

# PARTISH

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## *Development of part-time and short cycle studies In higher education in Bosnia and Herzegovina*

### 2.7 Defined accreditation criteria

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| <b>Project Acronym:</b>    | PARTISH  |
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| <b>Abstract</b> | In order to enable the implementation of the part-time and short-cycle studies program in institutions of higher education in Bosnia and Herzegovina, it is necessary to define the accreditation criteria as well as the procedure for their accreditation. Based on the experience in Serbia, a program country, if SC and PT programs are developed based on the already accredited regular cycle programs, there is no need to make additional accreditation of the program, but to create an elaborate on them. |
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# 1. ACCREDITATION OF SHORT CYCLES AND PART-TIME STUDIES

In accordance with the Constitution of BiH, all competences not expressly assigned to state institutions are given to the entities (RS and FBiH), while the Constitution of the Federation gives the cantons the responsibility "to build educational policies, including decisions concerning normative regulation in education". Procedures accreditation in Bosnia and Herzegovina is carried out by the Agency for the Development of Higher Education and Quality Assurance of BiH and the Agency for Higher Education of the Republic of Srpska, in cooperation with the competent educational authorities.

According to the Framework Law on Higher Education of BiH ("Official Gazette of BiH", No. 59/07), the subject of accreditation of higher education institutions and study programs, therefore, SHORT CYCLE is not subject to accreditation, but the quality of its performance is monitored in internal evaluation procedures and during the accreditation of higher education institutions.

According to the proposal of the PARTISH project, the accreditation process applies to PART TIME and SHORT CYCLE as follows:

- short-cycle programs can be organized only by accredited higher education institutions that have at least one accredited study program in a related or the same specific field as the short-cycle program,
- the higher education institution should have internal acts that regulate PART TIME and SHORT CYCLE, and which should be harmonized with the relevant law, which is checked during the accreditation procedure or by the action of the educational inspection,
- a higher education institution that prepares and implements a short cycle should report it to the competent authority, if it is prescribed by the new Law on Higher Education, for the purpose of registration,
- The committee dealing with accreditation and quality assessment during the scheduled or extraordinary external quality assessment of higher education institutions examines, among other things, whether the short cycles are aligned with the regulations and other acts of the higher education institution, and whether their performance is in accordance with ESG 2015 (learning and teaching, recognition, resources),
- the higher education institution should regulate the system of internal quality assurance with internal acts, which, among other things, defines:
  - data monitored for PART TIME and SHORT CYCLE,
  - surveys conducted related to PART TIME and SHORT CYCLE,

- a body from the quality assurance system that is responsible for monitoring data, conducting surveys and creating periodic reports for PART TIME and SHORT CYCLE.