

THE EUROPEAN DOCTORATE

The idea of a European Doctorate (European PhD or Doctor Europaeus/ Europaea) originated from an informal initiative in 1991 of the former Confederation of European Union Rectors' Conferences concerning requirements for the award of a '*Doctor Europaeus*'. Several European Doctorates programmes are now offered by UK and other European universities, often in small consortia connected to Marie Curie Networks. This document provides general guidance on the criteria for the European Doctorate and how a European Doctorate can be set up and awarded.

Criteria for the European Doctorate.

The four criteria proposed by the Confederation of EU Rectors' Conference (now EUA 1) are quoted below and underpin the European Doctorate, which is based on agreement between the institutions involved, on their own terms, but complying with the four criteria for a European Doctorate.

- “1. The PhD thesis defence will be accorded if at least two professors from two higher education institutions of two European countries, other than the one where the thesis is defended, have given their review of the manuscript;
2. At least one member of the jury should come from a higher education institution in another European country, other than the one, where the thesis is defended;
3. A part of the defence must take place in one of the official languages, other than the one(s) of the country, where the thesis is defended;
4. The thesis must partly have been prepared as a result of a research period of at least one trimester spent in another European Country.”