RULES ON THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME IN ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

Unofficial consolidated text contains:

1) Rules on the doctoral programme in Economics and business adopted on 17 June 2024,
2) Amendments to the Rules on the doctoral programme in Economics and business adopted on 18 November 2024,
3) Amendments to the Rules on the doctoral programme in Economics and business adopted on 20 January 2025,
4) Amendments to the Rules on the doctoral programme in Economics and business adopted on 28 September 2026.

RULES ON THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME IN ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS (Unofficial consolidated text)

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

These Rules define in detail the academic disciplines for which the University of Ljubljana's School of Economics and Business (hereinafter: the School) offers research and education for earning a doctorate in economics and business (hereinafter: the doctoral programme), the admission requirements, the criteria for selecting students, the selection procedure in case of limited enrolment, the conditions for advancing to the next year and completing the program, the conditions for registering the dissertation proposal, the procedure for approving the dissertation proposal, the procedure for assessing and defending the dissertation, and the procedure for revoking a doctorate.

Article 2
(Neutral grammatical form)

Any masculine expressions used in these Rules apply equally to both sexes.

Article 3

The terms used in these Rules have the following meanings:
- Candidate is a person that has applied in the call for enrolment in a doctoral studies programme, up until their enrolment.
- A doctoral candidate is a person in the process of obtaining a doctoral degree.
- The Doctoral Studies Committee (hereinafter: the committee) is a working body appointed by the School Senate to monitor the doctoral student during the process of earning a doctorate.
- The doctoral programme administrator is the doctoral programme coordinator at the University of Ljubljana's School of Economics and Business;
- Supervisor or co-supervisor is a person with an appropriate teaching or research title who advises and guides a doctoral candidate in his/her studies and research, as further defined in Articles 14, 15 and 16 of these Rules;
- Supervisory team consists of the supervisor and a potential co-supervisor;
- External consultant is an external expert from the field, who contributes to the dissertation (e.g. from business, public administration, art and cultural institutions, etc.).

Article 4

The School offers and organizes research-based activities and education for earning a doctorate. Students can choose between an economics track (with majors in economics, international economics, and money and finance) and a business track (with majors in management and organization, marketing, financial management, accounting, entrepreneurship, tourism, international business, information management, operational research, and business logistics).

The doctoral programme lasts four years and comprises both classroom instruction and independent research work.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Article 5

Anyone that has completed the following is eligible to enrol in the doctoral programme:
- A Bologna master's (second-cycle) programme;
- A bachelor's programme adopted before 11 June 2004;
- A graduate certificate programme and a previous applied bachelor's programme, fulfilling the academic requirements set by the programme in the amount of 36 ECTS (hereinafter: credits);
- A master's programme or a graduate certificate programme and a previous bachelor's programme. Upon entering the programme, these candidates are awarded 60 credits in accordance with the law. The recognition of exams that the candidate passed in the previous programme is made on the basis of the conformity of the programme material (courses and other programme components) of the candidate's studies to date with the programme material of the doctoral programme in economics and business, in addition to the comparability of credits earned in individual courses. At the first instance, a request for recognition proposed by the doctoral programme administrator is handled by the School's Research and Doctoral Studies Committee (hereinafter: the RDSC), and at the second instance by the School Senate;
- A programme regulated by EU directives or any other fast-track master's programme equivalent to 300 credits;
- A programme at a university abroad in accordance with the prescribed requirements that apply to Slovenian students. Equivalence of a degree previously earned abroad is ascertained through the foreign education verification procedure in compliance with the Statute of the UL.

In selecting candidates, the following shall be taken into account:
- Academic performance (grade point average and thesis grade): 20%:
  - A Bologna master's (second-cycle) programme;
  - A bachelor's programme adopted before 11 June 2004;
  - A graduate certificate programme after a completed applied bachelor's programme;
  - A master's programme or a graduate certificate programme after completing a bachelor's programme;
  - A programme regulated by EU directives or any other fast-track master's programme equivalent to 300 credits.
- Oral exam performance: 80%.

Based on the number of supervisors available, the RDSC defines the enrolment limits for individual majors.

Article 6

An application for the doctoral programme shall include the following:

- A completed enrolment form;
- A certified copy of the candidate’s transcript or diploma, or a certified copy of a graduation certificate at the undergraduate and master’s levels;
- A confirmation of the candidate’s grade point average at the undergraduate and master’s levels;
- If candidates completed an undergraduate or master’s programme abroad, they must simultaneously begin with the procedure for recognition of prior foreign education, and upon enrolment enclose a document of official recognition of education and qualifications acquired abroad, for the purposes of continuation of studies at the doctoral level.

In addition to the documents listed in the previous paragraph, candidates shall enclose the following:
- A research plan (up to 1500 words);
- A motivation letter (up to 300 words);
- A CV;
- A publications list (if students have published articles or other works);
- Other documents (e.g., GMAT or GRE scores);
- Awards and recognitions won, and
- Consent from a supervisor and potential co-supervisor to be nominated as the student's (co-)supervisor. (By the admission deadline, the candidate shall make arrangements with a member of the teaching staff or a researcher to serve as the student's supervisor and, no later than upon enrolment, submit his consent and the consent from the chair of the unit covering the student's research area, for the nomination. In addition, the supervisor has to meet the requirements specified under Article 15 of these Rules.)

Candidates must submit their applications with all enclosures by the end of the admission period.

Candidates shall pay their first-year tuition upon enrolment. They shall pay the tuition for the second and third years when they advance to the next year.

In addition to the documents listed in paragraphs one and two of this Article, candidates with a master’s degree or graduate certificate shall enclose a certified statement of the academic requirements completed in the programme at the higher education institution they were enrolled in, and a certified copy of the syllabuses for the subjects and other activities in which they completed their academic requirements.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Article 7

After the application deadline for prospective students under paragraph one of Article 5, the School holds an oral exam that takes place before a three-member committee appointed by the School Senate.

Candidates that have submitted complete applications and paid the costs of the oral exam are invited to take the exam within twenty working days after the application deadline.

Article 8

At the proposal of the RDSC, the School Senate appoints three-member committees to administer the oral exam. As a rule, a committee is comprised of two members of the teaching faculty from the unit covering the major chosen by the student; the third member is the doctoral programme administrator or the vice-dean for doctoral studies.

Article 9

Selection criteria:

1. Academic performance (up to 20 points) in:
   - A Bologna master's (second-cycle) programme;
   - A bachelor's programme adopted before 11 June 2004;
   - A graduate certificate programme after completing an applied bachelor's programme;
   - A master's programme or a graduate certificate programme after completing a bachelor's programme, and
   - A programme regulated by EU directives or any other fast-track master's programme equivalent to 300 credits;

   and
2. Oral exam score: up to 80 points.

Academic performance is comprised of:

- Grade point average in the relevant programme: up to 10 points, counted as follows:
  - Grade point average under 8.00 (on a scale of 10): 0 points, and
  - Grade point average over 8.00 (on a scale of 10) according to the formula 10 + 5 × (average grade [on a scale of 10] − 8);
- Thesis grade: up to 10 points.

At the oral exam, the committee evaluates the following:

- The candidate's academic work to date: up to 15 points;
  - Undergraduate grade point average (if this was not already taken into account under point 1);
    - Grade point average (of exams passed) below 8.00 (on a scale of 10): 0 points, and
    - Grade point average (of exams passed) over 8.00 (on a scale of 10) according to the formula 3 × (average grade [on a scale of 10] − 8);
  - Relevant background knowledge;
    - Economics and business knowledge: up to 8 points, and
    - Methodological knowledge: up to 3 points;
- Scholarly research potential: up to 25 points;
  - Understanding of scholarly research, demonstrated with a draft research proposal (Research area compatibility with research conducted at the School): up to 10 points, and
  - Qualitative assessment of the candidate's potential for the doctoral studies: up to 15 points;
- The candidate's motivation: up to 5 points;
  - The candidate's motivation, as demonstrated in the letter of motivation and at the interview: up to 5 points, and
  - Independent financial support corresponding to at least 50% employment (junior researcher, international scholarship, etc.): 5 points;
- The candidate's research to date (published articles and other publications): up to 20 points;
  - Published research article: up to 10 points, and
  - Discussion article: up to 3 points;
- Other criteria (e.g., GMAT or GRE scores, awards, recognitions, etc.): up to 15 points.

Article 10

The three-member committee defines the subjects in which candidates that have earned a graduate certificate after completing an applied bachelor's programme must collect an additional 36 credits in the Bologna master's (second-cycle) programme.

ENROLMENT

Article11

The selected candidates or those for whom transfer is approved sign a learning agreement and a Statement of Commitment to Respect the University of Ljubljana's Code of Ethics, and pay the tuition. Candidates covered under Article 10 pay for individual exams, which they must pass in order to collect the sufficient number of credits, in addition to the tuition, in line with the applicable fee schedule of the University of Ljubljana (UL).

Doctoral candidates who have not submitted the consent from a potential supervisor for a nomination by enrolment, pursuant to Article 6 of these Rules, or in the case of non-fulfilment of the conditions for supervision, must submit the relevant consent no later than by the deadline set by the RDSC. The doctoral candidate has to find a new supervisor. Failing this, the doctoral candidate cannot complete the study requirements and thereby complete their doctoral studies.

In agreement with the nominated supervisor, doctoral candidates define their list of subjects, which is also signed by the doctoral programme administrator in addition to the supervisor and the doctoral student. To modify their list of subjects, doctoral candidates must obtain consent from the supervisor and the doctoral programme administrator. The final decision is made by the RDSC.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Article 12

The academic requirements of the doctoral programme in economics and business comprise 60 credits per year – that is, 60 credits of classroom instruction (16 credits in theoretical foundations subjects, 18 credits in methodological foundations subjects,8 credits in elective subjects, 6 credits in the presentation of the draft dissertation proposal, 6 credits in the presentation of the progress made on the dissertation and 6 credits in individual forms of study – that is, active participation in scholarly conferences, research workshops, doctoral seminars, and research seminars), and 180 credits for writing and defending the dissertation. The academic requirements for all four years total 240 credits.

Organized academic requirements of the Doctoral programme in economics and business for doctoral students enrolled in the academic year of 2019/2020 are comprised of 60 credits (that is, 12 credits in core subjects, at least 18 credits in methodological foundations subjects, at least 18 credits in major seminars and at least 12 credits in individual forms of study – that is, active participation in scholarly conferences, research workshops, doctoral seminars, and research seminars).

Each subject is one entity, therefore its credits cannot be divided between different groups of subjects or years of study.

Draft course timetables are published by the School's Doctoral Programme Unit by the beginning of the academic year or the semester in which the specific subject will be provided.

Exams and other forms of examination available as part of the doctoral programme are not necessarily tied to the exam periods announced. The doctoral candidate and the administrator of the exam or any other form of examination may set the date of examination by mutual agreement without acquiring consent from the relevant body.

A doctoral candidate may take examinations from subject units of higher years following approval by the doctoral programme administrator.

Doctoral candidates may take the exam three times. It may be taken a third time before a committee composed of at least three members of the academic staff teaching in the doctoral programme, with one member holding a faculty rank in the subject area covered by the exam. Doctoral candidates that fail the exam when retaking it for the last possible time, as specified by the University of Ljubljana's Statute, may not complete studies in the same research field.

Doctoral candidates may complete part of the programme abroad at a school or institution they agree on with the supervisor, and have their academic achievements (the academic requirements completed, exams, and ECTS credits) recognized in the programme they are enrolled in. Doctoral candidates select the relevant subject or seminar in agreement with their supervisors, and the doctoral programme administrator approves the subject selected and assigns the number of ECTS credits to it.

In addition to these Rules, the provisions of the University of Ljubljana's Programme Rules shall apply as appropriate to the doctoral programme.

CONDITIONS FOR ADVANCING TO THE NEXT YEAR

Article 13

The requirement to advance from the first to second year is the approved presentation of doctoral dissertation proposal draft, which is also the condition to attain credits designated for individual work on dissertation and successful completion of organized forms of study, planned for the first year. The requirement to advance from second to third year is a statement from the School Senate confirming the committee's approval of the dissertation proposal's suitability and successful completion of organized forms of study, planned for the second year. To advance into the fourth year, the doctoral candidate has to collect a total of 180 credits in organized forms of study – classroom instruction (i.e., pass all of the exams in theoretical foundations subjects, methodological foundations subjects and elective subjects, active participation in at least one scholarly conferences, research workshops, doctoral seminars, and research seminars and the demonstration of progress made on the dissertation) and independent research work on dissertation. Independent research work on the dissertation is demonstrated by the University of Ljubljana Senate's approval of the dissertation proposal.

Doctoral candidates enrolled in the academic year 2019/2020 must collect 60 credits of requirements in classroom instruction and independent research work on the dissertation. The independent research work is demonstrated by a public presentation of the draft dissertation proposal that has been awarded a passing grade to advance from the first to second year. To advance to the third year, doctoral candidates are required to collect at least 120 credits in classroom instruction and independent research work on the dissertation demonstrated by a statement from the School Senate confirming the committee's approval of the dissertation proposal's suitability. To advance to the fourth year, doctoral candidates must collect a total of 180 credits in classroom instruction (i.e., pass all of the exams in core subjects, methodological foundations subjects and major seminars) and independent research work on

the dissertation demonstrated by the University of Ljubljana Senate's approval of the dissertation proposal.

To complete the programme and earn a doctoral degree, doctoral candidates must complete all of the programme's academic requirements and successfully defend the dissertation, collecting a total of 240 credits. Before submitting their dissertation for evaluation, doctoral candidates must publish (or submit a statement confirming that their article has been accepted for publication) an article on the dissertation topic, in which the committee recognises the original scientific contribution of the doctoral candidate (research article). The article has to be published (or accepted for publication) in publications that the School deems suitable during the period of doctoral studies.

By way of exception, the RDSC may allow advancement to doctoral candidates that have justifiable reasons for this and set a deadline for them to fulfil all of the requirements.

Doctoral candidates who did not or will not advance regularly and who meet the conditions for the continuation or completion of studies shall complete their studies under a currently valid doctoral study programme.

THE SUPERVISOR

Article 14

The doctoral candidate has one supervisor or, within the framework of an agreement on the preparation of the doctoral dissertation in cooperation with a foreign university or institution, several supervisors. A doctoral candidate may have a co-supervisor, exceptionally, several co-supervisors if this is necessary for his/her doctoral dissertation. A doctoral candidate may also have an external consultant from the field, who contributes to the doctoral dissertation with their specific knowledge.

After enrolling in the doctoral programme, the School's Doctoral programme unit forwards the consent from the supervisor for a nomination to the academic unit covering the doctoral candidate's research area and asks the unit to adopt the decision proposing supervisor and potential co-supervisor. In doing so, the academic unit considers the research area and workload.

The unit's decision is examined by the RDSC, which verifies the fulfilment of the conditions for supervision and potential co-supervision within three months of enrolment. The supervisor and the potential co-supervisor are appointed by the School Senate. To ensure the quality of the mentorship process, the School Senate as a rule appoints upon the unit's proposal, covering the student's research area, the co-supervisor if the supervisor is not fully or less than 50% employed at the School. The School Senate also decides on any change of supervisor or co-supervisor.

A co-supervisor is appointed in addition to the supervisor if the student registers an interdisciplinary dissertation proposal. At the proposal of the supervisor and the doctoral candidate, the co-supervisor and/or external consultant can also be appointed by the School Senate later during the course of study. In the case of non-fulfilment of the conditions for supervision or co-supervision, the School Senate calls on the doctoral candidate to propose a new supervisor and /or co-supervisor.

Article 15

Supervisors and co-supervisors in doctoral studies shall be university teachers with the title of assistant professor, associate professor or full professor, or a researcher with the title of

research associate, senior research associate or senior research fellow, and shall demonstrate their research work from the broader field covered by the doctoral dissertation. Supervisors and co-supervisors may also be persons with the appropriate habilitation of another institute (domestic or foreign) and who have references from the broader field covered by the topic of a doctoral dissertation, and who work in a study programme or are employed by an institute with whom the University of Ljubljana or a member faculty of the University of Ljubljana has concluded an agreement or entered into a cooperation agreement.

The minimum condition for the demonstration of research work is to have achieved 150 Z points in SICRIS in the last five years and at the same time to have achieved more than 0 points in the significant achievements indicator A1/2 or to have published at least two significant works in the last five years, as defined in the Habilitation Criteria of the University of Ljubljana and the annexes of the member faculties of the University of Ljubljana to these criteria. In determining whether the conditions for a supervisor and co-supervisor in the research field are met, significant research works in which the supervisor or co-supervisor is the first or lead author are taken into account. In research fields where first or leading authorship does not exist or is not generally evident, the supervisor's and co-supervisor's appropriately significant contribution to these works must be clearly demonstrated. Significant works shall be carried out and published or accepted for publication no later than the date of the appointment of the supervisor and co-supervisor by the School Senate.

In the event of a longer, justified absence of at least six months by the supervisor or co-supervisor from the doctoral studies (e.g. illness, maternity leave, paternity leave, etc.), the minimum conditions for the demonstration of research work on the dissertation achieved within a one-year extended period or a period of several years in the case of an absence of more than one year, shall apply.

At least one member of the supervisory team must be employed at the University of Ljubljana. Each member of the teaching faculty can be a supervisor or co-supervisor to as many as six doctoral students enrolled in any doctoral study programme at the University of Ljubljana, and no more than two years have elapsed since their last enrolment in a year or additional year. This excludes the doctoral students who submitted their dissertation for evaluation.

Article 16

Doctoral candidates have the duty to reach an agreement with a higher education teacher or research associate to act as supervisor or co-supervisor. Doctoral candidates are required to report to their supervisory team in regular meetings about their progress in the doctoral programme. They must consider the team’s comments and instructions or explain any deviations from them. They must reply to the team’s questions and comments in a constructive manner and within a reasonable time. Doctoral candidates have the right and duty to meet regularly with the supervisory team based on mutual agreement. Doctoral candidates must reach agreement with their supervisory team and other co-workers on the publication of the results of research work in connection with the doctoral study programme. They must ensure the transparency and verifiability of the research work, provide for the most open possible access to research data in accordance with Article 34 of these Rules and report on this to the supervisory team and to the committee.

The supervisory team must monitor doctoral candidates, advise them in selecting subjects, scholarly conferences, seminars, participate in the definition of the content, work method and standards associated with the doctoral dissertation, and in the planning of research and research data management, include them in research work at the School Research Centre (RCEF). The supervisory team defines the frequency and manner of communication at their first meeting. At least five meetings are recommended per year and they should be initiated by the student. The supervisory team regularly requests from the doctoral candidate oral or

written reports on the progress and results of research work, and provides advice regarding the possible publication of the partial results of the doctoral dissertation or the presentation thereof at academic events. The supervisory team must reply to students' questions in a constructive manner and within a reasonable time.

Article 17

The doctoral candidate and supervisory team can agree, in case of disagreement regarding the topic, the manner of work, communication, or anything else, to cease their further cooperation. In that case, the student continues with a new supervisory team. The doctoral candidate submits a request for changing the supervisory team to the Doctoral programme unit. The request must contain enclosures with written consent by everyone involved – that is, the old and new supervisory team. The School Senate appoints a new supervisory team upon the proposal of the responsible unit and RDSC.

If the doctoral candidate or the supervisory team disagree on the fulfilment of mutual obligations specified in the previous article of these Rules, the other party informs the doctoral programme administrator of the disagreement and non-fulfilment of obligations and the administrator then takes the necessary measures to resolve the conflict. If the doctoral candidate and the supervisory team fail to reach an agreement, the affected party submits a request for dissolving or changing the supervisory team to the RDSC, which examines the request and proposes a solution, and to the School Senate, which adopts the final decision. The minutes of meetings, interviews with everyone involved, and any other material are taken into account in making a decision.

If the supervisory team fails to fulfil its obligations, the School Senate, at the proposal of the relevant unit and the RDSC, appoints a substitute supervisory team.

If a doctoral candidate fails to meet his academic and research requirements within the set deadline, the doctoral programme administrator may propose to the RDSC, in agreement with the student's supervisory team, that the student be excluded from further subjects and research.

RESEARCH ETHICS

Article 18

Doctoral candidates shall adhere to the provisions of the Statute of the University of Ljubljana, the Rules of the University of Ljubljana's School of Economics and Business, the Slovenian Copyright and Related Rights Act, the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity, and the University of Ljubljana's Code of Ethics. Any violations defined in these statutory and implementing acts form the basis for disciplinary procedure.

REGISTERING THE DISSERTATION PROPOSAL

Article 19

Doctoral candidates must register their dissertation proposals in a timely manner and in the form defined under Article 21 of these Rules.

The doctoral candidates' registration application must contain:
- The dissertation proposal;
- A request for assessment and approval of the dissertation proposal;
- A publications list;
- A CV;

- A record of the draft dissertation proposal presentation;
- A written statement from the supervisor and any co-supervisor confirming that in their opinion the dissertation proposal is appropriate for assessment, and
- The approval of the ethics committee, where the nature of the proposed doctoral dissertation topic requires it.

The doctoral candidate may request the writing of his dissertation in English. The dissertation proposal and the dissertation itself may be written in English if the student is not a Slovenian citizen or if the supervisor, co-supervisor, or a planned member of the committee is not a Slovenian citizen. In the latter case, students that are Slovenian citizens must submit the dissertation proposal and their CV in Slovenian and English.

Students must write the title of the dissertation in Slovenian and English. The titles must be grammatically and stylistically correct in both languages and must convey the same meaning.

Article 20

The dissertation proposal (a maximum of three to seven pages) must contain the following:
- A proposed title in Slovenian and English;
- Name and title of the supervisor and possible co-supervisor including their bibliography (3 to 5 works) from dissertation's research area;
- Name of the potential external consultant;
- The dissertation's research area;
- An overview of the narrower research area and a description of the subject matter to be addressed by the student;
- A definition of the research issue, comprising:
    - A presentation of the research done to date in the field of the dissertation, and the purpose of the research;
    - Clearly presented hypotheses or research questions or objectives with a brief explanation;
    - A description of the research design and research methods;
    - A presentation of anticipated results and the dissertation's original contribution to the field of knowledge,
    - A draft of the research data management plan in accordance with Article 34 of these Rules.

The dissertation proposal must also contain information on the structure of the dissertation (a table of contents) and a bibliography of relevant literature (of reasonable length) that will be used for the dissertation. Any appendices to the dissertation should also be within reasonable limits and include a list of references required to understand the subject area and issues discussed.

Article 21

If the application is incomplete (its content is specified under Article 19), the RDSC requests that the doctoral candidate complete it by a reasonable deadline that must not be longer than one year. If doctoral candidate fail to complete it within that deadline, the application is rejected through a decision.

THE PROCEDURE FOR APPROVING THE DISSERTATION PROPOSAL

Article 22

At the proposal of the unit covering the research area the dissertation proposal refers to, the RDSC sends a proposal for appointing a committee that monitors doctoral candidates from the time they register their dissertation proposal until they defend their dissertations. As a rule, the School Senate appoints the committee at its first session after the submission of the dissertation proposal registration.

The committee is composed of at least three members of the teaching staff or research staff holding a valid teaching or scientific title and have a track record in research covering the broader field of the doctoral dissertation. The minimum condition for the demonstration of research work is that member published at least two significant works in the last five years, as defined in the Habilitation Criteria of the University of Ljubljana and the annexes of the member faculties of the University of Ljubljana to these criteria, without taking into account the first or lead authorship. At least one member must be from a different university or research organization, exceptionally from a different member institution of the University of Ljubljana. The supervisory team is not a member of the committee.

One of the committee members is appointed as its chair. The chair coordinates the work of all of the committee members. The School's Doctoral Programme Unit issues a decision on appointing the committee, of which it notifies the committee members, the student, he supervisory team, and the potential external consultant in writing.

Article 23

If a member of the committee withdraws from the position, the RDSC proposes a new member to the School Senate, which appoints the new member.

Article 24

As a rule, doctoral candidates must present their work to the committee members within 30 days of their appointment, focusing on the dissertation concept, the hypotheses or research questions or objectives, and the envisaged methodology. The time from the end of the summer exam period to the beginning of the autumn exam period is not included in this timeframe.

Doctoral candidates present their dissertation proposal at a public seminar that is attended by the doctoral candidate, the supervisory team, the potential external consultant, and the committee members. The part of the seminar during which the committee members present their comments on the dissertation proposal is usually closed to the public.

Doctoral candidates briefly present their dissertation proposals, for which they may use various audio-visual tools.

After the presentation, the members of the committee give comments and ask questions, which can be provided to doctoral candidates in writing, or doctoral candidates can write down the questions themselves. The questions must be formed in a manner allowing the doctoral candidates to answer them within a reasonable amount of time. If adequate and necessary, the supervisory team may be included in the discussion, but it may not take part in assessing the dissertation proposal.

After the presentation, the committee presents the key content-related comments to the student. The comments are summarized in the minutes of the presentation. The minutes of the presentation are delivered to the Doctoral Programme Unit together with a preliminary assessment and the decision on the success/failure of the presentation. The preliminary assessment can be:

a. The committee has no comments on the proposal;

b. The committee has minor comments (it deems that the student can address the comments within thirty days);
c. The committee has major comments that hinder making a final report (it deems that the student needs more than thirty days to address the comments);
d. The committee establishes that the content of the proposal is inappropriate and rejects the proposal.

In the case of a decision (b) of the fifth paragraph of this Article, the student must consider the given comments in the shortest time possible and submit an improved version of the dissertation proposal to the committee members and the Doctoral Programme Unit. In the case of a decision with major comments (c), the committee sets the deadline for making modifications, which as a rule cannot be shorter than one month or longer than six months. The minutes of the presentation, the committee's final report, written comments, and the deadline for modifications are submitted to the RDSC. The School Senate confirms the deadline for modifications. The doctoral candidate also produces and submits to the Doctoral Programme Unit an amended proposal together with a separate document explaining how the individual comments of the committee members have been addressed in the modified version of the dissertation proposal along with a written statement of consent regarding the amended dissertation proposal from supervisor and/or co-supervisor. The committee decides whether it is necessary to repeat the presentation. If so, the date of the repeated presentation is scheduled after the deadline for modifications expires or after the receipt of the modified proposal. If the decision under (c) of the fifth paragraph of this Article is made again at the second presentation, as a rule the members of the committee deliver a negative opinion. In the case of the decision described under point (d) of the fifth paragraph of this Article, the members of the committee reject the proposal submitted. In this case, the student must register a new dissertation proposal. Doctoral candidates can do this only once.

The committee members may attend the presentations in person or through electronic media such as Skype or a videoconference system, or by phone. If a committee member cannot attend the presentation, he must submit his opinion and any comments in writing before the presentation. The minutes of the presentation, together with a preliminary final report, are signed by all three members of the committee. Members attending the presentation via electronic media can confirm this through e-mail.

Article 25

The committee must submit its final written assessment of the doctoral dissertation proposal within one month of the presentation or receipt of the modified dissertation proposal, where the deadlines for submission of an assessment by the committee shall not be implemented in July and August. The two members of the committee, excluding the chair, write their opinions, focusing on the assessment of the research contribution, and the suitability of the literature and planned methodology, and send it to the chair. The chair summarizes their opinions and his own opinion in a joint final assessment. The assessment of the doctoral dissertation proposal is written in the same language as the one to be used for the dissertation.

The written assessment of the doctoral dissertation proposal, which is prepared by the chair based on his own opinion and the opinions of the other two members, is signed by all three committee members.

The written assessment of the doctoral dissertation proposal contains the following:
- The title of the proposed dissertation in Slovenian and English;
- A suitability assessment of the proposed title and the dissertation area with the planned content, and, if necessary, also a suggestion on how to change the title;
- Assessment of the proposed dissertation proposal and presentation of its scholarly relevance;

- A suitability assessment of the hypotheses or research questions or objectives;
- A suitability assessment of the planned research methods and their feasibility;
- Assessment of whether the literature presented in the dissertation proposal suitably supports the research that the student plans to perform as part of the dissertation;
- A suitability assessment of the draft of the research data management plan;
- A decision that includes and substantiates the assessment and the area in which the doctorate will be earned;
- A clear opinion of the committee members whether the dissertation has been planned so that it may be expected to yield an independent and original research contribution;
- The date and signatures of the committee members.

Article 26

When the RDSC receives the assessment of the doctoral dissertation proposal from the committee, it proposes that the School Senate:

- To accept the doctoral dissertation proposal; or
- To reject the doctoral dissertation proposal; or
- To set a deadline for the student to modify or expand the proposed doctoral dissertation proposal, or otherwise take into consideration the committee's comments.

In the event of dissenting opinions amongst members of the committee, the School Senate may appoint an additional member to the committee, who shall draw up an additional assessment.

In deciding on the doctoral dissertation proposal, the School Senate shall not be bound by the assessment of the committee. If the decision of the School Senate does not adhere to the assessment/s of the committee, the School Senate must justify its decision.

If the School Senate sets the doctoral candidate a deadline for amending or supplementing the doctoral dissertation proposal, the committee shall review the amended/supplemented proposal and submit a new written assessment of the proposal as a rule at the next meeting of the School Senate. If the doctoral candidate fails to submit the amended/supplemented proposal within the deadline, the School Senate shall as a rule accept or reject the incomplete proposal at its next meeting.

The doctoral candidate may submit a modified or expanded dissertation proposal only once. If the committee finds the modified or expanded dissertation proposal inadequate for further consideration, it issues a negative report and proposes that the School Senate reject the dissertation topic.

If the School Senate rejects the doctoral dissertation proposal, the procedure is ended. Doctoral candidates may not resubmit the dissertation proposal that has been rejected. Doctoral candidates have the right to appeal against the rejection of their doctoral dissertation in accordance with the UL Statutes.

A doctoral candidate may register the doctoral dissertation proposal a maximum of twice in the same field of the doctoral study programme prior to submitting their doctoral dissertation for assessment.

If the School Senate of the UL Senate rejects the dissertation proposal registered by the doctoral candidate for the second time, the doctoral candidate may not complete this programme in the same field.

Article 27

The School Senate forwards the proposal for an approved dissertation proposal together with the appertaining documentation to the University of Ljubljana's Committee for Doctoral Studies, which proposes a final opinion to the University of Ljubljana Senate.

The University of Ljubljana's Committee for Doctoral Studies may:

- adopt a decision approving the doctoral dissertation proposal; or
- call upon the School to supplement or amend the application; or
- propose that the University of Ljubljana Senate reject the doctoral dissertation proposal.

The UL's Committee for Doctoral Study may request that a member faculty set a deadline by which the doctoral candidate shall supplement or amend the doctoral dissertation proposal. The RDSC sets the deadline as to when the doctoral candidate submits to the Doctoral Programme Unit a supplemented or amended proposal of the doctoral dissertation, together with a written statement of consent from supervisor and/or co-supervisor. If the doctoral candidate fails to submit the amended/supplemented proposal within the deadline, the School Senate rejects the proposal.

After receiving the decision of the University of Ljubljana Senate, the School's Doctoral Programme Unit notifies the doctoral candidate, the supervisory team, the potential external consultant, and the committee members of the decision by e-mail.

PRODUCING THE DISSERTATION

Article 28

As a rule, doctoral candidates must present the progress made on their dissertation to the general public once a year.

Doctoral candidates can also present their progress before a closed group consisting of the supervisory team, the potential external consultant, and the members of the committee. Doctoral candidates must organize the presentation by themselves. It may be held via electronic media, such as telephone, teleconference, Skype, and so on. If a committee member cannot attend the presentation, he must submit his opinion and any comments on the progress made in writing before the presentation.

Before submitting their dissertation for evaluation, doctoral candidates must prove the results of their work on the dissertation by first authorship of a research article that has been accepted for publication in a journal that the School recognizes as suitable for awarding a member of the teaching staff the title of assistant professor, associate professor, or full professor. If first authorship is not possible (for example, in international research or for other justified reasons), the supervisor shall issue a statement confirming that the doctoral candidate's contribution in the article is significant or that the student has contributed a significant share. The article must address the dissertation subject area and be logically incorporated into the dissertation text.

With all publications connected with research work on the dissertation, affiliation with the University of Ljubljana must be indicated. This also applies to cases in which the doctoral candidate, supervisor, and co-supervisor are employed by a different institution or organization.

Article 29

Doctoral candidates shall submit their doctoral dissertation within two years following enrolment in the final year of the study programme or following enrolment in an additional year, providing at least eight bound copies of the dissertation to the School. Doctoral candidates must bring one bound copy of the dissertation with them on the day of the defence. Each copy must include a signed statement on the doctoral candidate's authorship of the dissertation. The dissertation may be written in the form of a single volume or a series of articles. In case of justifiable reasons (such as parenthood, lengthy illness of the doctoral candidate, exceptional family and social circumstances, status of doctoral candidate with special needs), the School Senate may exceptionally extend the doctoral candidate's deadline for submission of their dissertation for one year.

A dissertation designed as a collection of at least three published research articles or articles accepted for publication is an integration of closely and logically connected research papers from a specific field, to which an introduction and abstract are added. All of the articles making up the dissertation must be published or accepted for publication in a journal that the School recognizes as suitable for awarding a member of the teaching staff the title of assistant professor, associate professor, or full professor before submitting the dissertation for evaluation.

Authors of dissertations composed of articles must acquire all of the necessary permissions for including the articles in the print and electronic forms of the dissertations from publishers to which they have previously transferred the exclusive material copyright for these articles. The permissions must allow the University of Ljubljana to store the work in electronic form free of charge, non-exclusively, and with no spatial and time restrictions, to reproduce it, and to make the dissertation available to the public on the internet through the Repository of the University of Ljubljana.

A dissertation in the form of a single volume is an extensive, comprehensive, and detailed treatment of a defined research issue. Before submitting a dissertation in the form of a single volume for evaluation, doctoral candidates must publish at least one research article on the topic discussed in the dissertation that has been published or accepted for publication in a journal that the School recognizes as suitable for awarding a member of the teaching faculty the title of assistant professor, associate professor, or full professor.

Upon submitting the bound copies of the dissertation, doctoral candidates also submit an electronic version in .pdf format and in the original form (MS Word or appendices in other formats). In addition, the doctoral candidates sign a statement confirming the authenticity of the print and electronic versions, and conveying their agreement with the publication and availability of their dissertations on the websites of the Central Economics Library and the publication of bibliographic information with the abstract in international dissertation databases and give consent to use the electronic form of the doctoral dissertation for the detection of content similarity with other written works, using similarity detection software. The School reserves the right to use the dissertation (texts and published results) for teaching within the School programmes. In accordance with Article 133 of the Statute of the UL, doctoral candidates are required to transfer to the University of Ljubljana uncompensated and non-exclusive rights with no time or spatial restrictions to store the text in electronic form, to reproduce it, and to allow internet access to the text through the Repository of the University of Ljubljana.

Article 30

In accordance with the Rules on Content Similarity Detection of the Electronic Form of the Written Final Work of Studies and on Provisions Regarding Temporary Inaccessibility of the

Content of the Written Final Work of Studies, the content of the print and electronic forms of the dissertation may be temporarily inaccessible. The content of the dissertation may be temporarily inaccessible for the following reasons:

- Protection of trade secrets;
- Protection of findings due to exercising intellectual property rights;
- Ensuring the safety of people and nature, and
- Protection of classified data and trade secrets.

The content of the dissertation should have limited access only for the shortest possible time and for no more than one year from the day of completing the academic programme. If at the end of this period there are still legitimate reasons for access to the dissertation's content to remain limited, at the supervisor's and doctoral candidate's proposal the period of limited access can be extended by up to one year.

The supervisor and the doctoral candidate send the request for approving temporary limited access to the dissertation to the dean of the School before submitting the print and the electronic forms of the dissertation. They should provide the reasons for the temporary limited access to the content, suggest the maximum length of temporary limited access, and enclose relevant evidence. The dean may grant the request and issue a decision on temporary limited access to the dissertation, or reject it. The dean's decision is final. The decision on temporary limited access to the dissertation content is delivered to the student, the supervisor, and the Doctoral Programme Unit, and enclosed with the printed copies of the dissertation. If the dean rejects the request, the decision is delivered to the student, the supervisor, and the Doctoral Programme Unit.

Article 31

If doctoral candidates fail to submit the dissertation within the deadline set in Article 29 of these Rules, they may submit a request for continuation or completion of the programme to the RDSC. Based on the doctoral candidate's request and the opinions of the supervisor and potential co-supervisor, the RDSC shall make a decision regarding justification of the continuation or completion of studies. In the event of a positive decision regarding the continuation or completion of doctoral studies, the RDSC shall issue a decision in which it shall define the obligations that the doctoral candidate must fulfil to continue or complete their studies, including the deadline for the registration of a doctoral dissertation proposal, which shall not exceed two years. The doctoral candidate covers the costs of the second registration of a doctoral dissertation proposal according to the School's applicable fee schedule.

In the event referred to in the first paragraph of this Article, a doctoral candidate shall register their dissertation proposal by the deadline set by the RDSC, and issue their final doctoral dissertation within two years following confirmation of their doctoral dissertation proposal by the Senate of the UL. If a candidate does not re-register their doctoral dissertation proposal, the Senate of the UL does not confirm their doctoral dissertation proposal or they do not issue their final doctoral dissertation by the deadline set by the RDSC after their proposal has been confirmed by the Senate of the UL, the candidate may not complete doctoral studies in the same field.

If a doctoral candidate has a break in studies exceeding two years and their doctoral dissertation proposal has not yet been confirmed by the Senate of the UL, the possibility of continuing or completing those studies shall be assessed in accordance with the provisions of the Statute of the UL.

A doctoral candidate whose request to continue or complete studies has been approved shall complete their studies according to the currently valid study programme.

Article 32

As a rule, the dissertation is written in Slovenian. Doctoral candidates may request that the dissertation be written in English if they are not a Slovenian citizen, or if their supervisor, co-supervisor, or committee member is not a Slovenian citizen, or if the dissertation is composed of research articles published in English. In this case, a dissertation written in English may only be submitted together with a detailed (approximately ten percent of the text of the dissertation) summary in Slovenian, which must contain suitable Slovenian terminology from the field studied. The summary must be bound together with the main text of the dissertation, but as a separate supplement to the dissertation. The School has the right to publish this summary.

The dissertation must be printed on A4 paper and bound in black canvas. *Univerza v Ljubljani* (University of Ljubljana) must be printed in the middle at the top of the cover, followed by Ekonomska fakulteta (School of Economics and Business) underneath. The doctoral candidate's full name must be printed in the middle of the cover, the title of the dissertation must be added below, and Doktorska disertacija (doctoral dissertation) below the title. Ljubljana and the year must be printed in the middle at the bottom of the cover. The first inside page is identical to the cover. The doctoral candidate may include acknowledgements to individuals or organizations that contributed to the realization of the dissertation on a separate page. The doctoral candidate may express special thanks to scholarship providers or others that financed his research.

The dissertation must contain a table of contents, an introduction, a main body, a conclusion, a list of references mentioned in the dissertation, Slovenian and English summary (maximum of 300 words), key words, and a list of sustainable development goals if the dissertation addresses them. The introduction must clearly summarize the topic of the dissertation. The dissertation must be designed in line with the University of Ljubljana School of Economics and Business' Instructions for Writing Final Theses applicable at the time of submitting the final version of the dissertation. The student is responsible for the stylistic and grammatical accuracy of the dissertation. The length of the dissertation allows the inclusion of all necessary elements without unnecessary repetition and unconnected content. The committee may reject the dissertation due to deficiencies mentioned in this article.

If the dissertation is designed as a collection of at least three content-related articles, it must contain an extensive introduction and conclusion in which doctoral candidates present the theoretical and methodological basis of their research, link together the content of the individual articles, and provide key findings. With each article, and especially with those already published, the author can also indicate any co-authors. With published articles, the information on the publication is added in footnotes. With articles that have already been published, the content of the article presented in the dissertation may deviate from the content of the published article.

CONTENT SIMILARITY DETECTION OF THE ELECTRONIC FORM OF THE WRITTEN FINAL WORK OF STUDIES

Article 33

The dissertation proposal and the electronic version of the dissertation are checked for plagiarism or similar content against other works using plagiarism detection software, which is connected to the School's student information system.

The plagiarism detection procedure is defined by the Rules on Content Similarity Detection of the Electronic Form of the Written Final Work of Studies and on Provisions Regarding Temporary Inaccessibility of the Content of the Written Final Work of Studies.

RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT

Article 34

Research data generated and collected for the needs of a doctoral dissertation must be published or otherwise accessible in such a way that allows their visibility, access, interoperability and the possibility of renewed evaluation and use. The doctoral candidate shall submit (meta) research data to a data repository, data centre or research data archive, which shall satisfy the principle of verifiability, transparency and open science. As a priority the research data shall be sent to the sectoral national or international data centres intended for specific types of data, or to the UL Repository.

The doctoral dissertation shall state where the data are accessible and how they can be accessed. Exceptions in the sharing of data shall be justified where they involve personal or sensitive data,
or where there are reasons for protecting intellectual property or for non-disclosure of vulnerable areas, groups or species. In the case of implementing justified exceptions to data sharing, the doctoral candidate shall, in agreement with the data centre, ensure an appropriate method of protecting the data and limiting access to such data by third parties. In this case at least freely available metadata must be generated for the catalogue of the data centre, so as to indicate clearly where and under what conditions the research data are accessible.

SUBMITTING THE DISSERTATION FOR EVALUATION

Article 35

Doctoral candidates submit their dissertations to the Doctoral Programme Unit in print and electronic form.

Doctoral candidates can submit their dissertation for evaluation based on written consent from the supervisor and co-supervisor. They can also do so without previous consent from the supervisor and/or co-supervisor. In that case, both the doctoral candidate and supervisor and/or co-supervisor must provide a written explanation. Doctoral candidate must explain why he failed to agree with the supervisor on the content of the submitted dissertation. Supervisor and/or co-supervisor must send a written statement to the School Senate explaining why they disagree with the work submitted.

EVALUATING THE DISSERTATION AND SUITABILITY OF ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

Article 36

Doctoral candidates must present their dissertations within one month of submitting the dissertation for evaluation, focusing on the key findings and its contribution to the field of knowledge, and also the updated research data management plan in accordance with Article 34 of these Rules. The time from the end of the summer exam period to the beginning of the autumn exam period is not included in this deadline.

Doctoral candidates present their dissertations at a public seminar, which is attended by the student, the supervisory teams, the potential external consultant, and the committee members. The part of the seminar during which the committee members present their comments on the dissertation submitted for evaluation is usually closed to the public.

Doctoral candidates briefly present their dissertation, for which they may use various audio-visual tools.

After the presentation, the members of the committee give comments and ask questions, which can be provided to doctoral candidates in writing, or doctoral candidates can write down the questions themselves. Each member of the committee asks two or three questions. The questions must be formed in a manner allowing the doctoral candidate to answer them within a reasonable amount of time. If adequate and necessary, the supervisory team may be included in the discussion, but it may not take part in evaluating the dissertation.

After the presentation, the committee conveys the key content-related comments to the doctoral candidate. The comments are summarized in the minutes of the presentation. The minutes of the presentation are delivered to the Doctoral Programme Unit together with the written questions, a preliminary assessment and the decision on the success/failure of the presentation, with an explanation. The committee's assessment can be as follows:

a. The committee has no comments on the dissertation;
b. The committee has minor comments (it deems that the student can address the comments within thirty days);
c. The committee has major comments that hinder making the final report (it deems that the student needs more than thirty days to address the comments);
d. The doctoral candidate has failed the oral presentation because he was unable to answer the questions posed by the committee and/or to provide substantively justified answers.

In the case of a decision with minor comments under (b), the doctoral candidate must consider the comments given and submit an improved version of the dissertation to the Doctoral Programme Unit within thirty days. In the case of the decision with major comments under (c), the committee suggests the deadline for making modifications, which cannot be shorter than thirty days and longer than one year. The minutes of the presentation, the committee's final report, written comments, and the deadline for modifications are submitted to the RDSC. The School Senate confirms the deadline for modifications. In addition to modifications, the doctoral candidate also produces a separate document explaining how the individual comments of the committee members have been addressed in the modified version of the dissertation. The doctoral candidate submits the modified version of the dissertation to the Doctoral Programme Unit. The committee also decides whether it is necessary to repeat the presentation. If so, the date of the repeated presentation is scheduled after the receipt of the modified dissertation. If the decision under (c) of the fifth paragraph of this Article is made again at the second presentation, the members of the committee deliver a negative opinion.

A presentation that is deemed unsuccessful (decision under (d) of the fifth paragraph of this Article) may only be repeated once. If the second presentation is also unsuccessful, the doctoral dissertation assessment procedure shall be concluded and the doctoral candidate may not complete this programme in the same field.

The committee members may attend the presentation in person or through electronic media such as Skype or a videoconference system, or by phone. If a committee member cannot attend the presentation, he must submit his opinion and any comments in writing before the presentation. The minutes of the presentation together with a preliminary final report and the decision on the success/failure of the presentation are signed by all three members of the committee. Members attending the presentation via electronic media can confirm this through e-mail.

Article 37

Members of the committee must submit their final evaluation of the doctoral dissertation and an opinion on the suitability of the research article published or accepted for publication within one month from the last presentation or after the receipt of the modified dissertation. Each member must review the dissertation within this deadline and submit his report to the School's

Doctoral Programme Unit. Deadlines for submitting the evaluation shall not be implemented in July and August. In the opinion on the suitability of the research article they must also verify the reference stating affiliation to the UL.

In the case of the withdrawal of committee members for justified reasons (e.g., lengthy illness, living abroad, parental leave), at the proposal of the RDSC, the School Senate appoints a new member. The Senate notifies the student, the supervisory team, the potential external consultant, and the committee members of its decision.

Article 38

The report on the evaluation of the dissertation and suitability of research article must include the following:
- The dissertation title;
- The doctoral candidate's full name;
- The academic programme and field of study;
- The date of appointment to the committee;
- The date of receiving the dissertation submitted;
- Analysis of the doctoral dissertation, containing:
  - A presentation of the dissertation structure;
  - An analysis and evaluation of the methods used;
  - An assessment of the validity of the confirmed or rejected hypotheses or research questions or objectives;
  - Any special features of the dissertation, and
  - An assessment of the dissertation's conformity with the School's technical criteria;
- A detailed assessment of the dissertation's contribution to the field of knowledge;
- A definition of the content suitability and logical inclusion of an article from the third paragraph of Article 28 of these Rules;
- A decision in which the member of the committee shall propose to the School Senate the approval, supplementation or rejection of the dissertation and/or submission of a suitable article;
- The date of the report;
- The signature of the committee member.

Article 39

Members of the committee shall submit their separate assessments of a doctoral dissertation and suitability of the research article published or accepted for publication to the School Senate, which on the basis of those assessments shall approve or reject the dissertation, or call on the doctoral candidate to supplement or correct their dissertation by a specific deadline, taking into account potential comments and/or submit of a suitable research article.

If the RDSC receives two negative reports from the committee members, it proposes that the School Senate:
- Accept the negative assessment and reject the dissertation; or
- Set a deadline for the student to modify or supplement the proposed dissertation and/or submit a suitable research article. The deadline must not be longer than one year.

The committee members review the modified or improved dissertation and/or a suitable research article once again and submit new reports on it to the RDSC, which submits it to the School Senate for new consideration through an appropriate proposal.

If the doctoral candidate fails to modify the dissertation within the set deadline, the dissertation is rejected. If within the set deadline the doctoral candidate does not submit a suitable research article, the School Senate shall not call a viva, even if it has accepted the dissertation.

If one report of the committee is negative, the RDSC proposes that the School Senate appoint an additional committee member that submits his opinion within one month. Deadlines for submitting the evaluation shall not be implemented in July and August. If this report is also negative, the procedure under paragraphs one and two of this Article is applied.

Article 40

The doctoral candidate cannot submit a rejected dissertation a second time in any other doctoral study programme at the University of Ljubljana.

In the event of a rejected doctoral dissertation or if within the set deadline the doctoral candidate has failed to submit a suitable research article, the procedure for obtaining a doctoral degree shall be ended. In such case the doctoral candidate may no longer complete studies in the same field.

PUBLIC DEFENCE OF THE DISSERTATION

Article 41

As a rule, doctoral candidates defend their dissertations within one month after the dissertation is accepted by the School Senate.

The defence takes place before the committee and is led by the committee chair. The supervisory team and the potential external consultant also attends the defence.

The defence date is set by the School's Doctoral Programme Unit in agreement with the committee, the doctoral candidate, the supervisory team, and the external consultant.

The defence is open to the public. A notification announcing the defence is posted on the School website at least three days before the defence.

Minutes are kept during the defence. They are signed by all of the committee members and include all of the questions that the committee addressed to the doctoral candidate during the defence.

Article 42

The committee chair opens the defence by presenting the doctoral candidate (his biographical information and publications), the title and area of the dissertation, and the manner in which the dissertation was prepared. The doctoral candidate and the committee chair stand for this presentation. The chair then turns the floor over to the doctoral candidate.

The doctoral candidate briefly presents the dissertation, for which he may use various audio-visual tools.

After the doctoral candidate has presented the dissertation, the supervisory team and the potential external consultant present their opinion on the dissertation, emphasizing its contribution to the field of knowledge, and the committee members briefly provide their comments. The committee chair starts the discussion and invites the committee members to ask questions. If the chair so approves, the supervisory team, the external consultant and

other attendees may also ask questions, which are provided to the doctoral candidate in writing. The doctoral candidate briefly answers the questions.

Article 43

Following the defence, the committee meets separately and adopts a decision on the success or failure of the defence. The decision is given in writing and includes the doctoral candidate's name, the title of the dissertation, the committee's decision, the date and time of the defence, and the signatures of the committee members. The committee chair then, with the prior written consent of the doctoral candidate, reads the decision to the doctoral candidate and those present at the defence. All present stand for the reading of the decision.

Article 44

After having successfully defended his dissertation, the doctoral candidate earns a doctoral degree and all of the rights pertaining to that degree.

The doctoral candidate receives a temporary certificate confirming that he has earned a doctorate, which substitutes for the doctoral diploma until conferral of the doctorate.

Article 45

The members of the committee may attend the defence in person or via electronic media such as Skype, a videoconference system, and so on, or by phone. As a rule, no more than one member may attend the defence via electronic media. The doctoral candidate and the committee chair must attend it in person.

To avoid technical problems, the members of the committee attending the defence via electronic media must submit a short written version of their report in advance, together with questions that are read by the committee chair.

Article 46

A dissertation defence that has been assessed as unsuccessful by the committee cannot be repeated. No appeal is possible.

Article 47

If after a successful defence and based on positive assessments (assessments of the doctoral dissertation, suitability of the research article and success of the dissertation defence) the committee determines that the work of the doctoral candidate overall and under all assessment criteria is of exceptional quality, it may propose to the School Senate that the doctoral candidate's work be awarded a distinction (cum laude). The School Senate shall decide on this based on the reasoned assessment of the committee that the doctoral candidate's work constitutes a superlative achievement and a breakthrough in the field of research.

Article 48

The doctoral candidate's supervisor, a committee member, or a researcher from the narrow research area of the doctoral dissertation can propose the doctoral dissertation for the Dr. Ana Mayer Kansky prize for the outstanding doctoral dissertation, awarded annually by the University of Ljubljana.

Following the Rules on awarding the Dr. Ana Mayer Kansky prize for the outstanding doctoral dissertation, the School Senate can annually propose to the University of Ljubljana a maximum of one doctoral dissertation per research area from the proposals received.

A graduate nominated for the Dr. Ana Mayer Kansky prize for the outstanding doctoral dissertation at the School of Economics and Business receives the certificate Prešeren prize of the School of Economics and Business, Ljubljana University. Prešeren prize of the School of Economics and Business, Ljubljana University, is also awarded to the other graduates who were nominated for the Dr. Ana Mayer Kansky prize for the outstanding doctoral dissertation and whose work was awarded a distinction (cum laude).

CONFERRAL OF THE DOCTORATE

Article 49

At the proposal of the School, the chancellor of the University of Ljubljana confers the doctorate on the doctoral candidate. The conferral is a formal public ceremony. Its procedure is specified through a special protocol that is defined by the chancellor and prepared in accordance with the tradition of conferring titles at the University of Ljubljana.

Article 50

The doctoral diploma is prepared in accordance with the University of Ljubljana's Rules on Diplomas and Certificates.

REVOKING A DOCTORATE

Article 51

A doctorate may be revoked if it is determined that the dissertation is not the result of the doctoral candidate's own creativity and own achievement.

The procedure of revoking an academic title shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Statute of the UL.

TUITION

Article 52

The amount of tuition is defined in the applicable fee schedule of the University of Ljubljana.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 53

The provisions of the Rules on the Doctoral Programme in Economics and Business are interpreted by the School Senate.

The Rules on the Doctoral Programme in Economics and Business adopted on 16 June 2008, including amendments and additions up to 29 May 2017, shall apply to doctoral candidates that registered their dissertation topics before 14 October 2017, with the exception of the provisions stated in Article 33 regarding the Dissertation Evaluation Committee.

In case of doctoral candidates complying with the provision in former paragraph of this Article, the RDSC proposes that the School Senate appoint at least three reporters for evaluating the

doctoral dissertation. As a rule, they are members of the Topic Approval Committee. The School Senate appoints them, from among the teaching faculty and research staff members that have a doctorate in the area or discipline in which the doctoral candidate wishes to receive a doctorate. Members of the Committee, whose employment is different from University of Ljubljana, must comply with the conditions stated in the RAPQ – classified under the "scholarly academic" category. At least one reporter is a member of the teaching faculty or a research staff member from an outside School, university, or institute. The doctoral candidate's supervisory team does not serve as dissertation evaluation reporter.

Doctoral candidates enrolled in three-year doctoral programmes, shall complete their three-year programmes, if they have advanced regularly through the program; their dissertation topic is valid for four years from the date it was approved by the University of Ljubljana Senate. Doctoral candidates that fail to submit their dissertations to the School within four years may request an extension of the deadline. The application must include a plan for completing the dissertation within the requested time that the doctoral candidate worked out with his supervisory team. The application is addressed by the RDSC and the School Senate, which can extend the deadline by a maximum of one year.

Doctoral candidates who were or are enrolled in three-year doctoral programs and have not or will not advance regularly through the program and meet the conditions for continuing or completing these programs shall complete their studies according to the currently applicable doctoral program.

If the RDSC grants the doctoral candidates' request to continue or complete their programs, the students shall complete their studies according to the currently applicable academic program and in accordance with Article 31 of these Rules.

CONDITIONS FOR ADVANCING TO THE NEXT YEAR FOR DOCTORAL CANDIDATES ENROLLED IN THREE-YEAR DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

Article 54

Doctoral candidates, enrolled in a three-year programme in the 2018/2019 academic year, must complete 60 credits of requirements from organized subjects and individual work on dissertation demonstrated by public presentation of draft dissertation proposal that has been approved by his committee to progress from the first to second year. To advance to the third year, doctoral candidates that are enrolled in a three-year doctoral programme during the 2018/2019 academic year must collect a total of 120 credits in classroom instruction and independent work on the dissertation demonstrated by registering the dissertation topic in the form and with all of the enclosures as defined in these Rules (the condition for registering the dissertation topic is presenting the dissertation proposal before the unit covering the relevant research area) and by presenting the dissertation proposal to the appointed members of the committee as defined in these Rules. Before submitting their dissertations for evaluation, doctoral candidates must collect 60 credits in organized instruction – that is, 12 credits in core subjects, at least 18 credits in the methodological foundations subjects, at least 18 credits in major seminars, and at least 12 credits in individual forms of study (or submit a statement confirming that an article has been accepted for a relevant conference) – and publish an article (or submit a statement confirming that the article has been accepted for publication) on the dissertation topic in publications that the School deems suitable.

To advance from the second to the third year, the doctoral candidates that enrolled in a three-year doctoral programme in the 2017/18 academic year must collect a total of 120 credits in organized instruction and independent work on the dissertation demonstrated by a positively assessed presentation of the progress made on the dissertation and by registering the dissertation topic in the form and with all of the enclosures as defined in these Rules. Before

defending their dissertation, they must collect 60 credits in organized instruction (12 credits in core subjects, at least 18 credits in methodological foundations subjects, at least 18 credits in major seminars, and at least 12 credits in individual forms of study) and publish an article (or submit a statement confirming that an article has been accepted for publication) on the dissertation topic in publications that the School deems suitable.

Before defending their dissertation, the doctoral candidates that enrolled in the programme before the 2017/2018 academic year must collect 60 credits in classroom instruction that are in accordance with the accredited academic programme and publish an article (or submit a statement confirming that an article has been accepted for publication) on the dissertation topic in publications that the School deems suitable.

By way of exception, the RDSC may allow advancement to students that have justifiable substantiated reasons for this and set a deadline by which they must fulfil all of their requirements.

For the generations of students enrolled prior to the 2021/2022 academic year, Article 34 and all its provisions shall not apply.

Procedures related to doctoral studies implemented before 1 October 2021 shall be concluded by the Rules on the Doctoral Programme in Economics and Business adopted on 18 June 2018, with supplements and amendments.

In the event of the appointment of a new supervisor or co-supervisor, the minimum condition for the demonstration of research work by the supervisors and co-supervisors set out in the Article 15 of these Rules shall apply.

On the day that these Rules enter into force, the Rules on the Doctoral Programme in Economics and Business adopted on 18 June 2018 shall cease to be in force.

The amendments to the Rules on the doctoral programme in Economics and business adopted on 28 September 2026 include the following final provision:

Article 2

These Rules enter into force on 28 September 2026.

Ljubljana, 28 September 2026

Prof. dr. Tomaž Turk
Chairman of the UL SEB Senate