

**REGULATIONS ON
THE ORGANIZATION AND
OPERATION OF THE DOCTORAL
SCHOOL OF LAW**



Legal framework

These *Regulations on the Organization and Operation of the Doctoral School of Law* provide the general reference framework for the organisation and delivery of doctoral programmes within the Doctoral School of Law (hereinafter referred to as SDD) of the Bucharest University of Economic Studies, an institution accredited by the Ministry of National Education as an Organising Institution for Doctoral Studies (hereinafter referred to as ASE–IOSUD), and is based on the regulations set out in *the Institutional Regulations for the Organisation and Conduct of Doctoral Studies*.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Art. 1

- (1) The doctoral studies organised by the Doctoral School of Law represent the highest form of research within the Faculty of Law, focusing on knowledge and research in the field of Law.
- (2) The Doctoral School of Law (SDD) organises doctoral studies in the fundamental field of *Social Sciences*, the branch of *Legal Sciences*, and the field of doctoral studies in *Law*.

Art. 2

- (1) The training programme based on advanced university studies includes a discipline intended for the in-depth study of research methodology and/or statistical data processing and a discipline of academic ethics and integrity, courses organized at the level of the Council for Doctoral University Studies (CSUD), which must be taken by all enrolled doctoral students.
- (2) The Doctoral School of Law offers doctoral students seminars and courses on research methodology and the analysis of current issues in legal theory and practice.

Art. 3

These *Regulations on the Organization and Operation of the Doctoral School of Law* were drafted by the the Doctoral School of Law Council, endorsed by the General Assembly of SDD members, the Faculty of Law Council, the CSUD and the Board of Administration, and approved by the Senate of ASE.

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Art. 4

The members of the SDD are doctoral supervisors in the field of Law, affiliated with the SDD.

Art. 5

- (1) The SDD is headed by a Director, who is an ex officio member of the SDD Council. The Director's term of office is 5 years.
- (2) The Director of the SDD is responsible for the management and operational leadership of the doctoral school. The Director is responsible for the development and implementation of teaching plans, research and quality management, and supports the leadership of ASE-IOSUD

in the financial management of the doctoral school. In exercising this function, he or she is assisted by the SDD Council.

(3) The selection, periodic evaluation, training, motivation, and termination of membership in the doctoral school fall under the responsibility of the Director, subject to endorsement by the SDD Council.

(4) In order to ensure the functionality and sustainability of SDD activities, except in cases of force majeure, all SDD members are required, upon the Director's request, to promptly provide all requested information.

Art. 6.

The responsibilities of the Doctoral School Director are those provided in the *Regulations on the Organization and Operation of the Doctoral School*, the ASE Charter, and the job description.

A. The Director has the following rights:

- a) to be remunerated in accordance with the legal regulations established for state higher education institutions;
- b) to benefit from annual leave in accordance with the legal regulations applicable to higher education institutions;
- c) the right to daily and weekly rest;
- d) the right to equal opportunities and treatment;
- e) the right to safety and health at work;
- f) the right to vocational training;
- g) to benefit from social health insurance rights, as well as those relating to state social insurance;

B. The Director has the following obligations:

- a) to comply with the Rector's management programme regarding the proper conduct of activities in the field of doctoral studies;
- b) to ensure the management and administration of doctoral studies within the doctoral school;
- c) to monitor the implementation of the doctoral school's objectives and performance indicators;
- d) to develop and apply specific strategies to ensure the efficient conduct of short- and medium-term doctoral studies within the doctoral school, in accordance with the decisions of the Senate and the Board of Directors;
- e) to establish and monitor the fulfilment of the duties of doctoral supervisors in doctoral schools;
- f) to oversee the process of granting or withdrawing doctoral school membership;
- g) to contribute to the identification of financial resources to support the activities of the doctoral school;
- h) to submit reports to the Director of CSUD, the Board of Directors and the Rector, upon request, on the achievement of objectives and indicators, including measures to improve performance;
- i) ensure the self-evaluation of the doctoral school and provide support to evaluators for internal and international accreditations;

j) to apply the organisational and operational regulations and uniform administrative procedures approved by the Senate.

Art. 7

- (1) The Council of the Doctoral School of Law is composed of:
 - a) doctoral supervisors affiliated with the SDD;
 - b) doctoral students of the SDD.
- (2) The Council has at least 3 members: the Director, one doctoral supervisor, and one doctoral student. The term of office is five years, except for the doctoral student representative, whose term may be shorter.
- (3) As an exception to paragraph (1), on the date of approval of these regulations, the SDD Council consists of 7 members, namely: the director of the SDD, 2 doctoral supervisors from the SDD, 2 doctoral students and 2 members from outside the doctoral school, selected from among scientific personalities whose scientific activity has significant international recognition. This structure will be maintained until the end of the current term of office of the SDD Council.
- (4) The SDD Council meets in ordinary sessions at least three times a year. The Council may also meet in extraordinary sessions at the request of the SDD Director or at least one third of its members.
- (5) Council decisions are adopted by free vote, by simple majority (50% + 1 of members attending the meetings). A quorum of at least 50% of total members is required.

Art.8

- (1) At SDD level, the Director and doctoral supervisor members of the Council are elected by universal, direct, and secret vote of doctoral supervisors.
- (2) Student representatives are elected in accordance with the *Methodology for electing student representatives of ASE within the consultative, deliberative, and executive structures*.

Art. 9

The main responsibilities of the SDD Council are:

- a) Drafting and revising the *Regulations on the organization and operation of the SDD*;
- b) Establishing the framework content of the training programme based on advanced university studies and approving the Individual Doctoral Plan (PID);
- c) Endorsing the granting or withdrawal of doctoral school membership and establishing minimum scientific performance standards;
- d) Endorsing enrolment and exclusion of doctoral students, subject to approval by the Faculty Dean, CSUD, and the Rector;
- e) Endorsing the proposal regarding the composition of the Habilitation committee, which is subsequently submitted for endorsement to the Faculty Council and the CSUD, and for approval by the Rector, as well as endorsing the report on the evaluation of the candidate's file, drawn up by the specialized committee consisting of three members from the doctoral school;
- f) Endorsing the composition of the committees for public defense of doctoral thesis, as proposed by the doctoral supervisor, endorsed by the Faculty Council, and approved by the CSUD;

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- g)** Assisting CSUD in internal evaluation and assisting the external evaluators in the process of the doctoral university study program evaluation;
 - h)** Endorsing requests for interruption of doctoral studies for justified reasons (medical, professional, maternity, post-birth leave, etc.) and their reference to CSUD for approval;
 - i)** Mediating conflicts between doctoral supervisors and doctoral students, and, in the event that these are not resolved, the request for mediation by the CSUD;
 - j)** At the reasoned request of the doctoral student, the SDD Council may decide to change the doctoral supervisor if it has been found that the latter has failed to fulfil their legal or contractual obligations. The SDD Council may also decide to change the doctoral supervisor for other reasons relating to the supervisory relationship between the doctoral supervisor and the doctoral student, as well as in cases where the doctoral supervisor is found to be unavailable. The doctoral student requesting the change of doctoral supervisor is responsible for obtaining the approval of a new doctoral supervisor. Otherwise, the doctoral school council shall appoint another doctoral supervisor within a maximum of 30 days. When appointing a new doctoral supervisor, the SDD Council shall give priority to the need for the doctoral student to be able to successfully complete the doctoral programme. The new doctoral supervisor may maintain the existing guidance and academic integrity committee or propose another committee. A change of doctoral supervisor may not be requested from the SDD Council less than one year before the completion of the doctoral programme or less than three months before the submission of progress reports, except in cases where the doctoral supervisor is unavailable. As an exception, the doctoral supervisor may be changed at any time during the doctoral programme if both doctoral supervisors (the initial and the new supervisor) agree, at the request of the doctoral student, for valid reasons, or if the doctoral supervisor is no longer a member of the doctoral school (withdraws from the doctoral school, retires and no longer wishes to continue the activity, or in the event of death).
 - k)** In situations where the doctoral supervisor does not fulfil their obligations within the doctoral school within the agreed time frame, the SDD Council may replace the doctoral supervisor to ensure the continuity of administrative activities within the doctoral school. In such situations, the SDD Council shall sign, approve or resolve documents, applications or other requests that are essential for the smooth running of doctoral studies.
 - l)** The SDD Council may propose the application of sanctions to doctoral supervisors who fail to comply with the deadlines and obligations arising from their capacity as doctoral supervisors and members of the doctoral school. Such sanctions may refer to the exclusion from proposing doctoral places in the admission competition for the following academic year, the prohibition to carry out teaching activities within the doctoral school, the prohibition to participate in guidance committees or in public defense of doctoral thesis and Habilitation defense committees, as well as the withdrawal of membership in the doctoral school;
 - m)** Performing other duties in accordance with *Institutional regulations* and legal requirements.

Art. 10

(1) The General Assembly of SDD members meets whenever necessary, at the request of the SDD Director or at least one third of its members.

(2) For the deliberations of the General Assembly to be valid, at least 50% of the total number of SDD members must be present. All decisions shall be taken by free vote with a simple majority of SDD members (50%+1 of the number of members present/participating in the vote). If the General Assembly cannot meet due to failure to meet the quorum requirement, it shall meet at a second convocation, which shall be considered legally convened regardless of the quorum, and may take decisions by a majority of the votes cast.

(3) By way of exception, the General Assembly and the voting on its decisions may also be conducted online.

Art. 11

The decisions of the SDD General Assembly shall be recorded in the Minutes and shall refer to, but not be limited to, the following aspects:

- (1) The organisation of elections for the appointment of the Director and members of the SDD Council;
- (2) Endorsing *the Regulations on the Organization and Operation of the Doctoral School of Law*;
- (3) Issuing an opinion on the appropriateness of granting SDD membership, based on consideration of at least the following aspects:
 - a) the strategic scientific research objectives set out in the Research Strategy of the Bucharest University of Economic Studies for the period 2022-2030;
 - b) compliance with moral and professional ethics standards, in accordance with the Code of Ethics of the Bucharest University of Economic Studies;
 - c) the provisions of the *Institutional Regulations* on acquiring membership of a doctoral school at the ASE in the fundamental field of Social Sciences;
- (4) Issues an opinion on the internal evaluation reports of candidates' files for obtaining the habilitation certificate;
- (5) Issues recommendations on the appropriateness, structure and content of the training programme based on advanced university studies;
- (6) Other specific duties, in accordance with *the Institutional Regulations* and regulations in force.

Art. 12

To become a member of the SDD, a candidate must cumulatively meet the following conditions:

- a) The candidate has obtained Habilitation in the doctoral field of *Law*, and the candidate's publications are relevant to this field;
- b) The candidate meets the minimum Habilitation criteria required at the date of submission of the affiliation application;
- c) The candidate meets the additional criteria for the fundamental field of Social Sciences established at the CSUD level and provided in the *Institutional regulations* applicable at the date of submission of the affiliation application;

d) The candidate has obtained the Opinion of Appropriateness regarding the granting of membership within the General Assembly of the SDD. Candidates who did not obtain the Opinion of Appropriateness may resubmit their application to obtain the opinion, but no sooner than one calendar year from the date of the first submission.

Art. 13

(1) A doctoral supervisor loses their membership in the doctoral school under the following conditions:

- a) upon request;
- b) if they have no doctoral students under their supervision for a period of 3 consecutive years;
- c) upon reaching retirement age, if they do not have any doctoral students under their supervision;
- d) if they do not comply with the obligations set out in *the Institutional Regulations* and in *the Regulations on the Organization and Operation of the SDD* or do not comply with the deadlines and obligations deriving from their status as doctoral supervisor and member of the doctoral school, after the application of the provisions of Art. 9(1).

(2) In the situations provided for in paragraph 1 letters b) - d), the Director of the doctoral school proposes to the SDD Council the withdrawal of membership. The proposal is endorsed by the SDD Council and submitted for approval to the CSUD.

E FINAL PROVISIONS

Art. 14

Regulations on the Organization and Operation of the Doctoral School of Law is supplemented, as a matter of right, by the applicable legal acts and may be periodically revised in accordance with *the Institutional Regulations on the Organization and Conduct of Doctoral Studies* at ASE and with the applicable legislation in force.

Art. 15

These Regulations were approved by the Council of the Doctoral School of Law, the Council of the Faculty of Law, CSUD with the Decision no. 261/05.12.2025, the Board of Administration with the Decision no. 940/15.12.2025, and at the meeting of the ASE's Senate held on 17.12.2025.

CSUD Director,
Professor Mirela Ionela Aceleanu

Director of the Doctoral School of Law
Professor Cătălin-Silviu Săraru