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**SUMMARY OF THE
FINAL AUDIT REPORT**

POLICE COLLEGE

Zagreb, January 2023

Report Summary

The Expert Panel appointed by the Agency for Science and Higher Education carried out the audit of the Police College, in line with the Ordinance on the Audit of Internal Quality Assurance Systems at Higher Education Institutions in the Republic of Croatia.

The procedure was conducted in accordance with **ASHE Audit Criteria** and **ESG**.

The Panel was tasked with assessing whether the HEI's internal quality assurance system is functional, fit for purpose and coherent, and whether it adequately supports the institutional mission and overall development.

During the course of this procedure, the Panel identified the HEI's strengths, weaknesses and good practices, and provided recommendations for the following period.

Basic information on the higher education institution:

Name of higher education institution: Police College

Address: Avenija Gojka Šuška 1, 10000 Zagreb

Head of institution: Asst. prof. dr. sc. Ante Orlović, prof. of professional studies

This report was made by the Expert Panel:

- Assoc. prof. dr. sc. Paula Poretti, Faculty of Law, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, Committee Chair
- Dr. sc. Marinko Ogorec, prof. of professional studies, Polytechnic Velika Gorica
- Prof. dr. sc. Igor Bernik, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, University of Maribor, Slovenia
- Maja Stojanović, mag. iur., APIS IT LLC, Zagreb
- Robi Cvitić, student, Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka

In the analysis of the documentation, site visit to the HEI and writing of the Report, the Panel was supported by:

- Dr. sc. Vesna Dodiković-Jurković, coordinator, ASHE
- Vedrana Vojković Estatiev, assistant coordinator, ASHE.

Summary of audit results

Strengths

- Management and employees who are highly motivated to enhance internal quality assurance.
- General awareness of the importance of quality and social responsibility (internal and external stakeholders).
- Focus on cooperation and research within the framework of competitive European projects, as well as cooperation with European and international institutions.
- Certain processes are carried out in digital form (study programmes, interactions with students).
- A highly motivated and satisfied student body.
- Links and cooperation with external stakeholders (other actors in the Croatian security system).

Weaknesses

- Limited governance of own academic affairs due to the formal status of the Police College within the Ministry of the Interior.
- Limited opportunities for employment of graduates outside the system of the Ministry of the Interior.
- The competencies of graduate students are not sufficiently recognized as relevant on the labour market, particularly in comparison with the competencies of graduates from countries in the region.
- Very limited recognition of the Police College diploma if students wish to continue their studies at another institution, and therefore limited vertical educational progression.
- Insufficient familiarity with quality assurance terminology used in the European Higher Education Area, which is an obstacle to accuracy of use.
- The QA system is not entirely transparent and the PDCA cycle is not fully closed.
- The development of quality culture is highly dependent on external evaluation and improvements are mostly a result of recommendations received during external evaluations.
- Achievement levels (with regard to defined goals) have not been reported on, nor have trends been followed over certain strategic periods.

Good practice

- Ensuring the availability of practical teaching materials in collaboration with external stakeholders.
- Organisation of accommodation and resources students require for studying.
- Employability of graduates coming from the system of the Ministry of the Interior.
- Management support to teachers in applying for and taking part in scientific and professional conferences, scientific activity and conference organisation.
- Management support of teachers' professional development activities.

General recommendations

- Create necessary preconditions to realise plans for institutional development (conducting university study programmes as joint programmes as stipulated by Article 64 of the Act on Higher Education and Scientific Activity, and the ambition to eventually acquire university status which was repeatedly pointed out in meetings with stakeholders). One of these preconditions is that key QA processes are defined and given a formal structure.
- Develop the institutional quality policy so that its implementation can be clearly observed in all activities and organisational processes.
- Carry out targeted, ongoing training of the members of the Panel for Quality Assurance and Enhancement, as well as occasional training of college staff with regard to the QA system.
- Define KPI values in annual operational and action plans, and report annually on whether these values have been achieved.
- Establish mechanisms to follow KPIs (quantifying in planning, implementation and reporting stages) and transfer existing practices and experiences.
- Continuously carry out efficiency analyses and improvements based on the PDCA cycle.
- Systematically develop internationalization and plan to increase student and staff mobility.

Conclusion

On the basis of the analysis of the submitted documentation, interviews conducted with the HEI's stakeholders, and other evidence collected during the site visit, the Expert Panel reached a conclusion that the internal quality assurance system of Police College in Zagreb is in the following stage of development by individual audit criteria:

- 1) Quality policy: INITIAL PHASE
- 2) Planning and management: INITIAL PHASE
- 3) Implementation and monitoring: INITIAL PHASE
- 4) Evaluation: INITIAL PHASE
- 5) Improvements, innovations, impact: INITIAL PHASE.

The Panel's assessments are also presented in the table: Results of the audit procedure based on Audit Criteria (Annex 5.1 of the Audit Report.)

The Expert Panel also provided recommendations for the following period in order to ensure a continuous improvement of the internal quality assurance system, and consequently, the overall quality of all institutional activities.

Expert Panel's recommendation to the Agency for Science and Higher Education:

It is the opinion of this Expert Panel that the evaluated higher education institution **does not meet the requirements for certification.**

Zagreb, January 2023

Committee Chair

Assoc. prof. dr. sc. Paula Poretti, m. p.