

**Doc. Number: 300.1.1**

**Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in  
Higher Education**

**Republic of Cyprus**

**External Evaluation Report  
Program of Study**

**Institution: University of Nicosia**

**Program of Study:** Doctoral Degree (PhD) in Human Rights, Society  
and Multi-Level Governance

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## INSTRUCTIONS:

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 2016” [N. 136 (I)/2015].

The document is duly completed by the External Evaluation Committee for each program of study. The ANNEX (Doc. Number 300.1) constitutes an integral part of the external evaluation report for the external evaluation accreditation of a program of study.

## EXTERNAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE:

NAME	TITLE	UNIVERSITY / INSTITUTION
Steven Greer	Professor	University of Bristol
Olympia Bekou	Professor	University of Nottingham
Jiri Priban	Professor	Cardiff University
Nikoleta Kleovoulou	Lawyer	Chrysses Demetriades and Co. LLC
Marina Charalampous	Student	University of Cyprus

## INTRODUCTION:

### I. The External Evaluation procedure

- Short description of the documents that have been studied, of the on site visit meetings, and of the on site visit to the infrastructures.

### II. The Internal Evaluation procedure

- Comments concerning the quality and the completeness of the application submitted by the institution of higher education (Doc. Number 200.1), as well as concerning the overall acceptance of and participation in the quality assurance procedures, by the institution in general and by the program of study under evaluation in particular.

The External evaluation was conducted on behalf of the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education, in accordance with 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 2016” [N. 136 (I)/2015].

The External Evaluation Committee consisted of the members indicated in the section above. Administrative assistance was provided by Chrysanthi Nikodemou on behalf of the Agency.

Prior to the on-site visit, the Committee was given access to the ‘Application for Evaluation – Accreditation – New Programme of Study – Joint Doctoral Degree (PhD) in Human Rights, Society, and Multi-Level Governance’ document in both the English and Greek languages, as submitted to the Agency by the Institution. Furthermore, the committee received a copy of the International Cooperation Agreement For a Joint Doctorate (PhD) in “Human Rights, Society, and Multi-Level Governance” among the Università degli studi di Padova, Pravni fakultet sveucilista u Zagrebu (The Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb), The University of Western Sydney, The Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Athens.

Members of the Committee reviewed and analysed the document individually prior to the on-site visit. On the day of the evaluation, the Committee first met with the President of the Agency Prof. Mary Koutselini-Ioannidou to discuss the scope of the review and then conducted an 8-hour on-site visit at the University of Nicosia, where meetings were held with both the academic and admin leads of the proposed programme, as well as with two PhD students.

The following evidence was drawn upon:

- Full text of Application to the Agency, indicated above;
- The International Cooperation Agreement for a Joint Doctorate (PhD);
- PowerPoint presentations (Introduction to the University of Nicosia; Introduction to the School of Law; Joint Doctorate Programme Presentation);
- Report on Adherence to DIPAE Guidelines for Doctoral Degree Programs;



- Meetings with the University's Rector, Vice Rector, Dean of Law; Associate Dean, Head of Department; Programme Coordinator and other Teaching staff;)
- Skype presentation by the Joint PhD Programme Coordinator in Padova
- Meeting with PhD students;

The committee also requested and received details of former students who completed Distance Learning Modules within the School.

## **FINDINGS:**

### **1. EFFECTIVENESS OF TEACHING WORK – AVAILABLE RESOURCES**

- **Organization of Teaching Work**
- **Teaching**
- **Teaching personnel**

The Committee feels that the proposed PhD has sound and solid foundations and the potential to succeed. It could form an important part of the University's expanding research portfolio.

The staff are ideally placed and eminently well qualified to make a success of the programme.

The Committee would like to focus on the following areas, which require closer consideration:

In terms of admissions, applicants to the programme are normally required to hold a degree in law or a related disciplines and an LLM degree, before commencing the course. However, where a candidate fails to reach this standard, account can also be taken of practical experience within the relevant area of study and other relevant circumstances. These criteria are consistent with other prestigious universities offering PhD programmes of a similar nature. However, the Committee noted that no particular class of degree is formally required at the moment and would urge the institution to adopt and publicise very clear entrance requirements, in terms of the class of degree required (at least a 2.1 or equivalent), in the near future.

In addition, for all PhD programmes, applicants whose first language is not English are required to provide evidence of proficiency. The 6.5 IELTS requirement should apply as a minimum to the writing component of the test which would be consistent with international practice on PhD admissions.

Furthermore, the Committee recommends that the PhD programme webpage should include a specific tab on admission requirements (currently, admission requirements are only available on the general admissions website) and not on individual

programmes. The committee was informed of the existence of a handbook for PhD applicants and it would recommend that this document would also be made available online.

Finally, based on the discussion during the on-site visit, it transpired that not enough credit is currently given to teaching personnel involved in the PhD programme and would therefore recommend, given the intellectual rigour of the task, that this is appropriately weighted in the teaching allocation.

## **2. PROGRAM OF STUDY AND HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS**

- **Purpose and Objectives and learning outcomes of the Program of Study**
- **Structure and Content of the Program of studies**
- **Quality Assurance of the Program of studies**
- **Management of the Program of Study**
- **International Dimension of the Program of Study**
- **Connection with the labor market and the society**

The Committee reviewed the purpose and objectives as well as the learning outcomes of the proposed Programme of Study as outlined in the Application and discussed them during the on-site visit. The Committee feels that these are appropriate.

In terms of content of the programme, the Committee sought to clarify the character and status of the proposed methodology module. The Committee was satisfied that issues of research methodology had been considered and was aware of the requirements of the joint nature of the degree programme. The Committee noted that the module on legal research and methodology is currently being offered and it contained a mixture of basic and more advanced methodological study issues. In view of this, the Committee would recommend that the module is kept under review and more advanced and more specific courses, for example empirical methods, are provided somewhere in the university curriculum.

Overall, the structure and delivery of the programme is as described in the programme specifications. These are appropriate to the aims of the course.



The quality, management and connection with the local labour market and society were deemed to be appropriate. The committee commends the international cooperative dimension of the programme which should significantly enhance and entrench the university's overall research strategy and profile.

### **3. RESEARCH WORK AND SYNERGIES WITH TEACHING**

#### **- Research Teaching Synergies**

The Committee acknowledges that the human rights, society and multi-level governance themed PhD programme should make a significant and valuable contribution to the University's core research activities. It ought to do much to raise the academic profile of the institution as an internationally renowned centre of excellence in research. PhD students enrich the research culture of the School of Law, as well as playing a central role in the career development of many members of staff, who are provided with unparalleled opportunities to supervise high quality students in their areas of specialist expertise.

In terms of research content, the Committee felt that whilst the provision of a research methods module is positive in itself, including specific training on research ethics would be welcome.

#### **4. ADMINISTRATION SERVICES, STUDENT WELFARE AND SUPPORT OF TEACHING WORK**

- **Administrative Mechanisms**
- **Infrastructures / Support**
- **Financial Resources**

The committee is confident that the institution's processes with regard to administration, student welfare and support of research degrees are robust.

The Committee has no reason to question the availability of financial resources. However, as we have not received such information, and the application form does not require the Institution to provide such evidence, we are unable to comment on this particular point. Nevertheless, the partner institutions in the programme have already provided specific funding towards the degree and the Committee would recommend the university to adopt similar practice.

The Committee recommends the establishment of a dedicated scholarship that includes living expenses to attract the right caliber of the students



## 5. DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS

n/a

## 6. DOCTORAL PROGRAMS OF STUDY

The Committee reiterates the usefulness of this programme and welcomes its establishment. All the issues raised by the items in this section of the report have already been addressed above.

## CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS OF THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE<sup>1</sup>

- The present situation of the program, good practices, weaknesses that have been detected during the external evaluation procedure by the external evaluation committee, suggestions for improvement.

On the basis of the documentation provided in advance of and during the visit, as well as the discussions with staff and students during the on-site visit, the Committee holds the view that the proposed PhD programme is well designed, with clear and coherent aims and learning outcomes, good management and mechanisms of delivery, and, above all, designed and delivered by qualified, committed and enthusiastic academic colleagues.

We are also satisfied that the new programme is well integrated in the University's and the Law School's strategic development plans, and increases the Law School's potential to become an important intellectual hub in the relevant fields of research.

We have noted a number of areas in which the new programme can be improved. These include:

- being more specific about the class of degree requirement for the purposes of admissions
- admissions
- funding
- credit point allocation
- workspace and student engagement in research activities
- management of supervision process
- ringfencing research time and workload allocation for staff
- adequate administrative support

In conclusion, in the view of the Committee, the proposal is clear, precise and sufficiently thought through with the relevant resources in place for a successful delivery.

**Doc. Number: 300.1**

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<sup>1</sup> It is highlighted, at this point, that the External Evaluation Committee is expected to justify its findings and its suggestions on the basis of the Document num.: 300.1. The External Evaluation Committee is not expected to submit a suggestion for the approval or the rejection of the program of study under evaluation. This decision falls under the competencies of the Council of the Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation of higher education.

## Quality Standards and Indicators

### External Evaluation of a Program of Study

Institution:	University of Nicosia
Program of Study:	Doctoral Degree (PhD) in Human Rights Society and Multi-level Governance
Duration of the Program of Study:	3 years
Evaluation Date:	15/06/2017

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 2016”.

The document describes the quality standards and indicators, which will be applied for the external evaluation of programs of study of institutions of higher education, by the External Evaluation Committee.

**DIRECTIONS:** Note what is applicable for each quality standard/indicator.

1. Applicable to a minimum degree
2. Applicable to a non satisfactory degree
3. Applicable to a satisfactory degree
4. Applicable to a very satisfactory degree
5. It applies and it constitutes a good practice

It is pointed out that, in the case of standards and indicators that cannot be applied due to the status of the institution and/or of the program of study, N/A (= Not Applicable) should be noted and a detailed explanation should be provided on the institution's corresponding policy regarding the specific quality standard or indicator.

**Members of the External Evaluation Committee**

NAME	TITLE	UNIVERSITY / INSTITUTION
STEVEN GREER	PROF	University of Bristol
JIRI PRIBAN	PROF	Cardiff University
OLYMPIA BEKOU	Professor	University of Nottingham
ΝΙΚΟΛΕΤΑ ΚΑΘΟΥΛΟΥ	Lawyer	Chrissy's Semelinaides & Co. LLC
Charalampous Marina	Student	University of Cyprus

Date and Time of the On-Site Visit: 15/06/2017

Duration of the On-Site Visit: 8 hours



1. EFFECTIVENESS OF TEACHING WORK – AVAILABLE RESOURCES						
1.1	Organization of teaching work		1	2	3	4 5
1.1.1	The student admission requirements to the program of study, are based on specific regulations which are adhered to in a consistent manner.				X	
1.1.2	The number of students in each class allows for constructive teaching and communication, and it compares positively to the current international standards and/or practices.		na			
1.1.3	The organization of the educational process safeguards the quality implementation of the program's purpose and objectives and the achievement of the learning outcomes. Particularly, the following are taken into consideration:					X
	1.1.3.1	The implementation of a specific academic calendar and its timely publication.				X
	1.1.3.2	The disclosure of the program's curricula to the students, and their implementation by the teaching personnel	na			
	1.1.3.3	The course web-pages, updated with the relevant supplementary material	na			
	1.1.3.4	The procedures for the fulfillment of undergraduate and postgraduate assignments / practical training			X	
	1.1.3.5	The procedures for the conduct and the format of the examinations and for student assessment				X
	1.1.3.6	The effective provision of information to the students and the enhancement of their participation in the procedures for the improvement of the educational process.				X
1.1.4	Adequate and modern learning resources, are available to the students, including the following:					X
	1.1.4.1	facilities			X	
	1.1.4.2	library				X
	1.1.4.3	infrastructure				X
	1.1.4.4	student welfare				X

	1.1.4.5	academic mentoring					X
1.1.5	A policy for regular and effective communication, between the teaching personnel and the students, is applied.						X
1.1.6	The teaching personnel, for each course, provide timely and effective feedback to the students.						X
1.1.7	Statutory mechanisms, for the support of students and the communication with the teaching personnel, are effective.						X
1.1.8	Control mechanisms for student performance are effective.						X
1.1.9	Support mechanisms for students with problematic academic performance are effective.						X
1.1.10	Academic mentoring processes are transparent and effective for undergraduate and postgraduate programs and are taken into consideration for the calculation of academic work load.				X		
1.1.11	The program of study applies an effective policy for the prevention and detection of plagiarism.						X
1.1.12	The program of study provides satisfactory mechanisms for complaint management and for dispute resolution.						X

Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.

On 1.1.1: While we recognize that the programme is new, and endorse the element of discretion inherent in the admission process, we would urge the institution to adopt and publicise clearer entrance requirements, in terms of the class degree required, in the near future.

On 1.1.3.4: The Committee would recommend the introduction of a minimum number of supervision sessions consistent with international standards.

On 1.1.4.1: The Committee recommends the creation of a designated PhD student workstation with desks and computer facilities allocated for each student.

On 1.1.4.2: The library was small in terms of physical collections but in an age of electronic information this is no longer a significant problem. Electronic resources were good and the pilot scheme appeared to ultimately offer excellent provision. However, the two students we met were unclear about how to secure home access to this resource.

On 1.1.8 and 1.1.9: The Committee commends current arrangements but recommends the formulation of appropriate guidelines.

On 1.1.10: The Committee recommends that the supervision of PhD students is more formally and transparently included in the workload allocation of the academic staff, bearing in mind the importance of achieving a fair and equitable distribution of



workload amongst all staff.

Note, additionally:

- α) the expected number of Cypriot and International Students in the program of study.
- β) the countries of origin of the majority of students.
- γ) the maximum planned number of students per class-section.

1.2	Teaching	1	2	3	4	5
1.2.1	The methodology utilized in each course is suitable for achieving the course's purpose and objectives and those of the individual modules.				X	
1.2.2	The methodology of each course is suitable for adults.					X
1.2.3	Continuous-formative assessment and feedback are provided to the students regularly.					X
1.2.4	The assessment system and criteria regarding student course performance, are clear, adequate, and known to the students.					X
1.2.5	Educational activities which encourage students' active participation in the learning process, are implemented.				X	
1.2.6	Teaching incorporates the use of modern educational technologies that are consistent with international standards, including a platform for the electronic support of learning.					X
1.2.7	Teaching materials (books, manuals, journals, databases, and teaching notes) meet the requirements set by the methodology of the program's individual courses, and are updated regularly.				X	

Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.

On 1.2.1: In view of this, the Committee would recommend that the module is kept under review and more advanced and more specific courses, for example empirical methods, are provided somewhere in the university curriculum.

On 1.2.5: The Committee recommends that each student should be formally required to present their work to each other at least on an annual basis and also in other contexts including, for example, an annual research presentation day attended by academic staff and national and international conferences.

1.3	Teaching Personnel	1	2	3	4	5
1.3.1	The number of full-time academic personnel, occupied exclusively at the institution, and their fields of expertise, adequately support the program of study.					X
1.3.2	The members of teaching personnel for each course have the relevant formal and fundamental qualifications for teaching the course, as described by the legislation, including the following:					X
	1.3.2.1 Subject specialization, preferably with a doctorate, in the discipline.					X
	1.3.2.2 Publications within the discipline.				x	
1.3.3	The specializations of Visiting Professors adequately support the program of study.	Na				
1.3.4	Special Teaching Personnel and Special Scientists have the necessary qualifications, adequate work experience and specialization to teach a limited number of courses in the program of study.	Na				
1.3.5	In every program of study the Special Teaching Personnel does not exceed 30% of the Teaching Research Personnel.	Na				
1.3.6	The teaching personnel of each private institution of tertiary education, to a percentage of at least 70%, has recognized academic qualification, by one level higher than that of the program of study in which he/she teaches.					X
1.3.7	In the program of study, the ratio of the number of courses taught by full-time personnel, occupied					X



	exclusively at the institution, to the number of courses taught by part-time personnel, ensures the quality of the program of study.					
1.3.8	The ratio of the number of students to the total number of teaching personnel is adequate for the support and safeguarding of the program's quality.					X
1.3.9	The academic personnel's teaching load does not limit the conduct of research, writing, and contribution to the society.			X		
1.3.10	Future redundancies / retirements, expected recruitment and promotions of academic personnel safeguard the unimpeded implementation of the program of study within a five-year span.	Na				
1.3.11	The program's Coordinator has the qualifications and experience to efficiently coordinate the program of study.					X
Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.						

2. PROGRAM OF STUDY AND HIGHER EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS						
2.1	Purpose and Objectives and learning outcomes of the Program of Study	1	2	3	4	5
2.1.1	The purpose and objectives of the program of study are formulated in terms of expected learning outcomes and are consistent with the mission and the strategy of the institution.					X
2.1.2	The purpose and objectives of the program and the learning outcomes are utilized as a guide for the design of the program of study.					X
2.1.3	The higher education qualification and the program of study, conform to the provisions of their corresponding Professional and Vocational Bodies for the purpose of registration to these bodies.					X
2.1.4	The program's content, the methods of assessment, the teaching materials and the equipment, lead to the achievement of the program's purpose and objectives and ensure the expected learning outcomes.					X
2.1.5	The expected learning outcomes of the program are known to the students and to the members of the academic and teaching personnel.					X
2.1.6	The learning process is properly designed to achieve the expected learning outcomes.					X
2.1.7	The higher education qualification awarded to the students, corresponds to the purpose and objectives and the learning outcomes of the program.					X
Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.						
2.2	Structure and Content of the Program of Study	1	2	3	4	5
2.2.1	The course curricula clearly define the expected learning outcomes, the content, the teaching and learning approaches and					x



	the method of assessing student performance.					
2.2.2	The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) is applied and there is true correspondence between credits and workload per course and per semester for the student either he / she studies in a specific program or he/she is registered and studies simultaneously in additional programs of studies according to the European practice in higher education institutions.			X		
2.2.3	The program of study is structured in a consistent manner and in sequence, so that concepts operating as preconditions precede the teaching of other, more complex and cognitively more demanding, concepts.					X
2.2.4	The higher education qualification awarded, the learning outcomes and the content of the program are consistent.					X
2.2.5	The program, in addition to the courses focusing on the specific discipline, includes an adequate number of general education courses.					X
2.2.6	The content of courses and modules, and the corresponding educational activities are suitable for achieving the desired learning outcomes with regards to the knowledge, skills, and abilities which should be acquired by students.					X
2.2.7	The number and the content of the program's courses are sufficient for the achievement of learning outcomes.					X
2.2.8	The content of the program's courses reflects the latest achievements / developments in science, arts, research and technology.	Na				
2.2.9	Flexible options / adaptable to the personal needs or to the needs of students with special needs, are provided.					X

Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.

On 2.2.2: The Committee was surprised by the credit points allocated to the five thousand word research proposal in the first year as opposed to the overall credit points for the whole programme. It was explained that other significant research activities take place in the first year. Nevertheless, these are not reflected in the credit points allocation the five thousand word research proposal alone should not be worth 60 credit points.

Note the expected number of students who will be studying simultaneously at another academic institution, based on your experience so far, regarding students who study simultaneously in the programs of your institution.

			1	2	3	4	5
<b>2.3</b>	<b>Quality Assurance of the Program of Study</b>						
2.3.1	The arrangements regarding the program's quality assurance define clear competencies and procedures.						X
2.3.2	Participation in the processes of the system of quality assurance of the program, is ensured for						x
	2.3.2.1	the members of the academic personnel					X
	2.3.2.2	the members of the administrative personnel	Na				
	2.3.2.3	the students.					X
2.3.3	The guide and / or the regulations for quality assurance, provide detailed information and data for the support and management of the program of study.						X
2.3.4	The quality assurance process constitutes an academic process and it is not restricted by non-academic factors.						X
<p>Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.</p>							
<b>2.4</b>	<b>Management of the Program of Study</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
2.4.1	Effective management of the program of study with regard to its design, its approval, its monitoring and its review, is in place.						X
2.4.2	It is ensured that learning outcomes may be achieved within the specified timeframe.						X
2.4.3	It is ensured that the program's management and development process is an academic process which operates without any non-academic interventions.						X



2.4.4	The academic hierarchy of the institution, (Rector, Vice-Rectors, Deans, Chairs and Programs' Coordinators, academic personnel) have the sole responsibility for academic excellence and the development of the programs of study.					X
2.4.5	Information relating to the program of study are posted publicly and include:				X	
2.4.5.1	The provisions regarding unit credits			X		
2.4.5.2	The expected learning outcomes					X
2.4.5.3	The methodology					X
2.4.5.4	Course descriptions					X
2.4.5.5	The program's structure					X
2.4.5.6	The admission requirements			X		
2.4.5.7	The format and the procedures for student assessment					X
2.4.6	The award of the higher education qualification is accompanied by the Diploma Supplement which is in line with the European and international standards.					X
2.4.7	The effectiveness of the program's evaluation mechanism, by the students, is ensured.			X		
2.4.8	The recognition and transfer of credit units from previous studies is regulated by procedures and regulations which ensure that the majority of credit units is awarded by the institution which awards the higher education qualification.	Na				
<p>Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.</p> <p>On 2.4.5.1: see comments on 2.2.2</p> <p>On 2.4.5.6: see comments on 1.1.1</p> <p>On 2.4.7: The Committee would recommend that students be given more formal opportunity to regularly evaluate not only the assistance provided by their own supervisor but also the programme as a whole</p> <p>In the case of practical training, note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The number of credit units for courses and the number of credits for practical training</li> <li>- In which semester does practical training takes place?</li> <li>- Note if practical training is taking place in a country other than the homecountry of the institution which awards the higher education qualification</li> </ul>						

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### 3. RESEARCH WORK AND SYNERGIES WITH TEACHING

3.1	Research - Teaching Synergies	1	2	3	4	5
3.1.1	It is ensured that teaching and learning have been adequately enlightened by research.			X		
3.1.2	New research results are embodied in the content of the program of study.					X
3.1.3	Adequate and sufficient facilities and equipment are provided to support the research component of the program of study, which are available and accessible to the personnel and the students.			X		
3.1.4	The results of the academic personnel's research activity are published in international journals with the peer-reviewing system, in international conferences, conference minutes, publications etc.					X
3.1.5	External, non-governmental, funding for the academic personnel's research activities, is compared positively to the funding of other institutions in Cyprus and abroad.					X
3.1.6	Internal funding, of the academic personnel's research activities, is compared positively to the funding of other institutions in Cyprus and abroad.	Na				
3.1.7	The policy for, indirect or direct, internal funding of the academic personnel's research activity is satisfactory.			X		
3.1.8	The participation of students, academic, teaching and administrative personnel of the program in research activities and projects is satisfactory.			X		
3.1.9	Student training in the research process is sufficient.			X		

Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.

On 3.1.1: The Committee was satisfied that teaching and learning was adequately enlightened by research, it also was concerned that staff research time and activities were not ringfenced from the demands of other professional responsibilities. Furthermore, more formal and regular provision should be made for a staff research leave entitlement. The current seven years of service for one semester of leave is insufficient by reference to international standards.

On 3.1.3: see comments on workstation allocation in 1.1.4.1

On 3.1.7: Although funding opportunities are available, the committee felt that an equal entitlement to a minimum research allowance be instituted and more funding be made available on a discretionary basis where a case can be made.



On 3.1.8: see comments on 1.2.5

On 3.1.9: see comments on 1.2.1

#### 4. ADMINISTRATION SERVICES, STUDENT WELFARE AND SUPPORT OF TEACHING WORK

4.1	Administrative Mechanisms	1	2	3	4	5
4.1.1	There is a Student Welfare Service that supports students with regards to academic and personal problems and difficulties.					X
4.1.2	Statutory administrative mechanisms for monitoring and supporting students are sufficient.					x
4.1.3	The efficiency of these mechanisms is assessed on the basis of specific criteria.					x
Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.						
4.2	Infrastructure / Support	1	2	3	4	5
4.2.1	There are suitable books and reputable journals supporting the program.				X	
4.2.2	There is a supportive internal communication platform.					X
4.2.3	The facilities are adequate in number and size.				X	
4.2.4	The equipment used in teaching and learning (laboratory and electronic equipment, consumables etc) are	Na				

	quantitatively and qualitatively adequate.					
4.2.5	Teaching materials (books, manuals, scientific journals, databases) are adequate and accessible to students.				X	
4.2.6	Teaching materials (books, manuals, scientific journals, databases) are updated regularly with the most recent publications.					X
4.2.7	The teaching personnel are provided with training opportunities in teaching method, in adult education, and in new technologies on the basis of a structured learning framework.					X
<p>Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.</p> <p>On 4.2.1: See the comments in 1.1.4.2</p> <p>On 4.2.3: See the comments in 1.1.4.5</p> <p>On 4.2.5: See the comments in 1.1.4.2</p>						
<b>4.3</b>	<b>Financial Resources</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
4.3.1	The management and allocation of the financial resources of the program of study, allow for the development of the program and of the academic / teaching personnel.					X
4.3.2	The allocation of financial resources as regards to academic matters, is the responsibility of the relevant academic departments.				X	
4.3.3	The remuneration of academic and other personnel is analogous to the remuneration of academic and other personnel of the respective institutions in Cyprus.	Na				
4.3.4	Student tuition and fees are consistent to the tuition and fees of other respective institutions.					X
<p>Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.</p> <p>On 4.3.2: see the general comments on allocation of funds in section 4; The Committee recommends the establishment of a dedicated scholarship that includes</p>						

living expenses to attract the right caliber of the students

On 4.3.2: See the comments on

**The following criterion applies additionally for distance learning programs of study.**

5.	DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS	1	2	3	4	5
5.1	Feedback processes for teaching personnel with regards to the evaluation of their teaching work, by the students, are satisfactory.					
5.2	The process and the conditions for the recruitment of academic / teaching personnel, ensure that candidates have the necessary skills and experience for long distance education.					
5.3	Through established procedures, appropriate training, guidance and support, are provided to teaching personnel, to enable it to efficiently support the educational process.					
5.4	Student performance monitoring mechanisms are satisfactory.					
5.5	Adequate mentoring by the teaching personnel, is provided to students, through established procedures.					
5.6	The unimpeded long distance communication between the teaching personnel and the students, is ensured to a satisfactory degree.					
5.7	Assessment consistency, its equivalent application to all students, and the compliance with predefined procedures,					



	are ensured.												
5.8	Teaching materials (books, manuals, scientific journals, databases) comply with the requirements provided by the long distance education methodology and are updated regularly.												
5.9	The program of study has the appropriate and adequate infrastructure for the support of learning.												
5.10	The supporting infrastructures are easily accessible.												
5.11	Students are informed and trained with regards to the available educational infrastructure.												
5.12	The procedures for systematic control and improvement of the supportive services are regular and effective.												
5.13	Infrastructure for distance education is comparable to university infrastructure in the European Union and internationally.												
5.14	Electronic library services are provided according to international practice in order to support the needs of the students and of the teaching personnel.												
5.15	The students and the teaching personnel have access to the necessary electronic sources of information, relevant to the program, the level, and the method of teaching.												
5.16	The percentage of teaching personnel who holds a doctorate, in a program of study which is offered long distance, is not less than 75%.												
<p>Justify the answer you have provided and note the additional comments you may have on each standard / indicator.</p> <p>If the following apply, note “√” in the appropriate space next to each statement. In case the following statements do not apply, note what is applicable:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">The maximum number of students per class-section, should not exceed 30 students.</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>The conduct of written examinations with the physical presence of the students, under the supervision of the institution or under the supervision of reliable agencies which operate in the countries of the students, is compulsory.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>										The maximum number of students per class-section, should not exceed 30 students.		The conduct of written examinations with the physical presence of the students, under the supervision of the institution or under the supervision of reliable agencies which operate in the countries of the students, is compulsory.	
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The number of long distance classes taught by the academic personnel does not exceed the number of courses taught by the teaching personnel in conventional programs of study.	
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The following criterion applies additionally for doctoral programs of study.

6.	DOCTORAL PROGRAMS OF STUDY	1	2	3	4	5
6.1	The provision of quality doctoral studies is ensured through Doctoral Studies Regulations.					X
6.2	The structure and the content of a doctoral program of study are satisfactory and they ensure the quality provision of doctoral studies.					X
6.3	The number of academic personnel, which is going to support the doctoral program of study, is adequate.					X
6.4	The doctoral studies' supervisors have the necessary academic qualifications and experience for the supervision of the specific dissertations.					X
6.5	The degree of accessibility of all interested parties to the Doctoral Studies Regulations is satisfactory.					X
6.6	The number of doctoral students, under the supervision of a member of the academic personnel, is apt for the continuous and effective feedback provided to the students and it complies with the European and international standards.					X
6.7	The research interests of academic advisors and supervisors are satisfactory and they adequately cover the thematic areas of research conducted by the doctoral					X



[illegible]

Please note your final remarks and suggestions for the program of study and/or regarding particular aspects of the program.

The Committee is grateful to the School of Law and the University of Nicosia for generous hospitality and thoroughness of documentation they put before us and the openness and professionalism in discussing every aspect of their application.

We have found the proposed programme to be well designed with clear and coherent aims and learning outcomes, good management and mechanisms of delivery and, above all, designed and delivered by qualified, committed and enthusiastic academic colleagues.

We are also satisfied that the new programme is well integrated in the university and school of law's strategic plan and increases the law school's potential to become an important intellectual hub in the relevant field of research.

We have noted a number of areas in which the new programme can be improved, the most important of which, in our opinion, are as follows:

- admissions
- funding
- credit point allocation
- workspace and student engagement in research activities
- management of supervision process
- ringfencing research time and workload allocation for staff



- adequate administrative support

In sum, we found the proposal to be well articulated, innovative and adequately resourced. The Committee remains at the disposal of D.I.P.A.E for any further clarifications and comments and is grateful for the agency's support in that process.

**Names and Signatures of the Chair and the Members of the External Evaluation Committee:**

Name:	Signature:
STEVEN GREAR	
JIRI PRIBAN	
OLYMPIA BEKOU	
NIKOLETA ΚΕΦΟΝΑΚΟΥ	
Charalampous Marina	

Date: 16/06/2017