

VRAA 2-LT-2024

Ref. No.: **07.14.336.021.001**

January 5, 2024

Professor Mary Ioannidou-Koutselini
President of the Board of the
Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and
Accreditation in Higher Education
Nicosia

Dear Prof Koutselini,

Subject: Accreditation of the program LLM in Law (E- Learning), with concentrations in European Business Law and Human Rights and Social Justice.

We thank you for your letter dated 16.10.2023 indicating a re-accreditation of the above program.

We note that pursuant to your instructions, we have decided to move the course MLAW-509DL/Thesis I to the first semester of studies as requested, and to further make the course a compulsory one. Accordingly, the ECTS for core courses will be 40 (instead of 30 as per the current Path) and the ECTS for electives will be reduced to 50 (instead of 60 as per the current Path, hence either 5 elective courses or 3 elective courses + Thesis II). We believe this has fully satisfied the request of the Agency.

Regarding the second request which refers to special agreements for work placement of students as part of the existing courses, we note that this is not an issue that had been discussed by the external accreditation committee. Kindly note that the School already has in place a number of such arrangements either in the semi-public or private sector. However, these arrangements do not apply to this particular program for two main reasons: the first is that the program is an online one and therefore no work placement applies as part of the program, and indeed there is no work placement to any leading LLM online program to the extent of our knowledge, but the second is equally important, and it refers to the fact that nearly all of our existing students already work in sectors typically associated with the LLM (i.e. as judges, advocates, public sector employees dealing with law advising or law enforcement etc.). Hence, there is no possibility to have students who already work in the field to be placed in other places for work placement in the same field as this would present issues of conflict of interest in a field that is quite sensitive about confidentiality (legal privilege etc.). We therefore

consider that the existing arrangements already fulfil all necessary requirements in accordance with international quality assurance criteria.

We remain at your disposal.

Dr Stergios Mitas

LLM Coordinator