



External Evaluation Report (REE) for the procedure for obtaining a maintaining accreditation (MAC) of Doctoral Study Domain

Higher Education Institution/Education Provider Organization:	IOSUD – National University of Music in Bucharest
Doctoral School:	“Constantin Brăiloiu” Doctoral School, UNMB
Doctoral Domain:	Music
The objective of the external evaluation:	Maintaining accreditation (MAC)



Members of the ARACIS Evaluation Panel

No.	Last Name and First Name	Team role	Signature
1.	Nedelcut Nelida	Expert evaluator	
2.	Emilia Noraru	International Expert	
3.	Rădulea Alexandru	PhD Student Evaluator	

I. Introduction

- the context in which the external evaluation report was drafted (the type of evaluation, the period covered by the evaluation, membership of the external quality experts' panel, etc.);

The present external evaluation report concerns the doctoral study domain of Music within IOSUD-UNMB, organised by the National University of Music in Bucharest through the "Constantin Brăiloiu" Doctoral School. The evaluation is carried out with a view to maintaining accreditation, in accordance with the ARACIS methodology and the legal framework applicable to doctoral studies.

The external evaluation visit of the aforementioned field took place between 25-26 June, with the physical participation of the members of the evaluation committee: Prof.dr. Nedelcuț Nelida, Prof.dr. Moraru Emilia, student Rădulea Alexandru.

The internal evaluation report was drafted over several months, at the beginning of the 2025/2026 academic year, and focused on the analysis of all standards and performance indicators required by ARACIS. The report was based on information and data available on the UNMB website, institutional documents, reports, regulations, methodologies and procedures, and reflected the involvement of relevant stakeholders, including academic staff, doctoral students, graduates and employers.

The internal evaluation report was prepared by a team coordinated by the Director of the Council for Doctoral Studies, Prof. Corina-Antigona Rădulescu, PhD, and the Director of the "Constantin Brăiloiu" Doctoral School, Prof. Valentina Dediu-Sandu, PhD, Dr.h.c., in consultation with the Vice-Rector of UNMB, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Manuela Giosa, and the Rector of UNMB, Prof. Dr. Diana-Asinefta Moș. The drafting team also included members of CSUD and CSD, doctoral students, the Chief University Secretary, the Secretary of the Doctoral School and the General Administrative Director. The report was approved by the UNMB Senate on 18 March 2026.

- description of the higher education institution / Romanian Academy (establishment, evolution, mission, governance, structure, study programmes/domains, external quality evaluation procedures applied);

The National University of Music in Bucharest is a public higher education institution in the field of music, operating under the coordination of the Ministry of Education and Research. Its activity is governed by Law No. 199/2023 on higher education, the legislation in force, the University Charter and its own institutional regulations.

The institution has a long historical tradition. Its first official act was the Decree establishing the Conservatory of Music and Declamation, signed by Alexandru Ioan Cuza on 6 October 1864. Over time, the institution evolved and changed its name several times. The current name, the National University of Music in Bucharest, was adopted by Government Decision No. 23/04.01.2001. At present, UNMB operates in accordance with Government Decision No. 731/2024, as subsequently amended and supplemented.

The mission of UNMB is to provide musical talents from Romania and abroad with a high-quality environment for professional, artistic, scientific and humanistic development. The university aims to train professional musicians, specialists in various musical fields and in education, capable of achieving high-level artistic, scientific and cultural performance. UNMB defines itself as a university of advanced scientific research and artistic creation, a university of excellence in musical education and performance, and an institution with strategic international visibility.

UNMB organises its study programmes in accordance with the Bologna Process and national legislation, promoting academic cooperation and partnerships with relevant institutions in Europe and beyond. The institution's academic structure includes the Faculty of Musical Performance, the Faculty of Composition, Musicology and Music Education, the "Constantin Brăiloiu" Doctoral School, the Department for Teacher Training, the Centre for Continuing Music Education and Postgraduate Studies, the Directorate for Research, Innovation and Information, the Media Library, studios, laboratories and other administrative, technical and support structures.

The university has undergone the external quality evaluation procedures required by law, including periodic external evaluations carried out by ARACIS. In accordance with Ministry of Education Order No.

5844/17 December 2021, UNMB maintained its accreditation for the organisation of doctoral studies, as well as for the doctoral field of Music.

[general description of the doctoral study domain \(why it was established - in the case of a provisional authorisation to operate; evolution and/or changes since the last external quality evaluation procedure - in the case of procedures intended for accreditation or maintaining accreditation, as applicable\).](#)

The doctoral programme in Music was established at UNMB in 1990. Initially, it was conceived as a research-based PhD. Since 2005, the programme has been structured along two tracks: the research-based PhD and the professional PhD.

The development of the doctoral field reflects the specific nature of advanced musical knowledge, in which scientific research and artistic creation are considered equally important. In the field of Music, research and artistic creation are not regarded as separate dimensions, but as complementary components of the same academic and professional framework. Fundamental research includes music theory, harmony, musical forms, counterpoint, orchestration, music history, stylistics, aesthetics, ethnomusicology, music criticism and cultural management, while applied research focuses on performance theory and musical composition.

At present, UNMB operates a single Doctoral School in the field of Music, known since 2020 as the “Constantin Brăiloiu” Doctoral School. It is led by the Director of the Doctoral School and by the Doctoral School Council, which also includes a doctoral student representative. The doctoral field of Music is accredited, and the maintenance of accreditation was confirmed by Ministry of Education Order No. 5844/17 December 2021.

The vision of the Doctoral School is to train researchers and artists in the field of music in the spirit of creativity, intellectual honesty, critical thinking and individual autonomy. The programme prepares doctoral students to contribute to the advancement of knowledge and to engage in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches, in line with the major social, cultural and artistic transformations of the 21st century.

Doctoral supervision is organised on an individual basis and is adapted to each student's level of preparation, educational background, personality, specialisation and professional profile. The content and methodology of supervision are differentiated according to the two main directions of doctoral studies in Music: artistic creation, including performance and composition, within the professional PhD, and MUSICOLOGY, within the research-based PhD.

Since the previous external quality evaluation, the doctoral programme has continued to develop through the consolidation of its regulatory framework, the updating of methodologies and procedures, the strengthening of stakeholder involvement, and the alignment of doctoral education with national standards and ARACIS requirements.

II. Methods used

[Analysed documents \(internal evaluation report and its annexes; additional documents requested before and during the on-site visit, if any; other documents or data\);](#)

Before the on-site visit, the Self-Evaluation Report (SER) of the National University of Music in Bucharest, the related documentation (annexes and supporting materials) were thoroughly analyzed. In addition, the information available on the Doctoral School of Music website was examined. The evaluation visit, conducted on 25-26 June, provided an opportunity to deepen the understanding of the organization and functioning of doctoral studies in the field of Music at UNMB.

The evaluation committee reviewed the internal evaluation report, its annexes, official documents available online, as well as additional materials requested before and during the visit. The meetings held according to the established schedule addressed key aspects of the evaluated field, including: the institutional and doctoral school development strategy, the involvement of doctoral supervisors in academic and artistic research activities, doctoral students' feedback on the study program, the implementation of regulations and quality assurance procedures, the activity of the ethics structures, as well as the functioning of research and artistic creation facilities.

On-site visit (general list of visited locations and categories of persons with whom debates have been organised);

Before the on-site visit, the Self-Evaluation Report (RAE) of the National University of Music in Bucharest (UNMB) and other relevant documents (annexes, supplementary documents, etc.) were studied. In addition, we studied the websites of the Doctoral Schools of UNMB. The visit from 25-26 June 2026 was a good opportunity to expand the information regarding the doctoral studies in Music at UNMB. The evaluation committee analyzed the following documents provided by the institution: the internal evaluation report, the annexes to the report, links to official documents posted on the institution's website, additional annexes requested before the visit and additional annexes during the visit. The committee held the meetings mentioned in the visit program, in which relevant aspects for the field of study under evaluation were debated: the university and faculty development strategy, the level of involvement of doctoral supervisors in the program development efforts, the feedback of doctoral students regarding the study program, the implementation of regulations, methodologies and quality management procedures at the organizational level, the activity of the ethics committee and aspects of the functioning of research laboratories .

The on-site visit began with a preliminary meeting of the experts, members of the evaluation team. At this meeting, the preparation and harmonization of the evaluation stages were discussed. Throughout the entire evaluation period, we had the opportunity to participate in a series of group meetings with representatives of UNMB, the musical field, IOSUD staff, the director of doctoral schools, employers and other people from the quality management and the ethics committee. All of this helped us to finalize the report. According to the evaluation calendar, the evaluation committee visited: classrooms and seminar rooms; IOSUD secretariat; Research Center, laboratories, Concert Halls, Mediatequs, Library.

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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IOSUD-UNMB has adequate organisational components and an appropriate management system for delivering the doctoral study programme in Music. The institution operates on the basis of methodologies, regulations and procedures that are periodically reviewed in accordance with legal requirements. These documents define the relevant competences, responsibilities, processes and implementation mechanisms.

The "Constantin Brăiloiu" Doctoral School has its own regulations regarding the organisation and conduct of doctoral studies. Additional documents, such as the national minimum standards for awarding the doctoral degree, rules for drafting doctoral theses and admission regulations, are also published on the university website. The information is made available either online or on the notice board, ensuring transparency and access to public information.

At institutional level, doctoral studies are coordinated by the Council for Doctoral Studies, while the Doctoral School is led by the Director of the Doctoral School and the Doctoral School Council, which

includes doctoral supervisors and a PhD student representative. This structure ensures the proper management, coordination and monitoring of doctoral activities.

Analysis of the current situation

IOSUD-UNMB has adequate organisational structures and a functional management system, based on clear and periodically updated regulations, methodologies and procedures. The institution ensures transparency, public access to relevant information and continuous adaptation of its administrative and academic processes to the needs of the doctoral programme and of the academic community.

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 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.

Within IOSUD-UNMB, the adoption and revision of methodologies, regulations and procedures are carried out with the involvement of representatives of the academic community (Doctoral School, Doctoral School Council, Council for Doctoral Studies), including PhD students. Thus, the Doctoral School regulations, debated and approved by the CSD and CSUD (academic staff and student representatives), were submitted for approval to the UNMB Senate and approved on 6 November 2024, with additions/amendments made at the UNMB Senate meeting of 28 May 2025.

At the same time, UNMB constantly seeks to harmonise its own regulations and methodologies so as to optimise compatibility with partner institutions (the best example being the experience within the *In.Tune Alliance – Innovative Universities in Music & Arts in Europe*, a project co-funded by the European Union (<https://intune-alliance.eu>). In this regard, the satisfaction questionnaire has recently been revised, with the changes taking into account existing best practices within the partner institutions of the *In.Tune Alliance*.

Furthermore, the excellent collaborative and partnership relationships between UNMB and other institutions in the academic and cultural-artistic spheres (<https://www.unmb.ro/despre-noi/parteneri/>) and, more broadly, with the labour market are also reflected in the adoption and regular revision of our own regulations and methodologies.

Analysis of the current situation

UNMB has developed a participatory and transparent process for the adoption and revision of methodologies, regulations and procedures, involving both doctoral supervisors and PhD students through representatives on faculty councils and the Senate. Comprehensive consultation and the collation of feedback demonstrate the institution's commitment to creating up-to-date regulations that are adapted to the concrete realities both within the university and in the external environment. Collaboration with the *In.Tune Alliance* and partnerships with other academic and cultural institutions contribute to the harmonisation of procedures, the exchange of best practices, and increased compatibility and relevance in an international context.

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.

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

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 HEI possesses, in accordance with the law, premises dedicated to teaching, research and administrative processes, as well as for services intended for students, PhD students and course participants, thereby ensuring a favourable environment for living and studying, including for those with disabilities. Optimal premises are also provided for staff activities. These are suitably equipped.

IOSUD-UNMB, at the level of the Doctoral School, has a solid material base, which enables it to support its teaching, artistic and research activities. Its assets, various facilities and financial resources make it possible to support full-time education and the objectives of artistic and research activities.

The teaching facilities, with their size and significant equipment, are suited to the specific requirements of teaching, research, and artistic practice/research activities inherent to doctoral studies. Lecture/seminar rooms are equipped with specific facilities (musical instruments, desks, etc.) and appropriate technical equipment (audio, video) for teaching, communication and practical activities (<https://www.unmb.ro/campus-unmb/>;

Particular emphasis has been placed on expanding and diversifying the collection of musical instruments and technical equipment, which are essential for teaching and artistic activities. The university's collection currently comprises over 568 musical instruments, of which 172 are keyboard instruments – grand pianos, upright pianos, harpsichords, organs –, five harps, 118 stringed instruments – violins, violas, cellos, double basses, including Baroque instruments –, an exceptional variety of percussion instruments and 197 wind instruments of the most diverse categories. In addition, printing and audio mixing equipment, high- performance computers and specialised software licences for audio editing and production have been acquired.

Furthermore, the university is implementing the PNRR programme: *Modernisation of the UNMB's digital infrastructure* to ensure access to arts education' (<https://www.unmb.ro/pnrr-digitalizare/>), funded by the European Union.

The teaching and research facilities available to the doctoral programme form an integral part of the infrastructure of the National University of Music in Bucharest (<https://www.unmb.ro/campus-unmb/tur-virtual/>). These include: concert and recital halls (the <https://www.unmb.ro/campus-unmb/sali-de-concerte/>: the 'George Enescu' Hall, the Opera Studio, the "Lipatti" Hall, the Auditorium, the "Silvestri" Hall), laboratories, recording studios equipped with state-of-the-art equipment, the Media Library building, a printing press, rooms for lectures, seminars and practical work, rooms for individual study, and rooms for doctoral thesis defences and doctoral activities.

The Mediatheque building (<https://mediateca.unmb.ro/>) houses two departments: the Library and the Audiovisual Department. The Audiovisual Service provides teaching staff, students and external users with audiovisual materials: CDs, DVDs and the necessary equipment – CD players, laptops, video projectors and sound systems; in the viewing room and the listening room, televisions and DVD players are available for viewing the requested audio-visual materials. The Audiovisual Department also handles the recording of artistic events within the university (instrumental or vocal recitals, concerts by student choirs or orchestras), a significant proportion of which represents the work of PhD students throughout their doctoral studies.

IOSUD-UNMB has its own printing press, which handles the printing of materials published by the UNMB Press, as well as the reproduction of teaching or administrative materials required for the educational process.

Students, PhD students, and academic and non-academic staff at UNMB have access to the Music Canteen, located within the UNMB premises, which offers a variety of dishes (<https://www.unmb.ro/campus-unmb/restaurant/>). Furthermore, PhD students are provided with accommodation in the UNMB Student Hall of Residence, situated at 8 General Berthelot Street. The UNMB sports hall offers everything necessary for activities to take place in optimal conditions, being equipped with

changing rooms, shower facilities, private toilets, furniture, equipment and other specific inventory items. Teaching staff have access to a spacious staff room, equipped with storage space for materials used in the teaching process.

Analysis of the current situation

Concert halls, administrative spaces, and teaching and research laboratories are equipped with specific instruments and equipment (audio, video, music-specific software licences, etc.) that ensure the proper conduct of practical, applied and theoretical activities. Constant attention is paid to ensuring the availability of specific facilities, with significant financial resources being invested in the purchase and maintenance of musical instruments and technical equipment, which are essential for the smooth running of the teaching process and the enrichment of the collection.

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.
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UNMB has consistently invested in the modernisation and maintenance of its educational, artistic, research and administrative infrastructure, ensuring appropriate conditions for doctoral study, research, artistic creation and professional activity. The university has improved lecture halls, laboratories, the Opera Studio, the Media Centre, the Library, administrative spaces and student accommodation facilities.

Recent investments include the creation of a new computer room in the Media Centre, equipped with high-performance computers, a video projector and specialised music software. Other spaces have been equipped with modern furniture and technical facilities, while *Softlink* licences have been purchased to improve the management and consultation of library resources.

The university has also invested in improving student living conditions in the residence hall, through the acquisition of beds, mattresses, lockers, refrigerators, washing machines and other necessary equipment. Additional projects, such as FDI and PNRR-funded initiatives, have contributed to the purchase of laptops, tablets, video projectors, sound systems, theatre projectors and other technical equipment, supporting both teaching and artistic research activities.

Overall, UNMB demonstrates a constant concern for maintaining and modernising its movable and immovable assets. These investments contribute to a modern, functional and stimulating environment for study, research, artistic practice, living and working.

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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IOSUD-UNMB has adequate human resources for the organisation and delivery of the doctoral programme in Music. The "Constantin Brăiloiu" Doctoral School includes 11 doctoral supervisors, all recognised specialists in the field of music, including musicologists, composers and performers. Two of

them are members of the Romanian Academy, which confirms the high academic and artistic standing of the supervisory staff.

The doctoral supervisors possess the necessary qualifications, professional competences and artistic or scientific expertise to guide doctoral research in both musicology and artistic creation. They ensure the quality of doctoral training through individual supervision, updated programme content, monitoring of doctoral students' progress and the application of common procedures and quality assurance principles.

The Doctoral School also supports the production of original doctoral theses, in accordance with research ethics, focused on creation, performance and musicological research. PhD students are encouraged to publish their research results and to participate in national and international conferences, symposia, workshops and artistic events.

The ratio between doctoral supervisors and doctoral students is appropriate and complies with ARACIS standards, ensuring balanced supervision and effective academic guidance. At present, the Doctoral School has 71 doctoral students and 11 doctoral supervisors, of whom 3 are retired academic staff. It is noted that 2 doctoral supervisors coordinate a relatively high number of doctoral students, namely 9–13 doctoral students each.

The institution has prepared an additional annex presenting the situation of the doctoral students and specifying that some of them are expected to complete their studies before Order no. 3030/2024 enters into force. (Supplementary Annex 1. Situation of doctoral students / supervisors exceeding the permitted number of doctoral students)

Therefore, the situation is being monitored and will be regulated in accordance with the applicable legal provisions

Analysis of the current situation

The structure of the academic staff demonstrates a high level of professional competence and full compliance with national standards. The diversity of expertise and active involvement in research and artistic activities ensure a coherent and high-quality doctoral training environment, while contributing to the national and international visibility of the Doctoral School.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the legal provisions in force regarding the maximum number of doctoral students supervised by each doctoral supervisor be observed, through the continuous monitoring of each supervisor's workload and the adjustment of the number of admitted doctoral students to the legally permitted supervision capacity.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator I.P.A.3.1.2	The HEI ensures professional and personal development for its staff.
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IOSUD-UNMB supports the professional and personal development of teaching, auxiliary teaching, research and non-teaching staff involved in doctoral activities. This support is provided through institutional resources and project-based funding, with a particular focus on digital skills, internationalisation and research development.

An important contribution was made through the PNRR project “Modernisation of UNMB’s digital infrastructure to ensure access to arts education”, which offered advanced digital skills training to students, PhD students, teaching staff, auxiliary teaching staff and researchers. The project included both general digital skills courses and music-specific postgraduate programmes in areas such as digital music editing and mastering, online music promotion, Byzantine music desktop publishing and music score typesetting.

The impact of these training activities is reflected in the academic process, including the introduction of the course “Doctoral Research in the Digital Age”, which directly benefits PhD students. Staff development is also supported through Erasmus mobility, participation in international conferences, workshops, FDI projects, access to international databases, updated bibliographic resources and funding for participation in peer-reviewed international events.

Analysis of the current situation

UNMB demonstrates a consistent concern for staff development, supporting digital competence, academic excellence, international collaboration and the continuous professional growth of its teaching and research community.

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.
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Recruitment and selection procedures within IOSUD-UNMB are regulated by clear methodologies and regulations, adopted in accordance with the legislation. The admission of new members to the “Constantin Brăiloiu” Doctoral School is carried out according to specific regulations concerning new doctoral supervisors and positions within the Doctoral School.

The competition for the position of CSUD Director, as well as the election of CSUD members, is organised on the basis of approved regulations and methodologies. Similarly, the election of the members of the Doctoral School Council and of the Director of the Doctoral School follows established procedures, aligned with Law No. 199/2023, OME No. 3020/2024 and other applicable legal provisions.

Student representatives are elected democratically, by universal, direct and secret vote, without interference from university management. This ensures the legitimacy and independence of student representation within the academic community.

Analysis of the current situation

UNMB applies transparent and legally compliant recruitment and election procedures, ensuring fairness, institutional accountability and the involvement of relevant academic stakeholders. The framework reflects a coherent and rigorous system that contributes to maintaining academic quality and the sustainable development of the Doctoral School of Music.

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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UNMB has implemented a coherent process of digital transformation aimed at improving administrative procedures, access to information and the quality of services provided to the academic community and external stakeholders. Through FDI and PNRR projects, the university has modernised its website, developed digital tools for internationalisation, acquired an Erasmus exchange management platform and introduced applications supporting the educational process.

The PNRR project contributed significantly to the modernisation of the university's digital infrastructure, including improved Wi-Fi access, music-specific software, *Microsoft Office 365 Edu* licences and digital tools for teaching, research and artistic activities. The Library and Media Centre are also undergoing digital modernisation, including online access to bibliographic and media resources through specialised software.

UNMB has also acquired an MVTP system for real-time, low-latency audio-video transmission, supporting international collaboration and interactive artistic projects. The institution hosts several digital platforms and project websites and provides access to international databases such as JSTOR, Oxford Music Online and Arcanum Digitheca.

Analysis of the current situation

UNMB uses IT tools effectively to support teaching, research, administration, internationalisation and access to academic resources. Digitalisation is treated as a strategic direction for improving educational quality, supporting doctoral research and strengthening international visibility.

The indicator is: fulfilled

AIN 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 degree programme is developed and structured in relation to the expected learning outcomes and is organised on the basis of transferable credits. It encompasses all learning, teaching, practical training, research and assessment experiences which together lead to a university qualification.

The doctoral programme is organised and delivered within IOSUD-UNMB, exclusively through the 'Constantin Brăiloiu' Doctoral School. The doctoral programme is delivered under the supervision of a doctoral supervisor and comprises:

- a) training programme based on advanced university studies, within the doctoral school;
- b) an individual programme of scientific or applied research, as appropriate, for the fields in which professional doctoral programmes are organised. <https://www.unmb.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Regulamentul-IOSUD-si-al-Scolii-Doctorale-Constantin-Brailoiu-de-organizare-si-desfasurare-a-studiilor-universitare-de-doctorat.pdf>

Following the PNRR project 'Modernisation of UNMB's digital infrastructure to ensure access to arts education', starting from the 2025/2026 academic year, the subject 'Doctoral Research in the Digital Age (methods, concepts, projects)', worth 8 (eight) credits, has been introduced into the curriculum of the UNMB 'Constantin Brăiloiu' Doctoral School (training programme based on advanced university studies). The other courses in the curriculum are: *Research Methodology. Significance and Context in Musical Research and Creation*, worth 8 (eight) credits; *Cognitive Models in Advanced Musical Research*, worth 8 (eight) credits; *Ethics and Academic Integrity. Ethics of Scientific Research*, worth 6 (six) credits; *Doctoral Research in the Digital Age (methods, concepts, projects)*, worth 8 (eight) credits.

Analysis of the current situation

The doctoral program of SDM – IOSUD UNMB demonstrates a coherent and well-structured framework, aligned with academic standards and the specific requirements of the Music field. The integration of training, research, and evaluation activities reflects a progressive and balanced educational process, supporting the development of advanced competencies in both scientific and artistic domains. Clearly defined learning outcomes, together with structured monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, ensure the quality of doctoral training and the effective progression of doctoral candidates within a complex and interdisciplinary academic environment. There are scientific events dedicated to students: *Conference of the Doctoral Schools, Concerts, Contests*.

* 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: 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 curriculum of the PhD program in Music within SDM – IOSUD UNMB is designed and continuously updated in alignment with the qualification requirements of the third cycle (EQF level 8) and the professional competencies specific to the music field. It follows European and national frameworks, ensuring consistency with occupational standards and the evolving demands of artistic and scientific doctoral training.

The curriculum and discipline are structured to provide both theoretical and practical competencies, including advanced understanding of musical hermeneutics, the use of contemporary research methodologies, critical analysis, and the development of original artistic or scientific contributions.

The objectives of the Doctoral School are in line with those set out in the UNMB Charter and are based on past achievements and performance, as well as priorities in all structural and functional aspects: academic and artistic, departmental development, services and facilities offered to students and staff, international cooperation projects, investment and management of material resources, integrated into community life (<https://www.unmb.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Carta-UNMB-2025.pdf>)

Analysis of the current situation

For the field of Music – doctoral studies, the expected learning outcomes are formulated at EQF/CEC level 8 and clearly aligned with the competences required by relevant occupations, in accordance with occupational standards and ESCO. Graduates of doctoral studies in Music acquire advanced skills in research, artistic creation and performance, being able to generate original knowledge, communicate and apply its results in academic and professional contexts, in full accordance with the requirements of the corresponding occupations in ESCO and with Level 8 of the European Qualifications Framework. Upon completion of the doctoral programme, the graduate demonstrates:

- systematic, in-depth and critical knowledge of theories, methodologies and current research trends in the field of music (musicology, composition, performance, conducting, music education);
- advanced knowledge of the historical, aesthetic, cultural and interdisciplinary contexts relevant to musical research and creation;
- in-depth knowledge of scientific research methods and techniques applicable to the field of music;
- knowledge of academic and editorial standards for the dissemination of scientific and artistic research findings.

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 Doctoral School of Music (SDM) within IOSUD –UNMB consistently applies student-centered learning principles in both curriculum design and teaching, research, and mentoring practices. These principles are embedded in institutional regulations, course syllabi, and doctoral evaluation procedures, ensuring a coherent and integrated approach.

The supervision strategies for PhD students are constantly adapted to their initial level of preparation, as they vary greatly in terms of personality, education and social background. At the same time, account is taken of the diversity of their specialisations and skills, as specified in their bachelor's and master's degrees. In the field of Music, the content and methodology of supervision are adapted primarily to the fields of *Artistic Creation (Performing Arts / Composition – Professional PhD)* and *Musicology (Scientific PhD)*.

Based on the *Individual Programme of Scientific Research or Artistic Creation*, its structure, content, delivery and organisation encompass scientific/artistic activities, concerts, recitals, compositions, published articles and symposium papers, which encourages participation in and the organisation of prestigious artistic presentations and events.

Analysis of the current situation

The Doctoral School of Music at IOSUD – UNMB demonstrates a consistent and effective implementation of a student-centered learning model. The high degree of flexibility and personalization supports the development of individual research trajectories, while the integration of diverse and innovative learning methods enhances both theoretical and artistic competencies. PhD students receive advice and guidance from their doctoral supervisor and the Academic Guidance and Integrity Committee from the moment of admission to doctoral studies until the defence of their doctoral thesis (inclusive).

For the period 2021–2025, the situation of doctoral students who discontinued their studies is 15 as expelled and doctoral students withdrew from the programme

Recommendations

It is recommended that the situation of expelled and withdrawn doctoral students be periodically monitored, and that the causes leading to the discontinuation of doctoral studies be analysed, in order to identify academic, administrative, and counselling support measures aimed at reducing doctoral dropout.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator I.P. B.3.1.2	The organisational component ensures opportunities for students to participate in academic mobility programmes organised in person and/or virtually.
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UNMB provides PhD students with opportunities to participate in academic mobility programmes, in accordance with regulations approved by the University Senate and national legislation. International mobility is supported through the activity of the International Relations Office and the Erasmus+ Office.

The university has over 70 bilateral agreements with partner institutions in more than 20 countries, offering doctoral students access to international academic and artistic environments.

The number of doctoral student mobilities has increased during the period 2021–2025, supported by international projects and institutional partnerships. Since 2023, UNMB has also been part of the European *In Tune* Alliance, which is expected to further expand mobility opportunities for PhD students.

Analysis of the current situation

The Doctoral School of Music demonstrates a well-structured and functional system for supporting academic mobility, based on complementary funding mechanisms and clear organizational procedures. The combination of long-term and short-term mobility opportunities ensures flexibility and alignment with the different stages of doctoral research.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.B.3.2. Fairness The organisational component provides fair opportunities for students.	
Indicator I.P.B.3.2.1	The organisational component provides fair opportunities for students, in line with their potential and aspirations, taking into account the diversity of learning styles and abilities

The “Constantin Brăiloiu” Doctoral School ensures equitable opportunities for PhD students, taking into account their potential, aspirations, learning styles and abilities. Students have free and equal access

to study rooms, research facilities, artistic infrastructure, bibliographic resources, archives, online databases and media collections.

The doctoral programme is adapted to each student's scientific or artistic profile through individual research or artistic creation programmes, supervision committees and periodic progress evaluation. The institution recognises various forms of excellence, including publications, artistic creations, performances and research activities.

UNMB promotes equal opportunities and fair access to doctoral studies and resources. The institution also supports inclusion through projects aimed at disadvantaged groups and students with disabilities, as well as through policies concerning gender equality, prevention of discrimination, antisemitism, xenophobia and hate speech.

Analysis of the current situation

Equal access is ensured to research infrastructure, digital platforms, and library resources, while institutional mechanisms guarantee fair and transparent allocation of facilities. SDM also provides support for students with special needs through adapted infrastructure, assistive technologies, flexible evaluation methods, and dedicated institutional projects.

Also, the Doctoral School provides an inclusive and personalised framework that supports the academic, artistic and professional development of PhD students, while respecting the diversity of learning styles and creative profiles.

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 Doctoral School provides PhD students with access to academic, artistic, documentary, technical and career-support resources appropriate to doctoral studies in Music. These include libraries, music archives, sheet music collections, sound archives, national and international databases, rehearsal rooms, recording studios, audio-visual equipment and specialised digital resources.

PhD students also benefit from professional and career guidance, participation in conferences, festivals, research projects and artistic events. The efficiency of these resources and services is monitored by the Doctoral School Council, which includes PhD student representatives.

UNMB supports students through several institutional projects focused on inclusion, entrepreneurship and career development. The Student Entrepreneurship Society supports student cultural projects, while the MusicalJobs platform provides access to career opportunities, auditions and professional training programmes. PhD students are also involved in international projects, symposia and research-creation initiatives.

Additional support includes access to the *Grafoart* Bookshop on campus, free borrowing of equipment, and free access to professional recording studios and technical support.

Analysis of the current situation

UNMB ensures coherent, equitable and efficient access to resources and support services, adapted to the specific needs of doctoral students in Music.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the necessary institutional steps be continued and finalized in order to implement and widely disseminate a clear and predictable methodology regarding the awarding and settlement of research grants for doctoral students.

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 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.
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Within the Doctoral School of Music, learning outcomes are clearly defined, coherent, and aligned with EQF level 8 and ARACIS 2025 standards. They are structured across knowledge, skills, responsibility, and autonomy, and are fully integrated into the curriculum and course syllabi, ensuring transparency and accessibility.

The curriculum of the advanced university training programme includes subjects such as Research Methodology, Cognitive Models in Advanced Musical Research, Ethics and Academic Integrity, and Doctoral Research in the Digital Age. The course descriptions specify the competences acquired by students and align the course content with the expectations of the academic and professional community.

The learning outcomes are consistent with EQF Level 8, emphasising research, originality, autonomy, critical thinking and the capacity to connect theoretical knowledge with artistic practice. They help both students and lecturers understand the objectives, content and expected results of each subject in the curriculum.

Analysis of the current situation

The learning outcomes are appropriately formulated, aligned with doctoral-level requirements and relevant to the specific nature of scientific and artistic research in the field of Music.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator I.P.B.5.1.2	Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.
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The verification of learning outcomes is ensured through both formative assessment and final evaluation. The subjects included in the curriculum are assessed by examination, using a pass/fail system, while the doctoral student's research or artistic progress is monitored throughout the doctoral programme.

Doctoral students periodically present the progress of their scientific research or artistic creation programme before the doctoral supervisor and the Academic Guidance and Integrity Committee. These presentations are followed by progress assessment reports, which evaluate the development of research, artistic and professional competences.

Scientific research or artistic creation reports are assessed using qualitative grades such as Very Good, Good, Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory. The doctoral thesis is evaluated through the legally established stages, including pre-defence and public defence.

Analysis of the current situation

The assessment process is transparent, continuous and aligned with the learning outcomes of the doctoral programme. It supports creativity, responsibility, self-assessment and the development of advanced research and artistic competences.

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 “Constantin Brăiloiu” Doctoral School implements transparent admission procedures, publicly announced on the UNMB website at least six months before the application deadline. Admission is based on the candidate’s previous academic, scientific, artistic and professional performance, as well as on the proposed doctoral research topic.

The admission examination differs according to the type of doctoral programme: scientific PhD or professional PhD in performance, conducting or composition. It includes a foreign language test, written examinations, artistic or analytical tests where applicable, and an oral presentation of the doctoral thesis proposal.

The admission interview is mandatory for all candidates and evaluates their knowledge of the field, awareness of recent research, artistic or scientific achievements, and capacity to develop a doctoral research project. The validation of admission results is carried out by the Doctoral School Council and the Council for Doctoral Studies.

Analysis of the current situation

Admission procedures are clearly regulated, transparent and adapted to the specific nature of doctoral studies in Music, ensuring the selection of candidates with appropriate academic, artistic and research potential. There is a specific *Methodology*, developed and published annually. The document details the stages of the admission competition, the bibliography, the concrete assessment criteria, and the required documents, thus ensuring the transparency and predictability of the process.

The procedures are explicitly developed in accordance with national legislation - the National Education Law, the Code of Doctoral Studies, and Ministerial Order no. 3020/08.01.2024 on doctoral studies - thereby guaranteeing the legality of the access principles.

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.

Admission to doctoral studies at UNMB is carried out in accordance with the principles of fairness, equal opportunities, non-discrimination and social inclusion. Candidates must hold a master’s degree or equivalent qualification, with at least 300 transferable credits accumulated through bachelor’s and master’s studies.

The admission regulations apply equally to Romanian candidates, EU citizens, citizens of the European Economic Area and the Swiss Confederation, as well as to candidates from non-EU countries, in accordance with national legislation and procedures for the recognition of studies.

The Doctoral School ensures transparency in the admission process, including for candidates from vulnerable groups, candidates at social or educational risk, and candidates with special educational needs or disabilities. Where necessary, admission procedures and examination conditions may be adapted to candidates’ specific needs.

Analysis of the current situation

IOSUD-UNMB promotes fair and equal access to doctoral studies and aims to further strengthen support procedures for candidates with disabilities, special educational needs or disadvantaged backgrounds.

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.
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The "Constantin Brăiloiu" Doctoral School applies the IOSUD-UNMB regulations regarding the organisation and conduct of doctoral studies, ensuring a clear framework for the professional activities of PhD students. Students are informed about the relevant regulations, procedures, thesis-writing rules and administrative steps related to the award of the doctoral degree.

PhD students are guided by their doctoral supervisor and by the Academic Supervision and Integrity Committee throughout their studies. Their professional activity is monitored through monthly activity reports, annual progress presentations and assessment procedures. These mechanisms ensure the continuous supervision of scientific, artistic and professional development.

UNMB provides PhD students with numerous opportunities for professional development, including participation in concerts, festivals, conferences, symposia, workshops, research projects and entrepreneurial initiatives. Projects developed through FDI funding and partnerships with cultural institutions support the dissemination of doctoral research and artistic creation.

Analysis of the current situation

The Doctoral School applies clear and functional regulations regarding PhD students' professional activities and ensures their academic, artistic and professional progression through monitoring, guidance and access to relevant opportunities.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion B.8. Internationalisation process

Standard S.B.8.1. Internationalisation

Improving the quality of education and research through internationalisation actions.

Indicator I.P.B.8.1.1	The organisational component carries out international cooperation actions supporting mobility of the members of its own community and collaboration in academic and research activities.
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UNMB carries out significant international cooperation activities that support mobility, research collaboration and artistic development. Since 2023, the university has been a member of the *In.Tune* Alliance – Innovative Universities in Music & Arts in Europe, together with prestigious European music institutions from The Hague, Oslo, Barcelona, Paris, Vienna, Belgrade and Helsinki.

Within the *In.Tune* Alliance, UNMB is actively involved in several working groups and coordinates Work Package 2, dedicated to seamless mobility for students and staff. PhD students are also involved in the alliance's activities, contributing to the internationalisation of doctoral education.

UNMB supports the international visibility of PhD students through participation in international events, such as the *World Expos* in Dubai and Osaka, and by inviting internationally recognised professors, composers, musicologists and researchers to deliver courses and lectures for doctoral students.

Analysis of the current situation

UNMB's international cooperation activities strengthen mobility, academic collaboration, artistic visibility and the integration of PhD students into international professional and research networks. The program also includes international co-supervision arrangements established through agreements with partner universities, as well as strategic partnerships that enable visits by international professors and experts who contribute to teaching and research activities through intensive courses and workshops.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion B.9. Scientific research results

Standard S.B.9.1 Scientific research in the education process

Scientific research activities support students in achieving the learning outcomes.

Indicator I.P.B.9.1.1	Learning based on scientific investigation and research results support and are capitalised upon in achieving the learning outcomes envisaged through the study programme.
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Scientific research and artistic creation represent a central strategic direction of the UNMB Doctoral School and directly support the achievement of the doctoral programme's learning outcomes. Research at UNMB combines theoretical, musicological and artistic dimensions, bringing together scientific inquiry, composition and performance.

PhD students are actively involved in research and artistic creation through conferences, symposia, festivals, concerts, publications, artistic projects and national or international research grants. The university's Research, Innovation and Information Directorate, together with its research and creation centres, provides institutional support for doctoral research and artistic projects.

Important research and digitisation projects, such as RAMA and its related archives, have involved PhD students in the creation of databases and documentation resources dedicated to Romanian music. These projects contribute to the development of research skills, artistic understanding, digital competences and international visibility.

Research results are disseminated through indexed journals such as *Musicology Today*, institutional publications such as *Acord* and *AkadeMusica*, and volumes published by UNMB Press. PhD students also participate in conferences, editorial activities and artistic events, which strengthen their academic and professional profile.

Analysis of the current situation

The Doctoral School of Music demonstrates a strong integration of research and artistic creation within the doctoral training process, ensuring that learning is directly grounded in investigative practice. The existence of structured mechanisms for monitoring, dissemination, and valorization of research results reflects a mature and coherent academic framework.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.B.9.2. Scientific research pertaining to the objectives of the study programme	
The organisational component carries out scientific research activities aligned with the objectives of the evaluated study programme.	
Indicator I.P.B.9.2.1	The results of scientific research are visible at national and international level in that scientific domain, and capitalised upon in an adequate manner.

DOMAIN C. Quality management

Criterion C.1. Quality assurance strategies and procedures, including in the field of academic ethics and conduct, which involve students, employers and other stakeholders and are applied in a consistent, transparent manner

The results of scientific research and artistic creation produced within the UNMB Doctoral School are visible at both national and international level. PhD students are encouraged to disseminate their research and artistic work through publications, studies, books, scores, concerts, recitals, compositions, conferences, symposia, workshops and public lectures.

The Doctoral School supports doctoral students' participation in prestigious artistic and academic events, including the *Chei Festival*, the *Musicology Symposium*, the *George Enescu International Festival and Competition*, and other events organised in partnership with important cultural and musical institutions. Partnerships with orchestras, festivals and professional organisations create opportunities for doctoral students to present and valorise their research and artistic results.

The visibility of doctoral research is also supported through publications, digital archives, research projects and collaborations with national and international institutions. The Doctoral School aims to further increase the international dissemination of research results by encouraging publication in indexed journals,

participation in international conferences, development of digital archives, open access to research outcomes and promotion of Romanian musical heritage.

Analysis of the current situation

The Doctoral School of Music has a clear and well-organized approach to promoting research results. Research outcomes are made visible through indexed publications, institutional journals, academic and artistic events, and professional recognition. This supports the dissemination of both scientific and artistic work and shows that the doctoral programme effectively communicates its results at national and international levels.

The research and artistic results of PhD students are appropriately valorised through academic, artistic and professional channels, contributing to the visibility of UNMB and to the development of the field of Music.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.C.1.1. Application

Adequately implemented strategic directions, actions, and procedures

Indicator I.P.C.1.1.1	The organisational component consistently carries out actions and applies procedures, proving their impact on improving the quality of education at the level of the study programme
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The “Constantin Brăiloiu” Doctoral School consistently applies quality assurance procedures, methodologies and regulations, in accordance with current legislation and institutional requirements. These documents regulate essential aspects of doctoral education, including admission, doctoral studies, thesis drafting, the award of the doctoral degree, academic ethics, student rights and staff evaluation.

The quality assurance framework is supported by the regular updating and approval of regulations by the UNMB Senate. The curriculum is also periodically modernised, as shown by the introduction of the course “Doctoral Research in the Digital Age” starting with the 2025/2026 academic year.

Quality management includes the monitoring of learning outcomes, alignment with labour market requirements, internal evaluation of the Doctoral School, and assessment of doctoral supervisors based on scientific, artistic, managerial and academic performance. Academic ethics is addressed both through a dedicated course and through the guidance provided by doctoral supervisors and academic integrity committees.

The Doctoral School uses an approved anti-plagiarism system to verify doctoral theses and has adopted clear rules for drafting doctoral theses and other research documents. These measures contribute to preventing plagiarism, ensuring academic integrity and regulating the responsible use of artificial intelligence as a research tool.

Analysis of the current situation

IOSUD-UNMB demonstrates a consistent and transparent approach to quality assurance, with a clear impact on improving doctoral education, strengthening academic integrity and aligning the programme with national standards and international best practices.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.C.1.2. Stakeholder engagement

The HEI proves that it engages the stakeholders who have relevant activity in applying the procedures.

Indicator I.P.C.1.2.1	The opinions of the members of its own community and of other stakeholders are taken into account in the procedure implementation process.
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The “Constantin Brăiloiu” Doctoral School involves relevant stakeholders in the formulation, updating and implementation of procedures, methodologies and regulations. Doctoral supervisors and PhD student representatives participate in decision-making structures such as the Doctoral School Council, the Council for Doctoral Studies, the University Senate, CEAC and the University Ethics Committee.

PhD students and doctoral supervisors are consulted on key procedures, including admission, completion of doctoral studies, the organisation of doctoral studies and updates to regulations and

curricula. The Council for Doctoral Studies also includes an external representative from another music higher education institution, supporting broader academic consultation.

Consultative meetings and collaborative events, such as those organized in partnership with cultural institutions, further support dialogue between academia and the professional environment, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and practical relevance.

Analysis of the current situation

Stakeholder involvement within SDM is active and operational, contributing directly to the continuous improvement of internal procedures and academic processes. The systematic use of feedback, combined with participatory governance structures and external collaboration, ensures that the doctoral program remains relevant

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion C.2. Functionality of education quality assurance structures, including in the field of academic ethics and conduct, according to the law

Standard S.C.2.2. Operation

Quality assurance and academic ethics and conduct organisational structures adequately perform their specific role and functions.

Indicator I.P.C.2.2.2.	The academic ethics commission operates based on the regulation approved by the University Senate, and performs actions that are compliant with the law, independently from any other structure or person in the higher education institution.
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The UNMB University Ethics Committee operates on the basis of regulations approved by the University Senate and acts independently, in accordance with the law. Its activity is grounded in the Code of Academic Ethics and Professional Conduct, included in the UNMB Charter, and its composition and annual reports are publicly available.

Academic ethics is also integrated into the doctoral curriculum through the course “Academic Ethics and Integrity. Ethics of Scientific Research”. In addition, doctoral supervisors and academic guidance and integrity committees provide doctoral students with continuous guidance on research ethics and the methodology of scientific work.

To ensure originality and prevent plagiarism, doctoral theses are checked using the nationally recognised software *Sistemantiplagiat.ro*, both before the public consultation period and before the public defence. Similarity reports are analysed by a dedicated committee, and doctoral theses are published for 90 days on the national UEFISCDI platform before the defence procedure is validated.

Analysis of the current situation

UNMB ensures a functional and independent framework for academic ethics, supporting integrity, transparency and compliance with national legislation.

The indicator is: fulfilled

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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UNMB has functional quality assurance structures and procedures, coordinated by the Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee. The institution prepares annual internal quality assessment reports

and applies procedures for the initiation, monitoring and periodic review of study programmes and doctoral activities.

The Doctoral School Council submits an annual self-evaluation report to the University Senate, while doctoral regulations and procedures are continuously updated in accordance with current legislation. Admission regulations are published annually, at least six months before the start of the academic year, ensuring transparency and predictability.

The Doctoral School and the Council for Doctoral Studies also analyse each doctoral thesis before the public defence procedure, checking compliance with academic ethics, professional standards, originality and the specific requirements of scientific or artistic research.

Analysis of the current situation

The Doctoral School of Music applies a consistent and structured system for monitoring and periodic review, demonstrating a clear link between evaluation processes and program improvement. The systematic use of feedback and performance indicators supports continuous adaptation and contributes directly to the enhancement of research quality and doctoral training outcomes.

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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UNMB involves members of its academic community and external stakeholders in the implementation and improvement of procedures related to doctoral studies. Doctoral supervisors, PhD student representatives, members of the Doctoral School Council, the Council for Doctoral Studies and the University Senate participate in the debate, approval and monitoring of regulations, methodologies, curricula and procedures.

Many members of the academic community also hold important positions in major cultural and musical institutions, which allows the doctoral programme to be evaluated from both an academic and professional perspective. UNMB also maintains close cooperation with employers and representatives of the cultural and artistic sector, as reflected in initiatives such as the updating of the *Romanian Classification of Occupations* in the field of music.

Consultation with stakeholders is also supported through FDI projects, workshops, round tables, masterclasses, podcasts and meetings with graduates and labour market representatives. PhD students and graduates provide feedback through satisfaction questionnaires, while the ALUMNI Club supports continued dialogue with former students.

Analysis of the current situation

UNMB ensures the involvement of its own community, PhD students, graduates, employers and other stakeholders in the implementation and improvement of procedures, contributing to the relevance and quality of doctoral studies.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion C.4. Procedures for the periodic evaluation of the quality of the activities of teaching staff, auxiliary teaching staff, and administrative staff

Standard S.C.4.1. Procedures Applying the methodologies and procedures contributes to improving the quality of the staff's activities.	
Indicator I.P.C.4.1.1	The organisational component analyses the results of the students' biannual evaluation of teachers.

UNMB has an established system for evaluating teaching staff performance through anonymous questionnaires completed by PhD students and graduates. These questionnaires assess the quality of doctoral supervision, the activity of the supervisory and academic integrity committee, the quality of courses, available facilities, academic services and the conditions ensuring academic ethics and integrity.

The results of these evaluations are periodically submitted to the Doctoral School Council and the Council for Doctoral Studies. They are used to identify areas requiring improvement and to support the continuous development of teaching, supervision and administrative activities.

The presence of PhD student representatives in decision-making bodies ensures a permanent link between the Doctoral School and doctoral students. The evaluation process contributes to maintaining transparency, improving communication and strengthening a quality-oriented academic environment.

Analysis of the current situation

The Doctoral School systematically analyses student feedback and uses it to improve the quality of teaching, supervision and doctoral support services.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion C.5. Systematically updated databases on internal quality assurance

Standard S.C.5.1. Databases

The HEI uses databases to support internal quality assurance activities.

Indicator I.P.C.5.1.1	The organisational component systematically collects and analyses data required for the internal quality assurance process.
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UNMB systematically collects and analyses data relevant to internal quality assurance. Academic staff and doctoral supervisors report annually on their scientific research and artistic creation activities, using standard forms. The data is collected and processed by the Research, Innovation and Information Department.

The institution also uses questionnaires to assess PhD students' satisfaction with doctoral studies, supervision, facilities, academic services and the overall learning environment. Graduate feedback and professional integration are monitored through specific forms.

The Rector's annual report and the internal quality assessment report prepared by CEAC provide comprehensive data on study programmes, staff, research activity, financial resources, quality assurance, academic ethics and graduate employment. These reports are submitted to the University Senate and published on the UNMB website.

The Doctoral School also uses plagiarism detection tools and monitors doctoral theses to ensure compliance with academic ethics and quality standards. Digital databases, research platforms and subscriptions to international databases further support quality assurance and doctoral research.

Analysis of the current situation

UNMB has functional mechanisms for collecting, analysing and using data in the internal quality assurance process, supporting continuous improvement and the maintenance of high academic standards.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion C.6. Transparency of information of public interest, including those regarding the study programmes and domains offered, and transparency regarding the related certificates, diplomas and qualifications

Standard S.C.6.1. Transparency

The organisational component ensures transparency of information, as required by the law.

Indicator I.P.C.6.1.1	The organisational component ensures publication and access to information of public interest regarding the evaluated study programme.
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UNMB ensures transparent access to public information regarding the doctoral programme, including regulations, admission procedures, doctoral supervisors, minimum standards for awarding the doctoral degree, thesis-writing rules, examination requirements, fees and other relevant documents.

The university website is the main public communication tool and is regularly updated. It provides information on study programmes, qualifications, diplomas, staff, facilities, research, publications, institutional reports and international activities. The doctoral programme is also promoted through the UNMB website, social media, internal publications, artistic and scientific events, journals, media appearances and the In.Tune Alliance.

Transparency is further ensured through the use of national digital platforms, such as the *Single Matriculation Register* and the UEFISCDI platform, where doctoral theses are published for public consultation before public defence. UNMB also complies with GDPR requirements and publishes information on data protection policies and procedures.

Analysis of the current situation

UNMB provides clear, accessible and updated public information regarding doctoral studies, ensuring transparency, institutional visibility and compliance with legal requirements.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator I.P.C.6.1.2	The organisational component ensures transparent decision-making processes.
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UNMB ensures transparency in decision-making by publishing Senate decisions, Board of Directors decisions, regulations, methodologies, annual reports, strategic plans and other relevant institutional documents on its website, in the Public Information section.

Annual reports are prepared by CEAC, the Ethics Committee, the Rector, deans and heads of department, and are publicly available. The university also reports required data to national platforms and institutions, including ANS, RMU, REI and INS.

The transparency of decision-making processes is supported by regular publication of information related to admissions, scholarships, accommodation, facilities, study programmes and institutional regulations. Information is made available both online and at the university premises.

Analysis of the current situation

UNMB ensures transparent decision-making through the publication of institutional documents, regular reporting, compliance with public information legislation and continuous updating of its official communication channels.

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.

The “Constantin Brăiloiu” Doctoral School and IOSUD-UNMB have completed all stages related to the external quality assessment and accreditation procedures within the legal deadlines. UNMB requests periodic external evaluations by ARACIS for all study cycles, including doctoral studies, and prepares the internal evaluation reports in accordance with ARACIS methodology.

Following the periodic external evaluation carried out in 2021, ARACIS approved the maintenance of accreditation for IOSUD-UNMB and for the doctoral field of Music within the “Constantin Brăiloiu” Doctoral School. This decision was confirmed by Ministry of Education Order No. 5844/17 December 2021. In 2024–2025, UNMB also completed the interim evaluation procedure requested by ARACIS, and the recommendations from the previous evaluation were assessed as implemented.

During the period 2021–2025, the Doctoral School recorded significant progress, including the development of FDI projects, increased involvement of PhD supervisors and PhD students in research and artistic projects, stronger internationalisation through the In.Tune Alliance, and enhanced collaboration with graduates and professional partners.

Analysis of the current situation

IOSUD-UNMB consistently applies the procedures related to external quality assessment and uses them as a mechanism for confirming and improving the quality of doctoral studies. The institution demonstrates compliance with legal requirements, ARACIS standards and ESG principles, while integrating evaluation recommendations into its institutional development strategy.

The indicator is: fulfilled

IV. SWOT Analysis

Strengths: -IOSUD-UNMB has consistently complied with the legal requirements regarding external quality assessment. - -The Doctoral School shows visible progress during the 2021–2025 period, especially through FDI projects, research activities and artistic creation. -PhD supervisors and PhD students are increasingly involved in research, artistic and institutional development projects. -Internationalisation has been strengthened through participation in the <i>In. Tune</i> Alliance and other cooperation initiatives. -The collaboration with graduates and professional partners contributes to improving the connection between doctoral education and the cultural and artistic labour market.	INTERNAL FACTORS	Weaknesses: There are high admission standards for doctoral schools, which may limit the possibility for some habilitated academic staff to join the doctoral school.
SWOT analysis		
Opportunities: • The In.Tune Alliance can help bring the institution closer to European good practices in artistic research, doctoral supervision and mobility. • The involvement of graduates, employers and cultural institutions can make the doctoral programme more relevant. • Digitalisation can facilitate future evaluations and access to quality assurance data. • International partnerships can support the exchange of good practices with other music institutions.	EXTERNAL FACTORS	Threats: -Frequent legislative changes may require continuous adaptation of procedures and documentation. -Competition between doctoral programmes, both nationally and internationally, may intensify. -Limited human resources may lead to overburdening the staff involved in evaluation and reporting.

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
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.	F	
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.	F	
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.	F	
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.	F	
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.	F	It is recommended that the legal provisions in force regarding the maximum number of doctoral students supervised by each doctoral supervisor be observed, through the continuous monitoring of each supervisor's workload and the adjustment of the number of admitted doctoral students to the legally permitted supervision capacity.
6.	I.P.A.3.1.2 The HEI ensures professional and personal development for its staff.	F	
7.	I.P.A.3.2.1 Recruitment procedures comply with the provisions of the law, and are established and carried out transparently.	F	
8.	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.	F	

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
DOMAIN B. Educational efficacy			
9.	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.	F	
10.	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).	F	
11.	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.	F	It is recommended that the situation of expelled and withdrawn doctoral students be periodically monitored, and that the causes leading to the discontinuation of doctoral studies be analysed, in order to identify academic, administrative, and counselling support measures aimed at reducing doctoral dropout.
12.	I.P.B.3.1.2 The organisational component ensures opportunities for students to participate in academic mobility programmes organised in person and/or virtually.	F	
13.	I.P.B.3.2.1 The organisational component provides fair opportunities for students, in line with their potential and aspirations, taking into account the diversity of learning styles and abilities.	F	
14.	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.	F	It is recommended that the necessary institutional steps be continued and finalized in order to implement and widely disseminate a clear and predictable methodology regarding the awarding and settlement of research grants for doctoral students.
15.	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.	F	

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
16.	I.P.B.5.1.2 Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.	F	
17.	I.P.B.7.1.1 The organisational component applies the admission procedures.	F	
18.	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.	F	
19.	I.P.B.7.2.1 The organisational component applies the regulations concerning the students' professional activity.	F	
20.	I.P.B.8.1.1 The organisational component carries out international cooperation actions supporting mobility of the members of its own community and collaboration in academic and research activities.	F	
21.	I.P.B.9.1.1 Learning based on scientific investigation and research results support and are capitalised upon in achieving the learning outcomes envisaged through the study programme.	F	
22.	I.P.B.9.2.1 The results of scientific research are visible at national and international level in that scientific domain, and capitalised upon in an adequate manner.	F	
DOMAIN C. Quality management			
23.	I.P.C.1.1.1 The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.	F	
24.	I.P.C.1.2.1 The opinions of the members of its own community and of other stakeholders are taken into account in the procedure implementation process.	F	
25.	I.P.C.2.2.2. The academic ethics commission operates based on the regulation approved by the University Senate, and performs actions that are compliant with the law, independently from any other structure or person in the higher education institution.	F	

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
26.	I.P.C.3.1.1 The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.	F	
27.	I.P.C.3.1.2 Members of its own community and other stakeholders are involved in the procedure implementation process.	F	
28.	I.P.C.4.1.1 The organisational component analyses the results of the students' biannual evaluation of teachers.	F	
29.	I.P.C.5.1.1 The organisational component systematically collects and analyses data required for the internal quality assurance process.	F	
30.	I.P.C.6.1.1 The organisational component ensures publication and access to information of public interest regarding the evaluated study programme.	F	
31.	I.P.C.6.1.2 The organisational component ensures transparent decision-making processes.	F	
32.	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.	F	

Summary Table of Performance Indicators – Degree of Fulfillment

Evaluation Domain	Number of Performance Indicators		
	Fulfilled	Partially fulfilled	Unfulfilled
Domain A. Institutional capacity	8	0	0
Domain B. Educational efficacy	14	0	0
Domain C. Quality management	10	0	0
Total	32	0	0

Other, general recommendations that were not given within the analysis of a specific performance indicator can be presented here.

Sum up the number of analysed performance indicators, and specify how many were assessed as fulfilled, partially fulfilled, and unfulfilled, if any.

A total of **[32] performance indicators** were analyzed within the evaluation process. Of these:

- **[32] indicators were assessed as fulfilled**
- **[0] indicators were assessed as partially fulfilled**
- **[0] indicators were assessed as unfulfilled**

Overall, the results indicate a **high level of compliance**, with most indicators fully achieved and a limited number requiring further improvement.



VI. Conclusions

The evaluation highlights a solid and coherent organizational framework, with clearly defined learning outcomes, effective quality assurance mechanisms, and transparent decision-making processes. The doctoral study domain demonstrates a strong integration of research and artistic creation, supported by adequate infrastructure, qualified academic staff, and structured monitoring procedures.

IOSUD-UNMB has a solid and functional framework for managing external quality assessment processes. The institution demonstrates compliance with legal requirements, responsiveness to ARACIS recommendations, stakeholder involvement and a clear commitment to continuous improvement. Future development should focus on strengthening internal monitoring, improving digital quality assurance tools, increasing the visibility of implemented recommendations and using external evaluation as a strategic instrument for academic development and international positioning.

maintaining accreditation (MAC);

VII. Annexes