



PHD REGULATIONS – ENGLISH SUMMARY

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Titolo I - GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 1 – Aims and objectives

1. These regulations, in accordance with current legislation, govern the establishment and operation of the PhD Programs (hereafter the PhD Programs) of the IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca (hereafter IMT School).
2. The IMT School is a residential graduate school and the PhD Programs are designed to ensure the acquisition of skills required to carry out high-level research at universities, government agencies or businesses, and further, to train professionals on a meritocratic basis for institutions, for the enterprise system businesses and for the territory.
3. The PhD Programs at IMT fully integrate research and teaching.
4. The PhD Programs are conducted in accordance with standards recognized by the international scientific community.
5. The IMT School:
 - encourages and pursues the internationalization of the PhD Programs;
 - adopts selection criteria for access exclusively based on merit that do not hinder the participation of candidates on the basis of nationality, language, ethnicity, sex, religion or any other condition;
 - encourages and favors the direct involvement of students in research activities, including participation in research activities, laboratory activities and research projects;
 - promotes the development of relations with other research institutions in Italy and abroad that allow incoming and outgoing mobility to students and researchers to carry out study and research;
 - encourages the collaboration with firms and businesses on specific research projects and through the Higher Education and Research Apprenticeship initiative.
6. The IMT School favors the establishment of joint Research PhD Programs and the realization of thesis co-tutoring programs also through inter-university cooperation agreements.
7. The PhD Programs are carried out exclusively in English.
8. In order to facilitate the integration of international students, the IMT School offers courses in Italian language and culture.

Article 2 – Structure of the PhD Program

1. Each PhD Program has a duration of no less than three years and includes periods of study and research off-site, in Italy and abroad, in public and private organizations, in accordance with the provisions set forth in these Regulations.
2. For Doctoral Programs lasting more than three years, the dissertation may also be defended starting from the completion of the third year.
3. The Programs offer advanced and multidisciplinary training, aided by specialized and integrated curricula, which fully realize the training model of the IMT School that sees at its core

interdisciplinarity and the integration between research and teaching. The diploma conferred, in addition to the name of the PhD Program, will also state the related track, if any.

4. The training activities, based on the best international standards, usually include specific final exams. Each training activity can be assigned to more than one instructor.

Titolo II - BODIES

Article 3 – PhD Program Governing Bodies

1. The Coordinator, the Scientific Board and, if any, the Track Director are bodies of the PhD Program.

Article 4 – Coordinator

1. The Academic Senate appoints the Coordinator from amongst the full-time Full Professors or, if not available, from amongst the full-time Associate Professors employed at the IMT School.
2. The Coordinator is guarantor of the unity and interdisciplinary nature of the PhD Program and of the coordination between the tracks, if any.
3. The Coordinator presides over and convenes the Scientific Board, and oversees the general coordination of the PhD Program. In particular, he presents a proposal for the educational plan to the Scientific Board, drawn up in collaboration with the Track Directors, if any.
4. The Coordinator can appoint a Delegate who helps him in his activities.

Article 5 – Scientific Board

1. The Scientific Board is the sole body for the coordination and management of the PhD Program.
2. The Academic Senate appoints the Scientific Board, which is usually composed of:
 - IMT School professors;
 - IMT School fixed-term professors or professors with a double-affiliation;
 - IMT School fixed-term researchers;
 - highly qualified experts.

In order to promote the international character of the PhD Program, professors and scholars employed at international institutions may also be appointed as members of the Scientific Board.

3. The Scientific Board:
 - Approves the educational plan proposal and any subsequent modifications and additions, including the proposals for the assignment of the teaching activities, without prejudice to the central bodies in this regard;
 - Assigns Advisor and Co-Advisor(s) to each student at the beginning of the PhD Program;
 - Monitors and verifies the progression of students' studies and research activities in order to decide on their admission to the years following the first and to the thesis defense;

- Issues the authorization to carry out off-site stays for students, subject to the admission to the years following the first;
 - Performs any other function with which it is entrusted under these regulations.
4. At the request of the Coordinator, the following may also participate in the Scientific Board, without voting rights:
- Advisors and Co-Advisors;
 - The Student Representative in the Academic Senate to discuss teaching and organizational issues.
5. In case of necessity or urgency, the Coordinator may make resolutions pertaining to the Scientific Board, subject to ratification of the Board at the next possible meeting.

Article 6 – Convening and agenda of the Scientific Board

1. The Coordinator convenes the Scientific Board, by letter sent by e-mail to all the members, at least seven days before the day of the meeting, with the indication of agenda, date, time and place of the meeting.
2. The agenda may contain items required by one or more members of the Scientific Board and may be supplemented up to twenty-four hours before the meeting for issues to be discussed urgently.
3. If required by particularly urgent circumstances, the Coordinator can extraordinarily convene the Scientific Board, by letter sent by e-mail to all members, at least twenty-four hours before the meeting.
4. The documentation relating to the agenda is made available to all members, by the competent office, through telematic means, at least three days before the date of the meeting.
5. At the beginning of the meeting, the Coordinator or one of the other members of the Scientific Board may submit proposals for modification and/or integration of the items on the agenda which, in any case, must be approved unanimously by the members of the Scientific Board.

Article 7 – Track Director

1. The Track Director is identified for each PhD Program cycle amongst the members of the Scientific Board.
2. The Track Director is responsible for the teaching, academic and organizational aspects of the track. In particular, he:
 - Proposes the educational programming of his track, including the assignments of the lectures;
 - Coordinates and organizes the training activities of the track;
 - Supports the Advisors of the students belonging to his track in their activity and handles their relations with the Scientific Board, if they are not members;
 - Takes care of the scientific content, for the aspects of his competence, of the documentation requested for the purposes of regulatory and internal obligations regarding the PhD Program;
 - Proposes the members of the Graduation Committee for the thesis defense;
 - Performs any other function with which he is entrusted under these regulations.



Article 8 – Advisor and Co-Advisor

1. At the beginning of the Program, the Scientific Board assigns an Advisor to each student. The Advisor is usually chosen amongst the IMT School professors and assistant professors, however other IMT School or external affiliates may also be appointed, following deliberation by the Scientific Board, pursuant to art. 5 paragraph 3 of these regulations.
2. The Advisor:
 - Advises the student in the definition of the study plan according to his or her individual needs;
 - Guides the student in the preparation of the thesis, assessing his or her conduct and assuring the scholarly relevance of research topics;
 - Authorizes the student to carry out educational and research activities also within external organizations;
 - Authorizes the switch to a different track of the students assigned to him or her, in concert with the potential new Advisor and the involved Track Directors (if any);
 - Submits an assessment on the student’s activities and on the thesis work to the Scientific Board prior to their deliberation on student’s admission to the thesis defense;
 - Submits the thesis proposal to two external referees prior to admission to the Thesis Defense Session;
 - Verifies the compliance with the anti-plagiarism procedures to which the thesis undergoes;
 - Performs any other function with which he is entrusted under these regulations.
3. The Scientific Board may appoint one or more Co-Advisors – who are not necessarily employed at the IMT School – that support the Advisor in the guidance and supervision of the student.
4. Either the Advisor or Co-Advisor must be employed at the IMT School. The student belongs to the Advisor’s or, alternatively, Co-Advisor’s Research Unit.
5. Advisors and/or Co-Advisors can be changed after the first year of studies.

Titolo III - ESTABLISHMENT AND CESSATION

Article 9 – Establishment and cessation of a PhD Program or Track

1. The establishment of the PhD Program is formalized within the IMT School’s strategic planning documents, after consulting Academic Senate and Assessment Board, with Board of Governors resolution, except as required by the law for initial accreditation and periodic checks.
2. To establish a PhD Program, a plan is drawn up to determine the training project, the dedicated resources (scholarships, funds for teaching, etc.) and any other information relevant to the institution and/or required by current legislation.
3. In particular the Educational Program – drafted by the Coordinator or his or her Delegate – reports:
 - The name of the Program, the overall presentation and the scientific areas covered;
 - The proposal of the Scientific Board composition;
 - The number of scholarships;

- Any possible articulation in specialized tracks;
 - The mission and specific aims;
 - Links with the scientific areas and the Research Units of the IMT School;
 - Profiles and career opportunities of students;
 - A non-binding proposal of the course offering (indication of courses, laboratories, long seminars etc. and the indication of the source of the teaching - internal or external).
4. The cessation of a PhD Program or of one or more specialized tracks is defined in the IMT School Statute.

Article 10 – Teaching Program

1. The course offering is proposed by the Coordinator, or his or her Delegate, jointly with the Track Directors, if any, and is approved by the Scientific Board.
2. The course offering includes:
 - Details of the educational offering, including the number of hours of each activity;
 - Detailed proposals concerning the assignment of courses to internal and/or external teaching staff.

Titolo IV - ENTRY TO AND ATTENDANCE OF THE PROGRAM

Article 11 – Entrance requirements

1. Persons who have obtained a “*laurea magistrale*” or equivalent foreign degree shall be eligible for entry into the PhD Program, without discrimination of any kind with respect to citizenship, language, ethnicity, sex, religion or any other condition. Those who have obtained a foreign qualification that has not already been declared equivalent may also be admitted, as long as deemed suitable by the Selection Committee for the purposes of the Program.

Article 12 – Call for applications

1. The call for applications, written in Italian, is approved and issued by the Director, who is responsible for advertising on the European EURAXESS website and website of the Ministry of Education. An English translation of the essential information is also prepared for the purpose of submitting the application. The online application form is prepared in English only.
2. In particular, the call for applications indicates:
 - The number and amount of scholarships to be conferred and the possible presence of grants financed by public and private entities, with the indication if they are reserved for those in possession of certain qualifications or specific research topics;
 - The maximum number of contracts of higher education and research apprenticeships that may be activated;
 - Contributions to be paid by students and student exemptions;

- The criteria for admission and assessment of qualifications, planned examinations, modalities and conditions;
- The admission procedures in accordance with article 11 of these Regulations;
- Any instructions or notices from the Scientific Boards.

Article 13 – Admission Procedures and PhD Selection Committee

1. The application for admission to the PhD Program - to be completed exclusively online - shall be valid only if it contains all the elements indicated in the call for applications.
2. The Director appoints, by decree, the PhD Selection Committee, which is in charge of the assessment of the candidates, in compliance with the regulatory provisions on the requirements of Committee. The Selection Committee is comprised of at least three members usually chosen amongst the Track Directors (if any) or their substitutes.
3. The selection procedure includes a pre-selection (assessment of qualifications) and an exam (oral interview). In the pre-selection phase, the assessment of the qualifications is carried out solely for the purpose of admission to the exam based on the evaluation criteria established in the call for applications. The pre-selection concludes with the identification of a shortlist of candidates admitted to the exam, without merit ranking. The list also indicates the track, if any, to which the candidates have been admitted.
4. The Selection Committee can be supported by the Preliminary Evaluation Committees, appointed by the Director, as proposed by the Program Coordinator after having acquired the opinion of the Track Directors (if any), and composed of experts (also employed in other institutions) in the PhD Program scientific areas of reference. The admission to the interview is in any event the responsibility of the Selection Committee.
5. The examination consists of an interview in English, aimed at determining the scope of the candidate's knowledge and skills for the purpose of admission to the PhD Program. Upon completion of the interview, the Committee shall draw up a merit-based ranking.
6. The list of candidates admitted to the exam and the final ranking indicate the track, if any, to which the candidates have been admitted. The Selection Committee has the right to admit candidates to a track different from that indicated in the application form by the candidates themselves.
7. In the case of a PhD Program established as a result of international inter-university cooperation agreements, Selection Committee, Preliminary Evaluation Committee (if any) and admission procedures shall be defined in accordance with the agreements themselves.

Article 14 – Enrollment

1. Candidates who have been offered admission according to the final ranking must apply for enrollment to the Track (if any) they have been accepted for.
2. Candidates who have been offered admission but did not complete the enrollment procedure by the deadline reported in the call are automatically excluded from Program.
3. Enrollment usually takes place on the commencement date of the Program, except for some special cases handled by the administration. In case of non-registration by the designated period the candidate loses right to admission and such right devolves to the next person in the ranking.
4. The Director may authorize the postponement of enrollment, in individual cases, due to force majeure conditions or serious duly documented personal reasons. In this case, the Advisor and

the Track Director, if any, indicate the manner in which class participation and examinations are to be made up.

5. In case of withdrawal or expulsion of a student duly registered, the next eligible candidate according to the ranking can take his or her place.
6. To enroll, qualifications obtained abroad must be accompanied by one of the following documents:
 - Declaration of Value;
 - Diploma Supplement, drafted according to the model of the European Commission for academic qualifications, issued by Institutes of Countries belonging to the European Higher Education Area;
 - Certificate from ENIC-NARIC centers containing all the information usually included in the Declaration of Value.

Where the application for registration is missing the above-mentioned documentation, it can be accepted conditionally only if the applicant demonstrates that he or she has submitted a request to the relevant institution. Once the relevant documentation is received, the date of conditional enrollment shall be understood as the official date of registration. If the documentation is not received, the enrollment will be considered cancelled, except in cases where the delay is in no way due to the negligence of the candidate.

Article 15 – Scholarships

1. The scholarships are awarded in order of merit. In cases of equal merit, preference will be given to the younger candidate.
2. The number of positions with scholarship may be increased as a result of funding provided by public or private organizations made available after the publication of the notice and within the deadline for submission of requests to participate. Of such cases is given notice by advertising on the website of the IMT School.
3. Scholarships are subject to the payment of INPS social security contributions managed separately pursuant to article 2, paragraph 26 of Law n. 335 of 8 August 1995, and subsequent amendments and additions, with two thirds paid by the Administration and one third by the scholarship recipient.
4. The amount of the scholarship cannot be less than that determined in accordance with article 1, paragraph 1, letter a) of Law n. 315 3 August 1998 and subsequent amendments and additions. Holders of scholarships are exempt from payment of fees for admission to and attendance of the Program.
5. The scholarship has a maximum duration equal to the PhD Program official duration and is subject to annual confirmation, after verification that the student has completed the program of activities for the previous year, in accordance with article 14 of these regulations.
6. Installments of the scholarship shall be disbursed on a monthly basis, except for the first two months of the first academic year, which will be disbursed in the month of January after the beginning of the Program, as provided in paragraph 8 of this article.
7. Students who are scholarship holders may at any time forfeit the scholarship without withdrawing from the Program.

8. Students, who are scholarship holders, who withdraw or are expelled from the Program within the first 45 (forty-five) days of the start of the Program or from registration are not entitled to the scholarship.
9. If a student is registered conditionally for reasons related to the timing of the release of the *Dichiarazione di Valore*, Diploma Supplement or ENIC-NARIC certificate (as provided in paragraph 6 of article 14) by the relevant institution, the disbursement of the scholarship is suspended as a precautionary measure. Upon the resolution of the conditional registration, all installments due to the student shall be paid.
10. In the cases referred to in paragraph 8, the scholarship will be reassigned to the next eligible person according to the ranking, subject to compliance with the provisions of previous expressed agreements with public or private organizations who finance scholarships specifically for those in possession of certain qualifications or with regard to specific research topics.
11. For any research or training activities abroad meeting the requirements established in article 17, paragraph 1, letter c) of these regulations, the amount of the scholarship is increased by 50% for the first 9 (nine) months.
12. With effect from the assignment of the Advisor, each student can ask for funding of off-campus activities from his or her Advisor and to the Director of the Research Unit he or she appertains, in compliance with the conditions set in the regulations on use of funds for offsite activities.

Article 16 – Progression of studies and admission to the following year

1. In agreement with the Advisor, the student must propose a study plan selecting the educational activities within the course offering of the Program. The individual study plan has to include a minimum of 6 courses with assessment (final exam) and has to meet the minimum requirement of 150 hours of educational activities offered by the School. Educational activities and their examinations usually have to be carried out during the first year of the Programs.
2. Every change to the study plan has to be approved by the Advisor.
3. Educational activities and research at the IMT School have to be carried out for at least 12 months, except for specific agreements with other academic institutions or other justified demands (to be approved by the Scientific Board).
4. The PhD student has to attend all educational activities listed in the study plan and to participate in all didactic and/or research activities relevant for the Program or specialized track, if any. Every absence shall be communicated to the instructor.
5. Exams are marked according to the International Grading System: A, B, C, D, E, F (fail) or with a "pass with distinction, pass, fail" assessment.
6. The instructor may authorize the absence from a scheduled exam for serious personal or health reasons. Students have to send a prompt written communication to the PhD Office.
7. In case of failure, the student is given the possibility to retake only once, as defined by the instructor.
8. In case of failure of the retake or in case of unexcused absence to an examination or test, the Scientific Board evaluates whether there are sufficient conditions for the expulsion of the student.
9. The Advisor can any moment request the exclusion of a student from the Scientific Board in case of:
 - Insufficient participation in educational and research activities offered by the IMT School;

- Insufficient research activity.

The Scientific Board deliberates on the request.

10. At the end of each year of the Program, the student submits a detailed report on the activities undertaken to the Scientific Board.
11. After evaluation of the academic performance and overall positive judgment on the activities carried out by the student and the achievement of educational objectives, the Scientific Board decides upon admission to the next year or to the thesis defense. If the overall judgment is negative, the Scientific Board decides upon refusal of admission to the next year or to the thesis defense and the exclusion of the student from the Program.
12. After the resolution of the Scientific Board, the Director excludes the student by decree.

Article 17 – Student’s Rights and duties

1. The student:
 - a) May attend all seminars and educational activities that he or she deems of interest for his or her doctoral theses without having to take the final exam. The educational activities in addition to the Program requirements are listed in the study plan with a special mention;
 - b) May carry out educational activities at other universities in Italy or abroad, recognized as part of his or her study plan, with the approval of the Advisor;
 - c) With the approval of the Advisor, may take part in periods of offsite training or research by prior agreements with other universities, research institutes and laboratories, Italian and foreign, for a minimum period of two months each. In the event that this offsite period is required by a *cotutelle* agreement, the length of the period is defined in the agreement itself;
 - d) May be authorized to carry out offsite activities for periods further to those referred to in the preceding paragraph, subject to compliance with the provisions of article 16, paragraph 3;
 - e) May, from the second year of the PhD Program, submit a request to change the Advisor and/or Co-Advisor;
 - f) Is required to take courses in Italian language and culture offered by the School if he or she is not Italian or does not already possess basic proficiency in Italian;
 - g) May have professional or work commitments only if they are compatible with the presence and participation required by the PhD Program and in any case do not affect the quality of the scholarly work. The student is thus required to inform his or her Advisor and the Track Director, if any, about any professional or work commitment. The Scientific Board issues the authorization;
 - h) Must also fill out an evaluation form – aimed at the improvement of the course offering – regarding the educational activities and seminars that he or she participated in;
 - i) Must fully respect the principles and procedures of scientific-academic and anti-plagiarism ethics adopted by the IMT School and to attend specific educational activities on the subject organized by the IMT School.
2. It is the right of the student to suspend attendance of the Program and the scholarship for maternity or paternity leave or documented serious illness or other serious and documented personal reasons.



The period of suspension conceded to the student is indicated in the measure prepared by the administration.

3. The student has to respect and behave in compliance with the IMT School statute, regulations and code of ethics and conduct.

Article 18 – Sanctions

1. The student shall undergo a sanction if culpable for:
 - a. Conduct that violates the provisions of article 17 of these regulations;
 - b. Behaviors that are of a criminal nature or that constitute a violation of other provisions of the law of a mandatory nature;
 - c. Behaviors that may cause damage to personal property owned or used by the IMT School, committed with intent or gross negligence;
 - d. Severe behavioral excesses or violations of the duty to maintain an attitude appropriate to the context;
 - e. More in general, damages to the IMT School;
 - f. Creating conflicts of interest or situations that foresee the application of Law n. 190/2012 and further modifications;

the Director may apply, by decree, the following sanctions in increasing order of severity:

- a. Written warning;
 - a. Suspension of authorization to take part in off-site activities;
 - b. Suspension of scholarship and/or benefits linked to student status for a period of 1 to 12 months;
 - c. Expulsion from the PhD Programs. Once excluded, the student shall lose student status and all the rights associated with that status.
2. Sanctions are proposed by the Director or by the Scientific Board. The Director, in consultation with the Scientific Board, can apply a sanction other than that approved by the Scientific Boards, provided that it is duly motivated. Sanctions shall be commensurate with the gravity and nature of the infraction and shall reckon with specific behaviors and extenuating circumstances and/or aggravating factors. The initiation of proceedings shall be communicated to the person concerned and the penalty is imposed only after consulting said person. For matters not governed by these regulations, relevant laws shall be applied.
 3. The IMT School pursues, by law, using appropriate means, any behavior that constitutes violations of law and/or cause damage to movable and immovable property belonging to or in use by the IMT School or to the public image and/or scholarly reputation of the IMT School.

Article 19 – Class Representative

1. The students of each cycle shall independently elect a class representative within one month from the beginning of the Program.

2. The class representative will inform the PhD Office of the results of the elections.
3. The class representative represents all the students of his or her cycle in relations with the Scientific Board, with the students' representatives in the Academic Senate and the Board of Governors and with the administration of the IMT School.

Titolo V - CONFERRAL OF THE PHD TITLE

Article 20 – Thesis Delivery and Admission to the Defense

1. At the end of the Program or at the end of the third year, as provided for in paragraph 2 of article 2 of these regulations, the student delivers and discusses the doctoral thesis in the manner provided for in these regulations and in the current legislation.
2. There are normally three sessions for the discussion of the thesis during the year. The student can defend in any of the three sessions regularly scheduled for the subsequent cycle, provided that the request for extension has been authorized and approved (as regulated by paragraphs 3 and 4 of the present article).
3. In circumstances which preclude the presentation of the thesis within the planned sessions, the Director, at the request of the student and with the approval of Advisor, Track Director (if any) and Scientific Board, may extend this period to allow for the defense of the thesis no later than the date set for the sessions of the next cycle of the Program. The extension of the deadline for the presentation of the thesis does not entitle the student to any further disbursement of scholarship.
4. The Scientific Board can evaluate the possibility to admit a student also to subsequent sessions if the student, according to paragraph 2 of article 17 of these regulations, suspends attendance during the extension period referred to in the previous paragraph.
5. In exceptional circumstances, the Scientific Board can further extend the period to allow for the defense of the thesis for no more than one additional year. This further extension does not entitle the student to any further disbursement of scholarship.
6. The PhD thesis is written in English.
7. The thesis, which must be accompanied by a report on the activities of the student during the doctoral programs and any publications, is evaluated by at least two highly qualified experts, affiliated with Italian or foreign institutions, hereinafter referred to as IMT External Referees, who do not have scholarly or personal ties to the student in question.
8. The External Referees make an analytical judgment (preferably in English) on the written thesis and propose admission or deferral of the defense to the next session if significant additions or corrections are deemed necessary.
9. The Scientific Board, taking into account the opinions of Advisor, Co-Advisor and External Referees, decides on the admission of the PhD student to the public defense.
10. A student may ask, after having received the approval of the Advisor, to have taken into account special circumstances (illness, accidents, force majeure) that prevent him or her from participating in the defense. If the absence is deemed justified, the student will be admitted automatically to the next session.
11. International cooperation agreements stipulated between the IMT School and other universities can foresee specific procedures or requirements beyond those listed here for the obtainment of the PhD degree.

Article 21 – Thesis Defense and Conferral of the Title

1. The Director, in consultation with the Coordinator, appoints by decree the Committee in charge of the final evaluation for awarding of the degree (hereafter "Graduation Committee").
2. In compliance with the provisions on the regulatory requirements, the Graduation Committee is composed of at least three members who are highly qualified in disciplines related to the scholarly areas of the PhD Program. At least two members must be external to the IMT School.
3. In the case of specific agreements for joint supervision of PhD students or as a result of international agreements, the Graduation Committee shall be constituted in the manner prescribed in said agreements.
4. The title of PhD is awarded by the Director of the IMT School as a result of a positive evaluation of the thesis defense. In addition to the denomination of the Program, the title also indicates the specialized track, if any, to which the student appertains.
5. The thesis defense can be sat only once.
6. The student who does not achieve the degree within the time limits provided in this article shall lose student status and all the rights associated with that status.
7. After the degree is granted, the IMT School files a copy of the thesis with the Central National Libraries in Rome and Florence and in the databases provided by law, and places the thesis in an open archive on the IMT School website, except in cases in which the student requests that parts of the thesis are not made available with regard to data protected by trade secret under the existing legislation or has arranged the postponement of publication in relation to data that be the subject of copyright.
8. The IMT School shall ensure the publication of the proceedings of the evaluation procedures, including the results of individual candidates.

Titolo VI - AGREEMENTS AND COOPERATION REGARDING RESEARCH PHDS

Article 22 – Joint and double PhDs

1. PhD Programs jointly organized and managed with partner administrative offices can be established through agreements or consortia with universities or research institutions.
2. Special agreement may provide for collaboration with regard to the PhD Program for the granting of a double PhD.
3. The PhD Program regulations established pursuant to this article may be adopted derogating from provisions of these regulations, subject to compliance with the applicable law.
4. The agreements referred to in this article shall be approved by the Board of Governors, after receiving the approval of the Academic Senate.

Article 23 – Joint thesis supervision

1. The IMT School may sign bilateral agreements with universities or research institutions concerning the implementation of Programs for joint thesis supervision.

2. These Programs allow students of the IMT School and the cooperating university and/or bodies to develop the thesis under the joint leadership of two supervisors, one for each of the universities and/or affiliated organizations, whose positive judgment is a necessary condition for admission the thesis defense.
3. The student must carry out his or her activities of study and research at the facilities of both universities and/or institutions in accordance with the procedures and time limits set out in the relevant agreement.
4. The period spent in the cooperating institution is not as a matter of course considered an offsite period as defined in article 17, paragraph 1 letter c) of these regulations and thus does not necessarily result in the scholarship increase as outlined in art. 15 nor is it subject to the same time constraints.
5. The agreement that supports the Program shall define the composition of the Committee for the thesis defense, maintaining however the principle that at least half of the members of the Committee shall not belong to the universities and/or organizations participating in the Program for joint supervision.
6. The agreements referred to in this article shall be approved by the Director after consulting the Scientific Board.

Article 24 – Doctor Europaeus

1. The IMT School may establish contacts with universities in other EU member states that enable the provision of the certification of "Doctor Europaeus" added to the title and the national value of the PhD.
2. This certification may cover the entire PhD Program, by resolution of the Scientific Board, or individual students who so request.
3. The certificate is awarded in accordance with the requirements specified in the acts of the 45th Congress of the Confederation of Rectors of European Universities:
 - The residence of the student at a university in another EU member state for a period of research and preparation of the thesis should be no less than three months;
 - The thesis defense must be preceded by a positive assessment in a written report from at least two academics from universities in two member countries of the "European Higher Education Area" (namely signees of the Bologna Charter), which must be different than the country in which the thesis defense is to take place and who have not had scientific or personal ties with the concerned students;
 - The preparation and presentation of the thesis must be at least in part in one of the official EU languages other than that of the country in which the thesis defense is to take place;
 - The Graduation Committee must include at least one expert belonging to a member country of the "European Higher Education Area" other than Italy.

Article 25 – Agreements on international mobility

1. The IMT School may establish agreements with universities or research institutions in order to develop a network of relationships that enable individual students to carry out study, research and traineeship abroad and for students from other universities to be accommodated at the IMT School for periods of study, research and traineeship.

2. The periods abroad and agreements with universities or research institutions described in the preceding paragraph shall be authorized and signed by the Director.
3. The Director can appoint a Delegate to coordinate the programs of international mobility.

Article 26 – Higher Education and Research Apprenticeship

1. The Higher Education and Research Apprenticeship, resulting in the earning of a PhD degree, is a type of work contract with educational purpose, addressed to students that are eligible to enroll in IMT's PhD Programs.
2. The regulation of this kind of contract explicitly refers to the current legislation and to the agreements (stipulated according to the aforesaid legislation) among Regione Toscana, Tuscan Universities and/or Research Institutes and Trade Unions, as well as to all other current agreements and contracts in the same field/area.
3. The student who signs a Higher Education and Research Apprenticeship contract (hereafter, "apprentice") at the IMT School is an IMT PhD student to all intents and purposes.
4. In case the contract terminates due to causes that cannot be attributed to the apprentice's misconduct, or in case the company ensures the financial coverage of the contract for a period inferior to the duration of the Program, the apprentice has the right to complete the educational activities at the IMT School to obtain the PhD, in the manner and conditions provided for in these regulations and prescribed by the current legislation.

Titolo VII - TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 27 – Transitional and final provisions

1. Article 19, paragraph 1 applies to the students of the cycles subsequent to XXIX.
2. Relevant laws shall be applied to any issue or item not treated in the present regulations.