განათლების ხარისხის განვითარების ეროვნული ცენტრი
NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL QUALITY ENHANCEMENT

Accreditation Expert Group Report on Higher Education Programme
Central and East European, Russian and Eurasian Studies
(Ilia State University)

Date of Evaluation – 20th of October, 2017

Report Submission Date –

Tbilisi
2017

HEI's Information Profile

Name of Institution Indicating its Organizational Legal Form	Legal Entity of Public Law (LEPL) – Ilia State University
HEI's Identification Code	204861970
Type of Institution	University

Higher Education Programme Information Profile

Name of the Programme	Central and East European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (CEERES)
Level of Education	MA degree
Qualification Granted Indicating Qualification Code	110406
Language of Instruction	English
Number of Credits	120
Programme Status (Authorized/ Accredited/New)	New

Expert Panel Members

Chair (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	Andžej Pukšto, Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania
Member (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	Pikria Asanishvili, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia
Member (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	Erekle Astakhishvili, Free University of Tbilisi, Georgia
Member (Name, Surname, University/organization/Country)	Tinatin Gabrichidze, International Black Sea University, Georgia

- **General information on the education programme**

  Ilia State University created new master joint programme *Central and East European, Russian and Eurasian Studies*. This is a result of intensive and deep cooperation between this university and its partners – Glasgow University and University of Tartu.

  The postgraduate programme is unique proposition for young people not only in scale of Georgia, but also in context of other countries of European Neighborhood Policy, even more – in perspective of the European Union. The big privilege and nobility for creators of programme is receiving of European Grant (dotation) for developing process.

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

  Group of four experts had possibilities to discuss about new master programme during few meetings: with Administration of the University and the Faculty, Self-Evaluation Team, members of Faculty of Social Sciences (teachers of programme), master students, alumni of master programmes, with social partners (employers and internship supervisors). It was also conversation with partners in Glasgow University by Skype.

  Experts visited library, classrooms, labs, offices, also checked Master Thesis.

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

  Education programme absolutely complied with the standards of high education in Georgia, also European Union standards for such kind of master programme in political science area. Experts have some small suggestions for Self-Evaluations group, but it doesn't have influence for their main, positive opinion.

- **Summary of Recommendations**

- **Summary of Suggestions**

  Experts suggest to create deeper collaboration with social partners (employers) and alumni, to find possibility to study local languages on a higher level (it is nimpossible to research regional politics only with English and Russian languages).

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

  This master programme can serve as a good example how to create joint master programme for Caucasian, also for European universities. Ilia State University successfully connected European high

schools and itself, university outside EU. This is important experiment, especially in the fields of international relations and European affairs.

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

Compliance of the Programme with Accreditation Standards

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

1.1 Programme objectives are clearly defined and achievable; they are consistent with the mission of the HEI and take into consideration labour market demands
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements Programme objectives are clearly defined, they are consistent with the mission of the High Education Institutions. It is clear that vision of new programme was discussed in university on different levels - on Faculty of Social Sciences, also in Rector Office. Even more, it used big experience of collaboration between Ilia State University and foreign partners. So, a lot of good practices were included during preparing this new study programme. Learning outcomes deeply considerat labour market demands. Ilia State University is ready to prepare professionals that have modern and systemic knowledge of Central and Eastern Europe, Russia and Eurasia, especially the Caucasus region. Alumni of this programme will receive skills to analyze not only political and security situation, but also socio-economic challenges, also by using modern technical means and research methods.
Evidences/indicators ○ SER ○ Programme description ○ Interviews with students and alumni ○ Interview with administration
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

X Complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

1.2 The content of a programme component (a course, a module, etc.) ensures the achievement of the objectives and student learning outcomes of the component, considering the number of credit hours allocated for it and teaching methods utilized

---

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

Master programme "East European, Russian and Eurasian Studies" consists of 120 credits. It is one of the most popular model of postgraduate studies in Europe. The last semester is connecting with preparing of Master thesis. Programme is offering different specializations, students will have possibility to choose one region for deeper studying. All modules are relevant, there are logical connections between each other.

Programme includes obligatory courses from theoretical (Social Science Methodology) and practical (Introduction to Central and East European, Russian and Eurasian Studies; Rethinking Central Asian Security etc.) perspectives. Also students will have possibilities to choose elective courses, there are a lot propositions, connected with different Post Socialist space areas and different fields of international relations, economy or sociology. University will be offering internship during the third semester. There is also possibility to create master thesis with one or more tutors, from different universities of Master programme consortium. As positive side of this programme, it is necessary to underline that professors are using different methods during teaching process. This methods are connected with the content of the programme component and student learning outcomes.

Evidences/indicators

- SER
- Programme description

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):

o 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 one checkbox which mostly describes your position regard to the programme's compliance with this particular component of the standard

X Complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

1.3 Programme components ensure the achievement of programme objectives and student learning outcomes of the appropriate level of qualification in the National Qualifications Framework

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

All courses (modules) are connecting between each other and based on the standard component requirements. Programme is offering a complex of courses from fields of international relations, comparative politics, economy, history and law. There is typical combination of such kind of programme on master level in field of political science. Also teaching of Russian language was included. Adding of local languages on more than one level (for example, Georgian and other Caucasian languages) would be welcomed.

Evidences/indicators

SER
Programme description

Recommendations:

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

Suggestions for programme development:

Georgian, also other Causian languages, are welcome in the structure of the programme.

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 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

o 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

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

1.4 Programme learning outcomes ensure the competitiveness of its graduates on educational (at the next level of education) and labour markets

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

Programme successfully jointed theoretical and practical courses, also internship and master thesis. So, students will receive a theoretical and practical knowledge. Some professors are working as experts part-time in governmental and non-governmental organizations. Academic staff is really feeling actual tendencies of labour market. It is clear that students will be competent to join practical and academic jobs, because they have possibilities to collect all skills, which are useful for labour market.

Evidences/indicators

- Programme Description
- SER
- Interview with students and alumni
- Interview with employers

Recommendations:

Recommend 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

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

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

1.5. The mechanism of stakeholders' (employers, academic staff, students, graduates) participation in the establishment of programme learning outcomes and programme development, is established and implemented

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

Contacts with social partners can be developed deeper. There is old tradition of collaboration between university and governmental and non-governmental organizations. Social partners are ready to joint this process in more intensive order.

Students and graduates have deep relations with the university. They are satisfied about atmosphere in university and contacts with professors and non-academic staff. This relations however, were used only partly during the establishment of programme learning outcomes and programme development.

Evidences/indicators

- Programme Description
- SER
- Interview with students and alumni
- Interview with employers

Recommendations:

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

Suggestions for programme development:

Experts suggest to create deeper collaboration with social partners (employers) and alumni

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

o 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

☐Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

Programme's Compliance with Standard

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

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

2.1. Programme admission preconditions are transparent and ensure the admission of students of relevant kn and values necessary to master programme learning outcomes

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

MA programme is coordinated by the University of Glasgow. Rules and regulations for enrolment are well defin about admission procedure is open and available for applicants. Applications are accepted online. Requirements regulations on program are available at Glasgow University website in the category *Requirements for Acceptan Apply* (Post-graduate taught programmes: Entry requirements/How to apply?). The candidate should have a Bachelor field in order to be able to enroll in the program. The admission application is also available at the website of Ilia S

University   (Category: Master's   Programs)

http://www.gla.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/centraleasteuropeanrussianeurasianstudies/#/entryrequiremen

https://iliauni.edu.ge/ge/study/magistratura-214

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):

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

11

Evaluation

☑ Complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.2 Teaching methods utilized in various components of the programme ensure the achievement of programme learning outcomes

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

Teaching methodology helps to achieve the goals of the programme. In this MA programme following teaching methods are used:

- Lecture and seminar/written and verbal method;
- Practical work method;
- Group and individual projects;
- Demonstration Method;
- Discussions/debates;
- Case study;
- Brainstorming;
- Simulations;
- Learning experience;

The teaching methods used for this program equip the students with in-depth theoretical knowledge and practical and research skills.

Evidences/indicators

- Master's Degree Program;
- Master's Educational Program Standard (Approved by the Academic Board - Protocol No.8, 20.07.2015 and is available at University Website www.iliauni.edu.ge)
- Syllabi
- SER

Recommendations:

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

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

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

☑ Complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.3 The sequence and admission preconditions of programme components are logical

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

In this MA program sequence and admission preconditions are logically structured. The first semester students spend at Tartu University where they get in touch with the basic aspects of the study field, theories, actors and current issues. In the second semester at Glasgow University students deepen interdisciplinary research skills and in the third semester students study specialization (Caucasian students). All these steps help student to conduct the MA thesis in the fourth semester. Students conduct the thesis under 3 mentors' supervision. During the meeting it was explained that all these three (3) supervisors help student to fulfill the MA thesis according to research skills and methods which students achieved during the studying process.

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):

o 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

Evaluation

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

☑ Complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.4 The evaluation methods of each programme component ensures the achievement of student learning outcomes of this component, which is proved by evaluation results

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

In program are used midterm and final evaluation systems. Criteria of evaluation are indicated in syllabi..

The assessment rule in each program component ensures the achievement of results defined by this component. However, all the partner Universities have different systems of assessments, partner Universities agreed on converting the assessment systems. The model of conversion of scores is given in programme curriculum.

Each student's assessment data will be placed in the digital network *Argus*, an internal university electronic system ensuring choice http://argus.iliauni.edu.ge/

Evidences/indicators

1. MA Degree Program-curriculum
2. SER
3. Rule for determining payment of money to the student/professional student assessment, credit award, ratings and additional/recurring courses/components of Ilia State University - approved by the Academic Board (Protocol No.12, 20.11.2015, Protocol No.23, 27.09.2016, Protocol No.25, 01.12.2016). Relevant documents are available on the website of Ilia State University;
4. Syllabi
5. Meeting with academic staff

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):

o 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

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

☑Complies with requirements

☐Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

2.3 Student evaluation criteria are transparent; students are informed about the achievement of learning outcomes, their gaps and ways for improvement

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

By registering in Argus, students are acquainted with the content of syllabus and the assessment criteria as well. During the course students have an opportunity to observe their ongoing assessments and results achieved during the course. Argus also gives the opportunity to communicate effectively and easily between the lecturer and the student, allowing lecturers to give feedback to students about their work undertaken, results and shortcomings during the course.

Evidences/indicators

Interview with students during the meeting.

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):

o 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

o 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

☑ Complies with requirements

☐Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

Programme's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Teaching methodology and organization, adequate evaluation of programme mastering	Complies with Requirements		

3. Student achievements and individual work with them

3.1 Students receive appropriate consultations and support regarding the determination of their profile, planning of learning process and improvement of their academic achievement

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

As the program is new and does not have students at ISU yet, the interviewed students were from the Georgian language MA programmes. All of them were ISU graduates.

Students, as well as the alumni pointed out that professors and supervisors were very helpful during their studies. As the students are on their first year, they could not provide much information about supervisors and information provided by alumni was more relevant.

According to the SER and the interview with administration, the inter-university system ARGUS is very helpful for students, as it provides them with all the syllabi, study materials and necessary information. The system gives opportunity to students to create their own study plan in line with their programme requirements. It can also be used as the interactive tool between student and lecturer, student gets online consultations, interim evaluations and feedbacks from lecturers, as well as assessment data and academic achievement. Students confirmed the above-mentioned information and said they use ARGUS frequently and find the system very helpful.

Students mainly get information via email and electronic system ARGUS.

Evidences/indicators

- SER
- Programme description
- Interviews with students and/or alumni
- Interview with administration
- MA thesis guidelines

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):

o 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

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

☑ Complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

3.2 Academic staff workload scheme includes individual work with students

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

The students have three supervisors (one from each university) and 6 mandatory meetings with them. All three supervisors should be present at the meetings (2 of them will participate online). Representative of the university student spends 3rd semester at is the lead supervisor. Students get help and guidance about thesis writing and possible topics for dissertations from the first semester at Tartu. It is important to note that during their meeting at Tartu, the representatives of 3 universities will present the areas of their studies and students will have opportunities to ask questions and discuss their interests. Students will study at ISU if their research

interest is Caucasus region. The master's thesis guideline includes detailed outline of the process of working on the thesis as well as the guidance and help students will get during their study.

Alumni during the interview session stated that professors were helpful and supportive during their study, and office hours are indicated in each course's syllabus.

Evidences/indicators
SER Master's Thesis Guidelines Syllabi of the programme courses Interview with the alumni
Recommendations:
Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standard.
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 ☐Partially complies with requirements ☐ Does not comply with requirements

3.3 The institution supports students' involvement in research projects and extra-curricular activities, and offers them components developing practical skills
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements The programme includes internship (6 ECTS) which is core course in the third semester at Ilia State University and is planned to develop students' practical skills. Earning credit for Internship involves a partnership between the student, internship organization supervisor and a faculty internship supervisor from ISU. The internship is well planned, with defined organizations to work at and clear assessment, which includes

formative (Faculty Internship Supervisor Mid-term Assessment, Internship Organization Supervisor's assessment) and summative (Student's Internship Final Report) Assessments.

Research component is naturally given in the programme, as it is a master's programme. Master's thesis is in the 4th semester (30 ECTS), but research methodology is taught as the independent course in the 1st semester and envisages to develop students' research skills. Also, students must have regular communication with their supervisors from the 1st semester and have a thesis proposal submitted by the end of the 1st semester. Students will engage in research projects during their internship as well. Summer school is available for students as an extra-curricular course and will equip them with practical research skills.

Alumni of ISU at the interview underlined that the practical skills ISU gave them helps them in their job duties.

Our team interviewed representatives of GFSIS and CIPDD and found out that the students will have an opportunity to have an internship in above mentioned institutions.

Evidences/indicators
- Internship Plan;   - Memorandums between ISU and internship organizations;   - SER;   - Programme description;   - Master's Thesis Guidelines   - Interviews with students and/or alumni
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
o Please mark the checkbox which mostly describes your position related to the programme compliance with this specific component of the standard
☑ Complies with requirements
☐Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

3.4 The institution aims to internationalize its teaching and scientific work as well as the employability of its graduates

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

The programme is the project of ERASMUS+ and is entirely international. It offers joint diploma with multiple degrees and provides for the mobility of students in 3 countries - 3 universities – Tartu, UOG, ISU. Students will have 3 supervisors for their MA thesis – the degree of internationalization of their research will be quite high.

According to the SER, internationalization is of the top priorities of ISU. Professors involved in the program have international experience, 2 professors of ISU at the interview session were international.

Students who participated in the interview stated that they are well informed about the exchange opportunities at ISU and they receive necessary information via email. 2 out of 5 students have already participated in exchange programs, others are willing to.

The English level of students was good.

At the interview with administration, it was also pointed out that ISU has the experience of hosting and guiding international students.

Evidences/indicators

- Programme Description
- SER
- Interview with students and/or alumni
- Interview with professors
- CV of academic personnel
- Interview with administration

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

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

Programme's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Student achievements and individual work with them	Complies with Requirements		

4. Providing teaching resources

4.1 The infrastructure and technical equipment of the institution ensures the achievement of programme learning outcomes
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements   Following the detailed analyze of the program self- evaluation report, provided documentation and site visit we conclude that the applicant proposal is fully compliance with the standard component requirements.   The study resources of Ilia State University include well organized communications between students and the faculty through the Argus Electronic System (program courses, registry, evaluation, feedback etc.), libraries and reading halls, computer labs, internet access and scientific magazines. Our team interviewed representatives of GFSIS and CIPDD and found out that the students will have an opportunity to have an internship in above mentioned institutions.
Evidences/indicators   Provided documentation, interviews, site visit of the facilities
Recommendations: Proposal(s), which should be considered by the institution to comply with requirements of the standards
Suggestions for program development:

We suggest to broaden possibilities for the internship and possible placement of the graduates. University office for the Development may play crucial role in this direction.

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

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

☑ Complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

4.2 Programme staff has necessary competences required for the achievement of intended learning outcomes of the component they teach, which is proved by-in case of academic staff- scientific papers written during the past 10 years (in arts field- creative projects) proving staff's competence in the relevant field; in case of invited staff - may be certified by practical experience

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

Site visit, meetings and interviews with the staff and faculty showed compliance with the standard component requirements in terms of teaching and supervising of the program participants.

Academic Personnel has impressive scientific-research experience and publications: articles and monographs in relevant subjects.

Evidences/indicators

    Interviews, CV's, publications

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):

- o 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

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

☑ Complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

4.3 Programme implementation is ensured by the administrative and support staff of an appropriate competence

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

Site visit: meetings and interviews with the representatives of the rector's office, dean's office, development office, international relations office, quality assurance office, librarians shoved that the administrative staff has necessary competence and endorses its support to the project. There will be 3 people from the school of arts and social science dean's office who will assist students: quality assurance, coordination and supervision.

Evidences/indicators

Interviews, visit of the facilities, Argus electronic system

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):

- o 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

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

Evaluation

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

☑ Complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

4.4 Teaching materials are based on the core achievements in the field and ensure the achievement of intended learning outcomes

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

Ilia State university is well equipped with the necessary modern study materials including electronic and printed editions, as well as online access and computer facilities. Students have the possibility to use international electronic libraries and database system. Students can also use partner universities library resources. Study materials mentioned in syllabi are up to dated.

Evidences/indicators

Visit of the library, Argus electronic system 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):

o 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

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

Evaluation

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

☑Complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

4.5 Programme is financially sustainable

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

The program will be implemented from the grant of the EU Erasmus mundus (3.1 million Euros for two years). Grant includes scholarships for students as well as for the teaching staff. 65 scholarships will be provided, including fees, monthly stipend, travel, accommodation etc. There will be approximately 15 students fully funded and self-paid students on top of them as well.

All courses are already taught at the University and financially were supported by the administration. Students are already enrolled in Glasgow and pay fees by themselves, and it shows the sustainability of the project without grants.

Evidences/indicators

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):

o 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

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

Evaluation

☑Complies with requirements

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

Programme's Compliance with Standard

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

5. Teaching quality enhancement opportunities

5.1 There is a publicly available quality assurance system which is based on the "Plan-Do-Check-Act" cycle
Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements   All three universities engaged in programme are responsible for the quality.   ISU has the quality assurance at the level of the faculty and at the level of University. The QA office at Ilia State University plans periodicity of the assessment process, ensures evaluation and on the basis of the obtained data writes recommendations to improve quality of the learning process. The evaluation of programmes and its components is done via ARGUS to ensure maximum participation and feedback from students.   QA office also surveys graduates. The students during the interview stated that they participated in student surveys and some problems they had were solved.   The expert panel is convinced that ISU quality assurance office, together with Tartu and University of Glasgow have the capacity and experience to control the teaching quality.

Evidences/indicators
 	
     Statute of ISU QA
     SER
     Interview with administration

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):   o   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

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

5.2 Internal and external quality assurance results are utilized to improve the achievement of programme learning outcomes

Descriptive summary and analysis of compliance with standard requirements

The internal and external programme evaluations are carried out by each partner universities in accordance with the existing rules and regulations in the relevant country.

At ISU, the external evaluation is done within the framework of accreditation carried out by NCEQE. The QA office has developed internal assessment mechanisms including surveys and focus groups. The programme is new and not running yet, but as ISU has internal assessments operational for existing programmes, it is legitimate to believe that the same system will apply to the new program as well.

Evidences/indicators

SER
Statute of ISU QA service

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):

o 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

☐ Partially complies with requirements

☐ Does not comply with requirements

Programme's Compliance with Standard

Standard	Complies with Requirements	Partially Complies with Requirements	Does not Comply with Requirements
Teaching quality enhancement opportunities	☑		

Enclosed Documentation (If Applicable)

HEI's Name:

Higher Education Programme Name:

Number of Pages of the Report:

Programme's Compliance with the Standard

Standard	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	☑		
2. Teaching methodology and organization, adequate evaluation of programme mastering	☑		
3. Student achievements and individual work with them	☑		
4. Providing teaching resources	☑		
5. Teaching quality enhancement opportunities	☑		
Final Evaluation	☑		

Expert Panel Chair's Signature:

HEI's Name:

Higher Education Programme Name:

Number of Pages of the Report:

Programme's Compliance with the Standard

Standard	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			
2. Teaching methodology and organization, adequate evaluation of programme mastering			
3. Student achievements and individual work with them			
4. Providing teaching resources			
5. Teaching quality enhancement opportunities			
Final Evaluation			

Expert Panel Member's Signature: Erekle Astakhishvili