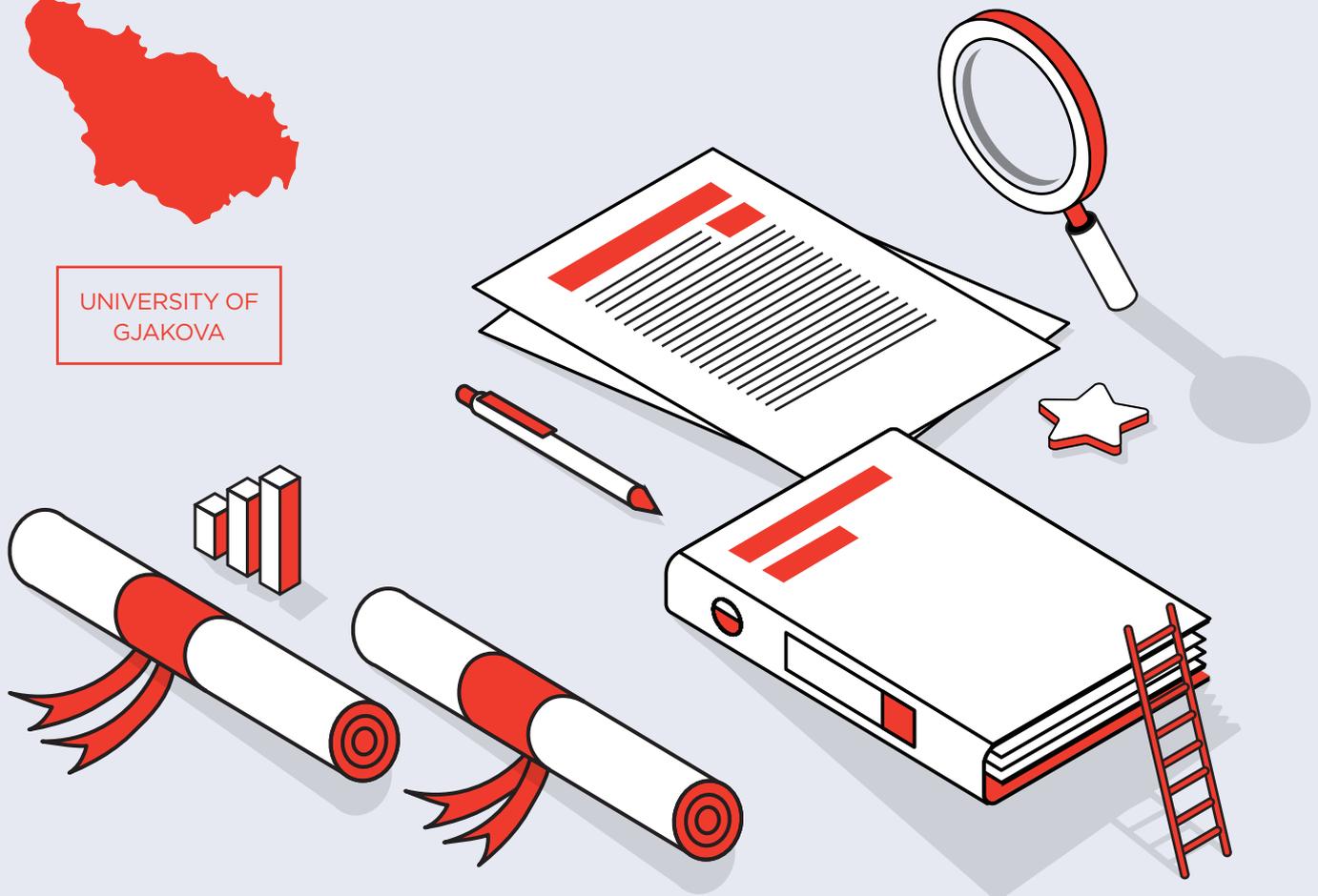


PRISHTINA, NOVEMBER 2020

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY, SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATION AND JUSTIFICATION OF ACADEMIC RANKS IN UNIVERSITY OF GJAKOVA



UNIVERSITY OF
GJAKOVA



ACADEMIC
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IN UNIVERSITY OF
GJAKOVA

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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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DEFINITIONS

Papers valid for promotions – are papers published in journals foreseen by the laws and regulations in power for election, re-election and promotion of academic staff

Scientific papers – papers where the professors have participated as authors regardless of the author ranking, i.e., not just first or corresponding authors

Papers in dubious journals – papers published in journals listed in Beall's list

Justification of academic rank – having the necessary number of scientific papers for the respective academic rank according to the laws and regulations in power

Men and women – presumed gender of the academic staff based on their name without prejudicing their personal identification

INTRODUCTION

After the publication of the reports on academic integrity and scientific publishing in the University of Peja and the University of Prizren, in the scope of QAIN project, ORCA has researched the University of Gjakova as well.

The report is the result of the research conducted in April - October 2020, where the ORCA researchers looked at the papers listed in the CVs of academic staff in the University of Gjakova. The research is focused on academic staff with professorial ranks: assistant professor, associate professor, and full professor. Apart from the CVs we also looked at other documents published on the university's website that list scientific publishing of professors.

The University of Gjakova has published Scientific Bulletin 1, which is a compilation of scientific papers of academic staff in 2017. This is an important step in promoting transparency in this university.

In 2020, this university has approved a regulation that is the only one so far from any public higher education institution in Kosovo that foresees financial compensation for papers published in scientific journals indexed in the platforms established in the regulations in power.

As in other public universities, most of the professors in this university do not justify their academic ranks. Apart from the Faculty of Medicine that has a high number of papers per professor, other faculties are lacking in this direction. Another problem is publications in dubious journals.

This report could be useful in planning reforms, including funding of scientific projects so scientific publishing can increase in this university.

GENERAL DATA OF THE UNIVERSITY

BUDGET

The University of Gjakova was given 2,460,046 euros in 2019 from the Kosovo budget, while in 2020 they were given 1,974,755 euros, according to the findings of our latest report on public HEI finances published by ORCA¹, in October 2020.

STUDENTS

The University of Gjakova has 1,653 students in the Bachelor level. There are a total of 1,399 women and 254 men studying in the University of Gjakova. In 2019/2020, 318 women and 63 men graduated, in total 381 graduates. The ratio of student to professor in this university is 33:1.

FORMAL TRANSPARENCY

In the official website of the University of Gjakova, in September 2020, ORCA found that they had published 25 out of the 27 documents or information on the functioning of the university². This signified an increase from the first report in February 2019 when they had published only 15 documents.

¹ "Transparency and accountability in public universities in Kosovo: Financial management", 2020, link: <http://orca-ks.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Shpenzimet-e-universiteteve-publike-ENG.pdf>

² "Transparency and accountability in public universities in Kosovo: public (non)information", 2020, link: <http://orca-ks.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Transparenca-n%C3%AB-Universitetet-Publike-t%C3%AB-Kosov%C3%ABs-ENG.pdf>

ACADEMIC OVERVIEW OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GJAKOVA

The University of Gjakova has 26 professors based on the published CVs on the university's website. Out of them 7 are women and 19 are men. One professor is a full professor, 12 are associate professors, and 13 are assistant professors.

A GOOD PRACTICE IN INCREASING THE NUMBER OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS – REGULATION FOR RESEARCH AND SCIENCE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF GJAKOVA

In February 2020, this university approved the Regulation for Research and Science³. In Article 9 of this regulation, it's foreseen that the best annual researchers are compensated based on academic ranks.

While according to Article 12, publication in international scientific journals are funded by the university, after the Commission for scientific research approves them. The financing of scientific research is categorized as such: publishing in international journals indexed according to the Administrative Instruction 01/2018 the recognition principles of platforms and international magazines with reviews⁴, specifically publishing in Web of Science and Scopus is compensated with 1000 euros per paper.

While publishing in journals indexed in the platforms EBSCO, Worldcat and DOAJ are compensated with 500 euros per paper.

³ Regulation on Research and Science, 2020, link: <https://uni-gjk.org/upload/dokumentet/1580737247-Rregullore%20p%C3%ABr%20veprimtarin%C3%AB%20K%C3%ABrkimore%20-%20Shkencore.pdf>

⁴ Administrative Instruction 01/2018 the recognition principles of platforms and international magazines with reviews, 2018, link: <https://masht.rks-gov.net/uploads/2018/01/ua-nr-01-2018-parimet-e-njohjes-se-platoformave-dhe-revistave-nderkombetare-me-recension.pdf>

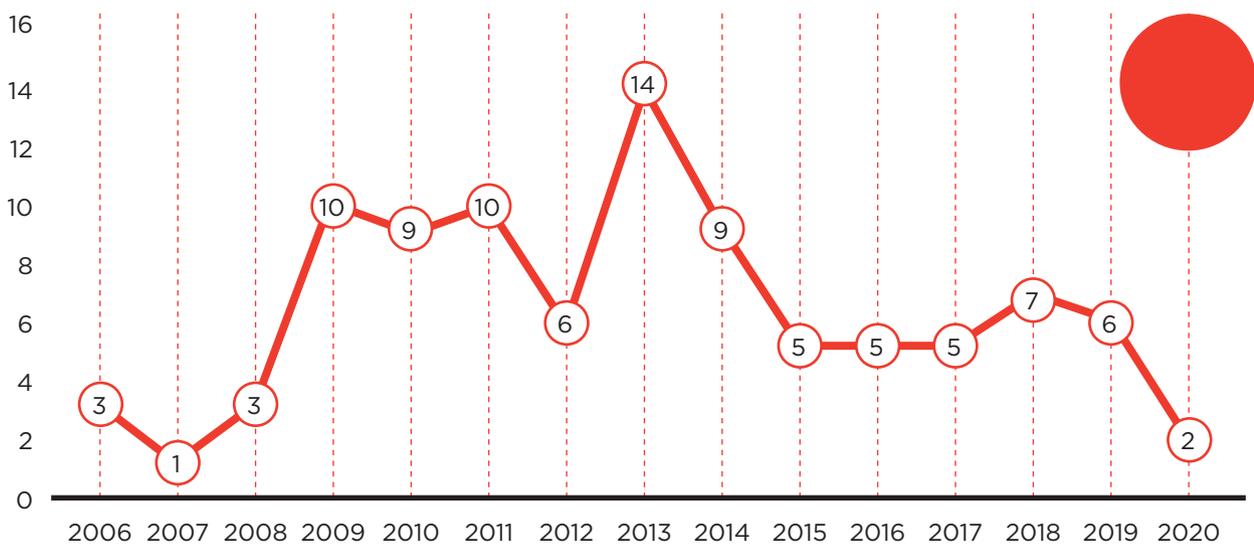
NUMBER OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF GJAKOVA

Based on the CVs and other published documents in the website of the university, the professors of the University of Gjakova have published 59 papers that can be used for academic promotion (as first or corresponding author) since 2006.

While the number of papers where the professors have participated as authors (not as first or corresponding) is 95.

Out of the 26 professors in the University of Gjakova, 14 or 54% have not published any papers as first or corresponding authors. In the University of Prishtina there are 186 (39%) professors who have zero papers, while in the University of Prizren there are 31 (55%), and in the University of Peja there are 22 (66%).

NUMBER OF PAPERS IN THE UNIVERSITY OF GJAKOVA THROUGHOUT THE YEARS



The faculty with the most papers published in scientific journals is the Faculty of Medicine. The total number of papers in this faculty is 66, with an average of 9.4 papers per professor. Comparatively, in the Faculty of Medicine in the University of Prishtina there are 7.09 papers per professor in 2019. In this faculty we found 35 papers in scientific journals published by the professors as first or corresponding authors.

The faculty with the least published papers is the Faculty of Philology with just two papers.

The average of papers in the whole university is 3.65 papers per professor. In the University of Prishtina there are 4.26 papers per professor (published in scientific journals no matter the authorship rank), and in the University of Prizren there are 1.17 papers per professor. The average of papers valid for promotions, which means as first or corresponding authors, are 2.3 papers per professor. In the University of Prishtina there are 3.06 papers (as first or corresponding author) per professor, in the University of Prizren there are 0.98, and in the University of Peja there are 0.7.

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS PER PROFESSOR

No.	Faculties in the University of Gjakova	No. of publications	No. of professors	Papers per professor
1	Faculty of Education	27	12	2.3
2	Faculty of Medicine	66	7	9.4
3	Faculty of Philology	2	7	0.3
TOTAL		95	26	3.65

No.	Faculties in the University of Gjakova	Total professors without any paper	Total of professors
1	Faculty of Education	8 (67%)	12
2	Faculty of Medicine	1 (14%)	7
3	Faculty of Philology	5 (71%)	7
TOTAL		14 (54%)	26

PUBLICATIONS IN DUBIOUS JOURNALS

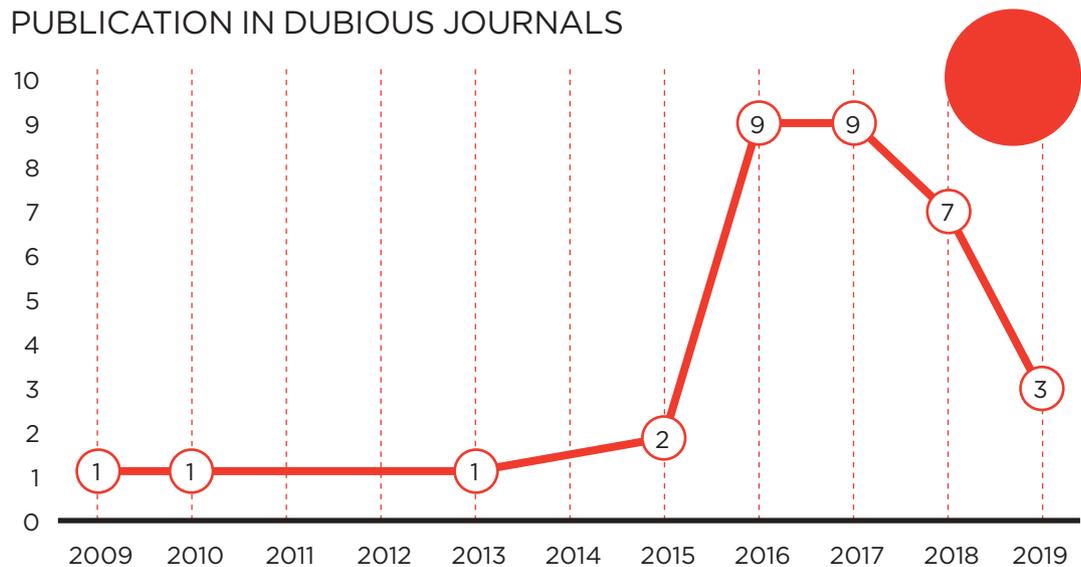
Out of 26 professors in the University of Gjakova, 15 or 58% have published papers in dubious journals. The total number of such papers in the whole university is 33. The faculty with the most papers in dubious journals is the Faculty of Education with 17 such papers.

PUBLICATION IN DUBIOUS JOURNALS

No.	Faculties in the University of Gjakova	Number of papers	Number of professors
1	Faculty of Education	17	7
2	Faculty of Medicine	10	3
3	Faculty of Philology	6	5
TOTAL		33	11

The years 2016 and 2017 are the years with the most publications in dubious journals. Since 2018 there's been a decrease of publications in such journals.

PUBLICATION IN DUBIOUS JOURNALS



JUSTIFICATION OF ACADEMIC RANKS

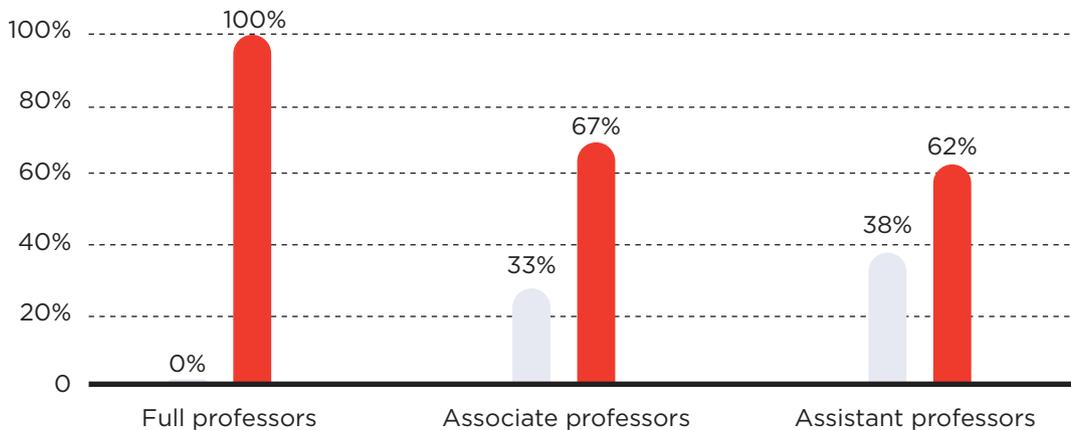
Out of 26 professors in the University of Gjakova, 17 or 65% do not justify their academic ranks according to the criteria of scientific papers as first or corresponding authors. In comparison, in the University of Prishtina in 2019 55% of professors did not justify their academic ranks, in the University of Peja 70% of professors do not justify their academic ranks, and in the University of Prizren 64% of professors do not justify their academic ranks.

Out of 13 assistant professors, 8 of them do not justify their academic ranks. Out of 12 associate professors, 5 do not justify their academic ranks. In this university there's only one full professor who does not justify their academic rank.

ACADEMIC RANK JUSTIFICATION IN THE UNIVERSITY OF GJAKOVA

● Justify

● Do not justify



ACADEMIC RANK JUSTIFICATION

No.	Faculties in the University of Gjakova	Professors who justify titles			Professors who do not justify titles		
		Prof. ass	Prof. asoc.	prof. full	Prof. ass	Prof. asoc.	prof. full
1	Faculty of Education	2	1	0	5	3	1
2	Faculty of Medicine	2	3	0	1	1	0
3	Faculty of Philology	1	0	0	2	4	0
TOTAL		5	4	0	8	8	1
		(38%)	(33%)	(0%)	(62%)	(67%)	(100%)

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

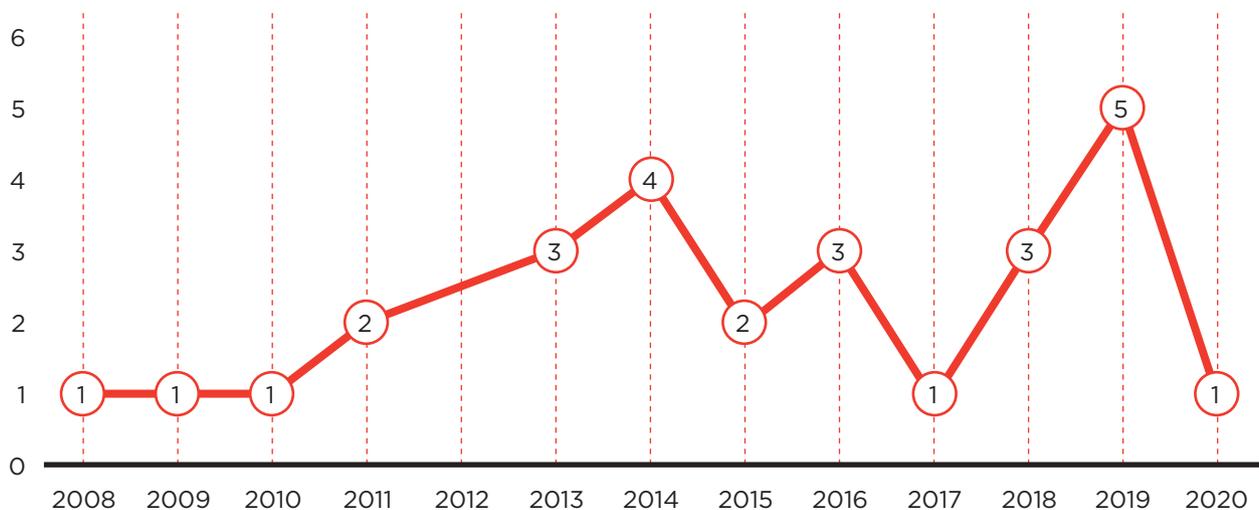


- 12** professors with academic ranks
- 1** full professor
- 4** associate professors
- 7** assistant professors

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

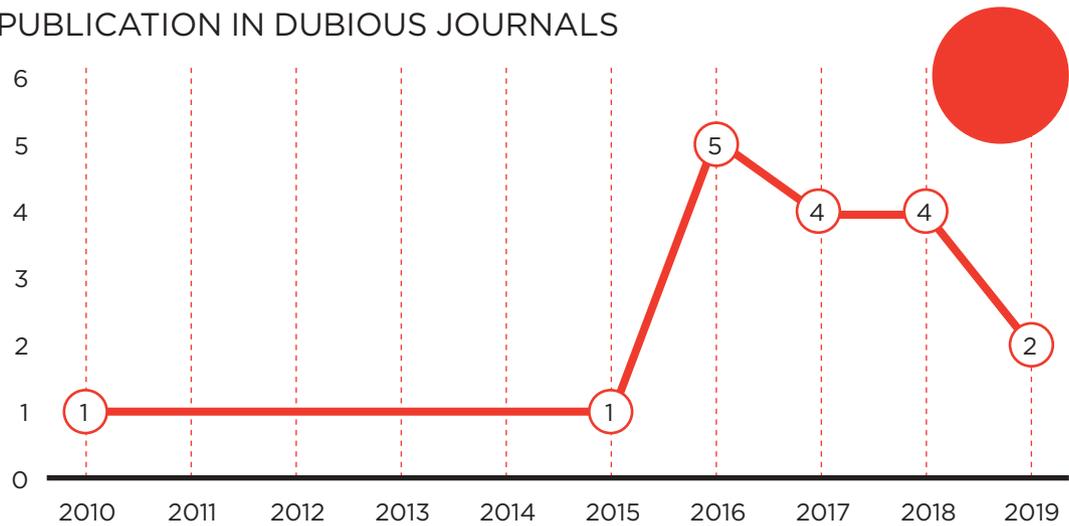
Professors in the Faculty of Education have published a total of 27 papers in scientific journals. Out of them, 22 are valid for academic promotions, which means they are published by professors as first or corresponding authors. 8 professors in this faculty don't have any papers published as first or corresponding author.

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATION IN FACULTY OF EDUCATION



7 professors have published 17 papers in dubious journals. 2016 is the year with the most papers in dubious journals, with a total of 5. In the recent years there's been a decrease, with two papers in dubious journals published in 2019.

PUBLICATION IN DUBIOUS JOURNALS



JUSTIFICATION OF ACADEMIC RANKS

Out of 12 professors, 9 or 75% do not justify their academic ranks according to the criteria of scientific papers as first or corresponding authors. Out of 7 assistant professors, 5 of them do not justify their academic ranks. Out of 4 associate professors, 3 do not justify their academic ranks. In this faculty there's only one full professor who does not justify their academic rank.

Professors who justify titles			Professors who do not justify titles		
Assistant professors	Associate professors	Full professors	Assistant professors	Associate professors	Full professors
2	1	0	5	3	1
3 (25%)			9 (75%)		

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

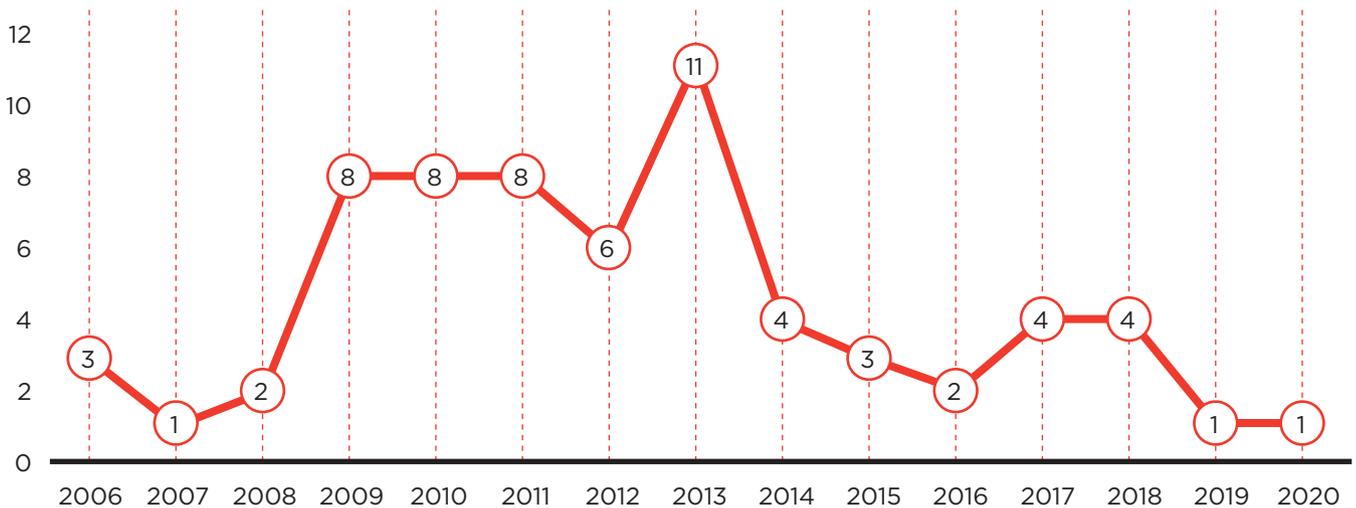


- 7** professors with academic ranks
- 4** associate professors
- 3** assistant professors

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

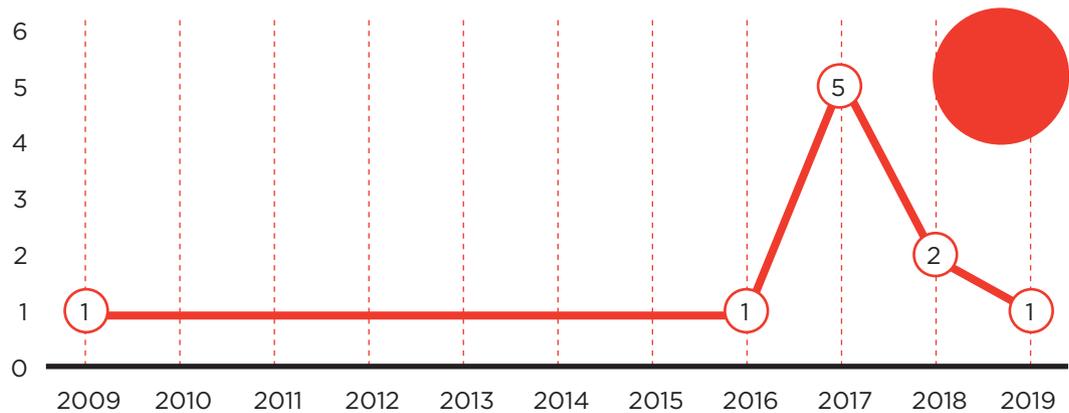
Professors in the Faculty of Medicine have published a total of 66 papers in scientific journals. Out of them, 35 are valid for academic promotions, which means they are published by professors as first or corresponding authors. The year 2013 is the year with the most papers, with a total of 11. One professor in this faculty doesn't have any papers published as first or corresponding author.

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATION IN FACULTY OF MEDICINE



3 professors have published 10 papers in dubious journals. 2017 is the year with the most papers in dubious journals, with a total of 5.

PUBLICATION IN DUBIOUS JOURNALS



JUSTIFICATION OF ACADEMIC RANKS

Out of 7 professors, 2 or 29% do not justify their academic ranks according to the criteria of scientific papers, as first or corresponding authors. Out of 3 assistant professors, 1 of them does not justify their academic ranks. Out of 4 associate professors, 1 does not justify their academic ranks.

Professors who justify titles			Professors who do not justify titles		
Assistant professors	Associate professors	Full professors	Assistant professors	Associate professors	Full professors
2	3	0	1	1	0
5 (71%)			2 (29%)		

FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY



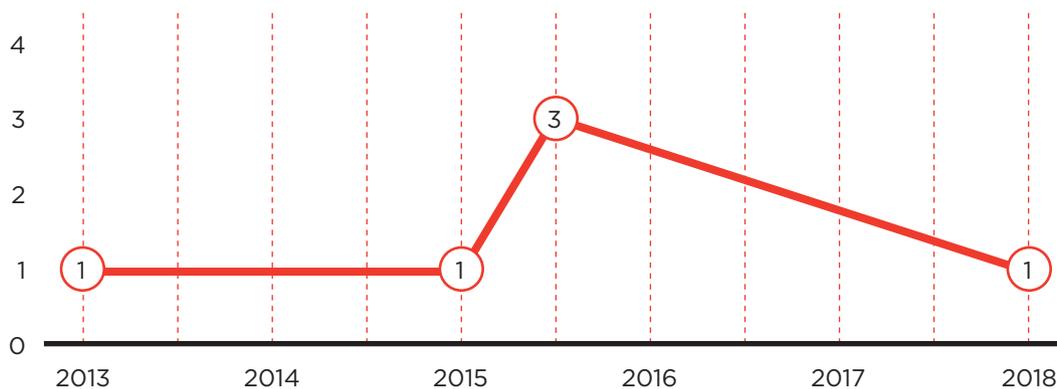
- 7** professors with academic ranks
- 4** associate professors
- 3** assistant professors

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Professors in the Faculty of Philology have published a total of 2 papers in scientific journals, both valid for promotion. The papers were published in 2009 and 2014. Five professors in this faculty don't have any papers published as first or corresponding author.

5 professors have published 6 papers in dubious journals. 2016 is the year with the most papers in dubious journals, with a total of 3.

PUBLICATION IN DUBIOUS JOURNALS



JUSTIFICATION OF ACADEMIC RANKS

Out of 7 professors, 6 or 86% do not justify their academic ranks according to the criteria of scientific papers as first or corresponding authors. Out of 3 assistant professors, 2 of them do not justify their academic ranks. None of the 4 associate professors justify their academic ranks.

Professors who justify titles			Professors who do not justify titles		
Assistant professors	Associate professors	Full professors	Assistant professors	Associate professors	Full professors
1	0	0	2	4	0
1 (14%)			6 (86%)		

METHODOLOGY

Legal basis

- ① Law for Higher Education in the Republic of Kosovo⁵
- ② The University of Gjakova Statute, specifically Articles 155, 156 and 157⁶
- ③ Administrative Instruction 01/2018 the recognition principles of platforms and international magazines with reviews⁷
- ④ Administrative Instruction for supplement and precision - Annex - I - (MEST) 7/2018 of AI No: 01/2018 the recognition principles of platforms and international magazines with reviews⁸
- ⑤ Regulation on election procedures related to election, re-election and promotion of academic staff in the University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani"⁹

ORCA has reviewed publications in international scientific journals, established as a criteria by the Law on Higher Education in Kosovo, the Statute of the University of Gjakova for election on one of the academic ranks: assistant professor, associate professor, and full professor, the Administrative Instructions 01/2018 and 07/2018, and the regulation on election procedures related to election, re-election and promotion of academic staff in the University of Gjakova.

5 Law on higher education, 2011, link: <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDocumentDetail.aspx?ActID=2761>

6 Temporary Statute of the public University of Gjakova, 2013, link: <https://uni-gjk.org/upload/dokumentet/99762-Statuti%20i%20Perkohshem.pdf>

7 Administrative Instruction 01/2018 the recognition principles of platforms and international magazines with reviews, 2018, link: <http://masht.rks-gov.net/uploads/2018/01/ua-nr-01-2018-parimet-e-njohjes-se-platoformave-dhe-revistave-nderkombetare-me-recension.pdf>

8 Administrative Instruction for supplement and precision - Annex - I - (MEST) 7/2018 of AI No: 01/2018 the recognition principles of platforms and international magazines with reviews, 2018, link: https://masht.rks-gov.net/uploads/2018/05/ua-7-2018-per-plotesimin-dhe-precizimin-e-ua-parimet-e-njohjes-per-revitat-nderkombetare_1.pdf

9 Regulation on election procedures related to election, re-election and promotion of academic staff in the University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani", 2019, link: <https://uni-gjk.org/upload/dokumentet/1580739498-Regullore%20per%20Procedurat%20%20P%C3%ABrzgjedh%C3%ABse%20%20lidhur%20me%20Emrimin,Riemrimin%20dhe%20Avancimin%20e%20Personeli%20Akademik%20One%20UGJFA.pdf>

RESEARCH OBJECT

The CVs of 26 professors of 3 faculties of the University of Gjakova were researched. This research does not include assistants, lecturers, foreign language lecturers, and other collaborators who do not have the academic ranks of assistant professor, associate professor or full professor. Apart from the CVs we also researched the lists of scientific publications in each faculty that were published on the website of the university, and the Scientific Bulletin 1 published by the University of Gjakova.

THE DURATION OF RESEARCH

All the CVs and other documents that were researched for this report were taken from the official website of the University of Gjakova¹⁰, during April-October 2020. To guarantee the accuracy of the data, these CVs went through a review round during October 2020. All changes evidenced during the second round of research were applied in the database upon which this report was built.

¹⁰ Official website of the University of Gjakova, link: <https://uni-gjk.org/>

THE METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCHING JUSTIFICATION OF ACADEMIC RANKS

For the academic rank of assistant professor, the candidates must have at least one scientific paper published in international peer-reviewed scientific journals, relevant to the Statute of the University of Gjakova, as first or corresponding author. Thus, according to the regulations in power, they must have a coefficient of 1.

For the academic rank of associate professor, the candidates must have at least three scientific papers published in international peer-reviewed scientific journals, relevant to the Statute of the University of Gjakova, as first or corresponding author. Thus, according to the regulations in power, they must have a coefficient of 3.

For the academic rank of full professor, the candidates must have at least five scientific papers published in international peer-reviewed scientific journals, relevant to the Statute of the University of Gjakova, as first or corresponding author. Thus, according to the regulations in power, they must have a coefficient of 5.

Based on AI1/2018, AI7/2018 and Regulation on election procedures related to election, re-election and promotion of academic staff in the University of Gjakova "Fehmi Agani", ORCA has given each scientific paper listed in the CVs a coefficient. These coefficients were given based on the databases where the journals are indexed, giving them a coefficient of 1, 0.85 or 0.70; or based on the journals listed in the aforementioned legislation that have a coefficient of 0.55.

ORCA has given a coefficient of 0 to papers published in conference proceedings, reports, projects, books or book chapters, which are not in international scientific journals, or papers that are in the process of being published, or papers for which the authors have received any type of confirmation by the journal, but haven't been published.

Publications in scientific journals of Kosovo or neighboring countries were given a coefficient of 0.

Papers published in journals that are listed in dubious journals list or if these journals have a publisher listed in dubious publishers list, have a coefficient of 0, and were calculated for the purposes of this research.

CALCULATION OF THE NUMBER OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

After the CVs were researched, the scientific publications found in the journals according to the aforementioned regulations, were compared cross-professor and cross-faculty, to eliminate double counting. This number includes all the scientific papers published in valid journals, not taking into account authorship rank, which is different from the analysis of justifying ranks where we have counted only the publications where University of Gjakova professors are first or corresponding authors.

DISCLAIMER:

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