

**Regulations on organizing and functioning of the
Interdisciplinary School of Doctoral Studies – University of Bucharest**

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Section 1 - General provisions

Article 1

(1) This Regulation is adopted on the basis of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, with the subsequent amendments and completions, of the Code for Doctoral University Studies, approved by GD no. 681/2011, with the subsequent amendments and completions, of the University of Bucharest Charter adopted in 2011 and of the University of Bucharest Ph.D.'s Regulations.

(2) This Regulation applies to ISDS-UB.

(3). All regulations governing the functioning and organization of a doctoral school provided in The Law of National Education, the Code for Doctoral University Studies, the University of Bucharest Charter, the University of Bucharest's doctoral degree regulations and ISDS-UB Constitutive Act are part of this regulation, without being explicitly stated.

Section 2 - ISDS-UB Doctoral School

Article 2

(1) The Interdisciplinary School of Doctoral Studies from now on referred to as Doctoral School, is an organized community of teaching staff, researchers and doctoral students, an administrative structure that supports scientific research and learning through research. The activities carried out in the Doctoral School include: organizing interdisciplinary training programmes based on advanced university studies, conducting scientific research, writing scientific papers, elaborating the doctoral thesis, scientific communication and public defence of the research results.

(2) The Doctoral School's mission is to stimulate and promote excellence in interdisciplinary research and the internalization of the doctoral studies at the University of Bucharest (from now on referred as UB).

(3) The Doctoral School organizes interdisciplinary doctoral training programmes for all fields for which its members have the status of Ph.D. Supervisors and for which UB is accredited to organize Ph.D. studies under the law.

(4) The languages of doctoral studies are English and other international languages. In the training programs based on advanced studies there can also be organized Romanian activities, for the Romanian specific domains.

Section 3 - Organization and functioning of the Doctoral School

Article 3 - Members of the Doctoral School

(1) At the date of approval by the Council for University Doctoral Studies of this Regulation, all persons already qualified as members of the Doctoral School are listed in the Annex to the ISDS-UB Constitutive Act.

(2) An academic or research titular in UB, with an unlimited period of employment, having the title of doctoral supervisor, may become a member of the Doctoral School upon request, in compliance with the provisions of the Regulation of PhD studies at UB. The application must be endorsed by the Doctoral School Council and by the Council for University Doctoral Studies, and then approved by the UB Senate, with the exception of doctoral supervisors who are already conducting their Ph.D. in a Doctoral School within UB, whose applications will be endorsed by the ISDS-UB Council with the prior agreement of the majority of the Ph.D. supervisors within ISDS-UB and will be approved by the Council for University Doctoral Studies.

(3) A doctoral supervisor who is not a UB titular may become a member of the Doctoral School with the agreement of more than half of the doctoral supervisors who are members of the Doctoral School, expressed by vote, with the favorable opinion of the Council of the Doctoral School, the Council for University Doctoral Studies, and with the approval of the UB Senate, and may lead Ph.D.s under the same conditions as Doctorate supervisors in UB.

(4) A doctoral supervisor, member of the Doctoral School, who has reached the legal retirement age in higher education, retains his / her membership in the Doctoral School only as long as he/she has Ph.D. students under his / hers guidance. Once he/she does not have doctoral students under his / hers supervision, he/she may request the prolongation of his / hers membership in the Doctoral School for periods of 3 years. The application must be approved by the Doctoral School Council and the Council for University Doctoral Studies. In order to be able to direct new Ph.D. students, such a doctoral supervisor needs the approval of the Doctoral School Council.

(5) Within the Doctoral School, they may collaborate in teaching or research activities, or as members of doctoral students' commissions, teachers or researchers, not necessarily UB titulars, who are not authorized to oversee Ph.D. students. Also, doctoral supervisors from other doctoral schools may be involved in the teaching or research activities of the school.

(6) The doctoral school may impose minimum standards of scientific and didactic performance for the doctoral supervisors to give the necessary approval to paragraphs (2), (3), (4), (5). In case a doctoral supervisor no longer meets these standards, the Doctoral School Board may propose a suspension of the membership of the Doctoral School until the standards are met, based on the prior agreement of more than half of the Ph.D. supervisors who are members of the Doctoral School, expressed by vote. The doctoral supervisor may request the reactivation of membership only with the approval of the Council of the Doctoral School and the Council for University

Doctoral Studies. If a person affiliated with the Doctoral School no longer meets the appropriate minimum standards, the Board of the Doctoral School may decide to terminate its affiliation by vote.

Article 4 - Leadership of the Doctoral School

- (1) The Doctoral School is headed by a Director and a Council of the Doctoral School.
- (2) The Director of the Doctoral School is a doctoral supervisor within the school, elected with secret ballot by the doctoral supervisors with the right to vote, validated and appointed by the Council for University Doctoral Studies.
- (3) The Council of the Doctoral School, elected with secret ballot by the doctoral supervisors of the Doctoral School with the right to vote, consists of:
 - three doctoral supervisors, one of whom is the director of the School;
 - two external persons (persons who have an affiliation with higher education or research institution abroad or who have had an academic activity for at least ten years at such an institution);
 - two doctoral students of the Doctoral School.
- (4) The term of office for the members of the ISDS-UB Board and Director is the one stipulated by the law, except for the mandate of the first governing body of ISDS-UB, which shall cease at the date of election of the doctoral councils of the University of Bucharest.

Article 5 - Duties of the Council of the Doctoral School

- (1) The Council of the Doctoral School has the following primary duties:
 - (a) Elaborate the Statute of the Doctoral School. This statute shall be amended by the Doctoral School Council whenever necessary. The statute of the Doctoral School must be endorsed by a universal vote by the doctoral supervisors who are members of the Doctoral School, approved by the Doctoral School Council and the Council for University Doctoral Studies;
 - (b) approve proposals to set up interdisciplinary training and research fields and periodically evaluate their work;
 - (c) take decisions to grant or revoke the membership of the Doctoral School and set minimum standards for scientific and didactic performance in order to apply these procedures objectively;
 - (d) set minimum standards of scientific performance required for a Ph.D. supervisor to be able to direct new Ph.D. students;

- (e) set minimum standards of scientific performance that the assessment members of the Ph.D. committees must satisfy;
- (f) set standards for outside and doctoral students who apply for membership in the Doctoral School Council;
- (g) establishes the criteria for awarding doctoral thesis grades;
- (h) allocate the available places for research modules and fields;
- (i) approve the nominal composition of the steering committees;
- (j) approves the individual training plans of doctoral students established by the Ph.D. supervisors and the proposals for their amendment;
- (k) endorse doctoral commissions;
- (l) constitutes the organizational chart of the Doctoral School, which is then endorsed by Council for University Doctoral Studies and approved by the UB Senate;
- (m) establishes the content of the doctoral study programme;
- (n) provides the internal evaluation for the doctoral degree programs, the performance of doctoral supervisors and Ph.D. students;
- (o) organizes the doctoral admission contest;
- (p) approves the registration and expulsion of doctoral students, at the proposal of the doctoral supervisors;
- (q) approves doctoral students' requests for extension, interruption or resumption of doctorate activity with the consent of the doctoral supervisor;
- (r) mediates conflicts between Ph.D. students and Ph.D. supervisors;
- (s) sets out the development directions for the Doctoral School in consultation with its members and the Advisory Council;
- (t) establishes doctoral school collaborations and partnerships;
- (u) approve the annual list of invited teachers at the Doctoral School;
- (v) propose fees for university doctoral studies; they must be endorsed by Council for University Doctoral Studies and approved by the UB Senate.

(2) The Council of the Doctoral School exercises the other attributions established by the National Education Law, the University Doctoral Studies Code, the UB Charter and the Doctoral Degree Regulations in UB.

Article 6 - The Advisory Council of the Doctoral School

The Council of the Doctoral School may decide to set up an Advisory Council composed of internationally prestigious researchers. It has the role of assisting ISDS-UB leadership in substantiating decisions, establishing its development directions, facilitating the establishment of international collaborations.

Article 7 - Functioning of the Doctoral School

(1) The operation of the Doctoral School is supported by its Secretariat. It manages doctoral school papers, ensures updating the situation regarding schooling and training activity of the doctoral students and the information flows within it, as well as with the specialized services at UB level.

(2) The Doctoral School has a web page of its own, with English and Romanian versions, which contains public information about the school.

Section 4 - Profile of interdisciplinary training

Article 8

The Doctoral Degree Program of the Doctoral School aims at the formation of two types of competencies: professional competences and transversal competencies.

Article 9 - Professional Competencies

The professional competencies obtained by a graduate of the doctoral degree program are the following:

a) Advanced knowledge of the current state of the art and the methodology of basic scientific research:

- Knowledge and general understanding of classical and contemporary theories in the main field;
- In-depth understanding of a contemporary research direction;
- Knowledge of concepts, theories, methodologies and perspectives from other sciences, relevant to the doctoral research topic of the graduate;

b) Ability to identify, formulate and solve fundamental research problems:

- Identifying and understanding the objectives and issues of a given research topic;
 - Asking questions on the topic;
 - Mastery of advanced research methods and techniques;
 - Identifying alternative approaches when those expected to solve the problem do not work;
- c) Capacity to operate with concepts and research methods from at least three distinct domains;
- d) Skills for documentation, writing, and capitalization of scientific works:
- searching for and identifying results and methods related to research issues in the literature by consulting books, magazines, scientific databases in online and offline environments;
 - organizing the results of their scientific research for their presentation in the form of scientific papers;
 - ability to present the results of their scientific research, as well as other scientific results in the field, in scientific seminars, colloquia, conferences;
 - ability to present results and methods of scientific research in the field to specialists from other fields as well as to the general public;
- e) Linguistic abilities at an academic level:
- linguistic skills in international languages for documenting and elaborating scientific papers;
 - communication skills necessary for discussions with foreign specialists at conferences, in documentation stages, by written or electronic mail;
- f) Understanding and applying the principles and values of scientific research ethics and professional and academic deontology in the field.

Article 10 - Transversal competences

The transversal competencies obtained by a Ph.D. graduate program are as follows:

- (a) written and oral communication skills in the mother tongue and international languages;
- b) use ICT to: obtain scientific information via the Internet, information on the organization of scientific meetings, initiating and maintaining scientific contacts, use of software packages needed for investigation;

- c) interpersonal skills and teamwork: the capacity and willingness to discuss a particular research problem in a group, the ability to initiate a research team - which may be interdisciplinary, the ability to attract other people in such a joint project;
- d) the capacity to manage its material and financial resources as well as the human resources, while coordinating a working team;
- e) the ability to design and prepare a research project to attract research funds;
- f) the ability to formulate a research theme;
- g) knowledge of legislation and good practices in the field of intellectual property rights.

Section 5 - Admission to the Doctoral School

Article 11 - The admissions Committee

The admission committee at the Doctoral School is proposed by the Council of the Doctoral School and approved by UB. The Commission consists only of Ph.D. supervisors at the Doctoral School. The doctoral supervisor requested as the coordinator of a candidate is part of the admission committee for that candidate.

Article 12 - The admissions Contest

(1) The content and the form of the admission contest for each position of doctoral student vacant at the Doctoral School shall be established by the doctoral supervisor, in consultation with the Doctoral School Council. Following the results of the admissions contest, candidates will be hierarchized by the admissions committee to establish the list of accepted candidates.

(2) Any appeals shall be examined by a Board of Appeal, appointed by the Board of the Doctoral School.

Article 13

At the admission contest for doctoral studies can take part Romanian citizens in legal conditions, citizens of other states from the European Union, as well as citizens from states outside the European Union, according to the law.

Section 6 - Doctoral studies program

Article 14

(1) Within the Doctoral School, studies may be organized:

- for thematic directions, within the interdisciplinary training and research modules,
- for the priority thematic directions within the interdisciplinary research training groups (IRTGs) poles.

The following interdisciplinary training and research modules are set up within the Doctoral School:

1. Exact and Natural Sciences;
2. Social Sciences and Humanities.

The number and scope of modules can be modified by decisions of the Council of the Doctoral School, following the approval of the majority of the members of the General Assembly of the Ph.D. supervisors.

(2) An IRTG is formed around a research theme requiring an interdisciplinary approach, involving at least three Ph.D. supervisors from at least three distinct fields of research. One of the supervisors is appointed responsible, and spokesperson of the IRTG and represents it in interactions with the Council of the Doctoral School.

(3) The establishment of an IRTG is based on a project submitted to the Council of the Doctoral School by an initiative group, in which it is described in a synthetic way: the topicality and importance of the proposed research direction, the necessity of the interdisciplinary approach on the topic, the motivation for establishing the IRTG, the proposed objectives, human resources involved, the material and financial resources available in the institutions involved in the domain, the collaborating persons and institutions, the advanced training and research program, the perspective / vision for future development of the IRTG.

(4) The Board of the Doctoral School examines the IRTG-building projects and assesses their potential to organize and carry out doctoral research and top-level research internationally, taking into account the topicality of the topic and its degree of interdisciplinarity, the scientific performance of the members, the number of inter-personal and inter-institutional collaborations at national and international level, the quality of the available material resources and the quality of the proposed training program. For evaluation, the Doctoral Board may call on outside specialists. An IRTG is established with the approval of the Doctoral School Board. It starts its activity only if the number of Ph.D. students enrolled in it is greater than or equal to 3.

(5) For an IRTG, a separate admission and a customized study program are organized, with the approval of the Doctoral School Council.

(6) Their representatives will submit annual reports to the Doctoral School Council, by which the Council will carry out assessments of their activity. If the results of an IRTG are not satisfactory, the Council of the Doctoral School may decide to stop its activity.

Article 15

(1) To give flexibility to the IRTG, the required presence of the doctoral student is decided by the doctoral supervisor according to the specifics of the doctoral program, with the agreement of the steering committee and the Doctoral School Council.

(2) The Doctoral Degree Program of the Doctoral School aims at the formation of professional and transversal competencies, as well as the elaboration of the Ph.D. thesis. The Ph.D. programme includes (a) an interdisciplinary training program based on advanced university studies; (b) an individual scientific research program. The activities of the doctoral program include 180 credits (ECTS), with equivalence possibilities, according to the law.

Article 16 - An advanced training program based on advanced university studies

(1) The participation of a Ph.D. student in the training program based on advanced university studies and the selection of the study elements within this program to be followed by the doctoral student are established by the doctoral supervisor.

(2) The training program based on advanced university studies has an effective cumulative duration of up to 6 months and is characterized by courses and training activities meant to achieve a high level of knowledge in the field, necessary in the research activity for preparing the thesis.

(3) The doctoral school prepares a package of interdisciplinary courses according to the scientific interests of doctoral students and the budget of the Doctoral School. The Board of the Doctoral School establishes the list of course coordinators, in consultation with module/IRTG members.

(4) For doctoral students for whom the council of directors decides to participate in the training program, its content is also set by it and may include: participation in the courses offered by the Doctoral School or other doctoral schools in the country or abroad, the study of special articles or books completed with an evaluation, submission of papers. Ph.D. students undergoing advanced university studies must earn 30 credits (ECTS), with the possibility of equivalence, according to the law.

Article 17 - Scientific research program

(1) The scientific research program involves the participation of the Ph.D. student in one or more research projects established by the steering committee. It is possible to establish complex research themes involving research teams made up of doctoral students, coordinated by one or more Ph.D. supervisors, each doctoral student having well-established objectives. In this way, Ph.D. students

can run sub-projects themselves or coordinate research teams. They can propose themes in co-ordination.

(2) At the end of each academic year, the Ph.D. student presents a progress report, which is evaluated by the Ph.D. supervisor and the Steering Committee. Within the scientific research programme, the Ph.D. student presents 3-4 research reports, which are evaluated by the Ph.D. supervisor and the steering committee. These scientific reports are part of the individual training plan.

(3) The scientific research program may also be carried out in research institutions with national or international recognition. Within the European framework, this mobility has a special dimension. It is intended to promote collaboration based on already existing partnerships or partnerships created through participation in joint research programs. This improves the training of future researchers by increasing access to European learning and research resources. The Council of the Doctoral School will, where appropriate, determine the way in which the mobility takes place. The activities of the scientific research program amount to at least 150 credits (ECTS), with equivalence possibilities, according to the law.

Article 18 - Extension and discontinuation of doctoral studies program

(1) The duration of the Ph.D. program is three years.

(2) Doctoral studies may be interrupted for a good reason, with the approval of the Council of the Doctoral School. The duration of the studies is prolonged with the cumulative periods of approved interruptions.

(3) The duration of doctoral studies may be extended at the request of the doctoral student up to 2 years if the doctoral student fails to achieve the proposed scientific objectives and the steering committee considers that he/she can fulfill them the extension period. The application must be endorsed by the doctoral supervisor and the Council of the Doctoral School. The extension must be approved by the Council for University Doctoral Studies.

(4) If the doctoral student fails to complete the thesis within the term stipulated by the doctoral studies contract and any additional documents, the doctoral student shall have a grace period of maximum two years, according to the legal provisions in force.

Section 7 - Completion of doctoral studies

Article 19

The completion of doctoral studies is done by confirming the doctorate title by the Ministry of National Education, following the public defence of the Ph.D. thesis.

The status of doctoral student ceases when awarded the title of doctor or in case of expulsion order.

Article 20 - The doctoral thesis

(1) The Ph.D. thesis must be the result of its scientific research activity, through the coordination of the doctoral supervisor and the steering committee, and contain original results. It includes the presentation of the author's research in the past and current scientific context of the chosen theme. The original findings of the author should be the main part of the thesis.

(2) The first page of the Doctoral Thesis must state the visual identity of the Doctoral School and UB.

(3) The structure, content, and form of the thesis are determined by consultations between the Ph.D. student and the members of the steering committee.

(4) The doctoral thesis will contain a handwritten statement by which the doctoral student assumes the quality of author for the work, the compliance with the provisions of the scientific, academic and professional ethics and the compliance with the intellectual property rights. The Ph.D. student will explicitly state that the Ph.D. thesis does not contain plagiarized ideas or formulations and will confirm the authenticity of the empirical data invoked in the paper, where appropriate.

(5) Doctoral thesis will be submitted to the Secretariat of the Doctoral School and the doctoral supervisor in electronic format, to start the pre-defence and filing phases, respecting the following requirements:

- the papers will be submitted in .pdf format, in a single file, including the title page and appendices, with the name: UB-Doctorate-Field-Year-Name-Surname.
- works will be sent by e-mail or, in the case of files over 3GB, will be uploaded to the Internet and only the thesis link will be sent.
- the Secretariat of the Doctoral School will confirm by e-mail the receipt, and the official registration of the received thesis.

(6) The doctoral student must mention the affiliation at the faculty within UB where the Ph.D. supervisor is titular in all the scientific papers elaborated during the period and within the doctoral studies.

(7) For each of the Ph.D. areas, the Ph.D. supervisors of the ISDS-UB will formulate specific minimum criteria recommended for the evaluation of Ph.D. thesis, inspired by international best

practices, taking into account the interdisciplinary vocation of ISDS- UB. These will be approved by the Board of the Doctoral School.

Article 21 - The doctoral committee and the writing of the evaluation raports

(1) The official submission of the doctoral dissertation for public defence can only be done with the approval of the steering committee and based on the acceptance report of the doctoral supervisor. After the official submission of the thesis, the public defence committee, from now on referred to as the doctoral committee, may be appointed. It is proposed by the doctoral supervisor in consultation with the members of the steering committee and is endorsed by the Council of the Doctoral School.

(2) Before the official submission of the thesis, the doctoral student must pre-defence the thesis before the board of directors and the members of the Doctoral School. It is not necessary to have all the members of the Doctoral School.

(3) The doctoral commission is made up of 5 persons, including: a president, as representative of the University of Bucharest, the doctoral supervisor in the main field of the thesis and 3 referees, namely 1 member from the board of directors in a field different from the basic thesis and 2 non-members of the University of Bucharest, of which at least one is from abroad. The members of the doctoral committee must have the title of doctor and have at least the teaching profession of university lecturer or scientific researcher grade II, or the qualification of doctoral supervisor in the Romania or abroad. The chair of the doctoral committee can not be one of the members of the steering committee. The Board of the Doctoral School may impose minimum standards of scientific performance that the members of the doctoral committee must satisfy.

(4) As a result of the evaluation of the Ph.D. thesis, the reviewers prepare the evaluation reports and communicate them to the Secretariat of the Doctoral School and the Steering Committee.

(5) In the case of one or several negative assessments, the doctoral student reworks the thesis according to the requirements specified in the evaluation, within a maximum of 6 months set by the doctoral supervisor. The public defence for the Ph.D. thesis can only take place after obtaining positive evaluation reports from all the referees.

(6) The doctoral student may modify the doctoral thesis following the reviewers remarks. The guidance committee and the referees must be informed of any made changes.

Article 22 - The public defence of the thesis

(1) The public defence of the Ph.D. thesis must be announced on the UB website and at the Doctoral School notice board at least 20 days before the date of public defence. At the same time, it is necessary to publish on the website the summary of the thesis, which should also be available for the public after the defence of the thesis.

(2) Public defence includes a session of questions from members of the doctoral committee and the public.

(3) By the public defence of the thesis, the doctoral commission assesses and deliberates on the grade to be awarded to the Ph.D. thesis.

(4) If the doctoral committee assigns a failing grade, it will specify the elements to be reconsidered or amended within the thesis, imposing a deadline that will require a new public defence of the thesis. Otherwise, the doctoral committee proposes the granting of the doctor's degree, a proposal submitted for validation to the National Council for Titles, Diplomas and Certificates. In case of unsatisfactory qualification at the second public defence, the doctoral student is expelled.

(5) If the National Council for Titles, Diplomas, and Certificates does not validate the Ph.D. thesis, the Ministry of National Education communicates this decision to the University of Bucharest. The Council of the Doctoral School has an obligation to analyze the situation. The Ph.D. student prepares a revised version of the thesis that takes into account the rejection motivation developed by National Council for Titles, Diplomas, and Certificates. It may be retransmitted to the National Council for Titles, Diplomas, and Certificates for reconsideration within one year from the date of the first invalidation.

(6) In case of a second decision to invalidate the thesis by National Council for Titles, Diplomas, and Certificates, the Ph.D. student is expelled from the Ph.D. program.

Article 23 - Complying scientific, professional and university ethics

(1) The doctoral school has the responsibility to inform the doctoral student about the scientific, professional and university ethics, and to verify the compliance with it.

(2) Doctoral thesis will be subject to control using a similarity software.

(3) When identifying academic fraud, such as plagiarized ideas or formulations, the Doctoral Council proposes the expulsion of the doctoral student and informs the UB Ethics Committee.

Section 8 - Doctoral students, Ph.D. supervisors, and their relations

Article 24 - Rights and Obligations

The rights and obligations of doctoral students, doctoral supervisors, and UB, through the Doctoral School, are established through the contract of doctoral studies. This contract is signed with each doctoral student in part.

Article 25 - Guidance for doctoral students

(1) To ensure the formation of interdisciplinary competencies, the doctoral student's activity, starting with his/ hers admission to the doctoral studies program and continuing with the advanced and scientific research training program, ending with the public defence of the Ph.D. thesis, is guided by a steering committee. It consists of 3 persons, of which at least two Ph.D. supervisors from different fields within the Doctoral School. The board of directors may also include a member of the research team of the doctoral supervisor, a person affiliated with the doctoral school, or a non-affiliated teaching or research staff. The Guidance Committee aims at writing and finalizing the Ph.D. thesis.

(2) The composition of the steering committee is determined by the doctoral supervisor in consultation with the doctoral student. The composition of the committee may be modified upon the proposal of the doctoral supervisor, after consulting the doctoral student, with the approval of the Council of the Doctoral School.

(3) The doctoral student shall have access to the research resources made available by all members of the steering committee and the institutions to which they are affiliated, as well as their multidisciplinary expertise.

(4) The doctoral school shall avoid conflicts of interest between doctoral students and members of the steering committee.

Article 26 - Conflict Mediation

(1) Conflicts between doctoral students and members of the steering commission are mediated by the Council of the Doctoral School. In the event of failure, these are mediated by the Council of University's Doctoral Studies.

(2) Conflicts between doctoral students and Doctoral School are mediated by Council of University's Doctoral Studies.

Article 27 - The change of the doctoral supervisor

(1) In case of failure of the doctoral supervisor's legal or contractual obligations or for other reasons referring to the guidance reports between the doctoral supervisor and the doctoral student, the doctoral student may request the change of the doctoral supervisor. The application must be endorsed by the Council of the Doctoral School and approved by the Council for University Doctoral Studies.

(2) The Council of the Doctoral School designates another doctoral supervisor in the situation referred to in paragraph (1), as well as if the doctoral supervisor is unavailable. The change of doctoral supervisor can only be done if the new Ph.D. supervisor gives his / hers consent.

Section 9 - Evaluation of doctoral degree programs, doctoral students, and doctoral supervisors

Article 28

The Doctoral School will organize at least once every five years the assessment of the quality of Ph.D. programmes, the performance of doctoral supervisors and Ph.D. students' activity, as follows:

- (a) The quality of doctoral studies programs
- (b) Ph.D. supervision performance
- (c) Doctoral students' activity.

Article 29 - The Evaluation Committee

- (1) The evaluation of the quality of doctoral studies programs and the performance of doctoral supervisors is carried out by an external evaluation committee, appointed by the Doctoral Council and having three members. Its activity is coordinated by a responsible person appointed by the Council of the Doctoral School.
- (2) Ph.D. students and Ph.D. supervisors must submit the required data for evaluation to the evaluation committee.

Article 30 - The evaluation of the quality of doctoral studies programs

- (1) The quality evaluation procedure for doctoral studies programs will aim at:
 - (a) the mission and objectives of the Ph.D. program;
 - (b) the content and curriculum of the Ph.D. programme;
 - (c) developing and publishing the results of the advanced and research program;
 - (d) public access to the summaries of publicly defended doctoral thesis, in electronic form;
 - (e) specific requirements of different teaching modes and types of deployment;
 - (f) the existence of the means of documentation, learning, and research, as well as the logistics provided to the doctoral students;
 - (g) staff involved in the conduct of study programs;
 - (h) the arrangements for assessing knowledge and testing students' doctoral skills, as well as monitoring progress during training;
 - (i) the existence of a UB Code of Ethics with clear provisions on the definition and sanctioning of various types of academic and professional fraud, including plagiarism.
- (2) Internal quality assessment procedures for Ph.D. programmes will be based on information including the following:
 - (a) annual assessment by doctoral students, confidential and made by anonymous questionnaires, then processed statistically.
 - (b) self-assessment reports of doctoral supervisors.

Article 31 - The assessment of the performance of doctoral supervisors

- (1) The Evaluation Committee shall prepare reports of confidential assessment of the research activity of Ph.D. supervisors at the Doctoral School.
- (2) The assessment of the performance of the Ph.D. supervisors shall take into account the quality of the results obtained by them in the research and the steering of the Ph.D. students, as well as the quality of the scientific approaches undertaken to obtain significant scientific results. The internal evaluation process should not put pressure on the doctoral supervisors to publish more papers or to guide more Ph.D. students. It must be a means of stimulating remarkable scientific achievements by the doctoral supervisor and the elaboration of valuable doctoral thesis by the coordinated doctoral students.
- (3) Indicators on the scientific activity of Ph.D. supervisors include:
 - (a) The results of their scientific research (publications, other ways of capitalizing on their research activity) and the recognition of these results (citations of publications, scientific distinctions).
 - (b) Participation in the life of the scientific community, by organizing and participating in scientific events, editorial activity, activity within professional forums and associations, activity as reviser or publisher, etc.
 - (c) Supporting high impact courses at the Doctoral School.
 - (d) The concern for some topics or issues of great relevance in the field, even if this concern is not yet finalized with articles - this is the qualitative part of the evaluation.
- (4) Indicators regarding the doctoral students' activity include:
 - (a) The results of the scientific research obtained by the doctoral students guided, materialized through the publications resulting from the thesis, during and after the completion of the doctoral studies, through the postdoctoral positions obtained, etc.
 - (b) Participation of doctoral students in the life of the scientific community - conferences, summer schools, lectures, scientific seminars, etc.

Article 32 - The assessment of doctoral students' activity

- (1) The evaluation of doctoral students' activity is predominantly oriented towards the results of the research activity, taking into account the results (publications, participation in conferences), but also their recognition (citations, awards).
- (2) Complying scientific, professional and university ethics is an explicit criterion for continuous and final evaluation of doctoral students' activity.
- (3) The evaluation of doctoral students' activity follows all the competencies they have to develop within the Ph.D. program.
- (4) At the presentations of the scientific progress, the doctoral student may receive recommendations regarding the continuation of the research.

(5) Taking into account the doctoral student's activity reports and the observations made by the steering committee and the doctoral supervisor, the Council of the Doctoral School may provide recommendations to the doctoral student regarding his / hers research.