

## Learn about the relationship between The IIA's Standards and the public interest

**The Institute of Internal Auditors'** Global Internal Audit Standards guide the worldwide professional practice of internal auditing and serve as a basis for evaluating and elevating the quality of the internal audit function. At the heart of the Standards are 15 guiding principles that enable effective internal auditing. Each principle is supported by standards that contain requirements, considerations for implementation, and examples of evidence of conformance. Together, these elements help internal auditors achieve the principles and fulfill the Purpose of Internal Auditing.



### Internal Auditing and the Public Interest

Public interest encompasses the social and economic interests and overall well-being of a society and the organizations operating within that society (including those of employers, employees, investors, the business and financial community, clients, customers, regulators, and government). Questions of public interest are context specific and should weigh ethics, fairness, cultural norms and values, and potential disparate impacts on certain individuals and subgroups of society. Internal auditing plays a critical role in enhancing an organization's ability to serve the public interest. While the primary function of internal auditing is to strengthen governance, risk management, and control processes, its effects extend beyond the organization. Internal auditing contributes to an organization's overall stability and sustainability by providing assurance on its operational efficiency, reliability of reporting, compliance with laws and/or regulations, safeguarding of assets, and ethical culture. This, in turn, fosters public trust and confidence in the organization and the broader systems of which it is a part. The IIA is committed to setting standards with input from the public and to benefit the public. The International Internal Audit Standards Board is responsible for establishing and maintaining the Standards in the interest of the public. This is achieved through an extensive, ongoing due process overseen by an independent body, the IPPF Oversight Council. The process includes soliciting input from and considering the interests of various stakeholders—including internal audit practitioners, industry experts, government bodies, regulatory agencies, public representatives, and others—so that the Standards reflect the diverse needs and priorities of society.