



## Methods of auditing cash at the enterprise

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**Abstract.** The relevance of the topic was due to the fact that in the context of economic instability, cash audit is becoming a key tool for monitoring the effectiveness of enterprise financial resources management, given their high liquidity and complexity of accounting. The aim of the study was to summarise the theoretical foundations of cash audit and develop practical recommendations adapted to the realities of Ukrainian enterprises. The research methodology was based on a combination of theoretical analysis and practical observations using the methods of induction, deduction, generalisation and source analysis, which ensured the identification of the main problems in the field of cash audit at the enterprise and the development of effective approaches to their solution. The article comprehensively examined the purpose of cash audit, outlined the main tasks of the auditor and systemises information resources, which will facilitate a high-quality audit and provide the auditor with the knowledge necessary for effective planning, conducting the audit, minimising errors and preparing reliable audit reports. Particular attention was paid to the audit procedures used at different stages of the audit, which will allow the auditor to deeply understand their specifics and effectively use them to obtain objective and reliable audit evidence. The article presented approaches to the classification of audit control methods used in Ukraine, with special attention paid to documentary verification and calculation and analytical techniques as key elements of ensuring a high-quality audit of cash at Ukrainian enterprises. An improved methodology was proposed, which included not only a general audit plan and programme, but also a detailed test of the accounting and control system. This will allow the auditor not only to verify the correctness of the cash flows, but also to assess the effectiveness of the internal control system. To facilitate and improve the quality of the audit, special working documents have been developed to help systemise information and ensure its reliability. The results of the study can be used not only in the practical activities of auditors, but also in the educational process of higher education institutions

**Keywords:** audit; cash transactions; procedures; audit stages; general plan; programme; working document

### INTRODUCTION

During periods of military instability, enterprises face massive challenges, including disrupted logistics, infrastructure losses, and declining consumer solvency. In such conditions, the need for effective control over the use of financial resources, especially cash, grows, requiring a review and improvement of audit approaches.

An analysis of scientific research indicates significant attention to cash audit issues in both Ukrainian and global scientific thought. Among Ukrainian scholars, O.B. Sili-vonchik & M.I. Skrypnyk (2021) investigated the methodology for planning stages of cash audit. They analysed various scientific approaches to accounting organisation and

audit methods, concluding that universal approaches are ineffective due to ignoring individual characteristics of enterprises. The authors emphasised the need to develop individualised methodologies for accounting, classification, and auditing cash, integrated into the overall enterprise management system. G.V. Bulkot & I.O. Mirko (2021), in turn, focused on the role of cash audit and ways to increase its effectiveness in ensuring cybersecurity. They stressed that audit must consider the need to protect confidential information and prevent unauthorised access to it due to digital threats, proposing the development of reliable secure servers and the involvement of qualified IT

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specialists. R.V. Boyko & Ya.V. Iliv (2024) noted the importance of effective financial resource management for the stability of trading companies. They revealed the purpose and objectives of cash resource audit, described approaches to its essence, sources of audit evidence, and proposed a detailed algorithm for verifying financial statements (Form 2 “Statement of Financial Results (Statement of Comprehensive Income)”) to identify possible fraudulent activities or errors. N.V. Kuzmenko *et al.* (2021) analysed the specifics of cash audit, highlighting theoretical aspects of its organisation. The authors emphasised the importance of documentary confirmation of facts in the auditor’s activities and propose using a test for checking the state of internal control and a detailed audit plan to improve its quality. In connection with the spread of electronic money, A.S. Stolpova (2020) investigated the methodological principles of its audit, including virtual currencies, concluding that audit objectives must take into account the novelty and technological complexity of electronic money, as well as the need to assess risks and the effectiveness of internal control when auditing virtual currencies.

Alongside the research of Ukrainian academics, global scientific thought also pays significant attention to this area, especially in the context of improving internal control effectiveness and overall audit quality. Specifically, a study by S.M. Fauziah *et al.* (2023), conducted at a broiler farming enterprise, revealed a significant positive correlation between internal audit of cash disbursements and internal control (correlation coefficient 0.721). The results of this work showed that internal audit effectively helps to identify significant discrepancies between budgeted and actual operating expenses. This underscores the importance of audit procedures for identifying control deficiencies, ensuring the accuracy of cash accounting, and minimising risks, including fraud. Continuing the consideration of practical aspects of applying audit to cash, a study by B.A. Harared *et al.* (2024) focused on the application of operational audit to assess the effectiveness of internal control specifically over cash receipts and disbursements at Clinic XYZ. The results showed that the effectiveness of internal control was 59.34%, indicating the presence of significant shortcomings, such as the absence of written policies and procedures and an insufficient number of supporting documents. This study provided specific recommendations for improving cash management, emphasising the importance of audit as a tool for identifying weaknesses in the cash internal control system and developing measures to strengthen it.

In terms of the direct application of audit procedures to cash, the study by K. Retnaningrum & S. Trisnaning-sih (2025) was valuable. They analysed the implementation of audit procedures for cash and cash equivalents accounts in a non-profit foundation. The results showed that audit procedures were performed in accordance with established standards, despite some operational obstacles. This work emphasises that a thorough audit of cash is critically important, as it is a frequent target of fraud, and demonstrates the practical application of audit methodology to ensure

the reliability of information about this key asset. Continuing this line, the study by S. Ashok & K. Baskaran (2019) is dedicated to audit and accounting procedures with a particular focus on petty cash. They highlighted the crucial importance of proper petty cash audit for the overall financial condition of an organisation, indicating the influence of factors such as the nature of operations, company size, and the risks of misappropriation, theft, and errors during reconciliations. This study provided a basic understanding of petty cash audit and its impact on cash balances, overall liquidity, and the financial position of an enterprise, reaffirming the need for a carefully developed and applied audit methodology for all forms of cash. Additionally, the impact of overall audit quality on the management of financial assets, particularly cash, was highlighted in a study by A.I. Hunjra (2025). This work, conducted on a sample of non-financial firms in South Asia, empirically confirmed that high audit quality, along with the effectiveness of the audit committee, significantly reduces a company’s cash reserves. This indicates that quality auditing activities, which are directly based on clearly developed audit methodologies, contribute to increased transparency, accountability, and, consequently, more efficient and optimised management of cash resources at an enterprise, reducing the need for excessive cash accumulation.

Based on the provided conclusions, previous studies consider various aspects of cash auditing, including planning, cybersecurity, financial resource management, theoretical foundations, and the audit of electronic money. However, the comprehensive impact of the unstable economic environment on the organisation and methodology of cash auditing remains insufficiently explored. Although some authors do touch upon issues of risks and control, the specifics of conducting audits in conditions of economic instability, which may include currency rate volatility, inflationary processes, and disruption of economic ties, require separate and detailed study. There is also a need to adapt existing methodologies to the unique challenges arising in conditions of military actions, which significantly increase uncertainty and risks for enterprises’ financial flows.

The aim of the article was to improve organisational and methodological approaches to auditing enterprise cash in conditions of economic instability caused by military actions. The main objectives were: to analyse modern approaches to auditing, to systematise sources of audit evidence, and to develop an adapted audit plan taking into account the specifics of crisis conditions.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

In the process of studying the theoretical and methodological foundations of cash audit at enterprise, a set of scientific methods was applied. The research is based on theoretical analysis aimed at studying and systematising scientific works of Ukrainian scientists on the problems of organising and conducting cash audit, cash accounting and financial stability of enterprises. Particular attention was paid to the analysis of approaches to determining the

purpose of cash audit. For this reason, various interpretations of the purpose of the audit presented in the scientific literature were studied and compared. In particular, the works of the following authors were analysed: N.Y. Radionova & K.O. Zhura (2017); O.E. Nezdoyminoga & O.G. Krasota (2019); A.R. Okonchuk & A.R. Radionova (2021). The application of the comparative method identified common and distinctive aspects in the definition of the purpose of cash audit by different authors, as well as the most common audit objectives. The results of this analysis were systematised in the form of a table reflecting the main emphases made by each researcher.

Along with the theoretical analysis, the study used logical analysis to reveal the essence of cash audit as an important element of the internal control system and ensuring the financial stability of the enterprise. Inductive and deductive methods were used to formulate generalisations based on the analysis of certain scientific provisions and to draw logical conclusions about the organisation of the audit process.

The study of audit procedures took into account the provisions of International Standards on Auditing (ISA) 315 (2019), ISA 330 (2017) and ISA 500 (2020). The application of ISA 315 and ISA 330 allowed for a clear separation of risk assessment procedures and subsequent audit procedures (substantive and control testing), which provided a more structured approach to planning and performing cash audits. ISA 500 (2020) was used to detail the content of audit procedures, such as inspection, external confirmation, observation, recomputation, re-performance, inquiry and analytical procedures, which contributed to increasing the reasonableness of audit opinions.

An important stage of the research was a detailed analysis of the legal framework of Ukraine regulating the accounting and audit of cash. The following documents were studied: Resolution of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine No. 148 (2017), Resolution of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine No. 51 (2018), Order of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine No. 879 (2014), Law of Ukraine No. 851-IV (2003), Law of Ukraine No. 1591-IX (2021), Order of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine No. 73 (2013). The analysis of these documents made it possible to determine the legislative requirements for the organisation of cash accounting, control and audit procedures in Ukraine.

A tabular method was used to systematise information on the main sources of audit evidence and the list of audit

procedures used in the audit of cash. This provided a visual representation of the classification of information sources (internal and external) and types of audit procedures with examples of their practical application. The modelling method was used to develop a structured approach to the audit of cash. This is reflected in the development of Table 4 “Plan for conducting a cash audit at an enterprise”, which presents a three-stage model of the audit process, covering the organisational and preparatory, main and final stages. The comprehensive application of the methods of theoretical analysis, comparison, logic, induction and deduction, analysis of the regulatory framework, tabular method and modelling provided an in-depth study of the theoretical and methodological aspects of cash audit and became the basis for further conclusions and developments.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Maintaining business stability in a time of war, when logistics are disrupted, infrastructure is destroyed and the purchasing power of the population is declining, is an extremely difficult task. In such circumstances, managers must look for innovative solutions to ensure business sustainability. Those companies that can optimise the use of their resources will have a better chance of not only surviving but also strengthening their market position. In this context, control over cash, which is the most liquid asset, is of particular importance. Therefore, a high-quality audit of cash is a necessary tool to ensure financial stability and prevent the risks of errors and fraud in accounting.

The organisation of an audit begins with a clear definition of its purpose and the formulation of specific tasks. Typically, the auditor determines the purpose and draws up a list of tasks to be performed during the audit at the preparatory stage, taking into account the terms of the agreement concluded with the client. The latter confirms that an agreement has been reached between the auditor and the client. From a methodological point of view, the auditor should have an understanding of the purpose and objectives of the cash audit before the start of the relationship with the client, i.e. a certain basis that will only need to be adjusted later (Alieksieiev & Mazur, 2020). This will allow to speed up the organisational work and proceed directly to the audit itself. The views on the composition of the cash audit objective found in the economic literature are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Approaches to determining the purpose of a cash audit

Author	N.Y. Radionova & K.O. Zhura (2017)	Y.V. Podmeshalska et al. (2019)	T.O. Meikhova & A.S. Vertovkina (2019)	O.E. Nezdoyminoga & O.G. Krasota (2019)	O.G. Ryabchuk & I.R. Korotaeva (2018)	A.Yu. Kozachenko (2021)	A.R. Okonchuk & A.R. Radionova (2021)	L.M. Kulnich & L.Yu. Patramanska (2016)
Purpose			+			+		+
1. Installation: ♦ legality								

Table 1. Continued

Author Purpose	N.Y. Radionova & K.O. Zhura (2017)	Y.V. Podmeshalska et al. (2019)	T.O. Melikhova & A.S. Vertovkina (2019)	O.E. Nezdoyminoga & O.G. Krasota (2019)	O.G. Ryabchuk & I.R. Korotaeva (2018)	A.Yu. Kozachenko (2021)	A.R. Okonchuk & A.R. Radionova (2021)	L.M. Kulinich & L.Yu. Patramanska (2016)
♦ reliability	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
♦ appropriateness			+			+		+
♦ completeness	+	+		+	+		+	
♦ timeliness of reflection	+	+		+			+	
♦ impartiality		+						
♦ correctness	+	+	+	+			+	
♦ compliance with applicable laws and regulations			+		+	+		+
♦ Identity of information in primary documents and accounting registers		+						
2. Obtaining sufficient audit evidence to form an opinion		+				+		

Source: created by the author

As can be seen from Table 1, each of the reviewed works focused on establishing the reliability of data on cash flows. Usually, reliability of information refers to the reflection of the actual state of affairs, as well as the absence of material errors and bias. Such qualitative characteristics as completeness, correctness, legality and timeliness are often mentioned. A number of scholars, namely Y.V. Podmeshalska *et al.* (2019), A.Yu. Kozachenko (2021), L.M. Kulinich & L.Yu. Patramanska (2016), the purpose of the audit is to provide a reasoned opinion in the report, which requires a sufficient evidence base. Decisions on the sufficiency of audit evidence are made on the basis of the auditor's professional judgement, which imposes a significant responsibility on the auditor.

The approach described above is acceptable, since the provision of audit services ends with the preparation of a report, the final part of which contains a conclusion (positive, conditionally positive, negative) or a refusal to formulate it. The most common reasons for not issuing an opinion are the lack of sufficient evidence and/or a violation of the principle of independence. The aim of the cash audit is to provide the auditor with a reasonable opinion on the legality, reliability, timeliness, correctness, appropriateness and compliance with the applicable laws and regulations of the information on the availability and movement of cash reflected in the accounting records.

The main areas of the cash audit are as follows:

- ♦ assessment of the state of payment discipline and internal control system of cash transactions;
- ♦ verification of cash safety, timely and complete posting of cash and its intended use;

- ♦ verification of compliance with the established cash balance limit, availability of a document approving the procedure for its calculation;

- ♦ control over the availability of a full liability agreement with the cashier;

- ♦ verification of compliance with the terms of cash inventory, correctness of documentation of its results;

- ♦ determining the areas of use of non-cash funds, their legality and purpose;

- ♦ determining the number and types of bank accounts of the company, the correctness of their opening, and the specifics of banking services;

- ♦ controlling the accuracy and correctness of filling in primary documents;

- ♦ checking the absence of errors in the reflection of information on cash on synthetic and analytical accounts;

- ♦ determining whether the relevant information in the primary documents, accounting registers and financial statements is identical;

- ♦ confirming the accuracy of the data on cash presented in the financial statements of the entity.

Audit evidence is obtained from both internal (the most important part) and external sources. Internal sources are important because they are directly related to the company's operations and provide detailed information about business transactions and internal controls. However, to ensure the objectivity and confirmation of internal sources, the auditor should also obtain information from external sources that are independent of the company and can provide additional confirmation or identify potential discrepancies. Such a comprehensive approach to

collecting audit evidence allows the auditor to form a reasonable and reliable opinion on the company's financial statements. The main information sources for the audit of cash are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2.** Key information sources for cash audit

Name of the group	List of components
Internal administrative documents	Order on accounting policy (regarding the accounting of cash desk and bank account operations); Order on approving the procedure for calculating the cash till limit
Documents for recording cash transactions	Cash receipt voucher (No. KO-1); Cash payment voucher (No. KO-2); Register of cash receipt and payment documents (No. KO-3); Cash book (No. KO-4); Book of cash issued and received by the senior cashier (No. KO-5); Cash disbursement statement; cash receipt
Accounting documents Cashless payments	Payment instructions, bank statements
Acts and reports	Act of inventory of cash and cash equivalents; Report on the use of funds issued for business trips or against accountability; Act of reconciliation of mutual settlements; Act of audit of financial and economic activities
Accounting registers	Journal 1, statements 1.1, 1.2, 1.3; Register of uncollected wages
Financial statements	Balance Sheet (Statement of Financial Position) (Form No. 1); Statement of Cash Flows (Form No. 3 / 3-n); Notes to the Annual Financial Statements
Regulatory and legal acts	Resolution of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine No. 148 (2017); Order of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine No. 879 (2014); Law of Ukraine No. 851-IV (2003); Law of Ukraine No. 1591-IX (2021)

Source: created by the author

Various procedures are applied in the course of an audit. From the perspective of international practice, the methodology of which is set out in ISA 315 (2019) and ISA 330 (2017), they are divided into risk assessment procedures and subsequent audit procedures (substantive and

control tests). ISA 500 (2020) provides a detailed description of the content of inspection, external confirmation, observation, recalculation, re-performance, enquiry and analytical procedures (Table 3). They are grouped according to the context in which they are used by the auditor.

**Table 3.** Audit procedures for the audit of cash

Names of audit procedures	Examples of use
Observations	Overseeing the process of inventorying cash and cash documents stored in the company's cash desk; monitoring the documentation of transactions with accountable persons
Confirmation	Confirmation of the amount of the current account balance; confirmation of the intended use of funds, the terms of agreements concluded between the company and a third party
Inspection	Checking entries in the cash book, compliance with the storage periods for primary documents, compliance with safety rules when working with cash equipment
Request	Sending letters of request for data reconciliation to the company's counterparties; verbal requests to employees regarding cases of issuing money for reporting, payment of salaries (from the cash desk or to a bank card)
Recalculation	Verification of the correctness from the mathematical point of view of determining the net cash flow and its balance at the end of the period in the Cash Flow Statement (form No. 3/3-n); determination of the correctness of the calculation of the balance at the end of the day in the Cash Book (No. KO-4)
Re-execution	Re-distribution of cash flows by type of activity (operating, financing, investing); re-determination of exchange rate differences on foreign currency transactions
Analytical procedures	Analysis of liquidity and solvency indicators for several years, comparison with industry averages; factor analysis of net cash flow; determination of the plausibility of links between financial and non-financial data (number of new customers, hours worked, market share, volume of transactions per day, etc.)

Source: created by the author

According to approaches adopted in Ukraine, organoleptic, computational-analytical, documentary, and methods of generalisation and implementation of control results are distinguished. General scientific methodological techniques are also singled out. This method of grouping is described in the works of L.V. Gutsalenko *et al.* (2014), L.L. Hevlych & I.G. Hevlych (2017), and N.V. Kotseruba (2018).

Control over the actual state of objects is realised on the basis of organoleptic (sensory) techniques, which include inventory taking, control measurements, observation, expert examination, and experiment. Some of them are generally not used in the audit of cash and cash equivalents. For example, control measurements of works are usually resorted to during an audit of expenses or settlements with suppliers and contractors to establish facts of

volume distortion, overpricing or underpricing, inclusion of non-budgeted expenses, etc.

Computational-analytical audit techniques include economic analysis, statistical calculations, and economic-mathematical methods and models. This group of methods, along with forms of documentary verification, is widely used in auditing cash operations. Economic analysis allows for uncovering the reasons for deviations in reported figures and identifying signs of irregularities. For presenting information on cash flow by type of activity, a separate report (Statement of Cash Flows (Form No. 3/3n)) is provided. As T.A. Pereymyvovk (2007) noted, during the study of economic activity, “it is very important not to make a mistake in assessing the impact of factors (negative or positive), when ultimately the value of one factor can be outweighed by the value of other factors with an opposite assessment”. An auditor who expresses their professional judgment on the financial statements of an economic entity must not only take into account the current state but also the enterprise’s immediate prospects. That is, based on, for example, various models for predicting the likelihood of bankruptcy, assess the riskiness of activities.

Documentary verification, in its essence, can be formal, arithmetic, regulatory and legal, cross-checking, analytical, and chronological. I.V. Beshulya & L.L. Hevlych (2013) proposed dividing documentary methods into three groups: 1) examination of an individual document (register, reporting form); 2) comparison of accounting documents (registers, reporting forms); 3) examination of data reflecting the movement of homogeneous valuables. The content of operations accompanied by cash movement can be examined by the auditor both in chronological order and in a systematised manner. If documentation is checked in chronological order, there is usually a need for simultaneous work with different types of it. It is much more convenient to study documents by groups of economically homogeneous operations.

Cross-checking is used to confirm the state of settlements with counterparties and the corresponding movement of funds in the bank account. T.Ya. Matkivska & O.M. Bondarenko (2020) noted that this type of verification can also be carried out with the bank serving the enterprise to gain confidence in “the presence of open accounts.” Auditors also resort to arithmetic calculation of all totals in a document, which allows for identifying errors made during its preparation. For example, in the cash disbursement statement, provided in Appendix 1 to Resolution of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine No. 148 (2017), the total amount in the fourth column of the table, the volume of actually disbursed cash per statement, and the amount of deposited funds are checked.

The national approach provides for a clear distinction between documentary and factual control, while the international approach combines them within inspection. During documentary verification, it is common to resort to re-performance, recalculation, inquiry, and external confirmation, although each of these procedures has a slightly different

name in domestic practice. According to the international view of the audit process (ISA 500, 2020), there is no separate group for methods of generalisation and implementation of control results, as these are considered obvious and not related to the examination stage. The most complete match in content is observed for the observation procedure, which is included in the organoleptic group in national practice.

Each audit is conditionally divided into several stages. Most researchers who have studied the organisation of cash audits have settled on the option of distinguishing only three stages, namely: preparatory, main, and concluding. Such information is contained in the works of N.Y. Radionova & K.O. Zhura (2017), O.G. Ryabchuk & I.R. Korotava (2018), T.O. Melikhova & A.S. Veriovkina (2019). The second most frequent distribution is into four stages. The aforementioned three are supplemented by a physical verification stage, also called factual, which is proposed to be conducted after performing preparatory procedures, i.e., the first stage. This position is held by Y.V. Podmeshalska *et al.* (2019) and I.D. Golyash & B.N. Menkiv (2019).

There are also scholars who distinguish six or more stages of cash audit. For example, M.D. Korinko (2014) compiled a list of auditor actions during the verification of cash operations of an economic entity, combining them into six stages. In his opinion, such a verification should begin with “a sudden audit of the cash till with a full sheet-by-sheet recalculation of all money and other cash documents located in the enterprise’s cash till”. A.Yu. Kozachenko (2021) provides similar information in her article. According to M.Yu. Gulko (2020), eight stages of organisation and direct conduct of the audit of monetary assets, the main component of which is cash, should be distinguished. The author provided the highest degree of detail for the previously mentioned stages. For example, he divided the preparatory stage into the following three: “preliminary examination of client’s activities; drawing up an audit plan; constructing a scheme of the audit process sequence”. It is more appropriate to disclose these processes as part of the first stage of the audit, rather than separating them.

Other approaches are also found in economic literature. Yu.V. Shavrina & T.L. Sliunina (2024), although they distinguished four stages of audit, like Y.V. Podmeshalska *et al.* (2019), according to their vision, the audit should begin with an organisational stage, during which the auditor collects and analyses information about the enterprise’s activities, its structure, management and accounting system, assesses the feasibility of the audit, and concludes the service agreement. Only after this does the transition to the preparatory stage occur, where an audit team should be created, a general audit strategy developed, and an audit plan, programme, and schedule developed. The main stage was renamed to technological without changing its essence, as was the concluding (final) stage.

The option of dividing the cash audit process into three stages is sufficient: organisational-preparatory, main, and concluding. There is no need to single out a physical (factual) verification stage as a separate group, as the process of

observing the inventory of cash and cash documents in the till is a type of audit procedure, which, although it significantly affects the quality of the conclusions drawn, is not

more important than other types, such as inquiry, recalculation, analytical procedures, etc. The general appearance of the cash audit plan is presented in Table 4.

**Table 4.** Plan for conducting a cash audit at an enterprise

Name of the audit stage	Content
Organisational-preparatory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ familiarisation with the specifics of the company's business;</li> <li>◆ verification of the absence of circumstances that may be grounds for refusal to conduct the audit of the company's financial statements;</li> <li>◆ studying the general industry indicators of similar enterprises;</li> <li>◆ determination of the audit risk;</li> <li>◆ calculation of the materiality level;</li> <li>◆ preparation of the audit plan and programme;</li> <li>◆ conclusion of an audit services agreement.</li> </ul>
Main	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ performing audit procedures in accordance with the previously prepared audit programme;</li> <li>◆ completion of working documents.</li> </ul>
Concluding	Summarising the results of the audit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ analysis of the violations and abuses found;</li> <li>◆ coordination of the identified violations with the management and their correction;</li> <li>◆ preparation of the audit report.</li> </ul>

Source: created by the author

The first step is to investigate the issue of the absence of a conflict of interest and compliance with the principle of auditor independence. For example, if the key audit partner and the chairman of the company's Supervisory Board are family members of the first or second degree of kinship, the objectivity of the opinion presented in the audit report will be questionable. The audit entity thoroughly familiarises itself with the specifics of the company's business. Information on the main and additional activities, main sales markets, main counterparties of the company, organisational structure, accounting policy, etc. is studied. The task of the company acting as the client is to provide all the necessary documentation. This may include, first of all, the company's Charter, Certificate of State Registration, certificate from the Unified State Register of Enterprises and Organisations of Ukraine (US-REOU), Order on Accounting Policy, Order on Approval of the Procedure for Calculating the Cash Balance Limit,

Regulation on the Internal Audit Service, financial statements and audit reports for previous years, etc.

At the organisational and preparatory stage, the internal control system is also assessed. If a high level of efficiency is found, this will reduce the labour intensity of the subsequent audit, the sequence of tasks of which is recorded in the programme. The elements to be examined are usually the internal environment, controls in place, risk management, information and communication, etc. A commonly used method of assessment is testing.

By testing the internal control system, the auditor evaluates its effectiveness, identifies deficiencies in cash accounting, determines audit risk, assesses the qualifications of employees who perform cash transactions, and establishes the effectiveness of the control procedures adopted by the company (Table 5). The results obtained, among other things, allow the development of the programme to choose the right method of conducting the audit: spot, full or combined.

**Table 5.** Test of the company's accounting and internal control system

No.	Question Content	Answer Options		Notes
		Yes	No	
1	Were any deficiencies, irregularities, or abuses identified in previous audits?			
2	Does the Accounting Policy Order sufficiently disclose the specifics of accounting for cash and cash equivalents?			
3	Does the company have a schedule of cash and cash equivalents document flow?			
4	Do accounting employees leave frequently?			
5	Is there a full liability agreement with the cashier?			
6	Are there proper conditions for storing cash and cash documents in the company's cash desk?			
7	Has the procedure for calculating the cash balance limit been approved?			
8	Does the company comply with the cash balance limit?			
9	Has the company been fined for violating the provisions of the Regulation on conducting cash transactions in the national currency?			
10	Are the cash books numbered and laced in the prescribed manner?			

Table 5. Continued

No.	Question Content	Answer Options		Notes
		Yes	No	
11.	Is the timeliness of the employee's return of unused funds provided for reporting controlled?			
12	Is the cash register inventory carried out more than once a year?			
13	Does the company carry out unscheduled inventories?			
14	Are there any agreements on opening bank accounts?			
15	Did the company conduct mutual verification of settlements with counterparties in the reporting period?			
16	Are the rules for determining the effect of changes in foreign exchange rates, as set out in NP(S)BO 21/IAS 21, adhered to when settling with foreign counterparties?			
17	Is the revaluation of end-of-day monetary items, for which transactions occurred during the day using the NBU exchange rate, performed?			
18	Do accounting staff monitor legislative changes regarding accounting and taxation?			
19	Are the retention periods for primary documents related to cash and cash equivalents adhered to?			
20	Is the verification of synthetic and analytical accounting data performed before preparing financial statements?			
21	Is the consistency of accounting register indicators and financial statements checked?			
22	Do you consider the internal control system at the enterprise to be effective?			

Source: created by the author

After analysing the results obtained during the assessment of the company's internal control model, an audit programme is drawn up. It discloses information about the timeframe for completing the tasks and the persons responsible for the quality of the audit, as well as audit procedures, sources of information, indices of working documents, etc. It is advisable to start an audit of cash with a surprise inventory. The external auditor should act as an observer in this process. Prior to the physical inspection, the cashier provides the chairman of the inventory committee with a receipt stating that all cash received has been posted and cash issued has been written off, and that all receipt and expense documents have been submitted to the accounting department. Non-cash payments are also subject to inventory. They are subject to a special procedure, which involves counter reconciliations with counterparties. The actual existence of cash in transit, i.e. cash belonging to the entity but not yet credited to the relevant current or other bank account, can be confirmed by comparing the amounts recorded in sub-accounts

333 "Cash in transit in national currency" and 334 "Cash in transit in foreign currency" in accordance with Instructions no. 291 (Ministry of Finance of Ukraine, 1999), with the information contained in receipts from banks, post offices, and copies of the accompanying statements for transferring proceeds to the bank to collectors.

The audit of cash transactions is usually carried out using a continuous method, with special attention paid to compliance with cash discipline. Although this method is the most labour-intensive, it also minimises the risk of errors not being detected. The continuous type of audit is used in situations where the auditor believes that the use of the sampling method will not be sufficiently effective to obtain the necessary audit evidence. This is because the sampling method may not detect significant irregularities in such a sensitive area of accounting as cash transactions, where the risk of fraud is significant. An exception is possible only for cash transactions that are of a large-scale nature. The cash audit programme is set out in Table 6.

Table 6. Cash audit programme

No.	List of issues to be checked	Audit methodological techniques	Audit evidence	Term
1	Checking the compliance of accounting data and the actual availability of cash and cash documents on hand	Supervision of the inventory process	Cash Book, Cash Receipt Voucher (CRV), Cash Payment Voucher (CPV), Act on the Results of Inventory of Available Funds Held	
2	Checking the establishment of and compliance with the cash balance limit in the company's cash desk	Documentary, arithmetic	Cash Limit Calculation, Order on Approval of Cash Limit Calculation Procedure, Order on Accounting Policy, Cash Book, CRV, CPV	
3	Verification of compliance with legal requirements for the employment of a cashier	Documentary, regulatory and legal	Full Material Liability Agreement, Cashier's Job Description	

Table 6. Continued

No.	List of issues to be checked	Audit methodological techniques	Audit evidence	Term
4	Checking the intended use of cash at the enterprise	Documentary, cross-checking, arithmetic	Disbursement documents, advance reports, CPV, cheques, receipts, data from accounts 30, 31, 372, 66	
5	Verification of compliance with restrictions on cash payments	Documentary, regulatory and legal, cross-checking	CRV, CPV, Cash Book (No. KO-4), Book of Cash Issued and Received by the Senior Cashier (No. KO-5), etc.	
6	Verification of timeliness and completeness of return of unused part of the cash issued under the report by employees	Documentary, arithmetic	Reports on the Use of Funds Issued for Business Trips or against Accountability (travel tickets, invoices, payment bills, cheques), disbursement documents, CPV	
7	Checking compliance with the conditions for storing cash and other valuables in the company's cash desk	Inspection	Act on Checking Adherence to the Procedure for Cash Operations	
8	Verification of compliance with the rules for maintaining a cash book (numbered, laced, sealed, and free of corrections)	Documentary, inspection, substantive testing	Cash Book (Form No. KO-4)	
9	Checking the procedure for spending cash proceeds	Documentary, arithmetic, substantive testing, regulatory and legal	Bank statements, payment instructions	
10	Checking for discrepancies in settlements with counterparties	Cross-checking / Reconciliation	Act of reconciliation of mutual settlements	
11	Verification of the correctness of exchange rate differences at the date of the transaction and at the end of the reporting period	Documentary, arithmetic, substantive testing	Payment instructions, bank statements, Order on accounting policy, NBU data	
12	Verification of the correctness of documentary registration of cash receipt and transfer (payment) transactions	Documentary, substantive testing, arithmetic, regulatory and legal	Payment instructions, bank statements, CRV, CPV, Cash Book (No. KO-4), Book of Cash Issued and Received by the Senior Cashier (No. KO-5), etc.	
13	Review of analytical cash accounting for compliance with turnover and synthetic account balances	Documentary, substantive testing	Trial balance, Journal 1, statements 1.1, 1.2, chart of accounts, etc.	
14	Checking the consistency of information provided in the financial statements and accounting registers	Documentary, substantive testing	Journal 1, statements 1.1, 1.2, 1.3; Register of uncollected wages, financial statements (Forms No. 1, 3, 5)	
15	Verification of the identity of the respective figures in the Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and Notes	Documentary, substantive testing	Balance sheet, cash flow statement, notes to the annual financial statements	
16	Summarising the results	Analytical	Working documents, auditor's report	

**Source:** created by the author in accordance with the requirements of the Resolution of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine No. 148 (2017)

This programme will allow the auditor to approach the audit in an organised manner and obtain the evidence necessary to formulate an audit report, the main part of which is an opinion on the reliability of the financial statements. The auditor may issue one of four types of opinion: unqualified, qualified, adverse or abstain from expressing an opinion. The latter option is possible, for example, if the auditor's independence is violated or if sufficient and appropriate evidence cannot be collected. If the auditor decides to express a qualified opinion because certain minor inaccuracies or irregularities have been identified that have a limited impact on the financial statements, the reasons should be disclosed in a separate paragraph of the report. In

addition to the report, the internal audit results also include recommendations for correcting identified errors and optimising the accounting and internal control system. Such information is provided to management for consideration.

The most common violations identified during a cash audit include the following: Abuse of office (misappropriation, embezzlement of part of the funds received in the course of excessive write-offs or non-receipt); exceeding the permissible limit of cash payments, the established cash limit; untimely and/or incomplete return of funds provided for reporting by employees; mistakes in calculations (incorrect determination of exchange rate differences, total cash transactions for the day in the Cash Book, amount of deposited

salary, etc.); lack of mandatory details in primary documents; incorrectly formed account correspondence; untimely and/or poor quality cash inventory, etc. The auditor must generally adhere to the principles of confidentiality and professional secrecy, i.e. not disclose information obtained during the audit, including any violations identified, to third parties.

An important element of the cash audit is the reconciliation of mutual settlements, which allows to verify the accuracy of the information on the status of debts and to ensure that the data on the balance of non-cash funds is correct. First of all, the reconciliation is carried out with the main counterparties with whom the company has the

largest volume of settlement transactions for the period under review. This process also includes those debtors with whom there has been no contact for a long time, but whose debts remain outstanding. For the purposes of summarising the information obtained as a result of reconciliations with counterparties, for the sake of clarity of its display and ease of analysis, it is proposed to use a summary statement of reconciliation acts with counterparties (Table 7). Such data, especially if collected over several periods, will allow identifying the transactions in which errors are most often made, identifying the party responsible for the discrepancies, and the most problematic debtors and creditors.

**Table 7.** Summary statement of reconciliation acts with counterparties

No.	Counterparty name	Document confirming the debt		Amount of debt, UAH		According to the Act of Reconciliation of Mutual Settlements		Disagreements
		Date	Name and number of the document	By supporting document	According to the analytical accounting statement	UAH	Date	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Debtors of the enterprise:								
Creditors of the company:								

Source: created by the author

The auditor usually also pays attention to verifying the information on the company’s bank accounts, namely the legality of their opening, the existence of a cash management agreement, and compliance with the closure procedure, if such an event has taken place. Obtaining confirmation

from banking institutions regarding account balances is a key procedure for confirming the accuracy of information in the company’s accounting records. Therefore, it is important to know which accounts are open to the company and in what amount (Table 8).

**Table 8.** Form of the auditor’s working document for verification of information on bank accounts

Bank where the account is opened	MFO of the bank	Account type	Currency type	Account number	Account opening agreement		Account closure details			Analytical account for accounting		Usage activity	
					Account No.	Date	Reason	Date	Reference	Account No.	Name	Date of the last transaction operations	Balance of funds
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

Source: created by the author in accordance with the requirements of the Resolution of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine No. 162 (2022)

It is also necessary to pay close attention to the reasons for closing previous bank accounts (on the company’s own initiative; on the bank’s initiative due to the absence of transactions for 3 years with a zero balance; by decision of the body responsible for the termination of the legal entity, etc. Of course, a legal entity may not have such accounts. In this case, columns 8, 9 and 10 of

the proposed form of the auditor’s working document for verifying information on bank accounts will remain blank (or a dash may be placed in them).

Information about the analytical account used to record transactions on an account opened with a banking institution is required to obtain assurance that there is no contradiction with the requirements of applicable law (for

example, that transactions to transfer funds from a current account in foreign currency are not recorded on the 3<sup>rd</sup> order account 3111). The data in columns 13 and 14 are intended to assess the need for this account. If, for some reason, it is not used by the business entity for a long time, it is necessary to consider closing it. In addition, the account opening agreement may provide for the write-off of the fee for settlement services for an inactive account.

When auditing cash transactions, one of the most important tasks is to examine the correctness of the primary documents reflecting the issuance and acceptance of cash. It is necessary to perform not only arithmetic calcu-

lation, but also a formal check, which involves reviewing the document for all mandatory details, the list of which is set out in Resolution of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine No. 148 (2017). The author has created a variant of the auditor's working document form, which will be convenient for recording the results of the review of cash receipt orders. In the last line of the form, for each column, except for 16, 17 and 18, it is needed to calculate the sum of empty cells that indicate the absence of a requisite. This will make it possible to identify which requisite is most often overlooked and to determine the number of primary documents filled in with errors (Table 9).

**Table 9.** Form of the auditor's working document for verifying the correctness of filling in cash receipt vouchers

No. p/p	Name of requisites													Operation amount, UAH with coins			
	Enterprise Name	USREOU Code	Voucher Number	Date of compilation	Purpose Code	Amount		Basis	Received from	Corresponding account, sub-account	Analytical Account Code	Seal	Signature		By receipt order (form No. KO-1)	By the Cash Book (form No. KO-4)	Deviation
						In figures	In words						Cashier	Chief Accountant			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Total															X	X	X

**Source:** created by the author in accordance with the requirements of the Resolution of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine No. 148 (2017)

A working document form for monitoring the correctness of filling out cash vouchers (form KO-2) was developed on a similar principle. The only difference is in the set of details: instead of the surname, name, patronymic (surname) of the person from whom the order was accepted, the surname of the person to whom the cash should be issued

against signature is checked; the initials and signature of the head of the enterprise are added (there may be no signature if the documents, statements and accounts attached to the form No. KO-2 contains his authorisation), as well as the cash recipient; the name, number, date and place of issue of the recipient's identity document are indicated (Table 10).

**Table 10.** Form of the auditor's working document for checking the correctness of filling in the cash vouchers

No. p/p	Name of requisites													Amount of the transaction, UAH per co.					
	Enterprise Name	USREOU Code	Voucher Number	Date of Compilation	Purpose Code	Amount		Basis / Grounds	Issued to / To whom issued	Corresponding account, sub-account	Analytical Account Code	Information about the document identifying the recipient	Signature			Recipient	According to the payment voucher	According to the Cash Book	Deviation
						In figures	In words						Cashier	Chief Accountant	Head				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Total																	X	X	X

**Source:** created by the author in accordance with the requirements of the Resolution of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine No. 148 (2017)

Every enterprise that makes cash payments faces the issue of setting a cash limit. If it is not approved by an appropriate administrative document, the cash balance limit will automatically be considered zero. Any excess, except as provided for by law, will result in penalties being imposed on the company, so it is important to ensure that the limit is not exceeded during the audit. The exception is the days when salaries are paid from the cash desk. Funds received for this purpose may be kept in excess of the limit for three days.

Currently, due to the martial law, it is necessary to take into account circumstances that make it impossible to timely deposit the excess cash amount to a bank branch. This may be due to active hostilities on the territory, as well as emergency power outages. Paragraph 48 of Resolution of the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine No. 51 (2018)

provides for the possibility of transferring cash to the bank with a delay due to force majeure circumstances, while taking measures to remedy the situation as soon as possible (returning the over-limit amounts). This nuance was taken into account when developing the form of the auditor's working document, which can be used to identify the fact of exceeding the cash balance limit (Table 11). It also does not contain a requirement for mandatory documentary evidence of force majeure, but it is advisable for a company to have it to avoid possible misunderstandings with regulatory authorities. This can be a printed notice from the regional power company on its official website about an emergency power outage in the region, a bank's notification of a temporary pause in the operation of its branches, or an explanatory note from the cashier.

**Table 11.** Form of the auditor's working document for checking the cash limit

Date	Cash till limit, UAH	Cash balance at the end of the day, UAH	Including cash balance per payment statements on payroll days		Exceeding the established cash till limit		
			within term	exceeding the term	Due to the enterprise's fault, UAH	Due to force majeure	
						UAH	documentary confirmation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Source: created by the author

Enterprises with foreign currency assets disclose in Form 5 "Notes to the Annual Financial Statements" of the Order of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine No. 904/5125 (2000), among other things, information on non-operating foreign exchange gains and losses. Such detail is not quite sufficient for users of the financial statements, so in order to increase the information content of the financial statements, it is advisable to separately disclose the amounts of exchange rate differences arising from investing and financing activities in Form 5. For these purposes, it is necessary to ensure the accumulation of information in the following analytical section of

the 3<sup>rd</sup> order to sub-accounts 744 "Income from non-operating exchange rate differences" and 974 "Losses from non-operating exchange rate differences": 7441 "Income from exchange rate differences arising from investing activities", 7442 "Income from exchange rate differences arising from financing activities", 9741 "Losses from exchange rate differences arising from investing activities" and 9742 "Losses from exchange rate differences arising from financing activities". As a result, the Notes to the annual financial statements (Form 5) in terms of information on exchange rate differences will look like the following Table 12.

**Table 12.** Supplements to sections V and VI of the notes to the annual financial statements

Row code	Name of the indicator
600	Non-operating exchange rate differences
601	Foreign exchange differences from investing activities
602	Foreign exchange differences from financing activities
...	...
700	Electronic money

Source: created by the author

According to the traditional approach, which is set out, among other things, in Order of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine No. 73 (2013), electronic money is not classified as cash. However, given their ability to perform the functions of a means of payment, a measure of value and circulation, it is advisable to consider reflecting them in Section VI of Form 5

"Notes to the Annual Financial Statements" in a separate line, for example, 700, without including them in the final line 690. This will increase the information content of the reporting, since when replenishing an e-wallet from the company's current account, the funds remain available for paying for goods and services online, albeit with certain restrictions.

During an audit, one of the most common methods of obtaining assurance about the absence of errors in a business entity's financial statements is to check the identity of information in comparable items. For cash, these are the lines of the Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and Notes to the annual financial statements in terms of the balance at

the beginning (except for Form 5) and end of the period. If the information is different, it means that at least arithmetic errors were made when filling out the forms, which should be corrected. To identify which forms have discrepancies, if any, and the amount of the deviation, the form of the working document shown in Table 13 can be used.

**Table 13.** Form of the auditor's working document to verify the identity of financial statement items containing information on cash

Indicator	According to accounting data						According to auditor's data						Data discrepancies					
	Balance Sheet		Statement of Cash Flows		Notes to annual financial statements		Balance Sheet		Statement of Cash Flows		Notes to annual financial statements		of compiled reporting forms			of accounting and auditor		
	line code	amount, thou. UAH	line code	amount, thou. UAH	line code	amount, thou. UAH	line code	amount, thou. UAH	line code	amount, thou. UAH	line code	amount, thou. UAH	Form No. 1 and Form No. 33	Form No. 3 and Form No. 5	Form No. 5 and Form No. 1	per Form No. 1	per Form No. 3	per Form No. 5
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Balance at year start	1165		3405		X	X	1165		3405		X	X		X	X		X	X
Balance at year end	1165		3415		690		1165		3415		690							

Source: created by the author

The completed table serves as a reliable working document that records the audit procedure performed, the data obtained, and the discrepancies identified (or not identified). This is important for confirming the validity of the audit opinion. In case of discrepancies, the table helps to quickly identify between which reporting forms there is a discrepancy (for example, between the Balance Sheet and the Cash Flow Statement), which facilitates further investigation of the reasons for their occurrence. The documented results of the audit in the form of a table can also be used to communicate more effectively with management about the identified discrepancies and the need to correct them. Due to the clear structure of the table, the auditor can use his/her time more efficiently by focusing on the analysis of the identified discrepancies rather than on chaotic search and comparison of data in different documents. The use of Table 13 is a practical and effective tool for the auditor, which contributes to a better, faster and more informed cash audit.

The developed form of the working document that verifies the identity of information on cash in different forms of financial statements is an important step in ensuring the reliability of the auditor's opinion. However, a comprehensive methodology for auditing cash flows at an enterprise requires a broader understanding of both the theoretical

foundations of the Statement of Cash Flows and the practical aspects of applying accounting policies.

Thus, I. Sadovska *et al.* (2022) offer a valuable addition to the methodology of cash flow audit. Although the authors focus on the formation of a management model of the Statement of Cash Flows, their research has a direct impact on the audit. Firstly, the researchers note "insufficient analytical nature of the Statement of Cash Flows and lack of reasonable practices regarding the appropriateness and reliability of its individual items", which directly indicates areas of increased risk for the auditor. This confirms the need not only for arithmetic verification, but also for an in-depth analysis of the company's accounting policy. Secondly, the authors compare in detail the correspondences and differences between international (International Accounting Standard 7 "Statement of Cash Flows", 2012) and national standards (Order of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine No. 73, 2013) on the definition of cash and cash equivalents, as well as the classification of cash flows by type of activity (operating, investing, financing). These differences are key for the auditor. For example, the classification of bank overdrafts or dividends paid may differ. The audit methodology should take into account the standards under which the company operates and whether its accounting

policies correctly reflect these features. In contrast to the focus on verification of already submitted data, I. Sadovska *et al.* (2022) delve into the processes of generating this data, offering a management model of the report that can be used by the auditor for deeper analysis and identification of hidden risks. This, in turn, will allow for the development of more targeted audit procedures.

The study of A. Bubelo & O. Razborska (2024) is of key importance for the cash audit methodology, as it emphasises the crucial role of an effective internal control system in managing cash and increasing investor confidence. The authors analyse the international experience of internal control systems (COSO, ISO 31000), which is critical for the auditor. The data identity check, which is provided by the developed form of the working document (Table 13), is only an external consistency check. However, its results may indicate weaknesses in the internal control system that lead to errors. For example, the identified discrepancies may be the result of deficiencies in the processes of authorisation, processing or recording of cash transactions. A. Bubelo & O. Razborska (2024) delve into the essence of these processes, offering a comparative analysis of the practices of the United States, Germany and Poland. For the auditor, this means that when developing a cash audit programme, special attention should be paid not only to verifying balances, but also to assessing the components of the internal control over cash flows, such as the control environment, risk assessment (including fraud risks), control actions, information and communication, and monitoring. Implementation of international experience in internal control, according to the authors, will allow enterprises to ensure reliable protection of financial resources. Accordingly, the audit methodology should include procedures for testing the effectiveness of these controls, which is the next logical step after verifying the identity of the data.

A.P. Semenets (2017) complements the methodology of cash audit by extending it to modern forms of cash payments. The author substantiates the organisational and methodological provisions of the external audit of electronic money transactions, including the definition of the purpose, objectives, subjects and objects of the audit, as well as sources of information. According to A.P. Semenets (2017), the main purpose of the audit of electronic money transactions is to provide an unbiased opinion on the reliability of financial statements. This is fully consistent with the overall objective of the cash audit. The importance of this work for cash audit methodology lies in the need to adapt audit procedures to new technologies. While traditional cash auditing focuses on cash on hand and cash in bank accounts, electronic money (such as PayPal, e-wallets, etc.) requires specialised approaches. Therefore, the cash audit methodology should be expanded to include the audit of electronic money transactions, which includes: determining the object of audit; sources of information; risk assessment; review of internal controls; and the use of specialised IT tools.

Z.B. Lytvyn *et al.* (2022) focus on internal cash flow control, which is an integral part of any audit. The authors

detail the key aspects of internal control: from defining its essence as a system for ensuring the efficiency and legality of cash transactions, to focusing on risks (fraud, inefficiency), the need for control at all stages of cash flow (planning, use), the importance of documentation and information support, and the role of staff responsibility. Incorporating these aspects into the cash audit methodology allows the auditor to perform a more in-depth and systematic assessment, going beyond identity checks or arithmetic reconciliations, and to identify potential errors and fraud more effectively, providing the company with recommendations for improving its cash management system.

## CONCLUSIONS

The study was aimed at disclosing the peculiarities of organisation and methodology of cash audit in the unstable economic environment caused by the war. The aim of the article, which was to identify the key aspects of cash audit as a tool for ensuring financial stability of business in a crisis, was achieved. The article analyses in detail various approaches to determining the purpose of cash audit, identifies the main areas of audit and systemises the main information sources used in the audit process. International methods and procedures for auditing cash, as well as methods and procedures used in Ukraine, and different views of scientists on the number and content of the stages of the audit are considered. Based on the analysis, the author proposes an optimal structure of the cash audit process, including organisational and preparatory, main and final stages, and develops an appropriate audit plan and programme. Particular attention was paid to the practical aspects of the audit, including the development of forms of auditor's working documents to verify information on bank accounts, the correctness of cash receipt and cash payment orders, control over the cash limit and the identity of financial statement items containing information on cash.

Summarising the results, it should be noted that a high-quality cash audit plays a critical role in ensuring the financial stability of enterprises, especially in times of war and economic instability. A well-designed audit programme allows the auditor to approach the audit in an organised manner and obtain the necessary evidence to form a reasonable audit opinion on the reliability of the financial statements. The audit may reveal various irregularities, such as misuse of funds, exceeding the cash limit, late return of accountable funds, errors in calculations and document preparation. The proposed forms of working documents are a practical tool for identifying such violations and improving the efficiency of audit procedures. Reconciliation of mutual settlements with counterparties and analysis of bank accounts are important elements of the audit, which allow to confirm the reliability of information on cash.

The proposed approach to organising and conducting a cash audit, as well as the developed forms of working documents, can serve as a practical tool for auditors and managers, contributing to increased transparency of financial statements, minimising risks and timely

detection and correction of errors. The results of the study are important for improving the quality of audit services and strengthening financial discipline at enterprises in a difficult economic situation.

Promising areas for further research in this area are the development of adapted cash audit methods, taking into account the specific risks arising in the context of the ongoing war, including logistical constraints and inflationary processes, as well as the study of the impact of digital technologies, in particular the use of electronic money and online payment systems, on the cash audit process and the development of appropriate tools and procedures

for their verification. In addition, it is important to study issues related to the detection and prevention of cash fraud in a war economy.

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## Методика аудиту грошових коштів на підприємстві

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**Анотація.** Актуальність теми зумовлена тим, що в умовах економічної нестабільності аудит грошових коштів стає ключовим інструментом контролю за ефективністю управління фінансовими ресурсами підприємства, враховуючи їхню високу ліквідність та складність обліку. Метою роботи було узагальнення теоретичних засад аудиту грошових коштів та розроблення практичних рекомендацій, адаптованих до реалій українських підприємств. Методологія дослідження ґрунтувалася на поєднанні теоретичного аналізу та практичних спостережень із застосуванням методів індукції, дедукції, узагальнення й аналізу джерел, що забезпечило виявлення основних проблем у сфері аудиту грошових коштів на підприємстві та розробку ефективних підходів до їх вирішення. Всебічно досліджено мету аудиту грошових коштів, окреслено основні завдання аудитора та систематизовано інформаційні ресурси, що сприятиме якісній перевірці та надасть аудитору знання, необхідні для результативного планування, проведення аудиту, мінімізації помилок і підготовки достовірних аудиторських звітів. Особливу увагу приділено аудиторським процедурам, які застосовуються на різних етапах перевірки, що дозволить аудитору глибоко розуміти їхню специфіку та ефективно використовувати для отримання об'єктивних і достовірних аудиторських доказів. У роботі було представлено підходи до класифікації аудиторських методів контролю, що застосовуються в Україні, при цьому особливу увагу приділено документальній перевірці та розрахунково-аналітичним прийомам як ключовим елементам забезпечення якісного аудиту грошових коштів на українських підприємствах. Запропоновано удосконалену методикау, яка включає в себе не лише загальний план та програму аудиту, а й детальний тест системи обліку та контролю. Це дозволить аудитору не просто перевірити правильність відображення грошових коштів, а й оцінити ефективність системи внутрішнього контролю. Для зручності та підвищення якості аудиту розроблено спеціальні робочі документи, які дозволяють систематизувати інформацію та забезпечити її достовірність. Результати дослідження можуть бути використані не лише в практичній діяльності аудиторів, а й в навчальному процесі закладів вищої освіти

**Ключові слова:** аудиторська перевірка; касові операції; процедури; етапи аудиту; загальний план; програма; робочий документ