

COTUTELLE (INTERNATIONAL JOINT SUPERVISION) DOCTORAL AGREEMENT

# POLITECNICO DI MILANO

# and

# UNIVERSIDAD DE VALLADOLID

## Preamble

On the one part POLITECNICO DI MILANO with fiscal identity number C.F. 80057930150, P.IVA. 04376620151 and with legal domicile at at piazza Leonardo da Vinci 32, 20133 Milano (Italy), and acting on its behalf and representing it, Prof. Donatella Sciuto, in the position of Rector,

and, on the other part UNIVERSIDAD DE VALLADOLID, with fiscal identity number C.I.F. Q4718001C, located in Valladolid, Plaza de Santa Cruz nº 8, and acting on its behalf and representing it, the Vice-Rector for Internationalization, Prof.ssa Paloma Castro Prieto whose capacity to sign this agreement derives from the provisions set out under section fourth.2.a, the decision concerning the delegation of powers from the Rector dated 9 May, 2022 (regional gazette no. 94 dated 18 May) and article 17 of Legislation Governing the Agreements of Universidad de Valladolid with other Universities or Foreign Institutions (approved by the Governing Board on 31 January 2020, BOCYL no. 30, of 13 February).

In consideration of laws and regulations governing the co-operation between public institutions of a scientific, cultural and professional nature and other public or private organizations in Italy and abroad.

Considering the regulations applicable at Politecnico di Milano, namely:

* article 4 of Italian Law no. 210 of 3.7.1998 concerning the regulations on Doctorate courses in Italy;
* in consideration of Italian Ministerial Decree no. 224 of 30.4.1999 “Regulations on the Doctoral Research Program”;
* in consideration of the Regulations on Doctoral Programmes at Politecnico di Milano.

In consideration of the regulations applicable at Universidad de Valladolid, namely:

* Royal Decree 99/2011, of 28 January, which regulates official doctoral studies;
* Doctoral Studies Regulations of the Doctoral School of Universidad de Valladolid, approved by the Governing Board on 11 May 2022;
* Agreement of the Doctoral Thesis Commission for the accreditation of the quality of doctoral theses (18 July 2022);
* procedure on authorisation, defence and publication of doctoral theses in a situation of confidentiality or embargo approved by the Doctoral Thesis Committee of the Doctoral School in session of 5 May 2022;
* Instruction of the Vice-rectorate for Research, Innovation and Transfer of Universidad de Valladolid on the procedure for the signing of minutes and issuing of the secret ballot in the field of the defence and evaluation of the doctoral thesis published on 21 October 2019;
* other current regulations applicable to doctoral studies, available on the EsDUVa website:

<https://esduva.uva.es/la-escuela/normativa/normativa-de-los-estudios-de-doctorado/>.

In consideration of the Consortium Agreement for ITN project ActaRebuild.

In consideration of the GRANT AGREEMENT - Project 101072598 — ActaReBuild - Horizon MSCA 2021-DN-01.

**Politecnico di Milano and Universidad de Valladolid**

**AGREE** to develop a system of academic exchanges that will allow a PhD candidate to perform coordinated doctoral studies at both Institutions by spending periods at both sites, jointly guided by scientific supervisors from both Institutions under international co-supervision, such that both parties may recognise the validity of the thesis described below and hereby agree to award the title of doctor and that the requirements and quality standards of the doctoral studies of each university and of the Grant Agreement are satisfied.

This agreement is based on the principles specified hereunder.

## PART 1 - GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. ADMISSION

The admission procedure has been carried out by Universidad de Valladolid for ActaRebuild.

Both Institutions recognise that the doctoral student has been admitted to the doctoral studies of each Institution and, as a result, the doctoral student shall fulfil the academic requirements stipulated by each institution to undertake said studies.

* 1. For Politecnico di Milano:

The student will be enrolled and will pay the annual regional and administrative fee.

1.2 For Universidad de Valladolid:

The student must enrol and pay the public prices and fees corresponding to each academic year until such time as the thesis is deposited before the Doctoral Thesis Committee and must also abide by the regulations set out in the corresponding legislation governing the time spent on the programme.

2. LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

The thesis will be written in English.

The defense will be held in English.

The PhD student will include a summary in Spanish, endorsed by the supervisors of the thesis, and containing the objectives, methodology, principal findings and conclusions to emerge from the work.

3. STARTING DATE

The dates of admission to the respective Doctoral Programmes are listed in "Addendum - Individual Data and Conditions".

4. DURATION OF STUDIES

As stated in the Grant Agreement the duration of the doctorate will be at least three years (36 months) after the starting date pursuant art. 3, unless extraordinary, exceptional and clearly motivated situations justify an extension. In particular, if the cotutelle PhD specified objectives are not reached, the duration may be extended beyond the three years for up to an additional year and in accordance with the regulations of the two Institutions. In case of extension the scholarship is not due to the PhD candidate for the period exceeding the 36 months.

5. STAYS AND ACTIVITIES

The research and study activities will be carried out at the two Institutions during alternated or consecutive periods. The total duration of the periods spent at each of the two Institutions is expected to be concerted by the supervisors (art. 6).

In the case of Universidad de Valladolid, the minimum stay for conducting reseach work, shall be of 18 (eighteen) months.

In the case of Politecnico di Milano, the minimum stay for conducting reseach work, shall be of 18 (eighteen) months.

Visits at Institutions other than the hosting one can be authorized, if useful to the studies.

6. SUPERVISION OF THE PHD CANDIDATE

Each Institution will appoint at least one professor as thesis director. The PhD candidate will turn to her/his directors and supervisor(s) for advice or assistance during her/his residence at that Institution. The directors and supervisor(s) will jointly exercise the function of scientific guide of the PhD candidate and are responsible for the PhD candidate doctorate education and research training.

7. STAYS AND STUDYING ACTIVITIES

The main activities that the PhD candidate must carry on during the doctorate include taking advanced level courses, doing research work and elaborating and defending the doctoral thesis. The PhD candidate may take courses and the associated exams at each of the two Institutions, in accordance with the study curriculum concerted with the supervisors.

The PhD candidate shall fulfil all requirements and regulations ruling the doctorate of both Institutions, particularly with regard to the course credit recognition, qualifying examination (if requested) etc.

The doctoral thesis is expected to contain research material of relevance superior to that attainable by work performed within a single PhD program. It will be written in English.

Proposed dates for the different activities and stays at each university are provisional. They may be modified by mutual agreement between the parties for academic, administrative and/or organizational reasons, or because of force majeure. In that case, the directors of the thesis may prepare a document indicating the new dates for the activities and the causes of change. This writing will be incorporated into the student’s academic or activities record.

7.1 At Politecnico di Milano: from 1st July 2024 to 31st December 2025.

During this stay, the PhD student will do the following activites: to take doctoral courses offered at Politecnico di Milano doctoral school, to learn architectural concepts and standards related to the lightweight building envelope, to study the energy and acoustic performance of textile envelopes, making in situ measurements, writing conference and journal papers.

7.2 At Universidad de Valladolid: from 9th March 2023 to 30th June 2024 and from 1st January 2026 to 8th March 2026.

During this stay, the PhD student will do the following activites: literature review, learning measurement techniques (sound insluation and airtightness in buildings), in situ measurements under laboratory conditions and in real sites, writing conference and journal papers. In the second period the PhD student will sum up all the work done at both Institutions, finalize collaborative reserach and focus in the writing of the Thesis itself.

8. INTERMEDIATE EVALUATIONS

Each Institution will separately examine and evaluate the progress of the PhD candidate annually or with the prescribed frequency, and transmit the result of the evaluation to the other Institution.

9. FINAL EVALUATION AND AWARD OF THE TITLE

Defence of the thesis shall take place in a single act and shall be held at the university indicated in "Addendum - Individual Data and Conditions". of the Annex to this agreement.

The committee charged with evaluating the doctoral thesis shall submit the original proceedings of its actions to the competent body at each university; in the case of Politecnico di Milano, to the ABC PhD Board of Professors, and in the case of Universidad de Valladolid, to the Doctoral Thesis Committee.

After completing the double doctoral program and satisfying all the associated requirements (in particular the fulfilment of the coursework credits and the positive committee’s evaluation of the thesis work) the PhD candidate will be awarded the “Dottorato di ricerca in *Architettura, Ingegneria delle Costruzioni e Ambiente Costruito*”by Politecnico di Milano and the title “Doctor in Architecture” by Universidad de Valladolid.

The title shall contain an addendum with the following text: *“Thesis carried out under co-supervision with the University of…”.* Until such time as the official title is issued, the new doctor shall be given a provisional certificate in its place.

10. COMPOSITION OF FINAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The committee charged with evaluating the doctoral thesis must hold the approval of the doctoral board or equivalent body at the two institutions.

Travel expenses incurred by the members of the committee must be met by the university where the defence of the thesis is taking place in line with the corresponding applicable legal framework.

The defence of the thesis shall take place at Universidad de Valladolid, in English according to the *Regulations on Doctoral Programmes at Politecnico di Milano* and at the Universidad de Valladolid.

The following procedure shall be followed:

10.1. The Doctoral Evaluation Committee shall be made up of three doctors, and two substitute memberes. One of the full members shall act as president and another as secretary.

10.2. All the members of the Committee must fulfil the following requirements: a) Hold the title of doctor. b) Have accredited research experience, c) Be serving at their respective university, centre or institution. d) Have a research profile suited to the topic of the thesis.

10.3. Neither the supervisor nor directors of the thesis may sit on the Committee.

The committee will be nominated jointly by the two Institutions and approved by the Rettore of Politecnico di Milano and the relevant Rector of Universidad de Valladolid.

The defence of the thesis will be held at the Universidad de Valladolid in English according to the *Regulations on Doctoral Programmes at Politecnico di Milano* and at the Universidad de Valladolid.

Two professors from Institutions different from the two engaged in this agreement will have to prepare a written relation on the thesis work.

11. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The PhD candidate is expected to be financially supported by the grant issued in the frame of the Project ActaReBuild. This states no obligation for the institutions to financially support every PhD candidate under this Agreement.

The PhD candidate will assume expenses for travel, accommodation and all living expenses.

For the PhD candidate’s activities each Institution will freely make available its own resources, including laboratories, as far as possible.

There are no other financial charges for the Institutions.

12. RESEARCH RESULTS PROTECTION

The protection of the thesis content and the publication, exploitation and protection of the results of the involved researches will be subject to the regulations of both Institutions.

If required, specific agreements will be arranged for the protection of the intellectual property.

The thesis will be stored in the national libraries in Rome and Florence, in the Politecnico University Library and in the UVaDOC Documentary Repository of Universidad de Valladolid, according to the law.

13. HEALTH INSURANCE AND PROTECTION MEASURES

The PhD candidate will be required to show proof of health insurance before assuming his/her residency at the hosting Institutions.

Each institution shall maintain policies of insurance and safety for staff and students within the law of its own country.

14. CONTROVERSIES

The present agreement is governed in its interpretation and application by the legislation applicable to each of the signatory institutions, in particular with regard to the specific legislation governing this type of action.

It is hereby agreed to create a Joint Follow-up Control Comitee made up of two academic responsible designated by each party, who will be responsible for the follow-up and control concerning the implementation of all the stipulations set out in the present agreement until its termination.

For Politecnico di Milano, the supervisor and the Head of the PhD Programme in Architecture, built environment and construction engineering are hereby appointed;

For Universidad de Valladolid, the director of the thesis at the Universidad de Valladolid and Prof.Eduardo Antonio Carazo Lefort Coordinator of Doctoral Programme in Architecture are hereby appointed.

Both parties agree to seek to resolve amicably and within the Joint Follow-up Committee, any issues which may emerge concerning the interpretation of the present agreement.

Likewise, any matters concerning the Cotutelle PhD programme that are not stipulated in this agreement shall be resolve by said committee.

If unsuccessful, any further dispute concerning the validity, the interpretation or the performance of this Agreement shall be finally settled under the Rules of the ICC (International Chamber of Commerce) by one or more arbitrator(s) appointed in accordance with the said Rules. The place of arbitration shall be Paris, France. The proceedings shall be conducted in the English language.

15. MODIFICATION AND EXPIRATION OF THIS AGREEMENT

Any amendment to the content of the agreement shall require the signatories to agree unanimously thereto.

Failure to comply with the obligations and commitments undertaken by each of the parties shall entail the termination of the agreement, notwithstanding the consequences which may result from the legislation applicable in each country. Nevertheless, said termination shall not affect any ongoing activities undertaken under this agreement.

This agreement for the PhD candidate indicated in Addendum of this document will expire when the PhD title is conferred by both institutions, and in any way will expire four years after the signatures of both institutions.

Should the PhD candidate decide not to proceed with the cotutelle doctorate, or be denied authorization to proceed, the two Institutions will end jointly the present agreement.

Prior to the conclusion of the period foreseen in the previous section, the signatories of the agreement may jointly and expressly agree to its extension for a maximum period which is in accordance with current legislation in the matter of international agreements and doctoral studies in the two countries.

In any instance, the validity of this agreement may not extend beyond the date of the defence of the thesis and shall be subject to the actual enrolment of the doctoral student at both institutions.

16. LANGUAGES

This agreement has been digitally signed according to law, and in two versions (English and Spanish). In the event of conflict between the two versions and/or doubts in the interpretation of contractual clauses, the version drawn up and signed in English shall prevail.

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| **For Politecnico di Milano** | **For Universidad de Valladolid** |
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**ADDENDUM - COTUTELLE (INTERNATIONAL JOINT SUPERVISION) DOCTORAL AGREEMENT UNIVERSIDAD DE VALLADOLID**

## INDIVIDUAL DATA AND CONDITIONS

1. THE PhD CANDIDATE:

**AHMED MOHAMED IBRAHIM ELSAEI**

Born in Ismailia (Egypt) on the 1st March 1992

Admitted to the “Programa de Doctorado en Arquitectura” at Universidad de Valladolid,

on 7th March 2023

and

Admitted to the XXXVIII cycle of “Dottorato di ricerca in Architettura, ingegneria delle costruzioni e ambiente costruito” at Politecnico di Milano,

on 1st June 2023

starts the program for the Cotutelle doctorate on 1st June 2023.

2. THE DIRECTORS/SUPERVISORS OF THE THESIS:

for Universidad de Valladolid, prof. Alberto José Meiss Rodríguez shall act as director and supervisor and prof. María de la O Machimbarrena Gutiérrez shall act as director

for Politecnico di Milano, prof. Carol Monticelli shall act as director.

3. THESIS:

Title: The thesis has the tentative title: Interaction and Parameterization of Thermal, Energy and Comfort Variables in Façade Walls Based on Applicable International and European Regulations.

University at which it will be defended: Universidad de Valladolid.

Language in which the abstract of the thesis is written (if required): Spanish and English.

Deposit, public exposition of the thesis and acceptance for defence: the ordinary procedure established under the regulations for the presentation and defence of the doctoral thesis at Universidad de Valladolid and at Politecnico di Milano shall be followed.

On the cover page of the thesis document, the logos of the two universities and the academic degree obtained at each of them will appear.

4.MARKING/GRADING SYSTEM:

At Universidad de Valladolid:

The committee issues a report and an overall mark/grade awarded to the thesis, in accordance with the following scale: *NO APTO*, *APROBADO*, *NOTABLE* AND *SOBRESALIENTE*.

The thesis may also be given the mention *cum laude* and the outstanding doctorate award in accordance with the following procedure:

If the grade is outstanding, each member of the commitee will access the survey created in LimeSurvey and carry out two actions:

a) Cast a secret vote to award the cum laude mention, if applicable.

b) Issue an assessment of the scientific quality of the thesis, with scores between 1 and 10 to one decimal place, which will be taken into account if the new doctor applies for the extraordinary doctoral award.

At Politecnico di Milano: no mark/grade is assigned to the thesis. Although, the thesis may be given the mention cum laude by the committee (by unanimous vote).

Should either of these systems envisage the granting of a *cum laude* mention and/or the outstanding doctorate award, the procedures established in this regard by each institution in the section in question should be mutually observed, regardless of where the thesis is defended.

Signatures

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| **For Politecnico di Milano** | **For Universidad de Valladolid** |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Prof.ssa Donatella Sciuto  Rector, Politecnico di Milano | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Prof.ssa Paloma Castro Prieto  Vice-Rector for Internationalization |
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Ahmed Mohamed Ibrahim Elsaei

The doctoral student

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