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APPROVED
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**REGULATIONS
ON ORGANIZING AND CONDUCTING THE
INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY
DOCTORAL UNIVERSITY STUDY PROGRAM**

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Section 1. Legal basis

Article 1

These Regulations are based on the following documents:

- (1) Law on Higher Education no. 199/2023, as subsequently amended and supplemented;
- (2) Order of the Ministry of Education No. 3020/08.01.2024 for the approval of the Framework Regulations on doctoral studies;
 - a) Order of the Ministry of Education No. 4653/23.07.2025 for amending and supplementing the Framework Regulation on doctoral studies;
 - b) Order of the Ministry of Education No. 3214/16.02.2026 for amending and supplementing the Framework Regulation on doctoral studies.

Section 2. General provisions

Article 2

- (1) “Mihai Viteazul” National Intelligence Academy (ANIMV), as an accredited Institution Organizing Doctoral University Studies (IOSUD), organizes and conducts the Doctoral University Study Program in the doctoral field Intelligence and National Security, accredited by the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS).
- (2) The Intelligence and National Security doctoral university study program represents the cycle III of university studies offered by “Mihai Viteazul” National Intelligence Academy in the field of Intelligence and National Security. Its purpose is the development of human resources competent in conducting scientific research, capable of integration into the highly qualified labor market, and it consists of a scientific research-based training for research, development and innovation, and it constitutes a professional research experience, completed by the award of the doctoral degree.
- (3) The Intelligence and National Security doctoral university study program corresponds to Level 8 of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED), the European Qualifications Framework (EQF/CEC), and the National Qualifications Framework (CNC) and it ensures the acquisition of knowledge at the highest level in the field of work or study of intelligence and national security, including knowledge at the interface between different scientific and professional fields. The doctoral university study program also ensures the acquisition of advanced and specialized skills and techniques.

Article 3

- (1) The doctoral university study program is organized in the doctoral field of Intelligence and National Security, accredited within IOSUD ANIMV, and includes two types:
 - a) Scientific doctorate, which aims at producing original, internationally relevant scientific knowledge based on scientific methods, and may be organized as full-time or part-time education. The scientific doctorate constitutes the basis for a professional career in higher education and research;

- b) Professional doctorate, which aims at producing original knowledge by applying the scientific method, systematic reflection, or applied research on topics of practical importance, and which constitutes a basis for a professional career in higher education and research in the relevant fields. The professional doctorate may be organized as full-time or part-time education.
- (2) The scientific doctorate in the doctoral field of Intelligence and National Security is also connected to paradigms from related scientific fields, such as security studies, law, political science, international relations, European studies, communication sciences, and psychology. The scientific doctorate is oriented towards the production of results, syntheses, and evaluations based on scientific approaches, aiming at clarifying and solving critical research problems through the expansion and redefinition of existing knowledge.
- (3) The professional doctorate in the doctoral field of Intelligence and National Security draws on knowledge and practices from related professional fields, such as security, defense, law, diplomacy, communication, psychology, politics, etc. The professional doctorate is oriented towards the development of new ideas or processes at the forefront of professional practice, based on systematic approaches, aiming at producing applied, innovative, autonomous or integrated doctrinal or programmatic solutions to the studied situations.

Article 4

- (1) The scientific doctorate is organized in the form of full-time or part-time education.
- (2) The professional doctorate may be organized in the form of full-time or part-time education.
- (3) The scientific doctorate may be funded from the state budget, the SRI budget, other legally established sources, on fee-based regime.
- (4) The professional doctorate may be funded from the SRI budget, from other legally established sources, on fee-based regime.
- (5) A person may benefit from state budget funding for only one doctoral university study program.

Section 3. Organizing and conducting the Intelligence and National Security doctoral university study program

Article 5

- (1) The doctoral university study program is organized and conducted within the Intelligence and Security Doctoral School, in which the accredited doctoral study field operates.
- (2) The doctoral university study program is organized and conducted in accordance with the provisions of Law on Higher Education No. 199/2023, the Framework Regulation on Doctoral University Studies (OME No. 3020/2024), the CNATDCU standards for awarding the doctoral degree, and the national interests and requirements of the Romanian Intelligence Service.

Article 6

- (1) The duration of the doctoral university study program is generally four academic years (eight academic semesters).
- (2) The duration of the doctoral program may be modified, in specific cases, through interruption, extension, reduction, or continuation of the program.
- (3) Interruption of the doctoral university study program occurs by law upon notification by the doctoral student, in the following cases of statutory suspension of the individual employment contract:
 - a) maternity leave;
 - b) temporary incapacity for work;
 - c) quarantine;
 - d) exercise of a position within an executive, legislative, or judicial authority, for the entire duration of the mandate, unless otherwise provided by law;
 - e) force majeure;
 - f) preventive detention of the doctoral student, under the Criminal Procedure Code;
 - g) other cases expressly provided for by law.
- (4) Interruption of the doctoral program may also be granted at the request of the doctoral student in the following cases of suspension upon request of the individual employment contract:
 - a) parental leave for raising a child up to 2 years of age, or up to 3 years in the case of a child with disabilities;
 - b) adoption-related leave, with a maximum duration of 2 years;
 - c) leave for caring for a sick child up to 7 years of age, or up to 18 years in the case of a child with disabilities, for intercurrent conditions;
 - d) paternal leave;
 - e) leave for professional training.
- (5) Program interruption shall be endorsed by the Doctoral School Council (CSD) and approved by the Council for Doctoral University Studies (CSUD). The duration of the doctoral program shall be extended by the total duration of the approved interruptions.
- (6) The doctoral program may be extended by 1–2 academic years, upon proposal of the doctoral supervisor, indicating the funding source, with the endorsement of the CSD and approval of the ANIMV Senate, provided that the doctoral student has achieved a minimum of 140 ECTS for the first extension year, respectively 200 ECTS for the second extension year, resulting from the cumulative ECTS of the Advanced University Studies Training Program (PSA) and the Individual Scientific Research Program (PIC). The extension is also conditional on the doctoral student being in one of the following situations:
 - a) the doctoral student has obtained a study scholarship or a documentation program through a competitive special grant program in the field of the doctoral topic;
 - b) the doctoral student has obtained a research mobility scholarship or a training/documentation placement or a scientific internship in the doctoral field;

- c) the doctoral student conducts laboratory experiments or applied research activities related to the doctoral topic;
 - d) the doctoral student conducts research activities within scientific or applied research projects in the doctoral field.
- (7) The doctoral program may be reduced by a maximum of one academic year, upon request of the doctoral student, with the endorsement of the doctoral supervisor and the CSD and approval of the ANIMV Senate, in the following cases:
- a) the doctoral student has achieved 200 ECTS;
 - b) the doctoral student has fulfilled the CNATDCU standards for awarding the doctoral degree;
 - c) the doctoral student has submitted the doctoral thesis for public defense and CSUD has decided to initiate the public defense procedure by establishing the doctoral commission.
- (8) Continuation of the doctoral program occurs by law when, through procedural steps, the contractual deadline or the extension addendum deadline is exceeded, in the following cases:
- a) after publication of the doctoral thesis for public consultation;
 - b) after the CSUD decision validating or invalidating the initiation of the public defense procedure;
 - c) after issuance by CNATDCU of a finding of non-compliance with administrative procedures at IOSUD level and/or failure to meet minimum standards for awarding the doctoral degree.
- (9) The minimum duration of interruption, extension, reduction, or continuation periods is one academic semester, and the maximum duration is one academic year.

Article 7

- (1) The granting of interruption, extension, and reduction periods shall be carried out in accordance with a procedure proposed by the Director of the Doctoral School in which the doctoral program operates, endorsed by the CSD and approved by the CSUD.
- (2) The procedure shall be updated whenever relevant legislative changes occur.

Section 4. Admission to the Intelligence and National Security doctoral university study program

Article 8

- (1) Admission to doctoral university studies is organized by the Council for Doctoral University Studies (CSUD) and by the Doctoral School Council (CSD) of the doctoral school in which the doctoral study program operates.
- (2) CSUD develops and updates the *Methodology for the organization and conduct of admission to doctoral university studies in ANIMV*, which establishes the legal framework and the general organization of admission to doctoral studies.

- (3) *The Methodology for the organization and conduct of admission to doctoral university studies in ANIMV* is approved by the ANIMV Senate and published on the ANIMV website at least six months prior to the date of the admission examination.

Article 9

- (1) Admission to the doctoral university study program is carried out by an admission committee proposed by the CSD and approved by CSUD.
- (2) The admission committee consists of at least three members who are doctoral supervisors, and the doctoral supervisor.
- (3) The admission examination consists of two tests:
 - a) evaluation by the doctoral supervisor, accounting for 50% of the final grade;
 - b) evaluation by the admission committee, accounting for 50% of the final grade.
- (4) The content of the evaluations and the assessment methodology are specified in the *Procedure for the organization and conduct of the competition for admission to the Intelligence and National Security doctoral university studies*.
- (5) The CSD of the doctoral school in which the program operates develops annually the *Procedure for the organization and conduct of the competition for admission to the Intelligence and National Security doctoral university studies*, which specifies: the documents required for registration, information on the number and distribution of available places per doctoral supervisor, admission conditions, the competition calendar, and other specific provisions.
- (6) *Procedure for the organization and conduct of the competition for admission to the Intelligence and National Security doctoral university studies* is endorsed by the CSD, approved by CSUD, and published on the ANIMV website at least three months prior to the admission date.

Article 10

- (1) Registration for the doctoral admission competition may be carried out regardless of the field in which the candidates obtained their bachelor's and/or master's degree.
- (2) Citizens of European Union Member States, the European Economic Area, or the Swiss Confederation have access to doctoral university studies under the conditions provided by applicable legislation, including provisions regarding tuition fees for the doctoral program.
- (3) After completion of the admission competition, the candidates who are admitted are enrolled and, upon signing the doctoral study contract, acquire the status of doctoral student.
- (4) Enrolment in doctoral university studies is carried out by the secretariat of the doctoral school in which the program operates, based on the decision of the Rector of ANIMV regarding the enrolment of candidates who have been admitted to doctoral university studies.

Article 11

- (1) Enrolment in the doctoral university study program is carried out in accordance with a procedure proposed by the Director of the Doctoral School, endorsed by the CSD, and approved by CSUD.
- (2) The procedure shall be updated whenever relevant legislative changes occur.

Section 5. Curriculum of the Intelligence and National Security doctoral university study program

Article 12

- (1) The general structure of the doctoral university study program is as follows:
 - a) the Advanced University Studies Training Program (PSA), which is normally carried out during the first semester of the doctoral program;
 - b) the Individual Scientific Research / Professional Research Program (PIC), which is normally carried out during semesters 2–7 of the doctoral program;
 - c) the Complementary Training Program (PPC), which is delivered in modular format each academic year, complementing PSA and PIC;
 - d) the completion and public defense period of the doctoral thesis, normally taking place in semester 8 of the doctoral program.
- (2) The doctoral university study program is conducted on the basis of the Study Plan of the doctoral program (PSUD), which is developed for each study series in the doctoral field. The Study Plan shall specify the particular features of both the scientific doctorate and the professional doctorate.
- (3) The doctoral university study program ensures the acquisition of general competencies (C1), transversal competencies (C2), professional competencies (C3), and managerial transversal competencies (C4), corresponding to Qualification Level CNC 8 and to the qualification defined in the PSUD Study Plan.

Article 13

- (1) The curriculum for the doctoral university study program is developed annually by the doctoral school offering the program, at least 6 months before the start of the academic year, is endorsed by the CSUD and approved by the ANIMV Senate.
- (2) The curriculum must ensure at least 200 ECTS from the training program based on advanced studies (PSA) and the individual scientific research program (PIC).
- (3) The condition for the successful completion of one year of doctoral studies is the mandatory achievement of a minimum of 40 ECTS.
- (4) The condition for completing the doctoral university study program is the mandatory achievement of a minimum of 200 ECTS from the training program based on advanced studies (PSA) and the individual scientific research program (PIC).

Article 14

- (1) The analytical program for the doctoral university study program contains course descriptions, activity outlines, and module descriptions specific to each program of the curriculum.
- (2) The scientific research activity outlines within the individual scientific research program are prepared by the doctoral supervisors. The module outlines of the complementary training program are prepared by the coordinators of each module.
- (3) The analytical program of the doctoral university study program is endorsed by the CSD of the institution offering the doctoral university study program and is

approved by the CSUD.

- (4) The analytical program of the doctoral university study program is prepared annually for each series of studies, at least 3 months before the start of the academic year.

Section 5.1 Training program based on advanced university studies

Article 15

- (1) A training program based on advanced university studies constitutes the training component of a doctoral program. A training program based on advanced university studies is typically carried out during the first semester of the doctoral program.
- (2) A training program based on advanced university studies ensures the acquisition of competencies specific to the CNC8 qualification level and the qualification proposed in the Curriculum and has the following objectives:
- a) advanced knowledge of the fundamental theories and approaches in the field of intelligence and national security;
 - b) the ability to understand, identify, formulate, and creatively solve theoretical and practical problems specific to the field of intelligence and national security;
 - c) comprehensive knowledge of the paradigms specific to intelligence studies and security culture;
 - d) knowledge and ability to document and capitalize scientific works;
 - e) specific knowledge of data processing and manipulation at an advanced level;
 - f) specific knowledge of critical thinking, and the development of skills to analyze, interpret, and formulate reasoning in various contexts;
 - g) advanced knowledge of the principles and values of academic ethics and integrity, and of proper conduct in scientific research in the field of intelligence, information, and security culture;
 - h) advanced digital skills appropriate to the digital transformation of society, including through the use of artificial intelligence in the field of intelligence and security;
 - i) the application of critical thinking, the interpretation or formulation of arguments in various contexts
 - j) the application of intellectual property law;
- (3) The training program based on advanced university studies is designed in the Curriculum of the doctoral university study program and is carried out based on the course descriptions. The competencies assigned to each course are specified as learning outcomes.
- (4) Subject outlines are developed by the subject coordinators, approved by the director of the doctoral school, and centralized in the Analytical program of the doctoral university study program.
- (5) Completing the training program based on advanced university studies ensures the achievement of a minimum of 30 ECTS. Obtaining the credits is conditional on successfully passing the exams in the disciplines provided for in the Curriculum of the doctoral university study program.
- (6) The training program based on advanced university studies does not affect the

doctoral student's availability for the individual scientific research program.

- (7) Participation in the training program based on advanced university studies is mandatory for doctoral students.

Article 16

- (1) Doctoral students shall complete the training program based on advanced university studies in accordance with a procedure proposed by the director of the doctoral school, endorsed by the CSD, and approved by the CSUD.
- (2) The procedure shall be updated whenever necessary and when relevant legislative changes occur.

Section 5.2 Individual scientific research program

Article 17

- (1) The individual scientific research program represents the research component of the doctoral university study program. The individual scientific research program may start in the first semester of the doctoral university study program and has to be completed in the last semester of the doctoral university study program.
- (2) The individual scientific/applied research program ensures the acquisition of competencies specific to the CNC8 qualification level and the qualification proposed in the Curriculum and has the following objectives:
- a) knowledge of scientific and applied research methods and techniques specific to the field of intelligence and national security;
 - b) knowledge of new procedures and solutions in scientific and applied research specific to the field of intelligence and national security;
 - c) advanced data processing and analysis, including through the use of specialized software, in the field of intelligence and security;
 - d) skills of scientific interaction, cooperation, and collaboration;
 - e) risk, crisis, and failure management in scientific and applied research;
 - f) application of legislation in the field of intellectual property rights;
- (3) The individual scientific research program is designed in the Curriculum of the doctoral university study program. It is carried out based on the scientific activity sheets, so as to ensure the acquisition of the competencies designated as learning outcomes.
- (4) The scientific activity sheets are prepared by the doctoral supervisors, approved by the director of the doctoral school, and centralized in the analytical program of the doctoral university study program.
- (5) Scientific research activities of the Individual Scientific Research Program:
- a) participation in scientific conferences (semesters 2–8);
 - b) publishing scientific articles (semesters 2–8);
 - c) drafting the doctoral research project (semesters 1–2);
 - d) drafting doctoral research papers (semesters 3-4);
 - e) development of the doctoral thesis (semesters 5-6);
 - f) public defense of the doctoral thesis (semesters 7-8).
- (6) The scientific research activities of the individual scientific research program are coordinated and approved by the doctoral supervisor and evaluated by the Academic Advisory and Integrity Committee.

Article 18

- (1) Completing the individual scientific research program requires the achievement of a minimum of 170 ECTS. Obtaining the credits is conditional on the successful completion of the scientific research activities set out in the curriculum of the doctoral university study program.
- (2) The supervision of the doctoral student within the individual scientific research program, from the approval of the doctoral research project to the approval of the public defense of the doctoral thesis, is carried out by the academic advisory and integrity committee whose composition is established by the doctoral supervisor and approved by the CSD.
- (3) Responsibility for the structure, content, organization, and conduct of the doctoral student's individual scientific research program rests with the doctoral supervisor.
- (4) The doctoral student's scientific achievements within the individual scientific research program shall be credited in the ECTS system, the number of ECTS for each research activity being specified in the curriculum.
- (5) The doctoral student's publishing activity is considered only if it takes the form of published scientific articles or papers. After the publication of their own scientific articles or papers, doctoral students are required to submit to their doctoral supervisors the scientific journals or volumes in which the articles or papers appeared.
- (6) The conclusions resulting from scientific research, represented by accepted scientific papers, may be published by the doctoral student as articles or papers, with the approval of the doctoral supervisor.
- (7) Based on the publication of scientific works, the acceptance of scientific research papers, and the approval of the doctoral theses, the doctoral students record their scientific achievements in the individual scientific research program.
- (8) The doctoral student is obliged, throughout the individual scientific research program, to seek advice and to respond to requests from the doctoral supervisor or members of the academic advisory and integrity committee.

Article 19

- (1) Doctoral students shall complete their individual research programs in accordance with a procedure proposed by the director of the doctoral school, endorsed by the CSD, and approved by the CSUD.
- (2) The procedure shall be updated whenever necessary and when relevant legislative changes occur.

Section 5.3 Complementary Training Program**Article 20**

- (1) The complementary training program is organized in a modular format, with each module typically lasting 3 to 5 days.
- (2) The complementary training program ensures the acquisition of competencies specific to the CNC8 qualification level and the qualification proposed in the Curriculum and has the following objectives:
 - a) ability to write scientific papers and other academic materials at an advanced level, in a style appropriate to the field of intelligence and security and in compliance with its specific national and international standards;

- b) academic-level language skills necessary for the documentation, preparation, and communication of scientific papers;
 - c) interpersonal and teamwork skills;
 - d) written and oral communication skills in the field of intelligence and security culture;
 - e) career management skills, job search techniques, and techniques for creating jobs for others;
 - f) risk, crisis, and failure management in academic and scientific research careers;
 - g) management of human, material, and financial resources in the field of intelligence and security;
- (3) The complementary training program is designed within the Curriculum of the doctoral university study program. It is carried out based on module descriptions, so as to complement the designed learning outcomes.
- (4) Module descriptions are developed by the module coordinators, approved by the director of the doctoral school, and centralized in the Analytical program of the doctoral university study program.

Article 21

- (1) Participation in the complementary training program is optional. Obtaining ECTS is conditional on active participation in the activities of each module specified in the curriculum of the doctoral university study program
- (2) The complementary training program does not affect the doctoral student's availability for their individual scientific research program.
- (3) A doctoral student's participation in the complementary training program may take place during any academic year and may be repeated to reinforce skills, responsibilities, and autonomy, but will be credited only once.
- (4) The results of assessments within the complementary training program serve a formative purpose; they do not entail mandatory promotion and do not condition the funding of doctoral students or their progress within the doctoral program.

Article 22

- (1) Doctoral students' completion of the complementary training program is carried out in accordance with a procedure proposed by the director of the doctoral school, endorsed by the CSD, and approved by the CSUD.
- (2) The procedure is updated whenever necessary and when relevant legislative changes occur.

Section 6. Completion of the Intelligence and National Security Doctoral Program

Article 23

- (1) Completion of the doctoral university study program in Intelligence and National Security involves two stages:
 - a) approval of the doctoral thesis by the Academic Advisory and Integrity Committee, which generally takes place in semesters 6-7 of the doctoral university study program;
 - b) public evaluation of the doctoral thesis by the doctoral committee, which generally takes place in semesters 7-8 of the doctoral university study program.
- (2) The doctoral thesis is the scientific work through which the doctoral student demonstrates the ability to scientifically address a problem, a topic of scientific or professional research. It must highlight the ability to extract key ideas from the

studied bibliography, to apply fundamental theories and those specific to the scientific field, to identify the most appropriate scientific or professional research methods, to establish scientific or professional research objectives and operationalize them, to draw conclusions based on arguments, and to offer original theoretical and practical solutions for the scientific or professional research topic.

- (3) The doctoral thesis must demonstrate the doctoral student's ability to use research findings in a creative, original, and innovative manner so as to produce a new perspective or a new solution to the issues addressed in the thesis or, as the case may be, to demonstrate the ability to propose ideas and solutions that have not been produced in previous research. This component of the doctoral thesis may take the form of models, operational research, case studies, etc.

Article 24

- (1) The doctoral thesis must be the result of the doctoral student's own scientific or professional research and must contain original findings in the field of scientific knowledge.
- (2) The doctoral student is the author of the doctoral thesis and assumes responsibility for the accuracy of the data and information presented in the thesis, as well as for the opinions and positions expressed therein.
- (3) The content of the doctoral thesis is established by the doctoral student in consultation with the doctoral supervisor and shall comply with the framework structure and limitations set forth in the IOSUD regulations. The doctoral thesis is an original work, and it is mandatory to cite the source for any material used.
- (4) The doctoral thesis is a public document; the first and last names of the doctoral candidate, the doctoral supervisor, and the members of the academic advisory and integrity committee, as well as the identification data of the IOSUD are also public information.
- (5) The CSD in which the doctoral university study program operates proposes criteria and indicators for evaluating doctoral theses, which are approved by the CSUD. The criteria for evaluating the quality of a doctoral thesis relate to the scientific or professional research results obtained within the doctoral university study program.

Article 25.

- (1) For the endorsement of the doctoral thesis by the academic advisory and integrity committee, the following actions are carried out:
 - a) the doctoral student submits the doctoral thesis in electronic format to the doctoral school secretariat, along with the summary of the doctoral thesis and the affidavit regarding the originality of the doctoral thesis;
 - b) the doctoral school secretariat performs the similarity analysis using a software recognized by CNATDCU; the doctoral school may additionally use another similarity identification software, according to IOSUD's own regulation, and the similarity reports are included in the doctoral file;
 - c) the analysis and interpretation of the similarity report result are carried out both by the academic advisory and integrity committee and by the committee proposed by the CSD and approved by the CSUD, according to the IOSUD regulation;
 - d) if the analysis and interpretation of the similarity report indicate the need for

modifications in the doctoral thesis, the doctoral student and the doctoral supervisor are officially notified by the doctoral school. After the identified issues are addressed, the actions under article 25 are resumed;

- e) if the analysis and interpretation of the similarity report do not indicate the need for modifications, the doctoral thesis is presented to the academic advisory and integrity committee for endorsement with a view to the public defense;
- f) if the academic advisory and integrity committee does not endorse the thesis for public defense, the doctoral student is informed about the elements that must be revised;
- g) if the academic advisory and integrity committee endorses the thesis for public defense, the doctoral supervisor drafts the acceptance report of the doctoral thesis, and submits it to the doctoral school secretariat together with the minutes recording the endorsement of the doctoral thesis by the academic advisory and integrity committee and the other documents provided for in the procedure for establishing the public defense file;
- h) the doctoral thesis and its annexes shall be uploaded by the doctoral school secretariat for public consultation for 90 calendar days on the national platform managed by the Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), in accordance with legal provisions governing copyright.

Article 26.

- (1) After the 90-day public consultation, public comments concerning potential violations of the ethical and deontological standards, including allegations of plagiarism, shall be recorded in a report drawn up by the doctoral school, which shall be submitted to the CSUD for analysis and decision with a view to validating the initiation of the procedure for the public defense of the doctoral thesis and it shall be included in the doctoral file.
- (2) In the event that the CSUD invalidates the initiation of the procedure for the public defense of the doctoral thesis, the doctoral student receives recommendations regarding the rewriting of the doctoral thesis and the elimination of situations that do not comply with ethical and deontological standards, and is obliged to remedy the content of the doctoral thesis within 3 months from the communication of the decision to invalidate the defense, resuming the procedures provided for in articles 25 and 26.
- (3) If the CSUD approves, the procedure for the public defense of the doctoral thesis is initiated, and the doctoral committee is established.

Article 27

- (1) The doctoral thesis may enter the public defense procedure if the following conditions are met:
 - a) the doctoral student has achieved the CNATDCU standard in force for awarding the doctoral degree.
 - b) the doctoral student has obtained a minimum of 200 ECTS from combining the ECTS of the training program based on advanced university studies and of the individual scientific research program;
- (2) If the minimum number of ECTS has not been obtained, the doctoral student shall not be permitted to defend the doctoral thesis and shall be expelled.

Article 28

- (1) The evaluation of the doctoral thesis in a public defense is carried out by a doctoral committee proposed by the doctoral supervisor, endorsed by the CSD, approved by the CSUD, and appointed by Decision of the ANIMV Rector.
- (2) The committee shall consist of at least 5 members:
 1. chairperson – representative of the IOSUD ANIMV management;
 2. the doctoral supervisor from the doctoral school;
 3. at least 3 official reviewers from the country or abroad, specialists in the field in which the doctoral thesis has been developed and who hold tenured positions in higher education or in scientific research at institutions other than IOSUD ANIMV.
- (3) The members of the doctoral committee must hold the scientific title of doctor and at least the academic rank of associate professor or scientific researcher grade II, or hold the status of doctoral supervisor, in the country or abroad.
- (4) Members of the academic advisory and integrity committee cannot be members of the doctoral committee.
- (5) Doctoral supervisors associated with the doctoral schools within IOSUD ANIMV cannot be official reviewers in the doctoral committees of IOSUD ANIMV.

Article 29

- (1) For the evaluation of the doctoral thesis, the doctoral committee has 15 days, during which the official reviewers examine the doctoral thesis and prepare evaluation reports which they submit to the doctoral school secretariat.
- (2) After all evaluation reports have been submitted, at the proposal of the doctoral student, with the endorsement of the doctoral supervisor and of the chairperson of the doctoral committee, the date for the defense of the doctoral thesis is established at least 25 calendar days prior to the proposed date for the defense.
- (3) On the same date, the doctoral thesis is deposited in printed format at the ANIMV Library for public consultation.
- (4) The announcement of the public defense of the doctoral thesis is posted on the website www.animv.ro at least 20 days before the date established for the public defense, along with the other documents provided for in the procedure for establishing the public defense file.

Article 30

- (1) The public defense of the doctoral thesis can take place only in the presence of at least 4 members of the doctoral committee, with the mandatory physical participation of the committee chairperson and the doctoral supervisor, while the other members of the committee may participate via online videoconferencing.
- (2) The public defense of the doctoral thesis consists of:
 - a) the presentation by the doctoral supervisor of the content of the acceptance report on the doctoral thesis;
 - b) the presentation by the doctoral student of the main elements of novelty and originality from the content of the doctoral thesis;
 - c) the presentation by the official reviewers of the content of the evaluation reports on the doctoral thesis;
 - d) the mandatory hosting of a question-and-answer session from the members of the doctoral committee and the public.
- (3) Based on the public defense of the doctoral thesis, the reports of the reviewers,

the declaration regarding the originality of the work, and the analysis regarding the degree of similarity, the doctoral committee shall evaluate and deliberate upon awarding the doctoral diploma, complying with the minimum standards drawn up by CNATDCU for awarding the doctoral diploma.

Article 31

- (1) In case of failure to meet the minimum standards required for awarding the doctoral diploma, the doctoral committee shall specify the elements that must be revised or completed in the doctoral thesis and shall request a new public defense of the thesis, after resuming the procedures provided for in articles 25 – 29. The second public defense of the thesis shall take place before the same doctoral committee as in the case of the first defense. If the minimum standards are not met during the second public defense either, the doctoral diploma shall not be awarded, and the doctoral student shall be expelled.
- (2) If the doctoral student has met all the requirements provided for in the scientific research program, as well as the minimum standards related to the field, the doctoral committee shall propose awarding the doctoral diploma. The proposal shall be forwarded along with the doctoral file, within a maximum of 30 calendar days, to CNATDCU.
- (3) If CNATDCU decides that the administrative procedure carried out at the IOSUD level did not comply with the provisions of the present Regulations, the doctoral file will be sent back to IOSUD to be reanalyzed and completed. It can be retransmitted to CNATDCU for a new analysis only after resuming the procedures provided for in articles 25 – 29.
- (4) In the event that the CNATDCU committee issues the compliance endorsement, within 30 calendar days from receiving the compliance endorsement, IOSUD issues the decision to award the doctoral diploma, signed by the ANIMV rector, and prepares and issues the doctoral diploma.
- (5) Within 30 calendar days, the final form of the doctoral thesis is submitted in printed format and in digital format to the ANIMV Library and to the National Library of Romania.

Article 32

- (1) The public defense activities of the doctoral thesis are carried out in accordance with a procedure proposed by the director of the doctoral school, endorsed by the CSD, and approved by the CSUD.
- (2) The procedure is updated whenever necessary and when relevant legislative changes occur.

Section 7. Final provisions

Article 33

- (1) The present *Regulations* shall enter into force starting with the 1st semester of the 2024-2025 academic year.
- (2) The present *Regulations* shall be updated whenever necessary and when relevant legislative changes occur.
- (3) On the date the present Regulations enter into force, any regulations on the organization and functioning of doctoral university study programs is repealed.