



The External Evaluation Report of a Doctoral Study Domain

Philosophy Domain

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I. Introduction

This report is oriented to inform about the institutional evaluation process of the Babes Bolyai University as an external evaluator for the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS). The assessment was conducted from November 2nd and November 5th, 2021, in the online modality because of the restrictions related to the COVID19 crisis, on the basis of the assessment of relevant documents and the activities of the Experts Committee of the Philosophy Domain, composed by the Romanian expert Laurentiu Staicu and the PhD Student Ingrid Orosz, and the shared meetings.

Founded in 1938, the Babes Bolyai University initiated its doctoral studies in 1966 with fourteen fields. In 2002, it incorporated the doctoral schools' scheme, and then introduced further changes in 2005 to adjust to national regulations. It currently has 31 doctoral schools related to 32 study fields. Among them, Philosophy participated since the beginning in the doctoral offer and produced significant scientific outcomes.

II. Methods used

The assessment was focused on the Philosophy domain. It was based on the analysis of the internal evaluation report and its Annexes conducted before the contact with the University and the interviews with the representatives of the Babes-Bolyai University and the Council for Academic Doctoral Studies, the officers in charge of the internal evaluation report in the field of Philosophy, the academic staff, a group of PhD students, a group of Graduates of the PhD programme, and employers of some doctoral graduates. In all the cases, the interviews were carried out together with the national expert and the PhD



student also designated by ARACIS, appealing to a set of questionnaires apt to get information relevant to analysing performance indicators. Due to the blended format of the evaluation, all the interviews have been conducted online. Still, relevant data about functioning and infrastructure were included in the questionnaires to obtain an overall view of the institutional capacities. This chapter will contain the methods and tools used in the external evaluation process, before and during the evaluation visit, including at least:

III. Analysis of ARACIS's performance indicators

Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

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

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

The Babes-Bolyai University has a clear regulatory framework to allow the proper development of academic activities. Its mission is clearly described and is properly oriented to intensive research, training to form active and responsible citizens, promote education and research according to requirements of a society based on knowledge and values, on the basis of multicultural, multilingual and interfaith approach in Romanian, Hungarian, German and international languages, contributing to local, regional and national development in line with the needs of the community. Strategies management and development mechanism are conducted according to the Babes-Bolyai University Strategic plan, which has clear priorities related to education, culture, relationship with society, paying attention to quality standards regarding human resources, administration and services. The code of ethics is properly developed and follows the parameters of the European Network of Higher Education.

The overall organisation includes a broad range of activities and management units, with a strong study offer in various languages, with corresponding degrees. The multilingual and multicultural degree is consistent, based on adequate specific pedagogical tools. The doctoral school has clear regulations consistent with the University framework. Its Council has proper tasks and ensures coherence to the doctoral studies under its domain, with relevant promotion of interdisciplinary approaches through enhancing communication between doctoral schools and Faculties and committees in different areas. The election of authorities is well-organised and conducted on a regular basis. The regulatory framework pays due attention to internationalisation through a sound internalisation strategies plan. The Digital transformation strategy is suitable and able to guide consistent advances in the area. It includes protocols of access to anti-plagiarism software according to current regulations.

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

The Doctoral level of the University of Babeş Bolyai is well-framed within adequate regulations. The Doctoral School of Philosophy follows the general mission consistently, paying attention to specific objectives oriented to the development of disciplinary and transversal skills on the basis of strong communication skills and leadership capacities.

Performance Indicator A.1.1.1. *The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the Doctoral School of the respective university doctoral study domain:*

- (a) the internal regulations of the Doctoral School;*
- (b) the Methodology for conducting elections for the position of director of the Council of doctoral school (CSD), as well as elections by the students of their representative in CSD and the evidence of their conduct;*
- c) the Methodologies for organizing and conducting doctoral studies (for the admission of doctoral students, for the completion of doctoral studies);*
- d) the existence of mechanisms for recognizing the status of a Doctoral advisor and the equivalence of the doctoral degree obtained abroad;*
- e) functional management structures (Council of the doctoral school), giving as well proof of the regularity of meetings;*
- f) the contract for doctoral studies;*
- g) internal procedures for the analysis and approval of proposals regarding the training for doctoral study programs based on advanced academic studies.*

The general regulation at the level of the University is adequate and consistent, with proper organisation of its doctoral studies, whose last modification was carried out in 2017, with regular updates since that date to clarify relevant procedures, and the Doctoral School of Philosophy is in line with these traits. Its normative structure is clear and includes sound elective procedures for its authorities and student representatives. It also has sound mechanisms for recognising the doctoral supervisor status and equivalence of PhD obtained in other States, which is automatic in cases of broader national agreements. Administrative and managerial structures are well-described and framed within the regulations and are apt to support academic tasks. It is worth noting that the Doctoral School of Philosophy has different areas and is open to inter and transdisciplinary approaches.

During the interviews, the authorities underlined the relevance of the doctoral studies within the University, their research centred orientation, which is related not only to transmission but also to knowledge creation, and their relationship with society at large. At the same time, the Director of the Doctoral School of Philosophy showed clear consciousness of the general regulations and strategies and proper ways to implement them in the Philosophy programme.



Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator A.1.1.2. *The doctoral school' Regulation includes mandatory criteria, procedures and standards binding on the aspects specified in Article 17, paragraph (5) of the Government Decision No. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies with subsequent amendments and additions.*

All the items comprehended in Article 17, paragraph 5 of the Government Decision 681/2011 are adequately covered by the Regulations for the organisation and conduct of university doctoral studies, whose last version was approved in 2021. They provide suitable indications about acceptance of new doctoral supervisors, withdrawal of membership of the School of Philosophy, decision-making processes, conflict mediation procedures, the conditions under which the doctoral programme may be interrupted, etc.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The Strategic Plan of the Doctoral School of Philosophy includes suitable provisions regarding the logistical resources, and the overall situation concerning administrative structures and system is adequate.

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

The institution has adequate procedures for monitoring doctoral studies through IT systems and paper backup, providing the PhD students access to a website for the relevant information. There are specific platforms for storage and processing information that allows the transmission of information to MEN and CNATDCU in electronic form.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The UBB has strong similarity analysis programmes, and since 2016 has had access to iThenticate. Every Doctoral School has procedures that include the control of the PhD theses, according with the Procedure on the generation and analysis of the Similarity Report in 2017 and the Regulations for the organisation and conduct of university doctoral studies of 2021.



The doctoral studies have access through simple procedures to the programme of similarity analysis.

During the interviews, the academic staff shows proper knowledge of this tool and the procedures related to its nature of condition to advance in the defence of the PhD theses and declares to have use it in the past.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The internal evaluation report emphasises that, during the evaluated period, the Doctoral School of Philosophy reached its financial sustainability on the basis of budgetary and extra-budgetary sources that includes tuition fees, grants and scholarships from various entities.

Regarding financial resources, the internal evaluation report states that the Doctoral School of Philosophy reached sustainability, combining different kinds of resources and attracting funding other than government sources. Thus, 26% of the studentes during the evaluated period had grants of more than six months with that kind of funding.

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

The nature of the doctoral school as part of a research institution strengthens this aspect. The philosophy program had three research projects between 2016 and 2019, with topics well-related to the primary objectives. During the interviews, the group in charge of the internal evaluation report, the academic staff, the students and the graduate agree on the valuable activity of investigation and its central role in the training model.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

Since the financial situation is positive, 26% of the students have received funding for at least six months from sources other than government funding, so that the requirements are met.



Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *A.1.3.3.¹ *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.).*

The use of financial resources is adequate, even if the rate allocated to the required activities is lower than 10%. However, the institution has made efforts to strengthen the incomes, which increases the total budget and the academic staff claims that the funding required to develop academic activities is available with no major obstacles. In this sense, it is recommended to increase the rate invested in this point in the near future.

Recommendations: Increase the rate of budget allocated to training of doctoral students through academic activities.

The indicator is partially fulfilled.

Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure

Research infrastructure is suitable and covers the needs of the program. It includes adequate classrooms and seminar rooms, internet connection, computers and associated devices, research software, electronic databases, and library service, among others.

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

The learning and research resources are adequate to support the main tasks of the Doctoral School, with suitable access to library services and adequate infrastructure for teaching and research activities.

During the interviews, the authorities described the development strategies properly, emphasizing the measures to provide adequate access for the Doctoral Schools. The lines of open science were suitably combined with mechanisms to ensure access to databases and other research resources. The academic staff underlined that the institutional framework is adequate and has a suitable structure to promote interdisciplinary approaches and circulation of PhD students through different Doctoral Schools when it is required for proper development of the individual research.

¹ 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.



This is especially relevant since the employers emphasised this point as an essential element that the graduates of the Philosophy programme already have, and it is valuable to strengthen. The students stress the quantity and quality of research resources and the valuable measures adopted during the pandemic, calling attention to the strong research activities offered to strengthen their profiles.

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

The equipment at the disposal of the Doctoral School enables the research activities and is presented on the institutional webpage.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion A.3. Quality of Human Resources

The University of Babeş Bolyai has a comprehensive strategy for human resources that indicates the goals to be achieved regarding the criteria for hiring, the evaluation procedures and the motivation related to professional development. The track record of the academic staff is excellent, and they meet all the requirements to ensure high-quality doctoral training.

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

The supervisors have excellent professional profiles and capacities to guide higher studies. Their scientific contributions are remarkable.

During the interviews, the academic staff showed a comprehensive knowledge of their tasks and full compromise with teaching activities in a framework of research orientation. On their part, the students underlined the positive disposition of the academic staff and their high-quality training. They also presented suitable strategies to manage the cases of doctoral students coming from disciplines other than philosophy, underlining the usefulness of the courses on methodology and the overall attention of the programme to interdisciplinary aspects. It is worth noting that the academic staff consider that the results are fully satisfactory and link them with an institutional culture of collaboration among supervisors to deal with complex cases related to interdisciplinarity. They also claimed that the programme has a strong community dimension that provides a strong identity mark to their members, which is valuable for improving the overall outcomes.



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

The Doctoral School of Philosophy has currently twelve supervisors, of whom nine are university professors, three are university lecturers and one of them is a researcher. All of them meet the standards of the CNATDCU or meet the conditions to be supervisors before, which indicates excellent capacities.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The required percentage of full-time employment is met. However, it is worth noting that during the last five years, it has decreased from nine supervisors, all of them with full-time employment, to ten supervisors with five of them with this status, which implies a worsening of the previous conditions that should be controlled.

Recommendations: Considering that the ratio of full-time employment of the supervisors has diminished, it should be important to pay attention to this indicator trying to recover a better proportion.

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

All the courses are taught by doctoral thesis advisors or highly qualified staff, ensuring an excellent level. During the interviews, the supervisors stressed the broad range of approaches covered by the courses, indicating that contrasting philosophical traditions cohabit and dialogue within the Doctoral School. They also emphasise the attention to interdisciplinary approaches, academic ethics and the activities related to the development of writing skills as a strong point that characterise the programme.

Recommendations: Enhancement of the current attention to interdisciplinary approaches trying to minimize administrative obstacles and promote the existent developments.



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 programs² does not exceed 20%.*

Eleven supervisors have less than eight students, and only one of them has ten, which is within the expected parameters.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The scientific career of the doctoral advisors is excellent, and their track records show a significant number of publications, participation in academic events and other professional activities that bring them international visibility. Most of the academic staff belongs to the research trajectory, what is suitable to reinforce doctoral activities in this field.

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.*

The supervisors show an excellent level of professional competencies. They all have the highest qualifications, with a broad range of academic activities and proven international participation through publications, research projects and networks.

During the interviews, the Doctoral School of Philosophy authorities and the supervisors describe the range of topics addressed and the broad range of activities conducted to keep excellent standards in the field.

² 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.



Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

All the doctoral thesis advisors are active and meet the conditions.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

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

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

The admission procedure is clear and consistent with a proper selection of candidates. It is based on competition according to a clear methodology, including a writing test on the main topic of the proposal, the analysis of the track record, a research plan, and the performance in an interview about the scientific interests and research skills. The number is adequate and allows proper development of doctoral studies and its primary activities.

During the interviews, the academic staff stressed the high quality of the PhD students and their participation in academic activities, underlining that many of them are engaged in teaching activities and support of organisation of scientific events, which contributes to their training and development of professional skills.

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

The Doctoral School of Philosophy has a good attraction rate, and the number of candidates often exceeds the admitted group.



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.*

With 85 candidates and 54 places announced in the contests, the ratio is 1.6, which meets the expected parameters.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

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

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

The selection process follows the Methodology of Admission to University Doctoral Studies at the University Babeş Bolyai. It contains clear criteria and protocols to organise the admission process in two stages. The first one is based on a written test to determine the knowledge of the field possessed by the candidate, the previous results in the area of research, and the quality of the research plan that will be the ground for the doctoral studies. The second part consists of an interview to assess the candidate's scientific interest and skills.

During the interviews, the PhD students described the admission procedures emphasising the suitable organisation and institutional support.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator B.1.2.2. *The expelling rate, including renouncement / dropping out of doctoral students 3, respectively 4, years after admission³ does not exceed 30%.*

The expelling rate is low: 2.22% and does not exceed 30%.

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



Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion B.2. The content of doctoral programs

The content of the Philosophy program is adequate to provide broad and up-to-date training in the field. It pays due attention to professional skills development through specific courses on methodology and integral activities oriented to this end. It also comprehends deontological aspects, which are addressed in a course on the matter.

The structure of the doctoral studies is adequate and has suitable measures to keep it up-to-date. The training stage is sound and combines mandatory with optional courses to provide the skills needed to advance in the following steps. In the same way, the individual research stage supposes suitable guidance of the supervisor and enough monitoring to ensure the proper results. The circulation of preliminary results through publication and participation in academic events is properly encouraged.

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

The programme's structure is adequate and combines training courses and individual scientific research aiming at drafting the doctoral thesis. The courses are properly oriented to broaden the knowledge in the field and provide tools to conduct individual research through adequate methodological procedures and deontological principles. The lapse of the courses is also adequate. The curricula are able to be adjusted according to the needs of the students and the research directions at the Doctoral School, which provides it suitable flexibility. During the period oriented to individual research, the work patterns under the supervision of the advisor and the guidance committee are clear enough and involve regular presentations able to provide sufficient monitoring.

Regarding the PhD thesis, the institution offers clear guidelines with formal and structural parameters and editing requirements. Scientific relevance, expected impact, originality, adequate methodology, and comprehensive state of the art are properly emphasised. The publication and dissemination of preliminary results in peer review journals and collective volumes are suitably promoted.

During the interviews, the authorities stressed the institutional aims of going beyond the traditional relation between doctoral student and supervisor to develop habits related to collaborative work. This feature is well-present in the description of the everyday tasks within the Doctoral School of Philosophy, which indicates institutional consistency and mature joint-work. In the same line, the Director of the Doctoral School of Philosophy stresses the research orientation of the whole programme and its flexibility. This feature allowed, according to all the members of the academic community, a suitable adaptation to the challenges of the global pandemic. The



graduates called attention on the quality of the training, its goals of connection with society and specialisation opportunities.

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

The training phase of the philosophy programme includes relevant courses in the discipline. They change regularly, which is positive as it allows keeping them up-to-date and adjusting them to different interests within the cohort. The current education plan includes ten subjects that comprehend phenomenology, aesthetics, metaphysics, political thought, history of ideas, philosophy of history, ethics and methodology. The programme traditionally has a specific course on General methods of research and writing scientific work that has been integrated with ethical and deontological issues in a single course. Hence, the topic of methodology is adequately covered and complemented with the strong research approach that characterises the programme. Their structure and contents are coherent and consistent with the overall orientation of the doctoral studies and have enough flexibility.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The curriculum includes a course on Ethics and Academic Integrity in a combined offer with methodological issues, which covers the deontological approach and provides proper training on professional and transversal competencies. Its contents are in line with the institutional Code of Ethics and Professional Deontology and the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity principles. This course is mandatory for all doctoral students.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator B.2.1.3. *The IOSUD has mechanisms to ensure that the academic training program based on advanced university studies addresses „the learning outcomes”, specifying the knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through the research activities⁴.*

⁴ Or by what the graduate should know, understand and to be able to do, according to the provisions of the Methodology of 17 March 2017 regarding inscription and registration of higher education qualifications in the National Register of Qualifications in Higher Education (RNCIS) approved by the Order No.3475/2017 with subsequent amendments and additions.



The learning outcomes of the doctoral studies are properly stressed in the individual scientific research programme, which is oriented to the development of the doctoral thesis and requires the presentation of preliminary results in the form of publications of scholarly articles and presentations in academic events.

During the interviews, the academic staff showed themselves satisfied with the current results and the students, and the students stressed the permanent and helpful institutional guidance.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The programme has adequate guidance procedures and stipulates a series of three periodical reports of advances in front of the PhD supervisor and the guidance committee. After each of them, the doctoral students receive a report with observations and recommendations to be followed. In case of rejection, a protocol for the presentation of a new report is activated. The guidance committee is formed by three PhD supervisors from the UBB, with the condition of being experts in the field according to clear standards of eligibility. The set of mentoring activities is well-described and monitored by institutional channels. The internal evaluation report emphasises the appeal to different learning methods, combining new technologies, continuous collaboration and dialogue and orientation to learning outcomes.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The number of teaching staff providing guidance is adequate. It currently has 46 supervisors and 24 doctoral students with a ratio of 2:1, which meets the criterion.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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



The approach pays due attention to capitalising on the research results by combining efforts to the drafting of the PhD theses with the development and enhancement of professional skills related to publication and presentations in academic events. The programme promotes the presentation of theses in different languages. The external evaluations are varied to ensure diversity and transparency in the assessment.

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 list of publications provided as an annexe of the internal evaluation report indicates an excellent production rate. The internal evaluation report stresses that the local journals and collective volumes coordinated by the members of the Doctoral School of Philosophy are often the preferred way of publication. The very good quality of these materials make them a proper channel, and the local publication is an adequate way to promote early publication. However, on the basis of the good average quality of the research results within the Doctoral School, the development of strategies to promote publication in top international journals would be a desirable option. The number of publications in different languages is a condition already well-covered by the current production. Participation in academic events is equally adequate.

During the interviews, the Director of the Doctoral School answered questions about the evaluation procedures, which seem adequate and indicate coordination and general agreement according to clear protocols. In the same line, the employers stressed the wide range of skills of the graduates.

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.*

Within the programme, 41 doctoral students have published 255 papers five years. The papers submitted for assessment are adequate in number and contain original contributions to the field of philosophy.

Recommendations: The very good quality of these materials make them a proper channel, and the local publication is an adequate way to promote early publication. However, on the basis of the good average quality of the research results within the Doctoral School, the development of strategies to promote publication in top international journals would be a desirable option.

The indicator is fulfilled.

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



of doctoral students who have completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years) is at least 1.

The presentations of doctoral students who completed their studies within the evaluated period meet the requirements, with 83 participation in academic events belonging to 41 students, i.e. a ratio over 2:1.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The constitution of evaluation committees for the PhD thesis is properly established and regulated by the Doctoral School rules. It includes a reviewer from the UBB, another from another university listed in a set of 500 units, and a reviewer from a second list of national or foreign institutions with cooperation agreements with the UBB, which meets the requirements.

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.*

This number does not exceed 2.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

This number is between 0.1 and 0.25, without exceeding 0.3.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

Domain C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT



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

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

The institution has mature procedures for quality assurance, which are suitably developed at the level of the philosophy domain.

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.

**general description of the standard analysis.*

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

- (a) the scientific work of Doctoral advisors;*
- (b) the infrastructure and logistics necessary to carry out the research activity;*
- (c) the procedures and subsequent rules based on which doctoral studies are organized;*
- d) the scientific activity of doctoral students;*
- e) the training program based on advanced academic studies of doctoral students;*
- f) social and academic services (including for participation at different events, publishing papers etc.) and counselling made available to doctoral students.*

The quality assurance actions have a suitable institutional framework in the UBB Quality Policy and the programme arranged by the University Development and Quality Management Centre on the labours of the Quality Assessment and Assurance Commission, that refer to the quality of teaching and learning, research and internal and community services. This programme contains details enough to provide proper guidance for institutional enhancement. These provisions are also part of the Strategic Plan, ensuring a central position in the overall development. As a result, the doctoral studies are assessed and measured to carry out permanent monitoring.

They include the labour of the supervisors, the activities of the PhD students, the quality of the programme's structure and contents, as well as the infrastructure and institutional services. These procedures allow periodical reviews of the curriculum to introduce cutting-edge topics, and the possibility of improvements in different areas is put at the forefront. It is worth noting that the approach to quality assurance is broad and includes proper aims of motivation of human resources to improve the general performance. The work of the academic staff is evaluated annually according to specific protocols, taking into account mentoring and research activities.

During the interviews, the authorities of the Doctoral School manifested full compromise with quality assurance measures, and the academic staff and the students were well-aware of these procedures. The employers were also satisfied with the overall results, although they are



not comprehended as a target group to be consulted, which could be valuable in the future to broaden the horizon of information and potential elements for further improvement. In this sense, a procedure for follow-up of the graduates and their positions in the labour market would be important to improve the link with this field and get better information for quality assurance.

Recommendations: The follow-up of the graduates and their labour integration to expand the career paths and get information from the employers can be helpful as a further step of the current measures in quality assurance.

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.*

There are proper mechanisms to get feedback from doctoral students based on the Operational Procedure for Organising and Conducting the Satisfaction Assessment Process of Bachelor, master and Doctoral Students at UBB. The assessment is done every two years according to questionnaires addressed to the students. The results are presented in a report and become part of the material for the next Strategic Plan. The overall approach is mature and well-developed.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The circulation of information within the Doctoral School of Philosophy and its visibility, as well as the access to learning resources, is adequate and based on solid grounds to ensure the proper development of the academic activities.

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

The information is available through suitable electronic channels together with good administrative support.

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.

The webpage includes clear information about the Doctoral School regulation, the admission procedures, the doctoral contract and the structure and requirements of the philosophy programme. It also contains the academic profile of the PhD supervisors, the list of PhD students, the standards applicable to the PhD thesis, and suitable information about the defences of doctoral theses. This channel is complemented with brochures and similar elements to ensure dissemination. It should be noted that the webpage has not a complete English version, which would be highly desirable to spread multiply its impact and appeal to it to gain visibility, attract international students interested in the programme and reinforce internationalisation in general.

During the interviews, most of the academic community members showed fully satisfaction with the current procedures regarding information policies. Some issues regarding lack of knowledge of procedures for getting funding were raised among the PhD students, which is usual in big institutions and could be covered with some specific action of internal dissemination oriented to this target group.

Recommendations: Provide a complete English version of the webpage of the Doctoral School of Philosophy to improve visibility, dissemination and internationalisation. Arrange specific actions to inform PhD students about internal procedures to get funding for academic activities.

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.

The Doctoral School has many resources available, including libraries, electronic databases and research resources, and the doctoral students have proper access through suitable procedures.

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

The range of databases is adequate and fully consistent with the philosophy domain.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.



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

The relevant software is available to students.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled/partially fulfilled/not fulfilled.

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

Suitable research infrastructure is available. During the interviews, the students provide valuable evidence of the quality of the available resources.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion C.3. Internationalization

The internationalisation standards of the Doctoral School of Philosophy is outstanding and visible from its overall activities.

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

There is an explicit strategy, and the results are manifest through the mobility agreements with consistent experiences and proper grants to support and promote participation.

During the interviews, the conception of the institution as an international university was strongly stressed.

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



The mobility agreements through the Erasmus programme and partner universities are varied, and a significant number of students participated of these activities. During the interviews, this aspect was positively assessed by the PhD students

Recommendations: -

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The Philosophy programme has ongoing experiences in joint-supervision and organisation of European PhDs. The contact with international scholars is fluid.

Recommendations: -

The indicator is not fulfilled.

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

The Doctoral School has a broad range of international activities with explicit participation of PhD students. During the interviews, many examples were provided, emphasizing the recent organisation of an international congress with the global participation of renowned scholars. The PhD students called attention to the number of international connections and networks offered for their professional development, offering clear examples.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

IV. SWOT Analysis

<p><u>Strengths:</u> The capacities of the academic staff is excellent. The internalisation strategy has very positive outcomes. The quality assurance measures are mature and effective.</p>	<p><u>Weaknesses:</u> Communication channels oriented to international visibility could be improved.</p>
<p><u>Opportunities:</u></p>	<p><u>Threats:</u> Restriction of budgetary resources, although the current situation of sustainability is promising.</p>

Strong interdisciplinary developments that could be enhanced. The excellent international basis is able to produce further results.

V. Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
1.	PI	<p>A.1.1.1. The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the Doctoral School of the respective university doctoral study domain:</p> <p>a) the internal regulations of the Doctoral School;</p> <p>b) the Methodology for conducting elections for the position of director of the Council of doctoral school (CSD), as well as elections by the students of their representative in CSD and the evidence of their conduct;</p> <p>c) the Methodologies for organizing and conducting doctoral studies (for the admission of doctoral students, for the completion of doctoral studies);</p> <p>d) the existence of mechanisms for recognizing the status of a Doctoral advisor and the equivalence of the doctoral degree obtained abroad;</p> <p>e) functional management structures (Council of the doctoral school), giving as well proof of the regularity of meetings;</p> <p>f) the contract for doctoral studies;</p> <p>g) internal procedures for the analysis and approval of proposals regarding the training for doctoral study programs based on advanced academic studies.</p>	Fulfilled	-
2.	PI	<p>A.1.1.2. The doctoral school' Regulation includes mandatory criteria, procedures and standards binding on the aspects specified in Article 17, paragraph (5) of the Government Decision No. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies with subsequent amendments and additions.</p>	Fulfilled	-
3.	PI	<p>A.1.2.1. The existence and effectiveness of an appropriate IT system to keep track of</p>	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		doctoral students and their academic background.		
4.	PI	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.	Fulfilled	-
5.	IP	A.1.3.1. Existence of at least one research or institutional / human resources development grant under implementation at the time of submission of the internal evaluation file, per doctoral study domain under evaluation, or existence of at least 2 research or institutional development / human resources grant for the doctoral study domain, obtained by doctoral thesis advisors operating in the evaluated domain within the past 5 years. The grants address relevant themes for the respective domain and, as a rule, are engaging doctoral students.	Fulfilled	-
6.	PI *	A.1.3.2. The percentage of doctoral students active at the time of the evaluation, who for at least six months receive additional funding sources besides government funding, through scholarships awarded by individual persons or by legal entities, or who are financially supported through research or institutional / human resources development grants is not less than 20%.	Fulfilled	-
7.	PI *	A.1.3.3. At least 10% of the total amount of doctoral grants obtained by the university through institutional contracts and of tuition fees collected from the doctoral students enrolled in the paid tuition system is used to reimburse professional training expenses of doctoral students (attending conferences, summer schools, training, programs abroad, publication of specialty papers or other specific forms of dissemination etc.).	Partially Fulfilled	<i>Increase the rate of budget allocated to training of doctoral students through academic activities.</i>
8.	CPI	A.2.1.1. The venues and the material equipment available to the doctoral school enable the research activities in the evaluated domain to be carried out, in line with the assumed mission and objectives (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		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		
9.	CPI	A.3.1.1. Minimum three doctoral thesis advisors within that doctoral domain, and at least 50% of them (but no less than three) meet the minimum standards of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) in force at the time when the evaluation is carried out, which standards are required and mandatory for obtaining the enabling certification.	Fulfilled	-
10.	PI *	A.3.1.2. At least 50% of all doctoral advisors have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period with the IOSUD.	Fulfilled	<i>Considering that the ratio of full-time employment of the supervisors has diminished, it should be important to pay attention to this indicator trying to recover a better proportion.</i>
11.	PI	A.3.1.3. The study subjects in the education program based on advanced higher education studies pertaining to the doctoral domain are taught by teaching staff or researchers who are doctoral thesis advisors / certified doctoral thesis advisors, professors / CS I or lecturer / CS II, with proved expertise in the field of the study subjects they teach, or other specialists in the field who meet the standards established by the institution in relation with the aforementioned teaching and research functions, as provided by the law.	Fulfilled	<i>Enhancement of the current attention to interdiscipline trying to minimize administrative obstacles and promote the existent developments.</i>
12.	PI *	A.3.1.4. The percentage of doctoral thesis advisors who concomitantly coordinate more than 8 doctoral students, but no more than 12, who are themselves studying in doctoral programs does not exceed 20%.	Fulfilled	-
13.	CPI	A.3.2.1. At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in the evaluated domain have at least	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		<p>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.</p>		
14.	PI *	<p>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</p>	Fulfilled	-
15.	PI *	<p>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</p>	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		contest within the doctoral studies domain is at least 1,2.		
16.	PI *	B.1.2.1. Admission to doctoral study programs is based on selection criteria including: previous academic, research and professional performance, their interest for scientific or arts/sports research, publications in the domain and a proposal for a research subject. Interviewing the candidate is compulsory, as part of the admission procedure.	Fulfilled	-
17.	PI	B.1.2.2. The expelling rate, including renouncement / dropping out of doctoral students 3, respectively 4, years after admission does not exceed 30%.	Fulfilled	-
18.	PI	B.2.1.1. The training program based on advanced academic studies includes at least 3 disciplines relevant to the scientific research training of doctoral students; at least one of these disciplines is intended to study in-depth the research methodology and/or the statistical data processing.	Fulfilled	-
19.	PI	B.2.1.2. At least one discipline is dedicated to Ethics and Intellectual Property in scientific research or there are well-defined topics on these subjects within a discipline taught in the doctoral program.	Fulfilled	-
20.	PI	B.2.1.3. The IOSUD has mechanisms to ensure that the academic training program based on advanced university studies addresses „the learning outcomes”, specifying the knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through the research activities.	Fulfilled	.
21.	PI	B.2.1.4. All along the duration of the doctoral training, doctoral students in the domain receive counselling/guidance from functional guidance commissions, which is reflected in written guidance and feedback or regular meeting.	Fulfilled	-
22.	CPI	B.2.1.5. For a doctoral study domain, the ratio between the number of doctoral students and	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		the number of teaching staff/researchers providing doctoral guidance must not exceed 3:1.		
23.	CPI	B.3.1.1. For the evaluated domain, the evaluation commission will be provided with at least one paper or some other relevant contribution per doctoral student who has obtained a doctor's title within the past 5 years. From this list, the members of the evaluation commission shall randomly select 5 such papers / relevant contributions per doctoral study domain for review. At least 3 selected papers must contain significant original contributions in the respective domain	Fulfilled	<i>The very good quality of these materials make them a proper channel, and the local publication is an adequate way to promote early publication. However, on the basis of the good average quality of the research results within the Doctoral School, the development of strategies to promote publication in international top journals would be a desirable option.</i>
24.	PI *	B.3.1.2. The ratio between the number of presentations of doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years), including posters, exhibitions made at prestigious international events (organized in the country or abroad) and the number of doctoral students who have completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years) is at least 1.	Fulfilled	-
25.	PI *	B.3.2.1. The number of doctoral theses allocated to one specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the evaluated IOSUD should not exceed two (2) in a year for the theses coordinated by the same doctoral thesis advisor.	Fulfilled	-
26.	PI *	B.3.2.2. The ratio between the doctoral theses allocated to one scientific specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the institution where the defense on the doctoral thesis is organized, and the number of doctoral theses presented in the same doctoral study domain in the doctoral school should not exceed 0.3, considering the past five years. Only those doctoral study domains in which minimum ten doctoral theses have	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		been presented within the past five years should be analyzed.		
27.	PI	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the scientific work of Doctoral advisors; b) the infrastructure and logistics necessary to carry out the research activity; c) the procedures and subsequent rules based on which doctoral studies are organized; d) the scientific activity of doctoral students; e) the training program based on advanced academic studies of doctoral students; f) social and academic services (including for participation at different events, publishing papers etc.) and counselling made available to doctoral students. 	Fulfilled	<p><i>The follow-up of the graduates and their labour integration to expand the career paths and get information from the employers can be helpful as a further step of the current measures in quality assurance.</i></p>
28.	PI *	<p>C.1.1.2. Mechanisms are implemented during the stage of the doctoral study program to enable feedback from doctoral students allowing to identify their needs, as well as their overall level of satisfaction with the doctoral study program in order to ensure continuous improvement of the academic and administrative processes. Following the analysis of the results, there is evidence that an action plan was drafted and implemented.</p>	Fulfilled	-
29.	CPI	<p>C.2.1.1. The IOSUD publishes on the website of the organizing institution, in compliance with the general regulations on data protection, information such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the Doctoral School regulation; b) the admission regulation; c) the doctoral studies contract; d) the study completion regulation including the procedure for the public presentation of the thesis; e) the content of training program based on advanced academic studies; f) the academic and scientific profile, thematic areas/research themes of the Doctoral 	Fulfilled	<p><i>Provide a complete English version of the webpage of the Doctoral School of Philosophy to improve visibility, dissemination and internationalisation. Arrange specific actions to inform PhD students about internal procedures to get funding for academic activities.</i></p>

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		<p>advisors within the domain, as well as their institutional contact data;</p> <p>g) the list of doctoral students within the domain with necessary information (year of registration; advisor);</p> <p>h) information on the standards for developing the doctoral thesis;</p> <p>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.</p>		
30.	PI	<p>C.2.2.1. All doctoral students have free access to one platform providing academic databases relevant to the doctoral studies domain of their thesis.</p>	Fulfilled	-
31.	PI	<p>C.2.2.2. Each doctoral student shall have access, upon request, to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic works.</p>	Fulfilled	-
32.	PI	<p>C.2.2.3. All doctoral students have access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities depending on the specific domain/domains within the Doctoral School, according to internal order procedures.</p>	Fulfilled	-
33.	PI *	<p>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.</p>	Fulfilled	-
34.	PI	<p>C.3.1.2. In the evaluated doctoral study domain, support is granted, including financial support, to the organization of doctoral studies</p>	Fulfilled	-

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		in international co-tutelage or invitation of leading experts to deliver courses/lectures for doctoral students.		
35.	PI	C.3.1.3. The internationalization of activities carried out during the doctoral studies is supported by IOSUD through concrete measures (e.g., by participating in educational fairs to attract international doctoral students; by including international experts in guidance committees or doctoral committees etc.).	Fulfilled	-

VI. Conclusions and general recommendations

The doctoral programme in philosophy is high-quality and shows a mature development, including excellent standards regarding regulations, strategies, research infrastructure, quality assurance measures and internationalisation outcomes. The academic staff is excellent and the structure and contents of the doctoral studies meet all the requirements. F

VII. Annexes

The detailed schedule of the evaluation procedure



Detailed schedule of the evaluation procedure

October, 12

15:00-17:00 Meeting of the evaluation team for discussing main methodological aspects related to the evaluation of doctoral studies

November 2

9:00-9:50 Online preliminary meeting for the preparation and harmonization of evaluation steps, in hybrid mode, of doctoral study domain and IOSUD

10:00-10:50 Online meeting with representatives of the institution and of the Council for Academic Doctoral Studies

14:00-14:50 Online meeting with the contact person for the doctoral study domain under review and the team responsible for the internal evaluation report

15:00-15:50 Online meeting with academic staff of the doctoral study domain under review

16:00-16:50 Online meeting with employers representatives of the doctoral study domain under review

18:00-19:00 Online technical meeting for discussions on the evaluation Day 1,

November 3

9:00-9:50 Online meeting with students of the doctoral study domain under review

10:00-10:50 Online meeting with graduates of the doctoral study domain under review

18:30-19:30 Online technical meeting to identify specific issues that need to be clarified during the on-site visit (if the case)

November 4

9:00-17:00 Face-to-face working meetings, visit of the educational and research infrastructure by the coordinator of the panel

November 5

9:00-9:50 Online technical meeting to identify specific issues that need to be clarified, if necessary, during the on-site visit

10:00-13:50 Completion of the evaluation documents

14:00-15:20 Online meeting for conclusions

15:30-16:30 Meeting with representatives of the institution under review to discuss on the conclusions of the evaluation process and the main recommendations.