**AGREEMENT FOR A JOINT RESEARCH DOCTORAL THESIS (COTUTELLE)**

The "Sapienza" University of Rome, whose headquarters are at Piazzale Aldo Moro 5, Rome, Italy, represented for the purposes hereof by the Rector Prof. Antonella POLIMENI, further to the powers vested in her

**AND**

the University of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ represented for the purposes hereof by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ further to the powers vested in him

For the Italian university:

* having regard to the resolution of the University Senate of 2 October 2003;
* having regard to Article 19 of Law no. 240/2010 on research doctorates;
* having regard to Ministerial Decree no. 226/2021 on rules governing research doctorates;
* having regard to the University Regulations on research doctorates;

For the foreign university:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ;

united in their desire to contribute to establishing and/or developing scientific co-operation between Italian and foreign teams of researchers through the mobility of doctoral candidates

agree as follows

**First Part - Administrative Matters**

Art. 1 - The "Sapienza" University of Rome and the University of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter referred to as the "Institutions") agree, in accordance with the applicable laws, rules and regulations in force in each of their respective countries and Institutions, to jointly organise a doctoral thesis for the benefit of the following doctoral candidate:

name and surname: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* at "Sapienza" University of Rome is enrolled (will be enrolled) in the research doctorate course in……………………………………………………………………………………….
* at the University of is enrolled (will be enrolled) in the research doctorate course in………...

title of the thesis:………………………………………………………………………………………

The principles governing the joint doctoral thesis as well as the relevant administrative procedures and education related matters are established in this agreement.

Art. 2 - The period for researching and writing the thesis shall be three years, commencing from 1 November ……………. Where necessary such term can be prolonged in accordance with the rules in force at both of the Institutions; in any case, the extension period cannot exceed 12 (twelve) months and must be approved by the respective competent Bodies of both Institutions. If approved, this extension automatically applies to the cotutelle agreement. The total duration of the PhD career cannot exceed four (4) years, which includes the three-year legal duration and a maximum extension of 12 months. After this period, no other extension can be approved, and the doctoral student – if admitted - must attend the final exam (thesis discussion) on the first available date set by the University.

Art. 3 - The thesis shall be researched and written in alternating periods (more or less of equal length) at both Institutions. The duration of such periods shall be fixed by agreement between the two thesis supervisors.

Art. 4 – The PhD student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will be enrolled at both Institutions.

At SAPIENZA, enrolment must be renewed annually for the entire PhD career and will be subject to the payment of the virtual stamp duty (€16,00) and the regional tax (€140,00).

At the University of ....., he/she will pay the regular enrolment fees........................................

**Second Part - Educational Matters**

Art. 1 – The candidate shall research and write the thesis under the joint supervision of:

* Prof.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(member at the Department of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_), thesis supervisor at the "Sapienza" University of Rome;
* Prof.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(member at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_), thesis supervisor at\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

each of whom undertake to fully perform their duties as tutors of the candidate and to evaluate - by means of separate and individual written reports - the doctoral thesis.

The positive assessment of both thesis supervisors shall be a necessary prerequisite for admission to the final examination.

Art. 2 - The one and only oral defence of the thesis shall take place at the University of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Art. 3 - The examinations commission shall be appointed by the rectors of both universities and shall have an equal number of academics from both Institutions and shall comprise at least four members. The two thesis supervisors shall participate in the discussion but not in the valuation.

Art. 4 – Any mission expenses of the examination commission shall be borne by the two contracting institutions.

At Sapienza such expenses will be covered by the Cost Centre to which the Sapienza PhD programme belongs.

Art. 5 – The thesis shall be written and orally defended in Italian; the abstract shall be written in English/French (or the language of the Partner Institution) and shall be presented orally in that language at the time the thesis itself is being defended. The Teaching Body may authorise the writing of the thesis in English or in another language of the European Union.

Art. 6 – Each of the two Institutions undertakes to award a doctoral degree for the same thesis following a favourable report issued by the examination commission.

The "Sapienza" University of Rome will award a research doctoral degree in…………………………

The University of …………will award a research doctoral degree in………………………………….

**Third Part - Conclusion**

Art. 1 – Doctoral candidates shall observe the rules and customs of the host Institution.

Art. 2 – The contracting Institutions, through the offices of their respective thesis supervisors, undertake to notify each other of all the information and documentation useful for the purposes of organising the joint thesis that is the subject matter of this present agreement.

Art. 3 – The presentation, deposit and reproduction of the thesis shall be done in each and every country in accordance with the applicable regulations in force. The protection of the subject matter of the thesis and likewise the publication, exploitation and protection of the results obtained by the candidate's research in the contracting Institutions shall be subject to the applicable law in force and guaranteed in compliance with the specific procedures in this regard of each of the countries involved in the joint thesis.

If requested, the provisions in connection with intellectual property rights may be agreed in specific protocols or documents.

Art. 4 – This agreement shall be effective as and from the date of its execution by the authorised representative of each contracting Institution and shall be valid until the end of the academic year during which the thesis or study will be orally defended.

In the event that the candidate does not register in one or other of the contracting Institutions, renounces in writing or is not authorised to continue researching and writing the thesis by virtue of a decision made by one of the two thesis supervisors, the contracting Institutions shall jointly and without delay terminate this agreement.

Art. 5 – This agreement has binding legal force.

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| For "Sapienza" University of Rome  THE RECTOR  Prof. Antonella POLIMENI  **Digitally signed** | For \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  THE PRESIDENT/RECTOR/DIRECTOR  Full name |
| The Research Doctorate Co-ordinator  Full name  **Digitally signed[[1]](#footnote-1)**  (No stamp will appear here) | The Research Doctorate Co-ordinator  Full name |
| The Thesis Supervisor  Full name  **Digitally signed[[2]](#footnote-2)**  (No stamp will appear here) | The Thesis Supervisor  Full name |

1. To verify the digital signature, click on the 'pen' icon at the top left of the PDF file or visit Sapienza digital signature verification at <https://www.studenti.uniroma1.it/CryptoClientWeb/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Refer to the above note 1 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)