CRITERIA FOR ACCREDITATION OF A FOREIGN RESEARCH UNIT

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ACCREDITATION CRITERIA

FIELD 1. RESEARCH POLICY OF THE UNIT

CRITERION 1 - DEFINITION OF THE SCIENTIFIC POLICY OF THE RESEARCH UNIT AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION
The research unit sets scientific objectives, including the prospective dimension of its policy. It expresses a clear vision of its research environment. It takes into account the innovation policy of its supervising authority. The research unit assesses the quality and trajectory of its scientific output in the national and international context of its scientific field(s).

The research unit has resources adapted to its activity profile and research environment. It ensures that its scientific objectives are in line with the premises, infrastructure, platforms, equipment, software and documentary resources.

The research unit complies with regulations on human resources management, safety, gender balance, non-discriminatory access to education, internal mobility and career development of its staff. The research unit recruits its staff taking into account for example the principles of the San Francisco Declaration (DORA) or HRS4R (Human resources strategy for researchers).

The research unit explicitly identifies how it has followed the recommendations of any previous evaluation.

FIELD 2. ATTRACTIVENESS AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

CRITERION 2 - THE RESEARCH UNIT IS ATTRACTIVE THANKS TO ITS SCIENTIFIC INFLUENCE AND THE QUALITY OF ITS POLICY FOR WELCOMING FOREIGN RESEARCHERS
Members of the research unit are invited to present their work at national, regional and international scientific institutions and congresses. They organise major national, regional and international congresses. Members of the research unit have editorial responsibilities in international peer-reviewed journals and collections. The research unit includes members of academies, scientific institutions and international societies, as well as winners of various national, regional and international scientific prizes and awards. The research unit ensures the incoming and outgoing mobility of junior and senior researchers, some of whom are renowned researchers. It provides them with an environment contributing to the development of their research activities and recognises their own contribution.

The research unit pays attention to its home institution’s position in international rankings. The unit has mechanisms for monitoring its performance indicators.

CRITERION 3 - THE RESEARCH UNIT SUCCESSFULLY PARTICIPATES IN COMPETITIVE CALLS FOR PROPOSALS; IT HAS QUALITY EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS AND ACCESS TO RESEARCH FIELDS
The research teams of the unit successfully respond to national, regional and international calls for proposals. They carry out projects financed by local, national, regional and international public or private funding agencies or by foundations or associations. It can use its own resources to finance doctoral and post-doctoral, engineering and technical staff and chairs. The research teams use platforms, large equipment and demonstrators with qualified technical staff. The unit supports its members in their research fields.

FIELD 3. SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT

CRITERION 4 - THE SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT OF THE RESEARCH UNIT MEETS QUALITY CRITERIA
The scientific output of the research unit is based on solid theoretical and methodological foundations. It is original and makes a significant contribution to knowledge. The scientific output does not sacrifice research quality to quantity. It is published in international peer-reviewed journals and books. It takes the form of co-publications with partners of the highest international level.

The scientific output of the unit is the result of honest and scientifically sound research activities. The research respects human and animal life. The research unit has an operational strategy for scientific integrity and open science.

The research unit protects the discoveries of its researchers and ensures effective protection against external interference, in particular by protecting its premises, access to databases and to the information systems. It has an active policy of protecting its scientific and technological heritage.

FIELD 4. LINK BETWEEN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

CRITERION 6 - THE RESEARCH UNIT HAS A RESEARCH-BASED LEARNING POLICY. IT IMPLEMENTS MECHANISMS TO ENSURE A LINK BETWEEN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

The research unit sets a policy for research-based learning and courses on research methods in the 1st and 2nd cycles of the research and higher education institutions in its environment. The research unit is supported by PhD programme. The research unit sets up or participates in training sessions on scientific integrity and ethics, in particular for doctoral students. The unit supports and guarantees that students and PhD students in the research units are welcomed and mentored in quality conditions. The knowledge management policy is included in the research-based learning policy of the unit particularly for acquiring and accessing resources and contributing to the learning materials which the documentation service is associated with.

FIELD 5. INCLUSION OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN SOCIETY

CRITERION 7 - THE RESEARCH UNIT DEMONSTRATES A CAPACITY TO INTERACT WITH NON-ACADEMIC ACTORS AND DEVELOPS PRODUCTS OR DELIVERABLES FOR THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC WORLD. IT SHARES ITS KNOWLEDGE WITH THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND INTERVENES IN PUBLIC DEBATES

The research unit establishes formal partnerships with non-academic actors and develops collaborative research projects with actors from the socio-economic world. Teams from the research unit contribute to the development of standards, procedures, recommendations and evaluation frameworks that are recognised by competent bodies (ISO, etc.). It pursues an active policy of intellectual property protection, including patenting. It promotes the provision of incubator-type innovation support mechanisms and the creation of start-ups. The research unit is engaged in participatory science activities. The research unit makes the most of its scientific skills to organise events for the general public (exhibitions, performance, concerts, shows, etc.).