferences. Dr. Ignjatov has built a strong reputation as a public finance management expert, performance audit trainer, and methodology adviser. He has contributed to capacity-building efforts in Western Balkan IPA structures, acted as a key expert in regional EU-supported projects, and developed numerous audit manuals, strategies, and training programmes. His work includes cooperation with European Commission Directorates-General (DG NEAR, DG REGIO, DG AGRI, DG EMPL), OLAF, World Bank, USAID, ACFE, INTOSAI, IDI, CIPFA, and the Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF).

Parallel to his professional duties, Dr. Ignjatov has been active in academia. He is an Associate Professor at the State University "Goce Delčev" – Štip, teaching subjects related to auditing and financial accountability. He has served as an expert trainer for the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) in North Macedonia, the Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF) Ljubljana, and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) Greece Chapter, delivering trainings on audit approach and methodology, audit evidence, fraud reporting, performance audit, financial management of EU funds, and corruption risk assessment. As a lecturer and expert trainer, Dr. Ignjatov has delivered courses for the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), the Center of Excellence in Finance, ACFE Chapter Greece, and several academic institutions. His lectures cover audit approach and methodology, performance audit, fraud detection, corruption risk management, managerial accountability and the efficient utilization of EU funds.

Dr. Ignjatov is fluent in English, Croatian, Bulgarian, Serbian/Bosnian/Montenegrin, and Macedonian (mother tongue).