

ACCREDITATION CRITERIA FOR A DOCTORATE/PHD ABROAD

(ISCED LEVEL 8)

September 2022

ACCREDITATION CRITERIA

AREA 1: DOCTORAL POLICY

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The doctorate is in line with the institution's teaching and research strategy. It is consistent with the institution's scientific orientations and thematic priorities, and provides continuity with Masters programmes. It is familiar with its scientific and socio-economic environment, and takes account of its specific features and needs in order to define and develop its outcomes and its aims. The doctorate also benefits from academic and socio-economic partnerships and, in particular, agreements with foreign higher education institutions that offer doctoral students opportunities for mobility. The doctorate includes participative training for doctoral students in and through research, which contributes to the development of their research work.

AREA 2: TRAINING, HOSTING AND SUPERVISION ARRANGEMENTS FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS

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Doctoral students benefit from common and transparent recruitment and hosting conditions. High-quality supervision ensures that research work is carried out in a predictable and reasonable timeframe. Doctoral students benefit from adequate material and financial conditions. A doctoral training program has been set up to develop and enhance the skills of doctoral students, and to encourage outgoing mobility. The rules and criteria for defending a doctoral these guarantee the quality of the doctorate, are well defined and communicated to all parties.

AREA 3: THE ATTRACTIVENESS, PERFORMANCE AND RELEVANCE OF THE DOCTORATE

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The doctoral programme is able to monitor its attractiveness to its various target groups, by analysing the evolution of applications and enrolments of different types of target groups. It implements specific schemes to encourage the success of its various students, and to ensure their ability to defend their doctoral thesis within the required timeframe. The doctoral programme analyses the quality of the professional integration of its doctoral students with regard to its objectives and the job market, using surveys to monitor professional integration and cohorts. This data is used and made public.

AREA 4: MANAGEMENT AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF THE DOCTORATE

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The doctoral programme benefits from an institutional policy in terms of human resources (recruitment, promotion, support, training, supervision) and allocation of resources. These human, material and financial resources, whether dedicated to the doctoral programme itself or shared within a larger structure, allow its own steering and development as well as the institution's capacity-building efforts. A quality policy is defined and shared, based on a regular internal evaluation process in which doctoral students are involved. A continuous improvement process has been set up.