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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION QUALITY ASSURANCE IN FOR 2024

**National Agency
to ensure the quality of higher education**

**Annual report of NAQA
on ensuring the quality of higher education
for 2024**

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The Annual Report of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education for 2024 summarises the key results of the Agency's activities. The document reflects both the strategic priorities and the daily work of the team aimed at developing the higher education quality assurance system in Ukraine. The results of internationalisation, communication activities, accreditation of educational programmes, implementation of tasks in operational areas, activities in the field of academic integrity, as well as legislative changes that took place in 2024 are highlighted. Significant attention was paid to harmonising activities with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG 2015), as well as preparing for external assessment with a view to gaining full membership of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and inclusion in the European Quality Assurance Agency Register (EQAR). It was 2024 that became an important milestone for the documentary and organisational advancement of this task.

For educators, researchers, managers, stakeholders in higher education and all those interested in the development of the national system of quality assurance in higher education, European integration and seeking a deeper understanding of the scope of activities, challenges and achievements of the National Agency in 2024.

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CONTENTS



INTRODUCTION	5
1. STRATEGY OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY: UPDATE	8
2. INTERNATIONALISATION OF THE HIGHER QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM EDUCATION AND THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY	10
2.1. European integration	10
2.2. Cooperation with foreign quality assurance agencies	11
2.3. International experts	12
2.4. Membership in international organisations	13
2.5. Advisory Board	14
2.6. International projects and international donor support	15
2.7. Participation in international forums, conferences, congresses and international publication activity	18
3. COORDINATION OF COMMUNICATION PROCESSES	21
4. EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM. ACCREDITATION OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES BY A NATIONAL AGENCY	35
01 Education / Pedagogy	38
02 Culture and art	40
03 Humanities	43
04 Theology	45
05 Social and behavioural sciences	45
06 Journalism	48
07 Management and administration	49
08 Law	51
09 Biology	53
10 Natural sciences	54
11 Mathematics and statistics	56
12 Information technology	58
13 Mechanical engineering	60
14 Electrical engineering	62
15 Automation and instrumentation	64
16 Chemical engineering and bioengineering	66
17 Electronics, automation and electronic communications	67
18 Production and technology	69
19 Architecture and construction	71
20 Agricultural sciences and food	74
21 Veterinary medicine	76
22 Healthcare	76
23 Social work	79
24 Service sector	81
25 Military sciences, national security, state border security	82

26	Civilian security	84
27	Transport	86
28	Public management and administration	88
29	International relations	89
5.	ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY BY OPERATIONAL AREAS	93
5.1.	Information and advisory support of ad hoc specialised councils and support of the Committee on the activities of ad hoc specialised academic councils	93
5.2.	Legal and litigation work	95
5.3.	Contract work	97
5.4.	Anti-corruption activities	98
5.5.	Organisational work on the accreditation of the OP	100
5.6.	Support of experts in accreditation of educational programmes	107
5.7.	Supporting the activities of industry expert councils	111
5.8.	Technical support for document management and record keeping	115
5.9.	Preparation of meetings of the National Agency	116
5.10.	Supporting the work of the National Agency's Committees and Commissions and the Appeals Chamber	117
5.11.	Methodological work	118
5.12.	Organising and conducting trainings and other educational events	127
5.13.	Analytical activities	130
5.14.	Publishing activities	136
5.15.	Publications of the National Agency	137
6.	ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY IN THE FIELD OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY	141
7.	LEGISLATIVE CHANGES IN THE SYSTEM OF QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION OF EDUCATION IN 2024	145
7.1.	Formulation of proposals for legislative support of quality higher education	145
7.2.	Appeals Chamber and legislative changes in appealing against decisions of the National Agency	148
7.3.	Concept of modernisation of the system of external quality assurance of higher education in Ukraine	151
	CLOSING REMARKS	153



INTRODUCTION



The Annual Report of the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance is a collective work that summarises the results of the activities of the members of the National Agency, the Secretariat and a team of thousands of experts for the reporting year. It was prepared not only to provide the public with statistical data on the work of the National Agency. It demonstrates our daily active work on implementing the tasks set by the legislation of Ukraine and the National Agency's strategy.

The report is divided into seven main sections and a number of subsections by operational area, making it easy to find the information you need.

Within this genre, it is not easy for us to convey all the peculiarities and ways of achieving the goals, difficulties and obstacles that the National Agency overcame in fulfilling its tasks. Nevertheless, we are confident that by reading these materials, everyone will find the necessary information to understand the scope of the work done and the measures, both quantitative and structural, implemented by the Agency in the system of external quality assurance in higher education.

This year, the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education had a number of tasks to solve to further improve the quality assurance system in higher education, including maintaining the objectivity and effectiveness of the evaluation of educational programmes.

The main "political" task of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education remains the improvement of regulatory documents, organisational and operational processes to bring them into full compliance with the Standards and Recommendations for Quality Assurance in the EHEA (ESG 2015). The year 2024 was an important year for the documentary and organisational advancement of this task. The implementation of the ESG 2015 standards and guidelines is important not only in fulfilling international obligations, but above all in the daily work of the National Agency to improve the quality assurance system in higher education in Ukraine.

In preparation for the external assessment procedure for full membership in the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and inclusion in the European Quality Assurance Agency Register (EQAR), the National Agency team, together with key stakeholders, held a series of official meetings with the leadership of the relevant organisations. Thanks to intensive work and constant consultation with European colleagues within the framework of the SEQA ESG 2 project, a core package of documents was prepared that summarised the five-year work of the National Agency to meet the requirements for inclusion in the EQAR register. The work done allows us to submit an application to ENQA for an external assessment procedure in the spring of 2025. We would like to remind you that this work is carried out in accordance with the international obligations ratified by Ukraine, and their successful implementation opens up more opportunities for Ukrainian educational institutions to attract foreign applicants and strengthen the academic rights of Ukrainian university graduates in the world.

These activities are described in detail in the second section of the report.

This year was another year of overcoming many challenges. First of all, it is the organisation of work in a full-scale war - despite the security, organisational and financial challenges faced by Ukrainian universities and the almost daily attacks on higher institutions by the invaders, the National Agency had to maintain a balance between maintaining the external quality assurance system, the need for its further improvement and support for higher education institutions that continue to nurture the future of Ukraine. The Agency, based on the current legislation, proposed a flexible model where Ukrainian higher institutions that have been directly affected by the war, directly contribute to the country's defence capability and are located in frontline cities can undergo the accreditation procedure and receive the necessary recommendations in a simpler procedure and completely of charge. In 2024, 1,300 educational programmes used this right.

An equally important challenge for us is the large number of educational programmes undergoing accreditation procedures. This year, the number of such programmes totalled 2,518. Given that the team of the National Agency's secretariat has remained unchanged since its establishment, and the number of accreditation procedures has quadrupled compared to the original forecasts, there is an urgent need to increase the number of secretariat staff.

There was a need to rethink the management and organisational processes, which was done by the National Agency. As a result, none of the accreditation procedures were disrupted during the year, and the examinations were held in accordance with the deadlines and procedures of the current legislation. The multifaceted and painstaking work behind these figures is reflected in the third, fourth and fifth sections of the report.

A separate, no less important area of the National Agency's work is the fulfilment of the tasks set out in the legislation in the field of academic integrity. Our team actively participated in the development of amendments to the legislation in the field of academic integrity, realising that the current regulatory legislation, controversial case law, and the lack of intolerance for academic dishonesty among a significant number of educators make it virtually impossible to quickly overcome this shameful phenomenon. Another challenge in the area of combating academic dishonesty is blocking the work of the National Agency's employees responsible for this area through court restrictions, the growing number and volume of lawyers' requests, requests for public information, information attacks and slander. Unfortunately, in 2024, we did not see an appropriate response to the obvious facts of plagiarism in dissertations from either educational institutions or authorised bodies. Information on this area of work is presented in Six.

The last section of the report is devoted to the legislative and regulatory work of the National Agency. In addition to the ongoing active participation in several working groups to develop new laws of Ukraine in the field of higher education and amendments to the existing regulatory framework, in 2024 the quality assurance system of higher education in Ukraine underwent significant legal changes. This year, the new Regulation on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for Higher Education was adopted and came into force. The new Regulation is based on many years of experience in accreditation procedures, the wishes of



European partners, proposals of higher education institutions and other stakeholders and took into account changes in legislation. The document provides for the possibility of responding to the difficult conditions in which Ukrainian educators have to work, which allowed for a more flexible response to force majeure circumstances during accreditation procedures. At the same time, the document identified a number of relevant requirements for the training of higher education students, including: taking into account the inclusive needs of both employees and students, the issue of mental health support, and the obligation to ensure that higher education students develop competencies aimed at achieving global sustainable development goals. The 2024 Regulation also allowed higher education institutions to make greater use of the opportunities for simultaneous accreditation procedures for groups of study programmes, combining programmes of different levels and, in some cases, even different specialities.

An important change that not only expands the rights of higher institutions but also aims to implement the recommendations of European partners was the establishment of the Appeals Chamber of the National Agency as a separate independent body to appeal decisions made by the National Agency.

Therefore, we are confident that reading the report on the work of the National Agency will allow all interested parties to see not only the quantitative indicators of the procedures carried out, applications reviewed and agreements concluded, but also the work carried out by the National Agency team with the support of a large team of experts from the National Agency, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, the relevant committee of the Verkhovna Rada and higher education institutions to further improve the quality assurance system in Ukraine.



1. THE STRATEGY OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY: UPDATE

In 2019, the Strategy of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education was developed and approved. It was based on an analysis of the actual state of the quality assurance system in Ukrainian higher education and defined the agency's mission, values, and priority areas of activity aimed at improving it.

The over-active development of the higher quality assurance system, the development of internal higher education quality assurance systems, and the intensive activities of the National Agency have radically changed the situation of aligning Ukrainian quality assurance systems with ESG requirements. Therefore, it became obvious that the National Agency's strategy needed to be updated, given the rapid changes in higher education and the peculiarities of the external context (such as political, economic, security, including the challenges of the pandemic and full-scale invasion).

As a result of this need, a strategic session of the National Agency was held in April 2024 with the involvement of key stakeholders and with the support of the OSCE.

In accordance with the proposals received, a new context for our activities was described, and a new mission was formulated - to ensure the sustainability and consistency of the development of a culture of quality in higher education and its protection through effective partnerships with stakeholders.

In addition, the strategic goals of the National Agency were clarified.

The most important of them is to become a full member of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and to be included in the European Register of Quality Assurance Agencies (EQAR), which is enshrined in Ukraine's international agreements. Achieving this goal is not only a political task and evidence of the maturity of the Ukrainian system, but also has direct practical implications for improving the competitiveness of Ukrainian higher education institutions in the international arena.

It is important for the National Agency to further encourage the educational community to introduce innovative practices in higher education institutions in the interaction of research, education and business, without which it is impossible to modernise and regain a leading role in the higher education society.

In compliance with the requirements of the legislation, the National Agency continues to work on improving the system of external quality assurance in higher education, including the creation of a model of institutional accreditation and the functioning of independent quality assessment institutions.

Implementation of the strategy is impossible without rethinking the values that underpin the philosophy of the National Agency. Therefore, when rethinking the strategy of the National Agency, our team identified the following values: partnership - cooperation on the basis of equality and respect for partners; innovation - development and implementation of new ideas, technologies, methods related to quality assurance in higher education; responsibility - conscious attitude to the results of actions and decisions; integrity - commitment to moral principles and standards; openness - readiness to cooperate with all parties interested in improving the quality of higher education.

quality of higher education; transparency - readiness to provide the society with complete and objective information about the quality of higher education in Ukraine and the results of the National Agency's activities to ensure it; independence - absence of external influence for full and effective quality assurance of higher education; professionalism - consistency in achieving high standards in ensuring the quality of higher education through the use of professional knowledge and experience; trust - conviction that participants in the quality assurance process honestly perform

The team of the National Agency hopes that all participants in quality assurance processes: experts, representatives of higher education institutions, stakeholders will consciously consider the principles and ideas set out in the Strategy of the National Agency to formulate plans for the development and improvement of internal quality assurance systems and perceive it as a common value guide.



2. INTERNATIONALISATION OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM AND THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY

2.1. European integration

In 2024, the National Agency continued its work on European integration. One of the key events during which the National Agency demonstrated the results of fulfilling the requirements for accession to the European Union was a strategic meeting of representatives of the National Agency and the leadership of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher (ENQA), the European Quality Assurance Agency Register (EQAR) and European experts in the field of quality assurance. In particular, during the meeting, representatives of the National Agency reported on the implementation of the National Action Plan for External Quality Assurance in Higher Education of Ukraine for the period 2022-2023, the main purpose of which was to consolidate the efforts of all key stakeholders in the higher education system to achieve full compliance of the higher quality assurance system with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG 2015) and to obtain full membership in ENQA. As the main objectives of the National Action Plan have been achieved, the National Agency has developed, approved and started implementing the objectives of the National Action Plan for External Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Ukraine for the period 2024-2026.

During the year, the National Agency took an active part in European integration events, including working, organisational and consultative meetings of the Directorate for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, and meetings of the Vice Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration. The Deputy Head Nataliia Stukalo is also a member of the working group on the alignment of the National Qualifications Framework with the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning, chaired by the National Qualifications Agency. In May, representatives of the National Agency, as part of the Ukrainian delegation, took part in an explanatory meeting between the European Commission and Ukraine on the implementation of official screening in science and research and education and culture.

In accordance with the European Commission's Recommendations, Cluster 1: Fundamentals of the EU Accession Process, the National Agency, together with stakeholders, developed and approved a new version of the Regulation on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for Higher Education. On 24 April 2024, Ukraine's Individual Annual Report was published as part of the 2024 Enlargement Package. The report contains a detailed description of the measures taken to increase the independence and transparency of educational institutions and quality assurance agencies. In addition, in November 2024, representatives of the National Agency took part in the ninth meeting of Cluster 4 (cooperation in science and technology, information society, audiovisual policy, education, training and youth, culture and sport and physical education).

An important component of the National Agency's European integration is its participation in the project "Support to European Quality Assurance Agencies

Supporting European QA Agencies in meeting the ESG (SEQA-ESG 2), the main purpose of which is to support quality assurance agencies on their way to joining ENQA and registering with EQAR. During the year, representatives of the National Agency actively participated in meetings with European colleagues, which also contributes to European integration.

2.2. Cooperation with foreign quality assurance agencies

In 2024, the National Agency continued to systematically and comprehensively develop international cooperation in all strategic areas, including bilateral cooperation with foreign agencies to ensure the quality of higher education, participation in international projects, participation in staff mobility programmes, and membership in international organisations.

Bilateral cooperation with foreign quality assurance agencies allows for the exchange of experience to improve the quality of higher education in Ukraine and the compliance of the higher education system with European standards. Bilateral meetings with the agencies were held during the year to effectively achieve the above goal:

- ◇ The meeting was organised by the Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA, Germany), where they discussed issues of cross-border quality assurance in higher education and further areas of cooperation between the agencies. During the full-scale invasion, representatives of foreign agencies visited Ukraine for the first time.
- ◇ The Polish Accreditation Commission (PKA, Poland), where they discussed possibility of future cooperation for the accreditation of local educational programmes.
- ◇ The Higher Council for the Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (Hcéres, France), where they discussed joint areas of cooperation in the processes of ensuring the quality of higher education, in particular, the further implementation of ESG standards in the Ukrainian educational environment. The French partners shared their experience in the process of institutional accreditation in higher education institutions in France. Representatives of the National Agency presented the work of the National Agency in the context of war.
- ◇ The Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS) on cross-border accreditation and further development of cooperation.
- ◇ The National Evaluation and Accreditation Agency (NEAA, Bulgaria), where they discussed areas of cooperation.
- ◇ The Estonian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (NAKA, Estonia) as part of a new project to introduce a model of institutional accreditation.

The National Agency provides consultations for foreign agencies to improve the implementation of cross-border quality assurance by foreign agencies in Ukraine and its compliance with the requirements of Ukrainian legislation. In 2024, such consultations were provided to the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS, Romania), the Central Agency for Evaluation and Accreditation (ZEvA, Germany), the Accreditation Agency for Healthcare

and Social Sciences (AHPGS, Germany), the National Evaluation and Accreditation Agency (NEAA, Bulgaria).

A number of bilateral documents were signed during the reporting period. In October 2024, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed with the National Evaluation and Accreditation Agency (NEAA, Bulgaria).

NEAA is an independent Bulgarian specialised agency responsible for institutional and programme evaluation and accreditation of all higher education institutions in Bulgaria. The

NEAA operates in accordance with European standards, is a member of the European Association Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and is included in the European Quality Assurance Agency Register (EQAR). On an ongoing basis, the National Agency is working to renew memoranda with those foreign quality assurance agencies whose terms have expired and whose conditions do not provide for automatic prolongation. Negotiations are also underway and agreements are planned to be signed with foreign agencies included in the EQAR and included in the Cabinet of Ministers' List of Ministers of Ukraine¹.

During the year, a joint project "Enhancement of Higher Education Quality in Ukraine" was launched with the Estonian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (NAKA, Estonia), funded by the Estonian Centre for International Development (ESTDEV, Estonia). The main objective of the project is to support the National Agency in developing and implementing an institutional accreditation model that meets the requirements of the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the EHEA (ESG 2015), taking into account the needs of the Ukrainian assurance system. As part of the project, a series of trainings on writing a self-assessment report and the institutional accreditation procedure were held for representatives of three Ukrainian higher institutions. The subject matter of the new project is of great interest to key stakeholders and contributes to expanding the scope of cooperation.

In November, the National Agency held a Quality Forum with the participation of the "Ensuring the quality of education in the context of environmental challenges. Internationalisation", organised by the Polish Accreditation Committee (PKA, Poland), which brought together representatives of agencies from Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Romania and Latvia, as well as representatives of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA). The event helped to draw attention to Ukraine's achievements in the field of higher education quality assurance.

2.3. International experts

The involvement of international experts in the accreditation procedure is one of the steps towards improving the external evaluation of educational programmes of Ukrainian higher education institutions. Based on the best international practices, the National Agency engages experts who have experience in international higher education quality assurance projects, have been involved as experts in accreditations in foreign higher education institutions, have teaching experience in foreign universities, etc.

¹List of foreign accreditation and quality assurance agencies that issue certificates of accreditation of educational programmes recognised in Ukraine. Approved by the Order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated 10.07.2019№ 554 URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/554-2019-%D1%80#Text>

This contributes to compliance with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG). In the first half 2024, 51 accreditations took place with the participation of 40 international experts, and in the second half of 2024 - 46 accreditations with the participation of 35 experts. These quality assurance experts have foreign experience in such countries as Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Slovakia, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States, France, Spain, and the United Kingdom, among others. Involvement of experts with international experience contributes to improving the quality of education and competitiveness of the national higher education system.

2.4. Membership in international organisations

In 2024, the National Agency continued its membership in five international organisations for quality assurance and academic integrity (full membership in four of them - INQAAHE, CEENQA, GAIN, ENAI, and associate membership in ENQA).

We cooperate with ENQA in several areas. In particular, partnership in joint projects, presentations at events organised by ENQA, participation in general assemblies, forums of ENQA members, regular webinars on the most pressing issues of higher education development in the European Higher Education Area. The National Agency continues to work on creating the conditions for full membership in ENQA and inclusion in the EQAR register, currently actively interacting with ENQA representatives within the framework of the Erasmus+ project Supporting European QA Agencies in meeting the ESG II (SEQA-ESG2). The partnership in the project is ENQA's support on the path to full membership of the National Agency. In February, a delegation from the National Agency took part in a strategic meeting with the management and experts of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) and the European Quality Assurance Agency Register (EQAR) in Budapest (Hungary), where they discussed progress in developing the quality assurance system of Ukrainian higher education in accordance with ESG 2015 and identified further steps for the National Agency to become a full member of ENQA and join EQAR. In April, representatives of the National Agency attended the ENQA Members' Forum in Hanover (Germany), where they discussed such topics as the development of quality assurance policy in the European Higher Education Area, microqualifications, artificial intelligence and challenges by agencies. In October, a delegation of the National Agency attended the ENQA General Assembly in Malta, dedicated to quality assurance beyond the ESG, the latest update on the ESG review, the Bologna Process work plan and the strategic directions of ENQA.

The National Agency is equally active in its full membership in the Central and Eastern European Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (CEENQA). The main areas of cooperation are: obtaining consultations; publications in newsletters²that

²[CEENQA uploads/CEENQA-Newsletter-2024.pdf](https://www.ceenqa.org/wp-content/uploads/CEENQA-Newsletter-2024.pdf)newsletter January - November 2024
<https://www.ceenqa.org/wp-content/>

published several times a year; participation in regular webinars and seminars on the most pressing issues of higher education quality assurance; and expanding the network of contacts. In March, during an online meeting of the Central and Eastern European Network of Higher Education Quality Assurance Agencies (CEENQA), the National Agency presented the peculiarities of its activities, achievements and role in maintaining the quality of higher education during martial law, as well as progress in adapting accreditation procedures to the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG 2015) and relevant changes in Ukrainian legislation.

The National Agency continues to be active within the framework of its membership in the International Network of Quality Assurance Agencies for Higher Education (INQAAHE), constantly publishing information about its activities in the periodicals ^(3,)⁽⁴⁾of this global organisation, using INQAAHE periodicals in its work, participating in webinars and forums. In June, representatives of the National Agency took part in the 14th INQAAHE 2024 Forum on "Transforming Society: Social Responsibility in the Higher Education Quality Assurance System" in Bucharest (Romania). The forum was dedicated to the role of quality assurance in higher education in the formation of social responsibility, bridging gaps in access to quality education, developing educational programmes and disciplines to meet the growing expectations and needs of society, and creating opportunities for lifelong learning.

The full membership of the National Agency in these organisations not only recognises Ukraine's achievements in developing a culture of quality in higher education, but also expands the opportunities to study international best practices, benchmark the activities of both external and internal quality assurance systems, obtain relevant information and expand the range of contacts.

The National Agency also continues to cooperate with academic integrity specialists and organisations, including the Global Academic Integrity Network (GAIN) and the European Network for Academic Integrity (ENAI). The National Agency participated in a number of meetings and webinars to discuss topical issues of academic integrity in order to share experiences and implement best international practices in the field of academic integrity in Ukraine.

2.5. Advisory Board

The Advisory Board of the National Agency continued its work in 2024. At the April meeting of the Advisory Board, the results of the implementation of the National Action Plan for External Quality Assurance of Higher Education Ukraine for the period 2022-2023, the Annual Report of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education for 2023 and the Report on the Quality of Higher Education in Ukraine, its compliance with the tasks of the sustainable innovative development of society in 2023 were presented. The meeting also discussed the results of the strategic meeting of representatives of the National

³Q1 2024, April Edition <https://mailchi.mp/inqaahe/inqaahe-newsletter-q1-2024>

⁴Q2 2024, July Edition <https://mailchi.mp/inqaahe/inqaahe-newsletter-q2-2024>

The meeting was attended by the management of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA), the European Quality Assurance Agency Register (EQAR) and European experts, representatives of the Estonian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (HAKA, Estonia), the Central Agency for Evaluation and Accreditation (ZEvA, Germany), the Hungarian Accreditation Board (MAB, Hungary), and was joined by representatives of the Advisory Board. During the meeting, the participants discussed the next steps for ENQA and registration in EQAR.

An integral part of each meeting of the Advisory Board is an open discussion. The participants of the meeting discussed the involvement of foreign students in the accreditation of educational programmes as international experts, the vision of the institutional accreditation procedure and raised the issue of developing a culture of ethics in the educational and scientific environment of Ukraine. The members of the Consular Council highly appreciated the work of the National Agency in the context of war and proposed to prepare a scientific publication on the work of the Agency during the full-scale invasion. It will serve as a good example for other quality assurance agencies that may potentially face external challenges in the course of their work.

The Chairman of the Advisory Board, Ian Welch, proposed to identify priority tasks in which the members of the Board could provide practical support to the National Agency. Thus, during the meeting, the participants supported the idea of developing and implementing a training programme for international experts.

The Advisory Board is one of the key components of the National Agency. The members of the Advisory Board make a significant contribution to the work and development of the Agency, in particular by providing expert assessment of the Agency's work, advisory support, and participating in the development of documents and strategically important events of the National Agency.

2.6. International projects and international donor support

In 2024, the National Agency actively continued its project activities.

The Erasmus+ project "Supporting European QA Agencies in meeting the ESG 2" (SEQA-ESG 2) remains the key project. A significant amount of work was completed 2024. In February, a strategic meeting was held between representatives of the National Agency and the management of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA), the European Quality Assurance Agency Register (EQAR) and European experts in the field of quality assurance. The meeting was attended by a wide range of stakeholders: students, employers, representatives of higher education institutions, the Verkhovna Rada and the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. During the meeting, the National Agency reported on the status of implementation of the National Action Plan for External Quality Assurance in Higher Education of Ukraine for the period 2022-2023. The following areas of work were also identified to ensure full ESG compliance, which is key to joining ENQA and registering with EQAR. Thus, one of the objectives of the SEQA-ESG 2 project, which was fulfilled by the National Agency, was the development and approval of the National Action Plan for External Quality Assurance in Higher Education of Ukraine for the period 2024-2026. It is worth noting that in 2024, the National Agency has already implemented a number of tasks set out in the National Action Plan. In particular

strategic meeting, representatives of the National Agency took part in three workshops within the project. They were aimed at ensuring compliance with the second part of ESG, training accreditation experts, and engaging stakeholders in quality assurance and agency management processes.

This year, the National Agency as a full partner was involved in the submission of 13 Erasmus+ project applications. As a result of the review, 3 projects received funding.

The Erasmus+ project "Disaster Resilience in Higher Education Systems via Cloud University Model" (CLOUD HED), which began in October 2024, aims to improve understanding of the challenges of the higher education system in crisis situations, including armed conflict, and to propose a university-wide concept that will allow higher institutions to fulfil their educational mission through the cloud university model. The main expected outcome of the project is to increase the resilience of the systems of the European Higher Education Area to crisis situations. In October, a kick-off online meeting was held and work began on the implementation of the project's work packages.

In November 2024, the Erasmus+ project "Digital Transformation for Medical Education in " (UkraineDigiTrans) was launched. The aim of the project is to improve the pedagogical skills, professional competence and educational sustainability of research and teaching staff of medical universities in the context of the development of the electronic healthcare system combined with the widespread use of digital technologies in medicine. In early December 2024, a kick-off meeting and workshop for project partners was held at Laurea University of Applied Sciences (Finland).

The project "Developing Micro-credentials Ecosystems in Ukraine and Mongolia for Competitive and Resilient Green Economies (DOMANI)" is the third Erasmus+ project to receive funding in 2024. The aim of the project is to build an educational partnership between the twelve participants of the initiative to launch skills ecosystems in both Ukraine and Mongolia for competitive and sustainable green economies. At the end of November 2024, the project kick-off meeting was held, during which the partners shared their vision and identified the main areas of work for the successful implementation of the project.

As part of a memorandum of cooperation signed in 2023 with the Estonian Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance (HAKA), the National Agency, together with NAKA, received funding from the Estonian International Development Trust (ESTDEV) to implement the project Enhancement of Higher Education Quality in Ukraine. The aim of the project is to support the National Agency in developing and implementing a model of institutional accreditation of higher education institutions that is fully in line with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the EHEA (ESG 2015) and the local context. In June 2024, a strategic meeting was held between representatives of the National Agency and NACA, during which colleagues exchanged the results of research on institutional accreditation models in 11 countries, discussed

the concept and requirements for institutional accreditation in Ukrainian higher education institutions, including the development of standards, guidelines and procedures. The meeting participants focused on planning and content of self-assessment trainings for universities and further implementation steps. In the summer, the Terms and Procedure for Institutional Accreditation were developed and approved. In July, a competition was announced for universities wishing to participate in the piloting of the institutional accreditation procedure. Out of 13 applications, three universities were selected that fully met the parameters, namely: Vadym Hetman Kyiv National Economic University, Lutsk National Technical University and the National University of Ostroh Academy. In October 2024, 3 trainings were held for the staff of the participating institutions on writing a self-assessment report and preparing for the institutional accreditation procedure.

In 2024, the National Agency became a partner of the project "Strengthening PhD education in Ukraine for sustainable growth of academic careers" (TALENT4UA). The project won the Baltic Sea Neighbourhood Programme of the Swedish Institute. TALENT4UA aims to use EU experience and standards to create an attractive and favourable environment in Ukrainian universities for the development of a new generation of PhD students who will become independent researchers and continue their careers as teachers, researchers and innovators in post-war Ukraine. In late May 2024, representatives of the National Agency took part in trainings and workshops as part of the project.

At the beginning of 2024, one-year project Education for Green Transition (GTUA-EDU) was launched with the support of the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA). The National Agency, together with seven Ukrainian universities and the project coordinator, Wroclaw University of Technology, joined the project. The main objectives of the project were to develop a system of criteria and key indicators for assessing the progress of green transformation of higher education institutions, implementing green standards in the activities of higher education institutions, and working on the study of micro-qualifications in the field of green transformation.

This year, active work continued on the implementation of the Erasmus+ project Open Ukrainian Initiative - Digital University (DigiUni). In February and March 2024, the pre-launch and kick-off meetings of the project took place. Throughout the year, the National Agency participated in a number of working meetings, developed internal project documentation, and disseminated and promoted the project results.

The National Agency continued to work on the implementation of the Erasmus+ projects "Simulation medicine and Scenario-based learning for emergency care, SimS) and Students' Personalised Learning Model, Based on the Virtual Learning Environment of Intellectual Tutoring "Learning with No Limits" (SMART-PL), by participating in working meetings and events to disseminate information on the interim results of the project.

In 2024, a number of online and offline events of the Erasmus+ project took place

"Open Practices, Transparency and Integrity for Modern Academia (OPTIMA). Throughout the year, the National Agency participated in the project's working meetings, and in October 2024, a seminar was held to share experiences and best practices in open science and open educational resources with the participation of a representative of the National Agency. At the end of November 2024, the final event of the OPTIMA project, namely the Ukrainian Open Science Forum (UOSF-2024), took place. The National Agency was one of the co-organisers of the forum, and representatives of the agency joined the event as speakers.

At the end of 2024, the offline phase of the international educational project "Innovative University and Leadership. Phase VII: Models and Strategies for University Development" with the participation of representatives of the National Agency. The project is supported by the International Foundation for Educational Policy Research.

This year, cooperation between the National Agency and the OSCE Support Programme for Ukraine continued. In particular, in April 2024, the OSCE supported a strategic session of the National Agency "Sustainable Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Times of War", moderated by OSCE experts.

The year 2024 was full of project activities, which is an indicator of trust and confidence in the National Agency as a reliable partner.

2.7. Participation in international forums, conferences, congresses and international publication activity

The year 2024 was full of international events involving representatives of the National Agency. Thus, one of the landmarks was a strategic meeting with the management and experts of ENQA and EQAR to assess progress in the development of the quality assurance system of Ukrainian higher education in accordance with ESG 2015, which took place in February 2024 within the framework of the Erasmus+ SEQA-ESG II project "Supporting European Quality Assurance Agencies in Achieving ESG Compliance". Further steps were identified for the National Agency to become a full member of ENQA and register with EQAR. The meeting brought together key stakeholders from the higher education sector, including representatives of employers, higher education institutions, student organisations, parliament and the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. This year, the National Agency took part in all key ENQA events. During the ENQA Members' Forum 2024 in Hannover, Deputy Head Nataliia Stukalo presented how the National Agency responds to external and internal challenges caused by the full-scale invasion and how the digitalisation of the external quality assurance process has become a solution to many challenges. In autumn, Head Andrii Butenko and Deputy Head Nataliia Stukalo took part in the ENQA General Assembly, where Nataliia Stukalo spoke at the session "Agency cooperation in external quality assurance". Her speech was devoted to the Ukrainian experience of accreditation of HEIs in European agencies and significant problems in the field of cross-border quality assessment of educational programmes. The National Agency was represented at the 14th INQAAHE Forum, where Deputy Head Nataliia Stukalo and INQAAHE CEO Fabrice Henard moderated the workshop "Quality Assurance as a Catalyst for the Integration of Refugees and Displaced Students into Higher Education".

Deputy Chairperson Natalia Stukalo took part in the QAA's Annual Conference with a speech on "Lifelong Learning in Ukraine: a Factor of Survival and Resilience, a Driver of Post-War Recovery".

Also in 2024, a number of in-person project meetings were held with the participation of representatives of the National Agency, including the kick-off meeting of Erasmus+ DigiUni project - Digital University - Open Ukrainian Initiative, the kick-off meeting of the EdGTUA project - Education for Green Transition in Ukrainian Universities, a meeting of the joint project of the Estonian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (NAKA) and the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education "Enhancement of Higher Education Quality in Ukraine, funded by the Estonian Centre for International Development (ESTDEV), the kick-off and final meeting of the Education for Green Transition (GTUA-EDU) project, the workshop "Digital Transformation of Medical Education in Ukraine" within the Erasmus+ UkraineDigiTrans project "Digital Transformation of Medical Education in Ukraine", the Training Seminar within the Erasmus+ project OPTIMA - "Open Practices, Open Practices, Transparency and Integrity for Modern Higher Education", and at the end of the year, the National Agency took part in the kick-off workshop "Digital Transformation of Medical Education in Ukraine" within the Erasmus+ UkraineDigiTrans project "Digital Transformation of Medical Education in Ukraine". In 2024, representatives of the National Agency took part in three workshops within the project "Supporting European Quality Assurance Agencies in Achieving ESG Compliance (SEQA-ESG) II", which focused on aligning processes and methods with ESG, training experts in accreditation of educational programmes and involving stakeholders in quality assurance processes.

In 2024, representatives of the National Agency joined the international educational project "Innovative University and Leadership. Phase VII: Models and Strategies for University Development", supported by the Ministry of National Education of the Republic of Poland.

This year, the National Agency co-organised the Ukrainian Open Science Forum (UOSF2024), which was held within the framework of Erasmus+ project OPTIMA - Open Practices, Transparency and Integrity for Modern Higher Education.

Deputy Head Olena Yeremenko spoke at the Quality Forum "Ensuring the Quality of Education in the Face of Modern Challenges. Internationalisation", organised by the Polish Accreditation Committee (PKA).

In 2024, the National Agency significantly expanded its cooperation. Nataliia Stukalo, Deputy Head, took part in the international training programme "Capacity Development for Formulating and Analysing Education Policy to Improve Learning" organised by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Nataliia Stukalo presented a report on the national system of higher education quality, a comparative analysis of Japanese and Ukrainian education policies and took part in the meeting "Capacity building for education policy formulation and analysis for learning improvement".

In 2024, the National Agency took part online in a number of international events, including IQAAHE Talks, the General Assembly of the Network of Central and Eastern European Higher Education Quality Assurance Agencies (CEENQA),

in the meetings of the Global Academic Integrity Network (GAIN), and in October 2024, the National Agency presented the agency's legislative initiatives on academic integrity in Ukraine at the GAIN meeting.

Thus, the considerable attention of the international community to the activities of the National Agency and the active participation of its representatives in events and activities far beyond Ukraine once again demonstrate the Agency's involvement as a full partner in international platforms.



3. COORDINATION OF COMMUNICATION PROCESSES



In 2024, the National Agency's activities to coordinate internal and external communications were carried out in accordance with the Communication Strategy approved by the National Agency on 27 August 2024.

The updated Communication Strategy is a logical development of the provisions of the previous version adopted in September 2022. Its changes were linked and coordinated in accordance with the Strategy of the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance 2026. The draft strategic documents were developed in April 2024 during a strategic session organised by the National Agency with the support of the project "Promoting Human Rights-Based Approaches in Higher, Legal and School Education" under the OSCE Support Programme for Ukraine, implemented by the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairmanship - Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine.



Figure 1. Purpose and objectives of the National Agency for Communications

One of the key events in the development of the higher education quality assurance system in Ukraine in 2024 was a two-day strategic meeting with the management and experts of ENQA and EQAR. The event took place on 14-15 February 2024 in Budapest. Its purpose was to determine the next steps for the National Agency to become a full member of ENQA and join EQAR, which is important for the European integration of Ukrainian higher education. The event was attended by stakeholders including the Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine, Head of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Education, Science and Innovation, Head of the National Qualifications Agency, Head of Department of the Federation of Employers of Ukraine, Director of the Department of Military Education and Science of the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine, Director of the SoftServe Talent Development Centre, and representatives of the Erasmus+ National Office in Ukraine, the Ukrainian Students' Association and the Ukrainian Students' League. The involvement of so many stakeholders in the event demonstrates their interest in the development of Ukrainian education, its harmonisation with European standards, integration into the common educational space, as well as the partners' deep for sustainable and productive cooperation with the National Agency.

With the aim of strategic planning, a strategic session of the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance "Strategy for Higher Education Quality Assurance in Times of War" was held with the assistance of the OSCE Support Programme for Ukraine from 23 to 26 April 2024, bringing together members of the National Agency and the Secretariat. Among the key topics of the session were the results of the implementation of the National Agency's strategy for 2019-2023, the formulation of the mission and vision, consideration of strategic goals for the period 2024-2026 and directions for their implementation. The strategic session included summing up the results of the implementation of the National Action Plan for External Quality Assurance in Higher Education of Ukraine for 2022-2023, development of the National Action Plan for 2024-2026 and discussion of the new communication strategy. The panel discussions addressed the prospects for implementing institutional accreditation and building a network of independent agencies.

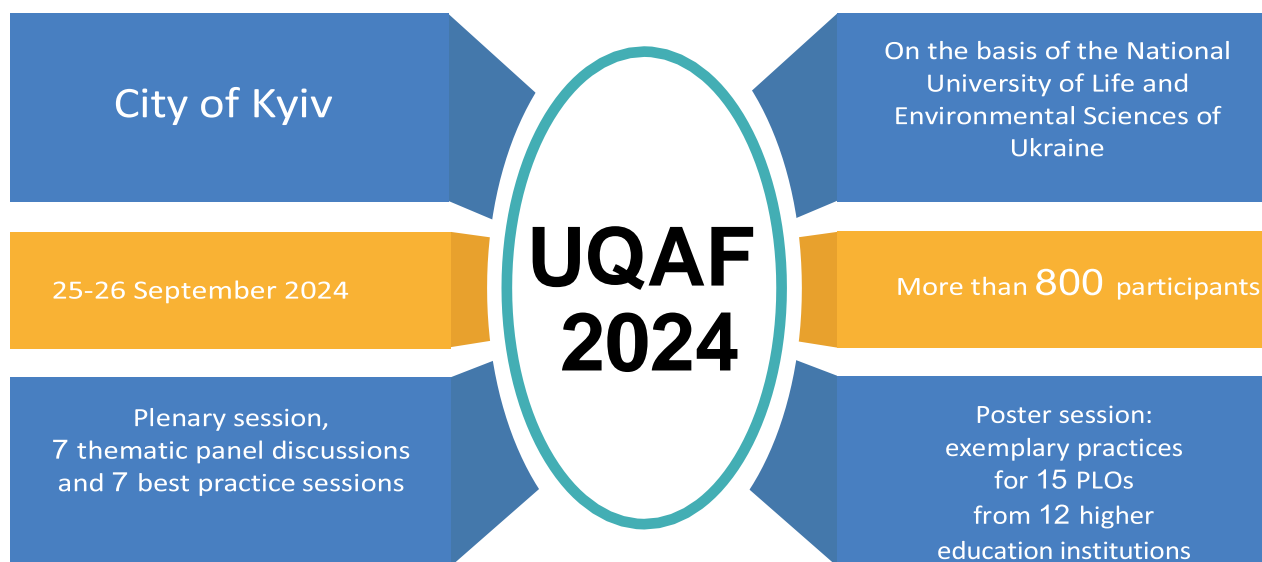


Figure 2. UQAF 2024: statistics

One of the key events of year in the Ukrainian education sector was the UQAF-2024 - Ukrainian Quality Assurance Forum, which has already become the largest communication platform for Ukrainian educators on various aspects of higher education quality assurance and the development of a culture of academic integrity. The two-day representative event was held in person on 25-26 September 2024 in Kyiv, at the National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine. The forum brought together more than 800 participants. The key speakers were: The Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the Minister of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine, and heads of other central executive authorities. The event was joined by heads of higher institutions, educational experts in quality and academic integrity, international partners from European accreditation agencies and stakeholders. In total, UQAF-2024 included a plenary session, 7 thematic panel discussions and 7 best practice sessions from 12 Ukrainian higher education institutions and educational projects, as well as the Ukrainian Students' Association and the Higher Education Sector of the Scientific and Methodological Council of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. During the UQAF-2024, participants were invited to attend a poster session dedicated to the presentation of the practices of educational programmes that received accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" in the 2023/2024 academic year. The session presented exemplary practices of 15 study programmes from 12 higher education institutions of Ukraine.

Events of the Ukrainian forum UQAF-2024

1. Plenary session "The Future of Education in Ukraine".
2. Panel discussions:
 - 1) "New design of the external quality assurance system in Ukraine";
 - 2) "Modern Trends and Challenges in Higher Education in Europe";
 - 3) "The Modern Model of the University: Strategic Role and Requirements of the Times";
 - 4) "Adapting the role of universities to the needs of wartime and post-war economic reconstruction of Ukraine";
 - 5) "Building Mutual Trust between Stakeholders";
 - 6) "Reforming legal education";
 - 7) "The role of higher education for sustainable development: best agroecological practices".
3. Best practices:
 - 1) "IT in the management of internal quality assurance systems";
 - 2) "Internationalisation in Higher Education: Opportunities and Challenges for the Quality Assurance System";
 - 3) "An 'educational breakthrough' during the war";
 - 4) "Implementation of legislative changes and standards of higher education";
 - 5) "UAS QA Pool training programme";
 - 6) "The University in Times of War: Overcoming Challenges";
 - 7) "Digital transformation of educational activities of Ukrainian universities".
4. Poster session with a presentation of the practices of educational programmes that received accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" in the academic year 2023/2024.

The forum has become a place for sharing experiences, including the implementation of positive practices, the formation of new initiatives and partnerships that will contribute to the further integration of Ukrainian education into the European space.

In 2024, in order to raise awareness of educators about the development of internal quality assurance systems in higher education, the specifics of implementing the post-accreditation monitoring procedure, and the application of accreditation criteria for educational programmes that implement the main provisions of ESG 2015 in the Ukrainian higher education system, the National Agency, together with higher education institutions, organised a number of in-person events on topical issues of quality assurance in higher education.

11 regional seminars were held. Most of them were aimed at explaining the provisions of the new Regulation on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for Higher Education, which came into force on 1 August 2024.

Regional seminars held by the National Agency in 2024

06 March	Zhytomyr	"Internal quality assurance as an effective tool for change at the university" (in partnership with the Ivan Franko Zhytomyr State University).
28 March	Dnipro	"Topical issues of accreditation of educational programmes: cooperation with stakeholders and consistency of internal quality assurance policies" (in partnership with the National Technical University "Dnipro Polytechnic, with the support of the National Qualifications Agency and the Federation of Metallurgists of Ukraine).
29 March	Chernihiv	"Ensuring the quality of the educational process in higher institutions: challenges of martial law" (in partnership with the Penitentiary Academy of Ukraine).
21 August	Chernivtsi	"The current state of the higher education quality assurance system in Ukraine: challenges and prospects".
3 September	Kyiv	
18 September	Dnipro	
20 September	Odesa	
7 September	Uzhhorod	
16 October	Ostroh	
18 October	Zaporizhzhya	
22 November	Lviv	





Figure 3. A series of regional seminars "Current state of the higher education quality assurance system in Ukraine: challenges and prospects"

Industry events were held.

Industry training:

6-7 June	Kyiv	"Actual problems of development of quality assurance systems in higher education institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs" (in partnership with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, on the basis of the National Academy of Internal Affairs).
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Industry webinars:

01 February	"Cross-border quality assurance in veterinary medicine" (jointly with the European Association of Veterinary Education Institutions (EAEVE, Austria) and Bila Tserkva National Agrarian University).
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28 March	"Formation of a quality educational programme in the speciality 035 Philology".
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A number of university methodological seminars and working meetings were held with staff on topical issues of internal systems of quality assurance in higher education.

University methodological seminars and working meetings with HEI staff on topical issues of higher education quality assurance:

06 March	Zhytomyr	Meeting with representatives of the expert community of the State University "Zhytomyr Polytechnic.
08 March	Lutsk	"Internal System of Quality Assurance of Education of Lutsk National Technical University: Problems, Formation and Challenges of Development".
03 April	Kamianets-Podilskyi	"Topical issues of ensuring the quality of higher education: peculiarities of post-accreditation monitoring" (Kamianets-Podilskyi Ivan Ohienko National University).
09 May	Irpina	"Topical aspects of ensuring the quality of higher education" (State Tax University).
13 June	Zaporizhzhya	"Development of Quality Culture and Problems of Academic Integrity in a Medical University" (Zaporizhzhia State University of Medicine and Pharmacy).
28 August	Kyiv	"Actual problems related to ensuring the quality of education in higher military educational institutions" (Heroes of Kruty Military Institute of Telecommunications and Informatisation).
21 November	Lviv	"Problems of the internal quality assurance system of education" (Lviv State University of Internal Affairs, Lviv State University of Life Safety).
09 December	Kyiv	"Challenges and Prospects for Ensuring the Quality of Higher Education in Ukraine" (National University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy).

13-14 December	Ivano-Frankivsk	"Approaches to Improving Internal Processes of Quality Assurance in Education" (Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University, King Danylo University, Ivano-Frankivsk Educational and Research Law Institute of the National University "Odesa Law Academy", Kherson State University, Ivano-Frankivsk National Medical University).
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Thematic webinars:

16 May	"Problems of establishing academic plagiarism in research: cases of the Ethics Committee of the National Agency" within the framework of the Festival of Science - 2024 Borys Grinchenko Kyiv Metropolitan University.
21 May	"Components of External Quality Assurance in Higher Education: Relevance and Challenges", organised by SoftServe as part of the ITeachers Meetups project.
08 November	"Academic Integrity and Sports Science" (at the invitation of Borys Grinchenko Kyiv Metropolitan University).
28 November	"Topical issues of awarding professional qualifications by higher education institutions" (jointly with the National Qualifications Agency).

Local webinars:

30 January	"Evaluation of educational programmes: problems of establishing the level of compliance with the criteria" (Ternopil National Medical University named after I. Gorbachevsky).
31 January	"Post-accreditation monitoring as one of the innovations in the Ukrainian accreditation process" (National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine).

On 20 December 2024, the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance developed and presented a methodological guide "Clarifications on the Application of the Criteria for Assessing the Quality of an Educational Programme". The publication contains up-to-date recommendations for assessing the quality of educational programmes in accordance with the external quality assurance procedure, recommendations for justifying the existence of deficiencies, references to Ukrainian legislation and international recommendations, as well as a detailed description of the requirements for the internal quality assurance system, educational programme and educational activities.

12 April 2024 year at Ivan Franko National University of Lviv The National Agency initiated and organised the All-Ukrainian Roundtable on Institutional Accreditation, which was attended by representatives of the relevant ministry, Ukrainian higher education institutions and educational experts. The event was held in cooperation with the Ministry of

of Education and Science of Ukraine, the International Foundation for Educational Policy Research and the International Educational and Research Project "Innovative University and Leadership". The participants exchanged views in an open discussion and offered their own vision of the purpose and procedure of institutional accreditation.

As a result of the roundtable, a working group was formed to develop the concept of institutional accreditation, the first meeting of which took place on 9 July 2024 at the National Agency.

The National Agency continues to work on the implementation of post-accreditation monitoring, which, in accordance with the law, applies to educational programmes accredited after 1 September 2024 and will be implemented in 2027. In particular, on 2 February and 28 August, a working group met to evaluate the results of the experiment on the implementation of post-accreditation monitoring of educational programmes. Two workshops were held for Ukrainian educators - on 22 June in Chernivtsi at the Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University and on 18 September in Dnipro at the Alfred Nobel University.

On 3 April, the seminar "Topical Issues of Quality Assurance in Higher Education: Peculiarities of Post-Accreditation Monitoring" was held in cooperation with Ivan Ohienko Kamianets-Podilskyi National University.

Representatives of the National Agency took part as speakers in a number of events on quality assurance in higher education, in particular:

- ◊ 10 April - The Fourth Ukrainian Forum for International Education, organised by the Ukrainian State Centre for International Education (based at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv).
- ◊ 18 April - Conference "Strategy for Building Ukraine's Human Resources Capacity in Cybersecurity and Information Protection" (at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv).
- ◊ 31 July - 1 August - II Conference-Workshop "Management in Education: Formation of a Holistic (Virtuous) Personality", organised by the Mohyla Strategic Agency in partnership with the Kyiv-Mohyla Business School (based at Yuriy Fedkovych National University).
- ◊ 30 May - a scientific and methodological event "Innovation in HEIs: Peculiarities of Ensuring the Quality of Education in the Training of Teachers of Secondary and Preschool Education - 2024", organised by Bohdan Khmelnytsky Cherkasy National University.
- ◊ 9-12 October - "Autumn School of Medical Education 2024", organised by the Ukrainian-Swiss Project "Medical Education Development" (based at Uzhhorod National University). The key topics of the event : exchange of experience, discussion of achievements, challenges and new ways of developing medical education in Ukraine and the world, updating educational programmes in accordance with the requirements of modern medical practice, integration into the European educational space and introduction of new forms of education.
- ◊ 7-8 November - XIII International Scientific and Practical Conference "European Integration of Higher Education in Ukraine in the Context of the Bologna Process. Digitalisation and Quality Assurance of Higher Education to Ensure Equal Access to Quality Higher Education" (based at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv).

- ◊ 14 November - Education Quality Forum 2024: Resilience of the Ukrainian Education System, organised by the State Education Quality Service of Ukraine.
- ◊ 5 December - IV International Scientific and Practical Conference "Development of Internal Quality Assurance Systems in Ukrainian Higher Education Institutions: Achievements and Challenges - an Outside and Inside View", organised by Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv.
- ◊ December 12 - V International Forum "Human Capital: Value. Quality. Development", organised by the National Qualifications Agency.
- ◊ 19 December 2024 - roundtable discussion "Updating Teacher Training Programmes in the Context of the New Ukrainian School Reform and the Challenges of War", organised by the Academy of Teachers of V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University (based at Ukraine Crisis Media Center).

In 2024, the National Agency continued to work actively to develop an effective system of quality assurance in higher education in Ukraine, initiated and participated in 278 events aimed at strengthening communication between higher institutions, international partners and other stakeholders.

Supporting Ukrainian students as one of the key stakeholders, the National Agency continues to work productively with all-Ukrainian student organisations, such as the Ukrainian Association of Students (UAS) and the Ukrainian Student League (USL), primarily to attract students interested in developing a culture of quality who are potential experts and members of the National Agency's sectoral expert councils.

In 2024, a new training programme on education quality assurance for student learning was developed with the Ukrainian Association of Students (UAS) as part of the UAS QA Pool project. The management and staff of the National Agency's secretariat are speakers and trainers within this project. In 2024, the relevant trainings were organised in Ternopil at the Western Ukrainian National University (5-7 April), in Poltava at Poltava State Medical University (23-25 May), and in Kyiv at Mariupol State University (3-5 October).

On 6 December, at the invitation of the students, the leadership of the National Agency took part in the XX General Assembly of the UAS, on 19 July - in the VI Congress of the UAS, and on 14 December - in the VII Congress of the UAS, during which a memorandum of cooperation was signed.

Representatives of the National Agency participated in many other events related to students. For example, on 19 April, they took part in the All-Ukrainian Scientific and Practical Conference "Students of Ukraine in the Context of War with Russia" (based at the Khmelnytsky Cooperative Institute of Trade and Economics), on 8 June - in the forum "Student Self-Government of Neslumne: the Way to Quality Education and Active Citizenship" (based at the O. M. Beketov Kharkiv National University of Municipal Economy), and on 6 July - in the All-Ukrainian Youth Forum "State Builder: Youth in the Restoration of the State".

As part of the reform of legal education, which is an important topic in the course of Ukraine's European integration processes, the National Agency is actively involved in events dedicated to the quality of education. Thus, on 19 March, representatives of the Agency took part in a field meeting of the working group on reforming legal education of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Law Enforcement, held at the Institute of Lawmaking and Scientific and Legal Expertise of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, and on 11 April - in the meeting "Development of Legal Education: World Standards of Lawmaking" (held at the UCU School of Law, with the support of the USAID

"Justice for All"), on 10 June - at the roundtable "Effective and Transparent Accreditation Procedure for Law Schools: Results of the Analysis", organised by the Institute of Legislative Ideas to present the results of the study of the accreditation practice of law school programs 2020-2022, conducted within the framework of the project "Effective and Transparent Accreditation Procedure for Law Schools as a Prerequisite for the Quality of Legal Education", implemented with the support of USAID under the "Justice for All" project.

The National Agency focuses on ensuring the quality of higher medical education. On 8 December, the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Education, Science and Innovation considered the issue of accreditation of educational programmes in the specialties for which the Unified State Qualification Examination (USQE) was introduced. On 13 June, Olena Yeremenko, Deputy Head of the National Agency, held a methodological seminar "Development of Quality Culture and Problems of Academic Integrity in a Medical University" at Zaporizhzhia State Medical and Pharmaceutical University. On 9-12 October, representatives of the National Agency took part in the Autumn School of Medical Education 2024, organised by the Ukrainian-Swiss Project "Medical Education Development" in cooperation with Uzhhorod National University. In addition, representatives of the National Agency joined the implementation of the Erasmus+ project "Simulation Medicine and Scenario-Based Learning" (SimS).

In order to develop a culture of academic integrity, the National Agency continues to actively engage in public work and organise public events. One of the important topics was the draft Law of Ukraine on Academic Integrity. The National Agency is one of the initiators and has been actively involved in the development of this draft law, which offers a clear set of guidelines for regulating the responsibility of individuals and institutions, combining all the rules and regulations in a single document. In particular, on 14 May, the draft law was discussed at a meeting of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Education, Science and Innovation with the participation of the agency's representatives. On 22 November, the Ukrainian Open Science Forum (UOSF2024), co-organised by the National Agency, hosted a panel discussion "Challenges in the Regulation of Academic Integrity. Positive and negative cases of academic dishonesty: methods, principles and technologies", as well as a workshop on academic integrity in cooperation with StrikePlagiarism.com.

There have been numerous cases of prolonged pressure on the National Agency during the process of reviewing complaints about academic dishonesty, in particular through manipulative publications and paid-for materials on news resources.

Systematic cooperation with government agencies and non-governmental organisations involved in the quality assurance of higher education continues.

The National Agency cooperates with the National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption (NAPC) to support the policy of zero tolerance of corruption and dishonesty in the educational environment. The NAPC's Integrity Office has initiated a number of activities aimed at promoting a culture of integrity among higher education institutions. One of these initiatives was a panel discussion

"Higher Education Institution as a Centre of Integrity", which was held as part of an event dedicated to academic integrity and presentation of the results of piloting the discipline "Anti-Corruption and Integrity" and was attended by the National Agency's leadership. Also, representatives of the Public Relations and International Cooperation Department joined the NAPC's reporting meeting "Synergy of Anti-Corruption Communications: Results of 2024, Challenges and Plans for the Next Year".

On 9 April, a meeting was held between the management of the National Agency and representatives of the working group on the development of the professional standard "Journalist": Director of Human Resources of the Public Broadcasting Company of Ukraine Viktoria Sydorenko, manager of the Public Broadcasting Academy Olha Tkachenko and acting director of the Ukrainian Institute of Advanced Training of Television, Radio and Press, secretary of the National Union of Journalists of Ukraine Hlib Holovchenko. They discussed the directions and prospects of developing professional standards in the field of , their role in ensuring the quality of education, as well as the possibility of holding joint events for field of 061 Journalism. Particular attention was paid to the need to actively involve industry professionals in expert councils and the register of accreditation experts for the quality training of applicants.

One of the stakeholders in the field of journalism is the National Union of Journalists of Ukraine, with which a number of meetings were held in 2024. On 16 May, the National Agency's management met with the chairman of the NUJU, Serhiy Tomilenko, and the first secretary, Lina Kushch, at the Union's office. The partners discussed joint projects, including different approaches to monitoring the quality of journalism education and developing strategies for external quality assurance in higher education. On the eve of the Journalist's Day, which is celebrated on 6 June, the National Agency and the NUJU signed a Memorandum of Cooperation, cementing their partnership in journalism education and professional development.

Cooperation with the NGO Progressive continues, in particular in organising a number of joint events for educators. On 15 February, a public discussion was held "Where is Education in Resilience and Recovery?", and on 5 September, in connection with the adoption of the new Regulation on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for Higher Education, a meeting "Accreditation of Educational Programmes: Innovations and Challenges for Higher Education Institutions".

In order to maintain constructive working relations, the National Agency participates in meetings of the Union of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of Ukraine and the Association of Private Educational Institutions of Ukraine on issues of quality assurance in higher education.

The National Agency actively uses its own communication platforms to ensure open communication with the public and international partners.

The main communication channel is the official website, which publishes news, event announcements and key information materials. In 2024, 281 news items and key announcements were published on the National Agency's website. During 2024, the National Agency's website was visited by 201,306 users who made 696 thousand views (according to Google Analytics). The most visited pages of the website:

- 1) events and announcements of the National Agency (187,430 views),
- 2) section "PhD degree" (49 191 views);
- 3) minutes of the National Agency's meetings were published (41,665 views);
- 4) announcement of competitions to the State Energy Agency (22,191 views);
- 5) announcement of the competitive selection of experts (20,379 views).

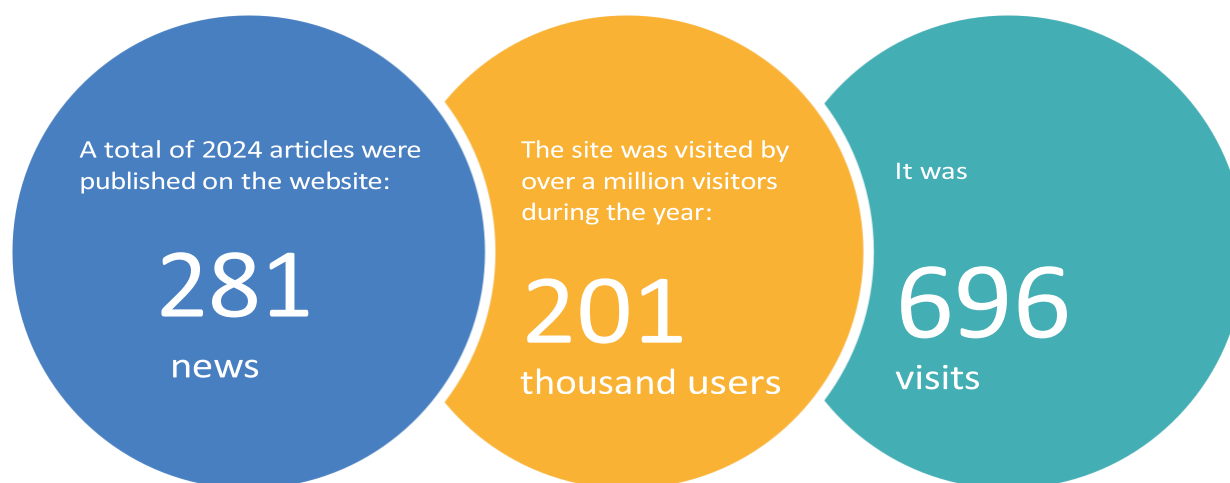


Figure 4. Statistics of the National Agency's website: news, users, visits

The National Agency maintains an official Ukrainian-language Facebook page and channels on Telegram and YouTube, as well as English-language pages on LinkedIn and X.

By the end of 2024, the official Ukrainian-language Facebook page of the National Agency had 160,670 visits with a reach of 288,034 users. The audience is mainly from Ukraine (87.6% of users).

The Ukrainian-language Telegram channel of the National Agency has 1501 users (as of 31 December 2024) with a balanced publication activity (an average of 34 publications per month, the highest publication activity was in May 2024 - 54 posts). It is noteworthy that the average number of views per post - 1650 - indicates the potential for further

Increase in the number of regular readers, as well as dissemination of information not only among existing subscribers but also among other . The largest number of views was for the announcement post on the recruitment to the Register of Experts among education applicants - 9,500 views.

X and LinkedIn pages of the National Agency are platforms for international communication. On the X-page, 73 posts were published, reaching 246 target users, including international partners, educators, and European agency colleagues. On LinkedIn, the number of subscribers reached 876 (an increase of 48.9%), and the number of reactions to publications reached 1636.

The official YouTube channel published 9 educational videos and 14 broadcasts of the National Agency's meetings. The video "Clarification of Changes to the Form of Self-Assessment Information" has the highest number of views (4,069).

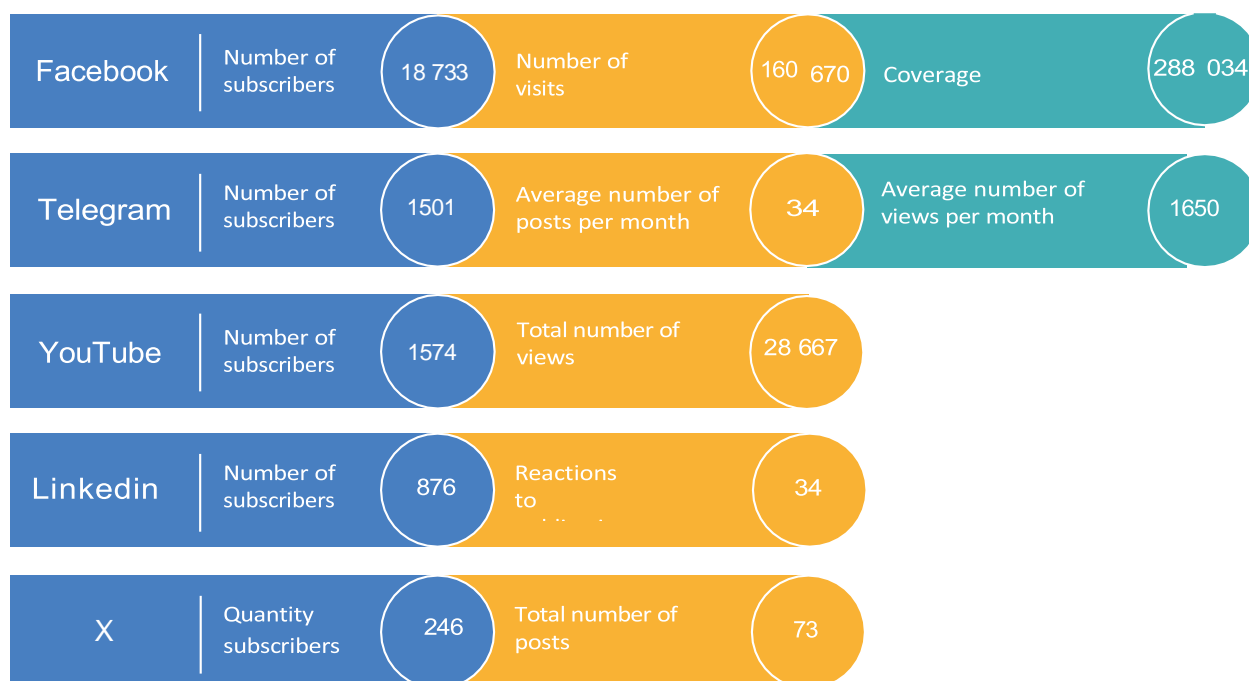


Figure 5. Statistics on the National Agency's social media activity: subscribers, visits, views

Transparency and accountability are a priority for the National Agency, so announcements, minutes of meetings and information on the accreditation process are published on the website in a timely manner. Announcements and information about materials are promptly disseminated in social media.

The National Agency continues to improve its communication tools, promoting transparency and interaction with the audience. All meetings are broadcast online and available in video format on the official YouTube channel. In 2024, 35 competitions and additional recruitments to the Register of Executives and Members of Sectoral Expert Councils were held.

In 2024, members of the National Agency and the Secretariat published articles and blogs:

- Andriy Butenko, "No changes will change anything if there is only imitation around" (18 June) <https://osvita.ua/blogs/92373/>

- Olena Yeremenko, Ivan Nazarov "Culture of Academic Integrity: What is Important for its Development" (9 February) <https://osvita.ua/vnz/reform/91390/>
- Bohdan Morklyanyk "On consideration of candidates for sectoral expert councils" (5 February) <https://osvita.ua/blogs/91358/>
- Bohdan Peretyaka, "Assignment of professional qualifications: questions and answers" (23 December) <https://osvita.ua/vnz/reform/93747/>

Several memoranda of cooperation were signed in the reporting period:

1. Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance;
2. Memorandum of Cooperation between the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education and Softserve Academy LLC
3. Memorandum of Cooperation between the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance and the National Union of Journalists of Ukraine (NUJU);
4. Memorandum of Cooperation between the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance and the Ukrainian Students' League (USL).

Following the internal culture of continuous self-improvement and critical self-assessment, the National Agency takes into account global trends in the use of artificial intelligence to optimise work processes. Like other European higher education quality assurance agencies, the agency uses modern AI-based tools, such as ChatGPT and Copy.ai, which allows for the prompt translation of materials, text editing, search and processing of reference information, and the creation of visual and presentation materials.

The National Agency takes a responsible and transparent approach to the use of artificial intelligence tools, ensuring control over how and for what purpose they are used, as well as clearly indicating what has been created or processed with their use. Such an approach ensures trust in the content of materials prepared by the National Agency, demonstrates ethical and responsible use of technology and is in line with the values that the Agency consistently and systematically implements in the academic environment.

4. EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM. ACCREDITATION OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES BY A NATIONAL AGENCY⁵



In 2024, the National Agency reviewed 2518 educational programmes, for which 2539 procedures were carried out and one of the following decisions was made: a decision to accredit an educational programme, a decision to grant conditional (deferred) accreditation of an educational programme, a decision to accredit an educational programme with the definition of "exemplary", a decision to refuse accreditation of an educational programme, a decision to appoint a repeated accreditation examination or a decision to grant conditional (deferred) accreditation of an educational programme in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 295 "On Peculiarities of Accreditation of Educational Programmes for Education Applicants under Martial Law".

The difference between the number of educational programmes reviewed by the National Agency and the number of decisions made is explained by the fact that two or even three accreditation procedures were conducted for some educational programmes during the year:

- for 7 educational programmes, a decision was made twice to grant conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated 16.03.2022 No. 295;
- for 7 study programmes, in early 2024, a decision was made to grant conditional (deferred) accreditation of the study programme in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 16.03.2022 No. 295, and at the end of the year - a decision on accreditation of the educational programme; 0 for 2 educational programmes, a decision was initially made to grant conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 16.03.2022 No. 295, and under the new procedure - a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme;
- for 1 study programme, a decision was made on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the study programme, and at the end of the year, a decision was made on accreditation of the study programme;
- three decisions were made for 2 educational programmes: first, the decision to appoint a repeat accreditation examination, and then - to grant conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme, respectively

⁵In this section, the names of the fields and specialties in which higher education is provided are given in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Approval of the List of Fields of Knowledge and Specialties for which the Training of Higher Education Applicants" as amended by the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 16 December 2022 № 1392. Exception - educational programmes in the field of knowledge 15 Automation and Instrumentation (the relevant position was removed from the List, but the training of students was carried out and in 2024 the educational programmes were considered by the National Agency under the full procedure). Changes in the names did not affect the accreditation procedures and results, so the merger was made to ensure the unity and integrity of the analytical review.

to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated 16.03.2022 No. 295, at the end of the year for one of them - a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme; for the other - a decision to refuse accreditation of the educational programme.

Compared to 2023, the total number of study programmes reviewed by the National Agency decreased by 234 (8.). The total number of procedures that resulted in a decision in 2024 decreased by 235.

In 2024, the National Agency accredited educational programmes in accordance with the Regulations on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for Higher Education:

- with an accreditation examination according to the full procedure; 0 without or with partial accreditation examination

cross-sections in the manner prescribed by clause 2 of the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of 16.03.2022

No. 295 (under a simplified procedure).

The accreditation was carried out in accordance with the Temporary Procedure for Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Applicants under Martial Law, approved by the decision of the National Agency of 14 April 2022 (Protocol No. 6 (11)), as amended on 25 October 2022.

of 27 February 2024 (minutes No 19 (24)) and 27 February 2024 (minutes No 5 (55)).

In order to ensure the objectivity and impartiality of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation under a simplified procedure, the Commission for Review of Applications of Higher Education Institutions for Conditional (Deferred) Accreditation was established in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 16 March 2022 No 295 and its Procedure was approved. The Commission analysed the validity of applications from higher institutions. In the case of unfounded applications without proper evidence, the National Agency was given recommendations to refuse to satisfy the application of the higher education institution.

Under the full procedure, 1232 accreditations were carried out, which is 329 (21.1%) less than in the previous year, when the number was 1561. Under the simplified procedure, 1307 accreditations (1300 study programmes) were carried out, which is 94 more than in 2023, when 1213 such accreditations were carried out.

In 2024, the number of accreditations carried out under the simplified procedure (1307) exceeded the number of accreditations under the full procedure (1232) by 75. Figure 6 shows the number of accreditation examinations carried out under the full procedure and the number of decisions made in 2024 by field of expertise.

We will conduct a comparative analysis of the share of accreditations under full and simplified procedures in the period from January to August 2024 and from September to December 2024.

From January to August 2024, decisions were made on 1909 accreditation examinations, of which 817 (42.8%) were made under the full procedure and 1092 (57.2%) under the simplified procedure. From September to December 2024, decisions were made on 630 accreditation examinations, of which 415 (65.9%) were made under the full procedure and 215 (34.1%) under the simplified procedure. Thus, the share of accreditations under the full procedure increased by 54%.

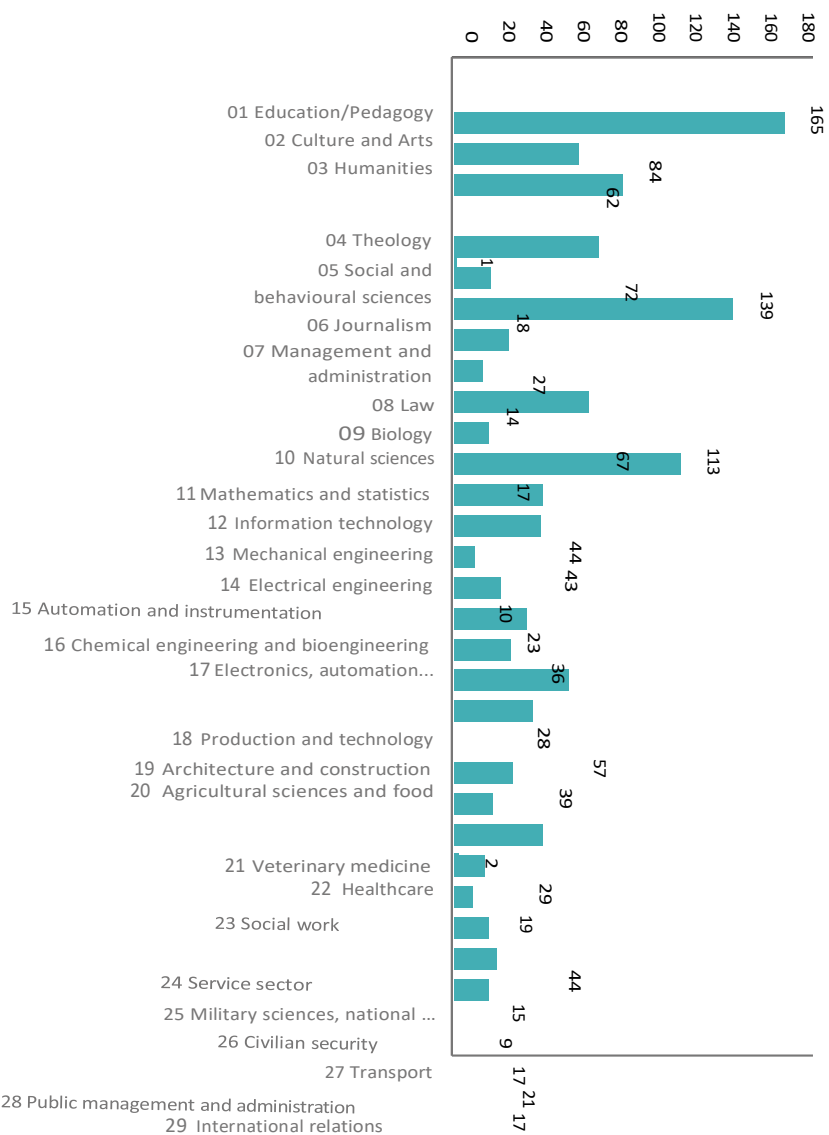


Figure 6. The number of accreditation examinations conducted under the full procedure and the number of decisions made in 2024, by industry

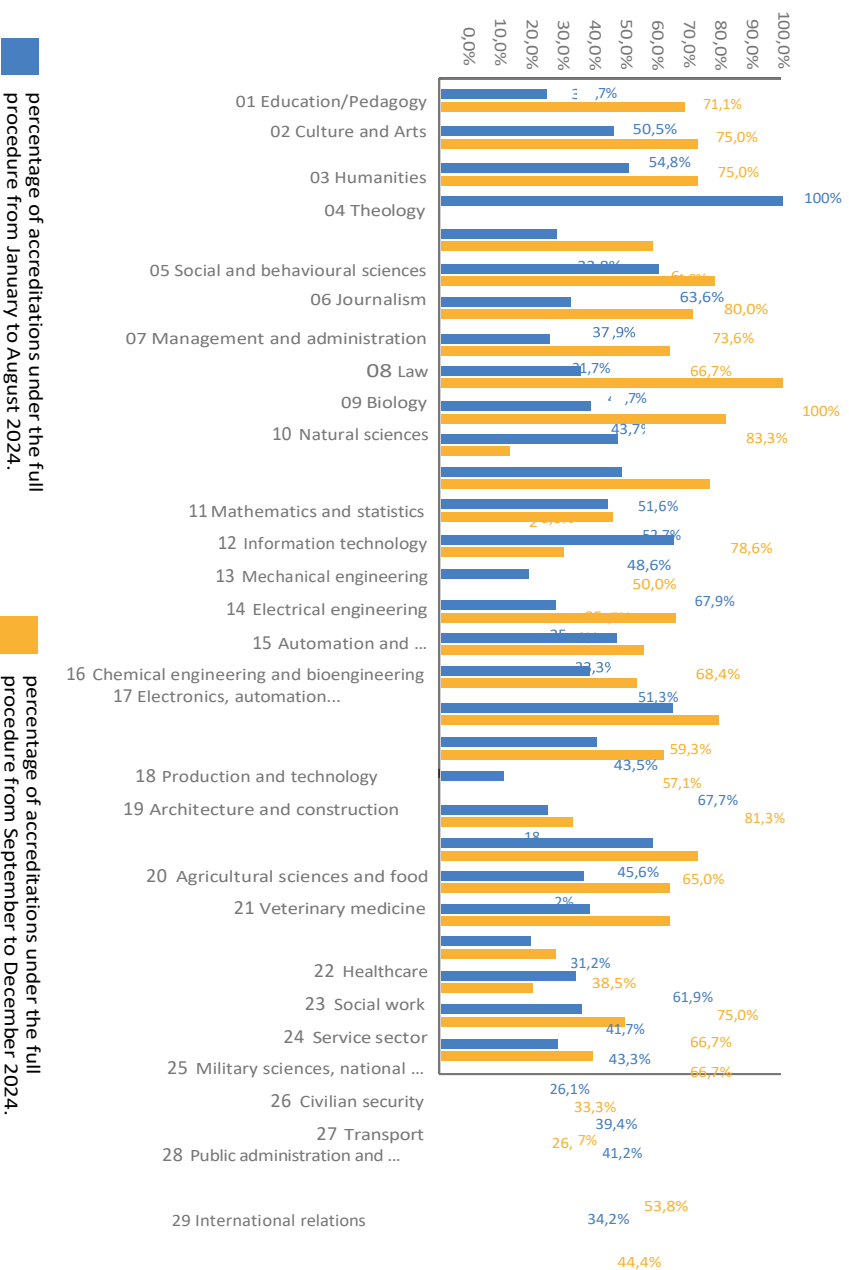


Figure 7. Comparison of the percentage of accreditations under the full procedure

A significant increase in the share of accreditations under the full procedure is observed in the fields of knowledge 09 Biology (by 145.5%), 01 Education / Pedagogy (by 131.9%), 08 Law (by 110.5%), Chemical Engineering (by 105.3%). At the same time, there are some fields of knowledge where the share of accreditations under the full procedure has significantly decreased: 27 Transport (by 32.3%), 13 Mechanical Engineering (by 47.4%), 11 Mathematics and Statistics (by 61.3%). Moderate changes in the share of full procedures were recorded in the fields of knowledge 13 Mechanical engineering, 17 Electronics, automation and electronic communications, 19 Architecture and construction (growth within 20%). Figure 7 illustrates this data for each field of knowledge: blue columns are used for the first period, and yellow columns for the second.

01 Education / Pedagogy

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 165 study programmes in the field of knowledge 01 Education / Pedagogy under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 55 (33.3%) first bachelor's degree programmes, 100 (60.6%) second (master's) degree programmes and 10 (6.1%) third (educational and scientific) degree programmes (see Figure 8).

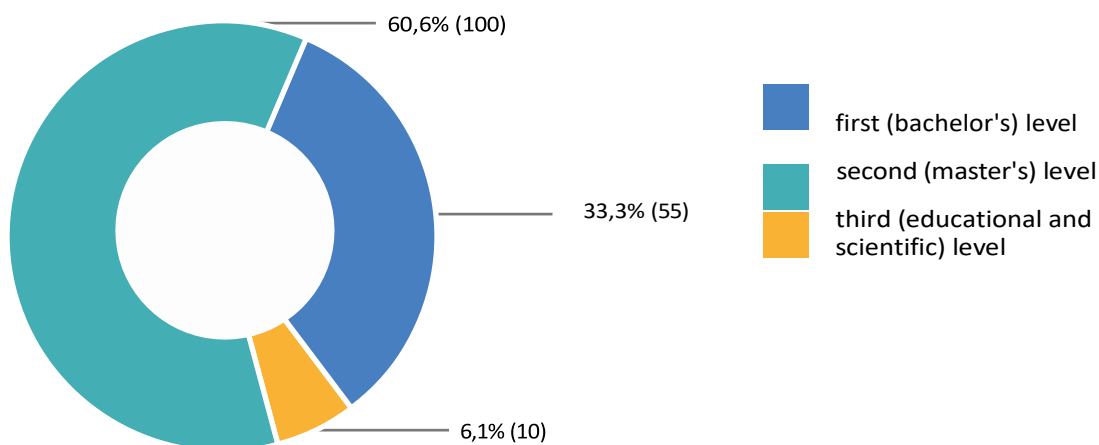


Figure 8. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge area 01 Education / Pedagogy, which were approved in 2024, by levels of higher education

The largest number of educational programmes were reviewed in the specialty 014 Secondary Education (by subject specialties) - 94 (57.0%, and the smallest number - in the specialty 013 Primary Education - 6 (3.6%) (see Figure 9).

The decision to accredit was made for 124 (75.2%) educational programmes (see Figure 10).

Decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made for 40 (24.) study programmes (see Figure 11).

The decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 1 (0.) educational programme in the specialty 016 Special Education of the second (master's) level of higher education.

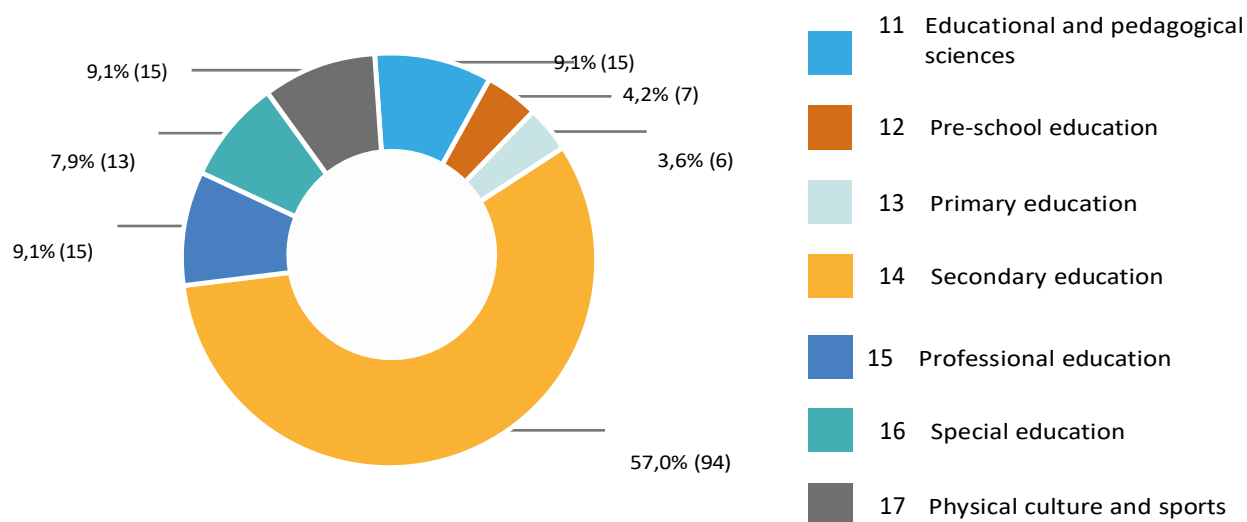


Figure 9. Distribution of study programmes in the field of knowledge 01 Education / Pedagogy, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

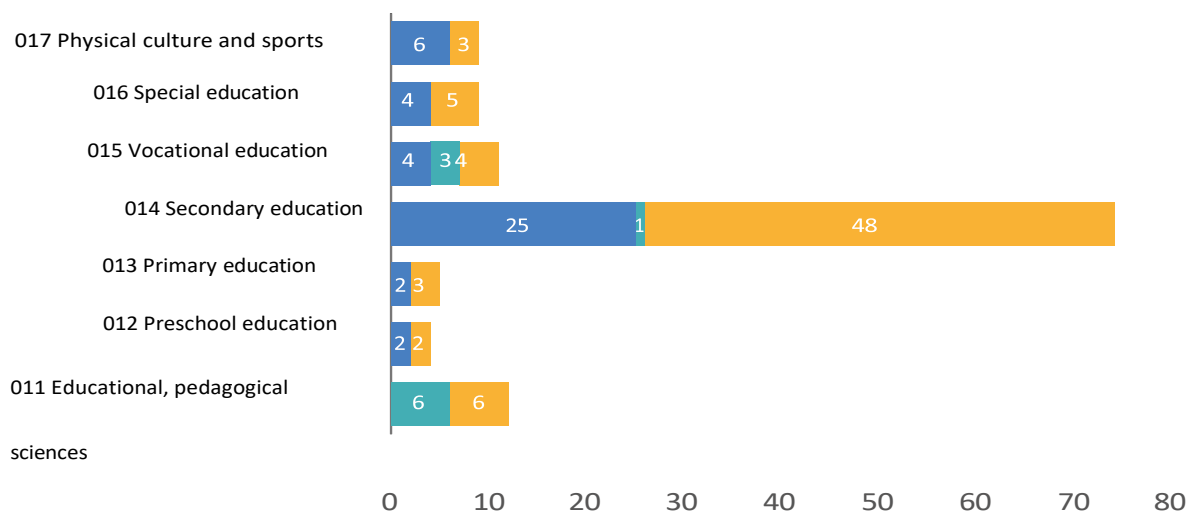


Figure 10. Distribution of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 01 Education / Pedagogy by specialities at different levels of higher education

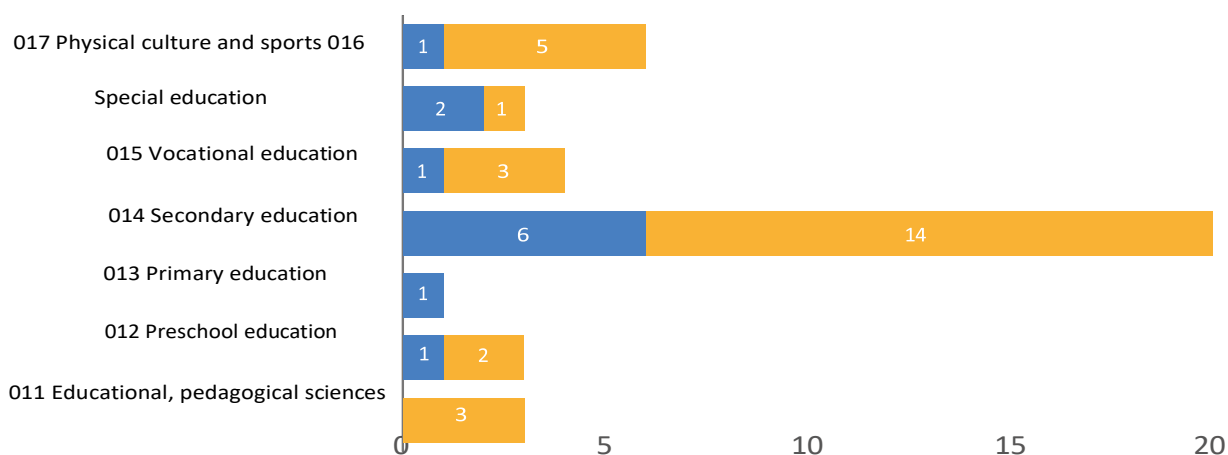


Figure 11. Distribution of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of an educational programme in the field of knowledge 01 Education / Pedagogy by specialities at different levels of higher education

Let's compare these figures with the previous year.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved increased by 16.2% (from 142 to 165).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 56 to 55, and the share of study programmes decreased from 39.4% to 33.3%.</p> <p><i>Second (master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 71 to 100, and the share of study programmes increased from 50% to 60.6%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 14 to 10, and the share of the latter decreased from 10% to 6.1%.</p>
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	<p>In 2024, as in 2023, the largest number of educational programmes in the industry were reviewed in the following specialities 014 Secondary education (by subject specialities), its share increased from 51% to 57%.</p> <p>The specialty with the smallest number of programmes has changed: in 2023, the smallest number of educational programmes was in the specialty 012 Preschool Education - 7; in 2024, the smallest number of educational programmes was in the specialty 013 Primary Education - 6.</p>
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 78% to 75.2%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes that conditional (deferred) accreditation increased from 21% to 24.2%.</p> <p>In 2023, 1 decision was made to deny accreditation, while in 2024, 1 decision was made to accredit with the definition of "exemplary".</p>

02 Culture and art

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 62 study programmes in the field of knowledge 02 Culture and Art under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 22 (35.5%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 37 (59.) - of the second (master's) level and 3 (4.8%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 12).

The largest number of study programmes was reviewed in the speciality 022 Design - 17 (27.4%) and in the speciality 025 Musical Art - 16 (25.8%), and the smallest number - in the specialities 026 Performing Arts and 021 Audiovisual Art - 2 (3.2%). Study programmes in the speciality 027 Museum and Monument Studies were not reviewed according to the full procedure (see Figure 13).

The decision to accredit was made for 52 (83.) study programmes (see Figure 14).

Decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made for 9 (14.) study programmes (see Figure 15).

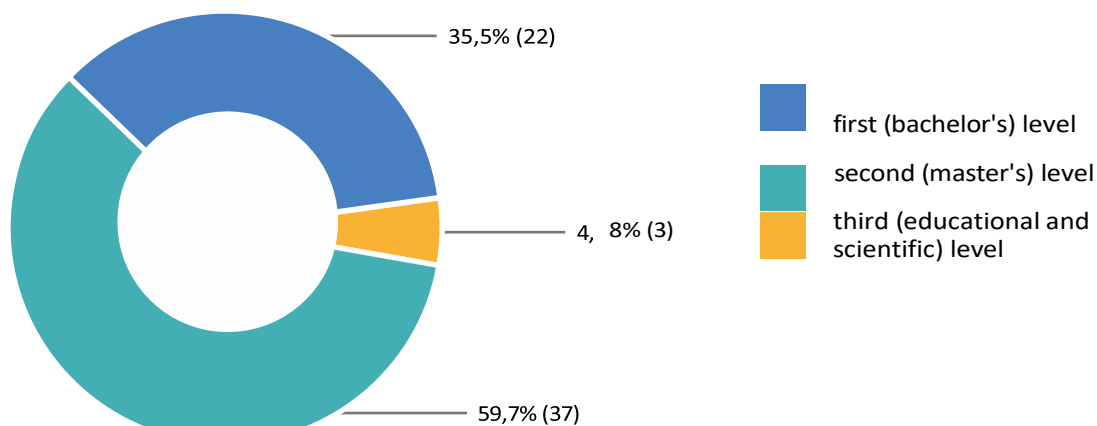


Figure 12. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge area 02 Culture and Arts, which were approved in 2024, by levels of higher education

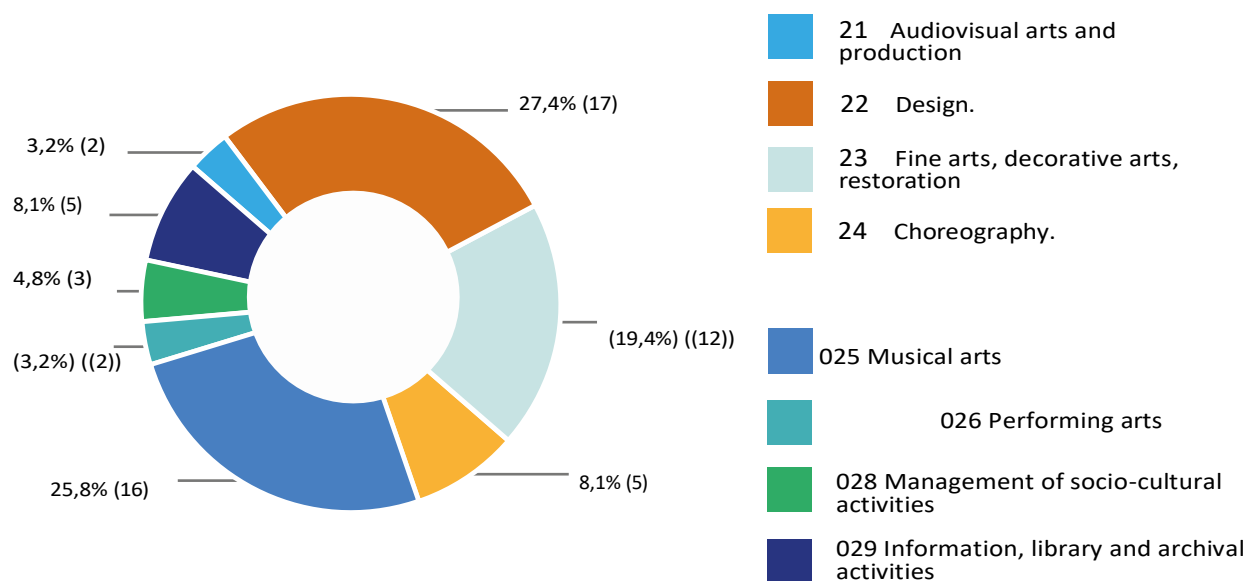


Figure 13. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge area 02 Culture and Arts, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

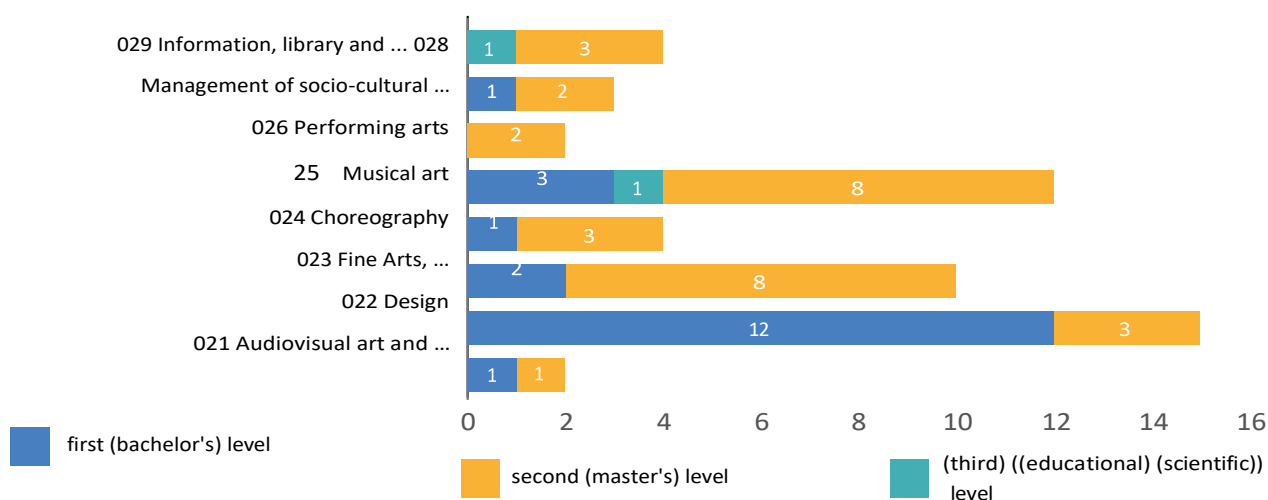


Figure 14. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 02 Culture and Art by specialities at different levels of higher education

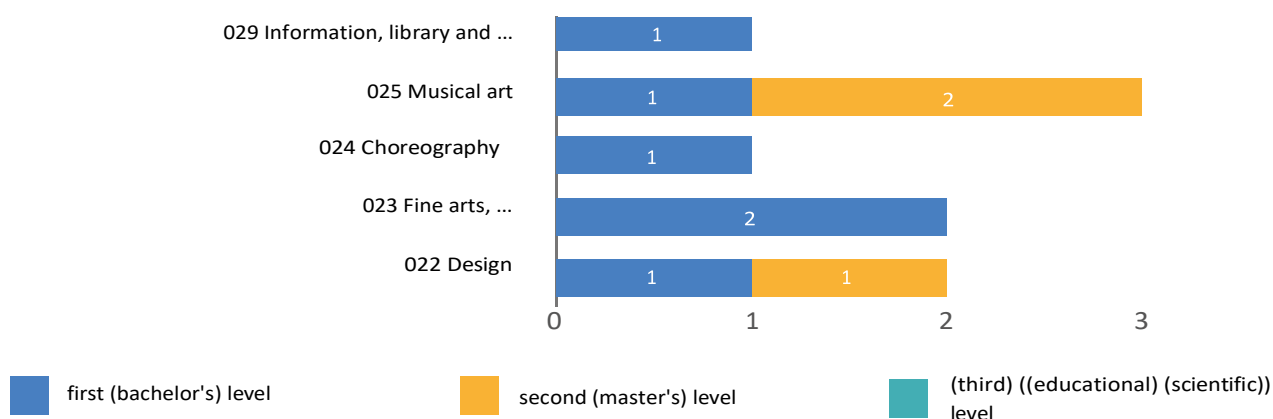


Figure 15. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 02 Culture and Art by specialities at different levels of higher education

The decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 1 (1.6%) study programme in the speciality 025 Musical Art of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education.

Let's compare these figures with the previous year.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 15.1% (from 73 to 62).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 45 to 22, and the share of the latter decreased from 62% to 35.5%.</p> <p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 24 to 37, and the share of study programmes increased from 33% to 59.7%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes increased from 2 to 3, and the share increased from 3% to 4.8%;</p> <p><i>The third (educational and creative) level:</i> in 2024, no study programmes at this level of higher education were considered.</p>
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	<p>In 2024, as in the previous year, the specialty 025 Musical Art is among the specialties for which the largest number of educational programmes in the industry, their share remained at .</p> <p>The speciality with the lowest number of reviewed study programmes has changed: in 2023, the lowest number of study programmes was in the speciality 028 Management of socio-cultural activities (1%), and in 2024 - in the specialties 026 Performing Arts and 021 Audiovisual Arts (3.2% each).</p>
Distribution of solutions	The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 95% to 83.9%.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
	<p>The share of study programmes that received a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation increased from 5% to 14.. In 2023, 4 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 this number increased to 9.</p> <p>In 2023 and 2024, one accreditation decision was made with the definition of "exemplary" in the speciality 025 Musical Art at the first (bachelor's) level of higher education.</p>

03 Humanities

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 84 study programmes in the field of knowledge 03 Humanities and Sciences under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 51 (60.7%) are first (bachelor's) level study programmes, 29 (34.5%) are second (master's) level study programmes, and 4 (4.8%) are third (educational and scientific) level study programmes (see Figure 16).

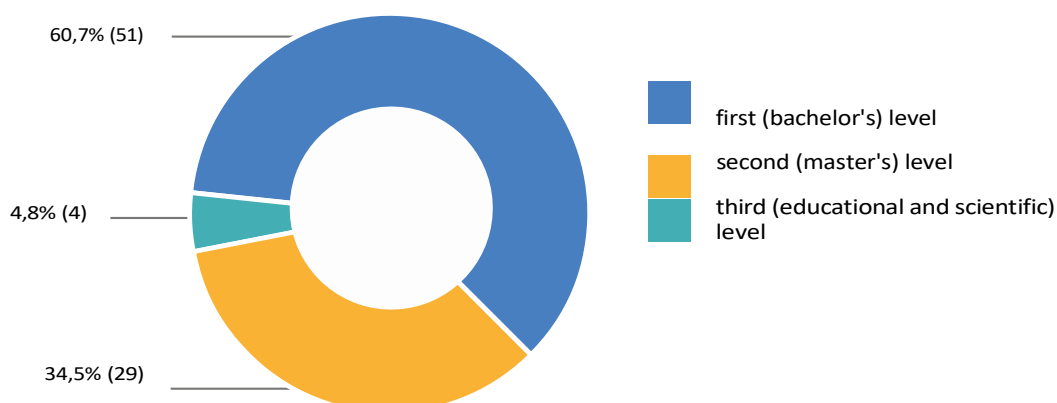


Figure 16. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge area 03 Humanities, which were approved in 2024, by levels of higher education

Most of the study programmes were reviewed in the speciality 035 Philology - 58 (69.0%). No study programmes were reviewed in the specialty 031 Religious Studies (see Figure 17).

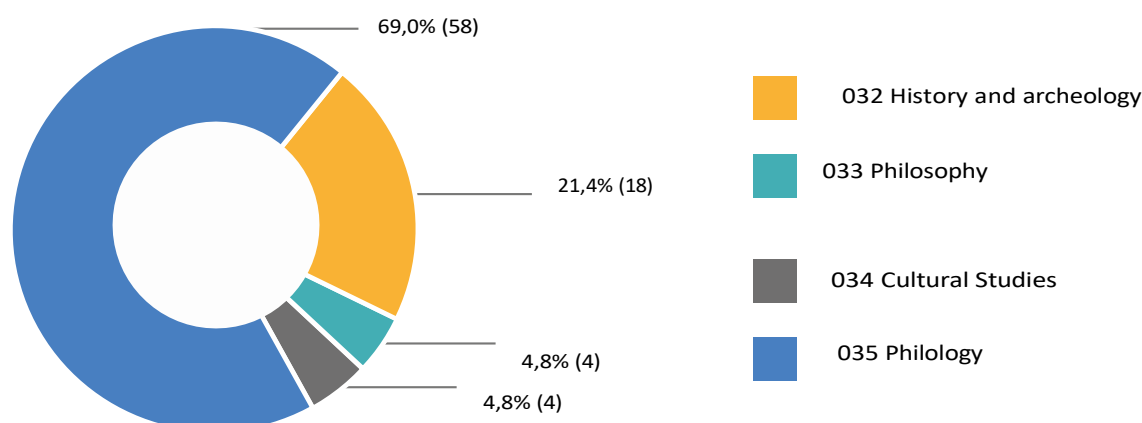


Figure 17. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge area 03 Humanities, which were approved in 2024, by specialties

The decision to accredit was made for 73 (86.) study programmes (see Figure 18).

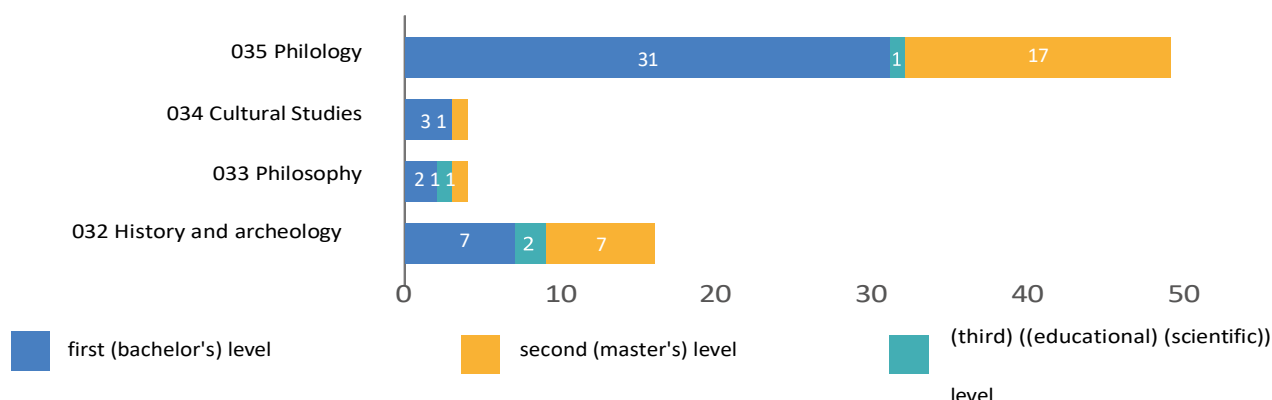


Figure 18. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 03 Humanities by specialities at different levels of higher education

The decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was granted to 10 (11.) study programmes in 035 Philology and 032 History and Archeology (see Figure 19).

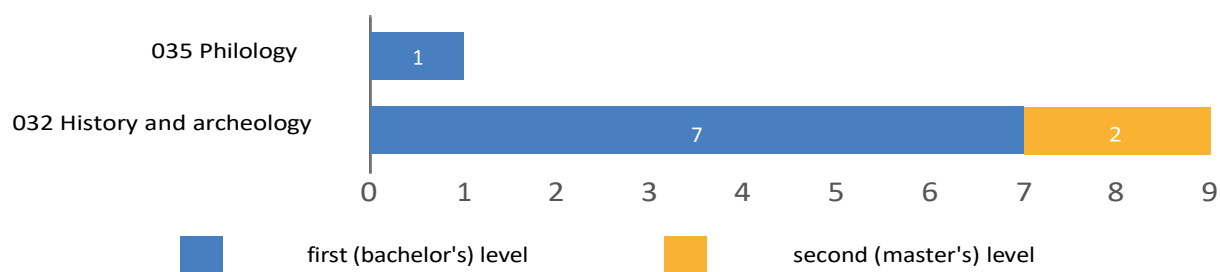


Figure 19. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of an educational programme in the field of knowledge 03 Humanities by specialities at different levels of higher education

Accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was granted to 1 (1.2%) study programme in the speciality 032 History and Archeology of the second (master's) level of higher education.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 50.0% (from 168 to 84).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 59 to 51, and the share of the latter decreased from 35% to 34.5%.</p> <p><i>Second (master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 94 to 29, and the share of study programmes increased from 56% to 60.7%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 15 to 4, and the share of the latter decreased from 9% to 4.8%.</p>

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	<p>In 2024, as in 2023, the largest number of educational programmes in the industry were reviewed in the following specialities</p> <p>035 Philology, although their share decreased from 72% to 69.0%.</p> <p>The smallest number of educational programmes in the field was reviewed in 034 Culturology and 033 Philosophy, their number decreased to 4 (4.each).</p>
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes that received accreditation increased from 85% to 86.9%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes that received a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation increased from 11% to 11.9%. In 2023, 19 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were recorded, and in 2024 this number decreased to 10.</p> <p>In 2023 and 2024, there was one accreditation decision with the definition of "exemplary" in the speciality 032 History and Archeology.</p>

04 Theology

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and made a decision on 1 study programme in the field of knowledge 04 Theology of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education under the full procedure. The decision on accreditation was made.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	In both 2023 and 2024, 1 study programme was reviewed under the full procedure.
Breakdown by level of higher education	In 2023, one study programme of the third (educational and scientific) level of higher education was considered, in 2024 - a study programme of the second (master's) level of higher education.
Distribution of solutions	Both in 2023 and 2024, the decision to accredit was made.

05 Social and behavioural sciences

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 72 study programmes in the field of knowledge 05 Social and Behavioural Sciences under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 30 (41.7%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 31 (43.0%) - of the second (master's) level and 11 (15.3%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 20).

The largest number of educational programmes was reviewed in the specialities 051 Economics - 32 (44.5%) and 053 Psychology - 26 (36.1%), and the smallest - 052 Political Science

logy - 6 (8.3%) (see Figure 21).

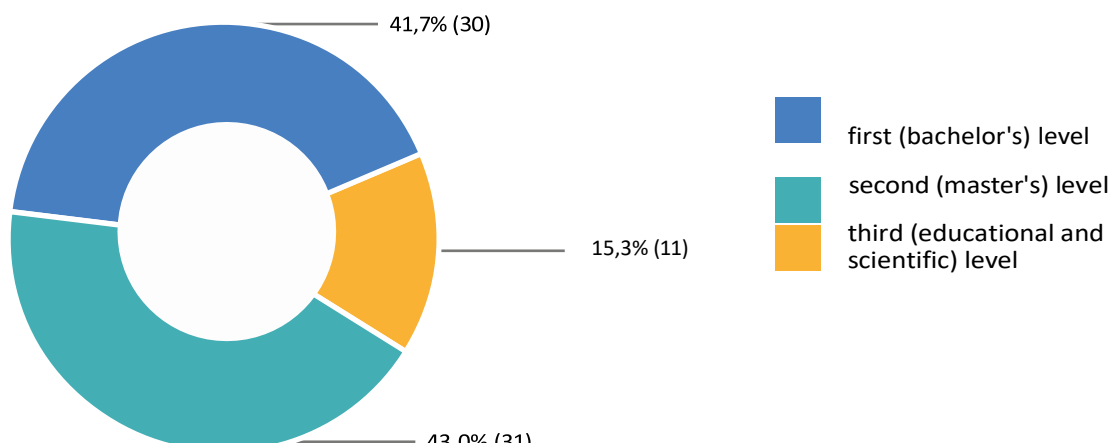


Figure 20. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge area 05 Social and behavioural sciences approved in 2024 by level of higher education

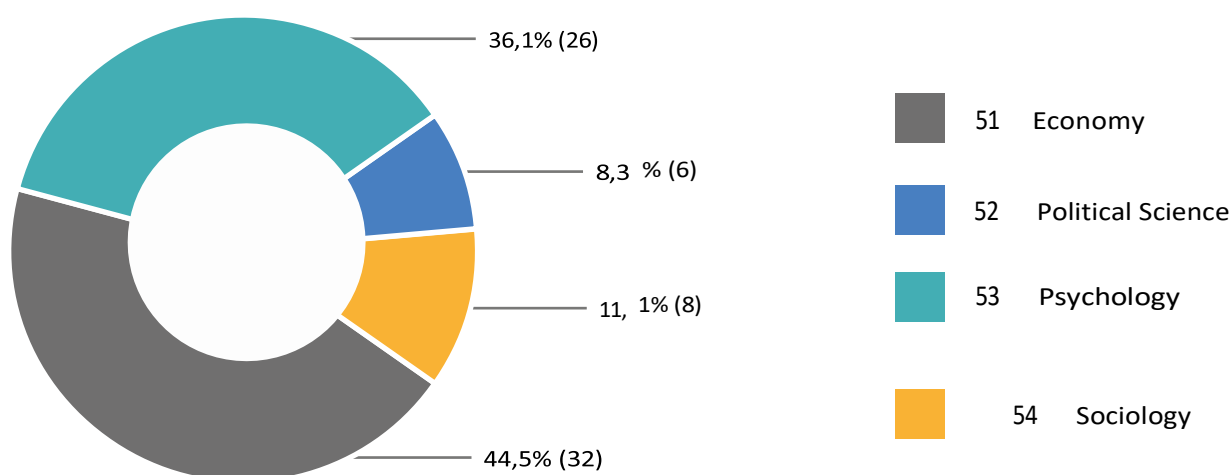


Figure 21. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge Area 05 Social and Behavioural Sciences approved in 2024, by speciality

The decision to accredit was made for 60 (83.3%) of the study programmes (see Figure 22).

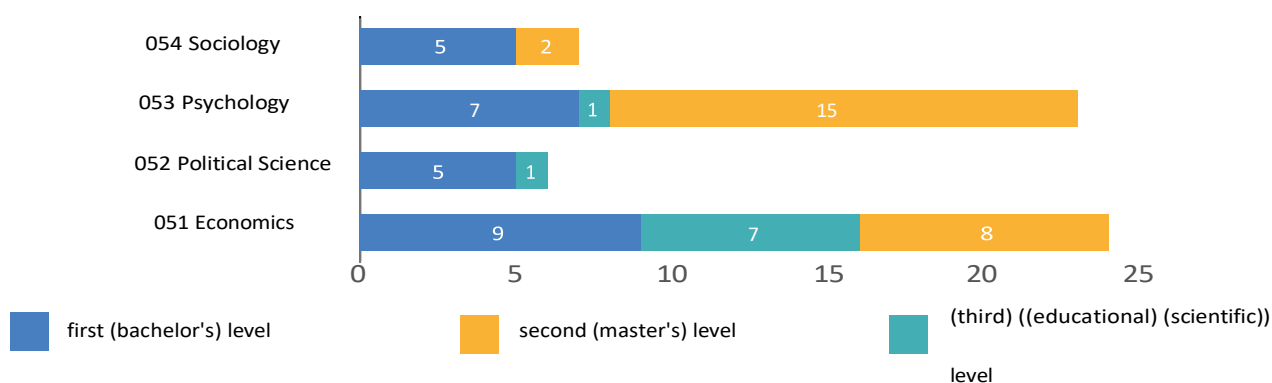


Figure 22. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of educational programmes in field of knowledge 05 Social and behavioural sciences by specialities at different levels of higher education

Decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made for 9 (12.5%) study programmes (see Figure 23).

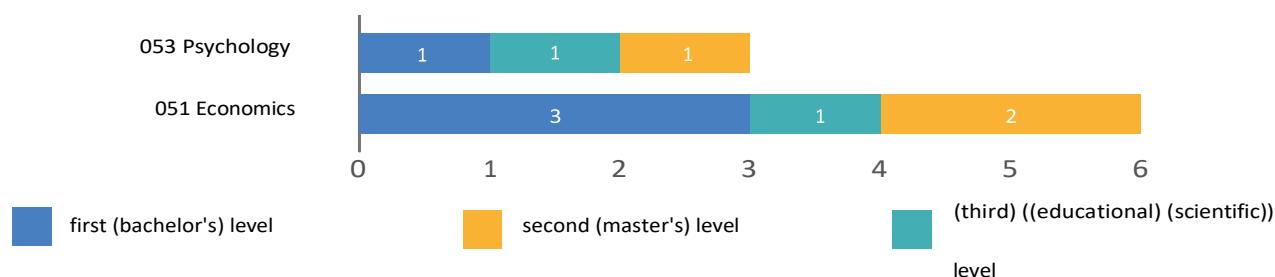


Figure 23. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 05 Social and Behavioural Sciences by specialities at different levels of higher education

Three (4.) educational programmes received accreditation with definition of "exemplary" (see Figure 24).

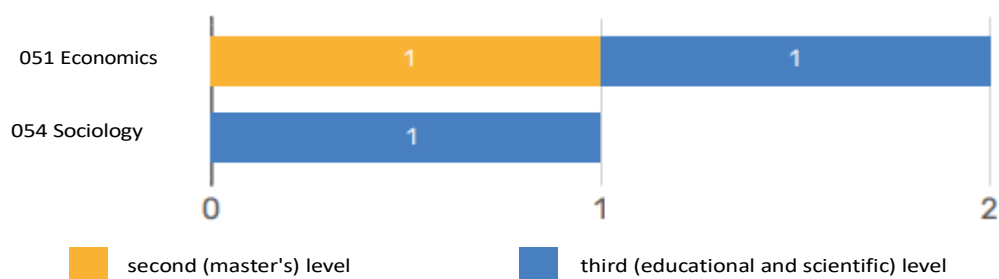


Figure 24. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of educational programmes with the definition of "exemplary" in field of knowledge 05 Social and behavioural sciences by specialities at different levels of higher education

Let's compare figures with 2023.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 38.5% (from 117 to 72).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 40 to 30, and the share of study programmes increased from 34% to 41.7%.</p> <p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 58 to 31, and the share of study programmes decreased from 50% to 43.0%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 18 to 11, and the share remained at 15%.</p> <p>In 2024, no entry-level (short-cycle) higher programmes were considered, while such programmes were considered in 2023.</p>
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	<p>In 2024, as in 2023, the largest number of study programmes in the field was reviewed in the speciality 051 Economics, with their share remaining at 45%.</p> <p>The specialty with the smallest number of study programmes has changed: in 2023, the smallest number of study programmes was in the specialty 054 Sociology (7%), and in</p>

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
	2024 - in the speciality 052 Political Science (8.3%).
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 91% to 83.3%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes that received a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation increased from 9% to 12.5%. In 2024, 9 decisions were made on conditional (deferred) accreditation, while in 2023 there were 11 such decisions.</p> <p>In 2024, 3 accreditation decisions were made with the definition of "exemplary" (in the specialities 054 Sociology and 051 Economics), in 2023 no such decisions were made.</p>

06 Journalism

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 18 study programmes in the field of knowledge 06 Journalism under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 5 (27.8%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 11 (61.1%) - of the second (master's) level, and 2 (11.1%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 25).

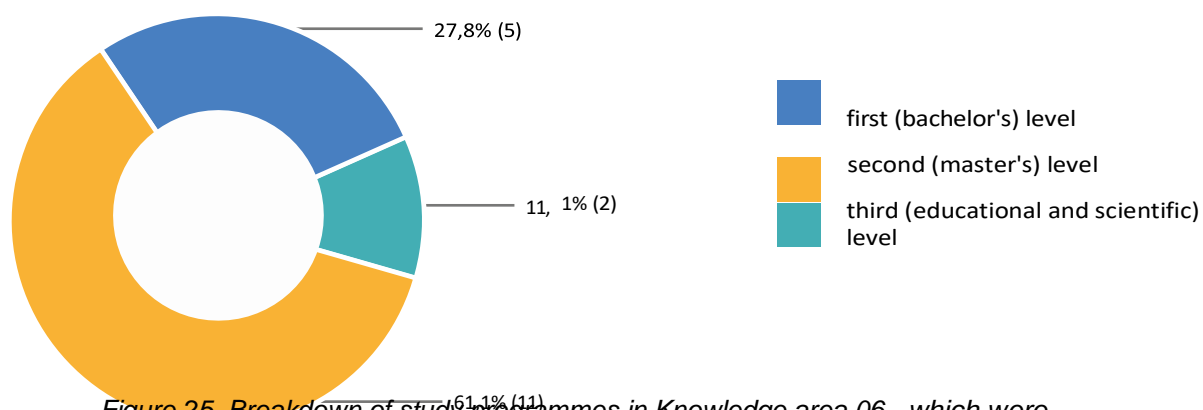


Figure 25. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge area 06 , which were approved in 2024, by levels of higher education

The decision to accredit was made for 17 (94.4%) study programmes (see Figure 26).

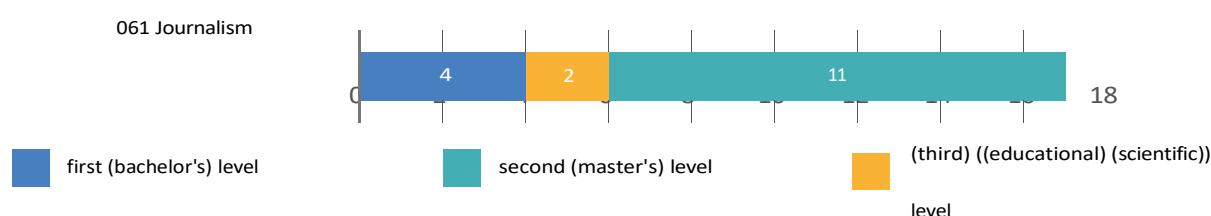


Figure 26. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of the study programme in the field of knowledge 06 Journalism at different levels of higher education

Decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation - for 1 (5.) study programme of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 41.9% (from 31 to 18).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 16 to 5, and the share of study programmes decreased from 27.8%.</p> <p><i>Second (master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 15 to 11, but the share of study programmes increased from 48% to 61.1%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> in 2024, 2 study programmes were considered, while in 2023 there were no study programmes at this level of higher education.</p>
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 97% to 94.4%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes that received conditional (deferred) accreditation increased from 3% to 5.6%. In both 2023 and 2024, 1 decision on conditional accreditation was made.</p>

07 Management and administration

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 139 study programmes in the field of knowledge 07 Management and Administration under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 46 (33.1%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 79 (56.8%) - of the second (master's) level and 14 (10.1%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 27).

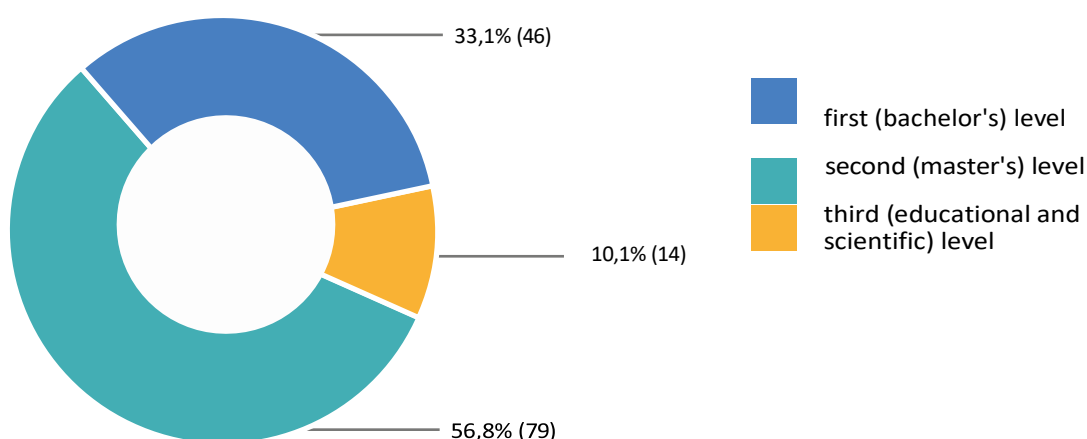


Figure 27. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge area 07 Management and Administration approved in 2024 by level of higher education

Most of the educational programmes were reviewed in the speciality 073 Management - 56 (40.3%, and the lowest number - in the speciality 075 Marketing - 15 (10.8% (see Figure 28).

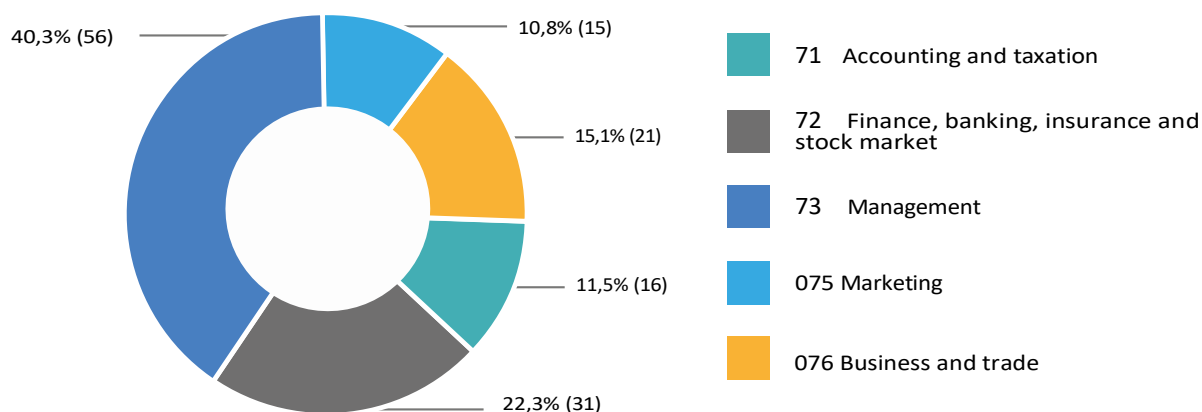


Figure 28. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge Area 07 Management and Administration, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

The decision to accredit was made for 119 (85.) educational programmes (see Figure 29).

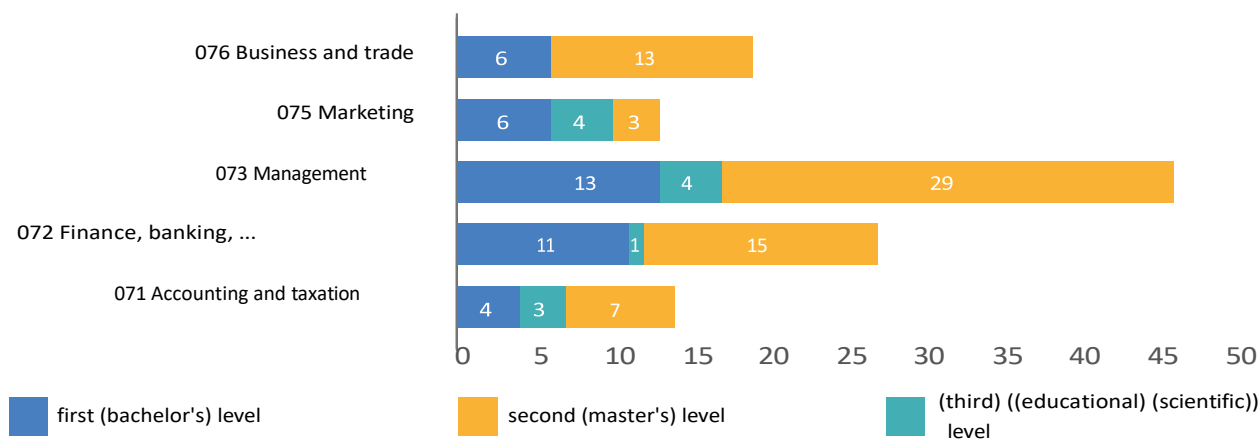


Figure 29. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of educational programmes field of knowledge 07 Management and administration by specialities at different levels of higher education

Decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made for 17 (12.2%) study programmes (see Figure 30).

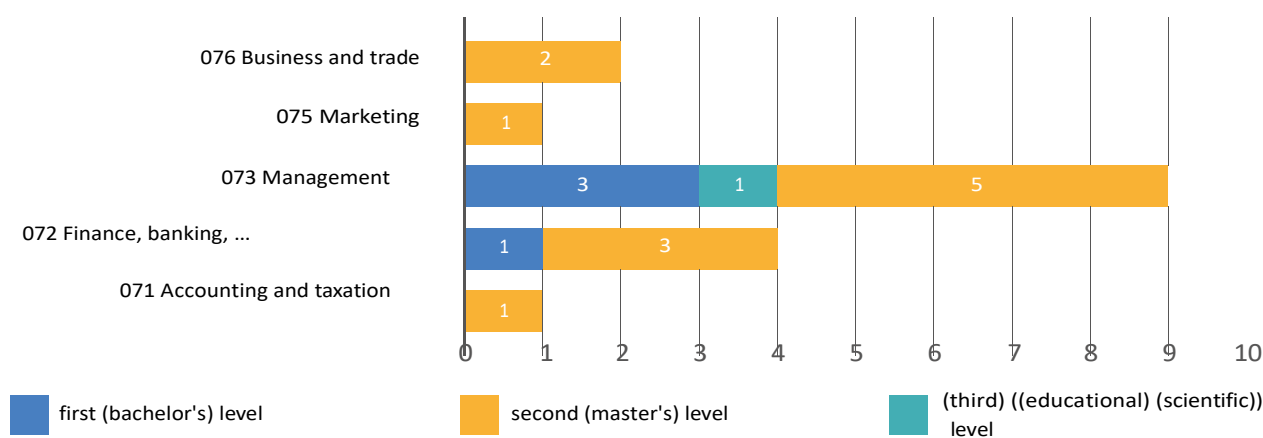


Figure 30. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 07 Management and Administration by specialities at different levels of higher education

The decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 2 (1.) educational programmes, namely: speciality 071 Accounting and Taxation of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education and speciality 075 Marketing of the third (master's) level of higher education.

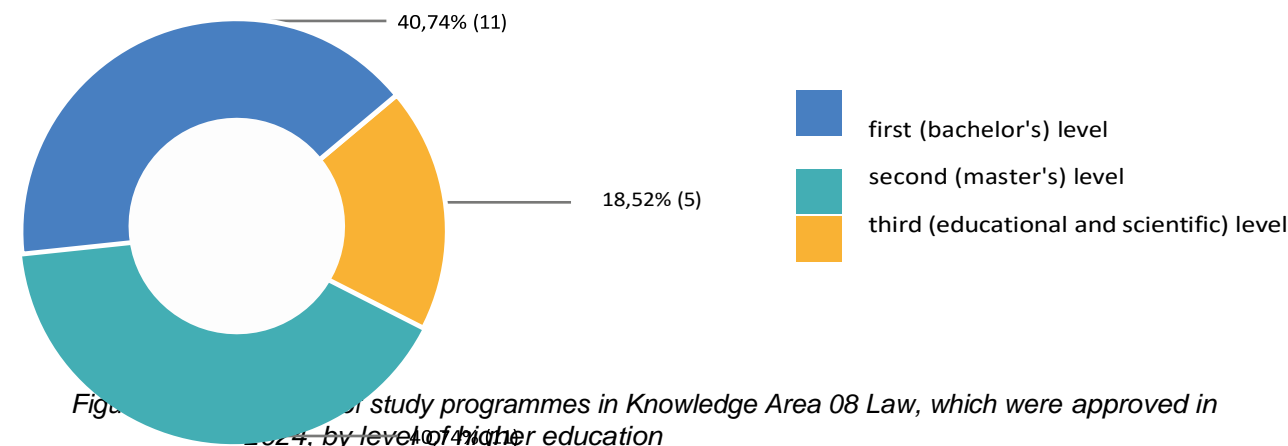
The decision to deny accreditation was made for 1 (0.) study programme in the speciality 073 Management of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 8.6% (from 152 to 139).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 60 to 46, and the share of study programmes decreased from 39.5% to 33.1%.</p> <p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 69 to 79, and the share of study programmes increased from 45% to 56.8%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 20 to 14, and the share of m from 13.2% to 10.1%.</p> <p>In 2024, there were no <i>entry-level (short-cycle)</i> higher education programmes considered, while in 2023 there were 3 such programmes.</p>
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	<p>The speciality 073 Management remains the one with the largest number of study programmes, with its share decreasing from 45% to 40.3%.</p> <p>In 2023, the smallest number of study programmes was reviewed in the speciality 072 Finance, Banking and Insurance - only 17 programmes, which is 11%. In 2024, the smallest number of programmes was in the speciality 075 Marketing - 15 programmes, which is 10.8%.</p>
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made remained at .</p> <p>The share of study programmes that received a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation increased from 10% to 12.2%. In 2024, 17 decisions were made on conditional (deferred) accreditation, and in 2023 - 15.</p> <p>In 2024, 2 accreditation decisions were made with the definition of "exemplary, while in 2023 no such decisions were made.</p> <p>In both 2023 and 2024, 1 decision was made to deny accreditation.</p>

08 Law

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 27 study programmes in the field of knowledge 08 Law under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 11 (40.) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 11 (40.74%) - of the second (master's) level and

5 (18.52%) - the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 31).



The decision to accredit was made for 26 (96.3%) of the study programmes (see Figure 32).

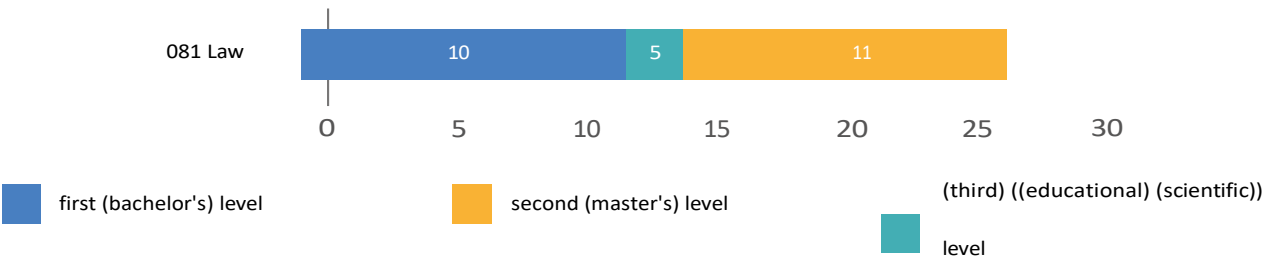


Figure 32. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 08 Law by specialties at different levels of higher education

Decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation - for 1 (3.) study programme of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 40% (from 45 to 27).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 21 to 11, and the share of study programmes decreased from to 40.7%.</p> <p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 18 to 11, while the share of study programmes remained at 40%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 6 to 5, but the share increased from 13% to 18.5%.</p>
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made increased from 93% to 96.3%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made decreased from 7% to 3.7%. In 2024, the following decisions were made</p>

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
	1 decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation, in 2023 there were 3 such decisions.

09 Biology

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 14 study programmes in the field of knowledge 09 Biology under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 2 (14.3%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 4 (28.6%) - of the second (master's) level and 8 (57.1%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 33).

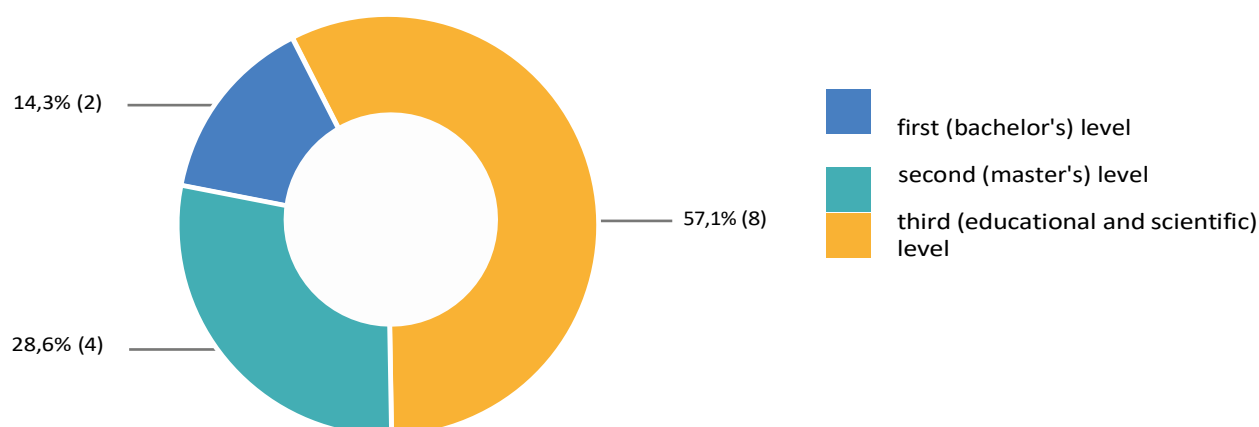


Figure 33. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge area 09 Biology, which were approved in 2024, by levels of higher education

The decision to accredit was made for all 14 (100%) study programmes (see Figure 34).

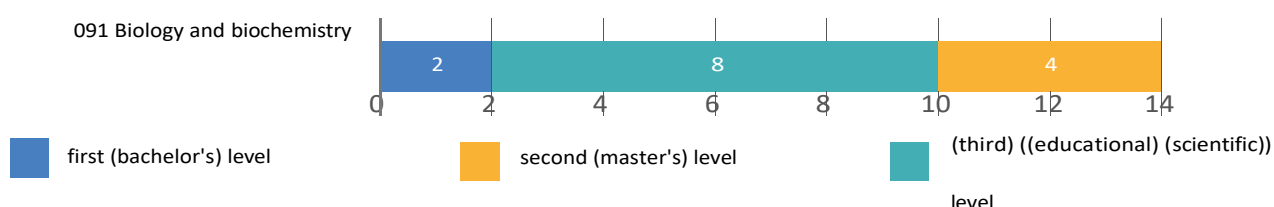


Figure 34. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of the study programme in Knowledge area 09 Biology by specialties at different levels of higher education

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 41.7% (from 24 to 14).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p>First (bachelor's) level: the number of study programmes decreased from 6 to 2, and the share of study programmes decreased from 25% to 14.3%.</p> <p>Second (Master's) level: the number of study programmes decreased from 12 to 4, and the share of study programmes decreased from 50% to 28.6%.</p> <p>The third (educational and scientific) level: the number of study programmes increased from 6 to 8, and the share of study</p>

	programmes increased from 25% to 57.1%.
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Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Distribution of solutions	The share of study programmes for which accreditation was approved increased from 92% to 100%.

10 Natural sciences

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 67 study programmes in the field of knowledge 10 Natural Sciences under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 31 (46.3%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 30 (44.8%) - of the second (master's) level and 6 (8.9%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 35).

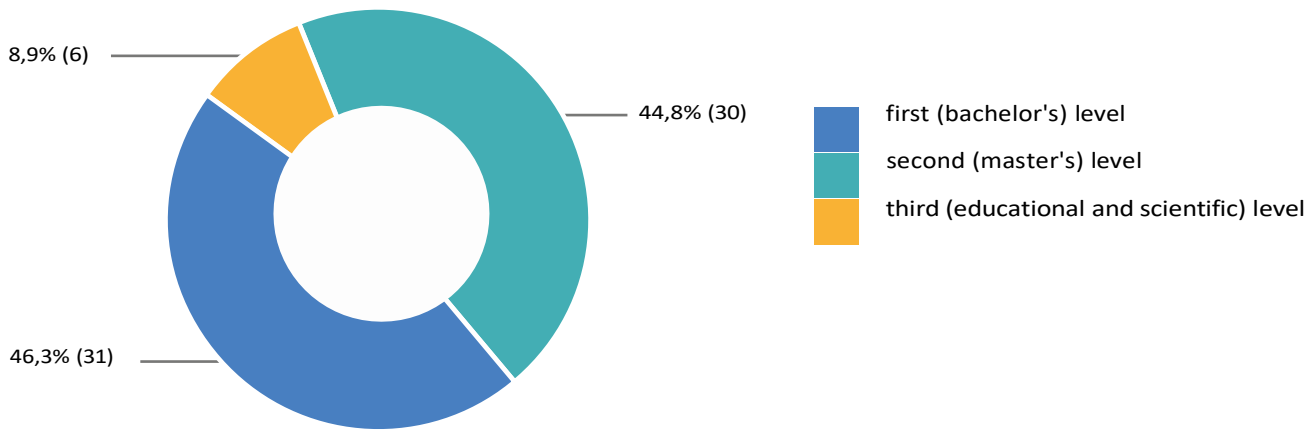


Figure 35. Distribution of study programmes in the field of knowledge 10 Natural sciences, which were approved in 2024, by levels of higher education

The largest number of study programmes was reviewed in the speciality 101 Ecology - 26 (38.80%, and the smallest number - in the specialities 102 Chemistry, 103 Earth Sciences and 105 Applied Physics and Nanomaterials - 7 (10.45%) each (see Figure 36).

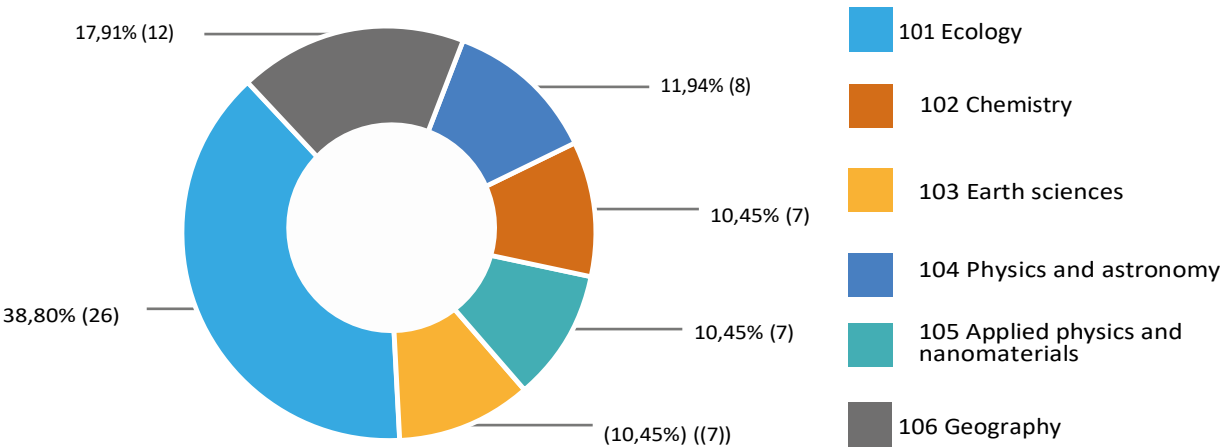


Figure 36. Distribution of study programmes in the field of knowledge 10 Natural sciences, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

The decision to accredit was made for 59 (88.1%) of the study programmes (see Figure 37).

Decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made for 7 (10.4%) study programmes (see Figure 38).

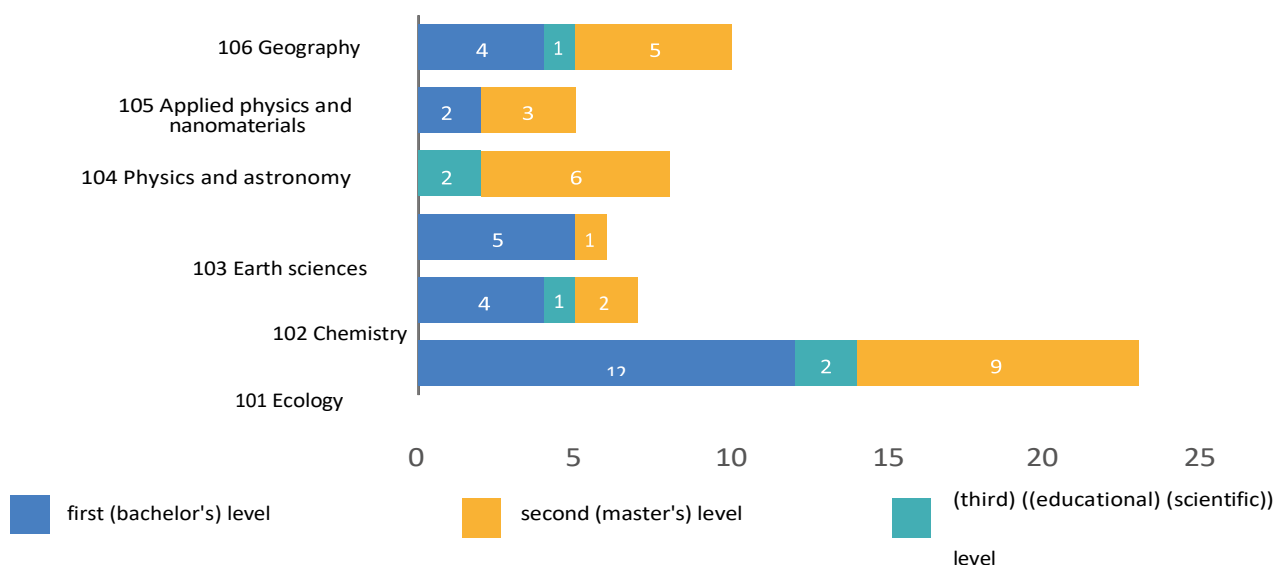


Figure 37. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 10 Natural Sciences by specialties at different levels of higher education

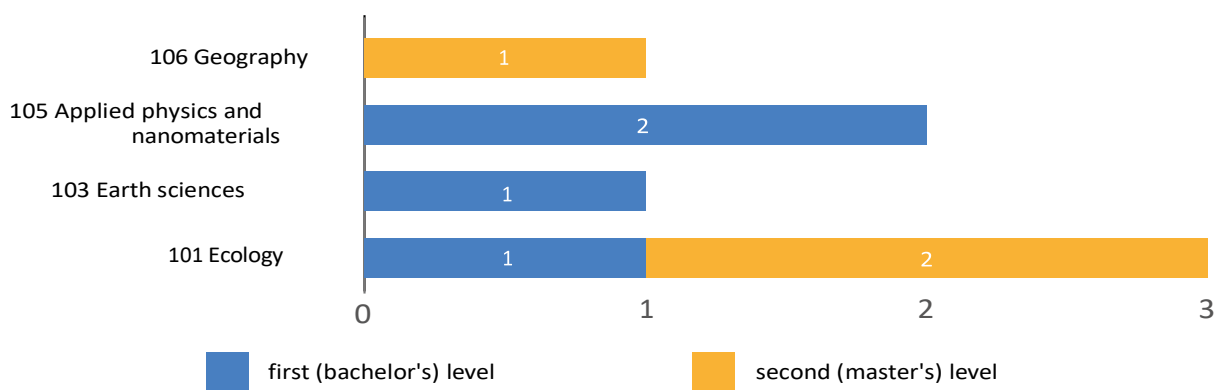


Figure 38. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of an educational programme in the field of knowledge 10 Natural Sciences by specialties at different levels of higher education

The decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 1 (1.) educational programme in the speciality 106 Geography of the second (master's) level of higher education.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 16.3% (from 80 to 67).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p>First (bachelor's) level: the number of study programmes remained unchanged at 31, and the share increased from 39% to 46.3%.</p> <p>Second (master's) level: the number of study programmes decreased from 36 to 30, and the share remained at 45%.</p> <p>The third (educational and scientific) level: the number of educational programmes decreased from 13 to 6, and the share of the latter decreased from to 8.9%.</p>

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	<p>In both 2023 and 2024, the largest number of study programmes were reviewed in the speciality 101 Ecology, with their share increasing from 29% to 38.8%.</p> <p>In 2023, the smallest number of study programmes were reviewed in the specialty 106 Geography - 4, which was 5%, in 2024 - in the following specialties 102 Chemistry, 103 Earth Sciences and 105 Applied Physics and Nanomaterials - 7 (10.4%) each.</p>
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 91% to 88.1%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes that received a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation increased from 8% to 10.4%. In 2023, 6 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 7.</p> <p>In both 2023 and 2024, 1 accreditation decision was made with the definition of "exemplary".</p>

11 Mathematics and statistics

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 17 study programmes in the field of knowledge 11 Mathematics and Statistics under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 8 (47.1%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 6 (35.3%) - of the second (master's) level and 3 (17.6%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 39).

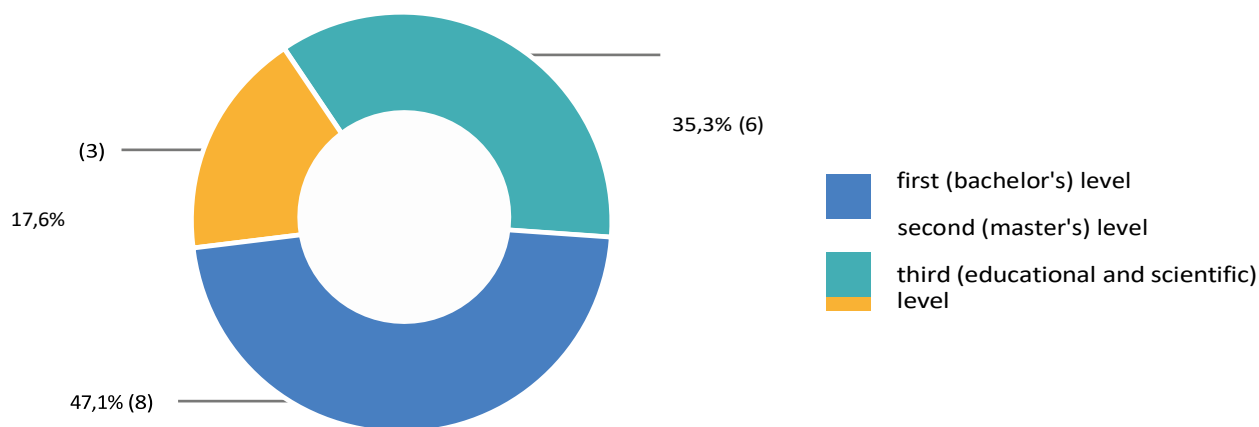


Figure 39. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge area 11 Mathematics and Statistics approved in 2024, by level of higher education

Most of the study programmes were reviewed in the speciality 113 Applied Mathematics - 15 (88.). In the specialties 111 Mathematics and 112 Statistics - 1 (5.) each (see Figure 40).

The decision to accredit was made for 15 (88.2%) of the study programmes (see Figure 41).

The decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made for 2 (11.8%) study programmes in the speciality 113 Applied Mathematics of the third (educational and scientific) level of higher education.

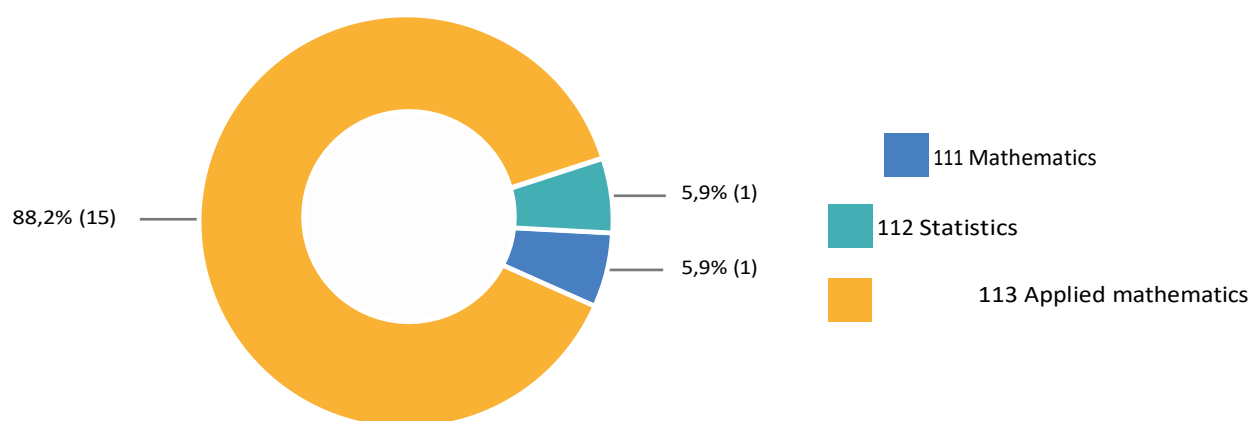


Figure 40. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge area 11 Mathematics and Statistics, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

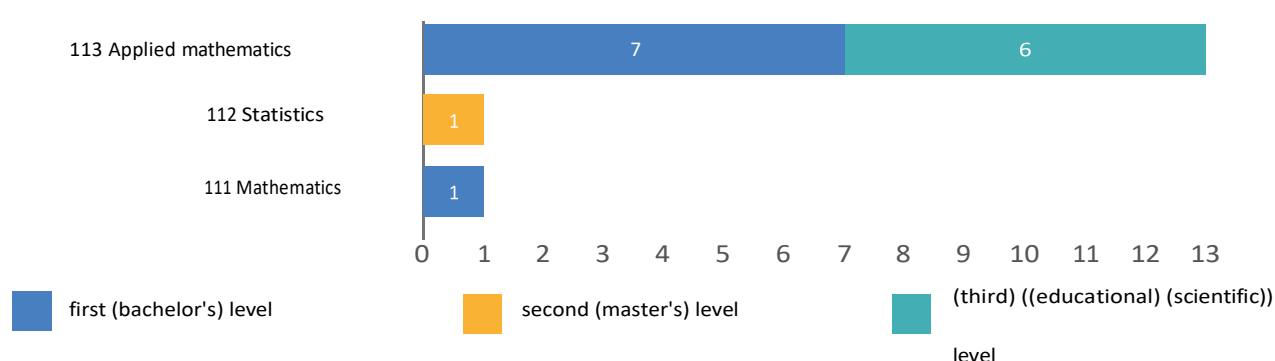


Figure 41. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 11 Mathematics and Statistics by specialities at different levels of higher education

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 50.0% (from 34 to 17).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 11 to 8, and the share of study programmes increased from 32% to 47.1%.</p> <p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 16 to 6, and the share of study programmes decreased from 35.3% to 35.3%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 7 to 3, and the share of the latter decreased from 17.6% to 17.6%.</p>
Specialities with the highest number of educational programmes	In both 2023 and 2024, the largest number of study programmes were reviewed in the speciality 113 Applied Mathematics, with their share increasing from 53% to 88.2%.
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made remained at .</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made remained</p>

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
	at the level of 12%. In 2023, 4 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 2.

12 Information technology

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 113 study programmes in the field of knowledge of 12 information technologies under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 43 (38.1%) are educational programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 60 (53.1%) - of the second (master's) level, and 10 (8.8%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 42).

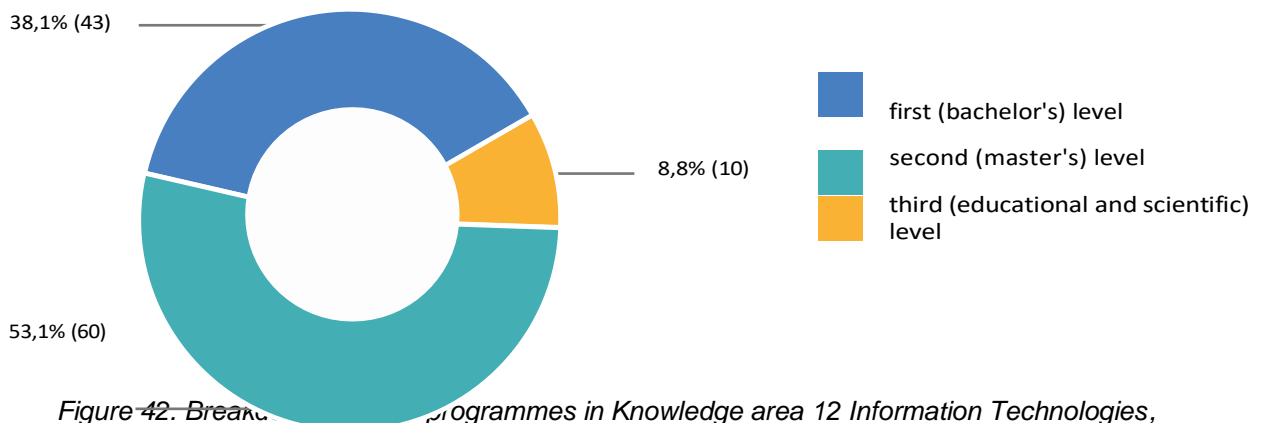


Figure 42. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge area 12 Information Technologies, which were approved in 2024, by level of higher education

The largest number of educational programmes was reviewed in the specialty 122 Computer Science - 43 (38.1%), and the smallest number - in the specialty 124 Systems Analysis - 8 (7.1%) (see Figure 43).

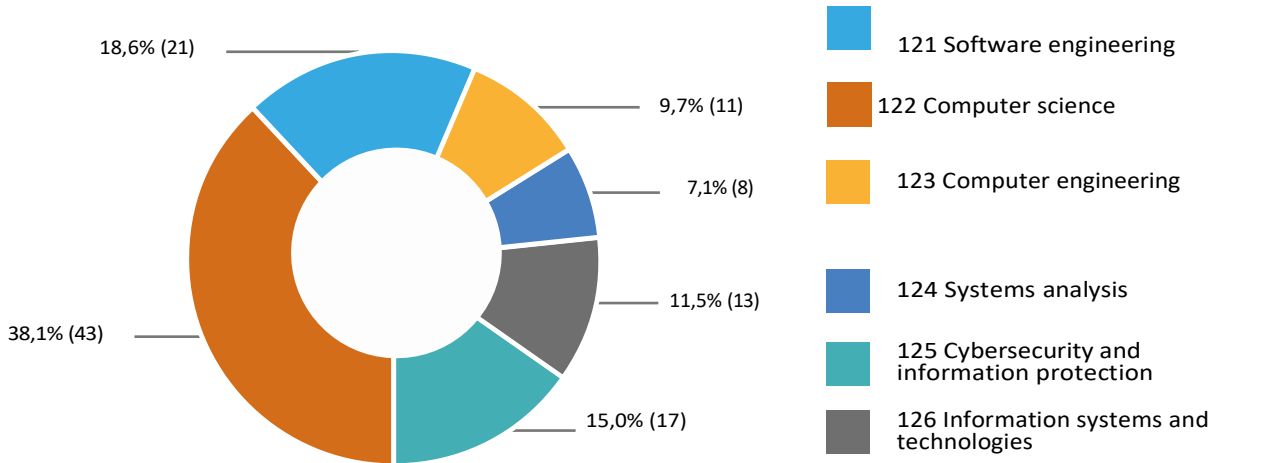


Figure 43. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge Area 12 Information Technology, which were approved in 2024, by specialty

The decision to accredit was made for 107 (94.7%) of the study programmes (see Figure 44).

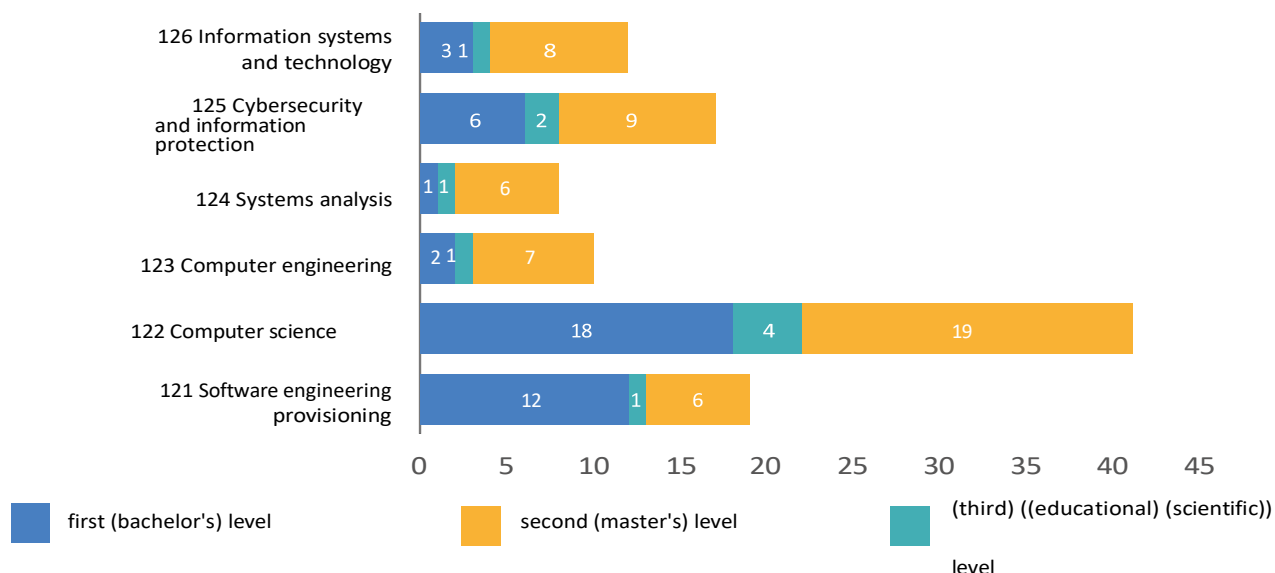


Figure 44. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 12 Information Technologies by specialities at different levels of higher education

Decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made for 5 (4.) study programmes (see Figure 45).

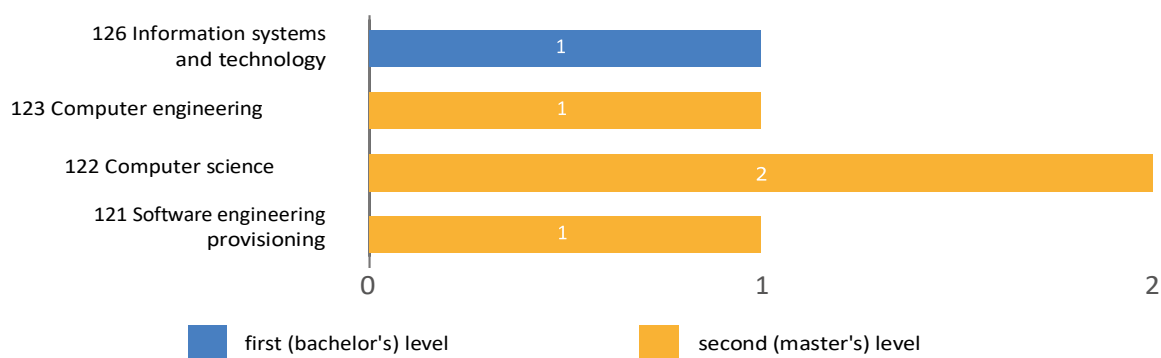


Figure 45. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 12 Information Technology by specialities at different levels of higher education

The decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 1 (0.9%) study programme in the speciality 121 Software Engineering of the second (master's) level of higher education.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 26.1% (from 153 to 113).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 64 to 43, and the share of study programmes decreased from to 38.1%.</p> <p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 68 to 60, and the share of study programmes increased from 44% to 53.1%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational-scientific/educational-creative) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 19 to 10, and the share of the latter decreased from 12% to 8.8%.</p>

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
	In 2024, the educational programmes of the <i>initial level (short cycle)</i> of higher education were not considered under the full procedure, in 2023, 2 educational programmes of this level of higher education were considered.
Specialities with the highest number of educational programmes	Both in 2023 and 2024, the largest number of study programmes were reviewed in the speciality 122 Computer Science, their share decreased from 39% to 38.1%.
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation was approved increased from 82% to 94.7%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made decreased from 16% to 4.. In 2023, 24 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 5.</p> <p>In both 2023 and 2024, 1 accreditation decision was made with the definition of "exemplary".</p> <p>In 2023, 1 decision was made to accreditation, while in 2024, no such decisions were made.</p>

13 Mechanical engineering

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 44 study programmes in the field of knowledge 13 Mechanical Engineering under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 13 (29.6%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 25 (56.8%) - of the second (master's) level and 6 (13.6%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 46).

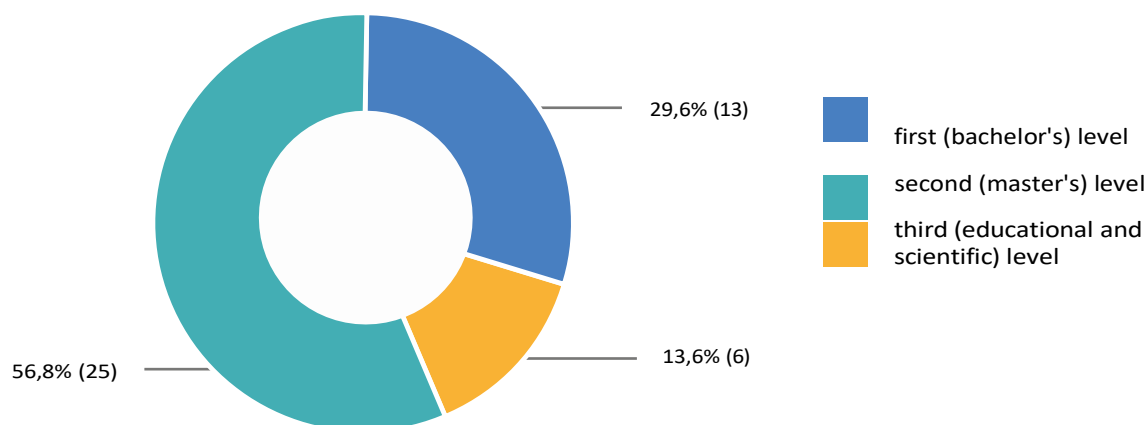


Figure 46. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge area 13 Mechanical Engineering approved in 2024, by level of higher education

The largest number of study programmes was reviewed in 131 Applied Mechanics - 17 (38.6%). No study programmes were reviewed in 135 Shipbuilding (see Figure 47).

The decision to accredit was made for 35 (79.5%) of the study programmes (see Figure 48).

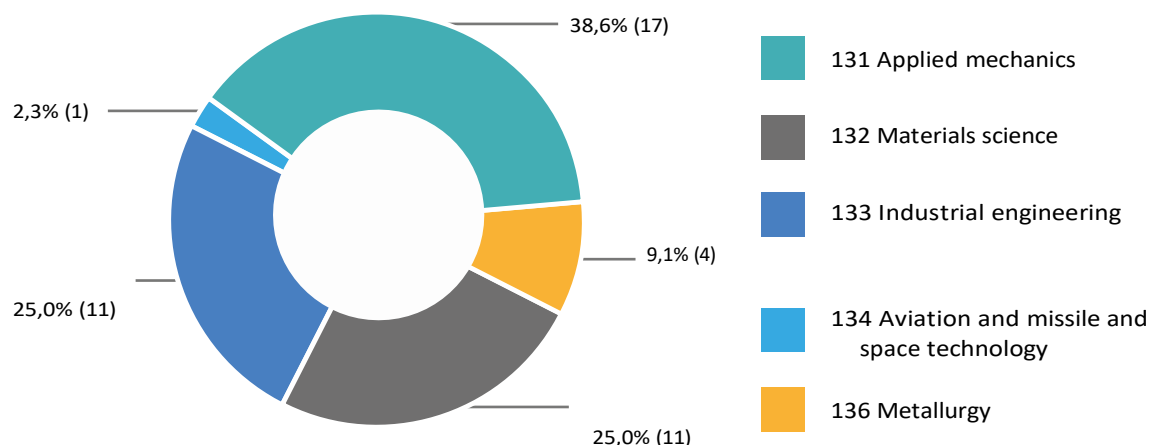


Figure 47. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge area 13 Mechanical Engineering, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

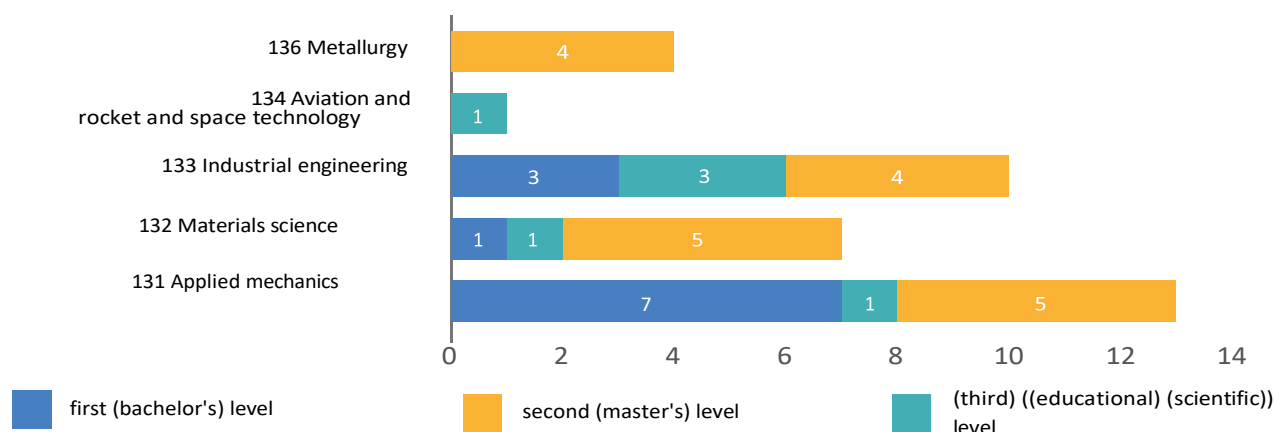


Figure 48. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 14 Electrical Engineering by specialities at different levels of higher education

Decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made for 9 (20.5%) study programmes (Figure 49).

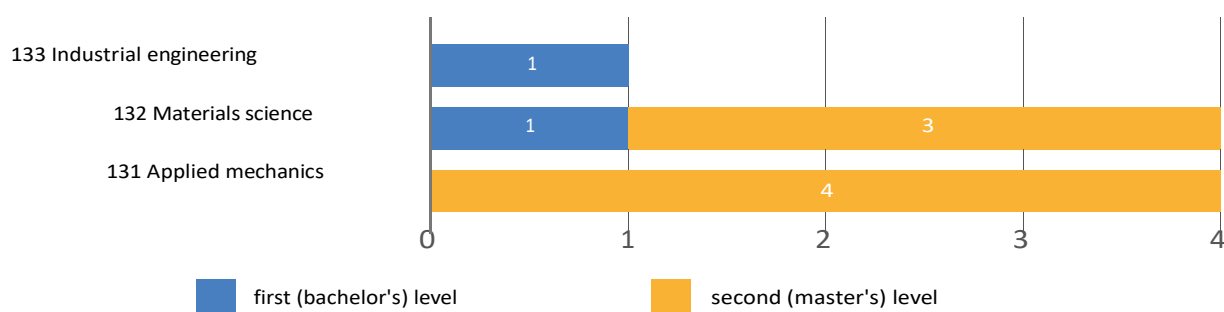


Figure 49. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme in Knowledge area 13 Mechanical Engineering by specialities at different levels of higher education

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 13.7% (from 51 to 44).

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 19 to 13, and the share of study programmes decreased from 29.6%.</p> <p><i>Second (master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 21 to 25, and the share of study programmes increased from 29.6% to 56.8%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational-scientific/educational-creative) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 10 to 6, and the share of the latter decreased from 20% to 13.6%.</p> <p>In 2024, <i>the entry-level (short-cycle)</i> higher education programmes were not reviewed under the full procedure, while in 2023 the following were reviewed 1 educational programme of this level of higher education.</p>
Specialities with the highest number of educational programmes	In 2023, the largest number of study programmes was reviewed in 133 Industrial Engineering, and in 2024 - in 131 Applied Mechanics.
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 98% to 79.5%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes that received a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation increased from 2% to 20%. In 2023, 1 decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made, and in 2024 - 9.</p>

14 Electrical engineering

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 42 study programmes in the field of knowledge 14 Electrical Engineering under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 14 (33.3%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 26 (61.9%) - of the second (master's) level and 2 (4.8%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 50).

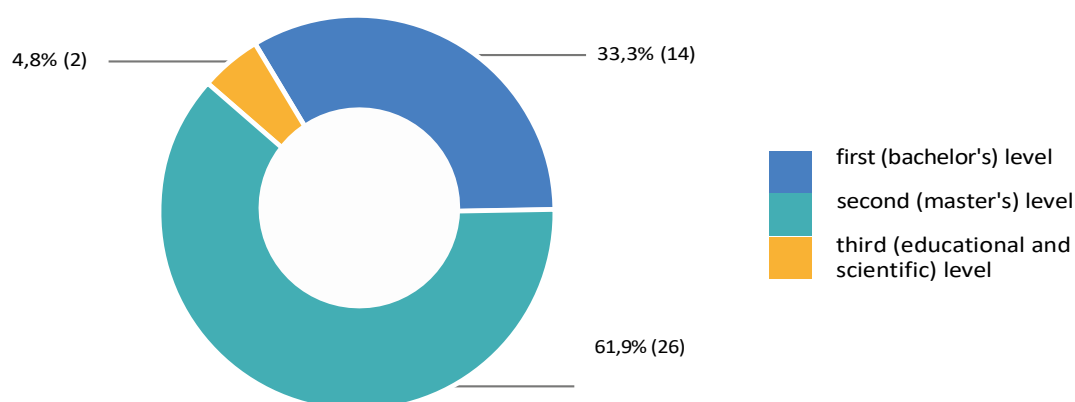


Figure 50. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge Area 14 Electrical Engineering approved in 2024, by level of higher education

Most of the study programmes were reviewed in the speciality 141 Electrical power engineering, electrical engineering and electromechanics - 24 (57.1%). By speciality

145 Renewable energy and hydropower educational programmes were not reviewed according to the full procedure (see Figure 51).

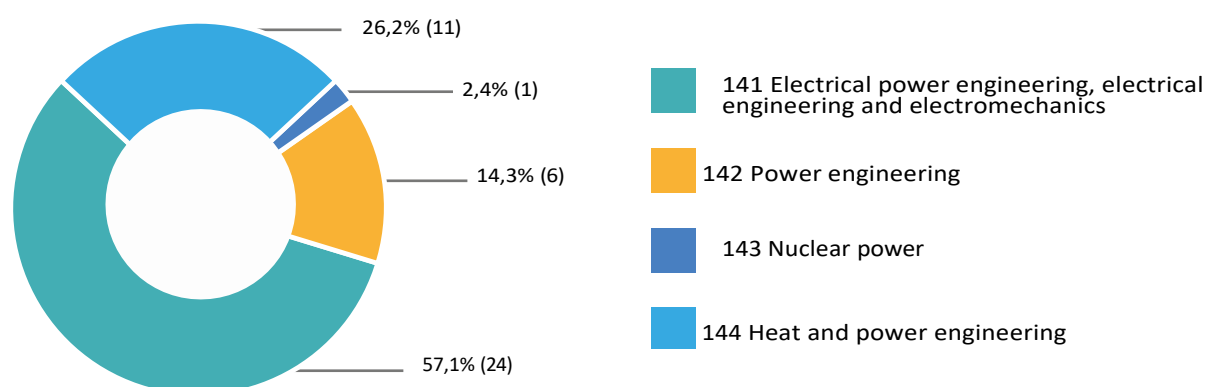


Figure 51. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge Area 14 Electrical Engineering, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

The decision to accredit was made for 40 (95.2%) of the study programmes (see Figure 52).

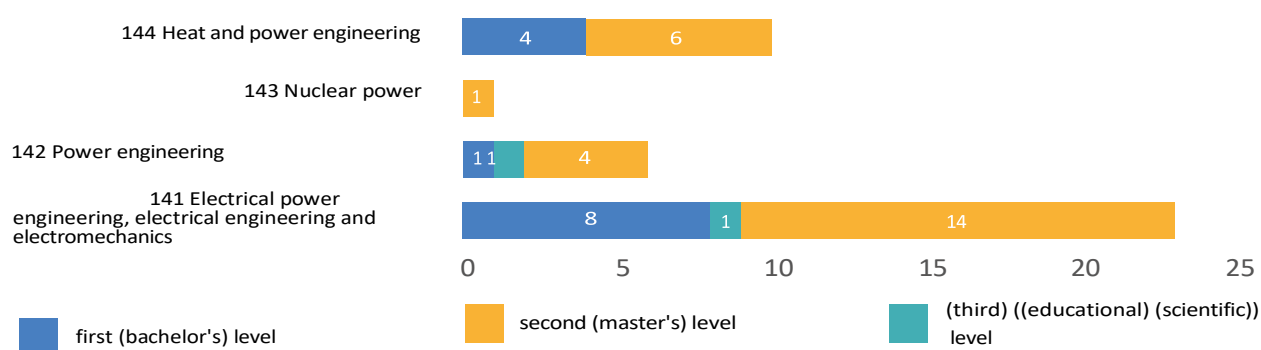


Figure 52. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 14 Electrical Engineering by specialities at different levels of higher education

The decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made for 1 (2.) study programme in the speciality 144 Heat Power Engineering of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education.

The decision on re-accreditation was made for one (2.) study programme in the speciality 141 Electric Power Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Electromechanics of the second (master's) level of higher education. Based on the results of the re-examination of this study programme, a decision was made to deny accreditation.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 26.3% (from 57 to 42).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 28 to 14, and the share of study programmes decreased from 49% to 33.3%.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
	<p><i>Second (master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 24 to 26, and the share of study programmes increased from 42% to 61.9%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 5 to 2, and the share of the latter decreased from 9% to 4.8%.</p>
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	<p>In 2024, as in the previous year, the largest number of study programmes was reviewed in the speciality 141 Electricity, Electrical Engineering and Electromechanics.</p> <p>In the specialty 145 Renewable Sources and Hydropower, educational programmes were not considered either in 2023 or in 2024.</p>
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation was approved increased from 91% to 95.2%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made decreased from 4% to 2.4%. In 2023, 2 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 1.</p>

15 Automation and instrumentation

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 10 study programmes in the field of knowledge 15 Automation and Instrumentation in accordance with the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 7 (70.0%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 2 (20.0%) - of the second (master's) level and 1 (10.0%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 53).

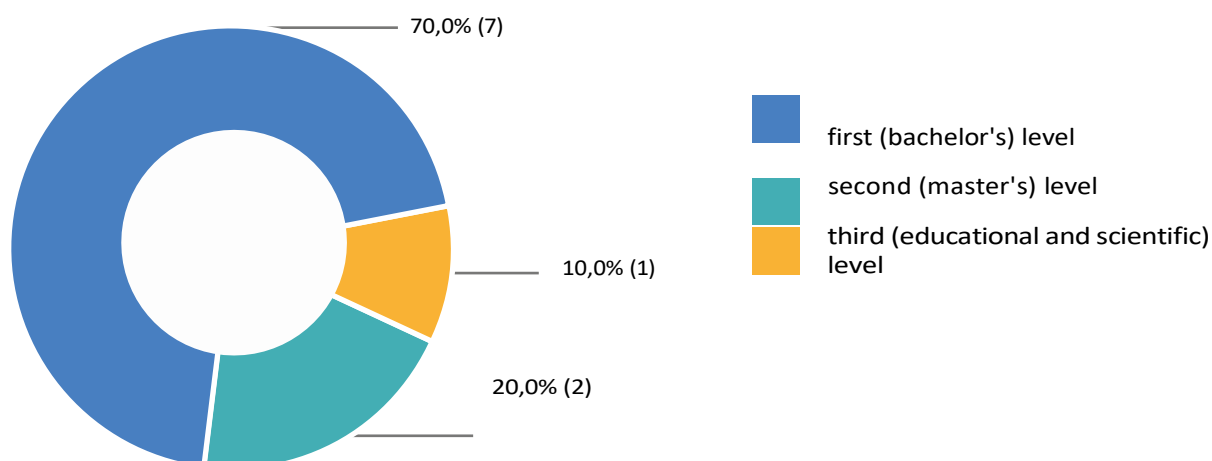


Figure 53. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge Area 15 Automation and Instrumentation, which were approved in 2024, by level of higher education

The largest number of educational programmes was reviewed in the speciality 151 Automation and computer-integrated technologies - 6 (60.0%, and the smallest number - in

speciality 153 Micro- and nanosystems engineering - 1 (10.0%) (see Figure 54).

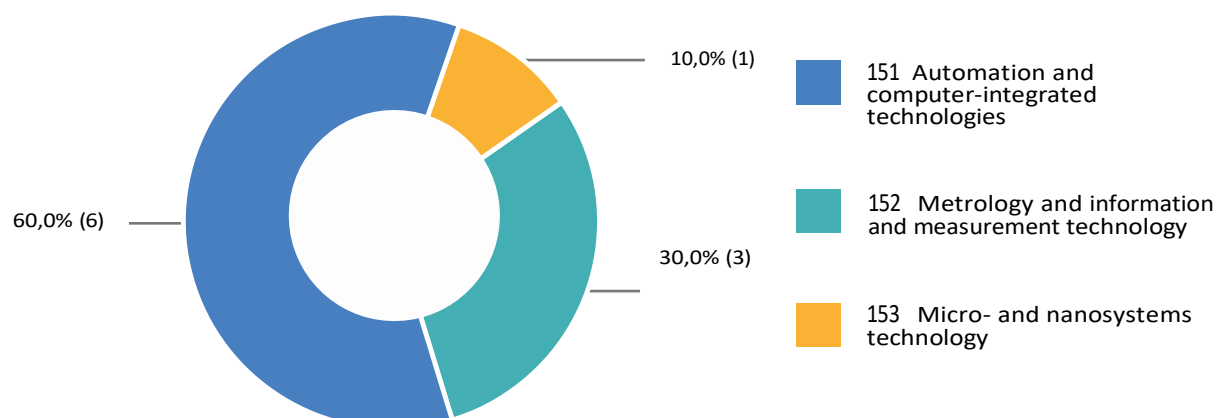


Figure 54. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge Area 15 Automation and Instrumentation, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

The decision to accredit was made for 8 (80.0%) study programmes (see Figure 55).

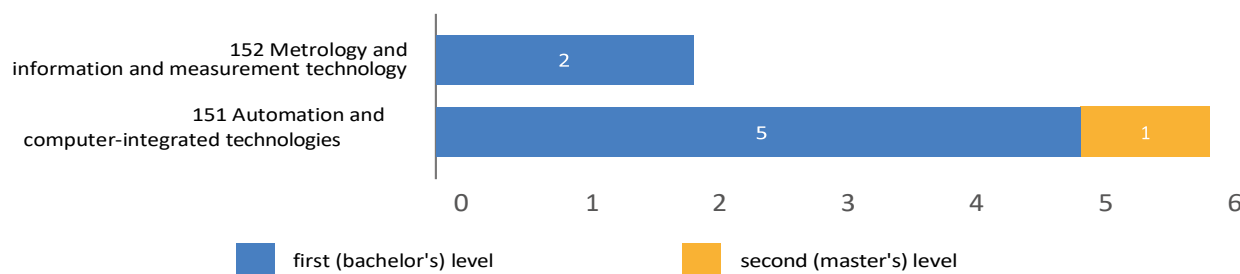


Figure 55. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of educational programmes in the field of knowledge 15 Automation and instrumentation by specialities at different levels of higher education

Decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation - for 1 (10.0%) study programme in the speciality 152 Metrology and Information and Measuring Technology of the third (educational and scientific) level of higher education.

The decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 1 (10.) study programme in the speciality 153 Micro- and nanosystems engineering of the second (master's) level of higher education.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 71.4% (from 35 to 10).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 15 to 7, and the share of study programmes increased from 43% to 70.0%.</p> <p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 15 to 2, and the share of study programmes decreased from 43% to 20.0%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 5 to 1, and the share of the latter decreased from 14.3% to 10.0%.</p>

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	In both 2023 and 2024, the largest number of study programmes was reviewed in the speciality 151 Automation and Computer-Integrated Technologies, and the smallest - in the speciality 153 Micro- and nanosystems engineering.
Distribution of solutions	The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 100% to 80.0%.

16 Chemical engineering and bioengineering

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 23 study programmes in the field of knowledge 16 Chemical and Bioengineering under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 7 (30.4%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 14 (60.9%) - of the second (master's) level and 2 (8.7%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level of higher education (see Figure 56).

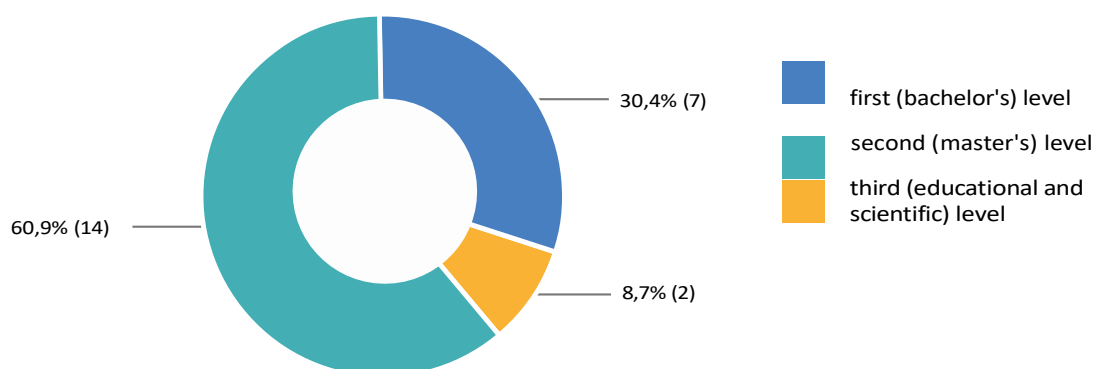


Figure 56. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge area 16 Chemical and bioengineering approved in 2024 by level of higher education

The largest number of educational programmes was reviewed in the speciality 161 Chemical Technology and Engineering - 14 (60.9%, and the smallest number - in the speciality 163 Biomedical Engineering - 3 (13.0%) (see Figure 57).

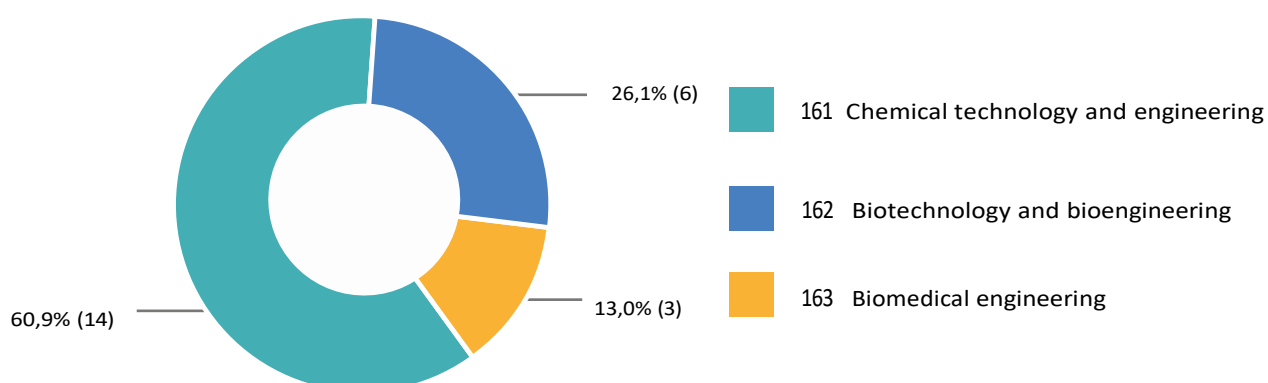


Figure 57. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge area 16 Chemical and bioengineering, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

The decision to accredit was made for 22 (95.7%) of the study programmes (see Figure 58).

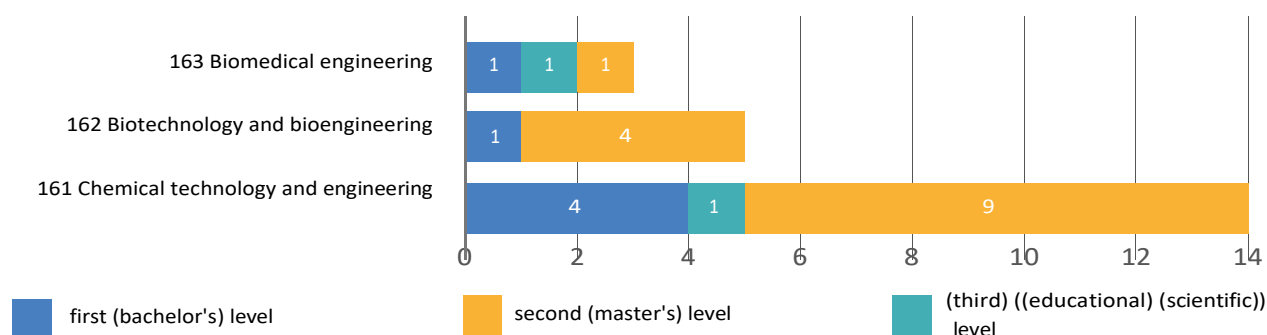


Figure 58. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in Knowledge area 16 Chemical and Bioengineering by specialities at different levels of higher education

The decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made for 1 (4.) study programme in the speciality 162 Biotechnology and Bioengineering of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 8.0% (from 25 to 23).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 10 to 7, and the share of study programmes decreased from 40% to 30.4%.</p> <p><i>Second (master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 10 to 14, and the share of study programmes increased from 40% to 60.9%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 5 to 2, and the share of the latter decreased from 20% to 8..</p>
Specialities with the highest number of educational programmes	In both 2023 and 2024, the largest number of study programmes was reviewed in the speciality 161 Chemical Technology and Engineering.
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation was approved increased from 92% to 95.7%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made decreased from 8% to 4.3%. In 2023, 2 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 1.</p>

17 Electronics, automation and electronic communications

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 36 study programmes in the field of knowledge 17 Electronics, Automation and Electronic Communications under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 6 (16.7%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 29 (80.5%) - of the second (master's) level and 1 (2.8%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 59).

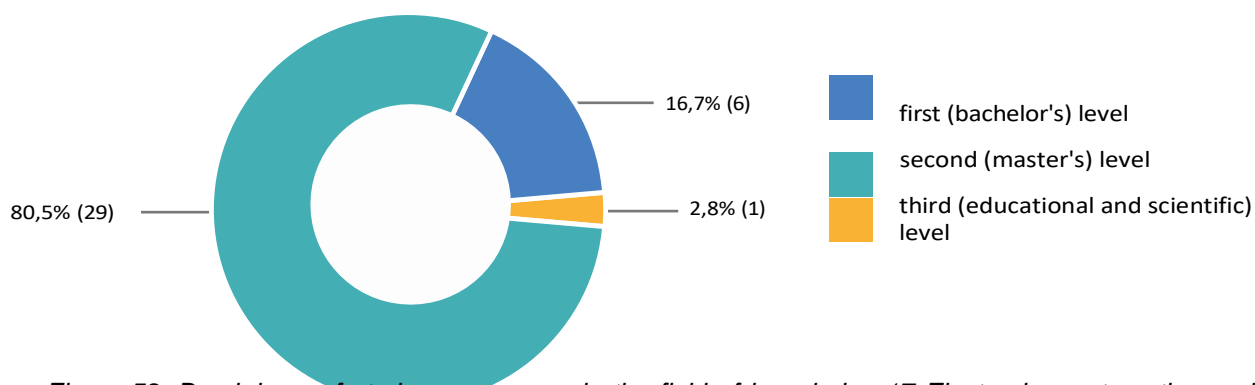


Figure 59. Breakdown of study programmes in the field of knowledge 17 Electronics, automation and electronic communications, which were approved in 2024, by level of higher education

The largest number of study programmes was reviewed in the speciality 172 Electrical Communications and Radio Engineering - 17 (47.2%). In the specialty 175 Information and Measurement Technologies, study programmes were not reviewed under the full procedure (see Figure 60).

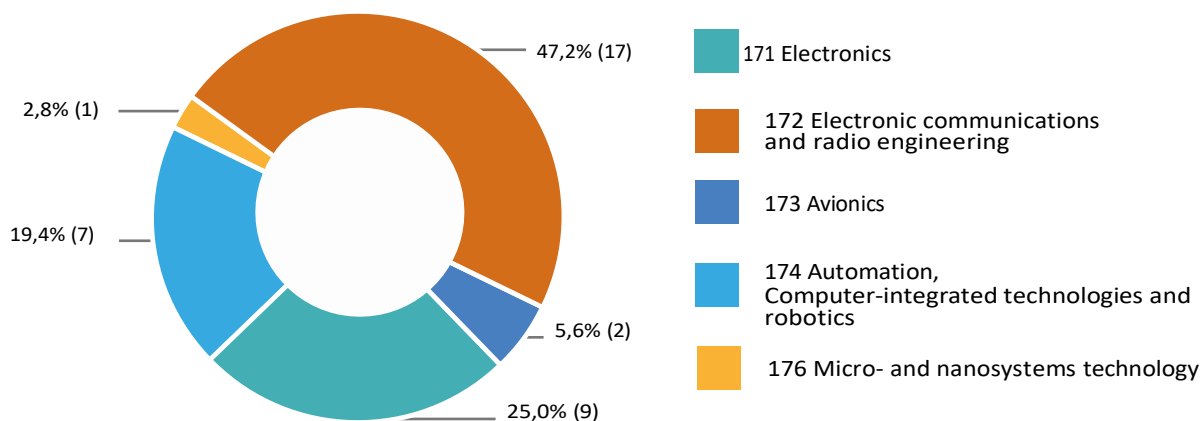


Figure 60. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge Area 17 Electronics, Automation and Electronic Communications, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

The decision to accredit was made for 35 (97.2%) of the study programmes (see Figure 61).

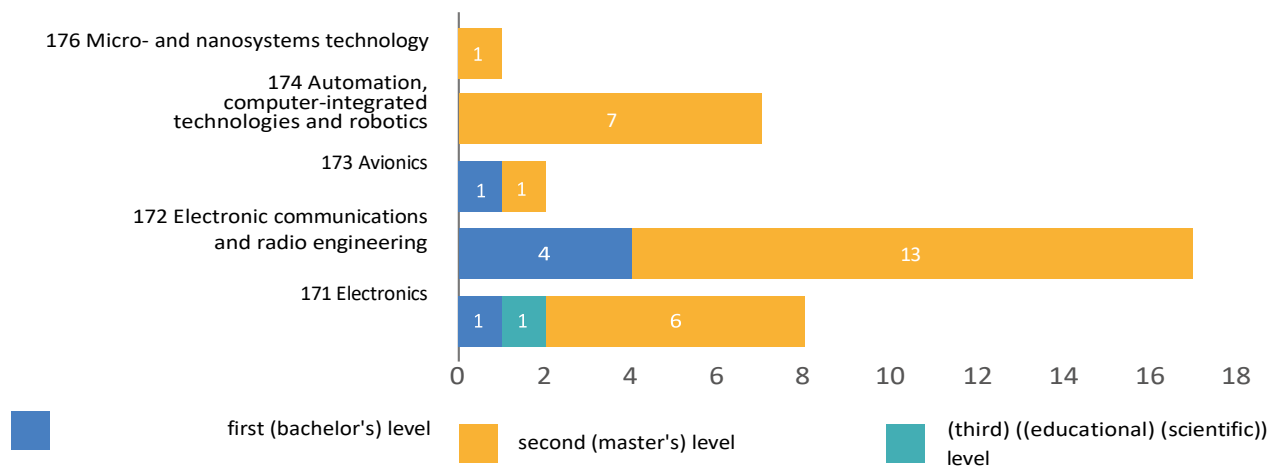


Figure 61. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 17 Electronics, Automation and Electronic Communications by specialities at different levels of higher education

The decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 1 (2.8%) study programme in the speciality 171 Electronics of the second (master's) level of higher education.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved increased by 20.0% (from 30 to 36).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 12 to 6, and the share of study programmes decreased from 40% to 16..</p> <p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 13 to 29, and the share of study programmes increased from 43% to 80.5%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 5 to 1, and the share of the latter decreased from 17% to 2.8%.</p>
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	In both 2023 and 2024, the largest number of study programmes were reviewed in the following specialities 172 Electronic Communications and Radio Engineering. In the 175 Information and Measurement Technologies, study programmes were not considered under the full procedure either in 2023 or in 2024.
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation was approved increased from 93% to 97.2%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made decreased from 7% to 2.8%. In 2023, 2 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 1.</p>

18 Production and technology

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 27 study programmes in the field of knowledge 18 Production and Technology under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 11 (40.7%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 14 (51.9%) - of the second (master's) level, and 2 (7.) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 62).

The largest number of study programmes was reviewed in 181 Food Technology - 13 (48.15%). In the specialty 187 Woodworking and Furniture Technology, the study programmes were not reviewed according to the full procedure (see Figure 63).

The accreditation decision was granted to 22 (81.) study programmes (see Figure 64).

The decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made for 5 (18.) study programmes, and one of them (study programme 181 Food Technologies of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education) was re-accredited (see Figure 65).

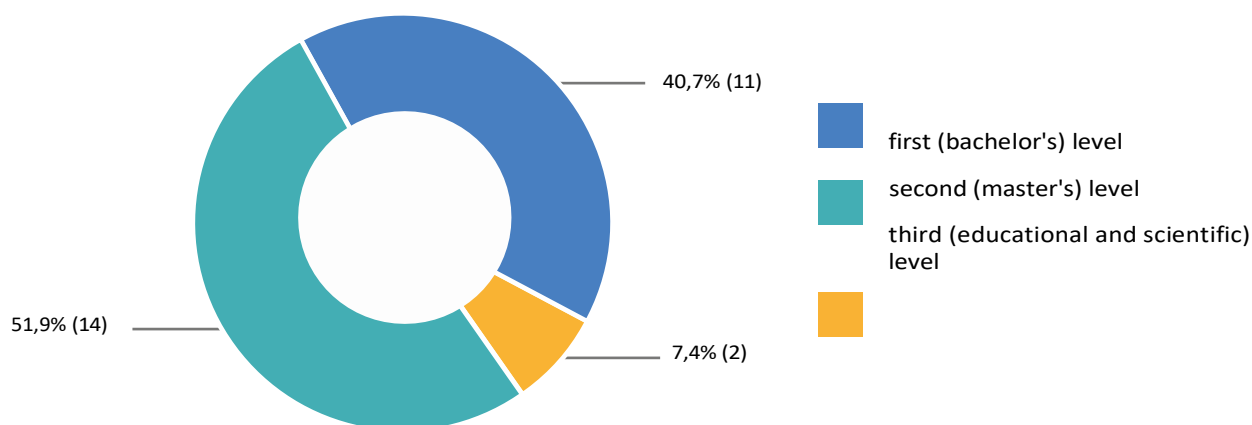


Figure 62. Breakdown of study programmes in the field of knowledge 18 Production and technology, which were approved in 2024, by level of higher education

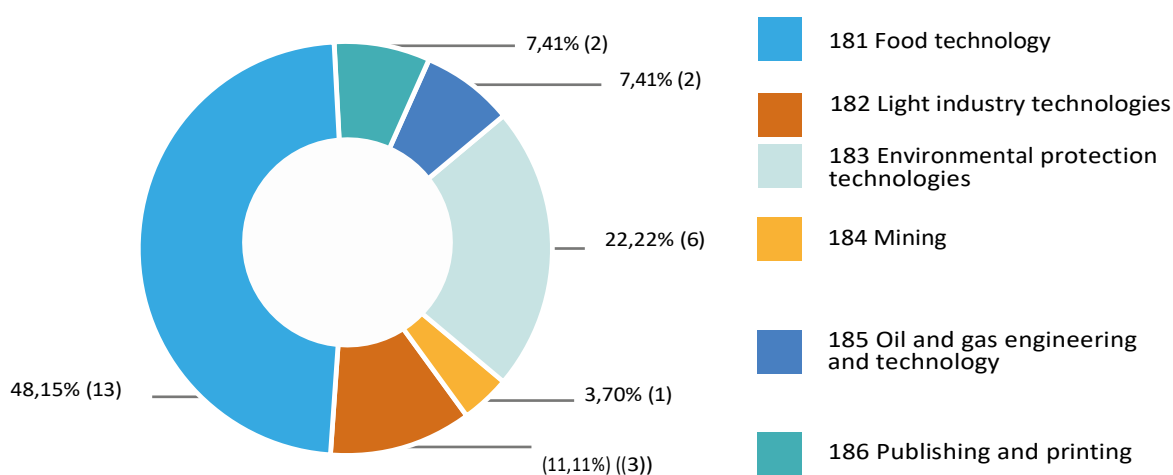


Figure 63. Distribution of study programmes in the field of knowledge 18 Production and technology, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

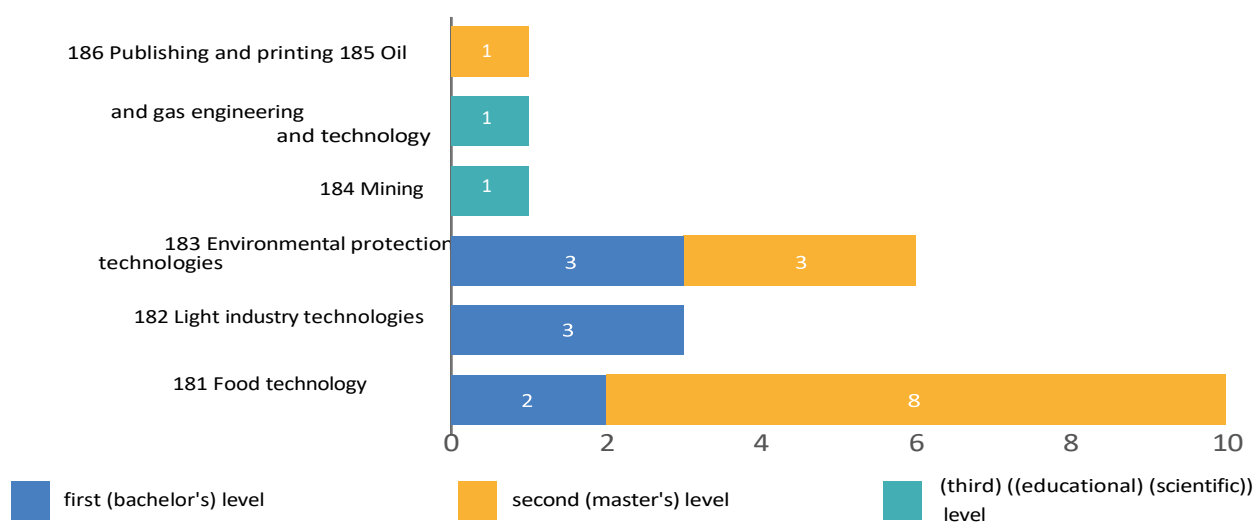


Figure 64. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 18 Production and Technology by specialities at different levels of higher education

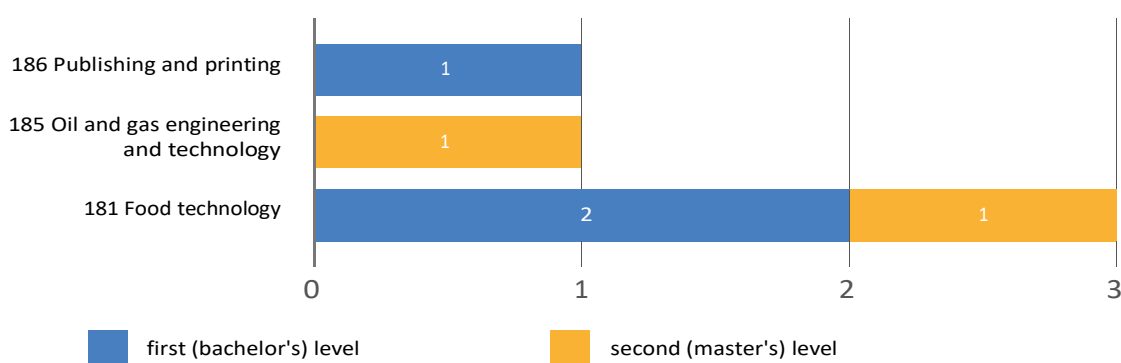


Figure 65. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 18 Production and Technology by specialities at different levels of higher education

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 38.6% (from 44 to 27).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 10 to 11, and the share of study programmes increased from to 40.7%.</p> <p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes was halved from 28 to 14, and the share of study programmes decreased from 64% to 51.9%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 6 to 2, and the share of the latter decreased from to 7.4%.</p>
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	<p>In 2023, the largest number of study programmes was considered in the speciality 184 Mining, and in 2024 - in the speciality 181 Food Technology.</p> <p>In the specialty 187 Woodworking and Furniture Technology, educational programmes were not considered under the full procedure either in 2023 or in 2024.</p>
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 89% to 81.5%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made increased from 9% to 18.5%. In 2023, 4 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 5.</p> <p>In 2023, 1 accreditation decision was made with the definition of "exemplary", and in 2024, no such decisions were made.</p>

19 Architecture and construction

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and made decisions on 56 study programmes in the field of knowledge 19 Architecture and Construction under the full procedure, and one of the study programmes went through the procedure twice: the first time according to the schedule for the academic year 2023-24, in early 2024, a decision was made on conditional (deferred) accreditation, and the second time - in

In accordance with the schedule for the academic year 2024-25, a decision on accreditation was made at the end of 2024. Of these, by level of higher education: 23 (41.1%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 32 (57.1%) - of the second (master's) level, and 1 (1.8%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 66).

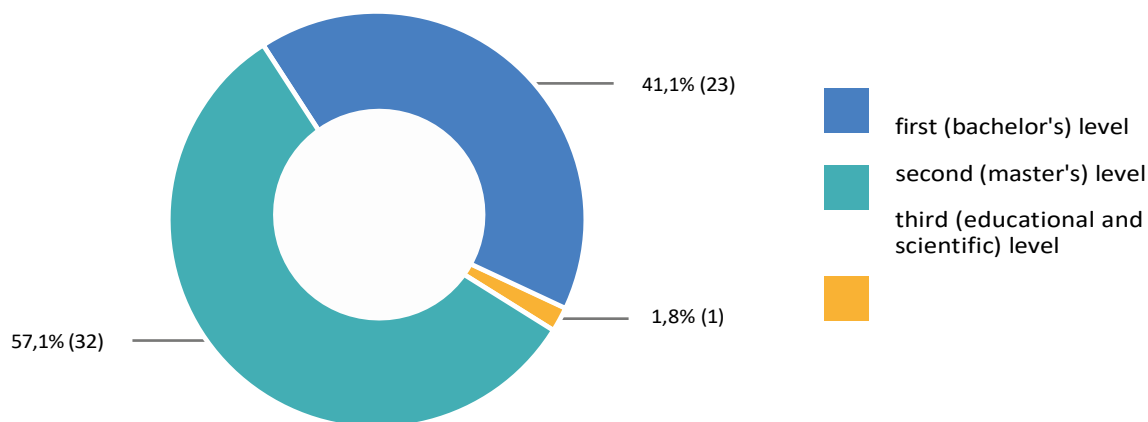


Figure 66. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge Area 19 Architecture and Civil Engineering approved in 2024, by level of higher education

The largest number of educational programmes was reviewed in the specialty 192 Civil Engineering and Construction - 26 (46.4%), and the smallest number - in the specialty 194 Hydraulic Engineering, Water Engineering and Water Technology - 3 (5.4%) (see Figure 67).

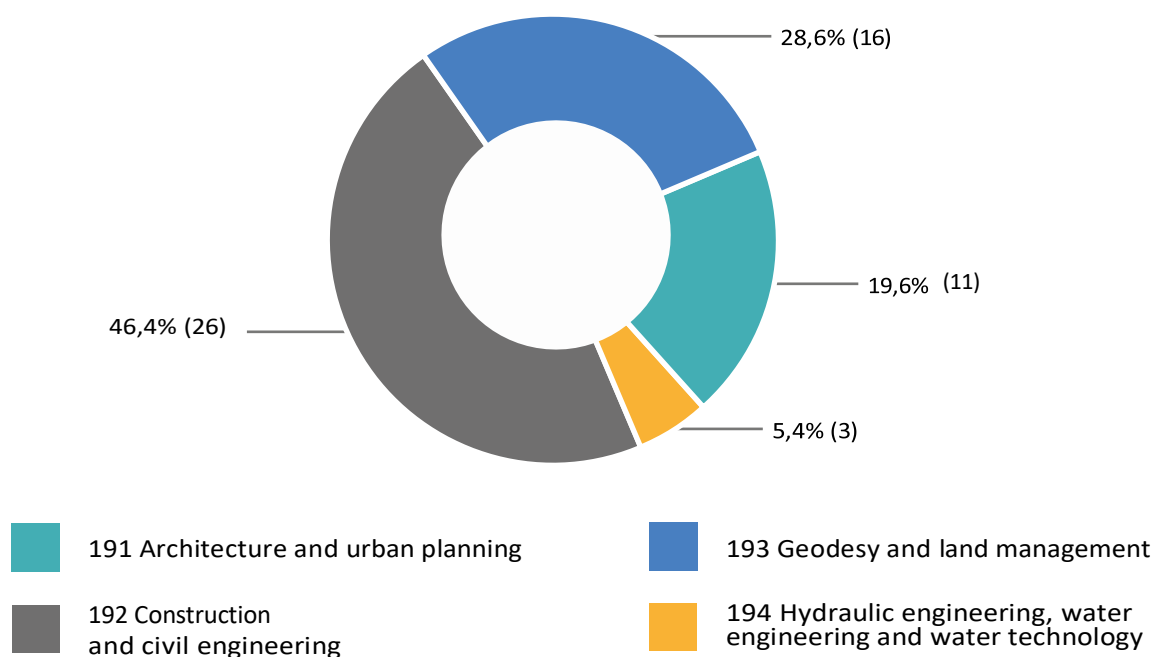


Figure 67. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge Area 19 Architecture and Civil Engineering, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

A total of 52 accreditation decisions were made (91.2%) (see Figure 68).

The decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made 5 times (8.8%, in all cases for second (master's) level programmes (see Figure 69).

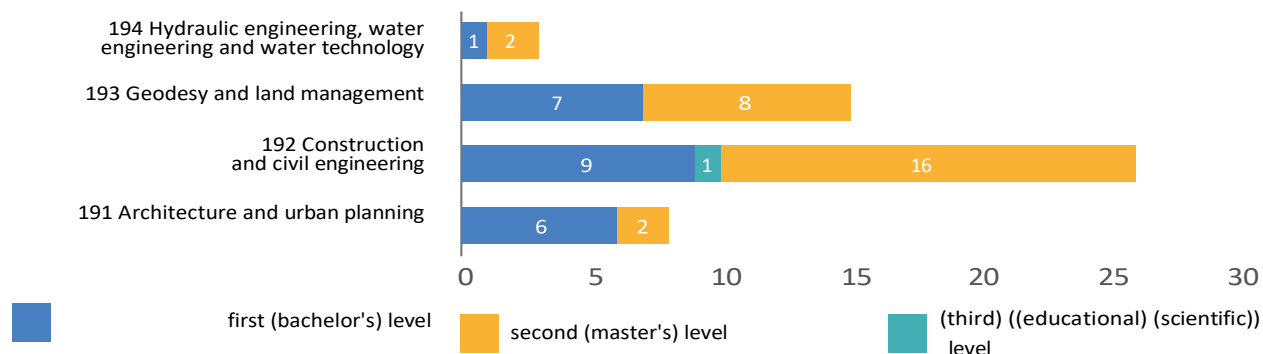


Figure 68. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 19 Architecture and Construction by specialities at different levels of higher education

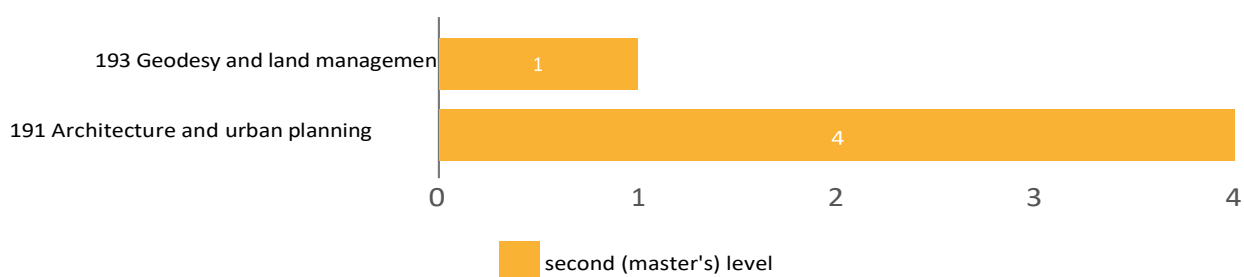


Figure 69. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 19 Architecture and Construction by specialities at different levels of higher education

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved increased by 75.0% (from 32 to 56).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 12 to 23, and the share of study programmes increased from to 41.1%.</p> <p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 18 to 32, and the share of study programmes increased from to 57.1%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of study programmes has not changed - 1, and the share has decreased from 3% to 1.8%.</p>
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	Both in 2023 and in 2024, the largest number of study programmes were reviewed in the speciality 192 Civil and Environmental Engineering, and the smallest number - in the speciality 194 Hydraulic Engineering, Water Engineering and Water Technology.

Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 94% to 91.2%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made increased from 6% to 8.8%. In 2023, 2 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 5.</p>
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20 Agricultural sciences and food

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 39 study programmes in the field of 20 Agricultural Sciences and Food under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 16 (41.0%) educational programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 19 (48.7%) - of the second (master's) level and 4 (10.3%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 70).

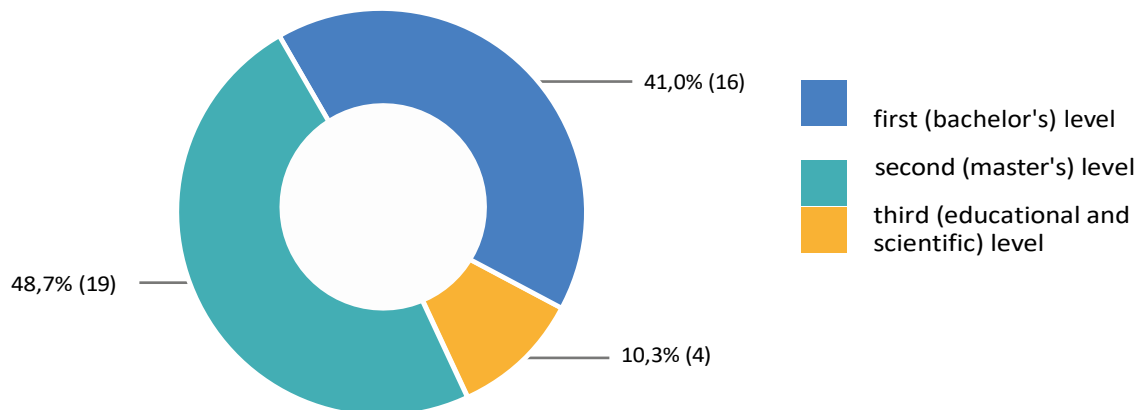


Figure 70. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge Area 20 Agricultural Sciences and Food approved in 2024, by level of higher education

The largest number of educational programmes was reviewed in the specialty 208 Agroengineering - 9 (23.1%), and the smallest number - in the specialty 202 Plant Protection and Quarantine - 1 (2.6%) (see Figure 71).

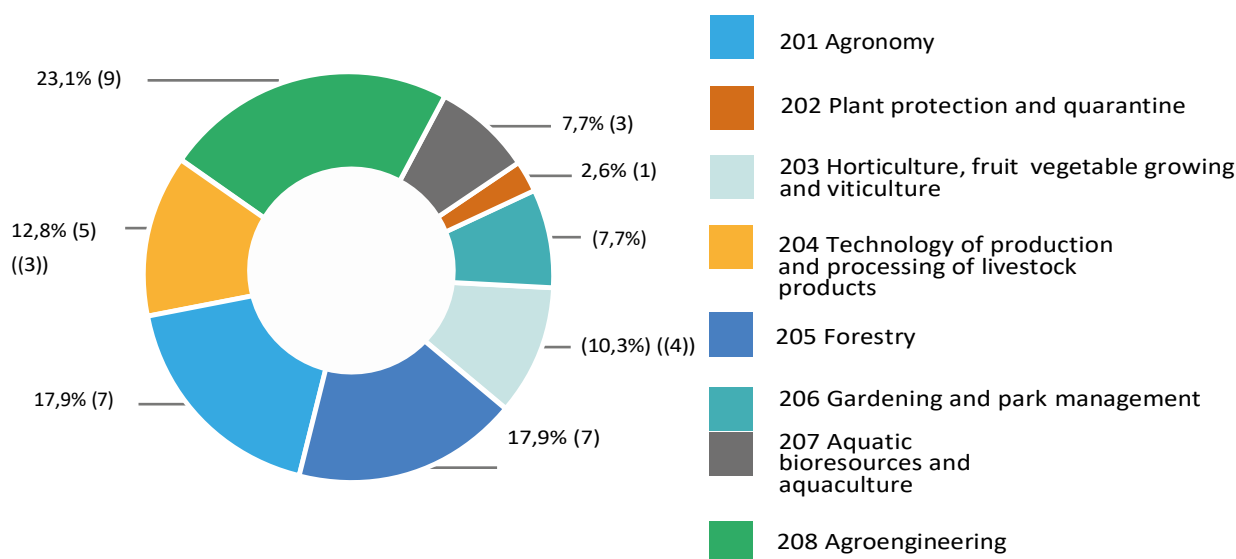


Figure 71. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge Area 20 Agricultural Sciences and Food, which were approved in 2024, by specialty

The decision to accredit was made for 33 (84.6%) of the study programmes (see Figure 72).

Decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made for 5 (12.8%) study programmes (see Figure 73).

The decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 1 (2.) study programme in the specialty 204 Production Technology and

processing of livestock products of the second (master's) level of higher education.

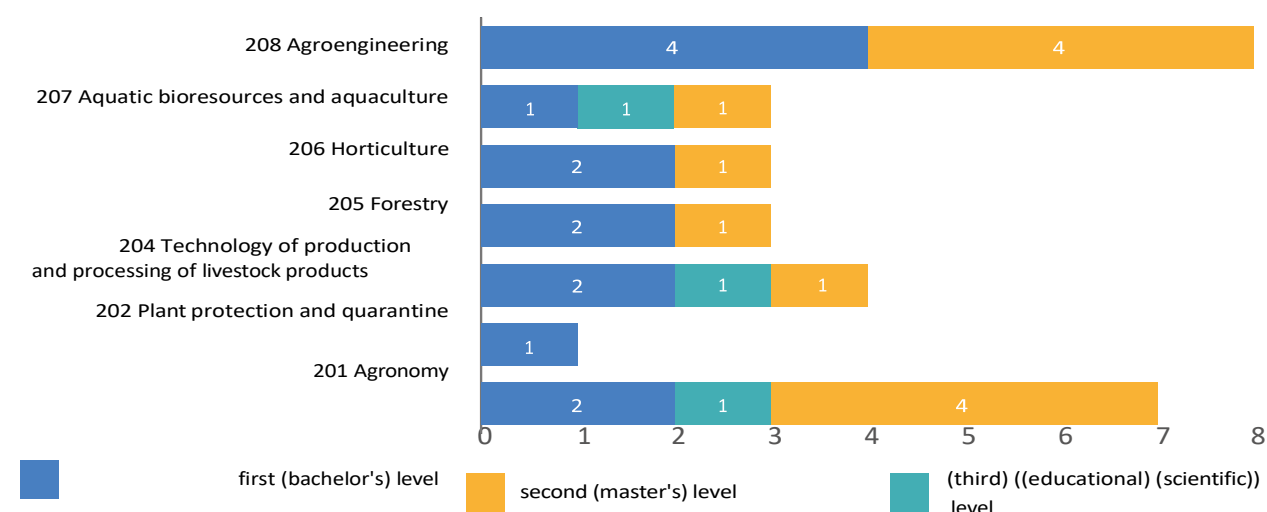


Figure 72. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of study programmes in the field of knowledge 20 Agricultural Sciences and Food by specialities at different levels of higher education

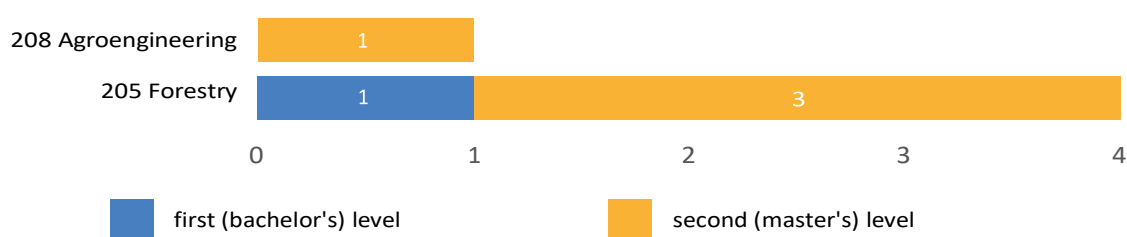


Figure 73. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 20 Agricultural Sciences and Food by specialities at different levels of higher education

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved increased by 11.4% (from 35 to 39).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p>First (bachelor's) level: the number of study programmes increased from 13 to 16, and the share of study programmes increased from 37% to 41.0%.</p> <p>Second (Master's) level: the number of study programmes increased from 10 to 19, and the share of study programmes increased from to 48.7%.</p> <p>The third (educational and scientific) level: the number of study programmes decreased from 9 to 4, and the share of study programmes decreased from to 10.3%.</p>
Specialities with the highest number of educational programmes	In both 2023 and 2024, the largest number of study programmes was reviewed in the speciality 208 Agroengineering.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 89% to 84.6%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made increased from 11% to 12.8%. In 2023, 4 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 5.</p> <p>In 2023, decisions on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was not approved, in 2024, 1 such decision was made.</p>

21 Veterinary medicine

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 2 study programmes in the field of knowledge 21 Veterinary Medicine under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 1 study programme in the speciality 212 Veterinary Hygiene, Sanitation and Examination of the second (master's) level and 1 in the speciality 211 Veterinary Medicine of the third (educational and scientific) level of higher education.

The decision to accredit both study programmes was made.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 50.0% (from 4 to 2).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>Second (master's) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 3 to 1, and the share decreased from 75.0% to 50.0%;</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of study programmes has not changed - 1, and the share has increased from 25.0% to 50.0%.</p>
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	In both 2023 and 2024, the distribution by speciality is the same.
Distribution of solutions	The share of study programmes for which accreditation was approved increased from 50% to 100%.

22 Healthcare

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 29 study programmes in the field of knowledge 22 Healthcare under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 7 (24.1%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 18 (62.1%) - of the second (master's) level and 4 (13.8%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 74).

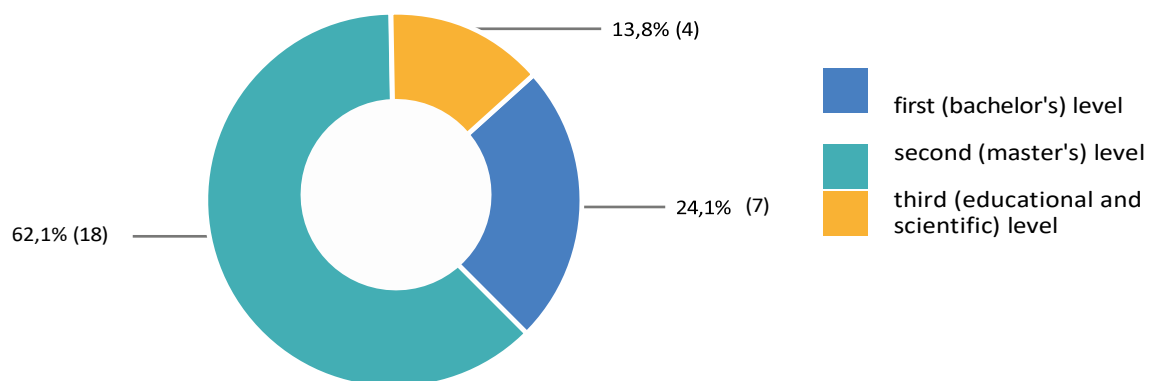


Figure 74. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge Area 22 approved in 2024 by level of higher education

The largest number of study programmes was reviewed in 226 Pharmacy, Industrial Pharmacy and 227 Therapy and Rehabilitation - 7 (24.1%) each. No study programmes were reviewed in the specialty 225 Medical Psychology (see Figure 75).

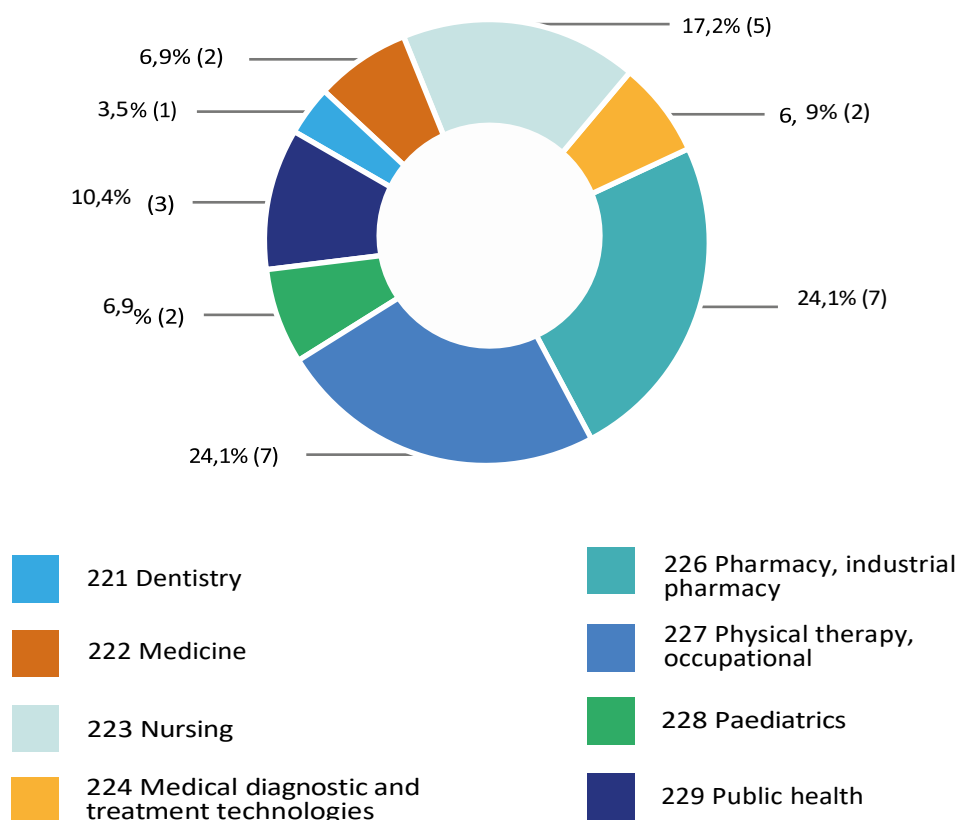


Figure 75. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge Area 22 Healthcare, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

The decision to accredit was made for 23 (79.4%) of the study programmes (see Figure 76).

Decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made for 3 (10.3%) study programmes (see Figure 77).

The decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 3 (10.3%) study programmes (see Figure 78).

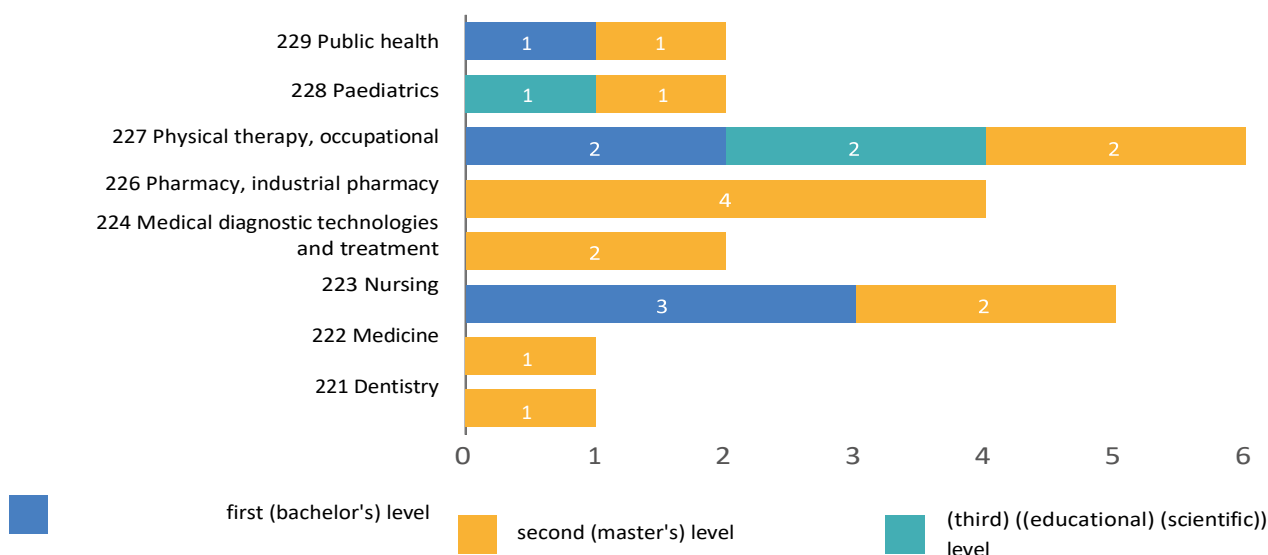


Figure 76. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 22 Healthcare by specialities at different levels of higher education

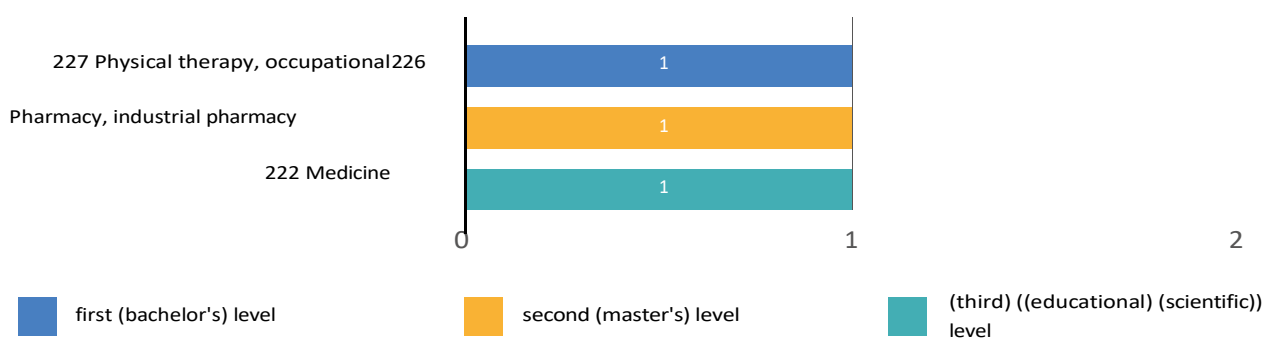


Figure 77. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 22 Healthcare by specialities at different levels of higher education

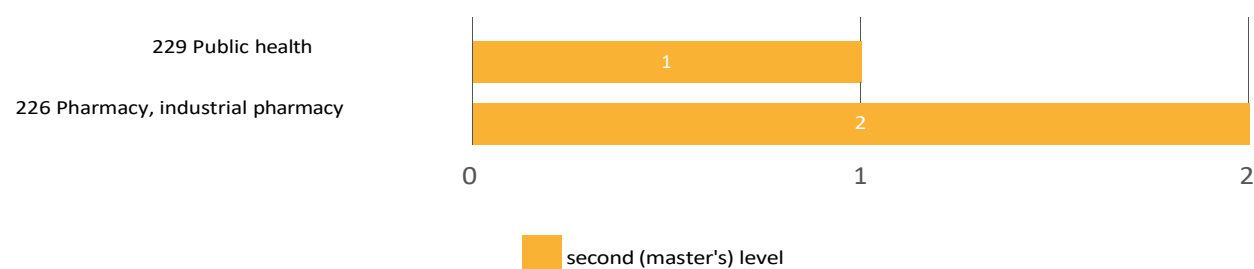


Figure 78. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of educational programmes with the definition of "exemplary" in the field of knowledge 22 Healthcare by specialities at different levels of higher education

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 39.6% (from 48 to 29).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 12 to 7, and the share of study programmes decreased from 25% to 24.1%.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
	<p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 20 to 18, and the share of study programmes increased from 42% to 62.1%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of educational programmes decreased from 14 to 4, and the share of the latter decreased from to 13.8%.</p>
Specialities with the highest number of educational programmes	Both in 2023 and in 2024, the largest number of study programmes was reviewed in the specialty 226 Pharmacy, Industrial Pharmacy.
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 85% to 79.4%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made remained at 10%. In 2023, 5 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 3.</p> <p>In 2023, 1 accreditation decision was made with the definition of "exemplary", in 2024 - 5.</p>

23 Social work

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 19 study programmes in the field of knowledge 23 Social Work under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 10 (52.6%) of the first (bachelor's) level, 9 (47.4%) of the second (master's) level (see Figure 79).

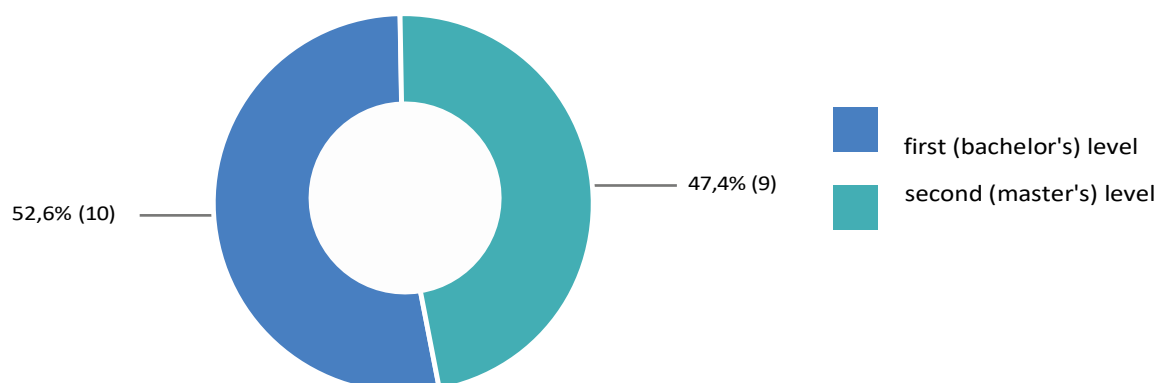


Figure 79. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge area 23 Social Work, which were approved in 2024, by levels of higher education

The breakdown of study programmes by speciality is shown in Figure 80.

The decision to accredit was made for 16 (84.2%) of the study programmes (see Figure 81).

Decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation - for 2 (10.5%) educational programmes of the second (master's) level of higher education in each of the specialities 231 Social Work and 232 Social Security.

The decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 1 (5.3%) study programme in the speciality 232 Social Security of the second (master's) level of higher education.

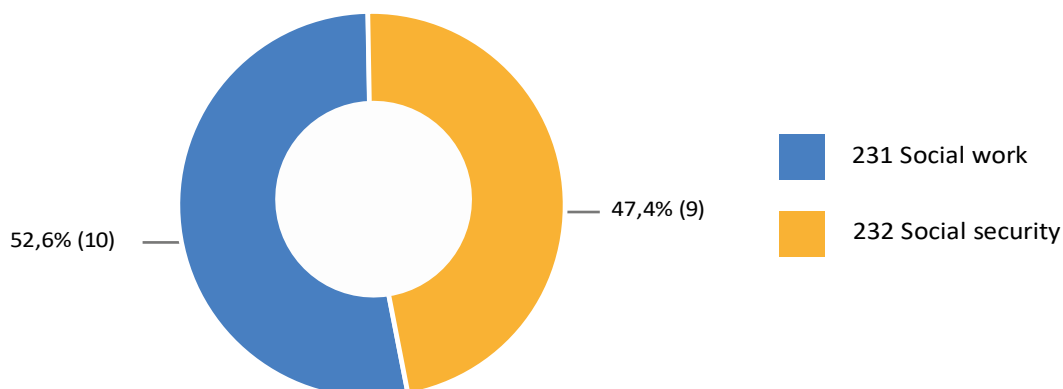


Figure 80. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge area 23 Social Work, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

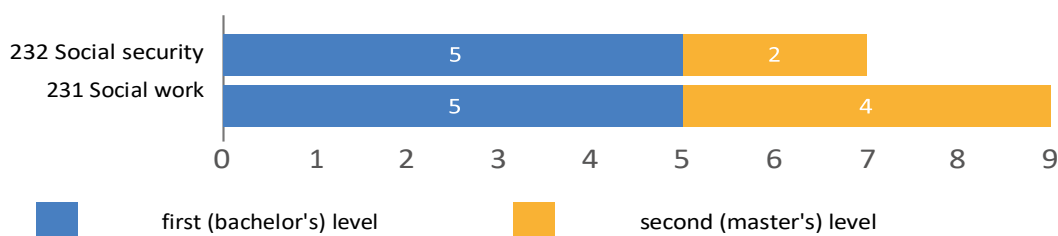


Figure 81. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 23 Social Work by specialities at different levels of higher education

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 26.9% (from 26 to 19).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 11 to 10, and the share of study programmes increased from 42% to 52.6%.</p> <p><i>Second (master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 13 to 9, and the share of study programmes decreased from 50% to 47.4%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> in 2024, there were no study programmes at this level of higher education, in 2023, 2 such study programmes were considered.</p>
Specialities with the highest number of educational programmes	Both in 2023 and in 2024, the largest number of study programmes were reviewed in the speciality 231 Social Work.
Distribution of solutions	The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 88% to 84.2%.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
	<p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made decreased from 12% to 10.5%. In 2023, 3 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 2.</p> <p>In 2023, accreditation decisions with the definition of "exemplary" was not adopted, in 2024 - 1 decision.</p>

24 Service sector

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 44 study programmes in the field of knowledge 24 Service Area under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 21 (47.) are first (bachelor's) level study programmes, 23 (52.3%) are second (master's) level study programmes (see Figure 82).

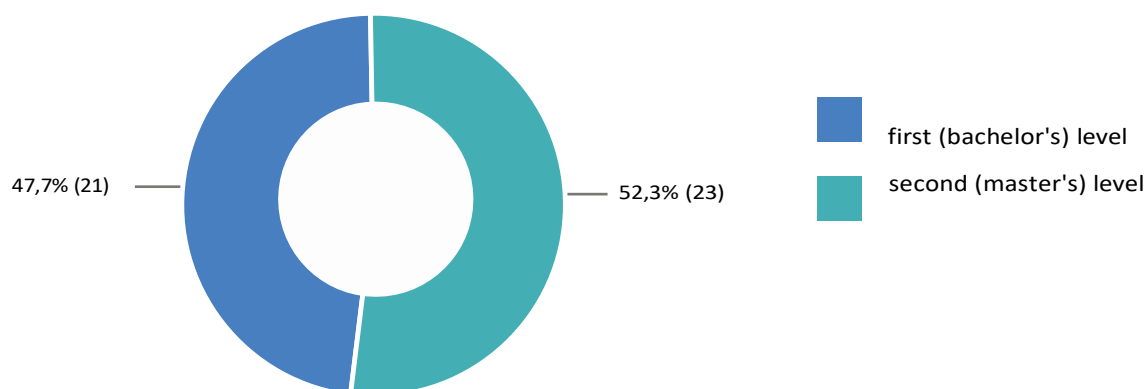


Figure 82. Distribution of programmes in knowledge 24 Service sector, which were approved in 2024, by level of higher education

There were 27 study programmes in the speciality 242 Tourism and Recreation, which is almost 1.6 times more than in the speciality 241 Hotel and Restaurant Business (17 study programmes).

The decision to accredit was made for 38 (86.4%) the study programmes (see Figure 83).

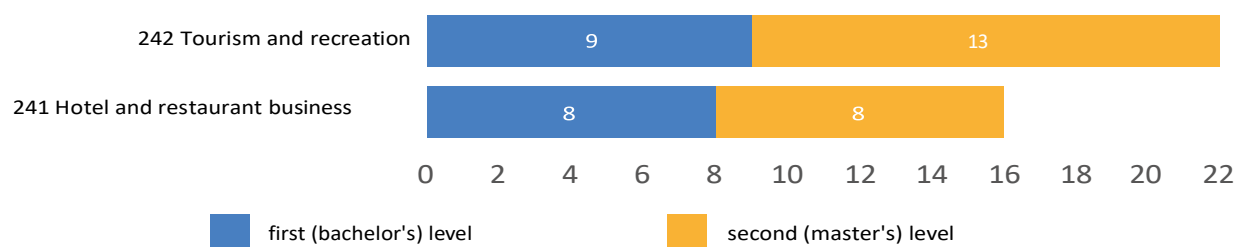


Figure 83. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of study programmes in the field of knowledge 24 Service sector by specialities at different levels of higher education

Decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made for 5 (11.4%) study programmes (see Figure 84).

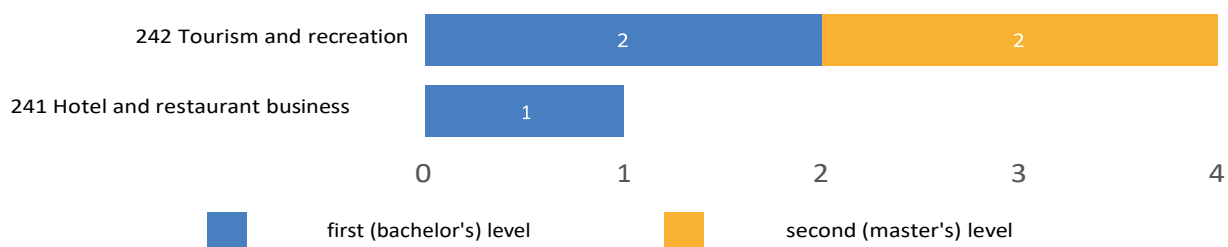


Figure 84. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of an educational programme in the field of knowledge 24 Service sector by speciality by different levels of higher education

The decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 1 (2.2%) study programme in the speciality 242 Tourism and Recreation of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved increased by 4.8% (from 42 to 44).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 20 to 21, and the share remained at 48%.</p> <p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 21 to 23, and the share of study programmes increased from 50% to 52.3%.</p>
Specialities with the highest number of educational programmes	Both in 2023 and in 2024, the largest number of study programmes were reviewed in the specialty 242 Tourism and Recreation.
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made remained at .</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made increased from 10% to 11.4%. In 2023, 4 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 5.</p> <p>In 2023, the decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 2 study programmes, and in 2024 - 1 decision.</p>

25 Military sciences, national security, state border security

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and decided on 15 educational programmes in the field of knowledge 25 Military sciences, national security, state border security under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education

education: 10 (66.7%) of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 4 (26.7%) of the second (master's) level, and 1 (6.6%) of the third (research) level (see Figure 85).

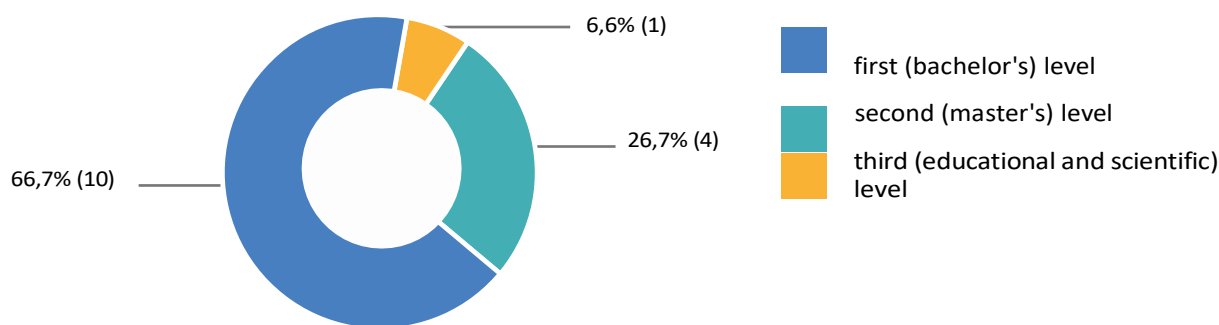


Figure 85. Distribution of programmes in the field of knowledge 25 Military sciences, national security, state border security, which were approved in 2024, by levels of higher education

The largest number of study programmes was reviewed in the speciality 255 Armaments and Military Equipment - 6 (40.0%), and the smallest - in the speciality 254 Provision of Troops (Forces) - 4 (26.). In the specialties 251 State Security, 252 State Border Security, 253 Military Administration (by type of armed forces), 257 Information Security Management, the educational programmes were not considered under the full procedure (see Figure 86).

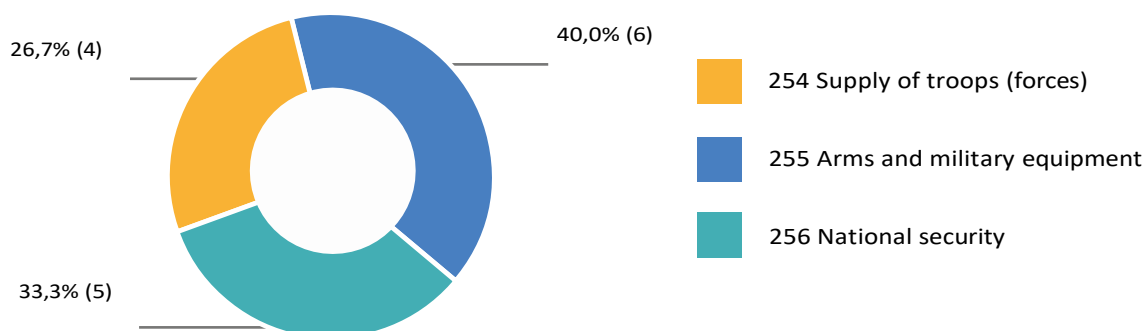


Figure 86. Distribution of educational programmes in the field of knowledge 25 Military sciences, national security, state border security, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

The decision to accredit was made for all 15 (100%) of the study programmes (see Figure 87).

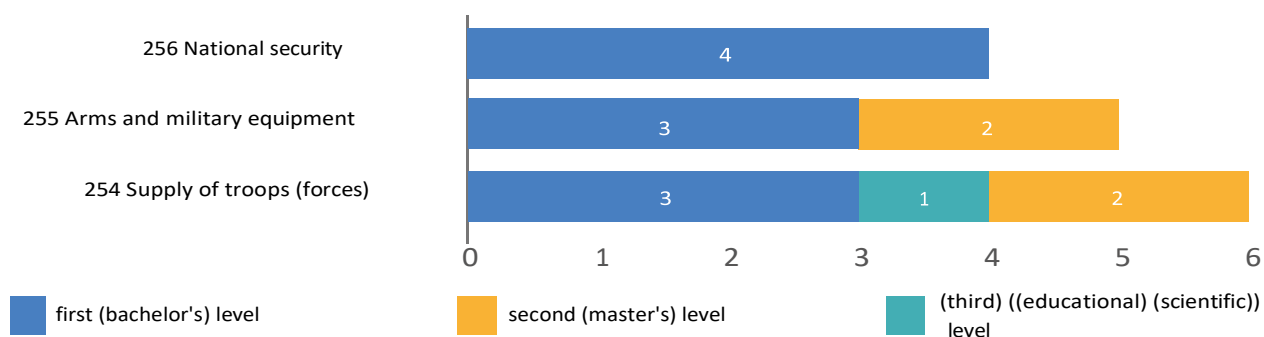


Figure 87. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of educational programmes in the field of knowledge 25 Military Sciences, National Security, State Border Security by specialities at different levels of higher education

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved increased from 2 to 15.
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> in 2023, no study programmes at this level of higher education were considered, in 2024, 10 such programmes were considered.</p> <p><i>Second (master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes increased from 2 to 4, and the share of study programmes decreased from 100% to 26.7%.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> in 2023, no study programmes of this level of higher education were considered, in 2024, 1 such study programme was considered.</p>
Specialities with the lowest number of educational programmes	Both in 2023 and in 2024, no study programmes in the specialty 251 State Security were considered.
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation was approved increased from 50% to 100%.</p> <p>In both 2023 and 2024, no decisions were made on conditional (deferred) accreditation.</p> <p>In 2023, the decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 1 study programme, in 2024 no such decisions were made.</p>

26 Civilian security

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 9 educational programmes in the field of knowledge 26 Civil Security under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 4 (44.44%) educational programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 4 (44.44%) - of the second (master's) level and 1 (11.12%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 88).

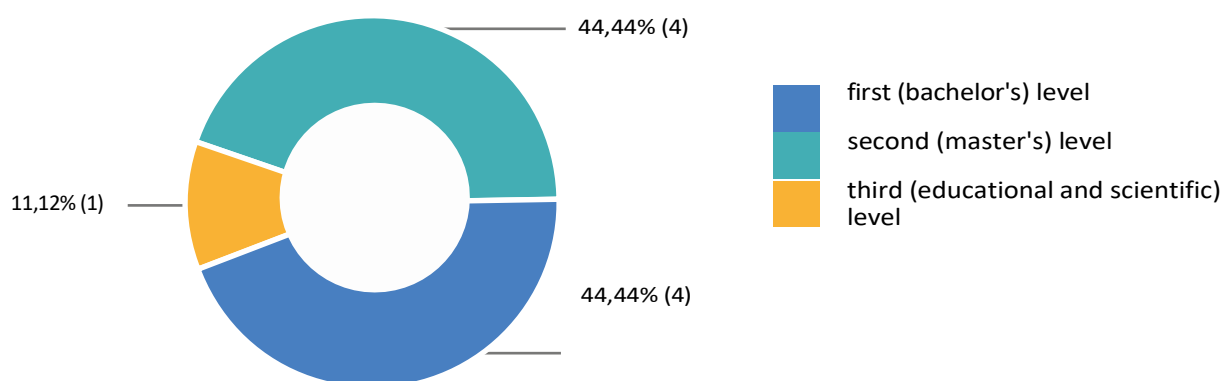


Figure 88. Breakdown of programmes in the field of knowledge 26 Civil Security approved in 2024, by level of higher education

The largest number of educational programmes was reviewed in the specialities 263 Civil Security and 262 Law Enforcement - 4 (44.44%), and the smallest number - in the speciality 261 Fire Safety - 1 (11.12%) (see Figure 89).

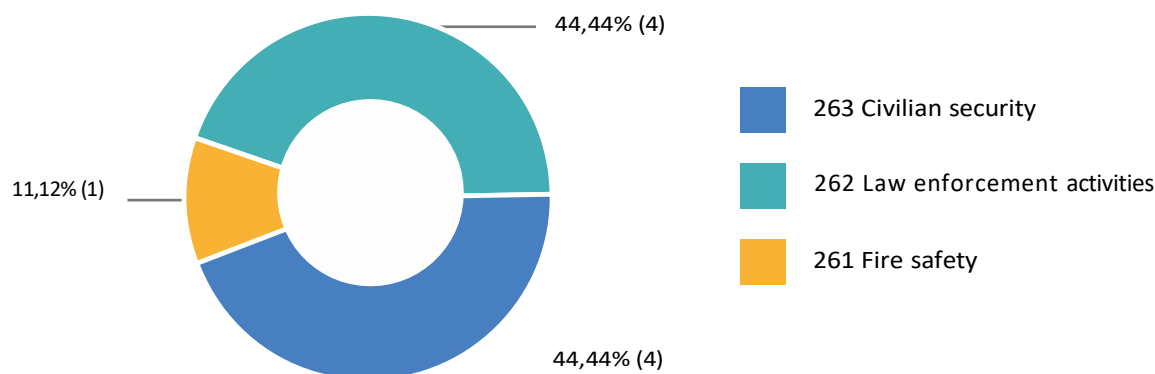


Figure 89. Distribution of study programmes in Knowledge Area 26 Civil Security, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

The decision to accredit was made for 8 (88.) study programmes (see Figure 90).

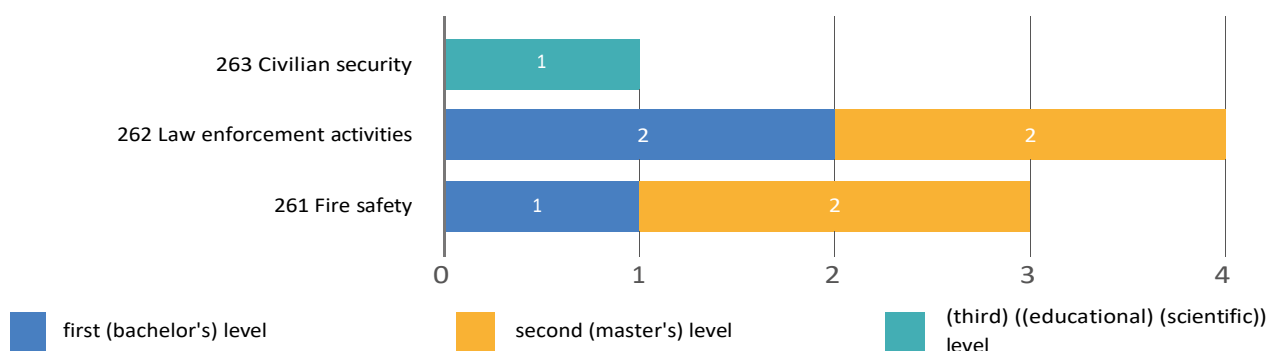


Figure 90. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 26 Civil Security by specialities at different levels of higher education

The decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made for 1 (11.1%) study programme in the speciality 263 Civil Security of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 30.8% (from 13 to 9).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p><i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 6 to 4, and the share of study programmes decreased from 46% to 44.44%.</p> <p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 6 to 4, and the share of study programmes increased from 46% to 44.44.</p> <p><i>The third (educational and scientific) level:</i> the number of study programmes remained unchanged at 1, and the share increased from 8% to 11.12%.</p>

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	In the specialty 262 Law Enforcement in 2023, the largest number of educational programmes was reviewed, in 2024 the largest number of educational programmes were reviewed in two specialities 262 Law Enforcement and 263 Civil Security.
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made increased from 77% to 88.9%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made decreased from 15% to 9.1%. In 2023, 4 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 5.</p> <p>In 2023, the decision on accreditation with the definition of "exemplary" was made for 1 study programme, in 2024 no such decisions were made.</p>

27 Transport

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 17 study programmes in the field of knowledge 27 Transport under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 9 (52.9%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 7 (41.2%) - of the second (master's) level and 1 (5.9%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 91).

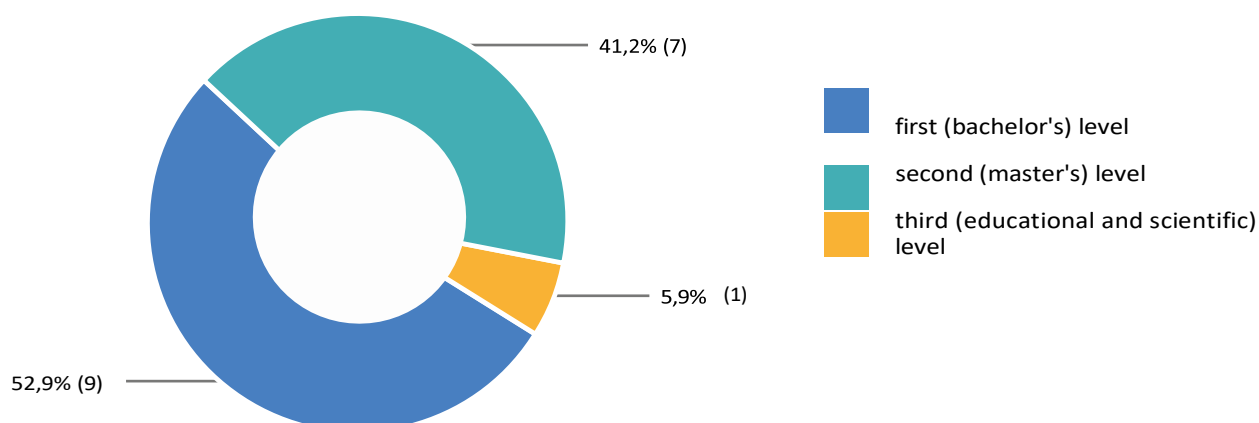


Figure 91. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge Area 27 Transport approved in 2024, by level of higher education

The largest number of study programmes was reviewed in the specialty 275 Transport Technologies - 11 (64.7%), and the smallest number - in the specialty 271 Maritime and Inland Water Transport - 1 (5.9%). In the specialties 272 Aviation Transport and 273 Railway Transport, the study programmes were not reviewed according to the full procedure (see Figure 92).

The decision to accredit was made for 15 (88.2%) educational programmes (see Figure 93).

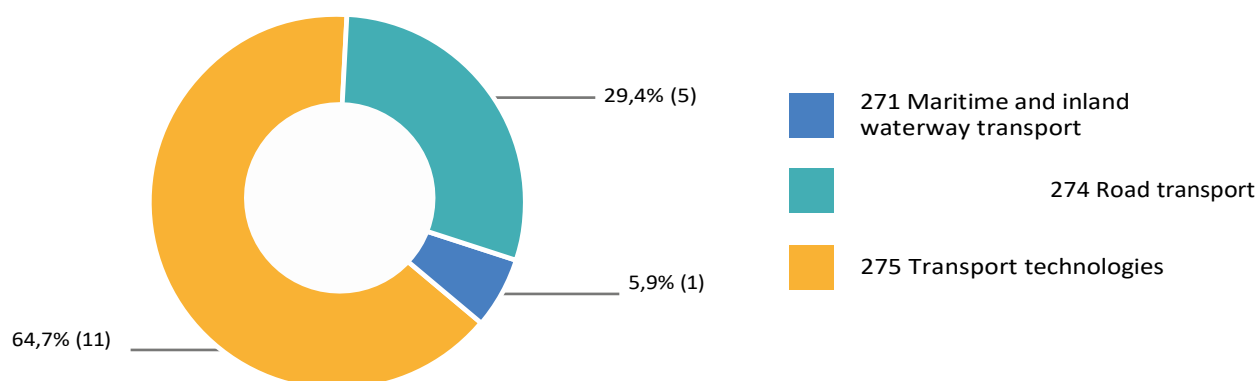


Figure 92. Distribution of study programmes in the field of knowledge 27 Transport, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

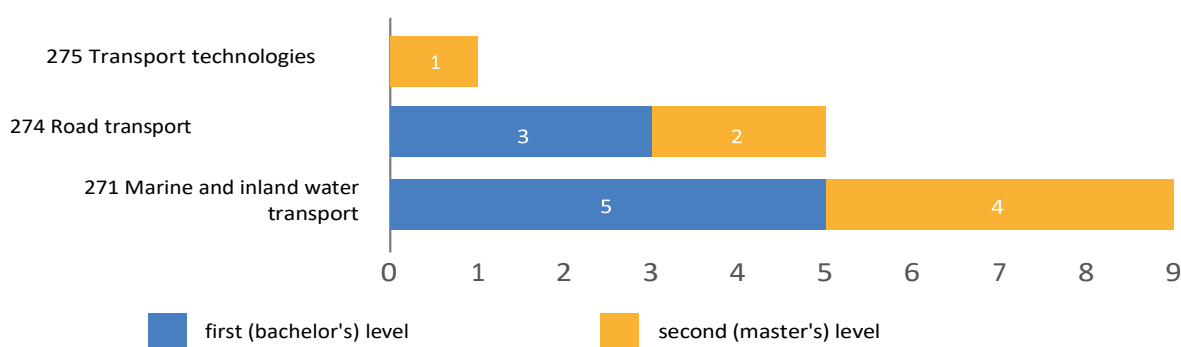


Figure 93. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 27 Transport by specialities at different levels of higher education

The decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made for 1 (5.9%) study programme in the speciality 275 Transport Technologies of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education.

The decision to deny accreditation was made for 1 (5.9%) study programme in the speciality 275 Transport Technologies of the third (educational and scientific) level of higher education.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 41.4% (from 29 to 17).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p>First (bachelor's) level: the number of study programmes increased from 8 to 9, and the share of study programmes increased from 27.4% to 52.9%.</p> <p>Second (master's) level: the number of study programmes decreased from 20 to 7, and the share of study programmes increased from 68.8% to 41.2%.</p> <p>The third (educational and scientific) level: the number of study programmes remained unchanged at 1, and the share increased from 3.8% to 5.9%.</p>

Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	In both 2023 and 2024, the largest number of study programmes was reviewed in the speciality 275 Transport Technologies.
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Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made decreased from 90% to 88.2%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made decreased from 10% to 5.9%. In 2023, 3 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 1.</p> <p>In 2024, a decision was made to accreditation, while in 2023 there were no such decisions.</p>

28 Public management and administration

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and decided on 21 study programmes in the field of knowledge 28 Public Administration and Management under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 8 (38.1%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 7 (33.3%) - of the second (master's) level and 6 (28.6%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 94).

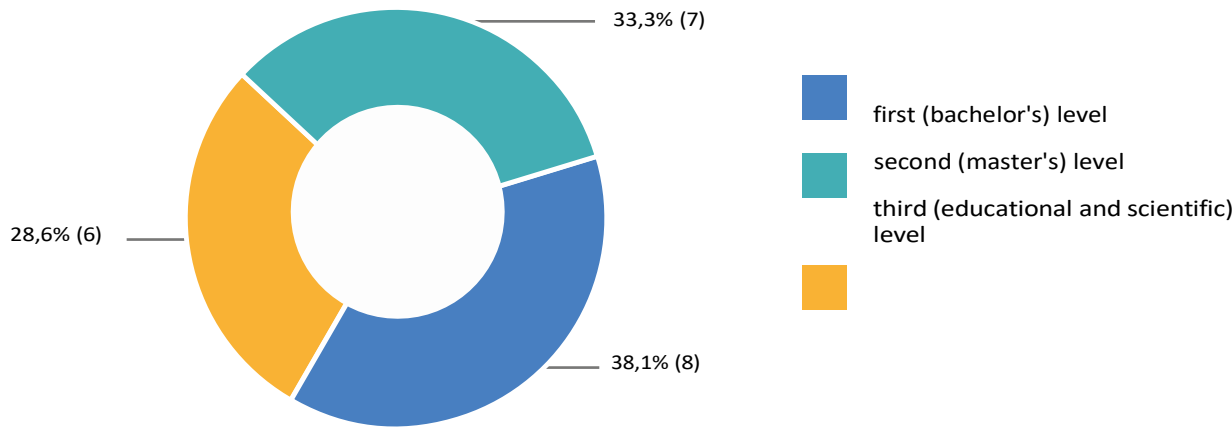


Figure 94. Breakdown of study programmes in Knowledge area 28 Public management and administration, which were approved in 2024, by level of higher education

The decision to accredit was made for 18 (85.7%) of the study programmes (see Figure 95).

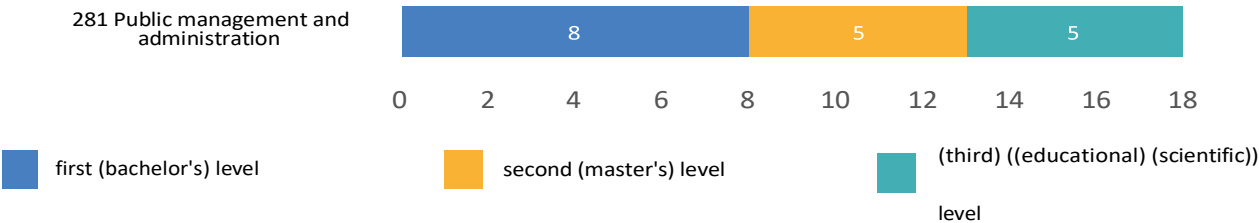


Figure 95. Breakdown of the number of decisions on accreditation of educational programmes in the field of knowledge 28 Public management and administration by specialities at different levels of higher education

Decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made for 3 (14.3%) study programmes (see Figure 96).

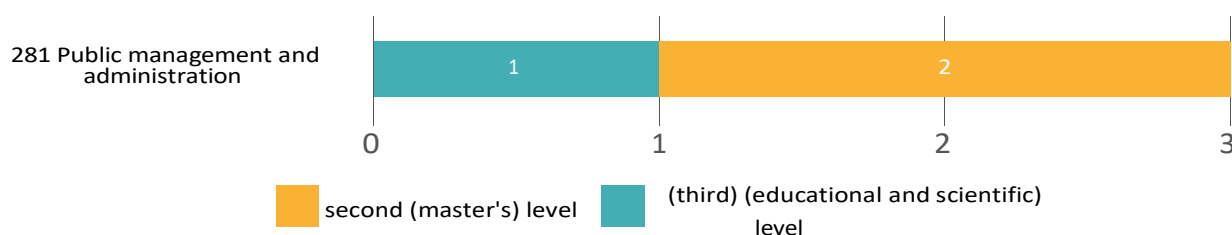


Figure 96. Breakdown of the number of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 28 Public management and administration by specialities at different levels of higher education

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 32.3% (from 31 to 21).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<p>First (bachelor's) level: the number of study programmes increased from 7 to 8, and the share of study programmes increased from 23% to 38.1%.</p> <p>Second (master's) level: the number of study programmes decreased from 20 to 7, and the share of study programmes decreased from 33.3% to 33.3%.</p> <p>The third (educational and scientific) level: the number of study programmes increased from 4 to 6, and the share of study programmes increased from 12.9% to 28.6%.</p>
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation decisions were made increased from 81% to 85.7%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made decreased from 16% to 14.3%. In 2023, 5 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, including 3 in 2024.</p> <p>In 2023, a decision was made to accredit the organisation with the "exemplary" designation, and in 2024, no such decisions were made.</p>

29 International relations

In 2024, the National Agency reviewed and approved 17 study programmes in the field of study 29 International Relations under the full procedure. Of these, by level of higher education: 9 (52.9%) study programmes of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 7 (41.2%) - of the second (master's) level and 1 (5.9%) - of the third (educational and scientific) level (see Figure 97).

The largest number of study programmes were reviewed in the speciality 292 International Economic Relations - 9 (52.9%), in the specialities 291 International Relations, Public Communications and Regional Studies and 293 International Law - 4 (23.5%) each (see Figure 98).

The decision to accredit was made for 15 (88.2%) of the study programmes (see Figure 99).

The decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made for 2 (11.1%) study programmes in the speciality 292 International Economic Relations: one of them is of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, the other is of the second (master's) level.

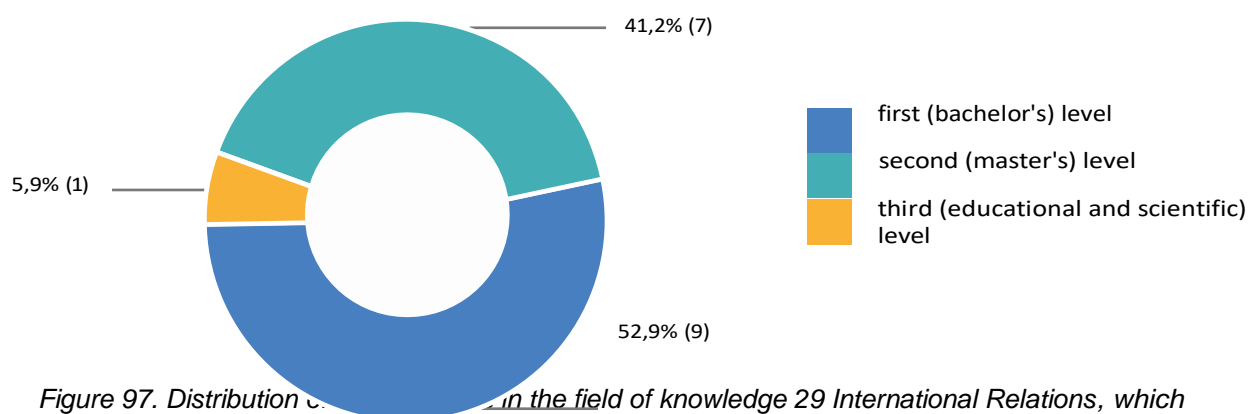


Figure 97. Distribution of study programmes in the field of knowledge 29 International Relations, which were approved in 2024, by level of higher education

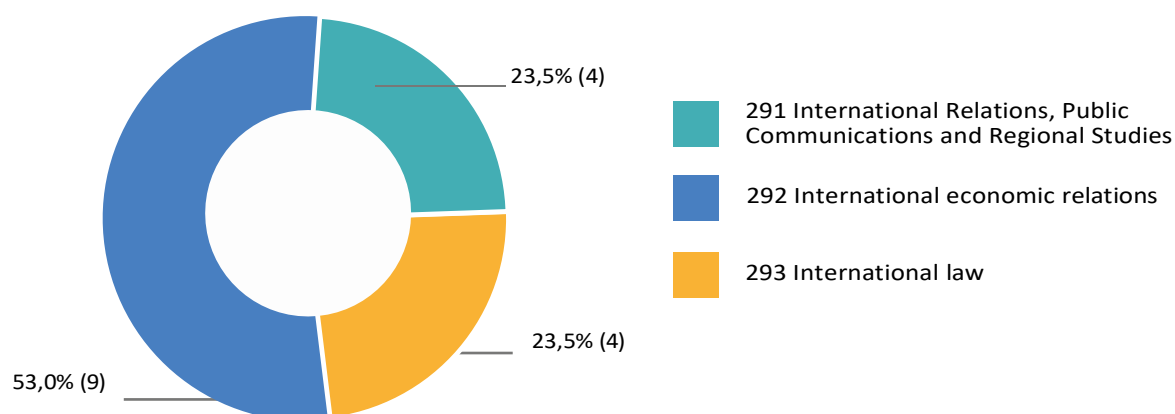


Figure 98. Distribution of study programmes in the field of knowledge 29 International Relations, which were approved in 2024, by speciality

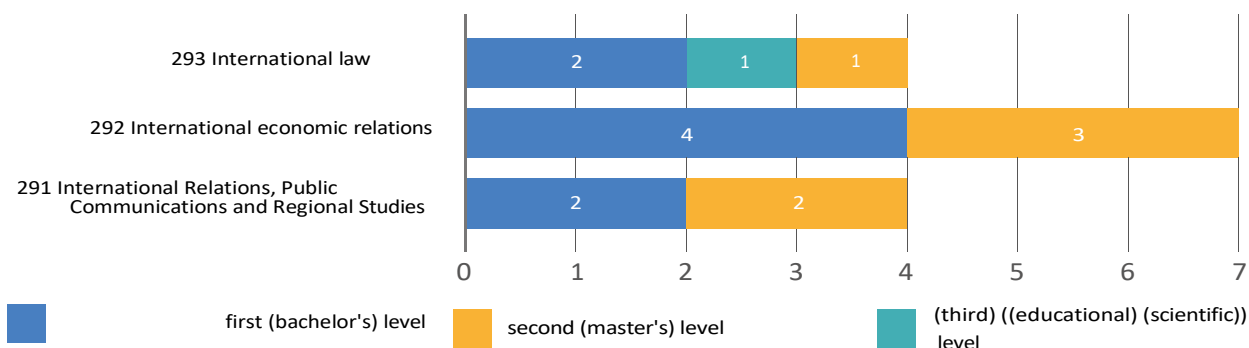


Figure 99. Distribution of the number of decisions on accreditation of the educational programme in the field of knowledge 29 International Relations by specialities at different levels of higher education

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
Total number of programmes reviewed	The total number of study programmes reviewed under the full procedure and approved decreased by 54.1% (from 37 to 17).
Breakdown by level of higher education	<i>First (bachelor's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 17 to 9, and the share of study programmes decreased from 54.1% to 53.0%.

Indicator.	Dynamics compared to 2023
	<p><i>Second (Master's) level:</i> the number of study programmes decreased from 20 to 7, and the share of study programmes increased from 54% to 41.2%.</p> <p><i>Third (educational and scientific) level:</i> in 2023, no study programmes of this level of higher education were considered, in 2024, 1 study programme of this level of education was considered.</p>
Specialities with the highest and lowest number of educational programmes	In 2023, the largest number of study programmes was reviewed in the speciality 291 International Relations, Public Communications and Regional Studies, and in 2024 - in the speciality 292 International Economic Relations.
Distribution of solutions	<p>The share of study programmes for which accreditation was increased from 84% to 88.2%.</p> <p>The share of study programmes for which a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation was made decreased from 14% to 11.8%. In 2023, 5 decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation were made, and in 2024 - 2.</p> <p>In 2024, a decision was made to accredit the organisation with the "exemplary" designation, while in 2023 there were no such decisions.</p>

Percentage of decisions on accreditation and conditional (deferred) accreditation by industry

Figure 100 shows the percentage of accreditation decisions by industry. Figure 101 shows the percentage of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation by industry.

Figure 101. Percentage of decisions on conditional (deferred) accreditation by industry sector

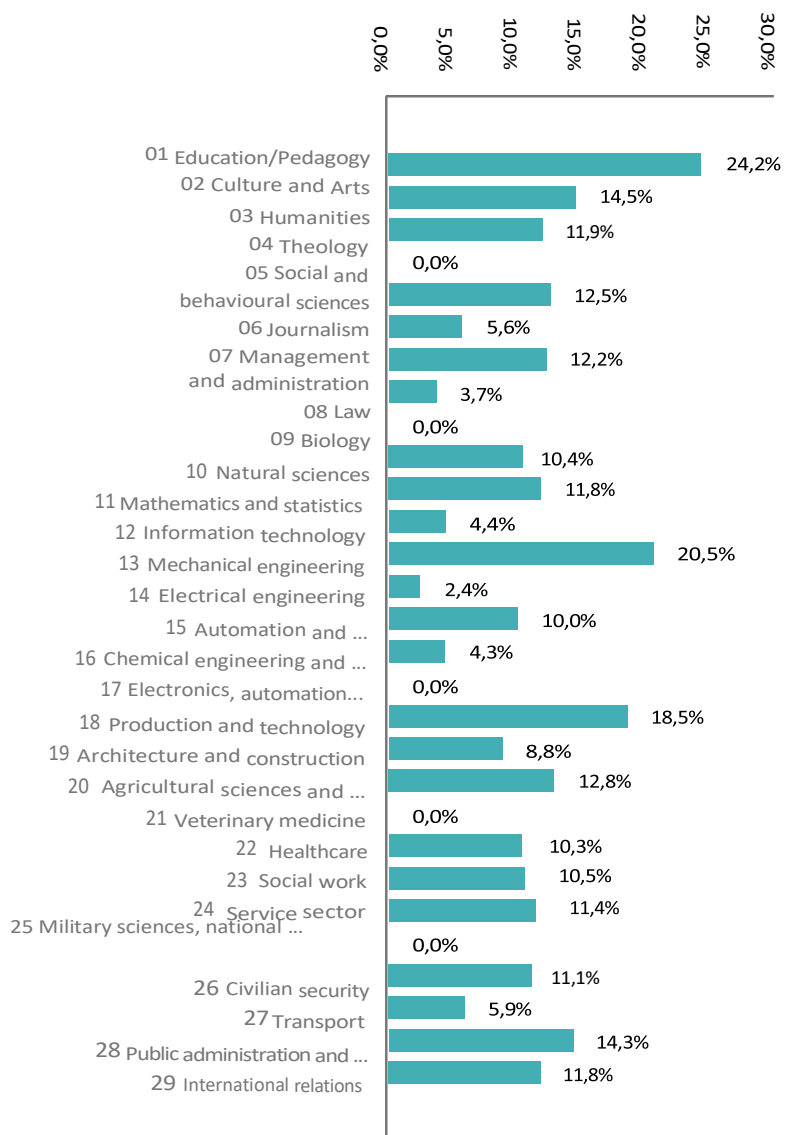
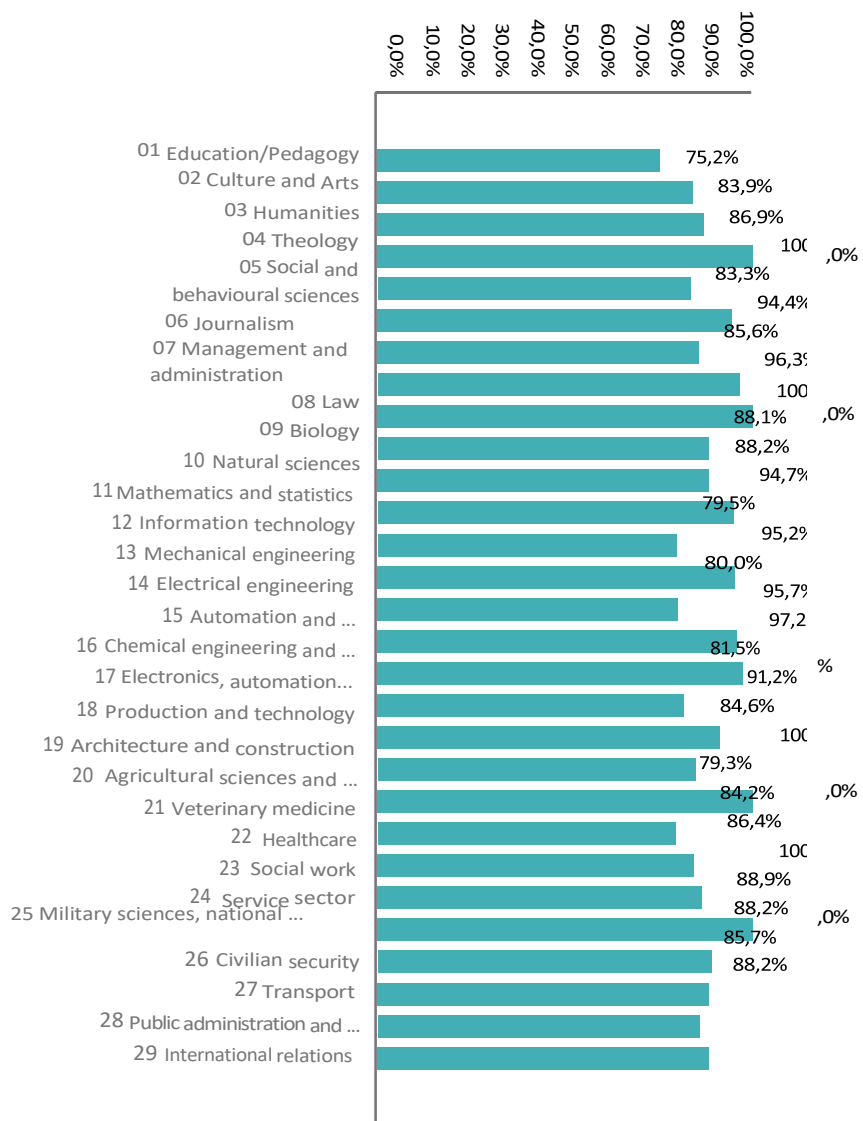


Figure 100. Percentage of accreditation decisions by industry sector



5. ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY IN OPERATIONAL AREAS



5.1. Information and advisory support to ad hoc specialised councils and support to the Committee on the activities of hoc specialised academic councils

In 2024, the administration and monitoring of the NAQA.Svr⁽⁶⁾ information system was ensured, which is designed to enter the information required by the Procedure for awarding the degree of Doctor of Philosophy and cancellation of the decision of a one-time specialised academic council of a higher education institution or research institution to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (hereinafter - the Procedure) № 44). Advisory and methodological support to higher education and research institutions in the application of Procedure No. 44 and work in the system was provided by the Department of Support for One-off Councils and Analytics.

During the reporting period, the National Agency prepared and amended regulatory acts, in particular:

- amendments are proposed to the resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on the training and certification of scientific and pedagogical and scientific personnel, approved by the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 507 of 3 May 2024 (regarding amendments to the Procedure for awarding the degree of Doctor of Philosophy and cancellation of the decision of a one-time specialised academic council of a higher education institution, scientific institution to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy);
- a new version of the Procedure for Reviewing Reports on Violations of the Procedure for Defending a Dissertation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy was prepared and approved (Minutes of 25 June 2024 № 12 (62));
- Amendments to the Procedure for the functioning of the information system of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education "NAQA.Svr" were developed and approved (minutes of 19 November 2024 № 19 (69));
- amendments were made to the Instruction for Users of the National Agency's Information System⁷;
- clarifications were developed to expand the functionality of the Information System⁸.

In 2022-2024, 23,854 notifications were entered into the Information System, including 11,544 notifications in 2024 alone:

- ◊ on the establishment of a one-time board - 2,726;
- ◊ withdrawal by the institution of the notification on the formation of a one-time board - 72;

⁶NAQA.Svr information system URL: <https://svr.naga.gov.ua>

⁷Instruction for users of the National Agency Information System, URL: <https://bit.ly/4ioezJi> (accessed 10.02.2025)

⁸Letter of the National Agency No. 2931 of 03.12.2024 URL: <https://bit.ly/3QMfO9m> (accessed 10.02.2025)

- ◊ regarding the non-compliance of the composition of the one-time board with the requirements of the law - 0;
- ◊ on changes in the composition of the one-time board / references - 709;
- ◊ about the results of the defence - 3,915;
- ◊ on the date, time and place of public defence - 3,969;
- ◊ on suspension of the work of a one-time board - 125;
- ◊ cancellation of the decision to award a degree (institution) - 1;
- ◊ on the receipt of a report/complaint to the National Agency - 1;
- ◊ on the withdrawal of a dissertation from consideration - 26.

The Department of Support of One-time Councils and Analytics provided more than 500 answers to questions from representatives of higher education institutions, research institutions, and applicants sent to the official e-mail of the Department on the certification of applicants for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, the activities of one-time specialised academic councils, work in the Information System and the application of the Procedure⁹. No. 44. During the reporting period, the Department of Support of Ad Hoc Boards and Analytics provided technical, organisational and informational support for the consideration by the Committee on the Activities of Ad Hoc Specialised Academic Councils of the National Agency of reports on violations of the statutory procedure for defending a dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy and support for the National Agency's consideration of submissions by the Committee on the Activities of Ad Hoc Specialised Academic Councils on the presence or absence of violations of the procedure for defending a dissertation, all of plagiarism, fabrication, falsification (hereinafter referred to as the Procedure);

In 2024, the National Agency received one notification of violation of the dissertation defence procedure 1-24-PP dated 05.07.2024. The Department of Support of One-time Councils and Analytics as an authorised unit of the Secretariat, in accordance with the requirements of the Procedure for Consideration of Reports on Violation of the Procedure for Defending a Dissertation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy⁹:

- reviewed the complaint for compliance with clauses 3-6 of the Notification Review Procedure in accordance with clause 7;
- verified the information contained in the notification regarding the violation of the dissertation defence procedure, in accordance with paragraph 11;
- provide the results of the audit to the Chairman of the Committee on the Activities of One-time Specialised Academic Councils, in accordance with paragraphs 7 and 11;
- provided technical and informational support to the meetings of the Committee on the activities of one-off specialised academic councils (in particular, 2 minutes of the meetings were drawn up);
- Informed the stakeholders about the decisions taken and meetings of the Committee on the activities of ad hoc specialised academic councils in accordance with clause 14.

Thus, in 2024, thanks to the administration and monitoring of the NAQA.Svr information system, the National Agency effectively ensured the entry and processing of data related to the procedures for awarding the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, as well as consulting higher education institutions, research

⁹Procedure for consideration of reports on violation of the procedure for defending a dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy URL: <https://bit.ly/4eNjEK9> (accessed 10.02.2025)

institutions and applicants for education on the application of the Procedure for awarding the degree of Doctor of Philosophy and cancellation of the decision of a one-time specialised academic council of a higher education institution or research institution to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Support for the work of the Committee on the Activities of One-time Specialised Academic Councils was provided.

5.2. Legal and litigation work

In 2024, the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education took a set of measures aimed at ensuring the legal support of the National Agency's activities, protecting its legitimate interests and preventing violations of current legislation.

In the reporting period, legal support was provided in the following key areas: advisory activities, contractual work, representation in courts, development and analysis of regulatory documents, anti-corruption activities, etc.

In 2024, the Legal Support Department of the National Agency's Secretariat worked to process and provide prompt responses to citizens' appeals, lawyers' requests, requests for public information, and deputies' appeals, in accordance with the requirements of the law and to ensure openness and transparency in the Agency's activities.

In 2024, the National Agency represented its interests in 28 court cases in administrative and commercial proceedings.

Appeals against actions and decisions of the Ethics Committee and the National Agency for Review of Complaints/Reports on Violations of Academic Integrity, in particular, regarding the discovery of facts of academic plagiarism, fabrication or falsification in dissertations for the degree of Doctor or Candidate of Sciences and/or in scientific publications, constitute the largest number of court cases.

Thus, in 2024, courts of various instances considered fifteen cases of this category. The National Agency appeals against the court decisions of the courts of first instance and appellate courts.

Also in the reporting period, two decisions were made in favour of the National Agency, where the courts of first instance substantiated the proper authority of the National Agency to establish the facts of plagiarism in the plaintiffs' dissertation research.

In July 2023, a person filed a claim with the National Agency to declare unlawful and cancel the decision of Ethics Committee and the decision of the National Agency to identify a violation of academic integrity in the form of academic plagiarism in a dissertation, and the Ivano-Frankivsk District Administrative Court in case No. 300/4659/23 issued a decision of 09 October 2023 to satisfy the claim, Eighth Administrative Court of Appeal, by its decision of 01 April 2024, cancelled the decision of the Ivano-Frankivsk District Administrative Court in part of satisfying the claims for recognition as unlawful and cancellation of the decision of the Ethics Committee and issued a new decision in this part, dismissing the claim. In another part

the decision of the Ivano-Frankivsk District Administrative Court of 09 October 2023 was .

The National Agency believes that the courts of first instance and appellate courts incorrectly applied the rules of substantive and procedural law, and therefore the proceedings should be closed or a new decision should be made to dismiss the .

By the decision of the Supreme Court composed of the panel of judges of the Administrative Court of Cassation of 20 December 2024, the cassation appeal of the National Agency was partially satisfied in this court case, the decision of lower courts was cancelled and the case was sent for reconsideration to the Ivano-Frankivsk District Administrative Court.

In July 2024, the Supreme Court, composed of the panel of judges of the Administrative Court of Cassation, considered the cassation appeal of the National Agency against the decision of the court of first instance and the decision of the appellate court in the case

№ 640/23574/20, the subject of which was the decisions and actions of the Ethics Committee, which upheld the cassation appeal, cancelled the decisions of the previous instances, and closed the proceedings. The Supreme Court, composed of the panel of judges of the Administrative Court of Cassation, concluded that the disputed decision of the Ethics Committee was procedural, did not give rise to legal consequences for the plaintiff, and therefore could not be an independent subject of judicial appeal. This decision, taking into account its content, conclusions and resolved issues, does not affect the rights, obligations and interests of the plaintiff as a participant in the educational process, does not cancel the award of a degree, does not narrow or cancel his rights, and therefore does not give rise to legal relations in which a public legal dispute arises, the resolution of which may result in a judicial decision that would meet the task of administrative proceedings.

Taking into account the conclusions of the Supreme Court, the National Agency for motions to dismiss proceedings in similar court cases, which resulted in the first instance courts dismissing proceedings in 4 court cases.

In July 2024, the National Agency filed a cassation appeal to the Supreme Court against the decision of the Vinnytsia District Administrative Court of 12 January 2024 and the decision of the Seventh Administrative Court of Appeal of 26 June 2024 in the case№ 120/11425/23, as it considers the conclusions of the courts of first and appellate instances be unfounded, that the powers of the National Agency to establish the presence or absence of academic plagiarism, and therefore the consequences associated with the establishment of this fact cannot apply to the dissertation defended in 2008, and therefore any actions of the National Agency in the context of academic plagiarism are unlawful.

Following the consideration of the cassation appeal, the Supreme Court, as part of the panel of judges of the Administrative Court of Cassation, issued a on 20 December 2024, which partially satisfied the claims of the National Agency, cancelled the decisions of the courts of previous instances and closed the proceedings in this case due to the fact that the decisions of the Ethics Committee cannot be subject to judicial review.

The decision of the Supreme Court in case№ 120/11425/23 is of great importance for law enforcement practice, as it has set an important precedent

for future similar cases, recognising that the decisions of the Ethics Committee cannot be a separate subject of judicial review and are inherently advisory in nature, relating to the actual internal activities of the National Agency.

5.3. Contract work

An important area of the National Agency's work is the supervision of contractual activities to ensure the legality, transparency and compliance of contractual terms with the current legislation of Ukraine, as well as timely and full fulfilment of contractual obligations.

One of the main parts of the contractual work of the Legal Support Department is the development and conclusion of agreements on the provision of services for the accreditation of educational programmes with higher education institutions and research institutions in accordance with the requirements of the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education" and the Regulations on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Students. These activities provide the legal basis for the implementation of accreditation procedures by the National Agency.

In connection with the entry into force of the new Regulation on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Applicants, approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine dated 15.05.2024

№ 686 In May 2024, the Legal Support Department developed new standard contracts for the provision of services for the accreditation of educational programmes, adapting their content to the requirements of the above Regulation. The model agreements also take into account the specifics of the application of the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Approval of the Specifics of Public Procurement of Goods, Works and Services for Customers Provided for by the Law of Ukraine "On Public Procurement" for the Period of Martial Law in Ukraine and within 90 days from the date of its termination or cancellation" No. 1178 dated 12 October 2022.

new Regulations on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Applicants, approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine dated 15.05.2024№ 686, more clearly regulated the accreditation procedure and the specifics of its implementation, which significantly optimised the content of agreements on the provision of services for the accreditation of educational programmes, making more concise, easier to understand and apply by the parties.

In addition, the Regulation on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Applicants, approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine dated 15.05.2024№ 686, provides for a fixed amount of payment for the accreditation of an educational programme, which is calculated based on the subsistence minimum for employed persons as of 01 September of the academic year in which the applications for accreditation are submitted.

That is, when forming the agreement, the cost of providing the accreditation service for the educational programme (educational programmes) is specified, which is not subject to change depending on the form of accreditation (full-time, distance or mixed). During the accreditation of one educational programme or in the case of accreditation of an educational programme agreed between the Ukrainian

and foreign higher institutions, the cost is 29 times the subsistence minimum for able-bodied persons, in case of simultaneous accreditation of two educational programmes - 38 times the subsistence minimum, in case of simultaneous accreditation of three educational programmes or in case of accreditation of an educational programme agreed between a Ukrainian and a foreign higher education institution - 50 times the subsistence minimum.

The requirements of the new Regulations have significantly reduced the workload of the Legal Support Department, eliminating the need to prepare additional agreements to adjust the price of the agreement for the provision of services for the accreditation of educational programmes, in particular, taking into account the reimbursement of experts in the event of an on-site accreditation examination and monitoring in this regard.

In 2024, 1288 agreements on the provision of services for the accreditation of educational programmes were developed and sent to higher institutions and research institutions, of which 636 were concluded under the new Regulations on the accreditation of educational programmes for the training of higher education applicants, approved by the order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine of 15.05.2024 № 686.

Prior to the entry into force of the Regulation on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Applicants, approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine dated 15.05.2024 № 686, 24 additional agreements were prepared with higher education institutions and research institutions, including 18 agreements related to adjusting the contract price and 6 agreements related to changing the details of higher education institutions.

Monitoring and control over the fulfilment of the terms of the concluded agreements are constantly carried out, higher education institutions and research institutions are advised on the procedure for fulfilling their terms and conditions, and agreements are amended by concluding additional agreements in connection with changes in details, name changes or reorganisation of a higher education institution (research institution), change of manager, etc.

In the reporting period, the Group successfully completed contractual work, including the accreditation of educational programmes, taking into account all legislative changes and the expected volume of contractual work.

5.4. Anti-corruption activities

In 2024, the National Agency ensured the implementation and execution of anti-corruption measures that are necessary and justified to minimise corruption risks or eliminate them in its activities, which are designed to prevent any manifestations of corruption in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Prevention of Corruption", the Charter and the Anti-Corruption Programme of the National Agency for 2022-2024.

As part of anti-corruption activities, the Group held 4 training (awareness-raising) events on the following topics to prevent and detect corruption:

- "Restrictions and Requirements for the Work of Officials of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Prevention of Corruption";
- "Declaration 2024";

- "Information on Notification of Changes in Property Status and Notification of Opening a Foreign Currency Account";
- "Corruption Risk Assessment.

Also during the reporting period, the measures envisaged by the State Anti-Corruption Programme for 2023-2025, approved by the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 4 March 2023 № 220, were implemented, of which 2 measures have already been completed and 3 are in the process of implementation. Within these measures, the National Agency acts as the main executor or is involved as a co-executor.

In addition, the National Agency's officials who are subjects of declarations were registered and periodically reminded of the need to submit declarations, taking into account the peculiarities of their submission under martial law in Ukraine, introduced in accordance with the Decree of the President of Ukraine "On the introduction of martial law in Ukraine" of 24 February 2022 No. 64/2022.

Preventive measures were taken for newly appointed officials to ensure compliance with the restrictions and prohibitions established by the Law of Ukraine "On Prevention of Corruption". Employees who cease activities related to the performance of state or local government functions were also informed of the requirements for restrictions upon dismissal in accordance with this Law.

During the year, 32 reports were reviewed, including 3 anonymous reports of possible corruption or corruption-related offences, and 21 reports of actual or potential conflicts of interest in accordance with the procedure set out in the Law of Ukraine "On Prevention of Corruption" and the Procedure for Review by the Authorised Person for Prevention and Detection of Corruption of Reports of Violation of the Anti-Corruption Programme, Commitment of Corruption or Corruption-Related Offences.

The Authorised Person for Prevention and Detection of Corruption (hereinafter referred to as the Authorised Person) provided 48 consultations on compliance with the legislation on prevention of corruption.

To regulate certain issues of preventing and detecting corruption and to implement the measures envisaged by the National Agency's Anti-Corruption Programme 2022-2024, anti-corruption policies were implemented, covering the prevention and settlement of conflicts of interest in the performance of official duties by the National Agency's employees, who are particularly vulnerable to corruption risks.

In accordance with the Procedure for Conducting Anti-Corruption Inspections of Business Partners of the National Agency, 20 anti-corruption inspections of business partners were conducted and relevant recommendations were provided.

In accordance with the Procedure for Conducting Anti-Corruption Screening of Candidates for Positions Vulnerable to Corruption Risks, the authorised person conducted 4 anti-corruption screenings of candidates for positions.

In order to timely adjust measures aimed at preventing corruption and corruption-related offences, the authorised person constantly monitored the analysis of court practice, as well as the official web portal Judicial Power of Ukraine, the Unified State Register of Court Decisions and Amendments to Anti-Corruption Legislation.

To ensure the transparency of the National Agency's activities, the Corruption Prevention section of official website was regularly updated with the latest regulatory documents and other useful information.

In October 2024, the National Agency launched the process of assessing corruption risks in accordance with the requirements of Ukrainian legislation and internal . The result of the corruption risk assessment will be the approval of the National Agency's Anti-Corruption Programme for 2025-2027, which will include specific measures aimed at minimising corruption risks. This process is aimed at strengthening the transparency, integrity and efficiency of the National Agency's activities, as well as ensuring compliance with anti-corruption standards.

The National Agency took measures to resolve conflicts of interest in accordance with the requirements of applicable law and internal anti-corruption policies, in particular in cases of real or potential conflicts of interest among officials.

5.5. Organisational work on the accreditation of the OP

In 2024, the Department of Accreditation of Educational Programmes of the Secretariat of the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance carried out systematic processing of data on the accreditation of educational programmes of higher education institutions in Ukraine, in particular:

- ◇ received, registered and processed notifications from HEIs/research institutions about their intention to accredit educational programmes, prepared and submitted for approval by the beginning of the 2024-2025 academic year a schedule for submitting applications for accreditation and information on self-assessment of educational programmes for the academic year 2024-2025 (hereinafter - the Schedule);
- ◇ Collected, recorded and processed notifications from HEIs / research institutions on the addition / deletion of study programmes and amendments to the Schedule for submission of accreditation materials in the academic 2024-2025;
- ◇ registered and accounted for applications for acceptance of accreditation cases for examination by the National Agency, provided analytical, methodological and informational support to institutions on the accreditation procedure for educational programmes;
- ◇ Collected, recorded and processed applications from higher education institutions for conditional (deferred) accreditation in accordance with Resolution No. 295 of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 16 March 2022;
- ◇ analysed draft reports of expert groups and provided methodological support at the first stage of the accreditation examination;
- ◇ collected materials and provided information and organisational support to the institutions during the post-accreditation monitoring experiment.

1. Receiving, registering and processing notifications from HEIs/research institutions about their intention to accredit educational programmes, preparing materials for approval by the beginning of the 2024-2025 academic year Schedule of submission of applications for accreditation and information on self-assessment of educational programmes.

Pursuant to the requirements of paragraph 3 of Section II of the Regulations on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for Higher Education, in June and July 2024, 807 notifications were received and processed from 319 HEIs regarding their intentions to accredit 2,791 educational programmes in the academic year 2024-2025 (see Figure 102).

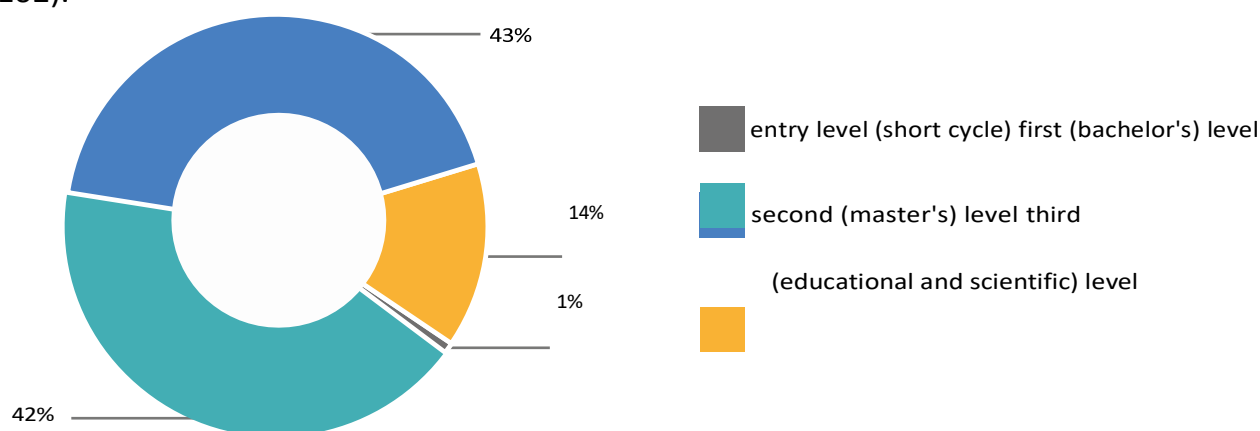


Figure 102. Breakdown of notifications from HEIs on their intentions to accredit an educational programme by level of higher education

Of these, 29 study programmes are at the primary level of higher education (less than in 2023), 1,166 are at the first (bachelor's) level of higher education (6% less than in 2023), 1,203 are at the second (master's) level of higher education (less than in 2023), and 393 are at the third (educational and scientific) level of higher education (Doctor of Philosophy - 388, Doctor of Arts - 5).

In order to improve the efficiency of planning the work of the Secretariat and the National Agency, as well as to ensure the quality of accreditation examinations, the applications submitted by higher education institutions for accreditation of educational programmes were analysed. The analysis included the study of the types of programmes (educational and professional, educational and scientific/educational and creative), their volumes (in ECTS credits) and the duration of training.

On the basis of the processed notifications of intent, the National Agency approved the Schedule of acceptance for accreditation of educational programmes for the academic year 2024-2025 at a meeting on 27 August 2024 (minutes № 15(65)¹⁰. The schedule¹¹ was published before the start of the academic year in the information and communication system of the National Agency.

2. Collecting, recording and processing notifications from HEIs and research institutions on adding/deleting study programmes and amending the Schedule of Accreditation Materials in 2024.

There was constant control over the receipt of corrective notifications on changes to the Schedule and information on the merger of educational programmes for joint examination from higher education institutions, as well as support for the up-to-date

¹⁰Minutes of the meeting of the National Agency dated 27.08.2024 No. 15 (65) URL: https://naqa.gov.ua/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Minutes_of_the_meeting_of_the_National_Agency_of_27.08.2024-No15-65.pdf (accessed 10.02.2025)

¹¹URL: <https://plan.naqa.gov.ua/>

the status of the special database of notifications, on the basis of which submissions were made for further consideration and approval by the National Agency.

In accordance with the decisions of the National Agency, the information in the Schedule was updated (once a month) based on the consideration of notifications received from higher education institutions. A total of 666 study programmes were removed (compared 2023, the removal activity increased by 7.). Additionally, 300 study programmes were included in the Schedule (24% more than in the previous year). The dates of submission of accreditation applications and self-assessment information were changed for 350 study programmes (a decrease of 4.9% compared to the previous year). During the reporting period, information on 1,316 study programmes was corrected and 296 notifications of changes in the guarantor of the study programme were processed.

Throughout the year, we analysed communications and letters from higher institutions. Correction of information in the schedule was necessary due to:

- errors in the ID of educational programmes due to duplication of their names in the Unified State Electronic Database on Education (USEDE);
- changes in the list of fields of knowledge and specialties;
- reorganisation of institutions;
- the location of institutions in the combat zone or their relocation;
- damage to the material and technical base;
- power outages;
- extension of the validity of accreditation certificates, etc.

Figure 103).

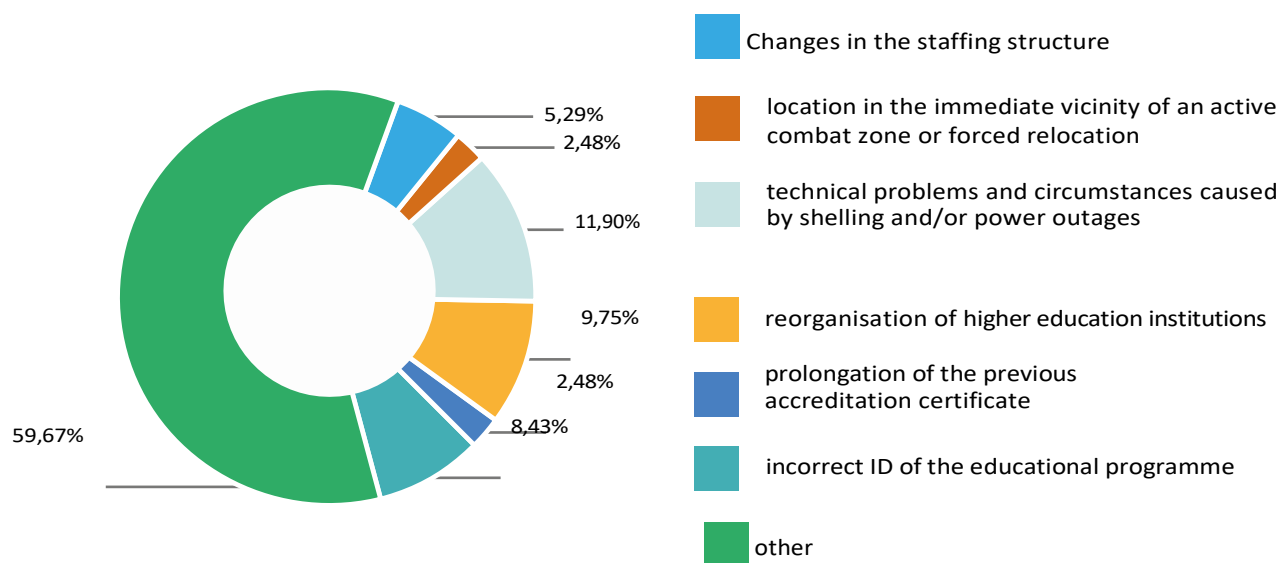


Figure 103. Reasons for adjusting information in the Schedule

3. Collecting, recording and processing applications from higher education institutions for conditional (deferred) accreditation in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 16 March 2022 No. 295.

Pursuant to the Order of the Head of the National Agency 26 July 2024 No. 34, the Department of Accreditation of Educational Programmes collected and processed letters of application from higher education institutions for conditional (deferred) accreditation in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers

of Ukraine of 16 March 2022, No. 295. The analysis of the letters of application was carried out in accordance with clause 6 of the Temporary Procedure for Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Applicants under Martial Law, as amended on 27 February 2024 (Minutes No. 5 (55)). In order to ensure transparent and impartial consideration of applications, the Commission for Review of Applications of Higher Education Institutions for Conditional (Deferred) Accreditation was established at a meeting of the National Agency on 23 July 2024 (Minutes No. 13 (63)) and its Procedure was approved. The Deputy Head of the Commission, Head of the Educational Programmes Accreditation Department Denyskina G.O. developed and presented proposals for the algorithm of consideration of letters of application from higher education institutions by the Commission and provided access to all members of the Commission to review letters of application and additional materials sent by higher education institutions to obtain recommendations on the submission of accreditation materials for conditional (deferred) accreditation. During the reporting period, the Department for Accreditation of Educational Programmes processed letters of application from higher education institutions according to the relevant algorithm and provided the Commission with all the necessary information.

In total, from 1 June to 31 December 2024, requests for granting conditional (deferred) accreditation for 770 study programmes from 131 higher education institutions and submitted them to the Commission. Detailed information on the distribution of applications from higher education institutions by levels of higher education, regions, industries, as well as the Commission's decisions is presented in the Report on the Quality of Higher Education in Ukraine, its Compliance with the Tasks of Sustainable Innovative Development of Society in 2024 (hereinafter - the Report on the Quality of Higher Education in Ukraine in 2024).

In the future, the Department for Accreditation of Educational Programmes is considering submitting proposals to the Commission to establish an exhaustive list of documents, copies of which must be attached by the HEI to the letter of application for conditional (deferred) accreditation if the reason given by the HEI complies with subparagraph 3 of paragraph 5 of the Procedure for Considering Applications of Higher Education Institutions for Conditional (Deferred) Accreditation in accordance with paragraph 2 of Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 295 of 16 March 2022.

4. Registration and accounting of applications for acceptance of accreditation files for examination by the National Agency.

To improve the quality and efficiency of its work and bring it in line with the legislation, in particular the new Regulation on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for Higher Education, the Procedure for Registration of Applications for Accreditation and Information on Self-Evaluation of Educational Programmes was reviewed, improved and approved in a new version.

In accordance with the Procedure for Registration of Applications for Accreditation and Information on Self-Evaluation of Educational Programmes for the period from January to July 2024, the forms were checked for completeness and availability of information on all necessary annexes, 1845 cases of educational programmes of Ukrainian higher education institutions submitted for accreditation were accepted and registered in accordance with the approved Schedule

in the academic year 2023-2024, including 53 at the primary level of higher education, 1007 - at the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 401 at the second (master's) level of higher education; 384 at the third (educational and scientific) level of higher education (381 at the third (educational and scientific) level, 3 at the third (educational and creative) level) (see Figure 104).

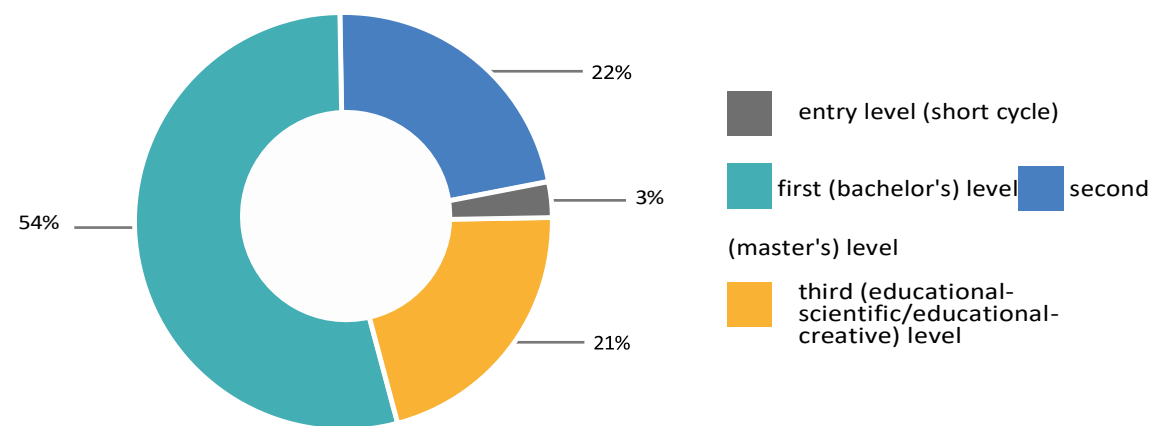


Figure 104. Breakdown of accreditation cases by levels of higher education from January to July 2024

During the period from 9 September to 23 December 2024, 905 cases submitted for accreditation 2024-2025 were processed in accordance with the approved Schedule and registered (which is 4% less than in the same period in 2023).), including 1 educational programme at the primary level of higher education, 37 - at the first (bachelor's) level of higher education (more than in 2023), 778 - at the second (master's) level of higher education (9% less than in 2023), 89 - at the third (educational and scientific) level of higher education (see Figure 105).

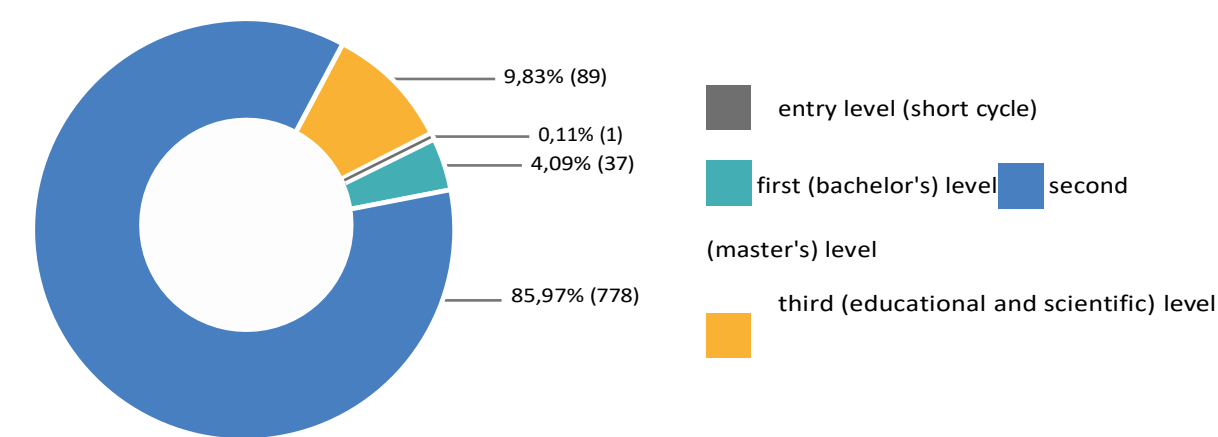


Figure 105. Breakdown of accreditation cases by levels of higher education from September to December 2024

The largest number of materials for accreditation relates to educational and professional programmes of the second (master's) level of higher education. This is due to the terms of training of applicants (1 year 4 months - 1 year 6 months), the terms of completion of training and the need for timely issuance of higher education diplomas, and is also due to the requirement of clause 1, section II of the Regulations on Accreditation of Educational

programmes in which higher education applicants are trained, which provides for accreditation for the first time, provided that as of the date of the accreditation examination, the first intake of higher education applicants have completed at least 60% of ECTS credits in the relevant educational programme.

In the reporting year, the total number of registered accreditation cases was 2750, of which 1307 were cases of educational programmes that received a decision on conditional (deferred) accreditation in accordance with Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 295 of 16 March 2022, 12 accreditation cases of educational programmes were withdrawn from consideration as submitted by mistake.

In 2024, in cases where accreditation cases of educational programmes were submitted with a significant violation of the Schedule, the reasons were analysed. During this period, 15 accreditation cases were registered later than the specified date, 42 accreditation cases were returned due to the lack of critical information or due to the HEI's debt to the National Agency for previous years.

To ensure a full and impartial review of accreditation cases, the department staff promptly processed letters from higher education institutions requesting additional information at different stages of the accreditation process. The information received, together with official letters of application from the HEIs, was added to the relevant accreditation files in the National Agency's information and communication system.

5. Analysis of draft reports of expert groups, methodological support and technical support for the first stage of the accreditation examination.

According to paragraph 15 of Part II of the Regulations on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for which we train higher education students to ensure quality training and conduct accreditation examinations, the responsible employees of the department, upon receipt of the draft report, check it for compliance with the law and requirements, and if the draft report does not comply with the legislation in the field of higher education and design requirements, return it to the expert group for revision.

Leading experts of the department analysed draft reports of expert groups and provided methodological support for the preparation of the descriptive, summary and recommendation parts of the expert group report, focusing on the need to correlate facts, evidence and justifications in the form of an "analysis of the draft report of expert groups". The assessment of the level of compliance of the educational programme established by the experts remained unchanged, without being subjected to any assessment correction or other influence, since it is technically impossible to change it in the information and communication system of the National Agency.

To ensure efficient and high-quality work, the department has constantly improved its approaches to compiling the results of the analysis of draft expert group reports and identified various options for their presentation.

During the reporting period, the Department analysed 1436 subjects of expert group reports. In particular, 491 of them were at the first (bachelor's) level, 808 at the second (master's) level, and 137 at the third (educational and scientific) level.

During 2024, the responses of higher education institutions to

the report of the expert group and, in case of delay at stage 10.1, the accreditation cases were promptly transferred to the stage of the SEC (stage 11.1 in the electronic system), provided that the HEI / research institution did not respond / comment on the report of the expert group within the established timeframe.

In September 2024, the methodological recommendations for experts from the Department of Accreditation of Educational Programmes were also updated to reflect changes in legislation, in particular, QR codes were added quickly access the most important regulations that should guide experts in the evaluation of educational programmes, information on setting assessment levels and determining the level of compliance for each criterion was updated, signs of significant shortcomings and good practices, the obligation to provide recommendations and the importance of

6. Organisational and informational support for the experiment on post-lending monitoring.

In accordance with paras. 1, 2, 5 of Part 1 of Article 18, Part 8 of Article 25 of the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education", in order to develop and implement post-accreditation monitoring mechanisms, during the reporting period, the staff of the Accreditation Department prepared documents for two stages of the post-accreditation monitoring experiment (preparation of orders on conducting the post-accreditation monitoring experiment, the Procedure for conducting the experiment, correspondence with higher education institutions to provide information support). The first stage of the experiment was conducted in the period from 05.01.2024 to 09.02.2024 with the involvement of 7 higher education institutions to analyse 7 study programmes; the second stage was conducted in the period from 02.09.2024 to 31.10.2024 with the involvement of 27 higher education institutions to analyse 38 study programmes.

During the experiment the staff of the Accreditation Department carried out pre-expert preparation of the experimental post-accreditation monitoring: collection and processing of information on the self-evaluation of the educational programme for post-accreditation monitoring of the proper execution of the submitted materials. During the first stage of the experiment, 7 data on the self-evaluation of educational programmes were processed; during the second stage, 37 data on the self-evaluation of educational programmes were processed. One higher education institution did not submit information on the self-evaluation of its educational programme for the experimental post-accreditation monitoring due to force majeure (during the preparation of the self-evaluation information, the institution was damaged during a missile attack by the aggressor state). After processing, all the information on the self-evaluation of educational programmes was transferred to the department for support of sectoral expert councils. Employees of the Accreditation Department provided advisory support to those responsible for preparing post-accreditation monitoring cases of higher education institutions, responding to information requests sent to accreditation@naqa.gov.ua, and were involved in organising

and holding meetings of the Working Group on Evaluation of the Experiment on Post-Accreditation Monitoring of Educational Programmes (02.02.2024; 15.11.2024).

7. Participation in general organisational processes.

During the reporting period, communication with stakeholders - representatives of public authorities, representatives of the administration of higher education institutions, guarantors of educational programmes, and representatives of NGOs - was carried out on an ongoing basis. One of the main forms of such communication was business correspondence through the official communication channels of the National Agency. Employees of the Department processed 703 letters received through the electronic document management system of the National Agency, including:

- letters from higher education institutions regarding the granting of conditional (deferred) accreditation in accordance with Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 295 of 16 March 2022 "On Peculiarities of Accreditation of Educational Programmes for Higher Education Applicants under Martial Law" - 214;
- letters on the participation of HEIs in post-accreditation monitoring - 76;
- letters of clarification and advisory assistance regarding the accreditation schedule of educational programmes and the accreditation procedure - 395;
- letters of requests for public information and letters of appeals from higher education institutions to provide clarification on certain issues of the accreditation process - 18.

To ensure prompt response to operational and technical issues within the department's functionality, additional communication was carried out via the email address accreditation@naqa.gov.ua, which received about 2.5 thousand messages.

During the reporting year, the Department of Accreditation of Educational Programmes, in accordance with the decisions of the National Agency, provided periodic updates on the recommendation of the simplified accreditation procedure for certain educational programmes and kept it up to date in the internal information database.

Thus, in 2024, the organisation of planning, registration and analytical processing of accreditation materials submitted by institutions was improved, the scope of advisory and information work with participants in the accreditation process was expanded, control over the prompt processing of cases at the initial stages in the information and communication system of the National Agency was ensured, as well as the complete and timely preparation of supporting materials for the work of the Commission for Review of Applications of Higher Education Institutions for Conditional (Deferred) Accreditation.

5.6. Support of experts in accreditation of educational programmes

In 2024, the Secretariat provided organisational support for accreditation examinations, in particular:

- organised expert groups to conduct expert assessments of educational programmes;
- Ensured the necessary document flow with experts to properly formalise cooperation and ensure appropriate payment for the work performed;

- took measures to select individuals to be included in the register of ex-perts in the relevant specialities;
- organised a survey of experts and guarantors of educational programmes;
- organised briefings before visits to higher education institutions;
- provided expert advice on organisational and technical issues;
- supervised the timely submission of peer review reports.

In 2024, the National Agency conducted accreditation in remote, mixed and face-to-face forms. In 2024, 1244 expert assessments were conducted, of which 1164 were conducted remotely and 1164 in a mixed form.

- 63, and 17 full-time.

In 2024, despite the difficult conditions of martial law, including air raids and missile attacks, the accreditation process did not stop.

Table 1: Number of accreditations by form in 2024

Form of accreditation examination	Quantity
Full-time form	17
Mixed form	63
Remote form	1164
Together	1244

As of the end of 2024, the register of experts of the National Agency included 4948 people, of whom 4078 were scientific and pedagogical (SP), researchers (R) and 870 were higher education students of various levels.

Table 2: Number of research and teaching staff and students in the register of experts of the National Agency by industry as of the end of 2024

Industry.	Research and teaching (scientific) staff	Education applicants
01 Education/Pedagogy	750	158
02 Culture and art	171	57
03 Humanities	399	73
04 Theology	16	7
05 Social and behavioural sciences	559	109
06 Journalism	47	14

Industry.	Scientific and pedagogical (research) staff	Education applicants
07 Management and administration	812	115
08 Law	174	70
09 Biology	112	21
10 Natural sciences	331	58
11 Mathematics and statistics	102	13
12 Information technology	432	78
13 Mechanical engineering	221	44
14 Electrical engineering	150	25
16 Chemical engineering and bioengineering	77	19
17 Electronics, automation and electronic communications	170	22
18 Production and technology	193	36
19 Architecture and construction	141	26
20 Agricultural sciences and food	181	26
21 Veterinary medicine	30	5
22 Healthcare	278	94
23 Social work	86	16
24 Service sector	149	24
25 Military sciences, national security, state border security	129	0
26 Civilian security	84	4
27 Transport	175	17
28 Public management and administration	111	45
29 International relations	129	34

In 2024, 866 people were included in the register of experts of the National Agency, of whom 628 were researchers and research and teaching staff, 238 were higher education students. At the same time, 347 people were excluded from the register, including 91 researchers and academic staff and 256 students

of higher education. The main reasons for the exclusion of persons from the register of experts were: loss of the status of NPP, NP; expiry of the one-year term after the loss of the status of a higher education student; election to the SES in the relevant field; submission of the commission for ensuring the quality of experts' work; and personal desire.

In order to update and sustainably fill the register of experts in accordance with the current requirements and standards for assessing the quality of education in 2024, the Secretariat announced 26 competitive recruitments of persons to be included in the register of experts in various specialities. As a result, 679 questionnaires were received from candidates - 420 questionnaires from research and teaching staff and 259 from higher education students. Based on the results of the selection, 503 candidates were admitted to the training: 297 academic staff and 206 higher education students.

In August 2024, the Secretariat developed and approved the Regulation on the Expert and Expert Group of the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance. The Regulation regulates the procedure for selecting persons to the register of experts, maintaining the register of experts, and forming expert groups. Particular attention is paid to the expert evaluation of educational programmes and assessment of the quality of experts' work.

Evaluation of the National Agency's experts who participated in the accreditation process in the academic year 2023/2024

In May and June 2024, the secretariat conducted a pilot assessment of the experts who participated in the accreditation process in the academic year 2023/2024, aimed at identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the experts' work to further improve their professional skills and improve the overall quality of the accreditation process. The assessment was based on two main criteria:

- 1) compliance by the expert with the procedure for conducting an accreditation examination in accordance with the Regulations on accreditation of educational programmes for the training of higher education applicants;
- 2) the quality of the expert group's report.

Based on the results of the assessment, experts could be recommended for further involvement in accreditation examinations, sent for additional education (training) or, in case of serious shortcomings in their work, for consideration by the Commission for Quality Assurance of Experts.

In total, in 2024, 2075 experts who participated in the accreditation of educational programmes during the academic year 2023-2024 were evaluated. 1507 of them were academic staff, NPs and 568 higher education students. The results of the expert evaluation are presented in the Report on the Quality of Higher Education in Ukraine in 2024.

Survey of guarantors of educational programmes and experts of the National Agency

In 2024, the Secretariat continued to conduct weekly surveys of representatives of higher education institutions that acted as guarantors of educational programmes in the accreditation process. In total, 882 guarantors took part in the survey (for comparison, in 2023, responses were received from 936 guarantors, in 2022, from 341 guarantors). In the winter-spring series (January-May), 452 guarantors took part, and in the autumn series (September-November) - 430.

In order to identify current issues that arise accreditation reviews, the Secretariat organised a survey of experts. In total, 2489 experts who participated in accreditation examinations during 2024 took part in survey: 1334 in the first half of the year and 1155 in the second half.

The results of the surveys helped to identify the key challenges faced by HEIs and expert groups during accreditation examinations. Based on this data, the Secretariat developed and implemented measures to improve the accreditation procedure to increase its effectiveness. More information about the results of the surveys and the measures taken can be found in the Report on the Quality of Higher Education in Ukraine in 2024.

Thus, in 2024, the National Agency continued to ensure the effective implementation of accreditation examinations, demonstrating high adaptability and resilience to challenges, in particular under martial law. Increasing the register of experts, introducing new approaches to their evaluation and training, as well as systematic analysis of feedback from the guarantors of educational programmes and the experts themselves contributed to improving the quality of the accreditation process. The results of the surveys confirmed the positive perception of accreditation procedures by the majority of participants, which is an important indicator of the agency's credibility and effectiveness.

5.7. Supporting the activities of industry expert councils

In 2024, the Secretariat of the National Agency supported the activities of 31 sectoral expert councils of the National Agency Higher Education Quality Assurance (hereinafter referred to as SECs). The support of the activities of sectoral expert councils is to provide information and technical support to the SEC meetings during the public consideration of an accreditation case or a draft higher education standard.

The Sectoral Expert Councils Support Department, as the Secretariat's authorised unit in this area, also supports and ensures the work of 29 competition commissions for the selection of candidates for the PIC of the National Agency, organises competitions for the PIC in accordance with the decisions of the National Agency. The department participates in the preparation of webinars and trainings for PIC members, carries out information and analytical work of the sectoral expert councils, etc.

Sectoral expert councils: competitive selection, valid and full quantitative composition. During the reporting period, 10 competitions were held, including: 2 were re-elections of the PIC staff; 8 were recruitments to fill vacancies in the .

In 2024, the competition commissions for the selection of the PIC members held 15 meetings to consider the following issues: early termination of powers of the PIC members, discussion of the documents of the PIC candidates, approval of the results of the assessment of the PIC candidates, formation of proposals for the PIC members, etc.

Within the framework of competitions to the PES, the department's specialists processed 441 application packages, : for research and teaching / research staff
- 342, representatives of employers - 13, representatives of applicants for higher education

education - 61, international experts - 25; 78 candidates were denied admission to the competition; 6 packages of documents were withdrawn. In 2024, more than 430 responses and explanations were provided to letters from competition participants to the PIU within the scope of the department's authority.

As of 30 December 2024, the effective membership of the PIC comprised 347 members. The full composition of the PIC, in accordance with the approved quotas by category, includes 387 PIC members (see Figure 106).

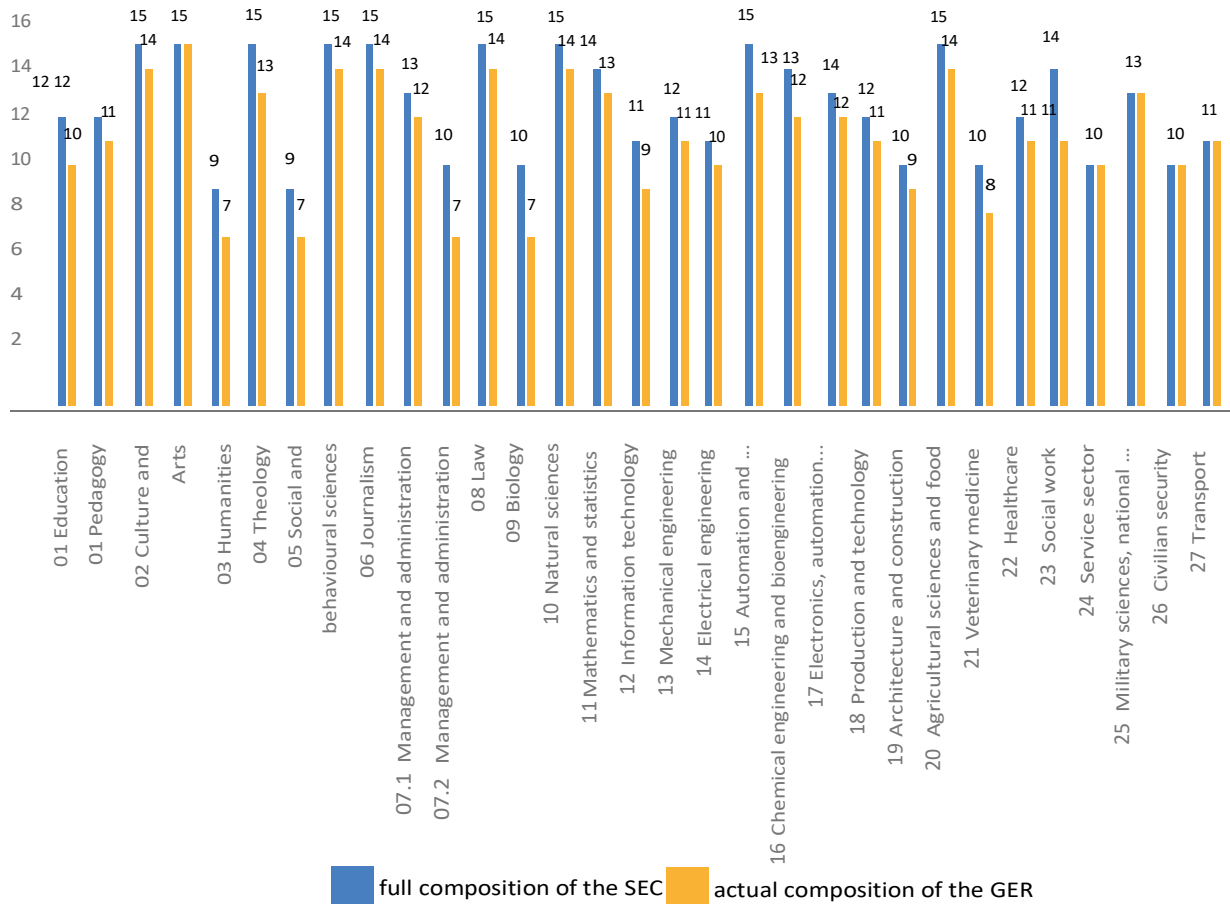


Figure 106. Complete and valid composition of the GER

Number of accreditation cases, workload of the SEC. In 2024, the SRE reviewed 1481 study programmes (see Figure 107). Of these, the National Agency decided to re-examine the SRE for 6 educational programmes in 2023, and the final decision after the re-examination of the SRE was made by the National Agency in 2024.

In 2024, a total of 53 accreditation cases were returned to the SEC for reconsideration by the National Agency to clarify the SEC's analysis and recommendations, review correlations of the expert opinion and annex, study additional information, etc., of which 18 educational programmes were postponed to 2025.

As of 30 December, 29 accreditation cases were under consideration by the PIU, including those returned for reconsideration (PIU 2, PIU 3).

During the reporting period, the ERG held 321 meetings, which were devoted to the following issues:

- 1) review of educational programmes with the participation of representatives of higher education institutions and members of the expert groups;

- 2) Discussion of draft higher education standards or changes to higher education standards with representatives of scientific and methodological commissions of the Scientific and Methodological Council of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, government representatives, etc.

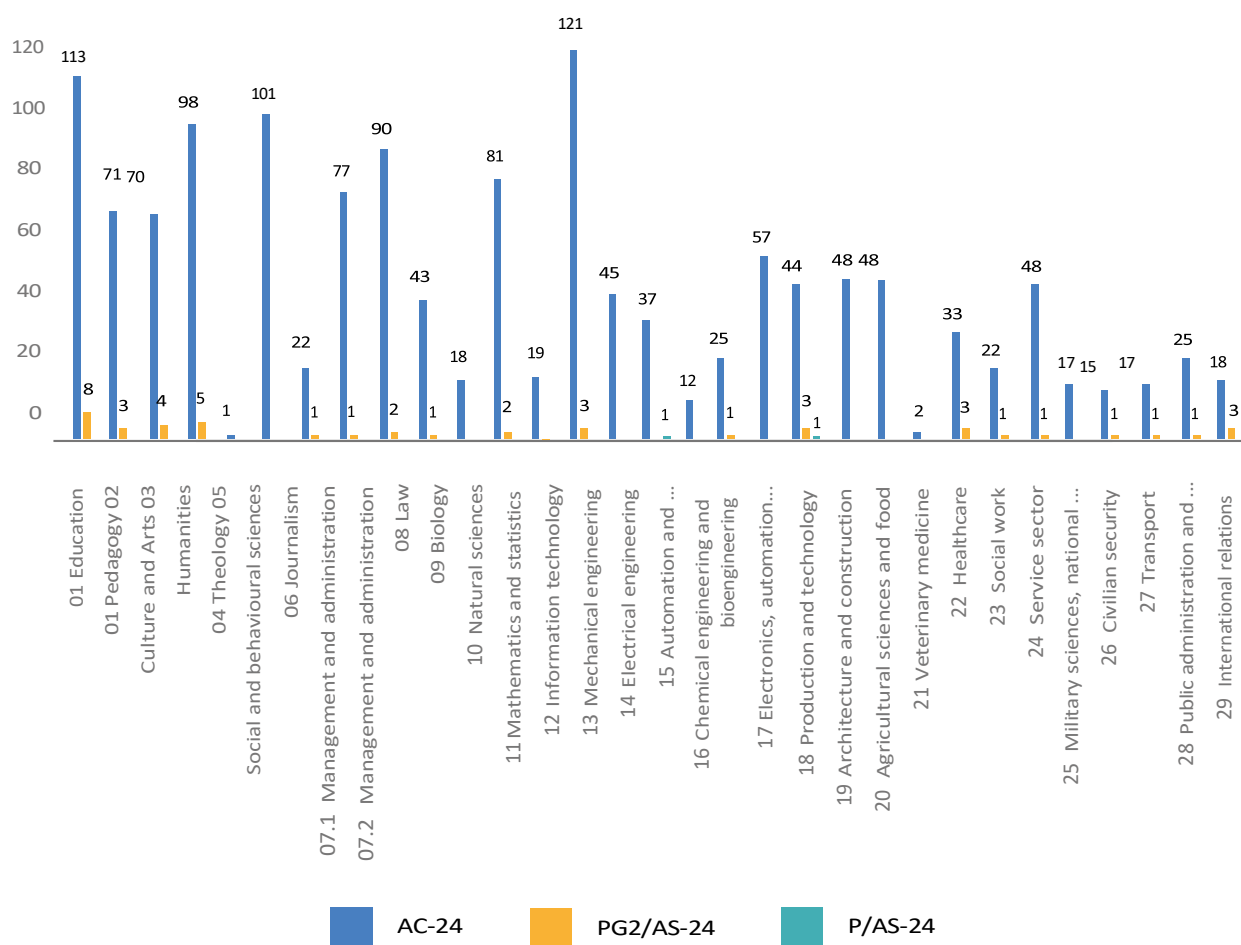


Figure 107. Number of educational programmes reviewed by the HES in 2024

Post-accreditation monitoring. During the reporting period, two stages of the experiment on post-accreditation monitoring of educational programmes were conducted.

Seven HEIs took part in the first stage of the post-accreditation monitoring experiment (29 January - 09 February 2024): 01 Education, 05 Social and Behavioural Sciences, 08 Law, 09 Biology, 12 Information Technology, 13 Mechanical Engineering, 22 Healthcare.

All sectoral expert councils of the National Agency were involved in the second stage of the experiment. The review of study programmes submitted by HEIs for the second stage of the experiment lasted from 23 September to 11 October 2024.

Materials from the HEIs were sent to the CEA for post-accreditation monitoring: 36 packages of documents (self-assessment information, curricula and educational programmes). Sectoral expert councils: 01 Education, 04 Theology, 06 Journalism, 10 Natural Sciences, 12 Information Technologies processed two packages of documents each, while all other SECs considered one package each.

As a result of the work of the PIU, the National Agency was provided with post-accreditation monitoring materials with expert opinions and PIU recommendation decisions:

- 1) on the successful completion of post-accreditation monitoring - 16;
- 2) on partial passage of post-accreditation monitoring with the comments of the State Audit Service - 20.

Based on the results of the experiment, the National Agency received proposals from sectoral expert councils on optimising and organising the post-accreditation monitoring procedure, in particular, on the creation of an electronic post-accreditation monitoring system, the form and structure of the expert opinion of the SEC, processing time, etc.

Review of draft higher education standards. In 2024, 22 draft higher standards were under consideration by the CER: first (bachelor's) level of higher education - 5; second (master's) level of higher education - 6; third (educational and scientific) level of higher education - 10; third (educational and creative) level of higher education - 1 (see Figure 108). The SEG also analysed and provided the National Agency with recommendations for making decisions on changes to 4 higher education standards: 2 of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education and 2 of the second (master's) level of higher education.

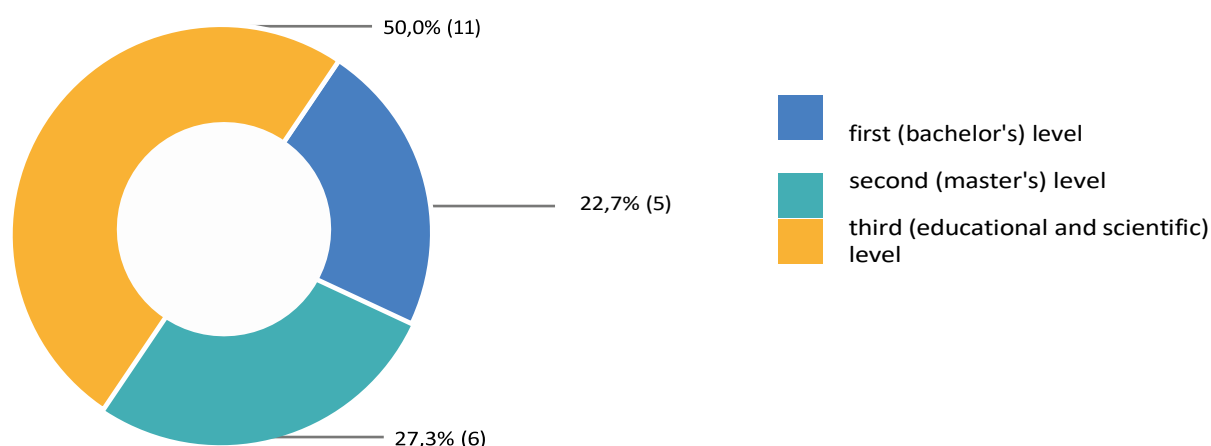


Figure 108. Breakdown of the number and percentage of draft higher standards reviewed by sectoral expert councils in 2024, by level of higher education

Communication events with the participation of sectoral expert councils. Every year, the National Agency organises a number of events for the HEA to discuss the processes of ensuring the quality of higher education, highlight the features and disseminate exemplary practices of the higher education quality system, etc. For example, in 2024, the National Agency held working meetings, webinars and trainings for the members of the HEA.

In the reporting year 2024, in particular, on 28 February, 01 April, 08 November, webinars and trainings were held for the newly elected members of the SEC with the participation of the National Agency's management and members. Guidelines were provided to members of the SER on the consideration of accreditation cases, the procedure and basis for the formation of expert opinions, as well as detailed recommendations on the "List of Significant Deficiencies", which is a mandatory annex to the SER expert opinion.

On 29 October 2024, the webinar "Regulations on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for Higher Education: Peculiarities of Implementation" was held. The webinar covered the main novelties of the document, highlighted changes and innovations in the forms of expert opinions of the State Expertise Council, etc.

Thus, in 2024, the National Agency provided effective support to sectoral expert councils, monitoring, analysis and coordination of their activities. The PIU's work support department paid great attention to identifying risks and preventing them at all levels of work in support of the PIU's activities.

5.8. Technical support for document management and record keeping

In 2024, the Department of Record Keeping and Technical Support received (registered) 5197 letters of correspondence received by the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance and sent by the National Agency to central and local government authorities, local governments, higher education institutions and other organisations, and individuals.

Among them:

- ◇ lawyers' requests - 40;
- ◇ applications for renewal of certificates of accreditation of educational programmes - 470,
- ◇ complaints against decisions of the National Agency - 1;
- ◇ reports of corruption - 10;
- ◇ of citizens' appeals - 149;
- ◇ complaints about academic plagiarism, fabrication and falsification - 49;
- ◇ reports of violations of the procedure for defending a dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy - 1;
- ◇ deputy appeals - 2;
- ◇ requests for information - 79.

For 2024:

- ◇ 571 certificates were re-issued (including 27 due to changes in the name of the higher education institution/ higher education institution/ research institution, 72 due to changes in location, 254 due to reorganisation, and 218 due to changes in the name of the industry/speciality);
- ◇ information on international accreditation based on the decisions of the National Agency was entered into the USE- 15.

During the reporting period, work continued on entering information on full and conditional (deferred) accreditation of educational programmes into the NAQA.Registry information system of the National Agency and the USEDDBU. During the reporting period, 2534 such certificates of accreditation of educational programmes were issued.

Work continued with the Central State Archive of Higher Authorities of Ukraine.

Thus, in 2024, the National Agency ensured an efficient organisation of document flow and record keeping.

5.9. Preparation of meetings of the National Agency

In accordance with paragraph 33 of the National Agency's Charter, one of the main tasks of the Secretariat is to ensure the preparation and holding of meetings of the National Agency, which includes:

1. Organising the preparation of draft decisions of the National Agency.
2. Providing preparation and technical support for the meetings of the National Agency.
3. Organisational and technical support for the approval boards.
4. Coordinating and formulating the text of draft decisions with the National Agency members and adjusting the agenda of the National Agency meeting if necessary.
5. Prepare a list of accreditation cases submitted to the National Agency based on the decisions of sectoral expert councils.
6. Transferring cases to the National Agency's meetings and making changes to the relevant cases in the National Agency's information and communication system.
7. Entering relevant data into the information and communication system based on the results of the National Agency's meeting.

The Department for Preparation of Meetings and Support of Committees is responsible for preparing and providing technical support for the National Agency's meetings. In order to agree on draft decisions on agenda items and prepare for the

National Agency's meetings, the department's specialists organised and held 26 conciliation councils and 22 meetings of the National Agency. In accordance with clause 34 of the National Agency's Charter, 22 minutes were prepared and published on the official website

of the National Agency's meetings and annexes .

Following the consideration of issues related to the accreditation of educational programmes at the meetings of the National Agency, the Secretariat's specialists administered the information and communication system: data on 1285 accreditation cases were entered based on the results of the National Agency's meetings, and accreditation cases were transferred to the appropriate stages from the list.

Within the framework of the functions and tasks of the Department, the participants of the accreditation process were informed about the time, date and place of the National Agency's meetings.

Based on the results of the National Agency's meetings in 2024, the Secretariat's specialists entered data on 1285 accreditation cases into the information and communication system (except for accreditation cases in with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 16.03.2022№ 295 "On the peculiarities of accreditation educational programmes for higher education under martial law"), and transferred accreditation cases to the appropriate stages from the list.

As a result of the meetings, 31 extracts from the minutes of the National Agency's meetings and 20 instructions to heads of structural units were prepared to implement the decisions of the National Agency and control executive discipline.

During the reporting period, 17 letters were prepared in response to appeals from the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, higher education institutions, and complainants, and an official response was provided to 1 lawyer's request.

5.10. Supporting the work of the National Agency's Committees, Commissions and the Appeals Chamber

In 2024, the National Agency's Secretariat provided support to the work of various National Agency Committees, including organisational, informational, documentary, and logistical support, among other things:

- 31 meetings of the Ethics Committee;
- 2 meetings of the Committee on the activities of one-off specialised academic councils;
- 3 meetings of the Appeals Committee;
- 12 meetings of the Military Education Committee.

In 2024, the Secretariat's specialists provided technical support for 3 meetings of the Appeals Committee, which resulted in 3 minutes. Members of the Appeals Committee considered 2 appeals and made 7 decisions, which were published on the official website of the National Agency. Legal, informational, organisational and technical support was provided from the Committee on Military Education of the National Agency. During the reporting period, 12 minutes reflecting the results of the Committee's meetings were prepared.

Information on the support of the Ethics Committee's work is provided in Section 6, and on the Committee for the Activities of Ad Hoc Specialised Academic Councils - in paragraph 5.1 of this section.

One of the areas of work of the Department for Preparation of Meetings and Support of Committees is to provide technical support and documentation of meetings of the Commission for Quality Assurance of Experts of the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance. During the reporting period, the secretariat prepared 8 minutes and 7 decisions based on the results of the meetings of the Commission for Quality Assurance of Experts.

In accordance with the decision of the National Agency of 23 July 2024 (Minutes No. 13 (63)) and the order of the Head of the National Agency of 26 July 2024 № 34, the Commission for Consideration of Applications of Higher Education Institutions for Conditional (Deferred) Accreditation was established in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 16 March 2022 № 295. In the reporting period, the Secretariat prepared 7 protocols based on the results of the Commission's work.

Regarding the novelties of the legislation on the quality of higher education, it should be noted that on 28.05.2024, amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education" regarding the establishment and functioning of the Appeals Chamber came into force (Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine on Ensuring the Quality of Higher Education" of 02.05.2023 No. 3062 - IX).

In accordance with the requirements of the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education", the Regulations on the Appeals Chamber of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education, approved by the order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine

No. 1551 of 21.12.2023, the composition of the Competition Commission for the Selection of Members of the Appeals Chamber of the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance was formed and approved (Minutes No. 13 (63) of 23.07.2024). The organisation and technical support of 5 meetings of the Competition Commission was carried out, as a result of which 5 minutes were prepared.

Based on the results of the interview, 5 candidates to the Appeals Chamber were selected and recommended to the National Agency for appointment. In accordance with the requirements of paragraph 11 of Section IV of the Regulation on the Appeals Chamber, the decision of the National Agency of 22.10.2024 (Minutes of 22.10.2024 No. 18 (68)) approved the composition of the Appeals Chamber. During the reporting period, the Secretariat organised and provided technical support for 1 meeting of the Appeals Chamber.

In order to bring the regulatory acts of the National Agency in line with the current legislation, amendments were made to the Procedure of the Commission for Quality Assurance of Experts of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education; the Procedure for Reviewing Applications for Re-issuance of Certificates of Accreditation of Educational Programmes and the Regulations on the Appeals Chamber of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education.

5.11. Methodological work

In 2024, the key areas of the National Agency's methodological work were:

- Preparation of methodological manuals;
- development and improvement of instructional and methodological materials; 0 development of methodological materials, recommendations on the issues of quality of higher education;
- Developing and improving the content of trainings and other training events;
- development and improvement of tools for assessing the quality of the educational programme and educational activities of the higher education institution.

Results of methodological work in 2024

1. *A methodological manual has been developed* that highlights current recommendations for assessing the quality of educational programmes in accordance with the procedure for external quality assurance of higher education:

"Clarifications on the application of the Criteria for assessing the quality of the educational programme: a methodological guide / A. Butenko, H. Denyskina, O. Yeremenko, O. Knysh, I. Simshag, O. Trebenko - Kyiv: National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance, 2024"

(approved by the Decision of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (22 October 2024, Protocol No. 18 (68))).

The publication is intended for experts and members of sectoral expert councils of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education, employees of the National Agency's secretariat, and all those interested in improving the quality of higher education.

The publication includes a description of the requirements for the educational programme, educational activities under the educational programme and the functioning of the internal system of quality assurance; references to the legislation of Ukraine and international recommendations on quality assurance in higher education; recommendations for justifying the presence of deficiencies from the "List of Significant Deficiencies", and other components that will contribute to a balanced and objective assessment.

2. Development and improvement of instructional and methodological materials

Taking into account the new version of the Regulations on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Applicants (approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine of 15 May 2024 № 686), changes to the forms of the expert group report and the expert opinion of the sectoral expert council (approved by the Decision of the National Agency of 27.08.2024; Procedure No. 15 (65)) updated the Instruction on the organisation of the work of the expert group in the process of conducting an accreditation examination (approved by Order No. 42 of 09.09.2024). Guidelines for members of the National Agency's sectoral expert councils on organising the work of the sectoral expert council in the process of accreditation examination were developed (approved by Order of the Head of the National Agency No. 51 dated 29.10.2024) to replace the Recommendations for members of the National Agency's sectoral expert councils on organising the work of the sectoral expert council in the process of accreditation examination (2023).

2.1 The Instruction for IA experts on organisation of the work of the EG in the process of accreditation examination is a document that establishes the rules and procedure for organising the work of the expert group during the accreditation examination at various stages. The instruction is designed to help experts organise their activities step by step. At the same time, the members the expert group are obliged to comply with the rules set out in the Instruction. The Instruction is structured by the stages of the accreditation examination. For each stage, the Instruction consistently sets out the procedure for the EG's actions, clearly defines the specific tasks and responsibilities of the EG members (i.e. the content of activities at the relevant stage), highlights what is strictly prohibited or not recommended for the expert group, and indicates the time period allocated for the stage and its components. The structure of the Guidelines is shown in Figure 109.

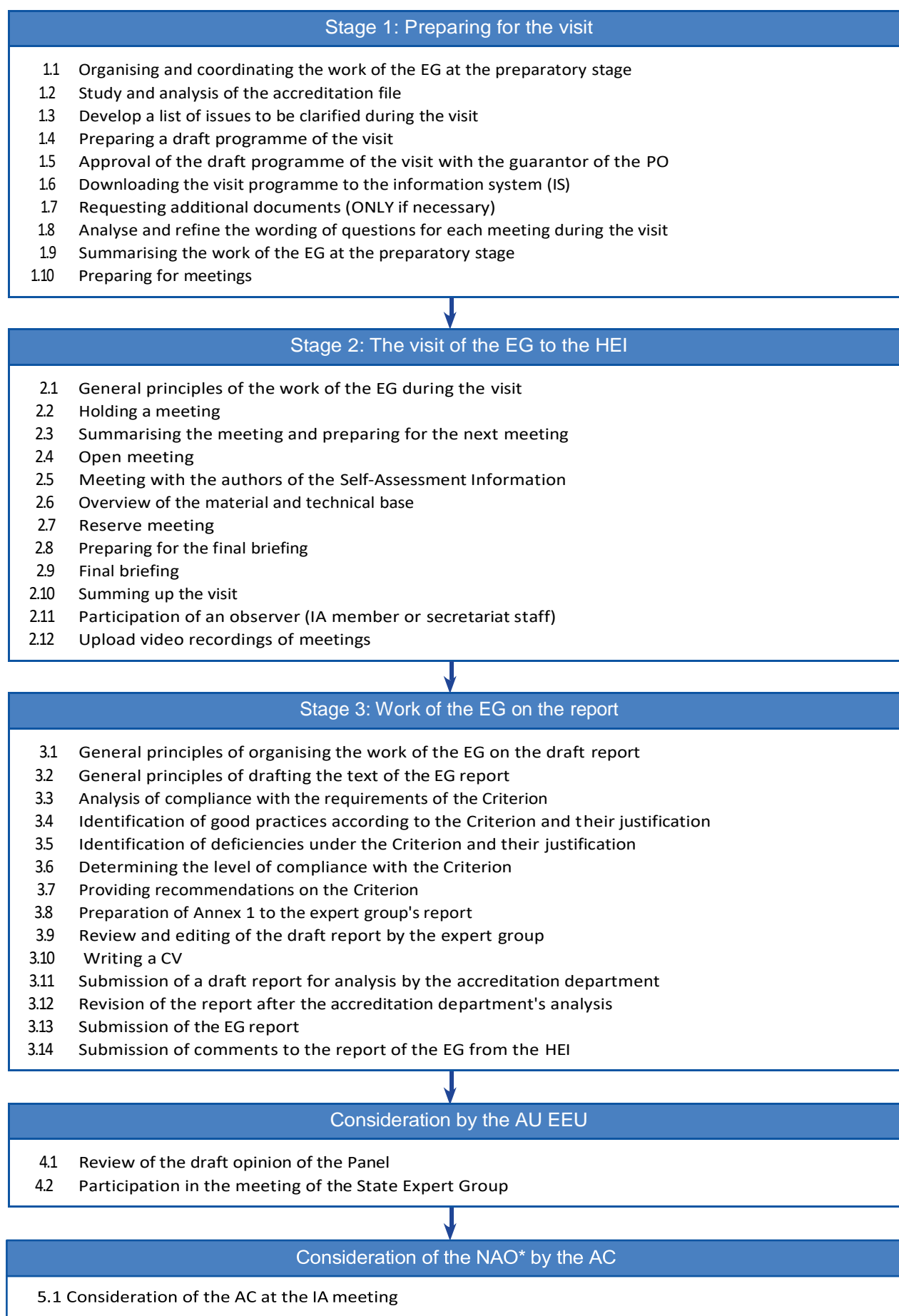


Figure 109. General structure of the Instruction for the IA experts on organisation of the work of the EG in the process of accreditation examination

2.2 *Guidelines for members of the National Agency's sectoral expert councils on organising the work of the sectoral expert council in the process of accreditation examination* is a document that defines the rules and procedures for organising the work of the SEC during the accreditation examination at each stage and was prepared to help SEC members organise their activities step by step.

The document is structured by activity steps. It starts with the general principles of organising and coordinating the work of the ERT. Then, for each step, the procedure of the ERG's actions (components of the step) is consistently set out, the specific tasks and responsibilities of the ERG members (i.e. the content of the activities at the relevant step) are clearly defined, the things that are strictly prohibited or not recommended for the ERG members are highlighted, the responsible person is identified, and the timeframe for the implementation of the step and its components is indicated.

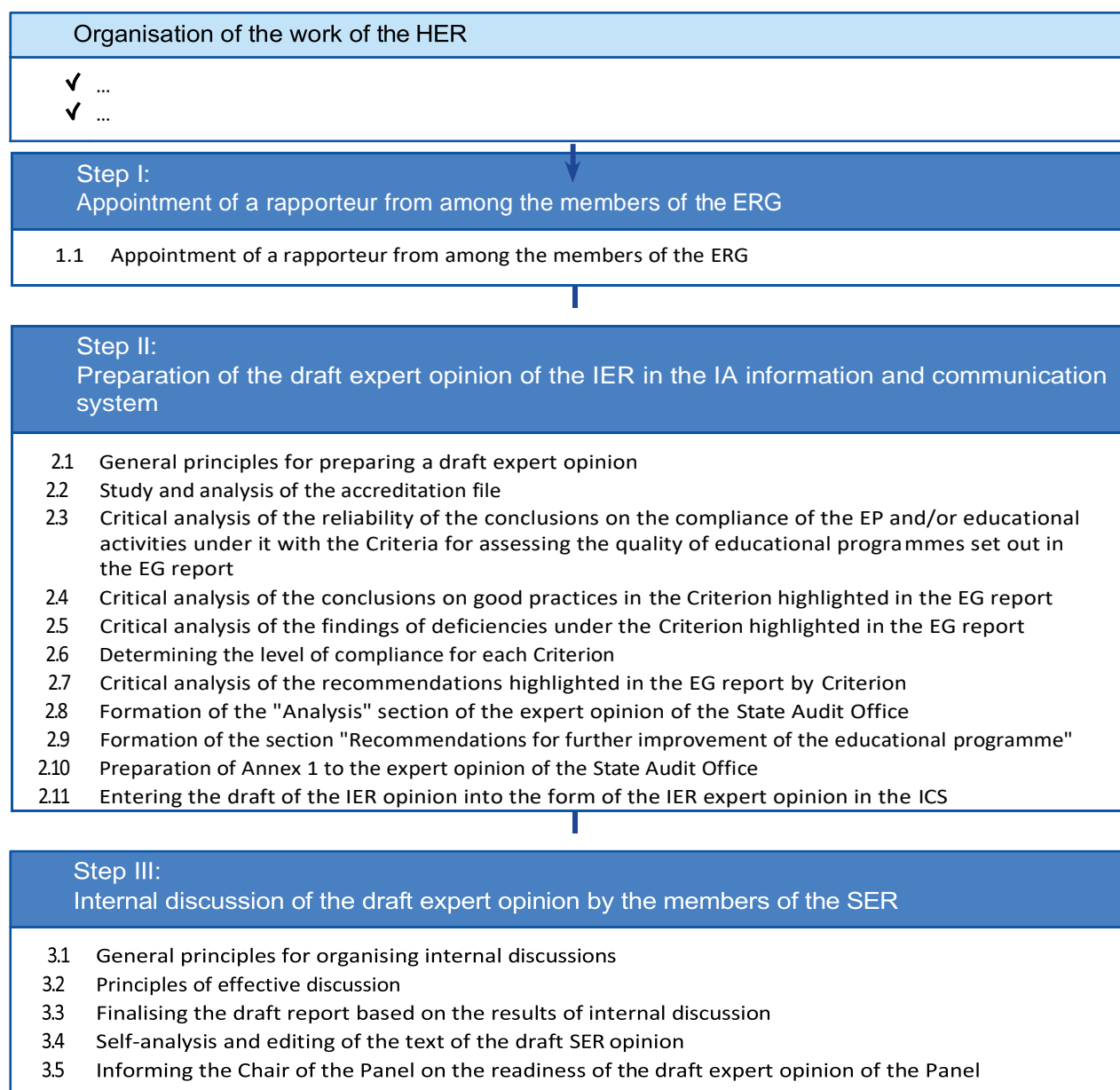


Figure 110. General structure of the Guidelines for members of sectoral expert councils of the National Agency on organisation of work of the sectoral expert council in the process of accreditation examination

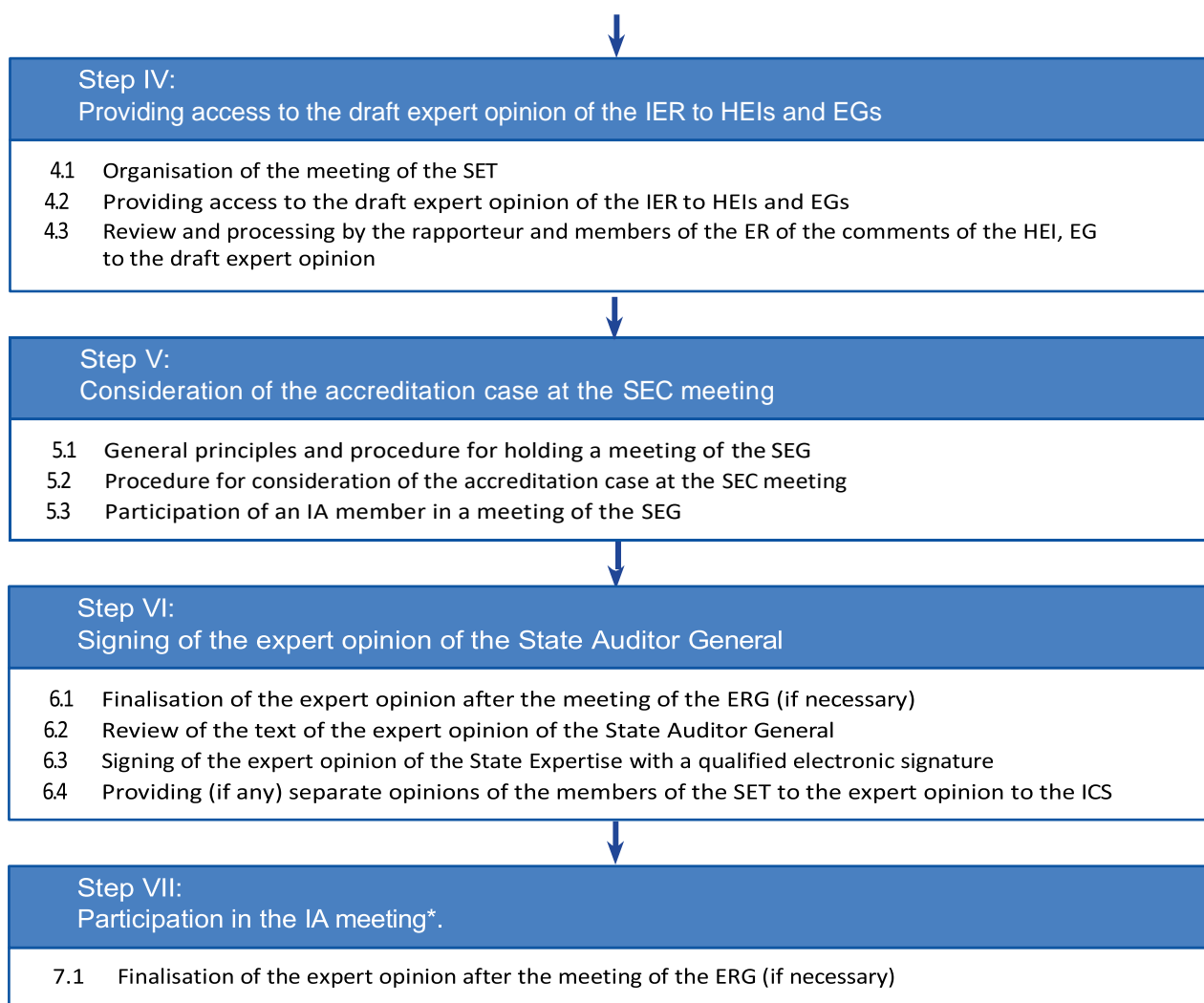


Figure 110. sheet 2

3. Development and improvement of tools for assessing the quality of the educational programme

In 2024, the National Agency developed the List of Significant Deficiencies (hereinafter referred to as the List), a structured document designed to ensure the objectivity of establishing the levels of compliance with the Criteria for Assessing the Quality of an Educational Programme and a unified approach to assessing the quality of educational programmes. This tool helps the expert group to systematise the conclusions of the EG on the identified significant deficiencies, provides a clear understanding of the assessment requirements for all participants in the accreditation, which increases the transparency of the process and strengthens confidence in its results. The list is also used by the National Agency as an analytical tool (see Section 5.13 of Chapter 5).

The "List of Significant Deficiencies" consists of 10 parts in accordance with the structure of the Criteria for Assessing the Quality of an Educational Programme (see Figure 111).

List of significant drawbacks

For each of the Criteria, please indicate which of the following material have been identified:

Criterion 1: Design of the educational programme

Code.	Significant disadvantage	EG detected	HER detected
1.1.1	Not all learning outcomes defined by the higher education standard can be achieved through programme learning outcomes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1.2	In the absence of a higher education standard, at least one learning outcome does NOT meet the requirements of the National Framework qualifications for the relevant qualification level.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1	An HEI awards a professional qualification in a particular profession, but at one of the following facts has been established: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the educational programme (in particular, additional ones - due to its elective educational components) does not ensure the fulfilment of the requirements for knowledge, skills, abilities and competences defined by the relevant professional standard; the name of the profession does not correspond to the current Classifier of Occupations or is absent in the Classifier of Occupations; the HEI has not determined/approved by the relevant local legal acts of the HEI: the procedure for awarding this professional qualification or the relevant procedures, methods of demonstrating competencies, or criteria (conditions) for awarding a professional qualification in accordance with applicable law. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4.1	At the stage of designing the , the needs of stakeholders were not studied in any way.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <small>*Applies if the HEI has comments on the report of the EG</small>
	None of the above deficiencies were identified.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Figure 111. "List of material weaknesses" in the part of Criterion 1

Based on the results of the expert assessment, the expert group fills in Appendix 1 to the expert group's report, which contains a table with the List, where for each of the deficiencies it indicates whether the deficiency has been identified. In the text of the expert group's report, for each deficiency from the List, in the field of the corresponding sub-coverage, the expert group provides an explanation of why the conclusion was made that the deficiency exists or, conversely, that the relevant requirement of the Criteria is met. Recommendations for justification are provided in the methodological manual "Clarifications on the Application of the Criteria for Evaluation of Educational Programmes". A similar document is filled in by the sectoral expert council and attached as Appendix 1 to the expert opinion of the PEA.

The rules for the application of the "List of Significant Deficiencies" by expert groups and sectoral expert councils in the accreditation examination process are set out in the Instruction on the Application of the "List of Significant Deficiencies" in the Accreditation Examination Process, approved by the Order of the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance on 02 September 2024 No. 39.

The "List of Significant Deficiencies" was compiled on the basis of the Criteria for Assessing the Quality of the Educational Programme and ESG-2015 Standards, legal requirements, analysis of the results of accreditation examinations, which was constantly carried out by the National Agency, and the results of a survey among experts, members of sectoral expert councils and representatives of the administration of higher education institutions responsible for internal quality assurance of higher education. It was also tested by applying the List to accreditation cases in the field of knowledge 01 Education / Pedagogy during the spring and summer of 2024. For more details, see the Report on the Quality of Higher Education in Ukraine 2024.

Forms of Appendices to the expert group report and the expert opinion of the sectoral expert council, templates in .xlsx format and Instructions for preparation of Appendices separately for expert groups and sectoral expert councils were developed.

4. Development of methodological materials and recommendations on quality assurance in higher education

Representatives of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education were members of the working group that, pursuant to paragraph 1.2.1.2.13 of the State Anti-Corruption Programme 2023-2025, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on 04.03.2023 No. 220, developed draft Methodological Recommendations on the use of tools and mechanisms for transforming various areas of higher education institutions on the basis of transparency and integrity¹². The Guidelines are intended to ensure the practical implementation of integrity values in higher education institutions and to promote a new culture where integrity is a fundamental principle. These guidelines cover several key areas

¹²URL: <https://mon.gov.ua/static-objects/mon/sites/1/gromadske-obgovorennya/2024/11/12/ho-metod-rekom-zastos-instr-ta-mekhan-dlya-transform-sfer-zvo-12-11-2024.docx> (accessed 10.02.2025)

aspects: the activities of the higher education institution in general; organisation of the educational process; administration of higher education institutions; ensuring academic integrity; partnerships between higher institutions. The draft was submitted for public discussion on 12 November 2024.

5. Development of training content for experts

5.1 In 2024, the content of three new trainings was developed:

5.1.1 "Improvement training for experts on accreditation of educational programmes" (training materials approved by the decision of the National Agency of 16.01.2024, protocol№ 1 (51)).

The training was designed to improve the quality of accreditation expertise and prevent inappropriate assessment of the quality of educational programmes by members of expert groups. The recommendation to participate in the training is given to experts based on the review of their work at a meeting of the Commission for Quality Assurance of Experts, as well as to persons have not been involved in accreditation examinations for a long time.

The training programme includes improving expert assessment skills, writing an expert group report, justifying the existence of shortcomings and good practices, and providing recommendations. Particular attention is paid to the provisions of the Instruction for NRA experts on the organisation of the work of the EG, in particular in the context of ethics and integrity of the NRA experts. The training also involves passing a test developed on the basis of the Regulation on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for Higher Education, the Instruction for Experts of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education on the Organisation of the Expert Group in the Process of Accreditation Examination, as well as the Instruction on the Use of the List of Significant Deficiencies in the Process of Accreditation Examination.

5.1.2 "Training for members of sectoral expert councils on the preparation and writing of the expert opinion of the State Expert Review" (training materials approved by the decision of the National Agency of 24.12.2024, protocol№ 22 (72)).

The training is aimed at developing the skills of members of sectoral expert councils to critically analyse the reliability of conclusions on the compliance of an educational programme and/or educational activities with the Criteria for assessing the quality of an educational programme set out in the report of the expert group. The training also includes a critical analysis of the conclusions on positive practices and shortcomings in the Criteria highlighted in the EG report. Participants will improve their ability to determine the level of compliance with the Criterion; reflect the position of the sectoral expert council on the compliance of the educational programme and/or educational activities with the Criteria for assessing the quality of the educational programme, good practices and shortcomings in the text of the expert opinion of the ER; critically analyse the recommendations highlighted in the report of the ER on the Criterion and formulate recommendations in accordance with the SMART approach.

5.1.3 "Training for the heads of sectoral expert councils" (training materials approved by the decision of the National Agency of 24.12.2024, protocol № 22 (72)).

The training is designed to improve the skills of the chairmen and deputy chairmen of the National Agency's sectoral expert councils. The purpose of the training is to enhance the efficiency of the organisation of the work of sectoral expert councils and improve the quality of expert opinions of the SER. exchange of best practices in organising the work of sectoral expert councils. During the training, participants will present best practices from their own experience, formulate recommendations for the effective organisation of the work of the SEC, and improve their skills in preparing SEC expert opinions. The training also focuses on the importance of ethical aspects in the organisation of the work of the PIU. Participants analyse scenarios that may lead to a conflict of interest and discuss ways to resolve them.

5.2 The content of the "Training on writing a report on the results of accreditation examination" for the National Agency's experts was improved (the training materials were approved by the decision of the National Agency of 06.02.2024, Minutes No. 2 (52)).

The training is aimed at improving the ability of experts to analyse and justify conclusions on the fulfilment of the requirements of the Criteria for assessing the quality of an educational programme, to identify exemplary and innovative practices, to identify shortcomings in the criterion and formulate appropriate recommendations, to provide SMART recommendations for improving the educational programme and educational activities within it, to determine and properly justify the level of compliance of the educational programme with the Criterion, to write a "Summary" properly.

6. Developing the content of other training activities

6.1 Development of the content of the UAS QA Pool Training for Students (in cooperation with the Ukrainian Association of Students) - March 2024.

The training is designed for students who are not experts of the National Agency and not only provides participants with theoretical knowledge, but also enables them to master practical skills, forms an understanding of the role and possibilities of students' influence in internal and external quality assurance of education. The training promotes deeper involvement of students in these processes, fosters responsibility and initiative.

The content of the training includes an overview of the regulations, rules and procedures governing the quality of education, a detailed consideration of the tasks, rights, duties and responsibilities of expert group members, with a special emphasis on the specifics of their work; practical exercises and simulations of real meetings held as part of the accreditation examination.

7. Development of methodological materials within the framework of a joint project of the National Agency and the Estonian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (HAKA)

Training materials have been developed as part of a joint project between the National Agency and the Estonian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (HAKA), funded by the Estonian Centre for International Development (ESTDEV):

- for higher education institutions participating in the project: on the preparation of the report

on self-assessment of the activities of a higher institution;

- for experts: recommendations on formulating questions for interviews, conducting interviews, writing a report on the results of the expert assessment (describing best practices, formulating shortcomings and recommendations).

The value and usefulness of the developed materials are not limited to the project. The training materials will be useful for the experts of the National Agency in their further expert activities and for Ukrainian higher education institutions in conducting self-assessment.

8. As part of Optima project, Artem Artyukhov, a member of the National Agency, co-authored chapters 3, 9 and 10 of the manual:

Open scientific practices [Text]: a study guide / Artyukhov A., Artyukhova N., Berezko O., Vesnii A., Volk Y., Gerasymchuk H., Holoshchuk R., Dvornychenko A., Doronina O., Zhezhnych P., Ivashchuk O., Kozlovskiy S., Krakovska S., Kuchma I., Liuta O., Liashenko O., Markiv O., Mashtaler O., Mozolevych H., Orekhova T., Petrushka A., Radio S., Khadzhynov I., Shilling A.; edited by Zhezhnych P., Berezko O. Zhytomyr: Buk-Druk Publishing House LLC, 2024. 400 p.

9. *Development of training videos*

In 2024, Olena Yeremenko, Deputy Head of the National Agency, developed a series of training videos for experts, members of sectoral expert councils and higher education institutions on the implementation of the Regulation on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for Higher Education (2024):

- Report of the expert group: changes in accordance with the new Accreditation Regulations (16.09.2024)⁽¹³⁾;
- Expert opinion of the HER: a few tips in accordance with the new Polo accreditation of the OP (07.10.2024)⁽¹⁴⁾ ;
- Clarification on the application of the Criteria for assessing the quality of an educational programme: new approaches in action (28.11.2024)⁽¹⁵⁾.

Thus, in 2024, the National Agency developed and improved the methodological support that provides the necessary support to experts, members of sectoral expert councils and higher education institutions has been developed.

5.12. Organising and conducting trainings and other events

1. *Organising and conducting trainings for experts*

1.1 Trainings for candidates for experts of the National Agency During 2024, 37 one-day online trainings were held

¹³URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKeZReGXyyw> (accessed 10.02.2025)

¹⁴URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hTuCiHvNayc> (accessed 10.02.2025)

¹⁵URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZhRi-Jti5rk> (accessed 10.02.2025)

for candidates for experts of the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance. A total of 937 people took part in the training (660 academic staff and 276 higher education students). Based on the results of the training, 867 people were recommended for inclusion in the Register of Experts of the National Agency.

1.2 Trainings for heads of expert groups

In 2024, 1 training for heads of expert groups for accreditation of educational programmes was held, as a result of which 22 participants received certificates of the National Agency for Professional Development (1 ECTS credit). The training programme includes consideration of the organisational aspects of the expert group's activities, in particular:

- organisation of the experts' work (communication, division of responsibilities, etc.); work in the form of preliminary results of the examination;
- Interaction with the guarantor of the OP (approval of the visit programme, request for additional documents);
- Planning the visit of the expert group;
- writing a report on the results of the accreditation examination.

1.3 Improvement trainings for experts in accreditation of educational programmes

In total, 11 improvement trainings were held in 2024 for experts in accreditation of educational programmes. They were attended by 151 people (96 academic staff and 55 students). According to the results of the training, 85% of participants received positive feedback from the trainer (6 or more points on a 10-point scale), the average score from the trainer was 7 points (on a 10-point scale). 93% of participants successfully passed the test (60% or more correct answers), with an average score of 74%. The biggest challenges during the trainings were: The experts' lack of understanding of the regulatory framework of the accreditation procedure, the superficiality of the analysis, and the lack of social skills among the experts skills, including knowledge business Ukrainian.

1.4 Trainings on writing an accreditation assessment report In 2024, 12 one-day and 14 two-day trainings were held. The total number of participants was 511. Based on the results of the training, participants received a certificate (1 to 3 ECTS credits). The training is aimed at developing the skills of experts to analyse and justify conclusions on compliance with the requirements of the Criteria for Assessing the Quality of an Educational Programme. Participants will improve their ability to determine the level of compliance with the Criteria, identify positive practices in the educational programme, identify shortcomings and formulate appropriate recommendations. Attention is focused on the following formulas The company's SMART approach is used to make recommendations.

2. Organising and conducting trainings for members of industry expert councils

In 2024, the Training for Members of Sectoral Expert Councils on Preparing and Writing an Expert Opinion of the State Audit Service was introduced and 1 such training was held. The number of participants was 34, : 32 scientific and pedagogical (research) workers, 2 who were elected to the sectoral expert council for the first time. The training programme is focused on the formation and

development of the participants' ability to critically analyse the reliability of the conclusions from the expert group's report on the compliance of the educational programme and educational activities with the Criteria for assessing the quality of the educational programme. Participants develop the ability to evaluate conclusions about positive practices and identified shortcomings, determine the level of compliance of the educational programme with the Criteria and justify the conclusions. The training also includes a detailed analysis of the recommendations set out in the expert group's report and the formulation of the CEA's recommendations using the SMART approach.

3. Organising and conducting other training events

3.1 Webinars for members of industry expert councils

In 2024, 2 webinars were held for the newly elected members of the sectoral expert councils (28 February, 01 April). The rules and procedure for organising the work of the SEC during the accreditation process at each step of the process were reviewed: the general principles of organising and coordinating the SEC, the content of activities, the procedure and timing of each step (components).

On 29 October 2024, the webinar "Regulations on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Applicants: Implementation Peculiarities" was held. Important changes in the new Regulation on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Applicants (2024) and recommendations for the members of the SEC on the organisation of work in the process of accreditation examination were considered, with a focus on changes in the form of the SEC's expert opinion and the rules for applying the "List of Significant Deficiencies" in the process of accreditation examination.

3.2 UAS QA Pool training

In 2024, together with the Ukrainian Association of Students (UAS), 3 trainings were held for students:

- ◊ Ternopil, Western Ukrainian National University, 5-7 April 2024 - 25 participants;
- ◊ Poltava, Poltava State Medical University, 23-25 May 2024 - 44 participants;
- ◊ Kyiv, Mariupol State University, 3-5 October 2024
- 35 participants.

3.3 Workshops

In 2024, 2 workshops on post-accreditation monitoring were held: On 22 August in Chernivtsi by the Deputy Heads of the National Agency Olena Yeremenko and Ivan Nazarov and on 18 September 2024 by the Deputy Heads of the National Agency Ivan Nazarov and Nataliia Stukalo and the Head of the Accreditation Department of the Secretariat's educational programmes Hanna Denyskina. The mechanisms of work and implementation of recommendations received as a result of accreditation and possible problems that may be encountered during the new evaluation processes were considered.

Thus, in 2024, the National Agency organised and conducted trainings and other training events of various kinds for different categories of participants, which provided the necessary support to experts, members of sectoral expert councils and higher education institutions.

5.13. Analytical activities

The National Agency carries out analytical activities in the following areas:

1. Analysis of the results of accreditation examinations;
2. Analysis of data from electronic databases and open statistics on higher education ;
3. Case studies;
4. Analysis of the effectiveness and impact of external quality assurance on the quality of educational activities of higher education institutions.

1. Analysis of the results of accreditation examinations

For the analysis, the materials of accreditation files are used, including self-assessment information prepared by higher education institutions, documents higher education institutions related to quality assurance and implementation of educational programmes, reports of expert groups, expert opinions of the SEG, comments of higher education institutions, and decisions of the agency. The collection, categorisation and structuring are carried out in the course of the examination. The reliability of the sources is assessed during the examination. Data analysis is preceded by checking data completeness and accuracy. The Information and Communication System is used for data storage

"Accreditation", for data processing - the Excel software tool.

In 2024, as part of the regular procedures for analysing the data from accreditation examinations, the following were carried out:

- 1) The number of accreditations for 2024 is analysed, including a comparison of the full and simplified procedures. The distribution of the number of accreditations in each field by levels of higher education is considered, and the specialties with the largest and smallest number of educational programmes for which the National Agency conducted an expert review are highlighted. The distribution of accreditation decisions within each field is analysed. These indicators are compared with 2023.
- 2) The distribution of accreditation decisions by foreign agencies by levels of higher education is analysed.
- 3) Positive practices and problems related to cross-border quality assurance in Ukraine are studied.
- 4) The article analyses how the level of compliance changed from the expert group's report to the expert opinion of the sectoral expert council and to the final decision of the National Agency, and identifies the reasons for such changes.
- 5) An analysis of cases of re-granting conditional accreditation to educational programmes was carried out.

Significantly new opportunities for analysing the quality of educational activities have emerged due to the introduction of a new assessment tool by the agency in August 2024 - the List of Significant Deficiencies (see Section 5.11). This tool was used to analyse the results of the full examination procedure of 415 study programmes were decided in August-December 2024: 15 study programmes (3.6%) of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education, 377 study programmes (90.8%) of the second (master's) level of higher education, 23 study programmes (5.6%) of the third (educational and scientific) level of higher education.

Using List of Material Deficiencies, it was:

- The article examines how often each significant deficiency from the List was identified, how significant deficiencies are distributed in accordance with the Criteria for assessing the quality of an educational programme. Specific educational programmes that have received conditional accreditation are considered, and the significant deficiencies that led to such a decision and their frequency are analysed.
- The author analyses the interrelationships between different criteria and identifies specific combinations of shortcomings that often occur together;
- The distribution of frequencies of significant deficiencies for different levels of higher education is investigated;
- The article analyses the differences in the frequency of significant deficiencies depending on the form of ownership (public, private and municipal higher education institutions);
- The distribution of significant deficiencies by industry (specialty) was studied. The analysis allowed to:
 - To identify a list of the most common problems inherent in painful six industries and levels of higher education;
 - To highlight the differences in the manifestation of significant shortcomings for different levels of higher education and HEIs of different forms of ownership;
 - Identify typical, most common deficiencies for different industries, as well as industry-specific significant deficiencies;
 - Determine whether the high frequency of certain deficiencies in the industry is related to the deficiencies of individual HEIs. In particular, the analysis showed that deficiencies typical for a particular industry are usually distributed evenly among higher education institutions.

The results of the analysis allowed us to identify problematic issues that can become the basis for case studies at the national level, which are planned in accordance with the National Action Plan for Quality Assurance in Higher Education Ukraine for the period 2024-2026.

Detailed results of the analysis are presented in the Report on the Quality of Higher Education in Ukraine in 2024.

For specialised needs, we analysed the frequency of each of the significant shortcomings in specific higher education institutions, which helps to identify institutional problems and provide targeted support (workshops, consultations, etc.).

2. Analysing data from electronic databases and open statistics on higher education institutions

The analysis uses data from the Unified Electronic Database on Education (EDEBO) and open statistics on higher education institutions published in reports and studies prepared by other organisations (in particular, the results of the External Independent Evaluation, graduate employment outcomes, results of participation in international rankings, and indicators of scientific productivity).

analysis was carried out as of the beginning of January 2025:

- the number and types of HEIs delivering higher education programmes by levels, forms of ownership, categories, regional distribution, and concentration of HEIs in certain cities and regions;

- distribution of applicants by specialities and levels, in particular in institutions of different forms of ownership (public, private, municipal);
- distribution of applicants by level of education and sources of funding (budget, contract, other sources);
- regional distribution of ;
- the number of applications and entrants during the admission campaigns, broken down by levels of higher education;
- , gender distribution, academic degrees and academic titles;
- distribution of educational programmes by levels of higher education;
- number and share of accredited educational programmes, breakdown by industry and level of higher education.

The analysis of statistical data from the USE is one of the means for the National Agency to verify data from independent sources. At the same time, the results of this analysis have independent significance. In particular, at the beginning 2024, it was found that for the entire period of the Agency's activity (2019-2024), 21.31% of educational programmes (for which EDEBO had information on students and at least one was enrolled) were accredited under the full procedure, and as of 01.01.2025, 33.59% of all educational programmes had a valid certificate from the National Agency.

3. Case studies

The National Agency conducts separate thematic studies at the national level on topical issues of higher education quality assurance. In 2024, the following analytical materials were prepared.

3.1 Policy Paper "Models, Approaches and Mechanisms for the Implementation of Primary Accreditation at the Institutional and Programme Levels in Different Countries of the European Higher Education Area" (2024). The foreign experience of implementing primary accreditation at the institutional and programme levels is studied. Primary accreditation means any external evaluation (accreditation, authorisation, licensing, etc.) that precedes the opening (granting permission to start educational activities) of an institution (as a higher education institution) or an educational programme (speciality).

The policy brief presents specific examples of countries where primary accreditation is implemented at the institutional or programme level and provides answers to the following questions:

- 1) what external evaluation procedures are required to be passed in order to obtain permission to start educational activities (as a higher education institution / under an educational programme);
- 2) which body carries out the procedure; which body decides on granting permission to start educational activities (as a higher education institution / under an educational programme);
- 3) for which higher education institutions (educational programmes) the permit is mandatory.

In the course of the study, data from open sources were used: regulatory documents of states (Laws "On Higher Education" and documents defining the principles and procedures for external quality assurance of higher education).

education), agency self-assessment reports and ENQA expert reports, information from official agency websites.

Examples of currently existing models for the implementation of initial accreditation at the institutional and programme levels are presented. The study does not cover all models existing in the EHEA.

The results of the study were used to formulate proposals for a model of external quality assurance in education.

3.2 The analytical note summarises the current practice of conducting the Unified State Qualification Examination (USQE) and develops positions and recommendations for improving its content, structure and procedures and their use in the accreditation procedures for educational programmes.

The report covers the analysis of the following aspects:

- regulatory and legal regulation of the certification of students in the form of the EQEP;
- The content of the EDCI programmes;
- test specifications (including predicted complexity); 0 criteria for evaluating the results of the USE;
- structure and forms of reports based on the results of the EDCI (both general analytical report and reports received by HEIs).

In each of these areas, proposals and recommendations are presented to ensure the effectiveness of the ECQE as an instrument for external assessment of the quality of education.

Particular attention is paid to the recommendations on the content of the report on the results of the . Such a report is a strategically important tool for higher education institutions, as it allows for an in-depth analysis of the compliance of students' learning outcomes with the requirements of the ECTS programme and higher education standards, and provides an opportunity to timely identify and eliminate the causes of discrepancies, which is critical to improving the internal system of quality assurance.

The developed recommendations will help to ensure transparency and efficiency of the ECQE procedures, as well as strengthen confidence in the quality of training of students in Ukrainian higher education institutions.

The materials were prepared at the request of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Education, Science and Innovation, presented at the Committee's meeting on 18 December 2024 (https://www.rada.gov.ua/news/news_kom/257064.html) and taken into account by the Committee when deciding on the improvement of the USQE model.

4. Analysis of the effectiveness and impact of external quality assurance on the quality of educational activities of higher education institutions

The National Agency analyses the effectiveness and impact of external provision of expertise of educational programmes. The main sources for this are:

- feedback from participants of accreditation examinations (through a survey of representatives of higher education institutions and experts (Google forms);
- discussions during events (roundtables, forums, conferences); 0 personal interviews with individual representatives (e.g., work or industry experts) for more detailed feedback;

- Comparison of indicators of implementation of recommendations after conditional accreditation, results of the post-accreditation monitoring experiment,
- as well as assessing institutional changes in the internal processes and policies of higher education institutions that have taken place after accreditation.

The results of the surveys conducted in 2024 are presented in the Report on the Quality of Higher Education in Ukraine in 2024.

5. *Using the results of the National Agency's analytical activities*

In 2024, the results of the analysis were used by the National Agency for the

- 1) *Formulating proposals for legislative changes and drafting regulations at the national level (see Section 7);*
- 2) *Formulation of proposals and recommendations at the international level.* For example, the analysis of accreditations conducted by foreign agencies that are members of ENQA in Ukraine revealed facts of accreditation without a visit and for educational programmes with no students, which is a violation of Ukrainian legislation. The ENQA management was informed about this, and the issues were raised and discussed at the annual ENQA-2024 summit (see Report on the Quality of Higher Education in Ukraine in 2024);
- 3) *Improving accreditation procedures and assessment tools.* For example, the analysis of the IA decisions on accreditation under the full and simplified procedures revealed a significant difference in certain sectors, which showed the need to clarify the criteria for granting permission for accreditation under the simplified procedure, which resulted in amendments to the Temporary Procedure for Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Applicants under Martial Law (for more details, see Section 4 and Section 5.5 of Chapter 5). Another example is that the results of the analysis of changes in the level of compliance at different stages of the accreditation examination showed the need to improve the assessment tools to ensure a unified approach to assessment, which was done by the National Agency in 2024 by introducing the "List of Significant Deficiencies".
- 4) *Improvement of methodological and instructional materials and training content (see Section 5.11).*
- 5) *Encouraging higher education institutions to improve the quality of educational programmes.*

Higher education institutions can use the results of the analysis to:

- 1) identification and correction of deficiencies;
- 2) integration of positive practices and innovative approaches from other higher education institutions;
- 3) adjusting educational programmes to the needs of the labour market and adapting to social challenges (inclusiveness, improving the professional development of teachers);
- 4) development of internal systems for ensuring the quality of education (adjustments

The University is committed to improving its internal policies and procedures, improving feedback from students, teachers, alumni, and employers;)

- 5) assessing the impact of changes on the quality of education in a higher institution;
- 6) Strategic planning (analysis by sector and level of higher education provides information on systemic problems in the sector, which makes it possible to anticipate and reduce the risks of these shortcomings in higher education institutions).

Feedback from higher education institutions on the implementation of recommendations based on the results of analytical activities was provided through the following mechanisms: meetings with representatives of higher education institutions, surveys, post-accreditation monitoring, analysis of the elimination of institutional shortcomings during the next period of examinations.

6. Dissemination of analytical results

The National Agency has a comprehensive policy of disseminating the results of its analytical activities, which includes the following activities: publication of analytical reports, dissemination of information through social networks, NAQA projects, presentations and discussions at events of various levels.

The agency publishes an annual report:

- *Annual report on the work of the National Agency*, which contains the main results of the agency's activities for the year, including international initiatives, internal processes and legislative changes initiated by the NA in the field of higher education quality (achievements, challenges, problems and recommendations);
- *Report on the quality of higher education in Ukraine*, its compliance with the tasks of sustainable innovative development of society.

Access to reliable and objective analytical information in the field of higher education quality assurance for all stakeholders is provided

by publishing it on the official website of the agency¹⁶, availability of the format (pdf), availability of translation (annual reports on the work of the agency and the Report on the Quality of Higher Education in Ukraine are translated into English), which allows to familiarise international partners, experts, members of the Advisory Council, other stakeholders with the results of the analysis, and provides the possibility of independent evaluation.

Organisation and holding of events (webinars, seminars, forums, trainings) and participation of the National Agency's management in events organised by partners provide an opportunity to present and discuss the results of analytical research (see Section 3). Platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn are also used to disseminate information.

The management of the National Agency reports annually to the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Education, Science and Innovation. In addition, stakeholders can provide individually by sending suggestions via official e-mail.

Thus, the National Agency regularly (systematically) uses the results of external quality assurance activities,

¹⁶URL: <https://bit.ly/43wTE2m> (accessed 10.02.2025)

and other sources for analysing the quality of educational activities of higher education institutions and ensures effective dissemination of the results of analytical activities. In early 2024, the National Agency identified the need to expand the content of analytical activities to substantiate effective management decisions, develop strategies, forecasts and improve policies in the field of quality assurance. In this regard, a separate structural unit of the Secretariat, the Analytical and Training Support Sector (Department), was created to deal with these tasks. The results of the units activities in 2024 demonstrate the effectiveness of this decision.

The use of the tool "List of Significant Shortcomings" has significantly improved the procedures for analysing the quality of educational activities of higher education institutions. In the future, the study of dynamics and interrelationships, as well as further in-depth qualitative analysis, will allow developing differentiated recommendations, identifying trends, patterns, causes and making predictions about the future state of higher education at the national level. It will also allow to assess the impact of the recommendations provided by the accreditation results on the internal quality assurance systems of higher education institutions.

5.14. Publishing activities

In 2024, the National Agency Quality Assurance in Higher Education received the status of a publishing entity in accordance with Article 14 of the Law of Ukraine "On Publishing". Type of activity in publishing: publishing (certificate of inclusion of the business entity in the State Register of Publishers, Manufacturers and Distributors of Publishing Products, series DK No. 8170). The publisher's identifier in the ISBN system 95459. The publications of the National Agency cover the issues of ensuring the quality of education, analysis of the current state and trends in the development of higher education in Ukraine.

The following materials were produced and published during the reporting period:

1. Methodological guide:

Explanations on the application of the Criteria for assessing the quality of the educational programme: a methodological guide [Electronic edition] / A. Butenko, H. Denyskina, O. Yeremenko, O. Knysh, I. Simshag, O. Trebenko - Kyiv : National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance, 2024. 127 p.

International standard number of a book, music publication	978-617-95459-0-0
Abstracts.	The publication contains relevant recommendations for the evaluation of educational programmes in accordance with the standards of external quality assurance, recommendations for justifying the presence of deficiencies, references to the legislation of Ukraine

	and international recommendations, as well as a detailed description of the requirements for the internal support system, the educational programme and educational activities under it. The manual will be useful for experts of the National Agency, members of sectoral councils, secretariat staff and all those working to improve the quality of higher education.
Language of the publication	Ukrainian
Volume	in the accounting and publishing sheets: 12,41 in printed sheets reduced to 60x90 cm format: 13,34

The electronic edition is available on the official website of the National Agency¹⁷.

Cooperation in publishing. In 2024, at the initiative of the management The National Agency (A.P. Butenko, O.V. Yeremenko, N.V. Stukalo) in cooperation with the Kyiv National Linguistic University prepared and approved the publication for publication:

Thesaurus of Terms in the Field of Quality Assurance in Higher Education: Ukrainian-English / English-Ukrainian Parallels / Edited by Butenko A.P., Vasko R.V., Yeremenko O.V., Koroliova A.V., Stukalo N.V. Kyiv: KNLU Publishing Centre. ISBN (Print) 978-966-638-397-9, ISBN (Online) 978-966-638-396-2

The Thesaurus of Terms in the Field of Higher Education Quality Assurance: Ukrainian-English/English-Ukrainian Parallels is addressed to higher education institutions and research institutions of Ukraine that are integrating into the European Higher Education Area and the European Research Area, actively pursuing the process of internationalisation of higher education and monitoring the quality of all areas of their activities through the accreditation of educational programmes.

The specialist of the Secretariat of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education participated in the computer layout and design of the printed and electronic editions.

Thus, 2024, having received the status of a publishing entity, the National Agency successfully implemented a publishing project aimed at improving the quality of educational activities. This project provided the necessary methodological support for experts, members of sectoral expert councils, secretariat staff and all stakeholders in higher education.

5.15. Publications of the National Agency

1. Thesaurus of terms in the field of quality assurance of higher education: Ukrainian-English / English-Ukrainian parallels / Edited by Butenko A.P.,

¹⁷URL: <https://bit.ly/4gG5Yki> (accessed 10.02.2025)

Vasko R.V., Yeremenko O.V., Koroliova A.V., Stukalo N.V. Kyiv: KNLU Antiquities Centre, 2024. 99 p. // Compilers: Avsheniuk N. M., Belya V. ., Butenko A. P., Hnezdilova Y. V., Hryshchuk Y. V., Yeremenko O. V., Zinchenko H. ., Izotova N. P., Nikitchenko K. P., Pinich I. P., Stukalo N. V., Tikhomirova O. V., Chernysh V. V.

2. Eremenko, O. V., Butenko, A. P., & Stukalo, N. V. (2024). Formation of the terminology system of the new paradigm of quality assurance in higher education: European integration aspect. *New Philology*, (95), 21-29.
<https://doi.org/10.26661/2414-1135-2024-95-3>
3. National Educational Glossary: Higher Education (4th ed., revised and supplemented) / Edited by V.E. Bakhrushyn, M.I. Vynnytskyi, V.M. Zakharchenko, I.O. Zolotarova, S.A. Kalashnikova, V.I. Lugovyi, M.R. Mruga, Yu. Rashkevych, I.M. Sikorska, A.V. Stavytskyi, Zh.V. Talanova, S.P. Shitikova / Edited by V.G. Kremen, V.E. Bakhrushin, Yu. Rashkevich. 2024. - 114 c. ISBN 978-617-7486-41-0
4. Artyukhov, A., Lapidus, A., Yeremenko, O., Artyukhova, N., & Churikanova, O. (2024). An R Studio Bibliometrix Analysis of Global Research Trends of Educational Crises in 2020s. *SocioEconomic Challenges*, 8(2), 88-108.
[https://doi.org/10.61093/sec.8\(2\).88-108.2024](https://doi.org/10.61093/sec.8(2).88-108.2024)
5. Artyukhov, A., Lapidus, A., Yeremenko, O., Artyukhova, N., & Churikanova, O. (2024). Educational Resilience Through the Armed Conflicts: A Bibliometric Analysis. *Business Ethics and Leadership*, 8(2), 164-183.
[http://doi.org/10.61093/bel.8\(2\).164-183.2024](http://doi.org/10.61093/bel.8(2).164-183.2024)
6. Artyukhov, A., Yeremenko, O., Artyukhova, N., Lapidus, A., Churikanova, O., & Bliumska-Danko, K. (2024). Educational Reforms and Healthcare Competitiveness through Data-Driven Analysis. *Health Economics and Management Review*, 5(3), 92-112. <https://doi.org/10.61093/hem.2024.3-07>
7. Artyukhova N., Vorontsova A., Artyukhov A., Yehorova Y., Vasić S., Rubanov P. and Vasylieva T. (2024). Analysis of trends in the structure of higher education market of European countries. *Knowledge and Performance Management*, 8(2), 91-108. doi:10.21511/kpm.08(2).2024.08
8. Artyukhov, A. (2024). UNIVERSITY SYSTEM FOR ENSURING ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: STRUCTURE AND ROLE OF STAKEHOLDERS. *Baltic Journal of Legal and Social Sciences*, (1), 261-267.
<https://doi.org/10.30525/2592-8813-2024-1-32>
9. Artyukhov, A. (2025). MYTHS OF ACADEMIC (MIS)CONDUCT AND INTEGRITY. *Baltic Journal of Legal and Social Sciences*, (3), 253-260.
<https://doi.org/10.30525/2592-8813-2024-3-28>
10. Artyukhov, A. (2024). MARKETING OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: WIDER AND DEEPER THAN SIMPLE ADVERTISING. *Baltic Journal of Legal and Social Sciences*, (2), 104-113.
<https://doi.org/10.30525/2592-8813-2024-2-14>

11. Volk, I., Artyukhov, A., Artyukhova, N., Dluhopolskyi, O., Dluhopolska T., Kuznyetsova, A. Model of Immersive Educational Instruments of Behavioural Analysis and Management in Distributed Educational Teams. 2024 14th International Conference on Advanced Computer Information Technologies (ACIT), Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic, 2024, pp. 848-853, <https://doi.org/10.1109/ACIT62333.2024.10712486>
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13. Okulich-Kazarin, V.; Artyukhov, A.; Skowron,.; Artyukhova, N.; Wołowiec, T. When Artificial Intelligence Tools Meet "Non-Violent" Learning Environments (SDG 4.3): Crossroads with Smart Education. Sustainability 2024, 16, 7695. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su16177695>
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6. ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY IN THE FIELD OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY



In 2024, the National Agency continued to fulfil the tasks assigned to it by the legislation of Ukraine to create a space and culture of academic integrity, assess and respond to violations of academic integrity.

The Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education" entrusts the National Agency with the task of having an Ethics Committee to review issues of academic integrity violations (Article 19, paragraph 9). Also, the legislation of Ukraine entrusts the National Agency with the following:

- consideration of complaints and reports of violations of academic integrity in dissertations resulting in the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Candidate (Doctor) of Sciences;
- termination of the decision of a one-time specialised academic council to confer the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in case of establishing facts of academic plagiarism, fabrication, falsification in the qualification work of a candidate for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in accordance with the law (Article 6, paragraph 6 of the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education");
- establishing, in accordance with the law, the facts of academic plagiarism, fabrication or falsification in accordance with the procedure approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

In 2024, the National Agency received 49 complaints/notifications of academic plagiarism, fabrication or falsification in theses for the degrees of Candidate of Sciences (23) and Doctor of Sciences (26) defended in Ukraine (hereinafter - complaints).

In accordance with the requirements of the Procedure for Reviewing Complaints/Reports on Facts of Academic Plagiarism, Fabrication, Falsification (hereinafter - the Procedure) (<https://bit.ly/3QCQnHb>), the authorised unit of the National Agency's secretariat θ checks complaints for compliance with clauses 3-7 of the Procedure (according to clause 8 of the Procedure);

- verify the information contained in the complaints regarding the presence of academic plagiarism, fabrication, falsification in dissertations and/or scientific publications that cover the scientific results of dissertations using appropriate software (in accordance with clause 12);
- provided technical and informational support to the Ethics Committee meetings (in particular, 31 minutes of the meetings were drawn up);
- provide the results of the audits to the Chairman of the Ethics Committee (in accordance with clauses 8 and 13);
- publish information on accepted complaints and committee decisions on the official website of the National Agency (in accordance with clauses 10, 15, 22);
- Informed stakeholders about the decisions taken and meetings of the Ethics Committee, decisions taken and meetings of the National Agency for Complaints (in accordance with clauses 10, 15, 24).

2024:

- following the National Agency's appeal to the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (hereinafter - MES), the MES Attestation Board in 2024 did not make any decision to revoke the degree;
- 24 complaints were left without consideration by the Ethics Committee, and the complainants were informed of this and provided with explanations of the requirements of the Procedure that were not met when filing complaints;
- 25 complaints were accepted for consideration by the Ethics Committee, of which:
 - in three complaints, the National Agency made a decision to appeal to the Ministry of Education and Science to revoke the academic degree;
 - one complaint was suspended in accordance with a court decision; 9 nine complaints (concerning theses defended before 06.09.2014) were temporarily suspended (in terms of review and verification) in accordance with the decision of the National Agency dated 23.07.2024;
 - ten complaints are reviewed to verify the information contained in the complaints regarding the presence of academic plagiarism, fabrication, falsification in dissertations and/or scientific publications that present the scientific results of dissertations using appropriate ;
 - two complaints were referred to the Ethics Committee.

It is worth recalling that in Ukraine, according to the current legislation, academic integrity is considered a mandatory component of the quality of educational activities, which determines the logic of the state in delegating relevant tasks and powers to the National Agency.

In accordance with Article 6 of the Law of Ukraine "On Education", integrity is among the basic principles of state policy in the field of education and principles of educational activity, as well as academic freedom, transparency and publicity of making and implementing management decisions, responsibility and accountability of educational entities to society, etc. Higher education institutions are obliged to have an internal system of quality assurance of higher education, including an approved policy of ensuring compliance with academic integrity by participants in the educational process (Article 32 of the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education"). The duties of research and teaching, scientific and pedagogical staff include, among other things, to observe academic integrity in the educational process and scientific (creative) activity and to ensure its observance by higher education students (Article 58 of the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education"). Persons enrolled in higher education institutions are obliged, among other things, to fulfil the requirements of the educational (scientific) programme, adhering to academic integrity, and to achieve the learning outcomes defined for relevant level of higher education (Article 63 of the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education").

It is worth emphasising that, given the tasks of the National Agency, defined by the legislation, its participation in the formation of the space for compliance with the principles and rules of academic integrity is not limited to the consideration of complaints and reports of its violation in scientific works, according to which

degrees were awarded. The main focus of the National Agency is the accreditation of educational programmes. It is not possible to evaluate an educational programme and/or educational activities of a higher education institution under this programme to ensure and improve the quality of higher education without taking into account the internal policies and rules of the relevant higher education institution in the field of academic integrity.

That is why, as part of the accreditation of each educational programme in a higher education institution, the National Agency assesses the success of the formation of principles and practices of academic integrity in the relevant institution. For example, when assessing an educational programme for compliance with sub-criterion 5.4 (Criteria for assessing the quality of an educational programme - Annex 1 to the Regulations on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Applicants, approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine No. 686 of 15 May 2024), it is mandatory to take into account and evaluate:

- how the higher education institution has defined clear and understandable policies, standards and procedures for maintaining academic integrity, which are consistently followed by all participants in the educational process;
- as a higher education institution, promotes academic integrity (primarily through its implementation in the quality culture of the higher education institution) and uses appropriate technological solutions as tools to counteract violations of academic integrity.

As part of the assessment of the educational programme for compliance with the sub-criterion

10.7 takes into account and evaluates how the higher education institution ensures compliance with academic integrity in the professional activities of scientific (creative) supervisors and graduate students (adjuncts), in particular, takes measures to prevent the exercise of scientific (creative) supervision by persons who have committed violations of academic integrity.

The practice of reviewing complaints about violations of academic integrity in scientific papers, the defence of which resulted in the award of degrees, and the evaluation of higher education institutions during the accreditation of educational programmes (in 2024, 2518 educational programmes were accredited by the National Agency) on the formation of a culture of academic integrity, detection and response to its violations enable the National Agency to formulate proposals to current legislation, change its own rules and regulations, and

The National Agency took part in the adoption of amendments to the resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on the training and certification of scientific and pedagogical and scientific personnel (approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on 3 May 2024, № 507), which specify the procedures and grounds for reviewing and establishing the fact of violation of academic integrity in dissertations for which degrees were awarded. To implement the changes in the legislation, the internal Procedure for Reviewing Complaints/Messages on Academic Plagiarism, Fabrication, and Falsification was updated. Following consideration of a letter from the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights

No. 42229.4/K/1059.7/24/40.2 dated 17.07.2024, which drew attention to gaps and contradictions in the legislation, the National Agency was

It was decided to temporarily suspend the review and consideration of complaints/reports on violations of academic integrity in doctoral (PhD) theses defended before 06.09.2014 until the circumstances and facts set out in the letter of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights are examined and the National Agency makes a decision.

With the participation of representatives of the National Agency, work continued on the draft Law of Ukraine "On Academic Integrity", which was adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine as a basis on 06.06.2024, and its preparation for the second reading began. The importance of this draft law cannot be overestimated in the context of ensuring the quality of education (including higher education). Therefore, we support the intention of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to recognise academic integrity as an important prerequisite for conducting quality educational and scientific (creative) activities, obtaining quality education, ensuring trust in learning outcomes and scientific (creative) achievements, as well as fostering respect for human honour and dignity. The draft law proposes to emphasise the basic values and define the basic principles and rules of academic integrity, legal and organisational mechanisms for its formation and maintenance, the main signs and types of violations of academic integrity and measures to respond to such violations. More details on the proposals of the draft law can be found in Section 7.

7. LEGISLATIVE CHANGES IN THE SYSTEM OF QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN 2024



7.1. Formulation of proposals for legislative support of higher education quality

According to part two of Article 18 of the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education" The National Agency annually develops proposals for legislative support of the quality of higher education.

The functioning of Ukrainian higher education in the context of martial law and rapid socio-economic transformations requires timely improvement of the regulatory framework for ensuring the quality of higher education and the activities of individual educational institutions, including the activities of specialised academic councils.

The year 2024 was marked by the adoption by public authorities of a number of regulations developed and initiated by the National Agency. The development of these acts was carried out taking into account the needs of the higher education quality assurance system, the academic community, the requirements of time and the progress of higher education reform.

On 02 May 2023, the Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine on Quality Assurance in Higher Education" (hereinafter referred to as Law No. 3062-IX) came into force, amending the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education", the Law of Ukraine "On Prevention of Corruption", the Law of Ukraine "On Education" and the Law of Ukraine "On Civil Service". The Law No. 3062-IX was aimed at improving the Ukrainian system of quality assurance in higher education, harmonising Ukrainian national legislation with EU law, including the implementation of the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG-2015). The implementation of Law No. 3062-IX involved amending a number of bylaws and developing new acts, which were developed and finalised in 2023-2024.

These legislative innovations changed certain powers of the National Agency, defined the status and improved the procedure for forming the composition of the National Agency, changed the form and validity of certificates of accreditation of educational programmes, established a procedure for post-accreditation monitoring of accreditation of educational programmes and institutional accreditation, and a procedure for pre-trial appeal of decisions of the National Agency.

The most important for the higher education system was the adoption by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine of a new version of the Regulation on Accreditation of Educational Programmes for the Training of Higher Education Applicants, approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine of 15.05.2024 № 686.

This Regulation is an expression of established practice and the real needs of the higher education quality assurance system. In particular, the conceptual and categorical apparatus of accreditation of educational programmes has been changed and improved, the stages of the accreditation procedure, the procedure for determining

forms of accreditation of educational programmes. The new Regulation defines the procedure for registration of certificates of accreditation of educational programmes issued by foreign accreditation agencies and quality assessment institutions recognised in Ukraine, improves the procedure for contractual relations, defines the peculiarities of accreditation of coordinated and interdisciplinary educational programmes and programmes, It also defined the procedure for post-monitoring of educational programmes, improved the criteria for evaluating educational programmes, determined the possibility of combining educational programmes in different fields and specialities within one procedure, the procedure for involving foreign experts in accreditation, etc.

The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 5 March 2024 № 244 "On Approval of the Procedure for the Registration, Re-registration, Issuance, Storage and Accounting of Certificates of Accreditation of Educational Programmes and Forms of Such Certificates", which was developed and initiated by the National Agency, is of great importance in improving the legislation in the field of higher education quality assurance.

The new version of the Procedure not only brought it in line with the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education" the validity of certificates, but also changed the form of certificates of accreditation of educational programmes, defined the form of a certificate conditional accreditation, improved the procedure for reissuing certificates of accreditation and determined the actions of the National Agency in relation to accreditation certificates in case the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine changes the list of specialisations. Also, at the initiative of the National Agency, on 23 January 2024, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine adopted a resolution № 71 "On Amendments to the Charter of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education".

The new version of the Charter brought the statutory powers of the National Agency and the procedure for appealing against the National Agency's decisions in line with the current legislation.

As mentioned above, the amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education" provided for an improved procedure for appealing against the decisions of the National Agency. However, the Regulation on the Appeals Chamber of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education, approved by the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine of 21.12.2023 № 1551, required improvement immediately after its state registration by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, as the Charter of the National Agency was amended after it came into force. In this regard, the National Agency developed a draft order of the Ministry of Education and Science "On Approval of Amendments to the Regulations on the Appeals Chamber of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education" No. 766 of 28.05.2024, registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on 11.06.2024 under № 882/42227. This act brought the Regulation on the Appeals Chamber of the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance in line with the requirements of the current legislation and improved the procedure for holding a competition for membership in the Appeals Chamber.

The year 2024 was also marked by the improvement of legislation in the field of training and certification of academic and research staff.

On 03 May 2024, at the initiative of the National Agency and the Ministry of Education and Science, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine adopted a resolution "On Amendments to the

Some Resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on Training and Certification of Scientific and Pedagogical and Scientific Personnel".

The draft act has been prepared pursuant to Law No. 3062-IX and the Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine on the Regulation of Certain Issues of Awarding Academic Degrees and Licensing of Educational Activities" No. 1369-IX dated 30.03.2021.

The Act amended the Procedure for Awarding the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy and cancelled the decision of a one-time specialised academic council of a higher education institution or research institution to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, approved by the Resolution of the Cabinet Ministers of Ukraine of 12 January 2022.

№ 44, in particular to bring it in line with the Law of Ukraine

"On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine on Ensuring the Quality of Higher Education No. 3062-IX dated 02.05.2023, regarding the establishment of the Committee on Activities of One-time Specialised Academic Councils within the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education, which is responsible for considering appeals, applications and complaints regarding violations of the procedure for defending a dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy established by law. The Act optimised the procedure for certification of applicants for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, as well as the procedure for consideration by the National Agency for Higher Education Quality Assurance of issues related to the cancellation of a one-time decision of a council to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in connection with the discovery of facts of academic plagiarism, fabrication, falsification in a dissertation or scientific publications that cover the scientific results of the dissertation.

In addition, amendments were made to the Procedure for Awarding and Revoking the Degree of Doctor of Sciences, approved by the Resolution of the Cabinet Ministers of Ukraine of 17 November 2021. № 1197, in order to regulate the National Agency's powers to consider appeals with information on academic plagiarism, fabrication, falsification in dissertations, scientific publications credited on its topic, in respect of which the MES issued an order to cancel the decision of the doctoral council to award the degree of Doctor of Sciences, decided to deprive a person of a degree, issued an order to cancel the decision of the relevant council to confer a degree and to invalidate the relevant diploma due to the person's refusal to obtain a degree, and to inform the MES of the National Agency of such decisions.

In view of the powers granted by Ukrainian legislation to terminate the decisions of specialised academic councils to award the degree of Doctor of Philosophy and to establish facts of academic plagiarism, fabrication and falsification in defended dissertations of a Doctor of Science, Candidate of Science, the National Agency pays special attention to the issue of improving legislation in the field of academic integrity.

In 2024, representatives of the National Agency participated in the work of the working group on preparation for the second reading of the draft Law of Ukraine "On Academic Integrity", registration number № 10392 of 08.01.2024. The draft law passed the first reading and was adopted as a basis by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on 06.06.2024.

The draft Law of Ukraine "On Academic Integrity", if adopted, will become one of the basic laws in the field of education and science. The draft law does not

only supplements and specifies the mechanism of legal regulation of relations in the field of academic integrity, as defined in Article 42 of the Law of Ukraine "On Education", but will become an effective tool for regulating relations between all participants in the educational and scientific process and will be important for the development of the system of quality assurance in education (including higher education).

The main innovations envisaged by Draft Law 10392:

- 1) The Draft Law consists of 6 Chapters, 39 Articles, Final and Transitional Provisions and provides for amendments to 12 other Laws of Ukraine in the context of academic integrity.
- 2) The draft law proclaims 7 values and defines the basic principles and rules of academic integrity, mechanisms for its formation and enforcement, types of violations of academic integrity and responsibilities for such violations
- 3) All the provisions of the draft law can be effectively applied at all levels of education, with a number of provisions being highlighted to take into account the specifics of individual levels of education or types of academic activity.
- 4) The academic integrity system should become a mandatory component of the internal quality assurance system of any educational or research institution.
- 5) The main principle of academic integrity is the priority of ensuring compliance with the academic integrity of students through training, education, stimulation and encouragement, rather than through responsibility.
- 6) The draft law brings the concept and list of types of violations of academic integrity in line with the needs of the present. It also defines measures aimed at combating violations of academic integrity. Such measures include: educational measures; bringing to academic and/or disciplinary responsibility; responding to violations of academic integrity in competitions; institutional response measures.
- 7) The effect of the law in relation to the innovations envisaged by the draft law is clearly defined:
 - the new rules on academic integrity provided for by the draft law do not apply to acts committed before it came into force and were not considered to be a violation of academic integrity at the time their commission;
 - for violations of academic integrity committed before the law came into force, the offender may be subject to the type of liability that was provided for by law at the time of its commission.

7.2. Appeals Chamber and legislative changes in appealing against decisions of the National Agency

In 2024, there were changes in the legislation of Ukraine not only in the accreditation of educational programmes, but also in the procedure for appealing against the relevant decisions of the National Agency. A new mechanism was created to ensure

of this possibility is the Appeals Chamber. In order to understand the grounds for such changes, it is worth referring to the norms and explanations of the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG-2015). For example, paragraph 2.7 of the ESG-2015 states that complaints and appeals processes should be clearly defined as part of the model of external quality assurance processes and communicated to institutions. The following recommendation is provided to clarify this rule:

- Institutions should have access to processes that enable them to raise concerns with agencies;
- agencies should handle such matters professionally through a clearly defined process;
- The appeal procedure allows the institution to express its dissatisfaction with the conduct of the process or those who conducted it.
- in the appeal procedure, the institution questions the official conclusions of the process (the conclusion is not based on sound evidence; the criteria were not applied correctly; the processes were not consistently implemented).

The National Agency consistently implements standards and recommendations for quality assurance in the European Higher Education Area both by initiating relevant changes in Ukrainian legislation and in its own practice. Thus, from the very beginning of the National Agency's work, at the request of the then current version of the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education" and ESG-2015, the Appeals Committee has been operating within the National Agency 2019 to ensure the right of higher education institutions to appeal against the decisions of the National Agency.

Since 2019, the Appeals Committee has reviewed 36 complaints against the decisions of the National Agency, as well as against the decisions of its structural units, both within the framework of accreditation procedures and in other areas of the National Agency's activities. Three complaints were upheld and the relevant decisions of the National Agency were cancelled.

However, the procedure and method of appealing against the decisions of National Agency, as provided by the legislation of Ukraine at the time of its creation, were not ideal and required increased opportunities for all . That is why the National Agency initiated amendments to the legislation on the formation of a new model for appealing decisions on accreditation of educational programmes and participated in the development of relevant amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education" and bylaws. As a result of the fruitful work of all stakeholders, the model of appealing against decisions of the National Agency was changed, and the relevant changes to the legislation came into force in 2024.

In accordance with the requirements of the updated part 10 of Article 19 of the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education":

- In order to ensure the possibility of appealing against the decisions of the National Agency, a five-member Appeals Chamber is formed, which cannot include members of the National Agency;
- the procedure for forming the composition of the Appeals Chamber and its powers are determined by the Regulation on the Appeals Chamber, which is approved by the central executive body in the field of education and science;

- The Appeals Chamber considers appeals against decisions of the National Agency and, based on the results of the consideration, issues a reasoned decision that may terminate the appealed decision of the National Agency;
- in case of termination of the National Agency's decision, the relevant issue shall be re-considered at its next meeting.

The meaning of these changes is that, unlike the Appeals Committee, which consisted exclusively of members of the National Agency, the Appeals Committee is formed by the Competition Commission, which consists of representatives of various bodies and organisations on the basis of an open and transparent competition, from persons who cannot be members of the National Agency or its sectoral expert councils. This maximises the objectivity of decision-making and minimises the effect of conflicts of interest. The members of Appeals Chamber are elected as persons who must have a higher education, academic degree and/or academic title and at least five years of professional experience in the field of higher education quality assurance, and such high requirements ensure professional and professional discussion of issues and decision-making. The members of the Appeals Chamber perform their functions on the basis of civil law contracts concluded with them, which should encourage the best representatives of the educational and scientific environment to participate in the competition. The powers and the procedure for their exercise by the Appeals Chamber are determined by the Regulation on the Appeals Chamber approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, which guarantees their certainty and observance. In case of disagreement with the decision of the Appeals Chamber, the National Agency may confirm its previous decision by two-thirds of its members, which minimises the possibility of an erroneous decision and preserves the independence of the accreditation body.

Subsequently, in compliance with the requirements of the Law, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine approved the Regulations on the Appeals Chamber of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (21 December 2023, No. 1551), which entered into force after its registration by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine (05 February 2024, No. 179/41524).

This provision specifies the procedure for forming the Appeals Chamber, its powers and the procedure for their exercise, and, in particular, attention should be paid to the following:

- 1) The grounds for appealing against the decisions of the National Agency to the Appeals Chamber are as follows:
 - violation of the procedure for consideration and decision-making by the National Agency;
 - the decision of the National Agency on the basis of documents containing false information, which was not known at the time of the decision;
 - decision-making by the National Agency on accreditation of an educational programme, conditional (deferred) accreditation, re-accreditation examination or refusal to accredit the relevant educational programme, as well as decisions based on the results of post-accreditation monitoring or institutional accreditation with

violation of the requirements and criteria set forth in the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education", the Regulations on Accreditation of Educational Programmes, and the Regulations on Institutional Accreditation of Higher Education Institutions.

- 2) An appeal against a decision of the National Agency may be filed with the Appeals Chamber by any person whose rights and interests are affected by the decision under appeal.
- 3) The Appeals Chamber considers an appeal against a decision of the National Agency no later than 30 calendar days from the date of its receipt.
- 4) Following the consideration of an appeal against a decision of the National Agency, the Appeals Chamber, by a majority of its members, makes a reasoned decision on the following:
 - termination of the National Agency's decision;
 - dismissal of an appeal against a decision of the National Agency.
- 5) In case the Appeals Chamber terminates the decision of the National Agency, the relevant issue shall be reconsidered at its next meeting.
- 6) The National Agency shall, upon consideration of the issue on which the decision was suspended by the Appeals Chamber, make one of the following decisions:
 - on confirmation of the previous decision of the National Agency;
 - to make a new decision based on the findings of the Appeals Chamber.

The National Agency confirms its preliminary decision by two-thirds of its members.

In accordance with the requirements of the Law and the Regulations on the Appeals Chamber, in July 2024, the National Agency approved the composition of the Competition Commission for the Selection of Members of the Appeals Chamber, which included two persons appointed by the National Agency (from among the members of the National Agency), one person delegated by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, one person delegated by the Joint Representative Body of the All-Ukrainian Association of Employers' Organisations and one person from the National Association of Students of Ukraine, a member of the European Union. In August 2024, the National Agency announced a competition for the Appeals Chamber. In October 2024, based on the results of the competition, the National Agency approved the first composition of the Appeals Chamber, which began its work and is ready to consider appeals against the decisions of the National Agency.

7.3. Concept of modernisation of the system of external quality assurance of higher education in Ukraine

One of the important tasks that the team of the National Agency worked on in the reporting year was the development of a concept for modernising the system of external quality assurance in higher education. This need was caused by the development of the existing model, the existing experience of both the Agency and the

and Ukrainian universities, as well as the fact that the current model was developed more than 10 years ago in different political and economic realities. In July 2024, the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education set up a working group to develop a proposal to update the system of external quality assurance in higher education in Ukraine, as well as the parameters of institutional accreditation, which included representatives of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, student and public organisations, public and private higher education institutions, and of different regions of Ukraine, including displaced universities.

During the second half of 2024, a number of meetings of this working group took place, and the work resulted in a conceptual model for modernising the external quality assurance system, which provides for the expansion of types of external quality assurance, including primary accreditation, educational audit/evaluation, accreditation of programmes that provide micro-qualifications, accreditation of cluster/programme groups, and institutional accreditation.

The proposed model envisages the launch of independent assessment institutions that will be able to evaluate VLEs, groups of VLEs, and programmes that provide micro-qualifications.

It is also proposed that the accreditation certificates of CBs issued by foreign agencies are recognised in Ukraine only if the foreign agencies comply with the requirements of the EQAR key considerations for Cross-Border QA and the national legislation of Ukraine.

For more information about the Concept of Modernisation of the System of External Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Ukraine, please see the Report on the Quality of Higher Education in Ukraine in 2024 and the website of the National Agency at the link: <https://bit.ly/4iXQae6>.

FINAL WORD



In the Annual Report of the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education, we have covered our main activities in all areas of work defined by the legislation of Ukraine and the Agency's Charter, trying to show not only statistical data, but also the essence and importance of the tasks performed. Based on the strategy and mission of the

National Agency, our team

Through its work, the Centre is trying to achieve the main goal of bringing the quality assurance system of higher education in Ukraine in line with international standards.

It remains an important task for us to maintain a balance between necessary control and providing recommendations for improving the quality assurance systems of higher education. On the way to achieving this goal, the team carries out significant daily routine work. In particular, despite the growing number of educational programmes undergoing accreditation procedures, the National Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education continues to improve regulations designed to strengthen the institutional capacity of the external quality assurance system in Ukraine and ensure its full compliance with international standards.

The Agency continues to work intensively to educate all those involved in improving our higher education, develops new methodological and educational materials, and conducts training events, despite the difficult conditions in the entire Ukrainian education system has to work.

The quantitative figures in this report often impress our international partners.

And the National Agency's team sees the potential for further growth, thanking the defenders of Ukraine for the opportunity to exercise the powers and tasks provided for by law.

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