

The Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education



External Evaluation Report (REE) for the procedure for obtaining an accreditation* (AC) of a Doctoral Study Domain

Higher Education Institution/Education Provider Organization:	Transilvania University of Braşov
Doctoral School:	Interdisciplinary Doctoral School
Doctoral Domain:	Food Engineering
The objective of the external evaluation:	Accreditation* (AC)



Members of the ARACIS Evaluation Panel

No.	Last Name and First Name	Team role	Signature
1.	TIȚA OVIDIU	Expert evaluator	
2.	WERTZ VINCENT	International Expert	
3.	ILIE ANA LAVINIA	PhD Student Evaluator	



I. Introduction

This report concerns the external evaluation of the doctoral study field Food Products Engineering, organised by Transilvania University of Braşov, following the evaluation carried out on 4–5 June 2026 by the ARACIS committee of expert evaluators, composed of:

Prof. Dr. TITA OVIDIU – “LUCIAN BLAGA” University of Sibiu
Prof. Dr. Wertz Vincent – Université Catholique de Louvain
Student Ilie Ana Lavinia – National University of Science and Technology
POLITEHNICA Bucharest

Transilvania University of Braşov (UNITBV) is an accredited public higher education institution operating on the basis of university autonomy, in accordance with the legal framework established by the Constitution of Romania and Higher Education Law No. 199/2023, with the national regulations on quality assurance in education, as well as with internal decisions. The current name under which the University operates is documented by Order of the Minister of Education and Science No. 4894/22.03.1991. The history of the present-day institution began in 1948, when the Forestry Institute of Braşov was established. UNITBV is a comprehensive university, comprising 18 faculties: 9 engineering faculties and 9 faculties with various profiles, including humanities, sciences, economics, law, medicine, music, etc. In the 2025–2026 academic year, 21,857 students are enrolled at UNITBV, of whom 17,522 are Bachelor's students in 98 Bachelor's study programmes, 90 in Romanian and 8 in foreign languages; 3,738 are Master's students in 85 programmes, 59 in Romanian and 26 in foreign languages; and 597 are doctoral students in 24 doctoral programmes, in Romanian and foreign languages. In addition, the university has 621 resident doctors who are active in 28 clinical departments of hospitals in Braşov. UNITBV has concluded cooperation agreements, including framework agreements, ERASMUS+ and CEEPUS agreements, with 721 partner institutions from 92 countries, and the number of full-time international students has increased by 80% over the last five years, from 362 students from 61 countries in 2020 to 581 international students from 91 countries in 2025, mainly due to the launch of study programmes offered in foreign languages.

UNITBV has consistently ranked in the top 10, regardless of the criteria used by the various ranking systems, reflecting its growing academic and research performance.

- In 2025, in the U.S. News & World Report – Best Global Universities ranking, UNITBV ranked 966th worldwide and 4th among Romanian universities, with Mathematics ranked 224th, Physics 487th and Environment/Ecology 852nd globally.

<https://www.usnews.com/education/best-global-universities/transilvania-university-of-brasov-529684>.

- UNITBV first entered the THE World University Rankings in 2021, initially in the 1000+ group, and later stabilised in the 1201–1500 range. In the THE 2025 subject ranking, UNITBV was ranked in the 501–601 group for Life Sciences and 801–1000 for Social Sciences.

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/transilvania-university-brasov>.

- In URAP, University Ranking by Academic Performance, UNITBV has steadily advanced from position 1838 in 2020 to 1447 in 2025, maintaining a constant position in the national top 7.

https://urapcenter.org/Rankings/2024-2025/World_Ranking_2024-2025.

- In CWUR, Center for World University Rankings, the university improved its global position from 1700th in 2020 to 1372nd in 2025, climbing more than 300 places and advancing from 9th to 5th place among Romanian universities. <https://cwur.org/2025.php>.



- In the QS World University Rankings, UNITBV is one of the 11 Romanian universities included, ranking in the 401–475 range in the field of Agriculture, Forestry.

<https://www.topuniversities.com/world-university-rankings?search=transilvania>.

Doctoral study programmes are organised and carried out within IOSUD-UNITBV, through the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School (SDI), <https://unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/despre-noi/echipa-sdi>. The Interdisciplinary Doctoral School (SDI) is headed by a director of the doctoral school and by the Council of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School (C-SDI), with SDI being integrated into the structure of the Vice-Rectorate for Scientific Research and Informatics.

The Interdisciplinary Doctoral School (SDI) has operated within IOSUD-UNITBV since 1 October 2010, having been established by the Decision of the Senate of Transilvania University of Braşov of 27 July 2010. Previously, pursuant to Government Decision No. 567 of 15 June 2005, the Senate Bureau of Transilvania University of Braşov decided on 9 September 2005, through HBS No. 43/09.09.2005, to establish the Doctoral Department. The basic mission of this department was to coordinate all doctoral activities within the University. At present, IOSUD-UNITBV comprises 24 doctoral fields, which fall within 6 fundamental fields and 11 branches of science.

UNITBV undergoes periodic external evaluation at institutional level, <https://didactic.unitbv.ro/oficiul-de-asigurare-a-calitatii/despre>, at the level of Bachelor's study programmes, Master's study fields, as well as at the level of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School and doctoral study fields, based on the specific methodologies.

The doctoral study field Food Products Engineering is proposed as a new doctoral study field within the SDI of Transilvania University of Braşov, as a natural continuation of the existence of Bachelor's and Master's study fields in Food Products Engineering within the Faculty of Food and Tourism (FAT). In accordance with the provisions of Article 231 of Law No. 199/2023, as subsequently amended and supplemented, and according to the ARACIS Guide underlying the preparation of this report, "the external evaluation of education quality, for accreditation purposes, is carried out without undergoing the procedure for provisional operating authorisation in the case of doctoral study fields organised by accredited higher education institutions in the same accredited Master's study fields".

At Bachelor's level, the field of Food Products Engineering, <https://at.unitbv.ro/ro/programe-studii/licenta.html>, includes two study programmes, namely Food Products Engineering and Food Products Control and Expertise. At Transilvania University of Braşov, the Master's study field Food Products Engineering (DSUM-IPA) comprises two Master's study programmes organised within the Faculty of Food and Tourism, namely: Advanced Processing Systems and Quality Control of Agri-Food Products (SPCCPA), a professional Master's programme established in 2015, full-time form of education, and a Master's study programme in English, Gastronomic Engineering (IG), established in 2023. The ARACIS evaluation was carried out in 2021, and the result was positive, maintaining the accreditation of DSUM-IPA, the SPCCPA study programme.

II. Methods used

In order to prepare the external evaluation report for the doctoral study field Food Products Engineering, both the Internal Evaluation Report and all its related annexes were reviewed. At the same time, the available information concerning the study programme in the doctoral study field Food Products Engineering was checked on the website of Transilvania University of Braşov, <https://unitbv.ro/>, and on the website of the Faculty of Food and Tourism, <https://at.unitbv.ro/ro/>. The teaching and research facilities, the laboratory equipment, as well as the conditions for carrying out teaching and practical activities in Building R, the Sânpetru Teaching Facility, and the bakery laboratory in the UNITBV canteen were visited and analysed.



The meetings held during the external evaluation visit for the doctoral study programme Food Products Engineering, organised by Transilvania University of Braşov, took place according to the established schedule, attached to this report, and provided comprehensive information that contributed to the preparation of this external evaluation report. Discussions were held with representatives of the management of the organisational component, including the rector, vice-rectors, the CSUD director, the president of the UNITBV Senate and member of C-SDI, and the contact person for the doctoral field of Food Products Engineering; with the team that prepared the internal evaluation report; with the teaching staff involved in the activities within the doctoral study field; and with the persons responsible for the research centres/laboratories. Discussions were also held with representatives of the economic environment, including SC Fabrica de Lapte Braşov SA Olympus, Ursus Breweries Braşov, Ferma Căţean, Rotbav, Braşov, Sweet Desert, Transilvania School, Intersnack Romania SRL, Luado Chocolate/Gastro Local, SC HAROS ATICA IMPEX SRL Braşov, and Hotel-Restaurant Conca Verde; with representatives of the organisational structures in the field of quality assurance; and with members of the University Ethics Committee. Discussions took place with the directors of the research centres, and the facilities available within these centres were visited. Among the other aspects discussed were the organisation and functioning of the doctoral school.

III. Judgement on the extent to which the standards and performance indicators are fulfilled

DOMAIN A. Institutional capacity

Criterion A.1. Managerial and administrative structures and processes involving students and other stakeholders

Standard S.A.1.1. Organisational components and institutional processes

The HEI has organisational components in its structure, which function based on adequate competences, responsibilities, processes, and implementation procedures, and ensure an effective management system.

Indicator I.P.A.1.1.1	For delivering the study programme/domain, the HEI has adequate organisational components and an adequate management system, which operate based on methodologies, regulations and procedures that are periodically reviewed as required by law.
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The Internal Evaluation Report states that Transilvania University of Braşov organises doctoral studies within IOSUD-UNITBV, through the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, coordinated by the Council for Doctoral Studies. The management and administrative structures involved in the organisation and conduct of doctoral studies are established and operate in accordance with the legal and institutional regulations in force. The organisation of doctoral and postdoctoral studies is regulated by the specific regulation approved at university level, while the functioning of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School is established through its own regulation. The university also uses methodologies and procedures regarding admission to doctoral studies, the election of members of the Council of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, the completion and public defence of doctoral theses, as well as the recognition of the status of doctoral supervisor or of habilitation obtained abroad. The management structures of IOSUD and of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School have clearly defined responsibilities, and their activity is supported by the university's administrative services and specialised departments. The university states that the applicable regulations, methodologies and procedures are approved by the competent structures and are

periodically reviewed, in line with legislative changes and internal quality assurance requirements. In this respect, the content and structure of the advanced university training programme are periodically analysed, including through consultation with doctoral supervisors and doctoral students.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that Transilvania University of Braşov demonstrates the existence of appropriate organisational components and a suitable management system for the organisation and conduct of doctoral studies.

- ✓ Doctoral studies are organised within IOSUD-UNITBV, and institutional coordination is ensured through the Council for Doctoral Studies — CSUD — and through the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School — SDI.

<https://unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/despre-noi/csud>

<https://unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/despre-noi/echipa-sdi>

- ✓ The organisation of doctoral and postdoctoral studies is regulated by the “Regulation on the Organisation and Conduct of Doctoral and Postdoctoral Studies”, approved at university level and revised in order to align it with legislative changes.

https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/metodologii-rapoarte/Regulament_studii_doctorat_postdoctorat_24.07.2024.pdf

- ✓ The organisation and functioning of the SDI are regulated by the “Regulation of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School”, approved by Senate Decision and available on the IOSUD-UNITBV webpage:

https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/metodologii-rapoarte/Regulamentul_SDI_30.09.2024.pdf

- ✓ The management structures of IOSUD-UNITBV and of the SDI are established in accordance with the legal and regulatory provisions. The Director of C-SDI and the members of the Council of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School are appointed/elected according to the approved methodologies.

https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/despre-unitbv/regulamente-hotarari/regulamentele-universitatii/alegeri/Metodologia_alegeri_membri_C-SDI_26.05.2021.pdf

- ✓ The CSUD decisions regarding the validation/appointment of C-SDI members are published on the university website, for example:

https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/hotarari-csud/Hotararea_nr_99.pdf

https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/hotarari-csud/Hotararea_nr_103.pdf

https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/hotarari-csud/Hotararea_nr_112.pdf

- ✓ Admission to doctoral studies is regulated through a methodology developed annually.

https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/despre-unitbv/regulamente-hotarari/regulamentele-universitatii/studenti/Metodologie_admitere_doctorat_26.03.2025.pdf

- ✓ The completion of doctoral studies is regulated through Instructions regarding the completion and public defence of doctoral theses.

https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/metodologii-rapoarte/v2/IS-7-Structura_continut_PPUA_v2.pdf

Recommendations - Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.A.1.2. Stakeholder engagement

The HEI proves that it engages the relevant stakeholders in developing methodologies and regulations, as well as implementation procedures.

Indicator	The opinions of the faculty and department members, of the subsidiary or
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I.P.A.1.2.1

extension* and of other stakeholders are considered in the process of adopting and revising methodologies, regulations and implementation procedures.

The Internal Evaluation Report states that, at institutional level, the university's regulations and methodologies are discussed within the specialised committees of the University Senate prior to their approval. Through this mechanism, consultation with representatives of the academic community, including students, is ensured in the process of drafting, analysing and adopting the university's guiding documents.

For the field of Food Products Engineering, the design of the study programme took into account the training needs identified on the labour market, including through consultation with partners from the economic environment. The university mentions consultations with relevant economic operators, such as Olympus – Fabrica de Lapte Braşov, Intersnack România, S.C. LeFuMarin S.R.L. Braşov, Altius S.R.L., S.C. Autonom Services Piatra Neamţ, S.C. Furnica S.R.L. Braşov, Societatea Sergiana Prodimpex S.R.L., The Family Butchers Romania S.R.L., S.C. IDAF EXIM S.R.L. Săcele, Sweet Dessert S.R.L. Braşov, Ursus Breweries S.A., S.C. Euto-Tour S.R.L. Braşov, Aro Palace S.A. and Hochland Romania S.R.L. Cooperation with economic partners is presented as continuous and is carried out through proposed research topics, workshops delivered by company specialists, assistance and tutoring for the use of specific software in the field, as well as through periodic consultations organised within the formalised framework of the council of economic partners, at institutional, faculty and study programme levels.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that:

- ✓ Documents approved at institutional level are published on the university website, in the section dedicated to regulations and decisions:
<https://www.unitbv.ro/despre-unitbv/regulamente-si-hotarari.html>
- ✓ For doctoral studies, the process of drafting and reviewing specific documents involves the management structures of IOSUD-UNITBV and of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School. The Regulation on the Organisation and Conduct of Doctoral and Postdoctoral Studies, as well as the Regulation of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, are relevant documents establishing the institutional framework for operation.
https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/metodologii-rapoarte/Regulament_studii_doctorat_postdoctorat_24.07.2024.pdf
https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/metodologii-rapoarte/Regulamentul_SDI_30.09.2024.pdf
- ✓ The modification and updating of the content of the advanced university training programme are carried out through consultation with doctoral supervisors and doctoral students.
https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/metodologii-rapoarte/v2/IS-7-Structura_continut_PPUA_-v2.pdf

There are mechanisms that allow the correlation of study programmes with labour market needs and with the requirements of the socio-economic environment. The website of the Faculty of Food and Tourism, relevant to the field of Food Products Engineering, is available at: <https://at.unitbv.ro/>

At present, relations with external stakeholders are very good, but rather informal. It is recommended that these consultations be formalised.

Recommendations - Organise systematic and regular meetings, once or twice a year, with all external stakeholders.

* The faculty, department, subsidiary, extension - hereinafter "organisational components"



The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion A.2. The material resources and optimisation of the use of the material resources

Standard S.A.2.1. Material resources

The HEI owns adequate movable and immovable assets to enable it to carry out the study programme/domain.

Indicator I.P.A.2.1.1	The HEI legally owns venues for the related education, research and administrative processes, as well as for services for students, doctoral students and trainees, thus providing an enabling environment for living and studying, including for disabled persons. Optimal venues are also provided for activities of the staff. Such venues are adequately equipped.
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The Internal Evaluation Report states that the activity of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School is carried out within IOSUD-UNITBV, benefiting from the university's facilities, laboratories, administrative services and support structures. For the field of Food Products Engineering, the university indicates the use of the infrastructure of the Faculty of Food and Tourism, as well as of the research infrastructure available at institutional level. Research activities are mainly supported through the Research and Development Institute of Transilvania University of Braşov, which comprises 11 buildings and 31 research centres, equipped with modern equipment for advanced research activities. Doctoral students have access to study spaces, specialised laboratories, research centres, the library, administrative services and IT platforms, as well as to spaces intended for advanced university training activities and individual research. Teaching and research activities are supported by teaching staff, doctoral supervisors, members of guidance committees and administrative staff.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that Transilvania University of Braşov demonstrates that it has an adequate material base and infrastructure for carrying out education, research, administration and student support activities, including for the doctoral field of Food Products Engineering.

- ✓ Doctoral activities are carried out within IOSUD-UNITBV and the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, benefiting from the university's facilities, administrative services and support structures. The Interdisciplinary Doctoral School is integrated into the university's structure and uses the teaching, administrative and research infrastructure available at institutional level.
https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/despre-unitbv/regulamente-hotarari/carta-universitatii/Carta_UNITBV_2024_18.12.2024_site.pdf
<https://unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/despre-noi/csud>
<https://unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/despre-noi/echipa-sdi>
- ✓ The university makes available to doctoral students the infrastructure of the Research and Development Institute of Transilvania University of Braşov — ICDT. The ICDT infrastructure includes buildings and research centres equipped with modern equipment for advanced research. The interdisciplinary organisation of the spaces within the centre is very well ensured, facilitating real and functional conditions for advanced scientific experimentation.
<https://icdt.unitbv.ro/ro/despre-noi.html>
<https://icdt.unitbv.ro/ro/centre-de-cercetare.html>
- ✓ The university provides services for students and doctoral students, including accommodation facilities, reading rooms and related facilities.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/studenti/administrative/camine-si-cazari.html>

- ✓ The university shows concern for creating an accessible and inclusive academic environment for students with disabilities. Information is available regarding the admission of candidates with disabilities and institutional projects dedicated to creating a “disability-friendly” campus.
<https://admitere.unitbv.ro/admitere-pentru-alte-tipuri-de-candidati/68-candidati-straini/792-candidati-cu-dizabilitati.html>
<https://www.unitbv.ro/stiri-si-evenimente/176-stiri-si-evenimente/6663-concurs-de-idei-de-proiecte-crearea-unui-campus-disability-friendly.html>

Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.A.2.2. Management of material resources The organisational components manage the movable and immovable assets used for the evaluated study programme/domain in an optimal, sustainable manner.	
Indicator I.P.A.2.2.1	The movable and immovable assets are properly maintained to ensure optimal conditions for studying, living and research, as well as for work.

The Internal Evaluation Report states that, within the university, spaces and equipment are used for education, research, documentation, coordination and administrative support activities, with appropriate conditions being ensured both for doctoral students and for doctoral supervisors, members of guidance committees, teaching staff, researchers and administrative staff. The university’s support services — the SDI secretariat, IT services, the library, administrative departments and support structures — contribute to the proper functioning of academic and research activities. Through the maintenance of spaces, laboratories, equipment and research infrastructure, the university ensures adequate conditions for study, university life, research and the conduct of professional activities.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that Transilvania University of Braşov demonstrates that it has institutional mechanisms and administrative structures through which it ensures the maintenance and proper use of movable and immovable assets, so that they support teaching, research, administrative and support activities for students and doctoral students.

- ✓ The university’s patrimony includes movable and immovable assets, real rights, administration rights and rights of use, used for fulfilling its academic, research and administrative mission.
https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/despre-unitbv/regulamente-hotarari/carta-universitatii/Carta_UNITBV_2024_18.12.2024_site.pdf
- ✓ The proper maintenance of movable and immovable assets is demonstrated by the fact that the university’s spaces and facilities are functional, currently used and made available for teaching, research, administrative and support activities. The university has an active infrastructure, integrated into the functioning of IOSUD-UNITBV and of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, which indicates the existence of institutional mechanisms for the administration, maintenance and use of its patrimony.
<https://icdt.unitbv.ro/ro/despre-noi.html>
<https://icdt.unitbv.ro/ro/centre-de-cercetare.html>
- ✓ The university publicly presents information regarding accommodation facilities, reading rooms, common spaces and administrative facilities, which demonstrates its concern for ensuring adequate living and study conditions for students and doctoral students.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/studenti/administrative/camine-si-cazari.html>



- ✓ The maintenance and operation of the infrastructure are also supported by the university's administrative structures, including IT services, administrative services, the library, project management departments, financial services and the secretariat of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School. These structures provide the necessary support for the proper conduct of academic, administrative and research activities.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/despre-unitbv/informatii-de-interes-public/organizare.html>
- ✓ The university carries out procurement and investments related to infrastructure, maintenance, equipment and repairs. The Senate decisions and financial documents published by the university also confirm its concern for the modernisation and development of the university infrastructure.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/despre-unitbv/informatii-de-interes-public/transparenta-institutionala/achizitii-publice.html>
<https://www.unitbv.ro/despre-unitbv/informatii-de-interes-public/transparenta-institutionala/buget-bilanturi-conta.html>
<https://www.unitbv.ro/despre-unitbv/regulamente-si-hotarari/hotarari-senat.html>

Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion A.3. Adequate human resources and transparent staff recruiting procedures developed according to the law

Standard S.A.3.1. Human resources

The HEI has the required human resources to organise and deliver the evaluated study programme/domain.

Indicator I.P.A.3.1.1	The human resources of the organisational component are suitable to perform the activities pertaining to the evaluated study programme/domain. The teaching staff has the required qualifications and professional competences to teach the subject matters assigned to them in the job list.
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The Internal Evaluation Report states that the human resources of the organisational component are adequate for carrying out the activities related to the doctoral study field Food Products Engineering. Within the Faculty of Food and Tourism, there are 5 habilitated doctoral supervisors, of whom 3 are in the field of Food Products Engineering, as well as tenured teaching staff who can deliver the courses included in the training programme based on advanced university studies. For the accreditation of the Food Products Engineering field, the university relies on three tenured habilitated professors. All three doctoral supervisors are tenured members of Transilvania University of Braşov, have CNATDCU files attached and meet the necessary and mandatory minimum standards for obtaining the habilitation certificate.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that the human resources related to the doctoral study field Food Products Engineering are adequate, being composed of tenured teaching staff of Transilvania University of Braşov, holding the rank of professor, with teaching experience and research activity in fields directly related to food products engineering. Their competences are evidenced by the UNITBV institutional webpages, public CVs, affiliation with the Department of Food and Tourism Engineering and Management, and by the documents attached to the Internal Evaluation Report.

Recommendations - Considering that the number of teaching staff is at the lower limit, the faculty should develop a clear strategy to increase the number of habilitated teaching staff capable of ensuring sustainable development for the field of Food Products Engineering.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.A.3.2. Recruitment procedures

Teaching staff recruitment procedures compliant with the provisions of the law.

Indicator
I.P.A.3.2.1

Recruitment procedures comply with the provisions of the law, and are established and carried out transparently.

The Internal Evaluation Report states that, for the filling of teaching positions, the university applies both the criteria provided for by national legislation and internal criteria approved at institutional level. The report mentions that, starting in 2013, the UNITBV Administrative Council approved additional internal criteria for opening vacant teaching positions for competition. Furthermore, for the filling of professor positions, candidates must hold a habilitation certificate, and for the filling of certain vacant positions additional eligibility conditions have been established, including criteria regarding academic performance. With regard to the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, the report shows that there are internal quality standards for the affiliation of doctoral supervisors, adapted to the specific nature of the doctoral fields. These standards aim to ensure qualified human resources capable of supporting doctoral supervision, guidance and research activities.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that the recruitment procedures are institutionally regulated, compliant with the legislation and carried out transparently through the publication of relevant information on the official UNITBV websites, as follows:

- ✓ The central UNITBV webpage for careers and vacancies demonstrates the transparent publication of available positions and the institutional organisation of recruitment.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/despre-unitbv/cariera-si-posturi-vacante.html>
- ✓ The section dedicated to positions for teaching staff attests to the publication of competitions for filling teaching positions.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/stiri-si-evenimente/139-cariera-si-posturi-vacante/posturi-pentru-personal-didactic>
- ✓ The section dedicated to positions for research staff attests to the transparency of research staff recruitment.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/stiri-si-evenimente/152-cariera-si-posturi-vacante/posturi-pentru-personalul-de-cercetare>
- ✓ The institutional methodology regarding the filling of teaching and research positions demonstrates that recruitment is carried out based on approved rules that comply with the legislation.
https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/despre-unitbv/regulamente-hotarari/regulamentele-universitatii/angajati/Metodologia_posturi_12.11.2024.pdf
- ✓ The official webpage on admission to doctoral studies attests to the publication of the conditions, calendar, documents and selection stages for doctoral candidates.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/admitere/admiterea-la-studii-de-doctorat.html>
- ✓ The webpage listing the doctoral fields, doctoral supervisors and proposed topics supports the transparency of information regarding doctoral activity.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/domenii-de-doctorat-si-teme.html>

Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion A.4. Digitalisation of institutional processes

Standard S.A.4.1. Digital transformation

The digital transformation process in the organisational component seeks to achieve administrative simplification and improve the quality of the services provided to the members of its own community, as well as to third parties.

Indicator I.P.A.4.1.1	The organisational component uses IT tools in its own procedures, to improve access and provide good quality services for the members of its own community and the indirect beneficiaries of education.
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The Internal Evaluation Report states that Transilvania University of Braşov uses IT tools in the academic, administrative and support activities related to doctoral studies. At the level of IOSUD–UNITBV/the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, dedicated webpages are available for doctoral studies, doctoral fields, admission, doctoral supervisors, research topics, regulations, methodologies and the documents required for carrying out doctoral activities. Doctoral students have access to the library's online resources, including electronic databases, accessible both from within and outside the university network. The university also uses the e-learning platform, which is extended to the level of study programmes, including for communication, information, documentation and support of the teaching–learning–assessment process. The report explicitly mentions that the e-learning platform is also used by students and teaching staff in the doctoral field of Food Products Engineering.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that the organisational component uses IT tools in its own procedures, in order to improve access and provide quality services for members of the academic community and for the indirect beneficiaries of education.

- ✓ It ensures public access to institutional information, regulations, methodologies, services, and academic and administrative structures. It is the main IT information tool for the university community and the public.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/>
- ✓ Students have access to IT services through their institutional account, including authentication on the platforms made available by the university.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/servicii-it.html>
- ✓ The UNITBV e-learning platform is used for teaching activities, educational communication, distribution of materials and support of the teaching–learning–assessment process. The institutional guide shows that the platform can also be accessed via Moodle Mobile, “anytime and anywhere”, which supports the accessibility of educational services.
<https://elearning.unitbv.ro/>
- ✓ UNITBV doctoral studies — the page centralises information on doctoral studies and facilitates access for candidates, doctoral students, doctoral supervisors and the public to IOSUD/SDI data.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale.html>
- ✓ Admission to doctoral studies — the page includes doctoral fields, admission requirements, competition details, available places, calendar, required documents, online registration, fees and results.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/admitere/admiterea-la-studii-de-doctorat.html>
- ✓ Mobile access to library databases/electronic resources.
https://webbut.unitbv.ro/Carti%20on-line/Ghid_acces_baze_de_date.pdf



- ✓ UNITBV Research and Development Institute — the page is relevant for access to research infrastructure, centres and facilities used in doctoral and research activities.
<https://icdt.unitbv.ro/ro/despre-noi.html>
- ✓ FRACS platform — reporting of research activity.
<https://intranet.unitbv.ro/Cercetare/FRACS/Completare-FRACS>

Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

DOMAIN B. Educational efficacy

Criterion B.1. Content and relevance of study programmes

Standard S.B.1.1. Content of study programme/s*

The study programme is based on a curriculum designed so that students can acquire the expected learning outcomes.

Indicator I.P.B.1.1.1	The study programme is developed and structured according to the expected learning outcomes, and organised based on transferable study credits. It includes all learning, teaching, practical training, research and evaluation experiences, which, together, lead to a higher education qualification.
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The Internal Evaluation Report states that the doctoral study field Food Products Engineering is organised within IOSUD – Transilvania University of Braşov, through the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School. The programme falls within the third cycle of university studies and aims at the acquisition of a level 8 qualification, in accordance with the European Qualifications Framework and the National Qualifications Framework. Its organisation includes two major components: the training programme based on advanced university studies and the individual scientific research programme. These components ensure the correlation between the expected learning outcomes, teaching activities, research activities and the assessment of the doctoral student's progress. The training activities include courses aimed at developing transversal competences, specialised courses, scientific documentation activities, the preparation and defence of research reports, participation in scientific events, publication of research results and preparation of the doctoral thesis. Assessment is carried out throughout the programme by monitoring progress through the doctoral supervisor and the guidance committee.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that, within the doctoral study field Food Products Engineering, there is no evidence of an adequate correlation between the learning outcomes of the courses and the programme RAI. Specific courses in the field of Food Products Engineering should also be defined, which could serve as alternatives in the selection of courses for the first year of doctoral studies, in order to achieve the required number of credits.

Recommendations - Correlation of doctoral training activities with the expected learning outcomes and with the development of transversal and specialised competences within the Food Products Engineering programme.

* The term “programmes” concerns the external quality evaluation for the study programmes contained in a master/doctoral domain. The term “programme” shall be used hereinafter.



The indicator is: **Partially fulfilled**

Criterion B.2. Alignment of the curriculum with the qualification

Standard S.B.2.1. Alignment with the qualification level and the intended competences
In the curriculum design and development process, the organisational component seeks to ensure the qualification level, as well as correlation with the envisaged occupations.

Indicator I.P.B.2.1.2	The expected learning outcomes are correlated with the competences required by those occupations, according to the occupational standards and/or the European Skills, Competences and Occupations (ESCO).
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The Internal Evaluation Report states that the expected learning outcomes for the doctoral field of Food Products Engineering are correlated with those defined for the corresponding Master's field and with the competences required by the relevant occupations, according to the occupational standards registered in the National Register of Qualifications in Higher Education (RNCIS) and in accordance with the European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations classification (ESCO).

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that the correlation is supported by reference to qualifications and occupations registered in the national and European reference systems, namely RNCIS, COR and ESCO. The report explicitly mentions the following relevant occupations:

- 214534 – Research Engineer in Food Products Quality Control;
- 214535 – Research Assistant in Food Products Quality Control;
- 214516 – Food Products Design Engineer;
- 214538 – Food Technology Specialist.

Therefore, the learning outcomes assumed for the doctoral field of Food Products Engineering are linked to occupations corresponding to the field of Food Products Engineering and to the professional competences required by them.

Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: **fulfilled**

Criterion B.3. Student-centred learning, teaching and evaluation

Standard S.B.3.1 Principles
The organisational component implements the principles of student-centred learning.

Indicator I.P.B.3.1.1	The organisational component ensures implementation of the student-centred learning in the curriculum and through the teaching strategies used in the learning and teaching activities and experiences.
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The Internal Evaluation Report states that doctoral training is predominantly individualised and oriented towards advanced research. The learning process aims to develop competences in scientific investigation, critical analysis, synthesis and innovation. In this respect, the university mentions independent research activities carried out under the guidance of the doctoral supervisor, through which doctoral students define their research directions, formulate hypotheses, select appropriate methods and critically interpret the results obtained. The report also highlights the active participation of doctoral students in research projects, grants, experimental studies and interdisciplinary collaborations or

collaborations with the economic environment. These activities contribute to strengthening the proactive role of the doctoral student in their own professional and scientific training. Collaborative learning and academic exchange are supported through doctoral seminars, workshops, scientific conferences and communication sessions, during which doctoral students present results, receive feedback from supervisors, teaching staff and other doctoral students, and develop their scientific communication competences.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that the university demonstrates that the organisation of doctoral studies in the field of Food Products Engineering supports doctoral student-centred learning through the structure of the doctoral programme, the role of the doctoral supervisor and the guidance committee, the individualisation of the research pathway, and access to infrastructure, digital resources and academic training activities.

The doctoral programme is built on two components:

- the training programme based on advanced university studies – PPUA;
- the individual scientific research programme.

This structure allows training to be adapted to the research topic, to the doctoral student's level of preparation and to the scientific objectives established together with the doctoral supervisor. The PPUA component develops transversal and specialised competences, while the individual research programme ensures the gradual progress of the thesis through reports, papers, experimental activities and dissemination of results.

www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/metodologii-rapoarte

- ✓ Teaching and learning are carried out predominantly through scientific mentoring, individual supervision, applied research activities, doctoral seminars, presentations of results, workshops and conferences. The doctoral student has an active role in defining the research path, choosing the methods, analysing the results and scientifically valorising them.

www.unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale

- ✓ The doctoral pathway is supported by the doctoral supervisor and the guidance committee, which monitor the doctoral student's progress and provide periodic feedback. Assessment is oriented towards research progress, through reports, presentations, papers and the analysis of the scientific results obtained.

www.unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/sustinerea-tezei-de-doctorat

- ✓ There are resources that allow research to be carried out at an individual pace and that foster the doctoral student's autonomy.

icdt.unitbv.ro – website of the Research and Development Institute of Transilvania University of Braşov.

- ✓ The doctoral training process is supported through electronic resources, access to databases, digital platforms and IT tools used for documentation, analysis, writing and scientific dissemination.

elearning.unitbv.ro – the e-learning platform of Transilvania University of Braşov.

Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion B.4. Accessibility and efficiency of the resources and support services, adequate for learning

Standard S.B.4.1. Access to resources and services

The organisational component provides access to adequate resources and support services,



according to the needs of the students.

Indicator I.P.B.4.1.1	The organisational component provides students, including those with special educational needs/disabilities, with access to resources and services designed to support the learning process, adequate for the individual learning needs, the study domain, the study cycle, and the form of organisation of the study programme.
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The Internal Evaluation Report states that doctoral students benefit from equitable access to resources and support services for learning and research. The resources of the University Library are mentioned, covering the disciplines included in the curricula, as well as access to online resources and electronic databases, available both from within and outside the university network.

For educational and professional support, the university mentions the activity of the Career Counselling and Guidance Centre – CCOC, through which students have access to counselling, events, activities and training sessions regarding personal and professional development. For students with special educational needs/disabilities, the university mentions the implementation of the CNFIS-FDI-2024-F-0397 project – “From Access to Success. Creating an Accessible and Inclusive Academic Environment for Students with Disabilities”, aimed at developing an inclusive, equitable and high-quality institutional and educational framework. The project seeks to identify solutions regarding access to education for all students, regardless of their individual learning needs.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that the university demonstrates that doctoral students, including those in the field of Food Products Engineering, have access to educational resources, support services, research infrastructure, social services and inclusion mechanisms appropriate to doctoral studies and to their individual training needs, as follows:

- ✓ access to the resources of the Library of Transilvania University of Braşov;
- ✓ access to the university’s research infrastructure, including laboratories and research centres within the UNITBV Research and Development Institute. This infrastructure is adequate for advanced research and for the specific nature of the field of Food Products Engineering;
- ✓ access to digital and e-learning platforms;
- ✓ doctoral students benefit from services provided through the Career Counselling and Guidance Centre – CCOC, which offers educational and professional counselling, as well as support for personal development and labour market integration;
- ✓ international agreements and information regarding students’ participation in international mobility placements;
- ✓ the university provides students with social services through student dormitories and canteen-restaurants. student.unitbv.ro – the UNITBV student portal;
- ✓ implementation of the CNFIS-FDI-2024-F-0397 project – “From Access to Success. Creating an Accessible and Inclusive Academic Environment for Students with Disabilities”, aimed at developing an accessible, inclusive and equitable academic environment.

Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion B.5. Learning outcomes

Standard S.B.5.1. Definition and evaluation

Learning outcomes are adequately defined and evaluated.

Indicator	Learning outcomes are adequately described, and they support understanding of the
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I.P.B.5.1.1

students' and teachers' expectations regarding the content of the subject matters in the curriculum.

The Internal Evaluation Report states that the learning outcomes for the doctoral field of Food Products Engineering are correlated with the competences related to national qualifications and are integrated into the course syllabi of the advanced university training programme. The learning outcomes are formulated both for the courses that ensure transversal competences and for the specialised courses. They indicate the level of knowledge, skills and responsibility/autonomy that doctoral students must acquire throughout their doctoral training.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that the course syllabi contain too many learning outcomes for each course, which makes it impossible to quantify how they will be monitored, developed and, above all, assessed.

Recommendations – Clearer definition of learning outcomes, in a way that makes them easier to quantify and assess.

The indicator is: **partially fulfilled**

Indicator
I.P.B.5.1.2

Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.

The Internal Evaluation Report states that the university indicates that the verification of the achievement of learning outcomes, including within the doctoral field of Food Products Engineering, is carried out both during the advanced university training programme and through the mechanisms specific to the completion of doctoral studies. The training programme based on advanced university studies is carried out within the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School over two semesters in the first year. The courses included in the curriculum are completed through appropriate forms of assessment, namely examinations and colloquia, and the level of knowledge is assessed by grades. Each successfully completed course is assigned a number of transferable credits, in accordance with the curriculum. The report mentions that the assessment of specialised courses is regulated by Instruction IS-5 on the conduct of doctoral students' activities, which includes provisions regarding the taking of examinations within the module intended to ensure specialised competences and the presentation of papers within the individual scientific research programme.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that the university demonstrates that it applies procedures assumed to be valid also within the doctoral field of Food Products Engineering. The achievement of learning outcomes is systematically verified through assessments related to the courses included in the advanced university training programme, through the monitoring of the doctoral student's progress by the doctoral supervisor and the guidance committee, as well as through the procedure for completing doctoral studies, namely the public defence of the doctoral thesis.

- ✓ Verification of learning outcomes through the courses included in the PPUA, by means of assessment methods provided for in the curriculum and in the course syllabi. The courses are completed through examinations/colloquia, and successful completion is associated with the award of transferable credits.

<https://www.unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/stagiul-doctoral/planuri-de-invatamant-si-fise-de-disciplina.html>

- ✓ Ongoing verification is supported by the Instruction on the conduct of doctoral students' activities. The document provides for the completion of activities within the individual doctoral programme, participation in the courses of the doctoral school and the acquisition of the credits related to advanced university training.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/metodologii-rapoarte/IS-5-Instructiune%20derulare%20activitate%20doctorat.pdf>
- ✓ The doctoral supervisor and the guidance committee analyse the progress of the research, the presentation of papers/reports and the fulfilment of the activities provided for in the individual research programme.
https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/metodologii-rapoarte/Regulamentul_SDI_30.09.2024.pdf
- ✓ The completion of doctoral studies involves the public defence of the doctoral thesis, a stage through which the level of scientific training, the capacity for independent research and the achievement of learning outcomes specific to doctoral level are validated.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/sustinerea-tezei-de-doctorat.html>
https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat/metodologii-rapoarte/v2/IS-8-Finalizare_si_sustinere_teze-2022_iunie_final.pdf

Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion B.7. Procedures and practices regarding the admission competition, the journey, recognition and equivalence of studies, and result certification

Standard S.B.7.1. Admission

The admission procedures and principles ensure access to higher education.

Indicator
I.P.B.7.1.1

The organisational component applies the admission procedures..

The Internal Evaluation Report states that Transilvania University of Braşov presents admission to doctoral studies as an annually regulated process, organised within IOSUD–UNITBV through the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School. For the 2025–2026 academic year, the methodology for admission to doctoral studies was developed for the admission session, proposed by the Council of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, endorsed by CSUD and approved by Senate Decision No. 19 of 26.03.2025. The document is published on the university website as part of the institutional documentation applicable to admission. The admission procedure is described as part of the institutional framework of the SDI and is applied on the basis of the internal regulations regarding the organisation of doctoral studies. Admission is based on the specific methodology, updated annually, and the conduct of the admission competition aims to assess both the candidates' academic background and the professional relevance of their training for the doctoral field.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that the organisational component responsible for doctoral studies at Transilvania University of Braşov — IOSUD–UNITBV / the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School (SDI) — applies admission procedures based on an institutionally approved methodology, published on the university website and used for each admission session.

- ✓ institutional information, regulations, decisions and documents applicable to academic processes are available at:
<https://www.unitbv.ro>



- ✓ the institutional structure coordinating doctoral studies, namely the Council for Doctoral Studies – CSUD:
<https://unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/despre-noi/csud>
- ✓ the organisational component is directly involved in the implementation of doctoral programmes and in the application of specific procedures, including those concerning admission:
<https://unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/despre-noi/echipa-sdi>
- ✓ there is a public webpage for candidates, ensuring transparency of the admission process:
<https://unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/admitere/admiterea-la-studii-de-doctorat.html>
- ✓ the methodology for admission to doctoral studies is available as an official document published on the UNITBV website:
https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/despre-unitbv/regulamente-hotarari/regulamentele-universitatii/studenti/Metodologie_admitere_doctorat_26.03.2025.pdf

Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator I.P.B.7.1.2	Admission in higher education study programmes complies with the principles of fairness and equal opportunities, and with the establishing of support measures to ensure access of vulnerable groups at social and educational risk, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
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The Internal Evaluation Report states that the university indicates that admission to university study programmes is carried out in compliance with the principles of equity and equal opportunities, and with the establishment of support measures for access by vulnerable groups, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The institutional document referred to is the Methodology on the Organisation and Conduct of the Admission Competition at Transilvania University of Braşov for doctoral study cycles. The data presented show that the university has a formalised procedural framework for admission to doctoral studies, and that this framework includes provisions aimed at ensuring equitable access for candidates. Admission is presented as being organised on the basis of an institutionally approved methodology, applicable to all candidates and oriented towards respecting the principles of equity, equal opportunities and educational inclusion.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that Transilvania University of Braşov demonstrates that admission to doctoral studies is carried out on the basis of an institutional methodology that includes provisions on equity, equal opportunities, educational inclusion and support measures for candidates from vulnerable groups, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

- ✓ Regulations, methodologies, decisions and institutional information relevant to the organisation of university studies are published on the university's official portal.
<https://www.unitbv.ro>
- ✓ There is a main institutional document demonstrating the regulation of admission and the inclusion of provisions on equity, equal opportunities and support measures for vulnerable candidates.
https://www.unitbv.ro/documente/despre-unitbv/regulamente-hotarari/regulamentele-universitatii/studenti/Metodologie_admitere_doctorat_26.03.2025.pdf
- ✓ There is a public webpage for doctoral candidates, ensuring transparent access to information regarding admission.
<https://unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale/admitere/admiterea-la-studii-de-doctorat.html>



Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.B.7.2. Academic journey of students The organisational component carries out actions supporting the students' academic journey.	
Indicator I.P.B.7.2.1	The organisational component applies the regulations concerning the students' professional activity.

The Internal Evaluation Report states that, throughout the academic path and professional activity of doctoral students, the university has procedures regulated by approved and published institutional documents, applicable at the level of IOSUD–UNITBV/the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School. The main documents mentioned are the regulations regarding students' professional activity, the assessment of doctoral students' activity, the reallocation of doctoral grants funded from the state budget, the recognition of study periods/placements carried out abroad, and the recognition of Erasmus+ mobilities. The university specifies that the assessment of doctoral students' activity, the academic path, student transfer and student mobility are regulated and transparent processes. These regulations support both the conduct of doctoral studies under uniform conditions and the recognition of academic activities carried out in other institutions in the country or abroad.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that, at the level of Transilvania University of Braşov, the academic path of students, including doctoral students, is regulated through institutional documents approved and published on the university's official websites.

- ✓ The regulations concerning students' academic path and professional activity are published. This section specifically includes the Regulation on Students' Professional Activity.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/studenti/administrative/regulamente-ale-studentilor.html>
- ✓ The methodology regarding the assessment of doctoral students' activity and the reallocation of doctoral grants is available.
https://www.unitbv.ro/?option=com_content&view=article&id=367:studenti&catid=130:regulamentele-universitatii
<https://www.unitbv.ro/cercetare/studii-doctorale.html>
<https://www.unitbv.ro/cercetare/doctorat-postdoctorat-si-abilitare/despre-scoala-doctorala/metodologii-contracte-si-rapoarte.html>
- ✓ Information is available regarding selection, study mobility, traineeship mobility and the recognition of periods carried out abroad, demonstrating the existence of institutional procedures applicable to students' academic path, including the recognition of mobilities.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/studenti/erasmus/erasmus-pentru-studenti.html>

Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

DOMAIN C. Quality management

Criterion C.3. Procedures for the initiation, monitoring and periodic review of the study programmes and domains and of the performed activities, involving students, employers and other stakeholders



Standard S.C.3.1. Procedures and implementation of procedures

The HEI has procedures for initiating, monitoring, and periodically reviewing the study programmes and domains and the performed activities, and applies them systematically.

Indicator I.P.C.3.1.1	The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.
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The Internal Evaluation Report presents the existence and application of a specific procedure regarding the initiation, monitoring and evaluation of study programmes, a procedure applied consistently at institutional level. The process is supported by the Quality Assurance Office, which contributes to updating the procedures whenever necessary and to maintaining a coherent procedural framework for the management of study programmes and fields. The university shows that the procedure regarding the initiation, monitoring and evaluation of study programmes is used systematically. It enables the organisation, monitoring and review of study programmes based on clear internal mechanisms. The procedures are updated whenever institutional changes or needs arise, with the support of the structure responsible for quality assurance.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that the organisational component of UNITBV consistently applies the procedures regarding the initiation, monitoring and evaluation of study programmes, these being supported by the Quality Assurance Office, CEAC-U and CEAC-D. The procedures are developed, discussed, institutionally approved and applied at the level of the faculties and university structures. The impact on quality assurance is demonstrated through the annual internal quality evaluation reports, through the updating of procedures, through the publication of the results of ARACIS external evaluations and through the constant orientation towards improving academic quality, the competitiveness of the educational offer, student satisfaction and the relevance of programmes for the labour market.

- ✓ Institutional documents, decisions of the Senate and Administrative Council, strategies, quality reports and documents relevant to ARACIS evaluations are available on the university website:
<https://www.unitbv.ro>
<https://www.unitbv.ro/despre-unitbv/regulamente-si-hotarari/hotararile-senatului.html>
- ✓ Annual internal quality evaluation reports and activity reports of the structures responsible for quality assurance are available.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/despre-unitbv/informatii-de-interes-public/transparenta-institutionala/rapoarte.html>
<https://didactic.unitbv.ro/oficiul-de-asigurare-a-calitatii>
<https://didactic.unitbv.ro/oficiul-de-asigurare-a-calitatii/rezultate>
- ✓ There is an official section where institutionally approved regulations, methodologies and procedures are published.
<https://www.unitbv.ro/despre-unitbv/regulamente-si-hotarari/regulamentele-universitatii.html>

Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator I.P.C.3.1.2	Members of its own community and other stakeholders are involved in the procedure implementation process.
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In the Internal Evaluation Report, the university shows that, at institutional level, both members of its own academic community and other stakeholders are involved in the process of implementing procedures. Teaching staff, students, administrative staff, as well as graduates and representatives of the socio-

economic environment are explicitly mentioned. They participate in the application and support of institutional procedures, contributing to their adaptation to the real needs of the university community and of the external environment. Quality assurance procedures are developed by the Quality Assurance Office, in collaboration with the process owners, and are approved by the Administrative Council. The documents are brought to the attention of the academic community through decisions of the Administrative Council and through internal dissemination, including by being sent via the intranet by the vice-rector responsible for university internationalisation and quality assessment. Before approval, the procedures are disseminated within the academic community. The observations and proposals submitted are centralised by the Quality Assurance Office, analysed and, where appropriate, integrated into the final form of the documents.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that, as Food Products Engineering is a newly proposed field of study, it must define its own approaches to stakeholders in order to consolidate the field, taking into account the specific nature and level of competences of this study programme. At university level, procedures regarding stakeholder involvement are implemented. At the level of the Faculty of Food and Tourism, for Bachelor's and Master's programmes, there are dedicated sections concerning the relationship with the economic and socio-cultural environment.

Recommendations - Defining its own approaches to stakeholders in order to consolidate the field, taking into account the specific nature and level of competences of this study programme.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion C.8. Participation in external evaluation processes, according to the law

Standard S.C.8.1. Compliance with the external evaluation obligation

The HEI undergoes external quality evaluation as required by the law.

Indicator I.P.C.8.1.1	The organisational component carries out the procedures pertaining to the external quality evaluation process, aiming to organise the evaluated study programme as provided by the law.
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The Internal Evaluation Report states that the university periodically organises the external evaluation of university study programmes and fields for all study cycles — Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral studies — in compliance with the deadlines and legal regulations in force. The external evaluation is carried out by the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education – ARACIS, and the process is managed at institutional level through the structures responsible for quality assurance. The university shows that the external evaluation of study programmes/fields is organised with the approval of the University Senate, in 5-year cycles, according to the applicable regulations. The process is carried out with the constant support of consultants and of the Quality Assurance Office, according to the planning of activities approved by the Administrative Council. The document states that the last external evaluation of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School of UNITBV took place in 2021.

Following the external evaluation visit, the committee found that the university demonstrates that it periodically organises the external evaluation of Bachelor's programmes, Master's fields/programmes and doctoral studies, in 5-year cycles, in accordance with the regulations in force. This practice is recorded in the annual internal quality evaluation reports published on the UNITBV website. CEAC-U and the Quality Assurance Office coordinate the activities required for external evaluation: prior internal evaluation, drafting and management of reports, communication with ARACIS, uploading documents to the ARACIS platform and publication of evaluation results.

Recommendations – Not applicable.

The indicator is: fulfilled

IV. SWOT Analysis

Strengths: Existence of research infrastructure appropriate to the field of Food Products Engineering and to complementary fields. Very good international collaborations Braşov offers doctoral students opportunities for integration into the labour market.	INTERNAL FACTORS 	Weaknesses: Existence of a small number of habilitated doctoral supervisors in the field of Food Products Engineering The intended learning outcomes of the courses are not adequately formulated for the evaluated field.
SWOT analysis		
Opportunities: Existence of two professional Master's programmes, one of which is taught in English, in the field of Food Products Engineering. IOSUD supports, including financially, the organisation of international co-supervised doctorates, as well as the invitation of recognised experts to deliver courses/lectures for doctoral students. Creation of a national consortium of programmes in the field of Food Products Engineering.	 EXTERNAL FACTORS	Threats: Migration of graduates from Romanian faculties towards institutions abroad or towards the labour market in other countries. Decrease in companies' willingness to invest in the training of highly qualified specialists and in doctoral research.

V. Extent to which the standards and performance indicators are fulfilled, and recommendations

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
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No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
DOMAIN A. Institutional capacity			
1.	I.P.A.1.1.1 For delivering the study programme/domain, the HEI has adequate organisational components and an adequate management system, which operate based on methodologies, regulations and procedures that are periodically reviewed as required by law.	fulfilled	
2.	I.P.A.1.2.1 The opinions of the faculty and department members, of the subsidiary or extension and of other stakeholders are considered in the process of adopting and revising methodologies, regulations and implementation procedures.	fulfilled	Organise systematic and regular meetings, once or twice a year, with all external stakeholders.
3.	I.P.A.2.1.1 The HEI legally owns venues for the related education, research and administrative processes, as well as for services for students, doctoral students and trainees, thus providing an enabling environment for living and studying, including for disabled persons. Optimal venues are also provided for activities of the staff. Such venues are adequately equipped.	fulfilled	
4.	I.P.A.2.2.1 The movable and immovable assets are properly maintained to ensure optimal conditions for studying, living and research, as well as for work.	fulfilled	
5.	I.P.A.3.1.1 The human resources of the organisational component are suitable to perform the activities pertaining to the evaluated study programme/domain. The teaching staff has the required qualifications and professional competences to teach the subject matters assigned to them in the job list.	fulfilled	Considering that the number of teaching staff is at the lower limit, the faculty should develop a clear strategy to increase the number of habilitated teaching staff capable of ensuring the sustainable development of the field of Food Products Engineering.
6.	I.P.A.3.2.1 Recruitment procedures comply with the provisions of the law, and are established and carried out transparently.	fulfilled	
7.	I.P.A.4.1.1 The organisational component uses IT tools in its own procedures, to improve access and provide good quality services for the members of its own community and the indirect beneficiaries of education.	fulfilled	
DOMAIN B. Educational efficacy			
8.	I.P.B.1.1.1 The study programme is developed and structured according to the expected learning outcomes, and organised based on transferable study credits. It includes all learning, teaching, practical training,	Partially fulfilled	Correlation of doctoral training activities with the expected learning outcomes and with the development of transversal and specialised competences within



No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
	research and evaluation experiences, which, together, lead to a higher education qualification.		the Food Products Engineering programme.
9.	I.P.B.2.1.2 The expected learning outcomes are correlated with the competences required by those occupations, according to the occupational standards and/or the European Skills, Competences and Occupations (ESCO).	fulfilled	
10.	I.P.B.3.1.1 The organisational component ensures implementation of the student-centred learning in the curriculum and through the teaching strategies used in the learning and teaching activities and experiences.	fulfilled	
11.	I.P.B.4.1.1 The organisational component provides students, including those with special educational needs/disabilities, with access to resources and services designed to support the learning process, adequate for the individual learning needs, the study domain, the study cycle, and the form of organisation of the study programme.	fulfilled	
12.	I.P.B.5.1.1 Learning outcomes are adequately described, and they support understanding of the students' and teachers' expectations regarding the content of the subject matters in the curriculum.	Partially fulfilled	Clearer definition of the learning outcomes, in a way that makes them easier to quantify and assess.
13.	I.P.B.5.1.2 Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.	fulfilled	
14.	I.P.B.7.1.1 The organisational component applies the admission procedures.	fulfilled	
15.	I.P.B.7.1.2 Admission in higher education study programmes complies with the principles of fairness and equal opportunities, and with the establishing of support measures to ensure access of vulnerable groups at social and educational risk, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.	fulfilled	
16.	I.P.B.7.2.1 The organisational component applies the regulations concerning the students' professional activity.	fulfilled	
DOMAIN C. Quality management			
17.	I.P.C.3.1.1 The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.	fulfilled	
18.	I.P.C.3.1.2 Members of its own community and other stakeholders are involved in the procedure implementation process.	fulfilled	Defining its own approaches to stakeholders in order to consolidate the field, taking into account the

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
			specific nature and level of competences of this study programme.
19.	I.P.C.8.1.1 The organisational component carries out the procedures pertaining to the external quality evaluation process, aiming to organise the evaluated study programme as provided by the law.	fulfilled	

Summary Table of Performance Indicators – Degree of Fulfillment

Evaluation Domain	Number of Performance Indicators		
	Fulfilled	Partially fulfilled	Unfulfilled
Domain A. Institutional capacity	7	0	0
Domain B. Educational efficacy	7	2	0
Domain C. Quality management	3	0	0
Total	17	2	0

VI. Conclusions

A total of **17** performance indicators are fulfilled, **2** performance indicators are partially fulfilled, and **0** performance indicators are unfulfilled. There are no unfulfilled performance indicators.

Propose and substantiate a decision.

The decision to **Accreditation** is proposed, considering that all **17** performance indicators are fulfilled.

VII. Annexes

- ✓ Visit schedule
- ✓ Minutes of the meetings
- ✓ The institution's point of view regarding the content of the REE



Calendarul vizitei de evaluare externă a calității

domeniului de studii universitare de doctorat/ The timetable for the evaluation of the external quality evaluation visit
for the doctoral university study domain

Instituția de învățământ superior/Organizația furnizoare de educație/ Higher Education Institution / Education Provider Organization: **Universitatea „Transilvania” din Brașov / Transilvania University of Brașov**

Școala doctorală/ Doctoral School: **Școala Doctorală Interdisciplinară/ Interdisciplinary Doctoral School**

Domeniul de doctorat/ Doctoral Domain: **Ingineria Produselor Alimentare/ Food Engineering**

Obiectivul evaluării externe/ The objective of the external evaluation: **Acreditării/ Accreditation**

Perioada vizitei de evaluare/ The evaluation period: **4-5.06.2026**

Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS/Evaluation panel:

Reprezentantul ÎIS/OFE:

Nr./No.	III.1 Numele și prenumele/ Last Name and First Name	Calitatea/Team role
1.	TIȚA OVIDIU	<i>Membru - Cadru didactic RNE</i>
2.	WERTZ VINCENT	<i>Membru - Evaluator internațional RNE-I</i>
3.	ILIE ANA LAVINIA	<i>Membru - Student doctorand RNE-S</i>

Nr./No.	Numele și prenumele/Last Name and First Name	Calitatea/Team role
1.	FLORENTINA MATEI	<i>Persoană de contact/Contact person</i>

Intervalul orar/ <i>Hour</i>	Activități de evaluare/ <i>Evaluation activities</i>	Participanți/ <i>Participants</i>	Locație/ <i>Location</i> /Listă participanți/ <i>List of Participants</i>
Luni/ <i>Thursday</i> , 4.06.2026			
9:00-9:30	Discuții tehnice în cadrul comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității/ <i>Technical discussions within the expert committee for external quality evaluation</i>	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS/ <i>Panel members</i>	Sala de Consiliu UnitBV (Bd. Eroilor nr.29, etaj 1, camera 114, Brașov)/ UnitBV Council room (29, Eroilor Blvd., room 114, Brașov)
9:30-10:20	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu reprezentanții conducerii componentei organizatorice/ <i>Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with the representatives of the management of the organisational component</i>	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS/ <i>Panel members</i> - Reprezentanți ai conducerii componentei organizatorice aferente domeniului de studii de doctorat evaluat/ <i>Representatives of the management of the organisational component</i> - Persoana de contact/ <i>Contact person</i>	Sala de Consiliu UnitBV (Bd. Eroilor nr.29, etaj 1, camera 114, Brașov)/ UnitBV Council room (29, Eroilor Blvd., room 114, Brașov)
10.20-10.30	Pauză / Break		
10:30-11:20	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți evaluatori în evaluarea externă a calității cu echipa care a realizat raportul de evaluare internă (REI)/ <i>Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with the team that has drafted the internal evaluation report</i>	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS/ <i>Panel members</i> - Echipa care a realizat REI/ <i>Team that has drafted the IER</i>	Sala de Consiliu UnitBV (Bd. Eroilor nr.29, etaj 1, camera 114, Brașov)/ UnitBV Council room (29, Eroilor Blvd., room 114, Brașov)
11:20-11:30	Pauză/ <i>Break</i>		
11:30-13:00	Vizitarea bazei materiale/ <i>Visiting the material resources</i>	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS/ <i>Panel members</i> - Reprezentanți ai instituției sau Academiei Române, după caz/ <i>Representatives of the HEI or the Romanian Academy, as applicable</i>	- Corpul R/ R Building (str. Castelului 148, Brașov) - Centrul de cercetare EBIOTEFA (Ecobiotehnologii și echipamente în agricultură și alimentație); Str. Institutului 10, Brașov/ EBIOTEFA research center (Ecobiotechnology and agro-food equipment); 10 Institutului St.,

Intervalul orar/ <i>Hour</i>	Activități de evaluare/ <i>Evaluation activities</i>	Participanți/ <i>Participants</i>	Locație/ <i>Location</i> /Listă participanți/ <i>List of Participants</i>
			Brașov
13.00-14.00	<i>Pauză pranz / Lunch</i>		
14:00-15:20	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu personalul didactic implicat în activitățile din cadrul DSUD și cu responsabilii centrelor/laboratoarelor de cercetare / <i>Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with the teaching staff involved in the activities within the DSUD and with the staff in charge with the research centres/laboratories</i>	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS/ <i>Panel members</i> - Cadre didactice conducători de doctorat/ <i>Teaching staff who are PhD supervisors</i> - Responsabilii centrelor/laboratoarelor de cercetare/ <i>Staff in charge with research centres/laboratories</i>	Sala de Consiliu UnitBV (Bd. Eroilor nr.29, etaj 1, camera 114, Brașov)/ UnitBV Council room (29, Eroilor Blvd., room 114, Brașov)
15:20-15:30	<i>Pauză/ Break</i>		
15:30 – 16:20	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu reprezentanți ai mediului economic/ <i>Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with representatives business partners</i>	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS/ <i>Panel members</i> - Reprezentanți ai mediului economic/ <i>Business partners' representatives</i>	Sala de Consiliu UnitBV (Bd. Eroilor nr.29, etaj 1, camera 114, Brașov)/ UnitBV Council room (29, Eroilor Blvd., room 114, Brașov)
Vineri/ Friday, 5.06.2026			
9:00 - 9:30	Întâlnirea tehnică a comisiei de experți evaluatori (Activitate în colaborare pentru clarificarea aspectelor prezentate în REI)/ <i>Technical meeting of the expert evaluation panel (Collaborative activity for clarifying the aspects presented in the Internal Evaluation Report - IER)</i>	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS/ <i>Panel members</i>	Sala de Consiliu UnitBV (Bd. Eroilor nr.29, etaj 1, camera 114, Brașov)/ UnitBV Council room (29, Eroilor Blvd., room 114, Brașov)
9:30-10:20	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu reprezentanți ai structurilor organizatorice în domeniul asigurării calității / <i>Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with representatives of the quality assurance organisational structures</i>	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS/ <i>Panel members</i> - Reprezentanți ai structurilor organizatorice în domeniul asigurării calității/ <i>Representatives of quality assurance organisational structures</i>	Sala de Consiliu UnitBV (Bd. Eroilor nr.29, etaj 1, camera 114, Brașov)/ UnitBV Council room (29, Eroilor Blvd., room 114, Brașov)

Intervalul orar/ <i>Hour</i>	Activități de evaluare/ <i>Evaluation activities</i>	Participanți/ <i>Participants</i>	Locație/ <i>Location</i> /Listă participanți/ <i>List of Participants</i>
10:20-10:30	Pauză/ <i>Break</i>		
10:30 - 11:20	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu membri ai Comisiei de etică universitară/ <i>Meeting of the experts panel with members of the University Ethics Committee</i>	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS/ <i>Panel members</i> - Membri ai Comisiei de etică universitară/ <i>Members of the University Ethics Committee</i>	Sala de Consiliu UnitBV (Bd. Eroilor nr.29, etaj 1, camera 114, Brașov)/ UnitBV Council room (29, Eroilor Blvd., room 114, Brașov)
11:20-11:30-	Pauză/ <i>Break</i>		
11:30-12:00	Finalizarea activităților de evaluare/ <i>Completion of evaluation activities</i>	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS/ <i>Panel members</i>	Sala de Consiliu UnitBV (Bd. Eroilor nr.29, etaj 1, camera 114, Brașov)/ UnitBV Council room (29, Eroilor Blvd., room 114, Brașov)
12.00-13.00	Pauză pranz / Lunch		
13:00 - 14:00	Întâlnirea membrilor comisiei de experți evaluatori cu reprezentanții conducerii ÎS sau a OFE, după caz și ai conducerii componentei organizatorice pentru comunicarea concluziilor procesului de evaluare/ <i>Meeting of the members of the expert evaluators' panel with representatives of the management of the HEI or the EP, as applicable, and management of the organisational component, to communicate the conclusions of the evaluation process</i>	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS/ <i>Panel members</i> - Reprezentanți ai conducerii și ai domeniului de studii evaluat/ <i>Representatives of the management</i> - Persoana de contact/ <i>Contact person</i>	Sala de Consiliu UnitBV (Bd. Eroilor nr.29, etaj 1, camera 114, Brașov)/ UnitBV Council room (29, Eroilor Blvd., room 114, Brașov)

Prepared by,

Prof.dr. Florentina MATEI

Prof.dr. Ovidiu ȚIȚA