

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF A DECISION OF THE ACCREDITATION COUNCIL
on the results of an evaluation conducted under a *programme accreditation* procedure for
professional field *1.1. Theory and Management of Education*, area of higher education 1.
Educational Sciences, at South-West University “Neofit Rilski”

The procedure was opened at a session of the Accreditation Council on 25 January 2024 at the request of the higher education institution. The Expert Group, endorsed by the Accreditation Council on 25 April 2024, visited the evaluated institution in the period 12–14 June 2024 and inspected the submitted procedure documentation.

At a meeting held on 29 July 2024, the Standing Committee on Educational Sciences and Social Activities adopted the report of the Expert Group and, based on it, prepared a report on the results of the completed programme accreditation. The report of the Standing Committee contains **findings and assessments on the compliance of the presented evidence with the criteria system for the implemented procedure, in accordance with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG) – part 1 (1-10), and within the meaning of Art. 78, para. 3 of the HEA.**

On **13 February 2025** the Accreditation Council endorsed the report of the Standing Committee pursuant to Art. 81, para. 3 of the HEA, and took a vote using the ten-point grading system provided for in Art. 78, para. 6 of the HEA, and based on the Rules for assessment and voting in procedures for evaluation, accreditation and post-accreditation control, adopted by NEAA.

After summarizing the results of the vote, the Accreditation Council took the following **DECISION:**

1. Awards programme accreditation to professional field *1.1. Theory and Management of Education*, area of higher education 1. Educational Sciences, at South-West University “Neofit Rilski”, based on an overall grade of 8.93 (eight point ninety-three), for educational and qualification degree “Master” in:

- “Educational Management” – full-time, part-time, and distance learning forms of study;
- “Educational Management” – full-time form of study, in English.

2. The term of validity of the accreditation is until the next programme accreditation according to Art. 81, para. 2 of the HEA, and the Schedule for Accreditation of Professional Fields.

3. Determines the total capacity of the professional field at 100 students and doctoral students.

The Accreditation Council made the following **recommendations:**

1. Update the names and terminology used to characterize the different types of classes in disciplines in the curricula of the Master’s programme in Educational Management.

Deadline: June 2025

2. Align the qualification description with the disciplines included in the syllabus, across all forms of study.

Deadline: October 2025

3. Implement international mobility of students in the Master’s programme.

Deadline: permanent

4. Enhance the relevant qualifications of faculty members teaching the Master’s programme.

Deadline: permanent

5. Ensure student participation in projects, scientific conferences and other forums.

Deadline: permanent

**The overall verbal assessment corresponding to the assigned numerical one is:
substantial compliance.**

**PROF. ELIZA STEFANOVA, PhD
PRESIDENT OF NEAA**