





# TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES IN KOSOVO

Public (non)information

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"Our Father, who art in heaven, give us the power to keep our mouths shut when we have nothing to say. And forgive us the patience to think before we write! Inspire us with a sharp sense of justice to speak not only without bias, but to also act thus! Save us from the traps of grammar, distortions of language and errors of typing. Amen!"

[Faik Konica]

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# INTRODUCTION

Formal transparency is the first step towards authentic transparency and accountability of public institutions, whose sole source of income is the state budget. In this document formal transparency means a formal access to information provided to the public by public universities through their websites.

In this research, ORCA has collected data on the availability of 27 documents and information from public universities, which constitute the most basic information about their functioning. The data were collected from the official websites of 7 public universities in our country.

ORCA conducted the same research two times, in February 2019<sup>1</sup> and September 2019<sup>2</sup>. Although there have been improvements in the publication of regulations, decisions and information, the non-publication of budget remains a concern. Only three universities, Peja, Mitrovica and Gjakova, published their budgets on their website. In addition, most of the universities do not publish information on student - teacher ratio.

The University of Prishtina remains the most transparent university, with only two documents missing. While the least transparent university remains the University of Applied Sciences in Ferizaj, with 18 documents and information missing.

In the past, when ORCA published similar reports, some of the public universities complained about the objectivity of the reports and possible methodological mistake made by ORCA, since they justified the lack of their regulations on PhD studies with the fact that they had not provided such programs.

ORCA states that according to the Law on Higher Education in Kosovo, a higher education institution, in order to be a university, should have five PhD study programs in five different fields of study.

<sup>1</sup> www.orca-ks.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Transparenca-formale-e-Universiteteve-publike.pdf

<sup>2</sup> www.orca-ks.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Monitorimi-i-universiteteve-publike-Afati-i-Shtatorit-2019.pdf

#### A summary of formal transparency in public universities

University of:		Prishtina	Peja	Mitrovica	Prizreni	Gjilan	Gjakova	Ferizaj
1	Student - teacher ratio	<b>S</b>	×	<b>S</b>	$\mathbf{x}$	×	$\bigotimes$	×
2	Statute of the University	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>~</b>	<b></b>	<b>I</b>
3	Strategic Plan	<b>S</b>	Ø	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b></b>	<b>S</b>	8
4	Code of Ethics	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	Ø	Ø	8
5	Disciplinary Regulation	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>S</b>	8
6	Regulation on the selection of academic staff	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<	⊗	⊗
7	Regulation on Associates	$\bigcirc$	<b>S</b>	8	<b>S</b>		×	8
8	Newsletter	<b>S</b>	Ø	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	Ø	<b>~</b>	8
9	CVs of the staff	<b>S</b>	Ø	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	Ø	Ø	8
10	Regulation on personal income	8	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	Ø	<b>S</b>	$\mathbf{x}$
11	Budget	8	Ø	<b>S</b>	8	8	Ø	8
12	Regulation on the selection of students	<b>S</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>&gt;</b>	⊗
13	Composition of Student Assembly	♥	⊘	0		<	⊘	
14	Composition of Rectorate		<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	⊘

#### A summary of formal transparency in public universities

University of:		Prishtina	Peja	Mitrovica	Prizreni	Gjilan	Gjakova	Ferizaj
15	Composition of Steering Committee	0	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>
16	Composition of Senate	<b>S</b>		Ø	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	Ø	Ø
17	Decisions of Senate	<b>S</b>	8	$\checkmark$	<b>~</b>	8	<b>~</b>	8
18	Decisions of Steering Committee	$\checkmark$	<b>S</b>	<b>&gt;</b>	<b>S</b>	8	<b>⊘</b>	⊗
19	Decisions of Rector	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	$\checkmark$	×	8	<b>~</b>	×
20	Decisions on accreditation	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	$\checkmark$	<b>~</b>	<b>S</b>	$\checkmark$	8
21	Regulation on BA studies	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	Ø	Ø	<b>S</b>	Ø	Ø
22	Regulation on MA studies	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	Ø	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	8
23	Regulation on PhD studies	<b>S</b>	$\bigotimes$	8	$\mathbf{x}$	×	8	8
24	Regulation on SEMS	$\bigcirc$	8	8	Ø	8		⊗
25	Regulation on quality assurance	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>©</b>	Ø	Ø	<b>©</b>	⊗
26	Curricula	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>©</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	Ø
27	Information on scholarships/ employment opportunities	<b>S</b>	•	⊘	•	<b>S</b>	<	⊘
	Index	25/27	23/27	24/27	23/27	20/27	23/27	8/27



#### UNIVERSITY OF PRISHTINA

Out of 27 basic documents or information about the functioning of the University, currently the University of Prishtina has 25 documents published on its official website<sup>3</sup>.

In February 2019, ORCA published findings of formal transparency in the University of Prishtina, which revealed that university did not have three important documents or information on its official website.

At that time, UP did not have any information published on the *"Regulation on Personal Income"*, *"Budget" and "Senate Composition."* 

In January this year, UP published information on the *"Senate Composition"*, but *"Regulation on Personal Income"* and *"Budget"* were not published.



3 <u>www.uni-pr.edu/</u>



### UNIVERSITY OF PEJA

Out of 27 basic documents or information about the functioning of the University, currently the University of Peja has 23 of them published on its official website<sup>4</sup>.

In February 2019, ORCA published findings of formal transparency in the University of Peja, which revealed that this university did not have six important documents or information published on its official website.

At that time, no information on the *"Student - Teacher Ratio"*, *"Regulation on the selection of academic staff"*, *"Composition of the Student Assembly"*, *"Senate Decisions"*, and *"SEMS Regulation"* were published.

In September, the University of Peja published the *"Regulation on the selection of academic staff"* and the *"Composition of the Student Assembly"*, however other four documents that were missing in February had not yet been published.

The University of Peja has not yet published information on the "Student - Teacher Ratio", "Senate Decisions", "Regulation on PhD Studies" and "SEMS Regulation".





#### UNIVERSITY OF MITROVICA

Out of 27 basic documents or information about the functioning of the University, the University of Mitrovica currently has 23 documents published on its official website<sup>5</sup>.

In February 2019, ORCA published findings of formal transparency in the University of Mitrovica, which indicate that this university did not have seven important documents or information published on its official website.

At that time, "Regulation on Associates", "Regulation on Personal Income", "Budget", "Regulation on the selection of students", "Decisions of the Rector", "Regulation on PhD Studies" and "SEMS Regulation" were not published.

In September, the University of Mitrovica published *"Regulation on Personal Income"* and *"Regulation on the selection of students"*, however five other documents that had not been available in February have not yet been published.

In January of this year, the University of Mitrovica published "Budget", and "Decisions of the Rector", but has not yet published "Regulation on Associates", "Regulation on PhD Studies" and "SEMS Regulation"





### UNIVERSITY OF PRIZRENI

Out of 27 basic documents or information about the functioning of the University, the University of Prizren currently has 23 documents published on its official website<sup>6</sup>.

In February 2019, ORCA published findings of formal transparency in the University of Prizren, which revealed that the university did not have eight important documents or information published on its official website.

At that time, there was no information published on "Student - Teacher Ratio", "Strategic Plan", "Regulation on the selection of academic staff", "Regulation on Personal Income', "Budget', "Decisions of the Rector", "Regulation on PhD studies" and "Regulation on quality assurance".

In September, this University had the "Strategic Plan", "Regulation on the selection of academic staff", "Regulation on Personal Income" and "Regulation on Quality Assurance" published, however the four other documents missing in February have not been yet published.

The University of Mitrovica has not yet published information on the "Student - Teacher Ratio", "Budget", "Decisions of the Rector" and Regulation on PhD Studies".





#### UNIVERSITY OF GJILANI

Out of 27 basic documents or information about the functioning of the university, the University of Gjilan currently has 20 documents published on its official website<sup>7</sup>.

In February 2019, ORCA published findings of formal transparency in the University of Gjilan, which revealed that this university did not have nine important documents or information published on its official website.

At that time the university did not publish information on "Student - Teacher Ratio", "Financial Regulation", "Budget", "Decisions of the Senate", "Decisions of the Steering Committee", "Decisions of the Rector", "Regulation on MA Studies", "Regulation on PhD Studies" as well as "SEMS Regulation".

In September, the University of Gjilan published only the *"Regulation on Personal Income"*, and by February the other eight documents had not yet been published.

In January of this year, the University of Gjilani published the *"Regulation on MA studies",* however has not yet published the information on "Student - Teacher Ratio", "Budget", *"Decisions of the Senate", "Decisions of the Steering Committee", "Decisions of the Rector"* as well as *"SEMS Regulation".* 





### UNIVERSITY OF GJAKOVA

Out of 27 basic documents or information on the functioning of the university, the University of Gjakova currently has 23 documents published on its official website<sup>8</sup>.

Information on "Student - Teacher Ratio", "Strategic Plan", "Regulation on the selection of academic staff", "Regulation on external associates", "Financial Regulation", "Budget", "Composition of Steering Committee", "Decisions of the Senate", "Decisions of the Steering Committee", "Decisions of the Rector", "Regulation on MA Studies" and "Regulation on PhD Studies" were missing.

By September the University published six of these documents: "Strategic Plan", "Regulation on Personal Income", "Budget", "Composition of Steering Committee", "Decisions of the Senate" and "Decisions of Steering Committee"

However, no information on "Student - Teacher Ratio", "Regulation on the selection of academic staff", "Regulation on external associates", "Decisions of the Rector", "Regulation on MA Studies" and "Regulation on PhD Studies" were published.

In January of this year, the "Decisions of the Rector" and "Regulation on MA Studies" were published, however information on the "Student - Teacher Ratio", "Regulation on the selection of academic staff", "Regulation on external associates" and "Regulation on PhD Studies" have not been yet published.





#### **UNIVERSITETI I FERIZAJ**

Out of 27 basic documents or information about the functioning of the university, the University of Ferizaj currently has only 8 documents published on its official website<sup>9</sup>.

Since February 2019, this University has not published even one from the 19 basic documents that each university should publish.



<sup>9 &</sup>lt;a>www.ushaf.net/</a>



ORCA states that according to the Law on Higher Education in Kosovo, a higher education institution, in order to be a university, must have five PhD programs in five different fields of study.

DISCLAIMER:

This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the Austrian Development Agency. The views and opinions expressed herein, can in no way reflect the official opinion of the Austrian Development Agency.





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