



Maastricht University *Leading in Learning!*

Contracting for joint and double doctorates

Cenay Akin LL.M.

Cenay.Akin@maastrichtuniversity.nl



Maastricht University (UM) – Some facts and figures

- Youngest and most international university in the Netherlands
- Six faculties: Arts and Social Sciences, Health, Medicine and Life Sciences, Law, Psychology and Neuroscience, Science and Engineering, and Business and Economics
- University College Maastricht
- 16.300 students; 4.300 employees; 65.000 alumni
- 50% of students and 33% of employees with an international background
- Problem Based Learning and English curriculum

Overview

- UM international educational activities
- Joint and double doctorates at UM
- Process – how do we go about creating a joint doctorate?
- Why start a joint doctorate?
- Starting a joint doctorate – some tips
- What needs to go in the agreement and problems encountered

UM international educational activities

- Student exchanges
- BA and MA joint and double programmes
- Joint and double PhD programmes or individual trajectories

Joint and double doctorates at UM

- Handled by legal affairs (central) in collaboration with the faculties/individual academics
- 3 person team

| Year | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Joint/double doctorates | 5 | 48 | 53 | 63 | 51 |
| Joint/double programmes | 2 | 17 | 21 | 13 | 10 |
| <i>Total</i> | 7 | 65 | 74 | 76 | 61 |

Process – how do we go about creating a joint doctorate?

- Request comes from individual academics, programme managers. Not from PhD researchers or legal dept.
- Sometimes out of the blue for a specific PhD project or as a follow-up to previous collaboration, intention to collaborate (MoU), or joined project (EU consortium)
- Determine who the key players are: lawyers, project or programme managers, academics, PhD researcher, other experts (insurance, data protection officer)

Why start a joint doctorate?

Added value for PhD Researcher:

- Elevating the quality of the PhD – expertise of other supervisor, examination by two independent universities
- Mobility / international experience /creating a network for the PhD researcher

Added value for University/dept.:

- International relations / network for the university
- Bringing together expertise / sharing knowledge

Starting a joint or double doctorate – some tips

- Before starting negotiations, have a preliminary telcon/skype meeting
- Establish both parties':
 - admission req's
 - rules on supervisors
 - duration of PhD research
 - financial matters
 - status of the researcher
 - examination procedures – how to consolidate
 - law and policy
 - Bottom line (e.g. first defence at UM)
 - Determine what is necessary - Individual agreement; umbrella agreement; Consortium, such as ITN, Marie Curie
 - Exchange template contracts

What needs to go in the agreement? I

- Applicable regulation
- Start date
- Admission requirements
- Division of supervision
- Supervisors
- Intellectual property (IP)
- Language

What needs to go in the agreement? II

- Examination
- Public defence at UM
- Diploma
- Degree
- Data protection
- Modification and termination of the agreement
- Term of the agreement
- Applicable law
- Dispute settlement
- Signature



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Thank you for your time!

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