

The Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education



External Evaluation Report (REE) for the procedure for obtaining an accreditation* (AC) of a Doctoral Study Domain

Higher Education Institution/Education Provider Organization:	Ștefan cel Mare Academy
Doctoral School:	Law
Doctoral Domain:	Law
The objective of the external evaluation:	Accreditation* (AC)



Members of the ARACIS Evaluation Panel

No.	Last Name and First Name	Team role	Signature
1.	Ispas Gabriel Liviu	Expert evaluator	
2.	Oanta Oanta Gabriela Alexandra	International Expert	
3.	Grigoraş Carolina	PhD Student Evaluator	



I. Introduction

The external quality assessment report is elaborated following the request of Ștefan cel Mare Academy to accredit a doctoral program in the field of legal sciences/ law.

The report was prepared by the committee appointed by the ARACIS Council, composed of prof. dr. habil. Gabriel Liviu Ispas, member of the Permanent Commission of Legal Sciences of ARACIS, Prof. Gabriela Alexandra Oanță, international evaluator, University of Corunna, Spain and Carolina Grigoraș, PhD student, Moldova State University.

The evaluation visit took place on March 18-20, 2026, at the Ștefan cel Mare Academy, Chișinău, the evaluation team having access to the self-evaluation documents 25 days before the visit.

IODS was established by Government Decision No. 276 of 17.08.1990 "Regarding the establishment of the National Police Academy and the restructuring of the current educational institutions within the MIA system", with university status for training highly qualified lawyers for the internal affairs bodies of the Republic of Moldova. In 1995, Government Decision of the Republic of Moldova No. 325 of 22.05.1995 has been approved "Regarding the concept of training legal professionals in educational institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs".

In 2005, the "Ștefan cel Mare" Academy underwent an external evaluation process, obtaining accreditation. In 2013, the Academy was subjected to external evaluation in the field of science and innovation by the NCAC and scientifically accredited.

Based on the results of the external evaluation carried out by RAQUAHE, the Academy was accredited to organize undergraduate higher education programs (cycle I) in the field of Law by GD No. 731 of 19.10.2015. Subsequently, as a result of the external evaluation carried out by the Estonian Quality Assurance Agency in Higher and Vocational Education, the Academy was accredited to organize higher education master's degree programs (cycle II) in the field of Law by Government Decision No. 883 of 28.12.2015.

The Academy has legal personality, has a stamp with the coat of arms of the Republic of Moldova and its own emblem, a settlement account and other accounts, including foreign exchange, with its own balance, and possesses a part of the national patrimony. The Academy organizes the educational process in its own space, in full autonomy and academic freedom. Academy Headquarters: Chișinău municipality, Gheorghe Asachi Street, No. 21; Chișinău municipality, Sf. Vineri Street, No. 7 and Chișinău municipality, Second Lermontov Side Street, No.12.

Within the Faculty of Law, Administration, Public Order and Security, specialists are trained for the Ministry of Internal Affairs and other law enforcement bodies in the Republic of Moldova. The Faculty provides training for the first cycle – bachelor's degree and the second cycle – master's degree in specialties/study programs within the fields of professional training at the bachelor's/master's degree, in accordance with the Nomenclature of fields of study and specialties in higher education, approved by Government Decision No. 412/2024.

The IODUS missions are described in the University Charter of the "Ștefan cel Mare" Academy of the Ministry of Interior, including: training highly qualified specialists competitive on the national and international labor market through higher education (Bachelor's degree, Master's degree, PhD's degree); conducting scientific research in areas of primary interest for the Ministry of Internal Affairs, according to the requests of internal beneficiaries, public institutions and its own programs; providing methodological, scientific and informational assistance to the Ministry of Interior; initial and continuous



training of officers and non-commissioned officers employed in the Ministry of Internal Affairs from an external source, etc.

In the context of the latest reform of the Academy, in accordance with GD no. 429 of 24.06.2020 on the organization and functioning of public educational institutions subordinated to the Ministry of Interior, the Academy was subject to reorganization, with a new organizational chart.

Within IODUS, the Doctoral School of Criminal Sciences and Public Law operates, which conducts doctoral studies in the field of Law. By the time of the formation of the Doctoral School of Criminal Sciences and Public Law, higher doctoral studies were authorized within the Academy in 1997. Thus, the Higher Attestation Commission of the Republic of Moldova authorized the organization of doctoral education based on the Decision of the Higher Attestation Commission of the Republic of Moldova, Minutes No. 28 of 27.02.1997.

In order to implement the new standards, pursuant to the Senate Decision of 18.11.2015, the Doctoral School of Criminal Sciences and Public Law was established within the “Ștefan cel Mare” Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. According to the order of the “Ștefan cel Mare” Academy No. 9 of 26.02.2016, based on the extracts of the minutes of the Competition Commission of 04.12.2015, the General Assembly of doctoral supervisors and doctoral students of 26.02.2016, the composition of the Scientific Council of the “Ștefan cel Mare” was approved.

The field of study and the doctoral university study programs of the Doctoral School were authorized by Government Decision No. 57 of 06.02.2017. The Doctoral School was authorized to manage the scientific field 5. Social and Economic Sciences, scientific branch 55. Legal Sciences, Scientific profile 552 Public Law, specializations 552.02 Administrative Law, 552.06 Environmental and Land Law, 552.07 Land and Environmental Law and Scientific profile 554 Criminal Law, specializations 554.01. Criminal Law and Criminal Execution, 554.02 Criminology, 554.03 Criminal Procedural Law, 554.04. Forensics, Judicial Expertise and Operational Investigations, regulated by Government Decision No. 199 of 13.03.2013 regarding the approval of the Nomenclature of the scientific specialty, in force at the time of authorization of the Doctoral School.

The Doctoral School is led by the Director of the Doctoral School and the Doctoral School Council, consisting of 11 members (8 teaching staff/doctoral supervisors –representatives of different Departments (chairs), 1 honorary member from Romania, 2 doctoral students). The activities specific to doctoral studies are established in the institution’s operational plan, being planned per calendar year, specifying those responsible for each activity.

II. Methods used

The external evaluation was carried out by studying the internal evaluation report prepared and submitted by the higher education institution, including the annexes. No documents were requested prior to the visit, and during the visit the documents also in the electronic file were checked. The management of the faculty also presented a number of results of scientific research.

During the visit to the institution, meetings were organized with the heads of the institution, as detailed in the work program. A meeting was organized with the representatives of the socio-professional environment representative for the field of law and public order, which was attended, among others, by the Minister of Justice, Minister of Interior, representatives of judges, prosecutors, head of Border Police, head of Gendarmerie.

Visits were made to the research laboratories, library, study spaces and student facilities.



III. Judgement on the extent to which the standards and performance indicators are fulfilled

DOMAIN A. Institutional capacity

Criterion A.1. Managerial and administrative structures and processes involving students and other stakeholders

Standard S.A.1.1. Organisational components and institutional processes

The HEI has organisational components in its structure, which function based on adequate competences, responsibilities, processes, and implementation procedures, and ensure an effective management system.

Indicator I.P.A.1.1.1	For delivering the study programme/domain, the HEI has adequate organisational components and an adequate management system, which operate based on methodologies, regulations and procedures that are periodically reviewed as required by law.
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Pursuant to the Education Code of the Republic of Moldova No. 152/17.07.2014 and the Regulation on the organization of higher doctoral studies (cycle III) approved by Government Decision No. 1007/10.12.2014, the following documents were adopted:

- Regulations for the organization and conduct of higher doctoral studies within the doctoral school "Criminal Sciences and Public Law", approved by the Senate Decision No. 3/04.03.2016.
- Regulations of the Doctoral School "Criminal Sciences and Public Law" of the "Stefan cel Mare" Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, approved by the Senate Decision No. 3/04.03.2016.
- Methodology for the conduct and organization of the admission procedure to higher doctoral studies within the Doctoral School "Criminal Sciences and Public Law" for the academic year 2025-2026, approved by the Decision of the Scientific Council No. 6/21.05.2025.
- Methodology for conducting the scientific project competition within the Doctoral School "Criminal Sciences and Public Law" for the academic year 2024-2025 (on budget), approved by the Senate Decision No. 6/08.02.2024.
- Methodology for appointing members of the Scientific Council of the "Stefan cel Mare" Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova, approved by the Senate Decision No. 2/18.11.2015.
- Methodology for recognizing and equivalence of scientific and didactic titles within the "Stefan cel Mare" Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova obtained abroad, approved by the Senate Decision No. 8/31.05.2024.

At IOSUD:

- there are functional management structures (Doctoral School Council), including proof of regularity in convening meetings.
- there are mechanisms for recognizing the quality of doctoral supervisor and for the equivalence of doctorates obtained in other countries.
- there are internal procedures for reviewing and approving proposals for advanced doctoral program topics.
- there is a doctoral study contract.



- there are procedures regarding the organization of the exam for completing doctoral studies through the public defense of the doctoral thesis.

The Doctoral School Regulations and the Regulations on the Organization of Higher Doctoral Studies, Cycle III, of the institution cover all aspects specified in the Education Code of the Republic of Moldova No. 152/17.07.2014 and the Regulations on the Organization of Higher Doctoral Studies (Cycle III) approved by GD No. 1007/10.12.2014, namely:

- a) acceptance of new doctoral supervisors, as well as regulations on how a doctoral supervisor may be withdrawn from the membership of the Doctoral School.
- b) the mechanisms by which decisions are made regarding the opportunity, structure and content of the doctoral program based on advanced studies.
- c) the procedures for changing the doctoral supervisor of a PhD student and the procedures for mediating conflicts.
- d) the conditions under which the doctoral program may be interrupted.
- e) the way to provide information on ethics and good conduct, as well as the prevention of fraud in scientific research, including plagiarism.
- f) the way to ensure access to research resources.
- g) the obligations of doctoral students.
- h) the information required to be placed on the doctoral school website.

From the analysis of the data and the situations presented, we found that the institution implements the methodologies and procedures, including by assuming measures in the event of violations of quality and ethical standards in doctoral theses and research. The commission's assessment is that there are institutional procedures and mechanisms, provided for by law, as well as a commitment to implementing the assumed norms. We consider that the standard is met.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.A.1.2. Stakeholder engagement The HEI proves that it engages the relevant stakeholders in developing methodologies and regulations, as well as implementation procedures.	
Indicator I.P.A.1.2.1	The opinions of the faculty and department members, of the subsidiary or extension* and of other stakeholders are considered in the process of adopting and revising methodologies, regulations and implementation procedures.

The opinions of stakeholders, in particular teaching staff, doctoral supervisors, doctoral students, partners and employers are taken into account in the process of developing, adopting and periodically reviewing the methodologies, regulations and procedures for implementing the Doctoral School.

The participation of stakeholders is achieved through institutional mechanisms, including prior consultation within academic structures, thus in the Doctoral School Council there is a representative of doctoral students and a member coming from outside the institution. The opinions and suggestions of students are established through questionnaires, and of employers and external partners through consultation.

* The faculty, department, subsidiary, extension - hereinafter "organisational components"



From the discussions held with representatives of the socio-professional environment and the analyzed data, it emerged that they were consulted on the specific activities of the doctoral programs: study plan, curriculums, establishment of general themes and research directions of the "Stefan cel Mare" Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (2026-2030) correlated with the realities on the ground and national strategies, etc.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion A.2. The material resources and optimisation of the use of the material resources

Standard S.A.2.1. Material resources

The HEI owns adequate movable and immovable assets to enable it to carry out the study programme/domain.

Indicator I.P.A.2.1.1	The HEI legally owns venues for the related education, research and administrative processes, as well as for services for students, doctoral students and trainees, thus providing an enabling environment for living and studying, including for disabled persons. Optimal venues are also provided for activities of the staff. Such venues are adequately equipped.
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The Academy "Stefan cel Mare" legally owns land and buildings with spaces dedicated to teaching and research processes, administrative areas, as well as facilities for providing services to students, doctoral candidates, trainees, and employees. The institution holds the land and premises located in the following sites:

- **the land located at the address of the municipality of Chisinau, Gh. Asachi Street no. 2, includes: the administrative block** (offices, seminar rooms, warehouses, computer rooms/laboratories, canteen, sanitary blocks, libraries/reading rooms, protocol/meeting rooms, kitchen, museum/chapel, archive), **canteen/cafeteria, sports field, garage and auxiliary block, sports hall and shooting range, multifunctional forensic polygon** (forensic examination laboratory, criminal procedural activities laboratory, spaces for simulations and tactical-procedural practices in criminal prosecution, laboratory for chemical examinations in forensic dactyloscopy, laboratory for examinations in forensic traceology, laboratory for technical examination of documents/forensic graphoscopy, laboratory for hearings under special conditions/presentation for recognition, etc.), **student residence, checkpoint and control point, forensic laboratory;**
- **the land located at Sfinta Vineri Street, no. 7, includes: student residence, study block** (offices, seminar room, lecture hall, laboratory/computer room, conference hall, library, gym, etc.), **open-type sports field, checkpoint and crossing point;**
- **the land located on Lermontov II-a Street no. 12, includes: block** (offices, cafeteria, gym, seminar room, etc.), **open-type car polygon.**

The educational and research facilities correspond to the capacity and requirements of the study programs, while the technical and material base is relevant for carrying out practical teaching and research activities, ensuring a favorable environment for study and life, including for persons with disabilities, with each case being analyzed individually and solutions identified according to needs and legal provisions, also regulated by institutional acts such as the [Doctoral School Regulation](#), points 117¹–117⁴. In addition, there are offices and methodological rooms intended for teaching staff to ensure the proper conduct of educational activities.



The Academy has its own educational and research spaces for carrying out teaching activities, the forensic polygon is well-equipped with state-of-the-art technical-forensic equipment and technological infrastructure, which allows studies to be carried out in a modern space adapted to study and research needs.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.A.2.2. Management of material resources	
The organisational components manage the movable and immovable assets used for the evaluated study programme/domain in an optimal, sustainable manner.	
Indicator I.P.A.2.2.1	The movable and immovable assets are properly maintained to ensure optimal conditions for studying, living and research, as well as for work.

The Academy “Stefan cel Mare” legally owns land and buildings with spaces dedicated to teaching and research processes, administrative areas, as well as facilities for providing services to students, doctoral candidates, trainees, and employees. The institution holds the land and premises located in the following sites:

- **the land located at the address of the municipality of Chisinau, Gh. Asachi Street no. 2, includes: the administrative block** (offices, seminar rooms, warehouses, computer rooms/laboratories, canteen, sanitary blocks, libraries/reading rooms, protocol/meeting rooms, kitchen, museum/chapel, archive), **canteen/cafeteria, sports field, garage and auxiliary block, sports hall and shooting range, multifunctional forensic polygon** (forensic examination laboratory, criminal procedural activities laboratory, spaces for simulations and tactical-procedural practices in criminal prosecution, laboratory for chemical examinations in forensic dactyloscopy, laboratory for examinations in forensic traceology, laboratory for technical examination of documents/forensic graphoscopy, laboratory for hearings under special conditions/presentation for recognition, etc.), **student residence, checkpoint and control point, forensic laboratory;**
- **the land located at Sfinta Vineri Street, no. 7, includes: student residence, study block** (offices, seminar room, lecture hall, laboratory/computer room, conference hall, library, gym, etc.), **open-type sports field, checkpoint and crossing point;**
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The Academy has its own educational and research spaces for carrying out teaching activities, the forensic polygon is well-equipped with state-of-the-art technical-forensic equipment and technological infrastructure, which allows studies to be carried out in a modern space adapted to study and research needs.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion A.3. Adequate human resources and transparent staff recruiting procedures developed according to the law

Standard S.A.3.1. Human resources	
The HEI has the required human resources to organise and deliver the evaluated study programme/domain.	
Indicator I.P.A.3.1.1	The human resources of the organisational component are suitable to perform the activities pertaining to the evaluated study programme/domain. The teaching staff has the required qualifications and professional competences to teach the subject matters assigned to them in the job list.

Presenting the Actual Situation.

29 doctoral supervisors work within the Doctoral School. For 6 of the doctoral supervisors (20%), the certificate of approval of the quality of doctoral supervisor has expired, which will trigger the procedures for extending or re-obtaining it. Of the total number of doctoral supervisors, 10 are under 45 years old (35%). Out of 29 doctoral supervisors, 20 are holders of the disciplines (69%) taught within the Advanced Studies Program, the others being course holders of the disciplines taught within the first and second cycle of studies. All 29 doctoral supervisors are IODUS holders with employment contracts concluded in this regard. Also, all doctoral supervisors have additional contracts concluded with IODUS, through which they are assigned the quality of doctoral supervisor of the Doctoral School.

Of the total of 29 doctoral supervisors, 10 hold the scientific-didactic title of university professor (35%), and 19 supervisors hold the title of associate professor (65%). At the same time, 4 doctoral supervisors hold the scientific title of PhD Habilitated (14%).

The total number of holders of the disciplines taught within the Advanced Studies Program in the Doctoral School is 23 people, all holders hold the scientific title of doctor (100%). 6 of them, hold the scientific-didactic title of university professor (26%), 15 are associate professor (65%). The number of holders who are PhD Habilitated is 2 (9%). 2 holders just/exclusively hold the scientific title of PhD (9%). Also, 5 (22%) of the holders are under 40 years old (Annex 13).

Out of 23 doctoral supervisors with a valid certificate, 2 (9%) simultaneously coordinate more than 5 doctoral students in their doctoral studies, 8 (35%) - a number of 4-5 doctoral students, and the others (56%) less than 4 doctoral students (Annex 14).

Analysis of the Factual Situation.

Within the Doctoral School, there is a consistent number of doctoral supervisors and tenured teaching staff, who guarantee the necessary human resources. Professional skills and staff visibility contribute to the prestige and quality of doctoral programs. The Doctoral School's human resources are not only sufficiently numerous, but also very well qualified, covering all program specializations, ensuring a quality educational process.

In the opinion of the evaluation team, the doctoral school has a consistent professional expertise, which brings added value to scientific research. However, even if compared to the specific standards in the Republic of Moldova, all doctoral supervisors meet the minimum requirements, it is worth noting that these standards are not difficult ones that would stimulate high-class research.

The number of doctoral supervisors is high, perhaps even excessive in relation to the number of teaching staff and graduates of bachelor's and master's programs, but it can also be explained by the level of minimum standards approved by national regulations.

Recommandation:



The institution should establish its own standards for the supervision of doctoral theses, higher than the national minimums, with an orientation towards existing standards in European countries, perhaps even by comparing them to those in Romania.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.A.3.2. Recruitment procedures	
Teaching staff recruitment procedures compliant with the provisions of the law.	
Indicator I.P.A.3.2.1	Recruitment procedures comply with the provisions of the law, and are established and carried out transparently.

Presenting the Actual Situation.

The Scientific Council is led by a president, appointed as a result of a public competition organized by IODUS. The competition committee for the position of President of the Scientific Council is composed of 5 members, from the country and/or from abroad, of which at least 3 must be from outside the institution and at least one member of the committee must work in a higher education or research institution abroad.

The members of the Scientific Council are elected in accordance with the Methodology for Appointing Members of the Scientific Council approved by the Senate of the Academy.

The Director of the Doctoral School is elected by the General Assembly of Doctoral Supervisors and is subsequently appointed to office by order of the Rector (RDS pct. 50-51), who also serves as president of the Doctoral School Council). The members of the Doctoral School Council have a 5-year mandate. The members of the Doctoral School Council are confirmed by the Scientific Council.

The exercise of the quality of doctoral supervisor within the Doctoral School may be requested by persons who have obtained the right to supervise doctoral students, as well as persons who acquire this right by decision of the competent body in the field. A person who holds the title of PhD Habilitated or PhD and meets a minimum set of scientific performance indicators may be appointed as a doctoral supervisor. The basis for requesting the quality of doctoral supervisor within the Doctoral School is the standard application submitted by the applicant to the Doctoral School Council. If the file includes all the necessary information/documents, the candidate's application will be examined at the Doctoral School Council meeting.

The holders of the disciplines that teach within the Advanced Studies Program are employees of the specialty chairs. Regarding their recruitment, the institution follows national legal provisions (Education Code, Labor Code).

Analysis of the Factual Situation.

The Doctoral School has clear and transparent procedures for recruiting members of the Doctoral School and refers to the recruitment of the President and members of the Scientific Council, the Director of the Doctoral School and members of the Doctoral School Council, doctoral supervisors. Recruitment procedures at the Doctoral School are aligned with legal requirements and are carried out in an open and verifiable manner.

At the same time, even if the specific situation of subordination to the Ministry of Interior is limiting, the doctoral school can open up to quality external resources, from within the Republic of Moldova and from the European space. The values towards which the Republic of Moldova is striving in the integration process can be more easily implemented institutionally and at the level of society by co-opting international specialists in specific doctoral fields, perhaps even under co-supervision.

Recommendation:

The Doctoral School should aim to attract international or practicing specialists as associate professors, a procedure that will be carried out according to clear criteria of competence and experience.

The indicator is: fulfilled.



Criterion A.4. Digitalisation of institutional processes

Standard S.A.4.1. Digital transformation

The digital transformation process in the organisational component seeks to achieve administrative simplification and improve the quality of the services provided to the members of its own community, as well as to third parties.

Indicator I.P.A.4.1.1	The organisational component uses IT tools in its own procedures, to improve access and provide good quality services for the members of its own community and the indirect beneficiaries of education.
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Information regarding doctoral students (personal identification data, demographic data, doctoral supervisor, year of admission, form of funding, academic course - periods of interruption, extension, date of doctoral thesis defense, order confirming doctoral title) is included in an EXCEL database processed by the Doctoral School.

Another example is the Academy's e-learning platform (elearning.academy.police.md) used in the advanced training program, which combines traditional methods with modern technologies, allowing doctoral students to access course materials online and acquire skills in a flexible way.

All doctoral theses defended within the Doctoral School are checked through the similarity program in order to verify the originality of the work. The program used, www.sistemantiplagiat.ro, is the only anti-plagiarism program recognized by NAQAER. The evaluation of Similarity Reports is carried out based on Guide for the analysis and interpretation of the Similarity Report and plagiarism identified in scientific papers presented at NAQAER and Institutional regulation on the prevention of plagiarism and verification of similarities in the PhD/PhD Habilitated thesis.

The development, modernization and diversification of institutional information services and products occurred through the organization of the digital library. This Project was carried out with the financial support of the Government of Romania and Department for Relations with the Republic of Moldova, which opened significant opportunities for access to information, considerably increasing the performance and level of information of users.

The institutional repository, which is an open, cumulative electronic archive, created based on the open access software DSpace, available by accessing the library's Web page, expands access to institutional scientific research, increasing the visibility of scientific research results at the national and international level by presenting its own scientific and didactic production in the global network. The library has sufficient space for the study program and is equipped with computer technology.

Analysis of the Factual Situation.

The Doctoral School has taken important steps towards digitalization, IT tools are an integral part of the Doctoral School's procedures and services. The institution benefits from top-notch IT and forensic expertise, part of an internationally funded project.

The indicator is: fulfilled

DOMAIN B. Educational efficacy

Criterion B.1. Content and relevance of study programmes

Standard S.B.1.1. Content of study programme/s*

* The term "programmes" concerns the external quality evaluation for the study programmes contained in a master/doctoral domain. The term "programme" shall be used hereinafter.



The study programme is based on a curriculum designed so that students can acquire the expected learning outcomes.

Indicator I.P.B.1.1.1	The study programme is developed and structured according to the expected learning outcomes, and organised based on transferable study credits. It includes all learning, teaching, practical training, research and evaluation experiences, which, together, lead to a higher education qualification.
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Presentation of the current situation

At the stage of the Doctoral School's authorisation, the curricula were developed in accordance with the educational standards in force at that time and were approved by the Senate subsequently, the programmes were authorised by NAQAPE (currently NAQAER) (Annex6). The curricula have been periodically revised and adjusted in response to evolving political, legal, and social contexts, while ensuring full compliance with all applicable legal requirements.

The first revision of the Advanced Higher Education Training Programme in Criminal and Criminal Enforcement Law took place in 2018, within the framework of Project No. 573861-EPP-1-2016-1-EE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP "European Human Rights Law for Universities of Ukraine and Moldova", funded by the European Union through the Erasmus+ Programme (Annex 7).

The second revision was completed in 2023, following the adoption of the National Qualification Standard for Doctoral Higher Education.

The curricula currently comprise two interdependent components: the Advanced Studies Programme, and the Individual Research Programme. The formative component of the programme includes three main parts: • fundamental component – comprising the discipline Methodology and Ethics of Scientific Research in the Legal Field. • specialisation and transversal skills component – including four course units, two of which may be selected by the doctoral student in consultation with the supervisor. • training in research and scientific communication component – comprising the courses Doctoral Project Management and Academic Writing and Scientific Communication.

Individual Research Programme. The individual research component extends over: two years for full-time studies, and three years for part-time studies. It is structured by semester and includes independent research activities carried out under the supervision of the doctoral supervisor and advisory committee. Doctoral students are required to: submit three thesis-related essays; conduct empirical research; publish scientific articles; present research papers at academic conferences; and defend their doctoral thesis in the final year of study.

Analysis of the current situation

The programme is organised in accordance with the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).

Recommendation:

It is recommended that research programs include mandatory doctoral training internships in other European countries, or participation in international scientific events.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion B.2. Alignment of the curriculum with the qualification

Standard S.B.2.1. Alignment with the qualification level and the intended competences

In the curriculum design and development process, the organisational component seeks to ensure the qualification level, as well as correlation with the envisaged occupations.

Indicator I.P.B.2.1.2	The expected learning outcomes are correlated with the competences required by those occupations, according to the occupational standards and/or the European Skills, Competences and Occupations (ESCO).
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The Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law puts the accent on the link between the expected learning outcomes and the necessary competences for exercising the legal occupations, in line with the National Standards of Qualifications of Moldova that have been harmonized with the European Framework of Qualifications and the typical qualifications in accordance with the level 8 of the European Skills, Competences and Occupations (ESCO). The framework study plan of the doctoral students has been adapted to the requirements of these European guidelines.

It is considered that approximatively 70% of the doctoral graduates have been employed by universities and research institutions. In addition, numerous doctoral graduates of this Doctoral School have leadership positions at courts and tribunals of Moldova. This data reflects important aspects on the research activity developed by the Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law so far. Firstly, it may be considered that the doctoral programme of Law contributes to the integration of graduates into the legal professional landscape of Moldova. Second, this Doctoral School is well-positioned in the academic landscape of this State. Third, there is a need for this Doctoral School to continue working in the preparation of practitioners in the field of Law in the coming years.

We have two recommendations. First, the Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law consults periodically with legal professionals and the doctoral graduates to determine whether the skills acquired through the activity of the Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law remain relevant to the demand of the professional environment in the Republic of Moldova. Second, the Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law diversifies the curriculum by including optional subjects with a special focus on the current needs in Moldova derived from its status as a candidate country to join the European Union.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion B.3. Student-centred learning, teaching and evaluation

Standard S.B.3.1 Principles

The organisational component implements the principles of student-centred learning.

Indicator I.P.B.3.1.1	The organisational component ensures implementation of the student-centred learning in the curriculum and through the teaching strategies used in the learning and teaching activities and experiences.
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The Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law put the principles of student-centered learning at the top of the doctoral educational process. In this way, it looks at offering courses of great interest to doctoral students, interactive and participative teaching methods, encouragement of doctoral students' critical and autonomous thinking, continuous and individualized feedback, the adaptation of the teaching rhythm to different learning situations, etc.

The research project, signed by the doctoral student and his/her research supervisor, is a very good example of the implementation of the principles of student-centered learning by the Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law. It is a learning tool in which both sides establish their roles, rights, and duties during doctoral training.

During our visit on-site at the venue of the "Ștefan cel Mare" Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Moldova, we had the occasion to see the existence of a real and serious dialogue between the doctoral students and the supervisors, who act within this Academy, as well as their concern for improving the quality of the research conducted by the doctoral students.



It is recommended that the Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law create an internal digital platform to which all its doctoral students should have access, enabling them to share information through forums, thematic groups, and professional and research opportunities.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion B.4. Accessibility and efficiency of the resources and support services, adequate for learning

Standard S.B.4.1. Access to resources and services

The organisational component provides access to adequate resources and support services, according to the needs of the students.

Indicator I.P.B.4.1.1	The organisational component provides students, including those with special educational needs/disabilities, with access to resources and services designed to support the learning process, adequate for the individual learning needs, the study domain, the study cycle, and the form of organisation of the study programme.
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PhD students have access to the entire research infrastructure of the "Stefan cel Mare" Academy according to the study contract. In the teaching-learning process, the elearning.academy.police.md platform is used, on which course materials or information corresponding to the discipline are placed. Doctoral students have access to a variety of works from different legal scientific fields, in 2025 the book collection constituted 112 532 units, 74% being in Romanian, and 63.3% of the total number constituting specialized law literature, the Academy also has a special library with initialled bibliographic sources, with limited access according to legal provisions, intended for organizing and ensuring the educational process in specialized disciplines.

The institutional repository created based on the open access software DSpace, expands access to institutional scientific research, providing students with access to publications of colleagues or teachers. IOSUD has online access to over 203 000 evaluated academic and professional resources, thanks to the Research 4 Life project.

PhD students are encouraged to participate in conferences organized by the Doctoral School, and the materials are published free of charge in special editions of the Scientific-Practical Journal "Law and Life", which is indexed in international databases (ERIH PLUS, CEEOL, Index Copernicus, DOAJ, etc.), or to publish in the Scientific Journal "Anale Stiintifice ale Academiei "Stefan cel Mare", included in the list of national scientific publications of type B indexed: CEEOL, Hein Online, etc., also the institution's printing house offers free services to doctoral students regarding the publication of monographs, or other typographic needs, to the extent possible.

Practical research activities are carried out mainly within the Multifunctional Forensic Polygon within IOSUD, established with the support of UNDP and the USA.

Doctoral students have at their disposal all the resources necessary for the learning process: teaching materials, IT infrastructure, databases, physical and digital libraries, laboratories, simulation areas, as well as support services: academic counselling, efficient administrative services, assistance, etc.

Recommendation:



Expand access to top international scientific databases, such as Web of Science or Scopus through institutional subscriptions to facilitate students' access to high-level research that is not freely accessible.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion B.5. Learning outcomes

Standard S.B.5.1. Definition and evaluation

Learning outcomes are adequately defined and evaluated.

Indicator I.P.B.5.1.1	Learning outcomes are adequately described, and they support understanding of the students' and teachers' expectations regarding the content of the subject matters in the curriculum.
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The doctoral study programme in Law at the Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law is made up of a teaching part and a research part. The doctoral student must pass 180 ECTS credits to get the PhD degree. Both parts are organized according to the scheme contained by Annexes 7 and 8 of the Teaching Plan.

Depending on the personal situation of the doctoral students, there are two modalities to conduct doctoral studies, namely: full-time education and part-time education. In the first case, the doctoral studies last three years, and in the second case, the doctoral studies last four years.

The information on the learning outcomes is adequately defined and evaluated in the Regulations on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies within the Doctoral School of "Criminal Sciences and Public Law" of the "Ștefan cel Mare" Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Moldova, which last version was adopted on 13 November 2024, and is available at: <https://academy.police.md/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Regulamentul-cu-privire-la-organiz-si-desfasur-studii-doctorat-2026.pdf>

The website of this Doctoral School (<https://academy.police.md/scoala-doctorala/cadrul-legal-al-scolii-doctorale/acte-normative-interne-ale-scolii-doctorale>) contains the legislation that applies to doctoral students in relation to their learning outcomes, which supports understanding of the students' and teachers' expectations regarding the content of the subject matters in the curriculum.

It is recommended that the Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law adapt its definition and evaluation of learning outcomes depending on the changes in the needs of its doctoral students.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Indicator I.P.B.5.1.2	Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.
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The Regulation on the Organization and Conduct of Doctoral Studies at the Doctoral School of „Criminal Sciences and Public Law” (see: <https://academy.police.md/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Regulamentul-cu-privire-la-organiz-si-desfasur-studii-doctorat-2026.pdf>), the Methodology regarding the conduct and organization of the admission procedure for doctoral studies (Cycle III) at the Doctoral School of Criminal Sciences and Public Law of the „Stefan cel Mare” Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova for the 2925-2026 academic year, which is adopted annually (see: <https://academy.police.md/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Metodologia-de-admitere-la-Scoala-Doctorala-pentru-anul-de-studii-2025-2026.pdf>), and the Procedure for the Defence of a Habilitation Thesis/Synthesis Paper at the „Stefan cel Mare” Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova (see: <https://academy.police.md/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Metodologia-de->



[sustinere-a-tezei-de-doctor-habilitat_lucrarii-de-sinteza.pdf](#)) are the most relevant documents, which have been adopted to assess the learning outcomes of the doctoral studies according to a coherent and transparent system.

There are different tools to measure the learning outcomes, such as: examination forms, minutes of the defense of research projects, minutes of the defense of scientific papers, minutes of the defense of the scientific activity report, resolution regarding the similarity report of the doctoral thesis, minutes of the originality check of the doctoral thesis, advisory opinion of the Department regarding admission to the public defense of the doctoral thesis, consent of the doctoral supervisor regarding admission to the public defense of the doctoral thesis, list of scientific works related to the main topic addressed by the doctoral thesis, etc. The detailed information on these issues is available in Annexes 4-5, 10-12, 20-21, and 28 of the Internal Evaluation Report of the Doctoral School.

Chapter IV, entitled “Doctoral Thesis and Completion of Doctoral Studies”, of the above mentioned Regulation on the Organization and Conduct of Doctoral Studies at the Doctoral School of „Criminal Sciences and Public Law” sets out the procedure for the public defense of the doctoral thesis. According to the Internal Evaluation Report (p. 27), in the last five years, three students of this Doctoral School received scholarships for academic excellence and scholarships in specific scientific fields.

Moreover, we have identified, as a good practice, the publication on the website of the Doctoral School (<https://academy.police.md/scoala-doctorala/sustinere-teze-de-doctorat>) of the CV and list of publications related to the main topic addressed by the doctoral thesis, the abstract of the doctoral thesis (both in Romanian and in English), and even the full text of the doctoral thesis.

It is recommended that the Doctoral School post on its website, also in the future, all the information on the achievement of the learning outcomes

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion B.7. Procedures and practices regarding the admission competition, the journey, recognition and equivalence of studies, and result certification

Standard S.B.7.1. Admission

The admission procedures and principles ensure access to higher education.

Indicator
I.P.B.7.1.1

The organisational component applies the admission procedures..

The Doctoral School of Criminal Sciences and Public Law of the „Stefan cel Mare” Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs counts on an adequate normative framework for admission and students’ access to higher education and applies it properly.

Thus, the Internal Evaluation Report (at pp. 28-29) describes the whole procedure for the admission of new students to the doctoral programme in Law. In addition, each year the Doctoral School publishes on its website the list of recommended projects that are eligible to participate in the admissions procedures for doctoral studies. For example, for the period 2025-2029, 15 doctoral supervisors (from the fields of the Criminal Law and the Public Law) have offered 74 topics to be researched by the 50 doctoral students that would have been admitted for doctoral studies (see: https://www.academy.police.md/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Oferta-Scolii-doctorale_2025-2029.pdf). There are two financial modalities to conduct doctoral research: with finance from the national budget, or with the payment of an annual fee.

It is recommended that information on the possibility of signing international co-supervision agreements with foreign universities be made public, along with all information regarding admission to doctoral studies in Law.



The indicator is fulfilled.

Indicator I.P.B.7.1.2	Admission in higher education study programmes complies with the principles of fairness and equal opportunities, and with the establishing of support measures to ensure access of vulnerable groups at social and educational risk, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
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The admission competition for higher doctoral studies is carried out in accordance with the Methodology for the conduct and organization of the admission procedure for higher doctoral studies within the Doctoral School "Criminal Sciences and Public Law", which is revised and approved annually based on the regulatory acts in force, also on the institution's website is placed the notice for the admission year indicating the period for submitting the files for participation in the competition, eligible persons, necessary documents and contact details; list of doctoral supervisors; tuition fees; etc.

The Doctoral School facilitates access to the admission competition for people from vulnerable groups, in situations of social and educational risk, including candidates with special educational requirements and/or disabilities, by allowing the presentation of documents and participation in the admission tests in an online format, also in the institutional acts there are special regulations regarding the academic path. Doctoral grants funded from the state budget can only be allocated by the Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova, the provisions being quite rigorous, the Doctoral School has provided for fee exemptions from 25% to 75% for vulnerable students, which can be approved by the Senate of the institution.

In the last 5 academic years, 72 students were admitted to doctoral studies (graduates from various institutions in the country and abroad, women and men of various ages, people with various professional experiences (police officers, court lawyers, civil lawyers, etc.), of which 24 were graduates of master's studies from IOSUD, 34 were graduates of master's studies in the country, 14 were graduates of master's studies from abroad. Of the total number of 72 students, 16 were admitted to studies with funding from the state budget as a result of the national competition for grants with financial support from the state budget (22.22 %).

The statistics presented by the Doctoral School for the last five years reveal compliance with the principles of fairness and equal opportunities for all categories of applicants to the competition who meet national and institutional legal provisions.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.B.7.2. Academic journey of students	
The organisational component carries out actions supporting the students' academic journey.	
Indicator I.P.B.7.2.1	The organisational component applies the regulations concerning the students' professional activity.

The Internal Evaluation Report and the information on the website of the Doctoral School of Criminal Sciences and Public Law allow us to assess that this academic institution provides a coherent and well-functioning legal and administrative framework to support the academic journey of its students. There is a normative framework and rules in force that accompany and support the doctoral students from the moment of their admission to the completion of their doctoral studies and the presentation of the doctoral thesis.

During our visit, we could see the excellent opinion of public authorities and representatives of the most relevant entities that are linked with the legal landscape on the rigor of the doctoral program offered by this Doctoral School.

The continuous dialogue between this Doctoral School and the professional environment across the whole Republic of Moldova represents a good practice identified during our on-site visit.

It is recommended that the Doctoral School of Law maintain the dialogue with the professional environment in the Republic of Moldova in general and in Chisinau in particular, and adapt the supportive actions regarding the students' academic journey to the needs that arise from daily life.

The indicator is fulfilled.

DOMAIN C. Quality management

Criterion C.3. Procedures for the initiation, monitoring and periodic review of the study programmes and domains and of the performed activities, involving students, employers and other stakeholders

Standard S.C.3.1. Procedures and implementation of procedures

The HEI has procedures for initiating, monitoring, and periodically reviewing the study programmes and domains and the performed activities, and applies them systematically.

Indicator I.P.C.3.1.1	The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.
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The doctoral programmes within the DS have been updated and revised in compliance with legal procedures. The 2018 update was due to an international project (Erasmus+), integrating European research best practices into the national framework. The major revision in 2023 followed the adoption of the new NQF, which required a fundamental revision of the curricula. The DS responded promptly by incorporating the new standards, and the impact of this revision is clearly positive: the programme remains relevant through alignment with current standards, and students receive updated training.

In this context, the DS complied with internal procedures, manifested through: 1) the creation of a working group for the modification of the Curriculum; 2) discussion and submission of draft Curricula; 3) discussion of the Curricula within the specialized departments; 4) submission of the Curricula for approval to the DS Council; 5) approval of the Curricula by the Scientific Council; 6). approval of the Curricula by the IODUS Senate

Even if the minimum standards are met, for the requirements of a prestigious doctoral school, it is necessary that the priority be to increase the capacity for scientific research. In this sense, simple compliance with internal standards is minimal, necessary but not sufficient. In a globalized world, where scientific processes are rapid, it is necessary for the institution to take due care to participate in major research projects, alongside other national or European research institutions. These aspects are all the more important, as the pre-accession instruments also assume appropriate funding for these initiatives. We believe that we cannot talk about true quality assurance without access to and participation in international research.

✓ Recommendation

Strengthening scientific research capacity through the development of international partnerships

The indicator is: fulfilled.



Indicator I.P.C.3.1.2	Members of its own community and other stakeholders are involved in the procedure implementation process.
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The Doctoral School actively involves the community in the monitoring and revision of doctoral programmes. Internal evaluation procedures include the collection of student feedback –for example, course and doctoral supervisor evaluation questionnaires completed by doctoral students, administered confidentially, provide data for programme analysis. These student perspectives are discussed within the Doctoral School Council and taken into account when making adjustments.

Academic staff (doctoral supervisors and course holders) are consulted both in working groups and in departmental meetings, as well as in Doctoral School Council (CŞD), Scientific Council (CŞ), and Senate sessions. Furthermore, periodically (annually), within the specialized departments and the Faculty, curricula and course syllabi, as integral components of the Programme, are reviewed and updated (e.g., updating content units, course bibliographies, etc.) (Annex 8).

The Curricula are consulted with employers (the General Prosecutor’s Office, Judges, the Police Commissariat, and other subdivisions of the MIA) and with external partners represented by other IODUSs (Annex 9). External thesis reviewers, coming from other universities or the judicial practice, provide feedback through their evaluation reports on how the programme delivers outcomes by assessing the theses. Any criticisms or observations from these reports may be incorporated into programme revisions.

The involvement of those responsible in curriculum development is proven, but the quality process requires a significant development of institutional and personal mechanisms for scientific research. Quality must be strengthened, both at the level of doctoral supervisors and doctoral students, through participation in international congresses, conferences and events, as well as through publication in internationally circulated languages, in appropriately indexed journals.

✓ Recommendation

Participation of doctoral supervisors and doctoral students in international conferences and publication of articles/studies in WoS or Scopus indexed journals

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion C.8. Participation in external evaluation processes, according to the law

Standard S.C.8.1. Compliance with the external evaluation obligation The HEI undergoes external quality evaluation as required by the law.	
Indicator I.P.C.8.1.1	The organisational component carries out the procedures pertaining to the external quality evaluation process, aiming to organise the evaluated study programme as provided by the law.

The “Ştefan cel Mare” Academy demonstrates a clear commitment to the external quality evaluation of study programs. In 2025, the institution organized several external evaluations, obtaining accreditation for the following programs: Professional Master’s Program in Economic Law – 120 ECTS (Order MEC nr.1365 of 05.08.2025); Professional Master’s Program in Special Investigation Activity – 90 ECTS (Order MEC nr.1365 of 05.08.2025); Professional Master’s Program in Special Investigation Activity – 120 ECTS (Order MEC nr.1365 of 05.08.2025); Law Program 0421.1 (part-time study mode) (Order MEC nr.1365 of 05.08.2025); Public Administration Program 0400.1 (Order MEC nr.1365 of 05.08.2025).

Analysis of the current situation.

In 2016, the Doctoral School underwent the provisional authorization procedure (Annex6). The accreditation of doctoral studies was not possible, as at the national level in the Republic of Moldova there was no approved Methodology regulating the procedures, standards, and performance indicators



for the external evaluation of doctoral studies. For these reasons, the institution expressed its intention to undergo evaluation by ARACIS, an ENQA member agency, which demonstrates its commitment to alignment with international quality standards

Recommendation:

The external evaluation of the doctoral program should be carried out every 5 years.

The indicator is: partially fulfilled.

IV. SWOT Analysis

<p>Strengths:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The doctoral supervisors meet the minimum standards and have a constant scientific publishing activity in Moldova 2. IOSUD has all well-founded and updated organizational documents, according to the Education Law 3. Partnerships with public organizations in the field. 4. The existence of centers provides platforms for applied research and collaboration with public institutions. 	<p>INTERNAL FACTORS</p> 	<p>Weaknesses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Low degree of internationalization 2. Lack of WoS or Scopus indexed publications 3. At present, the most part of the doctoral supervisors does not have extensive scientific research developed abroad or in collaboration with foreign research groups
<p>SWOT analysis</p>		
<p>Opportunities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to reimbursable and non-reimbursable funding resources; 2. The possibility of expanding international partnerships, 3. Involvement in interdisciplinary and collaborative projects that also target doctoral research 4. Using pre-accession resources to increase the administrative and scientific capacity of the institution 5. Attracting international doctoral students 	<p>EXTERNAL FACTORS</p> 	<p>Threats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of funding, as a result of the state's financial instability 2. Migration of qualified human resources 3. Low interest of candidates for fundamental research 4. Neglect and self-sufficiency 5. Lack of interest in international visibility



<p>6. Inviting prestigious researchers from the country and the European Union to committees and projects</p> <p>7. Integration into thematic European networks would improve the visibility of the doctoral school, attract international experts, and ease access to collaborative funding.</p>		
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V. Extent to which the standards and performance indicators are fulfilled, and recommendations

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
DOMAIN A. Institutional capacity			
1.	I.P.A.1.1.1 For delivering the study programme/domain, the HEI has adequate organisational components and an adequate management system, which operate based on methodologies, regulations and procedures that are periodically reviewed as required by law.	F	
2.	I.P.A.1.2.1 The opinions of the faculty and department members, of the subsidiary or extension and of other stakeholders are considered in the process of adopting and revising methodologies, regulations and implementation procedures.	F	
3.	I.P.A.2.1.1 The HEI legally owns venues for the related education, research and administrative processes, as well as for services for students, doctoral students and trainees, thus providing an enabling environment for living and studying, including for disabled persons. Optimal venues are also provided for activities of the staff. Such venues are adequately equipped.	F	
4.	I.P.A.2.2.1 The movable and immovable assets are properly maintained to ensure	F	



No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
	optimal conditions for studying, living and research, as well as for work.		
5.	I.P.A.3.1.1 The human resources of the organisational component are suitable to perform the activities pertaining to the evaluated study programme/domain. The teaching staff has the required qualifications and professional competences to teach the subject matters assigned to them in the job list.	F	The institution should establish its own standards for the supervision of doctoral theses, higher than the national minimums, with an orientation towards existing standards in European countries, perhaps even by comparing them to those in Romania.
6.	I.P.A.3.2.1 Recruitment procedures comply with the provisions of the law and are established and carried out transparently.	F	The Doctoral School should aim to attract international or practicing specialists as associate professors, a procedure that will be carried out according to clear criteria of competence and experience.
7.	I.P.A.4.1.1 The organisational component uses IT tools in its own procedures, to improve access and provide good quality services for the members of its own community and the indirect beneficiaries of education.	F	
8.	I.P.B.1.1.1 The study programme is developed and structured according to the expected learning outcomes and organised based on transferable study credits. It includes all learning, teaching, practical training, research and evaluation experiences, which, together, lead to a higher education qualification.	F	It is recommended that research programs include mandatory doctoral training internships in other European countries, or participation in international scientific events.
9.	I.P.B.2.1.2 The expected learning outcomes are correlated with the competences required by those occupations, according to the occupational standards and/or the European Skills, Competences and Occupations (ESCO).	F	To consult periodically with legal professionals and the doctoral graduates to determine whether the skills acquired through the activity of the Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law remain relevant to the demand of the professional environment in the Republic of Moldova. To diversify the curriculum by including optional subjects with a special focus on the current



No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
			needs in the Republic of Moldova, derived from its status as a candidate country to join the European Union.
10.	I.P.B.3.1.1 The organisational component ensures implementation of the student-centred learning in the curriculum and through the teaching strategies used in the learning and teaching activities and experiences.	F	Creation of an internal digital platform to which all the students of the Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law should have access, enabling them to share information through forums, thematic groups, and professional and research opportunities.
11.	I.P.B.4.1.1 The organisational component provides students, including those with special educational needs/disabilities, with access to resources and services designed to support the learning process, adequate for the individual learning needs, the study domain, the study cycle, and the form of organisation of the study programme.	F	Expand access to top international scientific databases, such as Web of Science or Scopus through institutional subscriptions to facilitate students' access to high-level research that is not freely accessible.
12.	I.P.B.5.1.1 Learning outcomes are adequately described, and they support understanding of the students' and teachers' expectations regarding the content of the subject matters in the curriculum.	F	Adaptation, by the Doctoral School of Criminal Science and Public Law, of its definition and evaluation of learning outcomes depending on the changes in the needs of its doctoral students.
13.	I.P.B.5.1.2 Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.	F	To post on the website of the Doctoral School, also in the future, all the information on the achievement of the learning outcomes.
14.	I.P.B.7.1.1 The organisational component applies the admission procedures.	F	To make public the information on the possibility of signing international co-supervision agreements with foreign universities, along with all information regarding admission to doctoral studies in Law.
15.	I.P.B.7.1.2 Admission in higher education study programmes complies with the principles of fairness and equal opportunities, and with the establishing of	F	

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
	support measures to ensure access of vulnerable groups at social and educational risk, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.		
16.	I.P.B.7.2.1 The organisational component applies the regulations concerning the students' professional activity.	F	The maintenance of the dialogue between the Doctoral School and the professional environment in the Republic of Moldova, in general, and in Chisinau, in particular, and to adapt the supportive actions regarding the students' academic journey to the needs that arise from daily life.
DOMAIN C. Quality management			
17.	I.P.C.3.1.1 The organisational component consistently applies the procedures and proves their impact on quality assurance.	F	Strengthening scientific research capacity through the development of international partnerships.
18.	I.P.C.3.1.2 Members of its own community and other stakeholders are involved in the procedure implementation process.	F	Participation of doctoral supervisors and doctoral students in international conferences and publication of articles/studies in WoS or Scopus indexed journals.
19.	I.P.C.8.1.1 The organisational component carries out the procedures pertaining to the external quality evaluation process, aiming to organise the evaluated study programme as provided by the law.	PF	The external evaluation of the doctoral program should be carried out every 5 years.

Summary Table of Performance Indicators – Degree of Fulfillment

Evaluation Domain	Number of Performance Indicators		
	Fulfilled	Partially fulfilled	Unfulfilled
Domain A. Institutional capacity	7	0	-
Domain B. Educational efficacy	9	0	-
Domain C. Quality management	2	1	-
Total	18	1	0

Other, general recommendations that were not given within the analysis of a specific performance indicator can be presented here.

Sum up the number of analysed performance indicators, and specify how many were assessed as fulfilled, partially fulfilled, and unfulfilled, if any.

VI. Conclusions

We appreciated the openness of the institution's management, the support they enjoy in implementing this approach, and the accuracy of the university documents and methodologies.

We emphasize the broad participation in the meeting with the professional environment and the support given for this program.

We emphasized, in the report, the elements of vulnerability that may appear in the future, especially regarding internationalization, the realization and visibility of research, but also the need to increase the quality of conferences and journals.

Propose and substantiate a decision.

Following the completion of the provisional authorisation to operate/accreditation procedure, the decision of the evaluation panel shall be one of the following:*

- a) **accreditation*** (AC);
- b) ~~non-authorisation (NA)/non-accreditation*~~ (NAC).

VII. Annexes

Enclose the schedule of the on-site visit, the list of the documents reviewed, as well as any other documents that are relevant for the evaluation procedure, which are referred to in the REE and cannot be accessed through links.

* When the external quality evaluation for accreditation is performed without undergoing the procedure for obtaining a provisional authorisation to operate.