



Executive Summary

Initial Institutional Licensure Plekhanov Russian University of Economics (PRUE-D) Dubai

15-19 January 2024

An External Review Team (hereafter ERT) appointed by the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the Ministry of Education (MOE) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) visited Plekhanov Russian University of Economics–Dubai (PRUE-D) campus from the 15th to 19th of January 2024 to evaluate the Application for Initial Institutional Licensure (hereafter *Application*). The exit interview was held on the 19th of January 2024. During the review, the ERT reviewed relevant documents, toured the PRUE-D campus, and had extensive discussions with PRUE and PRUE-D officials, faculty, students, and other stakeholders regarding the proposed program. The findings of the ERT reflect its observations at the time of the review as related to the *Standards for Licensure and Accreditation 2019* (hereinafter referred to as the *Standards*) and the and the *Procedural Manual for Initial Institutional Licensure 2019 (PM-III)*.

PRUE, the parent institute in Moscow, Russia was established in 1907. PRUE has 11 other campuses in Russia, namely, in Bryansk, Volgograd, Voronezh, Ivanovo, Krasnodar, Orenburg, Perm, Sevastopol, Smolensk, Tula and Pyatigorsk, and 4 international campuses in Yerevan (Armenia), Minsk (Belarus), Tashkent (Uzbekistan), and Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia). The total student enrollment is 31,098 served by 3256 faculty members in the parent institution in Moscow, 598 on the Russian campuses, and 209 on the international campuses. The overall student-to-faculty ratio is 7.7:1.

PRUE-D, the Dubai Campus, is planned to be the fifth international campus. Upon Initial Institutional Licensure and Initial Program Accreditation, PRUE-D will inaugurate 4 academic programs, 2 at the bachelor level, namely the Bachelor of Science in Marketing and the Bachelor of Science in Finance, and 2 at the master level, namely, the Master of Science in Corporate Finance and the Master of Science in Digital Business. Those programs are offered by PRUE at other campuses with 851 students in the Bachelor of Science in Marketing, 308 in the Bachelor of Science in Finance, 38 in the Master of Science in Corporate Finance, and 53 in the Master of Science in Digital Business.

PRUE-D currently employs 3 resident faculty, 1 campus director, and 2 deputy directors. One additional resident faculty will join by September 2024, 2 resident faculty will join by September 2025, and another 2 will join by September 2026. Additionally, the PRUE-D Quality Assurance Director is a terminally qualified academic.

The ERT has identified the following strengths:



1. The commitment shown by the PRUE-D team to positively respond to the issues raised by the ERT during the review week.
2. The clear support from PRUE Moscow to establish a robust branch in Dubai.
3. The action plans to establish PRUE-D campus are delivering timely developments of the required resources and infrastructure.
4. The maturity of the academic framework adopted from and integration with the parent PRUE.

As with any quality assurance review, the ERT has identified matters which need addressing to bring the institution to full compliance with the *Standards* which can be grouped into three areas for improvement:

1. **Strategic Planning:** The absence of a detailed strategic plan, including clear goals, operational plans, and performance targets.
2. **Supporting Documents and Policies:** The wide range of supporting documents and policies which require revisions to address the requirements identified in this report.
3. **Benchmarking:** There is a lack of rigorous benchmarking exercises against other institutions to demonstrate how PRUE-D programs are performing in comparison to their local and international peers and to the parent institution in Moscow. PRUE-D also has a great opportunity for further benchmarking with peer programs in other PRUE Russian and international branches.

The ERT makes its recommendations in a spirit of constructive engagement, with the aim of ensuring that the *Standards* are met and to aid PRUE-D in its desired objective to secure initial institutional licensure.