



განათლების ხარისხის განვითარების ეროვნული ცენტრი
NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL QUALITY ENHANCEMENT

Accreditation Expert Group Report on Higher Education Programme

PhD Program in Law
New Vision University

Date(s) of Evaluation
October 11, 2018

Report Submission Date
October 31, 2018

Tbilisi
2018

სსიპ-განათლების ხარისხის განვითარების ეროვნული ცენტრი	
შემოსული №	_____
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დანიშნულება	_____

HEI's Information Profile

Name of Institution Indicating its Organizational Legal Form	NNLP New Vision University
HEI's Identification Code	404987332
Type of Institution	University

Higher Education Programme Information Profile

Name of the Programme	PhD program in Law
Level of Education	third level of higher education
Qualification Granted Indicating Qualification Code	Doctor of Law (<i>doctoris iuris</i>)
Language of Instruction	Georgian
Number of Credits	180
Programme Status (Authorized/ Accredited/New)	Accredited

Expert Panel Members

Chair (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	Anne Klebes-Pelissier (Chair)
Member (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	Nino Bogveradze, Associate professor at Georgian-American University; Attorney at Law at Kordzadze Law Office
Member (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	Vakhtang Zhvania, Black Sea International University, Georgia

Member (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	Tatia Uberi, Caucasus University, Georgia
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Accreditation Report Executive Summary

• General information on the education programme

New Vision University (hereinafter the "University" of HEI") was founded in 2013 in the form of non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity, which is comparatively new development in the higher educational sphere of Georgia. While the University's educational activity is not-for profit, the HEI has a realistic mission to expand the human vision "through promotion of education, research and innovation";

Although the University was founded in 2013 and does not have a long-term experience in higher education, it has gained the reputation in the Georgian society. It has employed carefully selected academic and invited staff having a strong educational background and, as well, wide practical experience in the field of their teaching. The Program structure is in compliance with the applicable Georgian legal regulations, correspond to the current local and international legal market demand. According to Self-Evaluation Report ("SER"), the PhD Program aims to "contribute to the free development of an individual and expansion of human vision through enhancement of the existing knowledge and establishment of innovative methods in law-making and/or interpretation of legal rules", (SER, p. 10). The Program objectives are in full compliance with HEI mission and are realistic and achievable.

The University has a strong international partnership policy and uses it as well for the development and improvement of its Phd program.

The students-oriented Phd Program offers them very qualified thesis supervisors. The qualifications and the number of the teaching/scientific/invited staff in the Programme are perfectly adequate to ensure expected learning outcomes and meet the legal requirements. Teaching/scientific/invited staff is really well-known in national academic and professional environment. This brings very successful practical and professional experience, which is supporting the ongoing innovative process of the Programme.

• Brief overview of the accreditation site-visit

The Phd Program site-visit took place the 11th of October 2018. Different necessary meetings had been organized, starting with the the Self-Evaluation Team, the QA Head and the Head of Programme, the Dean of the Law Faculty, followed by meetings with academic and invited staff, PhD Supervisors, PhD Students, Alumnus as well as meetings with employers and internship supervisors (regarding all three programs).

A Tour of the Institution was also organized (libraries, classrooms, offices, buildings, which revealed a very active and innovative infrastructure policy);

The different interviews provided: - first, all necessary information concerning the organization of the over mentioned Program (innovative, high availability of Academic Staff, high level of supervision of students); high availability of academic/scientific staff as well as professionals/employers in Teaching and supervising Doctoral Thesis and internships.

Second, demonstrated the serious and innovative way of organizing PhD Studies; A program where Students are as much involved, guided in their work on a very regular basis. The way of Teaching/conducting and supervising Research suits perfectly with the necessary adaptation of traditional teaching/conducting/supervising Research to the evolution of society and the local, national and international labour market. Thesis Subjects chosen by Phd Students are useful for the market/innovative is the field of law. The learning outcomes of the program are very clearly established, described and precise that knowledge and skills the graduate will have.

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

The Expert Team obtained a very positive overall impression of the Programme with regard to content, level of definition, structure and suitability, also with respect to academic and professional demands, as well as the NVU strategy and strategical plan for academic development and updating of the curriculum competences.

The expert Team was impressed by the very innovative, student oriented, market oriented way the PhD program is organized.

The main objective and intended learning outcomes of the Programme are enabling students to obtain necessary legal competences and skills, enabling them to perform practical legal work in national or international legal environment.

Programme aims and learning outcomes are properly defined.

Teaching resources (human resources professional development of academic, scientific and invited staff, material resources, budget) are adapted to the program's aims and future development.

(See also report points below)

- **Summary of Recommendations**

Grading criteria in most part of the program syllabi is identical and the only difference is in divided points. The expert panel would recommend to organize each syllabi according to the personal interests and viewpoint, course specificity so that academic freedom of each lecturer will be protected.

- **Summary of Suggestions**

Due to the very positive way the Phd Program is organized, it could be useful to pay more attention to the publicity and marketing of the programme.

Continue working with existing and new international partners in order to use the best international practice in the program development.

It could also be of interest to apply for European/International quality assurance process, like the one proposed, for example, by the EUA (European University Association). This kind of initiative would also contribute to national and international visibility.

Continue working on internationalization, increase number of international projects for academic staff and students, continue regularly organize international conferences, implement research activities etc.

If the way Governance is organized is one of the parameters beyond others which fosters scientific and career development, it could be of use to organize on a regular basis (but not to binding), meetings with academic/scientific staff/invited staff, in order to exchange experience and boosting, as an example, collective research projects on local and international level as well as scientific and career development.

This non binding suggestion of course is the result of what was actually mentioned during interviews. It could, in our opinion booster for example more collective and interdisciplinary projects.

More documentation in foreign languages inside the libraries is of course always necessary, even if online documentation is available. Indirectly linked to material resources, but always of use as well: Reinforcing international partnerships, on a geographic and strategic basis. This could as well contribute to the added value mentioned above (for example, more comparative thesis subjects).

The University/School of Law could, in order to deeper achieve its objectives, try to more develop a grant's policy for Students and Academic/scientific staff (even if Foundation grants are already existing) and make it more readable in the presentation of the budget. This could also contribute to the attractiveness of the programme.

In relation with comments above, it could be also of interest to reinforce the University's/School of Law application for international research grants/programmes. Besides increasing the Research/PhD Budget, it would also positively contribute to the international visibility of the Institution.

- **Summary of Best Practices**

The objectives of the program and the learning outcomes are mutually harmonious and condition each other, meanwhile the learning outcomes are precisely based on what methods they are guiding while mastering it.

The PhD program is aimed at step by step, correctly processing and defining the dissertation work. The university approach is to develop and correctly define the skills of time, which helps the student to accurately determine the subject matter and reach specific conclusions. This approach is especially important for students who are the practicing lawyers employed by their profession, in giving them the right direction during the given process is carrying a substantial importance. Therefore a topic processing procedure is correctly ruled and the final result is simply achievable. There is a large number of interesting and in hand topics, based on the needs of the market.

The way the Programme is organized (Teaching and Research Component/Teaching Methodology/clear deadlines for the achievement of the Student's Thesis/Colloquiums which are part of disertation, etc) makes it exceptionally effective and could become a model for other Higher Education Institutions).

The way career development is managed in relation with the modern way of internal governance. International strategy.

A very active infrastructure policy which participates to the university's future.

As mentioned above, existing international strategy and the consequent added value for Student's work and access to the local and international market.

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

1.1 Programme Objectives

Programme objectives define the set of knowledge, skills and competences the programme 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

The New Vision University (hereinafter the "University" of HEI") was founded in 2013 in the form of non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal entity, which is comparatively new development in the higher educational sphere of Georgia. While the University's educational activity is not-for profit, the HEI has a realistic mission to expand the human vision "through promotion of education, research and innovation" (University Charter; Self-Evaluation Report, p. 10).

According to Self-Evaluation Report ("SER"), the PhD Program aims to "contribute to the free development of an individual and expansion of human vision through enhancement of the existing knowledge and establishment of innovative methods in law-making and/or interpretation of legal rules", (SER, p. 10). The Program objectives are in full compliance with HEI mission and are realistic and achievable as evidenced by SER, PhD Program, site-visits and interviews with various stakeholders of the University.

Although the University was founded in 2013 and does not have a long-term experience in higher education, it has gained the reputation in the Georgian society. It has employed carefully selected academic and invited staff having a strong educational background and simultaneously wide practical experience in the field of their teaching. The Program structure is in compliance with the applicable Georgian legal regulations, correspond to the current local and international legal market demand and echoes the challenges and developments in the legal sphere. Most importantly, the issues to be researched in dissertations are selected in order to reflect and address the topics, which are mostly problematic in the legal sphere and are in need for deeper analyses and research. All the indicated basic factors in addition to sufficient infrastructure and resources provide necessary arguments in favor of the conclusion that the objectives of PhD Program are realistic and achievable.

Evidences/indicators

- HEI Charter
- Self-Evaluation Report
- Interviews with various stakeholders
- CV's of Academic and Invited Staff
- PhD Program

Recommendations:

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

Suggestions for programme development:

Best Practices (if applicable):

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

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

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

Evaluation

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

X Complies with requirements

☐ Substantially complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

1.2. Programme Learning Outcomes

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

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

The main method employed at the Program is "learning by Doing". While in the first semester students should undergo the core course of "Basic Tools for PhD Research" enabling students to gain the necessary knowledge for PhD research, the second semester provides the possibility for students to compose their own profile. This system operated at the University according to which the freedom and opportunity is provided to each student to create his/her own profile through the choice of accomplishing core teaching components or conduct a professor guided research, take the teaching methods II when demonstrating specific interest in teaching course or take II Seminar when willing to expand additional research, corresponds to the University's main objective of "offering educational programs promoting the free development of an individual" (HEI Charter, Article 3). In addition, students who are practicing attorneys may act as supervisors at the University's Legal Clinic which facilitates the development of their teaching skill component.

The student-oriented system considers the student as the major stakeholder of the University and evidences the University's positive approach on student-oriented teaching (SER, interviews with students administration, academic and invited staff).

The existence of "simple bureaucracy" system enables students to easily communicate with the administration and their professors on the issues they are concerned with. Both the administration and academic/invited staff consider students as major evaluators of the program objectives and learning outcomes. While students and professors fully share the HEI mission and PhD Program objectives, professors have the independence in the process of decision-making in terms of their courses. Students can easily communicate with the administration and their professors on the issues they are concerned with.

The interviews conducted with different stakeholders showed not only the interviewers' deep knowledge of the HEI mission and the PhD Program objectives but their involvement in the process of goal achievements.

Evidences/indicators

- ◊ Self-Evaluation Report
- Interviews with various stakeholders
- ◊ CV's of Academic and Invited Staff
- PhD Program Courses

Recommendations:

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

Suggestions for programme development:

Best Practices (if applicable):

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

The objectives of the program and the learning outcomes are mutually harmonious and condition each other, meanwhile the learning outcomes are precisely based on what methods they are guiding while mastering it.

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

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

Evaluation

X Complies with requirements

☐ Substantially complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

Programme's Compliance with Standard

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

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

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

1. Programme Admission Preconditions

Higher education institution has relevant, transparent, fair, public and accessible programme admission preconditions.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

Admission rules for the program are transparent, is accessible to all interested candidates, and provides equal opportunities to participate, for all the candidates with relevant knowledge skills and values.

Admission process of PhD Degree is based on Georgian legislation. Every interested candidate with Master or equivalent academic degree in law, and with B2 level 6 proficiency in foreign languages (English, German, French), with relevant approval documentation, can continue his/her education at PhD Level.

In the admission process, important attention is given to the candidate's letter of motivation, and, in addition to the supervisor's recommendation, that is based on academic and practical work experience and skills, that is highly important for the program, which was also confirmed at the interviews with the academic staff and the students.

It can be noted that the Admission procedure at the PhD level is in accordance with the Georgian legislation.

Evidences/indicators

- PhD program
- Self-evaluation document
- webpage
- interviews with academic and administrative staff
- interview with PHD students

Recommendations:

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

Suggestions for programme development:

Non-binding suggestions for programme development

Best Practices (if applicable):

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

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

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

Evaluation

☒ Complies with requirements

☐ Substantially complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

2. Educational Programme Structure and Content

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

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

PhD program is based and developed on legal demands. Program combines modern approaches and attitude, meets modern market needs and fully highlights admission requirements. Also, learning outcome results are transparent that also meets modern standards.

Program is structured in a way that students can comfortably pursue next quarter studies. It is guaranteed by the courses that student can take as a relative discipline.

During the program, colloquia and seminar components are well developed. When the students work on the seminar component they are working on a topic which is not connected to his/her doctoral paper. Above mentioned practice gives an opportunity to enhance academic writing skills, broaden knowledge and improve research skills.

The program contains a very important discipline "Basic tools for PhD research" as an obligatory component. It helps students and gives an opportunity to be involved in research and easily pass colloquium and seminar components.

Professor guided research seminar is also an important component which develops academic skills, lecture preparation and other important skills.

Evidences/indicators

- ☐ PhD program
- ☐ Self-evaluation document
- ☐ webpage
- ☐ interviews with academic and administrative staff
- ☐ interview with PHD students

Recommendations:

Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards
Suggestions for programme development: Non-binding suggestions for programme development
Best Practices (if applicable): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education programmes
In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the programme after previous accreditation (If Applicable)
Evaluation X Complies with requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Substantially complies with requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Partially complies with requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Does not comply with requirements

3. Course
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Student learning outcomes of each compulsory course are in line with programme 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 programme learning outcomes.
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements PhD program combines research and theory that ensures better results. According to the program, on elective part, students have opportunity to choose research component, based on their interest. As for the number of credits and specific course results, credits, course content and its volume are interrelated. Totally the student must accumulate 180 ECTS to obtain the PhD Degree. University owns one of the most qualitative electronic database "HeinOnline", which gives to all interested parts involved opportunity to make research on every field and do not limit their choice. In addition, university has a library where all necessary literature is available for a student to implement research according to their research interests.

<p>Evidences/indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PhD program <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Self-evaluation document <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> interviews with academic and administrative staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> interview with PHD students <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic librarydata base <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Library <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Syllabus
<p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards</p>
<p>Suggestions for programme development:</p> <p>Non-binding suggestions for programme development</p>
<p>Best Practices (if applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education programmes
<p>In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the programme after previous accreditation (If Applicable)
<p>Evaluation</p> <p>X Complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Substantially complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partially complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does not comply with requirements</p>

<p>4. The Development of practical, scientific/research/creative/performance and transferable skills</p>
<p>Programme ensures the development of students' practical, scientific/research/creative/performance and transferable skills and/or their involvement in research projects, in accordance with the programme learning outcomes.</p>

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

PhD program involves and pays sufficient importance to practical components, students have internship opportunity through various activities of law clinic, which is loaded with cases and gives students chance to enlarge practical experience.

University pays attention to researchers and gives students wide opportunities to participate in various research projects.

The university participates and organizes scientific conferences and PHD program students are given an opportunity to be involved in these activities according to the spheres of their interest as well as write publications and statements which is directly linked with enhancing their research potentials/skills. This is documented and also confirmed at during the interviews with the PhD students.

Besides, the university covers the costs for publishing of the articles prepared by the students and facilitates the process of publishing thereof in different international journals. It should be emphasized, that the quality of the above mentioned articles is being monitored which serves as a guarantee that the product is in compliance with the requirements. It would be preferable if the university had separated budget for the students who are interested in International Researches. But according to their interviews, students don't have sufficient time to go abroad and they prefer to do the research in Georgia.

Evidences/indicators

- PhD program
- Self-evaluation document
- webpage
- interviews with academic and administrative staff
- interview with PHD students

Recommendations:

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

Suggestions for programme development:

Non-binding suggestions for programme development

Best Practices (if applicable):

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

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

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

Evaluation

☒ Complies with requirements

☐ Substantially complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

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

PhD program is distinguished and student-centered learning academic program. Its aim is to give the student an opportunity to be involved in different activities planned by the Head of the program. The program is also oriented on practical activities so that the student can be competitive on labor market. To be noted, learning techniques is corresponding to PhD level. Also, each learning component is related to the main content of the program and is oriented on learning outcomes.

Evidences/indicators

- ☐ PhD program
- ☐ Self-evaluation document
- ☐ interviews with academic and administrative staff
- ☐ interview with PHD students
- ☐ Syllabus

Recommendations:

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

Suggestions for programme development:

Non-binding suggestions for programme development

Best Practices (if applicable):

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

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

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

Evaluation

X 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

It should be noted that, grading of the students is regulated by the law, according to the interviews of students and academic personal. the system is transparent.

Worthy of attention that in most of the syllabi the grading criteria is the same and the only difference is in divided points. But to underline, the detailed activities and grading is identical in different subjects, which means that the academic personal was less involved in organizing the grading system and it is mostly prepared by administrative staff.

Evidences/indicators

- PhD program
- interviews with academic and administrative staff
- interview with PHD students
- Syllabus

Recommendations:

Grading criteria in most part of the program syllabi is identical and the only difference is in divided points. The expert panel would recommend to organize each syllabi according to the personal interests and viewpoint, course specificity so that academic freedom of each lecturer will be protected.

Suggestions for programme development:

Non-binding suggestions for programme development

Best Practices (if applicable):

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education programmes
<p>In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the programme after previous accreditation (If Applicable)
<p>Evaluation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Complies with requirements</p> <p>X Substantially complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partially complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does not comply with requirements</p>

Programme'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 programme mastering	X			

3. Student achievements and individual work with them

HEI creates student-centered environment by providing students with relevant services; programme 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

Based on the Self-evaluation report of the educational program with relevant enclosed documents, information of the accreditation site visit results, NNLE New Vision University (hereinafter referred to as Higher Educational Institution/University) and as a result of the study and development of the PhD Program of Law, have been observed the following conditions: Educational Process Regulation Rules and Conditions by the Internal Legal Acts are determined clearly and well. It shall be noticed that information necessary for students in reference to the educational process and explained clearly in details. As students note, procedures established by the Internal Legal Acts are available and easily understandable for them. Administration of the University cares on provision of all necessary information for them. A relevant electronic database exists for planning and implementation of the educational procedures. By means of them, students are provided with the detailed information on the educational process. Two library spaces are available for the doctorate students, the newest apple-PC study room, which are also used for mid-term and final exams. University Library is determined with the literature of multi profile content, including, books in German and English languages, as well as unique books. Online database "Heinonline" is also accessible from the library, full access to the mentioned database gives the student top opportunity to study and make research, using comprehensive foreign sources and apply them in their study development. The library has an electronic catalogue which is flexible. Students can use primarily the books themselves. A librarian facilitates distribution of the books. In the scheme of engagement of the academic staff, supervisors in the component of work with the PhD students, availability of academic personnel and tutors was ascertained. Individual meetings and consultations are also facilitated by the University. Since the students are engaged in their profession, time of lectures are maximally adjusted to the students daily schedule which makes the learning most flexible. University provides students with information on scholarships of local scientific funds and Supports how to apply for them, also itself it implements encouragement of successful students by financing or co-financing of the projects submitted by them. Students participate in local and international conferences, in different other scientific activities throughout Georgia, as well as in similar activities abroad. The University expresses support to its students and, if necessary, is ready to grant internal (in-University) grants for both doctoral students and academic personnel to finance research projects. The University is also involved in the Erasmus Program, and has partner universities where students can participate in exchange programs. University offers to the doctorate students Lecture component. Employment prospective exists – PhD students are tutoring simultaneously with the status of assistant – leading lectures-seminars up-to the BA Level Course. They get paid for the job. The Program Course content, meaning and objective is relevant to the current needs. PhD students are managing/supervising the process at University's Law Clinic and are paid for their work/partly free of the study fee.

Evidences/indicators

- Self-evaluation report of the educational program with enclosed
- documents, Syllabuses, PhD Program of Law, information of the
- accreditation site visit results

Recommendations:

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

Suggestions for programme development:

Non-binding suggestions for programme development

Best Practices (if applicable):

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

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

Evaluation

X 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

Based on the Self-evaluation report of the educational program, with relevant enclosed documents, information of the accreditation site visit results, NNLE New Vision University (hereinafter referred to as Higher Educational Institution/University) and as a result of the study and development of the PhD Program of Law, have been observed the following conditions: People with relevant academic expertise are involved in the program implementation, management, supervising research, which is proved by the relevant number and degree of academic works, with specific fields of study. In the process of interviewing students, it became clear that subjects included in the PhD program of law are immensely directed to achievement of the goals of learning, are practically sensible and resultant, oriented on development and defense of high level dissertation works, which meet new challenges and are featured with higher academic and contextual style. Preparation for seminar works and dissertation: PhD program of law, developed by the University, facilitates the student to evolve specific skills needed to develop the dissertation through implementation of particular tasks requiring to analyze the various

articles and discussions, determine the problem correctly, select the title. Discussion of troublesome issues with engagement of the supervisors and authorized persons deficiencies or gaps in the legislation. If the student does not have chosen a specific direction, the university shall provide their participation in the discussions concerning the shortcomings of the existing legislation, which

facilitates students to develop their position on a certain troublesome issues, and in accordance with their interests.

Evidences/indicators

- Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results

Recommendations:

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

Suggestions for programme development:

Non-binding suggestions for programme development

Best Practices (if applicable):

The PhD program is aimed at step by step, correctly processing and defining the dissertation work. The university approach is to develop and correctly define the skills of time, which helps the student to accurately determine the subject matter and reach specific conclusions. This approach is especially important for students who are the practicing lawyers employed by their profession, in giving them the right direction during the given process is carrying a substantial importance. Therefore a topic processing procedure is correctly ruled and the final result is simply achievable. There is a large number of interesting and in hand topics, based on the needs of the market.

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

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

Evaluation

X Complies with requirements

☐ Substantially complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

Programme'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

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

<p>4.1. Human Resources</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Programme staff consists of qualified people who have necessary competences in order to help students achieve programme learning outcomes; > The number and workload of programme 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 programme sustainability; > The Head of the Programme possesses necessary knowledge and experience required for programme elaboration. He/she is personally involved in programme implementation; > Programme students are provided with an adequate number of administrative and support staff of appropriate competence.
<p>Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements</p> <p>The PhD Programme Academic Staff Members are involved have all the necessary competences in order to help students achieving the programme learning outcomes (including publications, professional experience, relationship with foreign university colleagues, involvement in international partnerships and programmes). That makes of course no doubt.</p> <p>The number and workload of the programme academic/scientific staff seems also in accordance with the sustainability of the educational process and its innovative way of running which ensures the achievement of the doctoral thesis. This is of course an important and very positive point to be stressed on, since practice in other institutions can be confronted to non achievement of thesis due, of course to insufficient work of the PhD Student, but also to insufficient involvement of academic staff/scientific staff and insufficient or inadequate organization of a PhD Programme.</p> <p>The PhD Head of Programme has of course the necessary competences and experience to run it and is involved in the organization of the Programme. That makes no doubt as well.</p> <p>Finally, students are provided with an adequate number of administrative and academic staff. The experience related by the Students and Alumnu during the site visit confirms this point as well. Students and Alumnu stressed the very innovative way the PhD Programme is organized and runned and mentionned the fact that their choice for this programm was the result of former experience related by others.</p>
<p>Evidences/indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interviews with the head of the programme, students and Alumni ○ Meeting with QA Head ○ Overview of PhD thesis, portfolios and etc.
<p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards</p>

Suggestions for programme development:

It was mentioned before that, as heard during the site-visit, many Students became aware of the Programme by having heard of it from other former PhD Students. Due to the fact, that the Programme is successful an innovative, strengthening publicity and practical communication could strengthen as well popularity and consolidate sustainability in the future.

Proposing co-directions could probably also confort this special programme.

Best Practices (if applicable):

The way the Programme is organized (Teaching and Research Component/Teaching Methodology/clear deadlines for the achievement of the Student's Thesis/Colloquiums which are part of disseration, etc) makes it exceptionally effective and could become a model for other Higher Education Institutions).

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

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

Evaluation

☒ X 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 programme 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

New Vision University/Scholl of Law, as mentioned, by different academic/ scientific/administrative staff members, fosters scientific and career development. The way Governance is thought (innovative/ democratic/no bureaucracy or administrative barrier or havyness/ consequent availability of Head of Programme School leadership and administration) and driven makes personal contact easier. This point has also been mentioned by Students. International involvement seems also to be part of scientific and career development (participation in local and international conferences on a regular basis, personal contacts in foreign Higher Education Institutions).

<p>Evidences/indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Interviews with the head of the programme, students and Alumni <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting with QA Head
<p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards</p>
<p>Suggestions for programme development:</p> <p>If the way Governance is organized is one of the parameters beyond others which fosters scientific and career development, it could be of use to organize on a regular basis (but not to binding), meetings with academic/scientific staff/invited staff), in order to exchange experience and boosting, as an example, collective research projects on local and international level as well as scientific and career development.</p> <p>This non binding suggestion of course is the result of what was actually mentioned during interviews. It could, in our opinion booster for example more collective and interdisciplinary projects.</p>
<p>Best Practices (if applicable):</p> <p>The way career development is managed in relation with the modern way of internal governance International strategy</p>
<p>In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the programme after previous accreditation (If Applicable)
<p>Evaluation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Substantially complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partially complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does not comply with requirements</p>

4.3. Material Resources

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

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

See as well, point 3 (Students achievements and individual work with them).

The PhD Programme is provided by necessary infrastructure and technical equipment required for achieving programme learning outcomes.

It may be stressed that PhD Students are used to work with foreign documentation, articles, books. This is of course an important added value for their final dissertation, even if there seems to be a lack of documentation in Georgian language. This is in part made possible by the very active collaboration of the University/School of Law with partner Institutions in Germany and elsewhere, the very international oriented policy of the University/School of Law. Members of the accreditation team were really impressed by the dissertations they could have access to and read during the site visit. It is, of course, also made possible by the international engagement of the academic/scientific staff which

could be, as mentioned above, be more boosted to increase an already existing scientific and career development and to increase as well national and international visibility.

To be summarized, the environment of the University is designed to ensure the educational process and achieve the learning outcomes envisaged by the program (library/library service center/university electronic resources/literature research international system). If things can always be more developed (for example more updated books in more topics, fields of research), it had to be stressed that the university, actually a young and dynamic one, is developing its infrastructure policy as was seen

during the site visit (new buildings, new redevelopment).

Evidences/indicators

- Interviews with academic/scientific/invited staff/PhD Supervisors/PhD Students/Alumnus

Recommendations:

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

Suggestions for programme development:

More documentation in foreign languages inside the libraries is of course always necessary, even if online documentation is available. Indirectly linked to material resources, but always of use as well: Reinforcing international partnerships, on a geographic and strategic basis. This could as well contribute to the added value mentioned above (for example, more comparative thesis subjects).

Best Practices (if applicable):

A very active infrastructure policy which participates to the university's future

As mentioned above, existing international strategy and the consequent added value for Student's work and access to the local and international market.

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

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

<p>Evaluation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Substantially complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partially complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does not comply with requirements</p>	
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4.4. Programme/faculty/school budget and programme financial sustainability	
The allocation of financial resources stipulated in programme/faculty/school budget is economically feasible and corresponds to programme needs.	
<p>Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements</p> <p>The University/School budget envisages the financial cost necessary for the implementation and the sustainability of the programme.</p> <p>The Law School has a healthy good balanced budget in accordance with its objectives and the requirements of the Programme. By the way, Budget Heading Research Coast/ Staff Research Projects/Literature and E-resources could be, if possible, reinforced, especially in relation with the international Research tools of the University/School of Law (including missions abroad for example, participation in international conferences, already existing and very successful participation in moot courts).</p>	
<p>Evidences/indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Budget 	
<p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards</p>	
<p>Suggestions for programme development:</p> <p>The University/School of Law could, in order to deeper achieve its objectives, try to more develop a grant's policy for Students and Academic/scientific staff (even if Foundation grants are already existing) and make it more readable in the presentation of the budget. This could also contribute to the attractiveness of the programme.</p> <p>In relation with comments above, it could be also of interest to reinforce the University's/School of Law application for international research grants/programmes. Besides increasing the Research/PhD Budget, it would also positively contribute to the international visibility of the Institution.</p>	

<p>Best Practices (if applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education programmes
<p>In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the programme after previous accreditation (If Applicable)
<p>Evaluation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Substantially complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partially complies with requirements</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does not comply with requirements</p>

Programme'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, programme utilizes internal and external quality assurance services and also periodically conducts programme monitoring and programme review. Relevant data is collected, analysed and utilized for informed decision making and programme development on a regular basis.

1. Internal quality
Programme staff collaborates with internal quality assurance service(s) available at the higher education institution when planning the process of programme quality assurance, creating assessment instruments, and analysing assessment results. Programme staff utilizes quality assurance results for programme improvement.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

The point under analysis is also verified. Internal self-evaluation, Coordination of self-assessment, quality assurance Process is actually well organized and driven thanks to an appropriate coordination of work including different and necessary bodies to achieve the over mentioned goal. The Process includes the Quality Culture Committee, a permanent body which activities are coordinated by the chairman of the Academic Board and which includes the representatives of different schools (Law School Quality Assurance representative, representative of quality assurance of the School of Medicine, quality assurance representative for the School of Business and Information Technology, representative of quality assurance of the School of Policy and Diplomacy, Chancellor, Head of Service for Career Services).

Evidences/indicators

- ☐ SER
- ☐ Interviews/Meetings

Recommendations:

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

Suggestions for programme development:

Non-binding suggestions for programme development

Best Practices (if applicable):

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

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

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

Evaluation

☒ Complies with requirements

☐ Substantially complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

2. External quality

Programme utilizes the results of external quality assurance on a regular basis.
<p>Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements</p> <p>The University utilizes program accreditation process, which is mandatory by Georgian law on Higher Education, for external quality assurance.</p> <p>Recommendations from relevant expert on the external evaluation and accreditation stage of the program were fully shared and provided by the HEI. The international Accreditation Program is one of the priorities defined by the Strategic Development Plan of the University.</p>
<p>Evidences/indicators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-evaluation report, interviews with Self-Evaluation team, QA Head, Head of Program
<p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards</p>
<p>Suggestions for programme development:</p> <p>It could also be of interest to apply for European/International quality assurance process, like the one proposed, for example, by the EUA (European University Association). This kind of initiative would also contribute to national and international visibility.</p>
<p>Best Practices (if applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Practices, which prove to be exceptionally effective and which may become a benchmark or a model for other higher education programmes
<p>In case of accredited programme, significant accomplishments and/or progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Significant accomplishment and/or progress made by the programme after previous accreditation (If Applicable)

Evaluation

X Complies with requirements

☐ Substantially complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

5.3. Programme monitoring and periodic review

Programme 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 programme improvement.

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

Program monitoring and evaluation is implemented on a very systematic basis by academic and administrative staff, as well as students and graduate students. The results are used for further improvement and eventual deficiencies.

Evidences/indicators

- Component evidences/indicators including relevant documents and interview results
- Self-evaluation report/Interviews, meetings with

Recommendations:

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

Suggestions for programme development:

Continue working with existing and new international partners in order to use the best international practice in the program development.

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

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

Evaluation

☒ Complies with requirements

☐ Substantially complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

Programme'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)

HEI's Name: New Vision University

Higher Education Programme Name: Doctoral Law programme

Number of Pages of the Report: 31

Programme's Compliance with the Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Substantially complies with requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
1. Programme 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 programme 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



Anne Klebes – Pelissier

Expert Panel Members'



Vakhtang Zhvania



Nino Bogveradze



Tatia Uberi