განათლების ხარისხის განვითარების ეროვნული ცენტრი

NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL QUALITY ENHANCEMENT

Accreditation Expert Group Report on Higher Education Program

European Studies Doctoral Program
Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University

Date(s) of Evaluation: 29 July 2019

Report Submission Date: 12 August 2019

Tbilisi
2019-08-12

HEI's Information Profile

Name of the HEI	Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University
Organizational-Legal Form	Legal Entity of Public Law
Type of the Institution	The University
ID Number	204864548

Higher Education Program Information Profile

Name of the Program	European Studies
Level of Education	Doctoral studies
Qualification Granted Indicating Qualification Code	Doctor of European Studies 0388
Language of Instruction	English
Number of Credits	55 (Teaching Component)
Program Status (Authorized/ Accredited/New)	Accedited 25.03.2014 Accreditation expired 25.03.2019

Expert Panel Members

Chair (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	Gediminas Vitkus Vilnius University, Lithuania
Member (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	Tariel Sikharulidze Ilia State University, Georgia
Member (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	Nana Pirtskhelani, Caucasus University, Georgia

- **General information on the education Program**

The European Studies Doctoral Program aims to implement theoretical and practical research using the EU-related interdisciplinary approach, which enables the future doctors to carry out profound and comprehensive research and analytical activities from the EU legal, economic, social-political and historical perspective,

- **Brief overview of the accreditation site-visit**

The accreditation site-visit to the Tbilisi State University took place on 29 July 2019. The Expert Panel hold meetings and interviews with the University administration, with faculty full time and invited members and PhD supervisors, Program students, representatives of employers, University and faculty quality assurance unit heads. At the end of working day the Expert Panel made preliminary presentation of the main findings.

- **Summary of education Program's compliance with the standards**

The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit discovered that in general the Program meets all accreditation standards. More specifically the Program substantially complies with requirements related with educational Program objectives, learning outcomes and teaching methodology and organization. Full compliance with requirements can be seen against standards related with student achievements and individual work with them, teaching resources and teaching quality enhancement.

- **Summary of Recommendations**

  - to strengthen the Program learning outcomes assessment by establishing the special Program committee (including representatives of administration, academic staff, students and social partners/stakeholders) with objective to monitor achievement of learning outcomes and to have an assessment at least once per semester with clear guidelines how assessment results could be utilized for the improvement of the Program;
  - to update of the official website in a way to reflect current version of the Program. At the time of the Site visit the website presented the version of the Program, which was valid before 2014;
  - to update the list literature provided in the Syllabuses of all courses of the Program in order to meet standard requirement of taking new research findings and modern scientific achievements into consideration;

- **Summary of Suggestions:**

  - to make all Program related documentation (particularly Curriculum Map (Learning Outcomes) (SER Annex 9) and Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan, Methods and Map (SER Annex 9) available in English;
  - to introduce additional admission requirement for non-field Master degree applicants to collect e.g. up to 10 ETCS credits of relevant for the European studies field training courses. Exception in this regard could be available only for owners of a Master's degree from so-called neighboring disciplines like Law, Political Science, Economics or Humanities;
  - to include into the list of obligatory courses at least one theoretical course related to the European studies (e.g. 'Theories of European Integration" or "Theories of EU Public Policy Analysis", etc.);
  - to reconsider so called two "Seminar Work" courses in order to replace one of them with theoretical mandatory course and to make their content somehow related to the main research projects of students;
  - To divide the course existing course on research methods into two different in-depth qualitative and quantities courses. One of those courses may be compulsory, the second optional;
  - to get rid of unnecessary multiplication of this general information in each of Syllabuses (i.e. a section "Assessment system and criteria" with identical content). Instead of the it would be enough to provide students with indication or internet link, where to find this information;
  - not to limit themselves only with administrative measures and to consider elaboration of more comprehensive strategic plan with distinct measures for stimulating the academic staff to do research, seek to increase its quality and international publicity;
  - to make available all the relevant administrative information concerning the PhD like timing of drafting, maintenance, necessary publication and other relevant details on the web site, that will help students in their orientation and avoid unnecessary inquiries over the phone.

- **Summary of best practices (If Applicable)**

  - the European Studies Doctoral program was developed within the EU-funded project;
  - the Program is interdisciplinary;
  - the curriculum of the Program is drawn up through the involvement of the experts/academic staff of the leading European universities;
  - The academic staff is trained in innovative learning-teaching methods. The methods are integrated and utilized in the studies component of the Program;
  - TSU Institute for European Studies actively cooperates with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with the EU delegation to Georgia. The EU delegation offers internship for the students of Program;

- modern methods of achieving the learning outcomes of the doctoral program of European Studies were introduced within the framework of the cooperation project with international partners;
- besides the academic staff directly involved in the Program, advisory services are actively involved in process, including professors of the leading European universities;
- reports on doctoral students work with the scientific supervisor are submitted at the end of each semester to the administration of the institute within the set deadline;
- involvement in the Program high qualifications professors with rich academic experience from the leading universities of Europe.

- **In case of accredited Program, summary of significant accomplishments and/or progress (If Applicable)**

Not Applicable

Compliance of the Program with Accreditation Standards

1. ## Educational Program objectives, learning outcomes and their compliance with the Program

   A Program has clearly established objectives and learning outcomes, which are logically connected to each other. Program objectives are consistent with the mission, objectives and strategic plan of the institution. Program learning outcomes are assessed on a regular basis in order to improve the Program.

1.1 Program Objectives
Program objectives define the set of knowledge, skills and competences the Program aims to develop in graduate students. They also illustrate the contribution to the development of the field and the society.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements   o   Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance <u>with the standard component requirements</u> based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable) After the analysis of the Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit the Expert Panel could confirm that the Program objectives are clear, realistic and achievable. They reflect the skills and qualifications and competences the graduate of the Program should have and how they contribute to the development of the discipline and society. The Program is relevant and in accordance with the mission and development plan of the European Studies Institute and the Tbilisi State University in general. By aiming to train a European Studies Analysts that can independently implement profound and comprehensive researches and analytical activities based on the European, legal, economic, social-political and historical-cultural perspective the Program takes into consideration local labour market demands and includes international component. The objectives are accessible for interested parties (public administration institutions and civil society) and shared by the Program stakeholders.
Evidences/indicators   o   Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results • Self-evaluation Report (SER) • Doctoral Program for European Studies and its description (SER Annex 1); • Syllabi of Doctoral Program for European Studies (SER Annex 1); • Decree N 79/2018 of TSU Academic Council from February 26, 2018 • On approval of "LEPL - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University Mission" (https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/axad_council_resolutions/2018acad/792018//); • Strategic development plan of LEPL Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (2018 - 2024) (see https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/axad_council_resolutions/2018acad/802018/); • Strategic Development Plan of LEPL Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University Institute of European Studies (2017 - 2021) (SER Annex 18); • Protocols of discussion at the meeting of Academic staff of the program (SER Annex 2); • Document of analysis of the requirements of the employment market and the employers (SER Annex 10). • Interviews during the Site-Visit

Recommendations:
o Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

Suggestions for Program development:
o Non-binding suggestions for Program development

Best Practices (if applicable):
o Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress
o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard
 	
    ✓ Complies with requirements
    ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
    ☐ Partially complies with requirements
    ☐ Does not comply with requirements

1.2. Program Learning Outcomes

- Program learning outcomes describe knowledge, skills, and/or the sense of responsibility and autonomy, students gain upon completion of the Program;
- Program learning outcomes assessment cycle consists of defining, collecting and analysing data;
- Program learning outcomes assessment results are utilized for the improvement of the Program.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

    o Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance with the standard component requirements based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)

After the analysis of the Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit the Expert Panel discovered the learning outcomes of the Doctoral program in European Studies are in compliance with the objectives determined by the National Qualifications Framework, as well as outcomes determined by the field standard and the program objectives.

The description of learning outcomes includes all needed components as (a) Knowledge and understanding, (b) Skills, and (c) Responsibility and autonomy. The description of the Program learning outcomes is well balanced and combines generic skills with direct references to the content of the European Studies field.

As concerns Program learning outcomes assessment mechanism the Expert Panel could confirm that the mechanism is in place. The learning outcomes are measured using several criteria, including the quality of studies conducted by students, through presentations,

published works, employment indicators, and other mechanisms implemented within each semester or research component. The faculty members are involved in the Program are updated in detail on assessment results through the Law faculty's as well as University's Quality Assurance Service.

However the Self-evaluation Report was less precise how the Program learning outcomes assessment results are utilized for the improvement of the Program. The Self-evaluation Report stresses that a special attention was paid to the recommendations of accreditation experts from 2014. But it says anything how the Program learning outcomes assessment is implemented and how obtained results are utilized for the improvement of the Program as a whole. Therefore the Expert panel recommend strengthening the Program learning outcomes assessment and utilization of the assessment results for the improvement of the Program

Evidences/indicators

- o   Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation Report (SER)
- Resolution N 71/2011 of TSU Academic Council from July 25, 2011
- "On Approval of Rules Regulating the Study Process of LEPL - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University" (https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/axad_council_resolutions/2011/772011kod);
- Doctoral Program for European Studies and its description (SER Annex 1);
- Syllabi of Doctoral Program for European Studies (SER Annex 1);
- Curriculum Map (Learning Outcomes) (SER Annex 9);
- Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan, Methods and Map (SER Annex 9);
- Results of the student's surveys (SER Annex 19);
- Protocol of discussion at the meeting of academic staff of the program (SER Annex 2).
- Interviews during the Site-Visit

Recommendations:

Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

The Expert panel recommends strengthening the Program learning outcomes assessment by establishing the special Program committee (including representatives of administration, academic staff, students and social partners/stakeholders) with objective to monitor achievement of learning outcomes and to have an assessment at least once per semester with clear guidelines how assessment results could be utilized for the improvement of the Program.

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

The Expert panel noticed that despite that the Program is implemented in English

however not all related documentation was available in English. For instance, the Curriculum Map (Learning Outcomes) (SER Annex 9) and Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan, Methods and Map (SER Annex 9) were not submitted in English.

Best Practices (if applicable):

  o Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

  o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

  o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

  ☐ Complies with requirements
  ✓ Substantially complies with requirements
  ☐ Partially complies with requirements
  ☐ Does not comply with requirements

Program's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Educational Program objectives, learning outcomes and their compliance with the Program	X			

2. Teaching methodology and organization, adequate evaluation of Program mastering

Program admission preconditions, Program structure, content, teaching and learning methods, and student assessment ensure the achievement of Program objectives and intended learning outcomes.

2.1. Program Admission Preconditions
Higher education institution has relevant, transparent, fair, public and accessible Program admission preconditions.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements
o Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance with the standard component requirements based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)   After the analysis of the Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit the Expert Panel could confirm that the Program Admission Preconditions take Program characteristics into consideration (it requires Master's degree or its equivalent academic degree, appropriate English language skills and submission of a research project in English). The Program is also open for foreign students. This provision ensures admission of the students with relevant knowledge, skills and competences for mastering the Program.   While the Program admission preconditions are logically linked to the Program content the Expert Panel would like to express it scepticism towards the Provision to keep the Program open for all applicants with Master's degree or its equivalent regardless of its content. The Panel was not persuaded with idea that PhD student, who is enrolled in the program with non-field Master degree (e.g. Physics, Chemistry or Maths) shall be entitled to attend the training courses relevant to the profile provided for on the European Studies Master's program but without passing midterm and final exams. Therefore the Panel is suggesting revising this Provision and considering the idea to introduce additional admission requirement for non-field Master degree applicants to collect e.g. up to 10 ETCS credits of relevant for the European studies field training courses. Exception in this regard could be available only for owners of a Master's degree from so-called neighbouring disciplines like Law, Political Science, Economics or Humanities.   Program admission preconditions and procedures are consistent with existing legislation. Program admission preconditions and procedures are fair, public and accessible at least in Georgian language.

Evidences/indicators
 	
 o Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results
 	
 • Self-evaluation Report (SER)
 • Doctoral Program for European Studies and its description (SER Annex 1);
    o TSU web page: www.tsu.edu.ge;
    o TSU Institute of European Studies web page: www.ies.tsu.edu.ge ;
    o TSU Institute of European Studies facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/IES-

- Results of the students` surveys (SER Annex 19).
- Interviews during the Site-Visit

Recommendations:

Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

The Expert Panel recommends updating of the official website in a way to reflect current version of the Program. At the time of the Site visit the website presented the version of the Program, which was valid before 2014.

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

The Panel is suggesting the idea to introduce additional admission requirement for non-field Master degree applicants to collect e.g. up to 10 ETCS credits of relevant for the European studies field training courses. Exception in this regard could be available only for owners of a Master's degree from so-called neighbouring disciplines like Law, Political Science, Economics or Humanities.

Best Practices (if applicable):

o   Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

o   Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

☐ Complies with requirements
✓ Substantially complies with requirements
☐ Partially complies with requirements
☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.2 Educational Program Structure and Content

Program is designed according to HEI's methodology for planning, designing and developing of educational Programs. Program content takes Program admission preconditions and Program learning outcomes into account. Program structure is consistent and logical. Program content and structure ensure the achievement of Program learning outcomes. Qualification to be granted is consistent with Program content and learning outcomes.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

    o   Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance <u>with the standard component requirements</u> based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)

The Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit persuaded the Expert Panel that the Program is designed according to Tbilisi State University methodology for planning, designing and developing of educational Programs. Its structure is consistent and logical. It comprised of 55 ECTS credits and the research component. Program content and structure is consistent with the qualification to the granted and ensure the achievement of Program learning outcomes.

The Program is structured in accordance with Georgian Legislation and European Credits Transfer System. The study component foresees both – mandatory and elective courses. The content of study component takes into account admission preconditions by including into the list of elective courses following subjects as "European Economics", "EU Law", etc. These courses may particularly be helpful for students, which graduated from other than European Studies Master's Programs.

However, the Expert Panel would like to pay attention to the content of mandatory courses. Unfortunately the list doesn't include any obligatory course related to the European studies, especially with "heavy" theoretical dimension. That creates a danger, that students may start reading their research subjects without any given relevant theoretical tools. Therefore the Expert Panel would like to suggest to consider an option to include into the list of obligatory courses at least one theoretical course related to the European studies (e.g. 'Theories of European Integration" or "Theories of EU Public Policy Analysis", etc.). This change could be done at the expense of the Preparation of two seminar works, which takes even 20 ECTS credits.

The Expert Panel also has a special note concerning these two Seminar Works. According to the Self-evaluation Report the research component of the Program includes only the preparation of a dissertation thesis and public defence under the relevant rules of the University. But this is not exactly true. The two Seminar Works (by the way with identical syllabuses) are also small research projects. The requirement that these Seminar Works does not represent a part of the thesis is a disadvantage of the Program structure. Students are obliged to spend their time to some extras with limited validity instead of concentrating of their main research subjects. By the way, this impression was confirmed by students/graduates during the Site Visit interviews. The Expert Panel is not persuaded by explanation that those research projects, different from the PhD subject, serve to enlarge students knowledge, sharpen their research skills and broaden their world view.

Evidences/indicators

    o   Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

        •   Self-evaluation report (SER)

- Doctoral Program for European Studies and its description (SER Annex 1);
- Decree 20/2014 of the LEPL - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University Academic Council from February 26, 2014, "On approval of Educational Programs" (https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/axad_council_resolutions/2014/202014//);
- Educational Program Accreditation Council Decision N55, from March 25, 2014 (SER Annex 20);
- The minutes of the Academic staff session (SER Annex 2);
- Decree N245/2018 of the LEPL - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University Academic Council from December 27, 2018, "On approval of minimum standard for Doctoral Studies" (SER Annex 15)
- Decree N26/2011 of the LEPL - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University Academic Council from March 16, 2011, "On approval of Instruction for Doctoral programs development" (SER Annex 8);
- Approved by the Order N05/03 of LEPL - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University Quality Assurance Service Head from March 7, 2018, "Recommendation Methodology for Planning the Number of Staff for the University Educational Program Implementation" (SER Annex 6);
- Approved by the Order N07/03 of LEPL - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University Quality Assurance Service Head from March 16, 2018, "Forms of Staff Qualifications Compliance Establishing with Learning Outcomes of Study and Research Components of TSU Higher Educational Program" (https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/orders/xjZLRyouzlDed3z9Q/?p=1).
- Interviews during the Site-Visit.

Recommendations:

Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

The Expert Panel suggests:
- to include into the list of obligatory courses at least one theoretical course related to the European studies (e.g. "Theories of European Integration" or "Theories of EU Public Policy Analysis", etc.).
- to reconsider so called two "Seminar Work" courses in order to replace one of them with theoretical mandatory course and to make their content somehow related to the main research projects of students.

Best Practices (if applicable):

o Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

    ✓ Complies with requirements
    ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
    ☐ Partially complies with requirements
    ☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.3 Course

- Student learning outcomes of each compulsory course are in line with Program learning outcomes; Moreover, each course content and number of credits correspond to course learning outcomes;
- Teaching materials listed in syllabi are based on the core achievements in the field and ensure the achievement of intended Program learning outcomes.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

o Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance <u>with the standard component requirements</u> based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)

The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through the Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit could confirm that in general student learning outcomes of each compulsory course are in line with Program learning outcomes and each course content and number of credits correspond to course learning outcomes.

As regards the standard requirement for Program content to take new research findings and modern scientific achievements into consideration the Expert Panel discovered serious discontent. In all submitted syllabuses lists of literature provided for all mandatory and optional courses were somehow outdated. The newest literature sources were dated by the year of 2013.

Evidences/indicators

o Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation report (SER)
- Doctoral Program for European Studies and its description (SER Annex 1);
- Collection of Syllabuses
- Map of Program Outcomes (Learning Outcomes) (SER Annex 9);
- Results of the student's surveys (SER Annex 19);
- Survey results conducted within the framework of Tempus project "Innovative Teaching and Learning in European Studies" (SER Annex 19)
- Interviews during the Site-Visit

Recommendations:

The Expert Panel recommends updating the list literature provided in the Syllabus of all courses of the Program in order to meet standard requirement of taking new research findings and modern scientific achievements into consideration.

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

The Expert Panel after inspection of submitted Syllabuses discovered that all of them have a section "Assessment system and criteria" with identical content. The Panel suggest to get rid of this unnecessary multiplication of this general information in each of Syllabuses. Instead of that it would be enough to provide students with indication or internet link, where to find this information.

Best Practices (if applicable):

o   Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

o   Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

   o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard.

☐ Complies with requirements
✓   Substantially complies with requirements
☐ Partially complies with requirements
☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.4 The Development of practical, scientific/research/creative/performance and transferable skills

Program ensures the development of students' practical, scientific/research/creative/performance and transferable skills and/or their involvement in research projects, in accordance with the Program learning outcomes.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

> o   Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance <u>with the standard component requirements</u> based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)

The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit confirms that Program ensures the development of students' skill in accordance to the Program learning outcomes. The practical and transferable skills of the students are developed foremost by so called the Professor's Assistantship. This component of the study program includes support of relevant professors of the mandatory academic courses of the Master's program of European studies. Accordingly the research skills of the students are developed by implementation of a research exercises which are mandatory within any of optional course and by writing two seminar papers. Besides that the students participate in conferences and seminars funded by EU and other donors, also in Erasmus+ exchange programs.

Evidences/indicators

> o   Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation report (SER)
- Doctoral Program for European Studies and its description (SER Annex 1);
- Results of the student's surveys (SER Annex 19);
- Curriculum Map (Learning Outcomes) (SER Annex 9);
- Memorandum of Internship with the EU delegation, draft version (SER Annex 11).
- Interviews during the Site-Visit.

Recommendations:

> Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

Best Practices (if applicable):

> o   Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

TSU Institute for European Studies actively cooperates with the Directorate General on European Integration Issues of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with the EU delegation to Georgia. The EU delegation offers internship for the students of Program.

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

- o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

- o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

  ✓ Complies with requirements
  ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
  ☐ Partially complies with requirements
  ☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.5 Teaching and learning methods

Program is implemented using student centered teaching and learning (SCL) methods. Teaching and learning methods correspond to the level of education, course content, student learning outcomes and ensure their achievement.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

- o Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance with the standard component requirements based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)

The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit confirms that Program is implemented using innovative learning and teaching methods – Problem-Based Learning (PBL), Simulation, E-learning and blended learning. Teaching and learning methods correspond to the level of education, course content, student learning outcomes and ensure their achievement.

Evidences/indicators

- o Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation report (SER)
- Syllabuses collection
- Doctoral Program for European Studies and its description (SER Annex 1);
- Results of the student's surveys (SER Annex 19);
- Survey results conducted within the framework of Tempus project "Innovative Teaching and Learning in European Studies" (SER Annex 19).
- Interviews during the Site-Visit
- Publications of Georgian journal of the European studies of the Institute for European Studies of TSU: http://ies.tsu.edu.ge/en/qg73ecvxl8pzmkw4/rgm0kwx-o- 9duxrxi/ffbfc1xhtz1tnrbqq/

Recommendations:

Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

Best Practices (if applicable):
- o Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

Modern methods of achieving the learning outcomes of the doctoral program of European Studies were introduced within the framework of the cooperation project with international partners.

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

- o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

✓ Complies with requirements
☐ Substantially complies with requirements
☐ Partially complies with requirements
☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.6. Student Evaluation

Student evaluation is conducted in accordance with established procedures. It is transparent and complies with existing legislation.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

- o Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance with the standard component requirements based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)

The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit confirms that Student evaluation is conducted in accordance with established procedures. It is transparent and complies with existing legislation. Since the Program has got four graduates the Expert Panel can confirm

that standards related with the dissertation thesis defence are respected. The information of the Self-evaluation report and the results of Interviews do not provide grounds for doubting that this standard is respected.

Evidences/indicators

- o Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation report (SER)
- Doctoral Program for European Studies and its description (SER Annex 1);
- TSU Institute for European Studies web page www.ies.tsu.edu.ge ;
- Results of the student's surveys (SER Annex 19);
- "The rules for calculation of higher educational program credits", approved by the Order N3 of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia from January 5,2007
- Interviews during the Site-Visit.
- Four defended dissertations (SER Annex 7).

Recommendations:

Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

Best Practices (if applicable):

- o Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

- o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation
   o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

- ✓ Complies with requirements
- ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
- ☐ Partially complies with requirements
- ☐ Does not comply with requirements

Program's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Teaching methodology and organization, adequate evaluation of Program mastering		X		

3. Student achievements and individual work with them

HEI creates student-centered environment by providing students with relevant services; Program staff ensures students' familiarity with the named services, organizes various events and fosters students' involvement in local and/or international projects.

3.1. Student support services

Students receive appropriate consultations and support regarding the planning of learning process, improvement of academic achievement, employment and professional development.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

o   Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance with the standard component requirements based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)

The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through programme Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit discovered that all necessary students support services are in place. Students receive appropriate consultations and support regarding the planning of learning process, improvement of academic achievement, employment and professional development. In the framework of the Programme, students have an opportunity to participate in local and international projects, events, conferences and research fellowships; they can also participate in international exchange programmes. E.g. students systematically enjoy the mobility announced within Erasmus+ program. Besides that the interviewed students confirmed the Institute supports mobility of doctoral students, their free movement for participation in teaching and learning process in Georgia as well as abroad. The Strategic Plan for the Development of the Institute for European Studies for 2017-2021 foresees for students an establishment of regular study visits to Brussels in order increase the coherence of the theoretical knowledge with practical insights on the EU institutions actual work.

Evidences/indicators

o   Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation report
- TSU Institute for European Studies web page www.ies.tsu.edu.ge;

- TSU Institute for European Studies Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/IES-Institute-for-European-Studies-of-Tbilisi-State- University-132972730138155/
- Information on TSU Career Development Center on TSU website: https://www.tsu.ge/ge/government/administration/departments/career/about/
- Publications of Georgian journal of the European studies of the Institute for European Studies of TSU: http://ies.tsu.edu.ge/en/qg73ecvxl8pzmkw4/rgm0kwx-o- 9duxrxi/ffbfc1xhtz1tnrbqq/
- Interviews during the Site-Visit

Recommendations:

Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

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Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

Best Practices (if applicable):

o Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

Besides the academic staff directly involved in the Program, advisory services are actively involved in process, including professors of the leading European universities.

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

- ✓ Complies with requirements
- ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
- ☐ Partially complies with requirements
- ☐ Does not comply with requirements

3.2. Master's and Doctoral Student supervision
Master's and Doctoral students have qualified thesis supervisors.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

- o   Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance <u>with the standard component requirements</u> based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)

The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit discovered that the Program meets the accreditation standards in this regard. Every student has a qualified supervisor and if necessary, more than one co-supervisor who has scientific-research experience relevant to the topic of the thesis. Supervisors of a dissertation thesis are selected according to the scientific research experience in the research topic. The dissertation thesis and supervisor are approved by the Academic Council of the Institute.

The University has an elaborated document, which defines rights and obligations of the supervisor and the supervision process. During the Site visit the interviewed students confirmed that supervisors conduct consultations with students on a regular basis.

Evidences/indicators

- o   Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation report (SER)
- Four defended dissertations (SER Annex 7);
- Opinions of the scientific supervisors of PhD students (SER Annex 7);
- Opinions of reviewers (SER Annex 7).
- Interviews during the Site-Visit

Recommendations:

Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

Best Practices (if applicable):

- o   Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

Reports on doctoral student's work with the scientific supervisor are submitted at the end of each semester to the administration of the institute within the set deadline.

Involvement in the Program high qualifications professors with rich academic experience from the leading universities of Europe.
In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress
o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

✓ Complies with requirements
☐ Substantially complies with requirements
☐ Partially complies with requirements
☐ Does not comply with requirements

Program's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Student achievements and individual work with them	X			

4. Providing teaching resources

Program human, material, information and financial resources ensure Program sustainability, its effective and efficient functioning, and achievement of intended objectives.

4.1 Human Resources
• Program staff consists of qualified people who have necessary competences in order to help students achieve Program learning outcomes;   • The number and workload of Program academic/scientific and invited staff ensures the sustainable running of the educational process and also, proper execution of their research/creative/performance activities and other assigned duties. Balance between academic and invited staff ensures Program sustainability;   • The Head of the Program possesses necessary knowledge and experience required for Program elaboration. He/she is personally involved in Program implementation;   • Program students are provided with an adequate number of administrative and support staff of appropriate competence.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

- o Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance <u>with the standard component requirements</u> based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)

The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit acknowledges that the human resources of the Program satisfy requirements of the Standard. Each professor of the Program has an academic position at Tbilisi State University with full compliance with Georgian legislation and internal regulations of the University. Also, the faculty members are involved in almost every work and activities of governmental, private or other non-governmental structures for development of the respective direction.

The number and workload of Program academic/scientific and invited staff ensures the sustainable running of the educational process. 10 professors involved in the Program are fully capable to manage PhD students enrolled in the Program. Among them there are 7 full and 3 associate professors directly involved in scientific supervising.

On the basis of the interview with students the Experts Panel acknowledges that Program students are provided with an adequate number of administrative and support staff of appropriate competence.

Evidences/indicators
- o Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation report (SER)
- Decree N118/2014 of the Academic Council of TSU of December 22 on Unified Rules of Hiring the Academic Staff and Conducting the Competition at LEPL Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (approved by the representative council of TSU, by the protocol N10, 29.12.2014) (https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/axad_council_resolutions/2014/1182014//);
- Decree N81/2018 of February 26, by the Academic Council of TSU, on the approval of the rule of evaluation of LEPL - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University personnel. (SER Annex 17);
- TSU Academic Council's decree N 64/2018 of 19 February on the approval of rule of affiliation and terms for the academic personnel (professor, associate professor, assistant-professor, assistant) of LEPL - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. (https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/axad_council_resolutions/2018acad/642018/);
- Interviews during the Site-Visit

Recommendations:

Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

Best Practices (if applicable):

- o Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

- o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

- ✓ Complies with requirements
- ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
- ☐ Partially complies with requirements
- ☐ Does not comply with requirements

4.2 Professional development of academic, scientific and invited staff
• HEI conducts the evaluation of Program academic, scientific and invited staff and analysis evaluation results on a regular basis;   • HEI fosters professional development of the academic, scientific and invited staff. Moreover, it fosters their scientific and research work.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements   o Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance with the standard component requirements based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)   By studying the Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and during the Site Visit the Expert Panel found that the University quality service is permanently conducting to survey the personnel in order to obtain the information needed for their professional retraining and development.   The Self-evaluation Report acknowledges that increase of productivity, quality and international publicity of researches remains as a problem. However it seems that the University is going to respond to it basically using administrative measures. The Self-evalution Report indicates that "by the initiative of the department of scientific research and development, minimum scientific requirements were elaborated, which oblige the scientific staff to create highly rated scientific publications". The Expert panel would like to note that it is important not to limit themselves only with administrative measures and

resolutions. It is very important to consider elaboration of more comprehensive strategic plan with distinct measures for stimulating the academic staff to do research, seek to increase its quality and international publicity.

Evidences/indicators

- Self-evaluation report (SER)
- TSU Academic Council's resolution N122 of 29 December 2014, also the resolutions of 27 March 2017 N29 and N30 on making amendments to this resolution (https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/axad_council_resolutions/2014/1222014// https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/axad_council_resolutions/acad_2017/292017// https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/axad_council_resolutions/acad_2017/302017//);
- Annual reports of TSU Scientific Researches and Development Department (https://www.tsu.ge/ge/government/administration/departments/research/balances/).
- Interviews during the Site-Visit

Recommendations:

Suggestions for Program development:

While the University is taking an initiative of elaboration of minimum scientific requirements, which oblige the scientific staff to create highly rated scientific publications, it is important not to limit themselves only with administrative measures (resolutions) and to consider elaboration of more comprehensive strategic plan with distinct measures for stimulating the academic staff to do research, seek to increase its quality and international publicity.

Best Practices (if applicable):

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

Evaluation

compliance with this specific component of the standard

    ✓ Complies with requirements
    ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
    ☐ Partially complies with requirements
    ☐ Does not comply with requirements

4.3. Material Resources

Program is provided by necessary infrastructure and technical equipment required for achieving Program learning outcomes.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

    o Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance with the standard component requirements based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)

The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit could confirm that all the necessary material resources for the Program are available. During the interviews, the students and faculty members confirmed that they have no problems in this regard and are satisfied with the current situation.

Evidences/indicators

    o Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation report (SER)
- Statute of the Department of Information Technologies of TSU; (SER Annex 4);
- Order N35/02-01 of the head of administration of TSU "on the approval of information technologies management policy and the rule of using information resources of LEPL-Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University"
(https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/orders/G7GHtmRQtWYzxfqZS/?p=55);
- Order N 46/02/-01 of March 29, 2011 of TSU Head of Administration on "the approval of the rule of using the library and reading halls of LEPL Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University"
(https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/orders/- 1QIW6reZsXkz3Z3h/?p=1);
- Order N 265/01-01 of December 14, 2017 of TSU Rector on the approval of the rule for functioning of an open access digital archive ("repository") for scientific-research production of LEPL Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University"
(https://tsu.ge/data/file_db/orders/Veb_265_d1.pdf);
- An electronic catalog of TSU library;
- Rules for using the library of the Institute for European Studies of TSU and electronic catalog of the library.
http://ies.tsu.edu.ge/en/qg73ecvxl8pzmkw4/g5u6v94cyvf3h3yxv/un9fmw84xt_lzwcyh/
http://ies.tsu.edu.ge/en/qg73ecvxl8pzmkw4/g5u6v94cyvf3h3yxv/uv4wonthsc7841jcf/
- Access to the electronic bases of TSU.
- Interviews during the Site-Visit

Recommendations:

Suggestions for Program development:

Best Practices (if applicable):

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

Evaluation

- ✓ Complies with requirements
- ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
- ☐ Partially complies with requirements
- ☐ Does not comply with requirements

4.4. Program/faculty/school budget and Program financial sustainability

The allocation of financial resources stipulated in Program/faculty/school budget is economically feasible and corresponds to Program needs.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report and relevant enclosed documents discovered that at the initial stage of the implementation of the doctoral program of European Studies, full financial support of the program was provided within the budget envisaged by the EU funded project. However

currently after the completion of the Project the Program is financed from the budget of the University and from the tuition fees paid by the doctoral students of the program. During the Site Visit interviews with University budget officer the Expert Panel was reassured that financing of the Program is stable and sustainable.

Evidences/indicators

- o Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation report (SER).
- The university budget for 2019, approved by the Decision of the Representative Board of the university, Protocol N9 of the meeting of December 27, 2018, (SER Annex 14);
- The EU funded project - Establishment of Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program of European Studies at Tbilisi State University.
- The EU Tempus project - Innovative Teaching and Learning of European Studies (INOTLES 543955);
- Budget of the doctoral program of TSU Institute for European Studies (SER Annex 14).
- Interviews during the Site-Visit

Recommendations:

Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

Best Practices (if applicable):

- o Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

- o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

- ✓ Complies with requirements
- ☐ Substantially complies with requirements

| □ Partially complies with requirements |
| □ Does not comply with requirements |

Program's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Providing teaching resources	X			

5. Teaching quality enhancement opportunities

In order to enhance teaching quality, Program utilizes internal and external quality assurance services and also periodically conducts Program monitoring and Program review. Relevant data is collected, analysed and utilized for informed decision making and Program development on a regular basis.

5.1 Internal quality
Program staff collaborates with internal quality assurance service(s) available at the higher education institution when planning the process of Program quality assurance, creating assessment instruments, and analysing assessment results. Program staff utilizes quality assurance results for Program improvement.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements   o Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance <u>with the standard component requirements</u> based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)   The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through detailed Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit discovered that the University has a system and policy of internal quality assurance. Implementation of the doctoral program on European studies is monitored and evaluated by the European institute itself and by the quality assurance offices of the University and the faculty of Law. The Self-evaluation Report describes in detail what elements the quality assurance system mostly includes. Unfortunately, the Self-evaluation Report was less informative how findings of internal assessments are utilized for Program improvement. The Report indicated just rather generic points that the findings are used for further improvement of the program implementation. However the interviews with Head of TSU Quality Assurance Department and quality assurance officer of the Faculty of Law were quite informative. The interviewees described in detail how the system was reformed and how it is working. On this basis the Expert Panel concluded that the Program meets the accreditation standards in this regard.
Evidences/indicators   o Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation report (SER)
- Statute of the TSU Quality Assurance Service; (SER Annex 4);
- Order N04/03 of the head of TSU quality assurance office of 7 March 2018 on Approval of the Recommendation form for Evaluation of S yllabi of LEPL Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (SER Annex 17);
- Order N02/03 of 7 March 2018 by the head of quality assurance service of TSU "on the approval of the recommendation form of evaluation of higher educational programs of LEPL - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University" (SER Annex 17);
- Decree N 67/2018 of TSU academic council of February 19, 2018 "the approval of the rule for the evaluation and indicators of evaluation of implementing educational programs of LEPL Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University" (https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/axad_council_resolutions/2018acad/672018//);
- The results of surveys of students, staff, employers (SER Annex 10, 19);
- Order N 03/03 of February 26 2019, by the Head of Quality Assurance Service of TSU on the approval of survey questionnaires for students, personnel, graduates and employers of LEPL - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (SER Annex 17).
- Interviews during the Site-Visit

Recommendations:

Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

Best Practices (if applicable):

o Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

✓ Complies with requirements
☐ Substantially complies with requirements
☐ Partially complies with requirements
☐ Does not comply with requirements

5.2 External quality
Program utilizes the results of external quality assurance on a regular basis.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

> o Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance <u>with the standard component requirements</u> based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)

The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit discovered that the Program meets the accreditation standards in this regard. According the Self-evaluation Report over the last 5 years changes have been made along the recommendations including the structure of the research design course.

Evidences/indicators

> o Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation report (SER).
- Educational program (SER Annex 1);
- Recommendations of the accreditation experts (SER Annex 20);
- Decree N 80/2018 of TSU Academic Council from February 26, 2018 On approval of Strategic Plan for LEPL - Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (https://www.tsu.ge/ge/juridical/axad_council_resolutions/2018acad/802018//);
- Strategic development plan of TSU Institute for European Studies (SER Annex 18);
- Correspondence of the administration of TSU Institute for European Studies with the Rector of TSU and TSU quality assurance office on provision of anti plagiarism software (SER Annex 21).
- Interviews during the Site-Visit.

Recommendations:

Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

Best Practices (if applicable):

> o Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

> o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

 o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

  ✓ Complies with requirements
  ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
  ☐ Partially complies with requirements
  ☐ Does not comply with requirements

5.3. Program monitoring and periodic review

Program monitoring and periodic review is conducted with the involvement of academic, scientific, invited, administrative staff, students, graduates, employers and other stakeholders through systematically collecting and analysing information. Assessment results are utilized for Program improvement.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

 o Describe, analyze and evaluate Program's compliance <u>with the standard component requirements</u> based on the information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and Site Visit; the analysis has to reflect problematic issues (if applicable)

The Expert Panel on the basis information collected through Program Self-evaluation Report, relevant enclosed documents and the Site Visit discovered that the Program administrators conducts periodically:
- working meetings with academic and assisting staff of the program;
- individual or group meetings with the students;
- surveys of students' opinion in order to evaluate quality of the academic courses;
- examinations of the labour market demands;

On the other hand, the Expert Panel notices, that involvement of employers and other stakeholders in program monitoring and periodic review is occasional and therefore could be strengthened and formalized by signing of cooperation agreements in this area.

Evidences/indicators

 o Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

- Self-evaluation report (SER)
- Meeting protocols of the scientific council of TSU Institute for European Studies (SER Annex 2);
- Results of the student's surveys (SER Annex 19);
- Results of employer's survey; (SER Annex 10).
- TEMPUS project website http://inotles.eu/.
- Interviews during the Site-Visit.

Recommendations:

 Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the

standards

Suggestions for Program development:

Non-binding suggestions for Program development

To strengthen and formalize involvement of employers and other stakeholders in program monitoring and periodic review by signing of corresponding cooperation agreements.

Best Practices (if applicable):

- o Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education Programs

In case of accredited Program, significant accomplishments and/or progress

- o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the Program after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

  o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the Programs compliance with this specific component of the standard

  ✓ Complies with requirements
  ☐ Substantially complies with requirements
  ☐ Partially complies with requirements
  ☐ Does not comply with requirements

Program's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Teaching quality enhancement opportunities	X			

Enclosed Documentation (If Applicable)

None

HEI's Name: Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University

Higher Education Program Name: Doctoral Program "European Studies"

Number of Pages of the Report: 35

Program's Compliance with the Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
1. Program objectives are clearly defined and achievable; they are consistent with the mission of the HEI and take into consideration labour market demands	X			
2. Teaching methodology and organization, adequate evaluation of Program mastering		X		
3. Student achievements and individual work with them	X			
4. Providing teaching resources	X			
5. Teaching quality enhancement opportunities	X			

Expert Panel Chair's

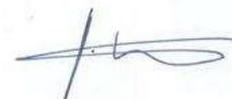Name, last name, signature   Gediminas Vitkus

Expert Panel Members'

Name, last name, signature   Tariel Sikharulidze

Name, last name, signature   Nana Pirtskhelani