



Application Guide for Doctoral (PhD) Programmes

**Budapest
2026**

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General information about doctoral studies

The Rector invites calls for applications for admission to the PhD Programmes of the Ludovika University of Public Service. The university offers PhD programmes to graduate students wishing to earn the highest academic degree and to individuals who have research ambitions in the academic field of political science, particularly in public administration, security and defence studies, military sciences, and law enforcement. These programmes provide students with a great opportunity to begin a research and teaching academic career, thus becoming a successful member of the academic community.

LUPS is entitled to offer PhD programmes pursuant to Act CCIV of 2011 on National Higher Education and on the basis of the qualification of the Hungarian Accreditation Committee.

In the first two years (education and research period), students take compulsory core courses. After the first two years, their progress is evaluated by a comprehensive exam that will allow the university to decide whether the student should be permitted to continue their doctoral studies and whether they are likely to finish the programme. The second two years (research and dissertation writing period) focus on doctoral research and the writing of the thesis. After finishing this period, the PhD student has one year to submit the dissertation. The PhD programme is also open to those who study independently to meet the requirements of the admission and graduation process. In this case, student's are admitted on passing a comprehensive exam.

The LUPS possesses independent doctoral schools in four academic fields: military sciences, military engineering sciences, law enforcement, and public administration sciences. The goals, documents and essential data on professors, students and PhD candidates of the Doctoral School of Military Sciences (DSMS), the Doctoral School of Military Engineering (DSME), the Doctoral School of Public Administration Sciences (DSPAS), and the Doctoral School of Police Sciences and Law Enforcement (DSLE) are available at the Hungarian Doctoral Council's website (<http://www.doktori.hu>) and the websites of doctoral schools:

DSMS

<https://en.uni-nke.hu/study-programs/doctoral-programs/phd-in-military-sciences/doctoral-school-of-military-sciences>

DSME

<https://kmdi.uni-nke.hu/english/about-the-doctoral-school>

DSPAS

<https://en.uni-nke.hu/study-programs/doctoral-programs/phd-in-public-administration-sciences/doctoral-school-of-public-administration-sciences>

CALL FOR APPLICATION
of the Rector of Ludovika University of Public Service
for PhD programmes and individual preparation

The Rector of Ludovika University of Public Service invites applications for doctoral (PhD) programmes and for doctorates achieved by individual preparation for the academic year beginning in early September 2026. The LUPS is entitled to award doctoral (PhD) degrees, meeting the requirements of international equivalences, to candidates who have successfully completed doctoral courses of study or who have prepared on an individual basis to obtain a PhD degree, in the fields of study accredited by the Hungarian Accreditation Committee. The PhD degree attests an exceptional level of knowledge in a particular field of research, and the cultivation and contribution to the development of this field of study through new research findings, and the ability to conduct independent research. The opportunities for organised study and individual preparation, teaching and research are provided by the doctoral schools of Ludovika University of Public Service.

1. The objective of the doctoral programmes

The objective of the doctoral programmes is to provide assistance for obtaining the knowledge and fundamental research experience necessary to be awarded a doctoral (PhD) degree, and to prepare new generations of academic researchers.

2. Forms of study

The knowledge necessary for obtaining doctoral degree can be gained:

- a) in the framework of organised state-sponsored programme (2x4 semesters, min. 160, max. 240 credits)
 - full-time courses;
 - cooperative doctoral programme;
- b) in organised self-funded programmes (2x4 semesters, min. 160, max. 240 credits)
 - full-time courses;
 - part-time courses;
 - individual study;
 - research excellence doctoral programme.
- c) in the framework of individual preparation.

Teachers or research fellows with a significant background in academia are entitled to apply for individual study or individual preparation if they can attest their own significant scientific results and publications.

Simultaneously with applying, **applicants for individual preparation** also apply for a complex examination and are obliged to attest their previous scientific activities in peer-reviewed journals worth at least 20 points, including at least one in foreign language, which are relevant to the subject matter of the research and which are published at the time of admission. In addition teaching and research achievements of at least 5 years in the disciplines covered by the Regulation.

In order to provide evidence of their publications the score list contained in Annex 2 of the LUPS University Doctoral and Habilitation Regulation (UDHR) and the copies of the publications must be attached.

Applicants who wish to pursue a doctorate on the basis of **individual study** are required to attest the existence of 10 publication scores as a pre-condition of admittance.

The **cooperative doctoral programme** is a form of doctoral education in which the doctoral candidate, in parallel with maintaining doctoral student status, is employed in a field related to their doctoral research topic for at least 20 hours per week

- (a) at a higher education institution in a teaching or research position;
- (b) at a healthcare provider; or
- (c) at another organization that meets the conditions specified in a Government decree.

The **research excellence doctoral programme** is a self-funded doctoral programme in which the doctoral candidate participates by being employed full-time in a doctoral position established within the framework of a project-based research funding scheme, either at a higher education institution or within the HUN–REN Hungarian Research Network. In parallel, the doctoral candidate pursues their doctoral studies in accordance with the conditions set out in a Government decree.

Admission to doctoral studies (in any of its forms) is granted through an admission procedure. The organization and administration of the admission procedure are the responsibility of the doctoral schools and the Office of Academic Affairs.

3. The doctoral schools of LUPS and their research fields

I. Doctoral School of Military Sciences

- 1) Strategic and defence studies
- 2) The relationship of defence and society
- 3) The theory of military art
- 4) Military history, history of military art
- 5) Defence logistics and the defence economy
- 6) National security
- 7) The theory of defence information and communication

II. Doctoral School of Military Engineering

- 1) Military engineering infrastructures
- 2) Military technology and robotics
- 3) Defence electronics, ICT
- 4) Military environmental security
- 5) Military transport and defence logistics
- 6) Security technology
- 7) Disaster management
- 8) Air transport and aeronautics
- 9) Water sciences

III. Doctoral School of Public Administration Sciences

- 1) History of state and public administration
- 2) Legal studies
- 3) Public administration management and sociology
- 4) Economics
- 5) Public governance and political science
- 6) International and European studies
- 7) Human resources in public administration

Doctoral programmes are primarily open to announced DS topics, but it is also permitted to apply for an unpublished research topic if the supervisor undertakes to conduct the doctoral research with the approval of the DCD.

4. Application requirements in accordance with Article 23 of the UDHR

Documents must be submitted:

- copy of the diploma(s) obtained in the Master's programme or equivalent university programme, in the case of a university degree obtained abroad, its certified translation; In the case of graduate students, the academic transcript (*original documents must be presented*)
- result of previous scientific research activities, including any student research achievements and publication activities (*demonstrating relevance to the proposed research topic*)
- copy of a B2-level (intermediate) complex, state-recognized language examination certificate or an equivalent qualification (*original documents must be presented*)
- professional curriculum vitae
- research proposal (*up to 5 pages*)
- proof of payment of the admission procedure fee
- certificate of good conduct issued no more than three months prior to submission
- data processing consent statement

The application can be accepted with the submission of the required documents and the declaration of acceptance by the supervisor and the head of the research field.

Recognition of university degrees earned at foreign institutes of higher education is in accordance with the legal regulations listed in Article 3 of the UDHR.

The personal data of applicants for doctoral programmes at the University will be handled in accordance with the privacy policy, information on which is available on the University and the Doctoral School's website.

5. Foreign language requirements for doctoral study

Certificates of examinations in the following foreign languages are accepted in support of an application for PhD study:

- a) the official language of a European country;
- b) Arabic;
- c) Hebrew;
- d) Japanese;
- e) Chinese;
- f) Korean;
- g) Latin;
- h) Ancient Greek.

Applicants for doctoral study are requested to present a certificate of a state-accredited, "complex" (i.e. oral and written) B2, (intermediate) level language examination in any of the foreign languages listed above, or its equivalent.

An applicant with a disability shall attach the decision of the University's Equal Opportunities Committee, with the understanding that the exemption (if any) related to this will be adapted to the nature of the disability.

6. Foreign language requirements for the degree award procedure

Applicants for obtaining the doctoral degree are requested to present certificate or equivalent of a state-accredited of two foreign languages as required by the regulation of doctoral schools.

Applicants of non-Hungarian nationality are requested to present certificate or equivalent of a state-accredited of two foreign languages in addition to their mother tongue as required by the regulation of doctoral schools.

Applying for the doctoral degree shall be subject to the submission of the completed doctoral thesis (work) and the annexes provided for in the UDHR, subject to the conditions for granting the degree in Office of Academic Affairs.

The applicant submitting the doctoral dissertation must submit the doctoral dissertation within three academic years of passing the complex examination, i.e. by the last day of the sixth semester following the date of the complex examination (31 January, 31 August).

The suspension of the student status during the research/dissertation phase shall not imply an extension of the submission deadline.

7. Submitting applications

The application documents must be delivered to the Office of Academic Affairs of LUPS by email (tudomany@uni-nke.hu), and by post (1441 Budapest, P.O. Box 60.) or in person (1083 Budapest, Ludovika square 1.). In case of mailing the envelope with the application documents should also be marked with the words: APPLICATION FOR DOCTORAL PROGRAMME.

8. Closing date for submitting applications

The closing date for **submitting applications for doctoral programme to the Office of Academic Affairs is 31st March 2026**. Applications are evaluated from a formal aspect by the Office of Academic Affairs and applicants who have submitted incomplete documentation are requested to amend their application. If the shortcomings are not eliminated by **15th April 2026** the application will be rejected by LUPS.

9. Admission interview

Applicants who meet the pre-conditions set out in the call for application are invited by the heads of the doctoral schools for an admission interview scheduled third week of May 2026. The objective of the interview is to get to know the applicants and their academic activities, as well as to assess the suitability of the applicant to develop a research topic of his / her choice, and his/her knowledge of foreign languages.

10. The evaluation system of the admission procedure

After the admission interviews the applicants are evaluated by the admission committee in accordance with Article 28 of the UDHR. A maximum of 100 points can be attained during the admission interview. For successful admittance to full-time or part-time (distance) doctoral programme a minimum point of 60 is required, while for individual study minimum point of 70, for individual preparation minimum point of 80 are required.

The admission committee will assess the applicant according to the following criteria:

Qualities	Scores
Scientific (professional) personal qualities	0-60 points
Scientific activities	0-20 points
- National Scientific Students' Associations Conference:	
- 1st place	20 points
- 2nd place	15 points
- 3rd place	10 points
- special prize	5 points
- academic publication which has already been published or which is accepted for publication	3 points
Knowledge of foreign languages	0-20 points
- B2 (intermediate) complex language certificate (criteria requirement)	0 points
- or C1 (advanced) complex language certificate	5 points
Additional language certificates:	
- B1 (basic level) complex language certificate	5 points
- B2 (intermediate) complex language certificate	10 points
- C1 (advanced) complex language certificate	15 points

The admission committee make a proposal on the aptitude of applicants and forwards it to the Doctoral Council of the Discipline. The DCS decides on the admission or rejection of applicants by the normal recruitment procedure by 30 June. Applicants are notified of the decision by the doctoral school within 8 working days.

The number of spaces for doctoral programmes in the doctoral schools of the University for the Academic Year beginning in September 2026:

- Doctoral School of Military Sciences: 40 students;
- Doctoral School of Military Engineering: 40 students;
- Doctoral School of Public Administration Sciences: 40 students;
- Doctoral School of Police Sciences and Law Enforcement: 40 students.

11. Late-application procedures

LUPS may call for late applications if not all places are filled in the doctoral schools. The closing date of late applications is 31st July 2026 in accordance with the rules and these applications should also be sent to the same address as for the spring admission period. In the case of a late application it is not possible to amend any eventual deficiencies and the interviews are scheduled for August 2026.

12. Application and doctoral programmes fees

The application fee for doctoral programme - in accordance with Article 42 (5) of Government Decree 423/2012 (XII.29.) on the admission procedure to higher education - is **9000 HUF**.

The application fee should be transferred to the account number below:

MÁK

SWIFT (BIC) CODE: HUSTHUHB

IBAN: HU46-10023002-00318259-00000000.

The course-related fees are determined by a rector's decree on the basis of the Financial Regulations, and the University Regulations on Fees and Allowances. Applicants for self-funded study and preparation conducted in a foreign language are required to pay twice the fee of the doctoral programme in Hungarian.

The fees for doctoral programmes in the Academic Year of 2026/2027 are as follows:

- in the framework of organised self-funded courses:
 - o full-time courses: HUF 260,000/semester
 - o part-time courses: HUF 260,000/semester
 - o individual courses: HUF 260,000/semester
- in the framework of individual preparation: HUF 260,000 /semester (min. 1 semester)

Self-funded doctoral student, and the doctoral student no longer has a student status at the time of application for the degree award procedure have to pay doctoral degree award procedure fee: 350.000 HUF

13. Coordination offices responsible for doctoral studies

UNIVERSITY OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Tel.: (+36-1) 432-9000
Address: 1083 Budapest, Ludovika square 2.
Postal address: 1441 Budapest P.O. Box 60.
Web site: <http://www.uni-nke.hu>

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Head: Dr. Dávid Kiss PhD
Coordinators: Bettina Barta, Ingrid Horváth
Tel.: (+36-1) 432-9000 (29739 or 20824)
Address: 1083 Budapest, Ludovika square 1. room 18.
E-mail: tudomany@uni-nke.hu

DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF MILITARY SCIENCES

Head: Dr. László Kovács DSc
Coordinator: Tímea Szilágyi-Katona
E-mail: Szilagyi-Katona.Timea@uni-nke.hu
Tel.: (+36-1) 432-9000/29-286
Address: 1101 Budapest, Hungária krt. 9-11., Building „A”, room 417.
Postal address: 1581 Budapest, P.O. Box 15.

DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF MILITARY ENGINEERING

Head: Dr. József Padányi DSc
Coordinator: Krisztina Szabó
E-mail: Szabo.Krisztina@uni-nke.hu
Tel.: (+36-1) 432-9000/29-321
Address: 1101 Budapest, Hungária krt. 9-11., Building „A”, room 723.
Postal address: 1581 Budapest, P.O. Box 15.

DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION SCIENCES

Head: Dr. András Patyi PhD
Coordinator: Krisztina Viktória Szász-Hartai
E-mail: Hartai.Krisztina.Viktoria@uni-nke.hu
Tel.: (+36-1) 432-9000/20-197
Address: 1089 Budapest, Üllői út 82., Educational Centre, room 340.
Postal address: 1441 Budapest P.O. Box 60.

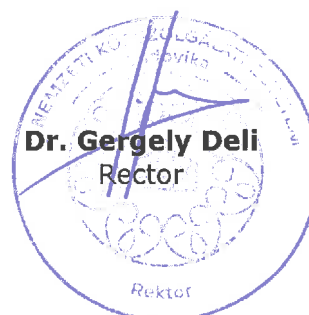
DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF POLICE SCIENCES AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

Head: Dr. András Koltay PhD
Coordinator: Gabriella Dr. Vargáné Mincza
E-mail: Vargane.Mincza.Gabriella@uni-nke.hu
Tel.: (+36-1) 432-9000/19-143
Address: 1089 Budapest, Üllői út 82., Educational Centre, room 350.
Postal address: 1441 Budapest P.O. Box 60.

Dear Applicants,

We appreciate your decision to apply to our PhD programme. We wish you a successful admission, outstanding scientific achievements and great success in your PhD studies!

Budapest, 31. January 2026



RESEARCH TOPICS OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF MILITARY SCIENCES FOR THE YEAR 2026/2027

1. STRATEGIC AND DEFENCE STUDIES

Head of the research field: Dr. Anna Éva Molnár PhD

1. The security policy and geopolitical challenges of the Turkic states in the 20th and 21st centuries
Supervisor: Dr. Zoltán Egeresi, PhD
2. Strategic decision making: Navigating challenges in a changing world order
Supervisor: Dr. Péter Rada PhD
3. The EU's defence policy and its strategic environment
Supervisor: Dr. Anna Éva Molnár PhD
4. Strategic space and strategic actors in a changing international landscape
Supervisor: Dr. Dóra Molnár PhD
5. Proliferation and security (weapons of mass destruction)
Supervisor: Dr. Erzsébet Nagyné Rózsa DSc
6. The Western Balkans' defence policy challenges from the Yugoslav crisis to the present day
Supervisor: Dr. Tibor Ördögh PhD
7. Strategic shift in defence policy: Preventing crises and effective crisis management at regional and global levels in the defence policies of international security organizations
Supervisor: Dr. Éva Remek PhD
8. Germany's defense policy and strategic culture
Supervisor: Dr. Tamás Csiki Varga PhD
9. The current issues of developing the European Defense Industrial and Technological Base and the defense modernization and defense cooperation of Central European countries
Supervisor: Dr. Tamás Csiki Varga PhD

2. THE RELATIONSHIP OF DEFENCE AND SOCIETY

Head of the research field: Dr. László István Szabó PhD

1. The problem of religious extremism and the possibilities of its management from the point of view of defense policy, especially with regard to the radical tendencies of the Islamic religion
Supervisor: Dr. Vilmos Fischl PhD
2. The role of international church organizations and humanitarian organizations in peace operations, with particular regard to defence and social relations
Supervisor: Dr. Vilmos Fischl PhD
3. Opportunities for building resilience against cognitive warfare
Supervisor: Dr. Éva Jakusné Harnos PhD
4. Warfare in the curriculum and textbooks of the public education system(s)
Supervisor: Dr. Tibor János Karlovitz PhD

5. The role of law of armed conflict and defence law in military leadership
Supervisor: Dr. Ferenc Petruska PhD
6. Lawfare – warfare by legal means
Supervisor: Dr. Ferenc Petruska PhD
7. The role of religions in armed conflicts and modern security challenges
Supervisor: Dr. Lóránd Ujházi PhD
8. Current issues of military leadership
Supervisor: Dr. László Ujházy PhD
9. Reserve forces
Supervisor: Dr. László Ujházy PhD
10. Impact of western interventions on emerging terrorism, armed conflicts and wars in the Islamic world since the early 20th century
Supervisor: Dr. Mária Bordás PhD
11. The Israeli vs. Palestinian conflict, with particular attention to terrorism and the possibility of military solutions to the conflict
Supervisor: Dr. Mária Bordás PhD
12. The cold war and Latin America
Supervisor: Dr. Mónika Szente-Varga PhD

3. THE THEORY OF MILITARY ART

Head of the research field: Dr. Zoltán Krajnc PhD

1. Theories of war in the 20th and 21st centuries
Supervisor: Dr. Mihály Boda PhD
2. The operational environment in the 21st century. The connection between the human environment and military force in future operation
Supervisor: Dr. Gábor Boldizsár PhD
3. The military tasks of state-building, particularly in the administrative, economic and security area
Supervisor: Dr. Gábor Boldizsár PhD
4. Transformation processes and military capabilities of France
Supervisor: Dr. Beatrix Fregán PhD
5. The paradigm shift in the military training procedures regarding the 21st century security environment
Supervisor: Dr. Sándor Szabó PhD
6. Defence geography of crisis regions
Supervisor: Dr. Klára Siposné Kecskeméthy CSc

4. MILITARY HISTORY AND HISTORY OF MILITARY ART

Head of the research field: Dr. Lajos Négyesi PhD

1. History of interconnecting factors of war and society
Supervisor: Dr. Mihály Boda PhD

2. Greek, Roman, Early Byzantine warfare and military art, military organisations from the „Barbaricum“, in antiquity and the early middle ages
Supervisor: Dr. Ádám Sándor Nagyernyei-Szabó DSc
3. The military affairs and military art of the 17th and 18th century, the French revolutionary and Napoleonic period
Supervisor: Dr. István Nagy-L. PhD
4. History of firearms and firearms tactics
Supervisor: Dr. Balázs Németh PhD
5. Exiles of the 1848/49 Hungarian war of independence in Latin America
Supervisor: Dr. Mónika Szente-Varga PhD

5. DEFENCE LOGISTICS AND DEFENCE ECONOMY

Head of the research field: Dr. Andrea Pap PhD

1. The national defence system and defence management
Supervisor: Dr. László Lakatos PhD
2. The evolving features of military medical support in the 20th and 21th centuries, and its influence on mission success and resilience of the society
Supervisor: Dr. Zoltán Vekerdi PhD
3. The new paradigm of defense innovation
Supervisor: Dr. Balázs Taksás PhD

6. NATIONAL SECURITY

Head of the research field: Dr. Imre Dobák PhD

1. The national security assessment of the Middle East and North African conflicts having influence on the European security
Supervisor: Dr. József Kis-Benedek DSc
2. Innovative, multipurpose dynamic method for analysis and assessment
Supervisor: Dr. Bács Zoltán György PhD

7. THE THEORY OF DEFENCE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

Head of the research field: Dr. Imre Négyesi PhD

1. Cyberspace operations in the 21st century's operational environment
Supervisor: Dr. András Tóth PhD
2. Information and communication trends and challenges in multi-domain operations
Supervisor: Dr. András Tóth PhD

**RESEARCH TOPICS OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF
MILITARY ENGINEERING FOR THE YEAR 2026/2027**

2. MILITARY TECHNOLOGY AND ROBOTICS

Head of the research field: Dr. Róbert László Végh PhD

1. Theory and practice of research and development (R&D) in military technology, Hungary and NATO
Supervisors: Dr. György Kende DSc
Dr. Ernő Hegedűs PhD
2. Studying chess and its information technology background to find analogies and possible applications to military strategy, battlefield operations, armaments development, decision making, military training and education
Supervisor: Dr. György Kende DSc
3. Analysis of military vehicle hybrid propulsions
Supervisor: Dr. Sándor Hennel PhD

3. DEFENCE ELECTRONICS, ICT

Head of the research field: Dr. Zsolt Haig PhD

1. Infocommunication support for multi-domain operations
Supervisor: Dr. András Tóth PhD

4. MILITARY ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY

Head of the research field: Dr. László Földi PhD

1. Climate change and military security
Supervisors: Dr. József Padányi DSc
Dr. László Földi PhD
2. The relationship between environment and security
Supervisor: Dr. Klára Siposné Kecskeméthy CSc
3. Soil conservation, research of the effects of military activities and environmental damage on the soil, development of prevention options, research of mitigation process
Supervisor: Dr. Dóra Beke PhD

7. DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Head of the research field: Dr. Lajos Kátai-Urbán PhD

1. Research and development of the implementation of the operator's and authorial tasks in the field of industrial safety
Supervisor: Dr. Lajos Kátai-Urbán PhD
2. Tactical possibilities and set of special equipment for managing disasters
Supervisor: Dr. Ágoston Restás PhD
3. Development of the system of procedures and tools aimed at increasing industrial safety
Supervisor: Dr. Gyula Vass PhD

4. Research and development of the efficiency of disaster management and fire protection activities and equipment
Supervisor: Dr. Péter Pántya PhD
5. Research and development of modern tools and methods for reducing the environmental impact of industrial accidents and their elimination in the presence of dangerous substances
Supervisor: Dr. József Dobor PhD
6. Investigation of the environmental aspects of industrial accidents
Supervisor: Dr. Zsolt Cimer PhD
7. Research and development of technical and logistical conditions for the operation of voluntary and obligatory civil protection organizations
Supervisors: Dr. István Endrődi PhD
Dr. László Teknős PhD
8. Environmental aspects of disasters
Supervisor: Dr. Réka Magdolna Kirovné Rác PhD
9. The development possibilities of the application of artificial intelligence in disaster management tasks
Supervisor: Dr. Réka Magdolna Kirovné Rác PhD
10. Developing fire safety engineering methods
Supervisor: Dr. Gergő Érces PhD

8. AIR TRANSPORT AND AERONAUTICS

Head of the research field: Dr. Mátyás Palik PhD

1. Drone applications in support of public service
Supervisor: Dr. Ágoston Restás PhD
2. Preliminary computer aided design of the UAV Automatic Flight Control Systems
Supervisor: Dr. Róbert Szabolcsi PhD
3. Human Factors in flight safety, causes of sudden incapacitation and human error from the aspects of Human-System Integration, possible countermeasures and prevention by tools of ergonomics and technical-technological solutions
Supervisor: Dr. Sándor András Szabó PhD
4. The maintenance, economic and environmental issues of engines powering aircraft of Hungarian Defence Forces
Supervisor: Dr. Béla Varga PhD

8. WATER SCIENCES

Head of the research field: Dr. Tibor Bíró PhD

1. Adaptive water management
Supervisor: Dr. Tibor Bíró PhD
2. Modern urban water management
Supervisor: Dr. Tamás Karches PhD

3. Biodegradation and biodeterioration in the built environment
Supervisor: Dr. Judit Knisz PhD
4. Artificial intelligence in water management
Supervisor: Dr. Péter Kozák PhD
5. Methodological developments in river management and regulation
Supervisor: Dr. Enikő Anna Tamás PhD
6. Critical analysis and further development of integrated water management
Supervisor: Dr. János Bogárdi PhD
7. Remote sensing in water quality monitoring
Supervisor: Mirjana Horváth PhD
8. Numerical modeling of natural watercourses
Supervisor: Dr. Zoltán Horváth PhD
9. Applications of genomic technologies in water research
Supervisor: Dr. Gergely Maróti PhD

**RESEARCH TOPICS OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION SCIENCES FOR THE YEAR 2026/2027**

1. HISTORY OF STATE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Head of the research field: Dr. Attila Horváth PhD

The research area supports the processing of the topics of state history and, within this, the history of public administration. The topics provide an opportunity to study the history of public organizations, related ideas, institutions and the history of law, where appropriate, by applying the comparative method. The research area emphasizes the development of the given topic based on historical sources.

For more information on specific topics please contact Dr. Attila Horvath PhD, Head of Dep. or Dr. Zsuzsanna Peres PhD, associate professor.

2. LEGAL STUDIES

Head of the research field: Dr. András Patyi PhD

The basic focus of the research area is on topics related to the study and understanding of the state and public administration, which fall within the field of public law in the broad sense. At the same time, this field includes those topics of a non-public law nature, which affect the activities of the modern state and public administration in the course of their operation, by applying the institutions of other legal fields, their legal phenomena, and their effects on public administration and the state. The topics basically require a legal dogmatic approach, in addition to the need for description and systematization, concept creation and conceptual analysis are also essential in this field of research.

1. Institutions and the legal basis for the supervision of public administration, basic issues and system of administrative jurisdiction, and the dogmatics of administrative procedure
Supervisor: Dr. András Patyi PhD
2. Current challenges in Hungarian company law, especially in regard to legislative amendments
Supervisor: Dr. Tekla Papp DSc
3. System and hierarchy of fundamental rights; collision of fundamental rights
Supervisor: Dr. György Kiss DSc
4. The regulation and financing of political parties in Hungary and Europe
Supervisor: Dr. Péter Smuk PhD
5. The EU and domestic competition law aspects of state aid, intellectual property, anti-competitive behavior
Supervisor: Dr. Judit Barta PhD
6. Space law
Supervisor: Dr. Balázs Bartóki-Gönczy PhD
7. Business and labour rights as human rights
Supervisor: Dr. Attila Kun PhD
8. Regulation of platforms
Supervisor: Dr. Zsolt Zódi PhD

9. Challenges of the codification of administrative procedural law - the relation between the general and the special procedural institutions
Supervisor: Dr. Kitti Pollák PhD
10. Modernization of administrative procedural law, tools for increasing its efficiency
Supervisor: Dr. Kitti Pollák PhD

3. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION MANAGEMENT AND SOCIOLOGY

Head of the research field: Dr. Norbert Kis PhD

The research area prefers topics dealing with the organizational and operational dimensions of public administration, which concern with the systemic attributes of public administration, operational and activity processes, questions of how they are organized and managed, and individual organizational tools. Issues related to the development of public administration are analyzed not only in relation to the organizational system as a whole, but also to individual public bodies. The examination of the general concepts of administration, organization, leadership, control, and management in specific systems and activity types also belongs to this field. The topics of e-public administration and the digital state also belong to this field.

1. Organizational development in governance
Supervisor: Dr. Péter Koronváry PhD
2. The modernisation of public administration: eGovernment
Supervisor: Dr. Balázs Budai PhD
3. Quality management methods in the service of the public sector
Supervisor: Dr. László Berényi PhD
4. Automation/Artificial intelligence and the future of work (special focus on the workplace innovation)
Supervisor: Dr. Csaba Makó DSc
5. Learning economy and organizational innovations
Supervisor: Dr. Csaba Makó DSc
6. Recent crisis management experience in Hungary and/or in any other country of interest
Supervisor: Dr. Márton Gellén PhD
7. Servitization of public services
Supervisor: Dr. Gyula Vastag PhD
8. Media use in public administration
Supervisor: Dr. Gábor István Kovács PhD
9. The communication aspects of cyberspace
Supervisor: Dr. Edina Kriskó PhD
10. Organisational communication in public sector
Supervisor: Dr. Andrea Bajnok PhD
11. The impact of artificial intelligence on administrative communication
Supervisor: Dr. Ágnes Veszelszki PhD

12. Security environment, critical infrastructure protection and its impact on the public administration system
Supervisor: Dr. Tibor Babos PhD
13. Global knowledge-industry, media science
Supervisor: Dr. Márton Demeter PhD
14. Trends and socio-cultural effects of synthetic, virtual and AI-driven media
Supervisor: Dr. Katalin Fehér PhD
15. Social integration of diaspores
Supervisor: Dr. Dániel Gazsó PhD

4. ECONOMICS

Head of the research field: Dr. Csaba Lentner CSc

In addition to the disciplines of public administration and public law, an essential component of political science in the traditional sense is the broad field of national economics and international economics. The basic goal of the research area is to examine the various dimensions of the economic role of the modern state, with particular attention to the interrelationships between the functioning of international coordination mechanisms and the economic organizing functions of national states. Within this topic, areas of emphasis are the impact assessment of economic policies and the economics of national, European and international public policies.

1. Economic relations of technological development
Supervisor: Dr. Péter Halmai DSc
2. Economic impact of free trade and trade war in the 21st century
Supervisor: Dr. Gábor Kutasi PhD
3. Guns or butter: Fiscal analysis of trade-off between defense and welfare spending
Supervisor: Dr. Gábor Kutasi PhD
4. Economic and financial changes in the Sub Sahara region
Supervisor: Dr. Szabolcs Pásztor PhD
5. Current challenges of labour market
Supervisor: Dr. Arnold Toth PhD
6. National competitiveness strategies in the age of rapid changes
Supervisor: Dr. Magdolna Csath DSc
7. Innovation dynamism and resilience
Supervisor: Dr. Olivér Kovács PhD
8. International and national innovation systems, innovation strategies
Supervisor: Dr. Magdolna Csath DSc

5. PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

Head of the research field: Dr. Iván Halász DSc

The research area examines the issues of state theory, constitutionalism, constitutional law, political science, and governance and includes other relevant topics. Its approach is basically theoretical, however it prefers governmental, governance-centered approach to public administration. Questions of the constitutional definition and political environment of public administration (such as democratic legitimacy) are also discussed here.

1. Self-governance as an organization, public tasks and finances
Supervisor: Dr. László Vértessy PhD
2. Financial and economic governance
Supervisor: Dr. László Vértessy PhD
3. State-Church relations in western political systems
Supervisor: Dr. Tamás Nyirkos PhD
4. Automatization and the use of artificial intelligence at the public administration
Supervisor: Dr. Zsolt Zódi PhD
5. Comparative constitutionalism
Supervisor: Dr. Gergely Deli PhD
6. Conceptual and justificatory issues of paternalistic state interventions
Supervisor: Dr. Antal Szerletics PhD
7. Challenges of government systems in the 21st century: presidentialization
Supervisor: Dr. Fanni Tanács-Mandák PhD
8. Government policies and sustainable development
Supervisor: Dr. Norbert Kis PhD
9. Critical analysis of the concept and practical application of integrated water resources management
Supervisor: Dr. János József Bogárdi PhD
10. Sustainability policies in water, energy and climate governance
Supervisor: Dr. Tamás Pálvölgyi PhD

6. INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN STUDIES

Heads of the research field: Dr. Réka Varga PhD, Dr. Zsuzsanna Fejes PhD

The research area covers two large areas. One is the topic of European integration, with particular regard to the relationship between Hungary and the EU. The other is the exploration of the defining topics of international law and international relations today. Within the two areas, the individual topics examine the legal and political connections of the European Union and international relations based on theoretical, strategic and practical aspects.

1. Euroscepticism, future scenarios, multi-speed Europe and differentiated integration in the European Union
Supervisor: Dr. Boglárka Koller PhD
2. The challenges of identity, migration and multiculturalism in the European Union
Supervisor: Dr. Boglárka Koller PhD

3. The political and security challenges of Africa in the 21st century
Supervisor: Dr. Viktor Marsai PhD
4. Language rights, language policy
Supervisor: Dr. Noémi Nagy PhD
5. Challenges of the international protection of human rights, minority rights, and the rights of indigenous peoples
Supervisor: Dr. Noémi Nagy PhD
6. The changing power relations in the Middle East
Supervisor: Dr. Erzsébet Nagyné Rózsa PhD
7. The role and status of European agencies
Supervisor: Dr. László Szegedi PhD
8. Self-determination of peoples and sovereignty today
Supervisor: Dr. Balázs Vizi PhD
9. Human rights and identity issues in international law
Supervisor: Dr. Balázs Vizi PhD
10. Theory and ethics of international relations: liberalism, realism and conservatism (communal callings)
Supervisor: Dr. Mihály Boda PhD
11. Application and challenges of rules of international humanitarian law (law of war), humanitarian considerations in international law
Supervisor: Dr. Réka Varga PhD
12. European space policy
Supervisor: Dr. Balázs Bartóki-Gönczy PhD
13. Democracy and legitimacy in the EU
Supervisor: Dr. András Varga PhD
14. Environment policy in the EU
Supervisor: Dr. András Varga PhD
15. Global knowledge-industry, media science
Supervisor: Dr. Márton Demeter PhD
16. Trends and socio-cultural effects of synthetic, virtual and AI-driven media
Supervisor: Dr. Katalin Fehér PhD
17. International political discourse analysis
Supervisor: Dr. Éva Jakusné Harnos PhD
18. International water conflicts: political, legal and institutional aspects
Supervisor: Dr. Gábor Baranyai PhD

7. HUMAN RESOURCES IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Head of the research field: Dr. Zoltán Hazafi PhD

The research area discusses the human policy of the public administration in two approaches. On the one hand, it presents the legal nature of the public service with a legal-dogmatic method, in a Hungarian relation and in an international comparison. Another approach is the management of human resources in the public service, with a particular focus on efficiency and competitiveness. This field also includes the definition of public service competencies and research into their measurement methods.

1. Leadership development and talent management in public administration
Supervisor: Dr. Edit Kajtár PhD
2. Fighting corruption and building integrity in international context
Supervisor: Dr. Péter Klotz PhD
3. Further training, leadership development, dilemmas of efficiency analysis
Supervisor: Dr. Csilla Paksi-Petró PhD
4. Civil service human resource management practices for managing workforce problems
Supervisor: Dr. Csilla Paksi-Petró PhD
5. Personnel development models and their adaptations
Supervisor: Dr. Emese Belényesi PhD