

## **ALSAI representatives participate in the Workshop on “Cybersecurity” held in Oslo, Norway**

From 26 September to 1 October, representatives of the Albanian Supreme Audit Institution (ALSAI) participated in a workshop on “Cybersecurity”, held at the premises of the Office of the Auditor General in Oslo, Norway. The workshop also brought together representatives from other countries, including Kosovo, North Macedonia and Sweden, and focused on cybersecurity and computer security issues.

Through practical case studies, participants exchanged experiences covering the entire audit process, from the selection of audit criteria and the application of audit techniques to ensure that sufficient audit evidence has been obtained, to the design, implementation and reporting of an audit program.



Throughout the workshop, the topics addressed included risk and materiality, risk analysis, audit criteria, risk assessment, audit techniques, as well as audit design and reporting. Particular attention was devoted to audit techniques, with practical exercises conducted to facilitate the exchange of experience among the participating countries.

The techniques covered included computer security measures, Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT), internet-facing systems, authentication, updating and patching, logging, backup, and data recovery.

The exchange of experiences and knowledge with neighboring countries contributed positively to a better understanding of best practices, particularly in view of the importance of preventing cybersecurity breaches amid the rapidly increasing digitalization of processes and working practices.

Cyberattacks may result from vulnerabilities or deficiencies that expose systems to potential threats, as well as from unauthorized changes to systems and data. These may include data breaches or shortcomings affecting data availability. In this context, in order to protect public data and services from cyberattacks, auditors need to understand how such attacks occur and how they can be prevented.

This workshop was held within the framework of the ongoing inter institutional cooperation with the Norwegian Supreme Audit Institution, whose counterparts have supported the development of technical capacity in the field of information technology for the audit staff of the Albanian Supreme Audit Institution (ALSAI).

