

The External Evaluation Report of a Doctoral Study Economic Informatics Domain

I. Introduction

Brief overview of the visit

The evaluation of the doctoral study domains took place on September 9-17, 2021. Before the visit, the experts panel received a well-prepared Self-Assessment Report (SAR), and the additional documents including Strategic Development Plan, Operational Plan, syllabi of all programme elements, Regulation for the organization and functioning of doctoral university studies, information about academic staff, data on budget and funds allocation, and the information on research projects and activities.

During the visit, the panel had the chance to meet and interview representatives of the University stakeholders including administration, members of Ethics Commission, SAR working group, with Doctoral Schools Council members, PhD students and graduates, employers and Director of the research Centre. All participants were very cooperative and willing to participate in discussion in an open, friendly and fair way. Requests from the panel regarding the provision of additional information and additional interviews were handled professionally and efficiently during the visit. The experts' panel would like to express sincere thanks for the cooperation of all participants, readiness to provide additional information and comments, friendly and healthy working environment and hospitality during the visit.

The University has a long history being the oldest high educational institution (HEI) in Romania. The university was first established in 1865 and after facing several changes and reorganization has become the a distinct, fully autonomic and independent academic community. University has received the HR Excellence in Research quality certification in April, 2014. Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration (SDEAA) was established in 2005 and currently the School has 49 doctoral coordinators, 104 members of the steering committees and 52 active PhD students. PhD programs are carried out by joint efforts of academic staff from four department: Department of Accounting, Business Information Systems and Statistics, Department of Economics and International Relations, Department of Finance, Currency and Public Administration and Department of Management, Marketing and Business Administration

II. Methods used

In preparation of this report the following methods were mainly used by experts:

- Analysis of SAR and annexes presented by university and the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration
- Analysis of the information presented on the website of university and the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration
- Analysis of information received during the online meetings with different groups of stakeholders representing university, the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, students, employers, alumni and members of the academic staff.

III. Analysis of ARACIS's performance indicators

Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

During the visit expert panel made sure that all specific regulations enabling efficient functioning of the University in general and Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration in particular are implemented and strictly followed. The mission of the doctoral studies is "to ensure a rigorous and favourable research environment (facilitator), which will allow the intellectual and professional development of doctoral students and contribute to the evolution of society".

University has all the necessary resources to provide the fulfilment of this mission on the level of PhD studies. The program is constantly updated considering the feedback of all relevant stakeholders. Internal Quality policy is implemented on all levels with all necessary tools and regulations developed and successfully implemented. University has also established the Ethics Commission, which meets regularly to find solution to various cases and thus maintain the quality of high education.

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

University has all the necessary administrative, managerial and financial resources to perform the doctoral studies enabling students to achieve good scientific results as well as to keep in line with latest business trends and developments.

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 Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration is organizing studies in line with relevant legislation and all necessary regulations including 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, regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies, Methodology on organizing and conducting admission for doctoral studies (updated regularly) etc.

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:

The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the Doctoral School of the respective university doctoral study domain was confirmed before the site visit as university presented the following documents:

- a) The institutional regulation for the organization and functioning of doctoral university studies, adopted in the meeting of the Senate of the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași from 25.04.2013 -valid for the period 2013-2017;
- b) The institutional regulation for the organization and functioning of the doctoral university studies, adopted in the meeting of the Senate of the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași from 27.06.2017 -valid for the academic year 2017-2018;
- c) The institutional regulation for the organization and functioning of doctoral university studies, adopted in the meeting of the Senate of the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași from 28.06.2018 -starting with the academic year 2018-2019;
- d) The institutional regulation for the organization and functioning of doctoral university studies, adopted in the meeting of the Senate of the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași from 27.06.2019 -starting with the academic year 2019-2020;
- e) The institutional regulation for the organization and functioning of doctoral university studies, adopted in the meeting of the Senate of the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași from 28.06.2018 -starting with the academic year 2020-2021;
- f) The regulation regarding the development of doctoral studies at the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, approved by the Council of Doctoral Studies IOSUD-UAIC in the meeting of 18.07.2013;
- g) The regulation regarding the development of the activities at the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, approved by the IOSUD-UAIC Doctoral Studies Council in the meeting of 07.03.2018;
- h) The Methodology on the organization and conduct of admission to the cycle of doctoral studies for the academic year 2020-2021, approved by the Senate;
- i) System procedure regarding the automatic recognition by the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași of the quality of doctoral supervisor obtained in foreign accredited university educational institutions no. 1423 from 31.01.2017;
- j) System procedure regarding the recognition by the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of the doctoral diploma and of the doctoral degree in sciences or in a professional field obtained in university education institutions accredited from abroad no. 1422 from 31.01.2017.

In accordance with the School Regulations (art. 6.1.2 and 6.1.3) the training program based on advanced university studies (PPUA) is monitored and evaluated periodically (every 5 years) by CSD -SDEAA. During the visit the expert panel made sure that these documents are in force, well formulated, strictly followed by all relevant stakeholders, are regularly updated and transparent.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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 Regulation of the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration submitted to the experts' panel in the form of Annex includes all the criteria, procedures and mandatory standards for the aspects specified in art.17, par. 5 of GD no. 681/2011, with subsequent amendments and completions, which was confirmed during the visit.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

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

The mission of the doctoral studies is to ensure a rigorous and favourable research environment (facilitator), which will allow the intellectual and professional development of doctoral students and contribute to the evolution of society. To fulfil this aim IOSUD has developed all the necessary logistic resources including effective IT system e-Sims implemented to track progress of PhD students, which can be used by both occasional and professional users. the antiplagiarism system used to check all the papers presented by students. The University is also successfully implementing the Single Enrolment Register throughout the country.

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 university has well-functioning IT system e-Sims used for tracking data related to the background, academic performance and the general progress of their PhD students. All data is stored in the relevant databases and the processes related to admission, keeping records on students' data, management of staff and research, thesis defence and graduation are computerized. Also, in order to ensure best technical solution for Moodle aiming to provide the e-learning platform for distance and part-time education, the Turnitin application is purchased on an annual basis.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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 university has successfully implemented the anti-plagiarism system in accordance with the technical specifications using the Turnitin system. The system is available to all students and academic staff, therefore all research papers including drafts, articles and final thesis are checked for plagiarism. During the visit students and members of academic staff also confirmed that they actively use this system keeping the average percentage of the plagiarism detected quite low.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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.

The Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration is actively attracting funding for research, there are several grants received, currently there are several projects running involving doctoral supervisors or doctoral students in the field of Business Information Systems. However, it is recommended to be more proactive to attract funding from the business environment by relating thesis topics to modern business world and preparing company-aimed projects.

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.

During last five years numerous research grants were received and several research projects conducted including: "Assimilation of technological quality in BIO-TECHNOLOGY-economic SYSTEMS",

“Development of entrepreneurial skills for doctoral and postdoctoral students in the field of economics”, “Ethics and good practices in software testing”, “Technological singularity in the conditions of limiting Artificial Intelligence”.

Recommendations: Consider establishing long-term cooperation with industrial companies to generate additional funding.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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%.

Basis SAR, submitted additional documents and the information received during the visit it became evident that currently there are 5 PhD students in the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration of those 5 doctoral students received funding from the state budget (budget with scholarship, budget without scholarship, grant). At the level of the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, nine students received funding from additional sources for least six months, during their studies it represents 27.77% of all doctoral students registered at the time of evaluation.

Recommendations: Consider establishing long-term cooperation with industrial companies to generate additional funding. Also consider attracting EU grants and projects to received additional funding.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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.).

Basis SAR data and the information received during the visit it became evident that for the total evaluation period the calculated percentage is 2.98%, while for the years 2015-2019 it was 4.37%. It should be mentioned that the situation was also highly influenced in pandemic and the overall situation in Romania education system with 10 years break in public grants. The university is seeking ways to attract additional funding from companies, by consulting them as specialists not only providing know-how. Several agreements for coronary diseases medical projects participation, However, this criterion is partially met.

Recommendations: Consider actively applying for EU research grant and projects.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure

University has well-developed infrastructure including modern building, providing up to date technologies, computers, fast internet connection etc. Library is well-equipped and enables students access to ANELIS PLUS 2020, online databases like Scopus, WOS, Science Direct Freedom Collection, SciFinder (CAS), MathSciNet, making it possible to carry out research on all stages.

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.

University has well-developed infrastructure, modern building equipped will all necessary facilities like computers, data projectors, fast internet-connection etc. The main building is also used for arranging seminars, workshops, conferences and other scientific events besides teaching activities, in which students and academic staff take an active part. Library is well-equipped and enables students access to

ANELIS PLUS 2020, online databases like Scopus, WOS, Science Direct Freedom Collection, SciFinder (CAS), MathSciNet, making it possible to carry out research on all stages.

The university has a research Centre carrying out relevant research and participating in numerous projects, individual and small group work, applies for various grants. The main objective of this centre is the creation of an adequate framework for carrying out high-performance scientific research activities and towards the involvement in the scientific research activity of students, master's students and doctoral students. Funds are used to finance participation of PhD students, post-doc students and academic staff in participation in conferences, workshops and also for publications. Academic staff combine both research and teaching activity. Centre has all the necessary facilities – rooms, equipment, computer software, WI-FI, access to databases like WOS, Scopus, Reuters etc. necessary to conduct research on a high level. During the visit it was mentioned that centre is trying to establish tight connection with business environment. There are already 30 agreements with companies. The main aim today is to be also involved in companies activities as research specialists and not only providing know-how. There are already several agreements for coronary diseases medical projects participation.

Recommendations: To establish a proper balance between teaching and research activities of the academic staff consider introducing reduced teaching workload for those active in research and publications. To provide facilities and opportunities to perform research online.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

Criterion A.3. Quality of Human Resources

Studies at the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration are carried out by highly qualified and professional staff highly valued by students. During the visit it was mentioned that members of academic staff are always available for consultations, provide strong support and motivate students for studies and research. Research advisors and supervisor meet the criteria established by CNATDCU, they also attend various conferences and workshops and are the members of various scientific associations

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

Studies are carried out by qualified and professional staff recognized and appreciated by students. During the visit it was mentioned that members of academic staff are always available for consultations, provide strong support and motivate students for future studies and research. Research advisors and supervisor meet the criteria established by CNATDCU, they also attend various conferences and workshops being members of various scientific associations. There are currently 10 members of academic staff, with 6 (60%) meeting the minimum criteria established by CNATDCU required to obtain the certificate of competency. Professional coordinators are specializing in various fields of science relevant and interesting to students and available for research. The team of 10 members aims to share know-how and experience in different fields, contributing to unique teaching experience. and digital transformation in our society.

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.

There are currently 10 members of academic staff. Out of these members 60% meet the minimum criteria established by CNATDCU required to obtain the certificate of competency.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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.

There are currently 10 members of the academic staff involved in the supervising activities and 9 (90%) have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period with the IOSUD.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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 members of the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration are certified doctoral thesis advisors and also teach subjects under the PhD curriculum. All members of academic staff are recognized experienced professionals in their study field.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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 does not exceed 20%.

At the level of the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration 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%., being 0%

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

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

Doctoral thesis advisors at the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration actively participate in the scientific research, 50% of them have international visibility having at least five Web of Science- or ERIH-indexed publications in magazines of impact, attended various national and international conferences and are members of various scientific associations.

Performance Indicator A.3.2.1. At the period of evaluation 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. Doctoral thesis advisors have gained international awareness within the past five years, consisting of: participation in ARACIS evaluation activities as experts and coordinators, membership in the editorial committees of Database Systems Journal and Review of Economic and Business Studies by prof.univ.dr. Marin FOTACHE, reviewing various articles submitted to conferences. However, it should be recommended to improve international visibility by actively participating in international events and publishing results of research in both national and international journals.

Recommendations: Increase number of publications in indexed journals with high impact factor, increase international visibility by attending various international scientific events.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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.

At the level of the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration the percentage of doctoral thesis advisors being 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 is 50% at the time of evaluation, with 5 out of 10 members being scientifically active during the evaluated period.

Recommendations: None.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Educational effectiveness in the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration is reached by the established admission criteria aimed to select the best candidates being able to combine advanced studies and research. The admission of Doctoral students is organized in accordance with the Methodology on the organization and conduct of admission to the cycle of doctoral studies (updated regularly), last version covers years 2020-2021. Selection of candidates is based on IOSUD methodology considering several criteria on research and professional performance of candidates, their scientific research interest and the proposed topic for PhD thesis. Students have to present research topic and carry out research project, being subject to evaluation. The admission process also includes interview, which is compulsory for all applicants. For admitted students there is prepared research and study plans for the whole period of studies, followed by both student and supervisor. Study program is well-balanced and related to scientific research and the modern business environment including such disciplines as Ethics of scientific research and Scientific research methodology. Students are also encouraged to take an active part research projects and conferences, which is funded from the university budget.

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

The number, quality and the diversity of candidates admitted for PhD studies correspond to the university requirements and are governed by the legislation and the university regulation documents.

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 Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration is actively attracting potential students from Romania and also from abroad by participating in educational fairs, providing all the necessary information about PhD program on website, however, the lack of web-site in English makes it difficult for foreign students to get information on PhD programs.

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 between the number of master's degree graduates of other national or international higher education institutions, who have registered during the last five years, for the competition for admission to doctoral studies in the field of BUSINESS INFORMATION SYSTEMS and the number of places financed from the budget of the state set up for competition within the SDC is an average of 0.4 for the five years evaluation period. And the ratio between the number of candidates in the last five years and the number of places financed from the state budget is 2 (16/8).

Recommendations: Attract foreign students by implementing proactive marketing strategy including well-developed and informative web-site in English.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

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

Candidates admitted to the Doctoral study process at the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration have to pass compulsory interview to demonstrate their scientific research abilities. They also have to propose research topic and carry put research project, which is evaluated by the representatives of the Doctoral School. During studies students are supposed to actively participate in research projects and competitions, publish the results of their research in indexed scientific journals and participate in conferences and workshops.

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 admission of Doctoral students is organized in accordance with the Methodology on the organization and conduct of admission to the cycle of doctoral studies (updated regularly), last version cover years 2020-2021. Selection of candidates considers several criteria related to their academic, research and professional performance, research interest and relevant scientific publications. Candidates are also required to propose research topic and perform a research project, which is subject to evaluation. The admission process also includes interview, which is compulsory for all applicants.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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%.

At the level of the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration the dropout rate is 0%.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

Criterion B.2. The content of doctoral programs

The content of the doctoral study program in the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration is developed in accordance with the latest scientific achievements as well as contemporary business trends. Topics selected for PhD thesis are often related to business environment.

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

The training program in the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration includes modern disciplines like Ethics of scientific research and Scientific research methodology.

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 program is well balanced and well developed including both strong research component and study subjects necessary the advanced studies with six subjects at doctoral school level: Epistemology; Scientific research methodology; Research methods and quantitative data analysis; Research methods and qualitative data analysis; Ethics of scientific research; Academic Writing. However, the experts' panel would recommend to include into the curriculum more contemporary specific study subjects like IT technologies and design science, Artificial intelligence, Machine learning, Cyber Security and Fraud prevention etc.

Recommendations: Include into the curriculum more contemporary specific IT related study subjects.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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.

There is a subject of Ethics of scientific research included into the curriculum of PhD studies.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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.

The curriculum of each study course specifies, LOs, teaching methods, evaluation criteria as well as knowledge and skills acquired by the students by the end of the course. After the end of each course students have to submit their opinion on the course and give feedback to the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration by completing the survey. Results of the survey are regularly analysed, if required necessary changes are made. These results are also disseminated among academic staff to get a better understanding of one's performance.

Recommendations: None.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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.

During their studies PhD students in Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration are in tight cooperation with their supervisors and fully supported and motivated by the PhD steering commission. During Doctoral studies four reports are submitted by students: an initial report at the end of year I, two progress reports (intermediate I and intermediate II) during year II and a final report (at the end of year III). These reports help students to track their progress and mark major achievements during their studies. During their studies students also take part in conferences and publish scientific articles together with the members of the steering committee.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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. At the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, the ratio between the number of doctoral students and the number of teaching staff/researchers providing doctoral guidance is 9:19.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

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

During the selected period six PhD theses were successfully defended, students actively participated in research projects, presented results of their research on international conferences and published articles in academic journals.

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

Students of the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration are encouraged to actively participate in research, attend scientific conferences and make publications in indexed journals with impact factor. School enables support and motivation and funding. Students also get full support and motivation from their supervisors, during the selected period six students successfully defended their thesis having 31 publications in the form of articles, conference submissions etc.

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.

Currently 6 students have received PhD degree and during the last five years these students have produced 31 publications in the form of articles, chapters or articles for conferences.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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.

At the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, this ratio is at least 1.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

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

During the selected period in case of 6 PhD thesis defences several external scientific advisors were invited, which was also confirmed during the meeting with alumni.

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.

At the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration the number of doctoral theses allocated to one specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the evaluated IOSUD is maximum two.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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 defence 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 analysed.

According to SAR and the information received during the on-site visit it became evident due to the fact that during the evaluation period only six PhD thesis were defended this ratio is not applicable and this criterion is considered to be fulfilled.

Recommendations: None.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled

Domain C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

High attention is paid to Quality Management on all levels. The main objective of the quality assurance system is to improve the system of organization and management of the University's resources in order to increase the efficiency of the teaching and scientific research process. Therefore, the University has developed regulations on evaluation and monitoring of Doctoral studies. These regulations are implemented and strictly followed. Surveys are organized on a regular basis to reveal the level of satisfaction among students, alumni and other relevant stakeholders.

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

The University has established the Commission for Quality Management) acting in accordance with the provisions of the National Education Law and of Law no. 87/2006 for the approval of GEO no. 75/2005 and internal regulations related to management system and quality culture. Commission is responsible for the quality management activities like staff training, SAR preparation, participation in the internal and external evaluation processes. Quality Assurance Code and the Quality Manual are well-developed and implemented at all levels.

The Subcommittee for Quality Management is organized at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration. Internal quality assurance policies are stipulated in the Methodology on quality

assurance. Also, the Commission for the evaluation and quality assurance of the study programs is established and well-functioning at the faculty level.

The evaluation and quality assurance policies are also an inevitable part of the Strategic Plan) and the operational plan of the university. At the level of each faculty, the Strategic and Operational Plans are implemented. The Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration also accepts and respects the authoritative principles of the Vancouver Convention of Joint Authorship. The university also

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 Subcommittee for Quality Management is organized at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration. Internal quality assurance policies are stipulated in the Methodology on quality assurance. Also, the Commission for the evaluation and quality assurance of the study programs is established and well-functioning at the faculty level. During the year, surveys are carried out among relevant stakeholders to evaluate the programme development and the course content. During the meetings with the expert panel students reported that they are regularly asked for their opinion on classes and the performance of the academic staff.

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 University pays a great attention to the Quality Assurance policy on all levels. There is developed and approved the “Operational Procedure regarding the evaluation and internal monitoring of the doctoral schools within the “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași)”. Internal quality assurance policies are stipulated in “The Institutional Regulation for the organization and functioning of doctoral university studies”. Permanent evaluation of studies are carried out in accordance with the Regulation of operation of the doctoral school being the part of the Strategic Plan of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration.

Ethics Commission is established and well-functioning on a case by case basis, however, more information about its activities could be passed to stakeholders by organizing relevant trainings and workshops. Academic staff is evaluated on a regular basis including their teaching and research performance. Students are aware of general rules and procedures governing their studies as well as all the opportunities regarding international activities, scientific research, projects, conferences and competitions. During the visit the expert panel received all the documents demonstrating the continuous development of the evaluation process and the fact that the internal quality assurance procedure is in place and strictly followed on all levels.

In general, it can be concluded that all stakeholders are well aware about the QA and take an active part in this process.

Recommendations: Increase the awareness of actions of ethics commission among the staff of the university by organizing trainings and workshops.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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.

At the end of each course students are asked to fill questionnaire for assessing the quality of doctoral studies to submit their feedback. The results of this survey is summarized and presented in the report

made by the internal commission for evaluating the activity of the doctoral school. Latest survey revealed student satisfaction with the academic staff quality of teaching and supervising. Students opinion is considered and required changes are usually made within short period of time.

Recommendations: None.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

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

All the information about admission to the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration is publicly available at <https://doctorat.feaa.uaic.ro/Pages/Home.aspx> unfortunately only in Romanian language. Students have access to all scientific databases like Scopus, WOS etc. The e-learning platform Blackboard -SafeAssign is used to check all papers for plagiarism. Platform available for all students and academic staff members.

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

All the information about admission to the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration is publicly available at <https://doctorat.feaa.uaic.ro/Pages/Home.aspx> unfortunately only in Romanian language.

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.

All the information about admission to the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration is publicly available at <https://doctorat.feaa.uaic.ro/Pages/Home.aspx> unfortunately only in Romanian language including all the above-mentioned documents. During the visit students mentioned that they could easily get all the information about the admission process, curriculum and other relevant issues.

Recommendations: Develop the English version of the website.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

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

PHD students have permanent access to the following scientific databases: Science Direct Freedom Collection, Scopus, SciFinder (CAS), MathSciNet, etc., via Central University Library "Mihai Eminescu" in Iasi, they also get access to , such databases as SpringerLink Journals, ProQuest Central, Emerald Journals, Science Journals, Thompson Reuters, Oxford Journals, SAGE Journals HHS Collection, EBSCO, Wiley Journals, etc. Students also actively use antiplagiarism system to check similarities in their research papers and final thesis.

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.

PHD students have to the following scientific databases: Science Direct Freedom Collection, Scopus, SciFinder (CAS), MathSciNet, etc., via Central University Library "Mihai Eminescu" in Iasi, they also get access to , such databases as SpringerLink Journals, ProQuest Central, Emerald Journals, Science Journals, Thompson Reuters, Oxford Journals, SAGE Journals HHS Collection, EBSCO, Wiley Journals, etc. Moodle is actively used for all forms of studies. The university

also has well-functioning IT system e-Sims used for tracking data related to the background, academic performance and the general progress of their PhD students.

Recommendations: None.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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 university has successfully implemented the anti-plagiarism system in accordance with the technical specifications via the e-learning platform Blackboard -SafeAssign. All papers submitted by students including research papers including drafts, articles and final thesis are checked for plagiarism. During the visit students and academic staff members also confirmed that they use this system.

Recommendations: None.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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.

Students have permanent access to all research infrastructure including, library, scientific databases, antiplagiarism system, Moodle etc. s. All these resources were fully accessible online during the pandemic, which was also confirmed during the onsite visit and meeting with students.

Recommendations: None

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

Criterion C.3. Internationalization

Internalization is a part of Strategic and Operational plan of the university. To achieve international visibility 50% of research advisors and supervisor at the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration have five articles indexed in peer-reviewed journals, attended international conferences, and are members of various scientific associations. School is also inviting guest speakers and supervisors; academic staff and students participate in ERASMUS program. Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration has concluded the ERASMUS agreements with 16 foreign and more than 35% of students benefited by either completing training courses abroad or attending various conferences.

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

University has developed a Strategic and Operational plan which stipulates actions for further internationalization of university studies on PhD level.

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 Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration has concluded mobility agreements with 16 foreign universities for student and academic staff mobility. According to the documents presented to the experts' panel and the information received during the reporting period several students participated in ERASMUS program (11 in study mobility and 4 in internship mobility program) with at least 35% of students benefiting by either completing training courses abroad or attending various conferences.

Recommendations: None.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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.

The Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration is actively inviting foreign lecturers from USA and Poland to deliver courses for PhD students and participate in thesis supervision.

Recommendations: Increase the number of foreign lecturers and supervisors.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not 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.).

Internationalization within the Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration is supported by tight cooperation with foreign universities by inviting guest speakers, participation of students and academic staff members in the international conferences and publications in foreign scientific journals.

Recommendations: Increase the number of guest speakers and visiting lecturers from abroad.

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled

IV. SWOT Analysis

<p>Strengths: Strong collaboration between academic staff and students. Strong research aspect and involvement of students.</p>	<p>Weaknesses: Limited number of publications in indexed journals with high impact factor. Limited relationship with business environment in regard to joint projects and cooperation. Low level of internalization.</p>
<p>Opportunities: Implement digital solutions to reduce paperwork for students related to conference funding and thesis defence related procedures. Keep up to date with modern business technologies by introducing more courses related to contemporary business solutions and information technology like digitalization, blockchain etc. Also consider adding more field specific courses to the curriculum.</p>	<p>Threats: Requirements for academic staff to be active in both teaching and research might make it difficult to find a good balance between these two activities. Limited funding of research activities from the state side may lead to inefficient research activities. Low level on internalization in regard to advertising the PhD activities outside Romania via website and marketing strategies may result in decrease in applications for PhD studies.</p>

Recommendations:

- Increase number of publications in indexed journals with high impact factor.
- Increase internationalization by implementing proactive marketing strategy including well-developed web-site in English.
- Consider adding more field related subjects to the curriculum: statistics, information technology courses etc.
- Increase international visibility by encouraging academic staff to participate actively in conferences, webinars and other international events.
- Increase the awareness of actions of ethics commission among the staff of the university by organizing regular trainings and workshops.
- Consider actively applying for EU research grant and projects.
- Consider establishing long-term cooperation with industrial companies to generate additional funding.
- To establish a proper balance between teaching and research activities of the academic staff consider introducing reduced teaching workload for those active in research and publications.
- Increase the number of guest speakers and visiting lecturers from abroad.

V. Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
1.	PI	<p>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:</p> <p>a) the internal regulations of the Doctoral School;</p> <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>	fulfilled	None
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	None
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	None
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	None
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</p>	fulfilled	<p>Consider establishing long-term cooperation with industrial companies to generate additional funding.</p>

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		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.		
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	Consider establishing long-term cooperation with industrial companies to generate additional funding. Also consider attracting EU grants and projects to received additional funding.
7.	PI *	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.).	Partially fulfilled	Consider actively applying for EU research grant and projects.
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	To establish a proper balance between teaching and research activities of the academic staff consider introducing reduced teaching workload for those active in research and publications. To provide facilities and opportunities to perform research online.
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 mandatory for obtaining the enabling certification.	fulfilled	None
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	None

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
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	None
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	None
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 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	Increase number of publications in indexed journals with high impact factor, increase international visibility by attending various international scientific events.
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	fulfilled	None

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		certificate, based on their scientific results within the past five years		
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	Attract foreign students by implementing proactive marketing strategy including well-developed and informative web-site in English.
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	None
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	None
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 these disciplines is intended to study in-depth the research methodology and/or the statistical data processing.	fulfilled	Include into the curriculum more contemporary specific IT related study subjects.
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	None
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	None
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	fulfilled	None

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		commissions, which is reflected in written guidance and feedback or regular meeting.		
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	None
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	None
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 students who have completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years) is at least 1.	fulfilled	None
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	None
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	None
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	fulfilled	Increase the awareness of actions of ethics commission among the staff of the university by organizing trainings and workshops.

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		<p>following a procedure developed and applied at the level of the IOSUD, the following assessed criteria being mandatory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 		
28.	PI *	<p>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.</p>	fulfilled	None
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. 	fulfilled	Develop the English version of the website.
30.	PI	<p>C.2.2.1. All doctoral students have free access to one platform providing academic databases</p>	Fulfilled	None

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		relevant to the doctoral studies domain of their thesis.		
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	None
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	None
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	None
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	Increase the number of foreign lecturers and supervisors.
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	Increase the number of guest speakers and visiting lecturers from abroad.

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