

Recognition of formal, non-formal and informal qualifications

In agreement with the recognition of qualifications concerning higher education in the European region (Lisbon Agreement, 1997), the following regulations apply:

„Recognition refers to the crediting of already completed study or learning qualifications so that individual modules do not have to be attended or exams/assignments do not have to be completed.“

But only in case of transferring from another **level 8 doctoral programme** onto the Joint doctoral programme, the accomplished activities can be recognised. All recognised ECTS and all ECTS to be completed shall be registered (Board of Ruling).

Within the Cooperation Agreement (dates September 15,2024), under Pt.3. – Implementation - it is stated and signed:

„All partner universities agree on the mutual recognition of skills, competencies and qualifications awarded in one of them.“

Recognition of skills and qualifications is THE key to support mobility, learning and career opportunities for all across the EU, therefore within these both joint doctoral programme,s Consortium pays special attention to the following **principles**:

- All partner universities agree on the mutual recognition of skills, competencies, qualifications and professional qualifications awarded in one of them, but always on the corresponding level. In the case of these doctoral programmes, **only the level 8** can be recognised mutually.
- Concerning the achievements according to the joint curriculum: All academic achievements/ teaching modules/workshops/tutorials/exams/complex exams etc. and other academic requirements are automatically recognized and the ECTS credits allocated. There is no need for case-by-case assessments when applicants have been trained in universities conferring essentially comparable skills and knowledge, therefore no formal decision on that is necessary.
- Concerning achievements additionally to the joint curriculum, completed at one of the partner universities: For additional examinations, **educational credits** are granted unless there is no substantial difference in comparison with the examinations according to the joint curriculum. For scientific work, **research credits** are granted

provided that this work can contribute to the aim of the thesis. For publications, **publication credits** are granted, if they are in line with the scientific field of the thesis. A formal decision on the extent of the crediting has to be taken by the partner university at which the work on the thesis is done, or which provides the corresponding parts of the joint curriculum.

- Concerning achievements additionally to the joint curriculum, completed at other universities or research institutions: Additional examinations, scientific work and publications shall be granted educational, research or, respectively, publication credits to full or part extent, if they build a reasonable completion of the joint doctorate. A formal decision on the extent of the crediting must be taken by the partner university at which the work on the thesis is done, or which provides the corresponding parts of the joint curriculum, informing the Consortium about this decision as the central body of the joint doctoral programme.
- Crediting applies also to non-formal and informal competencies, if they have undergone a validation procedure by the decision-making and degree-awarding university.

If a doctoral student is planning to do achievements additionally to the joint curriculum, she/he can apply to the partner university at which the work on the thesis is done, or which provides the corresponding parts of the joint curriculum, to decide in advance on the possibility of crediting after completion.

Informal qualifications correspond to the usual standards and are harmonized with all participating partner universities, corresponding to regulations in countries of origin.

After successfully passing the admission interview and entering the doctoral programme, the students get a detailed Information about the study programme, the academic requirements, their rights and their obligations during the study within the document: „Navigating and Managing your doctoral studies“.