



## **4th INCU Baku Regional Office Winter School**

### **“The Basics of Academic Research and Writing” Short Course**

**5-11 February 2020**

The course/workshop introduces participants to the basic principles of academic research and writing in the context of Customs and related disciplines. The workshop/course focuses on research traditions and paradigms, and the nature of the research process, including planning and designing a research project and preparing a research proposal. As part of the workshop/course, participants will be introduced to the common referencing styles and techniques, the importance of referencing and academic integrity, and provided with some tips on avoiding plagiarism in academic writing. In addition, participants will be introduced to the concept of literature review and research methodologies and will be shown how to prepare a literature review and choose appropriate methodology and data collection methods for their research project. In consultation with and under the guidance of the instructor/tutor, participants will have an opportunity to develop an appropriate research title/question for their proposed project and prepare a research proposal containing a preliminary literature review and briefly addressing methodological aspects of their proposed research project. The course/workshop will also briefly touch on various ethical issues that can arise in research.

On completion of this workshop/course, participants should be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of the role and potential of research in the field of Customs;
- demonstrate familiarity with the research and process, cycle and design;
- demonstrate ability to formulate a suitable research question/title/problem and appropriately define the project aims, scope and a clear set of objectives;
- demonstrate familiarity with different referencing styles and techniques as well as ways to avoid plagiarism;
- demonstrate an understanding of the importance and various roles of the literature review in research and ability to prepare a brief literature review on their chosen/assigned topic;
- formulate and articulate well-developed approaches to a research project and select appropriate research methodology and data collection methods for their chosen/assigned topic;
- demonstrate an understanding of the ethical issues in research and their particular relevance to their research project; and
- develop a research proposal to explore critically the issues in their chosen/assigned topic area in depth and with balance.

This course is delivered by Associate Professor Dr Mikhail Kashubsky from the Centre for Customs and Excise Studies (CCES), Charles Sturt University (CSU) which is the world’s leading provider of training and education in the highly specialised areas of customs, excise and border management. Recognised by the World Customs Organization (WCO) and our peers as international leaders in the field of Customs education, we play a key role in establishing and maintaining the WCO Professional Standards. CCES houses the Secretariat of the International Network of Customs Universities (INCU) and, together with the University of Münster, Germany, publishes the World Customs Journal (WCJ), which is dedicated to international customs matters and is fully endorsed and co-badged by the WCO. These are continually updated through our ongoing research activities to reflect contemporary and emerging issues.