

Decision regarding Tajik National University Institutional Accreditation

31.03.2022

The Quality Assessment Council of Higher Education of the Estonian Quality Agency for Higher and Vocational Education (EKKA) decided to repeal the decision adopted on 27.01.2021 to accredit Tajik National University for three years with secondary condition

On the basis of clause 38 (3) of the Higher Education Act, § 24 point 5 of the Statutes of the Estonian Education and Youth Board and the points 43.5, and 43¹.5 of the document 'Guide to Institutional Accreditation' the EKKA Quality Assessment Council for Higher Education (hereinafter referred to as 'the Council') affirms the following:

1. The Council decided on its session on 27.01.2021 to accredit Tajik National University (TNU) for three years with the following secondary conditions:
 - 1) TNU should develop its strategy so that it is clearly based on an in-depth and evidence-based analysis; it should include specific targets to ensure that priorities are clearly identified and that goals are measurable so that their achievement can be clearly demonstrated. TNU should develop strategic plans for key areas of activity such as teaching and learning, research, internationalization, and service to society.
 - 2) TNU should design assessment methods and criteria that address and support the intended learning outcomes. Assessment outcomes should focus only on the level of academic achievement and should not reflect non-academic matters. TNU should cease the practice of awarding grade points for non-academic matters of student conduct. If it is not within TNU's responsibility to change the student assessment system, proposals should be made to the Tajik Ministry of Education and Research to change it.
2. The Council decided that TNU should submit a report in English by 27.01.2022 at the latest about eliminating the shortcomings described in point 14 of the accreditation decision.
3. TNU did not submit a report about eliminating the shortcomings by the set deadline. The university did not submit the report even after the EKKA office recalled the deadline and emphasized that otherwise the accreditation decision of the EKKA Evaluation Council could be repealed.



4. According to the point 43¹.5 of the document 'Guide to Institutional Accreditation' if the secondary condition has not been met, the Assessment Council can, based on §53 (3) of the Administrative Procedure Act, repeal the primary assessment decision; or impose a new secondary condition. According to §66 (2) and (3) of the Administrative Procedure Act, an administrative act which was lawful at the moment of issue may be retroactively repealed if an additional duty was related to the administrative act and the person has failed to perform it.
5. The Council with 9 members present discussed the circumstances related to the accreditation decision adopted on 27.01.2021 and,

DECIDED

To consider that the secondary condition set for the institutional accreditation decision of the Tajik National University has not been met and to repeal the decision for the institutional accreditation of the Tajik National University adopted on 27.01.2021.

The decision was adopted by 9 votes in favour and 0 against.

6. A person who finds that his or her rights have been violated or his or her freedoms restricted by this decision may file a challenge with the EKKA Quality Assessment Council within 30 days after the person filing the challenge became or should have become aware of the contested finding. A judicial challenge to this decision is possible within 30 days after its delivery, by filing an action with the Tallinn courthouse of the Tallinn Administrative Court pursuant to the procedure provided for in the Code of Administrative Court Procedure.

**Hillar Bauman
Secretary of the Council**