



STUDIJŲ KOKYBĖS VERTINIMO CENTRAS

Mykolo Romerio universiteto
**STUDIJŲ PROGRAMOS *TEISĖ IR POLICIJOS VEIKLA (valstybinis
kodas – 621M90013)***
VERTINIMO IŠVADOS

EVALUATION REPORT
OF LAW AND POLICE ACTIVITIES (state code -621M90013)
STUDY PROGRAMME
at Mykolas Romeris University

Experts' team:

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DUOMENYS APIE ĮVERTINTĄ PROGRAMĄ

Studijų programos pavadinimas	<i>Teisė ir policijos veikla</i>
Valstybinis kodas	621M90013
Studijų sritis	Socialiniai mokslai
Studijų kryptis	Teisė
Studijų programos rūšis	Universitetinės studijos
Studijų pakopa	Antroji
Studijų forma (trukmė metais)	Nuolatinė (1,5), Iššęstinė (2)
Studijų programos apimtis kreditais	90 ECTS
Suteikiamas laipsnis ir (ar) profesinė kvalifikacija	Teisės magistras
Studijų programos įregistravimo data	1997-05-19, Nr. 565

INFORMATION ON EVALUATED STUDY PROGRAMME

Title of the study programme	<i>Law and Police activities</i>
State code	621M90013
Study area	Social sciences
Study field	Law
Type of the study programme	University studies
Study cycle	Second
Study mode (length in years)	Full-time (1,5), Part-time (2)
Volume of the study programme in credits	90 ECTS
Degree and (or) professional qualifications awarded	Master of Law
Date of registration of the study programme	1997-05-19, No. 565

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 The Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education

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I. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the evaluation process

The evaluation of on-going study programmes is based on the **Methodology for evaluation of Higher Education study programmes**, approved by Order No 1-01-162 of 20 December 2010 of the Director of the Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education (hereafter – 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 and self-evaluation report prepared by Higher Education Institution (hereafter – HEI)*; 2) *visit of the review team at the higher education institution*; 3) *production of the evaluation report by the review team and its publication*; 4) *follow-up activities*.

On the basis of external evaluation report of the study programme SKVC takes a decision to accredit study programme either for 6 years or for 3 years. If the programme evaluation is negative such a programme is not accredited.

The programme is **accredited for 6 years** if all evaluation areas are evaluated as “very good” (4 points) or “good” (3 points).

The programme is **accredited for 3 years** if none of the areas was evaluated as “unsatisfactory” (1 point) and at least one evaluation area was evaluated as “satisfactory” (2 points).

The programme is **not accredited** if at least one of evaluation areas was evaluated as “unsatisfactory” (1 point).

1.2. General

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.	List of Names of all participants from the Senior Management team, SER team, Teaching Staff team, Graduates and Social Partners teams.
2.	List of Subjects and Teaching Staff 2015/2016.

1.3. Background of the HEI/Faculty/Study field/ Additional information

Mykolas Romeris University (hereinafter MRU) was founded in 2004 as successor to the Law University of Lithuania, itself successor to the former Lithuanian Police Academy. It is a public university offering numerous study programmes in social sciences, physical sciences, and humanities. The overall student population is around 13,000 in 1st cycle (bachelor level), 2nd cycle (master level), and 3rd cycle (doctoral level) combined. However, like many Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Lithuania, MRU is experiencing a rapid and massive decline of its overall

student population, mostly attributable to demographics, which will make it harder to sustain existing structures and programmes in future.

In the study field “Law”, MRU offers Bachelor level programmes in #1 Law, #2 Law and Management, #3 Law and Police Activities (in Kaunas), as well as #4 Law and Penitentiary Activities. At the Master level, MRU offers a programme in #5 Law, with specializations in Civil Law, Civil Justice, Criminal Law and Criminology, as well as International Law, and #6 Law and Police Activities (in Kaunas).

The six programmes listed above were subject to review in the present procedure and this report reflects the findings of the expert team with regard to the Master Programme “Law and Police Activities” (#6 above). The documentation provided to the expert team by MRU and the information available on the website of MRU are not entirely clear, nor consistent, as to which other programmes in law or related to law are (still) being offered by the HEI, in particular a master in European and/or international business law. Although this is of limited significance since any other programmes are not subject to review by the present team, it made it hard for the experts to understand which courses are available at MRU outside the programmes under review and thus potentially accessible to the students as electives. It is strongly suggested that the next evaluation of the Master programme(s) should include all Master of Law programmes offered at MRU in Vilnius and Kaunas and all courses accessible to students in these programmes.

The programmes subject to the present procedure were last evaluated in 2011 and found to fulfil all necessary requirements. That evaluation was conducted by Akkreditierungsagentur für Studiengänge im Bereich Gesundheit und Soziales AHPGS, a for-profit agency from Germany. The experts had access to the Evaluation Reports produced by AHPGS and found them to be superficial and unhelpful from the point of view of providing guidance to MRU as it seeks to continuously improve its structures and programmes.

1.4. The Review Team

The review team was completed according *Description of Expert Recruitment*, approved by order No. 1-01-151 of Acting Director of the Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education. The Review Visit to HEI was conducted by the team on 10-12 May 2016.

- 1. Prof. dr. Frank Emmert, LL.M. (team leader),** *Professor of International, Comparative and European Union Law, Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, USA;*
- 2. Prof. dr. Ralf Alleweldt,** *Professor of Constitutional Law, EU Law and Human Rights Law, Brandenburg University of Applied Police Sciences, Germany;*
- 3. Prof. dr. Kerstin Nordlöf,** *Professor of Criminal and Procedural Law, School of Law, Psychology and Social Work, Örebro University, Sweden;*
- 4. Mrs. Edita Ivanauskienė,** *Founder of Law firm of Edita Ivanauskienė, Attorney at Law, Patent Attorney, Lithuania*
- 5. Ms. Aušrinė Nenortaitė,** *Bachelor of Economics at Vilnius University, Lithuania.*

II. PROGRAMME ANALYSIS

2.1. Programme aims and learning outcomes

By contrast to other universities in Lithuania, where law is offered in an integrated programme of five years, MRU has chosen to offer their programmes in the study field as bachelor programmes of three and a half years and master programmes of one and a half years. MRU offers a Bachelor Programme in “Law and Police Activities”, which has also been reviewed by the current expert team and which is discussed in a separate report. The subject of the present report, the Master Programme in “Law and Police Activities”, has been offered as a two year part time programme in recent years; although it seems that the introduction of a full time option is currently under consideration.

In essence, the experts found the programme aims and learning outcomes reasonably well defined and accessible. They include: providing highly specialized legal knowledge and skills in various fields including international cooperation of law enforcement authorities, the role of EU and public international law for the police, providing knowledge on modern management concepts, analytical and research skills, and more. Programme aims and learning outcomes are consistent with the type and level of studies and the level of qualification offered, and the name of the programme, its learning outcomes, its context and the qualifications match with each other.

However, what is less clear is whether the programme aims and outcomes are sufficiently in tune with the professional requirements and public needs as regards the higher ranks of the police force. The experts would encourage MRU to clarify the exact requirements of a high-ranking police officer, to provide additional information in future self-evaluation reports about these requirements and how the Master programme supports students in fulfilling them.

2.2. Curriculum design

Generally speaking, the structure of the study programme meets the requirements of the Lithuanian law concerning the number of semesters and the total length of study, the total number of ECTS credits, the number of subjects per semester, student workload, and the subject load.

The experts consider that the curriculum of the Master Programme “Law and Police Activities” contains courses which are relevant for the needs of students and of the police in general, such as studies of police jurisdiction, theoretical and practical problems of the qualification of criminal offences, investigation of criminal intelligence, theory and practice of pre-trial investigation, and the planning of fighting against organized crime. In today’s globalized world, courses on transnational economic crime investigation, comparative studies of European law enforcement institutions and international police cooperation in the European Union are of particular relevance. The course of sociology of law supports students in developing their picture of the role and importance of legal rules in society, a picture which will ideally be realistic and science-based at the same time.

The experts note that, according to the self-evaluation report, during 2016 elective courses on human rights, domestic violence, and cybercrime are planned to be introduced. They consider that this is a very welcome development, and MRU should be ready to introduce new elective courses on a regular basis, in line with the needs of stakeholder as well as students’ wishes and expectations.

The experts would also like to recommend to include into the curriculum English language courses which should be focused on law and the police, and to provide an opportunity that students should be able to write their final thesis in English. In particular in light of the fact that Lithuania is a small country and a member state of the European Union, professional proficiency in English seems indispensable for higher police officers who will frequently be involved in international police cooperation.

All in all, it seems that the programme reflects to a large extent the requirements of a modern police force. The experts conclude that the programme can achieve its central aims and learning outcomes, and that the overall scope is sufficient. They also consider that the study subjects or courses are spread evenly over the duration of the programme, that themes are not repetitive, and that the content of the courses is consistent with the expectations for a Master programme. Given the fact that many of the faculty members are actively researching and publishing, the experts also have reason to believe that the content of the courses reasonably reflects the state of the art and science.

2.3. Teaching staff

Over the years, MRU has developed an impressive roster of teaching staff. About 1/3 of the faculty members are on permanent and/or full-time contracts, while about 2/3 are on short-term and/or part-time contracts. At first glance the high reliance on faculty with short-term and/or part-time contracts might seem to be a problem but after the visit the experts concluded that short term contracts tend to be renewed on a semester or annual basis and that most faculty prefer to work part-time because it allows them to also hold a job in government or private practice. The latter is to be considered a strength of the programme(s) because it ensures close connection between practice and academia and helps the students in finding internships and even permanent jobs via the contacts of their professors. In the self-evaluation reports, MRU acknowledged that short term contracts might lead to staff turnover which could be a problem with continuity of thesis supervision, i.e. that a student might experience two or even three different supervisors over the time frame of her thesis research. In practice, it was the impression of the experts that this is not a common occurrence.

The experts were satisfied with the qualifications of the teaching staff and found general compliance with the legal requirements. The experts also believe that MRU is providing acceptable conditions for the professional development of the teaching staff. Three factors should be complemented, in particular, in this respect. First, MRU has a good library in Vilnius and a smaller branch library in Kaunas. More importantly, MRU offers to its faculty and students very good access to electronic resources, including many and expensive international databases and resources. Faculty members can work in a special room in the library and can also access the electronic resources from home. Second, MRU has recently developed a new building in Vilnius with a total of 19 research laboratories. In these labs, faculty members can benefit from subject-focused research networks and state of the art technology. Although it was not entirely clear to what extent faculty from Kaunas have already benefitted from these resources, they should be able to do so in future, if interested. Third, MRU also offers workshops and presentations for the continuing professional development of its faculty and these were generally viewed as topical, accessible, and useful. Some events were organized in Kaunas specifically with a view to the needs of the law and police activities programmes. As far as events and resources are situated in Vilnius, the experts assume that teaching staff from Kaunas is nevertheless in a position to use them when the need arises.

The main concern of the experts with regard to the faculty at MRU has to do with a new university regulation stipulating expectations for research and publication output of the teaching staff. Apparently, this new internal regulation mandates that all teaching staff has to re-apply for their own jobs on a regular basis and will only be re-appointed if they publish a minimum number of articles and books in a given time frame. While this idea is not new to academic environments and as such does not have to be bad, the way the requirements are formulated at MRU indicates either ignorance or indifference on behalf of the administrative leadership regarding the specifics of legal research. According to the regulation, only articles published in peer reviewed journals listed or indexed by Thomson Reuters and/or Scopus count towards the research requirement and, indeed, each member of the teaching staff is expected to place a certain number of articles in every three or five year period in such journals. The experts consider such a requirement to be unsuitable for law teachers in countries like Lithuania, in particular because there seems to be no way for the faculty at MRU to compensate a lack of success with publishing in these listed journals with other valuable research and publications.

To give a practical example, a faculty member at MRU would get recognition for a publication in a peer reviewed journal of international or comparative law from Ukraine, while she would get no recognition whatsoever for a publication in the Harvard Law Review, which is not formally peer reviewed. Given the fact that it is certainly much more difficult to place an article in the Harvard Law Review and given the fact that the article in the Harvard Law Review would probably be accessible to and read by several hundred times the number of researchers compared to the article in the Ukrainian journal, this simply makes no sense. Moreover, most of the faculty members at MRU have so far focused their research activity on the development of Lithuanian law, for which there is limited appetite in the international market place of ideas. If they should have to publish in the international journals at all cost, they necessarily will neglect important research at the national level. The long-term harm to Lithuanian law and society should be obvious. Furthermore, the Faculty at MRU are not native speakers of English and have little chance to get a piece accepted in an international journal unless they hire a native speaker to edit it for language content. Such editorial services are notoriously expensive and should not be imposed on local faculty with more than modest salaries. Last but not least, the primary interlocutors of the Lithuanian professors are the students and legal professionals in Lithuania. This constituency needs qualified textbooks, casebooks, monographs, and articles about topics of national and regional importance, of which there is certainly no oversupply so far. By contrast, the primary consumers of the peer reviewed international journals are academics at wealthy foreign universities who can afford the enormous cost of access to databases and subscriptions including these journals. This constituency is well supplied as it is and of limited interest to the Lithuanian scientific community and society. At the end of the day, MRU has to ask itself whether it wants to serve its own vanity by focusing its efforts and resources into trying to get noticed by international rankings such as the ARWU or Shanghai ranking, or the QS University Rankings, or whether it wants to serve the constituents that need and pay for its services, namely the students, legal professionals, government agencies, NGOs, and academic colleagues in Lithuania and the Baltic region.

To prevent any misunderstanding, the experts are not suggesting that MRU should not encourage its faculty to publish in peer reviewed international journals or that it should not strive to climb up in international rankings. However, there are many colors between black and white and there are many valuable research and publication projects that are not listed by Thomson Reuters and/or Scopus. While MRU may be commended for setting targets and maybe even obligations for the research and publication activity of its faculty members, the basket of valuable and accepted

publications has to be expanded far beyond these international databases, not least because they are generally poorly suited for legal research which by definition has a stronger national basis than, for example, research in the natural or economic sciences, of which there are no national branches. Instead of setting unrealistic targets for the teaching faculty and threatening them with loss of employment, MRU should think how it could support its faculty should they wish to prepare a publication for submission to one of the international peer reviewed journals and reward them generously if indeed they succeed, as it is done in Sweden, for example.

Given the fact that the experts detected a high level of uncertainty and increasing demotivation among faculty members, it should be a priority for MRU to clarify and modify these criteria. Otherwise, MRU stands to lose many good teachers and gain little or nothing in return.

2.4. Facilities and learning resources

As far as facilities in Vilnius are concerned, the experts spent two days on the MRU campus and visited various classrooms, computer labs, library and other facilities, as well as the new building with the research laboratories. The facilities in Vilnius, as well as the teaching materials and learning equipment, are exemplary in every way both for the students and for the Faculty.

The experts were far less impressed by the facilities of the Faculty of Public Security in Kaunas which are relevant for the “Law and Police Activities” Master Programme. The overall impression was that the building and the seminar rooms in Kaunas were old and somewhat neglected, and the general state of repair and renovation leaves much to be desired. This was actually mentioned by staff during the meetings, and the experts agree with their evaluation. In addition, the experts have included some criticism and recommendations in their report on the “Law and Police Activities” Bachelor Programme regarding forensic equipment and the fitness room.

As to the library in Kaunas, the experts note that it is very limited in size. It consists mainly of one not too big room with book shelves and a reading room with about 30 working places. In 2015 roughly 3300 Euros were invested in new books and 4600 Euros in periodicals. The experts consider that, even considering the availability of electronic resources, this library appears too small for the Master Programme in “Law and Police Activities”. Accordingly, the experts consider that the library in Kaunas should be extended and modernized, and the budget for acquisitions should be considerably increased. This recommendation is also in accordance with the wishes expressed by the students during the meetings.

Like the students in the Bachelor Programme in “Law and Police Activities”, the Master students are allowed use the much bigger and better-equipped MRU library in Vilnius. In contrast to the normal situation of Bachelor students from Kaunas, who would seem too busy to make regular trips to Vilnius, using the Vilnius library may actually be a practical alternative for Master students from Kaunas, since the amount of contact hours which they must spend in Kaunas is very limited. Therefore, the shortcomings of the library in Kaunas weigh less seriously in the evaluation of the Master Programme.

In sum, facilities in Kaunas appear to be neglected, in particular if compared with the excellent and commendable facilities seen in Vilnius. The experts consider that a certain priority should be given to the modernization of the facilities in Kaunas, so that they may reach, as soon as feasible, an equivalent level of quality to the level MRU has achieved in Vilnius.

2.5. Study process and student performance assessment

As to the specific courses of the Master curriculum, the experts were provided with well-developed syllabi. These would suggest that students can obtain all required information, including course specific learning outcomes, assessment techniques, etc. from their professors. The experts consider also that the students receive an adequate level of academic and social support, as described in the self-evaluation report.

As usual, admission to the Master programme requires that the candidate hold a bachelor degree. In addition, since the Master programme “Law and Police Activities” is a special programme designed for police officers, admission is at present restricted to persons who are working in the police service already. This seems acceptable in view of the special character of the programme. Nevertheless it appears that this situation may change in the near future, and candidates from other fields will be accepted to the programme.

Concerning the question whether students are encouraged to participate in research and applied research activities, reference is made to section 2.3. and specifically the remarks about the new building with the research laboratories. The experts had the impression that Master students, in particular, may be involved in research projects under the umbrella of the topical research laboratories, which is a great opportunity for these students. Master students from the “Law and Police Activities” Programme in Kaunas should be particularly encouraged to participate in such projects.

The fact that students are not specifically encouraged, let alone required, to participate in student mobility programmes, such as Erasmus and Nordplus, at the Master level is of no further concern to the experts, as long as mobility opportunities at the Bachelor level are improved, as suggested by the experts in the evaluation of the Bachelor of Law programme.

Concerns do exist, however, about the assessment of the students at the Master level. From the meetings with students and faculty, the experts gained the impression that final exams typically last for only 60 to 90 minutes and often rely heavily on multiple choice or short answer questions. If this is indeed the case, such a basis for student assessment is not adequate for studies at the Master level. The average final exam for students in the Master programme should be a 4 to 5 hour exam in which the students have to work on life-like cases of some complexity and come up with comprehensive memos, legal opinions, or the like, and demonstrate critical thinking and advanced problem solving skills. The experts would strongly encourage future evaluation teams to examine whether this recommendation has been heeded by MRU.

According to the information provided in the self-evaluation report, the share of contact hours in the Master programme is roughly 11 per cent of the total workload of students. The experts feel that this is a rather low percentage. However, this seems to be in line with the national legal requirements. Teaching staff should make sure that students use the time for independent self-study in an appropriate manner.

Finally, with regard to professional activities of the graduates, the experts conclude that the opportunities for the graduates within the police service meet the expectations of the programme provider and the students and graduates themselves.

2.6. Programme management

Pursuant to the self-evaluation report, responsibilities for programme management are distributed primarily by the Senate of MRU via the Quality Policy Provisions for the Studies and Research at MRU, and the Regulations of the System of Internal Study Quality Assurance at MRU. According to these documents, the Senate, the Committee for Assurance of MRU Studies Quality, the Vice-rector for Education, and the Academic Affairs Centre, as well as the Study Programmes Committee, the Faculties, and certain sub-units share different responsibilities in the implementation of the programmes.

Following the provisions of the Regulations of the System of Internal Study Quality *the Senate of the MRU, the Rectorate and the Committee for Assurance of MRU Studies Quality* are responsible for the formation and implementation of the study quality policy. *Faculties, Institutes and Study Programme Committees* are responsible for the quality of the study programmes and their practical implementation (correspondence of the study programme to the needs of students and the labor market, the provisions of University study policy and education achievements, supervision of contents of study subjects, constant renewal and correspondence of the programmes to their study programme aims, for selecting the staff and initiation of their development of qualifications, supervision of the needs for material and informational sources, attraction of students and listeners). *The Academic Affairs Center* is responsible for initiating and preparing the policies ensuring the study quality, the quality of the study process, as well as coordination and support for the creation and renewal of study programmes. Finally, *university lecturers* are responsible for the quality of the lectures that they are giving (accomplishment of the study results, creative and innovative lecturing, quality of teaching material and correspondence for newest scientific achievements; quality of contact hours; correspondence to the needs of concrete students/listeners) and *students and listeners* are responsible for the personal study results and quality of their own studies. They are obliged to follow academic discipline, academic ethics, other university community requirements for the quality of the study process, and to provide feedback on the quality of studies.

The quality policy provisions for studies are focused on the following areas: strengthening the relationship between teaching and research, development of student-centered studies, fitness of studies for students, stakeholders and public purposes, interdisciplinarity of studies, innovations and entrepreneurship education, internationalization of studies and research (Quality Policy Provisions, para. 4).

As per the Regulations of the System of Internal Study Quality internal monitoring of study quality is carried out continuously and at all levels.

As described in the self-evaluation report, various university structural divisions are responsible for the study programme management. The faculty's Study Programmes Committee has nine members. One of them is a representative of stake holders and one member is a students' representative. Accordingly, social partners are included in the process both as members of the Committee, members of examination boards, members for defense committees and as constant advisers. The Committee has the task to improve the programme's curriculum and the quality of the implementation process; it is also responsible for the staff selection and the supervision of the need of material and information resources. Any proposals for improvement or adjustment are approved by the Faculty Council. The approved adjustments are submitted to the Centre of Academic Affairs. The Centre of Academic Affairs assesses whether the adjustments conform to the existing regulations and submits them to the Rectorate for approval. Upon approval of the Rectorate, the

adjustments or improvements are submitted to the Senate's Study Commission and are approved by the Senate.

Having reviewed this extremely complicated structure, the experts doubt whether this structure is suitable for deciding on question relating to the improvement of study programmes in an effective way. The experts suspect that problems may sometimes be discussed in various committees but in the end nobody takes any decisions, either because they cannot act on their own or because the discussions fizzle out before everybody is able to contribute their required input.

With regard to its management structures, MRU should examine itself carefully whether there might be a case of too many cooks spoiling the broth or an excessive fragmentation of the responsibilities with the effect that everybody should be but nobody does feel responsible for the development of the programmes and their constant adjustment to market needs and evolving standards of art and science.

The experts certainly believe that the programme structure and the management structure at MRU are much more complicated than at many other universities of similar size and that this complexity may be an obstacle rather than a benefit. We would strongly encourage MRU to rethink its structures and decision-making procedures to become more nimble and better able to achieve the constant self-improvement expected nowadays from any top quality higher education institution.

What MRU seems to be lacking, and this has become evident time and again as he experts reviewed the programmes and interviewed the different stakeholders, is a culture of constant critical self-evaluation and continuous and effective self-improvement. On paper, „internal monitoring of study quality is carried out continuously and at all levels.“ In practice, the experts did not find many or even any manifestations of this actually happening. MRU will not become a first rate university, unless such a culture can be implemented in practice and not just in theory.

Otherwise, the experts found that the procedures of opening, redesigning and closing of programmes are clearly disclosed in the documents provided by MRU and conform to legal requirements.

2.7. Examples of excellence

A strength of the Master Programme in “Law and Police Activities” the apparent high motivation of students who know that they want to develop professionally as police officers and that they will have good career prospects following the conclusion of their studies. It is also very commendable that MRU cooperates closely with police authorities – the main stakeholders – during the implementation of the programme. MRU is certainly very well-suited to implement this programme since its strengths lay in general in the areas of public and criminal law.

Other examples of excellence at MRU include the general qualification of the faculty, which is composed of many practitioners with in-depth experience in their respective fields, as well as many dedicated academics with a genuine desire to excel in the classroom and in their research work.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. In general, MRU has to become more self-critical and nimble at implementing reforms. A modern research university can only remain competitive in the long term if it develops a culture of constant self-reflection and self-improvement. MRU needs to flatten its hierarchies and accelerate and simplify its decision-making structures. Reform plans have to become more specific, with clear targets, deadlines, financing solutions, and implementation responsibilities.
2. The experts recommend to include into the curriculum English language courses which should be focused on law and the police, and provide an opportunity that students should be able to write their final thesis in English.
3. MRU should extend and modernize the library at Kaunas, and the budget for acquisitions should be considerably increased.
4. MRU should give priority to modernizing all university facilities in Kaunas including the forensic equipment, so that facilities reach the same standard as the excellent and commendable facilities seen in Vilnius.
5. With regard to the faculty, MRU should urgently re-think the current research and publication requirements since the insistence on numeric goals in Thomson Reuters and/or Scopus indexed journals is poorly suited for law professors in Lithuania and undervalues other important research achievements.
6. Last but not least, MRU should improve the methods of student assessment in the Master of Law programme and shift more exams to longer and more complex problem solving exams that are suitable to assess critical thinking and professional writing skills.

IV. SUMMARY

The Master Programme in “Law and Police Activities” is a successful programme with motivated students and a very good faculty.

In essence, the experts found the programme aims and learning outcomes of the Master Programme in “Law and Police Activities” reasonably well defined and accessible. What is not entirely clear is whether the programme aims and learning outcomes are sufficiently in tune with the professional requirements and public needs as regards the higher ranks of the police force.

The programme contains courses which are relevant for the needs of students and of the police in general, and the experts welcome the idea to introduce elective courses in 2016. They recommend to include into the curriculum English language courses which should be focused on law and the police, and provide an opportunity that students should be able to write their final thesis in English. All in all, it seems that the programme reflects to a large extent the requirements of a modern police force. The experts conclude that the programme can achieve its central aims and learning outcomes, and that the overall scope is sufficient.

The experts were satisfied with the qualifications of the teaching staff and found general compliance with the legal requirements. The experts also believe that MRU is providing acceptable

conditions for the professional development of the teaching staff. However, with regard to the faculty, MRU should urgently re-think the current research and publication requirements since the insistency on numeric goals in Thomson Reuters and/or Scopus indexed journals is poorly suited for law professors in Lithuania and undervalues other important research achievements.

The facilities in Vilnius, both for the students and for the Faculty, are exemplary in every way. The same is true for the teaching materials and other learning equipment. The experts were far less impressed by facilities in Kaunas. MRU should extend and modernize the library in Kaunas, and the budget for acquisitions should be considerably increased. Priority should be given to modernizing all university facilities in Kaunas including the forensic equipment, so that facilities reach the same standard as those seen in Vilnius.

The experts were provided with well-developed syllabi of the specific courses of the Master curriculum. With regard to professional activities of the graduates, the experts conclude that the opportunities for the graduates within the police service meet the expectations of the programme provider and the students and graduates themselves. MRU should improve the methods of student assessment in the Master of Law programme and shift more exams to longer and more complex problem solving exams that are suitable to assess critical thinking and professional writing skills.

In general, MRU has to become more self-critical and nimble at implementing reforms. A modern research university can only remain competitive in the long term if it develops a culture of constant self-reflection and self-improvement. MRU needs to flatten its hierarchies and accelerate and simplify its decision-making structures, including decisions affecting the branch campus in Kaunas. Reform plans have to become more specific, with clear targets, deadlines, financing solutions, and implementation responsibilities.

V. GENERAL ASSESSMENT

The study programme Law and Police Activities – Master (state code – 621M90013) at Mykolas Romeris University 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	3
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
	Total:	18

*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.

Grupės vadovas: Team leader:	Prof. dr. Frank Emmert
Grupės nariai: Team members:	Prof. dr. Ralf Alleweldt
	Prof. dr. Kerstin Nordlöf
	Mrs. Edita Ivanauskienė
	Ms. Aušrinė Nenortaitė

**MYKOLO ROMERIO UNIVERSITETO ANTROSIOS PAKOPOS STUDIJŲ
PROGRAMOS TEISĖ IR POLICIJOS VEIKLA (VALSTYBINIS KODAS – 621M90013)
2016-08-16 EKSPERTINIO VERTINIMO IŠVADŲ NR. SV4-183 IŠRAŠAS**

<...>

V. APIBENDRINAMASIS ĮVERTINIMAS

Mykolo Romerio universiteto studijų programa *Teisė ir policijos veikla* (valstybinis kodas – 621M90013) vertinama **teigiamai**.

Eil. Nr.	Vertinimo sritis	Srities įvertinimas, balais*
1.	Programos tikslai ir numatomi studijų rezultatai	3
2.	Programos sandara	3
3.	Personalas	3
4.	Materialieji ištekliai	3
5.	Studijų eiga ir jos vertinimas	3
6.	Programos vadyba	3
	Iš viso:	18

* 1 – Nepatenkinamai (yra esminių trūkumų, kuriuos būtina pašalinti)

2 – Patenkinamai (tenkina minimalius reikalavimus, reikia tobulinti)

3 – Gerai (sistemiškai plėtojama sritis, turi savitų bruožų)

4 – Labai gerai (sritis yra išskirtinė)

<...>

IV. SANTRAUKA

Magistro laipsnio programa *Teisė ir policijos veikla* yra sėkmingai įgyvendinama programa, kurioje studijuoja motyvuoti studentai ir kuri vykdoma labai gerame fakultete.

Iš esmės, ekspertų nuomone, magistro laipsnio studijų programos *Teisė ir policijos veikla* tikslai ir studijų rezultatai yra gana gerai apibrėžti ir prieinami. Tiesa, nėra visiškai aišku, ar programos tikslai ir studijų rezultatai pakankamai dera su profesiniais reikalavimais ir visuomenės poreikiais, kai kalbama apie aukštesnio rango policijos pareigūnus.

Programą sudaro dalykai, aktualūs studentų poreikiams ir apskritai policijos poreikiams, be to, ekspertai pritaria idėjai 2016 m. pasiūlyti pasirenkamuosius dalykus. Rekomenduojama į studijų

programą įtraukti teisei ir policijai skirtus dalykus anglų kalba bei sudaryti galimybę studentams baigiamuosius darbus rašyti anglų kalba. Apskritai susidaro įspūdis, kad studijų programa didžiąja dalimi atspindi šiuolaikinės policijos reikalavimus. Ekspertai daro išvadą, kad programa gali pasiekti savo pagrindinių tikslų ir studijų rezultatų, bendra jos aprėptis yra pakankama.

Ekspertai liko patenkinti dėstytojų kvalifikacija ir mano, kad ji atitinka teisinį reglamentavimą. Ekspertai taip pat yra įsitikinę, kad MRU sudaro tinkamas sąlygas akademiniam personalui kelti profesinę kvalifikaciją. Vis dėlto, kalbant apie fakultetą, MRU turėtų skubiai persvarstyti dabartinius mokslinių tyrimų ir publikavimo reikalavimus, kadangi atkaklus reikalavimas pasiekti kiekybinių publikavimo „Thomson Reuters“ ir (arba) „Scopus“ indeksuojamuose žurnaluose tikslų netinka teisės profesoriams Lietuvoje ir sumenkina kitų svarbių mokslinių pasiekimų vertę.

Materialieji ištekliai, prieinami tiek studentams, tiek fakultetui Vilniuje, yra visais aspektais tiesiog pavyzdiniai. Tą patį galima pasakyti apie mokymo medžiagą ir kitas mokymosi priemones. Ekspertams gerokai mažesnę įspūdį paliko materialieji ištekliai Kaune. MRU turėtų išplėsti ir modernizuoti biblioteką Kaune, taip pat gerokai padidinti naujiems materialiesiems ištekliams įsigyti skirtą biudžetą. MRU prioritetas turėtų būti visų universiteto materialijų išteklių Kaune modernizavimas, įskaitant teismo medicinos įrangą, kad šie materialieji ištekliai būtų tokio pat lygmens kaip Vilniuje.

Ekspertams buvo pateikti gerai parengti atskirtų magistro laipsnio programos dalykų aprašai. Kalbant apie profesinę absolventų veiklą, ekspertai daro išvadą, kad absolventų profesinės galimybės policijos pajėgose atitinka programos vykdytojų ir pačių studentų bei absolventų lūkesčius. MRU turėtų pagerinti Teisės ir policijos veiklos magistro laipsnio studijų programos studentų vertinimo metodus, prailginti daugelio egzaminų trukmę ir juos skirti sudėtingesnėms problemoms spręsti. Tokie egzaminai būtų tinkamesni studentų kritiniam mąstymui ir profesiniams rašymo įgūdžiams įvertinti.

Apskritai MRU turėtų būti labiau savikritiškas ir greičiau įgyvendinti reformas. Modernus mokslo universitetas konkurencingas ilgą laiką gali išlikti tik tuo atveju, jei puoselėja nuolatinės savirefleksijos ir tobulėjimo kultūrą. MRU turi supaprastinti savo hierarchiją, padaryti aiškesnę sprendimų priėmimo struktūrą, įskaitant fakultetui Kaune įtakos turinčius sprendimus. Reformų planai turi būti konkretesni, numatant aiškius tikslus, įgyvendinimo terminus, finansavimo struktūras ir atsakomybę už įgyvendinimą.

<...>

III. REKOMENDACIJOS

1. Apskritai MRU turėtų būti labiau savikritiškas ir greičiau įgyvendinti reformas. Modernus mokslo universitetas konkurencingas ilgą laiką gali išlikti tik tuo atveju, jei puoselėja nuolatinės savirefleksijos ir tobulėjimo kultūrą. MRU turi supaprastinti savo hierarchiją, padaryti aiškesnę sprendimų priėmimo struktūrą. Reformų planai turi būti konkretesni, numatant aiškius tikslus, įgyvendinimo terminus, finansavimo struktūras ir atsakomybę už įgyvendinimą.
2. Ekspertai rekomenduoja į studijų turinį įtraukti dalykų anglų kalba, kuriuose būtų akcentuojama teisė ir policija, ir sudaryti galimybę studentams baigiamuosius darbus rašyti anglų kalba.
3. MRU turėtų išplėsti ir modernizuoti biblioteką Kaune, taip pat gerokai padidinti naujiems materialiesiems ištekliams įsigyti skirtą biudžetą.
4. MRU prioritetas turėtų būti visų universiteto materialijų išteklių Kaune modernizavimas, įskaitant teismo medicinos įrangą, kad šie materialieji ištekliai būtų tokio pat puikaus ir verto pagyrimo lygmens kaip Vilniuje.
5. Kalbant apie fakultetą, MRU turėtų skubiai persvarstyti dabartinius mokslinių tyrimų ir publikavimo reikalavimus, kadangi atkaklus reikalavimas pasiekti kiekybinių publikavimo „Thomson Reuters“ ir (arba) „Scopus“ indeksuojamuose žurnaluose tikslų netinka teisės profesoriams Lietuvoje ir sumenkina kitų svarbių mokslinių pasiekimų vertę.
6. Galų gale MRU turėtų pagerinti Teisės ir policijos veiklos magistro laipsnio studijų programos studentų vertinimo metodus, prailginti daugelio egzaminų trukmę ir juos skirti sudėtingesnėms problemoms spręsti. Tokie egzaminai būtų tinkamesni studentų kritiniam mąstymui ir profesiniams rašymo įgūdžiams įvertinti.

<...>

Paslaugos teikėjas patvirtina, jog yra susipažinęs su Lietuvos Respublikos baudžiamojo kodekso 235 straipsnio, numatančio atsakomybę už melagingą ar žinomai neteisingai atliktą vertimą, reikalavimais.

Vertėjos rekvizitai (vardas, pavardė, parašas)