

**The External Evaluation Report of a Doctoral Study Domain
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International Evaluator
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I. Introduction¹

This external evaluation report was drafted for Periodical External Evaluation of the IOSUD/doctoral study domains of the “Science of Sports and Physical Education” (SSEF) at the University of Pitesti (UPIT). The period of the evaluation visit was 22.11.2021 - 26.11.2021.

In 2003 the establishment of the field of “Physical Education and Sports” doctoral studies within IOSUD-UPIT ([Annex 1.](#)) was approved by the Ministerial Order O.M.5291/22.10.2003. It benefited from the rich experience (research and didactical one), in both specific and associated fields, of the 3 members of the teaching staff. The name of the field has been changed twice by Government Decisions: H.G. no 707/18.07.2012 “Human Motricity Sciences” and, in 2014, HG. no 580/2014 “Science of Sports and Physical Education”, decision by which this field has been awarded the quality of fundamental field and branch of science in this field.

Several fields of doctoral studies, managed in the 8 doctoral schools until the academic year 2019-2020, are accredited in IOSUD-UPIT. The SSEF field is managed in the SSEF Doctoral School, in accordance with the provisions of the Law no. 1 / 2011 of the National Education, amended and supplemented, Section 12 – Doctoral University Studies and the HG no. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies, amended and supplemented.

During the 2020-2021 academic year, IOSUD-UPIT administratively reorganized the doctoral fields; the field of Science of Sports and Physical Education continued to operate independently in the SSEFS Doctoral School, along with other doctoral schools, organized by distinct scientific fields,

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

and an interdisciplinary doctoral school dealing with several scientific fields (<https://www.upit.ro/ro/academia-reorganizata/studii-de-doctorat>).

The general framework of organization and functioning of the Doctoral School in the field is stipulated in the University of Pitești Regulation on the organization and carrying out of the doctoral studies. It is also governed by the provisions of the Regulation on the organization and development of the doctoral studies within the “Science of Sports and Physical Education” Doctoral School and by other relevant legal provisions as well.

The Doctoral School aims to contribute to the development of the domain science and the human resources by creating the professional and transversal skills, specific to the doctoral studies program, for carrying out the research, innovation and creative implementation of the acquired knowledge into different types of activities. Through the study program that it manages, the Doctoral School assumes the mission to develop the competent human resources for carrying out the scientific research capable of insertion into the highly skilled labor market and to mainly promote the applicative research and the sports performance. The purpose is to improve and recover the health condition of the population, to create an active and healthy lifestyle, to increase the international visibility of sports performance in different sports branches and events.

The study program ensures the creation of professional, content, cognitive and research skills in the “Science of Sports and Physical Education” field. It helps to perform the transfer of specialized information, the stimulation and support of sports creation and performance; the initial and continuous training of highly skilled human resources at university level, for the purpose of professional and personal development of the specialists in the field.

Since its setting up, a number of 213 doctoral theses have been completed in the Doctoral School, out of which 5 have been made by foreign students from Iraq, Syria and Palestine.

No thesis publicly defended in the ȘSEF Doctoral School was rejected in the CNATDCU commissions throughout its running period since establishment until the moment of drawing up the internal evaluation report.

II. Methods used

This chapter will contain the methods and tools used in the external evaluation process, before and during the evaluation visit.

- The analysis of the internal evaluation report of the doctoral study domain under review and its Annexes

The internal evaluation report of the doctoral study domain of the “Science of Sports and Physical Education” at the University of Pitesti (UPIT) under review is comprehensive and accurately and thoroughly reflects all mandatory criteria and indicators for specific activities.

- The analysis of documents, data and information available on the IOSUD/Doctoral School(s) website, in electronic format

All necessary documents, data and information for the assessment of the doctor’s domain are presented. The website of the doctoral school is detailed and informative.

- Visiting the buildings included in the institution's property, comprising (indicative and non-exhaustive list, which shall be changed according to the context)

As a member of the expert evaluation committee, I did not participate in an on-site visit to the institution’s property, base, classrooms and facilities.

- Meeting with the contact person for the doctoral study domain under review and the team responsible for the internal evaluation report

The meeting was focused on the main activities of the doctoral school, the conditions of study, the opportunities for scientific activity.

- Meeting/discussions with doctoral students in the doctoral study domain under review

Students from the doctoral school of the Science of Sports and Physical Education at the University of Pitesti (UPIT) were present. All students expressed their satisfaction with their studies in the doctoral school, giving very high evaluation of the supervisors.

- Meeting/Discussions with the graduates of the doctoral study domain under review

A separate online meeting was organized with the graduates of the doctoral school in Science of Sports and Physical Education at the University of Pitesti (UPIT). Attendees had graduated in various fields of physical education and sports. All graduates expressed their positive attitude towards the training and the teachers advisors from the doctoral school.

- Meeting/Discussions with the teaching staff in the doctoral study domain under review

The teaching staff from the doctoral school focused on the content of the education, curricula and the financial provision, the access of the students to laboratories and research activities from the side of the University, and students' support for their participation in research projects and publication in national and international scientific journals and proceedings.

- Meeting/Discussions with the employers

The employers expressed their satisfaction with the work of the graduates of the University of Pitesti.

- Meeting/Discussions with the the Commission for Quality Evaluation and Assurance (CEAC) members

In doctoral schools at university level, a strict system for the quality of education has been developed according to certain criteria and indicators.

- Meeting/Discussions with the Directors/ persons in charge of the research centers/laboratories within the doctoral study domain

There was a discussion about the laboratory, equipment and the main devices at the research center/laboratory of the doctoral school and their use in the field of physical education and sports. Possibilities for future researches in the area were discussed.

- Meeting/Discussions with the Ethic Commission of the University was carried out. The main procedures for plagiarism and the activities of the Commission were provided.

III. Analysis of ARACIS's performance indicators

Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

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.

The effective functioning mechanisms are 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;

The functioning of the doctoral studies program in the ŞSEF field within the ŞSEF Doctoral

School is subordinated to the reference frame that governs the organization and functioning of the Doctoral Schools and of the doctorate scientific fields of IOSUD-UPIT, respectively the laws in force - the Education Law no. 84/ 1995 and the National Education Law no. 1/2011, the Decisions of the Romanian government - HG no. 681/2011, the Code of Doctoral Studies, government emergency ordinances - Emergency Ordinance no.36/ 1997, orders of the Ministers of Education and / or Scientific Research, Charter of the University of Pitești, own regulations and decisions of UPIT Senate etc.

The entire activity of the doctoral scientific fields, of the doctoral schools, students and doctoral advisors from IOSUD, is conducted according to the Regulation on the organization and carrying out of the doctoral studies in the University of Pitești (<https://www.upit.ro/ro/academia-reorganizata/studii-de-doctorat/Regulament2019>). The Doctoral School that manages the field of study has elaborated and approved periodically the Regulation on the organization and functioning of the ȘSEF Doctoral School, which deals with the ȘSEF scientific field, in accordance with IOSUD Regulation, with the respective revisions. This one is approved in CȘD and posted on the Doctoral School website (<https://www.upit.ro/ro/academia-reorganizata/studii-de-doctorat/scoli-doctorale>).

(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;

In accordance with the regulations and IOSUD methodology (<https://www.upit.ro/ro/academia-reorganizata/studii-de-doctorat/methodology>) for organizing the elections and appointing the members of the Council for Doctoral Studies (CSUD) from IOSUD - University of Pitești code: met-csud-02), elections are held in the Doctoral School at the level of students, the doctoral advisors submit their candidacies for the position of director, the candidacies are validated and elections are made for becoming a member of the CȘD. ([Annex A 1.1.1.](#), [Annex A 1.1.2.](#), [Annex A.1.1.3.](#), [Annex A.1.1.4.](#))

c) the Methodologies for organizing and conducting doctoral studies (for the admission of doctoral students, for the completion of doctoral studies);

The admission of the doctoral students to ȘSEF field is made through an entrance exam. The recruitment of the candidates for the doctorate entrance exam in the University of Pitești is performed in conformity with the provisions of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, Law no. 288/2004 regarding the organization of academic studies, as subsequently amended and supplemented and the Government Decision no. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of doctoral studies and is based on the principle of equal opportunities and transparency.

d) the existence of mechanisms for recognizing the status of a Doctoral advisor and the equivalence of the doctoral degree obtained abroad;

The IOSUD-University of Pitești applies the provisions of OMENCS no. 5921/06.12.2016 for the approval of the *Methodology regarding the automatic recognition, by the higher education institutions, respectively the institutions organizing the doctoral studies in Romania, of the capacity of doctoral advisor granted in foreign accredited higher education institutions*. There are also applied the specific mechanisms in which are specified the stages to be covered during the implementation of the respective provisions, according to the *procedure concerning the automatic recognition, within the University of Pitești (UPIT), of the doctoral diploma and the doctoral degree in sciences or in a professional field, awarded abroad: PO-CSUD-04*, which is posted on the website of the institution (<https://www.upit.ro/ro/academia-reorganizata/studii-de-doctorat/>)

e) functional management structures (Council of the doctoral school), giving as well proof of the regularity of meetings;

The main attributions of the Doctoral School Council are stipulated in the regulations of the Doctoral School, art. 4 para. letter a)-l).

The term of the members of the Doctoral School Council is 5 years. The doctoral students – members of the Doctoral School Council lose this capacity from the date of the public defense of the doctoral thesis. In order to fill the vacancies in the CŞD, by-elections are organized. The term of office of the newly elected member shall end upon the expiry of the 5-year term of office of the CŞD.

f) the contract for doctoral studies;

All PhD students sign a doctoral contract.

g) internal procedures for the analysis and approval of proposals regarding the training for doctoral study programs based on advanced academic studies.

At the level of the Doctoral School, an admission procedure is created, discussed and approved in the CŞD, endorsed by the Quality Commission of the Doctoral School (<https://www.upit.ro/ro/academia-reorganizata/studii-de-doctorat/scoli-doctorale>). This procedure specifies: the minimum conditions for the participation in the entrance exam, the documents required for the registration of the candidates, the content of the entrance exam, the admission schedule, the conditions of matriculation. ([Annex A.1.1.6](#)).

The Romanians from everywhere and the foreign citizens from EU third countries benefit from methodologies that detail the conditions of eligibility, the admission procedure and the academic mobility at IOSUD level.

On the website of the Doctoral School are annually displayed the examination topic, for each doctoral advisor, and also the Methodology and procedure of admission, the number of places financed from the state budget and the fee-based places, the amount of the study fee. (<https://www.upit.ro/ro/academia-reorganizata/studii-de-doctorat/scoli-doctorale>).

In order to increase the quality of the candidates for the entrance examination in ŞSEF field, the admission procedure stipulates that the minimum grade of the bachelor's degree or the average of the grades obtained in bachelor's degree examination and at dissertation should be 8 (eight).

During the period submitted to the periodic evaluation, the students who graduated from universities from all over the country and from UPIT were admitted to the doctoral studies program.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The regulations of the doctoral school Physical Education and Sports at the UPIT subject to accreditation, corroborated with the Regulation on the organization and development of doctoral studies at the University of Pitesti, include all the aspects covered by Art. 17 (5) of GD 681/2011.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The necessary logistical resources have been created for the effective conduct of training in the doctoral school.

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.*

Doctoral students are enrolled in the RMU, are registered in CSUD Secretariat and in the

records of the Doctoral School Secretariat, where the most relevant aspects related to each doctoral student are recorded as for: funding conditions; doctoral advisor; advisory committee; academic path – academic report for the disciplines of study; individual program of scientific research (presentation of the research project, presentation of the progress reports, pre-defense of the thesis, public defense of the thesis); date of the defenses; grades awarded.

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 Doctoral School implements the methodologies created in UPIT, meant to check the percentage of similarity for all doctoral theses elaborated in the Doctoral School before the pre-defense of the doctoral thesis. Until September 2020, the degree of similarity was detected by using the system www.uefiscdi.direct.ro/semplag and the procedure related to the Science of Sports and Physical Education field, for the completion of the doctoral studies posted on the website of UPIT (<http://www.upit.ro/Procedure> on the way to use the anti-plagiarism system within the University of Pitești, COD: PO-CMCPU-04. Edition 1), approved by the Senate of UPIT on 17.12.2018, in which particular aspects referring to the Science of Sports and Physical Education field are specified.

The computer product www.sistemantiplagiat.ro was purchased and used in the University of Pitești starting with the academic year 2020-2021, for all doctoral studies.

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 financial sources are optimally used at IOSUD-UPIT level, in compliance with the legal provisions in force, according to the Procedure of substantiation of the organizational chart, issued in each Doctoral School, annually ([Annex A.1.2.4](#))

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.*

There are two scientific research grants with relevance specific to the “Science of Sports and Physical Education” field obtained by the doctoral advisors through a competition for funding ([Annex A.1.2.5](#)).

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%.*

During the evaluated period within the doctoral studies program, the doctoral students benefitted from 57 doctoral grants, accessed in conformity with the admission power of attorney, but also from financial support for the professional training of the human resource from INCS Bucharest and IȘS Bucharest. Thus, along the evaluated period, 12 doctoral students had financial support from these two research institutes.

During the respective period, in the Doctoral School, 36 doctoral students were financed from the state budget – Funding from other sources (2016-2021), so the percentage is met, given that it is 20.33% ([Annex A.1.3.1.](#)).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *A.1.3.3.² *At least 10% of the total amount of doctoral grants obtained by the university through institutional contracts and of tuition fees collected from the doctoral students enrolled in the paid tuition system is used to reimburse professional training expenses of doctoral students (attending conferences, summer schools, training, programs abroad, publication of specialty papers or other specific forms of dissemination etc.).*

Throughout the evaluated period, more than 70 students participated in scientific events, 23 of them benefitted from the payment of the participation fee by the Doctoral School. The fee for publication of articles was paid for more than 20 students; laboratory tests services were paid for the doctoral student Dubiț Nicoleta who defended publicly the doctoral thesis in 2017; software modules and licences were purchased for the specific research conducted in the doctoral thesis of the student Luca Claudiu. The records D.E. of IOSUD-UPIT includes all the justifying documents regarding the financial support of the doctoral students of ȘSEF Doctoral School, regardless of the source of financing of their program of studies. ([Annex A.1.3.2.](#))

Recommendations:

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 IOSUD/ Doctoral Schools have a modern research infrastructure meant to support the carrying out of the activities specific to the doctoral studies

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.*

In order to carry out research activities, the doctoral students have at their disposal appropriate and modern facilities for performance sports, physical education and kinesiology. They benefit from the support

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

given by the management of more than 25 public and private sports clubs in Pitești, the University Sports Club, ISJ Argeș and vocational education units, in order to conduct experimental research at the level of athletes from the national and Olympic teams or at the level of children, juniors and students in different educational cycles, other than the university cycle.

Students have free access to the research laboratory of the Research Center for Human Performance, for all activities in the individual program of research, for the topics that are suitable for the use of its equipment, apparatus and devices ([Annex A2.1.2.](#) and [Annex A.2.1.3.](#)). The logistics of the CCPU laboratory is complex, it was acquired starting with the academic year 2015-2016 and allows field-specific investigations on different levels.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion A.3. Quality of Human Resources

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

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

In the academic year 2020-2021, the ȘSEF Doctoral School had 7 doctoral advisors, 3 tenured UPIT and 4 retired UPIT, but professor dr Nicolae Mihăilescu passed away and since September 2020 there are 6 doctoral advisors. Half of them meet the minimum standards of CNATDCU in force at the time of the necessary and mandatory evaluation for obtaining the certificate of habilitation ([Annex A.3.1.3.](#))

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.*

At the time of the evaluation, the activity of advising the doctoral students within the Doctoral School is carried out by 6 doctoral advisors, 3 tenured and 3 associate professors who have reached the retirement age.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

standards established by the institution in relation with the aforementioned teaching and research functions, as provided by the law.

The disciplines of the training program based on advanced university studies are exclusively taught by the doctoral advisors of the Doctoral School, in conformity with the organizational chart ([Annex A.3.1.4.](#)).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *A.3.1.4. *The percentage of doctoral thesis advisors who concomitantly coordinate more than 8 doctoral students, but no more than 12, who are themselves studying in doctoral programs³ does not exceed 20%.*

In the Doctoral School of IOSUD–UPIT, “Science of Sports and Physical Education” field, the number of doctoral students coordinated by a doctoral advisor has varied over the past five years. At the level of the Quality Commission, the regulation of the number of doctoral students assigned to a doctoral advisor was permanently taken into consideration, in accordance with the quality standards in force. Thus, at the moment of the evaluation, no doctoral advisor coordinates more than 12 doctoral students. During the period 2016-2019, two doctoral advisors coordinated more than 12 doctoral students in various stages of the doctoral studies, which represents a percentage of 20% of the total number of doctoral advisors.

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.

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.*

All the doctoral advisors of the field submitted to evaluation have at least 5 publications indexed in Web of Science or ERIH, in journals with impact factor or other significant achievements in the respective field in which there are contributions at international level that highlight a progress in the scientific – development-innovation research for the ŞSEF field ([Annex A.3.2.2.](#)).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

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 advisors of the ȘSEF field, IOSUD-UPIT are scientifically active in proportion of 100%, they exceed the proportion of 25% of the fulfillment degree of CNATDCU minimum standards

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

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

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

The university is an attractive educational institution for candidates who have graduated from other universities.

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.*

Over 71 graduates of the long-term bachelor's or master's degree programs, coming from other Romanian universities, competed for the 17 doctoral grants to which the candidates for entrance examination had access in this period. The ratio between the number of grants and the number of candidates in this category is 0.26%.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

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

Candidates who apply to the doctoral school of the university demonstrate good academic and scientific achievements in the professional field.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator B.1.2.2. *The expelling rate, including renouncement/dropping out of doctoral students 3, respectively 4, years after admission⁴ does not exceed 30%.*

The rate of giving up/dropout of the doctoral students during the first 2 years is about 4.61%.

Recommendations:

The indicator is partially fulfilled.

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

Criterion B.2. The content of doctoral programs

Students are trained in quality educational programs that reflect the development of sports science.

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 curricula are aimed at developing research skills and ethical behavior in the scientific field.

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 educational process specific to the doctoral studies program respects the structure of the doctoral university studies program, which includes:

- a) *The training program based on advanced academic studies that ensures the training of the doctoral student through didactic and scientific activities – courses and seminars – that help the doctoral student to carry out in good conditions the program of scientific research and to acquire advanced competencies specific to the doctoral studies;*
- b) *an additional training program that ensures the deepening of the doctoral student's training in connection with the topic of the thesis, by means of courses and seminars;*
- c) *an individual program of scientific research, whose main object is the elaboration of the doctoral thesis on the basis of an adequate scientific path.*

These activities are registered in the Curriculum ([Annex A.2.1.1](#)) and in the Study Contract of the doctoral students, which they sign on the date of enrollment in the first year ([Annex B.2.1.1.](#))

The training program based on advanced academic studies is carried out throughout an academic semester. It lasts three months (14 weeks) and can not be extended. During the 5 years, the curriculum was modified, in accordance with the legislation in force and the requirements of the learning outcomes.

During the academic year 2019-2020, this program is achieved by attending 4 disciplines, 3 of them mandatory for all doctoral students and one chosen by the doctoral student with the consent of the doctoral advisor, and also other activities decided by the doctoral advisor ([Annex A.2.1.1.](#) and [B.2.1.2.](#))

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.*

From the year 2016-2017, the discipline *Deontology of scientific research and scientific communication* was introduced at the level of the Doctoral School; from the academic year 2018-2019 this one was replaced with the discipline *Ethics and academic deontology*, a discipline that is still part of the compulsory ones in the curriculum.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator B.2.1.3. *The IOSUD has mechanisms to ensure that the academic training program based on advanced university studies addresses „the learning outcomes”, specifying the knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through the research activities⁵.*

Each discipline included in the curriculum is provided with a sheet in which are recorded the objectives, intended competencies, knowledge, abilities, responsibility and autonomy, content (descriptors), form of evaluation, necessary resources and bibliography. These ones are discussed and confirmed in the Quality Commission of the Doctoral School and approved in CŞD, each year.

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 doctoral advisors propose the members of the Advisory Committees for each doctoral student enrolled in the first year, taking into account the topics of the doctoral theses and the competencies of those proposed to be members of the respective committees.

The proposals discussed in the group of doctoral advisors are approved in CŞD. The persons who are part of the Advisory Committees are tenured or associate teaching staff from the University of Piteşti or other Romanian universities, with minimum teaching degree of doctoral lecturer, and their working time is settled in the Organizational chart of the Doctoral School, according to its own procedure, checked and confirmed in CSUD, and approved by the Senate of UPIT ([Annex A.1.2.4.](#); [Annex B.2.1.4.](#))

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.*

Anually, after the enrollment of the doctoral students in the first year, their doctoral advisors establish the Advisory Committees for each student. The tenured teaching staff of the Physical Education Department and the Medical Care and Kinesiology Department of UPIT and other teaching staff from other universities of Romania were appointed in the Advisory Committees ([Annex B.2.1.4.](#)). During the academic year 2020-2021, the ratio between the number of doctoral students (80) and the number of the teaching staff who ensure the advising (28) is 2.8.

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



Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The results of the doctoral study are visible and there are clear 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 results of the research of the doctoral students are presented at scientific conferences and projects, published in scientific journals.

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

In order to ensure a coherent scientific path, the program of scientific research is planned by the doctoral advisor together with the doctoral student. It will include minimal requirements, which have the role of guiding, supporting and correcting the scientific path of the student:

a) presentation by the doctoral student, in front of the Advisory Committee, of a report that includes the project of scientific research elaborated for the doctoral thesis making. The project will be presented at the end of the first year of doctoral studies. The project could have been presented in competition or outside the competition, or during the international Symposium "Olympiad of the Young Doctoral Students", held each year, until 2019, at the level of the Doctoral Schools of ŞSEF field;

b) presentation, by the doctoral student, in the second and third year of the doctoral studies, of three research reports about the progress made in the scientific research; the reports are focused, as a rule, on the three parts of the thesis;

c) participation in national/ international conferences and publication of at least four scientific papers in recognized journals or in the volumes of some scientific events; in the case of the students enrolled in the academic year 2020-2021, one of the publications must be done in ISI cited journals with impact factor.

The specific scientific research was turned to account by the doctoral students who obtained the doctor's degree during the period 2016-2021 by presentations at scientific conferences, scientific publications, technological transfer, products etc. ([Annex B.3.1.1.](#)).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *B.3.1.2. *The ratio between the number of presentations of doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years), including posters,*



exhibitions made at prestigious international events (organized in the country or abroad) and the number of doctoral students who have completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years) is at least 1.

The ratio between the number of presentations of the doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies during the evaluated period (last 5 years), including poster type presentations, exhibitions organized in prestigious international events (carried out in Romania and abroad) and the number of the doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies during the evaluated period is 2.12. ([Annex B.3.1.1.](#))

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.

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.*

During the evaluation period, 33 commissions of experts were set up for the public defense of the doctoral theses completed in this period, 2016-2021. The Doctoral School appealed to an appreciable number of experts from outside the institution, namely 52, for the public defense of the doctoral theses. Details on the participation of experts in these commissions, by doctoral advisors and years, are given in [Annex B.3.2.1.](#)

The number of doctoral theses assigned to an advisor from other educational institutions does not exceed, in any year, two doctoral theses coordinated by the same doctoral advisor.

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.*

As for the ratio between the number of doctoral theses assigned to a certain scientific advisor from other higher education institution than the institution organizing the doctoral thesis and the number of the doctoral theses defended in the same doctoral field within the Doctoral School, as it results from the analysis of the data this ratio is 0, both annually and at the level of the evaluated period ([Annex B.3.2.1.](#)).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.



Domain C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

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

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

Clear and transparent procedures and policies for educational quality management have been established.

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:*

The Doctoral School to which belongs the doctoral studies field is proof of the permanent carrying out of the evaluation and internal quality assurance process in compliance with a procedure developed and applied at IOSUD level. Among the evaluated criteria, the following ones are mandatory:

- a) scientific activity of the doctoral advisors;*
- b) infrastructure and logistics necessary for carrying out the research activity;*
- c) procedures and subsequent norms on the basis of which the 2019-2020 doctoral studies are organized;*
- d) scientific activity of the doctoral students;*
- e) training program based on advanced academic studies of the doctoral studies.*

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

In the field of ŞSEF, feedback mechanisms were elaborated and implemented for identifying the needs and expectations of the students and to record the general level of satisfaction with the activities specific to the doctoral studies program ([Annex C.1.1.2.1](#); [Annex C.1.1.2.2](#)).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

Full transparency of information and access to learning resources is ensured.



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

All necessary public information for access to the doctoral school and for the doctoral students is published online.

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

- a) Doctoral School regulations;*
- b) admission regulation;*
- c) contract of doctoral studies;*
- d) regulation for completing the studies, including the procedure for thesis public defense;*
- e) content of study programs;*
- f) scientific profile and thematic areas/research topics of the doctoral advisors in the school, as well as their institutional contact data;*
- g) list of the doctoral students in the school, with basic information (enrollment year, advisor);*
- h) information about the elaboration standards of the doctoral thesis;*
- i) links to the abstracts of the doctoral theses to be defended publicly, as well as the date, time, place where the theses will be defended, at least 20 days before the defense.*

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The doctoral school provides access to all necessary resources for conducting the training.

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.*

Thanks to ANELIS PLUS 2020 project, UPIT benefits from access to a series of platforms of scientific research journals with full text and bibliographic and bibliometric databases. The access of the students is available in two ways:

- a) IP-based access

The electronic resources purchased through ANELIS+ can be accessed from any equipment connected to the University internet network (www.springer.com OR www.webofknowledge.com).

- b) Mobile access

Through the services of UPIT Library, the doctoral students have access to the databases by accessing the link http://cat-biblioteca.upit.ro/bibl/Pagina%20WEB/Site_nou/BazeDate.htm

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.*

Each doctoral student has access, upon request, to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

All doctoral students have free access to the research laboratory and to other research facilities and devices at the Faculty and at the University.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion C.3. Internationalization

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

A strategy for improving the internationalization process of the doctoral school has been adopted and is being implemented.

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.*

During the evaluated period, a number of 8 Erasmus agreements and collaboration protocols with education institutions other than those in the European Union were concluded ([Annex A.2.1.5](#)) and more than 35% of the doctoral students participate in international scientific events, organized in Romania and abroad. The Doctoral School in ȘSEF field initiated and organized, in partnership with INCS Bucharest, the first 9 editions of an international competition with research projects of the young doctoral students, Olympiad of the Young Doctoral Students ([www.ccpu.ro/manifestări științifice](http://www.ccpu.ro/manifestări_științifice)). The tenth edition was organized under the patronage of ECSS and FIEP. All the doctoral students under the age of 35 years participated in this international scientific event.

Recommendations:

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.*

In the academic year 2017-2018, on the basis of Erasmus agreement was invited for complementary educational activities a professor from France, Mont Blanc University, Mr. Nicolas Forestier, vice-president of the University ([Annex C.3.1.2.](#)).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

UPIT has been developed internationalization strategies and a concrete plan of measures. The University has a Center for International Relations that manages these issues. Currently UPIT collaborates with more than 230 universities and academic institutions from 49 countries for mobilities Erasmus+ (Erasmus Bilateral Agreements), research-development-innovation projects, scientific conferences and journals (Framework Agreements). At the same time, the University of Pitești is member of 6 prestigious international associations.

The Doctoral School initiated and participated in international educational fairs to attract foreign doctoral students, to conclude Erasmus mobility contracts and to bring foreign experts for the evaluation of the doctoral thesis in the field.

During the evaluated period, professor Nicolas Forestier, Mont Blanc University, France gave courses of professional training for the doctoral students ([Annex C.3.1.2.](#)).

Professor Constatantin Ciorbă, PhD from the „Ion Creangă” University of Chișinău was assigned as scientific advisor in the commission of evaluation of a doctoral thesis coordinated by professor Gheorghe Simion, PhD, in 2019 ([Annex B.3.2.1;](#) [Annex C.3.1.3.](#)).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

IV. SWOT Analysis

Strengths:	Weaknesses
The existence and adequate functioning at the university level of the management structures	Not enough foreign experts in the field to give courses and lectures to doctoral students
An internal quality assurance system - clear and transparent procedures and policies in the doctoral school for educational quality management	Few foreign doctoral students
A sufficient and highly qualified teaching staff to ensure high quality student education and to conduct modern scientific research	Small number of theses written in international co-supervision
	Small number of incoming and outgoing Erasmus mobility for students
	Several supervisors lead a large number of PhD students

<p>All the doctoral advisors of the field are scientifically active, they exceed the proportion of 25% of the fulfillment degree of CNATDCU minimum standards</p> <p>Good educational program that help the doctoral students to acquire advanced competencies specific to the doctoral studies</p> <p>Modern base, facilities, information and resources for carrying out its main activities</p> <p>Financially support of doctoral students to actively participate in scientific conferences, congresses, workshops and to publish their scientific articles and reports in established scientific journals</p>	<p>Not enough institutional grants for scientific and research activities</p>
<p>Opportunities:</p> <p>Attracting of foreign doctoral students</p> <p>Increase the proportion of the doctoral students who benefit from sources of funding other than the governmental funding through scholarships and through national and international projects</p> <p>Purchase of new certified software products and equipment for conducting research in the field of PE and sports</p> <p>Improving the visibility of supervisors through participation in lectures abroad, teaching mobility, participation in international boards, projects, etc.</p> <p>The national/international collaborations and creation of joint programmes with European universities</p> <p>Closer cooperation and joint activities between the doctoral school and employers</p>	<p>Threats:</p> <p>Competition of related doctoral schools in the field of sports</p> <p>Insufficient financial support for scientific activity</p> <p>Weak interest of young people in research work in the field</p> <p>Dropping out of doctoral students due to work commitments and going abroad</p>

V. Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations

Crt No.	Indicator type (*, IPC)	Performance indicator	Ratings	Recommendations
A.1.1.1.		The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of IOSUD	Positive evaluation	
A.1.1.2.		The Regulation of the School for Doctoral studies includes criteria, procedures and mandatory standards for the aspects	Positive evaluation	

		specified in art. 17, paragraph 5, from the Code of doctoral studies, approved by HG 681/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions		
A.1.2.1.		The existence and effectiveness of an adequate computer system for the record of doctoral students and their academic background.	Positive evaluation	
A.1.2.2.		The existence and use of a computer program and proves of its usage in order to check all the doctoral theses percentage of similarity	Positive evaluation	
A.1.3.1.		The existence of at least one research or institutional development / human resources grant in implementation at the time of submitting the self-assessment file, per field of doctoral studies or the existence of at least 2 research or institutional development / human resources grants per field of doctoral studies obtained by doctoral supervisors in the evaluated field in the last 5 years.	Positive evaluation	
A.1.3.2.	*	The proportion of doctoral students existing at the time of assessment, who benefit for a minimum of six months from sources other than government funding, through scholarships granted by individuals or legal entities or are financially supported by research or institutional development / human resources grants, is not less than 20%.	Positive evaluation	
A.1.3.3.	*	At least 10% of the total amounts related to the doctoral grants	Positive evaluation	

		obtained by the university through the institutional contract and tuition fees collected from doctoral students are used to reimburse the training expenses of doctoral students (participation in conferences, summer schools, internships abroad, publication of specialized articles or other specific forms of dissemination, etc.).		
A.2.1.1.	IPC	The spaces and material endowment of IOSUD/The Schools for Doctoral studies allow the research activities to be carried out, in the evaluated field, in accordance with the mission and objectives assumed (computers, specific software, installations, laboratory equipment, library, access to international databases, etc). The research infrastructure and the research service offer are publicly presented through a profile platform. The research infrastructure described above, acquired and developed in the last 5 years, will be highlighted separately.	Positive evaluation	
A.3.1.1.	IPC	Within the doctoral field, at least three doctoral supervisors carry out their activity and at least 50% of them (but not less than three) meet the minimum CNATDCU standards in force at the time of the evaluation, necessary and mandatory for obtaining the habilitation certificate.	Positive evaluation	
A.3.1.2.	IPC	At least 50% of the doctoral supervisors in the evaluated	Positive evaluation	

		<p>doctoral field are postholders within IOSUD, hired based on an unfixed-term contract. The status of holder within the IOSUD analyzed means that doctoral supervisor who has a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period in the IOSUD' coordinating higher education institution or in one of the component institutions of the consortium that forms IOSUD or the partnerships concluded under the conditions of art. 6 of GD no. 681/2011, with subsequent amendments and completions.</p>		
A.3.1.3.		<p>The courses of the program based on advanced university studies related to the field are held by professors or researchers who have the title of doctoral/habilitated supervisor, professor/CS I or associate professor/CS II with proven expertise in the field of the taught courses or other specialists in field that meet the standards established by the institution for the aforementioned teaching and research positions, under the law.</p>	Positive evaluation	
A.3.1.4.	*	<p>The share of doctoral supervisors who sumiltaneously supervise at the same time more than 8 doctoral students, but no more than 12, during their doctoral studies 3 or 4 years, depending on the field, to which are added the extension periods granted according to art. 39, para. (3) of GD no. 681/2011, with subsequent amendments and completions), does not exceed 20%.</p>	Positive evaluation	

A.3.2.1.	<p>At least 50% of the doctoral supervisors in the field, subject to evaluation, present at least 5 publications indexed Web of Science or ERIH in journals with impact factor or other achievements, with significant relevance to the related field, in which there are international contributions that reveal a progress in scientific research-development-innovation for the evaluated field. The mentioned doctoral supervisors have had international visibility in the last five years, consisting in: membership in the scientific committees of the international publications and conferences; membership in the boards of international professional associations; as guest at conferences or groups of experts held abroad or as a member of committees for the presentation of doctoral theses at foreign universities or in joint supervision with a foreign university. For the fields of science: Arts and Sports and Physical Education Science, the doctoral supervisors will prove the international visibility in the last five years by being a member of the boards of international professional associations, by being a member of the organizing committees of artistic events and international competitions, respectively by membership in juries or arbitration teams in artistic events or international competitions.</p>	Positive evaluation	
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A.3.2.2.	*	At least 50% of the doctoral supervisors assigned to a field of doctoral studies continue to be scientifically active, obtaining at least 25% of the score required by the CNATDCU minimum standards in force at the time of evaluation, necessary and mandatory to obtain the habilitation certificate, based on scientific results in the last five years.	Positive evaluation	
B.1.1.1.	*	The ratio between the number of master graduates of other national and international higher education institutions who registered for admission to doctoral studies in the last five years and the number of seats financed by the state budget put up for competition within the school for doctoral studies is at least 0.2	Positive evaluation	
B.1.2.2.	*	The dropout rate of doctoral students 2 years after admission does not exceed 30%.	Positive evaluation	
B.2.1.1.		The training program based on advanced university studies comprises at least three relevant courses for preparing the doctoral students in scientific research, among which at least one course is intended for the in-depth study of the research methodology and / or statistical data processing.	Positive evaluation	
B.2.1.2.		There is at least one course dedicated to ethics in scientific research and well-defined intellectual or thematic property on these topics within a course taught in the doctoral program	Positive evaluation	

B.2.1.3.		IOSUD has created mechanisms to ensure that the training program based on advanced university studies, related to the evaluated field, focus on "learning outcomes", specifying the knowledge, skills and responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should achieve after completing each course or by research activities	Positive evaluation	
B.2.1.4.		Throughout the doctoral stage, doctoral students in the field benefit from the advice / guidance of functional supervision committee, aspect reflected by guidance and written feedback or regular meetings.	Positive evaluation	
B.2.1.5.	IPC	For a field of doctoral studies the ratio between the number of doctoral students and the number of professors / researchers who supervise should not exceed 3:1.	Positive evaluation	
B.3.1.1.	IPC	For the evaluated field, at least one article or another relevant contribution per doctoral student who has obtained the doctoral degree in the last 5 years is made available to the evaluation committee. From this list, the members of the evaluation commission select for analysis, randomly, 5 such relevant articles / contributions per field of doctoral studies. Articles, thus selected and analyzed, will receive a rating on the original contribution to the development of the field, on a scale of 1 to 5. At least three articles must reach the threshold of 3.	Positive evaluation	

B.3.1.2.	*	The ratio between the number of presentations of doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies in the evaluated period (last 5 years), including posters, exhibitions, made at prestigious international events (held in the country or abroad) and the number of doctoral students who have completed their doctoral studies in the evaluated period (last five years) is at least equal to 1.	Positive evaluation	
B.3.2.1.	*	The number of doctoral theses assigned to a particular referent from a higher education institution, other than the evaluated IOSUD, must not exceed two (2) for theses coordinated by the same doctoral supervisor, in a year.	Positive evaluation	
B.3.2.2.	*	The ratio between the number of doctoral theses assigned to a certain scientific referent from another higher education institution than the one in which the doctoral thesis is organized and the number of doctoral theses defended in the same doctoral field within the doctoral school must not be higher than 0.3, compared to the situation recorded in the last five years. Only those doctoral fields in which at least ten doctoral theses have been defended in the last five years are analyzed.	Positive evaluation	
C.1.1.1.		The School for Doctoral Studies in which the field of doctoral studies falls proves the constant development of the process of evaluation and internal quality	Positive evaluation	

		<p>assurance in accordance with a procedure developed and applied at IOSUD level, among the evaluated criteria being mandatory:</p> <p>(a) the scientific activity of doctoral supervisors;</p> <p>(b) the infrastructure and logistics necessary to carry out the research activity;</p> <p>(c) the procedures and subsequent norms on the basis of which the doctoral studies are organized;</p> <p>(d) the scientific activity of the doctoral students;</p> <p>(e) training program based on advanced university studies of the doctoral students.</p>		
C.1.1.2.	*	<p>During the doctoral training, feedback mechanisms from the doctoral students are implemented by which their needs are identified, as well as their general level of satisfaction towards the doctoral program, in order to continuously improve the academic and administrative processes.</p>	Positive evaluation	
C.2.1.1.		<p>IOSUD, publishes on the organising institution's website, in compliance with the general regulations of data protection, information such as:</p> <p>a) school for doctoral studies regulation;</p> <p>b) admission regulation;</p> <p>c) doctoral studies contract;</p> <p>d) the regulation for completing</p>	Positive evaluation	

		<p>studies which also includes the procedure for publicly presenting the thesis;</p> <p>e) the study programs' content;</p> <p>f) the scientific profile and thematic areas/ research topics of the doctoral supervisors in the field, as well as their institutional contact details;</p> <p>g) the list of doctoral students in the field with basic information (year of enrollment, doctoral supervisor);</p> <p>h) information regarding the drafting standards of the doctoral thesis;</p> <p>i) links to abstracts of the doctoral theses to be publicly presented as well as the date, time and place where they will be presented, at least 20 days prior the presentation.</p>		
C.2.2.1.		All doctoral students are granted free access to a platform with academic databases relevant to the fields of organized doctoral studies.	Positive evaluation	
C.2.2.2.		Each doctoral student is granted access, upon request, to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic creations.	Positive evaluation	
C.2.2.3.		All doctoral students are granted access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities depending on the specific of the field / fields within the school for doctoral studies, according to internal regulations.	Positive evaluation	
C.3.1.1.	*	IOSUD, for each doctoral school, has concluded mobility agreements with foreign	Partially positive evaluation	To increase the number of incoming and outgoing Erasmus

		<p>universities, with companies that carry out activities in the studied field, which focus on the mobility of doctoral students and professors (for instance, ERASMUS agreements for the doctoral studies cycle). At least 35% of doctoral students have carried out an internship abroad or other form of mobility, such as participating in international scientific conferences. IOSUD develops and implements policies and action plans aimed at increasing the number of doctoral students participating in training courses abroad, up to at least 20%, which is the target at the level of the European Higher Education Area.</p>		students' mobility.
C.3.1.2.		<p>IOSUD supports, including financially, the organization of doctorates in international co-supervision, respectively the invitation of recognized experts to give courses / lectures for PhD students.</p>	Positive evaluation	
C.3.1.3.		<p>The internationalization of the activities within the doctoral studies is supported by concrete measures (for instance, participating at educational fairs to attract international doctoral students; including international experts in supervising or presenting committees for doctoral theses, etc.).</p>	Positive evaluation	



VI. Conclusions and general recommendations

Conclusions

In the University of Pitesti exist and function good management structures.

The doctoral school in the Science of Sports and Physical Education at the University of Pitesti has a sufficient and highly qualified teaching staff to ensure high quality student education and to conduct modern scientific research. Systematic monitoring and updating of the existing educational programs is carried out.

All supervisors have scientific publications in established international journals and proceedings and those in Web of Science and with an impact factor.

The doctoral school has developed and approved an internal quality assurance system. Clear and transparent procedures and policies for educational quality management have been established

The existence of laboratories and modern research infrastructure is available. The doctoral school constantly develops and maintains its base, facilities, and resources for carrying out its main activities.

The official website of the doctoral school provides full and detailed information of candidate students, doctoral students and employers.

All doctoral students have access to the facilities, resources and laboratories necessary for the educational and research process.

The doctoral students are encouraged to participate in scientific conferences, congresses in the country and abroad, workshops and project activities and to publish their scientific articles and reports in national and international scientific journals and proceedings.

Based on the assessments made on the individual criteria and performance indicators, the following recommendations can be provided:

- internationalization of the doctoral studies activity and stimulating the doctoral students' participation in the Erasmus mobility;
- increasing the partnership with European universities and creating new international contacts in the field of Sports Science and PE;
- reducing the number of doctoral students in some of the supervisors;
- finding additional institutional and faculty grants for scientific and research activities.

In conclusion, the criteria and performance indicators of the external evaluation are fulfilled and only 1 of them is partially fulfilled.

Signature:

Professor Eleonora Mileva, D.Sc., Ph.D.