



**DOCTORAL THESIS AGREEMENT**

This doctoral thesis agreement is entered into by and between:

**(Name of the home institution)**, affiliated with the University of Manouba, represented for the purposes of this agreement by its (Dean / Director), Mr./Mrs. (full name);  
Address: .....

**PARTY OF THE FIRST PART,**

AND

**(Name of the partner institution)**, represented for the purposes of this agreement by its (Dean / Director), Mr./Mrs. (full name);  
Address: .....

**PARTY OF THE SECOND PART**

**WHEREAS**

- In view of Decree No. 2013-47 of January 4, 2013, establishing the general framework of the study regime and the conditions for obtaining the national doctoral degree under the “LMD” system;
- In view of the Order of the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research dated April 22, 2013, setting the criteria for eligibility to pursue research towards the national doctoral degree under the “LMD” system;
- In view of the Doctoral Charter of the University of La Manouba;

The two parties, driven by the desire to promote doctoral exchanges between them and to strengthen scientific and academic cooperation between **Tunisia** and ....., mutually agree, within the framework of the legislation in force in their respective countries, to implement a cotutelle procedure for the following doctoral candidate:

**Mr./Ms.:** .....

**Thesis topic :** .....

**Email address:** .....

**Address in the home country:** .....

**Address in the host country:** .....

**NOW THEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN AGREED UPON AND SET FORTH**

**Article 1: Enrollment**

The doctoral candidate, ....., is enrolled:

- At the University of Manouba  
For the national doctoral degree in: .....  
Starting from the academic year: .....
- At the University of .....  
For the national doctoral degree in: .....  
Starting from the academic year: .....

The doctoral candidate must be enrolled at both institutions. He/She shall pay the tuition fees at the home institution in Tunisia and shall be exempt from these fees at the host university in .....

In this context, the two parties acknowledge and record the following:

1. Date of enrollment in the cotutelle doctoral program: .....
2. Expected duration of the research work: 3 years starting from (year of first enrollment)

**Article 2: Social Coverage**

During the stay in the host country, the doctoral candidate shall benefit (or not) from social coverage, in accordance with the applicable legislation.  
In addition, he/she may benefit (or not) from a scholarship and accommodation at a university residence or other facility.

**Article 3: Thesis Supervision**

At each of the institutions concerned, the doctoral candidate shall carry out his/her research work under the supervision and responsibility of the following thesis advisors:

- At the home institution: Mr./Ms. .... (academic rank)
- At the partner institution: Mr./Ms. .... (academic rank)

These thesis advisors undertake to jointly and fully exercise their responsibilities towards the doctoral candidate, in accordance with the applicable regulations and academic traditions of their respective countries.

**Article 4: Mobility and Duration of Stays**

Academic Year	.../...	.../...	.../...
University of Manouba			
University of .....			

### **Article 5: Defense and Jury**

The composition of the defense jury shall comply with the regulations in force in the country where the defense takes place. In all cases, the jury must include both thesis advisors and shall not exceed six members.

The thesis shall be defended once only, in .....

A single defense report shall be prepared by the jury chairperson after the defense. A copy of the report shall be sent to the partner institution.

The thesis shall be written and defended in ....., with a summary in .....

### **Article 6: Submission**

The procedures for the submission, registration, and reproduction of the thesis, as well as the authorization to defend, shall follow the regulations in force in the country where the defense is held.

The date and place of the defense shall be mutually agreed upon and shall be communicated in writing by the co-advisors to the head of the relevant institution.

### **Article 7: Degrees**

The thesis shall be defended once only in ....., and a single defense report shall be drawn up in accordance with the applicable regulations in .....

The institution in the country of the defense undertakes to award the degree of Doctor and to send a complete copy of the defense dossier to the partner institution, which in turn undertakes to award the degree of Doctor in .....

### **Article 8: Intellectual Property Protection**

The protection of the thesis topic, as well as the publication, use, and protection of the research results produced by the doctoral candidate in both institutions, shall be subject to the applicable legislation and ensured in accordance with the specific procedures of each country involved in the cotutelle, including Law No. 94-36 of February 24, 1994, on literary and artistic property in Tunisia, as amended by Law No. 2009-33 of June 23, 2009.

### **Article 9: Confidentiality Obligation**

Each party undertakes not to disclose to any third party the details of the cooperation actions undertaken under this cotutelle agreement without the prior written consent of the other party.

Each party shall at all times maintain the confidentiality of all information or documents, in any form whatsoever, acquired in the context of the execution of this agreement and shall not use or disclose such information or documents without the written consent of the other party.

### **Article 10: Dispute Resolution**

In the interest of the doctoral candidate and to promote cooperation between the institutions and their respective countries, the above-mentioned Higher Education and Research Institutions (or

Universities) agree to comply with the provisions herein and to do everything necessary to implement this agreement under the best possible conditions.

In the event of a dispute concerning the interpretation or application of this cotutelle agreement, the parties shall seek to resolve the matter amicably before resorting to any further resolution measures.

**Article 11: Termination**

If the cotutelle arrangement is to be terminated by either party, the initiating party shall notify its home institution in writing, stating the reasons for its decision.

The home institution shall inform the host institution and the concerned university ..... within one month.

**Article 12: Signatures**

The conclusion of this agreement has been previously authorized by the President of the University of Manouba on (.....) under number (.....), and by the President of the University ..... on (.....) under number (.....).

Drawn up in six (06) original copies.

**SIGNATURES**

University of Manouba	University of .....
The President Pr. Ameer CHERIF	The President
The Dean / The Director	
The Director of the Doctoral School	The Director of the Doctoral School
Thesis Supervisor	Thesis Co- supervisor
The Doctoral Candidate	