

# Doctoral Candidate Agreement

## “European PhD Program in Computational Logic”

### **Scope:**

This agreement regulates the doctoral candidate's participation in the European PhD Program in Computational Logic (EPCL) as well as the candidate's and consortium's obligations and rights. EPCL is run by the following consortium partner universities: the Technische Universität Dresden in Germany, the Free-University of Bozen-Bolzano in Italy, the Universidade Nova de Lisboa in Portugal, the Technische Universität Wien in Austria.

### **The undersigned**

1. Technische Universität Dresden (TUD), coordinating institution of the PhD program, hereafter referred to as the "Institution", represented in the present contract by Prof. Dr. rer. nat. habil. Steffen Hölldobler as the "First Signatory",

and

2. Doctoral candidate: .....

Name: .....

Date of birth: .....

Place of birth: .....

Nationality: .....

hereafter referred to as "the Candidate"(respective as "Second Signatory"), agree to the following conditions and terms:

### **Article 1: General Principles and Requirements**

1.1 The General Principles and Requirements stipulated in the *European Charter for Researchers* provide the framework for this agreement.

1.2 The Candidate studies according to the *Common Study and Examination Regulations of EPCL* specified by the consortium.

### **Article 2: Financial Issues**

*Participation Costs* per year: 7200 EUR:

This amount must be paid in installments per semester amounting to 3600 EUR to the Institution. It covers the education and research related costs like the use of the infrastructure, computing laboratories, special high performance computing facilities and the Candidate's mandatory mobility and mandatory activities.

An overview on the participation costs is attached to this agreement.

### **Article 3: Academic Issues**

3.1 The Candidate will work on the following preliminary *thesis subject*:

Title: .....

Abstract: .....

First selected European university: .....

First supervisor's name: .....

#### ***3.2 Mobility:***

The Candidate must select between a foundation track and an application-oriented track within the first semester.

Foundation track: at least two semesters at each of the selected European universities and at least three months at the selected non-European university.

Application-oriented track: at least two semesters at each of the selected European universities and at least three months at an enterprise.

#### ***3.3 Duration:***

It is expected that the Candidate completes the PhD program within three years.

### **Article 4: Language**

The language of tuition is English for all elements of the program with exception of the *language and communication module*. The Candidates is obliged to learn at least two different European languages spoken at the partner universities.

### **Article 5: Academic Training**

The course work comprises 36 ECTS credits and consists of the modules *basic training camp, PhD colloquia, PhD workshop, across borders workshop, soft skills, and language and communication* according to the common study plan specified in the *Study and Examination Regulation of EPCL*. The Candidate is strongly encouraged to participate in Summer Schools, international conferences and workshops, scientific competitions, and exhibitions related to his/her PhD project. It is expected that he/she publishes his/her research results at leading international workshops and conferences or in leading international journals.

### **Article 6: Assessment of the Study / Research Progress**

The Candidate's advisory committee consisting of three supervisors and two external experts will assess the research progress by evaluating the Candidate's reports every six months and give advices at the PhD workshops once a year.

*The following criteria are used related to the evaluation of the study and research work:*

- technical soundness
- potential impact
- quality of presentations
- adequate consideration of related works
- completion of module course work
- participation in further obligatory activities (Summer School, Conferences)

The Candidate's presentation of his/her PhD work at the workshops will be evaluated by the related supervisors. Thereafter, the Joint Commission of EPCL will decide whether the Candidate may

continue in the PhD program.

### **Article 7: Final Examination**

The Candidate may apply for an examination if he/she has finished his/her course work , has achieved the obligatory two publications and has completed his/her PhD thesis.

The PhD examination consists of the course work, the PhD thesis and its defense.

The Candidate must

- apply for an examination by submitting his/her certificates obtained for the modules of course work and the bibliographical references for his/her publications and his/her PhD thesis simultaneously to his/her selected universities,
- choose the partner university at which the defense of his/her PhD thesis shall take place. This university must be one of his/her selected universities.

The partner university chosen by the Candidate for defending his/her PhD thesis appoints a joint examination commission consisting of members from the selected universities at which the Candidate has studied and at least two examiners who will report on the PhD thesis.

### **Article 8: Award of Degree**

Doctoral candidates receive a joint degree from their selected universities, where they have studied at least for two semesters. The PhD document includes the names and signatures of the persons specified by the local examination regulations of the degree-awarding universities as well as the seal of the degree-awarding universities. It includes the designation of the academic degree, or both national designations, in case these are different, and a remark to the effect that the European PhD Program in Computational Logic was conducted jointly by several universities.

### **Article 9: Intellectual Property**

The Candidate, the supervisors and the universities will comply with the relevant institutional Intellectual Property Policies in order to protect the doctoral research and the publication of research results. In the event of potential commercialisation of the research program's intellectual property, the universities, which must have authority to negotiate on the student's behalf, will negotiate in good faith the commercialisation of any intellectual property arising from the research program in accordance with their respective Intellectual Property Policies.

### **Article 10: Candidate's Obligations**

Under the present agreement, the Candidate is obliged

- to enroll full-time in EPCL,
- to study seriously with the objective of successfully passing all examinations in relation to the *Common Study and Examination Regulations of EPCL* considering the *Decisions by the Joint Commission* defined in the booklet "All about EPCL",
- to follow the mobility path approved by the joint commission,
- to attend at least one international Summer School,
- to regularly and actively participate in international workshops and conferences, scientific competitions and exhibitions related to his/her PhD project,
- to submit a report to his/her advisory committee at the end of each semester. This report must contain information on the completed course work modules, submitted and/or accepted publications, given presentations and other scientific results as well as a research plan for the upcoming semester,
- to present and defend his/her PhD proposal after one year and his/her PhD work after the

second year at the PhD workshops, each year,

*and he/she must inform in writing the Institution immediately on*

- any academic, medical or personal reasons for extended absence,
- any vocational occupation with a regular salary in parallel to the studies,
- any change of his/her private address including his/her private email address.

#### **Article 11: Measures in case of Failure**

- Any deliberate failure on part of the Candidate to fulfill the conditions stipulated by the present agreement constitutes sufficient reason for action to be taken towards resolving this agreement after adequate warning in writing.

#### **Article 12: Consortium's Obligations**

The consortium partner universities

- mutually recognize the Candidate's study times, the study and examination achievements on the basis of modules, the PhD theses, their defenses and the final grades,
- accept the Candidate as a full member of the respective local research groups,
- offer the access to classes, seminars and the respective research facilities, libraries, computing facilities etc.,
- appoint supervisors who are sufficiently experts in supervising research and perform these tasks to the highest professional standards,
- evaluate the Candidate' progress according to article 5 of this agreement
- support the Candidate in relation to housing and visa procedure and offer integration service to the Candidate, his/her family and special needs related service.

#### **Article 13: General Terms**

- All personal data may be transferred to the European Commission on request.
- Any alteration of the present agreement must be communicated in writing. All alterations of the initial situation must be immediately communicated by the Candidate to the Institution. Upon mutual agreement of contractual modifications, the Institution will issue an addendum to the present agreement.
- The Institution is exonerated from any responsibility for accidents, illnesses, injuries, losses or damages to persons or goods resulting from or in any way related to the activities that are the object of the present agreement.
- The involved parties will try to resolve any disputes arising from this agreement in a conciliatory manner. In case of conflicts or problems an intermediary professor may be contacted at each European partner university, anytime.

The signatories declare that they have read and accept the conditions and terms laid down in the present agreement.

First Signatory  
Prof. Dr. rer. nat. habil. Steffen Hölldobler

Second Signatory  
Mr./Mrs.

Date, Place:

Date, Place:

**Attachments:**

Booklet "All about EPCL" (including *Common Study and Examination Regulations of EPCL* and the overview on the participation costs)