

The impact of Accounting Profession Ethics on the application of corporate governance principles in Economic institutions: An Exploratory study of an Accountant's Opinions in Biskra's Economic Institutions.

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Abstract:

This study examines the impact of accounting profession ethics on the application of corporate governance principles in economic institutions, with a focus on institutions in Biskra. A sample of accountants was surveyed to analyze their opinions on the importance of ethics, including integrity, objectivity, professional competence, confidentiality, and professional conduct.

The results indicate a positive relationship between ethics and corporate governance, suggesting that ethical standards are essential for effective governance, transparency, and performance enhancement. The study highlights the significant role of ethics in reducing corruption, preserving rights, and improving decision-making within organizations. These findings provide insights into the importance of integrating ethics into corporate governance frameworks to enhance organizational effectiveness.

Keywords: accounting ethics; corporate governance; professional integrity; objectivity; organizational performance.

JEL Classification Codes: M41, M42, G30, G32

1. INTRODUCTION

Ethics play a crucial role in shaping the conduct of individuals and organizations, especially in professional settings. Professional ethics refer to the principles, rules, and moral concepts that guide employees in their work. The significance of ethics has increased, particularly after financial crises in countries like the USA, the UK, and others, which revealed corruption in management and accounting. Accounting professionals, especially auditors, have been criticized for contributing to crises by approving misleading financial reports due to weak ethical standards. In response, professional bodies have developed principles that accountants must adhere to.

This study investigates the impact of accounting ethics on corporate governance principles in economic institutions. The research explores how the integrity, objectivity, competence, confidentiality, and professional conduct of accountants and auditors affect corporate governance practices.

The study's problem was as follows :

What is the impact of accounting ethics on the application of corporate governance principles in economic institutions?

This leads to the following questions :

- Does the integrity of the accountant or auditor affect the application of corporate governance principles in the economic institutions under study?
- Does the objectivity of the accountant or auditor affect the application of corporate governance principles in the economic institutions under study?
- Does the competence and professional care of the accountant or auditor affect the application of corporate governance principles in the economic institutions under study?
- Does confidentiality at work affect the application of corporate governance principles in the economic institutions under study?
- Does professional conduct affect the application of corporate governance principles in the economic institutions under study?

The importance of the study:

The study is significant due to the rising cases of financial corruption that have led to the collapse of institutions, often caused by accountants and auditors failing to adhere to professional ethics.

Study Objectives :

- To analyze the relationship between accounting ethics and corporate governance principles in the studied economic institutions.

- To assess the adherence of accountants and auditors to professional ethics.
- To propose measures that enhance the role of corporate governance and accounting ethics

Study hypotheses :

Main hypothesis : "There is no statistically significant effect between the ethics of the accounting profession and the application of corporate governance principles from the perspective of accountants in the economic institutions under study at a significance level of $\alpha \geq 0.05$ ".

It branches into the following hypotheses:

- "There is no statistically significant effect between the integrity of the accountant and the application of corporate governance principles from the perspective of the accountants in the economic institutions under study at a significance level of $\alpha \geq 0.05$."

- "There is no statistically significant effect between the objectivity of the accountant and the application of corporate governance principles from the perspective of the accountants in the economic institutions under study at a significance level of $\alpha \geq 0.05$."

- "There is no statistically significant effect between the professional competence and care of the accountant and the application of corporate governance principles from the perspective of the accountants in the economic institutions under study at a significance level of $\alpha \geq 0.05$."

- "There is no statistically significant effect between the professional conduct of the accountant and the application of corporate governance principles from the perspective of the accountants in the economic institutions under study at a significance level of $\alpha \geq 0.05$."

Study Methodology :

In order to test the hypotheses proposed in the study, we adopted in our study the hypothetical deductive method, which makes us move from the whole to the part. We also adopted the Study Methodology: In order to test the hypotheses proposed in the study, we adopted in our study the hypothetical deductive method, which makes us move from the whole to the part. We also

adopted the quantitative approach through the statistical analysis of the questionnaire data distributed in a sample of economic institutions (industrial zone) in the state of Biskra, We relied on analyzing its results using the SPSS statistical program, and we explained the nature of the relationship between the variables.

2. Theoretical Framework of the Study Variables

2.1. Ethics of the accounting profession:

- Ethics of accounting profession's concept: Accountants, both in intellectual study and professional practice, have been concerned with linking ethics to the accounting profession, considering the ethical approach as one of the approaches to building accounting theory, Or, in the adoption by professional accounting organizations in each country and at the international level, of sets of ethical charters for the accounting profession or rules of professional conduct, whether when preparing accounting statements or when auditing them, in order to adhere to them during practical applications. Ethics has been defined as: « That branch of philosophy, which is a systematic study reflecting the choice of right and wrong criteria, and by which good things are guided towards which they may ultimately be directed ». (Muquad & Wahid, 2010) Ethics consists of two main branches (philosophical ethics and religious ethics). (Saihi, 2016, p. 228) Based on this, many questions have been raised in the field of ethics, given that ethics represents an important element in decision-making. Ethics holds great importance for institutions, both today and tomorrow, as it is a constantly evolving and indispensable subject, while the ethics of the accounting profession are defined as: "A set of values and standards upon which members of society rely to distinguish between what is good and what is bad, and between what is right and what is wrong. They are based on the concept of right or wrong in behavior." (Najm, 2000, p. 19) Ethics is defined as: "A document that specifies the ethical, behavioral, and professional standards that members of a particular association are required to follow; and as a statement of the ideal standards for a profession, adopted by a professional group or institution to guide its members in fulfilling their professional responsibilities." That is, it is: a set of rules and principles that a professional must adhere to and act according to to be successful in his dealings with people, successful in his profession, and able

to gain the trust of his clients, colleagues, and superiors. (Abu Bakr, 2005, p. 191)

From the foregoing, we conclude that the ethics of the accounting profession are the principles that form the basis of the conduct of its members, which they pledge to uphold. The profession has its own code of conduct and etiquette, which are the general principles of professional conduct and social behavior as defined by the regulations and laws governing its practice, Therefore, they are ethical judgments about what should be done, and they aim to elevate the profession by adhering to those ethical principles and standards by the accounting members, thereby improving the reputation and image of the profession in the minds of the public and better serving their interests.

Sources of an accountant's ethical behavior:

An accountant's ethical behavior is influenced by the accountant themselves, the institution they work for, and the external environment. The following is an explanation of these elements: (djoudi & ben ghazal, pp. 230-231)

* Accountant: An accountant's ethical behavior is influenced by a range of factors related to their family and personal background. Religious values, personal standards, individual needs, family influence, financial requirements, and other factors drive individuals toward a particular type of behavior. An individual who lacks a strong foundation of ethics acquired from family, religion, and other sources will likely exhibit different behaviors, where his actions fluctuate in different situations solely in light of maximizing his personal interest, while those who rely on a strong moral foundation have greater self-confidence and more consistent behavior in their decisions. Ethical values that prioritize integrity, dignity, justice, uprightness, and self-respect provide the support for managers, enabling them to make more correct decisions even if the surrounding circumstances are unclear or ambiguous and the pressures are great.

* The organization where the accountant works: The organization influences workplace ethics through its organizational structure and lines of authority, as well as work rules, procedures, incentive systems, etc. Informal groups

and organizations also have an impact on individual behaviors, and perhaps the prevailing organizational culture, which means the set of shared values and norms that control interactions between members of the organization with each other and with other parties outside the organization, is a major and effective influence on behavior, whether ethical or unethical, through the dependence of the working or administrative individual on these norms and values and the extent to which they emphasize adherence to certain behaviors.

* **External Environment:** Organizations operate in a competitive environment influenced by government laws and regulations, as well as prevailing social values and norms. Laws obligate organizations to certain behaviors and set standards for their actions within specific limits, while regulations help in enacting new legislation based on violations or non-compliance with existing laws. Therefore, the totality of legislation and laws, as well as social customs and values, gives an idea of the nature of the prevailing ethical climate in a particular industry, and this in turn influences the ethical behavior of accountants. As for the manifestations of ethical behavior, known as behaviors and manifestations of administrative corruption, it is possible to find them in the work environment, such as bribery, favoritism, theft, etc.

* **Principles and ethics of the accounting profession :** Due to the importance of professional ethics and the obligation of accountants and auditors to adhere to them, this topic has received considerable attention from stakeholders in the profession, both internationally and locally. At the international level, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) established the first code of conduct for the accounting and auditing profession in 1917. (Saihi, 2016, p. 230) This code has undergone many developments and revisions to keep pace with developments in the accounting and auditing environment ;as well as, the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) also made efforts in this area, issuing a code of ethical conduct in 1990 to strengthen the profession's presence, credibility, and unity internationally, to promote and activate accountant conduct to achieve the highest level of performance. These principles are: (djoudi & ben ghazal, p. 231)

* **Integrity:** Integrity is the core value of professional ethics. As part of this, an accountant must adhere to high ethical standards such as integrity, honesty,

truthfulness, and trustworthiness in their work and relationships. Their conduct should be above reproach and beyond blame to maintain public trust. Integrity also requires that the accountant respect the principles of objectivity and independence, that the ethics of their professional conduct remain above reproach, that they make decisions taking the public interest into account, and that they exercise absolute integrity in the performance of their work. The professional accountant must also ensure that his name is not associated with any reports, information, or communications if they contain distorted or misleading financial data, or it contain information or statements prepared carelessly, or are incomplete due to deletion, or contain some kind of ambiguity that leads to misleading information.

* Objectivity: The professional member must be honest in representing the facts and objective in performing their professional services. He must not be subject in his professional judgments to the opinions and demands of others. Integrity, as a moral principle, is about being free from ulterior motives, and about being objective and free from bias or being influenced by money, pressure, or relationships with others. Accountants or auditors should not neglect any data or refrain from reviewing certain records or financial statements, and they should not cease making the necessary effort to obtain other data relevant to their opinions and assessments of what is between their hands, or to the work of the institution ; They must also be impartial in these judgments, based on their experience and what it dictates to them, without being subject to preconceived judgments made by others and without influence from others, whatever their status.

* Professional competence and care : The professional accountant has a continuous duty to maintain professional knowledge and skills at the required level and to be familiar with accounting standards, policies, procedures, practices, methods, rules, and financial management, all to ensure that the client or employer receives competent professional services based on current developments in practices, legislation and methods, the professional accountant should perform his duties diligently and carefully in accordance

with the applicable technical and professional standards when providing professional services.

* Confidentiality: The professional accountant must respect the confidentiality of information obtained as a result of professional and business relationships, and should not disclose any of this information to third parties, whether in writing or orally, without proper and specific authorization, unless there is a legal or professional right or duty to disclose it in which confidential information obtained as a result of professional and business relationships must not be used for the personal benefit of the professional accountant or the three parties.

* Professional conduct: The accountant must exercise due professional care when carrying out and supervising various accounting operations, and when preparing various financial statements. The accountant must also use accounting methods and practices of the highest possible quality in carrying out his accounting operations, and that when carrying out his accounting operations on various financial statements, he must comply with the relevant laws, regulations and accounting principles, and he should avoid any action that harms the reputation of the profession.

- Objectives of the principles of ethics in the accounting profession: These principles, in their entirety, aim to achieve several purposes, including:

The ethics of accountants influence their behavior, which in turn affects their business results. Accounting information is directly affected by these behaviors, and the matter does not stop there; various internal and external decisions are based on and made using this information as their primary source. Therefore, the ethical conduct of accountants has a direct impact on the behavior of individuals and groups both within and outside the organization.

2.2. Corporate Governance:

-The concept of corporate governance: Researchers have not agreed on a specific definition for the concept of corporate governance. It has been defined as: "The system through which businesses are managed, and their performance is controlled and monitored." (Cowan) The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD, 1999) defined corporate governance as: 'The procedures and processes by which business

organizations are directed and controlled.' The corporate governance framework defines the process of distributing rights and responsibilities among company participants, such as the board of directors, managers, shareholders, and other stakeholders, and it establishes the rules and procedures necessary for decision-making, provides the framework through which company objectives are set, identifies the means to achieve these objectives, and encourages performance monitoring processes. (Al-Hayari, 2017, p. 8) It is also defined as: "A set of laws, regulations, rules, and procedures that enable an organization to maximize its value and determine its long-term worth in a way that benefits shareholders and stakeholders." (Hamed) It is therefore: "The framework that includes the systems, rules, and market practices that determine how companies make their decisions, especially publicly traded companies, and define the transparency standards that govern their decision-making process, and the extent of accountability to which directors and heads of those companies are subject, the information disclosed to investors, and the protections offered to minority investors. (Wahab, 2007)

From the above, we conclude that the concept of corporate governance includes a set of instructions and procedures for guiding and monitoring company performance and reducing risks, as well as establishing regulations, instructions, mechanisms, and structures to ensure these objectives are met, and achieving control and oversight of the organization's activities and its managers.

Objectives and Importance of Corporate Governance: Corporate governance aims to ensure integrity, impartiality, and transparency at all levels of the company, from the board of directors to the lowest-ranking employee. It focuses on optimizing resource use, improving internal controls, and ensuring the independence of auditors. Governance also reduces risks and lowers capital costs by complying with relevant laws and regulations. It is an essential tool for ensuring proper management, achieving company goals legally and economically, and regulating the relationship between internal and

external parties, such as the board of directors, shareholders and related parties, (Hassan, 2009, p. 25) and their importance in the institution is demonstrated by: "Their need to separate ownership and management of institutions in light of the occupation and conflict of goals among various parties (managers, owners, shareholders, workers, suppliers, etc.), its contribution to reducing risks, improving performance, driving market development, increasing the competitiveness of goods and services, improving management, increasing transparency, and also its contribution to increasing the number of investors in financial markets." (Ahed, 2016) Some argue that its importance stems from: "Assisting countries trying to curb rampant corruption in the public and private sectors, helping institutions and the economy in general to attract investment, and improving long-term economic performance and competitiveness; through methods and approaches, by emphasizing transparency in company transactions, and in accounting, financial auditing and accounting processes and procedures, and preventing banking crises even in countries where most of their institutions do not actively trade in the stock markets." (Ahmed, pp. 14-38)

- Corporate Governance Principles: The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has established basic principles for corporate governance, which can be summarized as follows: (Al-Hayari, 2017, pp. 17-18)

Corporate Governance Framework: A robust corporate governance framework is essential to ensure transparency, market efficiency, and alignment with the rule of law. It requires an effective institutional system that supports economic integrity and market transparency. Protecting shareholders' rights, ensuring equal treatment for all shareholders, and safeguarding stakeholder interests are fundamental aspects. The framework should also prioritize timely and accurate disclosure of company information, including financial and strategic details. Additionally, it must clearly define the board of directors' responsibilities, ensuring effective oversight of executive management and appropriate committee formation.

- The fundamental determinants for applying the concept of corporate governance: For institutions to apply the principles of corporate governance,

a set of fundamental determinants and factors must be available to ensure the proper application of these principles. These determinants are internal and external: (Suleiman, 2009, pp. 23-24)

Determinants of Corporate Governance: Corporate governance is influenced by both external and internal factors. External determinants include laws and regulations governing market operations, such as company laws, capital market laws, and laws that regulate competition. Internal determinants involve the organizational rules and decision-making processes that ensure proper administrative structures and a fair distribution of responsibilities. These factors are also impacted by the state's culture, political and economic system, and the level of trust among its citizens.

3. The practical framework of the study

3.1 Field study procedures :

In order to apply the theoretical concepts of accounting ethics and corporate governance and to determine the relationship between them to field practices, an analysis of the opinions of accountants from a sample of economic institutions was conducted (Biskra Textile and Equipment Establishment, Biskra Naftal District, Biskra Sonatrach Maintenance Directorate, Central Biskra Electricity and Gas Distribution Establishment, EN.I.CA Cable Manufacturing Establishment).

3.2. Methodological Procedures of the Study: The institutions studied are well-suited to adopt accounting ethics and corporate governance principles due to their service and production nature. These principles help address challenges faced by accountants in preparing financial statements, making decisions, and ensuring shareholder rights. Additionally, the sector in which these institutions operate is also compatible with governance principles, considering the constant changes affecting it.

- **Study tool:** We relied on the questionnaire as an important tool to obtain information and data from the study sample. Based on this, a questionnaire

was designed and distributed to the intended sample. 40 questionnaires were distributed to the study population, and (35) questionnaires were returned ; 5 were not returned due to the fight against the spread of the Coronavirus pandemic, and the absence of some accountants who were infected with the The epidemic (quarantined). (05) questionnaires were excluded as they were not valid for analysis, leaving 30 questionnaires valid for analysis; that is, 75%, which is a reasonable percentage that can be relied upon in the statistical analysis.

The questionnaire was divided into three sections. The first section collected personal data of the study sample. The second section focused on the ethics of the accounting profession (independent variable) with 20 statements covering five dimensions: integrity, objectivity, professional competence, confidentiality, and conduct. The third section addressed corporate governance (dependent variable) with 15 statements. The five-point Likert scale was used, with careful consideration of its gradation.:

Table (01): Five-point Likert scale

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
01	02	03	04	05

The study was conducted in economic institutions in the industrial zone of Biskra State during the period (October 1, 2021 to October 7, 2021), and included a study of the relationship between the ethics of the accounting profession and corporate governance. The study was limited to the heads of accounting and finance departments, accountants and their subordinates.

- Study population and sample :

* **Study population:** This represents the group that the researcher is interested in, and to which he wants to generalize the results obtained from the sample. In the current study, it represents all heads of accounting and finance departments and accountants affiliated with institutions (Biskra Textile and Equipment Establishment, Biskra Naftal District, Biskra Sonatrach Maintenance Directorate, Biskra Central Electricity and Gas Distribution Establishment, Biskra EN.I.CA Coil Manufacturing Establishment).

* **Study sample :** The sample in this study is a group of individuals selected from the population being studied. A stratified random sample of 40 individuals was chosen from the institutions under study to ensure accurate results. The sample was selected systematically.

-The reliability of the research tool refers to the consistency of its results, which can be repeated over time. To ensure the reliability and validity of the study questionnaire, Cronbach's alpha coefficient was used. This test measures the degree of reliability and validity of the tool, and the results are presented in the following table :

Table (02): Results of the reliability and validity test of the study tool

validity coefficient	Reliability coefficient	Number of paragraphs	Axes
0.900	0.932	20	Independent variable: ethics of the Accounting profession
0,782	0,943	05	First dimension: Accountant's integrity
0.921	0.921	05	The second dimension: the accountant's objectivity
0,814	0,886	05	Third dimension: Competence and professional care
0,831	0,968	05	The fourth dimension: Confidentiality at work
0,890	0,964	05	Fifth dimension: Professional behavior
0.903	0.921	15	Dependent variable: Corporate governance
0,917	0,935	25	The questionnaire as a whole

Source: Prepared by researchers based on SPSS program outputs.

We note from the chart that the reliability coefficient alpha is 93.5%, which is a good percentage compared to the statistically acceptable percentage of 60%. As for the validity coefficient, it reached 91.7%, which indicates that there is a good consistency and correlation relationship between the items of the questionnaire.

- Analysis of the researched sample's characteristics: The characteristics of the study sample were analyzed through: gender, age, educational qualification, professional experience, job position.

Table (03): Personal data of the study sample

Ratio	number	Category	Variable
86,67	26	Male	Sex
13,33	04	Female	
	-	Less than 25	Age
13,33	04	From 25 years old to under 30 years old	
66,67	20	From 30 to 45 years old	
20	06	Over 45 years	
6,67	02	Secondary	Academic qualification
83,33	25	University	
10	03	Postgraduate degrees	
6,67	02	5years and under	Professional experience
83,33	02	5-10 years	
10	25	More than 10 years	
33,33	10	Head of the Accounting and Finance Department	Job position
66,67	20	Administrative Accountant	

Source : Prepared by researchers using the SPSS statistical software.

The table No. (03) shows that the sample being studied is predominantly male, with a percentage of (86.67%), and most of them are between 30 and 45 years old, with a percentage of 66.67%, and they have university degrees, with a percentage of (83.33%), and they have more than 10 years of experience, with a percentage of 83.33%, and all of them are accountants and heads of departments in the institutions under study and they are employed.

3.3 Analysis and interpretation of results:

Analysis of respondents' opinions on the ethics of the accounting profession: The table represents the arithmetic mean and standard deviation.

Table (04): Arithmetic Mean and Standard Deviation for the ethics of the accounting profession

Acceptance level	Standard deviation	Arithmetic mean	Variable	Dimension
High	0,63	3,842	Independent variable: ethics of the accountant profession	
High	0,456	3,76	Accountant integrity	Dimension 1
High	0,531	3.88	Accountant objectivity	Dimension 2
High	0,771	3,74	competence and professional care	Dimension 3
High	0,871	3,99	Work confidentiality	Dimension 4
High	0,521	3,84	Profession behavior	Dimension 5
High	0,532	3,89	Dependent variable : Corporate governance	

Source : Prepared by researchers based on SPSS program outputs.

The results indicate that **confidentiality** ranked highest with an arithmetic mean of (3.99) and a standard deviation of (0.871), followed by **objectivity** (3.88, SD=0.531), **professional conduct** (3.84, SD=0.521), **integrity** (3.76, SD=0.456), and finally **professional competence and care** (3.74, SD=0.779). These results show high ethical standards among accountants in the studied institutions, with minimal variation in responses, indicating a consensus among accountants. This suggests they are trustworthy, honest, and committed to performing their duties within a legal framework, refraining from behaviors that could harm their professional integrity or the institution's goals. They also maintain confidentiality unless legally required to disclose information.

Analysis of respondents' opinions on the application of corporate governance principles:

The application of corporate governance principles in the studied institutions is also rated high, with an arithmetic mean of (3.89) and a standard deviation of (0.532). The low dispersion rate shows alignment in respondents' views, indicating that the institutions follow clear policies for disclosure, including

board members' information, and ensure equal treatment of shareholders. Additionally, they have a strong social and environmental policy in place.

4. Hypothesis testing:

4.1. Testing the main hypothesis:

-The null hypothesis H_0 : "There is no statistically significant effect between the ethics of the accounting profession and the application of corporate governance principles from the perspective of accountants in the economic institutions under study at a significance level of $0.05 \geq \alpha$."

- Alternative hypothesis H_1 : "There is a statistically significant effect between the ethics of the accounting profession and the application of corporate governance principles from the perspective of the accountants of the economic institutions under study at a significance level of $0.05 \geq \alpha$ ".

We will use Fisher's F-test, which tests the significance of the model, and the following ANOVA table shows the regression analysis of the two variables :

Table (6) : Regression variance analysis ANOVA

Moral value	arithmetic value (F)	tabulated value (F)	Mean squares	Degree of freedom	Sum of squares	Statement
0,000	10,991	/	1,879	1	1,879	Between groups
At a significance level of $\alpha = 0.05$			0,150	28	4,923	Within groups
			/	29	6,802	Total contrast

Source : Prepared by the researchers based on SPSS program outputs

After performing the regression variance (ANOVA), the tabulated F value was found to be 10.991 at a significance level of 0.05 with degrees of freedom (1 and 28). Since the significance (sig) = 0.000 is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis that there is no significant effect between accounting ethics and corporate governance principles. We accept the alternative hypothesis that a statistically significant effect exists. This shows that the overall model is significant, and the hypothesis is therefore rejected.

The correlation quality is measured by the coefficient of determination (R^2), which indicates the explanatory power of the regression model. The table below illustrates the strength of the relationship between accounting ethics and corporate governance.

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Table (7) : Correlation Coefficients

decision	B	Correlation coefficient R ²	Determination Coefficient R	Significant F (Sig)	F calculated
The hypo rejected	0,698	0,487	0,698	0,000	10,991

Source: Prepared by the researchers based on the outputs of the SPSS statistical software.

The table shows that the correlation value ($R = 0.698$) is close to 1, indicating a relationship between accounting ethics and corporate governance principles. The coefficient of determination ($R^2 = 0.487$) suggests that 48.7% of the variation in corporate governance (dependent variable) is explained by changes in accounting ethics (independent variable). This confirms a significant relationship between the variables.

The analysis shows that there is a significant linear regression and correlation, and the adjusted coefficient of determination (48.7%) supports the explanatory relationship between the variables. Thus, the null hypothesis, stating no significant effect between accounting ethics and corporate governance, is rejected, and the alternative hypothesis is accepted.

The relationship between corporate governance principles and financial statement credibility is illustrated in the following table.

Table (8): Multiple regression coefficients and significance levels for ethics of the accounting profession.

<i>Sig**</i>	<i>F value</i>	<i>slope of the regression line (B)</i>	<i>Interpretation coefficient (R²)</i>	<i>Correlation coefficient (R)</i>	<i>ethics of the accounting profession</i>
		1,712			<i>Fixed limit</i>
0,000	10,723	0,657	0,431	0,657	<i>Accountant integrity</i>
0,000	11,784	0,699	0,488	0,699	<i>Accountant objectivity</i>
0,000	11,143	0,698	0,487	0,698	<i>competence and professional care</i>

0.000	9,452	0,677	0,458	0,677	<i>Confidentiality at work</i>
0.000	9,186	0,631	0,398	0,631	<i>Profession behavior</i>
0.001					Total score

Source : Prepared by the researchers based on the outputs of SPSS.V22

The relationship between ethics of the accounting profession as an independent variable and corporate governance as a dependent variable can be expressed in the following equation :

$$Y=1.712+0.657x_1+0.699x_2+0.698x_3+0.677x_4+0.631x_5$$

4.2 Testing sub-hypotheses :

The results from Table No. (07) and Table No. (08) show an acceptable positive relationship between accounting ethics and corporate governance principles. The following dimensions were analyzed:

- **Accountant Integrity:** F = 10.723, Sig = 0.000 (less than 0.05), thus accepting the alternative hypothesis, indicating a relationship between integrity and corporate governance at $\alpha \leq 0.05$.
- **Accountant Objectivity:** F = 11.784, Sig = 0.000, leading to the acceptance of the alternative hypothesis, showing a relationship between objectivity and corporate governance at $\alpha \leq 0.05$.
- **Professional Competence and Care:** F = 11.143, Sig = 0.000, confirming a relationship between competence and corporate governance, accepting the alternative hypothesis at $\alpha \leq 0.05$.
- **Confidentiality at Work:** F = 9.452, Sig = 0.000, supporting the alternative hypothesis, indicating a relationship between confidentiality and corporate governance at $\alpha \leq 0.05$.
- **Professional Behavior:** F = 9.186, Sig = 0.000, confirming a relationship between professional behavior and corporate governance, accepting the alternative hypothesis at $\alpha \leq 0.05$.

5. Results discussion :

- The study reveals that accountants in the institutions under study exhibit strong commitment to accounting ethics, particularly integrity, objectivity, professional competence, confidentiality, and professional conduct.
- These ethical standards significantly contribute to the application of corporate governance principles.

-The positive correlations between accounting ethics and governance practices demonstrate the role of ethics in enhancing transparency, reducing corruption, and ensuring the protection of rights and assets within organizations. Institutions apply ethics to promote good governance, foster sound decision-making, and mitigate financial and administrative corruption.

6. Conclusion :

Accountants and auditors are responsible for upholding professional ethics and laws to maintain public trust; Institutions implement corporate governance to regulate relationships with stakeholders, preserve assets, and combat corruption. They also apply accounting ethics to enhance performance, protect the profession's reputation, and strengthen professional relationships. The study highlights the importance of ethical adherence to improve governance and prevent professional misconduct.

- Study results :

The study reached the following outcomes :

- There is a positive relationship between accounting ethics and corporate governance, with principles like integrity and objectivity contributing to shareholder rights and equal treatment, while professional conduct and competence enhance board responsibility.
- Ethical principles are closely linked to effective procedures and personal commitment, not only international charters.
- Institutions actively combat corruption and support reform programs, ensuring ethical standards are applied.

- Recommendations :

- Emphasize adherence to professional ethics to improve governance.
- Encourage attendance at seminars discussing accounting laws and professional conduct.
- Apply deterrent penalties for corruption and clarify punitive measures.

- Focus on forming efficient teams to achieve goals and reduce costs.
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