

Form 400.1

Ref. Number: 07.14.081.003

**FINAL REPORT OF THE CYPRUS AGENCY OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ACCREDITATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

**EVALUATION - ACCREDITATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF STUDY**

**IN GREEK: Διεθνείς σχέσεις, παγκόσμια οικονομία και στρατηγική (4 χρόνια συν ένα προαιρετικό προπαρασκευαστικό έτος, 240 ECTS, Πτυχίο)**

**IN ENGLISH: International relations, global economy and strategy (4 years plus an optional foundation year, 240 ECTS, Bachelor of Arts)**

**OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION  
Ledra College**

This Final Report was prepared on the basis of Article (20) (2)(f)(i) of the "Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws" of 2015 to 2019 [N.136 (I)/2015 to N.35 (I)/2019].

**THE PROCEDURE:**

On 30 July 2019, the legal representative of the Higher Education Institution Ledra College submitted an application (Doc. 200.1), based on Article (17) of the "Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws" of 2015 to 2019, for the evaluation-accreditation of the programme of study:

**IN GREEK: Διεθνείς σχέσεις, παγκόσμια οικονομία και στρατηγική (4 χρόνια συν ένα προαιρετικό προπαρασκευαστικό έτος, 240 ECTS, Πτυχίο)**

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This application is registered in the file with the reference number: 07.14.081.003

In the framework of competences conferred on it by the relevant legislation, the Council of the Agency has constituted an External Evaluation Committee (EEC) which, after initially examining the institution's application for programme evaluation and accreditation, performed an online visit at the institution on 15 September 2020.

The EEC met online with the head of the institution, the head of the relevant department, the programme's coordinator, members of the academic staff, members of the administrative staff, students and/or their representatives and the Internal Quality Assurance Committee.

Additionally, the EEC examined online the institution's facilities (library, computer labs, labs, teaching classes, research infrastructures, etc.), various documents presented and/or requested by the EEC, the School's/ Faculty's structure and the programme's position in it, the CVs of the teaching staff and their relationship to the institution as teachers in regard to any other duties and teaching in other programmes of study.

The EEC has documented its findings and recommendations and drew up the External Evaluation Report in the Doc. 300.1.1.

### **CYQAA Council's Decision**

The Council of the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Higher Education, during its 63 Summit on 22 and 23 February 2021, on the basis of Article 20 (2)(f) (i) of the "Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws" of 2015 to 2019 [N.136 (I)/2015 to N.35 (I)/2019], and on the basis of the suggestions of the External Evaluation Committee and the comments of the institution on the report, **decided that the programme is accredited to be delivered in English. The CYQAA will be informed (form 300.1.4 Follow-up report) for the following which would be implemented by the end of the winter semester 2021-2022:**

- **Incentives and support to teaching staff for effective research and synergies of research and teaching.**
- **The bibliography proposed in the courses needs to be updated to respond to recent developments in the field.**
- **Recruits are necessary considering the requirements of a bachelor's degree program.**
- **Establish clear criteria for the evaluation of teaching staff and in particular their research work.**
- **Add a course on intercultural dialogue and respect, gender equality, social integration of people with disabilities.**
- **Include information on the website with respect to the characteristics of the incoming class for each programme. Given that incoming students seem to be quite concentrated amongst Cyprus, Nigeria and Ghana, more information should be provided (including entry requirements) to attract students from other countries as well. At a minimum, fundamental admissions' information should be placed on the website.**
- **Provide internship/training opportunities to students.**

**It is pointed out that the "foundation year" is not accredited. All incoming students must hold a certificate of English language proficiency at level B2 based on external examinations, according to the announcement of the CYQAA.**



The current accreditation begins in the Winter semester of the academic year 2021- 22 and ceases to be in effect at the end of the Spring semester of the academic year 2025 – 26.

On the basis of Article (4) of the relevant Legislation, it is noted that "the above accreditation is valid for the period provided by the provisions of the Law and is repeated every five (5) years and that the procedure starts at the request of the institution which must, and shall be submitted at least sixteen (16) months before the expiry of the previous accreditation".

Additionally, on the basis of Article (17) (3) (f) during the period of validity of the Accreditation, the Agency acting of its own motion, may examine whether the criteria continue to be met and if they are not met, then the Agency shall revoke the Accreditation, and immediately inform the institution concerned.

(Professor Mary Ioannidou-Koutselini)  
President of the Board of the  
Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and  
Accreditation in Higher Education

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021