

Decision of the FIBAA Accreditation and Certification Committee



3rd Meeting on September 3, 2021

PROGRAMME ACCREDITATION

Project Number:	20/055, Cluster 1
Higher Education Institution:	M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University, KAZGUU Law School
Location	Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan
Study Programme:	PhD in Law
Type of Accreditation	re-accreditation

The FIBAA Accreditation and Certification Committee has taken the following decisions:

According to § 7 (6) in conjunction with § 9 (1) of the FIBAA General Terms and Conditions within the framework of procedures for the award of the FIBAA Quality Seal for Programmes from April 2020, the study programmes are re-accredited.

Period of Accreditation: October 1, 2021 until September 30, 2028

The FIBAA Quality Seal is awarded.

Assessment Report

Higher Education Institution (HEI):

M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University, KAZGUU Law School

Doctoral programme:

PhD in Law

General Information on the Study Programme

Brief description of the study programme:

The PhD in Law programme focuses on training students at an advanced level in specific fields of national and international law, capable of conducting independent research and making a significant contribution to the development of legal science in Kazakhstan. The programme is designed to develop a high level of professional knowledge, analytical and critical thinking, excellent research competencies and the ability to cooperate in an international context effectively.

Type of study programme:

PhD programme

Projected study time and number of ECTS credits assigned to the study programme:

3 years, 180 ECTS credits

Mode of study:

full-time

Didactic approach:

study programme with obligatory class attendance

Double/Joint Degree programme:

no

Scope (planned number of parallel classes) and enrolment capacity:

15 students per year

Programme cycle starts in:

Fall semester

Initial start of the programme:

2009

Type of accreditation:

Re-accreditation

Last accreditation:

30th of September, 2016 till 30th of September, 2021

Accreditation in one cluster (cluster 1) with:

1. Bachelor of Laws on major "Law" (LL.B.)
2. Bachelor of Laws on major "International Law" (LL.B.)
3. Bachelor of Laws on major "Law and Law Enforcement"
4. Master (LL.M.) in Law (60 ECTS credits) / Master of Science in Law (120 ECTS credits)
5. Master (LL.M.) in International Law (60 ECTS credits) / Master of Legal Sciences in International Law (120 ECTS credits)
6. Institutional accreditation of "M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University"

Procedure:

A contract for the initial accreditation of the PhD in Law was made between FIBAA and the M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University (Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan) on 2nd of December, 2020. On 12th of May, 2021, the HEI submitted a self-evaluation report, which included a detailed description of the programme and further documents in order to prove that the criteria for programme accreditation are met.

At the same time, FIBAA appointed a review panel. The HEI has agreed with the chosen experts. The panel consisted of:

Prof. Dr. Doris Kiendl (chair of the panel)

Fachhochschule JOANNEUM, University of Applied Sciences, Graz, Austria
Professor of Law (Austrian, International and European Business Law); Former Vice Rector from 2007-2014, Chair of the Evaluation Working Group from 2007-2014, (Quality Assurance); Director of Continuing Education.

Prof. Dr. Jörg Fedtke

University of Passau, Germany
Professor/Chair of Common Law (Anglo-American law, comparative Law and international law), former Vice President for Quality Assurance and Diversity (2017-2020) and Vice Dean of the Faculty of Law (2020 to present)

Prof. Dr. Daniela Heid

Federal University of Applied Administrative Science, Bruehl, Germany
Professor of Public Law (European Law, Administrative Law, Public Service Law, Police Law, Eastern European Law, Municipal Law, Civil Service Law); Programme Director (Quality Assurance and – Development)

Lina Irscheid

University of Potsdam, Germany
Student of Law (LL.B.) (Law with a focus on commercial criminal law)

Dr. Meruyert Narenova

University of International Business, Kazakhstan
Academic Director of the MSc and PhD programs on Economics and Management

Dr. Zamzagul Sultanova

Zhangir Khan West Kazakhstan Agrarian-Technical University, Uralsk, Kazakhstan
Head of the International Cooperation Department, Associate Professor of Economics and Management Department

Prof. Dr. Bob Wessels

Dutch qualified lawyer; Professor Emeritus International Insolvency Law, University of Leiden, The Netherlands.
Served nearly thirty years as a Deputy Justice in the Court of Appeal, The Hague, acted as (international) arbitrator and independent legal advisor or expert in many cross-border cases. Acted as Consultant to the IMF and the World Bank in Indonesia and Georgia respectively.
Former partner of (predecessors of) EY including a London based global managerial function in building legal commercial services. Member of the Group of Experts on corporate restructuring and insolvency law advising the European Commission.

FIBAA project manager:

Viktoria Tischanski

The assessment is based on the self-evaluation report, amended by further documents, requested by the panel, and an online conference. The online conference took place on June 29th – July 2nd, 2021 via the video conferencing tool Zoom. At the end of the online conference, the panel gave a short feedback on its impressions to representatives of the University.

The assessment report based on this was delivered to the HEI for comment on August 23, 2021. The statement on the report was given up on August 26, 2021. It has been taken into account in the report on hand.

Summary

The PhD programme in Law offered by M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University, KAZGUU Law School, fulfils the FIBAA quality requirements for PhD programmes and can be re-accredited by the Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA) for seven years starting on October 1, 2021 and finishing on September 30, 2028. The programmes are in accordance with the national and the European Qualification Frameworks and the European Standards and Guidelines in their applicable version valid as of the time of the opening of the procedure, and in accordance with the Bologna Declaration.

There is one criterion in which the programme exceeds the quality requirements:

- Literature access and support of library (see Chapter 4.4)

For the overall assessment of the programme, please refer to the quality profile at the end of this report.

Information on the Institution

The Joint-Stock Company “M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University” (hereinafter interchangeably referred to as KAZGUU or the University) is a higher education institution established on the strategic initiative of the First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan N.A. Nazarbayev on March 14, 1994. The University performs its activities in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Laws "On Education", "On Science" and other laws and regulations governing the educational, scientific and labour activities, the Standard Rules of higher and postgraduate education and other normative documents of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan (MES), as well as the Charter of the University¹. The University is a member of the Kazakhstani Association of Higher Education Institutions² and the Eurasian Association of Universities³. In 2011, the University signed the Magna Charta of the European Universities in Bologna⁴.

The University conventionally occupies the top positions at the Ranking of Higher Education Academic Programmes conducted by the National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan “Atameken”⁵ that accounts for the recent university graduates’ career perspectives (entry salaries, employment rate, and job search duration), and the rating based on the industry representatives’ assessments.

In 2018, with a mission to promote the quality of the country’s higher education through the academic integrity principles, KAZGUU initiated the Association of HEIs “Academic Integrity League”⁶. A year after, the University commenced the Adal Bilim project office aimed at detection and prevention of corruption crimes in education supported by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan (MES) and other government bodies.

Currently, the University’s community comprises around 500 academic and administrative staff and more than 3,000 students. The University includes four faculties called Schools: KAZGUU Law School (KLS), Higher School of Economics (HSE), School of Liberal Arts (SLA) and Business School (BS). In total, KAZGUU offers 66 study programmes (25 Bachelor, 37 Master, four PhD programmes).

KAZGUU Law School (KLS) is the oldest faculty founded in 1994. It currently offers degree programmes in Law, International Law, and Law Enforcement.

Higher School of Economics founded in 2004 offers programmes in Economics, Finance, Accounting, Business and Management, International Relations. School of Liberal Arts transformed from the School of General Education in 2019 to a degree-awarding school. It currently runs undergraduate programmes in Applied Linguistics, Translation Studies, Tourism, Hospitality, Kazakh-English Languages and Linguistics.

¹ approved by Protocol No. 9 of the extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of «M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University» JSC dated March 06, 2019

² <http://edurk.kz/>

³ <http://www.eau-msu.ru/eng/>

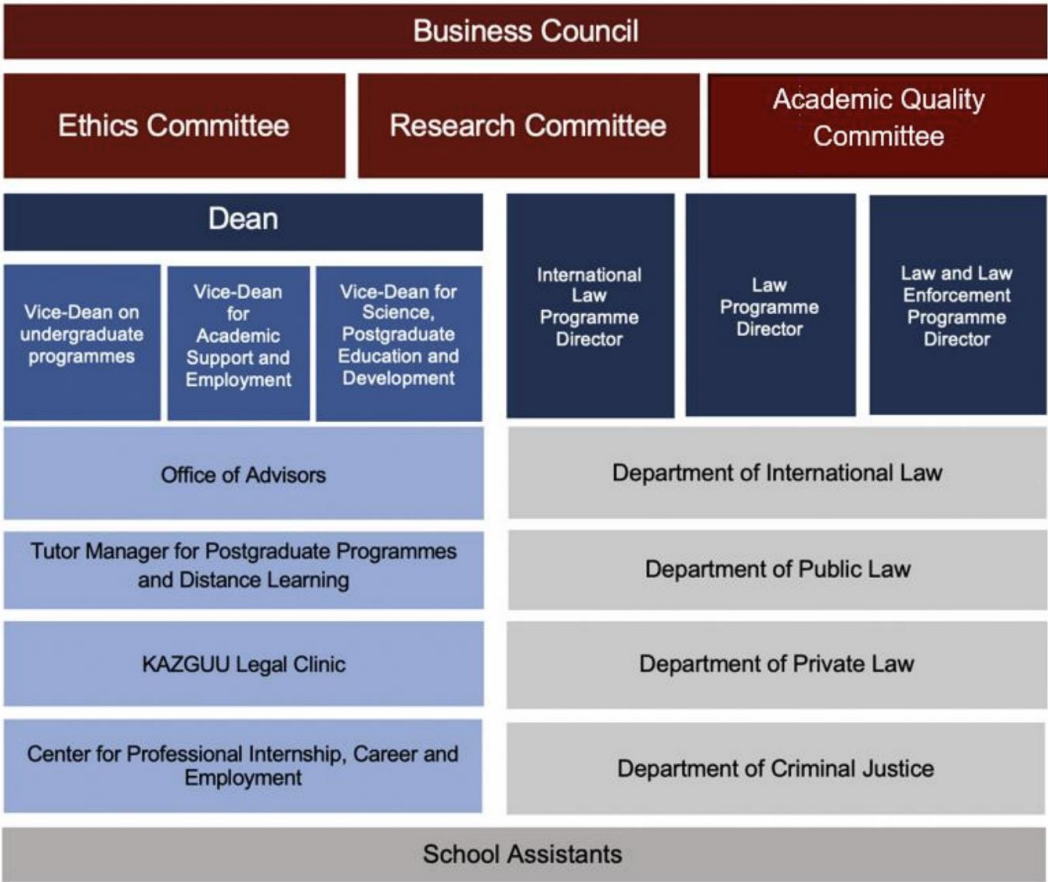
⁴ <http://www.magna-charta.org/magna-charta-universitatum/signatory-universities>

⁵ <https://atameken.kz/ru/>

⁶ <https://adaldyq.kz>

KAZGUU Business School was founded in 2009 and provides educational programmes in Master of Business Administration and Doctor of Business Administration. Every year it enrolls students from diverse professional backgrounds: private entrepreneurs, top managers of the national companies, bank employees, heads of railway enterprises, financiers, and engineers.

As can be seen from the presented organigramme of the University, the KAZGUU Law School is a structural unit with a certain academic autonomy, reporting on academic issues directly to the Provost and the Academic and Research Council of the University.



The collegial bodies of the KAZGUU Law School are the highest governing bodies and make decisions on the main academic issues. The decisions of the collegial bodies cannot be changed by individual orders of the administrators, which ensures the objectivity and transparency of all procedures.

Further development of the programme and implementation of recommendations from previous accreditation

Over the past period, the University and its PhD programmes achieved among others the following results:

- According to the “Atameken” Kazakhstan Universities Ranking 2020 of the National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University was ranked first with regard to the following three areas: 1) the average wage of graduates; 2) the employment rate of graduates; 3) the duration of job search.
- The University makes systematic efforts to promote the principles and standards of academic integrity and anti-corruption. In 2018, KAZGUU initiated the creation of the Association of Universities "Academic Integrity League", and held an annual conference on academic integrity. In 2019, the project office "Adal Bilim" was opened on the basis of the University, with the support of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan (MES) and the Anti-Corruption Agency. Thus, the importance of anti-corruption education of the students of the programme is emphasised (the implementation of anti-corruption education can also be traced in the courses taught within the programme).
- The ethical aspects and components of the programmes have been significantly strengthened. In 2018, the University purchased a subscription to Turnitin. All written works of students are checked through this platform. On the facts of the revealed violations, proceedings are initiated in the school's Ethics Committee.
- The Antenna of the Hague Conference on Private International Law for Central Asia and Mongolia was launched on the basis of a cooperation agreement between the University and the Hague Conference on Private International Law;
- KAZGUU has successfully implemented the “Forensic Capacity Strengthening” project – a 2-year project of the World Bank and Ministry of Justice, where KAZGUU led the consortium of consultants (King’s College London, Key Forensics, QPA Strategies);
- KAZGUU (and especially its PhD candidate) successfully participated in Erasmus+ project named: “Promoting internationalization of research through establishment and operationalization of Cycle 3 Quality Assurance System in line with the European Integration” C3QA. The aim of the project was to contribute to the establishment of a knowledge-based society in Armenia, Kazakhstan, Mongolia and Ukraine through the launch and operationalisation of a robust quality assurance system for internationalisation of Cycle 3 programmes⁷;
- KAZGUU (and especially its PhD student) successfully implements the Erasmus+ Jean Monnet project named: “Privacy Protection: the European Union Perspective”. The main goal of the project is to spread and promote the values of the European Union in the field of personal data protection and the right to privacy;
- New technologies were successfully implemented into the educational process (prompt transition to distance learning without loss of quality during the COVID-19 pandemic, successful implementation of “Canvas” LMS, advanced Zoom-services, the online exam procedure through “Proctorio Test Monitoring System” etc.).

National PhD degree regulations are still going through transitional period and the changes of the requirements significantly affect KAZGUU Law School (KLS) PhD programmes.

⁷ <https://c3qa.iqaa.kz/en/2017-12-06-05-51-49>

In 2018 the Ministry of Education and Science (MES) had updated the Classification of Areas of Higher and Postgraduate Education and the State Compulsory Standard (SCS) of Postgraduate Education.

The updated SCS of Postgraduate Education also ensures some academic freedom to Universities, but with an obligatory focus on the development of PhD students research capacity. Like before, the updated SCS requires at least 180 ECTS for PhD programme to be completed. However, it reduced the number of credits of Theoretical Study from 60 ECTS to 45 ECTS, including at least 10 ECTS of Teaching Practice and 10 ECTS of Research Internship. It means that in total scope of 180 ECTS only 25 ECTS should be allocated to trainings, and among them, courses on research methodology and academic writing should be obligatory. 135 ECTS, according to SCS, should be allocated to Research Work and PhD Thesis Defense.

In order to comply with the new state regulations, KLS PhD programmes were revised in 2018 in compliance with Educational Program Development and Approval Policy.

Focus on research capacity development was strengthened by the following measures:

- 1) Emphasis on research skills development by the implementation of the module of Research & Teaching Methodology, which consisted of a training course on Qualitative Research Methods – 7 ECTS; Research Practice – 5 ECTS and Teaching Practice – 10 ECTS;
- 2) Implementation of a strong path for language proficiency development aimed to improve academic writing and publishing skills needed to ensure PhD students capability to publish in internationally recognised journals (key state requirement to be eligible for the public defense of PhD thesis). The module includes the following components: Advanced English for Legal Research – 6 ECTS, Academic Publishing – 6 ECTS.

Since PhD programmes were re-designed in order to provide advanced legal research skills without any specific focus on different branches of law, there was no need to differentiate Law and International Law programmes, as both of them mostly ensured advanced legal research competencies. That is why PhD programmes in Law and International Law were combined into one general PhD in Law programme with several specific areas of training and research (Private Law, Public Law, International Law, Interdisciplinary Research).

The Admission Policy for PhD programme was also revised in order to improve the selection procedure and to ensure the enrollment of the most eligible and outstanding candidates. The entrance criteria were tightened significantly. Despite the fact that this lowers the number of PhD students, their quality increases.

Appraisal:

In 2016, the programme was accredited without any conditions and recommendations.

All in all, the panel appreciates the development of the PhD programme and of the KAZGUU Law School during the last five years. The changes due to the state requirements have been implemented and the combination of the PhD programme in Law and International Law is reasonable.

The success and drop-out rates vary. The panel recommends KAZGUU develop a systematic mechanism for a follow-up on dropout rates and completion of studies within the foreseen time period and derive an action plan with concrete measures and responsibilities.

Description and Appraisals in Detail

1. Goals and Strategy

1.1 Objectives of the Doctoral Programme

The PhD in Law programme focuses on training students at an advanced level in specific fields of national and international law, capable of conducting independent research and making a significant contribution to the development of legal science in Kazakhstan. The programme is designed to develop a high level of professional knowledge, analytical and critical thinking, excellent research competencies and the ability to cooperate in an international context effectively.

To achieve this goal, the PhD programme is primarily based on the principle of learning through research. Research conducted by PhD students within the framework of their thesis serves as a tool to demonstrate their professional knowledge, research skills and views formed during the PhD programme.

Programme graduates are able to work on the positions of leadership in research, teaching, and service in industry, business, and government.

The objectives and requirements for the programme correspond with the European and National Frameworks, Dublin Descriptors and University Strategy.

The graduates shall demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

- to demonstrate a systematic understanding of the legal knowledge and ability to critically apply in-depth theories, methodologies;
- to demonstrate the ability to map out, design, and implement essential research complied with research ethics and academic integrity standards and principles;
- to demonstrate advanced knowledge in certain field of law (Private Law, Public Law, International Law, Comparative Law);
- to synthesise fundamental crucial issues related to the national law equipped with comparative analyse of international experience;
- to identify research problems in certain field of Law and implement it in the process of research;
- to identify new methods of researches and its implementation and application in independent research activity in the legal sphere;
- to apply legal critical thinking analyses, evaluation and synthesis of new findings into researches;
- to contribute to the legal science by preparing and publishing original research that expands the boundaries of legal knowledge, including publications in national or international peer-reviewed journals;
- to demonstrate a mastery of skills and knowledge at a level required for teaching in their discipline.

Appraisal:

The qualification objectives of the programme is explained and convincingly presented by the University in relation to the target group, targeted professional field and societal context of the discipline. They embrace academic proficiency, comprehensive employability, as well as the development of the individual student's personality. They correspond to the requirements of both the NQF and the

EQF. The doctoral programme and the pursued qualification and competency goals are matched with each other.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
1.	STRATEGY AND OBJECTIVES					
1.1	Objectives of the Doctoral Programme			X		

1.2 Positioning of the Doctoral Programme in the education market

In Kazakhstan, there are only twelve Higher Educational Institutions that have licenses for the implementation of PhD programmes in Law. KAZGUU programme is the leader because it is the only specialised legal University and consultant to state agencies (see self-evaluation report p. 14). On permanent base, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan (MES) selects one University in the country which will be responsible for defining obligatory subjects in the PhD programmes. Since 2008 KAZGUU University was honored with the right to define changes and make recommendations for PhD in Law programmes.

Kazakhstan legal system is still transforming and scholars of KAZGUU significantly lead or participate in special working groups responsible for developing various legal acts and codes.⁸ Professors and Scholars of KAZGUU are recognised as the founders of National Constitution, National Legal Codes and Comments to Codes that defined special place of KAZGUU Research Schools and PhD programmes in Kazakhstan.

Within its frame, KAZGUU has the Academy of Legal and Economic Research named after S. Zimanolov⁹, which unites all researches in the field of national and international law. The Academy closely collaborates with the Higher Schools in enhancing the quality of the educational process of the PhD programmes as well as supervises PhD students. The Academy actively involves doctoral students in a wide range of activities initiated by different Research schools which are functioning under the umbrella of the Academy.

The Academy consists of six Research Schools specialised in certain fields of Law:

1. Research School for Theory and History of Law;
2. Research School for Private Law;
3. Research School for International Law;
4. Research School for Public Law;
5. Research School for Criminal Justice;
6. Research School for Administrative Justice.

The PhD programme is strongly connected to these institutions. PhD students can actively participate in the law-making process in conjunction with scholars and conduct research.

⁸ E.g., in 2016-2018, KAZGUU scholars in cooperation with King's College London, Key Forensics (UK) and QPA Strategies (UK) have implemented a huge project of the World Bank and the Ministry of Justice, aimed to radically transform forensic examination in Kazakhstan ("Forensic Capacity Strengthening" project). The draft law on the amendments to Law On forensic examination and some other legislative acts (which was one of the results of the Project) now is considering by the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan and KAZGUU experts are involved into the Working group.

⁹ <https://academy.kazguu.kz/en/>

Appraisal:

The doctoral programme is positioned convincingly in the postgraduate education market due to the described profile and the pursued qualification and competency goals.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
1.	STRATEGY AND OBJECTIVES					
1.2	Positioning of the Doctoral Programme in the educational market			X		

1.3 Positioning of the Doctoral Programmes in the Job Market for Graduates

PhD in Law programme has a special focus on professional qualification for legal research. In Kazakhstan, because of the lack of PhD graduates majoring in Law, Educational institutions have strong demand for scholars who are able to contribute to advanced legal research and the law-making process.

The unique point about KAZGUU PhD programme graduates is that the topics of their research is approved in accordance with current research directions, which are of importance for state legislation defined by University Research Schools. Usually, research topics have a “pyramid” structure, where at the top there is a major PhD research, which is supported by masters’ and bachelors’ researches.

Therefore, Doctoral students graduating from PhD programmes KAZGUU University are usually offered positions at the research centres and HEIs as well as at the state agencies long before graduation.

Due to the demand of the Job Market, doctorate programmes mostly focused on the following institutions:

- Research Institutes;
- Universities (see Table below).

Employability of PhD in Law graduates (2016-2020)

Employability	№ of Graduates	%
Narikbayev KAZGUU University	12	44,4%
Other HEIs	3	11,1%
Public Sector (Ministries, State Agencies etc.)	3	11,1%
Private Sector	9	33,3%
Total	27	100%

The table illustrates the high percentage of graduate employability at KAZGUU University compared to other educational institutions.

A lot of PhD students and graduates work at the university as faculty and staff members, as well as researchers. To attract outstanding PhD students and graduates KAZGUU revised faculty positions and has implemented the international academic ranks model focused on development of its own faculty staff and attraction of new national and foreign faculty and researchers, including PhD students and graduates. Additional funding was allocated to encourage research activity in six legal research schools responsible for training young legal researchers for Kazakhstan. Thereby, current salary of a KAZGUU Assistant Professor is approximately twice higher than the average market salary for a similar position in Kazakhstani HEIs (see self-evaluation report. p. 15). All these measures help to reduce research staff loss as well as to preserve PhD graduates at the University and research field. Therefore, building on research capacity is not only the KAZGUU's agenda but the country's agenda.

Outside of research fields, PhD graduates are employed in two sectors:

- State Agencies that are involved into the law-making process: Graduates work in the Ministry of Justice, Parliament and other State Agencies responsible for Legal Expertise and preparing projects concerning amendments to current legislation and its improvement;
- Private Sector: PhD graduates are working in national private organisations and firms.

As mentioned above, there is an emerging demand for high-quality research not only from academia and higher education authorities but also from various organisations responsible for shaping public policy at a national level.

Rigorous training in applied researches and continuous research collaboration with the government bodies and various institutions should provide a solid ground for preparing the graduates for future employment outside academia.

Thus, there is still great demand for PhD graduates who will be committed to conduct rigorous empirical research and contribute to the scientific world as well as to develop leadership skill and competencies to lead research community in Kazakhstan.

Appraisal:

The doctoral programme with special focus on professional qualification for science and research is positioned convincingly due to the described profile and the pursued focus of research.

The doctoral programme is also strongly positioned outside the science and research field by taking into account the professional qualification for employment due to the described profile and the pursued focus of research.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
1.3	Positioning of the Doctoral Programme in the Job Market for Graduates					
1.3.1	in the research fields			X		
1.3.2	outside the research fields			X		

1.4 Positioning of the Doctoral Programmes in the Strategic Concept of the Higher Education Institution

The programme was developed in coherence with the University Strategy 2013-2020 and is re-designed in coherence with the University Strategy 2021-2023¹⁰, which are the cornerstones of institution development. KAZGUU University is building on its reputation for resilience and flexibility to cement a research-led culture at the core of its phase of development.

Following the mission and university strategy, the programme's objectives explicitly correspond to the need of the educational market. Some of the goals of the University strategy underline providing international standards of education and establishing strong relations with international universities. The study programme's qualification goals constitute the core of the University concept and are sustainably implemented.

The Strategic Goal 2 for 2021-2023 «Innovation research activity» includes 4 Units:

Unit 1: Create, develop and support Research schools. PhD programme provides Research schools with talented young researchers strongly motivated to develop Legal Science and, by that, Kazakh legislation, society and economics.

Unit 2: Develop research environment. The research emphasis of M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University can be achieved only in strong connection with PhD programmes. That is why PhD students are strongly encouraged to interact with KLS professors and Research schools connecting with their PhD thesis.

Unit 3: Develop publishing activity of the faculty and researchers. PhD students are welcomed to submit their articles to “Law and State” scientific journal, which is published at the University since 1997. KAZGUU stimulates faculty staff and PhD students to publish in well-reputed internationally recognised journals.

Unit 4: Develop applied researches. PhD students perform fundamental and applied research aimed to develop Kazakh legal system and legislation and interdisciplinary researches as well.

Ultimately, PhD in Law programme has the mission to educate and prepare professional scholars for the state with fundamental legal knowledge responsible for the justice and legal development in Kazakhstan as a country with an emerging economy.

There is a steady tendency that PhD graduates primarily aim to work at KAZGUU Research schools and to develop the research potential of M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University.

Appraisal:

The University has an overall development strategy, also with regard to its study programmes. The study programme's qualification goals are in line with the University mission and strategic planning. The integration of the PhD programme in the strategic concept of KAZGUU is described and presented in a comprehensive manner.

¹⁰ KAZGUU Strategic Planning 2021-2023 // https://kazguu.kz/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Strategiya-KazGYUU-szhatoe_compressed.pdf

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
1.4	The Positioning of the Doctoral Programme in the Strategic Concept of the Higher Education Institution			X		

1.5 Gender Equality and Equal Opportunities

KAZGUU's core values include a commitment to the care for the well-being of all members of the KAZGUU community – including students, faculty, and staff – regardless of their nationality, religion, gender or other factors, such as physical disability, special needs, or capacity to pay the required tuition. KAZGUU adopted the following core values:

1. Honesty, integrity, professionalism, and personal responsibility;
2. Respecting diversity and appreciating cross-cultural perspectives;
3. Learner-centered teaching and student engagement that foster intellectual vitality, critical thinking for learning and continuing professional development.

KAZGUU does not discriminate in employment, educational services and academic programmes regardless of individual's race, colour, religion, religious creed, ancestry, national origin, age, sexual orientation, marital status, medical condition and disability, and otherwise as permitted by the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

In 2019, the KAZGUU University adopted the Policy for Inclusive Education. The Policy states that the University provides equal opportunities to all students and demonstrates zero tolerance towards any form of discrimination. Specifically, the Policy defines the inclusion of the students with special educational needs. They are entitled to apply to the Academic Quality Assurance Committee of the Higher School on the following issues: catching up for missed current and final examination classes; changing the format of classes; changing the form of current and final assignment; training according to an individual schedule or study plan, switching to training using distance learning technologies; other issues related to the need to create special conditions for training.

Each year KAZGUU University provides financial aid to successful students and socially vulnerable students (Students from single-parent families in cases of parental divorce or on the occasion of death, orphans, disabled people, disabled family members, low-income family, large family).

Appraisal:

The University fulfils its tasks to promote gender equality and the enforcement of general prohibitions on discrimination, also with regard to the doctoral programme at hand. Students in special circumstances are particularly assisted through University scholarships.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
1.5	Gender Equality and Equal Opportunities			X		

2. Admission

Admission and enrolment to the Bachelor, Master and PhD programmes is regulated by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan (MES) dated 31 October 2018 No. 600 “On approval of the Model Regulations for admission to undergraduate and postgraduate educational programmes” (Order 2018).

According to the state regulations, only candidates with a two-year research Master’s degree¹¹ or equivalent are eligible for Doctoral programmes. In addition, a candidate should provide IELTS 5.5 and above or equivalent. At the moment, the admission for Doctoral programmes is de-centralised, such that each university selects eligible candidates based on their own criteria via independently set examinations, where eligibility is determined by the above-listed criteria. MES provides financial aid by allocating state educational scholarships for candidates who met all the required criteria and demonstrated high academic performance. KAZGUU University admits PhD students who get state scholarships. The number of scholarships is announced by the MES in the first days of the opening of the admission period in July.

The KAZGUU Law School forms an Admission Committee that employs a holistic admission process in which every single application is given a thorough review. The Admission Committee is formed for the period of entry examinations. It consists of the Programme director, 3 to 9 further members, and secretary. All the commission members are permanent staff members of the University and additionally, independent experts and specialists from other organisations that shall make the examination procedure more transparent and objective.

Foreign language proficiency is ensured by asking the candidate for an international certificate confirming foreign language proficiency. The entry subject examination is the preparation of a preliminary research proposal on the proposed future research topic. A preliminary Research proposal is to be written in Kazakh, Russian or English, depends on the language of future research.

Preliminary Research proposal preparation aimed to evaluate:

- Feasibility of research design and preliminary research plan;
- Relevance, novelty, and clarity of the research question;
- Consistency of hypotheses and methodology(-ies) proposed;
- Clearness of the identification strategy where relevant;
- Quality of preliminary literature review;
- Academic writing skills.

In-class examination allows ensuring that the work is done independently and complies with academic integrity principles and standards.

To ensure that the evaluation procedure is fair and objective, all examination works of applicants’ are coded by the Institution staff since it is considered as criminal breach of trust. It provides the selection procedure with unbiased and objective evaluation. After evaluation, all the examination papers are decoded.

¹¹ The Kazakhstani Master’s programme has two major pathways: 1-year programme (“profiled” or specialised) is for graduates of the same Bachelor degree and a 2-year programme (“pedagogic/research”) for those wishing to undertake scientific/academic work in the future (teach at universities and/or pursue a PhD).

The overall result of the selection is based on the second examination (preparation of the preliminary Research proposal), since international certificate confirming foreign language proficiency serves as a criterion to be eligible for the main examination.

Candidates who get the highest points (but not less than 75 points) are awarded a state scholarship. In case the applicants have similar examination results, other achievements can be taken into account.

Besides the results of the examination, Admission Committee takes into account student academic achievements, including publications of scientific articles, certificates on scientific innovations, scientific scholarships, grants, certificates of achievements, certificates of participation in the scientific conferences and competitions and work experience on the specialty.

The admission procedure is based on the principles of openness and transparency. The University is committed to ensuring that all applicants seeking admission will be treated fairly and equitably. Fair and transparent admission procedures based on clearly defined entry criteria are used for making decisions concerning the selection of students. Students are selected on merit, based on the published criteria, and on an individual case by case basis. Throughout the process of selection and admission, all applicants are treated courteously and expeditiously.

Admission policy and examination procedure are published and described on the University website.

The information on the PhD in Law regarding the academic standards of study, admission requirements are contained in the brochures, leaflets, posters, which are available to the public and other stakeholders, and distributed during the recruitment campaigns from April to June run by the Admissions Office.

The entrance examinations for applicants awarded with state scholarships are posted on the University website and sent by e-mail. The rejected candidates must be duly informed by the Tutor Manager for Postgraduates Programmes and Distance Learning.

Appraisal:

The admission requirements for PhD students, based on the regulations of the Ministry of Education and Science, are properly defined and set out transparently.

The selection procedure is carried out in accordance with the national law and therefore satisfies the legal requirements.

The decision on admission is based on transparent criteria and it is clearly communicated; rejections are reasoned. The responsibilities are clearly regulated.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
2.	ADMISSION					
2.1	Admission conditions and procedures			X		
2.2	Selection Procedure			X		
2.3	Transparency of the Decision on Admission			X		

3. Implementation

3.1 Structure

The PhD programme in Law has the following structure:

Projected study time	6 semesters
Number of Credit Points (CP)	180 ECTS credits
Workload per CP	30 hours
Number of courses	3 modules of theoretical study
Number of contact hours	288 contact hours (for theoretical study)

The programme is designed in accordance with the National Requirements which define the doctorate programme as follows:

- 45 ECTS of theoretical study with Academic writing, Research methodology, research and teaching practice as a compulsory part;
- 123 ECTS of research work;
- 12 ECTS for PhD thesis preparation and defence.

To provide PhD students with the advanced competencies for further research, modules of theoretical study are distributed in the two first semesters of the programme.

Theoretical Study component includes three modules.

Module 1: “Research and Teaching Methodology” – 22 ECTS:

- Qualitative Research Methods – 7 ECTS (compulsory);
- Research Practice – 5 ECTS (compulsory);
- Teaching Practice – 10 ECTS (compulsory).

Module 2: “Advanced Academic Writing and Publishing” – 12 ECTS:

- Advanced English for Legal Research – 6 ECTS (compulsory);
- Academic Publishing – 6 ECTS (compulsory)

Module 3: “Advanced Legal and Interdisciplinary Research” – 11 ECTS:

- Advanced Research Seminar (in Private Law, Public Law or International Law) – 6 ECTS (elective);
- Quantitative Research Methods – 6 ECTS (elective)
- Research Practice – 5 ECTS (compulsory).
- Each semester (starting from the 2nd) PhD students have a significant workload for research:
- Semester 2 – 15 ECTS of Research work;
- Semester 3-5 – 30 ECTS of Research work per each semester;
- Semester 6 – 18 ECTS of Research work.

At the 6th semester students also have 12 ECTS to defend PhD thesis.

The programme has been elaborated in accordance with State Standard on Doctorate Programme, National Qualification Framework and Dublin Descriptors. Following the detailed structure of PhD in Law programme is represented with the reference of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) corresponding to the Programme learning objectives and intended learning outcomes.

Every syllabus of a course provided to the students states the subject matter, goals, learning outcomes, topics and requirements of each module. The learning objectives guide students to manage their workloads and help to acquire the essential skills to be professional in related field.

As a part of students' Research Work, PhD students prepare their theses in consultation with research advisors (national supervisor and foreign advisor). Also, they can go to the foreign research internship to work with foreign advisor or can plan it further. PhD students get their first teaching experience, work on research articles and reviews.

After the completion of the first year of study the PhD students are required to submit the final Research proposal to Research Committee of KAZGUU Law School. After the completion of the second year of study, the PhD students are required to submit the first draft of PhD thesis to the Research Committee of KAZGUU Law School. On the third year, PhD students work on PhD theses, complete and publicly discuss them at KLS Research Committee. Once PhD thesis is approved by the Research Committee, PhD student is allowed to present it to Dissertation Council.

At the end of every academic year, the PhD students will go through the Annual Progress Review procedure. During the Annual Progress Review procedure research supervisor provides his/her review on the research work done by the student. PhD student, in turn, is able to point out the problems related to the quality of scientific supervision. All such statements are to be considered by the KLS Research Committee, which provides the research advisor with the necessary recommendations and takes another measure to improve the quality of supervision (in collaboration with the KLS Administration). In case of inappropriate quality of research supervision, the supervisor is to be replaced. PhD students can also complain about the inadequate quality of the scientific supervision at any other time. In such case, immediate actions are taken.

The content of the programme corresponds to the awarded degree of PhD in Law and meets the requirements of the State Compulsory Standard (SCS) of Postgraduate Education¹², approved by the Order of the MES dated October 31, 2018 № 604.

The following documents regulate the Doctoral Degree at the national level:

- State Compulsory Standard (SCS) of Postgraduate Education¹³;
- Model Regulations for admission to undergraduate and postgraduate educational programmes¹⁴ (MRA);
- Degree Award Rules¹⁵ (DAR);
- Model Regulation on Dissertation Council¹⁶ (MRDC).

At the university level:

¹² On approval of state compulsory educational standards for all levels of education. Order of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated October 31, 2018 № 604. // <http://adilet.zan.kz/eng/docs/V1800017669>

¹³ On approval of state compulsory educational standards for all levels of education. Order of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated October 31, 2018 № 604. // <http://adilet.zan.kz/eng/docs/V1800017669>

¹⁴ Model Regulations for admission to undergraduate and postgraduate educational programmes, approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated 31 October 2018 No. 600 as amended on June 14, 2019 // <http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1800017650>

¹⁵ On approval of Degree award rules. Order of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated March 31, 2011 № 127 as amended on March 9, 2021 // <http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1100006951#z1>

¹⁶ On approval of Model Regulation on Dissertation Council. Order of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated March 31, 2011 № 126 as amended on March 9, 2021 // <http://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1100006929>

- KAZGUU Academic Policy;
- Handbook on Ensuring Academic Integrity;
- University Admission Policy;
- KLS Postgraduate Programme Handbook;
- KLS Academic Policy of PhD Programmes.

Status of the Doctorate Students is defined in Law on Education dated July 27, 2007, Law on Science dated February 18, 2011, and State Compulsory Standard (SCS) of Postgraduate Education dated October 31, 2018.

While applicant enters the PhD programme, he/she gets the status of PhD student. After completing the first year of theoretical studies, PhD student focuses on research and works closely with the relevant Research school.

On the third-year of study, a PhD student continues their research activity and can become a consultant of Master student's research (together with the research supervisor). After completion of all three years of study, when the only not passed component of the programme is PhD Thesis defence, PhD student turns his status to PhD candidate as a person finished the PhD programme without defending the PhD Thesis.

In addition to the thesis, SCS mandates each PhD Candidate to publish academic articles in recognised peer-reviewed journals. A certain number of publications is the requirement to be admitted for the thesis defence procedure. The number of publications depends on the quality of the journals:

International peer-reviewed journals	Local recognised journals recommended by the Quality Assurance Committee of the Ministry of Education and Science
One article published at journal: - with JCR impact factor, <u>or</u> - indexed by Web of Science Core Collection (Arts and Humanities Citation Index), <u>or</u> - indexed by Science Citation Index Expanded (Social Sciences Citation Index), <u>or</u> - having the Scopus CiteScore highest percentile of 25 and above	Three articles
One article published at journal: - with JCR impact factor, <u>or</u> - having the Scopus CiteScore highest percentile of 25 and above and one articles published at journal: - ranked Q2-Q4 JCR, <u>or</u> - having the Scopus CiteScore highest percentile of 50 and above	
one article published at journal: - ranked Q1 JCR	

Since the SCS only allows four years to accomplish and in reality many Doctorate students at Kazakhstani universities unable to publish three articles in international peer-reviewed journals with the required impact factor within this period, the majority of Kazakhstani universities readmit them again when they are ready for thesis submission. At KAZGUU, the extension status to be awarded is maximum three years. The extension status should be awarded by the School's Academic Quality Committee (AQC).

Appraisal:

In the view of experts, the structure of the PhD programme corresponds with its objectives and it properly connects the range of courses with the research tasks of the doctoral students.

The structure of the programmes takes into account the national requirements (state educational standards) in terms of programmes' components. The panel learned during the online conference that the ministry's publication requirements are challenging for PhD students, as students at Kazakh universities are often unable to publish articles in international peer-reviewed journals with the required impact factor within the prescribed maximum study period of four years. The panel is aware that KAZGUU cannot change the national education standards and would like to emphasise that the School should continue to provide support to students from the beginning of their studies.

The status of the doctoral students, which is defined by law, is regulated properly.

The programme consists of courses and assigns ECTS credits. Course descriptions for the PhD programme were provided and were subject to review by the expert panel. They are informative and contain all necessary information on the content, duration, requirements, recommended reading and the learning outcomes to be achieved.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
3.	PROGRAMME DESIGN					
3.1	Structure					
3.1.1	Structural Setup of the Doctoral Programme			X		
3.1.2	Doctoral Degree Regulations			X		
3.1.3	Status of the Doctoral Students			X		
3.1.4	Module Description			X		

Content

The curriculum overview is presented below:

1st Semester

Course No.	Title of Module / Course Unit	Credit Points per Semester						Workload		Method of Teaching	Form and Duration of Examinations	weight of exam related to final grade
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	Hours in Class	Hours Self-Study			
										i.e. lecture course, seminar		
ALL ECTS (180)		30	30	30	30	30	30	288	5112			
Compulsory courses		24						228	492			
M1	Research and Teaching Methodology	12						108	252			
RTM 1101	Qualitative Research Methods	7						63	147	L/T/S	Essay	Accumulative grading system
RTM 1102	Research Practice	5						45	105	L/T/S	Essay	Accumulative grading system
M2	Advanced Academic Writing and Publishing	12						120	240			
AAWP 1101	Advanced English for Legal Research	6						60	120	L/T/S	Essay	Accumulative grading system
AAWP 1102	Academic Publishing	6						60	120	L/T/S	Essay	Accumulative grading system
Elective courses		6						60	120			
M3	Advanced Legal and Interdisciplinary Research							60	120			
ALIR 1101	Advanced Research Seminar	6						60	120	L/T/S	Essay	Accumulative grading system
ALIR 1102	Quantitative Research Methods	6						60	120	L/T/S	Essay	Accumulative grading system

2nd Semester

Compulsory courses			30						900			
M1	Research and Teaching Methodology		10						300			
RTM 1203	Teaching Practice		10						300	P	Report	Accumulative grading system
M3	Advanced Legal and Interdisciplinary Research		5						150			
ALIR 1203	Research Practice		5						150	P/R	Report	Accumulative grading system
M4	Research Work		15						450			
RW 1201	Research Work		15						450	R	Report	Accumulative grading system

3rd Semester

Compulsory courses					30				900			
M4	Research Work				30				900			
RW 2302	Research Work				30				900	R	Report	Accumulative grading system

4th Semester

Compulsory courses					30				900			
M4	Research Work				30				900			
RW 2403	Research Work				30				900	R	Report	Accumulative grading system

5th Semester

Compulsory courses					30				900			
M4	Research Work				30				900			
RW 3504	Research Work				30				900	R	Report	Accumulative grading system

5th Semester

Compulsory courses					30				900			
M4	Research Work				18				540			
RW 3605	Research Work				18				540	R	Report	Accumulative grading system

M5	PhD Thesis				12				360			
1	PhD Thesis preparation and defense				12				360	Th	Thesis	100 / 100

- L: Lecture
- S: Seminar
- T: Tutorial
- R: Research
- P: Practice
- Th: Thesis

Each semester comprises 30 ECTS credits which represent the principle of modularisation where each module includes certain number of subject units to be completed by students. Courses are delivered through a series of taught modules on specialist topics and structured around independent research projects.

The updated SCS of Postgraduate Education set an obligatory focus on the development of PhD students research capacity. It reduced the number of credits of Theoretical Study from 60 ECTS of trainings to 45 ECTS, including at least 10 ECTS of Teaching Practice and 10 ECTS of Research Internship. It means, that in total scope of 180 ECTS only 25 ECTS should be allocated to trainings, and among them, modules on research methodology and academic writing should be provided obligatory.

To comply with the new state regulations, KLS PhD programme was revised in 2018.

Renovated Doctorate programme content is research-oriented. Started with courses providing students with research competencies and skills programme leads to the research implementation directly after the first year. The programme is enhanced by foreign research internships and the opportuni-

ty to integrate international experience. The courses offered by the programme allow PhD students to deepen their knowledge and acquire additional skills and competencies required for successful research activity. The programme enlarges professional foreign language knowledge.

The components of the programme are also aimed at acquiring and improving the skills of using online information resources for professional communication at various levels. In the course of training, students gain skills to work in multinational and multi-faith groups in the spirit of tolerance and respect for different peoples, ethical and religious principles.

PhD students acquire methodological and research competencies during the whole programme through theoretical study (trainings and practice), research work and internship, PhD Thesis preparation and defence. All the study courses include research components and promote PhD students to conduct independent research and comply with current research methodology standards and research ethics.

PhD students undergo an internship to foreign organisations of education and science within their PhD research projects twice during the entire study (for period lasting up to 30 days) to improve the scientific base for the dissertation research, to receive advice from foreign specialists and to work in the world's leading libraries. Internship programmes are implemented in the framework of agreements between the University and foreign partner universities, as well as memorandums with foreign consultants.

During the internship the PhD student:

- complies with the organisation's charter, internal regulations, requirements of other regulatory documents governing the process of internship and stay in the host partner institution;
- visits libraries, gets acquainted with the electronic resources of the partner university;
- attends lectures of leading scientists in relevant fields;
- performs all tasks stipulated by the internship programme;
- collects empirical and theoretical material on the research topic;
- keeps records of the work performed.

At the end of the internship, the PhD student should submit a written report on the results of the internship at a meeting of the Department. Members of the Department decide on its approval, revision or rejection, as well as provide recommendations on the use of internship results in PhD thesis.

PhD students are encouraged to publish their research results during the study. KAZGUU Law School provides PhD students with research advisors (supervisors) who are eligible to guide them. The Supervisors encourage students to have a clear and specific focus on research and article publication. Besides, every PhD student has a foreign research consultant (advisor), helping to consider the main issue in an international context.

During the study period, doctorate students have to publish the main research results in no less than one article in an internationally recognised well-reputed journal (JCR impact-factor, Scopus CiteScore etc., according to the Degree Award Rules) and up to three articles in national journals, recommended by the MES.

Preparation of the articles could be made by students independently under supervising of a research advisor or in frame of Advanced research seminar, which is to be elected, if it fits the individual study plan and the chosen learning path of a certain PhD student.

In addition, students have the opportunity to participate in research projects and scholarships as well as scientific conferences of local, national, and international levels.

Starting from the entry to the doctorate programme, a PhD student, together with local and foreign advisors, works on Individual Work Plan for three years (during the study PhD student can make changes) including research and publications, presentation of research results at conferences or participation in law-making and law-implementing projects. Supervisors can also play a useful role in helping students work to specific journal styles, and in guiding them through the submission process, including helping them to re-write articles in response to the received peer reviews, and in some cases helping to handle a rejection.

Within the developing research environment, PhD students are strongly encouraged to assist Professors of the Research schools connecting with their PhD thesis. PhD students are heavily involved in KAZGUU research activity. At least twice per semester, each Assistant, Associate and Full Professor of KAZGUU Law School conducts a public presentation of their current research (Research Workshop), including their main ideas and conclusions, as well as their current results and future plans. All PhD students are invited for discussion and they can join a research team. Also, PhD students participate in the activity of the Antenna of the Hague Conference on Private International Law for Central Asia and Mongolia; Center for German Law and other research centres and hubs.

The modules of the programme curriculum are aimed at qualification and competency development and are sensibly linked to one another. The systematic methodology for competence-based curriculum development includes four phases: a) conceptualisation; b) planning; c) analysis; d) creation of course catalogue of competencies. Thus, the methodology promotes continuous improvement through the consideration of the university strategic plans. The PhD in Law curriculum starting from the first semester accentuates the development of research skills and competencies. Students are involved in the courses such as Qualitative Research Methods, Quantitative Research Methods, Advanced English for Legal Research, Academic Publishing, Advanced Research Seminar in the related field of study. In the second semester, they improve the acquired skills through research and teaching practice. All six semesters PhD students participate in Research Workshops of KAZGUU faculty and guest lecturers. PhD students expand their focus of learning from the diverse angles of outlook. The following semesters are completely committed to conducting empirical research that finally reveals graduates' competencies.

IT skills and competences, needed for legal research are mastered by the PhD students through all courses and extra-curricular activity. Additionally, in "Quantitative Research Methods" course basic R-programming is covered.

Multidisciplinary qualifications are cross reflected in the overall curriculum of the programme. The compulsory course on research methodology covers qualitative research methods common not just to different types of research in the field of humanities, but to the research process in general. Obviously, it focuses on implementing these methods primarily in legal and humanities research, but also provides PhD students with the capacity to perform interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary researches as well. In addition, the students of the doctoral programme are offered an elective course on quantitative research methods, which is not widespread in the scope of doctoral programmes for lawyers and is the highlight of KAZGUU PhD in Law programme. Course on quantitative research covers probability distributions, hypothesis testing, correlation, simple regression, interpretation etc. The modules, improving foreign language proficiency, academic writing and publishing skills, also pay special attention to develop multidisciplinary qualifications. KAZGUU stimulates the collaboration of different research schools. Students of PhD in Law programme are welcomed to the Research workshops of all six legal Research schools as well as professors in Economics, Sociology and International Relations. It enables the doctoral students to discuss the knowledge gained in the special-

ised fields with their colleagues, to present it in front of an academic audience and to communicate it to laymen.

Appraisal:

The experts formed the view that the curriculum of the study programme reflects the programme objectives, as described in Chapter 1.1, in a way that allows students to develop their research skills based on the scientific state of the art in the respective field.

There is a balanced mixture of courses in terms of content. They are arranged in a logical sequence and aimed at qualification and competency development. The modules included in the programmes provide for an acquisition of an in-depth theoretical, methodological and multidisciplinary knowledge and also practical skills in accordance with the preferences of students.

The goals of a doctoral degree according to the National Qualifications Framework of Kazakhstan and the European Qualifications Framework are fulfilled.

The teaching presents the current status of scientific knowledge in accordance with the learning objectives, and it takes into account the associated relevant research. The course offer covers the relevant requirements to achieve the pursued research competency of the doctoral students.

The PhD programme ensures that graduates have methodological competence, are empowered to conduct academic work and can understand and assimilate specialist literature. Methodological competences are acquired by students in a number of modules on research methods and approaches, during the scientific and research work, the research internship, the scientific internship abroad, as well as in the process of preparing PhD thesis under the guidance of scientific supervisors and foreign scientific consultants. The internships and the high amount of research activities are aimed at qualification and competency development.

Multidisciplinary contents are part of the programme. The development of multidisciplinary competences and skills is promoted through the respective courses, the teaching and the research internship. Additionally, students develop communication and rhetorical skills by taking part at conferences, round tables and scientific workshops. Students are enabled to present their work and to discuss the knowledge gained in the specialised fields with their colleagues. However, the panel formed the view that there is potential for KLS to integrate further systematic training e.g. in the area of political science, international diplomacy and sustainability.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
3.	PROGRAMME DESIGN					
3.2	Content					
3.2.1	Logic and Conceptual Consistency			X		
3.2.2	Science and Research Based Teaching			X		
3.2.3	Focus of the Curriculum on Qualification and Competency Development			X		
3.2.4	Technical Offers			X		
3.2.5	Multidisciplinary Qualifications			X		

3.2 Examination Procedures

The types of evaluation, procedures and course performance or module performance are included in the respective syllabus along with the employed teaching methods and studies duration. Student performance follows the syllabus requirements, including assessment types, duration and respective requirements as academically approved, including the PhD Thesis.

The student performance and given grades are evaluated by achieving the learning outcomes and their overall program performance. Tasks, questions, problems and assessments of the final examination of the courses are defined by the involved team of teaching faculty, taking into account not only knowledge but also learning outcomes.

Forms of exams are defined by the M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University Assessment Policy (Examination Regulations).

According to the Policy, final grade is formed by the results of final examination and continuous assessment.

Final examinations are also divided by:

- access to materials (open book and closed book examinations);
- form of conduct (oral and written examinations);
- methodological approach (case report, case presentation, project report and presentation, etc. – the list is not limited).

Type and form of evaluation depend on the subject. Academic freedom of the faculty drives the choice of the assessment types and forms, though. The examples of the assessment methods in PhD programme courses are:

- Written / oral projects;
- Home or in-class individual/group assignments;
- Term projects;
- Case-solving, etc.

The PhD dissertation is defended at a meeting of a Defence Committee. The Defence Committee is formed for each PhD programme or a group of PhD programmes belonging to the same research area. The Defence Committee members are nominated and appointed by the Order of the Rector of the university with a prior approval of the Control Committee in Education and Science under the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The Defence Committee consists of not less than six members, including the Chair, Deputy Chair, and Secretary. Defence Committee members have to be research or academic degree holders (Ph.D., Candidate or Doctor of Sciences) with at least five scholarly/research papers relevant to the research area of the Committee. The Defence Committee includes internal and external representatives: 1/3 of the Committee members should be from the home institution, 1/3 should be representatives of other higher education institutions, and 1/3 should be from other research institutions/centers or industry.

The Defence Committee must evaluate how a PhD dissertation meets five research principles, particularly whether a PhD dissertation demonstrates:

- independent research (a PhD student's contribution to the research area);
- consistency (a dissertation is logically structured, research findings respond to the research questions, suggested recommendations are supported by arguments and compared to results of previous research);
- originality (research findings, suggestions and recommendations presented as research outcomes are new and significant for both theory and practice);
- reliability (research findings are based on adoption of suitable research methodology and methods for interpreting data, including up-to-date information technologies);
- significance (research findings have theoretical, practical, and societal importance);
- academic integrity (a PhD student follows rules of the relevant referencing style in writing his/her dissertation).

The KAZGUU Defence Committee evaluate PhD dissertations against the following criteria:

- Research problem and research questions

The dissertation must clearly describe the research problem providing sufficient contextual information underscoring the importance of the chosen problem. Research questions must be well-defined and address the research problem.

- Relevance of the research

The dissertation must provide a detailed description of the scientific, societal and practical relevance of the undertaken research.

- Theoretical basis

The dissertation must demonstrate a sufficient evidence of a broad and in-depth investigation of the research problem by providing a critical review of the literature on previous research in the chosen field.

- Methodology and ethical considerations

The dissertation must provide a sophisticated description of the chosen methodology and how adopted methods of inquiry were applied in the research process. In addition, justification of the suitability of the chosen methods as well as their limitations must be clearly stated. Finally, the dissertation must demonstrate the Candidate's understanding of ethical considerations and the ability to address issues of that kind in their own research.

- Research results and their discussion

The dissertation must clearly describe gained research results and their consistency with data. Research results must bear significance and make contribution to the new knowledge in the research area the PhD Candidate is working in. Moreover, the dissertation must demonstrate the PhD Candidate's judgment ability in presenting research results, connecting them to previous research, drawing respective conclusions and implications, as well as in reflecting on directions of future research.

- **Coherence, structure and style**

The dissertation must be logically structured demonstrating overall consistency and flow. The language of the dissertation must comply with stylistic and linguistic requirements of the language the dissertation is written in.

Submission of the thesis is possible after the official approval received from the supervisor(s). In line with the KAZGUU academic policy, it should be done in Canvas which routinely checks all written works via Turnitin. The policy declares zero plagiarism tolerance. The thesis should then be considered by the KLS Research Committee and recommended for submission to the Defence Committee. The main (national) supervisor is responsible for the appropriate quality of the thesis. He/she has a right to exclude a PhD student (candidate) from the defense if the quality of the work is not acceptable, the review with clearly articulated reasons should be provided to the Research Committee, in this case.

The thesis defended along with the relevant documentation should be sent to the Academic and Research Quality Assurance Committee under the Ministry of Education and Science (ARQAC), which is the degree-awarding body. The ARQAC verifies the quality of the thesis and its compliance with the principles of independence, internal unity, scientific novelty, reliability and applicability, and academic integrity (Degree Award Rules).

Appraisal:

The scientific and research work of PhD students aims for a systematic understanding of the research discipline and the control of the research methods which are applied in this field of research. The final state attestation, which consists of the comprehensive examination and the subsequent defence of the dissertation, also ensures that the PhD graduates have in-depth knowledge in their field of research and can carry out independent research activities.

Furthermore, the organisation of the examination procedures is properly organised and defined in the KLS Academic Policy of PhD programmes.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
3.	PROGRAMME DESIGN					
3.3	Examination Procedures					
3.3.1	Examinations			X		
3.3.2	Organisation of the Examination Procedure			X		

3.3 Didactic Concept

The programme's didactic concept is shaped following the commitment to academic freedom, academic integrity, active involvement of learners in the academic process, increasing responsibility, and the role of educators. The didactic function is expressed in providing students with knowledge, skills and abilities they need in their research activity and future academic career. All the courses of the programme are closely related to each other and arranged in such way that the students receive basic methodology knowledge and research skills at first, and then specialised (professional) research competencies. The task of the professor is to acquaint students with new scientific knowledge to help them realise their potential in independent work.

Every course incorporated into the programme contributes to the development of this knowledge and skills through its subject-specific didactic concept. Completing the academic training should equip the PhD Candidates with a background sufficient to conduct supervised research. Obligatory content which must be published before the beginning of the course includes the detailed syllabus of courses including information like those about required and recommended readings, details of assignments and examinations, ethical and academic integrity rules. Lecturers also upload reading and other course material to Modules section of Canvas which allows uploading material in different formats (pdfs, videos, URLs, etc). This allows students to access and work with course materials from anywhere independently. Independent learner's skills are one of the most important for a future researcher career.

After completion of a training section in first two semesters, including teaching and research practice, PhD students focus on research work, which is well-structured and supervised by KAZGUU research advisor and foreign research consultant.

The research component of the programme, besides permanent work with research advisors, includes preparation and publishing of the research articles and reviews, presentations of the research results at the conferences and round tables, research networking, research workshops of KAZGUU faculty and, as a result, preparation of a PhD Thesis.

Also, the programme provides an opportunity of a foreign internship, where PhD students are able to visit companies, institutions or universities of the other countries to conduct an internship or research for Doctoral thesis. In the last five years PhD students have visited Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Hochschule Rhein-Waal, University of Leicester, Université de Lorraine, Oxford University, University of Nottingham, Weitz Center for Sustainable Development, University of Bologna, University of Aberdeen, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (London), Newcastle University, Durham University, Nicolas Copernicus University and many others.

Besides the research development, foreign internships promote multicultural interaction. Knowledge of the interrelation and interdependence of one's own language, culture, and learning in the construction of concepts, values and beliefs contributes to ways of perceiving one's world variably and diversely across languages and cultures on the basis of constantly re-enacting one's intra-cultural system of seeing, interpreting, and understanding the world interculturally.

In-class work is an advanced research and professional skills acquiring work, which is carried out using various methods. The teacher is not particularly limited in the choice of the method. As part of the education variety of interactive methods is being used:

- The method of discussion involves posing the issue, followed by a discussion, including work in small groups. This method helps student to improve critical thinking skills in dealing with specific research and legal issues. Also, it develops legal reasoning and the ability to make independent decisions;

- Case method involves solving the cases and different types of situational problems (case studies with simulation description of real situations, with closed and open story; case illustrations, case problems, case evaluation). This method improves the students' skills in identifying problems and gaps in law, selecting appropriate research methods and concepts, implementing the applicable law, legal reasoning. Also, the method allows gaining a number of social skills;
- The method of presentation of an essay or of a research project forms the students' ability to engage in scientific activities. Priority is given to research work in order to create a new research product, not only when a student analyses the theoretical and practical material, but when he or she is also able to offer and share their vision of the disputed issue, etc.
- Individual work of students has a significant role in the process of education; the results of such work can be in different forms:
 - Traditional (writing creative essays, reviewing additional literature and articles, making presentations);
 - Specific (reviewing international judicial and quasi-judicial practices, processing and analysing of legal statistical information, preparing memoranda of the parties, decisions of international courts and tribunals, draft contracts and other international documents).

Due to the limited number of PhD students, they have very good opportunities to work closely and keep better communications with each other in and out of their academic classes. In accordance with the objectives, the programme ensures participation of the doctorate students in round tables and conferences organised by KAZGUU Research schools. Usually, 3-4 conferences and/or round tables per year are held by KAZGUU Law School. PhD students are obliged to participate in these events. During the teaching practice, PhD students are highly involved in faculty life and actively cooperate with each other and faculty members.

During the foreign internship, PhD students are provided with the opportunity to get in touch not only with master and PhD students but with faculty staff of partner Universities.

Being allocated to a supervisor/assessor ensures a continual and intensive professional, methodological and scientific supervision of the doctoral students. Corresponding planning in the time budget is also guaranteed.

State Regulations requires double supervision: national research advisor (supervisor) and foreign research consultant (advisor). In the first year of PhD programme student have to discuss and define PhD thesis topic, local supervisor and foreign advisor. University Academic and Research Council approves local supervisor and foreign advisor from Universities partners. Supervisor/advisor has to be scholar in field of PhD student's research and have publications in certain field. According to the state regulation, research supervisor has to have at least one publication in internationally recognised well-reputed journal (JCR impact-factor, indexed by Web of Science Core Collection etc.) and five publications in journals recommended by the MES (for details, please, refer to SCS of Postgraduate Education).

Appraisal:

The didactical concept of the PhD programmes is fully aligned with the programme's objectives. This concept takes into account a diversity of teaching methods.

When conducting scientific work independently or under the guidance of their supervisors and consultants, doctoral students develop skills of analysing, evaluating and synthesising theoretical concepts and practical material and forming professional judgement.

Foreign consultants and international guest lecturers are involved in the programmes; most of them come from partner universities abroad. By organising internships, Chair meetings and further scientific events as well as by encouraging PhD students to participate in conferences and seminars on the national and international level, the KLS promotes the exchange of experience and research results between the students and researchers from other universities.

Being allocated to a supervisor ensures a continual and intensive professional, methodological and scientific supervision of the doctoral students.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
3.	PROGRAMME DESIGN					
3.4	Didactic Concept					
3.4.1	Logic and Comprehensibility of the Didactic Concept			X		
3.4.2	Diversity of the Teaching Methods			X		
3.4.3	Networking of the Doctoral Students			X		
3.4.4	Scientific Supervision			X		

3.4 Professional Competencies/Employability

The doctoral programme is intended to convey doctoral students with professional qualification in the academic and research-oriented fields of activity. In doing so, the professional qualification is aimed both at a research-oriented activity (including teaching) and a practical vocational activity. But the targeted job market is academia and research institutions in Kazakhstan and abroad.

Programme modules are employability-oriented: the intended learning outcomes are relevant for developing employment skills as was expected when the programme was developed. The programme administration aligns the learning outcomes with regard to the student needs and implementing the steps to improve the participants' employability and certain qualifications. Especially, the PhD programmes aim to close the gap between academic and research competencies and improve skills and competencies for applied research. Recent studies and alumni interviews showed that programme graduates help each other via networking and share business knowledge even beyond the borders of KAZGUU.

Appraisal:

The doctoral programme is intended to convey the doctoral students with professional qualification in the scientific and research oriented fields of activity. In doing so, the professional qualification is aimed both at a research oriented activity (including teaching) as well as a practical vocational activity.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
3.	PROGRAMME DESIGN					
3.5	Professional Competencies / Employability			X		

4. Scientific Environment and Framework conditions

4.1 Teaching Staff

M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University faculty staff consists of Academically qualified (AQ) and Professionally qualified (PQ) members.

PhD in Law programme teaching staff only includes the Academically qualified (AQ) faculty.

In addition to standard AQ requirements for academic positions, there are specific higher standards for a lecturer in the PhD programme.

To qualify for an AQ status and be eligible to teach in the PhD programme, a faculty member should possess:

- A PhD or Doctorate degree;
- Teaching experience (including postgraduate programmes) not less than 5 years;
- Experience of supervision of postgraduate students (at least 5);
- Participation in the research activity (especially within the Research schools);
- At least 5 publications in well-reputed national and international journals.

Currently, KAZGUU Law School houses 38 lecturers with Doctor of Law and PhD in Law degrees (42,9 % female and 57,1 % male lecturers). KLS is able to choose the most suitable lecturers for the PhD programme every year, depending on the admission criteria, research interests of PhD students and job markets need. The Programme Management and KLS Administration are responsible for making sure that the teaching faculty meets all required academic qualifications and the students reach the intended qualification objectives of the programme. Most of PhD programme lecturers (85,7 %) are full-time faculty of M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University with a long-term contract.

Currently, seven faculty members are teaching in the programme. Among them is one professor, two associate professors, and four assistant professors. All of them have international experience (degrees from foreign HEIs, research internships as well as expert and training activities abroad).

The recruitment process follows the policy of the University on the basis of the Regulation “On competitive vacancy filling in JSC “M.S. Narikbaev KAZGUU University”. The KLS monitors the academic requirements of the teaching faculty concerning the compliance with respective requirements including pedagogy and teaching activities.

The faculty selection is done by the KLS Committee on Academic Quality. The following step is the University Selection Board. The Faculty appointment is made by the Chairman of the Board. The HR Department helps in announcing a vacancy, searching for appropriate candidates, and organising the Selection Board and hiring process. By the closing date of the vacancy, all the CVs collected by HR shall be handed to the KLS Dean who calls for a meeting of the KLS Committee on Academic Quality

for further decision making. The decision shall be communicated back to the Dean who informs the HR and claims for further processing of the candidates' file.

The School regularly conducts methodological seminars, where instructors discuss and share methods and ways of teaching students and discuss the effectiveness of certain methods. So, for example, in 2020, a series of training seminars and webinars for the KLS faculty were held on the methodological aspects of online teaching, as well as the methodology of teaching legal disciplines (the experience of Germany), etc.

In addition to all these requirements, each Professor usually provides an open-door class at least once a year, where all faculty members are invited. Also, every semester they are visited by the members of KLS Quality Assurance Committee. Furthermore, in PhD programmes teaching staff is encouraged to promote research, case-study and open discussions, as well as to use a diversity of teaching methods.

The faculty members teach courses linked to their academic background, specialisations, and their research. The topics selected for PhD supervision are linked to research background and interests as well. This ensures they have appropriate expertise for both teaching and supervision at a PhD level.

A significant number of KLS faculty has an international academic background in legal studies and research. Among them, there are graduates of Cornell University (SJD), Varna Free University (PhD), Moscow State University (PhD), Kharkov National University of Internal Affairs (PhD), Kiyev National University (PhD), University of Leeds (LLM), Fordham University (LLM), Queen Mary University of London (LLM), Europa-Institute of Saarland University (LLM), Humboldt University, University of Bremen (LLM), Aberdeen University (LLM), University of Warwick (LLM), University of Reading (LLM), Dokuz Eylül Üniversitesi (PhD candidate), University of Antwerpen (PhD student).

Some of them got LLM degree abroad and PhD degree in Kazakhstan (e.g., LLM – University of Leeds; PhD – M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University; LLM – University of Bremen; PhD – Kazakhstan).

Additionally, a considerable number of KLS lecturers, including faculty staff with Doctoral degrees, had foreign research internships in partner universities: Georg-August-Universität, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Oxford University, Durham University, University of Bologna, University of Reading, George Washington University, Dundee University, Nicolas Copernicus University etc.

20 of 38 KLS Doctors and PhD contributed to World Bank and Ministry of Justice project “Forensic Capacity Strengthening”, implemented in collaboration with King’s College London, Key Forensic and QPA Strategies. In the last five years, they were also involved in the Erasmus+ projects (C3QA, Jean Monnet project).

The strategy of involving in PhD training and supervision of only PhDs from recognised foreign universities is chosen on purpose. They are expected to bring in the international research culture and best practices. This is a crucial element for achieving appropriate academic quality of training and research for future PhD students.

The faculty members will teach the courses linked to their academic background, specialisations, and their own research. The topics selected for PhD supervision will also be linked to research background and interests. This will ensure they have appropriate expertise for both teaching and supervision at a PhD level.

KLS Doctors and PhDs not involved as a teaching faculty support PhD programme as guest and binary lecturers, research and practice supervisors. They conduct research workshops and seminars, provide consultancies (if applicable) and develop a research environment.

Organisational support is provided by the Vice-Dean for Science, Postgraduate Education and Development and Tutor Manager for Postgraduate Programmes and Distance Learning. They ensure that lectures and other learning activities follow the programme schedule and syllabus, the content is delivered to the programme participants as intended.

A programme director, is also responsible for the communication process with the KLS administration and module evaluation of the team teaching.

The respective lecturer who is academically responsible for either the whole course or a particular module and additional selected faculties (members of the faculty or external experts) and members of Quality Assurance Committee are involved in the discussion of the module content (topics to be covered, approaches and assessment scheme to be used).

Twice a semester KAZGUU Law School conducts scientific meeting (Research Seminars) where faculty discussed the latest scientific and practical problems in the field of law. Delivering a speech is the responsibility of the faculty.

Faculty members collaborate with each other in current research projects of the six legal research schools; they provide Research workshops and seminars, participate and arrange conferences and round tables, co-work within the Committees of KAZGUU Law School. In addition, they are jointly involved in assessing the PhD programme applications, conducting interviews with applicants where appropriate and making relevant decisions. Over the academic year, regular meetings of the faculty discuss the programme development and relevant issues.

Appraisal:

The structure and number of teaching staff corresponds with the requirements of the doctoral programme. The necessary professional breadth and depth in scientific education and the research sponsorship of the doctoral students is ensured. The contractual situation of the teaching staff guarantees a continuous execution of the doctoral programme. A considerable number of teachers have relevant experience in international research and teaching abroad.

Qualifications and competencies of staff are rated well to meet the requirements for good teaching. Based on information in the self-evaluation report of the KLS and the CVs of the lecturers involved in the programme, the panel came to the conclusion that the research activities of the academic staff correspond with the requirements for PhD programme and support the scientific education of the doctoral students.

The School verifies the academic as well as pedagogical and didactical qualifications of the faculty members by means of an established procedure and in line with the University's regulations. Specific measures for the further qualification of the faculty members are implemented. For example, during the online conference the faculty staff confirmed that e.g. in 2020, several training seminars and webinars were held for faculty members on methodological aspects of online teaching.

Internal collaboration and coordination are ensured by the regular meetings of the teaching staff.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
4.	ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT AND FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS					
4.1	Teaching Staff					
4.1.1	Structure and Number of Teaching Staff			X		
4.1.2	Scientific Qualification of the Teaching Staff			X		
4.1.3	Pedagogical Qualification of the Teaching Staff			X		
4.1.4	Internationality of the Teaching Staff			X		
4.1.5	Internal Cooperation within the Faculty			X		

4.2 Cooperation and Partnership

The academic partnership has a significant influence to PhD in Law programme, as a key factor to ensure:

- High-quality research advising by the foreign consultants;
- Relevant and appropriate foreign research internships for PhD students;
- Academic mobility of PhD students and faculty;
- Development of a research environment in the global context.

The number of cooperation agreements with foreign universities is constantly growing at KAZGUU. There is a fivefold increase in the number of agreements with the foreign universities, increasing from 21 agreements in 2015 to 100 in 2020 (see Annex 1 of this report).

As a main legal University in Kazakhstan, KAZGUU is the core research centre and consultant to the government. KAZGUU scholars work in close cooperation with Constitutional Council, Supreme Court, Ministry of Justice and Kazakh and foreign universities as well. Every year around 3-4 research conferences are organised at M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University by KAZGUU Law School. These conferences obligatory involve academic partners inside the country and abroad. PhD students also have to participate in them.

For example, every August, KLS conducts Annual international research conference, dedicated to the Constitution Day of the Republic of Kazakhstan. This conference is organised in collaboration with Constitutional Council and scholars from Universities – partners from Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine, Belorussia, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia and Europe.

Besides, in the 2020-2021 academic year, despite the pandemic of COVID-19, two more international conferences were organised:

1. International research and applied conference “Salyk Zimanov's works – a source of political and legal thought of the modern era”.¹⁷

¹⁷ Partners – Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan (RoK), Constitutional Council of the RoK, Supreme Court of the RoK, Government of the RoK (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education and Science),

2. International research and applied conference “Legal Education and Science: current issues and prospects to improve”.¹⁸

Additionally, there were several International Round Tables:

1. “Video Surveillance Systems: Issues of Right Regulation, Risks Associated with Privacy and Personal Data Protection”, November 26, 2020;
2. “Current Issues of the Criminal Justice in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan” (in collaboration with Tashkent State Law University), March 5, 2021;
3. “Reforming Civil Legislation: Exchange of Experience”, April 20, 2021.

Doctoral Students are more than encouraged to participate in these conferences and round tables and in other conferences and round tables in Kazakhstan and abroad. Moreover, every year PhD students with supervisors plan their participation in no less than one national and one international conference to integrate into global research community.

The networking is ensured by regular research events as described above and participation of the young and emerging researchers at the research projects run by senior faculty.

KLS promotes the Scientists’ networking and provides its following forms:

- Research Schools, which centralise fundamental and applied researches in the related field;
- Research Projects, stimulating collaboration and joint-activity;
- Research Workshops (and Showcases) aimed to share the ideas and to check and discuss hypothesis with the colleagues (faculty, PhD and master students) within the University;
- Research Events (conferences, round tables etc.) to improve academic partnership and to bring a global context to research;
- Formal and informal meetings of faculty staff and PhD students.

Appraisal:

Cooperation with academic institutions and networks is actively pursued, which can result, among others, in finding suitable foreign scientific consultants for all PhD students, organising joint projects, events and student exchanges, inviting visiting lecturers.

Doctoral students are encouraged to participate in relevant conferences and further scientific events. The scientific networking of KAZGUU and KLS has a recognisable benefit for future doctoral students.

Fund of the First President of the RoK, Government of Azerbaijan, Institute of Legislation and Legal Information, Istanbul University, Istanbul Kent University, Moscow State University, Eurasian National University named after L. Gumilyov, Kazakh National University named after Al-Farabi, Zhetisu State University, International Kazakh-Turkish University named after A. Yassauy etc.;

¹⁸ Partners – Government of the RoK (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education and Science), Moscow State University, Moscow University for the Humanities, International Law Institute (Moscow), Ural State Law University, KIMEP University, Supreme Court Justice Academy, Caspian University, Baishev University etc.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
4.	ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT AND FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS					
4.2	Cooperation and Partnership					
4.2.1	Scientific Integration of the Doctoral Students			X		
4.2.2	Networking the Scientists			X		

4.3 Programme Management

The position of the Programme Director is not administrative which means that this person is independent and is not subject to the directions of the administration of the University. This person coordinates the activities of everyone involved in the programme and ensures that the programme runs smoothly. He/she is responsible for managing all aspects of the programme including pedagogical, social, ethical and legal ones that reflect guiding principles of leadership, learning, accountability and diversity. The functions are defined as follows:

- to serve as a resource person about rules, regulations and procedures for the programme;
- to promote a graduate-level learning environment;
- to set academic activities: admissions, comprehensive exams, schedule of classes, curriculum, syllabi, faculty and student advising;
- to manage any operational and administrative issues that affect the programme;
- to monitor and implement curriculum design and practice;
- to develop a good working relationship with the faculty, students and staff;
- to initiate activities in the department that address issues in graduate education;
- to take initiatives to promote the systematic development of the study programme in a manner which includes all relevant groups;
- to select and appoint faculty staff for certain courses;
- to establish strong relations with external stakeholders to promote the programme in educational and labour markets.

The Programme Director is committed to enhance the quality of the programme, to ensure effective implementation of the programme delivery and to evaluate its organisational performance as well as to serve as the source for further discussions. Thus, the programme director successfully takes initiatives to promote the systematic development of the study programme in a manner which includes all relevant groups.

Key operational decisions during the programme are made by the collegial bodies: Quality Assurance Committee, Research Committee and Ethics Committee.

Quality Assurance Committee is responsible for main academic issues: considering and acceptance of the programme and amendments to it; approval of the syllabi, examination forms and content; evaluation of the teaching methodology and didactical concept of a certain lecturer; check of the course content and materials in Canvas LMS.

Research Committee accepts research topics and research proposals (approving is the competence of Academic and Research Council); evaluates research progress during the programme; evaluates and recommends journals to publish the required publication; admits PhD thesis for public defence.

Ethics Committee examines all cases of violation academic integrity principles and standards and academic and corporate ethics violations as well.

All the complaints related to:

- Issues of the quality of academic component of the PhD programme (training courses and teaching practice) should be submitted to the Quality Assurance Committee;
- Issues of the quality of research component of the PhD programme should be submitted to the Research Committee;
- Violations of academic integrity principles and standards as well as academic and corporate ethics violations should be considered by the Ethics Committee (everyone could submit a complaint at any time).

The administrative staff responsible for supporting students and faculty consists of:

1. Vice-Dean on undergraduate programmes;
2. Vice-Dean for Academic Support and Employment;
3. Vice-Dean for Science, Postgraduate Education and Development;
4. Office of Advisors;
5. Tutor Manager for Postgraduate Programmes and Distance Learning;
6. Center for Professional Internship, Career and Employment;
7. School Assistants.

Into the PhD programme support are mostly involved:

- Dean of KAZGUU Law School;
- Vice-Dean for Science, Postgraduate Education and Development;
- Tutor Manager for Postgraduate Programmes and Distance Learning;
- Center for Professional Internship, Career and Employment;
- School Assistants.

Furthermore, any student has the right to address the question to the Academic Quality Committee, Research Committee and Ethics Committee. These committees consist exclusively of lecturers. In addition, both committees include the Programme Director and a student as the permanent voting members.

Documentation of the academic programme is available for all stakeholders both in hard and in soft versions. The programme documentations are developed at the Law School and include the following:

- Academic Policy of PhD programmes;
- Educational Program Development and Approval Policy;
- University Admission Policy;
- Inclusive Education Policy
- Assessment Policy (Examination Regulations);
- Handbook on Ensuring Academic Integrity;
- Code of Conduct;
- KLS Catalogue of Postgraduate Programmes;
- Academic Calendar.

Appraisal:

The organisation of the study process is based on the University-internal regulations and ensures the smooth operation of the study programmes. The structural organisation, the decision-making processes, competencies and responsibilities are established and implemented accordingly. Those involved are included in the decision-making process.

Faculty members and students are supported by the administration in the organisation of the study programme. During the online conference the panel talked to several persons from administration providing students academic and non-academic support and formed the view that sufficient administrative staff is available. Decision-making processes, authority, and responsibilities are clearly defined.

The requirements in terms of content, structure, design, duration, study process and examinations are recognised through suitable documentation and publication. The interested parties also have access to the documentation in electronic form and it provides transparency.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
4.	ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT AND FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS					
4.3	Programm Management					
4.3.1	Structural Organisation			X		
4.3.2	Management Support			X		
4.3.3	Documentation of the Doctoral Programme			X		

4.4 Material Resources

41 out of 78 university classrooms are equipped with stationary projectors. The University uses the VIA Go multimedia content system in 20 classrooms, which allows transferring images and video content from laptops and iOS / Android mobile devices to the projector wirelessly. Additionally, departments have movable projectors and laptops for teaching in classes without stationary equipment. There are 15 computer classes with 250 desktop and All-In-One computers with Internet access. The University has a free Wi-Fi network for all classrooms.

In 2021 the University opened the Atrium named after the second rector of the university Professor Shaikenov. It includes refurbished and furnished co-working areas, free zones and classrooms occupying more than 1200 square meters and equipped with computers, LCD panels and other equipment.

The online portal of the University has the e-mail address www.kazguu.kz. It has links to Platonus, Canvas, the system of electronic documents management 1C Enterprise and university Outlook.

Platonus – an electronic system designed by the MES and obligatory for use by all Kazakhstani HEIs – is integrated with Canvas and used by students for registering for the courses. It serves as a tool for student academic records. Canvas is used for all other academic purposes, such as exchanging the course materials and reaching students, conducting quizzes and exams, recording students' marks and attendance, running conferences and meetings.

M.S. Narikbayev Library (Library) space is multifaceted, with different social, cultural, and objective meanings, while also fostering, motivating, and inspiring collaborative and informal learning processes. There are nine halls at the library and open rooms. There are more than 60 Computer Workstations with Internet Access and Wi-Fi in the Library. Online booking service for Open Room is provided as well.

The Library provides access to the print collection (including textbook collection for students), licensed electronic book collection, digitised materials collection, rare books collection, periodicals collection and licensed electronic databases collection. The size of the print collection is around 39,000 unique titles of books on a wide variety of subject topics. The total number of copies is around 180,000 copies. As of October 2020, the Library provides trial access to nine high quality databases of scientific journals and books. Among them are Wiley Online Library, Cambridge Core, JSTOR, Hein Online, NexisUni, UNWTO, EL “Lan”.

Currently, there are 66 licensed ebooks in total, including ebooks from the Oxford Scholarship Online series and 41 ebooks available through EBSCO Information Services Aggregator Platform. Bibliographic Information about each library holding's item is available through indexing and bibliographic service at the Online Public Access Catalog at the Library official website¹⁹.

Among subscribed e-resources, there are Westlaw Next International Academics (Thompson Reuters), The Economist, The Wall Street Journal, Science Direct (Elsevier), Scopus (Elsevier), Web of Science (Clarivate Analytics). 66 Ebooks were purchased perpetually for instructors and students. Off-campus access to all e-resources is provided to library users through Proxy-server settings. Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) is available on the Library website.

Library physical space consists of nine reading halls, Open Rooms and “Abonement” department. Literature Circulation is conducted in “Abonement” department. There is special Hall for PhD students and Professors. Library is open for KAZGUU community members and public from Monday to Saturday, from 9 am until 8 pm. Before the pandemic times the library was opened until 10 pm. During the academic sessions library is opened during 24 hours.

Library provides such services as instructional sessions both online and offline, reference service by online chat, email, online form or phone. Representatives from different Information resources providers are also invited as a guest trainer. Series of short Video instructions on how to use and access electronic catalogue is available on the Library YouTube channel²⁰.

¹⁹ <https://library.kazguu.kz/en/>

²⁰ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UcpVMthUsAWFCo4z0PrjV_UQ/featured

Appraisal:

Since an online conference was conducted, the panel did not have the opportunity to visit the University's building. The University has provided a virtual tour presenting the University's premises and facilities. Based on the materials provided, the panel formed the view that a smooth running of the University is ensured with regard to the capacities for research, studies, teaching and administration as well as the available rooms and facilities.

The library is accessible during most of the day. Access to relevant literature and digital media is available. Qualified library staff is there to advise students. Furthermore, the panel appreciates the learning and teaching platforms Canvas and Platonus as well as the KAZGUU-own application, which promote the educational process. In addition, during the online conference the panel was impressed by the motivated library team that seemed very dedicated to providing up-to date and extensive access to literature including electronic databases.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
4.	ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT AND FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS					
4.4	Material Resources					
4.4.1	Quality of the Classrooms and Working Places			X		
4.4.2	Equipment (Literature, Magazines, Databases) for the Library		X			

4.5 Finance Planning and Financing

The University's sources of funding are:

- Income from educational activities (commercial basis);
- Income from the Ministry of Education and Science;
- Scientific and fundamental research;
- Income from rental of residential and non-residential premises.

Expenditure planning is carried out in accordance with the internal cost classification and legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The central budget is formed by combining the expenditure parts of the local budgets of the units, which is then integrated into a single form by the Department of Financial Development and Control.

One of the main factors of the University, in particular, deficit-free budget, and, at the same time, competitiveness, is the price of educational services. Therefore, each year, before the admission campaign, the Board approves the Register of the cost of educational services.

The Financial Development and Control Department monitors the effectiveness of the university's financial resources. An annual financial report on actual performance is prepared and is publicly

available on www.gosreestr.kz (register of state enterprises and institutions, legal entities with state participation in the authorised capital), after approval by the Board of Directors.

The state-funded scholarship covers full tuition fee, monthly allowance, travel expenses covering research internship or conference participation and some other expenses. At the moment, the scholarship places are distributed across subjects and universities by the Ministry of Education and Science. Only universities accredited by a recognised international accredited agency are eligible to participate in the scheme. With the change towards voucher-type scholarship funding which might be accepted soon, the student granted a scholarship upon centralised examination results consideration will have a right to choose a university among the list of eligible accredited universities.

For PhD students funded within the public scholarship scheme, the government compensates costs of their training to the university (in addition to the monthly allowance paid directly to the PhDs). Only three years are funded; the fourth year is waived from the scheme since no credit award activities are assumed during the fourth year but thesis writing-up and submission. The current amount is 3,921 thousand tenge or approx. 7,800 Euro for three years. For fee-based PhD students, the amount of tuition fee is not set yet but it should be not less than the government-funded scholarship compensation.

Recently introduced KAZGUU graduate-level scholarship is allocated within the mentorship programme. The research mentorship programme aims to develop the young research community of KAZGUU in the relevant areas. The scholarship programme offers scholarships to the KLS best achieving and motivated undergraduate and Master's students interested in research and academic career. The scholarship will provide a waiver from the tuition fee for a further-level study academic programme at KAZGUU. Interested students are to contact their potential research mentors/supervisors and develop a research proposal based on a potential mentor's/supervisor's expertise.

Additionally, financial aid is available via Endowment KAZGUU (founded in 2016). The Fund aims to consolidate external financial resources to fund the university's research, social, and infrastructure projects. For example, a number of classrooms have been refurbished thanks to financial support from Kazakhstani banks and international investors. Additionally, the Fund supports students in need through charitable assistance.

Students eligible for support:

- students from single-parent families;
- students from multi-member families (four or more children in a family);
- students from low-income families with confirmed status;
- orphans and children left behind;
- students with special needs;
- students whose parent(s) are those with special needs or retirees.

Appraisal:

Based on the information provided to the panel, the panel formed the view that the study programme is funded for the entire accreditation period so that students will definitely be able to complete their studies. Scholarship programmes and financial support are available.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
4.	ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT AND FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS					
4.5	Finance Planning and Financing					
4.5.1	Finance Planning and Financing of the Doctoral Programme			X		
4.5.2	Financial Support and Scholarship Programmes			X		

5. Quality Assurance

Quality Assurance (QA) is achieved and managed by QA Policy and the following QA documents:

- Academic and Research Council bylaws
- School Committees bylaws
- Academic Policy
- Handbook on Ensuring Academic Integrity
- Inclusive Education Policy
- Examination Regulations
- Thesis Guidelines
- Academic Integrity League Standards
- Code of Conduct
- Educational programme Development and Approval Policy.

Three QA Units are responsible for the implementation of the QA Documents: Academic and Research Council, School Committees and QA Manager (QAM).

Academic and Research Council is the highest academic body of the University that determines the development of academic and research activity at the university level, approves all QA Documents, creates, modifies and eliminates academic units. All powers and responsibilities of the Academic and Research Council are listed in the Academic and Research Council bylaws approved by the Management Board.

School Committees are the collegiate bodies of Schools that determines the development of academic and research activity at the school level, review students' appeals and ensures the quality of the content of all courses taught by school faculty. A school committee is composed of faculty members, one student and school administration.

QAM is responsible for monitoring the implementation of all QA Mechanisms, publishing the latest versions of all QA documents on the official website, reporting data analysis and interpretation to the Academic and Research Council, School Committees, Provost and Chairman of the Management Board. QAM may request any information relating to the academic process from Schools and other departments and provides recommendations to the Academic and Research Council and School Committees.

QA mechanisms are divided into two groups: internal and external.

Internal QA Mechanisms are assured by the QA Documents and include academic programmes' development, course design, registration process, inclusive education, teaching quality, assessment

quality, examinations, credit-bearing internships, students' final projects, master theses and doctoral dissertations, student appeal, student satisfaction survey, teacher motivation and job satisfaction survey, alumni survey and employer feedback. Each Internal QA Mechanism represents a cycle consisting of four stages: Plan, Do, Check and Act. In order to ensure quality control and enhancement, at least two QA Units participate in Check and Act stages.

External QA Mechanisms are represented by the following:

- participation of external stakeholders in the design and review of academic programmes
- compliance with the Academic Integrity League's principles and regular monitoring
- participation at the national Ranking of Educational Programmes' carried on by the National Chamber of Entrepreneurs
- international accreditations.

The KAZGUU Law School (KLS) has three committees: Committee on Academic Quality (AQC)²¹, Ethics Committee²² and Research Committee²³.

The Committee on Academic Quality is a QA body of the KLS that is involved in all academic issues related to the programme design, review, assessment and communicating the quality issues to relevant bodies of the university. Specifically, the Committee is responsible for the following:

- Annually reviews all academic issues related to the content and structure of curricula of the KLS programmes, including programme learning objectives, learning outcomes, student workload, assessment methods, graduate employment and stakeholder satisfaction.
- Annually reviews all admission requirements and regulations to ensure better academic standing of the candidates.
- Reviews the procedures and processes related to admission, studying, examinations, academic grievance handling and graduation to ensure that the measures are taken in an appropriate manner.
- Prepares a summary report on a regular basis (after each semester is completed) and submit it to the KLS Dean and QAM for the further review.

At the end of each semester, a School Committee conducts a teaching quality evaluation survey for each course. A School Committee develops the methodology and questions, which are reviewed by QM. The survey is conducted by a School Committee two weeks before the end of a semester. A School Committee accumulates the data, analyses the results, and then sends the report to School management, ARC and QM. Individual results and recommendations are sent to faculty members whose courses were assessed in the survey.

Quality Assurance of the Doctorate Programmes goes in line with University Quality Assurance Policy and the basic QA documents. Moreover, to ensure the research and academic publishing quality the following procedures are set:

- Annual Progress Review of PhD students research activity and its preliminary results by the Research Committee included representatives of the Research schools and Academy;
- Biannual reviews of the published articles and reputation check of a certain journal(s).
- Research Committee also provides recommendations on journals for publication in a related field.

²¹ 11 faculty staff (voting), 3 students, (voting), 2 administrators: Dean, Vice-Dean for Bachelor programmes (non-voting)

²² 7 faculty staff (voting), 4 students, 2 administrators: Dean, Vice-Dean for Academic Support and Employment (non-voting)

²³ 7 faculty staff (voting), 3 students (voting), 3 administrators: Provost, Dean, Vice-Dean for Research (non-voting)

One of the quality assurance tools is the assessment by students of the programmes and lecturers. An assessment survey is conducted by the Academic Quality Committee of the School two times a year. The questionnaire includes questions on the structure and content of the courses, quality and volume of education, workload, communication and skills of a lecturer, etc. The results are processed, analysed, summarised in a single report by the Academic Quality Committee. The results are taken into account while developing the programme.

An assessment survey by faculty staff is conducted annually. The questionnaire includes questions on the sufficiency of facilities and literature, academic freedom, internal rules, and salary satisfaction. An additional evaluation instrument for the PhD programme is the Annual Progress Review, where the research supervisors have to be present. They provide feedback on the student's progress and reflect on the programme's overall quality, how smooth it goes on, and raise concern when necessary.

Alumni Survey was introduced by the Centre of professional internship, career and employment of KAZGUU Law School. The survey by alumni is conducted on a continuous basis through the university website. The results are collected once a year by the Law School and addressed with the Quality Assurance Committee / Council at their next meeting agenda. The survey aims to reveal the graduates' employment data and their level of competence-industry fit during the first year after graduation. The academic quality issues with regard to the programme content and structure are also revealed through the Alumni Club meetings.

The Alumni Club agenda is aimed to: contribute to the educational programmes' competitiveness; strengthen and further develop Alumni Relations; support the Alumni in their further professional development; contribute to the strategic decision making; support students in Internship and job-hunting process; contribute to the development of the Departments/Schools, Endowment Fund; and contribute to the Law School image on the market.

The programmes' academic quality evaluation by employers is also done through KLS Business Council. The main aim of the Council is to help to bring industry input into the curricula as well as develop career abilities and employment of the Law School students. Beyond this, external evaluation by employers is conducted every time when the students of Law school are placed for internships with the business partners of the KAZGUU Law School.

After passing the internship/research practice by KAZGUU Law School PhD students, the heads of the internship bases (employers) fill out questionnaires, where they answer the questions about what essential skills they consider as important for their future employees, assess the quality of work of school graduates during the internship and what additional disciplines, in their opinion, should be included in the educational programs of the university. They also indicate the weaknesses of university graduates for further work and whether they would like to invite for a job a student who has completed an internship at their base.

Appraisal:

There is a quality assurance procedure in place which is systematically used for continuous monitoring and further development of quality in terms of content, processes and results. The responsibilities are clearly defined. The quality assurance of the doctoral programme is systematically embedded in the quality concept for the research of the faculty and the higher education institution.

There is a planned regular evaluation concerning the implementation of the programme carried out by the doctoral students as well as supervisors according to a predefined procedure; the results are discussed internally and find their way into the process of quality development.

Finally, there is also an involvement of third parties; the results find their way into the process of quality development as well.

Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
5.	QUALITY ASSURANCE					
5.1	Quality Assurance in terms of Contents, Processes and Results			X		
5.2	Inclusion of Quality Assurance in a Superordinate Quality Concept			X		
5.3	Evaluation by Doctoral Students			X		
5.4	Evaluation by Supervisors			X		
5.5	Evaluation by Third Parties (Graduates, external Peers, Stakeholders)			X		

Quality Profile

Institution: M. Narikbayev KAZGUU University, KAZGUU Law School

PhD in Law



Quality Ratings		Excellent	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	not relevant
1.	STRATEGY AND OBJECTIVES					
1.1	Objectives of the Doctoral Programme			X		
1.2	Positioning of the Doctoral Programme in the education market			X		
1.3	Positioning of the Doctoral Programme in the Job Market for Graduates					
1.3.1	In the research fields			X		
1.3.2	Outside the research fields			X		
1.4	The positioning of the Doctoral Programme in the Strategic Concept of the Higher Education Institution			X		
1.5	Gender Equality and Equal Opportunities			X		
2.	ADMISSION					
2.1	Admission conditions and procedures			X		
2.2	Selection procedure			X		
2.3	Transparency of the Decision on Admission			X		
3.	IMPLEMENTATION					
3.1	Structure					
3.1.1	Structural Setup of the Doctoral Programme			X		
3.1.2	Doctoral Degree Regulation			X		
3.1.3	Status of the Doctoral Students			X		
3.1.4	Module Description			X		
3.2	Contents					

3.2.1	Logic and Conceptual Consistency			X		
3.2.2	Science and Research Based Teaching			X		
3.2.3	Focus of the Curriculum on Qualification and Competency Development			X		
3.2.4	Technical Offers			X		
3.2.5	Multidisciplinary Qualifications			X		
3.3	Examination Procedures					
3.3.1	Examination			X		
3.3.2	Organisation of the Examination Procedure			X		
3.4	Didactic Concept					
3.4.1	Logic and Comprehensibility of the Didactic Concept			X		
3.4.2	Diversity of the Teaching Methods			X		
3.4.3	Networking of the Doctoral Students			X		
3.4.4	Scientific Supervision			X		
3.5	Professional Competencies/Employability			X		
4.	SCIENTIFIC ENVIRONMENT AND FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS					
4.1	Teaching Staff					
4.1.1	Structure and Number of Teaching Staff			X		
4.1.2	Scientific Qualification of the Teaching Staff			X		
4.1.3	Pedagogical Qualification of the Teaching Staff			X		
4.1.4	Internationality of the Teaching Staff			X		
4.1.5	Internal Cooperation within the Faculty			X		
4.2	Cooperation and Partnership					
4.2.1	Scientific Integration of the Doctoral Students			X		
4.2.2	Networking the Scientists			X		
4.3	Programme Management					
4.3.1	Structural Organisation			X		

4.3.2	Management Support			X		
4.3.3	Documentation of the Doctoral Programme			X		
4.4	Material Resources					
4.4.1	Quality of the Classrooms and Working Places			X		
4.4.2	Equipment (Literature, Magazines, Databases) for the Library		X			
4.5	Finance Planning and Financing					
4.5.1	Finance Planning and Financing of the Doctoral Programm			X		
4.5.2	Financial Support and Scholarship Programms			X		
5.	QUALITY ASSURANCE					
5.1	Quality Assurance in terms of Contents, Processes and Results			X		
5.2	Inclusion of Quality Assurance in a Superordinate Quality Concept			X		
5.3	Evaluation by Doctoral Students			X		
5.4	Evaluation by Supervisors			X		
5.5	Evaluation by Third Parties (Graduates, external Peers, Stakeholders)			X		

Annex 1

List of partner universities

№	Country	Английское название	Website
1.	Azerbaijan	Baku State University	http://bsu.edu.az/en/welcome_to_baku_state_university
2.		Khazar University	https://www.khazar.org
3.	Armenia	French University of Armenia	https://ufar.am/fr/
4.	Belarus	Belarusian State University	https://bsu.by/en/
5.		National Institute for Higher Education	http://nihe.bsu.by/index.php/en/component/content/featured
6.		Belarus State Economic University	http://bseu.by/english/
7.	Bulgaria	South-West University Neofit Rilski Blagoevgrad	https://www.swu.bg/?lang=en
8.	Belgium	University of Liege	https://www.uliege.be/cms/c_8699436/fr/uliege
9.	Great Britain	Leicester University	https://le.ac.uk
10.		University of Law	https://www.law.ac.uk
11.		Heriot-Watt University	https://www.hw.ac.uk
12.	Hungary	Corvinus University	https://www.uni-corvinus.hu/eng
13.		University of Dunaujvaros	http://uniduna.hu/en/component/content/
14.	Germany	Rhine-Waal University	https://www.hochschule-rhein-waal.de/en
15.		European University Viadrina	https://www.europa-uni.de/en/index.html
16.		SAARLAND University	https://www.uni-saarland.de/en/home.html
17.		Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg	https://www.uni-halle.de/?lang=en
18.		Marburg University	https://www.uni-marburg.de/en
19.		Hof University of Applied Science	https://www.hof-university.com
20.	Greece	West Attica University	https://www.uniwa.gr/en/
21.	Georgia	Ivane Javakishvili Tbilisi State University	https://www.tsu.ge/en/
22.		Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University	https://www.bsu.edu.ge/?lang=en
23.	Indonesia	Udayana University	https://www.unud.ac.id/?lang=en
24.		Universitas Brawijaya	https://ub.ac.id
25.	Spain	Universidad Complutense de Madrid	https://www.ucm.es
26.		University of Cordoba	http://www.uco.es/internacional/extranjeros/es/
27.		University of Jaen	https://www.ujaen.es/en
28.		CEU San Pablo University	https://www.uspceu.com
29.	Italy	University of Bologna	https://www.unibo.it/en
30.		University of Trieste	https://www.units.it/en
31.	China	Anshan Normal University	http://www.asnc.edu.cn
32.		Xianyang Normal University	http://www.xysfxy.cn/index.htm
33.		Gansu Institute of Political Science and Law	http://www.gansu.gov.cn/col/col497/index.html
34.	Kyrgyzstan	«ALA-TOO» International University	http://www.alatoo.edu.kg
35.		Kyrgyz State Law University	https://www.ksla.kg/en/
36.		Osh State University	https://oshmed.edu.kg
37.		M.Ryskulbekov Kyrgyz Economic University	http://www.keu.kg
38.		Eastern University n.a. Mahmud Kashgari-Barskani	http://www.chygvsh.kg
39.		Public foundation «OSCE Academy in Bishkek»	http://www.osce-academy.net
40.	Latvia	Turība University	https://www.turiba.lv/en
41.		University of Latvia	https://www.lu.lv/en/
42.		College of Law	http://www.jk.lv/eng/
43.	Lithuania	Vytautas Magnus University	https://www.vdu.lt/ru/
44.	Macedonia	Fon University	https://fon.edu.mk/upisi/
45.	Malaysia	Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation	http://www.apu.edu.my
46.	Netherlands	Leiden University	https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en
47.	Palestine	Hebron University	https://www.hebron.edu/index.php/en/
48.	Poland	University of Wrocław	https://uni.wroc.pl/en/
49.		University of Opole	https://uni.opole.pl/en
50.		University of Economics in Katowice	https://www.ue.katowice.pl/no_cache/en.html
51.		Cracow University of Economics	https://uek.krakow.pl/en/
52.		Vistula University	https://www.vistula.edu.pl
53.		University of Humanities and Economics	https://www.ahelodz.pl/en
54.	Portugal	Polytechnic of Leiria	https://www.iplleiria.pt/home/
55.		University of Porto	https://sigarra.up.pt/up/pt/web_base_gera_pagina?p_pagina=home
56.	Russian Federation	Russian foreign trade academy	http://www.vavt.ru
57.		Higher School of Economics National Research University	https://www.hse.ru/en/
58.		Lomonosov Moscow State University Law Faculty	https://www.msu.ru/en/info/struct/depts/law.html
59.		MGIMO University	https://mgimo.ru
60.		Astrakhan State University	http://asu.edu.ru/en
61.		Saint Petersburg University	https://spbu.ru
62.		Moscow State Law University	https://msal.ru/en/content/
63.		Moscow Academy of Economics and Law	http://mael.ru
64.		Kazan Federal University	https://kpfu.ru
65.		Voronezh State University of Engineering Technologies	https://www.vsuet.ru
66.		Dostoevsky Omsk State University	https://omsu.ru
67.		Buryat State University	http://www.bsu.ru/uarcitic/bsu/
68.	Romania	Transilvania University of Brasov	http://old.unitbv.ro/en/Home.aspx

69.	Saudi Arabia	Islamic Research and Training Institute	https://irti.org
70.	Singapore	Management Development Institute of Singapore	https://www.mdis.edu.sg
71.	The USA	Fordham University	https://www.fordham.edu
72.		University at Albany (State University of New York)	https://www.albany.edu
73.		North Arizona University	https://nau.edu
74.	Tajikistan	Tajik State University of Finance and Economics	http://tefeu.tj/en/
75.		Tajik State University of Commerce	http://tguk.tj/index.php/tj/
76.	Turkey	Istanbul University	https://iukuk.istanbul.edu.tr/en/
77.		Akdeniz University	http://eng.akdeniz.edu.tr
78.	Uzbekistan	Tashkent State University of Law	https://tsul.uz/en
79.		Branch of Plekhanov Russian University of Economics in Tashkent	https://www.rea.ru/en/org/branches/Pages/tashkent.aspx
80.	Ukraine	Kyiv National University of Trade and Economics	https://knute.edu.ua/?en
81.		Sumy National Agrarian University	https://sna.u.edu.ua/en/
82.	Finland	HAME University of Applied Sciences	https://www.hamk.fi/hamk-university-of-applied-sciences/?lang=en
83.	France	University of Lorraine	https://welcome.univ-lorraine.fr
84.		Universite Paris Ouest Nanterre La Defense	https://www.parisnanterre.fr/portail-institutionnel-693762.kjsp
85.		Science Po Toulouse	http://www.sciencespo-toulouse.fr
86.		Excelia Group (La Rochelle International School of Business)	https://www.excelia-group.com/about-excelia/our-schools/la-rochelle-business-school
87.		INSEEC Business School	https://www.inseec.com
88.	Croatia	University of Dubrovnik	http://web.unidu.hr/index_eng.php
89.	Czech Republic	University of Ostrava	https://www.osu.eu
90.		Charles University	https://cuni.cz/uken-1.html
91.		Mendel University in Brno	http://mendelu.cz/en/
92.	Switzerland	Geneva Business school	https://gbsge.com
93.		UBIS University	https://ubis-geneva.ch
94.	South Korea	DONG-A University	http://english.donga.ac.kr/sites/english/index.do
95.		SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY Law College	http://law.snu.ac.kr/index_en.php
96.		SolBridge International School of Business	https://www.solbridge.ac.kr/story/main/index.jsp
97.		Sangmyung university	https://www.smu.ac.kr/eng1/index.do
98.		Korea Social Policy Institute	https://kpolicy.org/about/
99.		Tongmyong University	http://english.tu.ac.kr/default/new/main.jsp
100.	Japan	Nagoya University	http://en.nagoya-u.ac.jp