



Council for Doctoral University Studies

No. 5761 of 30.04.2025

**Decision**  
**Regarding the Approval of the Procedure for Concluding Doctoral Cotutelle**  
**Agreements within ISUD-BBU**

**Having regard to:**

- Article 15 of the Framework Regulation on Doctoral University Studies, published by Ministerial Order no. 3020/2024; and
- Article 2 letter (s) of the Babeș-Bolyai University Regulation on the organization and conduct of university studies, approved by Senate Decision no. 116 of 23.09.2024, as subsequently amended and supplemented,

the Council for Doctoral University Studies, following the online vote expressed on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025,

**APPROVES:**

The Procedure for the conclusion of doctoral cotutelle agreements within IDUS–BBU, in the form annexed to this Decision.

**Director of CDUS**

**Prof. Univ. Dr. Anca-Mirela ANDREICA**



Annex 1 to HCDUS no. 5761 of 30.04.2025

## **Guide for the establishment of a new Doctoral School within IDUS–BBU**

### **Legal framework:**

- Law on Higher Education no. 199/2023, published in the Official Gazette of Romania, Part I, no. 614 of 5 July 2023;
- Order no. 3020/2024 of 8 January 2024 approving the Framework Regulation on Doctoral University Studies;
- The BBU Charter;
- The Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral university studies at Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca.

### **I. General provisions**

- 1) Doctoral university studies may be organized under cotutelle arrangements, in which case the doctoral student at Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca carries out their activity under the joint supervision of two doctoral supervisors. A special form of cotutelle is the double-degree doctorate.
- 2) For the conduct of Doctoral Studies under cotutelle, a cotutelle agreement shall be concluded, which may take the form of an internal agreement (concluded between two doctoral supervisors from different fields within IDUS-BBU), a national cotutelle agreement (between IDUS-BBU and another IDUS in Romania), or an international cotutelle agreement (between IDUS-BBU and another Doctoral Studies organizing institution outside Romania).
- 3) In the case of Doctoral Studies organized under cotutelle, the principal doctoral supervisor is the one for whose vacant doctoral student position the admission competition was organized, the second doctoral supervisor having a secondary role. The cotutelle agreement stipulates the requirements for the organization and conduct of the doctorate in each of the two Doctoral Schools or the two IDUS, in accordance with the



role held within the cotutelle, with due observance of the universities' internal regulations and the applicable national legislation.

4. Cotutelle agreements concluded within the EUTOPIA consortium shall be carried out in accordance with the legislative regulations of both countries and in compliance with the conditions mutually agreed upon within the EUTOPIA consortium.
5. In the case of a doctoral student enrolled at IDUS–BBU for whom the conclusion of a cotutelle agreement is envisaged, the doctoral supervisor shall submit to the Council of the Doctoral School to which they belong a draft cotutelle agreement, accompanied by a justification of the opportunity and necessity of conducting the doctoral study programme under cotutelle, as well as the file of the proposed doctoral supervisor for the cotutelle. The file of the proposed doctoral supervisor shall include: a curriculum vitae, a list of publications, and documents attesting the status of doctoral supervisor within an IDUS or within the university to which they belong. This file shall be archived at the Doctoral School.
6. The cotutelle agreement must obligatorily provide for the specification of the activities to be carried out by the doctoral student within both Doctoral Schools or within both universities.
7. Cotutelle agreements are proposed by the doctoral supervisors and shall be signed by the Director of the Doctoral School, the Director of CDUS, and the Rector, respectively by the corresponding bodies of the partner university.
8. Prior to the conclusion of the cotutelle agreement, it shall be reviewed for legal compliance by the Legal Office of Babeş-Bolyai University.
9. Cotutelle agreements may be concluded after the doctoral student has been enrolled in Doctoral Studies. Cotutelle agreements proposed in the final year of Doctoral Studies and/or during the grace period shall no longer be taken into consideration.
10. In the event that a doctoral supervisor transfers from IDUS-BBU to another university and the continuation of the supervision of the doctoral student is desired, a cotutelle agreement may be concluded, in which the new doctoral supervisor from BBU shall be the principal supervisor.



11. Any modification regarding the conduct of the training programme for which the cotutelle agreement was concluded (for example: change of doctoral supervisor, change of the title of the doctoral thesis, interruptions, extensions, etc.) shall be carried out in compliance with all applicable legal provisions. Such modifications may be implemented through the conclusion of addenda, at the proposal of the party requesting the respective modification. All financial implications shall be established by mutual agreement between the two universities and shall be specified in the cotutelle agreement.
12. A doctoral supervisor from Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca may supervise doctorates under cotutelle at the proposal of doctoral supervisors from any university within the Universitaria Consortium or the Association of Cluj Universities, from national universities with which BBU has collaboration agreements, as well as from foreign universities ranked in at least one of the ten international rankings underlying the Romanian University Metaranking or from those with which BBU has collaboration agreements.

## **II. Types of cotutelle:**

### **13. Internal cotutelle agreement:**

The internal cotutelle agreement shall be concluded in writing between two doctoral supervisors active at BBU, from different doctoral fields. The written internal cotutelle agreement, initiated by the doctoral supervisor and approved by the management of the Doctoral School Council and by the Director of CDUS, shall establish the responsibilities of each doctoral supervisor. The selection of the second doctoral supervisor (secondary doctoral supervisor) shall be made after the enrolment of the doctoral student at Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, with the consent of the principal doctoral supervisor. The doctoral student shall be fully attributed to the principal doctoral supervisor, including for the purposes of teaching and research workload allocation. The model internal cotutelle agreement is provided in Annex 2 to this procedure.

### **14. National cotutelle agreement:**

The national cotutelle agreement shall be concluded in writing between two IDUSs: BBU and another IDUS in Romania, and shall stipulate the requirements for the organization and conduct of the doctoral programme within each of the two institutions involved,



including their financial obligations, in accordance with their role within the cotutelle and with the applicable specific legislation. The model national cotutelle agreement is provided in Annex 3 to this procedure.

#### **15. International cotutelle agreement:**

The international cotutelle agreement shall be concluded in writing between IDUS-BBU and another higher education institution outside Romania. This agreement shall be drafted in a language of international circulation (preferably English).

Where the national legislation applicable to the institution outside Romania regarding doctoral university studies requires enrolment also at the partner university, IDUS-BBU of Cluj-Napoca shall retain its rights concerning its principal role as IDUS within the doctoral university study programme, a fact which shall be expressly stipulated in the cotutelle agreement.

In the case of international cotutelle arrangements, the structure of the doctoral study programme, the doctoral thesis prepared, and the conditions for the public defence must be established in such a way as to ensure compliance with the applicable legal provisions in both states. Failing this, the administrative procedure carried out by the IDUS shall be invalidated, and the doctoral title shall not be awarded. The model international cotutelle agreement is provided in Annex 4 to this procedure.

#### **III. Public defence of the doctoral thesis under cotutelle:**

16. Prior to initiating the procedures for the public defence of the doctoral thesis, the doctoral student who has carried out the doctoral programme under cotutelle must submit to IDUS-BBU the documents attesting their academic activity at the Doctoral School of the partner university. The submission of the doctoral thesis shall be made with the consent of both doctoral supervisors and in compliance with all provisions stipulated in the cotutelle agreements, as well as with the applicable legal provisions in Romania and, respectively, with the legal provisions of both countries (in the case of international cotutelle agreements).
17. Doctoral committees shall have a balanced number of members from both institutions and external members. The Chair of the committee shall be a representative of the university organizing the public defence of the doctoral thesis. In the case of a cotutelle doctorate involving a doctoral supervisor from outside Babeş-Bolyai University, the



doctoral committee shall include representatives of both institutions, and the cotutelle agreement shall expressly specify the composition of the committee (the number of members from Babeș-Bolyai University, from the partner university, and the number of members external to both universities).

18. Following the public defence of the doctoral thesis, the doctoral student shall be awarded the title of Doctor in the doctoral field for which they were admitted and enrolled.

#### **IV. Final provisions:**

19. The cotutelle agreement shall take effect from the moment of its signing for the entire duration of the doctoral programme, including any extension of the doctoral programme and/or the grace period.
20. The termination of the supervision initially established through the cotutelle agreement may occur in the following situations:
  - upon loss of doctoral student status (completion of Doctoral Studies, withdrawal, or expulsion of the doctoral student);
  - upon a reasoned written request by one of the parties (at the request of the doctoral student, of the doctoral supervisor(s), or of the representatives of the university/universities).
21. This procedure shall enter into force upon its approval by the CDUS and the Board of Administration of BBU.



**Annex 2 to HCDUS no. 5761 of 30.04.2025**

**Joint Doctoral Supervision Agreement**  
*(Internal Co-tutelle)*

**Between:**

Doctoral supervisor Prof. / Assoc. Prof. / Lecturer, PhD, Habil.

\_\_\_\_\_,  
in the doctoral field \_\_\_\_\_, from the Doctoral School

and

Doctoral supervisor Prof. / Assoc. Prof. / Lecturer, PhD, Habil.

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
in the doctoral field \_\_\_\_\_, from the Doctoral School  
\_\_\_\_\_,  
within Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca.

In accordance with the Higher Education Law no. 199/2023, Ministerial Order no. 3020/08.01.2024, and the Regulation on the Organization and Conduct of Doctoral Studies at Babeş-Bolyai University currently in force, the parties jointly agree to exercise the role of scientific supervisor for the doctoral student and decide upon the following administrative and academic aspects of the joint (co-tutelle) supervision of the doctoral thesis of the doctoral student \_\_\_\_\_.

**I. Administrative Aspects**

1. Personal data of the doctoral student:

Full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Current residence: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Date of enrollment at Babeş-Bolyai University: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Title of the thesis: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Field of study: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Anticipated date of completion of studies: \_\_\_\_\_



## II. Academic Aspects

1. The two doctoral supervisors undertake to jointly exercise this role in relation to the doctoral student.
2. Within the doctoral program, the doctoral student shall attend \_\_\_\_\_ courses/disciplines, as follows:  
— \_\_\_\_\_  
— \_\_\_\_\_  
— \_\_\_\_\_
3. Within the research program, the doctoral student shall present \_\_\_\_\_ research reports, as stipulated in the individual study plan drawn up after enrollment in Doctoral Studies.
4. The doctoral student shall carry out research activities within both signatory Doctoral Schools/faculties, in accordance with their obligations and the activities jointly agreed upon with the two supervisors.
5. The doctoral student shall be fully allocated to the principal doctoral supervisor (Prof. / Assoc. Prof. / Lecturer, PhD, Habil. \_\_\_\_\_ from the Doctoral School \_\_\_\_\_ at Babeş-Bolyai University), including for the purposes of teaching and research workload calculations.
6. Each Doctoral School undertakes to recognize the research reports presented by the doctoral student at the partner Doctoral School/faculty within Babeş-Bolyai University.
7. Each party undertakes to transmit in writing to the other Doctoral School the results of the research report evaluations.
8. Place of thesis defense: Faculty of \_\_\_\_\_, Doctoral School \_\_\_\_\_, Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca.
9. The thesis shall be written and defended in the \_\_\_\_\_ language.



10. The thesis abstract shall be written in \_\_\_\_\_ and Romanian.
11. The thesis evaluation committee shall be constituted in accordance with the legislation in force.
12. The doctoral title and diploma shall be awarded in the field in which the doctoral student was admitted and enrolled.
13. The costs of the public defense of the doctoral thesis shall be borne by the university organizing the public defense and/or by the university (where applicable).
14. The storage, distribution, and reproduction of the thesis shall be carried out by Babeş-Bolyai University in accordance with the legislation in force.
15. Following the defense of the thesis, Babeş-Bolyai University shall award the doctoral diploma in accordance with current national regulations.
16. This agreement enters into force on the date of its approval by both parties and may be amended only by mutual agreement of both partners.
17. Drawn up today, \_\_\_\_\_, in five original copies.

**Rector of Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca**

Prof. Daniel DAVID, PhD.

**Director of Doctoral School**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Doctoral Supervisor:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Director of Doctoral School**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Doctoral Supervisor:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Doctoral Student:**  
\_\_\_\_\_



## **Annex – General Aspects of the Agreement**

### **Article 1**

The partner institutions agree to assume joint responsibility for the supervision of the doctoral candidate's research project, the organization of the doctoral examination, and the awarding of the doctoral title. The two doctoral supervisors undertake to fully assume their responsibilities as supervisors of the doctoral candidate, including holding consultations whenever necessary in order to assess the progress achieved in the research project.

### **Article 2 – Publications**

Each publication or presentation (including the doctoral dissertation) relating to the results of the doctoral research project shall be submitted to the other institutions for review at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to its presentation or publication. During this thirty (30) day period, the other institutions shall have the right to review the proposed publication or presentation and to make suggestions for:

- (a) the removal of confidential information disclosed by the partner institution to the others; and/or
- (b) the reasonable postponement of publication in order to obtain protection for the results.

Such reasonable postponements shall not exceed three (3) months from the date of receipt of the proposed publication. In the absence of comments within this period, the publication or presentation shall be deemed authorized.

Each institution undertakes to cooperate in order to enable the timely submission, examination, publication, and defense of any dissertation or thesis for the award of an academic title. In any case, publication and defense may not be delayed for a period exceeding six (6) months, without prejudice to confidentiality obligations.

### **Article 3 – Data Protection**

1. Each University is a Data Controller within the meaning of the GDPR, and the Universities are not joint controllers within the meaning of Article 26 of the GDPR.
2. In this Article, terms used that correspond to definitions set out in Article 4 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) shall have the meanings assigned to them therein. A **Data Exporter** is the Controller that transfers Personal Data. A **Data Importer** is the Controller that receives Personal Data from the Data Exporter for further processing on its own behalf.



3. If the Data Exporter or the Data Importer does not fall within the scope of the GDPR, relevant standard contractual clauses shall be concluded.
4. The Data Exporter and the Data Importer warrant and undertake that:
  - a) the Data Importer has collected, processed, and transferred Personal Data in accordance with the GDPR;
  - b) the Data Importer shall process Personal Data as an independent Controller in accordance with the GDPR, in particular with regard to data subject rights and Articles 32 to 36 of the GDPR;
  - c) the Data Exporter and the Data Importer shall respond to inquiries from data subjects and Supervisory Authorities regarding their respective processing activities. If one University receives inquiries concerning processing carried out by the other University, it shall notify the other University without undue delay, to the extent permitted by law. If the other University does not wish or is unable to respond, the University that received the inquiries shall respond to them to the best of its ability;
  - d) the Data Importer and the Data Exporter shall fulfill their obligations under this Agreement at their own expense. The Data Importer and the Data Exporter shall have implemented appropriate technical and organizational measures to protect Personal Data against accidental or unlawful destruction or loss, alteration, unauthorized disclosure, or access, and which ensure a level of security appropriate to the risks represented by the processing and the nature of the Personal Data to be protected.

#### **Article 4 – Dispute Resolution**

- By signing this Agreement, the parties declare that they shall act in accordance with the regulations in force regarding Doctoral Studies in each of the partner institutions, including both central regulations and those of the relevant faculty and/or Doctoral School.
- This Agreement shall be governed by Romanian law. Any disputes that cannot be resolved amicably shall be submitted to the competent courts at the location of the registered office of the home institution.
- This Agreement may be revoked by either partner institution by means of a written request submitted by one of the parties in the event of non-compliance with the terms of the Agreement, subject to prior written notice of three (3) months. In such cases, the partner institutions shall cooperate to minimize any negative impact on the doctoral candidate.
- All disputes arising out of or in connection with the interpretation or execution of this Agreement or concerning the doctoral research shall be resolved amicably between the



supervisors or the designated competent departments of each university. If the issue is not resolved within thirty (30) calendar days from notification of the dispute to the partner institution's supervisor, it shall be referred to the deans of the respective faculties involved in the Agreement. If the deans fail to resolve the issue within thirty (30) calendar days from referral, the matter shall be referred to the rectors of each partner institution. The rectors' attempt to reach an amicable solution shall be deemed unsuccessful if the dispute is not resolved within thirty (30) days from referral by the deans, in which case the following paragraph of this Article shall apply.

- This Agreement shall be automatically terminated if the contractual relationship or collaboration between the candidate and one of the partner institutions is terminated, or if the partner institutions jointly decide to discontinue the collaboration. In such cases, the remaining partner institutions shall not be entitled to any form of compensation. Where applicable, the partner institutions shall cooperate to ensure that the doctoral candidate may obtain a doctoral title from one of the partner institutions based on the doctoral research covered by this Agreement. In such cases, the doctoral candidate shall acknowledge in the thesis the research contributions of both partner institutions and the staff involved.
- The termination or expiration of this Agreement shall not affect Articles 2, 3, and 4, or any provisions which by their nature are intended to survive termination or expiration.

#### **Article 5 – Validity of the Agreement**

- This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of signature by the last signatory party and shall expire on the date of the public defense of the thesis, exmatriculation, withdrawal from studies, or termination by mutual agreement of the parties involved.
- This Agreement is drawn up and signed in four (4) identical originals, one for each Party (the Institute for Doctoral Studies at BBU, the Doctoral School at BBU, the Partner University, and the Student). Each Party shall receive one fully signed original copy of this Agreement. Alternatively, this Agreement may be signed electronically by each Party using an electronic signature. An electronically signed agreement shall have the same legal effect as an agreement signed with handwritten signatures. Distribution of the fully electronically signed agreement by email or electronic signature software shall have the same legal effect as providing an original copy. The parties warrant that the persons signing this Agreement are duly authorized to sign on behalf of the organization they represent.



## Legal Framework at Babeş-Bolyai University

- **General legal framework for Doctoral Studies at Babeş-Bolyai University:**
  - Higher Education Law no. 199/2023
  - Order approving the framework regulation on Doctoral Studies no. 3020 of 8 January 2024
  - Order no. 5110/2018 of 17 September 2018 approving the national minimum standards for the award of the doctoral title
  - Babeş-Bolyai University Regulation on the organization and conduct of Doctoral Studies

## Doctoral Studies Program – Legal Framework (Order 3020/2024)

- Article 13 (1) A person admitted to a doctoral program shall hold the status of **doctoral student** throughout their participation in the program, from enrollment until completion or exmatriculation, excluding periods of suspension of studies, but including any extensions granted according to the provisions of the study contract and the internal regulations of the Institute for Doctoral Studies (IDUS).

Article 13 (9) The doctoral student has the following obligations:

- To comply with the schedule agreed upon with the doctoral supervisor and fulfill obligations regarding research reports and presentations of research results.
- To present, upon request, at least once every twelve (12) months, a report on the progress of their research program before the guidance and academic integrity committee and the doctoral supervisor.
- To maintain continuous contact with the doctoral supervisor.
- To respect institutional discipline, without restriction of academic freedom.
- To comply with university ethics and professional conduct policies and to carry out studies and research in accordance with academic integrity standards.

**Article 10 (11)** The doctoral supervisor may be assisted in supervising the doctoral student by a **guidance committee**. Members of the guidance committee may not serve as members of the public thesis defense committee.

**Article 18 (1)** The doctoral program is conducted under the coordination of a **doctoral supervisor** and comprises:



- a) a training program based on advanced university studies within the Doctoral School;
- b) an individual program of scientific or applied research, as appropriate, for fields in which professional doctorates are organized.

- (2) The number of transferable study credits for the doctoral cycle shall be determined by each higher education institution according to the scientific or artistic field, in accordance with the law.
- (3) The standard duration of the doctoral program is four (4) years. In special cases, the program may be extended by 1–2 years with the approval of the University Senate, at the proposal of the doctoral supervisor and within available funding, or reduced by one year at the request of the doctoral student, with the supervisor’s endorsement and approval by the University Senate/Academy of Romania Presidium.
- (4) Doctoral Studies may be suspended for justified reasons, under conditions established by IDUS regulations. The duration of the program shall be extended by the cumulative periods of approved suspension.
- (5) Extensions under paragraph (3), and suspensions/extensions under paragraph (4), shall be formalized through addenda to the doctoral study contract.
- (6) For fields regulated at the European level, the duration of Doctoral Studies shall comply with applicable regulations.

❖ **Doctoral Thesis Defense – Law 199/2023**

- According to article 71 (1) The doctoral thesis shall be prepared in accordance with IDUS requirements as set out in the institution’s own doctoral regulations and in alignment with the framework regulations on Doctoral Studies.
- (2) The **public defense committee** (hereafter “doctoral committee”) is proposed by the doctoral supervisor and approved by IDUS leadership. The committee shall include a minimum of five members: the chairperson (representing IDUS), the doctoral supervisor, and at least three reviewers from within or outside the country, experts in the field of the thesis, of whom at least two operate outside the respective IDUS. Committee members must hold a doctoral degree and at minimum the position of associate professor or senior researcher, or hold the status of doctoral supervisor, domestically or internationally.
- (3) Before the public defense, IDUS shall verify the thesis using software for similarity detection, in accordance with the framework regulations on Doctoral Studies. Verification shall follow the standards in the **National Guide on Thesis Preparation**, issued by NCCATDCU. Results shall be shared with the doctoral student and the doctoral committee.



- (4) The thesis defense shall be public, in front of the doctoral committee, after all reviewers have submitted their reports at least fifteen (15) days before the defense. At least four committee members must be present, including mandatory physical attendance of the chairperson and the doctoral supervisor; other members may participate online synchronously. The public defense shall include a Q&A session with the committee and the audience.
- (5) Based on the public defense, reviewer reports, the originality statement, and the similarity analysis, the committee evaluates and deliberates on awarding the doctoral degree, following NCCATDCU's minimum standards.
- (6) If the doctoral student meets all research program requirements and minimum standards for the field, the committee shall propose awarding the doctoral degree and submit the proposal and the doctoral file to NCCATDCU within thirty (30) calendar days.
- (7) NCCATDCU shall issue a compliance notice within ninety (90) calendar days of receiving the doctoral file, confirming adherence to IDUS administrative procedures and minimal requirements. Verification of the originality statement and similarity analysis shall be a distinct step.
- (8) Within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving the compliance notice, the higher education institution shall issue the decision to award the doctoral degree, signed by the rector, and prepare and issue the diploma.
- (9) If NCCATDCU invalidates the validation process of the thesis, it shall provide written reasoning; the file may be resubmitted for reevaluation after correcting the issues.
- (10) If minimum standards are not met, the committee shall specify required corrections or additions, and a new public defense shall be scheduled before the same committee. If standards are still unmet after the second defense, the doctoral degree shall not be awarded, and the student shall be exmatriculated.
- (11) If NCCATDCU finds administrative procedures were not compliant, the file shall be returned to IDUS for review and completion before resubmission.
- (12) Names of the doctoral candidate, the supervisor, and committee members are public. The thesis is a public document, also in digital format. In the arts, the thesis may include a digital recording of the original artistic work. The thesis and annexes shall be available for consultation 90 calendar days prior to the public defense on the national platform managed by EUFHERDI. Printed copies shall be archived permanently at the university library after degree issuance.



- (13) During the public consultation period, any individual or entity may submit observations on ethical or professional standards, including potential plagiarism. Observations may be submitted online or at the institution's registry, and recorded in a report sent to IDUS for evaluation and inclusion in the doctoral file.
  - (14) If the student does not request separate publication of the thesis or chapters, the digital version remains publicly accessible on the EUFHERDI platform, with copyright protection.
  - (15) If the student opts for separate publication, a grace period of up to 24 months is granted, during which the digital thesis is inaccessible. If no separate publication is uploaded within the period, the digital thesis becomes publicly accessible, with copyright protection.
  - (16) After publication, the author must notify IDUS and provide bibliographic information and a link to the publication for posting on the EUFHERDI platform.
  - (17) Within 180 days of awarding the degree, IDUS shall submit a printed copy of the thesis and annexes to the **National Library of Romania** for permanent deposit, and a digital copy for consultation upon request, in accordance with legal provisions.
- ❖ **Minimum Standards for Awarding the Doctoral Degree (Order 5110/2018)**
- National minimum standards for awarding the doctoral degree apply to doctoral students enrolled from the 2018–2019 academic year onward, and must be expressly specified in the doctoral study contracts.
- ❖ **Minimum Standards for Awarding the Doctoral Degree – Order 3018/2025**
- **Article 4.** The national minimum standards for awarding the doctoral diploma shall apply to doctoral students enrolled in doctoral programs starting with the 2025–2026 academic year, and must be explicitly specified in the doctoral study contracts.



**Annex 3 to HCDUS no. 5761 of 30.04.2025**

**Agreement on the Cotutelle of the Doctoral Thesis  
(National Cotutelle)**

Between:

“Babeş-Bolyai” University of Cluj-Napoca  
Str. Mihail Kogălniceanu no. 1  
RO-400084 Cluj-Napoca  
Represented by its Rector  
Prof. univ. dr. Daniel DAVID

and

(Partner University)  
(Full address of the partner university)  
Represented by its Rector/President  
(Name, academic position, academic title)

In accordance with the legislation on Doctoral Studies in Romania, Law 199/2023, Order 3020/08.01.2024, and the Regulations on the Organization and Conduct of Doctoral Studies at “Babeş-Bolyai” University, the two institutions adopt the following decisions regarding the administrative and academic aspects of the cotutelle doctoral thesis of the doctoral student

\_\_\_\_\_.

**I. Administrative Aspects**

**1. Personal Data of the Doctoral Student:**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Residence: \_\_\_\_\_



## 2. Enrollment Details:

### At Babeş-Bolyai University:

- Enrollment Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Type of Doctorate: Scientific / Professional
- Funding Type: \_\_\_\_\_, Mode of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

### • At Partner University:

- Enrollment Date: \_\_\_\_\_
- Type of Doctorate: Scientific / Professional
- Funding Type: \_\_\_\_\_, Mode of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Thesis Title: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Field of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Duration of Study Program: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Anticipated Completion Date: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Research Stages Planning:

- At Babeş-Bolyai University: \_\_\_\_\_
- At Partner University: \_\_\_\_\_

8. University responsible for tuition fees: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Social insurance coverage during stays at the partner university: (Partner University / Doctoral Student)

10. Accommodation during stays at the partner university: provided / not provided (choose one), optionally at cost, under same conditions as local doctoral students.

11. Scholarship at University: \_\_\_\_\_ (Type / Granting Institution)

## II. Academic Aspects

1. Thesis Supervisors:



- Babeş-Bolyai University: Prof. univ. dr. / Conf. univ. dr. / Lecturer Dr. habilitat \_\_\_\_\_, Faculty \_\_\_\_\_, Doctoral School \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Partner University: Prof. univ. dr. / Conf. univ. dr. / Lecturer Dr. habilitat \_\_\_\_\_, Faculty \_\_\_\_\_, Doctoral School \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Courses/Subjects During the Doctoral Program:
- At Babeş-Bolyai University: \_\_\_\_\_
  - At Partner University: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Research Reports During the Program:
- As provided in the individual study plan prepared after enrollment:
    - At Babeş-Bolyai University: \_\_\_\_\_
    - At Partner University: \_\_\_\_\_
4. The doctoral student shall carry out research activities at both signatory Doctoral Schools/institutions, in accordance with obligations and jointly planned activities with both supervisors.
5. The doctoral student shall be fully accounted for under the main supervisor (Prof./Conf./Lecturer Dr. \_\_\_\_\_, Doctoral School \_\_\_\_\_ of University \_\_\_\_\_), including teaching and research workload.
6. Each university agrees to recognize courses, research reports, and academic activities undertaken by the doctoral student at the partner institution.
7. Each party shall transmit in writing to the other Doctoral School the results of exams and research reports.
8. Before initiating the public defense, the doctoral student shall submit to Babeş-Bolyai University a certificate attesting activities carried out at the partner university.
9. Place of Thesis Defense: University \_\_\_\_\_
10. Thesis Language: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Thesis Abstract: in \_\_\_\_\_ and Romanian



12. The thesis evaluation committee shall be formed in accordance with applicable legislation.
13. The doctoral degree and diploma shall be awarded in the field of admission and enrollment of the doctoral student.
14. Costs of the public defense shall be borne by the university organizing the defense or the partner university (as applicable).
15. Thesis storage, distribution, and reproduction shall be carried out by both universities in accordance with legislation.
16. After the defense, the university that organized the defense shall award the doctoral diploma according to national regulations. The other university shall issue a certificate of completion / academic transcript or equivalent.
17. This agreement enters into force upon approval by both parties and may only be amended by mutual consent of both partners.
18. Signed today, \_\_\_\_\_, in four original copies.

**Rector of Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-**

**Napoca:**

Prof. Daniel DAVID, PhD.

**Rector / President of Partner University:**

**Doctoral School Directors:**

Babeş-Bolyai

University:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Partner

University:

**Doctoral Supervisors:**

Babeş-Bolyai

University:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Partner

University:

**Doctoral Student:**

\_\_\_\_\_



## **Annex – Legislative Framework at Babeş-Bolyai University**

### **1. General Legal Framework for Doctoral Studies at Babeş-Bolyai University:**

- Law on Higher Education no. 199/2023
- Order approving the framework regulation on Doctoral Studies 3020/08.01.2024
- Order no. 5110/2018 of 17 September 2018, regarding approval of the national minimal standards for awarding the doctoral degree
- Order no. 3018/2025 of 13 January 2025, regarding approval of the national minimal standards required and mandatory for awarding the doctoral degree
- Regulations of Babeş-Bolyai University on the organization and conduct of Doctoral Studies

### **2. Doctoral Study Program. Order 3020/2024 provides the following:**

**Art. 13 (1)** The person admitted to a doctoral program is considered a doctoral student for the entire duration of their enrollment, from registration until completion of the program or until exmatriculation, excluding any approved interruptions of studies, but including any extensions granted according to the provisions of the study contract, based on the IDUS's own regulations.

**Art. 13 (9)** The doctoral student has the following obligations:

- To respect the schedule agreed with the doctoral supervisor and to fulfill obligations regarding the defense of papers and presentation of research results;
- To give, at least once every 12 months and at their request, a presentation of the progress of their research program before the guidance and academic integrity committee and their supervisor;
- To remain in permanent contact with the doctoral supervisor;
- To respect institutional discipline, without restriction of academic freedom;
- To respect ethics and university deontology policies and to conduct their studies and research in compliance with academic integrity norms.

**Art. 10 (11)** The doctoral supervisor may be assisted by a guidance committee. Members of the guidance committee may not be appointed as members of the doctoral thesis defense committee.

**Art. 18 (1)** The doctoral program is conducted under the coordination of a doctoral supervisor and includes:



- (a) a training program based on advanced university studies, within the Doctoral School;
- (b) an individual program of scientific or applied research, as applicable for fields where professional doctorates are organized.
- (2) The number of transferable credits for the doctoral cycle is established by each higher education institution depending on the scientific or artistic field, in accordance with the law.
- (3) The standard duration of the doctoral program is 4 years. In special situations, the duration may be extended by 1–2 years, with the approval of the University Senate, at the proposal of the doctoral supervisor and within available funding, or reduced by one year, at the doctoral student's request, with the supervisor's recommendation and the approval of the University Senate / Presidium of the Romanian Academy.
- (4) Doctoral Studies may be interrupted for justified reasons, under conditions established by the IDUS regulations. The duration of studies is extended by the cumulative periods of approved interruptions.
- (5) Extensions and interruptions are formalized through addenda to the doctoral study contract.
- (6) In study fields regulated at the European level, the duration of Doctoral Studies complies with applicable regulations.

### **3. Doctoral Thesis Defense. Law 199/2023 provides the following:**

- **Art. 71 (1)** The doctoral thesis is prepared according to the requirements established by IDUS through its own doctoral study regulations and in accordance with the framework regulations for Doctoral Studies.
- **(2)** The public defense committee, hereafter called the doctoral committee, is proposed by the supervisor and approved by IDUS. The doctoral committee consists of at least 5 members: the president as IDUS representative, the supervisor, and at least 3 reviewers from Romania or abroad, specialists in the thesis field, at least 2 of whom are external to the IDUS. Committee members hold a doctoral degree and at least the academic rank of associate professor or senior researcher, or are doctoral supervisors themselves.
- **(3)** Before the public defense, IDUS must verify the thesis using plagiarism detection software, according to the framework regulations and the National Guide for Doctoral Thesis Writing issued by NCCATDCU. Results are shared with the doctoral student and the committee.
- **(4)** The thesis is defended publicly before the committee, after all reviewers have evaluated and submitted their reports at least 15 days in advance. Defense may occur with at least 4 committee members present, with mandatory physical attendance of the committee president and the



supervisor; other members may participate online synchronously. The defense includes a mandatory Q&A session with the committee and the public.

- **(5)** Based on the defense, reviewers' reports, originality declaration, and plagiarism analysis, the committee evaluates and decides on awarding the doctoral degree, in line with NCCATDCU minimal standards.
- **(6)** If the doctoral student has fulfilled all research program requirements and minimal field standards, the committee proposes the doctoral diploma, which is sent along with the thesis dossier to NCCATDCU within 30 calendar days.
- **(7)** Within 90 calendar days of receiving the dossier, NCCATDCU issues a conformity notice regarding compliance with IDUS administrative procedures and minimal standards. This includes separate verification of the originality declaration and similarity analysis.
- **(8)** Within 30 calendar days of the conformity notice, the institution issues the doctoral diploma, signed by the rector, and prepares and delivers the diploma.
- **(9)** If NCCATDCU invalidates the validation process, IDUS receives a written explanation and may resubmit the dossier after corrections.
- **(10)** If minimal standards are not met, the committee specifies which parts of the thesis must be revised and schedules a second public defense. If standards are still unmet, the diploma is denied, and the student is exmatriculated.
- **(11)** If NCCATDCU finds that IDUS procedures did not comply with the framework regulations, the dossier is returned for review and completion and may be resubmitted.
- **(12)** Names of the student, supervisor, and committee members are public. The thesis is a public document, prepared digitally. In the arts, it may include a digital recording of the original artistic creation. The thesis and annexes are available for consultation 90 calendar days prior to defense on the national EUFHERDI platform. After the diploma is issued, the printed thesis is permanently archived at the university library.
- **(13)** During the transparency period, anyone may submit observations regarding ethical or deontological deviations, including plagiarism. Observations are recorded and sent to IDUS for review as part of the dossier.
- **(14)** If the doctoral student does not opt for separate publication of the thesis or chapters, the digital version remains public on EUFHERDI, with copyright protection.



- **(15)** If the student opts for separate publication, a maximum 24-month grace period is allowed, during which the digital thesis is inaccessible. After expiration, if no publication notice is uploaded, the digital version becomes freely accessible.
- **(16)** After publication, the author must notify IDUS with bibliographic reference and publication link, which will be made public on EUFHERDI.
- **(17)** Within 180 days of the doctoral diploma, IDUS must send a printed copy and annexes to the National Library of Romania for permanent collection and a digital copy for consultation, in accordance with Law no. 111/1995 on Legal Deposit.

#### **4. Minimal Standards for Awarding the Doctoral Degree**

- **Order 5110/2018** – Art. 5  
The national minimal standards for awarding the doctoral degree apply to students enrolled in Doctoral Studies from the 2018–2019 academic year, explicitly stated in their doctoral study contracts.
- **Order 3018/2025** – Art. 4  
The national minimal standards for awarding the doctoral diploma apply to students enrolled in Doctoral Studies from the 2025–2026 academic year, explicitly stated in their doctoral study contracts.



**Annex 4 to HCDUS no. 5761 of 30.04.2025**

**Agreement regarding the Joint Supervision of the  
Doctoral Thesis**

Between

**Babeș-Bolyai University**

Mihail Kogălniceanu Street, no. 1, Cluj-Napoca, România

represented by its rector

**Daniel DAVID, Professor PhD**

And

**.....University ,**

**Adress**

represented by its rector/president

**....., Professor PhD**

In agreement with the legislation regarding the postgraduate studies in Romania,

In agreement with the Law no. 199/2023 of higher education, with the Order of the Minister no. 3020/2024 and with the general framework for concluding agreements in Babeș-Bolyai University.

In agreement with the general framework of University of (University's name, address, legal framework) the following decision is adopted regarding the administrative and academic aspects of the joint co-supervision of the doctoral thesis of the following candidate.



### Joint Supervising Agreement of PhD program agreement

Identification of the student – Babeş-Bolyai University	
Last name	-
First name	-
Date of birth	-
E-mail	-
Field of study	-
Date of enrollment	-
Supervisor	-

*Each university will complete the information in the next tables. This text will be deleted at the end.*

Institutions organizing the Joint Supervision of PhD program		
Name of the principle university		
Name of the Universities (A - main university B – secondary university)	A. Main University Babeş – Bolyai University, Cluj - Napoca	B. Secondary University
Address	Mihail Kogălniceanu Street, 1, Cluj-Napoca, România	-
Name of the President/Rector	Daniel DAVID, Professor PhD, Rector	-
Email	doctorat@BBUcluj.ro	-



<b>Admission/Registration</b>		
	<b>A. Main University</b>	<b>B. Secondary University</b>
Date of enrollment		
Estimated date of finalizations of studies		
Type of enrollment (state funded place/with scholarship/without scholarship, tuition paying student)		
Admission fee + registration fee was paid at the University (Complete Yes/No for each University and mention the date/period of payment)		
Study fee/tuition is paid at the University and the period for which the fee is paid (eg. 2 months; one year, three years).  (Complete Yes/No and the period for which the fee is paid)		
Thesis supervisor		
Field of study		
Doctoral School		
The social insurance during the periods spent by the PhD student at the partner university will be covered by:		



The accommodation during the periods spent by the PhD student at the partner university is provided / is under the same conditions as for its own PhD students (choose or complete by whom is covered):		
Other costs for PhD candidate (complete if applicable)		

<b>Study program</b>		
	A. Main University	B. Secondary University
Research topic of the thesis (and a proposal for the title of the thesis)		
Study language of the PhD program		
The language for writing the PhD. thesis		
Research and training periods		
Research and training courses		
Research projects/Research Reports		
Each university will recognize the courses, exams taken and research papers presented by the		



<p>PhD student at the partner university. Each party assumes the obligation of relying in a written form to the other university the results of the exams and of the research papers.</p>		
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Defence of the thesis		
	A. Main University	B. Secondary University
The thesis will be written and presented in (language)		
Summaries of the thesis will be drafted in (languages)		
<p>The evaluation committee will be made up of:</p> <p>(number and description of commission component – members from BBU, partner university and external members)</p> <p>(Details in Legislative annex for BBU)</p>		
The costs of the public defence of the doctoral thesis will be covered by (complete the costs)		
Other costs for PhD candidate (complete if applicable)		
The storage, the distribution and the		



photocopying		
Choose one option for the final defence:  1. Unique defence. Only in one University in accordance with the legislation in force for both Universities.  2. Two defences. A defence in each University in accordance with the legislation in force for each University.		
The thesis will be publicly presented in (Name of the University)		
Diploma/Certificate awarded by each university		
Academic Record/ Diploma Supplement  (At BBU is Academic Record only for the program followed at BBU)		
Note: BBU can issue the PhD diploma only if the student fulfills the academic program and respects the Romanian procedure and legislation for the final defence.		

### **General aspects of the agreement**

Article 1. The partner institutions hereby agree that they shall assume joint responsibility for the supervision of the PhD candidate's doctoral research project, the organisation of the doctoral examination and the award of a doctoral degree.



The two PhD supervisors undertake to assume fully their responsibilities as the PhD candidate's supervisors, which includes holding consultations when required so as to be able to assess the progress being made in the research project.

#### Article 2. – Publications

Each publication or presentation (including the doctoral dissertation) concerning the Results of the doctoral research project shall be submitted to the other institutions for review, at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to submission of the publication or presentation. The other institutions shall have the right during this period of thirty (30) days to review the proposed publication or presentation and to make suggestions to: (a) delete Confidential Information disclosed by such Partner Institution to the others, and/or (b) reasonably delay the publication in order to obtain protection of the Results. Such reasonable delays shall not exceed three (3) months from the date of receipt of the proposed publication. In the absence of comments within such period, the publication or presentation shall be deemed permitted.

Each institution undertakes to cooperate to allow the timely submission, examination, publication and defence of any dissertation or thesis for a degree. In any event, such publication and defence may not be delayed for a period of more than six (6) months without prejudice to obligations of confidentiality.

#### Article 3. – Data protection

1. Each University is a Controller within the meaning of the GDPR and the Universities are not joint Controllers in the sense of Article 26 GDPR
2. Where in this Article terms are employed that correspond with definitions from Article 4 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), these terms shall be assigned the meaning of the terms in the GDPR. A Data Exporter is the Controller who transfers the Personal Data. The Data Importer is the Controller who receives from the Data Exporter Personal Data for further processing on its own behalf.
3. If the Data Exporter or the Data Importer will not fall within the scope of the GDPR, the relevant standard contractual clauses should be concluded.
4. The Data Exporter and the Data Importer warrant and undertake that:
  - a. The Data Importer has collected, processed and transferred the Personal Data in accordance with the GDPR.
  - b. The Data Importer will process the Personal Data as an independent Controller in accordance with the GDPR, in particular with regard to Data Subject's rights and articles 32 to 36 GDPR.
  - c. The Data Exporter and Data Importer will respond to enquiries from Data Subjects and a Supervisory Authority concerning its respective Processing activities. If a University receives enquiries about Processing by the other University, it shall immediately notify the University insofar as the law permits this. If the other University is unwilling or unable to respond, the



- University that has received the enquiries shall respond to such enquiry to the best of its abilities.
- d. The Data Importer and the Data Exporter shall perform its obligations under this agreement at its own cost.
  - e. The Data Importer and the Data Exporter shall have in place appropriate technical and organizational measures to protect the Personal Data against accidental or unlawful destruction or accidental loss, alteration, unauthorized disclosure or access, and which provide a level of security appropriate to the risk represented by the Processing and the nature of the Personal Data to be protected.

#### Article 4. - Settlements of disputes

- ✓ By signing this agreement the parties declare to act according to the PhD regulations in force in each of the partner institutions, both the central regulations and regulations of the relevant faculty and/or Doctoral School.
- ✓ This agreement shall be governed by Romanian law. Any disputes which may not be settled amicably shall be submitted to the competent courts of the place of the home institution's headquarters.
- ✓ This agreement may be revoked by one or other of the partner institutions by a written request previously submitted by one party in case of non-compliance with the agreement's terms, on three (3) months prior written notice. Should this occur, the partner institutions shall collaboratively endeavour to minimize any negative impact on the PhD candidate.
- ✓ All disputes arising out of or in connection with the interpretation or the performance of this agreement or concerning the doctoral research shall be settled amicably between the supervisors or delegated the competent departments within each university. If the matter is not resolved within thirty calendar days after the dispute was announced to the promotor of the partner institution, it shall be referred to the deans of the respective faculties involved in the agreement. If the deans are unable to resolve a matter within thirty calendar days after the dispute was referred to them, it shall be referred to the rector of each partner institution. The rectors' attempt to bring about an amicable solution shall be considered to have failed if the dispute is not resolved within 30 days from the date of the referral of the dispute by the deans, in which case the following paragraph of this article shall apply.
- ✓ This agreement shall automatically be terminated if the contractual relationship or cooperation between doctoral candidate and one of the partner institutions is terminated, or if the partner institutions jointly decides to terminate the cooperation. In this case the other partner institutions will not be entitled to any form of compensation. If applicable, the partner institutions shall collaboratively endeavour to ensure that the PhD candidate can obtain a doctoral degree from one of the partner institutions with the doctoral research which is subject to this agreement. In this case the PhD candidate shall mention in the doctoral thesis the contribution to the research by both partner institutions and the employees involved.



- ✓ Termination or expiry of this Agreement shall not affect the article 2,3,4 or provisions herein which by their nature are intended to continue after termination or expiry.

Article 5. - Validity of the agreement

- ✓ The present agreement comes into force on the date of signature by the last signing party and expire on the date of defence, expulsion from studies, withdraw from studies or termination by mutual agreement of the parties involved.
- ✓ The present Agreement is made and signed in identical 4 copies, one for each Party (The Institute for Doctoral Studies from BBU, Doctoral School from BBU, Partner University, Student). Each Party will receive a full original signed copy of this agreement. Alternatively, this Agreement can also be signed electronically by each Party by using an electronic signature. An electronically signed agreement shall have the same legal effect as an agreement with wet signatures. Distribution of the fully electronically signed agreement via email or electronic signing software will have the same legal effect as providing an original copy. The Parties guarantee that the persons signing the present Agreement are authorised to sign on behalf of the organisation they represent.

For Babeş-Bolyai University	For Partner University (Please complete the University)
Rector from Babeş-Bolyai University	Rector from.....
Prof. Dr. Daniel DAVID,	Prof. Dr.....
Signature:	Signature:
Director of Doctoral School from Babeş-Bolyai University	Director of Doctoral School from.....
Name and Surname:	Name and surname:
Prof. dr.	Prof. dr.
Signature:	Signature:



UNIVERSITATEA BABEŞ-BOLYAI  
BABEŞ-BOLYAI TUDOMÁNYEGYETEM  
BABEŞ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITÁT  
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TRADITIO ET EXCELLENTIA

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Supervisor from Babeş-Bolyai University	Supervisor from.....
Name and Surname: Prof. dr.	Name and Surname: Prof. dr.
Signature:	Signature:
PhD. Student Name and Surname: Signature: Date:	



Addendum - Babeş-Bolyai University legislative framework:

- ❖ General Framework regulation for Doctoral Studies at Babeş-Bolyai University:
  - Law 199/2023
  - Order for the approval of the framework regulation governing Doctoral Studies 3020/8 January 2024
  - Order No 5110/2018 of 17 September 2018 approving the minimum national standards for granting the title of doctor
  - Order No 3018/2025 of 13 January 2025 approving the minimum national standards for granting the title of doctor
  - Babeş-Bolyai University Regulation for organising and conducting Doctoral Studies

- ❖ Doctoral degree programme Order 3020/2024 stipulates the following:

Art.13 (1) A person admitted to a doctoral programme is considered a doctoral student for the entire period of their attendance in the respective programme, from enrolment until the completion of the degree programme or until termination of their enrolment, except for periods of interruption of studies, but including any extensions granted in accordance with the provisions of the learning agreement, under IDUS's own regulations.

Art.13 (9) The doctoral student has the following obligations:

- to comply with the timetable established with the doctoral supervisor and to fulfil their obligations in terms of submitting their work and presenting the results of their research;
- to present, at their initiative, at least once every 12 months, a summary presentation of their scientific research plan in front of the academic integrity committee and the doctoral supervisor;
- to maintain ongoing communication with the doctoral supervisor;
- to observe institutional discipline but without being restricted in their academic freedom;
- to comply with academic ethics and professional conduct policies and to conduct their studies and research with academic integrity.

Art. 10 (11) The doctoral supervisor may be assisted in their work with the doctoral student by a guidance committee. Members of the guidance committee cannot be proposed as members of the doctoral dissertation public defence committee.

Art.18 (1) The doctoral degree programme is carried out under the coordination of a doctoral supervisor and comprises:

- (a) a training programme based on advanced graduate studies in the Doctoral School;
- b) an individual applied or scientific research programme, as applicable, for the subjects covered by the professional doctorate.
- (2) The number of transferable academic credits for the Doctoral Studies is established by each higher education institution according to the scientific or artistic field, as provided by law.



- (3) The duration of the doctoral degree programme is 4 years. In exceptional circumstances, the duration of the doctoral programme may be extended by 1-2 years, with the approval of the University Senate, at the proposal of the doctoral supervisor and within the limit of available funds, or reduced by one year, at the request of the doctoral student, in agreement with the doctoral supervisor and with the approval of the University Senate/Presidium of the Romanian Academy.
- (4) Doctoral Studies may be interrupted for justified reasons, subject to the terms and criteria stipulated in the IDUS regulations. The duration of these studies is extended by the combined periods of authorised interruptions, in accordance with the IDUS regulations.
- (5) The extension provided for in paragraph (3) and the interruption and extension provided for in paragraph (4) are specified in the addenda to the Doctoral Studies agreement.
- (6) In the fields of study regulated at European level, the duration of Doctoral Studies shall comply with the applicable regulations.

❖ Doctoral dissertation defence

Law 199/2023 stipulates the following:

- Art. 71 (1) The doctoral dissertation shall be drafted in accordance with the requirements established by IDUS under its own Regulations on Doctoral Studies and in accordance with the regulations laid down under the Framework regulation on Doctoral Studies.
- (2) The doctoral dissertation committee, hereinafter referred to as the doctoral committee, is proposed by the doctoral supervisor and approved by the IDUS board. The doctoral committee is composed of at least 5 members: the president, representing the IDUS, the doctoral supervisor and at least 3 national or international experts in the field of the doctoral dissertation, at least 2 of whom conduct their work outside the IDUS. The members of the doctoral committee must hold a doctoral degree and a teaching position of associate professor or scientific researcher 2nd degree at least or be a doctoral supervisor, nationally or internationally.
- (3) IDUS must run a similarity check on the doctoral dissertation using a computer programme in accordance with the Framework regulation on Doctoral Studies prior to the public defence of the doctoral dissertation. The assessment is carried out against the standards set out in the National guidelines for writing doctoral theses, drawn up by the NCCATDCU. The results of the analysis will be made available to the doctoral student and the doctoral committee.
- (4) The doctoral dissertation and its attachments will be open for viewing 90 calendar days prior to the public defence on the national platform managed by EUFHERDI, in accordance with the legal provisions in force regarding copyright. After the doctoral degree has been issued, the printed doctoral dissertation is archived in the library of the higher education institution on a permanent basis



- (5) During the transparency period of the doctoral dissertation, any natural or legal person may submit comments on violations of the standards of professional ethics and professional deontology, including plagiarism, prior to the public defence. Observations can be submitted online or at the registrar's office of the higher education institution where the public defence is held. Observations are entered in a report to be submitted to IDUS for analysis and decision in view of the validation of the public defence for the doctoral dissertation and are included in the doctoral file.
- (6) The doctoral dissertation shall be defended in a public hearing before the doctoral committee after evaluation by all reviewers and submission of their reports at least 15 days prior to the thesis defence. The doctoral dissertation may be defended with at least 4 of the members of the doctoral committee present, with the mandatory in-person participation of the chair of the committee and the doctoral supervisor; the other members of the committee may also participate synchronously online. The public defence session must contain a question and answer session with the members of the doctoral committee and the invited audience.
- (7) Following the public defence of the doctoral dissertation, the reports of the reviewers, the statement on the originality of the work and the analysis of similarity, the doctoral committee assesses and votes on the conferral of the doctoral degree, in compliance with the minimum standards developed by the NCCATDCU for the conferral of the doctoral degree.
- (8) If the doctoral student has fulfilled all the requirements set out in the scientific research programme, as well as the minimum standards related to the field, the doctoral committee submits a proposal for the granting of the doctoral degree, along with the doctoral application file, within 30 calendar days to NCCATDCU.
- (9) Within 90 calendar days from the receipt of the doctoral application file, NCCATDCU shall issue a final decision on the compliance with the administrative procedure carried out at the IDUS level and the compliance with the minimum criteria for the granting of the doctoral degree. The administrative procedure involves as a distinct procedural stage the examination of the statement of originality of the dissertation and the analysis of the degree of similarity.
- (10) Within 30 calendar days after receiving the approval, the higher education institution issues the decision to grant the doctoral degree, signed by the rector, draws up and issues the doctoral degree.
- (11) If NCCATDCU invalidates the doctoral thesis validation process, the IDUS shall receive from NCCATDCU a written statement of reasons for invalidation, and the file may be resubmitted to NCCATDCU for re-evaluation after the grounds for invalidation have been remedied, in accordance with the procedure set out in paragraph (9).
- (12) If the minimum standards required for granting the doctoral degree are not met, the doctoral committee will indicate the aspects of the doctoral dissertation to be revised or added to and will call for a repeat public defence of the dissertation. The second public defence of the dissertation is



held before the same doctoral committee as the first defence. If the minimum standards are not met at the second dissertation defence, the doctoral degree will not be awarded and the doctoral student will be expelled.

- (13) If NCCATDCU decides that the administrative procedure carried out at IDUS level failed to comply with the provisions of the Framework regulation on Doctoral Studies, the doctoral application file will be returned to IDUS for reconsideration and updating. It may be resubmitted to NCCATDCU for a new analysis, as stipulated in paragraph (9).
- (14) The full name of the doctoral dissertation candidate, the full name of the doctoral supervisor and the full name of the doctoral committee members are public. The doctoral dissertation is a public document. It is also drafted in digital format. In the field of arts, the doctoral dissertation may be accompanied by a digital recording of an original artistic creation. After the doctoral degree has been issued, the printed doctoral dissertation is archived in the library of the higher education institution on a permanent basis.
- (15) If the doctoral student does not wish to independently publish the dissertation or chapters of the dissertation separately, the digital version of the thesis shall be made available with open access on the EUFHERDI managed national platform, including after the decision to grant the doctoral degree has been issued. The dissertation will be issued with a copyright protection licence.
- (16) If the doctoral student chooses to publish the doctoral dissertation or chapters of the dissertation separately, they will be provided with a grace period of a maximum of 24 months for publication, during which time the doctoral dissertation in digital format is not open access. Once the grace period has expired, if no formal announcement of the independent publication of the thesis has been entered into the EUFHERDI-managed platform, the digital document automatically becomes open access with a copyright protection license.
- (16) Once the thesis or selected chapters thereof have been published, the author is bound to notify IDUS of this and to provide the bibliographic information and a link to the publication, which will be subsequently published on the EUFHERDI-managed national platform.
- (17) Following the decision to confer the doctoral degree, within a maximum of 180 days, IDUS must provide the National Library of Romania with a printed copy of the doctoral thesis and its attachments, as required by Law no. 111/1995 on the Legal Deposit of Documents, republished, a copy to be used for the Intangible fund, as well as a digital copy of the same, in electronic format, for consultation upon request by anyone interested, at the National Library of Romania, in compliance with the legal regulations in force.
- ❖ Minimum standards for granting the title of doctor, pursuant to Order 5110/2018
- Art. 5 The national minimum standards for granting the title of doctor shall apply to doctoral students enrolled in doctoral degree studies as of the 2018-2019 academic year, by express stipulation in the doctoral study agreements.



UNIVERSITATEA BABEŞ-BOLYAI  
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- ❖ Minimum standards for granting the title of doctor, pursuant to Order No 3018/2025
- Art. 4 The national minimum standards for granting the title of doctor shall apply to doctoral students enrolled in doctoral degree studies as of the 2025-206 academic year, by express stipulation in the doctoral study agreements.