



Doctoral Agreement

pursuant to § 9 Reglement Rahmenpflichtenhefte

Preamble

The support and development of early-career academics is of central importance to the University of Zurich. At the Faculty of Law, the following applies:

- The dissertation may be written as a **monograph** or as a **cumulative dissertation**.
- Dual supervision is the rule (pursuant to § 21 para. 1 Ordinance for obtaining a Doctoral Degree).

The supervisors support the doctoral candidate in their dissertation. Early exchange and qualified feedback are essential for the development of the research project. The parties to this agreement therefore align their mutual expectations regarding their collaboration from the outset, particularly with regard to communication and response times.

The University of Zurich supports the academic and personal continuing education and development of its doctoral candidates through a wide range of internal continuing education opportunities, in particular for acquiring and strengthening transferable skills.

The Doctoral Agreement is reviewed at least once a year as part of the **career development meeting**, updated where necessary, and submitted to RWF Human Resources for filing in the personnel file.

1. Parties to the agreement

Doctoral candidate

First and last name	
Matriculation number	
Faculty	
Email	

Primary supervisor

Title, first and last name	
Faculty	
Email	

Secondary supervisor*

Title, first and last name	
Faculty	
Email	

* Mandatory for doctorates to which the provisions of the Ordinance for obtaining a Doctoral Degree in force since 1 August 2026 apply.

Additional responsible person (optional)

Title, first and last name	
Faculty	
Email	
Task/function	

2. Subject Matter

This Doctoral Agreement governs the process, objectives, time frame, nature and scope of supervision, and the framework conditions of the doctoral candidate's doctorate. It contains information on module selection, assessments and ECTS credits. In the case of a cumulative dissertation, the research plan pursuant to § 22a of the Ordinance for obtaining a Doctoral Degree and § 9 DokO RWF forms part of the Doctoral Agreement and must be available when it is signed.

3. Doctoral Project

General information

Field/doctoral program	
Start	
Planned semester of completion	

Dissertation

Form	☒ Monograph	☐ Cumulative dissertation
Language		
Working title		

Abstract (approx. 200–300 words)

☐ see Appendix 1 (Abstract)

4. Research Plan and Progress

Planned work steps and milestones

☐ see Appendix 2 (Work steps/research plan)

The work steps must be described in sufficient detail to allow the work performed to be assessed and to determine whether the own contribution has been made. In the case of a cumulative dissertation, a research plan within the meaning of § 22a Ordinance for obtaining a Doctoral degree and § 9 DokO RWF must be prepared.

Completed work steps and milestones

☐ see Appendix 3 (Progress)

The work steps and milestones achieved since the last career development meeting must be specified, and those not achieved must be explained. Additional achievements may also be mentioned (e.g. in the areas of student supervision, knowledge transfer, academic self-governance, active participation in conferences, etc.).

5. Curricular Requirements

Module title	Module no.	ECTS	Semester	Status		External*
				☐ completed	☒ planned	☐
				☐ completed	☐ planned	☐
				☐ completed	☐ planned	☐
				☐ completed	☐ planned	☐

* For externally completed coursework, confirmation of the completed course must be enclosed.

6. Rights and Obligations of the Doctoral Candidate

6.1 Personal Contribution

In addition to their employment at UZH, each doctoral candidate employed in a junior academic position is expected to make a personal contribution equivalent to at least 20% of a full-time equivalent toward the doctorate and doctoral studies.

The personal contribution must be made in consultation with the primary supervisor.

Brief description of the personal contribution:

☐ see Appendix 4 (Personal Contribution)

6.2 Academic Integrity and Research

The doctoral candidate complies with the applicable statutory and university provisions, in particular those relating to good research practice, the use of artificial intelligence, rights to research results, and the handling of research data and code. The doctoral candidate takes into account the recommendations of the University of Zurich's Open Science Policy.

Any further statutory or contractual requirements remain reserved.

6.3 Further Rights and Obligations

The doctoral candidate undertakes to report regularly to the primary supervisor on the progress of the dissertation and to coordinate planned absences with them at an early stage. Further arrangements may be made and attached to this agreement as an appendix.

7. Rights and Obligations of the Supervisors

7.1 Support of the doctoral candidate

The primary supervisor advises the doctoral candidate on the topic and timeline of the dissertation, on the selection of courses, and on other activities accompanying the dissertation.

The primary supervisor undertakes to provide appropriate and constructive support to the doctoral candidate in achieving their academic objectives.

The primary supervisor supports the doctoral candidate in developing academic independence at an early stage, introduces them to the scientific community, and supports them in career planning.

The primary supervisor supports the doctoral candidate with publications and participation in academic meetings and conferences.

Unless otherwise agreed, the secondary supervisor has a supportive and advisory role in the doctoral process and serves as an additional point of contact. They also contribute to quality assurance.

7.2 Career Development Meetings

The primary supervisor is responsible for organizing and conducting the career development meetings within the meaning of § 16 of the Reglement Rahmenpflichtenhefte.

The doctoral project is the subject of the career development meetings. The information and appendices relating to sections 4 and 5 of this Doctoral Agreement are updated at each meeting. The remaining data and agreements are adjusted as required.

8. Procedure in the Event of Disagreement and Conflict

In the event of differences of opinion or conflicts, all parties involved endeavor to reach an amicable solution.

Where necessary, they contact the Vice Dean of Research & Academic Career Development of the Faculty of Law.

9. Validity of the Doctoral Agreement

This Doctoral Agreement replaces all previous Doctoral Agreements and is valid from

This Doctoral Agreement may be amended during a career development meeting or in consultation with all parties involved.

Place, date

Doctoral candidate

Place, date

Place, date

Primary supervisor

Secondary supervisor

Place, date

Additional responsible person

Copies

- Original to primary supervisor
- Copy to doctoral candidate
- Copy to secondary supervisor and any other responsible persons
- Copy to RWF Human Resources

Legal Basis

Ordinance on the Conferral of a Doctorate of Jurisprudence (Dr. iur.) at the Faculty of Law of the University of Zurich (Ordinance for obtaining a Doctoral Degree), dated 25 May 2009, LS 415.413; version as of 1 August 2026.

Doctoral Regulations of the Faculty of Law of the University of Zurich (DokO RWF), dated 21 May 2025, RS 6.1.1.1.; version as of 1 August 2026.

Regulations for the General Outline of Rights and Responsibilities of the Faculties for Teaching and Research Assistants and Doctoral Candidates (Reglement Rahmenpflichtenhefte), dated 29 August 2023.

Ordinance on Dealing with Scientific Misconduct at the University of Zurich (Integrity Ordinance), dated 25 May 2020, LS 415.27.

Employment Ordinance of the University of Zurich (PVO-UZH), dated 29 September 2014, LS 415.21.

The regulations issued on the basis thereof, as amended from time to time.