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**ECPD Headquarters**

**European Center  
for Peace and Development**  
**Centre Européen  
pour la Paix et le Développement**  
**Centro Europeo  
para la Paz y el Desarrollo**  
**Европейский центр  
мира и развития**

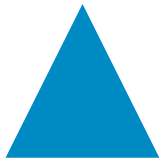
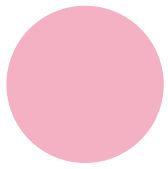


University for Peace est. by the United Nations

# RULES

*Governing the ECPD International  
Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Studies*

January 2023



# ECPD



to Article 8 of the Statute of the European Center for Peace and Development of the University for Peace established by the United Nations and the Decision of the ECPD Educational Scientific Board, we hereby establish the following:

## RULES

### *Governing the ECPD International Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Studies*

#### **I Basic Provisions**

##### **Article 1**

The European Center for Peace and Development (ECPD) of the University for Peace established by the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as: the ECPD) is a higher education and scientific research institution which organizes International Postgraduate Studies (hereinafter referred to as: the IPS) and International Doctoral Studies (hereinafter referred to as: the IDS) and International Post-Doctoral Studies (hereinafter referred to as: the IPDS) in management, law, economics and finance, health, biomedicine, medicine, diplomacy, security, environment protection, urbanism, sports and other fields, in accordance with these Rules, the Statute of the ECPD, the Statute of the University for Peace established by the United Nations, the Bologna Declaration and the relevant national legislations, including the legislation of the ECPD host country.

The ECPD may also organize the IPS, IDS and IPDS in cooperation with universities, faculties and appropriate international organizations, business and financial organizations and their associations, governments etc.

##### **Article 2**

The bodies of the ECPD International Postgraduate, Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Studies (hereinafter referred to as: the IPDPDS) are:

- The **Academic Council** of the ECPD (hereinafter referred to as: the Academic Council);
- The **Educational and Scientific Board** of the ECPD (hereinafter referred to as: the ECPD ES Board);
- The **Rector** of the IPDPDS (hereinafter referred to as: the Rector);
- The **Deans** of the IPDPDS (hereinafter referred to as: the Deans);
- Committee for Postgraduate, Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Studies.

Conduct of the IPS and the IDS, organization of exams, acceptance of topics, evaluation and defense of Doctoral dissertations, and the awarding of Doctoral degrees and diplomas fall within the exclusive competence of the ECPD faculty, that is, the ECPD Academic Council, the ECPD Educational and Scientific Board and the commissions appointed by it: (1) Commis-



sions for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and Topic, (2) Commissions for Evaluation and (3) Commissions for the Defense of papers/theses/dissertations.

### Article 3

The ECPD ES Board is an ECPD body in charge of educational, scientific and development research activities. In its extended composition, the ECPD ES Board includes all appointed and elected ECPD professors. Its narrower composition includes the coordinators of the basic teaching modules, as well as the Rector, the Vice-Rectors, the Deans and the Vice-Deans of the IPDPDS. The mandate of the ECPD ES Board is three years and may be renewed.

The ECPD ES Board adopts the Rules Governing International Postgraduate Studies, International Doctoral Studies, appointment and election of ECPD professors, researchers, associates etc.

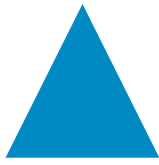
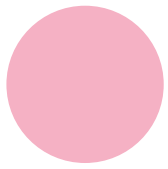
The ECPD ES Board makes the decisions and documents related to the IPS and the IDS, as well as to development research, including projects, meetings and publishing activities. The ECPD ES Board adopts the curricula for particular scientific programs and course syllabi, appoints the course coordinators and sets the teaching, scientific and development research norms and standards.

The IPDS Collegium is an auxiliary body of the ECPD ES Board.

It is comprised of the Rector, the Vice-Rectors, the Deans and the Secretary of the ECPD ES Board. The IPDS Collegium addresses the problems and proposes the documents and decisions for the sessions of the ECPD ES Board.

The ECPD ES Board is granted the following exclusive competences to:

- Adopt the IPS and the IDS curricula and course syllabi;
- Adopt the programs relating to scientific research, scientific meetings, consulting and publishing;
- Appoint coordinators of the program modules;
- Appoint professors and researchers to current titles, based on the proposal of the Nominations Commission;
- Make decisions on the announcement of competition for the election of professors, researchers and associates;
- Elect professors, researchers and associates to the appropriate titles, after announcing a public competition in the daily newspapers or on the ECPD website and making the Election Commission's proposal accessible to the public;
- Appoint commissions for determining the eligibility of the candidate and topic;
- Make decisions on the acceptance of proposed topics;
- Appoint mentors for the preparation of those papers, theses and dissertations;



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- Appoint other members of the commissions for the evaluation of those papers, theses and dissertations;
- Make decisions on the reports of the commissions for the evaluation of those papers, theses and dissertations;
- Appoint the commissions for the defense of those papers, theses and dissertations;
- Award honorary doctoral degrees;
- Award the titles of honorary professor and professor emeritus;
- Decide on the validation and equivalence of higher education degrees;
- Perform other duties set forth in the ECPD Statute and Rules Governing IDPDS.

All the above decisions of the ECPD Council are made, confirmed, implemented, analyzed and evaluated, with the ECPD Academic Council ratifying the decisions made.

All decisions to be adopted by the ECPD must be strictly and without exception based on the present rules, decisions of the ECPD ES Board and provisions of the adopted documents and relevant Rules of the University for Peace est. by the United Nations.

## Article 4

Doctoral Studies last 3 (three) academic years.

The academic year referred to in the preceding section of this Article lasts 2 (two) semesters or 3 (three) trimesters.

## II Application and Admission

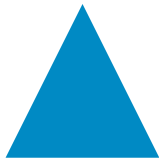
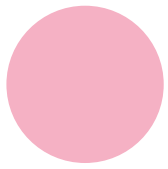
### Article 5

An admission candidate shall submit to the ECPD ES Board an application for admission to Doctoral Studies, together with the following documents:

- An application form\* with indication of the selected field for which he/she applies;
- Curriculum Vitae;
- Two photos, size 4 x 6 cm;
- Certified copies of the diplomas received at the previous levels of academic studies and the originals for inspection;
- Certified copies of the diploma supplement, or transcript of records, with a certificate of the average grade point and number of ECTS credits received at the basic academic studies, and the originals for inspection;
- A copy of the birth certificate;

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\* Attached to these Rules as Annex.



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- The list of scientific and professional papers (if any);
- Photocopies of papers (if any), and the originals for inspection;
- A certified copy of the diploma/certificate confirming fluency in one of the official languages of the Organization of the United Nations, if required by the public competition;
- Other evidence, as required.

By affixing his/her signature on the application form, the applicant confirms that he/she accepts the Rules governing admission to the Doctoral Studies, as well as the admission requirements should he/she acquire the right to admission.

## Article 6

Admission to the Doctoral Studies is governed by these Rules.

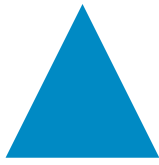
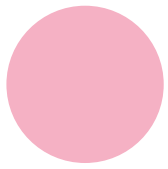
The decision on admission to the Doctoral Studies is brought by the Committee for Post-graduate, Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Studies (hereinafter referred to as: Committee), which is appointed by the ECPD ES Board.

Admission to the Doctoral Studies, as well as all further stages of the studies, application for the topic of the Doctoral dissertation and further stages is preceded by the settlement of all financial obligations of the Doctoral candidate to the ECPD.

## Article 7

A person may be enrolled in the Doctoral Studies if he/she has:

- (1) Completed (a) Basic academic (Bachelor) studies for a duration of 4 years and (b) Master studies for a duration of 1 year, if the candidate has earned a minimum of 300 ECTS credits and a minimum grade point average of 8 (eight) at Basic academic studies and Master academic studies and the knowledge of at least one foreign language;
- (2) Completed (a) Basic academic (Bachelor) studies for a duration of 4 years and (b) Specialist studies for a duration of 1 year, if the candidate has earned a minimum of 300 ECTS credits and a minimum grade point average of 8 (eight) at the Basic academic and Specialist studies and the knowledge of at least one foreign language;
- (3) Completed (a) Basic academic studies (Bachelor) for a duration of 3 years and (b) Graduate academic (Master) studies for a duration of 2 years, if the candidate has earned a minimum of 300 ECTS credits and a minimum grade point average of 8 (eight) at the Basic academic and Master studies and the knowledge of at least one foreign language;
- (4) Completed higher education in accordance with the earlier regulations for a duration of at least 5 years with the minimum grade point average of 8 (eight);
- (5) Enrolled in (two-year) MSc studies and passed one half of the exams, if he/she has passed certain additional differential exams specified by the ECPD ES Board that would correspond, together with the previously passed MSc-level exams, to the number of exams, or the number of hours, or the number of credit points for a one-year Master studies;



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- (6) Completed Master academic studies or Specialist academic studies with at least 300 ECTS credits earned and a grade point average lower than 8 (eight) at the Basic academic studies and Master or Specialist academic studies only if the candidate has published papers or has reference results for a particular field of study;
- (7) Completed MSc studies in the duration of two years (four semesters). The Committee for the ECPD Doctoral Studies proposes to the Educational and Scientific Board a decision on the recognition of a part of the curriculum for the appropriate Doctoral Studies.

### **Article 8**

The Committee shall decide within a period of 15 (fifteen) days upon the submission of an application, whether an applicant meets the requirements for admission to Doctoral Studies referred to in the preceding Article of these Rules or not, while taking into consideration the grade point average in the previous studies.

### **Article 9**

Upon admission to the Doctoral Studies, the applicant shall acquire the status of a Doctoral candidate and shall receive the student record book (index). The format and content of the student record book (index) must be approved by the ECPD ES Board.

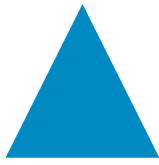
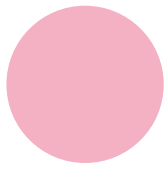
A Doctoral candidate who is not a citizen of the host country shall enjoy privileges, during the course of the study program, pursuant to the International Agreement concluded between the host country and the University for Peace est. by the United Nations regarding the status of the ECPD Headquarters (*Official Gazette of the SFRY*, International Treaties, No. 9/85).

### **Article 10**

The Committee defines the method and time of teaching and provides the conditions, in accordance with international academic standards, required for a Doctoral candidate to master the teaching subject, pass the relevant exams, publish at least two scientific papers as the first author in a reference journal (whose editorial board includes members from a minimum of five countries, whereby a number of members from one country may not exceed 40% of the total number of members and on the condition that the magazine is issued at least five years continuously and has published at least ten issues in the past five years), as well as write and defend his/her doctoral dissertation.

### **Article 11**

The Committee shall give its opinion about any additional program content that Doctoral candidates must acquire if the programs of study at the mentioned levels are not fully compliant.



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## Article 12

A Doctoral Candidate may request withdrawal from the International Doctoral Studies in person or based on a given certified authorization to another person upon settlement of all outstanding financial obligations.

## **III Scope and Duration of Study**

### Article 13

Doctoral Studies last 3 (three) academic years and carry 180 ECTS credits, or 60 ECTS credits for each academic year of studies.

A Doctoral candidate is obliged to pass all the exams according to a curriculum in effect at the beginning of his/her studies and defend the Doctoral dissertation within 6 (six) years from the date of enrollment.

A Doctoral candidate who does not finish his/her studies within the time frame mentioned in paragraph 2 of this Article may submit an application to the ECPD ES Board for a renewal of the enrollment by making a payment of the tuition fee for one semester. By renewal of the enrollment, the Doctoral candidate is obliged to finish his/her studies within 3 (three) years from the date of renewal of the enrolment.

### Article 14

Doctoral Studies consist of lectures, consultations, work on writing seminar papers, projects and the publishing of at least 2 (two) scientific papers (as mentioned in Article 10), as well as research conducted in the service of preparing the Doctoral dissertation, as well as writing and defending the Doctoral dissertation.

The ECPD ES Board shall define, when adopting curricula, the modules for which seminar papers need to be prepared prior to taking an examination.

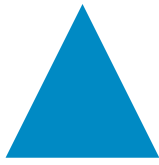
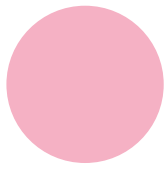
Lectures at the ECPD Doctoral Studies may be delivered only by appointed or elected professors.

### Article 15

The Study Program in the fields in which the ECPD Doctoral Studies are conducted shall be determined by the ECPD ES Board.

### Article 16

The ECPD ES Board shall appoint, upon the enrollment of the Doctoral candidate and in consultation with the Head of the Study Program, a co-mentor for each student who will guide the candidate until the election of the Mentor.



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### **Article 17**

Courses (compulsory and/or elective) are taught in a group or individually (tutorial). Group lectures are delivered if five or more Doctoral Candidates have taken the module, or if such teaching must be organized due to the nature of the module in question. The decision on the type of teaching is brought by the ECPD ES Board.

The decision on the elective courses to be offered is brought by the ECPD ES Board at the proposal of a Doctoral Candidate.

Professors in all modules shall submit their syllabus proposals in a condensed form, with a list of literature, a curriculum and a list of topics for seminar papers.

The Dean shall, based on the proposals of course coordinators, determine: (a) which professors will teach which chapters and topics from the syllabus in question, (b) who will examine and grade written exams if the lectures have been conducted by two or more professors and/or who will conduct oral examinations.

### **Article 18**

Lectures at the Doctoral Studies can be delivered by an assistant professor, associate professor or full professor.

### **Article 19**

After passing the first- and second-year exams, a Doctoral Candidate shall propose a dissertation topic, that is, a research project for the doctoral dissertation and defend it before the Commission for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and Topic, which is comprised of three professors and appointed by the ECPD ES Board.

The candidate is required to prepare and defend two professional presentations in the field of work during his/her studies.

After the successful acceptance of the research proposal for the dissertation, the ECPD ES Board shall approve the topic of the doctoral dissertation and appoint the mentor and other members of the Evaluation Commission.

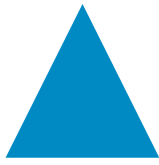
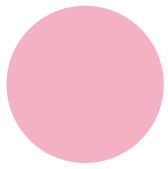
### **Article 20**

Doctoral Candidates apply for exams by completing and submitting their exam applications. The exam application shall include the name of the subject professor(s) who have delivered the lectures.

The Doctoral Candidates, as a rule, shall take the exams in writing.

The doctoral candidate is required to prepare three seminar papers of their choice related to courses set by the Curriculum during the studies.





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Taking written exams and the grading of seminar papers shall be conducted with an absolute guarantee of the confidentiality of a Doctoral Candidates' personal data. Written exams are carried out by using a Personal Registration Number known only by the Doctoral Candidate and ECPD IPDS Administrator.

The success of a Doctoral Candidate at an exam shall be graded from 6 (six) to 10 (ten) and earned ECTS credits, whereby the grade in the seminar paper and the forms of teaching stipulated by the curriculum as being compulsory shall be taken into account.

The course professor shall sign the entered grade in the student's record book, examination report and exam application.

The module professor shall sign the grade entered in the student's record book (index), while the examination report and exam application shall be signed by all members of the Examination Commission.

The failure of the Doctoral Candidate to pass an exam – the grade 5 (five) – is not entered in the student's record book (index).

In the event that an exam is taken before an Examination Commission, the grade entered into the student's record book, examination report and examination application shall be signed by all members of the Commission.

The Doctoral Candidate may file a complaint with the Dean within 48 hours after the examination or the grading of the seminar paper, if the candidate holds that the exam or the seminar paper was not graded in accordance with these Rules due to which he/she received the grade with which he/she is not satisfied.

The Dean is obliged to decide on the complaint within 72 hours prior to the expiry of the time-frame set in the preceding section of this Article.

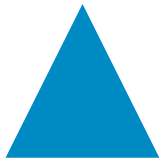
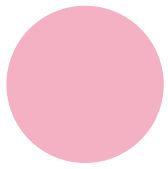
If the Dean accepts the complaint referred to in the preceding section of this Article, then he/she should set up within the same time-limit the Commission before which the Doctoral Candidate will retake the exam.

At the IPS Secretariat, the exam application with the exam grade and the number of ECTS credits, as well as the examination report, shall be placed in the Doctoral Candidate's file, while the exam grade and number of ECTS credits shall also be recorded in the Register of Doctoral Candidates.

## Article 21

Taking an exam for the first time is included in the tuition fee, while each subsequent retake of the same exam shall be paid for separately.

If the Doctoral Candidate fails the exam in any module three times, then he/she takes it before the commission that is appointed, at the Rector's proposal, by the ECPD ES Board, whereby he/she should pay additional costs for the work of the commission. The amount of these costs is to be determined by the ECPD ES Board.



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## **IV Curriculum and Syllabe**

### **Article 22**

Doctoral Studies are conducted in line with the Curriculum and course Syllabi.

The ECPD ES Board may decide that the Curriculum and Syllabi are also carried out through the mentoring of a Doctoral Candidate, including seminars and consultations, within the time-frame which may not be shorter than three academic years.

The Curricula and Syllabi of Doctoral Studies are adopted by the ECPD ES Board and they are identical in all regional centers/affiliations where the ECPD conducts IPS.

In designing the Curricula and Syllabi, the ECPD ES Board shall take into account the Bologna Declaration and relevant international documents.

### **Article 23**

The Curriculum determines the teaching modules and their sequence by year of study and by semester/trimester, as well as the number of hours for each course.

The Syllabus determines the teaching module, year and semester of study, number of ECTS credits, content and number of hours by chapters, textbook literature and the methods of conducting teaching and exams.

Professors of all courses are obliged to submit the proposed syllabi in a condensed form: curriculum, list of topics for seminar papers and a list of literature.

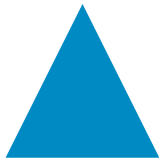
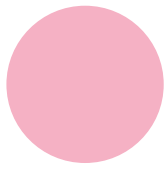
## **V Professors and Associates**

### **Article 24**

Teaching and exams shall be conducted by distinguished professors from international and local universities, including specifically those who are (or have been) visiting professors at foreign universities, or are members of academies of sciences, who are appointed as ECPD professors by the ECPD ES Board, at the proposal of the permanent Nominations Commission, to the highest educational scientific titles they have acquired at some university. As an exception, the Educational and Scientific Board may elect an ECPD professor on the basis of an open competition announced in a daily newspaper or on the ECPD website and the report of the Commission appointed by the Educational and Scientific Board, which was previously made accessible to the public and announced in a daily newspapers or on the ECPD website.

The ECPD ES Board appoints or elects module professors and visiting professors in accordance with the Curriculum and Syllabi of Doctoral Studies.

Professors and visiting professors conclude the contracts with the ECPD stipulating their mutual rights and responsibilities.



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## **VI Doctoral Dissertation**

### **Article 25**

A doctoral dissertation is an original scientific work of the Doctoral Candidate, which contributes to the relevant field of science or the field of business activities and other organizations falling within the Doctoral Candidate's sphere of scientific and practical interest.

The candidate doing the doctoral dissertation is obliged to sign the following statement (on a separate page) immediately after the title page of the dissertation: *"I hereby solemnly declare under moral, material and legal liability that this dissertation is free of plagiarism"*. In addition, each candidate must fill in and sign the ECPD ethical form.

The right to apply for the Doctoral dissertation has a (1) Doctoral Candidate who has passed all exams within the first two years of Doctoral Studies as well as (2) a Candidate who has already acquired title Master of Science within the period prescribed by the relevant law of the country in which the IDS are conducted.

The topic of the Doctoral dissertation cannot be the same as that of the candidate's Master, Specialist, MBA or MSc thesis or other paper in a monographic form which has been published or otherwise made available to the public.

The volume of the doctoral dissertations (except in the field of natural sciences and mathematics and technical sciences) may not be less than 200 pages with 34 rows and 70 characters in each row. The volume of the Doctoral dissertation does not include the following: 1) the title page, 2) table of content, 3) literature or references, 4) appendices and annexes, 5) footnotes, 6) abstracts and 7) acknowledgements.

The candidate may not defend the doctoral dissertation without at least two appropriate papers published in a respectable scientific journal/journals.

The Doctoral Candidate who defends his/her doctoral dissertation, after passing through all successive stages of the procedure stipulated by these Rules (Articles 26-36), shall acquire the academic degree of Doctor of Science in the specific field.

### **(1) The Application for a Doctoral Dissertation Topic and the Appointment of the Commission for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and Topic**

### **Article 26**

The Doctoral Candidate acquires the right to apply to the ECPD ES Board for the research topic of the doctoral dissertation after passing all first and second year exams, in accordance with the Guidelines for the Application for, Elaboration, Evaluation and Defense of a Specialist Paper, Master or MSc Thesis and Doctoral Dissertation (hereinafter referred to as: the "Guidelines"), which should be submitted to all Doctoral Candidates in advance.

Prior to the enrollment in a Doctoral Studies and for all subsequent stages of study, a Doctoral Candidate shall settle all financial obligations to the ECPD.



The application for a doctoral dissertation topic should be submitted in accordance with the Guidelines and upon presentation of all documents specified by the standing Documentation Commission of the Educational and Scientific Board, including the certificates of the duration of previous studies and the list of teaching modules and credit points.

A person, who has acquired the degree of Master of Science, until the deadline set by the relevant law of the country in which the IDS are conducted, shall also have the right to apply for a doctoral dissertation topic.

The Committee considers the application for the Doctoral dissertation. When it finds that the application meets the requirements foreseen in the Guidelines and has a clearly defined subject matter, as well as the aim of research and methodology, the Committee proposes to the ECPD ES Board the appointment of the Commission for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and the Doctoral Dissertation Topic.

The ECPD ES Board adopts a decision on the appointment of the Commission for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and the Topic, consisting of 3 (three) or 5 (five) members who are professors in the related scientific field.

The Commission for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and the Topic shall interview, at the beginning of its work, in its full composition, the candidate and he/she shall elaborate and defend the concept and structure of his/her topic, as well as the aims and methods of the intended research.

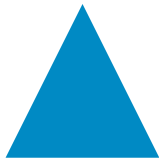
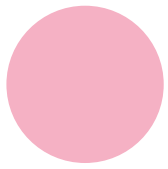
The Commission for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and Topic shall submit its Report to the ECPD ES Board within a period of 45 days upon appointment. The Chairman of the Commission shall organize the work of the Commission in such a way that it can submit its Report to the ECPD ES Board within the agreed time-limit.

## **(2) The Adoption of the Report of the Commission for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and Doctoral Dissertation Topic and Appointment of the Mentor and Other Members of the Commission for the Evaluation of the Doctoral Dissertation**

### **Article 27**

The ECPD ES Board adopts the decision on the acceptance of the positive Report of the Commission for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and Topic of the Doctoral Dissertation and the decision on appointment of the mentor from among professors for the scientific field related to the topic of the dissertation, and other members of the Commission for the Evaluation of the Doctoral Dissertation which, as a rule, consists of 3 (three) or 5 (five) members and submits them for approval by the ECPD Academic Council.

The IPDS Secretariat delivers the decision of the ECPD ES Board on the acceptance of the topic to the Doctoral Candidate within the period of a maximum of 7 (seven) days upon the adoption of the decision. One copy of the decision shall be placed in the file of the Doctoral Candidate.



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### Article 28

The time-frame set for the completion of a doctoral dissertation for candidates who have the degree of Master of Science is no longer than 36 (thirty six) months upon acceptance of the topic by the ECPD ES Board. Otherwise, the candidate is required to reenroll and complete the study program within 3 (three) months from the reenrollment.

Under specific circumstances, the ECPD ES Board may extend the time-frame referred to in the preceding paragraph of this Article for justified reasons given by the Doctoral Candidate, but no longer than 2 (two) academic years.

### Article 29

The work of the mentor and the members of the Commission should be in mutual agreement, as much as possible. All members of the Commission should be involved in all stages of the candidate's preparation for the Doctoral Dissertation.

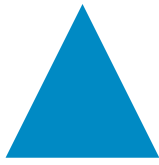
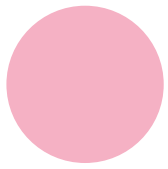
The ECPD ES Board shall make sure that one professor is appointed as the mentor to no more than three Doctoral Candidates in the same academic year, as a rule.

The mentor of the doctoral dissertation should have scientific references in the respective field of the dissertation.

The mentor shall be obliged to:

- Monitor and provide guidance for the Doctoral Candidate's research and provide necessary consultations in the course of work, including specifically, communication with other members of the Commission, who shall submit their proposals and comments on the working version of the doctoral dissertation;
- Take care that the Doctoral Candidate observes the provisions of these Rules regarding the originality of their research and the preparation of the doctoral dissertation;
- Organize the work of the Commission for the Evaluation of the dissertation so as to: (1) be in communication with the members of the Commission in the process of preparation of the Dissertation; (2) organize a consulting session with the members of the Commission upon the completion of the draft version of the Dissertation; (3) draft the proposal of the Report on the Evaluation of the Doctoral Dissertation in agreement with the members of the Commission; (4) deliver the agreed report on the Evaluation of the Dissertation in written and electronic form to the ECPD ES Board within the required time-frame.

If there should be difficulties in communication between the Dissertation Mentor and the Candidate (due to distance or a language barrier), then the ECPD ES Board may appoint an appropriate co-mentor.



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### **(3) Adoption of the Report from the Commission for the Evaluation of a Master's Thesis, Specialist Paper, MBA and MSc Thesis and Appointment of the Defense Commission**

#### **Article 30**

The Commission for the Evaluation of the Doctoral Dissertation submits its Report to the ECPD ES Board within a period no longer than 90 (ninety) days after the doctoral dissertation has been submitted.

The doctoral dissertation must be made accessible to the public 15 (fifteen) days before its consideration at the session of the ECPD ES Board, together with the Report of the Evaluation Commission and the Doctoral Candidate's CV in the English and Serbian languages, about which a public announcement is made in a respectable daily public newspaper or on the ECPD website.

Thereafter, if there are no public objections, then the ECPD ES Board makes the decision for the doctoral dissertation to be: (1) accepted, (2) returned for further elaboration or (3) rejected.

The ECPD ES Board then makes the decision on the acceptance of the report on the positive evaluation of the doctoral dissertation and, prior to the appointment of the Commission for the Defense of the Doctoral Dissertation which consists of 3 (three) to 5 (five) members, submits it for an approval by the ECPD Academic Council.

#### **Article 31**

After receiving a positive evaluation of the doctoral dissertation by the ECPD ES Board, the Doctoral Candidate is obliged to submit 7 (seven) or 10 (ten) copies of the printed and bound doctoral dissertation, depending on the number of members of the Defense Commission, together with a copy in electronic form to the Secretariat of International Postgraduate Studies.

The date, place and time of the defense of a doctoral dissertation shall be determined by the ECPD ES Board. This information shall be announced on the ECPD notice board at least 8 (eight) days before the defense.

The ECPD is obliged to announce the date of the defense of a doctoral dissertation in a daily newspaper or on the website of the ECPD at least 8 (eight) days in advance.

#### **Article 32**

The defense of a doctoral dissertation is a public act.

A doctoral dissertation is defended in the ECPD Headquarters or in the country where the teaching process has been conducted.

The defense of a Doctoral Dissertation can be held only in the presence (personal or online by video call) of the complete Defense Commission in full composition. Otherwise, the defense shall be postponed and the ECPD ES Board shall decide on the new date and place of the defense.



The defense shall be performed in accordance with the Protocol for the Public Defense of Doctoral Dissertations, which makes an integral part of these Rules.

During the defense of a Doctoral Dissertation, the Defense Commission shall evaluate the autonomy in the preparation of the dissertation, its originality, presentation and the scientific value of the presented conclusions, as well as the candidate's respond.

### **Article 33**

The Defense Commission decides by a majority of votes of its members.

At the end of the defense, the Defense Commission retreats to consult and thereafter publicly announces its decision: "defended", "unanimously" or "by the majority of votes" or "did not attend the defense".

The Record of the Defense shall be completed.

The Record of the Defense should be signed by all members of the Defense Commission and the President submits it to the IPDS Secretariat.

The Record is placed in the Doctoral Candidate's file and kept permanently in the IPS archive.

### **Article 34**

If the Doctoral Candidate fails to appear at the defense of the doctoral dissertation but has been invited accordingly, and fails to justify his/her absence, then the Commission shall state that "the defense has not been held".

In the event referred to in the preceding paragraph of this Article, a Doctoral Candidate, who justifies his/her absence within a period of 7 (seven) days after his/her omission to appear at the defense, may request in writing that the ECPD ES Board should set another date, place and time for the defense, whereby the Candidate shall bear the related costs.

If all members of the Commission cannot attend the defense, then the defense is postponed and the ECPD ES Board decides on the new date and place for the defense.

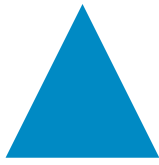
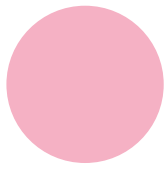
### **Article 35**

The Doctoral Candidate who failed to defend his/her doctoral dissertation may apply for a new topic, subject to an approval of the ECPD ES Board.

If the Doctoral Candidate fails to defend the new doctoral dissertation, then he/she shall forfeit the right to acquire the scientific degree of Doctor of Science at the ECPD.

### **Article 36**

The procedure for awarding the scientific degree of Doctor of Science falls within the exclusive competence of the faculty of the ECPD UN University for Peace, as well as the ECPD



# ECPD



Educational and Scientific Board and the ECPD Academic Council and the appointed Commissions for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and the Topic of the Doctoral dissertations, mentors and other members of the Commissions for Evaluation of the Doctoral dissertation and the Commissions for public defense of the Doctoral dissertations. Reports of the Commissions for the Evaluation of Doctoral dissertations are made available to the public in a daily newspaper, 15 days prior to its acceptance by the ECPD ES Board and the public defenses is scheduled. Upon the defense of a Doctoral dissertation, the candidates receive a Certificate for the acquired degree of Doctor of Science and later a Diploma for the defended Doctoral dissertation, and are awarded the Doctor of Science degree.

The standing Documentation Commission maintains the precise records of all files and official register of all Doctoral Candidates who have acquired the academic degree of Doctor of Science

If it is established in any scientifically verified way (1) that the doctoral dissertation is not the original work of a Doctoral Candidate, (2) that plagiarism is determined, (3) that all procedures have not been followed (application, acceptance, evaluation, availability to the public, adoption, public defense and the like), or that it fails to meet other requirements set forth in these Rules, then the decision of the defense for the dissertation shall be regarded as invalid, in which case and the ECPD ES Board shall make the decision to annul the scientific degree acquired by such a Doctoral Candidate.

## **VII Honorary Doctorate**

### **Article 37**

The ECPD may award an honorary doctorate to individuals who have contributed to the theory and practice of peace and development through their scientific achievements.

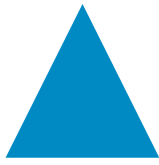
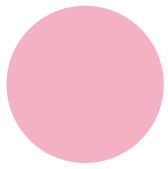
The Nominations and Election Commission proposes and the ECPD ES Board decides on the awarding of an honorary doctorate, and determines the method, date, time and place for the promotion of an honorary doctorate.

## **VIII Quality Control and the Improvement of Studies**

### **Article 38**

The ECPD ES Board appoints the Commission for Quality Control and Improvement of Studies which shall control the objectivity, uniformity of criteria and standards for the assessment of a course and the final exams, seminar and other papers of Doctoral Candidates by submitting them for verification and assessment to experts who are appointed faculty from other domestic and foreign academic institutions being at the same level and having the same educational profile.





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### Article 39

The Commission is obliged to continuously control the quality of studies and to take care of their improvement.

The Commission prepares the report on the quality of studies on the basis of the conducted investigations and, in particular, by interviewing Doctoral Candidates about the quality of their studies.

The Commission submits a report on the assessment of the quality of studies and proposes the measures for their improvement to the Rector, the ECPD ES Board, the ECPD Executive Director, as well as to the President of the ECPD Academic Council, at least twice a year.

## **IX Support to Doctoral Candidates**

### Article 40

In order to foster the success of those studies for all Doctoral Candidates, the IPS Deans shall ensure that the Doctoral Candidates are provided with systematic and continuing consultations, and shall provide academic and professional assistance.

The support provided to Doctoral Candidates shall include, inter alia, the program of admission to Doctoral Studies, an introduction to the content and method of the work, the provision of information about the studies and syllabi on the web page of the Doctoral Studies and e-mail, as well as through seminars and consultations with Doctoral Candidates.

## **X Validation and Equivalence**

### Article 41

The ECPD ES Board is responsible for the validation and equivalence of the diplomas of Doctoral Candidates.

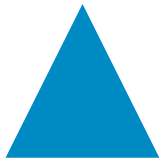
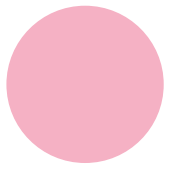
The ECPD ES Board appoints the Commission and, based on its opinion, the decision on validation and equivalence will be made.

## **XI Records and Public Documents**

### Article 42

The IPDS Secretariat keeps the following:

- Individual files of postgraduates;
- Student registry book;
- Records of passed examinations together with examination application forms;



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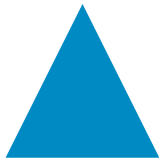
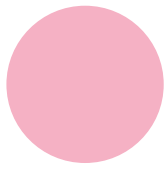
- Evidence of seminar papers;
- Records of defenses of doctoral dissertations;
- Evidence of issued diplomas;
- Archive of doctoral dissertations.

Documents listed in the previous paragraph of this Article are kept in the language of the host country and the English language.

The content and structure of the forms and the way records should be kept are in the competency of the ECPD ES Board.

The necessary data kept in individual files and in student registries are as follows:

- (1) Application for admission to the postgraduate studies;
- (2) Contract;
- (3) Officially certified copies of acquired diplomas (higher education, Master's, Specialist, MBA and MSc) which have to be submitted for inspection and signed by the competent official on the certified copy of a diploma, including the date of inspection and the ECPD stamp;
- (4) A Doctoral Candidate's written application and topic of the dissertation, including the date and registration number in the ECPD records book;
- (5) Decision on the composition of the Commission for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and the Topic;
- (6) Report of the Commission for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and the Topic;
- (7) Decision of the ECPD ES Board on the acceptance of the Report of the Commission for Determining the Eligibility of the Candidate and Topic and the appointment of the mentor and members of the Commission for the Evaluation of the dissertation;
- (8) Acceptance by the Academic Council;
- (9) Report of the Commission for an Evaluation of the Dissertation;
- (10) Date and page of the daily newspaper or ECPD website announcing the accessibility of the Report of the Commission for the Evaluation of the Dissertation to the public;
- (11) Report of the ECPD ES Board on the acceptance of the Report of the Commission for the Evaluation and appointment of the Commission for the Defense of the dissertation;
- (12) Acceptance by the Academic Council;
- (13) The name, date and page of the daily newspaper or ECPD website announcing the date and place for the Defense of the dissertation;
- (14) Dissertation Defense Report, signed by the members of the Commission for the Defense.



# ECPD



## Article 43

On the basis of these records, the ECPD issues the following public documents:

- (1) The student's record book (index);
- (2) The diploma awarded for the scientific title of Doctor of Science, verified by the embossed stamp;
- (3) The certificate of the Doctoral Candidate's status.

The ECPD awards diplomas in English and in the language of the country where teaching is conducted.

The student's record book (index) is signed by the President of the ECPD Academic Council, the Rector and the Dean of studies.

The diploma is signed by the ECPD Executive Director, the President of the ECPD Council, President of the ECPD ES Board and the Rector.

The content and format of the diploma is determined by the ECPD ES Board.

## **XII Post-Doctoral Studies**

Post-Doctoral Studies are a one-year (two semesters) program. The study program is conducted on a mentoring basis under the supervision of a supervisor-mentor, and with the active support from co-mentors and the responsible methodologist. The proposal for the topic of the research project is approved by the Scientific and Educational Board and Academic Council of the ECPD UN University for Peace. Post-Doctoral Studies are concluded with a final paper in written form consisting of 50 pages and successfully defended before an international commission consisting of three members.

Post-Doctoral Studies are conducted only in fields in which ECPD UN University for Peace conducts Doctoral study programs.

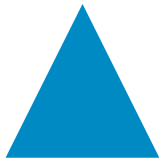
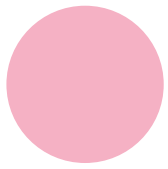
## **XIII Transitional and Final Provisions**

### Article 45

The Rules Governing the ECPD International Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Studies shall come into force upon a signature by the ECPD Executive Director, the President of the ECPD Academic Council and the President of the Educational and Scientific Board.

The decisions of the ECPD ES Board and adopted documents on IPS and IDS shall have the status of an Annex to these Rules.

These Rules are relevant and applicable in all Regional Centers and program units where ECPD UN University for Peace conducts study programs.



# ECPD



## Article 46

On the day when the present Rules come into force, the Rules Governing the ECPD Doctoral Studies adopted in January, 2017 shall cease to be valid.

Madrid, January 28, 2023

President  
ECPD Educational and Scientific Board  
(Academician Prof. Dr. Vlado Kamboski)



President  
ECPD Academic Council  
(Prof. Dr. Don Wallace)

Ratified by  
President of the ECPD Council  
(H.E. Prof. Dr. Federico Mayor Zaragoza)