

The Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education



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

Higher Education Institution/ Education Provider Organization:	Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca
Doctoral School:	Law
Doctoral Domain:	Law
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.	Prof.dr. Lucian BERCEA	Expert evaluator	
2.	Prof.dr. Gabriela Alexandra OANTA OANTA	International Expert	
3.	Adrian LĂZĂRESCU	PhD Student Evaluator	

I. Introduction

The external evaluation report is drafted within the proceedings for maintaining the accreditation of the doctoral study domain in Law organized by Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca, Faculty of Law. The period covered by the evaluation is 2021-2025, as the most recent ARACIS evaluation has been conducted in 2021.

The external quality experts' panel is composed by Prof. dr. Lucian Bercea, Prof. dr. Gabriela Alexandra Oanță and Mr. Adrian Lăzărescu, PhD student.

Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca (UBB) is one of the largest and most comprehensive higher education institution in Romania. Starting with the 2020-2021 academic year, UBB includes 22 faculties.

The Institute for Doctoral Studies (ISD) is a structure established within UBB on 1 May 2006 in order to manage, through relevant regulations and measures, the doctoral schools of Babeş-Bolyai University, based on an administrative system similar to that of the graduate schools in the international system.

Doctoral studies within the Faculty of Law are organized in a single scientific and research field, namely Law, within the [Doctoral School of Law](#) (DSL).

The organization of doctoral studies at the Faculty of Law commenced in 1966. Over the decades, doctoral studies at the Faculty of Law in Cluj have benefited from the contribution of distinguished personalities of national and international standing. This tradition is presently carried forward by a new generation of doctoral supervisors. At present, the Doctoral School of Law comprises 12 doctoral supervisors (Ovidiu Podaru, Mircea Bob-Bocşan, Sergiu Bogdan, Radu Catană, Dacian Cosmin Dragoş, Gheorghită Mateuţ, Ionuţ-Florin Popa, Dan-Andrei Popescu, Florin Streteanu, Mihail Udroi, Paul Vasilescu, Ioana Vasiu) covering various specializations within the field of Law (e.g., Civil Law, Commercial Law, Criminal Law, Administrative Law, etc.).

The mission of the Doctoral School of Law is to ensure the advancement and broadening of the training already certified by the master's degree, through activities including teaching and scientific research, and the dissemination and practical application of research results. The outcomes of the Doctoral School are reflected in the scientific quality of publications and doctoral theses produced by the doctoral candidates who have completed the program.

The most recent external evaluation of the doctoral field of study Law at the UBB took place in 2021, resulting in the decision to maintain accreditation. In 2024, an intermediate evaluation stage was conducted, which culminated in the issuance of a Progress Evaluation Report, confirming the successful implementation of the recommendations requested.

The preparation of the internal evaluation report for the doctoral field of Law within the Faculty of Law was carried out in accordance with the quality standards, ARACIS evaluation criteria, and the principles adopted at the institutional level. This process involves a detailed analysis of academic and administrative activities, the performance of the study program, and the degree of achievement of performance indicators.

The internal evaluation report was prepared by a team composed by the Director of the Doctoral School of Law – Professor Ovidiu Podaru, Doctoral, the Secretary of the Doctoral School of Law – Simona-Maria Pop and all doctoral supervisors members of the Doctoral School of Law.

This external evaluation report is the result of an independent assessment of the quality standards, ARACIS evaluation criteria, and the principles adopted at the institutional level, reflected in the internal evaluation report and in the other documents referred by it.

II. Methods used

In order to perform the independent assessment of the quality standards, ARACIS evaluation criteria, and the principles adopted at the institutional level, the external quality experts' panel has analyzed the internal evaluation report and its annexes. Also, the external quality experts' panel has accessed the information available on the website of the UBB Doctoral School of Law (see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/studii/prezentare-general-a-doctorat/>) and other documents provided by the institution at the request of the panel during the visit.

The on-site visit of the external quality experts' panel took place on 15-17 June 2026 at the premises of the [UBB Faculty of Law](#) (10-12 Traian Moşoiu St., Cluj-Napoca). The visit included the following essential components:

1. Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with the representatives of the management of the organisational component
2. Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with the team that has drafted the internal evaluation report
3. Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with the teaching staff involved in the activities within the DSUD
4. Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with employers of the DSUD alumni
5. Meeting of the experts panel with members of the University Ethics Committee
6. Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with representatives of the quality assurance organisational structures
7. Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with the staff in charge with the research centres
8. Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with doctoral students of the DSUD
9. Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with alumni of the DSUD
10. Meeting of the external quality evaluation experts' panel with representatives of the organisational component / contact person / representatives of the CEAC / representatives of quality assurance organisational structures

The visit was concluded with a meeting of the members of the expert evaluators' panel with representatives of the management of the HEI or the EP, as applicable, and management of the organisational component, to communicate the conclusions of the evaluation process.

The detailed structure of the visit and of the relevant groups / representatives is described in the timetable for the evaluation of the external quality evaluation visit (annexed to this external evaluation report).

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

DOMAIN A. Institutional capacity

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

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

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

Indicator I.P.A.1.1.1	For delivering the study programme/domain, the HEI has adequate organisational components and an adequate management system, which operate based on methodologies, regulations and procedures that are periodically reviewed as required by law.
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The structure and organization of the Babeş-Bolyai University (UBB) are established in accordance with the legal provisions in force and are outlined in the [UBB Charter](#). Doctoral studies are organized by Doctoral Schools, which are grouped in and coordinated by the Institute for Doctoral Studies (ISD). Doctoral Schools operate as departments within faculties or within UBB research/ development/ innovation units. Doctoral Schools are managed by a School Council and a director, both elected by the members of the doctoral school. The director of the Doctoral School holds a position equivalent to that of a head of department.

Doctoral supervisors, affiliated teaching staff, and affiliated researchers active within the Doctoral School are included in the [academic staffing plan of the Doctoral School](#), while doctoral students are listed in an annex to this academic staffing plan. A doctoral student is considered part of the Doctoral School of Law if their doctoral supervisor is a full member of this school.

As of 1 January 2026, the Doctoral School of Law comprises: 12 doctoral supervisors; 35 doctoral students in years I-IV of the doctoral study program; 24 doctoral students in extended study.

The current [Regulations of the Doctoral School of Law](#) were adopted by decision of the meeting of the Doctoral School of Law on February 16, 2026. These regulations cover aspects related to the structure and operation of the Doctoral School, admission to doctoral studies, the doctoral student's training program, the individual scientific research program, the public defense of the doctoral thesis, and guidelines for the elaboration of the doctoral thesis.

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.
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The Faculty of Law and the Doctoral School of Law actively cooperate with external partners to support the development of university study programs and to ensure the comprehensive academic and professional formation of doctoral students throughout the duration of their studies.

The use of feedback questionnaires for students and alumni represents an effective tool for adjusting educational programs and administrative regulations. Collaboration with the economic environment allows for the integration of employers' requirements into the professional training of students.

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

During the on-site visit meetings (16 June 2026) the discussions of the external quality experts' panel with the doctoral supervisors and the representatives of the alumni employers confirmed the effective use of the consultation tools in relation with the relevant stakeholders.

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

Standard S.A.2.1. Material resources

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

Indicator I.P.A.2.1.1	The HEI legally owns venues for the related education, research and administrative processes, as well as for services for students, doctoral students and trainees, thus providing an enabling environment for living and studying, including for disabled persons. Optimal venues are also provided for activities of the staff. Such venues are adequately equipped.
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Since June 2025, the Faculty of Law has been relocated in Cluj-Napoca at 10–12 General Traian Moşoiu Street, a new premises where all facilities necessary for the conduct of teaching and research activities are provided, including lecture halls, seminar rooms, laboratories, and a library (infrastructure of the Faculty of Law is listed in a comprehensive [inventory](#)). The academic staff and doctoral students have access to the necessary material resources.

With reference to the Doctoral School of Law, doctoral students have a dedicated room, while the Director of the Doctoral School and the Doctoral School Secretariat have their own locations.

Within the premises of the Faculty of Law the [Faculty Library](#), a branch of the Biblioteca Centrală Universitară Lucian Blaga, is located. The library holds a collection of books and specialized periodicals covering areas of interest for research and documentation in the field of law.

Teaching materials (books, articles, reports, etc.) corresponding to each course within the curriculum of the respective study program are explicitly listed in the course syllabi. All these resources and facilities are directly accessible and actively used in the implementation of the study program, thereby providing an optimal framework for teaching, learning, research, and assessment, in accordance with the specific requirements of the courses and their curricular objectives.

Doctoral students have access to the following databases provided by the Faculty of Law: 1. HeinOnline (access to this platform is available from any digital device connected to the Faculty of Law's Wi-Fi network); 2. Dalloz (a comprehensive source of French legal literature); 3. Sintact – Developed by Wolters Kluwer – the largest legal database in Romania.

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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The Faculty of Law efficiently manages and maintains its material resources, ensuring optimal conditions for educational, research, and administrative activities. The Faculty premises in Cluj-Napoca is equipped with lecture halls, seminar rooms, and reading spaces, all of which are continuously maintained to meet the needs of students and academic staff. Additionally, the Faculty provides a high-performance computing and IT infrastructure, ensuring access to educational platforms and international databases.

The Faculty of Law has implemented clear policies for the maintenance and sustainable management of its resources, including procedures for the periodic inspection of infrastructure and an efficient system for the allocation of material resources.

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.

At present, the Doctoral School of Law comprises 12 doctoral supervisors. The Doctoral School's webpage provides information regarding the list of supervisors, their research topics, CVs, and lists of their scientific publications. Of these supervisors, 11 are full-time faculty members of UBB, holding permanent tenures.

The [doctoral supervisors](#) within the Doctoral School of Law (Ovidiu Podaru, Mircea Bob-Bocșan, Sergiu Bogdan, Radu Catană, Dacian Cosmin Dragoș, Gheorghiță Mateuț, Ionuț-Florin Popa, Dan-Andrei Popescu, Florin Streteanu, Mihail Udriou, Paul Vasilescu, Ioana Vasii) are remarkable specialists with highly relevant academic, scientific, and professional contributions. The majority hold the position of university professor, in accordance with ARACIS standards. Some obtained the right to supervise doctoral studies prior to the entry into force of the National Education Law No. 1/2011, while others hold habilitation certificates and the status of doctoral supervisor in accordance with the provisions of National Education Law No. 1/2011 or under the current Higher Education Law No. 199/2023.

Within the doctoral field of Law, all supervisors meet the minimum standards of CNATDCU in force at the time of their evaluation (pursuant to Order No. 6129/20.12.2016 or earlier regulations), as evidenced by their individual records – a compliance rate of 100%. Their [scientific contributions](#) (publications, research projects etc.) rank them among the most important legal scholars in Romania and Eastern Europe.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Indicator
I.P.A.3.1.2

The HEI ensures professional and personal development for its staff.

The human resources of the Faculty of Law are adequate for carrying out teaching and research activities, and the recruitment and selection process adheres to the principles of transparency and meritocracy. Faculty members are highly qualified and actively engaged in research and continuing professional development, contributing to the maintenance of high standards in the educational process. The Faculty provides opportunities for professional advancement through specialized courses and nationally and

internationally funded projects. In this regard, collaboration with various research institutions and partner universities supports the academic career development of teaching staff.

To support the professional and personal development of its academic staff, the [Individual Career/Academic Development Plan \(PIC\)](#) was adopted in 2020 and implemented on a continuous basis.

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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The recruitment process for doctoral supervisors takes place in two stages: obtaining habilitation, followed by the procedure for co-option into a doctoral school within IOSUD UBB. The [UBB Doctoral Studies Institute \(ISD\)](#) publishes on its website all relevant information regarding the habilitation process (template documents, dossiers under evaluation, and the public defense of habilitation theses).

The Faculty of Law implements recruitment procedures for teaching staff in accordance with the legal provisions and internal regulations of the university. According to the Regulation of the Doctoral School of Law, to obtain the status of doctoral supervisor in the field of Law ("Legal Sciences") and to become a member of the Doctoral School of Law (DSL), an applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Hold the habilitation certificate in the field of Law, obtained by ministerial order;
- Fulfil the mandatory national minimum standards required for the conferment of the academic title of Associate Professor in the field of Law, in accordance with the Order approving the mandatory national minimum standards for the conferment of the academic titles of Associate Professor and Professor in higher education, for the habilitation certificate, and for the doctoral degree;
- Meet at least the minimum standards established by the UBB Senate for occupying the position of Associate Professor, as well as the specific requirements and procedures of the DSL, as follows:
 - Scientific publications: A minimum of five scientific articles published in the last five years, indexed in recognized databases (BDI), or a monograph published by a reputable Romanian or international publishing house, demonstrating the candidate's advanced legal knowledge and capacity to supervise doctoral studies in Law.
 - Absence of disciplinary sanctions regarding prior breaches of academic ethics, or pending investigations under review by the UBB Ethics Committee or other competent bodies.

Since the last evaluation, two new doctoral supervisors have been co-opted into the Doctoral School of Law: in 2023, Prof. Dan-Andrei Popescu, and in 2025, Assoc. Prof. Mihail Udriou, both of whom obtained their habilitation within the Faculty of Law ([Habilitation Procedures List 2021–2025](#)).

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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Information of interest to doctoral students, as well as publicly relevant information, is available on the website of the [Doctoral School of Law](#). Specific information regarding admission to the Doctoral School of Law is posted on the Faculty of Law website under the section Admission/Doctorate.

The Information and Communications Technology Directorate (DTIC) is the UBB entity that provides IT&C services to all users within the faculties, administrative units, and research units of Babeş–Bolyai University. DTIC implements the Digital Transformation Strategy of Babeş–Bolyai University, developing specific services for staff and students.

The record-keeping of doctoral students and all their activities within the doctoral study program is maintained digitally through dedicated electronic management applications, including [AcademicInfo](#), an internal UBB platform implemented in 2007. AcademicInfo contains records of enrolled doctoral students, including personal data, student ID numbers, and information regarding their doctoral program, and the online platform for public defenses (<https://teze.doctorat.ubbcluj.ro/doctorat/>) for scheduling and displaying public thesis defenses.

Each doctoral student has access, upon request and with the approval of their doctoral supervisor, to a system for verifying the similarity of their work with existing scientific creations ([Turnitin](#) service).

The indicator is fulfilled.

DOMAIN B. Educational efficacy

Criterion B.1. Content and relevance of study programmes

Standard S.B.1.1. Content of study programme/s*	
The study programme is based on a curriculum designed so that students can acquire the expected learning outcomes.	
Indicator I.P.B.1.1.1	The study programme is developed and structured according to the expected learning outcomes, and organised based on transferable study credits. It includes all learning, teaching, practical training, research and evaluation experiences, which, together, lead to a higher education qualification.

Doctoral studies for a Doctoral student are outlined in an [individual study plan](#), covering a period of 4 academic years (each consisting of 2 academic semesters):

- an advanced academic training program, completed within the doctoral school, consisting of didactic and scientific activities (courses and seminars);
- an individual scientific research program planned for the entire duration of the doctoral studies, which may be exceptionally extended under the conditions specified by the UBB Regulation for the organization and conduct of doctoral studies.

Within the advanced academic training program, the Doctoral student is required to participate, during the first year of doctoral studies, in the activities of at least [3 doctoral study subjects](#). These subjects are chosen

* 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.

such that they are all offered in the same semester of the academic year, which has a duration of 12 weeks and cannot be extended. Within the Doctoral School of Law, all subjects are proposed in the first semester.

The subjects to be followed by a Doctoral student within the advanced academic training program may be chosen from the courses offered by the Doctoral School of Law or by another doctoral school within UBB (in this case, no more than one subject, which must be relevant to legal sciences). In the curriculum of the Doctoral School of Law, the Scientific Research Ethics course is a mandatory subject, which every Doctoral student is required to include in their individual training plan.

To ensure a coherent scientific path for the Doctoral student, at least once every 12 months within the individual scientific research program, four oral presentations are scheduled before the doctoral supervisor and [the guidance and academic integrity committee](#).

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).

The expected learning outcomes are aligned with the competences required for the corresponding occupations, in accordance with national and European policies.

At the Faculty of Law, all curricula across all levels are structured in accordance with the targeted qualification level, as per the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), ensuring a balanced distribution of subjects and ECTS credits. Each subject is accompanied by a course syllabus that specifies the learning objectives, expected outcomes, targeted competencies, and assessment methods, all aligned with the qualification level.

For the field of Law, the following occupations can be identified according to the European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations (ESCO) classification: Education Specialist: higher education legal teacher; Legal Professionals.

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.

The Faculty of Law applies modern principles of student-centered teaching, combining direct instructional activities with individual study. The evaluation of student satisfaction regarding the teaching-learning process, the physical infrastructure, and the services and facilities offered by UBB is conducted every two

years, starting with the 2014–2015 academic year, in accordance with the specific procedure ([POUBB Student Satisfaction](#)). The survey is based on questionnaires addressed to all students, including international ones, and is available in Romanian, Hungarian, German, and English. The results of this survey are presented in a report prepared by the Quality Assurance (CQ) department ([UBB Student Satisfaction Report](#)) and are used in the formulation of strategic and operational objectives, as well as in quality assurance programs.

The doctoral supervisor may facilitate the inclusion of the Doctoral student into research teams or groups, depending on the chosen topic and the research directions of the department/faculty.

According to the Regulations of the Doctoral School of Law, scholarship-holding Doctoral students may perform teaching activities for 2 to 6 hours per week, respecting their individual area of expertise, for a minimum of 3 semesters. There are [statistics](#) regarding the teaching activity of doctoral students at the Doctoral School of Law.

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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The Faculty of Law offers students varied opportunities to participate in academic mobilities through Erasmus+ programs. These mobilities allow students to attend courses at partner universities. Academic exchanges are actively promoted within the faculty, and the selection process is transparent, based on merit and language proficiency.

In the field of Law, at the doctoral level, the Faculty of Law holds 22 Erasmus agreements with prominent European universities. To increase the degree of internationalization, some doctoral students have participated in training stages abroad ([List of external mobilities – doctoral students](#)) as well as in various international legal conferences ([List of training stages / international conferences – doctoral students](#)).

During the on-site visit meetings (16 June 2026) the discussions of the external quality experts' panel with the doctoral students and the alumni employers confirmed the effective use of the mobilities and international conferences opportunities. A diversification of the participations in international conferences organized abroad (e.g., universities in Western Europe) is recommended.

In the 2025–2026 academic year, among the Doctoral students enrolled in the doctoral field of Law at the Doctoral School of Law, 3 students are employed via the European Doctorate track and are pursuing a joint doctorate (cotutelle) (University of Turin and Hasselt University).

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 Faculty of Law promotes integrity and responsibility within the university community. At the study program level, equity is supported by providing all students with access to educational resources, digital

infrastructure, and faculty support. Teaching activities are adapted to the diversity of learning styles, and assessments are conducted under fair conditions.

The Program Director collaborates with the faculty structures to ensure the integration of equity principles into all components of the educational process.

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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UBB counts on a solid digital, institutional and educational infrastructure, which provides its doctoral students with permanent and extensive access to educational resources and to support services adapted to their individual learning and research needs.

This University has established the [Centre for Students with Disabilities](#), which looks for identifying effective solutions for evaluating students with disabilities under optional conditions as well as in addressing accessibility issues. This body has been supported by the implementation of the [project CNFIS-FDI-2024-F-0292](#) led by Professor Cristian Litan. In addition, students with special educational needs can benefit from personalized support to ensure equitable participation in the educational process.

The Faculty of Law has an appropriate library for learning and conducting research under the umbrella of the doctoral program in Law. It is used by teaching staff and doctoral supervisors to share study materials, scientific articles, and additional resources. According to Article 43(16) of the Regulations of the Doctoral School of Law (2026), the library plays an important role in making the doctoral thesis available for consultation by any interested person once the doctoral diploma was issued. Thus, the library will permanently archive the doctoral thesis (in digital and printed formats) and make the thesis available to civil society that is interested in.

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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The UBB's Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies ([Decision no 116 of 23 September 2024](#)) sets out that doctoral studies are conducted under a doctoral study contract, which is concluded, through the Institute of Doctoral Studies, between the doctoral student, his/her doctoral

supervisor, and the UBB. This contract contains the rights and obligations of the doctoral student, the doctoral supervisor, and, through the Doctoral School, the UBB.

In principle, the doctoral studies last for four years. During this period, the doctoral student has to conduct an advanced university training program that consists of activities carried out in institutionalized study groups, and an individual scientific research program.

Regarding the advanced university training program, during the first year of doctoral studies, the student is asked to participate in the activities of at least three doctoral study subjects. This activity leads to earning 30 ECTS credits. The subject „Ethics of scientific research” is taught by Professor Paul Vasilescu, has a compulsory character and the doctoral student may get 10 ECTS credits by passing this subject. The remaining 20 ECTS credits may be obtained by studying other doctoral courses. In this regard, doctoral students have an extensive range of optional courses as the Doctoral School in the field of Law offers 26 doctoral courses (see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/en/studies/doctoral-courses/>), taught by the 12 doctoral supervisors affiliated with this Doctoral School (see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/studii/discipline-doctorat/conducatori-de-doctorat/>).

As for the individual scientific research program, it should be mentioned that, during the second semester of the first year of doctoral studies, students must prepare and present their research project orally and may get 30 ECTS for it. In addition, three oral presentations are scheduled at least once every 12 months, which are based on the written research reports on scientific progress and research results in the second, the third, and the fourth years of doctoral studies. Each presentation and written research paper is credited with 60 ECTS. The doctoral students counts on the orientation and feedback from the guidance and academic integrity committee. In relation to it, it has to be mentioned that the website of the Faculty of Law contains information on the members of this committee for the doctoral students, who receive public financing for conducting doctoral studies during the 2025/2026 academic year (see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Comisii-indrumare-Scoala-Doctorala-Drept-2025-2026.pdf>). By the end of his/her doctoral studies, the student has to fulfill the minimum criteria for the public defense of the PhD thesis. In this regard, for the assessment period of the Doctoral Programme in the field of Law, the minimum national standards for obtaining the PhD title have been set out by the [Order no 5110/2018](#) of the Ministry of National Education, of 17 September 2018. For the 2025/2026 academic year on, the relevant legal act in this field is the [Order no 3018/2025](#) of the Ministry of National Education, which was adopted on 13 January 2025.

The website of the UBB's Doctoral School in the field of Law (see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/studii/prezentare-general-a-doctorat/>) contains the whole legal framework that applies to doctoral students in relation to their learning outcomes, which supports understanding of the students' and supervisors' expectations regarding the content of the subject matters in the curriculum.

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 Regulation on Students' Academic Activity based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), the UBB's Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies ([Decision n° 116/23.09.2024](#)), and the [Regulation of the Doctoral School in the field of Law \(2026\)](#) assess the learning outcomes of the doctoral studies according to a coherent and transparent system. Since the 2025/2026 academic year, this normative framework is completed by the [Methodology for the Organization and Conduct of Student Competence Assessment at Babes-Bolyai University](#), which has been adopted by the Decision of the UBB's Senate on 15 December 2025.

There are several steps that the Doctoral School in the field of Law conducts in order to check the achievement of the learning outcomes, such as: the doctoral course syllabi stipulate the general requirements for passing the subjects, as well as the assessment methods (see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/en/studies/doctoral-courses/>); the completion of doctoral studies involves the elaboration of a doctoral thesis that has to respect the mechanisms in place for the prevention of plagiarism (see [the UBB's Strategy for Preventing and Combating Plagiarism \(2021\)](#) as well as [the UBB's Recommendations regarding the use of artificial intelligence in academic writing \(2024\)](#); and the doctoral studies finalize with the public defense of the doctoral thesis, according to the provisions of the [UBB's Regulations of the Doctoral School of Law](#) (the last version has been adopted in 2026).

It is recommended that the Doctoral School in the field of Law post on its website the information on the achievement of the learning outcomes, such as the doctoral students' CV and the abstract of the doctoral thesis, when the announcement of the public defence is made.

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 UBB has adopted and applies an adequate normative framework for admission to conduct doctoral studies, including in the field of Law. In addition, this University annually drafts and updates the [Admission Methodology for Doctoral Studies](#), as well as the [Regulation on the Organisation and Operation of Doctoral Studies](#).

Thus, admission to doctoral university studies is based on a selection competition organised by the UBB, through the Institute for Doctoral Studies, in accordance with the admission methodology for doctoral studies. Each faculty operates the framework regulation through a specific regulation that establishes its own selection and ranking criteria, admission exams, calendar, and registration conditions (for the Doctoral School in the field of Law, see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Doctoral-School-of-Law-Regulations-2026.pdf>).

The website of the Faculty of Law within the UBB contains plenty of information regarding the admission procedure, the schedule for the admission process, the required documents, etc. It is considered that this information is transparently presented. For more details, see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/admitere/admitere-doctorat/>

It is recommended that the information on the possibility of signing international co-supervision agreements with foreign universities and on the possibility of conducting doctoral studies in Law with a European mention be made public, along with all information regarding admission to doctoral studies in Law.

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.

The admission process to doctoral studies at the Doctoral School of Law is governed by the Law 199/2023 according to the principles of equity and equal opportunity. In addition, the UBB's Senate has adopted a specific methodology regarding the approval of the admission methodology for doctoral studies (Decision no 5 of 19 January 2026 is in force at present; see: <https://doctorat.ubbcluj.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/HS-nr5-AdmissionMethodologyM.pdf>). On its side, the UBB's Institute for Doctoral Studies published extensive and detailed information regarding the admission methodology (see: <https://doctorat.ubbcluj.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/HS-nr5-AdmissionMethodologyM.pdf>) and the admission calendar (see: <https://doctorat.ubbcluj.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Admission-Calendar.pdf>).

The Internal Evaluation Report for the Purpose of Maintaining the Accreditation of the Doctoral study Field of Law states that, during the evaluated period, the UBB has allocated special budgeted positions with scholarships for candidates of Roma ethnicity for doctoral admission and also special positions have been offered annually to Romanians from abroad and to those from the Republic of Moldova. At the moment of drafting this Report, one doctoral student of Roma ethnicity and two doctoral students from the "Romanians from Abroad" category were enrolled at the UBB's Doctoral School of Law.

It is recommended that the information on supportive measures for people of Roma ethnicity, from the "Romanians from Abroad", and from the Republic of Moldova is more visible on the UBB's website, which is focused on admission to doctoral studies.

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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A Doctoral School of Law provides a coherent and well-functioning legal and administrative framework to support the academic journey of its students from the moment of admission to the completion of the doctoral studies and the presentation of the doctoral thesis. According to it, the standard duration is of four years, with the possibility to extend it up to 2 years, although there is the possibility to reduce the initial duration by one year. In addition, there is the possibility to grant the doctoral student a break in studies for one academic year, and also to undertake international mobilities. The list of external mobilities conducted by doctoral students during the period 2021-2026 may be seen at: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Mobilitati-externe-doctoranzi-2021-2026.pdf>

It is possible for doctoral students to join student organizations according to the [Regulation adopted by the UBB's Senate in April 2023](#). They are also participating in the daily life of this University through the Student Organization of UBB, and the Student Council of UBB (see: <https://osubb.ro/ghidul-studentului-2/>). In addition, there is a student representative in the Doctoral School Council. The doctoral students are furthermore informed about the methodology via their institutional email, and the regulations and procedures that are made public on the websites of the UBB in general and of the Institute for Doctoral Studies in particular.

The continuous dialogue between the Doctoral School of Law and the professional environment in Cluj-Napoca represents a good practice identified during our on-site visit.

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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The UBB has adopted the [Internationalisation Strategy 2025-2029](#) in October 2024, which is a continuation of the 2015-2020 UBB Internationalisation Strategy, as stated at p. 25 of the Internal Evaluation Report for the Purpose of Maintaining the Accreditation of the Doctoral Study Field Law. The new strategy reflects the UBB's practice in the field of the internationalisation so far as well as its new objectives to improve the proposed activities of internationalisation during the period 2025-2029. This Strategy also applies to the Doctoral School in the field of Law. By way of example, it should be mentioned that para. 5 of this legal text refers to the UBB's internationalisation by recruiting international academics and researchers to teach in various disciplines and to deliver online courses/seminars to doctoral students. This is highly relevant to the students' doctoral training.

The UBB's internationalisation activities are supported by the [Centre for International Cooperation](#), and benefit a lot from the EUTOPIA that is the name of the [Alliance of ten European universities](#) to which UBB belongs together with other nine European universities, namely: the Free University of Amsterdam, the Ca' Foscari University of Venice, the Cergy Paris Université, the Technical University of Dresden, the University of Gothenburg, the University of Ljubljana, the Nova University of Lisbon, the Pompeu Fabra University of Barcelona, and the University of Warwick.

The doctoral supervisors and the doctoral students of the Doctoral Program in the field of Law have the possibility to benefit from the 22 Erasmus agreements with universities from Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Moldova, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, and Ukraine (see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Lista-acorduri-Erasmus--2025-2026.pdf>). In this regard, it should be noted that this conventional activity has allowed doctoral students to participate in training stages abroad and in various international legal conferences.

Mention has to be made of other internationalization programs as well, to which the members of the Doctoral Program in the field of Law may have access to enlarge their research background, such as: the Makovecz Scholarship Program that is offered by the Tempus Foundation (Hungary) (see: <https://cci.ubbcluj.ro/outgoing-exchanges/makovecz-scholarship-program-for-students-outgoing/>); the Swiss European Mobility Program (SEMP) (see: <https://cci.ubbcluj.ro/incoming-exchanges/swiss-european-mobility-program-semp-2/>); and the Short-term Fellowship Programs for International UG/PG and PhD students at IIT Indore, India (see: <https://cci.ubbcluj.ro/short-term-fellowship-programs-for-international-ug-pg-and-phd-students-at-iit-indore-india/>).

The solid and extensive international cooperation actions, which support mobility of the members of the Doctoral Program in the field of Law and collaboration in academic and research activities, are reflected in outstanding ways to internationalize the doctoral activity. We are referring to the joint supervision agreements. In this regard, it is stated in the Internal Evaluation Report for the Purpose of Maintaining the Accreditation of the Doctoral Study Field Law that, during the evaluated period, six international joint doctorates have been or are being conducted with the University of Turin and Hasselt University

according to the provisions of the [HCSUD No. 5761 of 30 April 2025](#) regarding the approval of the procedure for concluding joint supervision agreements.

It should furthermore be mentioned that several doctoral theses have been written and/or defended in an international language. At present, doctoral students may benefit from the Eutopia PhD Cotetelle Program that has been established under the umbrella of the network of European universities that belong to the Eutopia Alliance. For more information, see: <https://doctorat.ubbcluj.ro/ro/eutopia-phd-cotutelle-program/> In addition, international experts have been present in doctoral defense committees carried out at the UBB's Doctoral Program in the field of Law (see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Lista-sustineri-teze-doctorat-2021-2025.pdf>), on the one hand, and doctoral supervisors of this Program have participated in international defense committees, on the other hand.

We have two recommendations for the Doctoral School in the field of Law. First, we recommend to this Doctoral School the inclusion of the information on the possibility of signing international agreements for doctoral joint supervision on the website dedicated to the admission competition for the doctoral program in the field of Law. Second, we recommend the UBB to adopt an internal procedure on the European doctorates in the field of Law and to ensure it is properly publicized amongst doctoral students and their supervisors.

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.

The UBB counts on its Strategic Plan for the 2024-2029 period (see: <https://www.ubbcluj.ro/ro/despre/prezentare/files/strategii/PlanulStrategicUBB20242029.pdf>) and an Annual Operational Plan (e.g., for the 2025/2026 academic year, <https://www.ubbcluj.ro/ro/despre/prezentare/files/strategii/POUBB2025-2026.pdf>) where the strategic directions, funding mechanisms, and methods for capitalizing on research results are developed.

On its part, the Doctoral School in the field of Law considers that learning based on scientific research is the central part of the doctoral training framework. This approach is present in the first-year courses, the adoption of the research plan, the scientific seminars, the scientific collaboration between the student and his/her doctoral supervisor, and the presentations of scientific seminars and conferences organized by the Doctoral School of Law.

The Internal Evaluation Report for the Purpose of Maintaining the Accreditation of the Doctoral Study Field Law, and the UBB's website on the doctoral courses (see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/en/studies/doctoral-courses/>) give outstanding evidence of the active involvement of this Doctoral School in supporting and diversifying scientific research activities in achieving the learning outcomes. In this regard, the contribution in this field of the [Center for Business Law & Information Technology](#); the existence of three specialized journals that are managed by the teachers of the Faculty of Law, most of whom are doctoral supervisors; the possibility for doctoral students to be integrated in research teams or collectives; the participation in research periods abroad and in international conferences should be mentioned. At the same time, during the evaluated period, doctoral

students published the results of their scientific research articles and studies (see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Lista-publicatii-absolventi-2021-2025.pdf>).

We would like to recommend to the Doctoral School in the field of Law to invite speakers from non-Romanian universities to give (on-site and online) lectures/seminars/webinars to its doctoral students.

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.
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The Doctoral Program in the field of Law benefits from the activities of the UBB's Faculty of Law, which actively promotes the dissemination and impact of its research through scientific publications, technology transfer, consultancy, and innovation. In this regard, it should be underlined that, in 2021, the UBB was awarded the status of a 5-star world-class university, which was reconfirmed in 2025. At the same time, its international visibility in terms of research performance was also recognized.

Scientific research outputs are systematically monitored via the UBB's Academic/Scientific Activity Management application (see: <https://infocercetare.ubbcluj.ro/>) and are publicly accessible through the doctoral supervisors' CVs and publication lists.

The doctoral supervisors have participated in international research initiatives, such as the Horizon Europe-funded FUTOURWORK project and in many other research projects. The Faculty of Law furthermore organizes scientific conferences where the doctoral supervisors may present their research.

It is assessed that the Program in the field of Law enjoys strong national and international recognition due to the scientific excellence of its supervisors, who participate in international scientific committees, professional associations, and conferences. Doctoral students also contribute significantly to the Faculty's research profile through active participation in scientific conferences and an extensive publication record (see: <https://law.ubbcluj.ro/en/studies/general-presentation-of-the-doctoral-courses/>).

The indicator is fulfilled.

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

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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At the study program level, quality assurance procedures are applied through the continuous monitoring of the teaching process, the annual review of curricula, the analysis of student feedback, and the involvement of the program coordinator in all stages of academic coordination. The aim is a constant alignment with ARACIS standards and the integration of institutional best practices into the teaching, assessment, and student guidance process.

The quality assurance system is implemented at all levels (institutional, faculty, and program) in a coherent manner, utilizing efficient evaluation tools and an organizational culture oriented toward continuous improvement. The Faculty and the study program demonstrate the systematic application of these procedures, including through data analysis, the active involvement of stakeholders, and concrete corrective/optimization measures.

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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At the level of the study programs, the program coordinator organizes consultations with students and teaching staff, and their proposals are centralized and forwarded to the faculty's specialized committees. Furthermore, employers and alumni are consulted regarding the relevance of the developed competences, and their suggestions are utilized in reviewing courses and updating educational objectives. The opinions of stakeholders make a real contribution to improving content and teaching methods.

An internal evaluation of the main activities (teaching–learning, research, services) is conducted annually at both the university and the component subunit levels, and necessary improvement measures are adopted based on the evaluation results. The results of the annual internal academic audit and the improvement measures are included in the Rector's Report, debated in the Senate.

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 UBB [Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct](#), updated in 2025, draws on the following values: academic freedom, competence and professionalism, integrity, intellectual honesty, collegiality, loyalty, justice and fairness, nondiscrimination and equal opportunities, and responsibility. The institutional structure in charge of monitoring the implementation and compliance with the provisions of this code is UBB's Ethics Committee.

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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On an annual basis, the Doctoral School in Law prepares and updates the curricula in accordance with the objective needs related to the scientific trajectory of doctoral students. The curricula are validated by the Doctoral School Council (CSD) and the Faculty Council, and subsequently approved by the Council for University Doctoral Studies (CSUD), after which they are made public so that admission candidates have access to all relevant information. The courses included in the curricula are reflected in the individual doctoral study plan.

At the study program level, procedures contributing to the continuous quality improvement of the educational process are consistently applied. These are developed in accordance with ARACIS standards and aim to ensure the quality of the study programs. Stakeholders (students, teaching staff, employers, alumni, directors, program coordinators, and administrative staff) are actively involved through periodic consultations, satisfaction questionnaires, focus groups.

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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Within the Faculty of Law, the implementation of procedures is carried out with the active involvement of the members of the academic community and other stakeholders. Students, teaching staff, employers, alumni, directors/program coordinators, and administrative staff contribute to the implementation of procedures by participating in consultations, focus groups, thematic meetings, and by completing satisfaction questionnaires. The information obtained from feedback is constantly used to improve activities, and the conclusions are disseminated to all those involved, ensuring that procedures are applied clearly and with the support of all parties.

The process of teaching performance evaluation by students takes place every semester, online, through the AcademicInfo platform. At the UBB level, the Qualitas Centre prepares semestrial reports with the results of these evaluations, and faculties and departments have access to these results via the platform, being able to generate/view/download centralized statistics.

It is recommended that the response rate to the AcademicInfo teaching-evaluation questionnaires is increased through targeted communication and reminders, and report participation rates as a quality indicator.

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.
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The evaluation of the professional activity of academic staff and researchers by the university management, as well as peer evaluation, is carried out in accordance with dedicated operational procedures adopted by the UBB Senate.

The procedure for the evaluation of the professional activity of academic staff and researchers by management, as well as the peer evaluation procedure, applies to all academic staff and researchers employed. According to its own regulations, the Doctoral School of Law periodically evaluates, at five-year intervals, the activity of tenured doctoral supervisors, based on procedures developed by the CSUD. These procedures are grounded in self-evaluation as well as internal and external peer review.

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.

Administrative activities are supported by three integrated IT systems developed within the Centre for Information Systems. These systems bring together services for both employees and students and are accessible via login credentials (username, password). Departments within the General Administrative Directorate use the [ManageAsist](#) application, which offers managerial assistance functionalities at various levels. Faculty secretariats use [AcademicInfo](#), a suite of programs that enables tracking of students' academic trajectories and the online evaluation of courses by students. The Centre for Scientific Research Management, along with UBB's academic and research staff, uses the UBB Academic/Research Activity Management application to submit the results of the professional activities.

All IT applications are available across all levels and departments of UBB's organisational structure and provide centralised reports that ensure the efficiency of UBB's operational and managerial activities.

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.

Public interest information is disseminated through multiple channels: official editorials signed by the UBB spokesperson, press releases issued by the Communication and Public Relations Directorate, press conferences, bulletin boards located in University buildings, the University's official website, social media accounts (Facebook, X, LinkedIn, Youtube, Instagram, etc.), faculty websites, and admission brochures detailing bachelor's and master's programs. The spokesperson's office is in charge of answering all media inquiries and of drafting the University's official statements.

Specific information for the doctoral field of Law is available on the Faculty of Law's webpage as well as on the Doctoral School of Law's page, where information can be found regarding: doctoral supervisors, doctoral admission, courses within the curriculum, the presentation and composition of the doctoral school, and doctoral thesis defenses. Various updates for doctoral students (scholarship opportunities, conferences, administrative information, etc.) are disseminated to them via email through the collective address doctoranzi@law.ubbcluj.ro.

It is recommended to improve the structure of the Doctoral School of Law's webpage and to complete the existing information, as the content should be unified, complete, and frequently updated.

The indicator is fulfilled.

Indicator I.P.C.6.1.2	The organisational component ensures transparent decision-making processes.
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The Faculty of Law promotes decision-making transparency through multiple channels (official websites, digital platforms, representation in governing bodies, and direct consultations). The decision-making process is participatory, and documentation is carried out systematically. At the program level, there is efficient communication of decisions affecting both teaching staff and students. Student involvement in decision-making processes is not merely formal but active, through their presence in committees and participation in consultations.

The [Faculty of Law](#) maintains its own website, with content available in two languages: Romanian and English. Within the website, there is also a dedicated page for the [Doctoral School of Law](#), with content available in both Romanian and English.

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 Faculty of Law periodically participates in the external quality evaluation process conducted by ARACIS, in accordance with the legislation in force. The last external evaluation of the 'Law' doctoral field within the Organizing Institution for Doctoral Studies (IOSUD) at Babeş-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca took place in 2021.

The indicator is fulfilled.

IV. SWOT Analysis

Strengths: ✓ Rich institutional tradition in legal research at UBB ✓ Strong academic reputation of the UBB law school ✓ Highly renowned legal scholars serving as doctoral supervisors ✓ Well-structured and rigorous organizational framework for doctoral studies in law ✓ High-quality pool of doctoral candidates ✓ Transparent and merit-based procedures for doctoral admission and progression ✓ Rigorous academic standards governing doctoral training and supervision ✓ Sustained commitment to academic excellence and rigorous doctoral education	INTERNAL FACTORS ↑	Weaknesses: ✓ Scope for strengthening international research partnerships and academic networks ✓ Limited participation of doctoral students in externally funded research projects
SWOT analysis		
Opportunities: ✓ Strengthening the internationalisation of doctoral education through joint supervision and cotutelle agreements ✓ Growing opportunities for interdisciplinary legal research addressing societal and technological challenges ✓ Enhanced integration of doctoral students into national and international research projects ✓ Greater use of digital research infrastructures and open science practices	EXTERNAL FACTORS ↓	Threats: ✓ Limited availability and unpredictability of research funding at national level ✓ Brain drain of talented doctoral graduates and young researchers to foreign institutions ✓ Risk of unethical use of artificial intelligence in doctoral research and academic writing

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	
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	
DOMAIN B. Educational efficacy			

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
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	
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	The diversification of the participations in international conferences (e.g., universities in Western Europe).
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	
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	
16.	I.P.B.5.1.2 Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.	F	Increase transparency of the achievement of the learning outcomes on the doctoral school website.
17.	I.P.B.7.1.1 The organisational component applies the admission procedures.	F	Increase transparency of the international research opportunities (e.g., doctoral cotutelle) on the doctoral school website.
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	F	Increase transparency of the information on support measures on the doctoral school website.

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
	educational risk, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.		
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	Increase transparency of the information regarding international cooperation and mobilities on the doctoral school website. Adopt an internal procedure on the European doctorates.
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	Invite speakers from foreign universities to give (on-site and online) lectures / seminars to the doctoral students.
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	
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	Improve the response rate to the teaching-evaluation questionnaires.
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	Improve the structure of the Doctoral School of Law's webpage.

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
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	-	-
Domain B. Educational efficacy	14	-	-
Domain C. Quality management	10	-	-
Total	32	-	-

VI. Conclusions

The UBB Doctoral School in Law is founded on a strong academic tradition and a well-established institutional framework that provide a solid basis for the delivery of high-quality doctoral education. The expertise and academic standing of its doctoral supervisors, combined with rigorous organisational procedures and the high calibre of admitted doctoral candidates, create an environment that supports scholarly excellence and the development of independent research. These characteristics contribute significantly to the UBB Doctoral School in Law's reputation and its capacity to prepare graduates capable of making meaningful contributions to legal scholarship and professional practice.

The continued development of the UBB Doctoral School in Law will depend on its ability to further strengthen the international dimension of its research and doctoral training. Increasing participation in international research networks, expanding strategic partnerships with leading universities, promoting joint supervision arrangements, and encouraging greater involvement of doctoral candidates in competitive research projects and international conferences would enhance both the quality and the visibility of research outcomes. At the same time, increasing opportunities for international mobility and supporting publication in internationally recognised journals would reinforce the academic profile and competitiveness.

The evolving research landscape also offers significant prospects for growth. Emerging areas of legal research, interdisciplinary collaboration, and expanding European research funding provide favourable conditions for broadening the scope and impact of doctoral research. These developments create opportunities to strengthen collaboration with academic institutions, judicial bodies, and other relevant stakeholders while ensuring that doctoral research remains responsive to contemporary legal and societal challenges.

Sustaining academic excellence will require continuous attention to emerging challenges affecting doctoral education. Competition for talented doctoral candidates and early-career researchers is becoming increasingly intense, while financial and demographic pressures may influence the future development of



doctoral programs. Moreover, the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence requires the continuous adaptation of institutional policies and academic practices to safeguard research integrity, transparency, and ethical standards.

Overall, the UBB Doctoral School in Law is very well positioned to build upon its established strengths and further enhance its national and international standing. Its strong academic foundations, combined with a clear commitment to quality, provide an excellent platform for future development. Continued investment in research excellence, international cooperation, doctoral training, and responsible research practices will contribute to strengthening the quality, relevance, and impact of its doctoral programs and to consolidating its position as a leading centre for advanced legal research and doctoral education in Romania and Eastern Europe.

Following the completion of the maintaining accreditation procedure, the external experts panel recommends the following decision: **maintaining accreditation** (MAC).

VII. Annexes

The schedule of the on-site visit.