




# THE ROLE OF EDUCATION LAW AT UAMD

A LAWYERS' PERSPECTIVE

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## *The purpose of the presentation*

- Highlights the impact of education law and other laws that deal with teaching profession in Albania, at University of Durres
- Exposes the interaction of the legislation with transformation of the study programmes



## *The structure*

- Overview of the study programmes in education offered by University of Durres
- The impact of education law in University of Durres
  - **Study programmes**
  - **Teaching profession**
  - **Continuous professional development of teachers**
  - **Reforming teacher study programmes**



## *Overview of the study programmes in education offered by UAMD*

- UAMD is a public higher education institution established in 2005.
- The education study programmes are offered mainly by the **Faculty of Education**

## Overview of the study programmes in education offered by UAMD

No.	Bachelor study programmes UAMD	Faculty provider	Duration
1.	English language and literature	Faculty of Education	3 academic years 180 ECTS
2.	German language and English language	Faculty of Education	3 academic years 180 ECTS
3.	English language	Faculty of Education	3 academic years 180 ECTS
4.	Primary education	Faculty of Education	3 academic years 180 ECTS
5.	Pre-school education	Faculty of Education	3 academic years 180 ECTS
6.	Psychology Sociology	Faculty of Education	3 academic years 180 ECTS
7.	History	Faculty of Political and Juridical Sciences	3 academic years 180 ECTS
8.	Informatics and English language	Faculty of Technology of Information	3 academic years 180 ECTS

## Overview of the study programmes in education offered by UAMD

No.	Master study programmes UD	Faculty provider/ date	Duration
1.	Teaching of English language	Faculty of Education Licensing date 2012	1-2 academic years 60-120 ECTS
2.	Teaching of Albanian language and literature	Faculty of Education 2011	1-2 academic years 60-120 ECTS
3.	Teaching of elementary education	Faculty of Education 2012	1-2 academic years 60-120 ECTS
4.	Didactic	Faculty of Education 2011	1-2 academic years 60-120 ECTS
5.	Teaching of English and Albanian language and literature	Faculty of Education 2012	1-2 academic years 60-120 ECTS
6.	Management and supervision of educational institutions	Faculty of Education 2011	1-2 academic years 60-120 ECTS
7.	Teaching of Psychology and Sociology	Faculty of Education 2012	1-2 academic years 60-120 ECTS

## Education Law in Albania

- Law on Pre-University Education (2012)
- Law on Higher Education System and Research (2015)
- Law on Regulated Professions (2009)

Affect:

- *the initial training education,*
- *the teacher education curricula,*
- *the admission of students in teaching study programmes,*
- *the steps needed for exercising the regulated profession of the teacher,*
- *the continuous professional development of teachers.*

## The impact of education law in UAMD **Study programmes**

Law on Pre-university education (2012)

- The teachers engaged in pre-university education institutions must have a master degree in the field of education
- Only the teachers in pre-school institutions are excluded

Duration of the initial training education

- Pre-school teachers 3 years
- Pre-university education teachers 4.5 – 5 years

## The impact of education law in UAMD **Study programmes**

### **Critical overview**

- The Law on Pre-university education has undergone recent changes and is still in the process of other amendments.
- It is necessary to have a holistic approach in these changes and to treat the Faculties of Education as partners.
- Otherwise, the amendments won't be accompanied by the changes in the educational curricula.


## The impact of education law in UAMD **Teaching profession**

- The teaching profession part of the Law of Regulated Professions from 2011

### **The right to exercise a regulated profession**


- pursue professional practice,
- perform the state exam,
- be registered in the Professional Order
- obtain a license for practicing the profession

The state exam is organized in **23 different profiles** of the teaching profession



## The impact of education law in UAMD **Teaching profession**

- The initial training education of trainee teachers:  
academic study of their subject (Bachelor degree)  
+  
specialization as teachers (Master degree).
  
- University of Durres the same model



## The impact of education law in UAMD **- Teaching profession**

- **Problems:**

1. Unclear legal framework regarding the profile of teachers
2. Not every bachelor degree of the Faculty of Education serves as a profile
3. A Master's degree in education without proper scientific knowledge won't serve to prepare trainee teachers
4. Lack of coordination from the top-level authorities with institutions in charge of teaching profession

**for defining the type and the content of the profile of teachers.**

## The impact of education law in UAMD **Teaching profession**

### **Examples from UAMD**

- ▀ German language and English language
- ▀ Informatics and English language

Lack of such profiles:

in the state exams of teachers  
in the competitive employment exam “*Teachers for Albania*”

## The impact of education law in UAMD **Continuous professional development of teachers**

- ▀ Before 2012 in-service training: organized by the governmental institutions as a planned activity & no analyses of the needs of teachers
- ▀ Universities weren't part of in-service training

Law of 2012 on Pre-university education system

- ▀ In-service training starts from the school level according to the needs of the teachers
- ▀ Is offered from public or private training agencies/ Universities

## The impact of education law in UAMD

### **Continuous professional development of teachers**

#### Some issues

- ▀ Rigid possibilities for universities as autonomous institutions to offer in-service training
- ▀ The Institute for Development of Education identifies the needs for in-service training with no collaboration with Universities

## The impact of education law in UAMD

### **Reforming teacher study programmes**

The law on higher education of 2015 emphasizes **the duration** and **clarification of the content of the master's degree** in teaching profession.

No.	Teaching profession	Level of Qualification
1.	Elementary education teacher	Professional Master in primary education 1 or 2 years; 60-120 ECTS
2.	Lower secondary education and the upper secondary education teachers	Master's degree in education 2 years, 120 ECTS



## The impact of education law in UAMD **Reforming teacher study programmes**

### Legal requirements (content)

- ▶ Master study programs in the teaching field at least 25 percent of the credits in the field of pedagogy and psychology
- ▶ Masters' degrees in education of the same field of study at least 80 percent of the content similar with each other.

### UAMD

- ▶ The adaptation of the study programmes in education

## The impact of education law in UAMD **Reforming teacher study programmes**

### Issues

- ▶ The evaluation of the similarities and differences between Master study programmes of the same field (*as a process*): **Unclear**
- ▶ Which instance or institution will be engaged in the analyses of the similarities of Master study programs **Unclear**
- ▶ Crucial **not to violate** the institutional autonomy of the universities in designing study programmes

## Conclusions

- The education law has an impact on pre-university education system and the university system as well.
- It is important to coordinate the vision of the top-level authorities with:
  - ❖ universities that offer educational study programmes,
  - ❖ and other institutions that deal with teaching profession.
- **Essential**, the Universities to be part of the changes in educational law in order to change the educational systems.



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*Thank you!*