

## **CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement**

The aim of this Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement is to develop inter-institutional cooperation at research level by sharing the responsibility for specific doctoral candidates through bilateral joint supervision.

The institutions cooperating within the Framework are adding a Signature Page giving reference to this Framework Agreement.

The accomplishment of inter-institutional research carried out at two universities within the network, and satisfying the minimum requirements established by this agreement, will lead to the delivery of two separate doctoral degrees by the two institutions cooperating with an individual candidate. The two institutions cooperating with joint supervision of a specific candidate are referred to as the partner institutions.

The national and institutional regulations have precedence over this Framework Agreement. The partner institutions agree to resolve any issues arising during the joint supervision in an amicable manner.

### **The cooperation within the CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework has the following common features**

- **Research**  
The doctoral thesis must be an advancement of knowledge through original research and suitable for dissemination within the scientific community
- **Mobility**  
Dual Doctorate cooperation will always imply international mobility of the doctoral candidates. The doctoral candidates will join a department at each of the degree awarding universities. This for developing the cultural and linguistic competences as well as for pooling of the academic and financial resources for the advancement of academic results not possible within one institution on its own.
- **Supervision**  
The doctoral candidates are supervised jointly and the supervisors of the partner institutions should be fully aware of the present CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Agreement and its implications.
- **Examination**  
The thesis should be examined at a joint, viva voce examination to be attended by representatives of the partner institutions. The partner institutions should be responsible for

organizing the procedure. The grading is awarded according to the respective rules of the partner institutions.

- **Duration of the doctoral studies**

The duration of the joint doctoral programme is normally 3 or 4 years of full time studies. In individual cases the duration can be different. The duration in each case is described in Annex.

- **Residence**

The time allocated to the preparation of the thesis and any coursework, teaching and other activities required for the degree will be shared between the partner institutions. The doctoral candidate will over the course of the doctoral studies spend approximately the same amount of the nominal duration at each of the partner institutions according to the provisions outlined in the Annex.

- **Awarding the degrees**

The doctoral candidate will receive the official doctoral degree from each of the two partner institutions.

The doctoral candidates who are awarded the dual degrees may also obtain a document confirming the completion of a CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Programme when agreed upon in the individual Annex.

- **Annexes**

When two of the cooperating CLUSTER-institutions admit jointly a doctoral candidate to the present cooperation scheme, an Annex outlining the requirements for the specific doctoral candidate will be set up according to the provided template.

## **GENERAL CLAUSES**

### **1. Admission**

Students will be admitted as doctoral student on a full-time basis to the partner institutions. Doctoral candidates covered by the joint supervision cooperation are admitted to the partner institutions, according to each institution's prevailing admission criteria. Admission is always at the discretion of each of the partner institutions.

The financing through grants or other funding sources need to be agreed by the partner institutions.

### **2. Rules and regulations**

The candidates are required to follow the rules and regulations for doctoral studies of the involved institutions, including the conditions for prolongation, withdrawal and termination of doctoral studies. If a student wishes to leave the joint doctoral program he or she will be free to pursue a regular degree at either institute, provided that existing regulations permit it.

### **3. Medical cover and individual insurance**

The doctoral candidate will have to possess medical insurance to cover their stay at both institutions, as well as an individual insurance covering workplace (occupational) accidents and third party liability.

**4. Annual enrolment fees**

As a principle double charging of fees will be avoided.

**5. Intellectual Property Rights**

The conditions for the exploitation of Intellectual Property Rights from the research done by doctoral students within this framework need to be outlined in the individual Annexes to this agreement.

**6. Use of names and emblems**

The partners are generally positive in using the two names and emblems of the partner institutions in joint recruitment and information activities, but permission to use the partner institution's name and emblem must be approved by the partner institution in advance.

**7. Disputes**

If a dispute arises regarding an obligation under this Agreement, including but not limited to disputes between examiners and/or supervisors, then:

- a. The party raising a dispute must inform the other party through a written notice (sent by registered mail) specifying the nature of the dispute;
- b. Upon receipt of the notice, the parties must endeavor to resolve the dispute in the shortest time possible by using informal dispute resolution techniques such as mediation or determination or similar methods as agreed between them;
- c. If the parties do not reach an agreement within 30 days after the receipt of the dispute notice, the dispute shall be referred for resolution in the first step by representatives of the two institutions appointed by the rectors and in the second step to an arbitrator jointly appointed by the parties.

**Validity of the Framework Agreement**

This agreement shall take effect on 1st of November 2015 for a duration of 6 years. The agreement may be extended or adjusted, on condition that all of the signing institutions agree on the alterations. This extension can include the commitment of a new partner institution within CLUSTER wishing to join the commitments in this agreement.

If any of the institutions wishes to terminate the agreement it can do so with a written notice.

## **Signature Page**

### **For Aalto University**

With this signature it is confirmed that our institution supports and adheres to the CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement that was decided at the CLUSTER Presidents' meeting in Eindhoven in October 2015.

Place: Espoo, Finland

Date: 11 May 2016

Signature :



Professor Tuija Pulkkinen  
Vice President

## Signature Page

**For Grenoble Institute of Technology,  
Member of the Doctoral College,  
Communauté Université Grenoble Alpes  
*Pour l'Institut polytechnique de Grenoble,  
Dans le cadre du collège doctoral de la  
Communauté Université Grenoble Alpes***

With this signature it is confirmed that our institution supports and adheres to the CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement that was decided at the CLUSTER Presidents' meeting in Eindhoven in October 2015.

*Confirme par cette signature que notre institution soutient et adhère à l'accord cadre de cotutelle de thèse dans le réseau CLUSTER, comme décidé lors de la réunion des Présidents des établissements du réseau CLUSTER à Eindhoven en octobre 2015.*

**A : Grenoble, France**

Le: 19 mars 2016

Signature :

\_\_\_\_\_  
Professor Brigitte Plateau  
Director



### For IST, Instituto Superior Técnico

With this signature it is confirmed that our institution supports and adheres to the CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement that was decided at the CLUSTER Presidents' meeting in Eindhoven in October 2015.

Place: Lisbon

Date: 23-3-2016

Signature :

  
Arlindo de Oliveira   
IST INSTITUTO SUPERIOR TÉCNICO LISBOA

President



## Signature Page

### For Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, KIT

With this signature it is confirmed that our institution supports and adheres to the CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement that was decided at the CLUSTER Presidents' meeting in Eindhoven in October 2015.

Place: Karlsruhe, Germany

Date: 30 June 2016

Signature:



---

Professor Dr. Alexander Wanner  
Vice President for Higher Education and Academic Affairs

[Stamp] Prof. Dr. Alexander Wanner  
Vizepräsident  
Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (KIT)  
Kaiserstraße 12, 76131 Karlsruhe



Karlsruher Institut für Technologie  
Das Präsidium

### For KTH Royal Institute of Technology

With this signature it is confirmed that our institution supports and adheres to the CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement that was decided at the CLUSTER Presidents' meeting in Eindhoven in October 2015.

Place: Stockholm

Date: 2015-12-15


Signature :



Peter Gudmundson



Signature :


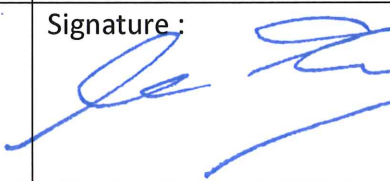



Per Berglund

Vice Dean of Faculty KTH



### For KU LEUVEN

With these signatures it is confirmed that our institution supports and adheres to the CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement that was decided at the CLUSTER Presidents' meeting in Eindhoven in October 2015.		
Place :		
Date: 14 JUNI 2016	Date : 3-6-2016	Date : 05/2016
Signature : 	Signature : 	Signature : 
Prof. Rik TORFS	Prof. Johan MARTENS	Prof. Michiel STEYAERT
Rector, KU Leuven	Research Co-ordinator, Science, Engineering & Technology KU Leuven	Dean, Faculty of Engineering Science KU Leuven

### **For POLITECNICO DI TORINO**

With this signature it is confirmed that our institution supports and adheres to the CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement that was decided at the CLUSTER Presidents' meeting in Eindhoven in October 2015.

Place: Torino

Date: 21/12/2018

Signature :

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Francesca Verga  
Vice Rector for International Affairs  
Politecnico di Torino

## Signature Page

### For Technische Universität Darmstadt

With this signature it is confirmed that our institution supports and adheres to the CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement that was decided at the CLUSTER Presidents' meeting in Eindhoven in October 2015.

Place: *Darmstadt*

Date: *May 11th, 2016*

Signature :



---

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Hans Jürgen Prömel

President

## Signature Page

### For Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

With this signature it is confirmed that our institution supports and adheres to the CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement that was decided at the CLUSTER Presidents' meeting in Eindhoven in October 2015.

Place: Barcelona

Date: 29/04/2016

Signature :



Professor NN Francisco L. Sepulcre Sanchez  
[Position] Doctoral School Director

Barcelona

26/10/2016



PROF. ENRIC FOSSAS  
COLIST  
RECTOR

## For Universidade de São Paulo

With this signature it is confirmed that our institution supports and adheres to the CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement that was decided at the CLUSTER Presidents' meeting in Eindhoven in October 2015.

Place: São Paulo

Date: 30 JAN 2019

Signature :



Carlos G. Carlotti Jr  
Pró-Reitor de Pós-Graduação  
Por delegação da Portaria GR 6580/2014

Prof. Dr. Carlos Gilberto Carlotti Junior  
Pro Vost for Graduate Studies

[Stamp]

## **Annex with reference to the CLUSTER Dual Doctorate Framework Agreement**

for [Partner University 1], [Partner University 2] and [Name of Candidate]

### **SPECIFIC CLAUSES**

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

##### **1. Candidate, personal details**

Family name:

First name:

Date and place of birth: Day Month Year, city

Previous degree to give eligibility: Degree, University

Citizenship:

Gender:

##### **2. Enrolment and fees**

	Enrolment	Fees:
Period 1:...	and/or	or

Period 2:...

Period 3:...

Period 4:...

[Details to be added about enrolment and fees]

##### **3. Medical cover and individual insurance**

	Enrolment	Fees:
Period 1:...	and/or	or

Period 2:...

Period 3:...

Period 4:...

[Details to be added about medical cover and insurance]

##### **4. Residence**

From ... to ... at PU1

From... to ... at PU2

[Further information can be added]



## **5. Financial resources**

[Details of the funding of the student ]

## **ACADEMIC PROVISIONS**

### **1. Research topic and provisional title**

The research field of the thesis is: [Field]

Provisional title: [Title]

### **2. Research supervision**

The candidate will be jointly supervised by [Title] [Name] and [Title] [Name].

Should a supervisor cease to be able to supervise the candidate, a new supervisor will be appointed and the partner institution will be notified about this.

### **3. Doctoral training requirements**

The student must satisfy the requirements as applicable.  
course work requirements of [PU 1] and [PU 2].

[Mention here when there are additional documents, for example individual study plan.]

### **4. Assessment procedures**

All normal assessment procedures and requirements for PhD-theses adopted by both [PU 1] and [PU 2].

[Mention compulsory reports and other mandatory procedures.]

### **5. Thesis**

The candidates thesis will be written in English with a summary as required by the different regulations. [specify the requirements for the PU].

The two institutions agree for the format of thesis....

The supervisors will notify - in writing or otherwise, as prescribed by the regulations at both universities – when they support that the thesis/dissertation is ready for examination.

### **6. Examination of thesis**

[Specify the assessment procedures agreed upon in the specific case]

### **7. Protection of property rights**

[Specify the conditions property rights in the individual case].

### **8. Awarding of Degrees**

Following success in the above examination and providing that all the requirements adopted by both institutions for the doctoral degree have been met the institutions will issue the following degrees

- a) [PU 1] will award the degree [Degree 1]
- b) [PU 2] will award the degree [Degree 2]

[It must be agreed here on the issuing of the Degree Certificate; if there will be a single or two separate degree certificates, if there must be a reference to the cooperating institution.]

## **9. Duration of the agreement**

The present agreement is valid for the time necessary for completion of the thesis of [Name of student].

Both [PU 1] and [PU 2] may at any time review this agreement and the action taken under it. Modifications to this agreement may be made by mutual agreement and confirmed through an amendment to this agreement.

Signatures

The Annex is signed in three identical originals

Signed on behalf of  
[PU1]

by its duly authorized representative:

Place, date

.....  
[N N]  
Position

.....  
[N N]  
Position

.....  
[N N]  
Position

Signed on behalf of  
[PU2]

by its duly authorized representative:

Place, Date:

.....  
[N N]  
Position

.....  
[N N]  
Position

.....  
[N N]  
Position

.....  
[N N]  
Doctoral Candidate