

The Power of Connection. Collaboration, Growth, and Global Unity.

1. The Architect of Networks :

Hello everyone. It is a privilege to be with you today.

I joined the ICB Global team at our London office last October, and in the short time I have been here, I have seen first-hand the incredible dedication that fuels this organisation. I am truly proud to be part of this family.

As Global Partnerships Manager, my job is often described as building bridges. But I prefer to think of it as building a safety net.

When we look at the bookkeeping profession in 2026, we aren't just looking at individuals in offices; we are looking at a global 'safety net.' Across 160 countries, ICB connects practitioners with governments, software innovators, and professional bodies - such as our esteemed colleagues at ICFM Ukraine. My goal is to ensure that no matter where you practice, you have the tools and the network to succeed.

2. The Influence of the Global Network: What is the real value of our global partnership?

- It's Strength: When we partner with major tech firms, we ensure their tools are built for professional bookkeepers, not just amateurs.
- It's Standards: By working with international regulators, we ensure your ICB qualification is recognized across borders.
- It's Resilience: Our partnership with Ukraine is the perfect example. Through collaboration, we ensure that even in the most difficult times, professional standards remain a beacon of stability.

3. Innovation in the Pipeline: Start Now. To lead in this environment, we must embrace growth. We have a suite of new products specifically designed to move you into high-growth, high-value sectors. I encourage you to start these as soon as possible:

- IPSAS Certificate: This opens the door to the public sector and NGOs, allowing you to manage government-level accounts with international authority.
- Advanced AML: Our new Anti-Money Laundering certifications are essential for protecting your practice in an age of increased global scrutiny.
- AI in Accounting: This is perhaps our most exciting frontier. We are providing the tools to help you transition from data entry to data analysis.

These aren't just certificates; they are your entry points into the most profitable areas of modern finance.

Don't wait for the future to happen to you. I encourage you to start these certifications as soon as possible. Use these tools to transform from a data processor into a strategic partner.

4. Challenges: Collaboration vs. Competition.

The risks we face- cyber- threats, regulatory shifts, and technological change - are too big for any one person to tackle alone.

The greatest risk to our profession is 'siloes thinking.' Through our global partnerships, ICB breaks those silos down. We bring together experts in cybersecurity and ethics to ensure you aren't just reacting to the future, but actively shaping it.

5. The 30th Anniversary Invitation:

All these partnerships - all this global energy- will converge this November in London for our 30th Anniversary.

I am personally inviting you to join us. Come to the Bookkeepers Summit to meet the partners building your future software. Join Global Bookkeeping Week to see the scale of our international family. And finally, let's celebrate your success at the LUCA Awards - the true Oscars of Bookkeeping.

My door - and my inbox - is always open for new ways we can grow together. Hopefully See you all in London!

Thank you!

Ulgen Coskun Global Partnerships Manager ICB UK