

Establishment of an Advisory Board for the Master’s Programme “Language Education for Refugees and Migrants” (LRM)

The Assembly of the Single-Department School of Humanities of the Hellenic Open University (HOU), having taken into consideration:

- a)** Government Gazette (FEK) No. 2028/05-06-2018/Issue B regarding the re-establishment of the Master’s Programme in accordance with Law 4485/2017, titled “Language Education for Refugees and Migrants,” of the School of Humanities of the Hellenic Open University, and the approval of its organization and operation,
- b)** that the LRM Master’s Programme was evaluated by an External Evaluation and Accreditation Committee (September 2023),
- c)** the External Evaluation Report for the LRM Master’s Programme,
- d)** the minutes of the meeting (11-04-2025) of the Programme Committee of the LRM Master’s Programme / Item 3: Proposal for the establishment of an Advisory Board (Advisory Board) for LRM,
- e)** the Proposal to establish an Advisory Board for the LRM Master’s Programme submitted by the Programme Director, Professor Nektaria Palaiologou,

decided unanimously to establish an Advisory Board for the LRM Master’s Programme, consisting of:

1. **Eleni Oikonomidou** ([CV](#)), Professor, University of Nevada, Reno, USA.
2. **Kostas Magos** ([CV](#)), Professor, University of Thessaly.
3. **Panagiotis Passias** ([CV](#)), Head of the General Directorate of International and European Affairs, Education for the Greek Diaspora and Intercultural Education, Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs.
4. **Giannis Baveas** ([CV](#)), Consultant and Coordinator of Education and Training Programmes at the International Organization for Migration (IOM).
5. **Jan Christian Gube** ([CV](#)), Associate Professor, The Education University of Hong Kong; Assistant Dean of International Engagement.

6. **Ioannis Yantsidis (CV)**, LRM alumnus, educator, and head of educational Programmes at Solidarity.

The role of the Advisory Board will be exclusively consultative, with the purpose of serving as a “bridge” between the Programme and society, international organizations, and the labor market. In this context, the Committee will provide LRM with the necessary information, advice, and guidance on educational, professional, and research matters, as well as ideas to strengthen LRM with a view to the internationalization and outward-looking orientation of the Programme.

Specifically, the Committee will:

- examine and evaluate the changing needs of the labor market in the fields of the Programme’s academic/research subjects,
- propose action plans enabling the Programme to successfully meet new economic, technological, and scientific challenges, and
- support the achievement of the Programme’s strategic objectives,
- support the Programme’s outreach, and
- be able to participate in conferences and scholarly events organized; specific members of the Committee may be invited for keynote addresses or to participate on panels as experts.

Indicative responsibilities of the Committee:

- Provide advice on the policy and strategy adopted by the Programme to achieve its objectives.
- Identify the changing needs of the labor market in areas related to the Programme’s academic and research subjects and determine ways to meet these new needs.
- Provide recommendations on the knowledge and skills the Programme should offer, with the aim of strengthening its students.
- Provide advice and recommendations to enhance the Programme’s outreach, to establish partnerships with labor market stakeholders, and to promote its graduates.

- Undertake initiatives to improve the Programme’s reputation in the Greek and international academic environment.
- Connect the Programme with external networks in public and private entities, with the aim of attracting scholarships, internship positions, opportunities for postgraduate studies, and business collaborations.
- Participate in the Programme’s external evaluation procedures.

The term of office of the Advisory Board will be two years, commencing on the date the establishment of the Committee is approved by the University Senate. Its members may be reappointed, and the work they provide will be voluntary.

The Committee will meet, upon invitation from the Programme Director, twice a year or whenever deemed necessary.

The proposals of the Advisory Board will be communicated to the Programme’s Committee, which will make the final decisions regarding their potential implementation and utilization.