

**Agreement of the Management Committee of the Doctoral School of the University of Girona, of June 28, 2021, which regulates the conflicts of interest of the members of the doctoral thesis examination panel at the University of Girona.**

The Academic Committees of the Doctoral Programs of the University of Girona receive proposals from the thesis supervisors to appoint the members of the thesis panels. In some cases, it has been detected that some of the proposed members of the panel, despite complying with the academic regulations of the doctoral studies of the University of Girona (article 9), have a very close relationship with the doctoral student or thesis supervisors. In cases such as these in which there may be conflicts of interest, the Academic Committee has no regulatory instruments to request the replacement of any member of the panel by others not affected by conflicts of interest. For this reason, it is considered appropriate to approve regulations that allow the panels to be modified if it is detected that there are situations of conflicts of interest in certain members of the doctoral thesis panels. For this,

In view of the arguments adduced so far, and by virtue of the powers attributed to us by the regulations of the Doctoral School, approved by the Governing Council in the session 31/3/2011 and modified by the Governing Council in session 29 / 5/2014 and the session 14/05/2018, the Management Committee of the Doctoral School

**AGREE:**

1. At the time the members of the panel who have been appointed as such are notified, they will be asked to inform the Doctoral School of the existence of possible conflicts of interest. The Academic Committee of the doctoral program will evaluate these possible conflicts of interest and, if it deemed appropriate, propose a new panel or replace the affected members with alternatives. The Academic Committee may act *ex officio* if it detects the existence of a conflict of interest even if it has not been informed by the members of the panel.
2. The circumstances that are considered to give rise to a conflict of interest to be a member of a thesis panel are the following:
  - Be a co-author of five or more research publications or have participated in two or more patents in the last 3 years with the thesis supervisors.
  - Have been a doctoral student or thesis supervisor of the doctoral thesis in the last 3 years.
  - Have a first or second-degree relationship with the doctoral student or thesis supervisors.
  - Any other situation that prevents an impartial assessment.
3. Each Academic Committee, if it considers it appropriate, may include other circumstances that could give rise to a conflict of interest as a member of a thesis panel.