

## DECISION ON THE EVALUATION RESULT

### Erasmus Mundus Joint Master GOALS - GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION OF LEISURE AND SPORTS

University of Lille (France)  
University of Lisbon (Portugal)  
Mykolas Romeris University (Lithuania)  
Nicolaus Copernicus University (Poland)  
LUNEX (Luxembourg)

**November 2024**

## SCOPE OF THE DECISION

The Erasmus Mundus Joint Master GOALS - GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION OF LEISURE AND SPORTS INTERNATIONAL consortium has mandated the Hcéres to perform the evaluation of its Joint Master programme. The evaluation is based on the "European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes", adopted in May 2015 by European Higher Education Area Ministers. These standards are available on the Hcéres website (hceres.fr).

The Hcéres hereby confirms that the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master GOALS - GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION OF LEISURE AND SPORTS offered jointly by the following universities is compliant with the standards of the European Approach for Quality Assurance for Joint Programmes:

University of Lille (France)  
University of Lisbon (Portugal)  
Mykolas Romeris University (Lithuania)  
Nicolaus Copernicus University (Poland)  
LUNEX (Luxembourg)

Given that the joint programme complies with the requirements defined by the European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes and the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) in its current version, the experts' panel advised the Hcéres to take a positive decision regarding the quality of the study programme for a period 6 years, valid until 01/11/2030.

Hcéres will communicate the evaluation report together with the evaluation decision to the Quality Assurance agencies from the countries represented in the GOALS joint master programme in order for them to accredit the GOALS programme. Hcéres have also informed the consortium to contact the respective national/regional accreditation bodies regarding the procedure required to accept this decision.

The following strengths, weaknesses and recommendations are given for further improvement of the programme:

### STRENGTHS

- A very strong commitment and collaboration from the teams involved in each institution.
- The programme is well-aligned with EQF Level 7 and national qualification frameworks.
- A strong international dimension and intercultural management focus.
- A comprehensive and structured disciplinary curriculum with practical and theoretical components.
- Positive feedbacks from students and socio-professional partners regarding practical relevance.
- Strength of the dissertation both in the preparation through courses and standards expected.
- A good integration of soft skills and employability throughout the programme.
- Admission process is clear, transparent and well structured.
- Diversity of learning and teaching methods.
- High quality student support and communication channels.
- The qualification of the teaching staff ensures successful achievement of the study programme aims.
- An efficient website that provides relevant information about the Master and its consortium.
- Compliance of the quality assurance framework with European Standards and Guidelines for Higher Education.
- A very thorough selection process.

### WEAKNESSES

- The progressivity of the courses throughout the master could be better documented.
- The relationship with socio-economic partners is not formalised.
- Limited documentation and communication of assessment criteria across partner institutions.
- The detailed documents on the procedures supporting quality assurance framework of this programme.
- The courses offered by LUNEX carry limited differences between both tracks (one module out of 3 modules, each worth 10 ECTS).
- Some students following the same track in different universities experience very different courses.
- No harmonisation of thesis syllabi and evaluation criteria across institutions.



- The interviews with the students indicate that some of the topics taught are repeated across institutions, so when they change institution they might face similar teaching.
- Limited visibility and integration of environmental issues and digital skills in some tracks.
- No reading lists in English for some modules.
- Information about the cost of accommodation should be improved in some destinations.
- The website needs updated, especially regarding application possibilities and partners' role in the Master dynamics.
- No indication of application limitations for Master and PhD students.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Strengthen the jointness of the programme by providing more structured mechanisms to ensure the coherence and progression of learning outcomes across all semesters.
- Clarify the role and structure of the advisory board to enhance the integration of socio-economic partners feedbacks into the curriculum evolutions.
- Increase the difference in the tracks when students are studying at LUNEX.
- Justify better and inform students as to why the same track taught in different universities offers different forms of specialisation.
- Develop more formal mechanisms of cooperation for academic staff, for example, a meeting with academic board once per semester through the common platform.
- Reduce generic courses and emphasise tracks' related specialist courses (the courses need to be more targeted to each of the tracks).
- Standardise the assessment criteria for the Master's thesis across all partner universities to ensure fair treatment and consistency.
- Improve documentation and communication of assessment criteria to ensure consistency and transparency.
- Develop documents of detailed procedures, to prove the efficiency of the quality assurance system.
- Enhance the visibility of sustainability issues and digital skills training across all partner universities to ensure global skill acquisition.
- Address the shortage of accommodation in specific locations (ULisbon and LUNEX).
- Continue with the project of establishing an alumni association to develop a common culture and enhance job placement.
- Replace reading lists in local language by English language references.
- Increase the number of vacancies since the programme is highly attractive to students.
- Reconsider the fact that students who already have a master's degree are automatically rejected from the application process.
- Provide links to the different social media platforms.

This decision together with the evaluation report will be published on the Hcéres website.



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