



Erasmus+



We encourage Western Balkan!

*Joint MA Political Science
– Integration & Governance
(PoSiG)*

PLA Limassol 2019

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Erasmus+ Programme
KA2 Capacity Building Project No. 561485-EPP- 1-2015—1- AT-EPPKA2- CBHE-JP
in Higher Education of the



Background

Political Science – PLUS:

- 4 Prof & 15 Doc/PostDoc
- 500 students at BA/MA/PhD level
- BA/MA/PhD Political Science
- MA European Union Studies (joint Degree with Olmuc & Rome)
- First Austrian Erasmus ICP participation&coordination in 1991
- 800 Exchanges in PolSc
- Member of www.erasmus-network.eu
- Active Bologna implementation

Erasmus Mundus (SIGMA, SIGMA Agile)

Capacity building - Austrian Development Agency projects in Kosovo

- BA Political Science (2011)
- MA European Integration & Public Administration (2014)

Erasmus+

- KA 107 Credit Mobility with Black Sea & Western Balkan
- CBHE EuroPS project 2015-2017 – www.posig.info
- EMJMD project applied 2019





Results

- Development of a joint MA program in Political Science accredited at project partner via European Accreditation
- Development of a *multilateral* management of the MA program
 - Structure of boards (coordinators board, QM board, student board)
 - Regulations and plan for sustainable management

Outputs:

- Curriculum document (structure, content, study track, examination)
- Institutional agreement (degree giving, finance/ressources, governance of the program...)
- Side documents (Application procedures, QA tools, diploma supplement, degree document...)



Partner – www.euro-ps.org

University of Salzburg (PLUS - LP)

University of University of Pavia (UPAV)

University of Ljubljana (ULJU)

Cyril and Method University Skopje (UKIM)

European University of Tirana (UET)

University of Tirana (UTIR)

FAMA College (FAMA)

University of Bussiness and Technology (UBT)

University of Sarajevo (UNSA)

Sarajevo School of Science Technology (SSST)

>Following *national* Erasmus+ priorities for Capacity Building

>NEW! Serbia and Montenegro shall be integrated in 2019

Joint curriculum

Module I:
Political Theory

Module II:
*Comparative
Politics*

Module III:
*Public
Administration*

Module IV:
*International
Relations*

Module V:
*European
Integration*

Obligatory Elective Modules (2 out of 5)

Specialisation I (18 ECTS)

Course Basic Texts
Course I
Course II

Specialisation II (18 ECTS)

Course Basic Texts
Course I
Course II

Obligatory Courses (24 ECTS)

Internship

Course Methods I

Course Methods II

Master Thesis Seminar

Obligatory Elective Course (1 out of 2) (6 ECTS)

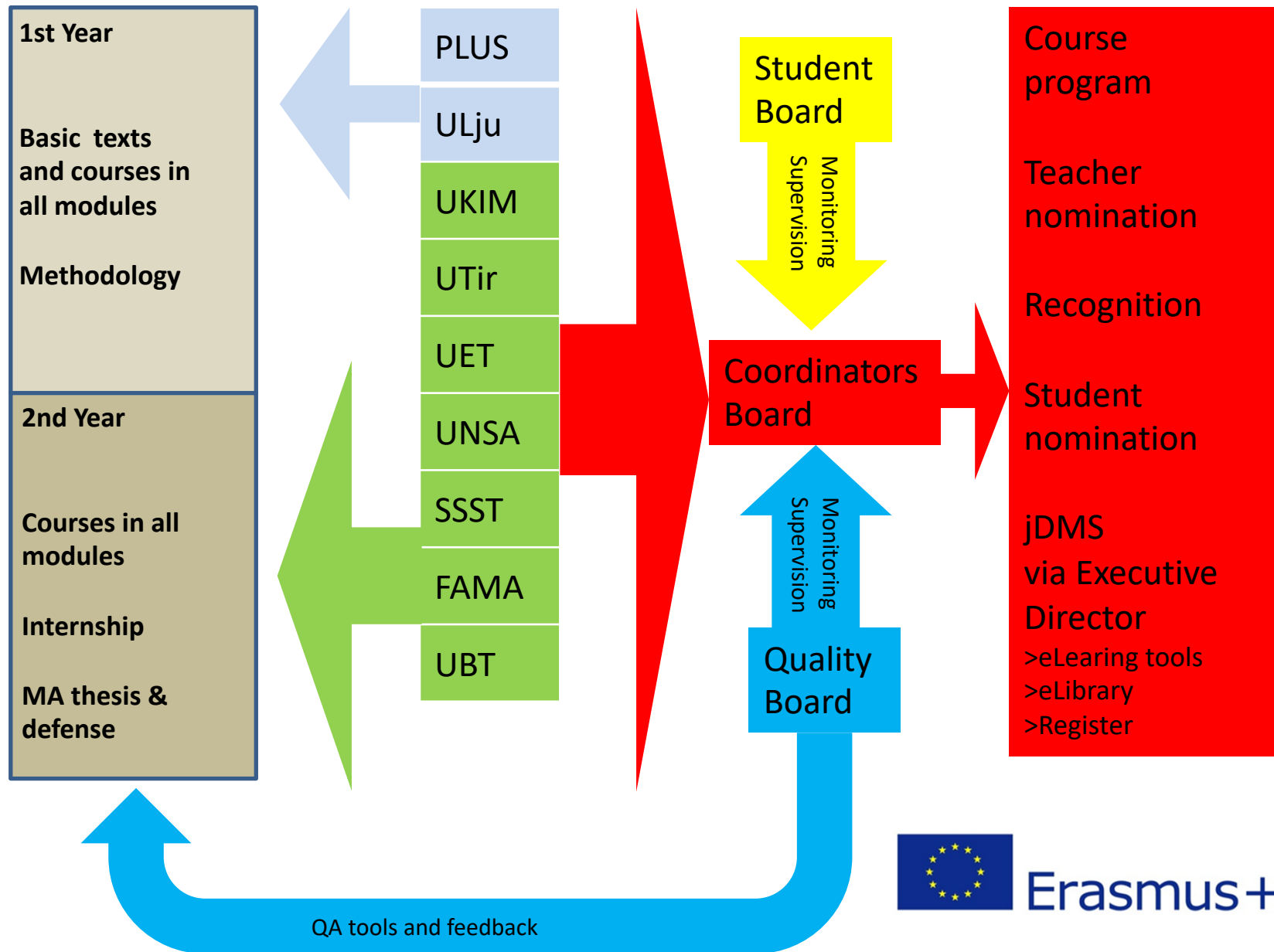
Course Advanced Methods

Applied Politics Course

Additional Courses (24 ECTS)

Master's Thesis incl. Defence (30 ECTS)

Total: 120 ECTS



Joint Degree



Univerza / Universitas
v Ljubljani / Labacensis



Rector of the
University of
Ljubljana

UNIVERSITÄT
SALZBURG

Dean of Faculty of Social and
Cultural Science

Universiteti
European i
Tiranës

Rector of European University of
Tirana



Dean of xxxx

with the official stamps and with their signatures confirm that

Franz Josef KOK

born 05 October 1962, Vransko (Slovenia)

based on the positive assessment of all exams and the master's thesis as set out in the curriculum for the

JOINT MASTER POLITICAL SCIENC – INTEGRATION & GOVERNMENT

on (date of graduation)

the student is awarded the degree corresponding to the following equivalent in the Joint Degree consortium:

University of Ljubljana	Universität Salzburg	European University of Tirana	Sarajevo School for Science and Technology
Magister xxx xxx	Master of Arts (MA)	Master of Arts (MA)	Master of Arts (MA)

Rector of the
University of Ljubljana
Prof. dr. Ivan
Svetlik

Dean of Faculty of Social and Cultural
Science
Ao.Univ.Prof.Mag.rer.soc.oec.Dr.phil.
Martin Weichbold

Rector of European
University of Tirana
Prof. Dr. Tonin Gjura

Dean of xxxx
Dr. Sabina Cehajic,
Clancy - Associate
Professor

No. / številka: XXX
Place, date of
issue



Agency for
Quality Assurance
and Accreditation
Austria

The Agency for Quality Assurance and Accreditation Austria
awards its quality seal



to the Joint Master's Programme

Political Science – Integration and Governance (PoSIG)

to be implemented at the following Universities:

European University of Tirana (UET), Albania
University of Tirana (UTIR), Albania
University of Salzburg (PLUS), Austria
University of Sarajevo (UNSA), Bosnia and Herzegovina
Sarajevo School of Science and Technology (SSST), Bosnia and Herzegovina
FAMA College (FAMA), Kosovo¹
University of Business and Technology (UBT), Kosovo²
Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje (UKIM), FYROM the Former
Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
University of Ljubljana (ULJU), Slovenia

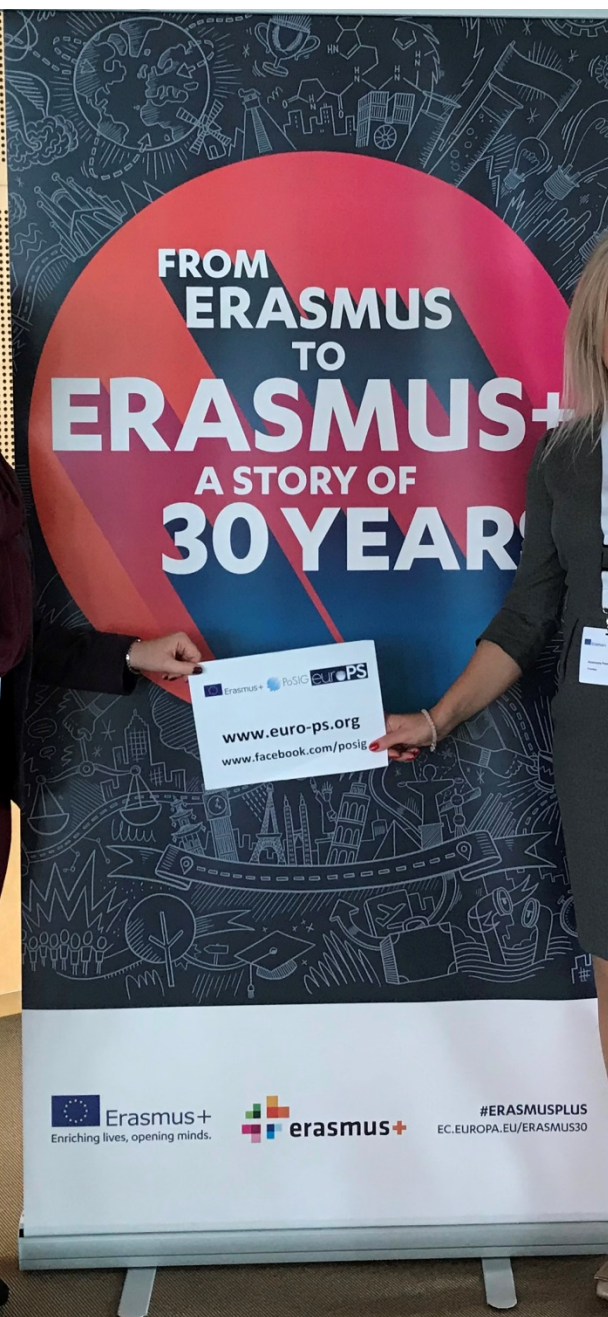
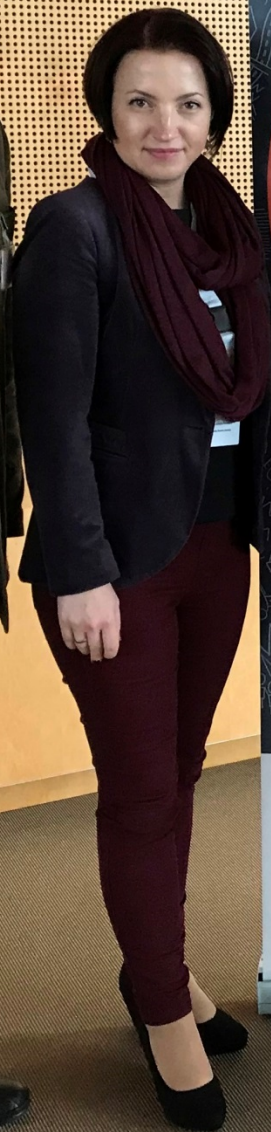
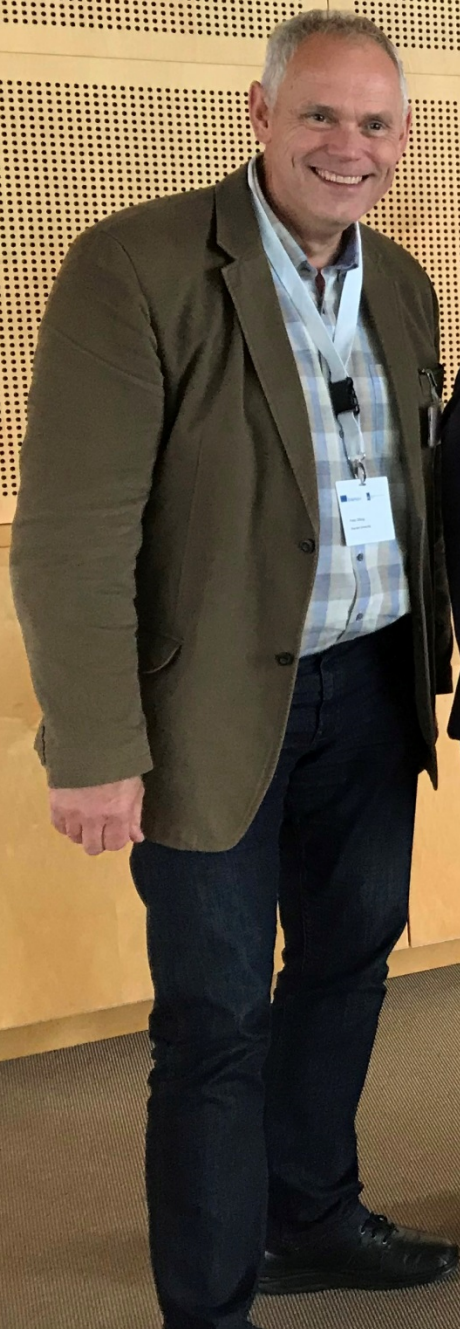
The study programme complies with the "European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes (2015)", approved by European Higher Education Area ministers in May 2015 in Yerevan (adopted by the Board of AQ Austria in its 36th meeting on 20th September 2016)

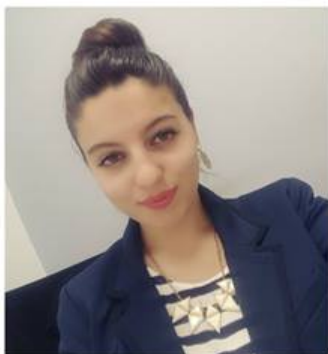
The accreditation is subject to conditions and is valid until 14th March 2023.

Vienna, 15th March 2017

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Anke Hanft
President of the Board of AQ Austria

Dr. Achim Hopbach
Managing Director of AQ Austria







European Approach Accreditation

Why?

- Support of EuroPS partner in the accreditation of PoSIG was part of our project.
- EA approach fits best to our *multilateral* consortium management approach.
- EACEA has approved to use EA procedures to support the partner.
- ECA as external expert gave support and Ministry of Science in Vienna encouraged us.
- We soon found out that is good to be multilateral ;-)

How?

- Not easy to make a self accrediting PLUS going to AQ!
- ECA and AQ expertise on EA built up *trust* to enter this new land.
- Contract between PLUS as leader of the EuroPS consortium and AQ including timeplan.
- Positive AQ board decision in March 2017 and September 2017.

Challenges I

- Self Evaluation Report was no new challenge since all issues listed there where part of the activities performed in the project.
- External Experts had concerns regarding the multilateral governance approach.
- Academic coordinators had different backgrounds about responsibilities in accreditation.
- National accreditation procedures follow given tracks and requirements for documentation.
- Legal frame for EA in all 7 countries had to be identified and compared.



European Approach Accreditation

Challenges II

- Confirmation of status of HEI's in the consortium: Internal discussion why to ask for this again.
- Confirmation of status of HEI's in the consortium: Ministries did not know why and for what.
- Unclear responsibilities at the big public Universities.
- EA was unknown at the ministries – if they have signed Yerevan or not. (Exemption: Austria ;-)
- Ministries not able to act because of changing governments or ongoing legal reforms. Acting persons at administrative level did not want to be responsible for anything in this situation.
- Accreditation agencies mostly informed – only one had no idea what Yerevan means.
- Accreditation agencies cooperative or acting as veto player.
- Legal situation allows easy going implementation or repetition of the full process (including timeline)!
- Deadlines for national implementation of EA decision at all or most members of a consortium:
>Problem of different timelines and speed within the countries the consortium is present.
(3 weeks – 2 years)

Joint Master Programme
Political Science – Integration and Governance (PoSIG)

Integration of New Partners

16 April 2019

Challenges 2019:

**Changing consortium
with Integration of new
Partner**

Relevant Steps and Documentation:

- 1) Written commitment of the new partners to implement all decisions of the PoSIG-network as documented in the joint documents, i.e. curriculum, partner agreement, self-evaluation report, incl. accreditation conditions. This should also contain a section on the motivation to join the network, incl. a reference to previous cooperation and the prospective attractiveness of the joint program to local students.
- 2) Update of the relevant sections of the self-evaluation report (as submitted to AQ Austria in November 2016 in the course of the European Approach accreditation);
- 3) Documentation of all resources new partners are contributing to the network: courses offered to the network (syllabi; CVs of teachers), administrative tasks, local participation cost regulation, process regarding the diploma supplement and degree giving;
- 4) Documentation of (the process leading to) the national implementation/ratification of PoSIG's European Approach accreditation. This includes the clarification of the national legal basis for joint programmes (as is to be documented in the updates to the self-evaluation report);





European Approach Accreditation

Perspective of Ministries and national agencies

- Intervention in a legally defined special relation to independent accreditation bodies.
>“Once we made a law we do not want to do anything else...”
- Signatures in Yerevan 2015 did not trickle down to administration – EA issues we always had to negotiate with the political management of ministries.
- Legal framework might be open to EA or make problems – HEI laws not easy to be changed in a few minutes
- **The positive political impact of joint studies for small countries is not fully understood or welcome – needs cooperation beyond the own national ownership.**
- Local support and lobbying is effective if HEI's in the consortium have lobbying capacity and political appropriate contact to the ministry.
- **It is difficult to act in front of a multilateral HEI consortium.**
- Several need Erasmus+ structural project.

EuroPS EA Docs:

- Self Evaluation Report (SER).
- Statement Evaluations.
- EuroPS statement to Evaluation experts.
- QA decision (+conditions, recommendations)
- Factsheet on legal Status of HEI's
- Documentation of Compliance of Conditions



European Approach Accreditation

Recommendations EA implementation

- Checklist for member states about legal implementation standards.
- Connect it to procedural national standards as they are used by the agencies. To be documented by the member states.
- Based on existing national lists of HEI's eligible to joint studies.
- Standards for the quality of the management of joint study programs as basis for evaluators.

Recommendations Bologna – Yerevan - ?

- Implementation standards for EA accreditation (🏠).
- European Register of EA accreditation results.
- Implicit confirmation of EA accreditation results by the national agencies in a defined time after EA board decision. They can veto the listing of single members (from the respective country) of the consortium of joint study programs in the EA accreditation register.
- To encourage big multilateral consortia: Development of a Franchise approach for accredited jP's
- Capacitybuilding/structural support is necessary in Erasmus+ Programme & Partner Countries.
 - > Ministries about legal reforms and procedures
 - > HEI's about standards in joint study QM with set of tools/procedures
 - > jDMS for European Universities
- Erasmus Mundus MA Grants use EA accreditation as new and additional award criteria since call 2019 – what are the observations from the project evaluation?

Education & Integration:
Bridges for the Human Dimension
of European Integration



*From everything that man erects and builds in his urge for living
nothing is in my eyes better and more valuable than bridges.*

*They are more important than houses,
more sacred than shrines.*

*Belonging to everyone and being equal to everyone,
useful, always built with a sense,*

*On the spot where most human needs are crossing,
they are more durable than other buildings
and they do not serve for anything secret or bad.*

Ivo Andric

