ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
HELLENIC REPUBLIC

Εθνική Αρχή Ανώτατης Εκπαίδευσης
Hellenic Authority for Higher Education

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Athens, 10 November 2026
Ref. No.: 58131

DECISION OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL

OF THE HELLENIC AUTHORITY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING No. 105/10-11-2026

Subject: "Approval of the Accreditation Guide for Study Programmes and Internal Quality Assurance Systems (IQAS) of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and University Legal Entities (ULEs), pursuant to Article 90(2) of Law 5351/2026."

THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE

HELLENIC AUTHORITY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Having regard to:

1. The provisions of:
   (a) Law 4653/2020, "*Hellenic Authority for Higher Education, Special Accounts for Research Funds of Higher Education Institutions, Research and Technological Bodies and other provisions*" (Government Gazette A' 12), and in particular Article 13A;
   (b) Law 5351/2026, *"Establishment and organisation of the legal entity governed by public law under the name 'Panhellenic Association of Psychologists' – Establishment of the National Observatory for Psychotherapy and Mental Health Counselling – Establishment of the National Observatory for Forensic Psychiatry – Practice of the nursing profession – Doctors and nurses of the National Health System – Health technologies – Medicinal products and other provisions"* (Government Gazette A' 178), and in particular Articles 91 and 92;
   (c) Law 5094/2024, "*Strengthening Public Universities – Framework for the operation of non-profit branches of foreign universities and other provisions"* (Government Gazette A' 39, as corrected in Government Gazette A' 54), and in particular Articles 130 to 155;
   (d) Law 4957/2022, "*New Horizons in Higher Education Institutions: Enhancing quality, functionality and the connection of HEIs with society and other provisions*" (Government Gazette A' 141);

(e) Law 4622/2019, "*Executive State: Organisation, operation and transparency of Government, government bodies and central public administration*" (Government Gazette A' 133);

(f) Law 3469/2006, "*National Printing House, Government Gazette and other provisions*" (Government Gazette A' 131), and in particular point 16 of Art. 8 (1).

2. Decision No. 15561/09-04-2020 of the President of HAHE, "Appointment of the four (4) members of the Supreme Council of the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education" (Government Gazette Y.O.D.D. 272), as amended and in force.
3. Decision No. 18135/Z1/7-2-2020 of the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs (Government Gazette Y.O.D.D. 94) concerning the appointment of the President of the Supreme Council of HAHE; Decision No. 16384/Z1/15-02-2024 of the Minister of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports (Government Gazette Y.O.D.D. 137) concerning the extension of the term of office of the President of the Supreme Council of HAHE; and Decision No. 88986/Z1/1-08-2024 of the Minister of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports (Government Gazette 846/Y.O.D.D./7-8-2024) concerning the renewal of the term of office of the President of the Supreme Council of HAHE, Professor Pericles A. Mitkas.
4. Recommendation No. 58106/9-11-2026 of the Evaluation and Accreditation Council (EAC) of the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE).
5. The fact that no expenditure is incurred against the regular budget of the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education by these provisions.
6. The fact that a new integrated administrative procedure entitled: "*Accreditation Guide for Study Programmes and Internal Quality Assurance Systems of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and University Legal Entities (ULE*s)" is established under these provisions.

HEREBY DECIDES

Sole Article

1. To approve the Accreditation Guide for study programmes and internal quality assurance systems of Higher Education Institutions and University Legal Entities (ULEs), hereinafter referred to as "the Guide".
2. The Guide is annexed to this Decision and forms an integral part thereof.
3. The Guide shall be published on the official website of HAHE, pursuant to Article 91(2) of Law 5351/2026, and on the "Diavgeia" Transparency Portal.

4. Any accreditation procedures initiated prior to the entry into force of Art.92(2) of Law 5351/2026, that is, before the 2nd of November 2026, shall continue with the External Evaluation and Accreditation Panels already formed, pursuant to provisions of Articles 8 to 13 of Law 4653/2020 and Article 145 of Law 5094/2024, provided that all members of the aforementioned Panels are registered in the relevant Registers according to the provisions of Art. 92(1) of Law 5351/2026. In this case, the stages of the accreditation process that have already been completed shall remain valid and they shall not be repeated, provided that the requirements set out in this Guide and in the applicable Accreditation Standards are met.
5. The Guide shall enter into force upon its publication on the official website of HAHE.
6. Upon publication of the Guide, the following shall cease to have effect:
   (a) the Guidelines for the Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions (2023); and
   (b) the Guidelines for the Accreditation of Study Programmes and Internal Quality Assurance Systems of University Legal Entities (ULEs) (June 2025 – Version 1.0).

Athens, 10 November 2026

The President

PERICLES A. MITKAS

ANNEX

ACCREDITATION GUIDE

for Study Programmes and

Internal Quality Assurance Systems

of Higher Education Institutions and

University Legal Entities

ACRONYMS

AMAS	Accreditation Management System
EAC	Evaluation and Accreditation Council
EEAP	External Evaluation and Accreditation Panel
EHEA	European Higher Education Area
ENQA	European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education
ESG	Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area
HAHE	Hellenic Authority for Higher Education
HEI	Higher Education Institution
IQAS	Internal Quality Assurance System
QAU	Quality Assurance Unit
SC	Supreme Council of HAHE
SP	Study Programme
ULE	University Legal Entity

CHAPTER A΄

ACCREDITATION GUIDE– CHARACTERISTICS AND PRINCIPLES OF ACCREDITATION

Article 1

Preface

1. The Accreditation Guide referred to in par. 2 of Article 13A of Law 4653/2020 concerns the procedure for the accreditation of the internal quality assurance systems of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and the University Legal Entities (ULEs), the study programmes of the first, second and third cycle, as well as programmes of cooperation with other educational or research institutions in Greece or abroad. The accreditation process is aligned with the European Standards and Guidelines of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA).

2. The Guide is approved by decision of the Supreme Council of HAHE, following a recommendation from the Evaluation and Accreditation Council of HAHE, and is addressed to all those involved in the external evaluation and accreditation process (external quality assurance).

3. This Guide specify, in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 13A of Law 4653/2020, the procedure and separate stages of the external evaluation and accreditation, such as the method for submitting the accreditation proposal and the documentation material, the procedure for checking the completeness of the accreditation proposal, the procedure and criteria for selecting members of the External Evaluation and Accreditation Panels (EEAP) from the Register referred to in par. 1 of Article 13 of Law 4653/2020, the grounds for disqualification from participation in the E.E.A.P., the powers and mode of operation of the EEAPs, the procedure and methodology of the external evaluation, including the onsite visit or remote review using electronic means, the content and format of the provisional (draft reports) and final external evaluation and accreditation reports, the procedure for submitting the external evaluation report to the Evaluation and Accreditation Council, the procedure for issuing, notifying and publicising the accreditation decision; the right to lodge appeals against the accreditation decision and the procedure for doing so, as well as the competent body responsible for assessing such appeals; the conditions and procedure for monitoring compliance with the recommendations and conditions of accreditation, as well as any other specific or procedural matter relating to the implementation of the accreditation process for study programmes and internal quality assurance systems.

Article 2

Scope - Purpose of accreditation

1. The accreditation of the internal quality assurance system of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and University Legal Entities (ULEs), the study programmes of the first-, second- and third-cycle, as well as programmes of cooperation with other educational or research institutions in Greece or abroad is a quality assurance and accreditation process based on specific, predetermined, internationally accepted criteria and indicators that have been published in advance and are in line with the applicable Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (European Standards and Guidelines: ESG).

2. The purpose of the accreditation process is to ensure high quality in Higher Education and to enhance the effectiveness and transparency of the overall operation of HEIs and ULEs (hereinafter referred to as the Institutions). In particular, the accreditation process guarantees the quality of study programmes and degrees, including the implementation of a strategy for the continuous quality improvement of services of HEIs and ULEs. The accreditation of a Study Programme (hereinafter referred to as SP) ensures that the academic study programme offered by the Institution meets the criteria set in the HAHE Quality Standards and that the knowledge, competencies and skills of students graduating from the specific course (learning outcomes) are consistent with the expected academic and professional qualifications; the accreditation of the Internal Quality Assurance System (hereinafter referred to as the IQAS) ensures that the Institution offers the services, procedures and tools required for the overall improvement of its educational, research and administrative work.

Article 3

General Principles of Accreditation

The external evaluation and accreditation process is governed by the following general principles:

(a) It is evidence-based and carried out with the involvement of independent experts.

(b) It includes a verification process involving a site visit to verify the information contained in the accreditation proposal and the documentation material. The site visit may be carried out on site or remotely using electronic means.

(c) It is based on clear criteria published in advance.

(d) The procedure is transparent and the results of the accreditation are published on the official website of HAHE.

(e) All personal data is protected in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Article 4

Initial and periodic accreditation of SPs and IQAS

1. The accreditation process covers all the activities required for the external evaluation and accreditation of study programmes (of first, second and third cycle) and the institutions' Internal Quality Assurance Systems. The term "Internal Quality Assurance Systems" refers to the central systems and structures of the Institutions, the purpose of which is to manage and implement all internal quality assurance activities at all levels of the Institutions' operation.
2. The term "Initial accreditation" refers to the accreditation that takes place prior to the commencement of a new SP or a new IQAS. During the initial accreditation, particular emphasis is placed on the policies, procedures and quality criteria that are applied. The Institution must be able to demonstrate how it will be able to achieve the expected outcomes required by the Accreditation Standards by the time of the next accreditation (re-accreditation).
3. The term "periodic accreditation" refers to the accreditation of an SP or IQAS that is already in operation and has produced outcomes. During the periodic accreditation, clear documentation is required to demonstrate that the objectives have been achieved across all areas of operation of the Institution under review, as well as a record of the progress made since the previous accreditation. This information must be included both in the internal evaluation report submitted by the Institution as part of its accreditation proposal and in the external evaluation report drawn up by the relevant EEAP.
4. The external evaluation and accreditation process – whether for initial or for periodic accreditation– aims to support continuous quality improvement. In this context, the EEAP. identifies the strengths and weaknesses of the Institution under review and formulates evidence-based recommendations for improvement, taking into account its objectives and specific operating conditions.

CHAPTER B΄

ACCREDITATION STAGES

Article 5

Accreditation stages

The accreditation process is carried out with the support of the HAHE information system (Accreditation Management System – AMAS) and consists of the following distinct stages: (a) submission of the accreditation proposal (b) conduct of an external evaluation by the EEAP and drafting of an external evaluation and accreditation report following a site visit, which takes place either on site or remotely using electronic means, (c) the issuance of a positive, positive under conditions or negative accreditation decision by the EAC of HAHE; and (d) the regular and/or extraordinary follow-up of the progress made by the Institution under review in implementing the accreditation conditions.

SECTION A΄

INTERNAL EVALUATION– ACCREDITATION PROPOSAL

Article 6

Internal Evaluation Procedure – Link between the internal and the external evaluation

Internal evaluation or self-evaluation is the process by which the Institution evaluates itself against the criteria set out in the relevant Standards, forms an opinion on its compliance with those criteria, and draws up the Internal Evaluation Report in accordance with point (a) of paragraph 1 of Article 11 of Law 4653/2020. The procedure, findings, conclusions and relevant commitments of the Institution resulting from the internal evaluation process are set out in the accreditation proposal submitted to HAHE (hereinafter referred to as the accreditation proposal or proposal).

The external evaluation process examines the effectiveness of the Institution's internal quality assurance procedures in accordance with the relevant HAHE Standards, which have been aligned with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area and, in particular, with Part A thereof (ESG 2015).

Responsibility for ensuring and continuously improving the quality of study programmes and other services provided lies primarily with the HEIs and ULEs themselves. Consequently, external evaluation must recognise and assess the Institutions' responsibility for quality assurance. The link between internal and external quality assurance is achieved through the accreditation proposal.

Article 7

Structure, content, submission and scrutiny of the accreditation proposal

1. The accreditation proposal is the result of a self-assessment process that involves gathering feedback from stakeholders (teaching staff, students, etc.) and it is examined by the EEAP during the external evaluation and accreditation process.

2. When drafting the proposal, the Institution must demonstrate its compliance with the applicable Standards and submit the necessary documentation. It is important that the proposal includes clear information, a critical analysis of the data, an analysis of the effectiveness of the quality procedures already implemented, as well as documentation material with explicit reference to each of the criteria of the applicable Standards.

3. The proposal shall be submitted via AMAS, the HAHE's information system using a specific form (template) that complies with the relevant Standards.

4. In the case of a periodic accreditation, the proposal must explicitly state the measures taken by the Institution to address the recommendations of the EEAP from the previous review, as well as the progress made in the areas where shortcomings or problems had been identified, in accordance with paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 4 of this Guide.

5. The competent department of HAHE carries out a typical check on the submitted proposal before forwarding it to the EEAP to ensure that it includes all the necessary documents required by the Standards as mandatory supporting documentation. This administrative scrutiny of the proposal serves as a typical check on the proposal's completeness and does not involve any evaluative judgement on compliance or non-compliance with the applicable Standards or on whether the accreditation criteria have been met.

6. If the proposal is not deemed complete in accordance with paragraph 5, the competent department of HAHE shall inform the Institution and grant it a reasonable deadline, not exceeding 10 days, to complete the proposal or provide clarifications. The Institution under review may request an extension of the deadline for a further 10 days. If the deadline set out herein expires without action being taken, or if the supplementary information or clarifications are deemed insufficient, the E.A.C. shall decide to postpone or suspend the evaluation and accreditation process in accordance with par. 2(g) of Article 8 of Law 4653/2020.

SECTION B΄

EXTERNAL EVALUATION

Article 8

External Evaluation and Accreditation Panel (EEAP)

The external evaluation is carried out by the EEAP and takes place following the submission of the accreditation proposal, in accordance with the provisions of Article 11 of Law 4653/2020.

Article 9

EEAP formation procedure – Grounds for disqualification

1. The members of the EEAP are drawn from the Register of External Evaluators referred to in paragraph 1 of Article 13 of Law 4653/2020, which is maintained by HAHE, in accordance with the specific provisions of the Rules and Regulations for the Register of External Evaluators set out in paragraph 1 of Article 13A of Law 4653/2020.
2. The EEAP is formed by decision of the EAC, in accordance with the specific provisions of paragraphs 2 to 7 of Article 13 of Law 4653/2020.

   The EEAP members may not belong, or have any educational, research or administrative relationship with the HEI or the ULE under review, or to which the academic unit or study programme under review belongs, nor may they have had such a relationship within the last five years.

When forming the EEAP, the following criteria for the selection of members shall apply:

a. For first-, second- or third-cycle study programmes, the members from the Special Register of Independent Experts must belong to the same or a related scientific field (e.g. Computer Science, Biology) as the study programme to be accredited, and the member from the Special Register of Students must come from a study programme in the same or a related scientific field as the programme to be accredited. The identity or relevance of the experts' scientific field to specific study programmes of the first, second or third cycle of study is determined in accordance with the UNESCO's International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-F 2013) and it is recorded in a separate column of the AMAS information system. The scientific field's identity corresponds to a match of the UNESCO code at the third level, whilst the relevance corresponds to a match of the code

at the second (more general) level.

b. A declaration of availability by the members of the Register for the period during which the accreditation is scheduled to take place.

c. The Chair of the Panel must be drawn from the Special Register of Independent Experts; S/he must have previous experience in participating in an EEAP of HAHE and be fully proficient in English and Greek.

d. Where possible, consideration shall be given to ensuring a balanced representation of both genders within the EEAP.

A prerequisite for a member of the Register to participate in the EEAP is that they have previously attended at least one (1) training session held by HAHE on quality assurance in higher education.

3. The selection of EEAP members from the Register is carried out by decision of the EAC, in accordance with the specific provisions of paragraphs 2 to 7 of Article 13 of Law 4653/2020 and In accordance with the aforementioned selection criteria, based on the declaration of availability submitted by each member of the Register for the period during which the accreditation is scheduled. Each member shall submit their individual declaration of availability via the AMAS information system, following a call for expressions of interest issued by HAHE, which is sent via AMAS for each academic semester of the relevant calendar year and for all scientific fields. Subsequently, the experts available for the scheduled period for each SP/IQAS under accreditation are invited to accept their participation in the relevant EEAP.

   In the event that the accepting members of the Special Register of Experts who meet the necessary criteria exceed the number of regular members required for the EEAP, they shall be listed in order of relevance to the scientific field, as already recorded in the AMAS information system; from this list, the regular members, as well as an equal number of alternate members shall be selected for the specific EEAP, provided there are sufficient candidates. If the members/experts from the same or a related scientific field exceed the number of regular members required to form the EEAP, a draw shall be held to select the regular and alternate members accordingly. In the event that the required number of regular members is not reached, the EAC may decide whether to form the EEAP with fewer members (the total number of EEAP members shall not be fewer than 3).

Accordingly, available members of the Special Register of Students who are enrolled on a study programme in the same or a related academic field, as already recorded in the AMAS information system, are invited to accept their participation in the EEAP, with the exception of students enrolled in the Institution under review. In the event that there is more than one (1) eligible member who meets the necessary criteria, a draw shall be held to select the regular and alternate members of the specific EEAP.

In the case of accreditation of a first-cycle study programme leading to the practice of a legally regulated profession, an invitation shall be sent to the available members of the Special Register of Professionals who are members of the relevant professional body. Where there is more than one (1) eligible member who meets the necessary criteria, a draw shall be held to select the regular and alternate members of the specific EEAP.

The EEAP is lawfully constituted without the participation of members from the Special Register of Students and/or the Special Register of Professionals, in case there is no registered member in the relevant Special Register who meets the conditions for membership in the EEAP.

The decision forming the EEAP shall also appoint the Chair, who shall fulfil the criteria set out in paragraph 2 of this article.

Following the EEAP formation, the HAHE shall take steps to prevent any potential conflict of interest and to safeguard the transparency and integrity of the procedure in accordance with the specific provisions of the Code of Ethics set out in paragraph 3 of Article 13A of Law 4653/2020.

4. The composition of the EEAP is communicated to the Institution under review, which shall inform HAHE without delay of any actual or potential conflict of interest within the specified time limit. Should a conflict of interest be identified in any selected member(s), the EEAP shall be again composed by replacing the member concerned.

5. If a member of the EEAP is a foreign expert who does not speak Greek or if the language of instruction of a study programme under accreditation is not Greek, the evaluation and accreditation process shall be conducted exclusively in English. The Accreditation Report shall always be drafted in English, so that it is accessible to ENQA and EQAR, which review the results of quality assurance, as well as to interested parties from all EHEA member countries.

Article 10

Powers of the Chair and members of the EEAP

1. The Chair of the EEAP bears overall responsibility for the smooth and unimpeded completion of the evaluation and accreditation process and for drafting and submitting the relevant external evaluation report referred to in paragraph 1(b) of Article 11 of Law 4653/2020. Furthermore, the Chair shall ensure full compliance with the rules of this Guide during the review process. The Chair presides over all meetings and discussions of the EEAP and cooperates with the relevant officer of HAHE to implement the procedure and resolve any issues that may occur.
2. The members of the EEAP study the material relating to the accreditation proposal prior to the scheduled review, participate actively in all meetings and discussions with the Institution under review, and contribute to the drafting of the external evaluation report, in accordance with the division of tasks agreed amongst themselves.

Article 11

HAHE Coordinator

1. For each assessment and accreditation process of a SP/IQAS, one (1) representative of the HAHE is appointed as Coordinator, selected from amongst its permanent or temporary staff. The Coordinator plays a key role in ensuring the smooth running and reliability of the assessment and accreditation process, acting as the main channel of communication between the EEAP, the Institution and the internal administrative structures and bodies of HAHE.
2. The Coordinator is not a member of the EEAP and has the following responsibilities:
   (a) To act as the main point of contact and coordination between the EEAP, the Institution and HAHE throughout the accreditation process, ensuring that communication takes place exclusively through the officially designated channels and procedures.
   (b) To ensure that all stages of the process are duly documented. Any guidance is strictly limited to the procedural and formal aspects of the process and does not constitute guidance on substantive quality issues or on the presentation of evidence.
   (c) To receive the final external evaluation report from the Chair of the EEAP and oversee all stages until its finalization; to send the final external evaluation report to the relevant

department of HAHE for the organisation of the decision-making process by the EAC.

(d) To assist the EEAP members with the practical aspects of the accreditation process and ensure that the daily allowance and travel expenses are paid to the EEAP members by the relevant financial department of HAHE.

Article 12

Review

1. The on-site visit or the remote review via electronic means (hereinafter referred to as "the review") serves specific key objectives. In particular, the review enables the EEAP to:
   a. verify the details of the proposal and gather relevant findings that document the actual situation of the Institution under review;
   b. investigate the degree of compliance with the applicable Standards by examining the proposal and any supplementary documents;
   c. engage in a dialogue with the Institution regarding its activities and its compliance with the applicable Standards;
   d. set out its preliminary conclusions regarding compliance with the applicable Standards;
   e. write the draft external evaluation report, which will form the basis for the further development and finalisation of the final report for the review.
2. The review is carried out under a specific work programme, which is prepared by the Coordinator after consultation with the EEAP and the Institution, using an approved programme template appropriate to the category and type of accreditation.

Article 13

Preparatory steps prior to the review

1. The EEAP must carefully study all available material prior to the review. It is recommended that additional documents should be requested before the day of the review, where deemed necessary. This information shall form the basis for defining the main lines of enquiry and to draft an outline of the external evaluation Report. The Institution under review must provide the EEAP with all the necessary material to ensure the proper and effective conduct of the review.

Article 14

Conduct of the Review

1. During the review, the EEAP shall meet with representatives of the academic and administrative staff, as well as the Institution's governing bodies. More specifically, the meetings may be attended by the following persons:
   a. The Rector or the Vice-Rector in charge of quality assurance issues.
   b. The staff involved in the process of drafting the accreditation proposal.
   c. The Head of the Department or academic unit.
   d. The study programme coordinator, if applicable (e.g. Director of a Foreign Language Programme or of a Postgraduate Study Programme).
   e. Representatives of academic staff, students, graduates and administrative staff.
   f. Representatives of employers and other relevant stakeholders.
2. During the review, all necessary measures shall be taken in collaboration with the Institution to ensure the smooth and unhindered conduct of the process.

Article 15

External Evaluation Reports - Purpose

1. The external evaluation report is drawn up following the completion of the review and it is based on the accreditation proposal, as well as on the review's findings.
2. The purpose of the report is:
   (a) to provide the EAC with sufficient and clear information regarding the compliance of the HEI or the ULE with the applicable Standards;
   (b) to serve as a reliable, fair and up-to-date document for the Institution, supporting its consolidation and further development;
   (c) to serve as a source of reliable information for other organisations and stakeholders.

Article 16

Drafting the external evaluation report – Evaluation Methodology

1. When preparing the provisional draft report, it is important to clearly set out the findings

(evidence) and the relevant reasoning (judgement) followed in reaching the conclusion.

2. With regard to the assessment of each criterion of the relevant Standards, the EEAP must set out in detail the evidence that led it to the specific conclusion and assess the degree of compliance with that criterion. In particular, for each criterion, the report must include:

   (a) Evidence: a short description of the evidence gathered, with reference to the meetings held or the supporting documentation.

   (b) Analysis on the compliance degree with the specific criterion, based on the review of the available evidence. In case of non-compliance, the relevant justification should be provided.

   (c) Conclusion: assessment of the degree of compliance with each Criterion. The conclusion may be either:

      (i) Compliance: Compliance with the Criterion is overall observed. There may be some shortcomings, but they do not significantly undermine the ability to effectively comply with the Criterion.

      (ii) Partial Compliance: Some aspects or sections of the Criterion are met, while others are not. The shortcomings undermine the ability to effectively comply with the Criterion.

      (iii) Non-compliance: The Criterion is not met. There are significant shortcomings that prevent the programme's ability to comply with the Criterion.

   (d) Recommendations for improvement and for curing weaknesses or offering praise where good practices are adopted and excellent results are achieved in the field of quality assurance.

3. Once the members of the EEAP agree on the final form of the draft report, the Chair shall submit the draft via the AMAS information system. The Coordinator, having checked that the report is complete in terms of its typical requirements, shall forward it to the Institution under review, so that it may submit factual comments within a predetermined deadline, which shall not exceed fifteen (15) days.

4. Within the time limit specified in the second sentence of paragraph 3, the Institution may submit a memorandum containing any comments regarding factual errors (verifiable data that existed but was overlooked) in the draft report or highlighting any serious

misinterpretations, without the possibility of submitting additional information or documents. Subsequently, once the Coordinator receives the Institution's response via the information system, they forward it to the EEAP, which then finalises and submits its final report.

5. If the deadline specified in the second sentence of paragraph 3 expires without any action taken, the draft report shall be deemed to have been accepted by the Institution.
6. The final external evaluation report (final report) shall be submitted by the Chair of the EEAP to HAHE via the AMAS information system.
7. The Coordinator forwards the information referred to in paragraph 6 to the competent department, which shall forward to the EAC so that they take their decision in accordance with Article 12 of Law 4653/2020 and Section C of this document.
8. In any case, the final external evaluation report shall not be utilised by the Institution prior to a decision being taken by the EAC in accordance with Section C.

SECTION C΄

ACCREDITATION REPORT

Article 17

Competent Department

The final External Evaluation Report, together with the Accreditation Proposal and any comments submitted by the Institution in accordance with Article 16(5), shall be forwarded, through the competent department, to the EAC of HAHE for the adoption of the relevant accreditation decision.

Article 18

Decision-Making Procedure for Accreditation

1. A member of the EAC shall be appointed, by decision of its members, as the Rapporteur; s/he shall be responsible for examining the documents referred to in Article 17 and submitting a relevant recommendation to the Council within an indicative period of fifteen (15) days.
2. Following submission of the recommendation referred to in paragraph 1, the EAC shall convene to reach a decision on the accreditation. Where the time limit set out in paragraph 1 expires without a recommendation being submitted, the Council may decide on the accreditation without the recommendation referred to in paragraph 1. The recommendation

referred to in paragraph 1 shall not be binding upon the Council.

3. The EAC shall convene and reach a decision within an indicative period of sixty (60) days following either the submission of the recommendation referred to in paragraph 1 or the expiry of the deadline for the submission of the recommendation, in case the recommendation has not been submitted.

4. The EAC may, at its discretion, request from the EEAP or the Institution any additional information or documentation deemed necessary for the purpose adopting the decision referred to in paragraph 3. In such cases, the time limit referred to in paragraph 3 shall be suspended for the period during which the requested information or documentation remains outstanding. Where the said information and supporting documentation are unavailable, point (g) of Article 8(2) of Law 4653/2020 shall apply.

Article 19

Content of the accreditation decision

1. In accordance with Article 12(1) of Law 4653/2020, the decision of the EAC may be positive, positive under conditions, or negative, depending on the degree of compliance with the criteria of the applicable Standards.

2. The validity period of the decision referred to in paragraph 1 shall be determined by decision of the EAC and shall not exceed five (5) years, unless otherwise provided by the applicable legislation. In the case of a positive under conditions accreditation, the decision shall specify the criteria that have not been satisfied and shall set out a specific timetable for compliance with those criteria and for reviewing the decision. After the submission and assessment of the required additional evidence, the EAC may issue a new decision regarding the degree of the Institution's compliance or fulfilment of the specified conditions. Where the conditions imposed have not been satisfied by the Institution, the accreditation shall be withdrawn.

3. In the case of a negative periodic accreditation decision, no new periodic accreditation of the study programme (SP) or Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) under review shall be conducted before the expiry of two (2) years from the date of the accreditation decision.

Article 20

Communication and Publication of Accreditation Reports and Decisions

The final evaluation reports issued by the EEAP and the corresponding accreditation decisions of the EAC shall be communicated, by the competent service of the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE), to the Institution under evaluation and to the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports. They shall also be published on the official website of HAHE and on the Institution's website, the publication on the latter being the responsibility of the Institution.

SECTION D΄

FOLLOW-UP ON COMPLIANCE WITH ACCREDITATION CRITERIA

Article 21

Follow-up on Accreditation

1. The process of external evaluation and accreditation does not conclude with the submission of the External Evaluation Report and the issuance of the relevant decision by the EAC. The Report provides clear recommendations for improvement to be implemented by the Institution. In this context, and in accordance with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG), the following provisions establish a coherent follow-up procedure through which the actions undertaken by the Institution to comply with the criteria and principles of the applicable evaluation standards, as well as with the recommendations of the E.E.A.P., are examined.
2. The follow-up on compliance with the accreditation criteria applies both to cases where the EAC grants accreditation and to cases where accreditation is granted under specific conditions. The follow-up procedure shall be divided into regular follow-up and extraordinary follow-up.

Article 22

Regular Follow-up & Follow-up Report

1. The Institution shall submit a Follow-up Report (hereinafter referred to as the "Report") to the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE). The Report shall be drafted in a clear manner and shall constitute an independent document (without any attachments).
2. The purpose of the Report referred to in paragraph 1 is to monitor and then document the

Institution's response to the content and recommendations of the EEAP and HAHE. Furthermore, through the Report, the Institution may describe any developments or significant changes in its educational, administrative, and research activities that have occurred and are relevant to the criteria of the applicable Accreditation Standards.

Article 23

Submission Deadline

1. In the case of a positive accreditation, the Institution shall submit the Follow-up Report within two (2) years from the date on which the accreditation decision was communicated to it in accordance with Article 20(1).
2. In the case of a positive under conditions accreditation, the Institution shall submit, within two (2) months of notification of the HAHE's decision, a Report - Action Plan setting out the measures to be taken in order to satisfy the conditions imposed by the EAC. The Institution shall subsequently submit the Follow-up Report within the timeframe specified by the EAC.

Article 24

Extraordinary Follow-up

HAHE, acting through the Evaluation and Accreditation Council (EAC), may, either on its own initiative or following a proposal by the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, verify at any time the continued fulfilment of the accreditation criteria. In all other respects, Article 22(1) shall apply.

Article 25

Follow-up outcomes

1. Should a regular or extraordinary follow-up procedure establish that the accreditation criteria are no longer satisfied, the EAC shall revoke the accreditation decision and shall promptly inform both the Institution and the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports.
2. In particular, in the case of the positive under conditions accreditation and following the submission and assessment of the required additional evidence, the EAC may issue a new decision regarding the degree of compliance with the specific conditions imposed. In such cases, the new decision shall be published on the website of HAHE.

Article 26

Progress Visit

1. The monitoring of compliance with the accreditation criteria may be accompanied by a short progress visit to the Institution. This visit shall neither form part nor replace the follow-up process referred to in Article 21. It constitutes a distinct procedure intended to facilitate a more in-depth and targeted dialogue based on the applicable Accreditation Standards.
2. The progress visit shall be carried out by two members of the initial EEAP.
3. The progress visit may take place one (1) year after the completion of the accreditation procedure and shall last one day. In the case of the positive accreditation granted under conditions, the progress visit may take place before the deadline referred to in Article 23(2).
4. The Institution may propose specific topics of interest for discussion with the members referred to in paragraph 2 regarding compliance with the applicable Accreditation Standards.

CHAPTER C'

FINANCIAL TERMS OF ACCREDITATION

Article 27

Daily Allowance and Travel Expenses of the EEAP members

1. The payment of daily allowances and travel expenses for members of the External Evaluation and Accreditation Panels (EEAPs) established pursuant to Article 13 of Law 4653/2020 for the purposes of external evaluation and initial or periodic accreditation of:
    (a) the internal quality assurance systems of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs);
    (b) the academic units of HEIs;
    (c) study programmes of all cycles offered by HEIs;
    (d) the Internal Quality Assurance Systems (IQAS) and study programmes of all cycles offered by ULEs;
    (e) the Centres for Training and Lifelong Learning (CTLLL) of HEIs; and
    (f) the University Research Institutes (URIs) of HEIs,

shall be carried out in accordance with the specific terms and conditions laid down in Joint Ministerial Decision No. 37642/Z1/26-3-2026 of the Minister of Economy and Finance with the Minister of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, entitled: *"Determination of the daily allowance and regulation of matters relating to the travel and travel expenses of members of the External Evaluation and Accreditation Panels (EEAPs) under Article 13 of Law 4653/2020 of the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE)"* (Government Gazette B' 2144).

Article 28

Accreditation costs of Higher Education Institutions

The costs associated with the accreditation of the categories referred to in points (a), (b), (c), (e) and (f) of Article 27(1) shall be covered by the financial resources of the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE) and may also be charged to the budget of co-financed programmes.

Article 29

Accreditation costs of ULEs

The costs associated with the accreditation of the category referred to in point (d) of Article 27(1) shall be covered exclusively by HAHE's financial resources. For this purpose, the ULE shall pay a special accreditation fee to HAHE upon submission of its application for accreditation, in accordance with Article 145A of Law 5094/2024. The amount of the special fee shall be:

a) fifteen thousand euros (€15,000) for the accreditation of the ULE's internal quality assurance system;

b) twelve thousand euros (€12,000) for each accreditation of a first-, second-, or third-cycle study programme conducted on-site; and

c) six thousand euros (€6,000) for each accreditation of a first-, second-, or third-cycle study programme conducted remotely.

Article 30

Transitional Provisions

The second sentence of Article 29(1) shall not apply to expenses incurred for the initial accreditation of first- and second-cycle study programmes referred to in applications submitted by Institutions for the granting of a license to establish and operate a ULE under Article 139 of Law 5094/2024, in case such applications were submitted up to the publication of Law 5331/2026

(Government Gazette, Series A, No. 142), namely up to 18 September 2026, nor to expenses incurred for the payment of daily allowances and travel expenses of EEAP members. The expenses of the first sentence of Article 29(1) shall be covered by appropriations from the budget of HAHE deriving from the application fee provided for in point (e) of Article 138(2) of Law 5094/2024, which was paid at the time of submission of the application for the license to establish and operate a ULE pursuant to Article 139 of Law 5094/2024, in accordance with Article 124(1) of Law 5331/2026.

CHAPTER D΄

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOURSE AGAINST DECISIONS OF THE EAC

Article 31

Appealable Decisions

A negative accreditation decision of the EAC, a positive accreditation decision under conditions, or the revocation of a positive or conditionally positive accreditation decision of the EAC in accordance with Article 12 of Law 4653/2020, may be contested by the Institution through an appeal lodged before the EAC.

Article 32

Submission of Appeals

1. The appeal against the decisions referred to in Article 31 shall be submitted to the Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE) either in hard copy or electronically and shall be assigned a reference number.
2. The appeal must be specifically and adequately substantiated and accompanied by the appropriate supporting documentation evidencing the claims of the appellant Institution.

Article 33

Deadline

1. The appeal referred to in Article 31 shall be lodged in writing, free of charge, within a strict deadline of thirty (30) days from the notification of the contested decision to the Institution in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 20.
2. Specifically, (a) where the appeal is submitted by an email, compliance with the deadline shall be determined on the basis of the date and time of delivery of the relevant e-mail; and (b) where the appeal is submitted by post or courier service, compliance with the time limit shall

be determined on the basis of the date indicated by the courier company's stamp or the date of deposit to the courier company.

Article 34

Grounds of Appeal

The appeal shall clearly and concisely set out its grounds, referring either to violations of the applicable regulatory framework or to errors in the assessment of the Institution's compliance with the criteria and principles of the applicable Standards.

Article 35

Establishment of the Appeals Committee

1. A three-member committee, designated as the “Appeals Committee” (hereinafter referred to as the “Committee”) shall be established.
2. The Committee shall be appointed by decision of the EAC for a four-year term and shall consist of three (3) members and their respective alternates. The decision establishing the Committee shall be published on the official website of HAHE as well as on the “DIAVGEIA” transparency portal.
3. Members of the HAHE Supreme Council and the Evaluation and Accreditation Council, as well as HAHE's Special Scientific Staff, shall not serve as either regular or alternate members of the Committee.
4. In appointing the members of the Committee, the EAC shall consider whether the candidate possesses experience in external evaluation and accreditation procedures acquired through participation in relevant bodies or panels, as well as international experience gained through participation in international activities relating to quality assurance in higher education. Priority shall be given to retired professors of HEIs who have served as members of the Hellenic Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency (HQA) or HAHE, as well as members of Higher Education Institutions' Quality Assurance Units (QAUs), provided that such service did not take place during the immediately preceding year.
5. In the event of a vacancy arising on the Committee for any reason, the new member shall be appointed for a full term of office.
6. The term of office of the Committee members may be renewed once only.

Article 36

Operation of the Committee

1. The Chair of the Committee shall be elected by and from among its regular members.
2. The Committee shall take decisions by simple majority.
3. Any member of the Committee who is or has been, during the preceding five-year period, a member of the academic staff of the Institution submitting the appeal, or who has any educational, research or employment relationship with that Institution, shall be replaced by his or her alternate for the examination of the specific appeal. In cases of conflict of interest, the relevant provisions of the Code of Ethics referred to in paragraph 3 of Article 13A of Law 4653/2020 shall apply.

Article 37

Powers of the Committee

1. The Committee shall examine both the legal and substantive merits of the appeal and shall submit a reasoned recommendation to the EAC regarding the acceptance or rejection of the appeal. The Committee shall submit its recommendation to the EAC within an indicative period of thirty (30) days from the date on which the appeal and supporting documents are transmitted by the Secretariat of HAHE. If the period referred to in the preceding sentence expires without action, the EAC may examine the appeal and issue a decision without the Committee's recommendation.
2. The Committee may, at its discretion, request additional information or documents from the Institution for the purposes of formulating the recommendation referred to in paragraph 1. In such a case, the period referred to in the second sentence of paragraph 1 shall be suspended for as long as the Institution's compliance with the Committee's requests remains pending.

Article 38

Decision on the Appeal

1. The EAC shall issue a reasoned decision accepting or rejecting the appeal following consideration of the Committee's recommendation or, in the case referred to in the third sentence of paragraph 1 of Article 37, without such recommendation.
2. The EAC's decision shall be issued within an indicative period of thirty (30) days from the date

on which the competent service of HAHE transmits the Committee's recommendation to it, or from the expiry without action of the period referred to in the third sentence of paragraph 1 of Article 37.

3. The EAC may, at its discretion, request additional information or documents from the Institution for the purpose of reaching a decision under paragraph 1. In such a case, the period referred to in paragraph 2 shall be suspended for as long as the Institution's compliance with the relevant requests remains pending.
4. Where the period referred to in paragraph 2 expires without the issuance of a decision, the appeal shall be deemed to have been tacitly rejected.
5. Following its formalisation, the EAC's decision shall be notified to the Institution concerned and, where the accreditation outcome is amended, shall also be communicated to the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports.