

Doc. 300.1.4

Date: 24/09/2026

Follow-up Report

(for a CYQAA accredited Institution/Department/ Programme of study)

- Higher Education Institution: *University of Nicosia*

- Town: *Nicosia*

- Type of Evaluation: Departmental

- Accredited on CYQAA Council's Summit Number:
137

- Date of Accreditation: 10/07/2026

If applicable:

- School/Faculty: *School of Humanities and Social Sciences*

- Department: *Department of Architecture*

- Programme of Study Name (Duration, ECTS, Cycle)

Programme Level of studies

In Greek:

Αρχιτεκτονική (4 έτη / 240 ECTS, Πτυχίο)

*Αρχιτεκτονική (5 έτη / 300 ECTS, Ενοποιημένος Τίτλος Σπουδών
Μεταπτυχιακού Επιπέδου Αρχιτεκτονικής)*

In English:

Architecture (4 years / 240 ECTS, Bachelor of Arts in Architecture)

Architecture (5 years / 300 ECTS, Integrated Master in Architecture)

- Programme's type: Conventional

- Language (s) of instruction: English



The present document has been prepared within the framework of the authority and competencies of the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education (CYQAA), according to the provisions of the “Quality Assurance and Accreditation of 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 the European Standards and Guidelines (ESG).

A. Internal Quality Assurance Committee

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Rank</i>
Ioulia Papageorgi	Dean	Professor
Markella Menikou	Head of Department	Professor
Angela Kyriacou-Petrou	Associate Head of Department	Associate Professor
Maria Hadjisoteriou	Senior faculty member, Department of Architecture	Professor
Costandino Joannides	4th year Architecture student	
Name	Position	University

B. Guidelines on content and structure of the Follow-up Report

- *CYQAA has a consistent follow-up process for considering the action taken by the institution toward the improvement and further development of the CYQAA externally evaluated and accredited institution / department / programme of study. The present Follow-up Report should recount, synoptically, institutional action taken toward the implementation of the remarks indicated in the CYQAA Final Report.*
- *The Follow-up report should provide evidence {via website links} and appendices at the end of the report on how the remarks of the Council of CYQAA have been adhered to.*
- *The remarks indicated in the CYQAA Final Report should be copied from the corresponding report and be followed by the institution's response.*
- *The institution may add any other institutional action taken towards the implementation of ESG aiming at the improvement of the institution / department / programme of study.*



1. Remarks on the CYQAA Final Report

a. Revise the department's mission statement

b. Increase the department's funding

2. Institution's Response

a. The Department's mission statement has been revised following the detailed recommendations of the External Evaluation Committee (EEC) as outlined in the evaluation report. The revised Department's mission statement has been included in the Higher Education Institution's Response (Departmental), dated 01/06/2026, under section 1 *Department's academic profile and orientation*. The updated mission statement is also reproduced below:

"The mission of the Department of Architecture at the University of Nicosia is to educate architects and designers who are critical thinkers, creative, socially responsible, and technically skilled professionals capable of contributing meaningfully to contemporary architectural and design discourse, professional practice, and the future of the built environment.

The Department is distinguished by a studio-centred, problem-led pedagogical approach that fosters a vibrant, immersive, and collaborative studio culture. With a strong emphasis on process-rich inquiry, creative experimentation, and emerging technologies, students develop both intellectual depth and a hands-on approach to design.

The Department's international outlook is central to its identity. The delivery of programmes in English, the geographically diverse student body, and the international academic and professional experience of its faculty create an inclusive learning environment. The Department promotes a design education that engages with culture, climate, ecology, material practice, technology, industry, and social needs. It values environmentally responsible and sustainable thinking and equips students with the ability to respond thoughtfully and innovatively to the social, environmental, and cultural dimensions of design.

The Department also advances a strong culture of collaboration in teaching, learning, and professional engagement. This includes collaboration within the design studio, across disciplines, with other institutions, and with the professional community, as well as active partnerships with municipalities, community groups, and the public. The Department is further strengthened by faculty members who are actively engaged in professional practice, bringing current industry knowledge, applied expertise, and real-world experience directly into the curriculum.

Through this combination of design excellence, international outlook, collaborative learning, and practice-informed teaching, the Department seeks to become an internationally recognised centre for architectural education, producing graduates with the imagination, technical knowledge, and skills to shape an innovative, creative, ethical, and sustainable built environment."

b. The Department fully acknowledges the importance of funding, as central to the continued development of its research profile and long-term academic impact.

The University of Nicosia already provides a comprehensive range of mechanisms to support research activity, including research time release, sabbatical leave, internal funding through the University of Nicosia Seed Grant Scheme, conference funding, publication compensation for articles published in Scopus-indexed journals, financial support for open-access publications, research training and development activities for faculty and students, administrative and financial support for the management of research projects, support for the preparation and

submission of external research grant proposals, support for University-affiliated research centres, and research ethics review through the University Research Ethics Committee.

The Department also welcomes the recommendation to further strengthen externally funded research. While acknowledging the particular scale and funding landscape of Cyprus, we recognize the importance of strengthening the Department's research funding profile and will continue to support and encourage greater engagement with competitive international and interdisciplinary funding opportunities. In fact, since 2025 we have significantly increased our participation in funded research applications. Some examples include:

- 2025–2029 CA24134 – *Observatory of Innovative Strategies for Repurposing Terrain Vague (OBSERVISTA)*, COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology), €600,000. (secured)
- 2025–2028 101308693 – ACTivated Micro-COMmoNs Mapping for Sustainable Neighbourhood Communities (ACT-COMN), Horizon 2025-2026 HORIZON-NEB-2025-01 Europe, €3,500,000. (pending)
- 2026–2030 VERTEX-AI – Verticalising AI-Enhanced Design Skills in the Construction Ecosystem, Erasmus+, ERASMUS-EDU-2026-PI-ALL-INNO-BLUEPRINT, €4,350,900. (pending)
- 2026–2029 TRAVI – Tradizione vs Innovazione, Erasmus+, Cooperation partnerships in higher education (KA220-HED) Call 2026, €400,000. (pending)
- 2027–2030 EPAU INARIAR – INnovation in the teaching of ARchitecture through Responsible Artificial Intelligence, Erasmus+, ERASMUS-EDU-2026-CBHE (pending)

Building on this momentum, the Department will continue to work closely with the Rectorate, the Vice Rectorate for Faculty and Research, and the relevant University services to maximise the use of existing research-support mechanisms, encourage and monitor applications for external funding, and identify additional opportunities to support research-active faculty. Particular emphasis will be placed on strengthening thematic research clusters, promoting interdisciplinary and international grant applications, supporting conference participation and research dissemination.

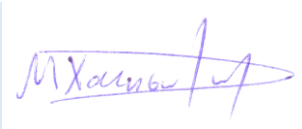
Through these actions, the Department aims to further develop a rigorous, internationally engaged, and impactful research culture that reflects both the specific nature of architectural inquiry and the broader expectations of contemporary Higher Education research.



C. Other institutional action taken towards the implementation of ESG aiming at the improvement of the institution / department / programme of study.

Click to enter text.

D. Signatures of the Internal Quality Assurance Committee

Name	Signature
Ioulia Papageorgi	
Markella Menikou	
Angela Kyriacou-Petrou	
Maria Hadjisoteriou	
Costandino Joannides	

Date: 24/09/2026

