

The External Evaluation Report of an Institution Organizing Doctoral Study Programs (IOSUD) - UNIVERSITY OF ARTS TÂRGU MUREȘ - THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL

I. Introduction

Evaluation was done online, in the period between 25.10. and 29.10.2021.

II. Methods used

- The methods and tools used in the external evaluation process, before and during the evaluation visit, included:
- The analysis of the internal evaluation report of the IOSUD and its Annexes;
- The analysis of documents made available by the IOSUD, in physical format, during the evaluation visit (if such documents have been requested);
- The analysis of documents, data and information available on the IOSUD/Doctoral School(s) website, in electronic format;
- Meeting/discussions with doctoral students in the IOSUD;
- Meeting/Discussions with the graduates of the IOSUD;
- Meeting/Discussions with employers of the graduates of the IOSUD;
- Meeting/Discussions with the school officials of the IOSUD;
- Meeting/Discussions with the Doctoral advisors affiliated to the IOSUD;
- Meeting/discussions with the representatives of the various structures of the IOSUD/Doctoral School/Doctoral Schools in which the doctoral study domain under review is operating:
- The Council of the University Doctoral Studies (CSUD) The Council of the Doctoral School(s) (CSD) , the University Senate, the Board of Directors, the Quality Assessment and Assurance Commission, the Quality Assurance Department, the Ethics Commission (including with the student representatives of these structures); the Career Counselling and Guidance Center; student organizations; secretariats; various departments, administrative offices (Social/Student residences-Cafeterias etc.);
- Application of questionnaires to doctoral students or academic staff affiliated to the IOSUD.

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.

Performance Indicator A.1.1.1. *The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the IOSUD, respectively at the Doctoral School(s):*

(a) the internal regulations of the administrative structures (the institutional regulations for the organization and conduct of doctoral studies programs, the regulation(s) of Doctoral School(s);

(b) the Methodology for conducting elections at the level of the Council of University Doctoral Studies (CSUD), respectively at Doctoral School(s) including elections by the students of their representatives in CSUD/Council of the Doctoral School (CSD) and the evidence of their conduct;

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

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

e) functional management structures CSUD/Council of the Doctoral School with evidence of the regularity of meetings;

f) the contract for doctoral studies;

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

The University of Arts became an Organising Institution of Doctoral Studies in the field of theatre in December 2005 pursuant to MECTS (Ministry of Education, Culture and Youth) Order 5660/12.12.2005, was evaluated by ARACIS (The Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education) as part of the institutional evaluation in 2009 and operates based on MEN (Ministry of National Education) Order 5382/29.09.2016, the Law of National Education no. 1/2011; Government Ordinance 681/29.06.2011 on the approval of the Code of university doctoral studies, with subsequent amendments and additions (Government Ordinance 134/2016); University doctoral studies constitute the tertiary cycle of university studies offered at the Târgu Mureş University of Arts. These studies, focused on learning through research, are aimed at training competent specialists in the scientific research of performing arts and in artistic creation who are capable of integration into the labour market. The course of university doctoral studies is governed by the Rules of organisation and procedure for university doctoral studies, approved by Decision 68/25.09.2012 of the Senate, with amendments approved by Decisions 17/06.07.2016 and 47/4.07.2018 of the Senate. In compliance with the Code of university doctoral studies and with the Rules of organisation and procedure for university doctoral studies, there are two types of university doctoral study programmes: scientific doctorate and professional doctorate. Since the beginning, a scientific doctorate programme in the field of theatre and performing arts has been organised at the Doctoral School of the Târgu Mureş University of Arts, with the purpose of producing original,

internationally relevant scientific knowledge based on advanced scientific methods. The primary disciplinary sub-fields pursued during 2015-2020 and in the present within scientific doctoral university studies in the field of theatre and performing arts are: History and Theory of Arts and Theatre Institutions (acting, directing, production design, choreography and so on), Aesthetics, Semiotics, Sociology, Anthropology, Theatre and Performing Arts Pedagogy. The artistic sub-fields they have in mind under the professional doctorate in the theatrical and performing arts field are: dramaturgy, acting; theatre directing; production design, choreography, music for the stage. Since 2011, the university doctoral study programmes have been organised at the University of Arts only for students enrolled full-time. University doctoral studies at the Târgu Mureş University of Arts, a multilingual and multicultural institution, are organised in Romanian and Hungarian, pursuant to the decision of the doctoral school council and the doctoral studies contract entered into between the University, the doctoral supervisor and the doctoral student. The mission of the doctoral studies in the fields of theatre and performing arts consists of the promotion and attainment of excellence in researching the phenomenon of theatre and the performing arts, training theatre professionals with superior academic qualifications by perfecting their theatrical culture, which, in turn, would enable their efficient integration into theatrical education, scientific and artistic research, into the process of theatrical creation and theatrical criticism. The Theatre and Performing Arts Doctoral School, organised as a distinct department within the University's structure, is led by the doctoral school council and the director of the doctoral school. The director of the doctoral school is assimilated to the department head, and the doctoral school council is assimilated to the departmental council. The Council of the Theatre and Performing Arts Doctoral School is made up of three members, two of whom are doctoral supervisors; one is a doctoral student, elected by the doctoral students. There is a methodology in force for conducting these elections which does not provide for any sort of restriction on the right of doctoral students to elect and to be elected. The doctoral student elected has the right to vote, sign the minutes, attend meetings and suggest proposals and amendments. The academic staff who are members of the doctoral school council are elected via the vote of the tenured doctoral supervisors at the doctoral school. The term for the doctoral school council is 5 years. The doctoral school council is led by the director of the doctoral school, who is appointed by the University Senate from among the appointed doctoral supervisors at the doctoral school and is a full member in the doctoral school council. The council and the director of the doctoral school carry out their activities subordinate to the Senate and the Rector of the University. At the Târgu Mureş University of Arts, pursuant to art. 1 (4) of Ministry of Education, Culture and Youth Order 3850/2.05.2012, no institution distinct from the Doctoral School (The Organising Institution of Doctoral Studies I.O.S.U.D) and its associated structures (CSUD –The University Doctoral Studies Council and its director), since currently there is only one doctoral school operating at the University, in a single field: Theatre and Performing Arts, with a total number of nine faculty members, eight of whom are appointed to the IOSUD, of whom three are employed full-time in the titular title list of the doctoral school and one is retired. The titles of the structures associated with the Organising

Institution of Doctoral Studies I.O.S.U.D (CSD –The Doctoral Studies Council and its director) prescribed by Law no. 1/2011 and by the Code of university doctoral studies are subordinate to the University Senate as well as the Rector of the University of Arts. The Târgu Mureş University of Arts is the institution legally representing The Theatre and Performing Arts Doctoral School as a legal entity, with the Rector of the University as its legal representative. The subsequent procedures and rules based on which elections for the titles and governing structures of the Doctoral School are organised are governed by the Methodology regarding the organisation and procedure for elections for structures and titles of academic governing of the Târgu Mureş University of Arts and the Methodology for the appointment of the director of the Doctoral School. The rules for the organisation and conduct of the university doctoral study programmes regarding admission to studies, the conduct of university doctoral studies and completion of doctoral studies. The representative of doctoral students in the Doctoral School Council was elected based on the Methodology for the organisation and procedure for elections, by direct and secret universal vote, with all doctoral students having the right to elect and to be elected. The mechanisms for the recognition of doctoral supervisor status and validation of a doctorate obtained in other states through the System procedure regarding the recognition of doctoral supervisor status by the University of Arts, obtained at university learning institutions accredited abroad.

*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 governing structures for the functioning of the doctoral school ensure that sessions are convened regularly, with the aim of making decisions regarding the organisation and procedure of the learning process. Convening a session is done by the director of the doctoral school at the beginning of the academic year and before the yearly conference of the doctoral students, or whenever called for. The attributions of the doctoral school council and the internal procedures for analysis and approval of the content of the doctoral study programme and of the administrative issues are established through the Rules of organisation and procedure for university doctoral studies, art. 13. The rights and obligations of doctoral students and doctoral supervisors are established through the university doctoral study contract. The contract is drawn up by the doctoral school based on the rules set forth in the Code of university doctoral studies. The university doctoral study contract is concluded with each doctoral student in particular, based on admission, and is signed by the doctoral student, the doctoral supervisor and the Rector of the University. University doctoral study contracts embody one of the mechanisms for efficient operation prescribed in the specific legislation on organising doctoral studies. The attributions of the doctoral school council and the internal procedures for analysis and approval of the content of the doctoral study programme and of

the administrative issues are established through the Rules of organisation and procedure for university doctoral studies, art. 13(3). Annex A7 shows the Decision of the Senate regarding the approval of curricula for the 2020/2021 academic year. The Rules of the Doctoral School include specific references regarding: the manner in which new members of doctoral supervisors may be accepted under art. 18, art. 19, art. 20, art. 21, art. 22, art. 23, art. 24, art. 25, art. 13(4)(5); the manner in which their doctoral school membership status may be revoked under art. 26(2), art. 29; the mechanisms of decision-making with regard to the appropriateness, structure and content of the training programme based on advanced university studies under art. 44, art. 48, art. 49, art. 50, art. 51, art. 52; the procedures for the change of doctoral supervisor of a particular doctoral student (art. 27, art. 13(22) and procedures for conflict resolution under art. 15, art. 28(2)(g), 28(3)(f), art. 13(21); the conditions under which the doctorate programme may be suspended under art. 46, art. 47(3), art. 76(6), art. 13(20), art. 19(6)(a); methods for the prevention of fraud in scientific research, including plagiarism under art. 14, art. 32(5)(e), 32(5)(e) and art. 62, art. 70(2)(j); ensuring access to research resources under art. 16, art. 35(2)(d)(f)(g)(h)(i).

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

Performance Indicator* A.1.1.3. *Doctoral schools included in IOSUD are organized as disciplinary or interdisciplinary disciplines/thematic, according to Article 158, paragraph (7) of the Law of National Education No. 1/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions.*

There is only one domain in the Doctoral school, but inside there is a strong niche of interdisciplinarity.

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

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

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.*

There is an adequate informational system in place for keeping the records of doctoral students and their academic advancement. For keeping the records of doctoral students, the university uses the EMSYS –Uniform System for Studies software suite. The academic advancement and enrolment of doctoral candidates is also uploaded to RMU (Unique Academic Records), and finished doctoral theses are uploaded to the national platform built for this purpose within RMU.

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The doctoral school has two pieces of software for ascertaining the percentage of similarity in all doctorate theses: Semplag, developed by UEFISCDI (The Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding) and the platform, sistemantiplagiat.ro, recognised by CNATDCU (The National Council for Attesting Titles, Diplomas and Certificates). In the evaluation period, 15 doctoral theses of the total number of theses defended (19) were run through the anti-plagiarism software as part of the verification process. The average similarity percentage for theses drafted in Romanian (8 theses) was 1.78%, for theses drafted in Hungarian (6 theses), 0.85%, and for the thesis drafted in French (1 thesis), 0.1%. For the 15 theses checked, the average similarity percentage was 1.29%.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure

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

Performance Indicator A.2.1.1. *The IOSUD/the doctoral school(s) present proof of possessing or having rented adequate spaces for research activity specific to doctoral studies (laboratories, experimental fields, research stations etc.)*

The Theatre and Performing Arts Doctoral School maintains adequate facilities for its current needs. With regard to material resources as well as those for information and documentation, the offer made available to doctoral candidates by the Doctoral School is a considerable one. The research infrastructure has recently been equipped with state-of-the-art equipment to support the performance of specific research activities. The Doctoral School has access to all available resources of the university and collaborates with the other departments as well as with collective research institutions/centres/laboratories. Doctoral students have free access to the studios and theatre and media workshops of the university, and are supported in their activities by the entire infrastructure that the University of Arts commands. A portion of the core funding is allocated to infrastructure development and the purchasing of materials needed for research. At the same time, investments have been carried out into the rehabilitation of classrooms and laboratories in order to provide better educational and recreational conditions in research spaces. These spaces meet the appropriate standards for a quality higher education process. Laboratory rooms have been supplied with the requisite apparatus and equipment as well as computer technology (adequate hardware and software).

The learning spaces are shown in Annex A9, while the informational system can be found in Annex A10. As a result of the increase in the recognition and promotion of the image and brand of the doctoral school, the number of doctoral students enrolled from certain European countries has increased. An important task for the future will be the national and international expansion of the research network for the joint utilisation of various pieces of research infrastructure. The individual scientific research/artistic creation programme begins with the enrolment of the doctoral student and the preparation of the individual university doctoral study plan, and concludes with the public defence of the doctoral thesis. However, the intense period of research centres around years two and three of the doctoral studies. Doctoral students have access to the university library, which has the resources, organisation and spaces in line with current requirements, with the possibility of consulting the database. Between 2019-2020, the doctoral school has managed to supplement the library with almost 1,000 books in PDF format as well as theatre plays, which have been already placed at the disposal of doctoral candidates. The university library boasts 17 subscriptions to Romanian journals, of which 15 are specialised magazines, and 13 subscriptions to foreign journals, all of which are magazines specialising in the arts. Doctoral students have access to the Studium Prospero Foundation Library, endowed with valuable books. Annex A11 shows the endowment of the University Library. In 2018, the Doctoral school has gained access to a series of digital databases through a partnership agreement with the Ministry for Innovation and Technology of Hungary's National Info communications Services Company. Through this agreement, students and academic staff are granted access to many digital databases of important publishing houses. For access to the JSTOR database, a contract was concluded in 2021, and as a result, the Doctoral School has already gained access to the Arts & Sciences collection of the international JSTOR database. They are aware that in the near future, the university's institutional policy will have to contribute radically to increased investments into the research infrastructure.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator A.2.1.2. The IOSUD/doctoral school(s) has/have collaboration agreements with higher education institutions, research institutes, research networks for joint partnerships and have access for using various research infrastructures; the offer for research services is presented publicly using a dedicated platform.

The Doctoral School has entered into mobility agreements with universities abroad, partnerships with research institutions and companies where their doctoral candidates may carry out activities in their field of study. In the past five years, the mobility programme abroad took the form of Erasmus agreements, which offer students the opportunity to embark on mobilities for placements in order to complete practical internships at universities, theatres, dance and music workshops. The University of Arts has entered into 15 bilateral mobility contracts for students and faculty members with universities abroad and companies in the

field of theatre and performing arts (Annex A12 –Partnerships, bilateral contracts). The events organised by the Doctoral School (conferences, presentations, the educational offer) are made public on the University's web page, on advertising platforms on social media and through personalised invitations.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator A.2.1.3. *The IOSUD/doctoral school(s) proves that it is/are concerned with permanent renewal of the research infrastructure to provide doctoral students access to up-dated research resources, by applying to various funding competitions and using own university resources for acquiring new research infrastructure.*

The doctoral school is preoccupied with the continual renewal of research infrastructure through which doctoral students are ensured access to state-of-the-art research resources (acquisitions made from own revenues, research grants, electronic databases)

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion A.3. Quality of Human Resource

Standard A.3.1. At the level of each Doctoral School there are sufficient qualified staff to ensure a quality educational process.

Performance Indicator * A.3.1.1. *The share of Doctoral advisors coordinating simultaneously more than 8 doctoral students but not more than 12 during their doctoral studies does not exceed 20%.*

The ratio of doctoral supervisors who simultaneously supervise more than 8, but less than 12 doctoral students currently in their university doctoral study period (3 years) is 11.11% (1 doctoral supervisor).

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator A.3.1.2. *At least 50% of all teaching/research staff involved in teaching/research activities related to training programs for advanced university studies or in individual research/art creation programs have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period with the IOSUD.*

66.66% of the doctoral supervisors (6 faculty members) are appointed to the IOSUD, with full-time employment contracts of indefinite duration, 22.22% of the doctoral supervisors (2 faculty members) are associate faculty members, and 1 (11.11%) doctoral supervisor is an

associate faculty member in retirement. Administration of the doctoral school is assisted by a secretary with designated attributions in this field, but also by other sections of the administrative structures at the university.

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. Candidates admitted to doctoral studies demonstrate academic, research and professional performance and are diversified as social representation and by gender.

Performance Indicator * B.1.1.1. 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.

Between 2015-2020, the Doctoral School at the Târgu Mureş University of Arts was allocated four state-funded places each year for the entry examinations organised in September. The doctoral school has also published yearly entry examinations for 4-8 fee-based places. Between 2015-2020, 73 passing candidates were enrolled following the entry examination, 23 doctoral students in state-funded places and 50 doctoral students in fee-based places. (Annex B1 –Table report on candidates at admission 2015-2020). Rules of admission The entry examination to the university doctoral studies consists of three tests: a) a language examination for one of the main international languages; b) a written test based on topics announced at least two months before the date on which the entry examination is held;(c) an oral examination during which the theatre culture, scientific pursuits and research aptitudes of candidates are assessed based on the presentation of the topic proposed for the doctoral thesis. When registering for the examination, candidates who choose a scientific doctorate in the field of theatre and performing arts will present, with the purpose of defending during the oral examination at the entry exam, an essay or outline in the form of a report (4-6 pages) regarding the topic, the area and the literature of the research effort proposed; Doctoral supervisors who offered places for the entry exam establish, through consultation with the director of the doctoral school, in a detailed manner and at least 2 months before the date of the entry exam, the criteria for the assessment of candidates and for the selection of candidates to the places offered by them at the entry exam. These criteria will be made public at least 2 months before the date of the entry exam through the broadest possible variety of and most accessible means, including the internet. It is prohibited, under penalty of law, that through the evaluation criteria of the entry examination tests and the selection criteria, any form of discrimination be promoted between the candidates. The language examination for

one of the main international languages is held in front of a committee of specialists appointed for this purpose by the Rector of the University, which will issue a certificate of language proficiency. The language examination will consist of: 1. Reading a short text in English, commenting on the text, answering questions relating to the text (assessing reading skills, comprehension and spoken production) 2 Oral presentation of the topic proposed for doctoral studies (3-5 minutes) (assessing speaking skills and knowledge of specialist terminology). 3. Candidates are asked to prepare a written summary of the project in English (2-5 pages, Times New Roman font size 12, spacing 1.5) which is submitted at the beginning of the examination. The oral examination of theatre culture has two elements: a) a written test based on topics announced at least two months before the date on which the entry examination is held; b) an interview during which the scientific/artistic pursuits and the research/artistic creation skills of the candidate and the topic proposed for the doctoral thesis are analysed. Depending on the specifics of the field, other tests (even eliminatory ones) within the entry examination to doctoral studies may be specified, at the request of the appointed doctoral supervisors and with the consent of the doctoral school council. The examination tests are done in front of a committee made up of the doctoral supervisor who offered the place to the doctoral student and two other specialists from the University of Arts who hold the scientific title of doctor and at least the rank of lecturer. The president of the committee is the doctoral supervisor. The committee is appointed by the director of the school.

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

Performance Indicator B.1.1.2. *The IOSUD/doctoral school(s) have a policy for stimulating enrollment of doctoral students coming from disadvantaged social environments, by allocating reserved positions in the admission procedure and/or granting special scholarships, as well as organising support programs to prevent drop-outs.*

Doctoral students coming from disadvantaged backgrounds may apply for a special maintenance grant on social grounds according to the Methodology for awarding grants and other forms of financial support to students. In the category of special grants, the Rector of the university may award each semester one or two grants/section, designated the Rector's grant, totalling 650 lei/month, from own revenue. All university students may apply for this grant, including doctoral candidates. The criteria to be considered are: 1. educational achievement (school performance, activity in artistic creation); 2. social situation; 3. other criteria (having achieved extraordinary cultural-artistic performance, or for involvement in extracurricular activities and volunteering and so on). The places reserved for candidates of Roma ethnicity, or for Romanians Abroad are allocated to the university by ministry order

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

Criterion B.2. The content of doctoral programs

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.

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 advanced university studies-based training programme is adequate for the improvement of the doctoral candidates' research skills and the reinforcement of ethical behaviour in science. The Doctoral School provides its doctoral students with a training programme based on advanced university studies made up of activities carried out in institutionalised forms of study through courses and seminars. The curriculum of the advanced university studies-based training programme ensures the possibility of accumulating 30 transferable study credits. The curriculum of advanced university studies facilitates the curricular flexibility of study programmes, offering several optional courses taught in 3-4 weekly physical classes for a total duration of 12 weeks. The courses offered by the curricula over the period analysed were designed and taught by capitalising directly on the state-of-the-art scientific results achieved by the teaching staff at the University of Arts. The course, Ethics and Integrity in Academia, with a total weekly number of 2 classes (a 1-hour course and a 1-hour seminar, with 4 credits assigned) over 12 weeks is taught in Romanian by Professor Dr. habil. Sorin-Ion Crişan, PhD, and in Hungarian by Professor Emeritus Dr. Béres András, PhD. The course, Research Methodology in Theatre Sciences, with a total weekly number of 3 classes (a 1-hour course and a 2-hour seminar, with 10 credits assigned) over 12 weeks is taught in Romanian by Professor Emeritus Dr. Béres András, PhD., recipient of Hon. Causa from the University of Pécs (Hungary), and in Hungarian by Professor Dr. habil. Jákfalvi Magdolna, PhD and Associate Professor Dr. habil. Kékesi Kun Árpád, PhD. There are two more courses offered in Romanian with a number of 3 classes per week each, of which a 2-hour course and a 1-hour seminar, with 8 credits assigned, over 12 weeks: Directorial Doctrines in 20th Century Theatre, taught by Professor Dr. habil. Sorin-Ion Crişan, PhD, recipient of Hon. Causa from the West University of Timişoara, and Techniques of Stage Composition in Contemporary Performance Art, taught by Professor Alina Nelega, PhD. Similarly, there are two more courses offered in Hungarian with a number of 3 classes per week each over 12 weeks, of which a 2-hour course and a 1-hour seminar, with 8 credits assigned: The Memory of the Theatre. The Reconstruction of the Theatre Performance, taught by Professor Dr. habil. Jákfalvi Magdolna, PhD, and the course, 20th Century Theatre, taught by Associate Professor Dr. habil. Kékesi Kun Árpád, PhD.

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.*

Beginning with the 2018/2019 academic year, the curriculum prescribes the course, Ethics and Integrity in Academia, pursuant to Ministry of National Education Order 3131/30.01.2018. The syllabus has been drawn up so as to ensure the preparation of doctoral candidates in all aspects regarding the ethics and legislation of scientific research, intellectual property and copyright

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 activities.*

IOSUD has created mechanisms which ensure that the advanced university studies-based training programme is aimed at „the results of learning”. The knowledge, abilities and skills gained by doctoral students after completing each course are described in the course syllabi. his integrated and complementary approach to skills within the courses is pursued not only through the correlated development of content, literature and teaching-learning methods within all subjects, but also through the practice of collective consultation, through the public analysis of research reports and through conferences organised for doctoral students, ensured through instruction in the framework of a study programme. The schedule for these activities is established by the director of the doctoral school at the beginning of the academic year through consultations with the doctoral students, doctoral supervisors and the course coordinators. The procedures for carrying out university doctoral studies between 2015-2020 were designed and developed in accordance with the generic skills of the previously mentioned university doctoral study programme. In each doctoral student’s case, the doctoral programme took place within the doctoral school under the coordination of a doctoral supervisor as well as a supervisory committee made up of three members, and comprised: (i) a training programme based on advanced university studies; and (ii) an individual scientific research programme. The advanced university studies-based training programme is an instrument for improving the knowledge of the doctoral student, assisting them in completing their scientific research programme under good conditions and in gaining advanced skills specific to the cycle of university doctoral studies. The courses and seminars organised within the advanced university studies-based training programme take place over a cumulative duration of 12 weeks, in the first two semesters of doctoral studies. The coordinators of the courses taught at the doctoral school are doctoral supervisors with relevant teaching and scientific experience; seminars are always led by the course coordinators. The participation of

a doctoral student in the advanced university studies-based training programme and the selection of curricula within this programme, which must be undertaken by the doctoral student, according to art. 60(5) of the Code of university doctoral studies, are established exclusively and independently by the doctoral student and their doctoral supervisor. In accordance with art. 59(3) of the Code of university doctoral studies, the Doctoral School of The Târgu-Mureş University of Arts ensures free and unrestricted access to the advanced training programme for all doctoral students within the respective doctoral school or other doctoral schools. The completion of the advanced university studies-based training programme may lead to the granting of a number of transferable study credits established in the curriculum. According to art. 61(2) of the Code of university doctoral studies, any potential assessments associated with the advanced university studies-based training programme serve for information purposes only, are not compulsory for doctoral students and may not form prerequisites for the financing of doctoral students or their advancement within the study programme. The credits obtained over the course of a Master's research programme or the completion of a previous doctoral internship and/or a scientific research internship undertaken in the country or abroad, at universities or at high-profile research and development units may be recognised as equivalent to a training programme based on advanced university studies. The recognition of these internships is proposed by the doctoral supervisor and approved by the doctoral school council. For each course attended within the advanced university studies-based training programme, the doctoral student shall receive, provided they have not taken the exam required for the course in question, a certificate signed by the course coordinator which certifies the attendance of the student at the advanced university study programmes. The practice of the years the report refers to was for the doctoral students to be assessed with regard to the courses in the advanced university studies-based training programme through grading and granting the corresponding credit points. The individual scientific research/artistic creation programme is primarily aimed at the development of the doctoral thesis by the doctoral student. The individual scientific research/artistic creation programme begins with the enrolment of the doctoral student and the preparation of the individual university doctoral study plan, and concludes with the public defence of the doctoral thesis. The individual research/artistic creation programme takes place under the guidance of the doctoral supervisor and the supervisory committee. An efficient procedure experienced over this period consists of organising collective consultations, which are arranged in an interactive environment of presentation, debate and assessment of the preliminary results arrived at by the doctoral students while conceiving of and researching the chosen topic. To ensure coherent scientific advancement, the doctoral student shall present, at a date proposed by them, but at least once every 12 months, the progress of their scientific research programme in the form of a research report. Throughout the doctoral programme, the doctoral student will put forward at least 3 such activity reports, usually one in every year of study. The yearly scientific activity reports may contain: the presentation of studies undertaken for purposes of documentation of the doctoral thesis; scientific reports relating to the topic of the doctoral thesis, compiled at the request and with

the guidance of the doctoral supervisor; studies published in professional journals or presented at scientific communication sessions; chapters from the doctoral thesis. The presentation of yearly scientific activity reports is done within the doctoral school, in front of the doctoral supervisor, the supervisory committee, and other members of the doctoral school invited by the doctoral supervisor. The proceedings for presenting the scientific research report contains an element of outlining the results of the research carried out by the doctoral student and an element of answering the questions asked by the committee. The committee makes an evaluation of the level of research carried out and assesses the reports presented using one of the following grades: „pass” or „fail”. In the event of a tied vote, the report passes or fails depending on the grade given by the doctoral supervisor. In case of a failing grade, the presentation of the report in question may be repeated by the doctoral student once, at a date set by the doctoral supervisor through consultation with the doctoral student. The doctoral school has mechanisms for analysing the content of the doctoral study programme set out in the Policy programme aimed at quality, in the Rules of Procedure for the Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee. The University of Arts has Rules regarding the initiation, approval, monitoring and periodic evaluation of curricula Annex, with provisions regarding the manner in which the content of curricula must be analysed. Through these procedures for analysis, the correspondence of the curricula within the university is ensured with the levels of qualification in compliance with the National Qualifications Framework (CNC) and the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), according to the European Council Recommendation of 22 May 2017.

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

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

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

***Performance Indicator B.3.1.1.** For the doctoral school there are in place mechanisms for valorification of the results of doctoral studies in accordance with the specificity of the particular domain (i.e. technological transfer, products, patents in the case of exact sciences; products and services for social sciences and humanities; festivals, contests, recitals, sports competitions; cultural-arts orders in the vocational domain; presentations at national and international conferences, publication of research results in national and international publications, engaging doctoral students in writing research-development projects etc.).*

There are initiatives within the Doctoral School for harnessing the results of doctoral studies. The training of doctoral candidates as potential researchers remains the primary objective of the Doctoral School, involved in training specialists with genuine skills in investigating and

solving innovative topics. The Doctoral School continues to pursue the promotion of scientific research and artistic creation on the part of each doctoral candidate and doctoral supervisor, without this being its sole purpose. A significant initiative of the Doctoral School is the yearly organisation of the Doctoral Candidates' Conference, with the aim of capitalising on the doctoral students' publications. The organisation of the Doctoral School's conferences was aided by the Studium Prospero Foundation of Târgu Mureş Annex B4 shows the publications of graduates who have received a doctoral degree in the past five years, and Annex B5 shows other relevant contributions by graduates. Graduates who defended their doctoral thesis between 01. 10. 2015 –30. 09. 2020 have published 8 books as authors and 1 book as editor. The number of studies published in scientific or cultural journals is: 76, while 2 books and 2 studies are in the preprint stage. It should be noted that beginning with 2018, some of the current and former doctoral candidates, alongside the doctoral supervisors, were given the opportunity to continue their research within the Philther project, coordinated by the Theatron Workshop Foundation of the University of Theatre and Film Arts, Budapest. The joint project between yet another two universities from Serbia and Slovakia extends until 2023, and is an important factor in stimulating the performance of current and former doctoral candidates, by familiarising themselves with new research trends and by formulating academic results and propositions. High-impact publications will inarguably remain an ongoing preoccupation of doctoral candidates, and the attachment of at least one ISI-validated (Web of Science) article as main author to the doctoral thesis remains a minimum requirement, alongside meeting other standards. To this end, CSUD intends that all doctoral theses, following approval of the defence, be published in book form by the university's publishing house, UArtPress, in a minimum volume of ten copies, with costs borne by the Doctoral School. The scientific recognition of the research efforts and the results obtained, as well as the responsibilities of doctoral candidates will thus increase substantially. It is the intention that through these measures, the Doctoral School ensure each year, as scientific output, the research results of doctoral students. In 2020, the doctoral school gained access to an extrabudgetary financing fund through a project by the Communitas Foundation to publish doctoral theses and launched a publishing programme for a book series entitled Studia Artis. The programme is set to publish two books each of the graduate doctoral students. Each year, the Doctoral School offers doctoral students regular scientific gatherings, where scientific reports within the doctoral programme are presented publicly. They believe that this practice is beneficial in improving the teaching performance of the doctoral candidate. To this end, it would be required to identify doctoral groups and supervisors who can carry out doctoral projects in English or French. They also wish to encourage doctoral candidates to present reports in English to facilitate participation with oral papers at international events. With the aim of internationalising doctoral students and increasing doctoral candidate mobility, the Doctoral School has been organising the International Conference of Doctoral Schools since 2017. The second edition of the event was organised in November 2020. Annex B7 shows the events organised by the Doctoral School for doctoral students –conferences and

other scientific or artistic events, and Annex B8 presents the results of doctoral students' research (participation in conferences, publications and artistic creations).

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion B.4. Quality of doctoral theses

Standard B.4.1. Doctoral theses fulfil high quality standards

Performance Indicator B.4.1.1. *At the level of IOSUD, the percentage of theses non-validated, at the level of General Council of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU), without the right of further amendments and re-organizing the process of public defending, is not exceeding 5% in the last 5 years.*

Between 01. 10. 2015 –30. 09. 2020, 19 doctoral theses were defended, of which 10 (52.63%) in Romanian, 8 (42.10%) in Hungarian, and 1 (5.26%) doctoral thesis was completed under a joint doctorate scheme and was presented in one of the main international languages (French). All doctoral theses have been validated by the CNATDCU General Council, and the authors were granted the title of DOCTOR in the field of Theatre and performing arts. The doctoral thesis is written in compliance with the Rules of organisation and procedure for university doctoral studies (Annex A2). The doctoral thesis may be written in Romanian, Hungarian, or in one of the main international languages, according to the clauses of the study contract. In the case of a thesis written in Hungarian or in one of the main international languages, the summary of the doctoral thesis must also be drafted in Romanian. The Rules of organisation and procedure for university doctoral studies contains provisions regarding the completion of the doctoral theses, the checking and guarantee of the originality of their content, and the awarding of the title of Doctor, in the context of implementing the provisions of Government Decision 134/2016 on the amendment and supplementation of the Code of university doctoral studies, approved by Government Decision 681/2011. There have been no cases of invalidation of doctoral theses at the Doctoral School of the University of Arts.

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.

Performance Indicator C.1.1.1. *The IOSUD 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 doctoral school(s), the following assessed criteria being mandatory:*

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

The enhancement of the quality of educational, artistic and scientific services offered represents one of the primary objectives, pursued at present and in future by the Târgu Mureş University of Arts. The university has the coherent organisation, the specific leadership structures proportional with its size and traditions, the expanding facilities and the financial and human resources based on which it can accomplish the mission and goals it has set for itself to a high degree of quality. The university doctoral study programmes are integrated into the prospects of these quality requirements, both regarding the organisation of education as well as the artistic and scientific services. In order to enhance the culture of quality and improve quality standards, the Târgu Mureş University of Arts pursues, as its strategic and operational plan:

- Improvement of the activity of the Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee, the optimisation of structures, policies and procedures practised at the university in the field of quality assurance, with an indication of objectives and implementation strategies, with provisions and terms;
- Alignment with the standards and practices of European higher education institutions in the field of quality management: the cultivation and development of a culture of university quality, both with regard to staff and students;
- Improvement in the procedures regarding the launch, monitoring and regular review of both university programmes and activities as well as the procedures for assessing the results of learning; based on these, curricula shall be regularly reviewed depending on the instructional experience gained and the demands of the university qualification market;
- Optimisation of the regular assessment of the quality of the academic staff; to this end, they shall improve the mechanisms for the launch, collection, processing, interpretation, communication and use of peer review, self-assessment, as well as the assessment of the activity of faculty members by students;
- Assessment of courses by students, accompanied by the processing, interpretation and communication of results;
- Streamlining the incentive programmes for high-performing students and providing programmes for the recovery of lower-performing students;
- Ensuring transparency for information of public interest with regard to curricula and, where appropriate, certificates, diplomas and qualifications offered;
- Monitoring and rewarding quality and excellence in teaching, learning, creation and research;
- Systematic monitoring of feedback from students, theatre audiences and theatre critics with regard to the accomplishments of the university;
- Regular public communication of educational and cultural events and of news about the University on its own website and through social media.

Within the Târgu Mureş University of Arts, the Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee

functions as a specific university body that carry out their activity based on Rules of procedure and a Code of quality assurance for educational services at the University of Arts. The committee compiles The Yearly Report on Quality Assessment and Assurance and publishes it both via physically displaying it as well as electronically, proposing measures for the improvement of quality. The University management continues to be preoccupied with the implementation of the measures proposed to improve the quality of education, and collaborates with other universities in the country and abroad with the aim of identifying and adopting good practices in the fields of quality. The Senate of the Târgu Mureş University of Arts has adopted the Rules regarding the initiation, approval, monitoring and periodic evaluation of curricula and diplomas issued. One of the primary goals pursued currently and in future by the Târgu Mureş University of Arts is the enhancement of the quality of educational, artistic and scientific services offered. The university doctoral study programme is integrated into the prospects of these quality requirements, both regarding the organisation of education as well as the artistic and scientific services. As a summary of its five years of activity, the priorities of the framework targets pursued by the Theatre and Performing Arts Doctoral School within the Târgu Mureş University of Arts for 2015-2020 were: promoting the doctoral studies on offer in the field of theatre and performing arts among creators in theatre and research in fields associated with the performing arts (literary, artistic, musical, and philosophical sciences and so on) and the continual improvement of the admission scheme, with the aim of ensuring the identification of candidates with genuine potential for doctoral research; ensuring the quality of curricula through the continual updating of their content and raising the scientific level of instruction throughout the cycle of doctoral studies; making the curriculum on offer in the training programme compatible with the research projects of doctoral candidates in each field; promoting excellence in research through ensuring the quality in the supervision of doctoral theses, among others, and through a systematic practice of collective consultations; careful monitoring of the progress of each doctoral candidate; - promoting the results of research efforts within doctoral programmes by organising large-scale scientific and cultural events. Currently and in the near future, they propose to have among their goals: organising professional doctorates in theatre and performing arts, which would require priority expansion of the academic staff with faculty members specialised in the creative fields of performing arts; promoting excellence in research by organising mixed groups, university staff and doctoral candidates with a high potential to carry out projects financed via national and international programmes; expanding the joint doctoral scheme through collaboration with organising institutions of doctoral studies in the country or abroad; establishing programmes and partnerships which would favour interdisciplinary training and international mobility for doctoral candidates and university staff involved in the Doctoral School. The diplomas are drafted and issued according to the norms established by the Ministry of Education and Research. Feedback mechanisms from doctoral students are implemented throughout their doctoral training internship. The assessment of faculty members is organised on a regular basis. The results of the assessment are discussed individually with the faculty members and processed in statistical reports within the Doctoral

School council in order to formulate policies regarding the quality of instructional, educational and creative performance, focusing on the personal master-student relationship. The rules and forms for the assessment of faculty members are shown in Annex C5 –Rules and forms for the assessment of faculty members. The teaching staff at the Doctoral School fully complies with the requirements of the educational process, carrying out high-profile activity in research and artistic creation within the field of theatre and performing arts. The managerial measures proposed are for a two-pronged development strategy: the professional training track and the artistic research track. (a) The professional training track includes the evaluation of the yearly scientific activity by doctoral supervisors. An ongoing challenge for the university management was that the titular title list of the Doctoral School comprise the number of teaching positions required by legislation. Beginning with 2017, the Doctoral School has been able to proportion the teaching staff through habilitations and co-opting new doctoral supervisors in the field of stage creation. The correction in the configuration of the professional staff was felt in the artistic scientific activity of doctoral supervisors. Participation at artistic scientific events and various conferences shows an increasing trend from year to year. The internal quality assurance policy within the Doctoral School includes yearly assemblies of the Doctoral School Council, alongside all doctoral supervisors, in order to analyse and evaluate the compatibility of studies, research efforts and services, with internal recommendations for improving quality. In order to continually improve academic processes, feedback mechanisms from doctoral students are implemented throughout their doctoral training internship, showing their general level of satisfaction with the university doctoral study programme. The report on the results of the assessment of faculty members at the Doctoral School is available and clear.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.1.1.2. Students' associations and, according to the case, representatives of students organise elections in the community of doctoral students, for positions in the CSUD, by universal vote, direct and secret, all doctoral students having the right of electing or being elected.

The students are aware of the election procedures and they all communicate with the student representative. The students don't know of any financial stimulation provided by the university for publishing in international journals or for participation at international conferences. There is a private organisation that offers some scholarships.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.1.1.3. Students' associations and, according to the case, representatives of students organise elections in the community of doctoral students at the

level of each doctoral school, for positions in the councils of doctoral schools, by universal vote, direct and secret, all doctoral students having the right of electing or being elected.

The student representatives organise elections among the doctoral students for the position of Doctoral School Council member by direct and secret universal vote, with all doctoral students having the right to elect and to be elected.

Recommendations: *The indicator is fulfilled.*

Performance Indicator * C.1.1.4. *Following the internal evaluation, IOSUD and the doctoral schools draft strategies and policies aiming to eliminate the identified deficiencies and to stimulate scientific and academic performance of IOSUD.*

The doctoral school has mechanisms for analysing the content of the doctoral study programme set out in the Policy programme aimed at quality, in the Rules of Procedure for the Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee, The University of Arts has Rules regarding the initiation, approval, monitoring and periodic evaluation of curricula Annex, with provisions regarding the manner in which the content of curricula must be analysed. These analysis procedures provide procedures for remedying the deficiencies reported and stimulating scientific and academic performance within the Doctoral School.

Recommendations: *The indicator is fulfilled.*

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

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

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

(a) the IOSUD/Doctoral School regulation;

(b) the admission regulation;

(c) the doctoral studies contract;

(d) the study completion regulation including the procedure for the public presentation of the thesis;

(e) the content of the training study program based on advanced academic studies;

(f) the academic and scientific profile, thematic areas/research themes of the Doctoral advisors within the domain, as well as their institutional contact data;

(g) the list of doctoral students within the domain with necessary information (year of registration; Advisor);

(h) information on the standards for developing the doctoral thesis;

(i) information on the opportunities for doctoral students aiming to attend conferences, to publish articles, awarding scholarships etc.

(j) links to the doctoral theses's summaries to be publicly presented and the date, time, place where they will be presented; this information will be communicated at least twenty days before the presentation.

Data transparency and accessibility of learning resources C.2.1. Information relevant for doctoral candidates, future candidates, as well as information of public interest are available for viewing in electronic form. On the university website, The Doctoral School updates and manages information related to the activity of the Doctoral School and ensures access to rules, procedures and information: (a) the rules of the doctoral school (b) the rules of admission (c) the doctoral studies contract (d) rules for the completion of studies which include the procedure for the public defence of the thesis (e) the content of university doctoral studies (f) the scientific profile and research topics of doctoral supervisors at the school, as well as their institutional contact information (g) the list of doctoral candidates at the school and their basic information (h) information about the guidelines for writing the doctoral thesis (i) links to doctoral theses that are to be publicly defended.

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.

- *general description of the standard analysis.*

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.

All doctoral students have free access to several digital databases of important publishing houses through a partnership agreement with the Ministry for Innovation and Technology of Hungary's National Info communications Services Company. Annex A11 shows the list of electronic databases accessible to doctoral students. Through access to the international databases, Electronic Information Service National Programme (EIS) and JSTOR, the doctoral school provides doctoral students with access to a large quantity of relevant materials for organised doctoral studies

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, on request from and subject to approval by the doctoral supervisor, to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic creations via the SEMPLAG application developed by UEFISCDI and/or the platform, sistemantiplagiat.ro, recognised by the CNATDCU. Each doctoral student has access to learning spaces, laboratories for artistic creation, libraries, and other facilities specific to the field of art. The university infrastructure is shown in Annex A9.

*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.*

Full access to scientific facilities is provided.

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

Criterion C.3. Internationalization

Standard C.3.1. IOSUD/Doctoral school has a strategy in place and it is applied to enhance the internationalization of doctoral studies.

Performance Indicator * C.3.1.1. *IOSUD, for every doctoral school, 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.*

Increasing the performance of doctoral schools is inextricably linked to the international recognition and active participation in international exchanges of doctoral candidates and doctoral supervisors. Between 2015-2020, the Doctoral School entered into mobility agreements with universities abroad, partnerships with research institutions and companies where their doctoral candidates may carry out activities in their field of study. In the past five years, the mobility programme abroad took the form of Erasmus agreements, which offer students the opportunity to embark on mobilities for placements in order to complete practical internships at universities, theatres, dance and music workshops. The establishment of long-term relationships with other doctoral schools is being pursued for the promotion of

joint or Erasmus Mundus degrees. The University of Arts has entered into 15 bilateral mobility contracts for students and faculty members with universities abroad and companies in the field of theatre and performing arts. The number of students participating in the Erasmus programme in the past five years is 14. Each year, the Doctoral School offers doctoral students regular scientific gatherings, where scientific reports within the doctoral programme are presented publicly. They believe that this practice is beneficial in improving the teaching performance of the doctoral candidate. To this end, it would be required to identify doctoral groups and supervisors who can carry out doctoral projects in English or French. They also wish to encourage doctoral candidates to present reports in English to facilitate participation with oral papers at international events. With the aim of internationalising doctoral students and increasing doctoral candidate mobility, the Doctoral School has been organising the International Conference of Doctoral Schools since 2017. The second edition of the event was organised in November 2020. Annex B7 shows the events organised by the Doctoral School for doctoral students – conferences and other scientific or artistic events. International Conference of Doctoral Schools has had a positive effect regarding the internationalisation of activities within doctoral studies. In the past five years, the number of international doctoral candidates taking part in entry has been growing. If you add the conference participation to the quota of mobility it is more than 30% of the students that have participated in different sorts of internationalization activity (bilateral activity + conference participation + artistic activity).

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

Performance Indicator C.3.1.2. *IOSUD supports, including providing financial support, to the organization of doctoral studies in international co-tutelage or invitation of leading experts to deliver courses/lectures for doctoral students.*

The initiation of joint doctorates constitutes a priority for increasing the recognition of doctoral research and making artistic performance compatible, with the purpose of focusing research towards topics broached at an international level. In the past five years, they have had one international joint doctorate with the Cergy-Pontoise University in France.

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

Performance Indicator * C.3.1.3. *At least 10% of the doctoral theses of every doctoral schools of the IOSUD are drafted and/or submitted in an international foreign language or are organised in international co-tutelage.*

Between 01. 10. 2015. and 30. 09. 2020, 19 doctoral theses were defended, of which 10 (52.63%) in Romanian, 8 (42.10%) in Hungarian, and 1 (5.26%) doctoral thesis was completed under a joint doctorate scheme and was presented in one of the main international languages

(French). All doctoral theses have been validated by the CNATDCU General Council, and the authors were granted the title of DOCTOR in the field of Theatre and performing arts.

Recommendations: *The indicator is fulfilled.*

Performance Indicator C.3.1.4. *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.).*

Among the scientific accomplishments of doctoral students are several prizes, awards and international recognition earned. A short summary of the accomplishments of doctoral candidates: in 2018, a doctoral student, through a recommendation by the Doctoral School, won a long-term (3-year) scholarship for artistic creation abroad from Hungary. With the help of this scholarship, the doctoral student was able to take part in a scientific research workshop in America at SITI Company in 2018, in a workshop by world-renowned experts, Anne Bogart and Tadashi Suzuki; in 2018, a doctoral student chosen from among 404 participants received the Prize of Hungary for writing the screenplay for a film, in 2018, a doctoral student mounted and exhibition in Calcutta and received an international award for digital image art, in 2017 and 2018, a doctoral candidate became the overall winner at competitions on three continents, receiving the 2017 Grand Prize of the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union, the 2018 Grand Prix Marulic and the Golden Medal at the New York Festivals, 2018. The increase in research performance at the Doctoral School is likewise related to the active participation of doctoral students at festivals and high-profile international events. Annexes show the awards received by doctoral students at various festivals and national or international events. The managerial strategy is aimed at the initiative of inviting international experts to hold courses/seminars/workshops for doctoral students, the stimulation of mobilities, a focus on increasing research capacity and capability and participation at international fairs. The goals of the Doctoral School are aimed at attracting international experts for participation in supervisory committees or for completing doctoral theses. In this sense, this aspiration has been partially met. In 2019-2020, the Doctoral School expended great effort in inviting top-grade experts to hold courses/seminars/workshops for doctoral students. The essential purpose of organising the event, The Doctoral School after 12 Years: Between Art and Science on 8 May 2019 was the internationalisation and the raising of awareness of the research activity carried out in past years. The broadening of the educational offer commensurate with higher education constitutes the essential preoccupation of the Doctoral School. In 2019, the Doctoral School, partnered with the Institute for Theatre and Multimedia Research organised a workshop entitled Workshop for Research regarding New Forms of Performance – a three-day research workshop led by renowned French teatrologist Patrice Pavis. Between 30-35 researchers with doctoral titles or doctoral candidate status were selected, who engaged in dialogue with Patrice Pavis on the topics announced. Among the reputed representatives of

the field attending the event were: Barberis Isabelle, Boito Sofia, Cleren Marie, Navrotskaya Ana, Sepsi Enikő, Zaggia Nicolo and other renowned teatrologists.(Annex B7 –Events organised by the Doctoral School).For the visibility of the activity of the Doctoral School and to generate interest towards the research conducted at the school, in 2019 they launched a Newsletter for all faculty members of the university about the events, publications, scientific and artistic research efforts, the successes and awards obtained by doctoral candidates and their doctoral supervisors; they organised a series of conferences entitled Theatre Research: Individual Work, Collective Thought, with the aim of promoting their fledgling researchers. Each month, an open workshop class was organised, with research topics covered at the Doctoral School. The public programme would present, with monthly frequency –until the beginning of the lock-down caused by the pandemic –the scientific results and hypotheses of a selected doctoral candidate; they launched a video series entitled About Research in Three Minutes, with profiles on their doctoral candidates and their research. In January 2020 they applied for an extrabudgetary financing project for a three-day workshop featuring top-grade international guests. The international conference extended invitations to participants from four countries: Germany, Vojvodina, Hungary and Romania. Lectures in English were given by Christopher Balme, Professor at the University of Munich and Cristina Modreanu, theatre historian, Nánay István, theatre historian from Budapest, Szász János, film director and Tompa Gábor, theatre director and manager.

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

Criterion C.4. System for assurance of ethical and academic integrity

Standard C.4.1. IOSUD/Doctoral school has a functional and efficient system in place for prevention and assuring ethical and academic integrity norms

Performance Indicator C.4.1.1. IOSUD, applies the current provisions regulating ethics, deontology/academic integrity, respectively to academic freedom and has developed:

- *policies based on prevention regarding possible violations of the Code of ethics and academic integrity, demonstrated by public postionings, studies, analyses or measures taken;*
- *practices and mechanisms for preventing fraud, from an institutional perspective as well as from the perspective of the doctoral students;*
- *practices for preventing possible fraud in academic activity, research or any other activity, including active measures for preventing and avoiding plagiarism of any kind, as well as promoting ethical and integrity/deontology principles or observing intellectual property norms, authors' rights and other related rights, among all members of the academic community;*
- *administrative instruments which allow applying effective and eliminatory sanctions;*

- *mechanisms and measures to assure equal opportunities and protection against intolerance and discrimination of any kind;*

IOSUD monitors and permanently evaluates these practices and can prove they are applied to all activities and engagement of students in all these processes, and the results of the monitoring is made public yearly or whenever it becomes necessary.

The doctoral school implements the provisions of the Code of university ethics and professional conduct, approved by the Senate of the University of Arts. The Code of ethics contains procedures for the prevention of fraud both from an institutional perspective as well as among the doctoral students (art. 24). The Doctoral School has the obligation, together with the doctoral supervisor to inform the doctoral student with regard to and monitor compliance with scientific, professional and university ethics, including compliance with provisions on professional conduct during the conduct of doctoral research, as well as during the writing of the doctoral thesis. The Doctoral School adopts, together with the university Senate, measures for the prevention and resolution of non-compliance with the norms of scientific, professional and university ethics, according to the institution's code of ethics and professional conduct. The code of doctoral studies states that the doctoral thesis is an original work, and it is compulsory to cite the source for any reproduced materials; the doctoral student is the author of the doctoral thesis and is liable for the accuracy of the data and information presented as well as the opinions and arguments advanced in the thesis. The doctoral supervisor is responsible, together with the author of the thesis, for respecting the quality or professional ethics standards, including those of ensuring the originality of the content pursuant to art. 170 of Law no. 1/2011. The doctoral committee analyses, together with the doctoral supervisor, the doctoral thesis in order to grant their approval for its public defence. In the event of identifying infringements of good conduct in research and development, including plagiarism of results or publications by other authors, forging results or replacing results with fictitious data within the assessment of the thesis by the doctoral supervisor or the supervisory committee, no approval for public defence will be obtained. The defence of the doctoral thesis can only take place after its assessment by the members of the doctoral committee, and in the presence of at least 4 such members, with the compulsory participation of the president of the committee and the doctoral supervisor. In the event when, after the official submission of the thesis to the doctoral school registry office, a member of the doctoral committee identifies within the assessment of the doctoral thesis, both before the public defence, as well as during this, gross deviations from good conduct in scientific research and university activity, including plagiarism of results or publications by other authors, forging results or replacing results with fictitious data, the committee member must take the following measures: (i) notify the Ethics Committee of the University of Arts to analyse and solve the case, including by the expulsion of the doctoral student, in compliance with art. 306-310 and 318-322 of Law of National Education no. 1/2011 and the provisions of Law no. 206/2004 on good conduct in scientific research, technological development and innovation, with subsequent amendments and additions. (ii) Notify all members of the doctoral committee of the deviations and to

propose awarding a grade of Unsatisfactory. In the event of a written claim made subsequent to the official submission of a thesis at the school registry office, yet prior to the public defence, by any natural or legal person, with regard to non-compliance with the standards of professional ethics, including with regard to the existence of plagiarism, the director of the Doctoral School will take the following measures: (i) informs the author of the thesis and their supervisor of the deviations reported; (ii) notifies the Ethics Committee of the University of Arts to analyse and solve the case arisen pursuant to art. 306-310 and 318-322 of Law of National Education no. 1/2011 and the provisions of Law no. 206/2004 on good conduct in scientific research, technological development and innovation, with subsequent amendments and additions; (iii) informs the members of the doctoral committee of the deviations reported and of the revocation of the public defence of the thesis until the case has been solved; (iv) revokes the schedule announced for the public defence of the thesis, which may be rescheduled after the claim has been solved and provided that the claim is dismissed as unfounded by the Ethics Committee of the University of Arts. To prevent such situations, doctoral candidates have access to doctoral thesis verification with the aid of software for the detection of the level of similarity. Equally, the doctoral thesis must contain a statement attesting the originality of the doctoral candidate's contribution and the fact that responsibility for any potential errors in drafting the text falls upon them. Another mechanism for preventing issues of integrity is the compulsory introduction into the advanced university studies-based training programme of the course, Ethics and Integrity in Academia. They note that between 2015-2020, the Doctoral School did not have any cases of claims regarding plagiarism being made, no doctoral theses were invalidated and neither were there any of the doctoral theses publicly defended within the Doctoral School subject to requests for rewriting. The yearly reports of the Ethics Committee are shown in Annex C14. Between 2015-2020, The Doctoral School for Theatre and Performing Arts at the Târgu Mureş University of Arts strove to offer an integrated environment for advanced learning and research at the level of national and international requirements. The generic skills of the theatre and performing arts doctoral programme were centred on developing cognitive knowledge, aptitudes and skills which would offer doctoral candidates the capacity to select, combine and make adequate use of knowledge, abilities, values and attitudes in order to conceive and complete an original research project in the field of theatre and performing arts, and to ensure the management of the project proposed, subject to the requirements of the professional code of conduct. At the same time, the pursuit was to enhance teamwork skills and the readiness to establish relationships with the professional community and civil society through the conveying of results obtained within their field of research, to develop the sense of recognition and respect of diversity and multiculturalism, and the openness towards lifelong learning. The objectives of the Doctoral School pursue the intensifying of international cooperation in research, the preparation and publication of doctoral theses/books/publications in one of the main international languages, continually attracting national and international research grants, organising joint doctorates, and seeking out new opportunities for obtaining invitations to international conferences and festivals and entering new research partnerships with doctoral

schools in the country and in Europe. The institutional familiarisation with European trends and principles is the prerequisite which defines the success of a doctoral school. It is, however, obvious that there is still much work left to do with regard to research activity; yet their hopes lie in this ascending trend of consolidating the position of the Târgu Mureş Doctoral School for Theatre and Performing Arts in the national and international academic environment, so that it may be appreciated as a university for research and instruction renowned for its excellence.

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

Performance Indicator C.4.1.2. *All intimations regarding suspicion of plagiarism related to doctoral theses have been analysed and resolved by the IOSUD within the time interval legally established for expressing in writing its position regarding the intimation received.*

There were no subjects of plagiarism.

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

Performance Indicator C.4.1.3. *Annual Reports of the Ethics commission of the IOSUD contain information on the stage of solving each case of intimation or own-initiative intimation regarding violation of norms or ethical aspects relevant for university doctoral studies. description of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents and the evaluation visit itself.*

Ethics committee exists on the level of University. Besides that there is an Ethics Centre to support teaching staff. Documents and procedures for these domains exist and are fully implemented. annual reports exist.

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

Performance Indicator C.4.1.4. *The measures taken by IOSUD after the final decision of CNADTCU to withdraw the title of "doctor" following accusations of plagiarism have addressed all the aspects mentioned in CNADTCU's decision and in the current legislation.*

There were some case but they are still ongoing. The level of University is in charge of this. There were no revocations of the thesis until now.

*Recommendations: **The indicator is fulfilled.***

Performance Indicator C.4.1.5. *The measures aiming to prevent academic fraud in the doctoral studies, taken by IOSUD, could be:*

- a) Suspension of the right to advise newly enrolled doctoral students, for a period of 3 years, in the case of doctoral advisors having coordinated a doctoral thesis with a definitive decision of withdrawal of the “doctor” title for plagiarism;
- b) Exclusion from the IOSUD of the doctoral advisor having coordinated at least two doctoral theses with definitive decisions of withdrawal of the “doctor” title for plagiarism;
- c) Suspension of the right to organize the admission process of new doctoral students in the Doctoral studies domain, for a period of 2 years, if in the respective domain a doctoral thesis has been finalized and defended with a definitive decision of withdrawal of the “doctor” title for plagiarism.

This measures exist on the University level and are fully implemented in all Doctoral School procedures.

Recommendations: The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *C.4.1.6. *The scientific reviewers members in the commissions for public defense of two or more doctoral theses with definitive decisions of withdrawal of the “doctor” title for plagiarism, have not been nominated in other commissions for public defence of doctoral theses for a period of at least 3 years.*

Fully fulfilled, as seen from the documentation.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.4.1.7. *IOSUD has a database open to the public containing all the doctoral theses defended in the institution beginning at least in 2016 in a format including: the domain, author, doctoral advisor, title of the thesis and the thesis in electronic format (if there is an agreement of the author).*

The online database exists and is available and open accessed.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

IV. SWOT Analysis

<u>Strengths:</u>	<u>Weaknesses:</u>
	too much shyness and tolerance towards the fluctuating and formal

<p>the doctoral tradition of excellence in the fields of Theatre Performing Arts in Romania;</p> <p>the result quantified and proven by the seriousness and professional and teaching competence of the graduates of this doctoral school during years of doctoral activity;</p> <p>the doctoral school contributed to the training, existence and development of the university teaching staff in the reference fields, in the School and in other university centers;</p> <p>the ability to concentrate the interest and trust of the candidates for doctoral studies on the current Romanian university-doctoral competitive market;</p> <p>a competent, professionally and didactic active teacher, in accordance with the ARTS BASED RESEARCH principles;</p> <p>capacities and tools for research and artistic creation of the best quality and performance in Romania;</p> <p>openness and courage of interdisciplinary and avant-garde research and artistic creation;</p> <p>the usual practice of the fundamental principle of general management: "with very little investment, very efficient result";</p>	<p>policies regarding the doctorate profession, especially in the situation when they are operated by third parties with too little experience, knowledge and real mastery of the phenomenon;</p> <p>suspicion towards the collaboration with the other Romanian and international doctoral entities in perspective projects (co-supervision, partnership, etc.);</p> <p>reduced cooperation between the university fields of doctoral study within the Doctoral School;</p> <p>defining a strategy for university action and cooperation on a European and international scale;</p>
<p><u>Opportunities:</u></p> <p>human potential (students and teachers) marked for innovation, exploration and creation of innovation and creation systems;</p>	<p><u>Threats:</u></p> <p>the stress caused by the frequent and aggressive changes in the sphere of the legislation regarding the Romanian university education;</p>

<p>but also the base and logistical endowment of IOSUD for starting, developing and finalizing research and artistic creation projects on the principle of ARTS BASED RESEARCH; the orientation and capacity for creative communication in new training environments (theatre pedagogy and educational training through creative methods);</p> <p>an interdisciplinary interest at student / doctoral level for drawing and developing new vectors of creation, research and artistic performance;</p> <p>in the conditions in which the interest of young individuals (high school, university) is decreasing, IOSUD manages to exercise interest and attractiveness;</p>	<p>more and more young individuals fail to complete their baccalaureate studies; the dropout rate and school disinterest is increasing, which jeopardizes the investment in the university and doctoral system;</p> <p>chronic underfunding of the Romanian university system;</p> <p>regarding the doctorate, they signal the fact that the wave of habilitations, from a quantitative and qualitative point of view, does not replace the wave of retirements - a lack of experience and expertise of doctoral management;</p> <p>competition from new doctoral study centers in Romania;</p>
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V. Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
1.	PI	<p>A.1.1.1. The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the IOSUD, respectively at the Doctoral School(s):</p> <p>a) the internal regulations of the administrative structures (the institutional regulations for the organization and conduct of doctoral studies programs, the regulation(s) of Doctoral School(s);</p>	fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		<p>b) the Methodology for conducting elections at the level of the Council of University Doctoral Studies (CSUD), respectively at Doctoral School(s) including elections by the students of their representatives in CSUD/Council of the Doctoral School (CSD) and the evidence of their conduct;</p> <p>c) the Methodologies for organizing and conducting doctoral studies for the admission of doctoral students, for the completion of doctoral studies);</p> <p>d) the existence of mechanisms for recognizing the status of a Doctoral advisor and the equivalence of the doctoral degree obtained abroad;</p> <p>e) functional management structures CSUD/Council of the Doctoral School with evidence of the regularity of meetings;</p> <p>f) the contract for doctoral studies;</p> <p>g) internal procedures for the analysis and approval of proposals about doctoral study programs based on advanced academic studies.</p>		
2.	PI	A.1.1.2. The doctoral school' Regulation includes mandatory criteria, procedures and standards binding on the aspects	fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		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.		
3.	PI *	A.1.1.3. Doctoral schools included in IOSUD are organized as disciplinary or interdisciplinary disciplines/thematic, according to Article 158, paragraph (7) of the Law of National Education No. 1/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions.	fulfilled	
4.	PI	A.1.2.1. The existence and effectiveness of an appropriate IT system to keep track of doctoral students and their academic background.	fulfilled	
5.	CPI	A.1.2.2. The existence and use of a software program and evidence of its use to verify the percentage of similarity in all doctoral theses.	fulfilled	More awareness of the existence of this program for students should be encouraged.
6.	PI	A.2.1.1. The IOSUD/the doctoral school(s) present proof of possessing or having rented adequate spaces for research activity specific to doctoral studies (laboratories, experimental fields, research stations etc.)	fulfilled	
7.	PI	A.2.1.2. The IOSUD/doctoral school(s) has/have collaboration	fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		agreements with higher education institutions, research institutes, research networks for joint partnerships and have access for using various research infrastructures; the offer for research services is presented publicly using a dedicated platform.		
8.	PI	A.2.1.3. The IOSUD/doctoral school(s) proves that it is/are concerned with permanent renewal of the research infrastructure to provide doctoral students access to up-dated research resources, by applying to various funding competitions and using own university resources for acquiring new research infrastructure.	fulfilled	
9.	PI *	A.3.1.1. The share of Doctoral advisors coordinating simultaneously more than 8 doctoral students but not more than 12 during their doctoral studies does not exceed 20%.	fulfilled	
10.	CPI	A.3.1.2. At least 50% of all teaching/research staff involved in teaching/research activities related to training programs for advanced university studies or in individual research/art creation programs have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period with the IOSUD.	fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
11.	PI *	B.1.1.1. Admission to doctoral study programs is based on selection criteria including: previous academic, research and professional performance, their interest for scientific or arts/sports research, publications in the domain and a proposal for a research subject. Interviewing the candidate is compulsory, as part of the admission procedure.	fulfilled	
12.	PI	B.1.1.2. The IOSUD/doctoral school(s) have a policy for stimulating enrollment of doctoral students coming from disadvantaged social environments, by allocating reserved positions in the admission procedure and/or granting special scholarships, as well as organising support programs to prevent drop-outs.	fulfilled	
13.	PI	B.2.1.1. The training program based on advanced academic studies includes at least 3 disciplines relevant to the scientific research training of doctoral students; at least one of these disciplines is intended to study in-depth the research methodology and/or the statistical data processing.	fulfilled	
14.	PI	B.2.1.2. At least one discipline is dedicated to Ethics and	fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		Intellectual Property in scientific research or there are well-defined topics on these subjects within a discipline taught in the doctoral program.		
15.	PI	B.2.1.3. The IOSUD has mechanisms to ensure that the academic training program based on advanced university studies addresses “the learning outcomes”, specifying the knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through the research activities.	fulfilled	
16.	PI	B.3.1.1. For the doctoral school there are in place mechanisms for valorification of the results of doctoral studies in accordance with the specificity of the particular domain (i.e. technological transfer, products, patents in the case of exact sciences; products and services for social sciences and humanities; festivals, contests, recitals, sports competitions; cultural-arts orders in the vocational domain; presentations at national and international conferences, publication of research results in national and international publications, engaging doctoral students in	fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		writing research-development projects etc.)		
17.	CPI	B.4.1.1. At the level of IOSUD, the percentage of theses non-validated, at the level of General Council of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNADTCU), without the right of further amendments and re-organizing the process of public defending, is not exceeding 5% in the last 5 years.	fulfilled	
18.	PI	C.1.1.1. The IOSUD 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 doctoral school(s), the following assessed criteria being mandatory: a) the scientific work of Doctoral advisors; b) the infrastructure and logistics necessary to carry out the research activity; c) the procedures and subsequent rules based on which doctoral studies are organized; d) the academic and social services (including participation to various events, publication of papers etc.) and counselling	fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		made available to doctoral students.		
19.	PI	C.1.1.2. Students' associations and, according to the case, representatives of students organise elections in the community of doctoral students, for positions in the CSUD, by universal vote, direct and secret, all doctoral students having the right of electing or being elected.	fulfilled	
20.	PI	C.1.1.3. Students' associations and, according to the case, representatives of students organise elections in the community of doctoral students at the level of each doctoral school, for positions in the councils of doctoral schools, by universal vote, direct and secret, all doctoral students having the right of electing or being elected.	fulfilled	
21.	PI *	C.1.1.4. Following the internal evaluation, IOSUD and the doctoral schools draft strategies and policies aiming to eliminate the identified deficiencies and to stimulate scientific and academic performance of IOSUD.	fulfilled	
22.	CPI	C.2.1.1. The IOSUD publishes on the website of the organizing institution, in compliance with the general regulations on data protection, information such as:	fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		<p>a) the IOSUD/Doctoral School regulation;</p> <p>b) the admission regulation;</p> <p>c) the doctoral studies contract;</p> <p>d) the study completion regulation including the procedure for the public presentation of the thesis;</p> <p>e) the content of the training study program based on advanced academic studies;</p> <p>f) the academic and scientific profile, thematic areas/research themes of the Doctoral advisors within the domain, as well as their institutional contact data;</p> <p>g) the list of doctoral students within the domain with necessary information (year of registration; Advisor);</p> <p>h) information on the standards for developing the doctoral thesis;</p> <p>i) information on the opportunities for doctoral students aiming to attend conferences, to publish articles, awarding scholarships etc.</p> <p>j) links to the doctoral theses's summaries to be publicly presented and the date, time, place where they will be presented; this information will be communicated at least twenty days before the presentation.</p>		

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
23.	CPI	C.2.2.1. All doctoral students have free access to one platform providing academic databases relevant to the doctoral studies domain of the their thesis.	fulfilled	
24.	PI	C.2.2.2. Each doctoral student shall have access, upon request, to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic works.	fulfilled	
25.	PI	C.2.2.3. All doctoral students have access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities depending on the specific domain/domains within the Doctoral School, according to internal order procedures.	fulfilled	
26.	PI *	C.3.1.1. IOSUD, for every doctoral school, 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	fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		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.		
27.	PI	C.3.1.2. IOSUD supports, including providing financial support, to the organization of doctoral studies in international co-tutelage or invitation of leading experts to deliver courses/lectures for doctoral students.	fulfilled	
28.	PI *	C.3.1.3. At least 10% of the doctoral theses of every doctoral schools of the IOSUD are drafted and/or submitted in an international foreign language or are organised in international co-tutelage.	fulfilled	
29.	PI	C.3.1.4. The internationalization of activities carried out during the doctoral studies is supported by IOSUD through concrete measures (e.g., by participating in educational fairs to attract international doctoral students; by including international experts in guidance committees or doctoral committees etc.).	fulfilled	Internalization should be encouraged by cotutelage and invitation of foreign experts.
30.	PI	C.4.1.1. IOSUD, applies the current provisions regulating ethics, deontology/academic integrity, respectively to	fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		<p>academic freedom and has developed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - policies based on prevention regarding possible violations of the Code of ethics and academic integrity, demonstrated by public postionings, studies, analyses or measures taken; - practices and mechanisms for preventing fraud, from an institutional perspective as well as from the perspective of the doctoral students; - practices for preventing possible fraud in academic activity, research or any other activity, including active measures for preventing and avoiding plagiarism of any kind, as well as promoting ethical and integrity/deontology principles or observing intellectual property norms, authors' rights and other related rights, among all members of the academic community; - administrative instruments which allow applying effective and eliminatory sanctions; - mechanisms and measures to assure equal opportunities and protection against intolerance and discrimination of any kind; <p>IOSUD monitors and permanently evaluates these</p>		

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		practices and can prove they are applied to all activities and engagement of students in all these processes, and the results of the monitoring is made public yearly or whenever it becomes necessary.		
31.	PI	C.4.1.2. All intimations regarding suspicion of plagiarism related to doctoral theses have been analysed and resolved by the IOSUD within the time interval legally established for expressing in writing its position regarding the intimation received.	fulfilled	
32.	PI	C.4.1.3. Annual Reports of the Ethics commission of the IOSUD contain information on the stage of solving each case of intimation or own-initiative intimation regarding violation of norms or ethical aspects relevant for university doctoral studies. description of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents and the evaluation visit itself.	fulfilled	
33.	CPI	C.4.1.4. The measures taken by IOSUD after the final decision of CNADTCU to withdraw the title of "doctor" following accusations of plagiarism have addressed all the aspects mentioned in CNADTCU's decision and in the current legislation.	fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
34.	PI	<p>C.4.1.5. The measures aiming to prevent academic fraud in the doctoral studies, taken by IOSUD, could be:</p> <p>a) Suspension of the right to advise newly enrolled doctoral students, for a period of 3 years, in the case of doctoral advisors having coordinated a doctoral thesis with a definitive decision of withdrawal of the “doctor” title for plagiarism;</p> <p>b) Exclusion from the IOSUD of the doctoral advisor having coordinated at least two doctoral theses with definitive decisions of withdrawal of the “doctor” title for plagiarism;</p> <p>c) Suspension of the right to organize the admission process of new doctoral students in the Doctoral studies domain, for a period of 2 years, if in the respective domain a doctoral thesis has been finalized and defended with a definitive decision of withdrawal of the “doctor” title for plagiarism.</p>	fulfilled	
35.	PI *	<p>C.4.1.6. The scientific reviewers members in the commissions for public defense of two or more doctoral theses with definitive decisions of withdrawal of the “doctor” title for plagiarism, have not been nominated in other commissions for public defence</p>	fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		of doctoral theses for a period of at least 3 years.		
36.	PI	C.4.1.7. IOSUD has a database open to the public containing all the doctoral theses defended in the institution beginning at least in 2016 in a format including: the domain, author, doctoral advisor, title of the thesis and the thesis in electronic format (if there is an agreement of the author).	fulfilled	

VI. Conclusions and general recommendations

The overall recommendations:

1. Students are not aware of the benefits they can have when participating in different institutional committees, They should be acquainted with this, especially in regard to their own projects, finances, etc.
2. Most of the students are not aware of the benefits of the anti-plagiarism software.
3. There should be more attention given to training of the ethical committee and mentors in different specific issues, such as plagiarism, integrity, breaking of different academic standards and norms, etc.
4. Encouragement for international publishing activity should be set as a priority.
5. Coutoutelage should be encouraged.
6. IOSUD provides doctoral students with an advanced training program that includes disciplines likely to provide high-performance knowledge skills in their own research directions, on the principle of Arts Based Research. This is visible. Openness towards interdisciplinarity should be encouraged even more, towards STEAM, STEM, IT etc.

7. Quality management is separated according to schools, even in a sense that they are different entities, with different technical leadership. They suggest joining them and coopting more members.
8. In project teams, committees etc., there should be more younger experts included.
9. Students should convey the evaluation of the teachers in a written and well documented format.
10. A specific budget for students stimulation should be considered, for conferences, travel, etc.
11. A more specific percentage of plagiarism tolerance should be established.

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