



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



Agjencia e Kosovës për Akreditim
Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju
Kosovo Accreditation Agency

***Rinvest
Design BA***

ACCREDITATION

REPORT OF THE EXPERT TEAM

16.4.2021., Zagreb



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



Agjencia e Kosovës për Akreditim
Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju
Kosovo Accreditation Agency

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	2
1. INTRODUCTION	3
1.1. Context.....	3
1.2. Site visit schedule	4
1.3. A brief overview of the institution and program under evaluation	6
2. PROGRAM EVALUATION	7
2.1. Mission, objectives and administration.....	7
2.2. Quality management	9
2.3. Academic staff	12
2.4. Educational process content.....	15
2.5. Students.....	19
2.6. Research.....	22
2.7. Infrastructure and resources	25
3. OVERALL EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE ET	28



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Context

Date of site visit: 31th of March 2021

Expert Team (ET) members:

- *Prof. Dr. Diana Milcic – University of Zagreb Faculty of Graphic Arts*

Coordinators from Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA):

- *Naim Gashi, Executive Director of KAA*
- *Shkelzen Gerxhaliu, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Monitoring*
- *Arianit Krasniqi, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Accreditation*
- *Leona Kovaci, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Monitoring*
- *Ilirjane Ademaj, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Monitoring*

Sources of information for the Report:

a) *Received documents (English)*

- *Self-evaluation report, Program evaluation Design, BA*
- *Staff CVs (English or Albanian)*
- *Riinvest College_Programme Committee Meeting Minutes*
- *QA Annual Report_Example*
- *Riinvest College_Meeting with Academic Council*
- *Video “Design”*

b) *Documents available on the website in English*

- *Code of Ethics and Conduct*
- *Equality Policies and Procedures*
- *Regulation on Quality Assurance*
- *Riinvest College Strategic Plan*
- *Statui Riinvest*
- *Student Regulation BA BSc*



Criteria used for program evaluation:

- *Kosovo Accreditation Agency, Accreditation manual, July 2018*
- *Kosovo Accreditation Agency, The manual for external evaluation of higher education institutions, February 2021*

1.2. Site visit schedule

Expert Team

- Prof. Dr. Diana Milčić – University of Zagreb Faculty of Graphic Arts

Coordinators of KAA

- Naim Gashi, Executive Director of KAA
- Shkelzen Gerxhaliu, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Monitoring
- Arianit Krasniqi, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Accreditation
- Leona Kovaci, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Monitoring
- Ilirjane Ademaj, Senior Officer for Evaluation and Monitoring

Site Visit Program

No slide presentation is allowed, the meeting is intended as a free discussion and this applies for each sessions.

09.00 – 09.40 Meeting with the management of the faculty where the programme is integrated– Joint session



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



Agjencia e Kosovës për Akreditim
Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju
Kosovo Accreditation Agency

-
- 09.45 – 10:30** Meeting with quality assurance representatives and administrative staff - Joint session
- 10:30 – 11:15** Lunch break
- 11:15 – 12:15** Meeting with the heads of the study programme
Design, BA - Separate session
- 12:20 – 13:00** Meeting with teaching staff – Separate session
- 13:05 – 13:45** Meeting with employers of graduates and external stakeholders – Separate session
- 13.50 – 14:00** Internal meeting of KAA staff and experts – Joint session
- 14:00 – 14:10** Closing meeting with the management of the faculty and program – Joint session

No	Study programs	Experts	Responsible persons of the program
1	Design, BA (Accreditation)	Diana Milčić	Yll Rugova Albana Muja Astrit Desku Zana Nixha Besa Rugova



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



Agjencia e Kosovës për Akreditim
Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju
Kosovo Accreditation Agency

1.3. A brief overview of the institution and program under evaluation

Riinvest was established and licensed in June 2007 following traditions of Riinvest Institute and its mission to promote modern economic development of Kosovo based on a philosophy of entrepreneurship.

Riinvest Institute provided a sound base for the launch of a university college that will add value to higher education in Kosovo, especially through focusing on business, entrepreneurship, management, finance, and ICT education. The Riinvest offers study programs at the BA and MA levels. Since 2009, Riinvest was validated to offer franchise programs in the business area at the BA and MBA level of Staffordshire University.

The leadership at Riinvest consists and share responsibilities between the Board, the Academic Council, and the Academic Management (Administrative-Operational and Financial).

For academic matters there are two levels: managerial level and College members' level within the Academic Council and program committees. The Academic Council is a body chosen by Riinvest's members. Academic Council members consist of: Academic Leaders at managerial level (Academic Director, Heads of Departments / Programs), representatives elected from the program councils, elected representatives of the administration, elected student representatives. The program committee consists of all the teachers in the program, the program administration and two representative students.

The vision of Riinvest is "to become a benchmark University in the region that offers programmes globally recognized for quality, development, and personalized educational services in Albanian and English in Economics, Business, ICT and governance."

The mission of Riinvest College is to provide high quality studies and research that develop experts for the benefit of Kosovo's development needs, with the capacity to compete globally.

Riinvest is approved by University of London and by London School of Economics to deliver programmes:

- *BSc Data Science and Business Analytics*
- *BSc Management and Digital Innovation*
- *BSc Economics and Politics.*

The new study program Design is not included in Riinvest's vision that is publicly available on the website.



2. PROGRAM EVALUATION

2.1. Mission, objectives and administration

No evidence-based information was provided in the SER (self-evaluation rapport) which would prove the consistency of the program with the National Qualifications Framework and the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area. Furthermore, during the site visit no explicit formulations which would connect the intended learning outcomes of the program to specific level descriptors relevant to the program were provided.

The SER contains very general statements on didactical approaches and research activities. Quite often the statements are rather abstract or normative without providing any information on their practical implementation in the study program. Additional information on implementation of the important concept such as student-centred learning was not given.

Based on the statements in the SER, the available documentation, and information provided during meetings with the management of Riinvest and professors in the site visit it can be concluded that there are formal policies, guidelines and regulations dealing with recurring procedural or academic issues. Therefore, it can be assumed that program topics related to administration and quality assurance of the program as well as the interaction between teachers and students and rights and duties of all stakeholders are well developed and well-known

Based on the SER, it is impossible to determine whether all policies, regulations, terms of reference and statements of responsibility relating to the management and delivery of the program are reviewed at least once every two years and amended as required due to the changing circumstances.

Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 1.1. The study program mission is in compliance with the overall mission statement of the institution.	X	



Standard 1.2. Relevant academic and professional advice is considered when defining the intended learning outcomes which are consistent with the National Qualifications Framework and the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area.		X
Standard 1.3. The study program has a well-defined overarching didactic and research concept		X
Standard 1.4. There are formal policies, guidelines and regulations dealing with recurring procedural or academic issues. These are made publicly available to all staff and students	X	
Standard 1.5. All staff and students comply with the internal regulations relating to ethical conduct in research, teaching, assessment in all academic and administrative activities.	X	
Standard 1.6. All policies, regulations, terms of reference and statements of responsibility relating to the management and delivery of the program are reviewed at least once every two years and amended as required in the light of changing circumstances.		X

Compliance level: ~~Fully compliant/Substantially compliant/~~ **Partially compliant** /~~Non-compliant~~

ET recommendations:

- 1. The program mission should clearly define the intended learning outcomes which are consistent with the National Qualifications Framework and the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area.*
- 2. The study program should be revised in the didactic and research concept by applying modern teaching practices (e.g. coherent concept of student centred teaching and learning) integrating research at the program level and enhancing the linkages between teaching and research.*
- 3. All policies, regulations, terms of reference and statements of responsibility relating to the management and delivery of the program should be reviewed at least once every two years.*



2.2. Quality management

The SER contains a description of quality management at the Riinvest and which instruments it contains. The Faculty has designated Quality Assurance Officer and Quality Assurance Sub-Committee that work in conjunction with RIINVEST Quality Assurance Committee and Quality Manager. The Faculty Quality Assurance Sub-Committee is composed of three members and includes a teaching staff representative, an administrative staff representative and a student representative.

It was stated in the SER " The Faculty approach to improvement is based on a continuous responsive process that seeks to improve the outcomes..." but real evidence that evaluation and planning for improvement processes are integrated into the normal planning process is shown in "Regulation on Quality Assurance", January 2019.

The quality assurance processes at the Riinvest are designed to enhance service and programme delivery. They include: review of quality procedures, governance, teaching and research at the Faculty, student admission, progression and graduation, staff selection, recruitment and development, student support services, physical infrastructure and equipment and public information.

From the available documents and the discussions on site, it is clear that the collected data will also be used for continuous development. The corresponding responsibilities have been defined and are carried out by the appropriate persons.

It is not clear whether the results of the survey data, collected from students, graduates and employers, are publicly available. Unfortunately, there are no reports which would indicate how the public or university members are informed about quality development.



Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 2.1. All staff participate in self-evaluations and cooperate with reporting and improvement processes in their sphere of activity	X	
Standard 2.2. Evaluation processes and planning for improvement are integrated into normal planning processes.	X	
Standard 2.3. Quality assurance processes deal with all aspects of program planning and delivery, including services and resources provided by other parts of the institution.	X	
Standard 2.4. Quality evaluations provide an overview of quality issues for the overall program as well as of different components within it; the evaluations consider inputs, processes and outputs, with particular attention given to learning outcomes for students.	X	
Standard 2.5. Quality assurance processes ensure both that required standards are met and that there is continuing improvement in performance.	X	
Standard 2.6. Survey data is being collected from students, graduates and employers; the results of these evaluations are made publicly available.		X
Standard 2.7. Results of the internal quality assurance system are taken into account for further development of the study program. This includes evaluation results, investigation of the student workload, academic success and employment of graduates.	X	
Standard 2.8. The institution ensures that reports on the overall quality of the program are prepared periodically (eg. every three years) for consideration within the institution indicating its strengths and weaknesses.	X	
Standard 2.9. The quality assurance arrangements for the program are themselves regularly evaluated and improved.	X	



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



Agjencia e Kosovës për Akreditim
Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju
Kosovo Accreditation Agency

Compliance level: Fully compliant/ **Substantially compliant** /Partially compliant/Non-compliant

ET recommendations:

- 1. The results of the surveys should be made public i.e. make them available to everyone. The results should be published without names, with only general grades and descriptive statements.*
- 2. Make clear what changes have been brought due to the evaluation results. Ensure students receive feedback on measures implemented based on their comments.*
- 3. Formalize and strengthen employee and student participation in quality assurance and continuous quality improvement.*
- 4. Involve all external stakeholders in the work of Quality Assurance committee*
- 5. Establish internal mechanisms for monitoring the quality of scientific/research or artistic work that will be effectively implemented in practice.*



2.3. Academic staff

According to the tabular presentation of data of the academic staff, a total of 21 academic staff will be engaged in the study program BA Design, all of them will have full-time employment. The data of candidates for employment presented in the table do not cover all the data required by the standard.

The Riinvest website, the "About" section, the "Academic staff" subsection contains the list of academic staff, assuming that they are employees of Riinvest. Unfortunately, this list includes only few, exactly 4, members of academic staff who are planned to be engaged in the study program Design.

According to these data, it is not possible to determine the number of the academic staff planned for the study program Design which are full-time employees of the College. The statement "The staff members assigned in the curricula as Subject Leaders cover nearly 80 percent of the teaching workload. " does not confirm the standard 3.4 request.

Regardless of the statement "The Faculty has met the minimum requirements specified in the Administrative Instruction on Accreditation." the condition is not met. According to the available data, only one person with Master of Computer Science is permanently employed. In addition, it is noticed that academic staff in some subjects had not provided information which enable evaluation of their suitability as lecturers of those subjects

Student's evaluation of the academic staff is conducted regularly each semester. On the other hand, from available data it is not clear whether other evaluations (self-evaluation, peer and superiors' evaluation) are conducted regularly at least once a year. The aim of teaching observations, peer and superiors' evaluations, is to enable academic staff to get feedback from their colleagues, who are trained and experienced teachers, about their teaching performance.



Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 3.1. Candidates for employment are provided with full position descriptions and conditions of employment. To be presented in tabular form data about full time (FT) and part time (PT) academic/ artistic staff, such as: name, qualification, academic title, duration of official (valid) contract, workload for teaching, exams, consulting, administrative activities, research, etc. for the study program under evaluation.		X
Standard 3.2. The teaching staff must comply with the legal requirements concerning the occupation of teaching positions included in the Administrative instruction on Accreditation.	X	
Standard 3.3. Academic staff do not cover, within an academic year, more than two teaching positions (one full-time, one part-time), regardless of the educational institution where they carry out their activity		X
Standard 3.4. At least 50% of the academic staff in the study program are full time employees, and account for at least 50% of the classes of the study program.		X
Standard 3.5. For each student group (defined by the statute of the institution) and for every 60 ECTS credits in the study program, the institution has employed at least one full time staff with PhD title or equivalent title in the case of artistic/applied science institutions.		X
Standard 3.6. Opportunities are provided for additional professional development of teaching staff, with special assistance given to any who are facing difficulties.	X	
Standard 3.7. The responsibilities of all teaching staff, especially full-time, include the engagement in the academic community, availability for consultations with students and community service.	X	



Standard 3.8. Academic staff evaluation is conducted regularly at least through self-evaluation, students, peer and superiors' evaluations, and occur on a formal basis at least once each year. The results of the evaluation are made publicly available.		X
Standard 3.9. Strategies for quality enhancement include improving the teaching strategies and quality of learning materials.	X	
Standard 3.10. Teachers retired at age limit or for other reasons lose the status of full-time teachers and are considered part-time teachers.	X	

Compliance level: Fully compliant/Substantially compliant/ **Partially compliant** /Non-compliant

ET recommendations:

- 1. Continue evaluating and improving the standards of quality of teaching and learning.*
- 2. Implement self-evaluation, peer and superiors' evaluations for the teachers.*
- 3. The results of the conducted surveys should be publicly available as a complete presentation without specifying names.*
- 4. It is necessary to have adequate number of concluded employment contracts with academic staff in specific areas.*
- 5. Improve academic staff data to prove their suitability in a proposed course.*



2.4. Educational process content

The study program should harmonize and integrate the artistic and creative requirements with the academic need for a professional designer. Furthermore, it should show a range of qualifications required to work as a designer in local or regional companies, or professional firms.

The learning outcomes of the study program are not presented in the available documents. The intended learning outcomes of the study program should align with the requirements of the profession and internationally recognized professional standards. Furthermore, they should be clear and transparent and aligned with the mission and strategic goals of the higher education institution. The learning outcomes of the study program should be connected to the learning outcomes of each individual subject. It is necessary to define the learning outcomes of the study program first, and according to them align and define the learning outcomes of each individual subject.

The full course description within the curriculum has analytical syllabuses which comprise all necessary data but the syllabi provided reveal uneven quality levels of course descriptions. This could be improved by making template with clear and explicit explanation of what the course description has to contain.

Some of course descriptions are developed in a very traditional way,, emphasizing mainly the provision of knowledge, e.g. Fashion Illustration, Introduction to Pattern Making and Garments. The minority of syllabi is characterized by using active verbs for defining learning outcomes at the course level. An example of good practice of written learning outcomes is the course Fabric Manipulation Techniques.

Some subject's descriptions are not corresponding with learning outcomes and include knowledge from different areas which are not connected in a logical way. e.g. Design Method and Instruments.

A well-written learning outcome will focus on how the student will be able to apply their new knowledge in a real-world context. Therefore, student learning outcomes should state what students are expected to know or be able to do upon completion of a course or program. At both the course and program level, student learning outcomes should be clear, observable and



measurable, and reflect what will be included in the course or program requirements. For this reason, it is necessary to reformulate the learning outcomes, for example: "Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to: The students work on an project, based on which several they will discuss theoretical and methodological design issues. The project work is done in group of 2-5 students, and the outcome is presented to the class.". Learning outcomes should start with an active verb and must be measurable.

The curriculum should be aligned with the student workload and the corresponding ECTS. According to some course descriptions, it can be assumed that the student workload is not adequately assessed e.g. Design Technology.

The study program in the last semester has only 29ECTS.

The used teaching method, is an interactive method, student-centred, where the student conducts seminars, various projects for different subjects, as well as field research required for this level of study.

An impression was gained, from the presented information, that there is complete lack of e-learning and online teaching as key elements of a modern teaching strategy.

It is foreseen that appropriate, valid, and reliable mechanisms will be used for verifying standards of student achievement.

Available documentation provides no evidence that the policies and procedures include actions to deal with issues where standards of student achievement are inadequate or inconsistently assessed.

Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 4.1. <i>The study program is modelled on qualification objectives. These include subject-related and interdisciplinary aspects as well as the acquisition of disciplinary, methodological and generic skills and competencies. The aspects refer especially to academic or artistic competencies, to the capability of taking up adequate employment, contributing to the civil society and of developing the students' personality.</i>		X



<p>Standard 4.2. <i>The study program complies with the National Qualifications Framework and the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area. The individual components of the program are combined in a way to best achieve the specified qualification objectives and provide for adequate forms of teaching and learning.</i></p>		X
<p>Standard 4.3. <i>The disciplines within the curriculum are provided in a logical flow and meet the definition and precise determination of the general and specific competencies, as well as the compatibility with the study programs and curricula delivered in the EHEA. To be listed at least 7 learning outcomes for the study program under evaluation.</i></p>		X
<p>Standard 4.4. <i>The disciplines within the curriculum have analytical syllabuses which comprise at least the following: the discipline's objectives, the basic thematic content, learning outcomes, the distribution of classes, seminars and applicative activities, students' assessment system, the minimal bibliography, etc. The full course description/ syllabuses of each subject/ module should be attached only in electronic form to the self-assessment report for the study program underevaluation.</i></p>		X
<p>Standard 4.5. <i>If the language of instruction is other than Albanian, actions are taken to ensure that language skills of both students and academic staff are adequate for instruction in that language when students begin their studies. This may be done through language training prior to the commencement of the program.</i></p>	n/a	
<p>Standard 4.6. <i>The student-teacher relationship is a partnership in which each assumes the responsibility of reaching the learning outcomes. Learning outcomes are explained and discussed with students from the perspective of their relevance to the students' development.</i></p>	X	
<p>Standard 4.7. <i>Teaching strategies are fit for the different types of learning outcomes programs are intended to develop. Strategies of teaching and assessment set out in program and course specifications are followed with flexibility to meet the needs of different groups of students.</i></p>	X	
<p>Standard 4.8. <i>Student assessment mechanisms are conducted fairly and objectively, are appropriate for the different forms of learning sought and are clearly communicated to students at the beginning of courses.</i></p>	X	



<i>Standard 4.9. Appropriate, valid and reliable mechanisms are used for verifying standards of student achievement. The standard of work required for different grades is consistent over time, comparable in courses offered within a program, and in comparison with other study programs at highly regarded institutions.</i>	X	
<i>Standard 4.10. Policies and procedures include actions to be taken in to dealing with situations where standards of student achievement are inadequate or inconsistently assessed.</i>		X
<i>Standard 4.11. If the study program includes practice stages, the intended student learning outcomes are clearly specified and effective processes are followed to ensure that those learning outcomes and the strategies to develop that learning are understood by students. The practice stages are allocated ETCS credits and the work of the students at the practical training organisations is monitored through activity reports; students during practice stages have assigned tutors among the academic staff in the study program.</i>	n/a	
<i>Standard 4.12. In order to facilitate the practice stages, the higher education institution signs cooperation agreements, contracts or other documents with institutions/organisations/practical training units.</i>	n/a	

Compliance level: ~~Fully compliant/Substantially compliant/~~ **Partially compliant** / Non-compliant

ET recommendations:

- 1. It is necessary to define learning outcomes of the study program which should be aligned with the mission and strategic goals of the Riinvest College.*
- 2. Review all courses regarding a consistent, state of the art use of taxonomies and active verbs for defining learning outcomes.*
- 3. Establish clear policies and procedures which will include actions to be taken when dealing with situations where standards of student achievement are inadequate or inconsistently assessed. Define the procedures when a student complains about the obtained grade.*



2.5. Students

Since this is an accreditation procedure, made and presented judgments in relation to student issues were created on the basis of available documentation and panel discussions.

The Riinvest College has a clear and formally adopted admission procedure at institutional level which the study program complies when organizing students' recruitment. According to the documentation admission requirements are consistently and fairly applied on all students. The College has defined appropriate admission criteria for applicants and published them publicly.

From the available documents, it was not possible to determine whether there is an adequate check for plagiarism in submitted student's work or final papers.

All rights and obligations of students are publicly available and regulated by the Statute of the Riinvest College and Regulation on Bachelor Studies.

The procedure of the students' transfer between higher education institutions, faculties, and study programs is explained in the SER. Notwithstanding, it is not clear whether the students' transfer between higher education institutions, faculties and study programs is regulated in formal internal documents.

According to the available documents and after the panel discussions, it can also be stated that the lecturers are accessible to the students and can be approached for problems.

Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 5.1. <i>There is a clear and formally adopted admission procedure at institutional level that the study program respects when organizing students' recruitment. Admission requirements are consistently and fairly applied for all students.</i>	X	



Standard 5.2. <i>All students enrolled in the study program possess a high school graduation diploma or other equivalent document of study, according to MEST requirements.</i>	X	
Standard 5.3. <i>The study groups are dimensioned so as to ensure an effective and interactive teaching and learning process.</i>	X	
Standard 5.4. <i>Feedback to students on their performance and results of assessments is given promptly and accompanied by mechanisms for assistance if needed.</i>	X	
Standard 5.5. <i>The results obtained by the students throughout the study cycles are certified by the academic record.</i>	X	
Standard 5.6. <i>Flexible treatment of students in special situations is ensured with respect to deadlines and formal requirements in the program and to all examinations.</i>	X	
Standard 5.7. <i>Records of student completion rates are kept for all courses and for the program as a whole and included among quality indicators.</i>	X	
Standard 5.8. <i>Effective procedures are being used to ensure that work submitted by students is original.</i>		X
Standard 5.9. <i>Students' rights and obligations are made publicly available, promoted to all those concerned and enforced equitably; these will include the right to academic appeals.</i>	X	
Standard 5.10. <i>The students' transfer between higher education institutions, faculties and study programs is clearly regulated in formal internal documents.</i>		X
Standard 5.11. <i>Academic staff is available at sufficient scheduled times for consultation and advice to students. Adequate tutorial assistance is provided to ensure understanding and ability to apply learning.</i>	X	



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



Agjencia e Kosovës për Akreditim
Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju
Kosovo Accreditation Agency

Compliance level: ~~Fully compliant/~~ **Substantially compliant** /~~Partially compliant/Non-compliant~~

ET recommendations:

- 1. Define and specify regulations of the students' transfer between higher education institution, faculties and study programs. These regulations should be publicly accessible to inform the students from other higher education institutions about the possibility of transfer to your College.*
- 2. Institution should use mechanisms, for example, online plagiarism detection tools to ensure that work submitted by students is original and academically appropriate.*



2.6. Research

Since it is a study program of design, it is expected of academic staff to publish scientific and/or applied research paper, to have exhibition or work on a joint project with colleague and/or students. Academic staff should publish papers and artistic work with inclusion of their affiliation to the Faculty.

According to SER and CV's, the presented results of scientific and artistic work of academic staff are insufficient.

There is no proven existence of policies establishing intellectual property rights and clear procedures set out for commercialization of ideas. As this is important part of the todays design work these have to be developed for staff and students.

Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 6.1. <i>The study program has defined scientific/applied research objectives (on its own or as part of a research centre or interdisciplinary program), which are also reflected in the research development plan of the institution; sufficient financial, logistic and human resources are allocated for achieving the proposed research objectives.</i>	X	
Standard 6.2. <i>Expectations for teaching staff involvement in research and scholarly activities are clearly specified, and performance in relation to these expectations is considered in staff evaluation and promotion criteria.</i>	X	
Standard 6.3. <i>Clear policies are established for defining what is recognized as research, consistent with international standards and established norms in the field of study of the program.</i>	X	
Standard 6.4. <i>The academic staff has a proven track record of research results on the same topics as their teaching activity.</i>		X



<i>Standard 6.5. The academic and research staff publish their work in specialty magazines or publishing houses, scientific/applied/artistic products are presented at conferences, sessions, symposiums, seminars etc. and contracts, expertise, consultancy, conventions, etc. are provided to partners inside the country and/or abroad.</i>		X
<i>Standard 6.6 Research is validated through: scientific and applied research publications, artistic products, technological transfer through consultancy centers, scientific parks and other structures for validation.</i>		X
<i>Standard 6.7. Each academic staff member and researcher has produced at least an average of one scientific/applied research publication or artistic outcome/product per year for the past three years.</i>		X
<i>Standard 6.8. Academic and research staff publish under the name of the institution in Kosovo they are affiliated to as full-time staff.</i>		X
<i>Standard 6.9. Academic staff are encouraged to include in their teaching information about their research and scholarly activities that are relevant to courses they teach, together with other significant research developments in the field. .</i>	X	
<i>Standard 6.10. Policies are established for ownership of intellectual property and clear procedures set out for commercialization of ideas developed by staff and students..</i>		X
<i>Standard 6.11. Students are engaged in research projects and other activities.</i>	X	

Compliance level: ~~Fully compliant/Substantially compliant/~~ **Partially compliant** /~~Non-compliant~~

ET recommendations:

1. *Improve networking with international universities and/or international researchers in the interest fields. Try to establish joint organisation of research conferences.*



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



Agjencia e Kosovës për Akreditim
Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju
Kosovo Accreditation Agency

2. *Stimulate students and researchers to apply for the independent research grants and funds from the external funding, donors and projects.*
3. *Develop policies establishing intellectual property rights and clear procedures set out for commercialization of ideas for staff and students.*
4. *Define higher influence of the published research papers, exhibitions and projects in the career development of the teachers and assistants.*



2.7. Infrastructure and resources

The Riinvest College is located in the Prishtina Campuses where the study program Design should also take place.

As mentioned in the SER, the campus has modern infrastructure and offers good study conditions for students and the organization of the academic teaching process.

The above-mentioned cannot be verified as, the "Video design" shows only design spaces without accompanying facilities as a library, study rooms, etc.

According to the SER, management developed a strategic financial plan, but there is the impression that financial plans at the level of the study program do not demonstrate the sustainability of the study program for a minimum of three years.

The study program is planned to be funded significantly from student tuition fees. The document does not provide information about alternatives in funding if tuition fees will not be sufficient for conducting the study program.

The facilities of the Riinvest College have lecture halls, and laboratories equipped with adequate equipment such as computers, projectors, etc. According to the available data, there is no information about the adequate software required to maintain the study program with utilisation licence.

The number of seats in the lecture rooms and seminar rooms are sufficient for the number of students in groups.

The Riinvest has its own library and reading room, which has enough space for the number of students who are admitted each academic year. However, there is the impression that at present moment, the library does not own a sufficient number of books from the study program field.

At present, there is no evidence that the infrastructure of the Riinvest College is adapted to meet the needs of students with disabilities.



<i>Standard</i>	<i>Compliance</i>	
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Standard 7.1. The adequate long-term implementation of the study program is ensured in quantitative terms as regards premises, human resources and equipment. At the same time, it is guaranteed that qualitative aspects are also taken into account.</i>		X
<i>Standard 7.2. There is a financial plan at the level of the study program that would demonstrate the sustainability of the study program for the next minimum three years.</i>		X
<i>Standard 7.3. The higher education institution must demonstrate with a equate documents (property deeds, lease contracts, inventories, invoices etc.) that, for the study program submitted for evaluation it possesses the following, for the next at least three years:</i> <i>a) owned or rented spaces adequate for the educational process;</i> <i>b) owned or rented laboratories, with the adequate equipment for all the compulsory disciplines within the curriculum, wherever the analytical syllabus includes such activities;</i> <i>c) adequate software for the disciplines of study included in the curriculum, with utilisation licence;</i> <i>d) library equipped with reading rooms, group work rooms and its own book stock according to the disciplines included in the curricula.</i>		X
<i>Standard 7.4. The number of seats in the lecture rooms, seminar rooms and laboratories must be related to the study groups' size (series, groups, subgroups); the applicative activities for the speciality disciplines included in the curricula are carried out in laboratories equipped with IT equipment.</i>	X	



<p>Standard 7.5. <i>Standard 7.5. The education institution's libraries must ensure, for each of the study programs:</i></p> <p>a) <i>a number of seats in the reading rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study program;</i></p> <p>b) <i>a number of seats in the group work rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study program;</i></p> <p>c) <i>their own book stock from Albanian and foreign speciality literature, enough to cover the disciplines within the curricula, out of which at least 50% should represent book titles or speciality courses of recognized publishers, from the last 10 years;</i></p> <p>d) <i>a book stock within its own library with a sufficient number of books so as to cover the needs of all students in the cycle and year of study the respective discipline is provided for;</i></p> <p>e) <i>a sufficient number of subscriptions to Albanian and foreign publications and periodicals, according to the stated mission.</i></p>		X
<p>Standard 7.6. <i>The infrastructure and facilities dedicated to the implementation of the program is adapted to students with special needs.</i></p>		X

Compliance level: ~~Fully compliant/Substantially compliant/Partially compliant/~~ **Non-compliant**

ET recommendations:

1. *Develop of a financial plan at the level of the study program which would demonstrate the sustainability of the study program for the minimum three years.*
2. *Continue to develop the book stock and expand it with magazines and access to research databases from the study program field.*
3. *Encourage translation of the essential literature to the Albanian language.*
4. *Continue to acquire the necessary software in accordance with the requirements of the study program.*
5. *Adapt the rooms in which classes are held to meet the of students with special needs.*



3. OVERALL EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE ET

First of all, the Panel would like to commend the programme development team for their proactive engagement with the Panel during the validation event. The Panel is very pleased with the level of optimism and positive atmosphere among all interviewed groups.

Having considered the documentation provided and discussed it with the programme development team, the Reaccreditation Panel recommends the following:

Standard	Compliance Level
1. Mission, objectives and administration	Partially Compliant
2. Quality management	Substantially Compliant
3. Academic Staff	Partially Compliant
4. Educational Process Content	Partially Compliant
5. Students	Substantially Compliant
6. Research	Partially Compliant
7. Infrastructure and resources	Non- Compliant
Overall Compliance	

*The overall compliance is assessed by the experts at the level of **Non- Compliant**.*

However, the following recommendations need to be considered in relation to programme reaccreditation:

- 1. The self-evaluation report provides a lot of significant information, but to enable proper evaluation, more documents mentioned in the self-report should be attached. Besides the lack of the documents, all attached documents need to be translated into English especially CVs. Without these documents, it is hard to properly evaluate and give recommendations for improvement.*



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



Agjencia e Kosovës për Akreditim
Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju
Kosovo Accreditation Agency

2. *The CVs have to give information about the professional competencies, qualifications and work experience needed for teaching for example exhibition, research/professional papers, artistic achievements. Qualifications and expertise of teachers should prove their suitability for the implementation of the study programme.*
3. *The learning outcomes for the study programme should be defined and aligned with the competencies a student should gain by completing the study programme.*
4. *The defined learning outcomes for the course do not clearly describe the knowledge and skills which students should obtain upon the completion of the study programme. The Panel detected various discrepancies in the formulation of learning outcomes that led it to conclude that the College does not have clear and uniform learning outcomes methodology. It is strongly advised to formulate a precise methodology of defining learning outcomes and apply it.*
5. *The content of each course should be aligned with the respective intended learning outcomes. Besides, ECTS credit allocation should be aligned with the actual student workload needed to fulfil planned activities in a course.*
6. *It would be necessary to further develop and integrate e-learning as a form of teaching strategy and provide online courses that are feasible to specific needs of the students.*

In conclusion, the Expert Team considers that the study program **Design** offered by Riinvest College is **Non-compliant** with the standards included in the *KAA Accreditation manual* and, therefore, recommends **not to accredit** the study program.

Expert Team

Chair

Diana Milčić

16. 4.2021.

(Signature)

(Print Name)

(Date)



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo



Agjencia e Kosovës për Akreditim
Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju
Kosovo Accreditation Agency

Member

(Signature)

(Print Name)

(Date)

Member

(Signature)

(Print Name)

(Date)