



CENTRE FOR QUALITY ASSESSMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION

**EVALUATION REPORT OF  
THE FIRST CYCLE STUDY PROGRAMME  
*NAVIGATION AND SHIP HANDLING AT SEA*  
at Kherson State Maritime Academy,  
Ukraine**

**Expert panel:**

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Report language – English

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## INFORMATION ON EVALUATED STUDY PROGRAMME

Title of the study programme	<b><i>Navigation and Ship Handling at Sea</i></b>
Study field	Sea and River Transport
Type of the study programme	University studies
Study cycle	First cycle
Study mode (length in years)	Full-time (3 years and 10 months)
Volume of the study programme in credits	240
Degree and (or) professional qualifications awarded	Bachelor in Navigation and Ship Handling at Sea
Date of registration of the study programme	03/12/2020

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. Background of the evaluation process

The objective of this report is to present the main findings of evaluation of the first cycle study programme *Navigation and Ship Handling at Sea* run by Kherson State Maritime Academy (KSMA) in Ukraine. The evaluation of the Programme was carried out on the request of KSMA. The Center for Quality Assessment in Higher Education (hereafter - SKVC) carried out the evaluation in KSMA for the first time.

Prior to the evaluation visit, the SKVC expert panel familiarised itself with the self-evaluation report (hereafter - SER) submitted by the Academy. The expert panel also had several preparatory meetings to discuss the issues outlined in the SER, the questions to be discussed with the Academy representatives, and a detailed schedule for conducting the visitation.

The site-visit took place on 26 September 2022, and was carried out entirely remotely in accordance with the SKVC's procedure for study programme evaluation. It began with a meeting with the administration of the Academy. During the course of the site-visit, discussions were held with students, graduates, and academic staff teaching in the faculty under review, with those responsible for improving the quality of education, and with representatives of the socioeconomic environment (social partners). An assessment was also made of the facilities used for training. Before the end of the site-visit, the degree of fulfilment of the criteria was evaluated and observations were formulated, which the chair of the expert panel informed the Academy management about during the final meeting.

The Academy has been operating under extraordinarily difficult conditions in recent times - under martial law. There is a war in Ukraine and the Academy's headquarters in the city of Kherson has been under the control of the occupying forces. The academic community has no access to it. Despite the ongoing war, the Academy has not stopped its activities. The headquarters and some of its staff have been temporarily relocated from Kherson to Odessa. All education takes place online. Staff and students are located in different regions of Ukraine and abroad. The IT infrastructure required for education is located outside the country and is made available to the Academy on the basis of international cooperation agreements.

## 1.2. Legal background

The evaluation of on-going study programmes is based on the *Methodology for Evaluation of Ongoing Study Programmes of Foreign Higher Education Institutions*, approved by Order No V-7 of 20 February 2015 of the Director of SKVC.

The evaluation is intended to help higher education institutions to constantly improve their study programmes and to inform the public about the quality of studies.

The evaluation process consists of the main following stages: 1) *self-evaluation report prepared by the Higher Education Institution (HEI)*; 2) *site-visit of the expert panel at the HEI<sup>1</sup>*; 3) *production of the external evaluation report by the expert panel and its publication*; 4) *follow-up activities*.

On the basis of an external evaluation report of the study programme, a decision to accredit the study programme shall be taken.

### 1.3. Additional information

The Application documentation submitted by the HEI follows the outline recommended by the SKVC. Along with the self-evaluation report and annexes, the following additional documents have been provided by the HEI before, during and/or after the site-visit:

No.	Name of the document
1.	KSMA Navigation Department Student Certification Program
2.	KSMA functioning under the Martial Law
3.	KSMA International Activities 2022

### 1.4. Background of the HEI/Faculty/Study field

Kherson State Maritime Academy (KSMA) was founded in 1834 and is the oldest maritime educational institution in Ukraine. KSMA is a higher educational institution on the fourth level of accreditation that trains maritime professionals with academic degrees ranging from skilled operative, junior specialist, bachelor, specialist and master within the range of seagoing, ship building and maritime working specialties. From the establishment of the School of Merchant Shipping in 1834, via several reorganisations through the years, it became Kherson State Maritime Academy in 2011. Throughout the years, the maritime educational establishment has prepared more than 45 000 graduates, whereof more than 3 000 have been deep-sea masters.

KSMA was audited and approved by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) in April 2018 and confirmed its compliance with the global standards of education of seafarers during the audit of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in June 2018. The KSMA quality management system is certified by the Shipping Register of Ukraine in accordance with ISO9001:2015. The Academy is currently focusing on implementing the global Sustainable Development Goals.

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<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately, the site visit had to be organized via online technologies due to force-majeure circumstances (wartime).

The Navigation and Ship Handling at Sea study programme admitted students for the first time in 2019, and is a further development of previous study programmes in navigation and a result of KSMA's long tradition of educating maritime professionals.

The current assessment of the Navigation and Ship Handling at Sea study programme was initiated by the KSMA themselves, as they wanted to be revised in accordance with European standards.

### 1.5. The expert panel

The expert panel was completed according to *Description of experts' recruitment and organization of experts' work*, approved by order No. V-149 of the Director of SKVC on 31 Dec. 2019.

**Prof. Dr. Janusz Uriasz (panel chairperson)**, *Vice Rector for Innovation and Development, Maritime University of Szczecin (Poland);*

**Ms. Johanne Marie Trovåg**, *Head of Department Nautical Science, Stord/Haugesund University College and Head of Department at the Department of Maritime Studies, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences HVL (Norway);*

**Prof. Dr. Germà De Melo Rodriguez**, *Director of Master in Shipping Business and Law and Port Management, Department of Science and Nautical Engineering, Polytechnic University of Catalonia (Spain);*

**Mr. Sergiy Melnyk (social partner)**, *Managing Director of ATIS Ltd (Ukraine);*

**Mr. Arnoldas Solovjovas (student representative)**, *PhD student in Laser and Optical Engineering at Vilnius University (Lithuania).*

## 2. PROGRAMME ANALYSIS

### 2.1. Programme aims and learning outcomes

The *Navigation and Ship Handling at Sea* programme was developed for the bachelor level of higher education on 01.02.2019 and the programme was developed from the *River and Sea Transport* programme in accordance with the decision of the Academic Council of KSMA. The first enrollment of students took place in 2019. The Navigation and Ship Handling department is responsible for the programme.

As about 70 000 Ukrainian seafarers work in the world fleet and Ukraine is the third largest provider of deck officers for the international merchant fleet, there is clearly a need for the programme. The study programme *Navigation and Ship Handling at Sea* meets the requirements in the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 1978 as Amended (STCW) regulations II-1, II-2 and II-3, sections A-II/1, A-II/2 and A-II/3 with corresponding tables and is, according to the SER, in compliance with IMO Model Courses 7.01 Master and Chief Officer and 7.03 Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch, 2014-editions.

The programme aims and learning outcomes are clearly defined and publicly accessible via the KSMA website. In the programme description and in the SER, the programme is stated to be in correspondence with level 6 in the Ukrainian national qualification framework, which means that it is a bachelor programme. It is from the information the panel received on the programme and the interviews during the site-visit clear to the panel that the professional level of competence is well incorporated into the programme and clearly visible in the programme descriptions and learning outcomes. The learning outcomes and aims of the programme do however have potential for improvement in order to clearly display that this is a national qualification framework level 6 programme, as the academic learning outcomes of the programme are hard to see in the descriptions. In the programme descriptions and learning outcomes, it is also hard to identify the bachelor level academic skills corresponding with those described in the Ukrainian national qualification framework level 6. During the site-visit, this assessment was further supported, especially related to the social competences. The committee recommends that KSMA ensure that bachelor level (level 6) outcomes are displayed in the learning outcomes for the programme.

During the evaluation process and the site-visit, it became apparent that the name of the programme displays the content of the programme and identifies the labour market in which the graduates will enter after graduation. The name of the programme is also corresponding with the professional learning outcomes and the qualifications provided.

## 2.2. Curriculum design

The *Navigation and Ship Handling at Sea* programme is a full-time programme of 3 years 10 months, and a total of 240 ECTS. The programme includes practical training on board ships, in addition to theoretical and practical training within the Academy. About 75% of the programme are mandatory courses and about 25% elective courses. The study programme is designed to educate deck officers and captains and covers both operational and management levels in accordance with the STCW regulations and the latest achievements in science and technology. Graduates from the programme shall be able to perform their duties on these maritime professional levels, and the site-visit supports the impression that the graduates are successful professionals with the expected bachelor level knowledge, skills and competence, and that their employers are satisfied.

Study modules are spread evenly, and the main approaches are problem-oriented and student-centred learning with elements of self-study. In the first part of the programme, more general subjects are undertaken, in order to ensure the fundament for further specialisation. KSMA uses lectures, practical training, laboratory training, consultations, scientific seminars, demonstration classes, internships/practice and various distance training. The latter has become more important and further developed first through a pandemic and then as a result of the ongoing war in Ukraine and its effect on KSMA.

During the site-visit it became clear to the panel that KSMA now do full online lecturing as a consequence of having to flee their institution's buildings in Kherson. The KSMA do however have good measures in place to keep their education going and to further develop alternative systems for ensuring the quality of the student's training. KSMA have e.g. started using cloud based systems for simulations and they have sent their final year students to a collaborating institution in Lithuania. The KSMA is working very hard to ensure the quality of their education and that their students are well taken care of. The panel was very impressed by the KSMA's ability to adapt to the extreme situation and to ensure "business as usual".

The courses in the programme are clear and topics do not seem to be repetitive. Course descriptions are clear and consistent with the requirements for deck officers on operational and management levels. Courses are appropriate for achieving the defined learning outcomes of the programme and forms of assessment are suitable for the content and level of the study programme.

Upon completion of the programme, students take a final exam ensuring their professional competences.

### 2.3. Teaching staff

For maritime studies leading to qualifications in accordance with the STCW, there are requirements towards the lecturer's professional competence and practical maritime experience. This is taken care of in the *Navigation and Ship Handling at Sea* study programme. The qualifications of the staff are adequate to ensure learning outcomes, the expert panel did however make a note of it only being 3 employees with the combination of maritime operative experience and a scientific degree. This may also influence the panel's finding in section 2.1. Programme aims and learning outcomes, and an increase in this number may give advantages towards the academic level of the programme and learning outcomes.

Members of the teaching staff are chosen through competitive selection for a term of 1 to 5 years. A high number of the staff are also graduates from the KSMA (42,9%). Qualification training of the staff meets the requirements for accreditation of educational programmes. The teaching staff turnover has been low, but with the high average age for deep sea captains (average age 72,6 years for captains). This may lead to some future complications due to the possibility of a generation change over a shorter period of time. The panel finds it to be important for KSMA to be aware of this expected challenge, and to implement measures to reduce the consequences of a large number of staff being replaced within a short period of time.

There are measures in place for ensuring professional development of the teaching staff necessary for the provision of the programme. An example is the agreements KSMA has with foreign educational establishments and institutions for teachers' professional development. Another example is the KSMA's own Lifelong Learning Center which provides relevant courses, such as courses directed towards the learning platform Moodle, pedagogical excellence, etc. In accordance with the SER, topics and directions of professional development are closely related to the disciplines taught and to scientific interests of teachers, and a high number (147) of teachers in the Academy completed training in the study year 2020-2021.

The lecturers include the latest achievements in science and technology in the content of the programme. KSMA staff is updated on new technology and as a result of the pandemic and the current occupation and war, they use a lot of new innovations in their training of students. The panel did however note from the SER that it can be an advantage to involve more lecturers in research, and especially to get more captains involved in research. Today, there are three captains with a scientific degree of totally 16. In order to ensure good integration between the professional and the academic level, the panel recommends this number to be increased.

## 2.4. Facilities and learning resources

Since March 3, 2022, KSMA has been captured by the occupation forces of the Russian federation. The Academy continues providing educational services and plans to return to their usual location in future.

In Kherson, the premises for studies are adequate both in their size and quality (11.5 m<sup>2</sup> per student). Educational premises at the Navigational faculty are in educational buildings 1, 2, 3, 6.

The educational and training complex includes high-quality laboratories, simulators and classrooms: Navigation Bridge Simulators; complex Dynamic Positioning; Global Maritime Distress System Simulator (GMDSS); training complex for testing water safety skills and firefighting; laboratory of cargo operations; Mooring station; Laboratory of medical care on board the ship; Information Technology Laboratory; Water training station; Laboratory of collective rescue equipment on board the vessel (water sports base of KSMA); Ship security office; Fire-fighting cabinet on board the vessel; Physics Laboratory; Laboratory of Materials Science and Materials Technology; Training laboratory of applied mechanics; Specialised maritime English classrooms.

Students can work with electro-navigation and radio navigation devices, navigation tools and systems. The equipment available at the faculty contains electro-navigation devices - compasses, logs, echo sounders; radio navigation devices - radio-location systems, hydro meteorological devices - barometer, thermometers of various standard thermographs, psychrometers, anemometers, weather vane. Laboratories ("Physics", "Materials Science and Technology of Materials", "Applied Mechanics") and specialised classrooms ("Maritime English") are used in the educational process for training in general and fundamental disciplines.

With the help and support of "Marlow Navigation" company, the Academy has created a training laboratory on the basis of a modern ship "WARNOW JUPITER". On this ship, students undergo practical training and have the opportunity to combine theoretical and practical training. In turn, teachers have the opportunity to improve the content of their working curricula in professional disciplines, taking into account the research of the training laboratory on the ship and the requests of the employer. In general, KSMA has sea practice agreements with more than 35 shipping companies. Even in the current situation, it has now become possible for maritime students to cross borders in order to attend on board practice. This contributes to the KSMA ensuring that the practical training on board can be conducted as planned.

Total library collection is 329,109 units. The fund of the library is described in 8 alphabetic catalogues, 12 systematic catalogues of articles, topical card index and local informational card index.

Since April 2022, the administration of KSMA has been temporarily relocated (according to the Order No. 376 of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, issued on April 21,

2022) to Odessa, Kanatna str. 99, where it was given one floor of the Odessa State Agrarian University building with all the required equipment. Currently, the educational process is completely conducted online using the Moodle Platform, Big blue Button, Zoom, YouTube, different Cloud Simulators (Transas), Ocean Learning Platform (CBT) and digital Library resources. The Moodle Platform (as current main facility) contains all information about work and contacts of administrative staff, study timetable, package of disciplines with lecture materials, tasks for practical work and tests, all necessary methodical materials, recommendations for practical classes, individual study and syllabi of disciplines. All completed tasks are posted on the student's own page.

Partnering with Plymouth University and especially Lithuania Maritime Academy (LMA) provides an opportunity to improve online resources, high-quality practical skills and obtain all necessary certificates, including Certificate of Competency.

Educational programmes of the Navigation faculty were adjusted for online education. Offline Simulators and labs were substituted with extra practical work on cloud-based simulators. Senior year students have been sent to LMA in order for them to get good quality physical simulator training and practical training in the last study year before graduating.

Academy plans to grant 24/7 access for students to all online facilities/cloud-based simulators.

KSMA does its best to implement the latest online education facilities that are available worldwide.

In the future, when the Academy will return to Kherson, combining online and offline education facilities will significantly improve the education process and increase the skills and competences of students.

## **2.5. Study process and students' performance assessment**

Based on the provided SER document and the meetings with the stakeholders, the expert panel formed a clear understanding of the current situation of the KSMA regarding the admission process. In the SER, the expert panel found a Table No. 5 with the information of entrants number for the study programme. Comparing the admission numbers for the 2016<sup>th</sup> and 2020<sup>th</sup> years, we see an increase of 4.7 % in the number of entrants who choose this study programme as a first or second priority. Out of all entrants, more than half of them choose this programme as a first or second priority. During the meeting with students, it was highlighted that KSMA as an institution has a great reputational status in the region. This is clearly proved by the number of applicants each year. During the meeting with the students, it was said that the diploma granted by KSMA opens many doors to the private sector in the country or abroad. The admission process is done according to the national regulations and sets concrete national exams (English language,

Ukraine language, Physics, Maths) as a prerequisite for the entrants. The expert panel noticed quite a huge contest for the state-funded study programme places. During the meeting with the senior administration, it was mentioned that the study programme has ~30 % of state-funded places. There are no signs at the national level that this percentage would increase in the near future. The Academy should consider the admission into of disabled people as marine navigation is about to commence operating unmanned ships.

According to the SER, study curriculars are developed on the basis of study programme and approved by the council of the KSMA. There is an availability of a new course introduction, but it must follow the inner quality assurance regulations and mainly correspond to the content of the requirements of the study program field. The content of study modules is regularly reviewed and if needed renewed based on the received feedback from the stakeholders. The study module class is held according to the schedule of the educational process. The content of trainings should fulfil the requirements of the state and labour market demands.

During the meeting with the teaching staff, it was explained that under the current situation in the country the only way to continue the study process is in a remote regime. Study models in most cases consist of theoretical lectures and practical laboratory works (training simulators). The lectures are provided through the Zoom system, also LMS Moodle is used in the study process. The practical laboratory works are currently done with the help of virtual simulation software programmes. During the meeting with the students, it was approved that all of the lectures are organised in a Zoom platform. The Moodle system becomes a tool for doing and submitting exercises. Teachers provide a lot of videos of the practical exercises that in many cases they film on their own. Students are very grateful for the effort from teachers under these harsh conditions. Of course, they would like to try the experimental equipment on their own, but they understand it is the best solution for the current situation in the Ukraine. The students seem to be very grateful to be a part of the KSMA: they can always get in touch with teachers when needed regarding the subject information. The KSMA administration is very helpful under these harsh conditions in the country as many students had to move away from their hometown of Kherson. KSMA provides a psychological service for the academic community. The experts were interested to find out whether or not the students have to wait in long queues to get help from the psychologists. The students explained that it will take only a few days from the registration till the services are provided. Experts see this as a huge benefit, knowing that during these unpeaceful conditions in the country many youngsters might face psychological difficulties. Experts also found a great example of social support inside the admission process. During the meeting with administration, it was mentioned that annually 10-20 students that come from families with financial difficulties receive financial support from social partners. This is a great example of aiming for a global issue of the social dimension.

Based on the SER annexes, the expert panel could notice that in most of the study modules teachers apply a points accumulation system. This system allows not only to evaluate the students' learning process at the end of the semester but also lets teachers provide

feedback during the semester based on their learning progress. From the sessions with students and teaching staff, the expert panel could slightly feel a sense of student-centeredness in the teaching and learning process. Students expressed that during the theoretical lectures teachers try to involve them in active discussions, group work, etc. Students mentioned that the evaluation process in the study modules is always presented and the assessment criteria are very clear.

In the SER document, the experts were presented with a table of students' scientific topics/research throughout the years. The administration clearly defined that KSMA sees their study programmes as professionally oriented, so less attention is paid to scientific issues. Meeting with the students, unfortunately, could not answer the question of whether or not teachers try to encourage their scientific interest in a research topic. In other words, it was quite unclear whether the scientific topics presented in the SER are the result of individual students' eagerness for doing research or is it rather a result based on teachers' efforts.

Although KSMA has a huge number of foreign institutional partners, during the site-visit it was explained that the number of students who participate in the mobility program is very low. The experts are aware of the reasons for the current time, yet again this topic should be discussed in the KSMA governing bodies and actions should be taken in the future. The KSMA always remains in close relationship with its social partners and it results in the newly established equipment in the laboratories. Based on the SER Table No. 10 we see that on average more than 50% of the graduates become employed after their studies, while the rest continue their studies in the second cycle. The KSMA explained that most of their graduates successfully work in the shipping and infrastructure companies, state and municipal institutions. If there is a need to upgrade their competencies, KSMA and private companies encourage graduates to continue studies in the master's programs. Social partners mentioned that they are aware of the study modules taught in the study programme framework and they believe that it provides all the necessary skills needed in the current private sector nowadays.

## **2.6. Programme management**

Despite the Martial Law imposed in Ukraine and the critical situation in Kherson, Kherson State Maritime Academy is functioning.

The academy was temporarily moved to the city of Odessa. The offices of the rector and administration are located in the premises of the Odessa State Agricultural University. Respective departments of Quality Monitoring and Education Management, the Department of Information Support of the Educational Process, the Educational and Methodological Department were also moved to the new location. It must be said that the Academy and all bodies work in exceptional conditions in online/remote mode. Even under these challenging conditions, the Academy is able to fulfil its mission at the right level.

Responsibilities and decision-making are clearly distributed in the Academy. They are formally defined in the Academy's bylaws. They meet the requirements set by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. The Academy has adopted a set of internal regulations for the proper management and implementation of the programme. These are:

- Regulations on the Internal Quality Assurance System at Kherson State Maritime Academy, approved by the Academic Council of KSMA, (27. 09. 2018),
- Guidelines for the Quality of Education at KSMA (23.07.2018),
- Procedure Consumer Satisfaction Assessment approved by the order of the rector of KSMA,
- Code of Corporate Culture and Academic Integrity at KSMA,
- Regulations on Academic Integrity and Ethics of Academic Relations at KSMA
- Procedure for Ensuring Information Support of Academic Integrity in the Educational and Scientific Process at KSMA,
- Anti-plagiarism regulation.

The Academy organises the educational process and ensures its proper implementation at the faculty level. These duties are assigned to the Dean, who leads the Faculty,. For admission purposes, the Academy has established the Admissions Committee, which is responsible for the acceptance and enrolment of students. The study programme is under the care of a specific person - the so-called guarantor of the study programme. This person heads the Action Group, which ensures the implementation of the programme and is concerned with the improvement of the programme and the achievement of programme outcomes. The group includes representatives of various stakeholders, including employers and students. It is worth to note that the KSMA has developed a strong relationship with the social partners and what has resulted in the establishment of a new laboratory equipment, financial support and always being aware of the current situation with the study program curricular. However, there is a noticeable lack of social partners from the Academy's nearest region. It is recommended that these representatives also be included in the cooperation.

The results of the programme evaluation are presented annually to the Dean of the Faculty and the Faculty Council. The management of the programme, including the division of responsibilities and adopted procedures and practises, ensures the proper implementation of the educational programme.

### 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. KSMA should ensure clear correspondence between national qualification framework level 6 and the learning outcomes of the programme.
2. KSMA should ensure sustainability of academic staff, which means that KSMA should be aware of the generation change which will come, and to implement measures to reduce the consequences of a large number of staff being replaced within a short period of time.
3. KSMA should implement a mechanism ensuring to have in staff persons with both highest maritime competences and scientific degrees in order to ensure coherence and good integration between the professional and academic level of study programme.
4. KSMA should consider implementing more practical examples of student centeredness in the classwork.
5. KSMA should work on inclusion of representatives of social partners from the region in order to strengthen management of the programme.
6. After the stabilisation in the country the KSMA should reconsider ways for the improvement of the academic mobility for students and teachers in foreign institutions.

## 4. SUMMARY

The objective of this report is to present the results of evaluation of the “Navigation and Ship Handling at Sea” study programme provided by the Kherson State Maritime Academy.

It must be strongly underlined that the Academy has been operating in extremely extraordinarily difficult situations in recent times - under martial law in ongoing real war. It has affected all aspects of the Academy’s activity starting from students' life and ending in complete geographical spread of stakeholders and loss of primary infrastructure. Despite all adversities, the Academy has not stopped its activities. Academy is able to provide continuous education. All education takes place online.

The KSMA was visited remotely on 26 of September 2022 by an evaluation team. Programme is delivered by the Faculty of Navigation. Final grades were given based on review of self-evaluation report, online meeting and discussions with: Senior management and Faculty administration staff, authors of Self Evaluation Report, Teachers, Students, Alumni, Employers, Social partners and finally after assessment of learning resources and available facilities. The Academy offered comprehensive support for the visiting team, allowing members to find real and objective results of its condition. General picture of the Faculty of Navigation and Navigation and Ship Handling at Sea programme is positive. To summarise the mission, programme and curriculum were properly assumed. It has been assessed that the programme curriculum allows achievement of learning outcomes. Links between learning outcomes and academic subjects are well presented and correspond to the learning aims. However, correspondence between the national qualification framework of level 6 and the learning outcomes of the programme should be clearly presented. Teaching staff is motivated, skilled and experienced. The Academy is advised to ensure sustainability of academic staff in a long period of time and focus on staff having both highest maritime competences and scientific degrees. Students are even more motivated for learning despite actual dispersion around Ukraine and abroad. The Academy has implemented a quality management system which supports the management of the programme on a good level. Academy is aware about its present status having in mind war circumstances and has clear plans for the future. The Academy should consider open access to the study process for disabled people as marine navigation is about to commence operating unmanned ships. Recommendations provided in this report should help to obtain and sustain a proper level of education.

## 5. GENERAL ASSESSMENT

The study programme *Navigation and Ship Handling at Sea* at Kherson State Maritime Academy is given **positive** evaluation.

*Study programme assessment in points by evaluation areas.*

No	Evaluation Area	Evaluation of an area in points*
1.	Programme aims and learning outcomes	2
2.	Curriculum design	3
3.	Teaching staff	3
4.	Facilities and learning resources	3
5.	Study process and students' performance assessment	3
6.	Programme management	3
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>17</b>

\*1 (unsatisfactory) - there are essential shortcomings that must be eliminated;

2 (satisfactory) - meets the established minimum requirements, needs improvement;

3 (good) - the field develops systematically, has distinctive features;

4 (very good) - the field is exceptionally good.

Expert Panel's chairperson:

Prof. Dr. Janusz Uriasz

Expert Panel's members:

Ms. Johanne Marie Trovåg

Prof. Dr. Germàn De Melo Rodriguez

Mr. Sergiy Melnyk

Mr. Arnoldas Solovjovas