

# ***Strengthening university autonomy and increasing accountability and transparency of Western Balkans Universities (STAND)***

**Kick off Meeting  
3-5 March, 2021**

**Aleksandër Moisiu University  
Durrës**

**Besiana Elezi**



## Overview

- **Aleksandër Moisiu University Durrës (UAMD) was established on December 20th, 2005;**
- **To date, UAMD encounters more than 20 000 students;**
- **6 Faculties – Faculty of Business, Faculty of Information Technology, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Political and Juridical Sciences, Faculty of Professional Studies, Faculty of Integrated Studies with Practice (FASTIP);**
- **Study programs - 42 bachelor, 25 Professional Master and 19 Master of Science, 10 Professional diplomas available;**
- **Degrees are offered in two languages (Albanian and English) and the evaluation system is based on the European Credits Transfer System (ECTS) and the American Credit System.**

## **UAMD Vision**

**The university aims to continuously achieve the highest national and international academic standards as well as support the educational aspirations and achievements of anyone who wants to benefit from higher education.**

## **UAMD Mission**

**The university aims to foster and develop critical and analytical thinking as well as a sense of responsibility and commitment toward humanity, community, culture, events, and various issues that affect the community.**

# University Autonomy, Academic and Financial Accountability

## LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- **Article 47 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania provides that "Autonomy of Higher Education Institutions and academic freedom are guaranteed by law";**
- **Article 3 of Law 80/2015 on Higher Education, explicitly states that "Higher Education Institutions enjoy academic freedom, financial, organizational autonomy and staff selection, in accordance with applicable laws";**
- **The education reform undertaken in 2015 aimed to provide public universities with self-governing autonomy with revenues generating from student fees and other sources of funding;**
- **Article 49 of Law 80/2015 on Higher Education recognizes the right of financial and administrative sustainability of the university to the Board of Administration. This body has competencies from managing revenues to the appoint and dismiss the University Administrator.**

# University Autonomy, Academic and Financial Accountability

## LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- **The Board of Administration of Aleksandër Moisiu University consists of 7 members, (3 reps of the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, 3 reps from the University and 1 student approved by the Ministry);**
- **The Academic Senate and the Student Council play an important role, in terms of accountability i.e. request detailed information on budget expenditure;**
- **The Transparency Program (deriving right from the Constitution) is a crucial element of the University intended as an accountability tool toward citizens.**

## Internationalization

- **UAMD has signed 104 Cooperation Agreements with various institutions and companies, 65 of which have been signed with Institutions of Higher Education abroad;**
- **ICM Erasmus+ programme - UAMD has signed 34 Inter-Institutional Agreements with European Union universities;**
- **Number of mobility flows for students and staff: 99 academic and 30 non-academic outgoing staff, 31 incoming academic and non-academic staff, 26 outgoing and 3 incoming students;**
- **So far, UAMD has been a partner institution in 8 Tempus projects, 18 CBHE Erasmus+ (11 of which are in process of implementation) and 1 Europe for Citizens Erasmus+ projects;**
- **As a coordinator institution, UAMD leads 2 CBHE Erasmus+ projects.**

## **STAND Project and UAMD**

- **UAMD will participate and play a proactive role in every work package. It will provide relevant expertise, primarily from the project management, development, dissemination and exploitation. It will utilize its regional and international networks to exploit the results of the project, to maximize the impact of it in the quality of higher education.**
- **In particular, it will play an active role in the development of University Autonomy Scorecards and upgrade of national and university regulations. UAMD will particularly benefit through enhancing the university autonomy, accountability and transparency, which will add more value to the institution, staffing and its students, as well as contribute to the policy-making decisions and strategies on quality education.**

# Role of UAMD

## **WP3. Enhancement of university governance for promoting autonomy**

- **Estimated Period: 15.06.2021 – 30.12.2021**
- **Lead Organisations: TUHH, UNIZG, UniFG, SEEU, UKZ, UAMD**

### **Tasks:**

- **Workshops with Program country institutions for adoption best practices on University Governance;**
- **Establishing a regional expert network on university autonomy;**
- **Capacity building training and consultancy sessions for management staff of the partner universities.**



# Role of UAMD

## Dev.3.3. Capacity building training and consultancy sessions for management staff

Based on the knowledge gained from Workshops with Program country institutions for adoption of the best practices on University Governance, UAMD will organize a set of workshops with invited external stakeholders within the set of 4 dimensions:

- **Organizational** - 01.11.2021
- **Financial** - 10.11.2021
- **Academic** - 20.11.2021
- **Staffing** - 01.12.2021

The workshops will serve as pre-requisite for WP4 - Upgrade of national and university regulations.

# Thank you!