HOTĂRÂRE

privind validarea rezultatelor procedurilor de evaluare externă a calității educației

Având în vedere prevederile generale şi specifice aferente proceselor sau procedurilor privind:

- **evaluarea externă a calităţii şi validarea rezultatelor cuprinse în Rapoartele de evaluare externă:** art. 223-226, art. 229-230 şi art. 249 alin. (1) lit. f), g) şi h) din Legea nr. 199/2023 a învățământului superior nr. 199/2023, cu modificările şi completările ulterioare, denumită în continuare Legea, precum şi în Metodologia de evaluare externă a calității educației în învățământul superior, aprobată prin Hotărârea Guvernului nr. 962/2024, cu modificările şi completările ulterioare, denumită în continuare Metodologia;

- **autorizarea** de funcţionare provizorie **pentru programele de studii universitare din ciclul I de licenţă:** art. 235 alin. (1) lit. a) şi lit. b) pct. (ii), alin. (2)-(5) şi art. 236 alin. (1)-(2) din Lege;

art. 27, art. 29 şi art. 32-33, coroborate cu art. 59, art. 62 şi art. 63 din Metodologie;

- **autorizarea pentru domeniile de studii universitare din ciclul II de masterat:** art. 235 alin. (1) lit. a) şi lit. b) pct. (iii), alin. (2)-(5) şi art. 236 alin. (1)-(2) din Lege; art. 27-29 şi art. 34-35, coroborate cu art. 59, art. 62 şi art. 63 din Metodologie;

- **autorizarea pentru domeniile de studii universitare din ciclul III de doctorat:** art. 235 alin. (1) lit. b) pct. (iv), alin. (2)-(5) şi art. 236 alin. (1) şi (3) din Lege; art. 27-29 şi art. 37-38, coroborate cu art. 59, art. 62 şi art. 63 din Metodologie;

- **acreditarea pentru programele de studii universitare din ciclul I de licenţă:** art. 239 alin. (1) lit. b) şi alin. (6)-(7), art. 240 alin. (1) din Lege; art. 39-40 şi art. 42, coroborate cu art. 60, art. 62 şi art. 63 din Metodologie;

- **acreditarea pentru domeniile de studii universitare din ciclul II de masterat:** art. 239 alin. (3) şi alin. (6)-(7), art. 240 alin. (1) din Lege; art. 39-40 şi art. 43-44, coroborate cu art. 60, art. 62 şi art. 63 din Metodologie;

- **acreditarea pentru domeniile de studii universitare din ciclul III de doctorat:** art. 239 alin. (4) şi alin. (6)-(7), art. 240 alin. (2) din Lege; art. 39-40 şi art. 46-47, coroborate cu art. 60, art. 62 şi art. 63 din Metodologie;

- **analiza şi validarea în vederea verificării respectării Metodologiei, de către comisiile de experţi evaluatori în cadrul rapoartelor de evaluare externă:** art. 235 alin. (4), pentru autorizare, respectiv art. 239 alin. (6) lit. d), pentru acreditare şi menținerea acreditării, din Lege, precum şi art. 62-63 din Metodologie.

Luând în considerare:

a. Ghidul aplicabil programelor de studii universitare de licență, aprobat prin Hotărârea Consiliului ARACIS nr. 42/06.02.2025, cu modificările şi completările ulterioare;

b. Ghidul aplicabil domeniilor de studii universitare de masterat, aprobat prin Hotărârea Consiliului ARACIS nr. 83/03.04.2025;

c. Ghidul aplicabil domeniilor de studii universitare de doctorat, aprobat prin Hotărârea Consiliului ARACIS nr. 84/03.04.2025;

Întrucât Consiliul ARACIS validează, prin vot deschis şi pe baza verificării respectării Metodologiei, propunerile formulate de către comisiile de experți evaluatori şi poate solicita refacerea Rapoartelor de evaluare externă atunci când constată că Metodologia nu a fost respectată ori respectivele rapoarte nu cuprind suficiente date şi dovezi pentru adoptarea deciziei,

Ținând seama de considerentele Consiliului aferente validării rezultatelor individualizate în procesele verbale de şedință, al căror format a fost aprobat prin Hotărârea Consiliului nr. 170/H/03.07.2025,

În temeiul art. 258 alin. (1) din Lege şi al art. 62 alin. (1) şi (2) din Metodologie, precum şi al art. 7 alin. (1) şi alin. (3) lit. b) şi h), art. 11 alin. (1) şi al art. 23 alin. (5) din Regulamentul de organizare şi funcționare al ARACIS, aprobat prin Hotărârea Consiliului ARACIS nr. 188/H/27.06.2024 şi completat prin Hotărârea nr.116/H/02.04.2026,

Consiliul Agenției Române de Asigurare a Calității în Învățământul Superior
HOTĂRĂŞTE:

Art. 1. (1) Se validează rezultatele procedurilor de evaluare externă a calității educației pentru programele de studii universitare de licență, domeniile de studii universitare de masterat şi de doctorat, precum şi pentru programul universitar de formare psihopedagogică pentru învăţământul preuniversitar, după caz, cuprinse în anexele nr. 1-23 care fac parte integrantă din prezenta hotărâre.

(2) Pentru fiecare dintre programele sau domeniile de studii universitare, anexa corespunzătoare indică, conform art. 230 alin. (2) şi alin.(3) lit. b), c) şi d), art. 231 lit. a) şi b), art. 232 lit. c), d) şi e), art. 235 alin. (1) lit. b), punctele ii-iv, alin. (3)-(5), art. 239 alin. (1) lit. b), alin. (3), (4), (6) lit. a)-d) din Lege, procesul sau procedura de evaluare parcursă, rezultatele din Raportul de evaluare externă care se validează, precum şi considerentele analizei de validitate şi concluzia motivată a Consiliului.

(3) Rezultatele prevăzute la alin. (1) se comunică Ministerului Educației şi Cercetării şi instituțiilor solicitante şi se publică pe site-ul ARACIS.

Art. 2. Analiza de validitate se exercită în limitele art. 235 alin. (4), respectiv ale art. 239 alin. (6) lit. d) din Lege şi ale art. 62 raportat la art. 63 din Metodologie.

Art. 3. Rapoartele de evaluare externă, inclusiv numele experților, se publică integral pe site-ul ARACIS, în condițiile art. 229 alin. (2) din Lege şi ale art. 62 alin. (3) din Metodologie.

Art. 4. Prezenta hotărâre intră în vigoare la data de 22.10.2026.

Art. 5. Prezenta hotărâre va fi dusă la îndeplinire de Direcția Asigurarea Calității şi de Compartimentul Tehnologia Informației.

Prof. univ. dr. ing. Cristian-Vasile DOICIN
Preşedinte

Daniela Cristina GHIȚULICĂ
Director general

Carmen MIRIAN
Director Direcţia Asigurarea Calităţii

Cristina-Vasilica ICOCIU
Director Direcția Juridică, Cooperare, Comunicare şi Formare

Consilier juridic

NR. 318/H/22.10.2026

ANEXA NR.
la Hotărârea Consiliului ARACIS nr. 318/H/22.10.2026

Anexa 3.3

DATE DE IDENTIFICARE	
Instituţia de învăţământ superior/organizaţia furnizoare de educaţie	Şcoala Naţională de Studii Politice şi Administrative din Bucureşti
Şcoala(ile) doctorală(e)	Multidisciplinară
Domeniul de studii universitare de doctorat (DSUD)	***Ştiinţe politice***
Procedura/procesul de evaluare externă a calităţii educaţiei	Menținerea acreditării

DECIZIA

Descrierea pe scurt a procesului de luare a deciziei

Raportul de evaluare externă (REE) a fost analizat în ședința Comisiei permanente de specialitate Științe Sociale, Politice și ale Comunicării (CPS_C4) din 02.10.2026, propunerea de decizie fiind consemnată în PV nr. 4993/02.10.2026.
Propunerea de decizie a fost analizată de către Departamentul de evaluare Studii Universitare (DESU), opinia DESU fiind consemnată în PV nr. 5321/20.10.2025

Gradul de îndeplinire a standardelor şi indicatorilor de performanţă şi motivarea deciziei
(se indică cifrele care stau la baza luării deciziei Consiliului ARACIS)

Domeniul	Standarde Î / N	Indicatori de performanţă Î / PÎ / N
A	**Î:** S.A.1.1, S.A.1.2., S.A.2.1., S.A.2.2., S.A.3.1., S.A.3.2., S.A.4.1. N: -	**Î:** I.P.A.1.1.1, I.P.A.1.2.1, I.P.A.2.1.1, I.P.A.2.2.1,, I.P.A.3.1.2, I.P.A.3.2.1, I.P.A.4.1.1 PÎ: I.P.A.3.1.1 N: -
B	**Î:** S.B.1.1., S.B.2.1., S.B.3.1., S.B.3.2., S.B.4.1., S.B.5.1., S.B.7.1., S.B.7.2., S.B.8.1., S.B.9.1., S.B.9.2. N: -	**Î:** I.P.B.1.1.1., I.P.B.2.1.2, I.P.B.3.1.1, I.P.B.3.1.2, I.P.B.3.2.1, I.P.B.4.1.1., I.P.B.5.1.1, I.P.B.5.1.2, I.P.B.7.1.1, I.P.B.7.1.2, I.P.B.7.2.1, I.P.B.8.1.1, I.P.B.9.1.1, I.P.B.9.2.1 PÎ:- N: -
C	**Î:** S.C.1.1, S.C.1.2, S.C.2.2., S.C.3.1, S.C.4.1., S.C.5.1., S.C.6.1., S.C.8.1 N: -	**Î:** I.P.C.1.1.1, I.P.C.1.2.1, I.P.C.2.2.2, I.P.C.3.1.1, I.P.C.3.1.2, I.P.C.4.1.1., I.P.C.5.1.1, I.P.C.6.1.1, I.P.C.6.1.2, I.P.C.8.1.1 PÎ:- N: -

Motivarea deciziei	
Consiliul ARACIS în ședința din 22.10.2026 analizează și validează propunerea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității, constatând că din: • *32 total indicatori: 31 sunt îndepliniți, 1 parțial îndeplinit și 0 neîndepliniți* • *26 total standarde: 26 sunt îndeplinite, 0 neîndeplinite,* *și, astfel, prin aplicarea art. 63 din Metodologie decide că* ***standardele sunt ÎNDEPLINITE.***	
Decizia	Menţinerea acreditării

The Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education



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

Higher Education Institution/Education Provider Organization:	The National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA)
Doctoral School:	Multidisciplinary Doctoral School
Doctoral Domain:	Political Science
The objective of the external evaluation:	**Maintaining accreditation (MAC)**

Members of the ARACIS Evaluation Panel

No.	Last Name and First Name	Team role
1.	**Matiuța Cristina Maria**	Expert evaluator
2.	**Sebastiao Dina**	International Expert
3.	**Călin-Mădălin Oniea**	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.);

This External Evaluation Report (EER) is the result of the periodic evaluation for maintaining accreditation of the Political Science doctoral field within the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA). The team appointed by ARACIS included: prof. univ. dr. Cristina Matiuța, the international expert prof. univ. dr. Dina Sebastiao from the University of Coimbra, Portugal and doctoral student Călin-Mădălin Oniea, PhD student from West University of Timișoara. The visit to the institution took place between September 15-16, 2026 and was carried out according to the attached program, agreed with the representatives of the host institution.

- 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 Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA) is a public institution of higher education, established in 1991, encompassing all three university cycles: bachelor, master and doctoral degrees. Following the model of the Western schools of governance, SNSPA trains and develops professional competencies in Political Science, Sociology, Administrative Studies, International Relations, Diplomacy, European Studies, Communication Sciences, Psychology, Management, Human Resources. SNSPA's mission integrates education, research and the application of results in professional life, in the spirit of international cooperation. The University is a member of prestigious European organizations and consortia and founding member of the *CIVICA* consortium – *the European University of Social Sciences*. In terms of governance and organizational structure, SNSPA operates on the basis of university autonomy, in accordance with the provisions of the national regulations in the field and its own internal regulations. The institution is managed through collegial and executive bodies, which include: the University Senate, the Board of Governors and the Council for Doctoral Studies.
The doctoral studies at SNSPA are organized within the Multidisciplinary Doctoral School, whose mission is to generate and disseminate research results of international relevance, to share knowledge and best practices with postgraduate students, and to prepare the next generation of researchers. The fields of doctoral study within the SNSPA Multidisciplinary Doctoral School are: Political Science, Administrative Science, Sociology, Communication Science and Management. The Doctoral School has 39 doctoral supervisors: 11 in the field of Communication Sciences, 15 in the field of Political Science, 4 in the field of Administrative Sciences, 3 in the field of Sociology and 6 in the field of Management.
In 2021, the external evaluation of IOSUD SNSPA took place. Following the evaluation, the ARACIS Council (*Hotararea-Consiliului-ARACIS-nr. NR. 93 /25.11.2021*) decided to maintain the accreditation for all doctoral fields.

- 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).

Doctoral studies at SNSPA began in 2000, when the institution was granted the status of a doctoral-awarding body in the field of Political Science (Order of the Minister of Education and Research No. 4212/2000). The Political Science doctoral programme operates within the Faculty of Political Science and the Department of International Relations and European Integration (DRIIE). The doctoral programme bases its vision on three key pillars (RAE, p.8-9) Firstly, the courses are taught by lecturers with international experience, and the approach

is interdisciplinary and international in nature. Secondly, the curriculum aims to meet the requirements of a high degree of topicality, rigour and practical relevance, in line with current political and economic developments and the interconnections and interdependencies between them. Thirdly, the focus is simultaneously on the conceptual-theoretical, methodological and empirical-pragmatic components, the integrative approach facilitating the transfer of knowledge, the development of skills and the consolidation of certain behaviours among PhD students in political science.

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);
- On-site visit (general list of visited locations and categories of persons with whom debates have been organised);
- Other relevant methods or aspects.

To prepare this External Evaluation Report, the following were used: the Internal Evaluation Report (REI), available to the ARACIS team, the annexes to the REI, and other documents available on the institution's website. During the visit, the ARACIS team had discussions, recorded in the minutes of the meetings, with the representatives of the management, with the team that prepared the report, with the teaching staff, with students and graduates of the doctoral program, with employers of graduates, with members of the CEAC and the University Ethics Commission, with the heads of research centers/laboratories in the field of the evaluated program. The visit to the institution's headquarters, between September 15-16, 2026, included the following locations: Spaces for conducting courses and seminars; offices and administrative spaces of the faculty; IT and digital infrastructure (access to databases, learning platforms); research laboratories and teaching staff offices; access to online bibliographic resources.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The structure and organisation of SNSPA are regulated in accordance with the legal framework established by national legislation in the field of higher education, the *SNSPA Charter* and the *Regulations on Organisation and Operation*, which detail the institutional management system, the academic structures (faculties, departments and research centres), as well as the university's administrative structures.In accordance with the SNSPA Charter (article 46), the University Senate comprises 37 members, of whom 26 are tenured teaching and research staff at SNSPA and 11 are student representatives. The SNSPA Charter establishes the University's governing bodies. The University Senate is the main decision-making and deliberative body at university level.

The SNSPA Board of Directors operates on the basis of the SNSPA Charter and ensures the operational management of the university and implements the strategic decisions of the University Senate, under the leadership of the Rector.The composition of the governing bodies is presented on the website (Structura organizatorică, atribuțiile departamentelor, programul de funcționare, programul de audiențe)
All internal regulations and procedures governing the managerial, academic and administrative activities of SNSPA are public and accessible on the institution's official website (Documente interne)
The Council for Doctoral Studies (CSUD) is the organisational and administrative structure established within the IOSUD, responsible for the IOSUD's strategy and for drafting and implementing its own regulations concerning doctoral studies. The CSUD is headed by a director. The role of director of the Council for Doctoral Studies is equivalent to that of vice-rector. Within SNSPA, the five fields of doctoral studies are included in the Multidisciplinary Doctoral School.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

Based on the documents and the information publicly available, it can be seen that the institutional management system is well-structured, with clearly defined responsibilities and effective mechanisms for the coordination of doctoral studies. The institutional regulations are regularly updated in line with legislative developments and cover all stages of the doctoral cycle, from admission to the completion of doctoral studies and the awarding of the doctoral degree (Legi și regulamente – Școala Doctorală SNSPA).

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[1] and of other stakeholders are considered in the process of adopting and revising methodologies, regulations and implementation procedures.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA) has established mechanisms for engaging internal and external stakeholders in the process of drafting, consulting, adopting and revising strategic documents, regulations, methodologies and procedures applicable at institutional and faculty level. Internal stakeholders (students, teaching staff, administrative staff) and external stakeholders (employers, socio-economic partners, professional organisations, graduates) are consulted through direct representation in decision-making bodies (Senate, Faculty Councils, Departmental Councils), as well as through specific consultation tools (focus groups, questionnaires, dedicated meetings). As the involvement of external stakeholders, particularly employers and professional organizations, is often ad hoc, the aim is to expand and formalize this through permanent consultative structures and institutionalized dialogue platforms.
At the level of the Doctoral School, academic and administrative decisions are adopted by the Doctoral School Council (CȘD) and the Doctoral Studies Council (CSUD). The procedures for approving study plans, admissions, the conduct of doctoral research activities and the assessment of doctoral students are regulated by official documents and are applied uniformly, ensuring consistency in decision-making and respect for academic autonomy. Consultations regarding the activities of the Doctoral School take place during meetings with representatives of the doctoral schools in the CIVICA alliance (within Work Package 5, which concerns doctoral studies, regular meetings are organized to monitor progress on the objectives set out in the project: exploring the possibility of joint programmes, co-supervision, supplementary diplomas, etc.).

[1] The faculty, department, subsidiary, extension - hereinafter "organisational components"

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The analyzed documentation demonstrates that within SNSPA the process of developing, adopting and revising the methodologies, regulations and procedures specific to doctoral studies is carried out in a consultative and transparent manner. The institution has established mechanisms for consulting the main categories of stakeholders involved in the organization and delivery of doctoral studies. These mechanisms are used consistently and have contributed to the regular updating of key documents, in line with feedback provided by 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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The SNSPA has appropriate facilities for the teaching, research and administrative activities, with lecture theatres and seminar rooms properly equipped with multimedia assets, providing digital, online and hybrid environments for educational activities.
The Institution has a large library, with 401 square meters, 424 linear meters of shelves in open access, and 52 seats. It has a European Documentation Centre that is dedicated to European Union policies. The library also displays online access to important international databases, like Scopus, Web of Science, ScienceDirect, either onsite or remotely, with information to access it being displayed on the libraries' website. In the latest years, the investment in access to software to data analysis is well-recognised by the students. The HIE possesses internal regulations to provide equal opportunities and inclusive policies for students, especially working on the promotion of gender, LGBTQIA+ equality. The SNSPA also has facilities for students' accommodation, with 323 places, equipped with adequate furniture and access to functional areas for daily routines, for students.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The HEI proves to have appropriate facilities and access to functional services and equipment to fulfil its mission. A library with online access to international databases and technological equipment providing online and hybrid learning activities is positive. The university enshrines a policy of equal opportunities, but despite the organisation of activities of engagement with discussion and awareness for the inclusion of students with disabilities, the elaboration of a plan being under way, efforts to make this effective have to be done. The policy of support for students in economic difficulty is recognised by PhD students, like the offer of accommodation by the University, although, during the interviews, students expressed that it's not clear for them if and how they can benefit from that.

✔ Recommendations

Better advertise and inform PHD students about the possibility to access the accommodation support by the HEI.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The HEI has a dedicated structure to over care the physical infrastructure in several dimensions, ensuring maintenance, repairs, periodic inspections and logistical management of equipment. This is based on an annual maintenance plan, subject to hierarchical approval and regulations in force to ensure suitable educational conditions and technical, safety, health and accessibility standards.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The SNSPA has a proper system of infrastructure and equipment management in force, allowing for complying with legal standards for public and educational activities.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The Doctoral School has 39 doctoral supervisors, of whom 15 are in the field of Political Science. Courses within the training programmes are taught by doctoral supervisors who are actively engaged in research in the subjects they teach. PhD supervisors in the field of Political Science carry out relevant and consistent research within the discipline's area of expertise, demonstrated by publications in scientific journals indexed in recognised international databases, books and book chapters published by prestigious academic presses, as well as through active participation in national and international research projects. Their involvement in academic networks and collaborative research projects contributes to the development of doctoral research and to ensuring a competitive academic environment, in line with the quality standards of doctoral studies (*Annex 3. CNATDCU standards compliance sheets*). In recent years, all 15 doctoral supervisors in the field of Political Science have published a significant number of scientific articles in the field of political science (e.g. I1 indicator from national standards -articles in ISI-indexed journals with an impact factor f ≥ 0.1- includes over 50 publications).
The distribution of doctoral students across the 15 doctoral supervisors is as follows:

1. prof. univ. dr. Iordan Bărbulescu -10 doctoral students
2. prof. univ. dr. Daniel Dăianu- 1 student
3. prof. univ. dr. Mihail Ionescu - 8
4. prof. univ. dr. Ioan Mircea Paşcu- 16
5. prof. univ. dr. George Maior- 6
6. prof. univ. dr. Andrei Țăranu- 5
7. prof. univ. dr. Adrian Pop- 2
8. prof. univ. dr. Liliana Popescu- 7
9. prof. univ. dr. Mhai Păunescu- 11

10. prof. univ. dr. Miruna Butnaru-Troncotă- 11
11. prof. univ. dr. Mihai Cercel- 6
12. conf. univ. dr. Andrei Miroiu- 2
13. conf. univ. dr. Antonia Colibășanu- 3
14. conf. univ. dr. Todor Arpad- 7
15. conf. univ. dr. Laurențiu Ștefan- 3

Four doctoral supervisors coordinate more than 8 doctoral students. There is a University Senate decision regarding the extension of the coordination capacity for the four professors (HS No.42/29.09.2025).

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The teaching staff has the necessary qualifications and professional skills to teach the subjects included in the curriculum. All 15 doctoral supervisors in the field of Political Science fulfill the national standards and have published in their area of doctoral supervision. International visibility is ensured through their publication record, as well as by their involvement in national and international professional associations and networks. Four professors supervise more than eight doctoral students. SNSPA Senate Resolution No. 42/29.09.2025 approves exceeding the limit of eight simultaneously supervised students for the four doctoral supervisors in question. It should be noted that one of the doctoral supervisors (Prof. Ioan Mircea Pașcu) is simultaneously supervising 16 doctoral students, which exceeds the maximum limit of 12 students allowed by the legislation and standards in force at the time of the visit.
The same Senate Resolution (No. 42/29.09.2025) approves an increase in supervision capacity for 10 doctoral supervisors from the Multidisciplinary Doctoral School (across all five fields); this represents 25% of the total of 39 doctoral supervisors, thereby exceeding the 20% threshold allowed by the legislation and standards in force.

✔ Recommendations

The necessity to balance the number of PhD students enrolled by each supervisor in order to avoid the overload of supervision activity and to ensure a high-quality instructional process and personalized academic guidance.

The necessity to comply with legal provisions in force regarding a number of 8 (to a maximum of 12 students with the University Senate approval) supervised by a professor.

The indicator is: partially fulfilled

Indicator I.P.A.3.1.2	The HEI ensures professional and personal development for its staff.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

SNSPA, has implemented institutional mechanisms to support the professional and personal development of teaching, research and administrative staff. At institutional level, the professional development of teaching staff is supported through access to internal and external continuing professional development programmes, participation in national and international scientific conferences through dedicated budgetary allocations, encouraging involvement in research projects and national and European grants, the regular organisation of internal pedagogical training and digital skills development sessions, as well as through access to international academic mobility programmes, in particular Erasmus+ and CIVICA – European University of Social Sciences.
At the Doctoral School level, the professional activity of teaching staff is monitored through the periodic evaluation procedure for teaching staff, in accordance with the SNSPA Methodology for the evaluation of teaching and research staff. Each doctoral supervisor in the field of Political Science is assessed by the institution's management in relation to their teaching and research activities, involvement in faculty and departmental activities, as well as the subjects taught. The results of the management evaluation, combined with the student evaluation, form the criteria used in the long term for professional promotion processes, in

accordance with the methodology (Metodologie-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-examenului-de-promovare-in-cariera-didactica-a-personalului-didactic-titular-in-SNSPA-2024.pdf)

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

SNSPA has an institutional framework for the professional and personal development of staff, offering opportunities for teaching development, research, international networking and involvement in major academic projects. A key point is the support provided for participation in international conferences and the facilitation of staff integration into international academic networks, particularly through the CIVICA and Erasmus+ platforms.

✔ Aspects that constitute best practice examples

The support provided by the university for professors' participation in international conferences.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The procedures for the recruitment, selection and promotion of teaching and research staff are governed by the *Methodology for filling vacant teaching and research positions*(Metodologia-de-concurs-pentru-ocuparea-posturilor-didactice-si-de-cercetare-vacante-din-SNSPA-2024.pdf) and the *Methodology on the organisation and conduct of the promotion examination for the teaching career of tenured teaching staff at SNSPA* (Metodologie-privind-organizarea-si-desfasurarea-examenului-de-promovare-in-cariera-didactica-a-personalului-didactic-titular-in-SNSPA-2024.pdf), drawn up and applied in accordance with legal provisions, with due regard for transparency, competitiveness and equal opportunities. These procedures are published on the SNSPA's official website (Metodologii și regulamente) and are open to both internal and external participation.

The recruitment process for PhD supervisors takes place in two stages: obtaining accreditation, followed by the appointment procedure within the SNSPA Multidisciplinary Doctoral School. The accreditation procedure is conducted in accordance with current legislation and the Regulations on the organisation and conduct of the accreditation process within SNSPA, drawn up in accordance with national legislation in force. SNSPA organizes habilitation in the five doctoral fields within the Multidisciplinary Doctoral School, including Political Science. Information regarding the conduct of habilitation procedures is available on the website.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The recruitment of teaching staff within IOSUD-SNSPA, and the doctoral programme in Political Sciences (habilitation, affiliation) is carried out in compliance with the legislative provisions in force at national level and institutional regulations of the SNSPA. All recruitment procedures comply with the provisions of the law and are carried out transparently.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

SNSPA has developed its own electronic system for digitalisation of educational, research and administrative activities, in accordance with its Strategic Plan 2021-2025. In the realm of academic and administrative management, there's a platform for enrolment and registration processes. Online administrative, teaching and research processes are supported by Cisco Webex platform, in addition to the Moodle platform, providing e-learning activities. The own developed Campus platform provides access to the virtual catalogue, to upload the final dissertations and manage other academic actions. Digitalisation of processes extends to recruitment procedures, fee payment and other academic bureaucracies. As mentioned in item A. 2.1.1, the SNSPA library also displays online access to international databases of reference.This allows the facilitation of academic and administrative procedures related with the PhD programme.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The internal IT system developed by the HEI allows for a more effective and timely management of the PhD, that benefits from the provision of more transparent and accessible procedures, like the facilitation to deliver final dissertations, to manage educational activities, internationalisation, to treat relevant administrative and evaluation information. Although an integrated system for gathering all the relevant data concerning student's background is missing, for more in-depth analysis, statistical and follow-up purposes.

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[2] 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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The doctoral study programme in Political Science is developed along two components: (1) an advanced university studies training programme including courses, taught in both Romanian and English and (2) an individual research programme (Plan-individual.pdf). The curriculum (Plan-de-invatamant.pdf) includes optional and compulsory courses which aim to achieve learning outcomes consistent with Level 8 of the qualification. There is a compulsory module 'Ethics, Integrity and Fairness in Research and Innovation', as well as courses designed for the in-depth study of research methodology (Data Analysis Methods, Strategic Studies:

[2] 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.

Geopolitics and Geoeconomics. Research and Analysis Methods) and specialized subjects (Populism. Propaganda and Political Discourse; Ever-closer Union? The EU's developmental policies and their impact on EU integration; The European Union: Between Intergovernmental and Federal; EU Foreign and Security Policy; or Romania and the Changing Global Order: History and Current Affairs). This structure enables the acquisition of advanced skills in critical analysis, synthesis and evaluation of processes in the field of political science. In addition, PhD students may choose courses from other fields within the Doctoral School.
The Course Descriptions outline quantitative aspects relating to the organisation of the courses (namely: time allocated to activities and the number of ECTS credits awarded), content elements (topics covered, recommended reading, assessment methods) as well as qualitative aspects relating to the acquisition of specific skills.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The Curriculum ensures the formation of professional competencies (content, cognitive and research), as well as transversal competencies and includes learning outcomes (in terms of knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy). Each PhD student has an individual PhD study plan, agreed upon with their supervisor, which includes courses from the Doctoral School's programme, with compulsory attendance of the Ethics course.

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).

✔ Presentation of the state of facts,

The learning outcomes are consistent with EQF/CNC level 8 across all of its components: knowledge, skills and autonomy. The Curriculum contains a matrix that links the activities carried out during the doctoral research programme in political science with the theoretical and practical learning outcomes, correlated with the skills required by the corresponding occupations, in accordance with occupational standards and/or the European Classification of Occupations (ESCO).
In addition to the professional competences, the programme develops competences relating to academic ethics and integrity, professional autonomy and responsibility, as well as the ability to communicate research findings to both general and specialist audiences. The programme aims to build the researcher's responsibility and autonomy in the following stages: data collection, responsible data handling, interpretation of research data, validation of conclusions, and presentation of research results. By involving PhD students in teaching activities, the programme ensures the development of leadership skills in organising the teaching process, as well as in designing and assessing student progress.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts,

The analysis of the documents provided indicates the existence of a clear correlation between the expected learning outcomes and the skills required by the doctoral level qualifications in the field of Political Science. Both the curricular framework and integrated research activities foster essential professional and transversal competencies, notably critical thinking, scholarly communication, academic leadership, and research ethics. Furthermore, explicit alignment with the occupational framework ensures the professional relevance of the doctoral programme.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

Student activity is governed by the Regulation on students' academic activity, the Regulation on the initiation, approval, monitoring and periodic review of study programmes and the ECTS Regulation, which provide for continuous feedback mechanisms.
Student-centred learning is embedded in three components of the programme: the design of the curriculum through the curriculum (Plan de învățământ), which combines methodological, specialised and elective courses, with the option of taking subjects from any of the five domains of the Multidisciplinary Doctoral School; the individual study plan, agreed between candidate and supervisor; and the guidance and integrity committee, before which progress is presented at least once every twelve months, with a written record, a grade and recommendations.

The teaching strategies applied are: interaction within the guidance committees, individual and group feedback sessions, thematic workshops and scientific communication sessions, collaboration between candidates in preparing academic papers, and involvement in supervisors' research projects. Expected learning outcomes and assessment criteria are set out in the course descriptions, and the standards for the thesis in the Guide for drafting the doctoral thesis.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

Curricular flexibility is exercised in practice, not merely provided for: candidates described cross-domain course choices made on methodological grounds, and the individual study plan operates as a real instrument of individualisation rather than an administrative formality.
The annual presentation before the guidance committee produces a documented trail of progress.

The assessment criteria in the course descriptions are published in advance and aligned with the standards in the Guide for drafting the doctoral thesis, so that the benchmarks are known from the start of the programme.

The weakness acknowledged in the self-evaluation is confirmed: feedback is collected systematically, but the step from collection to a documented curricular decision is not visible to the same degree.

✔ Aspects that constitute best practice examples

Open access for doctoral candidates to the entire offer of the Multidisciplinary Doctoral School, spanning five domains, produces methodological cross-fertilisation at low institutional cost. The record drawn up after each annual presentation combines a grade with substantive recommendations and serves simultaneously as assessment and as guidance.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

SNSPA is a founding member of CIVICA - The European University of Social Sciences, alongside Sciences Po, Bocconi, Central European University, the European University Institute, the Hertie School, the Stockholm School of Economics, IE University, SGH Warsaw School of Economics and the London School of Economics. Candidates have access to summer schools, summer courses and conferences; the CIVICA PhD Clinic allows contact with academics at partner universities, and the post-doctoral programmes have included SNSPA participants. Research placements have been carried out at CEU, SGH, Sciences Po and Bocconi.

Erasmus+ mobility is promoted each semester through events attended by students recently returned from mobility, through the dedicated website, the Instagram page and the Erasmus ambassadors selected annually. Participation in international conferences and courses is financially supported under Annex 7. Board of Administration Decision; the data are set out in Annex 8. Erasmus mobilities.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The range of opportunities is wider than in most Romanian doctoral programmes in this field, as a direct effect of CIVICA membership.
The self-evaluation states that the number of candidates taking Erasmus+ mobility remains small, while participation in international conferences is high. Verification against Annex 8. Erasmus mobilities confirms this ratio. The explanation offered holds: for candidates combining doctoral study with employment, a semester-long mobility is difficult to accommodate, unlike short research visits.

The opportunities exist, are publicised, are funded and are taken up in the forms suited to the candidate profile. The two semester-long placements at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam in 2024-2025, secured outside the Erasmus partnerships, show that longer mobility is also achievable.

✔ Aspects that constitute best practice examples

The CIVICA PhD Clinic lowers the threshold at which a candidate can contact an academic at a partner university, with no formal mobility agreement required. Involving recently returned candidates in the information sessions publicised on the Erasmus SNSPA site is more persuasive than institutional communication.

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

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The rules on ethics and equity are established in the SNSPA Charter, the SNSPA Code of Ethics and University Deontology, the University Code of Students' Rights and Obligations and the Regulation on students' academic activity.
At admission, support measures apply through the allocation of state-funded places for candidates with special educational needs, for graduates of rural secondary schools, for candidates from the social protection system and for those in situations of socio-economic risk. Information on social, cultural and sporting services and on mobility is published in a dedicated inclusion section.

The reduction of disparities has been pursued through the Hai în SNSPA project and, from the 2025-2026 academic year, through AccesEdu, which produces a guide to adapting content for students with different learning styles. The integration of students with disabilities has been addressed institutionally, including through information sessions. At the level of the Doctoral School, equity rests on equal access to educational resources, digital infrastructure and the support of teaching staff.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The measures are strongest at admission, where they are quantified in the number of reserved places, and in the general institutional provision.
Within the doctoral programme, equity is ensured through equality of access to resources and through the individualisation inherent in the supervisory relationship, rather than through dedicated instruments. This is proportionate: the cohort is small, and individual supervision allows adaptation to particular circumstances without a separate procedural apparatus.

AccesEdu provides, for the first time, an institutional instrument applicable to doctoral supervisors as well. At the time of the visit the project was at an early stage and the effects of the guide could not be assessed.

✔ Aspects that constitute best practice examples

The allocation of state-funded places by identified category, published transparently as part of the admission conditions, converts a general commitment to equity into a measurable one that a candidate can verify before applying.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

Each candidate receives an institutional address with the @drd.snspa.ro extension, the designated channel for communication on academic activity, and has remote access to the resources of the SNSPA Library as well as access to the reading room. This information is communicated through social media and e-mail at the start of each academic year.

Through the ANELIS PLUS consortium, on-site and remote access is provided to ProQuest Central, ScienceDirect, Scopus and Web of Science, and to JSTOR by direct subscription; the arrangements are explained in the access guide, on the databases page and in the learning resources section. The physical resources comprise a 401 sqm reading room with 52 seats, the European Documentation Centre devoted to EU policies, and a store of 1,248 linear metres. Further services are described in the library section.

Digital resources include the Campus platform, Moodle and Cisco Webex. The elective courses in the curriculum (Plan de învățământ) may be taken irrespective of the domain of enrolment. For students with special educational needs, the framework described under I.P.B.3.2.1 applies, including AccesEdu and the inclusion section.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

At doctoral level in political science, the decisive resources are bibliographic and database resources. Here the provision is strong: the range of subscriptions through the ANELIS PLUS consortium covers the principal sources of the discipline, remote access removes the constraint of physical presence, and the European Documentation Centre offers specialised holdings relevant to a substantial share of the theses.
The elective offer in the curriculum (Plan de învățământ) functions as a support mechanism in its own right, allowing methodological gaps to be filled without a separate remedial structure.

The self-evaluation identifies difficulty in securing access to data-processing software. The constraint is real: subscriptions to statistical and qualitative analysis packages are not at the level of the bibliographic ones. It does not prevent the indicator from being met, the resources being adequate to the field and the cycle of study, but it is the point at which additional investment would have the clearest effect.
It is recommended that the need for statistical and qualitative analysis software licences at doctoral level be assessed, and that a shared licence pool administered by the Doctoral School be considered, which is more economical than individual acquisition

✔ Recommendations

The necessity to ease the access for statistical and qualitative analysis software licences which are available now only on university computers.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The principles underlying the definition and assessment of learning outcomes are established in the SNSPA Charter and the SNSPA Code of Ethics and University Deontology. The competences developed through each course are described in the corresponding course description, part of the curriculum (Plan de învățământ).
Assessment takes place at course level, during the semester and at its conclusion, through the forms specified in the curriculum and the course descriptions. Course leaders announce in advance the forms of assessment, the tasks and the criteria applied. The prior publication of criteria supports self-assessment of performance, and expected outcomes are presented in terms of their relevance to the candidate's development as an independent researcher.

The correlation between courses, learning outcomes and the components of level 8 of the qualifications framework is set out in Annex 6. Learning outcomes - Political Science, and the quality standards for the thesis in the Guide for drafting the doctoral thesis.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The reference to the candidate's development as an independent researcher is maintained consistently: the course descriptions show what each course contributes, Annex 6. Learning outcomes - Political Science shows the aggregation against the qualification level, and the Guide for drafting the doctoral thesis sets the standard for the final output. Students confirmed that criteria were known in advance and described them consistently with the documents.

Recommendation

The necessity to update the Guide for drafting the doctoral thesis with instruction on how to use AI and LLM.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

Assessment during the programme is governed by the Regulation on students' academic activity, which sets the conditions for assessment, reassessment and progression and the logic of the credit system. The forms of examination are those in the curriculum (Plan de învățământ) and the course descriptions. Completion of studies is governed by the Regulation on the organisation of the graduation examination, particularised at the level of the Faculty of Political Science, and the credit system by the ECTS Regulation.
The programme comprises advanced training and an individual research programme: a research programme in the first year, credited with 30 ECTS, then a research report every twelve months, each credited with 20 ECTS. Under the ECTS regulation, credits are also obtained for publishing articles or chapters, for conference presentations, for organising academic events, for participation in workshops and webinars and for teaching within SNSPA structures, on the basis of a certificate issued by the supervisor or the organising structure.

At least once every twelve months progress is presented orally before the guidance and integrity committee, with a written record stating the grade (Very good, Good, Satisfactory, Unsatisfactory) and the recommendations. Studies conclude with a public defence, under the completion procedure.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

Ongoing assessment operates through two complementary channels: course-level assessment against criteria published in advance in the course descriptions, and the annual progress presentation, which addresses the research itself. The second is decisive at this level; the records examined contain specific observations and, where the grade was below Very good, identify what must be corrected before the next presentation.
The credit arrangements in the ECTS Regulation align the credit system with the activities that actually constitute doctoral training, rather than confining it to course attendance; the certificate requirement provides control over that flexibility.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

Admission to doctoral studies is by competition, under the Higher Education Act No. 199/2023. The procedure is established by the Doctoral School Admission Regulation 2025, which details the conditions and documents required, the periods of the admission sessions, the manner of conduct and the registration fees; the institutional framework is provided by the SNSPA Admission Regulation approved by the Senate on 6 March 2024.
The regulation is public on the SNSPA website and on the Doctoral School website. The admission section presents the procedure, the calendar, the composition of the application file, the number of places, the fees, the guide for preparing the research proposal, the number of supervisors and the topics they propose. The doctoral admission requirements are also published on the admission portal, and applications are submitted through the online platform. A separate platform allows the pre-registration of non-EU candidates, with prior verification of documents.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

Checking the admission section against the requirements of the applicable regulation shows that all mandatory elements are published. Publishing research topics alongside supervisors' names allows a proposal to be matched to an identified supervisory capacity before the application is submitted, rather than after.

The accounts given by candidates correspond to the published procedure; no discrepancies between documents and practice were found.

The pre-registration platform for non-EU candidates covers the stage at which international applications most often fail.

Admission is used deliberately as an instrument of quality control: the self-evaluation reports greater selectivity, in order to remain within the standard of no more than eight candidates per supervisor, and a more even distribution of places between domains.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts.

The documents governing admission observe the principles of equity and equal opportunity, under the SNSPA Admission Regulation approved by the Senate on 6 March 2024 approved by the Senate. The support measures — facilities and fee exemptions — and the number of reserved places for candidates with special needs, graduates of rural secondary schools, candidates from the social protection system and those in situations of socio-economic risk are presented in a dedicated inclusion section.

Admission to the Doctoral School is organised transparently and the regulation is published on the website. Equal conditions of access are ensured irrespective of socio-economic status, background or special needs, and the regulation establishes no criteria of differentiation beyond the academic quality of the application.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts.

The support measures are quantified and published: reserved places and fee exemptions are expressed as numbers and categories rather than general commitments, which allows a candidate to establish eligibility before applying.

The dedicated inclusion section brings together in one place information otherwise dispersed across admission pages, which matters precisely for the groups concerned.

The measures are defined institutionally and apply across all cycles. At doctoral level, the cohort being small, no dedicated instruments have been developed; this is proportionate, since a separate apparatus for a small cohort would not improve access, while the institutional measures apply directly.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts.

The rules on the academic path are established at university level and implemented at the level of the Doctoral School, communicated through the website, social media, e-mail and direct meetings.

The applicable framework comprises the Regulation on students' academic activity, the Regulation on student assessment and the ECTS Regulation institutionally, and the procedure for the completion of doctoral studies at school level. Recognition of periods of international mobility is covered both by the regulation on students' academic activity and by the credit regulation.

Through these regulations and the course descriptions, candidates receive information on the requirements of the programme, the structure of the academic year, the forms of assessment and the criteria for progression. Consistent application is ensured by the Doctorate Office, working with the supervisor. The school database records credits, research projects and reports, the thesis defence, and allows the management of extensions, interruptions and withdrawals.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The combination of the Regulation on students' academic activity, the ECTS Regulation and the completion procedure defines the requirements at each stage, and candidates described those requirements accurately. The multiple communication channels mean that information does not depend on a single source.
Non-standard trajectories, three or four-year programmes, interruptions, extensions, are handled consistently by the Doctorate Office. The applicable rules are clear; the difficulty flagged in the self-evaluation lies in the records system rather than in the rules, and is addressed under I.P.C.5.1.1.

✔ Aspects that constitute best practice examples

Concentrating responsibility for the consistent application of the rules in the Doctorate Office, in coordination with supervisors, gives candidates a single point of reference for administrative matters and prevents divergent interpretations of the regulations between supervisors.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The SNSPA has institutionalised opportunities to foster internationalisation at the levels of teaching staff and students. CIVICA alliance is an example, said to provide mobility opportunities for teaching staff and early career researchers, as well as accession to Erasmus + programme. CIVICA alliance also provides a forum for easier organisation of international events, like courses specially directed to PhD students and teaching assistants. Additionally, SNSPA is a member of some international research societies important for the field of studies, like ECREA, or the European Doctoral School of Common Security and Defence Policy. The institution has also promoted great international events at the faculty and university levels, like the Academos International Conference, and the Bucharest Security Conference. Students have a considerable number of Erasmus missions (35 students participated in Erasmus mobilities, about 30%), and participation in international conferences and publications. Teaching staff exhibit also a good level of internationalisation, through publications and participation in international research projects.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The HEI makes recognised efforts to promote the internationalisation of both teaching staff and students, and the teaching staff's capacity to internationalise and secure research funding is remarkable, particularly given the absence of a more supportive institutional structure. At the institutional level, SNSPA is a member of ECREA, which is a positive step; however, other internationally relevant scientific societies — such as ECPR, IPSA, or UACES — offer broader coverage within the field of political science. We question the criteria underlying the choice of ECREA specifically.

.Teaching staff make considerable efforts to internationalise their research activity and to keep pace with prevailing internationalisation standards. However, the HEI and its research centres remain excessively dependent on competitive funding, lacking both independent, systemic funding to support research and a dedicated scientific management structure to handle the administrative burden of grant applications. The overall impression is that research achievements stem more from the teaching staff's exceptional capacity and dedication than from adequate national budgetary and institutional conditions.

✔ Recommendations

The University should create an internal office for science management, to support teaching staff in identifying relevant calls and conduct the administrative process of applying to European and other international grants.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

Besides the inclusion in the curriculum of courses and methodologies fostering learning through inquiry, the HEI has different mechanisms to support the participation of students in research activities. The school management disseminates research and call opportunities, have a grant for each student to support participation in international conferences, provide access for Erasmus + and facilitate networking and international exchange opportunities within the Civica alliance. After the first curricular year, students are encouraged and guided to make a research and extracurricular plan, comprehending different activities related with research, such as work on empirical data, make literature reviews for co-authored articles, collaborate in the research centres' and/or the supervisor's research activities, participate in international conferences, workshops or organise conferences. Additionally, the PhD programme offers access to tools and software for data analysis, enabling students to conduct more tailored and accurate empirical analysis, supporting the possibility for international publication in indexed journals.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

Instruments available are supportive of student's research activities. Students at different curricular levels recognise the formal mechanisms and informal support of professors and other staff to promote research skills and internationalisation, as well as the progress made in this sense, namely to provide access to qualified software for data analysis. Beyond that, it's also valued the existence in the curriculum of courses related with ethics and data collection and ethics and AI use. It's also mentioned the usefulness of the supervision feedback received. The future existence of a formal forum for students of different curricular years to share experiences and scientific doubts in specific tasks, and to promote mutual help and the construction of a sense of scientific

community, it's considered useful by students. It's well registered the participation of students in international conferences of reference within the field of political science, like ECPR, UACES or ECREA, and the considerable list of publications (co)authored by the students, some of them in important international publishing houses.

✔ Aspects that constitute best practice examples

The institutional existence of an annual grant for every student to support research activities.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The FSP has several R&D units that are thematically and scientifically related to the field of political science. These research centres provide the institutional conditions to promote and structure research by the teaching staff, and to host a number of PhD students within that research. The centres work in close collaboration with funded international research projects, in which the teaching staff and several PhD students participate and develop their scientific activities. This structure functions as a platform for disseminating research, both through the international networks it provides and through the organisation and delivery of publications, offering students concrete opportunities to publish. Two periodical journals in the field — *Perspective Politice* and *Europolity* — further offer channels for disseminating research results.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The PhD programme benefits from a structure capable of supporting the dissemination of scientific results, particularly for students. Several collective volumes featuring students' work have been published, and both periodical journals regularly include student-authored articles. Furthermore, through their integration into the research centres and funded international projects, students also benefit from networking opportunities and disseminate their work through internationally indexed, high-profile publications.

✔ Aspects that constitute best practice examples

The trajectory of the *Europolity* publication is remarkable, given particularly the fact that there's no administrative professional structure for edition, and all the work is done on a voluntary basis by teaching staff.

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

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The activities of the PhD programme are framed by the institutional procedures to ensure quality assurance, namely academic ethics and deontology, enshrined in the SNSPA Charter and the Code of Ethics, and supervised and ensured by the Quality assessment Committee and the Ethics Committee. These general institutional principles are converted into more specific guidelines, in the Institutional Development Plan and the Strategic Plan for Quality Assessment and Assurance, which defines executive actions and tools for the ethics and quality policies. The implementation principles of this framework is checked by annual supervision and reports that are published online.
At the level of the Faculty of Political Science there are specific bodies to apply the general guidelines and processes. The application and functioning of the PhD programme curriculum is carried out according to these principles, and to the interest of students.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The SNSPA does have institutional regulations governing the quality assurance of its procedures, and it assigns specific governing bodies responsibility for their implementation, namely the annual monitoring of the process. However, doubts remain regarding the consequences of this monitoring process. The self-assessment report states that the annual quality assurance monitoring report is published; however, no evidence of this publication was found. There is also no structured commitment to following up on the report's conclusions when improvements are recommended. Publishing the report could strengthen accountability and, in turn, reinforce the governing bodies' commitment to addressing its recommendations. The faculty does have a set of guidelines for the use of AI, although it would be useful to include general principles in the Code of Ethics of the University.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The Faculty of Political Science has a system for collection of opinions for improvement purposes on curriculum, syllabus and course description. Anonymous student's feedback is collected, and issues are discussed between colleagues and at the levels of departments, besides annual meetings with students. The teaching staff evaluation starts with a self-assessment report, and relies on several performance indicators, such as research and publishing, teaching, fund raising, and institutional management. The report is then checked by a peer and included in a final report of the Doctoral school, together with the evaluation of the teaching staff by students. PhD students complete an evaluation form of courses each semester. Both dimensions are considered in the final step of the evaluation of the teaching staff and the doctoral school, made by CEAC SNSPA.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The HEI has an established process for representing and consulting the different parts of the academic community. Professors feel heard in this process and value the University's decentralised governance structure. Students provide feedback on the taught component of the programme through course surveys, however, no

structured procedure exists for collecting their feedback on the programme's overall functioning from the first year onward — this should be addressed, as this could be a valuable input for improving the PhD programme.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The University Ethics Committee operates on the basis of a Regulation on Organisation and Functioning approved by the University Senate, (Regulamentul-de-functionare-si-organizare-a-Comisiei-de-Etica_SNSPA.pdf) a public document accessible on the institution's website. The Committee carries out its activities independently of any other structure or person within the university, in compliance with legal provisions. There is also a Code of Ethics, a document included in the SNSPA Charter, which also refers to the Ethics Committee.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The SNSPA Ethics Committee carried out its activities independently of any university structure, in compliance with internal legal provisions, namely the SNSPS Charter and specifically on the basis of the regulation on Organisation and Functioning approved by the University Senate.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The review of the doctoral programme is framed by the rules stated in the Regulation on the Initiation, monitoring, and periodic review of study programmes and fields of study, setting out the processes and stages for periodic evaluation. The procedure intersects the permanent activities of planning and monitoring, which includes the assessment of the studies programme according to different indicators, like learning goals set, stakeholders' expectations, academic efficiency, etc.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The PhD programme proves to have and follow internal mechanisms to apply institutional procedures and proceed with periodical reviews, considering the quality assurance guidelines.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The HEI has a process for involving community stakeholders in the review and implementation of internal procedures and policies. This mainly comprises members of the internal academic community: teaching staff, consulted through department meetings; students, through feedback questionnaires and annual meetings with the faculty; and representation on the CEAC SNSPA and the Ethics Committee. Dossiers are then prepared at the level of each field of study and submitted for approval, first by the CSUD, then by the CA Board of Directors, and finally by the SNSPA Senate.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts,

Students and professors are satisfied with the process for collecting suggestions and feedback on the definition, implementation, and review of procedures within the HEI and the PhD programme. However, we noted in the interviews that external stakeholders, such as employers, are not formally consulted in this process. While acknowledging that they are not formal members of the academic community, establishing a forum or channel to collect their input could be valuable, as their insights may be pertinent to the revision of the PhD programme.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts.

SNSPA has institutional procedures in place for the periodic evaluation of teaching staff by students. Student evaluations are conducted on a biannual basis, in accordance with the institutional framework for monitoring and improving the quality of teaching and learning activities.
The evaluation process collects students' feedback on relevant aspects of teaching activities, including the organisation and delivery of courses, the clarity and accessibility of teaching, the interaction between teachers and students, and other dimensions relevant to the quality of the educational process.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts.

The biannual nature of the evaluation provides a sufficiently regular basis for identifying changes in performance and for following up on issues raised by students. The systematic collection of student feedback also contributes to ensuring that students are involved in the internal quality assurance process.
As mentioned in the meeting with the management of the faculty, the evaluation results are used by academic management and the relevant quality assurance structures to identify strengths and areas requiring improvement. The process therefore contributes to the broader institutional objective of improving the quality of staff activities.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

SNSPA has institutional mechanisms in place for the collection, management and use of data required to support its internal quality assurance processes. Data are collected through the relevant administrative and academic structures and include information related to teaching and learning activities, research, student performance, student and staff evaluations, as well as other areas relevant to monitoring and improving institutional quality.

Information concerning students, study programmes, teaching activities, academic results and other relevant dimensions of institutional activity is managed through institutional information systems and databases. These provide the information required for institutional monitoring, reporting and decision-making in the field of quality assurance.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The analysis of the documents and information available indicates that the indicator is fulfilled. SNSPA has mechanisms and instruments for systematically collecting and analysing relevant data in support of its internal quality assurance processes, but an efficient database to track PhD students and their academic performance and academic status is needed.
A positive aspect is that the data collected are not used solely for administrative purposes but also support the monitoring and evaluation of academic activities and the decision-making processes related to quality assurance. The allocation of responsibilities for data collection, processing and reporting contributes to the systematic character of the process.

✔ Recommendations

Implementing an efficient database to track PhD students and their academic performance and academic status.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

Public information is communicated by the Communication and Media Directorate via the SNSPA website, where there is a dedicated section – Buletin informativ privind informațiile publice -which includes documents that must be disclosed ex officio, in accordance with legal provisions, such as the budget, balance sheet and other information of public interest.
Relevant news is also published via the website, including information on events, admissions, etc. (Info SNSPA). The SNSPA website contains a section dedicated to the Doctoral School: Școala Doctorală SNSPA – Studii doctorale la Școala Națională de Studii Politice și Administrative din București, providing information both in Romanian and English. It includes the institutional regulations on the organisation and conduct of doctoral studies, as well as a whole range of specific information on enrolment in doctoral studies, the conduct

of doctoral studies/research, and the public defence of the doctoral thesis etc. There is also a Facebook page for the Doctoral School, where relevant information is posted.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The institution provides access to information of public interest regarding the evaluated study programme. The communication mechanisms used ensure an adequate level of transparency and accessibility of information of public interest. Institutional websites and social media channels contribute to the effective and up-to-date provision of information to students and other stakeholders.

✔ Recommendations:

SNSPA should ensure the systematic and timely publication on its website of the annual Internal Evaluation Report on the Quality of Education, as required by Article 228(1)(b) of Law no. 199/2023 and Article 9(3) of the Methodology for the External Evaluation of the Quality of Education in Higher Education (Government Decision no. 962/2024), as well as of the annual budget execution, in accordance with Article 149(8) of Law no. 199/2023. This would strengthen institutional transparency and facilitate public access to relevant information on quality assurance and the management of public resources.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator I.P.C.6.1.2	The organisational component ensures transparent decision-making processes.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The transparency of decision-making processes is ensured through the application of institutional procedures at all decisional levels. Meetings are organized on the basis of an agenda communicated in advance via electronic means, and the decisions adopted are subsequently communicated centrally. This practice ensures the predictability of the decision-making process and access for members of the academic community to relevant information.
At the level of the Doctoral School, the activities of the CSUD are recorded in resolutions which are subsequently submitted to the Board of Directors and the Senate.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The evidence reviewed indicates that SNSPA has established formal mechanisms supporting transparency and predictability in institutional decision-making. The prior communication of meeting agendas and the formal recording and transmission of decisions provide an identifiable framework for the functioning of the decision-making process.
However, transparency also requires timely and systematic public access to the decisions adopted by the relevant governing bodies. In this respect, the publication of decisions and resolutions on the institutional website should be applied consistently, in accordance with the applicable legal and institutional framework.
Overall, the organisational component has established procedures that support transparent decision-making. Further strengthening the systematic publication of decisions adopted by governing bodies would improve the accessibility and visibility of institutional decision-making for students, staff and other stakeholders.

✔ Recommendations:

SNSPA should ensure the systematic and timely publication on its website of the decisions and resolutions adopted by its governing bodies, including the Senate and Council for doctoral studies, in accordance with Article 131 (13) of Law no. 199/2023.

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.

✔ Presentation of the state of facts

The last evaluation of the doctoral programme in Political Science took place in 2021. ARACIS Council Decision No. 93/25.11.2021 was to maintain accreditation. Based on the analysis of standards and performance indicators, during the external evaluation visit carried out by ARACIS experts in 2021, all 35 indicators were deemed to have been met.

✔ Analysis of the state of facts

The deadline for submitting the REI DSUD Political Science for the periodic evaluation was respected, according to the recommendation of the *Guide for conducting the external evaluation procedures of the DSUD.* This means that SNSPA carried out the procedures pertaining to the external quality evaluation process in a timely manner.

The indicator is: fulfilled

IV. SWOT Analysis

Strengths:		**Weaknesses:**
✔ Good geographic position, close to the major governmental and political institutions. Advantage for Political Science education and research purposes. ✔ Diversity of the research topics and the multidisciplinary approach. ✔ Good number of opportunities for internationalization as a result of being a part of CIVICA Alliance ✔ Existence of journals in the Political Science field, providing possibilities for phd students to publish thesis. ✔ Great number of Erasmus+	**INTERNAL FACTORS**	✔ inexistence of institutional infrastructure for science management to support professors' and researchers' applications. ✔ Relatively high rate of drop-out in the last 5 years ✔ Moderate adaptability to new technologies and Artificial Intelligence. ✔ There is no efficient database to track PhD students and their academic progress

opportunities offered		
SWOT analysis		
Opportunities: ✔ Possibility to include members from the CIVICA Alliance in the supervision and examination committee ✔ Developing transversal competences gained by taking part in research projects such as Horizon	**EXTERNAL FACTORS**	**Threats:** ✔ Research activities are highly dependent on research grants without specific governmental support ✔ Low level of funding for research activities at national level ✔ Demographic decline may affect the number of students

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	F	Better advertise and inform PHD students about the possibility to access the accommodation support by the HEI

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
	venues are also provided for activities of the staff. Such venues are adequately equipped.		
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.	PF	-The necessity to balance the number of PhD students enrolled by each supervisor in order to avoid the overload of supervision activity and to ensure a high-quality instructional process and academic guidance. -The necessity to comply with legal provisions in force regarding a number of 8 (to a maximum of 12 students with the University Senate approval) supervised by a professor.
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			
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	F	

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
	ensures implementation of the student-centred learning in the curriculum and through the teaching strategies used in the learning and teaching activities and experiences.		
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	The necessity to ease the access for statistical and qualitative analysis software licences which are available now only on university computers
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	The necessity to update the Guide for drafting the doctoral thesis with instruction on how to use AI and LLM.
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	F	The University should create an internal office for science

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
	supporting mobility of the members of its own community and collaboration in academic and research activities.		management, to support teaching staff in identifying relevant calls and conduct the administrative process of applying to European and other international grants.
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	
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	Implementing an efficient database to track PhD students and their academic performance and academic status.
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	SNSPA should ensure the systematic and timely publication on its website of the annual Internal Evaluation Report on the Quality of Education,

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
			as required by Article 228(1)(b) of Law no. 199/2023 and Article 9(3) of the Methodology for the External Evaluation of the Quality of Education in Higher Education (Government Decision no. 962/2024), as well as of the annual budget execution, in accordance with Article 149(8) of Law no. 199/2023. This would strengthen institutional transparency and facilitate public access to relevant information on quality assurance and the management of public resources.
31.	**I.P.C.6.1.2** The organisational component ensures transparent decision-making processes.	F	SNSPA should ensure the systematic and timely publication on its website of the decisions and resolutions adopted by its governing bodies, including the Senate and Council for doctoral studies, in accordance with Article 12(13) of Law no. 199/2023.
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	7	1	0
Domain B. Educational efficacy	14	0	0
Domain C. Quality management	10	0	0
Total	31	1	0

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

Establish a PhD student forum in which final-year students can share their experiences with students of other years, and all are encouraged to support one another, fostering a shared sense of scientific community

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

VI. Conclusions

Based on the analysis of the Self-Evaluation Report (REI), supporting documents, and the on-site evaluation visit to the Multidisciplinary Doctoral School within the National School of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA), the ARACIS external evaluation panel unanimously recommended **maintaining accreditation** for the Political Science Doctoral Study Domain. The decision rests on 31 performance indicators being assessed as fulfilled and 1 as partially fulfilled. Collectively, the evaluation results substantiate that the Political Science Doctoral Studies Domain at SNSPA possesses an appropriate institutional capacity to provide advanced doctoral education in the field of Political Science.

*Following the completion of the accreditation[3]/maintaining accreditation procedure, the decision of the evaluation panel is:***maintaining accreditation** (MAC)

VII. Annexes

Enclose the schedule of the on-site visit, the list of the documents reviewed, as well as any other documents that are relevant for the evaluation procedure, which are referred to in the EER and cannot be accessed through links.

Interval orar	**Activitate**	**Participanți**	**Locație/Listă participanți**
Ziua 1, 15 septembrie			
09:30-10:00	Discuții tehnice în cadrul comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS	Sala 428, etajul 4, Bd. Expoziției 30A
10:00-10:40	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu **reprezentanții conducerii componentei organizatorice**	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS - Reprezentanți ai conducerii componentei organizatorice aferente domeniului de studii de doctorat evaluat - Persoana de contact	Sala 428 Lista persoanelor care au participat la întâlnire: - directorul CSUD SNSPA - director interimar DRIIE - prodecan FSP - director DRIIE (suspendat)
10:40-11:20	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți evaluatori în evaluarea externă a calității cu **echipa care a realizat raportul de evaluare internă (REI)**	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS - Echipa care a realizat REI	Sala 428 Lista persoanelor care au participat la întâlnire: Echipa care a realizat REI (3 cadre didactice)
11:20-12:15	Vizitarea bazei materiale	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS - Reprezentanți ai instituției sau Academiei Române, după caz	

[3] When the external quality evaluation for accreditation is performed with undergoing the procedure for obtaining a provisional authorisation to operate.

Interval orar	Activitate	Participanți	Locație/Listă participanți
12:15-13:15	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu **responsabilii centrelor/laboratoarelor de cercetare**	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS -Responsabilii centrelor/laboratoarelor de cercetare	Sala 428 5 responsabili ai centrelor/ laboratoarelor de cercetare
13:15-15:00	Pauză de prânz		
15:00-16:00	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu **studenți doctoranzi** din cadrul DSUD	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS - Studenți doctoranzi	Sala 428, sala 7 online (format hibrid) Lista persoanelor care au participat la întâlnire: 9 studenți doctoranzi
16:00-17:00	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu **angajatori** ai absolvenților DSUD	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS - Angajatori	Sala 428, sala 6 Lista persoanelor care au participat la întâlnire (online): - 6 reprezentanți ai angajatorilor
Ziua 2, 16 septembrie			
9:00 - 9:30	**Întâlnirea tehnică** a comisiei de experți evaluatori (Activitate în colaborare pentru clarificarea aspectelor prezentate în REI)	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS	Sala 716, etajul 7
9.30-10.30	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu **personalul didactic** (DRIIE) implicat în activitățile din cadrul DSUD	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS - Cadre didactice conducători de doctorat ai domeniului Științe Politice	Sala 428 Lista persoanelor care vor participa la întâlnire: - Cadre didactice conducători de doctorat ai domeniului Științe Politice de la Departamentul de Relații Internaționale și Integrare Europeană (DRIIE)
10:30 - 11:10	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu **reprezentanți ai CEAC/reprezentanți ai structurilor organizatorice în domeniul asigurării calității**[4]	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS - Reprezentanți ai CEAC / reprezentanți ai structurilor organizatorice în domeniul asigurării calității - Persoana de contact	Sala 716 Lista persoanelor care au participat la întâlnire: 4 reprezentanți ai CEAC
11.10-12.00	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu **personalul didactic** (Științe Politice) implicat în	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS - Cadre didactice conducători de doctorat ai domeniului Științe	Sala 716 Lista persoanelor care au participat la întâlnire: 5 cadre didactice conducători de

[4] Clarificarea unor aspecte rezultate din activitățile și discuțiile desfășurate pe parcursul efectuării vizitei, dacă se impune

Interval orar	**Activitate**	**Participanți**	**Locație/Listă participanți**
	activitățile din cadrul DSUD	Politice	doctorat ai domeniului Științe Politice de la Facultatea de Științe Politice (FSP)
12:00 - 13:00	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu **absolvenți**[5] ai DSUD	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS -Absolvenți ai domeniului de studii evaluat	Sala 716, online sala 7 Lista persoanelor care au participat la întâlnire: 8 absolvenți ai domeniului de studii evaluat
13:00 - 13:30	Întâlnirea comisiei de experți în evaluarea externă a calității cu membri ai **Comisiei de etică universitară**	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS - Membri ai Comisiei de etică universitară	Sala 716 Lista persoanelor care au participat la întâlnire: 2 membri ai Comisiei de etică universitară
13:30- 14:30	Pauză de prânz		
14:30 - 15:00	Finalizarea activităților de evaluare	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS	Sala 716
15:00- 15:30-	Întâlnirea membrilor comisiei de experți evaluatori cu reprezentanții conducerii IÎS sau a OFE, după caz și ai conducerii componentei organizatorice pentru comunicarea concluziilor procesului de evaluare	- Comisia de experți evaluatori ai ARACIS - Reprezentanți ai conducerii și ai domeniului de studii evaluat - Persoana de contact	Sala 716 Lista persoanelor care au participat la întâlnire: 3 reprezentanți ai conducerii și ai domeniului de studii evaluat

[5] Se va evita invitarea absolvenților care sunt angajați ai IÎS sau ai OFE, după caz.