

THE IESBA CONFERENCE 2025



JOÃO LIMA

Bloomberg, Editor for Southern Europe

João Lima is Editor for Southern Europe at Bloomberg LP, where he leads regional coverage of corporate disclosures, financial markets, and economic trends. Based in Lisbon he is also bureau chief for Portugal. Over the years he has covered different economic areas, including energy, infrastructure, construction transport and capital markets.

He earned a degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), and he has built a career spanning financial journalism and market analysis. Fluent in English and Portuguese, he follows closely regional economic dynamics, regulatory developments, and corporate strategy.

12:00 - 12:50 | Ethical Culture and Governance:
Reinforcing Resilience and Public Trust in
Accounting Firms

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ALAN JOHNSON

Stakeholder Advisory Council, Chair

Alan Johnson is Chair of the Stakeholder Advisory Council of the Public Interest Oversight Board, supporting global audit and ethics standard-setting through input from a broad range of stakeholders. He was appointed in 2023.

He served as IFAC President (2020–2022) and held senior roles at Jerónimo Martins and Unilever. He serves on boards of Imperial Brands plc and William Grant & Sons Ltd, and chairs the Good Governance Academy. Previously he served on the boards of DS Smith plc and the UK Department for International Development, and also chaired the board of Governors at St. Julian's School in Portugal.

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GILLY LORD

PwC, Global Leader, Public Policy and Regulatory Affairs

Gilly Lord is a practising audit partner and PwC's Global Leader for Policy & Regulation. In that role she is responsible for ensuring that PwC plays a constructive role in the public interest debates shaping auditing & assurance, financial reporting and corporate governance around the world. With over 20 years' experience in audit and regulation, Gilly leads PwC's engagement with the International Forum of Independent Audit Regulators (IFIAR) and represents PwC on the Global Public Policy Committee (GPPC).

Gilly is also a member of the audit committee of University College, Oxford, UK and was previously Chair of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) Audit and Assurance Faculty and a Council Member at the ICAEW.

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MAGGIE MCGHEE

ACCA, Executive Director of Strategy and Governance

Maggie McGhee is Executive Director of Strategy and Governance at the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), where she leads strategic planning and governance aligned with ACCA's global public interest mission.

She previously served as Director of Professional Insights at ACCA and held senior audit roles at the UK National Audit Office. A chartered accountant with a law degree from Queen's University Belfast, she also chairs HM Treasury's User Preparer Advisory Group and serves on several professional working groups.

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CHANNA WIJESINGHE

IESBA, Vice Chair | APESB, CEO

Channa Wijesinghe is CEO of the Australian Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board (APESB) and a member of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA), supporting global ethics standard-setting. He was appointed in 2022. He led APESB's technical work from 2007 and became CEO in 2016, overseeing strategy, stakeholder engagement, and standard development. At IESBA, he serves on the Planning Committee and several taskforces, including tax planning, sustainability and firm culture.

He previously held senior audit and corporate finance roles at EY and Deloitte, including as Audit Director at Deloitte, and worked in finance roles in the energy sector. He is a Fellow of CPA Australia and Chartered Accountants ANZ, and holds degrees from Monash and Deakin Universities.

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