



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
The National University of Science and Technology
POLITEHNICA Bucharest

REGULATION

**on the organization and functioning of integrated or already accredited
university study programs that may be included in an interinstitutional
agreement**

Bucharest, 2025

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I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Legal Basis of the Regulation

This regulation has been developed based on the provisions of Article 8 paragraph (5), Article 28 paragraphs (6) and (12), Article 30 paragraphs (2) and (6), Article 39 paragraphs (4) and (5), Article 49 paragraphs (3) and (4), Article 118 paragraph (3), Article 226 paragraph (5), and Article 249 paragraph (3) of the Higher Education Law no. 199/2023, with subsequent amendments and completions, and of Article 1 paragraph (4) of the Framework Methodology for the organization and functioning of integrated university study programs carried out within higher education institutions in Romania, finalized with a joint, double, or multiple degree, hereinafter referred to as the Methodology, approved by the Order of the Minister of Education no. 4.637/11.04.2024.

Article 2. Applicable Legal Provisions

The integrated university study programs organized by POLITEHNICA Bucharest jointly with partner higher education institutions from the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) are also subject to the following legal provisions:

- The Lisbon Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region, signed in Lisbon on April 11, 1997, ratified by Romania through Law no. 172/1998;
- Order ME 3020/2024 for the approval of the Framework Regulation on Doctoral University Studies;
- Order ME 5508/2024 for the approval of the Methodology for the Recognition and Equivalence of Short-Cycle, Bachelor's, Master's, or Postgraduate Higher Education Diplomas issued by accredited foreign higher education institutions;
- Order MEC No. 3473/2017 regarding the approval of the Methodology for the Admission and Schooling of Foreign Citizens starting with the 2017–2018 academic year;
- Order MECTS No. 3677/2012 on the equivalence and recognition of study documents obtained abroad that do not correspond to the three Bologna-type university study cycles implemented in Romania;
- Order MECTS No. 3223/2012 for the approval of the Methodology for the Recognition of Study Periods Completed Abroad;
- Order ME No. 4262/2024 for the approval of the Methodology regarding Student Academic Mobility;
- Order 7234/2024 for the approval of the Methodology on the Recognition of Doctoral Diplomas and the Title of Doctor in Sciences or in a Professional Field obtained abroad;
- Order MEC No. 4156/2020 for the approval of the Framework Regulation on the Regime of Study Documents and University Records in the Higher Education System;
- Order MEN No. 5146/2019 regarding the approval of the generalized application of the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS);
- The Charter of the National University of Science and Technology POLITEHNICA Bucharest (POLITEHNICA Bucharest), approved by Senate Decision no. 160/23.11.2023;
- Regulation on the Organization and Conduct of Graduation, Bachelor's, and Dissertation Exams for the 2024–2025 Academic Year.

- Regulation on the Organization and Functioning of Bachelor's Degree Programs, 2024;
- Regulation on the Organization and Functioning of Master's Degree Programs at the National University of Science and Technology POLITEHNICA Bucharest, 2024;

Article 3. Definitions

(1) An *integrated study program* is defined by paragraph (12) of Article 28 of Law no. 199/2023 on higher education, as amended and supplemented, as the totality of design, learning, teaching, research, practical applications, and assessment activities, planned in such a way as to lead to a university qualification certified by a diploma and a diploma supplement.

(2) Integrated study programs may be:

- a) *Joint* between higher education institutions, resulting in a *joint diploma*, recognized by all partner institutions;
- b) *National or international integrated programs*, finalized with a *double or multiple diploma*, recognized by all partners;

(3) Programs that are already accredited and included in the offerings of higher education institutions may be the subject of an inter-institutional agreement leading to the issuance of double or multiple diplomas recognized by all partners.

(4) Doctoral studies may also be organized under *co-supervision (cotutelle)*, based on an inter-institutional agreement. In such cases, the doctoral student carries out their activity under the joint guidance of one doctoral supervisor from POLITEHNICA Bucharest and one from another country, or under the joint guidance of two doctoral supervisors from different institutions in Romania. The thesis is unique, and the graduate may receive either a joint diploma or two separate diplomas.

(5) The *curriculum* of integrated university study programs is developed jointly by POLITEHNICA Bucharest and its accredited higher education partner institutions from the European Higher Education Area, based on the inter-institutional partnership agreement.

Article 4. Curriculum of Integrated Study Programs

(1) POLITEHNICA Bucharest, together with higher education institutions with which it has concluded partnership agreements for the joint organization of integrated university study programs, establishes the curriculum of these programs in such a way as to maximize the chances of obtaining a qualification relevant to the labor market.

(2) The Senate of POLITEHNICA Bucharest internally approves the curriculum of the integrated university study programs, as identified and defined through the partnership agreement.

II. ORGANIZATION OF INTEGRATED STUDY PROGRAMS

Article 5. Initiating the Organization of Integrated University Study Programs

- (1) The initiator of an integrated study program that requires accreditation (as referred to in Article 3, paragraph (2)) analyzes the fulfillment of eligibility criteria for conducting the program, with the support of the Directorate for Evaluation and Quality Assurance (DEAC).
- (2) After verifying the eligibility criteria, DEAC forwards the relevant documentation to the Administrative Council for analysis and endorsement. Based on the endorsement from the Administrative Council, the University Senate decides on launching the accreditation procedures for the integrated study program.
- (3) The proposal of inter-institutional agreements for the university study programs mentioned in Article 3, paragraph (3), is preceded by the approval of the Department Council and the Executive Office of the involved Faculty, as well as the endorsement of the Executive Office of the Administrative Council of POLITEHNICA Bucharest.
- (4) To obtain the approvals referred to in paragraph (3), *Annex I* of this regulation is drafted, which shall include: the name of the program, field of study, level of study, language of instruction, the project ensuring implementation/funding, project coordinator, POLITEHNICA Bucharest's project representative, participating universities and their countries of origin, project duration, and the curriculum.
- (5) The curriculum of each integrated university study program is agreed upon and stipulated in the inter-institutional partnership agreement.

Article 6. Joint Organization of Integrated Study Programs

- (1) POLITEHNICA Bucharest may jointly organize integrated university study programs with one or more accredited higher education institutions from the European Higher Education Area (EHEA).
- (2) POLITEHNICA Bucharest may organize integrated university study programs at the *national level* (when all partner institutions are from Romania), or at the *transnational/international level* (when at least two of the partner institutions are from different countries), in accordance with Article 1, paragraph (3) of the Methodology.
- (3) The structure of educational activities within the integrated study programs may be *modular* or involve *training stages* conducted within the partner institutions, with these being recognized by the university where the student is enrolled.
- (4) To associate POLITEHNICA Bucharest with another accredited higher education institution from the EHEA for the creation and organization of integrated university study programs, the following conditions must be met:
 - a. The institution partnering with POLITEHNICA Bucharest must be accredited by a quality assurance agency listed in the *European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR)*, recognized in its country of origin, and authorized to organize university study programs at the qualification level corresponding to the proposed program;
 - b. The integrated university study program must be developed in accordance with the *European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)*.

c. The inter-institutional partnership agreement must contain at least the provisions mentioned in Article 8, paragraph (3).

Article 7. Accreditation of Integrated Study Programs

(1) POLITEHNICA Bucharest may organize integrated university study programs, as outlined in Article 3, paragraph (2), jointly with one or more accredited higher education institutions from the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), based on an inter-institutional partnership agreement and only after undergoing an external evaluation process conducted by a quality assurance agency registered in the *European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR)*.

(2) The accreditation of integrated university study programs is conducted without going through the provisional operation authorization procedure and without any distinction regarding the language of instruction or the geographical location where the program takes place.

(3) The *Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ARACIS)* or another quality assurance agency registered in EQAR evaluates, upon request, integrated study programs based on the standards and methodologies established at the European level through the *European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes* and proposes their accreditation or non-accreditation.

(4) The eligibility conditions for participating in an external evaluation procedure, under the *European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes*, when at least one higher education institution from Romania is involved, are as follows:

- At least one of the involved higher education institutions must come from a different EHEA member country than Romania;
- The institutions intending to organize the integrated study program must be recognized as higher education institutions in their country of origin;
- The organizing institutions must be accredited by a quality assurance agency registered in EQAR;
- The partner institutions must be authorized to organize integrated study programs, and the diplomas awarded upon completion must be recognized in the countries of origin;
- The legislation of the countries involved must allow the application of the *European Approach*, and the evaluation results must be recognized;
- There must be a signed partnership agreement between the higher education institutions, proving the coordination and joint delivery of the integrated university study program.

(5) Already accredited programs in Romania which, through an inter-institutional agreement, become part of an integrated program offering double or multiple diplomas do not require additional accreditation. They will be subject to periodic evaluation according to the deadlines set by the applicable legislation.

Article 8. Inter-Institutional Agreements

(1) POLITEHNICA Bucharest concludes **inter-institutional partnership agreements** for the organization of integrated university study programs with accredited higher education institutions from the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), in compliance with this regulation on the organization and functioning of integrated university study programs.

(2) The purpose of the **inter-institutional partnership agreement** is to establish the special rules applicable to integrated university study programs that align with the legal provisions applicable in the country/countries of origin of the partner higher education institutions.

(3) **The inter-institutional partnership agreement** shall establish, in accordance with Article 3 of the Methodology, at least the following elements:

- a. The status of POLITEHNICA Bucharest and of each partner higher education institution, as well as the coordinator of the integrated study program;
- b. The responsibilities of each partner institution;
- c. The structure of disciplines within the integrated study programs;
- d. Admission conditions;
- e. The content of study guides;
- f. The rights and obligations of students;
- g. Rules applicable to the completion of studies;
- h. The format of the diplomas;
- i. The method of issuing and recognition of diplomas;
- j. The method of financing the integrated university study programs;
- k. Provisions regarding the automatic recognition of exams taken at partner higher education institutions, including the final examination.

(4) POLITEHNICA Bucharest and its partner higher education institutions will also define, through the inter-institutional partnership agreement, the necessary aspects related to the mobility of students and teaching staff.

Article 9. Levels of Higher Education Applicable to Integrated Study Programs

(1) POLITEHNICA Bucharest may jointly organize integrated university study programs with other accredited higher education institutions from the EHEA for any of the university study cycles in higher education.

(2) For each study cycle, the organization of integrated university study programs shall be carried out in compliance with the legal provisions set out by:

- a. The regulations of POLITEHNICA Bucharest regarding admission to bachelor's, master's, and doctoral studies, for programs already existing in the educational offer;
- b. The provisions of the inter-institutional partnership agreements for the organization of those integrated university study programs;
- c. National legislation in force regarding the maximum number of students that can be enrolled according to the inter-institutional partnership agreement by POLITEHNICA Bucharest and by each partner higher education institution, with respect to their maximum schooling capacity.

Article 10. Informing Candidates

POLITEHNICA Bucharest shall inform candidates, at least 6 months prior to the admission exam for accredited integrated study programs under this regulation, by posting at its headquarters and on its official website, the following information: tuition fees, the organization and conduct of the admission process, the content of the study program, the organization of the teaching process, and the number of available places, in accordance with the provisions of the inter-institutional partnership agreements.

Article 11. Recognition of Diplomas, Qualifications, and Study Periods

(1) Integrated university study programs organized by POLITEHNICA Bucharest may be completed, as applicable, with a joint diploma, a double diploma, or a multiple diploma—recognized both in Romania and in the country of origin of the partner higher education institutions.

(2) The recognition of qualifications and study periods (including the recognition of prior learning) shall be carried out in accordance with the Lisbon Recognition Convention and its subsidiary documents.

(3) The study documents issued upon the completion of integrated study programs—namely, the joint, double, or multiple diploma—are legally recognized by the Romanian state and are registered in RMUR/RUNIDAS, in accordance with applicable legislation.

Article 12. Diplomas

(1) For accredited integrated university study programs organized jointly with higher education institutions from the EHEA, POLITEHNICA Bucharest may issue, as applicable, a joint diploma, a double diploma, or a multiple diploma, accompanied by a joint diploma supplement, according to the format established in the inter-institutional partnership agreement with the partner higher education institutions.

(2) The diploma supplement shall be issued free of charge, in Romanian and in an internationally used language employed in the partnership.

(3) The diplomas issued upon completion of integrated study programs—whether joint, double, or multiple—are legally recognized by the Romanian state and are recorded in RUNIDAS, in accordance with Article 39, paragraph (5) of Law 199/2023.

(4) POLITEHNICA Bucharest, together with its partner institutions organizing integrated university study programs, shall report these partnerships on national platforms for monitoring and evaluation purposes, and to support evidence-based policy-making.

Article 13. Admission of Candidates

(1) The organization of the admission process for integrated university study programs shall be conducted in accordance with the admission calendar established through the inter-institutional partnership agreement and the applicable legal regulations.

(2) The selection and evaluation criteria for candidates, as well as the documents required in the admission file, shall be determined by the inter-institutional partnership agreement.

(3) Admission to short-cycle/undergraduate/master/doctoral university studies within an integrated study program accredited in accordance with the provisions of this regulation shall be carried out in compliance with the admission methodology adopted by POLITEHNICA Bucharest and the applicable national legislation, as follows:

a. Graduates holding a baccalaureate diploma or equivalent may participate in the admission competition for short-cycle university studies, in accordance with the specific conditions established by the inter-institutional agreement;

b. Graduates holding a baccalaureate diploma or equivalent may participate in the admission competition for undergraduate university studies, in accordance with the specific conditions established by the inter-institutional agreement;

c. Graduates holding a bachelor's degree or equivalent may participate in the admission competition for master's university studies, in accordance with the specific conditions established by the inter-institutional agreement;

(4) Graduates holding a master's diploma or equivalent, who have completed undergraduate/master's programs accumulating at least 300 ECTS, may participate in the doctoral admission competition, in accordance with the specific conditions established by the inter-institutional agreement.

(5) The enrollment of candidates declared admitted following the admission competition shall be done by the decision of the Rector of POLITEHNICA Bucharest, taking into account the clauses established in the inter-institutional partnership agreement.

(6) The registration of admitted students into the national matriculation register shall be carried out in accordance with the legal provisions in force.

(7) A candidate admitted to an integrated university study program shall hold the status of student/doctoral student for the entire duration of their participation in the program, from enrollment until passing the final exams or being withdrawn, except during periods of study interruption.

(8) Students admitted to integrated study programs are subject to the rules concerning academic activities, enrollment, duration of student/doctoral status, evaluation, and exam promotion as established in the regulations of POLITEHNICA Bucharest and supplemented by specific rules laid out in the inter-institutional partnership agreements, which detail the distribution of subjects by semester among partner institutions.

(9) Students admitted to integrated study programs are registered in the National Matriculation Register of Romania / the National Integrated Register of Diplomas and Study Documents (RMUR/RUNIDAS), in accordance with current legislation.

(10) Each partner institution is responsible for verifying the eligibility conditions of submitted applications. The applications and supporting documents will be evaluated jointly by a mixed admission committee composed of representatives of the partner institutions, following both the inter-institutional agreement and national regulations.

(11) For candidates admitted to an integrated study program, enrollment and academic record management shall be carried out according to the inter-institutional agreement, in line with the applicable legislation of each partner country.

(12) Candidates from partner universities selected under the inter-institutional agreement to undertake a study period (mobility) at POLITEHNICA Bucharest within an integrated study program shall submit to the integrated program coordinator at POLITEHNICA Bucharest, and subsequently to the International Relations Department (DRI), the documents certifying their previous studies for recognition and enrollment at POLITEHNICA Bucharest.

(13) The documents mentioned in paragraph (11) shall be submitted via the Mobility.upb.ro platform by **June 30** for the first semester of the upcoming academic year and by **November 30** of the previous year for the second semester. After reviewing the candidates' applications, DRI will forward the necessary documentation to the General Directorate for International Relations and European Affairs (DGRIAE) of the Ministry of Education and Research (MEC) to obtain Letters of Acceptance.

(14) DRI will send the Letters of Acceptance for Studies in scanned electronic format to the recipients and will continue to provide communication and institutional/informational support as needed for obtaining study visas to enter Romania.

(15) DRI will also inform the General Inspectorate for Immigration (IGI) about the status of foreign students within these integrated programs. The faculty organizing the program will enroll the students based on the original study and identity documents in the application file, including the Letter of Acceptance for Studies and passport with a valid "study" visa. The faculties will also recognize the studies undertaken by the students at other project/agreement partners, according to the provisions of the inter-institutional agreement.

(16) The teaching activities during the semesters of the integrated study programs are carried out in accordance with the inter-institutional partnership agreement.

(17) Academic obligations and attendance requirements are governed by the internal regulations on student academic activity, supplemented by those set out in the inter-institutional agreement, in line with the regulations in force at the partner higher education institutions.

Article 14. Rights and Obligations of Students/Doctoral Students

(1) The rights and obligations of students/doctoral students enrolled in integrated study programs organized within the higher education institution are established through the study contract, the provisions of the applicable legislation, the university charter and institutional regulations, as well as the provisions contained in the inter-institutional partnership agreement.

(2) Students who have fulfilled all the requirements specified in the integrated university study program shall receive a joint/double/multiple diploma, accompanied by a joint diploma supplement, in accordance with the format established in the inter-institutional partnership agreement concluded between the partner higher education institutions and the applicable national regulations.

(3) In the event that the completion of studies does not take place at POLITEHNICA Bucharest but at one of the partner higher education institutions, a university document reflecting the academic record for the studies undertaken in Romania will be issued. This document will be recognized by all partner institutions, in accordance with the inter-institutional agreement.

III. ASSESSMENT AND GRADUATION PROCEDURES

Article 15. Assessment and graduation procedures

(1) The ongoing evaluation of students, for courses studied at POLITEHNICA Bucharest and at each partner higher education institution, will be conducted in accordance with the requirements set out in the course syllabi, following the rules adopted by the institutions and in compliance with the provisions of the inter-institutional partnership agreement.

(2) POLITEHNICA Bucharest may include a clause in the inter-institutional partnership agreement stating that the evaluation of final exams for integrated university study programs will be conducted jointly by a mixed committee composed of representatives from the partner higher education institutions, while respecting the applicable national regulations.

(3) An integrated university study program concludes with a final examination, according to the structure and procedures established in the inter-institutional agreement and in accordance with the regulations of POLITEHNICA Bucharest regarding graduation exams.

(4) A graduate of an integrated university study program may take the final examination at POLITEHNICA Bucharest or at any of the partner higher education institutions, based on the inter-institutional partnership agreement, in accordance with its provisions.

(5) The topic for the graduation/bachelor's/master's/doctoral thesis shall be selected under the conditions established by the inter-institutional partnership agreement.

(6) For students who choose to take their final exam at POLITEHNICA Bucharest, the drafting and supervision of the graduation/bachelor's/master's/doctoral thesis, as well as the organization, conduct, and defense of the final exams, shall be governed by the regulations of POLITEHNICA Bucharest regarding graduation exams, along with the provisions of the inter-institutional agreement.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Article 16. Teaching Activities

(1) Teaching activities, as defined in the inter-institutional agreements, are structured around academic subjects.

(2) The distribution of subjects across semesters, credit allocation per subject, and the types of evaluation used for each subject are included in the curriculum of the study program agreed upon in the inter-institutional partnership agreement for organizing integrated university study programs. The content of teaching and learning, learning outcomes, teaching and evaluation methods, and relevant bibliography are specified in the course syllabi.

Article 17. Forms of Education

(1) Integrated university study programs may be organized in the following forms: full-time education, part-time education, and distance learning, according to the inter-institutional agreement.

(2) The teaching activities during the semesters in which components of the integrated study program are carried out within each higher education institution, including teaching obligations and attendance requirements, shall follow the national regulations in force, the internal regulations on student academic activity, and the inter-institutional agreement, aligned with the internal regulations of the partner higher education institutions.

V. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 18. Final Provisions

(1) The provisions of this regulation shall be applied by POLITEHNICA Bucharest for each integrated university study program, following the entry into force of the inter-institutional agreements concluded between POLITEHNICA Bucharest and accredited partner higher education institutions from the EHEA (European Higher Education Area).

(2) Annex 1 is an integral part of this regulation.

(3) This Regulation was endorsed by the Board of Administration at the meeting on 12.02.2025 and approved by the University Senate by Decision No. 36 / 27.02.2025. It shall be applied starting with the 2025–2026 academic year, and it repeals Senate Decision No. 324/14.12.2021.

ANNEX 1. Request for Initiating the Procedure for the Establishment of Inter-Institutional Agreements

Approved/Checked by:

Executive Board of the Administration

Executive Board of the

Department Council

Council of POLITEHNICA Bucharest

Faculty of

PROPOSAL

PROPOSAL OF INTER-INSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENT

Program Name:	
Field of study:	
Level of study:	
Language of instruction:	
The project through which the implementation/funding is ensured (in the case of proposals, specify the call to which it is submitted):	
Project Coordinator:	
Project Responsible from POLITEHNICA Bucharest:	
Project Team from POLITEHNICA Bucharest:	

Involved Universities/Countries:	
Project Implementation Period:	

Date:

Project Manager,

Attached:

- The current curriculum plan;
- Proof of accreditation/provisional authorization from ARACIS;
- The proposed curriculum plan (if any changes are to be made, they will be approved according to the regulations in force).