

**The External Evaluation Report of an
Institution Organizing Doctoral Study Programs (IOSUD)
Member of the Evaluation Expert Commission/
International evaluator
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I. Introduction¹

This external evaluation report was drafted for Periodical External Evaluation of the IOSUD/doctoral study domains at the National University of Physical Education and Sports Bucharest (UNEFS). The period of the evaluation visit was 5.07.2021 - 9.07.2021.

All meetings for me as an international expert were carried out online.

The National University for Physical education and Sport (UNEFS) is a public higher education institution with legal personality, which operates based on the Romanian Constitution of 1991 and the Law of National Education no. 1/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions, its activity being carried out according to the laws/regulations in force, the UNEFS Charter and its own regulations.

According to its Charter, UNEFS assumes the role of national and international methodological body that generates and transfers knowledge to society; this knowledge is expressed through the values of universal science and culture, in general, and the field of Sport and Physical Education Science, in particular, through the initial and continuing training of specialists in the field, scientific research, innovation and sport performance, the results being capitalised and disseminated at international level. In this regard, the institution develops/ promotes education and research in accordance with the requirements of a society based on knowledge, continuing education and integration into the circuit of universal values.

¹ Each time when applicable the information shall be presented genderwise



In accordance with the level of competence and the responsibilities assumed towards the Romanian society, UNEFS defines its mission as a university of scientific research and education in the field of Sport and Physical Education Science by: providing the scientific data necessary for the knowledge and development of the field; promoting research with an emphasis on the applied one in order to optimise and regain the health status of the population, build an active lifestyle and obtain sport performance; ensuring the transfer of specialised information, stimulating and supporting creation and sport performance; providing the initial and continuing training of highly-qualified human resources at university level for the purpose of personal development through the acquisition of skills to achieve professional insertion and satisfy the need for performance of the social, economic, cultural, sporting and educational environments.

In order to fulfil its mission, UNEFS has the following priority objectives: involvement in competitive scientific research by developing new directions, units and own research centres, as well as by participating in scientific projects of national and international interest; the constant affirmation of its international prestige on scientific, professional, performance and cultural levels by publishing its own journal, *Discobolul – Physical Education, Sport and Kinetotherapy Journal*, but also non-periodical publications, monographs, etc., which can be included in national and international exchanges, by organising symposia, conferences, seminars, exhibitions, competitions, shows, etc., exchanges of experience, by establishing partnerships; implementation of student-centred teaching in order to train highly skilled specialists for education, science, culture, social and economic activities specific to the field, but also to provide graduates with further training in the spirit of progress, knowledge and lifelong learning; promoting international cooperation relations and integration into the European higher education system, in terms of structure, quality and economic efficiency; modernisation of the university space, protection of the patrimony and development of the UNEFS infrastructure; promoting a culture of quality; ensuring a psychosocial climate conducive to obtaining professional performance at international level and building successful careers.

The National University of Physical Education and Sports Bucharest (UNEFSS) has a rich tradition in teaching students. The doctoral studies were established in 1990. The Doctoral School, as a distinct academic structure within UNEFS, was established by the SENATE decision of 01.10.2005.

The Doctoral School's mission is correlated with that of the university and refers to optimising human resources. UNEFS, as an institution organising university doctoral studies, has only one Doctoral School structured in a single domain of science with interdisciplinary topics, which, according to the Senate decision of 23.07.2012, is a component part of the university.

Regarding the composition of the Doctoral School, it consists of 12 tenured doctoral advisors, adjunct professors and other teaching staff and researchers involved in research and/or teaching activities within the doctoral school programmes. The total number of doctoral students who completed their studies between 1990 and 2020 is 591 students, of whom 64 are foreigners.

II. Methods used

This chapter will contain the methods and tools used in the external evaluation process, before and during the evaluation visit.

- The analysis of the internal evaluation report of the doctoral study domain under review and its

Annexes



The internal evaluation report of the UNEFS/the doctoral study domain under review is comprehensive and accurately and thoroughly reflects all mandatory criteria and indicators for specific activities.

- The analysis of documents, data and information available on the IOSUD/Doctoral School(s) website, in electronic format

All necessary documents, data and information for the assessment of UNEFS/the doctor's domain are presented and they are very factual and comprehensive. The website of the doctoral school is detailed and informative.

- Visiting the buildings included in the institution's property, comprising (indicative and non-exhaustive list, which shall be changed according to the context)

As a member of the expert evaluation committee, I did not participate in an on-site visit to the institution's property, base, classrooms and facilities.

- Meeting/discussions with doctoral students in the doctoral study domain under review

Students from all training courses were present, as they were representatives of various specialties of the doctoral school of UNEFS. All students expressed their high satisfaction with their studies in the doctoral school, giving the highest grade 9 to the overall education.

- Meeting/Discussions with the graduates of the doctoral study domain under review

A separate online meeting was organized with the graduates of the doctoral school of UNEFS. Attendees had graduated in various specialties and work in various fields of physical education and sports. All graduates expressed their positive attitude towards the training and the teachers advisors from the doctoral school. They focused on the knowledge and skills they acquired during their studies at the school.

- Meeting/Discussions with employers of the graduates in the doctoral study domain under review

Representatives of various employers' organizations were present - the Romanian Olympic Committee, sports federations, universities, medical centers and others.

All expressed satisfaction with the employees who graduated from the doctoral school of UNEFS and their professional competencies. Recommendations were given for closer cooperation with a representative of the doctoral school by organizing various educational courses, seminars, and meetings and other activities.

- Meeting/Discussions with the teaching staff in the doctoral study domain under review

The teaching staff from the doctoral school of UNEFS focused on the content of the education and the curricula, the financial provision, the access of the students to laboratories and research activities. Tuition fees and financial incentives for students were discussed.

- Meeting/discussions with the representatives of the various structures of the IOSUD/Doctoral School(s) in which the doctoral study domain under review is operating

The separate online meetings with the representatives of the structures of UNEFS/ the Doctoral School were carried out:

- The Council of the Doctoral School - information was given about the establishment and functioning of the doctoral school of UNEFS;
- The Quality Assessment and Assurance Commission - the detailed system for the quality of education, the selection of student members of the Commission, the connection with other



educational structures, the procedures for admission and improvement of the programs, the organization of internal audits and other activities were analyzed;

- The Ethics Commission - the emphasis was placed on the Code of Ethics, the manner of functioning of the commission, the procedures for establishing ethical violations.

III. Analysis of ARACIS's performance indicators²

Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

UNEFS has the institutional capacity for education in the doctor's study domain.

Criterion A.1. The administrative, managerial institutional structures and the financial resources

Standard A.1.1. The institution organizing doctoral studies (IOSUD) has implemented the effective functioning mechanisms provided for in the specific legislation on the organization of doctoral studies.

The effective functioning mechanisms are provided for in the specific legislation on the organization of doctoral studies.

Performance Indicator A.1.1.1. *The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the IOSUD, respectively at the Doctoral School(s):*

(a) the internal regulations of the administrative structures (the institutional regulations for the organization and conduct of doctoral studies programs, the regulation(s) of Doctoral School(s);

The reference framework that regulates the organisation and functioning of the UNEFS Doctoral School consists of laws, Romanian Government decisions, Government emergency ordinances, orders of ministers of education and/or scientific research, the University Charter, its own regulations and UNEFS Senate decisions.

The following regulations should stand out: Regulation on the organisation and development of doctoral studies and Regulation on the organisation and functioning of the UNEFS Doctoral School

(b) the Methodology for conducting elections at the level of the Council of University Doctoral Studies (CSUD), respectively at Doctoral School(s) including elections by the students of their representatives in CSUD/Council of the Doctoral School (CSD) and the evidence of their conduct;

The methodology of elections for the governance structure of the Doctoral School is subordinated to the UNEFS University Charter of 2019 (Chapter 8: Art. 103, Art. 107) and the Methodology of elections for the governance structures and managerial positions in UNEFS. The election of the director was based on a single application submitted and took place in January 2020 according to the schedule established in the methodology governing this activity.

The election of students for the Doctoral School Council was carried out according to the provisions of Chapter 9, Conducting elections for the representatives of student community in the governance structures, and was based on applications.

² Each time when applicable the information shall be presented genderwise



c) the Methodologies for organizing and conducting doctoral studies for the admission of doctoral students, for the completion of doctoral studies);

UNEFS has its own policy of recruiting students for the three cycles of university studies:

- Methodology for admission to university doctoral studies in the domain of Sport and Physical Education Science developed by the Commission for Evaluation and Quality Assurance (CEAC) of the Doctoral School, verified by the UNEFS CEAC and approved by the University Senate
- Methodology for admission to studies of citizens from EU third countries
- Methodology for admission to studies of citizens from EU third countries
- The Procedure for completing doctoral studies complements the Regulation on the organisation and conduct of doctoral studies, providing information on the organisation and conduct of activities for the public presentation of the doctoral thesis, the public presentation of the doctoral thesis and the award of the doctoral degree, as well as issues intended to facilitate the good development of the activity.

- Procedure for online presentation of the doctoral thesis,
- Doctoral Thesis Guide.

d) the existence of mechanisms for recognizing the status of a Doctoral advisor and the equivalence of the doctoral degree obtained abroad;

The following important procedures in the Doctoral school exist:

- Procedure for the automatic recognition of the status of doctoral advisor obtained in accredited higher education institutions from abroad,
- Procedure for the recognition of the doctoral degree and the doctoral degree in science,
- Procedure for accepting new members as doctoral advisors.

e) functional management structures CSUD/Council of the Doctoral School with evidence of the regularity of meetings;

The overall organization of the doctoral school is debated and approved in the meetings of the Doctoral School Council. The Council is connected with the main educational structures (faculties, departments, students organization, etc.) of the UNEFS.

f) the contract for doctoral studies;

The contract for university doctoral studies is posted on the UNEFS Doctoral School website, is available in both Romanian and English and is signed on October 1st of each academic year.

g) internal procedures for the analysis and approval of proposals about doctoral study programs based on advanced academic studies.

In the National University of Physical Education and Sport in Bucharest, as an institution organising doctoral studies, the initiation, monitoring and evaluation of study programmes for Bachelor's, Master's and PhD degrees rely on the Regulation for initiation, approval monitoring and periodic evaluation of study programmes, which is available on the university website.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.



Performance Indicator A.1.1.2. *The doctoral school' Regulation includes mandatory criteria, procedures and standards binding on the aspects specified in Article 17, paragraph (5) of the Government Decision No. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies with subsequent amendments and additions.*

The Regulation on the organisation and functioning of the UNEFS Doctoral School has 11 chapters: Purpose; Scope; Definitions; Description of the activity; Structure and functional relations of the Doctoral School; Doctoral School governance; Habilitation, affiliation and disaffiliation; Doctoral advisors; Guidance of doctoral students; Respecting academic ethics and deontology; Final provisions, which include all the aspects specified in the Code of University Doctoral Studies. Thus, Chapter 7, Habilitation, affiliation and disaffiliation (Art. 10, Art. 11), presents the regulations regarding the acceptance of new doctoral advisors, and Art. 12 highlights the cases in which the Doctoral School membership can be revoked.

The mechanisms through which decisions are made regarding the opportunity, structure and content of the training programme based on advanced university studies are presented in Chapter 9, Guidance of doctoral students (Art. 20 to Art. 22), where references are also made to the internal quality assurance mechanisms, respectively the feedback received from doctoral students with respect to the course structure and content, after analysing the results of the administered Satisfaction Questionnaire.

For the good development of the programme of advanced university studies and research, doctoral students have access to the research resources of the Doctoral School and the "Alexandru Partheniu" Interdisciplinary Research Centre in UNEFS, according to Art. 26 of the Regulation on the organisation and functioning of the UNEFS Doctoral School.

The regulation presents the conditions in which the doctoral programme can be interrupted (Art. 19, para. 1, 2, 3) and includes the necessary references regarding the procedures for changing the doctoral advisor and mediating possible conflicts between a doctoral student and the doctoral advisor (Art. 19, para. 4, 5, 6, 7).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator*A.1.1.3³. *Doctoral schools included in IOSUD are organized as disciplinary or interdisciplinary disciplines/thematic, according to Article 158, paragraph (7) of the Law of National Education No. 1/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions.*

Doctoral school included in UNEFS is organized as interdisciplinary disciplines directed to all area of sports science – Physical Education, Performance Sport, Physical Therapy and Management in Motor activities.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

³ The indicators marked with an asterisk (*) hold a special status, referring exclusively to the evaluation of doctoral schools, as per Article 12 from the annex No.1 of the Order of the minister of education No. 3651/12.04.2021 approving the Methodology for evaluating university doctoral studies and the system of criteria, standards and performance indicators used in the evaluation In case they are not fulfilled, the Agency extends a period of maximum 3 years to IOSUD to correct the respective deficiencies.



Standard A.1.2. The IOSUD has the logistical resources necessary to carry out the doctoral studies' mission.

The necessary logistical resources have been created for the effective conduct of the training in the doctoral school.

Performance Indicator A.1.2.1. *The existence and effectiveness of an appropriate IT system to keep track of doctoral students and their academic background.*

The UNEFS Doctoral School benefits from an IT system specialised in school management - University Management System (UMS), which allows creating a database also exploited through the Unique Student Record Book (RMU). The main information stored concerns the registration number, name and surname of doctoral student, name and surname of doctoral advisor, date of enrolment, phase where the doctoral student is (stage, extension, grace), the dates and names of progress reports and the grades obtained, the title of the thesis and the grade obtained at the public presentation, the result of the anti-plagiarism report.

The Unique Student Record Book (RMU) also includes, besides the information stored in the UMS, other information on the student school history, and for graduates who have completed their doctoral studies, the documents regarding their entire route, from admission to the public presentation of the thesis, as attachments that can be found in the Integrated Educational Register (REI). The electronic file posted on the <https://rei.gov.ro> platform is made available to the CNATDCU Commission in order to validate/invalidate the doctoral thesis.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator A.1.2.2. *The existence and use of a software program and evidence of its use to verify the percentage of similarity in all doctoral theses.*

The National University of Physical Education and Sport in Bucharest uses, in all cycles of study, the computer product www.sistemantiplagiat.ro, which requires the user to upload the text into the system where the content is compared with the available databases, and following the analysis, the system issues a Similarity Report that indicates detected fragments, their length and the sources where they have been found. The system generates two reports:

- a brief report specifying the values of the three coefficients: CS1 (% of words identified in 5-word fragments), CS2 (% of words identified in 25-word fragments) and CIT (% words in quotation marks), the presence of warnings and alerts in the form of the number of characters in alphabets and the list of similarities by source, in percentages;

- a full report containing the title of the document, the author, details of similarities, alerts and warnings, lists of similarities (the longest 10 fragments from the RefBooks database, the Own Database, the Database Exchange Program, the Internet Resources) and the analysed content, highlighting similarities in the text, depending on the source.

The indicator is fulfilled.



Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure

Standard A.2.1. The IOSUD/doctoral schools have a modern research infrastructure to support the conduct of doctoral studies' specific activities.

UNEFS has created and provided the necessary infrastructure for conducting scientific activities.

Performance Indicator A.2.1.1. *The IOSUD/the doctoral school(s) present proof of possessing or having rented adequate spaces for research activity specific to doctoral studies (laboratories, experimental fields, research stations etc.)*

The tradition of the university in the field of scientific research is marked by the establishment by ministerial order, in 1968, of the "Scientific research team in the field of physical education and sport".

Since 1992, this academic unit has been working under the name of "Dr Alexandru Partheniu" Interdisciplinary Research Centre, which includes five laboratories: Anthropometry, Functional Exploration, Motor Assessment, Human Performance, Psychology and Psychomotricity. This centre also supports the research-development-innovation activities of the Doctoral School. The research directions specific to the five laboratories are circumscribed to the areas of psychomotor education - physical education, sport and health, sport and performance, kinetic prophylaxis - physical therapy, and are supported by projects relevant to the field and visibility in the national and international scientific community. The research topics are approached by interdisciplinary teams coordinated by prestigious specialists, which also include young researchers: PhD students, postdoctoral students and Master's students.

Doctoral students have access to all UNEFS facilities to carry out the activities included in the curriculum, apply intervention programmes and conduct tests in order to collect the data necessary for the designed research. They also benefit from the material and human resources provided by UNEFS partners for the development of this programme, based on the collaboration protocols concluded.

Thus, doctoral students use devices, installations, research equipment specific to performance sport, as well as up-to-date information resources, which complement the bibliographic sources made available by the university. To carry out the activities provided in the Curriculum, doctoral students use the UNEFS facilities at the Headquarters, the Training Centres from Eforie-Nord and Parâng, as well as the training centres belonging to partners, under the conditions established by the protocols concluded with them.

The documentation of students as part of their individual study or the processing of collected data is possible through the use of state-of-the-art computers, respectively through Internet access in the UNEFS Library and Computer Lab. In order to consult the necessary scientific materials, all UNEFS teachers and students, including PhD advisors and students, can access important databases, which provide articles and books relevant to the doctoral field, through the ANELIS Consortium, where UNEFS is a member too. Thus, through ANELIS actions, the university provides free access to databases such as Clarivate Analytics (Web of Science), Sage, Springer.

Total number of volumes in the UNEFS library is 105,781.

Of which: - Romanian books: 94,742

- foreign books: 6,210

- periodicals: 10,021



- electronic documents: 160
Total number of titles: 28,776
Of which: - Romanian books: 23,346
- foreign books: 5,228
- periodicals: 448
Romanian periodicals: 121
Foreign periodicals: 327
Total number of titles in the field (sport, physical education, physical therapy): 11,701
Of which: - Romanian specialty books: 6,780
- foreign specialty books: 4,921
- specialised periodicals: 384
Specialised Romanian periodicals: 57
Specialised foreign periodicals: 330
Number of doctoral theses: 493
Number of specialised collections
Of which:
Rare book fund (only specialty books left after the 1945 purge and what followed): 1,713

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator A.2.1.2. *The IOSUD/doctoral school(s) has/have collaboration agreements with higher education institutions, research institutes, research networks for joint partnerships and have access for using various research infrastructures; the offer for research services is presented publicly using a dedicated platform.*

In order to address different research topics, UNEFS also cooperates with the DiabNutriMed Research Centre of the Diabetes, Nutrition and Metabolic Disease Clinic, which is registered in the ERRIS network under the auspices of the university. Information can be found at <https://eeris.eu/index.php>

According to their research projects, doctoral students conducted experiments that required the logistical support and technical assistance of the National Research Institute for Sport (for example, Mezei Mariana, for aerobics, 2015; Ticală Laurențiu, for swimming, 2015; Băițel Irina, for combat sports, 2016; Boțoagă (Pătru) Luminița, for combat sports, 2018).

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator A.2.1.3. *The IOSUD/doctoral school(s) proves that it is/are concerned with permanent renewal of the research infrastructure to provide doctoral students access to up-dated research resources, by applying to various funding competitions and using own university resources for acquiring new research infrastructure.*

The permanent concern of the UNEFS Doctoral School members with providing research infrastructure meant to ensure the development of teaching and research activities at quality standards is highlighted by the projects funded by CNFIS – the field Supporting research excellence in universities:

CNFIS-FDI-2020-0540 RELIABILITY, SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATION IN HUMAN MOTOR RESEARCH.



The project aimed to increase the reliability and sustainability of activities related to the standardised assessment of the potential for motor or sport performance in the field of human motricity.

CNFIS-FDI-2019-0777 PERFORMANCE IN HUMAN MOTRICITY RESEARCH BY UPGRADING MONITORING, ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEMS.

The project aimed to upgrade the postural stability and dynamic balance analysis system, the cardiac activity monitoring system and the data processing and interpretation software program.

CNFIS-FDI-2018-0575 OBJECTIFYING THE PROCESS OF MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING EXCELLENCE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, by purchasing the “Academic Profile” computer product.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion A.3. Quality of Human Resource

Standard A.3.1. At the level of each Doctoral School there are sufficient qualified staff to ensure a quality educational process.

At the Doctoral School works highly qualified staff who ensure a quality of the educational process.

Performance Indicator *A.3.1.1. *The share of Doctoral advisors coordinating simultaneously more than 8 doctoral students but not more than 12 during their doctoral studies⁴ does not exceed 20%.*

Within the UNEFS IOSUD Doctoral School, the field of Sport and Physical Education Science, the number of doctoral students under the coordination of a doctoral advisor has varied during the period under review. For the last five years the doctoral advisors coordinating more than 8 PhD students whose theses are in progress record an average of 12.71%.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator A.3.1.2. *At least 50% of all teaching/research staff involved in teaching/research activities related to training programs for advanced university studies or in individual research/art creation programs have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period with the IOSUD.*

The activities related to the advanced university study programme carried out in the period 2015-2019 were fully covered by tenured or adjunct doctoral advisors. In 2020, the curriculum was changed by reconfiguring compulsory and optional disciplines to cover all axes and directions of research: school physical education, leisure motor activities, performance sport, motor activity management, physical therapy and functional rehabilitation. This change, along with a decrease in the number of tenured doctoral advisors, led the UNEFS Doctoral School governance to use adjunct

⁴ 3 years for the doctoral university studies with the duration stipulated at Article 159, paragraph (3), respectively 4 years for the doctoral university studies with the duration stipulated at Article 174, paragraph (3) of the Law of national education No.1/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions, with additional extension periods approved as per Article 39, paragraph (3) of the Code of doctoral studies approved by the GD No. 681/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions.



academic staff to cover two disciplines, Scientific Research Methodology and Statistics Applied to Physical Education and Sport, out of the 14 made available to doctoral students.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

The UNEFS has a well-developed educational structure and content that corresponds to modern trends in education.

Criterion B.1. The number, quality and diversity of candidates enrolled for the admission contest

Standard B.1.1. Candidates admitted to doctoral studies demonstrate academic, research and professional performance and are diversified as social representation and by gender.

Candidates who apply to the doctoral school of the university demonstrate good academic and scientific achievements in the professional field.

Performance Indicator *B.1.1.1. *Admission to doctoral study programs is based on selection criteria including: previous academic, research and professional performance, their interest for scientific or arts/sports research, publications in the domain and a proposal for a research subject. Interviewing the candidate is compulsory, as part of the admission procedure.*

Admission to the third cycle of university studies is based on the Methodology regarding the organisation and conduct of the admission contest for university doctoral studies in the field of Sport and Physical Education Science, which provides candidates with information on eligibility conditions, registration procedure, development of the admission contest with its two steps:

- step 1 - admission to advanced university doctoral studies,
- step 2 - evaluation of individual scientific research projects.

In order to make the selection as objective as possible, a written test has been introduced since 2020 in the form of a structured essay designed to evaluate the candidates' knowledge about the field of Sport and Physical Education Science, which is based on a topic established by doctoral advisors and approved by the Doctoral School Council.

To decide between two or more candidates with the same score, the following criteria are applied: grade in test 2 - a structured essay based on fundamental and specialised knowledge; general average score of the years of academic studies (Bachelor's and Master's or equivalent); average score at the final graduation exam (Bachelor's and Master's or equivalent), number of publications, number of Master's programmes completed (Art. 15, para. 2).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator B.1.1.2. *The IOSUD/doctoral school(s) have a policy for stimulating enrollment of doctoral students coming from disadvantaged social environments, by allocating reserved positions in the admission procedure and/or granting special scholarships, as well as organising support programs to prevent drop-outs.*



The concern of the UNEFS Doctoral School with stimulating and supporting the enrolment of PhD students from disadvantaged social backgrounds was materialised by implementing two projects, POSDRU/159/1.5/S141086 “Pluri- and Interdisciplinarity in Doctoral and Postdoctoral Programmes” and SOCERT, “The Knowledge Society, Dynamism through Research”, carried out between 2014 and 2016 in collaboration with the Romanian Academy, the Institute for Quality of Life Research and the Institute for Economic Research, during which 28 doctoral and 8 postdoctoral students received scholarships. In addition, two postdoctoral scholarships funded by UNEFS from own revenues in the 2016-2018 period were granted.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion B.2. The content of doctoral programs

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

The training programme is directed to development of research skills and ethical behaviour.

Performance Indicator B.2.1.1. *The training program based on advanced academic studies includes at least 3 disciplines relevant to the scientific research training of doctoral students; at least one of these disciplines is intended to study in-depth the research methodology and/or the statistical data processing.*

In order to organise and conduct advanced doctoral studies, the Curriculum was developed based on the legal provisions of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). In this regard, the following benchmarks were taken into account: standard duration: 3 years/6 semesters; number of transfer credits (ECTS)/education cycle: 180; advanced studies: 1 semester -consisting of direct and individual teaching activities that do not exceed 3 months; scientific research programme/standard period: 5 semesters; number of transfer credits (ECTS)/semester: 30; types of subjects/advanced studies: compulsory / optional.

In the curriculum developed for the programme in the field of Sport and Physical Education Science, 4 compulsory subjects and 24 optional subjects were provided until 2019, which were grouped in 6 packages. Considering the characteristics of university doctoral studies and their specifics in the field of Sport and Physical Education Science, 2 (two) hours were allocated for the course, 1 (one) hour for the seminar and 4 credits, except for the discipline Scientific Research Methodology in Physical Education and Sport, which was allocated 2 (two) hours for both the course and the seminar and 6 credits. Through the regulation of doctoral studies in UNEFS and in correlation with the research topic, each doctoral student has to attend the classes of the compulsory disciplines and three other optional ones distributed in at least two packages.

The curriculum of the Doctoral School, approved by the university Senate in 2020, provides two distinct disciplines whose content aims to train skills in scientific research, namely the Scientific Research Methodology and Statistics Applied to Physical Education and Sport.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.



Performance Indicator B.2.1.2. *At least one discipline is dedicated to Ethics and Intellectual Property in scientific research or there are well-defined topics on these subjects within a discipline taught in the doctoral program.*

One of the compulsory disciplines introduced in the 2018-2019 academic year is Ethics and Integrity in Scientific Research, which, by its content, addresses topics related to the concepts of ethics, morality and integrity, ethical codes in scientific research, principles, legislative regulations, the right to intellectual property, etc. The discipline is provided with one course and one seminar per week.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator B.2.1.3. *The IOSUD has mechanisms to ensure that the academic training program based on advanced university studies addresses “the learning outcomes”, specifying the knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through the research activities⁵.*

UNEFS, as an institution organising university doctoral studies (IOSUD), assumes increased special responsibilities for the content but also the organisation, conduct and completion of the activities required by law for each stage of these studies.

The doctoral programme is carried out only within the Doctoral School under the coordination of a doctoral advisor and includes:

- a) a training programme based on advanced university studies within the Doctoral School;
- b) an individual programme of scientific research or creation and sport performance.

The length of the doctoral programme is 3 years.

The advanced university study programme takes place over 12 weeks according to the curriculum developed for the programme in the field of Sport and Physical Education Science, and there are 4 compulsory disciplines and 22 optional disciplines grouped into two packages. In addition to the compulsory disciplines, each doctoral student opts for three more optional disciplines, thus accumulating 30 credits. Each subject included in the curriculum is provided with a subject description where the objectives, targeted competencies, knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy, content (descriptors), form of evaluation, necessary resources and bibliography are recorded.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion B.3. The results of doctoral studies and procedures for their evaluation

Standard B.3.1. Doctoral students capitalize on the research through presentations at scientific conferences, scientific publications, technological transfer, patents, products and service orders.

Doctoral students present their scientific work at scientific conferences and as scientific publications.

⁵ Or by what the graduate should know, understand and to be able to do, according to the provisions of the Methodology regarding inscription and registration of higher education qualifications in the the National Register of Qualifications in Higher Education (RNCIS) approved by the Order No.3475/2017 with subsequent amendments and additions.



Performance Indicator B.3.1.1. *For the doctoral school there are in place mechanisms for valorification of the results of doctoral studies in accordance with the specificity of the particular domain (i.e. technological transfer, products, patents in the case of exact sciences; products and services for social sciences and humanities; festivals, contests, recitals, sports competitions; cultural-arts orders in the vocational domain; presentations at national and international conferences, publication of research results in national and international publications, engaging doctoral students in writing research-development projects etc.)*

During the period under review, the UNEFS doctoral students wrote articles/scientific papers either as co-authors or authors. Between 2015 and 2020, the doctoral students who completed their theses developed and published 279 articles that can be found on the Web of Science or in relevant journals (for example: Discobolul - Physical Education, Sport and Kinetotherapy Journal; Romanian Journal of Physical Therapy; Sport and Society, an Interdisciplinary Journal of Physical Education and Sports ("Ovidius" University Annals, series Physical Education and Sport, Science, Movement and Health) indexed in recognised international databases and participated with oral or poster presentation in conferences, congresses and symposia.

In the last 5 academic years, doctoral students have participated in national and international scientific conferences/congresses and have published 279 articles. Also, the graduates of doctoral studies have published 30 specialised books addressing aspects and results obtained from their individual research project, of which 2 are issued by type A1 publishing houses (Germany).

Within the UNEFS Doctoral School, the thesis of a PhD student, Rădescu Petre, Dualitatea impactului exercițiului fizic-structură psihică. Impactul exercițiilor fizice ultra lente asupra preciziei în coordonare (Duality of the physical exercise-mental structure impact. The impact of ultra-slow exercise on precision in coordination), ended with the creation of the USMIT® PRO Platform based on the USMIT (Ultra-Slow Motion Intelligent Training®) program, the trademark product no. 169394 issued by the Office for Inventions and Trademarks.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion B.4. Quality of doctoral theses

Standard B.4.1. Doctoral theses fulfil high quality standards

Doctoral theses were validated by CNATDCU.

Performance Indicator B.4.1.1. *At the level of IOSUD, the percentage of theses non-validated, at the level of General Council of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNADTCU), without the right of further amendments and re-organizing the process of public defending, is not exceeding 5% in the last 5 years.*

The scientific activity of PhD students enrolled at the UNEFS Doctoral School is completed with the development and public presentation of the doctoral thesis; during the period under review, a total number of 106 doctoral theses were completed and validated by CNATDCU.



All 106 theses completed between 2016 and 2020 were analysed and re-evaluated by members of the specialised commission assigned by the Chairman of the CNATDCU Commission no. 8, Psychology, Educational Sciences, Physical Education and Sport, based on the <https://rei.gov.ro/> platform, and of these, 3 theses were restored and then validated by CNATDCU.

No doctoral thesis was invalidated; all the theses were subjected to similarity analysis and no suspicion of plagiarism was recorded.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Domain C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

The institution creates the necessary conditions for the implementation of good quality management.

Criterion C.1. Existence and periodic implementation of the internal quality assurance system

Standard C.1.1. There are an institutional framework and procedures in place and relevant internal quality assurance policies, applied for monitoring the internal quality assurance.

Specific procedures and relevant policies for internal quality assurance have been developed and approved.

Performance Indicator C.1.1.1. *The IOSUD shall demonstrate the continuous development of the evaluation process and its internal quality assurance following a procedure developed and applied at the level of the doctoral school(s), the following assessed criteria being mandatory:*

(a) the scientific work of Doctoral advisors;

The IOSUD has developed the Procedure for internal evaluation and monitoring of the evolution of the Doctoral School in order to implement a unitary framework for action and correct decision-making in the Doctoral School. This document stipulates that:

Art. 2. The Doctoral School Council is responsible for the organisation and development of the study programme.

Art. 3 (1). Evaluation and monitoring management is provided by the commission for quality assurance in the SCDR.

Art. 4 (1). Self-evaluation and monitoring take into account: the inclusion of actions and activities in the institutional strategy for the current mandate and in the operational plan for the current year; fulfilling the requirements regarding the UNEFS IOSUD capacity to organise and develop the doctoral programme; legal mechanisms to ensure school management; infrastructure and logistics consisting of spaces for the programme, facilities for access and use of other spaces, computerised systems for records, analyses and management; human resource; flow of doctoral students; the organisation and development of the programme, the opportunity to introduce new disciplines, the inclusion of topics in the Research Plan of the Doctoral School and implicitly of the university; collaborations.

This procedure is complemented by the UNEFS Doctoral School Self-Evaluation Report prepared by the director of the Doctoral School for each academic year, which is structured in the following chapters/subchapters: introduction, organisational structure of the Doctoral School, mission and objectives of the doctoral programme, specific objectives of the study

programme, human resource, doctoral students, doctoral advisors, technical, material and financial resources, study and research infrastructure, financial activity, programme of the university doctoral studies, internationalisation of doctoral studies, scientific research, quality management, achievements in the analysed academic year, managerial activity, activity of doctoral advisors.

In 2018, an IT product was developed and implemented, namely the “Academic Profile” application, which is mainly aimed at managing the scientific production of teachers and researchers, including doctoral advisors. The “Academic Profile” has as main objective the support of the activity of excellence in university research by creating a profile for each teacher, in terms of their didactic and research activities. This “Academic Profile” facilitates the teacher’s self-evaluation by processing and aggregating the data necessary for the CNATDCU file, as well as for the process of reporting the university to other institutions.

(b) the infrastructure and logistics necessary to carry out the research activity;

For the good development of the programme of advanced university studies and research, doctoral students have access to the research resources of the Doctoral School and the “Dr. Alexandru Partheniu” Interdisciplinary Research Centre in UNEFS according to Art. 26 of the Regulation on the organisation and functioning of the UNEFS Doctoral School and the Regulation on access to research laboratories.

(c) the procedures and subsequent rules based on which doctoral studies are organized;

- Regulation on the organisation and functioning of the UNEFS Doctoral School
- Methodology regarding the organisation and development of the admission contest for university doctoral studies in the field of Sport and Physical Education Science
- Operational procedure regarding the distribution of places from the state budget for university doctoral studies
- Operational procedure regarding the confirmation of the place obtained following the admission contest for university doctoral studies
- Operational procedure regarding the record of the guidance activity for doctoral students by the committee members
- Operational procedure regarding the similarity analysis of doctoral theses
- Operational procedure regarding the expulsion and re-enrolment of third-cycle students university doctoral studies

d) the academic and social services (including participation to various events, publication of papers etc.) and counselling made available to doctoral students.

Doctoral students of UNEFS are constantly assisted in participating in various events, conferences and symposia, publications of articles and other scientific and social events.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.1.1.2. Students’ associations and, according to the case, representatives of students organise elections in the community of doctoral students, for positions in the CSUD, by universal vote, direct and secret, all doctoral students having the right of electing or being elected.



Within the National University of Physical Education and Sport in Bucharest, as an institution organising university doctoral studies, there is only one Doctoral School in the field of Sport and Physical Education Science, which is why the Council of University Doctoral Studies does not identify with the Doctoral School Council. Doctoral students participate in elections for representation in the university Senate and the Doctoral School Council.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.1.1.3. *Students' associations and, according to the case, representatives of students organise elections in the community of doctoral students at the level of each doctoral school, for positions in the councils of doctoral schools, by universal vote, direct and secret, all doctoral students having the right of electing or being elected.*

The Methodology of elections for the UNEFS structures and governance positions - 2020- 2024 mandate, at Chapter 9, Conducting elections for the representatives of student community in governance structures, stipulates the following:

Art. 24 (1). The election of students' representatives in governance structures is the sole responsibility of students, without any interference from teachers. Compliance with the current methodology in the organisation and conduct of elections will be monitored by a designated observer from CSOCA and the tutoring teacher, who will not get involved in any way in student activities; (5). The elected candidates must meet all the conditions specified in Law no. 1/2011, the UNEFS Charter and the Methodology of elections. (6). For the UNEFS governance structures, the students' representatives will be designated as follows: for the Doctoral School Council, 2 representatives (1 first-year doctoral student, 1 second-year doctoral student); for the Senate, 5 representatives (2 FEFS, 2 Physical Therapy, 1 Doctoral School).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *C.1.1.4. *Following the internal evaluation, IOSUD and the doctoral schools draft strategies and policies aiming to eliminate the identified deficiencies and to stimulate scientific and academic performance of IOSUD.*

Each self-evaluation report of the Doctoral School is accompanied by a plan that specifies the main measures to be implemented in the next period to both address the weaknesses found and further improve and stimulate institutional and personal performance.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

Standard C.2.1. Information of interest to doctoral students, future candidates and public interest information is available for electronic format consultation.



Full transparency of information and access to learning resources is ensured.

Performance Indicator C.2.1.1. *The IOSUD publishes on the website of the organizing institution, in compliance with the general regulations on data protection, information such as:*

- (a) the IOSUD/Doctoral School regulation;*
- (b) the admission regulation;*
- (c) the doctoral studies contract;*
- (d) the study completion regulation including the procedure for the public presentation of the thesis;*
- (e) the content of the training study program based on advanced academic studies;*
- (f) the academic and scientific profile, thematic areas/research themes of the Doctoral advisors within the domain, as well as their institutional contact data;*
- (g) the list of doctoral students within the domain with necessary information (year of registration; Advisor);*
- (h) information on the standards for developing the doctoral thesis;*
- (i) information on the opportunities for doctoral students aiming to attend conferences, to publish articles, awarding scholarships etc.*
- (j) links to the doctoral theses's summaries to be publicly presented and the date, time, place where they will be presented; this information will be communicated at least twenty days before the presentation.*

All methodologies and regulations regarding the organisation and conduct of admission contests, as well as any other information of public interest, are available on the Doctoral School website, in compliance with the general regulations on data protection.

The concrete criteria that are presented on the website are the following: Doctoral School regulation, Admission regulation, Contract for doctoral studies, Regulation for the completion of Studies, Procedure for the public presentation of the thesis, Content of the study programmes, Scientific profile and thematic areas/research themes of the doctoral advisors, List of doctoral students in the school with necessary information, Standards for developing the doctoral thesis, Summaries of the doctoral theses presented publicly.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Standard C.2.2. The IOSUD/The Doctoral School provides doctoral students with access to the resources needed for conducting doctoral studies.

The doctoral school provides access to all necessary resources for conducting the training.

Performance Indicator C.2.2.1. *All doctoral students have free access to one platform providing academic databases relevant to the doctoral studies domain of their thesis.*

All UNEFS teachers and students, including PhD advisors and students, can access important databases, which provide articles and books relevant to the doctoral field, through the ANELIS Consortium, where UNEFS is a member too. Thus, through ANELIS actions, the university provides free access to databases such as Clarivate Analytics (Web of Science), Sage, Springer, Scopus, Science Direct Elsevier, CEEOL.



The UNEFS Library provides for free, both in classical and electronic format, the learning resources (encyclopaedias, treatises, textbooks, other bibliographic resources, etc.) for each study programme organised at the Bachelor's, Master's and PhD levels. The library has, in addition to electronic access, an appropriate number of volumes from the country and abroad, as well as subscriptions to the main specialised journals in the country and abroad for each subject that defines a study programme.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

With reference to the application of legal provisions regarding the analysis of similarity of doctoral theses, scientific papers, articles, UNEFS has been using a specialised software program (an anti-plagiarism system) since 2013, to which doctoral students have access upon request and with the doctoral advisor's consent.

The Sistemantiplagiat.ro program can be found in the list approved by MEN through the OMENCS Order no. 3485/2016 regarding the list of programs recognised by CNATDCU and their use in higher education institutions organising university doctoral studies in order to establish the degree of similarity for scientific papers.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.2.2.3. *All doctoral students have access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities depending on the specific domain/domains within the Doctoral School, according to internal order procedures.*

The 5 research laboratories within the "Alexandru Partheniu" Interdisciplinary Research Centre in UNEFS, namely the Anthropometry Laboratory, the Functional Exploration Laboratory, the Motor Assessment Laboratory, the Human Performance Laboratory and the Psychology and Psychomotricity Laboratory, provide students with doctoral devices/ equipment, as well as research and consulting services based on the Regulation on the organisation and functioning of the "Dr. Alexandru Partheniu" Interdisciplinary Research Centre and the regulations regarding the access to each of the 5 laboratories mentioned above.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion C.3. Internationalization

Standard C.3.1. IOSUD/Doctoral school has a strategy in place and it is applied to enhance the internationalization of doctoral studies.

A strategy for improving the internationalization process of the doctoral school has been adopted and is being implemented.



Performance Indicator *C.3.1.1. *IOSUD, for every doctoral school, has concluded mobility agreements with universities abroad, with research institutes, with companies working in the field of study, aimed at the mobility of doctoral students and academic staff (e.g., ERASMUS agreements for the doctoral studies). At least 35% of the doctoral students have completed a training course abroad or other mobility forms such as attending international scientific conferences. IOSUD drafts and applies policies and measures aiming at increasing the number of doctoral students participating at mobility periods abroad, up to at least 20%, which is the target at the level of the European Higher Education Area.*

Erasmus bilateral agreements for doctoral studies have been signed with universities from Greece - Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and Portugal - University of Trás-os-Montes and Alto Douro in Vila Real.

Doctors' students have participated in congresses and conferences organised in the European Space. The following scientific events can be noted: IX Students and Young Scientists International Scientific Conference - Almatı, Kazahstan - octombrie 2019 – Distinguished with an award, 21th Annual Congress of the European College of Sport Science, 6-9th July ECSS, Viena-Austria, 7th World Conference on Psychology, Counseling and Guidance, 28 - 30 aprilie, Kusadasi Turkey, 6th World Conference on Psychology, Consuelling & Guidance, 14-16 mai, Antalya Turkey.

In the 2019-2020 academic year, PhD student Ioana Roşculeţ took part in an Erasmus mobility programme at the University of Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro (Vila Real, Portugal).

PhD student Anca Ionescu will join a training programme at the University of Bologna within the Erasmus Plus Mobility in the 2021-2022 academic year.

Starting with the 2020-2021 academic year, Prof. Vassilis Barkoukis teaches the Scientific Research Methodology subject.

The directions for action in order to increase the degree of internationalisation of the UNEFS Doctoral School are in line with the Institutional Strategic Plan (2020-2024) and the Strategy to Promote the Image and Inter-Institutional Relations at National and International Levels (2020-2024).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.3.1.2. *IOSUD supports, including providing financial support, to the organization of doctoral studies in international co-tutelage or invitation of leading experts to deliver courses/lectures for doctoral students.*

The UNEFS Doctoral School organised student meetings with guests from partner universities: Daniel Courteix (Clermond Ferrand, France), Arben Kakurri (Tirana, Albania), Volodymyr Mykolaiovich Platonov and Maria Bulatova (Kiev, Ukraine), Marc Lochbaum (USA), Monoem Haddad (Qatar), Vassilis Barkoukis (Salonic, Greece).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *C.3.1.3. *At least 10% of the doctoral theses of every doctoral schools of the IOSUD are drafted and/or submitted in an international foreign language or are organised in international co-tutelage.*



During the evaluation period, 9 PhD students from the UNEFS Doctoral School completed their studies and publicly presented their doctoral theses (1 doctoral student from the European Community area and 8 doctoral students from the non-European area).

The theses were written in Romanian, these doctoral students graduating a preparatory year of Romanian language.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.3.1.4. *The internationalization of activities carried out during the doctoral studies is supported by IOSUD through concrete measures (e.g., by participating in educational fairs to attract international doctoral students; by including international experts in guidance committees or doctoral committees⁶ etc.).*

UNEFS participated in several educational fairs designed to attract international PhD students, which were organized in the European area and the United States within the program Study in Romania designed to attract international PhD students:

- European Association for International Education (EAIE), 2017, Seville
- European Association for International Education (EAIE), 2018, Geneva
- National Association of Foreign Student Advisers (NAFSA), 2019, Washington
- European Association for International Education (EAIE), 2019, Helsinki

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

⁶ Doctoral studies are completed by presenting the doctoral thesis in public session in front of a committee whose members hear and judge the final public presentation of the thesis



Criterion C.4. System for assurance of ethical and academic integrity

Standard C.4.1. IOSUD/Doctoral school has a functional and efficient system in place for prevention and assuring ethical and academic integrity norms

The IOSUD/Doctoral School has a prevention-based policy related to any possible violations of the Code of Ethics and Academic Integrity, and proves this through public positions, studies, analyses or measures.

Performance Indicator C.4.1.1. *IOSUD, applies the current provisions regulating ethics, deontology/academic integrity, respectively to academic freedom and has developed:*

- *policies based on prevention regarding possible violations of the Code of ethics and academic integrity, demonstrated by public postionings, studies, analyses or measures taken;*
- *practices and mechanisms for preventing fraud, from an institutional perspective as well as from the perspective of the doctoral students;*
- *practices for preventing possible fraud in academic activity, research or any other activity, including active measures for preventing and avoiding plagiarism of any kind, as well as promoting ethical and integrity/deontology principles or observing intellectual property norms, authors' rights and other related rights, among all members of the academic community;*
- *administrative instruments which allow applying effective and eliminatory sanctions;*
- *mechanisms and measures to assure equal opportunities and protection against intolerance and discrimination of any kind;*

IOSUD monitors and permanently evaluates these practices and can prove they are applied to all activities and engagement of students in all these processes, and the results of the monitoring is made public yearly or whenever it becomes necessary.

In the UNEFS IOSUD, ethical standards are created and applied at the professional, institutional and organisational levels and involve the application of moral principles, behavioural standards and the set of values operating in the academic conduct. The emphasis is placed on aspects related to prevention and proactive thinking, and less on the sanctioning elements that derive from the violation of the Code of Ethics and Rules of Conduct/Academic Integrity (<https://unefsb.ro/despre-noi/calitate/>).

The rules of good conduct for research in the field of Sport and Physical Education Science apply to:

- a) scientific activity, starting from its design until its completion;
- b) the activity of communication and publication of the research-development results;
- c) patents, protection of designs and patterns (according to Law no. 129/1992 republished), copyright and related rights (according to Law no. 8/1996 with subsequent amendments and completions);
- d) institutional research-development evaluation and monitoring from the perspective of compliance with ethical norms.



In the educational policies it has often been mentioned the need to build a culture of academic integrity, which includes the organisational spirit and climate and is meant to promote ethical behaviour and effectively solve ethical violations in accordance with legal provisions.

In order to apply moral norms in the academic area, UNEFS benefits from an ethics infrastructure that includes the Code of Ethics, ethics commissions, procedures, auditing, etc.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.4.1.2. *All intimations regarding suspicion of plagiarism related to doctoral theses have been analysed and resolved by the IOSUD within the time interval legally established for expressing in writing its position regarding the intimation received.*

No suspicions of plagiarism were reported in the UNEFS Doctoral School, consequently the IOSUD did not have such an object of activity.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.4.1.3. *Annual Reports of the Ethics commission of the IOSUD contain information on the stage of solving each case of intimation or own-initiative intimation regarding violation of norms or ethical aspects relevant for university doctoral studies. description of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents and the evaluation visit itself.*

The annual reports of the UNEFS Ethics Commission issued in the last 5 years do not contain information on the violation of any ethical rules and aspects by doctoral advisors or doctoral students.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.4.1.4. *The measures taken by IOSUD after the final decision of CNADTCU to withdraw the title of "doctor" following accusations of plagiarism have addressed all the aspects mentioned in CNADTCU's decision and in the current legislation.*

Within the UNEFS IOSUD, no case of withdrawing the doctoral title by the CNADTCU was recorded.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.4.1.5. *The measures aiming to prevent academic fraud in the doctoral studies, taken by IOSUD, could be:*

a) *Suspension of the right to advise newly enrolled doctoral students, for a period of 3 years, in the case of doctoral advisors having coordinated a doctoral thesis with a definitive decision of withdrawal of the "doctor" title for plagiarism;*



- b) Exclusion from the IOSUD of the doctoral advisor having coordinated at least two doctoral theses with definitive decisions of withdrawal of the “doctor” title for plagiarism;
- c) Suspension of the right to organize the admission process of new doctoral students in the Doctoral studies domain, for a period of 2 years, if in the respective domain a doctoral thesis has been finalized and defended with a definitive decision of withdrawal of the “doctor” title for plagiarism.

No cases described above have been reported at the university.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *C.4.1.6. *The scientific reviewers members in the commissions for public defense of two or more doctoral theses with definitive decisions of withdrawal of the “doctor” title for plagiarism, have not been nominated in other commissions for public defence of doctoral theses for a period of at least 3 years.*

It was not the case.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.4.1.7. *IOSUD has a database open to the public containing all the doctoral theses defended in the institution beginning at least in 2016 in a format including: the domain, author, doctoral advisor, title of the thesis and the thesis in electronic format (if there is an agreement of the author).*

The database is on the website of the UNEFS:

<http://scoaladoctoralaunefs.ro/studenti-inmatriculati/>

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

IV. SWOT Analysis

<p>Strengths:</p> <p>A sufficient and highly qualified teaching staff to ensure high quality student education and to conduct modern scientific research</p> <p>Support doctoral students to actively participate in scientific conferences, congresses, workshops and project activities and to publish their scientific articles and reports in established scientific journals</p> <p>Constantly develops and maintains modern base, facilities, information and resources for carrying out its main activities</p> <p>An internal quality assurance system - clear and</p>	<p>Weaknesses:</p> <p>Small number of Erasmus mobility for students</p>
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transparent procedures and policies in the doctoral school for educational quality management have been established	
<p>Opportunities:</p> <p>Systematic updating of the existing educational programs</p> <p>Creation of new joint educational programmes and collaboration with similar European universities</p> <p>Application and development of new online modules for doctoral and post-doctoral students</p> <p>New base and facilities for scientific research</p>	<p>Threats:</p> <p>Competition from other doctoral schools in the same field</p> <p>Increasing the requirements of employers and insufficient satisfaction of their needs</p>

V. Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations

No.	Type of indicator (*, C)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
A.1.	A.1.1.	A.1.1.1. A.1.1.2. *A.1.1.3.	Fulfilled	
	A.1.2.	A.1.2.1. A.1.2.2.	Fulfilled	
A.2.	A.2.1.	A.2.1.1. A.2.1.2. A.2.1.3.	Fulfilled	
A.3.	A.3.1.	*A3.1.1. A.3.1.2	Fulfilled	
B.1.	B.1.1.	*B.1.1.1. B.1.1.2.	Fulfilled	
B.2.	B.2.1.	B.2.1.1. B.2.1.2. B.2.1.3.	Fulfilled	
B.3.	B.3.1.	B.3.1.1.	Fulfilled	
B.4.	B.4.1.	B.4.1.1.	Fulfilled	
C.1.	C.1.1.	C.1.1.1. C.1.1.2. C.1.1.3. *C.1.1.4.	Fulfilled	
C.2.	C.2.1.	C.2.1.1.	Fulfilled	
	C.2.2.	C.2.2.1.	Fulfilled	

		C.2.2.2. C.2.2.3.		
C.3.	C.3.1.	*C.3.1.1. C.3.1.2. *C.3.1.3. C.3.1.4.	Fulfilled	To extend the Erasmus students' mobility
C.4.	C.4.1.	C.4.1.1. C.4.1.2. C.4.1.3. C.4.1.4. C.4.1.5. *C.4.1.6. C.4.1.7.	Fulfilled	

VI. Conclusions and general recommendations

The National University for Physical education and Sport (UNEFS) as an academic institution organizing Doctoral school domain has a sufficient and highly qualified teaching staff to ensure high quality student education and to conduct modern scientific research. Systematic monitoring and updating of the existing educational programs is carried out. This practice guarantees the continuous strengthening of the competitiveness of the UNEFS as an specialized higher school providing doctoral programmes on the educational and labor market.

The UNEFS support doctoral students to actively participate in scientific conferences, congresses, workshops and project activities and to publish their scientific articles and reports in established scientific journals in the country and abroad.

The UNEFS partners with foreign related universities, through which a number of international activities and cooperation directed to doctoral students are carried out.

The UNEFS has, constantly develops and maintains modern base, facilities, information and resources for carrying out its main activities in the advanced study programme. Opportunities for application and development of online training have been created and improved. Doctoral students have access to the facilities, resources and laboratories necessary for the educational and research process.

The official website of the UNEFS doctoral study domain is very well structured and maintained. This allows for full and detailed information of candidate students, doctoral students and employers.

The UNEFS as an academic institution has developed and approved an internal quality assurance system. Clear and transparent procedures and policies in the doctoral school for educational quality management have been established.

The UNEFS as an institution organizing doctoral study programme periodically analyzes information about its structural units related to the development and implementation of the policy for ensuring the quality of educational and scientific activities, as well as about the results of the conducted internal audits.

Based on the assessments made on the individual criteria and performance indicators, the following recommendations can be provided:



1. Strengthening of the process of internationalization of the UNEFS/Doctoral school in the following directions:

- to extend the Erasmus students' mobility;
- to create new joint educational programmes and collaboration with similar European universities;
- to attract foreign doctoral students.

2. Continuation of the process of digitalization of the quality of education through working out of new IT modules for educational and research activities and for administrative services. This process will support the interaction between the doctoral school and the employers.