COURSE TITLE: QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS FOR THE ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC POLICY AND REGULATIONS

A short description of the course

Quantitative research methods for the analysis of public policy and regulations is a course/programme aimed at understanding and interpreting different (dominant) statistical methods and techniques used to create, analyse and evaluate public policy. Attendees will master key methodological knowledge and techniques in two key aspects. First, they will be introduced to the problems of instrumentalisation, especially with the emphasis on the formation of indexes and scales for measuring public policy; and secondly, they will get acquainted with the methods used for the public policy analysis, especially from the point of view of monitoring, evaluation and public policy impact assessment. The knowledge and skills acquired in this course should help participants after completing the course, to be able to actively use the data and results of quantitative research, both in the phase of their creation and in evaluating public policy. Moreover, the course will enable the acquisition of skills in inferential statistics, especially in terms of reporting and public presentation of research results guided by guantitative methods. Finally, in accordance with the latest trends, and bearing in mind that students parallelly attend a course in qualitative methods, within this programme, participants will be introduced to the possibilities and examples of using a mixed approach, i.e. an approach that combines qualitative and quantitative methods in the process of creating, analysing and evaluating public policy.

What are the educational goals of the programme?

 Mastering the use of quantitative methods in order to create and evaluate public policy.

What knowledge will the participants acquire?

- Usefulness and application of quantitative methods
- Common quantitative methods used for public policy analysis and evaluation
- Quantitative data analysis procedures
- Interpretation of quantitative research findings

Implementer: Miloš Bešić

Course content

- Quantitative methods in social research introductory considerations
- Key quantitative methods applied in the public policy analysis and their specifics
- Theoretical concept and instrumentalisation in quantitative research of public policy
- Descriptive and exploratory statistical methods (univariate and bivariates)
- Regression analysis in public policy research
- Cluster analysis and factor analysis (EFA and CFA)
- Comparative design and application of quantitative methods
- Specificities of longitudinal design in the application of quantitative methods for public policy analysis
- Quasi-experimental design as a necessity in public policy evaluation
- Practicum