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Università di Genova

REGOLAMENTO DI ATENEO PER IL DOTTORATO DI RICERCA

INDICE

TITLE 1 – General provisions.....	2
Art. 1 – Purpose of the regulations.....	2
Art. 2 – Learning objectives	2
Art. 3 – Funding.....	2
Article 4 – The PhD Committee	3
Art. 5 – Activation of doctoral courses.....	3
Art. 6 - Requirements for the accreditation of doctoral courses	4
Art. 7 – Proposals to activate courses	4
Title III Organisation of doctoral courses and doctoral schools.....	5
Art. 10 – Academic and administrative leadership of courses and schools	6
Art. 11 - Course Coordinator.....	6
Art. 16. Admission to courses	8
Art. 20 – Scholarships and grants	11
Art. 28 Entry into force.....	15

TITLE 1 – General provisions

Art. 1 – Purpose of the regulations

1. This framework regulates the set-up, the running and accreditation methods of doctoral courses as well as the organisation of doctoral schools where present.

Art. 2 – Learning objectives

1. The Research Doctorate supplies the necessary competence to carry out highly qualified research activities within academia, in industry, and also in public administration and with a view to supplementing highly innovative career paths.

2. Doctoral training, consistently with the principles and curricula shared at European level, must allow candidates to:

- a) devise, design, develop and autonomously adapt research and innovation programmes;
- b) analyse, assess and condense novel and complex ideas and processes within research institutions, in industry, public administration and as professional practitioners;
- c) contribute, thanks to the acquisition of new and transversal scientific competencies, to the pursuance of the Sustainable Development Goals identified by the United Nations General Assembly, as well as the goals set out in the 2030 Sustainable Development agenda, and subsequent indications incorporated in European policies;
- d) contribute to the realisation of the European Higher Education Area considering the relevant guidelines and quality assurance *Standards*

3. The doctoral training, with a view to pursuing the objectives pursuant to paragraph 1, based on the "Principles of Innovative Doctoral Training" approved at European level:

- a) pursues the advancement of knowledge through basic research and applied research training as well as research excellence based on Academic standards set via peer review procedures;
- b) is carried out in an attractive institutional environment which is also stimulating and where doctoral candidates can become creative, critical and autonomous intellectual risk takers also in their future professional lives;
- c) fosters multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary training opportunities, also outside academia, such as industry, public administration, cultural services and institutions, also with the involvement of non-academics from relevant industry in informing/delivering teaching and supervision;
- d) contributes to the strengthening of international and transnational relations in research, also through co-tutelle programmes as well as dual and joint degrees, and ensures, consistently with the research project developed by a candidate, opportunities of mobility abroad, whose timing depends on the doctoral project.
- e) fosters the acquisition of transversal competencies with a view to developing and making them transferrable across academia and industry;
- f) follows quality assurance standards developed separately from the quality assurance standards of the first and second cycle higher education programmes. The goal of quality assurance in doctoral education is that of enhancing the quality of the research environment as well as promoting transparent and accountable procedures regarding admission, supervision and awarding of the doctoral degree and career development.

Art. 3 – Funding

1. The Academic Senate annually formulates proposals concerning the establishment and the operation of doctoral courses to the Doctoral Board, which establishes the amount of the funding.

2. The cost burden deriving from the stipulation and implementation of the consortium agreements laid down in art. 5, paragraph 2 is met by the University structures proposing the activation of doctoral courses according to the rules set out in art. 7.

Article 4 – The PhD Committee

1. The PhD committee is appointed via a Chancellor's Decree and is made up of:

- a) the Pro-Vice Chancellor for the Research Doctorate acting as coordinator;
- b) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research;
- c) the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Education;
- d) the PhD courses coordinators.

2. The committee:

- a) annually expresses an opinion to the Academic Senate on the proposals to activate doctoral courses and assesses that such proposals are consistent with the curriculum and the availability of human and financial resources and that they meet the requirements set out in art. 6;
- b) expresses opinions on the proposals for the institution of doctoral schools;
- c) formulates proposals regarding the awarding of research grants to Doctoral courses or Doctoral schools, where any such schools exist;
- d) expresses opinions and formulates proposals regarding doctoral courses pursuant to articles 22, 23 and 24 and supports their promotion;
- e) formulates proposals and expresses opinions regarding doctoral training programmes, promotes interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, and transdisciplinary IT and language instruction activities, as well as activities in the field of education, research management and knowledge of European and international research systems, valorisation and dissemination of results, intellectual property and free access to data and research products management as well as the fundamental principles of ethics and integrity and in common with different courses;
- f) formulates proposals and expresses opinions regarding agreements with Italian or foreign universities, Italian and foreign public and private research bodies, with institutions referred to in article 2, paragraph 1 of law number 58 of December 1999, accredited pursuant to the current legislation, also agreements with foreign universities and industry, with public administration, cultural institutions and European as well as international research infrastructures aiming at the funding and co-funding of doctoral degree courses or of doctoral degree programmes;
- g) formulates proposals for the revision of selection procedures regarding the research doctorates;
- h) formulates proposals for the revision of the content of internet sites regarding the research doctorate;
- i) formulates guidelines for the implementation of a system of periodical evaluation and monitoring of the University of Genoa doctoral courses and their career outcomes;
- l) formulates and promotes any other proposal which guarantees a functional organisation of the research doctorate as well as its promotion nationally and internationally in compliance with the relevant regulatory adjustments applicable;
- m) formulates proposals for the revision of the present Regulations.

TITLE II - Accreditation and activation of courses and establishment of Doctoral Schools

Art. 5 – Activation of doctoral courses

1. Following accreditation granted by the Ministry of Education, upon approval of ANVUR, and consistently with the European *Standards* and guidelines, the doctoral courses are to develop research and teaching

activities, which are both specific and broad, qualified, and continuous and are internationally recognized in the doctoral course research fields.

2. Following accreditation granted by the Ministry of Education, doctoral courses can also be activated in the form of agreements or consortiums, which can constitute the administrative seat of the courses, with one of the following entities:

- a) Italian or foreign universities also offering double or joint-degrees;
- b) public and private research bodies meeting the necessary requirements of advanced cultural and scientific qualification providing suitable scientific facilities and equipment;
- c) institutions as per article 2, paragraph 1, of law number 508 of 21 December 1999, accredited under article 15 of Ministerial Decree number 226 of 14 December 2021, also offering double or joint-degrees;
- d) companies, Italian or foreign, carrying out high-quality research and development activities;
- e) public administration, cultural institutions and research infrastructure of European or international standing, aiming at the realisation of specific and innovative research and development programmes.

3) Doctoral courses activated in agreement as per paragraph 2, must guarantee the high-quality standards of the institutions taking part in the agreement or consortium subject to assessment from ANVIUR pursuant to the current legislation.

4) The duration of doctoral courses is no less than 3 years, except for what is provided for by article 19 paragraph 11.

Art. 6 - Requirements for the accreditation of doctoral courses

1. The accreditation of doctoral courses must meet the requirements provided for by the current legislation.

Art. 7 – Proposals to activate courses

1. The proposal to activate doctoral courses is formulated every year to the Academic Senate by the departments and the various university centres involved. The schools involved in the doctorate also express an opinion on the proposal.

2. The proposal must meet the requirements laid down in art. 6 and must be accompanied by the following information:

(2.1) the names of the single courses for which activation is being requested and if they are divided into different PhD programmes, which must match the relative research themes of the doctoral course, with reference to broad and clearly defined domains;

(2.2) the structure of the PhD course, whether individual institution or consortium, and, in the latter case, details of the universities and/or highly qualified public or private research bodies involved in the consortium;

(2.3) research themes, learning objectives, career opportunities relative to the course and/or to the single curriculum depending how specific they are;

(2.4) the training programme relative to a course and, where present, relative to single curricula, developed in compliance with the current legislation, with details on teaching programmes, expected results with the mention of activities carried out and results attained in previous cycles;

(2.5) the course admission process and/or admission to single curricula and admission requirements;

(2.6) employment prospects of PhD graduates;

(2.7) the number of places for each course including reserved places pursuant to article 8, paragraph 3, including the number of non-funded doctoral places;

(2.8) the number of research grants which the University will be required to issue, the presumptive number of research grants funded by the departments, by other Universities or external bodies with an indication of any co-funding share of the research grants;

(2.9) the names of the components of the Doctoral Board of each course and the course Coordinator, in compliance with the constraints set out by the current legislation;

(2.10) operational facilities and scientific facilities;

(2.11) agreements with Universities or public/private research entities (Italian or foreign) meeting the requirements for advanced cultural qualifications, and detailing of autonomous resources for the funding of research grants on specific research lines;

(2.12) collaboration with public or private entities, either Italian or foreign, enabling doctoral candidates to undertake experiences in a working context;

(2.13) any further information necessary for the publication of the call for applications either to be included in Ministerial databases or requested by the National Bodies for the Evaluation of the University System;

(2.14) a financial plan detailing the availability of adequate economic and human resources and of specific operational and scientific facilities for Doctoral students' study and research activities.

Art. 8 - Resolutions for the activation of courses. Accreditation

1. Subject to the resolution of the University governing bodies, on the advice of the Research Doctorate Committee, the Chancellor applies for course accreditation to the Ministry for Doctoral courses accompanying their application with course curricula and location as well as the documentation certifying the possession of the requirements referred to in article 6.

2. The application must indicate the overall number of places for which accreditation is requested for each Doctoral course.

3. With a view to promoting the internationalisation of the University, places can be reserved for applicants who have attained a degree abroad.

4. The loss of a requirement pursuant to art. 6 entails the withdrawal of accreditation. In such case, the activation of a new cycle of Doctoral courses is suspended with immediate effect.

5. With reference to the accreditation system, which periodically assesses whether requirements are still being met, the University Evaluation Nucleus sends an annual report to the governing bodies containing an evaluation of each Doctoral school and the single Doctoral courses. Such justified evaluation is made available to the PhD committee.

6. Upon request, the Chancellor sends the annual report, accompanied by the Academic Senate's observations, to the Ministry for the University so it can be transmitted to the competent National Bodies for the Evaluation of the University System.

Art. 9 - Establishment of Doctoral Schools

1. Doctoral schools are established on the proposal of one or more Departments of the University with a resolution of the Academic Senate in consultation with the Schools and the Governing Board.

2. A proposal to establish a doctoral school requires the participation of at least three doctoral courses established in the departments belonging to the proposing school or schools.

3. The doctoral school coordinates its own doctoral courses, it approves their training programmes, also regarding the general scientific and training curricula of the Universities and it verifies their results. It also activates and manages all the activities shared by different doctoral courses.

4. Each doctoral school abides by a set of regulations that define its specific purpose and its organization consistently with the current regulation. These regulations can override paragraph 3 of the current article as well as articles 14 and 15.

Title III Organisation of doctoral courses and doctoral schools

Art. 10 – Academic and administrative leadership of courses and schools

1. The academic leadership is composed by the Doctoral Board and the Course coordinator.
2. When a doctoral school is established, the academic leadership is composed by the Director of the Doctoral school and the course coordinator.
3. Each doctoral course can count on an administrative and accounting support centre.

Art. 11 - Course Coordinator

1. The course Coordinator is a full professor or, if a full professor is unavailable, an associate professor meeting the requirements of the current legislation. The course coordinator can only sit in one board at national level, and there is normally one coordinator for all activated Doctoral cycles.

The coordinator is a member of the Doctoral Board, and is proposed to the Faculty Council or the University Centre applying for the activation of the doctoral course by the Doctoral Board

The coordinator is appointed by the academic Senate upon the activation of the doctoral course and serves for the whole duration of the doctoral cycle. In case of early resignation, the Doctoral Board will provide for the election of a new Coordinator who will take over for all active cycles.

2. The course Coordinator:

(2.1) is responsible for the overall organisation of the course;

(2.2) convenes and chairs the Doctoral Board;

(2.3) implements the resolutions of the Doctoral Board;

(2.4) coordinates their tasks with the Doctoral School Director, if established;

(2.5) proposes the authorisation of study periods abroad to the Doctoral Board as per article 19, paragraph 14;

(2.6.) assumes urgent resolutions with own measures, submitting them for approval to the Doctoral Board in the next possible meeting.

Art. 12 – Composition of the Doctoral Board

1. The Doctoral Board is responsible for designing and implementing the doctoral course. Each member of the Doctoral Board can be part of only one Board at national level. It is possible to be part of an extra board only if the doctoral course is in agreement with other institutions, pursuant to article 5, paragraph 2, including doctoral courses under articles 22, 23 and 24.

2. The composition of the board must meet the requirements of the current legislation. Upon invitation from the Doctoral Board, meetings are open to external supervisors, co-supervisors, Unige tenured lecturers, or lecturers from universities in consortium, whose vote is advisory.

3. Any change in the composition of the Doctoral Board is subject to a resolution of the department or University Centre responsible for the Doctoral course according to article 7, paragraph 1.

4. Certified teaching and scientific and industrial tutoring activities carried out by professors and researchers in the context of Doctoral courses contributes to meeting institutional obligations provided for in article 6 of law number 240 of 30 December 2010.

5. The participation of Unige professors and researchers in a Doctoral Board of a Doctoral course activated by an entity different from the University of Genoa is subject to the authorisation of the Academic Senate, after consulting with the PhD committee and the relevant Department.

6. For each active doctoral cycle, a representative doctoral student will be present at the Doctoral Board when dealing with teaching and organisational issues. The election of this component will take place at the beginning of the cycle. In case of forfeiture or renunciation, the next runner-up will take over. If no such candidate exists, another election will be held by the course coordinator. The Board composition is considered valid even if no student representative has been identified, following the above-mentioned procedures.

Art. 13 – Functions of the Doctoral Board

1. The doctoral board has the following functions:

(1.1) to annually determine the organisation of course activities on the basis of the indications of the activation proposal;

(1.2) to appoint evaluators referred to in article 25, paragraph 3;

(1.3) to formulate proposals on the appointment of members of the Course Selection Board appointed by the Chancellor referred to in article 17, paragraph 1.

(1.4) to carry out the interim evaluation (admission to the subsequent year) and final evaluation (admission to the Doctoral exam) of Doctoral students.

(1.5) to formulate proposals on the appointment of members of the final exam Jury, appointed by the Chancellor pursuant to article 25, paragraph 3, with indications of the preferred timeframe and place of said exam;

(1.6) to establish possible specific modalities for the attainment of a PhD degree;

(1.7) to define course admission and attendance fees for the approval of the Governing Board;

(1.8) to allocate at least one tutor (otherwise referred to as supervisor) and, where necessary, one or more co-supervisors, among whom at least one from academia, also outside the doctoral board, provided that at least one of them meets the requirements to be a doctoral board member, as specified by the current legislation;

(1.9) to organise the PhD course, define the PhD programmes and to ensure their national and international publicity;

(1.10) to propose to the relevant Department or University the stipulation of agreements with national and international bodies, universities, higher education institutions and industry, for the funding and co-funding of doctoral research grants, as well as the stipulation of cotutelle agreements issuing double or joint degrees;

(1.11) to take on any other decision aiming at the optimal organisation and functioning of courses as well as their international publicity;

(1.12) to evaluate student requests in relation to the course organisation and as well as reports of any teaching and organisational issues. Doctoral students are not represented in decisions regarding points 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.8, 1.10.

Art. 14 - Director of the Doctoral School

1. The doctoral school director is a full professor or, if a full professor is unavailable, an associate professor is responsible for the overall organisation of the doctoral school. The director is elected by the coordinators of the doctoral courses of the relevant school and is chosen among the doctoral board members by the absolute majority of voters in the first voting round and by a majority of voters in subsequent rounds. The director is appointed by chancellor decree, serves for three years, and can be confirmed for a further three years.

A doctoral school director cannot be a course coordinator. Elections of the new director must take place at least six months before the mandate expires.

2. The director:

(2.1) convenes and chairs the Governing Council;

(2.2) formulates proposals to the Governing Council on the organisation and functioning of the Doctoral school, the optimum planning of the courses on offer at the Doctoral school and their national and international publicity, stipulation of agreements with University Bodies and Institutions and national and international higher education bodies as well as the establishment of Doctorates that provide for the issuing of a double or joint degree;

(2.3) sends Governing Council proposals and resolutions to the Chancellor;

(2.4) implements the decisions of the Governing Council;

(2.5) guarantees, in conjunction with the Course Coordinators, the meeting of timeframes regarding beginning and end of courses, as well as interim and final evaluations;

(2.6) adopts urgent decisions and submits them to the approval of the Governing Council in the next convenient meeting.

Art. 15 - Governing Council of Doctoral School

1. The Governing Council is composed of the Director of the Doctoral School and relevant Doctoral Course Coordinators.

2. The Governing Council is responsible for the direction, planning and coordination of the activities of the Doctoral School. The Council is also responsible for:

a) guaranteeing the operational connection among Doctoral School courses as well as the planning of shared activities;

b) preparing the regulation laid down by art. 9 paragraph 4;

c) forwarding to competent University bodies any requests for resources relative to justified needs of the Doctoral school;

d) deliberating on the use of funds allocated to the Doctoral School;

e) exercising all the other powers established in the Doctoral School regulations and required for the smooth functioning of the school.

Title IV - Regulation of courses

Art. 16. Admission to courses

1. Admission to the doctoral courses is carried out through a public selection process.

2. An application can be presented, without any limitations as to the citizenship of the applicants, by those who, at the expiry date of the call, have a post-graduate degree, or an equivalent qualification obtained at a foreign university.

3. An application can also be presented by those who have obtained the required qualifications by the date of the enrollment to the doctoral course, after which time the enrollment will no longer be considered valid.

4. The validity of a foreign qualification is ascertained by the doctoral course's admissions board, in compliance with the current legislation in Italy and in the Country where the qualification was issued, also in compliance with treaties and agreements regarding the recognition of qualifications required for access to higher education.

5. In the case of national, European, and international projects or cooperation agreements, there can be specific admission procedures and organizational modalities, relative to the specific features of the individual doctoral projects activated around accredited doctoral courses.

6. The call for applications to be admitted to the doctoral course, is drawn up both in Italian and English and is published, for a number of at least 30 days, on the University site, on the European site, Euraxess, and on the Ministerial site.

7. The call for applications indicates the access and assessment criteria of the applicant's qualifications, the possibility of written tests, which are internationally recognized, as well as the ways in which interviews, if applicable, will be conducted. Interviews may be about the presentation of research projects.

8. If the call for applications provides for a quota of places reserved for foreign University graduates, or foreign research grant holders or applicants belonging to specific international mobility programmes, the admission procedures can be differentiated and there can be separate rankings. Reserved posts that are not allocated can be made available for procedures formulated in paragraph 1.

9. The call for applications states the number of research grants and of any possible other forms of financial

support. Non-funded doctoral places can also be made available, in the percentage of one non-funded place every three funded places. The call for applications also states:

(9.1) the amount of the research grant;

(9.2) the research themes of each doctoral course, and/or each curriculum where present;

(9.3.) admission qualifications and a candidates' selection procedures established for each course or course curriculum, where present, (selection based on qualifications; qualifications and exam; qualifications and interview);

(9.4) the contents of admission tests and the way in which they are carried out, for each doctoral course, and, where present, for each course curriculum;

10. The call for applications may provide for:

a) admission to the course of previously unselected but suitable candidates, within the terms specified in the call for applications, in case of withdrawal of selected candidates or availability of additional funding;

b) the allocation of a share of the grants and other forms of financial support to individuals who obtained the required qualifications for admission to the doctoral course at a foreign university.

11. The rankings laid out by the selection board and all accompanying paperwork are approved within the terms specified in the call for applications.

Art. 17 – Appointment of the selection board for admission to doctoral courses

1. The Chancellor, upon proposal of the doctoral board, appoints, via a decree, the board selecting doctoral candidates for admission to the course. Each course, course curriculum or, where applicable, any possible variations of a curriculum, is allocated its own selection board. Each selection board is made up of at least three lecturers, who can be joined by national or international experts, from public and private research entities or institutions. In the case of a doctoral course in agreement or consortium with entities or institutions, the composition of the board can be defined upon signature of the agreement.

Art. 18 – Selection of PhD candidates

1. In compliance with the directions set out in the activation proposal, there can be specific selection procedures for admission to a single course, or course curriculum, and/or specific qualifications for admission to the course, always in compliance with the principles of transparency and speed of administrative procedures as well as the predetermination of evaluation criteria for candidates according to one of the following modalities: selection based on qualifications; selection based on qualifications and exam; selection based on qualifications and interview.

2. In the absence of specific provisions according to the previous paragraph, a candidates' selection will consist in the evaluation of a candidate's qualifications and a test based on theoretical and/or practical content and an interview (the selection is based on a candidate's previous qualifications and an entry test). The test and/or interview, where prescribed, will consist in a discussion of the test and the illustration of a candidate's research activities of interest also based on activities reported in a candidate's CV.

3. Both evaluation of previous qualifications and the tests will be considered passed if a candidate obtains at least 40 out of 60 in each one.

4. The tests may be carried out online and a candidate can choose to take them in one of the foreign languages stated in the call for applications.

5. The tests aim to ascertain a candidate's aptitude for scientific research; the selection boards evaluate the tests and qualifications through appropriate comparison.

6. The University ensures public access to all the documents regarding the selection procedure as prescribed by the current legislation.

7. The list of selected candidates and their ranking prepared by the selection boards as well as the relevant selection procedure documents are approved by the deadline stated in the call for applications.

8. In case of equal merit, the allocation of the research grants is means-tested. In case of equal merit unfunded PhD places are assigned to the youngest candidate.

9. If, once the procedures to assign grants are complete, one or more research grants remain vacant, these will be allocated to suitable candidates in other courses through a resolution by the doctoral committee. This paragraph applies exclusively to grants entirely financed with Ministerial or University funds unless the financing authority expressly states otherwise.

10. The reallocation of unfunded vacant PhD places is undertaken according to the procedures laid down in the previous paragraph in relation to the reallocation of vacant research grants.

Art. 19 - Regulations concerning the status of doctoral student and the conduction of courses

1. Admission to the Doctoral programme requires full-time commitment, without prejudice to the resolutions pursuant to article 22, paragraph 2, letter b) of the current regulations.

2. As an integral part of their training programme, Doctoral students may carry out paid activities upon approval of the doctoral board which assesses that such activities are compatible with a productive development of the learning, teaching and research activities of the doctoral course.

3. A doctoral student's maximum income compatible with the disbursement of a grant cannot exceed, yearly, the amount of the grant itself.

4. Doctoral students are also expected to carry out research and training activities, consistent with the doctoral project, with highly qualified institutions abroad.

5. As an integral part of their training programme doctoral students may carry out tutoring activities addressed to undergraduate students (both in undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses) as well as complementary teaching activities (provided such activities do not exceed forty hours per academic year) and solely upon approval of the doctoral board. These activities do not increase the amount of the scholarship.

6. Research grants are subject to INPS (National Institute for Social Security) social security payment into a separate pension and welfare scheme according to article 2, paragraph 26 of Law no. 335 of 8 August 1995, and subsequent modifications: one third of the cost is borne by the grant beneficiary and two thirds by the University administration. Doctoral students enjoy all associated rights.

7. Public employees admitted to doctoral courses enjoy leaves of absence provided for by collective bargaining arrangements for the duration of the course, while for employees under public law, a special leave for study purposes is granted, provided it is compatible with the needs of the administration as per article 2 of law no. 476 of 13th August 1984 and subsequent modifications, with or without grants and unless an explicit waiver is presented and only if they are registered in a doctoral course for the first time, irrespective of the disciplinary field. They also have the right to a *budget* allocated for research activities carried out in Italy and abroad referred to in article 9, paragraph 4.

8. Measures provided for by Legislative Decree no. 68 of 29 March 2012 regarding the right to study are extended to doctoral students in the manner set out therein.

9. Regulations protecting parenting rights pursuant to Ministry of Labour and Social Security decree of 12th July 2007, published in *Gazzetta Ufficiale* number 247, of 23rd October 2007, prescribe that those doctoral students on leave maintain their rights to a grant. The disbursement of the grant resumes when a doctoral student resumes the course and payments are made until the overall duration of the grant expires.

10. Doctoral students are granted representation in the doctoral board to discuss issues regarding the course organisation and reports of any teaching and organizational issues with the modalities set out in article 13.

11. Doctoral students are allowed to attend both a doctoral course and a medical specialization course, provided the following conditions are met:

a) also considering the logistics of the two courses, the activities and the level of commitment required by the specialization school must be compatible with those of the doctoral course, upon approval of the specialization school committee and the doctoral board;

b) incompatibility between the research grant and emoluments, or otherwise denominated, received by the doctoral student as part of their specialization course.

In the case of attendance of both a doctoral course and a specialization course, a reduction of the doctoral activities may be granted by the doctoral board provided the research activities already carried out in the medical specialization course are consistent with the doctoral project. The compatibility of the doctoral course with the teaching goals of the specialization school is also assessed and approved by the specialization school committee. If the reduction illustrated in this paragraph is granted, the duration of the doctoral course cannot be inferior to two years.

12. An extension to the course duration for a period no greater than twelve months may be granted by the doctoral board for justified scientific needs, on condition that a corresponding extension of the scholarship is also granted with funding from the entity (department or university center) which proposed the activation of the doctoral course pursuant to article 7, paragraph 1, or any other university or foreign entity, following an agreement with the institution which proposed the activation of the course.

13. Upon submission of justified reasons preventing a doctoral student from presenting their doctoral thesis within the time limits of the course, the doctoral board may grant, upon request from the doctoral student, an extension of a maximum duration of twelve months, without any further expenses.

14. Doctoral students may ask for the course to be suspended for documented health reasons, different from the ones referred to in article 9. Doctoral students may also apply for course suspension for a maximum duration of six months to attend Active Educational Traineeship Programmes or to specialise in offering special education needs support at the University of Genoa, or, in specific cases, to attend a master's degree course. Students will be allowed to catch up suspension time at the end of the course and, upon approval of the doctoral board, will sit their final exam in the first convenient sitting. The disbursement of the grant or any other equivalent benefit is suspended for the whole suspension period.

15. The suspension or extension periods referred to in paragraphs 12, 13 and 14 may not exceed eighteen months, except for specific cases provided for by law.

16. Suspension periods referred to in paragraphs 9 and 14 are authorized by the chancellor, upon proposal of the doctoral board.

17. At the end of each year, the doctoral student presents to the doctoral board a detailed written report about their doctoral activity. This report may include: a description of their research activity, teaching activities (courses, seminars, and teaching in school), publications, conferences, and workshops they have followed (especially the ones where they were speakers), experiences gained outside the University of Genoa (specifying activities, time period and name of the host university), participation in research projects and activities developed therein, prizes and scientific accolades they have been awarded. The doctoral board may ask that the report be discussed according to established modalities. The doctoral board annually assesses the report and, after consulting the students' supervisors and co-supervisors, deliberates on the admission of the student to the following year. At the end of the course, the doctoral board sends the student's doctoral thesis to a panel of evaluators and upon a positive evaluation of the thesis, the board either allows the student to sit the final exam (also called public discussion) or decides to postpone it, pursuant to article 25, paragraph 2. If results are deemed insufficient, the board proposes to the chancellor that the doctoral student be excluded from the course. The doctoral board may also propose that the student be excluded during the year if their activity is deemed inconsistent or unsatisfactory.

Art. 20 – Scholarships and grants

1. Doctoral research grants have a duration of one year and are renewed annually after students have passed a test whose result is attested by the doctoral board, and which demonstrates that the research activities

planned in the previous year have been carried out smoothly and productively. Should the doctoral student not accept the grant, or should the grant not be renewed, the relevant amount is used for activities connected with the doctoral course.

2. The minimum amount of the grant is established by Ministerial decree. Any increment of the grant is set at fifty per cent, for an overall period of no longer than twelve months, and is allocated for research activities abroad which have been authorized by the doctoral board. Such term can be extended up to an overall maximum time limit of eighteen months for cotutelle doctorates with foreign entities or activated pursuant to article 5, paragraph 2.

3. In addition to the grant, every year, each doctoral student is also allocated a fund (*budget*), suited to the specific type of doctoral course and, in any case, never inferior to ten per cent of the amount of the grant.

4. The same principles governing the continuous disbursement of grants referred to in paragraph 1 apply to apprenticeship contracts and other forms of financial support, starting from the second year into the course.

5. Provided the programme of the annual activities set out by the doctoral course has been completed, the resolutions pursuant to paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 do not apply to doctoral students from foreign countries who benefit from grants or economic support as part of specific mobility programmes.

6. Research grant beneficiaries who withdraw from the Doctoral course maintain the right to receive the grant proportionally to the period of doctoral activity on condition that the doctoral board attests that the research undertaken up to the time of withdrawal was productive.

7. The suspension of a course for more than 30 days results in the suspension of the grant disbursement.

8. The simultaneous use of other grants is forbidden, with the exception of funding received from Italian or foreign institutions and which are useful to supplement training or research activities abroad.

Art. 21 - Doctorates in agreement with foreign institutions

1. In order to efficiently coordinate high-profile research activities internationally, doctoral courses or curricula with foreign Universities and research bodies of internationally recognised reputation can be activated subject to accreditation in line with the general principle of reciprocity on the basis of agreements that provide for the genuine sharing of training and research activities, fair sharing of the burden, regulation modes of financial support, modes of exchange and mobility of teaching staff and doctoral students as well as the issuing of joint, double or multiple doctoral qualifications.

2. The rules governing the above-mentioned courses are found in the relative institutive documents also notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation, without prejudice to the accreditation requirements.

Art. 22 – Industrial doctorates

1. Upon initial accreditation, a request can be made that the qualification of “industrial doctorate” be included in the denomination of those doctoral courses activated in agreement or consortium and which also include entities as per article 5, paragraph 2, letter d).

2. The agreements referred to in paragraph 1 regulate:

a) the way in which research activities between the agreed parties are coordinated;

b) the way in which research activities are carried out within a firm, also referring to the possible doctoral places taken by the firm’s staff, the share of the overall commitment to the course on the part of the firm’s employees and the duration of the doctoral course;

c) any incentivizing mechanisms aiming at fostering technological transfer and the development of the research results on the part of the firms involved in the agreement.

3. The research themes of industrial doctorates mostly aim at promoting economic development as well as boosting productivity, by favouring cooperation at the design stages of the course relative to the research themes and the doctoral students' activities.

4. Calls for application for the admission to industrial doctoral courses may:

a) state specific requirements for carrying out research activities such as, interdisciplinarity, involvement with international networks and intersectoriality with particular reference to the business sector;

b) allocate a share of the doctoral places to firms' employees or to the staff of affiliated entities involved in highly qualifying activities, who have gained access to the doctoral course following a public selection procedure.

5. This is without prejudice to the possibility pursuant to article 45 of legislative decree number 81 of 15th June 2015, to activate apprenticeship contracts aiming at training industrial doctoral students, always guaranteeing a prevalence of the research activity over any other activity. Such apprenticeship contracts are equivalent to doctoral grants and count towards the minimum number of grants needed to activate a course.

Art. 23 – Doctorates in collaboration with public administration, cultural entities, European or internationally-renowned research institutes aiming at the realisation of specific research and innovation programmes.

1. Agreements regarding doctoral courses activated with entities referred to in this article regulate:

a) the ways in which the activities between the agreed parties are coordinated;

b) the ways in which research activities are carried out within a specific entity or institution, also referring to the possible doctoral places taken by the institution's staff, the share of the overall commitment to the course on the part of the employees and the duration of the doctoral course;

c) any incentivizing mechanisms aiming at fostering technological transfer and the development of the research results on the part of the entities or institutions involved in the agreement.

2. The research themes of the doctoral course mostly aim at promoting economic development as well as boosting productivity, by favouring cooperation at the design stages of the course relative to the research themes and the doctoral students' activities.

3. Calls for application for the admission to doctoral courses in partnership with entities or institutions referred to in this article may:

a) state specific requirements for carrying out research activities such as, interdisciplinarity, involvement with international networks and intersectoriality with particular reference to the sectors in which such entities or institutions operate;

b) allocate a share of the doctoral places to the staff of affiliated entities involved in highly qualifying activities, who have gained access to the doctoral course following a public selection procedure.

Art. 24 – National doctoral programmes

The university promotes the activation, coordination and the participation in national doctoral programmes as defined by ministerial provisions.

Art. 25 – Doctoral awards

1. The qualification of Research Doctor or PhD, abbreviated "Dott.Ric.", is awarded following a positive evaluation of a research thesis that contributes to advancing knowledge and methodology in the chosen field. The doctoral thesis is drawn up in Italian or English, or any other language, upon authorization of the doctoral board, and it is also accompanied by an abstract written in English.

2. The thesis, together with a report of the activities carried out by the candidate as per article 19, paragraph 17, and, also accompanied by any possible publications, is evaluated by at least two assessors, who do not

belong to the University of Genoa, who are highly qualified and of whom at least one must be a tenured university lecturer. Assessors may be from foreign or international institutions, cannot be members of the doctoral board, and neither can they be either the doctoral student's supervisors or co-supervisors and they cannot have had any substantial role in the scientific path of the student. Within thirty days from receiving the thesis, assessors make a written analytical evaluation of the thesis, in the format suggested by the doctoral board of the relevant doctoral course, and either propose that the candidate be allowed to publicly defend their thesis, or that the public discussion be postponed for a period of up to six months. After this period of deferment, the thesis, accompanied by a new written evaluation from the assessors, is in any case, discussed.

3. The thesis is discussed publicly before a gender-balanced panel of examiners, whose members are appointed according to the provisions outlined in article 13. In any case, at least two thirds of the panel are made up of members who do not belong to the University of Genoa, it being the administrative seat of the course, and no more than one third of the panel is composed of individuals from affiliated entities pursuant to article 4, paragraph 2. In any case, two thirds of the panel must be from academia. At the end of the discussion, the panel produces a written, motivated evaluation of the thesis, and may attribute a cum laude assessment if the results are deemed of particular scientific significance and importance by a unanimous vote.

4. Evaluation panels are different for each course, single curriculum, or if applicable, possible variations of a curriculum.

5. All mission expenses sustained by panel members are born by the departments or university centres proposing the doctoral course.

6. If the Doctoral thesis is published, it must include the following: "Thesis submitted for assessment with a view to obtaining the Doctoral Degree in in the Doctoral course in of the University of Genoa".

7. Training activities carried out by doctoral students at more than one location are certified by a document attached to the final diploma (*diploma supplement*)

Art. 26 – Registry of doctoral courses and doctoral theses data base

1. An electronic copy of doctoral theses is deposited by the University onto the Registry of doctoral courses, in one specific public-access section and in the central national libraries of Rome and Florence.

Upon authorization from the doctoral board, parts of a thesis can be made unavailable for privacy reasons pursuant to the current legislation.

2. Before the thesis is deposited in the Registry of doctoral courses, doctoral students are required to self-deposit an electronic copy of the thesis into the Iris Unige doctoral archive at least 15 days before discussion.

Art. 27 – Certification of Doctor Europaeus and International Doctorate (International PhD)

1. Upon request of the doctoral student and subject to the opinion of the doctoral board, the University may issue the title of Doctor Europaeus or International PhD in addition to the national title of the relative Doctorate if the following conditions are met:

a) the discussion of the final thesis must be carried out subject to the presentation of two positive reports from assessors, lecturers or researchers from two Universities of the European Union (EU), if a student is given the title of Doctor Europaeus, or foreign universities, (EU or Non-EU), if a student is given the title of International PhD, and, in any case, the universities of provenance of the lecturers must be different from the one in which the thesis is being defended;

b) regarding the title of Doctor Europaeus, at least one member of the Panel of Examiners must belong to an academic or research institution of the European Union (EU), and as far as the title of International PhD is concerned, at least one member of the Panel of Examiners must belong to a foreign university or institution (EU or non-EU), which is different from the country where the thesis is being defended;

c) a part of the thesis defence must be delivered in one of the official languages of the Union that is different from the language of the country in which the thesis is being defended;

Emanato con D.R. n. 2340 del 27.05.2022

Pubblicato in albo informatico di Ateneo il 28.05.2022 - In vigore dal 29.05.2022

d) regarding the title of Doctor Europaeus, a part of the research presented in the thesis must have been carried out during a stay for research purposes, of at least three months, in a country of the European Union different from the country of the doctoral student. Regarding the title of International PhD, the research must have been carried out in a foreign country (EU or non-EU), different from the country of the doctoral student.

Title 5 – Final provisions

Art. 28 Entry into force

1. These regulations are issued through a chancellor decree and are published on the university's digital records, as well as on the university's website. They enter into force the day after their publication on the university's digital records.

2. From the date of entry into force of these regulations, the University Regulations for Research Doctorates issued with Chancellor Decree number 829 of 3.03.2021 are hereby abrogated.