

## External evaluation report in order to establish a new domain of university doctoral studies

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### I. Introduction

The present report was drafted during the evaluation visit for the doctoral studies field of **ECONOMICS** at the “**Constantin Brâncuși**” University of **Târgu Jiu**. The visit took place between January 27–29, 2024, and the evaluation committee consisted of:

- **PhD Prof. Adrian MICU**
- **PhD Prof. Carmen Valentina RĂDULESCU**
- **As. Prof. Dr. Svetlana ALBU**
- **Student Ștefănuț-Iulian BUHUȘ**

The Economics doctoral program to be authorized is part of the Doctoral School of Economics of the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu, established by the Senate Decision no. 15 of 26 April 2024, art. 34 - <https://www.utgjiu.ro/docs/hot-senat/hs15-26.04.2024.pdf>.

“Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu (UCB) was established in 1992 through the Romanian Government Decision No. 288/01.06.1992, published in the Official Gazette No. 135/1992, Part I. It reorganized the sub-engineering departments of the University of Craiova, including the specializations “Thermoelectric Power Plants” and “Equipment for the Construction Materials Industry,” which had been operational in Târgu Jiu since the 1972–1973 academic year. Additionally, two engineering departments, “Thermoelectric Power Plants” and “Machine Construction Technology,” operated in Târgu Jiu starting in the 1991–1992 academic year under the University of Craiova.

At its inception, UCB comprised two faculties: the Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Sciences. By the Government Decision No. 741/1997, published in the Official Gazette No. 318/1997, the Faculty of Sciences was dissolved, and two new faculties were established: the Faculty of Economic Sciences and the Faculty of Legal and Administrative Sciences.

In 2000, through Government Decision No. 696/2000, published in the Official Gazette No. 397/2000, the Faculty of Legal and Administrative Sciences was accredited for the specialization in Law, while the Faculty of Economic Sciences received accreditation for



the specializations Finance and Insurance, Tourism, and Services. Consequently, UCB achieved institutional accreditation with five accredited specializations.

In 2007, UCB, along with other universities in Romania, was evaluated by ARACIS (Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education) and received the qualification of "High Trust", with a follow-up visit scheduled after one year. In 2009, during another ARACIS evaluation visit, the qualification was revised to "Trust," a rating maintained during subsequent external institutional evaluations in 2014 and 2019.

Based on the Methodology for the Evaluation and Classification of Romanian Universities, approved by Government Decision No. 789/03.08.2011, "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu was classified as a teaching-focused university. UCB operates on the principles of autonomy and public accountability, enjoying academic freedom in accordance with the Romanian Constitution, higher education legislation, and other legal regulations in Romania.

Currently, UCB has four faculties. Additionally, it includes the Department for Teacher Training (Pedagogical Module, Definitive Degree, Grade II, Grade I), established by the Senate Decision No. 16/27.09.2000 and approved by the Ministry of Education (Order No. 33309/26.05.2000). This department has maintained its accreditation following the ARACIS evaluations in 2008, 2014, and 2020.

"Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu adheres to the ideals and principles outlined in the Magna Charta Universitatum, adopted in Bologna in 1998, and has implemented the Bologna Process. This includes structuring university studies into three cycles: Bachelor Degree (3–4 years), Master Degree (2 years) and PhD Degree. Since the 2005–2006 academic year, UCB's educational activities have been aligned with the requirements of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).

"Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu (UCB) is a public higher education institution with legal personality, part of Romania's state education system, operating autonomously and openly since its establishment in 1992.

**The Doctoral School** of Economic Sciences at UCB will oversee the doctoral field of Economics. <https://ec.utgjiu.ro/scoala-doctorala-de-stiinte-economice/> The Doctoral School is established by Senate Decision no.15 of 26.04.2024 art.34, the activity being regulated by the Regulation of organization and functioning of the Doctoral School of Economics, approved by the Senate Decision no.15 of 26.04.2024 art.35. [https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Regulament\\_de\\_organizare\\_si\\_functionare\\_a\\_Scolii\\_Doctorale\\_d\\_e\\_Stiinte\\_Economice.pdf](https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Regulament_de_organizare_si_functionare_a_Scolii_Doctorale_d_e_Stiinte_Economice.pdf)

Within this doctoral school will be active a number of 3 scientific supervisors in the doctoral field of Economics, 2 of them being tenured within the institution, "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Targu-Jiu: prof. univ. dr. habil. Aniela Bălăcescu, habilitated from the year 2023, according to the Order on the granting of the habilitation certificate no. 5204 of 31.07.2023; prof. univ. dr. habil. Daniela-Emanuela Dănăcică, habilitated from 2023, according to the Order on the granting of the habilitation certificate no. 6851 of 21.12.2023 and prof. univ. dr. habil. Aurelian-Petruș Plopeanu, habilitated from 2021, according to the Order on the granting of the habilitation certificate no. 4156 of 05.07.2021, titular within the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași.

The doctoral school has development potential. During the visit, it was established that three other members of UCB meet the mandatory standards for the award of the





habilitation certificate: associate prof. dr. Nicolae Ecobici, Dr. Gabriela Buşan and Dr. Irina-Elena Chirtoc.

The mission of the doctoral program in Economics aligns with the profile of the Faculty of Economic Sciences at UCB. Its purpose is to train highly qualified specialists in Economics who can optimize company resources, develop business plans and strategies, and harmonize activities across organizational components. The program also aims to provide practical relevance to theoretical concepts taught and researched, contributing to regional socio-economic development through academic excellence and partnerships with experienced practitioners and organizations in the economic field.

By fostering critical and creative thinking about economics, this program seeks to provide doctoral graduates with in-depth knowledge of the field and the necessary skills to develop organizational strategies for achieving competitive advantages. To this end, the doctoral program offers a comprehensive training program and an advanced research infrastructure.

The doctoral training program enables doctoral students to acquire knowledge and competencies that support interdisciplinary approaches, allowing them to publish research results in conference proceedings and specialized journals. <https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Plan-invatamant-scoala-doctorala.pdf>

The values shared by the academic community involved in the teaching and research activities of the doctoral program in the field of Economics are:

- Creating an academic environment based on collaboration between academic staff, doctoral students, and representatives of the community and the business environment to support teaching, learning, and research processes that meet the interests and expectations of all stakeholders and society as a whole;
- Focus on the labor market – The educational and research processes are centered on the faculty's goal of providing doctoral students with the necessary academic training for conducting research and integrating into the labor market;
- Uniqueness in university–labor market collaboration – The faculty prioritizes intensifying and diversifying forms of collaboration with labor market representatives;
- Attention to the needs of doctoral students – The doctoral school in Economics, responding to the needs and expectations of its doctoral students, will contribute through its actions to integrating doctoral research results into various management structures;
- Integration of information and communication technologies into the educational process – Representatives of the doctoral school recognize that a modern, high-quality educational process must benefit from the contribution of modern communication and learning-research technologies;
- Collaboration with community representatives throughout the entire training process carried out within the doctoral study program, through partnerships with representatives of various institutions, involving a wide range of activities such as conferences, workshops, published research papers etc;
- Promotion of equal opportunities and treatment in education – Freedom of thought and expression is encouraged by ensuring an inclusive learning environment that respects diversity.



In line with its mission, the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences at "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu defines the following general objectives for the doctoral study program in Economics:

- ❖ Promoting quality and efficiency in the education and research process;
- ❖ Supporting doctoral students' access to various opportunities related to research and dissemination of the research results;
- ❖ Adapting research topics and program content to current requirements;
- ❖ Continuously improving academic quality, demonstrated through learning and research outcomes;
- ❖ Developing management and a culture of quality to ensure and enhance the quality of teaching;
- ❖ Cooperating with other higher education institutions (domestic and international) in achieving, monitoring, and comparing academic quality.

The strategic objectives of the doctoral program in Economics are:

- ❖ Aligning the curriculum with the educational systems of European universities;
- ❖ Ensuring a real and efficient partnership in the doctoral student-supervisor relationship;
- ❖ Strengthening international cooperation;
- ❖ Reducing the dropout rate among doctoral candidates and increasing the number of doctoral students who apply for postdoctoral programs/projects;
- ❖ Strengthening relationships with the economic environment to ensure the relevance of research to real-world needs.

The specific objectives of the doctoral program in Economics are:

- ❖ Developing doctoral students' transversal competencies by participating in projects, research grants, and institutional development within "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu, particularly in the Faculty of Economic Sciences. Adaptarea cunoștințelor și abilităților doctoranzilor la cerințele programului de pregătire doctorală și de finalizare a unei teze de doctorat prin participări la conferințe, publicații în jurnale de specialitate etc.;
- ❖ Adapting doctoral students' knowledge and skills to the requirements of the doctoral training program and completing a doctoral thesis through participation in conferences, publications in specialized journals etc.;
- ❖ Attracting master's students with evident potential (preparation, knowledge, intelligence, interest, talent, vocation, etc.) for high-level doctoral research;
- ❖ Using advanced forms of knowledge transmission based on modern technologies, alongside the adoption of effective teaching methods (debate-based courses, case studies, and inviting experienced specialists in Economics);
- ❖ Providing opportunities for doctoral students to improve their preparation in the field of Economics through postdoctoral programs after defending their theses.

In promoting the quality of teaching and doctoral research processes, the doctoral supervisors at the Faculty of Economic Sciences aim to:

- ❖ Promote the principles of university ethics and professional deontology;
- ❖ Increase the proportion of tenured doctoral supervisors within the doctoral school;
- ❖ Apply a policy of encouraging performance at both the level of doctoral supervisors and doctoral students;
- ❖ Deepen multidisciplinary academic scientific research.





The mission of the research program in the doctoral field of Economics is to provide candidates with a solid foundation for critical thinking by fostering relevant debates to strengthen the role of economic expertise, both in academic excellence and by providing cutting-edge solutions to societal challenges.

## II. Methods used

In the external evaluation process, before and during the evaluation visit, the following methods and tools were used:

- ✧ Analysis of the internal evaluation report for the doctoral field of study in Economics to be established;
- ✧ Analysis of documents made available in physical format during the evaluation visit;
- ✧ Analysis of documents, data, and information available on the Faculty of Economic Sciences website, under the Doctorate menu;
- ✧ Visit to the institution's facilities, including: Lecture halls; Laboratories; The institution's library; Reading rooms designated for students; Research centers; Endowments that will support the establishment of the Doctoral School of Economics at the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Targu Jiu.
- ✧ Meeting/discussions with the coordinator of the evaluated doctoral field of study and the team that prepared the internal evaluation report;
- ✧ Meeting/discussions with doctoral supervisors in the field of doctoral studies in Economics;
- ✧ Meeting/discussions with the teaching staff associated with the evaluated field;
- ✧ Meeting/discussions with representatives of the evaluated institution and various structures of UCB where the doctoral field of study in Economics will operate:
  - The Rector of the university;
  - The President of the University Senate;
  - The Dean of the Faculty of Economic Sciences;
  - The Quality Management Department;
  - The Evaluation and Quality Assurance Commission – FSE UCB representative;
  - The Ethics Commission;
  - The Director of the Research, Development, and Innovation Institute;
  - The person in charge of the evaluated doctoral program and the team that produced the internal evaluation report
  - The student representatives
  - The teaching staff related to the evaluated field
  - The members of the Council of the doctoral school where the evaluated field will operate
  - The directors/heads of the research centers/laboratories related to the evaluated field of doctoral studies
  - Visiting the teaching and research material base
  - the potential employers.



### III. ARACIS performance indicator analysis

#### Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

The Doctoral School of Economic Sciences demonstrates a strong institutional capacity, enabling the doctoral studies to be conducted under appropriate quality conditions.

*Criterion A.1. Administrative institutional structures, management and financial resources*

*Standard A.1.1. The institution organizing doctoral studies (IOSUD) has implemented the mechanisms of efficient operation provided in the specific legislation on the organization of doctoral studies.*

The "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu has approved and implemented the regulations stipulated in the specific legislation regarding the organization of doctoral studies:

- Regulations on the organisation and functioning of the Doctoral School of Economics [https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Regulament de organizare si functionare a Scolii Doctorale de Stiinte Economice.pdf](https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Regulament_de_organizare_si_functionare_a_Scolii_Doctorale_de_Stiinte_Economice.pdf) ;
- Institutional Regulations on the organisation and conduct of doctoral studies <https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Regulament-institutional-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-studiilor-universitare-de-doctorat.pdf> ;
- Regulations concerning the election of student representatives in the Doctoral School Councils of the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Targu Jiu <https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Regulament-privind-alegerile-representantilor-studentilor-in-Consiliile-Scolilor-Doctorale-din-cadrul-Universitatii-%E2%80%9EConstantin-Brancusi-din-Targu-Jiu.pdf> ;
- Methodology for the organisation of the elections and appointment of the members of the councils and the directors of the doctoral schools of the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu <https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Metodologia-de-desfasurare-a-alegerilor-si-desemnare-a-membrilor-consiliilor-si-a-directorilor-scolilor-doctorale-din-Universitatea-%E2%80%9EConstantin-Brancusi-din-Targu-Jiu.pdf> ;
- Methodology on the organisation and conduct of the admission contest for doctoral studies within the Doctoral School of Economics, in the academic year 2024-2025 [https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Metodologia-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-concursului-de-admitere-la-studii-universitare-de-doctorat-in-cadrul-Scolii-Doctorale-de-Stiinte-Economice-in-anul-universitar-2024-2025\\_modificata-2.pdf](https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Metodologia-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-concursului-de-admitere-la-studii-universitare-de-doctorat-in-cadrul-Scolii-Doctorale-de-Stiinte-Economice-in-anul-universitar-2024-2025_modificata-2.pdf) ;
- Methodology on the organisation and conduct of the PhD thesis defence process within the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu <https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Metodologia-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-sustinere-a-tezelor-de-doctorat-in-cadrul-Universitatii-%E2%80%9EConstantin-Brancusi-din-Targu-Jiu.pdf> ;





[Brincusi-din-Targu-Jiu.pdf](#) ;

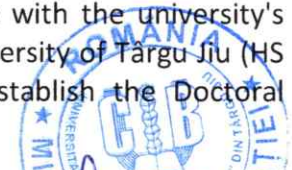
- Methodology for the recognition in UCB of the doctoral degree and doctoral degree in science or in a professional field obtained abroad; *Annex A.1.1.d1. Procedură privind recunoaşterea de către Universitatea "Constantin Brâncuşi" din Târgu-Jiu a calităţii de conducător de doctorat obţinută în instituţii de învăţământ univer.pdf*
- The procedure for the internal evaluation and monitoring of the Doctoral School [https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Procedura de evaluare si monitorizare interna a evolutiei Scolii Doctorale.pdf](https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Procedura_de_evaluare_si_monitorizare_interna_a_evolutiei_Scolii_Doctorale.pdf) ;
- Internal procedure for the analysis and approval of the proposals for the themes of the training programme based on advanced university studies and the themes put out to competition by each doctoral supervisor [https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Procedura interna de analiza si aprobare a propunerilor privind tematica programului de pregatire bazat pe studii universitare avansate si a temelor scoase la concurs de fiecare conducator de docto.pdf](https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Procedura_interna_de_analiza_si_aprobare_a_propunerilor_privind_tematica_programului_de_pregatire_bazat_pe_studii_universitare_avansate_si_a_temelor_scoase_la_concurs_de_fiecare_conducator_de_docto.pdf) ;
- Procedure for the identification of the needs and general level of satisfaction of doctoral students with the doctoral programme [https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Procedura privind identificarea nevoilor precum si nivelul general de satisfactie fata de programul de studii universitare de doctorat ale studentilor doctoranzi.pdf](https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Procedura_privind_identificarea_nevoilor_precum_si_nivelul_general_de_satisfactie_fata_de_programul_de_studii_universitare_de_doctorat_ale_studentilor_doctoranzi.pdf) .

#### *Performance indicator A.1.1.1.*

*Existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the doctoral school of which the domain of doctoral studies will be part:*

- a) Doctoral school regulations.*
- b) The methodology for conducting the elections for the position of director of the Doctoral School Council (CSD), as well as the election by the students of the representative in the CSD, and evidence of their conduct.*
- c) Methodologies for organizing and conducting doctoral studies (admission of doctoral students, completion of doctoral studies).*
- d) Existence of mechanisms for the recognition of the quality of doctoral supervisor and for the equivalence of doctorates obtained in other states.*
- e) Functional management structures (Doctoral School Council), including proving the regularity of convening meetings.*
- f) Doctoral university contract.*
- g) Internal procedures for analysis and approval of proposals on the subject of the training program based on advanced university studies.*

At "Constantin Brâncuşi" University of Târgu Jiu, including within the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, doctoral studies are conducted in accordance with the university's own regulations, adopted by the Senate of "Constantin Brâncuşi" University of Târgu Jiu (HS 15/26.04.2024), in compliance with current legal provisions. To establish the Doctoral School, the following regulations have been implemented:





- ❖ Regulations for the organization and functioning of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences;
- ❖ Methodology for conducting elections and appointing members of the Councils and Directors of Doctoral Schools at the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu.

The organization and conduct of elections within the leadership structures and positions of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences (SDSE) at UCB adhere to principles of legality, university autonomy, transparency, public accountability, responsibility, managerial and financial efficiency, and respect for the rights and freedoms of doctoral students and academic staff, as well as ethical and deontological standards.

Leadership structures in SDSE are elected through universal, direct, and secret voting by doctoral supervisors and doctoral students within the school.

Based on university autonomy and public accountability, the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu (UCB) organizes doctoral admission competitions in specific fields to test candidates' knowledge and cognitive abilities. Doctoral admission exams are conducted according to the Methodology for organizing and conducting the admission competition for doctoral studies within the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, which came into effect through HS 15/26.04.2024.

Regarding the completion of doctoral studies, specific provisions are outlined in the Methodology for organizing and conducting the process of defending doctoral theses at the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu, also implemented through HS 15/26.04.2024. The university has adopted and implemented specific mechanisms for recognizing the status of doctoral supervisors and for the equivalence of doctoral degrees obtained abroad, as follows:

- Procedure for the automatic recognition by the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu of the status of doctoral supervisor obtained in accredited foreign higher education institutions, according to HS 15/26.04.2024.
- Methodology for recognizing doctoral diplomas and the title of Doctor of Science or a professional field obtained abroad, approved through HS 15/26.04.2024.

The Council for Doctoral Studies (CSUD) ensures the operational management of the Doctoral School within the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu (UCB).

The Doctoral School of UCB has 3 members and is composed of 2 PhD supervisors from the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Tg-Jiu: prof. univ. dr. habil. Aniela Bălăcescu and prof. univ. dr. habil. Daniela-Emanuela Dănăcică and 1 PhD supervisor from the "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași: prof. univ. dr. habil. Aurelian-Petruș Plopeanu.

The Doctoral School ensures operational management through the following decision-making competencies:

- Developing the strategy of the Doctoral School;
- Drafting the Regulation for Doctoral Studies;
- Proposing the allocation of budgetary funds and own income from tuition fees for financing doctoral programs;
- Proposing expenses related to doctoral activities;
- Coordinating partnerships with other doctoral schools and international institutions;
- Performing other duties established in the school's regulations.

In accordance with legal provisions, a doctoral studies contract is signed between the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences at "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu





and each enrolled doctoral student. The contract governs the conduct of specific doctoral study activities under the authority of the Doctoral School and regulates the relationships between the school, the doctoral supervisor, and the doctoral student throughout the program, specifying the rights and obligations of the signatory parties in compliance with current legislation, Ministerial Orders, and the University Charter.

The contract also includes details regarding the contract's duration, the language in which the doctoral thesis is written and defended, the chosen research topic, the rights and obligations of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences within the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu, the doctoral student, and the doctoral supervisor. It also specifies the conditions under which the study contract may be extended or terminated, how conflicts between the doctoral student and the doctoral school are mediated or resolved, and a special clause regarding intellectual property rights over the results obtained during the doctoral studies. This study contract is accompanied by additional documents regulating certain contractual clauses if required.

Doctoral studies for the doctoral student are planned for each academic year and consist of two components:

- a) The advanced university studies training program, conducted within the doctoral school, consists of academic and scientific activities (courses, seminars, laboratories, etc.) designed to provide training for the doctoral student over 12 weeks. This program is undertaken in the first year of doctoral studies and cannot be extended or interrupted.
- b) The individual scientific research program is organized in the research field and involves the doctoral student preparing three research reports and the doctoral thesis. <https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Plan-invatamant-scoala-doctorala.pdf>

Both components, the Advanced University Studies Program and the Individual Scientific Research Program, are mandatory for the doctoral student to complete their doctoral studies.

Completion of the training program based on advanced university studies may result in the awarding of a number of ECTS credits, determined by the doctoral school's own regulations.

**Recommendations:**

*It is recommended that all decisions of the Doctoral School Council be posted on the doctoral school's webpage and that the webpage be regularly updated so that doctoral supervisors, doctoral students, and prospective candidates have access to all necessary information. The Doctoral School should base its activities on a system of regulations, procedures, and tools that cover the entire doctoral studies process.*

*At the time of the visit there is no information available on the academic and scientific profile of the potential candidates and no research topics proposed by the existing PhD supervisors to the potential candidates.*

***The indicator is partially fulfilled.***



#### *Performance indicator A.1.1.2.*

*The doctoral school regulations include criteria, procedures and mandatory standards for the aspects specified in art. 17 para. (5) of the Code of Doctoral Studies, approved by Government Decision no. 681/2011, with subsequent amendments and completions.*

The Regulations of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences include all aspects specified in the Code of Doctoral Studies [https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Regulament de organizare si functionare a Scolii Doctorale d e Stiinte Economice.pdf](https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Regulament_de_organizare_si_functionare_a_Scolii_Doctorale_d_e_Stiinte_Economice.pdf), namely:

- a) The admission of new doctoral supervisors as members and regulations regarding the procedures for withdrawing a supervisor's membership in the doctoral school.
- b) The mechanisms for decision-making regarding the relevance, structure, and content of the advanced university studies training program.
- c) Procedures for changing the doctoral supervisor of a specific doctoral student and conflict mediation procedures.
- d) Conditions under which the doctoral program may be interrupted.
- e) Methods for preventing scientific research fraud, including plagiarism.
- f) Ensuring access to research resources.
- g) Attendance obligations for doctoral students, as specified in a methodology developed by the Ministry of Education.

#### **Recommendations:**

*Continuously updating the doctoral school regulations to align with existing legislation.*

*Periodically discussing quality-related aspects with the Doctoral School Council and members of the Doctoral School in the field of Economics to update the operational regulations with specific aspects.*

*Consistently including mandatory criteria, procedures, and specific standards in the Doctoral School's regulations and ensuring their transparency by publishing them.*

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

*Standard A.1.2. IOSUD has the necessary logistical resources to fulfill the mission of doctoral studies.*

The Doctoral School at the “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu has the necessary software resources to effectively fulfill the mission of doctoral studies. - Annex A.1.2.2. Computer program to check the percentage of similarity; Annex A. 2.1.1.1. Teaching and research facilities.

*Performance indicator A.1.2.1. Existence and effectiveness of an adequate computer system for the record of doctoral students and their academic career.*

The “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu has an IT system for managing admissions and another for tracking doctoral students and their academic progress (UMS). *Annex A.1.2.1. Adequate information system for the record of doctoral students and their academic progress.*





**Recommendation:**

Generate reports containing relevant performance and quality information related to the doctoral field's activities and publish them on the doctoral school's website.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

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

At “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu, a specialized software program is available to verify the similarity percentage in all doctoral theses. All requirements of the Antiplagiarism Procedure for the use of the service provided by Sistemantiplagiat.ro are respected

([https://www.utgjiu.ro/docs/regulamente/2024/Procedura\\_antiplagiat\\_privind\\_utilizarea\\_serviciului\\_Sistemantiplagiat.ro.pdf](https://www.utgjiu.ro/docs/regulamente/2024/Procedura_antiplagiat_privind_utilizarea_serviciului_Sistemantiplagiat.ro.pdf)).

All doctoral theses defended at the “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu will be checked for plagiarism using specialized software included in the list of programs recognized by the National Council for the Certification of Titles, Diplomas, and University Certificates (CNATDCU), as specified in Order No. 3485/2016. Doctoral supervisors analyze the similarity sequences identified by the software and determine whether unauthorized borrowings exist.

Access to the system is provided through [www.sistemantiplagiat.ro](http://www.sistemantiplagiat.ro), and data processing occurs on the service provider's server. System users upload texts, which are compared against databases available to the system, including:

- Internet Resources – All free texts and files available on the internet;
- Internal Database – Documents uploaded to the system by the user;
- External Databases – Other institutions' databases using the system;
- RefBooks – Contains over 24 million publications and texts from all scientific and cultural fields;
- Legislative Database – Contains all Romanian and European legislation.

**Recommendations:**

Maintain strict records of the use of this software platform to ensure that results are easily accessible to applicants.

Continue the use of antiplagiarism software and update it to expand the database of verifiable sources, improving the originality of doctoral theses and research works.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

*Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure*

*Standard A.2.1. IOSUD has a modern research infrastructure, which supports the development of activities specific to doctoral studies.*

The Doctoral School of Economic Sciences at the “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu benefits from high-quality research infrastructure that adequately supports the activities specific to doctoral studies. *Anexa A.2.1.1. Spatii de invatamant si cercetare.*





*Performance indicator A.2.1.1. The physical facilities and the material endowment of the doctoral school allow the realization of the research activities, in the evaluated domain, in accordance with the assumed mission and objectives (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, library, access to international databases, etc.). The research infrastructure and the offer of research services are presented publicly through a dedicated profile platform. The research infrastructure described above, acquired and developed in the last 5 years, will be highlighted separately.*

The Doctoral School of Economic Sciences is well-equipped for the evaluated field and aligned with its mission and objectives. Doctoral students in Economics benefit from the logistical support and equipment provided by the laboratories within the Faculty of Economic Sciences, which include:

- Economic Informatics Laboratory, CDL 23-20 PCs, 1 projector, 3 multifunctional devices, 4 laptops.
- Economic Analysis, Statistics, and Econometrics Laboratory, CDL 13:20 PCs, 1 projector, 2 multifunctional devices, 2 laptops, 1 A4 color laser printer

Through the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), the faculty has acquired two new laboratories and a subscription to international libraries:

- A laboratory for practical applications in business management.
- A laboratory for practical applications in accounting and finance.
- Access to Springer Journals (2,000+ titles).
- Access to ScienceDirect Journals - Physical Sciences College Edition.

The laboratories are equipped with the following software licenses: CRM software license, BPM software license, business simulation platform software, specialized software for econometric analysis of economic phenomena in enterprises

Additionally, the Research, Development, and Project Management Department and the Research, Development, and Innovation Institute within UCB focus on fundamental and applied economic research. They aim to foster thought and action compatible with functional market economies and promote the application of research results in the business environment. The Center for Fundamental and Applied Economic Studies (CSEFA) within the Faculty of Economic Sciences supports thematic research in areas such as economics, management, marketing, finance, accounting, and tourism. It examines transformations in the transition to a knowledge-based society, aiming to increase economic competitiveness.

Research results are utilized through:

- ❖ Developing studies in fields like economics, management, marketing, finance, accounting, and tourism.
- ❖ Publishing articles in prestigious journals (including Web of Science - Clarivate indexed).
- ❖ Participating in national and international conferences and symposiums.
- ❖ Organizing conferences and workshops to facilitate interactions between faculty, students, and business representatives.
- ❖ Managing projects funded by national and international agencies.
- ❖ Publishing books (monographs, university manuals), research reports, thematic collections, and original works on national and local levels.





- ✦ Publishing the journal Annals UCB – Economic Series, indexed in multiple international databases, such as ERIH+, RePEc, DOAJ, EBSCO, CABELL, SCIOPIO EconPapers, EconBiz, and Genamics JournalSeek Database (link to journal).
- ✦ Hosting the annual international scientific conferences ECOTREND and ISSD, now at their 21st and 12th editions, respectively.
- ✦ Organizing informational meetings to disseminate advanced research findings.
- ✦ Creating online resources to enhance the international visibility of research activities.

Based on proposals from research teams within the Faculty of Economic Sciences, specific software will be acquired, such as SPSS, to enable advanced statistical analyses applicable in the field of Economics.

The library of the Faculty of Economic Sciences includes a reading room equipped with four computers connected to the internet. Library services are digitized using the LIBERTY3 software application, which facilitates access to bibliographic resources. The integrated Liberty library software is an internet-based system designed for public, university, and specialized libraries operating within a WAN-type network. Softlink Liberty automates library-specific activities and services while allowing users to consult the library's documentary catalog online.

Faculty members and students of the Faculty of Economic Sciences have free online access to the following platforms featuring full-text scientific research journals and bibliographic and bibliometric databases: ScienceDirect – Journals and SpringerLink – Journals.

Additionally, the ANELIS online database is available to students and faculty, accessible via computers in the reading room, laboratories, and offices connected to the internet.

Between 2018 and 2024, the library maintained subscriptions to various specialized journals necessary for the programs conducted within the faculty. *Anexa C.2.2.1\_Platforme cu baze de date academice*

The number of seats available in the library ensures an equitable ratio between available learning resources and the number of students.

The "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu Press – Academica Brâncuși (<https://editura.utgjiu.ro/>) publishes manuals, courses, books, specialized periodicals, albums, treatises, guides, workbooks, and other promotional materials in print or electronic format (online, CD, e-books) in Romanian or international languages. The Academica Brâncuși Press ensures the e-publication of the Annals of the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu across various fields. These scientific journals, published digitally under open access, have national and international visibility, allowing doctoral students to disseminate their scientific research in various domains.

### **Recommendations:**

*Continue investing in material resources, data processing software packages, and databases, particularly focusing on the infrastructure of the Research Center.*

*Develop a mechanism to attract resources and funding from the private sector.*

***The indicator is fulfilled.***





### Criterion A.3. The quality of human resources

*Standard A.3.1. At the level of each domain there is qualified staff, with the necessary experience to carry out the doctoral study program.*

The field of Economics, to be established within the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences at the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu, has qualified and experienced personnel for conducting the doctoral program.

*Performance indicator A.3.1.1. Within the doctoral domain, at least 3 doctoral supervisors work and at least 50% of them (but not less than 3) meet the minimum standards of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) in force at the moment of the evaluation, necessary and obligatory for obtaining the authorization certificate.*

There are three doctoral supervisors in the Economics field. According to the provided documents, all doctoral supervisors meet the current CNATDCU minimal standards. The doctoral supervisors affiliated with the Economics doctoral field have defended habilitation theses in accordance with CNATDCU standards for the Economic Sciences field, as specified in Order No. 6129/2016. The notable research activity of the doctoral supervisors is demonstrated by their outstanding scores on the CNATDCU minimal standards verification sheets, both from the analysis of their entire career and their activities over the last five years. All three doctoral supervisors (100%) meet the minimal CNATDCU standards.

#### *Anexa A.3.1.1. Îndeplinirea standardelor minime ale CNATDCU*

At the Faculty of Economics there are three professors who fulfill the conditions for habilitation in the field of Economics (verified by the Commission for the Verification of the information on the fulfillment of the minimum necessary and mandatory standards for the award of the habilitation certificate of the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Targu Jiu, Annex 1) and who have expressed their wish to become PhD supervisors in the field of Economics at the Doctoral School of Economics of the Faculty of Economics of the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Targu Jiu.

No	Name and surname	Minimum score	Achieved score
1	prof. univ. dr. habil. Aniela Bălăcescu	4	19,034
2	prof. univ. dr. habil. Daniela-Emanuela Dănăcică	4	20,2094
3	prof. univ. dr. habil. Aurelian-Petruș Plopeanu	4	32,588

#### **Recommendations:**

*Continuously identify habilitation capacity among academic community members and encourage them to undertake the steps necessary to obtain the habilitation certificate. Identify potential foreign doctoral supervisors who could affiliate with the Economics field.*

**The indicator is fulfilled.**



*Performance indicator\* A.3.1.2. At least 50% of the doctoral supervisors in the evaluated doctoral domain are holders within IOSUD, employed with the conclusion of an employment contract for an indefinite period.*

In the Economics doctoral field, three doctoral supervisors are active. Two of them are tenured at the “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu, representing 66.66%, which exceeds the required 50%. The doctoral supervisors in Economics hold university professor positions and have been tenured in higher education for 21 and 18 years, respectively.

**Recommendations:**

*Continuously identify habilitation capacity among academic community members and encourage them to undertake the steps necessary to obtain the habilitation certificate. Identify potential doctoral supervisors from the diaspora who could affiliate with the Economics doctoral field.*

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

*Performance indicator A.3.1.3. The disciplines in the training program based on advanced university studies related to the domain are supported by teachers or researchers who have the quality of doctoral / qualified supervisor, professor / CS I or associate professor / CS II with proven expertise in the field of taught subjects or other specialists in domain that meet the standards set by the institution for the teaching and research functions mentioned above, in accordance with the law.*

The advanced university studies training program will be conducted based on a curriculum and an individual plan prepared by the doctoral supervisor together with the advisory committee for each doctoral student. The curriculum includes both foundational and specialized courses, ensuring interdisciplinary training and a balanced approach aligned with the program’s objectives. The curriculum includes a fundamental course: Scientific Research Methodology, Ethics, and Academic Integrity (10 credits), specialized courses: Research Methods in Economic Science (10 credits), Current Issues in Economic Theory and Practice (10 credits), Modeling and Simulation of Economic Processes (10 credits), Intelligent Systems in Economics (10 credits), Modeling and Data Analysis (10 credits). <https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Plan-invatamant-scoala-doctorala.pdf>

The courses will provide broad interdisciplinary training in alignment with the program's goals to develop research competencies. *Ethics and academic integrity* are also part of the mandatory curriculum.

The report confirms that the courses will be taught by academic staff or researchers who hold habilitation, are professors/CS I, or associate professors/CS II with demonstrated expertise in the subjects taught. *Anexa A.3.1.2. Dovadă titulari ucb, Stat de functii și Plata cu ora, cerere afiliere*

**Recommendations:**

*When selecting courses for each doctoral student, consider the specific characteristics of the Economics field, the chosen research topic, and the knowledge required to develop the doctoral thesis.*





*Standard A.3.2. PhD supervisors of the domain carry out a scientific activity, internationally visible.*

The Economics doctoral field, to be established within the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences at the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu, benefits from doctoral supervisors with internationally visible scientific activity.

*Performance indicator A.3.2.1. At least 50% of the PhD supervisors in the subject to evaluation present at least 5 indexed publications Web of Science or ERIH in journals with impact factor or other achievements with relevant relevance for the respective domain, in which there are international contributions that reveal a progress in scientific research-development-innovation for the evaluated domain. The mentioned doctoral supervisors have international visibility in the last 5 years, consisting of: membership in the scientific committees of international publications and conferences; membership in the boards of international professional associations; the quality of guest at conferences or groups of experts held abroad or the quality of a member of commissions for the defense of doctoral theses at foreign universities or in co-supervision with a foreign university. For the arts and sciences of sports and physical education, the PhD supervisors will prove their international visibility in the last 5 years by being a member of the boards of professional associations, by being a member of the organizing committees of artistic events and international competitions, respectively by membership in juries or arbitration teams at artistic events or international competitions.*

The doctoral supervisors in the Economics field have extensive scientific activity, demonstrated through articles published in journals indexed in Web of Science, ERIH+, and Scopus, with impact factors and significant relevance to the Economics field. These publications include internationally recognized contributions that indicate progress in scientific research.

Within the Economics doctoral program, the three doctoral supervisors have demonstrated international visibility over the past five years through:

- Membership in the scientific committees of international publications and conferences.
- Invitations to conferences or expert groups conducted abroad.
- Awards received at the international level.
- A significant number of citations in articles indexed in major reference databases.

The doctoral supervisors in the Economics field have presented a selection of at least five relevant works in the field, including articles published in Web of Science journals within quartiles Q1, Q2, Q3, and Q4. *Anexa A.3.2.1. Liste de lucrari*

No	Name and surname	WOS	Google scholar	Nr of indexed publications WOS și ERIH+	corresponds / does not correspond
1	prof. univ. dr. habil. Aniela Bălăcescu	3	7	11	corresponds
2	prof. univ. dr. habil. Daniela-Emanuela Dănăcică	5	11	12	corresponds
3	prof. univ. dr. habil. Aurelian-Petruș Plopeanu	6	8	31	corresponds

**Recommendations:**

Continuously identify high-performance achievements for both doctoral supervisors and doctoral students with international visibility. Make additional efforts to increase the international visibility of doctoral supervisors and to attract highly visible international supervisors to the Economics field. In the future, it is recommended to maintain this level of publishing activities.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

*Performance indicator\* A.3.2.2. At least 50% of the doctoral supervisors assigned to a domain of doctoral studies continue to be scientifically active, obtaining at least 25% of the score required by the minimum CNATDCU standards in force at the date of evaluation, necessary and mandatory for obtaining the certificate of qualification, on based on scientific results from the last 5 years.*

All doctoral supervisors affiliated with the Economics doctoral study field remain scientifically active, achieving at least 25% of the score required by the minimal CNATDCU standards.

Nr.	Name and surname	Minimum score	Achieved score in the last 5 years	Fulfill the criterion
1.	prof. univ. dr. habil. Aniela Bălăcescu	4	18,314	> 25%
2.	prof. univ. dr. habil. Daniela-Emanuela Dănăciță	4	10,6316	> 25%
3.	prof. univ. dr. habil. Aurelian-Petruș Plopeanu	4	28,018	> 25%

**Recommendations:**

Continuously monitor compliance with the current minimal CNATDCU standards for each doctoral supervisor.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

## Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

The Doctoral School of Economic Sciences at the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu demonstrates strong educational effectiveness, ensuring that doctoral studies are conducted under appropriate quality conditions.

**Criterion B.1. The number, quality and diversity of the candidates who entered the admission competition**

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





*Performance indicator B.1.2.1. Admission to doctoral study programs is based on selection criteria that include: the academic, research and professional performance of the candidates, their interest in scientific or artistic / sports research, publications in the domain and a research topic proposal. An interview with the applicant is a mandatory part of the admission procedure.*

The admission process for doctoral studies consists of an entrance examination during which the candidate defends a Scientific Research Project in an interview. The main elements of the project are as follows: Title of the scientific research project, based on a topic announced by the doctoral supervisor for admission; Project summary (in Romanian and English/French); Content of the scientific research project; Research objectives and activities within the project; Dissemination plan for the doctoral research results; Elements of the candidate's previous scientific research activity. Candidates are evaluated during the admission exam based on specific criteria and indicators outlined in an Evaluation Grid, which consists of: evaluation of the research project: 90% and evaluation of the candidate's prior scientific activity: 10%.

[https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Metodologia-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-concursului-de-admitere-la-studii-universitare-de-doctorat-in-cadrul-Scolii-Doctorale-de-Stiinte-Economice-in-anul-universitar-2024-2025\\_modificata-2.pdf](https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Metodologia-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-concursului-de-admitere-la-studii-universitare-de-doctorat-in-cadrul-Scolii-Doctorale-de-Stiinte-Economice-in-anul-universitar-2024-2025_modificata-2.pdf) and *Anexa B.1.2.1. Grila de evaluare a candidatilor la admiterea la doctorat la Scoala Doctorala de Stiinte Economice*

**Recommendations:**

*Continue implementing best practices regarding admissions to doctoral programs.*

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Criterion B.2. The content of doctoral study programs**

*Standard B.2.1. The training program based on advanced university studies is adequate to improve the research skills of doctoral students and to strengthen ethical behavior in science.*

The advanced university studies training program for the Economics field is appropriate and designed to enhance doctoral students research competencies and strengthen ethical behavior in science.

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

The Economics doctoral field provides doctoral students with an Advanced University Studies Training Program, consisting of activities conducted in institutionalized study groups through courses.

The participation of a doctoral student in the advanced university studies training program and the selection of study elements to be followed are determined by the student's





doctoral supervisor. Completion of the advanced training program awards 30 transferable credits, corresponding to the first semester.

The doctoral studies program of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences develops professional competencies (content, cognitive, and research) in the school's specialized fields, as well as transversal competencies.

The program meets the requirement of including at least three disciplines relevant to scientific research training for doctoral students, with at least one discipline dedicated to advanced study of research methodology.

Relevant disciplines for doctoral students' scientific research training, aligned with the specific characteristics of the Economics field, include:

- Scientific Research Methodology, Ethics, and Academic Integrity (10 credits).
- Modeling and Data Analysis (10 credits).

The Scientific Research Methodology, Ethics, and Academic Integrity course aims to teach doctoral students fundamental concepts of scientific research methodology in the field of Economics.

The Modeling and Data Analysis course focuses on the multivariate description of an economic phenomenon using appropriate statistical methods based on the nature of the variables (quantitative and qualitative).

<https://ec.utgjiu.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Plan-invatamant-scoala-doctorala.pdf>

**Recommendations:**

*Continuously adapt and update the content of these disciplines to enhance doctoral students' scientific research training in Economics.*

*The provision in the curriculum plan of optional courses required for doctoral students with studies in related fields.*

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

*Performance indicator B.2.1.2. There is at least one discipline dedicated to ethics in scientific research and well-defined intellectual or thematic property on these topics within a discipline taught in the training program.*

According to the self-assessment file of the Economics doctoral program, the curriculum includes the course Scientific Research Methodology, Ethics, and Academic Integrity, which is part of the advanced university studies training and documentation program. This course is a mandatory general discipline. Its syllabus includes clearly defined topics on ethics in scientific research and intellectual property.

*Anexa B.2.1.3.b. Fisele disciplinelor*

**Recommendations:**

*Conduct periodic seminars/workshops addressing ethical issues in research.*

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

*Performance indicator B.2.1.3. Doctoral School has created mechanisms to ensure that the training program based on advanced university studies, related to the evaluated domain, aims at "learning outcomes", specifying the knowledge, skills and responsibility and*



autonomy that PhD students should acquire after completing each discipline or through research activities <sup>1</sup>.

The curriculum plans for the Economics doctoral field are structured in compliance with ARACIS standards.

The course syllabi include: program details, course information, and the total estimated workload (hours per semester for teaching activities), prerequisites, specific competencies, learning outcomes, and course objectives derived from the competency grid, course content aligned with expectations from the epistemic community, professional associations, and relevant employers in the program's field, assessment details, including the minimum performance standard, and bibliography.

The syllabi for all courses in the Economics doctoral field specify the professional and transversal competencies, skills, and attitudes that doctoral students should acquire after completing each course or research activity.

#### *Anexa B.2.1.3.a. Grila de Competențe profesionale and Anexa B.2.1.3.b. Fisele disciplinelor*

Periodic evaluations of UCB's activities are conducted to ensure continuous improvement in teaching, research, and managerial processes.

An essential component of internal evaluation is the student evaluation of academic staff, which aims to measure doctoral students' satisfaction with the support and mentoring activities provided by their supervisors.

The questionnaire includes questions regarding:

- The content of courses within the advanced university studies program.
- Guidance provided to doctoral students for developing their research programs.
- Study conditions.
- Objectivity in evaluating the scientific and publishing activities of doctoral students.
- Adherence to scientific and university ethics and academic integrity.

Doctoral students in the Economics doctoral program will receive mentoring from their supervisors. They will be involved in developing scientific papers using the infrastructure of the Faculty of Economic Sciences. Additionally, supervisors will offer consultations based on a well-defined schedule.

#### *AnexaC.1.1.2.*

*Procedura privind identificarea nevoilor precum și nivelul general de satisfacție față de programul de studii universitare de doctorat ale studenților doctoranzi*

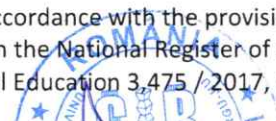
#### **Recommendations:**

*Maintain the mechanisms ensuring that the advanced university studies training program for the evaluated field focuses on learning outcomes, specifying the knowledge, skills, responsibilities, and autonomy doctoral students should acquire after completing each course or research activity. Establish a correlation between the learning outcomes of each course and the specific outcomes of the doctoral program in Economics. This ensures compliance with EU standards for defining and verifying learning outcomes.*

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

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<sup>1</sup>Or through what the graduate must know, understand and be able to do, in accordance with the provisions of the Methodology for enrolling and registering higher education qualifications in the National Register of Higher Education Qualifications (RNCIS), approved by Order of the Minister of National Education 3.475 / 2017, with subsequent amendments and completions.





## Domain C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

The Doctoral School of Economic Sciences at the “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu demonstrates effective quality management, ensuring that doctoral studies are conducted under appropriate quality conditions. However, there is a need to improve the degree of internationalization.

### *Criterion C.1. Existence and regular development of the internal quality assurance system*

*Standard C.1.1. The institutional framework exists and policies and procedures for the relevant internal quality assurance are applied.*

The Doctoral School of Economic Sciences has established an institutional framework for internal quality assurance. However, measures are required to ensure the effective application of this framework.

*Performance indicator C.1.1.1. The doctoral school in which the doctoral university domain belongs proves the constant development of the process of evaluation and internal quality assurance in accordance with a procedure developed and applied at IOSUD level, among the evaluated criteria being obligatorily found:*

- a) the scientific activity of the doctoral supervisors;*
- b) the infrastructure and logistics necessary for carrying out the research activity;*
- c) the regulations and procedures on the basis of which the doctoral studies are organized;*
- d) the scientific activity of doctoral students;*
- e) the training program based on advanced university studies of doctoral students;*
- f) social and academic support services (including participation in various events, publication of articles, etc.) and counseling provided to doctoral students.*

The Doctoral School of Economic Sciences conducts an annual internal evaluation of its activities, following the Procedure for Internal Evaluation and Monitoring of Doctoral School Evolution. This procedure ensures continuous improvement in the quality of teaching, research, and managerial processes through periodic self-assessment of study programs, including evaluations of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences.

The Doctoral School is periodically monitored throughout its operation to enhance quality by evaluating, revising, and improving criteria, raising standards and performance indicators, and promptly identifying and addressing achievements and non-conformities. Monitoring includes control of educational processes to detect and manage non-conformities, quality audits to ensure adherence to specific procedures and programs related to educational processes.

The self-evaluation aims to identify and quantify the fulfillment of the following objectives:

- a) Compliance with legal requirements and best practices for organizing and conducting doctoral studies.
- b) Evaluation of human resources, research activities, material resources, etc.
- c) Assessment of research results, visibility, recognition, and professional prestige of doctoral supervisors and doctoral students.





d) Adherence to quality management, professional ethics, and institutional transparency procedures.

Feedback mechanisms involve: evaluation of doctoral supervisors by doctoral students to identify their needs and measure overall satisfaction with the doctoral program, continuous improvement of academic and administrative processes based on feedback.

The results of the learning environment evaluation process are analyzed by the Quality Assurance and Evaluation Committee (CEAC) and included in the annual report on quality evaluation and assurance at “Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu, following the Procedure for Identifying Needs and Satisfaction Levels of Doctoral Students Regarding the Doctoral Program.

Regulations and procedures for organizing doctoral studies are revised annually, covering admission, the advanced university studies training program, curriculum content, and course syllabi, as well as graduation requirements.

Doctoral students will benefit from social services provided by the university, including accommodation, a canteen, a medical office, sports facilities, and career counseling through the Career Counseling and Guidance Center.

*AnexaC.1.1.1.Procedura\_de\_evaluare\_și\_monitorizare\_internă\_a\_evoluției\_Școlii\_Doctorale*

#### **Recommendations:**

*Continuously monitor the structure and quality assurance activities within the university to align with existing regulations, ensuring they become part of the institution’s organizational culture. Focus on fostering and developing a robust organizational culture of quality assurance at every stage of the academic and doctoral journey.*

***The indicator is fulfilled.***

*Performance indicator C.1.1.2. During the doctoral training course, evaluation mechanisms are implemented to identify the needs, as well as the general level of satisfaction with the doctoral studies program of doctoral students, in order to continuously improve the academic and administrative processes. Following the analysis of the obtained results, the elaboration and implementation of a plan of measures is provided.*

Doctoral students in the Economics program will have the opportunity to provide feedback through a questionnaire, designed to identify various aspects of their experience at the doctoral school, including:

- The training program.
- Collaboration with the doctoral supervisor.
- Facilities.
- Access to resources.
- Transparency of information, among other factors.

*AnexaC.1.1.2.*

*Procedura\_privind\_identificarea\_nevoilor\_precum\_și\_nivelul\_general\_de\_satisfacție\_față\_de\_programul\_de\_studii\_universitare\_de\_doctorat\_ale\_studenților\_doctoranzi.*

The strategies and procedures for ensuring the quality of doctoral study programs implement an internal evaluation methodology for doctoral schools and fields. These strategies aim to:





- Analyze and improve internal evaluation procedures for doctoral schools, doctoral students, and doctoral supervisors.
- Ensure compliance with internal evaluation procedures.

The analyses and findings derived from the questionnaire responses will be included in annual reports.

*Anexa C.1.1.1. Procedura de evaluare și monitorizare internă a evoluției Școlii Doctorale*

**Recommendations:**

*Better operationalize the provisions of these procedures and develop a plan of measures to ensure the continuous improvement of academic and administrative processes.*

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

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

The Doctoral School of Economic Sciences demonstrates transparency in presenting information and accessibility to learning resources.

*Standard C.2.1. The information of interest for doctoral students, future candidates, respectively the information of public interest are available for consultation in electronic format.*

For the field of Economics to be established within the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, information of interest for doctoral students and future candidates, as well as public interest information, will be made available for consultation in electronic format. - <https://ec.utgjiu.ro/scoala-doctorala-de-stiinte-economice/>.

*Performance indicator C.2.1.1. Doctoral School publishes, on the website of the higher education institution, in compliance with the regulations in force regarding data protection, information such as:*

- a) the regulations of the doctoral school;*
- b) the admission regulations;*
- c) the doctoral studies contract;*
- d) the regulations for completing the studies, including the procedure for public defense of the thesis;*
- e) the content of training programs based on advanced university studies;*
- f) the academic and scientific profile, the thematic areas / research topics of the doctoral supervisors in the field, as well as their institutional contact data;*
- g) the list of doctoral students of the domain with the basic information (year of registration, PhD supervisors);*
- h) information about the standards for the elaboration of the doctoral thesis;*
- i) links to the abstracts of the doctoral theses to be defended publicly, as well as the date, time, place where they will be defended, at least 20 days before the defense.*

The Doctoral School of "Constantin Brâncuși" University in Târgu Jiu has a separate webpage (<https://ec.utgjiu.ro/doctorat/>) that can be accessed on the higher education institution's portal, where the following information is published and periodically updated:



- The doctoral school regulations;
- The admission methodology;
- The doctoral studies contract;
- The methodology for organizing and conducting the doctoral thesis defense process;
- The doctoral thesis preparation guide.

**Recommendations:**

*Continuous updating of the UCB Doctoral School webpage, including an English version. Most of the available information is currently in Romanian. If the internationalization of the doctoral school across various fields becomes a priority in the future, it is recommended to develop content in English as well.*

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

*Standard C.2.2. IOSUD / Doctoral School provide doctoral students with access to the resources needed to conduct doctoral studies.*

Doctoral students have access to the necessary resources to successfully conduct their doctoral studies.

*Performance indicator C.2.2.1. All PhD students have free access to a platform with academic databases relevant to the domain of doctoral studies analyzed.*

The entire academic community (students, master's students, doctoral students, researchers) has access to publications, field-specific periodicals, book collections, and international databases through the ANELIS+ program and the digital library, which provides up-to-date information from around the world on topics related to the study programs.

The digital library ensures access both on-campus and remotely to search engines like Web of Science (by Clarivate Analytics), Scopus (by Elsevier), and major scientific literature aggregators like Science Direct.

The number of available seats in the library spaces ensures an equitable ratio between learning resources and students.

The publishing house of the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu – Academica Brâncuși – publishes manuals, courses, books, specialized periodicals, albums, treatises, guides, program notebooks, and other promotional materials in printed or electronic form (online, CD) in Romanian or internationally circulated languages.

Academica Brâncuși Publishing House also ensures the e-print publication of the Annals of the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu in various fields. These scientific journals, published digitally in open access, have international and national visibility, allowing doctoral students to disseminate their scientific research in different domains.

*Anexa C.2.2.1\_Platforme cu baze de date academice*

<https://www.utqjiu.ro/cercetare2/reviste-jurnale-si-edituri/reviste/>

<https://editura.utqjiu.ro/>





**Recommendations:**

*Periodic dissemination of information, especially for newly admitted doctoral students, regarding free access to platforms with academic databases relevant to the field of Economics. Ensuring doctoral students have access to databases tailored to the specific needs of the Economics field.*

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

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

At "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu, the SISTEMANTIPLAGIAT.RO software system is implemented, an online tool designed for verifying all documents against the University's proprietary database (archived documents) and internet resources. The University has an operational procedure in place for anti-plagiarism verification of final papers for bachelor's, master's, and doctoral studies.

**Recommendations:**

*Facilitating access for doctoral students to verify their scientific works produced during their doctoral studies (e.g., scientific articles, research reports).*

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

*Performance indicator C.2.2.3. All PhD students have access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities, depending on the specifics of the domain (s) within the doctoral school, according to internal regulations.*

Doctoral students in the field of Economics will benefit from the logistical support and equipment provided by the Faculty of Economic Sciences. Specific software programs enabling advanced statistical analyses will be used in doctoral research within the Economics domain. The design of each study space is aligned with the requirements of high-quality theoretical and practical training. Each space adheres to ARACIS standards concerning the student-to-space ratio, academic space volume, and seating capacity. *Anexa A.2.1.1. Spatii de invatamant si de cercetare*

"Constantin Brâncuși" University of Târgu Jiu has established ERASMUS Mobility Agreements with foreign universities to support the mobility of students and teaching staff. <https://ir-ucb.utgjiu.ro/biroul-erasmusrezultate/>

Doctoral students in the Economics doctoral program will benefit from ERASMUS agreements at the Doctoral School level. These agreements are available on the International Relations Department's webpage on the institution's website. *Situația parteneriatelor și acordurilor cu universități din străinătate\_2024* (presented during the visit) During the annual ECOTREND and ISSD International Conferences organized by the Faculty of Economic Sciences, keynote speakers, including teaching staff from Romania and abroad, deliver lectures to participants and doctoral students. <https://ec.utgjiu.ro/cercetare/conferinte-si-evenimente-organizate-de-facultatea-de-stiinte-economice/>





**Recommendations:**

*Provide newly admitted doctoral students with detailed information on how to access the existing research infrastructure. Ensure permanent access for doctoral students to the university's research infrastructure.*

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

SWOT Analysis

<b>Strong points:</b>	<b>Weak points:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✧ The doctoral supervisors in the Economics doctoral field demonstrate a high standard of research activity.</li><li>✧ The research infrastructure aligns with the mission and objectives, with doctoral students in the Economics field benefiting from the logistical support and equipment provided by the Faculty of Economic Sciences.</li><li>✧ The South-West region has a substantial number of graduates in the economic field.</li><li>✧ The Faculty of Economic Sciences offers bachelor degree and master degree programs in Economics, providing a solid foundation for doctoral studies.</li><li>✧ Enhanced opportunities for doctoral studies have been created for non-traditional students, including those from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, rural areas, the Roma community, and other underprivileged groups.</li><li>✧ The average age of the academic staff is approximately 45 years, contributing to a dynamic and innovative academic environment.</li><li>✧ Faculty members are consistently engaged in authoring books and scientific papers.</li><li>✧ Doctoral supervisors' involvement in teaching undergraduate and master degree programs in Economics increases their visibility among potential doctoral candidates.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✧ The university and faculty need to enhance their internationalization efforts.</li><li>✧ High Costs and Limited Funding: The high costs of doctoral studies and limited state funding deter master's graduates from pursuing doctoral programs, leading them to prefer entering the job market.</li><li>✧ Weak Utilization of Research Outcomes: There is insufficient national and regional application of research results in economic activities. Researchers are less involved in transferring their findings to enterprises, and companies show limited interest in leveraging academic research results.</li></ul>



<b>Opportunities:</b>	<b>Threats:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✧ Existing economic partners have expressed interest in collaborating within the Economics doctoral field.</li><li>✧ The quality of doctoral supervisors facilitates achieving a high degree of internationalization.</li><li>✧ The relevance of the Economics doctoral field can attract a significant number of candidates.</li><li>✧ There is an opportunity to enhance economic competencies to better equip researchers to address the innovation needs of organizations.</li><li>✧ Domestic and international demand for a highly skilled workforce will foster a culture of quality in educational and scientific processes, improving the overall quality of doctoral studies.</li><li>✧ Academic staff are open and available for internal and especially international collaborations, including partnerships with similar faculties in the European Union.</li><li>✧ The distribution of academic staff across teaching ranks supports a dynamic development environment.</li><li>✧ Opportunities exist to establish partnerships with other profile faculties and research institutions both domestically and internationally.</li><li>✧ Expanding the use of modern teaching and seminar methods enhances the educational experience.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✧ A reduction in the birth rate may lead to a smaller pool of potential doctoral candidates in the future.</li><li>✧ Foreign educational institutions actively recruiting young talent from high school pose a significant challenge.</li><li>✧ Young graduates show declining interest in pursuing academic careers due to inadequate compensation.</li></ul>



## Synthesis ratings agreement and of The recommendation

Nr. Crt.	Type road sign (IP, IP *, IPC)	Road sign of performance	Qualifying	recommendation
1.	IP	<p><b>A.1.1.1.</b> Existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the doctoral school of which the domain of doctoral studies is part:</p> <p>a) the regulations of the doctoral school;</p> <p>b) the methodology for conducting the elections for the position of director of the Doctoral School Council (CSD), as well as the election by the students of the representative in the CSD, and evidence of their development;</p> <p>c) methodologies for organizing and conducting doctoral studies (admission of doctoral students, completion of doctoral studies);</p> <p>d) the existence of mechanisms for the recognition of the quality of doctoral supervisor and for the equivalence of the doctorate obtained in other states;</p> <p>e) functional management structures (Doctoral School Council), proving also the regularity of convening meetings;</p> <p>f) the contract of doctoral university studies;</p> <p>g) internal procedures for analysis and approval of proposals on the subject of the training program based on advanced university studies.</p>	partially accomplished	<p>It is recommended that all decisions of the Doctoral School Council be posted on the doctoral school's webpage and that the webpage be regularly updated so that doctoral supervisors, doctoral students, and prospective candidates have access to all necessary information. The Doctoral School should base its activities on a system of regulations, procedures, and tools that cover the entire doctoral studies process.</p> <p>At the time of the visit there is no information available on the academic and scientific profile of the potential candidates and no research topics proposed by the existing PhD supervisors to the potential candidates.</p>
2.	IP	<p><b>A.1.1.2.</b> The doctoral school regulations include criteria, procedures and mandatory standards for the aspects specified in art. 17, para. (5) of the Government Decision no. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of doctoral studies, with subsequent amendments and completions.</p>	accomplished	<p>Continuously updating the doctoral school regulations to align with existing legislation. Periodically discussing quality-related aspects with the Doctoral School Council and members of the Doctoral School in the field of Economics to update the operational regulations with specific aspects.</p> <p>Consistently including mandatory criteria, procedures, and specific standards in the Doctoral School's regulations and ensuring their transparency by publishing them.</p>
3.	IP	<p><b>A.1.2.1.</b> Existence and effectiveness of an adequate computer system for the record of doctoral students and their academic career.</p>	accomplished	<p>Generate reports containing relevant performance and quality information related to the doctoral field's activities and publish them on the doctoral school's website.</p>
4.	IP	<p><b>A.1.2.2.</b> Existence and use of a computer program and evidence of its use to verify the percentage of similarity in all doctoral theses.</p>	accomplished	<p>Maintain strict records of the use of this software platform to ensure that results are easily accessible to applicants.</p> <p>Continue the use of antiplagiarism software and update it to expand the database of verifiable sources, improving the originality of doctoral theses and research works.</p>
5.	CPI	<p><b>A.2.1.1.</b> The spaces and the material endowment of the doctoral school allow the realization of the research activities, in the evaluated domain, in accordance with the assumed mission and objectives (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, library, access to international</p>	accomplished	<p>Continue investing in material resources, data processing software packages, and databases, particularly focusing on the infrastructure of the Research Center.</p> <p>Develop a mechanism to attract resources and funding from the private sector.</p>



Nr. Crt.	Type road sign (IP, IP *, IPC)	Road sign of performance	Qualifying	recommendation
		databases, etc.). The research infrastructure and the offer of research services are presented publicly through a profile platform. The research infrastructure described above, acquired and developed in the last 5 years, will be highlighted separately.		
6.	CPI	<p><b>A.3.1.1.</b> Within the doctoral domain, at least three doctoral supervisors work and at least 50% of them (but not less than three) meet the minimum CNATDCU standards in force at the time of the evaluation, necessary and mandatory to obtain the certificate of qualification.</p>	accomplished	<p>Continuously identify habilitation capacity among academic community members and encourage them to undertake the steps necessary to obtain the habilitation certificate. Identify potential foreign doctoral supervisors who could affiliate with the Economics field.</p> <p><u>Additional information:</u> At the Faculty of Economics there are three teaching staff members who fulfill the conditions for habilitation in the field of Economics (verified by the Commission for the verification of the information on the fulfillment of the minimum necessary and mandatory standards for the award of the habilitation certificate of the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Targu Jiu, Annex 1) and who have expressed their wish to become PhD supervisors in the field of Economics at the Doctoral School of Economics of the Faculty of Economics of the "Constantin Brâncuși" University of Targu Jiu.</p>
7.	IP *	<p><b>A.3.1.2.</b> At least 50% of the doctoral supervisors in the evaluated doctoral domain are holders within IOSUD, employed with the conclusion of an employment contract for an indefinite period.</p>	accomplished	<p>Continuously identify habilitation capacity among academic community members and encourage them to undertake the steps necessary to obtain the habilitation certificate. Identify potential doctoral supervisors from the diaspora who could affiliate with the Economics doctoral field.</p>
8.	IP	<p><b>A.3.1.3.</b> The disciplines in the training program based on advanced university studies related to the domain are supported by teachers or researchers who have the quality of doctoral / qualified supervisor, professor / CS I or associate professor / CS II with proven expertise in the field of taught subjects or other specialists in domain that meet the standards set by the institution for the teaching and research functions mentioned above, in accordance with the law.</p>	accomplished	<p>When selecting courses for each doctoral student, consider the specific characteristics of the Economics field, the chosen research topic, and the knowledge required to develop the doctoral thesis.</p>
9.	CPI	<p><b>A.3.2.1.</b> At least 50% of the PhD supervisors in the domain subject to evaluation present at least 5 indexed publications Web of Science or ERIH in journals with impact factor or other achievements, with relevant relevance for the respective domain in which there are international level contributions that reveal a progress in scientific research - development - innovation for the evaluated domain. The mentioned doctoral supervisors have international visibility in the last five years,</p>	accomplished	<p>Continuously identify high-performance achievements for both doctoral supervisors and doctoral students with international visibility. Make additional efforts to increase the international visibility of doctoral supervisors and to attract highly visible international supervisors to the Economics field. In the future, it is recommended to maintain this level of publishing activities.</p>

Nr. Crt.	Type road sign (IP, IP *, IPC)	Road sign of performance	Qualifying	recommendation
		<p>consisting of: membership in the scientific committees of international publications and conferences; membership in the boards of international professional associations; the quality of guest at conferences or groups of experts held abroad or the quality of a member of commissions for the defense of doctoral theses at foreign universities or in co-supervision with a foreign university. For the arts and sciences of sports and physical education, the PhD supervisors will prove their international visibility in the last five years by being a member of the boards of professional associations, by being a member of the organizing committees of artistic events and international competitions, respectively. by membership in juries or arbitration teams at artistic events or international competitions.</p>		
10.	IP *	<p><b>A.3.2.2.</b> At least 50% of the doctoral supervisors assigned to a domain of doctoral studies continue to be scientifically active, obtaining at least 25% of the score required by the minimum CNATDCU standards in force at the date of evaluation, necessary and mandatory for obtaining the certificate of qualification, on based on scientific results from the last five years.</p>	accomplished	Continuously monitor compliance with the current minimal CNATDCU standards for each doctoral supervisor.
11.	IP *	<p><b>B.1.2.1.</b> Admission to doctoral study programs is based on selection criteria that include: the academic, research and professional performance of the candidates, their interest in scientific or artistic / sports research, publications in the domain and a research topic proposal. An interview with the applicant is a mandatory part of the admission procedure.</p>	accomplished	Continue implementing best practices regarding admissions to doctoral programs.
12.	IP	<p><b>B.2.1.1.</b> The training program based on advanced university studies includes at least three disciplines relevant to the training in scientific research of doctoral students, of which at least one discipline is intended for the in-depth study of research methodology and / or statistical data processing.</p>	accomplished	Continuously adapt and update the content of these disciplines to enhance doctoral students' scientific research training in Economics. The provision in the curriculum plan of optional courses required for doctoral students with studies in related fields.
13.	IP	<p><b>B.2.1.2.</b> There is at least one discipline dedicated to ethics in scientific research and well-defined intellectual or thematic property on these topics within a discipline taught in the training program.</p>	accomplished	Conduct periodic seminars/workshops addressing ethical issues in research.
14.	IP	<p><b>B.2.1.3.</b> IOSUD has created mechanisms to ensure that the training program based on advanced university studies, related to the evaluated domain, aims at "learning outcomes", specifying the knowledge, skills and responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline. or through research activities</p>	accomplished	Maintain the mechanisms ensuring that the advanced university studies training program for the evaluated field focuses on learning outcomes, specifying the knowledge, skills, responsibilities, and autonomy doctoral students should acquire after completing each course or research activity. Establish a correlation between the learning outcomes of each course and the specific outcomes of the

Nr. Crt.	Type road sign (IP, IP *, IPC)	Road sign of performance	Qualifying	recommendation
				doctoral program in Economics. This ensures compliance with EU standards for defining and verifying learning outcomes.
15.	IP	<p><b>C.1.1.1.</b> The doctoral school in which the doctoral university domain belongs proves the constant development of the process of evaluation and internal quality assurance in accordance with a procedure developed and applied at IOSUD level, among the evaluated criteria being obligatorily found:</p> <p>a) the scientific activity of the doctoral supervisors;</p> <p>b) the infrastructure and logistics necessary for carrying out the research activity;</p> <p>c) the regulations and procedures on the basis of which the doctoral studies are organized;</p> <p>d) the scientific activity of doctoral students;</p> <p>e) the training program based on advanced university studies of doctoral students;</p> <p>f) social and academic support services (including participation in various events, publication of articles, etc. ) and counseling provided to doctoral students.</p>	accomplished	Continuously monitor the structure and quality assurance activities within the university to align with existing regulations, ensuring they become part of the institution's organizational culture. Focus on fostering and developing a robust organizational culture of quality assurance at every stage of the academic and doctoral journey.
16.	IP *	<p><b>C.1.1.2.</b> During the doctoral training course, evaluation mechanisms are implemented aimed at identifying the needs, as well as the general level of satisfaction with the doctoral studies program of doctoral students, in order to continuously improve the academic and administrative processes. Following the analysis of the obtained results, it is proved the elaboration and implementation of a plan of measures.</p>	accomplished	Better operationalize the provisions of these procedures and develop a plan of measures to ensure the continuous improvement of academic and administrative processes.
17.	CPI	<p><b>C.2.1.1.</b> IOSUD publishes, on the website of the higher education institution, in compliance with the regulations in force regarding data protection, information such as:</p> <p>a) the regulations of the doctoral school;</p> <p>b) the admission regulations;</p> <p>c) the doctoral studies contract;</p> <p>d) the regulations for completing the studies, including the procedure for public defense of the thesis;</p> <p>e) the content of training programs based on advanced university studies;</p> <p>f) the scientific and scientific profile, the thematic areas / research topics of the doctoral supervisors in the domain, as well as their institutional contact data;</p> <p>g) the list of doctoral students in the domain with the basic information (year of registration; PhD supervisors);</p> <p>h) information about the standards for the elaboration of the doctoral thesis;</p> <p>i) links to the abstracts of the doctoral theses to be defended publicly, as well as the date,</p>	accomplished	<p>Continuous updating of the UCB Doctoral School webpage, including an English version. Most of the available information is currently in Romanian. If the internationalization of the doctoral school across various fields becomes a priority in the future, it is recommended to develop content in English as well.</p> 



Nr. Crt.	Type road sign (IP, IP *, IPC)	Road sign of performance	Qualifying	recommendation
		time, place where they will be defended, at least 20 days before the defense.		
18.	IP	<b>C.2.2.1.</b> All PhD students have free access to a platform with academic databases relevant to the domain of doctoral studies analyzed.	accomplished	Periodic dissemination of information, especially for newly admitted doctoral students, regarding free access to platforms with academic databases relevant to the field of Economics. Ensuring doctoral students have access to databases tailored to the specific needs of the Economics field.
19.	IP	<b>C.2.2.2.</b> Each doctoral student has access, upon request, to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic creations.	accomplished	Facilitating access for doctoral students to verify their scientific works produced during their doctoral studies (e.g., scientific articles, research reports).
20.	IP	<b>C.2.2.3.</b> All PhD students have access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities depending on the specifics of the domains) within the doctoral school, according to internal regulations.	accomplished	Provide newly admitted doctoral students with detailed information on how to access the existing research infrastructure. Ensure permanent access for doctoral students to the university's research infrastructure.

## Conclusions and general recommendation

The Doctoral Program in Economics aims to provide candidates with a solid foundation for critical thinking by fostering relevant debates that strengthen the role of economic expertise in both academic excellence and offering cutting-edge solutions to social challenges.

The Doctoral Program in Economics is designed for graduates in economic sciences to enhance their professional and research skills.

The doctoral training program enables interdisciplinary approaches and the ability to integrate research findings into conference proceedings and specialized journals.

The doctoral school is committed to ensuring high quality by:

- Promote academic ethics and professional deontology.
- Increase the proportion of tenured doctoral supervisors in the doctoral school structure.
- Implement policies to encourage performance at both the doctoral supervisors' and doctoral students' levels.
- Deepen multidisciplinary academic research.

In light of the aforementioned evaluation, it is my recommendation that the doctoral programme in ECONOMICS at the „Constantin Brâncuși” University of Targu Jiu be authorised.