

Self Evaluation Report 2026



UNIVERSITY ISMAIL QEMALI, VLORË

SELF-EVALUATION REPORT FOR INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

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ABBREVIATIONS:

UV	University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora
SA	Academic Senate
BA	Board of Administration
VSA	Academic Senate Decision
VBA	Board of Administration Decision
MA	Ministry of Education
HEI (IAL)	Higher Education Institution
UNVIMAS	University Information Management System
FE	Faculty of Economics
FSH	Faculty of Health
FSHH	Faculty of Human Sciences
FSHTN	Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences
KIZ / KZF	Institutional Election Commission
IT	Information Technology
UVSJ	UniVlora Scientific Journal
LMM	MultiMedial Lab
AKKSHI	National Agency for Scientific Research & Innovation
PIKSH	Projects for Research Infrastructure
PKKZH	National Projects for Research & Development

Introduction to the Self-Evaluation Process

Universiteti "Ismail Qemali" i Vlorës enters the institutional accreditation process as a continuation of a previously successful experience. The institution was accredited by the Accreditation Board of the Quality Assurance Agency in Higher Education (ASCAL) with Decision No. 50, dated 27.11.2020, for a five-year period. The current accreditation process aims at further consolidating the culture of quality and fulfilling the institutional standards defined by the legislation in force and the relevant by-laws governing higher education.

Universiteti "Ismail Qemali" i Vlorës considers the institutional accreditation process an important instrument for the continuous improvement of its academic, administrative, and organizational functioning, as well as for enhancing performance and transparency in its activities. Within this framework, in order to monitor and evaluate the implementation of quality standards, the Internal Self-Evaluation Report (SER) was prepared in accordance with the criteria and standards established by ASCAL.

The report was drafted by the Internal Evaluation Group (IEG), established by Rector's Order No. 221, dated 22.12.2025. In appointing the members of the IEG, the Rectorate took into account their previous experience in internal evaluation processes, as well as the satisfactory results achieved in prior accreditation procedures. The group includes the Vice Rector for Academic Affairs, the Vice Deans of all faculties, specialists from the Quality Assurance & Accreditation Sector, the Projects Specialist, and two students: the Chair of the Student Council and the student representative in the Academic Senate.

In drafting the University's Self-Evaluation Report and collecting evidence, the heads and representatives of several sectors were actively engaged, including the Career Sector, Student and Alumni Services, the International Relations Sector, the Library & Publications Sector, the Scientific Research & Projects Sector, among others, thus ensuring broad and inclusive representation in the self-evaluation process.

In substantiating the narrative analysis of the self-evaluation standards, extensive use was made of electronic evidence from official documentation and authentic information reflected on the official website and platforms of Universiteti "Ismail Qemali", which are accessible also in English, German, and Italian. Documentary evidence was scanned after being certified with the official institutional seal and, to a large extent, translated into English.

In conclusion, this report clearly and comprehensively reflects the activities of Universiteti "Ismail Qemali" i Vlorës, highlighting its achievements and potential for further development, as well as its continuous commitment to quality and high academic standards.

HISTORY OF “ISMAIL QEMALI” UNIVERSITY

The “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora was established on October 10, 1994, by Decision No. 105 of the Council of Ministers, quickly becoming one of the most important higher education institutions in Albania. Its founding was the result of several months of preparation, including curriculum development and academic staffing, supported by the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of the Polytechnic University of Tirana and the Faculties of Economics and Medicine in Tirana.

The University began its activities with three faculties: Commerce (offering Business and Tourism programs), Maritime Engineering, and Nursing, building on the city’s long-standing educational traditions. Since 1919, Vlora had hosted a Secondary Commercial School, and later a branch of the University of Tirana for Economics was opened. The Faculty of Naval Engineering developed from the Higher School of the Navy, while the Faculty of Nursing was built upon the tradition of the city’s Secondary Medical School, the only one of its kind in the country.

Dr. Sezai Bazaj played a decisive role in the establishment of the University, leading the working group that organized the entire process and later becoming its first Rector. The beginning was modest: two buildings, 162 students, 10 full-time faculty members, and 31 part-time lecturers. Nevertheless, these early pioneers laid the foundation for a mission of dedicated academic and professional service. Initially named “Ismail Qemali Technological University of Vlora,” the institution has carried its current name since 2007.

Since the 1994–1995 academic year, the University has experienced continuous growth in both quantity and quality. The range of study programs expanded, the academic staff increased and became more qualified, and new students were recruited from all regions of Albania. Today, UV offers 84 programs across all three study cycles, including joint programs and courses in foreign languages, structured according to the Bologna Process and ECTS credits.

The academic staff now comprises over 198 full-time faculty members, including 7 Full Professors, 39 Associate Professors, and 92 PhDs. Their qualifications are continuously developed through national and international training, with the support of the Polytechnic University and the University of Tirana.

From its inception, UV has organized national and international scientific conferences, becoming an important center for science and research in the region. International collaborations with universities in Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Norway, Georgia, and other countries have enabled student exchanges, academic visits, and joint research projects.

From a modest beginning with just one physics lab, a few nursing rooms, and a single computer, the University today boasts well-equipped laboratories in Computer Science, Nursing, Navigation, Maritime Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, and Environmental Studies, as well as audio-visual technologies for teaching. The University attracts students from across Albania and aims to evolve into a 4.0 University, with advanced quality capacities and active participation in international projects and alliances.

The “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora is more than an educational institution; it represents a continuous journey toward improvement, innovation, and contribution to societal and academic development, proudly preserving its traditions while offering a modern and international vision.

[link](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ACCREDITATION BOARD 2020

Based on Decision No. 50, dated 27.11.2020, “On the Periodic Accreditation of the Higher Education Institution, ‘Ismail Qemali’ University of Vlora,” the recommendations are as follows:

1. The institution should support the continuous professional development of academic staff through the latest teaching methods and provide training for newly hired personnel in pedagogy and teaching psychology.
2. The institution should reduce theoretical workload and create opportunities for practical training of students in its study programs, adapting them to labor market requirements.
3. The institution should improve its financial structure by diversifying revenue sources.
4. The institution should take measures to allocate a specific budget for scientific research and the improvement of the physical infrastructure of the Scientific Research Center.
5. The institution should improve cooperation with stakeholders to increase its regional impact.
6. The institution should intensify internationalization efforts by applying for international research projects and offering joint study programs with European HEIs.
7. The institution should develop specific regulations for Alumni to strengthen cooperation with them.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS BY “ISMAIL QEMALI” UNIVERSITY OF VLORA

I. Supporting continuous professional development of academic staff with modern teaching methods and training of newly hired personnel in pedagogy and teaching psychology

To comply with this recommendation, UV first identified the needs and then took concrete and sustainable measures for their implementation during the period 2020 onward. Specifically:

- The needs for further training and qualification of staff have been identified and communicated through the budget requests of the Basic and Main Units. A specific annual budget has been allocated for staff training both within Albania and abroad.
- Training needs related to contemporary teaching methods have also been identified through questionnaires completed by students at the end of each semester for each course. Appropriate recommendations and action plans have been developed to address these needs.

Concrete measures taken by the institution to implement this recommendation:

“Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora has signed over 120 inter-institutional agreements with various European HEIs under the Erasmus+ KA1 program ([link](#)). As a result of these agreements, a significant number of academic staff have participated in mobility activities for teaching and training at these universities. The contemporary teaching practices and methods acquired during these mobilities have been shared with colleagues upon return and have been incorporated into the teaching process (**E.61**). Additionally, within the framework of the aforementioned inter-institutional agreements, seminars, workshops, and various conferences have been organized, with a focus on teaching methods and competencies.

- In the Department of Education, an annual continuing education course in the psycho-pedagogical field has been established and continues each year. Academic staff members of UV have been trained through this course, contributing to the enhancement of their professional, pedagogical, and didactic competencies (**E.95**).

- UV has approved the *Strategy for Young Researchers (E.34)* and, as part of its implementation, has secured and executed national and international research projects, including programs such as AADF and COST Action. Notable initiatives include the workshop “*Bridging Ecology and Molecular Science – to train the next generation of scientists*” under the READ project. [link](#)
- UV has signed agreements with the institute ‘Jeta e Re’ – LiderImpakt for the professional development of academic and administrative staff. [link](#)
Training: “*Public Speaking Sprint*”, led by Josh Meakly. [link](#)
- UV is a member of the prestigious ETEN – European Teacher Education Network, focused specifically on teaching methods. This year’s ETEN symposium will be hosted at “Ismail Qemali” University. ([link](#)).
- The University also provides mentoring and support for junior faculty, as well as training, seminars, workshops, and professional development programs for faculty members. These include contemporary teaching methodologies, the use of digital technologies, and innovative approaches to teaching (**E.61**).

Capacity-building activities for UV’s academic and non-academic staff include:

Workshop: “Optimizing Teacher Education Programs: Challenges for Long-term Quality Education”: [Link](#)

Advisory Meeting within the Project “Bologna Hub Peer Support”: Curriculum Development; Innovative Teaching and Learning Approaches; Mobility and Internationalization: [Link](#)

Project Writing Training at the Faculty of Public Health: [Link](#)

Mini-courses on AI and Data Sciences at FSHTN with American Professors and Diaspora Lecturers: [Link](#)

Linux Training: [Link](#)

Training with Specialists and the Director of AKKSHI: [Link](#)

IT Technology Usage Training: [Link](#)

UNVIMAS User Manual for Faculty Members: [Link](#)

II. Reducing theoretical workload and creating opportunities for practical training for students, adapting study programs to labor market requirements

In implementation of this recommendation, the basic units at “Ismail Qemali” University have undertaken a process of reviewing curricula for the programs they offer. As a result, theoretical workload has been reduced and the practical component increased, in accordance with the specifics of each study program (**E.106**). The review process was carried out in consultation with external stakeholders, including labor market representatives and Alumni.

UV study programs include practical modules, laboratories, and professional internships, which are clearly structured in approved curricula and study plans.

- All Nursing programs, across all study cycles, include laboratory and clinical practice comprising 50–60% of total classroom hours (**E.110**).
- All Teacher Education programs conduct professional practice in secondary and nine-year schools (**E.111**).
- The Heritage Architecture program dedicates a significant portion of hours to historical and archaeological sites in Vlora and surrounding areas. [link](#)
- Navigation and Nursing programs have simulator laboratories available (**E.108**).
- For Law programs, a mock courtroom is planned this year.

- Engineering programs, particularly the MSc in Armament Engineering, will have access to the Impact Testing Laboratory funded by the Ministry of Defense, located in the former Aviation School facilities.
- For UV students from banking and local institutions, paid internship opportunities have been offered (**E.85**).

Practical activities are closely linked to theoretical content, enabling students to reinforce knowledge, develop problem-solving skills, engage in professional project design, and gain hands-on experience in their field of specialization.

E.112: Syllabus of the Professional Practice module in the Undergraduate program

E.113: Class project in the BSc Computer Science program

E.114: Assessment of Professional Practice: Continuous evaluation during internship; Certification by department heads for master's internships; Evaluation reports in professional practice exams; Thesis for professional practice exam

To further implement this recommendation, the University has expanded its network of cooperation agreements with public and private institutions to develop academic and professional internships. ([link](#)) This collaboration contributes to aligning programs with real labor market needs, provides opportunities for professional internships, allows practical application modules, and strengthens the connection between teaching and professional and research needs of the community.

“Ismail Qemali” University follows formal procedures to identify collaboration opportunities with stakeholders in the academic program fields and integrate them into programs, including cooperation agreements for professional internships. Some of these agreements include:

- Local Office of Pre-university Education, Fier
- Local Office of Pre-university Education, Lushnje
- School of Directors of Pre-university Education
- First Instance Court, Vlora
- Administrative Court, Lushnje
- General Directorate of Metrology, Tirana
- OST – Transmission System Operator
- Technical Control Center
- Nasto Engineering, Vlora
- TechnoPlastic Ltd.
- Distribution System Operator
- Water & Sewerage Directorate, Vlora
- OSHEE – Vlora Branch
- Vlora Seaport
- UBA Bank – Vlora Branch
- Raiffeisen Bank – Vlora Branch
- Balfin Group
- Vlora Marina
- Green Coast Hotel Ltd.
- Regina Group Hotel Ltd.
- Hotel Kral
- Hotel Partner
- Regional Directorate of Health Care Operator, DROKSH
- Vlora Regional Hospital
- Fier Regional Hospital
- Memorial Hospital, Fier
- Psychiatric Hospital, Vlora

III. Improving the Institution’s Financial Structure through Revenue Source Diversification

In implementing this recommendation, the University of Vlora (UV) has formalized the provision and utilization of research results and academic expertise to third parties through the Regulation on Services Provided to Third Parties (**E.11**), which governs service delivery procedures, contractual relations, pricing, financial management, and the distribution of generated revenues. This mechanism establishes a sustainable framework for the economic use of research results and intellectual property in support of the university’s economic and financial development, as sanctioned in the UV Financial Regulation (**E.7**: Article 19) and in the decisions of the Administrative Board for approving fees for services provided to third parties ([VBA 22/2022](#); [VBA 57/2025](#)).

To strengthen institutional capacities for intellectual property management and patenting, UV has included in its organizational structure a dedicated specialist for intellectual property and patents (**E.23**: pp. 86–90).

Within the framework of strengthening the university’s third mission - innovation and knowledge transfer - the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has consolidated the necessary technical and organizational infrastructure for the production and commercialization of products under the institutional brand UniVlora, through spin-off initiatives.

- The Scientific Research Center of Applied Sciences has started collaboration with Italian companies for the testing and production in UV laboratories of UniVlora Cosmetic Creams, based on medicinal plants cultivated in the Southern Region of Albania.
- The UV Department of Chemistry has initiated procedures for the production of UniVlora Essential Oils as pharmacological and aesthetic products, as a practical implementation of the dissertation of the Chemistry Department lecturer, Dr. Jonida Salihila: “Chemical Characterization of Extracts from Some Medicinal Plants of Our Country Using Chromatographic Techniques” ([link](#)) (**E.175**).

The practical implementation of this framework is also evidenced by concrete initiatives such as:

- Initiation of legal protection and **patenting procedures for the UNVIMAS** (UNiversity Virtual Management System) IT system in 2025, as the first documented practice of protecting the intellectual property of an innovative product developed within the institution (**E.77**);
- Initiation of **accreditation and licensing procedures for research labs** and services within research centers, including accreditation procedures at the Scientific Research Center of FSHTN, to ensure quality and formal recognition of services offered to third parties (**E.123**);
- **UniVlora Scientific Journal** ([link](#)), as part of its process of improving quality and internationalization, aims, after indexing in prestigious international platforms, to apply a publication fee (Article Processing Charge – APC) for accepted articles. This step is a common practice in indexed journals and will contribute to financial sustainability, enhanced editorial standards, and the strengthening of the journal’s position in the international academic arena.

Currently, the economic and financial utilization of research results is not yet achieved through registered patents, as the institution is in the licensing/patenting phase and pursuing legal protection procedures for innovative products. However, the University generates tangible economic benefit through providing services to third parties based on academic expertise and research capacities, such as:

- Professional services for plagiarism verification for third parties (**E.153**);
- Paid LLL training activities with micro-credentials (**E.96**):

Professional Training (Linux Training): [Link](#)

Conferences with Credits Certified by National Evaluation Institutions (Nursing, Teacher Conferences): [Link](#), [Link](#)

E.95: Certification Module for Continuous Training in the Psycho-Pedagogical Field + DE-FSHH Curriculum; FSHH School of Directors.

Micro-credential Modules (Credits for Teachers) adapted to labor market demands and current academic trends: [Link](#)

As a result of improved revenue collection management and diversification of institutional revenue sources, by the end of the 2025 fiscal year, the University “Ismail Qemali” generated over 10% more revenue than the previous year.

IV. Measures for Allocating a Specific Budget for Scientific Research and Improving the Physical Infrastructure of the Research Center

In implementing the fourth recommendation of the Accreditation Board, the University of Vlora provides sustainable support for the development of research and artistic activity through:

- Securing national (AKKSHI) and international funding for UV staff research projects;
- Internal financial support (**E.26**, p. 47) for UV-funded research and development projects (PKZHUV). Notably, funding increased from 14 million ALL in 2025 to 19.2 million ALL in 2026. Budget allocation is specified for each department, research center, and for the QZHR;
- Financial support for project writing, publication of articles in Scopus/WoS journals, publications in UV scientific bulletins, and conference participation fees, as regulated by Academic Senate decisions [VSA 17/2021](#), [VBA 45/2025](#), [VSA 75/2017](#) amended by [VSA 2/2024](#) and [VSA 66/2024](#);
- Institutional and financial support for participation in institutional networks and organizations, creating opportunities for involvement in projects (ETEN, UNIMED, CMU, EUCEN, ASECU) (**E.135**);
- Financial support for the establishment, enhancement, and maintenance of research laboratories. Research infrastructure is continuously improved through investments and budget reallocations. For the period 2021-2025, UV invested 15,861,870 ALL in laboratory equipment/materials, while investments obtained through projects outside the UV budget amounted to 79,717,624 ALL (**E.131**, **E.132**).

The University has secured additional funding to improve research infrastructure through winning several infrastructure projects funded by the National Agency for Scientific Research and Innovation (AKKSHI), as well as EU-funded projects aimed at modernizing and strengthening the infrastructural capacities of faculty-level research centers.

Financial support for scientific research activities (2021–2025)

<i>Nr</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>(2021-2025)</i>
	Expenses for Scientific Research with Internal Funding	ALL
1	UV Project Funding	46,000,000
2	Travel Abroad	12,000,000
3	Co-financing for Projects with Foreign Funding	34,168,294
4	Expenses for Organizing Scientific Research Conferences	54,679,834
5	Expenses for Conference Participation, Article Reimbursement	18,200,000

6	Co-financing for Projects Funded by AKKSHI	2,000,000
7	Project Writing and Preparation	16,521,800
	Total	183,569,928
	Expenses for Scientific Research with External Funding	
1	Projects with Foreign Funding	157,584,986
2	Projects Funded by AKKSHI	14,107,998
	Total	171,692,984
	Total Scientific Research Funding at UV (2021–2025)	355,262,912

V. Strengthening the Institution’s Cooperation with Stakeholders to Increase Regional Impact

In implementing the fifth recommendation of the Accreditation Board, the University “Ismail Qemali” has intensified collaboration with regional stakeholders to enhance its role as a community asset and Regional Development Center. In this framework, the institution has signed agreements ([link](#)) and organized roundtables and consultative meetings with stakeholder representatives, focusing on identifying issues requiring intervention and exchanging ideas for concrete solutions. The University has also collaborated with public and private actors through the application and implementation of joint projects, e.g., in health, innovation, and economic development.

The institution has organized and participated in joint scientific and academic activities with regional and national partners, as well as contributed to awareness and informational campaigns on international days related to public health and environmental protection.

To fulfill its social mission and increase community impact, the University of Vlora has also conducted various social support and charitable activities, with active participation of academic staff and students, in institutions such as elder care centers, psychiatric hospitals, children’s homes, and other social structures.

Some socio-cultural activities with community impact organized by UV in cooperation with stakeholders:

- Promotion of the Systematic Use of the Administrative Approach to Combat Organized Crime in Albania – in collaboration with the Center for the Study of Democracy and Governance (CSDG): [Link](#)
- World Wetlands Day – in cooperation with the Regional Administration of Protected Areas, Vlora (AdZM): [Link](#)
- 103rd Anniversary of National Forestry Service Day – in cooperation with the Regional Administration of Protected Areas, Vlora (AdZM): [Link](#)
- Environmental Biology Practicum – in cooperation with the National Food Authority, Vlora; Regional Administration of Protected Areas, Vlora (AdZM); Local Health Care Unit, Vlora; Agricultural Technology Transfer Center, Lushnje; Agricultural Technology Transfer Center, Vlora; Teknoplastika, Vlora; Italo-Albanian Oil Company; Lungomare Vlore; Protected Landscape (Category V), Pishë Poro–Nartë: [Link](#)
- Information, Prevention, Protection: European Approach to Cervical Cancer and the Role of Health Education – in cooperation with the Oncology Department, Regional Hospital Vlora: [Link](#)
- International Bank Day – Meeting with Banking Stakeholders: [Link](#)
- UniVlora Students in the Albanian Parliament: [Link](#)
- Community Health Services: [Link](#)

Smart City Projects – in collaboration with Vlora Municipality: [Link](#)
 Open Dialogue with University and High School Youth – Lefter Çipa: [Link](#)
 Open Dialogue with University and High School Youth – Naxhi Kasoruh: [Link](#)
 “Donate Blood” Activity by the Faculty of Health – in cooperation with the Red Cross Vlora: [Link](#)
 World Health Day: [Link](#)
 Awareness Activity by the Faculty of Health: “Remember – Support – Act”: [Link](#)
 International White Cane Day: [Link](#)

In conclusion, the social development policy of the University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora contributes to creating a healthy, inclusive, and dynamic academic environment, supporting the holistic development of individuals and fulfilling the institutional mission in service of society.

VI. Increasing Internationalization Efforts through International Research Projects and Joint Study Programs with European HEIs

International Research Projects 2020–2025

UV has demonstrated sustained research collaboration with higher education institutions from EU, OECD, and G20 countries, documented through:

- Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) [link](#)
- Inter-Institutional Agreements (IIA) [link](#)

Currently, the University has **120 active MoUs and 164 IIAs**, and has implemented over **26 international projects** in the last 5 years alone. Collaborations extend to Italy, Greece, Norway, Belgium, Spain, Finland, France, USA, and countries in the Western Balkans and the Mediterranean.

[link](#)

Applications to International Research Calls

The University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora demonstrates sustained, active, and competitive engagement in international research calls, regularly applying to prestigious programs such as Horizon Europe, Erasmus+, COST Actions, Interreg, and IPA CBC, as well as other international funding programs, in collaboration with partner academic and research institutions from EU countries and beyond.

The table below presents structured data on the active engagement of UV academic and administrative staff in the preparation and submission of research and development project applications during 2024–2025 and 2025–2026. As shown, in just the past two years, the University has submitted 51 applications to various EU programs, while other applications are in the final stages and expected to be submitted within the official deadlines.

This database is regularly updated by the SKSH&P and serves as a monitoring and analytical tool for assessing staff performance in this strategic axis, as well as an indicator of UV’s institutional capacity to participate actively in competitive international research funding schemes.

No	Date	Program	Acronym	Coordinator
1	21.11.2024	CEEPUS		University of Novi Sad, Serbia
2	18.11.2024	HORIZON EUROPE	Children_First	Cyprus University of Technology
3	18.12.2024	SMP-COSME-2024-SEE-01	SLATE	Associaçao Promotora Da Rede Dinamica Xxi Potugal

4	02.12.2024	EIT HEI	M4EUS	Mersin University, Turkey
5	17.01.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	NEED2CRED	University of Leon, Spain
6	31.01.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	CIRCLE	Chieti Pesacara. Italy
8	31.01.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	SFF Startup WBunis	International Burch University, Bosnie Hercegovina
9	31.01.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	GREEN-PACT	UV
10	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	U-TURN	University of Banja Luka, Bosnie
11	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	MindFulU	University of Montenegro
12	04.02.2025	EIT Raw materials	MMI	Polytechnic Univesrity of Tirana
13	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	NURTURE	Royal college of surgeons in Ireland
14	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	Eco-STEM	Organizata Drite, Kosove
15	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	GREENSTEP	UV
16	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	ROMOLOGY	University of Montenegro
17	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	GREEN	Univesrity of Sarajevo, Bosna
18	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	DataVoyage	University of Montenegro
19	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	DETECH	University of Montenegro
20	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	TALENT	University of Novi Sad, Serbia
21	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	U-WELL	Napolis university of Pafos
22	06.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	BRIDGE2E	Thomas More Univesrity of Applied Sciences
23	06.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	WIKADIH	CEPS - University college for business studies
24	06.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	CIRECON	University of East Srajevo
25	06.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	PaLVR	Aristoteli Universty
26	10.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025 JMO-MODULE	WB-EU-path	UV
27	07.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	Cyberimpact	Polytechnic Univesrity of Tirana
28	07.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	WB-STEAME	University of Krakow, Poland
29	10.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	ACCESS-ABLE	Kolegji AAB Kosovo
31	12.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	CIRC-ECOFURN	University of Thessalias, Greece
32	20.02.2025	ERASMUS+ KA220-HED	MINDSET	Mindrove, Gyor, Hungary
33	06.03.2025	ERASMUS-2025- CB-VET	NEXTLEVEL	CINOP BV, HOLAND
34	06.03.2025	ERASMUS-2025- CB-VET	STM-Tourism	Sinop university, Turkey
35	10.03.2025	ERASMUS-YOUTH 2025-CB	LearnEO	Helathy City Split HR
36	02.04.2025	Programit Interreg NEXT MED 21-27	CHILDREN FIRST	Cyprus University of Technology
37	04.04.2025	Interreg VI-A IPA CBC Programme, Greece-Albania 2021-2027	YouthUp	hellenic reulatory body of nurses, Gr
38	06.04.2025	Europeaid/183647/ID/ACT/AL(Life Skills: Advancing 21st-Century Skills and Career Guidance in Albanian Schools)	Life Skills	British Council, officially registered in Albania through its Albania Branch
39	09.06.2025	Interreg IPA ADRION (Adriatic-Ionian)	HEALTOUR	UV
40	09.06.2025	Interreg IPA ADRION (Adriatic-Ionian)	PRENCO	
41	09.06.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PEX-COVE,	REGEN-VET	
42	08.09.2025	HORIZON-CL2-2025-01	SHIFT	
43	29.09.2025	HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01	(ACTS)	University Medical center Hamburg, Germany
44	10.10.2025	HORIZON-CL4-2025-04-HUMAN-08	GenAI for Africa	HELLENIC OPEN UNIVERSITY
45	11.11.2025	HORIZON-NEB-2025-01-REGEN-01	RegenSynergy	UNIVERSITY OF CUKUROVA
46	27.11.2025	HORIZON-MSCA-2025-DN-01	CHILDRENFIRST	Cyprus University of technology
47	27.11.2025	HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-01-ACCESS-01 European Excellence Initiative (EEI)	RISE4HE	Mersin University
48	23.12.2026	ERASMUS-EDU-2026-CBHE	GREENSTEP	UV
49	23.12.2026	ERASMUS-EDU-2026-CBHE	Bridge2E	
50	21.01.2026	ERASMUS-EDU-2026-CBHE	TWICE	
51	26.01.2026	ERASMUS-EDU-2026 -JMO-MODULE	CLIM-AL-EU	UV

Study Programs in English – Offered by UV or in Collaboration with European HEIs

The University “Ismail Qemali” offers joint study programs with international universities as well as programs taught in English, providing educational opportunities also for international students.

<i>Study cicle</i>	<i>Type of degree</i>	<i>Program name</i>	<i>Partner University</i>
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Bachelor	Joint Degree	Architecture Sciences for Heritage	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
	Albanian degree	Computer Science	
	Albanian degree	General Nursing	
	Double Degree	Mechanical Engineering	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
	Double Degree	Electric Engineering	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
	Double Degree	Marine Engineering	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
	Joint Degree	Applied linguistic in Tourism	Salento University of Bari, Italy
	Albanian degree	English language	
Master	Joint Degree	Maritime Environment Protection and Management – MEP&M	University of Montenegro University of Durrës, Albania
	Albanian degree	Teaching in CLAB	
	Albanian degree	Translation and Interpreting	

Study Programs in English – Offered by UV or in Collaboration with European HEIs

The University “Ismail Qemali” offers joint study programs with international universities and programs taught in English, providing educational opportunities also for international students. More information can be found on the official UV website:

- Double Degree Programs: [link](#)
- Joint Degree Programs: [link](#)
- English-Speaking Programs: [link](#)

International Students at UV

The University “Ismail Qemali” places particular emphasis on academic mobility and student exchange through international programs, especially the ERASMUS+ program, creating opportunities to gain international academic and cultural experiences.

- **E.182:** Full procedure for incoming Erasmus+ students.

In addition to students benefiting from Erasmus programs, another category includes foreign or Albanian students who have completed or continued their studies in another country (international students). The 2025–2026 academic year marked a historic first, during which the University registered international students for the first time in two study programs: BSc in Architecture Sciences for Heritage and MSc in Maritime Environment Protection and Management – MEP&M.

- **E.183:** Full procedure for selecting international students
- **E.119:** List of students enrolled in BSc in Architecture Sciences for Heritage; MSc in Maritime Environment Protection and Management – MEP

This demonstrates the University of Vlora’s commitment to a standardized, inclusive admission process in line with quality assurance and institutional accreditation requirements. This argument is detailed further in Standards IV.5, IV.12, and III.17.

VII. Development and Implementation of a Specific Alumni Regulation to Strengthen Collaboration

The University “Ismail Qemali” has adopted the “Regulation on Alumni Cooperation with UV”, approved by SA Decision No. 65, dated 26.06.2025:

[link](#)

This regulation aims to govern the relationship and cooperation between the University of Vlora “Ismail Qemali” (UV) and its alumni network.

Through the Career, Student Services, and Alumni Sector, the University seeks to create an inclusive environment that promotes equality, values diversity, and upholds the dignity of all members of the university community. This regulation applies to all activities organized by the Alumni Sector, including events, communications, and benefits offered to alumni and supporters.

The Alumni network is a non-formal but structured organization representing the interests of UV graduates. Coordination of relationships and the alumni contact and activity database is managed by the Career, Student Services, and Alumni Sector (SKSSA) at UV. This sector is responsible for:

- Collecting and updating alumni data
- Organizing events and activities
- Managing the digital alumni platform

The official UV website has a dedicated Alumni section: [link](#), which includes:

- UV’s specific regulation on alumni relations: [link](#)
- An updated alumni database by program and academic year
- Alumni application form for registration in the UV Alumni database, Annex 1 – Registration Form for Alumni: [link](#)
- Profiles of successful UV alumni: [link](#)

Alumni graduated during the 31-year history of the University “Ismail Qemali” are an integral part of our academic institution, including:

- Full-time faculty at UV (many in leadership positions)
- Part-time faculty: lecturers, seminar instructors, and tutors for current students in practice institutions
- Full-time academic support staff at UV
- Stakeholders in joint roundtables organized by UV
- Key actors in projects implemented by UV

The University encourages alumni participation in academic, professional, and promotional activities, such as open lectures, conferences, and discussion panels, contributing to professional experience sharing and strengthening university–labor market links.

Conferences, Discussion Panels, and Open Lectures with Invited Alumni:

International Accounting Day: [Link](#)

International Bank Day: [Link](#)

Open Lecture by PhD J. Xhindoli and Dr. J.Cuni: “Information, Prevention, Protection: European Approach to Cervical Cancer and the Role of Health Education”: [Link](#)

Career Day – Faculty of Economics: [Link](#)

Workshop: “Exploring Strategies to Reduce Burnout among Health Field Students”: [Link](#)

E.203: Contribution of alumni in mentoring current students (internship supervisors)

Alumni engagement is maintained through dedicated structures and communication channels, including graduate databases and digital platforms, which provide information on institutional activities, collaboration opportunities, and academic developments.

Procedure for collecting and updating alumni contacts:

E.204: ISKSH request for statistics on alumni employment

To ensure continuous improvement, the institution collects and analyzes alumni feedback on academic preparation and university experience, as well as monitors graduate employment trends. These data are used to review study programs, strengthen career services, and enhance the relevance of UV's academic offerings.

Alumni Report 2025: [Link](#)

Recommendations from the 2025 Alumni Report: [Link](#)

This argument is further detailed in Standard V.9.

I – HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION, MANAGEMENT, AUTONOMY, AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

Standard I.1 The institution and its structures operate in accordance with the institution’s statute.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora carries out its academic, administrative, and financial activities in compliance with the Statute of the institution, which constitutes the fundamental regulatory act governing institutional functioning. The Statute clearly defines the mission, organization, competences, and relationships among the governing, academic, and administrative structures, thereby ensuring sustainable and transparent university governance ([link](#)).

E.1: Statute of the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora 2025

E.2: UV Statute 2019

E.3: Decision on the approval of the organizational structure of UV (institutional organigram). Decision of the Academic Senate on the approval/amendment of the Statute. Decision of the Board of Administration on the approval/amendment of the Statute. Approval of the UV Statute by the Ministry of Education.

The university’s governing bodies, including the Academic Senate, the Rector, the Rectorate, and the Board of Administration, are established and operate in accordance with the statutory provisions and the legislation in force on higher education. These bodies exercise their respective competences in a coordinated manner, ensuring the division of responsibilities and respect for the institutional hierarchy in decision-making processes.

E.4: General Regulation of UV

E.5: Regulation on the Functioning of the Academic Senate

Decisions and minutes of the Academic Senate demonstrating the exercise of statutory competences: approval of admission quotas, annual report, strategy, and budget.

Senate Decision No. 12, dated 10.03.2023 – [Link](#)

“On the approval of admission quotas for studies in all study cycles for the academic year 2023–2024”:

Senate Decision No. 60, dated 19.12.2022 – [Link](#)

“On the approval of the annual activity report of UV”:

Senate Decision No. 5, dated 21.02.2024 – [Link](#)

“On the approval of student admission criteria for all study cycles for the academic year 2025–2026”:

Senate Decision No. 120, dated 05.12.2025 – [Link](#)

“On the preliminary approval of the Action Plan and Financial Plan of UV for the period 2025–2030”:

Senate Decision No. 5, dated 21.02.2024 – [Link](#)

“On the preliminary approval of the draft budget for the year 2024 of the University ‘Ismail Qemali’, Vlora”.

Decisions and minutes of the Board of Administration demonstrating the exercise of statutory competences: annual report, strategy, and budget.

Board Decision No. 22, dated 12.03.2025

“On the approval of the budget of the University ‘Ismail Qemali’”

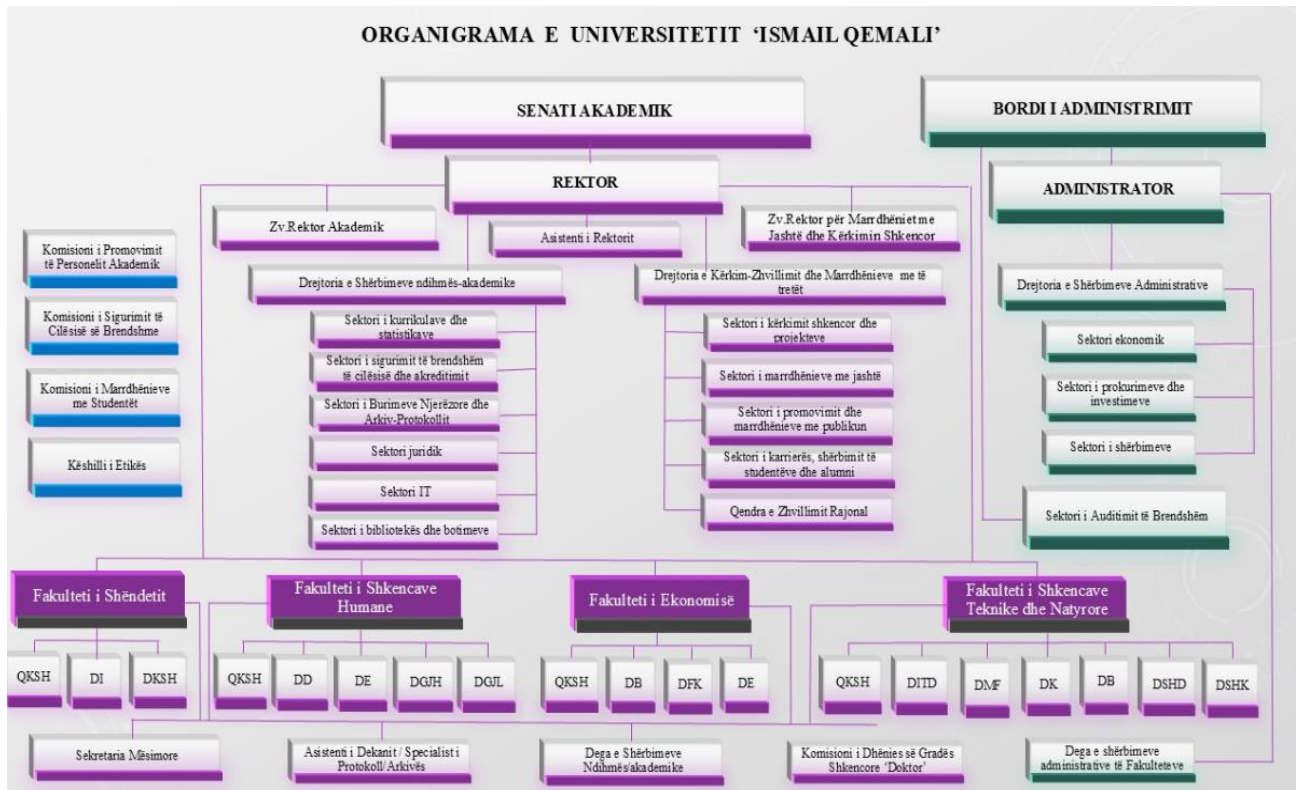
file:///C:/Users/User/Downloads/a12%20(1).pdf

Board Decision No. 96, dated 18.12.2025

“On the approval of the annual activity report of the University ‘Ismail Qemali’ of Vlora for the academic year 2024–2025” [link](#)

Board Decision No. 95, dated 18.12.2025

“On the approval of the Institutional Development Strategy 2025–2030 of the University ‘Ismail Qemali’ of Vlora”



*The organizational chart of UV,
approved by the Academic Senate, the Board of Administration, and the Ministry of Education.
[link](#)*

UV consists of the following main units (**E.1**, Article 9, point 4):

- a) Faculty of Economics;
- b) Faculty of Humanities;
- c) Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences;
- d) Faculty of Health.

UV consists of the following basic units (**E.1**, Article 10, point 4):

Faculty of Human Sciences:

1. Department of Law;
2. Department of Albanian Language and Literature;
3. Department of Education;
4. Department of Foreign Languages;

Faculty of Economics:

1. Department of Business;
2. Department of Finance and Accounting;
3. Department of Economics;

Faculty of Health:

1. Department of Nursing;
2. Department of Health Care;
3. Research–Scientific Center of Public Health;

Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences:

1. Department of Marine Engineering and Technology;
2. Department of Marine Sciences;
3. Department of Biology;
4. Department of Mathematics and Physics;
5. Department of Computer Science;
6. Department of Chemistry.

UV research–scientific centers (**E.1**, Article 11, point 2):

1. Research–Scientific Center in Applied Sciences;
2. Research–Scientific Center for Innovation and Technology;
3. Research–Scientific Center of Public Health;
4. Research–Scientific Center of Albanology and Balkan Studies.

UV departments consist of at least 7 full-time academic staff members, of whom at least 3 hold scientific degrees/academic titles (**E.1**, Article 10, point 3).

UV faculties comprise at least 3 departments and each includes a research–scientific center. The Faculty of Health has two departments, and its research–scientific center meets the criteria of a basic unit, with 9 internal academic staff members, 6 of whom hold academic titles and scientific degrees.

The main and basic academic units operate on the basis of approved structures and respective regulations, which operationalize the provisions of the Statute at faculty and department level. Academic processes, including the organization of teaching, scientific research, and the evaluation of academic activity, are carried out in accordance with internal regulations and competences defined in the Statute (**E.1**).

Senate Decision No. 14, dated 09.01.2020

“On the approval of the Regulation of the Faculty of Humanities” [link](#)

Senate Decision No. 12, dated 09.01.2020

“On the approval of the Regulation of the Department of Economics” [link](#)

E.6: Decisions on the appointment of academic leaders (deans, vice-deans, heads of department), in accordance with statutory procedures.

The institution has approved a series of by-laws and specific internal regulations, which ensure the practical implementation of the Statute and the harmonization of institutional activity with the national and international legal framework.

E.7: UV Financial Regulation

E.8: Regulation on the Functioning of the UV Board of Administration

E.9: Regulation on the Creation and Registration of Documents

E.10: UNVIMAS Regulation

E.11: Regulation on Services Provided to Third Parties

E.12: Erasmus+ Regulation

E.13: Regulation for International Students

E.14: Regulation on UV Social Media

E.15: Regulation of the UniVlora Multimedia Laboratory

E.16: Regulation on the Publication of UV Scientific Journals

E.17: Regulation on the Ethics of Scientific Research and Publication at UV

E.18: Regulation on PKZHUV Projects

E.19: Regulation on the Organization of Elections at UV

E.20: Regulation on the Awarding of the Title Professor Emeritus

E.21: Regulation on the Use of Computer Software for Plagiarism Detection

E.22: Ethical Guidelines for AI at UV

UV Code of Ethics: [link](#)

Standard I.2 The institution is organized in such a way as to ensure efficiency in management.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora considers that its institutional organization has been designed to ensure efficient management of human, financial, and infrastructural resources, in line with the mission and strategic objectives of the institution. The internal structure of UV has been established in implementation of MA Order No. 27, dated 29.12.2017, “On the internal academic and administrative structures in HEIs,” approved by VSA No. 97, dated 17.12.2024, and No. 14, dated 24.02.2025, as well as by VBA No. 23, dated 11.03.2025, and No. 35, dated 30.05.2025. The Structure and Organigram of UV were verified for compliance with legislation by the Ministry of Education and were finally approved by Ministry Decision No. 287, dated 30.06.2025 (E.3).

Academic Senate Decisions approving the Statute and Organigram of UV:

[link](#)

[link](#)

Board of Administration Decisions approving the Statute and Organigram of UV:

[link](#)

[link](#)

E.23: Functional duties of the internal structure of UV.

The organizational structure of the university reflects a functional division of responsibilities and competences, aiming to avoid overlaps and increase effectiveness in decision-making and implementation (E.1, Article 13.I). The institutional structure is organized into three directorates: two directorates with auxiliary academic functions under the authority of the Rector of UV, and one directorate with administrative functions under the authority of the Administrator. The Internal Audit Sector is a single unit under the authority of the Board of Administration. All main units of UV have supporting auxiliary academic and administrative structures, while all basic units with functional needs are provided with auxiliary academic staff.

Academic Structure at Institutional Level

- Academic Senate
- Rectorate
- Rector
- Vice Rector for Academic Affairs
- Vice Rector for External Relations and Scientific Research

Auxiliary Academic Structure of Administrative Character at Institutional Level

- Rector’s Assistant
- Directorate of Auxiliary Academic Services
 1. Curriculum and Statistics Sector
 2. Internal Quality Assurance and Accreditation Sector
 3. Human Resources and Archive–Protocol Sector
 4. Legal Sector
 5. IT Sector
 6. Library and Publications Sector
- Directorate of Research, Development and Third-Party Relations
 1. Scientific Research and Projects Sector
 2. External Relations Sector
 3. Promotion and Public Relations Sector
 4. Career, Student Services and Alumni Sector
 5. Regional Development Center

Administrative Structure at Institutional Level

- Board of Administration
- Administrator
- Internal Audit Sector
- Directorate of Administrative Services

1. Economic Sector
2. Procurement and Investment Sector
3. Services Sector

Academic Structure at Main Unit Level

1. Assembly of Academic Staff
2. Dean’s Office
3. Dean
4. Vice Dean for Academic Affairs
5. Vice Dean for Scientific Research

Auxiliary Academic Structure of Administrative Character at Main Unit Level

1. Teaching Secretariat
2. Dean’s Assistant / Archive–Protocol Specialist
3. Auxiliary Academic Services Sector
 - a. Library Specialist
 - b. IT Specialist
 - c. Student Office Specialist

Administrative Structure at Main Unit Level

1. Administrative Services Sector
 - a. Finance Specialist
 - b. Services: maintenance staff, cleaning staff

Auxiliary Academic Structure of Academic Character at Basic Unit Level

1. Laboratory Technician

Auxiliary Academic Structure of Academic Character at Research/Scientific Center Level

1. Specialist
2. Laboratory Technician

This organizational hierarchy is presented schematically in the Organigram of the University “Ismail Qemali” ([link](#)).

The collegial bodies, governing authorities, and standing committees of UV have been established in full compliance with legal and sub-legal acts, as well as UV regulatory acts.

Decisions of the Institutional Election Commission (KIZ/KZF) on collegial bodies and governing authorities (Academic Senate, Rector, Deans, Heads of Departments):

- [link](#)
- [link](#)
- [link](#)
- [link](#)

E.24: Establishment and functioning of the Ethics Council: Academic Senate decision on the Ethics Council; Ethics Council decision-making procedure.

UV Code of Ethics: [link](#)

E.25: Establishment and functioning of the Board of Administration: Ministry letter on the establishment of the Board; Academic Senate decision on its establishment; Administrator.

E.26: Annual Budget Approval Procedure: budget requests from departments, faculties, Rectorate; Administrator’s submission to Academic Senate and Board; Academic Senate decision on the budget; Board decision on the budget.

The governing bodies and administrative structures operate according to a clear organizational model, where reporting lines and responsibilities are defined and documented. The Rectorate, central administrative units, and support structures cooperate in a coordinated manner in planning, implementing, and monitoring institutional activities, contributing to greater coherence in management.

The internal dependency structure of the University “Ismail Qemali” is as follows (E.1, Article 13.II):

- a. Academic, teaching auxiliary academic, and administrative auxiliary academic structures are under the authority of the Rector.
- b. Academic and auxiliary academic structures of teaching and administrative character at main unit level have functional dependency on the Dean of the respective main unit.
- c. Academic and teaching auxiliary academic structures at basic unit level have functional dependency on the Head of the respective basic unit.
- d. Administrative structures at institutional level are under the authority of the UV Administrator.
- e. Administrative structures at main unit level, in the absence of Faculty Administrators, remain under the authority of the Institutional Administrator.
- f. The Internal Audit Structure is under the authority of the Board of Administration.
- g. Legal, human resources, archive–protocol, and information technology structures at institutional or main unit level exercise their activity in support of all structures within the institution.

The institution has undertaken measures to optimize administrative processes through the approval of the General Regulation (E.4) and specific regulations (E.7–E.21) (Standard I.1), rector’s orders and notices, sectoral strategic plans, and the use of electronic management and information systems (@univlora.edu.al and UNVIMAS), which facilitate workflows, reduce processing time, and increase transparency in services provided to staff and students.

E.27: Rector’s orders and instructions aimed at improving administrative efficiency.

E.28: Strategic plans of institutional sectors of UV with clear managerial objectives (SSBC&A).

E.29: Strategic plans of institutional sectors of UV with clear managerial objectives (SKS&A).

E.30: Documentation on the use of electronic platforms for services to students and staff.

At the University of Vlora, a Performance Evaluation process is established, mandatory for all UV personnel and finalized with the completion of an evaluation form at the end of each academic year (E.4, Article 50). The performance evaluation process is led by governing authorities and heads of auxiliary units designated as evaluation managers. The performance evaluation form is approved by the Academic Senate.

E.31: Performance Evaluation Form approved by the Academic Senate.

Measures and recommendations for improvement derived from self-evaluations or internal/external audits.

Annual Report of the Internal Audit Sector – 2023: [link](#)

Annual Report of the Internal Audit Sector – 2025: [link](#)

These mechanisms have positively contributed to the efficiency of daily management and to the quality of university services.

Standard I.3 The institution develops a development strategy.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora considers the drafting and implementation of its Development Strategy as a key element of institutional governance and a fundamental instrument for the medium- and long-term orientation of its academic, research, and administrative activities. UV has continuously approved the following strategic documents:

E.35: UV Development Strategy 2025–2030

E.32: Gender Equality Strategy at the University “Ismail Qemali”

E.33: Internationalization Strategy at the University “Ismail Qemali”

E.34: Scientific Research Strategy at the University “Ismail Qemali”

Process of Drafting the UV Development Strategy 2025–2030

The strategy drafting process was carried out in a structured and inclusive manner, involving governing bodies, academic and administrative units, and taking into consideration the opinions and needs of all UV structures. The first draft, prepared by the working group, was circulated electronically to all heads of basic units for discussion and suggestions within departments.

Following discussions at basic unit level and within the Rectorate, approval by the Academic Senate took

place in two phases:

- **First phase:** Approval of the strategic document outlining the current situation, mission, vision, strategic scenarios, and strategic lines to be followed by the University “Ismail Qemali” over the next six years.
- **Second phase:** After the approval in principle of the strategic scenarios and lines, the Action Plan of the Development Strategy was prepared, discussed, and approved. The Action Plan is detailed in terms of strategic scenarios, strategic lines and objectives, key measures (actions), instruments to be used, performance indicators, timelines, responsible structures, and approximate financial projections.

The final draft of the Development Strategy 2030 was presented by the UV Rectorate at an extended meeting of the Academic Senate, heads of basic units, and the Student Council, with media presence. The final version of the UV Development Strategy 2030 was subsequently submitted for approval to the Board of Administration.

This approach contributed to defining realistic, measurable strategic objectives directly linked to the current capacities and development prospects of the university.

Publication of the UV Development Strategy 2030

The UV Development Strategy 2030 has been published:

- ☐ On the official UV website (PDF and PowerPoint format):

[link](#)

[link](#)

[link](#)

- ☐ On UV social media, including the full presentation on the UV YouTube channel:

[link](#)

- ☐ In local media:

[link](#)

- ☐ Through informational brochures.

Strategic Development Context of the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora

The Development Strategy has been designed in alignment with the institution’s mission and vision, as well as with national and international priorities in higher education.

Goal 1:

Higher education as a key factor in the development of human, social, and economic capital, ensuring a renewed academic offer aligned with labor market needs and future skills.

(Higher Education Policy Document 2030 – Ministry of Education)

Goal 2:

Integration of UV into the European Education and Research Area through funding, quality assurance, internationalization, and specialization.

(Higher Education Policy Document 2030 – Ministry of Education)

UV Mission

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has the mission:

- To provide quality higher education;
- To develop impactful scientific research;
- To contribute to the social, economic, and cultural development of the country.

UV is committed:

- To ensuring quality and transformative education;
- To fostering innovation and applied scientific research;
- To strengthening partnerships with industry and the community;
- To ensuring a fair, digitalized, and accessible environment for all;
- To maintaining continuous engagement in addressing societal needs.

UV Vision 2030

University “Ismail Qemali” – an International University

- International study programs;
- International students.

University “Ismail Qemali” – University 4.0

- A digitalized university;
- An internationalized university;
- A university connected with industry and business;
- A university driven by innovation;
- A university oriented toward future competencies.

The Development Strategy of the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora addresses in an integrated manner the main dimensions of institutional activity, including the development of study programs, improvement of teaching and research quality, internationalization, strengthening links with the labor market, and the efficient management of human, financial, and infrastructural resources.

UV Strategic Scenarios:

- I. Internationalization;
- II. SMART University;
- III. Professional Leader;
- IV. Regional Development Center.

Strategic Lines and Objectives of UV:

<i>Strategic Lines</i>		<i>Strategic Objectives</i>
I.1 International Partnership and Cooperation	I.1.1	Expansion and strengthening of the network of academic partnerships
	I.1.2	Enhancement of UV’s institutional capacities (administrative and academic) for transformation into an international university
	I.1.3	Promotion of participation in international research and innovation projects
	I.1.4	International promotion of the university and its degrees
	I.1.5	Promotion of Internationalization at Home
I.2 International Study Programs and Long-Term Mobility	I.2.1	Increasing the level of internationalization of study programs
	I.2.2	Attraction of international students
	I.2.3	Increase in long-term mobility of students and staff
	I.2.4	Modernization of university services for internationalization
I.3 Joint Scientific Research According to International Standards	I.3.1	Improvement of research quality in line with Scopus/WoS standards
	I.3.2	Promotion of joint projects with European institutions
	I.3.3	Licensing and accreditation of research laboratories
	I.3.4	Increase in international research mobility (COST, Marie Curie, etc.)
	I.3.5	Strengthening of the <i>UniVlora Scientific Journal</i>
	I.3.6	Development of digital scientific infrastructure
II.1 SMART Education	II.1.1	Improvement of digital teaching and learning
II.2 SMART Service System	II.2.1	Digitalization of university services and student support
II.3 SMART Infrastructure	II.3.1	Modernization of facilities and development of digital ecosystems
III.1 ESCO Standard	III.1.1	Modernization of programs and curricula (University 4.0): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Interactive and student-centered teaching ➢ Flexible and micro-credential approaches ➢ Use of advanced technologies ➢ Full digitalization of teaching materials accessible to students
	III.1.2	Alignment of curricula with labor market needs and European occupation classifications

III.2 Spin off / Start Up	III.2.1	Promotion of entrepreneurship and innovation
III.3 Degree and Employability	III.3.1	Enhancement of graduates' employability
III.4 Life Long Learning	III.4.1	Provision of training and continuing education
III.5 Social Dimension	III.5.1	Development of an inclusive and non-discriminatory environment
IV.1 Strategic Partnership with Society (Stakeholders)	IV.1.1	Strengthening cooperation with the community, business, and public sector
IV.2 Student Education and Social Engagement	IV.2.1	Empowerment of students' role in the community and decision-making
	IV.2.2	Promotion of active citizenship and volunteerism
	IV.2.3	Development of civic, social, and intercultural competences
	IV.2.4	Development of student media and voice
	IV.2.5	Building a vibrant social, cultural, and sports campus life
IV.3 Enhancing University Visibility and Identity	IV.3.1	Development of a strong institutional identity (Brand UniVlora)
	IV.3.2	Strengthening of university media
	IV.3.3	Organization of high-profile academic, scientific, and cultural events
IV.4 Economic and Cultural Catalyst	IV.4.1	Expansion of services to third parties
	IV.4.2	Contribution of the university to the economic and cultural development of the region

In conclusion, the Development Strategy of the University “Ismail Qemali” serves as a guiding document for annual planning and institutional decision-making, ensuring coherence between strategic priorities and operational actions.

E.35: UV Development Strategy 2025–2030

E.36: UV Development Strategy 2018–2024

E.37: Procedure for the Approval of the UV Strategy 2025–2030

Publication of the Development Strategy (brochure)

[link](#)

Standard I.4 The Institution Respects the Limits of Its Autonomy

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora considers that it exercises its institutional autonomy in compliance with the legal framework in force for higher education, respecting the limits of academic, organizational, administrative, and financial autonomy as defined by national legislation and relevant bylaws. The institution regards autonomy as a prerequisite for sustainable development and for ensuring quality in teaching, scientific research, and university services.

In practice, academic autonomy is exercised through the competencies of academic structures in the design and implementation of study programs, the organization of teaching and research processes, and the evaluation of academic performance, always in compliance with national and international quality standards. Every decision-making process begins at the level of the basic units, through formally recorded meetings and draft proposals prepared by working groups established by the head of the basic unit. The process then continues with evaluation by the responsible structures and final approval by the Academic Senate and the Board of Administration (where financial aspects are involved).

E.38: Full approval procedure of the BSc program in “Computer Engineering”

E.39: Procedure for approval of quotas – Faculty of Economics

E.40: Full procedure for admission criteria 2026–2027 at UV

E.41: Procedure for strategic research priorities from the Department of Computer Sciences to the Academic Senate

Organizational and administrative autonomy is exercised through the internal structuring of the university, the management of human resources, and the organization of administrative services, in accordance with delegated competencies and legal procedures.

E.42: Procedure for change of position from specialist to laboratory technician at the Center for Scientific Research, Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences

With regard to financial autonomy, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora administers its financial

resources in compliance with the relevant legislation, public funding rules, and approved internal acts. Financial planning, allocation, and control processes are carried out in a documented and transparent manner, respecting the limits of autonomy as well as internal and external control mechanisms.

E.43: Approval by the Ministry of Education of procedures followed by UV: approval of programs, approval of the Statute and the organizational chart

The University clearly respects the limits of its autonomy in its relations with public institutions and supervisory authorities, ensuring proper implementation of legal obligations and regular institutional reporting. UV exercises all functions permitted within its academic, financial, and administrative autonomy; however, in all cases these functions are monitored and approved by the Ministry of Education. The University reports periodically (annually or semi-annually) to the Ministry on all relevant aspects and implements study programs, admission quotas, the statute, the annual budget plan, etc., only after ministerial approval.

VSA for the Approval of the UV Statute and Organizational Chart: [Link](#), [Link](#)

VBA for the Approval of the UV Statute and Organizational Chart: [Link](#), [Link](#)

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora respects and implements the Code of Ethics as a fundamental instrument for guaranteeing academic freedom and defining the limits of institutional autonomy. Through this Code, UV ensures that teaching, research, and artistic activities are conducted in an environment based on academic integrity, respect for free thought, and institutional responsibility. The Code of Ethics guides relations among academic staff, administrative staff, and students, ensuring the free exercise of academic activity within the applicable legal and regulatory framework, as well as the protection of institutional autonomy in decision-making and academic processes.

VSA on the Establishment of the UV Ethics Council: [Link](#)

Code of Ethics of UV: [Link](#)

Transparency Program on the official UV website ([link](#)) reflects all updated reporting and decision-making of UV structures.

C- Monitoring Report – National Education Strategy 2021–2026

[link](#)

[link](#)

Annual Institutional Report of UV, Academic Year 2024–2025

[link](#)

Approval of the Annual Budget Plan 2023

VSA No. 8, dated 20.02.2023: Preliminary approval of the Draft Budget for 2023

[link](#)

[link](#)

Standard I.5: The Institution Promotes Constructive Debate

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora recognizes that promoting constructive debate among academic staff, students, and management structures is a key element of democratic governance and institutional quality enhancement. The institution has established both informal and formal mechanisms to facilitate the exchange of ideas, critical discussion, and collective decision-making based on professional and academic arguments.

In practice, the University supports constructive debates through regular meetings of the Academic Senate, the Administrative Board, deanships, departments, and student structures. The agenda and discussion materials are sent at least two days in advance to the email addresses of the collegial bodies. Discussions in these bodies are conducted in a documented and transparent manner, facilitating the review of proposals and decisions, and contributing to the effectiveness and quality of academic and administrative processes.

The institution has created an open environment for reflection and constructive criticism regarding institutional policies, academic strategies, and resource management, encouraging active participation from

all internal stakeholders. This approach has contributed to the development of an institutional culture based on dialogue, collaboration, and collective responsibility.

E.44: Emails notifying the agenda and discussion materials for Academic Senate (SA) and Administrative Board (BA) meetings.

E.45: Minutes of Academic Senate meetings documenting discussions and decisions.

Minutes of Administrative Board meetings documenting discussions and decisions.

Minutes of deanship and departmental meetings, including discussions on academic and organizational issues. Decisions and reports of the Ethics Council, minutes of Student Council meetings documenting discussions and decisions.

E.46: Evaluation of academic and administrative support services by students: Academic Senate decision approving the format of the Service Quality Evaluation Questionnaire provided by the support-academic staff of the University of Vlora.

Standard I.6: The Institution Publishes the Main Activities of Collegial Bodies, the Annual Report, and Other Transparency-Related Aspects

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora considers transparency a fundamental prerequisite for democratic governance and institutional accountability. The University ensures open access for students, staff, and the general public to documents and decisions that directly impact institutional functioning. UV has undertaken measures to publish the main activities of collegial bodies, including the Academic Senate, the Administrative Board, and institutional and faculty structures at multiple levels:

➤ *Official UV Website*

publishes decisions of the Academic Senate (SA), Administrative Board (BA), and Rectorate, as well as job announcements, Erasmus+ calls, PKZHUV project calls, etc.

[link](#)

[link](#)

[link](#)

[link](#)

[link](#)

➤ *Transparency Program on UV Official Website:*

[link](#)

provides up-to-date reporting and decision-making from UV structures: UV salary structure, financial activity reports, public procurement forecast registers, reports on office contracts, scholarship and honorarium decisions.

➤ *UV Social Media Channels:*

○ YouTube with 121+ videos, 36+ UniVlora podcasts: [Link](#)

○ Instagram with 1,398+ posts and 2,500+ followers: [Link](#)

○ Facebook with 17,000 followers: [Link](#)

➤ *Media Coverage*

The institutional culture promotes accountability and responsibility, facilitating verification and monitoring of collegial activities by internal and external stakeholders. Furthermore, the University ensures that published information is accurate, clear, and up-to-date, enhancing institutional credibility and transparency.

Examples of Online Announcements for UV and Public Access:

- Information session on the “MIP” and “LEAD” programs: [Link](#)
- 1st International Conference (INTERCON-SE-NCDs-I-MAP): [Link](#)
- Activity with the Academy of Armed Forces: [Link](#)
- 5th Transnational Meeting of the CRED4TEACH project: [Link](#)
- Open Day 2025: [Link](#)
- Open lecture on the 100th anniversary of the High State Control: [Link](#)

- 14th International Conference - ASECU: [Link](#)
- Informative session on Innovative 3D Technologies: [Link](#)
- Academic and cultural meeting “Intelligenza delle Mani”: [Link](#)

Any individual or institution outside the University may request access to documents produced by UV. These documents can only be provided after a rigorous procedure and verification by the Coordinator for the Right to Information and Personal Data Protection at UV, as established in the General Regulation, Article 10 (E.4, Article 10)—a procedure that ensures sensitive materials do not leave the University.

E.47: Procedure for providing documents outside UV

Standard I.7: The Institution Develops and Implements Specific Transparent Policies and Procedures for Quality Assurance in Its Study Programs

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora considers quality assurance a key element for institutional development, academic effectiveness, and the fulfillment of its mission. In this context, the institution has developed and implemented clear and transparent policies and procedures for quality assurance, which are aligned with national requirements and international higher education standards.

The quality assurance policies and procedures cover all study cycles and address various aspects of academic activity, including:

- Reorganization of study programs
 - Updating and evaluation of syllabi and curricula
 - Focus groups with students from different cycles
 - Involvement of students in evaluation processes through online questionnaires issued in the UNVIMAS system
 - Collaboration with external stakeholders (labor market, international partners, alumni) through joint meetings and questionnaires for the assessment of study program quality via ALUMNI.
1. Reorganization of Study Programs
Departments continuously reorganize their study programs to reflect changes in regulations and bylaws, current professional developments, labor market requirements, and improvements in teaching approaches (E.4, Article 55, Point 4).
E.48: Procedure for reorganizing study programs: BSc in General Nursing
 2. Updating and Evaluation of Syllabi and Curricula
Before the start of the academic year, departments review and approve course literature and syllabi for the upcoming academic year (E.4, Article 63, Point 4). This mechanism ensures annual evaluation of quality and updating of academic curriculum content.
E.49: Decision approving course literature for second-cycle programs in DI and literature for the BSc program in General Nursing
 3. Focus Groups with Students from Different Cycles
Focus Group with Master’s Students, Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences (FSHTN): [Link](#)
Focus Groups with Bachelor Students, Faculty of Humanities and Faculty of Health: [Link](#), [Link](#)
 4. Student Involvement in Evaluation Processes via Online Questionnaires
Online questionnaires are issued through the UNVIMAS system, with reports published on UV’s official website:
[Internal Quality Assurance](#)
[Student Questionnaire Analysis 2020–2021](#)
[Student Questionnaire Analysis 2024–2025](#)
 5. Collaboration with External Stakeholders
The University engages with the labor market, international partners, and alumni through joint meetings and questionnaires assessing the quality of study programs via ALUMNI.
 - Student survey for evaluating and improving administrative and academic support services: [Link](#)

- Analysis of survey results for service quality improvement: [Link](#)
- Alumni Report 2025: [Link](#)
- Recommendations from Alumni Report 2025: [Link](#)

Institutional procedures are formalized through regulations and guidelines approved by competent bodies, which clearly define the steps for program evaluation and improvement, responsibilities of academic and managerial structures, as well as reporting and monitoring mechanisms. This structured system ensures that all processes related to quality are transparent, documented, and accessible to all internal stakeholders.

Standard I.8: The Institution Continuously Monitors and Evaluates Study Programs to Ensure the Achievement of Learning Outcomes and Educational Objectives

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has established a structured system for monitoring and evaluating study programs to ensure the achievement of educational objectives and intended learning outcomes. This system is based on an integrated approach that encompasses all study cycles and aligns programs with national and international higher education standards.

The monitoring process includes collecting and analyzing data on students’ academic progress, participation in teaching, laboratory and research activities, as well as assessing student satisfaction. The results of these monitoring activities are used to make decisions on improving programs and adapting them to labor market needs and scientific developments.

Program evaluation is carried out through formalized mechanisms such as:

- Periodic departmental reports on program progress and achievement of learning outcomes, including analysis of exam results for each study cycle.
- Surveys and feedback from students regarding the quality of teaching and programs.
- Evaluations by external experts for quality assurance.

This process ensures that program objectives are clear, measurable, and aligned with the intended learning outcomes.

E.50: Annual reports from departments and faculties, including analysis of exam results and student grades.

E.51: Program accreditation reports: BSc in Information Technology
Student Teaching Quality Questionnaire Reports for each study program at UV:

[2024–2025 Report](#)

[2023–2024 Report](#)

The institution recognizes that this monitoring and evaluation system helps identify program strengths and weaknesses, enabling continuous improvement and ensuring academic quality. Furthermore, the University ensures regular documentation and reporting of data and recommendations, making the process transparent and accessible to decision-making bodies and internal stakeholders.

Standard I.9: The Institution Uses Evaluation Procedures, Methodologies, and Assessment Instruments to Monitor the Opening, Development, Progress, Graduation, and Labor Market Integration of Study Programs

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has developed and implemented an integrated system of procedures and methodologies for evaluating study programs at all stages: from program initiation and development, to monitoring student progress, graduation, and integration into the labor market. This system ensures that every offered program aligns with national and international standards, educational objectives, and labor market needs.

Aiming for continuous improvement in the teaching process, the University considers it essential to evaluate students’ overall experience in a course, as well as the quality of teaching and academic staff. This process is carried out using various instruments, including: teaching quality questionnaires, academic and

administrative support staff surveys, alumni questionnaires, and focus group meetings. UV has undertaken initiatives to increase efficiency in quality assessment through instruments such as:

1. ***Teaching Quality Questionnaire***

Approved by Academic Senate Decision No. 97, dated 21.10.2020, this questionnaire is conducted at the end of each semester to collect student feedback on teaching quality and academic programs. It allows the university to improve curricula, provide professional development for staff, and make data-driven decisions, ensuring continuous enhancement of educational quality. Its use is based on Law No. 80/2015 on Higher Education, which requires higher education institutions to establish internal quality assurance mechanisms and include students in decision-making. Conducting the questionnaire at the end of the semester ensures students provide well-informed evaluations based on the full course experience.

2. ***Evaluation Questionnaire for Academic and Administrative Support Services***

This questionnaire is part of UV's internal quality assurance policies, aiming to continuously improve quality standards in compliance with Albanian and European higher education legislation. It is implemented according to Academic Senate Decision No. 26, dated 12.05.2021, "On Certain Amendments to Academic Senate Decision No. 74 dated 16.06.2020 on the Procedure for Analysis of Student Questionnaires for Evaluating and Improving the Quality of Services Provided by Administrative and Academic Support Staff at the University 'Ismael Qemali', Vlora."

3. ***Study Program Quality Evaluation via ALUMNI***

In accordance with Law No. 80/2015 on Higher Education in the Republic of Albania, Chapter X, Article 103, Point 4, the internal quality assurance system conducts tracer studies to assess student employability and program effectiveness, as well as the Quality Code approved by Decision No. 824, dated 24.12.2021, and UV Statute (E.1, Article 80, Point 1), as well as Academic Senate Decision No. 13, dated 06.05.2021, Recommendation No. 7. Evaluation and improvement of study programs is conducted through the diversified ALUMNI instrument. According to Academic Senate Decision No. 20, dated 24.04.2023, the alumni questionnaire is organized every three years.

The first survey was conducted by SSBCA (Document No. 784 Prot., dated 27.02.2025), which submitted the analysis report of the study program quality evaluation via alumni. By Rector's order No. 55, dated 05.03.2025 (Protocol No. 834 Prot.), a working group was established to draft recommendations.

4. ***Focus Groups with Students***

UV implements focus groups as an evaluation tool to gather in-depth information and better understand student and staff experiences and needs. This instrument allows UV to receive direct feedback on study program quality and teaching, uncovering perceptions and concerns that may not emerge through structured questionnaires. At the beginning of each year, the Internal Quality Assurance Sector prepares an annual focus group calendar to determine which programs will be included and submits it to the Rector for approval. After approval, the sector notifies the heads of main and basic units about the relevant agendas.

Students' questionnaire report - Teaching Quality on every study program offered by UV

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality 2024–2025: [Link](#)

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality 2023–2024: [Link](#)

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality 2022–2023: [Link](#)

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality 2021–2022: [Link](#)

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality 2020–2021: [Link](#)

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality 2019–2020: [Link](#)

Evaluation Questionnaire on the Quality of Services by Academic Support and Administrative Staff at UV

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaire Results for the Evaluation and Improvement of Services Provided by Academic Support and Administrative Staff, Academic Year 2023–2024: [Link](#)
Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaire Results for the Evaluation and Improvement of Services Provided by Academic Support and Administrative Staff, Academic Year 2022–2023: [Link](#)
Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaire Results for the Evaluation and Improvement of Services Provided by Academic Support and Administrative Staff, Academic Year 2021–2022: [Link](#)
Student Questionnaire for the Evaluation and Improvement of Services Provided by Administrative and Academic Support Staff, Academic Year 2020–2021: [Link](#)

Focus Groups with Students

Fokus grups February 2025: [Link](#)
Fokus grups March – April 2024: [Link](#)
Fokus grups May 2023: [Link](#)
Fokus grups Bachelor 2022: [Link](#)

Alumni Questionnaire for the Evaluation of Study Program Quality [link](#)

National Student Survey (SKS)

Based on Law No. 80/2015, ‘On Higher Education and Scientific Research in Higher Education Institutions in the Republic of Albania,’ and Council of Ministers Decision No. 109, dated 15.02.2017, ‘On the Organization and Functioning of the Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ASCAL) and the Accreditation Board (BA) and on the Determination of Fees for Quality Assurance Processes in Higher Education,’ one of the main mechanisms for external quality assurance is the evaluation of teaching quality through the National Student Survey (SKS). SKS is an external instrument used to assess the extent to which institutions meet student satisfaction from their perspective. The process is anonymous and relies entirely on the individual opinions of students regarding the institutions where they study. Following informational meetings with ASCAL representatives, UV launched campaigns across all four faculties, presenting this instrument and providing support to ensure its widespread completion by students.

UV Website Announcements Regarding the 2025 National Student Survey

[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)

The University documents graduation processes and student career outcomes through diploma records, employment statistics, cooperation with alumni, and industry partners. These data are used for internal analysis and continuous improvement of programs and teaching methods.

Key Academic Senate Decisions:

VSA No. 97, dated 21.10.2020:

“On the Approval of the Student Questionnaire for Teaching Quality in the Courses of Each Study Program at UV” [Link](#)

VSA No. 26, dated 12.05.2021:

“On Some Amendments to ASD No. 74, dated 16.06.2020” [Link](#)

VSA No. 74, dated 16.06.2020:

“On the Procedure for the Analysis of Student Questionnaires for the Evaluation and Improvement of Services Provided by the Administrative and Academic Support Staff of ‘Ismail Qemali’ University of Vlora” [Link](#)

VSA No. 13, dated 06.05.2021:

“On the Approval of the Action Plan within the Recommendations Issued by the Accreditation Board” [Link](#)

VSA No. 20, dated 24.04.2023:

“On the Approval of the Procedure for the Analysis and Evaluation of the Quality Assessment

Standard I.10: Involvement of Academic Units, Staff, and Students in Internal Quality Assurance (IQA) Processes and Communication of Results

The “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora has established a structured approach for Internal Quality Assurance (IQA) in study programs, actively involving academic units, academic staff, and students in all stages of the process: planning, development, monitoring, and evaluation of programs. This involvement ensures that decision-making processes are based on data analysis and practical experience.

The IQA process includes:

- Meetings and discussions within departments and faculties to identify strengths and weaknesses of programs.
- Student participation in surveys and feedback to evaluate the content and learning tools.
- Periodic monitoring and self-assessment reports containing concrete recommendations for improvement.

Communication of results and follow-up measures is conducted through:

- The official university website, publishing IQA reports and resulting decisions.
- Notifications and reports to collegial bodies, such as the Academic Senate and Deanship.
- Summarized reports for students and staff, ensuring transparency and active participation.

The results of internal quality assurance processes are analyzed and discussed in relevant academic bodies, while stakeholders are periodically informed about key findings and actions taken to improve study programs. Information is provided via official reports, institutional publications, and formal communication, ensuring participation, accountability, and continuous enhancement of academic quality.

Internal evaluation groups are established by the Dean’s order and include academic staff and students of the relevant program. The 2023–2024 Annual Report (page 65) provides complete information on all internal evaluation groups (GVB) formed, as well as working groups tasked with drafting recommendations based on the reports generated from the instruments implemented by the university.

Through this process, the University ensures continuous program improvement, based on measurable data and shared recommendations. The system also promotes a culture of collaboration and dialogue between students, academic staff, and administration.

References and examples of internal quality assurance processes:

- Annual Report 2024–2025 (page 65): [PDF](#)
- Annual Report 2023–2024 (page 89): [PDF](#)
- Annual Report 2022–2023 (page 326): [PDF](#)
- Training: “*Involvement of Academic Staff in the Quality Assurance Process*”: [Link](#)
- Informative meeting on IQA with first-year students: [Link](#)
- Workshop: “*Optimization of Teacher Education Study Programs & Challenges for Long-Term Quality Education*”: [Link](#)
- Advisory meeting within the project “*Bologna Hub Peer Support*” for curriculum development and innovative teaching/learning approaches: [Link](#)

Supporting Documents / Evidence:

- **E.52:** Departmental reports on the implementation of recommendations resulting from program evaluations
- **E.53:** Alumni Action Plan
- **E.54:** IQA Activity Reports (Informative meeting with first-year students, Workshop on Optimization of Teacher Education Study Programs & Challenges for Long-Term Quality Education)

Standard I.11: Public, Transparent, and Effective IQA Policies and Activities to Foster an Internal Quality Culture

The “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora has established clear and structured policies and procedures for Internal Quality Assurance (IQA). These policies aim to ensure effectiveness, transparency, and accessibility of information, as well as to build an internal quality culture involving academic staff, students, and administrative units.

The University’s Internal Quality Assurance and Accreditation Sector plays a central role in guaranteeing quality and managing accreditation processes within the institution. Its responsibilities are closely linked to maintaining quality standards, evaluating performance, and ensuring compliance with national and international regulations.

Key tasks of the sector include:

1. Preparation and Implementation of Quality Policies

- Designing, implementing, and updating internal policies and procedures for quality assurance.
- Ensuring policies comply with national and international quality standards.

2. Management of Accreditation Processes

- Coordinating accreditation procedures for programs, departments, or the entire institution.
- Ensuring compliance with internal and international accreditation criteria and requirements.

3. Quality Evaluation and Monitoring

- Continuous monitoring of performance, processes, activities, and services.
- Participating in the development of quality evaluation mechanisms to identify areas for improvement.
- Analyzing feedback from students, staff, and other stakeholders to ensure quality standards are met.

4. Staff Training and Capacity Building

- Organizing trainings and workshops on quality assurance and accreditation processes.
- Providing support to departments and faculties in implementing quality standards.

5. Preparation and Oversight of Quality Reports

- Preparing internal and external reports on quality and accreditation for authorities and stakeholders.
- Ensuring reports are accurate, complete, and aligned with the requirements of accrediting bodies and relevant authorities.

6. Continuous Quality Improvement

- Identifying and implementing strategies to improve services and activities.
- Ensuring an ongoing process of assessment and enhancement of quality according to stakeholder needs.

7. Coordination with Accreditation Bodies and Regulatory Authorities

- Collaborating with national and international accreditation agencies to ensure compliance.
- Assisting in the preparation of reports for accreditation processes and audits.

8. Engagement with Students and Stakeholders

- Providing opportunities for students, faculty, and other stakeholders to provide feedback on institutional services and activities.
- Coordinating surveys and other activities to collect data from students and staff for quality evaluation and improvement.

9. Ensuring Transparency and Accountability

- Ensuring quality assurance and accreditation processes are transparent and supported by complete and clear documentation.
- Providing necessary information to authorities and stakeholders about quality measures and accreditation outcomes.

The University maintains dedicated web sections for Internal and External Quality Assurance ([internal](#), [external](#)) and for the Transparency Program ([link](#)), which provide access to archives and databases of IQA

reports and activities aimed at quality improvement.

The internal quality culture has been strengthened through trainings, coordination meetings, and promotion of collaboration across departments and faculties, ensuring that all actors participate in a continuous quality improvement process. **E.28, E.23** (pages 14–28), **E.54**

Conclusion and Evaluation

The “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora has established a functional and transparent governance structure operating in full compliance with its Statute and the national Higher Education Law. Collegial and departmental bodies function according to institutional regulations, promoting constructive debate and active participation of internal stakeholders, while publishing key activities and annual reports to ensure transparency.

The University develops and implements clear policies and procedures for quality assurance in study programs, ensuring that the processes of program initiation, development, monitoring, and evaluation are documented, published, and accessible to students, academic staff, and academic units. Defined measurement tools and indicators allow continuous program monitoring, evaluation of student progress, and direct linkage with labor market needs.

The most significant achievements of “Ismail Qemali” University in the areas of management, autonomy, and quality assurance over the past five years include:

- **Development of a Strategic Plan for the University of Vlora**, aiming to advance its performance toward the standards of a “University 4.0.”
- **Adaptation of the Statute and institutional structure** of the University to comply with the Higher Education Law and applicable secondary legislation.
- **Expansion of the regulatory framework**, including the General Regulation and a set of specific regulations, providing clear and detailed definitions for all institutional processes. All functional tasks and procedures are carried out according to well-defined rules, widely discussed and approved in collegial bodies.
- **Creation of a systematic reporting system** for all institutional and individual activities, particularly for activities carried out outside the University (mobilities, event participation), allowing staff to report on their activities and provide recommendations for implementing identified innovations.
- **Strengthening of the Internal Quality Assurance Sector**, developing institutional and student evaluation processes for the quality of study programs and services provided by the University, and ensuring their transparent reflection on the University’s official website.

Through active engagement of students, academic staff, and administrative units in IQA processes, the University has established an internal quality culture where decision-making is based on measurable data and formalized recommendations. Reports and outcomes of implemented measures are accessible to all stakeholders, enhancing transparency and institutional credibility.

Areas identified for further development in the University’s Development Strategy include

- international accreditation*
- participation in prominent international rankings*

strategies that will enhance the University’s credibility and expand its appeal to international students.

STANDARD I – REQUIREMENTS FULLY ACHIEVED

II – RESOURCES AND PARTNERSHIPS

Standard II.1 – The Institution Follows an Open Policy for Recruitment and Employment of Human Resources

The open recruitment and employment policy is a key element of institutional quality assurance, supporting the sustainable development of human resources and the fulfillment of the institution’s mission and strategic objectives.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora (UV) implements an open, transparent, and inclusive policy for the recruitment and employment of academic, teaching-assistant, and administrative staff. This policy ensures that personnel selection is based on merit, professional qualifications, and the real needs of institutional development. The recruitment policy aligns with the current legal framework for higher education, relevant sublegal acts, and the UV General Regulation (**E.4**), which defines procedures, deadlines, basic and preferential criteria for employment, and complaint procedures.

Key provisions of the UV General Regulation (**E.4**) include:

- Article 41 – Employment of full-time academic staff (PAE)
- Article 44 – Employment of part-time academic staff (PAK)
- Article 43 – Employment of invited lecturers
- Article 45 – Employment of teaching-assistant staff at the institutional level
- Article 47 – Employment of administrative staff

Recruitment procedures are standardized and documented, ensuring equal opportunities, non-discrimination, and transparency throughout all phases—from public vacancy announcements, admission criteria, and required documentation, to candidate evaluation and final decision-making.

Vacancies are announced through the official UV website ([link](#)), providing wide access for interested candidates. Special commissions are appointed to evaluate candidates, operating on principles of objectivity and professionalism. Candidate selection is based on measurable criteria, such as academic qualifications, teaching and research experience, scientific productivity, and pedagogical skills. These criteria are communicated to candidates in advance, before the application deadline.

E.55 – Employment procedures for PAE, PAK, teaching-assistant, and administrative staff.

Standard II.2 – The Institution Follows an Integrative Policy for Academic, Teaching-Assistant, and Administrative Staff

UV adopts an integrative approach toward all staff categories, aiming for harmonious functioning of academic and administrative structures in support of the institution’s mission. This policy is grounded in the University Statute (**E.1**), internal regulations (**E.4**), and relevant legal acts, which clearly define roles, responsibilities, and interactions between academic, teaching-assistant, and administrative personnel (**E.23**).

The University has established clear procedures in its regulatory acts for recruiting invited personnel and foreign academics (**E.56**), integrating qualifications with the needs of academic units for teaching or research activities. Invited academic staff may include:

- a) Academic personnel employed in Albanian HEIs, at least with the title of Professor;
- b) Distinguished specialists employed in relevant institutions, sharing the latest knowledge in their field;
- c) Academic personnel from the Albanian diaspora, at least with a PhD;
- d) Academic personnel from EU, OECD, or G20 HEIs, at least with a PhD.

The selection of invited academic staff is carried out by matching their qualifications with the specific needs of the base unit for teaching or research activities.

E.56 – Employment procedure for invited lecturers and foreign lecturers.

Integration of staff is achieved through their participation in decision-making and consultative structures, temporary and permanent committees, and academic, administrative, and financial planning processes. Academic and teaching-assistant staff collaborate closely with administrative structures to ensure quality in teaching, research, and student services.

UV supports professional development through joint training, informative activities, and exchange of best practices, promoting a culture of cooperation and inter-institutional communication. Internal policies aim to create an inclusive work environment based on equality, transparency, and mutual respect.

Decision-Making

- Decision-making processes impacting basic units start with proposals from working groups and departmental meetings. Academic assemblies provide opinions before approval by the Academic Senate or Board of Administration.
- Important regulatory documents of UV, such as the General Regulations (**E.4**) and the Development Strategy 2025–2030 (**E.35**), were sent electronically (via official @univlora.edu.al emails) to all heads of base units, with instructions to discuss them in departmental meetings and provide suggestions for improvement. Only after this consultation process was completed did the approval of these documents proceed, incorporating the proposals received from all base units.

E.57 – Electronic communication with base units for discussion of the General Regulations of UV.

Financial Management

- UV's budget is allocated based on unit requests (**E.26**), approved by the Rectorate, Academic Senate, and Board of Administration.
- UV provides financial support for the reimbursement of all academic staff's scientific activities without discrimination, in accordance with the financial regulations (**E.7**), covering:
 - Expenses for attending scientific conferences;
 - Publication fees for scientific articles;
 - Fees associated with obtaining academic titles.

References for reimbursement of academic titles, conferences, and fees:

- [Senate Decision No. 66, 06.11.2024](#)
- [Senate Decision No. 2, 2024](#)
- [Senate Decision No. 75, 13.07.2017](#)

E.58 – Procedure for reimbursement of scientific articles, conferences, and academic titles.

Participation in UV Extracurricular Activities

Announcements regarding project calls, mobility opportunities, and other activity development are communicated:

- Electronically to the official email addresses of all academic staff;
- Through the official UV website and social media channels.

Working groups for institutional activities or strategic document development include representatives from all staff categories.

Project Call Example:

- [READ Program, 5th Cohort](#)

Project Activity Announcements:

- [National Convention of Project ZERO-C](#)
- [Training Session on Industrial Property and Associated Rights](#)

Institutional Working Groups

E.59 – *Establishment of working groups for institutional procedures*: Rector's Orders for institutional accreditation groups; Dean's Decisions on program-level evaluation groups; Rector's Order for the

working group organizing UV's 30th-anniversary events.

E.60 – *Ad-hoc committees composed of academic staff*: employment, Erasmus+ coordination, development of new programs, student admissions, and module equivalencies.

E.61 – Rectorate Decision No. 22, dated 24.10.2024, and the six-month report for the information sheet: Information form for capacity-building activities by academic staff; Information form for capacity-building activities by non-academic staff; Information form after staff mobilities (academic and non-academic).

Standard II.3 – The Institution Follows a Policy for Evaluating Staff Competencies and Promotes Their Further Development

UV applies a structured policy for the periodic assessment of academic, teaching-assistant, and administrative staff competencies and performance, ensuring quality in teaching, research, and university services.

Staff evaluation is conducted through:

- Annual reports;
- Individual assessment of academic and administrative performance indicators;
- Student feedback questionnaires.

Annual reports analyze academic performance and research quality.

Annual Report 2024–2025: [Link](#)

Annual Report 2023–2024: [Link](#)

Annual Report 2022–2023: [Link](#)

Annual Report 2021–2022: [Link](#)

Annual Report 2020–2021: [Link](#)

Individual performance assessments (Standard II.6) are detailed in UV regulations, covering each staff member's achievement of measurable objectives and professional behavior, including technical, knowledge-based, and behavioral competencies. The evaluation identifies strengths, weaknesses, and necessary corrective actions. Performance forms are submitted by process managers to the Directorate of Teaching-Assistant Services and Human Resources, documented in a special registry, and become part of the individual staff file (**E.4**, Article 50).

References: Performance evaluation VSA: [Senate Decision Nr.52, 2017](#)

Student feedback questionnaires.

This process also includes mechanisms for student feedback, which serve as an important tool for identifying needs for improvement and professional development. [link](#)

Student Questionnaire on the Quality of Teaching for Courses in Each Study Program according to every academic year at UV:

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality, 2024–2025: [Link](#)

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality, 2023–2024: [Link](#)

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality, 2022–2023: [Link](#)

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality, 2021–2022: [Link](#)

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality, 2020–2021: [Link](#)

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality, 2019–2020: [Link](#)

Questionnaire for the Evaluation of the Quality of Services Provided by the Academic Support and Administrative Staff of UV

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaire Results for the Evaluation and Improvement of the Quality of Services Provided by Academic Support and Administrative Staff, Academic Year 2023–2024: [Link](#)

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaire Results for the Evaluation and Improvement of the

Quality of Services Provided by Academic Support and Administrative Staff, Academic Year 2022–2023: [Link](#)

Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaire Results for the Evaluation and Improvement of the Quality of Services Provided by Academic Support and Administrative Staff, Academic Year 2021–2022: [Link](#)

Student Questionnaire for the Evaluation and Improvement of the Quality of Services Provided by Administrative and Academic Support Staff, Academic Year 2020–2021: [Link](#)

Staff Competency Development

Evaluation results are used not only for administrative purposes but primarily to guide training and capacity-building policies. UV emphasizes continuous professional development through:

1. Financial, logistical, and academic leave support for academic staff pursuing higher degrees or titles;
2. Encouraging participation in training, seminars, qualification programs, academic mobility, and other formative activities, both domestically and internationally. These measures aim to enhance pedagogical, research, managerial, and digital competencies and to adapt to contemporary developments in higher education (**E.61**).

Capacity-Building Activities Examples:

Workshop: “*Optimization of Teacher Education Programs: Challenges for Long-Term Quality Education*” ([link](#))

Advisory Meeting under “*Bologna Hub Peer Support*” Project: *Curriculum Development; Innovative Teaching and Learning Approaches; Mobility and Internationalization* ([link](#))

Standard II.4 The Institution Follows a Social Development Policy

The University "Ismail Qemali" of Vlora pursues a clear social development policy aimed at creating an inclusive, equitable, and supportive university environment for all members of the academic community. This policy is grounded in the principles of equality, respect for diversity, social solidarity, and institutional responsibility, reflecting the university’s mission as a public institution serving sustainable social and regional development.

Respect for Diversity and Social Inclusion

Within this framework, the institution implements concrete measures to enhance the social well-being of both staff and students, ensuring equal treatment, non-discrimination, and respect for human dignity in all academic and administrative processes. UV departments systematically plan specific quotas for certain social categories across all study programs.

E.62: Registration of students under special quotas.

Decisions of the Academic Senate on study program quotas:

[link](#)

[link](#)

[link](#)

The institution follows a clear support policy for students with disabilities, aiming to create appropriate conditions for the regular pursuit of academic activities. In this regard, concrete measures have been undertaken to improve physical access to university facilities. Entrance ramps have been constructed in Buildings C and A, significantly increasing accessibility for students with mobility impairments and facilitating easier entry and movement within institutional premises.

In addition to infrastructural measures, the institution has established organizational arrangements to facilitate participation in the learning process. When students with disabilities are enrolled in specific study programs, classes are organized in accessible spaces, mainly on the ground floor, to avoid physical barriers.

E.63: Minutes on the installation of access ramps.

For students with specific sensory disabilities, such as deaf-mute or blind students, academic staff provide adapted forms of knowledge assessment, selecting the most appropriate method for each individual. These measures aim to guarantee equality in assessment and respect for individual needs, without compromising academic standards.

The institution implements supportive policies for students from Roma and Balkan-Egyptian minorities, in accordance with the applicable legislation and the principles of equality, inclusion, and non-discrimination. These students are included among the beneficiaries of financial support measures, such as tuition fee reduction or exemption, in line with relevant by-laws.

The University promotes gender equality, inclusion of vulnerable groups, and equal access to education through institutional policies and social support practices (E.32).

The University as a Community Asset and Regional Development Center

The University "Ismail Qemali" of Vlora encourages the active participation of the university community in social and cultural life by organizing and supporting cultural, artistic, sports, and volunteer activities that contribute to the personal and social development of students and staff. These activities also serve as mechanisms for strengthening institutional belonging and building collaborative relationships within the university.

Student Council Visit to the Albanian Parliament: [Link](#)

Interfaculty Football Championship: [Link](#)

Student Marathon: [Link](#)

“Voice of the Students” Broadcasts, in cooperation with BLUTV: [Link](#)

Community Health Services: [Link](#)

Awareness-Raising Activities on International Health Days: [Link](#)

Smart City Projects: [Link](#)

In terms of social responsibility, the institution develops partnerships with local authorities, public institutions, civil society organizations, and other community stakeholders, contributing to initiatives with social, educational, and cultural impact at local and regional levels. This approach strengthens the university’s role as an active actor in social development and enhances interaction between the university and the broader community.

Promotion of the systematic use of the administrative approach to combat organized crime in Albania [link](#)

International Day of Banks [link](#)

Strategic Policies of the University “Ismail Qemali”

Scenario IV – UV as a Regional Development Center

Strategic Line	Strategic Objectives	Key Actions
IV.3 Enhancing University Visibility and Identity	IV.3.1 Development of a Strong Institutional Identity (UniVlora Brand)	Drafting the university branding strategy (logo, visual identity)
		Updating the branding manual and implementing it across all units
		Standardizing official documents and graphic materials
	IV.3.2 Strengthening University Media Presence	Modernizing the official website with comprehensive and up-to-date information
Activating media platforms: <i>UniVlora Podcast</i> <i>Student Newspaper</i> <i>University Radio</i>		

	IV.3.3 Organization of High-Profile Academic, Scientific, and Cultural Events	Social media channels: (YouTube, Facebook, Instagram)
		Developing a public communication and institutional branding strategy
		Drafting the annual flagship events calendar
		Organizing an annual International Conference “UniVlora Forum”
		Establishing a “Science & Innovation Week” and “UV Cultural Week”
		Inviting international personalities from academia, industry, and culture
		Awarding honorary titles to distinguished academic and community figures
		Organizing community-oriented events: public lectures, exhibitions, debates, film premieres
		Annual Excellence Gala (Students, Academics, Alumni, Partners)
		Multimedia promotion of events (videos, reports, documentaries)

In conclusion, the social development policy of Universiteti “Ismail Qemali” Vlorë contributes to creating a healthy, inclusive, and dynamic academic environment, supporting the holistic development of individuals and fulfilling the institutional mission in service of society.

Some socio-cultural activities with community impact organized by UV (with source links):

World Health Day: [Link](#)

UniVlora Students at the Parliament of Albania: [Link](#)

Festive Event “November that Speaks”: [Link](#)

Open Discussion with University and High School Students – Prec Zogaj: [Link](#)

Open Discussion with University and High School Students – Gëzim Tushi: [Link](#)

Open Discussion with University and High School Students – in honour of Lefter Çipa: [Link](#)

Open Discussion with University and High School Students – Naxhi Kasoruhu: [Link](#)

Open Discussion with University and High School Students – Rita Petro: [Link](#)

BLSD Training “Basic Life Support and Defibrillation”: [Link](#)

Simulation Center for Health Training: [Link](#)

Capacity-Building Training for Academic Staff of the Faculty of Public Health: [Link](#)

Seminar: “Antibiotics; Antibiotic Resistance – A Challenge for Global Health”: [Link](#)

Training on Writing a Quality Project Proposal: [Link](#)

“Donate Blood” Activity by the Faculty of Health: [Link](#)

Training: “Walk-Through for Universities on Universal Treatment Curriculum for Substance Use Disorders”: [Link](#)

International Midwives’ Day, 5 May 2022: [Link](#)

International Week of Tallinn Health Care College Participation: [Link](#)

Awareness Activity by the Faculty of Health: “Remember – Support – Act”: [Link](#)

International White Cane Day: [Link](#)

Standard II.5 The Institution Ensures the Long-Term Stability of Academic Staff Between Two Accreditation Periods

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora follows sustainable policies and practices for human resource

management, aiming to guarantee continuity and stability of academic staff throughout the period between two accreditation processes. This approach is essential to ensuring the quality of study programs, continuity of teaching, and the sustainable development of research activities.

The institution plans its academic staffing needs in accordance with the academic offer, teaching workload, and strategic development objectives, ensuring that study programs are covered by qualified and long-term engaged staff (Standard II.1). Employment and contracting policies favor stable employment relationships, in compliance with the applicable legislation and institutional regulations.

E.64: Request for employment including analysis of teaching workload (Faculty of Humanities)

E.65: Employment contracts: fixed-term contracts; indefinite-term contracts

The University supports professional development and academic advancement of staff as a key instrument for maintaining stability, by providing financial and logistical opportunities for qualification, scientific research, mobility, participation in projects, and national and international cooperation. These measures contribute to increased professional motivation and long-term institutional engagement (**E.58**).

At the same time, the institution monitors the structure and composition of academic staff by analyzing indicators such as staff/student ratio, teaching workload, and coverage of core and professional disciplines, in order to prevent disruptions or uncertainties that could affect program quality.

E.66: Teaching workload of the Department of Social Sciences

Annex Table 8

Standard II.6 The Institution Evaluates and Supports Its Staff in Fulfilling Annual Academic and Administrative Obligations

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora applies clear mechanisms for evaluating and supporting academic, teaching-assistant, research, and administrative staff in fulfilling their annual obligations, in order to ensure the quality of teaching, research, and university services. These mechanisms are based on the legal framework for higher education, the Statute (**E.1**), and internal regulations defining responsibilities, evaluation criteria, and forms of institutional support.

Individual performance evaluation is detailed in UV regulatory acts and includes assessment of individual work results for each member of academic, auxiliary academic, and administrative staff. It focuses on measurable objectives to be achieved by the end of the evaluation period, as well as professional conduct, including predefined technical and behavioral competences.

The purpose of performance evaluation is to:

- Provide periodic information on whether staff competences align with individual objectives;
- Compare results with expectations;
- Identify strengths and weaknesses;
- Define improvement measures and corrective actions.

The Academic Staff Evaluation Form, approved by Academic Senate Decisions No. 52/2017 and No. 97/2020 (**E.31**), is based on clear and measurable indicators including teaching quality, research activity, project involvement, institutional contribution, and adherence to academic ethics. Completed forms are submitted to the Directorate of Auxiliary Academic Services (Human Resources Sector), recorded in a dedicated register, and included in the individual personnel file.

Evaluation competencies are as follows (**E.4**, Article 50):

- a) The Rector’s performance is evaluated by the Minister responsible for Education;
- b) The Administrator and Head of Internal Audit are evaluated by the Board of Administration;
- c) The Rector evaluates Vice Rectors and heads of main units;
- d) The Administrator evaluates directors under their authority;
- e) Vice Rectors evaluate directors under their authority;
- f) Directors evaluate heads of sectors;

- g) Heads of sectors evaluate specialists;
- h) The Dean evaluates Vice Deans, heads of basic units, and auxiliary academic administrative staff at faculty level;
- i) The Head of the basic unit evaluates teaching/research group leaders, academic staff, department secretary, and teaching auxiliary staff.

Students' opinions on academic and administrative staff performance are periodically collected anonymously through the internal communication system UNVIMAS (Standard II.3) - (E.31).

Standard II.7 The Institution Possesses and Manages Immovable Property and Focuses on Its Continuous Development and Improvement

The University "Ismail Qemali" of Vlora possesses immovable property designated for academic, research, and administrative activities, managed in compliance with the legal framework governing public property administration. Management is carried out through responsible institutional structures to ensure functionality, safety, and efficient use of university spaces.

UV plans continuous development and improvement of physical infrastructure in line with study program needs, student growth, technological developments, and strategic objectives. Investments in teaching buildings, laboratories, libraries, administrative areas, and shared spaces aim to improve teaching, research, and service quality.

- E.67:** Infrastructure documentation, building plans, sanitary approvals, ownership cards, lease contracts
- E.68:** Administrator's report on reconstruction; budget allocation for renovations; procurement for air conditioners; disinfection contracts; emergency signage and building security
- E.69:** Infrastructure equipment inventory (generator, water tanks, emergency stairs, ramps)
- E.70:** Audiovisual and technological equipment inventory and procurement

The University applies well-defined procedures for maintenance, reconstruction, and modernization of immovable assets, ensuring appropriate working and studying conditions for students and staff. In this context, the institution also pays attention to meeting standards of safety, accessibility, and environmental protection, in order to create a functional and sustainable university campus.

Through medium- and long-term planning of infrastructure investments and continuous monitoring of the condition of immovable assets, the institution aims to increase efficiency in the use of physical resources and the ongoing improvement of infrastructure conditions. This approach contributes directly to the achievement of the institutional mission and to meeting quality standards in higher education.

Annex Table 16

Standard II.8 The Institution Ensures Appropriate Infrastructure for Academic and Scientific Activity

The University "Ismail Qemali" of Vlora ensures appropriate and functional infrastructure for the development of academic and scientific activity, in accordance with the requirements of study programs, national higher education standards, and the institution's strategic objectives.

The institution carries out its activity in quiet areas and away from acoustic pollution, with green and relaxation spaces for students. Each faculty complies with Law No. 93/2014 "On the inclusion and accessibility of persons with disabilities," as well as Law No. 10 237/2010 "On occupational safety and health," ensuring equal opportunities for all persons with disabilities (ramps at faculty entrances), equal conditions for living in communities (emergency stairs in every building), and the guarantee of safety and health through prevention of occupational risks, elimination of risk and accident factors, information, counseling, balanced participation, in accordance with the law.

UV periodically carries out technical assessments of infrastructure conditions and equipment, including air-conditioning systems (functional checks, gas refilling, and repairs as needed) or IT equipment, in order to

ensure appropriate working conditions. UV has functional laboratory environments equipped with the necessary tools for implementing the practical component of study programs. Laboratories are adequately lit and ventilated and equipped with heating and air-conditioning systems.

The institution's premises are also suitable for persons with disabilities, as they are equipped with entrance ramps and functional access to the main teaching and administrative facilities. The institution has undertaken concrete infrastructure measures to ensure accessibility, in line with existing building layouts and physical possibilities. All university buildings meet hygiene–sanitary conditions (**E.67**) for students and academic and administrative staff, avoiding hazardous elements and ensuring a safe, functional, and suitable environment for academic and institutional activity.

The University has taken special measures to ensure the safety of students and academic and administrative staff in emergency situations, by drafting and implementing emergency plans for university buildings and ensuring functional infrastructure for safe evacuation. University buildings are equipped with emergency stairs and clearly signposted safety exits, enabling rapid and controlled evacuation in cases of fire, earthquake, or other extraordinary situations. Emergency plans are posted in visible areas and are accessible to the university community, while directional signage is clear and functional. Safety measures are also integrated with the needs of persons with disabilities, ensuring appropriate access and orientation even in emergency situations, in accordance with the physical structure of the buildings.

Based on Rectorate Decision No. 1, dated 20.01.2025 on the allocation of functional duties, technical services and maintenance are monitored (**E.68, E.69, E.70**).

E.71: List of equipment for didactic and research laboratories: Simulation Center for Health Professionals, research laboratory of the Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences (FSHTN), distance-learning teaching cabinet; procurement for hall C 500; request for a laboratory (FSHTN); Council of Ministers Decision (VKM) on the Court of Appeal building;

In conclusion, the infrastructure provided by the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora effectively supports academic and scientific activity, directly contributing to the achievement of the institution's educational and research objectives.

Standard II.9 The Institution Provides Comfortable Teaching and Laboratory Environments

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora was established in 1994 and is located at: Neighborhood: Pavarësia, Street: Kosova, Boulevard: Vlora–Skelë, postal code 9401. It includes four separate buildings by faculty:

1. Faculty of Economics;
2. Faculty of Health;
3. Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences;
4. Faculty of Humanities.

UV's academic infrastructure includes:

- 35 teaching rooms – lectures;
- 16 teaching rooms – seminars;
- 1 audiovisual cabinet for distance teaching;
- 32 didactic–research laboratories;
- 47 premises for academic staff;
- 17 premises for administrative staff;
- 3 technical premises;
- 4 faculty libraries;
- 1 central library;
- 1 conference hall with translation booth, 200 seats;
- 2 workshop rooms with audio system, 50–60 seats;

- 1 premise for the UniVlora Multimedia Laboratory: podcast, university newspaper, student radio. Evidence: Annual Institutional Report 2024–2025, p. 129 ([link](#))

UV plans and manages academic infrastructure to ensure the quality of teaching and scientific research, guaranteeing adequate coverage for the normal delivery of study programs. Teaching environments are appropriately equipped for lectures, seminars, and practical activities, while laboratories and research spaces support experimental and research work in relevant fields.

The University continuously invests in the improvement and modernization of academic and scientific infrastructure by integrating contemporary technologies for teaching and research. This includes (E.70) audiovisual equipment (smartboards, projectors), didactic equipment (teaching laboratories), information systems (UNVIMAS), digital platforms (Google Classroom UniVlora), and access to electronic resources (laptops, computer rooms), which facilitate learning and increase the efficiency of academic activity.

The University provides comfortable working, teaching, and laboratory environments suitable for academic and administrative staff and students, including persons with disabilities. The institution offers functionally organized administrative and academic logistics (E.71), serving the common interest and the normal development of teaching and research processes. UV provides working and teaching spaces equipped with the necessary technological and logistical tools, in line with the nature of academic and administrative activities.

Workstations for academic and administrative staff are equipped with computers, internet connections, and access to institutional academic and administrative management systems. Teaching premises are ventilated, naturally and artificially lit, and equipped with heating and cooling systems that ensure appropriate working conditions throughout the academic year.

Lecture and seminar rooms are furnished with functional chairs and desks suitable for the teaching process and are equipped with modern didactic tools, including audiovisual equipment and supportive teaching technologies such as smartboards, which are used during the teaching process.

Standard II.10 For Medical and Engineering Study Programs, the Institution Ensures High Professional and Scientific Laboratory Standards

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora provides dedicated and functional laboratories for medical and engineering fields of study, in accordance with curriculum requirements, national standards, and contemporary professional and scientific training practices. These laboratories are an essential component of the teaching and research process, enabling practical application of theoretical knowledge and development of students’ professional competences.

Health fields: Nursing

For the implementation of programs of the Faculty of Health, UV provides 7 laboratories:

- 2 nursing laboratories;
- 1 midwifery laboratory;
- 2 anatomy laboratories;
- 1 simulation center for health professionals;
- 1 laboratory for the production of 3D materials.

The laboratories are equipped with infrastructure and laboratory equipment that support practical work, simulations, and professional exercises, in line with the specifics of the respective programs. UV ensures maintenance, updating, and controlled use of laboratories, guaranteeing standards of safety, functionality, and scientific quality. The laboratories have 3 auxiliary academic staff members serving as laboratory technicians.

Engineering fields: electrical, mechanical, naval, armament

For the implementation of programs of the Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences, UV provides 7

laboratories, among the most innovative of which are:

- 1 navigation simulator laboratory;
- 1 armament laboratory.

The laboratories have 2 auxiliary academic staff members serving as laboratory technicians.

The University pays particular attention to integrating laboratories into the teaching process through clear planning of practical hours, engagement of qualified staff, and linking laboratory activities with the learning objectives of study programs. For medical programs, laboratories and practical environments are also supported through cooperation with health institutions, while for engineering programs through cooperation with industrial and technical entities.

Agreements with regional institutions:

<https://univlora.edu.al/marrevshjet-me-institucionet-brenda-vendit>

Nr.	Institution / Company	Content of the Agreement / Link
1	Bashkia Vlorë	Exchange of information; exchange of experiences and projects; coordination for funding calls from domestic and foreign donors; participation in bilateral and international project consortia; within the framework of the “Vlora Smart City” project.
2	Vlora Thermal Power Plant	https://univlora.edu.al/media/dokument/termocentrali-vlore.pdf
3	General Directorate of Metrology, Tirana	https://univlora.edu.al/media/dokument/drejtoria-e-pergjithshme-e-metrologjise-tirane.pdf
4	Nasto Inxhiniering Vlorë	https://univlora.edu.al/media/dokument/nasto-inxhiniering.pdf
5	TechnoPlastic	https://univlora.edu.al/media/dokument/shoqeria-technoplasic.pdf
6	Operator of Electricity Distribution – Vlora Branch	https://univlora.edu.al/media/dokument/oshee-dega-vlore.pdf
7	Distribution System Operator	https://univlora.edu.al/media/dokument/operatori-i-sistemit-te-shpendarjes.pdf
8	Regional Hospital, Lushnje	https://univlora.edu.al/media/dokument/spitali-rajonal-lushnje.pdf
9	“Ali Mihali” Psychiatric Hospital, Vlora	https://univlora.edu.al/media/dokument/spitali-psikiatrik-vlore.pdf
10	Vlora Seaport	https://univlora.edu.al/media/dokument/porti-detar-vlore.pdf

UV has continuously invested in improving laboratory capacities through contemporary equipment, modernization of premises, and participation in development and research projects. Periodic monitoring of laboratory functioning and assessment of compliance with professional and scientific standards contribute to improving the quality of students’ academic and professional training.

Standard II.11 The institution ensures appropriate rest, sports, and recreational facilities for its academic staff and students.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora ensures appropriate rest, sports, recreational, and cultural facilities for academic staff and students, proportionate to their number, guaranteeing well-being, social integration, and quality of university life as an integral part of the normal functioning of the institution.

Near the campus of the Faculty of Humanities, the University provides direct access to food service facilities (canteen/café-bar), recreational areas, and social spaces, which are used by students and academic staff for rest, socialization, and recovery during academic activities. These facilities are functionally integrated with the university campus and are easily accessible to the academic and student community.

E.72: Photos – Recreational and sports spaces within the university premises; Parking spaces; Service

areas (canteen/bar).

For the development of sports and physical activities, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora guarantees access for students and academic staff to open and indoor sports facilities, through the use of public sports infrastructure and cooperation with local institutions. In this context, the University uses the sports fields of “Flamurtari” and the Sports Palace for sports, recreational activities, and events organized in support of university life.

In support of cultural, artistic, and promotional activities, in addition to the facilities available within the University, UV also uses public city venues such as the Sports Palace and the Cinema-Theatre for the organization of cultural-artistic events, graduation ceremonies, exhibitions, and student activities, creating opportunities for broad participation and interaction with the local community.

The University also ensures dedicated parking spaces near each university building, accessible to academic staff and students, facilitating mobility, access, and the daily functioning of academic and administrative activities.

E.73: Request for provision of facilities; graduation ceremony.

Graduation ceremonies:

[link](#)

[link](#)

[link](#)

[link](#)

Sports and recreational activities:

[link](#)

[link](#)

Standard II.12 The institution continuously monitors the condition of its physical infrastructure and is committed to its improvement.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora implements regular monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for the condition of its physical infrastructure, with the aim of guaranteeing the functionality, safety, and suitability of university premises for the development of academic, research, and administrative activities. This process is carried out in accordance with the applicable legal framework and institutional policies for the administration of public property and infrastructure (**E.7**, Article 11).

The institution conducts periodic assessments of the condition of teaching buildings, laboratories, libraries, administrative premises, and shared spaces, identifying needs for maintenance, reconstruction, or modernization. The results of this monitoring are used to plan concrete interventions and to determine investment priorities, in accordance with the needs of study programs and strategic development objectives.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora is committed to the continuous improvement of its physical infrastructure through planned investments, development projects, and periodic maintenance interventions. These measures aim to improve teaching conditions, scientific research, and university services, as well as to increase safety, accessibility, and comfort for students and staff.

Infrastructure management is carried out through designated administrative structures responsible (**E.23**, pp. 151–155) for its administration and maintenance. In implementation of the Rectorate decision on the allocation of functional duties, the Services Sector monitors, plans, coordinates, supervises, and controls the infrastructure. The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora also cooperates with third parties through contracts and cooperation agreements for the provision of support and technical services.

In this framework, the institution also attaches importance to incorporating feedback from students and staff as a source of information for identifying infrastructure issues and improving the university

environment. Continuous monitoring and commitment to improvement contribute to the creation of functional and sustainable infrastructure in compliance with higher education quality standards.

Report on the analysis of the results of student questionnaires for the evaluation and improvement of the quality of services provided by auxiliary academic and administrative staff, academic year 2024–2025 (pp. 56–60). [link](#)

Standard II.13 The institution possesses complete documentation of academic activity in hardcopy and electronic form.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has established and operationalized administrative and academic structures that guarantee the administration, preservation, and processing of documentation, statistical data, and student information, in accordance with the applicable legal and regulatory framework for higher education. The University has administrative structures responsible for preserving documentation in physical (hardcopy) form, including archiving official acts, registers, and institutional files.

Institutional official documentation

Incoming and outgoing documentation of the University “Ismail Qemali” is administered by the Archive–Protocol Sector at institutional level and archive–protocol specialists at main unit level, and is preserved according to institutional archiving rules, ensuring accessibility and traceability (“Regulation on the creation, registration, preservation, service, and transfer of documents at UV,” Academic Senate Decision No. 76, dated 05.12.2016).

E.9: Academic Senate Decision No. 76: [link](#)

According to Article 19 of the “Technical-professional and methodological standards of archival service in the Republic of Albania,” certification of the correspondence register is prepared in implementation of Rectorate Decision No. 1, dated 20.01.2025 (**E.23**, pp. 101–105) on the allocation of functional duties.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has responsible structures (Curriculum & Statistics Sector) for collecting, processing, and administering institutional statistics related to students, study programs, academic staff, and institutional activities. Statistical data are processed periodically and used for reporting, planning, and decision-making purposes, as well as for fulfilling obligations toward state institutions.

Electronic archive of the University “Ismail Qemali”

Requests, notification of acts, and communication among the constituent structures of the University “Ismail Qemali” are carried out (**E.4**, Article 7):

- a) in written form (through Archive–Protocol specialists);
- b) electronically (official UV email);
- c) through publication (official UV website).

Upon request, UV may issue certified copies or extracts of acts issued by itself or other documents under its administration, according to procedures defined in the Regulation (**E.4**, Article 10).

The University “Ismail Qemali” also operates a digital archive of scanned institutional documents. UV possesses appropriate technology and provides staff training opportunities for document digitization through the IT digitization specialist.

E.74: Purchase of document scanning equipment; Certification of the correspondence register; Files processed in the digital archive.

Management of student data

The University maintains a structured student database including information on registration, matriculation number, and other necessary administrative and academic data. These data are administered by teaching secretariats, in accordance with the applicable bylaws and internal university procedures, ensuring accuracy and continuous updating of information pursuant to Articles 78–79 of the UV Statute (**E.1**, Articles 78–79).

Basic student register, academic achievement register, and personal data protection

The University maintains a basic student register with personal data, in physical and electronic form. Administration of this register is carried out in accordance with legislation on personal data protection, ensuring confidentiality, security, and restricted access only to authorized personnel (E.4, Article 121).

- a) Basic registers – completed in accordance with the Ministry of Education Instruction “On equipping public and private higher education institutions with basic student registers”;
- b) Academic achievement registers (grade registers) – completed after the end of the academic year (autumn re-examination session).

Only positive results achieved and permitted grade improvements are recorded in the register. These registers are administered by teaching secretariats (E.4, Article 118).

Diploma register and diploma supplement

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora maintains a permanent basic register of students, in written and electronic form, including data on awarded diplomas and respective diploma supplements. This register guarantees academic traceability and is preserved in accordance with legal and institutional standards. This register is administered by the Chief Secretary of the main unit (E.4, Article 117).

E.75: Registers: Basic register; Grade register; Graduation data register.

E.76: Teaching program in BSc in Biology.

Data on study programs

The University possesses complete and updated documentation for the study programs it offers, including form of study, curricula, and corresponding mandatory credits (ECTS). This documentation is approved by the relevant collegial bodies and administered by responsible academic and administrative structures and is electronically reflected on the official UV website.

Professional Diploma Programs: [link](#)

Bachelor Programs: [link](#); [link](#)

Professional Master Programs: [link](#)

Master of Science Programs: [link](#)

Doctoral Programs: [link](#)

English-speaking programs: [link](#)

Standard II.14 The institution operates information and management systems at institutional level.

The “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora has set as one of its objectives the digitalization of university services and student support (Strategic Objective II.2.1). Students are continuously informed through the official website of the University of Vlora ([link](#)), which provides updated information on study programmes, teaching schedules, academic announcements, and institutional activities.

The official website of the “Ismail Qemali” University also includes several information and management functions, particularly regarding the use of services and the download of invoices for student-related procedures ([link](#)).

The “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora has developed and implemented the institutional information and management system UNVIMAS (UNiversity Virtual Management System), which provides structured support for academic, administrative, and managerial activities. This system contributes to the fulfillment of the institution’s core functions and ensures effective and transparent process management.

The UNVIMAS software has been registered as a patent of the “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora. It has been developed in compliance with industry software development standards. UNVIMAS is a three-tier MVC (Model–View–Controller) application, designed to provide fast, secure, and high-quality service. No other university in the Albanian-speaking territories possesses a computer system of such a high standard, comparable only to leading international universities.

E.77: UNVIMAS patenting procedure.

Advantages of the UNVIMAS System for Academic and Administrative Activities

- a) Provision of a centralized platform for managing and monitoring students' academic progress;
- b) Ensuring the implementation of the principle of confidentiality in information and communication with students;
- c) Delivery of online and distance learning services;
- d) Access to real-time information for students and academic staff;
- e) Improvement of efficiency and transparency in academic processes;
- f) Enabling online evaluation of teaching quality at the university.

Academic Staff Responsibilities (E.30) - Academic staff responsible for semester modules/courses:

- a) Upload partial and final exam results to UNVIMAS and print the respective official records;
- b) Publish course syllabys;
- c) Upload lectures, seminars, and course assignments electronically through the E-Learning module;
- d) Communicate with students through the INBOX module for teaching-related purposes.

Students - Upon acquiring student status at the "Ismail Qemali" University of Vlora, students are required to obtain a personal @univlora.edu.al email address and register in the UNVIMAS system with the assistance of faculty academic secretariats.

Services available to students through the UNVIMAS internal communication system (E.30) include:

- a) Online registration for lectures and seminars according to respective groups;
- b) Access to course schedules, syllabi, and credit information;
- c) Communication with course lecturers via the Inbox module;
- d) Access to distance learning through the E-learning module;
- e) Evaluation of teaching quality through online questionnaires issued by the Internal Quality Assurance and Accreditation Sector;
- f) Access to exam results through their electronic student record book, enabling monitoring of academic progress directly in the system. If students have not received this information for various reasons, they are informed directly by the lecturer in compliance with privacy principles, in accordance with (E.4) of the "Ismail Qemali" University of Vlora.

Through the ***Electronic Student Record Book***, accessible individually in UNVIMAS, each student can monitor the completion of their individual study plan.

In support of the University's Strategy (E.35, Strategic Line II.2 – SMART Service System), the institution aims to build an integrated digital service ecosystem for the "Ismail Qemali" University of Vlora, automating academic and administrative processes, increasing transparency, and improving the experience of students and staff through smart, interactive, and secure platforms. The focus is placed on system integration (UNVIMAS, LMS, e-services), online self-service, data analytics, and real-time user interaction.

Senate Decision No. 71, dated 17.07.2025 (Amendments to Decision No. 101, dated 06.12.2017 "On the establishment and functioning at UV of the digital platform 'Learning Information Management System at UV' with the acronym 'uvms' (University of Vlora Management System)": [Link](#))

UNVIMAS User Manual for Academic Staff (2026) – provides clear step-by-step instructions for system login, profile management, student lists, assignments, and assessment processes within the university electronic platform. The document serves as a practical guide for academic staff for the correct and secure use of the system's main functions: [Link](#)

UNVIMAS User Manual for Students (2026) – clearly explains how to access the system, manage profiles, view schedules, registered courses, grades and transcripts, download learning materials, and use the secret code for internal platform actions. The document serves as a practical guide for students to correctly and securely use the university's electronic system: [Link](#)

Student Manual for Google Classroom – explains how to use the university account to access the

platform, join classes using the code provided by the lecturer, and follow assignments, announcements, discussions, and learning materials within Google Classroom: [Link](#)

Lecturer Manual for Google Classroom – explains how to create, manage, and organize online courses, invite students using class codes, post materials, assignments and announcements, and assess and comment on submissions within the platform: [Link](#)

Integration of Information Systems with Internal Quality Assurance Processes (pp. 47–50): [Link](#)

The Regulation (**E.10**, Articles 14 and 16) provides for the maintenance of equipment and infrastructure of the UNVIMAS system, as well as the responsibility of IT structures for technical administration, monitoring, and intervention in case of system failures or functional issues. The UNVIMAS system is subject to continuous technical updates and modifications aimed at improving performance, security, and functionality, in accordance with technological and legal requirements (**E.10**, Article 8).

The Regulation establishes organizational and technical measures to ensure data security (**E.10**, Article 13), including access control, user identification, logging of actions, and protection against unauthorized access. The protection of information and personal data is governed by the principles of lawfulness, proportionality, and purpose limitation in personal data processing, as well as the obligation that any data processing be carried out only by authorized persons and for clearly defined institutional functions (**E.10**, Articles 11–12).

The Regulation also provides for backup procedures, operating system updates, and system recovery mechanisms in case of failure, ensuring service continuity and data integrity (**E.10**, Articles 13–14).

Standard II.15 The institution coordinates activities in the field of information technology.

The “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora ensures the coordination of information technology activities at the institutional level through the IT Sector at both the central and main unit levels, based on established procedures for the administration, development, and maintenance of information systems. This coordination aims to guarantee the stable, secure, and effective functioning of the digital infrastructure in support of academic, research, and administrative activities.

Digital Platforms Owned by UV

1. Official Website of UV: [Link](#)
2. UniVlora Scientific Journal: [Link](#)
3. Official Website of the Center for Regional Development: [Link](#)
4. Official Website of the Research and Development Center for Public Health: [Link](#)
5. Credis4Teachers Platform: [Link](#)

Internal Information Systems / Software Owned or Used by UV

1. UNVIMAS: [Link](#)
2. Google Classroom UniVlora: [Link](#)

All information available on the above-mentioned platforms and systems constitutes the intellectual property of the “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora. These systems have been developed by the University’s IT Sector and allow interactive updates by academic and support staff (including the updating of announcements, syllabi, staff CVs, and student assessment data).

To ensure the effective use of information technology, the institution supports the development of digital competencies among academic and administrative staff through continuous training and technical assistance. This coordinated approach contributes to increased operational efficiency and the improvement of service quality provided to students and other stakeholders.

- Google Classroom User Manual: [Link](#)
- Reports on Training Sessions Conducted for System Users: [Link](#)
- Summer Course – Linux Commands and Introduction to Bash Scripting: [Link](#)

IT activities are planned and implemented in alignment with the institution’s strategic objectives for a SMART University (Strategic Scenario II), aiming to expand digital services in teaching and administration, including:

- Management of student and staff data;
- Development of technology-assisted teaching;
- Digitization of core academic literature;
- Electronic document management;
- Improvement of institutional communication.

Strategic Line	Strategic Objectives	Key Actions
II.1 <i>SMART Education</i>	II.1.1 Improving digital teaching and learning	Transition to learning based on independent student work, also with AI assistance
		Interactive blended lectures - Online and blended teaching, with international lecturers
		Integration of digital and print literature, distributed only at UV.
II.2 <i>SMART Service System</i>	II.2.1 Digitalization of university services and student support	Digitalized administrative services (applications, registration, certificates)
		One-Stop-Shop for students
		Progress monitoring and use of student management software
II.3 <i>SMART Infrastructure</i>	II.3.1 Modernization of facilities and construction of digital ecosystems	Modernization of auditoriums and laboratories
		Construction of certified and equipped laboratories according to standards
		Creation of digital ecosystems for academic and industrial cooperation
		Implementation of infrastructure for online and blended learning

Standard II.16 The institution prepares the budget in accordance with established and transparent procedures.

The budget of the University “Ismail Qemali Vlora” is prepared in support of Law no. 9936, dated 26.06.2008 “On the Management of the Budgetary System in the Republic of Albania”, as amended; Law no. 10296, dated 8.7.2010 “On Financial Management and Control”, as amended; Decision no. 621, dated 22.10.2021 of the Council of Ministers “On the approval of the National Education Strategy 2021–2026 and its action plan”; Decision no. 542, dated 20.9.2023 of the Council of Ministers “On the approval of the National Strategy for Scientific Research, Technology and Innovation 2023–2030 and its action plan”; Decision no. 16, dated 11.1.2024 of the Council of Ministers “On the approval of the National Plan for European Integration 2024–2026”; Decision no. 12, dated 11.1.2024 of the Council of Ministers “On the approval of the Economic Reform Program (ERP) 2024–2026”; the standards defined in Instruction no. 7, dated 28.02.2018 of the Minister of Finance and Economy “On the preparation of the Medium-Term Budget Program”; as well as in implementation of the UV Statute (E.1) approved by Order of the Ministry of Education and Sports (MAS) no. 197, dated 30.04.2019, amended by MAS Order no. 287, dated 30.06.2025, being approved by the governing bodies of UV: Rectorate, Senate and Board of Administration, with information completed according to the forms of Annex 7-A (Annex 1/A. Additional Statements for the Annual Budget).

1. Annual Budget 2025: [Link](#)
2. **E.78:** Procedure for approval of services to third parties: Senate Decision (VSA) and Board of Administration Decision (VBA) for services to third parties (examples)
3. VSA and VBA for services to third parties: [Link](#), [Link](#)
4. List of services to third parties: [Link](#)
5. Board Decisions on supplementary workload, PAK payments, invited lecturers:

- [link](#)
- [link](#)
- [link](#)
- [link](#)
- [link](#)
- [link](#)

Standard II.17 The institution ensures the necessary means to implement financial policy.

The University “Ismail Qemali” generates and distributes revenues in implementation of Law no. 80/2015, dated 22.07.2015 “On Higher Education and Scientific Research in Higher Education Institutions in the Republic of Albania”; Law no. 9936, dated 26.06.2008 “On the Management of the Budgetary System in the Republic of Albania”; Joint Instruction no. 20, dated 20.09.2019 of MAS and MFE “On the scheme and implementation of the financing model of public higher education and scientific research institutions”; Council of Ministers Decision no. 75, dated 12.02.2018 “On the approval of the financing model of public higher education and scientific research institutions”.

The University “Ismail Qemali” has ensured sustainable revenue growth during 2024 and 2025. The teaching grant from the Ministry of Education has increased progressively and revenues generated by UV in 2025 were 15% higher than in 2024 (ALL 14,000,000 more), resulting from the increase in the number of students and the expansion of services provided.

The Transparency Program on the official website of the University “Ismail Qemali” publishes all procedures and financial reports implemented by UV.

Transparency Program: [Link](#)

E.79: Revenue Reconciliation Act for 2024, opening of the 2024 grant.

Standard II.18 The institution follows a policy of budgetary and financial control.

The University “Ismail Qemali Vloa” implements control policies in support of Law no. 9936, dated 26.06.2008 “On the Management of the Budgetary System in the Republic of Albania”; Law no. 10296 “On Financial Management and Control”, as amended; Law no. 97/2023 “On the 2024 Budget”; Instruction no. 9, dated 20.3.2018 “On standard procedures for budget implementation”, as amended; Instruction no. 22, dated 17.11.2016 of the Minister of Finance “On standard procedures for budget monitoring for central government units”; Instruction no. 24, dated 21.10.2019; as well as AKFAL Guideline no. 75/5 prot., dated 31.07.2023.

Audit Report (Supreme State Audit – KLSH): [Link](#)

Annual Financial Activity Report 2023–2024: [Link](#)

Financial Report January–December 2024: [Link](#), [Link](#)

Standard II.19 The institution follows an open strategy for cooperation and partnership at regional, national and international level.

The University “Ismail Qemali” has built and implements an open strategy of cooperation and partnership, which is integrated into the institutional development documents and into policies for internationalization, scientific research and connection with the labor market. This strategy aims to strengthen the role of the institution at regional and national level, as well as to increase visibility and competitiveness in the European and international higher education area.

Cooperation at regional and national level is implemented through agreements with higher education institutions, public and private institutions, professional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, in support of the development of study programs, the implementation of professional internships, joint

projects and scientific activities. These partnerships contribute directly to the improvement of academic quality and the increase of the relevance of the educational offer.

Agreements with national institutions: [Link](#)

Cooperation agreements with national HEIs:

1. University “Luarasi” Tirana
2. University “Isa Boletini” Mitrovica
3. Armed Forces Academy
4. University “Fan S. Noli” Korça
5. Polis University
6. University College “Reald” Vlora
7. University of Medicine, Tirana
8. College “Universum” Prishtina (Kosovo)
9. University “Zoja e Këshillit të Mirë”
10. European University of Tirana
11. University of Arts Tirana
12. Polytechnic University of Tirana

Cooperation agreements with national organizations and institutions:

(Translated strictly; numbering preserved)

1. Regional Council of Vlora
2. Municipality of Vlora
3. National Youth Agency
4. Local Directorate of Pre-University Education Fier
5. Local Directorate of Pre-University Education Lushnje
6. School of Directors of Pre-University Education
7. Court of First Instance, Vlora
8. Administrative Court Lushnje
9. General Directorate of Metrology Tirana
10. OST – Transmission System Operator
11. Technical Control Center
12. Nasto Engineering Vlora
13. DigitalDev.AL
14. Company “TechnoPlastic” sh.p.k.
15. Distribution System Operator
16. Water Supply & Sewerage Directorate Vlora
17. OSHEE – Vlora Branch
18. Nisatel Vlora
19. Port of Vlora
20. UBA Bank – Vlora Branch
21. Balfin Group
22. Vlora Marina
23. Company “Green Coast Hotel” sh.p.k.
24. Hotel “Regina Group” sh.p.k.
25. Hotel Kral
26. Hotel Mazarine Vlora
27. Balkan Sport Vlora
28. Company “Alb Kripa” sh.p.k.
29. Company “Bena Gas” sh.p.k.
30. Regional Directorate of the Health Care Operator (DROKSH)
31. Regional Hospital Vlora
32. Memorial Hospital Fier

33. Psychiatric Hospital Vlora
34. Regional Hospital Lushnje
35. “Klinika Bakaj” sh.p.k.
36. Center for the Study of Democracy and Governance
37. Albanian Population Center & Aulona Center
38. Association AULEDA

At international level, the University “Ismail Qemali” develops partnerships with universities and homologous institutions, focusing on student and academic staff mobility, research projects and exchange of good practices. Participation in international programs and initiatives supports the internationalization process and promotes alignment of academic activities with European higher education standards.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU): [Link](#)

Cooperation agreements with international HELs:

1. Wekerle International University
 2. St. Paul the Apostle Ohrid
 3. Georgian Technical University
 4. University of Bari Aldo Moro
 5. University of Belgrade
 6. The Technical University of Varna
 7. Deggendorf Institute of Technology
 8. Mediterranean University Podgorica
 9. Tokat Gaziosmanpasa University
- ... out of 90 active MoUs.

Cooperation agreements with international networks and institutions:

- ETEN (European Teacher Education Network)
- CMU (Community of Mediterranean Universities)
- UNIMED (Mediterranean Universities Union)

The University “Ismail Qemali” includes within its structure the Sector of International Relations (**E.23**, pp. 90–99), which aims at the creation, development and management of international relations and links with other educational, research institutions and international organizations. This sector aims to promote academic and scientific cooperation with foreign universities, organizations and institutions, enabling the exchange of knowledge and resources and contributing to the development of the university’s international activities.

Objectives of the Sector of International Relations:

Promotion of international cooperation:

- To create and manage relations with universities, international organizations and other educational and research institutions in order to support the development of cooperation and exchange opportunities;
- To develop opportunities for partnership agreements and cooperation with universities and international organizations for academic, research and student exchanges.

Development of academic and scientific exchanges:

- To promote and manage exchange programs for academic staff, students and researchers, enabling participation in international exchange and cooperation programs;
- To create opportunities for research exchange, scientific projects and preparation of joint publications with institutions and universities abroad.

Strengthening participation in international programs:

- To support the University in its involvement in international projects, funds and cooperation opportunities with international organizations such as Erasmus+, Horizon Europe and other similar initiatives;
- To promote opportunities for funding and scholarships for students, academic staff and researchers to

participate in international projects and scientific activities.

Development of the university’s international image:

- To create opportunities and activities for promoting the university at international level, highlighting academic, research and professional achievements;
- To organize activities that increase recognition and representation of the university in international forums, contributing to the creation of a positive institutional image.

Through these mechanisms, cooperation and partnership are ensured to be sustainable, measurable and oriented toward the fulfillment of the institution’s strategic objectives.

Standard II.20 The institution cooperates with other institutions in support of its academic, administrative, research-scientific/artistic activities and professional internships.

The University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora has built a sustainable network of cooperation with various regional, national and international institutions, in support of academic, research, administrative activities and professional internships (list of agreements – Standard II.19). These collaborations contribute directly to the improvement of the quality of study programs, the increase of research and professional capacities of staff and students, as well as to the development of artistic and scientific activity.

At academic level, the university cooperates with other institutions for:

1. the development of joint and double degree programs;
2. the exchange of teaching experiences (Erasmus+ mobility);
3. the implementation of academic and development projects.

E.80: *Agreements for joint and double degree programs:* BSc in “Architectural Sciences for Heritage”; BSc in “Electrical Engineering”; MSc in “Armament Engineering” with profile “Aviation” and “Naval”; MSc in “Protection and Management of the Marine Environment”.

Type of Degree	Cycle of Study	Title	Partner University
Joint Degree	Bachelor	Architectural Sciences for Cultural Heritage	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
	Master	Protection and Management of the Marine Environment	University of Montenegro, University of Durrës
		Armament Engineering with minor profile in Aviation and Naval	Armed Forces Academy, Tirana
Double Degree	Bachelor	Gjuhësi të aplikuara në fushën e Turizmit	Universiteti i Salentos, Itali
		Applied Linguistics in the Field of Tourism	University of Salento, Italy
		Mechanical Engineering	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
		Electrical Engineering	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
	Master	Design and Management of Tourism and Cultural Systems University of Bari “Aldo Moro”, Italy	Design and Management of Tourism and Cultural Systems University of Bari “Aldo Moro”, Italy

The university’s research and international projects focus on the modernization of teaching and research, digital transformation, inclusion and accessibility, as well as strengthening links with industry and the labor market. They cover areas such as decarbonization in the maritime sector, integration of AI in higher education, bridging the digital divide, and university–enterprise cooperation for employability.

As direct benefits for the university, these projects bring increased academic and research capacities, curriculum updates, development of digital competences of staff and students, improvement of infrastructure and services, strengthening of cooperation with industry, and enhancement of the institutional international profile and positioning.

Research and International Projects

No.	Project Title	Period	Program / Call	Role in Project	Lead Partner / Coordinator	Implementing Unit	Objectives	Beneficiaries / Target Groups	Benefits for the University
1	<u>Zero-C – Transport and logistics towards net zero carbon</u>	01.11.2023 – 31.10.2026	International / CBHE	Partner	University “Aleksandër Moisiu” Durrës	Faculty of Technical Sciences (QKSH – FSHIN)	Preparation of human resources for decarbonization and energy efficiency in the maritime sector	57 staff + 300 students trained; 60 professionals involved in EMSA/STCW	Increased capacities in maritime sector; updated curricula; connection between industry and public authorities; institutional profile strengthening
2	<u>EDUFAIR – Integration of AI in higher education</u>	01.11.2024 – 31.10.2026	International / Digital-AI	Partner	International consortium	UV (institutional)	Integration of AI in teaching and learning research	Strategy document; AI Lab established; international cooperation	Development of digital competences in teaching and learning; adoption and integration of AI; digital transformation
3	<u>HAWKING – Bridging the digital divide</u>	01.12.2023 – 30.11.2026	International	Partner	University of Montenegro	UV (institutional)	Improvement of digital access and inclusion in HEIs	Accessible services; digital methodologies; support for students with special needs	Improved digital infrastructure; inclusion and accessibility for students; digital capacity building
4	<u>University–enterprise cooperation for employability</u>	11.2020 – 11.2023	International / CBHE	Partner	International Burch University	UV + regional partner			

In the field of scientific research and artistic activities, cooperation is implemented through joint projects, conferences, seminars and joint scientific publications, strengthening research capacities and promoting innovation.

List of joint research projects with national funding:

- Digital transformation in tourism: The impact of technology on the competitiveness of SMEs in the Vloera Region, challenges and opportunities (Dr. Rezarta Hasanaj);
- Onomastics of the Vloera River, archaeological-linguistic heritage (Prof. Assoc. Zamira Alimemaj);
- Side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine in the vaccinated population of Vloera Region (Dr. Majlinda Zahaj);
- Media and Information Literacy as an integrated curriculum in master programs in teacher education (Dr. Eva Çipi);
- Digital Simulation Center for health professionals (Prof. Dr. Aurela Saliaj);
- Study on the impact of Music Education in the field of Specialized Pedagogy – A research and applied approach (Prof. Assoc. Eliona Lici);
- Albania in travel writings of the post-communist period (1990–) (Prof. Dr. Armela Panajoti).

List of joint research projects with foreign funding:

- Sustainable tourism development for vocational education and entrepreneurship (Dr. Rezarta Hasanaj);
- Higher education for empowered and sustainability-oriented societies (Prof. Assoc. Fatjona Kamberi);
- Strengthening capacities for the implementation of dual education in Albanian higher education (Prof. Dr. Armela Panajoti);
- Strengthening knowledge and skills in higher education institutions in the Western Balkans in preparation for zero-carbon maritime transport and logistics (Prof. Dr. Kristofor Lapa);
- Shushica River: A bridge between Ecology and Molecular Biology (Dr. Aurora Bakaj);
- Advancing the quality of higher education in the Western Balkans through facilitating the integration of AI in teaching, learning and scientific research (Prof. Assoc. Jonida Mehmetaj).

List of publications within research-scientific groups:

- “Analysis Using the Gini Coefficient”
Barleti University – Prof. Assoc. Dr. Aurora Bakaj; Denada Sota; Dr. Bationa Bennewitz; Hajdar Kiçaj; Mariola Ismailaj.
- “Albania in the eyes of the Hebrew women who survived during World War II”

Mariglina Meminaj; Roland Zisi.

- c. “Albania in the writings of travelers who visited it”
Adriana Gjika; Dorjana Klosi.
- d. “Behind stereotypes and preconceptions: ‘The other’ in ‘Land of Eagles’”
Elonora Hodaj; Artemida Luçaj.
- e. “Post-communist Albania in Robert Carver’s book”
Enkelejda Billa.
- f. “Adventure tourism: tourism caves in Vlora municipality”
Prof. Assoc. Dr. Zamira Sinaj, University of Vlora “Ismail Qemali”, Vlora, Albania;
Prof. Dr. Fatmir Memaj, Faculty of Economy, University of Tirana, Tirana, Albania.

Conferences, seminars and workshops within research projects:

Bridging ecology and molecular science – to train the next generation of scientists [Link](#)

Inter-University Workshop in Biology [Link](#)

Fifth International Conference NRA-CSIT [Link](#)

Academic and Cultural Exchange with the University of Life Sciences Prague (Czech Republic) [Link](#)

Digital Mastery – Development of Professional Digital Skills, ILOFORDIGITAL INTERREG IPA

South Adriatic [Link](#)

Cooperation with other institutions also supports the university’s administrative and managerial activity, facilitating the exchange of good practices in the field of institutional management, planning and monitoring.

In the field of professional internships, relations with companies, public institutions and professional organizations enable students’ integration into the labor market and the development of their practical skills. Agreements with institutions where teaching internships are carried out include specific clauses that regulate the implementation of these student internships.

E.81: Documentation on mentoring and supervision of professional internships.

Standard II.21 The institution follows favorable policies for the mobility of academic staff and students at international level.

The University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora has developed and implemented sustainable and supportive policies for the mobility of students and academic staff at international level, in accordance with the strategic objectives of internationalization and enhancement of academic quality. These policies are integrated into the institutional documents and internal regulations for international students (**E.13**), ensuring an open and fair approach for all participants.

The Internationalization Strategy (**E.33**) of the University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora aims to strengthen the university’s position and involvement in the international arena through the development of partnerships, academic mobility, programs and scientific and teaching cooperation, as well as the improvement of services and environment for international students and staff. This strategy includes measures to increase student and staff mobility, expand programs in foreign languages, consolidate relations with foreign institutions, and modernize university services in accordance with international higher education standards.

For academic staff, the University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora offers opportunities for participation in international teaching, research programs and professional training. These policies facilitate the exchange of experience and promote international scientific cooperation, contributing to the improvement of teaching and research quality within the university.

At student level, the university supports participation in mobility programs such as Erasmus+, bilateral projects and agreements with partner universities abroad. Institutional policies ensure not only participation opportunities, but also administrative and financial support, as well as recognition of academic credits

earned abroad (E.12). This enables students to benefit from international experience and enhance their academic and professional skills.

Universities with which UV has mobility agreements: [Link](#)

1. University of Castilla-La Mancha (UCLM)
 2. University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli
 3. Dunarea de Jos University of Galati
 4. Recep Tayyip Erdogan University, Turkey
 5. Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad
 6. University of Tokat Gaziosmanpasa, Turkey
 7. University of Kalisz, Poland
 8. West University of Timisoara, Romania
 9. Polytechnic University of Cartagena, Spain
 10. Riga Technical University, Latvia
- ... out of 120 active Erasmus+ inter-institutional agreements.

Management of mobility is carried out through institutional coordination and monitoring mechanisms, ensuring the sustainable functioning of policies and the effective use of resources. Mobility results are used to assess and improve university policy in this field, ensuring a continuous approach to increasing participation and its impact on the academic and professional development of students and staff.

Academic staff mobility within Erasmus+ (2020–2025):

- Faculty of Economy: 56 staff from FE and 56 staff from partners;
- Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences: 76 staff from FTNS and 37 staff from partners;
- Faculty of Health: 65 staff from FH and 17 staff from partners;
- Faculty of Human Sciences: 213 staff from FHS and 102 from partners.

E.82: Erasmus+ mobility procedure for academic and non-academic staff; Mobility certificate for incoming staff.

Student mobility within Erasmus+ (2020–2025):

- Faculty of Economy: 27 students from FE and 5 from partners;
- Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences: 71 students from FTNS and 8 from partners;
- Faculty of Health: 8 students from FH and 12 from partners;
- Faculty of Human Sciences: 88 students from FHS and 28 from partners.

E.83: Erasmus+ mobility procedure for students; Documentation for recognition of credits earned abroad; Mobility certificate for incoming students.

The level of UV's international mobility has also been assessed through internationally recognized external indicators, such as:

- Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) 2021–2027: [Link](#)
- Ranked No. 1 worldwide for “Student Mobility and Openness” according to WURI Ranking 2024 (p. 4): [Link](#)

WURI 2024: Student Mobility and Openness (A2) Top 100

Rank	Name	Rank	Name
1	University of Vlora "Ismail Qemali"	26	University of Bonn
2	University of Vienna	27	Faculty of Dentistry, Universitas Gadjah Mada
3	Daffodil International University	28	Deggendorf Institute of Technology
4	Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology	29	Universidad Tecnológica Centroamericana UNITEC
5	University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh	30	CHRIST (Deemed to be University)
6	University of Health Sciences	31	Lovely Professional University
7	University of Mostar	32	Telkom University
8	Hayek Global College	33	LSPR Institute of Communication and Business
9	National University of Management	34	Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia
10	Shanghai Jiao Tong University	35	Politecnico di Milano
11	Badr University in Cairo	36	Nagoya University
12	Dalian Neusoft University of Information	37	Hebrew University of Jerusalem
13	Westlake University	38	Tokyo International University
14	Peking University	39	Hokkaido University
15	University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague	40	The University of Tokyo
16	The University of the South Pacific	41	METAVVERSE UNIVERSAL COLLEGE (MVUC)
17	China Europe International Business School (CEIBS)	42	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)
18	Xi'an Jiaotong University	43	University of Amsterdam
19	University of Cologne	44	Norwegian University of Science and Technology
20	LMU Munich	45	University of Oslo
21	Technical University of Munich	46	Fatima Jinnah Medical University
22	Chitkara University, Punjab	47	Khwaja Fareed University of Engineering and Information Technology, Rahimyar Khan, Pakistan
23	University of Split	48	Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology
24	University of Münster	49	Superior University
25	West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences (WBNUJS/NUJS)	50	Fatima Jinnah Women University

Standard II.22 The institution conducts market studies to fulfill its mission and objectives.

The University "Ismail Qemali" Vlora, specifically the Faculty of Economy, systematically conducts market studies and analyses of the needs of the educational, economic and social sectors in order to guide the development of its study programs and academic and research activities. These studies aim to identify labor market demands for various skills and competences, ensuring that the university's academic offer is relevant, competitive and employment-oriented.

The market study process includes the collection and analysis of data from regional and national stakeholders, including public institutions, companies, professional organizations and the private sector. Based on the results of these analyses, the university plans the development of new programs, the improvement of existing programs, and the adaptation of teaching methods and curricula to meet real market needs.

Market studies also contribute to the development of professional internships, facilitating students' integration into the labor market and providing a direct link between higher education and the economic sector. The results of these analyses are used by academic and administrative structures to improve strategic planning, resource allocation and evidence-based decision-making.

E.84: Labor market studies for the study program "Professional Diploma – Tour Operator."

E.85: Reports on student integration into the labor market through internships, Faculty of Economy.

Conclusions and Evaluation

The University "Ismail Qemali" Vlora has established and implemented sustainable and transparent mechanisms for institutional and financial management, cooperation and partnerships, international mobility of students and academic staff, as well as for conducting market studies that guide the development of its programs and activities.

Budget drafting processes are documented and approved by the competent bodies, ensuring transparency, control and accountability. Cooperation with regional, national and international institutions covers academic, research, professional practice and administrative fields, strengthening program quality and the university's impact on society and the labor market. Favorable mobility policies promote international exchange of experiences, while market studies provide accurate information for program planning and the continuous improvement of curricula and professional practices.

The most significant achievements of the University "Ismail Qemali" in the field of support resources and

institutional partnerships during the last five years are:

- Establishment of a series of support mechanisms for the development of academic and administrative staff capacities, including training programs with Albanian, international and diaspora academic personnel.
- Significant development of infrastructural capacities of the main academic and research units, mainly through funding secured outside UV; expansion of research and teaching laboratories; initiation of accreditation procedures for research laboratories.
- Increase in institutional revenues, resulting from the growth in student numbers and expansion of UV services.
- Complete reconstruction of the official UV website and establishment of additional complementary platforms reflecting all university activities. Structuring of UniVlora platforms in an interactive format for information input. Creation of two platforms (UNVIMAS and Google Classroom) enabling online distribution of teaching materials and interactive learning with assignment submission and online assessment. UV is finalizing the patenting procedures of the internal information system UNVIMAS (UNiversity VIRTUAL Management System), both to recognize it as UV intellectual property and to obtain marketing rights.
- Significant expansion of partnership relations with over 120 international HEIs, over 15 national HEIs and more than 50 regional and national institutions.
- All UV programs implement professional internships within a regional institutional network (Fier, Vlora, Lushnje), under the mentorship of experts from these institutions.
- Opening of several new joint and double degree programs through new partnerships with Albanian HEIs and OECD.
- First place in WURI Ranking 2024 for “Student Mobility and Openness,” due to the expansion of international partnerships within Erasmus+ programs.

Overall, the University demonstrates a proactive, results-oriented and evidence-based approach. It has functional structures and mechanisms for continuous management, monitoring and evaluation, ensuring alignment with its mission and strategic objectives.

As an area for further development in the UV Development Strategy,

- ❑ *the further expansion of international cooperation towards university alliances*
 - ❑ *sustainable investments in scientific research,*
 - ❑ *innovation partnerships with the public and private sectors*
- are identified.*

STANDARD II – REQUIREMENTS FULLY ACHIEVED

III – STUDY PROGRAMS, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT

Standard III.1 The institution offers programs in accordance with its mission, development strategy and labor market demands.

The University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora offers study programs that are in direct alignment with its mission (E.1: Statute of the University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora, Article 3.1) and its institutional vision of a University 4.0 (E.35: UV Development Strategy 2025–2030, p. 47), oriented toward providing quality higher education, developing human capital, and actively contributing to the economic, social and cultural development of the region and the country.

At the University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora, the following study programs are currently offered:

- 1 Professional Program – 1 year
- 6 Professional Programs – 2 years
- 30 Bachelor Programs
- 37 Master Programs
- 2 Third Cycle Programs
- 1 Continuing Professional Development Programs
- 5 Double Degree Programs
- 3 Joint Programs

The University of Vlora has joint programs with the following universities:

<i>Type of degree</i>	<i>Study cycle</i>	<i>Program name</i>	<i>Partner University</i>
Joint Degree	Bachelor	Architecture Sciences for Heritage	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
	Master	Maritime Environment Protection and Management – MEP&M	University of Montenegro University of Durrës, Albania
		Armament Engineering with minor profile in Aviation and Naval	Armed Forces Academy, Tirana
Double Degree	Bachelor	Applied Linguistics in the Field of Tourism	University of Salento, Italy
		Mechanical Engineering	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
		Electric Engineering	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
	Master	Design and Management of Tourism and Cultural Systems	University of Bari “Aldo Moro”, Italy

The University of Vlora offers study programs in English:

<i>Study cycle</i>	<i>Type of degree</i>	<i>Program name</i>	<i>Partner University</i>
Bachelor	Joint Degree	Architecture Sciences for Heritage	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
	Albanian degree	Computer Science	
	Albanian degree	General Nursing	
	Double Degree	Mechanical Engineering	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy
	Double Degree	Electric Engineering	Polytechnic University of Bari, Italy

	Joint Degree	Applied linguistic in Tourism	Salento University of Bari, Italy
	Albanian degree	English language	
Master	Joint Degree	Maritime Environment Protection and Management – MEP&M	University of Montenegro University of Durrës, Albania
	Albanian degree	Teaching in CLAB	
	Albanian degree	Translation and Interpreting	

(E.80: Agreements for joint and double degree programs: BSc in Architectural Sciences for Heritage; BSc in Mechanical Engineering; MSc “Protection and Management of the Marine Environment”; MSc “Armament Engineering with Minor Profile in Aviation and Naval.”)

The design, review and development of study programs are based on:

- national and European higher education policies (*Higher Education Development Policy Document 2030, Strategic Objectives 1.1.1; 1.2.1; National Education Strategy 2021–2026, Policies C.1, C.3*);
- institutional strategic documents (E.35: *UV Development Strategy 2025–2030, Strategic Objectives I.2.1; III.1.1; III.1.2*);
- analysis of societal and labor market needs (E.84: *Labor Market Study for the study program “Professional Diploma – Tour Operator”*).

Study programs are designed in accordance with the strategic priorities of the institution, reflecting UV’s academic profile, its tradition in specific fields of study and the development potential of the Vlora region. In this framework, the university offers first, second and third cycle programs covering different fields of knowledge, aiming to balance theoretical education with the development of practical and professional skills.

The institution follows clear procedures for the opening of new programs and the periodic review of existing ones (E.4: General Regulation of UV, Article 55, points 2, 3, 4). These procedures include analysis of market demand, assessment of graduate employment opportunities, consultation with external stakeholders (employers, public institutions, professional organizations), as well as verification of the institution’s academic, infrastructural and financial capacities. Through this process, UV aims to ensure that academic offerings are sustainable, relevant and competitive.

(E.38: Procedure for approval and application of the BSc program in Computer Engineering)

(E.48: Procedure for reorganization of the BSc program in General Nursing)

The alignment of study programs with labor market requirements is also ensured through the integration of professional internships, applied modules and cooperation with institutions and various economic and social entities: ([link](#)). This approach contributes to preparing students with transferable and in-demand competences, increasing their employment opportunities and professional integration after graduation.

Standard III.2 Study programs are offered in accordance with national and international objectives.

The University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora designs and implements study programs in full alignment with national higher education development objectives, as well as with international priorities and orientations in this field. The institution relies on the national legal and strategic framework for higher education, respecting the standards defined in the legislation in force and in guiding documents related to Albania’s integration into the European Higher Education Area.

In accordance with national objectives — Quality education for all; *Blue economy* and *Tourism development*, as defined in the National Strategy for Development and European Integration 2022–2030: [Link](#)

UV pays particular attention to the development of programs that contribute to employment growth, preparation of specialists in priority fields for the economy and public administration, and strengthening innovation and digitalization of work processes.

Below is a selection of study programs of the University of Vlora, which aim to prepare specialists at all levels of higher education, in accordance with the needs of the regional labor market, covering all supporting components of the development of the blue economy and tourism potential in the region.

Professional Diplomas (DP):

- DP in Tour Operator
- DP in Tourist Guide for the Southern Region
- DP in Aquaculture and Hygiene of Fishery Products
- DP in Specialist in Marine and Coastal Services and Operations
- DP in Geriatric Assistance

Bachelor Programs (BSc):

- BSc in Business Administration
- BSc in Tourism Management
- BSc in Applied Linguistics in Tourism
- BSc in Computer Science
- BSc in Navigation
- BSc in Architectural Sciences for Heritage
- BSc in Naval Engineering

Professional Master (MP):

- MP in Entrepreneurship in Tourism
- MP in Tourist Guiding and Communication
- MP in Industrial and Naval Operations
- MP in Advanced Maritime Studies

Master of Science (MSc):

- MSc in Design and Management of Tourism and Cultural Systems
- MSc in Maritime Environment Protection and Management
- MSc in Armament Engineering (Naval and Aviation profile)
- MSc in Real Estate
- MSc in Translation and Interpreting
- MSc in Environmental Biology

In the international dimension, the university aims at the continuous alignment of its study programs with European and international standards and best practices. This is achieved through the harmonization of curricula with homologous programs of partner universities based on the Bologna Process, the inclusion of contemporary international literature, and the integration of the international and intercultural dimension into program content (**E.86**: Study program BSc in Electrical Engineering – revision process).

The University “Ismail Qemali” offers several programs that have automatic recognition in the EU labor market, which have been designed or reorganized (**E.87**: Reorganization of the BSc Program in General Nursing according to Council of Ministers Decision no. 823, dated 28.12.2023 “On some additions and amendments to Decision no. 41, dated 24.1.2018, of the Council of Ministers, ‘On the elements of study programs offered by higher education institutions’”) in full compliance with the structure of homologous EU curricula:

- DP in Geriatric Assistance
- BSc in General Nursing
- BSc in Midwifery

- BSc in Architectural Sciences for Heritage [Link](#)

The institution also promotes the use of foreign languages in the teaching process and the development of joint or double degree programs (**E.80**: Agreements for joint and double degree programs: BSc in Architectural Sciences for Heritage; BSc in Mechanical Engineering; MSc “Protection and Management of the Marine Environment”; MSc “Armament Engineering with Minor Profile in Aviation and Naval”), in line with the objectives of higher education internationalization.

Programs offered in English and delivered with international professors (**E.88**: List of foreign academic staff at UV):

- BSc in Architecture Science for Heritage
- BSc in Computer Engineering
- BSc in English Language
- MSc in Maritime Environment Protection and Management
- MSc in Teaching in CLAB
- MSc in Translation and Interpreting

UV supports active participation in international programs and initiatives, which directly contribute to the modernization of the academic offer and to the improvement of the quality of study programs. The experience gained through international cooperation projects is reflected in curriculum revision, updating of teaching methodologies, and strengthening of the practical and research components of the programs.

Furthermore, UV students have participated with outstanding results in national and nationwide university competitions, as well as in student conferences and events organized under the supervision of UV academic and support staff.

Law Competition (Halimi Foundation): [Link](#)

UniDebate National Competition: [Link](#)

Debating Economics National Competition: [Link](#)

Faculty of Health Student Conference: [Link](#)

13th ASECU Youth International Conference (UV 2024): [Link](#)

Standard III.3 Study programs have clearly defined objectives and their learning outcomes are aligned with the level and profile of the qualification they offer.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora ensures that each study program has clearly defined, coherent, and measurable objectives, aligned with the institutional mission, the university’s academic profile, and the requirements of the national and European qualifications frameworks.

E.4: General Regulation of UV, Articles 54.5; 56; 58.

The program objectives (page 4 of each program document) are designed to reflect the level of study, the professional or academic profile of the qualification, and the competences that students are expected to acquire upon completion of the respective cycle. The learning outcomes for each study program are formulated in accordance with the Albanian Qualifications Framework and the European Qualifications Framework (levels 5, 6, 7, and 8), respecting the division into knowledge, skills, and competences (page 4 – [link](#)). These outcomes are harmonized with the level of the study cycle and the corresponding qualification profile, ensuring progression.

E.89: Study programs: Professional Diploma in Aquaculture and Hygiene of Fishery Products; BSc in Biology; Professional Master in Secondary Education in Biology with a minor profile in Chemistry – within the same field of Biology.

The alignment of learning outcomes with the level and profile of the qualification is also reflected in the content of the curricula and in the structure of the study plans. Each module or course

contributes directly to the achievement of the overall program learning outcomes, avoiding overlaps and ensuring a logical and progressive distribution of academic workload. Teaching and assessment methods are adapted to the defined objectives and outcomes, aiming at a comprehensive and fair evaluation of student achievements.

UV places particular importance on the transparency of objectives and learning outcomes, making them accessible to students and stakeholders through official program documentation, syllabi, and informational materials.

UV Study Programs:

Professional Diploma Programs [link](#)

Bachelor Programs [link](#); [link](#)

Professional Master Programs [link](#)

Scientific Master Programs [link](#)

Doctoral Programs [link](#)

English-speaking programs [link](#)

This transparency helps students clearly understand academic expectations, their professional development pathway, and their opportunities for employment or further studies.

Standard III.4 The institution clearly defines and follows procedures for the approval of new programs.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has clearly defined and formalized procedures for the proposal, evaluation, and approval of new study programs, in accordance with the national legal and regulatory framework for higher education, as well as with internal institutional policies and documents (**E.4: General Regulation of UV, Article 55**). These procedures aim to ensure that every new program is academically justified, sustainable, and aligned with the university’s mission and development strategy.

Proposals for new programs are drafted and initiated by departments. The Head of Department establishes a working group responsible for preparing the application for the new program, which presents the proposal to the department in line with the fields of application defined by the Ministry of Education. The process begins with identifying the need for the respective program, based on labor market analysis, scientific and academic developments, and the strategic priorities of the institution. The proposed program is accompanied by detailed documentation, including program objectives, learning outcomes, curriculum structure, human and infrastructural resources, and financial fee assessment.

After passing the internal evaluation phase at the department and faculty levels, the new study program undergoes approval procedures by the university’s governing bodies: the Academic Senate and the Board of Administration. During the respective meetings of these bodies, together with the department’s proposal, an evaluation report is presented. This report is prepared by the Vice Rector for Academic Affairs, the Director of Auxiliary Academic Services, and the Curriculum & Statistics Sector, who assess the formal compliance of the application documentation with the applicable sub-legal acts. In the case of a positive evaluation by the Academic Senate and the Board of Administration, the proposal for the new program is submitted to the Ministry of Education for final approval.

Only upon completion of this process and receipt of the relevant approvals is the program included in the institution’s official academic offer and subjected to external licensing and/or accreditation procedures, in accordance with the legislation in force.

(E.38: Approval procedure and full application documentation for the BSc in Computer Engineering program: minutes of the department meeting, department decision, submission by

the Dean, report of the Curriculum & Statistics Sector, Decision of the Academic Senate, Decision of the Board of Administration, Application format.)

Based on the requirements of the Ministry of Education, each year the basic units draft and submit for approval to the Academic Senate, the Board of Administration, and the Ministry the admission criteria and quotas for all study programs. The procedure for drafting and approving them is the same as the above-mentioned procedure for study programs. The determination of quotas is strictly limited by the standards of the Higher Education Quality Code regarding UV's intake capacities: staff/student ratios and area/student ratios. After approval, the quotas and criteria for each academic year are published on the official UV website under each study program.

(E.39: Procedure for approval of quotas at the Faculty of Economics for the academic year 2025–2026.)

(E.40: Procedure for approval of criteria at the Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences for the academic year 2025–2026.)

Bachelor programs with the quotas and criteria for the academic year, published on the official UV website: [link](#)

Standard III.5 Study programs are offered in accordance with the institution's capacities.

The University "Ismail Qemali" of Vlorë ensures that study programs are delivered in full compliance with the institution's academic, non-academic, and infrastructural capacities, thereby guaranteeing the quality and sustainability of the teaching and learning process. The planning and development of the academic offer are based on a careful assessment of existing resources and future development needs, in line with the institutional strategy and national higher education standards.

UV's academic capacities consist of qualified academic staff holding appropriate academic titles and scientific degrees, corresponding to the levels and profiles of the study programs offered (Summary Table 1; Summary Table 2). The institution follows clear policies for the recruitment and evaluation of academic staff (E.4: General Regulation of UV, Articles 41, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 50), ensuring that courses and modules are covered by lecturers who meet legal and professional criteria. The distribution of teaching workload is carefully planned to ensure alignment between staff capacities and program requirements (E.66: Teaching workload of the academic staff of the Department of Health Care).

Regarding infrastructure and material resources, UV provides teaching facilities, laboratories, libraries, and didactic equipment that support the delivery of study programs (Summary Table 16). The university's administrative structures periodically assess the condition and adequacy of infrastructure, taking measures for its maintenance, modernization, and expansion in response to specific program needs and increasing student numbers. Through the use of its own revenues and continuous applications for infrastructural funding and facility expansion, the University "Ismail Qemali" has developed a considerable number of laboratories equipped according to OECD standards and continuously supplied. UV also periodically invests in the reconstruction and expansion of spaces dedicated to academic and research activities.

E.90: Enrichment, maintenance, and expansion of teaching infrastructure: Inventory of the Biology Laboratory; purchase of laboratory equipment; purchase of Biology laboratory materials; purchase of smart boards, computers, air conditioners; Government Decision on the Appeal Building.

Before each academic year, the University reports on the fulfillment of academic capacities (staff/student ratio) and infrastructural capacities (student/m² ratio) for each main unit. This reporting includes the requested quotas for all current and proposed faculty programs.

E.91: Institutional Capacity Report 2025.

Standard III.6 Study programs are organized into study cycles.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora offers study programs at all cycles foreseen by the Higher Education Law, in compliance with the national legal framework and European standards, ensuring academic progression, coherence in the academic offer, quality, and comparability of the qualifications awarded.

The organization into study cycles constitutes a fundamental element of the institutional quality assurance policy and of the full integration of the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora into the European Higher Education Area. UV organizes its study programs in accordance with the Albanian Qualifications Framework (AQF) and the principles of the Bologna Process, guaranteeing clear structuring, academic progression, and international comparability of qualifications.

Study programs are offered in the first, second, and third cycles, each with clearly defined objectives and learning outcomes adapted to the respective level of study:

- *First cycle (AQF levels 5, 6)* aims to provide foundational knowledge and to develop fundamental academic and professional skills;
- *Second cycle (AQF level 7)* focuses on deepening knowledge, developing advanced competences, and professional or scientific specialization;
- *Third cycle (AQF level 8)* is oriented toward advanced scientific research, innovation, and the training of young researchers.

For each cycle, clear requirements are defined for admission, assessment, and completion of studies, in accordance with the qualification level and program objectives:

Professional Diploma Programs [link](#)

Bachelor Programs [link](#)

Professional Master Programs [link](#)

Scientific Master Programs [link](#)

Doctoral Programs [link](#)

The structuring of programs into study cycles is clearly reflected in the curricula, academic workload, and distribution of ECTS credits, ensuring a logical and balanced learning progression, as also stipulated in UV’s regulatory acts (E.4: General Regulation of UV, Article 63, point 5).

E.92: Study plan – Professional Diploma in Geriatric Assistance; BSc in General Nursing; Professional Master in Surgical Nursing.

E.93: Syllabus “Pediatrics” (Cycle I); Syllabus “Advanced Pediatrics” (Cycle II).

Standard III.7 Study programs across cycles are designed to ensure proper orientation and the gradual acquisition of knowledge by students.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora ensures that study programs are designed to provide a gradual acquisition of knowledge, skills, and competences by students, creating a clear academic pathway and a logically progressive development of competences from one cycle to the next. This principle is fundamental to ensuring academic quality, student progression, and the achievement of learning outcomes in accordance with the qualification profile of each study cycle.

The design of programs based on gradual knowledge progression begins with the definition of clear objectives and learning outcomes for each cycle, ensuring that every module or course directly contributes to the achievement of the intended competences. The organization into study cycles is supported by institutional mechanisms that guarantee coherence between cycles and facilitate students’ academic continuity. UV aims to create clear opportunities for progression from one cycle to another, respecting academic criteria and encouraging continuous professional and scientific development. This process is based on a careful analysis of the relationship between study cycles,

ensuring the harmonization of foundational knowledge acquired in the first cycle with the specialization and advancement of competences in the second and third cycles.

E.94: Study programs – BSc in “Albanian Language and Literature”; MSc in “Teaching of Albanian Language and Literature”; PhD in “Linguistic, Literary and Cultural Studies.”

The institution follows formalized practices for curriculum planning and design, where program structures reflect a logical progression of courses and modules, helping students gradually build their knowledge, consolidate core competences, and develop advanced professional and scientific skills. Furthermore, the gradual integration of professional practice, research projects, and applied modules supports students in transferring and applying knowledge in real-life contexts.

Below is the organization of practice within Nursing study programs. As shown, student practice begins in the first year under laboratory conditions, progresses to two days per week in hospital institutions during the second year, and continues with three days per week during the third year. In Master programs, practice is conducted over several months in specialized hospital wards, after which students individually receive a certificate of completion issued by the head of the ward.

BSc in General Nursing

Year I: **Laboratory practice**

Year II: **Clinical practice** in modules (2 days per week)

Year III: Clinical practice in modules and **Professional practice** (3 days per week)

Professional Master in Surgical Nursing

Year IV: Two-month **hospital practice in the Surgery ward**

E.92: Study plan – Professional Diploma in Geriatric Assistance; BSc in General Nursing; Professional Master in Surgical Nursing.

Standard III.8 The institution offers lifelong learning programs.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora is committed to providing a sustainable range of Lifelong Learning (LLL) programs, aiming to meet citizens’ needs for professional development, acquisition of new skills, and updating of knowledge, regardless of age, professional position, or prior academic level. These programs are aligned with UV’s institutional mission and strategy, focusing on strengthening individual capacities and supporting the economic, social, and cultural development of the region.

LLL programs are offered in various formats, including:

- Short courses (e.g., mini-courses in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence – Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences);
[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)
- Professional trainings (e.g., Linux training);
[link](#)
- Seminars/workshops (e.g., project writing training);
[link](#)
- Conferences with credits certified by national accrediting institutions (e.g., nursing and teacher conferences);
[link](#)
[link](#)
- **E.95:** Certification modules for continuing education in the psycho-pedagogical field, including the School of Directors (Faculty of Human Sciences);

- Micro-credential modules (e.g., *Credits for Teachers* ([link](#)), tailored to labor market demands and current academic trends.

The content of these programs is closely linked to the fields of specialization of the faculties, making use of:

- ☐ the resources of the institution:
 - laboratory equipment (neonatal training FSH), ([link](#))
 - audio-visual halls (conference, workshop, training) [link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)
 - UV online platforms (IT training) ([link](#))
- ☐ the expertise of UV academic staff
 - Projekti Credits for Teachers;
 - E.96:** IT Training for high school teachers (Petro Sota – Fier),
- ☐ external experts
 - training in project writing, training in public communication
 - [link](#)
 - [link](#)
- ☐ international academic staff
 - Mini-courses in Data Sciences and AI – FSHTN: [Link](#)
 - ‘5S as a Method of Waste Elimination in Lean Management Concept’ – PhD. Eng. Bartosz Spychalski: [Link](#)
 - Agreement with the “Jeta e Re” LiderImpakt Institute for the Training of Academic and Administrative Staff for Professional Development: [Link](#), [Link](#)

The provision of lifelong learning programs is supported by structured mechanisms for planning, monitoring, and quality evaluation. UV uses participant feedback, labor market analysis, and cooperation with external actors to adapt the content and formats of programs in accordance with real needs and professional standards.

E.97: Activity evaluation models

E.98: Various certificates from LLL activities

E.99: List of participants in the LLL activity, where the workplace is indicated.

In the Strategic Development Plan 2030, the University “Ismail Qemali” has set as a strategic objective the development of flexible modules and micro-credentials for students and professionals with the aim of further expanding the academic offer, especially in new sectors of technological and professional development (**E.35:** UV Development Strategy 2025–2030, Strategic Objective III.1.1).

In conclusion, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora concludes that it offers lifelong learning programs, structured and systematically monitored, ensuring professional development, integration into the labor market, and compliance with the institutional mission and strategy.

Standard III.9 Study programs are supported by the research and professional profile of the unit and are implemented in cooperation with field stakeholders.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora (UV) ensures that study programs are supported by the research and professional profile of the academic units that offer them, guaranteeing coherence between the expertise of the academic staff, the research potential of the institution, and labor

market demands (Table III.9: Department profile – programs, academic staff expertise, research fields).

The design of programs is based on the analysis of the research capacities of academic units, ensuring that students benefit from the experience and expertise of staff involved in scientific projects (Standard IV.3, [link](#)), laboratories, and research activities integrated into the curriculum. This approach aims to enhance the quality of teaching and the professional relevance of programs by linking theory with practice and integrating scientific development into the teaching process. A considerable number of didactic and research laboratories operate in support of UV study programs, essential for the development of students' skills and competences from the early years of study:

- Simulation Center for Health Professionals
- Scientific Center for Monitoring and Marine Ecology in Vlora
- “SUCCESS” Center
- Smart City Hub Center for Economic Capacities
- Clinical research laboratory (biochemical and microbiological)
- Marine Sciences research laboratory (Navigation)
- Marine Engineering and Technology Laboratory
- Know-How Hub Laboratory (3D printing)
- Didactic laboratories of General Nursing
- Didactic laboratory of Midwifery
- Didactic laboratories of Human Anatomy
- Didactic laboratory of Preschool Education
- Didactic laboratory of Translation and Interpreting
- Didactic laboratory of Physics
- Didactic laboratories of Zoology and Microbiology
- Didactic laboratory of Chemistry

Programs also implemented in close cooperation with field stakeholders, including public institutions, professional organizations, companies, and other entities of the economy and civil society, whose agreements are fully available on the official UV website ([link](#)). This cooperation contributes to aligning programs with real labor market needs, ensuring opportunities for professional practice and the design of applied modules, and strengthening the link between teaching and the professional and research needs of the community.

The University “Ismail Qemali” follows formalized procedures for identifying cooperation opportunities with stakeholders in the fields of academic programs and for integrating them into programs, including:

- ☐ *cooperation agreements for the development of professional practice – some of which include:*
 - Local Office of Pre-University Education Fier;
 - Local Office of Pre-University Education Lushnje;
 - School of Directors of Pre-University Education;
 - Court of First Instance, Vlora;
 - Administrative Court Lushnje;
 - General Directorate of Metrology Tirana;
 - OST – Transmission System Operator;
 - Technical Control Center;
 - Nasto Engineering Vlora;
 - “TechnoPlastic” Ltd.;
 - Distribution System Operator;
 - Water Supply & Sewerage Directorate Vlora;
 - OSHEE – Vlora Branch;

Port of Vlora;
 UBA Bank – Vlora Branch;
 Raiffeisen Bank – Vlora Branch;
 Balfin Group;
 Vlora Marina;
 “Green Coast Hotel” Ltd.;
 “Regina Group” Hotel Ltd.;
 Hotel Kral;
 Hotel Partner;
 Regional Directorate of the Health Care Operator (DROKSH);
 Regional Hospital Vlora;
 Regional Hospital Fier;
 Memorial Hospital Fier;
 Psychiatric Hospital Vlora;

☐ *partnerships with nationwide higher education institutions:*

“Luarasi” University Tirana;
 “Isa Boletini” University Mitrovica;
 Armed Forces Academy;
 “Fan S. Noli” University Korça;
 Polis University;
 “Reald” University College Vlora;
 University of Medicine, Tirana;
 “Universum” College Prishtina;
 “Our Lady of Good Counsel” University;
 European University of Tirana;
 University of Arts Tirana;
 Polytechnic University of Tirana;

☐ *involvement of external experts as field lecturers or practice mentors.*

1. Part-time academic staff (PAK).

<i>Nr</i>	First and Last Name	Status	Host Faculty	Academic Year	Institution where employed full-time
1.	Prof. Dr. Genc Burazeri	PAK	FSH	2025–2026	University of Medicine, Tirana
2.	Prof. Dr.Klodiana Gorica	PAK	FE	2024–2025	University of Tirana
3.	Prof. Dr.Dorina Kripa	PAK	FE	2024–2025	University of Tirana
4.	Prof. Dr.Ilirjan Mandro	PAK	FSHH	2024–2025	Rector, Security Academy
5.	Prof. Dr.Shyqyri Llaci	PAK	FE	2023–2024	University of Tirana
6.	Ing.Altin Jonuzi	PAK	FSHTN	2025–2026	Distribution System Operator (OSSH)
7.	Msc.Nikollaq Gjika	PAK	FSHTN	2025–2026	Regional Directorate of Pre-University Education Fier (DRAP)
8.	Magjistrat.Dorina Stroka	PAK	FSHH	2025–2026	Court of First Instance of General Jurisdiction, Vlora
9.	Dr. Eduart Kapaj	PAK	FSH	2025–2026	Regional Hospital Fier
10.	Dr. Artan Shkurti	PAK	FSH	2025–2026	Regional Hospital Vlora

2. Guest Lecturers

3. Full-Time Foreign Academic Staff

E.88: List of Foreign Academic Staff at UV

E.100: Documentation on the Annual Engagement of Foreign Academic Staff for Teaching the Italian Language and Culture

4. Albanian, Foreign, and Diaspora Experts Engaged for Lectures, Workshops, and Training Sessions

Meetings with Stakeholders

Forum “For the Future of Sustainable Tourism in Vlora”: [Link](#)

Forum “Accounting: From the Auditor to Economic Reality – Inspiration, Integrity and Career”: [Link](#)

Forum with the Presence of Mr. Scott Miller, American Expert in Fiscal Policy: [Link](#)

Open Lecture with Academics from the Armed Forces Academy: [Link](#)

Open Lecture within the Framework of the 100th Anniversary of the Supreme State Audit: [Link](#)

Training “Neonatal Resuscitation” by the Albanian Center for Population and Development:

[Link](#)

E.101: Reporting of Lectures with International Personalities

This approach strengthens the professional and research dimension of the study programs and ensures a rich academic experience for students.

Standard III.10 Study programs are periodically monitored.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has established structured and sustainable mechanisms for the periodic monitoring of study programs, in line with best practices in quality assurance and national legislative requirements.

UV’s internal regulatory framework is fully completed with the necessary regulatory support for periodic program monitoring. At the core of this monitoring system is the Internal Quality Assurance and Accreditation Sector, which coordinates periodic reporting from all main units and organizes surveys for the regular evaluation of the quality of UV’s academic and administrative activities.

This process, which ensures that study programs remain relevant, high-quality, and aligned with the institutional mission, strategy, and labor market needs, is formally regulated through internal acts at UV:

E.4: General Regulation of UV, Chapter II, Article 12

E.23: Functional Duties of UV’s Internal Structure – Internal Quality Assurance and Accreditation Sector, pp. 14–28

E.10: UNVIMAS Regulation, Article 24

VSA on the Approval of the Student Questionnaire Format: [Link](#)

VSA on the Approval of the Annual Performance Evaluation Format: [Link](#)

Regulation on Alumni Student Cooperation with UV, Article 10, Point 8: [Link](#)

Periodic monitoring is carried out through a combination of instruments and methods:

7. Analysis of students’ academic performance

Annual reports of faculties and of the University include reporting on:

- Data on the total number of students, excellent students, and repeat students for each study program (Table 13 of the Annual Institutional Report).
- Data on the total number of transferred and withdrawn students (Table 14 of the Annual Institutional Report).

[link](#)

Students’ grade records (official grade reports) also include pass rates and the average grade for each group.

E.102: Grade report including pass rate percentage and average grade of successful students.

8. Systematic student feedback on program content, teaching methodologies, and learning resources [link](#). This is collected through:

1. Annual Student Questionnaires on Teaching Quality for each study program, administered through the UNVIMAS system (**E.10**: UNVIMAS Regulation, Article 24).
2. Questionnaires for the Evaluation of the Quality of Services provided by academic support and administrative staff at UV.
Report on the Analysis of Student Questionnaire Results for the Evaluation and Improvement of the Quality of Services Provided by Academic Support and Administrative Staff, Academic Year 2023–2024: [Link](#)
3. Questionnaires for the Evaluation of Study Program Quality through ALUMNI: [Link](#)
Alumni Report 2025: [Link](#)
Recommendations from the Alumni Report 2025: [Link](#)
4. National Student Survey: [Link](#)
5. Focus Groups with Students from Different Study Cycles: [Link](#), [Link](#)

9. Evaluation of academic staff and academic units regarding the implementation of teaching plans and achievement of learning outcomes

Performance evaluation aims to provide periodic information on whether staff competences and skills are adequate for achieving individual objectives, to compare results with expectations, identify strengths and weaknesses, and determine corrective and improvement measures.

This evaluation is conducted by evaluation process managers along hierarchical lines, in accordance with (**E.4**: General Regulation of UV, Article 50).

Senate Decision approving the Annual Performance Evaluation format: [link](#)

E.31: Performance evaluation – academic staff, academic support staff, administrative staff, and unit heads.

Monitoring procedures are formalized and documented, including regular reporting periods, annual quality reports on study programs, and improvement recommendations.

Annual Report 2024–2025: [Link](#)

Annual Report 2023–2024: [Link](#)

Annual Report 2022–2023: [Link](#)

Annual Report 2021–2022: [Link](#)

Annual Report 2020–2021: [Link](#)

This approach ensures a closed-loop cycle of evaluation and improvement, where collected data serve as the basis for strategic decision-making and the continuous enhancement of study programs.

In conclusion, at the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora, a sustainable and functional periodic monitoring system is in place. Study programs are regularly monitored through formalized procedures and quality assurance mechanisms, ensuring the maintenance of quality standards, alignment with institutional objectives, and the professional development of students.

Standard III.11 Study programs are subject to continuous improvement in order to enhance quality.

Study programs are subject to continuous, structured, and documented improvement aimed at enhancing academic quality, supporting students’ professional development, and ensuring alignment with labor market and societal needs.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has established structured mechanisms for the continuous improvement of study programs (**E.4**: General Regulation of UV, Article 55), ensuring their

compliance with national and international higher education standards and their contribution to the development of students' skills and competences. Program improvement is an integral part of the quality assurance policy, guaranteeing that each program reflects contemporary academic, research, and professional requirements (E.4: General Regulation of UV, Article 55, point 4).

The continuous improvement process is based on a closed-loop evaluation cycle, utilizing data collected from program monitoring (Standard III.10), student feedback, academic staff evaluation, and cooperation with external stakeholders, including employers and professional partners. This information is analyzed by basic units and governing bodies to identify opportunities for program revision and development.

Over the years, the improvement of UV programs has included:

- *Review and updating of curricula and learning outcomes*
Reorganization of programs to ensure compliance with national regulatory requirements (MSc in Law) and international standards (BSc in General Nursing and BSc in Midwifery Nursing).
E.103: Reorganized study program – MSc in Law; Reorganized study program – BSc in Midwifery Nursing.
- *Integration of new or enhanced modules in line with scientific and professional developments*
E.104: Reorganized study program – MSc in “Computer Science” (Innovation module).
- *Expansion of cooperation with external stakeholders and international partners*
Reorganization of programs to align with EU curricula within the framework of Double Degree agreements.
E.105: Double Degree study program – BSc in Electrical Engineering.
- *Strengthening of the practical and research dimension of programs*
Reorganization aimed at increasing the number of practice hours and/or clinical projects and coursework assignments.
E.106: Reorganized study program – BSc in Economics.

UV promotes a proactive and documented approach to program improvement, whereby every change or revision is formalized and subject to internal approval procedures and communication with stakeholders.

E.48: Reorganization procedure for the BSc in “General Nursing” study program. Complete application documentation: Department decision, Dean’s forwarding letter, Report of the Directorate of Education for First and Second Cycle Studies, Senate Decision, Board of Administration Decision, Application format.

Standard III.12 The institution follows a clear policy for improving the quality of teaching.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has established a clear and structured policy for improving the quality of teaching, which is an integral part of its institutional strategy for enhancing academic quality and student learning outcomes. This policy aims to ensure that the teaching process is effective, modern, adapted to the student profile, and aligned with national and European higher education standards.

UV’s policy for improving teaching quality is based on several key aspects:

1. Continuous modernization of didactic infrastructure

The University of Vlora systematically invests in the establishment of new laboratories, the enrichment of existing laboratories, and their proper functioning through the provision of laboratory materials and equipment.

In addition to institutional funding, laboratory development and enhancement have also been supported through nationally funded capacity-building projects (PIKSH, Internationalization

Fund) and European projects (Standard III.9).

E.90: Enrichment, maintenance, and expansion of teaching infrastructure – Inventory of the Biology Laboratory; purchase of laboratory equipment; purchase of Biology laboratory materials; purchase of smart boards, computers, air conditioners; Council of Ministers Decision on the Appeal Building.

2. Professional development of academic staff

The University of Vlora implements supportive policies for advancing the qualifications of academic staff, including:

- Creating conditions for pursuing doctoral studies;
- Reimbursement of expenses related to conferences and required publications within the framework of fulfilling criteria for academic titles and scientific degrees;
- Reimbursement of fees for obtaining academic titles.

The University also ensures mentoring and support for junior academic staff, as well as the organization of training sessions, seminars, workshops, and professional development programs for lecturers. These initiatives include contemporary teaching methodologies, the use of digital technologies, and innovative teaching approaches.

E.107: Rector's Order on support for doctoral candidate lecturers.

Project Writing Training Course – FSHH: [Link](#)

Mini-Courses on AI – FSHTN: [Link](#)

Linux Training: [Link](#)

Public Speaking Training: [Link](#)

AKKSHI Training: [Link](#)

Agreement with the “Jeta e Re” LiderImpakt Institute for the Training of Academic and Administrative Staff for Professional Development.

Training on the Use of IT Technology: [Link](#)

UNVIMAS User Manual for Academic Staff: [Link](#)

3. Involvement of international guest lecturers, preferably from the diaspora

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora promotes and supports the engagement of foreign academics as guest lecturers, with priority given to representatives of the Albanian academic diaspora. This practice aims to enrich the teaching process with international perspectives, facilitate the transfer of contemporary didactic and research experience, and strengthen the international dimension of study programs. This approach is considered an important instrument for enhancing teaching quality and reinforcing the University's connection with international academic networks.

E.101: Report on lectures delivered by international personalities.

4. Use of innovative and digital practices

The institutional policy encourages the integration of student-centered teaching methods, the use of online platforms and various digital resources, and the development of interactive modules that enhance student engagement and participation.

- *Smart boards in all classrooms* (lectures and seminars), enabling the enrichment of delivered content through audiovisual formats and interactive teaching with direct internet connectivity.
- *Simulation equipment* (Navigation, Nursing, and Midwifery laboratories), enabling students to practice and develop skills in near real-life situations.

E.108: Equipment of simulation laboratories – Inventory of the Navigation Laboratory; Inventory of the Simulation Centre for Health Professionals.

- *UNVIMAS and Google Classroom UniVlora platforms* provide opportunities to deliver digitalized lectures, assign and assess weekly coursework, which is key to motivating students' active involvement in learning.

E.109: Blended modules with interactive approach – “Research Methodology”; “Human

Resource Management in Public Administration.”

Online lectures in UNVIMAS:

[link](#)

- *Digital Library* ([link](#)) provides students with opportunities to explore additional information beyond the core literature provided by the course lecturer.

5. *Linking teaching with research and professional practice*

Academic staff utilize their research experience and cooperation with external stakeholders to provide practical examples, case studies, and applied projects, thus giving teaching both professional and scientific dimensions.

[link](#)

6. *Continuous evaluation of teaching and ongoing improvement of content and methodology*

Through quality assurance mechanisms - including student feedback, peer evaluations, and periodic reports from academic units - the institution monitors and analyzes teaching performance to identify areas for improvement.

Based on periodic monitoring and evaluation reports, UV reviews curricula, assessment methods, and teaching materials to ensure they meet program objectives and student needs (Standards III.10 and III.11).

The UV Development Strategy 2030 (**E.35**), in Scenario II, Strategic Objectives II.1.1 and II.3.1, foresees respectively:

- Improvement of digital teaching and learning;
- Modernization of facilities and the development of digital ecosystems;

through interactive blended lectures, online and hybrid teaching with international lecturers, modernization of classrooms and laboratories, and the creation of digital ecosystems for academic and business cooperation.

Meanwhile, in Scenario III, Strategic Objective III.1.1 foresees the modernization of programs and curricula (University 4.0), aiming to shift from lecturer-based teaching toward student-independent learning.

Standard III.13 Study programs are implemented in accordance with structures approved at institutional and national level.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora guarantees that all announced study programs are implemented in full compliance with structures approved at the institutional level and in accordance with national higher education legislation. This process ensures that students follow programs as approved, including courses, credits, learning outcomes, and defined academic workload.

The implementation of programs follows this procedure (**E.4: General Regulation of UV, Article 55**):

- Teaching plans and curricula are proposed by departments according to the application formats required by the Ministry of Education (MA);
- They are verified by UV’s institutional structures: the Directorate of Academic Support Services and the Curriculum and Statistics Sector, ensuring compliance with MA formats;
- They undergo preliminary approval by the Academic Senate and the Board of Administration;
- They are then electronically submitted to the Ministry for final approval.

All study programs at UV are structured in accordance with Instruction No. 41, dated 21.01.2018 of the Ministry of Education. Teaching plans are submitted at the beginning of each academic year to the Rectorate, specifically to the Vice Rector for Academic Affairs and the Curriculum & Statistics Sector, who verify compliance with the above instruction and Academic Senate decisions (**E.4:**

General Regulation of UV, Article 60, point 4).

Before the start of each academic year, departments approve course coordinators, syllabi, and core literature to be used during the upcoming year (E.4: General Regulation of UV, Article 63, point 4).

E.89: Study program – Professional Diploma in Aquaculture and Hygiene of Fishery Products; BSc in Biology; Professional Master in Secondary Education in Biology with minor profile in Chemistry.

E.49: Department decision on course coordinators and core literature.

UV's policy on program implementation ensures transparency for students and the public by clearly publishing the academic offer and curricula on the official university website and in admission documentation:

Professional Diploma Programs [link](#)

Bachelor Programs [link](#)

Professional Master Programs [link](#)

Master of Science Programs [link](#)

Doctoral Programs [link](#)

English-speaking programs [link](#)

This process strengthens institutional credibility and guarantees that students receive the knowledge and competences promised in their chosen program of study.

In conclusion, at the University "Ismail Qemali" of Vlora, all announced study programs are implemented in a structured and monitored manner, in accordance with institutionally and nationally approved structures, ensuring transparency, academic quality, and compliance with higher education legislation and standards.

Standard III.14 Study programs enable the practical application of knowledge and skills acquired in theoretical courses.

The University "Ismail Qemali" of Vlora integrates practical and applied components into all study programs, enabling students to transfer theoretical knowledge and skills into real professional settings (third-party institutions) and laboratory environments (didactic and simulation laboratories). This approach ensures a comprehensive learning process that combines theoretical knowledge, practical skills, and professional competences required by the labor market and scientific development.

Study programs include practical modules, laboratories, and professional internships clearly structured within approved teaching plans and curricula.

- All Nursing programs, across all study cycles, include laboratory and clinical practice representing 50–60% of total classroom hours.
E.110: Teaching plan – Professional Master in Surgical Nursing.
- All teacher education programs include professional practice in secondary and 9-year schools.
E.111: Teaching practice certificate.
- The program "Architecture Sciences for Heritage" conducts a significant number of teaching hours in historical and archaeological sites in Vlora and surrounding areas.
[link](#)
- Navigation and Nursing programs have simulation laboratories available.
E.108: Equipment of simulation laboratories – Inventory of the Navigation Laboratory; Inventory of the Simulation Centre for Health Professionals.
- For Law programs, a mock courtroom will be established this year.
- Engineering programs, particularly MSc in Armament Engineering, will have access to the Impact Testing Laboratory at the former Aviation School facilities.

- Students have been offered paid internship opportunities from banking and local institutions.
E.85: Reports on student integration into the labor market through internships (Faculty of Economics).

Practical activities are closely linked to theoretical content, enabling students to consolidate knowledge, develop problem-solving skills, engage in professional design and applied projects, and gain concrete experience in their field of specialization.

E.112: Syllabus of the Professional Practice module (Short Cycle Programme).

E.113: Class project – BSc in Computer Science.

UV promotes cooperation with external stakeholders, including public institutions, companies, and professional organizations, to provide practical opportunities, mentoring, and supervision during project implementation. This approach enhances teamwork skills, professional decision-making abilities, and readiness for real labour market challenges.

The effectiveness of practical modules is monitored through student performance evaluation and mentor feedback.

E.114: Professional Practice Evaluation – Continuous assessment report during internship; Certification by ward heads for master-level practice; Evaluation report of professional practice exam; Professional practice exam thesis.

Monitoring results are used to continuously improve practical activities and strengthen the link between theory and practice.

Research component and graduation thesis

Study programs ensure the inclusion of student research projects through the development and defense of a graduation thesis, a core component of academic formation. The thesis is mandatory for all Master of Science and Doctoral students, and for excellent students in other programs. It is conceived as a structured research process integrated into the teaching plan (6–10 credits) and program learning outcomes.

Programs clearly define procedures for the selection, development, and evaluation of graduation theses, ensuring alignment with the field of study, program objectives, and intended competences. At the beginning of each academic year, departments provide students with a list of available thesis topics (including the proposing lecturer), from which students select their topic. Students are supported by qualified academic staff serving as scientific supervisors, who provide methodological, ethical, and scientific guidance throughout the research process.

The thesis process contributes to the development of analytical, methodological, and research skills, as well as the integration of theoretical knowledge with research and professional practice.

The University ensures respect for academic integrity and research ethics through:

- Ethical approvals where applicable;
- Anti-plagiarism control mechanisms (Turnitin);
- Evaluation by graduation committees.

Thesis topics and student research papers are also published in the UV Scientific Bulletin:

[link](#)

[link](#)

[link](#)

[link](#)

E.115: Graduation procedure with thesis – List of thesis topics; Topic registry (title, student, supervisor); Ethical approval; Thesis abstract; Committee decision.

E.116: Graduation procedure with final examination.

In conclusion, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora ensures that study programmes systematically integrate practical application and research components, strengthening the connection

between theory, professional practice, and scientific inquiry, and equipping students with the competences required for successful professional careers and further academic development.

Standard III.15 Study programs are developed with the aim of actively engaging students in the acquisition of competences.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora develops its study programs based on a student-centered learning approach, aiming for students to become active participants in the learning process rather than passive recipients of theoretical knowledge. Particular attention to strengthening this approach is also reflected in the UV Development Strategy 2025–2030 (E.35), Scenario III, Strategic Objective III.1.1, which foresees the modernization of programs and curricula (University 4.0), aiming to shift from lecturer-based teaching to student-independent learning.

This approach is reflected in curriculum design, teaching methodologies, and assessment formats, all oriented toward the acquisition of professional, academic, and interpersonal competences.

a) Competence-based curriculum design

In the design of programs and module syllabi, learning objectives and learning outcomes are formulated in terms of measurable competences and skills, integrating theoretical knowledge with practical application.

E.117: Teaching plan highlighting practice hours and project work in BSc in “Midwifery Nursing”, Professional Master in “Pediatric Nursing” (syllabus)

b) Active learning methodologies

Programs foresee active learning methods such as: group work, case studies, research projects, individual and group presentations, and the use of digital technologies in the teaching process.

E.117: Teaching plan highlighting practice hours and project work in BSc in “Midwifery Nursing”, Professional Master in “Pediatric Nursing” (syllabi)

These forms encourage direct student engagement and the development of critical thinking, analytical skills, and problem-solving abilities.

Active student involvement is further supported through the integration of professional internships, laboratories, applied projects, and final theses, carried out in cooperation with field stakeholders (Standard III.14). These elements enable students to apply acquired knowledge in real-life situations and develop competences directly linked to the labour market.

c) Competence-oriented assessment

The student assessment process is structured to reflect the level of competence acquisition rather than merely the reproduction of theoretical knowledge. Assessment is conducted through a combination of methods such as tests, projects, coursework assignments, presentations, practical work, and continuous assessment, ensuring a comprehensive overview of student progress.

E.118: Student assessment evidence – Independent student projects in Informatics; Group work in Specialized Pedagogy; Presentations within the module “Research Methodology”; Professional practice exam thesis in Specialized Pedagogy.

E.109: The module “Research Methodology” with an interactive approach.

This integrated teaching model ensures that students develop critical thinking, problem-solving, effective communication, and teamwork skills. Moreover, active student engagement facilitates the transfer of theoretical knowledge into practical and professional skills, enabling students to gain maximum benefit from each study cycle and module offered.

Feedback on the performance and challenges of the teaching and learning process is periodically collected from students, with the aim of integrating their perspectives into the continuous improvement of these processes:[link](#); [link](#)

Standard III.16 Study programs aim to prepare students for employment.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has developed its study programs with the clear objective of preparing students for the labor market, ensuring that the knowledge, skills, and competences acquired during their studies are aligned with professional requirements and trends in economic and social development, thereby contributing to enhancing graduates’ employability.

Preparation for employment is one of UV’s strategic priorities, aligned with the 4.0 standard, and is reflected in program structures, curricula, practical activities, and professional projects. UV study programs aim to prepare students for employment through several key mechanisms:

- ***Integration of professional internships*** – Students enrolled in UV programs are introduced to employing institutions from the first year of study and undertake mandatory internships and collaborative projects with companies, public institutions, and professional organizations, gaining real-life experience and developing skills applicable to work environments (Standard III.14).
- ***Applied skills development*** – All first-cycle curricula at UV and a large portion of second-cycle curricula include subjects and modules aimed at developing skills required by the labor market, such as the use of information technologies, research methods and project management, professional communication, and foreign language proficiency.
 - Information and Communication Technology Module
 - Research Methodology Module
 - English, German, and Italian Language Module
 - Ethics in Communication Module
- ***Cooperation with external stakeholders*** – The University has developed partnerships with industry actors, the public sector, and professional organizations to ensure that program content aligns with real labor market needs and to increase students’ employment opportunities.
[link](#)
- ***Guidance and career support*** – The institution provides professional orientation services, hosts employers, organizes career days, and offers continuous counselling to support students’ integration into the labor market after graduation.
 - Career Day – Faculty of Economics: [Link](#)
 - Inspiring Meeting with Wizz Air Pilot Academy: [Link](#)
 - Intelligenza delle Mani* – Accademia Valore Italia: [Link](#)
 - Creation of Digital Enterprises: [Link](#)
 - Migration and the Labor Market: Challenges and Opportunities for Regional Development: [Link](#)
 - Training on Professional Conduct of Nurses with Professional Healthcare Staff: [Link](#)
 - Accounting: From the Auditor to Economic Reality – Inspiration, Integrity and Career: [Link](#)

The Career, Student Services and Alumni Sector plays an important role in supporting the professional and personal development of students and graduates. This sector is responsible for providing career opportunities, offering support while students are part of the institution, and maintaining and strengthening connections with alumni after graduation.

(E.23: Functional Duties of the Career, Student Services and Alumni Sector, pp. 44–52)

Some of the main responsibilities included within this sector are:

Student Career Services

- Career counselling and guidance: Providing counselling services to help students make informed career choices and understand potential opportunities in the labor market.
- Organization of professional skills development activities: Planning trainings, seminars, and workshops that help students develop skills required by the labor market, such as time management, communication, critical thinking, and teamwork skills.

- Support in CV writing and interview preparation: Providing assistance in preparing application documents such as CVs, motivation letters, and preparation for job interviews.
- Organization of recruitment activities: Organizing career fairs and meetings with representatives of companies, organizations, and recruitment agencies to provide students with opportunities to apply for job positions, internships, and other career opportunities.

Internship and Employment Services

- Coordination of internship and employment opportunities: The sector is responsible for creating and managing professional internship and employment opportunities for students. This includes establishing partnerships with companies and organizations that offer opportunities for students.
- Support for internship and job applications: Assisting students in the application process for internships and employment positions by providing information and guidance throughout the application stages.

Management of Information and Resources for Students and Alumni

- Providing information on career opportunities: Creating and updating information resources accessible to students and alumni, including employment opportunities, internships, scholarships, and career events.
- Support in identifying funding opportunities: Providing information and assistance to students and alumni regarding scholarships, grants, and funding opportunities for career development.
- Monitoring Graduates' Employability in the Labor Market
- Assessment of graduate success: Monitoring the professional development of graduates after completing their studies to evaluate how well they are prepared for the labor market and to identify opportunities for improving academic programs and services offered.
- Reporting on achievements and outcomes: Collecting and analyzing data on the career success of students and alumni and preparing reports that can be used to improve services and career development strategies.

Standard III.17 Study programs aim to promote the mobility of Albanian and international students

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora (UV) ensures that its study programs create sustainable opportunities for academic mobility of students, both nationally and internationally.

This orientation is aligned with the institution’s mission to provide high-quality education that is open and integrated into the European and international academic network, while enhancing cultural diversity and fostering the exchange of experiences among students and academic staff.

Number of student / academic staff mobility (2020–2025)			
UV Students	International Students	UV Academic Staff	International Academic Staff
223	94	424	217

To promote mobility, UV has developed a series of measures and practices:

- **Academic exchange programs** – The University has 120+ agreements with partner universities in Europe and beyond for student exchanges within study cycle programs and specialized training.
[link](#)
[link](#)
- **ECTS credits and module recognition** – Program structures are harmonized with the ECTS

system, facilitating the recognition and transfer of credits from other institutions (Standard III.13).

The University “Ismail Qemali” offers programs in English, which are publicly available with detailed curricula: modules, credits, teaching hours, as well as syllabi on the official UV website ([link](#)). Additionally, UV offers modules in English even within programs delivered in Albanian, specifically for mobility students.

The Regulation on the Implementation of Inter-Institutional Agreements within the Erasmus+ KA1 International Credit Mobility Program, Articles 12, 13 and 14, define clear procedures on how the recognition of modules completed during mobility is processed by the Module Equivalency Commission.

(E.12: Regulation on the Implementation of Inter-Institutional Agreements within the Erasmus+ KA1 International Credit Mobility Program)

(E.82: Erasmus+ mobility procedure for academic staff, non-academic staff and information sheet. Mobility certificate for incoming staff)

(E.83: Erasmus+ mobility procedure for students and information sheet, Documentation for recognition of credits earned abroad. Mobility certificate for incoming students)

- ***Assistance for UV students wishing to participate in mobility programs*** – The University of Vlora encourages its students to participate in mobility programs not only through administrative and academic assistance throughout the process, but also by offering personalized academic opportunities to compensate for any academic program components that may be missed during mobility (E.4: General Regulation of UV, Article 87, point 10.c).
- ***English-speaking programs*** – UV offers several programs in English, approved by Ministerial Decision, which may be attended by international students ([link](#)):
 - BSc in Architecture Sciences for Heritage
 - MSc in Maritime Environment Protection and Management – MEP&M
 - BSc in Computer Engineering
 - BSc in English Language
 - MSc in Teaching in CLAB
 - MSc in Translation and Interpreting

During the academic year 2025–2026, the University “Ismail Qemali” enrolled international students for the first time in two study programs: BSc in Architecture Sciences for Heritage and MSc in Maritime Environment Protection and Management – MEP&M.

(E.119: List of students enrolled in BSc in Architecture Sciences for Heritage; MSc in Maritime Environment Protection and Management – MEP&M)

- ***International student support package at UV***
(E.13: Regulation for International Students, Article 13)
The University “Ismail Qemali” may support candidates selected as international students in its study programs in the following ways:
 - Assistance in preparing the necessary documentation and applying for recognition (equivalency) of school documents by QSHA.
 - Assistance in completing registration procedures at UV.
 - Individual tutorial for orientation and familiarization with programs, the website, the internal communication information system, as well as the university premises of UV.
 - Individual tutorial for orientation and familiarization with accommodation facilities and the city of Vlora.

Mobility programs aim to send Albanian students to exchange programs abroad, equipping them with knowledge, skills, and international experience that enhance their professional capacity and

employment prospects. At the same time, staff mobility processes contribute to strengthening academic and scientific cooperation between UV and partner institutions, introducing new teaching practices and innovation into the institution’s curricula.

The level of UV’s international mobility has also been recognized through internationally acknowledged external indicators, such as:

- ❑ the awarding of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) 2021–2027 ([link](#)),
- ❑ ranking No. 1 worldwide for “Student Mobility and Openness” according to WURI Ranking 2024 ([link](#), p.4).

WURI 2024: Student Mobility and Openness (A2) Top 100

Rank	Name	Rank	Name
1	University of Vlora “Ismail Qemali”	26	University of Bonn
2	University of Vienna	27	Faculty of Dentistry, Universitas Gadjah Mada
3	Daffodil International University	28	Deggendorf Institute of Technology
4	Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology	29	Universidad Tecnológica Centroamericana UNITEC
5	University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh	30	CHRIST (Deemed to be University)
6	University of Health Sciences	31	Lovely Professional University
7	University of Mostar	32	Telkom University
8	Hayek Global College	33	LSPR Institute of Communication and Business
9	National University of Management	34	Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia
10	Shanghai Jiao Tong University	35	Politecnico di Milano
11	Badr University in Cairo	36	Nagoya University
12	Dalian Neusoft University of Information	37	Hebrew University of Jerusalem
13	Westlake University	38	Tokyo International University
14	Peking University	39	Hokkaido University
15	University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague	40	The University of Tokyo
16	The University of the South Pacific	41	METAVERSE UNIVERSAL COLLEGE (MVUC)
17	China Europe International Business School (CEIBS)	42	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)
18	Xi’an Jiaotong University	43	University of Amsterdam
19	University of Cologne	44	Norwegian University of Science and Technology
20	LMU Munich	45	University of Oslo
21	Technical University of Munich	46	Fatima Jinnah Medical University
22	Chitkara University, Punjab	47	Khwaja Fareed University of Engineering and Information Technology, Rahimyar Khan, Pakistan
23	University of Split	48	Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology
24	University of Münster	49	Superior University
25	West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences (WBNUJS/NUJS)	50	Fatima Jinnah Women University

The University “Ismail Qemali” has positioned its transformation toward an International University as Scenario I of the Institutional Development Strategy 2030 (**E.35**: pp. 74–85).

Strategic Line

I.2: International Study Programs and Long-Term Mobility

Objectives:

I.2.1 Increasing the level of internationalization of study programs;

I.2.2 Attracting international students;

I.2.3 Increasing long-term mobility of students and staff.

Standard III.18 Institutions award the respective diploma to students who have fulfilled all obligations of a study program, and the diploma constitutes an official document

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora guarantees that all students who have successfully completed all the requirements of a study program are awarded the respective diploma, which holds the status of an official document and certifies the fulfilment of the academic and professional standards of the program.

This process is regulated in accordance with national higher education legislation and institutional procedures for the verification and registration of academic results.

Studies in UV academic programs are completed through a diploma examination (DP, BSc, MP) or a diploma thesis (MSc, Doctorate and excellent students of other programs). Prior to the graduation

session, students are provided with the pool of Diploma Examination Topics, from which examination questions are selected.

For categories of students eligible to graduate with a diploma thesis, at the beginning of the academic year a list of research project topics is made available. These topics are prepared by academic staff who will supervise the research theses, from which students choose the topic they wish to develop. Examination procedures are defined in departmental regulations and, where applicable, include anonymisation of examination papers.

(E.120: Graduation file of a student)

The diploma is considered an official document and is used for employment purposes, further studies, professional certification and international activities. Each issued diploma contains detailed information on:

- The study program and completed academic cycle;
- The level and profile of qualification;
- The ECTS credits earned and the curriculum content;
- The date of thesis defense and the date of issuance;
- All security elements required by sub-legal acts of the Ministry of Education (MA).

Senate Decision approving the format of diplomas:

- ✓ Senate Decision No. 5, dated 15.02.2023 – On the approval of the regulations and format of the diploma for the joint degree program “Double Degree in Applied Linguistics in the Field of Tourism”: [Link](#)
 - ✓ Senate Decision No. 51, dated 14.11.2022 – On the approval of the format of the diploma issued upon completion of the Professional Studies Cycle: [Link](#)
- (E.121: Diploma formats DP, BSc, MP, MSc, Double Degree)

The diploma issuance process includes verification of academic records by the relevant units, confirmation that all obligations have been fulfilled, and documentation for archival and legal purposes. Eligibility to sit for the diploma examination is determined by:

- a) Fulfilment of academic obligations: completion of modules and credits of the study program curriculum;
 - b) Completion of the minimum program duration, as defined in the program’s opening/accreditation order;
 - c) Fulfilment of the student’s financial obligations towards UV.
- (E.4: General Regulation of UV, Article 104, points 2 and 3)

UV also ensures that students and graduates have clear and updated information regarding procedures for obtaining the diploma and other supporting certificates, including academic transcripts and certificates of participation in practical modules or international exchange programs. This process strengthens transparency, institutional credibility and ensures that issued documents are recognized both nationally and internationally.

Graduation procedures are detailed in the General Regulation of UV (E.4: General Regulation of UV, Article 104, point 7/a, b, c). The diploma is signed by the Dean of the respective Faculty and the Rector of the University and includes security elements defined by Senate Decision. The Rector’s signature is accompanied by the official university seal.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora awards honorary titles to students upon graduation based on their overall grade average, as follows:

- 9.00 - 9.33, *cum laude*;
- 9.34 - 9.67, *magna cum laude*;
- 9.68 - 9.99, *summa cum laude*.
- 10.00, *maxima cum laude* “Gold Medal”.

Students awarded the Gold Medal remain permanently published on the official website of UV, while excellent students (GPA 9.0–10.0) from all academic years, according to faculties, are updated annually in the “Student Pride” section (link: [link](#)).

In cases of damage or loss of the Diploma, UV issues a Diploma Certificate containing exactly the same elements as the original diploma.

E.4: General Regulation of UV, Article 105

E.122: Diploma Certificate

Standard III.19 The institution ensures dedicated laboratories in support of study programmes and scientific/artistic research

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora provides dedicated laboratories and centres that support study programmes and scientific research, offering opportunities for practical development, participation in research projects, and strengthening the professional and scientific skills of students across all its programmes.

Teaching laboratories, directly supporting the learning process

- General Nursing Teaching Laboratories
- Midwifery Teaching Laboratory
- Human Anatomy Teaching Laboratories
- Preschool Education Teaching Laboratory
- Translation–Interpretation Teaching Laboratory
- Physics Teaching Laboratory
- Zoology and Microbiology Teaching Laboratories
- Chemistry Teaching Laboratory
- Marine Engineering and Maritime Technology Laboratory
- Know-Hub Laboratory (3D printing)
- Distance Learning Cabinet
- Computer laboratories – 6 rooms

Research laboratories, supporting the research work of academics and students, as well as third-party services

- Simulation Centre for Health Professionals (AKKSHI + UV project)
- Scientific Centre for Marine Monitoring and Ecology in Vlora (EU project)
- “SUCCESS” Centre (EU project)
- Smart City Hub Centre for Economic Capacities (EU project)
- Clinical Research Laboratory (biochemical and microbiological) (AKKSHI + UV project)
- Marine Sciences Research Laboratory (Navigation) (EU project)

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has invested its own funds and attracted investments from the Ministry of Education (MA), AKKSHI and the European Union for the establishment and maintenance of laboratories and specialised centres, which effectively support various study programmes and scientific and technological research activities.

These laboratories provide students with the opportunity to apply theoretical knowledge in practice, develop technical and professional skills, and participate in research projects under the supervision of academic staff.

UV has initiated procedures for the accreditation and licensing of its laboratories, aiming to provide licensed laboratory procedures and services to third parties.

E.123: Procedure for Laboratory Accreditation (Scientific Research Centre – FSHTN)

UV guarantees equal access for students and academic staff to these laboratories, offering support

for the development of mandatory academic projects, professional internships, diploma theses, scientific research and artistic activities. Furthermore, the laboratories serve as integrated environments for cooperation with external stakeholders, research institutions and companies, fostering knowledge and skills transfer to the market and society.

E.124: Reports on projects and research conducted in laboratories

Standard III.20 The institution ensures laboratory equipment, infrastructure and services in support of study programmes

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora ensures laboratory equipment, specialised infrastructure and support services essential for the effective implementation of study programmes and for guaranteeing high-quality teaching integrated with scientific research.

This approach supports students’ practical development, the implementation of laboratory modules and research projects, linking theory with practice and professional standards.

Equipment and infrastructure supporting academic processes include:

- **Modern laboratories** equipped with scientific and technological instruments necessary for disciplines in natural sciences, engineering, health sciences, information technologies and other fields offered by the university (Standard III.19).
- Lecture and seminar halls equipped with **audio-visual technology** for both in-class and distance teaching.
- **Digital library** (link: [link](#)) and computer laboratories supporting scientific research and teaching.
- **The internal information system UNVIMAS**, a strategic instrument for integrating information systems and supporting the development of academic and administrative activities at UV. Through this system and the Google Classroom UniVlora platform, interactive and online learning is enabled. The UNVIMAS software programme is registered as a patent of the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora. (E.10: UNVIMAS Regulation)
- **Technical and administrative support services**, including equipment maintenance, ensuring student and staff access, training on equipment use, and assistance for research projects.

UV ensures that these facilities and services are available to all students and academic staff, guaranteeing equal access and support for the development of practical and scientific competences. The infrastructure and services also support research activities and collaborative projects with local and international partners, strengthening the link between education and industry, as well as participation in innovation and scientific projects.

(**E.90:** Enrichment, maintenance and expansion of teaching infrastructure: Inventory of the Biology Laboratory; purchase of laboratory equipment; purchase of Biology laboratory materials; purchase of smart boards, computers and air conditioners; Government Decision on the Appeal Building.)

Standard III.21 The library, its infrastructure and services ensure access to up-to-date literature related to the fields of study and research within the programmes.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has developed a sustainable library infrastructure and supporting services to guarantee easy and comprehensive access for students and academic staff to contemporary literature and other information resources closely related to the fields of study and scientific research across all programmes offered by the institution.

At the University “Ismail Qemali”, the Central Library “Nermin Vlora Fallaski” and the libraries of each main academic unit operate actively. The mission of the library is to support academic staff, students and researchers with teaching and scientific literature.

UV has five library halls distributed across the faculties and the Rectorate. The UV Library and its services provide:

- Printed and digital academic and scientific literature, including monographs, scientific journals, international databases and specialized materials for each discipline;
- Electronic platforms and databases enabling remote access, facilitating research and literature use by students and lecturers.

The libraries offer suitable study and consultation environments, ensuring favorable conditions for the development of the learning process. Library services are made available to students according to institutionally approved schedules, which are publicly displayed on university premises and on the official website (link: [link](#)).

Library use is managed through the student registration card, which serves to administer borrowing and literature usage, guaranteeing regular and equal access for all students. Students are guided on how to obtain the necessary literature for their studies through the library, academic staff and relevant institutional structures.

The university's library fund supports all academic units and is periodically updated in cooperation with faculties and academic staff, reflecting the specific needs of study programs across all three cycles. Library enrichment is carried out annually based on requests from academic staff and proposals from the Head of the Library, with approval from the Dean's Office. The Board of Administration annually approves a dedicated fund for the purchase of scientific literature in Albanian and foreign languages.

In addition, the UV libraries have continuously received donations of special book collections from third parties:

- Lefter Çipa Fund
- ALSAR Fund
- Bardhosh Gaçe Fund

The inventoried library literature is digitalized within the Cobiss system, and the digital archive of UV literature is accessible to staff and students on all public university computers.

(E.4: General Regulation of UV, Article 137)

Library Regulation (link: [link](#))

(E.125: Report of the Library & Publications Sector)

(E.126: Digitalized library fund in the Cobiss system. Inventory of library literature)

The Cobiss System (link: [link](#)) is an international cataloguing system used for cataloguing library collections, facilitating access and utilization of library funds, and promoting authors' work nationally and internationally. Currently, UNIVLORA has two library specialists undergoing training in the use of the Cobiss system and a collection of 1,322 catalogued titles. These titles include all publications of UNIVLORA authors, as well as articles and bulletins.

Regarding digitised titles, they are accessible at the following link (link: [link](#)). Approximately 250 titles have been digitised, including the Lefter Çipa manuscript collection and the most requested titles by students.

In addition to physical literature, students have access to licensed electronic resources and scientific databases that support the study process, scientific research and preparation of academic papers.

Main free digital libraries:

- JSTOR (link: [link](#))
- Internet Archive (link: [link](#))
- Project Gutenberg (link: [link](#))
- Open Library (link: [link](#))
- Google Scholar (link: [link](#))

Open Educational Resources:

- OpenStax (link: [link](#))
- MERLOT (link: [link](#))
- OER Commons (link: [link](#))
- MIT OpenCourseWare (link: [link](#))

Subject-specific resources:

- PubMed Central (link: [link](#))
- arXiv (link: [link](#))
- ERIC (link: [link](#))
- DOAJ (link: [link](#))

UV Scientific Bulletins:

- UV Scientific Bulletin (link: [link](#))
- UV Journals Platform (link: [link](#))

Several Scientific Bulletins volumes published by UV have included scientific studies authored by UV students, prepared within the framework of diploma theses or presented at various scientific conferences organized by the University “Ismail Qemali”.

Bulletin UV No. 8, Vol. 2: [Link](#)

Student Bulletin, September 2025: [Link](#)

Scientific Bulletin No. 7, Vol. 4, Special Edition 2024: [Link](#)

Scientific Bulletin – Open Student Conference 2017: [Link](#)

Scientific Bulletin – Student Bulletin 2017: [Link](#)

Scientific Bulletin Special Edition Vol. 3, 2023: [Link](#)

Scientific Bulletin Special Edition Vol. 2, 2023: [Link](#)

UV Development Strategy for the Digitalization of Literature

Scenario III – Professional Leader, Strategic Line III.1 – ESCO Standard, includes Strategic Objective III.1.1 – Modernization of programs and curricula. One of the measures foreseen to achieve this strategic objective is *the provision of core digital literature and access to the UV digital library*. By 2030, all core literature of UV modules will be offered to students not only in printed format but also in digital format. This approach will definitively address:

1. the quantitative supply issue of core literature at UV;
2. the annual updating problem of core literature, which printed publication tends to slow down.

(E.35: UV Strategy 2025–2030, Scenario III, Strategic Line III.1, Strategic Objective III.1.1)

Conclusions and Evaluation

From the analysis of the evidence and data collected, it results that the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora offers study programs aligned with its mission, development strategy, and labor market demands, structured into clearly defined cycles (Bachelor, Master, Doctorate). The programs have clearly defined objectives, and the learning outcomes are harmonized with the respective profiles and qualification levels, ensuring knowledge progression and the gradual acquisition of competencies.

The process of designing and approving new programs is transparent and standardized, including labor market needs analysis, consultations with field stakeholders, and international collaborations. The institution’s capacities—academic staff, laboratories, infrastructure, and library—consistently support the delivery of programs and scientific research. Furthermore, study programs include mechanisms for continuous improvement and periodic monitoring, ensuring academic quality and students’ professional competence.

The programs promote active student participation, employability preparation, and national and international mobility, offering professional internships and opportunities to apply acquired knowledge. The institution follows clear graduation policies and provides students with official documentation, while ensuring the availability of literature and laboratory resources necessary for teaching and research processes.

The most significant achievements of the University “Ismail Qemali” in the field of study programs and teaching over the last five years include:

- Advancement in the Standards of Study Programs:
 - International joint and double degree programs;
 - English-language programs for international students;
 - Unique programs within the territory of Albania: Armament Engineering, Heritage Architecture, Navigation, Naval Engineering, Marine Environment Protection & Management;
 - The reorganization of programs with automatic recognition in the EU (fields: Nursing, Architecture);
 - The initiation of joint work with the University of Pavia to establish a joint degree in Medicine and Surgery.
- Teaching delivered by mixed international faculty. Hosting international students for both short- and long-term periods. A considerable number of mobility exchanges, also recognized in international rankings.
- An increase in the number of students enrolled at UV.
- Excellent and highly competitive results in comparison with students from other higher education institutions, both nationally and internationally.
- Provision of academic services to third parties (training programs for teachers, School of Directors). Delivery of Lifelong Learning (LLL) programs with micro-credentials (teachers, healthcare professionals).
- Modernization of teaching technologies and an increase in professional practice hours within local institutions.

As areas for further development in the University of Vlora Development Strategy, the following are identified: the continuous increase in the number of programs offered in English and the ongoing modernization of programs and curricula (University 4.0):

- ❑ *Interactive and student-centered teaching, widely delivered in English;*
- ❑ *Full digitalization of teaching materials accessible to students;*
- ❑ *Flexible approaches (distance and blended learning) and micro-credential modules;*
- ❑ *Use of advanced technologies in teaching.*

STANDARD III – REQUIREMENTS FULLY ACHIEVED

IV- SCIENTIFIC / ARTISTIC ACTIVITY AND INNOVATION

Standard IV.1 The institution defines the primary fields of research and scientific/artistic activities

The Universiteti “Ismail Qemali” Vlorë (UV) considers scientific research as a fundamental function of its institutional activity and as an integrated component of teaching, professional development, and the university’s mission, in line with its long-term objectives (**E.1**: Articles 3, 83). Research policies and orientations are guided by institutional strategic documents, ensuring continuity and coherence in defining research priorities, namely:

- *Institutional Development Strategic Plan 2018–2024* (Strategic Line No. 3: Joint scientific research according to international standards) (**E.38**)
- *Institutional Development Strategy 2025–2030*, where scientific research and internationalization constitute key pillars of the “UV 4.0 – 2030” model (**E.37**, pp. 46–47)
- *Scientific Research Strategy 2017–2022*
[link](#)
- *Scientific Research and Innovation Strategy 2026–2030* (**E.34**)

The definition of the primary research fields at UV is carried out in accordance with the institution’s academic profile, the structure of its main and basic units, human and infrastructural capacities, as well as the university’s role in regional and national development (E.1: Articles 83–85; E.35: point 6.3 – strategic scenarios). The University Statute (E.1, Chapter IX) and the General Regulation of UV (E.4, Chapter X) define the principles and mechanisms for the development of scientific research in compliance with Albanian legislation on higher education and scientific research.

Within this framework, UV’s research priorities are aligned with regional, national, and European priorities, aiming at the progressive integration of the university into the European Higher Education Area and the European Research Area. This orientation is implemented through the promotion of applied research, participation in national and international projects, and the establishment of partnerships with universities, public institutions, industry, and regional development stakeholders, as reflected in the institutional public database of agreements and projects:

- Inter-institutional agreements:
[link](#)
- Memorandum of Understanding:
[link](#)
- National agreements:
[link](#)
- National/International projects:
[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)

The implementation of research priorities is carried out at the level of main and basic units. In accordance with the competencies defined in the UV Statute (**E.1**: Article 83.3) and the General Regulation (**E.4**: Chapter X, Article 125.3), departments and faculties draft and approve annual research activity plans, defining priority fields according to disciplinary areas and development needs. These are ultimately approved by the Academic Senate of UV: [link](#) (**E.127**); (**E.41**).

Priority Research Fields at the University “Ismail Qemali”, approved by the UV Academic Senate

Basic / Main Unit	Primary Research Field	Priority Sub-fields of Research
Scientific Research Center for Public Health	Healthcare and Medical Sciences	Public Health; Health Policies; Healthcare Management
Albanological and Balkan Studies Scientific Research Center	Albanological Social Sciences	Albanological Studies; Linguistic Studies; Literary-Historical and Cultural Studies
Regional Development Center	Biodiversity and Environment	Regional Development and Territorial Policies; Local Economic Development; Territorial Innovation; Regional and Cross-sectoral Policy
	Agriculture, Food and Biotechnology	
	Healthcare and Medical Sciences	
	Information Systems and Technologies	
	Social Sciences and Albanology	
	Water and Energy	
Scientific Research Center in Applied Sciences	Water and Energy	Engineering and Technology; Mechanical and Electrical Systems; Industrial Automation; Sustainable Energy and Marine Applications; Navigation; Maritime Safety and Transport; Maritime Security; Efficiency and Sustainability of Maritime Activities
	Information Systems and Technologies	Applied Mathematics; Physics and Statistical Analysis; Computer Science and Digital Technology
	Biodiversity and Environment	Chemistry; Biotechnology and Environmental Technology; Biological and Environmental Sciences
Research Center for Innovation and Technology	Information Systems and Technologies	Artificial Intelligence; Intelligent Systems and Automation; Internet of Things (IoT) and Smart Technologies; Digital Transformation, Innovation and Technology Transfer
Department of Albanian Language and Literature	Albanological Social Sciences	Albanian Linguistics; Literature; Albanological Didactics
Department of Foreign Languages	Albanological Social Sciences	Foreign Languages; Applied Linguistics; Intercultural Studies
Department of Education	Albanological Social Sciences	Education Sciences
Department of Law	Albanological Social Sciences	Digital Justice and Legal Tech; Human Rights and Non-Discrimination; Criminal Policy, Crime and Procedural Rights Protection; Civil and Commercial Law and Consumer Protection; International Law, European Integration and Migration
	Biodiversity and Environment	Environmental, Energy and Sustainable Development Law; Legal Research Methodology and Interdisciplinary Approaches
Department of Finance and Accounting	Albanological Social Sciences	Economics; Public Finance and Governance; Digital Economy; Finance and Accounting
	Biodiversity and Environment	Environmental Economics; Environmental Finance; Environmental Accounting

	Agriculture, Food and Biotechnology	Agri-Food Economics and Management
Department of Economics	Albanological Social Sciences	Economic Development and Transition Economy; Labour Market and Human Resource Economics; Business and Industrial Economics; Digital Economy and Innovation
	Biodiversity and Environment	Environmental Economics and Sustainable Development
Department of Business	Social Sciences and Albanology	Regional Development; Entrepreneurship and Business Management; Digital Economy; Innovation and Digital Governance
	Agriculture, Food and Biotechnology	Agri-Food Economics and Rural Development
	Biodiversity and Environment	Environmental Economics; Green Business; Sustainable Tourism
	Healthcare and Medical Sciences	Health Management and Health Economics
	Water and Energy	Economics, Policy and Management of Water and Energy
Faculty of Health	Healthcare and Medical Sciences	Public Health; Health Policies; Healthcare Management
Department of Marine Engineering and Technology	Water and Energy	Energy Efficiency; Industrial Technologies; Propulsion Systems; Naval Engineering; Maritime Transport and Marine Environment; Electrical Energy; Smart Energy Systems; Industrial Automation
Department of Mathematics and Physics	Information Systems and Technologies	Programming; Mathematical Modelling; Data Analysis; Mathematical Analysis and Modelling of Physical Phenomena
	Social Sciences and Albanology	Applied Analysis; Quantitative Methods; Public Statistics
Department of Chemistry	Biodiversity and Environment	Applied Chemistry; Chemical Technology; Materials Science; Environmental Chemistry; Biochemistry
Department of Biology	Biodiversity and Environment	Biodiversity and Ecology; Applied Biological Sciences
	Agriculture, Food and Biotechnology	Biotechnology
Department of Computer Sciences	Information Systems and Technologies	Artificial Intelligence and Data Analysis; Digital Systems; Internet of Things (IoT); Intelligent Monitoring; Technological Innovation; Digital Industrial Applications; Industry 4.0
Department of Marine Sciences	Information Systems and Technologies	ICT Applications in Maritime Transport and Industry
	Water and Energy	Sustainable Energy and Water Resource Management in the Maritime Industry
	Biodiversity and Environment	Marine Biodiversity and Environment

Standard IV.2 The Institution Implements the Priorities of Scientific Research Activity

The Universiteti “Ismail Qemali” Vlorë (UV) consistently and systematically implements the priorities of its scientific research activity in alignment with its mission, vision, and strategic development objectives. The implementation of these priorities is ensured through a consolidated procedural, organizational, financial, and infrastructural framework, which guarantees the transition from strategic planning (Standard IV.1) to concrete,

documented, and assessable implementation through:

- the definition of priority research fields and annual research plans (Standard IV.1);
- the qualification of academic staff in departments and research centers in accordance with the priority research fields of the basic units (Table III.9);
- supportive organizational structures for the development of scientific research activity: the Sector of Scientific Research and Projects and UV's scientific research centers;
- financial support mechanisms for research development (Standard IV.3);
- the integration of research into study programs, particularly in the second and third cycles (master's theses and doctoral dissertations).

Operational Structures Supporting Research Priorities

UV operationalizes its research priorities through dedicated support structures and their functional roles:

- *Sector of Scientific Research and Projects (SSRP)*, which supports the planning and management of research activities/projects, guides proposal development, ensures alignment with institutional priorities, and manages partnerships with academic institutions, research organizations, and funding agencies (**E.23**, pp. 75–90; E.128).
- *Sector of International Relations (SIR)*, which facilitates cooperation with public/private institutions and international partners, supporting knowledge transfer and the dissemination of research results beyond the university (**E.23**, pp. 90–99).

Academic Staff Capacity

Out of approximately 200 academic staff members currently employed at UV, 173 have completed or are in the final phase of doctoral studies. Among them, 33 academics (over 15% of the academic staff) completed their doctoral studies at prestigious European universities under the mentorship of renowned Western professors. This has brought consolidated research experience, contemporary research standards, and a European-oriented academic culture of excellence to the University of Vlora.

To further strengthen human capacities, UV organizes continuous training for academic and support staff in research, projects, and innovation. During the period 2020–2025, more than 500 training activities were conducted, either within national/international projects or organized directly by UV, with both physical and online participation of staff members (**E.129**: UV Training for Capacity Building in Scientific Research).

Research Infrastructure

UV ensures functional research infrastructure for implementing research priorities through laboratories and research centers organized according to the research fields they support. Currently, UV operates the Regional Development Center and four scientific research centers (one per faculty), whose names and profiles have been revised and aligned with priority research fields, in accordance with Article 11 of the UV Statute (**E.1**):

- ❑ Regional Development Center: [Link](#). [Link](#)
- ❑ Scientific Research Center in Applied Sciences: [Link](#)
- ❑ Scientific Research Center for Innovation and Technology: [Link](#)
- ❑ Scientific Research Center for Public Health: [Link](#)
- ❑ Scientific Research Center of Albanology and Balkan Studies: [Link](#)
- ❑ Research Laboratories: [Link](#)

These centers and laboratories support applied research, projects, expertise, and third-party services, enabling the practical implementation of research priorities. Each center has its own organizational structure and human resources (director, academic and support staff), ensuring adequate research capacities.

Examples of Research Techniques Conducted at UV Laboratories

- Chemical characterization of medicinal plant extracts
- Microbiological analysis for assessing water environment contamination
- Application of the MPN (Most Probable Number) technique to determine bacterial load in water samples
- Antibiotic susceptibility testing using the Kirby–Bauer method

- Biotechnological techniques for protein extraction and analysis
- Identification and characterization of macrozoobenthos species composition in aquatic ecosystems
- Molecular biotechnology research with environmental, ecological, and biological applications
- Study of molecular bioindicators for environmental quality assessment
- Ecological monitoring and biodiversity conservation testing
- Sampling of physico-chemical and microbiological water parameters using a water drone (up to 100m)
- Air pollution monitoring using aerial drones

International Laboratory Development Initiative

Within the framework of cooperation between UV and the Institute of Biology – Plant Physiology, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany (Prof. Dr. Ralf Bernd Klösger), it has been proposed that the Biology Laboratory be further developed and transformed into a modern “hot spot” center for teaching, training, and research in contemporary molecular techniques. This center aims to provide an advanced environment for students, academic staff, and researchers to learn and apply state-of-the-art molecular biology, biotechnology, and genetic analysis techniques (E.130).

Financial Investments in Research Infrastructure

Research infrastructure is continuously improved through investments and budget reallocations. For the period 2021–2025:

- UV invested 15,861,870 ALL in laboratory equipment and materials;
- Investments secured through externally funded projects amounted to 79,717,624 ALL (E.131; E.132).

Integration of Research into Study Programs

The institution integrates scientific research into study programs, particularly in the second and third cycles, by aligning thesis topics with the priority research lines of basic units and the research interests of academic staff (E.133; E.123).

<i>UV academics</i>	<i>Research theses</i>	<i>Doctoral study's University</i>
<i>PhD studies</i>		
Emirjona Kiçaj	The impact of health education on improving self-management and the quality of care for diabetic patients	University of Brasov
Medrit Mustafaraj	A Multi-Dimensional Approach to Seawater Quality Assessment and Pollution Detection in Populated Areas	Norwegian University of Science and Technology
Mariola Ismailaj	Comparing traditional and Innovative Tools for Analyzing the Biodiversity of Aquatic Ecosystems in Albania	Universita Torr Vergata
Kerol Saçaj	Antibiotic Resistance in Surface Waters in Albania	Universiteti i Tiranës
Eni Meli	Identification of Selected Factors Limiting Growth and Production Indicators of the Mediterranean Mussel (<i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i> Lamarck, 1819) in Lake Butrint	Universiteti i Tiranës
Jerina Jaho	Sero-Prevalence of Hepatitis B Virus Infection and the Status of Vaccination Coverage among Students of the Faculty of Health, University of Vlore, Albania	Universita Torr Vergata
<i>Master Studies</i>		
Polikseni Mone	Assessment of the Water Quality of the Shushicë River through the Analysis of Physico-Chemical Parameters and Microbiological Indicators from Kota to its Confluence with the Vjosa River	Universiteti 'Ismail Qemali'
Gestiana Sulejmani	Assessment of the Water Quality of the Shushicë	Universiteti 'Ismail Qemali'

The practical implementation of research priorities is further evidenced by the publication of the scientific achievements of academic staff and students in the Scientific Bulletins of the Universiteti “Ismail Qemali” Vlorë:

[link](#)
[link](#)

These bulletins are organized according to the priority research fields and include, among others:

[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)

The University “Ismail Qemali” ensures financial and infrastructural resources for the development of research activities by utilizing both internal funds and national and international funding programmes. Cooperation with higher education institutions, research centers, and other strategic partners contributes to strengthening research capacities and the effective implementation of defined priorities (Standard IV.3).

Through these mechanisms, UV guarantees that research activity remains strategically oriented, systematically planned, and continuously monitored in line with its strategic priorities, thereby contributing to the enhancement of academic quality, innovation, and institutional reputation.

Standard IV.3 The Institution Encourages the Development and Dynamism of Research / Artistic and Scientific Activities

The Universiteti “Ismail Qemali” Vlorë establishes and implements clear policies to foster the development and dynamism of research, scientific, and artistic activities, in line with its mission and strategic objectives for academic development. These policies aim to strengthen the culture of research and academic creativity, as well as to increase the active involvement of academic staff and students in impactful research and artistic initiatives.

The University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora encourages the participation of academic staff in national and international research projects, scientific conferences, publications in recognized journals, and artistic activities, by providing organizational, institutional, and financial support for the orientation and implementation of research activities in accordance with institutional priorities (Standard IV.2). The promotion and support of research and artistic activities are grounded in the fundamental principles of the University Statute, which enshrines the institution’s role in the development of scientific research, innovation, and academic cooperation (E.1: Articles 4, 5, and 10).

Within this framework, decisions of the Academic Senate have established the procedural basis for the application, approval, implementation, and reporting of research projects funded by the university budget, ensuring process standardization and monitoring of implementation ([VSA 16/2021](#)).

The practical implementation of this framework is evidenced through full project-cycle practices, from application to final reporting (E.134). This component has been further consolidated through the approval of a standardized regulation for research-development projects funded by the UV budget (PKZHUV) (E.18), which unifies the actions of basic units, research centers, the Rectorate, and the Board of Administration, guaranteeing procedural clarity, institutional coherence, and transparency at all stages of project implementation. The regulation aligns UV’s institutional practices with national standards of AKKSHI and with principles of integrity, transparency, and efficiency in the use of public funds.

Financial Support Mechanisms

From a financial perspective, the University provides sustained support for the development of research and artistic activities through:

- Securing national (AKKSHI) and international funding for scientific projects implemented by UV academic staff;
- Internal financial support for research-development projects funded by UV (PKZHUV). Funding increased from 14 million ALL in 2025 to 19.2 million ALL in 2026. Budget allocation is specifically distributed per department, research center, and the Regional Development Center;
- Financial support for project writing, publication of articles in Scopus/WoS-indexed journals, publication in UV Scientific Bulletins, and conference participation fees, regulated by Academic Senate decisions [VSA 17/2021](#), [VBA 45/2025](#), [VSA 75/2017](#) as amended by [VSA 2/2024](#) and [VSA 66/2024](#);
- Institutional and financial support for participation in institutional networks and associations that create opportunities for project involvement (ETEN, UNIMED, CMU, EUCEN, ASECU) (E.135);
- Financial support for the establishment, upgrading, and maintenance of research laboratories (Standard IV.2);
- Financial support for artistic initiatives of academic staff and the Student Council, including the event “Nëntori që flet”: [link](#) (E.136).

Financial Support for Scientific Research Activity (2021–2025)

Nr	Designation	(2021-2025)
	Expenditure on Scientific Research with Internal Funding	ALL
1	UV-Funded Research Projects	46,000,000
2	International Travel	12,000,000
3	Co-financing for Externally Funded Projects	34,168,294
4	Expenditure for the Organization of Scientific Research Conferences	54,679,834
5	Expenditure for Conference Participation and Article Reimbursement	18,200,000
6	Co-financing for Projects Funded by AKKSHI	2,000,000
7	Project Proposal Writing and Preparation	16,521,800
	Total	183,569,928
	Expenditure on Scientific Research with External Funding	
1	Projects with Foreign Funding	157,584,986
2	Projects Funded by AKKSHI	14,107,998
	Total	171,692,984
	Funding of Scientific Research at UV during 2021–2025	355,262,912

Source of Data: Finance Sector (Table: “Expenditure on Scientific Research 2021–2025”).

The period 2021–2025 reflects a structured and progressively strengthened financial commitment to research and artistic activities, demonstrating the institution’s sustained dedication to enhancing research capacity, academic excellence, innovation, and institutional visibility.

The basic units and respective structures play an active role in fostering research and artistic activities through the organization of scientific conferences and seminars, workshops, exhibitions, creative activities, and the exchange of best practices.

Examples of activities organized by UV include:

Scientific Conference “Scientific Research as a Guide for Health Policies” – organized by the Faculty of Health to present findings from projects funded by AKKSHI.

Conference book ISBN: 9789928379443, 119 pages. [Link](#)

Seminar “Innovative 3D Technologies”: [Link](#)

Conference “1st INTERCON-SE-NCDs-I-MAP”: [Link](#)

Awareness Workshop “World Wetlands Day”: [Link](#)

The “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora promotes interdisciplinarity and inter-institutional cooperation by creating space for new research and artistic initiatives that enrich the academic process and increase institutional visibility. Examples of collaborative activities with regional, national, and international institutions include:

Vlora Smart City Conference – “Promoting Education and Identifying Gaps/Needs in the Albanian Maritime Sector”: [Link](#)

Symposium “Language of the Roots”: [Link](#)

Training “QLOC and the Video Game Testing Industry”: [Link](#)

Open Lecture “100th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Supreme State Audit”: [Link](#)

Forum “Education and Training of Experts in the Field of National Defense and Security”: [Link](#)

At the “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora, the Research Ethics Committee operates in accordance with the University Regulation, Article 127, point A (E.4), ensuring that scientific research complies with ethical and legal standards. The Committee was established by Senate Decision (VSA 4/2026), following a self-nomination process based on a call for applications approved by VSA [124/2025](#).

Scientific Committees within Faculties are the structures responsible for granting authorization for project implementation and conducting the scientific evaluation of projects upon completion (E.4, Article 127, point B). [Link](#)

Through these mechanisms, the “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora ensures an active and motivating academic environment in which research, scientific, and artistic activities are developed continuously and dynamically, contributing to the enhancement of higher education quality, innovation, and institutional reputation.

Standard IV.4 The Institution and the Units Responsible for Scientific/Artistic Research and Innovation Evaluate Their Performance at Institutional Level

The Universiteti “Ismail Qemali” Vlorë has established and implements a formalized institutional system for evaluating the performance of scientific research and innovation. This system operates in an integrated manner at institutional level, at the level of main and basic units, and at the individual level of academic staff and researchers, with the objective of continuous performance monitoring and improvement of research quality.

The institutional evaluation system is grounded in a consolidated regulatory framework approved by the university’s collegial bodies. This framework defines the research mission of the institution, the competencies of governing and academic structures, and the mechanisms for performance evaluation and reporting—both for research activity as a whole (E.4: Article 50) and specifically for the quality of scientific research performance (E.4: Article 127, point B.1.b), as well as for general institutional management and evaluation mechanisms (E.18: Article 10, points 3 and 5).

Main Levels of Performance Evaluation

The key levels of performance evaluation include:

1. Performance at the level of main units: departments / scientific research centers
2. Performance at the level of academic, support-academic, and administrative staff
3. Quality and implementation performance of research projects
4. Student evaluation

Institutional-Level Research Performance Evaluation

At institutional level, research performance evaluation is conducted through indicators approved under the Ministry of Education Instruction No. 5/2018 “On the determination of the components of the annual reporting

and reporting deadlines of higher education institutions” (as amended by MA Instruction No. 24, dated 21.10.2019). These indicators are reflected in the Institutional Annual Report and include specific metrics on research projects, scientific publications, research activities, and academic cooperation.

These indicators serve as the basis for performance analysis, comparison among units, and institutional decision-making in the field of scientific research. They are documented in the Institutional Annual Reports of the University, which are drafted, approved, and published annually.

The sustained and high engagement of academic staff in research, scientific/artistic activities, and innovation is documented in the Institutional Annual Reports for academic years 2020–2025, where research performance indicators and key developments are reported:

Annual Report 2024–2025, pp. 40–50: [Link](#)

Annual Report 2023–2024, pp. 21–71: [Link](#)

Annual Report 2022–2023, pp. 15–23; 103–154; 162–165; 302–319: [Link](#)

Annual Report 2021–2022, pp. 83–108; 125–199; 229–269; 350–377: [Link](#)

Annual Report 2020–2021, pp. 32–47; 91–131; 203–228; 329–331: [Link](#)

Data collected from reports of main units constitute an integral part of the Institutional Annual Report and are made public in accordance with institutional acts, ensuring transparency, comparability, and traceability of research performance among units under the UV Transparency Program: [link](#)

Individual Performance Evaluation

The University has also established standardized mechanisms for evaluating the individual performance of academic staff and researchers, carried out through institutional evaluation forms completed by heads of academic units, in accordance with academic and research obligations defined in institutional acts (**E.4**: Articles 50 and 127, point B.1.b; **E.31** – [VSA 52/2017](#)).

Furthermore, the Regulation for PKZHUV Projects (**E.18**: Article 10, points 3 and 5) defines procedures for application, implementation, monitoring, and reporting of research projects, as well as obligations for evaluating research outcomes at unit and institutional level. This regulation was approved at the end of 2025 and will be implemented starting with the new PKZHUV 2026 call (**E.137**).

For the preceding period, the application and evaluation process for research-development projects was carried out pursuant to VSA No. [16/2021](#), evidenced by practical cases of project evaluation at main unit level (**E.138**: Evaluation of a PKZHUV Project at Main Unit Level).

Student Evaluation and Quality Assurance

An important component of this evaluation framework is the assessment of teaching quality by students through questionnaires approved by the Academic Senate. The results are analyzed, published, and used to improve academic quality and strengthen the link between research and teaching.

Annual reports analyzing student questionnaires and related recommendations are published on the official UV website under the Transparency Program and Internal Quality Assurance framework:

- [link](#)
- [link](#)

Incentive and Career Development Mechanisms

Based on research performance evaluation results, UV implements incentive and financial mechanisms to promote high performance and good practices. These include remuneration for research project writing hours and financial support for academic staff participation in international scientific activities.

Within this framework, the institution also supports academic career development by covering the fee for obtaining the academic title of “Associate Professor,” as part of its incentive policies aimed at enhancing research quality and staff capacities (**E.58**).

Standard IV.5 The Institution Guarantees Intellectual Property Rights of Achievements and Results in the Field of Scientific Research and Uses Them for Its Economic and Financial Development

The Universiteti “Ismail Qemali” Vlorë (UV) guarantees the intellectual property (IP) rights of achievements and results generated in the field of scientific research and utilizes them in support of the institution’s economic and financial development.

UV has established and implements a clear regulatory and operational framework for the protection of intellectual property related to scientific, professional, and technological products developed within the university. This framework clearly defines the rights and obligations of the institution, academic staff, and partners regarding the use and exploitation of research outputs (**E.17**: Articles 2–3; **E.4**: Articles 129–133; **E.7**: Chapter IV; **E.11**; Code of Ethics, Article 13: [link](#)).

This regulatory and practical framework ensures:

- Legal protection of intellectual property rights;
- Controlled and regulated use of research results;
- Exploitation of research outputs for the economic and financial development of the university.

Integration of Research Results into Academic and Socio-Economic Development

UV systematically integrates scientific research results and contemporary labor market developments through national and international projects, transforming them into updated curricula, new teaching modules, micro-credentials, and professional training programs.

This process is carried out through structured cooperation with European universities, public institutions, local authorities, economic operators, and SMEs, within the framework of programs such as:

- Erasmus+
- Horizon Europe
- Interreg IPA CBC
- ADRION

A detailed overview of national and externally funded projects involving UV’s basic units is available in the electronic project database of the University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora:

- [link](#)
- [link](#)
- [link](#)

Academic and Community Outputs of International Research-Development Projects

Below are selected academic and community-oriented outputs of international research-development projects implemented by the University “Ismail Qemali”, which demonstrate the transformation of research results into tangible benefits for the university and the broader community, as well as their orientation toward socio-economic development.

Project Title	Benefits for UV	Outputs for Community Institutions
Master in Sustainable Tourism for Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Entrepreneurship	VET education/training model; Digital transformation/AI in education; University–industry cooperation	Improved employability and skills in sustainable tourism; Empowerment of SMEs/SEOs for digital and green tourism
Higher Education for Sustainable and Empowered Societies	Practice-oriented applied research; Digital innovation/transformation; Regional development/smart sustainability (non-urban areas)	Transfer of digital innovation practices in the region; Strengthened local capacities for smart development and resilience
Enhancing the Quality of Higher Education in the Western Balkans through AI Integration in Teaching, Learning and Research	Digital transformation/AI in HE; Quadruple Helix cooperation (university–business–community–government); AI research	Increased digital services/products through collaboration with local actors; Local innovation ecosystem and socio-economic development

Industrial Liaison Offices (ILO) for Strengthening a Cross-Border Network of Digital, Entrepreneurial and Professional Skills – ILOFORDIGITAL	Infrastructure/equipment; Institutional development (ILO Office); Digital innovation & entrepreneurship; University–business cooperation; Strategy/policy development	University–business liaison services for innovation and skills transfer; Promotion of digital entrepreneurship and local start-ups
MOOC-Based Micro-Credentials for Teachers’ Professional Development	Digital transformation/MOOC/e-learning; International cooperation (AL–ME–UA + EU)	Flexible online teacher training with micro-credentials; National models for micro-credential adoption
International Engineering Competence Centres for Sustainable Mobility Development in Albania and Montenegro	Curriculum modernization/problem-based learning; Green transition & sustainability; Engineering Competence Centres; Applied joint research	Engineers skilled in sustainable mobility; Support for local mobility policies and green industry; Innovation ecosystem in transport
Strengthening Knowledge and Skills in HEIs for Zero-Carbon Maritime Transport and Logistics	Infrastructure/equipment; Curriculum modernization; Green transition & decarbonization; Applied research/sector innovation; Regional development	Qualified professionals for maritime/port industries; Energy efficiency and decarbonization standards; Increased competitiveness of maritime sector
SMART Innovation Centres for Sustainable Smart Solutions in the Western Balkans	Infrastructure (SMART Centres); Innovation & entrepreneurship; Smart Specialisation (S3); Curriculum modernization; Digital/online & hybrid learning; International mobility	Innovation hub for local businesses and start-ups; Advisory/training services; Sustainable regional entrepreneurship ecosystem
PRECISE – Precision Healthcare Competences in Europe	Public health/wellbeing; European networking; Teaching modernization; Digital learning; Competence framework; Research/validation	Improved healthcare service quality through precision competences; Cooperation network among health professionals; Standardized best-practice materials
Sustainable University–Enterprise Cooperation for Graduate Employability (“SUCCESS” Centre)	Infrastructure (SUCCESS Centre); University–business cooperation; Digital networking platform; Curriculum modernization; Employability; Innovation/start-up support	Strengthened university–business links; Internships and tailored profiles; Start-ups and innovative community services
Regional Joint Master Programme in Marine Environment Protection and Management	Infrastructure (IT, underwater equipment, drones, e-books); New master programme; English-taught programme; Green transition; Blue Economy; Digital learning	Professionals for public/private blue economy sectors; Support for EU environmental standards; Improved marine/coastal monitoring
Smart Energy for Smart Cities	Infrastructure/equipment; Green transition; VET education; University–business cooperation; EU policy alignment; Youth innovation engagement	Increased energy awareness and efficiency; Community smart energy initiatives; Youth-driven innovative energy solutions
Sustainable Development of Blue Economies through Higher Education and Innovation in the Western Balkans	Infrastructure/equipment; Innovation & entrepreneurship; Blue Economy; University–business cooperation; Curriculum modernization	Increased innovation and entrepreneurship in maritime sectors; Local blue innovation centres; Employment and coastal economic development

Economic Growth and Governance in the WB: A Pathway to EU Integration (WB-EU-Path)	Master syllabus modernization (EU focus); EU research studies; EU academic networking; Institutional reputation enhancement	Evidence-based support for reforms and governance; Public awareness on EU integration; Policy support for regional actors
Virtual Research Infrastructure for Health and Wellbeing	Living Lab health research; Transnational and virtual access to 17 research infrastructures; Capacity building; Digital transformation in research (data + EOSC)	Innovative methods in rehabilitation and care; Living Lab methodology transfer to local actors; Standardization and harmonization of community services

At the level of curricular content and professional competence development, projects such as:

- Zero-C – [link](#)
- SMART – [link](#)
- DUALBA – [link](#)
- MAred – [link](#)
- INTEC – [link](#)

have contributed to the modernization of study programs, the integration of new industry-oriented modules, and the strengthening of the link between higher education and real labor market needs, particularly in sectors such as maritime transport, logistics, green technologies, innovation, and dual education.

In parallel, through projects focused on professional development and flexible learning formats, such as:

- CRED4TEACH – [link \(VSA 52/2025\)](#),

the University has developed and offers micro-credentials, certified training programs, and modules based on needs analyses and designed in cooperation with actors from education, industry, and policymaking.

Strengthening the Research–Business–Regional Development Nexus

The connection between research, business, and regional development has been further reinforced through projects such as:

- ILOFORDIGITAL – [link](#)
- KNOWHUB – [link](#)

These initiatives have institutionalized university–industry interaction mechanisms, innovation centers, and knowledge transfer structures.

Intellectual Property Protection and DOI Registration

UV guarantees intellectual property protection through a clear institutional regulatory framework. Intellectual ownership of publications, scientific products, and research results is regulated under Article 133 “Publications and Intellectual Property” of the UV General Regulation (**E.4**), which defines authorship rights, use modalities, and protection mechanisms for research results developed by academic staff and students.

In order to enhance visibility and protect authorship of scientific publications, UV has joined the international infrastructure **Crossref**, enabling institutional publications to receive DOI numbers and be registered in global research object networks ([VSA 17/2025](#)).

Economic Use of Research Results

In implementation of this framework, UV has formalized the provision and exploitation of research results and academic expertise to third parties through the Regulation on Services Provided to Third Parties (**E.11**), which regulates:

- Service provision procedures
- Contractual relations
- Fee structures
- Financial administration

- Revenue distribution

This mechanism establishes a sustainable basis for the economic use of research outputs and intellectual property, as further sanctioned in the Financial Regulation of UV (**E.7**: Article 19) and in decisions of the Board of Administration approving service tariffs ([VBA 22/2022](#); [VBA 57/2025](#)).

Institutional Capacity for IP and Patenting

To strengthen institutional capacity for intellectual property management and patenting, UV has included in its organizational structure a dedicated specialist for intellectual property and patent matters (**E.23**: pp. 86–90). Currently, the economic exploitation of research results is not yet realized through registered patents, as the institution is in the phase of licensing/patenting and following legal protection procedures for innovative products. Nevertheless, the University generates concrete economic benefits through third-party services based on academic expertise and research capacities, such as:

- Paid lifelong learning (LLL) training activities with micro-credentials (**E.96**);
- Professional plagiarism verification services for external entities (**E.78**).

Practical Implementation of the IP Framework

The practical implementation of this framework is also evidenced through concrete initiatives, including:

- The initiation of legal protection and patenting procedures for the UNVIMAS (UNiversity Virtual Management System) in 2025, representing the first documented case of intellectual property protection of an innovative product developed within the institution (**E.77**);
- The initiation of licensing procedures for laboratory and research services offered by research centers and laboratories, including accreditation procedures for services at the Scientific Research Center of FSHTN, aimed at ensuring quality assurance and formal recognition of services provided to third parties (**E.123**);
- Strengthening the university’s third mission—innovation and knowledge transfer—through consolidation of technical and organizational infrastructure for launching and commercializing products under the institutional brand **UniVlora**, in the form of spin-off initiatives. The initial focus is on the development of research-based essential oils and cosmetic products, utilizing academic expertise and laboratory capacities as a concrete model linking scientific research with the market and local development (**E.175**).

Financial Sustainability through Academic Publishing

In parallel, the *UniVlora Scientific Journal* [link](#) as part of its quality enhancement and internationalization process, aims - after indexing in prestigious international platforms - to introduce an Article Processing Charge (APC) for accepted articles. This represents a common practice among indexed journals and will contribute to financial sustainability, improved editorial standards, and strengthened international academic positioning.

Financial Impact

As a result of improved revenue management and diversification of institutional income sources, by the end of the 2025 fiscal year the University “Ismail Qemali” generated over 10% higher revenue compared to the previous year.

Standard IV.6 In Implementing Scientific/Artistic Research Priorities, the Institution Channels Research Activities at Department Level

The Universiteti “Ismail Qemali” Vlorë channels teaching and scientific research activities at department level, defining the department as the basic unit for the development of teaching and scientific research. This role is enshrined in Article 10 of the University Statute (**E.1**), where the department is defined as a basic academic unit, and is further elaborated in Articles 24–25 of the General Regulation of the University (**E.4**), which specify the competencies, responsibilities, and operational framework of basic academic units.

The academic structure of UV comprises 16 departments organized within 4 faculties, which constitute the basic units where teaching and scientific research activities are carried out according to homogeneous fields of study and research (**E.1**: Articles 9–11).

Organization of Research Structures at Department Level

In accordance with the institutional regulatory framework, departments are organized into teaching groups and permanent or temporary scientific research groups, which function as operational substructures for the development of teaching and research activities. The establishment, composition, and functions of these groups are defined in internal institutional acts and approved according to the relevant procedures (**E.4:** Articles 24–25), including Academic Senate decisions ([VSA 12/2025](#)) and formal acts appointing heads of teaching and research groups (**E.139**).

Departments promote, coordinate, and administer research activities through the competencies of the head of the basic unit and the coordinators of teaching and research groups, who monitor scientific activities, conduct periodic analyses, and report achieved results (**E.4:** Articles 24–25; Chapter I, Article 4 and Chapter II of the Regulation of the Department of Nursing).

The exercise of these competencies fully respects academic freedom, as guaranteed by the University Statute (**E.1:** Articles 43–46) and the Code of Ethics (Articles 2 and 6):

[link](#)

This guarantees the right of academic staff to conduct research in accordance with their professional interests and to utilize institutional material, infrastructural, and financial resources for academic and research purposes.

Departmental Initiatives in Research

Within this framework, departments and research groups act as direct promoters of scientific research activities by initiating and proposing studies, scientific events, publications, and research projects.

Initiatives for organizing research activities (workshops, conferences, seminars) and for applying to national or international projects originate at department or research group level and are subsequently formalized through institutional procedures:

E.140: Departmental requests and proposals for organizing scientific conferences, seminars, and workshops;

E.141: PKZHUV project application initiated by a department.

Research activities initiated by departments are documented in annual departmental analyses and institutional reports, which serve as formal instruments for evaluating research progress and planning subsequent research activities:

E.142: Annual analysis of the Scientific Research Center for Public Health on teaching and research activities;

E.143: Minutes of meetings of the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Albanian Language and Literature approving research objectives; Faculty decisions on annual research objectives.

Financial Support and Transparency

Departments at UV receive transparent and open financial support for research activities through funds allocated in the institution's annual and medium-term budgets, based on budget requests submitted by basic units (**E.26**, pp. 3–33).

To ensure institutional transparency, information on the budget and financial data is regularly published on the official UV website under the Transparency Programme: [link](#)

During the past two years, the Research-Development Project Fund financed by UV has been allocated directly at department and research center level. Previously, after allocation at faculty level, funds were distributed to basic units by decision of the Dean's Office (**E.144**).

Similarly, funds for research-development and socio-cultural activities are allocated transparently, while funding for reimbursement of publications/articles, conference participation, and project writing is provided based on the individual performance and achievements of academic staff. With the establishment of the Student Council, a dedicated budget line has been allocated annually for student-planned activities ([VBA 22/2025](#), p. 34).

Bottom-Up Approach to External Cooperation

Interaction with external actors and partners in the field of scientific research follows a bottom-up approach,

whereby initiatives for cooperation, joint projects, and studies originate at department and research group level. In accordance with the University Statute and General Regulation, departments propose cooperation agreements, project applications, and the organization of scientific activities with external partners. Following institutional approval, these initiatives are formalized and implemented at faculty and university level, demonstrating the active role of basic units in the development and internationalization of research activities.

E.145: Official requests initiated by departments for cooperation with external partners – Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) proposed by departments and institutionally approved;

E.146: Project applications initiated by departments (HORIZON – pp. 1–13; PKZHUV – pp. 14–28)

Standard IV.7 The Institution Approves Clear Objectives for Units, Research/Artistic Groups, and Academic Staff

The Universiteti “Ismail Qemali” Vlorë ensures that its basic units, research/artistic groups, and academic staff draft, approve, and implement clear objectives in the field of scientific research (Standard IV.1), which are integrated into the annual planning of academic activities and into the organization of the annual workload of academic personnel.

At department and research group level, research objectives are defined and approved annually through open discussions with academic staff during departmental meetings, annual analyses, and work plans. These processes are formally documented through minutes and relevant decisions of the basic units (**E.143**).

Integration of Research Objectives into Annual Work Planning

In order to achieve the approved objectives, departments define the annual research obligations of academic staff and reflect them in the organization of the annual working time.

This process is based on the institutional regulatory framework, particularly Article 39 of the University General Regulation (**E.4**), which determines the distribution of annual working time among teaching, research, administrative, and other academic activities. The programming of this workload is approved by the head of department in consultation with the academic staff member, ensuring a balanced distribution of duties and institutional support for their fulfillment (**E.147**).

Institutional Support Measures for Research Objectives

To facilitate the achievement of research objectives, the University applies concrete support measures for academic staff engaged in research activities, scientific projects, and academic mobility. These measures include:

- Reorganization of teaching and administrative workload;
- Granting of academic leave (**E.148**);
- Application of the sabbatical year instrument, in accordance with Article 49 of the University Regulation (**E.4**).

The implementation of the sabbatical year policy, as reflected in the table below, demonstrates tangible institutional support for the scientific advancement and research development of academic staff.

UV Support Measures for Achieving Research Objectives: Sabbatical Year Policy

Academic Year	Number of Staff on Sabbatical Leave	Basic Unit
2021–2022	2	DITD_ FSHTN DFK_FE
2022–2023	1	DD_FSHH
2023–2024	5	DGJSHL_FSHH; DE_FSHH DSHK_FSHTN; DE_FE DF_FSHTN

2024–2025	4	DGJH_FSHH DD_FSHH
2025–2026	2	DD_FSHH DSHK_FSHTN
Totale 2021-2026	14	UV

Source of Data: Human Resources Sector Database

For the achievement of research objectives, departments establish working groups and ad hoc committees for drafting projects, studies, and research initiatives, thereby promoting teamwork and coordination among academic staff (E.146: p.4, p.15, p.34).

The Universiteti “Ismail Qemali” Vlorë fosters and develops cooperation with higher education institutions, research centers, and experts both nationally and internationally through:

Cooperation agreements:

[link](#)

[link](#)

[link](#)

Joint projects and academic activities:

[link](#)

[link](#)

[link](#)

In support of achieving research objectives and strengthening academic capacities, the basic units at UV continuously organize scientific activities such as open lectures, seminars, and workshops, including the participation of national and international external experts. These activities contribute to the exchange of best practices, knowledge transfer, enhanced academic interaction, and the stimulation of both staff and students toward active engagement in scientific research and professional development.

Conferences, Seminars, Workshops, and Open Lectures with External Experts:

ETEN Symposium 2026 (European Teacher Education Network): [Link](#)

Open Discussion with Foreign Lecturers of the CEEPUS Programme: “Advancing Sustainable Environmental, Health and Safety Practices for Green Job Readiness (Sustainforce Alliance)”: [Link](#)

“Intelligenza delle Mani” – collaboration with Valore Italia and 355HUB: [Link](#)

International Workshop “Tourism Business Ideas for Vlora District” at the Faculty of Economics, Kempten University of Applied Sciences: [Link](#)

V.I.T.A. – Valona Innovation Talent Activators: [Link](#)

Vlora Smart City – “Promoting Education and Identifying Gaps/Needs in the Albanian Maritime Sector”: [Link](#)

Workshop “Creating Digital Enterprises”: [Link](#)

Training Sessions on Industrial Property: [Link](#)

Collaborations with Raiffeisen Bank Albania: [Link](#)

Standard IV.8 The institution aims at the continuous growth of research/artistic and scientific activities and ensures the full inclusion of academic staff and second- and third-cycle students.

The “Ismail Qemali” University of Vlora pursues the continuous expansion of research/artistic and scientific activities and the enhancement of its academic reputation, defining scientific research as a strategic priority for institutional development. This orientation is enshrined in the University Statute (E.1, Article 4) and in the Institutional Development Strategy 2025–2030 (E.35, Scenario I, Strategic Line I.3), where scientific research and internationalization constitute central pillars of the University’s vision.

In implementing this strategic framework, the University applies organizational, institutional, and incentive measures to increase both the volume and quality of research activities, encouraging staff engagement in

national and international research projects, scientific publications, and participation in international scientific events. Financial support and research stimulation mechanisms are detailed under Standard IV.3. Institutional Annual Reports (2020–2025) demonstrate a steady upward trend in projects, publications, and research activities (Summary Tables 19 and 20): [Link](#)

The University continuously organizes and participates in national and international scientific activities as organizer, co-organizer, and active partner (Standard IV.7).

International-Level Activities Organized by UV

National and International Scientific Activities, organized by UV

International Conference on Risk Communication, Community Engagement and Infodemic Management: [Link](#)

International Mini-Course in Data Sciences and AI (May 2025): [Link](#)

Conference entitled “Towards Better Management of Non-Oncological Chronic Pain in Primary Health Care Services”: [Link](#)

International Scientific Workshop, organized in cooperation with students and academic staff from the University of Life Sciences Prague (Czech Republic): [Link](#)

International Scientific Conference “Humanities and Education” – Third Edition: [Link](#)

International Conference: “Albanian Society between Legal Challenges and Social Development”: [Link](#)

First Smart City/Smart Port International Conference: [Link](#)

International Events Hosted at UV

13th ASECU International Conference & Summer School (1–7 September 2024): [Link](#), [Link](#)

Scientific papers published in the UV Scientific Bulletin: [Link](#)

ETEN Symposium 2026 (22–24 April 2026), hosted at UV: [Link](#)

V.I.T.A. – Valona Innovation Talent Activators: [Link](#)

Social and Artistic Activities

Social/ Promotional Activities Impacting Visibility and Reputation of UV

Doctor Honoris Causa: Andrea de Genaro, Enver Roshi, Andreas Schieder: [Link](#)

Book Promotions: Mero Baze, Preç Zogaj: [Link](#)

Open Discussions: Gëzim Tushi, Aleksandër Çipa, Plator Nesturi: [Link](#)

UniVlora Open Day: [Link](#)

UniVlora Expo at International and National Scientific Events (International Week – Istanbul; Job Fairs – Saranda, Berat)

Podcasts (Media Laboratory): [Link](#)

TV Reports on UV Activities: [Link](#), [Link](#), [Link](#)

Activities organized by the Student Council

World Health Day Awareness March: [Link](#)

Artistic Program “November that Speaks”: [Link](#)

Community Volunteering Activities: [Link](#)

Inter-University Sports Activities: [Link](#)

Activities organized by Academic Units

National Days (28–29 November 2024): [Link](#)

World Wetlands Day: [Link](#)

103rd Anniversary of National Forestry Service Day: [Link](#)

European Approach to Cervical Cancer Prevention: [Link](#)

Student’s Participation in Research Projects

National Projects: [Link](#), [Link](#)

Examples include:

- Music Education in Specialized Pedagogy – PKKZH

- Onomastics of the Vlora River – PKKZH
- COVID-19 Vaccine Side Effects in Vlora Region – PKKZH
- Microbiological and Physico-Chemical Assessment of Shushica River – PKZHUV
- Regional Database for Psychomotor and Socio-Emotional Development (0–6 years) – PKKZH
- University as a Driver of Digital Transformation in Schools (Arduino, IoT, AI) – PKZHUV

Master Thesis Research Output

UV Scientific Bulletin dedicated to Master Theses of UV students: [Link](#)

Doctoral-Level Research Projects (PKZHUV / AKKSHI)

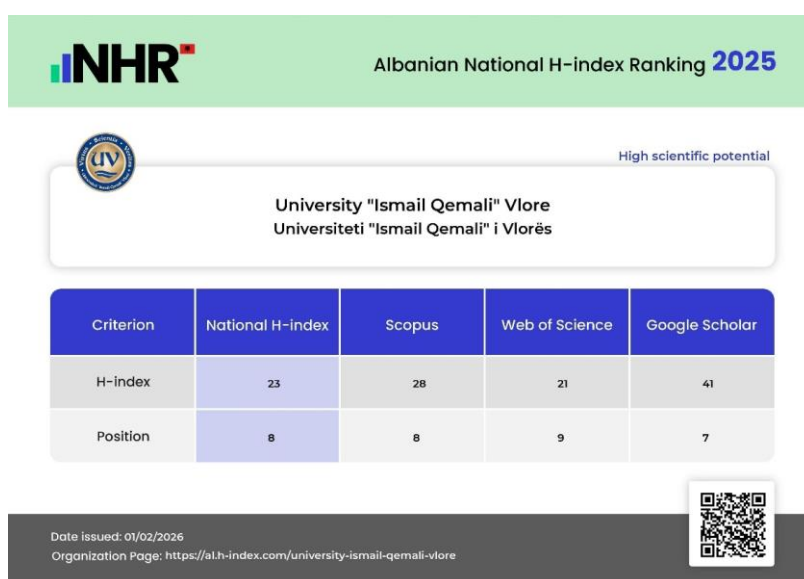
Examples include:

- PhD© M. Mustafaraj – Coastal Water Quality Indicators and Tourist Satisfaction (PKKZH)
- PhD© E. Kiçaj – Health Education and Diabetes Self-Management (PKZHUV)
- PhD© Zh. Graçi – Pain Management in Southern Albania Regional Hospitals (PKKZH)

Research Performance and Institutional Reputation

The growth of research performance and institutional reputation is also reflected in UV's ranking in the *Albanian National H-index Ranking 2025*, where the University ranks 8th among 45 national higher education institutions, based on Scopus and Web of Science scientometric indicators. For a university with fewer than 200 academic staff members, this represents a highly satisfactory achievement. When adjusted proportionally to academic staff size, UV's position would be significantly higher.

More information: [link](#)



Another important indicator of the improved reputation of the Universiteti "Ismail Qemali" Vlorë is the participation of its academic staff in international forums in priority fields related to sustainable development, economics, health, and urban development, such as:

World Food Forum [link](#)

Marmara Urban Forum (MARUF25) [link](#)

Inclusion of Academic Staff and Students in Research Activities

Through its internal institutional mechanisms, the University ensures broad participation of academic staff and second- and third-cycle students in research activities, projects, conferences, summer schools, and other scientific events, as an integral part of research capacity development (Summary Tables 19, 20, 22).

Their involvement is realized through:

- Participation in PKZHUV and AKKSHI project teams;
- Co-authorship in scientific publications, for example: [link](#) (pp. 44, 69);
- Participation in research activities funded or supported by the University, such as:
 - Involvement of Nursing students in research/academic activities abroad within the framework of inter-institutional cooperation (E.150);

- Participation of four Computer Science students in the “3rd Winter School of ASECU Youth”, organized by the Department of Business Administration, University of the Aegean (Greece), on the topic: “Future Technologies and Artificial Intelligence for a Digital Economy and Society” (E.151);
- Participation in international workshops, including the workshop organized on 14 January 2026 at the Faculty of Economics of Kempten University of Applied Sciences, Germany, entitled “Tourism Business Ideas for Vlora District”, attended by 16 students from the Faculty of Economics of UV: [link](#)

Doctoral Programmes and Research Output

Doctoral programmes are integrated into the institutional research activity plan and represent an important component of the University’s scientific output through dissertation topics, joint publications, and doctoral students’ participation in research projects and national and international scientific activities (E.152: Individual Programme of Third-Cycle Doctoral Students).

A detailed overview of third-cycle (doctoral) studies, doctoral candidates, and their organization is available on the official UV webpage: [link](#)

Research Integrity and Quality Assurance

The University guarantees the integrity and quality of research activities through the use of the anti-plagiarism systems **iThenticate** and **AIDetection**, provided by the Turnitin platform. These systems are used for the systematic verification of student theses (Bachelor/Master/Doctorate) and research outputs published in UV scientific journals, ensuring compliance with academic ethics and intellectual property standards (E.4: Article 130; E.17).

Anti-plagiarism control of scientific research outputs is conducted by the Research Ethics Committee through a blind review process, without identification of authors. For each case, an ethical evaluation report is drafted, documenting the anti-plagiarism results and conclusions regarding compliance with academic integrity standards (E.153).

Financial Reimbursement for Scientific Activities

Each year, financial reimbursement is provided for participation in scientific activities within OECD countries and for scientific publications in journals indexed in Scopus and Web of Science. The reimbursement procedure is finalized only after rigorous verification of supporting documentation by the Sector of Scientific Research and Projects (E.58).

Through these mechanisms, the University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora ensures the continuous growth of research/scientific and artistic activities and the inclusive engagement of academic staff and second- and third-cycle students, thereby contributing to enhanced academic quality and institutional reputation.

Standard IV.9 The institution makes known the results in the field of scientific/artistic research

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has established and operates a comprehensive physical and digital infrastructure that enables the publication, dissemination, distribution and archiving of scientific and artistic research results in both Albanian and English.

This infrastructure is supported and administered by academic and administrative support structures at the Rectorate level, specifically the Library & Publications Sector, the Scientific Research & Projects Sector, and the IT Sector (E.23: pp. 59–73; pp. 75–90; pp. 47–59).

The publication of research results and the protection of intellectual property are regulated through the University’s institutional legal framework, specifically:

- General Regulation of the University, Chapters X and XI (E.4);
- Regulation on the Publication of Scientific Journals (E.16);
- Regulation on Research Ethics and Publication at UV (E.17).

Channels and Platforms for Publishing Research Results

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora publishes research outcomes through:

A. Scientific Journals Managed by UV

1. Scientific Bulletin of the University of Vlora, ISSN: 2310-6719 (Albanian and English) [Link](#)
2. UniVlora Scientific Journal, ISSN: 3104-5626, DOI: [link](#) (English) [Link](#)

B. Institutional Digital Platforms

Official University Website: [Link](#)
Regional Development Center: [Link](#)
Research & Development Center for Public Health: [Link](#)
Cred4Teachers Platform: [Link](#)

Research publications and scientific activities are regularly reflected in dedicated sections of the official website, including:

Scientific Research [Link](#)
Publications (Scopus, WoS, UV) [Link](#), [Link](#)
Scientific Bulletin [Link](#)
Data Repository UniVlora [Link](#)
Doctoral Studies [Link](#)
Projects [Link](#)
UniVlora Scientific Journal [Link](#)

These sections comprehensively reflect the research output produced by the academic staff of the University “Ismail Qemali” and are continuously updated.

Publication as an Institutional Obligation

The publication of research results constitutes a mandatory component of research projects implemented by the University, whether internally funded, nationally funded, or internationally funded:

Projects funded by the UV budget (**E.18**: PKZHUV Regulation, Article 10(1)(c); Article 11);

National projects (**E.154**: AKKSHI Project Contracts 2025, Article 16(c), Article 10);

International projects, where publications are documented through special editions and scientific reports, including:

Scientific Bulletin Special Edition – KNOW HUB 2023 [Link](#)
Scientific Bulletin Special Edition – CRED4TEACH 2024 [Link](#)
Final International Conference – MORIN Project [Link](#)

Institutional Scientific Journals

The University “Ismail Qemali” guarantees the operation of two scientific journals with ISSN:

Scientific Bulletin [Link](#)

ISSN Print: 2310-6719

ISSN Online: 3005-8473

UniVlora Scientific Journal (UVSJ) [Link](#)

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These journals serve as stable platforms for publishing and disseminating research results across various fields of knowledge.

UniVlora Scientific Journal (UVSJ)

Established by [VSA nr.46](#), UVSJ is a multidisciplinary academic journal oriented towards promoting high-quality scientific research, innovation and academic exchange.

UVSJ:

- ✓ Published in English;
- ✓ Assigns DOI identifiers to all articles;
- ✓ Has an international editorial board;
- ✓ Applies a double-blind peer review process;
- ✓ Conducts plagiarism detection using iThenticate and AIDetection (Turnitin platform);
- ✓ Is part of the CrossRef network, providing DOI registration for all published articles.

The journal aims to increase scientific visibility, promote national and international cooperation, and support the application of research results to real-world challenges. It welcomes contributions from national and international authors and promotes sustainable development at local, regional and global levels.

Within the next two years, the University of Vlora aims to apply to Elsevier, Clarivate and NCBI to include UVSJ in SCOPUS, Web of Science and PubMed databases respectively.

Objectives of UVSJ

- To serve as a multidisciplinary forum for scientific research;
- To promote the dissemination of original, rigorous and impactful scientific work;
- To encourage national and international collaboration among researchers, institutions and practitioners;
- To support early-career researchers in developing their academic profile and visibility;
- To contribute to scientific knowledge, innovation and evidence-based policymaking and practice.

Structure of UVSJ

The journal is structured into six main sections:

1. Technical Sciences (engineering, technology, mathematics, physics);
2. Natural Sciences (chemistry, biology, environmental sciences);
3. Economics (economics, finance, management, business, public policy);
4. Education (pedagogy, curriculum development, educational psychology, lifelong learning);
5. Law (legal studies, jurisprudence, governance, international relations);
6. Health (medicine, nursing, pharmacy, public health, allied health sciences).

The journal encourages interdisciplinary and integrative research bridging these fields.

Databases and Institutional Archiving

The University has established and continuously updates an institutional electronic database of scientific publications, including works indexed in Scopus and Web of Science. The database is accessible online via the official university website and provides open access to academic staff, students and the public. It is periodically updated by the responsible structures (Scientific Research & Projects Sector and IT Sector).

To ensure sustainable preservation and dissemination of scientific output, the university library guarantees systematic archiving of scientific publications, diploma theses and doctoral dissertations, which are mandatorily deposited and archived by academic year and respective unit (**E.124**).

Doctoral dissertations are also accessible through the institutional electronic platform, in accordance with digital archiving regulations and practices: [Link](#)

The archiving and updating process is documented through library reports and records (**E.155**).

Standard IV.10 The institution is responsible for guaranteeing the quality and integrity of scientific/artistic works at the institutional level.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora not only promotes the development of scientific research but has also established and implements a consolidated regulatory and functional institutional system to guarantee the quality and integrity of every scientific output.

This system is enshrined in the University’s internal normative framework, particularly in Articles 3 and 4 of the UV Statute (**E.1**), where scientific research is defined as a fundamental institutional function developed on the principles of quality and academic integrity, as well as in the General Regulation of UV (**E.4**), specifically Chapter X – Scientific Research, which defines the basic principles, organization, responsible structures, and

institutional responsibilities for the development and supervision of research activities.

Institutional regulatory framework for quality and integrity

To ensure academic quality and scientific integrity, UV has approved a series of specific institutional acts, including:

- Regulation on the Publication of Scientific Journals (**E.16**)
- Regulation on the Prevention and Treatment of Plagiarism (**E.21**)
- Regulation on Research Ethics and Scientific Publication at UV (**E.17**)

These acts define ethical standards, quality criteria, review procedures, and institutional responsibilities for scientific publications, research works, and dissertations, ensuring a unified, transparent, and traceable institutional approach.

Institutional structures guaranteeing scientific quality

The University has established and operationalized dedicated academic structures to guarantee the quality of scientific works published at the institutional level, including:

- Institutional Research Ethics Committee ([VSA 4/2026](#))
- Scientific Committees of main academic units (**E.156**)
- Editorial Boards / Reviewers of Scientific Journals
[link](#)
- Plagiarism Control Commission (iThenticate and AI Detection provided by the Turnitin platform) (**E.157**)
- Reviewers / Evaluation Groups established for specific research activities ([VSA 50/2023](#); **E.134**: Complete file of a PKZHUV project – call, application, evaluation, reporting, payments; **E.16** Annex II: Manuscript evaluation form; **E.158**: Full procedure for publication of scientific articles in UVSJ).

These structures operate in accordance with regulations approved by the Academic Senate and assess the scientific quality of works, compliance with academic standards, and respect for ethical principles prior to publication. The evaluation process is formally documented through standardized forms, official minutes, and decisions, ensuring transparency and institutional traceability.

Internationalization and external expertise (Standard IV.12)

As part of strengthening scientific evaluation quality and internationalization, UV includes external experts and international scholars in editorial boards, scientific committees, and academic activities. This is evidenced by the participation of international experts as:

Members of Scientific Committees in Conferences:

- [link](#)
- [link](#)
- [link](#)
- [link](#)

Members of Scientific Committees in Journals or Periodical Publications:

- Page 3 - [link](#)
- Page 2 - [link](#)

This international participation enhances the quality of scientific evaluation and aligns institutional practices with international standards of publishing and peer review.

Anti-plagiarism and intellectual property protection

UV guarantees the elimination of plagiarism and the protection of intellectual property through the mandatory use of the certified electronic system **iThenticate and AI Detection** provided by the Turnitin platform, regulated by a specific institutional act (**E.21**).

According to Article 2 of this regulation, all doctoral dissertations, graduation theses, scientific articles, institutional publications, and academic promotion works are subject to anti-plagiarism control as an integral part of evaluation and academic decision-making procedures (**E.153**).

The process is conducted by authorized personnel appointed by Rector's decision, with clearly defined

deadlines and formal reporting procedures.

The University also provides the use of this anti-plagiarism system to third parties (E.21, Article 9), subject to approved fees (VBA 57/2025), and generating detailed technical reports on similarity percentages, citation analysis, and identification of AI-generated content.

Contracts for the anti-plagiarism system are periodically renewed and accompanied by complete financial and administrative documentation, ensuring continuous functionality and effective institutional control (E.159).

As conclusion, at the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora, the quality and integrity of scientific and artistic works are guaranteed through:

- A consolidated regulatory framework;
- Dedicated academic and ethical oversight structures;
- Formalized peer-review and documentation procedures;
- International scientific participation;
- Mandatory anti-plagiarism and AI-detection mechanisms.

This integrated system ensures high academic standards, institutional accountability, transparency, and alignment with national and international principles of research ethics and scientific excellence.

Standard IV.11 The university/academy clearly defines the obligations of academic staff regarding participation in research activities, studies, publications and scientific output, and supports them in fulfilling these obligations

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has clearly defined the obligations of academic staff in the field of scientific research, publications and academic output, considering them core functions of university activity, fully integrated with teaching and institutional development.

This definition is grounded in the University Statute (E.1: Articles 3 and 46) and internal regulatory acts (E.4: Article 38 and Chapter X), where scientific research constitutes an integral part of the institutional mission and of the professional duties of academic staff.

Over the last five academic years, UV demonstrates clearly, consistently and through documented evidence that academic staff have been systematically engaged in research activities, studies, publications and scientific output, making research a real and functional component of the academic role (Annex 1, Tables 19 and 20; Table: Standard IV.3). Research engagement is structurally reflected in annual institutional reports and in the institutional research database administered by the responsible structures (SKSHP), enabling continuous monitoring of research activities and scientific results.

In the academic year 2024–2025, UV academic staff participated in and presented papers at national scientific conferences, seminars and other scientific activities, as reflected in Table No. 5 of the UV Annual Institutional Report 2024–2025: [Link](#)

In parallel, academic staff were actively engaged in international research activities, presenting scientific papers at conferences and congresses held in EU and OECD countries, published in proceedings with ISBN/ISSN, as illustrated in Table No. 3 and Table No. 29 of the 2024–2025 Annual Institutional Report.

Academic personnel have also participated in international research networks and programmes, including COST Actions (E.160), in line with institutional objectives for the internationalisation of scientific research (E.35: Scenario I – Internationalisation).

Regarding scientific publications, UV academic staff have consistently published in journals indexed in Scopus and Web of Science, as first authors or co-authors, meeting the established criteria for high-quality scientific output. These publications are reflected in the institutional scientific publications database:

- ☐ Scopus publications: [Link](#)
- ☐ Web of Science publications: [Link](#)

They are also documented in the 2024–2025 Annual Institutional Report (section “Scientific Articles with

Scopus”, p. 46).

Academic staff have further contributed to the drafting and adaptation of teaching textbooks and lecture series, approved by the respective basic units, ensuring a functional link between scientific research and teaching, in accordance with procedures defined in the General Regulation of UV (E.4: Articles 64 and 140).

E.161: Procedure for Approval of Teaching Textbooks

E.162: List of textbooks authored by academics from other HEIs; list of textbooks authored by UV academics

Through this regulatory framework, structured monitoring, and documented outcomes, the University ensures that research participation and scientific publication are not only formally required but actively supported and institutionally embedded within academic responsibilities.

Standard IV.12 The institution that has defined scientific research as a primary strategic priority focuses on the internationalization of research and related activities.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora, considering scientific research as a strategic priority of its academic and institutional development, directs its policies and activities toward the internationalization of research and the strengthening of scientific cooperation with international partners.

This orientation is clearly reflected in institutional strategic documents, where research internationalization is defined as a key instrument for enhancing the quality, visibility, and impact of scientific activity (E.35: p.77; E.34; E.33: p.15).

<i>Strategic Line</i>	<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	<i>Actions to be Undertaken</i>
I.3 Joint Scientific Research in Accordance with International Standards	I.3.1 Improving the Quality of Scientific Research in Line with Scopus/WoS Standards	<input type="checkbox"/> Training on scientific research methodology <input type="checkbox"/> Implementation of an incentive system for publications with impact factor <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory anti-plagiarism control for every publication
	I.3.2 Promoting Joint Projects with European Institutions	<input type="checkbox"/> Establishment of regional and European research consortia <input type="checkbox"/> Applications to Horizon Europe, Erasmus+ KA2, and COST programmes <input type="checkbox"/> Organization of scientific roundtables with external partners
	I.3.3 Licensing and Accreditation of Research Laboratories	<input type="checkbox"/> Preparation of accreditation documentation <input type="checkbox"/> Investment in modern laboratory infrastructure <input type="checkbox"/> Certification according to ISO standards where applicable
	I.3.4 Increasing International Research Mobility (COST, Marie Curie, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Support for individual staff applications <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperation with European research networks <input type="checkbox"/> Inclusion of doctoral candidates in research mobility schemes

	I.3.5 Strengthening the UniVlora Scientific Journal.	<input type="checkbox"/> Professionalization of the Editorial Board and expansion with international experts <input type="checkbox"/> Establishment of a standardized double-blind peer-review system <input type="checkbox"/> Enhancement of publication quality through international calls for submissions <input type="checkbox"/> Efforts toward indexing the journal in Scopus and Web of Science <input type="checkbox"/> Regular publication of volumes and issues (minimum twice per year) <input type="checkbox"/> Full digitalization of the publication and archiving process <input type="checkbox"/> Increased visibility and scientific marketing
	I.3.6 Development of Scientific Digital Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Creation of the “UniVlora Repository” database for R&D projects <input type="checkbox"/> Digital archive of research outputs and reports <input type="checkbox"/> Analytical systems for measuring scientific performance

In implementation of this strategic line, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has developed:

- Cooperation agreements in the field of research;
- Applications to international research calls;
- International conferences for the dissemination of research results;
- Presentations of UV academic staff research at international conferences;
- Within the PhD Program in “Linguistic, Literary and Cultural Studies”, joint activities with European HEIs;
- Invitations to foreign researchers to disseminate their research findings at UV.

Cooperation Agreements in the Field of Research

UV demonstrates sustained research cooperation with higher education institutions from EU, OECD and G20 countries, documented through:

- Memoranda of Understanding (MoU): [Link](#)
- Inter-Institutional Agreements (IIA): [Link](#)

Currently, the University has 120 active MoUs and 164 IIAs and has implemented more than 25 international projects in the last five years alone. Cooperation extends to Italy, Greece, Norway, Belgium, Spain, Finland, France, the USA, as well as countries of the Western Balkans and the Mediterranean region.

The internationalization of research is further supported through active membership in international university networks such as CMU, EUCEN, ASECU, ETEN, etc.: [Link](#)

Within these networks, UV has also organized leading and scientific international activities, including:

- The CMU Governing Board Meeting held in December 2022: [Link](#)
- The International Symposium of the ETEN Network, scheduled for April 2026: [Link](#)

Furthermore, the University has undertaken concrete steps to further expand its international network through application and membership processes in academically prestigious networks such as UNIMED and EURAS (E.163).

Applications to International Research Calls

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora demonstrates sustained, active and competitive engagement in international research calls through regular applications to prestigious programs such as Horizon Europe, Erasmus+, COST Actions, Interreg and IPA CBC, as well as other international funding schemes, in cooperation with academic and research partner institutions from EU countries and beyond.

The table below presents in a structured manner the concrete engagement of UV academic and administrative

staff in preparing and submitting research and development project applications during the periods 2024–2025 and 2025–2026. As shown, within the last two years alone, the University “Ismail Qemali” has submitted 51 applications to various EU programs, while additional applications are in their final preparation phase and are expected to be submitted within the official deadlines of the respective calls.

This database is regularly updated by the Scientific Research & Projects Sector (SKSH&P), serving as a monitoring and analytical instrument for assessing staff performance in this strategic axis and as an indicator of UV’s institutional capacity for active participation in competitive international research funding schemes.

List of Applications to Internationally Funded Projects

No	Date	Program	Acronym	Coordinator
1	21.11.2024	CEEPUS		University of Novi Sad, Serbia
2	18.11.2024	HORIZON EUROPE	Children_First	Cyprus University of Technology
3	18.12.2024	SMP-COSME-2024-SEE-01	SLATE	Associaçao Promotora Da Rede Dinamica Xxi Potugal
4	02.12.2024	EIT HEI	M4EUS	Mersin University, Turkey
5	17.01.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	NEED2CRED	University of Leon, Spain
6	31.01.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	CIRCLE	Chieti Pesacara. Italy
8	31.01.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	SFF Startup WBunis	International Burch University, Bosnie Hercegovina
9	31.01.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	GREEN-PACT	UV
10	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	U-TURN	University of Banja Luka, Bosnie
11	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	MindFuU	University of Montenegro
12	04.02.2025	EIT Raw materials	MMI	Polytechnic Univesrity of Tirana
13	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	NURTURE	Royal college of surgeons in Ireland
14	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	Eco-STEM	Organizata Drite, Kosove
15	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	GREENSTEP	UV
16	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	ROMOLOGY	University of Montenegro
17	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	GREEN	Univesrity of Saraievo, Bosna
18	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	DataVoyage	University of Montenegro
19	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	DETECH	University of Montenegro
20	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	TALENT	University of Novi Sad, Serbia
21	04.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	U-WELL	Napolis university of Pafos
22	06.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	BRIDGE2E	Thomas More Univesrity of Applied Sciences
23	06.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	WIKADIH	CEPS - University college for business studies
24	06.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	CIRECON	University of East Srajevo
25	06.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	PaLVR	Aristoteli Universty
26	10.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025 JMO-MODULE	WB-EU-path	UV
27	07.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	Cyberimpact	Polytechnic Univesrity of Tirana
28	07.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	WB-STEAME	University of Krakow, Poland
29	10.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	ACCESS-ABLE	Kolegji AAB Kosovo
31	12.02.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-CBHE	CIRC-ECOFURN	University of Thessalias, Greece
32	20.02.2025	ERASMUS+ KA220-HED	MINDSET	Mindrove, Gyor, Hungary
33	06.03.2025	ERASMUS-2025- CB-VET	NEXTLEVEL	CINOP BV, HOLLAND
34	06.03.2025	ERASMUS-2025- CB-VET	STM-Tourism	Sinop university, Turkey
35	10.03.2025	ERASMUS-YOUTH 2025-CB	LearnEO	Helathy City Split HR
36	02.04.2025	Programit Interreg NEXT MED 21-27	CHILDREN FIRST	Cyprus University of Technology
37	04.04.2025	Interreg VI-A IPA CBC Programme, Greece-Albania 2021-2027	YouthUp	hellenic reulatory body of nurses, Gr
38	06.04.2025	Europeaid/183647/ID/ACT/AL(Life Skills: Advancing 21st-Century Skills and Career Guidance in Albanian Schools)	Life Skills	British Council, officially registered in Albania through its Albania Branch
39	09.06.2025	Interreg IPA ADRION (Adriatic-Ionian)	HEALTOUR	UV
40	09.06.2025	Interreg IPA ADRION (Adriatic-Ionian)	PRENCO	Instituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale, Italia
41	09.06.2025	ERASMUS-EDU-2025-PEX-COVE,	REGEN-VET	Comune di Ceglie Messapica
42	08.09.2025	HORIZON-CL2-2025-01	SHIFT	POLITECNICO DI MILANO
43	29.09.2025	HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01	(ACTS)	University Medical center Hamburg, Germany

44	10.10.2025	HORIZON-CL4-2025-04-HUMAN-08	GenAI for Africa	HELLENIC OPEN UNIVERSITY
45	11.11.2025	HORIZON-NEB-2025-01-REGEN-01	RegenSynergy	UNIVERSITY OF CUKUROVA
46	27.11.2025	HORIZON-MSCA-2025-DN-01	CHILDRENFIRST	Cyprus University of technology
47	27.11.2025	HORIZON-WIDERA-2025-01-ACCESS-01 European Excellence Initiative (EEI)	RISE4HE	Mersin University
48	23.12.2026	ERASMUS-EDU-2026-CBHE	GREENSTEP	UV
49	23.12.2026	ERASMUS-EDU-2026-CBHE	Bridge2E	THOMAS MORE MECHELEN-ANTWERPEN
50	21.01.2026	ERASMUS-EDU-2026-CBHE	TWICE	VAASAN YLIOPISTO, FINLAND
51	26.01.2026	ERASMUS-EDU-2026 -JMO-MODULE	CLIM-AL-EU	UV

Source: SKSHP database.

International Conferences for the Dissemination of Research Results

The Institution organizes and co-organizes international conferences, workshops and scientific events, which are also reflected in the Annual Institutional Reports (Table No. 5, Academic Year 2024–2025): [Link](#)

A clear indicator of this engagement is the organization and co-organization of international conferences and workshops within various projects, including:

MORIN – International Conference within the MORIN Project: [Link](#)

KNOWHUB – Activities and International Conference within the KNOWHUB Project: [Link](#), [Link](#)

TEAVET – Final International Conference of the TEAVET Project: [Link](#)

SMART – Consortium Meeting and International Dissemination Event of the SMART Project: [Link](#)

FoLate – International Conference within the FoLate Project: [Link](#)

1st International Staff Week – International Staff Week with participation of over 40 academic staff members and Erasmus office representatives from European partner universities: [Link](#)

Presentations of UV Academic Staff Research at International Conferences

UV academic staff actively participate in international scientific life through the presentation of research papers at international conferences, as well as through involvement in scientific and editorial boards of international academic events. These activities are documented in the Annual Institutional Report 2024–2025 (Tables No. 3 and 29):

World Food Forum 2025: [Link](#)

Marmara Urban Forum (MARUF25): [Link](#)

Research Visit to Living Lab Structures – TeVital: [Link](#)

Participation in the International Week at Tallinn Health Care College: [Link](#)

Joint Activities within the PhD Program in “Linguistic, Literary and Cultural Studies”

Within this doctoral program, joint UV–European HEI activities are organized, including:

“Practical Tips for Writing Academic Papers” – Prof. Tatjana Glušac: [Link](#)

“Critical Thinking Skills in an AI-Driven World” – Prof. Alexandra Mihaela Covaci: [Link](#)

“Reliability of Scientific Research Work: Addressing Emerging Challenges” – Prof. Dr. Shpresa Delija: [Link](#)

External Indicators Supporting Research Internationalization

The strengthening of UV’s research internationalization is also supported by internationally recognized external indicators, such as:

Ranking among leading Albanian institutions according to the Webometrics Ranking of World Universities: [Link](#)

Award of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) 2021–2027: [Link](#)

Foreign Researchers Invited to Disseminate Research Findings at UV

The University “Ismael Qemali” also guarantees financial and logistical support for the engagement of foreign academic staff in research activities through Visiting Professor schemes approved by Senate Decision ([VSA 95/2017](#)), Erasmus+ ICM mobility, and the engagement of keynote speakers in international conferences (E.164).

Travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses are covered in accordance with internal financial regulations (Article 27, point 1(b) – UV Financial Regulation, **E.7**).

Examples include:

- “Practical Tips for Writing Academic Papers” – Prof. Tatjana Glušac
- “Critical Thinking Skills in an AI-Driven World” – Prof. Alexandra Mihaela Covaci
- “Data Science Principles with AI Focus” – Prof. Dr. A. Elezi
- Open Forum with Mr. Scott Miller, American expert in fiscal policy, economic development and public investment: [Link](#)
- “Academic and Cultural Exchange” – International Workshop organized on 11.09.2025 at “Ali Asllani” Hall, University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora, in cooperation with the Department of Biology, students and academic staff from the University of Life Sciences Prague (Czech Republic): [Link](#)

Standard IV.13 The institution prioritizes the involvement of foreign academic staff and the diaspora in teaching and scientific/artistic activities

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has established the inclusion of foreign academic staff and the Albanian diaspora as a clear institutional priority, with the aim of enhancing academic quality, internationalizing teaching and scientific research, and strengthening the university’s international profile. This orientation is reflected in the strategic development and internationalization documents, where international academic cooperation, staff mobility, and joint scientific research constitute key pillars of institutional development (**E.33; E.34; E.35**).

Involvement of Foreign Academic Staff (OECD, EU, G20) in Teaching and Research Activities (Short- and Long-Term)

Within this framework, UV regularly invites and engages foreign academic staff for short- and long-term periods in teaching and research activities through institutional agreements and academic mobility programs. On a continuous basis, UV implements each academic year the Agreement on the Teaching of Italian Language and Culture between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy (MAECI) and the Embassy of Italy in Albania, engaging foreign academic staff to deliver relevant lectures and seminars (**E.100**).

During the period 2020–2025, more than 350 foreign lecturers have been involved in lectures, mini-courses, workshops, and research activities across the university’s main units. Representative examples include:

- Visiting professors from the University of Cádiz (Spain) in the field of Biology;
- Professors from the University of Catania, Italy (Prof. R. Strongoli, PhD V. Tutino, Prof. P. Leotta – November 2023);
- Professors from American universities, including Prof. A. Elezi, Prof. M. Robinson, and Prof. R. Ressler (May 2025);
- Hosting foreign academic staff under the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (ICM) program (**E.165**).

International Research Cooperation and Joint Publications

In the field of scientific research, UV academic staff regularly publish research results in collaboration with foreign academic staff from OECD, EU, and G20 countries, as well as with scholars from the Albanian diaspora. These collaborations are reflected in publications indexed in Scopus and Web of Science and are presented in the institutional scientific publications database:

Scopus publications – [link](#)

Web of Science publications – [link](#)

Involvement of Foreign Staff in Projects, Editorial Boards, and Scientific Committees

Foreign academic staff are also involved in:

- Working groups for international project applications (e.g., Jean Monnet Actions – PhD Entela Çukani, University of Salento; Prof. Pëllumb Kelmendi, Auburn University) (**E.166**);

- Working groups for PKZHUV project applications (e.g., PhD Abeer Watted, AI-Qasemi Academic College, Israel) (E.141).

The Editorial Board of the UniVlora Scientific Journal (UVSJ) also includes foreign academic staff, such as:

- Dr. Dimitra Sifaki-Pistolla
- Dr. Vasiliki Eirini Chatzea

Editorial Board – [link](#)

Members of Scientific Committees – Scientific conferences organized by UV, documented at:

MORIN Project Committees – [link](#)

SRC4PH Abstract Book – [link](#)

Folate International Conference – Home – [link](#)

Folate International Conference – Publication – [link](#)

Members of Scientific Committees – Journals and periodical publications, reflected in institutional publications:

Scientific Bulletin of UV, Issue 7, Volume 4, Special Edition 2024, p. 3 – [link](#)

Scientific Bulletin of UV, Issue 7, Volume 3, 2024, p. 2 – [link](#)

This direct participation of foreign academic staff in editorial and scientific structures demonstrates UV’s institutional commitment to the internationalization of scientific evaluation processes and to enhancing the academic credibility of research outputs published under the university’s auspices.

Involvement of the Albanian Diaspora in Academic and Research Activities

The University is actively engaged in involving scholars from the Albanian diaspora in research and academic activities, particularly through international projects. Within the READ Program – Cohort IV, UV is implementing three research projects ([link](#)) in collaboration with diaspora scholars affiliated with prestigious international universities, including:

- Prof. Dr. Fioralba Çakoni (Rutgers University, USA);
- Dr. Bationa Bennewitz (Martin Luther University, Germany);
- Prof. Andi Hoxhaj (King’s College London).

Furthermore, important collaborations have been carried out within the EU4Innovation project framework with members of the Albanian diaspora, including Dr. Adelajda Matuka (University of Bologna), for the development and co-teaching of academic modules with research components (E.167: GIZ EU4Innovation Agreement – Cooperation documentation with Dr. Adelajda Matuka, University of Bologna).

The international mini-course in Artificial Intelligence, organized in May 2025, constitutes another concrete example of the engagement of Albanian diaspora scholars in the academic and research activities of the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora. Within this activity, Prof. Artur Elezi, a diaspora scholar, contributed as lecturer and expert in the development of the teaching and research content of the mini-course (E.149).

To ensure continuity of this collaboration, an agreement has been reached for these international mini-courses to be organized periodically each year, thereby strengthening long-term cooperation with the academic diaspora and further internationalizing UV’s academic offer.

Through these consolidated practices, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora ensures the systematic and qualitative involvement of foreign academic staff and diaspora scholars in teaching and research activities, directly contributing to internationalization, academic quality, and sustainable institutional development.

Standard IV.14 The institution prioritizes the mobility of academic staff and students and ensures mechanisms for their broad participation

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has established the mobility of academic staff and students as an institutional priority, considering it a key instrument for the internationalization of teaching and scientific

research, the enhancement of academic quality, and the integration of the University into the European and international Higher Education Area. This orientation is enshrined in the UV Research Strategy, the UV Internationalization Strategy, and the Institutional Strategic Plan 2025–2030 (E.34: Scenario 4 “Research Networks and Mobility,” Objective 4.1; E.33: point 1, p. 13; E.35: Strategic Objective I.2.3 “Increase of long-term student and staff mobility,” p. 81).

At the organizational level, incoming and outgoing mobility processes are supported and coordinated by the Sector of International Relations (SIR) at the Rectorate, which acts as the central structure responsible for the administrative and technical management of Erasmus+ mobilities and other international programs. This structure provides continuous assistance to academic staff and students throughout the entire mobility cycle (before departure, during the mobility period, and after return), ensures compliance with relevant regulations, and contributes to institutional monitoring and reporting of mobility indicators (E.23: pp. 90–99; E.168).

The University “Ismail Qemali” encourages and supports the involvement of academic staff in short-term teaching and research activities (1–3 months) at partner institutions in EU, OECD, and G20 countries, primarily through Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (ICM) programs and inter-institutional agreements. For this purpose, the University implements a specific Erasmus+ ICM Regulation, which constitutes a best practice for the management and support of academic mobility (E.12).

Data reported in the institutional annual reports demonstrate that the level of academic staff participation in short-term mobility is in line with and above the indicative 10% threshold defined by the standard. The mobilities carried out during the last three years are presented in the table below.

Staff and student’s mobilities in the last three years

Academic year	Students		Academic staff		Administrative staff	
	<i>outgoing</i>	<i>ingoing</i>	<i>outgoing</i>	<i>ingoing</i>	<i>outgoing</i>	<i>ingoing</i>
2024-2025	22	6	101	53	22	29
2023-2024	13	9	65	42	45	26
2022-2023	44	7	110	56	35	37
Total	79	22	276	151	102	92

Source: SIR database

The institution also actively supports student mobility through a wide network of active Inter-Institutional Agreements (IIAs) and transparent information, application, and selection mechanisms, administered by the Sector of International Relations (SIR) in cooperation with the academic units (E.82; E.83).

As a result, the average student mobility ratio is approximately 1 in 13 students, demonstrating that more than 5% of students have a real opportunity to undertake an Erasmus+ mobility during a study cycle, with full academic recognition of the results achieved.

In order to increase incoming mobility, UV has established and implements a clear regulatory framework for the admission and integration of international students and members of the Albanian diaspora. This includes the institutionalization of the registration of incoming Erasmus+ students ([Vendim Rektorati nr. 16/2024](#)), the approval of the Regulation on International Students (E.13), and the reservation of specific quotas for students from Albanian-inhabited territories.

In parallel, the University has expanded its academic offer in foreign languages, as reflected in the public list [uni-vlora-courses-in-english-language-2023-2024.pdf](#), as well as through the opening of fully English-taught study programs, published on the official website:

International Study Programs – [link](#)

These programs include:

- BSc in Architecture Sciences for Heritage

- BSc in Computer Engineering
- BSc in English Language
- MSc in Translation and Interpreting
- MSc in Teaching in CLAB
- MSc in Maritime Environment Protection and Management – MEP&M

The expansion of the academic offer in foreign languages has created real conditions for attracting international students and increasing incoming mobility.

In support of this framework, the University has drafted and published the *Incoming Students Guide*, a document that is continuously updated and provides structured information covering the entire mobility cycle, from application and registration to academic integration and completion of the stay at the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora. This guide contributes to enhanced procedural transparency and improved quality of the student experience and is available on the official website:

Incoming Students Guide – [link](#)

The level of UV’s international mobility has also been assessed through internationally recognized external indicators, such as:

Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) 2021–2027 – [link](#)

Ranked No. 1 worldwide for “Student Mobility and Openness” according to WURI Ranking 2024 (p. 4) – [link](#)

WURI 2024: Student Mobility and Openness (A2) Top 100

Rank	Name	Rank	Name
1	University of Vlora “Ismail Qemali”	26	University of Bonn
2	University of Vienna	27	Faculty of Dentistry, Universitas Gadjah Mada
3	Daffodil International University	28	Deggendorf Institute of Technology
4	Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology	29	Universidad Tecnológica Centroamericana UNITEC
5	University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh	30	CHRIST (Deemed to be University)
6	University of Health Sciences	31	Lovely Professional University
7	University of Mostar	32	Telkom University
8	Hayek Global College	33	LSPR Institute of Communication and Business
9	National University of Management	34	Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia
10	Shanghai Jiao Tong University	35	Politecnico di Milano
11	Badr University in Cairo	36	Nagoya University
12	Dalian Neusoft University of Information	37	Hebrew University of Jerusalem
13	Westlake University	38	Tokyo International University
14	Peking University	39	Hokkaido University
15	University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague	40	The University of Tokyo
16	The University of the South Pacific	41	METAVERSE UNIVERSAL COLLEGE (MVUC)
17	China Europe International Business School (CEIBS)	42	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)
18	Xi’an Jiaotong University	43	University of Amsterdam
19	University of Cologne	44	Norwegian University of Science and Technology
20	LMU Munich	45	University of Oslo
21	Technical University of Munich	46	Fatima Jinnah Medical University
22	Chitkara University, Punjab	47	Khwaja Fareed University of Engineering and Information Technology, Rahimyar Khan, Pakistan
23	University of Split	48	Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology
24	University of Münster	49	Superior University
25	West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences (WBNUJS/NUS)	50	Fatima Jinnah Women University

The institution also supports the active participation of second- and third-cycle students in international scientific events by covering related expenses, involving them in research projects, and encouraging their participation in international conferences, summer schools, and workshops.

Within this framework, concrete cases of student involvement in international activities funded by foreign projects are documented.

- For example, under the KnowHub project, 15 students from the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora participated in training activities and workshops at the University of Girona (Spain). Similarly, within the INTEC project, three UV students took part in workshops organized at partner universities in Montenegro.
- International Workshop “Tourism Business Ideas for Vlora District,” 14 January 2026, Faculty of Economics, University of Applied Sciences Kempten – [link](#)
- “13th ASECU Youth International Conference and Summer School,” 02.09.2024, University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora – [link](#)

Additionally, cases have been identified of second-cycle (Master of Science) students in Nursing participating in structured international activities, including their involvement in Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) /

COIL formats in the field of Palliative Care, developed in cooperation with Thomas More University (Belgium). There are also documented cases of student and academic staff participation in structured international e-learning activities, including the development and delivery of the international course “Adult Health Behaviour” in the field of Nursing, implemented in cooperation with Tallinn Health Care College (Estonia) and other European partner institutions.

The course was delivered through the Moodle platform and Zoom webinars, with active participation of lecturers and students, academic assessment, and ECTS credit recognition, thereby demonstrating the internationalization of teaching and the genuine engagement of the academic community of the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora in contemporary and digital higher education formats (**E.169**).

These experiences directly contribute to the development of students’ research, professional, and intercultural competences, as well as to the internationalization of academic training in advanced study cycles.

Standard IV.15 The Institution Ensures Continuity and Increased Impact in Scientific/Artistic Research

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora ensures the continuity and sustainable growth of the impact of its scientific research activities through the adoption and implementation of medium- and long-term strategic documents that guide institutional policies in research and innovation.

For the period 2017–2022, the University implemented the Institutional Strategy 2017–2022, which served as the foundational guiding document for the development of scientific research, strengthening academic capacities, increasing scientific publications, and enhancing participation in national and international projects – [link](#) Building upon this approach and in alignment with national and European developments in research and innovation, the University has approved the Strategy for Scientific Research and Innovation 2026–2030 (**E.34**), representing an advanced phase of institutional consolidation and increased scientific impact – [link](#)

The 2026–2030 Strategy is structured around four strategic pillars:

- International scientific research and excellence;
- Research infrastructure and capacity building;
- Applied research and innovation;
- Research networks and scientific mobility.

The Development Strategy 2026–2030 (**E.35**) introduces measurable performance indicators (KPIs), annual institutional monitoring and reporting, biennial reviews, and direct linkage of research to regional development, public policy, and innovation.

This strategic framework guarantees institutional continuity of research policies and progressive growth in scientific, economic, and social impact, positioning the University as an active actor within the European Research Area (ERA).

Scientific Research in Alignment with Institutional Strategic Objectives

To ensure coherence between strategy and research implementation, the University has institutionalized a formal annual mechanism for defining and approving priority research areas. Faculties, departments, and research centers propose priority fields aligned with institutional objectives and national Research and Development Programs published by AKKSHI. Final approval is granted annually by the Academic Senate (**E.41**), in accordance with PKZHUV Regulation provisions (**E.18**).

These priority areas guide research projects, institutional funding allocation, doctoral research topics, and integration between researches, teaching, and institutional development.

Research Supporting Institutional Development

Continuity of research is demonstrated by the number, diversity, and duration of projects implemented during 2021–2025 under:

- National Research and Development Programs (PKKZH);
- Scientific Research Infrastructure Projects (PIKSH);

- ❑ Technology and Innovation Calls (PTI);
- ❑ UV-funded Research and Development Projects.

National Projects – [link](#)

UV-funded Projects – [link](#)

These projects cover social sciences, albanology, health sciences, biodiversity, environment, water and energy, technology, education, and innovation.

Research impact is further strengthened through continuous investments in research infrastructure (Standard IV.4), including research centers and specialized laboratories in health, environmental sciences, and marine monitoring.

Concrete outcomes include:

- Distance learning cabinets (MEP&M project);
- Audio-visual equipment (LED wall, smartboard);
- Air pollution monitoring equipment (Zero-C project);
- Underwater filming equipment (MEP&M project);
- Scientific Center for Marine Monitoring and Ecology (PIKSH 2025);
- Navigation simulation centers (MARED, MEP&M, ZERO-C);
- Health professionals simulation center (PIKSH 2022);
- Virtual laboratory with 3D printing for anatomical structures (KnowHub project);
- Smart Hub (SMART project);
- Functional laboratories (SUCCESS project).

Integration of Doctoral Students in Academic Activities

The University ensures research continuity through the active integration of doctoral candidates in teaching, research projects, scientific publications, and applied activities. This process is regulated under Article 8 of the Doctoral Studies Regulation (**E.170**) and documented through annual progress reports (**E.171**).

Examples include:

- Doctoral candidate A. Lula – PKKZH project “Onomastics of the Vjosa River”;
- Doctoral candidate S. Alizoti – PKZHUV project “Establishment of the ‘Ismail Qemali’ Sailing Club”;
- Doctoral candidates I. Cani, F. Dhimitri, J. Lapaj, S. Alizoti – engaged in teaching activities.

Interinstitutional Cooperation and Capacity Building

UV academic staff actively participate in advisory structures and expert panels of international organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), and the European Commission (**E.172**).

The University also invests in staff capacity building for research project management through national and European training programs:

International Research and Innovation Programs – [link](#)

Regional Training on Sustainable Project Management (Erasmus SUPROM WP3) – [link](#)

Instagram Training Activity – [link](#)

Institutional financial support for research has increased, with allocated funding for basic units rising from 800,000 ALL to 1,000,000 ALL annually ([VBA 22/2025](#); [VBA 10/2026](#)).

The University also allocates annual budgets for conference participation, publication support, research events, and project-writing hours (Standard IV.3).

Standard IV.16 The Institution Ensures Transfer of Research Results for National Economic and Social Development

The University “Ismail Qemali” ensures the transfer of research results toward economic, social, and institutional development, integrating applied research into its strategic and regulatory framework (**E.35**; **E.4**;

E.1).

Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms

Research performance is monitored through institutional annual reports – [link](#)

The Scientific Research and Projects Sector (SKSHP) monitors research implementation in accordance with institutional regulations (**E.18**).

Promotion and Socio-Economic Engagement

The University organizes and co-organizes scientific and applied events, including:

Integration between Academia and Business – [link](#)

Administrative Approach to Combat Organized Crime – [link](#)

Symposium “Migration and Labor Market” – [link](#)

Forum on Sustainable Tourism in Vlora – [link](#)

SMART Competence Mapping in Tourism – [link](#)

Vlora Smart City Workshop – [link](#)

“Intelligenza delle Mani” Collaboration – [link](#)

Support for Young Researchers, Start-ups, and Spin-offs

UV supports student and researcher entrepreneurship through:

- Facilitator role for government start-up grants (**E.173**);
- Mentorship for start-up development (**E.174**);
- Promotional support via social media;
 - Podcast “Challenges toward Innovation in Tourism” – [link](#)
 - Podcast “From Students to Entrepreneurs” – [link](#)

The University is developing academic spin-offs to transform research results into innovative products under the *UniVlora* brand.

Examples include:

- UniVlora Cosmetic Creams based on medicinal plants (Applied Sciences Research Center);
- UniVlora Essential Oils (Department of Chemistry), based on Dr. Jonida Salihila’s doctoral dissertation – [link](#)

Training and Knowledge Transfer Activities

International Workshop “Tourism Business Ideas for Vlora District” – [link](#)

V.I.T.A. – Valona Innovation Talent Activators – [link](#)

Workshop “Digital Entrepreneurship Creation” – [link](#)

Industrial Property Training Session – [link](#)

Financial Education with Raiffeisen Bank – [link](#)

Through these consolidated mechanisms and practices, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora demonstrates that research results are actively transferred to society, economy, and public policy, contributing to sustainable development and strengthening institutional impact at local, regional, and national levels.

Standard IV.17 The institution guarantees the intellectual property of achievements and results in the field of scientific research and uses them for the purpose of its economic and financial development.

The Universiteti “Ismail Qemali” Vlorë (UV) guarantees the intellectual property (IP) rights of achievements and results generated in the field of scientific research and utilizes them in support of the institution’s economic and financial development.

UV has established and implements a clear regulatory and operational framework for the protection of intellectual property related to scientific, professional, and technological products developed within the university. This framework clearly defines the rights and obligations of the institution, academic staff, and partners regarding the use and exploitation of research outputs (**E.17**: Articles 2–3; **E.4**: Articles 129–133; **E.7**:

Chapter IV; **E.11**; Code of Ethics, Article 13: [link](#)

This regulatory and practical framework ensures:

- Legal protection of intellectual property rights;
- Controlled and regulated use of research results;
- Exploitation of research outputs for the economic and financial development of the university.

Integration of Research Results into Academic and Socio-Economic Development

UV systematically integrates scientific research results and contemporary labor market developments through national and international projects, transforming them into updated curricula, new teaching modules, micro-credentials, and professional training programs.

This process is carried out through structured cooperation with European universities, public institutions, local authorities, economic operators, and SMEs, within the framework of programs such as:

- Erasmus+
- Horizon Europe
- Interreg IPA CBC
- ADRION

A detailed overview of national and externally funded projects involving UV’s basic units is available in the electronic project database of the University “Ismail Qemali” Vlora:

- [link](#)
- [link](#)
- [link](#)

Academic and Community Outputs of International Research-Development Projects

Below are selected academic and community-oriented outputs of international research-development projects implemented by the University “Ismail Qemali”, which demonstrate the transformation of research results into tangible benefits for the university and the broader community, as well as their orientation toward socio-economic development.

Project Title	Benefits for UV	Outputs for Community Institutions
Master in Sustainable Tourism for Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Entrepreneurship	VET education/training model; Digital transformation/AI in education; University–industry cooperation	Improved employability and skills in sustainable tourism; Empowerment of SMEs/SEOs for digital and green tourism
Higher Education for Sustainable and Empowered Societies	Practice-oriented applied research; Digital innovation/transformation; Regional development/smart sustainability (non-urban areas)	Transfer of digital innovation practices in the region; Strengthened local capacities for smart development and resilience
Enhancing the Quality of Higher Education in the Western Balkans through AI Integration in Teaching, Learning and Research	Digital transformation/AI in HE; Quadruple Helix cooperation (university–business–community–government); AI research	Increased digital services/products through collaboration with local actors; Local innovation ecosystem and socio-economic development
Industrial Liaison Offices (ILO) for Strengthening a Cross-Border Network of Digital, Entrepreneurial and Professional Skills – ILOFORDIGITAL	Infrastructure/equipment; Institutional development (ILO Office); Digital innovation & entrepreneurship; University–business cooperation; Strategy/policy development	University–business liaison services for innovation and skills transfer; Promotion of digital entrepreneurship and local start-ups
MOOC-Based Micro-Credentials for Teachers’ Professional Development	Digital transformation/MOOC/e-learning; International cooperation (AL–ME–UA + EU)	Flexible online teacher training with micro-credentials; National models for micro-credential adoption

International Engineering Competence Centres for Sustainable Mobility Development in Albania and Montenegro	Curriculum modernization/problem-based learning; Green transition & sustainability; Engineering Competence Centres; Applied joint research	Engineers skilled in sustainable mobility; Support for local mobility policies and green industry; Innovation ecosystem in transport
Strengthening Knowledge and Skills in HEIs for Zero-Carbon Maritime Transport and Logistics	Infrastructure/equipment; Curriculum modernization; Green transition & decarbonization; Applied research/sector innovation; Regional development	Qualified professionals for maritime/port industries; Energy efficiency and decarbonization standards; Increased competitiveness of maritime sector
SMART Innovation Centres for Sustainable Smart Solutions in the Western Balkans	Infrastructure (SMART Centres); Innovation & entrepreneurship; Smart Specialisation (S3); Curriculum modernization; Digital/online & hybrid learning; International mobility	Innovation hub for local businesses and start-ups; Advisory/training services; Sustainable regional entrepreneurship ecosystem
PRECISE – Precision Healthcare Competences in Europe	Public health/wellbeing; European networking; Teaching modernization; Digital learning; Competence framework; Research/validation	Improved healthcare service quality through precision competences; Cooperation network among health professionals; Standardized best-practice materials
Sustainable University–Enterprise Cooperation for Graduate Employability (“SUCCESS” Centre)	Infrastructure (SUCCESS Centre); University–business cooperation; Digital networking platform; Curriculum modernization; Employability; Innovation/start-up support	Strengthened university–business links; Internships and tailored profiles; Start-ups and innovative community services
Regional Joint Master Programme in Marine Environment Protection and Management	Infrastructure (IT, underwater equipment, drones, e-books); New master programme; English-taught programme; Green transition; Blue Economy; Digital learning	Professionals for public/private blue economy sectors; Support for EU environmental standards; Improved marine/coastal monitoring
Smart Energy for Smart Cities	Infrastructure/equipment; Green transition; VET education; University–business cooperation; EU policy alignment; Youth innovation engagement	Increased energy awareness and efficiency; Community smart energy initiatives; Youth-driven innovative energy solutions
Sustainable Development of Blue Economies through Higher Education and Innovation in the Western Balkans	Infrastructure/equipment; Innovation & entrepreneurship; Blue Economy; University–business cooperation; Curriculum modernization	Increased innovation and entrepreneurship in maritime sectors; Local blue innovation centres; Employment and coastal economic development
Economic Growth and Governance in the WB: A Pathway to EU Integration (WB-EU-Path)	Master syllabus modernization (EU focus); EU research studies; EU academic networking; Institutional reputation enhancement	Evidence-based support for reforms and governance; Public awareness on EU integration; Policy support for regional actors

Virtual Research Infrastructure for Health and Wellbeing	Living Lab health research; Transnational and virtual access to 17 research infrastructures; Capacity building; Digital transformation in research (data + EOSC)	Innovative methods in rehabilitation and care; Living Lab methodology transfer to local actors; Standardization and harmonization of community services
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At the level of curricular content and professional competence development, projects such as:

Zero-C – [link](#)

SMART – [link](#)

DUALBA – [link](#)

MAred – [link](#)

INTEC – [link](#)

have contributed to the modernization of study programs, the integration of new industry-oriented modules, and the strengthening of the link between higher education and real labor market needs, particularly in sectors such as maritime transport, logistics, green technologies, innovation, and dual education.

In parallel, through projects focused on professional development and flexible learning formats, such as:

CRED4TEACH – [link](#) ([VSA 52/2025](#)),

the University has developed and offers micro-credentials, certified training programs, and modules based on needs analyses and designed in cooperation with actors from education, industry, and policymaking.

Strengthening the Research–Business–Regional Development Nexus

The connection between research, business, and regional development has been further reinforced through projects such as:

ILOFORDIGITAL – [link](#)

KNOWHUB – [link](#)

These initiatives have institutionalized university–industry interaction mechanisms, innovation centers, and knowledge transfer structures.

Intellectual Property Protection and DOI Registration

UV guarantees intellectual property protection through a clear institutional regulatory framework. Intellectual ownership of publications, scientific products, and research results is regulated under Article 133 “Publications and Intellectual Property” of the UV General Regulation (**E.4**), which defines authorship rights, use modalities, and protection mechanisms for research results developed by academic staff and students.

In order to enhance visibility and protect authorship of scientific publications, UV has joined the international infrastructure **Crossref**, enabling institutional publications to receive DOI numbers and be registered in global research object networks ([VSA 17/2025](#)).

Economic Use of Research Results

In implementation of this framework, UV has formalized the provision and exploitation of research results and academic expertise to third parties through the Regulation on Services Provided to Third Parties (**E.11**), which regulates:

- Service provision procedures
- Contractual relations
- Fee structures
- Financial administration
- Revenue distribution

This mechanism establishes a sustainable basis for the economic use of research outputs and intellectual property, as further sanctioned in the Financial Regulation of UV (**E.7**: Article 19) and in decisions of the Board of Administration approving service tariffs ([VBA 22/2022](#); [VBA 57/2025](#)).

Institutional Capacity for IP and Patenting

To strengthen institutional capacity for intellectual property management and patenting, UV has included in its organizational structure a dedicated specialist for intellectual property and patent matters (E.23: pp. 86–90). Currently, the economic exploitation of research results is not yet realized through registered patents, as the institution is in the phase of licensing/patenting and following legal protection procedures for innovative products. Nevertheless, the University generates concrete economic benefits through third-party services based on academic expertise and research capacities, such as:

- Paid lifelong learning (LLL) training activities with micro-credentials (E.96);
- Professional plagiarism verification services for external entities (E.78).

Practical Implementation of the IP Framework

The practical implementation of this framework is also evidenced through concrete initiatives, including:

- The initiation of legal protection and patenting procedures for the UNVIMAS (UNiversity Virtual Management System) in 2025, representing the first documented case of intellectual property protection of an innovative product developed within the institution (E.77);
- The initiation of licensing procedures for laboratory and research services offered by research centers and laboratories, including accreditation procedures for services at the Scientific Research Center of FSHTN, aimed at ensuring quality assurance and formal recognition of services provided to third parties (E.123);
- Strengthening the university’s third mission—innovation and knowledge transfer—through consolidation of technical and organizational infrastructure for launching and commercializing products under the institutional brand **UniVlora**, in the form of spin-off initiatives. The initial focus is on the development of research-based essential oils and cosmetic products, utilizing academic expertise and laboratory capacities as a concrete model linking scientific research with the market and local development (E.175).

Financial Sustainability through Academic Publishing

In parallel, the *UniVlora Scientific Journal* [link](#) as part of its quality enhancement and internationalization process, aims - after indexing in prestigious international platforms - to introduce an Article Processing Charge (APC) for accepted articles. This represents a common practice among indexed journals and will contribute to financial sustainability, improved editorial standards, and strengthened international academic positioning.

Financial Impact

As a result of improved revenue management and diversification of institutional income sources, by the end of the 2025 fiscal year the University “Ismail Qemali” generated over 10% higher revenue compared to the previous year.

Conclusions and Evaluation

In accordance with the requirements of Standard IV, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has established and is further consolidating a functional framework for scientific research, academic creativity, and innovation, fully integrated with its institutional mission and strategy. The institution has established responsible structures, regulations, and support mechanisms that ensure the planning, coordination, monitoring, and evaluation of research activities at both institutional and unit levels. Research activities are conducted in compliance with the principles of ethics, academic freedom, and transparency, fostering the active involvement of academic staff and early-career researchers.

The University has demonstrated steady progress in increasing scientific output, strengthening research infrastructure, expanding national and international cooperation, and orienting research toward the needs of economic and social development. The most significant achievements of the University “Ismail Qemali” in the field of research and innovation over the past five years include:

- Partnerships with international higher education institutions (German, Norwegian, Italian, etc.), which continuously guide the nature and standards of scientific research in the University’s research laboratories.
- A high level of participation in international and national projects, accompanied by increasing institutional funding from the University. The outcomes of these projects have been consistently presented to the

community, business associations, and local governance structures.

- Continuous improvement of laboratory infrastructure, supported by increasing foreign and institutional funding, as well as the accreditation and licensing of research laboratories.
- Establishment of support structures for student start-ups and academic spin-offs for UniVlora products, including the patenting of the UNVIMAS computer information system.
- A significant number of publications indexed in journals with Impact Factor, SCOPUS, and Web of Science. When assessed relative to the number of full-time academic staff, these publications may represent one of the highest publication coefficients among Albanian universities.
- The publication of the *UniVlora Scientific Journal*, structured according to contemporary quality standards: English language publication, DOI indexing, international editorial board, double-blind peer review process, and plagiarism detection through the iThenticate system.

Overall, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora is assessed as fully meeting the criteria of Standard IV at a satisfactory level, exceeding the current national higher education and societal standards and demonstrating continuous development. The institution shows a clear commitment to enhancing the quality, impact, and sustainability of scientific research and innovation.

Priority areas for further development within the University’s Development Strategy include:

- the sustainable increase of financial resources for scientific research,*
- the accreditation and licensing of all research laboratories,*
- strengthening technology transfer mechanisms,*
- the institutionalization of academic start-ups and spin-offs.*
- Particular emphasis is also placed on expanding partnerships in joint projects with higher education institutions from OECD countries and on active engagement in research aligned with European standards of research and innovation.*

STANDARD IV – REQUIREMENTS FULLY ACHIEVED

V – STUDENTS AND SUPPORT MECHANISMS

Standard V.1 The higher education institution develops, monitors, and implements policies and procedures for student admission and selection.

The University of Vlora implements a clear, transparent, and fair policy for student admission and selection, in full compliance with the applicable legal framework governing higher education, relevant secondary legislation, as well as the University Statute and internal regulations. These policies aim to guarantee equal opportunities, non-discrimination, and respect for academic merit for all applicants.

The regulatory framework of the University of Vlora provides detailed procedures for all categories of students admitted to the University, including students of all study cycles, second-degree students, international students, transfer students, and students participating in short-term mobility programs (incoming Erasmus mobility).

E.4 – University General Regulation:

- Article 61 (admission quotas)
- Article 68 (admission to the first cycle)
- Article 70 (admission to the second cycle)
- Article 76 (admission to the third cycle)
- Article 84, points 2–3 (admission to a second study program)
- Article 85 (transfer of studies)

E.12 – Regulation on Erasmus Students, Chapter III

E.13 – Regulation on International Students of UV, Chapter II

In addition to the general requirements defined by national legislation, the University of Vlora applies additional admission criteria proposed by the basic units and approved by the collegial governing bodies of the institution, in accordance with the specific characteristics of each study program.

Documented Procedures Include:

E.40 – Full procedure for admission criteria in the programmes of the Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences (official correspondence with the Ministry, department decision, report of the Curriculum and Statistics Sector, Senate decision).

E.39 – Full procedure for admission quotas in the Faculty of Economics.

E.176 – Full procedure for the selection of BSc students in the Faculty of Human Sciences.

E.177 – Full procedure for the selection of MSc students in Finance.

E.178 – Full procedure for the selection of doctoral students in “Doctorate in Linguistic, Literary and Cultural Studies.”

E.179 – Full procedure for the selection of transfer students in the BSc programme in “Computer Science.”

E.180 – Full procedure for the selection of students for a second study programme in BSc in “General Nursing.”

E.181 – Full procedure for the re-admission of first-cycle students in the Department of Marine Engineering and Technology.

International Students at UV

The University “Ismail Qemali” places particular importance on academic mobility and

student exchange through international programs, especially the ERASMUS+ program, creating opportunities for students to benefit from international academic and cultural experiences.

E.182 – Full procedure for incoming Erasmus+ students.

In addition to Erasmus beneficiaries, another category includes foreign students or Albanian students who have completed or pursued studies in another country (international students). The academic year 2025–2026 marked a historic milestone, as it was the first year in which the University of Vlora enrolled international students in two of its study programmes offered in English.

E.183 – Full procedure for the selection of international students.

E.119 – List of students enrolled in *BSc in Architecture Sciences for Heritage* and *MSc in Maritime Environment Protection and Management (MEP)*.

Through these structured and documented procedures, the University of Vlora demonstrates its commitment to a standardized, inclusive, and quality-assured admission process aligned with institutional accreditation requirements and quality assurance standards.

Standard V.2 The higher education institution provides student support through university services to facilitate their academic progression.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has established and operationalized an integrated system of university services designed to support students and facilitate their academic, administrative, and social progression throughout the entire study cycle ([link](#)).

A. Academic Support

From an academic perspective, students benefit from advising and guidance services (Standard V.5), provided by academic structures and the relevant administrative offices. These services relate to registration procedures (both at the Secretariat and in the UNVIMAS system), course selection, academic progress, and information on study regulations and procedures.

The University “Ismail Qemali” has approved a comprehensive set of regulations and procedures to support students’ academic pathways.

Students’ rights and obligations during their university life are clearly defined (**E.4** – University Regulation, Article 106) and include:

- ✓ Attendance of all teaching activities within the study programme in which they are enrolled;
- ✓ The right to request additional consultation hours with lecturers for academic clarification or support;
- ✓ Participation in academic and research mobility programmes offered by the University;
- ✓ Use of the infrastructure provided by the University for teaching, extracurricular activities, and scientific research;
- ✓ Participation in the decision-making processes of the University;
- ✓ The right to elect and be elected to student bodies, in accordance with higher education legislation and the University Statute;
- ✓ Organization within Student Councils, ensuring student representation in governing bodies;
- ✓ The right to provide feedback on teaching quality and staff performance;
- ✓ Submission of oral or written complaints to the Head of Department regarding exam grading, teaching quality, lecturers, or programme effectiveness (in accordance with the Regulation);
- ✓ The right to request grade review and improvement under the provisions of the

Regulation;

- ✓ Eligibility for scholarships and special awards in accordance with decisions of the Council of Ministers and university-administered schemes.

Flexible Academic Mechanisms

Students are also offered personalized solutions for situations outside the standard academic calendar:

- Summer Term (5–7 intensive weeks) for completing pending modules or courses missed due to mobility (**E.4**, Article 94/1);
- Two resit examination sessions (**E.4**, Article 94/1);
- An additional exam session before graduation for students who need only 1–2 exams to qualify for graduation (**E.4**, Article 94/1);
- Opportunity for grade improvement (**E.4**, Article 101);
- Possibility to postpone an exam date for justified major reasons (**E.4**, Article 94/11);
- A clearly regulated appeals system for exam evaluation (**E.4**, Article 97);
- The right to resume studies after periods of interruption (**E.4**, Articles 108–109).

B. Administrative Support

From an administrative perspective, the University provides structured and standardized services through its relevant offices, ensuring continuous information, procedural transparency, and assistance in addressing administrative matters. The digitalization of a significant portion of services has improved accessibility, reduced waiting times, and enhanced efficiency in student–institution interaction.

Students are provided with:

- Student Guidelines [link](#)
- UNVIMAS User Manual for Students 2026 [link](#)
- Google Classroom User Manual [link](#)
- Information on Student Services [link](#)
- Invoice Download [link](#)

Students of the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora are issued a *Student Card*, a unique identification document through which they benefit from reduced-price services in accordance with provisions set by the Municipality of Vlora

E.4 – Article 112;

E.184 – Municipal correspondence on student cards

Quality Assurance and Monitoring

University services are periodically monitored and evaluated through internal quality assurance mechanisms, including student feedback and performance analysis of the respective structures. The Internal Quality Assurance & Accreditation Sector conducts periodic surveys on the *Evaluation of the Quality of Services* provided by the academic support and administrative staff of the University of Vlora through the UNVIMAS platform.

The results of this evaluation are published on the official website of the University of Vlora ([link](#)) and serve to ensure the continuous improvement of services and their alignment with the real needs of students.

VSA on the Approval of the Student Questionnaire Format [link](#)

Questionnaires for the Evaluation of the Quality of Services Provided by the Academic Support and Administrative Staff of the University of Vlora [link](#)

In conclusion, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora provides structured, functional, and student-oriented university services that significantly contribute to facilitating students’ academic, administrative, and social progression, while enhancing the overall quality of their university experience.

Standard V.3 The Institution Uses an Efficient Student Information System

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora has established and operationalized an integrated and efficient student information system aimed at ensuring equal access, transparency, and continuous communication throughout the entire study cycle. This system combines traditional and digital communication channels, coordinated at the institutional level and oriented toward students’ real needs, thereby directly facilitating their academic and administrative progress.

Traditional Communication Channels

Traditional communication channels at UV include:

- ❑ Communication with the Academic Secretariat (**E.4:** UV Regulation, Articles 118, 120)
- ❑ Communication with the Faculty Academic Advisor (**E.4:** UV Regulation, Article 111)
- ❑ Communication with Course Lecturers (**E.4:** UV Regulation, Article 38, points 1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10)
- ❑ Communication with Student Services Specialists (**E.23:** Student Services Specialist, pp. 159–161)

Student information begins on the first day of registration through introductory and orientation activities designed to familiarize students with the university structure, study programs, services, and institutional regulations. During the first week of the academic year, informative meetings are organized with relevant structures, including the IT service, where students are introduced to the university’s electronic systems, digital platforms, and official communication channels.

Student Guidelines [link](#)

Informative Meeting for First-Year Students (Facebook Notice) [link](#)

Notice for First-Year Students – Finance and Accounting [link](#)

At the beginning of each semester, lecturers provide structured information regarding the course syllabus, learning objectives, teaching methodology, assessment methods, and required and recommended literature.

Lecturers:

- Guide students regarding the thesis question bank prior to examinations
- Offer consultations before resit exams upon student request
- Ensure maximum transparency in student assessment

After each midterm or final exam:

- Students are provided with their test papers and the lecturer’s evaluation
 - Students receive clarification upon request regarding grading criteria
 - In cases of disagreement, students are informed about the grade appeal procedure
- E.4:** Article 38; Article 97

Academic Advising and Student Offices

Academic advising structures operate within the University of Vlora, and each faculty has a Student Office serving as the main point of information and guidance. These structures assist with study programs, academic and administrative procedures, and university services, ensuring direct and organized communication.

Student Services Specialists Responsibilities

Student Services Specialists in each faculty:

1. Assist and advise students regarding scholarships, student loans, and student organizations.

2. Guide current and prospective students on financial support opportunities, assist during the application process, and provide information on available funding schemes.
3. Serve as a reference point for Bachelor's and Master's students regarding academic policies, admission, and registration procedures.
4. Organize new student orientation in cooperation with academic advisors and tutoring services, assisting students throughout their studies in understanding university legislation (Law, Statute, Study Program Regulations, Ministry Guidelines, Rector's Orders).

Digital Communication Channels

Digital communication channels at UV include:

- Official website: univlora.edu.al
- Internal Communication System (UNVIMAS)
- Google Classroom platform for UniVlora
- Official social media pages
- Institutional email addresses @univlora.edu.al

Students are continuously informed through the official website: [link](#) and through the Internal Communication System UNVIMAS, which enables students to:

- Register for selected courses
 - Receive confidential exam results
 - Communicate with lecturers
 - Access online teaching materials
- (Standard II.14; E.10: UNVIMAS Regulation, Article 24)
 UNVIMAS User Manual for Students 2026 [link](#)
 Google Classroom User Manual [link](#)

Social Media as an Information Channel (Standard V.6)

The University also uses official social media as supplementary communication tools.

Event Announcements

VITA Event Notice [link](#)

Career Day Notice [link](#)

National Youth Council Notice [link](#)

Activity Coverage

Student Council Community Volunteering [link](#)

Student Food Party [link](#)

Students at the Parliament of Albania [link](#)

ALSAR Scholarship Award Ceremony [link](#)

UV Development Strategy 2025–2030 [link](#)

Erasmus+ Announcements [link](#)

Academic Notices

Notice on Institutional Email Activation [link](#)

Notice on Teaching Process Suspension (18–19 Dates) [link](#)

Institutional Email and IT Support

Each student is assigned an official institutional email address in the format name.surname@univlora.edu.al, which serves as the primary channel for academic and administrative communication (E.4: UNVIMAS Regulation, Article 24.1).

The use of this address ensures structured, confidential, secure, and verifiable communication between the University and students. IT Specialists in each faculty provide assistance regarding UNVIMAS use and technical issues (E.23: IT Specialist; E.186: Electronic Student Booklet).

The University has set as a strategic objective the digitalization of university services and student support (**E.35**: Strategic Line II.2 SMART Service System, Strategic Objective II.2.1).

Through above mentioned instruments and structures, students are regularly and promptly informed about academic regulations, administrative procedures, timetables, official announcements, university services, academic activities, and opportunities for professional development and mobility.

In conclusion, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora possesses and effectively utilizes a structured, functional, and efficient information system that continuously supports students throughout their academic and administrative journey.

Standard V.4 The Institution Encourages Student Participation in Institutional Life

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora actively promotes and supports student involvement in institutional life, considering students key partners in the academic, organizational, and social development of the University. The institution recognizes and guarantees students’ right to be represented in the University’s collegial and decision-making bodies.

Student representative structures in UV’s collegial and decision-making bodies include:

- UV Student Council
- Academic Senate (2 students)
- UV Ethics Council (1 student)
- Internal Quality Assurance Commission (1 student)
- Student Relations Commission (1 student)
- UV Research Ethics Council (1 student)

(**E.1**: UV Statute, Article 74; **E.4**: UV Regulation, Article 127, point A.2.d; **E.187**; **E.188**)
VSA on the Ethics Council [link](#): VSA on the Research Ethics Council [link](#)

The Student Council of UV has been established and is fully operational ([link](#)). It has drafted its own internal rules of procedure and has maintained an active role through initiatives proposed by students themselves or scheduled by Rectorate structures. The Student Council has a dedicated space for meetings, receives mentoring from the Head of the Career, Student Services & Alumni Sector, has a dedicated budget line, and UV has consistently met requests for financing student council activities.

UV Budget 2025 (including the Student Council fund), p.14, first line, social activity expenses [link](#)

Student Council Regulation [link](#)

Students also participate in ad hoc committee established for various institutional procedures, such as:

- Drafting the institutional and program accreditation reports
- Drafting (UV doctoral student) and discussing the UV Development Strategy (with the participation of the Student Council)
- Ad hoc evaluation and appeal commissions for selecting students for Erasmus+ mobility (the student member is proposed by the Chair of the Student Council)

The University creates formal and informal spaces for student input, feedback collection, and contribution to improving the quality of services and study programs through:

- Annual student questionnaires on Teaching Quality for courses in each study program, administered through UNVIMAS
Analysis report of student questionnaires on teaching quality for AY 2024–2025 [link](#)

- Questionnaires on the Quality of Services provided by UV’s academic support and administrative staff
Analysis report and recommendations for improving the quality of administrative services, AY 2023–2024 [link](#)

Through these representative and participatory mechanisms, the University of Vlora enables students to play an active role in institutional life, strengthening a culture of cooperation, transparency, and inclusion in decision-making, in line with quality assurance standards and institutional accreditation requirements.

Standard V.5 The Institution Implements a Student Orientation and Advising Policy

The institution applies a clear and structured policy for student orientation and advising, aimed at supporting students throughout the entire study cycle—from admission to program completion and integration into the labor market. This policy is implemented through institutional information mechanisms, academic advising structures, and support services that facilitate students’ adaptation to university life, academic and professional guidance, and the prevention of difficulties that may affect academic progress.

Initial Orientation

Initial student orientation begins on the first day of registration and the start of classes, through introductory sessions and guidance materials covering:

Study programs

- ❑ Professional Diploma Programs [link](#)
- ❑ Bachelor Programs [link](#)
- ❑ Professional Master Programs [link](#)
- ❑ Master of Science Programs [link](#)
- ❑ Doctoral Programs [link](#)
- ❑ English-speaking programs [link](#)

Internal regulations and legal/sub-legal acts [link](#)

Students’ rights and obligations

(E.4: UV Regulation, Article 106)

During the first week of the academic year, informative meetings are organized with relevant structures, including IT, where students are introduced to the University’s electronic systems, how to use digital platforms, and official communication channels (E.185).

Informative meetings with students on the first day at UV [link](#)

Facebook post (first-day meetings) [link](#)

Teaching timetable notice (Facebook) [link](#)

Informational Materials

UV provides updated informational materials (brochures, guides, and electronic materials), published on the official website and institutional channels, including:

Student guide leaflet [link](#), [link](#), [link](#), [link](#)

Joint & double degree leaflet [link](#), [link](#), [link](#)

Master programs leaflet [link](#), [link](#), [link](#)

Student Instructions and Digital Platforms

Student Guidelines [link](#)

UNVIMAS User Manual for Students 2026 [link](#)

Google Classroom User Manual [link](#)

Information on student services [link](#)

Academic Advising and Tutoring

Ongoing academic advising is provided by academic advisors and relevant structures within academic units, supporting students in course selection, workload planning, and addressing learning-related challenges (**E.193**).

Academic advising and tutoring at UV are regulated (**E.4: UV Regulation, Article 111**) and include:

- An Academic Advisor Office at each department offering teaching programs
- Appointment of a student relations coordinator/academic advisor and publication of contact details
- Guidance to help students meet academic and career goals
- Encouragement for students to seek individual support early and meet regularly with advisors
- Formation of a “Student Tutoring Group” involving senior students
- Reporting and monitoring of issues affecting academic progress

Personal and Professional Development Counseling

The institution also provides guidance for students’ personal and professional development, including internships, employment opportunities, academic mobility, and extracurricular activities.

Informative and awareness activities with first-year students [link](#)

Training with Internal Evaluation Groups for first-time accreditation of study programs [link](#)

Workshop: Students and the Labor Market [link](#)

Institutional policies for internal quality assurance (PDF) [link](#)

UV operates the Career Counseling, Student Services and Alumni Sector and the Promotion and Public Relations Sector (**E.23**), which contribute to:

- Developing promotional materials and communications
- Career counseling and orientation
- Skills-development activities (trainings, seminars, workshops)
- Support for CV writing and interview preparation
- Recruitment activities (career fairs, employer meetings)
- Mentoring opportunities with alumni
- Information/support on scholarships, grants, and funding opportunities

Employment and Outreach Examples

WIZZ AIR employment opportunity / info meeting [link](#)

WIZZ AIR Pilot Academy inspirational meeting [link](#)

Green Coast Hotel (ACCOR – BALFIN Group) / Career Day [link](#), [link](#)

TV/Media appearances (YouTube)

Rector’s program on the academic year balance [link](#)

UV lecturers presenting the academic offer [link](#)

Rector’s program on RTSH [link](#)

Presentation of UV Development Strategy 2025–2030 [link](#)

Program: “The Voice of Students” [link](#)

Mobility, Internships, Scholarships

The institution continuously informs students about academic mobility, internships, scholarships, and other support programs through responsible structures and official communication channels. Beyond informing, it supports and facilitates application and implementation procedures, increasing student participation and access to academic and professional experiences.

Erasmus+ mobility announcements [link](#)

Through cooperation between academic units, administrative services, and digital communication platforms, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora ensures equal and continuous access to student orientation and advising services.

Standard V.6 – The Institution Pursues a Supportive Policy for Specific Social Categories and Extracurricular Activities

Supportive Policies of the University of Vlora for Specific Categories

Universiteti ‘Ismail Qemali’ implements a comprehensive and inclusive policy for specific social categories of students, with the aim of ensuring equal access to higher education, enhancing the student experience, and preventing social exclusion. This policy is grounded in the principles of equality, non-discrimination, and social inclusion, aligned with the national legal framework and international standards for inclusive education.

Institutional support for specific social categories includes academic, financial, social, and infrastructural measures addressing the needs of students from low-income families, students with disabilities, students from remote or marginalized areas, as well as other vulnerable groups. University departments systematically plan special quotas for designated social categories across all study programs. (VSA – Study Program Quotas: [link](#), [link](#), [link](#))

The institution follows a clear support policy for students with disabilities, aiming to create appropriate conditions for regular participation in the teaching process. Concrete measures have been undertaken to improve physical accessibility within university premises. In Buildings C and A, entrance ramps have been constructed, significantly enhancing accessibility for students with mobility impairments.

Beyond infrastructural measures, organizational measures are also implemented. When students with disabilities are enrolled in study programs, classes are organized in accessible facilities, mainly on the ground floor, to avoid physical barriers.

E.69: Inventory of ramps

For students with sensory impairments (e.g., deaf-mute or blind students), academic staff provide adapted forms of knowledge assessment, selecting the most appropriate method for each individual student. These measures ensure equality in assessment while respecting individual needs, without compromising academic standards.

The institution implements supportive policies for students from Roma and Balkan-Egyptian minorities, in accordance with applicable legislation and principles of equality, inclusion, and non-discrimination. These students benefit from financial support measures, including tuition fee reductions or exemptions, as provided by relevant sub-legal acts. Equal treatment in academic and administrative processes contributes to higher study retention rates and reduced dropout.

The institution also supports students engaged in high-level sports activities, recognizing sport as part of personal development and institutional representation. Upon student request and with approval from relevant academic structures, including the Dean’s Office, students may complete assessments at a different time than the rest of the class. This policy ensures balance between sports commitments and academic obligations.

Scholarships and Honoraria for Students

Universiteti ‘Ismail Qemali’, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, provides tuition

fee facilities, scholarship schemes, and administrative support.

Financial Support from the Ministry of Education:

- Full scholarships for excellent students and vulnerable categories
- Partial scholarships for other students
- Special financial treatment for students enrolled in nationally prioritized programs

Financial Support from the University (Board of Administration):

- Honoraria for students winning national competitions

Scholarships and Honoraria Funded by Third Parties:

- Fondacioni ALSAR
- Vlora Marina

E.4: UV Regulation, Article 115

E.195: Procedure for granting honoraria to students winning international competitions

E.196: Procedure for selecting scholarship recipients funded by third parties

Extracurricular Activities at the University of Vlora

Universiteti 'Ismail Qemali' offers diverse extracurricular activities and active participation in university social life.

Activities Proposed by the Student Council

Awareness March for World Health Day – [link](#)

Jubilee Concert for Independence Day – “November that Speaks” – [link](#)

Interuniversity Activities – [link](#)

Community Volunteering – [link](#)

End-of-Year Festive Event – [link](#)

Happy Holidays 2025 – [link](#)

Activities Proposed by Faculties and the Career, Student and Alumni Sector

Visit to the Albanian Parliament – [link](#)

“Voice of Students” TV Show (with BLUTV) – [link](#)

Visit to Elderly Care Center – [link](#)

Community Health Services – [link](#)

International Health Days – [link](#)

Happy November 28–29, 2024 – [link](#)

Chemistry Department Activity – [link](#)

“Give Time and Love” – [link](#)

Graduation Ceremonies

Faculty of Human Sciences – [link](#)

Faculty of Technical and Natural Sciences – [link](#)

Faculty of Health – [link](#)

Faculty of Economics – [link](#)

Sports and Recreational Activities

Student Marathon – [link](#)

Interfaculty Football Championship – [link](#)

Interfaculty Beach Volleyball Championship – [link](#)

National and International Competitions & Student Conferences

Nationwide Law Competition (Halimi Foundation) – [link](#)

National UniDebate Competition – [link](#)

Debating Economics Competition – [link](#)

Faculty of Health Student Conference – [link](#)

13th ASEC Youth International Conference – [link](#)

Agreement with the Sports Federation [link](#)

Social Media and Student Well-being

Universiteti ‘Ismail Qemali’ uses social media in a structured and sustainable manner as a communication and transparency tool.

E.14: Regulation on Social Media

E.15: Multimedia Laboratory Regulation

Currently active platforms:

YouTube Channel – [link](#)

Instagram Page – [link](#)

Facebook Page – [link](#)

Through official social media channels, the university disseminates updated information on study programs, academic and cultural activities, public calls, and student opportunities.

University Multimedia Laboratory (LM-UniVlora)

At Universiteti ‘Ismail Qemali’ operates the University Multimedia Laboratory (LM-UniVlora), producing:

- UniVlora Podcast
- UniVlora University Radio
- UniVlora Online Student Newspaper
- UniVlora Digital Press
- UniVlora Print Press

Currently, the UniVlora Podcast is fully operational with 36+ episodes.

Podcast UniVlora – [link](#)

Additional podcast resources – [link](#), [link](#), [link](#), [link](#)

In the Development Strategy 2025–2030, Scenario IV: UV as a Regional Development Hub identifies **strengthening the role of students** as a strategic priority.

Strategic Line	Strategic Objectives	Key Measures (Actions)
IV.2 Student Education and Social Engagement	IV.2.1 Strengthening the role of students in the community and in decision-making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increasing the capacity of the Student Council ▪ Training on student rights and responsibilities ▪ Student involvement in university committees and boards
	IV.2.2 Promoting active citizenship and volunteerism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ University volunteer program for social projects ▪ Partnerships with municipalities, NGOs, and cultural institutions ▪ Awareness-raising campaigns for social causes
	IV.2.3 Development of civic, social, and intercultural competences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Integration of modules on ethics, diversity, and social competences into curricula ▪ Organization of forums, debates, and public lectures with experts ▪ Establishment of thematic student clubs
	IV.2.4 Development of student media and student voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Student newspaper, podcast, and radio ▪ Training for young journalists and media literacy ▪ Student involvement in publications and media production

	IV.2.5 Building a vibrant social, cultural, and sports campus life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual calendar of social, cultural, and sports activities ▪ University sports clubs and teams ▪ Cultural events: festivals, concerts, exhibitions
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Standard V.7 – The Institution Provides Core and Supplementary Literature for Students

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora ensures the availability of core and supplementary literature for students in order to support the implementation of study programs and the achievement of learning outcomes, in line with the institution’s mission and higher education standards.

Core literature for study programs at UV is based on three main sources:

- ❑ *Textbooks in Albanian*, published by academics from other higher education institutions, mainly in Tirana.
- ❑ *Textbooks and lecture cycles in Albanian*, published by UV academics.
- ❑ *Digitized lectures* (PDFs; recorded video/audio), prepared by UV academics. These materials are distributed to students through UV’s digital platforms: Google Classroom UniVlora and UNVIMAS.

E.162: List of textbooks from other HEIs academics; list of textbooks from UV academics

E.109: Lectures via Google Classroom [link](#) (*restricted access*)

Supplementary Literature

Supplementary literature is recommended to students through the following resources:

- *The collections of the “Nermin Vlora Fallaski” Library* and the libraries of the main academic units.
 - E.125:** Report of the Library & Publications Sector
 - E.126:** Library collection digitized in the COBISS system; book-purchase fund and list of purchased books; list of donated books (ALSAR; Lefter Çipa Fund).
- *Online library resources* available to UV students.

Students are informed about the core and supplementary literature recommended for each course, borrowing procedures, and alternative sources of information through course syllabi and by lecturers during the first class session (**E.4:** UV Regulation, Article 64, point 6). This guidance supports students in developing skills for searching and effectively using academic resources, assisting them throughout their studies and scientific research process.

Approval of Literature Available to Students

The institution guarantees the provision of core textbooks and necessary supplementary literature for its students. These resources are approved and recommended by the relevant departments in accordance with the study programs.

At the beginning of each academic year, departments approve the list of core literature for each module, based on the syllabi proposed by course coordinators.

E.4: UV Regulation, Article 63, point 4.c

E.49: Decision approving program holders in second-cycle programs in DI and Literature in BSc “General Nursing” program

The approval of new textbooks for use as core literature follows well-defined procedures set out in the University’s Regulation.

E.4: Regulation of the University, Article 64

E.161: Procedure for approving a textbook

UV Development Strategy for the Digitization of Literature

Within the UV Development Strategy 2025–2030, Scenario III – Professional Leader, Strategic Line III.1 (ESCO standard), under Strategic Objective III.1.1 (“Modernization of programs and curricula”), one of the measures foreseen is the provision of digital core literature and access to UV’s digital library.

By 2030, all core module literature at UV will be provided not only in printed format but also in digital form. This approach will definitively address:

1. The issue of *insufficient quantitative availability* of core literature at UV;
2. The issue of *annual updates* to core literature, which are slowed down by print publishing.

E.35: UV Strategy 2025–2030, Scenario III, Strategic Line III.1, Strategic Objective III.1.1

Libraries Serving the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora

At the University “Ismail Qemali”, the **Central Library “Nermin Vlora Fallaski”** and the libraries of each main academic unit operate in support of academic staff, students, and researchers by providing teaching and scientific literature.

E.124: UV Library Regulation [link](#)

Libraries provide appropriate environments for study and consultation of literature, ensuring favorable conditions for the learning process. Library services are available to students according to schedules approved by the institution and published in university facilities and on the official website: [link](#)

Library use is managed through the student registration card, which supports borrowing administration and ensures regular and equal access for all students. Students are guided on how to obtain the necessary literature through the library, academic staff, and relevant institutional structures.

The university library collection supports all academic units and is periodically updated in cooperation with faculties and academic staff, reflecting the specific needs of study programs across all three cycles. Library enrichment is carried out annually based on requests from academic staff and proposals by the head of the library, with dean’s office approval. Each year, the Board of Administration approves a dedicated fund for purchasing scientific literature in Albanian and foreign languages.

In addition, UV libraries have continuously received donations from third parties for special book collections, including:

- Lefter Çipa Fund
- ALSAR Fund
- Bardhosh Gaçe Fund

The inventoried literature is digitized in the COBISS system, and UV’s digital archive is available to staff and students on all public computers at the university.

E.4: UV Regulation, Article 137

E.126: Library collection digitized in COBISS; purchase fund and lists; donation lists (ALSAR; Lefter Çipa Fund).

The COBISS system is an international cataloging system supporting library collection cataloging, access facilitation, and national/international promotion of authors’ work: [link](#) Currently, UNIVLORA has two library specialists undergoing training for COBISS use, and a collection of 1,322 catalogued titles. These include all publications by UNIVLORA authors, articles, and bulletins.

Regarding digitized titles, they are accessible at: [link](#) ([Buletini shkencor :: COBISS+](#))

Approximately 250 digitized titles are available, including the Lefter Çipa manuscript collection and the titles most requested by students.

In addition to physical literature, students also have access to electronic resources and licensed scientific databases that support study, research, and academic writing.

Free Major Digital Libraries

[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)

Open Educational Resources

[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)

Topic-Specific Resources

[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)
[link](#)

UV Scientific Bulletins

[link](#)
[link](#)

Some of the scientific bulletins published by Universiteti ‘Ismail Qemali’ have featured research studies conducted by UV students, developed within the framework of their thesis work or presented at various scientific conferences organized by the University.

[link](#), [link](#), [link](#), [link](#), [link](#), [link](#).

Standard V.8 The Institution Promotes Student Employability

The “Ismail Qemali” University pursues an active policy to promote student employability, considering their integration into the labor market as an important indicator of the quality of study programs and the effectiveness of its institutional mission. In this framework, the University undertakes structured measures to support the development of students’ professional and interdisciplinary skills, in line with labor market demands at local, national, and international levels.

Part of the responsibilities of the Career Counseling, Student Services and Alumni Structure operating within the University focuses on:

- *Career counseling and guidance:* Providing advisory services to help students make informed career choices and understand potential labor market opportunities.
- *Organization of professional skills development activities:* Planning trainings, seminars, and workshops to help students develop skills required in the labor market, such as time management, communication, critical thinking, and teamwork.
- *Support in CV drafting and interview preparation:* Assisting students in preparing application documents, including CVs, motivation letters, and job interview preparation.
- *Organization of recruitment activities:* Organizing career fairs and meetings with representatives of companies, organizations, and recruitment agencies to provide students with opportunities for employment, internships, and other career pathways.
- *Coordination of internship and employment opportunities:* Creating and managing

professional internship and employment opportunities through partnerships with companies and organizations.

- *Support for professional profile development*: Enabling students to build a strong professional profile and enhance their employability after graduation.
- *Reporting success and achievements*: Collecting and analyzing data on the career success of students and alumni and preparing reports to improve career development services and strategies.

E.23: Functional duties of the Career, Student Services and Alumni Sector, pp.112–127.

Employability is further promoted through the inclusion of professional internships, traineeships, and work-based learning within study program structures, as well as through continuous cooperation with public institutions, private entities, and professional organizations. The University encourages student interaction with potential employers through orientation activities, career fairs, informational meetings, and professional presentations, thus creating bridges between university studies and the labor market.

Cooperation Agreements (MoU) with public institutions, businesses, and private organizations for internship development: [link](#)

E.116: Study program curricula including professional internships.

E.114: List of students engaged in internships/traineeships (minutes from hospitals, businesses).

E.111: Professional internship evaluation reports.

E.200: Employer feedback on graduates' professional preparation (Order of Nurses – licensing exam report).

The University supports student career development through counseling and professional guidance services, information on employment opportunities, and training in transferable skills such as CV writing, interview preparation, digital competencies, and entrepreneurship. Evidence of professional counseling activities (workshops, information sessions).

E.201: Guidance materials for CV drafting and interview preparation.

E.202: Participant lists of joint activities: students and employers.

Announcements and communications for employment and paid internship opportunities: [link](#), [link](#), [link](#)

Career fairs, information days, and employer presentations

Students and the Labor Market: [link](#), [link](#)

UniVlora Open Day: [link](#)

International Day of Banks: [link](#)

Valona Innovation Talent Activators: [link](#)

International Accounting Day: [link](#)

Financial Education with Raiffeisen Youth: [link](#)

International Perspective on Economic Challenges and Fiscal Management: [link](#)

Support for Young Researchers: Start-up Initiatives and Entrepreneurial Development

- The University supports student start-ups through several lines of interaction:

The “Ismail Qemali” University acts as a *Start-up Facilitator* in granting funds allocated by the Albanian Government for the establishment of start-ups in the Southern Region of Albania. One of the responsibilities of the Project Specialists within the Career, Student Services and Alumni Sector is to follow cooperation procedures in partnerships with businesses and start-ups outside the University (**E.23**: p.83).

E.173: University Certificate as a Start-up Facilitator. Rector’s official letter supporting start-ups, 2024.

- In cooperation with European partners, UV academic staff mentor students in drafting start-up development plans and securing funding for their support.
International Workshop “Tourism Business Ideas for Vlora District” at the Faculty of Economics, Kempten University of Applied Sciences: [link](#)
Podcast UniVlora: Challenges Toward Innovation in Tourism: [link](#)
E.174: Report of Prof. Dr. Elenica Piero on the organization of student groups of the Faculty of Economics for drafting development plans for start-up establishment.
- Promotional support through UV’s social media for enhancing the visibility of student start-ups.
Podcast UniVlora: From Students to Entrepreneurs – The Journey to Building a Successful Business: [link](#)

Standard V.9 The Institution Maintains Continuous Links with Its Alumni

The “Ismail Qemali” University attaches particular importance to maintaining and strengthening sustainable links with its alumni, considering them a valuable asset for institutional development, the improvement of study program quality, and the enhancement of employability for current students. In this framework, the University implements policies and communication mechanisms aimed at maintaining continuous contact with graduates and actively involving them in the academic and social life of the institution.

Alumni who have graduated during the 31 years of operation of the “Ismail Qemali” University are an integral part of the institution as:

- Full-time academic staff at UV (many of whom also hold leadership positions);
- Part-time academic staff at UV: lecturers, seminar leaders, supervisors, and tutors of current students in internship institutions;
- Full-time academic support staff at UV;
- Stakeholders in joint roundtables organized by the University;
- Key actors in projects implemented by UV.

The institution encourages alumni participation in academic, professional, and promotional activities, such as open lectures, conferences, panel discussions, and meetings with current students, contributing to the sharing of professional experiences and strengthening the university–labor market connection.

Conferences, panel discussions, and open lectures with invited alumni

International Accounting Day: [link](#)

International Day of Banks: [link](#)

Open lecture by PhD. Juljana Xhindoli and Dr. Juliana Cuni:

“Information, Prevention, Protection: The European Approach to Cervical Cancer and the Role of Health Education”: [link](#)

Career Day – Faculty of Economics: [link](#)

Workshop: “Exploring Strategies to Reduce Burnout among Students of the Faculty of Health”: [link](#)

E.203: Alumni contribution to mentoring current students (internship supervisors).

Alumni relations are maintained through dedicated communication structures and channels, including alumni databases and digital platforms that serve to inform graduates about institutional activities, cooperation opportunities, and academic developments.

Procedure for collecting and updating alumni contacts.

E.204: Request to ISKSH for statistics on alumni employment.

The official UV website includes a dedicated alumni section: [link](#). Within this section, the

following can be found:

- An updated alumni database by study programs and academic years;
- Alumni UV Network – application form for alumni registration in the Alumni UV database (Annex 1 – Alumni Registration Form): [link](#)
- Successful The specific UV Regulation on maintaining alumni relations: [link](#)
- UV Alumni profiles and related information: [link](#)

Through a structured and collaborative approach, the institution aims to consolidate an active alumni network contributing to the sustainable development and public image of the University.

According to UV regulatory acts:

1. Alumni Database – the primary communication base, maintained by the Career, Student Services and Alumni Sector and the Curriculum and Statistics Sector, and containing:

- Name and contact details (email, phone);
- Professional information (employment, career, current position);
- Communication preferences.

2. The University is obliged to create and maintain a dedicated online platform for alumni, which will include:

- Registration and updating of alumni data;
- Forums and discussion groups for networking and cooperation;
- Announcements regarding events, training, employment, and various opportunities;
- Sections for mentoring and career counseling.

The platform will be freely accessible to all alumni.

3. Communication is carried out through:

- Email newsletters with informational updates, event invitations, training and employment offers;
- Social media (Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram) through official alumni groups and pages;
- The UV alumni webpage, containing information, announcements, and networking opportunities;
- Physical meetings and events (conferences, seminars, roundtables, alumni dinners);
- Phone calls and messages for urgent or important information.

4. Alumni representatives may be involved in committees or advisory councils with the University.

Alumni Regulation, Articles 7 and 8: [link](#)

E.205: Alumni lists – academic staff (full-time and part-time) alumni; non-academic staff alumni; alumni stakeholders (prefects, head nurses, bank directors, leadership positions); alumni involved in project working groups.

PAE, PAK and administrative staff
(some of UV Alumini)

Nr.	PAE	PAK	Administrative staff	Stakeholders	Alumni in projects' working group
1	Dr. Emi Malaj	Msc. Irisi Selamaj	Anisa Bozhani	Evis Allushi	Daron Tozaj Project MARDS
2	Dr. Ilira Pulaj	Msc. Denis Demaj	Brunilda Liço	Marjola Muhaj	Rezarta Sinanaliaj Project MARDS
3	Prof. As. Elmira Kushta	Dr. Lindita Liçaj	Marsela Hajnaj	Matilda Brokaj	Elenica Pjerro Project MARDS

4	Dr. Ndrçim Sadikaj	Msc. Nikollaq Gjika	Deliana Mino	Besmira Arapashi	Evelina Bazini Project PHAREM
5	Dr. Blenard Xhaferaj	Dr. Ertil Meçaj	Florina Muho	Grigor Dede	Fatjona Kamberi Project VITALIZE
6	Dr. Dorjana Klosi	Dr. Aulona Haxhiraj	Erdeta Breshanaj	Ermal Pekmezi	Rezarta Lalo Project VITALIZE
7	Dr. Enida Pulaj	Dr. Evis Alushi	Ina Metaj	Nertila Përrallaj	Rezarta Sinanaliaj Project TANGRAM
8	Dr. Ledina Merkaj	Msc. Odeona Veizaj	Miranda Pajo	Pranvera Resulaj	Eloina Tozaj Project Cred4Teach
9	Dr. Denada Selfo	Msc. Ergisa Sulejmani	Romina Tahiraj	Irena Toshkallari	Vladimir Zahaj Project AKKSHI
10	Dr. Oljana Hoxhaj	Msc. Semiljana Xhaferaj	Belinda Dauti	Admir Malaj	Irena Toshkallari Project SMART City

In the framework of continuous improvement, the institution collects and analyzes alumni feedback regarding their academic preparation and university experience, and monitors graduate employment progression. These data are used to review and update study programs, strengthen career services, and enhance the relevance of UV's academic offer.

Alumni Report 2025: [link](#)

Recommendations of the Alumni Report 2025: [link](#)

Conclusions and Evaluation

University of "Ismail Qemali" Vlora has established and implements a functional student support system that comprehensively covers information, academic and career guidance and counseling, social support, participation in institutional life, and facilitation of the transition to the labor market. These services directly contribute to enhancing the student experience and increasing academic success.

The institution provides structured mechanisms for student information and communication through digital platforms and university services, as well as clear policies for guidance and counseling throughout the entire study cycle. Access to core and supplementary literature, supportive infrastructure, and library services is functional and aligned with the needs of study programs.

The University has undertaken concrete measures to promote student employability by integrating professional internships into study programs, cooperating with labor market stakeholders, supporting start-ups, and offering career guidance services. Furthermore, maintaining connections with alumni and involving them in academic and professional activities represents a developing practice that contributes to improving study programs and enhancing student employability.

The Most Significant Achievements of the University of "Ismail Qemali" in Student Support Over the Past Five Years Include:

- Establishment of an institutional regulatory framework supporting students' academic opportunities: international registrations, mobility schemes, flexibility for personalized study plans, and a clear grade appeal system.
- Establishment and active functioning of the Student Council, which has initiated a considerable number of socio-cultural activities with strong media visibility.
- Excellent and highly competitive results in comparison with students from other higher education institutions both nationally and internationally.
- Development of student media and student voice: UniVlora Podcast, student newspaper, and student radio; student involvement in publications and media productions.

- Establishment of the UV Alumni Network and systematic collection of feedback from students and alumni regarding the quality of study programs and administrative services, through periodic, confidential, and institutionalized procedures.

Areas identified for further development within the UV Development Strategy include

- the further expansion of the digitalization of student services*
- digital literature access,*
- as well as the strengthening of institutional partnerships with the labor market beyond the Vlora region, extending toward the European labor market.*

STANDARD V – REQUIREMENTS FULLY ACHIEVED

CONCLUSIONS AND OVERALL ASSESSMENT

The Self-Assessment Report of the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora demonstrates a structured process of institutional reflection, grounded in critical analysis, concrete evidence, and a strategic orientation toward continuous improvement. The evaluation against the five standards confirms steady progress in consolidating the quality assurance system, strengthening academic and research capacities, and enhancing the University’s role in regional and national development.

The development potential of the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora is supported by a series of institutional strengths that constitute the foundation of its consolidation and growth at national and international levels:

- ❑ **Development Strategy 2025–2030**, structured around clear, measurable objectives supported by concrete implementation and monitoring instruments.
- ❑ **A differentiated academic offer**, including unique study programmes in Albania, programmes delivered entirely in English, and joint programmes with European higher education institutions.
- ❑ **Excellent teaching infrastructure** aligned with contemporary standards, including well-equipped audio-visual classrooms, functional teaching laboratories, dedicated online learning structures, digitized teaching materials, and a specialized unit for distance learning.
- ❑ **Active international cooperation** through agreements with European universities and research institutes, as well as progressive integration into international research networks.
- ❑ **Research labs** meeting European standards, oriented toward blue and green scientific research, with a unique profile in the Albanian context.
- ❑ **UniVlora Scientific Journal**, as an institutionalized, peer-reviewed scientific publishing platform, with DOI identification and plagiarism detection through the iThenticate system.
- ❑ **UniVlora Institutional Repository**, ensuring open access and transparency of the scientific output of staff and students.
- ❑ **Advanced digitalization of academic and administrative services**, increasing institutional efficiency and transparency.
- ❑ **The Student and Academic Information Management System (UNVIMAS)**, one of the most flexible and full-option information systems among higher education institutions in Albania.
- ❑ **Strong social media** presence through active networks on YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok, providing continuous real-time information.
- ❑ **A Multimedia Laboratory** (podcast, newspaper, radio), creating structured spaces for the development of students’ creative, communicative, and professional skills.

The most significant achievements of the University “Ismail Qemali” during the last five-year period include:

- The establishment of a comprehensive regulatory framework and development strategy aimed at guiding the University’s performance toward the standards of a University 4.0.
- Strengthening of the Internal Quality Assurance Sector, including the development of online institutional and student evaluation processes for the quality of study programmes and services, with transparent publication of results on the official website.

- Creation of multiple support mechanisms for the development of academic and administrative staff capacities, including training programmes with Albanian, international, and diaspora academics.
- Significant development of infrastructure capacities in core academic and research units, mainly through externally secured funding; expansion of research and teaching laboratories; initiation of laboratory accreditation procedures.
- Increased institutional revenues, generated by growth in student enrolment and expansion of University services.
- Complete reconstruction of the University's official website, development of complementary platforms, and expansion of online media reflecting all institutional activities.
- Patenting of the internal information system UNVIMAS (UNiversity Virtual Management System).
- Spectacular expansion of partnerships with over 120 international higher education institutions, more than 15 national institutions, and over 50 regional and national organizations, significantly enhancing the University's international visibility and competitiveness.
- Launch of:
 - international joint and double degree programs;
 - programs in English for international students;
 - unique programs in Albania such as Armament Engineering, Heritage Architecture, Navigation, Naval Engineering, and Marine Environment Protection & Management.
 - reorganization of programs with automatic recognition in the EU (e.g., Nursing, Architecture)
 - initiation of joint work with the University of Pavia to open a joint degree in Medicine and Surgery.
- International mixed-faculty teaching; short- and long-term international student mobility; a considerable number of mobility recognized in international rankings; first place in WURI Ranking 2024 for "Student Mobility and Openness," thanks to expanded Erasmus+ partnerships.
- Continuous growth in student enrolment and excellent competitive results compared to other national and international institutions.
- Provision of academic services to third parties (teacher training programs, School of Directors) and LLL programs with micro-credentials (teachers, healthcare workers).
- Modernization of teaching technologies and expansion of professional practice hours in local institutions; all programs include professional internships in a regional institutional network under expert mentorship.
- Partnerships with German, Norwegian, Italian and other international higher education institutions guiding the standards and orientation of scientific research in University laboratories.
- High participation in international and national projects, with increasing internal co-financing; project outcomes continuously presented to the community, business associations, and local government.
- Continuous improvement of laboratory infrastructure and accreditation/licensing of research laboratories.
- Establishment of support structures for student start-ups and UniVlora spin-offs.
- Significant publications indexed in SCOPUS and WoS, which—when evaluated per full-time academic staff—may represent one of the highest publication coefficients among Albanian universities.

- Publication of the *UniVlora Scientific Journal* according to high contemporary standards: English language, DOI indexing, international editorial board, double-blind review, and plagiarism detection via iThenticate.
- Active functioning of the Student Council, initiating numerous socio-cultural activities with strong media engagement.
- Development of student media (Podcast, student newspaper, UniVlora student radio – Multimedia Laboratory) and student involvement in publications and media production.
- Establishment of the UniVlora Alumni Network and institutionalized, confidential, periodic feedback mechanisms from students and alumni regarding programme quality and administrative services.

The main instruments that provide the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora with a competitive advantage in the national higher education landscape include:

- ✓ Structured strategic planning,
- ✓ Internal quality assurance systems,
- ✓ An institutional scientific publishing platform,
- ✓ Orientation toward innovation and spin-offs,
- ✓ Direct linkage with regional development and the labor market.

Areas identified for further development within the University’s Development Strategy include:

- ✚ *International accreditation and subsequent inclusion in major international rankings, to enhance credibility and expand international student outreach;*
- ✚ *Further expansion of international cooperation toward university alliances;*
- ✚ *Sustainable investment in scientific research, innovation, and public-private partnerships;*
- ✚ *Continuous increase in programmes offered in English;*
- ✚ *Ongoing modernization of programmes and curricula (University 4.0 model);*
- ✚ *Sustainable growth of financial resources for scientific research;*
- ✚ *Accreditation and licensing of all research laboratories and strengthening of technology transfer mechanisms;*
- ✚ *Institutionalization of academic start-ups and spin-offs;*
- ✚ *Expansion of joint projects with higher education institutions from OECD countries;*
- ✚ *Further digitalization of student services and digital learning resources;*
- ✚ *Expansion of institutional partnerships with the labor market beyond the Vlora region toward the European labor market.*

Overall Assessment

Overall, the University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora presents itself as a steadily developing institution, with a clear strategic approach and growing capacities to meet national and international quality standards. The self-assessment process has highlighted not only its achievements but also strategically planned areas for further development, reflecting an institutional culture oriented toward transparency, critical reflection, and continuous improvement.

The University remains committed to consolidating quality standards, increasing academic and research competitiveness, and strengthening its role as a public institution with social responsibility and a long-term vision aligned with the standards of a University 4.0.

The University “Ismail Qemali” of Vlora
FULLY COMPLIES WITH THE STANDARDS
across all areas of the Code of Quality in Higher Education in Albania.

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE LIST – “Ismail Qemali” University (UV)

- E.1:** Statute of “Ismail Qemali” University, Vlora
- E.2:** UV Statute 2019
- E.3:** Decision approving UV’s organizational structure (institutional organigram); Academic Senate decision for Statute approval/amendment; Board of Administration decision for Statute approval/amendment; Ministry approval of UV Statute
- E.4:** General Regulations of UV
- E.5:** Regulations on the functioning of the Academic Senate
- E.6:** Decisions appointing academic leaders (Deans, Vice-Deans, Department Heads) according to statutory procedures
- E.7:** UV Financial Regulations
- E.8:** Regulations on the functioning of the Board of Administration of UV
- E.9:** Regulations for the creation and registration of documents
- E.10:** UNVIMAS Regulations
- E.11:** Regulations for services to third parties
- E.12:** Erasmus+ Regulations
- E.13:** Regulations for international students
- E.14:** Regulations for UV social media
- E.15:** Regulations for the UniVlora Multimedia Laboratory
- E.16:** Regulations for UV Scientific Journals
- E.17:** Research and Publication Ethics Regulations at UV
- E.18:** Regulations for PKZHUV projects
- E.19:** Regulations for organizing elections at UV
- E.20:** Regulations for awarding the title of Professor Emeritus
- E.21:** Regulations for the use of computer programs to detect plagiarism
- E.22:** Ethical guidelines for AI at UV
- E.23:** Functional duties of UV’s internal structures
- E.24:** Establishment and functioning of the Ethics Council: internal regulations, Ethics Council decision-making procedure
- E.25:** Establishment and functioning of the Board of Administration: Ministry letter for establishment, Academic Senate decision for establishment, Administrator
- E.26:** Procedure for approval of the annual budget: budget requests from departments, faculties, rectorate; Administrator letter to Academic Senate and Board; Academic Senate opinion on the budget; Board of Administration opinion on the budget; Ministry correspondence
- E.27:** Rector’s orders and instructions aimed at improving administrative efficiency
- E.28:** Strategic plans of institutional sectors of UV with clear managerial objectives: SSBCA
- E.29:** Strategic plans of institutional sectors of UV with clear managerial objectives: SKSA
- E.30:** Documentation on the use of electronic platforms for services to students and staff: student, faculty, SSBCA, Student Office
- E.31:** Performance Evaluation Form, approved by the Academic Senate
- E.32:** Gender Equality Strategy at “Ismail Qemali” University
- E.33:** Internationalization Strategy at “Ismail Qemali” University
- E.34:** Research Strategy at “Ismail Qemali” University
- E.35:** UV Development Strategy 2025–2030
- E.36:** UV Development Strategy 2018–2024
- E.37:** Approval procedure for UV 2025–2030 Strategy
- E.38:** Full approval procedure for the BSc program in “Computer Engineering”

- E.39:** Procedure for approval of quotas – Faculty of Economics
- E.40:** Full admission criteria procedure 2026–2027 at UV
- E.41:** Procedure for setting research strategic priorities with department meeting up to Academic Senate
- E.42:** Procedure for changing the position of the specialist to lab technician at QKSH, FSHTN
- E.43:** Ministry approval for procedures followed by UV: program approvals, Statute and Organigram approval
- E.44:** Emails notifying agenda and materials for discussion at Academic Senate and Board meetings
- E.45:** Minutes of Academic Senate meetings documenting discussions and decisions; minutes of Board of Administration meetings documenting discussions and decisions; minutes of Dean’s offices and departments including discussions on academic and organizational matters; decisions and reports of the Ethics Council; minutes of Student Council meetings documenting discussions and decisions
- E.46:** Evaluation of academic and administrative support services by students: Academic Senate decision approving the format of the Service Quality Evaluation Questionnaire for staff
- E.47:** Procedure for issuing documents outside UV
- E.48:** Full procedure for reorganizing the BSc program in “General Nursing”
- E.49:** Decision approving program holders in second-cycle programs in DI and Literature in BSc “General Nursing” program
- E.50:** Annual departmental and faculty reports with analysis of examination results and student grades
- E.51:** Program accreditation reports: BSc in Information Technology
- E.52:** Departmental reports on implementation of recommendations from program evaluations
- E.53:** Alumni UV action plan
- E.54:** SSBCA activity reports: (Information meeting with first-year students, Workshop on Optimization of Teacher Education Programs & Challenges for Long-term Quality Education)
- E.55:** Employment procedure PAE, PAK, academic support staff, administrative staff
- E.56:** Employment procedure: Visiting Lecturer, Foreign Lecturer
- E.57:** Electronic communication with base units to discuss UV General Regulations
- E.58:** Procedure for reimbursement of scientific articles, conferences, academic titles
- E.59:** Establishment of working groups for institutional procedures: Rector’s order for working groups for institutional accreditation; Dean’s decisions for GVB of programs; Rector’s order for working group for 30th-anniversary events
- E.60:** Ad-hoc commissions composed of academic staff: employment, Erasmus+, program drafting, student admissions, module equivalence
- E.61:** Rectorate Decision No. 22, dated 24.10.2024, and 6-month report for the information sheet; information sheet on capacity-building activities by academic staff; information sheet on capacity-building activities by non-academic staff; information sheet after staff mobilities (academic and non-academic)
- E.62:** Registration of students with special quotas
- E.63:** Minutes for the installation of ramps
- E.64:** Employment request with workload analysis of FSH programs
- E.65:** Employment contracts: fixed-term contract; permanent contract
- E.66:** Teaching workload of DKSH

- E.67:** Infrastructure, building layouts, building objects, hygiene-sanitary approval acts, sanitary service certificate; maintenance and infrastructure investment plans; property cards; rental contracts
- E.68:** Administrator report on reconstruction of premises; budget plan for painting and building restoration; procurement procedure for air conditioners; disinfection contracts; photos of stairs and emergency signage; building maintenance
- E.69:** Infrastructure equipment: inventory of generators and water storage; emergency stair inventory; ramp inventory; water storage inventory
- E.70:** Audiovisual and technological equipment for teaching: inventory of video projectors, computers, printers; procurement of smartboards and computers
- E.71:** List of didactic and research laboratory equipment: Simulation Center for Health Professionals, FSHTN research laboratory, distance learning teaching cabinet; procurement for C 500 room; FSHTN lab request; Council of Ministers decision on Appeals Building
- E.72:** Photos – recreational and sports spaces on campus; parking areas; service areas (canteen/bar)
- E.73:** Request for providing premises; graduation ceremonies
- E.74:** Purchase of equipment for document scanning; certification of correspondence registry; digital archive files
- E.75:** Registers: Basic register; grade register; diploma data register
- E.76:** Teaching plan for BSc in Biology
- E.77:** UNVIMAS patent procedure
- E.78:** Procedure for approval of services to third parties: Academic Senate and Board of Administration for services to third parties (examples)
- E.79:** Revenue reconciliation act for 2024, opening of 2024 grant
- E.80:** Agreement for joint and double degree programs: BSc in “Architectural Sciences for Heritage”; BSc in “Electrical Engineering”; MSc in “Armament Engineering” with Aviation and Naval profiles; MSc in “Maritime Environment Protection and Management”
- E.81:** Documentation on mentoring and supervision of professional internships
- E.82:** Erasmus+ mobility procedure for academic and non-academic staff; mobility certificate for incoming staff
- E.83:** Erasmus+ student mobility procedure; documentation for recognition of credits earned abroad; mobility certificate for incoming students
- E.84:** Labor market studies for DP Tourism Operator educational program
- E.85:** Reports on student integration into the labor market through internships, FE
- E.86:** BSc program in Electrical Engineering: was – becomes
- E.87:** Reorganization of the BSc “General Nursing” program according to Council of Ministers Decision No. 823, dated 28.12.2023, “On Some Additions and Amendments to Decision No. 41, dated 24.1.2018, of the Council of Ministers, On Elements of Study Programs Offered by Higher Education Institutions”, fully aligned with EU homologous curricula
- E.88:** List of foreign lecturers at UV
- E.89:** DP program in Aquaculture and Fish Product Hygiene, BSc in Biology, MP in Secondary Education in Biology with minor in Chemistry, all in the same field – Biology
- E.90:** Enrichment, maintenance, and expansion of teaching infrastructure: Biology lab inventory; purchase of laboratory equipment; purchase of Biology lab materials; purchase of smartboards, computers, air conditioners; Council of Ministers decision on Appeals Building

- E.91:** Institutional capacity report 2025
- E.92:** Annual teaching plan DP in Geriatric Assistance, BSc in General Nursing, MP in Surgical Nursing
- E.93:** Syllabus “Pediatrics” (cycle I), syllabus “Advanced Pediatrics” (cycle II)
- E.94:** Study programs BSc in “Albanian Language and Literature”, MSc in “Teaching Albanian Language and Literature”, PhD in “Linguistic, Literary, and Cultural Studies”
- E.95:** Continuing professional development certification module in psycho-pedagogical field + DE-FSHH teaching plan; FSHH Directors’ School
- E.96:** IT training for secondary school teachers (Petro Sota – Fier)
- E.97:** Evaluation models of activities
- E.98:** Various certificates from LLL activities
- E.99:** List of participants in LLL activities, showing workplace
- E.100:** Documentation on the annual engagement of foreign academic staff for teaching Italian language and culture
- E.101:** Reporting of lectures with international personalities
- E.102:** Grade reports with pass rate and average grades of passing students
- E.103:** Reorganized teaching plan MSc in Law; reorganized teaching plan BSc in Midwifery Nursing
- E.104:** Reorganized teaching plan MSc in “Computer Science” (Innovation module)
- E.105:** Double degree BSc program in Electrical Engineering
- E.106:** Reorganized teaching plan BSc in Economics
- E.107:** Rector’s order for supporting PhD lecturers
- E.108:** Simulator laboratory equipment: Navigation Laboratory inventory; Simulation Center for Health Professionals inventory
- E.109:** Blended modules with interactive approach: Scientific Research Methodology; Human Resource Management in Public Administration
- E.110:** Teaching plan MP in Surgical Nursing
- E.111:** Teaching internships in schools – certification
- E.112:** Syllabus of Professional Practice module in Lower Cycle program
- E.113:** Class project in BSc in Computer Science program
- E.114:** Professional Practice evaluation: ongoing practice evaluation minutes; confirmation by ward heads for master program internship period; Professional Practice exam evaluation minutes; Professional Practice exam thesis
- E.115:** Diploma thesis procedure: list of diploma topics; topic list: title, student, supervisor; ethical approval; abstract; committee decision
- E.116:** Diploma exam procedure
- E.117:** Teaching plan showing internship and project hours BSc in Midwifery Nursing, MP in Pediatric Nursing (syllabuses)
- E.118:** Student knowledge assessment: independent projects in Computer Science; specialized pedagogy group work; presentations in “Scientific Research Methodology” module; Professional Practice exam thesis in Specialized Pedagogy
- E.119:** List of students enrolled in BSc in Architecture Sciences for Heritage; MSc in Maritime Environment Protection and Management – MEP&M
- E.120:** Student graduation file
- E.121:** DP, BSc, MP, MSc, double degree diploma formats
- E.122:** Diploma certification
- E.123:** Laboratory accreditation procedure (FSHTN Research Center)
- E.124:** Reports on projects and research carried out in laboratories
- E.125:** Annual report of Library & Publications Sector

- E.126:** Digitized library fund in Cobis system; library literature inventory
- E.127:** Annual research plan and unit-level approval decision
- E.128:** 2025 Annual report of the Research Sector
- E.129:** UV training for research capacity building
- E.130:** Prof. Dr. Ralf Bernd Klösger, Germany, Institute of Biology – Plant Physiology, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg
- E.131:** Investment table 2021–2025 – Finance Sector
- E.132:** Investment in laboratory infrastructure with internal/external funding (FSHH+FSH)
- E.133:** Integration of diploma topics into department research priorities (FSHTN, FSH, FSHH)
- E.134:** Full file of a PKZHUV project – call, application, evaluation, reporting, and payments (FSHTN)
- E.135:** Support for international networks – payment and cooperation agreements CMU
- E.136:** Student Council request and activity report/implementation
- E.137:** Call for PKZHUV applications 2026
- E.138:** PKZHUV project evaluation at main unit level
- E.139:** Dean’s decision appointing heads of teaching and research groups (FSHH, FSH)
- E.140:** Department requests and proposals for organizing scientific events, conferences, seminars, and workshops
- E.141:** Department-initiated PKZHUV project application
- E.142:** Annual analysis of the Public Health Research Center on teaching and research activity
- E.143:** Minutes of department meetings (Computer Science and Albanian Language & Literature) for approval of research objectives; faculty decisions on annual research objectives
- E.144:** Fund allocation for research – Faculty of Health
- E.145:** Official requests initiated by departments for cooperation with external partners – Memoranda of Understanding proposed by departments and institutionally approved
- E.146:** Department-initiated project applications (HORIZON – pages 1–13, PKZHUV – pages 14–28, PIKSH-AKSHI – pages 29–54)
- E.147:** Agreements for organizing annual working hours of academic staff
- E.148:** Approval procedures for doctoral study leave (UV–NTNU Norway agreement)
- E.149:** Program and diploma of international mini-course in Data Sciences and AI, May 2025
- E.150:** Official communication internship: student involvement in research/academic activities abroad under inter-institutional cooperation
- E.151:** Student participation in “3rd Winter School of ASECU Youth”
- E.152:** Individual program for PhD students of the third cycle
- E.153:** Similarity and AI usage reports: examples of anti-plagiarism reports within and outside UV (anonymous)
- E.154:** Contract with AKKSHI for 2025 projects
- E.155:** Annual university library report
- E.156:** Letter for establishing the FSH Scientific Committee
- E.157:** Rector Decision No. 137/2025: Appointment of persons responsible for operating computer programs for plagiarism detection in research and publishing activities at UV and for third parties
- E.158:** Full procedure for publishing scientific articles in UVSJ
- E.159:** Contract and documentation for Turitin license renewal
- E.160:** Staff participation in COST Actions
- E.161:** Procedure for teaching material approval
- E.162:** List of textbooks from other HEIs academics; list of textbooks from UV academics

- E.163:** UV membership processes: documentation of UV's UNIMED membership process; UV membership request in EURAS
- E.164:** Financial support for keynote speaker engagement (NRA-CSIT)
- E.165:** List of incoming Erasmus+ staff and examples of foreign visiting professors at UV
- E.166:** Working groups including foreign lecturers: international project application
- E.167:** GIZ / EU4Innovation agreement / cooperation documentation with Dr. Adelajda Matuka (University of Bologna)
- E.168:** SMJ annual report
- E.169:** Official correspondence with partner institutions; syllabus of international course "Adult Health Behaviour"; certificate from Tallinn Health Care College; participant list and ECTS evaluation; evidence from Moodle platform and Zoom webinars
- E.170:** Regulations for organizing third-cycle "Doctorate" studies in "Linguistic, Literary, and Cultural Studies"
- E.171:** Annual progress reports of PhD students
- E.172:** Expert certifications in International Organizations, Prof. Assoc. F. Kamberi
- E.173:** UV certificate as start-up facilitator
- E.174:** Report of Prof. Dr. Elenica Piero: organization of student groups in Faculty of Economics for development plans to establish start-ups
- E.175:** Request for production of UniVlora essential oils, Department of Chemistry
- E.176:** Full procedure for selecting BSc students in FSH programs: Ministry letter, selection decision, IT report, committee decision, follow-up letter to Rectorate, QSHA
- E.177:** Full procedure for selecting MSc students in Finance: Ministry letter, applications, decision to establish committee, committee decision, follow-up letter to Rectorate, QSHA
- E.178:** Full procedure for selecting PhD students in "Doctorate in Linguistic, Literary, and Cultural Studies": Ministry letter, applications, committee establishment decision, committee decision, follow-up letter to Rectorate, QSHA
- E.179:** Full procedure for selecting transferred students in BSc in "Computer Science": Ministry letter, applications, committee establishment decision, committee decision, follow-up letter to Rectorate, QSHA
- E.180:** Full procedure for selecting students for a second study program in BSc in "General Nursing": Ministry letter, applications, committee establishment decision, committee decision, follow-up letter to Rectorate, QSHA
- E.181:** Full procedure for readmission of students in first-cycle programs in the Department of Engineering and Marine Technology: applications, committee establishment decision, committee decision, follow-up letter to Rectorate, QSHA
- E.182:** Full procedure for incoming Erasmus+ students
- E.183:** Full procedure for selecting international students
- E.184:** Municipality letter for student ID cards
- E.185:** Organization and orientation of students on the first school day
- E.186:** Student electronic booklet
- E.187:** Decision electing the Student Council
- E.188:** KIZ decision for Academic Senate
- E.189:** Minutes of meeting for re-election of Student Council Chair; Student Council meeting minutes
- E.190:** Extracurricular activities proposed and organized by Student Council: KS request and activity report: "November that Speaks" (full documentation procedure)
- E.191:** Working groups with student participation: Rector's order for working group for internal institutional self-assessment report; order for program self-assessment report

working group; order for UV Development Strategy 2030 working group (PhD student Suarti at UV)

- E.192:** Student selection procedure for Erasmus+ with student involvement in decision-making: proposal for student in Erasmus+ committees; Rector letter establishing committees; signed ad hoc Erasmus+ committee decision
- E.193:** Decisions for appointing academic advisors
- E.194:** Reports on job offers: examples from FE, IT employment presentations at banks and FSHTN, Computer Science Department employment presentations
- E.195:** Procedure for awarding honoraria to students winning international competitions
- E.196:** Procedure for selecting students with scholarships funded by third parties
- E.197:** Extracurricular activities proposed by Career Structure, Student Service, and Alumni: SKSA request and activity report
- E.198:** Administrator letter for transport and accommodation for Student Council visit to Albanian Parliament; purchase of outfits for November 28 Concert
- E.199:** National university competition reports: Law Competition report; UniDebate report; Debating Economics report
- E.200:** Employer feedback on professional preparation of graduates (nursing license exam report)
- E.201:** Guidance materials for CV preparation and interview preparation
- E.202:** List of participants in joint activities: students and employers
- E.203:** Contribution of alumni in mentoring current students (internship supervisors)
- E.204:** ISKSH request for statistics on alumni employment
- E.205:** Alumni list: academic staff PAE alumni; academic staff PAK alumni; non-academic staff alumni; alumni stakeholders: prefects, chief nurses, bank directors, management positions; alumni in project working groups