



**State Council of Quality (SCQ)**

**Agenda SCQ Meeting 141**

**Date: 21.08.2025**

**Regular Meeting**

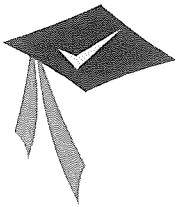
**Time: 09:00**

**SCQ Board Meeting Minutes**

**Present in the meeting:**

Hasnije Ilazi – President  
Klemen Miklavic – Vice president  
Maja Martinovic – Member  
Gezim Tosuni – Member  
Jaakko Kauko – Member  
Mirlinda Batalli – Member  
Avni Berisha – Member  
Jetmir Haxhibeqiri – Member  
Shkurte Bajgora – Member  
Arianit Krasniqi – KAA staff  
Liridona Ademaj – ORCA Monitoring

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## **1. Approval of agenda**

The SCQ unanimously approved the agenda.

## **2. Approval of minutes from SCQ 140**

The SCQ reviewed item 4.11 and noted that the decision to postpone consideration of the respective request, and to instruct the lawyer of the Chamber of Physiotherapists of Kosovo to resubmit the documentation in English, was based on procedural requirements. This measure was also necessary in view of the composition of the Council, which includes international experts, as mandated by law, who do not speak Albanian. Following this discussion, the minutes of SCQ Meeting No. 140 were unanimously approved.

## **3. Revision of Expert Reports for Program Accreditation**

**University of Gjakova, Engineering Informatics (BSc)** – A new expert was engaged to re-evaluate Standard 7 (Infrastructure and Resources). The expert remained in close communication with the members of the initial evaluation team throughout the process. Following this review, the expert team revised their evaluation from partially compliant to substantially compliant and included several recommendations. Consequently, the final decision was to accredit the program for a period of three (3) years, subject to follow-up procedures in the following year to verify implementation of the recommendations. The SCQ unanimously approved the report.

**University of Gjakova, Primary Education (BA)** – KAA appointed a new expert, not part of the original team, to re-evaluate this program with a specific focus on the Academic Staff standard, which is mandatory and had previously been assessed as partially compliant. The re-evaluating expert concluded that the program meets the requirements for this standard and recommended accreditation. However, the initial evaluation team disagreed with this assessment and declined to amend their report. The SCQ unanimously voted to remove one of the experts from the original team, as it was determined that the expert was not from the relevant field. This expert was replaced by the newly appointed evaluator. Subsequently, the SCQ unanimously decided to postpone this report and requested that the expert team reach a common position. In the event of continued disagreement, the experts are required to prepare a separate report clearly outlining the points of divergence.

## **4. Revision of applications for Institutional Accreditation**

“Ukshin Hoti” Prizren – SCQ unanimously approved this application.

“Isa Boletini” Mitrovice – SCQ unanimously approved this application.

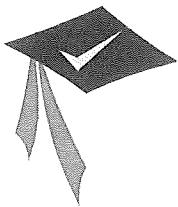
Kosovo Academy for Public Safety – SCQ unanimously approved this application.

UBT College Prizren – SCQ unanimously approved this application.

UBT College Ferizaj – SCQ unanimously approved this application.

Dardania College – In light of the pending court decision regarding the ownership of the premises in which the institution operates, the SCQ unanimously decided to postpone consideration of this application.

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Riinvest College - SCQ unanimously approved this application.

## 5. Revision of applications for program accreditation

**IBCM, Applied IT (BA Professional, 180 ECTS, Accreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously rejected the application as three of the proposed program holders did not meet the required criteria.

**IBCM, Psychology (BSc, 180 ECTS, Accreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to postpone consideration of the application pending confirmation from NARIC regarding the recognition of one program holder's diploma.

**Kosovo Academy for Public Safety, Public Safety (BA, 180 ECTS, Accreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

**“Fehmi Agani” Gjakove, Primary Education (BA, 240 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to postpone consideration of this application pending receipt of the expert report from the re-evaluation.

**“Fehmi Agani” Gjakove, Community Health Care (BSc, 180 ECTS, Accreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program. One of the proposed program holders was not accepted, as the professor in question will retire before the beginning of the academic year.

**“Fehmi Agani” Gjakove, Health Sciences in Sport and Tourism (BSc. 180 ECTS, Accreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to postpone consideration of this application pending further clarification regarding the correlation between learning outcomes and the provision of concrete examples of career pathways (employment and further studies).

**“Fehmi Agani” Gjakove, Professional Bachelor in Nursing (180 ECTS, Accreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to reject the application, in line with the decision of the Ministry of Health.

**“Kadri Zeka” Gjilan, Primary Education (BA, 240 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program. One of the proposed program holders was not accepted, as the professor in question will retire before the beginning of the academic year.

**“Kadri Zeka” Gjilan, Language and Communication (MA, 60 ECTS, Accreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to reject this application in line with the decision for 60 ECTS MA.

**“Kadri Zeka” Gjilan, General Law (LLB, 240 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to reject this application because one of the program holders was not in the field.

**“Kadri Zeka” Gjilan, Criminal Law (LLM, 60 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to postpone this application and double check the decision for 60 ECTS MA.

**“Kadri Zeka” Gjilan, Computer Science (BSc, 180 ECT, Reaccreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to reject the application for this program, as one of the proposed program holders' residency permit will expire in October.

**“Kadri Zeka” Gjilan, E-privacy, AI and Data Protection (MSc, 120 ECTS, Accreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to reject the application for this program, as both of the proposed program holders hold PhD degrees that are not in the relevant field.

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**“Kadri Zeka” Gjilan, Mathematics and STEM (BSc, 180 ECTS, Accreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program. One of the proposed program holders was not accepted, as the professor in question will retire before the beginning of the academic year.

**Engineering in Electro-Automation (Level 5, 120 ECTS, Accreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to reject the application, noting that Level 5 programs fall outside the scope of the Kosovo Accreditation Agency’s mandate.

**“Isa Boletini” Mitrovice, Computer Science and Engineering (BSc, 180 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to reject the application for this program, as one of the proposed program holders’ did not have a valid contract.

**“Isa Boletini” Mitrovice, Cloud and Edge Computing (MSc, 120 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

**“Isa Boletini” Mitrovice, Manufacturing Technology and Management (MSc, 120 ECTS, Accreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

**“Isa Boletini” Mitrovice, Social Pedagogy (BA, 180 ECTS, Accreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to postpone consideration of this application pending clarification from NARIC regarding the 60 ECTS PhDs of certain proposed program holders. In addition, several program holders were rejected as they were either not from the relevant field, did not meet the ESAC Code and program description requirements, or lacked the necessary publications.

**“Haxhi Zeka” Pejë - Information Technology in Business and Economics (180 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

**“Haxhi Zeka” Pejë - General Law (LLB, 240 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

**“Haxhi Zeka” Pejë - Law and Security (LLM, 120 ECTS, Accreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

**“Haxhi Zeka” Pejë - Music Art (BA, 240 ECTS, Accreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

**“Ukshin Hoti” Prizren - Bussines Administration (MSc, 120 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** – The SCQ decided to reject this application as one of the proposed program holders failed to submit an updated and signed CV. The decision was adopted with one abstention.

**“Ukshin Hoti” Prizren - European Union Legislation and Institutions (LLM, 60 ECTS, Accreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

**“Ukshin Hoti” Prizren - English Language and Literature (BA, 240 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

**“Ukshin Hoti” Prizren - Applied Linguistics (MA, 60 ECTS, Accreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

**“Ukshin Hoti” Prizren - Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology (MSc, 120 ECTS, Accreditation)** - The

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SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

**“Ukshin Hoti” Prizren - Teaching Biology ( MA, 120 ECTS, Accreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to reject the application, as one of the proposed program holders was not from the relevant field.

**“Ukshin Hoti” Prizren - Education and Teaching in Mathematics in the Turkish Language (MA 60 ECTS, Accreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

*Shkurtë Bajgora left due to potential conflict of interest.*

**“Hasan Prishtina” Faculty of Education - Master of Education for STEAM (120 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program. In addition, the Council instructed the experts to review the extent of coverage of other STEAM fields.

**“Hasan Prishtina” Faculty of Education - Doctoral for Educational Sciences ( Double Degree), 180 ECTS, Reaccreditation** – The SCQ unanimously decided to postpone consideration of this application until all relevant information regarding the proposed program holders is provided.

**“Hasan Prishtina” Faculty of Education - Education Technology (BA, 180 ECTS, Accreditation)** - The SCQ unanimously decided to approve the application for accreditation of this study program.

**University of Applied Sciences in Ferizaj - Interior Architecture and Furniture Design (BSc. 180 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to reject this application, as the program did not meet the requirement of having at least one qualified program holder with an academic background in architecture.

**University of Applied Sciences in Ferizaj - Design and Construction of Wooden Products (Professional Bachelor. 180 ECTS, Reaccreditation)** – The SCQ unanimously decided to reject this application as the majority of the proposed program holders did not have the required relevant experience.

## 6. Requests

### 6.1. Heimerer College

Heimerer College submitted a request to the SCQ for the Health Sciences of Diagnostic Profiles – Laboratory Technician (BSc) program to approve a replacement program holder, as one of the current holders will retire in June 2025. The request had been submitted earlier, but the SCQ required a renewed employment contract, which has now been provided with full documentation. The SCQ unanimously resolved to approve the request.

### 6.2. Heimerer College

Heimerer College submitted a request for the withdrawal and replacement of three program holders across the study programs *Medical Laboratory Sciences (MSc)*, *Psychology (BSc)*, and *Nursing – Advanced Nursing Practice (MSc)*. The institution explained that one program holder had resigned and two others had their contracts terminated. In line with KAA regulations and within the required deadlines, the institution proposed new program holders and submitted the supporting documentation through the e-accreditation platform. The SCQ unanimously resolved to approve two of the proposed replacements, while one was rejected due to not fulfilling the requirement on publications.

### 6.3. UP Philology

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The University of Prishtina, Faculty of Philology, submitted a request for the replacement of a program holder in the Oriental Cultural Studies (MA, 60 ECTS) program, in reference to SCQ Decision No. 456/25 of 23 April 2025. The institution proposed a new program holder within the stipulated timeframe and submitted the required documentation for consideration. The SCQ unanimously decided to reject the request, as the proposed program holder was not in the relevant field.

#### **6.4. Uni Mitrovica**

The University “Isa Boletini” Mitrovicë, Faculty of Mechanical and Computer Engineering, submitted a request for the replacement of program holders in two study programs during the re-accreditation process:

**-Computer Science and Engineering (BSc)** – The request was submitted due to the resignation of the current program holder. A replacement with a PhD in Computer Science and relevant publications was proposed. The SCQ unanimously resolved to approve the replacement.

**Mechanical Engineering (BSc)** – The request was submitted following the retirement of the current program holder. A replacement with a PhD in Physics, publications in the field, and professional experience in Mechanical Engineering was proposed. The SCQ unanimously resolved to postpone the decision pending verification of the original program holders.

#### **6.5. Uni Mitrovica**

The University “Isa Boletini” Mitrovicë submitted a request for the replacement of a program holder in the Food Engineering and Technology (MA) program, following the retirement of the previous holder. The institution proposed a new program holder in line with KAA procedures and submitted the required documentation. The SCQ unanimously approved the request.

#### **6.6. Uni Prizren**

The University “Ukshin Hoti” Prizren, Faculty of Law, notified the SCQ of the suspension of regular employment of one program holder in the General Law (LL.B, 240 ECTS) program, following his election as a member of the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council. The institution noted that the program continues to meet the minimum requirement of program holders. The SCQ concluded that no replacement or further approval is required, as the individual continues to hold a valid regular employment contract with the university.

#### **6.7. Uni Prizren**

The University “Ukshin Hoti” Prizren, Faculty of Computer Science, submitted a request for the reconsideration of the decision regarding the replacement of a program holder in the *Software Design (Professional Bachelor, 180 ECTS)* program. The institution argued that the proposed substitute meets the criteria based on academic qualifications, work experience, and supporting documentation, and requested that the SCQ re-evaluate the earlier decision. The SCQ unanimously rejected the request based on the grounds that a request for the same issue cannot be submitted twice, and suggested to the institution to address the matter to the Appeals Committee.

#### **6.8. UP Arts**

The University of Prishtina, Faculty of Arts, submitted a request for a technical update and completion of the final accreditation decisions for the programs Dramatic Arts (MA, 60 ECTS) and Visual Arts (BA, 240 ECTS). The institution requested that the modular structures of the accredited programs be explicitly

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included in the SCQ's final decisions, as they were presented in the Self-Evaluation Reports. The SCQ unanimously decided to reject this request.

#### **6.9. Kosovo Chamber of Physiotherapists**

The State Council of Quality (SCQ) reviewed the request submitted by the authorized representative of the Kosovo Chamber of Physiotherapists (Ref. 823/25, dated 08.07.2025; Ref. 940/25, dated 31.07.2025 in English), seeking the annulment and suspension of SCQ Decision Ref. 720/25, dated 20.06.2025, concerning the accreditation of the study program Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation, BSc, 240 ECTS, at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Prishtina. The Chamber argued that:

The SCQ decision unlawfully applied new accreditation standards (Regulation No. 04/2024 and Administrative Instruction No. 01B-03/2024) retroactively, although at the time of application the applicable framework was MEST Administrative Instruction No. 15/2018.

Several of the program holders were not in the field of physiotherapy. Most held PhDs in medical sciences with specializations unrelated to physiotherapy, and one did not meet the minimum academic rank of Assistant Professor.

The accreditation of the program under these conditions would produce graduates ineligible for licensing by the Kosovo Chamber of Physiotherapists, creating risks for students, the profession, and patient safety. The decision undermines the integrity of the higher education and professional licensing system by allowing unqualified staff and setting a precedent for other regulated professions.

Due to these concerns, the Chamber requested both the annulment of the SCQ decision and the suspension of its implementation until the matter is fully resolved.

In addition, the Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA) submitted its legal opinion, clarifying that:

Inadmissibility of the request – In accordance with Law No. 08/L-110 on the KAA, only higher education institutions (HEIs) are legitimate parties in accreditation procedures. The SCQ and KAA are not legally required or authorized to review requests or complaints from professional chambers. Consequently, the request is inadmissible and falls outside the competence of the SCQ.

Procedural clarification – Claims of retroactivity could only be raised by the University of Prishtina as the applicant institution, which did not contest the decision.

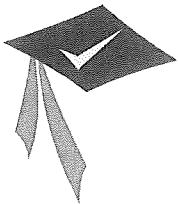
Alternative procedural pathways – If deemed necessary, the SCQ could correct the preamble of Decision Ref. 720/25 or forward the matter to the Appeals Committee under Article 126 of the Law on General Administrative Procedure (LPPA).

After deliberation, the SCQ unanimously resolved to inform the Kosovo Chamber of Physiotherapists that their request is inadmissible, as they lack legal standing to initiate such a procedure.

#### **6.10. Faculty of Islamic Studies**

The SCQ reviewed the request of the Faculty of Islamic Studies for the re-accreditation of the Bachelor program Islamic Theology. Following the requirement set in the meeting of 24 July 2025, the Faculty submitted a support letter from the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (Ref. 01-135, dated 13.08.2025), confirming the program's national importance under the National Strategy for the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism 2023–2028 and supporting conditional accreditation under Article 27(3) of Law No. 08/L-110. The SCQ unanimously approved the conditional accreditation of the program Islamic Theology (BA) for one (1) year.

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## **6.11. IBCM College**

The Public International Business College Mitrovica (IBCM) submitted, for the second time, a request for reconsideration of the SCQ decision Ref. 974/25, dated 01.08.2025, regarding the validation of the international accreditation of the Bachelor's program in Psychology (BSc, 180 ECTS), accredited by Evalag. The SCQ, after reviewing the request, unanimously decided to refer the case to the Appeals Committee for further review.

## **7. Appeals**

**7.1. IBCM College – SCQ unanimously voted to pass it to the Appeals Committee.**

## **8. Decisions of Appeals Committee – Case of UBT**

The SCQ reviewed the legal opinion of the KAA regarding the Appeals Committee Decision KA/No. 750/2025 (dated 26.06.2025), issued in enforcement of the Commercial Court ruling KA.No. 966/22 (dated 16.04.2025). The Appeals Committee had approved UBT College's complaint concerning the non-handling of its application for the program General Medicine, Dr. Med, 360 ECTS and obliged the SCQ to issue a decision within thirty (30) days. Complaints regarding other programs were rejected as unfounded. After consideration, the SCQ concluded that no legal basis currently exists for the accreditation of General Medicine programs, as the criteria are not foreseen in Kosovo law or the Accreditation Manual. Previous court rulings (e.g., KA.No. 156/22, dated 02.08.2023) have confirmed this limitation, and UBT has not fulfilled the legal requirement of university/university-college status as stipulated by Law No. 04/L-037 and Directive 2005/36/EC. The SCQ unanimously decided to reject the request of UBT College for the accreditation of the program General Medicine, Dr. Med, 360 ECTS, on the grounds of lacking legal basis and non-fulfilment of essential criteria.

## **9. Report of ad hoc commission for verification of approved experts**

Following the incident regarding the engagement of a student expert as part of an evaluation panel, the Director General of the Kosovo Accreditation Agency established two ad hoc commissions to verify the procedural steps related to the engagement of international experts.

The first Ad hoc commission (decision Ref. 315/25 dated 21.05.2025) for verification and evaluation of the procedure for recruitment and engagement of Nina Rotermund in the accreditation process submitted its report on 20.06.2025. The commission compiled the report based on all the available evidence and interviews with all parties involved in this process. The report with concrete findings was submitted to the general director.

The second Ad hoc Commission for Verification (decision Ref. 313/25, dated 21.05.2025) submitted its report on 08.08.2025. The Commission, composed of Ilirjane Ademaj (Chair), Kaltrina Hyseni, and Olsa Ibrahim, conducted a comprehensive review of all decisions of the State Council of Quality (SCQ) approving and updating the list of international experts over the past years.

The Commission verified the relevant documentation of the meetings where the appointments of experts were approved, confirming that the procedures were conducted in full compliance with legal and administrative requirements. It was confirmed that the international experts were approved based on the following SCQ decisions:

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Decision no. 43/23, dated 13.01.2023

Decision no. 141/24, dated 07.02.2024

Decision no. 1709/24, dated 20.08.2024

Decision no. 2679/24, dated 24.12.2024

Decision no. 441/25, dated 22.04.2025

The Commission concluded that the list of international experts has been prepared and approved in line with all relevant standards and regulations, and that the experts meet the required criteria for participation in accreditation and evaluation processes.

The SCQ took note of the verification report and unanimously confirmed the accuracy, validity, and procedural compliance of the list of international experts. It was further noted that, in order to avoid similar incidents in the future, each expert included in the list must have an ESAC code assigned, as part of the Agency's verification and registration process.

#### **10. Revision of applications for evaluation experts**

The SCQ unanimously resolved to postpone deliberation on this item, pending further review.

#### **11. Web-page monitoring report**

Institutions' Webpage Monitoring Report were presented to the State Council of Quality. After review and discussion, the SCQ unanimously approved the reports. These reports will be published on the official website of the Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA).

#### **12. Follow-up reports**

The SCQ unanimously resolved to postpone deliberation on this item, pending further review.

#### **13. Monitoring reports**

The SCQ unanimously resolved to postpone deliberation on this item, pending further review.

#### **14. Discussion on the Conference**

The SCQ was informed about the progress in organizing the upcoming conference. It was noted that all panelists and panel moderators have been confirmed, keynote speakers have been arranged, and promotional materials have already been published by KAA. The Agency will continue to provide regular updates to the public and participants.

#### **15. Other**

The SCQ took note that a workshop on the KAA Strategy will be held in October. Several members of the Board expressed their intention to participate in the workshop. Members unable to attend were encouraged to provide their opinions and suggestions in writing via email.

Meeting adjourned. The following meeting will be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2025 at 9:00 AM.

Minutes prepared by:

Fjollë Ajeti

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Prof. Asoc. Dr. Hasnije Ilazi,  
President State Council of Quality

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