Republika e Kosovës

Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo
Agjencia e Kosovës për Akreditim
Agencija Kosova za Akreditaciju
Kosovo Accreditation Agency

University of Prishtina
Faculty of Philosophy

BA POLITICAL SCIENCE (180 ECTS)
A) INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY
B) PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

RE-ACCREDITATION

REPORT OF THE EXPERT TEAM

Prishtina, 2024

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Context

Date of site visit: Monday, 29 April 2024

Expert Team (ET) members:

- Prof Pavo Barišić, PhD
- Prof. Dr. Michael J. Geary
- Ms Lali Giorgidze

Coordinators from Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA):

- Mr Arianit M. Krasniqi

Sources of information for the Report:

- KAA accreditation manual (updated 2022);
- KAA manual for external evaluation of higher education institutions (2021);
- KAA manual annex 4.3 template for the external review report;
- Self-evaluation report (SER) for the BA in Political Science (120 ECTS);
- Study programme overview;
- Curriculum vitae of staff;
- Degree programme syllabi;
- List of relevant faculty publications.

Requested and received additional documents:

- Curriculum development guidelines for teachers and staff who support and supervise curriculum development (Developed by the Office for Academic Development/ University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina");
- Report on support initiatives for students with special needs in the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina";
- University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina", Centre for Teaching Excellent – Information Sheet 2024.
- A copy of a diploma thesis of BA Political Sciences (PUNIM DIPLOME Kriza në Jugosllavi: Lufta në Kosovë - "një dramë" për diplomacinë ndërkombëtare
- Minutes of the Department of Political Science meetings (26 March, 13 April 2024).

Criteria used for institutional and programme evaluations

The expert team closely followed the programme accreditation assessment areas and respective performance indicators as developed by the Kosovo Accreditation Agency as presented in the Accreditation Manual (2022).

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1.2. Site visit schedule

Programme Accreditation Procedure at Universty of Prishtina, Faculty of Philosophy	
Programmes:	**1. Political Philosophy, MA** **2. Political Science BA with specialisations a) International Relations and Diplomacy, b) Public Administration**
Site visit on (hybrid):	**29 April 2024**
Expert Team:	Prof. Dr. Pavo Barišić Prof. Dr. Michael J. Geary Lali Giorgidze, Student Expert
Coordinators of the KAA:	Arianit Krasniqi, KAA

Site Visit Programme

Time	Meeting	Participants
09:00 – 09:50	Meeting with the management of the faculty where the programme is integrated	Dean Prof. Asoc. Dashamir Berxulli Vice – Dean Prof. Asoc. Muhamet Qerimi Vice-Dean Prof. Asoc. Adem Beha Vice-Dean Ass. Dr. Dorajet Imeri
09:50 – 10:35	Meeting with quality assurance representatives and administrative staff	Besnik Loxha – Office for Academic Development Rita Selimi – Coordinator for Academic Development Lumnije Ahmeti – Faculty Secretary
10:40 – 11:30	Meeting with the heads of the study programme **Political Philosophy, MA**	Hasnije Ilazi Dorajet Imeri
11:30 – 12:15	Meeting with the heads of the study programmes **Political Science BA with specialisations a) International Relations and Diplomacy, b) Public Administration**	Adem Beha Bardhok Bashota Zenun Halili, Arben Hajrullahu
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch break	
13:15 – 14.00	Visiting Facilities	

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14:00 – 14:50	Meeting with teaching staff of **Political Science BA with specialisations a) International Relations and Diplomacy, b) Public Administration** Pavo Barišić	Afrim Hoti Bekim Baliqi Ibrahim Gashi Sejdi Rexhepi Jehona Lushaku Dorajet Imeri Lirije Palushi Astrit Salihu
	Meeting with teaching staff of **Political Philosophy, MA** Michael J. Geary and Lali Giorgidze	Blerim Latifi Valon Leci Gezim Selaci Taulant Gashi Nehat Sadiku Arita Zhjeqi
14:55 – 15:40	Meeting with students and graduates	Medina Fejzullahu-*student* Ideal Zhubi-*student* Adriatik Lupçi-*graduate* Rinesë Krasniqi-*graduate*
15:45 – 16:35	Meeting with external stakeholders	Berat Jashari- *Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kosovo* Granit Ternava-*Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)* Leonora Kryeziu-*Prishtina Institute for Political Studies (PIPS)* Ridvan Emini Florie Xhemajli
16:35 – 16:40	Internal meeting of KAA staff and experts	
16:40 – 16:50	Closing meeting with the management of the faculty and programme	

1.3. A brief overview of the institution under evaluation

According to the Self-Evaluation Report (SER), the Faculty of Philosophy is the first academic unit of higher education in Kosovo, which was founded on 30 October 1960, and its mission was and still has the proper education of young people of Kosovo to prepare them as worthy and useful citizens for the country. The role of the foundation of the Faculty of Philosophy has always been and remains a source of reflection as well as political and social changes in the progress of the country and Kosovo society. The Faculty of Philosophy has been the leader of many vital processes for Kosovo, despite the challenges it faced during its functionality. At the Faculty of Philosophy, there are currently seven departments:
1. Department of History
2. Department of Philosophy

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3. Department of Sociology
4. Department of Psychology
5. Department of Political Science
6. Department of Social Work
7. Department of Anthropology.

The Faculty has 8 programmes with valid accreditation, 6 programmes in the process of re-accreditation and 1 programme in the process of accreditation. The Faculty of Philosophy has 50 professors, 1 lecturer and 14 assistants in full-time employment. Moreover, 22 professors and14 part-time assistants are engaged in this Faculty.

The Faculty is located within the University campus, near the National Library of Kosovo, the University Library, the Rectorate of the University of Prishtina. The address of the Faculty of Philosophy is: St. Eqrem Çabej, no 21, 10000, Prishtina Kosovo.

2. PROGRAMME EVALUATION:
Political Science BA:
A) International Relations and Diplomacy
B) Public Administration

2.1. Mission, Objectives and Administration

As stated in the Faculty's SER, its mission is, through enhancement and strengthening of academic capacities, enriching the academic tradition with advanced European and international experience and practices, through expanding cooperation, increasing professionalism, intensifying scientific research, and digitising administration and services to students, to become an academic institution of the prestigious international universities, with emphasis on the European Union, and to be a serious competitor in the academic market not only in the region but also beyond as well. Based on the statutory provisions of the University of Prishtina, as well as the constitutional and legal provisions for higher education in the Republic of Kosovo, the University of Prishtina and all its faculties, including the Faculty of Philosophy, are obliged to create equal opportunities and opportunities for all citizens of Kosovo to have study opportunities in this institution.

The SER makes clear that these opportunities are equal without discrimination on grounds of gender, race, sexual orientation, marital status, language, religion, political affiliation, national, ethnic or socio-economic affiliation, birth status or any other status. The Faculty of Philosophy aims at education process of students in the field of philosophy, sociology, psychology, history, political sciences, ethnology, archivism and social work. It provides theoretical-practical training of students in the above-mentioned fields to prepare for the labour market. This was evident when the ET spoke to external stakeholders who were impressed with the calibre of

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graduate from the Faculty. Other Faculty objectives include promoting values and civic democracy to the young generation; co-operation in teaching, research, and publications with homologue institutions at the national, regional, and international level, which the ET also evaluated through discussions with teaching staff and through an analysis of the publication output. Moreover, the Faculty focuses on integration into the European area of higher education and achievement of students and teachers' mobility. The Faculty of Philosophy monitors developments, both in higher education and in the education market in Kosovo.

The Faculty of Philosophy is managed under the leadership of the Dean, who is supported by three vice deans, with responsibility for the following areas: Teaching and Student Affairs; Finance and Infrastructure; and Scientific Research and Academic Development. They are supported by an academic development coordinator. In addition to this, each of the seven departments has a chair. The leadership of the Faculty is, in turn, supported by an administrative team as well as by IT support.

Political Science BA programme has been delivered at the Faculty of Philosophy, located in the centre of Prishtina and close to the National Library. The surrounding area is rather well developed from a student perspective. The proximity to the National Library is good since it will allow students the added opportunity to exploit learning resources there, not least as a place to study and prepare for exams. The ET was impressed at the leadership structure at the Faculty and by the level of engagement from the different internal stakeholders including the three vice deans and those directly involved in the Faculty's administration. The ET found that the Faculty's administration is fully aware of the needs of the students and are committed to the continual development of the Faculty's infrastructure, for example, to ensure as positive learning environment as possible. The ET was impressed at the recent improvement in the teaching room/lecture hall infrastructure and strongly encourages the forward measures.

The BA degree programme dates back to 2001. In 2009, the BA programme was reaccredited and redesigned in collaboration with the Universities of Salzburg (Austria) and Pavia (Italy). It is offered by the Faculty of Philosophy over three academic years, six semesters (180 ECTS). The relevant documents on which the BA programme is based are in compliance with the National Qualifications Framework (EQF level 6) and with the Erasmus Subject Area Codes point 14.1 (Political Science). The programme has a clearly developed didactic and research concept. There exists, upon completion of the programme, the possibility of pursuing a MA degree. Crucially, there exists in the programme elements of critical and creative thinking through learning outcomes, exercises, lectures and the reading lists as well as through the dissertation. The development of the BA has been influenced by similar degree programmes in Austria, Italy, Croatia, Slovenia, UK and other European countries.

Within this programme, list of courses proposed are related to labour marked needs identified in Kosovo and beyond. Some of the main study courses are as follows: political methodology; political theory; international law; international economy; public policy and diplomacy;

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international relations; public administration; peace and conflict studies; civil society, etc. Whilst drafting this programme previous recommendations of external experts were taken into consideration. Thus, the first two years of the programme will be focused on the basic courses of political science, while, in the third year, students will have the opportunity to choose between the two paths, specialised subfields: A) International Relations and Diplomacy; B) Public Administration.

The formal policies, legal instruments, relevant rules, and regulations exist vis-à-vis the implementation of study programmes at the BA level. The SER lists the following documents and regulations: Law on Higher Education of the Republic of Kosovo, 2010; Statute of the University of Prishtina; Regulation on Master Studies; no. 3/533, dt. 27.11.2017; Regulation on Selection Procedures on the Appointment, Renaming and Promotion of Academic Staff at the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina", No. 465, dated. 02.03.2018; Regulation on the operation of the electronic system for student management; no. 579, dt. 02.03.2017; Regulation on Academic Mobility of Students at the University of Prishtina 'Hasan Prishtina', no. 2/111, dt. 14.07.2017; Syllabus Review and Review Guide, 2018; MA Working Format, Student Handbook. Parallel to the listed documents, the Faculty has taken into consideration the below enumerated documents: University of Prishtina Strategic Plan "Hasan Prishtina" 2017 – 2019; Faculty of Philosophy Development Strategy 2018 - 2023; Kosovo Education Strategic Plan 2017 – 2021. University of Prishtina – Technical Assistance for the Office of the Rector, USAID Report 2013. All of these documents are publicly available.

Staff and students are made aware of the internal regulations (and other relevant acts) which regulate conduct between staff, the administration, and students. These documents are accessible to all on the web page of the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina". The ET confirms that these are clearly visible to the various internal stakeholders involved in the BA study programme in political science.

Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 1.1. The study programme 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 programme 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	

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Standard 1.6. All policies, regulations, terms of reference and statements of responsibility relating to the management and delivery of the programme 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. No further recommendations.

2.2. Quality Management

According to the SER, the guaranteeing of the quality of programmes at the University of Prishtina is regulated by the Law on Higher Education No. 04/L-037, the Statute of the University of Pristina and the Regulation on Ensuring Quality and Evaluation at the University of Prishtina. There are two types of evaluations conducted the UP. One is external and deals with the institutional accreditation, while the other one deals with the internal evaluation and the evaluation of the programs of academic units before they undergo the external evaluation by the international experts.

The first level consists of the external oversight from the Kosovar Agency for Accreditation (KAA)(AKA) and the University Bureau for Academic Development. The ET confirms that this is at a high professional level in terms of monitoring different aspects of the educational offerings. There are also quality assurance mechanisms within the Faculty while the Committee of the Faculty of Philosophy, in accordance with the Statute of the University of Prishtina, has regulations and rules which clearly describes the main aspects of quality assurance. This includes, for example, monitoring of the implementation of the recommendations given by evaluating experts from the Kosovar Agency for Accreditation; and creating opportunities for evaluation from colleagues and students within the Faculty. The ET heard from different stakeholders who appeared satisfied with the level of engagement across the quality management criteria.

The BA in Political Science has passed through all mechanisms described above and has received a positive assessment at the level of the Senate, the highest decision-making body in UP. The quality assurance questionnaire is an important tool for both the students and the teaching staff and Faculty to gain greater insights into how the programme will develop over the next number of years and the ET believes it is a positive development that completion of the questionnaire is now obligatory. This feedback can be used for the continuous development of the BA programme at the programme and course levels. The Department of Political Science has solid track records in the field of quality management and quality control.

	Compliance

Standard	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 programme 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 programme 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 programme. 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 programme are prepared periodically (e.g. every three years) for consideration within the institution indicating its strengths and weaknesses.	X	
Standard 2.9. The quality assurance arrangements for the programme are themselves regularly evaluated and improved.	X	

Compliance level: Fully compliant.

ET recommendations:
1. Given that evaluation questionnaires has become mandatory, the ET recommends that a detailed and in-depth analysis of such a procedure should be made in the Department meetings.
2. The quality assurance questionnaire should be discussed at meetings with the academic staff and students.
3. The quality assurance questionnaire should be used for the continuous development of the BA at the programme as well as course levels.
4. Establishment of alumni tracking and the corresponding integration into institutionalised surveys.

2.3. Academic Staff

The ET confirms that the academic staff engaged at the Department of Political Science, under which this programme is implemented, carry out their activity in full compliance with the statutory provisions of the University of Prishtina. The SER provided a detailed overview of the teaching staff, their academic degree qualifications, their administrative or research role, the duration of their contracts of employment, and their weekly contracted hours.

Based on a review of the relevant documentation and according to the SER, the ET considers that the academic staff engaged in this BA in Political Science complies also with the legal requirements related to the profession of the teaching positions, included in the Administrative Instruction for Accreditation and the Accreditation Manual AKA. The academic staff is full time and with adequate professional training, in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Instruction of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology 2018. The Department of Political Science has provided sufficient full-time staff with appropriate academic qualifications in accordance with the provisions of the UP Statute and current legislation.

The Department of Political Science constantly provides opportunities and creates conditions in favour of capacity building and quality in teaching and research for its staff. According to the SER, since 2017, this objective has been achieved through the organisation of professional trainings in cooperation with various international organisations and is managed by the Centre for Excellence in Teaching, which operates at the central level of University of Prishtina. Through these trainings, the staff of the Political Science Department has acquired many insights and models of good practice, which directly and indirectly have influenced the development of their professional skills. In addition, teaching staff is encouraged to publish its research.

However, during the site visit, the academic staff confirmed that there is not enough support for research and professional development from the competent Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. In addition, the lack of free movement for all professors, especially in the countries of the European Union, was cited as a possible threat to the further development of the study programme.

The level of engagement by the academic community with students and the wider society is very high. The SER refers that teaching staff has, as per their contracts, dedicated time for student consultations. There is an also a good degree of community service both internally and externally. The ET commends this academic service and encourages academic staff to continue this service not only internally but externally with strategic stakeholders in Kosovo and internationally.

According to the Ser, the Faculty has implemented a structured and systematic approach to self-evaluation, emphasising the main importance of ensuring and enhancing the quality of its

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academic staff, courses, and programmes. The assessment of academic staff is regularly conducted through student evaluation, peer evaluation (during the selection and reselection of academic positions), and supervisor evaluation (faculty management). The assessment results are made public, and the ET considers that this is an important degree of transparency. The ET was informed that academic staff is also evaluated by students where the questionnaires are completed electronically and managed by SEMS at the level of the University of Prishtina Rectorate. These questionnaires have been made obligatory and the staff and management is now able to more effectively assess the quality of academic teaching through a greater sample of student input. The ET considers it a positive development.

The Faculty is also well equipped to ensure that this BA programme monitors and develops the quality of teaching over the six semesters. For example, it can be mentioned that there is a Coordinator for Academic Development, who along with the Dean, can take substantial measures to improve teaching strategies and teaching materials through requests for improvement and updating of syllabus in line with the latest publications. The ET believes that the periodic external evaluation of the programme could also ensure a high degree of quality control and where necessary improvement measures.

According to the SER, the regulation of employment relations between academic and administrative staff are provided for by the provisions of the UP Statute. Namely, it is prescribed that staff in regular employment may not have any other contract of full-time employment at any other university, and the retirement age of academic staff is 65 years. If a staff member, for personal reasons, even before retirement, resigns to being a regular, then, as needed and able, he may be hired as a Part Time staff member. Also, according to the provisions of the UP regulations, it is permitted to hire a retired academic staff up to the age of 70.

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 programme 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 programme are full time employees, and account for at least 50% of the classes of the study programme.	X	

Standard 3.5. For each student group (defined by the statute of the institution) and for every 60 ECTS credits in the study programme, 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: Substantially compliant.

ET recommendations:

1. The ET recommends that the academic staff should be provided with better financial support and organisational assistance, without which it cannot have required and sufficient access to international scientific research and training activities.
2. The ET recommends that the academic staff should be enabled through financial support for greater participation in international projects, conferences, and scientific events.

2.4. Educational Process Content

Based on inspection of documents and discussions during the site visit, the ET concluded that the BA in Political Science contains satisfactory preparation for students to become informed active citizens. This programme is also interdisciplinary and crosses the boundaries of different disciplines such as history, sociology, law, economics, psychology etc. The two profiles of the programme (International relations and diplomacy and public administration) as well as the elective courses are supposed to enlarge the interdisciplinarity of the programme and allow students to learn by making connections between ideas and concepts across different fields and disciplines that figures in the programme. This will enable students to take part and apply the knowledge gained in different fields of study to deepen their learning experience.

The ET welcomes that this BA programme has elaborated interdisciplinarity in an appropriate way. It enables students to build their own pathway by choosing courses, which make sense to

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them. The programme offers a number of skills modules that are sufficiently transferable to different job market settings. Moreover, it enables students to move within the European study area. The learning objectives that figure in this programme are a roadmap how to achieve the programme goals and figure in the specific teaching objectives. Through an analysis of the SER, meetings with stakeholders and from an examination the relevant documents and curriculum, the ET found it positive that the BA in Political Science has been developed in full accordance with the standards of the European Higher Education Area. It reflects also the three-cycle model of studies, where BA studies constitute the first cycle with 180 ECTS.

The SER confirms that the BA Political Science study programme has been elaborated in accordance with the standards set out by the Kosovo Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and the ESG standards described in the manual of the Kosovo Accreditation Agency. It has provided an overview of the courses to be offered over the six semesters along with a list of lectures to be delivered in each course and a reading list. The ET can only confirm that it exists a good degree of cohesion between the modules and the teaching staff. The programme contains specific details of its components and about the opportunity it offers after they have finished their studies.

According to the findings of the ET, the teaching strategies reflect satisfactorily the different abilities of the students. The ET evaluates positively that the course syllabi are elaborated in accordance with the BA level of studies.

The SER confirms that the number of students who speak English is very high at the Department of Political Science. The ET believes that this is a good basis to be able to study relevant literature in foreign languages. English literature is given to students in different study fields. Thus, it is possible to compensate for the lack of professional literature in the Albanian language. Most of the syllabuses contain relevant international literature. Furthermore, there are two mandatory English language courses in the programme. The Faculty of Philosophy is also considering the possibility to introduction of a second foreign language, in parallel with English.

The ET considers that there is a well-elaborated and professional system for student assessment within the BA programme. The courses satisfactorily explain the evaluation criteria and passing the courses. However, the area of improvement arises regarding the engagement of students with learning outcomes. Despite the satisfactory provision of information at the beginning of the academic year and through the Faculty's website, interviews with students suggest a gap in the effective application of learning outcomes and syllabi to guide their learning processes. This raises some concern as merely explaining learning outcomes is insufficient to ensure their effective utilisation by students. A more comprehensive and proactive approach to address it could be highlighting the explicit link between assessments and learning outcomes within the syllabi. By this the Faculty can empower students with a clearer understanding of how course

content aligns with their academic goals. This measure could also foster a culture of proactive engagement and self-directed learning among students within the programme.

The ET could be convinced in a conversation with the academic staff and students that mechanisms for assessing achievement are sufficiently evident throughout the course. The ET drew a conclusion that the assessment methods are comparable to the assessment in the subjects within the programme and to other programmes in the Faculty of Philosophy and the University of Prishtina.

According to the SER and as the ET saw on its site visit, the study programme includes practice stages. As part of their Internship module, students are expected to complete their internship in a public or private institution, in or outside Kosovo. Students are free to choose their own host institution. Academic research is a crucial aspect of the internship. For all internships conducted, students are therefore required to submit an overview of their experience. This overview should include an abstract of its scholarly relevance. The ET welcomes that the University of Pristina already has an office in charge of internships that aims to facilitate student's findings of internships. According to the SER, the University has signed agreements with different government institutions for internships. This is supposed to help students to gain work experience related to the programme and develop an advanced understanding of the nexus between theory and practice.

Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 4.1. The study programme 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	
Standard 4.2. The study programme complies with the National Qualifications Framework and the Framework for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area. The individual components of the programme are combined in a way to best achieve the specified qualification objectives and provide for adequate forms of teaching and learning.	X	
Standard 4.3. 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 programmes and curricula delivered in the EHEA. To be listed at least 7 learning outcomes for the study programme under evaluation.	X	
Standard 4.4. 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/	X	

syllabuses of each subject/ module should be attached only in electronic form to the self-assessment report for the study programme under evaluation.		
Standard 4.5. 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 programme.	**X**	
Standard 4.6. 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.	**X**	
Standard 4.7. Teaching strategies are fit for the different types of learning outcomes programmes are intended to develop. Strategies of teaching and assessment set out in programme and course specifications are followed with flexibility to meet the needs of different groups of students.	**X**	
Standard 4.8. 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**	
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 programme, and in comparison with other study programmes at highly regarded institutions.	**X**	
Standard 4.10. 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**	
Standard 4.11. If the study programme 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 programme.	**X**	
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.	**X**	

Compliance level: Fully compliant.

ET recommendations:
1. The ET strongly recommends that the Faculty of Philosophy continue to develop an announced programme of compulsory learning of several foreign languages. This is

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necessary for both students and academic staff for studying literature and research and for gaining insight into international scientific achievements.

2. The ET recommends that funding be provided within the Faculty or University for the updated literature on specific sociological subjects as well as for the translation of key literature into Albanian.

3. The ET recommends that the Faculty should strengthen the partnership between students and teachers, prioritise comprehensive discussions on learning outcomes, emphasising their relevance to student development. One of the strategies for this could be to explicitly explain the connection between assessments and learning outcomes within course syllabi. This can empower students and help them in applying stated learning outcomes to guide their learning.

5. Students

Standard 5.1. There is a clear and formally adopted admission procedure at institutional level that the study programme respects when organising students' recruitment. Admission requirements are consistently and fairly applied for all students.

The ET noted inaccuracy in the self-evaluation report regarding admission procedure for the programme. The self-evaluation report references the Master's programme instead of the Bachelor's programme. Additionally, the ET consulted the web-page of the university to learn about the admission criteria and admission process - https://uni-pr.edu/page.aspx?id=2,162 . But lack of detailed information on the admission process for the Bachelor's programme on the university's website raises concerns about transparency and accessibility of this information. While the outlined criteria including academic achievement, language proficiency, and an admission exam suggest a structured approach, the absence of specific guidelines for undergraduate admissions could potentially undermine the consistency and fairness required for all students. Further clarity and accessibility regarding the Bachelor's programme admission process would ensure greater transparency and confidence in the university's recruitment practices.

Standard 5.2. All students enrolled in the study programme possess a high school graduation diploma or other equivalent document of study, according to MEST requirements.

Students are required to possess a valid high school diploma or an equivalent study document, in alignment with the stipulations set forth by the Ministry of Education and Science. The evaluation team found no reasons for concern or doubt regarding this requirement

Standard 5.3. The study groups are dimensioned so as to ensure an effective and interactive teaching and learning process.

According to the SER the programme prioritises dimensioning of groups in a way that allows interactive teaching and learning environment, discussions and research-based activities. However, there are factors to consider regarding in this regard. The ET noted that faculty members also teach in other programmes within the faculty, potentially impacting group sizes

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to manage workload. While the anticipation of programme replacements at the faculty may address workload concerns, caution is warranted in group dimensioning, particularly in subjects incorporating research components. Ensuring that group sizes facilitate meaningful engagement and support effective learning experiences remains important. Collaboration between faculty and administration is crucial in balancing workload considerations with the need for an optimal teaching and learning environment.

Standard 5.4. Feedback to students on their performance and results of assessments is given promptly and accompanied by mechanisms for assistance if needed.

The university's adherence to the Bologna Charter and the provision of subject syllabuses at the beginning of each semester demonstrate a commitment to transparency in assessment practices. However, the absence of specific alignment between assignments and the planned range of domains of student learning outcomes, as well as the lack of information on grading methods such as matrices, presents a limitation in the feedback process. Without clear indications of which learning outcomes are being assessed by each assignment, students may struggle to understand the relevance of their tasks to their overall academic progress, hindering their ability to reflect on their performance effectively. Furthermore, the absence of written feedback exacerbates this issue. While consultation hours provide an opportunity for discussion, written feedback is essential for students to review and reflect on their strengths and areas for improvement.

To address these shortcomings, the Faculty should consider enhancing syllabi by explicitly linking assignments to corresponding learning outcomes. Additionally, introducing written feedback alongside verbal consultations would provide students with comprehensive guidance and support in their learning journey. By strengthening the alignment between assignments, learning outcomes, and feedback mechanisms, the university can better empower students to achieve their academic goals and foster a culture of continuous improvement.

Standard 5.5. The results obtained by the students throughout the study cycles are certified by the academic record.

Student academic records at the university are stored both in hard copy and electronically through the SEMS system. These records encompass data on students' academic performance across all completed levels of study. The administration of the Faculty oversees the management of these records, ensuring compliance with standardised procedures established at the University level. The ET found no basis for concern regarding the storage and management of academic records, indicating that the current system effectively safeguards students' academic data.

Standard 5.6. Flexible treatment of students in special situations is ensured with respect to deadlines and formal requirements in the programme and to all examinations.

The university ensures flexible treatment of students in special situations by accommodating their needs, such as health concerns, special needs, or business travel, through prior agreement. Students may request extensions for study duration or exam deadlines, in accordance with the Statute of the University, with the possibility of further extensions upon approval by the

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Faculty Studies Council. To enhance flexibility in addressing special situations concerning deadlines and formal programme requirements, the university could implement a more transparent and accessible process for students to request accommodation of their needs in special situations. This could involve clearly outlining the procedure for requesting extensions or alternative arrangements due to health issues, special needs, or unforeseen circumstances. Providing students with easily accessible information on how to apply for extensions, including any required documentation and deadlines, can help streamline the process and reduce ambiguity.

Standard 5.7. Records of student completion rates are kept for all courses and for the programme as a whole and included among quality indicators.

In relation to including student completion rates as one of the quality indicators the SER mentions that the "grades are generally allocated for all subjects in the grade statement which serves as a quality indicator but also as a general evaluation for the students in particular". This suggests a misunderstanding regarding the distinction between grading and completion rates. While grades serve as one aspect of assessing student performance, completion rates specifically track the proportion of students who successfully finish a course or programme. The university's reliance solely on grades as a quality indicator overlooks the importance of monitoring completion rates to assess the overall success and effectiveness of the programme.

Additionally, the low completion rate of students graduating from the Political Science BA programme over the past three years highlights a significant concern. Despite this concerning trend, the faculty's lack of proactive measures to address the issue, attributing it to student disinterest and financial constraints, reflects a complacency towards improving completion rates. Neglecting to recognize low completion rates as a potential threat to programme quality undermines efforts to enhance student success and overall educational outcomes.

The ET also noted the absence of counselling services for students specifically for emotional problems. Students attribute this gap to cultural norms where discussing emotional problems is often stigmatized. Addressing this cultural barrier is essential as emotional well-being significantly impacts learning outcomes and student retention rates. By providing accessible and culturally sensitive counselling services, the university can create a supportive environment that promotes student well-being, enhances academic performance, and reduces dropout rates. Encouraging open dialogue about emotional issues can destigmatise seeking support and foster a positive campus community conducive to holistic student development.

Standard 5.8. Effective procedures are being used to ensure that work submitted by students is original.

It is asserted in the SER that there are measures to safeguard the integrity, quality, and ethical aspects of research and studies, aiming to prevent plagiarism and misuse by students. These measures primarily involve the existence of ethical and disciplinary commissions at the Faculty level, where any potential violations are reported and reviewed. However, the ET found that this cannot be sufficiently measures to effectively safeguard principles of academic integrity in absence of anti-plagiarism software. This deficiency is particularly concerning given that external quality assurance (QA) reports from 2020 and 2021 have highlighted this issue. Without anti-plagiarism software, the university lacks a crucial tool for effectively detecting

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and preventing plagiarism in student work. Consequently, the reliance solely on ethical and disciplinary commissions may not suffice to address the complexities and nuances of plagiarism detection and deterrence. As a result, there are doubts about the overall effectiveness of the university's current measures in safeguarding academic integrity and preventing plagiarism and misuse by students.

To address this issue effectively, the Faculty should prioritise the prompt acquisition and implementation of anti-plagiarism software. Additionally, comprehensive training programmes should be provided to both students and faculty to raise awareness about the importance of academic integrity and how to use the software effectively. Regular audits and evaluations of the software's usage and effectiveness should also be conducted to ensure ongoing compliance with ethical standards and academic best practices.

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.

As outlined in the UP Statute, students receive comprehensive and timely information regarding their rights, obligations, and avenues for addressing unequal treatment. They are also represented through the 'Student Parliament' in both Faculty and University bodies to advocate for their interests. Indeed, student participation in organisations like the Student Parliament plays a crucial role in advocating for and enforcing students' rights within the institution. However, challenges may arise when students perceive these organisations as politicised or lacking in transparency, leading to scepticism and a lack of trust in their ability to effectively represent student interests. This underscores the importance of ongoing institutional development efforts aimed at strengthening student representation practices and enhancing transparency within student governance structures. By fostering an environment of openness, accountability, and inclusivity, the university can empower students to actively engage in enforcing their rights and contribute to a more equitable and responsive academic community.

Standard 5.10. The students' transfer between higher education institutions, faculties and study programmes is clearly regulated in formal internal documents.

Student transfers follow guidelines outlined in the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology's Administrative Instruction 2018, as well as the University of Prishtina's Regulation on Quality Assurance and Evaluation. Detailed procedures for academic mobility and grade/ECTS transfers are outlined in these regulations. Additionally, students participating in international mobility adhere to Regulation No. 2/111, 2017, with the equivalence process managed by the Department of Department and the Academic Development Coordinator at the Faculty of Philosophy.

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.

The Department of Political Science ensures accessibility by publishing consultation schedules for all study programmes, with each teacher dedicating at least two days a week for student counselling, as mandated by Article 6 of the "Bachelor Degree Regulation: 3/532, dt.

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27.11.2017". Moreover, staff members offer tutorials as needed, without additional reimbursement for the extra hours. Providing tutorials free of charge and depending on the goodwill of academics can be a double-edged sword. On one hand, it demonstrates a commitment to student support and can foster a positive learning environment. However, it may also place additional burdens on academic staff, especially if they are not compensated for their time and effort. This could potentially lead to issues such inequality in access to academic support if some academics are more willing or able to provide tutorials than others. While this framework provides a foundation for academic support, improvements could be made by integrating academic learning support services into the university's infrastructure; this could enhance accessibility and provide students with comprehensive assistance tailored to their academic needs.

Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 5.1. There is a clear and formally adopted admission procedure at institutional level that the study programme 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 programme 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 programme and to all examinations.	X	
Standard 5.7. Records of student completion rates are kept for all courses and for the programme 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
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 programmes 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: Partially complied.

ET recommendations:

1. Ensure clarity and accessibility regarding the Bachelor's programme admission process on the university web-page

2. It would be beneficial for the university to foster collaboration between faculty and administration, as this partnership is crucial in striking a balance between workload considerations and the imperative for an optimal teaching and learning environment. This collaboration could involve regular discussions to assess workload distribution and ensure that group sizes are conducive to effective learning experiences. By working together, faculty and administration can address concerns about workload while also maintaining the integrity of the educational experience for students.

3. Consider enhancing syllabi by explicitly linking assignments to corresponding learning outcomes. Additionally, introducing written feedback alongside verbal consultations would provide students with comprehensive guidance and support in their learning journey. By strengthening the alignment between assignments, learning outcomes, and feedback mechanisms, the university can better empower students to achieve their academic goals and foster a culture of continuous improvement.

4. It is suggested that the faculty and programme staff collaborate to create a dedicated section on the university website to ensure students have clear and accessible information, regarding procedures, guidelines, and resources, particularly concerning accommodations for special situations such as deadline extensions or alternative arrangements for examinations. Regular reviews and updates based on student feedback will help maintain the effectiveness and relevance of these approaches.

5. To ensure a comprehensive assessment of programme effectiveness, it's essential for the Faculty to include programme completion rates as one of the quality indicators, alongside other metrics like grades and student satisfaction, in their evaluation criteria. This inclusion will provide valuable insights into the overall success of the programme and help identify areas for improvement to enhance student retention and academic outcomes.

6. It is recommended to establish a committee from the Faculty to develop strategies, particularly focusing on addressing issues related to programme low completion rates. This committee should be empowered to analyse programme completion rates and other relevant data, facilitating the development of targeted strategies aimed at enhancing student retention and academic outcomes.

7. To address the cultural barriers and improve support for students' emotional well-being, it is recommended to prioritise the establishment of counselling services specifically tailored to address emotional problems, providing a safe and confidential space for students to seek help and support. Additionally, awareness campaigns and initiatives aimed at destigmatising discussions around mental health and emotional well-being could help create a more supportive campus culture.

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8. The university should prioritise the prompt acquisition and implementation of anti-plagiarism software. Additionally, comprehensive training programmes should be provided to both students and faculty to raise awareness about the importance of academic integrity and how to use the software effectively. Regular audits and evaluations of the software's usage and effectiveness should also be conducted to ensure ongoing compliance with ethical standards and academic best practices.
9. To bolster the enforcement of students' rights, the university should prioritise ongoing efforts to enhance transparency, accountability, and inclusivity within student representation structures. By fostering an environment where students feel empowered to actively engage in governance processes and trust in the effectiveness of these structures, the university can better ensure the enforcement of students' rights and contribute to a more equitable academic community.
10. Integrate academic learning support services into the university's infrastructure to enhance accessibility of learning support and provide students with comprehensive assistance tailored to their academic needs.

3.6 Research

The Faculty of Philosophy has created the Development strategy and the Action plan for the implementation of the Strategy. Research objectives and the dynamics of the realisation of the activities in the achievement of the objectives are defined with these strategic documents. Within the context of this, the BA in Political Science has defined scientific research objectives. These objectives are also reflected in the research development plan of the institution. However, by analysing documents and during the site visit, the ET came to the conclusion that sufficient financial and logistical resources and human resources were not provided for achieving the proposed research objectives. It is therefore recommended that the Faculty of Philosophy and the University of Pristina develop a more substantial allocation of resources for science at the national level.

The issue of promotion of teaching staff is regulated through a mandatory requirement for scientific research and publication in journals with international credibility. The Statute of the University of Prishtina sets the criteria for staff evaluation and promotion. Finishing studies and research activities and publishing them in internationally recognised and credible scientific journals serve as an evaluation of staff performance. The definitions for the quality criteria of the staff are also provided by the document of the Accreditation Manual of AKA.

The ET notes that teaching staff are obliged to engage in research and wider academic activity which is also a basic criterion for their promotion through the academic system. Department staff participates regularly to the scientific sessions, symposiums, conferences and round tables which are of interest for the profession and the community.

The University of Prishtina has regulated the issue of evaluating the professional and scientific contribution of the teachers. In particular, the issue of publishing in local and international journals with impact factor is regulated (UP Statute, MEST Administrative Instruction and Senate Recommendations). However, the ET warns that an excessive teaching load with reduced research funding can lead to weaker scientific achievements. That is why it is necessary to establish a satisfactory balance between teaching and research of employed academic staff.

According to the SER, the academic staff of the Department of Political Science has conducted research activities with content that is directly or indirectly related to their field of teaching activity. The range of scientific activities is indeed considerable and wide ranging. The ET recommends the institution to continue developing support measures for scientific projects and international research cooperation.

An examination of the research abstracts showed that academic staff are productive scientists. The number of published articles and book chapters is respectable. The engaged scholars are connected to the national and international scholar community. The promotion is well established and appropriate linked to publishing production.

Particularly important to the institution is the fact that the academic staff is encouraged and free to include their published work in their course syllabus. The ET could witness that this is the case in many the courses that were reviewed in this accreditation. In conclusion, it can be stated that it significantly improves the research-led teaching practice where teaching staff are experts in the fields that they are teaching in the BA.

According to the SER, the University has clearly defined the rules regarding the ownership of scientific creation and has also imposed punitive measures for its misuse. There is a law for the protection of intellectual property and copyright.

In conversation with academic staff, the ET came to the conclusion that teachers' salaries are very low compared to other professions and do not adequately cover the increased cost of living. Apparently, they were not even increased for a long time. That is why the ET appeals to the Faculty of Philosophy as well as the University of Prishtina to take measures to increase the salaries of employees.

In the conversation with the students during the site visit, the ET received information that students are involved in research projects and other activities in the BA study programme of Political Science.

Standard	Compliance	
	Yes	No
Standard 6.1. The study programme has defined scientific/applied research objectives (on its own or as part of a research centre or interdisciplinary programme), which are also reflected in the research	X	

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development plan of the institution; sufficient financial, logistic and human resources are allocated for achieving the proposed research objectives.		
Standard 6.2. 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**	
Standard 6.3. 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 programme.	**X**	
Standard 6.4. The academic staff has a proven track record of research results on the same topics as their teaching activity.	**X**	
Standard 6.5. 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**	
Standard 6.6. Research is validated through: scientific and applied research publications, artistic products, technological transfer through consultancy centres, scientific parks and other structures for validation.	**X**	
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.	**X**	
Standard 6.8. Academic and research staff publish under the name of the institution in Kosovo they are affiliated to as full-time staff.	**X**	
Standard 6.9/6.8. 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.	**X**	
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.	**X**	
Standard 6.11. Students are engaged in research projects and other activities.	**X**	

Compliance level: Fully compliant.

ET recommendations:
1. The ET recommends that the Faculty of Philosophy as well as the University of Prishtina take measures to increase the salaries of the academic staff.
2. The ET recommends that the Faculty of Philosophy create a regulation and annually reward researchers for significant works published in publications with high international scientific visibility.

2.5. Infrastructure and Resources

1. Infrastructure and resources

The ET was able to make sure that the Faculty has the appropriate high-quality infrastructure and resources for long-term implementation of the BA programme in Political Science. There are physical resources at the Faculty to ensure its delivery. Human resources are also available to ensure that the courses elaborated in the programme description can be delivered.

The attached table 4 in the SER shows in detail the state of the places, rooms and halls intended for students, academic and administrative staff. The ET inspected the space and found out that the specific learning abilities for the attendees of the BA programme in Political Science are equipped with all the necessary tools and as such fulfil the conditions for the development of learning for large groups as well as for small group work. The ET noted that all the halls it visited are equipped with projectors and other learning-related tools, such as whiteboards, small boards, etc. The number of seats in each room is adequate to accommodate the students in this BA programme.

Despite the statement in the SER that the library and reading halls are sufficient and contain a considerable amount of literature related to the curriculum of this programme, the ET concluded that this is not sufficient for the needs of the Faculty and all the studies it runs. The availability of teaching materials, both books and online access to literature, is lacking. It is some help that there is a National Library near the Faculty building that students can use but it is unclear from either the SER or from the site visit what scholarly resources are available at the National Library.

In the SER, there is also noted a weakness that the Faculty Library is not linked to any regional or European network of libraries, and consequently the students of this programme do not have access to online literature. Therefore, the ET strongly recommends the Faculty and the wider university leadership to invest more in online resources and with close engagement with the National Library.

Furthermore, the ET notes that the IT Infrastructure of the Faculty of Philosophy, where the BA in Political Science has been conducted, does not have any teleconference hall where students can attend distance lectures by a professor abroad.

Finally, it should be noted that the infrastructure for people with special needs is not sufficiently developed. In the SER itself, it is pointed out that the infrastructure and facilities partially meet the requirements for implementing the programme for individuals with special needs related to limb impairments. The ET took notice that the three floors of the Faculty of Philosophy building are accessible by an elevator. The ground floor and the main entrance of the building are accessible for all equipment used by individuals with special needs.

	Compliance

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Standard	Yes	No
Standard 7.1. The adequate long-term implementation of the study programme 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**	
Standard 7.2. There is a financial plan at the level of the study programme that would demonstrate the sustainability of the study programme for the next minimum three years.	**X**	
Standard 7.3. The higher education institution must demonstrate with adequate documents (property deeds, lease contracts, inventories, invoices etc.) that, for the study programme 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**	
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.	**X**	
Standard 7.5. The education institution's libraries must ensure, for each of the study programmes: a) a number of seats in the reading rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study programme; b) a number of seats in the group work rooms corresponding to at least 10% of the total number of students in the study programme; 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; 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; e) a sufficient number of subscriptions to Albanian and foreign publications and periodicals, according to the stated mission.		**X**
Standard 7.6. The infrastructure and facilities dedicated to the implementation of the programme is adapted to students with special needs.	**X**	

Compliance level: Substantially compliant.

ET recommendations:

1. Establishing space where students and staff could socialise informally.
2. Arrangement of recreational spaces for staff and students within the campus.
3. Redesign and upgrade of the library facilities.
4. Digital cataloguing of books in the Faculty's library with a greater sense of urgency.
5. The access to electronic platforms for students in order to use relevant literature, journals and e-books.
6. Software programmes for analysing data in the field of political and social sciences.

3. FINAL RECOMMENDATION OF THE ET

In line with the Manual requirements, the Expert Team recommends **to re-accredit** the programme – BA in Political Science.

The study programme BA in Political Science BA: A) International Relations and Diplomacy / B) Public Administration as such and the given infrastructure as seen in the on-site-visit and in the examination of the documents is substantially compliant with the standards included in the KAA Accreditation manual.

Overall compliance

Standard	Compliance level
1. Mission, objectives and administration	Fully compliant
2. Quality management	Fully compliant
3. Academic staff	Substantially compliant
4. Educational process content	Fully compliant
5. Students	Partially compliant
6. Research	Fully compliant
7. Infrastructure and resources	Substantially compliant
Overall compliance	**Substantially compliant**

Compliance level: Substantially compliant.

The ET recommends to the KAA to re-accredit the study programme Political Science BA: A) International Relations and Diplomacy / B) Public Administration for a duration of 5 years.

Student quota recommended: 100.

Expert Team

Member

Pavo Barišić (signature)

	Prof Pavo Barišić, PhD	**15 May 2024**
(Signature)	(Print Name)	(Date)

Member

signature
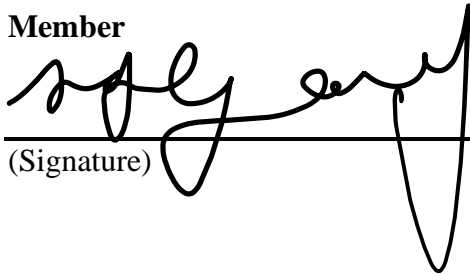
	Lali Giorgidze	**27 May 2024**
(Signature)	(Print Name)	(Date)

Member

signature

	Prof Dr Michael J. Geary	**28 May 2024**
(Signature)	(Print Name)	(Date)