



UNIVERSITATEA DE VEST
"VASILE GOLDIȘ"
din ARAD

/

ROMÂNIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
„VASILE GOLDIȘ” WESTERN UNIVERSITY OF ARAD
310025 Arad, Romania Bd. Revoluției nr. 94-96, tel./fax
0040/0257/280260,
e-mail: rectorat@uvvg.ro, web: www.uvvg.ro

REGULATION
FOR THE ORGANIZATION
OF DOCTORAL STUDIES
AT THE "VASILE GOLDIȘ" WESTERN
UNIVERSITY OF ARAD (IOSUD)

Revision no. 2

-APRIL 2016-

The "Regulations for the organization of doctoral studies at the Vasile Godiș Western University of Arad" was approved on 05.03.2013 and revised (Revision 1) in the meeting of the Board of Directors on 27.09.2013 and in the meeting of the UVVG Senate on 28.09.2013.

Revision 2 (April 2016) includes the following changes:

- introduction of amendments to the Code of Doctoral Studies 681/2011 by GD no. 134/2016 and Order MENCŞ 3482/2016 related to the completion of studies and ethics;
- inclusion of reduced frequency, alongside attendance, as forms of organization of doctoral university studies; the regulations of doctoral schools provide for obligations related to attendance;
- inclusion of the CSUD director's duties;
- the inclusion of the individual research plan, part of the doctoral studies contract;
- inclusion of the obligation to carry out the admission procedure according to an Admission Methodology;
- modification of the conditions for admission to the admission competition: average 8.00 undergraduate and master's degree and the introduction of the affidavit that there have been no disciplinary offences during the years of study that have been sanctioned by the University Ethics Committee;
- mention of the regulation of the duration and the specific structure of each doctoral programme by the regulations of the doctoral schools, endorsed by the CSD and approved by the CSUD;
- introduction of paragraph: IOSUD UVVG is not obliged to employ doctoral students from the part-time education form as research assistants or university assistants for a fixed period.
- Regulations concerning habilitation according to the legislation in force;
- changes relating to the funding of doctoral studies;
- the procedure for regular internal evaluation of doctoral schools, the work of doctoral supervisors and doctoral students.

SUMMARY

CHAPTER I - GENERAL INFORMATION.....	4
CHAPTER II - IOSUD-UVVG.....	5
CHAPTER III - DOCTORAL SCHOOLS.....	8
CHAPTER IV - DOCTORAL STUDIES CONTRACT.....	11
CHAPTER V - THE DOCTORAL SUPERVISOR AND THE SUPERVISION COMMITTEE.....	12
CHAPTER VI - SELECTION, ADMISSION AND EMPLOYMENT IN DOCTORAL PROGRAMS.....	14
CHAPTER VII - STRUCTURE AND DURATION OF DOCTORAL STUDIES.....	16
CHAPTER VIII - THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME AND FORM OF DOCTORAL STUDIES ORGANISED IN THE UVVG.....	17
CHAPTER IX - EVALUATION OF DOCTORAL SCHOOLS AND DOCTORAL SUPERVISORS.....	18
CHAPTER X - FINANCING OF DOCTORAL STUDIES.....	20
CHAPTER XI - COMPETENCES PROVIDED BY DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES.....	21
CHAPTER XII - THE TRAINING PROGRAMME BASED ON ADVANCED UNIVERSITY STUDIES (PSUA) AND THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROGRAMME (PCS).....	22
CHAPTER XIII - THE DOCTORAL THESIS AND THE STAGES OF COMPLETION OF DOCTORAL STUDIES.....	24
CHAPTER XIV - RESOLVING COMPLAINTS ABOUT NON-COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS OF QUALITY OR PROFESSIONAL ETHICS, INCLUDING THE EXISTENCE OF PLAGIARISM, IN A DOCTORAL THESIS.....	29
CHAPTER XV - THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE DOCTORAL STUDENT AND SUPERVISOR.....	31
CHAPTER XVI - TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS.....	32

CHAPTER I – GENERAL INFORMATIONS

Art. 1. The present regulation covers all aspects of the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at the " Vasile Goldiș "Western University of Arad (UVVG) and is drawn up on the basis of the National Education Law 1/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions, of GD no. 681/2011 - Code of Doctoral Studies, with subsequent amendments and additions, MEN Order no. 4982 of 5 September 2013 on the activity of doctoral supervision, MENCȘ Orders no. 3482/2016 and no.3485/2016 and the University Charter.

Art. 2. Doctoral studies constitute the third cycle of university studies and allow to obtain the title of doctor and a level 8 qualification of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).

Art. 3. "Vasile Godiș" Western University (UVVG) is a university that has assumed the mission of education and scientific research, the development of doctoral studies being an important component of this strategy.

Art. 4. At UVVG, doctoral studies are carried out only for the *scientific doctorate*, centered on learning and research whose purpose is to develop human resources competent in research-development and innovation; the scientific doctorate is a condition for a professional career in higher education and research.

Art. 5. UVVG has acquired the status of *Institute for Organization of Doctoral Studies (IOSUD)* by the M.Ed.C. Order no. 4811/17.08.2005 and the M.E.C.I. Order no. 5199/21.09.2009, within which two Doctoral Schools operate, and is thus entitled to organize and conduct university doctoral studies.

Art. 6. (1) The fields in which doctoral studies are organized at UVVG are: **Medicine and Biology**. On the date of entry into force of this Regulation, the specializations related to the doctoral fields are those listed in **Annex 1, Table 1**.

(2) The University Senate together with the Board of Directors may decide on the establishment of more doctoral schools and new doctoral fields of study, in accordance with the relevant legislation.

Art. 7. (1) Doctoral degree programmes may be organized, as a rule, in the form of full-time education.

(2) As an exception to the provisions of paragraph (1), doctoral degree programmes may also be organized on a part-time basis.

(3) For doctoral degree programmes, the obligations concerning the attendance and part-time attendance shall be laid down in the regulations of the Doctoral Schools, drawn up by the CSD, and approved by the CSUD.

Art 8. Doctoral studies are organized on a full-time and part-time basis. Admission to these forms is organized annually, under the conditions of the law, both for places with UVVG

scholarships or financed from other legally constituted sources (attendance) and for those on a fee basis (attendance and reduced attendance).

Art. 9. The University Senate together with the UVVG Board of Directors may decide to establish partnerships with other IOSUDs and with research and development institutions to carry out doctoral programmes.

CHAPTER II – Institute for Organization of Doctoral Studies IOSUD-UVVG

Art. 10. (1) At present, UVVG constitutes only one IOSUD and doctoral studies at UVVG are organized in two doctoral schools.

(2) UVVG aims to reorganize doctoral studies by attracting public or private research and development units to its own IOSUD, as well as by setting up, authorising and accrediting several doctoral schools within it, and by organizing research masters within the doctoral schools.

(3) The University Senate together with the Board of Directors may decide on the participation of UVVG in the establishment of other IOSUDs.

Art. 11. The IOSUD provides institutional, administrative and logistical support to the subordinate doctoral schools.

Art. 12. The IOSUD is governed by the Council for Doctoral Studies, hereinafter referred to as CSUD.

Art. 13. (1) The CSUD may have as members:

- a) persons from within or outside IOSUD;
- b) persons from the country or from abroad;
- c) scientific personalities or personalities from relevant industrial and socio-economic sectors;
- d) representatives of IOSUD doctoral students.

(2) CSUD members who are academics or researchers must have the right to conduct PhDs, in the country or abroad, and meet the minimum and mandatory standards for the granting of the habilitation certificate in force at the date of their appointment as CSUD members, approved by order of the Minister of Education, Research, Youth and Sport, according to art. 219 para. (1) letter a) of Law no. 1/2011.

Art. 14. The CSUD is composed of 7 members, of which:

- a) the Director of the CSUD appointed by public competition, is an ex officio member;
- b) one member elected, on the basis of the candidacy submitted, by universal, direct, secret and equal vote of the doctoral supervisors of the IOSUD doctoral schools;
- c) one member elected, on the basis of the candidacy submitted, by universal, direct, secret and equal vote of the doctoral students of the IOSUD doctoral schools;

- d) the other 4 members of the CSUD are appointed by the Rector, according to art. 9, para. (7) of GD no. 681/2011 Code of Doctoral Studies, and they may be persons from IOSUD or from outside, persons from the country or abroad, scientific personalities or personalities from the relevant industrial and socio-economic sectors, representatives of doctoral students.

Art. 15. The term of office of the members of the CSUD is 4 years, except for students, whose term of office ends at the end of their doctoral studies, i.e. at the end of the public defense of their doctoral thesis.

Art. 16. The main tasks of the CSUD are:

- a) to establish the IOSUD strategy;
- b) to draw up the institutional regulations for the organization and running of doctoral programmes at IOSUD level, which it submits to the Senate for approval;
- c) approve decisions on the establishment and dissolution of doctoral schools within IOSUD;
- d) the selection of doctoral supervisors who are part of a newly established doctoral school;
- e) coordination of the partnership, if the IOSUD is constituted by a partnership, according to the partnership contract;
- f) drawing up the minimum criteria for the organization and operation of doctoral programmes, including those relating to admission to doctoral studies, curricula, assessment of doctoral candidates, selection criteria and the establishment of committees for the assessment of doctoral theses proposed by doctoral schools;
- g) establishes the minimum criteria for the completion, evaluation and valorisation of the results of doctoral programmes, including the doctoral thesis;
- h) formulate proposals, including support for legislative initiatives, aimed at stimulating the employment of graduates of doctoral programmes in the labour market;
- i) develop methodologies to highlight, over time, the career path of doctoral graduates;
- j) formulate its own proposals and endorse proposals from doctoral schools for agreements and partnerships/consortia for the conduct of doctoral degree programmes and doctoral co-supervision programmes;
- k) initiates, submits and monitors the documentation required to obtain national and European funding for doctoral and research programmes;
- l) mediates and resolves conflicts that are brought to its attention between doctoral candidates and that have not been resolved at the level of the Councils of the Doctoral Schools, between doctoral candidates and the doctoral supervisor, or between the doctoral supervisor and the Doctoral School;
- m) set the agenda for meetings;
- n) the CSUD shall present annually to the UVVG Senate a report on the activities of the IOSUD.

Art. 17. The CSUD shall meet whenever necessary, at the request of the CSUD Director or of at least one third of its members.

Art.18.The institutional regulations for the organization and conduct of doctoral degree programmes, drawn up by the CSUD, are approved by the University Senate.

Art. 19. (1) The CSUD is headed by a Director.

(2) The function of Director of the CSUD is assimilated to the function of Pro-rector.

(3) The Director of the CSUD is appointed following a public competition organized by the UVVG on the basis of a methodology approved by the Senate.

(5) The announcement of the competition shall be published at least two months before the deadline for the registration of candidates.

(6) The notices shall be published at least by the following means:

- a) in a prominent place on the home page of the website of all IOSUD component institutions;
- b) in the Official Journal of Romania, Part III.

(7) The IOSUD may announce competitions by any additional means, including publication in the media, in national and international scientific publications, on websites specialized in the publication of job offers and the like.

(8) Only persons who are entitled to conduct PhDs and who meet the minimum and mandatory standards for the award of the habilitation certificate in force at the time of publication in the Official Journal of Romania, Part III, of the announcement of the competition for the post, approved by order of the Minister of Education, Research, Youth and Sport, according to art. 219 para. (1) letter a) of Law no. 1/2011.

(9) The competition commission is composed of 5 members, of which at least 3 must be from outside IOSUD, from the country or from abroad.

(10) At least one member of the competition committee has an employment contract, on the date of publication in the Official Journal of Romania, Part III, of the announcement of the competition for the post, with a higher education and research institution from abroad, which is included in the list approved by the order of the Minister of Education, Research, Youth and Sport issued in accordance with Art. 216 para. (2) letter f) of Law No 1/2011.

(11) The members of the competition committee must have the right to conduct doctoral studies, in the country or abroad, and must meet the minimum and mandatory standards for granting the habilitation certificate in force on the date of publication in the Official Gazette of Romania, Part III, of the announcement of the competition for the post, approved by Order of the Minister of Education, Research, Youth and Sport, according to Art. 219 para. (1) letter a) of Law no. 1/2011.

(12) Based on the decision of the competition committee, the President of the UVVG Board of Directors shall conclude a management contract with the appointed person for a period of 4 years.

Art.20. The CSUD Director has the following main duties:

- a) ensures the operational management of the CSUD;
- b) plans, organizes, coordinates, directs and controls the activity of the CSUD;
- c) represents the CSUD in the relationship with the management of the "Vasile Goldiș" Western University of Arad, with other CSUDs in the country or with similar institutions abroad;

- d) carries out activities to promote the image of UVVG doctoral studies at national and international level.

CHAPTER III - DOCTORAL SCHOOLS

Art. 21. Doctoral schools are organized and operate within IOSUD - UVVG, with at least three doctoral supervisors.

Art. 22. The establishment of doctoral schools are proposed by the faculties or departments of UVVG Arad. Proposals for the establishment of doctoral schools are reviewed and endorsed by the CSUD and approved by the UVVG Senate after obtaining the approval of the Board of Directors.

Art. 23. Within the IOSUD - UVVG two doctoral schools are operating, which will organize admissions, in the fundamental field of Medical Sciences and the fundamental field of Natural Sciences.

Art. 24. In accordance with the provisions of GD no. 681/2011 - Code of Doctoral Studies, IOSUD-UVVG proposes the establishment of other doctoral schools.

Art.25. Doctoral schools have the same rank as departments and may organize research centers or laboratories that function as income and expenditure units within the university, according to the provisions of art. 131, art. 133 para. (4) and art. 134 of Law no. 1/2011.

Art. 26. (1) Doctoral schools are organized and operate within IOSUD with doctoral supervisors who have acquired this right, according to the law.

(2) In addition to the doctoral supervisors, doctoral schools may also be affiliated to other researchers or teaching staff involved in research and/or teaching activities within the doctoral school, within IOSUD or within other institutions or research and development units, in the country or abroad.

Art. 27. (1) The Doctoral School is managed by a Director of the Doctoral School and the Doctoral School Council. The director of the doctoral school is assimilated to the director of the department. The Council of the doctoral school is assimilated to the Council of the department.

(2) A maximum of 50% of the doctoral school's council shall be made up of doctoral supervisors from the doctoral school, 20% of doctoral students, rounded up if necessary, and the remainder shall be made up of members from outside the doctoral school chosen from among scientific personalities whose scientific work has significant international recognition and/or personalities from the relevant industrial and socio-economic sectors.

(3) The members of the Council of the Doctoral School shall be academics or researchers who must be entitled to conduct doctoral studies at home or abroad.

(4) The share of PhD supervisors from the Doctoral School in the Doctoral School Council shall be determined by the CSUD.

- (5) The members of the Council of the Doctoral School shall be elected by universal, direct, secret and equal vote of the doctoral supervisors of the respective Doctoral School.
- (6) The term of office of the Council of the Doctoral School shall be 5 years.
- (7) Doctoral student members of the doctoral school council who complete their doctoral studies during the council's term of office shall lose their membership of the council on the date of the public defense of their doctoral thesis.
- (8) Partial elections shall be held to fill vacancies in the Council of the Doctoral School in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (1). (5), and the term of office of the new member shall end when the term of office of the doctoral school council expires.
- (9) The Council of the Doctoral School shall be chaired by the Director of the Doctoral School, who shall be appointed by the CSUD from among the Doctoral School supervisors and shall be an ex officio member of the Council of the Doctoral School.
- (10) The Council of the Doctoral School shall meet at least three times a year at the request of the Director of the Doctoral School or at least one third of its members.

Art. 28. The main tasks of the Council of the Doctoral School are:

- a) to draw up the regulations of the Doctoral School;
- b) to take decisions on granting or revoking the membership of the Doctoral School to doctoral supervisors, and to set minimum standards of scientific performance for the objective application of these procedures;
- c) the registration and expulsion of doctoral students, on the proposal of the doctoral supervisors who are members of the Doctoral School;
- d) taking decisions on the approval of the status of teaching and research staff affiliated to the Doctoral School, as appropriate;
- e) assisting the external evaluator in the evaluation process for accreditation/recognition or provisional authorisation of the doctoral school;
- f) other specific tasks specified in the regulations of the doctoral schools.

Art. 29. (1) Doctoral students are registered in a Doctoral School by the IOSUD - UVVG

(2) New students may be enrolled in a Doctoral School only if it is accredited or provisionally authorized.

(3) The provisional authorisation of the Doctoral School may not extend for a period longer than 3 years.

Art.30. (1) The Regulations of the Doctoral School shall establish the manner in which the doctoral degree programmes are organized and carried out within the Doctoral School.

(2) The Regulations of the Doctoral School shall be drawn up by the Council of the Doctoral School, in consultation with all the doctoral supervisors who are members of the Doctoral School, in compliance with these Regulations.

(3) The Regulations of the Doctoral School shall be approved by a universal, direct, secret and equal vote of an absolute majority of the doctoral supervisors who are members of the Doctoral School.

(4) The Regulations of the Doctoral School shall be approved by the CSUD.

(5) The Regulations of the Doctoral School shall establish binding criteria, procedures and standards concerning at least the following aspects:

- a) the acceptance of new doctoral supervisor members, as well as regulations on how a doctoral supervisor may be withdrawn from the Doctoral School;
- b) the mechanisms by which decisions are taken regarding the appropriateness, structure and content of the training programme based on advanced university studies;
- c) the procedures for changing the doctoral supervisor of a particular doctoral student and the procedures for mediating conflicts;
- d) the conditions under which the doctoral programme may be interrupted;
- e) the procedures for preventing fraud in scientific research, including plagiarism;
- f) ensuring access to research resources;
- g) the obligations of doctoral students in terms of attendance, according to a methodology developed by the Ministry.

(6) The regulation may also apply to doctoral degree programmes carried out in a joint programme, if the partnership agreement so decides.

Art. 31. Doctoral schools are obliged to provide correct and complete information on doctoral study programmes to candidates to these programmes, the university community and other interested natural or legal persons.

Art. 32. (1) IOSUD guarantees transparency in the organization and conduct of doctoral programmes at all its doctoral schools.

(2) The doctoral schools, with the logistical support of the IOSUD, will ensure the publication on the Internet of all the necessary information on the doctoral study programmes, with particular reference to the following categories:

- a) doctoral school regulations;
- b) information on vacancies for doctoral students;
- c) information on vacancies for doctoral supervisors;
- d) information on the organization and running of doctoral programmes;
- e) information on the content of doctoral programmes;
- f) information on the financing of the studies and the costs incurred by the doctoral student;
- g) the model framework contract for doctoral studies;
- h) information on the doctoral supervisors and the doctoral students they supervise, including at least a list of their publications and patents;
- i) information on the results and professional performance of the doctoral supervisors;
- j) information on doctoral dissertations, i.e. standards for their preparation, procedures and evaluation criteria;
- k) the abstracts of the doctoral theses to be publicly defended, as well as the date, time and location of the public presentations, at least 14 days before their defense;
- l) the addresses where completed doctoral theses published on a website managed by the Ministry can be accessed.

Art. 33. (1) The doctoral school together with the doctoral supervisor is obliged to inform the doctoral student about scientific, professional and academic ethics and to check its observance, including:

- a) observance of ethical provisions during the conduct of doctoral research;
- b) compliance with ethical provisions in the writing of the doctoral thesis.

(2) The Doctoral School and the IOSUD shall take measures to prevent and sanction deviations from the rules of scientific, professional and academic ethics, in accordance with the institution's code of ethics and professional deontology.

(3) In case of possible academic fraud, violations of academic ethics or deviations from good conduct in scientific research, including plagiarism, the doctoral student and/or the doctoral supervisor are liable/responsible according to the law.

Art. 34. (1) IOSUD, through the doctoral schools, may grant financial support to doctoral students for research internships at home or abroad, with the consent of the doctoral supervisor.

(2) The mobility of doctoral students may also be facilitated by the doctoral schools through:

- a) the conclusion of institutional agreements or partnerships, approved by the doctoral school's council;
- b) doctoral research in cotutelle;
- c) exchanges of doctoral students and teaching and research staff with internationally recognised universities;
- d) participation in international consortia, with the aim of including doctoral research topics in international scientific projects.

CHAPTER IV - DOCTORAL STUDIES CONTRACT

Art. 35. (1) The rights and obligations of doctoral students, doctoral supervisors and IOSUD, through the doctoral schools, are established by the doctoral studies contract.

(2) The model framework contract for doctoral studies shall be drawn up by the doctoral school, endorsed by the doctoral school council and approved by the CSUD, the Administrative Council and made public on the website at least 2 months before admission.

(3) The contract of doctoral studies is concluded with each doctoral student individually, and is signed by the doctoral student, the doctoral supervisor and the Rector.

(4) The performance of teaching activities by the doctoral student must not adversely affect the time available for the doctoral programme, as the doctoral programme is primarily a professional research experience.

Art. 36. The doctoral study contract shall contain at least the following information:

- a) the identification data of the doctoral student and the doctoral supervisor;
- b) data about the IOSUD and the doctoral school;
- c) the chosen research topic;
- d) the monthly amount of the scholarship, if applicable;
- e) the amount of the study fee, if applicable;
- f) the language in which the doctoral thesis will be written and defended - Romanian or a language of international circulation;
- g) the deadline for completion of the doctoral thesis;
- h) the conditions for extending the deadline for completion of the doctoral thesis;
- i) the amount of teaching activities that the doctoral student undertakes to carry out and the period during which they are carried out, in accordance with Article 164, paragraph 1. (3) of Law no. 1/2011.
- j) form of enrolment - day or reduced attendance
- k) working hours.

Art.37. The Individual Doctoral Study Plan is an integral part of the Doctoral Study Contract. It also contains the nominal composition of the tutoring committee, which may be modified during the doctoral studies only for justified reasons.

Art. 38. Conflicts between the doctoral student and the doctoral school are mediated by the CSUD. Conflicts between the doctoral student and the doctoral supervisor are mediated by the Council of the doctoral school, and if the conflict is not resolved at this level, it is mediated by the CSUD.

CHAPTER V - THE DOCTORAL SUPERVISOR AND THE SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Art. 39. (1) The doctoral supervisors may be persons who have obtained the right to conduct a doctorate before the entry into force of Law no. 1/2011, as well as persons who acquire this right according to the provisions of art. 166 of Law no. 1/2011.

Art. 40. (1) In order to conduct PhDs, teaching and research staff who have acquired this right must have an employment contract with UVVG and be members of a doctoral school.

(2) A doctoral supervisor may only supervise doctoral students in the field for which he/she has obtained this right.

(3) A teaching and research staff member who has the right to supervise doctoral students and who is tenured at a higher education or research institution that is not an IOSUD or a component of an IOSUD may, in accordance with Article 166 para. (3) of Law no. 1/2011, be part of a UVVG doctoral school.

(4) A doctoral supervisor may carry out his/her doctoral supervision activity within the IOSUD/IOD where he/she has been awarded the status of doctoral supervisor.

(5) If the PhD supervisor wishes to carry out his/her PhD supervision activity in another IOSUD/IOD that organizes PhD in the respective field, this can be done with the approval of the two University Senates/Presidency of the Romanian Academy. The request is addressed to the rector of the university/president of the Romanian Academy and must be approved by the director of the Council for Doctoral Studies (CSUD). The agreement of the two institutions (IOSUD/IOD) is expressed on the application submitted by the PhD supervisor, with the opinion of the CSUD director and the approval of the university rector/president of the Romanian Academy.

(6) The approval of the PhD supervisor's activity in another IOSUD/IOD than the one in which he/she was conferred the status of PhD supervisor requires the clarification of the PhD student's situation between the two institutions involved (IOSUD/IOD) and the conclusion of an individual employment contract with the IOSUD/IOD where he/she will carry out his/her activity.

(7) The Senate's decision on the approval of the PhD supervision activity in another IOSUD/IOD will be officially communicated to the MEN.

Art. 41 (1) A doctoral supervisor may only supervise doctoral students in one IOSUD at the same time, except for doctoral students supervised in cotutelle.

(2) Doctoral studies may also be organized in cotutelle, in which case the doctoral student carries out his/her work under the concurrent supervision of a Romanian doctoral supervisor and a doctoral supervisor from another country or under the concurrent supervision of two doctoral supervisors from different institutions in Romania, on the basis of a written agreement between the organizing institutions involved. The cotutelle PhD can also be organized if the PhD supervisors are from the same IOSUD but have different specializations/fields of study.

(3) By exception to the provisions of para. (2), in the academic year 2012 - 2013, doctoral studies may also be organized in cotutelle, in which case the doctoral student works under the concurrent supervision of a Romanian doctoral supervisor and a doctoral supervisor from another country or under the concurrent supervision of two doctoral supervisors from different institutions in Romania, based on a written agreement between the organizing institutions involved. The cotutelle PhD can also be organized if the PhD supervisors are from the same IOSUD, but have different specializations/fields of study, according to the provisions of the University Charter.

(4) In the context of policies to ensure academic mobility, IOSUD-UVVG may employ, on a contract basis, specialists from abroad who have the legal right to conduct doctoral studies, according to art. 166 para. (4) of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, as amended.

(5) The number of doctoral students who may be supervised simultaneously by a doctoral supervisor shall be determined by the University Senate.

(6) In the case of doctoral co-supervision, a principal doctoral supervisor is defined. The doctoral student is fully accounted for by the principal doctoral supervisor, including in the norming of his/her teaching and research activities.

Art. 42. Doctoral supervisors shall be remunerated for the work they carry out in this capacity in accordance with the legislation in force.

Art. 43. (1) At the motivated request of the doctoral student, the council of the doctoral school may decide to change the doctoral supervisor if it has been found that he/she has not fulfilled the legal or contractual obligations assumed by him/her or for other reasons concerning the supervision relationship between the doctoral supervisor and the doctoral student.

(2) The Council of the Doctoral School shall appoint another supervisor in the case referred to in paragraph 1. (1), as well as in the event of the unavailability of the doctoral supervisor.

(3) When appointing a new supervisor, the Council of the Doctoral School shall give priority consideration to the need for the doctoral student to be able to complete the doctoral programme.

Art. 44. (1) In order to carry out the doctorate, the doctoral student is supported by a committee of 3 other members who may be part of the doctoral supervisor's research team, other persons affiliated to the doctoral school or teaching and research staff not affiliated to the doctoral school.

(2) The composition of the mentoring committee is determined by the doctoral supervisor in consultation with the doctoral student.

(3) The work of the doctoral supervisors, the members of the mentoring committee and the members of the doctoral committees shall be regulated in accordance with the terms of reference.

CHAPTER VI - SELECTION, ADMISSION AND EMPLOYMENT IN DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAMMES

Art. 45. The IOSUD - UVVG, through the CSUD, shall periodically draw up a strategy for attracting and selecting candidates for doctoral programmes, ensuring that interested persons are properly informed of the conditions and criteria for admission.

Art. 46. (1) The application for admission to doctoral studies at UVVG is based on the Regulation on the organization and conduct of admission to undergraduate, master and doctoral studies for the current academic year, approved by the University Senate and on the Methodology for admission to doctoral studies.

(2) Candidates must meet the following minimum requirements:

- a) hold a master's degree or its equivalent, from home and abroad, according to art. 153 para. (2) of Law no. 1/2011, except for graduates of medical faculties with a 6-year undergraduate degree and a total of 360 transferable credits.
- b) to total at least 300 European transferable credits (ECTS) for the fundamental field of Natural Sciences and 360 credits for the fundamental field of Medical Sciences for the bachelor's and master's cycles of university education;
- c) a minimum average of 8.00 in the bachelor's examination and a minimum average of 8.00 in the dissertation examination (Master's Diploma);

- d) submit a sworn statement that he/she has not had any disciplinary misconduct during his/her years of study that has been sanctioned by the University Ethics Committee
 - e) to present the receipt for payment of the IOSUD admission fee, established by the UVVG Board of Directors for the academic year in question, the amount of which is published at the beginning of each academic year on the university website.
- (3) Resident physicians have the right to enroll in a doctoral program during their residency and thus simultaneously have the status of research assistant or university assistant for a fixed period, being paid for both activities, according to the law.

Art. 47. (1) The admission competition is organized by the Doctoral School according to the criteria established in the Doctoral School Regulations and the Doctoral Admission Methodology.

(2) The selection of the PhD candidate for a vacant position is carried out by the PhD supervisor who supervises that position.

(3) The content and form of the admission competition shall be determined by the doctoral supervisor in consultation with the doctoral school council.

(4) Following the proposal of the doctoral supervisor, a doctoral student may be admitted only after obtaining the favourable opinion of the doctoral school council.

Art. 48. Doctoral schools shall ensure the transparency of the selection and admission procedures, the evaluation criteria and the standards required of candidates, where applicable, and guarantee access to this information, including through publication on the Internet.

Art. 49. (1) Once the admission procedure is completed and the doctoral study contract is signed, the person admitted shall have the status of doctoral student for the duration of the doctoral programme.

(2) The status of doctoral student ceases when the doctoral degree is awarded or when the expulsion order is issued.

(3) Doctoral students shall be employed as research assistants in their field of specialization or as university assistants for the duration of their doctoral studies contract.

(4) The staffing lists shall be drawn up at the level of the doctoral school and shall include the teaching staff, researchers and doctoral students working in the doctoral school. The doctoral school may employ teaching assistants, research staff and non-teaching staff.

(5) The doctoral school's staffing table may also contain vacancies so that doctoral students who teach more hours than those included in their doctoral study contract are paid on an hourly basis.

(6) IOSUD UVVG is not obliged to employ doctoral students of the part-time education form as research assistants or university assistants on a fixed-term basis.

Art. 50. For the purpose of admission to doctoral studies, the University Senate allocates the tuition fees in compliance with the legal provisions in force.

Art. 51. (1) The maximum number of doctoral students, established by the Senate according to the legal provisions in force, for a supervisor, is gradually reached by the completion of the doctoral studies programme of the doctoral students under the supervision of the doctoral

supervisors according to the legislation in force. The IOSUD is obliged to report accurately on the planning of the conduct and support of doctoral studies, in order to comply with the provisions of Article 167 of Law no. 1/2011 as amended.

(2) Doctoral students in a period of interruption or suspension of studies are not counted for the respective interruption periods. The management of the university and the doctoral school are obliged to take the necessary measures to comply with these legal provisions. The number of doctoral students in relation to the number of doctoral supervisors is a criterion for assessing the quality of IOSUD and the doctoral school.

Art. 52. The number of doctoral students shall be allocated by the University Senate and the doctoral school management to the doctoral supervisors in the hierarchical order set out below:

- a) In the first stage, places are allocated to doctoral supervisors who meet the minimum necessary and mandatory standards for the award of the habilitation certificate;
- b) In the second stage, places are allocated to doctoral supervisors who meet the minimum eligibility standards for project leader and competition experts;
- c) In the third stage, places are allocated to doctoral supervisors who are not in the situation referred to in points a and b but who have acquired the legal right to conduct doctorates.

Art. 53. (1) The minimum necessary and mandatory standards for the award of the habilitation certificate are approved by order of the Minister, according to art. 219 para. (1) letter a) of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, as amended.

(2) The minimum standards of acceptance by the CNADCU of the file for obtaining the habilitation certificate do not depend on the teaching function or professional degree of the candidate and are identical to the standards for granting the title of university professor.

CHAPTER VII. STRUCTURE AND DURATION OF DOCTORAL STUDIES

Art. 54. The doctoral programme shall be carried out only in a doctoral school under the supervision of a doctoral supervisor and shall comprise:

- a) a training programme based on advanced university studies;
- b) an individual scientific research programme.

Art. 55. (1) In the fields of study regulated at European level, the duration of doctoral studies shall comply with the relevant legislation.

(2) The duration of the doctoral programme is, as a rule, 3 years. By way of exception, in human medical, veterinary and pharmaceutical higher education, according to Art. 174 para. (3) of Law no. 1/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions, the duration of the doctoral programme is, as a rule, 4 years. The duration and specific structure of each doctoral programme are regulated in the regulations of the doctoral schools, endorsed by the CSD and approved by the CSUD.

(3) For good reasons, under the conditions established by the doctoral school regulations, the duration of the doctoral programme may be extended by 1-2 years, with the approval of the University Senate, on the proposal of the doctoral supervisor.

(4) Doctoral studies may be interrupted for good cause, under the conditions established by the doctoral school regulations. The duration of these studies shall be extended by the cumulative periods of approved interruptions.

(5) The extension provided for in para. (3) and the interruption and extension provided for in para. (4) shall be laid down in additional acts to the contract for doctoral studies.

Art. 56. (1) If the doctoral student fails to complete the thesis within the time limit established in the doctoral studies contract and any additional documents, the doctoral student has a grace period of maximum 2 years to complete and publicly defend the thesis, exceeding this time limit automatically leading to his/her expulsion.

(2) During the period of extension and grace referred to in paragraph 1, the doctoral thesis shall be (1) the doctoral student cannot benefit from doctoral scholarships granted from doctoral grants, UVVG budget or other sources.

Art. 57. After the doctoral thesis has been defended, IOSUD issues a certificate attesting the period during which the doctoral student has completed the doctoral studies, regardless of whether or not they have been promoted.

CHAPTER VIII. THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME AND FORM OF DOCTORATE ORGANISED IN THE UVVG

Art. 58. (1) There are two types of doctoral programmes:

- a) scientific doctorate, which aims at producing original, internationally relevant scientific knowledge based on scientific methods; the scientific doctorate is a prerequisite for a professional career in higher education and research;
- b) a professional doctorate in the fields of arts and sport, the aim of which is the production of original knowledge based on the application of scientific method and systematic reflection on artistic creations or sports performances of high national and international level and which may constitute a basis for a professional career in higher education and research in the fields of arts and sport.

(2) IOSUD- UVVG, through its doctoral schools, organizes exclusively scientific doctorates in the following fields: Medicine and Biology as well as in other fields to be accredited.

Art. 59. (1) The form of doctoral studies is frequent and reduced attendance, according to art. 140 para. (4), and par. (4¹) of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, as amended.

(2) For the doctoral degree programmes, the obligations concerning the frequency and reduced frequency are established by the university management on the proposal of the Doctoral Studies Council, according to a methodology developed by the Ministry of National Education.

(3) The doctoral student must devote a significant amount of time to the doctoral programme, which requires his/her effective presence at IOSUD-UVVG or at research and development units that have concluded agreements or institutional partnerships with IOSUD, outside the periods related to mobility.

(4) The required actual presence of the doctoral student may differ from one doctoral school to another and from one doctoral student to another, being decided by the doctoral supervisor according to the specificities of the doctoral programme and in compliance with the doctoral school regulations.

(5) The regulations of the doctoral schools shall provide for the obligations concerning attendance.

(6) The obligations concerning attendance shall constitute a criterion for assessing the quality of the doctoral school.

CHAPTER IX. EVALUATION OF DOCTORAL SCHOOLS AND DOCTORAL SUPERVISORS

Art. 60. (1) The establishment of a new doctoral school shall be carried out by going through the authorization and accreditation process according to a methodology approved by order of the Minister of Research, Youth and Sport, at the proposal of the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education, hereinafter referred to as ARACIS, the National Council for Scientific Research, hereinafter referred to as CNCS, and the National Council for the Accreditation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates, hereinafter referred to as CNATDCU. Doctoral schools in operation, accredited at the date of entry into force of the Code of Doctoral Studies, follow the periodic evaluation process provided for in Article 158 para. (4) of Law no. 1/2011 starting with the academic year 2011-2012.

(2) Each doctoral school is subject to periodic external evaluation every 5 years, according to Art. 158 para. (4) and (5) of Law no. 1/2011.

(3) The external evaluation of doctoral schools is carried out on the basis of the performance of the doctoral school and the institutional capacity of the IOSUD of which the doctoral school is part.

(4) The external evaluation of doctoral schools shall be carried out by ARACIS or by another quality assurance agency, national or international, based on the CNCS reports on the quality of research and the CNATDCU reports on the quality of human resources.

(5) The system of criteria and the evaluation methodology are established by order of the Minister of Education, Research, Youth and Sport, based on joint proposals of ARACIS, CNCS and CNATDCU. The evaluation criteria of the doctoral school will mainly contain elements related to the quality of the scientific results of the groups led by the doctoral supervisors, members of the doctoral school, with a preponderance on the impact and relevance of the scientific activity of these groups at international level.

(6) The doctoral study programmes are subject to periodic internal evaluation processes (usually annually) at dates set by the CSUD. The internal evaluation of the quality of a doctoral programme is carried out by the Doctoral School/CSD.

The procedures for the internal quality assessment of a doctoral programme shall be developed by the CSUD. They will aim to:

- a) the mission and objectives of the doctoral programme;
- b) the content and curriculum of the doctoral programme;
- c) the compatibility of the doctoral programme with the description of the qualification;

- d) the results of the research undertaken by the doctoral students and their supervisors, materialized through publications, patents, participation in scientific events;
- e) cooperation relations with other institutions;
- f) the existence of documentation, learning and research resources and logistics available to doctoral students;
- g) the staff involved in the doctoral programme;
- h) the arrangements for the assessment of knowledge and testing of skills of doctoral students and the monitoring of progress during training;
- i) the degree of involvement of doctoral students in the quality assurance of the doctoral programme;
- j) the existence of a code of ethics with clear provisions on the definition and sanctioning of different types of fraud
- k) academic and professional fraud, including plagiarism;
- l) the fulfillment of specific requirements for external evaluation indicators of doctoral programmes.

(7) The CSUD shall develop the procedure for evaluating the work of doctoral supervisors and doctoral students. The actual evaluation activity is carried out at the level of the Doctoral Schools.

Art. 61. (1) A doctoral school that has lost its accreditation may no longer enrol new doctoral students.

(2) Doctoral students in the doctoral programme of a doctoral school that has lost its accreditation shall continue their studies according to the contract and the study programme until their completion.

Art. 62 (1) The public defense of doctoral theses of doctoral students from a doctoral school that has lost its accreditation shall be organized by another accredited doctoral school in the same or a similar field.

(2) The doctoral committee shall be approved by the council of the accredited doctoral school and the chairperson of the doctoral committee shall represent the IOSUD of which the accredited doctoral school is part.

(3) The diploma and the doctoral title shall be awarded by the IOSUD of which the accredited doctoral school that organized the public defense of the thesis is a member.

Art. 63 (1) The doctoral school may be liquidated by decision of the CSUD, and the IOSUD is obliged to inform the Ministry about the process and result of the liquidation.

(2) The liquidation of the doctoral school is possible only after all doctoral students of the doctoral school have completed their doctoral programme or have been expelled for reasons unrelated to the liquidation.

Art. 64. (1) Doctoral supervisors shall be evaluated every 5 years.

(2) The evaluation procedures shall be established by order of the Minister of Education and Scientific Research on the proposal of the CNATDCU, and shall mainly concern aspects related to the quality of the scientific results of the group led by the doctoral supervisor, with a focus on

the impact and relevance of the scientific activity of this group at international level, respectively at national level in the case of Romanian specific fields. The results of the evaluation are public.

Art. 65. The UVVG doctoral schools may carry out periodic internal evaluations. Following external or internal evaluations, a doctoral school may decide to extend or terminate the employment contract of a doctoral supervisor, according to the regulations of the respective doctoral school.

Art. 66. (1) In case of non-compliance with quality or professional ethics standards in the organization and conduct of doctoral studies, the Ministry may take the measures provided for in Article 170 of Law no. 1/2011.

(2) Any natural or legal person, including members of the CNATDCU and IOSUD, may submit a written complaint, through the UEFISCDI, to the General Council of the CNATDCU regarding non-compliance with the standards of quality or professional ethics, including the existence of plagiarism, in a doctoral thesis, regardless of the date on which it was defended and the date on which the doctoral degree was awarded.

(3) The National Council for Ethics in Scientific Research, Technological Development and Innovation may be referred to the National Council for Ethics in Scientific Research, Technological Development and Innovation regarding the violation of the rules of good conduct in research and development by the research and development staff of IOSUD, according to the provisions of Article 323 of Law no. 1/2011.

CHAPTER X. FINANCING OF DOCTORAL STUDIES

Art. 67. (1) Doctoral studies are organized with funding from the state budget, on a fee basis or from other legally established sources according to the provisions of Article 160 of Law no. 1/2011 as amended.

(2) In IOSUD - UVVG the financing of doctoral studies is mainly carried out on a tuition basis or other legally established fees. The financing of doctoral studies may also be carried out by private legal entities or research and development institutes on the basis of a contract. The contract model and the methodology for the financing are approved by order of the Minister of National Education.

(3) In IOSUD - UVVG the financing of doctoral studies is also carried out by granting scholarships awarded by UVVG to doctoral students enrolled on a full-time basis, on a competitive basis.

(4) UVVG scholarships are awarded following a selection process coordinated by the CSUD and approved by the Board of Directors, which determines in advance the number and amount of scholarships awarded;

(5) The grant requirements and the evaluation methodology and selection results for the UVVG scholarship competition are approved by the Senate and the Board of Directors; the scholarship is awarded only during the period of the doctoral program, not during extension or grace periods.

(6) In order to participate in the UVVG grant competition, doctoral supervisors shall submit project proposals to CSUD containing at least the following types of information:

- a) curriculum vitae and list of scientific works of the PhD supervisor;
- b) specific information on the number, status and research topics of the doctoral students under the supervision of the supervisor at the time of the project submission;
- c) the doctoral candidate's topic for each individual doctoral grant requested, in the form of a description of the scientific project in which the doctoral student will be involved; the scientific project may be part of a research project that the doctoral supervisor has under way;

(7) Doctoral grants may also be financed from public funds, within the framework of a programme of the National Plan for Research, Development and Innovation, or other national programmes, as well as from European funds within the framework of international competitions, according to the specific methodologies of these competitions.

Art. 68. (1) By Government decision initiated by the Ministry of National Education, a number of multi-year places, equivalent to the number of multi-year grants, shall be allocated annually for doctoral studies for a minimum of 3 years. The methodology for calculating the funding of universities will take into account the costs for the advanced study programme and the research programme. These costs shall be adjusted by appropriate coefficients by disciplinary and professional areas of the doctorate.

(2) The allocation of places and grants by university shall be approved by order of the Minister of National Education. Priority will be given to universities of advanced research and education."

(3) Under the conditions of the extension of the doctoral program according to the provisions of Art. 39 para. (3), the doctoral supervisor or doctoral school may propose the extension of the doctoral grant.

Art. 69. The payment and rights of the PhD student shall be carried out according to art. 164 of Law no. 1/2011, without excluding other forms of remuneration provided for by the legal provisions in force.

Art. 70. (1) The IOSUD or the doctoral supervisor may only use the doctoral grant funds for activities related to the doctoral study programme for the doctoral student positions for which the funds have been allocated.

(2) The doctoral supervisor is obliged to report to the doctoral student every 6 months how the doctoral grant funds have been used.

(3) It is forbidden to use the funds or parts thereof allocated by doctoral grants to a doctoral student position to support the activities of a doctoral student in another position.

CHAPTER XI. COMPETENCES PROVIDED BY DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAMMES

Art. 71. Doctoral degree programmes ensure the training of professional competences (content, cognitive and research) in specialized fields, as well as transversal competences.

Art. 72. (1) For the purposes of this Regulation, the following domain-specific competences are qualified as professional competences:

- a) advanced knowledge in the field;
- b) ability to identify, formulate and solve research problems;
- c) mastery of advanced research methods and techniques;
- d) knowledge of research project management;
- e) mastery of new research methods and solutions;
- f) skills in documentation, elaboration and valorisation of scientific works;
- g) academic language skills in internationally spoken languages necessary for the documentation and elaboration of scientific work;
- h) understanding and ability to apply the principles and values of the ethics of scientific research in the field.

(2) For the purposes of this Regulation, the following shall be considered as transversal competences:

- a) written and oral communication skills in science and culture;
- b) advanced language skills in languages of international circulation;
- c) use of information and communication technology;
- d) interpersonal and teamwork skills;
- e) knowledge of human, material and financial resource management;
- f) leadership qualities;
- g) knowledge of career management, as well as the mastery of job search and job creation techniques for others;
- h) knowledge of risk, crisis and failure management;
- i) knowledge of the use of intellectual property rights legislation;
- j) economic, technological and social entrepreneurship skills.

CHAPTER XII. ADVANCED UNIVERSITY STUDIES-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME (PSUA) AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROGRAMME (PCS)

Art. 73. (1) The Doctoral Schools of IOSUD - UVVG provide doctoral students with a training program based on advanced university studies consisting of activities carried out in institutionalized study formats, through courses, seminars, laboratories and the like.

(2) The doctoral school is obliged to ensure free and unrestricted access to the advanced training programme for all doctoral students in the doctoral school concerned.

Art. 74. (1) Completion of the training programme based on advanced graduate studies may lead to the award of 30 transferable credits set at the level of the doctoral school.

(2) In the case of doctoral degree programmes in the fields of health, advanced studies within the doctoral school total 60 credits.

(3) The training programme based on advanced undergraduate studies must not adversely affect the doctoral student's available time for the individual scientific research programme and must be relevant to the research topic of the doctoral thesis.

(4) Credits obtained in a master research programme or previous doctoral and/or scientific research internships, carried out at home or abroad, in universities or prestigious research and development units, may be recognised as equivalent to those in a training programme based on advanced university studies. Equivalence is proposed by the doctoral supervisor and approved by the doctoral school council.

(5) The participation of a particular doctoral student in the training programme based on advanced university studies and the choice of the elements of study within this programme to be followed by the doctoral student shall be determined exclusively and independently by the doctoral student's supervisor, and the restriction of this option by the doctoral supervisor is prohibited.

(6) The doctoral student may independently choose to follow the courses of the advanced university studies provided by the doctoral school. Restricting this independent choice is prohibited.

(7) The cumulative duration of the training programme based on advanced university studies may not exceed 3 months (one semester) with the exception of doctoral degree programmes in the field of health.

(8) The duration of advanced training studies is completed with the scientific research project after the first year of studies.

Art. 75. (1) The training programme based on advanced university studies is an instrument for the enrichment of the doctoral student's knowledge and which serves him/her to carry out the scientific research programme in good conditions and to acquire advanced skills specific to the doctoral studies cycle.

(2) Any evaluations related to courses, seminars or laboratories within the training programme based on advanced university studies have an exclusively informative role, are not obligatory for doctoral students and cannot condition the financing of doctoral students or their progress within the study programme. The evaluation for the award of the doctoral degree is based on the doctoral thesis and its public defense.

(3) IOSUD-UVVG, through the doctoral school, facilitates and guarantees the curricular flexibility of advanced doctoral study programmes.

Art. 76. (1) In order to ensure the necessary knowledge base for the conduct of doctoral studies, the doctoral school may organize research master's degree programs, mainly oriented towards the training of scientific research skills.

(2) The training carried out within the research master's programme may be equivalent to the training programme based on advanced university studies.

Art. 77. (1) The scientific **research programme** involves the participation of the doctoral student in one or more scientific projects established by the doctoral supervisor, fully regulated in the regulations of the Doctoral School.

(2) Responsibility for the structure, content, conduct and organization of the PhD student's scientific research programme lies with the PhD supervisor.

(3) The doctoral supervisor is directly responsible for the doctoral student's scientific career and is obliged to take all necessary measures to provide the student with the conditions, knowledge and information to maximise the chances of completing the doctoral programme.

(4) Providing the necessary resources for the research projects in which the doctoral student is involved is also a specific obligation of IOSUD, the doctoral school and the doctoral supervisor.

Art. 78. In order to ensure a coherent scientific path, the doctoral student shall present, at his/her request and at least once every 12 months, a presentation of the progress of his/her scientific research programme to the supervision committee and the doctoral supervisor, whose role is to guide, correct and support the doctoral student's scientific path.

CHAPTER XIII. DOCTORAL THESIS AND STAGES OF COMPLETION OF DOCTORAL STUDIES

Art. 79. (1) The doctoral dissertation shall be prepared according to the requirements established by the regulations of the doctoral school.

(2) The doctoral school may establish the standard format of the doctoral thesis, which may include elements of structure and graphic formatting, and the doctoral student is obliged to comply with this standard format.

(3) The content of the doctoral thesis shall be determined by the doctoral student in consultation with the doctoral supervisor and shall comply with the framework structure and limitations imposed by the regulations of the doctoral school.

(4) The title of the doctoral thesis may be changed at the discretion of the doctoral student until the completion of the thesis for public presentation.

(6) The doctoral thesis is an original work and it is mandatory to mention the source for any material taken from it.

(7) The doctoral student is the author of the thesis and assumes the accuracy of the data and information presented in the thesis, as well as the opinions and demonstrations expressed in the thesis.

(8) The doctoral supervisor is responsible together with the author of the thesis for compliance with quality or professional ethics standards, including ensuring the originality of the content, according to the provisions of Article 170 of Law no. 1/2011.

Art. 80. (1) Doctoral theses together with their annexes are public documents and are also written in digital format and their abstract is published on the university website. The doctoral thesis and its appendices shall be published on a website managed by the Ministry, in compliance with the copyright legislation in force.

(2) The protection of intellectual property rights on the doctoral thesis shall be ensured in accordance with the provisions of the law.

(3) The exploitation of copyright and/or industrial property rights on the original product or creation made within the framework of the doctoral programme shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the relevant legislation.

(4) The structure of the "doctoral file" and access to it will be regulated by a procedure drawn up by the CNATDCU and approved by an order of the MENCŞ, in compliance with the legislation in force. This procedure will respect the following rules:

- a) the abstract of the thesis shall be published on the university's website, or, as the case may be, on the website of the Romanian Academy, and may be consulted by the public after the provision appointing the defense committee has been issued;
 - b) the printed version of the thesis may be consulted at the university library or, where appropriate, the library of the Romanian Academy, at least 20 days before the date set for the public defense;
 - c) if the doctoral student does not opt for the separate publication of the thesis or some chapters of it, the digital form of the thesis is made public and can be freely accessed on the national platform after the issuance of the provision granting the title of doctor; the thesis will be assigned a copyright protection license;
 - d) if the doctoral student opts for separate publication of the doctoral thesis or some chapters thereof, he/she will be given a grace period of maximum 24 months to make this publication; after expiry of the grace period, if no notification of separate publication of the thesis has been received by IOSUD, the document in digital format will become freely accessible on the national platform with the assignment of a copyright protection license;
 - e) after publication of the thesis or parts of it, the author is obliged to notify IOSUD of this fact and to submit the bibliographic indication and a link to the publication, which will then be made public on the national platform;
 - f) after the award of the doctoral degree, within a maximum of 30 days IOSUD is obliged to send a printed copy of the doctoral thesis to the National Library of Romania, where it can be accessed upon request;
- (5) the "doctoral file" shall be archived by IOSUD on a permanent basis.

Art. 81. (1) The doctoral studies shall be completed by the public defense of the doctoral thesis in front of the doctoral thesis public defense committee, hereinafter referred to as the doctoral committee.

- (2) The public defense can only take place after the following steps have been completed:
- a) the doctoral student submits the thesis in electronic format and, where appropriate, in printed format to the secretariat of the doctoral school;
 - b) the doctoral school carries out the similarity analysis using a program recognized by the CNATDCU according to Order MENCŞ 3485/2016; the doctoral school may additionally request the use of a nationally developed program on similarity detection; similarity reports are included in the "doctoral file"; the duration of verification may not exceed 30 days from the date of submission of the doctoral thesis to the IOSUD;
 - c) the doctoral thesis is presented to the supervising committee; after this pre-submission, which may be public, the doctoral supervisor and the supervising committee decide on the official submission of the thesis and the organization of the public presentation; the acceptance report of the doctoral supervisor and the agreement of the members of the supervising committee are included in the "doctoral file"; the duration of the evaluation process of the thesis in the supervising committee is 30 days;
 - d) the doctoral thesis is officially submitted to the doctoral school secretariat, in printed and electronic format, together with the abstract of the doctoral thesis and the CV of the

doctoral candidate; the doctoral school secretariat certifies that the doctoral candidate has fulfilled all the obligations of the doctoral programme;

- e) the request for the date of the public defense of the doctoral thesis, approved by the doctoral supervisor and the chair of the defense committee, is submitted to the doctoral school secretariat at least 20 calendar days before the proposed date of the defense;
- f) the doctoral school shall draw up and post the notice for the public defense at least 20 calendar days before the proposed date of the defense. This must include the date, location and time of the defense, the doctoral supervisor(s) and the place where the full text of the thesis can be consulted in printed form. The announcement of the public defense, the summary of the thesis in electronic format, the CV of the doctoral candidate, the CVs of the members of the public defense committee of the doctoral thesis or links to them are posted on the IOSUD website."
- g) the doctoral committee must comply with the provisions of Article 76 of the Code of Doctoral Studies, approved by Government Decision no.681/2011, as amended.

(3) Following the identification of violations of good conduct in research and development, including plagiarism of results or publications of other authors, fabrication of results or substitution of results with fictitious data, in the evaluation of the thesis by the doctoral supervisor or the supervising committee, the consent for public support shall not be obtained.

(4) The doctoral committee is proposed by the doctoral supervisor and approved by the council of the doctoral school. The doctoral committee is composed of at least 5 members: the president, as a representative of the IOSUD, the doctoral supervisor and at least 3 official referees, from the country or from abroad, specialists in the field in which the doctoral thesis was elaborated and of which at least 2 are working outside the respective IOSUD. The members of the doctoral committee have the title of doctor and have at least the teaching position of university lecturer or scientific researcher grade II or have the quality of doctoral supervisor, in the country or abroad.

(5) Both the IOSUD and the doctoral school may impose minimum standards of scientific performance that members of the doctoral committee must meet in order to be part of the committee.

(6) The doctoral thesis can only be defended after evaluation by all members of the doctoral committee and in the presence of at least 4 of them, with the mandatory participation of the committee chair and the doctoral supervisor.

(7) The public presentation must include a session of questions from the members of the doctoral committee and the public, in accordance with Art. 168 para. (3) of Law no. 1/2011.

(8) It is forbidden for the doctoral student to offer gifts or other such undue benefits to the members of the doctoral committee or to ask the doctoral student to contribute to the settlement of expenses related to the travel of members of the doctoral committee or to the organization of the public presentation of the doctoral thesis.

Art. 82. (1) On the basis of the public presentation of the doctoral thesis and the reports of the official referees, the doctoral committee evaluates and decides on the grade to be awarded to the doctoral thesis. The grades that can be awarded are: "Excellent", "Very good", "Good", "Satisfactory" and "Unsatisfactory"; the criteria according to which the aforementioned grades are awarded are established by each doctoral school and approved by the Doctoral School Council and CSUD and validated by the Senate.

(2) If a member of the doctoral committee identifies in the evaluation of the thesis, both before and during the public presentation, serious deviations from good conduct in scientific research and academic activity, including plagiarism of results or publications of other authors, fabrication of results or substitution of results with fictitious data, the member of the doctoral committee is obliged to take the following measures:

- a) to refer the matter to the ethics committee of the higher education institution where the doctoral student is registered and to the ethics committee of the institution where the doctoral supervisor is employed for analysis and resolution of the case, including by expelling the doctoral student, according to articles 306-310 and 318-322 of Law no. 1/2011 and the provisions of Law no. 206/2004 on good conduct in scientific research, technological development and innovation, as amended and supplemented;
- b) to notify all the members of the doctoral committee of the deviations observed and to propose the award of the grade "Unsatisfactory".

(3) If the doctoral student has fulfilled all the requirements set out in the scientific research programme and the assessment of the doctoral thesis allows the award of the grade "Excellent", "Very good", "Good" or "Satisfactory", the doctoral committee shall propose the award of the doctoral degree. The proposal is submitted to the CNATDCU for validation. The CNATDCU, after evaluating the file, proposes to the Ministry whether or not to award the doctorate.

(4) In the case of the "Unsatisfactory" qualification, the doctoral committee specifies the content elements to be reworked or completed in the doctoral thesis and requests a new public defense of the thesis. The second public defense of the thesis takes place in front of the same doctoral committee as for the first defense. If the second public defense is also awarded the grade "Unsatisfactory", the doctoral degree is not awarded and the doctoral student is expelled.

(5) If the CNATDCU invalidates the doctoral thesis, the IOSUD receives from the Ministry a written reason for invalidation, based on the CNATDCU's observations. The doctoral thesis can be resubmitted to the CNATDCU within one year from the date of the first invalidation. If the doctoral thesis is invalidated a second time, the doctoral title will not be awarded and the doctoral student will be expelled.

Art 83. The doctoral file shall contain the following:

- a) scanned copy of the student-doctoral candidate's identity card;
- b) scanned copy of the PhD student's birth certificate;
- c) scanned copy of the marriage certificate, if applicable;
- d) CV of the student-doctoral candidate;
- e) the admission decision for the doctoral programme;
- f) the doctoral studies contract and additional documents, if applicable. Personal data, with the exception of name, will not be publicly visible;
- g) a request signed by the doctoral student, registered at the doctoral school, to start the procedures for the evaluation of the thesis by the supervising committee, approved by the doctoral supervisor, for the purpose of presubmission;
- h) a scanned copy of the declaration signed by the doctoral student and the doctoral supervisor on the assumption of responsibility for ensuring the originality of the content of the doctoral thesis, as well as compliance with the standards of quality and professional ethics, in accordance with art. 143 para. (4) and art. 170 of the National

Education Law no. 1/2011, as amended, and art. 65 para. (5) - (7) of the Code of Doctoral Studies, approved by Government Decision no. 681/2011, as amended;

- i) at least one similarity report which will include the resolution of the PhD supervisor and, where appropriate, other persons who have reviewed the report;
- j) a report drawn up by the doctoral school, preliminary to the public defense of the thesis, and documents attesting to the course of the study programme;
- k) the proposal for the composition of the public defense committee, formulated by the doctoral supervisor and approved by the CSUD;
- l) the CVs of the members of the public defense committee;
- m) the decision appointing the public defense committee;
- n) the request for the date of the public defense of the doctoral thesis, approved by the doctoral supervisor and the chair of the defense committee, submitted to the secretariat of the doctoral school at least 20 calendar days before the proposed date of the defense;
- o) the announcement of the public defense, drawn up by the doctoral school at least 20 calendar days before the proposed date of the defense;
- p) the certificate of submission of a printed copy of the doctoral thesis to the library;
- q) the reports of the official referees, members of the doctoral committee, signed by them, in the form of scanned copies or electronically signed documents;
- r) the acceptance report from the doctoral supervisor;
- s) the opinion of the doctoral supervisor's committee for the submission of the doctoral thesis to the secretariat of the doctoral school;
- t) the minutes of the public defense of the doctoral thesis and the questions and answers annex, containing the proposal for the award of the doctoral degree, signed by all the members of the doctoral committee, in the form of a scanned copy or an electronically signed document or, where appropriate, the full audio recording of the public defense of the doctoral thesis, which must be accompanied by an address certifying the duration of the recording and its proper preservation (optional);
- u) the abstract of the doctoral thesis;
- v) the doctoral thesis and its annexes in electronic format;
- w) the list of publications resulting from scientific research in the doctoral programme, published or accepted for publication, if applicable, and scanned copies of these publications;
- x) the doctoral student's statement of his/her options regarding the publication of the doctoral thesis;
- y) IOSUD's request to enter the evaluation procedure at the CNATDCU level of the doctoral thesis, registered at MENCŞ.

Art 84. In order to carry out the evaluation procedures of doctoral theses, IOSUD are obliged to constitute the file of each doctoral student in electronic format. The file is submitted to the CNATDCU through the national platform. The file is uploaded to the platform within a maximum of 30 days from the date of the public defense of the doctoral thesis.

Art 85. (1) The file uploaded to the national platform shall be electronically signed by the legal representative of the IOSUD or by a person delegated by him/her.

(2) The signature referred to in para. (1), the signatory assumes responsibility for the conformity of the documents included in the file with the original and for ensuring that the information uploaded to the national platform is correct and complete.

Art. 86. (1) The title of doctor shall be awarded by order of the Minister, after validation of the doctoral thesis by the CNATDCU.

(2) The specialized department of the MENCŞ sends the approval order to the IOSUD, accompanied by the summary report of the thesis evaluation, within 15 working days from the issuance of the order.

(3) If the evaluation committee has decided to invalidate the doctoral thesis, the President of the CNATDCU issues the decision to invalidate the thesis. The invalidation decision, accompanied by the summary evaluation report, shall be forwarded to the MENCŞ for communication to the IOSUD/IOD, in accordance with Art. 168 para. (8) of Law no. 1/2011, as amended.

(4) In case the NATDCU issues a decision of invalidation after the evaluation of a thesis retransmitted to the NATDCU according to art. 168 para. (8) of Law no. 1/2011, as amended and supplemented, the CNATDCU shall propose to the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research not to grant the title of doctor. In this case, the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research issues an order not to grant the title.

(5) The order awarding or not awarding the doctoral degree and the decision to invalidate the thesis may be appealed within 15 working days from the date of communication to the IOSUD/IOD. The appeal shall be officially registered with the MENCŞ and forwarded to the UEFISCDI, in order to carry out the appeals procedure provided for in this methodology.

Art. 87. (1) The diploma conferred after the successful completion of a doctoral degree programme shall be called doctoral diploma. In the diploma certifying the obtaining and holding of the doctoral title, the disciplinary or interdisciplinary field of the doctorate for the scientific doctorate shall be expressly mentioned; in the diploma certifying the obtaining and holding of the doctoral title in a professional field, the professional field of the doctorate shall be expressly mentioned.

(2) Upon completion of the scientific doctoral studies, the IOSUD confers the diploma and the title of Doctor of Science, corresponding to the acronym Dr.

(3) The doctor's diploma shall bear the qualification obtained by the doctoral student, namely "Excellent", "Very good", "Good" or "Satisfactory". The doctoral diploma shall also bear a reference in Latin as follows:

- a) for the qualification "Excellent" the mention "Summa cum laude" shall be written;
- b) for the qualification "Very good" the words "Magna cum laude" shall be written;
- c) for the qualification "Good", the mention "Cum laude" is written.

CHAPTER XIV. RESOLUTION OF COMPLAINTS CONCERNING NON-COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS OF QUALITY OR PROFESSIONAL ETHICS, INCLUDING THE EXISTENCE OF PLAGIARISM, IN A DOCTORAL THESIS

Art.88. Any natural or legal person, including members of the National Council for the Accreditation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) and of the Institutions Organizing Doctoral Studies (IOSUD), may submit a written complaint to the General Council of the CNATDCU regarding non-compliance with the standards of quality or professional ethics, including the existence of plagiarism, in a doctoral thesis, regardless of the date on which it was defended and regardless of the date on which the doctoral degree was awarded, through the Executive Unit for the Financing of Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation (UEFISCDI).

Art.89. Within 45 days of the registration of a referral, the General Council of the CNATDCU shall ask the IOSUD for its point of view, which must be formulated within a maximum of 30 days of receipt of the request. If IOSUD confirms the violation of the quality or professional ethics standards, it will forward to the CNATDCU the decision on the proposal to withdraw the title, signed by the rector or, as the case may be, by the President of the Romanian Academy, legally endorsed by the university or, as the case may be, by the Romanian Academy.

Art.90. Within the time limit provided for in Article 83, the General Council of the NACATDCU shall decide whether or not the standards of quality or professional ethics, including the existence of plagiarism, have been respected, and the President of the NACATDCU shall inform the author of the complaint, the author of the thesis and the IOSUD of the decision of the General Council of the NACATDCU and its motivation. The latter have 10 days to lodge an objection to the procedure and the General Council of the NACA-CCU has 10 days to reply to the objection.

Art.91. If the General Council of the NACAUT decides that the standards of quality or professional ethics, including plagiarism, have not been respected, the President of the NACAUT shall propose one or more of the following measures to the Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research:

- a) withdrawal of the status of doctoral supervisor;
- b) withdrawal of the doctoral title;
- c) withdrawal of the accreditation of the doctoral school.

Art.92. Following the proposal referred to in para. (5), the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research, based on the legal opinion of the Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research, shall take the measures provided for in Article 170 of Law no. 1/2011, as amended. The Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research shall inform all parties of the provisions issued.

Art.93. All documents related to these referrals are part of the "doctoral file" and are uploaded on the national platform; the decisions of the Ethics Committees and the CNATDCU are also published on their institutional websites.

CHAPTER XV. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE DOCTORAL STUDENT AND SUPERVISOR

Art. 94. (1) During the course of the doctoral programme, the doctoral student has the right to:

- a) to benefit from the support, guidance and coordination of the doctoral supervisor, as well as the supervision committee;
- b) to participate in seminars or working meetings of IOSUD research and development staff when topics relevant to the doctoral studies are under discussion;
- c) to be represented in the decision-making bodies of the doctoral school, in accordance with the provisions of these regulations;
- d) to benefit from the logistics, documentation centers, libraries and equipment of the doctoral school and IOSUD for the elaboration of research projects and doctoral theses;
- e) to enrol in courses and seminars organized by his/her own or other doctoral schools;
- f) work together with teams of researchers from IOSUD or from research and development units that have concluded agreements or institutional partnerships with IOSUD;
- g) benefit from national or international mobility;
- h) to benefit from institutional support to participate in scientific conferences or congresses, workshops, summer or winter schools and national and international seminars in the field of specialization in which he/she has chosen his/her doctoral thesis;
- i) to participate in scientific communication sessions organized by the doctoral school and/or IOSUD;
- j) to be informed about the curriculum of doctoral studies at the doctoral school.

(2) The doctoral student has the following obligations:

- a) to respect the timetable established together with the PhD supervisor and to fulfil his/her obligations to submit the work and present the research results;
- b) to submit activity reports to the PhD supervisor and the supervision committee whenever requested;
- c) be in permanent contact with the supervisor;
- d) to pay the tuition fees within the deadlines set by the University management;
- e) respect institutional discipline.

Art. 95. (1) The rights and obligations of the doctoral supervisor derive from Law no. 1/2011, from these regulations, from the regulations of the doctoral school and from his/her employment contract.

(2) The rights of the doctoral supervisor include, among others:

- a) the right to participate in competitions for doctoral grants;
- b) the right to supervise and evaluate the work of the doctoral student within the doctoral programme, in accordance with professional and academic autonomy, following the requirements of the doctoral programme and respecting the professional interests of the doctoral student;
- c) the right to propose the doctoral committee;
- d) the right to an impartial internal and external evaluation in accordance with the specific methodology of the evaluation process;

- e) the right to know the methodology against which he/she is evaluated, both in internal and external evaluation;
 - f) the right to know the results of the internal and external evaluation of his/her own work;
 - g) the right to refuse to supervise a doctoral student if he/she is unwittingly placed in a conflict of interest;
 - h) the right to request the doctoral school's board to terminate the mentoring relationship with a doctoral student;
 - i) the right to select the doctoral candidate for a vacant position under his/her supervision and to propose the enrolment of the doctoral student;
 - j) the right to request the doctoral school to organize an admission competition for each vacant doctoral student position under its supervision;
 - k) the right to decide on the elements of study within the training programme based on advanced university studies in which the doctoral student must participate, in compliance with the provisions of the Code of Doctoral Studies and these Regulations.
- (3) The doctoral supervisor has the following obligations:
- a) to ensure the scientific, professional and ethical guidance of each doctoral student;
 - b) to propose research topics;
 - c) to ensure the conditions and stimulate the progress of the doctoral students in the research they carry out;
 - d) to carry out objective and rigorous monitoring and evaluation of each doctoral student;
 - e) support the mobility of doctoral students;
 - f) avoid conflicts of interest in the mentoring of doctoral students.

CHAPTER XVI. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Art. 96. IOSUD-UVVGA, having the right to organize doctoral studies, on the date of entry into force of the SUD Code (GD 681/2011):

- a) start the procedures for the establishment and/or accreditation of new own doctoral schools within a maximum of 15 days from the entry into force of the SUD Code (GD 681/2011);
- b) reorganizes itself in accordance with the provisions of the SUD Code (GD 681/2011) and completes this reorganization within a maximum of 12 months from the entry into force of that Code.

Art.97. Persons who have acquired the right to conduct doctorates without indicating the field in which they have obtained this right will be established, on the proposal of IOSUD-UVVGA, the field in which they are entitled to conduct doctorates, by order of the Minister, on the proposal of the CNATDCU.

Art.98. (1) Doctoral students who started their doctoral studies before the entry into force of Law no. 1/2011 in a different form of education than the one with frequent attendance may continue their studies in this form of education until their completion.

(2) In the case of doctoral students whose doctoral theses have been submitted for preliminary analysis within the department or the research group by 1 October 2011, the provisions of

Article 28 and following of Government Decision No. 567/2005 on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies, as amended, shall continue to apply.

(3) In the case of doctoral students whose doctoral theses have not been submitted for preliminary analysis within the specialist department or research team by 1 October 2011, the provisions of this Regulation shall apply, including the provisions relating to the appointment of the supervising committee, taking into account the procedural stage in which they are, i.e. advanced university training programme or scientific research programme. If the doctoral dissertation has not yet been submitted to the supervising committee, the public presentation can only take place with the agreement of the doctoral supervisor.

(4) The provisions of Art. 76 para. (2) of this Regulation shall apply to all doctoral students who submit their thesis to the secretariat of the doctoral school after the date of entry into force of DECISION No. 134 of 2 March 2016 amending and supplementing the Code of Doctoral Studies, approved by Government Decision No. 681/2011.

Art. 99. This Regulation on the organization and functioning of doctoral studies in UVVGA may be amended in accordance with the new structures that will be organized by the end of 2012 foreseen to be achieved by the SUD Code (GD 681/2011).

Art.100. On the date of entry into force of this Regulation on the organization and functioning of doctoral study programs in UVVGA, the Regulation on doctoral studies in UVVGA, previous editions, as well as all normative acts given in application of it or related to the field regulated by this regulation, shall be repealed.

Art.101. (1) This Regulation was approved by the UVVG Senate meeting on 05.03.2013 and approved by the Board of Directors meeting on 05.03.2013.

(2) Revision 1 of these Regulations was approved at the meeting of the Administrative Council on 27.09.2013 and at the meeting of the UVVG Senate on 28.09.2013.

(3) Revision 2 of these regulations was approved at the CSUD meeting on 18.04.2016 and at the UVVG Senate meeting on 13.05.2016.

CSUD Director,
Prof. Anca HERMENEAN, PhD.