



## Milestones

**Project duration:** 36 months | Start October 2013

### Year 1:

- Kick-off meeting.
- Report on key persons in doctoral education, governance structures in doctoral schools, support structures for doctoral candidates, PhD supervisors and career development services (based on a survey).
- Establishment of a social network group (LinkedIn Social Network Group).

### Year 2:

- Interviews with identified HEI's key players (university leadership, HR experts and doctoral candidates' representatives) as well as focus group meetings with people representing different professional backgrounds (transferable skills trainers, university managers, etc.) to gain detailed information on good practices of successful governance structures to identify what type of work is performed by administrators in doctoral education and which skills are necessary to carry out these tasks successfully.
- A report on the collection and analysis of Good Practices will then be issued.

### Year 3:

- A Handbook for decision-makers and staff involved in doctoral education will be published.
- A Pilot training course for administrators in doctoral education will be developed and held.
- Final conference.



Lifelong  
Learning  
Programme

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## Background

Doctoral education in Europe has been undergoing dramatic changes over the last decade. There is a clear trend towards the need to invest in the personal and professional development of PhD candidates and to professionalize the supervisory process. However, the same attempt at the level of the administrative staff, i.e. administrators supporting the implementation of the new vision of doctoral education, seems rather neglected. Thus the framework changed without taking the needs of a professional administration fully into account. Nevertheless, professionals already play an important role in doctoral education. They not only provide and organize training for PhD candidates and supervisors, but also are professional science communicators and observe the labour market's needs, monitor and evaluate all activities in doctoral schools, and contribute to the accountability of universities.



## Overall Aim

The overall aim of the PRIDE-project is to contribute to the professionalization of administrative staff in the field of European doctoral education, in order to provide better support to PhD supervisors, PhD candidates and external stakeholders. The project aims at elaborating an alternative approach to administration in the area of doctoral education

## Main outcomes

The main outcome of the PRIDE project is to provide tools to professionalize administrative staff in the area of doctoral education:

- Handbook for professionalizing administrative staff with a description of the roles and responsibilities of professionals and a number of good practices.
- Training course for the professionalization of administrative staff, consisting of modules for formal qualification according to specific administrative tasks and positions.
- Establishing a social network for professionals to create an EU network for professionals in doctoral education.

## PRIDE project partners

- University of Vienna, AT
- University of Zagreb, HR
- UNICA, Network of the UNiversities from the CAPitals of Europe
- Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, DE
- UNIMED, Mediterranean Universities Union
- Vrije Universiteit Brussel, BE
- Comenius University Bratislava, SK
- Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, PT
- Fundación Universidad Empresa of the Region of Murcia, ES
- Tallinn University, EE