

**Assessment grid for the evaluation of accreditation<sup>1</sup> process**  
**Joint Master programme conceived by**  
**ADRION 5<sup>th</sup> extraordinary call for proposal projects**

With the aim to bridge the activities of 2014 -2020 programming period to the activities of 2021-2027 programming one, the following statement was included in the programme manual of the ADRION 5<sup>th</sup> call for proposals<sup>2</sup>:

The implementation of the joint master programmes accredited by the respective universities will take place in the 2021-2027 programming period and will get further financial support; the projects successfully complying with the goals of the present call shall be considered as strategic and granted in the 2021-2027 IPA ADRION Programme.

In addition to the standard monitoring of the received project reports, the implementation manual<sup>3</sup> further describes the additional checks necessary to be positively fulfilled to allow the projects to submit their expression of interest for additional support:

The support to the preparation and delivery of accredited/to be accredited transnational master programmes and the implementation of educational/training concepts jointly implemented by a network of universities shall be carefully checked by MA/JS. In particular, it shall be checked whether they include all the requirements set forth in the Programme Manual, including the agreement among the parties for its further implementation, and whether information on the accreditation process and on its readiness for being implemented is present and qualitatively respected.

**Only those projects which have achieved the targets recalled above, shall be invited to present their proposal through an expression of interest in IPA ADRION 2021-2027 programming period for getting grants for the implementation of the joint master programmes.**

IPA ADRION MC during the 9<sup>th</sup> MC meeting held in Zagreb gave the mandate to JS to elaborate an assessment grid aimed at assessing the existence and quality of the accreditation and of the implementation of educational/training concepts.

The verification shall be performed by an independent expert with experience on the topic.

The outcomes of the assessment shall be communicated to the MC together with the request for approval of the dedicated documentation for the submission of the expression of interest (application package).

Below the proposed assessment grid:

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<sup>1</sup> Accreditation is a formal procedure stating the quality of a university programme or institution, following a cyclical evaluation based on agreed standards. "Cyclical evaluation" means based on quantifiable, verifiable, and representative indicators.

<sup>2</sup> Ref to page 17 of the Programme Manual devoted to the 5<sup>th</sup> call for proposals.

<sup>3</sup> Ref to page 107 of the Implementation Manual devoted to the 5<sup>th</sup> call for proposals.

Criterion numbering	Criterion	Guidance to Assessors
1.	Is the information on the accreditation process qualitatively presented?	The assessor shall verify that all the information needed for the accreditation of the Master Programme is provided.  <i>If the accreditation process is not started at the time of submission of the project report; supporting documents will be required to the project.</i>
2.	Is the accreditation process conducted in accordance with the procedure and standards prescribed by the European Approach for Quality Assurance of joint programmes <sup>4</sup> ?	The following elements shall be appraised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Learning outcomes</b> (Level; Disciplinary field; Achievements; regulated professions)</li> <li>- <b>Study programme</b> (curriculum; credits; workload);</li> <li>- <b>Admission and recognition;</b></li> <li>- <b>Learning, teaching and assessment;</b></li> <li>- <b>Students support;</b></li> <li>- <b>Resources</b> (staff; facilities).</li> <li>- <b>Quality assurance</b> (internal quality assurance processes applied in accordance with part one of the ESG).</li> </ul>
3.	Are the recognition procedures of the master's degree foreseen to be activated in line with the European transparency and recognition principles and tools?	The assessor shall verify that recognition/validation of the master's degrees is foreseen to be performed following the arrangements and criteria used in mobility activities, in line with the European Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) <sup>5</sup> and the recommended recognition tool: ECTS.
4.	Based on the information provided on the accreditation process; is it possible to claim that the Joint Master' programme is ready to be implemented?	Based on the information provided, the assessor shall express its opinion on the readiness of the Joint Master programme to be implemented.

<sup>4</sup> Reference to European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint programmes: <https://www.eqar.eu/kb/joint-programmes/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools/erasmus-charter-for-higher-education>

Based on the assessment of the four aforementioned criteria, the evaluator is called to express its own opinion on the quality of the accreditation process and readiness of the Joint Master Programme to be implemented according to the following:

<b>A. Quality of the accreditation process</b>
<b>Excellent</b> – the information provided is very clear and coherent;
<b>Good</b> – the information provided is clear, but it contains some minor shortcomings
<b>Fair</b> - the information provided is adequate, but it requires further clarification from the project

<b>B. Readiness of the Master programme to be implemented</b>
<b>Ready to start</b> – accreditation process has been already started, clear timeline for the master programme implementation
<b>Delayed in time</b> – accreditation process will be started soon, there is a clear timeline for the master programme implementation
<b>Not ready to start</b> – accreditation not started; no clear timeline for its implementation