



Co-funded by  
the European Union



## Deliverable D2.2

### Full report about the current status of curricula related to EU Integration in Albania with recommendations.

Prepared by

Dr. Elona Shehu  
[elona.shehu@uet.edu.al](mailto:elona.shehu@uet.edu.al)  
European University of Tirana

Dr. Teuta Çerpja  
[teuta.cerpja@uet.edu.al](mailto:teuta.cerpja@uet.edu.al)  
European University of Tirana



## Background

This document is designed in the framework of Jean Monnet - Center of Excellence EUFutur Project. This report is a document providing evidence about HEI curricula in Albania. The scope of this report is to find evidence on the inclusion of courses related to EU Integration in the Universities study programs.

The analysis and the report are based on two sources: the data generated by the questionnaire (Panel A) and information generated from desk research (Panel B). The data generated by the questionnaire consisted in responses from 4 western Balkan countries, on questions related to their home university curricula. Students from Albania, Northern Macedonia, Kosova and Bosnia Hercegovina were asked questions whether their home university provides courses related to EU integration and policies. On behalf of this survey, only responses related to Albania are taken into consideration.

This survey is a structured questioning, which consists of fixed questions in a particular order and predefined response options for most questions. The way the questions and answers are designed to have robust data collection. From this source a general insight is generated, aiming to provide an overview of the situation of curricula related to EU Integration in the region, and especially focused in Albania.

The second source of analysis is generated from desk research only for Albania. 39 higher education institutions (all active HEIs) are considered: 24 Universities, 9 University colleges, 6 Academia Institutions. Websites of these universities were reviewed and evaluated whether they provide EU related courses. This method is considered efficient since universities should provide free and public information regarding their study programs and curricula. This information helps create the puzzle and better understating of the situation of HEI curricula in Albania.

### Panel A – Questionnaire results related to EU courses.

The survey is designed using open-ended and/or closed-ended questions. On behalf of this questionnaire, questions are all designed as a closed-ended type, leading to a structured questioning method. The formulation of the questions is based on the operational definition of the variable or indicator to be measured. As Matthews and Ross (2010) states a closed-ended question has fixed response options so that the respondent's answer can be registered by ticking off the response option that is most appropriate. In the closed-ended question the respondent is instructed to select only one of the response options. Closed-ended questions create an easy path for both the respondents, by clarifying the answering options.

This survey is based on a careful approach of combining the form of the question (how the question is designed) and content (what is the expected response). On this regard, the survey arises designed with composite questions.

This questionnaire is designed using a combination of cognitive and evaluative questions. The first one relates to actual circumstances and measures on behalf of this questionnaire, measure knowledge about key



financial institutions in our country, while evaluative questions the perceive the respondent's opinion about financial literacy and knowledge on EU Integration and Policy.

In overall, the questions meet the general requirements regarding formulation. (i) questions are designed not to bias the respondent's opinion; (ii) questions are neutral, (iii) one dimensional question.

### *Questionnaire structure*

The questionnaire is organized in several sections, but only some sections are relevant for this analysis. students are asked about their gender and nationality. This questions has helped in sequencing the data sample, generating a comparative analysis when necessary.

Considering that the level of information students get from their study program, varies from one program to another, students were also asked to select the field where their study program lies. These categorization of study programs is made referring to ISCED Manual. The International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) is a problem for collecting and analysing comparable statistics for the report on. The availability of a common international classification is only the first step towards collecting data and generating comparable statistics. The second step is a consistent application of the classification. The revised version of the classification (the one from 2013) groups all fields of education into 10 main fields, which are then organized into subfields.

1. Education
2. Arts, Humanities, Linguistics
3. Social Science, Political Science, Journalism
4. Finance, Business, Marketing, Law
5. Natural Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics
6. Information Technology, Electronics, Software
7. Architecture, Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction
8. Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary
9. Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Health Sciences
10. Security, transportation, hygiene, services

Students are asked to select the field representing their study program. Afterwards, the analysis is designed by grouping students from EU related fields in one group (considering here Economics, Law and Political Sciences) and students from non-EU related study programmes. This categorisation helps to draw more specific conclusions for each of the groups.

The last section is about HEI's curricula in Albania The aim of this section is to evaluate the inclusion of EU integration and policies topics in the university curricula. Students are asked about their level of study program (Bachelor or Master) aiming to evaluate whether their information on EU policies and integration starts from bachelor or master level; They are also asked about how many courses they take in behalf of EU policies and Integration, and as a control question they are asked about the amount of ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) their study program dedicated to EU related courses. This section



is formulated using categorical designed responses, related to study program, number of courses and amount of ECTS they are taught about EU policies and integration.

### Data Sample

The sample size must be representative. Hence, having the approximate number of students in Albania, retrieved from Europe Higher Education database and using Yamane's formula for sample size, for the margin of error of  $e = 0.05$ , it turns out that the sample size should be minimum 398 respondents.

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N*e^2}$$

Albania – 98.500 students

$$n_{\text{Albania}} = \frac{98500}{1+98500*0.05^2} = 398$$

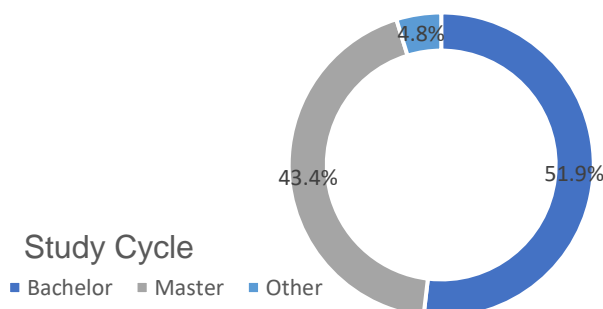
On behalf of this analysis, 484 responses are collected from Albanian students, generating a robust and representative analysis.

### Findings Panel A

In overall, 6 out of 10 students confirm that their home university provides modules and courses related to European integration and policies. Most students state they are usually provided with a single course or equivalent to approximately 6-10 ECTS. The weight of EU related courses to the overall curriculum is less than 10%.

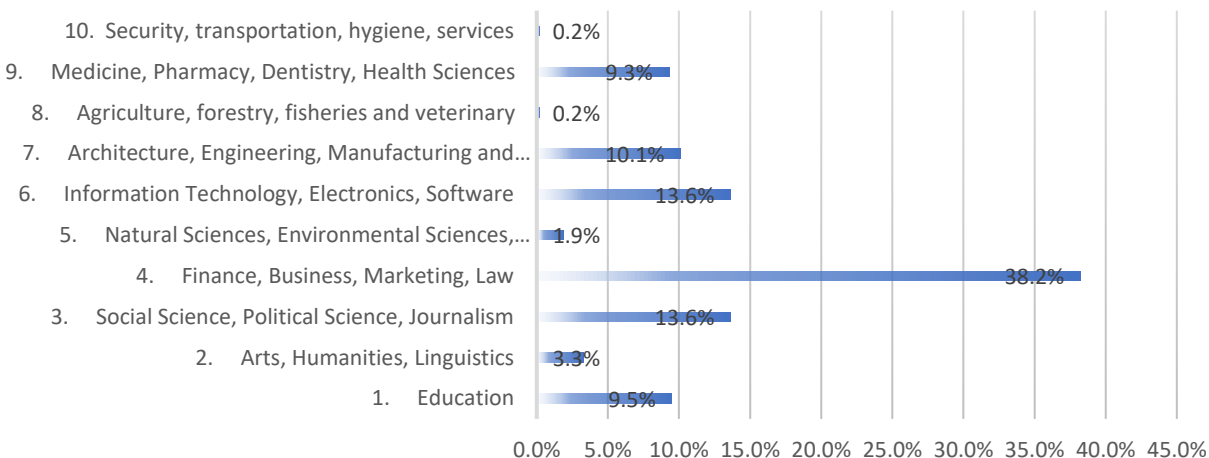
484 Albanian students responded this questionnaire, which according to the sampling formula mentioned above, are a good representation of the population of students in Albania. The majority of the respondents are female, consisting of nearly 69 per cent of the sample.

In terms of study cycle the data was almost comparable, consisting of 52 per cent bachelor students, 43 per cent master students and less than 5 per cent not belonging to bachelor or master program.





According to the field of the study, 5 out of 10 students study Eu related courses, such as: Social Sciences, Political Sciences, Journalism and Finance, Business, Marketing and Law. This information contributes to a higher significance of the report.



Aiming to confirm their consistency, the questionnaire combined cross questions. Initially students were asked if their home university provides courses related to EU Integration and Policies. They respond with closed ended questions (Yes or No). Next, they were asked conditionally (if yes) how many courses related to EU integration and Policies does your home university provide. Their response would be 1, 2 or more than 3 courses. To proof their consistency, students were asked on the number of credits (ECTS) dedicated to EU related courses and the weight (in percentage) of these courses within their study program.

Considering that some students did not fulfill the consistency requirement, 27 observations are dropped, leading to the reduced sample of 457 respondents.

62 per cent of the respondents accepted that their university provided courses related to EU policy and Integration. Out of this sample 51 percent of students, state that they take 1 course related to EU Policy and Integration. 22 per cent state that they take 2 EU related courses and 25 percent confess that they take more than 2 courses (3+)<sup>1</sup>.

Meanwhile, 42 per cent of respondents admitting that they are provided with EU related courses, state that they get approximately less than 5 ECTS from these courses, 41 per cent states that they earn on average 6 to 10 ECTS from these courses and the rest admits that they earn more than 10 ECTS (11+) from EU related courses.

<sup>1</sup> The question was optional and blank responses are not considered in interpretation and analysis.



Primary data, collected from the questionnaire confirms that most Albanian universities, in general provide courses related to EU policy and integration. Most of them provide 1 or 2 courses per study program consisting of less than 10 ECTS.

## Findings - Panel B

The desk research consisted in scanning through curricula of Higher Education Institutions in Albania. There is 39 active HEIs in Albania, 24 Universities, 9 University colleges, 6 Academia Institutions. Considering that all HEIs should have their academic offer in their official website, a scanning of the program curricula was conducted, and the evidence are provided in the table attached this report (See table D2.1).

The sample equals the population; hence the report generates robust findings and significant results to be considered. Out of 39 HEIs in Albaina, there is missing data for 6 HEIs: “Canadian Institute of Technology”, “Qiriazi” University College, “Reald” University College, “Pavaresia” University College, University “Ismail Qemali” and “Academy of Albanological Studies”.

Meanwhile, 12 HEIs in Albania, do not offer courses related to EU Policy and Integration, based on the information published in their official web page.

21 HEIs operating in Albania offer several courses related to EU Policy and Integration.

**University of Tirana**, biggest public university in Albania, offers 55 EU related courses, 12 in first cycle of the studies and 43 in the master level.

- The Program in Law, which is a 5-year study program, offers 5 courses consisting in 22 ECTS, counting for 7.3% of the curricula.
- Bachelor in Humanities, offers 4 EU related courses, consisting in 24 ECTS, equivalent to 9% of the curricula.
- Bachelor in political sciences offers 3 courses, consisting in 18 ECTS, equivalent to 10% of the curricula.
- For the master programs, in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing and Law (referring to Frascat categorization), 20 courses are offered, counting for 101 ECTS.
- For the master programs in the field of Social Sciences, Political Sciences, Journalism, 20 courses are offered in University of Tirana, counting for 121 ECTS.
- The master’s in arts, Humanities, Linguistics offers 3 courses, consisting in 18 ECTS, equivalent to 15% of the curricula.

**Agriculture University of Tirana** offers 4 EU related courses, 2 in the bachelor level and 2 in master level.

- Bachelor in the field of Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary, offers 1 course, consisting in 5 ECTS, equivalent to 2.8% of the curricula.



Co-funded by  
the European Union



- Bachelor in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 1 course consisting in 5 ECTS, equivalent to 2.8% of the curricula.
- Master in the field of Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary offers 2 EU related courses, consisting in 14 ECTS, equivalent to approximately 12% of the curricula.

**Polytechnic University of Tirana** offers 2 EU related courses in the bachelor level.

- Bachelor in the field of Architecture, Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction offers 1 course consisting in 3 ECTS, equivalent to 1.7% of the curricula.
- Bachelor in the field of Information Technology, Electronics, Software, offers 1 course consisting in 3 ECTS, equivalent to 1.7% of the curricula.

**“Aleksander Xhuvani” University of Elbasan**, offers 11 courses in both study cycles.

- Bachelor in the field of Arts, Humanities, Linguistics offers 3 courses, consisting in 16 ECTS, equivalent to 9% of the curricula.
- Bachelor in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 1 course, consisting in 4 ECTS, equivalent to 2.2% of the curricula.
- Master in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 4 courses, consisting in 28 ECTS, equivalent to 23% of the curricula.
- Master in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 3 courses, consisting in 16 ECTS, equivalent to 13% of the curricula.

**“Luigj Gurakuqi” University of Shkodra**, offers 6 courses in both study cycles.

- Bachelor in the field of Arts, Humanities, Linguistics offers 2 courses, consisting in 15 ECTS, equivalent to 8.3% of the curricula.
- Bachelor in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 2 courses, consisting in 16 ECTS, equivalent to 9% of the curricula.
- Master in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 2 courses, consisting in 14 ECTS, equivalent to nearly 12% of the curricula.

**“Eqerem Cabej” University of Gjirokastra**, offers 1 course related to EU Policies and Integration for the master program in the field of Arts, Humanities, Linguistics consisting in 3 ECTS, equivalent to 1.7% of the curricula.

**“Fan S. Noli” University of Korca**, offers 4 courses in both study cycles.



Co-funded by  
the European Union



- Bachelor in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 1 course, consisting in 7 ETCS, equivalent to 4% of the curricula.
- Master in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 2 courses, consisting in 8 ETCS, equivalent to nearly 7% of the curricula.
- Master in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 1 course, consisting in 6 ECTS, equivalent to nearly 5% of the curricula.

**“Aleksandër Moisiu” University of Durrës**, offers 20 courses in both study cycles, 6 course for the bachelor programs and 14 courses for master programs.

- Bachelor in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 3 courses, consisting in 18 ETCS, equivalent to 10% of the curricula.
- Bachelor in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 1 course, consisting in 6 ECTS, equivalent to 3.3% of the curricula.
- Bachelor in the field of Arts, Humanities, Linguistics offers 1 course, consisting in 5 ECTS, equivalent to 2.8% of the curricula.
- Bachelor in the field of Security, transportation, hygiene, services offer 1 course, consisting in 5 ECTS, equivalent to 2.8% of the curricula.
- Master programs in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 9 courses, consisting in 63 ECTS.
- Master programs in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 5 courses, consisting in 30 ETCS.

The same screening was computed for private universities as well.

**European University of Tirana**, offers 8 courses in both study cycles, 3 course for the bachelor programs and 5 courses for master programs.

- Bachelor in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 3 courses, consisting in 18 ETCS, equivalent to 10% of the curricula.
- Master programs in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 3 courses, consisting in 18 ECTS.
- Master program in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 2 courses, consisting in 13 ETCS, equivalent to 11% of the curricula.

Courses offered at EUT in Bachelor level are:

- History of Integration and EU Institutions





Co-funded by  
the European Union



- New political movements in Europe
- European Union law

Courses offered at EUT in Master level are:

- Economics of EU Integration
- European Union law (master)
- European judicial procedure
- European integration
- EU policies

**Mediterranean University of Albania** offers 24 courses EU related courses, 13 courses in Bachelor level and 11 in master level.

- Bachelor in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 6 courses, consisting in 40 ECTS, equivalent to 22% of the curricula.
- Bachelor in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 7 courses, consisting in 49 ETCS, equivalent to 27% of the curricula.
- Master programs in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 7 courses, consisting in 42 ETCS.
- Master programs in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 4 courses, consisting in 32 ECTS.

**Epoka University** offers 13 courses EU related courses, 9 courses in Bachelor level and 4 in master level.

- Bachelor in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 6 courses, consisting in 36 ECTS, equivalent to 12% of the curricula.
- Bachelor in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 3 courses, consisting in 16 ETCS, equivalent to 9% of the curricula.
- Master programs in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 4 courses, consisting in 30 ETCS.

**Polis University** offers 1 course named "EU and territorial policies", with 6 ECTS in the master program in the field of Architecture, Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction.

**Barleti University** offers 13 courses EU related courses only in master level.

- Master programs in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 3 courses, consisting in 18 ECTS, counting for 12% of the curricula.
- Master programs in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 9 courses, consisting in 72 ECTS.



- Master program in the field of Education offers 1 course, consisting in 6 ETCS, equivalent to 5% of the curricula.

**Western Balkan University** offers 2 courses EU related courses only in bachelor level.

- Bachelor in the field of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Health Sciences offers 1 course, consisting in 5 ECTS, equivalent to 2.8% of the curricula.
- Bachelor in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 1 course, consisting in 5 ECTS, equivalent to 2.8% of the curricula. The same course is offered for the bachelor program in Information Technology, Electronics, Software.

**Luarasi University** offers 3 courses EU related courses only in master level.

- Master program in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 3 courses, consisting in 24 ECTS, counting for 12% of the curricula, counting for 20% of the curricula.

**University of New York in Tirana** offers 7 courses EU related courses, 6 in bachelor and 1 in master level.

- Bachelor in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 6 courses, consisting in 34 ETCS, equivalent to 19% of the curricula.
- Master program in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 1 course, consisting in 6 ECTS, counting for 3% of the curricula.

**Business University College** offers 8 courses EU related courses, 6 in bachelor and 2 in master level.

- Bachelor in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 6 courses, consisting in 36 ETCS, equivalent to 20% of the curricula.
- Master program in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 2 courses, consisting in 12 ECTS, counting for 10% of the curricula.

**Beder University College** offers 7 courses EU related courses, 5 in bachelor and 2 in master level.

- Bachelor in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 4 courses, consisting in 20 ECTS, equivalent to 6.7% of the curricula.
- Bachelor in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism offers 1 course, consisting in 5 ETCS, equivalent to 2.8% of the curricula.
- Master program in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 2 courses, consisting in 12 ECTS, counting for 10% of the curricula.

**Tirana Business University College** offers 7 courses EU related courses, 4 in bachelor and 3 in master level.



Co-funded by  
the European Union



- Bachelor in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 4 courses, consisting in 30 ECTS, equivalent to 10 % of the curricula.
- Master program in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 3 courses, consisting in 18 ECTS, counting for 15% of the curricula.

**Wisdom University College** offers 4 courses EU related courses only master level.

- Master program in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law offers 4 courses, consisting in 32 ECTS, counting for 26% of the curricula.

### Concluding Remarks

The majority of programs offering courses related to EU Integration and Policies, are the ones categorised in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law and Social Science, Political Science, Journalism.

Programs categorized in the field of Social Science, Political Science, Journalism and programs the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law in Albania, have on average 4 courses related to EU processes, policies, and integration. Meanwhile, for other Frascat fields, the average number of EU courses offered is 2.

If University of Tirana is excluded from the analysis, as it dominates the data sample due to its size and number of courses, the average number drops to 1.

In general, more courses are offered for the master programs compared to bachelor programs. On average in bachelor 3 courses are offered related to EU Policies and Integration, meanwhile in Master on average there are 4.5 EU related courses. This figure can be explained due to the fact that master students have a better understanding of the basic knowledge and hence can have a better judgmental perspective.

In European University of Tirana, some of the topics related to EU, are organized as modules within a certain course.

In general, there is a need to consider the number of EU related courses in Higher Education Institutions in Albania. Some institutions provide a considerable number of courses, meanwhile some others have a very small number of courses related to EU Policy and Integration Process.

For a country like Albania, there is a necessity to increase and consolidate the knowledge related to this topic, as Albania is now a country aspiring to join European Union.

Perception and information retrieved from the questionnaire, revealed that the majority of Albanian students do not have a clear information related to EU financial institutions, EU chapters, market performance toward meeting the EU targets etc.

Regarding Financial Institutions, students claim that EU financial institutions are different from the ones we have and see in our country. In addition, they state that most of them are interested in having more information



about EU financial institutions. *The information they get from the courses dedicated to EU policies is not sufficient.*

On behalf of Eu Chapters, *there is a need of more in-formation provided in native languages, to increase the level of knowledge and understanding of country's economic integration chapters to the EU.*

In the framework of economy and market performance toward meeting the EU targets, the majority of respondents claimed that their countries economic situation is far from reaching the EU targets, but on the other hand students claim that there is a need of stakeholders' inclusion to inform and explain the economic integration to the EU. *EU University programs should include modules or courses supporting financial literacy and knowledge on EU integration policies. Young generation needs more information regarding the economic performance of their country towards European integration process.*

## Recommendations

Considering that the information students get from the courses dedicated to EU policies is not sufficient, we recommend increasing the volume of the information by:

- *Considering an updated literature*
- *Combining teaching with guest lectures who are notorious specialists in the field, who can provide with a more practical insight.*

To increase the knowledge and deeper understanding of EU chapters, it is recommended to provide

- *brochures in Albanian language, as some students studying in non EU related fields (such as Finance, Business, Marketing, Law and Social Science, Political Science, Journalism) are less exposed to EU courses and EU knowledge.*
- *Informative campaign in high schools, whose curricula does not include any EU related course.*

*All Higher Education Institutions in Albania should include modules or at least 1 or 2 courses supporting financial literacy and knowledge on EU integration policies. Young generation needs more information regarding the economic performance of Albania towards European integration process.*

European University of Tirana should increase the number of EU modules/courses in the bachelor program in the field of Finance, Business, Marketing, Law.

## Limitations

Some HEIs in Albania may not have regularly updated their web page, hence the information retrieved may not be completely updated.

Some of the HEIs, choose to have specific topics related to EU, organised as modules within a certain course instead of having it as a dedicated one.



Co-funded by  
the European Union



## References

Gronmo, Sigmund. (2020). Social Research Methods. Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches. Sage Publishing. Pp 233-254.

Matthews, Bob and Ross, Liz. (2010). Research Methods. A Practical Guide for the Social Sciences. Pearson Education Limited. Pp: 200-218.

Unesco Institute for Statistics (2012) International Standard Classification of Education, ISCED. ISBN 978-92-9189-123-8.

Official Web pages of Higher Education Institutions in Albania.