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The Review of the Educational Program "International Relations, Public Communications and Regional Studies"

The first official stage of the cooperation with the Ferenc Rakoczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian College of Higher Education was the visit of the teachers staff of the Institute of History at the Modern Hungarian History Department of Eötvös Loránd University to Berehove in 2011. Parallel, at that time Erasmus+ student and teacher mobility programs were regular. On this basis we accepted talented graduate students in the field of history from Berehove into our PhD-Program. Meanwhile two of them defended successfully the PhD-dissertation. As the former head of Doctoral School of History, I am firmly convinced that the College have successfully acquired the foundations of the historical profession.

The reviewed Bachelor Degree program "International Relations, Public Communications and Regional Studies" aims to train highly qualified specialists in the field of international relations with systemic knowledge of the theory and history of international, cross-border, transnational relations and foreign policy. It also provides deep knowledge concerning the activities of international organizations, capable of critical reflection and political analysis of processes in international and regional relations.

The structure of the BA program is logical and well thought out, includes all the necessary general and professional competencies. The main focus is the study of the aspects of the international and regional cooperation of states embodied in integration processes in the European, Euro-Atlantic, Asian and African region, the basic priorities of the foreign policy of East Central European countries. The educational program provides an in-depth study of regional relations and methods of international political and country studies and their application in practice, fundamental competence for using English language with a specialization in international relations, project-oriented training with a research component, and practical training in diplomatic institutions.

The program highlights the competencies which provide theoretical knowledge and practical skills for successful fulfillment of professional duties in the field of international relations, with emphasis on the development of competencies necessary for analytical and diplomatic work. It meets to the standards of the Ukrainian higher education Bachelor level by including the required number of credits (240 credits).

The ratio of the size of compulsory (general and professional) and optional components of educational program: mandatory part (180 credits, 75%), aimed at the formation of general and special (professional) competencies; elective part (60 credits, 25%), subjects of free choice from the course catalogue. Share of production practices: 18 credits (7.5%) The educational program includes research, educational, and pre-diploma practices to help the students apply their knowledge practically.

The "International Relations, Public Communications and Regional Studies" BA educational program is an excellent opportunity to pay the students' attention to the peculiarities of the modern world, which seeks to integrate Ukraine as a full member into the international community. I would like to emphasize the role of the specialist, who works directly with the information, and especially in international relations, is of such an importance. To my mind, the program provides for the students

the ability to use various technical means for information work in international relations. I firmly recommend the reviewed BA educational program for approval.

Budapest, February 28th, 2023

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