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# ORGANISATION OF DOCTORAL STUDIES IN LITHUANIA. CASE OF TECHNOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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- Two Types of Degrees**
- Regulations of Doctoral Studies**
- Research Areas and Arts Area**
- External Quality Assessment of Doctoral Studies**
- The Number of Rights to Carry out Doctoral Studies**
- Key Findings of Quality Assessment**



Under the Law on Higher Education and Research of the Republic of Lithuania (approved in April 30, 2009, No XI-242) there are two types of degrees.

The purpose of doctoral studies in the field of science shall be to prepare scientists who would be able to independently conduct research and experimental (social, cultural) development work, and to solve scientific problems.

Persons who have defended their dissertation shall be awarded the Doctor of Science degree.

The purpose of doctoral studies in the field of art shall be to prepare artists researchers who would be able to create, interpret and develop research based on art practice.

Persons who have defended an art project shall be awarded the Doctor of Arts degree.



The new Regulations of Doctoral Studies were approved (in May 12, 2010, No 561) by the Government on the recommendation of the Research Council of Lithuania.

According to these regulations new developments of doctoral studies were introduced:

- promoting cooperation of resource and human potential in particular fields of research:
  - ✓ possibility to carry out the right of doctoral studies together with another university or research institute
    - 50 rights (from 87) with one or more partners
- promoting internationalization of doctoral studies:
  - ✓ at least one member of the Dissertation Defence Board has to be from a foreign higher education or research institution,
  - ✓ possibility to carry out the right of doctoral studies with foreign higher education or research institution
    - 6 rights with foreign partner (Aarhus University (DK), BI Norwegian Business School (NO), Tartu University (EE), University of Cordoba (ES), University of Aveiro (PT), Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology (PL), University of Agder (NO), University of Latvia (LV))
- external quality assessment of doctoral studies



There are in Lithuania 6 research areas (Humanities (H), Social Sciences (S), Physical Sciences (P), Agricultural Sciences (A), Biomedical Sciences (B) and Technological Sciences (T)) and one arts area (M).

In each research area we have fields of research, in arts area – field of arts.

There are in Technological Sciences 10 fields of research:

- 1) electrical and electronic engineering,
- 2) civil engineering,
- 3) transport engineering,
- 4) environmental engineering,
- 5) chemical engineering,
- 6) energetics and power engineering,
- 7) informatics engineering,
- 8) materials engineering,
- 9) mechanical engineering,
- 10) measurement engineering



- Evaluation applications for the right to carry out doctoral studies,
- Quality assessment of doctoral studies,
- Evaluation applications for changing the composition of the Doctoral Studies Committee or Institutional Regulations of Doctoral Studies

Criteria of evaluation applications for acquisition the right:

- 1) The demand and justification for the right to carry out doctoral studies
- 2) The research level and potential in field of research, in which institution (institutions) seeks for the right to carry out doctoral studies
- 3) The project of doctoral studies (content of studies, infrastructure)
- 4) The content and quality of the project of Institutional Regulations of Doctoral Studies



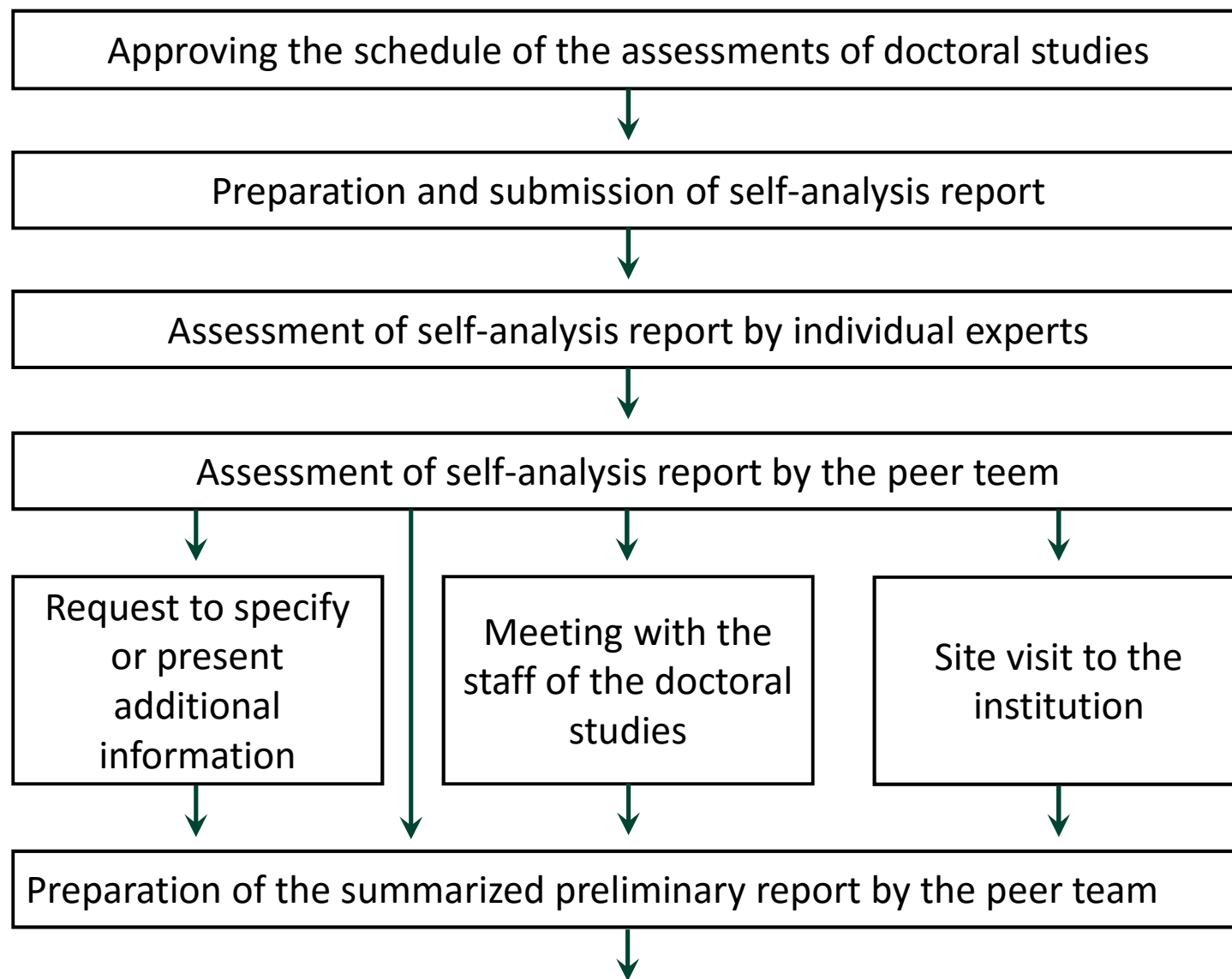
### Criteria for quality assessment of doctoral studies

1. Compliance of doctoral studies with the Institutional Regulations of Doctoral Studies
2. Activity of Doctoral Studies Committee
3. Implementation of doctoral studies
4. Procedure of the defence of doctoral dissertation
5. Effectiveness of doctoral studies
6. Hearing of appeals and cancellation of research degree



## Quality assessment of doctoral studies

External Quality Assessment of  
Doctoral Studies

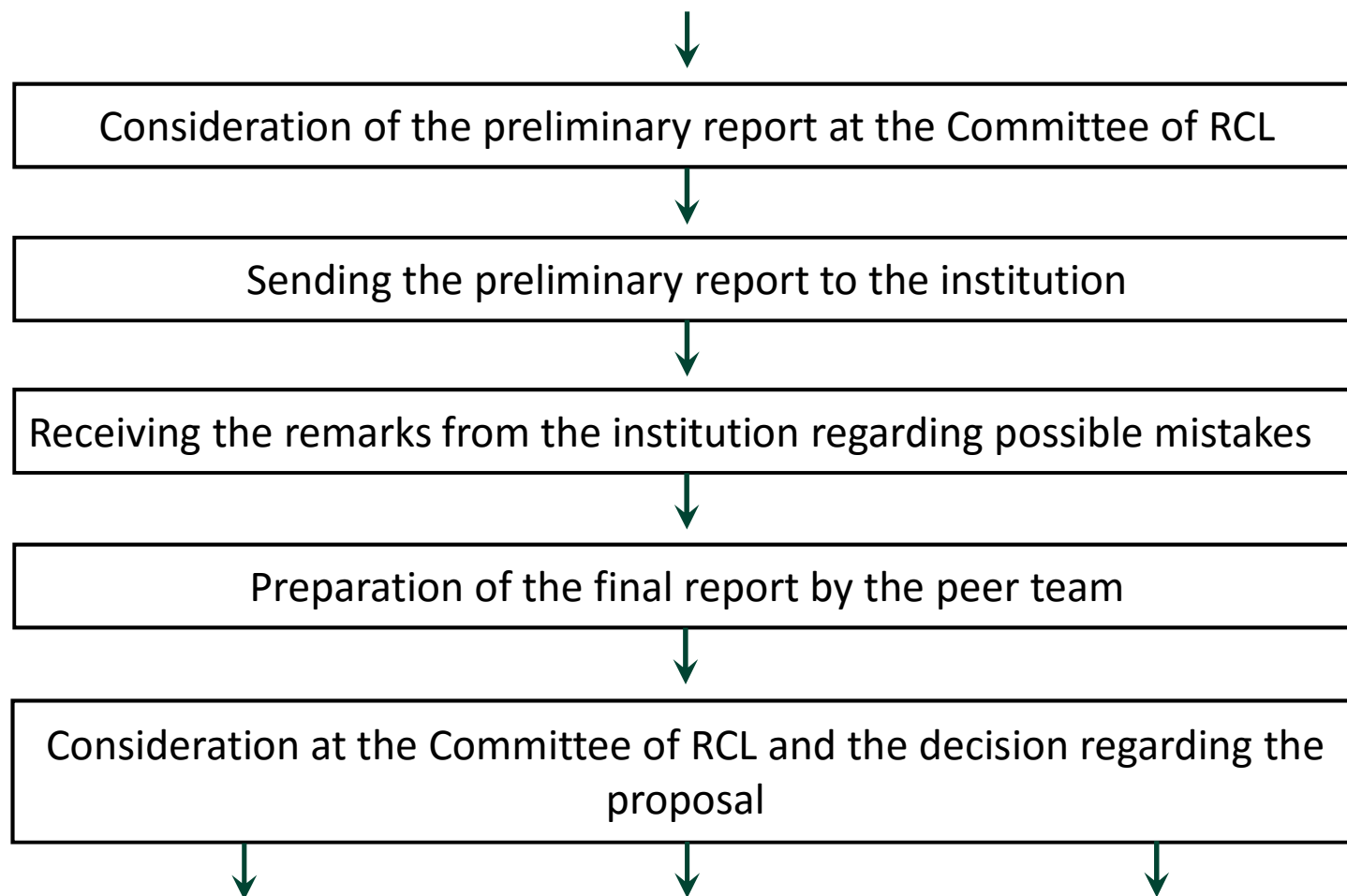






## Quality assessment of doctoral studies

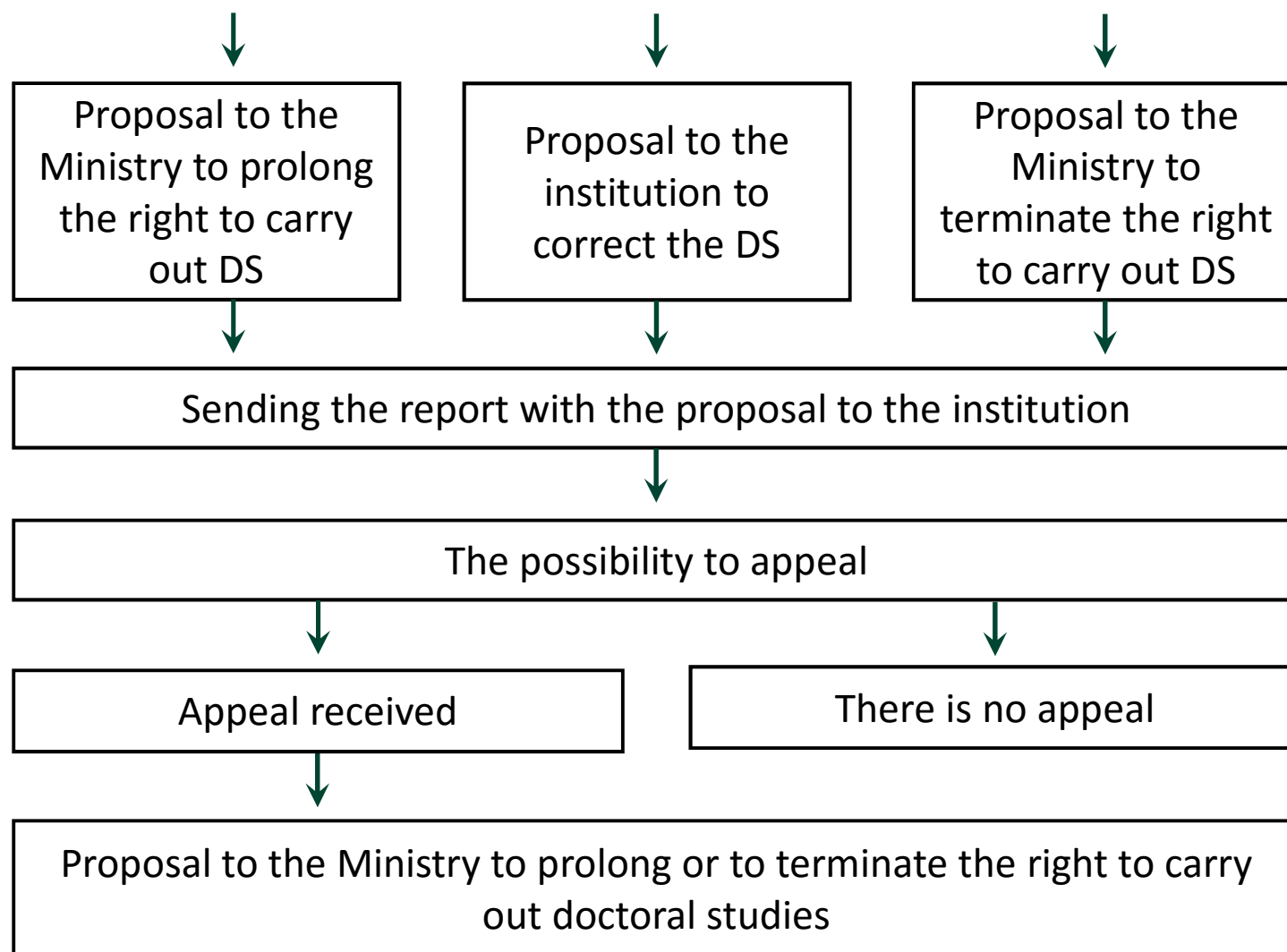
External Quality Assessment of  
Doctoral Studies





### Quality assessment of doctoral studies

External Quality Assessment of  
Doctoral Studies





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The number of rights in field of research to carry  
out doctoral studies at the universities (NR)



The Number of Rights to Carry out  
Doctoral Studies

Coordinating University	Number of rights to carry out DS in research area or arts area							NR
	H	S	P	A	B	T	M	
Aleksandras Stulginskis University				2				2
Kaunas University of Technology	1	2	2			9		14
Klaipėda University					1			1
Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences	1	1						2
Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre							1	1
Lithuanian University of Health Sciences				2	7			9
Lithuanian Sports University					1			1
Mykolas Romeris University		1						1
Vilnius Academy of Arts	1						2	3
Vytautas Magnus University	6	6	1		2			15
Vilnius Gediminas Technical University	1	2				6		9
Vilnius University	4	7	7		7	3		28
ISM University of Management and Economics		1						1
<b>Number of rights to carry out DS in field of research</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>87</b>



## Key findings of quality assessment of doctoral studies in technological sciences conducted in Lithuania by the Research Council of Lithuania

- Encourage the international mobility of doctoral students, internships in foreign research centres
- Encourage international publications:
  - ✓ referred in TR WoS,
  - ✓ joint publications with researchers from foreign higher education or research institutions
- Strengthen the research competencies of Doctoral Studies Committee' members and Doctoral Research Supervisors.
- Reconsider the necessity of compulsory teaching training and its volume
- To start or to strengthen the monitoring of the career of doctoral graduates (PhD holders)



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