

**Agreement on Bi-national Supervision of a Doctoral Thesis**

**between**

**SORBONNE UNIVERSITY**

**and**

**CHARLES UNIVERSITY**

MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE 4EU+

This Agreement on Bi-national Supervision of a Doctoral Thesis ('cotutelle de thèse') is hereby entered into by the following entities:"

**Sorbonne University** (hereinafter called 'SU'), with its seat at 21 rue de l'École de médecine, represented by its President, Jean Chambaz, and its part "**Ecole doctorale** : .....", with its seat at ....., represented by its director, Professor .....

**AND**

**Charles University** (hereinafter called 'CU'), with its seat at Ovocný trh 560/5, 116 36 Praha 1 – Staré Město, Czech Republic, VAT No.: CZ00216208, ID No.: 00216208, represented by its Rector Prof. Tomáš Zima, MD., DSc., and its part, ....., with its seat at ....., Czech Republic, represented by its Dean ....., (the term 'Partner Institution' will be hereinafter used as a common or joint reference to CU and SU.)

and

The doctoral candidate of a doctoral study programme, ....., born on ..... (hereinafter called 'Contracting Parties')

Study at SU is governed by the decree of May 25th, 2016 laying down the national framework of the program and the procedures leading to the award of the national doctoral diploma (Title III - Cotutelle).

Study at CU is governed by the Czech Higher Education Act No. 111/1998 Coll., as amended, particularly by section 47(a), the internal regulations of CU as well as by the internal regulations of the Respective Faculty, and by the Rector's Measure no. 57/2017.

**For the above stated purpose, the parties have agreed on the following provisions:**

**Article 1: Enrolment**

1. .... (hereinafter called 'Doctoral candidate'), who is enrolled simultaneously in the doctoral school "....." at SU and in the doctoral study programme "....." at CU, is taking part in the bi-national supervision of a doctoral thesis (*'cotutelle de thèse'*) from the academic year .....
  2. The Doctoral candidate will enrol in all units of study of the respective doctoral study programme and at the beginning of each academic year, the doctoral student complies with the registration requirements for each of the two institutions  
At the time of annual registration, the Contracting Parties verify that the scientific, material and financial conditions are ensured to guarantee the sustainable development of the Doctoral research project.
  3. The Doctoral candidate must complete an administrative registration at each of the two institutions every year. The doctoral candidate pays registration fees each year at the ..... and the doctoral candidate is exempt from paying fees at .....
- Date of the 1<sup>st</sup> registration to the PhD thesis/start of "Cotutelle de these":  
.....
- Home University: .....

**Article 2: Supervision of the Doctoral Thesis**

1. The doctoral candidate will prepare his doctoral thesis under the supervision of one supervisor from CU and one from SU, who will jointly share responsibility for supervising the study activities under the observance of the respective regulations.  
The thesis supervisors fully ensure the progress and the management of the doctoral student, and consult regularly on the progress of its research work. In particular, they shall ensure that the doctoral candidate's professional objectives are met, that its

training program is carried out, and that the latter is recognised by the contracting institution.

The supervisors ensure that all forms of conflict are avoided and that the doctoral candidate is committed to responding to any request for information concerning its professional insertion and career paths.

2. The supervisor for CU will be Mr/Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ of “Name of laboratory/department .....””
3. The supervisor for SU will be Mr/Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ of “Name of laboratory/department .....””

### **Article 3: Duration of the Bi-nationally Supervised Study and the Study Requirements**

1. The duration of the bi-nationally supervised study must not exceed the maximum period of study of each of the doctoral candidate’s doctoral study programmes in accordance with the specific regulations of the Partner Institutions. The expected duration of research is set as 3 years full-time equivalent devoted to research, from the date of the 1<sup>st</sup> enrolment in one of the two institutions. A one year extension beyond the third year may be granted by the Contracting Parties, by way of derogation, and upon a justified request of the doctoral student. The research periods within the Contracting Parties are organized according to the following schedule :

SU	Contracting Institution
From ..../..../20.... to ..../..../20....	From ..../..../20.... to ..../..../20....
From ..../..../20.... to ..../..../20....	From ..../..../20.... to ..../..../20....
From ..../..../20.... to ..../..../20....	From ..../..../20.... to ..../..../20....

Changes to the schedule must be approved by both thesis supervisors of the two co-signatory institutions at least one month in advance. AT SU, the changes to the schedule must also be approved by the doctoral school. At CU, the changes to the schedule must also be approved by the board of the study programme.

The revised schedule is transmitted to both university administrations and annexed to the present agreement.

A termination of the doctoral candidate’s study at either Partner Institution for reasons other than graduation will result in an immediate termination of this agreement.

2. The doctoral candidate’s timeline for the doctoral thesis preparation at SU must be specified in the doctoral candidate’s Individual Study Plan.

3. The doctoral candidate is obliged to fulfil the study requirements of both Partner Institutions.
4. At SU, the study requirements are specified in the French decree of May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016.
5. At CU, the study is carried out according to the Individual Study Plan, in which all study requirements are specified. The state doctoral exam takes place prior to the defence of Ph.D. thesis.

#### **Article 4: Doctoral Thesis**

1. The preparation of the thesis will be conducted in co-operation between the two Partner Institutions.
2. The title of the doctoral thesis is: .....
3. The thesis will be written and defended in English, and the thesis summary will be presented in French. A substantial abstract will be written in French, Czech, and English.
4. The doctoral thesis must contain sworn statements stating that: a) the doctoral candidate conducted the work individually in a collective environment b) all used sources were cited c) the work hasn't been used for acquiring a different or identical academic title. The statements must be placed on a standalone page with date and the doctoral candidate's signature in each copy of the thesis.

#### **Article 5: Didactic and Financial Support**

1. Both Partner Institutions will provide the doctoral candidate with the necessary study materials and research facilities and they guarantee the same services and background as their other students of doctoral study programmes enjoy.
2. The costs of accommodation for the Members of the board instituted for the doctoral thesis defence (hereinafter called 'Examination Board'), for the Chairman and for the Reviewers from abroad during the time required for the doctoral thesis defence procedure will be covered in the following manner: .....
3. The funding for the Doctoral candidate is assured for a period of three years under the following conditions: .....  
The funding situation can be verified at the time of the administrative registration in each institution according to their specific terms and conditions.

## Article 6: Defence of the Doctoral Thesis

1. The authorisation to submit the thesis is given by the Contracting Parties, after approval from their appropriate authorities, and according to the regulations of each institution.

The Doctoral candidate's research work will be initially examined by at least two external reviewers, professors or equivalent, appointed by the Contracting Parties.

These two reviewers are external to the Contracting Parties and the doctoral school of the doctoral candidate. They have no involvement in the research work of the Doctoral candidate.

At least twenty-one days prior to the expected date of the thesis defence, the reviewers will give their feedback by means of a written report. The assessments by the two reviewers must clearly state whether the thesis is recommended for admission to the defence procedure or not. Upon this basis, both partner institutions may authorize the thesis defence.

2. The Examination Board is jointly appointed by the co-signatory institutions, with a maximum of eight members. At least half of the Examination Board members must be external to SU, and at least one third must be external to both Contracting Parties. That allows an equal representation of members from both institutions.

Half of the jury must be composed of professors or equivalent. The Examination Board must include one SU teacher-researcher or SU researcher other than thesis supervisor.

Consequently, the thesis committee will be composed of:

- 2 members of SU,
- 2 members of CU,
- And 3 external members of the two Contracting Parties

3. The thesis is defended only once at .....

The defence is public. If the thesis subject is considered confidential, additional measures may be taken to insure that no confidential information is given away during

the course of the defence. For the reading of the manuscript, the members of the jury must sign a confidentiality agreement.

Exceptionally, the members of the Examination Board can participate in the defence by videoconference or by other electronic means, ensuring their identification and their actual participation in the collegial discussion.

Admission or adjournment is announced after Examination Board deliberations.

The President of the Examination Board signs the transcript of the defence.

A report of the defense is written on the back of this document and signed by the Examination Board President and countersigned by the other Examination Board members.

The report will be written in English language and translated into French language.

The report will be made in two original copies.

The Partner institution where the defence took place will provide the other Partner Institution with this document within 21 days from the date on which the thesis defence took place.

#### **Article 7: Documents Certifying the Completion of a Study Programme**

1. Upon the successful defence of the thesis, both Partner Institutions will issue their own standard university diplomas.
2. SU will award the National doctoral degree
3. CU will award the doctoral candidate the academic title of ‘doktor’ (abbreviated as Ph.D. following the graduate’s name).
4. The university diplomas will state that the degree is awarded in “cotutelle” between Sorbonne University and Charles University.
5. The university diploma will entitle the recipient to use both the French and the Czech form of the academic title under the respective national legislation.

#### **Article 8: Insurance and liability**

1. The doctoral candidate is responsible for the fulfilment of all obligations concerning the social security, health, accident and civil liability insurance during his/her stay in the Czech Republic and in France, in accordance with the legislation of each country. It is necessary the doctoral candidate meets all the possible costs not covered in the above mentioned insurance.
2. The Doctoral candidate must take out liability insurance for the periods of research conducted at SU.

**Article 9: Protection and exploitation of the results obtained during the joint research programs and joint supervision**

1. In case of positive results obtained during the joint research programs and joint supervision as mentioned in this agreement or its annexes, the Contracting Parties undertake to inform each other.
2. The terms for the legal protection of the thesis subject, as well as those relating to the management, publication, and exploitation of the common research results of the participating research units, shall be determined in accordance with the legislation specific to each country involved in the preparation of the jointly supervised thesis.
3. It is agreed that the Contracting Parties will negotiate a specific agreement to resolve individual cases concerning intellectual property rights

**Article 10: Final Provisions**

1. Submission, reporting and printing of the thesis: The Doctoral candidate must comply with the rules imposed by both countries concerning the submission, reporting and printing of the thesis.
2. Modification, termination: This agreement is valid until the thesis is defended and in accordance with the registration requirements at the Contracting Parties.

It may be modified by an amendment established by mutual agreement and signed by the legal representatives of both institutions.

This agreement becomes void upon a termination of the doctoral candidate's enrolment at either university in another way than by graduation.

In the event of a disagreement concerning the execution of this agreement, the Contracting Parties shall endeavour to settle their dispute amicably. If a settlement cannot be reached, the agreement may be legally terminated by one of the contracting Parties.

Drawn up in 4 English original copies.

Signatures:

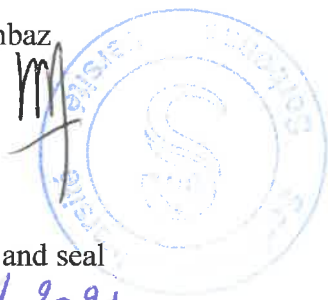
For Sorbonne University

Date, signature, and seal

23 juillet 2021

Prof. Jean Chambaz

President



Date, signature, and seal

5/7/2021

Prof. Bertrand Granado

Director of Doctoral College

For Charles University

Date, signature, and seal

23-08-2021

Prof. Tomáš Zima, MD., DSc.

Rector