THE INSTITUTIONS OF TERTIARY EDUCATION
LAWS 1996 TO 2013
(English translation and consolidation)

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NOTE FOR THE READER


However useful the English translation of the consolidated Law is in practice, it does not replace the original text of the Law since only the Greek text of the Laws published in the Official Gazette of the Republic is authentic.

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A LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT, CONTROL AND
OPERATION OF INSTITUTIONS OF TERTIARY EDUCATION

The House of Representatives enacts as follows:

1. This Law may be cited as the Institutions of Tertiary Education Laws, 1996 to 2013.

2. In this Law –

PART I - INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

"academic year" means the period beginning with 1st September and ending with the next 31st August;

"Advisory Committee" means the Advisory Committee of Tertiary Education established in accordance with section 3;

"Council of Educational – Accreditation" means the council appointed in accordance with section 32;

"council of a public institution" means the council appointed in accordance with section 6;

"council of a private institution" means the council appointed in accordance with section 28;

"evaluation-accreditation fees" means the amount of money paid by a private institution of higher education for the educational evaluation-accreditation or for

*See Note at the end of the text.
the re-evaluation – re-accreditation of a programme of study it offers;

"institution of tertiary education" or "institution" means an educational institution in which the persons admitted are only those who have graduated from a school of secondary education of at least six years duration, or who possess another equivalent qualification and in which the programmes of study include full-time attendance of a duration of at least one academic year or an equivalent duration on a part-time basis and leading to academic or professional qualifications higher than those awarded by the schools of secondary education;

“member – state” means state, member of the European Union;

"Minister" means the Minister of Education and Culture;

"owner" means a natural person or body corporate, to whom the ownership of the institution belongs;

"public institution" means the institution for which the Republic is responsible for matters of administration, operation, and maintenance;

“Public Universities of Cyprus” means the University of Cyprus, established under the University of Cyprus Law, as amended or substituted for the time being, the Open University of Cyprus, established under the Open University of Cyprus Law, as amended or substituted for the time being and the Technological University of Cyprus, established under the Technological University of Cyprus Law, as amended or substituted for the time being;

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*See Note at the end of the text.*
"private institution" means a non-public institution, which is not regulated by a specific law;

"Register of Educationally Evaluated - Accredited Programmes of Study of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education" means the Register kept in accordance with section 60;

"Register of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education" means the Register kept in accordance with section 19(3);

"Team of Evaluation – Accreditation" means the Team of Evaluation – Accreditation of Programmes of Study of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education appointed in accordance with section 50.

PART II - ADVISORY COMMITTEE

3.(1) There shall be established in the Ministry of Education and Culture an Advisory Committee of Tertiary Education which shall consist of-

(a) the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture, who shall be Chairman;

(b) the Director-General of the Ministry of Finance or his representative;

(c) two members of the academic staff of the Public Universities of Cyprus appointed upon the recommendation of the Minister, after consultation with the Senate of the above-mentioned Universities;
(d) three persons appointed upon the recommendation of the Minister, after consultation with the employers' associations;

(e) two persons appointed upon the recommendation of the Minister, after consultation with the trade unions;

(f) two persons appointed upon the recommendation of the Minister, after consultation with the teachers' associations of the public institutions of tertiary education;

(g) one person appointed upon the recommendation of the Minister after consultation with the owners of the registered private institutions;

(h) two persons appointed upon the recommendation of the Minister, after consultation with the students' associations of the public and registered private institutions of tertiary education;

(i) one person appointed upon the recommendation of the Minister, after consultation with the parents' associations of students of secondary and tertiary education;

(j) two persons, with academic credentials appointed according to merit, who have a special knowledge of, and capabilities in the field of tertiary education; these persons should have no direct or indirect interests in private institutions of tertiary education or participate in any board or committee of such institutions.

(2) The members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the Council of Ministers for a three-year term.

(3) Whenever a position is vacated for reasons other than those referred to in subsection (4), the Council of Ministers may fill the vacancy for the
remainder of the term of office of the Advisory Committee in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Law.

(4) The Council of Ministers may, for reasonable cause, terminate the appointment of any member of the Advisory Committee or declare his position vacant and then fill this vacancy in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Law.

(5) The Advisory Committee may constitute any sub-committees from among its members.

(6) The Advisory Committee may regulate the procedure for its own operation as well as the procedure for the operation of any of its sub-committees.

(7) The Director of Higher and Tertiary Education or his representative shall be the secretary of the Advisory Committee and of any of its sub-committees, shall provide for the keeping of minutes and shall perform any duties conferred upon him by the Advisory Committee.

(8) The Director of Higher and Tertiary Education or his representative shall be entitled to be present at the meetings of the Advisory Committee and of any of its sub-committees and participate in the discussion on every matter discussed in such meetings, without the right to vote.

4.- (1) The Advisory Committee shall advise the Minister upon any matter concerning tertiary education.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Advisory Committee shall-

(a) advise the Minister upon matters concerning the establishment of public and private institutions;
(b) advise the Minister upon the registration of new programmes of study;

(c) advise the Minister upon the educational policy concerning tertiary education;

(d) make recommendations upon any matter referred to it by the Minister;

(e) exercise any other function conferred upon it by this Law:

Provided that the member of the Advisory Committee appointed by virtue of paragraph (g) of subsection (1) of section (3), shall not participate in the exercise of the Advisory Committee’s functions prescribed in paragraphs (a) and (b).

PART III - PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

5.- (1) No public institution may be established and operate in the Republic unless in pursuance of the provisions of a specific law for that purpose.

(2) Whenever the establishment of a public institution is under consideration, the Council of Ministers shall refer the matter to a special committee, appointed by it for the preparation of a study and for the submission of a relevant recommendation, which shall include at least one representative of the following Ministries, Bureau, University and institutions:

(a) the Ministry of Education and Culture;
(b) the Ministry of Finance;
(c) the Ministry or Ministries being competent for the professions for which the institution, that is under consideration, will provide education;
(d) the Planning Bureau;
(e) the University of Cyprus;
(f) the public institutions of tertiary education of Cyprus; and
(g) the private institutions of tertiary education of Cyprus which have educationally evaluated – accredited programmes of study:
Provided that the Minister may make a suggestion to the Council of Ministers for appointing one or two additional persons of recognized academic status and with a knowledge of the basic subject of the institution under establishment.

(3) The special committee shall be bound to prepare the study and submit its recommendations within the time-limit set each time and in accordance with its terms of reference.

(4) The study and the recommendations of the special committee shall be submitted to the Minister who shall refer them to the Advisory Committee for its views and recommendations.

(5) When the Advisory Committee submits its views and recommendations to the Minister, he, shall submit the study and the recommendations of the special committee, the relevant views and observations of the Advisory Committee as well as his own and any other information or particulars as he may deem necessary, to the Council of Ministers for reaching a decision.

6.- (1) There shall be appointed in every public institution by the Council of Ministers, a council composed of-

(a) one representative of the Ministry of Finance, of the Ministry of Education and Culture and of the Planning Bureau;
(b) one to three representatives of the Ministries or public corporate bodies related to the work or profession in respect of which the students of the institution are being trained for;
(c) two to five persons from the private sector related to the work or profession in respect of which the students of the institution are being trained for;
(d) two representatives of the teaching staff of the institution;
(e) one representative of the students’ associations of the institution; and
(f) two persons who have a special knowledge of, and capabilities in matters concerning tertiary education.

(2) The director of each public institution shall be entitled to be present at the meetings of the council of the institution and participate in the discussion on every matter discussed in such meetings.

(3) The council of each public institution shall advise the director of the institution on every matter concerning the operation of the institution and, in particular, the educational programmes and specialization courses of the institution, the budget thereof and any other matter referred to it by the director of the institution.

7.- (1) The council of each public institution shall make an internal rule, approved by the Minister, for prescribing, subject to the provisions of this Law and the Regulations made thereunder, any matters relating to-

(a) the work of the council;
(b) the internal operation of the institution;
(c) the registration, examination, evaluation, promotion, graduation and discipline of the students;
(d) the work of the institution;
(e) the titles and certificates;
(f) the organization and operation of the teaching staff association; and
(g) the establishment of the committees provided in subsection (2).

(2) The internal rule of each public institution may provide for the establishment and operation of any committee, but must provide for the establishment and operation of-

(a) an academic committee;
(b) an administrative committee; and
(c) a disciplinary committee.
(3) (a) The academic committee shall deal with every matter related to the academic levels and the criteria of promotion and graduation of the students.

(b) The administrative committee shall deal with every matter related to the proper operation of the institution.

(c) The disciplinary committee shall deal with every matter related to discipline in the institution.

8. The director and the teaching staff of the public institutions shall belong to the public service of the Republic and shall serve under the terms provided in the relevant schemes of service.

9. Each public institution shall publish a prospectus which must contain all the particulars concerning the programmes of study offered by the institution, the amount and the manner of payment of the tuition fees and any other particulars and information prescribed by the Minister in each case.

10. The number of students in each public institution shall be prescribed by a decision of the Council of Ministers, upon the recommendation of the Minister, submitted to the Council of Ministers after he has heard the observations and views of the council of the institution.

11. There must be kept at every public institution records of students, records of certificates, records of students by programme and year of study, a general audit record and a teaching staff record.

12.-(1) The programmes of study of each public institution shall be prescribed by the Council of Ministers upon the recommendation of the Minister.

(2) The recommendation referred to in subsection (1), shall be submitted by
the Minister after consultation with the council of the institution and the Advisory Committee.

13. The curricula and schedules of classes of the programmes of study of each public institution shall be prescribed by the Minister upon a recommendation of the council of the institution.

PART IV - PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS

14.- (1) No private institution may be established and operate in the Republic, unless in pursuance of the provisions of this Law.

(2) No private institution may be established and operate in the Republic by-

(a) a non-citizen either of the Republic or of a member state;

(b) a person convicted of an offence of moral turpitude or involving dishonesty;

(c) a member of the public service of the Republic, or of the public educational service of the Republic, or of a public corporate body;

(d) a person in the service of a foreign government or organization;

(e) a private company registered in Cyprus or in a member state, in which a person, who belongs in any of the categories mentioned in paragraphs (b), (c) or (d) of this subsection is a shareholder or a member of the administration.

* See Note at the end of the text.
(3) Each private institution may by itself award titles of educational institutions of member states or allow, by any means, to educational institutions of member states the possibility to award their own titles in the Republic provided that the following conditions are met:

(a) the educational institution of a member state is recognised in its territory and is duly authorised and accredited to provide courses and award titles in the manner in which they are offered;

(b) the programme of study resulting to the award of a title in the Republic has been formally certified by the authorised and accredited organization based in the member state of origin of the award;

(c) the title awarded is the same as that which would have been awarded if the course had been followed entirely in the member state of origin of the award; and

(d) in the case of a title attesting professional qualification, whether the evidence of formal qualifications confers the same professional rights in the territory of the member state of origin of the award.

(4) Before the commencement of offering a programme resulting to the award of the title referred to in subsection (3), the private institution shall inform in detail and analytically the Minister by submitting to him in particular:

(a) all the relevant reports and evaluations made by the educational institution as to which a title is to be awarded;

(b) detailed information on the educational facilities and services to be provided by the private institution as well as those provided by the educational institution as to which a title is to be awarded;

(c) detailed information on the conditions of admission and evaluation to
be applied by the private institution, as well as those which are applied by the educational institution as to which a title is to be awarded;

(d) the number and academic and professional qualifications of the members of the educational staff serving for the provision of the study programme by the private institution as well as the respective particulars concerning the staff serving in the educational institution as to which a title is to be awarded;

(e) the relevant arrangements between the institutions.

(5) The Minister may communicate the information and particulars referred to in subsection (4)-

(a) to the educational institution as to which a title is to be awarded;

(b) to the competent authorities and evaluation bodies of the member state as to which the said educational institution is subject for the purpose of evaluation and inspection; and

(c) to all competent authorities for the recognition of titles in the Republic, including the Cyprus Council for the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications for the purpose of recognition of the title.

15.- (1) At least one year before the establishment and operation of a private institution the owner must submit to the Minister a declaration, in the form prescribed by the Minister, accompanied by the prescribed fees for the examination of the declaration, concerning the proposed establishment and operation of the institution, containing the following:

(a) name, surname and occupation of the owner or owners and in the case of a body corporate the name and seat thereof and the names of its shareholders and directors;

(b) name and seat of the institution;

(c) description of the institution’s premises and equipment, certificate of final
approval and permit of use of the premises as an institution;

(d) programmes of study of the institution and in respect of each programme of study-
   (i) a declaration whether it considers the programme of study academic or professional;
   (ii) the schedule of classes and the curriculum;
   (iii) the duration of studies;
   (iv) the qualifications for admission of students to the programme of study;
   (v) the language of instruction;
   (vi) the manner of evaluation, promotion and graduation of the students;
   (vii) the teaching staff and students’ ratio;
   (viii) the amount of tuition fees, enrolment fees and other charges and any scholarships offered;
   (ix) the type of certificate to be awarded;

(e) names, qualifications and conditions of service of the proposed director and the proposed teaching staff of the institution;

(f) a draft of the internal rule regarding the operation of the institution;

(g) a development plan for the first three years after the beginning of the operation of the institution;

(h) a brief description of the financial resources of the institution;

(i) any other particulars the Minister may prescribe;

(j) the original certificate of a clean criminal record concerning the owner, the manager and the teaching staff of the institution.

5(1) of 53(I)/2013.
Provided that, the owner, the manager and the teaching staff of the institution who is a national of other member state, must submit a certificate of a clean criminal record from the Cypriot authorities as well as the original certificate of a clean criminal record from the respective authorities of the said member state.

(2) The Ministry of Education and Culture shall be bound to reply, within ten months, whether it approves or not the registration of the institution, provided that the institution has submitted the particulars provided in subsection (1):

Provided that, in the absence of a response within the period of ten months, the approval shall not be deemed to have been granted.

(3) For the establishment of a branch of a private institution, a separate declaration must be submitted which shall include the particulars provided in subsection (1) of this section.

16.- (1) The director of each private institution must possess a recognizable diploma or a university degree or other qualification depending on the type of the institution. In case he teaches as well the provisions which are applied to the teaching staff, referred to in subsections (2) and (3) below, shall also apply to him.

(2) The teaching staff of each private institution, by a percentage not smaller than 70%, must possess a recognizable academic degree of one level higher to the level of the programme of study it teaches. The remaining 30% may possess a degree of an equivalent level or a relevant professional qualification.

(3) In addition to the qualifications provided in subsection (2), the teaching staff in a post-graduate programme of study should have
publications of scientific content.

(4) Among the members of the teaching staff of each programme of study there shall be included persons who possess a recognizable university doctoral title:

Provided that, the Minister may exempt programmes of study in relation to which the above provision is not academically possible to apply.

17. The classrooms of private institutions, as well as their facilities, laboratories and equipment must satisfy the conditions prescribed by Regulations, depending on the type of the private institution.

18. No private institution may be established and operate in the Republic unless its owner satisfies the Minister that there shall be adequate financial resources to cover the costs of its operation.

19.- (1) Whenever a declaration for the establishment and operation of a private institution is submitted, the Minister shall refer the declaration to the Advisory Committee, together with any other particulars and information he may deem necessary, for the submission of a relevant recommendation.

(2) Before submitting its recommendation, the Advisory Committee may ask the owner of the institution or any other person to provide any particulars, information or clarifications, which it may deem necessary, relating to the proposed establishment and operation of the private institution.

(3) When the Advisory Committee submits its recommendation to the Minister, he shall, if satisfied that the declaration complies with the provisions of this Law, enter it, upon payment of the prescribed by Regulations fee of registration, in the Register of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education kept at the Ministry of Education and Culture for that
purpose, and issue a certificate of such entry to the owner according to the form prescribed by the competent authority.

(4) From the date of issue of the certificate referred to in subsection (3), the private institution shall be deemed to have been established and the presentation of the certificate shall be prima facie evidence of its establishment.

(5) No private institution may operate before the issue of the certificate referred to in subsection (3).

(6) The notification for the entry of a private institution in the Register shall be published in the Official Gazette of the Republic.

(7) A registered institution, which is not operating for one academic year shall be removed from the Register of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education. For the re-entry of the institution, the procedures provided by the laws and Regulations for the time being in force, relating to private institutions of tertiary education shall be followed.

**20.** (1) Any person who has a complaint due to the refusal of the Minister to enter a private institution in the Register may, within thirty days from the date of the communication to him of the decision, submit a hierarchical recourse to the Council of Ministers.

(2) Whenever a hierarchical recourse is submitted by virtue of subsection (1), the Council of Ministers shall consider the matter as if the declaration and report of the Advisory Committee has been submitted to the Council of Ministers and shall, if satisfied that legal requirements are met, instruct the Minister to proceed to the entry of the private institution in the Register and the issue of a certificate.

**21.** Any private institution must have a name which shall-
(a) not be misleading as to the level and the programmes of study offered;

(b) be clearly distinguished from the names of other private or public institutions; and

(b) not contain the words "University" or "Polytechnic" as part thereof, unless the Minister, with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee and having taken into consideration the qualifications of the teaching staff, classrooms, facilities, laboratories and equipment of the institution, manner of admission, evaluation, promotion and graduation of students, schedule of classes, curriculum and duration of studies, is satisfied that the level and quality of education offered is at a university or polytechnic level, as may be prescribed by law or regulations.

22. The Council of Ministers may, upon a relevant recommendation of the Minister, order the removal of any private institution from the Register of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education and the cancellation of the certificate of registration and operation, if it is ascertained, upon inspection or upon educational evaluation or upon investigation and proof of relevant complaints or upon judgments of court against any private institution of tertiary education, that-

(a) any conditions required under this Law for the establishment and operation of the private institution have ceased to exist; or

(b) the operation of the institution is prejudicial to public morals, public safety or public health; or

(b) the provisions of this Law or of the Regulations made thereunder, are systematically contravened.

23.-(1) The owner of a private institution who wishes to incur any alteration in
any particulars referred to in section 15(1), shall be bound to submit to the Minister for that purpose, by the end of November preceding the commencement of the academic year during which the alteration will take effect, a declaration containing all the necessary particulars; in particular, for the entry of new programme/s of study the declaration shall be submitted in the form of declaration prescribed by the Minister.

(2) The Ministry of Education and Culture shall be bound to answer, within seventy-five days at the latest, whether it approves or not the alteration of the particulars, provided that the institution has submitted the particulars provided in this Law.

(3) When a declaration is submitted by virtue of subsection (1), if it concerns the registration of a new programme of study, the procedure provided in section 19 shall be followed, mutatis mutandis. If it concerns alterations of any other particulars, the Director of Higher and Tertiary Education, depending on the alteration requested, either submits relevant recommendation to the Minister for approval or forwards the declaration to the Advisory Committee for the formation of a relevant recommendation to the Minister.

24.- (1) The form, name and content of the titles awarded by each private institution must be approved by the Minister and must not be misleading as to the level of the studies offered by the institution.

(2) The courses attended by each student of a private institution as well as the duration of studies and the student’s progress thereon must be stated on the transcript issued to him.

25.- (1) The owner of each private institution shall be bound to publish an annual prospectus in which there shall be stated-

(a) the programmes of study available and whether these programmes are
(b) adequate information concerning each programme of study offered (qualifications for admission, graduation requirements, goals, duration of studies, subjects studied, content of each subject, number of teaching hours per week, duration of an instruction period, language of instruction and formal qualifications awarded upon the successful completion of studies);

(c) detailed information about scholarships (number, amount, duration, selection criteria);

(d) calendar of the academic year;

(e) the surname and academic or other qualifications of the director and of the members of the teaching staff, the rank, specialization or specializations in which each one is teaching and any other duties thereof;

(f) the amount of tuition fees, registration fees and any other financial burdens that may be incurred on the student annually and the manner of their payment;

(g) the name, seat, branches of the institution, if any, and the person in charge of the institution and of the branches under the law;

(h) the composition of the council of the institution;

(i) the committees established by the institution and the composition of each one of them;

(j) statements for the buildings and the equipment of the institution, as well as information about the premises and the accommodations of the institution (offices of administrative and teaching staff, classrooms, laboratories, recreation and sports facilities);
(k) statements for the library of the institution, its staff, its structure and function, its equipment, its content and other relevant information;

(l) the rights and obligations of the students;

(m) statements for the submission and the date of approval of the prospectus;

(n) any other information prescribed by the Minister.

(2) The prospectus of each private institution must be submitted to the Minister for approval before its publication and not later than the 15th of March. The Ministry of Education and Culture shall be bound to answer whether the prospectus is approved or not, until the 15th of April at the latest:

Provided that if within 30 days from the submission of the prospectus, the Minister does not approve or reject it by decision thereof communicated to the owner of the institution, the prospectus shall be deemed to have been approved.

(3) The approved prospectus must be published and be circulated up to the end of May. Two copies must be sent to the Minister not later than the 15th of June.

25A.—(1) The owner of each private institution shall, at least three months before the beginning of the academic year, submit to the Minister for approval the amount of tuition fees and other charges incurred on every student.

(2) Any increase in the tuition fees and any other charges must be approved by the Minister:

Provided that no increase in the tuition fees and other charges shall
be imposed before the lapse of two years from the last imposition of such increase.

26. A private institution may offer short series of courses the duration of which is not exceeding three months, provided that the courses being taught in these series will be part of a registered programme of study that the institution offers. The institution may, upon the completion of such courses, issue only a certificate of attendance.

27.- (1) The owner or the director of a private institution shall be bound to keep in the form prescribed by the Minister—

(a) register of students;
(b) record of enrolments by programme and years of study;
(c) record of the teaching staff;
(d) record of certificates;
(e) general audit record;
(f) any other particulars that may be required by the Minister.

(2) In case of termination of the operation of a private institution for any reason, the owner shall be bound to deliver the records to the Minister.

28.- (1) In each private institution there shall be a council, in which the owner of the institution, the members of the teaching staff and the students of the institution shall be represented.

(2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1), the composition of the Council of each private institution, the ratio of representation therein, as well as the regulation of its works shall be prescribed by the internal rule of the institution.

(3) The council shall advise the owner and director of the institution on any matter concerning—
(a) syllabi of the programmes of study of the institution;
(b) the criteria of admission, promotion and graduation of the students of the institution;
(c) the internal rule for the operation of the institution; and
(d) any other matter referred to it by the owner of the institution.

29.- (1) Each private institution shall be bound to have an internal rule, approved by the Minister, for prescribing, subject to the provisions of this Law and the Regulations made thereunder, anything related to-

(a) the internal operation of the institution;
(b) the registration, examination, evaluation, promotion and discipline of the students;
(c) the work of the institution, the holidays and vacations;
(d) the certificates awarded by the institution;
(e) the organization and functioning of the teaching staff association;
(f) the tuition fees and other charges and fees;
(g) the establishment of committees provided in subsection (2).

(2) The internal rule of each private institution may provide for the establishment and operation of any committees, but shall be bound to provide for the establishment and operation of-

(a) an academic committee;
(b) an administrative committee; and
(c) a disciplinary committee.

(3) (a) The academic committee shall deal with every matter relating to the academic levels and criteria of promotion and graduation of the students.
(b) The administrative committee shall deal with every matter relating to the proper operation of the institution.

c) The disciplinary committee shall deal with every matter relating to the discipline in the institution.

(4) Chairman of the committees referred to in subsection (3) shall be the director of the institution:

Provided that, if the director of the institution and the owner is one and the same person, he cannot be chairman or a member of the academic or disciplinary committee.

(5) In each committee established and functioning in accordance with subsection (2), there shall participate representatives of the teaching staff and of the students, in the ratio prescribed by the internal rule of the institution.

30.- (1) The owner, the director and the members of the teaching staff of a private institution shall be bound to allow, at the time the institution is operating, the authorised officers of the Ministry of Education and Culture to enter the institution and the classrooms, in order to inspect and ascertain:

(a) the adherence to the conditions of establishment and operation of the institution;
(b) the use of the appropriate staff;
(c) the observance of the schedules of classes and curriculum;
(d) the teaching work performed;
(e) any deficiencies and the measures taken by those responsible for remedying them as well as for the more efficient operation of the institution;
(f) the observance of the internal rule of the institution;
(g) the suitability of the institution premises;
(h) the compliance with the provisions of this Law by the institution.

(2) The inspection provided in subsection (1) shall be carried out at least twice annually and for such inspection there shall be drawn up, by the authorised officer who carried out the same, a report which shall be submitted to the Minister.

(3) In case the report referred to in subsection (2) contains negative comments upon any matter referred to in subsection (1), the Minister shall communicate such part of the report to the owner and the director of the institution.

PART V - EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION – ACCREDITATION OF PROGRAMMES OF STUDY OF PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF TERTIARY EDUCATION

31. The owner of a private institution who wishes the educational evaluation – accreditation of any programme of study offered by the institution, shall, for the purpose, submit, an application to the Minister together with the examination fee as it is prescribed by regulations.

32.- (1) The educational evaluation - accreditation of programmes of study of private institutions of tertiary education shall be conducted by the Council of Educational Evaluation - Accreditation of Programmes of Study of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education, appointed for the purpose, by the Council of Ministers, upon the recommendation of the Minister.

(2) The educational evaluation - accreditation shall be conducted on the basis of criteria and levels prescribed by Regulations, among which the following are included:
(a) purposes and mission of an educational institution;
(b) educational programmes;
(c) teaching staff;
(d) educational support services-buildings, laboratories and equipment;
(e) organization and administration;
(f) financial resources; and
(g) any other necessary particulars to be prescribed by Regulations.

(3) The educational evaluation - accreditation shall be granted if it is ascertained that the necessary requirements exist and that the educational levels purported by the programme of study and indicated by the certificate awarded are assured.

33.- (1) The Council of Educational Evaluation - Accreditation shall be of seven members and shall consist of the chairman, the vice-chairman and five members.

(2) The chairman, the vice-chairman and the members of the Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation must be of recognized academic status; the five members must be University professors.

(3) In the absence or incapacity of the chairman, the vice-chairman of the Council of Educational Evaluation – Accreditation shall act in his place and shall have all the rights, duties and obligations of the chairman.

34. The term of office of the members of the Council of Educational Evaluation – Accreditation shall be five years and can be renewed only once.

35.- (1) At the meetings of the Council of Educational Evaluation -Accreditation,
a quorum shall be formed when at least five members are present.

(2) The Council of Educational Evaluation - Accreditation shall prescribe the manner of convening its meetings and the procedure to be followed thereat.

36. The decisions for the educational evaluation-accreditation of a programme of study shall be taken by a majority of the total number of the members of the Council of Educational Evaluation - Accreditation.

37. The Council of Educational Evaluation - Accreditation shall have the following functions:

(a) to appoint the Team of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation of Programmes of Study of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education.

(b) to consider the final recommendation of the Team of Educational Evaluation - Accreditation and to decide -
   (i) the approval of the application; or
   (ii) the rejection of the application; or
   (iii) the postponement of taking a decision for a specified period of time, during which the institution shall attempt to remedy the deficiencies which will be identified; or
   (iv) the approval of the application with terms.

38. The Council of Educational Evaluation - Accreditation or/and the Teams of Evaluation-Accreditation shall have consultations, if they deem this necessary, with the Director of Higher and Tertiary Education and with the institution of which the programme or programmes of study is/are under evaluation - accreditation for matters concerning the educational evaluation-accreditation.

39.- (1) There shall be paid to the chairman, the vice-chairman and members of
the Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation, an annual grant (honorarium), accommodation, subsistence and travelling allowances and or other allowances necessary for carrying out their functions.

(2) There shall be paid to the members of the Evaluation Teams and Re-evaluation Teams remuneration for the work for which they are appointed, accommodation, subsistence and travelling allowances and or other allowances that probably will be necessary for carrying out their work.

(3) The amount of the honorarium, the remuneration and allowances provided by subsections (1) and (2) of this section, shall be prescribed by the Council of Ministers on the recommendation of the Minister.

40.- (1) A private institution of tertiary education which is registered in the Register of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education may apply for educational evaluation-accreditation for one or more programmes of study it offers.

(2) Upon the submission of the application, the institute shall state in a binding way, whether the programme of study which is under evaluation – accreditation, is academic or professional.

(3) An institution applying for educational evaluation- accreditation of a programme of study at the under-graduate level may apply for educational evaluation-accreditation of the same programme of study at the post-graduate level.

(4) An institution which offers programmes of study at the post-graduate level only may submit an application for evaluation-accreditation of the programme or programmes it offers.

41. The programme of study for which an application for educational evaluation-accreditation is submitted must have students attending its first year of
study and full programmes for all the years of study at the time of submission of the application and until the completion of the whole procedure. If the contrary applies, the procedure of educational evaluation-accreditation shall be terminated.

42. Every programme of study for which an application for educational evaluation – accreditation is submitted must have a full-time employed member of the academic staff of such study programme, who will bear the responsibility to supervise and coordinate the study programme.

43. The application shall be submitted to the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

44. For every programme of study for which an application for educational evaluation - accreditation is submitted the following particulars must be submitted together with the application:

(a) The name of the programme of study.
(b) The purposes of the programme of study.
(c) Duration of studies (academic years or total amount of credits, as the case may be).
(d) Subjects studied and the number of teaching hours.
(e) Final degree and intermediate degrees, if any.
(f) Name and qualifications of the person responsible for each programme of study and of the other members of the teaching staff.
(g) Number of enrolled students in each year of the programme of study during the current academic year.

45. The submission of an application by an institution for educational evaluation – accreditation of a programme of study implies that the institution-

(a) undertakes the responsibility to provide the Minister with any data or information requested for accomplishing the entire procedure of the
educational evaluation - accreditation; and
(b) recognizes the right of the Minister to disclose any positive or negative information regarding the educational evaluation-accreditation of programmes of study it offers.

46. The Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture shall, within a month from the submission of an application for educational evaluation - accreditation, inform the applicants whether their application has been accepted. In case of non-acceptance the reasons must be mentioned.

47.- (1) Upon the acceptance of the application an institution shall be deemed to be a candidate for educational evaluation-accreditation of the specific programme or programmes of study and shall undertake to prepare a self-evaluation report for those programmes of study for which an educational evaluation – accreditation is required.

(2) The report must be prepared in cooperation with the staff of the institution, both teaching and administrative:

Provided that the report may be submitted immediately upon acceptance of the application.

48.- (1) The self-evaluation report must be analytical.

(2) The self-evaluation report must present-
(a) the aims of the institution and the programme or programmes of study for which educational evaluation - accreditation is being sought;
(b) the means available to the institution to fulfil these aims and evidence that they have been attained;
(c) a truthful description concerning educational programmes, teaching staff, educational support services, organization and administration and financial resources of the institution.

(3) The presentation must be made in such a way as to enable an opinion
to be formed, on the basis of the criteria and levels defined by the Educational Evaluation - Accreditation of Programmes of Study of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education Regulations.

49. The self-evaluation report must indicate the institution’s areas of strength and weaknesses and also include provisions as to the manner in which the institution intends to remedy any identified weaknesses.

50.- (1) The Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation shall, for each case, appoint an appropriate Team of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation of Programmes of Study of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education, consisting of at least three members, who come from the bodies referred to in paragraph (a) of section 51 of this Law, provided that no more than one person is appointed from the same body, establishment or organization.

(2) For the appointment of the appropriate Team of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation the applications accepted together with the particulars provided by section 44, shall be submitted by the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture to the chairman of the Council of Educational Evaluation - Accreditation.

51.- (1) The members of the Team of Educational Evaluation -Accreditation appointed pursuant to section 50, shall come from-

(a) the Public Universities of Cyprus;
(b) the public tertiary education institutions of Cyprus;
(c) evaluated-accredited educational overseas institutions, which are recognized by the competent authorities of the country in which they function.

52. The work of the Team of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation shall be-

(a) to examine the self-evaluation report;
(b) to visit the institution for a site investigation of all relevant matters and to prepare a report in which there shall be included the findings, observations and suggestions of the Team of Evaluation - Accreditation. The report shall be submitted to the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture;

(c) to examine any comments which the institution might submit after being notified by the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture of the report of the Team of Evaluation - Accreditation and to submit to the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture the final report.

53.- (1) The self-evaluation report shall be submitted to the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture who shall forward it to the chairman of the Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation as quickly as possible.

(2) The Team of Evaluation - Accreditation shall visit the institution after having notified in time the institution of the precise time of the visit.

54. The Team of Educational Evaluation - Accreditation shall submit its report to the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture within two months from the site visit to the institution at the latest.

55. The Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture shall forward the report to the institution as quickly as possible after its submission.

56. The institution shall submit to the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture any observations on the report within a month at the latest of receiving it.

57. The Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture shall forward as quickly as possible the institution's observations to the Team of Evaluation - Accreditation.
58. The Team of Evaluation - Accreditation shall examine the institution’s observations and shall submit to the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture the final report within a month after receiving the institution’s observations.

59.- (1) The Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture shall forward the final report of the Team of Educational Evaluation – Accreditation to the Chairman of the Council of Educational Evaluation – Accreditation as quickly as possible.

(2) The Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation shall decide within one month and shall forward its decision to the Minister immediately. The decision may be-

(a) an approval of the application for educational evaluation- accreditation of the programme of study and its entry in the special Register of the Ministry of Education and Culture;

(b) a rejection of the application for educational evaluation - accreditation of the programme of study;

(c) postponement of taking a decision for a specified period of time during which the institution will try to remedy the specific weaknesses which will be identified. Upon the expiration of this period, and after having previously examined the new report of the Team of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation, the Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation shall decide to approve or reject the application;

(d) approval of the application with terms.
60. In the case where the Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation approves with or without terms the application for educational evaluation – accreditation of a programme of study, the Minister shall confirm the decision, cause for the programme of study to be entered in the Register of the Educationally Evaluated - Accredited Programmes of Study of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education kept by the Ministry of Education and Culture, issue the relevant certificate and cause for the entry of the programme of study in the Register mentioned above, to be published in the Official Gazette of the Republic.

61. In cases (b), (c) and (d) of subsection (2) of section 59, the Minister shall confirm the decision of the Council of Educational Evaluation – Accreditation and notify the institution concerned accordingly through the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

62. Submission of an application for educational evaluation - accreditation of a particular programme of study, anew, for which a previous application was rejected, may be made whenever the institution concerned deems that it has remedied the weaknesses which have been pointed out and which are included in the decision for rejection of the Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation.

63. In the cases where an academic year differs from the traditional year (September-August), changes can be made in the date prescribed in section 46 of this Law, following an application by the institution and its approval by the Minister.

64. Subject to the provisions of section 65 the initial accreditation-evaluation of a programme of study of an institution shall be valid for a period of four years:

Provided that in the case that the decision concerning the initial evaluation-accreditation of a programme of study is negative, this shall be valid from the academic year following the year in which the above-
65.—(1) For the continuation of the validity of the educational evaluation-accreditation of a programme of study of an institution beyond four years, re-accreditation shall be required.

(2) The same procedures entailed in the initial accreditation shall be followed for re-accreditation.

(3) Notwithstanding anything in the principal law contained, the validity of the educational evaluation-accreditation of a programme of study shall be extended until the issue of the final decision for re-evaluation, provided that the relevant application was submitted before the expiration of the period of validity of the previous evaluation-accreditation and was accepted in accordance with section 46 of the Law.

(4) Notwithstanding anything in the principal law contained, decisions taken pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (2) of section 59 of the principal law shall be published, simultaneously, for all the programmes of study for which applications were submitted before the expiration of the period of validity of the previous evaluations-accreditations and were accepted in accordance with section 46 of the principal law.

66. Subject to the provisions of section 65, re-accreditation shall be valid for a period of ten years:

Provided that in case where an application for re-evaluation has been submitted, the validity of the initial evaluation-accreditation shall be extended until the issue of the final decision for re-evaluation.

67. The evaluation-accreditation or re-accreditation of programmes of study of a private institution of tertiary education may be withdrawn at any time, if serious contraventions of the terms under which the programmes were
educationally evaluated – accredited, have been ascertained.

68.- (1) The Institution of Tertiary Education shall pay the evaluation-accreditation fees for every programme of study for which it submits an application for educational evaluation-accreditation or re-evaluation-re-accreditation.

(2) The evaluation-accreditation fees for each level of programme of study shall be prescribed in the Schedule to this Law which forms an integral part thereof and may, from time to time, be revised by an Order of the Minister.

(3) The procedure and the manner of payment of the evaluation-accreditation fees by the private institution of tertiary education shall be prescribed by regulations.

PART VI - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

69.- (1) The owner and the director of a private institution which is established or functions in contravention of the provisions of this Law or the Regulations made thereunder or of any term, formality or restriction provided or imposed by virtue of this Law shall be guilty of a criminal offence and shall be subject to a fine not exceeding eight thousand, five hundred and forty three euros* and to a further fine not exceeding eighty-five euros* for each day during which the offence continues to be committed and the court may still order termination of the operation of the institution which continues to commit the offence.

(2) The advertisements, by any means, of a private institution shall not contain any particular that is untrue or misleading, concerning the standard or type of the institution or in any other manner.

* P.I. 312/2007 issued pursuant to section 9(1) of the Adoption of the Euro Law, 2007 (L.33 (I)/2007)
(3) Any person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (2) of this section shall be guilty of a criminal offence and shall be subject to a fine not exceeding eight thousand, five hundred and forty three euros.

(4) Any person who contravenes or omits to comply with any provision of this Law for which no specific penalty has been provided shall be guilty of a criminal offence and shall be subject to a fine not exceeding one thousand, seven hundred and eight euros.

70.- (1) The Council of Ministers may make regulations to be published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, for prescribing any matter which is required to be or may be prescribed and for the better carrying out of the provisions of this Law.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1) of this section, such regulations may-

(a) regulate the criteria and levels of the educational evaluation - accreditation of programmes of study;
(b) provide for the imposition of examination charges of the declaration for the establishment and operation of a private institution and registration fees of programmes of study, for fees of inspection of private institutions and fees for educational evaluation-accreditation with respect to the programmes of study and fix the amount of fees and charges provided in this Law;
(c) prescribe the criteria which the premises, laboratories and equipment of the private institutions are bound to meet;
(d) prescribe the matters related to the inspection of private and public institutions; and
(e) prescribe any qualifications of the members of the academic, administrative and disciplinary committee of private and public

* P.I. 312/2007 issued pursuant to section 9(1) of the Adoption of the Euro Law, 2007 (L.33 (I)/2007)
institutions.

71. Nothing in this Law contained shall apply to the establishment and operation of a state university in the Republic.

PART VII - TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

72.- (1) Any private institution operating on the date of the coming into force of this Law shall, without being registered in the Register of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education, be bound to discontinue its operation at the end of the academic year 1998-1999 or to submit an application for registration in accordance with the provisions of this Law.

(2) Any entries made in the Register of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education under section 19 of the Institutions of Tertiary Education Law, 1987 to (No.2), 1990, shall be deemed to have been made under the provisions of this Law.

(3) Nothing in this Law contained shall apply to public institutions operating on the date of the coming into force of this Law:

Provided that the Council of Ministers may, by a decision thereof, published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, decide that this Law or any provision thereof should apply and to any public institution operating on the date of publication of the decision.

73.- (1) Upon the coming into force of this Law, a private institution of tertiary education which has already been registered in the Register of Private Institutions of Tertiary Education in accordance with section 19 of the Private Institutions of Tertiary Education Law, 1987 to (No. 2) of 1990, may submit an application for educational evaluation - accreditation for one or
more programmes of study it offers, within the period from the 15th June until the 15th April, 1997. The self-evaluation report shall be submitted to the Director-General of the Ministry of Education and Culture until the 15th May, 1997.

(2) Subject to the relevant procedures provided in this Law, which are applied, mutatis mutandis, the educational evaluation - accreditation under this section shall be completed by the end of December, 1997, at the latest, in accordance with the provisions of the principal law which came into force immediately prior to the coming into force of the Tertiary Education Institutions (Amendment) (No. 2) Law, 1997.

74. The Institutions of Tertiary Education Laws, 1987 to (No.2), 1990, are hereby repealed.

- See Note at the end of the text.
FEES OF EVALUATION-ACCREDITATION OF PROGRAMMES OF STUDY OF PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF TERTIARY EDUCATION

1. For programmes of study of a duration of one academic year on a full-time basis or of an equivalent duration on a part-time basis at the Certificate level €1708*.

2. For programmes of study of a duration of two academic years on a full-time basis or of an equivalent duration on a part-time basis at the Diploma level €2562*.

3. For programmes of study of a duration of three academic years on a full-time basis or of an equivalent duration on a part-time basis at Higher Diploma level €4271*.

4. For programmes of study of a duration of four academic years on a full-time basis or of an equivalent duration on a part-time basis at Bachelors level €5125*.

5. For post-graduate programmes of study at Masters level €6834*.

6. For post-graduate programmes of study at PhD level €8543*.

* P.I. 312/2007 issued pursuant to section 9(1) of the Adoption of the Euro Law, 2007 (L.33 (I)/2007, as amended).
NOTE

The following observations do not form part of the principal law and they cannot be included in the consolidated text of the Law as a part thereof. However, in view of the fact that they affect the application of the Law, it was considered expedient to include them in this Note:

1. The Institutions of Tertiary Education (Amendment) Law, 1997 (L.15(I)/97), published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, Supplement I(I), dated 28.3.1997, contains the following provision:

"Entry into force of this Law.

3. The provisions of this Law shall come into force as from the 3rd May, 1996."

2. The Institutions of Tertiary Education (Amendment) Law, 1999 (L.10(I)/99), published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, Supplement I(I), dated 5.2.1999, contains the following provision:

"Special provisions.

2.- (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of the principal law, from the date of the entry into force of this Law and until the 3rd October 2001, the Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation shall be of five members and shall be constituted of the five existing members of the Council, appointed by the Council of Ministers by its Decision No. 44.914, dated 3 October, 1996:

Provided that any vacancy among the members of the Council shall not affect the validity of its decisions, on condition that the number of its members on no occasion falls below three.

(2) In case the number of the Council's members falls below three, by reason of death or resignation of one or more of the existing members referred to in subsection (1) or due to refusal of any member to continue as member of the Council, the Council of Ministers shall proceed to the replacement of the vacant seats so that the Council becomes of five-members:
Provided that the replacement shall be made for the remainder of the term until the expiry of the term of office of the Council, according to subsection (4).

(3) The chairman of the Council of Educational Evaluation – Accreditation shall be appointed by the Council of Ministers upon a recommendation by the Minister.

(4) The term of office of the members constituting the Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation shall expire on the date on which the term of office of the Council which was appointed on the 3rd October 1996 would have expired.

(5) There shall be a quorum at the meetings of the Council of Education Evaluation-Accreditation when the majority of its members are present, and its decisions shall be taken by the majority of the members present and in case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a casting vote.

(6) The examination of applications for educational evaluation-accreditation which are pending on the date of the entry into force of this Law shall be continued and be completed by the Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation referred to in subsection (1).

(7) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (6), in case where prior to the coming into force of this Law, a final recommendation has been submitted by the Team of Evaluation-Accreditation, the Council of Educational Evaluation-Accreditation referred to in subsection (1), shall proceed to its consideration afresh”.

3. The Institutions of Tertiary Education (Amendment) Law, 2002 (L.196(I)/2002), published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, Supplement I(I), dated 8.11.2002, contains the following provision:
“Entry into force of this Law.

4. The Law shall come into force on the date of accession of the Republic to the European Union”.