

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
FOR THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIVE
DOCTORAL NETWORK
IN
WOMEN'S AND GENDER HISTORY

Università degli Studi di Napoli L'Orientale (IT)

Università di Napoli Federico II (IT)

Università di Roma La Sapienza (IT)

Università di Firenze (IT)

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (ES)

Université de Rouen (FR)

University of Dundee (UK)

This collaborative network of doctoral programmes aims to promote and strengthen research and academic cooperation between the signatory Higher Education institutions. They share the following views:

- the importance of international research policy
- the value of a cross-border approach in rethinking higher education

1. Objectives of the project

The main purpose of this project is to promote international cooperation in doctoral supervision and to offer research training at the doctoral level in a European context. To this aim the signatories of this agreement express their intention to build a collaborative network of doctoral programmes as listed (Annex 1).

2. Management

This collaborative network of doctoral programmes will be managed by a Governing Board composed of academic representatives of the signatory institutions.

A coordinator will be elected by the Governing Board. Her/his term of office will normally last for five years.

3. Admission criteria

In order to participate in the activities of the network doctoral students must be enrolled in at least one of the signatory institutions and have appropriate linguistic skills in at least two European languages.

4. Activities of the network

We will promote mobility and international cooperation in three ways:

- Through an international week of advanced doctoral training in women's and gender history, organised in turn annually by the signatory institutions.
- By encouraging PhD candidates in women's and gender history of the signatory institutions to obtain the European Doctorate Certificate, in accordance with the recommendations of the Conference of European Rectors (see annex 2)
- Through encouraging bilateral *co-tutelle* agreements among the signatory institutions for doctoral candidates working on women's and gender history topics. These students will enrol at their home university and pay any fees due to that institution. They will enrol in the second university without payment of any fees.

Where possible the network will make use of external sources of funding, such as *Erasmus*, to facilitate the mobility of the students and staff concerned.

5. Duration of the agreement

This agreement shall enter into force upon signature by all the contracting Parties. It shall be binding upon the Parties for a period of five years. The agreement may be renewed or modified by means of a written notice approved by the signatory institutions. Each Party may at any time withdraw from the present Agreement by giving six months written notice to the other Parties.

6. Admission of new partners

The Governing Board has the power to invite new institutions to join the network.

7. Language

The agreement will be signed in eight original copies in English, each with the same legal value.

Where required by the signatory institution an approved translation can be signed.

8. Controversies

Should any controversies arise about the terms of this agreement, they will be resolved by a specially constituted committee with representatives from each institution involved. The

procedure described in this clause will be adapted, by agreement of the interested parties, according to the current regulations in force at the time in the various countries involved.

9. Annex

The enclosed annexes (1,2) form an integral part of the present agreement.

Annex 1: List of doctoral programmes participating in the network

- Dottorato in Storia delle donne e delle identità di genere dell'Università degli Studi di Napoli "L'Orientale" in consortium with the Università di Napoli "Federico II", the Università di Roma La Sapienza, and the Università di Firenze
- Programa del Posgrado official interuniversitario en historia contemporanea, Universidad Autonoma da Madrid and Programa del Posgrado official en Historia Moderna de la Universidad Autonoma de Madrid
- Doctorat en Histoire de l'Université de Rouen
- PhD in History, University of Dundee

Annex 2: Requirements for receiving a formal European Doctorate certificate, in accordance with the recommendations of the Conference of European Rectors.

- The candidate must have spent at least three months in another European country within the framework of the "Building on the Past" programme.
- The PhD board should include an academic or expert from a European higher education institution in a country different from that of the home institution. This appointment to the PhD board must be in accordance with the procedures of the home university.
- The written assessment of an expert from a higher education institution of a third European country is taken into account in the decision to award the certificate of the European Doctorate, unless the PhD board already includes academics or experts from three European countries.
- The oral examination of the thesis includes the use of a second language of the European Union.
- The doctoral thesis may be written in the language of the country where the doctorate is sustained. A summary must be written in another language of the European Union.