

Friday, 22nd April 2016

**No. 429 - Year XXXI - I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Governing Council

*11821. REGULATORY AGREEMENT of 18th March 2016, approving the regulations of the procedures for the statement of equivalence of foreign higher education qualifications as equivalent to the academic level of doctorate of the University of the Balearic Islands.*

The fifth supplementary provision (Equivalence with the academic level of doctorate) of Royal Decree 967/2014, establishing the requirements and the procedures for the official recognition and the statement of equivalence for qualifications and at official university academic level, and for the validation of foreign higher education studies, and the procedure for determining the correspondence of levels in the Spanish Qualifications Framework for Higher Education of the official qualifications of *arquitecte/arquitecto* (architecture), *enginyer/ingeniero* (engineer), *llicenciat/licenciado* (long-cycle graduate, five-year degrees), *arquitecte tècnic/arquitecto tècnic* (technical architect), *enginyer tècnic/ingeniero tècnic* (technical engineer), and *diplomant/diplomado* (short-cycle graduate, three-year degrees), provides that universities are granted the competence to establish the procedures for the statement of equivalence of foreign higher education qualifications to the academic level of doctorate, and to issue the corresponding accreditation certificate.

Thus, this same provision delegates to the competent body of the universities the competence to set out the regulations and the procedures for obtaining the statement of equivalence, which is why it is deemed necessary to set the procedures to be followed by the University of the Balearic Islands.

In light of the above, the Governing Council, at today's ordinary session, and making use of the competences which are conferred upon it by articles 24.2.32 and 40 of this university's Statutes, has agreed on regulating the procedures for the statement of equivalence of foreign higher education qualifications at the academic level of doctorate in the following manner:

*Article 1. General considerations*

1. Equivalence may be applied for simultaneously at more than one university. Foreign qualifications which have already been declared equivalent may not be subjected to a further equivalence procedure at another university. Notwithstanding the above, when the equivalence is denied, the interested party may begin further proceedings at a different Spanish university.

2. The declaration of equivalence at the academic level of doctorate does not under any circumstances imply the official recognition, declaration of equivalence or recognition of any other foreign qualifications held by the applicant, or its recognition in Spain at any level other than that of doctor.

### *Article 2. Application*

1. Article 4.b) of Royal Decree 967/2014 considers an equivalence to the official university academic level the official recognition of the training undertaken in order to obtain a foreign qualification. Therefore, said training is equivalent to that required to obtain an academic level inherent in any of the levels in which Spanish university studies are structured. In accordance with what is set forth in section 2 of the fifth additional provision of the same regulation, the procedures for the statement of equivalence must be initiated through an application addressed to the Vice-Chancellor by the interested party, which must be submitted to the General Registry of the university, or to the locations specified in article 38 of Law 30/1992, of 26th November, on the Legal Regime of Public Administrations and Common Administrative Procedure, along with the following documentation:
  - a. An attested copy of the document accrediting the applicant's identity and nationality, issued by the competent authorities of the country of origin. In the case of Spanish citizens or foreign citizens residing in Spain, an attested photocopy of the national identity document (DNI) or a photocopy of the Foreigners Identification Number (NIE).
  - b. An attested copy of the diploma of the doctoral studies for which equivalence is being sought or of the certificate accrediting its issue, along with its certified translation, if applicable. A translation shall not be required if said documentation is presented in English, French, Italian or Portuguese.
  - c. An attested copy of the qualifications of the studies carried out by the applicant to obtain the qualification prior to the doctorate for which the statement of equivalence is being sought, or of the certificate accrediting its issue, along with its certified translation, if applicable. A translation shall not be required if said documentation is presented in English, French, Italian or Portuguese.
  - d. An attested copy of the academic certificates of the studies carried out by the applicant to obtain the doctorate, as well as of the

- previous studies granting access to those doctoral studies, which must state, among other points, the official duration of the curriculum in academic years, the subjects taken, the number of workload hours in each one, and, if applicable, the ECTS credits earned. A certified translation of these documents must be submitted along with them, if applicable.
- e. A copy of the thesis produced. If the thesis is presented in English, French, Italian or Portuguese, a translation of it need not be submitted along with it. Should a translation be submitted, it need under no circumstances be a certified one.
  - f. An attested copy of the thesis defence certificate, stating the date of the defence, the members of the examination panel and the grade obtained, along with its certified translation, where necessary.
  - g. Proof of payment of the fee, in accordance with the decree establishing the public fees of the academic and administrative services of the official studies of the University of the Balearic Islands.
2. The application, along with the documentation submitted, must be forwarded to the Doctoral School of the University of the Balearic Islands (EDUIB), for its Executive Board to manage the procedure and propose a resolution.

### *Article 3. Reports*

1. The Executive Board of the EDUIB shall appoint two expert advisors, who must be doctors with proven experience in research, and linked to the EDUIB or to the units responsible for research which are in charge of organizing the different doctoral programmes offered by the UIB. This link must be understood in a wide sense, so that, besides UIB lecturers who participate in a doctoral programme, other profiles shall also be included, like that of doctors who conduct research outside the UIB, but who work in companies or research institutions partaking in the different doctoral programmes offered by this university, who must issue a sole report on the request for the statement of equivalence of the foreign higher education degree at the academic level of doctorate.
2. If deemed necessary, these experts might seek the assistance of another specialist in the field which the doctoral thesis revolves around, as well as request any additional information and/or documentation which they consider instrumental for the proper execution of their duties. The

appointed experts shall submit their report to the Executive Board of the EDUIB within one month of the reception of the complete documentation contained in the transcript.

#### *Article 4. Proposal*

Having regard to the application for the statement of equivalence, as well as to the report issued by the expert advisors, the Executive Board of the EDUIB shall put forward a proposal for the resolution of the application for the statement of equivalence to the Vice-Chancellor of the university.

#### *Article 5. Decision*

1. The Vice-Chancellor, having regard to the proposal put forward by the Executive Board of the EDUIB, shall decide upon the application for the statement of equivalence.
2. The maximum period for a decision and notification of the decision in this procedure will be six months from the date the application for a statement of equivalence is presented at the General Registry of the UIB.

#### *Article 6. Certificate of equivalence*

1. For the purposes of accreditation of the statement of equivalence of the foreign higher education qualifications at the academic level of doctorate, the UIB shall issue the corresponding certificate, which shall state the foreign qualification held by the applicant and the university where it was issued.
2. The University of the Balearic Islands will notify the General Subdirectorate for Degrees and Recognition of Qualifications of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, for the purposes of its registration in the special section of the National Registry of Official University Qualifications.

## **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**

### *One. Names*

All names of governing and representation bodies, positions, capacities and members of the university community, as well as any others that are used in their masculine forms in this agreement, might refer both to the masculine and feminine genders, depending on the gender of the persons they refer to.

## *Two. Interpretation and implementation*

The Executive Board of the Doctoral School is empowered to interpret and resolve any issues that might arise in the course of this procedure.

- *In the event of discrepancies between the different versions (Catalan and Spanish), the version published in the Full Oficial de la Universitat de les Illes Balears shall be regarded as the authentic one and shall prevail.*

## **FINAL PROVISION**

### *Entry into force*

The present agreement will come into force on the day following its publication in the *Full Oficial de la Universitat de les Illes Balears* (Official Gazette of the University of the Balearic Islands).

In witness whereof and for the relevant purposes.

Palma, March 18th 2016  
The Vice-Chancellor,  
Llorenç Huguet