## 9) Defence of the doctoral dissertation<sup>1</sup>

The doctoral dissertation shall be defended in a **public discussion** before the **evaluation committee**.

The Doctoral Council shall establish an evaluation committee to conduct the public discussion of the doctoral dissertation and to decide on its acceptance and to evaluate the public defence.

The doctoral **evaluation committee** shall consist of 7 members. The committee shall be headed by the chair, composed of the secretary, two opponents and three members.

Opponents shall not have any employment relationship with the University. Depending on the specificities of the discipline, the Doctorral Council of Discipline may waive this requirement for one of the

opponents.

The **supervisor** of the applicant submitting the doctoral dissertation **shall be present** at the dissertation defence, if possible.

The applicant submitting the doctoral dissertation shall present the theses of his or her dissertation within the framework of the public discussion, and shall **reply to the comments** and questions of those present [after a short (10-20 minutes) preparation time (if this is requested)].

The applicant submitting the doctoral dissertation shall receive the reviews in advance and shall respond to them in writing prior to the defence and verbally during the defence, within the framework of the public discussion.

The dissertation shall be submitted for public discussion within two months (of the study period) of the date of receipt of the two supporting proposals.

After the discussion has been closed, the committee shall decide on the acceptance of the dissertation by secret ballot at a closed meeting. The Chair shall then announce the result publicly.

The **evaluation of the public defence** of the doctoral
dissertation may be summa cum
laude, cum laude or rite.

Minutes shall be taken of the defence and of the decision of the committee. Upon request, the higher education institution shall provide a **certificate** of the result of the defence, indicating therein that the certificate does not imply that a doctoral degree has been awarded.

The doctoral title may be used from the date of the **decision** of the University Doctoral and Habilitation Council awarding the degree.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Government Decree 387/2012 (XII. 19.) on Doctoral Schools, Doctoral Procedures and Habilitation 16. §; The University Doctoral and Habilitation Regulations 49-51., 53. §.