# Akkreditierungsagentur im Bereich Gesundheit und Soziales Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences



# **Assessment Report**

for the Application of Istanbul Gedik University, Türkiye for the Accreditation of the Bachelor Study Program "Law", Bachelor of Law (LL.B.)

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Decision

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## 1 Introduction

The Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences (AHPGS) is an interdisciplinary and multi-professional organization. Its mission is to evaluate Bachelor and Master programs in the fields of health and social sciences, as well as in related domains such as medicine or psychology. By conducting accreditation and recommendation procedures, the AHPGS contributes to the improvement of the overall quality of teaching and learning. However, the higher education institutions remain responsible for implementing the quality assurance recommendations made by the AHPGS.

The AHPGS is listed in the European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR) since 2009. Since 2004, the AHPGS has been a member of the European Consortium for Accreditation (ECA). In 2006, the AHPGS joined the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA). In 2009, the AHPGS also became a member of the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) and since 2012 a member of the Network of Central and Eastern European Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (CEENQA). In 2023, the World Federation of Medical Education (WFME) recognized the AHPGS as an agency with recognition status for 10 years.

In carrying out accreditation procedures, the AHPGS follows the requirements of the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG). In the present case, the decision regarding the accreditation of the study program is carried out by the AHPGS Accreditation Commission based on the following accreditation criteria:

- 1. Program aims and their implementation
- 2. Structure of the study program
- 3. Admission and Feasibility
- 4. Examination System and Transparency
- 5. Teaching Staff and Material Equipment
- 6. Quality Assurance
- 7. Gender equality and equal opportunities

# I. The University's application

The AHPGS verifies the sufficiency of the documents submitted by the University, namely the Self-Evaluation Report and its corresponding annexes. These are to fulfil the assessment spheres as well as the AHPGS standards. With this in-formation, the AHPGS produces a summary, which is to be approved by the University and subsequently made available for the expert group, together with all other documentation.

#### II. Written review

The main documents are reviewed by the expert group assigned by the Accreditation Commission of AHPGS. This is done in order to verify the compliance of the study program with the applicable accreditation criteria. Consequently, the experts comprise a short summary regarding the study programs.

# III. On-site visit (peer-review)

The experts carry out a site visit at the University. During this visit, discussions are held with members of the University, which include University and department administration, degree program management, teachers, and students. These discussions provide the expert group with details about the study program beyond the written documents. The task of the experts during the site visit is to verify and evaluate the objectives of the program and its projected study results, its structure, staff, material resources, course of studies, methods of assessment (selection of students, assessment of achievements, students' support), as well as the program management (program administration, external assurance of study quality).

Following the site visit, the expert group evaluates the fulfillment of the criteria based on the results of the visit and the documents submitted by the HEI. This Assessment Report is based on the results of the visit, the written review of the study programs, and the documents submitted by the University. Finally, the Assessment Report is made available to the University for the opportunity to issue a response opinion.

The Assessment Report as well as the University's response opinion – together with the provided documents – is submitted to the Accreditation Commission of the AHPGS.

#### IV. The AHPGS accreditation decision

The Accreditation Commission of the AHPGS examines the documentation made available in the process of application, namely the University's self-evaluation report, its annexes, the Assessment Report, as well as the University's response opinion. These documents lay the basis for the decision of the Accreditation Commission of the AHPGS regarding the accreditation of the study program.

#### 2 Overview

### 2.1 Procedure-related documents

The University delegated the task of accrediting the following Bachelor study programs to AHPGS: "Nursing", "Nutrition and Dietetics", "Law", "Child Development", "Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation", "Sports Coaching", "Physical Education and Sports Teaching" and "Sports Management".

The Self-Evaluation Report for accreditation of the above-mentioned study programs (hereinafter the SER) of the Istanbul Gedik University (hereinafter the University) was submitted to the Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Science (AHPGS) in electronic format on August 8, 2024. The decision regarding the accreditation of a study program is carried out by the Accreditation Commission of the AHPGS. The contract between the Istanbul Gedik University and the AHPGS was signed on March 21, 2024.

On January 31, 2025, the AHPGS forwarded the open questions and explanatory notes (hereinafter OQ) pertaining to the application for accreditation for the study programs to the University. On February 5, 2025, the University submitted the answers to the open questions and explanatory notes (hereinafter AOQ) to the AHPGS in electronic format.

The application documentation submitted by the Istanbul Gedik University follows the outline recommended by the AHPGS. Along with the application request towards accreditation of the Bachelor study program "Law", the following additional documents can be found in the application package (the documents submitted by the University are numbered in the following order for easier referencing):

Specific documents for the study program "Law"

Annex	Description
1	Module Descriptions
1.1	Study Plan
2	CVs
3	Teaching Matrix

Alongside the study-program-specific documents, the following documents pertain to all study program submitted for external evaluation:

Annex	Description
Α	Education in Health, Health-Related or Related Programs and Minimum Conditions for
A	the Start and Continuation of Teaching General Principles
В	Promotion and Appointment Directive
С	Scientific Publication Incentive Principles
D	Continuous Education Application and Research Center Regulation
Е	Scientific Research Projects and Scientific Activities Application Directive
F	Library Directive
G	Quality Assurance Guidelines
Н	Disabled Student Unit Structure and Working Principles Directive
1	Academic Counseling Directive
J	Academic Recognition Directive Exchange-Mobility Programs
K	Bologna Process Handbook
L	Double Program Directive
М	Exemption and Adjustment Directive
N	Extracurricular Activities Application Principles
0	Extracurricular Activities Principles
Р	Foreign Students Admission Directive
Q	Gender Equality Plan
R	Registration Guide
S	Scholarship Directive
Т	Associate and Undergraduate Programs Horizontal Transfer Directive
U	ECTS System
V	Strategic Plan
W	Credit Transfer
Х	Policy against gender-biased violence

The application, the open questions (OQ) and the answers to the open questions (AOQ) as well as the additional documents build the basis for the present summary. The layout bears no significance, as it solely reflects the agreed standard between the AHPGS and the University.

# 2.2 Information about the University

Istanbul Gedik University (IGUN) was founded in 2010 under the leadership of Gedik Education Foundation (GEV) in order to strengthen the cooperation between universities and the industry as well as to support the training of qualified experts in their fields.

The University consists of six faculties, an Institute of Graduate Studies and two colleges (Gedik Vocational School and School of Foreign Languages). IGUN currently has a total of 8,511 students: 569 students in the Faculty of Health Sciences, 662 students in the Faculty of Engineering, 435 students in the Faculty of Sports Sciences, 813 students in the Faculty of Architecture and Design, 3,346 students in the Vocational School, 338 students in the Faculty of Law, 757 students in the Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences, and 1,591 graduate students.

IGUN has a total of four campuses and 21 research centers.

The Faculty of Law was established in 2018. There are three academic departments in the Faculty of Law: Public Law, Private Law and Financial Law.

The Department of Public Law consists of the Chair of Constitutional Law, the Chair of International Law, the Chair of Philosophy and Sociology of Law, the Chair of General Public Law, the Chair of Administrative Law, the Chair of Criminal and Criminal Procedure Law.

The Department of Private Law consists of the Chair of Maritime Law, the Chair of Civil Procedure and Bankruptcy Law, the Chair of Civil Law, the Chair of Commercial Law, the Chair of Roman Law, the Chair of Labor and Social Security Law, the Chair of International Private Law.

The Faculty of Law has 93 first year students, 111 second year students, 80 third year students, and 79 fourth year students. There are 176 graduates so far. The total number of graduates in 2022-2023 was 113 (SER 8.1.6).

# 2.3 Structural data of the study program

University	Istanbul Gedik University
Faculty/Department	Faculty of Law
Title of the study program	Law
Degree awarded	Bachelor of Law (LL.B.)
Form of studies	Full-time
Organizational structure	On-campus program. It is compulsory to attend 70% of theoretical courses in each semester.
Language of Studies	Turkish

Period of education	Eight semesters (four academic years)
Credit Points (CP) according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)	240 CP
Hours/CP	each credit is equal to one theoretical course
Workload	Total: 4,074 hours Contact hours: 2,440 hours Individual work: 1,634 hours
CP for the final paper	Not available
Launch date of the study program	Winter semester 2019/2020
First accreditation	Not available
Time of admission	Summer semester
Number of available places on the program	16 (with full scholarship) + 85 (with tuition) = 101 (2024-2025 Academic Year)
Number of enrolled stu- dents by now	365
Particular enrollment conditions	In accordance with the current higher education legislation in Turkey, candidates who rank lower than the 125 thousandth (according to EA score type) in the central public exam conducted by ÖSYM cannot be admitted to undergraduate law programs.
Tuition fees	The tuition fee is annual, and it covers one academic year (two semesters) of courses. Tuition fee is determined by the Board of Trustees for each academic year. The tuition fee determined for the year 2024-2025 is \$500,000 (€13.000)

Chart 1: Structural data of the study program

# 3 Expert Report

The site visit was carried out on February 24-25, 2025, according to the previously agreed schedule. Representatives from the head office of the AHPGS accompanied the expert group.

The expert group met on February 23, 2025, for preliminary talks prior to the site visit. They discussed the submitted application documents and the results of the written evaluation, as well as questions that had been raised prior. Furthermore, they prepared the plan of the site visit at the University.

During the site visit, experts conducted discussions with the University management, representatives of the Faculty of Law, the chair, vice chair and the teaching staff of the program "Law" as well as with students currently studying in the program. Furthermore, they inspected the learning premises, such as lecture halls, seminar classrooms, library, and computer classrooms. Moreover, experts had the opportunity to examine the equipment and the capacity of the laboratories.

Following the site visit, the University submitted the following additional documents at the request of the experts:

- Sample Bachelor Thesis
- Sample Master Thesis
- Clinical Practice Guidelines Nursing
- Example Diploma

The Assessment Report is structured in compliance with the "Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area" (ESG), established by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA). The study program will be described and analyzed in a comprehensive manner below. The documents submitted by the University, the experts' feedback to the documents, the observations made during the site visit, the results of discussions with the representatives of the University, Faculty of Law serve as the foundation for the statements made in the Assessment Report.

# 3.1 Program aims and their implementation

The study program focuses on specific qualification objectives. These objectives cover professional and interdisciplinary aspects and particularly refer to the domain of academic or artistic competences, competences necessary for a qualified employment, skills of social commitment and personal development.

## **Summary**

The Bachelor program "Law" aims to train qualified and competent lawyers who are experts in their fields, have sufficient legal background to develop legal awareness in society, with a contemporary, science-based, rational, secular, student-centered and participatory education approach (SER 3.1.1).

With the successful completion of the law program, students will:

- be able to understand and interpret judicial decisions,
- have general knowledge about all fields of law,
- have detailed information about the basic areas of law,
- be able to recognize and define the basic concepts of law,
- be aware of the legislation and recognize the hierarchy of norms,
- have the ability to interpret concrete conflicts in human relations from a legal point of view,
- be able to solve social, political and sociological issues with the notion of law (SER 3.1.3).

The University states that in order for graduates to become lawyers, judges, prosecutors or notaries (legal professions), they must be successful in the State Examination for Entrance to Legal Professions (SER 3.1.2).

The University indicates that graduates will have the opportunity to mainly work as lawyers, judges, prosecutors, notaries and academics (SER 3.2.1).

## **Judgment**

The experts ask about the vision and mission of Istanbul Gedik University. The University explains that its roots lie in technical sciences, and that its strong ties to industry is its distinguishing feature. This close collaboration not only shapes its academic programs but also ensures that students gain practical, real-world experience, making the institution a bridge between education and the professional world. According to the University, the establishment of new study programs

depends mainly on the demand of their students. In conclusion, the third mission of the University, which relates to engaging with society to contribute to social, cultural and economic development, remains unclear.

According to the University, there are currently around 9,000 students enrolled, out of which 1,800 are international students. One of the University's key strategic goals is to enhance its international presence by expanding the number of programs offered in English. This initiative aims to attract a diverse student body, foster global academic collaboration, and strengthen the institution's position on the international stage. The experts welcome the internationalization strategy. However, the overall strategy of the University and that of the individual study programs should be defined more clearly. The University's orientation is currently not reflected in its range of study programs.

From the experts' point of view, the Bachelor study program "Law" focuses on specific qualification objectives. These objectives cover professional and interdisciplinary aspects and particularly refer to the domain of academic competences, competences necessary for a qualified employment, skills of social commitment and personal development.

The University also offers two postgraduate programs, namely a Master's in Private Law and in Public Law. The experts appreciate the continuous training of their students beyond the Bachelor level.

#### **Decision**

From the experts' point of view, the requirements of this criterion are fulfilled.

# 3.2 Structure of the study program

The study program aims to provide students with specialized and interdisciplinary knowledge as well as professional, methodological and general competences. The study program has a modular structure that is closely linked to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)<sup>1</sup> and a course-related examination system. Descriptions of the modules contain all necessary information, as required in the ECTS User's Guide (particularly with regard to the details about learning content and outcomes, methods of learning, prerequisites for the allocation of ECTS credits, workload).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://ec.europa.eu/education/tools/docs/ects-guide\_en.pdf

The combination and succession of the modules of the study program are consistent with the specified qualification objectives (described earlier).

It is assured that students receive the support and guidance they need for the organization and accomplishment of assignments and the learning process in general.

The arrangement of internships in the study program allows acquisition of ECTS credits. Provided that the program offers exchange mobility gaps, they will be integrated into students' curriculum.

Study programs with special profile requirements (e.g. dual, part-time, occupational or distance learning study programs) comply with particular aspects that are considered as appropriate and proportionate. These particular aspects are continuously observed in the study program.

# **Summary**

The program comprises 67 modules, out of which 63 are obligatory and four modules are elective modules (three law electives, one University elective) (SER 4.1.1). There are between 7 and 12 modules in total provided for each semester. All modules have to be completed within one semester.

The list of modules offered:

No.	Title	Sem	ECTS
ATA101	Atatürk's Principles and the History of Turkish Revolution	1	2
	I		
HUK101	Introduction to Law I	1	4
HUK103	Roman Law - General	1	5
HUK105	Civil Law I (Introduction and Law of Persons)	1	6
HUK107	Constitutional Law I	1	6
HUK109	Economics	1	3
ING101	English I	1	2
Tur101	Turkish Language I	1	2
IKV101	Career Plan	1	
UNIV101	Introduction to University Life	1	

ATA102         Atatürk's Principles and the History of Turkish Revolution II         2         2           HUK102         Introduction to Law II (Legal Methodology)         2         4           HUK104         Roman Law – Special         2         5           HUK106         Civil Law II (Family Law)         2         6           HUK108         Constitutional Law II         2         6           HUK110         Finance         2         3           ING102         English II         2         2           TUR102         Turkish Language II         2         2           HUK201         Law of Obligations I (General Provisions)         3         5           HUK203         Administrative Law I         3         5           HUK205         The History of Turkish Law         3         5           HUK207         Criminal Law I (General Provisions)         3         5           HUK209         International Law I         3         5           HUK211         Public Finance         3         3           HUK213         English Legal Terminology I         3         1           HUK214         English Legal Terminology II (General Provisions)         4         5           HUK2				,
HUK104         Roman Law - Special         2         5           HUK106         Civil Law II (Family Law)         2         6           HUK108         Constitutional Law II         2         6           HUK110         Finance         2         3           ING102         English II         2         2         2           TUR102         Turkish Language II         2         2         2           HUK201         Law of Obligations I (General Provisions)         3         5           HUK203         Administrative Law I         3         5           HUK204         The History of Turkish Law         3         5           HUK205         The History of Turkish Law         3         5           HUK206         The History of Turkish Law         3         5           HUK207         Criminal Law I (General Provisions)         3         5           HUK209         International Law I         3         3         3           HUK211         Public Finance         3         3         3           HUK213         English Legal Terminology I         3         3         1           HUK204         Administrative Law II         4         5	ATA102		2	2
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HUK213 English Legal Terminology I 3 3 3 HUK215 Constitutional Justice 3 1 HUK202 Law of Obligations II (General Provisions) 4 5 HUK204 Administrative Law II 4 5 HUK206 Turkish Tax System 4 3 HUK208 Criminal Law II (General Provisions) 4 5 HUK210 International Law II 4 5 HUK212 Philosophy and Sociology of Law 4 4 HUK214 English Legal Terminology II 4 3 HUK301 General Public Law I 5 3 HUK303 Commercial Law I (Commercial Enterprise and Negotiable Papers) HUK305 Labor Law I 5 2 HUK307 Criminal Law I (Special Provisions) 5 3 HUK309 Law of Property I 5 4 HUK311 Law of Civil Procedure I 5 5	HUK209	International Law I	3	5
HUK215       Constitutional Justice       3       1         HUK202       Law of Obligations II (General Provisions)       4       5         HUK204       Administrative Law II       4       5         HUK206       Turkish Tax System       4       3         HUK208       Criminal Law II (General Provisions)       4       5         HUK210       International Law II       4       5         HUK212       Philosophy and Sociology of Law       4       4         HUK214       English Legal Terminology II       4       3         HUK301       General Public Law I       5       3         HUK303       Commercial Law I (Commercial Enterprise and Negotiable Papers)       5       5         HUK305       Labor Law I       5       2         HUK307       Criminal Law I (Special Provisions)       5       3         HUK309       Law of Property I       5       4         HUK311       Law of Civil Procedure I       5       5	HUK211	Public Finance	3	3
HUK202 Law of Obligations II (General Provisions)  HUK204 Administrative Law II  HUK206 Turkish Tax System  HUK208 Criminal Law II (General Provisions)  HUK210 International Law II  HUK212 Philosophy and Sociology of Law  HUK214 English Legal Terminology II  HUK301 General Public Law I  HUK303 Commercial Law I (Commercial Enterprise and Negotiable Papers)  HUK305 Labor Law I  HUK307 Criminal Law I (Special Provisions)  HUK309 Law of Property I  HUK311 Law of Civil Procedure I  5 5	HUK213	English Legal Terminology I	3	3
HUK204 Administrative Law II 4 5 HUK206 Turkish Tax System 4 3 HUK208 Criminal Law II (General Provisions) 4 5 HUK210 International Law II 4 5 HUK212 Philosophy and Sociology of Law 4 4 HUK214 English Legal Terminology II 4 3 HUK301 General Public Law I 5 3 HUK303 Commercial Law I (Commercial Enterprise and Negotiable Papers) 5 5 HUK305 Labor Law I 5 2 HUK307 Criminal Law I (Special Provisions) 5 3 HUK309 Law of Property I 5 4 HUK311 Law of Civil Procedure I 5 5	HUK215	Constitutional Justice	3	1
HUK206 Turkish Tax System 4 3  HUK208 Criminal Law II (General Provisions) 4 5  HUK210 International Law II 4 5  HUK212 Philosophy and Sociology of Law 4 4  HUK214 English Legal Terminology II 4 3  HUK301 General Public Law I 5 3  HUK303 Commercial Law I (Commercial Enterprise and Negotiable Papers) 5 5  HUK305 Labor Law I 5 2  HUK307 Criminal Law I (Special Provisions) 5 3  HUK309 Law of Property I 5 4  HUK311 Law of Civil Procedure I 5 5	HUK202	Law of Obligations II (General Provisions)	4	5
HUK208 Criminal Law II (General Provisions)  HUK210 International Law II  HUK212 Philosophy and Sociology of Law  HUK214 English Legal Terminology II  HUK301 General Public Law I  HUK303 Commercial Law I (Commercial Enterprise and Negotiable Papers)  HUK305 Labor Law I  HUK307 Criminal Law I (Special Provisions)  HUK309 Law of Property I  HUK311 Law of Civil Procedure I  5  5  5  6  Figure 1  Figure 2  Figure 2  Figure 3  Figure 4  Figure 3  Figure 4  Figure 3  Figure 4  Figure 4  Figure 3  Figure 4  Figure 4	HUK204	Administrative Law II	4	5
HUK210 International Law II  HUK212 Philosophy and Sociology of Law  HUK214 English Legal Terminology II  HUK301 General Public Law I  HUK303 Commercial Law I (Commercial Enterprise and Negotiable Papers)  HUK305 Labor Law I  HUK307 Criminal Law I (Special Provisions)  HUK309 Law of Property I  HUK311 Law of Civil Procedure I  5  5  5  6  7  7  7  8  8  8  8  8  8  8  8  8  8	HUK206	Turkish Tax System	4	3
HUK212 Philosophy and Sociology of Law  HUK214 English Legal Terminology II  HUK301 General Public Law I  HUK303 Commercial Law I (Commercial Enterprise and Negotiable Papers)  HUK305 Labor Law I  HUK307 Criminal Law I (Special Provisions)  HUK309 Law of Property I  HUK311 Law of Civil Procedure I  5 4	HUK208	Criminal Law II (General Provisions)	4	5
HUK214English Legal Terminology II43HUK301General Public Law I53HUK303Commercial Law I (Commercial Enterprise and Negotiable Papers)55HUK305Labor Law I52HUK307Criminal Law I (Special Provisions)53HUK309Law of Property I54HUK311Law of Civil Procedure I55	HUK210	International Law II	4	5
HUK301 General Public Law I  HUK303 Commercial Law I (Commercial Enterprise and Negotiable Papers)  HUK305 Labor Law I  HUK307 Criminal Law I (Special Provisions)  HUK309 Law of Property I  HUK311 Law of Civil Procedure I  5 3  HUK301 5 4  HUK302 5 5	HUK212	Philosophy and Sociology of Law	4	4
HUK303 Commercial Law I (Commercial Enterprise and Negotiable Papers)  HUK305 Labor Law I  HUK307 Criminal Law I (Special Provisions)  HUK309 Law of Property I  HUK311 Law of Civil Procedure I  5  5  5  5  5  5  5  5  5  5  5  5  5	HUK214	English Legal Terminology II	4	3
ble Papers)       5         HUK305       Labor Law I       5       2         HUK307       Criminal Law I (Special Provisions)       5       3         HUK309       Law of Property I       5       4         HUK311       Law of Civil Procedure I       5       5	HUK301	General Public Law I	5	3
HUK307 Criminal Law I (Special Provisions) 5 3 HUK309 Law of Property I 5 4 HUK311 Law of Civil Procedure I 5 5	HUK303		5	5
HUK309 Law of Property I 5 4 HUK311 Law of Civil Procedure I 5 5	HUK305	Labor Law I	5	2
HUK311 Law of Civil Procedure I 5 5	HUK307	Criminal Law I (Special Provisions)	5	3
	HUK309	Law of Property I	5	4
HUK313 Law of Obligations I (Special Provisions) 5 4	HUK311	Law of Civil Procedure I	5	5
	HUK313	Law of Obligations I (Special Provisions)	5	4

	Elective Course	5	4
HUK302	General Public Law II	6	3
HUK304	Commercial Law II (Corporate Law)	6	5
HUK306	Labor Law II	6	2
HUK308	Criminal Law II (Special Provisions)	6	3
HUK310	Law of Property II	6	4
HUK312	Law of Civil Procedure II	6	5
HUK314	Law of Obligations II (Special Provisions)	6	4
	Elective Course	6	4
HUK401	Human Rights Law	7	3
HUK403	Maritime Law	7	3
HUK405	Administrative Jurisdiction	7	4
HUK407	Private International Law I	7	3
HUK409	Execution and Bankruptcy Law I	7	4
HUK411	Criminal Procedure Law I	7	4
HUK413	Inheritance Law	7	4
HUK415	Intellectual Property Law	7	2
	University Elective Course	7	3
HUK402	Law of Social Security	8	3
HUK404	Insurance Law	8	3
HUK406	Execution Law	8	3
HUK408	Private International Law II	8	3
HUK410	Execution and Bankruptcy Law II	8	4
HUK412	Criminal Procedure Law II	8	4
HUK414	Forensic Medicine	8	3
HUK418	Law of Legal Professions	8	3
	Elective Course	8	4
	Total		240

Table 2: module overview

The list of elective modules can be found in Annex 1.1.

In the Faculty of Law, students must take at least one University Elective (Non-Departmental Elective) in the seventh semester, as well as students in other faculties. Each University Elective (ÜNİ... coded) has 3 credits and 6 ECTS credits. Moreover, there are six required modules given by the Common Courses Department to all students at the University. These modules have 2 credits and 2 ECTS credits (SER 4.1.2).

The module descriptions cover the following aspects: module number and title, level/semester, credit hours (lecture hours, practical hours and self-study hours), language, learning outcomes, content and examination.

In the first study year, students must take Atatürk's Principles and the History of the Turkish Revolution I, Atatürk's Principles and the History of the Turkish Revolution II, Turkish Language I, Turkish Language II, English I and English II (as required modules given by Common Courses Department), Introduction to Law – I, Introduction to Law – II (Legal Methodology), Roman Law – General, Roman Law – Special, Civil Law – I (Introduction and Law of Persons), Civil Law – II (Family Law), Constitutional Law – I, Constitutional Law – II, Economics, Finance (as required modules given by the Faculty of Law), Introduction to University Life and Career Plan (these modules were added to all programs by the decision of the university senate and these modules will be given at the fall semester of 2024-2025 academic year for the first time).

With the required modules of the Faculty of Law in the first year, it is aimed to provide basic knowledge of law to the students, e.g.: Roman Law is the basis of the Turkish Civil Law System and especially the Law of Obligations.

In the second year, students must take Law of Obligations (General Provisions) - I, Law of Obligations (General Provisions) - II, Administrative Law - I, Administrative Law - II, The History of Turkish Law, Criminal Law (General Provisions) - I, Criminal Law (General Provisions) - II, International Law - I, International Law - II, Public Finance, English Legal Terminology - I, English Legal Terminology - II, Constitutional Justice, Turkish Tax System, Philosophy and Sociology of Law (as required modules given by the Faculty of Law).

With the required modules in the second year, it is aimed to provide general provisions of the most essential fields of private law (Law of Obligations) and public law (Administrative Law, Criminal Law, International Law). It is also aimed to provide basic English legal terminology to students and teach students philosophical

and sociological aspects of law in order to train more skillful and conscious students.

In the third year, students must take General Public Law – I, General Public Law – II, Commercial Law – I (Commercial Enterprise and Negotiable Papers), Commercial Law – II (Corporate Law), Labor Law – I, Labor Law – II, Criminal Law (Special Provisions) - I, Criminal Law (Special Provisions) - II, Law of Property – I, Law of Property – II, Law of Civil Procedure – II, Law of Obligations (Special Provisions) - I, Law of Obligations (Special Provisions) - II (as required modules given by the Faculty of Law) and two elective modules (Departmental Electives).

With the required modules in the third year, it is aimed to provide more in-depth knowledge of essential fields of law given at the second year by handling special provisions (in Law of Obligations and Criminal Law) and to provide general knowledge of more specific fields of law which are more practice-oriented (Commercial Law, Law of Civil Procedure, Labor Law). With the elective modules, it is aimed to make students discover and gain basic knowledge in specific fields of law in which they are interested.

In the fourth year, students must take Human Rights Law, Maritime Law, Administrative Jurisdiction, Private International Law – I, Private International Law – II, Execution and Bankruptcy Law – II, Execution and Bankruptcy Law – II, Criminal Procedure Law – II, Inheritance Law, Intellectual Property Law, Law of Social Security, Insurance Law, Execution Law, Forensic Medicine, Law of Legal Professions (as required modules given by the Faculty of Law), one elective module (Departmental Elective) and one University Elective (Non-Departmental Elective).

With the required modules of the fourth year, it is aimed to enable students to specify in other fields of law, some of which are more practice-oriented (e.g. Maritime Law, Criminal Procedure Law, Execution and Bankruptcy Law) and some of which are more theory-oriented (e.g. Human Rights Law). With these modules at this level, it is aimed to make students get acquainted with most of the fields of law and prepare them for legal professions after graduation.

According to the University, students are offered a wide range of elective modules in the third and fourth year. Students can choose International Commercial Law, Criminology, Law of Informatics and Technology, European Union Law, Legal

Clinic, Child Rights and Law, Consumer Law, Anthropology of Law, Personal Data Law, Zoning Law, Introduction to Turkish Law (in English), Introduction to International Law (in English), Alternative Dispute Resolution, Freedom of Expression and Criminal Law, Air and Space Law, Competition Law, Ethics and Law, Comparative Law, Environmental Law, Notification Law, Financial Accounting, Public Finance, History of Democracy, Turkish Political History, Law and Cinema as elective modules (Departmental Electives) (SER 4.1.3).

There is no internship program at the Faculty of Law. The University states that internships are not a compulsory part of the undergraduate education in Turkish law faculties. Therefore, "Law" graduates can start legal internships only if they successfully pass the State Legal Professions Entrance Exam (SER 4.1.4).

The Faculty of Law uses lectures to teach theoretical subjects. In addition to lectures, case-study lessons are held to reinforce the theoretical knowledge in the courses. The students can choose to attend these classes or not; attendance is not required. In these lessons, case studies are carried out with content that encourages students' active participation, such as judicial decision analysis and hypothetical case solving (SER 4.1.5).

The University's information management systems (OBS, ALMS and GEBIS) are used during the teaching activities at the Faculty of Law. Course schedule, course information (credit, ECTS, syllabus, classroom etc.), exam grades, and end-of-term grades are announced on OBS. Course materials are shared with students via ALMS. In addition, online courses and online exams can be held via ALM when necessary. The exam calendar is shared via GEBIS (SER 4.1.6).

According to the University, there is no course in the "Law" program that aims to provide students with research skills (SER 4.1.7).

International aspects of the study program include the English-taught modules "Introduction to Turkish Law" and "Introduction to International Law". These modules are offered for foreign exchange students, but other students can take them as program specific-electives.

The University states that "Law" students and faculty members can participate in the exchange program within the scope of the University's Erasmus budget. As of 2023, the universities with which the Faculty of Law has Erasmus agreements are the following: Universität Bielefeld, Univerzita Palackeho v Olomouc, Masarykova Univerzita, Universita Telematica Pegaso, International University of Struga,

University American College Skopje, Wyzsza Szkola Handlowa, Universitatea Constantin Brancusi Targu Jiu, Universitatea din Craiova. (SER 4.1.8).

# **Judgment**

The Bachelor study program "Law" has a course-based structure and a course-related examination system. The descriptions of the courses contain information on module number and title, level/semester, credit hours (lecture hours, practical hours and self-study hours), language, learning outcomes, content and examination.

From the experts' point of view, the structure of the "Law" program at Istanbul Gedik University is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of law, through integrating theoretical knowledge with practical training. The program's curriculum reflects a balanced approach, aligning with international standards while also addressing local needs.

According to the University, the content of the curriculum has recently shifted focus towards the preparation for the bar exam. The aim is to guarantee students the best possible preparation for the bar exam.

The study program offers a high number of optional modules. During discussions on site, the University explained that there are no shared modules with other study programs but an exchange of lecturers between some study programs. The experts see, for example, an interconnectivity between child development and law in the subject of child welfare. The experts recommend exploiting the synergies between the different study programs and engaging in interdisciplinary exchange. Both, teachers and students, would benefit from the cooperation.

The experts note the detailed syllabus, which enables students to prepare adequately for individual lectures as well as scheduled examinations. However, the information is not always complete and up-to-date. Especially, the learning outcomes of the modules should be revised. To increase transparency, the course descriptions need to be updated and revised to reflect the actual assessment tools, content, learning outcomes and teaching methods utilized in the courses.

The experts inquire about the international students in the study program. According to the University, international students are accepted to the program but study in Turkish. Nevertheless, the University offers language courses in advance of the Bachelor's study programs.

The combination and succession of the courses of the study program are consistent with the specified qualification objectives (described earlier). The program does not contain a final thesis.

The "Law" program does not contain a mandatory internship. According to the University, due to state regulation, students are only allowed to complete formal internships after the bar exam. Yet, many students participate in short internships organized privately, which the University supports. Students engage in practical training through moot courts, arbitrations and court visits. The aim is to train students in legal research, writing, public speaking and critical thinking. The University pursues a student-centered approach.

The internationalization of the University and the study program is also discussed. The experts acknowledge the internationalization measures already in place. The University as a whole has already established connections to a number of other universities. The program encourages international exposure through Erasmus mobility opportunities, and students do take part in study-abroad experiences. The experts recommend expanding the possibilities of going abroad through short-term stays as well. Shorter periods abroad, for example within the scope of an internship or summer school, could be more attractive and easier to finance for students. Furthermore, the experts recommend finding creative ways of internationalization, for example, online conferences or guest lectures, to include their students in the international scientific community. In an effort to attract international students, the experts recommend updating the information on the English website.

In the experts' opinion, the structure of the curriculum seems to make the work-load manageable. Nevertheless, the curriculum appears very detailed, consisting of many isolated courses and, therefore, numerous examinations. Thus, the experts suggest combining some modules to reduce the number of examinations.

#### **Decision**

From the experts' point of view, the requirements of this criterion are fulfilled.

# 3.3 Admission and Feasibility

The admission requirements and, if applied, student selection procedures are specified. They correspond to the standards of the study program.

Feasibility of the study program is guaranteed. The amount of student workload is appropriate.

Student support services, as well as specialized and general consultations, are provided by the University in a sufficient and appropriate manner.

As a whole, the organization of the education process ensures the successful implementation of the study program.

# Summary

Students are placed in higher education institutions through a central examination (YKS Exam), the principles of which are determined by the Council of Higher Education (YÖK).

Currently, the central placement exam is conducted by a public institution, the "Student Selection and Placement Center" (ÖSYM). The placement score includes 12% of the secondary education success score (i.e. a conversion of the secondary education grades) is added to the score received from the central YKS exam.

Additionally, students can be admitted through transfers ("horizontal transfers") from other programs/institutions. Transfer applications are examined according to "Istanbul Gedik University Associate and Undergraduate Programs Transfer Directive" (s. Annex T).

International students (i.e. foreign students and students who completed their entire secondary education abroad) are also admitted according to the relevant regulations and quotas. The procedures and principles for admission to higher education institutions for international students who completed their entire secondary education abroad are determined by the Council of Higher Education (YÖK).

All registrations are carried out by the Student Affairs Office with the organization of the General Secretariat of Istanbul Gedik University (SER 5.1.1).

According to the University, there is no special disabled quota in placements that are based on the central exam conducted by ÖSYM. Disabled students are admitted within the scope of the general quota. According to official statistical reports, there are currently no disabled students registered in the Gedik University undergraduate "Law" program (SER 5.1.2).

According to Article 23 of the "University Associate Degree and Undergraduate Education and Examination Regulation", a student who was previously registered

in a higher education program and enrolled in the Istanbul Gedik University's Faculty of Law as a result of the exam conducted by ÖSYM or through horizontal transfer, may request exemption from the courses he/she has already taken and passed at the previous higher education institution. The courses in question must have been taken from a higher education institution recognized by YÖK. For this purpose, the student can apply to the Dean of the Faculty of Law with certified transcripts, course contents and a petition, without any time limit, starting from the date of first registration to the University. Courses that the student has previously taken from higher education institutions and whose equivalence and letter grade equivalents are recognized by the Faculty Administrative Board are included in the overall weighted GPA and are stated in a separate semester (SER 5.1.3).

The Exemption and Adjustment Directive (Annex M) provides further information regarding the procedures. A course is considered equivalent if at least 80% of its content and 65% of its ECTS credits match the corresponding course at Istanbul Gedik University. Grades for equivalent courses are accepted if they align with the University's grading system. If not, grades are converted using the Higher Education Council's conversion table to fit Istanbul Gedik University's grading system.

Recognition of credits transferred from other universities (domestic and abroad) in accordance with the requirements of the Lisbon Recognition Convention is regulated by the Horizontal Transfers Directive (Annex T).

To introduce the University to newly registered students, orientation programs are organized by the Rectorate and the Dean of Students in the week when classes start. For each student, a faculty member is appointed as an advisor by the Dean of the Faculty of Law. Advisors monitor, inform and guide students throughout their education. Students' registration to courses, adding or dropping courses, and withdrawing from courses are carried out with the approval of the advisor. Students can also request information and assistance from faculty members who are teaching the course, or request a special appointment from them via email. The issue of responding to student e-mails in a short time is closely monitored by the University Rectorate. Some faculty members and research positions may also announce office hours (SER 5.3).

#### **Judgment**

The admission policies and procedures along with the requirements are properly documented and made publicly available. The experts determine the admission

procedures and requirements to be appropriate, as they correspond to the standards of the study program.

The experts draw attention to the relatively high number of exams to be passed during the study program. The University states that the system of midterm and final exams is determined by the government. To prepare students for the level of difficulty and volume of exams, the type as well as the time of the different examinations are defined and communicated to the students. The experts confirm that the University takes good measures to guarantee the feasibility of the study program despite the high workload. The organization of the education process ensures the successful implementation of the study program. The experts appreciate the fact that students with disabilities or chronic illness are offered compensatory measures when writing exams, such as extra time or writing the exam in another room.

The University offers several measures of student support. The department assigns dedicated advisors to assist students with course selection, registration renewal, and general information about courses. On site, it became obvious that the teaching staff follows an "open-door-policy".

#### **Decision**

From the experts' point of view, the requirements of this criterion are fulfilled.

## 3.4 Examination system and transparency

Examinations serve to determine whether the envisaged qualification objectives have been achieved. These examinations are focused on students' knowledge and competences. The requirements to students' performance in examinations are regulated and published. The frequency of examinations, as well as their organization, is appropriate.

The University guarantees that students with disabilities or chronic illnesses receive compensation with regard to time limits and formal requirements of the study process, as well as all final and course-related performance records.

Information concerning the study program, process of education, admission requirements and the compensation regulations for students with disabilities are documented and published.

# Summary

In each semester (fall semester, spring semester), four exams are organized and conducted in the study program "Law": "Midterm Exams", "Make-up Midterm Exams", "Final Exams", and "Resit Exams".

The dates of midterm and final exams change every year and are announced in the Academic Calendar at the beginning of each academic year. The University has semester-based courses. Therefore, midterm exams are held in the middle of the semester (usually in November and March) and final exams are held at the end of the semester (usually in January and May). As a retake exam; make-up exams are held for midterm exams and repeat (or resit) exams are held for final exams (AoQ 9).

At the end of each semester, "Single Course Exams" are planned for the students at the graduation stage. The single course exam is a right granted to students who have only one course left to graduate at the end of the semester. Accordingly, undergraduate students who have only one course left and can graduate if they pass this course can take the single course exam.

There are no additional exams other than single course exam, make-up exam and repeat exams.

Students who cannot meet the course passing requirements can take the makeup exam, which replaces the final exam, without giving an excuse. Such requests are evaluated by the faculty board and exams are scheduled at appropriate times.

Furthermore, for students who completed the maximum period for study, a "1<sup>st</sup> Additional Exam" and a "2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Exam" can be planned as well. According to the University, however, no additional exams have ever been held yet at the Faculty.

All exams held at the Faculty of Law are subject to the regulations in the "Istanbul Gedik University Associate Degree, Undergraduate Degree Education-Teaching and Exam Regulation" (s. Annex Y) (SER 6.1.1).

The entire curriculum is planned for 15 weeks. Midterm exams are held after the 7th week of classes, and final exams are held after the 14th week. This calendar is determined at the beginning of the semester. At least one midterm exam is given for each course. If deemed appropriate by the relevant instructor, assignments,

laboratory work, projects, quizzes, presentations, and similar activities may be evaluated as midterm exams.

Grades are awarded by the University on a scale from AA (4.00 GPA, 90-100%) to FF (0.00 GPA, 0-39%). DD (GPA 1.00, 45-49%) is the lowest passing score; Students who receive this or higher score from a course are prohibited from repeating that course to increase their grades.

Students can access information regarding the study plan, process of education, admission requirements, and examination regulations on the department's website. The Disabled Students Unit provides further information on their department's website (SER 6.2.1).

# **Judgment**

The University uses a continuous assessment process to ensure the quality of education for its students. The study program has a course-related examination system. Its implementation, including the grading system, course load regulations, repetition of courses and exams is regulated and transparent for the students. From the experts' point of view, the examination serves to determine whether the envisaged qualification objectives have been achieved. These examinations are focused on students' knowledge and competences.

The experts inquire about the types of examinations conducted in the study programs. According to the module descriptions, all exams are written exams. The study program does not contain practical or oral exams. The experts recommend using a wider range of assessment methods.

In the experts' opinion, the study program includes a very high number of exams, which causes a high workload not only for students but also for the teaching staff. The transparent information of the examination schedule at the beginning of each term makes the high number of assessments during and at the end of each semester manageable. An examination can be repeated once. Thus, the experts conclude that the examinations, although numerous, serve to determine whether the envisaged qualification objectives have been achieved or not and are focused on students' knowledge.

The requirements to students' performance in examinations are regulated and published in the academic calendar. The frequency of examinations, as well as their organizations, is appropriate. The University guarantees that students with disabilities or chronic illnesses receive compensation regarding time limits and formal

requirements of the study process, as well as all final and course-related performance records.

The University ensures that information about its activities, particularly the programs it offers, is easily accessible to prospective and current students, graduates, other stakeholders and the public. The published information includes detailed insights into the selection criteria for programs, intended learning outcomes, qualifications awarded, and the procedures employed for teaching, learning and assessment. Furthermore, pass rates and available learning opportunities to students, as well as graduate employment information, are shared.

Upon graduation, students are awarded a Bachelor graduation diploma, as well as a Diploma Supplement, composed in both Turkish and English.

#### **Decision**

From the experts' point of view, the requirements of this criterion are fulfilled.

# 3.5 Teaching staff and material equipment

Professionalism and a sufficient number of human resources assure the successful implementation of the study program. Qualifications of the teaching personnel correspond to the requirements of the study program. Recruitment and appointment of teaching positions are appropriate. Interdisciplinary links to other study programs are taken into consideration.

Measures for the professional and personal development of the teaching personnel are provided.

Qualitative and quantitative sufficiency of the equipment and space resources assures the successful implementation of the study program.

# **Summary**

There are 16 full-time teaching staff members (seven professors, one associate professor, eight assistant professors) and nine full-time research assistants working in the study program "Law".

The University specifies the maximum workload for full-time lecturers as 16 hours per week. The course load of full-time lecturers at the Faculty of Law varies

between six and 14 hours, depending on conditions such as academic staff number, administrative task distribution, and elective courses offered.

According to the 2023-2024 academic year planning, the number of adjunct professors teaching in the undergraduate law program is nine.

There are currently 333 students in the program, and therefore the student to teacher ratio is 20:1 (SER 7.1.1).

The recruitment process at Istanbul Gedik University evaluates faculty members' qualifications and experience based on Higher Education Law No. 2547. Recruitment is overseen by the Rectorate and follows the university's academic promotion and appointment directive. Key points include:

- Assistant Professors: Candidates must have completed a PhD in law.
- Associate Professors: Candidates need to have received the title of Associate Professor in accordance with Article 24 of Law No. 2547, or the title of Associate Professor received abroad must have been deemed valid in Turkey by the Inter-University Board in accordance with Article 27 of Law No. 2547.
- Professors: Candidates must have worked in the field of science related to
  the open Professor position for at least five years after receiving the title of
  Associate Professor, they must have produced original works at the international level in the field of science, and they must have carried out practical
  studies in branches where there is an application area.
- Research Assistants and Lecturers: Research assistant applicants must meet the conditions specified in Article 48 of the Civil Servants Law No. 657; having received at least 70 points from ALES (Academic Personnel and Graduate Education Entrance Examination) and at least 50 points from the central foreign language exam accepted by the Council of Higher Education (or an equivalent score from an exam that is regarded as equivalent); having at least a master's degree; being successful in the written science exam. Final evaluation is made by taking into account 30% of the ALES score, 30% of the undergraduate graduation grade, 10% of the foreign language score and 30% of the written science exam score (SER 7.1.2).

The Faculty Member and Research Assistant positions are announced by Istanbul Gedik University in the Official Gazette, stating the application procedure and conditions (SER 7.1.2).

The University encourages its employees to participate in various training courses and conferences. New faculty members are comprehensively informed about their operational, academic and teaching responsibilities before they start working. Support is provided to the scientific studies of faculty members within the scope of IGUN Scientific Publication Incentive Principles. In-service trainings organized by the Personnel Department are also carried out at IGUN.

Open positions are advertised on the University's website and other career platforms when necessary. In the advertisements, the qualifications required by the position, job description and application process are specified in detail.

The Faculty of Law has no classrooms allocated to the program. There are 50-60 classrooms in the Kartal Campus of Istanbul Gedik University. However, 8-10 of them are mainly used by the Faculty of Law (AoQ 10).

Faculty of Law students take classes in seminar rooms located on the University's Kartal Campus. These seminar rooms are also used by other faculties. The Faculty of Law has a moot courtroom where it is planned to conduct hypothetical case studies on various fields of law (SER 7.3.1).

There are three libraries at the University: Central Library, Faculty of Law Library and Vocational School Library.

According to the University, there are 3,440 printed books, 3,602 electronic books, 813 electronic journals and one printed periodical subscription in the Faculty of Law Library. Electronic access is provided to three databases and online access to the library catalogue is available 24/7.

Central Library opening hours are: Weekdays: 08.00 – 22.30; Weekend: 08.00 – 17.00

Faculty of Law Library working hours are: Weekdays: 08.00 – 17.30; Weekend: Closed

Vocational School Library working hours are: Weekdays: 08.00 – 17.30; Weekend: Closed

Additionally, the libraries are open 24 hours a day during exam weeks (SER 7.3.2).

According to the University, seminar rooms are fully equipped with tools needed for teaching, such as whiteboards, desks, chairs, and projectors. Some seminar rooms also have special camera systems that can be used in hybrid class formats (SER 7.3.3).

In accordance with the "Istanbul Gedik University Principles of Participation in Scientific Activities", financial support (to cover accommodation, travel, etc. expenses) is provided to all academic staff who are assigned by the Faculty of Law and participate in national or international scientific activities (congress, conference and symposium), provided that they make an oral presentation.

In accordance with the "Istanbul Gedik University Scientific Publication Incentive Principles" (Annex C), incentive payments are made to academics for scientific projects, books, book chapters and their articles published in peer-reviewed journals with the address of Istanbul Gedik University.

In accordance with "Istanbul Gedik University Scientific Research Projects and Scientific Activities Implementation Directive" (Annex E), scientific research project proposals prepared by Faculty Members are evaluated and supported by the University Scientific Research Projects (BAP) Commission (SER 7.3.4).

# **Judgment**

New teaching staff is thoroughly briefed about the programs and their teaching responsibilities before they start teaching. Students evaluate the performance of all teaching staff periodically.

The experts find the amount of human resources allocated to the program to be sufficient to carry out its functions for the current number of students. The teaching staff is well qualified and in possession of academic and technical credentials and experience adequate to their tasks. As the University reports an increasing number of students, the experts recommend the number of teachers should also be increased in the future.

The University informs its employees about opportunities for personal and professional development transparently, and actively encourages their participation in workshops, training courses and conferences intended to improve their abilities. This is confirmed during the talks with the staff on site. According to the University, there is a system of incentives. Incentives are based on academic performance like research or citations.

The experts visited the premises of the Faculty of Law. As a whole, it was ascertained by the experts that the Bachelor study program has ample teaching facilities at its disposals.

#### Decision

From the experts' point of view, the requirements of this criterion are fulfilled.

# 3.6 Quality assurance

The University has developed and documented a concept of quality assurance in education process, teaching and research, which serves as the basis for the quality-oriented development and implementation of the study program.

The results of the internal quality assurance management are applied for the continuous development of the study program. In doing so, the University takes into close consideration the quality evaluation results as well as the analyses of students' workload, their academic accomplishments and feedback from graduates.

## **Summary**

The Turkish Higher Education Council (CoHE, YOK) has founded a semi-independent quality board. The board has issued its own directives. Each university has founded its own quality office and commissions which are handled by directives. The CoHE quality board adheres to the European Higher Education System and standards for quality assurance. Quality assurance at the University is based on the target of maintaining a structure in line with international standards in education, research and administration. The University states that ensuring the participation of all internal and external stakeholders is a priority. The University maintains a 'Strategy Development Department', which is responsible for measuring, evaluating and continuously improving the performance at the University. Additionally, there is a University Quality Committee, the duties of which include the establishment of internal and external quality assurance systems, conducting internal evaluation studies, preparing an annual institutional evaluation report and to make necessary preparations in the external evaluation process.

The University states that student-centered, effective communication lies at the core of its strategy. For module evaluation, students must fill out questionnaires about their satisfaction with the quality of the study program, its individual

modules, the teaching staff and their course workload. The University possesses the ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System certificate. The University has to submit self-assessment reports to the Higher Education Council of Higher Education Quality Board every year. These reports must be publicly available.

The Faculty of Law academic and administrative staff is informed and acts in accordance with the University's Quality Policy, Quality Management System, Quality Commission processes and practices. These processes and practices are effectively implemented in the Faculty of Law.

Within the scope of quality audits conducted by the Higher Education Quality Board every year, an "Institutional Internal Evaluation Report" (KIDR) is prepared for the University. Within the scope of the preparation of this report, as for all faculties, a "Unit Internal Evaluation Report" (BIDR) has been prepared for the Faculty of Law regarding the following chapters: "Leadership, Governance and Quality", "Education", "Research and Development", and "Social Contribution". In connection with the above-mentioned chapters and strategic goals of the University, certain indicators are regularly reported to the Strategy Development Department (SER 8.1.2).

Within the body of Faculty of Law, in accordance with the requests of the University Strategy Development Department, an academic staff satisfaction survey, administrative staff satisfaction survey and external stakeholder survey are conducted to receive the opinions of internal and external stakeholders (SER 8.1.3).

At the end of each semester, a student satisfaction survey is conducted for the courses offered. The weight of the course load is monitored through the feedback in these surveys (SER 8.1.5).

The Faculty of Law has graduated its first students at the end of the 2022-2023 Academic Year. Graduates of the Faculty will be contacted through the University's Graduate Information System. According to the University, graduate satisfaction survey questions are being prepared and will be implemented for the first time this year (SER 8.1.4).

### **Judgment**

From the experts' point of view, the University has a well-structured system of quality assurance spread across all its units. The University has developed and documented a concept of quality assurance in the education process, teaching and

research, which serves as the basis for the quality-oriented development and implementation of the study program "Law".

The University consistently monitors and periodically reviews its programs to ensure alignment with established objectives, responsiveness to the evolving needs of students and society, and the facilitation of continuous program improvement. These systematic reviews are integral to the University's commitment to maintaining the relevance of study programs and fostering a supportive and effective learning environment for students. The evaluation process encompasses various aspects, including the regular examination of program content in light of the latest research in the discipline, consideration of changing societal needs, assessment of student workload, progression, and completion rates, evaluation of the effectiveness of procedures for student assessment, collection of feedback on student expectations, needs, and satisfaction regarding the program, and examination of the suitability of the learning environment and support services for the program's objectives.

The University possess a robust data collection system and gathers comprehensive data on its study programs and other activities. The information gathered depend, to some extent, on the type and mission of the University. Various Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are captured by the University. A range of information regarding study programs and activities is consistently captured by the University. Student progression, success rates, and dropout rates are inherent considerations in the University's analytical processes. With an established feedback mechanism, the University regularly measures student satisfaction with their programs, the learning resources and the available student support. The University also actively tracks and analyzes the career paths of its graduates. The University seamlessly integrates the collected information into its existing internal quality assurance system. Mechanisms are in place to ensure that the perspectives of students and staff are considered in decision-making processes. In particular, in retrospect to the last accreditation, measures should be derived from the data collected and the accreditation panel's recommendations and then implemented in a timely manner.

Regular program reviews and revisions are conducted, actively involving students and other stakeholders in the process. The information collected from these reviews undergo analysis, and program adaptations are made to ensure the program is up-to-date. Any actions planned or taken as a result of these reviews are communicated to all relevant stakeholders. Furthermore, the University ensures the

publication of revised program specifications, fostering transparency and keeping stakeholders informed of changes resulting from the systematic review process.

#### **Decision**

From the experts' point of view, the requirements of this criterion are fulfilled.

# 3.7 Gender equality and equal opportunities

The University's actions on the provision of gender equality and promotion of equal opportunities for students with particular living circumstances are implemented in a transparent manner.

# **Summary**

According to the University, a gender equality plan for Gedik University is currently being developed.

Nevertheless, the University has already established a "Support Unit Against Gender-Based Violence" with the objective of enhancing the awareness of its various components, including faculty members and staff, administrative and contracted personnel, and students, about gender equality.

The Department of Law accepts students from all genders and provides equal admission opportunities, education, examination and participation conditions for all students. The University states its commitment to achieving gender equality and strives to manage its students solely academically.

The University has a Disabled Students Unit, which is tasked with taking the necessary measures to ensure maximum equality of opportunity for students with disabilities. Such measures include meeting the needs of students with disabilities to help them overcome personal barriers; designing or rearranging curricula in a way that does not disadvantage or disrupt students with disabilities; informing faculty members and guidance counselors about the needs of disabled students and acting as a proxy or liaison on this matter; organizing conferences and similar events for the benefit of disabled people; and to carry out the University's affirmative action (SER 9.1.2).

# **Judgment**

The experts note that a gender equality plan is not yet in place and encourage the University to finalize it soon. The University still offers a range of support services. The University demonstrates its commitment to the provision of equal opportunities for all students and shows openness for diversity and social development. The experts recommend developing a concept on gender equality and equal opportunities within the next period of accreditation.

# **Decision**

From the experts' point of view, the requirements of this criterion are fulfilled.

## 4 Conclusion

The experts have conducted discussions with the University and gained an impression of the structures and portfolio of the Istanbul Gedik University as well as the Bachelor study program "Law". The program provides students with a legal education rooted in the principles of Turkish law, while also offering exposure to key areas of international and comparative law. The curriculum covers core disciplines such as constitutional law, civil law, criminal law, administrative law, and procedural law, with the development of legal reasoning skills.

Practical components in the form of internships are not part of the curriculum but can be completed voluntarily. Moot courts are held to apply theoretical knowledge in realistic contexts.

Nevertheless, the interdisciplinary cooperation between faculties could be expanded and there is potential to strengthen the program's international perspective.

Based on the information from written documents and the results of the site visit, the experts came to the conclusion that the study program "Law" offered at the Istanbul Gedik University fulfils the above-described criteria. Hence, the experts recommended that the Accreditation Commission of AHPGS make a positive decision regarding the accreditation of the study program.

For the continuous development of the study program, the experts have outlined the following recommendations:

- The strategy of the University and that of the individual study programs should be defined more clearly. The University's orientation is currently not reflected in its range of study programs.
- The synergies between the different study programs should be exploited and interdisciplinary exchange should be expanded. Both, teachers and students, would benefit from the cooperation.
- The possibilities of going abroad should be expanded. Shorter periods abroad, for example within the scope of an internship or summer school, could be more attractive and easier to finance for students.
- Creative ways of internationalization, for example, online conferences or guest lectures, to include their students in the international scientific community should be sought.

- The English website should be updated.
- The number of teaching staff should be increased as student numbers rise.

## 5 Decision of the accreditation commission

## Decision of the accreditation commission July 22, 2025

This resolution of the Accreditation Commission of the AHPGS is based on the University's application, as well as the expert review and the site visit covered in the Assessment Report. The Accreditation Commission has also taken the response opinion of the University regarding the study program into account.

The site visit of the University took place on February 24-25, 2025, according to the previously agreed-upon schedule.

The accreditation procedure is structured according to the Accreditation Criteria developed by the AHPGS. The Accreditation Criteria are developed by the AHPGS in close accordance with the existing criteria and requirements valid in the Federal Republic of Germany and based on the "Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area" (ESG), established by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA).

The Accreditation Commission of the AHPGS discussed the procedural documents and the vote of the expert group regarding the Assessment Report.

The Bachelor study program requires the obtainment of 240 credit points according to the European Credit Transfer System. The regulated study period in the program "Law" is four years. The study program comprises 67 courses, of which 63 are mandatory and 4 modules are elective. The language of instruction is Turkish. The Bachelor study program "Law" is completed with awarding of the academic degree "Bachelor of Law". Admission takes place every summer semester. The first cohort of students was admitted to the study program in the academic year 2019/2020.

The Accreditation Commission of the AHPGS considers that the Accreditation Criteria are fulfilled and adopts the following decision:

The Bachelor study program "Law" is accredited for the duration of five years until September 30, 2030.

For further development and enhancement of the study program, as well as of the University as a whole, the Accreditation Commission of the AHPGS supports the recommendation articulated in the Assessment Report.

An appeal against this decision may be filed within two weeks of its notification. The appeal must be submitted in writing or recorded at the office of AHPGS Akkreditierung gGmbH, Sedanstraße 22, 79098 Freiburg, and must include a statement of reasons.