

Epoka University
Dean of Students
Student Clubs

July/ 21/2022

Subject: Academic year Annual Activity Report 2021-2022

Dean of Students

EPOKA University develops all the skills you need for the future. Student's clubs are established on academic bases and make possible and develop interpersonal relationships between students and build leadership skills.

The social and cultural activities give students a better understanding of life and bring about cultural exchange between students from different parts of Albania, the Balkans and the beyond.

For this reason, a variety of social and cultural activities are available to the students of Epoka University. The programs are organized by Students Clubs & Activities Office, part of the Dean of Students Office.

Table of Contents

Contents

Table of Contents	2
ABOUT THE DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE	4
1.1 CLUBS FEST 2021	5
1.2 SPRING FEST 2021	6
1.3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities.....	7
1.4 Donations for Mr.Haxhi Hoxha chemotherapy.....	8
1.5 Hike to the Dajti Mountain (Tujani Peak, 1580 m)	9
1.6 Epoka Football league final.....	10
1.7 Emotional Intelligence with Mrs.Manjola Collaku.....	11
1.8 "Soft skills in digital generation "with Erion Isufi, Landmark CEO.....	12
1.9 "Role and influence of media in Albanian democracy"	13
1.10 What's for Dinner: The Second Edition.....	14
1.11 "DEBATING ECONOMIC"	15
1.12 " Eja pastro dhe ti me ne!"	16
1.13 "Let's talk business"	17
1.14 "Women in Career".....	18
1.15 "The work Behind Great Products".....	19
1.16 "The importance of public speaking.....	20
1.17 Tech StartUp.....	21
1.18 Visiting Lufra company.....	22
1.19 "GRAPHIC DESIGN Talk"	23
1.20 Act, Dream, Achieve	24
1.21 "Introduction to Web Applications"	25

1.22 Debating Economics 2.....	26
1.23 Visiting Euro News Albania.....	27
1.24 Swimming Championship for Universities.....	28
1.25 " Eja pastro dhe ti me ne!" 2.....	29
1.26 Participation on the online meetings of the High Judicial Council	31

ABOUT DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

The Dean of Students office is responsible for the planning, support, advocacy and coordination of various educational programs and resources for students. The office aims at ensuring that the welfare of the students is catered for physically, academically, emotionally, intellectually, socially, and spiritually. All the activities and programs of the office of the Dean of Students are aimed at this wholesome development.

Goals and Objectives:

- To provide a confidential, safe, respectful, and welcoming space where our students can openly and honestly voice their concerns
- To act as a supportive liaison between our students, faculty and staff
- To advocate on behalf of fairness, justice, open communication, and expeditious resolution.
- To empower our students that they can be successful in meeting their intellectual, interpersonal, and developmental goals.
- Organizes, coordinates, expands, and manages relationships between student of Epoka University within and outside the Epoka University to third or similar counterparts, for connecting and strengthening bilateral and multilateral
- Guarantees students life in Epoka University, the implementation of agreements with third parties focused on students
- Promote a healthy, safe campus community

1.1 Clubs Fest 8.



Figure 1.1

On January 20, 2022, the Dean of Students Office in collaboration with the Students Clubs of EPOKA University organized the Club Fest 8. In this event also called "One Day Fest" participated 25 clubs. All the clubs had their stands where they introduced their clubs and admitted new members. In the event some of EPOKA University talented students performed with songs and other artistic performances. At the same time, part of the event where the speeches held by our Academic staff and students' representatives. In this very important event for students, participated many clubs with years of experience and clubs that opened this year. Today, many of the students engaged in the organization of this event, in which many students participated for the first time. Also, part of this event were the students who are part of Art and Music in Albania by performing the best hits on world playlists. A new day to become part of the hundreds of activities that these clubs will organize. A new day for everyone who wants more opportunities to engage in something better and positive.

1.2 Spring Fest 2022



Figure 1.2

On June 01, 2022, Epoka University organized the Spring Fest 2019. This annual activity, which has become a tradition now, gave the students the opportunity to enjoy many activities during the day. The Fest started with the opening ceremony, welcoming everyone to be part of it and enjoying all the activities of this festive day.

Afterwards, another beautiful activity that is organized every year is the awards of all championships Football, Volleyball, Chess, and Basketball. Students at the university competed in different categories such as musical instruments, songs, and dance. All the competitors were surprised with their beautiful performances. It cannot be left without emphasizing the fact that at this Spring fest the variety of the activities was large. Students enjoyed folkloric and Latin

performances which created a beautiful atmosphere in our university. Quiz and many other games forwarded to students the feeling of competition and joy.

The most beautiful moments in Spring Fest were the performances of Klajdi Haruni's and Bruno. Their great songs made students dance and to sing together with them. Klajdi Harruni's and Bruno's performance with their great voices was the concluding activity of this colourful event.

After Spring Fest, the students and staff joined the call of the Albanian Red Cross for blood donation. It should be underlined the fact that the participation was large.

1.3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities organized by Sensitive Society Club

Figure 1.3

On the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3/11/2021) and as part of the activities to mark this awareness day, Sensitive Society Club organized an open forum with guests Suela Lala (Executive Director Together Foundation) & Izet Onuzi (Executive Director of the Hope for Life



Foundation)!

They talk about the difficulties they encountered in life and where they found the strength to move forward with all their faith and strength. The students found the opportunity to have a conversation with them, thus asking them for advice on how to deal with such problems.

1.4 Donations for Mr.Haxhi Hoxha chemotherapy Sensitive Society Club



Figure 1.4

On Saturday, February 05, 2022, representatives from the Sensitive Society Club at EPOKA University met with Mr. Haxhi Hoxha, in order to deliver him the donations that were collected for him, following an intensive campaign by students and staff of the university.

The donations were collected with the purpose to help as much as possible Mr. Haxhi to cure his illness and other health issues.

Meanwhile, we sincerely thank all students and staff members who became part of this great initiative and wish Mr. Haxhi a speedy and full health recovery.

1.5 Hike to the Dajti Mountain (Tujani Peak, 1580 m).



Figure 1.5

EPOKA Outdoors Club, on February 05, 2022, organized a hike to the Dajti Mountain (Tujani Peak, 1580 m). The total hiking duration was 7 hours, approximately 17 km. It was very challenging because of the snow and ice, but all the participants successfully reached the summit. Everyone had a lot of fun, laughs and empathy to the members who faced the hiking a bit harder

than the others. This event was the right call before the final exams as it eased the stress accumulated.

1.6 EPOKA football league final was played between the SWE II vs IML I.



Figure 1.6

On February 07, 2022, EPOKA football league final was played between the SWE II vs IML I.

The league was won by IML I. 20 teams from all departments of EPOKA University participated in the league. The EPOKA league games were all played in the pitch of EPOKA University campus.

We congratulate the winners and all the participating teams for their well fought league. Also a special thanks to the EPOKA Sports Club members who organised the whole event.

1.7 Emotional Intelligence with Mrs. Manjola Collaku.



Figure 1.7

Motivators Club on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at 11:30 hours, held an Open Forum with the psychotherapist Manjola Çollaku related to Emotional Intelligence. Emotional Intelligence is a term invented around the 1980s' and has become very important in defining the success and productivity that we have in our daily life. The focus of the forum was the importance of knowing and being more aware of our emotions. This is the first step towards managing better our emotions and behavior. We can't control our emotions. They are free as much as our thoughts. The only thing that we can do is manage them in orders to achieve our goals and objectives. Psychotherapist Manjola gave us an insightful talk on how we can be more aware on our emotions and how we can handle them by mentioning examples from her patients as well.

1.8 "Soft skills in digital generation" with Erion Isufi, Landmark CEO



Figure 1.8

Epoka Motivators Club held its next activity on Tuesday on 08/02/2022.

An open forum on the topic "Soft skills in digital generation". Erion Isufi, Landmark CEO talked about the importance of soft skills in a working environment and how to gain those skills by simply prioritizing communication in every relationship. Moreover, he described how his company Landmark has integrated soft skills in their employees by training, shared experiences, and emphasis that they give to it in interviews.

1.9 “Role and influence of media in Albanian democracy” with Bledian Koka



Figure 1.9

On 09/02/2022, with the initiative and organization of the BackToTheFuture Club of Epoka University, the Open Forum “Role and influence of media in Albanian democracy” was held. The speakers that provided their valuable insight to the students were, our special guest, the well-known journalist, Bledian Koka and our very own, Assoc.Prof.Dr.Lisen Bashkurti, Dean of the Faculty of Law and Social Sciences. The discussion encompassed two very sensitive topics such as the influence if media and the Albanian democracy, giving students space to inquire further information and overall providing an area for discussion. We thank our guest, Mr.Bledian Koka for his time and the valued opinions and analysis he shared with us.

1.10 What's for Dinner: The Second Edition

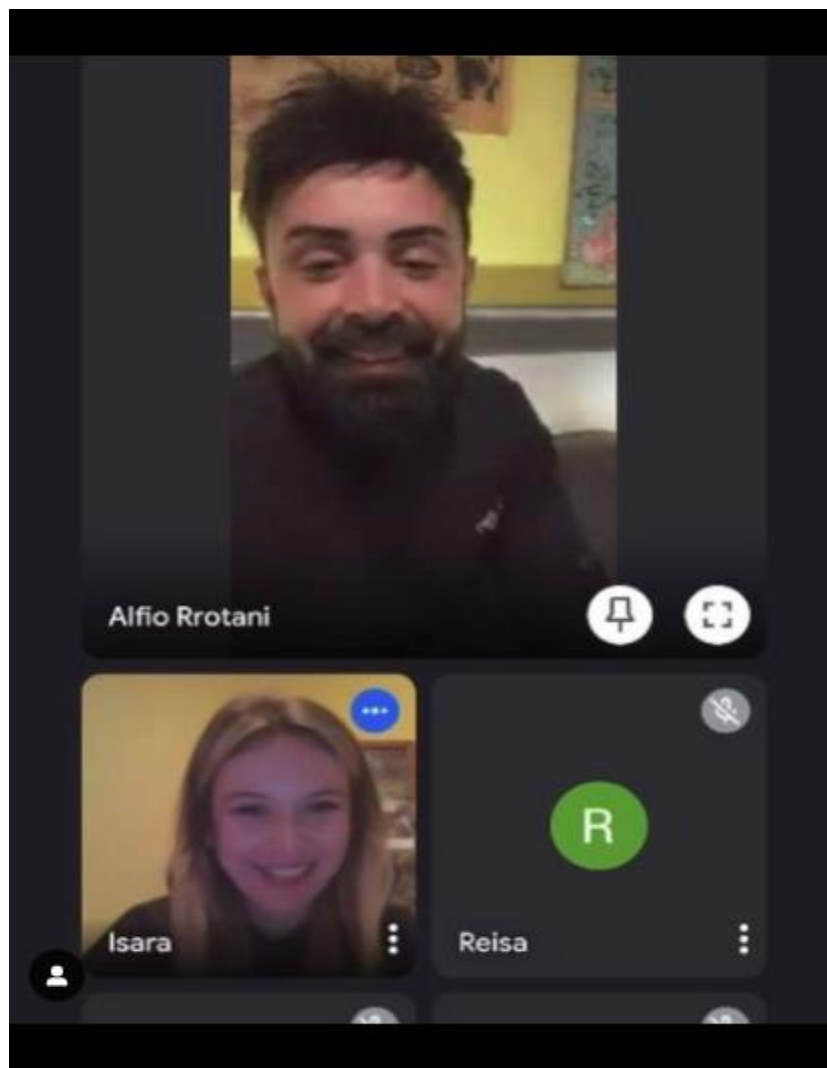


Figure 1.10

On Monday, March 15, 2022, our club together with the chef of “Kripe dhe Piper” restaurant, Alfio Rrotani organized the meeting for the competition “What’s for dinner”- second edition, to evaluate the top 10 best plates from all the plates that were prepared. During the meeting, participants were able to describe the process of cooking and the ingredients that they used. After this, the chef chose the 3 first places together with the most beautiful video and gave the prizes:
First place: a dinner at “Kripe dhe Piper” restaurant

Second place: the cooking book of Arbana Osmani

Third place: 1.000 LEK to spend at “Bereqeti”

The best video: 1.000 LEK to spend at “Bereqeti”

The chef with his positive energy made the activity more interesting and attractive. We thank him very much for his participation and valuable critiques.

1.11 “DEBATING ECONOMIC”

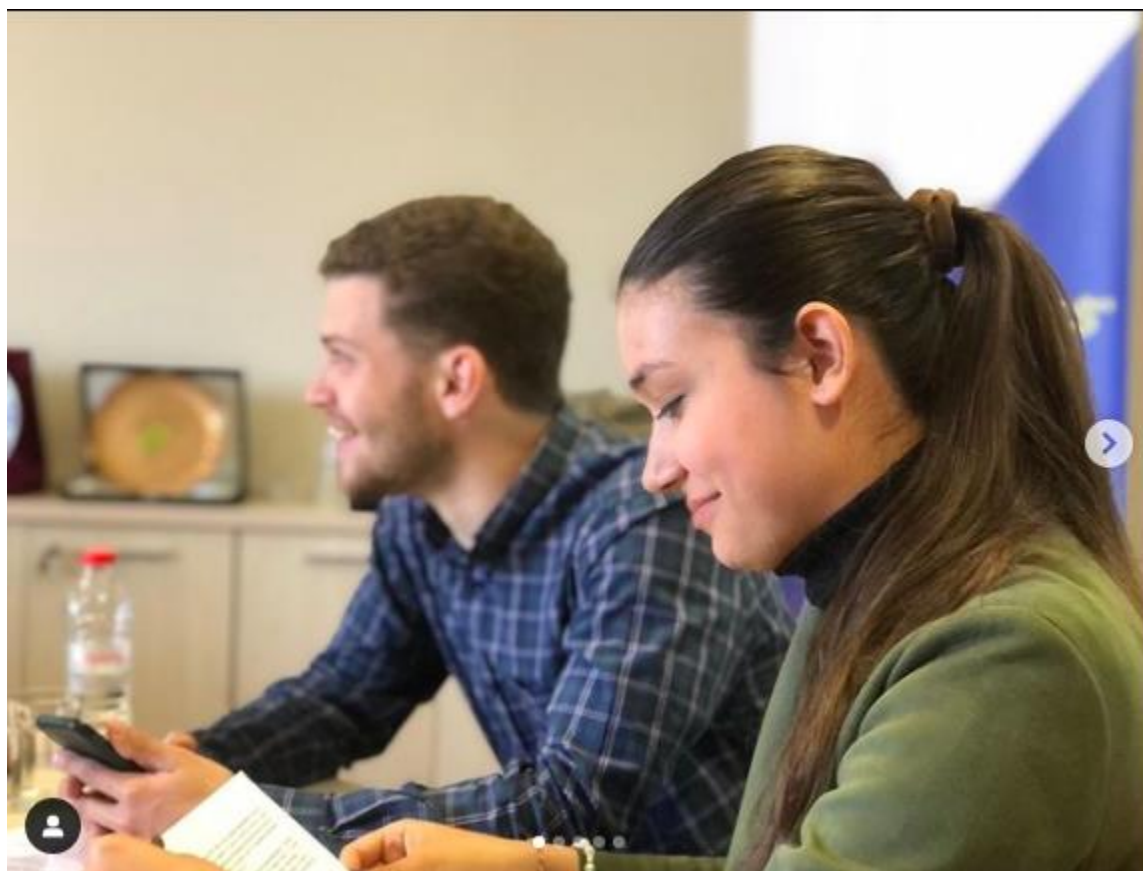


Figure 1.11

Young Economists Network Club in collaboration with the Debate Club of EPOKA University and Junior Achievement Albania completed the second phase of its training program.

Debating Economics is a Junior Achievement Albania program that promotes the development of leadership and debate skills, encourages critical thinking, the development of research,

argumentation, and persuasion skills with a particular focus on economic policies through a series of trainings and debate labs.

During the event, club members were presented with various ways to enhance their academic writing performance by using different research methods.

1.12 " Eja pastro dhe ti me ne!".



Figure 1.12

On Saturday, March 26, 2022, the students of Sensitive Society Club in collaboration with Outdoors Club at EPOKA University, organized a cleaning campaign at Preza Castle, in Preza village of Vora Municipality.

This initiative of cleaning the environment around us, it was the first one for this semester which hopefully will push further to organizing other cleaning campaigns in key areas.

The cleaning of environment around us is considered as most important and sensitive issue for the community life. For this reason, cleaning is putted as priority in the club agenda of our planned activities.

At the event, some staff and students from other university clubs took part by contributing and enjoying the day too. Hopefully, same will be for the future events.

We would like to thank them all for their desire to join and contribute to this activity.

1.13 "Let's talk business"



Figure 1.13

On 1st April 2022 Marketing Zone Club held an open forum on "Let's Talk Business". The special guest was the experienced entrepreneur, Besnik Hoxhaj.

Besnik Hoxhaj shared his expertise and knowledge about branding, nowadays market, business strategies and effective marketing strategies that can be used for maximum exposure and

efficiency of a brand.

Various questions were asked by students making an interesting conversation with the guest speaker.

1.14 "Women in Career"



Figure 1.14

On April 1, 2022, the Sensitive Society Club held an open forum on "Women in Careers." The special guest was the famous journalist and presenter Sonila Meco.

Sonila shared with students her experiences she has had throughout her career as a journalist, but not only.

Students became very involved in the topic by asking different questions to the guests and thus

creating a conversation.

Students are also expected to give numerous tips for considering their future.

Mrs. Sonila Mecu for the time given and the precious opinions and analysis she shared with us.

1.15 "The work Behind Great Products"



Figure 1.15

On 6 April 2022, Programming Club organized “The Work Behind Great Products” with Dea Mandija, Product Manager at Communardo GmbH.

During this event, students got to know what a product is and how important team collaboration is when building a product.

There was also an introduction of Agile, which is a way of building products that prioritizes people and change management.

In the end, Dea shared 3 tips for us to remember:

While building a product, we have to set goals and gather information.

A product should accommodate people's emotions.

A product has to be accessible to most people (ideally, everyone), even the ones that have special needs.

We thank Mrs. Mandija for sharing her experience with the students that attended the event and we look forward to another event with her.

1.16 “The importance of public speaking”



Figure 1.16

On April 13th, 2022, SpeakX Club held an open forum on “The importance of public speaking” with Mrs. Irena Myzeqari, lecturer at The European University of Tirana. Mrs. Myzeqari shared her expertise in public speaking by providing us with real examples from

her academic and personal experiences. Tips and tricks on becoming better public speakers were shared with students, making them raise questions and get answers from the notable expert.

1.17 Tech Start Up



Figure 1.17

On April 19, 2022, Electronics Club organized an Open Lecture with Mr. Rifat Seferi, Chief Information Officer at AuditAlbania at the premises of EPOKA University. Topics that were discussed:

- Tech StartUp
- Academic Spin-Off
- C-Labs
- IntegrityKEY Short Pitch
- Discrete Event Dynamic Systems (DEDS)

He also spoke about the new innovations in technology and how we can put these new technologies into practice.

1.18 Visiting Lufra company



Figure 1.18

On 19th of April 2022 Marketing Zone Club organized a visit at Lufra Sh.p.k. The main aim of the tour was to see firsthand different manufacturing processes and the management of a big organization.

Lufra's experienced staff shared their knowledge with the students and created a wonderful, pleasant, and interesting tour.

Various questions were asked by students making an interesting conversation as well.

We thank Mr. Granit Qose and Lufra's Staff along with Marketing Zone Club for making this happen.

1.19 "GRAPHIC DESIGN Talk"



Figure 1.19

On April 22, 2022, the Multimedia Club of EPOKA University in collaboration with the Dean of Students Office organized an Open Forum, titled "Graphic Design Talk", with respected guest Mr. Merjot Xhelollari, Co-founder and Instructor at GWTirana.

During the event, students got to know numerous valuable lessons regarding Graphic Design. Amongst these were crucial concepts such as what Visual Communication is and the immense importance it holds in relation to Brand Image. Mr. Xhelollari further elaborated Brand Image and the ways in which it helps every business succeed in establishing a distinct identity.

In the end, Mr. Xhelollari also presented a valuable opportunity for our university's students. On

12th of May, GWTirana will hold an online webinar where all our students are free to join. We thank our guest for his time and lessons!

1.20 Act, Dream, Achieve



Figure 1.20

On 27 April Women Leadership Club organized an Open Lecture with Rafaela Rica, founder of Iceberg Communication at the premises of EPOKA University.

Topics that were discussed:

- Women & Youth Empowerment.
- Being successful in business.
- Studying abroad.

- Being activist.
- Mentoring.

1.21 "Introduction to Web Applications"



Figure 1.21

On April 29.2022, Programming Club organized "Introduction to Web Applications" with Hagi Gjoka, Senior Frontend Developer at ikubINFO and Assistant Lecturer at Epoka University. Prof. Gjoka introduced the participants to the fundamental technologies of the web such as HTML, CSS and JavaScript.

It was an interesting journey into how we can build and share our web applications.

Towards the end of the event, we got to talk a little about more interesting topics like the beginning of a career in web development.

We hope the participants benefitted from the information shared, we thank Prof. Gjoka for joining us and we can't wait for the next event.

1.22 Debating Economics 2



Figure 1.22

On May 17, 2022, the Debate Club in collaboration with Young Economists Network Club of EPOKA University and Junior Achievement Albania completed the third phase of its training program.

Debating Economics is a Junior Achievement Albania program that uses a series of training sessions and mock to enhance the development of leadership and debate abilities, as well as critical thinking, research, logic, and persuasive skills, with a particular focus on economic policies.

During the event, club members were presented with various ways to enhance their debating skills in the format of British Parliamentary Debates as well as preparing and executing a mock debate. Mock debates encourage active, collaborative learning and research, as well as critical thinking, argument, and public speaking. Other activities included mock interviews and skill assessment trainings

1.23 Visiting Euro News Albania



Figure 1.23

On the 16th of May 2022 Department of Political Science and International Relations organized a visit to Euronews Albania in the framework of the Political Communication course. In this context, the main aim of this visit was to give to students a better insight into how media influences politics and vice versa, the impact media has on the political agenda setting, government communication, and how media in Albania plays its role as the fourth branch of democracy.

Euronews Albania is a television channel that broadcasts news in the Albanian language from Albania, Kosovo, and Northern Macedonia under the well-known logo of Euronews. The broadcasting of the shows started on November 21, 2019, and in a very short time managed to

gain the trust of viewers with the innovations, it brought to the Albanian audiovisual media, attracting the attention of different age groups, making Euronews one of the most followed media in the country. Students were welcomed by Ms. Loneta Progni and Mr. Renaldo Salianji, journalists and presenters of the 'Miremengjes' morning program at Euronews, who shared with our students their experience in the field of journalism and media and explained the notion of 'media framing' and shared with the students Euronews policies regarding news broadcasting and the way news is delivered to the public. In this framework, students had the chance to discuss how journalists' rights and media freedom are being or not respected in Albania. Participants engaged in the discussion had the opportunity to give their own opinions and share their analyses with regard of what is the overall relationship between the media, the public, and politics in Albania.

1.24 Swimming Championship for Universities



Figure 1.24

2nd place won by EPOKA University Student Laert Huti, at the Swimming Championship for Universities

On May 18, 2022, the Swimming Championship for Universities was held by FSHSU.

EPOKA University, as part of the Albanian Federation of University Sports, became part of the championship with three boys and one girl.

In this competition, 60 students from 16 different universities competed, and our student Laert Huti won the 2nd place.

EPOKA University congratulates him on the victory and wishes him many successes.

1.25 "Eja pastro dhe ti me ne!". 2



Figure 1.25

On Saturday, June 04, 2022, the students of Sensitive Society Club at EPOKA University, in collaboration with [@ecobloom.al](https://www.ecobloom.al) organized a cleaning campaign at Kallm village of Durrës Municipality.

This initiative of cleaning the environment around us, it was the first one for this semester which hopefully will push further to organizing other cleaning campaigns in key areas. The cleaning of environment around us is considered as most important and sensitive issue for the community life. For this reason, cleaning is putted as priority in the club agenda of our planned activities.

At the Today's event, some staff and students from other university clubs took part by contributing and enjoying the day too. Hopefully, same will be for the future events. We would like to thank them all for their desire to join and contribute in this activity.

1.26 Participation on the online meetings of the High Judicial Council



Figure 1.26

Participation of Law Students' Club on the online meetings of the High Judicial Council

Law Students' Club from 5 May 2022 have been engaged by participating in the online meetings of the High Judicial Council, as one of the first institutions of the justice system that was created through the framework of justice reform.

Through proactive engagement in HJC meetings, students understand the leading role of this institution towards the policy making process, development of plans, decision making process

and allocating of the necessary resources to the judiciary system.

Law Students 'Club attended meetings on May 5, May 17 and June 6, 2022.

Students engaged in participating in online meetings have kept minutes regarding the topics of discussion and the scope of forwarding information to the third parties.

Law Students' Club: Artela Roshi Law II, Bethni Levendi Law III, Katerina Çela Law II, Markela Biba Law II, Lea Kryeziu Law II, Sovastjana Topuzi Law II, Greta Deliallisi Law II, Paula Ndroqi Law IV.1