

ACCREDITATION DECISION

**Kyiv National University of Trade and Economics
(KNUTE), Ukraine**

Economics PhD Programme

June 2019

SCOPE OF THE ACCREDITATION GRANTED BY HCÉRES

Hcéres has built its evaluation process based on a set of objectives that Higher Education Institution PhD programmes must pursue to ensure recognised quality within France and Europe. These objectives are divided up into four fields among which are the accreditation criteria.

As for the "External Evaluation Standards", the accreditation criteria have been specifically designed for foreign PhD programmes. The accreditation criteria were adopted by the Board on March 2018 and are available on the Hcéres website (hceres.fr).

The accreditation committee, meeting his accreditation decision, has wholly taken into account the final evaluation report of the PhD programme. This accreditation decision is the result of a collegial and reasoned process.

The accreditation decision issued by Hcéres shall not grant any rights whatsoever, whether in France or abroad. The decision on a PhD programme accreditation confers an accreditation label and does not infer recognition of the accredited qualifications. The Hcéres accreditation process therefore has no impact on the qualifications recognition process in France.

ANALYSIS OF THE ACCREDITATION CRITERIA

AREA 1: THE POSITIONING OF THE DOCTORATE

Accreditation criteria

The positioning, the content and the objectives of the doctorate are clearly defined. Its interactions with the stakeholders (lead institution(s), foreign partners, socio-economic environment) are formally set out and effective. Its links with the research units and the institution's scientific policy are effective.

Criteria assessment

Kyiv National University of Trade and Economics (KNUTE) has a well-defined Economics PhD programme. It is perfectly identifiable and characterized within KNUTE's environment and more generally in the Ukrainian academic environment. It is perfectly integrated into the general strategy of KNUTE and it participates as a part of this University in creating high level of research and teaching. The distinctive features of the Economics PhD programme are likewise well defined and have been clearly presented in the self-assessment report and during the interviews to the panel of experts. Thematic, regional, national and now international orientations are well integrated into curricula but the international aspect could be more developed.

AREA 2: ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE DOCTORATE

Accreditation criteria

The doctorate's organisation and management are clearly defined and rely on material and human resources adapted to the requirements of programmes at ISCED level 8. Internal quality assurance mechanisms are in place and effectively used in order to improve continuously the doctorate. The doctoral students recruiting is formally set out, their funding is fair and sustainable.

Criteria assessment

The Economics PhD programme is well organized with very good administrative support from the scientific team, the teaching team and the administrative team. Quality control is provided by integrating students' feedback, stakeholders' feedback and internal communication of faculty and administrative offices. The recruitment of students is organized according to the Ukrainian regulations but the procedure of recruitment of international students needs to be rethought and improved.

AREA 3: SUPERVISION AND TRAINING FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Accreditation criteria

A strict policy of supervising and follow-up of doctoral students is set. Doctoral students have access to various teaching and professional trainings and take part in scientific/professional actions. Explicit rules are defined concerning the thesis duration and defence. Measures to combat fraud, plagiarism and corruption are applied within the doctorate.

Criteria assessment

The follow-up of PhD student is well organized. They benefit from a training programme designed to improve their knowledge in different fields of the economic science, mainly concentrated on the first two years. They can also rely on a variety of resources (academics, documentation and buildings) to conduct their research. The preparation of the thesis defence follows a precise procedure, mainly fixed at national level. The only significant weakness is that the international dimension of training and research should be reinforced, with a better opportunity for PhD students to carry out part of their work abroad or to publish articles in international reviews.

AREA 4: INTEGRATION OF DOCTORS INTO THE JOB MARKET

Accreditation criteria

The doctorate implements systems to promote the doctorate and the integration of doctors into the job market. The integration monitoring and analysis are effective and used to perform the continuous improvement of the doctorate.

Criteria assessment

Most graduates find a job in universities or academic institutions, but KNUTE strives to establish and strengthen links with the professional world. This development of links between the university and the job market involves a set of concrete measures (participation of private companies in the training programme, annual survey conducted with KNUTE's business partners, cooperation in research activities, etc.).

ACCREDITATION PROPOSAL

Considering the accreditation criteria analysis detailed above, the committee proposes to the accreditation commission the following decision:

“Five-year unreserved accreditation decision”

and draws attention to the various recommendations made by the committee of experts in its evaluation report:

- The choice of thesis topics, the participation in scientific events, the mobilization of economists involved in the defense of the thesis and the selection of reviews for pre- and post-thesis publications should systematically take into account an international perspective.
- The mechanism for international mobility support of PhD students is needed to improve.
- The partnership agreements which already exist with foreign universities should be developed at the doctoral level and additional partnerships could be considered.
- The curriculum (in other words, the educational component of Cycle 3 programme) should be overviewed in order to minimize and specify the list of subjects.
- The interaction between university and companies should be strengthened.

SIGNATURE

For HCERES and on behalf of



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are available online : www.hceres.com

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