

STATEMENT OF INTENTION TO PREPARE A THESIS IN BASQUE

A doctorate is an academic and professional activity that enables students to acquire high-level scientific skills, as well as generic skills that are valuable in positions of responsibility in all socio-economic sectors. Doctoral students who write their theses in Basque make a significant contribution to the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU), as they help to foster the use of Basque in research and teaching. Furthermore, doctoral students who prepare their theses in Basque also contribute to the development of the language itself. As a doctoral thesis is the most specialised academic work, writing it in Basque involves using terminology and phraseology in that language, and often even creating them. Also, in addition to contributing to the development of academic Basque, doctoral students who prepare their theses in Basque also develop their language skills and help improve the linguistic quality of teaching, research, and dissemination.

The doctorate involves carrying out an original and innovative research project, as well as implementing and executing a personal continuing education plan to support the research project. Doctoral students who wish to prepare their thesis in Basque should take this into account in their personal training plan. Writing and defending a doctoral thesis in Basque requires the development of advanced academic communication skills. Doctoral students who write their thesis in Basque may gain the distinction of "Doctorate in Basque", provided they meet a series of requirements. The first requirement is precisely to sign this document declaring your intention to write your thesis in Basque.

Thesis supervisors take on a great deal of responsibility when guiding doctoral students through the process of writing their thesis, and must ensure that those who decide to write their thesis in Basque are aware of the duties that their decision entails.

This document sets out the rights and obligations of the signatories to the statement, with the aim of fulfilling the requirements for obtaining the distinction of "Doctorate in Basque" during the preparation of the doctoral thesis. Thus, this document is signed by;

The doctoral student: _____

The supervisor: _____

The supervisor (if applicable): _____

The supervisor (if applicable): _____

Doctoral Programme: _____

Year of enrolment: ____ first ____ second ____ third ____ fourth ____

Estimated date of submission of thesis (to be completed by final-year doctoral students): _____

This document must be signed by all parties once the first, second, third or fourth enrolment in the doctoral programme has been completed, in the event that the doctoral candidate plans to prepare their thesis in Basque.

1. Requirements to qualify for the distinction of “Doctorate in Basque”

(Regulations governing official doctoral programmes at the UPV/EHU, approved by the University Senate on 11th December 2025)

- To notify the Vice-Rectorate for Basque Language and Language Planning, by means of this document, of the intention to prepare the thesis in Basque, once enrolment in the doctoral programme has been completed.
- To supervise doctoral students during their training period to gain their doctoral degree, in accordance with the announcements and criteria established by the Vice-Rectorate for Basque Language and Language Planning.
- The possibility of participating in specific language training for doctoral students during the period of training to gain a doctoral degree.
- To write the doctoral thesis entirely in Basque, regardless of the type of thesis.
- To deliver the oral defence of the thesis entirely in Basque.

(See the Regulations for information about what doctoral students wishing to gain the distinction of "International Doctorate" must take into account)

- To submit the application to gain the distinction of "Doctorate in Basque" when submitting the thesis.

2. Functions of the Vice-Rectorate for Basque Language and Language Planning

- Designing the form for the declaration of intent to write the thesis in Basque and collect information in a database on doctoral students who submit this form.
- Holding meetings to monitor doctoral students who are preparing their doctoral theses in Basque and establish the criteria and committees for such monitoring.
- Offering doctoral students a specific language training programme that enables them to acquire specialised communication skills in Basque, particularly in academic registers, as well as to develop specialised terminology and phraseology.
- Offering doctoral students the EHULKU Network for consultation on any linguistic issues that may rise during the preparation of their thesis.
- Making the mandatory report to qualify for the distinction of "Doctorate in Basque".
- Officially processing the certification of exemption from the C2 level Basque language accreditation, in accordance with Decree 47/2012.

3. Duties of thesis supervisors

In accordance with the Regulations for the Management of Official Doctoral Programmes, the thesis supervisor is ultimately responsible for overseeing all research tasks carried out by the doctoral candidate, ensuring the consistency and suitability of training activities, the impact and novelty of the doctoral thesis topic in its field, and providing guidance on planning and, where appropriate, ensuring that it is consistent with other projects and activities in which the doctoral candidate is involved. They therefore declare the following:

1. They are aware of the provisions of the Regulations for the Management of Official Doctoral Studies at the UPV/EHU, as approved by the University Senate on 11th December 2025, concerning the distinction of “Doctorate in Basque” (Chapter IX).
2. They undertake to ensure that the doctoral candidate prepares the thesis and meets the requirements set out in the regulations.
3. They undertake to collaborate in the guidance of the doctoral student in accordance with the recommendations made in the monitoring reports of the Vice-Rectorate for Basque

Language and Language Planning.

4. They undertake to guarantee that the Basque version of the thesis submitted by the doctoral students has been written by that person.

4. Obligations and responsibilities of the doctoral student

Doctoral students completing this declaration of intent to prepare their doctoral thesis in Basque undertake the following commitments:

1. To take into account training for the development of academic communication skills in Basque within their annual personal training plan.
2. To use the EHULKU Network to resolve linguistic queries.
3. To take part in actions to monitor the process of writing theses in Basque, in accordance with the criteria and deadlines established by the Vice-Rectorate for Basque Language and Language Planning.
4. To take into account the recommendations and guidelines contained in the monitoring reports prepared by the Vice-Rectorate for Basque Language and Language Planning.
5. To ensure the linguistic quality of the written document and the oral defence of the doctoral thesis.
6. To notify the Vice-Rectorate for Basque Language and Language Planning of any withdrawal from the intention to prepare the thesis in Basque, by means of a registered letter signed by the doctoral student and their supervisors.

DATE:

DOCTORAL STUDENT

SUPERVISOR

SUPERVISOR
(if applicable)

Full name and signature

Full name and signature

Full name and signature