

THE BASES FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE AT ESTONIAN ACADEMY OF SECURITY SCIENCES

1. The primary aim of the quality assurance system of the Estonian Academy of Security Sciences (EASS) is to support high-quality instruction, research and development activities in the field of internal security and thus contribute to the development of stability and security in the Republic of Estonia and the international area of security affecting it.
2. The quality assurance of instruction, research and development at EASS is based on the valid legislation, including the Institutions of Professional Higher Education Act, Vocational Educational Institutions Act, Adult Education Act, Research and Development Organisation Act, Government Regulation No 178 of 18.12.2008 "Standard of Higher Education", Government Regulation No 130 of 26.08.2013 "Standard of Vocational Education", Minister of Education and Research's Regulation No 27 of 19.06.2015 "Continuing Education Standard", European quality assurance standards in higher education and guidelines as well as on the Minister of Interior's Regulation No 55 of 17.12.2014 "Statutes of Estonian Academy of Security Sciences".
3. At EASS, quality is understood as the compliance with the set goals and requirements established in various regulations, compliance with the needs and expectations of various interest groups, primarily the students, employers and the society, as well as the possibilities of the academy. The higher the satisfaction among the interest groups, the more successful the academy's main activity.
4. Quality is a highly complex concept encompassing all aspects of the organisation's activities. The quality of the main processes at the academy depends among other things on the students and their preparation and motivation, the qualification of lecturers and other staff, the quality of the support processes, learning environment and other necessary resources.
5. The quality assurance system at the academy does not function separately but it is comprehensively integrated into all the academy activities, thus quality management is also a part of performance management.
6. The quality and performance indicators of the academy are balanced on the basis of a scorecard and defined in the development plan of EASS and various sectoral state strategies (development plan of internal security, lifelong learning strategy, Knowledge-Based Estonia).
7. Information on the performance and quality of the activities is collected through a functional and comprehensive feedback system, internal assessment and surveys.
8. The external assessment of higher and vocational education is regulated by the state and includes the institutional accreditation of higher education institutions, curriculum group quality assessment and accreditation of vocational education study curriculum groups. External assessment is conducted by the Estonian Higher Education Quality Agency as an independent evaluation agency at Archimedes Foundation pursuant to the valid rules.
9. The quality assurance of instruction at EASS is supported by mutually related and interoperable documents, regulations, processes and procedures. The quality assurance system of instruction is provided in Appendix 1. The documents named and linked in the description may regulate several aspects of instruction, however, in the scheme, they are placed in the most important stage that they regulate.
10. More detailed procedures of the quality assurance of research and development activities at EASS are established in the document "Research, development and innovation (RDI) process" (decision of

the Research, Development and Innovation Committee of 18.04.2017). The description of the quality assurance system of the research, development and innovation activities is provided in Appendix 2.

11. The responsibility of quality commission at EASS is assumed by the Rector's Office led by the rector.

APPENDIX 1. Quality Assurance System of Instruction provided at EASS.



