

List of the domains, criteria, standards, performance indicators and critical performance indicators for the external evaluation for the setting up (establishment) of a doctoral study domain

List of domains, criteria, standards, and performance indicators

| DOMAINS | CRITERIA | STANDARDS | PERFORMANCE INDICATORS |
|---------------------------|--|---|---|
| A. Institutional capacity | A.1. Administrative and managerial institutional structures, and financial resources | A.1.1. The institution organising doctoral studies (IOSUD) has implemented the effective functioning mechanisms provided for in the specific legislation on the organisation of doctoral studies. | <p>A.1.1.1. The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the doctoral school that the doctoral domain is a part of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the internal regulations of the doctoral school; b) the methodology for conducting elections for the position of director of the Council of doctoral school (CSD), as well as elections by the students of their representative in the CSD, and evidence that such elections were conducted; c) the methodologies for organising and conducting doctoral studies (for the admission of doctoral students, for the completion of doctoral studies); d) existence of mechanisms for recognising the status of a doctoral advisor and the equivalence of a doctoral degree obtained abroad; e) functional management structures (Council of the doctoral school), including proof of the regular frequency of convening their meetings; f) the contract for doctoral studies; g) internal procedures for the analysis and approval of proposals regarding the training for doctoral study programs based on advanced academic studies. <p>A.1.1.2. The doctoral school's Regulations include mandatory criteria, procedures and standards concerning the aspects specified in art. 17, para. (5) of Government Decision no. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies, as further amended and supplemented.</p> |
| | | A.1.2. The IOSUD has the necessary logistic resources to carry out the mission of the doctoral studies. | <p>A.1.2.1. The existence and effectiveness of an appropriate IT system to keep track of doctoral students and their academic background.</p> <p>A.1.2.2. The existence and use of an appropriate software and evidence of its use to verify the percentage of similarity in all doctoral theses.</p> |
| | A.2. Research infrastructure | A.2.1. The IOSUD has a modern research infrastructure to support the performance of | A.2.1.1. The venues and the material equipment available to the doctoral school enable the research activities in the evaluated domain to be carried out, in line with the assumed mission and objectives (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, |



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| | | specific doctoral study activities. | library, access to international databases, etc.). The research infrastructure and the provision of research services are presented to the public through a specific platform. The research infrastructure described above, which was purchased and developed within the past 5 years will be presented distinctly. |
| | A.3. Quality of human resources | A.3.1. For each domain, there is qualified staff having the experience required for carrying out the doctoral program. | <p>A.3.1.1. Minimum three doctoral thesis advisors work within that doctoral domain, and at least 50% of them (but no less than three) meet the minimum standards of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) in force at the time when the evaluation is carried out, which standards are required and mandatory for obtaining the enabling certification.</p> <p>*A.3.1.2. At least 50% of the doctoral advisors in the doctoral domain under review are tenured professors within the IOSUD and have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period.</p> <p>A.3.1.3. The study subjects in the education program based on advanced higher education studies pertaining to the doctoral domain are taught by teaching staff or researchers who are doctoral thesis advisors / certified doctoral thesis advisors, professors / CS I or associate professors / CS II, with proved expertise in the field of the study subjects they teach, or other specialists in the field who meet the standards established by the institution in relation with the aforementioned teaching and research functions, as provided by the law.</p> |
| | | A.3.2. The doctoral advisors in the doctoral domain are carrying out a scientific activity that is visible at international level. | A.3.2.1. At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in the evaluated domain have at least 5 Web of Science- or ERIH-indexed publications in magazines of impact, or other achievements of relevant significance for that domain, including international-level contributions that indicate progress in scientific research - development - innovation for the evaluated domain. The aforementioned doctoral thesis advisors enjoy international visibility within the past 5 years, consisting of: membership on scientific boards of international publications and conferences; membership on boards of international professional associations; guests in conferences or expert groups working abroad, or membership on doctoral commissions at universities abroad or co-leading with universities abroad. For Arts and Sports and Physical Education Sciences, doctoral thesis advisors shall prove their international visibility within the past 5 years by their membership on the boards of professional associations, membership in organising committees of arts events and international competitions, membership on juries or umpire teams in artistic events or international competitions. |



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| | | | <p>*A.3.2.2. At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in a specific doctoral study domain continue to be active in their scientific field, and acquire at least 25% of the score requested by the minimal CNATDCU standards in force at the time of the evaluation, which are required and mandatory for acquiring their enabling certificate, based on their scientific results within the past 5 years.</p> |
| <p>B. Educational effectiveness</p> | <p>B.1. The number, quality and diversity of the candidates enrolled for the admission contest</p> | <p>B.1.2. Candidates admitted to doctoral studies demonstrate academic, research and professional performance.</p> | <p>*B.1.2.1. Admission in the doctoral study programmes is based on selection criteria including the academic, research and professional performance of the candidates; their interest for scientific or artistic/sports research; publications in the domain, and a proposal of a research subject. Interviewing the candidate is mandatory as part of the admission procedure.</p> |
| | <p>B.2. The content of doctoral programs</p> | <p>B.2.1. The training program based on advanced academic studies is appropriate to improve the doctoral students' research skills and strengthen ethical behaviour in science.</p> | <p>B.2.1.1. The training program based on advanced academic studies includes at least 3 disciplines relevant for the scientific research training of doctoral students, out of which at least one discipline focuses on the in-depth study of research methodology and/or statistical data processing.</p> <p>B.2.1.2. At least one discipline is dedicated to ethics and intellectual property in scientific research, or there are well-defined topics on these subjects within a discipline taught in the doctoral program.</p> <p>B.2.1.3. The IOSUD has the mechanisms in place to ensure that the academic training program based on advanced higher education studies related to the evaluated domain addresses the "learning outcomes", specifying the knowledge, skills, and the responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through the research activities³.</p> <p>³Or by what the graduate should know, understand and be able to do, according to the provisions of the Methodology for the listing and registration of higher education qualifications in the National Register of Qualifications in Higher Education (RNCIS) approved by the Order of the Minister of National Education no. 3.475/2017, with subsequent amendments and additions.</p> |
| <p>C. Quality management</p> | <p>C.1. Existence and periodic implementation of the internal quality</p> | <p>C.1.1. The institutional framework is in place, and policies and procedures are</p> | <p>C.1.1.1. The doctoral school to which the doctoral study domain belongs demonstrates that the internal evaluation and quality assurance process of the study domain is carried out constantly, according to a procedure developed and applied at the level of the IOSUD,</p> |



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| | assurance system | applied for the internal assurance of the relevant quality. | <p>including an evaluation of the following mandatory criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the scientific work of doctoral advisors; b) the infrastructure and logistics needed for carrying out the research activity; c) the regulations and procedures based on which doctoral studies are organised; d) the scientific activity of doctoral students; e) the training program based on advanced higher education studies of doctoral students; f) social and academic support services (including for participation in various events, publishing papers, etc.) and counselling services available for the doctoral students. <p>*C.1.1.2. Mechanisms are implemented during the doctoral study program to enable identification of the doctoral students' needs, as well as their overall level of satisfaction with the doctoral study program in order to ensure continuous improvement of the academic and administrative processes. Following the analysis of the results, there is evidence that an action plan was drafted and implemented.</p> |
| | C.2. Transparency of information and accessibility of learning resources | C.2.1. Information of interest to doctoral students, future candidates, and information of public relevance is available for consultation in electronic format. | <p>C.2.1.1. Subject to compliance with the data protection regulations in force, the IOSUD publishes the following types of information on the website of the higher education institution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the regulations of the doctoral school; b) the admission regulations; c) the doctoral study contract; d) the study completion regulation including the procedure for the public presentation of the thesis; e) the content of the training programs based on advanced academic studies; f) the academic and scientific profile, thematic areas/research themes of the doctoral advisors within the domain, as well as their institutional contact data; g) the list of doctoral students in the domain concerned, with basic information (year of enrolment; advisor); h) information on the standards for developing the doctoral thesis; i) links to the summaries of the doctoral theses to be presented publicly, as well as the day, time and place where they will be presented, at least 20 days before the presentation. |



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| | | <p>C.2.2. The IOSUD / Doctoral School provides doctoral students with access to the resources needed for conducting doctoral studies.</p> | <p>C.2.2.1. All doctoral students have free access to one platform providing academic databases relevant to the doctoral studies domain of their thesis.</p> <p>C.2.2.2. Each doctoral student, upon request, has access to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic works.</p> <p>C.2.2.3. All doctoral students have access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities depending on the specific domain / domains within the doctoral school, according to a set of internal regulations.</p> |
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* The indicators marked with an asterisk hold a special status, referring exclusively to the evaluation of doctoral study domains as per art. 12 of annex no. 1 to the Order. In case they are not met, the Agency extends a period of maximum 3 years to the IOSUD to correct those deficiencies. Over this period, the Agency shall monitor the progress of the doctoral domains concerned, by periodic reports sent by the IOSUD and/or by site visits; the final analysis of fulfilment of the indicators shall be performed when they are completely met, without exceeding the extension period granted by the Agency after the initial evaluation.



List of critical performance indicators (CPI)

| No. | Performance indicator coding | Description |
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| 1 | A.2.1.1. | The venues and the material equipment available to the doctoral school enable the research activities in the evaluated domain to be carried out, in line with the assumed mission and objectives (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, library, access to international databases, etc.). The research infrastructure and the provision of research services are presented to the public through a specific platform. The research infrastructure described above, which was purchased and developed within the past 5 years will be presented distinctly. |
| 2 | A.3.1.1. | Minimum three doctoral thesis advisors work within that doctoral domain, and at least 50% of them (but no less than three) meet the minimum standards of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) in force at the time when the evaluation is carried out, which standards are required and mandatory for obtaining the enabling certification. |
| 3. | A.3.2.1 | At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in the evaluated domain have at least 5 Web of Science- or ERIH-indexed publications in magazines of impact, or other achievements of relevant significance for that domain, including international-level contributions that indicate progress in scientific research - development - innovation for the evaluated domain. The aforementioned doctoral thesis advisors enjoy international visibility within the past 5 years, consisting of: membership on scientific boards of international publications and conferences; membership on boards of international professional associations; guests in conferences or expert groups working abroad, or membership on doctoral commissions at universities abroad or co-leading with universities abroad. For Arts and Sports and Physical Education Sciences, doctoral thesis advisors shall prove their international visibility within the past 5 years by their membership on the boards of professional associations, membership in organising committees of arts events and international competitions, membership on juries or umpire teams in artistic events or international competitions. |
| 4. | C.2.1.1. | Subject to compliance with the data protection regulations in force, the IOSUD publishes the following types of information on the website of the higher education institution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the regulations of the doctoral school; b) the admission regulations; c) the doctoral study contract; d) the study completion regulation including the procedure for the public presentation of the thesis; e) the content of the training programs based on advanced academic studies; f) the academic and scientific profile, thematic areas/research themes of the doctoral advisors within the domain, as well as their institutional contact data; g) the list of doctoral students in the domain concerned, with basic information (year of enrolment; advisor); |



| No. | Performance indicator coding | Description |
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| | | h) information on the standards for developing the doctoral thesis; i) links to the summaries of the doctoral theses to be presented publicly, as well as the day, time and place where they will be presented, at least 20 days before the presentation. |