Pursuant to Article 51 of the Statute of New University of 18 November 2020, the Management Board of New University adopted the following Regulations on 18 January 2021:

REGULATIONS ON THE REVOCATION OF PROFESSIONAL OR SCIENTIFIC DEGREES AT NEW UNIVERSITY AND ITS MEMBER FACULTIES

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1
(subject matter)

These Regulations govern the revocation of professional and scientific degrees at New University and its member faculties.

The provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act and these Regulations shall apply to the procedure for revoking a professional or scientific degree.

Article 2
(definitions of terms used in these Regulations)

For the purposes of these Regulations, the following terms shall have the meanings set out below:

- graduate means a person who has defended a final thesis at any level of study offered by New University;
- diploma means a document certifying the education acquired at any level of study offered by New University;
- Senate means the Senate of the member faculty in the case of revocation of a professional degree, and the Senate of the University in the case of revocation of a scientific degree.

Article 3
(calculation of time limits)

Where a time limit is expressed in days, the day of service or notification, or the day of the event from which the time limit is calculated, shall not be included; the time limit shall begin on the following day. A time limit expressed in months or years shall expire at the end of the day in the final month or year corresponding in number to the day on which a document was served or notification was given, or the event from which the time limit is calculated occurred. If the final month does not have such a day, the time limit shall expire on the last day of that month.

Sundays, public holidays of the Republic of Slovenia and other non-working days in the Republic of Slovenia shall not prevent the commencement or running of time limits.

If the final day of a time limit falls on a Sunday, public holiday of the Republic of Slovenia, another non-working day in the Republic of Slovenia, or another day on which the authority before which a procedural act must be performed does not operate, the time limit shall expire at the end of the next working day.

Time limits prescribed by these Regulations shall not run during the summer holidays as specified in the academic calendar for the relevant academic year.

Article 4
(grammatical form of expressions)

Terms used in the masculine grammatical form in these Regulations are gender-neutral and apply equally to men and women.

II. REVOCATION OF A PROFESSIONAL OR SCIENTIFIC DEGREE

Article 5
(grounds for revocation)

A graduate shall have their professional or scientific degree revoked if, after the degree was awarded, it is established:

- that the graduate fraudulently demonstrated fulfilment of the prescribed admission requirements;
- that the graduate did not complete all obligations under the study programme;
- that the graduate fraudulently demonstrated completion of study obligations;
- that, in the final thesis required under the study programme, the graduate presented the copyright-protected works of other authors as their own work to a significant extent, contrary to established citation practices;
- that the final thesis required under the study programme is, to a significant extent, not the result of the graduate's own work, creativity and achievements.

Article 6
(initiation of proceedings)

Any person who identifies themselves by their full name and address may submit a proposal to initiate proceedings to establish whether the conditions for revoking a professional or scientific degree are met. The proposal must be accompanied by a written statement of reasons substantiating one of the grounds for revocation referred to in the preceding Article. A proposal to revoke a professional degree shall be addressed to the Senate of the member faculty at which the professional degree was obtained; a proposal to revoke a scientific degree shall be addressed to the Senate of the University.

If the Senate doubts the authenticity of the identifying information referred to in the preceding paragraph, it may, by resolution, require the proposer to establish their identity before the Senate by presenting an identity document.

If the Senate considers the proposal formally substantiated, it shall, within fourteen days of receiving it, adopt a resolution initiating proceedings for revocation of the degree, appoint a person authorised to conduct the proceedings up to the issuance of the decision (hereinafter: the authorised person), and appoint a three-member expert committee to examine the substantive merits of the proposal.

Article 7
(duties of the authorised person)

The authorised person shall conduct the proceedings up to the issuance of the decision, prepare materials for the Senate and the committee, and retain all documents relating to the case.

The authorised person shall notify the graduate against whom the proceedings have been initiated of the commencement of proceedings for revocation of a professional or scientific degree without delay, and in any event no later than eight days after their initiation. Where proceedings concern the revocation of a professional or scientific degree on the grounds specified in the fourth or fifth indent of Article 5 of these Regulations, the authorised person shall notify the graduate's supervisor at the same time as the graduate.

Article 8
(composition and duties of the committee)

The committee examining the substantive merits of the proposal shall be composed so that at least two of its members are specialists in the field addressed by the thesis.

A member of the committee examining the substantive merits of the proposal may not be a person who took part in the procedure for obtaining the professional or scientific degree as supervisor, co-supervisor or a member of the final-thesis assessment committee.

The committee examining the substantive merits of the proposal shall assess all facts and evidence impartially and diligently and shall, no later than thirty days after its appointment, submit to the authorised person a joint expert opinion on the seriousness of the infringement, together with a proposed decision.

The joint expert opinion shall be signed by all committee members. If a member refuses to sign the joint opinion, this shall be specifically recorded in it.

A committee member who disagrees with the majority decision may submit a dissenting opinion, which shall form an integral part of the joint expert opinion.

Article 9
(rights of the graduate)

The graduate may participate in the proceedings in person or through an authorised representative.

The graduate has the right to inspect all documents in the case, to be informed of the status of the proceedings, to propose evidence in their favour and to exercise all other rights enjoyed by a party to proceedings under the mutatis mutandis application of the law governing general administrative procedure.

Article 10
(written statement by the graduate)

Before the Senate makes its final decision, the authorised person shall invite the graduate to submit, within thirty days of receipt of the invitation, a written statement on the committee's joint expert opinion and on all other facts and circumstances relevant to the issuance of the decision.

Following receipt of the graduate's written statement or expiry of the time limit referred to in the preceding paragraph, the authorised person shall forward to the Senate a report on the course of the proceedings and the joint expert opinion on the seriousness of the infringement, together with the proposed decision.

Article 11
(decision of the Senate)

At a meeting, the Senate shall consider the report on the course of the proceedings and the joint expert opinion on the seriousness of the infringement, together with the proposed decision, within thirty days of receipt.

If the Senate of the member faculty establishes at its meeting that any of the grounds for revocation of a professional degree exists, it shall issue a decision revoking the degree; otherwise it shall discontinue the proceedings by resolution.

If the Senate of the University establishes at its meeting that any of the grounds for revocation of a scientific degree exists, it shall issue a decision revoking the degree; otherwise it shall discontinue the proceedings by resolution.

An administrative dispute may be initiated against a Senate decision revoking a scientific or professional degree.

Article 12
(effect of revocation of a professional or scientific degree)

A professional or scientific degree shall be revoked with effect from the date on which the Senate's decision is served on the graduate by the authorised person. The right to use the professional or scientific degree shall cease upon service of the decision revoking the degree on the graduate.

Following service of the Senate's decision revoking the degree on the graduate, the faculty (where a professional degree has been revoked) or the University (where a scientific degree has been revoked) shall publish a notice invalidating the issued diploma in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia.

The authorised person shall also serve the Senate's decision on the University Library. If other libraries have adopted the bibliographic record for the material, the University Library shall also notify those libraries.

Article 13
(register of awarded and revoked professional and scientific degrees)

The faculty shall maintain a register of awarded and revoked professional and scientific degrees.

III. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 14
(transitional and final provisions)

Upon the entry into force of these Regulations, the rules governing the revocation of professional or scientific degrees contained in the study regulations adopted by the University's member faculties shall cease to apply.

Proceedings for the revocation of a professional or scientific degree initiated before the entry into force of these Regulations shall be completed in accordance with the provisions of the study regulations of the member faculties.

These Regulations shall enter into force on the date of their adoption by the Management Board of New University and shall apply from the fifteenth day following their publication on the websites of the member faculties.



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Chairman of the Management Board of New University