

External evaluation report for the setting up (establishment) of a doctoral study domain

Contents

- I. Introduction
- II. Methods used
- III. Analysis of performance indicators
- IV. SWOT analysis
- V. Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations
- VI. Conclusions and general recommendations
- VII. Annexes



I. Introduction¹

This external evaluation report has been prepared regarding the possibility to set up (establish) a new doctoral study domain in the domain “Law” at the “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati.

It is the result of my participation as the international expert of the evaluation Panel, which was carried out on site in Galati on 14-16 December 2022 according to the programme approved by Professor Alina-Livia NICU (in her capacity as the Coordinator of the ARACIS Expert Panel) as well as by Professor Puiu Lucian GEORGESCU (who is the Rector of the “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati). The ARACIS Expert Panel was made up by four members, namely: Alina Livia NICU (full professor, University of Craiova), Augustin FUEREA (full professor, “Nicolae Titulescu” University of Bucharest), Ioan Dumitru APACHITEI (PhD student, “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University from Iasi) and myself (Gabriela Alexandra OANTA OANTA, associate professor of public international law and international relations at the University of A Coruña (Spain) and Holder of the Jean Monnet Chair “European Union law of the sea” co-financed by the European Union). All meetings took place at the venue of the

¹ When applicable, gendered information will be presented as well.



Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences at the “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati.

The overall objective of the evaluation visit at this academic institution was the assessment on the fulfilment of the criteria, standards, performance indicators and critical performance indicators for the setting up (establishment) of a doctoral study domain in law at the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences.² The external evaluation was carried out by the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS in Romanian).

The external evaluation process of the proposal for the setting up (establishment) of a new doctoral study domain is based on the provisions of: (1) the Romanian Law of National Education No 1/2011, with subsequent amendments and additions, especially the Title III – Higher Education, Chapter III – Organization of University Studies, Section 12 – Third cycle – Doctoral studies, Articles 158-159 and 160-170; (2) the Romanian Government Decision No 681 of 29 June 2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies, with subsequent amendments and additions; (3) the Romanian Government Emergency Ordinance No 75/2005 on Quality Assurance of Education, approved with amendments and additions by Law No 87/2006, with subsequent amendments and additions, in particular Articles 10, 13 and 29; and (4) the Order 3651 of 12.04.2021 of the Romanian Minister of Education for the approval of the Methodology on conducting the evaluation of university doctoral studies and of the systems of criteria, standards and performance indicators used in the evaluation. Furthermore, the ARACIS Guidelines for carrying out the external quality evaluation process for the setting up (establishment) of a new doctoral study domain were especially useful for the preparation of this evaluation report.

The doctoral domain under review will be part of the “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati, which is an institution organizing doctoral studies (IOSUD, in Romanian). At present, this IOSUD counts on 18 doctoral study fields as affirmed by the officials of this academic entity during different meetings carried out on 14-15 December 2022, although the Internal Evaluation Report in order to establish the field of doctoral university studies “Law” refers to 16 doctoral study fields at p. 9. This difference (of 2 domains) is due to the accreditations received after the presentation of the application dossier for the field “Law” in July 2022. The doctoral study fields are developed in the framework of 4 schools for doctoral studies, namely: the School for Doctoral Studies in Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, the School for Doctoral Studies in Fundamental and Engineering Sciences, the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities, and the School for Doctoral Studies in Biomedical Sciences.

Thus, the doctoral domain under review (namely, in “Law”) will be part of the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities, which already carries out 3rd cycle university

² As set out in Annex No. 4 of the Guidelines for carrying out the external quality evaluation process for the setting up (establishment) of a new doctoral study domain.



studies in the following 4 doctoral fields: (1) Management, economics and marketing; (2) Sports and physical education science; (3) Philology; and (4) History. Therefore, "Law" would be the fifth field of the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities within the "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati.

According to the Internal Evaluation Report in order to establish the field of doctoral university studies "Law" as prepared by the "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati, in July 2022 there were 27 doctoral supervisors, postholders and associated professors, who were active in the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities. Their fields were: Philology, History, Economics, Management, and Sports and Physical Education Science.

The willingness of this University to offer specialised 3rd cycle training in the field of Law to the graduates of bachelor and master degrees of its Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences is very well justified, as can be seen in the analysis made in the Part III of this Report. This Faculty has been established by the Order of the Ministry of Education No 7751 of 1990. Originally, it was named the Faculty of Economics and Law. This name was changed in 2005 when it became the Faculty of Law, in 2011 its name started to be the Faculty of Judicial, Social and Political Sciences. Finally, since 2021, under the Government Ordinance No 403/2021, the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences is the official name of the academic centre that will be in charge with the organization of the doctoral studies in the field of Law.

II. Methods used

As we are in the post-pandemic, the external evaluation process was conducted in presence at the venue of the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences within the "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati.

As required by Article 2(2) of the civil agreement signed with the ARACIS on 18.11.2022, I had to use my own knowledge, skills and experience in order to prepare this Report. Moreover, I used the qualitative and quantitative data available in the documents provided by the ARACIS and the Coordinator of the doctoral field "Law" within the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities regarding this external evaluation, both before and during the evaluation visit.

Before the evaluation visit, I revised the internal evaluation report for the doctoral study domain under review and its numerous annexes, which were prepared by this University and provided to me by the ARACIS. I also reviewed the documents, data and information available on the website of this University regarding the doctoral studies (<https://www.uqal.ro/studii/doctorat>).



During the evaluation visit, I had the occasion to visit different buildings of the “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati. The main part of the meetings took place at the venue of the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences. However, other building were visited. In this regard, special mention should be made to the Cross-Border Institute of International Studies and Criminal Justice (ITSIJ, in Romanian; <https://www.unicer.ugal.ro/index.php/en/about-itsijp>). As scheduled in the programme of the evaluation visit, I had meetings with: the representatives of the University and of the Council for Academic Doctoral Studies (CSUD, in Romanian); the contact person for the doctoral study domain under review and the team that drafted the internal evaluation report; the academic staff corresponding to the doctoral study domain, who will supervise doctoral studies in case this domain will be allowed to; the members of the Commission for Quality Evaluation and Assurance (CEAC, in Romanian); the members of the Doctoral Schools Council (CSD, in Romanian); the members of the Ethics Commission; the persons in charge of the research centres within the doctoral study in Law. The evaluation visit in presence ended with the meeting of the Panel evaluators with various representatives of the “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati and of the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences to discuss on the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation process.

III. Analysis of ARACIS’s performance indicators

Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

The domain analysis was carried out in accordance with the Romanian legislation and ARACIS standards and indicators. The facts and the documents provided by the “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati (DJUG) and its School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities before and during the evaluation mission have been taken into consideration for the assessment of this domain.

As a general description of the domain analysis, the finding is that the IOSUD – DJUG meets all the conditions required on its institutional capacity regarding the administrative and managerial institutional structures and financial resources, the research infrastructure, and the quality of human resources.

Criterion A.1. Administrative and managerial institutional structures, and financial resources

As a general description of the analysis of the criterion, it is noted that the IOSUD at the DJUG has implemented the necessary administrative and managerial institutional structures and financial resources laid down in the specific legislation on the organisation of doctoral studies.



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

The IOSUD within the “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati (DJUG) has implemented all the effective operating mechanisms provided for in the specific legislation on the organisation of doctoral studies, as shown by the analysis of the following 2 performance indicators. Both indicators have been fulfilled.

Performance indicator A.1.1.1. The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the doctoral school that the doctoral domain is a part of:

- a) the internal regulations of the doctoral school;

The normative framework regarding the organization and development of doctoral university study programs within the DJUG is established by the Senate Decision no 84 on 16 March 2021, as approved according to: (1) the National Law on Education no.1/2011, with subsequent completions and amendments; (2) the Charter of the DJUG (in its last version of 14 April 2022 as approved by the Senate Decision no 137; available at: <https://www.ugal.ro/informatii/documente-publice/carta-universitatii>); (3) the Regulation on the organisation and functioning of the DJUG Senate; and (4) the Decision of the Council Administration no 18 on 5 March 2021.

Furthermore, by the Senate Decision no 118 on 24 March 2022, the institutional Regulation on the organisation and functioning of doctoral university studies at the doctoral schools withing the DJUG has been adopted (available at: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/regulamentul-privind-organizarea-studiilor-universitare-de-doctorat>).

- b) the methodology for conducting elections for the position of director of the Council of doctoral school (CSD), as well as elections by the students of their representative in the CSD, and evidence that such elections were conducted;

The DJUG’s Senate Decision no 118 on 24 March 2022 has approved the Methodology on the organisation and conducting the selection process and election of steering structures of the IOSUD’s doctoral schools within DJUG (available at: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/alegeri-scoli-doctorale/metodologie-alegeri-scoli-doctorale>). This legal act contains the provisions regarding the election of the CSD’s director as well as of the students’ representatives in the CSD at the DJUG.



The official website of this University (see: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/alegeri-scoli-doctorale/metodologie-alegeri-scoli-doctorale>) contains plenty of evidences on the process for the selection and election of the steering structures of doctoral studies within the IOSUD – DJUG, which was carried out in 2022. Thus, reference may be made to the timetable of this process as well as to different types of documents, which persons interested in becoming the CSD's director and CSD's members (including representatives of doctoral students).

- c) methodologies for organising and conducting doctoral studies (admission of doctoral students, completion of doctoral studies);

The proper methodology for organising and conducting doctoral studies within IOSUD-DJUG is regulated by an adequate normative framework, which details and explains the whole process on the admission of doctoral students and the completion of doctoral studies.

These methodologies have been annexed by the DJUG to the international evaluation report as the Annex A.1.1.1.d. They furthermore are available on the official website of this academic institution; see especially: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/regulamentul-privind-organizarea-studiilor-universitare-de-doctorat> and <https://www.admitere.ugal.ro/doctorat/metodologie-doctorat>

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

On 29 November 2018, the DJUG's Senate approved its Decision that has an Annex 1 the methodology on the automatic recognition by the DJUG of the status of doctoral supervisor got at a foreign accredited university. I consider that its provisions are according to the Order of the Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research as adopted in this field on 6 December 2016.

Additionally, this Decision has as Annex 2 the methodology for the recognition at the DJUG of the doctoral diploma and doctoral degree in sciences or in a professional domain obtained abroad. In my opinion, its provisions are according to those of the Order of the Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research adopted on these issues on 6 December 2016.

These methodologies are contained in the Annex 1.1.1e) of the internal evaluation report. They are also available on the DJUG's website (see: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/confirmari-doctor>).



- e) functional management structures (Council of the doctoral school), including proof of the regular frequency of convening their meetings;

The DJUG counts on a specific methodology on the organization and conduct of the process of selection and election of the management structures of the Doctoral Schools at the IOSUD. This normative refers to the election of the director of each doctoral school within the DJUG, on the one hand, and to the election of the councils of each doctoral school. In this regard, see: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/alegeri-scoli-doctorale/metodologie-alegeri-scoli-doctorale>

The last election process was held from 10 October 2022 to 16 November 2022 (see: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/alegeri-scoli-doctorale/calendar-alegeri-scoli-doctorale>) and there were 4 template forms for the submission of a candidate application depending on the status of the future members of the CSD (namely: director, member and doctoral student; see: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/alegeri-scoli-doctorale/anexe-alegeri-scoli-doctorale>).

There are proofs or evidences on regular meetings of this Council as seen in the Annex A.1.1.1.f) of the internal evaluation report. The official website of the DJUG furthermore contains the report of the Council for doctoral studies of 2015, which was published in June 2016 (see: https://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/Raport_CSUD_2015_iunie_2016.pdf).

- f) the contract for doctoral studies;

The relations between the doctoral student, the doctoral supervisor and the IOSUD-DJUG are established in accordance with the *Contract of doctoral studies* (see: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/contracte-cadru-studii-doctorale>). This document is signed by the doctoral supervisor, the doctoral student, the DJUG's Rector. It contains the rights and obligations of each part and sets forth the research path of the doctoral student.

It is worth mentioning that this University has prepared 3 different such contracts (<https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/contracte-cadru-studii-doctorale>) depending on the financial aspects of the doctoral studies and the period during which a doctoral student should finish his/her doctoral thesis (in Romanian: "budget cu bursa", "budget fara bursa", "cu taxa"). See also the Annex A.1.1.1.e) of the internal evaluation report.

- g) internal procedures for the analysis and approval of proposals regarding the



training for doctoral study programs based on advanced academic studies.

Upon signing the Contract of doctoral studies, doctoral student and the doctoral supervisor and with his/her agreement, elaborate a doctoral study plan that specifies the student's research path (disciplines in the training program based on advanced academic studies, themes and dates for the presentation of the research reports, dates for the public defence of the doctoral dissertation, projects in which the doctoral student participates, study / research stays, etc.).

It should be underlined that the IOSUD-DJUG has approved the Operational procedure on encouraging performance in research activity of doctoral students as the Annex 1 to the Decision of the Administrative Board no 38 of 10 May 2021 (https://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/ca/2021/HCA_38_2021_anexa1_ProcDrd_IOSUD.pdf). I consider it of special interest to the doctoral students, which shows the DJUG's commitment to enabling its doctoral students to carry out quality research (<https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/referate-achizitii-deplasari>). This commitment is further reinforced by the academic mobility of doctoral students (see: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/mobilitatea-academica-a-studentilor-doctoranzi>) and the possibility to carry out the doctoral research under a joint supervision agreement that can be national or international (see: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/model-de-acord-de-cotutela>).

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance indicator A.1.1.2. The doctoral school's Regulations include mandatory criteria, procedures and standards concerning the aspects specified in art. 17, para. (5) of Government Decision no. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies, as further amended and supplemented.

By virtue of Article 17(5) of the Code of Doctoral Studies approved by the Romanian Government Decision No 681/2011 as further amended and supplemented, the regulations of the doctoral schools within the IOSUD – DJUG have to contain specific mandatory criteria, procedures and standards covering a set of aspects on the doctoral programmes and particularities of each field of doctoral studies.

Taking into account the internal evaluation report prepared by the DJUG and its annexes, as well as the assessment carried out on site at the venue of the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences, I consider that that the IOSUD – DJUG provides plenty of norms regarding the fulfilment of this requirement.

These norms set out: the acceptance of new doctoral supervisors and the manner how a doctoral supervisor may be appointed to a doctoral programme and how he/she may be excluded from such a school; the procedures for changing the doctoral supervisor of a precise doctoral student and procedures for mediating conflicts between such



persons; the conditions under which the doctoral programme may be interrupted; arrangements for the prevention of fraud in scientific research, including plagiarism; the access to research resources; and the requirements on doctoral students' attendance according to the methodology developed in this regards by the Romanian Ministry of Education, Research, Youth and Sports. Thus, a detailed information may be found at: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat> This information supplements the one provided by the DJUG in the Annexes A..1.1.2 of the internal evaluation report.

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

As a general description of the analysis of this standard, it is noted that the IOSUD – DJUG has the necessary logistical resources in order to carry out the mission of the doctoral studies, as shown by the analysis of the following 2 performance indicators indicators. Both indicators have been fulfilled.

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

The IOSUD-DJUG supports the implementation of the IT solutions necessary for the optimization and development of the administrative activities related to doctoral students. Thus, the information on doctoral students and their research is recorded. The records refer to, among other things: the main table of doctoral supervisors, the main table of doctoral students, the main table of graduates, the main table of withdrawn, the main table of expelled, the table of data on changes (of supervisor, of the tile of doctoral thesis, etc.) for doctoral students and also for graduates, withdrawn and expelled, the table of data regarding previous studies for doctoral students and also for graduates, withdrawn and expelled, etc.

Additionally, doctoral students have access to the platform "Portal IOSUD-UDJG" through <https://www.scoaladoctorala.ugal.ro/index.php/ro/>

All this information has been reinforced by the declarations made by various members of the IOSUD-DJUG during the meetings on 14 and 15 December 2022, which took place at the venue of the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences.

The indicator is fulfilled.

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



The DJUG counts on and use an appropriate software in order to verify the percentage of similarity in all doctoral thesis. There are therefore various evidences of its use by this academic entity.

Thus, the DJUG uses SISTEMANTIPLAGIAT.RO as the software system for plagiarism detection in order to check all documents with sources in this University's own database, in the database of other Universities, and Internet resources. All these aspects have been updated by the DJUG through the Decision of the University Senate no 84 of 16 March 2021. Furthermore, the DJUG has adopted a general procedure for the use of the antiplagiarism system (available at: https://www.ugal.ro/files/site/comisie_etica/15_10_Procedura_gen_Antiplagiat_CEU_rev_2018.pdf) . In addition, the University Ethics Committee has prepared a document that explains, with lots of details, how this tool may be used (see: https://www.ugal.ro/files/site/comisie_etica/15_10_Instructiuni_antipl.pdf).

There are evidences on the enforcement of this system on the DJUG's website as well as in the internal evaluation report and its annexes included in the folder "*Anexa A.1.2.2. Sistem antiplagiat*". Different meetings on 14 and 15 December 2022 at the venue of the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences allowed me to check the validity of all this information.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure

As a general description of the analysis of this criterion, it is noted that the IOSUD-DJUG has implemented the necessary administrative, managerial institutional structures and the financial resources laid down in the specific legislation on the organisation of doctoral studies, which allows it to have the necessary research infrastructure for doctoral studies.

Standard A.2.1. The IOSUD has a modern research infrastructure to support the performance of specific doctoral study activities.

The IOSUD-DJUG has a modern research infrastructure to support the conduct of doctoral studies' specific activities, as shown by the analysis of the following indicator, which I consider fulfilled.

Performance indicator A.2.1.1. The venues and the material equipment available to the doctoral school enable the research activities in the evaluated domain to be carried out, in line with the assumed mission and objectives (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, library, access to international databases etc.). The



research infrastructure and the provision of research services are presented to the public through a specific platform. The research infrastructure described above, which was purchased and developed within the past 5 years will be presented distinctly.

The School for Doctoral School in Socio-Humanities, in which the domain “Law” is a part of, has the venues and the material equipment necessary for carrying out doctoral research in this field. There are new and sufficient computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, library, access to international databases, etc. In this regard, mention should be made to two research centres, which will offer support to doctoral students, namely the Centre of Legal and Administrative Research, and the Cross-border Institute of International Studies and Criminal Justice.

It is worth noting the excellent infrastructure and human capacity that act under the umbrella of the Cross-border Institute of International Studies and Criminal Justice. Over the years, it has established itself as a prestigious research centre (scientific and humanistic), which counts on an excellent infrastructure. This is due both to the projects it has benefited from in recent years and to the commitment to its objectives of its management team and the group of persons, who carry out their activities within the framework of this Centre. Its main activities have focused on, among others: international cooperation in the criminal field, European criminal law and criminal research, diplomacy, security and international relations, cross-border cooperation and regional development, etc. Its official website is: <https://www.unicer.ugal.ro/index.php/ro/prezentare-itsijp>

There is detailed information on the research infrastructure on the DJUG’s official website and the one of its Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences. It has also to be mentioned the portal of research centres of this University. At present, there are 34 accredited research units, of which 18 have the consideration of being excellent in their respective fields of activity, and the other 16 are considered as having a predominantly academic impact (<https://www.unicer.ugal.ro/index.php/ro/>).

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion A.3. Quality of human resources

Standard A.3.1. For each domain, there is qualified staff having the experience required for carrying out the doctoral program.

As a general description of the analysis of this criterion, it is considered that the Doctoral School of Law within the DJUG fulfills all the requirements on quality of human resources, which allows it to count on qualified staff with the experience required for conducting doctoral supervision activity. The three performance indicators are fulfilled.



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

Taking into account the internal evaluation report and its Annexes, especially Annexes A.3.1.1 and A.3.1.2, the domain “Law” of the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities would have 4 doctoral supervisors, namely: Liviu-Bogdan CIUCA, Nicoleta DIACONU, Anca-Lelia LORINCZ and Vasilica NEGRUT.

However, in practice, only 3 of these 4 persons will conduct doctoral supervision within the domain “Law” at the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities. I am referring to Liviu-Bogdan CIUCA, Anca-Lelia LORINCZ and Vasilica NEGRUT.

In the case of Nicoleta DIACONU, full professor at the “Spiru Haret” University from Bucharest, I have to mention that this professor decided to give up affiliation with this doctoral school of the DJUG. This resignation has been the result of my question as to which doctoral school she intends to join. As stated in the documentation provided to me by ARACIS in my capacity as international evaluator of the Panel in charge with the evaluation of the establishment of a new domain of university studies for a doctorate in Law of the “Spiru Haret” University of Bucharest, professor Nicoleta DIACONU has also expressed her intention to join the doctoral school of law of this University from Bucharest. During the meeting with the academic staff corresponding to the doctoral study domain in Law at the DJUG, which took place in Galati on 15 December 2022, this professor decided to give up to her initial intention to join the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities – field “Law” – within the DJUG and to maintain, therefore, her intention to supervise doctoral studies at the “Spiru Haret” University of Bucharest should this school be established as a new doctoral study domain.

In addition, I have to introduce a short reference to professor Vasilica NEGRUT. At the time of the evaluation visit, this professor is conducting doctoral supervision at the Doctoral School within “Nicolae Titulescu” University of Bucharest. During the meeting with the academic staff corresponding to the doctoral study domain in Law, which took place in Galati on 15 December 2022, this professor expressed her decision to join the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities – domain “Law” – of the DJUG. In her case, I have no doubt about it as she is already the Coordinator of the doctoral field “Law” within the DJUG. An excellent proof of this is that she is one of the professors in charge with the preparation of the internal evaluation report in order to establish the field of doctoral university studies “Law”, which was sent to the ARACIS in July 2022.



Therefore, 3 doctoral supervisors will work under the umbrella of the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities of the DJUG, who will conduct doctoral supervision. I consider that, based on the merits contained by the Annex A.3.1.1. of the internal evaluation report, each doctoral supervisor meets the minimum standards of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) in force at the time when the evaluation has been carried out, which standards are required and mandatory for obtaining the enabling certification.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance indicator* A.3.1.2. At least 50% of the doctoral advisors in the doctoral domain under review are tenured professors within the IOSUD and.

Among the 3 doctoral supervisors, 2 of them are tenured professors within the IOSUD-DJUG and have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period with the DJUG. I am referring to Liviu-Bogdan CIUCA (full professor of civil law) and Vasilica NEGRUT (full professor of administrative law).

For more details, see the Annexes A.3.1.1 and A.3.1.2 of the internal evaluation report in order to establish the field "Law" for doctoral university studies at the DJUG.

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

Taking into account the documents contained by the Annex A.3.1.3 of the internal evaluation report in order to establish the field "Law" for doctoral university studies at the DJUG, I may assess that the study subjects required are taught by well-prepared teaching staff, with proved expertise in the field of the study subjects they teach, or other specialists in the field who meet the standards established by the institution in relation with the aforementioned teaching and research functions..

The indicator is fulfilled.

Standard A.3.2. The doctoral advisors within the doctoral domain are carrying out a scientific activity that is visible at international level.



The doctoral supervisors within the doctoral domain of Law are carrying out a scientific activity visible at international level, as shown by the analysis of the following 2 indicators. Both indicators are fulfilled.

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

The analysis of the results of the scientific research conducted by the 3 doctoral supervisors (Liviu-Bogdan CIUCA, Anca-Lelia LORINCZ and Vasilica NEGRUT), as provided in by the Annex A.3.1.1. of the internal evaluation report in order to establish the field “Law” for doctoral university studies at the DJUG, highlights two important aspects: on the one hand, all of them have indexed publications, including international-level contributions; and, on the other hand, all of them enjoy international visibility also in the last 5 years. Thus, there are extensive proofs on the scientific results of the 3 doctoral supervisors.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance indicator * A.3.2.2. At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in a specific doctoral study domain continue to be active in their scientific field, and acquire at least 25% of the score requested by the minimal CNATDCU standards in force at the time of the evaluation, which are required and mandatory for acquiring their enabling certificate, based on their scientific results within the past 5 years.

In between 2018 and 2022 (5 years), all doctoral supervisors (3) within the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities – domain “Law” – of the DJUG have achieved amply a score of 25% of the minimum CNATDCU standards in force at the time of the evaluation (see: Annex A.3.1.1).



The indicator is fulfilled.

Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS.

The School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities – domain “Law” – of the DJUG demonstrates educational effectiveness. At this stage of its existence, it is considered that it meets all the following criteria, standards and performance indicators.

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

As a general description of the analysis of the criterion, I consider that it is not the case for its assessing. So far, no candidate could be enrolled for the admission contest.

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

So far, no candidate could be admitted to doctoral studies in Law at the DJUG. Against this background, it is considered that this standard has been respected by the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities – domain “Law” – of the DJUG.

Performance indicator* B.1.2.1. Admission in the doctoral study programmes is based on selection criteria including the academic, research and professional performance of the candidates; their interest for scientific or artistic/sports research; publications in the domain, and a proposal of a research subject. Interviewing the candidate is mandatory as part of the admission procedure.

So far, no candidate could be admitted to doctoral studies in Law at the DJUG. Against this background, it is considered that this indicator has been by this University.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion B.2. The content of the doctoral programs

As a general description of the analysis of this criterion on the content of doctoral programs, it is observed that the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities – domain “Law” – of the DJUG fulfills the standard and the three performance indicators, as shown below.



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

Performance indicator B.2.1.1. The training program based on advanced academic studies includes at least 3 disciplines relevant for the scientific research training of doctoral students, out of which at least one discipline focuses on the in-depth study of research methodology and/or statistical data processing.

On the basis of the internal evaluation report prepared by the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities for the accreditation of the domain "Law" as a new field of this Doctoral School, inclusive the documents contained by its Annex B.2.1.1., I may affirm that the intention of this Doctoral School is to provide students with training programmes made up by courses and seminars.

It is planned that, at the beginning of each academic year, the timetable of the courses and seminars that will be organized for doctoral students in Law will be published on the Doctoral School's website. That is what is happening in the case of the doctoral students enrolled in the other fields of the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities, which have been accredited by the ARACIS. In this regard, I consider that the website of this Doctoral School contains all the necessary information on the training doctoral programmes. For more information, see: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/scoli-doctorale/scoala-doctorala-de-stiinte-socio-umane> and <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/scoli-doctorale/scoala-doctorala-de-stiinte-socio-umane/fisa-disciplinei-sd-sdu>.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance indicator B.2.1.2. At least one discipline is dedicated to ethics in scientific research and intellectual property, or there are well-defined topics on these subjects within a discipline taught in the doctoral program.

The School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities of the DJUG already has a discipline dedicated to ethics in scientific research and intellectual property. It is called "Ethics and academic integrity", it is offered to all the doctoral students and it is taught by professor Simona ANTOFI. It is expected that the doctoral students in Law will benefit for this background. In addition, each doctoral supervisor is keen on the integrity in academic research, being an essential guide for his/her doctoral students. For more information, see: https://www.ugal.ro/files/doctorat/scoala%20doctorala/2023/A_2_Fisa_disciplinei_Antofi_Simona.pdf

The indicator is fulfilled.



Performance indicator B.2.1.3. The IOSUD has the mechanisms in place to ensure that the academic training program based on advanced higher education studies related to the evaluated domain addresses the “learning outcomes”, specifying the knowledge, skills, and the responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through the research activities³.

The IOSUD-DJUG has created the mechanisms to ensure that the training programme based on advanced university studies, related to the evaluated field, aims at “learning outcomes”, specifying the competencies, skills and attitudes that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through research activities. Besides the doctoral research plan, which is signed at the beginning of the doctoral training period, the IOSUD has established an operational procedure for the doctoral students in order to be evaluated periodically and to present their research reports each year of their doctoral training.

The training programme based on advanced university studies, related to the domain “Law”, is not only individualized according to the specialization chosen by the doctoral student, but it is also focused on learning outcomes. The training programme will be monitored by the doctoral students’ guiding commissions.

The discipline sheets reveal the competencies, skills and attitudes that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through research activities. Each discipline sheet includes the professional and transversal competences, as well as the general and specific objectives aimed (see: Annex B.2.1.1).

The doctoral studies end with the elaboration and defence of the doctoral thesis, for which the procedure is regulated according to the national legislation. In this regard, see the various documents available on the DJUG’s website: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/sustinere-publica-teza-doctorat-legislatie-si-formulare>

The indicator is fulfilled.

DOMAIN C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

The assesment of the domain dedicated to the quality management has been carried out in accordance with the Romanian legislation and ARACIS standards and performance standards. The facts, the documents provided by the ARACIS and the

³ Or by what the graduate should know, understand and be able to do, according to the provisions of the Methodology for the listing and registration of higher education qualifications in the National Register of Qualifications in Higher Education (RNCIS) approved by the Order of the Minister of National Education no.3475/2017 with subsequent amendments and additions.



School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities at the DJUG (before and during the evaluation mission), and results of the meetings according to the visit programme (see the Annex to this report) have been taken into consideration for this domain analysis.

As a general description of the assessment made, the finding is that the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities at the DJUG meets all the conditions required on its quality management for the doctoral studies, as it results from the analysis of the following criteria, standards and performance indicators.

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

As a general description of the analysis of this criterion, it is noted that the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities at the DJUG – where the new domain will be a part of – count on an internal quality assurance system, which is periodically implemented.

Standard C.1.1. The institutional framework is in place, and policies and procedures are applied for the internal assurance of the relevant quality.

It is observed that the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities at the DJUG, where the new domain will be a part of, has an institutional framework and procedures in place as well as relevant internal quality assurance policies, applied for monitoring the internal quality assurance of its doctoral activity, as shown by the assessment of the following 2 indicators. Both of them have been fulfilled.

Performance indicator C.1.1.1. The doctoral school to which the doctoral study domain belongs demonstrates that the internal evaluation and quality assurance process of the study domain is carried out constantly, according to a procedure developed and applied at the level of the IOSUD, including an evaluation of the following mandatory criteria:

- a) the scientific work of doctoral advisors;

There is an operational procedure for the evaluation of doctoral supervisors by doctoral students as approved by the DJUG's Senate no 93 of 24 March 2021. This document is available at: https://www.ugal.ro/files/hotarari/hs/2021/HS_93_din_24_3_2021_anexa_1_Procedura_evaluare_conducatori_doctorat-doctoranzi.pdf

- b) the infrastructure and logistics needed for carrying out the research activity;



There is plenty of evidences on the adequate material and academic framework for carrying out research activity. For more details, see: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat>

- c) the regulations and procedures based on which doctoral studies are organised;

In this regards, see: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/regulamentul-privind-organizarea-studiilor-universitare-de-doctorat>

- d) the scientific activity of doctoral students;

The IOSUD-DJUG is keen on scientific doctoral research. It has adopted a detailed operational procedure on encouraging research performance of doctoral students, as can be seen at: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/referate-achizitii-deplasari>

- e) the training program based on advanced higher education studies of doctoral students;

The IOSUD-DJUG has an institutional programme for postdoc training. See: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/regulament-program-postdoctoral>

- f) social and academic support services (including for participation in various events, publishing papers, etc.) and counselling services available for the doctoral students.

The School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities at the DJUG has an outstanding policy for supporting doctoral students interested in the participation to national and international academic events, in doing international mobilities and also in carrying out their doctoral studies under a joint supervision agreement. See: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/mobilitatea-academica-a-studentilor-doctoranzi> and <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/referate-achizitii-deplasari> and <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/model-de-acord-de-cotutela>

A very good example in this regars is the news that can be read at: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/internationalizare>

The indicator is fulfilled.

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



The School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities at the DJUG and doctoral students underline feedback of the latter with regard to didactic and research activity specific to the doctoral domains. During various meetings at the venue of the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences I had the opportunity to note that this Doctoral School has implemented the necessary mechanisms in order to get feedback from its doctoral students allowing to identify their needs, as well as their overall level of satisfaction with the doctoral study program in order to ensure continuous improvement of the academic and administrative processes. It is expected that this strategy will be followed in the case of the “Law” domain, too.

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

There is evidence that there is transparency of information and accessibility of learning resources within the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities at the DJUG. This may be assessed according to the criteria, standards and indicators analysed below.

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

The School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities at the DJUG has implemented an accurate system in order to provide information of interest to the doctoral students as well as to future doctoral candidates. Moreover, public interest information is available for electronic format consultation. This standard has been assessed on the basis of the performance indicator mentioned below, which has been fulfilled.

a) the regulations of the doctoral school;

See: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/scoli-doctorale/scoala-doctorala-de-stiinte-socio-umane>

b) the admission regulations;

See: <https://www.admitere.ugal.ro/doctorat/metodologie-doctorat>

c) the doctoral study contract;

See: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/contracte-cadru-studii-doctorale>

d) the study completion regulation including the procedure for the public



presentation of the thesis;

See: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/sustineri-publice-teze-doctorat>

- e) the content of the training programs based on advanced academic studies;

See: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/regulament-program-postdoctoral>

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

See: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/domenii-si-conducatori-de-doctorat>

- g) the list of doctoral students in the domain concerned, with basic information (year of enrolment; advisor);

See: https://ugal.ro/files/doctorat/scoala%20doctorala/2021/SD_SSU_2020-2021_Doctoranzi_in_evidenta.pdf

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

See: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/sustinere-publica-teza-doctorat-legislatie-si-formulare>

- i) links to the summaries of the doctoral theses to be presented publicly, as well as the day, time and place where they will be presented, at least 20 days before the presentation.

See: <https://www.ugal.ro/studii/doctorat/sustineri-publice-teze-doctorat>

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

The IOSUD- School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities at the DJUG provides all doctoral students with access to the resources needed for conducting doctoral studies, as shown by the analysis of the following 3 indicators. Each indicator has been fulfilled.

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.

It has to be underlined that the DJUG's Library has access to a relevant number of academic databases of interest for doctoral students in Law



(<https://biblioteca.ugal.ro/index.php/ro/resurse/baze-de-date-abonate>). The DJUG is member of the Anelis Plus consortium (Association of Universities, Research and Development Institutes and Central University Libraries in Romania). Thus, this University benefits from online access to the databases, a service purchased within the Anelis Plus 2020 Project. Access is from the Intranet (IP-based) or remotely (from the mobile access account created on e-nformation). Throughout this platform, the Library has access to prestigious platform, such as: Proquest Central, Clarivate Analytics, Scopus, Springer Link, Legalis, Legis, etc.

The DJUG has furthermore access to other important resources for doctoral research through the ANTREPENORDOC project (<http://www.antreprenordoc.ugal.ro/index.php/ro>) and Be Antreprenor! Project (<https://www.scoaladoctorala.ugal.ro/index.php/ro/cercetare/proiecte/proiect-be-antreprenor>).

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

Each doctoral student has access, upon request and with the consent of the doctoral supervisor, to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific creations, at any time during the elaboration of the doctoral thesis. For this purpose, the DJUG had a permanent contract with a provider of electronic document comparison services. Additionally, there are specific rules adopted by this DJUG in this field.

The evidences referred to this performance indicator, which are mentioned in the internal evaluation report and its Annexes, were supported by all the members of the Quality Assurance and Evaluation Commission (CEAC, in Romanian) and of the Ethics Commission of the higher education institution during the meeting on 15 December 2022. Other members of the teaching staff of the Faculty of Law and Administrative

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 a set of internal regulations.

Given the specifics of the doctoral studies in Law, I consider that the establishment of scientific laboratories is not justified. All doctoral students have access to a solid



material and human base within the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities of the DJUG. I believe that the doctoral students' needs can be met on account of this endowment.

The indicator is fulfilled.

SWOT analysis

<p><u>Strengths:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Existence of a consolidated PhD research activity in the framework of the IOSUD-DJUG in general and of the School for Doctoral Studies in Socio-Humanities in particular.	<p><u>Weaknesses:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The research fields of the academic staff, who supervise PhD studies, do not reflect most of the social necessities of the inhabitants of Galati and the surrounding area that might be interested in conducting PhD studies.- Weak internationalisation strategy of the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences.
<p><u>Opportunities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The existence of the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences, which is considered a consolidated centre in the academic landscape of a European Union's Member State.- The interest of graduated of Master's programmes in further university training and specialisation in a particular field of Law.- Geographic proximity to other European countries, whose inhabitants can consider attractive the PhD study programmes in Law of the IOSUD-DJUG.	<p><u>Threats:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The consequences of the pandemic caused by COVID-19.- The situation caused by the Ukraine's invasion by the Russian Federation and its destabilising potential.

Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations

No.	Type of indicator or (PI, PI*, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
1.	PI	<p>A.1.1.1. The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the doctoral school that the doctoral domain is a part of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the internal regulations of the doctoral school; b) the methodology for conducting elections for the position of director of the Council of doctoral school (CSD), as well as elections by the students of their representative in the CSD, and evidence that such elections were conducted; c) methodologies for organising and conducting doctoral studies (admission of doctoral students, completion of doctoral studies); d) existence of mechanisms for recognising the status of a doctoral advisor and the equivalence of a doctoral degree obtained abroad; e) functional management structures (Council of the doctoral school), including proof of the regular frequency of convening their meetings; f) the contract for doctoral studies; g) internal procedures for the analysis and approval of proposals regarding the training for doctoral study programs based on advanced academic studies. 	Fulfilled	
2.	PI	<p>A.1.1.2. The doctoral school's Regulations include mandatory criteria, procedures and standards concerning the aspects specified in art. 17, para. (5) of Government Decision no. 681/2011, as further amended and supplemented.</p>	Fulfilled	
3.	PI	<p>A.1.2.1. The existence and effectiveness of an appropriate IT system to keep track of doctoral students and their academic background.</p>	Fulfilled	
4.	PI	<p>A.1.2.2. The existence and use of an appropriate software and evidence of its use to verify the percentage of similarity in all doctoral theses.</p>	Fulfilled	
5.	CPI	<p>A.2.1.1. The venues and the material equipment available to the IOSUD/the</p>	Fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator or (PI, PI*, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		doctoral school enable the research activities in the evaluated domain to be carried out, in line with the assumed mission and objectives (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, library, access to international databases, etc.). The research infrastructure and the provision of research services are presented to the public through a specific platform. The research infrastructure described above, which was purchased and developed within the past 5 years will be presented distinctly.		
6.	CPI	A.3.1.1. Minimum three doctoral thesis advisors work within that doctoral domain, and at least 50% of them (but no less than three) meet the minimum standards of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) in force at the time when the evaluation is carried out, which standards are required and mandatory for obtaining the enabling certification.	Fulfilled	
7.	PI *	A.3.1.2. At least 50% of the doctoral advisors in the doctoral domain under review are tenured professors within the IOSUD and have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period.	Fulfilled	
8.	PI	A.3.1.3. The study subjects in the education programme based on advanced higher education studies pertaining to the doctoral domain are taught by teaching staff or researchers who are doctoral thesis advisors / certified doctoral thesis advisors, professors / CS I or associate professors / CS II, with proved expertise in the field of the study subjects they teach, or other specialists in the field who meet the standards established by the institution in relation with the aforementioned teaching and research functions, as provided by the law.	Fulfilled	
9.	CPI	A.3.2.1. At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in the evaluated domain have at least 5 Web of Science- or	Fulfilled	



No.	Type of indicator or (PI, PI*, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		<p>ERIH-indexed publications in magazines of impact, or other achievements of relevant significance for that domain, including international-level contributions that indicate progress in scientific research - development - innovation for the evaluated domain. The aforementioned doctoral thesis advisors enjoy international awareness within the past five years, consisting of: membership on scientific boards of international publications and conferences; membership on boards of international professional associations; guests in conferences or expert groups working abroad, or membership on doctoral commissions at universities abroad or co-leading with universities abroad. For Arts and Sports and Physical Education Sciences, doctoral thesis advisors shall prove their international visibility within the past five years by their membership on the boards of professional associations, membership in organising committees of arts events and international competitions, membership on juries or umpire teams in artistic events or international competitions.</p>		
10.	PI *	<p>A.3.2.2. At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in a specific doctoral study domain continue to be active in their scientific field, and acquire at least 25% of the score requested by the minimal CNATDCU standards in force at the time of the evaluation, which are required and mandatory for acquiring their enabling certificate, based on their scientific results within the past five years.</p>	Fulfilled	
11.	PI *	<p>B.1.2.1. Admission in the doctoral study programmes is based on selection criteria including the academic, research and professional performance of the candidates; their interest for scientific or artistic/sports research; publications in the domain, and a proposal of a research subject. Interviewing the candidate is mandatory as part of the admission procedure.</p>	Fulfilled	
12.	PI	<p>B.2.1.1. The training program based on advanced academic studies includes at least 3 disciplines relevant for the scientific research training of doctoral students, out of which at least one</p>	Fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator or (PI, PI*, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		discipline focuses on the in-depth study of research methodology and/or statistical data processing.		
13.	PI	B.2.1.2. At least one discipline is dedicated to ethics and intellectual property in scientific research, or there are well-defined topics on these subjects within a discipline taught in the doctoral program.	Fulfilled	
14.	PI	B.2.1.3. The IOSUD has the mechanisms in place to ensure that the academic training program based on advanced higher education studies related to the evaluated domain addresses the "learning outcomes", specifying the knowledge, skills, and the responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through the research activities.	Fulfilled	
15.	PI	C.1.1.1. The doctoral school to which the doctoral study domain belongs demonstrates that the internal evaluation and quality assurance process of the study domain is carried out constantly, according to a procedure developed and applied at the level of the IOSUD, including an evaluation of the following mandatory criteria: a) the scientific work of doctoral advisors; b) the infrastructure and logistics needed for carrying out the research activity; c) the regulations and procedures based on which doctoral studies are organised; d) the scientific activity of doctoral students; e) the training program based on advanced higher education studies of doctoral students; f) social and academic support services (including for participation in various events, publishing papers, etc.) and counselling services available for the doctoral students.	Fulfilled	
16.	PI *	C.1.1.2. Mechanisms are implemented during the doctoral study program to enable identification of the doctoral students' needs, as well as their overall level of satisfaction with the doctoral study program in order to ensure	Fulfilled	

No.	Type of indicator or (PI, PI*, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
		continuous improvement of the academic and administrative processes. Following the analysis of the results, there is evidence that an action plan was drafted and implemented.		
17.	CPI	<p>C.2.1.1. Subject to compliance with the data protection regulations in force, the IOSUD publishes the following types of information on the website of the higher education institution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the internal regulations of the doctoral school; b) the admission regulations; c) the doctoral study contract; d) the study completion regulation including the procedure for the public presentation of the thesis; e) the content of the training programs 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 in the domain concerned, with basic information (year of enrolment; advisor); h) information on the standards for developing the doctoral thesis; i) links to the summaries of the doctoral theses to be presented publicly, as well as the day, time and place where they will be presented, at least 20 days before the presentation. 	Fulfilled	
18.	PI	<p>C.2.2.1. All doctoral students have free access to one platform providing academic databases relevant to the doctoral studies domain of their thesis.</p>	Fulfilled	
19.	PI	<p>C.2.2.2. Each doctoral student, upon request, has access to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic works.</p>	Fulfilled	
20.	PI	<p>C.2.2.3. All doctoral students have access to the scientific research laboratories or to other facilities depending on the specific domain / domains within the doctoral school, according to a set of internal regulations.</p>	Fulfilled	



Conclusions and general recommendations

The Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences at the “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati has consolidated itself in the Romanian academic landscape as a solid and prestigious academic institution.

The “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati has also become a university of reference, which has known to take advantage of its geographical position as well as of the human capital of this part of Romania and the neighbouring countries.

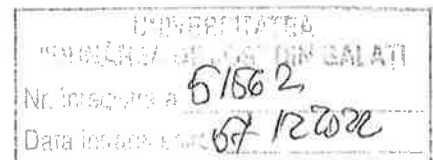
General recommendations:

1. To recruit new doctoral supervisor(s) in the field of public international law, private international law and, if possible, of a trade law, with specialisation in the law of the sea and/or maritime law.
2. To improve and diversify the internationalisation strategy of the Faculty of Law and Administrative Sciences. In this regard, the signature of agreements of joint international supervision of doctoral thesis can be an international opening.
3. To apply to international calls for Jean Monnet Actions, such as Modules, Chairs and Centres of Excellence co-funded by the European Union. I consider the Cross-border Institute of International Studies and Criminal Justice could propose successful applications for a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence.
4. To establish a prize for the best doctoral thesis defended each academic year.

Annex



**Programul vizitei de evaluare a domeniului de studii universitare de doctorat
Drept a Universității Dunarea de Jos din Galați**
**The program of the evaluation visit of the field of university studies for a
doctorate in Law of the Dunarea de Jos University in Galati**



Interval orar hour	Activitate / Activity	Participanți / Participants	Observații/ Locație Observations/ Location
Miercuri/ Wednesday, 14.XII.2022			
12:00-12:30	Întâlnire organizatorică a comisiei de experți evaluatori Organizational meeting of the panel evaluators	- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / ARACIS panel members	Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105 Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111
12:30-13:00	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți evaluatori cu reprezentanții conducerii instituției evaluate și ai CSUD Panel evaluators' meeting with representatives of the institution and of the Council for Academic Doctoral Studies (CSUD)	- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / ARACIS panel members - Reprezentanți ai conducerii universității / Representatives of the University's management - Reprezentanți ai CSUD și ai școlii doctorale / Representatives of the CSUD and of the Doctoral School - Persoana de contact / The contact person	Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105 Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111

Interval orar hour	Activitate / Activity	Participanți / Participants	Observații/ Locație Observations/ Location
13:00-14:00	Pauză de prânz / Lunch break		
14:00-15:00	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți evaluatori cu responsabilul domeniului de studii universitare de doctorat evaluat și cu echipa care a realizat raportul de evaluare internă <i>Panel evaluators' meeting with the contact person for the doctoral study domain under review and the team who drafted the internal evaluation report</i>	- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / ARACIS panel members - Reprezentanți ai instituției evaluate / University's representatives	Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105 Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111
15:00-17:00	Vizitarea bazei materiale didactice și de cercetare <i>Visiting the educational and research infrastructure</i>	- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / ARACIS panel members - Reprezentanți ai instituției evaluate / University's representatives	Vizitarea bazei materiale se realizează separat la nivel instituțional și pe programe de studii.
Joi/ Thursday, 15.XII.2022			
9:00-9:30	Întâlnire tehnică a comisiei de evaluare <i>Panel evaluators' technical meeting</i>	- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / ARACIS panel members	Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105 Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111

Interval orar hour	Activitate / Activity	Participanți / Participants	Observații/ Locație Observations/ Location
9:30-10:00	<p>Întâlnirea membrilor comisiei de experți evaluatori cu responsabilul domeniului de studii universitare de doctorat evaluat</p> <p><i>Panel evaluators' meeting with the contact person for the doctoral study domain under review</i></p>	<p>- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / <i>ARACIS panel members</i></p> <p>- Reprezentanți ai instituției evaluate / <i>University's representatives</i></p>	<p>Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105 Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111</p>
10:00-11:00	<p>Întâlnirea echipei de evaluare cu personalul didactic aferent domeniului evaluat</p> <p><i>Panel evaluators' meeting with the academic staff corresponding to the doctoral study domain</i></p>	<p>- Comisia de evaluare ARACIS / <i>ARACIS panel members</i></p> <p>- Cadre didactice care au calitatea de conducător de doctorat / <i>Doctoral coordinators</i></p>	<p>Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105 Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111</p>
11:00 - 12:00	<p>Întâlnirea echipei de evaluare cu membrii Comisiei pentru Evaluarea și Asigurarea Calității (CEAC) / Departamentul de asigurare a calității</p> <p><i>Panel evaluators' meeting with the Commission for Quality Evaluation and Assurance (CEAC) members / Quality Assurance Department</i></p>	<p>- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / <i>ARACIS panel members</i></p> <p>- Reprezentanți ai instituției evaluate / <i>University's representatives</i></p>	<p>Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105 Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111</p>

Interval orar hour	Activitate / Activity	Participanți / Participants	Observații/ Locație <i>Observations/ Location</i>
12:00 - 13:00	<p>Întâlnirea echipei de evaluare cu membrii Consiliului școlii doctorale în cadrul căreia va funcționa domeniul evaluat</p> <p><i>Panel evaluators` meeting with Doctoral Schools Council (CSD) members</i></p>	<p>- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / <i>ARACIS panel members</i></p> <p>- Membrii CSD / <i>CSD's members</i></p>	<p>Pentru programele evaluate locatiile vor fi comunicate fiecarui evaluator de către fiecare responsabil de program</p>
13:00- 14:00	<p>Pauză de prânz / Lunch break</p>		
14:00- 15:00	<p>Întâlnirea echipei de evaluare cu membrii Comisiei de Etică a instituției de învățământ superior</p> <p><i>Panel evaluators` meeting with the members of the Ethics Commission</i></p>	<p>- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / <i>ARACIS panel members</i></p> <p>- Membrii Comisiei de Etică / <i>Ethics Commission members</i></p>	<p>Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105 Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111</p>
15:00- 16:00	<p>Întâlnirea echipei de evaluare cu directorii/ responsabilii centrelor/ laboratoarelor de cercetare aferente domeniului de studii universitare de doctorat evaluat</p> <p><i>Panel evaluators` meeting with the Directors/ persons in charge of the research centers/laboratories within the doctoral study domain</i></p>	<p>- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / <i>ARACIS panel members</i></p> <p>-Directorii centrelor / laboratoarelor de cercetare / <i>Directors of research centers/laboratories</i></p>	<p>Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105 Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111</p>
16:00- 18:00	<p>Derularea activităților specifice comisiei de experți evaluatori și efectuarea de consemnări în proiectul raportului de evaluare externă.</p> <p><i>Carrying out the specific activities of the panel evaluators and making</i></p>	<p>- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / <i>ARACIS panel members</i></p> <p>- Reprezentanți ai instituției evaluate / <i>University's representatives</i></p>	<p>Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105 Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111</p>

Interval orar hour	Activitate / Activity	Participanți / Participants	Observații/ Locație Observations/ Location
	<p><i>entries in the draft of the external evaluation report.</i></p> <p>Dacă se consideră necesare, pot avea loc întâlniri suplimentare, spre exemplu cu / <i>If deemed necessary, additional meetings may be held, for example with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reprezentanți din Senatul universitar (inclusiv studenți); / <i>representatives from the University Senate (including students);</i> • reprezentanții organizației organizațiilor studențești; / <i>representatives of the student organization / organizations;</i> • reprezentanți ai Centrului de Consiliere și Orientare în Carieră (CCOC); / <i>representatives of the Career Counseling and Guidance Center (CCOC);</i> • reprezentanți ai bibliotecii Instituției de învățământ superior; / <i>representatives of the library of the higher education institution;</i> • reprezentanți ai centrelor/laboratoarelor de cercetare din domeniul școlii / școlilor doctorale sau din domeniul evaluat; / <i>representatives of</i> 		

Interval orar hour	Activitate / Activity	Participanți / Participants	Observații/ Locație Observations/ Location
	<p><i>research centers / laboratories in the field of the doctoral school / schools or in the evaluated field;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>reprezentanți ai direcției cămine-cantine (sau echivalentă) / representatives of the dormitory-canteen department (or equivalent).</i> 		

Vineri / Friday, 16.XII.2022

09:00-10:00	<p>Întâlnirea membrilor comisiei de experți evaluatori cu responsabilul domeniului de studii universitare de doctorat evaluat</p> <p><i>Panel evaluators' meeting with the contact person for the doctoral study domain under review</i></p>	<p>- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / <i>ARACIS panel members</i></p> <p>- Reprezentanți ai instituției evaluate / <i>University's representatives</i></p>	<p>Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105 Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111</p>
-------------	--	---	--

10:00 - 12:00	Derularea activității comisiei de experți evaluatori (inclusiv	- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / <i>ARACIS' panel members</i>	Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105
---------------	--	--	---

	<p>continuarea anumitor activități începute/stabilite în ziua precedentă, analiza documentelor suplimentare puse la dispoziție de reprezentanții instituției supuse evaluării, efectuarea de consemnări în proiectul raportului de evaluare externă sau derularea unor întâlniri cu reprezentanți ai instituției supuse evaluării). / <i>Carrying out the work of the panel evaluators (including the continuation of certain activities started / established in the previous day, analysis of additional documents provided by the representatives of the institution under evaluation, making notes in the draft external evaluation report or holding meetings with representatives of the institution under evaluation)</i> .</p> <p>Discuții referitoare la elaborarea raportului de evaluare externă al comisiei de experți evaluatori. / <i>Discussions on the preparation of the external evaluation report of the panel evaluators.</i></p>	<p>- Reprezentanți ai instituției evaluate / <i>University's representatives</i></p>	<p>Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111</p>
--	---	--	--

<p>12:00-13:00</p>	<p>Întâlnirea membrilor comisiei de experți evaluatori cu reprezentanții instituției evaluate pentru comunicarea concluziilor procesului de evaluare</p> <p><i>Panel evaluators' meeting with representatives of the institution under review to discuss on the conclusions of the evaluation process.</i></p>	<p>- Membrii comisiei de experți evaluatori ARACIS / <i>ARACIS panel members</i></p> <p>- Reprezentanți ai instituției evaluate / <i>University's representatives</i></p>	<p>Sală de conferințe "Nicolae Titulescu" AE 105 Sediul: Facultatea de Drept și Științe Administrative, Str. Domnească Nr. 111</p>
--------------------	--	---	--

* Toate activitățile incluse în structura programului vizitei comisiei de evaluare sunt obligatorii, însă ordinea și durata alocată acestora sunt stabilite de către comisie în funcție de specificul evaluării. / * All activities included in the structure of the panel evaluators visit program are mandatory, but the order and duration allocated to them are established by the commission according to the specifics of the evaluation.