

Dr Kamil Zwolski
Politics & International Relations
Social Sciences
University of Southampton
Southampton SO17 1BJ

15 July 2022

To Whom It May Concern

My name is Dr Kamil Zwolski, I am Associate Professor in International Politics at the University of Southampton, UK, Jean Monnet Chair of European Security Governance and a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy

It is my pleasure to write this letter, in my capacity as an external evaluator, in support of the three programmes of study at the Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU). This letter relates to the following programmes:

- Jean Monnet Bachelor's Programme in European Studies
- Master in European Studies
- PhD Programme in European Studies

All these programmes have an appropriate, and frankly quite impressive structure, covering all the major aspects of European integration from the historical, political, legal, cultural and economic angles. The breadth of modules available to students is indeed impressive. In these programmes, students get solid grounding in various aspects of European integration through a range of mandatory modules distributed across semesters. Building on these mandatory modules are the optional modules, there is also a wide variety of optional modules, allowing students to further expand their knowledge and understanding of European integration.

In addition to the subject specific modules, the programmes also offer an impressive variety of transferable and related modules, including on foreign languages, academic writing or even negotiation techniques. This combination of modules, I believe, have the capacity to equip students with the necessary skills to pursue their chosen careers.

The PhD programme looks equally well designed and thought through. It contains relevant research training and appears overall well organised. The entry requirements are commensurate with programmes run by institutions in other European countries.

I shall also note that, in addition to reading the relevant documents, I also attended TSU's Erasmus + Jean Monnet Workshop (as a keynote speaker and as an expert), which was dedicated to the Teaching and Learning European Studies. This event, no doubt, will be beneficial for the TSU

## **Politics and International Relations**

Institute for European Studies and for its future development. I had a chance to talk to staff members, ask questions about the programmes and share insights from being involved in similar programmes in the UK and other countries. The presentations and discussions reinforced my confidence in the teaching team delivering these programmes, and very much look forward to seeing how these programmes will continue to develop and thrive.

It is, therefore, my recommendation that these programmes are continued and their future development is supported by the TSU.

Best regards

Zwolski

Dr Kamil Zwolski