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**COVER NOTE**

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From: Ms Christine LAGARDE, President of the European Central Bank  
date of receipt: 23 March 2026  
To: Mr Thomas WESTPHAL, Director General, Council of the European Union

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Subject: RECOMMENDATION OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK of  
18 March 2026 to the Council of the European Union on the external  
auditors of Българска народна банка (Bulgarian National Bank)  
(ECB/2026/8)

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Delegations will find attached the Recommendation of the European Central Bank ECB/2026/8.



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## RECOMMENDATION OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

of 18 March 2026

to the Council of the European Union on the external auditors of Българска народна банка  
(Bulgarian National Bank)

(ECB/2026/8)

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to the Statute of the European System of Central Banks and of the European Central Bank,  
and in particular Article 27.1 thereof,


Whereas:

- (1) The accounts of the European Central Bank (ECB) and the national central banks of the Member States whose currency is the euro are audited by independent external auditors recommended by the ECB's Governing Council and approved by the Council of the European Union.
- (2) The mandate of the current external auditors of Българска народна банка (Bulgarian National Bank), Ernst and Young Audit OOD, will end after the audit for the financial year 2026. Since 1 January 2026 Българска народна банка (Bulgarian National Bank) is subject to Article 27.1 of the Statute of the European System of Central Banks and of the European Central Bank. It is therefore necessary that the ECB's Governing Council recommends and the Council approves the current external auditors for the financial year 2026.

HAS ADOPTED THIS RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Ernst and Young Audit OOD should perform the external audit of Българска народна банка (Bulgarian National Bank) for the financial year 2026.

Done at Frankfurt am Main, 18 March 2026.



*The President of the ECB*  
Christine LAGARDE