

# The External Evaluation Report

## School of Doctorial Studies of Socio-Human Sciences

### The fundamental field ECONOMY

### Final Report of the International Expert

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

External Evaluation Report on Domain Economy, result of analyses of the Self-Assessment Report (SAR), documents uploaded online on <https://cloud.aracis.ro/owncloud/index.php/login> (ARACIS cloud), documents posted on ueb page and outcomes form the online site visit in the period 12-16. 07. 2021.

Members of the Expert Panel

Doctorial study domain Economics				
1	Dobrin Cosmin	Cordinator	Academia de Studii Economice din București	
2	But Dedaj	International expert	University of Prishtina	
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"Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați (UDJG) is a state higher education institution and has been operating since 1948.

Currently, within the "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați, there are 14 faculties that prepare students for undergraduate, master's and doctoral studies in various fields (technical, socio-human, economic, artistic, health). UDJ is the most important higher education institution in south-eastern Romania, with about

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



12,500 students, 1000 teaching staff, 71 Bachelor Study Programs, 41 Master Study Programs (<https://www.en.ugal.ro/informatii/facts-and-figures>).

The doctoral studies are organized in four schools for doctoral studies:

- The School for Doctoral Studies of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering,
- The School for Doctoral Studies of Fundamental Sciences and Engineering,
- The School for Doctoral Studies of Socio-Human Sciences,
- The School for Doctoral Studies of Biomedical Sciences.

Within these four schools, the UDJG offers 16 doctoral programs in different fields as follows: medicine, chemistry, biotechnology, food engineering, engineering and management in agriculture and rural development, industrial engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, systems engineering, computer and information technology, materials engineering, economics, management, philology, history, sports science and physical education.

Faculty of Economics and Business Administration The Faculty of Economics and Business Administration provides the highest quality educational services in the economic field, in order to train and develop the professional skills of future economists, by assimilating and applying Western standards of academic education and integrating education with scientific research. Faculty organizes programs for undergraduate, master's and doctoral studies.[www.feaa.ugal.ro](http://www.feaa.ugal.ro)

## ***II. Methods used***

The assessment methodology was developed according to the suggestions given by the Romanian Accreditation Agency (ARACIS). Initially through the electronic form of communication, we were informed that due to the Pandemic situation caused by the Coronavirus disease (COVID 19), the combined accreditation process will take. In this regard, international evaluators will be involved in the accreditation process through online communication, while local evaluators will also have the opportunity to perform site visits to the institution subject to evaluation.

In the preparation phase, with an extremely professional work by the ARACIS officials, through an e-mail have been sent to us the information about:

1. The schedule of evaluation with a very precise agenda with accurate links to access online meetings,
2. Composition of evaluation panels,
3. Code of ethics and rules of conduct,
4. The Guidelines for Periodical External Evaluation of the Institution Organising Doctoral Study Programs (IOSUD),
5. The Doctoral Studies Code of June 29th, 2011,
6. General presentation of the HE and QA systems in Romania.

Additionally, there were generated the credentials to log in to [cloud.aracis.ro](http://cloud.aracis.ro) where all documents for performing evaluation were uploaded.



The site visit was scheduled according to the following programme (Romania local time):

Monday, 12.07.2021

- 09.00 – 09.45 Online preliminary meeting for the preparation and harmonization of evaluation steps, in hybrid mode, of doctoral study domains and IOSUD
- 10.00 – 10.45 Online meeting with representatives of the institution and of the Council for Academic Doctoral Studies (CSUD)
- 11.00 – 11.45 Online meeting with the contact person for the doctoral study domain under review and the team who drafted the internal evaluation report
- 11.45 – 12.30 Online meeting with the contact person for the doctoral study domain under review and the team who drafted the internal evaluation report
- 12.30 – 13.30 Online meeting with the director of CSUD / directors of doctoral schools and the team who drafted the internal evaluation report
- 13.30 – 14.30 Online meeting with IOSUD academic staff
- 14.30 – 15.30 Online meeting with the academic staff corresponding to the doctoral study domain
- 15.30 – 18.00 Continuation of the doctoral study domain and IOSUD evaluation activities

Tuesday, 13.07.2021

- 09.00 – 10.00 Online meeting with the members of the Ethics Commission
- 10.15 – 11.15 Online meeting with the Commission for Quality Evaluation and Assurance (CEAC) members / Quality Assurance Department
- 11.30 – 12.30 Online meeting with PhD students
- 12.45 – 13.45 Online meeting with PhD students
- 14.00 – 15.00 Online meeting with graduates for the respective doctoral study domain
- 15.15 – 16.15 Online meeting with IOSUD graduates
- 16.15 – 17.00 Continuation of the doctoral study domain and IOSUD evaluation activities
- 17.00 – 18.00 Online technical meeting to identify specific issues that need to be clarified, if necessary, during the on-site visit

Wednesday, 14.07.2021

- 09.00 – 10.00 Online meeting with the Directors/ persons in charge of the research centers/laboratories within IOSUD
- 10.00 – 11.00 Online meeting with Doctoral University Studies Council (CSUD) members
- 11.15 – 12.15 Online meeting with employers of doctoral graduates
- 12.30 – 13.30 Online meeting with the Directors/ persons in charge of the research centers/laboratories within the doctoral study domain
- 13.30 – 14.30 Online meeting with Doctoral Schools Council (CSD members)
- 14.45 – 15.45 Online meeting with employers of Doctoral graduates in the domain
- 15.45 – 18.00 Continuation of the doctoral study domain and IOSUD evaluation activities

Thursday, 15.07.2021

- 09.00 – 18.00 Face-to-face working meetings, visiting the educational and research infrastructure

Friday, 16.07.2021

- 09.00 – 11.30 Completion of the evaluation documents
- 11.30 – 12.30 Online meeting for conclusions
- 12.30 – 13.30 Meeting with representatives of the institution under review to discuss on the conclusions of the evaluation process and the main recommendations.



The Self Assessment Report (SAR) was posted online and easy to be downloaded. The SAR contains 69 pages and offers sufficient data for analyzing the situation of the UDJG and the study program under evaluation.

It can be noticed that hard work and a lot of efforts were given in drafting the document, work that should be appreciated. However, there are some insubstantial matters which might be avoided. Accordingly, analyzing entirely the SAR, the reader might get impressions that at the end, the document was not checked in line as whole document. Looks like it was written by many persons separately, and by the end, it was not edited. Looks like tendency was to give as much as possible information, to make SER more voluminous, and it appears unstructured. In this regard, just in two pages 6 and 7, the information that the doctoral programs are carried about in 16 doctoral fields is presented three times. There are so many links which are copy pasted, and in many cases-parts there are redundant information. In the future, more attention should be given in editing and structuring the SAR.

Very numerous documents were uploaded on cloud.aracis.ro, including various regulations, decisions, reports, CVs, etc. All uploaded documents are in Romanian, which for evaluator makes it more difficult to check the documents in detail. The only document uploaded in English was the Self-Assessment Report. Thus, to get a clearer picture of some indicators, there was a need to visit the UDJG website, as well as to use the help through google translate. For an evaluator, this situation is much more time consuming and does not create the opportunity to create a completely desirable opinion. In the future, the UDJG web page needs to be enriched with more documents in English language.

### ***III. Analysis of ARACIS's performance indicators***

#### ***Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY***

Referring to the SAR, as well as to the web page, the „Dunărea de Jos” University of Galați is an institution that offers doctoral studies through multidisciplinary Schools of the Doctorial Studies (IOSUD), representing the third cycle of university studies in the Bologna system. The IOUSD offers 16 doctoral programs, under the coordination of 101 doctoral supervisors. The School for Doctoral Studies of Socio-Human Sciences offers study programs in 5 fields: Philology, History, Management, Economics and Science of sports and physical education.

The Faculty of Economics and Business Administration established in 1990, has vision to maintain itself as one of the most modern and dynamic institutions of economic higher education, by offering labour market needed programs in all three levels: bachelor, master and PhD.

The School for Doctoral Studies of Socio-Human Sciences offers study programs in 5 fields: Philology, History, Management, Economics and Science of sports and physical education.

A doctoral study programme in the domain of Economics fits very well in the vision of the Faculty targeting to maintain the most important higher education institution for south-eastern Romania, as well as attracting students from other regions and countries.

**The domain study in Economics** has 3 PhD supervisors, of which 2 full-time PhD supervisors from “Dunărea de Jos” University of Galați, 1 holder at the University of Tg Mures.



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

*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.*

***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.*

Referring to SAR, documents uploaded on web page and additional documents sent upon request during the site visit, the Institution has set instruments and mechanisms for smooth functioning of the Doctoral Schools as well as its doctoral study programs and all activities are based on legal national and institutional documents. The Faculty of Economics and Business Administration organizes the doctorate in the fundamental field of Economic Sciences, with specializations:

- Economics, and
- Management

The organization of the doctoral programs are based on the Senate Decision no. 84 of March 16, 2021, Regulation of Doctoral Schools IOSUD- UDJG. The Regulation is in compliance with national and institutional legal documents for organizing the doctoral study programs.

[https://ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2021/HS 84 din 16 3 2021 Anexa 2 Regulament scoli doctorale.pdf](https://ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2021/HS_84_din_16_3_2021_Anexa_2_Regulament_scoli_doctorale.pdf)

The Article 2 of the Regulation no. 84 of March 16, 2021 resumes:

“(1) The “Dunărea de Jos” University of Galați organizes, through doctoral schools, doctoral university studies, representing the third cycle of university studies in the Bologna system, whose purpose is to develop human resources for research, development and innovation.

(2) The Doctoral Schools from IOSUD-UDJG organize, through the component faculties from UDJG, university studies of scientific and professional doctorate (for the doctoral field Science of sport and physical education).”

The Council of University Doctoral Studies (CSUD), operates based on the decision no. 115 of date September 4, 2020. According to the documents uploaded on web page, as well as links provided in the SAR, there are evidences and quiet structured, precise legal documents and procedures for conducting a fair elections for the Council of University Doctoral Studies (CSUD), for the admission of doctoral students, appointment and recognition of the status of Doctoral advisor and the equivalence of the doctoral degree obtained abroad and internal procedures for the analysis and approval of proposals about



doctoral study programs based on advanced academic studies. More information and proof of evidence can be found in the following links:

1. [https://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2020/Hotarare\\_senat\\_115\\_4.9.2020.pdf](https://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2020/Hotarare_senat_115_4.9.2020.pdf)
2. [www.ugal.ro/Informatii\\_utile/](http://www.ugal.ro/Informatii_utile/)
3. [https://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2020/Hotarare\\_senat\\_115\\_4.9.2020\\_Anexa\\_1\\_Metodologie\\_CSUD.pdf](https://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2020/Hotarare_senat_115_4.9.2020_Anexa_1_Metodologie_CSUD.pdf)
4. [https://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2020/Hotarare\\_senat\\_115\\_4.9.2020\\_Anexa\\_2\\_Calendar\\_CSUD.pdf](https://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2020/Hotarare_senat_115_4.9.2020_Anexa_2_Calendar_CSUD.pdf)
5. <https://ugal.ro/files/doctorat/alegeri/2020/Proces-verbal-alegeri-conducatori-doctorat-2020.pdf>
6. <https://ugal.ro/files/doctorat/alegeri/2020/Proces-verbal-alegeri-doctorand-2020.pdf>
7. <https://ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/alegeri-scoli-doctorale/alegeri-directori-scoli-doctorale>
8. [http://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/11\\_10\\_Metodologie\\_si\\_calendar\\_alegeri\\_CSD\\_2017.pdf](http://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/11_10_Metodologie_si_calendar_alegeri_CSD_2017.pdf)
9. <https://ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/alegeri-scoli-doctorale/alegeri-directori-scoli-doctorale>
10. [https://ugal.ro/files/doctorat/scoala%20doctorala/2020/SDSFI\\_Calendar\\_desemnare\\_Director\\_SDSFI\\_2020.pdf](https://ugal.ro/files/doctorat/scoala%20doctorala/2020/SDSFI_Calendar_desemnare_Director_SDSFI_2020.pdf)
11. [https://ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2019/anexa\\_1\\_la\\_HS\\_174\\_din\\_23\\_12\\_2019.pdf](https://ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2019/anexa_1_la_HS_174_din_23_12_2019.pdf)
12. <https://ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/alegeri-scoli-doctorale/alegeri-consilii-scoli-doctorale>
13. [https://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2020/Hotarare\\_Senat\\_77\\_2020\\_anexa9\\_ModifMetodDirCSUD.pdf](https://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2020/Hotarare_Senat_77_2020_anexa9_ModifMetodDirCSUD.pdf)
14. <https://ugal.ro/informatii/informatii-utile/alegeri-conducere/concurs-public-pentru-functia-de-director-al-consiliului-studiilor-universitare-de-doctorat-csud>
15. [https://ugal.ro/files/site/alegeri\\_conducere/2020/Hotarare\\_Senat\\_77\\_2020\\_anexa9\\_ModifMetodDirCSUD.pdf](https://ugal.ro/files/site/alegeri_conducere/2020/Hotarare_Senat_77_2020_anexa9_ModifMetodDirCSUD.pdf)
16. [https://ugal.ro/files/site/alegeri\\_conducere/2020/hotarare\\_senat\\_83\\_2020\\_Anexa\\_Calendar\\_ConcDir\\_CSUD.pdf](https://ugal.ro/files/site/alegeri_conducere/2020/hotarare_senat_83_2020_Anexa_Calendar_ConcDir_CSUD.pdf)
17. [https://ugal.ro/files/site/alegeri\\_conducere/2020/02\\_Anunt\\_site\\_concurs\\_director\\_CSUD.pdf](https://ugal.ro/files/site/alegeri_conducere/2020/02_Anunt_site_concurs_director_CSUD.pdf)
18. [https://ugal.ro/files/doctorat/alegeri/directorCSUD\\_2020-2024.pdf](https://ugal.ro/files/doctorat/alegeri/directorCSUD_2020-2024.pdf)

Currently, the Council for Doctoral Studies (IOSUD-UDJG) is led by Prof. Dr. Eng. DHC Eugen-Victor-Cristian RUSU, corresponding member of the Romanian Academy, and has additional 10 members and 4 honorary members (<https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/domenii-de-doctorat>).

The Composition of the Council of the Doctoral School of Socio-Human Sciences (CSD - SSU) I lead by Prof. dr. habil. IFRIM Nicoleta and has additional 6 members and 4 honorary members ([https://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/2018/11\\_12\\_Componenta\\_CSDSSU\\_2017-2022.pdf](https://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/2018/11_12_Componenta_CSDSSU_2017-2022.pdf)).

Referring to documents provided in SAR, in addition to debates that took place in online meetings, the UDJG has developed and has in force adequate legal documents for functioning of the Doctorial Schools and this performance indicator is accomplished.

*Recommendations:*

- The relevant documents that might attract the foreign students to be translated. And uploaded on the web page.

***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 article 17, paragraph 5 of the of the Government Decision No. 681/2011 describes following aspect:

“(5) The rules of the doctoral school shall set forth mandatory criteria, procedures and standards covering at least the following aspects: acceptance of new thesis supervisors and the manner whereby a thesis supervisor may be excluded from the doctoral school; mechanisms for deciding on the adequacy, make-up and contents of the advanced university studies programme; procedures for replacing a doctoral student’s thesis supervisor and conflict mediation procedures; conditions for interrupting a doctoral programme; means for preventing research fraud, including plagiarism; providing access to research resources; doctoral students’ attendance requirements, based on a methodology developed by the Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports”.

According to the procedure IOSUD - UDJG – 001 on granting and revoking the membership of doctoral schools within IOSUD - "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați, the Regulation of Doctoral Schools IOSUD- UDJG, no. 84 of March 16, 2021, addresses clearly the issues raised in the article 17, paragraph 5 of the of the Government Decision No. 681/2011. Referring. To this Regulation, articles 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, as well as in other legal documents as: Order no. 5110/2018 regarding the approval of the national minimum standards for granting the doctoral degree; Records on PhD students in IOSUD- UDJG; PhD supervisors, Operational procedure for the evaluation of doctoral supervisors by doctoral students; The procedure for the analysis and approval of the topics of the doctoral university study programs (<https://ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/scoli-doctorale/scoala-doctorala-de-stiinte-socio-umane> & [https://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/2019/ProceduraRevocareMembruCSUD\\_151019.pdf](https://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/2019/ProceduraRevocareMembruCSUD_151019.pdf)); there are clearly listed procedures and measures about students annual enrolment, criteria’s for appointment and replacement of doctoral supervisor, length of study, right for usage of research resources, procedures for interruption, criteria’s for development of doctoral thesis, necessity prior public defense for checking up the originality theses by going through of anti-plagiarism system, according to the UDJG Code of Ethics and Professional Ethics and the General Procedure: Use of the Anti-Plagiarism System, in force. Obviously, the legal documents assures that the minimum standards should be met by candidates in order to be awarded with the title of doctor. Accordingly, this standard has been accomplished by the IOSUD- UDJG, and supporting documents can be found on following web sites:

[https://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/2019/ProceduraRevocareMembruCSUD\\_151019.pdf](https://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/2019/ProceduraRevocareMembruCSUD_151019.pdf)  
<http://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/regulamentul-privind-organizarea-studiilor-universitare-de-doctorat>  
[http://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/ca/2018/HCA\\_65\\_2018\\_Anexa2-RegScDoct.pdf](http://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/ca/2018/HCA_65_2018_Anexa2-RegScDoct.pdf)  
[http://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/ca/2018/HCA\\_65\\_2018\\_Anexa2-RegScDoct.pdf](http://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/ca/2018/HCA_65_2018_Anexa2-RegScDoct.pdf)  
<https://www.biblioteca.ugal.ro/index.php/ro/resurse/baze-de-date-abonate>  
<https://www.biblioteca.ugal.ro/index.php/ro/>  
<http://www.ugal.ro/informatii/informatii-publice/regulamente/regulament-privind-organizarea-studiilor-universitare-de-doctorat>

*Recommendations:*

- The relevant documents that might attract the foreign students to be translated. And uploaded on the web page.

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

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



In contrary to other domains, the doctoral study programs in domain Economics, doesn't request to much research infrastructure. There would be sufficient support having access to online journals, adequate software for performing research tasks, agreements with relevant stakeholders from economy for performing internships, as well as the equipped library. In addition, having in consideration that the Faculty of Economics of Business Administration of the UDJG is offering the programs in BA and MA level, the existing infrastructure for the other levels of study, might be also used for 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.***

For an international evaluator that doesn't speak local language, its very hard to give adequate judgments for IT system that functions in local language. Further, during the evaluation meetings, the demonstration of functionality of the IT system was not performed. However, according to SAR A.1.2.1, pg. 35-38, as well as from the discussion form the evaluation meetings there is adequate IT system installed that supports smooth implementation of the doctoral studies under evaluation in the domain of Economics. Within the SAR, there are given also the instruction how this system works.

*Recommendations:*

- The relevant documents that might attract the foreign students to be translated. And uploaded on the web page.

***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.***

Analyzing the SAR (p. 38-39) , as well as other document uploaded in ARACIS cloud, and from the discussion that took place in the evaluation meetings, the UDJG have installed a software system for plagiarism detection - SISTEMANTIPLAGIAT.RO. Furthermore, as outlined above, the legal documents refer to the procedures and measures that should be taken prior public defense of theses. Thus, prior final stage of accomplishment of the studies, the theses should undergo software detection about percentage of the similarity. The University Ethics Commission (UEC), responsible for the management and analysis of similarities using the software application, submits report to the doctoral supervisor, which represent the final instrument for fighting the plagiarism in the doctoral thesis and other papers. This might give reliability for conclusion that the UDJG is highly dedicated to avoid plagiarism in the research activities.

*Recommendations:*

- The relevant documents that might attract the foreign students to be translated. And uploaded on the web page.

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

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

***Performance Indicator A.1.3.1. Existence of at least one research or institutional / human resources development grant under implementation at the time of submission of the internal evaluation file, per doctoral study domain under evaluation, or existence of at least 2 research or institutional development /***





*human resources grant for the doctoral study domain, obtained by doctoral thesis advisors operating in the evaluated domain within the past 5 years. The grants address relevant themes for the respective domain and, as a rule, are engaging doctoral students.*

According to SAR p. 39., there are presented two projects.

1. ACTION COST CA16121 - From Sharing to Caring: Examining Socio-Technical Aspects of the Collaborative Economy, Member of the Management Committee for Romania

[http://www.cost.eu/COST\\_Actions/ca/CA16121?management](http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/ca/CA16121?management) 2016 – 2020, and

2. ACTION COST IS 1102 - Social Services, Welfare State and Places: The restructuring of social services in Europe and its impacts on social and territorial cohesion and governance,

Member of the Management Committee for Romania, <http://www.cost-is1102-cohesion.unirc.it> , 2011-2016

Additionally, within Annex A.1.3.1. uploaded on ARACIS cloud, there are more confirmations about participation in the different project grants.

However, following links to try and check the projects, the access was denied. In addition to some of the provided documents in referred Annex A.1.3.1. are in Romanian Language, and some are more than 10 years old. Nevertheless, with the support of google translate, might be established the conclusion that this performance indicator is fulfilled.

Recommendations:

- Within SER to be summarized the grant, with details; date of start, date of end, field and type of project, size of grant, etc.,
- Increasing logistic and financial support for academic staff and doctoral students for project development.

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%.***

According to SAR, p. 40, within the doctoral field of Economics there are 12 doctoral students. Of these, 6 are beneficiaries of state budget funding. Among the doctoral students, 2 doctoral students received a tax exemption (3 years – Trif Nicolae Viorel), respectively tax exemption (2 years) and tax reduction in year III - Pricope Adelina. The proportion is 15.38 %.

Consequently, the presented percentage is bellow 20%, the performance indicator is not fulfilled.

However after requesting the additional explanations from the Institution, they send the following information:

“Within the doctoral field of Economics are found 13 doctoral students, 7 of them being beneficiaries of financing from the state budget. Among the doctoral students, 2 doctoral students received financial support from the university's own funds (Trif Nicolae Viorel and Pricope Adelina). Ichim Arabela received a scholarship from Roma Education Fund), and Buta Adrian received funding through institutional



development grants - Joint Operational Program Black Sea Basin. The proportion is 30.77%, higher than the minimum percentage required by the criterion.

13 PhD students - 7 budget

- 6 fee

4 PhD students / 13 PhD students= 30,77%

4 PhD students / 7 budget PhD students = 28,57% “, in this regards the performance indicator is fulfilled.

Recommendations:

- Increasing logistic and financial support for academic staff and doctoral students for project development.

*The indicator is fulfilled.*

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

According to SAR, p. 40., “Within the field of Economics doctoral studies, PhD students benefit from funding from the state budget. PhD students have benefited in previous years from the amount of 4,600 lei and starting with the academic year 2020-2021 they have the amount of 6,000 lei for the acquisition of materials necessary for the doctoral training program, fees for participation in international conferences and / or fees for publishing papers. The ratio is 10.69%”.

Recommendations:

- Partnership agreements with local stakeholders to support doctoral students for participating in different conferences.

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

## ***Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure***

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

The research activities within the domain of ECONOMICS doesn't request expensive equipment's and to much space for performing research activities. More attention should be given in having access to online libraries, adequate software for performing research duties, good supervisors as well as attractive partners that might support financially and with other means for joint research activities.

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



**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.*

Analyzed materials imply to the conclusion that the Doctoral Studies of Socio-Human Sciences, has sufficient research infrastructure for offering doctoral program in domain Economics (SAR . p. 40-44). PhD students in the fields of Economics and Management benefit from the logistical support and equipment provided by the Research Center of Excellence Strategies for the development of competitive economic systems (STRATEC) (SAR. P. 40).

According to SAR as well as the information provided on <http://www.stratec.ugal.ro>, there are functionalized the specialized laboratories for: Applied Economic Research Laboratory and Laboratory of Modeling and Economic Forecasting, Business Administration Laboratory and Marketing Research Laboratory, that might facilitate the research activities.

According to the STRATEC web page, for the period 2017-2020, the research results are quiet impressive consisting by 95 articles published in WOS rated magazines, 294 in BDI journals, 212 in International Conferences and implementation of 8 Research projects. However, on the website, there are no published data, nor the link where data can be found about the content of the research projects, as well as financial volume and partners involved on them in addition to the fact that the published reports for 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 are only in Romanian language.

*Recommendations:*

- The relevant documents that might attract the foreign students to be translated. And uploaded on the web page.

*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 human resources represents core value of the higher education intuition, It represents the guarantee for achievement of objectives and accomplishment of the mission and vision of the university. According to SAR, other documents provided prior and during the site evaluation visit, the teaching staff fulfills required criteria. Furthermore, in the online meetings, they were extraordinary responsive and gave impression of a very enthusiastic team. They highlighted the importance the doctoral program on domain of Economics to be accredited, in addition to their professionalism and devotion to work with doctoral students.

However, taking in consideration that this is a third cycle in the higher education, where research paper and publications, scientific communication, in recent years the official language of conferences is English language consequently this part looks like I lagging behind. In the meetings with staff, doctoral students, graduated students there was need for having translation support. The UDJG should focus more in promoting, teaching, the research work and study programs to be delivered in international language. The



humans resources should contribute in being innovative in the direction of making the third cycle of studies to be delivered fully in international language.

***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.***

According to SAR, p. 44., and uploaded document within ARACIS cloud, Annex A.3.1.1. the doctoral supervisors are qualified according to the minimum standards CNADTCU, Domain of Economic Sciences, provided within the Order no. 6129/2016. All four PhD supervisors (100%) meet the minimum standards and scores provided in the Minimum Standards Sheet - committee 27 - Economic Sciences and Business Administration.

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.***

According to SAR p. 44., and Annex A.3.1.2. uploaded on ARACIS cloud, „Doctoral supervisors within the doctoral program Economics - are tenured teachers at the University of the “Dunărea de Jos” University of Galați as well as an associate professor at IOSUD Galati”, thus the 50% threshold is fulfilled.

Recommendation:

- Increasing number of supervisors with young professors that has competences to deliver lectures in international languages.

*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.***

According to SAR p. 45., uploaded documents within the Annex A.3.1.3 are provided the CVs of four teaching staff.

1. Prof. Univ. Dr. Habil. Christache Nicoleta
2. Prof. Asoc. Dr. Micu Angela-Eliza
3. Prof. Univ. Dr. Alexandru Capatana,
4. Prof. Univ. Dr. Neculita Mihaela.

Their CVs are promising, they are competent in the field that they are teaching, fulfilling the legal requirements, in addition to very rich list with the number of publications. Certainly the teaching staff



involved in the doctoral program guarantee quality in implementation of the doctoral program in domain Economics.

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

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

Referring to documents uploaded on ARACIS cloud, are in Romanian language, as well as provided link [http://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/scoala%20doctorala/2020/SDSSU\\_StatFuncții\\_conducere2019-2020\\_040520.pdf](http://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/scoala%20doctorala/2020/SDSSU_StatFuncții_conducere2019-2020_040520.pdf) which also offers information only in Romanian language, for foreign evaluator it is difficult to conclude about fulfillment of this performance indicator.

However according to SAR, p. 45, there are no PhD supervisors who coordinate more than 12 PhD students at the same time, during their doctoral studies.

Recommendations:

- Uploaded documents to provide summary of information in the English language.

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

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

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

According to SAR, p. 45 – 46., this performance indicator is fulfilled. The uploaded documents in ARACIS cloud provide sufficient information about publications.

However there is no summarized table with the names of professors and titles of publication as well as attached links. Having the summarized table, would be very easy, to check number of publications per

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



person, and make responsible conclusion. As they are provided, especially having in mind the evaluator that doesn't speak Romanian language, would take a day just to list and calculate publications. Consequently, the conclusion will be made according to SAR declaration.

*Recommendations:*

- SAR should contain summary table with detailed data by name, title of publication, year of publication.

***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.***

As in previous performance indicator, the conclusion will be made based on SAR, p. 46., where states that: "all PhD supervisors in the field of doctoral studies of Economics continue to be scientifically active, obtaining at least 25% of the score required by the CNATDCU minimum standards".

Comments provided within performance indicator A.3.2.1., are worthwhile also in this part.

*Recommendations:*

- SAR should contain summary table with detailed data by name, title of publication, year of publication.

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

## ***Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS***

Effectiveness as a very complex indicator to be reached, It requests engagement of many factors starting from the management, teaching staff, selection of the most enthusiastic students, having supportive administration, financial and infrastructure support, a good cooperation with relevant stakeholders, development of adequate curriculum etc. However with given conditions, by promoting the Students Centered Learning methodology, the maximum outputs can be reached with the given recourses.

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

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

***Performance Indicator \*B.1.1.1. The ratio between the number of graduates of masters' programs of other higher education institutions, national or foreign, who have enrolled for the doctoral admission contest within the past five years and the number of seats funded by the state budget, put out through contest within the doctoral domain is at least 0.2 or the ratio between the number of candidates within the past five years and the number of seats funded by the state budget put out through contest within the doctoral studies domain is at least 1,2.***



According to SAR, p. 47., the results as follows: “ for the academic year 2019-2020 the ratio is 4 candidates for 2 budgeted places ( $R=2$ ), in the period 2018-2019 the ratio is 4 because we had only one place and 4 candidates, in the period 2017-2018 (3 candidates for 3 budgeted places) the ratio is 1, and in the period 2016-2017 we did not have budgeted places, but there was a candidate who entered the fee based education’.

However based on the impressions from the meetings organized online during side visits, checking online documents uploaded on ARACIS cloud platform, checking web-site of the University and Faculty, as well as taking in consideration the following facts:

- There is not developed a student guide in international language for doctoral program with clarification about the path to be followed until accomplishment of the studies; all tasks and duties of the student,
- There are no courses offered in English language,
- During meetings, it was noticed that some of the professors have problems in communication in English language,
- The web site is quite poor in offering information in English language,
- Legal framework (regulations) mainly are offered in local language,

thus would be very hard to conclude that this performance indicator is fulfilled.

*Recommendations:*

- The selection procedures and criteria to be published annually on the university/faculty website.
- The documents to be accessible in the international language.
- The study guide with all necessary program details like: compulsory and elective courses, their weight in ECTS, students workload, publication information, criteria for development of doctoral thesis, information about public defense, agenda of lectures and other activities, to be developed and published in local and international language,
- Courses and in near future all doctoral study program to be offered in English language,
- Information on web site to be published also in English language.

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

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

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

Referring to SAR p. 47, the School for Doctoral Studies in the domain of Economics pretends to attract the best local and international students. However, there are no clear evidences how the selection procedures are applied. There are interpretations, and figures that there were more applicants than available places. Nevertheless, there are no evidences and published criteria how the selection was performed. In the following link

[https://ugal.ro/files/doctorat/admitere/2021/Calendar\\_admitere\\_doctorat\\_2021.pdf](https://ugal.ro/files/doctorat/admitere/2021/Calendar_admitere_doctorat_2021.pdf) could be found the schedule of admission process, but no more information.

The selection criteria should be published online far more in advance than the enrolment will take place. In the future, it would be useful for candidates to know in advance all selection criteria in order to be



prepared, what are selection criteria, especially for the foreign students. While writing the report, searching on the web page: <https://www.en.ugal.ro/education/study-programmes/doctoral-studies> there is no information about the admission procedures, nor for curriculum, etc.

*Recommendations:*

- The selection procedures and criteria to be published annually on the university/faculty website.
- The documents to be accessible in the international language.
- The study guide with all necessary program details like: compulsory and elective courses, their weight in ECTS, students workload, publication information, criteria for development of doctoral thesis, information about public defense, agenda of lectures and other activities, to be developed and published in local and international language.

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

*According to SAR, p. 48., the dropout rate for the PhD in Economics is zero.*

However in the meetings with supervisors, students and graduated students, the accomplishment of the studies in many cases is not as planned for 3 years. Students needs more time to accomplish their studies. looks like something is not running properly. Thus, some strategic measures looks like needs to be taken. Either to extend length the studies, or to make structural changes in the doctoral study program, and students to accomplish in time for three years.

Based on Bologna Process, the PhD studies are equivalent to 180 ECTS; three years \* 60 ECTS or between 1500-1800 hours students workload per year.

Based on the syllabus that was sent by e-mail, in the case of the doctoral domain Economics, 1 ECTS is calculated 25 hours student workload. In this regards, either ECTSs per courses are not properly calculated, and students needs to dedicate more workload to accumulate an ECTS, ore there are to much other duties and tasks for student, and instead 4500 hours students workload to accomplish their study, they need more time. Consequently, instead 3 years, they need 4 or more years of studding.

There is another possibility. Since some of students declared in the meetings that they need at the same time to work and study, therefore they are not full time students. Consequently, the doctoral study program might be designed as a part time, but in such a case, it should be offered from the beginning for 5 years duration. Again, they have to dedicate 4500 hours workload. Nevertheless instead for 3 years as it is now, but not finishing on time, their study period form start would be designed for 5 years and they will be finishing studies on time.

Thus, some strategic measures looks like needs to be taken. Either to extend length the studies, or to make structural changes in the doctoral study program, and students to accomplish in time for three years.

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





*Recommendations:*

- Either to extend length the studies, or to make structural changes in the doctoral study program

*The indicator is fulfilled.*

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

As stated in SAR p. 48 the “The doctoral field of Economics offers to the doctoral students a Training Program based on advanced university studies, made up of activities carried out in institutionalized study formations, through courses and seminars”. The doctoral program represents the last cycle of the formal education, the 8<sup>th</sup> level of the European Qualification Framework, and has target to prepare students with the competences for strategic decision making cases, being able to perform high profile research work, as well as enrich the human capacities for higher education institutions and research centers.

***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.***

Referring to SAR, the doctoral studies in the field of economics are in full compliance with the legal framework for organizing the studies in third cycle. There is evidence that the training program is offered with compulsory courses, as well as the evidence for the other details about time table, name and contact details of instructors/professors, and other needed information. As stated in the SAR, p. 49., The School for Doctoral Studies of Socio-Human Sciences, respects the indicator which provides for the inclusion of at least three disciplines relevant for the training in scientific research of doctoral students, of which at least one discipline is intended for the in-depth study of the research methodology.

Looks like it is too much power delivered/concentrated to the supervisor. It might be more flexible if there would be developed group of elective courses, and within those groups students to have opportunity for making decision which courses to follow and accumulate required ECTS. Supervisor is to support the student in reaching learning outcomes. However there are many ways to accomplish required tasks. The ways to reach learning outcomes, should be applied by student and assessed by supervisor.

Example: according to regulation of the doctoral studies of the Senate Decision no. 12 / 10.4.2014: “Art. 7.6. (1) the doctoral university study program is constituted at least by the following components: I. The training program based on advanced university studies includes attending at least 2 disciplines of the doctoral school or other forms of training proposed by the doctoral supervisor”. Further, same Regulation, same article precises: “(2) The responsibility for the structure, content, organization and development of the scientific research program of the doctoral student rests with the doctoral supervisor. (3) The doctoral supervisor establishes the scientific path of the doctoral student and takes the necessary measures to maximize the chances of completing the doctoral program”.

However, as outlined above, there is a lot of control and power delivered to the supervisor. There should be found procedures and methods to have more flexibility and the power to be distributed among all stakeholders. The structure of the study program looks very complex to be understood. At the side of compulsory courses that are easy notable, the other courses and seminars are very complex to be defined and to be found path for achieving final goal.

Further, referring to SAR, page 49, there are listed some competences that through training program should achieved as follows:

- a) communication skills, written and oral, in the field of science and culture;

- b) advanced language skills in languages of international circulation;
- c) use of information and communication technology;
- d) interrelationship and teamwork skills;
- e) knowledge of human, material and financial resources management;
- f) leadership skills;
- g) knowledge of career management, as well as the acquisition of job search and job creation techniques for others;
- h) knowledge of risk, crisis and failure management;
- i) knowledge on the use of intellectual property rights legislation;
- j) economic, technological and social entrepreneurship skills.

Many of these skills should be addressed in prior cycles of studies, in master, or even in bachelor level. Many of these competences are grouped in “Generic Competences”, which should be reached in earlier stages of studying.

Additionally in the meetings that took place, among the questions made was if there is a student guide where all details for the study program would be summarized like:

- Enrollment time table,
- Enrollment criteria and information for preparation,
- List of professors engaged in the study program,
- Structure of the courses, compulsory and elective courses, in addition to seminars that should be accomplished,
- Elective courses might be grouped, out of which, student can make choice and accumulate needed ECTS-s,
- Short description of courses, including ECTS weight of each course,
- Procedures for development of seminar work,
- Short information about publications and development of doctoral theses, etc.

The information was given that such guide is not developed, however there is a general student booklet which was sent by e-mail after the site visit. However, this booklet is general one and doesn't refer to specific program, as in this case for the doctoral study in domain Economics. Furthermore, provided information for studying at “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati are provided only in local language.

Recommendations:

- The structure of doctoral program to be clearly defined, including all tasks and duties that students needs to undergo for accomplishment of the doctoral program,
- Flexibility, especially about elective courses and seminars within study program to be more emphasized,
- The power of supervisor to be distributed,
- Student guidebook to be developed and published in foreign languages.
- Offering courses in international language, and in near future, all study program to be offered in international language.

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.***



According to SAR, other legal documents posted online, as well as the outcome of the discussion that took place during the site visit, the Ethics and academic integrity course is integrated as a mandatory course within the curriculum.

[http://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/2020/SDSSU\\_Planurilnv\\_2019-2020\\_040520.pdf](http://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/2020/SDSSU_Planurilnv_2019-2020_040520.pdf)

[https://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/scoala%20doctorala/2021/SD-SDU\\_2020-2021\\_Plan\\_invatamant.pdf](https://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/scoala%20doctorala/2021/SD-SDU_2020-2021_Plan_invatamant.pdf)

*Recommendation:*

- The relevant documents that might attract the foreign students to be translated. And uploaded on the web page.

*The indicator is fulfilled.*

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

Analyzing SAR as whole document, the learning outcomes of the program are very confusing. There should be listed the learning outcomes that will be reached after accomplishment of the doctoral program. As outlined above, some of the learning outcomes are for lower levels of studying (BA or MA). More information about defining the learning outcomes can be found in many booklets, one of them very useful can be reached in the following link:

<https://cora.ucc.ie/bitstream/handle/10468/1613/A%20Learning%20Outcomes%20Book%20D%20Kennedy.pdf?sequence=1>

it is worthwhile mentioning the fact that after the visit was finished and upon request, we got a syllabus of the course “Design of conceptual frameworks in economic research”, which is very structured, describes learning outcomes, ECTS weight, student. Workload and its distribution, and has all needed information. However clear definition of learning outcomes should be defined also in the level of the doctoral study program.

*Recommendations:*

- Clear definition of learning outcomes in the level of the doctoral study program.
- Being more precise of the student tasks and duties for each course, seminar and for all stages of studying.
- Offering courses in international language.

*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.*

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



Referring to SAR, p. 52., “the doctoral students benefit from guidance both from the supervisor and from the other members of the guidance commission. Thus, PhD students are involved in the elaboration of scientific papers, projects within the STRATEC Research Center within the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration and benefit from consultations from professors, as well as outcomes from the meetings with professors, student and graduated students, this performance indicator is fulfilled.

***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.

SAR, p. 52., shows exact figures as follows: “Within the doctoral program of Economics, the ratio between the number of doctoral students and the number of teachers / researchers providing guidance is not more than 3: 1, being 2:1 for 2015-2016, 1.06:1 for 2016-2017, 2:1 for 2017-2018, 1.83:1 for 2018-2019 and 1:1 for 2019-2020”.

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

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

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

The main target of the doctoral studies is contribution to enrichment of the scientific knowledge, by producing original scientific research papers and publishing them in the highly ranked international scientific journals. According to checked document, the students studying in the domain of Economics stand quite well.

***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.

According to SAR, p. 52 and 53, as well as uploaded documents in the ARACIS cloud, Annexes B.3.1 the doctoral students has published significant number of scientific research paper and this indicator has been fulfilled.

***Recommendations:***

- More publications through joint research projects funded by the EU projects,
- Increasing the number of publications that will be result of collaboration with economy; university-business cooperation through partnership agreements in the field of research.
- Internships to have final outcome development of doctoral thesis.



- More financial support for PhD students for participating in the international conferences,

***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.*

According to SA, p. 53., the ratio between the number of publications and the number of doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies is 57 to 8, ie 7,125.

Recommendations:

- Logistic and financial support to doctoral students in development and submission of project proposals to local and international funded projects
- Financial support to participate in international conferences outside Romania.

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

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

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

Referring to SAR, p. 53., the Doctoral School in Economics attracts and promote the engagement of steering commissions referents from prestigious universities in Romania, as well as from the Romanian Academy. The references had allocated a maximum of 2 theses in the same year, except for 2017, when only one referent had 3 theses.

However this is only a part of good success, the second part would be inviting professionals outside Romania. This should be target to be promoted in upcoming years.

Recommendations:

- Engagement of foreign experts outside of Romania

***The indicator is partially 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.*

As stated in the SAR, p., 54., „Because in the doctoral field of Economics, in the period 2016-2020, less than 10 theses were defended, in this case, 8, the above mentioned indicator is not calculated”.

### ***Domain C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT***

Quality management represents the guarantee of respecting the criteria and standards set on the level of the courses, teaching, student assessment, research, publication, reporting etc.

Based on online meetings that took place during evaluation process, the Management in all levels are highly committed in quality assurance and quality culture. There are developed structures, instruments and procedures for monitoring the implementation of the quality assurance mechanisms.

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

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

According to SAR, p. 54., In IOSUD-UDJG is carried out annually the periodic internal evaluation of the activity within the doctoral schools based on a methodology approved by the University Senate (HS 142/29.XI.2018). Documents and outcomes of the discussion in the meetings, the evaluation templates are sent upon the request during the evaluation process as follows:

1. Doctoral supervisor evaluation sheet by the colleagues in doctoral school,
2. Doctoral student evaluation sheet by the management of the CSUD doctoral school,
3. Evaluation questionnaire of PhD supervisors by doctoral students, and
4. Operational procedure evaluation and quantification of the satisfaction level of doctoral students.

Based on questionnaires, there are developed annual reports at the level of the School for Doctoral Studies which contribute to avoiding weak points and making objective conclusions about status quo situation related to quality assurance.

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

According to SAR and other provided documents, the IOSUD-UDJG supports implementation of these indicators. Institutional regulation on the organization and functioning of doctoral studies in doctoral schools at the University "Dunărea de Jos" in Galați, the Senate Decision no. 12 / 10.4.2014, guarantees for students the access to research infrastructure, as well as precises all tasks and duties for smooth running of doctoral studies.



According to meetings with current and graduated students, the support for participation in the international conferences with research papers has been provided. However more effort and support should be on place for promoting the research activities of the doctoral students. Participation in HORIZON 2020 and ERASMUS +, and other EU funded programs might further support research activities and internationalization of the research work of the doctoral studies. Supporting mechanism can be also the partnership agreements with local stakeholders for internship placement of doctoral students with the target scientific research papers, as well as the final doctoral thesis.

*Recommendations:*

- More active involvement in international funded project like HORIZON 2020, ERASMUS +, etc,
- Partnership agreements with local stakeholders for promoting internships for doctoral students with the target joint research activities.

***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.***

According to SAR, other legal documents and meetings that took place during the evaluation process, students are highly represented in decision making bodies. There are developed rules and procedures for fair student elections and dissent representation. Thus, legal obligation for student representation is fulfilled.

Furthermore, as outlined above, there are developed and in use the student questionnaires where students can transmit their impressions as well as give suggestions for changes in the future.

However, during the meeting with students, there came up the impression that they are not involved in curriculum development. This is crucial part for having successful doctoral study program. Students are main target of any study program. Their involvement from the start and onward while structure of the study program is designed, might give added value to all process.

*Recommendations:*

- Student involvement in development of the study programs at all levels of study programs,
- Involvement of graduated students in development of the study programs in all levels,

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

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

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

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

- (a) the Doctoral School regulation;*
- (b) the admission regulation;*



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

As stated in the SAR, on the website of the "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați, at the address <http://ugal.ro/studii/doctorat> there are posted all relevant information. However, almost all of them are in local language. Example, if we try to check the admission criteria, and we follow the link: <https://admitere.ugal.ro>, the information provided would be in local language. Similar situation is also to other documents.

Consequently, the institution that has target becoming internationally attractive to bring students from other parts of the world, having information only in local language represents a handicap and hardly possible to achieve positive results. Thus, it is useful to translate documents and post them also in international language.

*Recommendations:*

- Translation of the relevant documents and uploading them on the web site of the University.

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

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

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

Referring to SAR p. 58-59, and following given instructions to visit links, there are evidences that the students has access to online platforms, downloading all relevant documents, as well as access to online libraries and journals as: <https://dspace.anelisplus.ro/xmlui> , <https://www.e-nformation.ro/join-us> , [http://www.lib.ugal.ro/acces\\_mobil\\_bd\\_anelis\\_plus.html](http://www.lib.ugal.ro/acces_mobil_bd_anelis_plus.html). The information related to this part are uploaded on the ARACIS cloud under Annex C.2.2.1. however. All the information provided are in local language. Very difficult to be accessed by internationals, if the international students will be admitted in the future on the doctoral studies.

*Recommendation:*

- The information to be translated and accessible in international language.

***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.***





As also presented above, the „Dunărea de Jos” University of Galați has installed the software system for plagiarism detection – SISTEMANTIPLAGIAT.RO. The instructions how to process the software system are provided in 4 documents within Annex C.2.2.2 antiplagiarism procedure, uploaded on ARACIS cloud.

Furthermore, there is developed and also available the template for developing report about % of similarity which the doctoral supervisor should submit in the duration of maximum 30 days. All these information and formulars are available at the following links:

[http://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/legislatie/PROCEDURA\\_PRIVIND\\_SUSTINEREA\\_PUBLICA\\_A\\_TEZEI\\_DE\\_DOCTORAT\\_DUPA\\_10\\_03\\_2016-aprob\\_CSUD\\_9\\_05\\_2016.pdf](http://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/legislatie/PROCEDURA_PRIVIND_SUSTINEREA_PUBLICA_A_TEZEI_DE_DOCTORAT_DUPA_10_03_2016-aprob_CSUD_9_05_2016.pdf)

[http://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/legislatie/De\\_afisat\\_la\\_sustinere\\_publica\\_teza\\_doctorat.doc](http://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/legislatie/De_afisat_la_sustinere_publica_teza_doctorat.doc)

[http://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/legislatie/De\\_afisat\\_la\\_sustinere\\_publica\\_eza\\_doctorat\\_1.doc](http://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/legislatie/De_afisat_la_sustinere_publica_eza_doctorat_1.doc) .

However, all these documents are developed and in use only in local language. Very hard, almost impossible for attracting foreign professors and students to be engaged in the doctoral studies at the UDJG.

*Recommendation:*

- The information to be translated and accessible in international language.

***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.

Referring to SAR p. 60., “The PhD students in the field of Economics have access to the resources offered by the STRATEC Research Center (Annex C.2.2.3 \_Infrastructura de cercetare STRATEC) and the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration (Annex C.2.2.1 \_Biblioteca Stiinte Economice), (Annex A 2.1.1 \_Infrastructura cercetare) who support the doctoral approach, in compliance with the work schedule and under the direct supervision of a researcher / professor from the respective laboratory”.

The referred annexes are posted online on ARACIS cloud, which contains many documents and elaborated in the local language. As in the previous performance indicator, very hard for international professor and students to be attracted for coming end being engaged in the doctoral studies at the UDJG.

*Recommendation:*

- The information to be translated and accessible in international language.

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

### ***Criterion C.3. Internationalization***

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

***Performance Indicator \*C.3.1.1.*** IOSUD, for every evaluated domain, has concluded mobility agreements with universities abroad, with research institutes, with companies working in the field of study, aimed at the mobility of doctoral students and academic staff (e.g., ERASMUS agreements for the doctoral studies). At least 35% of the doctoral students have completed a training course abroad or other



*mobility forms such as attending international scientific conferences. IOSUD drafts and applies policies and measures aiming at increasing the number of doctoral students participating at mobility periods abroad, up to at least 20%, which is the target at the level of the European Higher Education Area.*

According to SAR, p. 60-62., 37,15% of students have carried out in the form of participation in conferences abroad, mobility programs through UEFISCDI grant schemes. While there are not data about fulfillment of the second part, respectively. Minimum 20% of students accomplishing the mobility period abroad. Maybe this indicator has been fulfilled, but it might not be calculated. As far as while writing the Report, this data can not be found.

Further, the impressions from the meetings that took place during the site visit, this part might be represented as the weakest point in the doctoral study program at the UDJG. This impression was made for professors and students. Almost in all meetings, with few exceptions, the professors did not speak in English language. Majority of time the debate with professors was performed with the translation. Same situation was with students. This point wouldn't be raised so much, if this problem would be discussed for the study programs at the BA level. However, the doctoral studies are the last cycle, the highest level within the formal education system and are beyond national borders. Thus, internationalization, respectively the usage of the foreign language in the study program should be must criteria. There should be courses delivered completely in international languages, even thinking in the shortest period of time, all doctoral study program to be accredited and delivered in English.

Certainly the number of academic mobilities, participation in the research projects, internationally funded programs, joint and double degree programs is very difficult to be increased if there are not promoted the international languages, mainly referring to the English Language.

#### *Recommendations:*

- Knowledge of the English language should be must criteria in the student enrollment process for the doctoral studies,
- Courses to be offered in English language to be promoted in all levels, and in doctoral studies to be compulsory,
- In near future, the complete doctoral study program to be delivered in English language,
- Increase of participation in the ERASMUS+ academic mobility projects (KA1), Horizon 2020 and other, international projects,
- Promotion of the double degree and joint degree doctoral study programs,
- Update of web page with translated documents in international language,
- Logistic and financial support to professors and doctoral students for project development and application in local and international programs/projects.
- Logistic and financial support for inviting visiting professors for a longer period of stay; semester or even academic year,
- Logistic and financial support for doctoral students for participation in the international conferences in foreign countries.

#### *The indicator is partially 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.*

According to SAR p. 62., and annex C.3.1.2, within the School for Doctoral Studies of Socio-Human Sciences, with co-supervision of the doctoral students the following numbers are provide:



- Management field - 1 PhD student in internship (2018)- co-supervised thesis with University o Lile, France,
- 1 PhD student in internship (2019) who has a national co-supervision of Management-Economics (ASE Bucharest),
- PhD students in internship developing theses in national co-supervision Management - Mechanical Engineering.

The following specialists for the edition 2016 - 2017 delivered lectures:

- Florinda Matos - President of ICAA (Intellectual Capital Accreditation Association),
- Dr. Michele Ambaye is a Marketing Professor at Pau Business School in the South West of France,
- Assist. Prof. Deniz ZUNGUN - Manisa Celal Bayar University, Turkey,
- PhD Pradeep Kumar - Lecturer at Lazarski University, Warsaw, Poland,
- George Lupascu-Pruna - Hofstede Accredited Intercultural Practitioner - ITIM International-The Hofstede Cente,
- Hugeos Seraphin – University of Winchester,
- Alexandrina Tanvuia - Assistant Professor of Hospitality and Event Management at Lasell College in Boston, Massachusetts,
- Dr. Matthew Reilly - co-chair of the Delta Mu Delta Honors Society at Lasell College,
- Dr. Mustafa Ugan - Sakarya University's Business School, Turkey.

A very symbolic numbers, taking in consideration the size of university and the level os study program.

Recommendations:

- Recommendations are provided in the Performance indicator C.3.1.1. and are appropriate also for this performance indicator.

The indicator is partially 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.).*

Referring to SAR and attached documents, this indicator is not calculated. Within SAR, page 63, under part C.3.1.3. are listed some participations in the conferences, and links presents these conferences. Thus, it is difficult from our point of view to calculate since the correct figures with numbers and names of students that graduated in this period are not, and the names of students that had performed thesis in foreign languages, with international co-supervisions are not provided.

*Recommendations:*

- Recommendations are provided in the Performance indicator C.3.1.1. and C.3.1.2., are appropriate also for this performance indicator.

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

#### ***IV. SWOT Analysis***

<b><u>Strengths:</u></b>	<b><u>Weaknesses:</u></b>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher Education Institution within the European Union</li> <li>• Advanced legal framework in the higher education system</li> <li>• Modern regulations for performing doctoral studies,</li> <li>• Clear procedures and measures for all possible cases - promotion and penalties,</li> <li>• Medium size University with well established reputation</li> <li>• Very enthusiastic and highly professional staff,</li> <li>• Leading institution in the higher education in the south-eastern Romania,</li> <li>• Strategic location,</li> <li>• Trained staff for supporting the research activities</li> <li>• Attractive facilities,</li> <li>• Equipped library and online access to international journals and books,</li> <li>• Existence of the Research Center of Excellence Strategies for the development of competitive economic systems (STRATEC)</li> <li>• Cheap Study Cost for attracting international students.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Courses and study program offered in local language,</li> <li>• Lack of completed Strategy for Development of the University</li> <li>• Information on web page mainly published in local language</li> <li>• Lack of logistic and financial support for professors and doctoral students for development of the project proposals</li> <li>• Weak cooperation with international academic community,</li> <li>• Insufficient participation in different locally and internationally funded projects,</li> <li>• Insufficient partnership agreements with local stakeholders for internship placement of doctoral students as well as for joint research activities</li> <li>• Lack of partnership agreements for development of double and joint degree study programs</li> <li>• Insufficient financial support for participation in the international conferences</li> <li>• Lack of Advisory Board for doctoral studies</li> <li>• Insufficient engagement of students in curriculum development</li> <li>• Insufficient engagement of graduated students (Alumni) in development of strategic documents as well as in renewing the study programs</li> <li>• Hesitation of professors to offer courses in international languages</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Opportunities:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion and participation in local projects</li> <li>• Promotion participation in the international projects</li> <li>• Partnership agreements with international universities for development of double and joint degree doctoral study programs</li> <li>• Memorandum of understanding with local stakeholders for joint research projects</li> <li>• Memorandum of understanding with local stakeholders for internship placement of doctoral students</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Threats:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of interest from abroad to continue their studies at UDJG</li> <li>• Local companies not interested for cooperation and hosting doctoral students for internship</li> <li>• International universities not interested for double and joint degree study program cooperation</li> <li>• Graduated students (Alumni) not interested to contribute to advancement of UDJG</li> <li>• Local stakeholder not interested to be part of Advisory Board</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of Advisory Board for doctoral studies</li> <li>• Promoting and attracting foreign students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insufficient interest of students to follow courses and study programs in international language (weak English skills competences).</li> </ul>
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### ***V. Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations***

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI*, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
1	PI	<i>A.1.1.1.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The relevant documents that might attract the foreign students to be translated. And uploaded on the web page.</li> </ul>
2	PI	<i>A.1.1.2.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The relevant documents that might attract the foreign students to be translated. And uploaded on the web page.</li> </ul>
3	PI	<i>A.1.2.1.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The relevant documents that might attract the foreign students to be translated. And uploaded on the web page.</li> </ul>
4	PI	<i>A.1.2.2.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The relevant documents that might attract the foreign students to be translated. And uploaded on the web page.</li> </ul>
5	PI	<i>A.1.3.1.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within SER to be summarized the grant, with details; date of start, date of end, field and type of project, size of grant, etc.,</li> <li>• Increasing logistic and financial support for academic staff and doctoral students for project development.</li> </ul>
6	PI*	<i>*A.1.3.2.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing logistic and financial support for academic staff and doctoral students for project development.</li> </ul>
7	PI*	<i>*A.1.3.3.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnership agreements with local stakeholders to support doctoral students for participating in different conferences.</li> </ul>

8	PI	<i>A.2.1.1.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The relevant documents that might attract the foreign students to be translated. And uploaded on the web page.</li> </ul>
9	PI	<i>A.3.1.1.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	//
10	PI*	<i>*A.3.1.2.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing number of supervisors with young professors that has competences to deliver lectures in international languages.</li> </ul>
11	PI	<i>A.3.1.3.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	//
12	PI*	<i>*A.3.1.4.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uploaded documents to provide summary of information in the English language</li> </ul>
13	PI	<i>A.3.2.1.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SAR should contain summary table with detailed data by name, title of publication, year of publication</li> </ul>
14	PI*	<i>*A.3.2.2.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SAR should contain summary table with detailed data by name, title of publication, year of publication</li> </ul>
15	PI*	<i>*B.1.1.1.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The selection procedures and criteria to be published annually on the university/faculty website.</li> <li>The documents to be accessible in the international language.</li> <li>The study guide with all necessary program details like: compulsory and elective courses, their weight in ECTS, students workload, publication information, criteria for development of doctoral thesis, information about public defence, agenda of lectures and other activities, to be developed and published in local and international language,</li> <li><i>Courses and in near future all doctoral study program to be offered in English language,</i></li> <li><i>Information on web site to be published also in English language.</i></li> </ul>
16	PI*	<i>*B.1.2.1.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The selection procedures and criteria to be published annually on the university/faculty website.</li> <li>The documents to be accessible in the international language.</li> <li>The study guide with all necessary program details like: compulsory and elective courses, their weight in ECTS, students workload,</li> </ul>

				publication information, criteria for development of doctoral thesis, information about public defense, agenda of lectures and other activities, to be developed and published in local and international language
17	PI	<i>B.1.2.2.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Either to extend length the studies, or to make structural changes in the doctoral study program</li> </ul>
18	PI	<i>B.2.1.1.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The structure of doctoral program to be clearly defined, including all tasks and duties that students needs to undergo for accomplishment of the doctoral program,</li> <li>• Flexibility, especially about elective courses and seminars within study program to be more emphasized,</li> <li>• The power of supervisor to be distributed,</li> <li>• Student guidebook to be developed and published in foreign languages.</li> <li>• Offering courses in international language, and in near future, all study program to be offered in international language.</li> </ul>
19	PI	<i>B.2.1.2.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The relevant documents that might attract the foreign students to be translated. And uploaded on the web page.</li> </ul>
20	PI	<i>B.2.1.3.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear definition of learning outcomes in the level of the doctoral study program.</li> <li>• Being more precise of the student tasks and duties for each course, seminar and for all stages of studying.</li> <li>• Offering courses in international language.</li> </ul>
21	PI	<i>B.2.1.4.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	
22	PI	<i>B.2.1.5.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	
23	PI	<i>B.3.1.1.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More publications through joint research projects funded by the EU projects,</li> <li>• Increasing the number of publications that will be result of collaboration with economy; university-business cooperation through partnership agreements in the field of research.</li> <li>• Internships to have final outcome development of doctoral thesis.</li> <li>• More financial support for PhD students for participating in the international conferences.</li> </ul>

24	PI*	<i>*B.3.1.2.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Logistic and financial support to doctoral students in development and submission of project proposals to local and international funded projects</li> <li>• Financial support to participate in international conferences outside Romania.</li> </ul>
25	PI*	<i>*B.3.2.1.</i>	The indicator is partially fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement of foreign experts outside of Romania</li> </ul>
26	PI*	<i>*B.3.2.2.</i>	/	//
27	PI	<i>C.1.1.1.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More active involvement in international funded project like HORIZON 2020, ERASMUS +, etc,</li> <li>• Partnership agreements with local stakeholders for promoting internships for doctoral students with the target joint research activities.</li> </ul>
28	PI*	<i>*C.1.1.2.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student involvement in development of the study programs at all levels of study programs,</li> <li>• Involvement of graduated students in development of the study programs in all levels.</li> </ul>
29	PI	<i>C.2.1.1.</i>	The indicator is partially fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Translation of the relevant documents and uploading them on the web site of the University.</li> </ul>
30	PI	<i>C.2.2.1.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The information to be translated and accessible in international language.</li> </ul>
31	PI	<i>C.2.2.2.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The information to be translated and accessible in international language.</li> </ul>
32	PI	<i>C.2.2.3.</i>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The information to be translated and accessible in international language.</li> </ul>
33	PI*	<i>*C.3.1.1.</i>	The indicator is partially fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of the English language should be must criteria in the student enrollment process for the doctoral studies,</li> <li>• Courses to be offered in English language to be promoted in all levels, and in doctoral studies to be compulsory,</li> <li>• In near future, the complete doctoral study program to be delivered in English language,</li> <li>• Increase of participation in the ERASMUS+ academic mobility projects (KA1), Horizon 2020 and other, international projects,</li> <li>• Promotion of the double degree and joint degree doctoral study programs,</li> </ul>



				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update of web page with translated documents in international language,</li> <li>• Logistic and financial support to professors and doctoral students for project development and application in local and international programs/projects.</li> <li>• Logistic and financial support for inviting visiting professors for a longer period of stay; semester or even academic year,</li> <li>• Logistic and financial support for doctoral students for participation in the international conferences in foreign countries.</li> </ul>
34	PI	<b>C.3.1.2.</b>	The indicator is partially fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendations are provided in the Performance indicator C.3.1.1. and are appropriate also for this performance indicator.</li> </ul>
35	PI	<b>C.3.1.3.</b>	The indicator is fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendations are provided in the Performance indicator C.3.1.1. and C.3.1.2., are appropriate also for this performance indicator.</li> </ul>

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

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

## ***VI. Conclusions and general recommendations***

The recommendations provided in the table above, might be summarized as follows:

- Development of the completed Development Strategy for doctoral School of Doctorial Studies of Socio-Human Sciences,
- Clear definition of Mission and Vision in the line of the new developed Strategy,
- Development of Strategy Quality Assurance,
- Development of the Strategy for Research and Development.
- Development of study program with involvement of all relevant stakeholders (management, teaching staff, students, administration, alumni, and representatives from economy,
- Internationalization,
- Increase of participation in the ERASMUS+ academic mobility projects (KA1), Horizon 2020 and other, international projects,
- Promotion of the double degree and joint degree doctoral study programs,
- Increasing partnership agreements with. Local and international stakeholders,



- The complete doctoral study program to be delivered in English language

## **VII. Annexes**

*The following types of documents shall be attached:*

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