



**Republika e Kosovës**  
**Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo**  
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Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju  
Kosovo Accreditation Agency



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**UNIVERSITY OF PRISHTINA “HASAN PRISHTINA”**  
**FACULTY OF LAW**

**LLM in Advanced European Studies**

**REACCREDITATION**

**REPORT OF THE EXPERT TEAM**

*06.06.2023., Prishtina*

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. Context

**Date of site visit: 5 May 2023**

**Expert Team (ET) members:**

- *Dr. Dunja Duic*
- *Asnate Kazoka, Student Expert (online)*

**Coordinators from Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA):**

- *Arianit Krasniqi, KAA Officer*
- *Ilirjana Ademaj Ahmeti, KAA Officer*

**Sources of information for the Report:**

***Information provided with the self-evaluation report:***

- *Self-evaluation report “LLM in Advanced European Studies”*
- *KAA Accreditation Manual*
- *Syllabuses*
- *Staff CVs*

***Additional documents requested by the expert team***

- *A table with student statistics in LLM Advanced European Studies since it was launched (divided by years) – 1) number of applicants; 2) number of admitted students; 3) number of drop-out; 4) number of students who have completed study program; 5) number of students who have completed everything except thesis*
- *A table with general statistics for other study programs at the Faculty of Law for the last three years - 1) number of applicants; 2) number of admitted students; 3) number of graduates*
- *Regulation on size of the student groups at Faculty of Law*
- *"Job description" ( responsibilities) of the program head at the University of Prishtina/ Faculty of Law ( regulation or decision regarding that, if any)*
- *Template for the survey of alumni at the Faculty of Law*
- *All quality assurance reports (on the results of internal quality assurance procedures) that have been produced on the Faculty of Law level or include information on study programs implemented by the faculty – produced since 2020.*
- *Key performance indicators (KPI) for the LLM Advanced European Studies*
- *Composition of the Industrial Advisory Board for the Faculty of Law*
- *Regulation for Master Studies*

- *Table with the workload of the academic staff (divided by different positions) + how many hours per week are the academic staff members supposed to devote to consultations?*
- *Student handbook*
- *Legal documents regulating the transfer of students and statistics on transfer to and from LLM Advanced European Studies, if any (from which institution/program and to which institution/program the transfer took place)*
- *Information on the application of plagiarism tool – for what works is it applied and who does it; Have there been any cases of identified plagiarism at the LLM Advanced European Studies*
- *3 years financial plan*
- *Sample of test in English language for applicants of the program of International Law and Advanced European Studies*
- *Concretization how many students in which concrete way are in participation with research activities concerning the program of Advanced European Studies*
- *Concretization how internships are (if they are) validated with the Advanced European Studies*
- *Vjosa Osmani - publications ( missing from the self-assessment report)*

#### **Criteria used for institutional and program evaluations**

- Standards & performance indicators for external evaluation according to the Accreditation Manual of KAA, July 2018
- Criteria of Relevance, Effectiveness, Impact, Sustainability and International Visibility

## 1.2. Site visit schedule

program Accreditation Procedure at Faculty of Law	
program:	<b>International Law, LLM, 60 ECTS (Re-accreditation)</b> <b>European Advanced Studies, LLM, 60 ECTS (Re-accreditation)</b>
Site visit on (hybrid):	<b>05 May 2023</b>
Expert Team:	Dr. Johannes Falterbaum Dr. Dunja Duic Fatimazahra Javadzade, Student Expert (online) Asnate Kazoka, Student Expert (online)
Coordinators of the KAA:	Arianit Krasniqi, KAA Officer Ilijana Ademaj Ahmeti, KAA Officer

## 2. Site Visit Program

Time	Meeting	Participants
<b>09:00 – 09:45</b>	Meeting with the management of the faculty where the program is integrated	
<b>09:45 – 10:25</b>	Meeting with quality assurance representatives and administrative staff	
<b>10:30 – 11:30</b>	Meeting with the heads of the study program <b>International Law, LLM (room 1)</b>	Dr. Johannes Falterbaum Fatimazahra Javadzade
<b>10:30 – 11:30</b>	Meeting with the heads of the study program <b>European Advanced Studies, LLM (room 2)</b>	Dr. Dunja Duic Asnate Kazoka
<b>11:30 – 12:30</b>	Lunch break	
<b>12:30 – 13:00</b>	Visiting Facilities	
<b>13:00 – 13:45</b>	Meeting with teaching staff	
<b>13:45 – 14:25</b>	Meeting with students	

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<b>14:30 – 15:10</b>	Meeting with graduates	
<b>15:10 – 15:55</b>	Meeting with employers of graduates and external stakeholders	
<b>15:55 – 16:05</b>	Internal meeting of KAA staff and experts	
<b>16:05 – 16:15</b>	Closing meeting with the management of the faculty and program	

### **1.3. A brief overview of the institution under evaluation**

*The Faculty of Law was founded on June 23, 1961 as a higher education institution in Kosovo and was initially called the Faculty of Law and Economics, a name it kept until 1970. From 1971 until today, the Faculty of Law functions as an academic unit within the University of Prishtina (UP). Being the first law faculty in Kosovo, it organized basic studies, master's and doctoral studies. At the Faculty of Law, studies were conducted according to the four-year system. Postgraduate studies were opened in 1974/75, initially in the Administrative-Political section and in the Legal-Civil section, and from the academic year 1984/85 also in the Legal-Penal section. Despite facing various challenges, the Faculty of Law holds the distinction of being the first institution in Kosovo's higher education system to provide legal education and train lawyers. Aligned with the University of Prishtina's other faculties, the Faculty of Law has undertaken a diligent and ongoing effort to reform its educational practices in accordance with the highest standards of higher education found in Europe and internationally. This commitment reflects a dedicated approach to continuous improvement in line with advanced educational benchmarks.*

*Currently, the Faculty of Law boasts an active student body of more than 4399 individuals enrolled across all academic levels, including Bachelor's, Master's, and PhD programs. As an integral part of the University of Prishtina, the Faculty of Law operates as a public institution of higher education. It is responsible for organizing and advancing undergraduate, postgraduate (master's), and doctoral studies (PhD).*

*The Faculty of Law offers a diverse range of programs. Apart from the bachelor's program in Law, leading to a Graduated Lawyer degree, it also provides Master's programs in various fields such as Criminal, Civil and Property Law, Constitutional-Administrative Law, Financial Law, International Law, Contract Law, Commercial Law. Upon completion of these programs, students are awarded a Master's degree (LL.M.). Additionally, starting from 2021, the Faculty of Law introduced a Master's program in "Advanced European Studies," which is conducted in the English language.*

*Furthermore, the Faculty of Law provides a Doctorate program in Law, specializing in Constitutional-Administrative Law, Criminal Law, Civil Law, Financial Law, and International Law. Upon successful completion of these programs, students are conferred with the prestigious academic degree of Doctor of Legal Sciences (Dr.sc) in their respective field.*

## 2. PROGRAM EVALUATION

### 2.1. Mission, Objectives and Administration

*The Master's programs "International Law" and "Advanced European Studies" are very similar in their orientation, which is why the discussions and evaluation for the evaluation related to Mission, Objectives and Administration could be conducted together.*

*The Master's Programs "International Law" and "Advanced European Studies" operate within the Faculty of Law whose mission is to prepare professional and scientific staff to support social, political and economic development in the Republic of Kosovo as the youngest country in Europe and which needs to extraordinary to support this development. In particular, the Republic of Kosovo has a great need for professional and scientific support for staff who contributes in the integration of the country in international system. In its strategic policies, Kosovo aims to integrate as soon as possible in international organizations such as the United Nations, the European Union, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and European Cooperation, as well as in other regional and global cooperative mechanisms. Furthermore, it is of crucial importance that the Republic of Kosovo recognizes, interprets in a fair way and is able to understand the nature of international obligations and the responsibilities, in particular when entering in international agreements with other states and the international community in general.*

*One of the main criteria for a state to function as such and which is also accepted by the norms of customary International Law and European Studies is the ability of that state to enter into international relations. Consequently, the objectives of this program are to train cadres at the advanced level who will support the public administration of the country, but also the private sector for the integration in international relations both in the political and in the commercial, in the protection of human rights and other international principles.*

*With this in mind, it makes a lot of sense that the University of Prishtina, as the largest and one of the most important universities in the Republic of Kosovo, offers these master's programs. As a result, graduates of the Bachelor of Law program are offered an appropriate opportunity for specialization. This rounds off the wide range of courses offered by the Faculty of Law.*

*The programs are implemented within the overall policies and strategies of the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina" and is approved by the Senate of the university. The intended results are in accordance with KKK level 6 and KZEAL for the similar level. Within this system,*

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*students have had the opportunity to show the level of learning and teaching, in terms of the issue of the relevant subjects and their suitability. These testimonials and evaluations are done twice a year. Likewise, during regular meetings with students, the evaluation of the suitability of the study program, in relation to the KKK, has been an important issue of discussion. The program, through qualified teachers in the relevant fields, is intended to provide satisfactory results and at the same time to the labor market, especially in the time of advancement towards European integration, but also to address the current challenges of relations between Kosovo and the EU by taking considering the role of the EU in Kosovo and in the Western Balkans in general, the joint bilateral and multilateral obligations, the role of the EU in maintaining peace and security in the region, decision-making in the EU and their consequences in Kosovo and the region. Thus, the program aims to prepare lawyers for the public administration sector to cope with the process of European integration and its acceleration, lawyers specialized in EU law who can work as judges, lawyers and legal representatives of public enterprises and private to address their economic and legal challenges.*

*The responsible persons for the programs presented in general a clear didactic and research concept concerning the whole Faculty of Law.*

*It is impressive that the Program "Advanced European Studies" completely takes place in English language. This undoubtedly means a challenge for the students and teaching staff. Also it means that there must be a selection mechanism. While during the site visit this was uniformly praised by professors, students, graduates and stakeholders. Especially in view of the small size of the Republic of Kosovo and the international relevance of the teaching content, this means a special qualification for the graduates. It therefore makes sense to organize the Master's Program International Law in English in the future.*

*By the Self-Evaluation-Report are shown formal policies, guidelines and regulations dealing with recurring procedural or academic matters. It contains the following rules and regulations: Regulation for master's studies; Regulations for the prevention of sexual harassment and harassment at the University of Prishtina; Regulations for the procedure and disciplinary measures for students; Regulations for the scientific master of the University of Prishtina; Regulations for the work of the Faculty Council; Working regulations of the electronic system for student management (SEMS) at the University of Prishtina; Regulations for the academic mobility of students; Quality Assessment Regulation in UP; Guidelines for quality assurance in UP; Regulations for the appointment, reappointment and advancement of academic personnel; Regulations for the personal income of academic staff.*

*The good planning of the master's programs strategy is also reflected in the good and differentiated presentation in the Self-Evaluation-Report, including a SWOT analysis for all chapters.*

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

**ET recommendations:**

1. *An exchange between other European international Master Programs should be increase.*
2. *It is advised to check whether the Master Program International Law program should be held in English language.*

## 2.2. Quality Management

*The quality assurance system at the University of Prishtina functions according to the regulation for quality assurance and evaluation (Quality Assurance Regulation). Before providing the judgement on compliance for this section, the expert team would like to emphasise that the program itself is implemented on a good level, thanks to the experienced and qualified staff and well developed program content and the judgement on this section does not affect the overall judgement on the study program. The expert team also is aware that the Faculty of Law is a part of the University of Prishtina, thus both dependent on the institutional policies and also able to benefit from the different institutional resources already established. It also has to be taken into account, that the expert team's judgement to a large extent depends on the ability of the Faculty of Law to demonstrate the practical applicability of the quality assurance mechanisms both in writing, in the self-evaluation report, and also during the site visit. The expert team wishes that the analysis and conclusions provided in this section are taken as a healthy criticism and motivates the Faculty of Law to make sure that all the formal mechanisms available at the University of Prishtina are made use of and it is not only generally accepted that the Faculty of Law offers excellent studies but measurable improvements can be demonstrated on a continuous basis.*

*The self-evaluation report provides some references to compliance with the KAA accreditation standards. However, the information provided in the self-evaluation report is not always relevant and on point for this particular assessment. For example, the SELF-EVALUATION REPORT describes the procedure for institutional re (accreditation) in a very detailed way while this assessment only focuses on a specific program.*

*The expert team understands that the quality assurance system, regulations and processes are designed at the institutional level and are supposed to function in a similar way across the whole institution. However, in this particular assessment, the expert team is looking specifically at the Faculty of Law and LLM European Advanced Studies and how the quality assurance mechanisms function in regard to this study program. It must be noted that the program-specific information provided in the self-evaluation report is very brief and limited and the information provided rarely focuses on the essence of the standard. The expert team has tried to make use of the additional information provided and the University of Prishtina website to the extent that was possible and therefore used the latest publicly available Regulation on Quality Assurance and Evaluation at the University of Prishtina dating back to 2016. It is the same version of this Regulation that was provided to the expert team as additional information. The expert team has used it as a reference for making conclusions on the nature and regularity of quality assurance processes. However, as the main source of information in external quality assurance is the self-evaluation report, a number of standards*

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*have been judged exclusively according to what the Faculty of Law has presented either in writing or orally during the site visit.*

*As evidence for standards 2.1 and 2.2, the Faculty of Law provides rather general information. The page 18 of the self-evaluation report states that “The evaluation and self-evaluation of professors is done on a semester basis” thus confirming that the self-evaluation process of professors exists. Also, an action aimed at the realisation of questionnaires for academic personnel related to self-evaluation is mentioned on p. 22 of the self-evaluation report. the However, the outcomes of the staff self-assessment are not clear (standard 2.1 is met).*

*When describing compliance with standard 2.2., the self-evaluation report explains the sequence and regularity of the processes but does not refer to any strategic documents on the level of the faculty or the university that would confirm that quality assurance processes are indeed integrated into regular planning and development processes. In the initial report the expert team stated that, while the self-evaluation report refers to Dean’s Office Program several times, the website of the University of Prishtina Faculty of Law does not provide information on any strategic plans for the faculty . As a response within the framework of commenting on the factual errors, the Faculty of Law has provided links to the Dean’s Office program on the website. In regard to this the expert team would like to make several observations. First of all, while the Dean’s Office program is in fact located on the Faculty of Law website, it is not easily accessible from the English version of the website, thus not accessible for external international reader. Given the ambition that the faculty also expects to attract foreign students, it would be important that both the methodological and strategical documents are easily available in English. Also, the Dean’s Office program is the individual program of the dean for the development of the faculty and includes the priorities foreseen by the dean (as a pre-election program) but it has not been and does not seem to be aligned with the institutional strategic plan. While judging that the study program is in compliance with the standard 2.2, the expert team would wish to see that there is a strategic document on the level of the faculty that follows the institutional policy. (standard 2.2. is met)*

*It must be noted that quality assurance and accreditation were listed as one of the strategic areas of focus in the actual UP Strategic Plan. Eight specific objectives of strategic initiatives were defined, by indicating specific activities, timeline, costs, responsibilities. However, from the information provided in the self-evaluation report and additional documentation, it is unclear how the Faculty of Law has contributed to achieving these objectives.*

*Overall, according to the self-evaluation report and the Quality Assurance Regulation, the quality assurance processes cover a number of issues – teaching quality, services for students, scientific activity, international cooperation and resources. The evaluation process is administrated at the central level but executed on the faculty level. The University of Prishtina Statute states that the evaluation of teaching, scientific research, and artistic work of staff shall*

*be conducted in the following manner - internal evaluations through self-evaluation, questionnaires and self-evaluation conducted by academic staff, anonymous questionnaires of evaluation by students, analysis of parameters based on performance reports. The expert team did not find any evidence of mechanisms for surveying the quality of services for students, scientific activity, international cooperation and resources (standard 2.3 is not met, standard 2.4 is met).*

*While the University of Prishtina claims that the quality assurance processes ensure that both the required standards are met and there is continuing improvement in performance, it is not clear what standards have been defined. The University of Prishtina Strategic Plan 2020 – 2022 includes "Design and implementation of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)" as one of the activities to be completed by March 2022. However, the self-evaluation report does not include any references to the work completed within this strategic planning period and any information about the actual monitoring of any KPIs. During the site visit, the expert team found some evidence of certain work with performance indicators on the University of Prishtina level, for example, the student admission and enrolment, completion and graduation data. When presenting the additional information, the Faculty of Law, however, referred to performance indicators for staff in particular and did not emphasise the other areas. What is missing in relation to all these incentives to define the indicators, is the exact target that the Faculty of Law is planning to achieve in relation to each of these indicators either on the faculty level or each program specifically. (standard 2.5 is not met).*

*Standard 2.6 of the KAA template requires that survey data is being collected from students, graduates and employers and that the results of these evaluations are published. In the self-evaluation report the Faculty of Law states that the University of Prishtina applies questionnaires for the academic staff, students and administrative staff and the results have been made public to all professors in the quality committee of the Faculty of Law and discussed there. The expert team was also provided with evidence that the evaluations by students take place – screenshots (extracts) from the survey management system where the diagrams on student responses for different study programs are visible. However, this cannot be considered as publishing the results as the essence of this standard requires public availability of the main survey outcomes and the possibility to trace the development. This would mean that reports, including both diagrams and analysis on the result, including possible recommendations and progress since the last survey, should be publicly available on the Faculty of Law or University of Prishtina website.*

*The Faculty of Law in the self-evaluation report states that, through cooperation agreements and the advisory board, it maintains contact with the labour market. However, a wider approach would be recommended – by introducing a survey for all labour market actors that the Faculty of Law cooperates with and analysing the results of this survey on a regular basis. The same applies to graduates and the need to systematically collect their feedback in order to*

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*analyse the situation in the labour market and to maintain a connection with as many graduates as possible. The alumni group operationalised by the Faculty of Law could be a good resource for that.*

*The situation in regard to surveying graduates (alumni) and employers overall is not clear. In the self-evaluation report, the Faculty of Law refers exclusively to questionnaires for the academic staff, administrative staff and students. As an additional information, the Faculty of Law has presented a very brief but existing survey for graduates. The links and relations of this questionnaire to the central quality assurance system of the University of Prishtina are not clear. The questionnaire would also benefit from in-depth questions on the content of studies and competencies provided by the Faculty of Law, in order to gather not only statistics but also actual suggestions for development. While the expert team acknowledges and appreciates the first steps that the Faculty of Law has made in order to formalize the cooperation with graduates, the expert team considers that there is still work to be done to make it fully functional and formalized, and also the substance of the standard 2.6 in regard to survey data from graduates is not met. (standard 2.6 is not met, standard 2.7 is met).*

*In the self-evaluation report, the Faculty of Law rarely refers to the impact of the internal quality assurance procedures on the overall development of the study program. The assessment results, hours and workload of students and the academic success of students are deemed to be an integral part of the course syllabi. It is also stated in the SAR that the professors' access to the quality management system enables them to have an overview for the evaluation of their work, thus suggesting that the quality assurance mechanisms function the most efficiently on the level of individual academic staff members.*

*The p. 29 of the self-evaluation report provides evidence that the development of LLM European Advanced Studies takes place on a regular basis. The last revision took place in 2021 and 2022, however, there is no set periodicity for such reviews, except the alignment with the external review cycle. The expert team did not find evidence of any internal quality assurance reports that would be produced on the level of study program or department, except the summary report on student feedback that cannot be considered a comprehensive report on the quality of the study program.*

*Regulation of Quality Assurance and Evaluation at the University of Prishtina is in place, approved by the Senate. It defines the mechanisms and procedures of quality assurance and assessment. The self-evaluation report also states that the intention to continuously improve the quality is reflected in the program of the Deans Office 2020 – 2024 for the Faculty of Law. However, while there are some attempts to continuously improve, most of the inputs for improvement, except the student surveys, seem to be of a rather casual nature and therefore a more rigorous approach for constant revision of the quality assurance arrangements should be considered (standards 2.8 and 2.9 are met).*

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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	
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**Compliance level:** Partially compliant

**ET recommendations:**

1. *To initiate the revision of the University of Prishtina website to ensure that the actual version of the quality assurance regulation is published on the University of Prishtina website.*
2. *To clearly demonstrate that the Faculty of Law follows the University of Prishtina strategic objectives related to quality assurance by developing faculty-level action plans and progress reports of the achievement of the objectives.*
3. *Ensure that the quality of services for students, scientific activity, international cooperation and resources is surveyed through internal quality assurance mechanisms.*
4. *To develop and introduce regular survey mechanisms for all parties involved in the study process – students, academic and administrative staff, graduates, employers.*
5. *Improve the current template for the graduate survey by including in-depth questions on the content of studies and competencies gained and provide possibility for comments/ suggestions.*
6. *To define targets for the key performance indicators (KPI) on the study program level by following the general University of Prishtina policy on KPI.*
7. *To develop and publish program and/or faculty level annual reports resulting from the internal quality assurance processes.*

**2.3. Academic Staff**

*According to self-evaluation report The University of Prishtina's Statute establishes the process for personnel selection and outlines the responsibilities of academic staff (Article 171 to Article 179). In line with this, the University of Prishtina has introduced a Regulation that outlines selection procedures for appointing, reappointing, and promoting academic personnel. This Regulation ensures that all recruitment processes adhere to measurable, objective, and merit-based criteria. The professors employed at the University of Prishtina*

*have their job responsibilities determined by the University Statute, their employment contract, and a decision made by the Governing Council on February 11, 2022. The relevant decision from the Governing Council provides a clear definition of the workload expected from the academic staff within the Faculty.*

*The Master's Program (LLM) in Advanced European Studies has a dedicated team of professors and assistants who possess extensive expertise in teaching, research, and academia. Faculty of law has provided complete workload with all required information. It is clear from the information provided that in the next year there will be some changes in the curriculum since some of the professor are engaged in political or university positions. It would be advisable to make it visible in the curriculum if the professor are absent for longer period of time. Standard 3.1. has been met.*

*After discussing with the management and teaching staff, there appears to be no doubt that the teaching staff is expected to adhere to the legal requirements outlined in the Administrative Instruction on Accreditation (standard 3.2) regarding the occupation of teaching positions. Therefore, standard 3.2. has been met.*

*According to the self-evaluation report : The University of Prishtina has established clear policies to limit the coverage of more than two academic staff positions. Article 28 of the Law on Higher Education in the Republic of Kosovo states that a second job is allowed for professors and that the University Statute determines this. Also, the Statute of the University of Prishtina stipulates that a second full-time job is not allowed. Standard 3.3. has been met.*

*Since all academic staff, except in one case, are employed full-time, there is no doubt that the program being accredited fully meets standard 3.4. Additionally, Standard 3.5 is also fully met, since all the academic staff engaged in the program have a doctorate title.*

*According to self-evaluation report, the faculty and the university have agreements for the exchange of professors within the ERASMUS programs or even bilateral agreements, which enable the academic staff to engage in teaching or research activities in those universities. However, there are no precise and relevant information how the faculty plans to support academic staff in their continuous commitment to achieving higher standards of excellence or described criterion regarding additional professional development of teaching staff. Nonetheless, the program's SWOT analysis states the following: Insufficient budgetary resources to support the development of academic staff for cooperation and exchanges with universities in the region and beyond in the specific field of EU law. Therefore, standard 3.6 has been only partially met.*

*According to the self-evaluation report, each teaching staff member is expected to provide consultations to students at a fixed time at least one day a week. There is also a regulation that full and associate professors should provide consultations for 4 per week and full and associate professors for 6 hours per week.*

*The Faculty of Law states that the academic staff is committed to meeting the needs of the university and the academic community in general by providing expertise in the relevant field*

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through serving in different councils and commissions, thus fulfilling the expectations related to engagement in the academic community. However, the self-evaluation report does not include any information on the expectations in regard to the general community service oriented towards society. The expert team learned that a number of teaching staff members currently hold or have held important positions for the University of Prishtina, Kosovo government or internationally. While this certainly is an example of providing community service at the highest level, the Faculty of Law (or the University of Prishtina) would benefit from defining institutional expectations and requirements in regard to this (Standard 3.7. is satisfied).

According to the self-evaluation report, the academic staff is assessed through evaluation by students that takes place at the end of each semester and evaluation by supervisors that is conducted through monthly evidence reports. No other assessment tools, including self-evaluation and peer evaluation, were mentioned. Also, the results of staff assessment are not published. In the self-evaluation report, the Faculty of Law states that the evaluation of the academic staff will be expanded and include also the evaluation by colleagues and self-evaluation. However, this is not the case yet. (Standard 3.8 is not satisfied).

As for the teaching strategies, it is claimed in the self-evaluation report that there is a strong incentive to draw plans for strategic improvement based on the feedback received through different evaluations. The teaching staff undergoes basic and advanced training at the Center for Teaching Excellence. During the meetings, the teaching staff members emphasised that they try to regularly improve their teaching skills and this is reflected in the program.

Finally, with regard to standard 3.10, after discussing with the management and teaching staff, we assess that the Faculty of Law and LLM in Advanced European Studies complies with the requirements that teachers retired at age limit or for other reasons lose the status of full-time teachers and are considered part-time teachers.

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	

<i>Standard 3.2.</i> The teaching staff must comply with the legal requirements concerning the occupation of teaching positions included in the Administrative instruction on Accreditation.	<b>X</b>	
<i>Standard 3.3.</i> 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.	<b>X</b>	
<i>Standard 3.4.</i> 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.	<b>X</b>	
<i>Standard 3.5.</i> 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.	<b>X</b>	
<i>Standard 3.6.</i> Opportunities are provided for additional professional development of teaching staff, with special assistance given to any who are facing difficulties.	<b>X</b>	
<i>Standard 3.7.</i> The responsibilities of all teaching staff, especially full-time, include the engagement in the academic community, availability for consultations with students and community service.	<b>X</b>	
<i>Standard 3.8.</i> 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.		<b>X</b>
<i>Standard 3.9.</i> Strategies for quality enhancement include improving the teaching strategies and quality of learning materials.	<b>X</b>	
<i>Standard 3.10.</i> Teachers retired at age limit or for other reasons lose the status of full-time teachers and are considered part-time teachers.	<b>X</b>	

**Compliance level:** Substantially compliant

**ET recommendations:**

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1. *Define and prescribe clear criteria and budget for additional professional development of teaching staff.*
2. *Make changes in the curriculum which encompasses the fact that some professors are absent for longer period due to their governmental and university occupations.*
3. *Ensure that the expectations in regard to community service are clearly defined, communicated to the staff and the performance is assessed.*
4. *Introduce the self-evaluation and peer evaluation of the academic staff and include the results in publicly available quality assurance reports.*
5. *Define and prescribe procedure regulating workload information reports on annual basis with the obligation of each teaching staff member to submit workload report by the end of the academic year.*

## 2.4. Educational Process Content

*According to self-evaluation report and Master's Program (LLM) in Advanced Studies Europeans offers advancement of knowledge i.e. deepening of students prior knowledge from the field of European law and the opportunity to develop critical thinking as well as academic writing. Moreover, within the program students should develop their capacities and become independent in their research work. Through the program, it is intended that master's students expand their prior knowledge from the field of European law, including theory and judicial practice, but also the practices in the EU institutions themselves. The program should enable students to join public and non-governmental institutions, as well as develop their further academic careers to develop their theoretical and research skills in this highly relevant and current field. In that regard, that standard 4.1 is sufficiently met. Nonetheless, it would be advisable that the program offers better communication on the possibilities for internships especially practices in the EU institutions or EU mission and agencies that are present in Kosovo.*

*The curriculum encompasses a diverse array of qualifications and skills necessary for employment in the public, private, and civil society sectors. The master's degree program adheres completely to the National Qualifications Framework and the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area. All the program's objectives, mission, and vision are pursued through suitable methods of teaching and learning, ensuring their successful realization. The courses within Master's Program (LLM) in European Advanced Studies incorporate a blend of teaching methods that encompass classical, visual, and interactive lectures, as well as research activities, design activities, and practical exercises involving students. Standard 4.1 is sufficiently met.*

*Standard 4.3 has been satisfied since 7 learning outcomes for the program of study under assessment are listed. The learning outcomes of all courses are clearly defined and meet general and specific competencies of the program and they are compatibility with study program learning outcomes.*

*Standard 4.4. is also met. The entire curriculum includes objectives, basic thematic content, learning outcomes, class distribution, seminars and applied activities, student evaluation system and minimum bibliography. Additional specificity that needs to be endorsed is the fact that in all the syllabi there is detail class distribution and specific ECTS calculation from which workload of students can be easily understood. During the interviews expert team was informed that students will benefit from more lectures in research and methodology.*

*All academic staff that are involved in Master's Program (LLM) in European Advanced Studies either studied abroad or has publications in English, there shouldn't be any language barriers to teaching. The same can be said about students and graduates participated in the meeting who certainly have enough of proficiency in English (Standard 4.5 has been satisfied).*

*According to self-evaluation report teachers of the Program prioritize fostering a strong student-lecturer cooperative relationship. One way this is achieved is through the practice of conducting interactive lectures with students. This approach facilitates a close collaboration between professors and students, promoting coordination among various activities involved in implementing different teaching and learning methods. This claim was not refuted during the visit and discussions at the faculty, therefore the commission has no reason to doubt the accuracy of this statement. However, for the purpose of the next reaccreditation, please provide evidence of this standard in English. (Standard 4.6 has been satisfied). Recommendation of expert team is to provide concrete evidence on the student-teacher relationship as a partnership in which each takes responsibility for achieving learning outcomes.*

*The teaching strategies employed by program professors are well-suited to cater to the diverse learning outcomes targeted by the programs. These strategies encompass a range of methods such as classical lectures, interactive sessions, combined approaches, visual lectures, simulation exercises, and practical case solving. This varied approach ensures that different types of learners are engaged and accommodated within the learning process. The combined teaching methods integrate theoretical and practical aspects of the subjects. This enables students to gain a comprehensive understanding of the topics through presentations, reading materials, analytical discussions, and critical perspectives. The use of online platforms for distance communication further enhances the learning experience. Simulation and practical problem-solving methodologies encourage students to take responsibility and apply their knowledge and skills in real-world scenarios. These approaches focus on problem-solving skills, critical thinking, and the integration of theoretical knowledge into practice. The classical and interactive lecture method fosters collaboration between students and lecturers throughout the learning process. This interactive approach enhances the efficiency of learning, promotes active participation, and facilitates student engagement. Overall, the range of teaching strategies employed by the program professors demonstrates their commitment to catering to different learning styles and achieving the desired learning outcomes. (Standard 4.7 has been satisfied).*

*According to the self-evaluation report, the assessment components used by the faculty are – half-semester tests, semester engagement, practical activity and research activity. In majority of study courses the final mark consists of mid-term exam, assessment of attendance and participation and final exam. The final exam does not constitute more than 60% of the final mark in any of the study courses. The expert team evaluates this summative approach as appropriate and considers that the methods chosen are generally appropriate for such a highly interactive and diverse subject area as law. However, while the expert team understands the rationale of attendance and participation component, given the target audience of master's studies it is recommended to focus more on participation rather than attendance. The self-evaluation report also refers to verbal exams as the preferred form of the exam but the course descriptions do not clarify whether the exams are written, verbal or the student is free to select. The expert team did not obtain specific evidence on how the students are informed about assessment mechanisms but it was the understanding of the team that learning is a collective effort at the Faculty of Law and the students are highly motivated and engage in a dialogue with the teaching staff in all matters related to study process (Standard 4.8 has been satisfied).*

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*Upon careful examination of all the courses, it can be deduced that the program aligns with standard 4.9. The program employs suitable mechanisms that are both valid and reliable for assessing student achievement. The standards of work expected for different grades remain consistent over time, ensuring comparability within the courses offered within the program. Furthermore, these standards are also comparable to those of other study programs at similar institutions.*

*The Regulation for Master Scientific Studies specifies the conditions for taking exams. The procedure for lodging a complaint against the exam result is detailed in the University of Prishtina Statute. It states that the complaint shall be submitted within 2 days after the announcement of results and explains the specific terms and conditions for complaining. Overall, the expert team considers that the procedure for appealing to exam results is sufficiently clear and practically applicable. (Standard 4.10 has been satisfied).*

*In accordance with self-evaluation and interviews conducted it is clear that interested students can participate in one of the international competitions, accredited at the level of the institution, which are then translated into credits. Nonetheless there were no evidence that the practice phases and internships are allocated with ECTS credits. According to the self-evaluation report : “the Faculty of Law has focused on reconceptualizing and enabling clinical learning and participation in international competitions within the Bachelor program. Part of this benefit, which is the institutionalization of international competitions, is meant to be extended to Master's program students.” Recommendation of the expert team is to allocate ECTS credits to practice phases on Master level. Extend clinical learning and participation in international competitions and allocate ECTS credits. Standard 4.11. is partial met.*

*The program will also gain advantages from establishing stronger connections with professional organizations specifically involved in the field of EU law. These partnerships can offer valuable insights into the labor market demands, facilitating the regular updating of the curriculum and the creation of new study programs. Ultimately, this collaboration will enhance the students' employability. While some progress has already been made in this regard, there is a need for a more strategic, formalized, and coordinated approach to further strengthen these ties with the specific organization and missions of the EU.*

*The program offered exudes the experiences that professors have gained abroad and therefore represents great value in the field of postgraduate education, not only in Kosovo but also in the region. The program will gain advantages from establishing stronger connections with professional organizations specifically involved in the field of EU law. These partnerships can offer valuable insights into the labor market demands, facilitating the regular updating of the curriculum and the creation of new study programs. Ultimately, this collaboration will enhance the students' employability. While some progress has already been made in this regard, there is a need for a more strategic, formalized, and coordinated approach to further strengthen these ties with the specific organization and missions of the EU.*



Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
<i>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.	X	
<i>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.	X	
<i>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.	X	
<i>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 under evaluation.	X	
<i>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.	X	
<i>Standard 4.6.</i> The student-teacher relationship is a partnership in which each assumes the responsibility of reaching the learning outcomes.	X	

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Learning outcomes are explained and discussed with students from the perspective of their relevance to the students' development.		
<i>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.	X	
<i>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.	X	
<i>Standard 4.9.</i> 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.	X	
<i>Standard 4.10.</i> Policies and procedures include actions to be taken in to dealing with situations where standards of student achievement are inadequate or KAA inconsistently assessed.	X	
<i>Standard 4.11.</i> 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.		X
<i>Standard 4.12.</i> In order to facilitate the practice stages, the higher education institution signs cooperation agreements, contracts or other documents with institutions/organisations/practical training units.	X	

**Compliance level:** Substantially compliant

## **ET recommendations:**

1. Allocate ECTS credits to practice phases on Master level.
2. Extend clinical learning and participation in international competitions and allocate ECTS credits.
3. Strengthen these ties with the specific organization and missions of the EU in Kosovo and abroad.
4. Ensure concrete evidence on the student-teacher relationship as a partnership in which each takes responsibility for achieving learning outcomes.
5. Extend number of teaching hours dedicated to research and methodology
6. Ensure that the assessment component related to attendance and participation focuses on active participation rather than attendance.
7. Specify in course descriptions whether the examinations are foreseen to take place in written or verbally or there is a possibility for student to choose.

## **2.5. Students**

*The admission procedure for LLM European Advanced Studies is based on the is described in the Regulation for master scientific studies. According to the self-evaluation report, applicants must have completed a bachelor's education amounting to 240 ECTS (four years of studies) and must possess advanced knowledge of the English language. When providing comments on factual errors, the Faculty of Law claimed that the admission requirement is 180 ECTS (three years of studies). However, the expert team would like to emphasize that in order to recognise the master's diploma a graduate must have obtained 300 ECTS in total but the LLM European Advanced Studies amounts to 90 ECTS therefore 180 ECTS as an admission requirement is not sufficient.*

*All applicants are subject to an entrance examination that, according to the self-evaluation report, constitutes up to 70% of the total result, is held in English and covers European Union Law, Public International Law and Theory of International Relations. The expert team was provided a sample of the entrance examination and could observe that it consists of multiple choice questions in English. The University of Prishtina is proud that the examination is being checked with an optical reader thus ensuring confidentiality. The students that have not passed the TOEFL or IELTS exam are also subject to additional entrance examination in English. The Faculty of Law is proud of the admission requirements defined for the program and claims that it is therefore possible to attract the best applicants. However, the admission statistics provided by the Faculty of Law demonstrate that there has been almost no competition for study places in the program – in 2021/ 2022 21 out of 22 applicants were admitted and in 2022/2023 14 out of 14 applicants were admitted. At the same time in the self-evaluation report the Faculty of Law states that it has the capacity to accept 30-40 students in this study program. The expert team understands that one of the restrictions for student admission is the requirement for a 240 ECTS bachelor's studies while the majority of bachelor's programs amount to 180 ECTS (standards 5.1 and 5.2 have been met).*

*According to the self-evaluation report (p.55), the staff-student ratio in the LLM Advanced European Studies is 1 professor for 6 students. According to the Regulation on personal income of academic staff, allowances according to functions, the size of student groups at the Faculty of Law is set as follows – for years 1 and 2 for mandatory lectures the minimum number is 10 students and maximum number is 120 students, for elective lectures the minimum number is 5 students and the maximum is 80 students; for years 3 and 4 for mandatory lectures the minimum number is 10 students and maximum number is 80 students but for elective lectures the minimum number is 5 students and the maximum is 50 students. For exercises – both mandatory and elective, the minimum student number is 5 and the maximum is 30. As the maximum number of students in LLM Advanced European Studies in one year so far has been 22 and the study process is fully conducted in English, thus separating the group from other students, the expert team considers that the size of student groups is very well dimensioned and allows for individual approach an interaction (standard 5.3 is satisfied).*

*According to the information presented in the self-evaluation report (p.55) and provided during the online meeting with LLM Advanced European Studies students and teaching staff, the following assessment mechanisms are used - class participation, classroom activity and interactivity, homework and research projects, classroom presentations after research on topics that are defined in the leaving syllabus, colloquiums or mid-semester exams, as a rule, two exams are organized, final exams and final assessment.*

*The feedback mechanisms are personalised, the direct feedback is provided upon request and the formal grades are inserted in the SEMS system according to an internally agreed procedure, and are later part of the study transcript.*

*The student's final grade is administered in the SEMS electronic system thus enabling the possibility to obtain the transcript of grades and overview of student performance. (Standards 5.4. and 5.5. have been satisfied).*

*The University of Prishtina Statute states the cases that a student can be allowed to sit an early examination in case he/she is taking part in an international exchange study program, or is conducting practical study abroad during the prescribed period of examination. No other cases for earlier or later examination for any other personal reasons (e.g. medical or private) have been foreseen by the Statute. It would be recommended to broaden the definition of special cases mentioned in the Statute (for example, in any specific and urgent circumstances) in order to allow the Dean for flexibility. Also, it should not be the case that a student who has not participated in the scheduled exam due to serious personal reasons is not entitled to a scholarship or any other benefits. While there is a space for improvement in regard to formal regulations, the actual situation with flexible treatment at the LLM Advanced European Studies is commendable, given the small number of students and the relatively high number of teaching staff available for them. The expert team also learned about the possibility to prolong the submission and defense of the master's thesis for a time equivalent to the formal program length. While this is certainly an example of flexible treatment, it could also pose a risk to the quality of master's thesis and the graduates in general, therefore the exact situation with each student needs to be monitored and the relevant counselling should be available (5.6. is not satisfied).*

*The self-evaluation report (p.58) states that “the Faculty of Law processes the resulting statistical data about student progress, success, dropout rates, and student satisfaction with the study program and uses them to evaluate the program. The results achieved at the pass level are discussed with the teachers of the relevant subjects and at the top management level of the Faculty of Law”. Section 2 of the expert report also includes a reference to collection of such data and related analysis (standard 5.7 is satisfied).*

*The expert team learned that there are significant efforts to ensure that the work submitted by students would not be plagiarised. The students interviewed by the expert team were aware of the notion of plagiarism and emphasised that the study program includes a study course “Legal Research and Writing Methodology” that also deals with the academic integrity. The automatic mechanisms for academic integrity (Turnitin) have been acquired within the framework of Research Cult project and each teaching staff member will be obliged to use this software starting from the academic year 2023/2024. Until now all works needed to be checked manually. However, according to the teaching staff, at this moment only “some” professors have access to the system for the prevention of plagiarism and mostly physical controls are being taken to prevent this event such as controlling copying from groups of students instead of getting help from the technology and professors instruct students to not cheat or involve in cheating activities. Also, when the system is fully functional, it is important that all written assignments by the students, not only thesis, undergo the plagiarism check. (Standard 5.8. has not been met).*

*The University of Prishtina website provides a wide range of different information, mostly in Albanian language. As the study program is offered in English, the ET assumes that the international students that could possibly study here might not be able to navigate the website. There is a separate Student Handbook for the Faculty of Law that was developed in 2022 and is disseminated directly to the students in the Faculty of Law. This handbook includes a collection of the most relevant information, including the information on student rights and obligations (Standard 5.9. has been satisfied).*

*As for the student transfer, the possibility of transfer is regulated in the Article 142 of the University of Prishtina Statute. There are certain prerequisites for transfer, for example, it can take place only starting from the second year of studies. According to the additional information provided by the Faculty of Law there have already been a number of transfer cases from other universities to the University of Prishtina Faculty of Law but none of them to or from the LLM Advanced European Studies. In the additional information provided, the Faculty of Law states that one of the reasons for not transferring has to do with the fact that the entrance criteria for registration in the Advanced European Studies program required a diploma with 240 ECTS. Now in the new accreditation, the entry criteria and the students who have the right to enroll in this program will be with 180 ECTS, because non-law Faculties generally organize basic studies with 180 ECTS (Standard 5.10 has been satisfied).*

*The academic staff at the Faculty of Law, according to the decision of the Governing Council, in February 2022, are obliged to hold consultation hours, to be available to students. The academic staff have to be physically present in consultations up to 4 hours a week, but they*

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also hold online consultations (via Google Meet) as well as through electronic responses (email). The additional information provided to the expert team included a consultation schedule confirming that each academic staff member has announced 4 consultation hours in 2 separate time slots when they will be available in their offices at the Faculty of Law (Standard 5.11. has been satisfied).

Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 5.1. There is a clear and formally adopted admission procedure at institutional level that the study program respects when organising students' recruitment. Admission requirements are consistently and fairly applied for all students.	X	
Standard 5.2. All students enrolled in the study program possess a high school graduation diploma or other equivalent document of study, according to MEST requirements.	X	
Standard 5.3. The study groups are dimensioned so as to ensure an effective and interactive teaching and learning process.	X	
Standard 5.4. Feedback to students on their performance and results of assessments is given promptly and accompanied by mechanisms for assistance if needed.	X	
Standard 5.5. The results obtained by the students throughout the study cycles are certified by the academic record.	X	
Standard 5.6. Flexible treatment of students in special situations is ensured with respect to deadlines and formal requirements in the program and to all examinations.		X
Standard 5.7. Records of student completion rates are kept for all courses and for the program as a whole and included among quality indicators.	X	
Standard 5.8. Effective procedures are being used to ensure that work submitted by students is original.		X

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Standard 5.9. Students' rights and obligations are made publicly available, promoted to all those concerned and enforced equitably; these will include the right to academic appeals.	X	
Standard 5.10. The students' transfer between higher education institutions, faculties and study programs is clearly regulated in formal internal documents.	X	
Standard 5.11. 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.	X	

**Compliance level:** Substantially compliant

**ET recommendations:**

1. Clarify the admission requirements in order to ensure that the education obtained by master's graduates is officially recognised.
2. In consultation with the students review the website of the University of Prishtina and the faculty in order to make it more user friendly.
3. Revise the regulations in regard to flexible student treatment in exams in cases where the student is not able to participate in the exam due to objective reasons other from those currently prescribed by the regulation and ensure that such special cases would not be counted as a failure of the exam and would not prevent the student from receiving a scholarship or other benefits.
4. Ensure that the anti-plagiarism system is implemented in a consistent manner and includes all written assignments (not only graduation thesis).
5. Provide relevant training to all academic staff members on the use of anti-plagiarism software.

## 2.6. Research

*The University of Prishtina and the Faculty of Law have created clear objectives regarding scientific development and research, including relevant resources to develop scientific research within the program and beyond. The Institute for Legal Studies and Research operates within the Faculty of Law. The Faculty of Law has developed concrete projects through the Institute, including the involvement of students in concrete research projects. The Faculty of Law also has agreements with external donors to support the Institute's work (agreement with UNDP). The Faculty of Law publishes the magazine "E Drejata" at least once a year, electronically by posting the relevant issue on the website of the Faculty of Law. An important budget component, which includes the strengthening of research, is also the budget allocated for the digitization of the magazine "E Drejata", in which case it is intended that the magazine create a special electronic page to start membership procedures in international databases, such as: SCOPUS, DOAJ, EBSCO, etc. The Office of the Dean of the Faculty of Law has defined clear objectives of scientific research. The expert team recommends to the Faculty management to adopt Action plan for the scientific research plan and flow indicators and performance on yearly bases. Moreover, it would be advisable to publish "E Drejata" regularly at least twice a year with one issue in English online in Open source and index "E Drejata" in databases: SCOPUS and Web of Science. In accordance with the self-evaluation report it is clear that there are no sufficient financial resources allocated to achieve the proposed research objectives since the report clearly states that there is "Lack of a stable budget for research work and publications". Standard 6.1. has been partial met.*

*In the self-evaluation report it is provided that the University of Prishtina issued a regulation to assess and enhance the academic staff's research and scientific endeavors. This regulation provides a framework for financing research, scientific, artistic, and sports activities at the University of Prishtina. With this regulation in place, it becomes feasible to support and foster the research and scientific work of the academic staff at the Faculty of Law, while also facilitating the recognition and promotion of their achievements. Standard 6.2 has been met.*

*The University of Prishtina has aligned its research policies with international standards by implementing regulations that govern the selection procedures for the appointment, reappointment, and advancement of academic staff at the university. These regulations ensure that the university follows internationally recognized criteria and processes when making decisions related to the academic staff's appointments and advancements. Standard 6.3 has been met.*

*The scientific and research work of the academic staff members has been published in journals indexed in prestigious databases including SCOPUS and Web of Science. Additionally, their work has been featured in other reputable databases such as DOAJ, EBSCO, World Cat, and HeinOnline, among others. However, the expert team must note that it would be advisable for the academic staff to standardize the list of their published works, as it was difficult to track published papers in the materials provided. The data for each professor was submitted in a different manner, and some were not up to date. Nevertheless, it is indisputable that the*



*professors involved in this study program are active researchers in the field of European and international law, publishing scientific papers in appropriate conference proceedings, books, and journals abroad. Standard 6.4 has been met.*

*The curriculum vitae (CV) of the academic staff at the Faculty of Law demonstrates their reputable publications in both local and international publishing houses. It also showcases how the scientific work of the faculty members has been disseminated and presented at conferences and symposia, both domestically and internationally. The expert team recommends to the Faculty and Program management to create internal database with information about published papers, conferences, sessions, symposia, seminars, contracts, expertise, consultations, conventions that are offered to domestic and/or foreign partners. It would be advisable to collect this information from all academic staff once a year and keep it in local data base, which can be a great indicator for Faculty management to follow achievements of the academic staff and valuable indicator in the next reaccreditation procedure. Standard 6.5. has been met.*

*The validation of the academic staff's research work primarily relies on scientific research publications and the specific journals or publishing houses in which they are published. This validation process adheres to the standards outlined in the University Regulations. Standard 6.5. has been met.*

*As mentioned above, the data for each professor was submitted in a different manner, and some were not up to date. Nevertheless, it is indisputable that the professors involved in this study program are active researchers in the field of European and international law, publishing scientific papers in appropriate conference proceedings, books, and journals abroad. Standard 6.7. has been met.*

*Standards 6.8 and 6.9 have been guaranteed. The academic and research staff affiliated with the institution in Kosovo publish their work under the institution's name, reflecting their full-time status. They also incorporate information about their research and scholarly activities relevant to the courses they teach, as evident from the course syllabi.*

*The Statute of the Faculty of Law and the Governing Council of the University of Prishtina both emphasize the promotion of intellectual property protection. The academic staff enjoys the freedom to publish the outcomes of their research and creative endeavors, subject to the regulations outlined in the Statute regarding the utilization of intellectual property rights for the benefit of the University. This policy aligns with the guidelines specified in the University of Prishtina's statute. Standard 6.10 has been met.*

*Finally, standard 6.11. has been addressed stressing that there are enough opportunities for students but a large number of students are engaged in work relationships, which affects their participation in scientific research and other extracurricular activities that are made possible by the faculty. Standard 6.11 has been met.*

Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
<i>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.		X
<i>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.	X	
<i>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.	X	
<i>Standard 6.4.</i> The academic staff has a proven track record of research results on the same topics as their teaching activity.	X	
<i>Standard 6.5.</i> The academic and research staff publish their work in speciality 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.	X	
<i>Standard 6.6.</i> Research is validated through: scientific and applied research publications, artistic products, technological transfer through consultancy centres, scientific parks and other structures for validation.	X	
<i>Standard 6.7.</i> 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.	X	
<i>Standard 6.8.</i> Academic and research staff publish under the name of the institution in Kosovo they are affiliated to as full time staff.	X	

<i>Standard 6.9/6.8.</i> 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.	<b>X</b>	
<i>Standard 6.10.</i> Policies are established for ownership of intellectual property and clear procedures set out for commercialization of ideas developed by staff and students.	<b>X</b>	
<i>Standard 6.11.</i> Students are engaged in research projects and other activities.	<b>X</b>	

**Compliance level:** Substantially compliant

**ET recommendations:**

1. Establish stable budget for research work and publication
2. Publish "E Drejata" regularly at least twice a year with one issue in English online in Open source
3. Index "E Drejata" in databases : SCOPUS and Web of Science
4. Make researches more visible with Research Gate, SSRN and Academica Edu profiles
5. Create internal database with information about published papers, conferences
6. Adopt Action plan for the scientific research plan and flow indicators and performance on yearly bases.

## 2.7. Infrastructure and Resources

*Firstly, according to self-evaluation report and interviews conducted with Faculty management the current spaces utilized by the Faculty of Economics will be relinquished, allowing the Faculty of Law to use all the premises. The Faculty of Law will have ample infrastructure to accommodate its needs. Since the academic year 2020/2021, the Faculty of Law's new administration has initiated a "Program for the Transformation of Faculty Spaces." As part of this program, in 2021 and 2022, efforts were made to enhance student living spaces and create dedicated reading areas. Additionally, infrastructure improvements were implemented to cater to the needs of students with disabilities. As part of the renovations of the Faculty of Law in 2022, a special cloakroom/elevator has been installed and two specific computers for students with special needs were presented to the experts during the onsite visit. Conclusively, the study program's long-term implementation is effectively ensured in quantitative terms, including appropriate premises, human resources, and equipment. Standard 7.1 and 7.6 are met.*

*Expert team was informed during the onsite visit that according to regulation in Kosovo Faculties are not obliged to adopt special financial plans for specific study program. Within the additional documents Faculty has provided detailed financial plan for the whole institution, which demonstrates sufficient budget for three years. Nonetheless, financial plan presents that it is sufficient for sustainability but missing the budget for further development of the Faculty ( e.g. infrastructural adjustments, further internationalization and research activities). Standard 7.2. is met on the Faculty level, but evidence was not provided on the level of the study program. Expert team recommends to the Faculty to develop specific financial plans for specific study programs. It would be advisable that Faculty applies for international scientific and development projects in order to ensure need funds for further development of the Faculty and study program.*

*The Faculty of Law possesses all the facilities owned by the University of Prishtina, and this ownership is supported by concrete documents held by the University. The Faculty's website, which operates within the University of Prishtina's website and is owned by the University. Additionally, the Faculty of Law has implemented the "My Court" platform within its website and utilize the SEMS system for various purposes, including student grading, evaluation, data storage, student files, literature, and overall student and data management, ensuring high quality standards. During the visit onsite, expert team was informed by students, faculty administration and library staff that the library is equipped with literature need for the program and onsite visit confirmed that faculty is equipped with reading rooms and group work rooms. Standard 7.3 is met.*

*The Faculty of Law possesses 12 classrooms that are utilized effectively for teaching purposes. In addition to these, the Faculty of Law possesses a meeting room, various work offices, and offices for professors. Furthermore, the Faculty of Law has a courthouse, where clinical*

teaching and practical work with students are conducted. During the visit, expert team visited all the mentioned facilities. Standard 7.4 is met.

According to the information provided with in the self-evaluation report the recommended literature for students at the Faculty of Law, as specified in the course syllabi, primarily exists in two languages: Albanian and English. This literature can be accessed in both electronic and physical formats. The physical literature is available in the library of the Faculty of Law. The faculty has access to the EBSCO library and Lexis Nexis, for academic staff and all students, which presents the improvement and acceptance of the recommendation from the last accreditation report. Standard 7.5 is met , although expert team recommends that the Faculty expands the selection of databases and subscriptions to academic journals to encompass a wider range of options.

Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
<i>Standard 7.1.</i> 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.	X	
<i>Standard 7.2.</i> 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.		X
<i>Standard 7.3.</i> The higher education institution must demonstrate with adequate 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: a) owned or rented spaces adequate for the educational process; b) owned or rented laboratories, with the adequate equipment for all the compulsory disciplines within the curriculum, wherever the analytical syllabus includes such activities; c) adequate software for the disciplines of study included in the curriculum, with utilisation licence; d) library equipped with reading rooms, group work rooms and its own book stock according to the disciplines included in the curricula.	X	
<i>Standard 7.4.</i> The number of seats in the lecture rooms, seminar rooms and laboratories must be related to the study groups' size (self-evaluation reporties, groups, subgroups); the applicative activities for the speciality disciplines included in the curricula are carried out in laboratories equipped with IT equipment.	X	

<p><i>Standard 7.5.</i> The education institution’s libraries must ensure, for each of the study programs:</p> <p>a) a number of seats in the reading rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study program;</p> <p>b) a number of seats in the group work rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study program;</p> <p>c) 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 recognised publishers, from the last 10 years;</p> <p>d) 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;</p> <p>e) a sufficient number of subscriptions to Albanian and foreign publications and periodicals, according to the stated mission.</p>	<b>X</b>	
<p><i>Standard 7.6.</i> The infrastructure and facilities dedicated to the implementation of the program is adapted to students with special needs.</p>	<b>X</b>	

**Compliance level:** Substantially compliant

According to the KAA manual, the infrastructure necessary for the successful implementation of the program is largely in line with the required standards. However, a few areas still need attention. These include the absence of a clear financial plan in English at the level of the study program and for infrastructural adjustments.

**ET recommendations:**

1. Develop specific financial plans for specific study programs.
2. Apply for international scientific and development projects in order to ensure need funds for further development of the Faculty and study program.
3. Expand the selection of databases and subscriptions to academic journals to encompass a wider range of options.

### 3. FINAL RECOMMENDATION OF THE ET

In conclusion, the Expert Team considers that the LLM in Advanced European Studies study program offered by University of Prishtina is substantially compliant with the standards included in the KAA's Accreditation Manual.

<b>Standard</b>	<b>Compliance Level</b>
Mission, objectives and administration	Fully compliant
Quality management	Partially compliant
Academic Staff	Substantially compliant
Educational Process Content	Substantially compliant
Students	Substantially compliant
Research	Substantially compliant
Infrastructure and resources	Substantially compliant
<b>Overall Compliance</b>	<b>Substantially compliant</b>

**Compliance level: Substantially compliant**

**Student quota recommended/ Five Years : 25 students**

**All in all, we recommend to reaccredit the above study programme for a duration of five years.**

The following recommendations need to be considered in relation to programr's future re-accreditation:

1. An exchange between other European international Master Programs should be increase.
2. The revision of the University of Prishtina website to ensure that the actual version of the quality assurance regulation is published on the University of Prishtina website.
3. To clearly demonstrate that the Faculty of Law follows the University of Prishtina strategic objectives related to quality assurance by developing faculty-level action plans and progress reports of the achievement of the objectives.
4. Ensure that the quality of services for students, scientific activity, international cooperation and resources is surveyed through internal quality assurance mechanisms.
5. To develop and introduce regular survey mechanisms for all parties involved in the study process – students, academic and administrative staff, graduates, employers.
6. Improve the current template for the graduate survey by including in-depth questions on the content of studies and competencies gained and provide possibility for comments/ suggestions.
7. To define targets for the key performance indicators (KPI) on the study program level by following the general University of Prishtina policy on KPI.
8. To develop and publish program and/or faculty level annual reports resulting from the internal quality assurance processes.
9. Define and prescribe clear criteria and budget for additional professional development of teaching staff.
10. Make changes in the curriculum which encompasses the fact that some professors are absent for longer period due to their governmental and university occupations.
11. Ensure that the expectations in regard to community service are clearly defined, communicated to the staff and the performance is assessed.
12. Introduce the self-evaluation and peer evaluation of the academic staff and include the results in publicly available quality assurance reports.



13. Define and prescribe procedure regulating workload information reports on annual basis with the obligation of each teaching staff member to submit workload report by the end of the academic year.
14. Allocate ECTS credits to practice phases on Master level.
15. Extend clinical learning and participation in international competitions and allocate ECTS credits.
16. Strengthen these ties with the specific organization and missions of the EU in Kosovo and abroad.
17. Ensure concrete evidence on the student-teacher relationship as a partnership in which each takes responsibility for achieving learning outcomes.
18. Extend number of teaching hours dedicated to research and methodology
19. Ensure that the assessment component related to attendance and participation focuses on active participation rather than attendance.
20. Specify in course descriptions whether the examinations are foreseen to take place in written or verbally or there is a possibility for student to choose
21. Improvement of technological problems.
22. Giving more attention to prevention of plagiarism like having more professors in charge of system and improving of the system to prevent this problem.
23. Increasing courses in English language.
24. Adding more subject's selection for courses.
25. Establish stable budget for research work and publication.
26. Publish "E Drejata" regularly at least twice a year with one issue in English online in Open source .
27. Index "E Drejata" in databases : SCOPUS and Web of Science.
28. Make researches more visible with Research Gate, SSRN and Academica Edu profiles.
29. Create internal database with information about published papers, conferences.
30. Adopt Action plan for the scientific research plan and flow indicators and performance on yearly bases.

31. Develop specific financial plans for specific study programs.
32. Apply for international scientific and development projects in order to ensure need funds for further development of the Faculty and study program.
33. Expand the selection of databases and subscriptions to academic journals to encompass a wider range of options.

## Expert Team

**Member**



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(Signature)

Dunja Duić

(06/06/2023)

**Member**



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(Signature)

Asnate Kažoka

(06/06/2023)