

Ordinance

of the **director of the Graduate School for Social Research, GSSR** (Szkoła Nauk Społecznych, in Polish)

from June 17, 2021

on the **Internal Regulations for the Mid-Term Evaluation of Doctoral Students at GSSR**

Pursuant to Article 202 of the July 20 2018 Polish Law on Higher Education and Science (hereafter, the Law), the **Regulations of the Doctoral School (Regulamin SNS GSSR)**, and the **PhD Handbook of the Graduate School for Social Research**,

the following **internal regulations** governing the **mid-term evaluation of doctoral students at GSSR** are hereby established.

§1. General Provisions

1. The mid-term evaluation is a mandatory assessment conducted at the midpoint of doctoral studies to verify the implementation of the student's Individual Research Plan (IRP) and determine the feasibility of completing the doctoral dissertation within the standard study period.
2. The mid-term evaluation applies to all doctoral students at GSSR.

§2. Mid-Term Evaluation Commissions

1. The director of each of GSSR's constituent institutes—
 - a) Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences (IFiS PAN),
 - b) Institute of Political Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences (IP PAN),
 - c) Institute of Psychology, Polish Academy of Sciences (IPS PAN)—

following art 202(4) of the Law and internal procedures, appoints a separate Mid-Term Evaluation Commission responsible for assessing their respective doctoral students.

§3. Evaluation Criteria

1. The evaluation is based on the implementation of the student's Individual Research Plan (IRP) for Years 1 and 2.
2. The Commission assesses:
 - a) Completion of planned research activities in accordance with the IRP,
 - b) Feasibility of completing the doctoral dissertation within the planned timeframe.
3. The Commission does not assess:
 - a) The scientific quality of the dissertation,
 - b) Theoretical assumptions or research hypotheses,
 - c) Additional academic activities not included in the IRP.

§4. Evaluation Procedure

1. The doctoral student submits documentation confirming the implementation of their IRP according to the guidelines and by the deadline set in the PhD Handbook.

2. The supervisor submits an opinion on the student's progress on the implementation of the Individual Research Plan by the deadline set in the PhD Handbook.
3. The Commission members independently review the submitted materials.
4. After common discussions, the Commission prepares a written evaluation report for each student, which is sent to GSSR administration.
5. GSSR administration sends the report to the doctoral student and their supervisor, and adds it to the student's academic records.

§5. Openness of Evaluation Results

1. In compliance with Article 202(3) of Law, the results of the mid-term evaluation are open.
2. At GSSR, the results are formally communicated to the student and their supervisor, ensuring transparency while respecting academic confidentiality.
3. Upon request, a doctoral student representative may be provided with general statistical summaries of mid-term evaluations.

§6. Evaluation Outcomes and Consequences

1. Positive Evaluation:
 - a) Confirms that the student is making satisfactory progress.
 - b) Results in an increase in the doctoral stipend, in accordance with national regulations.
2. Negative Evaluation:
 - a) Indicates that the student has not met the IRP's requirements.
 - b) Results in the removal of the student from the list of doctoral students, unless successfully appealed.

§6. Appeals Process

1. A doctoral student receiving a negative evaluation has the right to appeal following administrative procedure.
2. The appeal must be submitted within 14 days from the date of notification of the evaluation outcome to the Director of the institute appointing the Midterm Evaluation Commission, and with notification to GSSR administration.

§7. Final Provisions

1. The provisions of this ordinance apply to all doctoral students enrolled at GSSR.
2. The ordinance comes into effect on the date of its signature.

This ordinance was issued with the agreement of the GSSR Scientific Council (June 17, 2021)

dr. hab. Irina Tomescu-Dubrow
Director GSSR



Dr. hab. Irina Dubrow
prof. IFiS PAN

Dyrektor Szkoły Nauk Społecznych IFiS PAN