



External Evaluation Report (EER) for Doctoral Study Domains (AP/AC)

Higher Education Institution / Education Provider Organization:	University of Oradea
Doctoral School:	History
Doctoral Domain:	Political Science
The objective of the external evaluation:	AC

Members of the ARACIS Evaluation Panel

No.	Last Name and First Name	Team role	Signature
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I. Introduction

The external evaluation of the doctoral field in Political Science was conducted by the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS), based on Article 28.d of Government Decision no. 962/2024 regarding the approval of the Methodology for External Evaluation of the Quality of Education in Higher Education – Official Monitor no. 807/13.08.2024.

The purpose of the external evaluation of the Political Science field within the Doctoral School of History of IOSUD-University of Oradea, carried out during the visit of the ARACIS expert evaluators between July 16–18, 2025, was to assess and certify the extent to which mandatory regulatory requirements, standards, and performance indicators are met, particularly regarding the quality of the teaching and learning process, including the contribution of scientific research. The goal is to ensure high-quality education at both the institutional and program levels.

Academic education in Oradea began 245 years ago, and continuous university-level education has a 62-year tradition. In 2023, the University of Oradea reaffirmed its status as a European university by joining the EU GREEN alliance. It continues to improve student-focused educational services, inter-university academic collaboration, and research that supports sustainability.

In March 2024, an ARACIS institutional evaluation visit took place, following which the University of Oradea received the qualification “HIGH DEGREE OF CONFIDENCE” for the 2024–2029 period. [Link: <https://www.uoradea.ro/Managementul+calitatii>]

According to the 2024 Annual Report on the State of the University, UO comprises 15 faculties, 50 departments, and 7 doctoral schools. It serves 22,309 students: 13,079 at the bachelor’s level, 3,118 at the master’s level, 531 doctoral students, and 5,581 in other forms of university or postgraduate training. UO offers 101 bachelor’s programs, 68 master’s programs, and 22 doctoral programs. It employs 863 tenured academic staff: 125 full professors, 252 associate professors, 375 lecturers, and 111 teaching assistants. The university library, with its encyclopedic collection of over 389,000 publications, supports academic research and study. UO maintains international relations with 716 institutions in 122 countries and provides online education through its proprietary platform: e.uoradea.ro

The University of Oradea is an accredited higher education institution authorized to organize doctoral studies in 22 fields, structured within 7 Doctoral Schools, in both full-time and part-time formats. These doctoral programs comply with Romanian legislation and meet the national quality standards. The doctoral field of Political Science is intended to be affiliated with the Doctoral School of History, which will subsequently be renamed the Doctoral School of History and Political Science upon accreditation of the new field.

The mission of the Political Science doctoral field is to provide advanced, high-quality training for highly qualified specialists, achieved through rigorous methodological preparation and research-intensive doctoral programs. The field promotes interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches, fosters theoretical and applied knowledge of political phenomena, and aims for a deep and critical understanding of contemporary dynamics, democratic institutions, and processes. The program supports the doctoral student’s academic development at the highest level to meet intellectual, professional, and social growth needs, address the demand for highly specialized labor, and promote excellence in research, innovation, and knowledge transfer to Romanian society.

Key objectives of the Political Science doctoral field include: optimizing and streamlining advanced-level training programs; continuously improving the quality of academic activities; developing research capacity and capabilities while promoting new directions of inquiry; and enhancing the human resource involved in doctoral-level education.

Currently, the Political Science doctoral field includes three doctoral supervisors, all holders of habilitation certificates and tenured at the University of Oradea, affiliated with the Doctoral School of History (Annex 2). All supervisors have internationally indexed publications and demonstrable academic visibility.

II. Methods used

The accreditation process of the Political Science doctoral field within IOSUD consisted of the following stages:

- ✓ Analysis of the Internal Evaluation Report for the Political Science doctoral field, made available to the ARACIS team;
- ✓ In-person discussions with representatives of the Political Science doctoral field;
- ✓ Meetings with current doctoral students from the doctoral school in which the Political Science field will be included;
- ✓ Meetings with graduates of the doctoral school where the Political Science field will be integrated;
- ✓ In-person discussions with members of the Quality Assurance Department and other representatives of the university's quality assurance structures;
- ✓ Discussions with members of the Doctoral School Council (CSD);
- ✓ Meetings with members of the University Ethics Commission;
- ✓ Discussions with representatives of the International Relations Department;
- ✓ On-site institutional visit between July 16–18, 2025, during which the following facilities were visited: classrooms and seminar rooms for bachelor's and master's programs; the library and access to specialized bibliographic resources (both physical and online); the offices and administrative spaces of the Doctoral School of History; IT and digital infrastructure (access to databases and learning platforms); research laboratories and the offices of doctoral supervisors; rooms for the defense of doctoral reports and theses; student accommodation and dining facilities.

III. Judgement on the extent to which the standards and performance indicators are fulfilled

DOMAIN A. Institutional capacity

Criterion A.1. Managerial and administrative structures and processes involving students and other stakeholders

Standard S.A.1.1. Organisational components and institutional processes

The HEI has organisational components in its structure, which function based on adequate competences, responsibilities, processes, and implementation procedures, and ensure an effective management system.

Indicator I.P.A.1.1.1	For delivering the study programme/domain, the HEI has adequate organisational components and an adequate management system, which operate based on methodologies, regulations and procedures that are periodically reviewed as required by law.
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I.O.S.U.D.–The University of Oradea is coordinated by the Council for Doctoral Studies (C.S.U.D.), which is led by a Director. The structure responsible for coordinating the activity of the Doctoral Schools is the Council of Doctoral Schools (CSD), also led by a Director. For each doctoral field within a doctoral school, there is a designated field coordinator. The IOSUD organizational chart is available at: <https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/organigrama>.

Within IOSUD-UO, there are seven doctoral schools comprising 22 doctoral fields. The Doctoral School of Interdisciplinary Studies includes the following fields: Philology, Music, and Theology (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/evenimente2-7>). The Doctoral School of Geography includes the fields of Geography and Sports Science and Physical Education

(<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/scoli-doctorale-conducatori-de-doctorat/scoala-doctorala-de-geografie>). The Doctoral School of History includes the field of History (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/scoli-doctorale-conducatori-de-doctorat/scoala-doctorala-de-istorie>). The Doctoral School of Sociology includes the field of Sociology (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/scoli-doctorale-conducatori-de-doctorat/scoala-doctorala-de-sociologie>). The Doctoral School of Biomedical Sciences includes the fields of Biology, Pharmacy, Medicine, and Dentistry (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/scoli-doctorale-conducatori-de-doctorat/scoala-doctorala-de-stiinte-biomedicale>). The Doctoral School of Economic Sciences includes Business Administration, Economics, and Finance (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/scoli-doctorale-conducatori-de-doctorat/scoala-doctorala-de-stiinte-economice>). The Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences includes the following fields: Agronomy, Electrical Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Telecommunications and Information Technologies, Energy Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Engineering and Management, and Mathematics (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/scoli-doctorale-conducatori-de-doctorat>).

Each doctoral school has its own dedicated page on the UO website. These pages provide information on doctoral supervisors, main research areas and topics, regulatory documents governing the doctoral school's activity, and other relevant events.

Activities within the doctoral schools are carried out in accordance with Romanian national legislation (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/documente/reglementari/reglementari-nationale>) and the internal regulations of the University of Oradea (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/documente/reglementari/reglementari-interne>).

The Doctoral School of History, within which the new Political Science doctoral field is to be integrated, has been operating since the 2011–2012 academic year (HS no. 170 of 12.09.2011). It organizes doctoral studies within the fundamental field of Humanities and Arts, under the branch of History, in the doctoral field of History (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/domenii-de-doctorat-istorie-menu/domeniul-istorie/137-descriere-general>).

The mission of the Doctoral School of History, where the Political Science doctoral field (DSUD) will function, is to provide high-level academic training for doctoral students, responding to their intellectual, professional, and social development needs, as well as the labor market demand for specialized professionals. It promotes excellence in scientific research, development, innovation, and the transfer of knowledge to Romanian society, addressing its broader development needs.

The specific mission of the Political Science doctoral field lies in the theoretical and applied understanding of political phenomena, as well as in-depth comprehension of contemporary dynamics, institutions, and democratic processes.

The strategic objective of the Doctoral School of History is to enhance the quality of the doctoral studies it oversees, by strengthening existing fields and supporting the development of new doctoral programs. Key objectives of the new Political Science doctoral field include: optimizing and streamlining training programs based on advanced studies; enhancing research capacity and capability while encouraging new research directions; improving the quality of human resources involved in the doctoral study cycle; and fostering internationalization and increased visibility at both national and international levels.

The rationale for establishing the doctoral field of Political Science is rooted in the continuity of bachelor's and master's programs offered by the Faculty of History, International Relations, Political Sciences and Communication Sciences, specifically through the Department of Political Science and Communication Sciences. At the bachelor's level, the Political Science specialization is offered; at the master's level, the program in European Public Policies operates within DSUM Political Science (<https://irispsc.uoradea.ro/ro/educatie/planuri-de-invataman>).

The faculty publishes the following scientific journals:

Annals of the University of Oradea. History-Archaeology Issue – <https://www.anale-istorie-oradea.ro/>
Annals of the University of Oradea. International Relations and European Studies Series – <https://www.analerise.igri.ro/>

Eurolimes. Journal of the Institute of Euroregional Studies Oradea-Debrecen – http://iser.uoradea.ro/about_us.htm

Journal of Identity and Migration Studies (JIMS) – <https://jims.uoradea.ro/index.php>

The Faculty of History, International Relations, Political Sciences and Communication Sciences hosts the following research centers: the Center for Democratic Innovation and Digitalization – CIDD (Annex

5), and the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies (Annex 3). Certified research laboratories include: the Computer Science Laboratory, the Archaeology and Ancient History Laboratory, the Doctoral School Research and Documentation Laboratory, the Political Analysis Laboratory, and the e-Journalism Laboratory (Internal Evaluation Report – Political Science Doctoral Field, p. 12).

In the Political Science doctoral field, three faculty members of the University of Oradea are accredited to supervise doctoral theses (Annexes 2, 9, 10):

- ✓ Prof. univ. dr. habil. Sorin Gelu Borza
- ✓ Prof. univ. dr. habil. Gabriela Goudenhoft
- ✓ Assoc. Prof. dr. habil. Cristina Maria Matiuța

Strengths:

- ✓ The Doctoral School of History (within which the Political Science field will be integrated) has a strong tradition, national and international visibility, and remarkable results, providing a solid foundation for experience transfer to the new field.

Short-term recommendations (1–2 years):

- ✓ Establish a link on the website of the Faculty of History, International Relations, Political Sciences and Communication Sciences to the Journal of Identity and Migration Studies (JIMS) – <https://jims.uoradea.ro/index.php>
- ✓ Ensure access to and regular updates of information about the Research Centers – <https://irispsc.uoradea.ro/ro/cercetare/centre-de-cercetare>
- ✓ Update the organizational chart by including the name of the Political Science doctoral field under the Doctoral School of History

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.A.1.2. Stakeholder engagement	
The HEI proves that it engages the relevant stakeholders in developing methodologies and regulations, as well as implementation procedures.	
Indicator I.P.A.1.2.1	The opinions of the faculty and department members, of the subsidiary or extension ¹ and of other stakeholders are considered in the process of adopting and revising methodologies, regulations and implementation procedures.

Based on the review of the documents submitted by the University of Oradea (UO), the content available on the <https://www.uoradea.ro/> website, and the discussions held in dedicated panels with representatives of management structures, administrative and academic staff, current doctoral students in History, and alumni, it can be concluded that the drafting, adoption, and revision of methodologies, regulations, and procedures related to doctoral studies are carried out in a participatory manner, in accordance with the principles of academic autonomy and governance.

Through the Stakeholder Consultation section (<https://www.uoradea.ro/despre-noi/managementul-calitatii/dezbatere-publica/>), UO promotes an inclusive quality culture based on the active involvement of all stakeholders—students, academic staff, employers, alumni, institutional partners, and the local community—in decision-making processes that influence education and research.

In the section Questionnaire – Degree of Satisfaction for Doctoral Students (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/evenimente/alte-evenimente-workshop-uri-scoli-de-vara-festivitati/>), the Doctoral School Secretariat (SDS) presents reports on the needs and satisfaction levels of doctoral students for the period 2018–2025.

¹ The faculty, department, subsidiary, extension - hereinafter “organisational components”

The revision and updating of doctoral school regulations and procedures are carried out in consultation with members of the Doctoral School Councils (DSCs), doctoral supervisors, and faculty involved in doctoral programs. Proposed changes are discussed during CSD meetings and are recorded in official minutes.

Consultation with doctoral students is formally conducted through annual questionnaires and via their elected representatives in the CSD and CSUD. Their input is considered when developing procedures related to scientific activity, evaluation, and academic and logistical support.

During the drafting and revision of IOSUD-UO regulations, the perspectives of other stakeholders—such as alumni and representatives of the socio-economic sector—are considered in the context of aligning doctoral programs with labor market requirements.

IOSUD-UO has developed an institutionalized procedure for public consultation and transparency in decision-making, in accordance with applicable legal regulations. Draft methodologies and regulations are subject to public consultation, with accompanying documentation and justification of proposed changes.

For the DSUD Political Science program, stakeholder consultation was conducted at all levels during the development of the documentation (Internal Evaluation Report. Political Science PhD Field, pp. 24–25). During the program's initiation phase, consultations were held with faculty members from the department and the wider faculty, including the prospective doctoral supervisors in Political Science, and the internal audit team. Feedback from other stakeholders, such as institutional research partners and civil society actors, was also considered. The resulting input contributed to the structure and configuration of the doctoral program.

Short-term recommendations (1–2 years):

- ✓ Open a dedicated section for the Political Science doctoral field on the following webpage: <https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/scoli-doctorale-conducatori-de-doctorat/scoala-doctorala-de-istorie>, including relevant program information.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion A.2. The material resources and optimisation of the use of the material resources

Standard S.A.2.1. Material resources

The HEI owns adequate movable and immovable assets to enable it to carry out the study programme/domain.

Indicator I.P.A.2.1.1	The HEI legally owns venues for the related education, research and administrative processes, as well as for services for students, doctoral students and trainees, thus providing an enabling environment for living and studying, including for disabled persons. Optimal venues are also provided for activities of the staff. Such venues are adequately equipped.
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The University of Oradea (UO) owns, in accordance with legal provisions, facilities dedicated to education, research, and administrative activities, which are functionally and logistically appropriate. It also provides spaces for services dedicated to students, doctoral candidates, and participants in postgraduate programs, contributing to the development of an environment conducive to academic activity. UO ensures accessibility and facilities adapted to the needs of individuals with disabilities. Appropriate spaces are allocated for teaching, research, administrative activities, and academic staff use (<https://www.uoradea.ro/despre-noi/>).

UO has an infrastructure comprising 45 buildings used for teaching, administration, research centers, modern laboratories, libraries, sports facilities, student dormitories, and social spaces. Educational spaces include: Aula Magna with 288 seats (328.41 sqm); two lecture halls with 200 seats each (152.24 sqm and 263.38 sqm); 108 amphitheatres and classrooms (7,852.52 sqm); 110 seminar rooms (4,144.02 sqm); 305 laboratories (13,956.84 sqm); and 16 workshops (578.99 sqm) (Internal Evaluation Report – Political Science PhD Field, pp. 25–26).

The UO library has a usable area of 7,650 sqm across five floors. Collections are organized by field and specialization within five reading rooms—four for books and one for periodicals and doctoral theses—with a total of 520 seats. Publications can be consulted via a free-access shelf system. The library's holdings exceed 388,000 bibliographic units, including printed and electronic books (available online), journals, doctoral theses, national standards (STAS), patents, CDs, DVDs, vinyl records, scores, posters, and more. The OPAC – Liberty5 online catalog enables users to search the library's database. Access to specialized databases is provided through the Anelis Plus project: “Access to scientific literature and open access publishing,” including: ScienceDirect Journals; SpringerLink Journals; ProQuest Central; Cambridge Journals; Scopus; Clarivate Analytics (Web of Science, Journal Citation Reports, Derwent Innovation Index). Access is available via the library's website—on-campus through institutional IPs or remotely through account-based authentication (<https://www.uoradea.ro/biblioteca/prezentare/>).

UO has a modern sports complex that includes seven sports halls (multipurpose hall, fitness, athletics, gymnastics, shooting range) and ten outdoor fields (football, volleyball, tennis, basketball, handball, athletics). These are used for educational, competitive, and recreational activities, as well as for training the university's sports performance teams under the University Sports Club (<https://csu-oradea.ro/>) and the F.C. University Sports Association (<https://fcuniversitate.ro/>).

The university houses two places of worship: a prayer chapel and the historic monument church “St. Archangel Michael and Gabriel.”

UO also owns agricultural lands dedicated to education and research, totaling 14,444.67 hectares, including: the Pietroasa Hunting Fund, Gurahonț Dendrological Park, farmland in Carei, and the Fruit Research and Development Station.

Student accommodation is provided in four dormitories with a total capacity of 1,392 places. These are equipped and maintained to high comfort standards. The university canteen offers dining services and leisure spaces for both students and faculty.

The “Gaudeamus” teaching and research center, located in the Stâna de Vale resort, offers facilities for educational, research, scientific, recreational, and sports activities for both students and staff. The chalet has an accommodation capacity of 58 places, distributed across 17 rooms with 3–5 beds, a dining hall with 72 seats, and a classroom for teaching activities (<https://www.uoradea.ro/despre-noi/structuri-interne/directia-general-administrativa/gaudeamus-stana-de-vale/>).

The Smart University Campus (Campuses I, II, and III) is among the largest and most attractive university campuses in Romania, meeting European standards. Its integration of academic infrastructure with a dendrological park that includes rare species significantly contributes to its distinction.

The university has invested over 72,643 thousand lei in equipment and infrastructure for laboratories and teaching spaces, and 9,798 thousand lei in computing technology and software licenses (University of Oradea Projects). All laboratories are equipped with internet-connected computers and specialized software aligned with curricular requirements. UO ensures access to digital learning platforms, including Moodle (e.uoradea.ro), as well as Microsoft Teams and Office 365, used for teaching, assessment, and course management (Internal Evaluation Report – Political Science PhD Field, p. 29).

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.A.2.2. Management of material resources

The organisational components manage the movable and immovable assets used for the evaluated study programme/domain in an optimal, sustainable manner.

Indicator I.P.A.2.2.1	The movable and immovable assets are properly maintained to ensure optimal conditions for studying, living and research, as well as for work.
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Among the strategic priorities outlined in the Strategic Plan for Institutional Development of the University of Oradea for the period 2021–2025 (<https://www.uoradea.ro/wp-content/uploads/2024/documente/display22972.pdf>), the following are identified: the sustainable development of the University of Oradea campus to improve learning and living conditions; increased digitalization across university processes; and the implementation of institutional policies aimed at transforming the UO campus into a carbon-neutral “Green Campus” and a “Smart Campus.”

UO is currently developing an ambitious initiative titled “SMART CAMPUS”, through which six buildings (12,027 m²) have been renovated and repurposed, now hosting laboratories, educational and research facilities, and dedicated areas equipped for individuals with disabilities.

In 2023, UO planned investments for the installation of photovoltaic panels to meet energy demands, alongside the construction of a new canteen and the expansion of student accommodation capacity—demonstrating the university’s commitment to infrastructure maintenance and modernization.

At the institutional level, there is ongoing focus on funding the infrastructure of academic subdivisions. Emphasis is also placed on participation in national and international research funding competitions and on strengthening the material base for scientific research.

Within the framework of external evaluations conducted by ARACIS, recommendations are regularly issued, and UO actively works to implement them. The design, equipment, and continuous adaptation of infrastructure is a performance indicator required by ARACIS, which the university strives to meet and maintain.

Short-term recommendations (1–2 years):

- ✓ Ensure visibility by creating dedicated web pages for the research centers and laboratories affiliated with the Political Science doctoral field.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion A.3. Adequate human resources and transparent staff recruiting procedures developed according to the law

Standard S.A.3.1. Human resources

The HEI has the required human resources to organise and deliver the evaluated study programme/domain.

Indicator I.P.A.3.1.1	The human resources of the organisational component are suitable to perform the activities pertaining to the evaluated study programme/domain. The teaching staff has the required qualifications and professional competences to teach the subject matters assigned to them in the job list.
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The DSUD Political Science program is proposed for establishment with three (3) qualified academic staff members specialized in Political Science. Proof of habilitation for each of the three professors is provided in Annex 10: OME no. 4835/21.06.2023; OME no. 6386/27.09.2023; and OME no. 5284/28.06.2024. Applications for affiliation and the corresponding decisions approved by the Senate of the University of Oradea are included in Annex 2. All three professors meet the current CNATDCU minimum standards (Annex 7).

Regarding academic background, the documentation submitted (Annex 9: CVs) indicates a diverse academic profile among the three professors, with training in philosophy, history, and political science. This interdisciplinary background supports the provision of comprehensive, holistic training for doctoral candidates. Furthermore, all three professors have experience in conducting and coordinating research projects (Annex 9: CVs). Their individual research topics are detailed in Annex 4: Teme_de_cercetare_conducători_doctorat, and their relevant publications are listed in Annex 8: Lists of works.

As for the teaching component, the Doctoral School proposes a curriculum comprising the following four courses:

- ✓ Methodology of Scientific Research
- ✓ Ethics and Academic Integrity
- ✓ Parties, Elections, and Transformations of Democracy
- ✓ Bibliography of Doctoral Works: How to Use It and Its Importance

According to the self-assessment report (p. 32), all four courses will be taught by professors who hold a habilitation certificate and meet at least the academic rank of Associate Professor. These faculty members possess the experience and professional competencies necessary to support the proposed courses (see CVs in the self-assessment report, pp. 13–20, or on the IOSUD Oradea – Doctoral School

of History website: <https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/conducatori-doctorat-istorie-menu/conducatori-istorie>).

Therefore, it is concluded that the available and planned human resources are aligned with national standards and are adequate to support doctoral-level teaching and research activities.

Strengths:

- ✓ All proposed faculty members are tenured and meet the current CNATDCU standards.

Medium-term recommendations (3–5 years):

- ✓ Regularly organize training sessions for doctoral supervisors and PhD candidates on the effective use of electronic resources, including databases and international platforms for research and publication.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.A.3.2. Recruitment procedures	
Teaching staff recruitment procedures compliant with the provisions of the law.	
Indicator I.P.A.3.2.1	Recruitment procedures comply with the provisions of the law, and are established and carried out transparently.

The recruitment for teaching and research positions is carried out in accordance with the Internal Methodology for the Occupation of Vacant Teaching and Research Positions (<https://www.uoradea.ro/despre-noi/informatii-de-interes-public/concursuri-pe-posturi/concurs-pentru-ocuparea-posturilor-didactice/>), in effect since January 29, 2024. Staffing plans are developed based on the corresponding operational procedure (<https://www.uoradea.ro/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/display33955.pdf>), effective as of October 26, 2023. These regulations comply with the applicable legal provisions. All information regarding teaching competitions is published on the University of Oradea’s official website:

<https://www.uoradea.ro/despre-noi/informatii-de-interes-public/concursuri-pe-posturi/concurs-pentru-ocuparea-posturilor-didactice/>.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion A.4. Digitalisation of institutional processes

Standard S.A.4.1. Digital transformation	
The digital transformation process in the organisational component seeks to achieve administrative simplification and improve the quality of the services provided to the members of its own community, as well as to third parties.	
Indicator I.P.A.4.1.1	The organisational component uses IT tools in its own procedures, to improve access and provide good quality services for the members of its own community and the indirect beneficiaries of education.

The University of Oradea has implemented a digitization strategy for the period 2022–2027, approved by the Senate on January 26, 2023 (see <https://www.uoradea.ro/display29066>), which aims to integrate digital technologies across teaching, research, and administrative processes. The self-assessment report (pp. 32–33) outlines the digital environments and software platforms currently in use, including: Moodle, Microsoft, Oracle, Zimbra, Joomla, WordPress, UniWeb (educational process management system), Emsys (human resources and accounting), Softlink Liberty5 (library system), Matlab, among others. Both students and academic staff have access to these systems (based on direct observation and visitation discussions).

With regard to doctoral studies, the digital platforms of the University of Oradea facilitate the efficient online management of key administrative and academic activities for doctoral students. Communication with doctoral candidates is carried out via email and through the dedicated doctoral studies website: <https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/>. The Doctoral School of History, which will host the DSUD Political Science program, has its own section on the site:

<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/scoli-doctorale-conducatori-de-doctorat/scoala-doctorala-de-istorie>.

The University also provides doctoral students with access to digital academic resources via the University Library's online catalog (<https://biblioteca.uoradea.ro/liberty/libraryHome.do>), as well as to international databases relevant to the field of political science, such as Scopus, Web of Science, JSTOR, ScienceDirect, EBSCOhost, and others, through institutional subscriptions.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

DOMAIN B. Educational efficacy

Criterion B.1. Content and relevance of study programmes

Standard S.B.1.1. Content of study programme/s²

The study programme is based on a curriculum designed so that students can acquire the expected learning outcomes.

Indicator I.P.B.1.1.1	The study programme is developed and structured according to the expected learning outcomes, and organised based on transferable study credits. It includes all learning, teaching, practical training, research and evaluation experiences, which, together, lead to a higher education qualification.
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Based on the regulations and documents submitted (Annex 7), it is evident that the doctoral study program is developed and structured in accordance with the expected learning outcomes (see Curriculum), and it is organized using the transferable credit system. The program encompasses the full range of activities relevant to doctoral-level education in which the doctoral student is engaged. These include the planning, organization, teaching, management, and actual implementation of learning, practical application, research, and evaluation, all of which lead to a level 8 qualification according to the European Qualifications Framework (EQF/CEC) and the National Qualifications Framework (CNC). The program comprises essential training components delivered through the following courses (Annex 12): Bibliography of Doctoral Works and Its Importance; Ethics and Academic Integrity; Methodology of Scientific Research in the Field of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts; Parties, Elections, and Transformations of Democracy.

The training program also includes scientific research activities aligned with current and relevant thematic directions; progress is evaluated through scientific reports, the defense of the doctoral thesis before the supervisory committee, and ultimately during the public defense.

Short-term recommendations (1–2 years):

- ✓ The courses for doctoral students in Political Science should be taught primarily by doctoral supervisors in the field;
- ✓ The main difficulty reported by doctoral students relates to the delimitation and interpretation of theories and paradigms, which necessitates a more detailed presentation in the course syllabi;
- ✓ The curriculum of the Political Science doctoral field should be published on the website of the Doctoral School of History and Political Science.

² The term “programmes” concerns the external quality evaluation for the study programmes contained in a master/doctoral domain. The term “programme” shall be used hereinafter.

Medium-term recommendations (3–5 years):

- ✓ Identify and define specialization tracks within DSUD Political Science.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion B.2. Alignment of the curriculum with the qualification

Standard S.B.2.1. Alignment with the qualification level and the intended competences
In the curriculum design and development process, the organisational component seeks to ensure the qualification level, as well as correlation with the envisaged occupations.

Indicator I.P.B.2.1.2	The expected learning outcomes are correlated with the competences required by those occupations, according to the occupational standards and/or the European Skills, Competences and Occupations (ESCO).
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The ESCO framework is an interoperable tool aligned with ISCO-08, extending the classification of occupations by detailing competences and skills relevant to the EU labour market and to vocational education and training (https://esco.ec.europa.eu/ro/classification/occupation_main). The European Union is currently developing automated projects to map learning outcomes to ESCO competences, thereby facilitating the alignment of academic curricula with labour market requirements. The training program for doctoral students is be designed in accordance with international standards, including: The European Qualifications Framework (EQF, level 8), which requires the acquisition of highly specialized knowledge and the ability to solve complex problems in innovative ways; The National Qualifications Framework (NCF), which emphasizes the development of research autonomy and ethical responsibility (<https://www.anc.edu.ro/vizcalificare/?prog=27131>); The European ESCO classification of occupations, in which the occupation "Political Scientist" (ESCO code 2633.3) is associated with skills such as: advanced political research, development of political theories, public communication, and involvement in policymaking; The Salzburg II Principles (10 guiding principles for the content and structure of doctoral programs, EUA), which promote research excellence as a central component of doctoral education.

The expected learning outcomes are outlined in the Curriculum of the Doctoral Field Political Science document (Political Science Academic Sciences), and include the ability to: Formulate assumptions on security, sustainable development, and international relations; Apply both quantitative and qualitative methodologies to the analysis of social and political data; Correlate political behaviours, power structures, and decision-making processes; Use statistical models and computational techniques for data analysis; Assess the impact of government policies through comparative approaches; Articulate ideologies and doctrines relevant to domestic and international political action; Formulate research questions and design theoretical models, methods, and original tools, contributing to the advancement of knowledge in the field; Apply advanced scientific methods to investigate political phenomena; Adhere to ethical principles and legal frameworks in research, ensuring integrity in writing, dissemination, and data protection; Use digital tools and information technologies for data analysis and visualisation; Develop complex scientific works supported by rigorous argumentation and academic sources; Integrate theoretical knowledge with interdisciplinary approaches to propose innovative solutions to contemporary political challenges; Evaluate their own scientific activity and performance, identifying development opportunities and addressing knowledge gaps; Incorporate critical feedback, demonstrating openness to improvement and self-correction; Critically assess alternative theories and solutions, justifying their own scientific choices; Make autonomous scientific decisions based on validated criteria and evidence; Collaborate effectively in research teams, contributing responsibly to common objectives; Communicate research results clearly and substantively, adapted to various academic, professional, and public audiences; Comply with ethical standards, integrity requirements, and regulations on intellectual property and data protection; Formulate and substantiate an original scientific contribution in the chosen field; Demonstrate advanced competencies in research methodology; Apply critical analysis, theoretical synthesis, and interdisciplinary integration; Publish research articles in national and international journals; Disseminate scientific results effectively in relevant academic and professional environments.

The PhD program in Political Science is designed not only to confer a doctoral-level qualification, but also to support the graduate's integration into the academic and research community, preparing them for careers in academia, expert roles, or public administration at national and international levels.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion B.3. Student-centred learning, teaching and evaluation

Standard S.B.3.1 Principles	
The organisational component implements the principles of student-centred learning.	
Indicator I.P.B.3.1.1	The organisational component ensures implementation of the student-centred learning in the curriculum and through the teaching strategies used in the learning and teaching activities and experiences.

Presentation of the state of facts, supported by documents and data (documents preferably IOSUD and the Doctoral School of History promote student-centered learning through a curriculum adapted to contemporary academic needs and the use of modern teaching methods. These approaches foster the doctoral student's autonomy, critical thinking, and active engagement in the training process.

Relevant evidence includes the Regulation on the Organization and Conduct of Doctoral University Studies within IOSUD (in particular, Chapter 3 – Sections 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and Chapter 5 – Section 5.1), the course syllabi included in the self-assessment file (Annex 12: Subject Sheets), and the model for the individual training plan available on the university's website:

<https://cloud.uoradea.ro/index.php/s/YWwmF4FbmotmoJP>

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion B.4. Accessibility and efficiency of the resources and support services, adequate for learning

Standard S.B.4.1. Access to resources and services	
The organisational component provides access to adequate resources and support services, according to the needs of the students.	
Indicator I.P.B.4.1.1	The organisational component provides students, including those with special educational needs/disabilities, with access to resources and services designed to support the learning process, adequate for the individual learning needs, the study domain, the study cycle, and the form of organisation of the study programme.

The University of Oradea meets the minimum requirements for supporting students with learning difficulties or disabilities, providing them with access to accommodation and scholarships, including those tailored to students with special educational needs/disabilities, in accordance with applicable legal provisions:

<https://www.uoradea.ro/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/display34501.pdf>

<https://www.uoradea.ro/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/display35165.pdf>

An Office for Students with Visual Impairments operates within the university, offering adapted course materials (e.g., enlarged text or Braille-converted formats). Additionally, a Laboratory for People with Disabilities has been established, equipped with specialized tools and software designed to support students with disabilities in their learning process. Among these is voice-assisted software (available in Romanian), which can be installed on a computer and provides access to all standard computer functions.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion B.5. Learning outcomes

Standard S.B.5.1. Definition and evaluation

Learning outcomes are adequately defined and evaluated.

Indicator I.P.B.5.1.1	Learning outcomes are adequately described, and they support understanding of the students' and teachers' expectations regarding the content of the subject matters in the curriculum.
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The document entitled The Curriculum (<https://www.uoradea.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/display35640.pdf>) outlines a set of learning outcomes which, when correlated with the specified professional and transversal competences—as well as with the general and specific objectives of each course (including elements such as the ability to critically analyse political phenomena, the use of qualitative and quantitative research methods, and the application of academic ethics principles)—facilitate a clear understanding of the mutual expectations between the student and the instructor regarding the course content.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Indicator I.P.B.5.1.2	Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.
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The subject sheets (Annex 12) specify various examination methods, including joint assessments, research projects, and written final evaluations. These methods are clearly described; however, there is no explicit correlation between the assessment methods and the achievement of the learning outcomes—this connection can only be inferred by cross-referencing the subject sheets with the curriculum.

Weaknesses:

- ✓ The subject sheets are not explicitly aligned with the learning outcomes, the correlation being only indirect.

Short-term recommendations (1–2 years):

- ✓ Update the subject sheets so that they are structured in accordance with the achievement of learning outcomes;
- ✓ Provide greater detail in the evaluation methods section (for both lectures and seminars), specifying the targeted knowledge, skills, responsibility, and autonomy components.

The indicator is: partially fulfilled.

Criterion B.7. Procedures and practices regarding the admission competition, the journey, recognition and equivalence of studies, and result certification

Standard S.B.7.1. Admission

The admission procedures and principles ensure access to higher education.

Indicator I.P.B.7.1.1	The organisational component applies the admission procedures..
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Although an admission session has not yet been organized for this newly accredited field, the selection process will adhere to the same principles of transparency, fairness, and objectivity applied to other fields within the Doctoral School (as outlined in the Regulation on the Organization and Conduct of Doctoral Studies within IOSUD and the Methodology for Admission to Doctoral Studies). The procedure

is based on a competitive evaluation consisting of a research project and a scientific interview. The admission criteria and calendar will be publicly communicated in due time, thus ensuring open and non-discriminatory access to doctoral education: <https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/admitere>

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Indicator I.P.B.7.1.2	Admission in higher education study programmes complies with the principles of fairness and equal opportunities, and with the establishing of support measures to ensure access of vulnerable groups at social and educational risk, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
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The framework governing the admission process to the doctoral degree program is established by the Regulation on the Organization and Conduct of Doctoral Studies within IOSUD (Section 3.2) and the Methodology for Admission to Doctoral Studies. In the Methodology for Admission to Doctoral Studies, September 2025 session, specific provisions are included at the level of the Doctoral School of History concerning the fairness of the process and the assurance of equal opportunities for all candidates, including individuals with disabilities (see Chapter II: <https://cloud.uoradea.ro/index.php/s/E4XyzAJbxnyYKPc>).

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Standard S.B.7.2. Academic journey of students	
The organisational component carries out actions supporting the students' academic journey.	
Indicator I.P.B.7.2.1	The organisational component applies the regulations concerning the students' professional activity.

The regulations governing the activity of doctoral students are outlined in the Regulation on the Organization and Conduct of Doctoral Studies within IOSUD, which includes clear provisions regarding the documentation of participation in teaching activities, academic progress monitoring, and the evaluation of research through semester reports and periodic assessments before the guidance committee. These provisions are further detailed in the Postdoctoral Studies Contract (Annex 1 to the Regulation) and the Training Program and Results (Annex 2 to the Regulation).

According to discussions held with doctoral students from the Doctoral School of History within DSUD History, with members of the Council for Doctoral Studies (CSD), and with representatives of the Quality Assurance Department (as documented in the visit schedule and meeting minutes), all regulations are being properly implemented.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

DOMAIN C. Quality management

Criterion C.3. Procedures for the initiation, monitoring and periodic review of the study programmes and domains and of the performed activities, involving students, employers and other stakeholders

Standard S.C.3.1. Procedures and implementation of procedures	
The HEI has procedures for initiating, monitoring, and periodically reviewing the study programmes and domains and the performed activities, and applies them systematically.	
Indicator I.P.C.3.1.1	The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.

Within the University of Oradea, the organizational structures responsible for developing the doctoral study program in Political Science consistently and systematically apply institutional procedures concerning the initiation, monitoring, and review of study programs, in accordance with the provisions of the internal quality assurance methodology.

The Doctoral School of History, which will host the doctoral program in Political Science, has prepared the required accreditation documentation based on the procedure for the approval and monitoring of study programs (Doctoral School of History: <https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/scoli-doctorale-conducatori-de-doctorat/scoala-doctorala-de-istorie>). This has been accomplished with the contributions of the Faculty of History, International Relations, Political Sciences and Communication Sciences, through its Faculty Council and the Department of Political Science and Communication Sciences (<https://istorie.uoradea.ro/Departamentul-de-Stiinte-Politice-si-Stiintele-Comunicarii>). All procedural stages—from the needs analysis to the allocation of resources and the design of scientific content—are carried out in compliance with the university’s regulations and procedures, as approved by the Senate, under the coordination of the Department for Quality Assurance (DAC).

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Indicator I.P.C.3.1.2	Members of its own community and other stakeholders are involved in the procedure implementation process.
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The University of Oradea maintains a continuous dialogue with students, faculty, alumni, and representatives of the socio-economic environment to ensure an effective and relevant review process of its study programs.

Within IOSUD – University of Oradea, the active involvement of academic community members and other stakeholders in implementing procedures related to the operation of the Political Science doctoral field represents a consistent and institutionally grounded practice.

The Doctoral School of History, under which the field is proposed, regularly convenes meetings of the Doctoral School Council (CSD), during which measures concerning the effective operation of doctoral programs are discussed and approved. Members of the CSD, doctoral supervisors, faculty involved in guidance committees, and representatives of doctoral students all participate actively in these decision-making processes.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

Criterion C.8. Participation in external evaluation processes, according to the law

Standard S.C.8.1. Compliance with the external evaluation obligation The HEI undergoes external quality evaluation as required by the law.	
Indicator I.P.C.8.1.1	The organisational component carries out the procedures pertaining to the external quality evaluation process, aiming to organise the evaluated study programme as provided by the law.

IOSUD Oradea and the Doctoral School of History have completed all procedures required for the ARACIS external evaluation to accredit the DSUD Political Science program.

The indicator is: fulfilled.

IV. SWOT Analysis

<p>Strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Academic environment with a tradition in training specialists in the field of Political Science at bachelor's and master's levels; ✓ IOSUD-UO has extensive experience in managing doctoral schools; ✓ The attractiveness of UO as a high-performing academic and scientific center in the North-West region of Romania; ✓ Easily accessible and clear information about the doctoral program available on the UO website; ✓ Doctoral supervisors with experience in the field; ✓ All teaching staff hold tenured positions and meet the current CNATDCU standards; ✓ The Doctoral School of History (within which the field of Political Science will be integrated) has a longstanding tradition, national and international visibility, and remarkable results, thus constituting a solid foundation for the transfer of experience to the new field. 	<p>INTERNAL FACTORS</p> <p>↑</p>	<p>Weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ University of Oradea does not have a strong academic presence in national and international rankings; ✓ The video material on social media about UO needs to be revised and updated (development of a promotional strategy for educational offerings on social media platforms frequented by young people, such as TikTok, etc.); ✓ Difficulty in attracting citations from international researchers for the publications of doctoral supervisors; ✓ Limited access to large-scale grants such as Horizon Europe, ERC, etc.; ✓ University journals are not indexed in international databases (Scopus, WoS), which reduces the visibility of research.
<p>SWOT analysis</p>		
<p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Partnerships supporting academic consortia in the field; ✓ Increased international mobility of future doctoral students; ✓ Increased international mobility of doctoral supervisors; 	<p>EXTERNAL FACTORS</p> <p>↓</p>	<p>Threats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Slow adaptation to EU standards in doctoral training; ✓ Competition in recruiting students at national, regional, and international levels; ✓ Changing demand for educational services from

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Financial support for doctoral supervisors and PhD students to participate in international conferences and to publish scientific articles in indexed journals. 		<p>key consumers;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Capacity to adapt and respond to the demand for online and hybrid doctoral education; ✓ Declining value of doctoral education.
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V. Extent to which the standards and performance indicators are fulfilled, and recommendations

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
DOMAIN A. Institutional capacity			
1.	I.P.A.1.1.1 For delivering the study programme/domain, the HEI has adequate organisational components and an adequate management system, which operate based on methodologies, regulations and procedures that are periodically reviewed as required by law.	F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ (ST) Establish a link on the website of the Faculty of History, International Relations, Political Sciences and Communication Sciences to the Journal of Identity and Migration Studies (JIMS) – https://jims.uoradea.ro/index.php ✓ (ST) Ensure access to and regular updates of information about the Research Centers – https://irispsc.uoradea.ro/ro/cercetare/centre-de-cercetare ✓ (ST) Update the organizational chart by including the name of the Political Science doctoral field under the Doctoral School of History
2.	I.P.A.1.2.1 The opinions of the faculty and department members, of the subsidiary or extension and of other stakeholders are considered in the process of adopting and revising methodologies, regulations and implementation procedures.	F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ (ST) Open a dedicated section for the Political Science doctoral field on the following webpage: https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/scoli-doctorale-conducatori-de-doctorat/scoala-doctorala-de-istorie, including relevant program information.
3.	I.P.A.2.1.1 The HEI legally owns venues for the related education, research and administrative processes, as well as for services for students, doctoral students and trainees, thus providing an enabling environment for living and studying, including for disabled persons. Optimal venues are also provided for activities of the staff. Such venues are adequately equipped.	F	
4.	I.P.A.2.2.1 The movable and immovable assets are properly maintained to ensure optimal conditions for studying, living and research, as well as for work.	F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ (ST) Ensure visibility by creating dedicated web pages for the research centers and laboratories affiliated with the Political Science doctoral field.
5.	I.P.A.3.1.1 The human resources of the organisational component are	F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ (MT) Regularly organize training sessions for doctoral supervisors and PhD candidates on

	suitable to perform the activities pertaining to the evaluated study programme/domain. The teaching staff has the required qualifications and professional competences to teach the subject matters assigned to them in the job list.		the effective use of electronic resources, including databases and international platforms for research and publication.
6.	I.P.A.3.2.1 Recruitment procedures comply with the provisions of the law, and are established and carried out transparently.	F	
7.	I.P.A.4.1.1 The organisational component uses IT tools in its own procedures, to improve access and provide good quality services for the members of its own community and the indirect beneficiaries of education.	F	
DOMAIN B. Educational efficacy			
8.	I.P.B.1.1.1 The study programme is developed and structured according to the expected learning outcomes, and organised based on transferable study credits. It includes all learning, teaching, practical training, research and evaluation experiences, which, together, lead to a higher education qualification.	F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ (ST) The courses for doctoral students in Political Science should be taught primarily by doctoral supervisors in the field; ✓ (ST) The main difficulty reported by doctoral students relates to the delimitation and interpretation of theories and paradigms, which necessitates a more detailed presentation in the course syllabi; ✓ (ST) The curriculum of the Political Science doctoral field should be published on the website of the Doctoral School of History and Political Science. ✓ (MT) Identify and define specialization tracks within DSUD Political Science.
9.	I.P.B.2.1.2 The expected learning outcomes are correlated with the competences required by those occupations, according to the occupational standards and/or the European Skills, Competences and Occupations (ESCO).	F	
10.	I.P.B.3.1.1 The organisational component ensures implementation of the student-centred learning in the curriculum and through the teaching strategies used in the learning and teaching activities and experiences.	F	
11.	I.P.B.4.1.1 The organisational component provides students, including those with special educational needs/disabilities, with access to resources and services designed to support the learning process, adequate for the individual learning needs, the study domain, the study cycle, and the form of organisation of the study programme.	F	
12.	I.P.B.5.1.1 Learning outcomes are adequately described, and they support understanding of the students' and teachers' expectations	F	

	regarding the content of the subject matters in the curriculum.		
13.	I.P.B.5.1.2 Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.	PF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ (ST) Update the subject sheets so that they are structured in accordance with the achievement of learning outcomes; ✓ (ST) Provide greater detail in the evaluation methods section (for both lectures and seminars), specifying the targeted knowledge, skills, responsibility, and autonomy components.
14.	I.P.B.7.1.1 The organisational component applies the admission procedures.	F	
15.	I.P.B.7.1.2 Admission in higher education study programmes complies with the principles of fairness and equal opportunities, and with the establishing of support measures to ensure access of vulnerable groups at social and educational risk, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.	F	
16.	I.P.B.7.2.1 The organisational component applies the regulations concerning the students' professional activity.	F	
DOMAIN C. Quality management			
17.	I.P.C.3.1.1 The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.	F	
18.	I.P.C.3.1.2 Members of its own community and other stakeholders are involved in the procedure implementation process.	F	
19.	I.P.C.8.1.1 The organisational component carries out the procedures pertaining to the external quality evaluation process, aiming to organise the evaluated study programme as provided by the law.	F	

Summary Table of Performance Indicators – Degree of Fulfillment

Evaluation Domain	Number of Performance Indicators		
	Fulfilled	Partially fulfilled	Unfulfilled
Domain A. Institutional capacity	7	0	0
Domain B. Educational efficacy	8	1	0
Domain C. Quality management	3	0	0
Total	18	1	0

Additional medium-term recommendations, applicable at the level of DSUD Political Science:

1. Periodic consultation with doctoral supervisors from other universities who are members of doctoral schools in the field of Political Science;
2. Systematic documentation of consultations, meetings, and decisions, for use in future evaluations and reporting;
3. Organization of annual regional scientific conferences dedicated to the PhD field of Political Science, providing doctoral students from the North-West region of Romania with a platform to present and discuss their research results;
4. Launch of interdisciplinary summer schools for PhD students (e.g., Application of Longitudinal Analysis in Social Research);
5. Development of a guide detailing the University of Oradea's procedures for monitoring the use of artificial intelligence tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini, Copilot) in doctoral students' academic work;
6. Organization of focus groups with PhD students from various doctoral schools within the University of Oradea to better understand their needs and to anticipate trends in doctoral education.

Additional medium-term recommendations, applicable at IOSUD level:

1. Conducting a qualitative assessment of the current state of infrastructure (level of modernization, functionality, renovation needs, etc.);
2. Providing detailed information on infrastructure accessibility for people with disabilities (e.g., ramps, elevators, adapted restrooms, specialized IT equipment);
3. Clearly distinguishing between the services offered to students, doctoral candidates, and other learners, based on their specific needs;
4. Including data on the utilization rate of physical spaces (e.g., occupancy rates, frequency of use);
5. Addressing the current lack of facilities and services for international students (e.g., counseling offices, cultural activity spaces, accommodation for dietary preferences);
6. Considering that the University's 45 buildings are spread across multiple locations, which may pose logistical challenges, it is recommended to implement a digital orientation system on campus (e.g., mobile app, digital information panels);
7. Develop research centers aligned with local and regional priorities, while enhancing their interdisciplinary profile;
8. Expand collaboration with the municipal administration of Oradea in order to identify local challenges and formulate research topics based on community needs.

VI. Conclusions

Based on the analysis of performance indicators, internal and external evaluations, as well as the continuous monitoring conducted by the competent institutional structures, a series of general conclusions can be drawn regarding the quality of education offered by the University of Oradea (UO) in support of the accreditation of the doctoral study field in Political Science.

The bachelor's and master's programs in Political Science are characterized by a strong academic tradition, uninterrupted operation, and continuously maintained accreditation. The program is rigorously structured in accordance with ARACIS standards, both in terms of curriculum, teaching staff, and educational infrastructure, and from the perspective of managerial processes and the involvement of quality assurance structures.

Another notable strength is the active involvement of faculty in research and academic life, as well as the encouragement of student participation in extracurricular and scientific activities. The integration of digital platforms, together with ongoing modernization of the infrastructure and curricular adaptation, contribute to the development of a flexible and inclusive educational environment.

In conclusion, the accreditation of the doctoral study field in Political Science ensures the provision of high-quality academic training, supported by a solid institutional framework, appropriate teaching and research resources, and a firm commitment to continuous improvement. The program aligns



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fully with the standards of the European Higher Education Area and the expectations of the contemporary labor market.

As a result of the accreditation process, the ARACIS Evaluation Commission **recommends the accreditation of the Doctoral Study Field in Political Science (DSUD Political Science)** within the Doctoral School of History, IOSUD – University of Oradea.

VII. Annexes

The schedule of the site visit and the minutes of the meetings are attached to the report on the ARACIS SharePoint platform.