



universität  
wien

Forschungsservice und  
Nachwuchsförderung

# *Collaborative Doctoral Programmes*

## Important Components

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**MARDS 3<sup>rd</sup> Training: Training of academic and professional staff on  
EU practices of doctoral education: Collaborative Doctoral  
Programmes; Banská Bystrica, Slovakia, Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> – Oct 5<sup>th</sup> 2019**





# Reforming doctoral studies in Montenegro and Albania

## Good Practice Paradigm/ MARDS

### Work Package 4

...we plan to open **two Joint PhD Schools**, one in Montenegro and second in Albania:

### **"Natural Sciences and Technology for Sustainable Development"**

with place in Montenegro (Podgorica)

and

### **"Economy and Tourism for Sustainable Development"**

with place in Albania (Shkoder).

...

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## Topics that will be addressed...

### Important Components for Collaboration on Three Levels

**Strategic Collaboration Agreements**  
between two Universities

**Cotutelle Agreements**  
for Individual PhD Candidates

**Joint PhD Programmes**  
between two Universities

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## Aim of this presentation is to...

- ...provide information on essentials for each form of collaboration
- ...give you hands-on examples from UniVIE side
- ...show that there is no „*best solution*“
- ...enable you to elaborate a detailed working paper for the two Joint PhD Schools in the upcoming working groups

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## Strategic Collaboration Agreements

### Background UniVIE

- Strategic Partnership Agreements with e.g. Fudan University and Peking University CHN; Hebrew University Jerusalem, ISR; University of Chicago, USA; etc.
- Framework **agreement between two Institutions** to strengthen co-operation and academic/educational exchange  
*e.g. exchange of scientific and administrative staff as well as PhDs; joint coursework; etc.*
- regulates basic pillars of institutional cooperation; **curricula not part of it**  
*used to set up rules for cooperation between two universities/faculties/schools, not to define study programmes*

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## Strategic Collaboration Agreements

### IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

- §0. Preamble
- §1. Objective
- §2. **Activities in the Strategic Partnership Framework**

*Joint coursework; international PhD mobility; yearly symposia; scientific retreats; etc.*

- §3. **Teaching Staff Exchange** (Exchange of Faculty Members) and § 4. **Student Exchange**

*Researcher and PhD exchange*

- §5. **Joint Research Activities**

*To be developed by individuals = separate agreements; but: e.g. exchange of research materials*

- §6. Joint Publications and Conferences

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## **Strategic Collaboration Agreements**

### IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

- **§7. Funding**

*Transparent amounts to be investments, allocation formulas and signature authorities*

- **§8. Coordination of Activities**

*Governance structure (management; scientific personnel; partnership coordinator)*

- §9. Liability

*To the extent permitted by law, ... liability for damages caused by their employees or students in connection with the execution of this Agreement.*

- §10. Term and Termination

*Commence dates; circumstances for termination of cooperation*

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## **Strategic Collaboration Agreements**

### IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

- §11. Formal Requirements

*Rules to change involved persons and agreement terms*

- §12. Miscellaneous

*Code of good scientific practise; anti discrimination; women's advancement; etc.*

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## 2. Cotutelle Agreements

### Background UniVIE

- model originated in France, *la tutelle [JURA] – supervision*
- Co-supervision agreements **for individual PhD candidates**  
*framework agreement possible but not mandatory*
- agreements between two cooperating institutions, the candidate's supervisors and the PhD
- **regulates student life cycle at each institution**  
*e.g. enrolment, study programme/achievements, supervision, evaluation of dissertation, etc.*
- candidate **enrolled at both universities**; receives a **diploma from each university**

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## 2. Cotutelle Agreements

### Fact and Figures UniVIE



**110 cotutelle PhDs**

since start of programme in 2008



41 ongoing – 11 defense started

**44 successfull – 14 dropout**



**Partner Universities in 18 countries**

led by IT; FR; DE



**Most cotutelles in philological and historical studies**

followed by natural sciences

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## 2. Cotutelle Agreements

### ADVANTAGES and LIMITATIONS



- On an individual level  
*flexible and tailor-made at once*
- Fast implementation possible
- Accepted by EC for European Joint Doctorates (EJDs) funding programme



- University study law cannot be overruled
- No joint curriculum/degree
- High administrative effort

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## **2. Cotutelle Agreements**

Hands on – IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

See Example Document!

**§1 Objective**

**§2 Administrative Modalities**

**§3 Doctoral Studies**

**§4 Thesis Submission and Intellectual Property**

**§5 Final Examination**

**§6 Academic Degree**

**§7 Agreement Terms**

**§8 Travel- and Accommodation Expenses**

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## **2. Cotutelle Agreements**

Hands on – IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

### **§1 Objective**

### **§2 Administrative Modalities**

**Admission - Fees – Insurance**

### **§3 Doctoral Studies**

**IMPORTANT: 2 Curricula! – Language – Supervision (min.2)**

### **§4 Thesis Submission and Intellectual Property**

**One thesis, handed in at both Universities – 2 review procedures but coordinated**

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## **2. Cotutelle Agreements**

Hands on – IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

### **§5 Final Examination**

**Most complicated part - aim is equally balanced jury – 2 grades possible**

### **§6 Academic Degree**

**2 diplomas – cross reference to cooperation – only single academic degree allowed!**

### **§7 Agreement Terms**

**Runtime – reasons for termination – juridical backup**

### **§8 Travel- and Accommodation Expenses**

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## 2. Cotutelle Agreements

### Summary

- Solution to quickly implement cooperation for a joint school
- UniVIE agreement very generic; MARDS well defined = more elaborated/specific agreement
- On principle you can steer all aspects in a PhDs life cycle; but limited by national/university study law

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### 3. Joint PhD Programmes

#### Background UniVIE

- To be negotiated and implemented **at an institutional level**  
*multiple legal documents and processes mandatory*
- **Common Framework** between two cooperating institutions  
*e.g. governance structure and finance, study plan (i.e. curriculum), supervision, key data for ministry, etc.*
- Basis: **One Joint Curriculum** and **One Joint Degree**
- Candidate **enrolled at both universities**; receives **one diploma accredited by both universities**

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### 3. Joint PhD Programmes

#### Fact and Figures UniVIE



#### Joint PhD Programme

Negotiations started Summer 2019



#### Around 250 PhDs at Campus Vienna Biocenter

ca. 100 research groups



#### PhDs from Life Sciences and Medicine

homogenous target group/needs

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### 3. Joint PhD Programmes Fact and Figures UniVIE

National Cooperation  
between 2 Universities



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### **3. Joint PhD Programmes**

Hands on – IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

**The Joint Doctoral School as Superstructure for Joint PhD Programmes**

**Transparent Governance Structure**

**Selection Procedure and Admission**

**Joint PhD Curriculum**

**Supervision**

**Organisatoric Implementation and Timeline**

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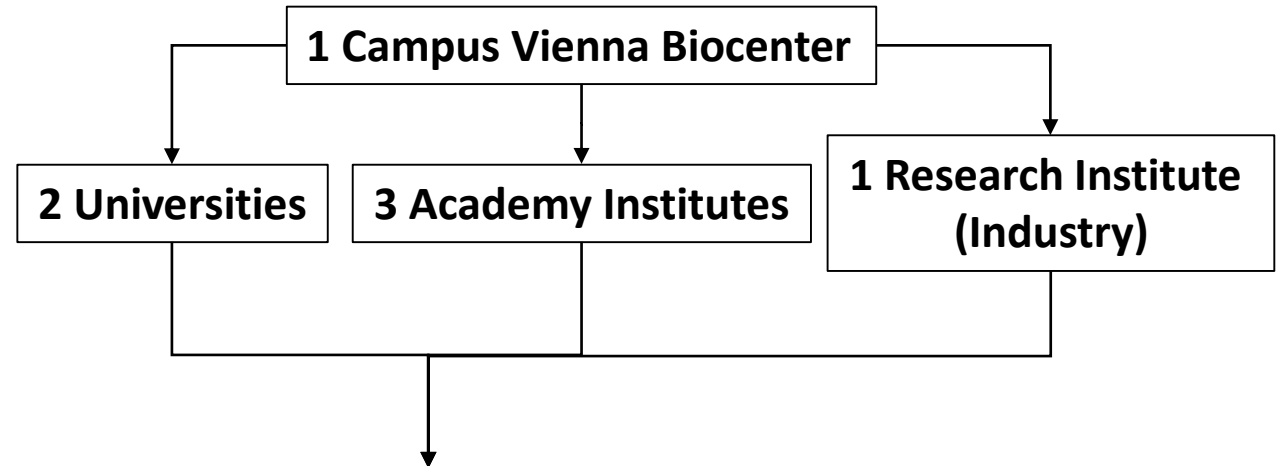




### 3. Joint PhD Programmes

Hands on – IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

#### The Joint Doctoral School as Superstructure for Joint PhD Programmes



**1 Doctoral School | 1 Joint PhD Programme**

Responsible for all aspects of Operative/Strategic Management and PhD Education

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### 3. Joint PhD Programmes

Hands on – IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

#### Transparent Governance Structure

- **Director and Deputy Director** of the School
- Academic/Financial **Steering committee**
- **Training Committee** (scientific and transferable skills education)
- **Thesis Advisory Committees** for each PhD

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### 3. Joint PhD Programmes

Hands on – IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

#### Selection Procedure and Admission

##### 1 Selection Procedure (for a clean process and international visibility)

Online Application → Pre-Screening by Committee → On-site Interviews → Committee Final Offer

##### Admission to both Universities (one as enrolling; second automated co-registration)

- PhDs must have access to all resources
- One University as managing institution on operative level (e.g. coursework and milestones)
- Key numbers (e.g. for ministry) must be calculated according to distribution key

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### 3. Joint PhD Programmes

Hands on – IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

See Example Document!

#### Joint PhD Curriculum

##### § 3 Qualitative entry requirements (→ before enrolment)

*...assessment of the applicants' qualifications:*

(1) Curriculum vitae

(2) Letter of motivation

(3) Description of the intended doctoral project

(4) Written indication by a member of the Faculty/Centre who is allowed to supervise a doctoral thesis...

##### § 6 ...public presentation at the Faculty and § 7 Doctoral thesis agreement

→ after enrolment

→ regulated in the University's Statutes

§ 15. Study Law: <https://satzung.univie.ac.at/en/study-law/>

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### 3. Joint PhD Programmes

#### Hands on – IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

→ § 15. Study Law: <https://satzung.univie.ac.at/en/study-law/>

## Supervision

§ 15. (2) *University professors, habilitated staff members, associated professors as well as assistant professors according to the Collective Bargaining Agreement for University Staff of the University of Vienna are entitled to, ...supervise and assess doctoral theses.*

(4) *Academic staff members holding a doctoral degree are entitled to supervise doctoral theses that are funded by third-party funds acquired in a competitive procedure with other academics... European Research Council, START and Wittgenstein prizes, “Junior Group Leader” by the Vienna Science and Technology Fund)...*

(5) *The Studienpräses is entitled, after hearing the subject experts..., to draw on persons authorised to teach at a recognised post-secondary educational institution in Austria or from abroad pursuant to section 51, para. 2, sub-para. 1 of the 2002 Universities Act...*

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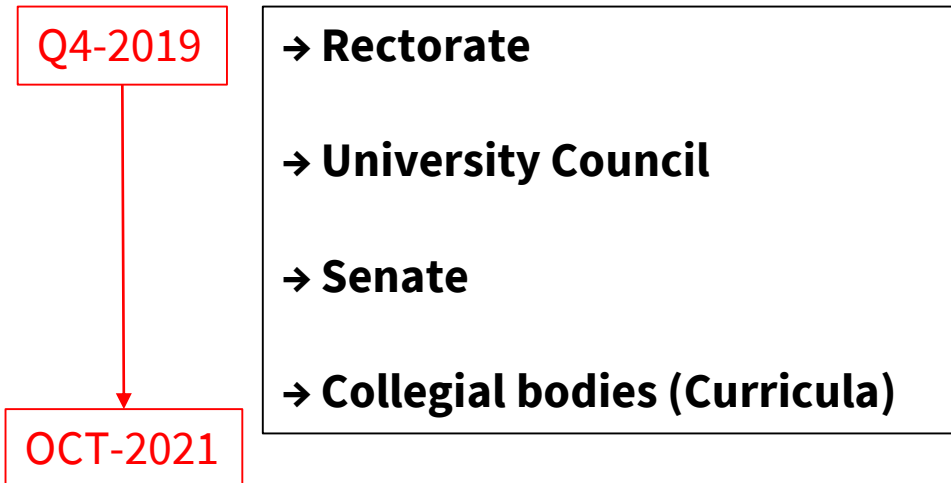
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### 3. Joint PhD Programmes

Hands on – IMPORTANT COMPONENTS

## Organisatoric Implementation and Timeline

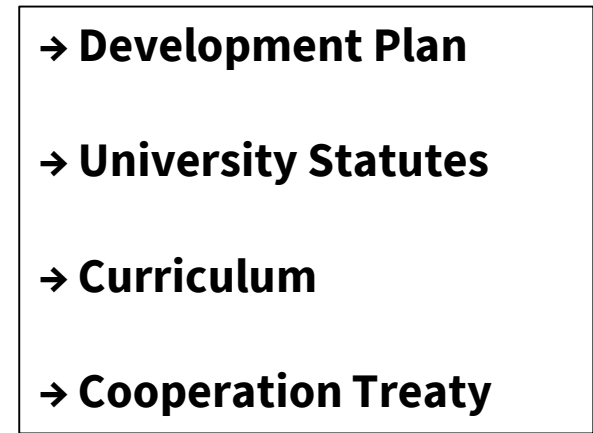


	<b>universität wien</b>
Q4-2019 and Q1/2 2020	
End Jun 2020	
Oct 2020	
Dec 2020	
Study Year 2021	
Mar/Apr 2021	
May/June 2021	
End Jun 2021	
30. June 2021	
01. October 2021	

**Possible Timeline UW**



Initiation Adaption <b>DEVELOPMENT PLAN (DevP)</b> (Rectorate-Center MolBio)
DevP Adaption with regards to content clarified; start <b>NEW Joint-PhD-CURRICULUM</b>
- Proposal DevP Adaption Rectorates → Senates
- Proposal <b>CHANGE UNIVERSITIES STATUTES</b> Rectorates → Senates (Supervision)
- Setup common Curriculum Task Force (UW+MUW) by Senates (2 Reading)
Approval DevP Adaption by University Councils (=new DevP available)
Approval Change University Statutes by Senates
1./2. Reading Joint-PhD-Curriculum in Senates
Approval Joint-PhD-Curriculum by Senates
<b>COOPERATION TREATY</b> Rectorates finalised
Publication of Joint-PhD-Curriculum University Gazettes (Deadline Legislator)
Joint-PhD-Curriculum available



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*f.l.t.r.*

*Heracles slays the nine-headed Lernaean Hydra (2<sup>nd</sup> Labour) - Edmund Hofmann von Aspernburg*

*Heracles obtains the girdle of Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons (9<sup>th</sup> Labour) - Hans Scherpe*

*Heracles rescues Prometheus - Josef Lax*

*Heracles captures and brings back Cerberus ((12<sup>th</sup> Labour) - Anton Paul Wagner*

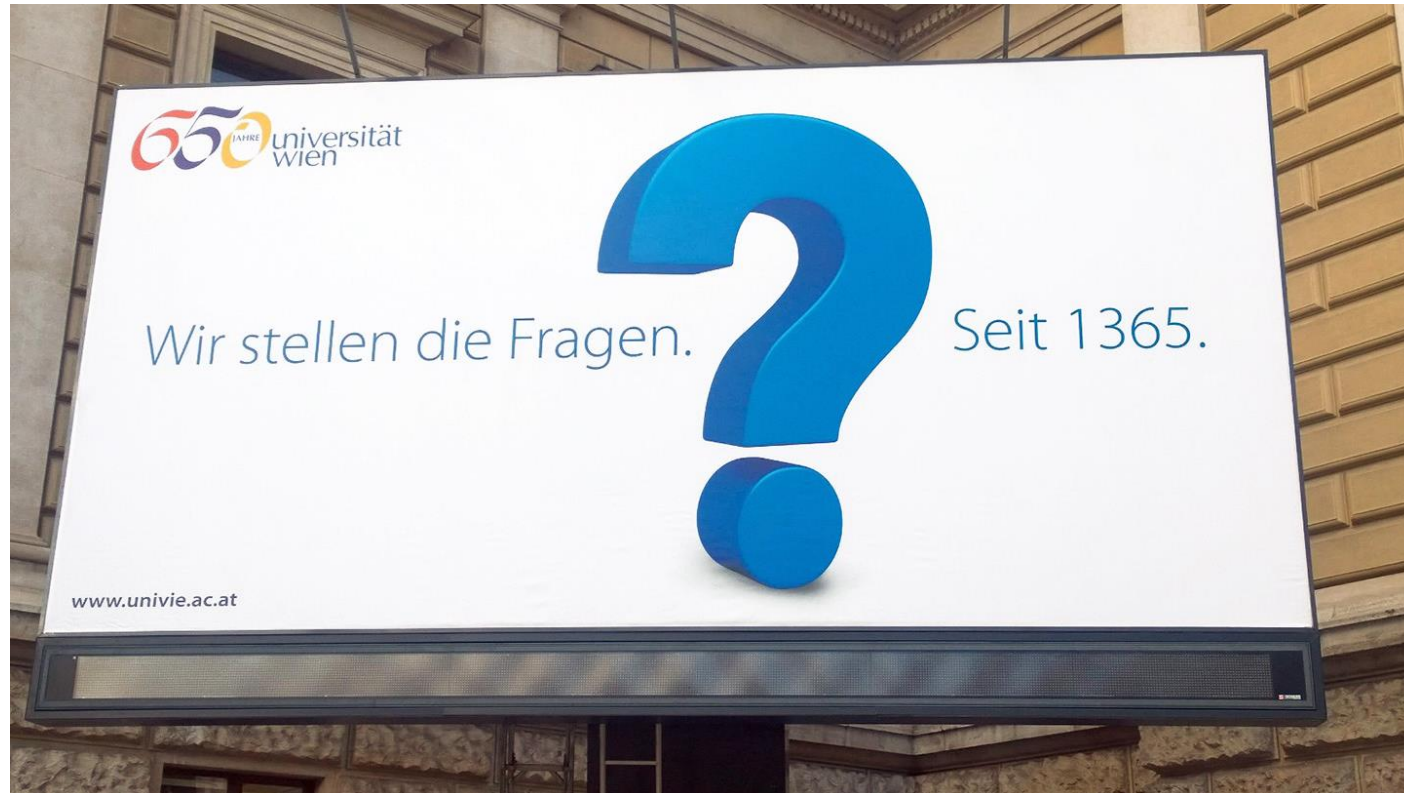
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Thank you!



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