Key Audit Differences

	EU	s UK
Regulatory Governance Structures	Set out in European Parliament Directives, oversight from national regulators.	Set by UK government, oversight from Financial Reporting Council (FRC).
Statutory Reporting Standards	International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).	IFRS, and Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102
Scope and Threshold for Statutory Audits	Mandatory for medium and large businesses. Micro and small businesses exempt. EU thresholds for size classification.	Mandatory for large, and some medium businesses. Micro and small businesses exempt. Some medium businesses exempt based on specific criteria.
Audit Firm Rotation Policies	Mandatory rotation after 10 years, extendable to 20 with public tender.	Large businesses rotate at 10 years; may extend with safeguards. Publicly-listed companies must rotate every 5 years.
Integration of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Auditing Practices	Regulations set out in Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD).	Focus on incremental adoption of ESG audit regulations, such as Sustainability Reporting Standard (SRS).
Technology and Data Management Compliance	General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).	GDPR, with potential future divergence.
Audit Exemption for Small Entities	Micro and small businesses exempt. Size classification variation means exemption may vary by member state.	Micro, small, and some medium businesses exempt. No exemption for medium businesses meeting certain post-Brexit criteria. No exemption for EU subsidiaries in post-Brexit UK.



Post-Brexit Dual Compliance Challenges

Dual compliance requirements increase audit complexity and administrative burdens.



Penalties and Non-Compliance Approaches

Penalties broadly unchanged post-Brexit.

New ESG-related audit risks.

Penalties set out in Ethical Standard and Internal Audit Code of Practice.



Adaptability to Evolving Standards

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Focus on ESG audit requirements, integration of ESG-related data. Focus on audit requirements set out in UK Corporate Governance Code.



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