

Doc. 300.3.1

Date: Date

External Evaluation Report (Departmental)

- **Higher Education Institution:**
University of Cyprus
- **Town:** Nicosia
 - **School/Faculty:** FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
- **Department:** French and European Studies
- **Department's Status:** Currently Operating

- **Programme(s) of study under evaluation:**
Name (Duration, ECTS, Cycle)

(No programs were evaluated under this departmental evaluation)

Programme 1

In Greek:

Programme Name

In English:

Programme Name

Programme 2

In Greek:

Programme Name

In English:

Programme Name

Programme 3

In Greek:

Programme Name

In English:

Programme Name



The present document has been prepared within the framework of the authority and competencies of the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education, according to the provisions of the “Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws of 2015 to 2019” [N. 136 (I)/2015 to N. 35(I)/2019].

Department's programmes (to be filled by the CYQAA officer and verified by the EEC):

DEPARTMENT	PROGRAMMES OF STUDY
FRENCH AND EUROPEAN STUDIES	BA in French and European Studies
	Master in French Didactics
	Master in European Studies
	PhD in French Studies
	PhD in European Studies



A. Introduction

This part includes basic information regarding the onsite visit.

The onsite visit was perfectly correct and took place online. The committee was able to meet all the colleagues and secretaries, and an interesting selection of students. The heads of the department have given all the answers and information which were required. The virtual visit of the university was quite useful.

B. External Evaluation Committee (EEC)

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>University</i>
Jacques Dürrenmatt	Professor of French Linguistics	Sorbonne Université, Paris
Marisa Verna	Full Professor of French Literature	Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan
Tannelie Blom	Professor of European Studies	University Maastricht
Marina Neophytou	Student	Cyprus University of Technology
Name	Position	University
Name	Position	University

C. Guidelines on content and structure of the report

- *The external evaluation report refers to the Department as a whole (programmes offered, teaching staff, administrative staff, infrastructure, resources, etc.).*
- *The external evaluation report follows the structure of assessment areas and sub-areas.*
- *Under each assessment area there are quality indicators (criteria) to be scored by the EEC on a scale from one (1) to five (5), based on the degree of compliance for the above mentioned quality indicators (criteria). The scale used is explained below:*

1 or 2:	<i>Non-compliant</i>
3:	<i>Partially compliant</i>
4 or 5:	<i>Compliant</i>

- *The EEC must justify the numerical scores provided for the quality indicators (criteria) by specifying (if any) the deficiencies.*
- *It is pointed out that, in the case of indicators (criteria) that cannot be applied due to the status of the Department, N/A (= Not Applicable) should be noted and a detailed explanation should be provided on the Department's corresponding policy regarding the specific quality indicator.*
- *In addition, for each assessment area, it is important to provide information regarding the compliance with the requirements. In particular, the following must be included:*

Findings

A short description of the situation in the Department based on evidence from the Department's application and the site - visit.

Strengths

A list of strengths, e.g. examples of good practices, achievements, innovative solutions etc.

Areas of improvement and recommendations

A list of problem areas followed by or linked to the recommendations of how to improve the situation.

- *The EEC should state the compliance for each sub-area (Non-compliant, Partially compliant, Compliant), **which must be in agreement with everything stated in the report.***
- *The report may also address other issues which the EEC finds relevant.*

1. Department's academic profile and orientation (ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9)

Sub-areas

- 1.1 Mission and strategic planning (including SWOT analysis)
- 1.2 Connecting with society
- 1.3 Development processes

Mark from 1 to 5 the degree of compliance for each quality indicator/criterion

- 1 or 2: *Non-compliant*
- 3: *Partially compliant*
- 4 or 5: *Compliant*

Quality indicators/criteria		
1. Department's academic profile and orientation		
1.1 Mission and strategic planning (including SWOT analysis)		1 - 5
1.1.1	The Department has formally adopted a mission statement, which is available to the public and easily accessible.	5
1.1.2	The Department has developed its strategic planning aiming at fulfilling its mission.	5
1.1.3	The Department's strategic planning includes short, medium-term and long-term goals and objectives, which are periodically revised and adapted.	4
1.1.4	The programmes of study offered by the Department reflect its academic profile and are aligned with the European and international practice.	5
1.1.5	The academic community is involved in shaping and monitoring the implementation of the Department's development strategies.	5
1.1.6	Stakeholders such as academics, students, graduates and other professional and scientific associations participate in the Department's development strategy.	5
1.1.7	The mechanism for collecting and analysing data and indicators needed to effectively design the Department's academic development is adequate and effective.	4
Justify the numerical scores provided for the quality indicators (criteria) by specifying (if any) the deficiencies.		

1.1.3 The Department is clearly understaffed, and this issue makes it difficult to exploit the richness of its cultural offer, particularly innovative and promising in a multicultural society. Medium and long-term goals should consider this necessity, in order to enhance the attractiveness and the dimension of the Department itself.

1.1.7 The Department application states p. 63 that “There is no specific procedure for monitoring the professional development of graduates. It is expected in the near future that the Alumni Office will develop a specific policy for the process and mechanisms for monitoring their professional development”. We were informed during the onsite visit that the data processing is now systematic and provided by the Alumni office. As this kind of data is extremely useful to assess well targeted strategic plans, we strongly recommend that it is clearly published in the Department website.

Additionally, provide information on the following:

1. Coherence and compatibility among programmes of study offered by the Department.
2. Coherence and compatibility among Departments within the School/Faculty (to which the Department under evaluation belongs).

The programs offered by the Department of French and European Studies are fully compatible and coherent, as well within the Department frame than within the Faculty of Humanities to which the Department belongs.

Provide suggestions for changes in case of incompatibility.

[Click to enter text.](#)

1. Department’s academic profile and orientation

1.2 Connecting with society		1 - 5
1.2.1	The Department has effective mechanisms to assess the needs and demands of society and takes them into account in its various activities.	5
1.2.2	The Department provides sufficient information to the public about its activities and offered programmes of study.	5
1.2.3	The Department ensures that its operation and activities have a positive impact on society.	5
1.2.4	The Department has an effective communication mechanism with its graduates.	5

Justify the numerical scores provided for the quality indicators (criteria) by specifying (if any) the deficiencies.

1. Department’s academic profile and orientation

1.3 Development processes		1 - 5
1.3.1	Effective procedures and measures are in place to attract and select teaching staff to ensure that they possess the formal and substantive skills to teach, carry out research and effectively carry out their work.	5
1.3.2	Planning teaching staff recruitment and their professional development is in line with the Department's academic development plan.	4
1.3.3	The Department applies an effective strategy of attracting high-level students from Cyprus and abroad.	5
1.3.4	The funding processes for the operation of the Department and the continuous improvement of the quality of its programmes of study are adequate and transparent.	5

Justify the numerical scores provided for the quality indicators (criteria) by specifying (if any) the deficiencies.

1.3.2 Additional teaching staff would be required to carry on the good results of the Department. In particular, teaching staff in languages different than French and English would be in line with the European mission of the Department. The German language teaching, for example, relies on one single professor, who must ensure the whole program of German. Furthermore, as it was said by the previous evaluation, it would be wise for a long-term planning that the Department widens its perspectives towards more languages and cultures. Although aware of the small dimensions of the Department, we think that having a wider program would probably help to attract more students.

The teaching staff is well qualified both for teaching than for research. However, the selection and upgrading procedures are controlled only by internal committees, and this might become, in long-term perspective, an issue to be tackled.

Additionally, write:

- Expected number of Cypriot and international students
- Countries of origin of international students and number from each country

Students are mainly Cypriots. Foreign students are mainly Greek, followed by French. A very small number of students are Rumanian. Iraqi English, Belgian, Canadian.

Findings

A short description of the situation in the Department based on evidence from the Department's application and the site - visit.

The department of French and European Studies offers a rich and stimulating variety of courses, allowing students to acquire a mastery in some European languages and cultures. In doing so, it enhances their ability to think critically and become mature European citizens. The Department is strongly linked with society, and responds to its demands of professionals being able to communicate in more than one international language (other than English, like French and German).

We suggest that this mastery should be declared following the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, as it is required in many international applications.

Strengths

A list of strengths, e.g. examples of good practices, achievements, innovative solutions etc.

The main strength of the Department consists in its offer of an international and vibrant learning environment (international teaching and research staff. Students' origin is also partially international). Furthermore, the European Studies program is focused on a widely cultural approach (philosophy, arts, linguistics).

Areas of improvement and recommendations

A list of problem areas followed by or linked to the recommendations of how to improve the situation.

This program should be widened (as it was suggested in the previous evaluation) and embrace the Mediterranean culture in its whole. The Department lacks courses in Italian and Spanish languages and literatures, as well as Romanian. This is recommended as a long-term goal. The teaching staff needs to be enhanced, in the first place in the European Studies program and in the German language.

Please select what is appropriate for each of the following sub-areas:

Sub-area	<i>Non-compliant / Partially Compliant / Compliant</i>
1.1 Mission and strategic planning	Compliant
1.2 Connecting with society	Compliant
1.3 Development processes	Partially Compliant

2. Quality Assurance

(ESG 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8)

Sub-areas

- 2.1 System and quality assurance strategy
- 2.2 Quality assurance for the programmes of study

Mark from 1 to 5 the degree of compliance for each quality indicator/criterion

- 1 or 2: *Non-compliant*
- 3: *Partially compliant*
- 4 or 5: *Compliant*

Quality indicators/criteria		
2. Quality Assurance		
2.1 System and quality assurance strategy		1 - 5
2.1.1	The Department has a policy for quality assurance that is made public and forms part of the Institution's strategic management.	5
2.1.2	Internal stakeholders develop and implement a policy for quality assurance through appropriate structures and processes, while involving external stakeholders.	5
2.1.3	The Department's policy for quality assurance supports guarding against intolerance of any kind or discrimination against students or staff.	5
2.1.4	The quality assurance system adequately covers all the functions and sectors of the Department's activities:	
2.1.4.1	Teaching and learning	5
2.1.4.2	Research	5
2.1.4.3	The connection with society	5
2.1.4.4	Management and support services	5
2.1.5	The quality assurance system promotes a culture of quality.	5
2.1.6	Students' evaluation and feedback	5

Justify the numerical scores provided for the quality indicators (criteria) by specifying (if any) the deficiencies.

2. Quality Assurance		
2.2 Quality assurance for the programmes of study		1 - 5
2.2.1	The responsibility for decision-making and monitoring the implementation of the programmes of study offered by the Department lies with the teaching staff.	5
2.2.2	The system and criteria for assessing students' performance in the subjects of the programmes of studies offered by the Department are clear, sufficient and known to the students.	5
2.2.3	The quality control system refers to specific indicators and is effective, which have been presented and discussed.	5
2.2.4	The results from student assessments are used to improve the programmes of study.	5
2.2.5	The policy dealing with plagiarism committed by students as well as mechanisms for identifying and preventing it are effective.	5
2.2.6	The established procedures for examining students' objections/ disagreements on issues of student evaluation or academic ethics are effective.	5
2.2.7	The Department publishes information related to the programmes of study, credit units, learning outcomes, methodology, student admission criteria, completion of studies, facilities, number of teaching staff and the expertise of teaching staff.	5
2.2.8	Names and position of the teaching staff of each programme are published and easily accessible.	5
2.2.9	The Department has a clear and consistent policy on the admission criteria for students in the various programmes of studies offered.	5
2.2.10	The Department flexibly uses a variety of teaching methods.	5
2.2.11	The Department systematically collects data in relation to the academic performance of students, implements procedures for evaluating such data and has a relevant policy in place.	5
2.2.12	The Department analyses and publishes graduate employment information.	4

2.2.13	The Department ensures adequate and appropriate learning resources in line with European and international standards and/or international practices, particularly:	
2.2.12.1	Building facilities	5
2.2.12.2	Library	5
2.2.12.3	Rooms for theoretical, practical and laboratory lessons	5
2.2.12.4	Technological infrastructure	5
2.2.12.5	Academic support	5
2.2.14	There is a student welfare service that supports students in regard to academic, personal problems and difficulties.	5
2.2.15	The Department's mechanisms, processes and infrastructure consider the needs of a diverse student population such as mature, part-time, employed and international students as well as students with disabilities.	4
2.2.16	Mentoring of each student is provided and the number of students per each permanent teaching member is adequate.	5
2.2.17	The provision of quality doctoral studies is ensured through doctoral studies regulations, which are publicly available.	5
2.2.18	The number of doctoral students, under the supervision of a member of the teaching staff, enables continuous and effective feedback to the students and it complies with the European and international standards.	5
2.2.19	The Department has mechanisms and funds to support writing and attending conferences of doctoral candidates.	5
2.2.20	There is a clear policy on authorship and intellectual property.	5

Justify the numerical scores provided for the quality indicators (criteria) by specifying (if any) the deficiencies.

2.2.12 As for the graduate employment information, see above (the Alumni office systematic collection of data related to this information is not published). 2.2.15

Whereas it is clear that the department has implemented mechanisms, processes and infrastructure that consider the needs of disabled and foreign students, it is not clear if the needs of mature, part-time, employed students are met.

A short description of the situation in the Department based on evidence from the Department's application and the site - visit.

The Quality Assurance System of the University of Cyprus applies to the Department of French and European studies programs. It assures that a high standard of teaching, research and quality of student life is provided to the Academic community as a whole.

Strengths

A list of strengths, e.g. examples of good practices, achievements, innovative solutions etc.

The adoption of a "Teaching manifesto" by the University Senate, as well as the activation of an awarding mechanism for members of the Teaching and Research Staff are an example of good practice, encouraging the best teachers and giving the University the right visibility.

Areas of improvement and recommendations

A list of problem areas followed by or linked to the recommendations of how to improve the situation.

The Quality of Research should be more clearly assessed, particularly when it is related to the teaching process (participation of students to research programs) and the teaching outcomes (in the didactic of French language, for example).

Please ✓ what is appropriate for each of the following sub-areas:

Sub-area	<i>Non-compliant / Partially Compliant / Compliant</i>
2.1 System and quality assurance strategy	Compliant
2.2 Quality assurance for the programmes of study	Compliant

3. Administration (ESG 1.1, 1.3, 1.6)

Mark from 1 to 5 the degree of compliance for each quality indicator/criterion

1 or 2: *Non-compliant*
3: *Partially compliant*
4 or 5: *Compliant*

Quality indicators/criteria		
3. Administration		1 - 5
3.1	The administrative structure is in line with the legislation and the Department's mission.	5
3.2	The members of the teaching and administrative staff and the students participate, at a satisfactory degree and on the basis of specified procedures, in the management of the Department.	5
3.3	The administrative staff adequately supports the operation of the Department.	4
3.4	Adequate allocation of competences and responsibilities is ensured so that in academic matters, decisions are made by academics and the Department's council competently exercises legal control over such decisions.	5
3.5	The Department applies effective procedures to ensure transparency in the decision-making process.	5
3.6	Statutory sessions of the Department are held and minutes are kept.	5
3.7	The Department's council operates systematically and autonomously and exercise the full powers provided for by the law and / or the constitution of the Department without the intervention or involvement of a body or person outside the law provisions.	5
3.8	The manner in which the Department's council operates and the procedures for disseminating and implementing their decisions are clearly formulated and implemented precisely and effectively.	5
3.9	The Department applies procedures for the prevention and disciplinary control of academic misconduct of students, teaching and administrative staff, including plagiarism.	5
3.10	The Department has appropriate procedures for dealing with students' complaints.	5

3.11 Internalization of the Department and external collaborations. 5

Justify the numerical scores provided for the quality indicators (criteria) by specifying (if any) the deficiencies.

But one of the two administrative secretaries has retired and not been replaced. This situation leads to difficulties for the secretary who remains and is only helped by students who change every year. Even if the present secretary gives full satisfaction some important operations are therefore complicated by such a situation.

Findings

A short description of the situation in the Department based on evidence from the Department's application and the site - visit.

The whole administrative functioning is plainly adequate with the models internationally used.

Strengths

A list of strengths, e.g. examples of good practices, achievements, innovative solutions etc.

Click to enter text.

Areas of improvement and recommendations

A list of problem areas followed by or linked to the recommendations of how to improve the situation.

It seems very necessary to recruit another secretary.

Please select what is appropriate for the following assessment area:

Assessment area	<i>Non-compliant / Partially Compliant / Compliant</i>
3. Administration	Partially Compliant

4. Learning and Teaching (ESG 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.9)

Sub-areas

- 4.1 Planning the programmes of study
- 4.2 Organisation of teaching

Mark from 1 to 5 the degree of compliance for each quality indicator/criterion

- 1 or 2: *Non-compliant*
- 3: *Partially compliant*
- 4 or 5: *Compliant*

Quality indicators/criteria		
4. Learning and Teaching		
4.1 Planning the programmes of study		1 - 5
4.1.1	The Department provides an effective system for designing, approving, monitoring and periodically reviewing the programmes of study.	5
4.1.2	Students and other stakeholders, including employers, are actively involved on the programmes' review and development.	5
4.1.3	Intended learning outcomes, the content of the programmes of study, the assignments and the final exams correspond to the appropriate level as indicated by the European Qualifications Framework (EQF).	5
4.1.4	The programmes of study are in compliance with the existing legislation and meet the professional qualifications requirements in the professional courses, where applicable.	5
4.1.5	The Department ensures that its programmes of study integrate effectively theory and practice.	5
Justify the numerical scores provided for the quality indicators (criteria) by specifying (if any) the deficiencies.		
The way in which the department renews the BA and Ma curricula is well regulated and open for all important stakeholders. A system of monitoring the development of modules and of their effectiveness in terms of intended learning outcomes is solidly in place.		
4. Learning and Teaching		
4.2 Organisation of teaching		1 - 5

4.2.1	The Department establishes student admission criteria for each programme, which are adhered to consistently.	5
4.2.2	Recognition of prior studies and credit transfer is regulated by procedures and regulations that are in line with European standards and/or international practices.	5
4.2.3	The number of students in the teaching rooms is suitable for theoretical, practical and laboratory lessons.	5
4.2.4	The teaching staff of the Department has regular and effective communication with their students, promoting mutual respect within the learner-teacher relationship.	5
4.2.5	Student-centred learning and teaching plays an important role in stimulating students' motivation, self-reflection and engagement in the learning process.	5
4.2.6	The teaching staff of the Department provides timely and effective feedback to their students.	5
4.2.7	The criteria and the method of assessment as well as the criteria for marking are published in advance.	5
4.2.8	The assessment allows students to demonstrate the extent to which the intended learning outcomes have been achieved.	N/A

Justify the numerical scores provided for the quality indicators (criteria) by specifying (if any) the deficiencies.

[Click to enter text.](#)

Findings

A short description of the situation in the Department based on evidence from the Department's application and the site - visit.

The way in which the Department has organised its teaching is excellent.

Strengths

A list of strengths, e.g. examples of good practices, achievements, innovative solutions etc.

The communication with students – e.g. all tutors have office hours two times two hours per week – is remarkable. The assessment of the tutors by the students is a good practice, as is the individually oriented mentor system.

Areas of improvement and recommendations

A list of problem areas followed by or linked to the recommendations of how to improve the situation.



In the presentation of its BA and MA programs the department could make much more clear how it fills in the didactical aim of 'student centred' teaching. The MA European studies really needs one or two modules in the field of EU administration and/or EU policy making.

Please select what is appropriate for each of the following sub-areas:

Sub-area	<i>Non-compliant / Partially Compliant / Compliant</i>
4.1 Planning the programmes of study	Compliant
4.2 Organisation of teaching	Compliant

5. Teaching Staff (ESG 1.5)

Mark from 1 to 5 the degree of compliance for each quality indicator/criterion

- 1 or 2: *Non-compliant*
 3: *Partially compliant*
 4 or 5: *Compliant*

Quality indicators/criteria		
5. Teaching Staff		1 - 5
5.1	The number of teaching staff - full-time and exclusive work - and the subject area of the staff sufficiently support the programmes of study.	3
5.2	The teaching staff of the Department has the relevant formal and substantive qualifications for teaching the individual subjects as described in the relevant legislation.	5
5.3	The visiting Professors' subject areas adequately support the Department's programmes of study.	5
5.4	The special teaching staff and special scientists have the required qualifications, sufficient professional experience and expertise to teach a limited number of programmes of study.	5
5.5	The ratio of special teaching staff to the total number of teaching staff is satisfactory.	4
5.6	The ratio of the number of subjects of the programme of study taught by teaching staff working fulltime and exclusively to the number of subjects taught by part-time teaching staff ensures the quality of the programme of study.	4
5.7	The ratio of the number of students to the total number of teaching staff is sufficient to support and ensure the quality of the programme of study.	5
5.8	Feedback processes for teaching staff in regard to the evaluation of their teaching work, by the students, are satisfactory.	5

Justify the numerical scores provided for the quality indicators (criteria) by specifying (if any) the deficiencies.

[Click to enter text.](#)

Also, write the following:

- Number of teaching staff working full-time and having exclusive work
- Number of special teaching staff working full-time and having exclusive work
- Number of visiting Professors
- Number of special scientists on lease services

Number of teaching staff: 6

Number of special teaching staff working full-time and having exclusive work: 2
 Number of visiting Professors:1
 Number of special scientists on lease services:

Findings

A short description of the situation in the Department based on evidence from the Department's application and the site - visit.

The quality of the teaching staff is very good, but, as mentioned before in this report, the quantity of staff fails and therefore automatically disturbs the ratios between the different categories of staff.

Strengths

A list of strengths, e.g. examples of good practices, achievements, innovative solutions etc.

As already stated, the quality of the teaching staff is very good, especially when one takes into account its fertility in terms of academic publications. The department can boast moreover on a genuine culture of investing in Cypriot society and culture.

Areas of improvement and recommendations

A list of problem areas followed by or linked to the recommendations of how to improve the situation.

Besides the problematic number of staff, the recruitment of new staff takes too much time: minimal 2 years! This may well be partially the effect of the University's appointment procedure, but the department could be more flexible in terms of the date of appointment and not wait until September to bring in the selected candidate. Another point would be the distribution of the specific disciplinary competences with regard to new staff, given the content of the programs the Department would like to offer in the near future.

Please ✓ what is appropriate for the following assessment area:

Assessment area	<i>Non-compliant / Partially Compliant / Compliant</i>
Teaching staff number, adequacy and suitability	Partially Compliant
Teaching staff recruitment and development	Partially Compliant
Synergies of teaching and research	Compliant

6. Research

(ESG 1.1, 1.3, 1.5, 1.6)

Mark from 1 to 5 the degree of compliance for each quality indicator/criterion

1 or 2: *Non-compliant*
3: *Partially compliant*
4 or 5: *Compliant*

Quality indicators/criteria		
6. Research		1 - 5
6.1	The Department has a research policy formulated in line with its mission.	5
6.2	The Department consistently applies internal regulations and procedures of research activity, which promote the set out research policy and ensure compliance with the regulations of research projects financing programmes.	5
6.3	The Department provides adequate facilities and equipment to cover the staff and students' research activities.	5
6.4	The Department has the appropriate mechanisms for the development of students' research skills.	5
6.5	The results of the teaching staff research activity are published to a satisfactory extent in international journals which work with critics, international conferences, conference proceedings, publications, etc. The Department also uses an open access policy for publications, which is consistent with the corresponding national and European policy.	5
6.6	The Department ensures that research results are integrated into teaching and, to the extent applicable, promotes and implements a policy of transferring know-how to society and the production sector.	5
6.7	The Department provides mechanisms which ensure compliance with international rules of research ethics, both in relation to research activity and the rights of researchers.	5
6.8	The external, non-governmental, funding of research activities of teaching staff is similar to other Departments in Cyprus and abroad.	5
6.9	The policy, indirect or direct of internal funding of the research activities of the teaching staff is satisfactory, based on European and international practices.	5

Justify the numerical scores provided for the quality indicators (criteria) by specifying (if any) the deficiencies.

Click to enter text.

Findings

A short description of the situation in the Department based on evidence from the Department's application and the site - visit.

A particularly good team of researchers allows an interesting level of research inside the department. Many international programs are led and make possible multiple collaborations inside and outside the university. The specialities of the professors are in perfect adequation with the contents of the programs, especially since the recruitment of a new professor in European studies. Financial aids are provided by the department to the researchers on a regular basis to help them to participate to congresses, to publish their papers and to organize scientific events. A very dynamic library is present on the campus to help with the scientific literature needed to work properly.

Strengths

A list of strengths, e.g. examples of good practices, achievements, innovative solutions etc.

Financial regular help provided to the researchers by the department.

Good level library.

Numerous international contracts and projects.

Good politics of publication in international journals and collective books.

Areas of improvement and recommendations

A list of problem areas followed by or linked to the recommendations of how to improve the situation.

The researchers in the department work mainly alone: it could be interesting to elaborate a platform through which they could meet and exchange on a regular basis even if their fields are quite different.

Please ✓ what is appropriate for the following assessment area:

Assessment area	<i>Non-compliant / Partially Compliant / Compliant</i>
Research mechanisms and regulations	Compliant
External and internal funding	Compliant
Motives for research	Compliant
Publications	Compliant

7. Resources (ESG 1.6)

Mark from 1 to 5 the degree of compliance for each quality indicator/criterion

- 1 or 2: *Non-compliant*
3: *Partially compliant*
4 or 5: *Compliant*

Quality indicators/criteria		
7. Resources		1 - 5
7.1	The Department has sufficient financial resources to support its functions, managed by the Institutional and Departmental bodies.	5
7.2	The Department follows sound and efficient management of the available financial resources in order to develop academically and research wise.	5
7.3	The Department's profits and donations are used for its development and for the benefit of the university community.	5
7.4	The Department's budget is appropriate for its mission and adequate for the implementation of strategic planning.	3
7.5	The Department carries out an assessment of the risks and sustainability of the programmes of study and adequately provides feedback on their operation.	5
7.6	The Department's external audit and the transparent management of its finances are ensured.	5
7.7	The fitness-for-purpose of support facilities and services is periodically reviewed.	5
<p>Justify the numerical scores provided for the quality indicators (criteria) by specifying (if any) the deficiencies.</p> <p>The development of the European studies implies to increase the budget provided by the university. New courses should be created (on European institutions and in other European languages like Italian or Spanish, for example). The German courses are not enough to reach the level of the international standards for such a formation.</p>		

Findings

A short description of the situation in the Department based on evidence from the Department's application and the site - visit.

The financial functioning seems healthy, but the budget allowed is not enough to be in phase with the new pedagogical objectives of the department.

Strengths

A list of strengths, e.g. examples of good practices, achievements, innovative solutions etc.

The financial practises are conforming to the international standards.

Areas of improvement and recommendations

A list of problem areas followed by or linked to the recommendations of how to improve the situation.

An increase of the budget is necessary to recruit new lecturers and professors and to create new courses which would satisfy the present students and attract new ones.

Please ✓ what is appropriate for the following assessment area:

Assessment area	<i>Non-compliant / Partially Compliant / Compliant</i>
7. Resources	Partially compliant

D. Conclusions and final remarks

Please provide constructive conclusions and final remarks, which may form the basis upon which improvements of the quality of the Department under review may be achieved.

The department of French and European Studies offers a rich and stimulating variety of courses, allowing students to acquire a mastery in some European languages and cultures. In doing so, it enhances their ability to think critically and become mature European citizens. The Department is strongly linked with society and responds to its demands of professionals being able to communicate in more than one international language (other than English, like French and German). We suggest that this mastery should be declared following the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, as it is required in many international applications.

This program should be widened (as it was suggested in the previous evaluation) and embrace the Mediterranean culture in its whole. The Department lacks courses in Italian and Spanish languages and literatures, as well as Romanian. This is recommended as a long-term goal. The teaching staff needs to be enhanced, in the first place in the European Studies program and in the German language. Therefore an increase of the budget is necessary to recruit new lecturers and professors and to create new courses which would satisfy the present students and attract new ones and the recruitment process should be quickened.

A particularly good team of researchers allows an interesting level of research inside the department. Many international programs are led and make possible multiple collaborations inside and outside the university. The specialities of the professors are in perfect adequation with the contents of the programs, especially since the recruitment of a new professor in European studies. Financial aids are provided by the department to the researchers on a regular basis to help them to participate to congresses, to publish their papers and to organize scientific events. A very dynamic library is present on the campus to help with the scientific literature needed to work properly.

The researchers in the department work mainly alone: it could be interesting to elaborate a platform through which they could meet and exchange on a regular basis even if their fields are quite different.

E. Signatures of the EEC

<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>
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Date: 13th of April 2021

