Content and format requirements with regard to the thesis proposal, other rules related to its discussion

* 1. Content and format requirements with regard to the thesis proposal, other rules related to its discussion are included in the present annex.
	2. General expectations:
		1. The objective of preparing a thesis proposal and submitting it for defence is to judge the theoretical preparedness of the doctoral candidate, the professional soundness of his/her research concept and the key results achieved so far.
		2. The format requirements are identical to those of the final version.
	3. Nature and objective of the thesis proposal and its discussion:
		1. The thesis proposal shall already include results with new scientific value.
		2. It shall be free of methodological, source processing, data management errors.
		3. The primary objective of discussing the proposal publicly is to make sure that the participants involved in the discussion help the candidate with their questions, critical observations and advice for the purposes of enhancing the quality of the final dissertation.
		4. The thesis proposal discussion, at the same time, is a forum for having the candidate introduced to wider professional circles, further it represents an important opportunity for other doctoral students to gain experience. Their active participation in the discussion is a fundamental requirement.
	4. Initiating the discussion of the thesis proposal: The completed thesis proposal should be submitted to the Programme Director (in PDF format). Documents to be submitted along with the proposal:
		1. declaration of the supervisor(s) about the suitability of the paper for discussion;
		2. declaration required by the UDR stating that the submitted thesis proposal is the independent intellectual creation of the candidate (except for the referenced results of others);
		3. declaration from the co-authors about the degree of independent contribution of the candidate if the results of joint works are published.
		4. brief summary (‘blurb’) (of max. 1.5 pages) that may be annexed to the invitation to indicate the topic of the proposal and the new results.

Organising the discussion of the thesis proposal: The DS shall seek to arrange the discussion of the proposal until 30 June of candidates submitting complete applications by 15 March.