

**Institutional  
Accreditation Faculty of  
Law of the  
St. Petersburg State University  
Assessment Report**



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## A. Accreditation Procedure

A contract for the initial Institutional Accreditation of the Faculty of Law of the St. Petersburg State University was made between FIBAA and the the autonomous non-profit Agency for Higher Quality Assurance and Career Development (AKKORK), Moscow / Russian Federation on 21<sup>st</sup> of October, 2019. On 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2020, the Faculty of Law of the St. Petersburg State University (SPBU) submitted a self-evaluation report including appendices to prove that the criteria for Institutional Accreditation are met.

At the same time, FIBAA appointed a review panel. The HEI agreed with the chosen experts. The panel consisted of:

### **Prof. Dr. Erich Barthel**

Frankfurt School of Finance and Management, Frankfurt, Germany  
(Former Professor for Corporate Culture and Human Resource Management, former Director Management Department, former Vice Dean, former Director MBA Programme)

### **Prof. Dr. Daniela Heid**

Federal University of Applied Administrative Science, Bruehl, Germany  
Professor of Public Law (European Law, Eastern European Law, European Public Management)

### **Dr. Diana Kistro-Warnecke**

Dr. K&K ChinaConsulting, Hannover, Germany  
Managing Director & Holder (Quality Management, Corporate Strategy, Change Management, Applied Chinese Management, Human Resources)

### **Shakirov Sergei Shamilyevich**

Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, Moscow  
Deputy Director of the Law Institute and Senior lecturer of the department of civil law and procedure

### **Jens Weibezahn**

Technical University of Berlin, Germany  
PhD student of Industrial Engineering and Management

FIBAA project manager:

Viktoria Tischanski

The assessment is based on the self-evaluation report, amended by further documents, requested by the panel, and an online conference. The online conference took place on November 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 via the video conferencing tool Zoom. At the end of the online conference, the panel gave a short feedback on its impressions to representatives of the Faculty.

The assessment report based on this was delivered to the HEI for comments on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021. On January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021, AKKORK informed FIBAA that the HEI has no remarks and comments on the accreditation report.

## B. Summary

The Faculty of Law has formulated a clear and comprehensible mission statement and developed a corresponding profile with a strong orientation towards the professional field and students' employability. The Faculty has close cooperation with representatives of labour market representing large international legal and Russian companies, lawyers and notaries' chambers as well as governmental bodies. The different interview rounds during the online conference gave the panel a good overview over the practice of academic freedom. The panel is convinced that the freedom of research, study and teaching is ensured.

The panel has taken into account that the strategic goals until 2020 have been recently implemented and is overall positive about the Faculty's strategic goals until 2030. The panel considered that the Faculty is at the beginning of its new strategic goals and recommends that the actions to achieve the goals and a structured timeline be included in the strategy.

The Faculty of Law is embedded in the management structure of the SPBU and has established and defined a well-functioning own management and self-governing structures with various bodies, academic and advice committees as well as offices/departments for its administration and academic support services. Employer representatives are involved in the system and have the opportunity to actively participate in quality management by being involved in advisory bodies and expert commissions. They have a significant impact on the development of the study programmes at the Faculty. The Faculty of Law is embedded in the quality management system of the SPBU. The formal framework with regulations and responsibilities allows for a suitable quality assurance in all performance areas.

The study programme portfolio on Bachelor, Master and Aspirantura (PhD) level corresponds to the Faculty's profile. The Faculty is capable of developing suitable concept for study programmes. Transfer from research activities to the area of teaching is definitely ensured. During the online conference, the panel met a very dedicated and motivated teaching staff who reported about their didactic approach and their teaching and research activities. The panel was impressed by the CVs of the teaching staff and their publication activities. There is evidence that specific measures for the programmes' improvement and further development take place. However, there is room for improvement with regard to the quality assurance methods at course level. As the learning outcomes of each course contribute to the overall qualification objective of the study programme, it is important to receive students' feedback on each course. During the online conference the panel learned that some lecturers let evaluate their courses by students on a voluntary basis at the end of the course, and before the exam. But there is no prescribed procedure how and when courses need to be evaluated by the students.

The panel has gained a very good impression of the research quality and research activities of the Faculty of Law. It defines the research activity as the strength of the SPBU and the Faculty of Law. Thanks to the broad amount of partnerships of the Saint Petersburg State University with other national and international HEIs, the Faculty of Law benefits of very good opportunities for research cooperation, academic exchange and other joint projects at national and international level.

The services and administration at the SPBU/Faculty of Law are well-organised and create good conditions for students and staff as well as external stakeholders. In general, the evaluation of the administrative services is considered suited by the expert panel to control the efficiency and students'/teachers' satisfaction with the services provided. The surveys of affected stakeholders allow for feedback and the results can be transferred into specific measures for further development.

Since an online conference was conducted, the panel had not the opportunity to visit the University's building. The Faculty has provided a virtual tour presenting the University's and the Faculty's premises and facilities. Based on the materials provided, the panel formed the view that a smooth running of the Faculty is ensured with regard to the capacities for research, studies, teaching and administration as well as the available rooms and facilities. The qualifications of the full-time and the part-time academic staff correspond clearly to the requirements of study, teaching and research.

Faculty members, external stakeholders and the public are informed on Faculty's activities on a regular basis and through diverse channels. The SPBU/Faculty website, the internal portal as well as the use of social media ensure that prospective and current students, faculty, staff, parents, alumni, and partners are provided with information on activities and services.

The achievements based on the results obtained through quality assurance instruments should be given even more importance. The taken quality enhancement measures and especially what has been achieved should be communicated and highlighted stronger to all stakeholders. The panel recommends that a format be found to present and highlight the key quality assurance achievements of the Faculty of Law in a more transparent and "user-friendly" way.

With regard to quality management in teaching and studies, the results of student surveys at programme level are not communicated systematically to the teaching staff of the Faculty of Law – only in case there are negative results or certain aspects to be discussed with the corresponding lecturer. In the panel's view the result of student surveys should not only be discussed at academic bodies such as the Educational and Methodological Commission, but the teaching staff itself should also get an overall insight to the results as they are directly working with the students.

The references (especially the Internet links in the footnotes) in the report are mainly in Russian language as this information in its original version is not available in English on the website. However, the main references were presented to the panel together with the self-evaluation report in English translation.

## C. Panel Recommendation

According to § 7 (3) in conjunction with § 10 (2) of the “Special Conditions for awarding the FIBAA Quality Seal for the Institutional Accreditation”, the Faculty of Law of the St. Petersburg State University is accredited under two conditions:

### **Condition 1:**

The Faculty implements a systematic quality assurance instrument for a regular student assessment of each course (see chapter III.).

### **Condition 2:**

The Faculty communicates the results of student surveys to the teaching staff on a regular basis and in a systematic way (see chapter VII.).

Proof of meeting these conditions is to be submitted by November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Period of Accreditation: February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 until February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2027

The panel members identified several areas that could be further developed. The panel recommends:

- a more systematic approach for achieving the strategic goals (see chapter I.);
- creating a systematic overview of the management structure of the Faculty of Law which is publicly available, including all departments, committees and service units (see chapter II.);
- keeping an eye on the conflict potential between the SPBU administration (giving the orders and defining the quality regulations) and the Faculty of Law as the executor of SPBU's quality regulations and if necessary developing the quality management system accordingly further (see chapter II.);
- defining a responsible person or a special unit at Faculty level who can be the first contact in case of any conflict issues between stakeholders and who will be responsible for mediation (see chapter II.);
- promoting the English language proficiency of students by implementing corresponding courses in the curriculum (see chapter III.);
- to be more internationally-oriented by implementing more courses in English language and by attracting international students (see chapter II.);
- that a format be found to present and highlight the key quality assurance achievements of the Faculty of Law in a more transparent and “user-friendly” way (see chapter VII.).

There are several criteria that exceed the quality requirements:

- Research transfer to the areas of studies and teaching (see chapter III.)
- Cooperation with academic and non-academic organisations in the area of studies and teaching (see chapter III.)
- Research strategy (see chapter IV.)
- Research activities (see chapter IV.)

- Promotion of research (see chapter IV.)
- Research cooperation (see chapter IV.)

## I. Mission Statement, Faculty's Profile and Strategic Objectives

The "St. Petersburg State University" (SPBU) is a Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of Higher Professional Education in the Russian Federation. The SPBU is the first Russian University. It was founded by Emperor Peter the Great in 1724. The SPBU occupies a leading position in the regional educational services market. By the special Federal Law "On M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University and St. Petersburg State University", these two educational organisations have been given the status of unique scientific and educational complexes, the oldest educational institutions of higher education in the Russian Federation, which are of great importance for the development of Russian society.

The SPBU offers in total 424 educational programmes (119 Bachelor degree programmes, 214 Master degree programmes, 52 aspirantura programmes<sup>1</sup>, nine general education programmes, three middle level professional education programmes and 27 clinical residency programmes).

The Faculty of Law is one of 18 faculties at the SPBU and offers three Bachelor's degree programmes, 15 Master's Degree programmes, 1 Aspirantura programme as well as 37 advanced training programmes and three professional retraining programmes.

The Faculty of Law consists of the following twelve Departments:

1. Department of Administrative and Financial Law
2. Department of Civil Law
3. Department of Civil Procedure
4. Department of Commercial Law
5. Department of Constitutional Law
6. Department of International Law
7. Department of Notaries
8. Department of Environmental Protection
9. Department of Theory and History of State and Law
10. Department of Labor and Social Law
11. Department of Criminal Law
12. Department of Criminal Procedure and Criminalistics

Total Number of students at the Faculty of Law enrolled in the Academic year 2019:

<b>Bachelor</b>	<b>Master</b>	<b>Aspirantura</b>	<b>Total</b>
309	201	19	529

The Faculty of Law is primarily interested in talented Russian-speaking students. As a common instrument to find talented applicants for the Bachelor programmes, Olympiads for schoolchildren (intellectual competitions of schoolchildren) Russia-wide take place. For many

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<sup>1</sup> Aspirantura (Ph.D.) is a post graduate level education in Russia. There are two types of postgraduate degrees in Russian education system: kandidat nauk (Candidate of science which is often perceived as equivalent to Western Ph.D.) – the first stage and doktor nauk (Doctor of science) - the second stage. Aspirantura programmes belong to the first stage. Both degrees are a certificate of scientific achievement, and must be backed up by original/novel scientific work, evidenced by publications in peer-reviewed journals and a dissertation defended in front of senior academic board.



years, the University has been implementing the Olympiad in 18 subjects. It allows applicants who have received the status of winner and prize winner, to count on admission to St. Petersburg State University for training in study programmes in the field of "Law" without entrance examinations. Other applicants must provide the results of the Unified State Exam (USE) to enter the Bachelor's degree programmes.

Target groups of applicants for the Master programmes are graduates of the Bachelor programme at the St. Petersburg State University and other universities. Target groups of applicants for the aspirantura programme are graduates of the magistracy in the field of "Law" and other areas actively participating in the research work of the University.

The mission of the Faculty of Law of the St. Petersburg State University remains unchanged from the very beginning of its creation - *the training of the best personnel in the field of jurisprudence*. The aim of the Faculty's study programmes is to prepare competitive specialists in the field of jurisprudence by involving representatives of the professional community and organisations of employers in the educational process. Curricula are prepared on the basis of a competency-based approach, taking into account the need for students to master the skills and competencies necessary for successful practical work.

Education at the Faculty of Law of the St. Petersburg State University is largely based on the needs of employers. For these purposes, Councils of Educational Programmes are created, in which highly qualified lawyers are invited, representing large international legal and Russian companies, lawyers and notaries' chambers, government bodies, resource supplying and resource-extracting enterprises. Key partners of the faculty of Law are:

- St. Petersburg Law Chamber
- Notary Chamber of St. Petersburg
- Arbitration Court of St. Petersburg and the Leningrad Region
- St. Petersburg City Court
- Main Directorate of the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation for St. Petersburg
- Main Investigative Department of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation for St. Petersburg
- Prosecutor's Office of St. Petersburg
- Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation
- Gazprom
- OJSC "Sberbank of Russia".

These partners actively participate in the review of pedagogical and methodological questions of the organisation of the educational process and the future employment of graduates. According to the results of the national QS Graduate Employability Rankings rating, in terms of the indicator reflecting the participation of employers in the life of the university, St. Petersburg State University became the best in Russia.<sup>2</sup> During the online conference, the Faculty staff emphasised that the Graduate Employability Rankings is part of their overall strategic aims as the ratings play an essential role in graduates' salaries and job opportunities.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://spbu.ru/news-events/novosti/qs-graduate-employability-ranking-2020-vzaimodeystvie-spbgu-s-rabotodateljami>

The Faculty of Law has become a prominent school for future politicians in the Russian Federation, so many of its graduates subsequently held high government posts. Future ministers, political leaders of pre-revolutionary Russia (A. Kerensky, B. Shturmer, V. Lenin) and the presidents of Russia (V.V. Putin, D.A. Medvedev) studied here.

Studying in the Bachelor's Degree educational programmes is carried out in full-time and part-time. Since 2014 a study format with the use of e-learning technologies has been implemented for students with disabilities who are not able to come physically to the University. In this format classes in form of webinars and consultations are conducted daily in online form. Students have the opportunity to get acquainted with the lectures by video recording. The intermediate exams are conducted via the teaching and learning platform BlackBoard system.

Master's Degree programmes and training of scientific and pedagogical staff in the Post-graduate programme (aspirantura) are implemented in full-time. The faculty strives to provide educational services, taking into account the needs of a wide variety of target groups of applicants.

During the Covid-19 crisis, the Faculty of Law was able to adjust to the situation quickly and has been able to deliver the classes of the programmes online. The online delivery mode included the use of Blackboard which includes video conferencing tools. Training sessions on teaching online were also provided to the lecturers. At the time of this evaluation, the faculty offered a hybrid approach to students which means that entailed studying online and taking the exams on campus.

With regard to the research activities of academic staff of the Faculty of Law, priority is given to interdisciplinary research, the expansion of domestic and international cooperation in scientific activities, and the economic efficiency of fundamental and applied research. Emphasis is put on the possibility of incorporating current research results into the educational process. Most of the research results (more than 90%) are used in the educational process.

In 2009, the St. Petersburg State University in accordance with the Federal Law "On Moscow State University named after M.V. Lomonosov and St. Petersburg State University" granted a high degree of autonomy with the right to issue their own diplomas and establish their own educational standards. Wide academic freedom is a significant tradition of the Faculty of Law. Faculty staff is able and encouraged to engage across the broad spectrum of academic activities independently, including scholarship and research, teaching, thesis supervision, student advising support, course and programme administration, curricula development, quality assurance and enhancement. Furthermore, teachers independently form individual trajectories of advanced training - both on the basis of university-wide proposals for selection, and by submitting an application on the basis of their own proposals for the forms, places and terms of a scientific internship.

The strategic planning of the Faculty of Law is based on the development strategy of St. Petersburg State University. Recently, all the strategic goals of the Faculty of Law until 2020 have been implemented (see Annex) and currently, a roadmap for strategic planning until 2030 is being developed.

The development strategy of the Faculty within the framework of a university-wide strategy includes such areas as:

- creation of new educational programmes including interdisciplinary ones;

- further digitalisation of the educational process: improving the e-learning environment, online and distance learning technologies;
- development of the internship system for students;
- expansion of international cooperation and partnership in the implementation of educational programmes.

## Appraisal „Mission Statement, HEI's Profile and Strategic Objectives“:

The Faculty of Law of the St. Petersburg State University has formulated a clear and comprehensible mission statement that corresponds to its profile. It has also defined its target groups, which correspond to its profile as well.

With regard to its strong orientation towards the professional field and its close cooperation with representatives of labor market representing large international legal and Russian companies, lawyers and notaries' chambers as well as governmental bodies, the panel is convinced that the Faculty's mission corresponds to its profile and setting within the Russian job market. With regard to the active role of employers in the development and implementation of study programmes as well as the QS Graduate Employability Rankings at University level, the panel is convinced that the profile is plausible with regard to graduates' employability.

The different interview rounds during the online conference gave the panel a good overview over the practice of academic freedom. The panel is convinced that the freedom of research, study and teaching is ensured. Even though there is a main research orientation, faculty staff is not subject to discretionary power with regard to research and teaching. In addition, the unique legal status of the St. Petersburg State University grants the University as a whole a high degree of autonomy with a positive impact on the Faculty of Law.

The panel has taken into account that the strategic goals until 2020 have been recently implemented and is overall positive about the Faculty's strategic goals until 2030. During the online conference, faculty staff confirmed that the strategy is developed "from down to top" allowing the Faculty staff to be directly involved. The panel formed the view that the Faculty members are aware of the recently developed strategic goals until 2030 and that they are internally communicated. The panel considered that the Faculty is at the beginning of its new strategic goals and recommends that the actions to achieve the goals and a structured timeline be included in the strategy. The panel also recommends using the PDCA cycle for strategy development.

Quality Requirements	Exceptional	Exceeds the Quality Re-quirements	Meets the Quality Re-quirements	Fails to Meet the Quality Requirements
<b>I. MISSION STATEMENT, PROFILE AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>				
(1) Mission Statement			X	
(2) Profile			X	
(3) Target Groups			X	
(4) Academic Freedom			X	
(5) Strategic Objectives			X	

## II. Management Structure and Quality Management

The Management structure is built, in particular, on the basis of the provisions of the Charter of the St. Petersburg State University.<sup>3</sup>

The Faculty of Law of the St. Petersburg State University is headed by the Dean. The Dean is elected by the Academic Council of the St. Petersburg State University upon presentation of a candidate by the Academic Council of the Faculty of Law (Section 80 of the Charter of St. Petersburg State University).

**The Academic Council (AC)** is the highest collegiate body at the Faculty of Law. It consists of 14 lecturers and the Chairman of the Student Council of the Faculty. The AC focuses on approval of organisational structure/changes, control of financial support, and guiding the Faculty's strategic development. It takes decisions regarding academic, research and operational activities of the Faculty. The competence of the Academic Council of the Faculty includes the proposal of candidates for the posts of Dean and Department heads, determination of the direction of scientific research and adoption of relevant organisational issues (paragraph 82 of the Charter of St. Petersburg State University). The AC discusses the decisions of the Educational and Methodological Commission and the Scientific Commission and controls over successful implementation.

### **The Educational and Methodological Commission**

The Educational and Methodical Commission consists of faculty staff, representatives of student body as well as professional societies and employer organisations. The Educational and Methodical Commission is an expert body established for content analysis of educational activities carried out at St. Petersburg State University (Faculty of Law) and leading universities of the world. It reviews educational documentation and materials (curricula of educational programmes, syllabi and other educational materials) and prepares analytic materials and expert opinions with regard to compliance of educational programmes of SPBU with the criteria of international ratings of universities and educational programmes, including in the field of international educational cooperation. Applications and consideration of professional standards and the views of the representatives of professional associations and employers' organisations are taken into account in the development and implementation of educational programmes. The competences and responsibilities of the Educational and Methodological Commission are publicly available on the SPBU website.<sup>4</sup>

**The Scientific Commission** is an expert body created to prepare conclusions on the results of the analysis of research and innovation activities of the faculty staff, improving the level and effectiveness of their fundamental and applied research, as well as to perform the tasks of preparing analytical materials and expert opinions, including on issues of international scientific cooperation. The SC focuses on development and management of research strategies at faculty level and monitoring of research activities. The SC has the supervision over grants applications and grant-based research implementation. The SC is also tasked with management of research-based programmes, development of cooperation opportunities in research and quality enhancement in the research process.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> [https://spbu.ru/sites/default/files/ustav\\_spbgu.pdf](https://spbu.ru/sites/default/files/ustav_spbgu.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://spbu.ru/universitet/podrazdeleniya-i-rukovodstvo/uchebno-metodicheskie-komissii>

<sup>5</sup> <http://law.spbu.ru/Science/ScienceCom.aspx>

Deputy deans are chairmen of the Educational and Methodological Commission and the Scientific Commission of the Faculty.

**The Council of Educational Programmes** is an advisory body created to improve the effectiveness of the study programmes, to control the quality of the programme implementation and to work out the programmes' development strategy. The Council is composed of leading Russian and foreign scientists and representatives of employers and professional communities, including academic and teaching staff of SPBU. The Council of Educational Programmes within the framework of its activities determines the strategy for the development of the educational programmes, as well as formulates recommendations on a wide range of issues, including admission to the programmes, ensuring the quality of teaching as well as certification and accreditation procedures.

The twelve Departments of the Faculty of Law are managed by the Department heads elected by the Academic Council of the Faculty of Law. The duties of the Department heads include the following activities:

- making proposals on the distribution, and if necessary, the redistribution of workload between lecturers of the Department;
- organising methodological support for the educational work of the Department's staff;
- coordinating research, expert work, educational and industrial practice of students, scientific supervision of term paper, theses and final qualification work (aspirantura);
- analysing and discuss at the Department meetings the results of the current monitoring of academic performance, the results of defense of final qualification works, theses and based on the results of the analysis develop and implement the necessary measures aimed at improving the quality of education;
- controlling the quality of lectures, seminars, laboratory work, workshops and other types of work carried out by lecturers of the Department in accordance with the local acts of SPBU;
- making proposals to the Dean of the Faculty on candidates for employment of part-time lecturers and lecturers with hourly pay;
- participating in the analysis and discussion by the Academic Council of the Faculty of the results of educational, methodological and scientific work;
- participating in the development and discussion of educational standards, curricula, syllabi, and other educational documents and materials;
- reporting on the educational, methodological and scientific work of the Department's staff in accordance with the procedure established in SPBU.

The administrative management system at the Faculty of Law corresponds to the university-wide management structure and includes the following main units.

1) Educational Programmes Department, the functionality of which includes full support in the formation of study and methodical documentation for the programmes (<http://spbu.ru/sveden/education>).

2) The Teaching and Learning Department, which organises the educational process in accordance with the schedule (the electronic schedule for both study groups and teachers is available on the website: <https://timetable.spbu.ru/>).

3) The Admission Department for the organisation of admission, coordinating and conducting admission to study programmes;

- 4) The Human Resources Department, which oversees the staffing of study programmes;
- 5) Planning and Finance Department, which provides the necessary sources of funding for educational programmes and controls their use;
- 6) Office of Public Relations, the functionality of which includes popularising the educational programmes;
- 7) Youth Affairs Department, the functionality of which includes student support in their intellectual, moral and personal development and growth and achievement of their educational goals.

### **Quality Management:**

The education quality management strategy is based on the policy declared by SPBU.<sup>6</sup> The main strategic direction of education quality management is providing internal and external independent assessment of the quality of education.

External independent assessment of the quality of education is carried out through state licensing and accreditation of educational activities (for compliance with national legislation and educational standards), as well as through professional, public and international accreditation of educational programmes by independent Russian and international accreditation agencies. The results of accreditation and the measures to take into account the recommendations of independent experts are available on the St. Petersburg State University website in the section "Education Quality Assurance System".

The management strategy in the field of internal independent assessment of the quality of education (IAQE) is formed and implemented in order to objectively assess the quality of training of students in an education programme, to improve the content, to increase the competitiveness, to increase the competence and skill level of teaching staff, to improve the resource support of the educational process, to increase motivation of students, to strengthen interaction between St. Petersburg State University and relevant organisations on issues of improving educational process, as well as to manifest anti-corruption in the educational process.

A provision on IAQE at SPBU<sup>7</sup> defines the goals and regulates organisation and conducting of an IAQE as part of an independent quality evaluation of student training on the educational programmes, the quality of teaching staff, the quality of resources support for educational

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<sup>6</sup> Order of the Vice-Rector for Academic Activities and Teaching Methods from "On the implementation of a set of measures aimed at improving the study and methodical documentation for 2018", order of the Senior Vice-Rector for Academic Activities and Teaching Methods "On approval of the Regulation on the internal independent assessment of the quality of education in St. Petersburg State University" [https://spbu.ru/sites/default/files/20180720\\_7244\\_1.pdf](https://spbu.ru/sites/default/files/20180720_7244_1.pdf); <https://spbu.ru/openuniversity/documents/o-vnutrenney-nezavisimoy-ocenke-kachestva-obrazovaniya-v-spbgu-0>

<sup>7</sup> Present Regulation is developed in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Law of December 29, 2012 No. 273-FZ "On Education in the Russian Federation" (Articles 95, 95.1, 95.2), Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation of August 5, 2013 No. 662 "On Monitoring of the Education System", Order of the Government of the Russian Federation of March 30, 2013 № 487-p Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Russia from December 5, 2014 # 1547 «On approval of the indicators characterizing the general criteria for assessing the quality of the educational activities of organizations engaged in educational activities" and other legislative acts in the field of quality assessment of educational activities, taking into account the "Methodical recommendation on the organization and conducting of an internal independent evaluation of education quality of educational programs of higher education in higher educational institutions – Bachelor's, specialty programs and Master's programs" (Letter of the Russian Ministry of Education and Science d/d February 15, 2018 № 05-435 ).

activities, the quality of actual learning outcomes, and also considers ways to monitor the implementation of the results in the educational activities of the SPBU.

At the Faculty level, the main expert and advisory bodies in quality assurance are the Educational and Methodological Commission and the Councils of Educational Programmes (EP). Their functionality includes monitoring labor market demands and developing proposals for updating and improving EP based on an independent assessment of the quality of education. Both expert and advisory bodies include representatives of employers, who are interested in graduates of EP and, therefore, in the constant updating of EP in accordance with changing labor market conditions.

One of the current management tasks is the wider involvement of students at St. Petersburg State University in activities to improve the quality of education. Currently, without involving representatives of the Student Council, not a single issue in the field of ensuring the quality of education is being resolved; representatives of students are included in the Educational and Methodological Commission.

The Faculty of Law follows the university-wide quality management system which is regulated, implemented and monitored at the administrative level of the University.

The mechanism of education quality control in SPBU operates and encompasses the structures of three levels of management:

**1. The level of senior management of Saint Petersburg State University (rector, first vice-rector)<sup>8</sup>**

What happens at this level:

- formation of the main directions of policy and strategy for improving the quality of educational activities of Saint Petersburg State University;
- formation of priority directions and target indicators of the general university policy of quality and quality criteria of educational activity;
- introduction of changes in the main directions of the quality policy, the strategy of improving the quality of educational activities, priority directions and targets of the university-wide quality policy.

**2. The following occurs at the level of the Senior Vice-rector for Academic Affairs and methodological support:**

**2.1.<sup>9</sup>**

- definition of ways and means of quality policy implementation;
- formation of retranslation ways of quality criteria prior to executors, the order of control over their performance;
- formation of independent expert authorities for the assessment and improvement of education quality;

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<sup>8</sup> The accepted decisions are reflected in the following Documents: SPBU Development Program, Self-Determined Educational Standard of St. Petersburg State University (SES), orders on quality policy, improvement of educational activities, changes.

<sup>9</sup> Accompanying documents: The Regulations on the internal independent assessment of the education quality at the Saint Petersburg State University, the Regulations on the Programme Council, the organization of Study-Methodological Commission work, Education Quality Control Commission, independent expert commission for the assessment of quality and other collegial bodies (procedure, chairperson's duties, reporting forms etc.), orders on scientific supervisors of programmes, orders on the organization of self-assessment and other activities for quality assessment.

- determination of interaction ways of administrative bodies, independent expert authorities and academic staff in the process of quality policy implementation;
- identification of monitoring, feedback and quality assessment procedures.

## 2.2.<sup>10</sup>

- analysis of suggestions and recommendations for improving the quality of educational activities (conclusions and recommendations of independent expert authorities, questionnaires and reports of the chairmen of state examination commissions, representatives of employers, Student Councils, etc.);
- formation of plans and strategies (Roadmaps) for improving the quality of programme and educational activities.

### 3. At the level of the Educational Programmes Department (Division of Quality Control of Education, Division of Analysis of Educational Activities)

*The given structure is performing the system-forming function in the education quality management system and performs both executive and organisational functions:*

- reflection of the criteria and indicators of quality in a particular programme and implementation conditions of the programme (curriculum, characteristic, syllabuses of disciplines (modules), practices, research work, evaluation tools, etc., requirements for material and technical and information provision, requirements for the qualification of scientific supervisors of graduation thesis and scientific supervisors of postgraduates, etc.);
- monitoring of the programme contents on conformity with the quality criteria, interaction with the administrative structures of the University in the monitoring process;
- organisation of interaction with potential employers for participation in the programme implementation and assessment of the education quality;
- coordination of the activities of administrative and non-administrative structures of the university for participation in work on improving the education quality;
- organisation of programme examinations (internal and external);
- organisation of quality control activities (self-assessment, questionnaires, accreditation, licensing, inspection and monitoring activities of quality control commissions, independent expert commissions for assessment of the programme quality, etc.);
- collection and analysis of reports on the independent expert authorities and commissions work, proposals and recommendations for the education quality improving;
- generalisation of suggestions and recommendations for improvement of quality and referral to the senior vice-rector on academic affairs and methodological support;
- formation of methodical materials (recommendations, instructions, methodologies, informational letters, etc.) for use by administrative and academic staff in work on improving the education quality and educational activities.

At the University level, monitoring in terms of the quality of training of students is carried out by quality control commissions,

- in terms of the quality of teaching staff - by personnel commissions,
- in terms of the quality of resource provision - by expert commissions of the relevant services and departments of SPBU,

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<sup>10</sup> Accompanying documents: orders on the organization of work on programme improvement recommendations, orders on the approval of Road maps to improve the implementation quality of the programme.



- in terms of the quality of learning outcomes - by state examination commissions.

In addition, the independent expert authorities also include quality control commissions that check the quality of education at various stages, in particular, the Admissions Committees - at the stage of admission, the State Examining Commissions - during the graduate stage, and the quality assessment commission and external independent expert commissions - in the process of programme implementation during self-assessment and accreditation.

The Faculty of Law has its own Quality Control Commission which is placed at the Educational and Methodological Commission. It consists of the scientific and pedagogical staff of the Faculty of Law, including four people.<sup>11</sup> The Quality Control Commission monitors the quality of educational and methodological activities according to the university-wide regulations and quality standards. The main method of monitoring is periodic questioning (polling) of participants in the educational process and consumers of educational services (students, teachers, employers, graduates).

In addition, the Commission conducts audit and analysis of the courses in relation to the assessment tools, verification of the conformity of the form of intermediate certification with the assessment methods, assessment tools and control and measurement materials, as well as implementation and analysis of the results of IAQE activities in relation to the training of students.

The administration of the University has the right to provide orders to the Faculty of Law on implementation of certain quality assurance activities that has to be implemented and reported back to the administration. However, during the online conference the panel learned that the Faculty of Law has a certain level of autonomy. It has to follow the main university-wide quality assurance regulations, but the Faculty can implement their own quality assurance methods as well. Furthermore, the Faculty can submit its comments and suggestions in the field of quality assurance to the administration of SPBU.

In accordance with paragraph 71 of the Statute of St. Petersburg State University, an Ethics Committee is formed from honorary professors of St. Petersburg State University "to consider compliance by employees and students with the obligations stipulated by this charter to follow the moral and cultural traditions of St. Petersburg University and generally accepted moral and ethical standards, as well as to take good care of spiritual values".<sup>12</sup>

Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation of November 22, 2017 No. 1402 amended the Charter of St. Petersburg State University, which gave the University new opportunities. In particular, the functionality of the Ethics Committee has been expanded: it can assess typical situations and make general decisions on the compliance of certain facts and events with the moral and cultural traditions of St. Petersburg University and generally accepted moral and ethical standards.

Also at the level of St. Petersburg State University there is a Commission for the settlement of disputes between participants in educational relations, created in accordance with the provisions of Art. 43 the Federal Law of December 29, 2012 No. 273-FZ "On Education in the Russian Federation".

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<sup>11</sup> <http://law.spbu.ru/EducationQuality.aspx>

<sup>12</sup> <https://spbu.ru/universitet/podrazdeleniya-i-rukovodstvo/uchenye-sovety/uchenyy-sovet-spbgu/komissiya-po-etike>

Measures to reduce the escalation of conflict in relation to individual labour disputes are the consideration of controversial issues at the collective meeting, at meetings of heads of departments, discussion of problematic topics with the participation of an intermediary.

Academic staff has the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes at the faculty level, through the Academic Council and their activities in Scientific, Educational and Methodological commission and Quality Control Commissions.

Student government in the person of representatives of the Student Council and the Student Scientific Society are included in the Academic Council of the Faculty, Scientific Commission, and the Educational and Methodological Commission. Students through their elected bodies are engaged not only in resolving issues of household amenities and social security, but also in educational and methodological issues, providing students with the opportunity to systematically formulate proposals to improve the quality of education.

### **Appraisal „Management Structure and Quality Management“:**

The Faculty of Law has established and defined various bodies, academic and advice Councils as well as offices/departments for its administration and support services. The tasks and competencies of all involved bodies and functions are clearly and transparently regulated. With regard to the interviews with Faculty's staff during the online conference, the panel came to the conclusion that the Faculty's management and self-governing structures are functional and effective. However, the panel recommends creating a systematic overview of the management structure of the Faculty of Law which is publicly available, including all departments, committees and service units.

Overall, the SPBU and thus the Faculty of Law follow a comprehensible strategy in terms of its quality management. The competencies and responsibilities became clear during the interviews with University/Faculty representatives. According to the panel, the defined quality assurance regulations enable University/Faculty to receive necessary information and data to react appropriately and enhance the quality of its activities. The panel appreciates that the University has systematically and in detail documented its quality assurance aims, the corresponding responsibilities and the instruments and has made it available on the official website of the University for all stakeholders ("Regulations on the quality assurance system of education at Saint Petersburg University").

In general, the implemented quality management system of the University/the Faculty allows for following the Plan-Do-Check-Act-Cycle. The formal framework with all the regulations and responsibilities is ensured. The quality control loops and instruments of quality management are meaningfully connected and aligned to the different areas of performance. However, as the Faculty of Law is monitored by the quality management system of the SPBU, the panel sees conflict potential between the SPBU administration (giving the orders and defining the quality regulations) and the Faculty of Law as the executor of SPBU's quality regulations. During the online conference, the SPBU administration explained that in case of such conflicts, the administration seeks for direct communication with the Quality Control Commission of the Faculty which is mediating the conflict between the administration and the affected stakeholder. The panel welcomes this approach and recommends keeping an eye on this

conflict potential and if necessary developing the quality management system accordingly further.

The escalation management at the Faculty of Law is conducted by the Ethics Committee of the St. Petersburg State University, based on local acts and Federal law. During the online conference, the panel formed the view that this structure is working and that conflicts are appropriately discussed and solved. However, the panel recommends defining a responsible person or a special unit at Faculty level who can be the first contact in case of any issues and who will be responsible for mediation.

Internal stakeholders (students, teachers, administrative staff), as well as external stakeholders (employer representatives) are involved in the system and have the opportunity to actively participate in quality management by participating in advisory bodies and expert commissions. The Faculty's members' and external stakeholders' participation is scheduled to take place on a regular basis in order to systematically ensure the continuous consideration of their interests.

Quality Requirements	Exceptional	Exceeds the Quality Re-quirements	Meets the Quality Re-quirements	Fails to Meet the Quality Requirements
<b>II. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND QUALITY MANAGEMENT</b>				
(1) Management Structure			X	
(2) Organisation of Localities	not relevant			
(3) Quality Management Strategy			X	
(4) Quality Management System			X	
(5) Quality Management Instruments			X	
(6) Escalation Management			X	
(7) Participation		X		

### III. Studies and Teaching

The specialisation/profile of the Faculty is the training of professionals in the field of law who are prepared to perform professional judicial and advocacy activities in the public and private sector.

The following study programmes are offered at the Faculty of Law:

Bachelor:

1. "Law";
2. "Law" (with in-depth study of the Chinese language and law of the Peoples Republic of China);
3. "Law" (with in-depth study of the Japanese language and Japanese law).

Master:

1. "Tax Law"
2. "Business Law"
3. "Civil Procedure, Arbitration Procedure"
4. "Civil Law, Family Law"
5. "Protection of Public Rights"
6. "International Trade and Customs Lawyer"
7. "Corporate Labor and Social Relations Lawyer"
8. "Theory and History of Law and the State, History of Legal Doctrines"
9. "Medical law"
10. "Criminal law"
11. "Lawyer in the Field of Criminal Justice"
12. "International Law"
13. "Legal Regulation of Natural Resource Use"
14. "Lawyer in the Field of Financial Market (Financial Lawyer)"
15. "Legal Protection of Economic Competition"

Annually on the website of the University the rules for admission to St. Petersburg State University are published. To enter the Bachelor's degree programmes, applicants must provide the results of the Unified State Exam (USE). In general, the minimum USE score for application to the SPBU is 65 points out of 100. In addition, it is possible to get points from the results of intellectual competitions of schoolchildren (schoolchildren's olympiads). For admission to programmes of graduate and postgraduate studies, it is necessary to take part in the entrance test conducted by the University. The entrance test is carried out in the form of a written exam or a competition (portfolio presentation). The admission procedure is in the responsibility of the Admission Department of the St. Petersburg State University.

The Faculty submitted with the self-evaluation report curricula, syllabuses and CVs of teaching staff for the Bachelor programme "Law", the Master programme "Lawyer in the Field of Financial Market (Financial Lawyer)" as well as for the aspirantura programme "Law".

The study programmes focus on the implementation of competence-based learning approach. The structure is based on a modular principle containing competence-oriented learning outcomes. Bachelor and Master programmes have a basic part, guaranteeing the acquisition of the necessary general (universal, personal, cultural) and professional competencies. In turn, the flexibility of training specialists is achieved due to the large number of elective

disciplines. The subject of elective disciplines takes into account the regional needs of the labor market.<sup>13</sup>

There is also a programme for training scientific and pedagogical personnel in graduate school (aspirantura programme). The aim of the aspirantura programme "Law" is the training of specialists with the qualities necessary to create new ideas in solving research and practical problems in the field of jurisprudence, as well as in interdisciplinary fields. They shall participate in the work of Russian and international research teams to solve scientific and scientific-educational problems by using modern methods and technologies. With regard to their pedagogical professional activity, they shall conduct theoretical and applied-level classes and develop training courses in the field of "Law" (both in basic and in additional educational programmes).

Additional educational programmes (advanced training programmes and professional retraining programmes) in the field of Law are offered at the Faculty as well.<sup>14</sup> The target groups of these programmes are practicing lawyers, both in the private and public sector. The purpose of the programmes is to improve the professional theoretical knowledge and practical skills of students in the relevant fields of legal activity. According to the results of education, persons who have successfully mastered educational programmes are issued a document of education (certificate of advanced training, diploma of professional retraining).

Moreover, new programmes are opened regularly, taking into account new trends in the field of law. The study programmes are developed by the Departments. When implementing a new study programme the corresponding Department/lecturer must find at least three representatives from the professional field who are supporting the positioning of the programme on the job market and the qualification objectives of the new programme. Then the new programme is discussed at the meetings of the Educational and Methodological Commission. The final version of the study programme, with all given comments and suggestions, is finally approved by the Academic Council.

The operational management of the implementation of educational programmes and their quality assurance is carried out by the Faculty of Law according to the quality assurance regulations of the administration of the SPBU, based on local acts. Strategic management of educational programmes is based on the conclusions and recommendations of expert bodies, committees and councils at Faculty level. The Councils of Educational Programmes and the Educational and Methodological Commission play the leading role in the design, implementation and determination of the development strategy of the educational programmes of the Faculty of Law. Teaching staff, students, employers, cooperation partners of the Faculty and other interested parties participate in the decision-making process through their membership in collegial bodies.

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<sup>13</sup> For example, the discipline "Introduction to sports law" ensures the formation of competencies in accordance with the needs of the legal departments of sports organisations in the region (FC Zenit, HC SKA). The discipline "Legal regulation of relations on the Internet" forms competencies in accordance with the needs of law firms whose activities are associated with IT technologies.

<sup>14</sup> For example, "Actual Problems of Civil Law" (144 hours, 9 weeks), "Corporate Lawyer"(46 hours, 6 days),"Notary and Civil Turnover" (72 hours, 6 weeks), "Securities Market Regulation"(36 hours, 1 week), "Criminal and Civil Liability of Medical Professionals" (16 hours, 2 days), "School of Tax Attorneys" (286 hours, 1.5 years).

The didactic concept of educational programmes is based on a combination of theoretical training and the formation of practical skills of students. At the same time, the undergraduate programmes include all fundamental legal disciplines, taking into account the goal of training lawyers capable of professional activity in any field of jurisprudence. The master programmes are more professionally oriented. Therefore, the curriculum includes special courses that are substantively related to the field of law, in which the graduate will work. The lectures contain both lecture and practical classes to combine theoretical and practical training. Furthermore, guest lecturers are involved in the educational process, conducting workshops and special courses.<sup>15</sup>

The didactic concept of the programmes allows the use of various teaching and learning methods, including case studies. The undergraduate programmes include term papers aimed at developing students' skills in independent research activities on a specific topic. Students in graduate and postgraduate programmes in the first year of study choose a specific research topic and at the final stage of training defend their scientific work.

A significant and integral part of Faculty's activity is the research work. The results of scientific studies of Faculty's teaching staff regularly become the main one for the development and implementation of new academic courses, changes and improvements to existing ones. Syllabi include modern scientific achievements in the field of training. This is evidenced by the presence of relevant educational and scientific literature in the syllabi of the disciplines as well as by classes conducted by teaching staff who are executors of research and grants, for the implementation of which it is necessary to use modern achievements of science. Most of the research results (more than 90%) are used in the educational process.

In order to promote research activity among students, the Student Scientific Society has been established. The Student Scientific Society is a creative association of SPBU students studying in the field of jurisprudence, acting to organise research and other productive activities. The main purpose of the Student Scientific Society is to create stimulating and favorable conditions for students to conduct research activities in the field of law as well as in related areas. There are more than 20 working groups addressing different topics. Each group is led by one academic leader and a student tutor.<sup>16</sup>

Students are informed at the beginning of each semester about the assessment system for the courses, the date of final exams and if applicable, the deadlines for submission of coursework.

The Bachelor, Master and Aspirantura programmes will conclude with a state exam:

- Bachelor programmes: state exam (written)
- Master programmes: state exam (written), defence of final qualification work
- Aspirantura programme: state exam (oral-written), defence of final qualification work

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<sup>15</sup> For example, foreign professors from Italy give special courses such as “Cross-border protection of intellectual property” and “Intangible cultural heritage and intellectual property” at faculty-level for all interested students. Workshops are mainly conducted by established companies. The workshop “Making M&A Transactions and Creating Joint Ventures: English Institutions in Russian Law” is conducted by the Head of Division, Department for Legal Support of M&A Transactions and Corporate Practice of Gazprombank; The workshop “How to prepare a loan deal: advice of a practicing lawyer. - We draw up a mortgage transaction. Ways of structuring collateral in order to maximize the protection of creditor rights” was carried out by the Head of the Legal Department of Gazprombank and the Head of the Legal Expertise Center of Gazprombank.

<sup>16</sup> <http://law.spbu.ru/Education/SNO/Science.aspx>

The defence of graduation qualification work (GQW) is open, everyone can attend. St. Petersburg State University presents to the state examination committee (SEC) the documents necessary for work, incl. orders on the composition of the SEC, on admission of students to the state final certification, a list of persons not allowed to protect GQW, texts of GQW, forms of score sheets, a description of the features of the defence, articles of graduates, documents on the practical application of the results of GQW, reviews of scientific leaders, reviews of GQW and other documents. The duration of GQW defence is no more than 30 minutes. During GQW defence, audio and/or video recording is performed. During the defence of each GQW, each member of the commission fills out an assessment sheet reflecting the set of competencies provided by graduates.

After carrying out all the defences, the commission holds a closed meeting with the mandatory presence of the chairman. Evaluations are made by a simple majority of votes, based on the results of the evaluation by the members of the commission (using the evaluation sheet). With an equal number of votes, the vote of the chairman of the commission is decisive. The decision of the commission is drawn up in a protocol signed by the chairman and secretary. Grades are put on a scale in accordance with the programme of final state certification. By decision of SEC, GQW can be specially marked, which are of particular theoretical or practical value, the commission may recommend them for publication. These decisions are recorded in the minutes. The Chairman of SEC announces to the students the results on the day of GQW defence. The student has the right to submit a written appeal to the training department in the prescribed manner about the violation, in his/her opinion, of the procedure for conducting GQW defence.

The St. Petersburg State University has numerous agreements on cooperation and partnership in the implementation of educational programmes both with state organisations (the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation, the General Prosecutor's Office, the Federal Antimonopoly Service, etc.) and with business organisations (OJSC "Sberbank of Russia", LLC "Pepeliaev Group", CJSC "Consulting Group" "Prime-Advice" and others), which allow students of St. Petersburg State University to undergo practical training and receive invitations for internships and jobs.

Internships/practical training are mandatory parts of the bachelor's, master's and postgraduate curricula. Postgraduate students (aspirantura) practice at the Legal Clinic and help undergraduate students develop the necessary skills. Furthermore, students of the aspirantura programme take part in the implementation of the courses "Fundamentals of Law", "Law", which are part of the block of elective disciplines in the structure of curricula of other fields of study.

The St. Petersburg State University Legal Clinic provides free assistance to the population in matters relating to the following branches of law:

- Civil law;
- Labor Law;
- Administrative law, social security law;
- Housing Law;
- Law of Civil Procedure.

Legal aid is received at the St. Petersburg State University in the framework of educational activities (training practice in the Legal Clinic) and is carried out during two training calendar periods: from October 1 to December 19; from March 1 to May 19.



All syllabi of professional disciplines (practice-oriented courses) (hereinafter - SPD) are approved by employers, since all educational and methodological documentation is examined by the Educational and Methodological Commission (which includes representatives of employers). In addition, part of SPD was developed by external part-time workers, i.e. teachers working at the main place of work in employing organisations and carrying out teaching activities at St. Petersburg State University on the conditions of part-time employment or paid services contracts.<sup>17</sup>

Information about the international partners of the St. Petersburg State University in the field of jurisprudence is available on the St. Petersburg State University portal.<sup>18</sup> Within the framework of the activities of SPBU in the Law field, cooperation with many foreign educational institutions is actively developing. Among the permanent partners are the large foreign universities such as the Vietnam State University (Hanoi, Vietnam), the University of the RhineFriedrichWilhelm (Bonn, Germany), the University of Hamburg (Germany), the University Passau (Germany), the Seattle University (USA), the University of the state of Florida (USA), the University named after Palacký (Poland). The international cooperation allows students and academic staff to actively exchange scientific experience and carry out joint research projects.

During the online conference the panel learned that recognition of studies abroad in general takes place. Especially, with regard to Master programmes, courses from foreign HEIs are recognised if there is no essential difference between the learning outcomes. However, recognition at Bachelor level is more difficult, as 80% of the Bachelor programmes at Faculty level contain compulsory courses and their learning outcomes are prescribed by the Higher Education Law of the Russian Federation. Therefore, the recognition of studies abroad is not that flexible. The panel learned that it is a typical phenomenon for Bachelor Law programmes in Russia. The Faculty still encourages the students to go abroad, but in the most cases, the exams of the compulsory courses still need to be completed at the Faculty.

The educational process is supported by the BlackBoard information system, which has been presented to the panel during the online conference. It allows the teaching staff to post educational materials, conduct webinars and place assignments. Students can solve the assignments directly in the BlackBoard system and teaching staff can correct them there. The system also works as a communication and information platform regarding the teaching and learning process for all involved stakeholders.

Course syllabuses contain the course aims and learning objectives, academic requirements for students (prerequisites), learning outcomes, list and amount of active and interactive academic activities, the structure and content of the course, mid-term and final assessment, education and qualification of teaching staff, classroom characteristics (class equipment, specific equipment, specific software), as well as a list of required reading and other information resources.

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<sup>17</sup> For example, the adviser to DLA Piper has developed and teaches the course "Customs Law", the Head of Practice Pro Bono S&K Vertical conducts the course "Application and interpretation of civil laws", the Chairman of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation conducts the course "Detection. Inquest. Investigation".

<sup>18</sup> <https://ifea.spbu.ru/en/international-cooperation-and-partnership.html>



At the beginning of each academic year, students form their individual curriculum for the upcoming academic year with the help of an adviser.

In its self-evaluation report the Faculty of Law states that the quality management system includes tools and methods for regular assessment of the education quality. The resulting information is evaluated, and the results are transferred to specific measures to improve and further develop the study programmes.

An important factor in the internal system of education quality management at St. Petersburg State University is the organisation of systemic interaction with employers, which allows taking into account the changing conditions and requirements of the labor market. The participation of employers in quality monitoring is carried out through:

- Mandatory inclusion of employers representatives into the composition of the Educational and Methodological commission (EMC)
- Participation of employers in the activities of the Councils of Educational Programmes
- Formation of State Examination committees (SEC) with the participation of representatives of employers;
- Participation of representatives of employers in the analysis of educational programmes, in particular, for compliance with the requirements of the labor market, starting from the stage of creation of the programme;
- Participation of representatives of employers and the professional community in the formation of the content of practice-oriented disciplines, practices and research work;
- Participation of employers in the formation of research topics, topics of students' term papers, as well as in their examination of compliance with labor market requirements;
- Involvement of representatives of the professional community in teaching.

Through the Alumni Association, UIB management receives important feedback about the quality of education, administration and services. Alumni are very useful in assessing the content of programmes, providing feedback based on their practical experience.

The Faculty of Law conducts surveys at programme level including questions about satisfaction with the educational process, quality of teaching staff, student support, achievement of learning outcomes, and involvement in decision-making processes. The surveys are conducted at the end of each academic year through the BlackBoard system, and are finally analysed at meetings of the Educational and Methodological Commission. The results of student and graduate surveys are used in updating curricula, syllabi and the distribution of teaching assignments. During the online conference the panel learned that the results gained from the student surveys are not systematically communicated to the lecturers and students – only in case there are negative results or certain aspects to be discussed with the corresponding lecturer (see Appraisal Chapter VII. Publication / Public).

Furthermore, the Educational and Methodological Commission conducts oral interviews with students. The procedure for interviewing students includes the following stages: determining the number of students who are subject to the survey; determining information about teaching staff and the title of disciplines that are read by these lecturers; approving the form of the questionnaire for students, the order of their filling, processing and analysis.

In addition, there are surveys for graduates tracking their success and their employment. In the survey they can assess the content of programmes and provide feedback based on their practical experience.

Finally, overall satisfaction surveys for teaching staff are conducted. In case the teaching staff has some recommendations for programme improvement they can directly address the Educational and Methodological Commission.

During the online conference the panel learned that at course level, some lecturers let evaluate their courses by students on a voluntary basis at the end of the course, before the exam. But there is no prescribed procedure how and when courses need to be evaluated by the students.

### **Appraisal „Studies and Teaching“:**

The panel formed the view that the study offer of the Faculty of Law and the superordinate qualifications objectives of the study programmes correspond to the Faculty's profile.

During the online conference the panel talked to deans, faculty staff, students and graduates in order to discuss and assess the admission processes, contents, structure, learning and teaching environment as well as quality assurance instruments for Studies and Teaching.

The documentation of the presented study programmes demonstrates that the Faculty is capable of developing suitable concept for study programmes. They are in line with the corresponding qualification levels. Furthermore, the Faculty of Law ensures predictability in teaching and examination operations. The students-centred teaching approach makes the students take an active role in the designing of learning process.

During the online conference, the panel met a very dedicated and motivated teaching staff who reported about their didactic approach and their teaching and research activities. Furthermore, the panel was impressed by the CVs of the teaching staff and their publication activities.

When assessing the mutual relations of research and teaching the panel came to the conclusion, that a transfer from research activities to the area of teaching is definitely ensured. Furthermore, students receive the opportunity to actively participate in research activities. The panel appreciates the Student Scientific Society which is a great opportunity to involve students in research activities and to promote their scientific skills. The panel welcomes that students of all three levels (Bachelor/Master/Aspirantura) are involved in research activities. Especially, starting with scientific work on the Bachelor level ensures a solid foundation to build on in the Master and afterwards Doctoral level. It promotes the research mind-set of the students and their individual research efforts. Regarding the research activities in general, please also see chapter IV. "Research".

The panel talked to students and graduates of the Faculty of Law from different study programmes. Overall, the students were content with the education and the academic support they receive. They receive all the necessary information regarding the study programme as a whole as well as for each course in corresponding documents presented on the website and

on Blackboard (admission regulations, curricula, course syllabi, examination regulations). The education process is assessed by the students as transparent and predictable. Students receive academic and administrative support in case of any academic or personal issues.

Students indicated that the English language could be promoted stronger in the study programmes. Students don't feel well prepared for reading international literature. Therefore, the panel recommends promoting the English language proficiency of students by implementing corresponding courses in the curriculum. Furthermore, the panel recommends the Faculty to be more internationally-oriented by implementing more courses in English language and by attracting international students.

The graduates confirmed that the achieved learning outcomes correspond to the requirements on the job market and promote the employability opportunities. The teaching staff indicated that the curricula of the study programmes are adapted according to the current changes in the law field and on the labor market as well as according to students' feedback. Students confirmed during the online conference that their feedback is considered and that changes have been implemented. For example, the students gave the feedback that some of the general (introductory) courses such as the "History of Russian Law and State" could be shorten or taught faster (1 semester instead of 2 semesters) in order to have more time for specific law courses. Younger students benefit now from a revised curriculum.

The panel appreciates the regular review of the programmes and encourages the Faculty to continue doing so based on all modern developments and influences on the job market and the educational market.

The Faculty of Law holds cooperation agreements with many foreign academic institutions that promote academic exchange for lecturers and students as well as the research activities (see chapter IV. Research). The students confirmed that in case of academic mobility they receive sufficient support by the Faculty's and SPBU's administration staff and there are no tuition fees at cooperation HEIs. However, the panel felt that students are not well informed that in Bachelor studies the recognition of foreign studies is less flexible due to the governmental regulations (80% obligatory courses defined by state regulations). The panel recommends informing the students in an appropriate way in order to avoid misunderstandings.

In addition, the Faculty cooperates with partners from the professional field both with public and private organisations. The panel appreciates that the employer representatives bring in their expertise in the development of the study programmes and take part in quality assurance. In particular, the approach of obtaining three employer recommendations as a prerequisite for implementing a new programme is considered a good idea by the panel. It formed the view that cooperation is intensively fostered and significantly shape and influence the content of the programmes' curricula as well as the graduates' profile.

At programme level, the evaluation of the programmes' quality by employer representatives as well as the student surveys, the graduate surveys and the overall satisfaction surveys for teaching staff are assessed by the panel as positive. There is evidence that specific measures for the programmes' improvement and further development take place. However, there is room for improvement with regard to the quality assurance methods at course level. As the learning outcomes of each course contribute to the overall qualifica-

tion objective of the study programme, it is important to receive students' feedback on each course. During the online conference the panel learned that some lecturers let evaluate their courses by students on a voluntary basis at the end of the course, before the exam. But there is no prescribed procedure how and when courses need to be evaluated by the students. **Therefore, the panel recommends the following condition:**

The Faculty implements a systematic quality assurance instrument for a regular student assessment of each course.

Quality Requirements	Exceptional	Exceeds the Quality Requirements	Meets the Quality Requirements	Fails to Meet the Quality Requirements
<b>III. STUDIES AND TEACHING</b>				
(1) Study offer and qualification objectives			X	
(2) Study programmes' quality			X	
(3) Research transfer to the areas of studies and teaching		X		
(4) Quality assurance				X
(5) Cooperation		X		

## IV. Research

When conducting research, the Faculty of Law, as a structural subdivision of the St. Petersburg State University, is guided by the general strategic development goal stipulated by the St. Petersburg State University Development Programme:

*St. Petersburg State University's entry into the world elite of classical universities and comprehensive research and educational support of the state policy of innovative development of the Russian Federation.*

This goal involves the continuous improvement of scientific and educational activities and its internationalisation, including in the area of "Law". In the strategic planning of the research activities of the academic staff of Faculty of Law, priority is given to interdisciplinary research, the expansion of domestic and international cooperation in scientific activities, and the economic efficiency of fundamental and applied research.<sup>19</sup> Equally important is the possibility of incorporating the relevant results of scientific research into the educational process, and their role in achieving the goals of internationalisation of educational activity.

In order to develop the interdisciplinary nature of scientific research conducted at the St. Petersburg State University in the area of "Law", conferences are regularly held with the aim of familiarising themselves with the methodology of other sciences - economics, sociology, history, psychology, linguistics. For example, interdisciplinary methodological conferences "Problems of the methodology of legal research", "Sociological and empirical methods in legal research" took place (cf. self-evaluation report p. 34). Domestic and international cooperation is supported and encouraged by publication activity and academic mobility of scientific and pedagogical staff.

The basis for the regulation of scientific activity at the St. Petersburg State University is based on research planning tools, in particular, by identifying priority areas of scientific research in each area of scientific knowledge, the use of objective scientometric indicators to assess the quality of scientific research results, the competitive nature of financing research projects, and a system for stimulating publication activity.<sup>20</sup>

The St. Petersburg State University creates the opportunity for its teaching staff to participate in research using an incentive system.<sup>21</sup> For active scientific activity, additional allowances and bonuses are provided for academic staff, these indicators are also taken into account when deciding on the conclusion and extension of an employment contract.

Information about the research competitions is available in the public domain on the St. Petersburg State University portal.<sup>22</sup> The main criteria and requirements are: interdisciplinarity

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<sup>19</sup> Examples of scientific research in the field of "Law", satisfying the requirements are, in particular, a research project supported by the Russian Science Foundation "The clarity of the official Russian language: legal and linguistic issues", research projects supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research - "The impact of digitalization of higher education on the related economic processes in modern Russian society", "Legal and criminological problems of preventive medicine", research projects financed from St. Petersburg State University - "Development of the concept of legal regulation and ethical standards for the circulation of biomaterials for genetic research, as well as genetic information"; "Legal support of effective anti-corruption measures", etc.

<sup>20</sup> <https://nauka.spbu.ru/kompensatsiya-raskhodov-avtorov-publikatsij.html>

<sup>21</sup> [https://spbu.ru/sites/default/files/ustav\\_spbgu.pdf](https://spbu.ru/sites/default/files/ustav_spbgu.pdf)

<sup>22</sup> <https://nauka.spbu.ru/konkursy-na-finansirovanie-nir.html>

of research; and publication of research results in leading scientific publications (indexed by WoS / Scopus, etc.).<sup>23</sup>

Applications submitted to the competition are subject to technical expertise for compliance with the competition announcement. Technical expertise is organised by the University's Head of the Department of Scientific Research. Applications that have passed technical expertise are submitted for scientific expertise, as well as for the examination of the potential protectability and commercialisability of the results. The procedure for conducting scientific expertise is determined by the University's Vice-Rector for Research. To conduct scientific expertise, the Vice-Rector for Research can form a Competition Commission with the involvement of members of Science Commissions, leading scientists of SPBU and third-party organisations. The final approval of the results of the competition and the amount of funding for supported applications from SPBU funds is issued by the order of the University's Vice-Rector for Research.

The SPBU has specific rules and standards for research. The Charter of St. Petersburg State University establishes the most general principles for the regulation of scientific activity, defines its tasks, among which are ensuring a high theoretical level and practical orientation of the research, using the latest scientific achievements and technologies in training in order to integrate scientific and educational activities, developing science-based projects in the interests of economic development and ensuring the country's security in accordance with the St. Petersburg University Development Programme.

The regulation of scientific activity at St. Petersburg State University is carried out on the basis of respect for the intellectual freedom of the researcher when choosing and implementing the topic of scientific research. At the same time, the St. Petersburg State University pays great attention to observing ethical standards when conducting research. The ethical standards of scientific research are established by the University Code.<sup>24</sup> They prescribe "to be principled in the search for truth and to uphold one's own opinion, combined with respect for the opinions of others, regardless of their social and official position, gender, age, race, nationality, beliefs and other circumstances", "respect the intellectual property right, be conscientious when receiving, presenting and evaluating the results of scientific and other creative activities, to prevent plagiarism, counterfeiting and other violations of intellectual rights". In addition, the observance of ethical principles of scientific activity is prescribed by the Regulation on the Ethics Committee of St. Petersburg State University for Social, Humanitarian and Natural Sciences in the field of research. Violation of scientific ethics may be the subject of consideration by the St. Petersburg State University Ethics Commission.

The quality management system includes tools and methods for regular quality assessment of research work. When assessing the quality of scientific research, objective scientometric indicators are used, as well as the opinion of authoritative experts in the relevant field. Such an assessment is carried out, firstly, in the competitive selection of applications for research work - both fundamental research in the priority areas of the St. Petersburg State University Development Programme and on relevant interdisciplinary topics, and applied research. The

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<sup>23</sup> Order No. 3315 of December 22, 2017 "On announcing an open call for proposals for conducting fundamental interdisciplinary research at the expense of St. Petersburg State University in 2018-2020. "; Order No. 3312 dated December 22, 2017 "On the announcement of an open tender for applications for conducting applied interdisciplinary research work at the expense of St. Petersburg State University in 2018-2020"

<sup>24</sup> <https://spbu.ru/openuniversity/documents/kodeks-universanta>

conditions for participation in the competition are the availability of the necessary number of publications in periodicals included in a certain quartile of international citation systems WoS CC / Scopus, a specific indicator of the Hirsch index and the presence of invited reports at prestigious international scientific conferences. Secondly, the quality of scientific research is assessed by external and internal examination of the report on the results of research in terms of their novelty, the theoretical and practical significance of the proposed solution to the scientific problem, and the requirements for the number of publications in periodicals included in a certain quartile of international citation systems WoS CC / Scopus. A positive assessment of the scientific report is a prerequisite for the extension of the research project. If the report on R&D is negatively evaluated, the project manager may be excluded from participating in subsequent competitions for research work.

All teachers, according to the employment contract, are required to conduct research (including through grants) and publish their results in peer-reviewed publications indexed by WoS / Scopus / RSCI databases.

In general, the main quality indicators of the effectiveness of scientific activity are the publication activity of scientific and pedagogical staff, participation in scientific events, the defence of dissertations, scientific activity of students, international scientific cooperation, publishing, scientific awards.

As part of the activities of St. Petersburg State University in the field of "Law", cooperation with many leading Russian and foreign educational institutions is actively developing. Directions and forms of cooperation in the field of scientific and applied research are diverse.

Firstly, cooperation with foreign scientific and educational organisations is carried out within the framework of various academic exchange programmes. The exchange programmes are primarily provided for by direct bilateral agreements with foreign partners<sup>25</sup>. In addition, scientific and pedagogical staff in the field of "Law" carry out teaching activities (Staff Mobility for Teaching) and undergo scientific internships at partner universities (Staff Mobility for Training) under the Erasmus + programme<sup>26</sup>.

Within the framework of academic exchange programmes implemented at St. Petersburg State University, as well as with the financial support of St. Petersburg State University, which provides winners of annual university competitions for financing foreign business trips and internships, scientific and pedagogical workers of the Faculty of Law visited foreign educational organisations for the purpose of undergoing a scientific internship or lecturing.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> For a full list of cooperation agreements between St. Petersburg State University and foreign partner universities, see: <https://ifea.spbu.ru/соглашения-об-академическом-и-научном-обмене.html>

<sup>26</sup> For a full list of partner universities at St. Petersburg State University under the Erasmus + program see: [https://ifea.spbu.ru/images/2018/spisok\\_vuzov\\_erasmus\\_obshy\\_2018.pdf](https://ifea.spbu.ru/images/2018/spisok_vuzov_erasmus_obshy_2018.pdf)

<sup>27</sup> University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain (lecturing on the Contribution of the European Court of Human Rights to the Protection of Labor Rights); University of Salzburg, Austria (lecturing on Russian civil law at the Summer School of European Private Law); University of Passau, Germany (scientific leadership of the joint Russian-German student comparative law seminar "Towards International Criminal Law: Transnational Justice Processes in the 20th Century"); University of Turin, Italy (carrying out a joint comparative legal study on the topic "Problems of harmonization of European and Russian contract law: invalidity of an illegal contract"); Eurasian National University named after L.N. Gumilyova, Kazakhstan (lecturing for undergraduates and doctoral students in the specialty "International Law", conducting individual consultations for doctoral students on the functioning and legal status of the Eurasian Economic Union); Jilin University, China (lecturing on "Russian Civil Law", "Russian Judicial System"); National Taiwan University (labor law research in Taiwan and China); Beijing University of Technology, China (lecturing and conducting seminars on reform of the criminal justice system and reform of legal education); as well as the University of Greifswald (Germany), the University of



Existing academic exchange programmes at St. Petersburg State University also provide an invitation for lecturing and scientific internships for foreign specialists, both within the framework of bilateral inter-university agreements and within the framework of the Erasmus + programme.<sup>28</sup>

The subject matter of lectures by foreign experts is diverse and allows students to complement the study of legal institutions with comparative legal and interdisciplinary aspects: “*Comparative family law of the countries of the European Union*” (European University of Viadrina (Germany), University of Green Gora (Poland), Erasmus +); “*The Role of Emotions in Law: Ethics, Behavioral Economics and Law*” (Jagiellonian University, Erasmus +) and others. St. Petersburg State University within the framework of various programs of academic mobility in the direction of “Law” was visited by colleagues from Wrocław, Jagiellonian, Hamburg, Stockholm and other universities.

Secondly, one of the priority areas of cooperation with foreign scientific and educational organisations is the implementation of joint research projects. This direction also has the institutional support of St. Petersburg State University - a) within the framework of the programme of support for joint research and educational projects of the St. Petersburg State University and the Free University of Berlin (<https://ifea.spbu.ru/program-support-of-joint-projects-St-Petersburg-free-University-of-Berlin>); b) in the framework of the joint program of St. Petersburg State University and DAAD “Dmitry Mendeleev”, which provides financial support for research internships of graduate students, young teachers and researchers of St. Petersburg State University (under the age of 45 years) in German universities and research institutions (<https://ifea.spbu.ru/joint-program-sbgu-and-daad-dmitry-mendeleev>)<sup>29</sup>. It should be noted joint research projects with foreign colleagues, which received support from the Russian Foundation for Basic Research.<sup>30</sup>

In addition, cooperation opportunities with foreign colleagues are implemented by individual research groups, which include representatives of foreign educational organisations. The results of the activities of one of such research groups, dealing with the problems of continental legal realism together with a professor at Milan State University, are reflected in joint publications as well as in the draft monograph following the results of the international conference held at St. Petersburg State University.

It should also be noted the projects carried out by the scientific and pedagogical staff of St. Petersburg State University in the field of “Law”, under agreements with international organi-

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Cantabria (Spain), the University of Tokyo (Japan), the University of Helsinki (Finland), the University of Hannover. Leibniz, University named after Pavel Joseph Shafarik in Kosice, Free University of Berlin

<sup>28</sup> <https://ifea.spbu.ru/invitation-of-foreign-specialists-in-framework-inter-university-agreements.html>

<sup>29</sup> The first programme, in particular, implements the research project “Equality and Traditional Russian Values (using the example of the practice of the Constitutional Court of Russia)”, which also involves taking into account the German experience of theoretical understanding and constitutional-judicial interpretation of the principle of equality. Examples of research projects implemented within the framework of the second program are: 1) Comparative analysis of the criminal law counteraction to banking crimes based on the laws of Russia and Germany; 2) Comparative analysis of the regulation of the use of digital information as evidence in criminal the trial of Russia and Germany” (Research Center for Human Rights in Criminal Justice, University of Passau); 3) “The principle of proportionality in a social context and its influence in the practice of constitutional justice on positive rights in Russia and Germany” (Humboldt University, Berlin).

<sup>30</sup> For example, “Access to judicial protection of subjective public rights: limits, social support and development prospects in the context of e-justice”. The results of this project are also reflected in joint publications (see, for example: Gritsenko E.V., HeintzenM. Access to judicial protection in Russia and Germany // Bulletin of St. Petersburg University. Law. 2019. Vol. 10, No. 4. p. 733–755).



ations, in particular, the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the CIS member states: draft model laws “On Mortgage”, “On the Law of Inheritance”, “On the Trust” asset management”, “On advertising”, “On regulatory legal acts”, “On organ donation”, etc.

Thirdly, another important area of cooperation with foreign scientific, educational, as well as professional public organisations is the joint organisation of international conferences, round tables, seminars, summer schools.<sup>31</sup>

International and national conferences held at the Faculty of Law of St. Petersburg State University bring together many representatives of foreign universities, law firms and public authorities.<sup>32</sup> Lecturers of Faculty of Law regularly win federal grants for research.<sup>33</sup>

Cooperation between St. Petersburg State University in the field of Law with leading Russian educational institutions, scientific and professional public organisations is developing in the same areas. In St. Petersburg State University, in the area of Law, cooperation with partners from the professional community in the field of applied research is also developing. One example is the cooperation agreement between St. Petersburg State University and the Federal Antimonopoly Service, which aims at conducting large-scale expert and research work on the most pressing problems of development and protection of competition, including the implementation of the National Competition Development Plan, approved by decree of the President of the Russian Federation, as well as the preparation joint proposals to amend the Russian antitrust laws, improve law enforcement practice.<sup>34</sup>

Another area of research activity that has important applied value is the enforcement monitoring carried out under the agreement between St. Petersburg State University and the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation (<https://pravoprim.spbu.ru>). In the framework of enforcement monitoring activities, both officially published (published or posted for general access on Internet sites) enforcement acts and decisions of public authorities that are not subject to publication are summarised and analysed. To collect such decisions, St. Petersburg State University, with the assistance of the Ministry of Justice, interacts with public authorities that make appropriate decisions. The collected materials are summarised and ana-

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<sup>31</sup> So, one of the co-organizers of the Martens Readings on International Humanitarian Law, held at St. Petersburg State University since 1997, is, along with St. Petersburg State University and the Russian Association of International Law, the International Committee of the Red Cross; with the assistance of the German Foundation for International Legal Cooperation, a Russian-German seminar “Judicial Protection of Social Rights in Germany and Russia” was organized at St. Petersburg State University; with the assistance of Milan State University - an international conference on the theoretical heritage of L.I. Petrazhitzky; Since 1999, Passau University together with SPbU has been organizing annual Russian-German student research seminars; and etc.

<sup>32</sup> <http://law.spbu.ru/events/19-12-12/51f7561f-c612-4ddb-baff-f17234b3316d.aspx>

<sup>33</sup> <https://kias.rfbr.ru/>

<sup>34</sup> SPbU together with the Ural State Law University, is implementing a project to study the theoretical heritage of Academician S.S.Alekseev, holding annual conferences as part of the St. Petersburg International Legal Forum. Among the partners of St. Petersburg State University, educational and scientific institutions are Moscow State University named after M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State Law University named after O.E. Kutafina (Moscow State Law Academy), Institute of State and Law of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Ural State Law University, B.N. Presidential Library Yeltsin and others; professional public organizations - the Association of Medical Law, the Association of Lawyers of Russia, the Association of Legal Education, the Russian section of the International Association of Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy (IVR), etc.; state bodies - the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation, the Federal Antimonopoly Service, etc. One of the areas of scientific cooperation is the holding of joint conferences: on sports law - “Problems of modern sports law” (jointly with Moscow State University), “Sports law as *lex sportiva* and *lex mercatoria*” (together with Ural State Law University), etc.; in medical law (with the participation of the Medical Law Association), etc.

lysed by experts of the University. A qualified analysis of the collected law enforcement practice allows you to identify the cause of the conflicts found in law enforcement, as well as to outline the ways for their possible resolution, both related to the introduction of amendments to regulatory acts and their proper interpretation. The enforcement problems identified during the monitoring process are brought to the attention of the heads of ministries and departments, heads of subjects, local government bodies, as well as officials of other public authorities in the form of monthly expert reports on the monitoring results.

### **Appraisal „Research“:**

The panel has gained a very good impression of the research quality and research activities of the Faculty of Law. It assesses the qualification of academic staff and their publications as very impressive. In the opinion of the panel the awareness of good scientific practice takes place and plays an essential role of Faculty's quality expectation and quality understanding.

Thanks to the broad amount of partnerships of the Saint Petersburg State University with other national and international HEIs, the Faculty of Law benefits of very good opportunities for research cooperation, academic exchange and other joint projects at national and international level. The panel appreciates the active research and exchange activities of the Faculty. Several members of the full-time teaching staff hold responsible positions in national research activities with large business companies such as Gazprom; and with state organisations such as the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation. As institution it is very well embedded in the overall research scene in Russian Federation.

The Faculty's research strategy is derived from the Saint Petersburg State University. Its setting and resources allow for sustainable research development perspectives. The SPBU promotes research projects in which different faculties work together interdisciplinarily. Some examples how the Faculty of Law collaborates for example with other Faculties in the field of economics, linguistics and psychology were pointed out during the online conference. The panel appreciates these activities and sees potential for extending these interdisciplinary activities externally with other academic and business organisations at national and international level.

The panel defines the research activity as the strength of the SPBU and the Faculty of Law. It offers its academic staff very good conditions and good equipment in terms of literature access allowing them occupying a leading position in the Russian Higher Education Area.

The research activities are promoted by means of a suitable incentive system. All lecturers, according to the employment contract, are required to conduct research (including through grants) and publish their results in peer-reviewed publications indexed by WoS / Scopus / RSCI databases. One of the main conditions for admission to participation in the competition for filling the posts of a scientific and pedagogical worker is publication activity. Such a set of measures guarantees regular improvement of the professional and scientific competence of teachers.

In the view of the panel, the quality management system includes appropriate instruments and methods for the regular assessment of the quality of research.

Quality Requirements	Exceptional	Exceeds the Quality Requirements	Meets the Quality Requirements	Fails to Meet the Quality Requirements
<b>IV. Research</b>				
(1) Research strategy		X		
(2) Research activities		X		
(3) Promotion of research			X	
(4) Good scientific practice			X	
(5) Quality assurance in research			X	
(6) Research cooperation		X		

## V. Services (Administration, Counselling, Academic Support)

Educational processes are supported by the administrative units of the Faculty of Law and the St Petersburg State University. There are structural divisions for academic issues to support students' educational, personal and career needs.

The Admission Department of the SPBU serves as a principal source of information on academic policies and registration procedures for the SPBU community and prospective students. Open Days are conducted by the Faculty of Law three times per academic year in order to attract prospective students.<sup>35</sup>

The Faculty of Law implements a system of curating first-year students of undergraduate studies. For the purpose of academic support and adaptation of students to the learning environment, a curator is appointed from the list of scientific and pedagogical workers by order of the first Vice-Rector for Study and Methodical work of the St. Petersburg State University. The main tasks are as follows:

- Explaining to students the basic requirements, norms and rules of student life; rights and obligations of a student at the University;
- Facilitating the involvement of students in social, cultural, sports, research activities of the SPBU and participation in informing students on relevant issues;
- Taking measures to prevent conflicts within the student team, as well as conflicts with faculty and staff of the University;
- Participation in the organisation and conduct of events with students;
- Consultations of students on the issues of determining the profile and (or) the trajectory of training (including the choice of elective disciplines, etc.);
- Assisting students in finding information they need in resolving social issues;
- Participation in informing students about the possibility of participating in competitions: to receive personal scholarships; academic mobility, etc.;
- Informing about existing local university acts governing the legal status of students; informing students about what issues fall within the competence of certain university officials;
- On behalf of the Deputy Head of the Training Department, Deputy Head of the Department for Youth Affairs, participation in informing students on other issues related to the organisation of educational and extracurricular activities.

The Faculty offers career events such as job fairs, career speed networking, company presentations and career development workshops for alumni and current students in collaboration with its partners from the professional field. The Division of Internship and Employment develops and strengthens corporate relations between SPBU and partner companies, organises internship and promotes employment of students and graduates. Students and graduates have the opportunity to send their CVs in electronic form to the Department's specialists and bring them in printed form to events (International Career Day of SPBU, company presentations, seminars, workshops). Information about internships and presentations, announcements of upcoming events and current vacancies of employers are available on the

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<sup>35</sup> <http://law.spbu.ru/OpenDays.aspx>

official portal of SPBU on the pages: vacancies, internships and competitions<sup>36</sup> (there is a section on vacancies at the website of the Faculty of Law as well<sup>37</sup>).

Furthermore, during the online conference the panel learned that the SPBU has developed a rich alumni culture, which has a positive impact on students' academic and career paths. SPBU's alumni network counts 55.000 individuals, which are also involved in university life e.g. as guest speakers in lectures, advisors and mentors.

The system of interaction between the IT support service and research and teaching staff has been effectively built. The educational process is supported by the BlackBoard information system. The organisation of technical support is carried out by the Information Technology support service of the Faculty; methodological assistance can be provided by the Educational Programmes Department.

The Youth Affairs Department of the SPBU is responsible for student support in their intellectual, moral and personal development and growth and achievement of their educational goals. The Department offers student-centred events for skills developing, informs about potential research projects, volunteer activities and/or administrative activities, where students are invited to take part. Additionally, students can get support and information in terms of internal and external financial support and get help during the application process.

Furthermore, there are several student associations university-wide where students can work on cultural and social projects.<sup>38</sup> The SPBU campus also provides a medical clinic, where all students, and academic and non-academic staff members can receive medical help.<sup>39</sup>

Assessing the quality of the services provided is assessed using tools such as conducting surveys of target groups of consumers of specific types of services, reviewing and analysing the results, and taking the necessary administrative measures. The Head of the relevant Department, which ensures the participation of all interested parties in these processes, is responsible for evaluating the quality of services.

The information obtained as a result of surveys, internal audits or public discussions is analysed, and the results of the analysis are transferred to specific measures to improve the quality of services provided - for example, changes are made to the list of services provided and/or necessary administrative measures are taken to improve their quality, up to change of responsible executors (cf. self-evaluation report p. 47).

At the website of the SPBU, there is a "Virtual Reception", a channel that can be used by all stakeholders in order to give feedback to the resources provided by the St. Petersburg State University.<sup>40</sup> On the website of the Faculty of Law, all stakeholders can make an online request or give feedback to the resources provided to the dean of the Faculty.<sup>41</sup>

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<sup>36</sup> <https://spbu.ru/studentam/praktika>

<sup>37</sup> <http://law.spbu.ru/Education/StudLife/Vacancy.aspx>

<sup>38</sup> <https://spbu.ru/studentam/studencheskie-iniciativy>

<sup>39</sup> <https://spbu.ru/studentam/medicinskaya-pomoshch>

<sup>40</sup> <https://guestbook.spbu.ru/>

<sup>41</sup> <https://guestbook.spbu.ru/dekany-spbgu/law.html>

## Appraisal „Services“:

The services offered by the Faculty of Law are documented in a clear and user-friendly manner on its website. The expert panel was convinced that a variety of guidance and assistance by faculty and administration are available for students.

Furthermore, the SPBU/the Faculty of Law has developed a rich career support culture, which offers very good consultation services, and has therefore a positive impact on students' employability. The panel considers Faculty's employer network and the Alumni network as very helpful to provide students with a link to the world of work and to develop study programmes according to current needs of the labour market.

In general, the evaluation of the administrative services is considered suited by the expert panel to control the efficiency and students'/teachers' satisfaction with the services provided. The surveys of affected stakeholders and the "Virtual Reception" allow for feedback and the results can be transferred into specific measures for further development. However, the panel recommends that a format be found to present and highlight the key quality assurance achievements of the administrative services in a more transparent way (see also Appraisal in chapter VII. Publication / Public).

Quality Requirements	Exceptional	Exceeds the Quality Requirements	Meets the Quality Requirements	Fails to Meet the Quality Requirements
<b>V. SERVICES (ADMINISTRATION, CONSULTING AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT)</b>				
(1) Services			X	
(2) Assessment of services			X	
(3) Further development of services			X	

## VI. Resources

In its self-evaluation report the Faculty of Law states that classrooms and premises of the Faculty of Law of St. Petersburg State University ensure its uninterrupted work in the provision of educational services and the implementation of educational programmes (cf. p. 48). They are equipped with modern equipment, including computer and office equipment, allowing demonstrating presentations and conducting video conferences. They are provided with Internet access in every workplace. The library is equipped with more than 200 computers. A courtroom, a forensic laboratory, and a legal clinic are equipped to support the educational process. The buildings contain both room halls for lecture courses and compact classrooms for seminars, while users are provided with remote access to library resources from anywhere in the world.

The branch Department of the SPBU Scientific Library of Law field of study has one of the largest collections of specialised literature in Saint Petersburg. As of 01.01.2018, the Department has 492,198 storage units, including 97,389 copies of periodicals. The volume of new receipts of printed publications in 2017 is 10,567 copies. The Scientific Literature Fund contains 341,140 copies of monographs and periodicals, in Russian and foreign languages. Educational publications in printed form are provided in the amount of 136,810 copies. Educational and methodological literature is available in the amount of 268 copies.

The library's electronic catalogue is available on the Internet ([www.lib.law.spbu.ru](http://www.lib.law.spbu.ru)) and contains all information about the Fund. Access to all licensed resources in the SPBU subscription is open from all IP addresses of the SPBU network (including WiFi zones and SPBU dormitories). Access is also possible from any computer that has Internet access (including home computers) through an individual account that all employees and students have.

Russian electronic resources:

1. Scientific electronic library eLIBRARY.RU
2. Electronic Library System (ELS) "LAN Publishing house"
3. ELS "Yurayt"
4. ELS "IBooks"
5. ELS "Znaniy.com"
6. ELS "Book.ru"
7. ELS "Prospect"
8. Information system "Continent"

Foreign electronic resources:

1. LexisNexis Academic
2. Ebrary/Ebook Central
3. EBSCO Publishing Co. - databases
4. EBSCO – eBook Collection
5. Cambridge Journals Online
6. Oxford Journals
7. Oxford Handbooks Online
8. University Press Scholarship Online – Law Collection
9. Springer-e-books
10. ProQuest Dissertations and Theses
11. HeinOnline: Law Journal Library

12. Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law
13. Encyclopedia of Private International Law
14. Hague Academy Collected Courses Online
15. Kluwer Law Online

The full-time academic staff at the Faculty of Law consists of 123 persons, including 29 doctors of sciences (13 - with the title of professor), 77 candidates of science (52 - with the title of associate professor), 4 senior teachers, 9 assistants (candidates of science and without a degree), and 4 junior researchers. The part-time academic staff consists of 11 persons and the non-academic staff of 157 persons. In its self-evaluation report, the Faculty of Law states that the qualifications of teaching staff meet the requirements for teaching and research and exceed the average level in Russia. The qualifications of the teaching staff are confirmed by the following data on the results of their research activities for 2016 - 2019: publications included in RSCI - 1342, included in the core of RSCI - 246, WOS CC - 57, Scopus - 31, in the editions of the Higher Attestation Commission - 540, 97 reports at international and all-Russian conferences; 15 teachers participated in international and external Russian scientific grants and projects. The qualifications of part-time teachers comply with the requirements for the basic composition of scientific and pedagogical workers. As a rule, these are teachers with extensive experience in practical activities in the field of jurisprudence, including management.

The hiring of full-time teachers is carried out in accordance with the current labor legislation of the Russian Federation. Article 332 of the Labor Code of the Russian Federation establishes that employment contracts for filling the posts of teachers related to the faculty may be concluded both for an indefinite period and for a period determined by the parties to the employment contract (not exceeding five years). The conclusion of an employment contract for filling the position of a pedagogical employee related to the teaching staff, as well as the transfer to such a position is preceded by a competition election to fill the corresponding position. In the development of these provisions of the Labor Code of the Russian Federation, St. Petersburg State University adopted the Regulation on the procedure for filling the positions of scientific and pedagogical workers of St. Petersburg State University (approved By Order of 31.10.2019 No. 10864/1). This Regulation has been developed in accordance with the Labor Code of the Russian Federation, other regulatory legal acts of the Russian Federation, the Charter of St. Petersburg State University, the Rules of the internal labor schedule of St. Petersburg State University, and other local acts of St. Petersburg State University.

The said Regulation regulates in detail the procedure for holding a competition, the previous filling of the position of the teaching staff, as well as the transfer to the position of teaching staff at St. Petersburg State University, and includes, in particular, the regulation of the following issues: the procedure for announcing the competition; documents submitted by bidders; the procedure for considering candidates; voting on the election to the post of faculty of St. Petersburg State University at a meeting of the Scientific Council of St. Petersburg State University; summing up the competition.

When a competition is announced, qualification requirements for the respective position (education, scientific degrees and titles) as well as, depending on the position, relevant requirements in the field of scientific, educational, methodological, expert activity, confirmed by a list of scientific, educational methodological, creative and performing works, textbooks, teaching aids, monographs. In addition, an indication of the total number of jobs, the number of publi-



cations indexed in databases RISC, Web of Science Core Collection, Scopus, h-index is required. Information on expert activities, including membership in dissertation councils, the Expert Council of the Higher Attestation Commission, and other councils plays a role as well.

The final vote in respect of candidates applying for the positions of Assistant, Senior Teacher, Associate Professor is held at the meeting of the Academic Council of the Faculty. The final vote on candidates for the position of Professor is held at the meeting of the SPBU Academic Council.

Candidates for positions are pre-considered at a meeting of the Qualification Personnel Commission. The conclusion of the Qualification Personnel Commission is transmitted by the Secretary of this Commission to the Academic Secretary of the corresponding Academic Council. At the meeting of the Qualification Personnel Commission a decision may be made to hold an open class. When conducting open class a video recording is made. The video recording of an open class is organised by the Vice-Rector for Human Resources. The candidate has the right to conduct an open class using telecommunications or submit a video recording. A video recording of the open class is posted on the SPBU website. If the candidate did not take part in an open class and did not provide a video, then the official who issued the order on the competition has the right to remove him from participation in the competition upon submission to the Qualification Personnel Commission. Applicants have the right to attend a meeting of the Qualification Personnel Commission, at a meeting of the Academic Council. No later than three working days from the date of the final vote at the meeting of the Academic Council the Scientific Secretary submits an extract from the minutes of the meeting of the Academic Council to the corresponding Deputy Head of the Personnel Department. Information about the voting results is published on the SPBU website in the section "Work at SPBU" in accordance with the established procedure. The results of the final voting with the candidate receiving a majority and more than 50% of the votes participating in the vote, the Rector concludes the employment contract in the manner prescribed by the labor legislation of the Russian Federation.

The external teaching staff is formed as a result of the conclusion of employment contracts on part-time work in accordance with the requirements of Art. 332 of the Labor Code of the Russian Federation, which provides that in order to maintain the continuity of the educational process, it is allowed to conclude an employment contract to fill the position of a pedagogical employee belonging to the teaching staff, without being elected in a competition to fill the corresponding position when taking part-time jobs for no more than one year. The conclusion of an employment contract with an external teacher is based on the decision of the Vice-Rector for the organisation of work with staff (Regulation on the procedure for filling the positions of scientific and pedagogical workers of St. Petersburg State University). The selection of external teachers is carried out personally, taking into account the experience of practical activities, knowledge, competencies in the fields of activity affected by the taught disciplines. Currently, in the area of "Law", teaching is carried out by specialists with unique experience in various government bodies (the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation, the Federation Council, the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation, the Federal Antimonopoly Service, etc.) and large international law firms.

An effective labor contract, which a scientific and pedagogical employee concludes upon admission to work with St. Petersburg State University, provides for the employee's obligation to systematically improve their qualifications. In each academic year, continuing educa-

tion courses are available for faculty members under the advanced education programmes<sup>42</sup>. The personnel policy of St. Petersburg State University is connected both with the development of existing human resources and with the attraction of new employees from the international and Russian labor market. The Human Resources Department of the SPBU is responsible for organising and managing the programmes/courses for further qualification.

The main sources of budget formation necessary for the implementation of the study programme are the subsidy funds for the fulfillment of the state task and the funds from income-generating activities. The financial resources of the Faculty are formed from the budget of the St. Petersburg State University. In its self-evaluation report, the Faculty states that the financial resources fully allow the acquisition, maintenance and operation of the material and technical base and equipment necessary for the implementation of study programmes.

Average annual research funding for the Faculty of Law:

2017 – 2.434.000 rubles

2018 – 14.579.564 rubles

2019 – 10.611.742 rubles

on average for a year (average for 3 years) – 9.208.435 rubles (cf. p. 53).

### **Appraisal „Resources“:**

Since an online conference was conducted, the panel had not the opportunity to visit the University's building. The Faculty has provided a virtual tour presenting the University's and the Faculty's premises and facilities. Based on the materials provided, the panel formed the view that a smooth running of the Faculty is ensured with regard to the capacities for research, studies, teaching and administration as well as the available rooms and facilities. Furthermore, the panel appreciates the courtroom, the forensic laboratory and the legal clinic offered for students as it promotes their educational process. Furthermore, the expert team was impressed by the wide supply of digital literature databases and the platform BlackBoard which is considered as effective for learning and teaching activities at the Faculty.

The expert panel is convinced that the qualifications of the full-time and the part-time academic staff correspond clearly to the requirements of study, teaching and research. The faculty members have the opportunity to accelerate their research, learn innovative teaching concepts or methods and extend professional networks. The number of full-time professors matches the scope of tasks in teaching and research.

The part-time teaching staff is involved in the organisation of Faculty's teaching operations in a suitable manner. It has the same rights and duties and is subject to the same requirements in application and hiring processes.

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<sup>42</sup> For example: “Psychology and Pedagogy of Higher Education”, “Teacher of Higher Education. Psychology of training and the development of intelligence and creativity ”, “ Interactive teaching methods in the system of modern education ”, “Business communication in English”, “Preparation of lecture courses and seminars in English. Furthermore, scientific and pedagogical staff took part in advanced training courses: “Notary: Actual Issues of Russian Law” at the Samara National Research University named after Academician S.P.Koroleva (Novikov A.A.); “Development and implementation of work programs of disciplines (modules) in financial literacy for students of educational institutions of higher education” at Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of Higher Education “Moscow State University named after M.V. Lomonosov”(E.N. Dobrokhotova).

The human resources in the different areas of performance allow for an adequate fulfilment of tasks. Staff professional development takes place for all staff groups and contributes to their qualification. The panel appreciates the broad offer for further qualification that is organised and managed by the Human Resources Department.

Given the fact that the St. Petersburg State University is based on public law and financed by the Russian government, and as there is no evidence that the University might have difficulties in attracting new students, the expert panel is convinced that for the accreditation period the financing of all performance areas is ensured.

Quality Requirements	Exceptional	Exceeds the Quality Requirements	Meets the Quality Requirements	Fails to Meet the Quality Requirements
<b>VI. RESOURCES</b>				
(1) Rooms and facilities			X	
(2) Full-time teaching staff			X	
(3) Part-time teaching staff			X	
(4) Human resources			X	
(5) Financing			X	

## VII. Publication / Public

The website of the Faculty of Law contains a wide variety of information. Official announcements and updates are published on the website for prospective and current students, graduates and faculty staff. The enrolled students receive all the information on their educational process including the schedule, curriculum, access to BlackBoard, library access, information on theses and scientific work. The website of the Faculty of Law of St. Petersburg State University contains curricula for all educational programmes. The curriculum contains the competencies of students on the basis of training, a list of academic disciplines, including information on the number of credits, hours of training, intermediate certification and final certification tests.

All students can find information about policies and regulations, composition of all academic and advisory bodies such as the Academic Council, the Educational and Methodological Commission, the Scientific Commission, the Council of Educational Programmes as well as the Quality Control Commission on the website of the Faculty of Law.

All enrolled students receive a personal account to the internal platform of the SPBU with a personal login and password. The account provides the following features:

- viewing and editing personal data, as well as adding/editing personal documents;
- viewing grades in all disciplines;
- selection and change of elective disciplines;
- selection and approval of topics by GQW;
- electronic submission of applications for social and increased social scholarships (for students of 1 and 2 courses), financial assistance, compensation for meals, accommodation in a hostel.

The Teaching and Learning Department of the Faculty of Law provides advice to students concerning late registration, credit transfer, academic leave, course withdrawal, course reinstatement, and graduation qualification. It also issues diplomas and transcripts for graduates.

The site of the Admission Commissions of St. Petersburg State University contains all the information about the admission procedure at St. Petersburg State University, including the Charter of St. Petersburg State University, and the minutes of meetings of the committee. In addition, the section “For school graduates” on the website of the Faculty of Law contains information about educational programmes, admission requirements, entrance tests, information about the results of admission of past years.

SPBU and all its sub-units (including the Faculty of Law) commit themselves to be an “Open University”. It means that anyone can easily get information about the activities of the St. Petersburg State University - all orders, materials of rector's meetings, meetings of the Academic Council of the St. Petersburg State University and receptions by the rector of citizens are publicly available on the University portal, special attention is paid to feedback. The Education Standards section<sup>43</sup> enables open access to educational standards for educational programmes. They are established by St. Petersburg University and ensure the unity of the educational space of the Russian Federation, the continuity of the main educational pro-

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<sup>43</sup> <https://spbu.ru/openuniversity/documents/obrazovatelnye-standarty>

grammes at various levels. Furthermore, the structure of the education quality management system and the education quality control mechanism are presented on the website of St. Petersburg State University.<sup>44</sup> There is a separate subsection on the main website of St. Petersburg State University in the “Documentation” section, which contains all certificates of international, state and professional accreditation. The homepage of the Faculty of Law (quality management system) has general information on the quality management system as well with references to the website of the SPBU.<sup>45</sup>

The results of the assessment of the quality of education as well as action plans to improve the quality of education (Roadmaps) are regularly published in form of reports and protocols of expert commissions, administrative bodies and services, published in open access on the website of St. Petersburg State University. All published documents are posted on the St. Petersburg State University website in the “Documentation” section<sup>46</sup>, and are also communicated to responsible persons through an e-mail newsletter.

All orders of the SPBU’s Administration and the implementation of corresponding organisational units and academic bodies are published and accessible for everyone. Minutes of the meetings of all academic and advisory bodies at university and faculty level are published as well.

The Office of Public Relations is a structural unit of the St. State Petersburg University. The purpose of the management is to ensure a unified information policy of the University in accordance with the legislation and local acts of the St. Petersburg State University.

To achieve this goal, employees of the Public Relations Department solve the following tasks:

- organising the implementation of a unified information policy of the University and exercise control over its implementation;
- participating in the organisation of a single information space of the University;
- interacting with the media in order to implement a unified information policy of the University and promote the educational activities of St. Petersburg State University;
- organising and conducting advertising campaigns on the Internet;
- organising the production of printing and souvenir products to promote the educational programmes of St. Petersburg State University;
- organising and conducting exhibition events;
- carrying out newsletters to all interested parties and partners.

The Office of Public Relations conducts active public relations and online communication, which is reflected in the external media and in communication with external stakeholders.

The policy of openness applies to all areas of the University. Any information - about programmes and competitions, decisions and documents, and even graduate qualification works of students of the St. Petersburg State University - is published on the official website in the public domain.

The Faculty of Law also uses mass and social media as well as the platform BlackBoard to inform about the Faculty’s major decisions and important events.

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<sup>44</sup> <https://spbu.ru/sveden/kachestvo-obrazovaniya>

<sup>45</sup> <http://law.spbu.ru/Home.aspx>

<sup>46</sup> <https://spbu.ru/openuniversity/documents>

Pages on social networks (VKontakte) of the Faculty of Law:

- Public faculty VK: [vk.com/law1724](https://vk.com/law1724) - 1011 person
- Page of the Student Council of the Faculty of Law: VK [vk.com/jurfak.studsovet](https://vk.com/jurfak.studsovet) - 1515 person
- The page of the Student Scientific Society VK: [vk.com/jursnospbu](https://vk.com/jursnospbu) - 3066 person
- Page of the library of St. Petersburg State University in the direction of "Law" VK : [vk.com/liblawspb](https://vk.com/liblawspb) - 1520 person
- Total followers: 86,669

### **Appraisal „Publication / Public“:**

The panel could get a good overview of the publication and documentation of the offered services and information tools for different target groups. The panel is convinced that the members of the SPBU and the stakeholders of the Faculty of Law in particular as well as external stakeholders and the public are informed on Faculty's activities on a regular basis and through diverse channels. The announcements on the website, the press products of the Public Relations Department as well as the use of social media ensure that the prospective and current students, faculty, staff, parents, alumni, partners as well as the general audience are provided with information on Faculty's activities and services.

Regulations regarding the "student life cycle" are defined and published. The publication of the policies regarding admission and examinations as well as the organisation of studies and after graduation on the website, on Blackboard and Students' Personal Account make it transparent and easily accessible for students and alumni. Additionally, the expert team observes it as very beneficial for the students and alumni that they always can get a personnel advice in all service departments of the Faculty/University.

Competencies and responsibilities in the quality management system are clearly and transparently regulated and published on the website of the SPBU/Faculty of Law (see also Chapter II. Management Structure and Quality Management). The panel formed the view that it is an important aspect for the SPBU community to work transparently and to publish their quality management system and the corresponding results, orders and minutes of meetings on the website. However, the achievements based on the results obtained through quality assurance instruments should be given even more importance. The taken quality enhancement measures and especially what has been achieved should be communicated and highlighted stronger to all stakeholders. Therefore, the panel recommends that a format be found to present and highlight the key quality assurance achievements of the Faculty of Law in a more transparent and "user-friendly" way.

With regard to quality management in teaching and studies (see chapter III.), the results of student surveys at programme level are not communicated systematically to the teaching staff of the Faculty of Law – only in case there are negative results or certain aspects to be discussed with the corresponding lecturer. In the panel's view the result of student surveys should not only be discussed at academic bodies such as the Educational and Methodological Commission, but the teaching staff itself should also get an overall insight to the results

as they are directly working with the students. This should also be applicable at course level.  
**Therefore, the panel recommends the following condition:**

The Faculty communicates the results of student surveys to the teaching staff on a regular basis and in a systematic way.

Quality Requirements	Exceptional	Exceeds the Quality Re-quirements	Meets the Quality Re-quirements	Fails to Meet the Quality Requirements
<b>VII. PUBLICATION / PUBLIC</b>				
(1) Competencies and responsibilities			X	
(2) documentation "student life cycle"			X	
(3) Advise and information			X	
(4) Public relations			X	
(5) Results of quality management				Condition

## Quality Profile

### Faculty of Law of the St. Petersburg State University, Russian Federation

Quality Requirements	Exceptional	Exceeds the Quality Requirements	Meets the Quality Requirements	Fails to Meet the Quality Requirements
<b>I. MISSION STATEMENT, PROFILE AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</b>				
(1) Mission Statement			X	
(2) Profile			X	
(3) Target Groups			X	
(4) Academic Freedom			X	
(5) Strategic Objectives			X	
<b>II. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND QUALITY MANAGEMENT</b>				
(1) Management Structure			X	
(2) Organisation of Localities	not relevant			
(3) Quality Management Strategy			X	
(4) Quality Management System			X	
(5) Quality Management Instruments			X	
(6) Escalation Management			X	
(7) Participation			X	
<b>III. STUDIES AND TEACHING</b>				
(1) Study offer and qualification objectives			X	
(2) Study programmes' quality			X	
(3) Research transfer to the areas of studies and teaching		X		
(4) Quality assurance			Condition	
(5) Cooperation		X		
<b>IV. RESEARCH</b>				
(1) Research strategy		X		
(2) Research activities		X		
(3) Promotion of research		X		
(4) Good scientific practice			X	
(5) Quality assurance in research			X	
(6) Research cooperation		X		
<b>V. SERVICES (ADMINISTRATION, CONSULTING AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT)</b>				
(1) Services			X	
(2) Assessment of services			X	
(3) Further development of services			X	
Quality Requirements	Exceptional	Exceeds the Quality Requirements	Meets the Quality Requirements	Fails to Meet the Quality Requirements
<b>VI. RESOURCES</b>				
(1) Rooms and facilities			X	



(2) Full-time teaching staff			X	
(3) Part-time teaching staff			X	
(4) Human resources			X	
(5) Financing			X	
<b>VII. PUBLICATION / PUBLIC</b>				
(1) Competencies and responsibilities			X	
(2) documentation "student life cycle"			X	
(3) Advise and information			X	
(4) Public relations			X	
(5) Results of quality management			Condition	

## Annex

The development strategy of the Faculty of Law of St. Petersburg State University until 2020 within the framework of a university-wide strategy has been implemented and included such areas as:

- creation of new educational programmes, including interdisciplinary, educational disciplines and methods, allowing to take into account new trends in the development of legal education (the development of electronic educational environment, online and distance learning technologies, digitalization of the educational process);
- inclusion of representatives of employers in the state examination commissions (at least 50%), as well as in the composition of the Educational and methodological commissions conducting an examination of the content of the educational programme;
- introduction of mechanisms for independent internal assessment of the quality of education in educational programmes through involving representatives of employers and social partners in an independent evaluation of the quality of education in educational programmes, including the formation of an independent assessment of learning outcomes during the interim certification of students in disciplines, practices, and course projects;
- widespread development of “feedback” channels with participants in educational relations and external consumers of educational services through questionnaires and surveys of students, teachers, graduates and employers about the quality of the conditions for carrying out educational activities, the quality of teaching in the educational programme, the quality of training of graduates and their satisfaction with the learning outcomes in St. Petersburg State University;
- expanding the social orientation of educational activities through the provision of a wide range of services to the population and industrial partners (free consulting services to the population within the framework of the Legal Clinic, legal examinations commissioned by external users, participation in the development of joint projects and student startups, etc.);
- development of a system of student practices by concluding agreements with organisations and enterprises of the real sector of the economy and expanding their number;
- expansion of international educational cooperation and partnership in the implementation of educational programmes.<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>47</sup> cf. self-evaluation report pp. 10-11