

## **The External Evaluation Report of a Doctoral Study Domain**

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### **I. Introduction<sup>1</sup>**

In this report the undersigned Andrea Carteny summarizes the context in which this evaluation report was drafted. As ARACIS International Expert Evaluator of the Doctoral Study Domain History-Doctoral School of History at the University of Oradea (UO). The above mentioned activity of evaluation was organized and carried out by ARACIS with the aim to maintain the **accreditation**, during the period **15-20 November 2021**, with the following composition of the **Experts Committee**:

Coordinator: Prof. PhD Mihai Gligor (University "1 December 1918" of Alba Iulia)

International Expert: Prof. PhD Andrea Carteny (Sapienza University of Rome)

PhD student: Bogdan Negrea (Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca)

The Legal framework in which it is realized this evaluation is the following:

- Law of National Education No 1/2011
- Government Emergency Ordinance no. 75/2005 on Quality Assurance of Education, approved with amendments and additions by Law No 87/2006, as amended and supplemented subsequently (in particular Articles 10, 13 and 29)
- Romanian Government Decision No. 681 of 29 June 2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies, with subsequent amendments and additions
- Order 3651 of 12.04.2021 of the Minister of Education to approve the Methodology for evaluation of doctoral studies and the systems of criteria, standards and performance indicators used in the evaluation and the systems of criteria, standards and performance indicators used in the evaluation
- Law of National Education No 1/2011, with subsequent amendments and additions, in particular Title III - Higher Education, Chapter III – Organization of University Studies, Section 12 – Third cycle – Doctoral studies, Articles 158 and 159, but also Articles 160-170)

The process of periodical external evaluation or accreditation, as appropriate, for doctoral university studies, shall be carried out under the provisions of Article 158 paragraphs (2) – (5) of the Law of National Education No. 1/2011 and involves the following steps:

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<sup>1</sup> Each time when applicable the information shall be presented gender-wise.



- The evaluation of the organization framework, named as IOSUD is carried out under the terms of the Article 132 para. (1) of Law No 1/2011, with subsequent amendments and additions, on the basis of the provisions of Art. 13 let. a) - c) of the Government Emergency Ordinance No 75/2005 on the Quality Assurance of Education, approved with amendments by Law No 87/2006, with subsequent amendments and supplements;
- Evaluation of the doctoral study domains in which the doctoral degree programs are organized.

During the evaluation period, as international expert, I took part in the online meetings (not in the onsite visit). I was informed about the working methodology (including the structure of the evaluation panels, for IOSUD and doctoral study domains, including contact data), the Doctoral Study Domain to be evaluated, the most important working document (such as The Guidelines for Periodical External Evaluation of the Institution Organising Doctoral Study Programs (IOSUD), respectively of the Doctoral study domains; The Doctoral Studies Code of June 29th, 2011 and the Order no. 3651/12.04.2021 for the approval of the Methodology on conducting the evaluation of university doctoral studies and of the systems of criteria, standards and performance indicators used in the evaluation; General presentation of the HE and QA systems in Romania), the agenda of meetings, credentials for the access to the Internal evaluation reports.

About the **background** and then general **framework** of the **Doctoral Schools** at the University of Oradea, it has to be mentioned that, as well said in the website at the link

<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/en/organization/organizational-chart>

*the activity of I.O.S.U.D.-University of Oradea is coordinated by the Council of Doctoral Studies (C.S.U.D). Doctoral Schools are similar to departments and are formed within faculties that manage Doctorates. The structure coordinating the activities of the Doctoral Schools is the Doctoral School Council (CSD), headed by a director. Secretarial activity takes place within the Department of Doctoral Studies (SSUD) composed of a secretary chief and secretaries. CSUD, CSD and SSUD are coordinated by the CSUD Director.*

The Doctoral Schools' structure is composed by **18 doctoral domains** organized in **7 doctoral schools** (with both education/didactic by attendance required / reduced attendance):

Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences

Doctoral School of Biomedical Sciences

Doctoral School of Humanities and Arts

Doctoral School of History

Doctoral School of Geography

Doctoral School of Sociology

Doctoral School of Economic Sciences

The **Doctoral School of History** (Doctoral Domain of History) is provided in the framework of the Faculty of History, International Relations, Political Sciences and Sciences of Communication).

The History doctoral field was established in 2000 (OMEN no. 4212/20.07.2000. The Doctoral School (DS) of HISTORY has been operating under this name since the academic year 2011-2012 (HS no. 170 of 12.09.2011), organising the doctoral studies in the fundamental field of Humanities and Arts, branch of



science History, doctoral field History. The mission of the Doctoral School of History is to generate and transfer knowledge to society through:

-academic training, at the highest level of performance, of the doctoral student with the aim of satisfying the need for intellectual, professional and social development of the student, but also the need for specialized workforce of the society;

-to promote excellence in the processes of scientific research, development, innovation and transfer of knowledge to the Romanian society, thus responding to its need for progress.

(see <https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/en/about-his/mission-and-objectives> )

It is organized in **6 doctoral advisors/directors**, with a total of 51 doctoral candidates (45 attending students), as resulted by the data published in the website: Prof. Mihai Drecin (5 PhD candidates, among them 2 attending students), Prof. Ion Zainea (13 PhD candidates, among them 11 attending students); Prof. Gabriel Moisa (9 PhD candidates, among them 8 attending students); Prof. Sorin Sipos (11 PhD candidates and attending students); Prof. Antonio Faur (5 PhD candidates and attending students); Prof. Corneliu Padureanu (8 PhD candidates and attending students).

His CSD Management is composed by: Prof. Sorin Sipos (Director), Prof. Gabriel Moisa (Member), Prof. Aurel Chiriac (Representative of business environment-cultural institutions), Cosmin Patca (PhD student).

## II. Methods used

Methods and tools used in the external evaluation process, during the evaluation activity online, included the analysis of the internal evaluation report of the doctoral study domain under review and its Annexes; the analysis of documents, data and information available on the IOSUD/Doctoral School website and ARACIS cloud in electronic format. It is also taken into account the reported visits of the buildings included in the institution's property, comprising:

- classrooms and laboratories;
- the institution's library and the research centers;
- lecture halls for students and residences;
- the student cafeteria and sports facilities.

Further informations and details were provided by the meeting and discussions with doctoral students in the doctoral study domain under review, with the graduates of the doctoral study domain, with employers of the graduates in the doctoral study domain under review, with the school officials of the Doctoral School in which the doctoral study domain under review is operating, with the doctoral advisors in the doctoral study domain under review, with the representatives of the various structures of the IOSUD/Doctoral School in which the doctoral study domain under review is operating and of the bodies of the University of Oradea. In synthesis, during this Periodical External Evaluation of the doctoral study domain History, we had several meetings:

- On Monday: line preliminary meeting for the preparation and harmonization of evaluation steps, in hybrid mode, of doctoral study domains and IOSUD, with the participation of IOSUD and domain evaluation panel members;
- Online meeting with representatives of the institution and of the evaluation panel members, representatives of the University's management, representatives of the CSUD and of the Doctoral School; the contact person for IOSUD / doctoral domain;



- Online meeting with the contact person for the doctoral study domain under review and the team who drafted the internal evaluation report, with the participation of domain evaluation panel members and the doctoral studies domain contact person and the team who drafted the internal evaluation report;
- Online meeting with the academic staff corresponding to the doctoral study domain: with the members of domain evaluation panel and the doctoral coordinators;
- On Tuesday: online meeting with the members of the Ethics Commission, with the evaluation panel members and Ethics Commission members;
- Online meeting with the Commission for Quality Evaluation and Assurance (CEAC) members / Quality Assurance Department;
- Online meeting with PhD students;
- Online meeting with representatives of doctoral graduates;
- On Wednesday: online meeting with the Directors and persons in charge of the research centers/laboratories within the doctoral study domain;
- Online meeting with Doctoral Schools Council (CSD members);
- Online meeting with employers of Doctoral graduates in history domain;
- Online technical meeting to identify specific issues that need to be clarified, if necessary, during the on-site visit;
- On Saturday: online meetings for conclusions and with representatives of the institution under review to discuss on the conclusions of the evaluation process and the main recommendations.

### **III. Analysis of ARACIS's performance indicators**

#### **Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY**

*\*general description of domain analysis.*

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

*\*general description of the criterion analysis.*

*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.*

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**Performance Indicator A.1.1.1.** *The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the Doctoral School of the respective university doctoral study domain:*

*(a) the internal regulations of the Doctoral School;*

*(b) the Methodology for conducting elections for the position of director of the Council of doctoral school (CSD), as well as elections by the students of their representative in CSD and the evidence of their conduct;*

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



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

e) functional management structures (Council of the doctoral school), giving as well proof of the regularity of meetings;

f) the contract for doctoral studies;

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

The main recommendation is to pursue the permanent update of the official documents according to the law modifications, and to maintain a careful attention for the respect of the culture of the academic quality. Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**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 main recommendation is to update the official documents according to the law modifications, and to maintain a careful attention for the respect of the culture of the academic quality.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

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

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**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 main recommendation is to strictly continue to use the informatic system of USV and to usefully feedback to the modification passing in the status of PhD students.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

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

The main recommendation is to strictly continue to use the informatic plagiarism checking software spreading this tool among the students, to employ it during the doctoral period, for annual reports and for the checking of the text drafted with the aim to be published.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**



*Standard A.1.3. The IOSUD makes sure that financial resources are used optimally, and the revenues obtained from doctoral studies are supplemented through additional funding besides governmental funding.*

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**Performance Indicator A.1.3.1.** *Existence of at least one research or institutional / human resources development grant under implementation at the time of submission of the internal evaluation file, per doctoral study domain under evaluation, or existence of at least 2 research or institutional development / human resources grant for the doctoral study domain, obtained by doctoral thesis advisors operating in the evaluated domain within the past 5 years. The grants address relevant themes for the respective domain and, as a rule, are engaging doctoral students.*

The main recommendation is to apply to the competition for national and international projects, aiming to gain research projects, seeking a bigger scientific visibility for the doctoral directors of history domain.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator \*A.1.3.2.** *The percentage of doctoral students active at the time of the evaluation, who for at least six months receive additional funding sources besides government funding, through scholarships awarded by individual persons or by legal entities, or who are financially supported through research or institutional / human resources development grants is not less than 20%.*

The main recommendation is to increase the applications in projects able to provide scholarships and, in this way, to support a bigger number of PhD students in History in their needs and mobilities. Concerning the domains related to the human sciences, this kind of projects represents a further tool for the financial support to the budget of doctoral studies (both by scholarship or fee).

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator \*A.1.3.3.<sup>2</sup>** *At least 10% of the total amount of doctoral grants obtained by the university through institutional contracts and of tuition fees collected from the doctoral students enrolled in the paid tuition system is used to reimburse professional training expenses of doctoral students (attending conferences, summer schools, training, programs abroad, publication of specialty papers or other specific forms of dissemination etc.).*

The main recommendation is to set up a mechanism at the IOSUD level through which – by a transparent and well regulated way – can be determined the allowance of an annual financial amount available for the professional formation of PhD students, for their participation to the national and international conferences and workshops, for the internships, for the research in document centers, for the publication of studies. It is necessary to develop an efficient procedure to employ these funds and to keep the feedback and outputs of these activities.

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<sup>2</sup> The indicators marked with an asterisk (\*) hold a special status, referring exclusively to the evaluation of doctoral studies domains, 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 met, the Agency extends a period of maximum 3 years to IOSUD to correct the respective deficiencies.



Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered partially fulfilled.

**The indicator is partially fulfilled.**

## **Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure**

*\*general description of the criterion analysis.*

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

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**Performance Indicator A.2.1.1.** *The venues and the material equipment available to the doctoral school enable the research activities in the evaluated domain to be carried out, in line with the assumed mission and objectives (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, library, access to international databases etc.). The research infrastructure and the provision of research services are presented to the public through a specific platform. The research infrastructure described above, which was purchased and developed within the past 5 years will be presented distinctly.*

The main recommendation is to continue and to intensify to take care of modernization process well done in the research infrastructures and facilities.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

## **Criterion A.3. Quality of Human Resources**

*\*general description of the criterion analysis.*

*Standard A.3.1. At the level of each domain there are sufficient qualified staff to ensure the conduct of doctoral study program.*

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**Performance Indicator A.3.1.1.** *Minimum three doctoral thesis advisors within that doctoral domain, and at least 50% of them (but no less than three) meet the minimum standards of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) in force at the time when the evaluation is carried out, which standards are required and mandatory for obtaining the enabling certification.*

The main recommendation is to take more care to the indicators of impact for books and volumes of more authors to be edited in prestigious publishing houses, and for articles published in foreign journals and international languages (such as English), seeking a bigger scientific visibility for the doctoral directors of history domain.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator \*A.3.1.2.** *At least 50% of all doctoral advisors have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period with the IOSUD.*



The main recommendation, for the University and for the Faculty, is to support to obtain the habilitation for more members of History department, seeking a growing number of doctoral directors also for domain specializations not yet covered (e.g. Prehistoria, Classical Archeology, Medieval History...).

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator A.3.1.3.** *The study subjects in the education program based on advanced higher education studies pertaining to the doctoral domain are taught by teaching staff or researchers who are doctoral thesis advisors / certified doctoral thesis advisors, professors / CS I or lecturer / CS II, with proved expertise in the field of the study subjects they teach, or other specialists in the field who meet the standards established by the institution in relation with the aforementioned teaching and research functions, as provided by the law.*

The main recommendation is to extend the offer of the discipline in the educational plan who cover further periods of history.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator \*A.3.1.4.** *The percentage of doctoral thesis advisors who concomitantly coordinate more than 8 doctoral students, but no more than 12, who are themselves studying in doctoral programs<sup>3</sup> does not exceed 20%.*

The main recommendation is to monitorate and to keep the attention to maintain this balance required.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

*Standard A.3.2. The Doctoral advisors within the domain are carrying out a scientific activity visible at international level.*

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**Performance Indicator A.3.2.1.** *At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in the evaluated domain have at least 5 Web of Science- or ERIH-indexed publications in magazines of impact, or other achievements of relevant significance for that domain, including international-level contributions that indicate progress in scientific research - development - innovation for the evaluated domain. The aforementioned doctoral thesis advisors enjoy international awareness within the past five years, consisting of: membership on scientific boards of international publications and conferences; membership on boards of international professional associations; guests in conferences or expert groups working abroad, or membership on doctoral defense commissions at universities abroad or co-leading with universities abroad. For Arts and Sports and Physical Education Sciences, doctoral thesis advisors shall*

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<sup>3</sup> 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.



*prove their international visibility within the past five years by their membership on the boards of professional associations, membership in organizing committees of arts events and international competitions, membership on juries or umpire teams in artistic events or international competitions.*

The main recommendation is to continue to implement the growth of international visibility of the quality activity in the scientific research of the doctoral school reported by the doctoral directors of history domain. Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator \*A.3.2.2.** *At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in a specific doctoral study domain continue to be active in their scientific field, and acquire at least 25% of the score requested by the minimal CNATDCU standards in force at the time of the evaluation, which are required and mandatory for acquiring their enabling certificate, based on their scientific results within the past five years.*

The main recommendation is to continue to support the publication of the research outputs and results in high quality editions and specialized journals indexed BDI.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

## **Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS**

*\*general description of domain analysis.*

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

*\*general description of the criterion analysis.*

*Standard B.1.1. The institution organizing doctoral studies has the capacity to attract candidates from outside the higher education institution or a number of candidates exceeding the number of seats available.*

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**Performance Indicator \*B.1.1.1.** *The ratio between the number of graduates of masters' programs of other higher education institutions, national or foreign, who have enrolled for the doctoral admission contest within the past five years and the number of seats funded by the state budget, put out through contest within the doctoral domain is at least 0.2 or the ratio between the number of candidates within the past five years and the number of seats funded by the state budget put out through contest within the doctoral studies domain is at least 1,2.*

The main recommendation is to promote SDI in academic and specifically human scientific environments of Romania, having the consequence of the attraction of students and the maintain the percentage of enrolled students through different tools of support to the conditions and facilities provided by the doctoral school.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**



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

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**Performance Indicator \*B.1.2.1.** *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.*

The main recommendation is to continue to take care of the academic performance of PhD students. Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator B.1.2.2.** *The expelling rate, including renouncement / dropping out of doctoral students 3, respectively 4, years after admission<sup>4</sup> does not exceed 30%.*

The main recommendation is to continue to keep the attention to a performative academic formation of PhD students, to contain – if not to eliminate – the expelling rate, through the identification of involvement modalities with the target to bring the PhD student toward the PhD diploma.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

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

*\*general description of the criterion analysis.*

*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.*

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**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.*

The main recommendation is to present and to show through the website of the plan of advanced preparation and of the records of the discipline since the last 5 years for the history domain.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**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.*

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<sup>4</sup> 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.



The main recommendation is to maintain and improve the course of course about Ethics and academic integrity including in the bibliography also the law references concerning ethics in scientific research. Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**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 activities<sup>5</sup>.*

The main recommendation is to implement the attention for the inter- and trans-disciplinary research. Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator B.2.1.4.** *All along the duration of the doctoral training, doctoral students in the domain receive counselling/guidance from functional guidance commissions, which is reflected in written guidance and feedback or regular meeting.*

The main recommendation is to implement the transparency and being able to prove the feed-back to the commission and to the doctoral director: useful would be to modify the form of the minutes by the inclusion of a section of proposals and comments.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator B.2.1.5.** *For a doctoral study domain, the ratio between the number of doctoral students and the number of teaching staff/researchers providing doctoral guidance must not exceed 3:1.*

The main recommendation is to improve the number of the members of the commissions to better orient PhD students in the history domain, engaging the orientation commissions and including experts with recognized skills in the specific topics of each doctoral thesis, coming from the partner universities, from the Romanian Academy or foreign institutions.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

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

*\*general description of the criterion analysis.*

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

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<sup>5</sup> Or by what the graduate should know, understand and to be able to do, according to the provisions of the Methodology of 17 March 2017 regarding inscription and registration of higher education qualifications in the National Register of Qualifications in Higher Education (RNCIS) approved by the Order No.3475/2017 with subsequent amendments and additions.



*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**Performance Indicator B.3.1.1.** *For the evaluated domain, the evaluation commission will be provided with at least one paper or some other relevant contribution per doctoral student who has obtained a doctor's title within the past 5 years. From this list, the members of the evaluation commission shall randomly select 5 such papers / relevant contributions per doctoral study domain for review. At least 3 selected papers must contain significant original contributions in the respective domain.*

The main recommendation is to improve the publication of PhD students in journals also out of the university (international or national journals and publishing houses).

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator \*B.3.1.2.** *The ratio between the number of presentations of doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years), including posters, exhibitions made at prestigious international events (organized in the country or abroad) and the number of doctoral students who have completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years) is at least 1.*

The main recommendation is to improve the participation of PhD students at international conferences and workshops also abroad (out of Romania).

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

*Standard B.3.2. The Doctoral School engages a significant number of external scientific specialists in the commissions for public defense of doctoral theses in the analyzed domain.*

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**Performance Indicator \*B.3.2.1.** *The number of doctoral theses allocated to one specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the evaluated IOSUD should not exceed two (2) in a year for the theses coordinated by the same doctoral thesis advisor.*

The main recommendation is to improve the involvement and the invitation of professors and researchers from other Universities in Romania and from abroad.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator \*B.3.2.2.** *The ratio between the doctoral theses allocated to one scientific specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the institution where the defense on the doctoral thesis is organized, and the number of doctoral theses presented in the same doctoral study domain in the doctoral school should not exceed 0.3, considering the past five years. Only those doctoral study domains in which minimum ten doctoral theses have been presented within the past five years should be analyzed.*

The main recommendation is to improve the involvement and the invitation of professors and researchers from other Universities in Romania and from abroad.



Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

## **Domain C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT**

*\*general description of domain analysis.*

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

*\*general description of the criterion analysis.*

*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.*

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**Performance Indicator C.1.1.1.** *The Doctoral school in the respective university study domain 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 IOSUD, the following assessed criteria being mandatory:*

*(a) the scientific work of Doctoral advisors;*

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

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

*(d) the scientific activity of doctoral students;*

*(e) the training program based on advanced academic studies of doctoral students;*

*(f) social and academic services (including for participation at different events, publishing papers etc.) and counselling made available to doctoral students.*

The main recommendation is to continue to update guidelines and provisions, methodology and procedures concerning the IOSUD activity to answer to all the requirements in the organization of doctoral studies.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator \*C.1.1.2.** *Mechanisms are implemented during the stage of the doctoral study program to enable feedback from doctoral students allowing to identify their needs, as well as their overall level of satisfaction with the doctoral study program in order to ensure continuous improvement of the academic and administrative processes. Following the analysis of the results, there is evidence that an action plan was drafted and implemented.*

The main recommendation is to process the results of the online survey through which PhD students are able to point out the negative aspects that must be changed, the positive ones that must be implemented, the solutions of constant improvement and the specific needs related their status and activity in the framework of the doctoral school.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.



**The indicator is fulfilled.**

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

*\*general description of the criterion analysis.*

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

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**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 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 training 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) links to the doctoral theses' 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.*

The main recommendation is to spread through the site IOSUD-UO of the data and informations about the update of all the aspects of the doctoral school.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**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.*

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**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.*

The main recommendation is to maintain and to support the research itineraries of all the PhD students. Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**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.*



The main recommendation is to maintain the presentation of the plagiarism checker in the framework of the course about Ethics and academic integrity, and to extend the use of this tool also to the annual reports of scientific progress.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**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 main recommendation is to continue to attract an increasing number of PhD students in research laboratories and to engage them in the research activities and in the institutional projects.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

### **Criterion C.3. Internationalization**

*\*general description of the criterion analysis.*

*Standard C.3.1. There is a strategy in place and it is applied to enhance the internationalization of doctoral studies.*

*\*general description of the standard analysis.*

**Performance Indicator \*C.3.1.1.** *IOSUD, for every evaluated domain, 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.*

The main recommendation is to elaborate and to implement – by the SDI/CSUD/IOSUD-UO – policies and plans aiming to grow the number of PhD students trained abroad or participant to foreign conferences at least for 35%, and encouraging them to apply for short term of mobility (Erasmus program 2021-27).

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered partially fulfilled.

**The indicator is partially fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator C.3.1.2.** *In the evaluated doctoral study domain, support is granted, including 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 main recommendation is to continue to implement the strategy of the doctoral school of history domain aiming to organize international PhD program in co-tutoring and to create mechanisms for the invitation of foreign experts involved in the courses and in the mentoring of PhD students.



Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

**Performance Indicator C.3.1.3.** *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 committees etc.).*

The main recommendation is to implement strategies at the level of the doctoral school in history domain to recruit and involve foreign PhD candidates and student from abroad, not only from the Romanian diaspora but also other countries.

Based on the description and the analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents, this performance indicator is to be considered fulfilled.

**The indicator is fulfilled.**

#### IV. SWOT Analysis

<p><b><u>Strengths:</u></b></p> <p>- the strengths identified throughout the report will be resumed as part of the indicators' analysis. Other general strengths that do not fall within a particular indicator may be formulated.</p>	<p><b><u>Weaknesses:</u></b></p> <p>- the weaknesses identified throughout the report will be resumed as part of the indicators' analysis. Other general weaknesses that do not fall within a particular indicator may be formulated.</p>
<p><b><u>Opportunities:</u></b></p> <p>- possible lines of action for the development of the institution under review shall be identified;</p> <p>- examples of opportunities: a favorable economic environment in the proximity of the assessed institution, the uniqueness of the study programs and their relevance to the local/national market, the overall attractiveness of the study programs etc.</p>	<p><b><u>Threats:</u></b></p> <p>- the possible causes of the deficient aspects (the causes of the identified weaknesses), which are practically the threats to the proper functioning of the institution, shall be identified;</p> <p>- besides, there may be external threats, such as: the inopportune economic environment in the proximity of the assessed institution, the conduct of low attractiveness study programs for both candidates and the labor market etc.</p>

#### V. Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
1.	PI	A.1.1.1.	Fulfilled	to pursue the permanent update of the official documents according to the law modifications, and to

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
				maintain a careful attention for the respect of the culture of the academic quality
2.	PI	A.1.1.2.	Fulfilled	to update the official documents according to the law modifications, and to maintain a careful attention for the respect of the culture of the academic quality
3.	PI	A.1.2.1.	Fulfilled	to strictly continue to use the informatic system of USV and to usefully feedback to the modification passing in the status of PhD students
4.	PI	A.1.2.2.	Fulfilled	to strictly continue to use the informatic plagiarism checking software spreading this tool among the students, to employ it during the doctoral period, for annual reports and for the checking of the text drafted with the aim to be published
5.	PI	A.1.3.1.	Fulfilled	to apply to the competition for national and international projects, aiming to gain research projects, seeking a bigger scientific visibility for the doctoral directors of history domain
6.	PI *	A.1.3.2.	Fulfilled	to increase the applications in projects able to provide scholarships and to support a bigger number of PhD students in History in their needs and mobilities. Concerning the domains related to the human sciences, this kind of projects represents a further tool for the financial support to the

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
				budget of doctoral studies (both by scholarship or fee)
7.	PI *	A.1.3.3.	<i>Partially fulfilled</i>	is to set up a mechanism at the IOSUD level through which – by a transparent and well regulated way – can be determined the allowance of an annual financial amount available for the professional formation of PhD students, for their participation to the national and international conferences and workshops, for the internships, for the research in document centers, for the publication of studies. It is necessary to develop an efficient procedure to employ these funds and to keep the feedback and outputs of these activities
8.	CPI	A.2.1.1.	Fulfilled	to continue and to intensify to take care of modernization process well done in the research infrastructures and facilities
9.	CPI	A.3.1.1.	Fulfilled	to take more care to the indicators of impact for books and volumes of more authors to be edited in prestigious publishing houses, and for articles published in foreign journals and international languages (such as English), seeking a bigger scientific visibility for the doctoral directors of history domain
10.	PI *	A.3.1.2.	Fulfilled	to support to obtain the habilitation for more members of History department, seeking a growing number of doctoral directors also

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
				for domain specializations not yet covered
11.	PI	A.3.1.3.	Fulfilled	to extend the offer of the discipline in the educational plan who cover further periods of history
12.	PI *	A.3.1.4.	Fulfilled	to monitorate and to keep the attention to maintain this balance required
13.	CPI	A.3.2.1.	Fulfilled	to continue to implement the growth of international visibility of the quality activity in the scientific research of the doctoral school reported by the doctoral directors of history domain
14.	PI *	A.3.2.2.	Fulfilled	to continue to support the publication of the research outputs and results in higy quality editions and specialized journals indexed BDI
15.	PI *	B.1.1.1.	Fulfilled	to promote SDI in academic and specifically human scientific environments of Romania, having the consequence of the attraction of students and the maintain the percentage of enrolled students through different tools of support to the conditions and facilities provided by the doctoral school
16.	PI *	B.1.2.1.	Fulfilled	to continue to take care of the academic performance of PhD students
17.	PI	B.1.2.2.	Fulfilled	to continue to keep the attention to a performative academic formation of PhD students, to contain – if not to eliminate – the expelling rate,

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
				through the identification of involvement modalities with the target to bring the PhD student to the PhD diploma
18.	PI	B.2.1.1.	Fulfilled	to present through the website and to show the plan of advanced preparation and of the records of the discipline since the last 5 years for the history domain
19.	PI	B.2.1.2.	Fulfilled	to maintain and improve the course of course about Ethics and academic integrity including in the bibliography also the law references concerning ethics in scientific research
20.	PI	B.2.1.3.	Fulfilled	to implement the attention for the inter- and trans-disciplinary research
21.	PI	B.2.1.4.	Fulfilled	to implement the transparency and being able to prove the feed-back to the commission and to the doctoral director: useful would be to modify the form of the minutes by the inclusion of a section of proposals and comments
22.	CPI	B.2.1.5.	Fulfilled	to improve the number of the members of the commissions to better orient PhD students in the history domain, engaging the orientation commissions and including experts with recognized skills in the specific topics of each doctoral thesis, coming from the partner universities, from Romanian Academy or foreign institutions

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
23.	CPI	B.3.1.1.	Fulfilled	to improve the publication of PhD students in journals also out of the university (international or national journals and publishing houses)
24.	PI *	B.3.1.2.	Fulfilled	to improve the participation of PhD students at international conferences and workshops also abroad
25.	PI *	B.3.2.1.	Fulfilled	to improve the involvement and the invitation of professors and researchers from other Universities in Romania and from abroad
26.	PI *	B.3.2.2.	Fulfilled	to improve the involvement and the invitation of professors and researchers from other Universities in Romania and from abroad
27.	PI	C.1.1.1.	Fulfilled	to continue to update guidelines and provisions, methodology and procedures concerning the IOSUD activity to answer to all the requirements in the organization of doctoral studies
28.	PI *	C.1.1.2.	Fulfilled	to process the results of the online survey through which PhD students are able to point out the negative aspects that must be changed, the positive ones that must be implemented, the solutions of constant improvement and the specific needs related their status and activity in the framework of the doctoral school
29.	CPI	C.2.1.1.	Fulfilled	to spread through the site IOSUD-UO of the data and informations

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
				about the update of all the aspects of the doctoral school
30.	PI	C.2.2.1.	Fulfilled	to maintain and to support the research itineraries of all the PhD students
31.	PI	C.2.2.2.	Fulfilled	to maintain the presentation of the plagiarism checker in the framework of the course about Ethics and academic integrity, and to extend the use of this tool also to the annual reports of scientific progress
32.	PI	C.2.2.3.	Fulfilled	to continue to attract an increasing number of PhD students in research laboratories and to engage them in the research activities and in the institutional projects
33.	PI *	C.3.1.1.	<i>Partially fulfilled</i>	to elaborate and to implement – by the SDI/CSUD/IOSUD-UO – policies and plans aiming to grow the number of PhD students trained abroad or participant to foreign conferences at least for 35%, and encouraging them to apply for short term of mobility (Erasmus program 2021-27).
34.	PI	C.3.1.2.	Fulfilled	to continue to implement the strategy of the doctoral school of history domain aiming to organize international PhD program in co-tutoring and to create mechanisms for the invitation of foreign experts involved in the courses and in the mentoring of PhD students

No.	Type of indicator (PI, PI *, CPI)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
35.	PI	C.3.1.3.	Fulfilled	to implement strategies at the level of the doctoral school in history domain to recruit and involve foreign PhD candidates and student from abroad, not only from the Romanian diaspora but also other countries

*The recommendations contained in the report shall be resumed in the indicators' analysis. Other general recommendations may be made that do not fit within a particular indicator.*

*VERY IMPORTANT!!! – Each identified weakness must be correlated with at least one recommendation to improve the situation!*

## **VI. Conclusions and general recommendations**

*Several important issues raised during the evaluation are resumed and some general conclusions are drawn on the quality of the education provided within the doctoral study domain under review; the Experts' Panel also presents general assessments about the institution. Other general recommendation may also be presented, which cannot be related to a specific indicator and have not been presented at point V.*

*A decision is proposed, together with the reasons for granting it (if the Experts' Panel members do not reach a consensus, each of them can propose and argue his/her own decision).*

## **VII. Annexes**

*The following types of documents shall be attached:*

- *The detailed schedule of the evaluation visit – MANDATORY.*
- *The survey questionnaire applied to doctoral students or academic staff in the doctoral study domain under review, the results - optional (e.g., in graphic form) and their interpretation - if applicable.*
- *Scanned documents – any document requested from the IOSUD during the evaluation visit and received, which is not found in the internal evaluation file received before the visit and referred to in the report.*
- *Pictures – if relevant issues are raised regarding the condition of the student residences, cafeterias, premises for teaching and learning activities, library etc.*
- *Screenshots/Print screens of the Doctoral School/IOSUD website proving specific claims in the report, accompanied by the date when they were accessed and saved.*
- *Any other documents relevant to the evaluation process referred to in the report.*

*Signature*