#### ROMANIAN AGENCY FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION



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Annex No. 3

## The External Evaluation Report of a Doctoral Study Domain

Written by:
Lavinia Stan, PhD
Full Professor
Department of Political Science
St. Francis Xavier University, Canada

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#### I. Introduction<sup>1</sup>

The 2016-2020 evaluation of the Political Science Doctoral Study Field at the University of Bucharest was conducted during 22-29 November 2021 by an Experts Committee composed of Dr. Virgil Stoica of Universitatea Al. Ioan Cuza of Iasi (chair), Dr. Lavinia Stan of St. Francis Xavier University, Canada (international member), and Armand Alexandru Voinov of Universitatea de Vest of Timisoara. Given the current covid-related restrictions, the meetings related to the evaluation took place online, with in-person visits to the University of Bucharest being conducted on 25 and 26 November.

As a field of study, Political Science developed in Romania in earnest only after the collapse of the communist regime. During the last three decades, several Romanian universities have added Political Science faculties, many of them first staffed with graduates of sociology, history, law and other programs. Since 2019, Romanian universities, as universities in other parts of the world, have adapted their activity to the covid-related restrictions called for by successive waves of increased number of infections. Online teaching and supervising, social distancing, mask wearing have increased the costs of providing education and have narrowed the range of experiences faculty members and students could take advantage of and interactions not only among faculty members but also between professors and students.

During the period under review, the Political Science Doctoral School of the University of Bucharest included 13 doctoral advisors, five of which were women. The 13 doctoral advisors have competence in supervising a wide range of topics relevant to Political Philosophy / Theory, International Relations, Public Policy, Gender and Feminism, Human Rights, and Comparative Politics, with an emphasis on Romania. During the period under review, a total of 48 doctoral students defended their theses; this amounted, on average, to eight theses per year. Students of seven of the 13 doctoral advisors completed their doctoral studies during the period under

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Each time when applicable the information shall be presented gender-wise.



review. There were marked differences between doctoral advisors in terms of the number of supervised students who completed doctoral studies, ranging from as many as 14 to as few as 2. The Doctoral School had a total of 110 students during the period under review.

The evaluation was based on the national legislative framework that details the evaluation of doctoral studies, which includes Law 1/2011 on Education, HG 681/2011 on the Code of Doctoral Studies, Minister of Education Order ANEB 3651/2021 on the Methodology for the Evaluation of Doctoral Studies and the Criteria, Standards and Performance Indicators Used in Evaluation, the April 2021 ARACIS Guide for Periodical External Evaluation of Doctoral Study Fields, as well as the Internal Evaluation Report prepared by the Political Science Doctoral Study program, its Annexes and all other supporting documents shared with us.

#### II. Methods used

The external evaluation I conducted as the international expert is based on a range of methods and tools. These include an analysis of the Internal Evaluation Report, its Annexes, the minutes, forms and other documents made available by the Political Science Doctoral School through file sharing and electronically on the website of the Political Science Department; online discussions with doctoral students in Political Science; online discussions with the school officials of the University of Bucharest Doctoral School in which the Political Science Doctoral Study is operating; online discussions with the doctoral advisors in the Political Science doctoral study domain; online discussions with the representatives of the structures of the Doctoral School in which the doctoral study domain under review is operating; and online discussions with those who hired graduates of the Political Science Doctoral Studies School at the University of Bucharest. Note that I was unable to conduct an onsite visit.

## III. Analysis of ARACIS's performance indicators

#### Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Doctoral studies in Political Science are conducted in the Doctoral School in Political Science, which is part of the Faculty of Political Science at the University of Bucharest.

A thorough analysis of the documents made available to us and the information obtained in our online meetings reveals that the Doctoral Study School in Political Science has the organizational capacity, the material, human and financial resources, as well as the highly qualified expertise necessary to deliver high caliber doctoral studies in this field of study. This document also includes recommendations for action.

# Criterion A.1. The administrative, managerial institutional structures and the financial resources

The domain under review is Political Science, a field focused on the analysis of government structure, government activity (including public policy), as well as its relationship with society, broadly defined. At the University of Bucharest, doctoral studies in Political Science are offered through the Political Science Doctoral School, established in 2005, whereas interdisciplinary doctoral dissertations are offered through the Interdisciplinary School of Doctoral Studies, established in 2018. The Doctoral School in Political Science operates within the Faculty of Political Sciences at the University of Bucharest and aims at offering high-level doctoral education and research skills that would result in original results with relevance at both national and international levels.



Standard A.1.1. The institution organizing doctoral studies (IOSUD) has implemented the effective functioning mechanisms provided for in the specific legislation on the organization of doctoral studies.

\*general description of the standard analysis.

#### Performance Indicator A.1.1.1.

The University of Bucharest has specific regulations that are applied effectively at the level of the Doctoral School in Political Science. In 2012, the University Senate adopted institutional regulations on the organization and functioning of university doctoral studies, amended most recently in early 2021. The provisions, which cover well all aspects of doctoral studies at the University of Bucharest, are made available for the benefit of faculty members, students and the general public on the website of the Doctoral School in Political Science. I have consulted and analyzed these documents during my evaluation and consider them thorough and adequate. The methodologies for conducting elections for the position of director of the Council of Doctoral School (CSD), for organizing elections for the student representative in CSD, and for organizing and conducting doctoral studies (both the admission of doctoral students as well as the completion of doctoral studies) are well articulated in the Operating Regulations of the Doctoral School, and also published on the website of the Faculty of Political Science. I have consulted and analyzed these documents as part of my evaluation.

The University of Bucharest and its Political Science Doctoral Studies program have effective mechanisms for the recognition of doctoral advisors and of doctoral titles obtained in accredited universities abroad, thus aligning themselves with the procedures in force in the Romanian higher education system. As a member of Consiliul National de Atestare a Titlurilor, Diplomelor si Certificatelor Universitare (CNATDCU) and Consiliul National al Cercetarii Stiintifice (CNCS) I know very well these equivalency procedures, and consider them adequate.

The Doctoral School Council, as the management structure in the field of political science doctoral studies, is conducting regular meetings that are convened monthly or even more frequently, if the need arises. Minutes are taken at each of these meetings, and they were made available to the evaluation committee. As such, I deem the management structures functional. Contracts for doctoral studies are signed by all doctoral students, and the forms are posted on the website, together with forms regarding the interruption and extension of doctoral studies (which are specified in the Articles 8 to 11 of the Doctoral School Regulations). In addition, there are internal procedures for the analysis and approval of proposals that touch on the training for doctoral study programs based on advanced academic studies.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator A.1.1.2.** The doctoral school' Regulation includes mandatory criteria, procedures and standards binding on the aspects specified in Article 17, paragraph (5) of the HG 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies with subsequent amendments and additions.

The Regulations provide clear procedures for organizing doctoral studies by the Doctoral School in Political Science. The Regulations are adopted by the Doctoral School Council, following consultations with doctoral advisors in Political Science and in alignment with the Regulations for doctoral studies at the University of Bucharest (Article 3).

The Regulations further specify clear procedures to be observed in view of accepting new doctoral supervisors and excluding a doctoral supervisor's membership in the Doctoral School (Articles 20 and 21). In addition, the Regulations include explicit



mechanisms for making decisions regarding doctoral studies in Political Science (Articles 16, 17 and 18); for changing the doctoral advisor of a given student and mediating student-professor conflicts (Article 30); for interrupting doctoral studies; for prevention of academic fraud and dishonesty in research, including plagiarism (Articles 24 and 29); as well as doctoral students co-supervised by professors from other universities.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled. Note that the Political Science Doctoral School Regulations posted on the department website include two different Article 3.

Standard A.1.2. The IOSUD has the logistical resources necessary to carry out the doctoral studies' mission.

**Performance Indicator A.1.2.1.** The existence and effectiveness of an appropriate IT system to keep track of doctoral students and their academic background.

The secretariat of the Faculty of Political Science, which organizes the Doctoral Studies under review, makes use of a wide range of IT programs and software to track doctoral students and their academic background: Excell, Word, Adobe Acrobat, Genius, among others.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator A.1.2.2.** The existence and use of an appropriate software program and evidence of its use to verify the percentage of similarity in all doctoral theses.

At the University of Bucharest, all doctoral theses are verified through Turnitin and SistemAntiplagiat.ro before they are accepted for defence. If further modifications are made to the text afterwards, but before defence, a new verification is carried out. During the period under review, there have been no cases of Political Science doctoral theses discovered as having been plagiarized.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

Standard A.1.3. The IOSUD makes sure that financial resources are used optimally, and the revenues obtained from doctoral studies are supplemented through additional funding besides governmental funding.

**Performance Indicator A.1.3.1.** Existence of at least one research or institutional / human resources development grant under implementation at the time of submission of the internal evaluation file, per doctoral study domain under evaluation, or existence of at least 2 research or institutional development / human resources grant for the doctoral study domain, obtained by doctoral thesis advisors operating in the evaluated domain within the past 5 years. The grants address relevant themes for the respective domain and, as a rule, are engaging doctoral students.

The doctoral advisors in Political Science at the University of Bucharest have a number of ongoing institutional / human rights development grants, and in addition they won several grants that ended sometimes during the period under review. Five of these grants are carried out by University of Bucharest Political Science doctoral advisors in partnership with universities in France, whereas other grants are national. The grants are usually engaging the doctoral students supervised by the main grant applicant.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.



**Performance Indicator** \*A.1.3.2. The percentage of doctoral students active at the time of the evaluation, who for at least six months receive additional funding sources besides government funding, through scholarships awarded by individual persons or by legal entities, or who are financially supported through research or institutional / human resources development grants is not less than 20%.

Thirty-three of the current 110 students of the Political Science Doctoral Studies program have received additional funding; of them, eight have TAXA, and three others CVP. Since amounts were not included, we cannot estimate whether this funding exceeded 20%.

Recommendations: Keep track of the total sums awarded to each doctoral student, for a more transparent reporting in regards to this indicator; if the funding is less than 20%, increase it.

**Performance Indicator** \*A.1.3.3.<sup>2</sup> At least 10% of the total amount of doctoral grants obtained by the university through institutional contracts and of tuition fees collected from the doctoral students enrolled in the paid tuition system is used to reimburse professional training expenses of doctoral students (attending conferences, summer schools, training, programs abroad, publication of specialty papers or other specific forms of dissemination etc.).

During the period under review, 17 doctoral students in Political Science have received financial support from the University of Bucharest; eight for active participation at conferences; one student for participation in a mobility program related to research and data collection; four students for participation in a summer school; and four others for attending courses at a partner university located abroad. Unfortunately, we do know know the level of financial support, so it is unclear if this amounted to at least 10% of the total amount.

Recommendations: The indicator is partially fulfilled. Keep track of the total sums awarded to each doctoral student, for a more transparent reporting in regards to this indicator; if the funding is less than 20%, increase it.

#### Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure

Standard A.2.1. The IOSUD has a modern research infrastructure to support the conduct of doctoral studies' specific activities.

**Performance Indicator A.2.1.1.** The venues and the material equipment available to the doctoral school enable the research activities in the evaluated domain to be carried out, in line with the assumed mission and objectives (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, library, access to international databases etc.). The research infrastructure and the provision of research services are presented to the public through a specific platform. The research infrastructure described above, which was purchased and developed within the past 5 years will be presented distinctly.

The students and faculty involved in the Political Science Doctoral Studies School have access to computers, specific software, equipment, library, access to international databases of raw data and scholarly articles. During the period under review, the Faculty of Political Science has changed its location from Spiru Haret 8 to Calea Plevnei. This resulted in the loss of the original reading room, forcing doctoral students to access the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The indicators marked with an asterisk (\*) hold a special status, referring exclusively to the evaluation of doctoral studies domains, as per Article 12 from the annex No.1 of the Order of the minister of education No. 3651/12.04.2021 approving the Methodology for evaluating university doctoral studies and the system of criteria, standards and performance indicators used in the evaluation. In case they are not met, the Agency extends a period of maximum 3 years to IOSUD to correct the respective deficiencies.



Bucharest University Library exclusively (a fact which placed at least some students at a disadvantage, as we were told in our conversations with current students). The Library does include a strong collection of scholarly books and articles relevant to Political Science themes. The new buildings in Calea Plevnei are equiped with the necessary IT, but the University of Bucharest should make an effort to heat the classrooms and offices. Political Science, and other doctoral schools in the University of Bucharest, have access to a range of international journal databases, but some students noted difficulty accessing the latest journal issues, and some important journals.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

### Criterion A.3. Quality of Human Resources

Standard A.3.1. At the level of each domain there are sufficient qualified staff to ensure the conduct of doctoral study program.

**Performance Indicator A.3.1.1.** Minimum three doctoral thesis advisors within that doctoral domain, and at least 50% of them (but no less than three) meet the minimum standards of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) in force at the time when the evaluation is carried out, which standards are required and mandatory for obtaining the enabling certification.

The Political Science Doctoral Studies School has 13 doctoral advisors, two of whom have already asked to be excluded from the School. Unfortunately, only two of these adviros are graduates of Political Science programs, the others having defended their theses in other domains such as sociology, law, and history. In addition, with four exceptions doctoral advisors have fewer than 150 citations since 2016, while a significant part of their publications is published in low impact venues that reach small or non-academic audiences.

Recognizing its lag with respect to this criterion, the Doctoral School has recently implemented a series of measures designed to boost the record of doctoral advisors and increase the number of advisors graduates in Political Science. The measures implemented recently, before and in view of the ARACIS evaluation, are the following:

- One of the Faculty of Political Science members who fulfills the CNATDCU criteria was asked to start the abilitation procedure (Caterina Preda, in August 2021)
- One other professor meeting the criteria has successfully undergone the abilitation procedure and is currently about to be affiliated to the Political Science Doctoral Studies School (Dragos Petrescu)
- Three professors with international careers and profiles, as well as Political Science training, were invited to join the Political Science Doctoral Studies School (Dragos Aligica, Ramona Coman and Sorina Soare)
- Faculty of Political Science members have been encouraged to meet the criteria (Anca Dohotariu, Alexandra Iancu, Claudiu Tufiş, Silvia Marton, Camil Pârvu, Luciana Ghica, Bogdan Iancu)
- Four doctoral advisors have been encouraged to publish in view of meeting the criteria, and they are close to the standards
- Two doctoral advisors who are not meeting the criteria and whose degrees are not related to Political Science have asked to leave the Doctoral School (Daniel Barbu and Stelian Tanase)



In addition, the data placed at our disposal by the School suggests that during the last years six of the 11 active advisors have made significant progress in attaining and exceeding the minimum standards of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU).

These initiatives attest to the fact that significant steps have been taken to remedy the situation in the shortest time possible. In the next 2-3 years these measures will significantly change the composition of the Doctoral Studies School membership, aligning it with schools elsewhere and the practices in the field in terms of the number of advisors with degrees in the field and the research productivity of the advisors. The School will gain in visibility, prestige and reputation as a result.

Recommendations: The indicator is partially fulfilled, given the series of measures that have already been taken recently.

**Performance Indicator \*A.3.1.2.** At least 50% of all doctoral advisors have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period with the IOSUD.

Close to 91% of all doctoral advisors in Political Science have a full-time employment contract of indefinite period with the IOSUD.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator A.3.1.3.** The study subjects in the education program based on advanced higher education studies pertaining to the doctoral domain are taught by teaching staff or researchers who are doctoral thesis advisors / certified doctoral thesis advisors, professors / CS I or lecturer / CS II, with proved expertise in the field of the study subjects they teach, or other specialists in the field who meet the standards established by the institution in relation with the aforementioned teaching and research functions, as provided by the law.

The courses offered as part of the Doctoral Studies program in Political Science are taught by academics who are doctoral thesis advisors and have proven expertise in the study subjects they offer. The only exception is Prof. Marian Popescu, who is not part of the Faculty of Political Science, but teaches the Ethics and Academic Integrity course. Given the nature of that course, having a member of another University of Bucharest faculty offering it to the Political Science doctoral students is acceptable, as long as research ethics issues specific to the field are covered.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator \*A.3.1.4.** The percentage of doctoral thesis advisors who concomitantly coordinate more than 8 doctoral students, but no more than 12, who are themselves studying in doctoral programs<sup>3</sup> does not exceed 20%.

Only two of the 13 doctoral advisors (amounting to 15%) coordinate concomitantly between 8 and 12 doctoral students.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

Standard A.3.2. The Doctoral advisors within the domain are carrying out a scientific activity visible at international level.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 3 years for the doctoral university studies with the duration stipulated at Article 159, paragraph (3), respectively 4 years for the doctoral university studies with the duration stipulated at Article 174, paragraph (3) of the Law of national education No.1/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions, with additional extension periods approved as per Article 39, paragraph (3) of the Code of doctoral studies approved by the GD No. 681/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions.



**Performance Indicator A.3.2.1.** At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in the evaluated domain have at least 5 Web of Science- or ERIH-indexed publications in magazines of impact, or other achievements of relevant significance for that domain, including international-level contributions that indicate progress in scientific research - development - innovation for the evaluated domain. The aforementioned doctoral thesis advisors enjoy international awareness within the past five years, consisting of: membership on scientific boards of international publications and conferences; membership on boards of international professional associations; guests in conferences or expert groups working abroad, or membership on doctoral defense commissions at universities abroad or co-leading with universities abroad. For Arts and Sports and Physical Education Sciences, doctoral thesis advisors shall prove their international visibility within the past five years by their membership on the boards of professional associations, membership in organizing committees of arts events and international competitions, membership on juries or umpire teams in artistic events or international competitions.

A majority of doctoral advisors feature in Web of Science or ERIH with at least five publications, and some of these articles and books are published in venues with high impact in the field at the international level. A small number of advisors are publishing mainly in the Romanian language in Romania, or in ISI journals that appear in Romania, and thus have local or national visibility and difficulty influencing the field in any significant way nationally and internationally. Contributions to scholarly books are very good in number and quality for some of the doctoral advisors, but quite old for a small number of other advisors (whose publication lists including even titles that are not related to Political Science as a field). During the period under review, the publication record and the international visibility of advisors (as demonstrated by invitations to serve as keynote speakers to international conferences or as editorial members of prestigious international scholarly journals) was good.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator** \***A.3.2.2.** At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in a specific doctoral study domain continue to be active in their scientific field, and acquire at least 25% of the score requested by the minimal CNATDCU standards in force at the time of the evaluation, which are required and mandatory for acquiring their enabling certificate, based on their scientific results within the past five years.

Doctoral advisors had good publication records during the period under review. The data made available to us by the School shows that six of the 11 doctoral advisors remain very active, gaining scores of over 150 in 2020.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

#### Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

# Criterion B.1. The number, quality and diversity of candidates enrolled for the admission contest

Standard B.1.1. The institution organizing doctoral studies has the capacity to attract candidates from outside the higher education institution or a number of candidates exceeding the number of seats available.

**Performance Indicator** \*B.1.1.1. The ratio between the number of graduates of masters' programs of other higher education institutions, national or foreign, who have enrolled for the doctoral admission contest within the past five years and the number of seats funded by the state budget, put out through contest within the doctoral domain is at least 0.2 or the ratio between the number of candidates within the



past five years and the number of seats funded by the state budget put out through contest within the doctoral studies domain is at least 1,2.

According to the data made available by the Doctoral School, the ratio is 0.66, which is greater than the required minimum of 0.2.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

Standard B.1.2 Candidates admitted to doctoral studies demonstrate academic, research and professional performance.

**Performance Indicator \*B.1.2.1.** Admission to doctoral study programs is based on selection criteria including: previous academic, research and professional performance, their interest for scientific or arts/sports research, publications in the domain and a proposal for a research subject. Interviewing the candidate is compulsory, as part of the admission procedure.

Admission is competitive and in line with the provisions specified by Methodology of Admission in the Political Science Doctoral Studies Program at the University of Bucharest (p. 1). To be admitted, a candidate must submit an extensive and detailed research proposal that must present the research topic, its contribution to knowledge, methodology, and bibliography (p. 4). Candidates are selected based on the quality of their proposal, its contribution to the field, and the oral presentation (p. 5). Candidates also submit to an interview as part of the selection process in view of admission.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator B.1.2.2.** The expelling rate, including renouncement / dropping out of doctoral students 3, respectively 4, years after admission<sup>4</sup> does not exceed 30%.

The overall attrition rate is less than 30%. During the period under review, no student was expelled within three years after being admitted.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

#### Criterion B.2. The content of doctoral programs

Standard B.2.1. The training program based on advanced university studies is appropriate to improve doctoral students' research skills and to strengthen ethical behavior in science.

**Performance Indicator B.2.1.1.** The training program based on advanced academic studies includes at least 3 disciplines relevant to the scientific research training of doctoral students; at least one of these disciplines is intended to study in-depth the research methodology and/or the statistical data processing.

The courses offered to doctoral students include themes relevant for the field of Political Science and research training. Two of those courses deal with research methods.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator B.2.1.2.** At least one discipline is dedicated to Ethics and Intellectual Property in scientific research or there are well-defined topics on these subjects within a discipline taught in the doctoral program.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 3 years for the doctoral university studies with the duration stipulated at Article 159, paragraph (3), respectively 4 years for the doctoral university studies with the duration stipulated at Article 174, paragraph (3) of the Law of national education No. 1/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions.



One course is focused on Ethics and Intellectual Property in scholarly research and includes well-defined and pertinent topics on these subjects.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator B.2.1.3.** The IOSUD has mechanisms to ensure that the academic training program based on advanced university studies addresses "the learning outcomes", specifying the knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through the research activities<sup>5</sup>.

Learning outcomes are detailed in course outlines included both in the courses and in the research program. Students take "Programul de pregătire bazat pe studii universitare avansate" in the first semester of their doctoral years. Leaning outcomes are also included in the research reports that candidates must present to their advisors. These IOSUD mechanisms specify the knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students must acquire at each step of their doctoral training.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator B.2.1.4.** All along the duration of the doctoral training, doctoral students in the domain receive counselling/guidance from functional guidance commissions, which is reflected in written guidance and feedback or regular meeting.

Throughout their students students receive detailed feedback both from their doctoral advisors and from other Faculty members or experts in the topics of their doctoral topic. These comments include both positive appreciations, as well as suggestions of various methodological strategies, relevant titles, and alternative interpretations of data.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator B.2.1.5**. For a doctoral study domain, the ratio between the number of doctoral students and the number of teaching staff/researchers providing doctoral guidance must not exceed 3:1.

There are 110 doctoral students and a total of 104 teaching staff members. The ratio is 1.05.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

#### Criterion B.3. The results of doctoral studies and procedures for their evaluation.

Standard B.3.1. Doctoral students capitalize on the research through presentations at scientific conferences, scientific publications, technological transfer, patents, products and service orders.

**Performance Indicator B.3.1.1.** For the evaluated domain, the evaluation commission will be provided with at least one paper or some other relevant contribution per doctoral student who has obtained a doctor's title within the past 5 years. From this list, the members of the evaluation commission shall randomly select 5 such papers / relevant contributions per doctoral study domain for review. At least 3 selected papers must contain significant original contributions in the respective domain.

In 2020 and 2021, all students who defended their PhD published at least two contributions (conference paper or published article). All of those students published at least one article, as per the Political Science Doctoral School Regulations. As instructed,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Or by what the graduate should know, understand and to be able to do, according to the provisions of the Methodology of 17 March 2017 regarding inscription and registration of higher education qualifications in the National Register of Qualifications in Higher Education (RNCIS) approved by the Order No.3475/2017 with subsequent amendments and additions.



I have selected a total of five articles published by recent graduates (from the materials made availabel to the evaluation commission). I ascertain that four of those articles include significant original contributions. Note that some of these contributions appeared in ISI journals.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator** \*B.3.1.2. The ratio between the number of presentations of doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years), including posters, exhibitions made at prestigious international events (organized in the country or abroad) and the number of doctoral students who have completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years) is at least 1.

All those doctoral students have actively contributed to prestigious international events at least one paper.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

Standard B.3.2. The Doctoral School engages a significant number of external scientific specialists in the commissions for public defense of doctoral theses in the analyzed domain.

**Performance Indicator** \***B.3.2.1.** The number of doctoral theses allocated to one specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the evaluated IOSUD should not exceed two (2) in a year for the theses coordinated by the same doctoral thesis advisor.

The number does not exceed two, as reflected in the documents we consulted. *Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.* 

**Performance Indicator** \*B.3.2.2. The ratio between the doctoral theses allocated to one scientific specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the institution where the defense on the doctoral thesis is organized, and the number of doctoral theses presented in the same doctoral study domain in the doctoral school should not exceed 0.3, considering the past five years. Only those doctoral study domains in which minimum ten doctoral theses have been presented within the past five years should be analyzed.

The indicator is fulfilled, based on the materials made available to us. *Recommendations:* **The indicator is fulfilled.** 

#### Domain C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

# Criterion C.1. Existence and periodic implementation of the internal quality assurance system

Standard C.1.1. There are an institutional framework and procedures in place and relevant internal quality assurance policies, applied for monitoring the internal quality assurance.

**Performance Indicator C.1.1.1.** The Doctoral school in the respective university study domain shall demonstrate the continuous development of the evaluation process and its internal quality assurance following a procedure developed and applied at the level of the IOSUD, the following assessed criteria being mandatory:

- (a) the scientific work of Doctoral advisors;
- (b) the infrastructure and logistics necessary to carry out the research activity;



- (c) the procedures and subsequent rules based on which doctoral studies are organized;
- d) the scientific activity of doctoral students;
- e) the training program based on advanced academic studies of doctoral students;
- f) social and academic services (including for participation at different events, publishing papers etc.) and counselling made available to doctoral students.

Evaluation and quality assurance are carried out by a host of bodies within the University of Bucharest, the Faculty of Political Science, as well as the Political Science Doctoral School. The six assessment criteria mentioned above are all evaluated periodically through the internal mechanisms put in place (Article 11 of the Methodology). All of the details included in the Internal Report demonstrate that this indicator is fulfilled.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator** \*C.1.1.2. Mechanisms are implemented during the stage of the doctoral study program to enable feedback from doctoral students allowing to identify their needs, as well as their overall level of satisfaction with the doctoral study program in order to ensure continuous improvement of the academic and administrative processes. Following the analysis of the results, there is evidence that an action plan was drafted and implemented.

Doctoral students had the possibility to offer feedback both in the course evaluations, as well as in a dedicated "consultation" organized by a student representative. That exercise led to the formulation of a set of recommendations, which the Doctoral School is planning to respond to and implement.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

## Criterion C.2. Transparency of information and accessibility of learning resources

Standard C.2.1. Information of interest to doctoral students, future candidates and public interest information is available for electronic format consultation.

**Performance Indicator C.2.1.1.** The IOSUD publishes on the website of the organizing institution, in compliance with the general regulations on data protection, information such as:

- (a) the Doctoral School regulation;
- (b) the admission regulation;
- (c) the doctoral studies contract:
- (d) the study completion regulation including the procedure for the public presentation of the thesis:
  - (e) the content of training program based on advanced academic studies;
- (f) the academic and scientific profile, thematic areas/research themes of the Doctoral advisors within the domain, as well as their institutional contact data;
- (g) the list of doctoral students within the domain with necessary information (year of registration; advisor);
  - (h) information on the standards for developing the doctoral thesis;
- (i) links to the doctoral theses' summaries to be publicly presented and the date, time, place where they will be presented; this information will be communicated at least twenty days before the presentation.

As part of the evaluation, on November 22 and 23 we consulted the website, and concluded that the information listed above is made available as required. These informations are available as follows:



- a) Doctoral School Regulations (regulamentul școlii doctorale) https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZnNwdWIudW5pYnVjLnJvfGZzcHVifGd4OjM5OWFkNTNmZWE2YzhjNjI
- b) Admission Requirements / Rules (regulamentul de admitere) http://www.fspub.unibuc.ro/admitere/doctorat
- c) Contract (contractul de studii doctorale) http://www.fspub.unibuc.ro/scoala-doctorala/metodologii
- d) Graduating Rules (regulamentul de finalizare a studiilor, incluzând și procedura de susținere publică a tezei) https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=ZnNwdWIudW5pYnVjLnJvfGZzcHVifGd4OjNjMGVmYTVmMDg2Y2ZhNjg
- e) Doctoral courses (conţinutul programelor de pregătire bazate pe studii universitare avansate) http://www.fspub.unibuc.ro/student-fspub/cursuri
- f) Advisors' academic profile and details (profilul academic și științific, ariile tematice/temele de cercetare ale conducătorilor de doctorat din domeniu, precum și date instituționale de contact ale acestora) http://www.fspub.unibuc.ro/despre/profesori and http://www.fspub.unibuc.ro/scoala-doctorala/conducatori-de-doctorat
- g) List of doctoral students (lista doctoranzilor din domeniu cu informațiile de bază (anul înmatriculării, conducător)) http://www.fspub.unibuc.ro/scoala-doctorala/anunturi/listadoctoranzilorscoliidoctoraledestiintapolitica

Școala doctorală > Anunțuri Școala Doctorală > [LISTA DOCTORANZILOR ȘCOLII DOCTORALE DE STIINȚĂ POLITICĂ]

- > LISTA DOCTORANZILOR DE LA SCOALA DOCTORALA DE STIINTA POLITICA.pdf h) Thesis Writing Rules (informații despre standardele de elaborare a tezei de doctorat)
- http://www.fspub.unibuc.ro/student-fspub/ghid-academic/redactare-lucrare-doctorat
- i) Theses Summaries and other details linkuri către rezumatele tezelor de doctorat care urmează a fi susținute public, precum și data, ora, locul unde vor fi susținute acestea, cu cel puțin 20 de zile înaintea susținerii.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

Standard C.2.2. The IOSUD/The Doctoral School provides doctoral students with access to the resources needed for conducting doctoral studies.

**Performance Indicator C.2.2.1.** All doctoral students have free access to one platform providing academic databases relevant to the doctoral studies domain of their thesis.

Doctoral students in Political Science have access to the ANELIS platform both on and outside campus.



Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator C.2.2.2.** Each doctoral student shall have access, upon request, to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic works.

Political Science doctoral students have access to Turnitin.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator C.2.2.3.** All doctoral students have access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities depending on the specific domain/domains within the Doctoral School, according to internal order procedures.

Political Science doctoral students have access to library.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

#### Criterion C.3. Internationalization

Standard C.3.1. There is a strategy in place and it is applied to enhance the internationalization of doctoral studies.

**Performance Indicator** \*C.3.1.1. IOSUD, for every evaluated domain, has concluded mobility agreements with universities abroad, with research institutes, with companies working in the field of study, aimed at the mobility of doctoral students and academic staff (e.g., ERASMUS agreements for the doctoral studies). At least 35% of the doctoral students have completed a training course abroad or other mobility forms such as attending international scientific conferences. IOSUD drafts and applies policies and measures aiming at increasing the number of doctoral students participating at mobility periods abroad, up to at least 20%, which is the target at the level of the European Higher Education Area.

The data placed at the disposal of the evaluating committee suggests that 41.83 % of all doctoral students in Political Science have completed a training course abroad or other mobility forms such as attending international conferences. The indicator is fulfilled.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator C.3.1.2.** In the evaluated doctoral study domain, support is granted, including financial support, to the organization of doctoral studies in international co-tutelage or invitation of leading experts to deliver courses/lectures for doctoral students.

Eight doctoral students in Political Science are beneficiaries of international co-tutelage with universities in Italy, France and Belgium. This demonstrates that support is granted to this indicator.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

**Performance Indicator C.3.1.3.** The internationalization of activities carried out during the doctoral studies is supported by IOSUD through concrete measures (e.g., by participating in educational fairs to attract international doctoral students; by including international experts in guidance committees or doctoral committees etc.).

UB Political Science was represented at the Sevilla education fair in 2017, in Turkmenistan, Geneva, Tunisia, Myanmar, Malaysia in 2018, and in Japan, Finland, South Korea and Tunisia in 2019. In addition, international experts are routinely included in guidance and mentoring committees at the doctoral level.



Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

## IV. SWOT Analysis

#### Strengths:

The Doctoral School in Political Science enjoys a good reputation locally and nationally. The faculty members have a good spread in terms of their expertise and the topics they can supervise in. The co-tutelage the School offers allows doctoral students to experience learning at other universities, and advisors to develop partnerships abroad.

#### **Opportunities:**

The recent changes implemented by the School could lead to a generational shift in the composition of its body of advisors, and a more prominent role for graduates trained in Political Science as a distinct field. The covid situation could prove to be an opportunity to add online activities (courses, lectures, conferences, research workshops) to face-to-face activities, enhancing the reach of the School.

#### Weaknesses:

Decades since its establishment, the Doctoral School remains dominated by advisors trained in fields other than Political Science. While generations of doctors have been trained in the School since its inception, the vast majority of them was not groomed for a university career in or outside the School. The recent loss of its main building, which forced the Political Science Department to move to another location, has disrupted the education process and raised some challenges to both students and professors.

#### Threats:

Recent increased attrition rates might undermine the doctoral program. The chronic political instability that has affected Romania during the past years might see reduced funding for higher education institutions, including doctoral schools.

## V. Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
1.	PI	A.1.1.1 The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the Doctoral School of the respective university doctoral study domain:  a) the internal regulations of the Doctoral School; b) the Methodology for conducting elections for the position of director of the Council of doctoral school (CSD), as well as elections by the students of their representative in CSD and the evidence of their conduct; c) the Methodologies for organizing and conducting doctoral studies (for the admission of doctoral studies);	Fulfilled	



No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI*, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		d) the existence of mechanisms for recognizing the status of a Doctoral advisor and the equivalence of the doctoral degree obtained abroad; e) functional management structures (Council of the doctoral school), giving as well proof of the regularity of meetings; f) the contract for doctoral studies; g) internal procedures for the analysis and approval of proposals regarding the training for doctoral study programs based on advanced academic studies.		
2.	PI	A.1.1.2. The doctoral school' Regulation includes mandatory criteria, procedures and standards binding on the aspects specified in Article 17, paragraph (5) of the Government Decision No. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies with subsequent amendments and additions.	Fulfilled	
3.	PI	<b>A.1.2.1.</b> The existence and effectiveness of an appropriate IT system to keep track of doctoral students and their academic background.	Fulfilled	
4.	PI	<b>A.1.2.2.</b> The existence and use of an appropriate software program and evidence of its use to verify the percentage of similarity in all doctoral theses.	Fulfilled	
5.	IP	A.1.3.1. Existence of at least one research or institutional / human resources development grant under implementation at the time of submission of the internal evaluation file, per doctoral study domain under evaluation, or existence of at least 2 research or institutional development / human resources grant for the doctoral study domain, obtained by doctoral thesis advisors operating in the evaluated domain within the past 5 years. The grants address relevant themes for the respective domain and, as a rule, are engaging doctoral students.	Fulfilled	
6.	PI*	A.1.3.2. The percentage of doctoral students active at the time of the evaluation, who for at least six months receive additional funding sources besides government funding, through scholarships awarded by individual persons or by legal entities, or who are financially supported through research or institutional / human resources development grants is not less than 20%.	Partially fulfilled	Keep track of the total sums awarded to each doctoral student, for a more transparent reporting in regards to this indicator; if the funding is less than 20%, increase it.
7.	PI *	A.1.3.3. At least 10% of the total amount of doctoral grants obtained by the university	Partially fulfilled	Keep track of the total sums awarded to each doctoral



No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		through institutional contracts and of tuition fees collected from the doctoral students enrolled in the paid tuition system is used to reimburse professional training expenses of doctoral students (attending conferences, summer schools, training, programs abroad, publication of specialty papers or other specific forms of dissemination etc.).		student, for a more transparent reporting in regards to this indicator; if the funding is less than 20%, increase it.
8.	СРІ	A.2.1.1. The venues and the material equipment available to the doctoral school enable the research activities in the evaluated domain to be carried out, in line with the assumed mission and objectives (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, library, access to international databases etc.). The research infrastructure and the provision of research services are presented to the public through a specific platform. The research infrastructure described above, which was purchased and developed within the past 5 years will be presented distinctly	Fulfilled	
9.	СРІ	A.3.1.1. Minimum three doctoral thesis advisors within that doctoral domain, and at least 50% of them (but no less than three) meet the minimum standards of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) in force at the time when the evaluation is carried out, which standards are required and mandatory for obtaining the enabling certification.	Partially fulfilled	Continue to implement the changes that were initiated recently so that in 2-3 years both conditions are fulfilled.
10.	PI*	<b>A.3.1.2.</b> At least 50% of all doctoral advisors have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period with the IOSUD.	Fulfilled	
11.	PI	A.3.1.3. The study subjects in the education program based on advanced higher education studies pertaining to the doctoral domain are taught by teaching staff or researchers who are doctoral thesis advisors / certified doctoral thesis advisors, professors / CS I or lecturer / CS II, with proved expertise in the field of the study subjects they teach, or other specialists in the field who meet the standards established by the institution in relation with the aforementioned teaching and research functions, as provided by the law.	Fulfilled	
12.	PI*	A.3.1.4. The percentage of doctoral thesis advisors who concomitantly coordinate more than 8 doctoral students, but no more than 12,	Fulfilled	



No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
	<b>U.</b> 1)	who are themselves studying in doctoral programs does not exceed 20%.		
13.	СРІ	A.3.2.1. At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in the evaluated domain have at least 5 Web of Science- or ERIH-indexed publications in magazines of impact, or other achievements of relevant significance for that domain, including international-level contributions that indicate progress in scientific research - development - innovation for the evaluated domain. The aforementioned doctoral thesis advisors enjoy international awareness within the past five years, consisting of: membership on scientific boards of international publications and conferences; membership on boards of international professional associations; guests in conferences or expert groups working abroad, or membership on doctoral defense commissions at universities abroad or coleading with universities abroad. For Arts and Sports and Physical Education Sciences, doctoral thesis advisors shall prove their international visibility within the past five years by their membership on the boards of professional associations, membership in organizing committees of arts events and international competitions, membership on juries or umpire teams in artistic events or international competitions.	Fulfilled	
14.	PI*	A.3.2.2. At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in a specific doctoral study domain continue to be active in their scientific field, and acquire at least 25% of the score requested by the minimal CNATDCU standards in force at the time of the evaluation, which are required and mandatory for acquiring their enabling certificate, based on their scientific results within the past five years	Partially fulfilled	
15.	PI*	<b>B.1.1.1.</b> The ratio between the number of graduates of masters' programs of other higher education institutions, national or foreign, who have enrolled for the doctoral admission contest within the past five years and the number of seats funded by the state budget, put out through contest within the doctoral domain is at least 0.2 or the ratio between the number of candidates within the past five years and the number of seats funded by the state budget put out through contest within the doctoral studies domain is at least 1,2.	Fulfilled	



No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
16.	PI*	B.1.2.1. Admission to doctoral study programs is based on selection criteria including: previous academic, research and professional performance, their interest for scientific or arts/sports research, publications in the domain and a proposal for a research subject. Interviewing the candidate is compulsory, as part of the admission procedure.	Fulfilled	
17.	PI	<b>B.1.2.2.</b> The expelling rate, including renouncement / dropping out of doctoral students 3, respectively 4, years after admission does not exceed 30%.	Fulfilled	
18.	PI	<b>B.2.1.1.</b> The training program based on advanced academic studies includes at least 3 disciplines relevant to the scientific research training of doctoral students; at least one of these disciplines is intended to study in-depth the research methodology and/or the statistical data processing.	Fulfilled	
19.	PI	<b>B.2.1.2.</b> At least one discipline is dedicated to Ethics and Intellectual Property in scientific research or there are well-defined topics on these subjects within a discipline taught in the doctoral program.	Fulfilled	
20.	PI	B.2.1.3. The IOSUD has mechanisms to ensure that the academic training program based on advanced university studies addresses "the learning outcomes", specifying the knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through the research activities.	Fulfilled	
21.	PI	<b>B.2.1.4.</b> All along the duration of the doctoral training, doctoral students in the domain receive counselling/guidance from functional guidance commissions, which is reflected in written guidance and feedback or regular meeting.	Fulfilled	
22.	СРІ	<b>B.2.1.5</b> . For a doctoral study domain, the ratio between the number of doctoral students and the number of teaching staff/researchers providing doctoral guidance must not exceed 3:1.	Fulfilled	
23.	СРІ	<b>B.3.1.1.</b> For the evaluated domain, the evaluation commission will be provided with at least one paper or some other relevant contribution per doctoral student who has obtained a doctor's title within the past 5	Fulfilled	



No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
	,	years. From this list, the members of the evaluation commission shall randomly select 5 such papers / relevant contributions per doctoral study domain for review. At least 3 selected papers must contain significant original contributions in the respective domain		
24.	PI*	B.3.1.2. The ratio between the number of presentations of doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years), including posters, exhibitions made at prestigious international events (organized in the country or abroad) and the number of doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years) is at least 1.	Fulfilled	
25.	PI*	<b>B.3.2.1.</b> The number of doctoral theses allocated to one specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the evaluated IOSUD should not exceed two (2) in a year for the theses coordinated by the same doctoral thesis advisor.	Fulfilled	
26.	PI*	<b>B.3.2.2.</b> The ratio between the doctoral theses allocated to one scientific specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the institution where the defense on the doctoral thesis is organized, and the number of doctoral theses presented in the same doctoral study domain in the doctoral school should not exceed 0.3, considering the past five years. Only those doctoral study domains in which minimum ten doctoral theses have been presented within the past five years should be analyzed.	Fulfilled	
27.	PI	C.1.1.1. The Doctoral school in the respective university study domain shall demonstrate the continuous development of the evaluation process and its internal quality assurance following a procedure developed and applied at the level of the IOSUD, the following assessed criteria being mandatory:  a) the scientific work of Doctoral advisors; b) the infrastructure and logistics necessary to carry out the research activity; c) the procedures and subsequent rules based on which doctoral studies are organized; d) the scientific activity of doctoral students; e) the training program based on advanced academic studies of doctoral students; f) social and academic services (including for participation at different events, publishing	Fulfilled	



No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		papers etc.) and counselling made available to doctoral students.		
28.	PI*	C.1.1.2. Mechanisms are implemented during the stage of the doctoral study program to enable feedback from doctoral students allowing to identify their needs, as well as their overall level of satisfaction with the doctoral study program in order to ensure continuous improvement of the academic and administrative processes. Following the analysis of the results, there is evidence that an action plan was drafted and implemented.	Fulfilled	
29.	СРІ	C.2.1.1. The IOSUD publishes on the website of the organizing institution, in compliance with the general regulations on data protection, information such as:  a) the Doctoral School regulation; b) the admission regulation; c) the doctoral studies contract; d) the study completion regulation including the procedure for the public presentation of the thesis; e) the content of training program based on advanced academic studies; f) the academic and scientific profile, thematic areas/research themes of the Doctoral advisors within the domain, as well as their institutional contact data; g) the list of doctoral students within the domain with necessary information (year of registration; advisor); h) information on the standards for developing the doctoral thesis; i) links to the doctoral theses' summaries to be publicly presented and the date, time, place where they will be presented; this information will be communicated at least twenty days before the presentation.	Fulfilled	
30.	PI	<b>C.2.2.1.</b> All doctoral students have free access to one platform providing academic databases relevant to the doctoral studies domain of their thesis.	Fulfilled	
31.	PI	C.2.2.2. Each doctoral student shall have access, upon request, to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic works.	Fulfilled	
32.	PI	C.2.2.3. All doctoral students have access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities depending on the specific domain/domains within the Doctoral School, according to internal order procedures.	Fulfilled	



No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
33.	PI*	C.3.1.1. IOSUD, for every evaluated domain, has concluded mobility agreements with universities abroad, with research institutes, with companies working in the field of study, aimed at the mobility of doctoral students and academic staff (e.g., ERASMUS agreements for the doctoral studies). At least 35% of the doctoral students have completed a training course abroad or other mobility forms such as attending international scientific conferences. IOSUD drafts and applies policies and measures aiming at increasing the number of doctoral students participating at mobility periods abroad, up to at least 20%, which is the target at the level of the European Higher Education Area.	Fulfilled	
34.	Pl	C.3.1.2. In the evaluated doctoral study domain, support is granted, including financial support, to the organization of doctoral studies in international co-tutelage or invitation of leading experts to deliver courses/lectures for doctoral students.	Fulfilled	
35.	Pl	C.3.1.3. The internationalization of activities carried out during the doctoral studies is supported by IOSUD through concrete measures (e.g., by participating in educational fairs to attract international doctoral students; by including international experts in guidance committees or doctoral committees etc.).	Fulfilled	

The recommendations contained in the report shall be resumed in the indicators' analysis. Other general recommendations may be made that do not fit within a particular indicator.

VERY IMPORTANT!!! – Each identified weakness must be correlated with at least one recommendation to improve the situation!

## VI. Conclusions and general recommendations

Several important issues raised during the evaluation are resumed and some general conclusions are drawn on the quality of the education provided within the doctoral study domain under review; the Experts' Panel also presents general assessments about the institution. Other general recommendation may also be presented, which cannot be related to a specific indicator and have not been presented at point V.

A decision is proposed, together with the reasons for granting it (if the Experts' Panel members do not reach a consensus, each of them can propose and argue his/her own decision).

### VII. Annexes

The following types of documents shall be attached:

The detailed schedule of the evaluation visit – MANDATORY.



- The survey questionnaire applied to doctoral students or academic staff in the doctoral study domain under review, the results optional (e.g., in graphic form) and their interpretation if applicable.
- Scanned documents any document requested from the IOSUD during the evaluation visit and received, which is not found in the internal evaluation file received before the visit and referred to in the report.
- Pictures if relevant issues are raised regarding the condition of the student residences, cafeterias, premises for teaching and learning activities, library etc.
- Screenshots/Print screens of the Doctoral School/IOSUD website proving specific claims in the report, accompanied by the date when they were accessed and saved.
- Any other documents relevant to the evaluation process referred to in the report.

Lavinia Stan

25 November 2021