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septiembre, por el que se establece la organización de las enseñanzas universitarias y del procedimiento de
<u>aseguramiento de su calidad.</u>
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I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

MINISTRY OF UNIVERSITIES

15781 Royal Decree 822/2021, of September 28, which establishes the organization of university education and the procedure for quality assurance.

More than a decade ago, the Spanish university system undertook a reform of its educational offer and its organization by adopting the principles that constituted the essence of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA).

Thus, the adaptation of a cyclical structure made up of the Bachelor's, Master's and Doctorate degrees, which consecutively incorporated more specialized training in terms of employability or research, has been completed in all the universities that make up the Spanish university system.

Similarly, the principles on which the EHEA is based implied building the scaffolding of a university education focused on the students and their competencies, understood as the set of academically relevant knowledge, abilities and skills that the university degree attained confers on them. These competencies allow students to enter the labor market and, logically, to become an active part of society. Thus, progressively, in most of Europe, university academic offerings have been converging around this cyclical organizational structure.

Together with a new structuring of studies and the incorporation of a formative focus centered on student competencies, it is worth mentioning two other principles that underpin the great agreement that is the EHEA. The first is to assume the need to promote more active teaching, based on a teaching-learning methodology, in which the master class must share the limelight with other strategies and ways of teaching and learning, which seek to reinforce the students' capacity for autonomous work, and in which the use of new information and communication technologies is one of its main pillars. The second is to promote and facilitate the international mobility of our students to stay in other universities abroad, especially in other European countries. To achieve this objective, the common model for calculating academic time in credits of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) was adopted.

These approaches were developed with the ultimate goal of enabling graduates, as professionals in the various fields of knowledge, to enter the local and global labor markets with guarantees. At the same time, the training of university graduates is reinforced so that they can act as free, critical and committed citizens in our democratic societies.

These changes in the teaching activity of universities have taken place in the midst of important transformations in economic, social, political and cultural structures that have affected, in one way or another, the globality of societies, and which, among others, have had as a great vehicle the technological revolution that has brought innovation in information and communication systems through their digitalization. These complex processes have directly and indirectly affected the educational world and, especially, the university world, opening up opportunities as well as generating new problems or exacerbating some pre-existing ones. Thus, a society in permanent mutation demands from the University an increasingly rapid and flexible response to the training needs of professionals in accordance with these changes. At the same time, it demands that those professionals who emerge from the universities be capable of leading these changes.

transformations to collectively build a society that is open to change, economically and environmentally sustainable, technologically advanced, socially equitable, without any discrimination based on gender, national or ethnic origin, age, ideology, religion or beliefs, illness, social class, or any other personal or social condition or circumstance, and clearly aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At the same time, changing societies require new scientific, technological, humanistic and artistic knowledge to be transferred to students during the teaching and learning process, allowing them to obtain a comprehensive education.

Hence the need to redefine the organization and structures of official university education, included in this Royal Decree, taking into account the experience accumulated over the course of this decade of implementation of the EHEA in the country's higher education institutions, and bearing in mind the demands of increasingly interconnected local and global societies characterized by labor markets undergoing restructuring.

In this sense, the deployment of the EHEA in Spain, which was already announced in Article 37 of Organic Law 6/2001, of December 21, 2001, on Universities, and was subsequently ratified in Organic Law 4/2007, of April 12, 2007, amending Organic Law 6/2001, of December 21, 2001, on Universities, was specified in Royal Decree 1393/2007, of October 29, which established the organization of official university education, which has so far undergone up to nine amendments of various kinds, the most recent being Royal Decree 103/2019, of March 1, which approves the Statute of Predoctoral Research Staff in Training.

This accumulation of changes in the organization of official university education in Spain makes necessary and proportional a new regulation that, guaranteeing the principle of legal security in the operation of the Spanish university system, advances in an organization adapted to the demands of society and to the disruptive changes taking place in the economy and in technology, as well as more flexible in its components and structure, and that, at the same time, favors the necessary effective innovation in teaching.

This organization should facilitate the effective exercise of university autonomy in the planning and definition of the characteristics of its academic offerings. And, likewise, it should make it possible for the Autonomous Communities to organize the offer of official university degrees in the exercise of their powers, insofar as it interrelates the changing demands of society and university academic initiatives.

In addition to these objectives, there are two others that should be considered important. Firstly, the new regulation seeks to strengthen the confidence of the university community and society as a whole in the procedures established to guarantee the quality of the academic offerings of the entire university system, both public and private. In other words, society must be sure that all official undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees in Spain are of verifiable quality. Secondly, the aim is to strengthen the employability capacities conferred by the training received in different degrees, based on the skills and knowledge acquired, as well as through a wide range of academic options, with the aim of providing university graduates with a decent and quality job placement. This desire for change must always be accompanied by the rigor and academic soundness of the university offer.

This Royal Decree maintains the basic structure of the academic offer, currently in force, configured in three stages: Bachelor, Master and Doctorate. In this sense, it consolidates the fact that undergraduate degrees must have 240 credits -with the sole exception of those which, according to European guidelines, must have 300 or 360 credits-. This is, therefore, the essential structure of the Spanish university model: 240-credit Bachelor's Degrees, Master's Degrees and Doctoral Degrees.

This regulation introduces a significant modification by changing the assignment of Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the five branches of knowledge to the so-called fields of knowledge. The purpose of this modification is twofold. Firstly, these fields of knowledge are the ones that provide the subjects that substantially make up the basic training that is developed in the Degrees, thus guaranteeing a transversal training and reinforcing the generalist nature of this cycle. Secondly, since the areas of knowledge are not as extraordinarily generic and broad as the five branches were, they allow that, guaranteeing transversality, the offer of subjects has greater formative coherence, which finally clearly benefits the students. The fields of knowledge have been proposed taking into account to a large extent the structure of the commissions of the National Commission for the Evaluation of Research Activity (CNEAI), although adapted to the fact that it is a matter of teaching activity and that they must cover more than eight thousand degrees that currently make up the official university offer in Spain, as well as, and above all, grouping thematically the codes of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED, 2013) of UNESCO, which are also used in the Registry of Universities, Centers and Degrees (RUCT) and in the Integrated University Information System (SIIU) by assigning all Bachelor's and Master's degrees to this coding. In any case, the universities will be the ones to propose the area where their degrees will be assigned, thus assuming their autonomy, experience and educational leadership. In order to facilitate this operation, a transitional period is established to adapt the assignment of the current branches to the fields of knowledge, and an efficient mechanism is available to expedite the corresponding administrative procedure.

Likewise, this royal decree introduces the possibility of adopting specific forms of articulation of the curriculum in official courses and, therefore, of singularizing their academic project. Together with these novelties, for the first time a basic regulation of the continuing education developed by the universities is provided, which regulates this important educational space in which the universities demonstrate their social commitment, leaving a wide margin for flexibility, but minimally homogenizing the structure of such education and introducing the culture of quality assessment in these degrees.

On the other hand, and in a complementary manner, teaching innovation is promoted so that it becomes a fundamental strategy of universities, centers and degree coordinations, based on the consideration that the essential object of the educational process is to teach and learn, and this process must adapt to the social, economic, technological and cultural changes that are taking place at each historical moment. It is clear that the fundamental challenge facing universities is to transform their forms of learning and teaching to the demands of societies in permanent mutation. In this sense, this royal decree opens the door, in order to promote and make it visible, for the centers to issue accreditation documents that accompany the official university degree and that verify that the entire teaching organization of a given degree has been configured on the basis of a teaching innovation strategy or approach embodied in all the subjects of the curriculum.

Finally, one of the aspects that this royal decree reformulates is the whole process of verification, monitoring and accreditation of official university degrees. The experience accumulated by the universities in recent years, and the solid and rigorous work carried out by the quality agencies, has guided a procedural rethinking with the aim of, while ensuring the quality of the academic offer, simplifying the administrative processes and the necessary documentation, in order to focus on those issues that effectively constitute the core of the academic training project that is an official university degree, Master's or Doctorate. In this sense, the institutional evaluation of the centers is configured as an important part of the academic project.

The articles of this regulation are structured in eight chapters grouping thirty-seven articles. Chapter I and Chapter II, which refer to the general provisions and the organization of university education, set out the objectives of the Royal Decree, its scope of action and the principles that should govern the organization and structure of university education. Chapter III, on the other hand, deals with the organization of official undergraduate university education. Chapter IV and Chapter V develop the same organization, but focusing on the University Master's Degree and the Doctorate, respectively. Chapter VI deals with the specific curricular structures that can be adopted in university education. Chapter VII deals with the verification, monitoring and renewal of accreditation and the modification of official university degrees. Finally, Chapter VIII focuses its attention on the basic regulation of the university courses implemented by the universities.

Finally, the final part of the regulation consists of fourteen additional provisions, eight transitory provisions, one derogatory provision and six final provisions, as well as two annexes, which complete the regulatory framework of this Royal Decree.

The royal decree conforms to the principles of good regulation contained in Law 39/2015, of October 1, of the Common Administrative Procedure of Public Administrations. Thus, it responds to the principle of necessity, insofar as this preamble has already highlighted the need to redefine the organization and structures of university education, bearing in mind the experience accumulated over the course of the last decade with the development of the EHEA, and, also, responding to the demands of local and global societies in mutation, permanently interconnected and with labor markets in permanent transformation, which require new scientific, technological and humanistic knowledge. This knowledge is transferred to the students through the teaching and learning process, with the objective of achieving a comprehensive education and access to a better professional and labor insertion. In relation to the principles of effectiveness, legal certainty and efficiency, the new regulation provides a new regulatory framework, bringing clarity and simplifying many of the procedures that governed this matter, being otherwise consistent with the legal system and allowing a more efficient management of public resources. With respect to the principle of proportionality, the regulation establishes the regulation that is essential to meet the need to be covered, there being no regulatory alternative that is less restrictive of rights. Finally, as regards the principle of transparency, the regulation clearly defines its objectives and justification in the preamble, and during the procedure for drafting the regulation, the active participation of the potential beneficiaries has been allowed through the public consultation, hearing and public information procedures.

This Royal Decree is issued in accordance with Title VI of Organic Law 6/2001, of December 21, 2001, and in use of the regulatory development powers granted to the Government by the third final provision of said Organic Law. Likewise, Article 22 is dictated, partially and exclusively in its formative aspects, in accordance with Article 11.3 of the rewritten text of the Workers' Statute Law, approved by Royal Legislative Decree 2/2015, of October 23, and in use of the regulatory development empowerment made therein.

This Royal Decree is based on the provisions of rules 1 and 30 of Article 149.1, which give the State exclusive competence for the regulation of the basic conditions that guarantee the equality of all Spaniards in the exercise of rights and in the fulfillment of constitutional duties, and exclusive competence for the regulation of the conditions for obtaining, issuing and approval of academic and professional degrees and the basic rules for the development of the

Article 27 of the Spanish Constitution, in order to guarantee compliance with the obligations of the public authorities in this educational area, respectively.

This royal decree has been informed by the Council of Universities, by the Council of University Students of the State and by the General Conference of University Policy. During the drafting process, the quality assurance agencies, the Conference of Social Councils of Spanish Universities (CCS), the Conference of Rectors of Spanish Universities, and other associations and organizations representing university education in Spain have also been consulted.

By virtue thereof, at the proposal of the Minister of Universities, with the prior approval of the Minister of Finance and Public Function, in agreement with the Council of State, and after deliberation of the Council of Ministers at its meeting of September 28, 2021,

PROVIDED:

CHAPTER I

General Provisions

Article 1. Object.

- 1. The purpose of this Royal Decree is to establish the organization and structure of university education, based on the general principles defining the European Higher Education Area (EHEA). At the same time, it regulates the official academic offer and the offer of other degrees, specifically those related to lifelong learning, and regulates the specific curricular structures and the external academic practices that universities may incorporate into their curricula.
- 2. This Royal Decree, likewise, establishes the guidelines, conditions and procedures for the quality assurance of the study plans, the completion of which allows the awarding of official university degrees valid throughout the national territory. These procedures are specified in the verification of the study plan as a requirement for the initial accreditation of the degree and its registration in the Registry of Universities, Centers and Degrees (RUCT); as well as in the monitoring, modification and renewal of the accreditation already granted.

Article 2. Scope of application.

The scope of application of this Royal Decree is the official undergraduate, master's and doctoral university education, as well as other university education, specifically lifelong learning, provided by the universities of the Spanish university system and which will be defined as their own degrees.

CHAPTER II

Organization of university education

Article 3. Official university degrees.

1. University studies leading to official degrees awarded by the universities are structured in three cycles, called Bachelor, Master and Doctorate respectively, in accordance with the provisions of Article 37 of Organic Law 6/2001, of December 21, 2001, on Universities.

The passing of these exams in accordance with the corresponding study plan, in the case of Bachelor's and Master's Degrees, or program, in the case of Doctorate Degrees, will lead to the award of official university degrees of Bachelor's, Master's and Doctorate, respectively.

- 2. Official university degrees must be registered in the RUCT of the Ministry of Universities, in accordance with the provisions of Royal Decree 1509/2008, of September 12, which regulates the Registry of Universities, Centers and Degrees.
- 3. All official undergraduate and master's degrees must be assigned to one of the fields of knowledge listed in Annex I at the time of registration in the RUCT. Likewise, this field of knowledge must be included in the curriculum report during the verification process.
- 4. The official university degrees of Bachelor's, Master's and Doctorate accredit the qualification at the levels in which the Spanish Framework of Qualifications for Higher Education (MECES) is structured, regulated by Royal Decree 1027/2011, of July 15, which establishes the Spanish Framework of Qualifications for Higher Education.

Article 4. Guiding principles in the design of the curricula of official university degrees.

- 1. The general principles that should inspire the design of the curricula of official university degrees are the following:
 - a) the academic rigor of the training project involved in a university education;
- b) the concordance with the generalist or specialized character of the cycles in which the teaching is inscribed;
- c) the coherence between the educational objectives of the curriculum, the fundamental competencies pursued and the established systems of evaluation of student learning;
 - d) its social comprehensibility.
- 2. Likewise, such curricula shall have as a reference the democratic principles and values and the Sustainable Development Goals and, in particular:
- a) respect for human rights and fundamental rights; democratic values freedom of thought and teaching, tolerance and recognition of and respect for diversity, equity for all citizens, the elimination of all discriminatory content or practices, the culture of peace and participation, among others;
- b) respect for gender equality in accordance with the provisions of Organic Law 3/2007, of March 22, for the effective equality of women and men, and the principle of equal treatment and non-discrimination on the grounds of birth, national or ethnic origin, religion, conviction or opinion, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, sexual characteristics, illness, socioeconomic status or any other personal or social condition or circumstance.
- c) respect for the principles of universal accessibility and design for all persons, in accordance with the provisions of the second final provision of the Consolidated Text of the General Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and their Social Inclusion, approved by Royal Legislative Decree 1/2013, of November 29;
- d) the treatment of sustainability and climate change, in accordance with the provisions of article 35.2 of Law 7/2021, of May 20, on Climate Change and Energy Transition.
- 3. These values and objectives must be incorporated as transversal content or competencies, in the format decided by the center or university, in the different official courses offered, as appropriate and always taking into account their specific academic nature and the training objectives of each degree.

Article 5. Syllabuses of official university degrees.

- 1. The study plans structure the training objectives of an official university degree, the knowledge and contents that are intended to be transmitted, the competencies and skills that characterize it and are intended to be mastered, the external academic practices that reinforce its training project and the system for evaluating the learning of students enrolled in the degree.
- 2. The curriculum for Bachelor's and Master's degrees is structured in courses of 60 academic credits of the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), sequenced from the first to the last course, until the total number of credits that define the degree is reached. Exceptions to this rule are made for those Masters that have a syllabus with a total load of 90 credits, in which case one of the courses may be of 30 credits.
- 3. The syllabuses of official university courses shall be drawn up by the universities, in accordance with the regulations in force and approved by their governing bodies, and shall form part of the report submitted by the universities for verification.
- 4. The report for the application for verification of the curriculum of a university degree must have the structure, content and length indicated in Annex II of this Royal Decree. In the case of Doctorate programs, the report will be the one established by Royal Decree 99/2011, of January 28, which regulates the official teachings of Doctorate. In order to produce full effects, and to have the character of an official university degree, the memory of the study plan must be verified by the Council of Universities. Once the study plan has been verified by the Council of Universities, it will be processed in accordance with the provisions of Article 27.
- 5. The Spanish universities, or with another or other foreign universities, may propose a joint study plan leading to an official university degree of Bachelor's, Master's or Doctorate, by means of an agreement that will be incorporated into the report to be verified. In this agreement it will be agreed which university will act as coordinator and, therefore, will be responsible for the presentation of the report in the various quality assurance procedures established in this Royal Decree, as well as the participation of each university in the teaching through its respective teaching staff, the academic and evaluation regulations to be followed, the responsibility for issuing the degree and the management of the enrolled students' records.
- 6. In the case of joint curricula of official university degrees in which Spanish and foreign universities participate, if the coordinating institution is a foreign university, the participating Spanish university must have a copy of the records of the students taking the degree.
- 7. The universities will ensure the participation of the student body in the commissions created specifically for the preparation of the report of the Bachelor's or Master's degree, which includes the study plan, or in the study commissions if this is the body that performs this function.

Article 6. Doctoral Programs.

Doctoral programs shall be governed by the provisions of Royal Decree 99/2011, of January 28, 2011.

Article 7. Implementation of the curricula of new courses of study.

The universities may implement the curricula of the official university degrees progressively -course by course- or simultaneously -for all courses or for several courses, as the case may be-, in accordance with the timeframe foreseen in the report presented in the verification process.

- 1. University undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees are official and valid in Spain, have academic and administrative effects and, if so required by the applicable regulations, entitle the holder to practice certain regulated professions.
- 2. The issuance of the degrees of Graduate, University Master's Degree and Doctorate leading to the completion of the credits of the respective curricula and the completion of the Doctorate program, shall be made in the name of the King by the Rector of the university where the studies were completed, in accordance with the guidelines and requirements established by Royal Decree 1002/2010, of August 5, 2010, on the issuance of official university degrees.

Article 9. Accounting and grading of students' academic work.

- 1. The set of academic activities developed by the student in the Bachelor's and Master's degree courses will be measured in credits following the ECTS System format. These activities may take place in face-to-face teaching spaces such as classrooms, laboratories, computer and audiovisual classrooms, simulation classrooms, specialized spaces, or in virtual teaching spaces, either synchronous or asynchronous. They may also be activities carried out autonomously. In any case, all of them will be part of the teaching planning of a subject or subject, and their purpose will be the orderly transmission of knowledge and the achievement of competencies and skills.
- 2. The academic activities of each subject must be graded according to the level of learning of the knowledge, competencies and skills that the student has achieved, and must be expressed numerically in accordance with the provisions of Royal Decree 1125/2003, of September 5, which establishes the European credit system and the grading system in university degrees of official character and valid throughout the national territory. In the case of Doctorate programs, the provisions of Royal Decree 99/2011 of January 28 will be followed.
- 3. The teaching guide of each subject or subject that is part of the curriculum of an official undergraduate or master's degree, in accordance with the regulations of each university, will include the theoretical and practical academic activities and the programmed learning evaluation system. These teaching guides must be accessible to students prior to the official registration period, in the manner established in the academic regulations of the center or university.

Article 10. Procedures for the recognition and transfer of academic credits in official university degrees.

- 1. The procedures for the recognition and transfer of academic credits in official university degrees are intended to facilitate the mobility of students between official Spanish university degrees, as well as between these and foreign university degrees. The universities will approve specific regulations to regulate these procedures in accordance with the provisions of this Royal Decree.
- 2. The universities must reflect in the syllabus of each degree the volume of credits that can be used in these procedures, and the conditions and generic characteristics of the same. These recognized or transferred credits will be included in the student's transcript and in the European Diploma Supplement.
- 3. The recognition of academic credits refers to the procedure of acceptance by a university of credits obtained in other official studies, in the same or another university, to form part of the transcript of the student or students.

the student in order to obtain an official university degree other than the one from which they come. In this procedure, credits corresponding to Bachelor's or Master's degree final projects may not be recognized, with the exception of those that are specifically developed in a mobility program.

- 4. The accreditation of professional and work experience may be recognized as academic credits used to obtain an official degree. This option may be given when such experience is closely related to the knowledge, competencies and skills of the official university degree. In the same way, the credits passed and taken in university studies of the universities or other official higher studies may be recognized.
- 5. The volume of credits recognizable from professional or work experience or those from non-official university studies (own or continuing education) may not exceed, globally, 15 percent of the total number of credits that make up the curriculum of the degree to be obtained. These recognized credits will not have a numerical qualification and, therefore, may not be used at the time of evaluating the student's transcript.
- 6. As an exception to what is established in the preceding paragraph, this percentage may be exceeded up to the point of recognizing the totality of the credits that come from non-official university studies, provided that the corresponding non-official degree ceases to be taught and is extinguished and replaced by the new official university degree in which the academic credits are recognized. In this case, the internal quality assurance systems will ensure the academic suitability of this procedure.
- 7. In the case of the subscription of an agreement between a higher vocational training center and a university center, approved by the governing body of the university and the competent Department in matters of vocational training of the Autonomous Community, the proportion of credits recognizable in an official university degree may be up to 25 percent of the total credit load of such degree.
- 8. The transfer of academic credits refers to the inclusion, in the academic transcript and in the European Diploma Supplement, of all the credits obtained in official courses previously taken, regardless of the university, which have not led to the award of an official university degree.
- 9. In any case, specifically for undergraduate degrees, it should be kept in mind that:
- a) Up to the totality of the basic training credits between degrees in the same field of knowledge will be subject to these procedures.
- b) These procedures will be applied to the credits of the remaining subjects between degrees in the same field of knowledge or in different fields, always taking into account the academic and formative coherence of the knowledge, competencies and skills that define the subjects to be recognized with those existing in the syllabus of the degree to which access is sought.
- c) Credits related to student participation in university cooperation, solidarity, cultural, sports and student representation activities, which together will be equivalent to at least six credits, will be subject to these procedures. Likewise, other academic activities organized by the university for teaching purposes may be subject to these procedures. In no case may the total number of credits subject to the recognition established in letter c) of this article represent more than 10 percent of the total number of credits of the study plan.

Article 11. External academic internships.

1. External academic internships are an activity of a formative nature carried out by university students and supervised by the

universities, whose objective is to allow them to apply and complement the knowledge acquired in their academic training, favoring the acquisition of competencies that prepare them for the exercise of professional activities, facilitate their employability and promote their entrepreneurial capacity. The European Diploma Supplement will include the internships carried out by the student.

- 2. In accordance with Royal Decree 592/2014, of July 11, which regulates external academic internships for university students, they may be carried out in their curricular modality (and therefore form part of the curriculum and the training project of the degree, being able to be specified in compulsory or optional subjects or subjects) and in their extracurricular modality.
- 3. The university will guarantee the fully formative nature of external academic internships and that the conditions under which they are carried out by students are appropriate and subject to their primary educational interest. Given their formative nature, under no circumstances shall they give rise to obligations inherent to an employment relationship, nor shall their content lead to the substitution of the labor provision inherent to jobs.
- 4. The performance of external academic internships will require the signing of an Educational Cooperation Agreement between the university, or its own and affiliated centers, and the entities, companies, social and trade union organizations or the administration, as provided for in Article 7 of Royal Decree 592/2014, which will contain the training project that develop such internships and the conditions under which it will be implemented.
- 5. The university must have specific regulations for the development of external academic internships, which must have been approved by its governing bodies. Such regulations must specify, at least, the requirements of the students and collaborating entities, the content of the Educational Cooperation Agreements, the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the internships, the academic recognition of the student's internships, the coordination and academic tutoring work, and the duration and schedules of the internships, including the necessary adaptations for students with disabilities and specific educational support needs.

Article 12. Public prices for official university education in public universities.

The Autonomous Communities will set the public prices of the official university degrees offered by public universities, within the maximum limits established by the General Conference on University Policy, which will be related to the costs of providing the academic service, in accordance with the provisions of Royal Decree-Law 17/2020, of May 5, which approves measures to support the cultural sector and tax measures to address the economic and social impact of COVID-19, which in turn amends Article 81, paragraph 3, subparagraph b) of Organic Law 6/2001, of December 21, 2001, on Universities.

CHAPTER III

Basic organization of official undergraduate university studies

Article 13. Objectives and organization of the official undergraduate university courses.

1. Official undergraduate studies, as the initial cycle of university education, have as their fundamental objective the basic and general training of students in the various disciplines of scientific, technological, humanistic and artistic knowledge, through the orderly transmission of knowledge, competencies and skills that are specific to the respective discipline -or disciplines involved-,

and that prepares them for the development of professional activities and guarantees their integral formation as citizens.

- 2. The quality assurance agencies and the public administrations, in the exercise of their respective competences, must guarantee the academic coherence between the name of the official university degree and the training objectives, as well as the structure and fundamental contents of the study plan. Likewise, they must ensure that such denomination does not lead to confusion in relation to the university cycle in which it is found or to the training objectives that define it, its academic or, where appropriate, professional effects.
- 3. Official undergraduate degrees may be complemented by the incorporation of specializations. In this sense, the mention or mentions that may or may be included in undergraduate degrees represent a curricular intensification or specific itinerary around a specific training aspect of the set of knowledge, competencies and skills that make up the curriculum of the degree, and complement the general training project of the degree. A mention will have at least the equivalent of 20 percent of the total credit load of an undergraduate degree. In any case, it will be an essential condition for its development that the mention or mentions have been included in the memory of the study plan.
- 4. The official university degree obtained after achieving and passing the credits that make up the study plan will be that of Graduate in the Degree with the specific denomination that is included in the RUCT, by the issuing university. The degree will incorporate the respective mention, if any. In the case of joint university degrees, the name of the other participating university or universities must also appear.
- 5. In addition, those Degrees that have specific European guidelines that have at least 300 ECTS credits and of which 60 are consistent with the training requirements corresponding to a Master's Degree, will obtain a level equivalent to MECES 3, for which the university or universities that promote such a degree must apply to the Council of Universities, through the General Secretariat of Universities, in accordance with the procedure established in the tenth additional provision.

Article 14. General guidelines for the design of the curricula for undergraduate studies.

- 1. The curricula leading to the degree of Graduate will have 240 ECTS credits, except for those subject to specific legislation or to the rules of European Union Law, which will have 300 or 360 credits. Its sequential structure is set at 60 credits per course and degree. Exceptions to this consideration will be made for international joint degrees arising within the framework of the European Commission's European University Program calls and those others referred to in the sixth additional provision of this Royal Decree.
- 2. The design of the study plan must make explicit all the theoretical and practical training that students must acquire in their formative process, structured by means of basic subjects, compulsory or optional subjects, and the end-of-degree project (TFG), and may incorporate external academic practices, as well as seminars, supervised work or other training activities.
- 3. The verification report of the syllabus of an official undergraduate degree and the European Diploma Supplement must explicitly state the field of knowledge in which the degree falls.
- 4. The 240-credit curricula will include a minimum of 60 credits of basic training. Of these, at least half will be linked to the same field of knowledge in which the degree is registered, and the rest will be related to other fields of knowledge different from the one to which the degree has been assigned and must be specified in subjects with a minimum of 6 credits each.

be offered in the first half of the study plan. The remaining credits must be made up of other subjects that reinforce the breadth and solidity of competencies and knowledge of the educational project that is the degree. In the 300 and 360 credit bachelor's degrees, the basic training will include a minimum of 75 and 90 credits, respectively.

- 5. In the event that the curriculum incorporates curricular external academic practices, these will have a maximum extension equivalent to 25 percent of the total credits of the degree, with the exception of those Degrees that by the rules of European Union Law must have another percentage, and should preferably be offered in the second half of the curriculum. Also exempt from this rule are the Degrees that include the Dual Mention, regulated in article 22, whose extension will be between 20 and 40 percent of the credits in Bachelor's degrees.
- 6. The end-of-degree project, which is mandatory and whose completion is essential to obtain the official degree, has as its essential objective the demonstration by the student of the mastery and application of the knowledge, competencies and skills defining the official university degree. This final degree project will have a minimum of 6 credits for all degrees, and a maximum of 24 credits for 240-credit degrees, 30 credits for 300-credit degrees and 36 credits for 360-credit degrees. It must be developed in the final phase of the study plan, following the criteria established by each university or center. Likewise, the end-of-degree projects must be defended in a public event, following the regulations established for this purpose by the center or, if applicable, the university.
- 7. Official undergraduate studies may be taught in face-to-face, hybrid (or blended) and virtual (or non-face-to-face) teaching modalities. The curricula must incorporate the chosen teaching modality, given that it conditions the formative development of the degree.

A classroom teaching modality in a degree program is understood as that in which the whole of the teaching activity that frames the study plan is developed in a face-to-face manner (faculty and students interacting in the same physical space, whether it is the classroom, laboratories or specialized academic spaces).

Hybrid teaching modality in an undergraduate degree is understood as that in which the teaching activity that frames the study plan includes subjects or subjects in face-to-face and virtual (non-face-to-face) modality, always maintaining the unity of the training project and coherence in all the most relevant academic aspects - although the combination of the double teaching modality implies adaptations of the academic elements to the same. The proportion of non-face-to-face credits for a degree to be considered a hybrid degree will be between 40 and 60 percent of the total credit load of the degree.

Virtual teaching modality in a Degree is understood as that in which the whole of the teaching activity that is framed in the curriculum is articulated through academic interaction between faculty and students that does not require the physical presence of both in the same teaching space of the university. This modality of university teaching is fundamentally characterized by being based on the intensive use of digital information and communication technologies. In terms of credit load, a degree may be defined as being taught in virtual mode when at least 80 percent of the credits (ECTS) that comprise it are taught in this teaching modality.

8. If a syllabus leads to the award of a Degree that enables the development of regulated professional activities, these must be structured and organized in accordance with the provisions of the Government or, as the case may be, following the respective European regulations. Likewise, in the event that, although the Degree does not have the enabling nature, it is an essential requirement for accessing

The Government will establish the conditions and training requirements of the Bachelor's degree that must be reflected in the study plan.

Article 15. Access and Admission to Official Undergraduate University Studies.

- 1. The procedure for access to official undergraduate university studies will be that established in article 38 of the Organic Law 2/2006, of May 3, on Education, and in article 42 of the Organic Law 6/2001, on Universities, and in its implementing regulations. Likewise, the provisions of Royal Decree 412/2014, of June 6, which establishes the basic regulations for admission procedures to official undergraduate university education, shall apply.
- 2. Universities shall ensure transparent and accessible information on admission procedures, and shall have systems in place to provide guidance to students. They shall also ensure that such information and admissions procedures take into account students with disabilities or special needs, and shall have appropriate support and counseling services.
- 3. The universities will reserve at least 5 percent of the places offered in official undergraduate university degrees for students who have a recognized degree of disability equal to or greater than 33 percent, as well as for students with permanent educational support needs associated with personal circumstances of disability, who in their previous studies have required resources and support for their full educational inclusion, bearing in mind the provisions of the Royal Decree. Likewise, the universities will guarantee the availability of places for these students who take part in the extraordinary calls for access to the university, up to 5 percent of the reserve quota of the total number of places offered in said degree.

CHAPTER IV

Basic organization of official university Master's degree programs

Article 16. Objectives and organization of the official university teachings of University Master's Degrees.

- 1. The objective of the official University Master's Degrees is to provide advanced training, specialized thematically or multidisciplinary in scientific, technological, humanistic and artistic knowledge, aimed at academic and professional specialization, or, where appropriate, aimed at learning in research activities.
- 2. The quality assurance agencies and the administrations, in the exercise of their respective competences, will ensure the non-generalist nature of the University Master's Degree, taking into account the fact that it comprises the second university cycle. Likewise, they will guarantee coherence between the name of the University Master's degree and its training project as specified in its syllabus, and in the knowledge, competencies and skills that form its backbone.
- 3. The achievement and passing of the credits that make up the curriculum of the official university degree of Master's Degree, entitles the student to obtain the title of Master's Degree with the respective denomination, as stated in the RUCT, by the University that issues it. The degree will incorporate the respective Specialty, if any. In the case of joint degrees, the name of the other participating university or universities must also appear.
- 4. A University Master's Degree may include one or more Specialties that must be included in the verified report of the curriculum of the degree. These incorporate complementary and specific training in a thematic or professional area in accordance with the overall training project of the Master's degree. The number of ECTS credits that

The number of credits that make up a specialty may not exceed fifty percent of the total number of credits that make up the Master's curriculum.

5. The official University Master's Degrees have a level equivalent to MECES 3.

Article 17. General guidelines for the design of the curricula of the University Master's Degree programs.

- 1. The curricula leading to a Master's degree will have 60, 90 or 120 ECTS credits, which will be distributed among compulsory and elective subjects, the Master's thesis, external academic internships, if any, and other academic activities.
- 2. The verification report of the syllabus of the official university degree of Master's Degree and the European Diploma Supplement must explicitly state the field of knowledge in which the degree is included.
- 3. The syllabus of a University Master's degree may incorporate external academic internships, with the aim of reinforcing the training received by students through the development of training tutored by the university in institutions, administrations, companies, social and trade union organizations, and other entities, in order to put into practice the competences and skills acquired, or to improve, where appropriate, the research capacity. These internships may not exceed one third of the total credit load that makes up the study plan.
- 4. All Master's degree curricula will include a Master's thesis, which may have a minimum of 6 ECTS credits and a maximum of 30, whose purpose is to verify the level of mastery of the knowledge, competencies and skills that the student has achieved, and whose completion is a prerequisite for obtaining the official degree. The Master's thesis must be defended in a public event, following the regulations established for this purpose by the center or, where appropriate, by the university.
- 5. The curricula will include the teaching modality in which they will be developed. In this sense, these will be: face-to-face, hybrid and virtual. The basic definition of these modalities is set out in article 14.7.
- 6. In the case of official university degrees of Master's Degree of a qualifying nature for the exercise of a regulated professional activity, the Government will establish the degree or degrees of access, as well as certain contents, competencies or the development of academic practices that must be incorporated in the respective curricula.

Article 18. Access and admission to the official teachings of the University Master's Degree.

- 1. The possession of an official university degree of Spanish Graduate or equivalent is a condition for access to a Master's Degree, or, if applicable, the possession of another Master's Degree, or degrees of the same level as the Spanish Bachelor's or Master's Degree issued by universities and institutions of higher education of a country of the EHEA that in that country allows access to Master's studies.
- 2. Likewise, persons in possession of degrees from educational systems that do not form part of the EHEA, which are equivalent to a Bachelor's degree, may access a Master's Degree of the Spanish university system, without the need for homologation of the degree, but with verification by the university of the level of training involved, provided that in the country where said degree has been issued it allows access to postgraduate university level studies. In no case will access by this route imply the homologation of the previous degree held by the interested party or its recognition for purposes other than that of carrying out the Master's studies.
- 3. Universities shall ensure transparent and accessible information on admission procedures, and shall have systems in place to guide students through the admission process.

students. They shall also ensure that such information and admission procedures take into account students with disabilities or special needs, and shall provide appropriate support services and counseling.

- 4. Universities may exceptionally establish, on the basis of specific regulations approved by their governing bodies, conditional enrollment procedures for access to a Master's Degree. This will consist of allowing a Bachelor's Degree student who has up to 9 ECTS credits remaining to pass the TFG, to access and enroll in a Master's Degree, although in no case may he/she obtain the Master's Degree if he/she has not previously obtained the Bachelor's Degree. The universities will guarantee priority in the enrollment of students who have the official university degree of Graduate. In this procedure, credits pending recognition or transfer in the Bachelor's degree, or the requirement to pass a certain level of knowledge of a foreign language in order to obtain the degree, may be taken into account.
- 5. The universities or centers will regulate admission to the University Master's degree courses, establishing specific requirements and, if necessary, training complements, whose credit load may not exceed the equivalent of 20 percent of the credit load of the degree. The credits of training complements will have the same consideration as the rest of the credits of the syllabus of the University Master's degree.
- 6. Universities will reserve at least 5 percent of the places offered in official university Master's degrees for students with a recognized degree of disability equal to or greater than 33 percent, as well as for students with permanent educational support needs associated with personal circumstances of disability, who in their previous studies have required resources and support for their full educational inclusion.

CHAPTER V

Basic organization of official university doctoral programs

Article 19. Objectives and organization of the official university doctoral programs.

- 1. Doctoral studies are the third cycle of official university studies in Spain, the purpose of which is the acquisition of competencies and skills related to quality university research and its development.
- 2. Doctoral studies are organized into doctoral programs in the various fields of scientific, technological, humanistic and artistic knowledge, as well as from an interdisciplinary approach to knowledge.
- 3. Successful completion of the doctoral program and the presentation and approval of the doctoral thesis will entitle the student to obtain the official university degree of Doctor, whose level is equivalent to MECES 4, and with the name that appears in the RUCT.
- 4. The structure and organization of the doctoral programs will be as set forth in articles 3 and 4 of Royal Decree 99/2011, of January 28, 2011.

Article 20. Access and admission to official university doctoral programs.

The access requirements and criteria for admission to official university doctoral programs will be those established in Royal Decree 99/2011, of January 28th. Universities shall apply the same criteria for access to doctoral programs as those established in article 18, section 6.

CHAPTER VI

Specific curricular structures and teaching innovation in official university education.

Article 21. Specific curricular structures and teaching innovation.

- 1. The universities in the exercise of their autonomy may incorporate specific curricular structures in their curricula, if they have been included in the corresponding report of the curriculum of the degree. The reference to these structures will be reflected in the European Diploma Supplement.
- 2. Likewise, the universities, in the exercise of their autonomy in the planning and management of teaching and with the aim of permanently improving the quality of teaching and learning, may develop specific and differentiated methodological strategies for teaching innovation that are applied to an official university degree as a whole -and, therefore, affect all the subjects that make up the curriculum-. These may be reflected in the European Diploma Supplement, and must have been reflected in the memory of the curriculum of the degree.
- 3. These global teaching innovation proposals may be recognized to the students by the university through the issuance of a certificate or other specific accreditation document, with the purpose of valuing them. These proposals may include teaching through the inverted classroom, learning based on project work or case studies, the development of collaborative and cooperative work, learning based on problem-solving skills, multilingual skills, teaching based on the intensive use of digital information and communication technologies, and other initiatives promoted by the university or the center.

Article 22. Dual mention in official university education.

- 1. The official undergraduate and master's degrees may include the Dual Mention, which involves a common training project that is developed complementarily in the university center and in a collaborating entity, which may be a company, a social or trade union organization, an institution or an administration, under the supervision and training leadership of the university center, and whose objective is the adequate training of students to improve their comprehensive training and improve their employability.
- 2. In order to obtain the Dual Mention in an official degree, the following circumstances must be met:
- a) The percentage of credits, contemplated in the study plan, to be developed in the collaborating entity (company, organization, institution or administration), will be:
 - 1.º Between 20 and 40 percent of the credits, in undergraduate degrees.
 - 2.º Between 25 and 50 percent of the credits in Master's degrees.

These percentages must include the final project of the Bachelor's or Master's degree.

- b) The training activity developed in a dual manner at the university and the collaborating entity will alternate with a paid work activity, through a contract for dual university training, under the terms established in article 11.3 of the revised text of the Law of the Statute of Workers, approved by Royal Legislative Decree 2/2015, of October 23, and in its implementing regulations, as well as in the rest of the labor regulations applicable thereto.
- c) Within the dual training activity, the basic skills and knowledge to be achieved will be defined, in a coordinated and complementary manner with the skills to be worked on during the academic time the student spends at the university, always bearing in mind the uniqueness of the

curriculum and the training project that is the Bachelor's or Master's Degree in question. In addition, the possibility of combining the training activity in the university center and in the collaborating entity (company, organization, institution and administration) must be ensured at all times.

- 3. The university and the collaborating entity in which the student develops part of his or her training through an employment contract, will have to have previously signed a Framework Agreement for Educational Collaboration, which includes the specific agreement to be signed between the parties in accordance with the provisions of Law 40/2015, of October 1, of the Legal Regime of the Public Sector. This agreement will specify the training project, and will indicate the obligations of the parties that sign it, the mechanisms of tutoring and supervision, the evaluation systems, and the rest of the conditions that are considered necessary for the correct realization of the common training project. In this sense, the student will have a tutor designated by the university and a tutor designated by the entity, company, organization, institution or administration, who must jointly supervise the development of the training project, under the leadership of the university tutor. The universities will guarantee the adequacy of the conditions for the realization of the activities framed in the contract and which will be the vehicle for the training development in the agreed entity.
- 4. The universities may prepare or adapt the curricula leading to the official university degree of Graduate and Master to the provisions of this article, by means of the verification or modification procedures regulated in articles 26, 32 and 33, respectively. Likewise, the corresponding report of the competent external evaluation body shall state that the Dual Mention may be granted to those degrees in which the circumstances established in paragraphs 1 and 2 concur. In no case may this modification of the curricula imply an increase in the number of places initially verified by the competent Administration, for which the relevant substantial modification of the degree report before the Council of Universities and the subsequent determination of the offer of courses and places by the General Conference on University Policy would be required.
- 5. The student who has chosen to take the Dual Mention within a Bachelor's or Master's degree may, if he/she deems it appropriate, abandon it and return to the general itinerary as long as he/she has not exceeded half of the credits defined for obtaining the Dual Mention in the respective study plan.

Article 23. Undergraduate programs with open academic itinerary.

- 1. The universities in the exercise of their autonomy may offer, in order to make the initial training of students more flexible, undergraduate programs with an open academic itinerary, in order to take subjects from two or more official undergraduate degrees that belong to the same field of knowledge or to related fields of knowledge, provided that the following conditions are met:
 - a) Subjects from at least two different official undergraduate degrees must be taken.
- b) The open academic pathway must have a credit load of between 60 and 120 credits for undergraduate degrees of 240 credits. These credits will correspond to subjects or basic training subjects of the university courses that make up the program, and other compulsory subjects of the respective curricula. The credits of the open academic itinerary must be taken by the students in the first two years of the Degree.
- c) The university will approve by its governing bodies a specific regulation governing this type of mentions.

- d) These must have a favorable report from the Internal Quality Assurance System, prior to their approval by the university's governing bodies.
- 2. At the end of the open academic pathway, the student may continue his or her studies in one of the official undergraduate degrees included in the program. At the end of his or her studies in that official undergraduate degree, the student may apply for the Mention "official undergraduate degree included in a program with an open academic itinerary". The university must ensure that the student has attained the fundamental knowledge, competencies and skills of the official university degree that he/she finally obtains.
- 3. The universities will establish an admission quota within each degree for students wishing to follow these open pathways. These quotas may in no case exceed 10 percent of the lowest limit of new admission places in the undergraduate degrees included in the corresponding open pathway. In any case, the university will expressly include this type of admission in its enrollment regulations, in order to establish its regulation.
- 4. In order for an official undergraduate degree to be included in a program with an open academic itinerary, it will not be necessary to verify or modify the syllabus of the degree or degrees, but it will be sufficient to notify the corresponding evaluation agency, the Council of Universities and the Autonomous Community, after approval by the governing bodies of the university.

Article 24. Academic programs of simultaneity of double degrees with specific itinerary.

- 1. The universities, within the scope of their autonomy, may organize and offer academic programs of simultaneous double degrees of Bachelor's or Master's Degrees with a specific itinerary, which will result in obtaining, if all the subjects that comprise it are passed, each of the official university degrees that comprise it. In any case, academic programs of simultaneity of three or more degrees may not be implemented.
- 2. These programs must be based on the construction of a common training project of two different degrees that has academic coherence and reinforces the integral training of the students. The purpose of this simultaneity program is, therefore, the sum of training synergies of degrees that complement each other from an educational and professional point of view.
- 3. These double degree programs will be articulated through the establishment of a specific training itinerary based on the subjects considered essential in the respective curricula of each of the degrees involved. All significant information for the development of the double degree must be included. In any case, the university must guarantee that with this specific training itinerary the students will be able to acquire the fundamental knowledge and competencies defined in the reports of the respective degrees.
- 4. The governing bodies of the university or universities involved, following a mandatory and favorable report from their own internal quality systems -or from the center or centers involved-, will approve a document that explains the training project of these dual degree programs, the curriculum resulting from the specific itinerary, the knowledge and essential competencies to be achieved, the internships and the model for the recognition of subjects between the degrees involved.

CHAPTER VII

Quality assurance procedures for official university courses

Article 25. Quality assurance of official university education.

- 1. In order to ensure the quality of university studies as an educational service for the whole of Spanish society, official university degrees must undergo external evaluation procedures in accordance with the Criteria and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (*European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance of Higher Education*, ESG), in accordance with the provisions of Title V of Organic Law 6/2001, of December 21, 2001, and in accordance with the provisions of this Royal Decree. The universities must take co-responsibility for quality assurance, through the development of their internal guarantee systems and the promotion of the culture of quality among the university community.
- 2. The external evaluation bodies responsible for processing the quality assurance procedures of the Spanish university system are the National Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation (ANECA) and, for their corresponding territorial scope, the quality agencies of the Autonomous Communities registered in the European *Quality Assurance Register for Higher* Education (EQAR), after having successfully passed an external evaluation in accordance with the ESG.
- 3. The quality assurance procedures that involve all the curricula of the official university degrees are those of verification, monitoring and modification, as well as the renewal of the accreditation of the degrees. To this end, the quality agencies will jointly establish the quality assessment protocols that will guide them.
- 4. The Ministry of Universities will maintain an Integrated University Information System (SIIU) to cover the information needs of the Spanish university system as a whole and of the administrations, and will provide the competent external evaluation bodies with the necessary information to carry out quality assurance procedures. Likewise, the SIIU will develop activities, based on the statistics and information collected, of observation, analysis and prospective, in collaboration with the universities and the quality agencies.

Section 1.^a Verification of curricula and establishment of the official nature of degrees

Article 26. Procedure for the verification of syllabuses of official courses of study.

- 1. The Council of Universities must verify that the curricula, the completion of which entitles the student to obtain an official university degree, are in accordance with the guidelines and conditions established by this Royal Decree and other applicable regulations.
- 2. The curriculum verification procedure, which will culminate with the notification to the applicant university of the resolution of the Council of Universities on the verification of the curriculum, may not last more than six months (without taking into account the possible claims procedure). In the case of degrees proposed in centers with institutional accreditation, this period shall not exceed four months. All public administrations will ensure compliance with these maximum deadlines, after which the application will be deemed to have been accepted and the study plan verified.

4. This procedure shall commence with the submission by the applicant university of the report referred to in section 3 of this article and of the curriculum report referred to in article 5.3, in accordance with the structure, content and extension indicated in Annex II, to the Council of Universities through the unit of the General Secretariat for Universities responsible for the processing of this procedure, which shall verify whether the documentation complies with the established requirements. The General Secretariat of Universities will communicate the receipt of the study plan report to the body of the Autonomous Community or Autonomous Communities competent in matters of universities.

Subsequently, the unit of the General Secretariat of Universities in charge of the processing, if applicable, upon detecting insufficiencies in the documentation, will warn the university of the need to correct them, for which it will have 10 working days to do so. If after this period has elapsed the request has not been made, the request will be considered to have been withdrawn. Once it has been corrected, the unit of the General Secretariat of Universities will have a maximum of 3 working days to send the study plan report to the corresponding quality agency.

In the case of centers with institutional accreditation, the curriculum report will be sent simultaneously to the processing unit of the General Secretariat of Universities and to the agency in charge of the evaluation.

- 5. The quality agencies will carry out a verification report on the quality of the report of the curriculum of the official university degree, in accordance with the specific protocols that these agencies have established in a common manner for the entire university system, and bearing in mind the provisions of this regulation. This report shall be mandatory and shall be carried out by commissions of academic and professional experts, with university degrees, who shall be independent and of recognized academic prestige in the field of knowledge in which the degree is included or in related fields, who shall be chosen by the agencies. Likewise, university students must participate in these commissions, and representatives of society chosen for their relationship with the thematic area of the degree being evaluated may also participate.
- 6. The corresponding quality agency will propose an interim report on the verification of the quality of the syllabus. The provisional report, which must be reasoned, may be favorable, favorable with conditions or unfavorable. In the case of a favorable report with conditions, the agency will indicate those issues that must be modified in order to reach a definitive proposal for a favorable report. The provisional report will be sent to the university applying for the degree so that, within 15 working days of its receipt, it may make the corrections and modify those issues that have been highlighted in the report, or present the allegations it considers pertinent.
- 7. At the end of the period for the presentation of corrections and allegations, if applicable, the corresponding quality agency will issue a definitive quality verification report, which will be favorable or unfavorable, and will be sent to the applicant university, the Council of Universities, the competent body of the Autonomous Community and the Ministry of Universities. In the case of a favorable final report, it may include some relevant aspect on which the administrations, the universities and the agencies will have to develop a follow-up.
- 8. In accordance with Article 12 of the Regulations of the Council of Universities, approved by Royal Decree 1677/2009, of November 13, 2009, the Verification and Accreditation Commission of the Council of Universities, upon receipt of the final favorable report issued by the quality agency, shall certify that the

If this is the case, the resolution of positive verification of the degree will be issued. In the event that the report is unfavorable, the Verification and Accreditation Commission of the Council of Universities will issue a negative verification resolution.

- 9. Once the resolution has been issued, the Council of Universities will notify the applicant university within a maximum period of 3 working days, and will also communicate it to the Autonomous Community or Autonomous Communities where these universities are located, to the corresponding quality agency and to the Ministry of Universities.
- 10. The applicant university, having received the notification from the Council of Universities, may claim before the Presidency of said body, the review of the verification resolution, for which it will have 10 working days from the moment of receipt of the notification. If the claim is admitted for processing, it must be evaluated by the University Council's Commission for Claims of Verification and Accreditation of Curricula, in accordance with the provisions of article 13 of the Regulations of the University Council. The commission shall be made up of academic and professional experts who have not participated in the evaluation procedure up to that moment.

This commission will evaluate the verification report, taking into account only the curriculum report submitted by the university. In the case of having elements of judgment to do so, the commission will prepare a resolution proposal to the Permanent Commission of the Council of Universities. In this case, the duration of the review procedure may not exceed one month from the presentation of the claim.

The committee, if it deems it necessary, may send the file to the quality agency that issued the report for review in light of the aspects detected that merit a new evaluation. Once the report of the quality agency has been received, the commission will prepare a resolution proposal that will be sent to the Permanent Commission of the Council of Universities for its definitive resolution. In this case, the duration of the entire review procedure may not exceed three months from the receipt of the university's complaint to the Presidency of the Council of Universities.

In any case, the resolution puts an end to administrative proceedings in accordance with the provisions of Article 114.1b) of Law 39/2015, of October 1. Once the deadlines have elapsed without the corresponding resolution to the claim having been issued, the claim may be understood to have been dismissed.

The Council of Universities will notify the final resolution to the applicant university, communicating it also to the Autonomous Community and the quality agency involved, and to the Ministry of Universities.

Article 27. Official character and registration of official university degrees in the Registry of Universities, Centers and Degrees.

- 1. Once the curriculum has been verified by the Council of Universities and after the authorization of the Autonomous Community has been issued, the official nature of the degree will be established by agreement of the Council of Ministers at the proposal of the head of the Ministry of Universities, and will be published in the "Official State Gazette", thus making the university degree fully valid throughout the national territory.
- 2. Once the official status of the degree has been declared and subsequently published in the "The degree will be registered in the RUCT, with the name of the degree whose curriculum report has been verified. This information will be public and the Ministry of Universities, as the body responsible for the RUCT, will guarantee its accessibility to all citizens. The inscription in the RUCT referred to in this article will also have constitutive effects with respect to the creation of official university degrees and will carry with it the initial consideration of an accredited degree for the legal and regulatory purposes established.

- 3. The teaching of the official university degree may not commence until the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article have been fulfilled.
- 4. Once the official status and validity of the university degree has been established, the Rector of the corresponding university -or of the university that will coordinate the degree- will order the publication in the "Official State Gazette" and in the official gazette of the Autonomous Community where the university is located of the study plan, which must be specified in the publication of the academic structure of said degree.
- 5. From the moment of its official publication, the university or universities that have promoted the degree will have a maximum of two academic years to implement and start teaching it.
- 6. If such commencement does not take place, the degree will lose its initial accreditation. The competent body of the Autonomous Community where the university is located must certify whether the degree has been implemented and teaching has begun. If this is not the case, it must process the termination of the degree and inform the Ministry of Universities for the purposes of its appropriate entry in the RUCT, with publication in the official gazette of the Autonomous Community.

Section 2.ª Follow-up of the degrees

Article 28. Procedure for the monitoring of degrees that are taught in university centers that are not institutionally accredited.

- 1. All official university degrees taught in non-institutionally accredited centers, new verified degrees and those that have obtained the renewal of accreditation will be monitored for compliance with the academic project contained in the study plan. This procedure will be developed by the centers through the bodies established in the university regulations. For this purpose, in accordance with the guidelines of the corresponding quality agency and with what is reflected in the external evaluation reports, they will prepare at least one follow-up report, which is mandatory three years after the effective implementation or renewal of the accreditation.
- 2. The purpose of these reports is to monitor the development of the curriculum of the official university degree with the aim of assessing compliance with the fundamental academic criteria and approaches set out in the curriculum report. These monitoring reports will also accredit the transparency of the information and indicators that show the academic results of the degree, detect possible deficiencies in the implementation and identify good practices in the monitoring and continuous improvement of university studies. The aforementioned reports will be sent to the corresponding quality agency for evaluation, according to the protocol established by each agency.
- 3. In the event that, on the occasion of the follow-up report, serious breaches of the commitments made in the curriculum report are detected, the quality agency will notify the governing bodies of the center and the university of these facts and will inform the Autonomous Community, so that the appropriate measures may be adopted to safeguard the educational interests of the student body, which may, if necessary, lead to the termination of the degree.
- 4. The evaluation agencies will jointly establish a protocol with basic criteria to guide the preparation of follow-up reports.

Article 29. Procedure for the monitoring of the degrees that are taught in institutionally accredited university centers.

The monitoring of degrees taught in institutionally accredited university centers will be carried out within the scope of the monitoring of such centers, in accordance with

to the provisions of article 14 and concordant articles of Royal Decree 640/2021, of July 27, on the creation, recognition and authorization of universities and university centers, and institutional accreditation of university centers.

Section 3.a Modification of curricula

Article 30. Procedure for the non-substantial modification of the curricula taught in non-institutionally accredited university centers.

- 1. In the event that the modifications do not imply a change in the nature, objectives and fundamental characteristics of the registered degree, and are, therefore, non-substantial modifications, these, once approved by the governing bodies of the university after a favorable report from the internal quality assurance systems, will be sent to the competent quality agency for their acceptance.
- 2. The competent quality agency must notify its decision within two months from the date of receipt of the request for modification. Once this period has elapsed without an express pronouncement, the university may consider its proposal accepted.
- 3. The university will incorporate the modifications to the curriculum report of the respective degree through the application of the Ministry of Universities and will communicate the modified report to the competent agency and to the corresponding Autonomous Community or Autonomous Communities.
- 4. The quality agencies shall establish in a common manner the general criteria to delimit which types of changes to the curriculum report of a degree are susceptible to be considered as non-substantial.

Article 31. Procedure for the non-substantial modification of the curricula taught in institutionally accredited university centers.

- 1. Modifications that do not imply a change in the nature, objectives and fundamental characteristics of the registered degree, and are, therefore, non-substantial modifications, will be approved by the governing bodies of the university, following a mandatory and binding favorable report from the internal quality assurance systems.
- 2. The university will incorporate the modifications to the report of the curriculum of the respective degree, through the corresponding application of the Ministry of Universities, and will communicate the modified report to the competent agency and to the corresponding Autonomous Community or Autonomous Communities.
- 3. The quality agencies shall establish in a common manner the general criteria to delimit which types of changes to the curriculum report of a degree are susceptible to be considered as non-substantial.

Article 32. Procedure for the substantial modification of the curricula taught in non-institutionally accredited university centers.

- 1. The non-institutionally accredited university centers may propose, through their university, substantial modifications to the verified curricula, which will be requested to the Council of Universities for approval.
- 2. Without prejudice to what may be agreed upon by the quality agencies, at least the following aspects that affect the nature, objectives and characteristics of the degree will be subject to substantial modification, such as: the incorporation or modification of mentions and specialties and their distribution of credits; the change in the mode of delivery; the incorporation or change in training complements; the distribution of subjects and subjects of basic and compulsory training; the change in the volume of credits of the final work of Degree and Master's Degree; the change in the number of places offered and the partial modification in the name of the degree. However, the

- If, in accordance with the university's proposal, the modifications presented imply, in the opinion of the corresponding agency, the design of a new degree, a report will be issued by said agency denying the modifications requested and the verification of a new degree will be urged.
- 3. The procedure for substantial modification shall be processed in accordance with that established for the process of verification of the study plans set forth in article 26.
- 4. Once the substantial modification has been definitively approved, it will take effect in accordance with the implementation schedule set forth in the amended memorandum.
- 5. In the event that the accepted modifications affect the terms of the name of the degree contained in the resolution of verification of the curriculum report, or significantly affect the structure of the courses in the terms expressed in the corresponding section of the report established in Annex II of this Royal Decree, a new publication of the curriculum shall be made, in accordance with the provisions of Article 27.
- 6. In any case, the quality agencies will establish in a common manner the general criteria to delimit which types of changes to the report of the curriculum of an official university degree are susceptible to be included in this type of procedure.

Article 33. Procedure for the substantial modification of the curricula taught in institutionally accredited university centers.

- 1. Institutionally accredited university centers may propose, through their university, substantial modifications to the verified curricula, which will be requested for approval by the Council of Universities. This proposal will be accompanied by a reasoned report on the academic and regulatory adequacy of the substantial modification made by the Internal Quality Assurance System of the center or university.
- 2. Without prejudice to what may be agreed by the quality agencies, at least the aspects set forth in Article 32.2 shall be subject to substantial modification.
- 3. The procedure for the substantial modification will be processed in accordance with the provisions established for the process of verification of the study plan reports included in article 26. The quality agency, at the time of preparing its report, must take into consideration primarily the report prepared by the Internal Quality Assurance System of the center or university proposing the substantial modification.
- 4. Once the substantial modification has been definitively approved, it will take effect in accordance with the implementation schedule set forth in the amended memorandum.
- 5. In the event that the accepted modifications affect the terms of the name of the degree contained in the resolution of verification of the curriculum report, or significantly affect the structure of the courses in the terms expressed in the corresponding section of the report established in Annex II of this Royal Decree, a new publication of the curriculum shall be made, in accordance with the provisions of Article 27.
- 6. In any case, the quality agencies will establish in a common manner the general criteria to delimit which types of changes to the report of the curriculum of an official university degree are susceptible to be included in this type of procedure.

Article 34. Procedure for the renewal of the accreditation of degrees offered in non-institutionally accredited university centers.

- 1. University centers that are not institutionally accredited must renew the accreditation of their official university degrees in accordance with the procedure that each Autonomous Community establishes in relation to the universities within its jurisdiction, which will be resolved by the Council of Universities based on the mandatory and binding report of the corresponding quality agency, within the following deadlines:
- a) The accreditation of official undergraduate degrees with 240 credits must have been renewed within a maximum period of six years from the date of commencement of the degree or renewal of the previous accreditation.
- b) The accreditation of official undergraduate degrees with 300 or 360 credits must have been renewed within a maximum period of eight years from the date of commencement of the degree or renewal of the previous accreditation.
- c) The accreditation of official university Master's degrees must have been renewed within a maximum period of six years from the date of commencement of the degree or renewal of the previous accreditation.
- d) The accreditation of official university doctoral degrees must have been renewed within a maximum period of six years from the date of commencement of the doctoral program or renewal of the previous accreditation.
- 2. The procedure for the renewal of the accreditation of an official university degree may not last longer than six months.
- 3. In order to initiate this procedure, the university will make the request to the Council of Universities through the corresponding application of the Ministry of Universities.
- 4. The application for renewal of the accreditation received will be transferred, within a maximum period of 5 working days, to the competent quality agency to verify that the curriculum is being carried out in accordance with its initial project, through an evaluation that must include, in any case, a visit by experts from outside the university, with the participation of at least one student, and which will conclude with the preparation of a mandatory evaluation report for the Council of Universities.

In the case of the second or successive renewals of the accreditation of the degree, the evaluation process will address the aspects that have been identified as the object of special attention in previous renewals of the accreditation, without prejudice to the assurance of quality in all aspects of the degree.

- 5. The agency will prepare a justified proposal for a report on the renewal of accreditation, which will be sent to the university so that it may present allegations within 20 working days.
- 6. Once the allegations, if any, have been assessed, the evaluation agency will propose a final report, which may be favorable or unfavorable to the renewal of accreditation, and will send it to the applicant university, the Council of Universities, the corresponding Autonomous Community or Autonomous Communities and the Ministry of Universities.
- 7. Once the Council of Universities has received the report from the quality agency, it will issue the corresponding resolution. If the report is favorable, a favorable resolution will be issued, and if the report is unfavorable, a resolution rejecting the renewal of the accreditation will be issued. The resolution will have to be motivated and will express the resources that against the same one proceed, administrative or judicial organ before which they would have to present and term to interpose them. Once the time limits foreseen have elapsed without the corresponding resolution having been issued, the sense of the administrative silence shall be affirmative.

- 8. The Council of Universities will notify the resolution of renewal of accreditation or non-renewal within 3 working days of its approval, to the university applying for the degree, communicating it to the Autonomous Community or Autonomous Communities concerned, to the evaluation agency that participated in the procedure and to the Ministry of Universities. In the event that a degree does not renew its accreditation, the degree will be declared "extinct", and an entry to this effect will be made in the RUCT. As a consequence, the competent Autonomous Community will determine the progressive extinction of its curriculum, on an annual basis, from the academic year following that in which the aforementioned resolution was issued, and will declare its definitive extinction when this occurs for the purposes of its registration in the RUCT. In any case, both the Autonomous Community and the university, within the scope of their respective competences, must adopt the appropriate measures to guarantee the academic rights of the students who are pursuing such studies.
- 9. The university involved may submit a complaint to the Presidency of the Council of Universities within 15 working days of receipt of the resolution of the Council of Universities, which shall be substantiated in accordance with the procedure established in Article 26, paragraph 10.
- 10. The Council of Universities, once the procedure is concluded, shall communicate the resolution of the accreditation renewal procedure to the RUCT, in order to incorporate the favorable renewal or non-renewal of said accreditation to the degree dossier. The corresponding resolution shall put an end to the administrative procedure in accordance with the provisions of Article 114.1.b) of Law 39/2015, of October 1. Once the deadlines have elapsed without the corresponding resolution to the claim having been issued, it may be understood as dismissed.
- 11. The university whose official university degree has not applied for renewal of the accreditation of an official university degree within the corresponding term or which, having done so, has not obtained the same, may not submit within the following two years, counting from the date on which the accreditation of the degree expired, a curriculum report to a new verification process if it is similar in denomination and fundamental contents to the curriculum of the degree that has not renewed the accreditation.

Article 35. Procedure for the renewal of the accreditation of degrees taught in institutionally accredited university centers.

The university centers that have obtained institutional accreditation through the procedure established in article 14 of Royal Decree 640/2021, of 27 July, will renew the accreditation of the official university degrees they offer as long as these centers maintain the institutional accreditation. In the RUCT, the date of renewal shall be the date corresponding to the resolution of institutional accreditation issued by the Council of Universities.

CHAPTER VIII

The universities' own teachings

Continuing education

Article 36. The university's own teachings.

The universities in use of their autonomy will be able to impart other teachings leading to the obtaining of other degrees other than the official university degrees referred to in Article 3.1, which will be defined as their own degrees. The issuing of these degrees shall be carried out in the manner determined by the university, and bearing in mind what is established in the present royal decree, without in any case, nor in the case of the issuing of these degrees, shall the university be able to grant them.

Article 37. Continuing education.

- 1. Within the university studies, lifelong learning will be made up of a series of teachings whose purpose is to strengthen the training of citizens throughout their lives, updating and expanding their knowledge, skills and general, specific or multidisciplinary abilities in the various fields of knowledge.
- 2. This type of teaching may be provided by centers or institutes of continuing education, university foundations, faculties or schools, whether their own or affiliated, as well as research institutes, as established in the respective Statutes or Rules of organization and operation of the university. The governing bodies of the university shall regulate, by means of specific regulations, at least the conditions for teaching, the places available, the syllabus, the participation of the university's own and external teaching staff, and the prices of these degrees, which, in public universities, shall be approved by the Social Council. Likewise, the universities shall expressly state in the institutional information that these degrees are for lifelong learning.
- 3. These continuing education courses may be carried out in the classroom, hybrid or virtual teaching modality.
- 4. All continuing education degrees must have at least one professor from the university in which they are taught as the person in charge, and may have co-directors from other universities, professionals of recognized prestige, personnel from social and business organizations or entities, or members of other administrations.
- 5. In any case, universities must differentiate between continuing education courses that require a university degree and those that do not.
- 6. Within the first group, whose objective is the expansion of knowledge and skills, specialization and updating of university graduates, the following degrees can be distinguished: the Master of Lifelong Learning (with a load of 60, 90 and 120 ECTS credits), the Diploma of Specialization (with between 30 and 59 credits) and the Diploma of Expert (with less than 30 credits).
- 7. In the second group, whose purpose is the expansion and updating of knowledge, competencies and training or professional skills that contribute to a better labor market insertion of citizens without a university degree, a Certificate will be awarded with the name of the respective course (with a maximum load of 30 ECTS credits).
- 8. Likewise, universities may offer their own courses of less than 15 ECTS that may or may not require a previous university degree, in the form of micro-credentials or micro-modules, which make it possible to certify learning results linked to short-term training activities. Under no circumstances may these courses be confused with the degrees offered by the Vocational Training Centers of Intermediate or Higher Level.
- 9. The universities, in the exercise of their autonomy, may use other names for their continuing education degrees, except in the case of the Master's Degree in Continuing Education, which will always have this name. In any case, if this is the case, the characteristics established in sections 5 and 6 of this article must be maintained, always expressly differentiating these continuing education degrees from official university degrees.
- 10. The governing bodies of the universities must approve the continuing education program on an annual basis. They shall also ensure that the units,

centers, institutes or foundations that implement lifelong learning degrees in their institutional, documentary or advertising information must not lead to confusion as to the level of these degrees, especially in the case of the Lifelong Learning Master's Degree, which must always include this denomination in its dissemination.

11. The university will guarantee the quality and academic and scientific rigor of the continuing education degrees, which will be the responsibility of the internal quality assurance systems determined by the university institution. Specifically, in the case of the Master's Degree in Lifelong Learning, prior to its approval by the governing bodies, it must have a favorable report from the university's Internal Quality Assurance System, which will be binding for the university. Once this favorable report has been obtained, the university may request its inclusion in the RUCT, always under the name of Master of Lifelong Learning in the subject matter considered.

Provision additional one. Effectiveness of of the degrees degrees corresponding to the pre-EHEA system.

- 1. Official university degrees obtained in accordance with curricula prior to the current organization of university education implemented under the principles of the European Higher Education Area will maintain all their academic and, where appropriate, professional effects.
- 2. Persons who hold an official Spanish degree of Bachelor's, Architect's or Engineer's degree and wish to access official undergraduate studies, may obtain the appropriate credit recognition in academic terms in accordance with the provisions of Article 10 of this Royal Decree. Likewise, this degree will allow them to access Master's Degree courses. In this case, if appropriate, credits may be recognized in relation to the knowledge, competencies and skills learned in previous degrees and their adequacy with the curriculum of the corresponding Master's Degree to which access is sought.
- 3. Those who hold an official degree of Diploma, Technical Architect or Technical Engineer, and wish to access official degree courses, may obtain the appropriate credit recognition in academic terms as established in Article 10 of this Royal Decree. Likewise, this degree will allow them to access Master's Degree courses, and the university, in the exercise of its autonomy, may require additional training if academically necessary. In addition, if appropriate and in an exceptional and justified manner, credits may be recognized in relation to the knowledge, competencies and skills learned in previous degrees and their adequacy with the curriculum of the corresponding Master's Degree to which access is sought.

Second additional provision: Application of international agreements on mutual recognition of university degrees.

By means of the corresponding bilateral or multilateral international agreements or conventions, university degrees issued by universities of the signatory country or countries may be expressly recognized as equivalent to official Spanish university degrees, regardless of what is established in the specific regulations on homologation and equivalencies of foreign university education.

Third additional provision. Universities and Centers dependent on the State.

All references in this Royal Decree to the Administrations of the Autonomous Communities and their bodies shall be understood to refer, in the case of the Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED) and the Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo (UIMP), to the Ministry of Universities.

Fourth additional provision. Concordat Universities of the Catholic Church.

- 1. In accordance with the provisions of the fourth additional provision of Organic Law 6/2001 of December 21, 2001, the universities of the Catholic Church established in Spain prior to the Agreement of January 3, 1979, between the Spanish State and the Holy See on Education and Cultural Affairs, by virtue of the provisions of the Agreement between the Holy See and the Spanish State of May 10, 1962, and the aforementioned Agreement, maintain their special procedures regarding the recognition of civil effects of curricula and degrees, as long as they do not opt to become private universities.
- 2. In any case, in order to make these procedures effective, these universities will request from the Council of Universities the verification of the memory of the study plan leading to the award of an official university degree, which will be evaluated by the corresponding quality agency as the rest of the official offer of the university system. Said verification will be carried out once it is verified that said study plans comply with the guidelines and conditions established by the Government in general, as set forth in this Royal Decree.
- 3. The Council of Universities, once the university degree has been verified, will send it to the Ministry of Universities so that its holder may propose to the Government that, by agreement of the Council of Ministers, its official nature be established and order its registration in the RUCT and its publication in the "Official State Gazette".
- 4. For the development of the procedures for the modification, follow-up and renewal of the accreditation of these official university degrees, the procedure will be identical to that established in this Royal Decree, depending on whether they are institutionally accredited centers or not.

Fifth additional provision. Titles of Specialists in Health Sciences.

- 1. Under no circumstances may university degrees lead to confusion or coincide in their denomination and contents with those of university degrees that enable the exercise of a health profession or with those of specialists in health sciences regulated in Law 44/2003, of November 21, on the regulation of health professions.
- 2. The universities will decide, on the basis of the research training accredited by each of the health science specialists referred to in the previous section, the complementary training that, where appropriate, they must take for the presentation and defense of the doctoral thesis within the framework of Royal Decree 99/2011, of January 28.

1. In the procedure for the verification of curricula leading to international joint degrees, understood as such official Spanish university degrees leading to joint studies between one or more Spanish universities and a foreign university or several foreign universities, the evaluation reports issued by evaluation bodies registered in the European Register of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (EQAR) shall be recognized by the competent Spanish quality agencies for the purpose of issuing the report provided for in Article 26.

In the case of joint university degrees with countries whose agencies do not form part of this registry or do not have quality assessment agencies, the joint degree must have a favorable report from ANECA or from the assessment agency of the Autonomous Community where the applicant Spanish university is located.

2. In any case, the university or universities may also use the European Procedure for the Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes adopted by the European Ministers responsible for Higher Education (*European*

Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programs) in the different stages of the evaluation, substantial modification and accreditation process, provided that the country of the coordinating university has subscribed to this agreement.

- 3. The term for the renewal of the accreditation of these degrees will be determined by the regulations of the country where the external evaluation report has been issued.
- 4. In the event that the joint undergraduate degree has a credit load different from that established by this Royal Decree, it will be necessary, prior to its authorization, to have a favorable report from ANECA or from the evaluation agency of the Autonomous Community where the applicant Spanish university is located.
- 5. The management of the students' academic records, the academic regulations, the issuance of the degrees and the European Diploma Supplement, as well as the price of the academic service, will be reflected in the agreement signed between the universities promoting the joint degree program. In any case, the Spanish university or universities will always have a copy of the student's file.

Seventh additional provision. International joint university degrees within the framework of the European University Program of the European Commission.

- 1. The official Bachelor's, Master's and joint Doctoral programs that are developed as an inseparable part of a project approved within the framework of the official call of the European Commission of the European Universities Program (Erasmus+ European Universities), in which one or more Spanish universities participate, will be subject to a series of specificities regarding the evaluation of the quality of the report and its accreditation, in the enrollment of students, in the management of the student's file, and in the issuance of the degree.
- 2. For the purposes of the foregoing, a joint degree is understood to be that corresponding to a single official curriculum designed and participated in by all or at least three of the universities of the consortium formed by the universities participating in a given alliance and which have signed the corresponding agreement.
- 3. The syllabus report of official international joint undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees in which one or more Spanish universities participate within the framework of a call of the European University Program may be evaluated by a quality agency of one of the countries to which the universities promoting the degree belong, provided that this agency is registered in the European Register of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (EQAR) or has this consideration in the respective national legislation -if applicable by the evaluation body established in the country-. The report resulting from this evaluation will be valid for all purposes in the verification procedure of an official university degree in Spain. This same procedure may be implemented for substantial modifications of the curricula and for the renewal of the accreditation of an official university degree.
- 4. The reports of the curricula leading to joint official Bachelor, Master or Doctorate degrees of three or more universities (provided that they include one or more Spanish universities) participating in a project approved within the framework of a call of the European Commission's European Universities Program, may use the European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes adopted by the European Ministers responsible for Higher Education (European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes), in the different stages of the process of verification, monitoring, substantial modification of the curricula and renewal of the accreditation of the official university degree, provided that the country of the coordinating university has signed this agreement.
- 5. The term for the renewal of the accreditation of these degrees will be determined by the regulations of the country where the external evaluation report has been issued.

- 6. If the report issued by the quality assurance agency is positive, it will be sent to the Council of Universities so that it may issue the corresponding resolution of verification, informing all the universities that promote the degree, as well as the Autonomous Community or Autonomous Communities of the participating Spanish university or universities, and the Ministry of Universities. Subsequently, once its implementation has been authorized by the corresponding Autonomous Community, it shall proceed in accordance with the provisions of Article 27.
- 7. The level of learning achieved and passed by the students in the official Bachelor's and Master's degree courses shall be expressed by means of the qualifications established in the agreement. Likewise, the table of equivalences with the qualifications framework of the countries involved in the degree must be available. Likewise, the evaluation procedure to be followed in the case of the joint Doctorate program must be specified.
- 8. Exceptionally, in these international joint courses leading to official university degrees within the framework of the European Universities Program, the prices of the academic services will be fixed by the consortium and will be reflected in the agreement, and will be related to the costs of providing the service of all the countries involved.
- 9. The management of the academic records of the students enrolled in these joint official university degrees, the academic regulations, the issuance of the degrees and the European Diploma Supplement will be reflected in the agreement signed between the universities of each alliance, which will define its form of implementation. In any case, the Spanish university or universities will always have a copy of the student's file.
- 10. The duration of the official university degrees involved in these joint academic projects within the European University Program may be different from that established in this Royal Decree, as long as this has been established in the project approved by the European Commission in the respective call for proposals and receives a favorable report from a quality agency, as indicated in sections 3 and 4.

Eighth additional provision. *Procedure for verification and renewal of accreditation of Erasmus Mundus international joint university degrees.*

- 1. It will be considered, for all purposes, that the official university courses promoted through international consortia involving Spanish and foreign universities that have been evaluated and selected by the European Commission in competitive calls have obtained the Erasmus Mundus seal, have the favorable verification report referred to in Article 26 of this Royal Decree.
- 2. The applicant Spanish university participating in a given Erasmus program will send to the Ministry of Universities the study plan approved by the European Commission, together with the agreement signed by the participants in the consortium and the written justification of having achieved the Erasmus Mundus seal, as well as the documentation that provides the essential information for the registration of the degree in the RUCT.
- 3. The Ministry of Universities shall send the file to the Council of Universities for the purpose of issuing the corresponding resolution in accordance with the provisions of Article 26.
- 4. It will be understood that these degrees comply with the requirement to renew their accreditation as long as the Erasmus Mundus seal remains in force. At the end of the period of validity, if the renewal of this seal is not obtained, the universities that would like to

continue to teach the curriculum of said degree, they must request the substantial modification of the same without the qualification of Erasmus Mundus.

Ninth additional provision. *Academic programs with* successive paths in the field of Engineering and Architecture.

- 1. Universities, within the scope of their autonomy, may offer as a pilot teaching experience academic programs as successive courses -consecutive cycles-, linking a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree oriented to professional specialization, maintaining their differentiation and structural independence. The purpose of these programs is to reinforce the integral formation of the student. Under no circumstances may the name of the academic program lead to confusion with the possible professional qualification to which the degrees that comprise it may lead.
- 2. The academic arrangement proposed for the academic program must have been reported favorably by the competent quality agency. The offer of these academic programs will in no case constitute a new registration in the RUCT.
- 3. The universities may establish, by means of a regulation approved by their governing bodies, a procedure for access to official Master's Degree studies in these programs without having passed the related Bachelor's Degree. This will consist of allowing a student of a linked Bachelor's Degree who has yet to pass the TFG and one or more subjects, which in no case together (TFG and subjects) may exceed 30 ECTS credits, to access and enroll in the linked University Master's Degree. In no case may the student obtain the University Master's degree if he/she has not previously obtained the official university degree of Graduate. The universities will guarantee priority in the enrollment of students who have an official university degree.
- 4. It is expressly forbidden to reserve a place in the University Master's Degree involved in an academic program with successive courses in the field of Engineering and Architecture, for those students who take it from the Bachelor's Degree. Likewise, a student may leave this specific academic program at any time, whether he/she is enrolled in the Bachelor's Degree or in the Master's Degree.

Tenth Additional Provision: Assignment to Level 3 (Master's Degree) of the MECES of certain undergraduate degrees.

- 1. Bachelor's degrees of at least 300 credits that include a minimum of 60 credits at the Master's level may be assigned to Level 3 (Master's) of the MECES by resolution of the Council of Universities.
- 2. Universities seeking the aforementioned affiliation of their degrees must submit the corresponding application to the Council of Universities through the competent processing unit of the General Secretariat of Universities. The request may be made simultaneously with the application for verification of the curriculum, or after the declaration of the official nature of the degree with its registration in the RUCT.
- 3. The Council of Universities shall adopt the appropriate resolution within a period of six months after verifying compliance with the conditions required to achieve the aforementioned affiliation, following a favorable report from the competent external evaluation body. In the absence of a resolution and notification in due time, the application submitted shall be deemed to have been rejected.
- 4. The resolutions of the Council of Universities shall be transferred to RUCT, for the purpose of being recorded therein.
- 5. Once the MECES Level 3 (Master's) award has been obtained, it will be effective for all graduates of the degree with the evaluated study plan, regardless of the date of completion of their studies, unless modifications to the study plan had to be made in order to obtain it.

In this case, it will only be applicable to graduates who have graduated after such modification.

- 6. When the modifications introduced in an undergraduate degree assigned to Level 3 of the MECES entail the loss of any of the conditions necessary for the assignment to this level, the competent evaluation body for its processing will state this circumstance in its evaluation report so that the Council of Universities may decide on the revocation of such recognition and, if appropriate, will transfer it to the RUCT.
- 7. An appeal may be lodged against the resolutions of the Council of Universities in this matter, as provided for in article 26.10. The resolution of the complaint puts an end to administrative proceedings in accordance with the provisions of article 114.1.b) of Law 39/2015, of October 1.

Eleventh additional provision. Specific regimes.

- 1. The degree of Doctor awarded by the European University Institute of Florence is equivalent for all purposes to the degree of Doctor issued by a Spanish university in accordance with this Royal Decree.
- 2. Armament and Material Engineers, Construction and Electrical Engineers and Naval Weapons Engineers may obtain the official Master's and Doctorate or Doctorate degrees in accordance with the provisions of Decree 3058/1964, of September 28, establishing the Army Polytechnic and Naval Weapons Engineers as Higher Technical Schools and the conditions for granting the degree of Doctor to Army Armament and Construction Engineers and to Naval Weapons Engineers, and concordant regulations. For these purposes, they must meet the general requirements for Bachelor's and Master's degrees established in this Royal Decree, as applicable, and the specific conditions established by the Ministry of Defense in this regard.
- 3. The professional experience and the studies of the training of officers and non-commissioned officers of the Armed Forces and the Higher Studies of the National Defense may be recognized in accordance with the provisions of Article 10 paragraph 4 of this Royal Decree, with the limitation of recognizable credits established in paragraph 5 of the same article.

Twelfth additional provision. Verification of compliance with the conditions for the qualifications that enable access to and exercise of a regulated profession.

The Ministry of Universities will specify the specific contents to which the applications for obtaining the verification of the study plans in the cases referred to in Articles 14.8 and 17.6 of this Royal Decree must conform, following a report from the Council of Universities and having heard, as the case may be, the colleges and professional associations concerned.

Thirteenth additional provision. Mentions in the degrees that enable the exercise of the professions of Teacher in Early Childhood Education and Teacher in Primary Education.

Exceptionally, it is possible to study the mentions foreseen in the curricula of the official undergraduate university degrees that qualify for the exercise of the professions of Teacher in Early Childhood Education or Teacher in Primary Education, in a university other than the one in which the indicated university degree was previously obtained. In this case, it will not be possible to issue a new degree to those who take such mentions, so the university will issue an official academic certificate that will be considered as a valid document for the purposes of accreditation of the obtaining of such mention.

Fourteenth additional provision. *Principle of "no significant harm".*

In compliance with the provisions of the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan, Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 February 2021, establishing the Recovery and Resilience Mechanism, and its implementing regulations, the Communication from the Commission Technical Guide (2021/C 58/01) on the application of the principle of "no significant harm", as well as with the requirements of the Council Implementing Decision on the approval of the assessment of the Spanish recovery and resilience plan, as well as the requirements of the Council Implementing Decision on the approval of the evaluation of the Spanish recovery and resilience plan, all actions to be carried out in compliance with this Royal Decree must respect the principle of not causing significant damage to the environment.

This obligation includes compliance with the specific conditions set forth in Component 21 "Modernization and digitalization of the education system, including early education from 0 to 3 years of age", in particular in Measure R3 "Comprehensive reform of the university system" of the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan, in which these actions are framed.

First transitory provision. 180-credit degrees.

1. Official undergraduate university courses of 180 ECTS credits which, upon the entry into force of this Royal Decree, have official status, must request a modification of their syllabus to change it to 240 credits, within a period of two years.

The syllabuses verified at the entry into force of this Royal Decree and which have not obtained their official status must also request a modification of their syllabus to adapt to this circumstance. In order to develop this procedure, they will have the collaboration and guidance of both the internal quality assurance systems of the center and the corresponding quality agency.

These modifications will be processed in accordance with the procedures regulated in Articles 32 and 33 of this Royal Decree.

2. Exceptionally, students enrolled in these Degrees at the entry into force of this Royal Decree may complete their studies with the duration initiated in their study plan.

Second transitory provision. Degrees in the process of verification or establishment of their official character in relation to the branches of knowledge.

Without prejudice to the provisions of the fifth transitional provision, the official university degrees of Bachelor's or Master's Degree that at the time of the entry into force of this Royal Decree are in the process of verification by a quality agency or of establishing their official nature, will maintain their assignment to the branches of knowledge and all those academic issues related to the branches of knowledge, so that it will not be necessary to modify the report under evaluation to adapt it to their assignment to the fields of knowledge and all those issues involved.

Third transitional provision. Adaptation of the degrees to the format of the face-to-face, hybrid and virtual teaching modalities.

Bachelor's and Master's degrees which, at the time this Royal Decree enters into force, have teaching modalities whose percentages of credits are different from the intervals established in this regulation, will have up to three years to adapt to the provisions of this regulation.

Fourth transitory provision: Quality assurance agencies in the process of registration in the EQAR.

The quality assurance agencies of the Autonomous Communities which, at the time of entry into force of this Royal Decree, are not yet registered in the European *Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education* (EQAR), will have a transitional period of four years during which they may continue to perform their functions as established in this regulation in relation to university quality assurance procedures.

Fifth transitional provision: Adaptation of the assignment to the areas of knowledge and the verification report of the curriculum.

- 1. Official university degrees must be assigned to a field of knowledge within a maximum period of four years from the entry into force of this Royal Decree. For this purpose, the university will request the corresponding modification, and may choose to modify only those aspects related to the assignment to a particular field of knowledge or adapt the verification report of the curriculum to the model established in this Royal Decree.
- 2. Likewise, the verification report of the study plans must be adapted to the model established in Annex II when the university proposes a substantial modification of the aforementioned report.

Sixth transitional provision. Official master's degrees with a duration different from that established in this Royal Decree.

The official University Master's Degrees that at the entry into force of this regulation are structured in a number of ECTS credits different from that established in the same, will have a maximum of three years to adapt. To do so, they must request a substantial modification of their study plan to change it to 60, 90 or 120 credits, prior to the renewal of their accreditation.

Seventh transitional provision. Denomination of the universities' own Master's Degrees.

The universities' own master's degrees will have two years from the date of entry into force of this regulation to adapt their name to the format established in article 37.

Eighth transitional provision. Official university studies with Dual recognition.

- 1. The official university Bachelor's and Master's degrees that, at the entry into force of this Royal Decree, have a Dual recognition granted by a competent quality assurance agency must request a modification of their curriculum to adapt to the requirements established in Article 22 of this Royal Decree. These modifications will be processed in accordance with the procedures regulated in articles 32 and 33 of this Royal Decree.
- 2. Exceptionally, students enrolled in official university Bachelor's and Master's degrees who, at the entry into force of this Royal Decree, have a similar recognition granted by a competent quality assurance agency may complete their studies with such recognition.

Royal Decree 1393/2007, of October 29, 2007, which establishes the organization of official university education, and any other provisions of equal or lower rank that oppose the provisions of this Royal Decree, are hereby repealed.

First final provision. Modification of Royal Decree 1558/1986, of June 28, 1986, which establishes the general bases for the system of agreements between Universities and Health Institutions.

Royal Decree 1558/1986, of June 28, 1986, which establishes the general bases for the system of agreements between universities and health institutions, is amended as follows:

Sole. The fifth base of Article 4 is modified, which shall be worded as follows:

"Fifth. The term "university hospital" shall be used when the agreement refers to the hospital as a whole or covers 75 percent of its services or care units. In the event that only some services are contracted, the term "hospital associated with the university" will be used. The same applies to primary care centers.

University hospitals may not be linked by agreement to more than one university for the teaching of the same degree program, except in exceptional situations, in which the university that initially signed the agreement must agree to extend the activity of the university hospital to another university or universities. In any case, there is the possibility of academic internships at a university other than the partner university under a specific agreement and with the prior authorization of the partner university.

Likewise, it will be necessary to harmonize the training capacity of the public health system in the area of public university hospitals and public universities".

Second final provision. *Modification of Royal Decree 1509/2008, of September 12, 2008, which regulates the Registry of Universities, Centers and Degrees.*

Paragraph b) of article 15.1 of Royal Decree 1509/2008, of September 12, which regulates the Registry of Universities, Centers and Degrees, shall read as follows:

"b) Title of the degree. In the case of degrees corresponding to Bachelor's and Master's degrees, the field of knowledge to which they are attached shall be indicated."

Third final provision: *Modification of Royal Decree 1002/2010, of August 5, 2010, on the issuance of official university degrees.*

Royal Decree 1002/2010, of August 5, 2010, on the issuance of official university degrees is amended as follows:

One. Paragraph 6 of article 11 shall read as follows:

"6. In the event that the doctoral thesis is co-supervised by two or more Doctors from a Spanish and a foreign university, in accordance with the provisions of Article 15.2 of Royal Decree 99/2011, of January 28, on the front of the title there will be a statement with the following text: "Thesis in co-supervision with the university U"."

Paragraph h) of paragraph 1 of article 17 shall read as follows:

"h) Mention of the legal causes, if any, affecting the effectiveness of the title. If the legal cause is the death of the holder, the death shall be stated on the back of the certificate. When appropriate, it shall be stated whether a duplicate has been issued, as well as the reasons for such issuance."

Fourth final provision. Competent title.

This Royal Decree is issued under the provisions of Article 149.1.1.^a and 30.^a of the Spanish Constitution, which assign to the State the exclusive competence for the regulation of the basic conditions that guarantee the equality of all Spaniards in the exercise of rights and in the fulfillment of constitutional duties, and the exclusive competence for the regulation of the conditions for obtaining, issuing and homologation of academic and professional degrees and the basic rules for the development of Article 27 of the Spanish Constitution, in order to guarantee the fulfillment of the obligations of the public authorities in this educational matter, respectively.

Fifth final provision. Authorization for regulatory development.

- 1. The head of the Ministry of Universities is empowered to issue the necessary provisions for the development and application of the provisions of this Royal Decree.
- 2. Likewise, the head of the Ministry of Universities, having heard the Council of Universities, is empowered to modify or update the annexes of this Royal Decree by means of a ministerial order.

Sixth final provision. Entry into force.

This Royal Decree will enter into force 20 days after its publication in the "Official Gazette of the State".

Given in Madrid, on September 28, 2021.

FELIPE R.

The Minister of Universities,
MANUEL CASTELLS OLIVÁN

ANNEX I

Areas of knowledge

The fields of knowledge in which to register the official undergraduate and master's degrees will be the following:

- Physical activity and sports science.
- Architecture, construction, building and urban planning, and civil engineering.
- Biology and genetics.
- Biochemistry and biotechnology.
- Agricultural sciences and food technology.
- Biomedical sciences.
- Behavioral sciences and psychology.
- Economics, business administration and management, marketing, commerce, accounting and tourism.
 - Educational sciences.
 - Environmental sciences and ecology.
- Social sciences, social work, labor relations and human resources, sociology, political science and international relations.
 - Earth Sciences.
 - Law and legal specialties.
 - Nursing.
 - Gender studies and feminist studies.
 - Pharmacv.
 - Philology, classical studies, translation and linguistics.
 - Physics and astronomy.
- Physiotherapy, podiatry, nutrition and dietetics, occupational therapy, optics and optometry and speech therapy.
 - History of art and artistic expression, and fine arts.
 - History, archaeology, geography, philosophy and humanities.
 - Cultural industries: design, animation, cinematography and audiovisual production.
 - Electrical engineering, electronic engineering and telecommunication engineering.
- Industrial engineering, mechanical engineering, automatic engineering, industrial organization engineering and navigation engineering.
 - Computer and systems engineering.
 - Chemical engineering, materials engineering and environmental engineering.
 - Mathematics and statistics.
 - Medicine and dentistry.
 - Journalism, communication, advertising and public relations.
 - Chemistry.
 - Veterinarian.
 - Interdisciplinary.

ANNEX II

Model report for the application for the verification of the syllabus of an official university degree

Presentation

The syllabus configures the official university degree project for Bachelor's and Master's degrees that must be submitted by the universities for verification by the Council of Universities following a favorable report from the corresponding quality agency, in order to subsequently, once the authorization of the Autonomous Community has been obtained, establish its official nature through an Agreement of the Council of Ministers, its subsequent registration in the RUCT and its publication in the BOE (Official State Gazette).

No. . I. Page 119576

The project constitutes the institution's commitment on the characteristics of the degree and the conditions under which the teaching will be developed, which specify the academic training project that defines it. In the accreditation phase, the university must justify the adjustment of the development and deployment of the degree with that proposed in the draft report submitted, or in any case justify the academic, infrastructural or faculty availability causes that explain the mismatch and the actions taken in each of the areas.

The completion of the syllabus report which will accompany the application for the verification of the syllabus will be materialized in an open exchange electronic file, which will be sent to the competent external evaluation bodies through the computer support enabled for this purpose by ANECA, provided by agreement to other agencies, or through other supports of their own, which in turn will connect with the computer support of the Registry of Universities, Centers and Degrees (RUCT).

The configuration and terminology used in the curriculum report must be aligned with the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG), in order to facilitate international joint degrees and the international recognition of Spanish university degrees.

The length of the report is limited to a maximum of 10,000 words, which may contain references to official documents of the university (agreements, regulations or institutional accreditations) or of the center, with hyperlinks, if applicable, to their location on the institutional website of the center or the university.

These official documents may refer to aspects common to a set of syllabuses of the university, and must be publicly accessible, without the need to incorporate them in their literal form in each syllabus report. This is without prejudice to the fact that particular developments of these common aspects may be established in the syllabus, if considered essential and without exceeding the limit of extension.

In particular, if the university center responsible for the curriculum is institutionally accredited, it will not be necessary to provide evidence that affects the curriculum to be verified and that has already been evaluated in the institutional accreditation procedure.

- 1. Description, educational objectives and justification of the degree
- 1.1 Full title of the degree in Spanish, which may be in English or another language if the entire degree is taught in this language. It may also have a bilingual denomination.
 - 1.2 Field of knowledge to which it belongs.
- 1.3 If applicable, Mentions of the Bachelor's Degree and Specialties in the Master's Degree.
 - 1.4 University or universities, in the case of joint degrees, that teach the courses.
- 1.4. bis) In the case of joint degrees, the applicant university responsible for the procedures of verification, renewal of accreditation, modification or termination. In these cases, the corresponding agreement signed by all participating universities must be provided.

- 1.5 University center(s) where this degree is taught at the university(ies).
- 1.5. bis) In the case of Bachelor's or Master's degrees taught in several centers, the center responsible for coordinating the harmonized development of the courses.
 - 1.6 Teaching modality: face-to-face, hybrid and virtual.
 - 1.7 Total number of credits.
 - 1.8 Language or languages of instruction.
 - 1.9 Number of places offered in the degree.
- 1.9.bis) In the case of a degree that combines a face-to-face mode with a virtual mode, the number of places offered in each pathway or itinerary shall be identified.
- 1.10 Justification of the academic, scientific, professional and social interest of the degree and its inclusion in the context of the strategic planning of the university or the university system of the Autonomous Community.
 - 1.11 Main training objectives of the degree.
- 1.11.bis) If applicable, training objectives of Mentions or Specialties according to the degree.
 - 1.12 Specific curricular structures, justification of their objectives.
- 1.13 Specific methodological strategies for teaching innovation, justification of their objectives.
 - 1.14 Fundamental graduate profiles to which the courses are oriented.
- 1.14.bis) If applicable, regulated professional activity for which the qualification qualifies access.

2. Results of the training and learning process

The results of the training and learning process that an academic degree entails, and which take the form of knowledge or content, competences and abilities or skills assumed by the students, must take into account the general principles of the organization of official university education established in this Royal Decree, especially those set out in Article 3 and Article 4; and in the case of degrees that enable students to carry out a regulated professional activity, they must comply with the provisions established in the corresponding ministerial order. Likewise, they must be aligned with the MECES level of qualification of the degree in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and be coherent with the name of the degree, its field of knowledge and the graduate profile.

These results must be assessable, and must focus on those academically relevant and significant knowledge or contents, competencies and abilities or skills that define the training project that is an official university degree. Their number should in no case exceed the capacity for their acquisition by the student body, the organizational viability of the curriculum or the rationality of the evaluation system that assesses progress in learning.

A list of the fundamental results of the training and learning process shall be provided. The university will identify each learning outcome, making reference to its classification (knowledge or contents, competences and skills or abilities).

3. Admission, recognition and mobility

- 3.1 Access requirements and admission procedures for students. If applicable, specific entrance exams or specific admission criteria.
- 3.2 Criteria for the recognition and transfer of credits. In the case of courses that will become extinct due to the implementation of the corresponding proposed degree, reflect the recognition in the degree to be implemented.
 - 3.3 Procedures for the organization of the mobility of own and host students.

4. Teaching planning

- 4.1 Basic teaching structure: description of the modules, subjects or subjects of the proposed curriculum, indicating for each case:
 - a) Name.
 - b) Number of ECTS credits.
 - c) Type (basic, compulsory, elective, external academic internships, final thesis).
 - d) Temporal organization.
 - e) Basic learning outcomes (identification of the most relevant).
- f) In case the curriculum is articulated in modules, provide the distribution of subjects or subjects that comprise (with their respective number of ECTS credits).
 - 4.2 Basic description of teaching activities and methodologies.
 - 4.3 Basic description of the evaluation systems.
 - 4.4 Basic description of specific curriculum structures.

5. Academic and teaching support staff

- 5.1 Description of the basic profiles of the teaching staff and other human resources necessary and available to adequately develop the proposed curriculum.
- 5.2 The profiles can be described in an aggregated manner by areas of knowledge (in relation to teaching) or areas of knowledge of the teaching staff involved (understood in terms of the profile of the teaching position), although it is possible to go down to the level of the teacher involved, without the need in this case to provide nominal information.
 - 5.3 Specifically, the following information will be provided:
 - a) Name of the field of knowledge or area of knowledge.
 - b) Number of teachers.
 - c) Number of doctors.
 - d) Categories and accreditations.
 - e) Teaching merits (only in the case of non-credentialed faculty)
 - f) Research merits (only in the case of non-doctorate professors)
 - g) Subjects in which they are involved.
 - h) Number of ECTS taken in the subjects of the curriculum.
 - i) Teaching availability (in ECTS) by field of knowledge or area of knowledge.
 - 6. Learning resources: materials and infrastructure, practices and services
- 6.1 Justification that the material resources and services available are their own and, if applicable, those arranged with other entities outside the university, such as teaching spaces, academic facilities and equipment; laboratories; computer rooms;

scientific, technical, humanistic or artistic equipment; library and reading rooms; and availability of new technologies -internet, virtual teaching campus-, etc., are adequate to guarantee the quality acquisition of knowledge or contents, competencies and abilities or skills and the development of the planned training activities, observing the criteria of universal accessibility and design for all.

- 6.2 In the case that external academic internships are included, briefly indicate the organization mechanism and, likewise, attach as annexes the main agreements or commitments of the entities, institutions, organizations and companies that will receive the students.
- 6.3 In the event that all the necessary material resources and services are not available at the time of the curriculum proposal, the forecast for their acquisition must be indicated.

7. Implementation schedule

- 7.1 Timeline for the implementation of the degree -temporalization by courses of the teaching deployment, or, if applicable, deployment by several courses or total-.
- 7.2 Procedure for adaptation, if applicable, to the new study plan by students coming from the previous university system.
- 7.3 Courses of study that are extinguished by the implementation of the corresponding proposed degree.

8. Internal Quality Assurance System

- 8.1 The university will identify the Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) applicable to the degree, which must be in accordance with the criteria and guidelines for quality assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG).
- To this end, access to IACS documentation shall be provided, indicating if it is an institutional system that has undergone external certification.
- 8.2 Identification of the means of public information relevant to the curriculum aimed at meeting the needs of the student body.

Annexes

The university may include as annexes, where appropriate, proposals for particular developments for the degree of certain institutional regulations of academic organization in relation to specificities of its academic or professionalizing nature.