

## REPORT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS

Ref. No:	07.14.290.070	Evaluation/Accreditation of
		Programme
Department	Department of Social and Political Science	
Programme of study: Name (Duration, ECTS, Title)	<b>IN GREEK:</b> Σπουδές Ειρήνης, Συγκρούσεων και Δημοκρατίας (1,5 έτη, 90 ECTS, Μάστερ)  <b>IN ENGLISH:</b> Peace, Conflict & Democracy (1,5 years, 90 ECTS, MA)	
Institution:	University of Cyprus	

NUM.	RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE INTITUTION	COMPLIANT / PARTIALLY COMPLIANT / NON-COMPLIANT
1.	<b>Recommendation 1: <i>Provide the short and medium term strategy for new staff recruitment</i></b>	The Senate of the University of Cyprus approved (27/2021/ 3 <sup>rd</sup> of November 2021) the allocation of two positions to the Department of Social and Political Science, one of which is allocated to cover the teaching needs emerging from the launch of the new program (rank Lecturer/Assistant Professor). With regards to the medium-term strategy, the department will need to consider first the specific needs of the program after the first year of its operation to determine the specialization of any new staff.	<b>COMPLIANT</b> 28/02/2022
2.	<b>Recommendation 2: <i>Enhance the administrative support of the program.</i></b>	As of October 2021 a senior and experienced administrative assistant has been allocated to cover the needs of advertising, promoting and managing the program. In particular, the officer is expected to contribute to the following activities at different stages of the development of the program: website development and management, creating and managing social media, contacting potential	<b>COMPLIANT</b> 28/02/2022

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		funders (scholarships), preparation of open days and other recruitment events, responding to prospective applicants' emails, and liaising with external partners to facilitate our internship program.	
3.	<b>Recommendation 3: <i>Provide an additional module or workshops to support students in the preparation of the Master's Thesis.</i></b>	The program will introduce two workshops specifically to support the preparation of the Master's Thesis. These are designed to support students' research methodology skills, research ethics training and learning experience. These are focused on the thesis research and writing process. The "Research Proposal" Workshop will take place at the beginning of term 3 and student participation will be mandatory. Students will present a fully developed research proposal, which is expected to also explicitly cover issues related to research methodology and ethics. They will receive feedback both from their peers and academic/teaching staff that will help them proceed with their research project. The second "Research in Progress" Workshop will give the opportunity to students to present their work in progress and receive constructive feedback in finalizing their dissertation. This will also contain a mandatory part of reflection on methodological and ethical issues	<b>COMPLIANT 28/02/2022</b>
4.	<b>Recommendation 4: <i>Strengthen the democracy aspect in the program's content and structure.</i></b>	In line with the recommendation of the reviewers, we are introducing a new core course titled 'Fundamentals of Democracy' (please find attached a course outline), in an effort to strengthen the theoretical and conceptual background of our students in the study of democracy. This coupled with optional courses on democracy - particularly SPS623 Elections & Democracy after Conflict and SPS625 Dynamics of Radicalism & Conflict in Democracy – is expected to provide a strong and integrated thematic Democracy component. Please also note that the other course titled 'Fundamentals of Peace & Conflict Transformation' has been slightly	<b>COMPLIANT 28/02/2022</b>

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		revised to reflect more accurately the thematic focus on the study of peace, conflict and violence (see attached).	
5.	<b>Recommendation 5: Provide descriptions of the policies and processes pertaining to student advising.</b>	Each student is allocated an academic advisor, namely a member of the Department's Teaching and Research staff. The advisor is tasked to support students in academic planning, monitor their overall academic performance, provide guidance in addressing issues that students may experience during their studies, and provide broader pastoral care. Similarly, all staff members teaching at the department set office hours on a weekly basis which serve as an opportunity for students to receive feedback on their progress, discuss issues related to their studies and more broadly seek guidance (e.g. readings, preparing for essays or receive guidance for further studies/employability). Postgraduate MA students of the department have even more frequent contact with staff members as they are required to select an academic supervisor as part of their dissertation module. The supervisor is involved at all stages of the dissertation development, including reading and providing feedback to the proposal, providing guidance with regards to relevant readings and providing comments prior to final submission.	<b>COMPLIANT 28/02/2022</b>

The present document adheres to the European Standards and Guidelines, in particular Standard 2.3 (Implementing Processes) and its guidelines, which provide that “Agencies have a consistent follow-up process for considering the action taken by the institution”.