



**SYNTHESIS OF ISSUES AND PROPOSITIONS ON  
IMPROVEMENT OF LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF THE CYCLE 3 PROGRAMME IN MONGOLIA**

**Synthesis of Issues and Propositions on Improving the Legal Framework of Cycle 3 Programs**

**Issues and propositions on the regulatory framework:**

<b>Salzburg principle</b>	<b>Regulatory field</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Proposition for improvement</b>
<b>I. Core component of doctoral training is the advancement of knowledge through original research</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. General rule for Graduate studies in Mongolia</li> <li>2. General requirement for PhD advisors</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Collaboration between advisors and a student is not granted and supported fully in the regulation. In real life, this collaboration is also not strong and students receive less support from their supervisors and hence the dropout rate is very high and average study period in the PhD course is longer (6-8 years). Total credit hours for PhD students is 60 (equivalent to 120 ECT credit hours). Time allocation is as follows: 24 hours for courses, 12 hours for research work and 24 for dissertation. However, in reality less chances provided both for advisors and students to conduct research.</li> <li>2. Quality of research advisors is weak and they cannot supervise the student in their research.</li> <li>3. Poor quality of research environments for students. Access to the worldwide known research journals is limited except a few universities. Laboratory equipment are out dated for some universities and even some universities doesn't have necessary lab equipment.</li> <li>4. Most PhD students are working while doing a PhD degree research. Students find it hard to concentrate on their research.</li> </ol>	<p>For the Ministry of Education:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide more with official collaboration hours in the regulation.</li> <li>2. Strong requirements for PhD advisors. Advisors must be active researchers.</li> <li>3. Tighten laboratory requirements for Universities which are running PhD courses in Science fields.</li> <li>4. Initiate sound scholarship program for PhD students.</li> </ol> <p>For Universities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase accessibility to the worldwide known research journals.</li> <li>2. Improve the quality of laboratories and renew lab equipment.</li> </ol> <p>Provide with more contact hours for advisors and students.</p>

<p><b>II. Embedding in institutional strategies and policies: universities as institutions need to assume responsibility for ensuring that the doctoral programmes and research training they offer are designed to meet new challenges and include appropriate professional career development opportunities.</b></p>	<p>Regulation on Educational Rule of HEI's</p>	<p>Here PhD thesis is determined in next way “It should solve problems of great importance related with certain scientific field or made scientific solution on practical problems which are very important in social and economic field of Mongolia. It should be compared with the previous results and decisions, and reviewed, shown novelties of the research. Written along with approved structure and requirements. It should include new knowledge, information, justification or theoretical and practical conclusions”.</p> <p>It means, PhD thesis should have at least one original idea of doctoral study or some decision of the practical problems which can be technological solution for engineers, for instance.</p> <p>But there are still no clear evaluation requirements for this determination. With this, it is difficult to make clarification on which technological and social, humanity field problems are new or suitable decision of occurred problems.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To make different requirements and outcomes in scientific and technological field and evaluation method.</li> <li>2. To take into account special feature of each programs into the PhD thesis requirement.</li> </ol>
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<p><b>III. The importance of diversity: the rich diversity of doctoral programs in Europe-including joint doctorates-is a strength which has to be underpinned by quality and sound practice.</b></p>	<p>Common regulation of graduate study approved by second appendix of A/370 order about amending the rules, approving regulation, index, and dissemination of Master and Doctoral degree</p>	<p>Currently the number of interdisciplinary theses is rather limited. The number of joint doctoral programs is limited. And it's not stable. In 2017, Law Enforcement University of Mongolia organized a conference on opportunity to implement joint master and doctor degree programs. According to the common regulation, "In a case of implementing joint and inter-sectoral programs, mutual understanding between universities (domestic and foreign) on credit hours shall be regulated by formal contractual agreement between the universities in line with requirements of related accreditation body".</p> <p>In the case of a foreign institution's researcher works a supervisor, the person has same responsibility of managing and supervising master's and doctoral dissertations for students as the permanent teacher of the university. Further details shall be outlined in training regulations of the university.</p> <p>It is stated that, approval of the state central administrative authority in charge of education matters shall be taken in accordance with related regulations for implementing joint master and doctoral programs with foreign universities.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To introduce similar experiences of international joint programs.</li> <li>2. Opportunity for implementing a joint doctoral degree program shall be provided and regulated.</li> <li>3. It is necessary to intensify compliance of the common regulation that states effective cooperation with the government, non-governmental organizations, professional associations and employers for implementing joint programs.</li> <li>4. It is necessary to increase opportunities for research work with joint supervisors and based on the outcomes revealed, to elaborate a regulation that will enhance the implementation of interdisciplinary and/or joint PhD theses.</li> </ol>
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<p><b>IV. Doctoral candidates as early stage researchers: should be recognized as professionals –with commensurate rights-who make a key contribution to the creation of new knowledge.</b></p>	<p>Common regulation of graduate study approved by second appendix of A/370 order about amending the rules, approving regulation, index, and dissemination of Master and Doctoral degree</p> <p>Rules of HEI’s</p>	<p>The proportion of doctors in the university activities is being low. The proportion of students studying in PhD programs is 2.44 percent of the total students. The percentage is 3.44 in state universities and 0.91 percent in private universities.</p> <p>The university does not specify a contract with the doctoral students. The role and responsibilities are unclear. Training regulations of the National University of Mongolia and the Otgontenger University Training Institute does not clearly state the contractual arrangements with a doctoral student.</p> <p>Currently the regulation and corresponding contracts signed with the doctoral student have some articles about the rights and responsibilities of doctoral students, yet at times the scope of the rights is not respected.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Amend the training regulation for including students’ representation into Doctoral program committee.</li> <li>2. Implement contractual arrangements that promote the rights and obligations of participating in the training process</li> <li>3. Training regulation shall include specific rights and responsibilities of academic organizations and universities to participate research works</li> </ol>
<p><b>V. The crucial role of supervision and assessment: in respect of individual doctoral candidates, arrangements for supervision and assessment should be based on a transparent contractual framework of shared responsibilities between doctoral candidates, supervisors and the institution (and where appropriate including other partners).</b></p>	<p>Rules of HEI’s</p> <p>Contract between a PhD student and a HEI</p>		

<b>Other amendments offered</b>		
<b>N</b>	<b>Current State of Affairs</b>	<b>Proposed Changes</b>
<b>Admission Procedure to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle</b>		
<b>1.</b>	Requirement for admission section of the common regulation does not specifically mention about foreign language knowledge and HEIs regulate it by their admission regulation.	✓ Include the content of a foreign language knowledge that is capable to conduct research work
<b>2.</b>	The details of the contracts with university students are incomplete in the training regulations of universities.	✓ Include the content to improve doctoral student of involvement in the training process through contract between a doctoral student, a university and a supervisor.
<b>3.</b>	Applicants have to undergo an exam in Principles of Informatics and foreign language.	✓ There are no exams on “Principles of Informatics” and foreign languages. But since applicant should have Master degree, it can be counted knowledges and skills on informatics and foreign languages with the obtained credits and marks during Master course at HEI’s
<b>4.</b>	Article 2 of the Ph.D research approval committee rule broadly in indicates that the committee shall be established for three years by the Government member in charge of Education	To include the following details 2.4. Criteria for the Chairperson, Deputy Chairman, Secretary and Members 2.4.1 The board members shall have a Ph.D degree in that field 2.4.2 Required to have at least 10 scientific papers published in the last 5 years on a magazine that is listed in the World Scientific database or a magazine with an independent review. 2.4.3. Experience of managing and conducting baseline and applied research projects. 2.4.4 Representatives of one body shall not be more than one third of the Committee members. 2.4. 5 A member of the Committee shall not have any conflict of ethics and interests. 2.4.6 Gender equality shall be considered in the establishment of the Committee.