

Representatives of ALSAI take part in the roundtable “Enhancing Parliament’s Responsiveness to Citizens’ Concerns”

By invitation of the Albanian Institute of Science (AIS), on 1 March 2024, the Albanian Supreme Audit Institution (ALSAI) participated in the roundtable on “Enhancing Parliament’s Responsiveness to Citizens’ Concerns”, attended by representatives of the Parliament of Albania, as well as experts in public finance, legal affairs, and other relevant fields.

ALSAI was represented at the meeting by Ms. Aulona Jani, Director of the Department of Methodology, Strategic Planning and Professional Development; Ms. Krisela Ngjela and Ms. Mirela Vasili, auditors at the State Budget Audit Department; and Ms. Jonida Tashi, Specialist at the Directorate of Communication, Publications and External Relations of ALSAI.



During her presentation at the meeting, Ms. Aranita Brahaj, Executive Director of AIS, emphasized the importance of monitoring the State Budget and public expenditure through innovative tools, databases, and platforms, such as “Open Data/Open Spending” and “Open Budget.”



The main focus of the roundtable was “Parliamentary Oversight of Public Finances and the Albanian Supreme Audit Institution.” According to the experts, there is a need to strengthen Parliament’s role and its cooperation with independent institutions and other civil society stakeholders in improving the processes of drafting, consulting on, and monitoring the State Budget and public finances.

Based on the legal framework and the principles of international auditing standards, the public external audit institution assists Parliament in exercising oversight over the Government, acting as both a service provider and an independent “guardian” of citizens’ interests.

The meeting highlighted the need to establish and ensure the effective functioning of a dedicated permanent committee or subcommittee within the Committee on Economy and Finance, as one of the

mechanisms for strengthening and improving oversight of the Government's financial activities through the periodic review of ALSAI's audit reports.

Furthermore, it was considered of great importance, based also, on other countries practices, the active participation of civil society in the parliamentary process of State Budget approval.