



UNIVERSITY OF THE
AEGEAN

**Quality Assurance Policy of Joint MSc «Forced Migration:
Europe in a Global Context»**

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1. Introduction

The proposed joint Postgraduate Studies Program (MPS) “Forced Migration: Europe in a Global Context”, which is developed by the Department of Sociology of the University of the Aegean and is part of the international educational network ERUA, has formulated and implements a Quality Policy fully harmonized with that of the Department and the University (Sub. No. 171 /26.06.2024 Department Meeting). The Quality Policy is approved by the General Assembly of the Department and is in line with the quality framework of the University of the Aegean, as determined by the decisions of the Senate, the Quality Assurance Unit (QAU), the strategic planning of the Institution and the principles of the Internal Quality Assurance System.

2. Fundamental Principles and Quality Objectives

- *Structure and goal:* The Master's Degree is structured to offer specialized knowledge and skills in the field of Migration, giving particular emphasis to topics related to border policies, support for civil society and social integration services for immigrants and refugees through research and interventions by university bodies and collaborations with regional, national and international organizations.
- *Learning outcomes:* The achievement of high-level learning outcomes is ensured, in full correspondence with the European and National Qualifications Framework for Higher Education (level 7).
- *Teaching quality:* The teaching work is characterized by high quality and effectiveness, aligned with the standards of leading schools in the field.
- *Teaching staff:* The staff has strong academic and professional qualifications, with direct contact with modern scientific developments.
- *Professional prospects:* Graduates acquire innovative qualifications and broad career opportunities in the public and private sectors.
- *Connection to research:* Teaching incorporates research issues of the subject matter, strengthening the connection between theory and practice.
- *Support infrastructure:* Modern infrastructure and services are provided, with particular emphasis on electronic platforms and bibliographic support.
- *Effective resource management:* Financial resources are strategically utilized to improve the quality, collaborations and infrastructure of the MSc.
- *Quality monitoring:* The MSc implements annual quality objectives and systematic internal evaluation, aiming at continuous improvement of its actions.

3. Organization of the quality assurance system

The joint postgraduate course "Forced Migration: Europe in a Global Context" implements the quality assurance procedures of the Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) of the University of the Aegean, with the necessary specialization as required. The implementation of the IQAS and the achievement of the objectives of the Quality Policy of the Master of Science (MSc) are the responsibility of the MSc Director, the Coordinating Committee, the Internal Evaluation Group (IEG) and the Department Assembly. Specifically:

- *Department General Assembly (DGA):* The Department Assembly is responsible for the organization, administration and management of the MPS. Within this framework, it establishes the Internal Evaluation Group (OmEA) of the MPS, approves the registration of postgraduate students in the MPS, assigns the teaching work to the P.M.S. lecturers, establishes examination committees for the diploma theses of the postgraduate students and appoints the supervisor per thesis, and approves the MPS report, following the recommendation of the Coordinating Committee (C.C.).
- *Postgraduate Program Coordinating Committee (PCC):* It is responsible for monitoring, coordinating the operation and quality upgrading of the curriculum. It forms the committee to evaluate the

applications of prospective postgraduate students, approves the granting of scholarships, and recommends to the Department's General Assembly the distribution of teaching work based on the teaching needs of the Postgraduate Program, draws up the plan for amending the curriculum and draws up an account of the research and educational work of the Postgraduate Program.

- *MPS Director*: He is the chairman of the PMS Coordinating Committee and is also responsible for issues related to the organization and operation of the MPS, monitoring the implementation of the decisions of the PMS bodies and the execution of the budget.
- *Internal Evaluation Team (OmEA)*: The OmEA participates in the quality assurance process of the MPS within the framework of its general responsibilities for quality assurance of the Department's curriculum, by collecting annual census data and sending them to the MODIP of the University of the Aegean, and analyzing and processing the responses to the official PMS evaluation questionnaires, as defined by the MODIP.

4. Quality Assurance Procedures and Actions of the Postgraduate Program

The quality assurance procedures of the Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) of the University of the Aegean are implemented at the level of the Department and the Postgraduate Program, with the necessary specialization. The implementation of the IQAS by the Postgraduate Program is monitored and controlled by the Institution 's Quality Assurance Department and the achievement of the objectives of the Department's Quality Policy is the responsibility of the Internal Evaluation Group (OmEA) and the Department's Assembly. Finally, each member of staff who collaborates with the Postgraduate Program has the obligation to contribute to the implementation of the Quality Policy and the achievement of its objectives.

- An annual internal evaluation of the MSc is conducted. The MSc is reviewed and updated each spring semester and on an annual basis. To this end, data relating to the MSc is collected and classified and their results are analyzed.
- The quality and effectiveness of the teaching work is evaluated annually. The courses and teachers are evaluated by the postgraduate students in accordance with the provisions of the internal quality assurance system of the University of the Aegean, under the supervision of the Department's OMEA and the Institution's MODIP.
- A comparison is made, at regular intervals, with corresponding postgraduate programs offered by domestic and foreign institutions, known for their pioneering work. The comparison concerns the curriculum and the content of the courses.
- The Postgraduate Diploma is certified and evaluated by the National Authority for Higher Education. The Authority carries out an overall assessment of the work carried out by the Postgraduate Diploma based on qualitative and quantitative data.

5. Ways to communicate the Quality Policy

The quality policy is posted centrally on the Department's website. Newly admitted students are informed about the Department's quality policy through a relevant presentation given to them by the Director of the Postgraduate Programme during their welcome event. Correspondingly, new teaching staff are referred to the text of the Quality Policy as part of their overall briefing by the Secretariat and the President regarding their duties.