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## ACCOUNTING AND TAX RISK MANAGEMENT IN ENTERPRISES UNDER ECONOMIC INSTABILITY

## УПРАВЛІННЯ БУХГАЛТЕРСЬКИМИ ТА ПОДАТКОВИМИ РИЗИКАМИ НА ПІДПРИЄМСТВАХ В УМОВАХ ЕКОНОМІЧНОЇ НЕСТАБІЛЬНОСТІ

**Анотація:** У статті досліджено теоретичні та практичні аспекти управління бухгалтерськими та податковими ризиками на підприємствах в умовах економічної нестабільності. У процесі дослідження використано загальнонаукові методи: аналіз, синтез, узагальнення, порівняння та систематизацію. Проведено емпіричний аналіз даних щодо податкового контролю в Україні, що дозволило оцінити сучасні тенденції та структуру податкових перевірок. У статті визначено основні види бухгалтерських і податкових ризиків, охарактеризовано фактори їх формування та обґрунтовано їх вплив на фінансові результати діяльності підприємств.

**Abstract:** The article examines the theoretical and practical aspects of accounting and tax risk management in enterprises under conditions of economic instability. The relevance of the study is determined by the growing level of uncertainty in the economic environment, frequent changes in tax legislation, and the increasing role of accounting systems in ensuring financial security.

The purpose of the research is to investigate the nature of accounting and tax risks, identify their key sources, and develop practical approaches to their minimization within the enterprise management system.

The study is based on general scientific methods, including analysis, synthesis, comparison, and systematization, as well as an empirical analysis of tax audit data in Ukraine. Particular attention is paid to the structure and trends of tax control measures, which significantly influence the level of tax risks for business entities.

*The article identifies the main types of tax and accounting risks, determines their internal and external factors, and substantiates their impact on the financial results and reputation of enterprises. It is proven that instability of regulatory frameworks, complexity of tax legislation, and imperfections in internal accounting systems are among the key risk-generating factors.*

*The study substantiates the importance of implementing an integrated risk management system, which includes organizational, informational, analytical, legal, and strategic measures. Special attention is paid to the role of internal audit as an effective tool for early detection and prevention of accounting and tax risks.*

*The practical value of the research lies in the development of recommendations aimed at improving accounting and analytical support, strengthening internal control, and enhancing financial security of enterprises.*

**Keywords:** *accounting, taxation, enterprise, accounting risks, tax risks, risk management, internal audit, financial security, accounting and analytical support*

**Ключові слова:** *облік, податки, підприємство, бухгалтерські ризики, податкові ризики, обліково-аналітичні методи, внутрішній аудит, фінансова безпека підприємства, обліково-аналітичне забезпечення*

**Introduction.** In the context of growing economic uncertainty and frequent changes in tax legislation, enterprises increasingly face a rising number of accounting and tax risks. These risks arise not only from external factors such as regulatory instability and fiscal pressure but also from internal deficiencies in accounting systems, financial control, and risk management practices within enterprises.

Effective management of accounting and tax risks has become a key component of the financial security of modern enterprises. Inaccurate tax calculations, improper documentation, or delayed reporting may lead to significant financial losses, penalties, and reputational damage. Therefore, the ability to identify, assess, and mitigate such risks is essential for ensuring sustainable business operations.

In recent years, accounting systems have evolved from simple recording tools into strategic

instruments for risk monitoring and managerial decision-making. At the same time, tax planning has gained importance not only as a mechanism for optimizing tax liabilities but also as a tool for reducing uncertainty and strengthening financial stability.

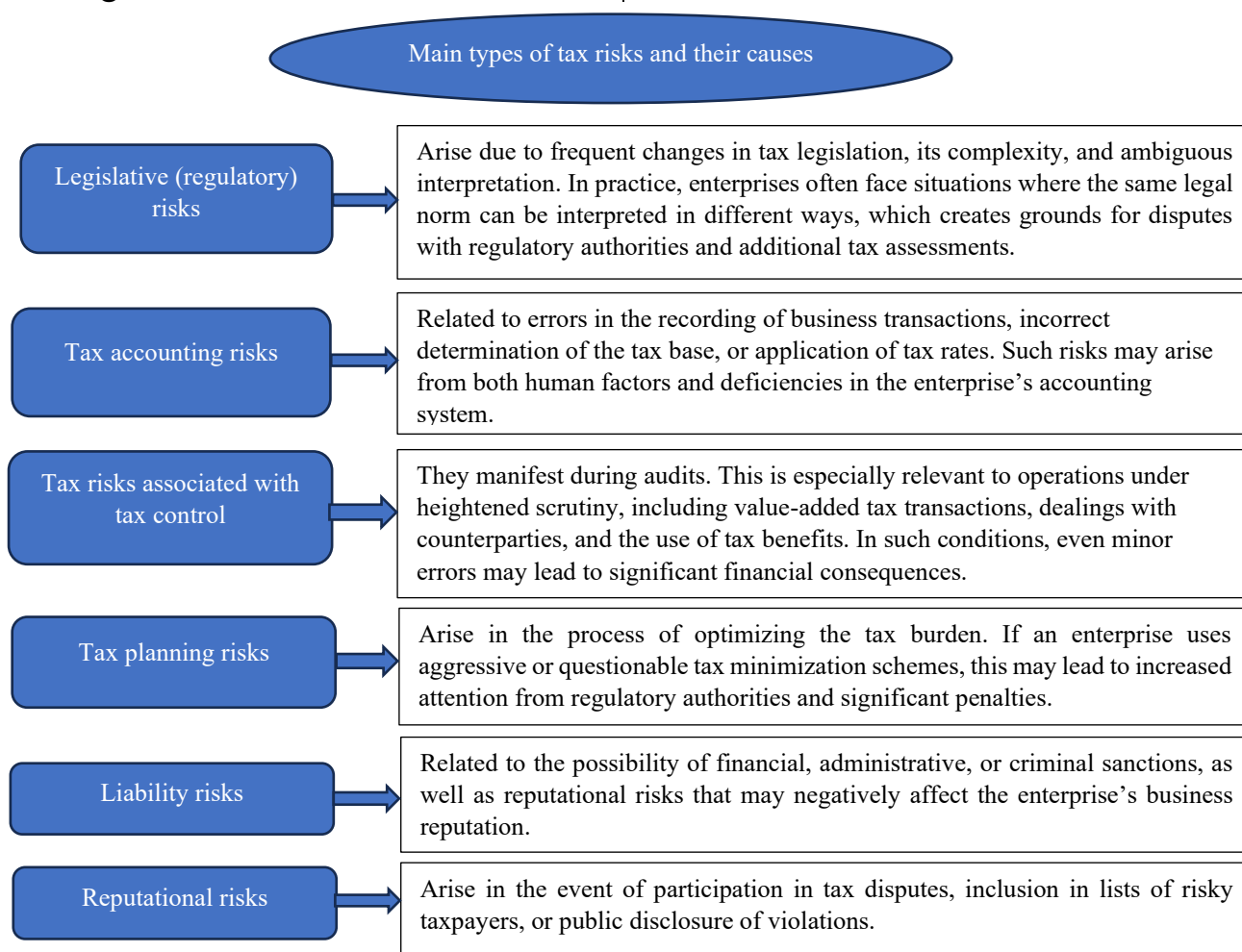
**Analysis of Recent Research and Publications.** Modern domestic and foreign scholars extensively examine the formation of tax and accounting risks and their impact on business activity, particularly under unstable economic conditions. For instance, B.I. Pshyk and T.M. Bolhar emphasize that tax risks may lead to financial losses, reputational damage, and economic inefficiency due to excessive tax payments [9]. L.A. Chudak highlights that tax risks constitute a threat to the economic security of enterprises [10]. P.Y. Atamas, O.P. Atamas, and H.O. Kramarenko underline the significant role of accounting in enterprise risk management [1].

Despite the considerable body of research, the issue of integrated management of accounting and tax risks remains insufficiently explored, especially in conditions of economic instability. This determines the relevance of the present study.

**Purpose of the Article.** The purpose of this article is to investigate the nature of accounting and tax risks in Ukrainian enterprises under conditions of economic instability, identify their main sources, and develop practical approaches to their effective management and minimization.

**Main Results of the Study.** In modern business conditions, tax risks represent one of the key components of an enterprise's financial security. They arise during the processes of tax assessment, calculation, and payment and may result in financial losses, penalties, legal disputes, and reputational deterioration.

Tax risks may differ in nature and manifest at various stages of enterprise activity. The main types are presented in Fig. 1.



**Fig. 1. Types of tax risks and their causes**

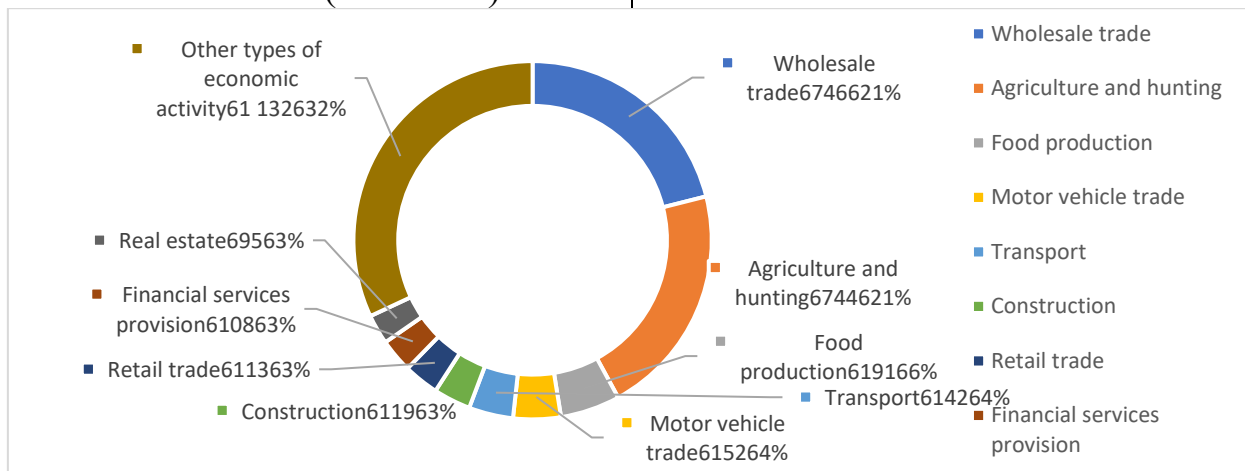
Source: compiled by the author based on data [9,10]

In the context of economic instability, tax control becomes an important instrument for ensuring financial discipline among business entities. According to official data, in

2026 the State Tax Service of Ukraine plans to conduct 4,558 documentary tax audits, which is approximately 5% less than in the previous year.

For a more detailed understanding of audit structure, both relative distribution (Fig. 2) and absolute values (Table 1) are

considered, allowing a comprehensive assessment of sectoral priorities in tax control.



**Fig. 2. Structure of planned documentary audits of the State Tax Service of Ukraine in 2026 by type of economic activity, %**

Source: compiled by the author based on the OpenDataBot analytical platform [2].

The structure of planned control measures shows a clear predominance of audits of legal entities, which account for approximately 78% of the total (3,542 audits). Individual entrepreneurs constitute about 22% (1,016 audits). A significantly smaller number of audits relate to compliance with personal income tax, military levy, and unified social contribution obligations (258 cases).

A characteristic feature of audit planning is seasonal concentration: the highest intensity of tax control is expected in spring, particularly in March–April, while the beginning of the year is characterized by lower activity.

Sectoral analysis indicates that the greatest attention of tax authorities is focused on wholesale trade and agriculture, each accounting for 21% of total audits. The food industry represents approximately 5%.

Large enterprises (Fig. 3), operating in key sectors of the economy, are also included in audit

plans. At the same time, companies with signs of financial instability (bankruptcy, liquidation, or restructuring) constitute a minor share, which demonstrates that tax control is directed not only at problematic entities but also at economically active businesses.

Territorially, the highest concentration of audits is observed in economically developed regions, particularly Kyiv city and region, Dnipropetrovsk, and Lviv regions, which is explained by the high concentration of business activity.

The analysis of absolute indicators allows for a more precise identification of sectoral priorities in tax control. The largest number of audits is carried out in wholesale trade enterprises (746) and agriculture (744), which indicates increased attention of regulatory authorities to sectors with significant volumes of business operations. At the same time, other types of economic activity are subject to a considerably smaller number of

audits, which may indicate either a lower level of tax risks or a smaller

economic significance of the respective sectors.

Table 1

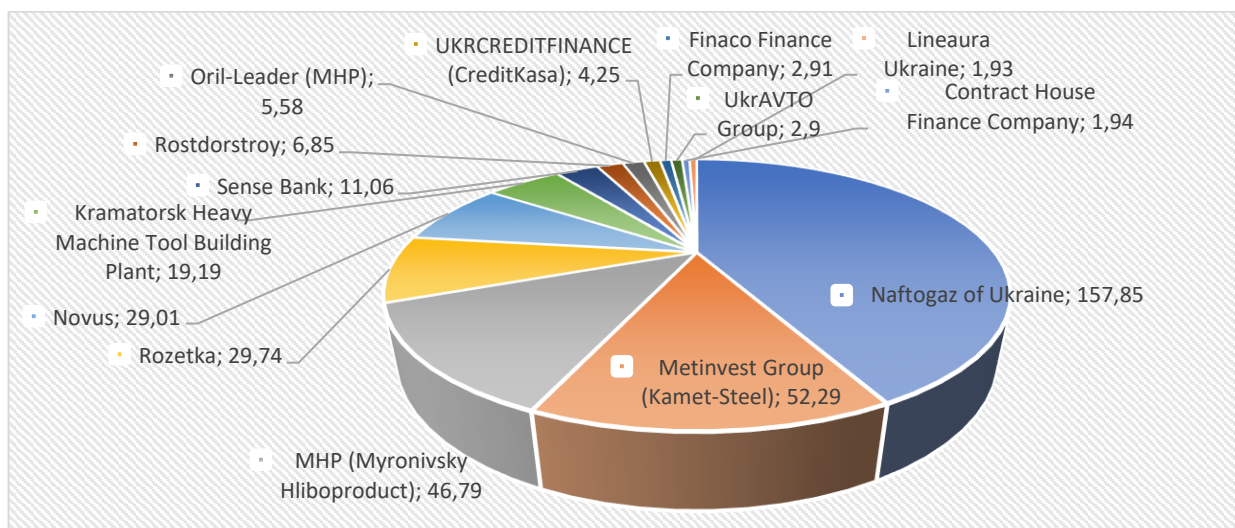
**Number of planned documentary audits of the State Tax Service of Ukraine in 2026 by type of economic activity**

Types of taxpayers' activities	2026
Wholesale trade	746
Agriculture and hunting	744
Food production	191
Motor vehicle trade	152
Transport	142
Construction	119
Retail trade	113
Financial services provision	108
Real estate	95
Other types of economic activity	1132
Total	3542

\*Source: compiled by the author based on OpenDataBot data [2].

Particular attention should be paid to the analysis of the structure of planned audits among large taxpayers

depending on their income levels (Fig. 3).



**Fig. 3. Structure of planned documentary audits of large taxpayers in 2026 by income level, billion UAH**

\* Source: compiled by the author based on the OpenDataBot analytical platform [2].

This approach makes it possible to assess the focus of tax control not only from a sectoral perspective but also in terms of the financial capacity of business entities. According to the data, the greatest attention is paid to enterprises with substantial income levels, which is explained by their potentially higher tax risks and their significant impact on the formation of budget revenues. At the same time,

audits also cover other groups of enterprises, which confirms the comprehensive nature of tax control.

Thus, the presented data confirm that tax control remains an important factor influencing enterprise activity and therefore generates a significant level of tax risks that require effective management by business entities.

Minimization of tax risks is a key task of the enterprise financial security

management system and involves a set of preventive measures aimed at reducing errors and avoiding negative consequences.

Organizational measures include the establishment of an effective internal control system, clear distribution of responsibilities, and continuous staff training. Information measures involve continuous monitoring of changes in tax legislation and consultation with professionals. Accounting and analytical methods ensure data reliability, analysis of tax burden, and accurate reflection of business operations. Legal measures include counterparty verification, legal expertise of contracts, and proper documentation of transactions. Strategic measures involve selecting an optimal taxation system, structuring business processes efficiently, and planning cash flows in accordance with tax obligations.

Internal audit is an important element of the enterprise management system, which ensures control over the correctness of accounting practices and compliance with tax legislation. Its role in reducing tax risks lies in the timely identification of errors and deficiencies in the enterprise's operations.

During internal audit, the correctness of tax calculation is verified, tax returns are analyzed, the effectiveness of tax policy is assessed, and compliance with established procedures is monitored. This makes it possible to identify potential risks even before external inspections are conducted.

An important outcome of internal audit is the development of recommendations aimed at eliminating identified violations and improving the

internal control system. Regular auditing contributes to increasing the transparency of enterprise operations and strengthening its financial security.

The conducted analysis shows that accounting risks are formed under conditions of uncertainty in the economic environment and in the organization of enterprise activities. Their occurrence is caused by a combination of diverse factors of both external and internal origin.

A significant impact on the level of such risks is exerted by the instability of the regulatory framework, the complexity and ambiguity of interpretations of tax and accounting legislation, as well as general economic development trends. Macroeconomic parameters, in particular inflation processes, changes in the discount rate, the level of social standards, and the country's investment attractiveness, shape the environment in which enterprises operate and managerial decisions are made. For certain types of activities, sector-specific factors also become important, including the influence of natural and climatic conditions or the probability of unforeseen circumstances.

At the same time, considerable importance is attached to the organization of the accounting process within the enterprise itself. The level of professional qualification of accounting staff, the availability of a continuous training system, staff stability, the quality of accounting policy and its compliance with business specifics directly affect the reliability of accounting information. Additional factors include the consistency of information flows, timely updating of accounting procedures in line with

legislative changes, and the effectiveness of internal control and audit systems. Managerial decisions are also significant, as in certain cases they may lead to deviations from established standards.

An increase in the level of accounting risks is usually accompanied by a growth in the number of errors and violations in accounting processes. Errors are mostly unintentional and related to the distortion of accounting information, whereas violations are the result of deliberate actions. Academic approaches emphasize that intentional misrepresentation of data falls outside the category of risk, as it does not have a probabilistic nature.

Depending on the nature of occurrence, accounting errors can be classified into methodological and technical ones. Methodological errors are associated with the incorrect application of accounting principles and methods, particularly in asset valuation, classification, or the recognition of business transactions. Technical errors arise during data processing and include arithmetic inaccuracies, omissions, or duplication of transactions.

Therefore, under conditions of ambiguity in the regulatory environment, professional judgment of the accountant becomes especially important. It implies a justified choice of accounting approaches aimed at

generating reliable information and ensuring effective enterprise management.

**Conclusions.** The study demonstrates that, in conditions of economic instability, accounting and tax risks become an integral part of enterprise activity and significantly influence financial stability. Risks arise at various stages of enterprise operations and have both internal and external origins. A considerable share of risks is associated not only with regulatory actions but also with the organization of accounting processes, staff competence, and internal control systems. Tax control acts not only as a fiscal mechanism but also as a behavioral determinant influencing enterprises and their risk exposure.

Effective risk management requires a systematic approach that includes the improvement of accounting and analytical support, strengthening of internal control, and continuous monitoring of legislative changes. Internal audit plays a particularly important role in identifying weaknesses and minimizing potential losses. Thus, effective management of accounting and tax risks is a fundamental prerequisite for ensuring enterprise financial security. Future research should focus on the implementation of digital risk management tools and the adaptation of international experience to Ukrainian business conditions.

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