

Form 400.1

Ref. Number: 07.14.336.143

**FINAL REPORT OF THE CYPRUS AGENCY OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND  
ACCREDITATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

**EVALUATION - ACCREDITATION  
OF THE PROGRAMME OF STUDY**

**IN GREEK:**

Θρησκεία, Πολιτισμός και Δημόσια Ζωή [3 ακαδημαϊκά έτη, 180 ECTS, Διδακτορικό, Διαπανεπιστημιακό με το University of Padova, το University of Torino and το Catholic University of Uruguay]

**IN ENGLISH:**

Religion, Culture and Public Life (ReCuPL) [3 academic years, 180 ECTS, Doctoral Programme (PhD), Joint Programme with the University of Padova, the University of Torino and the Catholic University of Uruguay]

**OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION**

University of Nicosia

This Final Report was prepared on the basis of Article (20)(2)(f)(i) of the “Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws” of 2015 to 2021 [L. 136 (I)/2015 - L. 132(I)/2021].

**THE PROCEDURE:**

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2023, the legal representative of the Higher Education Institution “University of Nicosia”, submitted an application (Doc. 200.1), based on Article (17) of the “Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws” of 2015 to 2021, for the evaluation-accreditation of the programme of study:

**IN GREEK:**

Θρησκεία, Πολιτισμός και Δημόσια Ζωή [3 ακαδημαϊκά έτη, 180 ECTS, Διδακτορικό, Διαπανεπιστημιακό με το University of Padova, το University of Torino and το Catholic University of Uruguay]

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Religion, Culture and Public Life (ReCuPL) [3 academic years, 180 ECTS, Doctoral Programme (PhD), Joint Programme with the University of Padova, the University of Torino and the Catholic University of Uruguay]

This application is registered with the reference number: 07.14.336.143

In the framework of competences conferred on it by the relevant legislation, the Council of the Agency has constituted an External Evaluation Committee (EEC), which after initially examining the institution's application for programme evaluation and accreditation, performed an on-site visit at the institution on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2024.

The EEC met with the head of the institution, the head of the relevant department, the programme's coordinator, members of the academic staff, members of the administrative staff, students and/or their representatives and the Internal Quality Assurance Committee.

Additionally, the EEC examined the institution's facilities (library, computer labs, labs, teaching classes, research infrastructures, etc.), various documents presented and/or requested by the EEC, the School's/Faculty's structure and the programme's position in it, the CVs of the teaching staff and their relationship to the institution as teachers in regard to any other duties and teaching.

The EEC has documented its findings and recommendations and drew up the External Evaluation Report in the Doc. 300.1.1.

### **CYQAA Council's Decision**

The Council of the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Higher Education, during its 108<sup>th</sup> Summit on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 2024, according to the Article (20)(2)(f)(i) of the "Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education and the Establishment and Operation of an Agency on Related Matters Laws" of 2015 to 2021 [L. 136 (I)/2015 - L. 132(I)/2021], and on the basis of the suggestions of the External Evaluation Committee, and the comments of the institution on the External Evaluation Committee report, **decided that the programme is accredited to be delivered in English.**

**The Agency requires from the institution to comply with the following:**

- **Establish mechanisms for the administrative support for students with regards to mobility.**
- **Reconsider the heavy student workload especially during the first year.**
- **Regarding the committee for the thesis supervision, if it is a three-member committee, two of the members must be from the collaborating Universities and if it is a five-member committee, three of the members must be from the collaborating Universities.**

The current accreditation begins in the **Fall** semester of the academic year **2024-2025** and ceases to be in effect at the end of the **Spring** semester of the academic year **2028-2029**.



On the basis of (4)(c) of the relevant Law, it is noted that “the above accreditation is valid for the period provided by the provisions of the Law and is repeated every five (5) years and that the procedure starts at the request of the institution, which must, and shall be submitted at least sixteen (16) months before the expiry of the previous accreditation”.

Additionally, on the basis of Article (17)(3)(g) during the period of validity of the Accreditation, the Agency acting of its own motion, may examine whether the criteria continue to be met and if they are not met, then the Agency shall revoke the Accreditation, and immediately inform the institution concerned.

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

Date: 27 June 2024