

July 8, 2020

The Board of AQ Austria  
AQ Austria  
Franz-Klein-Gasse 5  
1190 Vienna

Dear Madam President, dear Members of the Board,

I hereby confirm that we have received and fully accept the Expert Panel Review Report regarding the following programs: PhD in Business Administration, MBA in Global Executive Management. We are pleased to learn that the Report confirms the academic excellence of the programs and that they fulfill all the criteria for accreditation.

We fully accept all the recommendations made in the Report. The administration of CEU PU will work closely with the Department of Economics and Business to address every recommendation made in the Report. Improving the gender balance of faculty, staff and students in particular is a priority for CEU PU. For specific responses to the recommendations of the AQ Austria Expert Panel, please refer to the Department's detailed reply in the appendix of this letter.

We would like to thank the Expert Panel members for their expertise and insights, as well as for the productive and collegial discussions during the site visit. We are grateful to the Expert Panel members for their hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm with which they approached the task.

We await the decision of the Board with anticipation and looking forward to the opportunity of starting our programs in Vienna in the coming academic year.

Sincerely,



Michael Ignatieff  
President and Rector  
Central European University Private University

## **CEU PU Department of Economics and Business Response to AQ Austria Expert Panel Report**

We would like to profoundly thank the AQ Austria coordinators and the Expert Panel members for their flexibility, consideration, and expertise throughout the accreditation process. We appreciate the time and energy that the team has invested in preparing and conducting the virtual site visit and writing a very insightful report on our two business programs. The recommendations of the Expert Panel are very constructive.

### **Recommendations of the Expert Panel**

1. *The expert panel recommends to including stakeholders beyond CEU PU academics, such as academics from other institutions and the former graduates (p. 6).*

We fully agree with this advice, and the Head of the program is to implement it in the next academic year.

2. *The expert panel recommends communicating clearly the topics regarding business administration. (p. 9)*

We fully agree with this statement, and the Director of the doctoral program is to implement this recommendation as soon as possible.

3. *The expert panel recommends interviewing at least a small number of candidates for the doctoral program. (p. 19)*

We accept this recommendation and ask the Doctoral program Director to implement it in the next academic year.

4. *The expert panel points to the gender imbalance in the Department. (p. 19)*

We accept this point and will continue to improve the gender balance. Fortunately, this academic year we have hired two new female colleagues and would like to continue in this trend.