

September 21st, 2023

To whom it may concern,

This letter is in response to the request for comments on the 120-credit educational and scientific Master program “Systems, Technologies and Mathematical Methods of Cybersecurity” by National Technical University of Ukraine “Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute”, Institute of Physics and Technology. My comments are based on nearly a decade of experience as a Program Manager for the 2-year international “Cybersecurity” MSc program offered jointly by Tallinn University of Technology (Estonia) and Tartu University (Estonia), as well as having the opportunity to review the program description document of the Ukrainian program in question.

The research focused 120-credit program “Systems, Technologies and Mathematical Methods of Cybersecurity” covers the engineering fundamentals of cybersecurity, including mathematics, modelling and design of systems. The program also offers general studies, such as pedagogy, innovation and foreign language studies. Lastly, the program contains a solid foundation for research and is expected to finish with a research thesis. The program is well balanced within the engineering focus.

If desired, the program could be further developed by providing additional (elective) courses in cybersecurity management (organisational security), cyber incident handling and human aspects of cybersecurity. Offering electives on some technical specialisations (digital forensics, network monitoring, malware reverse engineering, system hardening, etc.) could provide the students with more practical experience. Such additions could expand the students’ potential career options and prepare them better for work in operational or leadership roles in complex multi-disciplinary environments.

Overall, I consider this program suitable for applicants who are interested in cybersecurity engineering or technical research careers. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely



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