



**Resolution No. of the Senate of the University of Silesia in Katowice
of 28 April 2026
on defining the Regulations of the International Environmental Doctoral School
associated with the Centre for Polar Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice
(IEDS).**

Pursuant to Article 205 and Article 198 section 5 of the [Act](#) of 20 July 2018 – Law on Higher Education and Science (consolidated text, Journal of Laws of 2024, item 1571, as amended) and § 154 sec. (3) of the [Statute](#) of the University of Silesia in Katowice, the Senate resolves as follows:

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I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 1

1. The International Environmental Doctoral School at the Centre for Polar Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice, hereinafter referred to as IEDS, is jointly run by:
 - 1) University of Silesia, Katowice
 - 2) Institute of Geophysics of the Polish Academy of Sciences;
 - 3) Institute of Mathematics of the Polish Academy of Sciences;
 - 4) Institute of Oceanology of the Polish Academy of Sciences.
2. The English name of the doctoral school is: International Environmental Doctoral School associated with the Centre for Polar Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice (IEDS).

3. The Doctoral School operates on the basis of the following regulations:
 - 1) the [Act](#) of 20 July 2018 - Law on Higher Education and Science;
 - 2) the Act of 3 July 2018 – Provisions introducing the Act – Law on Higher Education and Science;
 - 3) agreements on the principles of operation and financing of the International Environmental Doctoral School associated with the Centre for Polar Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice;
 - 4) resolutions of the Senate of the University of Silesia in Katowice regarding the conditions and procedure for admission to the International Environmental Doctoral School at the Centre for Polar Studies of the University of Silesia in Katowice (IEDS);
 - 5) resolutions of the Senate of the University of Silesia in Katowice on the establishment of the curriculum of the International Environmental Doctoral School at the Centre for Polar Studies of the University of Silesia in Katowice (IEDS);
 - 6) [Regulation](#) No. 71/2019 of the Rector of the University of Silesia on the establishment of the International Environmental Doctoral School at the Centre for Polar Studies of the University of Silesia in Katowice, as amended.;
 - 7) [the Statute](#) of the University of Silesia in Katowice;
 - 8) statutes of PAS institutes;
 - 9) these Rules and Regulations;
 - 10) other applicable laws.
4. Terms used in these rules and regulation have the following meanings:
 - 1) **IEDS Entities** – Entities jointly operating the IEDS listed in section 1;
 - 2) **doctoral student** – a person studying at the IEDS;
 - 3) **doctoral school** – an organised form of education for doctoral students, conducted jointly by the IEDS Entities, at which education is completed with in meeting of the requirements set in [Section 36](#) of these Regulations;
 - 4) **The IEDS Council** – a council consisting of persons employed at the IEDS Entities, holding the title of professor or doctoral degree (Polish: doktor

habilitowany) in the disciplines in which the doctoral school education is conducted;

- 5) **Dean of the IEDS** – the dean of the doctoral school appointed by the Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice after consultation with the Doctoral Student Government and in consultation with the Senate, according to the rules set forth in the statute;
- 6) **Act** - the Higher Education and Science Law Act of 20 July 2018;
- 7) **curriculum** – the training program that describes the learning process leading to the achievement of learning outcomes consistent with the eighth level of the Polish Qualification Framework (hereinafter: 8 PQF);
- 8) **learning outcomes** – the body of knowledge, skills and social competencies acquired by a PhD candidate in the process of learning;
- 9) **ECTS credits** – credits defined in the European Credit Transfer System as a measure of the average workload of a learner necessary to achieve the assumed learning outcomes;
- 10) **professional internships** – consists of teaching classes, participating in teaching classes, or other didactic or promotion activities.

II ADMISSION PROCEDURE

§ 2

1. The admission procedure is carried out in accordance with the provisions contained in the resolution of the Senate of the University of Silesia in Katowice on the conditions and procedures for admission to the International Environmental Doctoral School associated with the Centre for Polar Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice (IEDS).
2. The rules of the admission procedure referred to in section 1, and the curriculum referred to in Article 201(3) [of the Act](#), will be made available no later than 5 months before the start of admission.

3. The general conditions for supporting candidates with special educational needs due to health conditions in the process of admission to the IEDS, are attached as appendix No. 1 to these Regulations.

§ 3

Foreigners may study at the doctoral school under the conditions set forth in Articles 323-328 [of the Act](#) and in accordance with the internal regulations of the IEDS Entities.

III ORGANISATION OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL

§ 4

1. Supervision of the operation of the doctoral school is exercised by the IEDS Council.
2. The Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice appoints 8 persons to the IEDS Council, and the Directors of the other IEDS Entities appoint 2 persons representing each of the IEDS Entities.
3. The tasks of the IEDS Council include:
 - 1) establishing the admission committee of the IEDS;
 - 2) approving individual research plans of the doctoral students;
 - 3) providing opinions on candidates for supervisor or auxiliary supervisor;
 - 4) organising the mid-term evaluation of PhD candidates in accordance with [§ 13](#) of this resolution;
 - 5) evaluating implementation of the curriculum, the status of research and progress of preparation of the doctoral dissertation by inspecting periodic reports submitted by PhD candidates and evaluations of their progress submitted by supervisors annually before the end of the academic year;
 - 6) providing opinions on the draft resolution of the Senate of the University of Silesia in Katowice on establishing the curriculum;
 - 7) providing opinions on the draft resolution of the Senate of the University of Silesia in Katowice on the conditions of and procedures for admission to the IEDS;

- 8) recommending to the Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice a candidate for the Dean of the IEDS;
 - 9) adopting resolutions on matters related to supervision of the operation of the IEDS and on matters related to the directions for development of the IEDS.
4. Meetings of the IEDS Council may be held on site or remotely, using means of electronic communication.
 5. The IEDS Council will adopt resolutions with a simple majority of votes in the presence of at least half of its members.
 6. Voting on resolutions of the IEDS Council may be done face-to-face or using means of electronic communication, either by circulation or in real time.

§ 5

1. The Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice will appoint the Dean of the IEDS after consultation with the Doctoral Student Government and in consultation with the Senate, according to the rules set forth in the statute.
2. The Dean of the International Environmental Doctoral School:
 - 1) presides over the IEDS Council;
 - 2) manages the budget of the doctoral school;
 - 3) is responsible for implementation of the curriculum and organisation of the mid-term evaluation;
 - 4) approves the supervisor or supervisors, or a supervisor and an auxiliary supervisor, the opinions on whom have been presented by the IEDS Council;
 - 5) issues administrative decisions and other decisions in individual matters of doctoral students, on authority of the Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice, except for the decisions on admission of foreigners to the doctoral school;
 - 6) is responsible for matters related to doctoral students' scholarships;
 - 7) gives credits to doctoral students for subsequent years of education;

- 8) in justified, individual cases, the dean extends the deadline for submission of the doctoral dissertation, based on the periodic reports of the doctoral student and the evaluation by the supervisor, for a total of no more than 2 years;
- 9) organises the implementation of the framework curriculum;
- 10) ensures compliance with the regulations of the doctoral school;
- 11) informs doctoral students about the results of the annual review of reports on execution of the individual research plan by the IEDS Council and of crediting or not crediting for the academic year through the USOS system;
- 12) once a year, the dean presents a report on the activities of the doctoral school to the IEDS Council, the Chair of the Centre for Polar Studies and the heads of the IEDS Entities;
- 13) presents to the Senate of the University of Silesia in Katowice the proposal on adopting resolutions on the establishment of or changes to the curriculum, the conditions of and procedures for admission, and the regulations of the IEDS.

§ 6

No more than 5 employees of foreign universities or scientific institutions may be included in the International Advisory Panel of the IEDS, in accordance with the procedure specified separately.

§ 7

1. Heads of IEDS entities will appoint, from among their employees, at least one Plenipotentiary for IEDS.
2. The duties of the Plenipotentiary for IEDS include:
 - 1) organisation of education in the IEDS Entity in accordance with the curriculum;
 - 2) supervision of documentation of the course of education in the IEDS Entity and transfer of documentation to the IEDS Office;
 - 3) support in organisation of admission to the IEDS;
 - 4) promotional activities and activities related to raising external funds for the activities of the IEDS;

- 5) other activities for the IEDS as indicated by the Dean of the IEDS or a head of the IEDS Entity.

§ 8

1. The administrative support related to the activities of the IEDS are carried out by the Office of the International Environmental Doctoral School associated with the Centre for Polar Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice, hereinafter referred to as the IEDS Office.
2. The duties of the IEDS Office include:
 - 1) administrative support for the IEDS Council and the Dean of the IEDS;
 - 2) preparation and archiving of documentation related to the activities of the IEDS;
 - 3) planning and documentation of the educational process;
 - 4) operation of electronic systems for the administration and reporting of IEDS activities, including the POLON, USOS and SAP systems;
 - 5) administrative support for recruitment to the IEDS;
 - 6) administrative support for projects implemented by the IEDS;
 - 7) handling personal and economic matters of IEDS doctoral students;
 - 8) informing doctoral students about the activities of the IEDS;
 - 9) execution of activities to promote the IEDS and implementation of the information policy of the IEDS;
 - 10) other tasks related to the activities of the IEDS as assigned by the Dean of the IEDS;
3. The work of the IEDS Office is coordinated by the Head of the IEDS Office.

§ 9

1. An IEDS doctoral student is affiliated with the IEDS Entity where their domestic supervisor is employed. In the event that the doctoral student has supervisors employed by multiple IEDS Entities, the doctoral student will be affiliated with the IEDS Entity that they have indicated in the statement referred to in section 2.

2. On the basis of a written statement of a doctoral student, the IEDS Entities are authorized to demonstrate the achievements of the doctoral student affiliated with a given IEDS Entity for the purpose of evaluation of the quality of scientific activity.

IV EDUCATION IN THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL

§ 10

1. Education at the IEDS is provided in the disciplines in which the IEDS Entities are authorized to award doctoral degrees: mathematics, biological sciences and earth and environmental sciences (in the field of natural sciences), and materials science and engineering (in the field of engineering and technology).
2. In the event of discontinuation of education of PhD candidates in a given discipline, the IEDS Entities will ensure that the PhD candidates affiliated with them who are preparing a doctoral dissertation in this discipline, have the opportunity to continue their education at another doctoral school.
3. In the event of losing the right to confer doctoral degrees in a given discipline, the IEDS Entities will, after discontinuing the process of education, cover the costs of the extramural doctoral degree conferral procedure for awarding the doctoral degree for the PhD candidates affiliated with them who have lost the opportunity to obtain a doctoral degree at the IEDS Entities.
4. Education at the IEDS lasts eight semesters. The academic year begins on 1 October and ends on 30 September.
5. The organisation of the academic year at IEDS is determined in the orders of the Dean of the IEDS.
6. Education is provided jointly by the IEDS Entities, in their facilities and using their infrastructure and staff.
7. The module coordinators are lecturers affiliated with the IEDS Entities in accordance with the curriculum.

8. The education of doctoral students may be carried out in cooperation with another entity, including an entrepreneur, a university or a scientific institution.
9. Doctoral students with special educational needs arising from their health condition are provided with adaptations in the organisation and implementation of the educational process and the conduct of scientific research to suit their specific situation, including adaptations of the conditions for studying at the doctoral school to the type of difficulties they experience. Detailed rules for the adjustment are set forth in appendix No. 2 to these regulations.

§ 11

1. The curriculum specifies:
 - 1) reference to the assumed learning outcomes consistent with the eighth level of the Polish Qualification Framework;
 - 2) the study programme, which constitutes a description of the educational process leading to the achievement of these outcomes, specifying in particular:
 - a) a list of the teaching modules required to complete the education,
 - b) the number of teaching hours and the number of ECTS credits assigned to individual course modules,
 - c) the method of completion and assessment of the course modules included in the curriculum.
2. The curriculum is adopted by the Senate of the University of Silesia in Katowice based on the request of the Dean of the IEDS after the IEDS Council, the research committee and the Doctoral Student Government have expressed their opinions. If the deadline specified in the Statute of the University of Silesia in Katowice expires without effect, the requirement for obtaining the opinion of the Doctoral Student Government will be considered satisfied.

3. The curriculum is subject to evaluation in accordance with the Educational Quality Assurance Procedures in the IEDS; the conclusions from the evaluation may provide the basis for modification of the curriculum.
4. The curriculum may include individualised classes taking into account the needs arising from execution of individual research plans, determined in consultation with the supervisor, which may take into account classes conducted at other entities providing doctoral education (including foreign entities), and in justified cases, also classes from the programs of second cycle studies, uniform master's studies or other specialized classes;
5. In justified cases, at the request of a doctoral student, the Dean of the IEDS may agree to an individual study programme for part or all of the course of education.
6. As part of the individual course of study, the Dean of the IEDS, in consultation with the supervisor and the doctoral student, determines:
 - 1) an individual curriculum and a schedule for the doctoral candidate to complete the tasks necessary for finishing their education at the doctoral school;
 - 2) the duration of the course of study is not less than six semesters and not more than eight semesters.
7. At the request of a doctoral student, the Dean of the IEDS may credit the doctoral student with a module of education at the doctoral school if the student unequivocally documents the achievement of the learning outcomes assigned to that module during internships or classes undertaken at other academic or research units.
8. Learning outcomes are assessed through examinations or continuous assessment. The form of verification of learning outcomes is specified in the framework curriculum.
9. Examinations and assessments for modules included in the curriculum are concluded with a two-tiered grading system: "pass" or "fail".

- 1) if required by other regulations, the grade "pass" is equivalent to the grade "very good" (5.0), and the grade "fail" is equivalent to the grade "unsatisfactory" (2.0);
 - 2) failure to obtain a credit is tantamount to failure to pass the module.
10. The doctoral student is not entitled to repeat a year of education at the doctoral school.
11. Doctoral students are awarded ECTS credits for completing the modules included in the curriculum and other tasks carried out as part of their education at the doctoral school, including during external courses and internships.
12. Education is provided in Polish or English. Modules are conducted in Polish when the instructor and all participants declare that they speak Polish. In the event that the instructor or any of the students declare that they do not speak Polish, the classes will be conducted in English.
13. A doctoral student may proceed to the defence of their doctoral dissertation during their studies at the doctoral school after achieving the required learning outcomes.

§ 12

1. Within 12 months from the commencement of their studies, doctoral students are required to submit to the IEDS an individual research plan, hereinafter referred to as the IRP, which has been approved by their supervisor.
2. The IRP shall contain, in particular:
 - 1) personal data of the doctoral student and the supervisor(s) or the supervisor and co-supervisor;
 - 2) the concept of the doctoral dissertation, including: the title of the doctoral dissertation, the rationale for undertaking the research, the research objective, the research hypothesis and research questions, an outline of the research methodology, the expected contribution to development of the scientific discipline, an analysis of the risks of the research undertaking and the planned activities aimed at mitigating them;

- 3) a schedule for the preparation of the doctoral dissertation, including the category and description of research tasks, the method of implementation and the expected outcome, the deadline for completion, and the correlation of tasks with the learning outcomes at the eighth level of the Polish Qualifications Framework;
 - 4) the deadline for submission of the doctoral dissertation;
 - 5) signatures of the doctoral student and the supervisor(s) confirming execution of the Individual Research Plan in agreement with the supervisor(s);
 - 6) the opinion of the auxiliary supervisor, if one has been appointed.
3. An Individual Research Plan can be prepared in Polish or English.
 4. Changes to the Individual Research Plan may be made by means of an annex.
 5. The Individual Research Plan and changes made to the Individual Research Plan are subject to evaluation and approval by the IEDS Council in the form of a resolution.
 6. By the end of each academic year, the PhD candidate is required to submit the following to the doctoral school office:
 - 1) the report on execution of the Individual Research Plan;
 - 2) the supervisor's opinion;
 - 3) other reports required by the IEDS Council or the Dean of the IEDS.
 7. The templates of the Individual Research Plan and of the annex to the Individual Research Plan will be specified by the Dean of the IEDS in the form of an order.

§ 13

1. At mid-term, a doctoral student will undergo a mid-term evaluation in accordance with Article 202 [of the Act](#).
2. A detailed description of organisation of the mid-term evaluation of the PhD candidates at the IEDS, is attached as appendix No. 3 to these regulations.
3. The mid-term evaluation will end with either a positive or negative result.
4. The mid-term evaluation result together with the justification is public. The result of the evaluation, along with its justification, will be published on the IEDS website for a period of twelve months from the date of the mid-term evaluation.

§ 14

1. The deadline for submitting the doctoral dissertation, as stipulated in the ISP, may be extended, but not by more than two years, in accordance with the terms set out in these Regulations.
2. At the request of a doctoral student, the Dean of the IEDS may extend the deadline for submission of the doctoral dissertation in the following cases:
 - 1) temporary inability to receive education or conduct research due to illness;
 - 2) the need to personally look after an ill family member;
 - 3) the need to personally look after a child aged four or less or a child with a disability certificate;
 - 4) impediments resulting from certified disability;
 - 5) other documented circumstances or random events that prevent or hinder the education or research.
3. At the request of the doctoral student, the dean of the IEDS may extend the deadline for submission of the doctoral dissertation in the cases justified by the need to conduct long-term scientific research necessary for preparation of the doctoral dissertation, for a total of no more than two years.
4. Extension of the deadline for submission of the doctoral dissertation due to the circumstances described in section 3 is possible provided that the doctoral student has at least:
 - 1) one scientific article published in a scientific journal or in peer-reviewed materials from an international conference which, in the year of publishing the article in its final form, were included in the list drawn up in accordance with the regulations issued on the basis of Article 267(2)(2)(b) or
 - 2) one scientific monograph issued by a publishing house which, in the year of publication of the monograph in its final form, were included in the list drawn up in accordance with the regulations issued under Article 267(2)(2)(a), or a chapter in such a monograph.

5. The petition for extension of the deadline for submission of the doctoral dissertation should include:
 - 1) the information about the doctoral student: full name, student registration number and year of education;
 - 2) the period of extension of the deadline for submitting the doctoral dissertation;
 - 3) justification;
 - 4) the annex to the Individual Research Plan along with the opinion of the supervisor(s).
6. To the request for extension of the deadline for submission of the doctoral dissertation, the doctoral student must attach the documents confirming the existence of the premises described in [section 2 or 3](#).

§ 15

1. The IEDS Council will review, on an annual basis, the reports of doctoral student on execution of the Individual Research Plan, submitted together with the supervisors' opinion on execution of the Individual Research Plan before the end of the academic year.
2. Doctoral students who have undergone or will undergo a mid-term assessment during the current academic year are not subject to the review of reports.
3. The procedure for conducting inspections, the form of approval for doctoral students' reports, and the templates for doctoral students' annual reports are determined by the IEDS Council through resolutions.
4. After the inspection, the IEDS Council will either approve the reports of doctoral students or decide to initiate an investigation procedure in the case of irregularities in execution of the Individual Research Plan or if the supervisor has issued a negative opinion.
5. The inspection procedure includes:

- 1) a speech by the doctoral students at an open scientific seminar, attended by members of the IEDS Council, at which the doctoral student presents the progress of the Individual Research Plan and the scope of the activities that will be undertaken in order to complete the doctoral dissertation in a timely manner;
 - 2) an interview between members of the IEDS Council and the supervisor(s);
 - 3) a conversation between members of the IEDS Council and the doctoral student being investigated;
 - 4) issuance of recommendations by the IEDS Council on activities that should be undertaken by the supervisor and the doctoral student for the purposes of timely and reliable completion of the doctoral dissertation; the doctoral student and the supervisors will submit a report on implementation of the recommendations within the deadline set by the IEDS Council;
 - 5) verification by the IEDS Council of implementation of the recommendations referred to in item 4, based on the analysis of the report; The IEDS Council may ask for additional explanations submitted in writing or invite the PhD candidate and the supervisors for a conversation;
 - 6) the investigation procedure ends with the adoption by the IEDS Council of a resolution on a positive or negative opinion on the progress of the Individual Research Plan; a negative opinion of the IEDS Council on the progress of the Individual Research Plan will constitute a prerequisite described in [§ 38\(2\)\(2\)](#) for the Dean of the IEDS to make the decision to remove the person from the list of doctoral students.
6. At the request of a doctoral student, of a supervisor or members of the IEDS Council, representatives of the Doctoral Student Government, the Student and doctoral student Ombudsperson, as well as bodies established to ensure the protection of employees' rights at IEDS Entities, may also participate in the investigation.
 7. In order for a doctoral student to receive credit for a year of education, they must obtain a credit or a positive grade from verification of learning outcomes from the mandatory modules provided for in the curriculum for the academic year or in the

individual study programme, as well as approval by the IEDS Council of the annual report on the execution of the Individual Research Plan referred to in section 4 or obtain a positive mid-term evaluation.

8. At their request, the doctoral student may be conditionally admitted by the Dean of the IEDS to study in the following academic year in the following cases:
 - 1) failure to pass one of the mandatory modules provided for in the current academic year or failure to pass the doctoral seminar or internship, provided that the IEDS Council has approved the annual report on execution of the Individual Research Plan;
 - 2) initiation of the investigation procedure, referred to in section 4, on the condition of having received credits for the mandatory modules provided for in the current academic year.
9. In the case of conditional admission to study in a given academic year, the PhD candidate will be required to obtain the credit for the module for which they did not obtain the credit in the previous academic year, or to cooperate with the IEDS Council in conducting the investigation procedure referred to in section 5.
10. In justified cases, at the request of a doctoral student, the Dean of the IEDS may extend the deadline for crediting the modules or passing examinations set in the order of the Dean of the IEDS on organisation of the academic year, referred to in § 10(5).
11. A doctoral student who has been admitted to the IEDS during the academic year as a result of a separate recruitment procedure for candidates whose doctoral scholarship is funded from sources other than the subsidy from the minister responsible for higher education and science may complete the outstanding modules of the compulsory IEDS curriculum in the following academic year or apply for an individual course of study.
12. A person who has not completed their education at the doctoral school may, upon written request, receive a certificate of the course of their education.

Evaluation by the doctoral school will be prepared on the basis of the provisions of the Act and the implementing provisions of the Act.

V DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP

§ 17

1. A doctoral student who does not hold a doctoral degree receives a doctoral scholarship.
2. The total period of receiving a doctoral scholarship at doctoral schools may not exceed four years.
3. The period referred to in section 2 will not include the period of suspension or the period of education at the doctoral school in the case referred to in Article 206(2) [of the Act](#).
4. The monthly doctoral scholarship amount is at least:
 - 1) 37% of the Professor's salary – until the month in which the mid-term evaluation was carried out;
 - 2) 57% of a professor's salary – after the month in which the mid-term assessment was carried out.
5. The scholarship referred to in section 4(2) is awarded to doctoral students who have received a positive mark in their mid-term assessment.
6. The amount of the doctoral scholarship is determined by the Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice in the form of an regulation.
7. The amount of the doctoral scholarship, the source of funding of which is other than a subsidy from the Ministry responsible for higher education and science, will be determined in each case on the basis of separate agreements or provisions.
8. If the IEDS obtains additional funding, doctoral students may be awarded an increase in the doctoral scholarship or an additional pro-quality scholarship - specified in separate provision.
9. The amount of the doctoral scholarship may depend on the doctoral candidate's achievements.

10. During the period of suspension of education, the provisions on determining the amount of the maternal leave will be applied mutatis mutandis to determination of the amount of the doctoral scholarship, except that the basis for determining the benefit will be understood as the amount of the monthly doctoral scholarship, referred to in section 6 and section 7, due on the date of submission of the request for suspension.
11. A doctoral student holding a disability certificate, a certificate of the degree of disability, or a certificate referred to in article 5 and article 62 of the [Act](#) of 27 August 1997 on Vocational and Social Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities, receives a doctoral scholarship in an amount increased by 30% of the amount indicated in [section4\(1\)](#):
12. A doctoral student who submits their doctoral dissertation before the completion date specified in the education programme receives a doctoral scholarship until the completion date, but for no longer than 6 months. The provision of section 2 will apply.
13. The doctoral scholarship will be paid by the IEDS Entity in accordance with the procedure described in the agreement referred to in [Section 1\(4\)\(3\)](#).
14. A doctoral scholarship is not granted to a doctoral student whose education at the doctoral school is associated with the obligation to be employed by the entity operating the doctoral school:
 - 1) under an employment contract;
 - 2) with a salary that exceeds that of a professor.

VI RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE DOCTORAL STUDENT

§ 18

1. A doctoral student can only be enrolled in one doctoral school at a time.
2. A person admitted to the doctoral school begins education and acquires doctoral student rights upon signing the oath.

3. The doctoral student is granted access to the IT system in which the course of study and the results of the education are documented.
4. A doctoral student receives a doctoral student's ID card. A person who has lost their status as a doctoral student is obliged to immediately return their doctoral student ID card.
5. No fees are charged for the education of doctoral students.

§ 19

The doctoral student is entitled to:

- 1) participate in the scientific life of the IEDS Entities;
- 2) use of the library and reading rooms, laboratories, research equipment, software and other equipment of the IEDS Entities to the extent necessary for execution of the curriculum, research and preparation of the doctoral dissertation; the use will be in accordance with the internal regulations of the IEDS Entities.
- 3) universal health insurance, provided that they are not subject to mandatory health insurance on other grounds, under the terms specified in other provisions, or are not subject to exclusion from health insurance under separate provisions;
- 4) extension of the deadline for submission of the doctoral dissertation, including to the Leave of Absence under the rules set forth in these regulations and in the Act;
- 5) suspension of education on the terms set out in the Regulations;
- 6) a vacation break;
- 7) undertaking academic internships, scholarships, and conducting research at other national and international academic centres, with the approval of the Dean of the IEDS, following a positive opinion from the supervisor;
 - a) with the consent of the Dean of the IEDS, the period of the fellowship may be included in the period of education, and ECTS credits may be awarded for the classes completed during the fellowship, taking into account their character and number of hours,

- b) At the request of the doctoral student, the Dean of the IEDS may decide to credit the didactic classes attended or conducted during the internship or scholarship, or to allow the student to attend the classes included in the curriculum at a different time,
 - c) A doctoral student going on an internship for a period of no less than three months may apply to the Dean of the IEDS for partial or full exemption from completing professional internships.
- 8) participating in conferences, symposia, workshops and scientific seminars, in consultation with the supervisor;
 - 9) obtaining formal and organisational support in doctoral school education and execution of an Individual Research Plan, including in obtaining funds for scientific research and scholarships;
 - 10) benefit from the substantive supervision of the supervisor(s) or the supervisor and co-supervisor, as well as support from the supervisors in independent research work, throughout the entire period of study;
 - 11) changes of the supervisor and the subject of the doctoral dissertation in accordance with the Regulations;
 - 12) joining doctoral student organisations operating within IEDS Entities on the terms set out in the Act.

§ 20

The responsibilities of a doctoral student include:

- 1) conduct in accordance with the content of the oath, the regulations of the doctoral school and other provisions in effect in the IEDS Entities;
- 2) independent education under the supervision of the supervisor or supervisors, or a supervisor and an auxiliary supervisor, in accordance with the established educational profile;
- 3) active participation in scientific conferences, including the presentation of at least one paper in a foreign language;

- 4) compliance with the deadlines for preparation of the doctoral dissertation included in the Individual Research Plan and specified in these regulations and in other provisions;
- 5) execution of the applicable curriculum, Individual Research Plan and completion of the midterm evaluation;
- 6) submission, within the prescribed deadlines, of documents required by the IEDS, and updating of the information contained therein (especially in the scholarship request);
- 7) submission of a statement authorizing the IEDS Entity with which the PhD candidate is affiliated, to demonstrate the achievements made in connection with education at the doctoral school for the purposes of evaluation of the quality of scientific activity of the discipline in which the doctoral dissertation is being prepared, or in one of the disciplines included in the field in which the doctoral dissertation is being prepared;
- 8) taking of internships in accordance with the curriculum and the specifics of the IEDS Entity with which the PhD candidate is affiliated;
 - a) In justified cases, the Dean of the IEDS may decide to exempt a doctoral candidate from completing professional internships,
 - b) in the case of professional internships carried out in the form of teaching classes, the doctoral student conducts consultations in the form and scope specified for academic teachers;
- 9) participation in the work of the IEDS Entity to which the doctoral candidate is affiliated, including the conduct of scientific research;
- 10) prompt provision of information to the Dean of the IEDS and the supervisor of any change in the doctoral student's last name or other personal information required by the doctoral school, including the address of residence; failure to inform of a change in address will mean that the correspondence sent to the current address will be considered properly delivered;
- 11) immediately informing the Dean of the IEDS about obtaining a doctoral degree, if this occurred during the period of study at the doctoral school;

- 12) compliance with other legal provisions, including those relating to the protection of intellectual property and confidential information and know-how;
- 13) becoming familiar with the information provided by the IEDS in the form of correspondence by mail, email, or through the IEDS website.

§ 21

1. The University of Silesia in Katowice provides each doctoral student with access to IT systems, in particular to an email account in the address domain of the University of Silesia in Katowice and to an IT system for viewing data on the course of education at the IEDS.
2. The doctoral student is obliged to regularly check the content of the email box in the addressdomain provided to the IEDS, and the information posted on the IEDS website.
3. Access to the IT systems of the University of Silesia in Katowice is protected by the doctoral student's individual login and password.
4. Any and all the information sent from an email account reported to the IEDS will be treated as having been received from the doctoral student who has reported it to the IEDS.

§ 22

1. If a doctoral student obtains a doctoral degree as a result of completing a doctoral school, the period of education at this school, not exceeding four years, is counted in the period of employment on which employee entitlements depend.
2. A doctoral student who has not completed their education at the doctoral school due to:
 - 1) taking up employment as an academic teacher or researcher,
 - 2) discontinuation of doctoral education in a given discipline– the period of education at this school, not exceeding 4 years, is included in the period of employment on which employees' entitlements depend, provided that he has obtained a doctoral degree.

§ 23

A doctoral student may apply for a student loan. The provisions on student loans will apply accordingly, except that:

- 1) only a doctoral student who is under 35 years of age may receive a loan;
- 2) the loan is granted for the period of study at the doctoral school only once, for a maximum of four years.

§ 24

A doctoral candidate may apply for:

- 1) accommodation in the student residence house of the University of Silesia in Katowice;
- 2) accommodation for a spouse or child in the student residence house of the University of Silesia in Katowice - on the terms and in accordance with the procedure set forth in the regulations of benefits for students of the University of Silesia in Katowice.

§ 25

A scholarship may be awarded to a doctoral student by a local government unit under the terms and conditions specified in accordance with Article 96 (2) and (3) [of the Act](#).

§ 26

A research scholarship may be awarded to a doctoral student by a natural person or a legal person that is not a state or local government legal person, under the terms specified in section 97 (2) [of the Act](#).

§ 27

Doctoral students may benefit from discounts on fares for public transport granted by local government units.

§ 28

The doctoral student's engagement in gainful employment during their studies at the doctoral school must not interfere with the fulfilment of their obligations under these Regulations, under penalty of removal from the list of doctoral students in accordance with [section 38](#) (2).

VII DISCIPLINARY RESPONSIBILITY AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

§ 29

1. The doctoral student is accountable to the disciplinary committee for violations of the provisions in effect at the IEDS Entities and for acts that are detrimental to a doctoral student's dignity.
2. The procedure before the disciplinary board is set out in the Act and the implementing regulations to the Act.
3. To ensure the protection of doctoral students' rights within the Doctoral School, the University of Silesia in Katowice has appointed an Ombudsman for Student and Doctoral Student Rights.
4. The scope of duties and powers of the Ombudsman for Student and Doctoral Candidate Rights is defined by an ordinance issued by the Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice.
5. The protection of the interests of employees in disputes with other employees or doctoral student is handled by the bodies established to ensure the protection of employees' rights in the IEDS Entities.
6. If the dispute involves employees affiliated with more than one IEDS Entity, the matter will be handled jointly by the bodies established to ensure the protection of the employees at the IEDS Entities whose employees are involved in the dispute.
7. In the event that a conflict situation involves doctoral students and employees, the matter is handled by the Ombudsman for Students and Doctoral Students, as well as the bodies appointed to protect the rights of employees in the IEDS Entities where the employees affected by the conflict situation are employed.

VIII INTERRUPTIONS IN THE EDUCATION OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS

§ 30

1. In the event of the circumstances described in [Section 14 \(2\)](#), a doctoral student may submit an application to the Dean of the IEDS for a break in their education, hereinafter referred to as 'Leave'.
2. The Leave Request should include:
 - 1) the information about the doctoral student: full name, student registration number and year of education;
 - 2) the period of Leave;
 - 3) justification;
 - 4) the supervisor's opinion.
3. During the period of the leave, the doctoral candidate retains their status as a doctoral candidate, along with their rights and obligations.
4. At the request of a doctoral student whose Individual Research Plan has been approved by the IEDS Council, the deadline for submitting the doctoral dissertation may be extended by the duration of the Leave of Absence. In such a case, along with the application for Leave of Absence, the doctoral candidate must also submit an Annex to the Individual Research Plan, accompanied by the opinion of the supervisor(s).
5. In the case of an application for Leave for a period shorter than an academic year, the Dean of the IEDS determines the conditions and schedule for the implementation of the educational process at the Doctoral School following the conclusion of the Leave.
6. No later than twenty-one days from the end of the Leave, the doctoral student shall submit a written declaration to the Dean of the IEDS confirming their intention to continue their education at the Doctoral School. Failure to submit the declaration may constitute grounds for initiating the procedure to remove the doctoral candidate from the programme due to withdrawal from education.
7. At the request of the doctoral student, the Dean of the IEDS may suspend the payment of the doctoral scholarship for the entire or part of the Leave period.

§ 31

1. At the request of a doctoral student, education at the doctoral school is suspended for a period corresponding to the duration of maternity leave, leave on the terms of maternity leave, paternity leave, and parental leave, as specified in the [Act](#) of 26 June 1974 – the Labour Code.
2. During the period of suspension of education, the doctoral candidate retains their status as a doctoral student, along with their rights and obligations.
3. The deadlines for the fulfilment of the doctoral student's obligations, as stipulated in the Individual Research Plan (IRP), shall be extended by the corresponding duration for which the period of study at the doctoral school has been suspended.
4. In the event of an application for suspension of education for a period shorter than one academic year, the Dean of the IEDS determines the conditions and schedule for the implementation of the educational process at the doctoral school following the end of the suspension period.
5. No later than twenty-one days from the end of the Leave, the doctoral student shall submit a written declaration to the Dean of the IEDS confirming their intention to continue their education at the Doctoral School. Failure to submit the declaration may constitute grounds for initiating the procedure to remove the doctoral candidate from the programme due to withdrawal from education.

§ 32

1. The doctoral student is entitled to vacation breaks of no more than eight weeks per year.
2. The vacation break may be used during the period free from classes at the IEDS and research tasks specified in the Individual Research Plan or scheduled by the IEDS Entity.
3. The doctoral student submits the request for a vacation break, approved by the supervisor, to the Dean of the IEDS.

IX SUBSTANTIVE SUPERVISION

§ 33

The Dean of the IEDS is the direct superior of the doctoral students. The Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice oversees the work of the Dean of the IEDS.

§ 34

1. The doctoral student undergoes education under the substantive supervision of a supervisor or supervisors, or a supervisor and an auxiliary supervisor.
2. Person acting as supervisor or co-supervisor must:
 - 1) meet the conditions in accordance with Section 190 (4) or Section 190 (5) [of the Act](#);
 - 2) have a proven track record in the scientific fields covered by the doctoral dissertation.
3. The following persons cannot become supervisors:
 - 1) specified in the Section 190 (6)(1) or (2) [of the Act](#) or;
 - 2) punished with a disciplinary penalty referred to in Section 276 (1)(4) of the Act, during its period of validity.
4. The doctoral student submits to the Dean of the IEDS an petition for the appointment of a supervisor or supervisors, or a supervisor and an auxiliary supervisor, containing:
 - 1) the name and surname, academic degree or title, affiliation, represented scientific discipline, and contact details of the candidate for the position of supervisor or co-supervisor;
 - 2) an outline of the planned doctoral dissertation specifying the research problem as well as the subject and scope of the planned research, together with a general preliminary formulation of its topic;
 - 3) justification for the proposed candidacy to serve as the supervisor or co-supervisor for the doctoral dissertation, in accordance with point 2;

- 4) a list of the candidate's most important publications, completed projects, and other scientific achievements from the past 5 years, relevant to the role of supervisor or co-supervisor;
 - 5) a statement from the candidate for supervisor or co-supervisor containing:
 - a) consent to act as a supervisor or co-supervisor,
 - b) a declaration of compliance with the conditions set [out in section 2](#) (1)
 - c) a declaration of no contraindications to performing the role of supervisor or co-supervisor, as referred to in [section 3](#).
5. The Dean of the IEDS, after consulting the IEDS Council, appoints a supervisor or supervisors, or a supervisor and an auxiliary supervisor, for the doctoral student, who meet the conditions specified in [section 2](#), subject to [section 3](#).
6. The supervisor or supervisors are appointed within 3 months of commencing studies at the doctoral school or under the circumstances referred to in section 8 or paragraph 9.
7. Until the appointment of a supervisor, the doctoral candidate remains under the substantive supervision of the academic supervisor who issued an opinion regarding the candidate for doctoral studies during the recruitment process to the IEDS, or another person designated by the Dean of the IEDS.
8. At the request of the doctoral student, supervisor, or auxiliary supervisor, and after consulting the IEDS Council, the Dean of the IEDS issues a decision regarding the dismissal of the supervisor or the dismissal of the auxiliary supervisor.
9. In the event of loss of eligibility to serve as a supervisor or co-supervisor, death, loss of health, or the occurrence of any other circumstance preventing the performance of the duties of a supervisor or co-supervisor, the Dean of the IEDS decides to dismiss the supervisor or co-supervisor.
10. In justified cases, the doctoral student, in consultation with the supervisor, may submit a request to the Dean of the IEDS to change the topic and the IRP. The application must include a justification.
11. The supervisor's responsibilities include:

- 1) establishing, together with the IPB doctoral student, within 12 months of the start of education at the doctoral school, and a detailed schedule for execution of tasks within the Individual Research Plan tasks for each subsequent year of education;
 - 2) introducing the doctoral student to the subject of the dissertation and familiarising them with the relevant research methods and techniques;
 - 3) establishing the course of the doctoral candidate's education and self-study in terms of substantive content, as well as monitoring its progress;
 - 4) establishing, together with the doctoral student, the program of fellowships and specialised courses, and issuing opinions on requests to the Dean of the IEDS for consent for the doctoral student to undertake those;
 - 5) assisting the doctoral student in obtaining the necessary funds to prepare their doctoral dissertation (NCN grants, statutory funding, other sources);
 - 6) continuous supervision of the doctoral candidate's progress and the presentation of results;
 - 7) providing opinions on the doctoral candidate's annual reports submitted to the IEDS Council;
 - 8) providing opinions on doctoral students' applications for an extension of the deadline for submitting their doctoral dissertations in the case specified in [section 14](#), as well as on other applications submitted by doctoral students;
 - 9) leading, co-leading, or participating in doctoral seminars;
 - 10) conducting classes at the doctoral school in accordance with the curriculum;
 - 11) cooperating with the mid-term evaluation committee, the IEDS Council and the Dean of the IEDS in reporting on the progress or lack of progress of the doctoral students in execution of the Individual Research Plan and failure to fulfill the terms of these regulations.
12. If additional funds are received to finance the doctoral school, the supervisor may receive additional remuneration, which is regulated by separate provisions.

§ 35

1. In order to ensure the highest quality of conducting scientific research, the substantive supervision of and support for the scientific activities of doctoral students, together with a supervisor or supervisors or a supervisor and an auxiliary supervisor, may be provided by the persons with relevant competence in the scope of the scientific issues covered by the doctoral dissertation, employed both within or outside the IEDS Entities, including scientific and research units from abroad jointly forming a scientific advisory team.
2. A request to the Dean of the IEDS for establishment of a scientific advisory team, including justification, a list of candidates with descriptions of their competences in the scientific issues covered by the doctoral dissertation, must be submitted by the doctoral student's supervisor(s).
3. The members of the scientific advisory team will be appointed by the Dean of the IEDS.

X COMPLETION OF EDUCATION AT THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL

§ 36

1. The education of a doctoral student is completed upon:
 - 1) obtaining a publication record in the form of:
 - a) at least 1 scientific article published in a scientific journal or in peer-reviewed materials from an international conference which, in the year of publishing the article in its final form, were included in the list drawn up in accordance with the regulations issued on the basis of Article 267 (2)(2)(b) or
 - b) at least 1 scientific monograph published by a publishing house that, in the year the monograph was published in its final form, was included in the list drawn up in accordance with the regulations issued pursuant to article 267 2 point 2(a), or a chapter in such a monograph.

- 2) achieving learning outcomes for qualifications at PQF level 8 by completing the applicable doctoral programme;
 - 3) obtaining a positive opinion from the supervisor(s) regarding the doctoral dissertation;
 - 4) submission of the doctoral dissertation, together with a positive opinion from the supervisor(s), to the IEDS Council within the deadline specified in the IAP;
 - 5) acceptance of the submitted doctoral dissertation by the IEDS Council.
2. A doctoral student who has fulfilled the requirements referred to above in section 1 will be provided with a certificate of completion of education at the IEDS and achievement of the learning outcomes at the level of 8 PQF.
 3. The submission of the doctoral dissertation during the second year of the extension of education at the IEDS must take place no later than 31 August of the given calendar year.

§ 37

1. Upon completion of their doctoral studies, a doctoral candidate may apply for the award of the doctoral degree through the procedure for awarding the doctoral degree, referred to in the Act, by submitting a request for initiation of that procedure to the IEDS Entities or another entity granting doctoral degrees.
2. A doctoral student who who has completed their education at the IEDS and has initiated the procedure for awarding the doctoral degree at one of the IEDS Entities will not be charged the fee for that procedure.
3. In the case referred to in section 2. The costs of remuneration for the supervisor(s), or the supervisor and co-supervisor, as well as the reviewers, shall be borne by the IEDS Entity to which the doctoral candidate was affiliated during their studies at the IEDS.
4. If proceedings for the conferral of a degree are initiated at an institution other than the IEDS Institution, the doctoral candidate shall bear the costs of these proceedings from their own financial resources.

XI REMOVAL FROM THE LIST OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS

§ 38

1. A doctoral student shall be removed from the list of doctoral candidates in the following cases:
 - 1) a negative mark of the mid-term evaluation;
 - 2) failure to submit a doctoral dissertation within the time limit specified in the IRP,
 - 3) resignation from education;
 - 4) failure to undertake education,
 - 5) violation of the prohibition referred to in Section 200 (7) [of the Act](#);
 - 6) disciplinary penalty of expulsion from the doctoral school.
2. A doctoral student may be removed from the list of doctoral students in the case of:
 - 1) unsatisfactory progress in the preparation of the doctoral dissertation;
 - 2) negative opinion of the IEDS Council on the progress of execution of the Individual Research Plan, as referred to in [section 15 \(5\)\(6\)](#);
 - 3) failure to comply with the obligations under these Terms and Conditions;
 - 4) failure to submit, within the required deadline, a declaration of continuation of education at the doctoral school after the end of the Leave referred to in [§ 30 \(5\)](#) or after the end of the suspension of education referred to [in section 31 \(5\)](#);
 - 5) failure to complete an academic year or lack of progress in the implementation of the curriculum.
3. Removal from the list of doctoral students takes place by means of an administrative decision issued by the IEDS Dean under the authority of the Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice. A request for reconsideration of the decision regarding removal from the list of doctoral students may be submitted to the Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice through the IEDS Dean within 14 days of receiving the decision. Instead of requesting a reconsideration of the case, the doctoral

student may, through the IEDS Dean, submit a complaint to the Provincial Administrative Court within 30 days of receiving the decision.

XII TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

§ 39

1. In matters concerning the rules and procedures for participation in the Doctoral School, which are not regulated by these Regulations or other legal provisions, the IEDS Dean is authorised to make decisions and other determinations in individual cases concerning doctoral students, either ex officio or upon request.
2. Decisions and other rulings of the IEDS Dean in individual cases concerning doctoral students may be appealed by submitting a request for reconsideration of the case to the Rector of the University of Silesia in Katowice within 14 days of receiving the decision or ruling.

§ 40

Resolution No. 503 of the Senate of the University of Silesia in Katowice of 19 March 2024 on the establishment of the Regulations of the International Environmental Doctoral School associated the Centre for Polar Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice (IEDS).

§ 41

The Resolution shall enter into force as of 1 October 2026.