

DOCTORAL REGULATIONS 2025 ERASMUS UNIVERSITY ROTTERDAM

AZ, NdH. Regulations set by doctoral board on December 18th, 2024, and take effect from March 1, 2025.

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Chapter 1. General provisions

1.1. Definitions

1.

Awb	The general administrative act;
assessment committee	The committee set up by the doctorate board pursuant to Article 7.18, paragraph 4, of the WHW and in accordance with Chapter 6 of these regulations, which decides whether the doctoral candidate can be admitted to the defence of the thesis;
BBR-EUR	Administrative and management regulations of Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR);
executive board	The executive board of EUR, as referred to in Article 9.3(1) of the WHW and as referred to in Article 2.2 of the BBR-EUR;
doctorate board	the doctorate board, as referred to in Article 9.10, paragraph 1 of the WHW and Article 8.1. paragraph 1 of the BBR-EUR;
co-supervisor	the person appointed by the doctorate board to assist the supervisor in supervising the doctoral candidate;
dean	the dean of a faculty, as referred to in Article 9.13 of the WHW and article 4.3 of the BBR-EUR, the vice dean of the Erasmus School of Health Policy & Management and the rector of the ISS, as referred to in Article 7.3 paragraph 3 the BBR-EUR;
EUR	Erasmus University Rotterdam;
faculty	a faculty of the EUR - as referred to in Article 4.1 of the BBR-EUR, or the ISS, referred to in Article 7.1 of the BBR-EUR;
certificate (doctoral degree)	the diploma in Latin bearing the seal of the EUR, which the doctoral candidate receives as proof of the awarding of the doctorate;
graduate School	the graduate school as referred to in Article 6.1 of the BBR-EUR;
professor	the official referred to in section 9.19 of the WHW or the appointee by the vesting authority referred to in section 9.55(4) of the WHW;
<i>Ius Promovendi</i>	the right to act as supervisor
joint doctorate	a doctorate, within the meaning of the WHW, Article 7.18, Paragraph 6, obtained at the EUR and one or more Dutch or foreign institutions, under supervision of academics from at least two institutions and after one (or more) defence(s) before one (or more) joint opposition committee(s). As proof of the obtained degree, the doctoral candidate receives a paired diploma(s);
manuscript	the draft of the dissertation submitted to the supervisor for approval and, after obtaining approval, submitted to the assessment committee for evaluation;
beadle, office of the	the department of the university that supervises and conducts the promotion procedure and other academic ceremonies on behalf of the rector magnificus of EUR;
thesis	the scientific treatise in monograph (book) or article form or a technical design as referred to in Article 7.18(2)(b) of the WHW, which

	meets the requirements set out in these regulations and has been approved as such by the assessment committee;
PhD defence ceremony	the public defence of the thesis and the acquisition of the doctorate under these regulations;
doctorate committee	the committee set up by the doctorate board under Article 7.18, paragraph 4 of the WHW, before which the promotion should take place;
PhD research supervisor	the scientific research underlying the thesis; the person appointed as such under Article 7.18(4) of the WHW by the doctorate board;
PhD candidate	the person who has been admitted by the doctorate board to the doctoral programme under Article 2.2. of these regulations;
WHW	The Higher Education and Scientific Research Act, abbreviated as WHW;
Rector magnificus	The official referred to in Article 9.3 of the WHW and Article 2.2. paragraph 1 of the BBR-EUR;
regulations	the promotion regulations referred to in Article 7.19 of the WHW and Article 8.1 of the BBR-EUR;
propositions	the claims referred to in Article 4.2 of these regulations, which the doctoral candidate has drafted and intends to defend at the doctoral degree ceremony;
training and supervision plan	the agreements on the content of the PhD research, timeline, supervision and training;
university	A Dutch or foreign institution aimed at providing scientific education and conducting scientific research as referred to in Article 1.8 of the WHW.

2. In these rules, 'written' includes messages by e-mail, and data and forms in the digital registration system (Hora Finita), intended for this purpose.
3. Where these regulations refer to promoter or co-supervisor, in cases where more than one promoter or co-supervisor is appointed, read: promoters, respectively: co-supervisors.

1.2. Doctorate board and mandate

1. The doctorate board, as referred to in Article 8.1. paragraph 1 of the BBR-EUR, consists of the rector magnificus, also chair, the deans of the faculties, the vice dean of Erasmus School of Health Policy & Management and the rector of ISS .¹
2. In the absence of the rector magnificus, a member of the doctorate board, to be appointed by the rector magnificus, acts as chair. The chair represents the doctorate board both inside and outside the EUR in and out of court.
3. The administrative secretariat of the doctorate board is provided by the General Administration Service (ABD) of EUR.

¹In accordance with the WHW, the doctorate board consists of full professors.

4. The doctorate board may mandate the exercise of the duties and powers set out in the WHW, the BBR-EUR and in these regulations to the rector magnificus with the possibility of sub-mandating to another member of the doctorate board.
5. The doctorate board is authorised to amend or revoke a mandate, as well as, while maintaining the mandate, to act, always with notice to the mandated person.
6. The chair of the doctorate board is accountable to the doctorate board for the execution of the tasks and powers referred to in the first paragraph. The chair shall provide the doctorate board with the necessary information.
7. A dean may, in agreement with the rector magnificus and for a period that is determined in advance, mandate the exercise of duties and powers set out in these regulations to a professor of the same faculty, to a vice-dean or to the director or vice dean responsible for a graduate school or to the rector magnificus.
8. A dean is authorised at all times to amend or revoke the mandate referred to in the previous paragraph, as well as, while maintaining the mandate, to act. If the Dean has had to delegate tasks to the rector magnificus, the dean is not authorised to revoke the mandate.
9. The dean shall immediately notify the doctorate board and the mandated person of decisions to grant, change and withdraw mandates.
10. The mandated person is accountable to the doctorate board for the exercise of duties and powers.

1.3. Doctoral regulations and internal arrangements

1. The doctorate board adopts the promotion regulations.
2. The chair of the doctorate board may, on behalf of the doctorate board, adopt guidelines (internally operating arrangements) for the implementation of the doctoral regulations. The doctorate board is informed about adopted guidelines.
3. Decisions related to the practical implementation of the doctoral regulations are taken by the chair of the doctorate board or by those who have been mandated by the chair.

1.4. Scope of these regulations

These regulations apply to all PhD defence ceremonies at EUR and, with due observance of Chapter 12, to PhD defence ceremonies that take place elsewhere as a result of collaborations between EUR and other institutions of higher education, unless other arrangements – approved by the doctorate board - have been made when entering such a collaboration.

1.5. Obligation of confidentiality

1. Those present or involved in correspondence concerning a doctorate and the matters discussed in or in connection with the non-public meetings referred to in Chapters 6, 7 and 8, and with regard to the matters discussed and correspondence relating to the award of cum laude distinction referred to in Chapter 9, and with regard to the award of honorary doctorates referred to in Chapter 11, as well as with regard to the correspondence and the matters discussed in connection with the dispute settlement procedure referred to in Chapter 13, are bound to confidentiality.
2. The obligation of confidentiality may be broken in cases in which, in the opinion of those present or involved as referred to in the first paragraph, there is a serious danger to the students, staff

and/or safety of other third parties and/or public order and safety or is a violation of the applicable integrity code or National Code of Conduct for Research Integrity.

1.6. The doctorate

1. At EUR, the doctorate can be acquired on the basis of a doctoral defence for the doctorate board, or the doctorate committee that has been appointed by the doctorate board.
2. Doctorates are awarded by the doctorate board.
3. The degree thus obtained is referred to as Doctor (Dr.) or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).
4. At the EUR, a joint doctorate, in accordance with Chapter 12 of these regulations, may be acquired on the basis of a doctoral degree awarded before the doctorate board or the doctorate committee appointed by the doctorate board.
5. A person who has already obtained a Dutch doctoral degree - or the degree 'Doctor of Philosophy' (PhD), or an equivalent - or is preparing to obtain such a degree elsewhere, cannot be admitted to the doctoral programme at EUR. This rule can only be deviated from if it concerns a second PhD in a significantly different scientific discipline. A well-founded application must be submitted to the doctorate board. Those in possession of a second PhD (or equivalent), cannot obtain a third PhD at EUR.

Chapter 2. The PhD (doctoral) candidate

2.1. Access to the doctoral programme

1. The dean, with due regard to paragraph 3 of this article, decides on behalf of the doctorate board on the admission of the candidate to the doctoral programme and on the appointment of the (co)supervisor(s).
2. Eligible for admission to the doctoral programme are those who:
 - a. under section 7.10a, subsection 1 or 2 of the WHW has been granted the degree of Master;
 - b. has met possible additional admission requirements of the EUR, faculty or Graduate School;
 - c. has declared to act in accordance with the Netherlands Code of Conduct on Research Integrity.
3. If the candidate does not meet the admission requirements stipulated in Article 2.1.2.a or 2.1.2.b, the doctorate board may in special cases grant exemption or decide on conditional admission. To this end, the dean submits a well-founded request for exemption to the doctorate board;
4. The PhD candidate may appeal the decision not to grant an exemption to the doctorate board within six weeks
5. A prospect PhD candidate who wants to enter the PhD programme and meets the requirements for admission to the doctoral programme consults the EUR professor or other EUR staff member in possession of the ius promovendi, fitting best to the research topic, to discuss if there is a willingness to act as supervisor.
6. Once the aforementioned has declared his willingness to act as supervisor and agreement has been reached on the subject of the doctoral research and the working title of the dissertation, the candidate submits the application for admission to the doctoral programme to the dean.

7. The PhD candidate registers the request - including the necessary details - in the digital Hora Finita system. This registration that is submitted is the request for admission to the doctoral programme.

2.2. The doctoral programme (PhD track)

1. The faculty and/or Graduate School, to which the PhD candidate belongs, ensures adequate administrative support, embedding and an adequate training offer of sufficient quality.
2. Admitted candidates gain access to the necessary facilities at EUR and/or Erasmus MC through an employment contract (for remunerated PhD candidates) or a hospitality agreement (for unpaid PhD candidates).
3. Admitted PhD candidates must have set and recorded their training plan in the Training and Supervision Plan (TSP) and uploaded the TSP in Hora Finita no later than three months after the registration date.
4. If a conflict arises between the supervisor and the PhD candidate during the doctoral programme, the dispute will be submitted to the dean who shall try to mediate.

2.3. Training and supervision plan and integrity statement

1. The TSP lays down the agreements on supervision, the mutual distribution of tasks and extent of the personal supervision of the (co-)promoters, the education to be followed, the evaluation dates and progress meetings as well as the 'go - no go' moment.
2. The declaration of integrity referred to in Article 2.1.2.c is recorded in Hora Finita.
3. The dean is responsible for timely adoption and signing of the plan.

2.4. Interim evaluation

1. The supervisor and the PhD candidate ensure periodic, interim evaluation of the progress of the doctoral programme, the functioning and development of the PhD candidate and discuss the expectations regarding the remaining duration of the doctoral programme; the agreements as laid down in the TSP are the starting point for the interim evaluations.
2. The faculty or Graduate School ensures that the evaluation takes place and ensures that the results of the evaluation are recorded in Hora Finita.
3. Every PhD trajectory (doctoral programme) has a formal evaluation moment (go - no go moment) at which it is determined whether the PhD candidate is deemed sufficiently capable of successfully completing the PhD trajectory.
4. The 'go - no go moment' is preferably held at the end of the first year of the track, but never later than at the end of the second year. For PhD candidates with a EUR or Erasmus MC employment contract, the 'go - no go moment' must take place before - in case of a positive decision - the appointment of the first part is converted into an appointment for the remaining period.
5. The 'go - no go' decision is taken by the dean on behalf of the doctorate board. The decision is taken on the advice of the promotor after consulting the other supervisors. The PhD candidate may appeal the decision to the doctorate board within six weeks

2.5. Premature termination of the doctoral programme (PhD track)

1. The doctoral programme ends prematurely:
 - a. due to death of the PhD candidate;
 - b. by termination by the PhD candidate;
 - c. by termination by the doctorate board.
2. If the PhD candidate wishes to terminate the doctoral programme, the PhD candidate shall inform the Graduate School or the faculty and the doctorate board in writing, giving reasons. The doctorate board may ask the PhD candidate, the director of the Graduate School and/or the (co)supervisor for further explanation.
3. The doctorate board may proceed to early termination of the doctoral programme if:
 - a. the 'go - no go' decision is negative – meaning that the PhD student will not be given the opportunity to complete the PhD track because there is insufficient confidence in successful completion;
 - b. the doctoral candidate, after repeated written reminders, fails to comply with interim agreements with the supervisor;
 - c. interim progress evaluations repeatedly show that the PhD candidate's progress is not such that the supervisor expects the PhD candidate to be able to submit a manuscript that meets the final attainment levels applicable to a PhD thesis;
 - d. over the period of at least six months, the PhD candidate did not respond to repeated requests from the supervisor for substantive consultation on the content and progress of the manuscript;
 - e. after a final negative assessment of the manuscript by the (co)supervisor(s) or the assessment committee, as defined in these regulations;
 - f. when the doctorate board, whether on the recommendation of the supervisor or the Graduate School or otherwise, judges that the EUR cannot reasonably be required to continue the doctoral programme;
 - g. in the opinion of the doctorate board, the PhD candidate violated EUR or Erasmus MC integrity standards² ;
 - h. the scientific integrity of the doctoral candidate is in doubt, for example following a complaint of violation of scientific integrity.
4. Termination by the doctorate board shall be in writing and with reasons.
5. The PhD candidate may object to the decision to terminate within six weeks to the doctorate board.

² The integrity standards are laid down, among others, in the Integrity Code, the Order Regulations Buildings, Grounds and Facilities EUR.

Chapter 3. Supervision

3.1. Supervisor(s) and co-supervisor(s)

1. A PhD candidate has a minimum of two and a maximum of four³ people who give formal guidance to the candidate.
2. The dean, on behalf of the doctorate board - at the time of admission of the candidate to the doctoral programme - appoints a professor of the EUR, or another staff member of the EUR in possession of the ius promovendi, as supervisor.
3. If the dean himself assumes the role of supervisor, the role of dean in the relevant PhD track is mandated to the rector magnificus.
4. The doctorate board may additionally appoint a full professor (or other staff member holding the ius promovendi) from another Dutch university or from a university from abroad as supervisor.
5. As a rule, no more than two supervisors are appointed.
6. In case more than one supervisor is appointed, the EUR-supervisor will be designated as 'coordinating supervisor'.
7. If no second supervisor is appointed, it is mandatory to appoint at least one co-supervisor.
8. A co-supervisor needs to hold a PhD degree and should be employed by a Dutch university or a university from abroad. On the dean's well-founded proposal, a co-supervisor who is not employed by a university may be appointed as well.
9. Upon admission of the PhD candidate to the doctoral programme, the 'coordinating supervisor' should be appointed. The other supervisors (supervisor or co-supervisor(s) should be appointed and registered in Hora Finita within three months of the start of the PhD trajectory. In the training and supervision plan, the mutual division of tasks is laid down.
10. In the case of a joint doctorate, the supervision team should consist of four people, with a maximum of two from each participating university.
11. Endowed professors are counted among the full professors, in accordance with Article 7.18 WHW and can be appointed as supervisors.
12. An occupant of a rotating chair or a visiting professor cannot be appointed as EUR-supervisor.
13. The title 'honorary professor' does not provide the necessary qualification for an appointment as supervisor.
14. The partner or close relatives of the PhD candidate up to the fourth degree and other persons who, in the opinion of the doctorate board, have such a relationship with the PhD candidate that they cannot reasonably be expected to exercise an independent judgement, are not eligible for appointment as (co-)supervisor. Nor can a married or partnered couple supervise a PhD candidate.

3.2. Honourable discharge and changes to the guidance team

1. The appointed supervisor, professor or staff member holding the ius promovendi, who retires (honourably discharged) and becomes an emeritus, retains the right to act as supervisor at the EUR for five years⁴ and to conduct the doctoral defence for the purpose of completing PhD projects already started at EUR. The defence must take place within five years of the dismissal.

³ A larger number of supervisors is intended to allow for greater disciplinary diversity.

⁴ This period cannot be extended.

2. A supervisor who, having been honourably discharged in connection with an appointment at another university, is no longer attached to EUR, retains the right to act as supervisor (and conduct the doctoral defence) at, and on behalf of, EUR for a period of five years for the purpose of completing PhD projects already started at EUR. After this period, the professor, or doctoral researcher holding the ius promovendi, may act as supervisor, but not on behalf of EUR.
3. A supervisor who, having been honourably discharged in connection with leaving the academic community, is no longer attached to the EUR, retains the right to act at, and on behalf of, the EUR as a supervisor (and conduct the PhD) for five years for the purpose of completing PhD projects already started at EUR.
4. To fulfil the role of 'coordinating supervisor', a supervisor must be appointed at EUR.
5. If the defence of the thesis cannot be done within the five-year period, the appointment of the supervisor is terminated and the dean shall appoint another supervisor, unless, in the case of two supervisors being appointed, the dean considers that this is not necessary.
6. If a supervisor is no longer able or willing to act as supervisor, the dean may withdraw the appointment on behalf of the doctorate board. In this case, another full professor or staff member holding the ius promotor may be appointed as supervisor. Similarly, if a co-supervisor wishes to withdraw, the dean may withdraw the designation and appoint a replacement.
7. If, in the dean's opinion, a supervisor does not perform the role of supervisor sufficiently well, the dean may withdraw the appointment and appoint a replacement. The supervisor in question may object to this decision to the doctorate board within six weeks.
8. A professor or staff member holding the ius Promovendi, honourably dismissed due to retirement (becoming emeritus), or leaving the academic community, cannot be appointed as supervisor in new doctoral programmes after dismissal.

3.3. Duties of the supervisor and co-supervisor

1. The (co-)supervisors guide the doctoral candidate during the PhD trajectory and ensure that the PhD candidate conducts the research independently. They shall also ensure that the agreed or reasonable time limits for assessing and discussing drafts are observed.
2. The (co-)promoters are responsible for the acceptance of the manuscript as a dissertation and ensure that the dissertation meets the requirements, in general and as laid down in these regulations, for a dissertation.
3. The (co-)promoters also ensure that the PhD research is done:
 - a. according to the code of conduct and/or professional practice in the relevant field of science;
 - b. in compliance with the Netherlands Code of Conduct on Research Integrity;
 - c. according to applicable laws and regulations on personal data protection, for the careful handling of research data and for research on and/or with subjects.
4. Research that has not predominantly taken place under the supervision of the (co)promoters cannot serve as the basis for a EUR-dissertation.
5. The (co-)supervisors ensure that the PhD student follows the training programme agreed in the training and supervision plan.
6. The supervisor monitors that no direct or indirect restrictions are imposed on the doctoral research by third parties that limit academic freedom or the freedom to publish the results of the research.
7. Guidance as referred to in Paragraph 1 also includes preparing the PhD candidate for the defence of the thesis.

8. The (co-)supervisor reads through the manuscript, or parts of it, and tests it against the requirements (Article 4.6.) for the thesis.
9. The (co-)supervisor shall consult periodically with the PhD candidate regarding the changes and/or additions to be made and shall also supervise the use of language. The PhD candidate shall make the agreed changes and additions to the manuscript and then submit the manuscript in its entirety to the supervisor for approval.
10. The guidance referred to in the first paragraph is also aimed at promoting the completion of the dissertation within the previously agreed deadline.

Chapter 4. The thesis

4.1. Conditions

1. The dissertation must demonstrate that the PhD candidate is competent to practise science independently. The PhD candidate is primarily responsible for the dissertation in scientific terms and is primarily responsible for ensuring that the dissertation contains no plagiarism and also complies in all other respects with the applicable rules of conduct for the practice of science.
2. The dissertation consists of either a scientific treatise in book form (monograph) on a particular subject, or a compilation of a number of separate scientific articles accompanied by an introduction and conclusion that emphasise the coherence of the articles, produced by the PhD candidate or under the identifiable and dominant authorship of the PhD candidate.
3. For a doctorate in the field of arts, the doctoral candidate must, in conjunction with a dissertation, deliver high-level artistic work - in the form of, for example, concerts, exhibitions, performances, master classes and events. This is assessed by the doctorate committee and also plays a role in the final assessment.
4. In the case of a PhD on a technological design, this means a design that has been created using appropriate professional theoretical knowledge and methodologies, with scientific justification and documentation. The experimental design should make an original contribution to the further development of scientific knowledge. This is assessed by the doctorate committee and also plays a role in the final assessment.
5. In the case of jointly conducted PhD research, the result of the research may lead to a joint dissertation by two or a maximum of three PhD candidates, provided the conditions are met, that:
 - a. each of the authors has made an independent, defined contribution sufficient for the promotion, all approved by the supervisor;
 - b. each of the authors takes personal responsibility both for a part of the thesis to be indicated as such and for the coherence of the whole;
 - c. the thesis specifies the part each of the authors played in its creation; and
 - d. each of the authors adds the required number of propositions referred to in Article 4.2 to the thesis.
6. In the case of a joint dissertation as referred to in the previous paragraph, the procedures and rules of these regulations shall apply to each doctoral candidate separately.

4.2. Propositions

1. Eleven propositions are added to the thesis. Five of them relate to the content of the dissertation and five relate to other areas of science or societal issues, at the PhD candidate's discretion.
2. Propositions are concise, may not consist solely of a quotation (always contains an additional element of the PhD candidate) and, with the exception of the eleventh proposition, must be defensible with scientific arguments.
3. The eleventh proposition remains outside the consideration of scientific defensibility but should be arguable in a general sense.
4. Propositions are submitted by the PhD candidate to the supervisor via Hora Finita as soon as possible after the manuscript is approved as a dissertation, as referred to in Article 5.1.
5. The supervisor(s), in consultation with the co-supervisor(s) test whether the propositions meet the requirements and communicate this to the PhD candidate.
6. Propositions will be admitted only after approval by the supervisor and the beadle's office.
7. The propositions are not part of the thesis and are provided separately.

4.3. Language

1. The dissertation and the propositions shall be written in Dutch or English. With the approval of the dean, the supervisor may ask the doctorate board for permission to use another language. This request must take into account the possibility of putting together an assessment committee with sufficient knowledge of the language in question to assess the thesis.
2. When the thesis is written in Dutch, a translation of the title and a summary of the contents in English shall be added. When the thesis is written in English, a translation of the title and a summary of the content in Dutch will be added.
3. If a dissertation is written in a combination of languages, a translation of the title and a summary of the contents in an authorised language shall be added of the Dutch parts of the text. If non-Dutch passages are involved, a summary of the texts and title in Dutch will be added.
4. If the thesis is written in a language other than Dutch or English, the title and a summary in Dutch, as well as a translation of the title and of the summary into English, shall be added.

4.4. Content

1. The manuscript submitted to the supervisor for final approval should include:
 - a. a title page;
 - b. a table of contents;
 - c. an introduction, at least containing the problem statement of the thesis. The introduction also clarifies the contribution made by the PhD student, supervisors and any other authors;
 - d. the scientific considerations;
 - e. the conclusion;
 - f. the summary and its translation;
 - g. if usual for the discipline of doctoral research, a name and case register and/or source register;
 - h. a curriculum vitae the PhD candidate's portfolio;

- i. (if desired) a short and businesslike preface or acknowledgements chapter in which those who have been involved in any way in the production of the thesis are thanked in a restrained manner. The foreword or acknowledgements chapter shall be written in a style appropriate to the nature of the degree ceremony and shall not exceed 800 words.
 - j. the propositions - attached on a loose leaf in the thesis.
2. The thesis should not contain any advertising.

4.5. A compilation of scientific publications as thesis

1. Article 4.4 shall apply mutatis mutandis to a dissertation consisting of a compilation of scientific publications, whether or not already published. The coherence shall be demonstrated in an introduction and a conclusion.
2. Scientific publications qualify for the dissertation only if the following conditions are met:
 - a. the publications must form a coherent whole and have been published within a period of five years before submission of the thesis for review by the (co-)promoters
 - b. the journal in which the article was or will be published must meet generally accepted academic standards, at the discretion of the (co-)promoters.

4.6. End-terms of thesis and defence requirements

1. The thesis should include a description of the research methodology and methodological rationale, as well as a justification and appreciation thereof and, if applicable, the associated ethical considerations.
2. The PhD candidate demonstrated, with the thesis and the defence of the thesis
 - a. to have contributed to pushing the boundaries of knowledge through original research.
 - b. systematically understand a substantial domain of knowledge and master the relevant skills and methodologies.
 - c. be able to design, develop, implement and adapt a substantial research project.
 - d. capable of critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis of new ideas.
 - e. be able to communicate with peers and the wider scientific community.
3. In the assessment of what is mentioned in the previous paragraph, particular attention shall be paid to the following:
 - a. originality of the research and contribution of the PhD candidate;
 - i. To what extent the PhD candidate has made an innovative contribution to science;
 - ii. To what extent the PhD candidate made a personal and essential contribution to the PhD research;
 - b. the scientific quality of the research;
 - i. Adequacy of the review of relevant background literature;
 - ii. accuracy of the empirical components and analysis;
 - iii. the theoretical depth;
 - c. reflection (shown, inter alia, in introduction and general discussion)
 - i. adequate evaluation of the dissertation's contribution to the literature (current theories and conceptualisations);
 - ii. be able to place research goals and research findings in a societal context;
 - d. Quality of written presentation;
 - i. Structure and clarity of style and expression.

Chapter 5. Assessment of the manuscript as dissertation by the (co-)supervisors

5.1. Assessment by the supervisor

1. If the supervisor is of the opinion that the manuscript meets the requirements set out in these regulations and can count as an aptitude test for the independent practice of science, the supervisor shall approve the thesis after taking note of the opinion of the co-supervisor(s), if any.
2. If two supervisors are appointed, both must give their approval separately.
3. The response of the (co)supervisors to a written request from the PhD candidate for approval of the manuscript as a dissertation should be given within eight weeks, and in case of withholding approval, should include the reasons for that decision.
4. Under the responsibility of the dean, the check for plagiarism (reference check) of the manuscript is done by a staff member of the Graduate School or faculty.
5. The supervisor will approve the manuscript only if no irregularities are found in the reference check.
6. The supervisor(s) shall notify approval or withholding of approval in writing to the dean, the doctorate board and the doctoral candidate (by means of registration in Hora Finita). Any withholding of approval should include grounds on which the refusal is based

5.2. Withholding of approval

1. If approval is withheld by (one of) the supervisor(s), the PhD candidate must be given the opportunity to remove the grounds on which the withholding of approval is based. A maximum period of two months is allowed for making the necessary changes to the manuscript.
2. If the PhD candidate declines the opportunity to make changes to the manuscript in order to still obtain the supervisor's approval, the PhD candidate may ask the doctorate board to have the dean appoint another supervisor
3. If the doctorate board decides that the appointment of a new supervisor is not applicable and the doctoral candidate still refrains from making changes to the manuscript, the dean shall ask the doctorate board to terminate the doctoral programme. The doctorate board makes this decision only after the views of the PhD candidate are known.
4. The PhD candidate may object to the decision to terminate the doctoral programme within six weeks to the doctorate board.

5.3. Approval of the manuscript

1. Making changes to the manuscript after it has been approved by the supervisor is allowed only with the permission of the (co)supervisors and should be done before the manuscript is submitted to the assessment committee for evaluation.
2. After approval of the manuscript by the supervisor, the PhD candidate should submit, in Hora Finita, all documents relevant for the assessment by the assessment committee:
 - a. manuscript as approved by (co)supervisors;
 - b. title page and its reverse side (for the beadle's inspection);
 - c. summary and its translation;

- d. curriculum vitae;
- e. portfolio;
- f. propositions that have been approved by the (co)promoters; and
- g. reference check analysis.

Chapter 6. Assessment committee

6.1. The composition of the assessment committee

1. The assessment committee, on behalf of the doctorate board, assesses whether the PhD candidate can be admitted to the defence of the thesis.
2. The assessment committee should be able to make an independent judgement on the quality of the manuscript.
3. The assessment committee is set up by the doctorate board on the proposal of the dean and is composed of three members and must fulfil the following conditions:
 - a. The (co)-supervisors are not part of the assessment committee
 - b. the majority of the assessment committee are full professors or staff members holding the *Ius Promovendi*;
 - c. The assessment committee is as diverse as possible and there is always at least one female member and one male member;⁵
 - d. members of the assessment committee have a doctoral degree and are experts on the subject of the thesis or on a part of it whereby the members together, should be able to assess the entire thesis and:
 - i. at least one member is employed by EUR
 - ii. a maximum of one member is a member of the supervisor's work unit;
 - iii. at least one member is affiliated to another university.
 - e. Members of the assessment committee are not co-authors of any of the publications included in the thesis and are not involved in mentoring the PhD candidate.
 - f. The partner or close relatives of the PhD candidate up to the fourth degree and other persons who, in the opinion of the doctorate board, are in such a relationship with the PhD candidate that they should not reasonably be required to give an opinion, cannot be appointed as members of the assessment committee.
4. The committee is constituted on the recommendation of the supervisor, after discussing its composition with the dean. The (co)supervisor(s) shall only inquire about the willingness of candidate members to serve on the assessment committee after discussion with the dean.
5. In case there is a joint doctorate, the assessment committee consists of four members, at least three of whom have the *Ius promovendi*.
6. One of the members of the assessment committee, affiliated with EUR, is appointed chair by the dean.

⁵ Non-binary is considered an independent category and counts as contributing to a diverse gender composition.

6.2. Admission to the doctorate

1. Access to the doctorate (the defence of the thesis) may be granted to any person:
 - a. who has been granted access to the doctoral programme by the doctorate board under Article 2.1.2;
 - b. who has written a thesis or produced a technological design⁶ as an aptitude test for the independent practice of science, and
 - c. has complied with the other requirements of these regulations; and
 - d. has fulfilled a possible additional requirement of the faculty or Graduate School regarding the completion of a training plan. This requirement only applies if
 - i. the content of the training plan was agreed with the PhD candidate at the beginning of the doctoral programme and recorded in the training and supervision plan (and registered in Hora Finita)
 - ii. the PhD candidate is always given timely opportunities to actually take the courses in the plan;
 - iii. annual interviews with the PhD candidate monitor progress on the training plan;
 - iv. at the beginning of the final year, the (co-)supervisor(s) and PhD candidate jointly determine
 - Whether all components of the training plan have been fulfilled;
 - if not, which parts of the programme plan still need to be completed, or that the parts already taken are sufficient (by approval of (co)supervisors and dean).

6.3. Assessment by the assessment committee

1. Within one month of institution, the assessment committee decides on admission of the PhD candidate to the doctorate.
2. The PhD candidate, the supervisor(s) and any co-supervisor(s) have no contact with members of the assessment committee about the manuscript.
3. Each member of the assessment committee gives a well-founded judgement on the manuscript on the criteria mentioned in Article 4.6. paragraphs 2 and 3 of these regulations, as well as an unconditional decision on the admission of the PhD candidate and records the judgement in Hora Finita. They may add suggestions and/or recommendations to their judgements. The judgement is made available to the supervisor(s) anonymously and confidentially.
4. If all members of the assessment committee are of the opinion that the manuscript meets the requirements, the chair will give a positive recommendation on the thesis to the dean on behalf of the committee⁷.
5. If one or more members of the assessment committee are of the opinion that the manuscript does not meet the requirements, the chair will ensure a mutual exchange of opinions in the committee. The deliberations of the assessment committee are closed.

⁶ Technological design, see Article 4.1.4, artistic outcome, see Article 4.1.3.

6. If, after the deliberations, all members of the assessment committee are of the opinion that the manuscript meets the requirements, the chair, on behalf of the committee, gives a positive assessment on the manuscript to the dean.
7. If, after the deliberations, one or more members of the assessment committee still consider that the manuscript does not meet the requirements, the chair will assess whether the PhD candidate will be able to modify the manuscript in the short term in such a way that it is expected to meet the requirements:
 - a. if this is the case, the chair, on behalf of the assessment committee, offers the PhD candidate the opportunity to amend the manuscript once within a period of 60⁸ days; after receiving the amended manuscript, the manuscript is again submitted to the assessment committee for evaluation;
 - b. if not, the chair reports to the dean on the committee members' judgements.
8. Within 30 days of receiving the manuscript, the chair of the assessment committee shall report to the dean on the findings of the assessment committee. The report shall be accompanied by the well-founded opinion of each committee member separately.

6.4. Decision on the manuscript

1. After receiving the report from the chair of the assessment committee, the dean decides whether or not to approve the manuscript.
2. For taking the decision the following applies:
 - a. if one member of the assessment committee has the opinion that the manuscript does not meet the requirements, and the other members believe it does, the dean can only approve the manuscript with an explicit justification to that effect;
 - b. if two or more members of the assessment committee believe that the manuscript does not meet the requirements, the dean may not approve the manuscript.
3. If the dean does not approve the manuscript, the PhD candidate will be given a one-off opportunity to submit a revised manuscript within a period determined by the dean, not exceeding one year, unless the dean considers that there are good grounds to believe that the PhD candidate will not be able to submit a revised thesis that meets the requirements within this period. In the latter case, the dean, on behalf of the doctorate board, decides to terminate the doctoral programme.
4. A revised manuscript is assessed as described in article 6.3. of these regulations. The assessment committee is in principle not changed. The dean then approves or rejects the revised manuscript. If the dean rejects the revised manuscript, the dean, on behalf of the doctorate board, terminates the doctoral programme.
5. The PhD candidate may appeal the termination to the doctorate board within six weeks.
6. In the case of a doctorate in the field of arts or technological design, before approving the manuscript as a dissertation, the dean shall ascertain that, in addition to the dissertation, there is also an artistic performance or technological design as referred to in Article 4.1.3. and 4.1.4.

⁸ Exceptionally, the dean may extend this deadline once.

6.5. Multiplication and submission of the thesis

1. The doctorate board grants permission to the PhD candidate to proceed with the multiplication of the thesis after the dean, on the advice of the assessment committee, has approved the manuscript as a dissertation.
2. After approval of the manuscript by the assessment committee, the PhD candidate is still allowed to correct only obvious writing mistakes - whether spotted by committee members or not.
3. The dissertation should be made available in digital form and, if this is a requirement of the Graduate School and/or faculty or at the choice of the PhD candidate, will also be made available in printed form in addition.
4. As soon as possible after the multiplication of the dissertation and associated theses, but no later than five weeks before the date of promotion, the PhD candidate submits the final digital version via Hora Finita to the beadle's office.
5. If the thesis is also published as a trade edition, the digital version should be accompanied by a copy of the contract with the publisher, in which they give permission for the publication of the digital version.
6. In any case, the EUR University Library should receive a digital version of the theses to add for the purpose of integral inclusion in the EUR publication database.
 - a. The EUR University Library shall publish the thesis in full on the Internet as soon as possible, but no later than three months after the completion of the doctorate.
 - b. Exemption from this requirement (embargo) may be obtained by submitting a well-founded request to the doctorate board in Hora Finita. The University Library will take a decision on this matter on behalf of the doctorate board.
 - c. An embargo can only be obtained for up to 24 months.
 - d. Only the scientific part of the thesis is eligible for an embargo.

Chapter 7. Doctoral committee

7.1. Composition

1. The public defence of the thesis takes place before the doctoral committee and the committee assesses whether the doctorate can be awarded to the PhD candidate.
2. The doctoral committee is established by the doctorate board as soon as possible after the PhD candidate has been admitted to the defence.
3. The doctoral committee is composed of the members of the assessment committee and is supplemented by at least two and no more than four other members by the dean on behalf of the doctorate board. The supervisor proposes candidates and, after consulting the dean, inquires of the candidates' willingness to serve on the doctoral committee
4. The promotion committee must meet the following conditions:
 - a. the supervisors and/or co-supervisors are not part of the doctoral committee;
 - b. the majority of the doctoral committee are full professors or have the ius promovendi;

- c. the promotion committee is as diverse as possible, with a minimum of two female members and two male members;⁹
 - d. members of the doctoral committee have a doctoral degree and are experts on the subject of the thesis or on a part of it whereby the members together, must be able to assess the entire thesis and:
 - i. at least two members are connected to the EUR
 - ii. a maximum of two members are attached to the promoter's work unit;
 - iii. at least two members are affiliated to another university.
 - e. If members of the doctoral committee, proposed by the supervisor, are co-authors of any of the publications included in the thesis, or have contributed (informally) to the supervision of the doctoral candidate, the dean must be convinced of their independence before they are appointed as members of the committee.
 - f. The partner or close relatives of the PhD candidate up to the fourth degree and other persons who, in the opinion of the doctorate board, are in such a relationship with the PhD candidate that they should not reasonably be required to give an opinion, cannot be appointed as members of doctoral committee.
6. An expert in the specific scientific field of thesis, who does not have a PhD degree, may be added as an advisory member of the doctoral committee, as a sixth or seventh member, on the basis of a well-founded request and with the approval of the chair of the doctorate board.
 7. A minimum of five and a maximum of seven people participate in the opposition during the PhD defence ceremony.

7.2. Chairing the doctoral committee

1. Chair of the doctoral committee is the rector magnificus or the person replacing the rector magnificus. The chair is not part of the doctoral committee.
2. The chair has an advisory vote unless there is a tie, in which case the chair has the casting vote.
3. The chair shall convene the doctoral committee in time for a closed consultation prior to the defence ceremony.

7.3. Requirements for attendance of doctoral committee members

1. If, due to circumstances, a member of the doctoral committee cannot be physically present at the consultation or defence ceremony but can participate online, the defence ceremony will be converted to a hybrid form.
2. If circumstances prevent a member from attending the consultation or defence ceremony at all, the supervisor must arrange for a replacement in good time (no later than 48 hours before the start of the promotion; barring force majeure), if the number of members of the doctoral committee is less than five (excluding any advisory member).
3. An online promotion ceremony, in which the PhD candidate is not physically present but participates online, is not allowed. This rule may be deviated from in exceptional cases. To this end, the PhD candidate must submit a well-founded request to the beadle well in advance.

⁹ Non-binary is considered a separate category and counts as contributing to a diverse gender composition

Chapter 8. The defence ceremony

8.1. Date, time, place

1. The defence ceremony takes place in public, in front of the doctoral committee and will be held at the EUR Woudestein campus, Erasmus MC, or ISS.
2. Regarding the date to be set for the defence ceremony, the PhD candidate shall make a proposal to the beadle as soon as possible after the formal approval by the (co-)supervisors of the manuscript.
3. The date, time, place and form of the defence ceremony shall be definitively determined by the beadle, after approval of the thesis by the assessment committee, as referred to in Article 6.3.1. of these regulations, on the proposal of the PhD candidate after consultation with the (co-)supervisors.
4. The defence ceremony is governed by the regulation 'Protocol, publicity and reception' (appendix 4 of these regulations).

8.2. The defence of the thesis

1. The defence ceremony shall take place in Dutch or English, or, with the permission of the rector, in another language. A request to use another language shall be made to the beadle at least three weeks before the degree ceremony.
2. The PhD candidate shall begin the defence with a maximum 15-minute presentation (whether or not using audiovisual means) of the research that was conducted. The PhD candidate prepares the presentation in consultation with the (co-)promoters. The presentation explains what was investigated, why the research was initiated and what conclusions it led to.
3. The defence of the thesis and propositions is made against the questions and reservations of the doctoral committee.
4. The defence ends one hour after the start of the public hearing. The hearing is adjourned by the chair.

8.3. Decision

1. After adjourning the public defence ceremony, the doctoral committee, on behalf of the doctorate board, decides on awarding of the doctorate in a closed meeting.
2. A negative decision (not awarding the doctorate) of the doctoral committee can only come about by a unanimous vote of all members of the doctoral committee present (in person or online). This entails that casting a blank vote or abstaining from voting is not possible. In the event that the doctoral committee decides not to award the doctorate, the chair suspends the promotion ceremony and refers the matter to the doctorate board. The doctoral committee informs the doctorate board by a written report.
3. If it is not decided to award the doctorate immediately after the defence, the doctorate board will decide on the follow-up within five working days.
4. If the doctorate board decides not to award the doctorate definitively, the PhD candidate can appeal this decision to the doctorate board within six weeks.

8.4. Reopening of the session and closure

1. After the deliberation, the doctoral committee returns, and the chair reopens the session.
2. The chair announces the outcome of the deliberation and subsequent decision on behalf of the doctorate board.
3. If it has been decided to award the doctorate (confer the degree of Doctor of Philosophy) on the PhD candidate, the supervisor pronounces the doctoral formula, after which the doctoral candidate promises to conduct future scientific research in accordance with the principles of scientific integrity. The supervisor then presents the certificate, after which the (co-) supervisor pronounces the laudatio.
4. The chair closes the session.

Chapter 9. Cum Laude

9.1. Proposal awarding cum laude distinction

1. If a PhD candidate has demonstrated exceptional competence in the independent practice of science, the doctoral committee, on behalf of the doctoral board, may award the doctorate with 'cum laude' distinction. As a rule, cum laude can only be awarded if the dissertation can be counted among the best 5% of dissertations in the relevant field.
2. The proposal to award cum laude should be notified, confidentially and under secrecy, by at least two members of the assessment committee to the beadle's office.
3. The beadle shall consult the supervisor and if the supervisor is positive about the proposal, the beadle shall ask the supervisor to write a well-founded proposal jointly with the members of the assessment committee regarding awarding the cum laude distinction. The written well-founded request should be submitted confidentially to the rector at least seven weeks before the fixed date of the defence ceremony.
4. The assessment committee and the supervisor(s) shall nominate two external PhD referees who are experts in the field of the doctoral research. These referees shall not be co-authors of publications included in the thesis, shall not be members of the doctoral committee and shall comply with the provisions of Article 6.1, under e and f. A curriculum vitae of each referee shall be enclosed with the request.
5. The dean decides on the referees to be nominated. The rector magnificus then appoints two referees.
6. The rector magnificus sends the referees the well-founded proposal, the thesis, the assessment criteria and the criteria with regard to cum laude, requesting them to indicate whether they are in favour or against awarding the cum laude distinction. The beadle's office shall inform the members of the doctoral committee of the proposal.
7. The referees shall send their written opinion to the office of the beadle within three weeks of their designation in confidence.
8. Only if both referees are in favour of awarding the cum laude predicate will the procedure continue.

9.2. Decision granting cum laude distinction

1. The proposal and opinions of the external referees shall be confidentially brought to the attention of the members of the doctoral committee by the rector as soon as possible.
2. the proposal to award the cum laude distinction, the doctoral committee considers:
 - a. the degree of independence (inter alia added scientific and/or social value created by the PhD candidate through the scientific work, the functioning in the group in which the PhD candidate was housed)
 - b. the quality of the analysis (should be excellent and the PhD candidate is able to position the research in a broader theoretical framework);
 - c. the quality of the defence;
 - d. the dissertation is completed within a reasonable the deadline, taking into account possible special circumstances.
3. In the deliberation, referred to in Article 8.3.1., on the proposal to award the doctorate, in the absence of the supervisor(s), the voting members of the doctoral committee shall vote in writing, anonymously and secretly on the awarding of the cum laude distinction, whereby a vote can only be cast for or against the proposal. The proposal is rejected if more than one vote is cast against it. In all other cases, the proposal is adopted. The chair of the promotion committee shall abstain from voting.

Chapter 10. Certificate

10.1. Certificate

1. As evidence of the conferral of the doctorate, the doctor receives a certificate in Latin signed by the rector magnificus (or deputy) the supervisor and the members of the doctoral committee.
2. If the doctorate is awarded with the cum laude distinction, this is indicated on the certificate.

Chapter 11. The honorary doctorate (doctorate honoris causa)

11.1. Authority to award honorary doctorate

The doctorate board may award an honorary doctorate to a natural person for exceptional achievements in their pursuit of science or exceptional services for society at large.

11.2. Procedure

1. The dean of the most appropriate faculty can make a recommendation to the doctoral board for awarding an honorary doctorate. Preferable, the proposal (nomination) contains a suggestion for the appointment of an honorary supervisor as well.
2. A nomination is confidential and is submitted in writing, accompanied by a detailed motivation, curriculum vitae and publication list, to the rector magnificus. The latter submits the nomination to the doctorate board.

3. If the doctorate board intends to honour the nomination, the executive board is heard regarding the nomination.
4. The doctorate board decides on awarding the honorary doctorate, taking into account the views expressed by the executive board. It also appoints one or two professors as honorary supervisor.
5. The Executive Board, the dean, the honorary supervisor(s) and the doctoral candidate are in informed about the decision in writing. The decision must remain confidential.
6. Except in special circumstances, an honorary doctorate shall not be awarded to a person who will not be present in person at the session referred to in Article 11.2.9.
7. The decision shall not be made public until after the doctoral candidate has declared to accept the honorary doctorate and be present in person at the session referred to in Article 11.2.9.
8. The honorary doctor receives a certificate signed by the rector magnificus, the members of the board of promotions and the supervisor(s), and receives the cape with a clasp.
9. In principle, the honorary doctorate is awarded on the occasion of the celebration of the university's Dies Natalis.

Chapter 12. Joint doctorate

12.1. Definition

Arrangements may be made between EUR and one or more (foreign) institutions of higher education to jointly award a joint doctorate on the basis of a thesis that complies with the provisions of this chapter.

12.2. Approval by the doctorate board

If one or more faculties set up a programme(s) leading to the award of a joint doctorate, the programme requires the approval of the doctorate board beforehand (see model agreement in Appendix 6)

12.3. PhD research and dissertation

1. The doctoral research and the dissertation based on it must be the result of a research programme set up jointly by the EUR and an institution as referred to in Article 12.2. The education and research programme shall thereby be designed in consultation with the other institution.
2. In the case of a collaboration with a foreign institution, the doctoral research and dissertation, should include an international component.
3. The PhD candidate should spend at least six months at the partner institution for teaching or doing research for the dissertation.
4. Notwithstanding this chapter, the thesis shall comply with the doctoral regulations.

12.4. The assessment and doctoral committee

The assessment and doctoral committee referred to in Chapters 6 and 7 of these regulations must include at least one member from each institution.

12.5. The defence ceremony and certificate

1. If there is a collaboration with a foreign institution, the (first) defence ceremony will take place at EUR.
2. As proof of attaining the degree, the PhD candidate receives a paired diploma with a reference to the joint supervision in an additional sentence.

Chapter 13. Dispute settlement

13.1. Disputes

1. In disputes where a settlement may be possible, this shall be done by the dean. The investigation into the possibilities of reaching a settlement does not suspend the period within which an objection must be submitted, as referred to in article 13.1.2.
2. If an interested party disagrees with a decision made by a supervisor or the doctorate board, they may submit an objection to the doctorate board within six weeks. The doctorate board may request the Advisory Committee on Complaints and Objections to advise the doctorate board on the decision to be taken on the objection.
3. A complaint about conduct by a supervisor or the doctorate board may be submitted to the doctorate board. The doctorate board may request the Advisory Committee on Complaints and Objections to advise on how the doctorate board handles the complaint.
4. Proceedings in which the Advisory Committee on Complaints and Objections has been asked to give an opinion are governed by the EUR Regulations on the Advisory Committee on Complaints and Objections¹⁰

Chapter 14. Final and transitional provisions

14.1. Exceptions

1. In cases not covered by these regulations and in case of disagreement on the interpretation of the provisions of these regulations, the doctorate board shall decide.
2. The doctorate board may in exceptional cases, on recommendation of the rector magnificus, deviate from the regulations.
3. Requests for deviation must be justified and submitted in writing to the doctorate board.
4. If the doctoral regulations are not observed, the rector magnificus is authorised to postpone the defence ceremony until a date to be determined.

¹⁰ <https://www.eur.nl/en/media/2023-08-eur-regulations-advisory-committee-complaints-and-objections-2021-definitief>

14.2. Implementing procedure and managing regulations

1. Unless otherwise provided for in these regulations, all documents to be submitted to the doctorate board and the rector magnificus with regard the preparation of the defence ceremony shall be submitted to the secretary of the doctoral degree board, via Hora Finita,
2. These regulations are administered by the secretary of the doctorate board.

14.3. Further guidelines

Faculties and Graduate Schools may establish further guidelines for the implementation of these regulations. These further guidelines should be approved by the dean and the doctorate board.

14.4. Publication, translation, entry into force and citation

1. These regulations have been adopted by the doctorate board, with the exception of the provisions regarding the doctorate board's task, composition and method of appointment, which have been established by the Executive Board and included in the BBR. These regulations are published on the EUR website.
2. These regulations have been translated into English. If there is a case of conflict between the English translation and the Dutch version, the Dutch version shall prevail.
3. These regulations take effect from 1 March 2025 and earlier versions of the promotion regulations are repealed.
4. All pending applications for admission to the doctorate, unless otherwise determined by the doctorate board, will be brought into compliance with these regulations as of the date of entry into force of these regulations.
5. These regulations shall be cited as: Promotion Regulations 2025 Erasmus University Rotterdam, abbreviated as: PR-EUR 2025.

Appendix 1. *Ius Promovendi* Policy for Associate Professors

Pursuant to the WHW, the Doctorate Board can grant *ius promovendi* to 'a professor or, if he/she has been awarded the degree of Doctor or Doctor of Philosophy, another staff member of a university, a university based on religious or philosophical principles or an Open University who, in the opinion of the Doctorate Board, is sufficiently qualified to act as supervisor'.

The Doctorate Board has made the following arrangements for granting *ius promovendi* to non-professors

Assessment Framework

- The intended supervisor is appointed as associate professor at the EUR.
- The intended supervisor is both a good supervisor and a good researcher.

Guidelines for the assessment

- a. Has the intended supervisor successfully acted at least three times as co-supervisor, or as a day-to-day supervisor at the EUR or another university? The subject area concerned should be taken into account.
- b. Were the supervised doctoral programmes completed within the nominal time period, i.e. the nominal number of years (three of four) plus a maximum of two years, or in less time than the faculty average? Other factors that determine the duration of the research should be taken into account here.
- c. Did the intended supervisor receive positive assessments over the last three years during P&D interviews in terms of the supervision of PhD candidates, whereby the supervisory duties as co-supervisor were positively assessed by supervisors.
- d. Were external funds allocated to the intended supervisor and/or is the intended supervisor the principal investigator or coordinator of a relevant grant or project (e.g. ERC Consolidator Grant, ERC Advanced Grant, Vici))
- e. Is the intended supervisor being groomed for the position of professor? Is he/she on a tenure track? Does the intended supervisor satisfy the applicable (discipline-specific) criteria?
- f. Does the intended supervisor play a leading role in the subject area? This can be shown by well-cited articles in quality journals for example or books published with respected publishers and the assessments of three external examiners from the associate professor's subject area.

Procedure:

- A recommendation to grant *ius promovendi* to an associate professor is made to the Dean of the faculty concerned,
- The Dean uses the above-mentioned (discipline-specific) assessment framework to determine whether the associate professor is sufficiently qualified to act as supervisor;
- The Dean can ask a Standing Committee on Science or a similar committee for advice;
- The Dean liaises with the professor who is responsible for the subject area concerned;
- If the Dean so decides, a substantiated request is submitted by the Dean to the Doctorate Board,
- The Doctorate Board decides whether to grant *ius promovendi*;

- In principle, the Doctorate Board grants ius promovendi to the associate professor for an indefinite period. In accordance with the doctoral regulations, one supervisor is appointed per defence ceremony.

Detailed Guidelines per Faculty

The Dean can adopt detailed guidelines for the assessment framework and establish an internal procedure. These must be submitted to the Doctorate Board for approval.

Gown (Toga)

All members of the doctoral committee who have obtained the Ius Promovendi, and all (co-)supervisors who have obtained the Ius Promovendi (also those who are not associated with EUR but with another university) are invited to wear a gown during the defence ceremony.

Appendix 2. MODEL AGREEMENT FOR JOINT DOCTORATE

Between:

Erasmus University Rotterdam (hereinafter also referred to as **EUR**), a legal entity governed by public law with registered offices at Rotterdam, the Netherlands, registered at the Netherlands Chambers of Commerce under number 24495550, with premises at Burgemeester Oudlaan 50, 3062 PA Rotterdam, hereby lawfully represented by the President, **<Name>**

and

<Partner University> (hereinafter also referred to as **<...>**), a legal entity governed by public law with registered offices at **[town/city]**, **[country]**, registered at the [...] Chambers of Commerce under number [...], with premises at **[address]**, hereby legally represented by the Rector Magnificus, **Professor <Name>**

[possibly other Partner University]

hereinafter also referred to separately as '**Partner University**' and jointly as '**Partner Universities**'.

and

[Candidate]

The Partner Universities hereby agree as follows:

Joint doctorate (PhD) degree

Hereby the Partner Universities agree to jointly implement a doctoral research programme, which – upon successful completion – will lead to a jointly awarded PhD qualification for the participants admitted in this doctorate research programme, a Joint Doctorate degree.

For Erasmus University Rotterdam, the **<Faculty>** will be responsible for the joint supervision.

For **<Partner>**, the **<Faculty>** will be responsible for the joint supervision.

Definitions (see definitions doctorate regulations 2025).

Agreement

- 1) This Agreement is conducted under the provisions of the General Partnership Agreement between EUR and **<Partner>**, and:
 - a) For the EUR:
 - i) Article 7.18, sub 6 of the Higher Education and Scientific Research Act (WHW);
 - ii) The 2025 EUR Doctoral Regulations;
 - b) For **<Partner>**:
 - i)
 - ii)

- 2) In the event of contradictory stipulations, the Doctoral Regulations of EUR (where the defence will take place), shall apply.
- 3) Partner Universities agree, in accordance with the applicable laws, rules and the respective Doctoral Regulations in force in each of their respective countries, to jointly organise the supervision of the doctoral research of the candidates admitted in the joint degree programme.
- 4) The candidate is enrolled in the Doctorate programme **<Name programme>** at EUR and in the Doctorate programme **<Name programme>** at **<Partner>**.
- 5) The (provisional) title of the thesis is **<TITLE THESIS>**.

Period

- 1) The period for researching and writing the theses shall be **<...>** years / **<...>** months, commencing from **[date & year]**.
- 2) Where necessary, such term can be prolonged in accordance with the rules in force at both of the Partner Universities.

Obligation of the Partner Universities

Partner Universities undertake to notify each other of all the information and documentation useful for the purposes of organising the Joint Doctorate.

Candidates' rights and responsibilities

- 1) The Candidates shall be registered at both Partner Universities and shall pay the usual registration fees, if applicable, to **<EUR / Partner>** and be exempted from such fees at **<EUR / Partner>**.
- 2) The Candidate shall observe the rules and customs of the Partner Universities.
- 3) The Candidate undertakes all steps necessary in order to arrange due health insurance, insurance cover against physical injuries and civil liability during his/her stay at each Partner University. The candidates for this joint PhD programme shall observe the rules and customs of the universities.
- 4) Candidate has to register at EUR in the Hora Finita system.
- 5) Information about social security, (health) insurances and visa will be provided by the Partner Universities to the Candidate.

Joint supervision

- 1) The Partner Universities agree that they shall be jointly responsible for the educational programme of the PhD candidate and the supervision of the doctoral research and thesis.
- 2) The candidate is coached and tutored by the following four (co)supervisors:
 - a) Professor **<Name>**, thesis supervisor at EUR;
 - b) Professor **<Name>**, thesis supervisor at **<Partner>**.
 - c) Dr. **<Name>**, thesis co-supervisor at EUR

- d) Dr. <Name>, thesis co-supervisor at <Partner>.
- 3) The (Co)supervisors will jointly be involved in the continuing assessment of the Candidate's work in progress and will fully carry out their responsibilities in accordance with the rules and requirements of their respective Partner Universities. Where any such rules and requirements between the Partner Universities are in conflict, the Supervisors will negotiate a compromise suitable to both Partner Universities regulations.

Location of the research

The thesis shall be researched and written in alternating periods (more or less of equal length) at both Partner Universities. The duration of such periods shall be fixed by agreement between the two thesis Supervisors (at least 6 months of the overall duration of the doctorate at both Partner Universities).

Approval of the thesis

The approval of both thesis Supervisors will be registered in Hora Finita, after which the thesis will be sent from the Hora Finita system to the Assessment Committee, according to the Doctoral Regulations of both Partner Universities.

The Doctoral Committee

- 1) The Assessment Committee shall be appointed by both Partner Universities and shall comprise at least four members, according to the Doctoral Regulations of both Partner Universities.
- 2) The Doctoral Committee shall be composed by the Assessment Committee and will be extended with a minimum of two and a maximum of four members according to the Doctoral Regulations of both Partner Universities.
- 3) (Co)supervisors cannot participate in the assessment committee nor the doctoral committee.

Language of the thesis

- 1) The thesis shall be written in English, or Dutch (other languages need to be approved by the doctoral board of EUR).
- 2) In case the thesis is written in English, a summary of the doctoral thesis is to be provided in Dutch.
- 3) In case the thesis is written in another language, approved by the doctorate board, a summary of the doctoral thesis is to be provided in English and Dutch [**and language of Partner University**].
- 4) In case the thesis is written in Dutch, a summary of the doctoral thesis is to be provided in English.

Defence Ceremony

- 1) The public defence of the doctoral thesis shall be in <English / Dutch> agreed upon as stipulated in the Doctoral Regulations.

- 2) The public defence of the doctoral thesis is to take place at <EUR > and is duly recognised by the Partner Universities. A second graduation ceremony after the public defence at EUR at <Partner> may take place.

Degree Certificate

- 1) As proof of attaining the degree, the PhD candidate receives a paired diploma with a reference to the joint supervision in an additional sentence.

Award of the degree

- 1) The Candidate shall be conferred the degree of Doctor (Dr.) / Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) after the public oral defence.

Intellectual Property and copyrights

- 1) Arrangements to safeguard and divide any intellectual property generated as a result of this Agreement meet the Rules of Intellectual Property of both Partner Universities.
- 2) With respect to copyrights, the results of the research performed by the Candidate will be available to the Partner Universities signing the present Agreement. The copyright of the thesis itself lies with the Candidate or the Partner University, depending on the Rules of Intellectual Property of the Partner University.
- 3) Due to the specificity of the research, a different regulation could be specified in an agreement between the Partner Universities and the Candidate.

Personal data of the Candidates

- 1) All Partner Universities in this Agreement have a responsibility to ensure that the Personal Data of the Candidate(s) that will be subject to Data Processing are accurate and up-to-date, and will be well protected as required under Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (General Data Protection Regulation, 'GDPR').
- 2) Every Partner University has a responsibility to inform the Candidates as follows:
 - a) the purposes for which the Partner University will store and process the personal data: the Partner Universities need to Process the Personal Data in order to perform [educational and] administrative purposes and responsibilities to the Candidates and others;
 - b) the period during which the Data Processing will take place;
 - c) with whom the Personal Data collected by the Partner Universities may be shared in the fulfilment of the collegiate responsibilities of the Partner Universities and for which purposes;
 - d) that the Partner Universities may disclose the Personal Data to other (specified) bodies outside of the Partner University in order to fulfil its aforementioned responsibilities and purposes.
- 3) For the transfer of Personal Data outside the European Economic Area where countries either have no data protection legislation, or have different data protection or privacy regimes and so

may not always protect Personal Data of the Candidate(s) to the same standard as within the European Economic Area, the Partner Universities will take additional measures, such as, but not limited to, the use of the Model contracts for the transfer of personal data to third countries of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the processing of personal data and the protection of privacy¹¹.

- 4) When data processing is outsourced to a third party, a separate Data Processing Agreement which is in compliance with the GDPR must be signed between a Partner University/the Partner Universities and the relevant third party.¹²

Disputes and applicable law

- 1) The Agreement shall be in every respect understood and operated as an Agreement made in the Netherlands and according to Dutch Law.
- 2) In the event an issue arises that is not covered by this Agreement, the Partners shall make all reasonable efforts to settle disputes in an amicable way or find a solution through consultation.
- 3) Any disputes that remain unsolved shall be heard exclusively by the competent court in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

Validity of the Agreement

- 1) This Agreement is drawn up in one digital file, which shall be signed via Valid Sign, after which it has binding legal force.
- 2) This Agreement can be modified or terminated by mutual consent of the Partner Universities with at least 12 months advanced by written notice. Arrangements will be made for the registered Candidates to complete the research.

Appendices

- 1) All the appendices are an integral part of this Agreement.
- 1) The following appendices are added:
 - a) Standard Contractual clauses <**within / outside**> the European Higher Education Area.
 - b) Article 7.18, sub 6 of the Higher Education and Scientific Research Act (WHW);
 - c) The 2025 EUR Doctoral Regulations;
 - d) **...Partner>**;
 - e) **...Partner>**.

¹¹ See: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/data-transfers-outside-eu/model-contracts-transfer-personal-data-third-countries_en

¹² Please contact: privacy@eur.nl or legal.advice@eur.nl .

<p>President EUR</p> <p>Professor[name]</p> <p>Signature</p> <p>Date....</p>	<p>...[position] ...[Partner University]</p> <p>Professor[name]</p> <p>Signature</p> <p>Date....</p>
<p>Dean [Faculty] EUR</p> <p>Professor[name]</p> <p>Signature</p> <p>Date....</p>	<p>...[position] ...[Partner University]</p> <p>Professor[name]</p> <p>Signature</p> <p>Date....</p>
<p>Supervisor [department/faculty] EUR</p> <p>Professor[name]</p>	<p>Supervisor [Partner University]</p> <p>Professor[name]</p>

Signature Date....	Signature Date....
PhD candidate[name] Signature Date....	