

Restricted meeting of the EDSP2 council on January 22, 2026

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On the agenda:

Limited session

1. Information
  2. Review of applications for authorization to supervise a thesis (ADT)
  3. Request to postpone a HDR defense
  4. Competition for the awarding of EDSP2 doctoral contracts
    - 2026 Competition Planning
    - Competition rules (candidates and thesis supervisors)
    - Competition Jury Rules 5. Miscellaneous
- Questions

Attached are the two sets of rules for the EDSP2 Competition, sent to the members of the Council on 15/01/2026

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## 1. Information

### 1.1. Management of the College of Doctoral Schools

Laurent Servant, professor of physical chemistry, outgoing vice-president in charge of international networks, is providing provisional administration for the College of Doctoral Schools.

The process of appointing the new leadership of the College will be launched after the election of the new president of the university, following advice from the College of Doctoral Schools Council.

### 1.2. COMSCICON 7th edition in Bordeaux

This exceptional international edition, co-organized with the North American branch of ComSciCon (all in English), will take place in Bordeaux.

Applications are open from January 19th to 30th via the following web link: <https://france.comscicon.com/candidature/>

All doctoral students are welcome, regardless of their discipline and university.

Participation validated in training/Adum.

### 1.3. EDSP2 Events

#### General Assemblies

January 29, 2026 - Room TD5 (Building Q-1st floor), Victoire campus

10am/12pm: General Assembly for Doctoral

Students 2pm/4pm: EC/C

#### Supervisors' Workshop

March 19, 2026 at 2

p.m. Theme: Establishing good working relationships and managing difficulties. Summary elements containing proposals will be sent to participants to fuel the discussions.

<sup>1</sup> First workshop on Doctoral Practices: February 20, 2025

<sup>2</sup> Workshop: Framing Elements and Perspectives from Specialized Services: April 21, 2025

### Doctoral School Day

April 28, 2026

Speaker: Renaud Hourcade (CNRS researcher - CED)

Proposed theme: Transition and transformations of research practices

Applications open on Friday, January 9, 2026

Application deadline: Tuesday, February 23, 2026 at 4 p.m.

Applications should be submitted to: [edsp2@u-bordeaux.fr](mailto:edsp2@u-bordeaux.fr)

### 1.4. EDSP2 Interdisciplinary Thesis Prize

The AAC was distributed on January 9 to doctoral candidates (defenses 2025), with a copy to thesis supervisors.

Applications open on Friday, January 9, 2026

Application deadline: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 4 p.m.

Applications should be submitted to: [edsp2@u-bordeaux.fr](mailto:edsp2@u-bordeaux.fr)

Formation of the ad hoc jury – jury work (February/March)

The results will be announced on Friday, April 10, 2026.

The award ceremony will take place on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, during School Day.

Scientific quality is the primary criterion.

The interdisciplinary criterion is explained in an argument and by completing a self-assessment grid.

An ad hoc jury will be composed of six teacher-researchers and researchers, elected within the EDSP2 Council, with two representatives per major area of the Doctoral School (Humanities, Social Sciences, Public Health).

## 2. Review of applications for Authorization to Supervise a Thesis (ADT)

Prior to the meeting, the Council members reviewed the application files and related reports. The review of applications is based on a presentation summarizing the key elements of these documents.

NAME	First Name	Function	Home institution	UR	Name of rapporteur
AMBROSETTI David	CR	CNRS Sciences Po Bordeaux	LAM		NAY Olivier
BLANQUET	Estelle	MCF	University of Bordeaux LACES		D'AURIA Virginia
GEDEON ACHI Fiona	MCF		University of Bordeaux BPH		COLMELLERE Cynthia
GRASSET	Leslie	CR INSERM University of Bordeaux	BPH		Johanna Lepeule
ROUMEAS	Rémi	MCF	University of Bordeaux CED		BETHOUX Elodie

SCHIFF	Claire MCF		University of Bordeaux CED		VIGOUR Cécile
STERN	Monika CR	CNRS University of	Bordeaux PASSAGES BONNEMERE Pascale		

The Council members issued a favorable opinion on the ADT requests, with 1 abstention on the request for xxxxxx.

The files will be forwarded to the College of Doctoral Schools for presentation at the CAC in March, provided that the candidates follow the training for supervisors.

### 3. Request to postpone the HDR defense beyond the validity of the authorization to register for the HDR

Mr. Michaël Schwarzingger received authorization to register for the HDR (Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches) at the CAC on March 22, 2024 (valid for two years). For a duly justified reason, he requests authorization to defend his HDR no later than October 2026. The significant progress of his research ensures that this deadline can be met, and the council approves this request.

## 4. EDSP2 Doctoral Contract Competition

### 4.1 Competition Calendar

May 21, 2026 Validation of the composition of the competition jury and the doctoral student-observer by the EDSP2 Council

Submitting applications to the heads of the 3 main areas of the Doctoral School

June 21, 2026 Application deadline in Adum

June 24, 2026 Preliminary meeting for candidate selection in preparation for auditions  
Update on the organization of the competition

June 25, 2026 Email to candidates: end or continuation of the competition  
Email to jury members: files of candidates to be auditioned

Auditions will be held on July 8th and 9th over two consecutive days.

Candidate hearings and jury deliberations

**Members of the Council are expected to confirm their participation in the 2026 competition jury (by email to edsp2 and no later than the end of February).**

### 4.2 Competition Jury Rules

The regulations concerning the competition jury were submitted to the Council for its opinion on December 4th.

A point was discussed concerning the "Jury Deliberations" section of the regulations. It was decided to add the elements below and to present this addition at the next Council meeting.

Page 7 – Deliberation

Text added

The deliberation focuses on the remaining candidates (after the vote). Each remaining application is then discussed (2 minutes) by the jury members (with the exception of members with a conflict of interest).

For each candidate:

- a summary document (candidate's background) is projected and serves as a basis for discussion.
- The same two questions (relating to the written document and the oral presentation) are asked by the president and discussed by the jury.

The members of the Council approve the proposal as made.

### **4.3 EDSP2 Competition Rules**

The competition rules specify the eligibility criteria for thesis supervision:

To hold a HDR (Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches) or authorization to register for an HDR, or a valid ADT (Authorisation for Research Training).

Respect the supervision ratio

Submit only one application

If two winners in the last 4 competitions (100% or 50% thesis supervision), it is impossible to submit a new application.

**As in 2025, this last criterion will not come into effect for the 2026 competition (but remains mentioned in the RI).**

**The entry into force of this criterion, from 2027, will be widely disseminated** to future supervisors so that they can anticipate the preparation and submission of their application for ADT or authorization to register for HDR.

Supervisors must have obtained their authorization to supervise a thesis or authorization to register for the HDR before their candidate submits the competition file on Adum (mid-June).

**The Council members are in favour of postponing this criterion until 2027, with one abstention.**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

**Doctoral contract awarding jury:**  
**EDSP2 Regulations** (version as of 14/01/2026)

- 1- Competition Calendar
- 2- The main fields and specializations of doctoral studies
- 3- The jury
- 4- The observing doctoral student
- 5- Role of representatives of major sectors and of referents of specialties
- 6- Pre-selection meeting for candidates in preparation for the auditions
- 7- Auditions
- 8- Jury deliberations

## 1- Competition Calendar

The dates for the two days of hearings, as well as the competition schedule, are approved at the Doctoral School Council meeting in December. This information is then communicated to the laboratory directors (for internal distribution), to the heads of the Doctoral School's major research areas, and posted on the doctoral program website.

The calendar is established annually as follows:

May Validation of the composition of the competition jury and the doctoral student observer by the EDSP2 Council

Submitting applications to the heads of the 3 main areas of the Doctoral School

Mid-June Application deadline in Adum

Last week of June Preliminary screening meeting for candidates in preparation for auditions  
Update on the organization of the competition

The day after Email to candidates: end or continuation of the competition  
Email to jury members: files of candidates to be auditioned

July Auditions First half of July, over two consecutive days  
Candidate interviews  
Jury deliberations

Communication of results (email to candidates, posting on the website)

## 2 - Major fields and doctoral specializations

A manager for each major area is appointed by the ED management for the duration of the five-year contract.

The three main areas of study, as well as the specializations (and options) of the Doctoral School, are presented below:

### **Field of study: "Social Sciences"**

Ethnology, specializing in social and cultural anthropology  
Sociology  
Political Science  
Political Science Option: Political Economy

### **Field of study: "Humanities"**

Language, Languages, Cultures, Society  
Psychology

Educational Sciences and Training

Science and techniques of physical and sporting activities

Cognitive Sciences and Ergonomics - Ergonomics Option

Cognitive Science and Ergonomics - Cognitive Science Option

**Field of study: "Public Health - Pharmacology"**

Pharmacology Option: Pharmacoepidemiology, Pharmacovigilance

Public Health Biostatistics Option

Public Health - Epidemiology Option

Public Health - Information Technology and Health Option

Public Health Option: Intervention and Health Economics

### 3 - The jury

#### Composition

The jury is composed of teacher-researchers and researchers elected to the ED Council and the management of EDSP2 (the director and the two deputy directors).

The jury is thus composed of 5 members from each major area of the ED (15 voters), and the director of the ED designated as President of the jury (non-voting).

If an elected member is unavailable on the dates of the hearings, the laboratory director to whom the elected member is attached shall propose to the Doctoral School administration a tenured professor or researcher from their laboratory, in the same discipline as the elected member, and holding a habilitation or a research assistantship. Substitute members must not propose candidates in the year they participate in the jury.

The composition of the jury is ratified during the ED Council meeting in May.

#### Functioning

The jury members are required to be present on both days of the hearing.

They also participate in the pre-selection meeting for applications with the heads of the three main areas of the ED.

Following the pre-selection meeting for candidates for the auditions, the jury receives the following information by email:

- The schedule for the hearing days
- The audition schedule
- Candidate files
- Summary table of applications
- The candidate evaluation grid
- The personal declaration form regarding links and conflicts of interest (to be returned to the ED before the auditions).

Evaluation grid:

- The jury has a common scoring grid comprising the following sections:
  - Previous experience; Written project; Oral presentation

- The jury members complete the first 2 sections before the auditions.
- The third section is completed during the hearings. The ED does not collect the ratings. For each member, the ratings serve as the basis for voting and discussions/deliberations.

Members are bound by confidentiality regarding the jury's deliberations. The documents/templates are attached to this document.

## 4 - The Doctoral Student Observer

### Designation

Each year, the representatives of the doctoral students elected to the ED Council organize themselves so that one of them puts himself forward as a doctoral student observer.

This proposal is endorsed by the ED Council.

He is not a member of the jury but his name and his status as an observer are added to the list of jury members.

### Role

He observes the progress of the ED competition in its candidate hearing and jury deliberation phases.

He does not intervene during the hearings and deliberations of the jury and has neither an advisory nor a deliberative vote.

Like the jury members, he is bound by the confidentiality of the jury's deliberations.

He reports his observations to the Doctoral School Council. At the December meeting following the competition, a session is dedicated to discussing the jury's procedures (appropriateness of the methods used, fairness of the candidates, etc.). If necessary, adjustments/modifications are proposed and approved at this meeting. The observing doctoral student participates in this discussion.

## 5 - Role of representatives of major sectors and subject matter experts

The heads of the major fields set up their own schedule (in line with the competition schedule), to organize with the PhD specialty referees, the collection of application intentions.

The managers of the major estates therefore have the following mission:

- To collect and synthesize applications from across the entire field it represents;
- To interact with the subject matter experts to organize this feedback;
- To ensure the fairness of the procedures implemented by all specialties of their domain;
- To present a summary of it at the pre-selection meeting.

Before the pre-selection meeting, the heads of the major fields communicate with EDSP2 ([edsp2@u-bordeaux.fr](mailto:edsp2@u-bordeaux.fr)) their list of candidates for verification of applications in Adum.

The head of the Public Health department also organizes the pre-selection of candidates for the EHESP Doctoral Network in Public Health competition.

The specialist advisors have the following mission:

- To organize (with all colleagues in the relevant specialty) the selection of applications;
- To communicate to the head of the major domain the results of the pre-selection process, as well as all the procedures implemented to collect and validate (or even classify) the selected applications.

The heads of major areas and the subject matter experts are listed below:

"Social Sciences" Department: Head Antoine Roger

Ethnology, specializing in social and cultural anthropology: contact person Isabelle Gobatto

Sociology: Pascal Ragouet (reference)

Political Science: Contact person Antoine Roger

Humanities field: Head to be appointed

Language, Languages, Cultures, Society: Contact person Martine Derivry

Psychology: Contact person Stéphanie Mathey

Educational Sciences and Training: Contact Person Luc Robène

Science and techniques of physical and sporting activities: contact person Fabien Sabatier

Cognitive science: expert Bernard N'Kaoua

Field of study: Public Health - Pharmacology: Cecilia Samieri

Public health: contact person Héléne Jacqmin-Gadda

Pharmacology: Referent currently being appointed

## 6 - Pre-selection meeting for candidates in preparation for the auditions

During the candidate pre-selection meeting, each head of a major area presents their summary of applications. A maximum of 30 candidates (10 per area) are selected for the interviews.

The meeting also aims to reiterate the jury's operating procedures.

The head of the Public Health-Pharmacology Grand Domain also presents his summary of applications and the names of the candidates shortlisted for the RDSP competition (depending on the year and the RDSP guidelines, from 1 to 3 candidates per doctoral school).

## 7- Auditions

A file (paper format) is given to each member of the jury. It includes:

- The schedule for the hearing days
- The audition schedule
- Summary table of applications (completed data/M2 grades)

The jury members bring their laptops, in particular to carry out the online vote during the deliberation.

The day begins with a reminder of the rules by the president. He also reviews the personal declarations regarding links and conflicts of interest submitted by the jury members.

### Audition format

Candidates open their PPT presentation on the ED laptop and sign the attendance sheet.

Candidate presentation: 10 minutes.

Questions/answers between candidate and jury: 10 minutes. The jury members' questions are concise and neutral (no judgmental elements). The tone is supportive.

After each hearing (in the candidate's absence), the jury president asks the same two questions to the jury members in the relevant fields (maximum 8 minutes). Question 1: relevance of the presentation; Question 2: relevance of the candidate's answers.

Members with a link or conflict of interest are not allowed to speak.

## 8 - Jury deliberations

The deliberation includes a vote, followed by a deliberation, a second vote (if necessary) and the establishment of supplementary lists.

### Vote

A majority judgment vote is conducted online. The voting link is sent to jury members just before deliberations.

Candidates are evaluated using a 5-category scale: Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair, Unsatisfactory

The jury has access to the voting results once all members have voted.

This first vote helps to identify the successful candidates (considered excellent by the jury) as well as the candidates that the jury does not wish to retain in the next stage of deliberation.

### Deliberation

The deliberation focuses on the remaining candidates (after the vote). Each remaining application is then discussed (2 minutes) by the jury members (with the exception of members with a conflict of interest).

For each candidate:

- A summary document (candidate's background) is projected and used as a basis for discussion. - The same two questions (relating to the written document and the oral presentation) are asked by the president and discussed by the jury.

The deliberation then begins to determine the required number of candidates (excluding those on the reserve list). Candidate excellence remains the primary selection criterion. The balance between major fields/disciplines is only discussed when the jury deems the candidates to be of equivalent caliber.

### Second vote (if necessary)

In the absence of a consensus, a second vote (traditional, paper-based, secret ballot) is held to select the remaining successful candidates. Each member writes the names of their preferred candidates on a ballot (the number of candidates corresponds to the number of contracts remaining to be filled). The main list is thus established in order of ranking.

### Supplementary list

Three supplementary lists (one per major area), with order of ranking, are established.

If a candidate on the main list declines the proposed doctoral contract, the freed-up funding is offered to the first-ranked candidate on the supplementary list in the same major field, depending on their major area of expertise. The rankings of candidates on the supplementary lists are established by the jury based on the ranking determined by the votes.

## **Internal regulations for the recruitment competition: EDSP2 Doctoral Contracts**

1- Preamble

2 - Eligibility criteria

Candidates

Thesis supervision

3 - Support for candidates with their application and the interview

4 - Application submission procedures in Adum

5 - Special case of the doctoral network competition in public health

6 - Management of applications by the Doctoral School

7 - The jury

8 - Publication of competition results

9 - Appeals

### **1 - Preamble**

The allocation of doctoral contracts at EDSP2 is subject to a competitive recruitment process for candidates assigned to laboratories or research teams within the scope of the Doctoral School. The number of doctoral contracts open for competition is posted on the University of Bordeaux's doctoral website (<https://doctorat.u-bordeaux.fr/avant-le-doctorat/candidater-en-doctorat/admission-doctorat>).

ED choice (Societies, Politics, Public Health).

The competition schedule, the composition of the jury, and the name of the observing doctoral student are subject to validation by the ED Council (available on the website).

## 2 - Eligibility criteria

### Candidates

- Hold a Master's degree or equivalent qualification (no deadline for the year of graduation). If the degree is in progress, the provisional certificate of completion and the grades for the last semester must be submitted to the doctoral school no later than 5 p.m. the day before the interview days (if the candidate is selected for the interview).
- Not to be enrolled in a doctoral program.
- Not to have an employment contract at the start of the doctoral contract if successful in competition.
- No age limit, nor nationality requirement.
- The candidate must ensure they have the agreement of the thesis supervisor and the laboratory for to apply for the competition.

### Thesis supervision

- Hold a HDR (Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches) or authorization to register for an HDR or an ADT (Advanced Technician Diploma)
- Respect the supervision ratio

The number of theses supervised by a thesis director holding the HDR (Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches) must not exceed 300% for Public Health-Pharmacology (6 doctoral students) and 600% for the Humanities and Social Sciences (8 doctoral students), a co-directorship accounting for 50%.

The thesis director, who has obtained authorization to register for the HDR, can officially and only direct: either one thesis at 100%, or two theses at 50%, the quota not being able to exceed 100%.

This authorization is valid for two years. At the end of this period, he must defend his HDR.

If he has previously obtained an ADT with an effective thesis supervision, he must first defend his HDR in order to be able to supervise a new thesis.

The thesis director, who has obtained an authorization to direct a thesis (ADT), can officially and only direct: one thesis at 100% or two theses at 50%, the quota not being able to exceed 100%.

The validity of the ADT lasts for the entire duration of the thesis preparation of the doctoral student(s).

Note: if a first co-directorship recruitment has been carried out, the second co-directorship recruitment must take place at the latest three years later.

Without effective thesis supervision, the validity of the ADT is two years and the application must be renewed if thesis supervision is envisaged.

The thesis supervisor must then apply for authorization to register for the HDR and defend their HDR in order to be able to supervise a new thesis.

- Submit only one application.

- If two winners in the last 4 competitions (thesis supervision at 100% or 50%), it is impossible to submit a new application.

### 3 - Support for candidates with their application and the interview

Thesis supervisors wishing to present a candidate (or the candidates themselves) can contact the members of the ED Council for advice on preparing the application.

### 4 - Application submission procedures in Adum

The application must be submitted as a single PDF file on the Adum platform.

<https://adum.fr/candidature/>

The application file can be downloaded from the University of Bordeaux's doctoral website:

<https://doctorat.u-bordeaux.fr/avant-le-doctorat/candidater-en-doctorat/admission-doctorat>

This URL is also displayed in Adum.

To access the ED box more quickly, select "ED Societies, Politics, Public Health".

Before submitting the application to Adum, certain steps must be completed on the platform:

- Create your application space;
- Complete the online sections (civil status, contact details, diploma, academic record, language).

After submitting your application, click on "Finalize your application". You will receive a confirmation email (which does not guarantee the admissibility of your application).

**Any incomplete application or application submitted after the deadline in Adum will be automatically rejected.**

### 5 - Special case of the doctoral network competition in public health

The doctoral school is a member of the EHESP Doctoral Network in Public Health (RDSP). Candidates with a thesis project related to public health (regardless of the discipline) are encouraged to apply.

The RDSP organizes its own competition. However, candidates must have been previously selected by the doctoral schools (EDs) within the network. Therefore, candidates applying to the RDSP competition must also apply to the doctoral school's competition. Candidates should begin their online application on the RDSP website without waiting for the results of the pre-selection process conducted by the doctoral school.

Candidates shortlisted by the doctoral school commit to attending the RDSP audition.

The interviews are usually held in person at the EHESP premises located on the PariSanté Campus. A good level of English and French is recommended. It is also advisable to familiarize yourself with the RDSP (objectives, missions, rules, etc.).

## 6 - Management of applications by the Doctoral School

Following the submission of applications on the platform within the required timeframe, the ED examines the administrative admissibility of the files.

A pre-selection of candidates admitted to the auditions is organized (see the competition jury's internal regulations). The day after the pre-selection meeting (see the competition calendar), candidates (and their thesis supervisors, copied) receive the results by email (sender: [edsp2@u-bordeaux.fr](mailto:edsp2@u-bordeaux.fr)) : - end of the competition or

- 
- summons/audition for the competition
  - where applicable, pre-selection under the EDSP2 program for the RDSP network competition

The summons to the hearing specifies:

- The date, time and location of the hearing
- The procedures for conducting the hearing
- Any missing documents must be submitted the day before the hearing.
- The option to use a presentation slide (PPT) in French or English

The candidate must acknowledge receipt of the summons promptly (no later than the following day). Any special requests (see below) must be specified in the email.

At the request of the candidates to the Doctoral School:

- In case of a justified impediment, a new date (within the two audition days) or a different time may be proposed provided that a candidate agrees to give up their place.
- Auditions can be held in English.
- The use of videoconferencing is possible upon justification of compelling reasons preventing to come to the site.

In the case of a videoconference interview, a Zoom link will be sent by email. The candidate must make all necessary arrangements to access the platform and be present on the date and at least 20 minutes before the scheduled time, both of which are indicated on their summons.

Candidates who are unable to provide the provisional certificate of completion of the Master 2 and the grades of the last semester the day before the first day of the auditions will not be allowed to continue the competition.

## 7 - The jury (see internal regulations for the competition jury)

## 8 - Publication of competition results

Candidates are informed of the results by email (sender edsp2).

For any information regarding the results received, the candidate and/or project leader may contact the jury chair (director of the Doctoral School). As a reminder, deliberations are confidential, and only the rankings are communicated.

Successful applicants have a few days (deadline specified in the email) to confirm to the Doctoral School their acceptance or rejection of the proposed doctoral contract. If an applicant is awaiting the results of another competition, they must inform the Doctoral School to request an extension. If no response is received by the deadline, the award of the doctoral contract is cancelled and offered to the candidate on the supplementary list in order of merit.

The competition winners agree to complete the doctoral registration process in Adum during July (subject to having received their Master's degree certificate). Doctoral contracts begin either on September 1st or October 1st .

## 9 - Appeals

The jury's decision is final, and no appeal is admissible against the decisions it has made in accordance with these regulations. Therefore, only errors in reporting can be corrected.