



**RESOLUTION  
OF THE SENATE  
OF VILNIUS UNIVERSITY**

**ON THE AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE OF VILNIUS  
UNIVERSITY NO. S-2017-10-3 OF 24 OCTOBER 2017 “ON THE APPROVAL OF THE  
REGULATION OF DOCTORAL STUDIES AT VILNIUS UNIVERSITY”**

In accordance with Article 33(1)(32) of the Statute of Vilnius University, for the purpose of implementing Order of the Minister of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Lithuania No. V-2003 of 23 December 2022 “On the Approval of the Regulations of Doctoral Studies” (wording of Order of the Minister of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Lithuania No. V-1341 of 7 September 2020), and taking into account Proposal from the Rector of Vilnius University No. RTK-45 of 12 October 2023 “On the Amendment to Resolution of the Senate of Vilnius University No. S-2017-10-3 of 24 October 2017 “On the Approval of the Regulation of Doctoral Studies at Vilnius University”” and Resolution of the Research Affairs Committee of the Senate of Vilnius University of 10 October 2023 (Minutes No. (1.9 E) 11500-KT-423), the Senate of Vilnius University hereby decides:

1. To amend the Regulation of Doctoral Studies at Vilnius University, approved by Resolution of the Senate of Vilnius University No. S-2017-10-3 of 24 October 2017 “On the Approval of the Regulation of Doctoral Studies at Vilnius University” (wording of Resolution of the Senate of Vilnius University No. SPN-53 of 6 October 2020) (hereinafter the ‘Regulation’) and recast it (attached).

2. To determine that:

2.1. The Regulation shall be fully applicable to persons admitted to doctoral studies from 1 October 2023; to persons admitted to doctoral studies before 1 October 2023 if they did not successfully defend their dissertation during the period of their doctoral studies or within one year after the end of their doctoral studies; as well as to persons admitted to doctoral studies before 1 October 2023 with their written consent which is submitted together with the application to defend the dissertation if they have not completed their doctoral studies yet;

2.2. to persons who were admitted to doctoral studies from 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2020 and are defending their dissertation during the period of their doctoral studies or within one year after the end of their doctoral studies, the Regulation shall be applicable with the following exceptions:

2.2.1. the following wording of Item 45 of the Regulation shall be applicable to persons indicated in Item 2(2) of the Resolution:

“45. The scope of doctoral studies amounts to at least 33 credits. A doctoral student studies at least three course units. A doctoral student shall obtain three credits for the participation in general competence skills development activities or international summer and/or winter schools, for their internship or partial studies abroad. The decision on giving additional credits shall be taken by the Committee.

2.2.2. the following wording of Item 64 of the Regulation shall be applicable to persons indicated in Item 2(2) of the Resolution:

“64. At the proposal of the academic supervisor of the doctoral student, and subject to the approval of the Committee, the dissertation completed as a set of research articles may be submitted for defence. In that case, the dissertation shall consist of an overview of at least one author’s sheet in length, a summary in Lithuanian or a foreign language (in a language different from that of the overview), and copies of the research publications of the author on the subject matter of the dissertation. The most important findings of the research carried out by the author must be published in at least four articles published or accepted for publishing (having a digital object identifier (hereinafter the ‘DOI’)) (in at least one of which the author of the dissertation is listed as the first co-author or is the only one author) in international research journals assigned a citation index in the *Clarivate Analytics Web of Science (CA WoS)* database.”;

2.2.3. the following wording of Item 71 of the Regulation shall be applicable to persons indicated in Item 2(2) of the Resolution:

“71. A doctoral student may submit their dissertation for defence provided the student:

71.1. has passed all the examinations provided for in the work plan of doctoral studies;

71.2. has prepared at least two articles on the main research findings published (or accepted for publishing) in peer-reviewed research journals or in a research monograph. A doctoral student shall publish the findings of their research:

71.2.1. in humanities and social sciences – in at least two articles in peer-reviewed research journals, of which one is published in an international journal with more than half members of the editorial board from outside the country of the journal, or in a research monograph;

71.2.2. in biomedicine, physical sciences and technologies – in at least two articles in international research journals with a citation index in the *Clarivate Analytics Web of Science (CA WoS)* database;

71.3. has presented the findings of their research in at least two international academic events;

71.4. has completed an internship of at least three months in duration (total duration) at foreign research and studies institution(s) (recommended);

71.5. has completed the dissertation.”

2.3. To persons who were admitted to doctoral studies from 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2023 and are defending their dissertation during the period of their doctoral studies or within one year after the end of their doctoral studies, the Regulation shall be applicable with the following exceptions:

2.3.1. the following wording of Item 45 of the Regulation shall be applicable to persons indicated in Item 2(3) of the Order:

“45. The scope of doctoral studies amounts to at least 30 credits. A doctoral student studies at least three course units on the topic of the dissertation. It is recommended that the doctoral student’s work plan is designed in such a way that five credits would be allocated for the development of general skills (i.e. preparation of project applications, scientific writing, academic ethics, intellectual property, entrepreneurship, communication skills, etc.).”

2.3.2. the following wording of Item 64 of the Regulation shall be applicable to persons indicated in Item 2(3) of the Order:

“64. At the proposal of the academic supervisor of the doctoral student, and subject to the approval of the Committee, the dissertation completed as a set of research articles may be submitted for defence. In that case, the dissertation shall consist of an overview of at least one author’s sheet in length, a summary in Lithuanian or a foreign language (in a language different from that of the overview), and copies of the research publications of the author on the subject matter of the dissertation. The most important findings of the research carried out by the author must be published in at least four articles published or accepted for publishing (having a digital object identifier (hereinafter the ‘DOI’)) in international research journals assigned a citation index in the *Clarivate Analytics Web of Science (CA WoS)* database and must not be provided in previously defended dissertations.”

2.3.3. the following wording of Item 71 of the Regulation shall be applicable to persons indicated in Item 2(3) of the Order:

“71. A doctoral student may submit their dissertation for defence provided the student:

71.1. has passed all the examinations provided for in the work plan of doctoral studies;

71.2. has prepared at least two articles on the main research findings published (or having the DOI) in peer-reviewed research journals or in a research monograph that were not provided in previously defended dissertations. A doctoral student shall publish the findings of their research:

71.2.1. in humanities and social sciences – in at least two articles in peer-reviewed research journals, of which one is published in an international journal with more than half members of the editorial board from outside the country of the journal, or in international research journals with a citation index in the *Clarivate Analytics Web of Science (CA WoS)* or *Elsevier Scopus (Scopus)* databases, or in a research monograph;

71.2.2. in other sciences – in at least two articles in international research journals with a citation index in the *Clarivate Analytics Web of Science (CA WoS)* database;

71.3. has presented the findings of their research in at least two international academic events;

71.4. has completed an internship of at least three months in duration (total duration) at foreign research and studies institution(s) (recommended);

71.5. has completed the dissertation.”

2.4. The requirement established in Item 12 of the Regulation to review and update the composition of the Doctoral Studies Committee at least once every five years shall be applied from the approval of the Regulation.

2.5. The new five-year terms of office of the chairpersons of the Doctoral Studies Committees established in Item 13 of the Regulation shall start after the end of the current terms of office. The chairperson of the Committee may hold their position for a period no longer than two consecutive five-year terms of office, including the terms started or finished before the approval of this Regulation.