



The External Evaluation Report of a Doctoral Study Domain

Philosophy Domain

Evaluator: Prof. Dr. Claudia Marsico

Contents

- I. Introduction
- II. Methods used
- III. Analysis of performance indicators
- IV. SWOT Analysis
- V. Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations
- VI. Conclusions and general recommendations
- VII. Annexes

I. Introduction¹

This report is oriented to inform about the institutional evaluation process of the West University of Timisoara as an external evaluator for the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS). The assessment was conducted from October 11th to October 15th, 2021, in the online modality because of the restrictions related to the COVID19 crisis, on the basis of the assessment of relevant documents and the activities of the Experts Committee of the Philosophy Domain and the shared meetings.

The West University of Timisoara has operated since 1944, with doctoral studies since 2001 on solid previous grounds. The philosophy program belongs to the Doctoral School of Philosophy, Sociology and Political Science. It currently has 5 thesis advisors and 23 doctoral students and a valuable trajectory of scholarly outcomes.

II. Methods used

The assessment was focused on the Philosophy domain. It was based on the analysis of the internal evaluation report and its Annexes conducted before the contact with the University and the interviews with the representatives of the West University of Timisoara and the local authorities, the Council for Doctoral Studies, the Ethics Commission, representatives of the Quality Assurance area, and, in the Philosophy area, the officers in charge of the internal evaluation report, the academic staff, a group of PhD students, a group of Graduates of the PhD programme, representatives of the research area, and employers of

¹ Each time when applicable the information shall be presented gender-wise.



some doctoral graduates, in joint sessions with the commissions of the domains of Political Science and Sociology.

In all the cases, the interviews were carried out with a national expert and a PhD student also designated by ARACIS, appealing to a set of questionnaires apt to get information relevant to analysing performance indicators. Due to the blended format of the evaluation, all the interviews have been conducted online. Still, relevant data about functioning and infrastructure were included in the questionnaires to obtain an overall view of the institutional capacities and information missing in the internal evaluation report.

III. Analysis of ARACIS's performance indicators

Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Under this criterion, the quality of the institutional structures is taken into account, paying attention to managerial procedures, the profile and abilities of the academic staff, and the situation of research and internationalisation within the PhD programme.

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

The West University of Timisoara has a clear regulatory framework to allow the proper advancement of academic activities. Its mission is clearly determined in the University Charter on the basis of its mission. It is oriented to develop high-performance research programmes and contribute to the advancement of academic and scientific knowledge in the relevant fields to improve Romanian production at the international level. The related objectives of the doctoral school are suitable and adequate, with research activities at the forefront.

The PhD programme in Philosophy is consistent with this framework and follows proper procedures, with suitable indication of ongoing enhancement processes. Its role within the institution is clear, and it counts on adequate infrastructure to develop its primary goals. Administrative structures and standards are also satisfactory, with sufficient capacities to track different aspects of the doctoral studies, including sharing information with other universities and agencies of validation. Access to software for anti-plagiarism controls is available for doctoral school members with adequate protocols for treating conflicting cases.

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.

The regulations are well-established and organise the different realms and competencies of the doctoral school adequately, on the basis of definite rights and obligations, expected outcomes of the postgraduate studies, methods of evaluation, management and participation in decision making, according to sound parameters of institutional and research ethics. The elections of



representatives are conducted on a regular basis according to clear protocols and regulations. Moreover, the programme has numerous research projects oriented to institutional development.

The procedures for admission and development of the doctoral studies are adequate, and there is a significant effort to make them flexible, with periodical adjustments. The admission evaluations are appropriate and take into account the track record of the candidate and the quality of the research project to ensure an adequate orientation from the initial steps.

During the interviews with the area coordinators, precisions about recent improvements related to regulatory adjustments and the creation of specific committees were provided, indicating the correlation with feedback procedures. The enhancement of access to databases for the members of the programme with proper details was also underlined. During the meeting with employers of graduates from the philosophy programme, they stated that the relationship with the doctoral school is positive and collaborative, and they have proper channels to contribute as relevant stakeholders. *general description of the criterion analysis.

Performance Indicator 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 students, for the completion of doctoral studies);
- (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.

The general regulations of the Doctoral level are explicit and operative, including normative frameworks according to current binding standards.

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 Government Decision No. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies with subsequent amendments and additions.

The regulatory framework meets the requirements.

Recommendations: -



The indicator is fulfilled.

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

According to the internal evaluation report and the information provided by the member of the academic community, the resources are adequate to carry out the normal activities related to the doctoral studies.

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.*

Proper systems to track doctoral students data and activities is available.

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.*

The program has adequate software to verify the similarities in all doctoral theses, in line with the compromise against plagiarism.

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.

There optimisation of financial resources has been addressed through specific decision of the Senate that regulate tuition fees and extra-budgetary funding from research projects. Due attention to the investment in qualified staff is underlined.

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 members of the philosophy programme have awarded several grants oriented to research and institutional development, well above the requirements, which indicates one of the major strengths of the doctoral school.

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%.*

More than one third of the current students received scholarships or other financial support related with their doctoral studies, which meets the requirements. This aspect has been acknowledged by the PhD students, but indicating the need to deepen these actions to reinforce research activities.

Recommendations: Reinforce the investment in research and mobility activities related to academic staff and PhD students activities.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *A.1.3.3.² *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.).*

No clear information was provided regarding this point indicating that the economic-financial department does produce breakdowns of the allocation of resources in this area, which does not allow an accurate calculation.

Recommendations: Include this aspect among the items to be registered and analysed.

The indicator is not fulfilled.

Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure

The research infrastructure is adequate and covers the needs of the doctoral programme. The internal evaluation report is consistent with the information obtained from the interviews regarding the good quality of the general infrastructure. It is worth noting that the number of research units

² 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.



is excellent. All of them are based on interdisciplinary approaches combining the areas of the doctoral school, with a remarkable effort to develop topics of social interest and theoretical issues.

There is general agreement on the significant support they receive from the University, and on this framework, they count on several projects with national and European funding. As a result, they have solid lines of research, a good number of works in international publishers, the edition of academic journals, intra-institutional cooperation with other fields within the University as well as international networks that offer a broad range of opportunities for collaboration and development of joint projects. The centres' activities involve essential tasks of training of PhD students, as they are included in projects and collaborate in the organisation of academic events. The University has an important library with regular additions, computers and access to databases.

An excellent synthesis of activities and achievements was provided during the meeting with the persons in charge of the research centres. In the same line, asked about the special limit of national funding for philosophy projects, the members of the Council offer a proper explanation about actions to access European funds. They also emphasise the activities oriented to make the link between Humanities and society visible in order to reinforce their scientific and social relevance. It should be noted that the academic staff is satisfied with the research environment, and the PhD students show good knowledge about the overall activities and about the existence of channels to apply for funding to conduct academic activities. However, both groups emphasised the importance of enhancing financial support, underlining the special situation of philosophy regarding funding. The graduates indicated that the research centres are an essential factor to keep the contact alive and provided interesting instances about activities during the pandemics with the participation of graduates.

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

The overall infrastructure is adequate to support teaching and research activities, and includes academic software, a growing library and access to international databases. All the members of the academic community agree on the high-quality of the resources at hand.

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 resources are available to the members of the doctoral school and presented publicly to ensure proper access.

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.

The teaching staff has excellent profiles and experience in training young scholars. All of them have a very good international visibility, a proper number of publications in journals and collective volumes, and participate in scientific committees, academic events and international activities.

During the interview, the academic staff described the overall conditions within the philosophy programme. They provided a convincing approach to interdisciplinary criteria within the doctoral school and underlined their research activities, international cooperation and organisation of visits of international scholars. They marked the importance of enhancing the number of supervisors to improve the general results, and they provided information about the projects of joint-supervision. They also informed about the actions to promote early publication as part of the PhD students activities indicating the combination of local and international journals.

The PhD students and the graduates expressed themselves satisfied with the quality of the academic staff both in their courses and supervising actions. They stressed the positive disposition in all circumstances and the help to develop contacts with scholars from other universities and to perform academic activities related to publication and presentations in scholarly events.

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 philosophy programme has 5 supervisors, and four of them fulfil the CNARDCU standards, and the only case that is not among these parameters is in the process of retirement.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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.*

Three out of the five supervisors are full time employees, which meets the requirements.

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.*

All the study subjects are taught by scholars that are doctoral thesis advisors and qualified teachers, with proven capacities in their fields.

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 programs³ does not exceed 20%.*

There are no supervisors who coordinate more than 8 doctoral students, which meets the requirements. Hence, the rate of full-time employment and students per supervisor is adequate, even if the improvement of the number of the academic staff was mentioned as something desirable, in view of the enhancement of the programme

Recommendations: Enhance the number of supervisors according to the academic needs of the programme.

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The doctoral advisors are valuable scholars with excellent track records and international visibility.

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*

³ 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.



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.

The team's overall capacity is remarkable, and includes valuable publications and overall academic activities.

Recommendations: Considering the strengths of the academic staff, the rate of publication in indexed international journals could be enhanced as part of the future developments of the program..

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.*

All the supervisors are active and have remarkable high scores according to the CBATDCU standards.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

*Under this criterion, the quality of the PhD programme is taken into account, paying attention to the enrolment procedures, the content of the programme, the outcomes and evaluation protocols, and the quality of the doctoral theses.*general description of domain analysis.*

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

The PhD programme in Philosophy has clear and suitable procedures for recruitment. The overall interdisciplinary approach provides a valuable framework to deal with the different disciplinary origins in order to provide adequate tools and the critical mass of knowledge sufficient to ensure proper disciplinary abilities.

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.

The capacity of the philosophy programme to attract candidates from other institutions is adequate-



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*

The ratio of the doctoral school is 1,73, which meets the requirements.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The regulationd for admission are clear and consistent and ensure proper skills and capacities to carry out doctoral studies.

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.*

The procedures are able to ensure proper performance od the doctoral students. During the meeting with the authorities, they offer sound explanations about the number of students, the rate of drop out, and the mitigating measures conducted in this area. The meeting with the students shows that the admission contest is not considered challenging or implies specific obstacles.

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 admission⁴ does not exceed 30%.*

The expelling rate is adequate; i.e. below 30%.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

⁴ 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.



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.

The doctoral program is of high quality. The structure of the studies is adequate and combines training courses and individual research properly. The expected schedule of three years with the possibility of an extended period is enough to ensure adequate development, and no obstacles have been raised regarding these points. The courses cover a broad area related to methodology, ethics and historiography. Their approach is up-to-date and seeks to include cutting-edge topics with suitable tools to provide appropriate means to enhance the skills of those with previous experience in the area. The ethics course covers the needs of a solid formation in good academic practices, and they are flexible enough to cover the students' interests. The individual research is conducted under the guidance of a supervisor and a committee of additional experts to ensure regular monitoring.

There is proper care of training in methodological aspects to enhance the PhD students' research skills necessary for writing the thesis. Participation and organisation of academic activities and early publication is suitably encouraged. The monitoring procedures are well-stated. They constitute part of the everyday life of the programme, and the measures are recognised as effective enough by most of the members of the PhD programme.

During the meetings, interdisciplinary aspects were underlined as a strong point of the programme. Both the PhD students and the graduates agreed on the programme's quality, and they showed satisfaction with its structure and contents. They indicate as an asset the freedom to choose the supervisor and the guidance team, including external experts if the main topic requires it.

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 programme includes courses on Philosophical historiography, Ethics and academic integrity, Applications of critical thinking in philosophy, and Scientific research and academic writing. The latter is a joint course with the Political Science programme. The structure and contents are appropriate and consistent to developed the expected competences. It is worth noting that the doctoral school organises courses about academic writing to improve these skills and provide opportunities to the students from distant fields to be in line with the expected abilities.

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.*

The training courses include Ethics and Academic integrity which covers subjects related to professional and cross-cutting skills on the basis of significant topics. The objectives and overall approach is adequate.

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 activities⁵.*

The individual activities within the doctoral programme include suitable planning of specific courses, sequence of research reports, participation in conferences, publications and mobility experience that provide a clear view of the learning outcomes, paying due attention to academic and transversal competences. Suitable actions in international joint-supervision are under development.

Recommendations: Advance in the development of frameworks for joint supervision on the basis of current ongoing experiences.

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.*

The regulations of the doctoral students includes beyond the supervisor a mentoring comitee of three members selected by the supervisor with agreement of the doctoral student. The tasks and responsibilities of the mentoring committee are clear and consistent.

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.*

⁵ 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.



The number of teaching staff providing guidance is adequate, i.e. 28 teachers for 21 doctoral students, which meets the criterion.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The programme takes fully into account the expected outcomes through suitable measures and procedures consistent with its main goals. There is a proper emphasis on the development of academic skills through early participation in research, organisation of academic events and publications. However, there is a bias towards chapters in the local compilation that could be broadened in favour of indexed publications. The PhD thesis has suitable traits, and the students have enough information about the expected parameters. The procedures to ensure the high quality of the doctoral theses are within accepted standards and fulfil the institutional procedures and parameters. During the interviews, the managerial officers, the teaching staff, the students, and the graduate expressed no troubles related to the associated aspects. The defence includes external evaluators, according to clear regulations. The internal evaluation report pays due attention to the articulation with post-doctoral options.

Regarding the overall results, the group of graduates claimed, during the corresponding interview, that the PhD programme reaches their expectations both during the lifetime of the programme and after it. They underlined the connection with the labour market. There was mention of the effective measures to incorporate previous track records and the developments of skills of leadership that contribute to the enhancement of a broad kind of tasks. In the same line, the employers emphasised the quality of the graduates, their ability to fulfil the requirements of the labour market, and their overall good reputation amongst the employers in the field.

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

The PhD students show a strong development of academic skills through early participation in research, organisation of academic events and publications.

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.*

The list of publications provided in the internal evaluation report indicates a very good development of publications within the past five years. The quality of those papers is satisfactory and the publications contain original contributions to the field. It should be noted that there is a



bias towards chapters in the local compilation that could be broadened in favour of indexed publications.

Recommendations: On the basis of the excellent quality of the publications, a stronger effort to include international top publications could enhance visibility of the philosophy programme.

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.*

The list of presentations in academic events shows a strong habit of dissemination of research results, with a ratio higher than the requirements.

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.*

The participation of external scientific specialist in the commissions is adequate and in line with the suitable actions towards inter-institutional collaboration, and it is able to provide transparency to the public defense of doctoral theses.

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.*

No external juries participated in more than two theses defenses coordinated by the same supervisor in one year.

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 ratio of 0.3 is not exceeded.



Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

Domain C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Under this criterion, the measures for quality assurance are taken into account, paying attention to the implementation of specific procedures, the access to information and learning resources, and the quality of internationalisation mechanisms.

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

The philosophy programme properly considers the implementation of procedures for internal institutional evaluation of the different processes that constitute the everyday life of the programme. They include monitoring the quality of the PhD students work, the current state of infrastructure and the improvement needs, the quality of the outcomes of the different members and levels.

During the interview with the authors of the internal evaluation report, several questions were responded to about the programme's goals, structure, and management, underlining the procedures for quality assurance that has been improved on the basis of the feedback from the overall members. Assessment is conducted following suitable mechanisms of feedback gathering and permanent evaluation. The quality assurance officers provide suitable information about the staff and tasks in the area oriented to support all the institutional structures. They described the questionnaires for assessment and its underlying method, including open answers and opinions about the teachers and supervisors and the regular adjustments. They also mention the obstacles and resistances to these developments and the mitigating measures implemented to solve the related issues. The representatives of the Council underlined the institutional compromise with these processes and indicated measures to enhance participation. On its part, the Ethical Commission offered a suitable description of the functioning of the committee and the protocol to be applied in the face of problematic cases. The students expressed that they were satisfied with their participation in decision-making and showed adequate knowledge about the procedures, even if not all of them were fully engaged. The students express that they are satisfied with their participation in decision-making.

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.

The institutional and regulatory framework as well as their procedures related to quality assurance are clear, suitable and adequately implemented.



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.*

The continuous evaluation processes are well-organized and all the members of the academic community asserted during the interviews an adequate knowledge and positive valuation of the related activities. There is adequate follow up of the scientific production of the supervisors, the infrastructural situation that affects research activities, the regulatory environment, the contents and structure of the training programme to keep it up-to-date, and the work of the PhD students.

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.*

Suitable procedures for feedback from doctoral students are conducted regularly. The action is well-known and valued positively by the students.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The channels for institutional communication are efficient and consistent with the general regulation of the Doctorate studies level. They provide accurate information on the legislation, admission steps and conditions, procedures during the studies, expected features of the PhD theses, and complete information about the defence protocols. The learning resources are fully adequate, and all the members of the PhD programme claim that they are at their disposal without major obstacles.

During the interviews, it was indicated that the University is in the process of a renewal of the webpage according to common parameters. For this reason, not all the relevant information



is at disposal. It will be important to conclude this task to ensure visibility of all the institutional regulations and achievements. Moreover, the webpage has few information in English without possibility of switching languages which does not contribute to dissemination of the activities and achievements. In the same line, even if seems to be an adequate circulation of information and some positive examples, e.g. related to early vaccination, were provided, there is some doubt about the effectiveness of the channels. This is often a challenge in big institutions that should be specifically attended to ensure productive communication. The information about grant opportunities seems to be at the disposal of the students.

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.

Most of the required information is at disposal. Some of the items are missing, e.g. some doctoral theses summaries, and the webpage in general does not reflect thoroughly the number and quality of the activities within the doctoral school and the philosophy program. Although the regulatory information is accessible, the lack of complementary data jeopardises the overall view. A full version of the webpage in an international version would be necessary to ensure proper visibility.

Recommendations: An enhancement of the information and communication strategies in line with international standards could be useful to make the institutional regulations and achievements visible.

The indicator is partially fulfilled.

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



Access to a broad range of resources is provided to the doctoral students. The interviews with students and graduates confirmed this aspect.

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.*

The doctoral students have access to ANELIS and Pro Quest platform with a broad range of subscriptions that cover the main scientific article databases.

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.*

The PhD students have access to iThenticate upon request, with clear protocols.

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.*

The doctoral students have access to the research resources. During the interviews with students and graduates this access was considered satisfactory and part of the normal activities within the philosophy programme.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion C.3. Internationalization

Internalisation is well-developed and is strongly present in all the members of the doctoral school. There is good access to European programmes, with staff specifically dedicated to coordinate this area, and there are also bilateral agreements that could provide interesting opportunities for collaboration. The students are expected to participate in research stays and academic events abroad, and a considerable number has followed this path recently. Through its research centres, the programme organises regular international events and invite renowned scholars, which reinforces the existing international networks. Moreover, there are plans to develop a framework for joint supervision, which is strongly present among the interests of the academic staff and the PhD students. It is worth noting that internationalisation is enhanced by offering courses in English and promoting publications, presentations, and defence of PhD thesis in lingua franca.



During the interviews, these traits were underlined through the emphasis of the Council representatives in the improvement of these aspects. The PhD students are fully aware of these opportunities and are eager to explore the possibilities of joint-supervision.

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

Internalisation is at the forefront of the philosophy programme activities and follows a clear plan and suitable strategies, on the basis of the available resources, which are adequate to develop the expected activities and actions.

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 number of mobility agreements is adequate, and includes the Erasmus programme, with special coordinators in the Faculties to promote this area. Beyond that, there are many current bilateral agreements and the doctoral students of the programme have suitable information and regular access to them.

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.*

Joint-supervision is encouraged and the development of proper regulations is ongoing.

Recommendations: Internationalisation is well-developed but could be strengthened on the basis of the strengths of the programme through a higher rate of international publications in top journals and the advance in the joint supervision scheme.

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.).*



A set of suitable measures towards internationalisation is regularly implemented. The promotion of writing and defence of doctoral theses in international languages as well as the number of sound international collaborations is a sound step in this direction.

Recommendations: The already mentioned reinforcement of the internationalisation of communication and dissemination channels in international languages to enhance visibility and promote the attraction of international doctoral students can be proper measure to improve this point.

The indicator is fulfilled.

IV. SWOT Analysis

<p><u>Strengths:</u></p> <p>- The teaching staff is outstanding, highly motivated and has important achievements in the field. At the same time, it is well aware of the institutional functioning, its strengths and points to improve. The administrative and institutional is adequate and allows proper development of the main tasks of the programme.</p>	<p><u>Weaknesses:</u></p> <p>- Communication channels seem not to be as strong as they could be, as information available is not always complete and according to international standards, which lessens visibility and could weaken the effectiveness of institutional actions.</p>
<p><u>Opportunities:</u></p> <p>- The international network and achievements of the philosophy programme are remarkable. They constitute an ideal basis for further development through strengthening current actions regarding the publication of PhD students in international indexed publications and innovation in the area of joint supervision.</p>	<p><u>Threats:</u></p> <p>- Considering the peculiar situation of funding in the field of philosophy, a negative impact could be produced if the need for support for research is not properly attended. It would be important to take care of this situation to protect the achievements and promote further development.</p>

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;	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		<p>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;</p> <p>c) the Methodologies for organizing and conducting doctoral studies (for the admission of doctoral students, for the completion of doctoral studies);</p> <p>d) the existence of mechanisms for recognizing the status of a Doctoral advisor and the equivalence of the doctoral degree obtained abroad;</p> <p>e) functional management structures (Council of the doctoral school), giving as well proof of the regularity of meetings;</p> <p>f) the contract for doctoral studies;</p> <p>g) internal procedures for the analysis and approval of proposals regarding the training for doctoral study programs based on advanced academic studies.</p>		
2.	PI	<p>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.</p>	Fulfilled	-
3.	PI	<p>A.1.2.1. The existence and effectiveness of an appropriate IT system to keep track of doctoral students and their academic background.</p>	Fulfilled	-
4.	PI	<p>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.</p>	Fulfilled	-
5.	IP	<p>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</p>	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		domain within the past 5 years. The grants address relevant themes for the respective domain and, as a rule, are engaging doctoral students.		
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%.	Fulfilled	Reinforce the investment in research and mobility activities related to academic staff and PhD students activities.
7.	PI *	A.1.3.3. 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.).	Not fulfilled	Include this aspect among the items to be registered and analysed.
8.	CPI	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.	CPI	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	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		mandatory for obtaining the enabling certification.		
10.	PI *	A.3.1.2. 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, who are themselves studying in doctoral programs does not exceed 20%.	Fulfilled	Enhance the number of supervisors according to the academic needs of the programme.
13.	CPI	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	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		professional associations, membership in organizing committees of arts events and international competitions, membership on juries or umpire teams in artistic events or international competitions.		
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	Fulfilled	-
15.	PI *	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.	Fulfilled	-
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.1.2.2. The expelling rate, including renouncement / dropping out of doctoral students 3, respectively 4, years after admission does not exceed 30%.	Fulfilled	-
18.	PI	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	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		these disciplines is intended to study in-depth the research methodology and/or the statistical data processing.		
19.	PI	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.	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	Advance in the development of frameworks for joint supervision on the basis of current ongoing experiences.
21.	PI	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.	Fulfilled	-
22.	CPI	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.	Fulfilled	-
23.	CPI	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	Fulfilled	On the basis of the excellent quality of the publications, a stronger effort to include international top publications could enhance visibility of the philosophy programme.
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	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		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.		
25.	PI *	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.	Fulfilled	-
26.	PI *	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.	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 papers etc.) and counselling made available to doctoral students.	Fulfilled	-
28.	PI *	C.1.1.2. Mechanisms are implemented during the stage of the doctoral study program to enable feedback from doctoral students	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		<p>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.</p>		
29.	CPI	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	Partially fulfilled	<p>An enhancement of the information and communication strategies in line with international standards could be useful to make the institutional regulations and achievements visible.</p>
30.	PI	<p>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.</p>	Fulfilled	-
31.	PI	<p>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.</p>	Fulfilled	-
32.	PI	<p>C.2.2.3. All doctoral students have access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities depending on the specific</p>	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		domain/domains within the Doctoral School, according to internal order procedures.		
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.	PI	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	Internationalisation is well-developed but could be strengthened on the basis of the strengths of the programme through a higher rate of international publications in top journals and the advance in the joint supervision scheme.
35.	PI	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 already mentioned reinforcement of the internationalisation of communication and dissemination channels in international languages to enhance visibility and promote the attraction of international doctoral students can be proper measure to improve this point.

VI. Conclusions and general recommendations

The Philosophy programme of the Doctoral School of Political Science, PhD programme of Philosophy fulfils the evaluated criteria and shows an excellence overall performance with strong bases and outstanding opportunities for further development. The work on visibility and further actions of internationalisation could be a valuable next step in this process.



VII. Annexes

- *Schedule of the evaluation activities.*



Annexes

Schedule of the evaluation activities

Assessment period: Oct. 11th, 2021-Sept. 15th, 2021

October 11th

9:00-9:45: Preliminary meeting

10:00-10:45: Online meeting with representatives of the institution and of the Council for Academic Doctoral Studies

11:00-12:00: Individual evaluation activities

13:00-13:55: Online meeting with the contact person for the doctoral study domain under review and the team who drafted the internal evaluation report

14:00-15:15: Individual evaluation activities

15:15-16:15: Online meeting with the Commission for Quality Evaluation and Assurance members / Quality Assurance Department

16:30-17:30: Individual evaluation activities

17:30-18:15: Online meeting with the academic staff of the doctoral study domain

October 12th

9:30-10:25: Online meeting with PhD students

10:30-12:30: Individual evaluation activities

13:30-14:25: Online meeting with Doctoral Schools Council

14:30-15:30: Online meeting with the members of the Ethics Commission

15:30-16:30: Individual evaluation activities

16:35-17:20: Online meeting with graduates of the doctoral study domain

17:30-18:00: Individual evaluation activities

October 13th

9:00-9:45: Technical meeting to identify specific issues that need to be clarified, if necessary, during the on-site visit

10:50-11:35: Online meeting with the directors in charge of the research centres within the doctoral study domain

11:45-12:45: Individual evaluation activities

13:45-14:30: Online meeting with employers of the graduates in the domain

14:30-18:00: Individual evaluation activities

October 14th

9:00-18:00: Individual evaluation activities

October 15th

9:00-10: Completion of the evaluation documents



10:00-11:30: Online meeting for conclusions

12:00-13:00: Online meeting with representatives of the institution under review to discuss on the conclusions of the evaluation process and the main reccomandations.