

29.08.2019

The Estonian Quality Agency for Higher and Vocational Education  
Quality Assessment Council for Higher Education  
adopted the following decision:

To consider the secondary condition imposed on the assessment decision on the second cycle of studies in the Business and Administration study programme group at Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre to be met.

Based on subsection 53 (3), clause 66 (2) 3) and subsection 66 (3) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and on the basis of subsection 10 (4) of the Universities Act, point 3.7.3 of the Statutes of the Estonian Quality Agency for Higher and Vocational Education (hereinafter referred to as 'EKKA') and point 41.1/41.2 of the document, 'Quality Assessment of Study Programme Groups in the First and Second Cycles of Higher Education', and authorised in point 3.7.1 of the above-mentioned EKKA Statutes; the EKKA Quality Assessment Council for Higher Education (hereinafter referred to as 'the Council') affirms the following:

1. According to clause 53 (1) 2) of the Administrative Procedure Act, *a secondary condition of an administrative act is an additional duty related to the principal regulation of the administrative act, and clauses 53 (2) 2) and 3) establish that a secondary condition may be imposed on an administrative act if the administrative act cannot be issued without the secondary condition, or if issue of the administrative act must be resolved on the basis of an administrative right of discretion.* On 11.04.2017 the EKKA Quality Assessment Council for Higher Education (hereinafter referred to as 'the Council') adopted the decision to approve the assessment report<sup>1</sup> and to conduct the next quality assessment of the Business and Administration study programme group in the second cycle of higher education at Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre in seven years with the secondary condition that Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre would submit to the Council an action plan and report on eliminating the shortcoming referred to under point 11 of the assessment decision<sup>2</sup>, by 11.04.2019.
2. On 11.04.2019 Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre submitted to the Council the following documents: 1) *Report of Improvements*, 2) *Integration of Learning Outcomes and Research Activity - Examples*, 3) *Information About Members of Teaching Staff*, 4) *EMTA Students*. EKKA invited the following assessment

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<sup>1</sup> Assessment report is an integral part of the decision and can be found on EKKA website.

<sup>2</sup> Assessment decision is published on EKKA website.

committee members to evaluate the progress made on the secondary condition imposed:

1) **Tanja Dmitrovič**, Professor, Vice-Rector for Knowledge Transfer, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

2) **Abdul Rauf**, Head, School of Business, Wittenborg University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands

3. Committee members submitted to EKKA on 1.07.2019 a report on the elimination of the shortcoming detailed in point 11 of the 11.04.2017 Council decision. The verdict of the committee was as follows:

The shortcoming underpinning the imposition of the secondary condition	Verdict of the committee
<p>According to the Regulation of the Government of the Republic 'Standard of Higher Education' subsection 6 clause 7 (2) <i>a member of the teaching staff or research staff who conducts studies in a given subject (including visiting members of the teaching staff) has the necessary teaching competence and his or her qualification supports achievement of the objectives and learning outcomes of the study programme.</i></p> <p>The scientific activity of teaching staff is low. Research is not sufficiently integrated with teaching and learning. Thus research conducted by teaching staff fails to support sufficiently the achieving of objectives and learning outcomes of the study programmes as required in the 'Standard for Higher Education'.</p>	<p><b>Shortcoming has been substantially eliminated.</b></p> <p><u>The assessment committee outlined the following positive developments:</u></p> <p>1) Significant progress has been made over a short period on raising the qualification and research profiles of teaching staff. Compared to 2016 16 teachers out of 25 are newly recruited, with 10 new teachers with doctoral degrees having joined the programme (some employed by the other provider of the study programme (EBS), some as visiting teaching staff members who are active scientists in other Estonian or foreign universities). New career model for teaching staff was introduced in the spring of 2019 to support the academic development of junior teaching staff and researchers. The Academy supports the studies of its doctoral students by creating junior researcher positions for them. Several teachers have benefited from international mobility and participated in international projects.</p> <p>2) A number of initiatives have been</p>

	<p>undertaken to integrate research conducted by teaching staff members into the study programme. Teachers regularly update their study materials and list of recommended textbooks and materials. Regular feedback is collected from students including feedback on whether the teaching and learning is based on science.</p> <p><u>The assessment committee's recommendations for future development activities:</u></p> <p>1) The execution of the study programme is still to a large extent reliant on visiting teaching staff. It would be advisable to employ teaching staff with high-level scientific profiles from outside the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre.</p>
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4. Taking into account that the shortcoming described in the secondary condition has been substantially eliminated, the Council

**DECIDED:**

**To deem the secondary condition imposed in the quality assessment decision adopted on 11.04.2017 on the second cycle of higher education in the Business and Administration study programme group at Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre to be met and to leave in force the decision to conduct the next quality assessment in seven years.**

The decision was adopted by 10 votes in favour and 0 against.

5. A person who finds that his or her rights are violated or his or her freedoms are restricted by assessment procedures conducted by EKKA or by a decision made by the EKKA Quality Assessment Council may file a challenge pursuant to the procedure provided for in the Administrative Procedure Act. The challenge shall be filed with the EKKA Quality Assessment Council within 30 days after the person filing the challenge became or should have become aware of the contested finding.

The Assessment Council shall forward the challenge to the Appeals Committee, which provides the Assessment Council with an unbiased opinion regarding the validity of the challenge within 5 days after receiving the challenge. The Assessment Council shall adjudicate the challenge within 10 days after the

challenge is delivered to the Council, taking into account the justified opinion of the Appeals Committee. If the challenge needs to be further examined, the Assessment Council may extend the term for review of the challenge by up to 30 days.

A decision by EKKA Quality Assessment Council may be challenged within 30 days after its delivery, filing an action with the Tallinn courthouse of the Tallinn Administrative Court pursuant to the procedure provided for in the Code of Administrative Court Procedure.

**Eve Eisenschmidt**  
**Chair of the Council**

**Hillar Bauman**  
**Secretary of the Council**