

This document constitutes a translation of *Ustawa z dnia 14 marca 2003 r. o stopniach naukowych i tytule naukowym oraz o stopniach i tytule w zakresie sztuki* (Dz.U.03.65.595) and serves only as informational material. The only sources of universally binding law of the Republic of Poland are legislative acts in the Polish language published in official journals of law. The original document in the Polish language published in the Official Journal of 2003, No. 65, item 595, as amended, shall be considered as binding.

ACT

of 14 March 2003

Law on Academic Degrees and Title and Degrees and Title in the Arts

(Dziennik Ustaw - Official Journal of Laws of 2003, No. 65, item 595, as amended)

Chapter 1

General provisions

Article 1

1. The academic degrees shall be the degrees of *doktor* and *doktor habilitowany* of a specified discipline within sciences.
2. Within the arts, there shall be the degrees of *doktor sztuki* and *doktor habilitowany sztuki* of a specified artistic discipline.

Article 2

1. The academic title shall be the title of *profesor* of a specified field of science.
2. Within the arts, there shall be the title of *profesor sztuki* of a specified field of the arts.

Article 3⁽¹⁾

1. The minister competent for higher education, upon consultation with the Degrees and Titles Committee, hereinafter referred to as „the Committee”, shall specify by regulation the fields of sciences and the arts as well as the disciplines within the fields of sciences and the arts, while giving consideration to the existing degrees and titles as well as newly developing fields and disciplines of sciences and the arts and areas of knowledge, including the areas of study specified in the regulations on higher education.

2. An academic or artistic discipline may be equivalent to a field of the sciences or the arts.

Article 4

Whenever this Act refers to:

- 1) degrees of *doktor* and *doktor habilitowany* - without providing a detailed definition – this shall mean the academic degrees of *doktor* and *doktor habilitowany* or degrees of *doktor* and *doktor habilitowany sztuki*;
- 2) title of *profesor* - without providing a detailed definition – this shall mean the academic title of *profesor* or the title of *profesor sztuki*;
- 3) ⁽²⁾ academic unit - without providing a detailed definition - this shall mean a faculty, another organizational unit of a higher education institution, a scientific institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences, a research institute or an international research institute active on the territory of the Republic of Poland and founded on the basis of separate regulations;
- 4) ⁽³⁾ board of an academic unit - without providing a detailed definition – this shall mean the faculty board, the board of another organizational unit of a higher education institution or a scientific council of a scientific institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences, a scientific council of a research institute or a scientific council of an international scientific institute, active on the territory of the Republic of Poland and established under separate provisions.
- 5) ⁽⁴⁾ doctoral thesis - without providing a detailed definition - this shall also mean a doctoral thesis within the arts.

Chapter 2

Academic degrees and degrees in the arts.

Article 5

1. The degrees of *doktor* and *doktor habilitowany* shall be conferred by academic units authorised to award degrees.
2. ⁽⁵⁾ The authorisation to award degrees referred to in section 1, shall be granted by the Degrees and Titles Committee upon the request of an academic unit, with due regard being given to the quality of research or artistic activity conducted by the unit as well as the number of its staff members holding the title of *profesor* or the degree of *doktor habilitowany*, as specified in Article 6. The Committee shall grant this authority upon consultation with the General Council for Science and Higher Education, whose opinion shall be delivered within three months of the request by the Committee.
- 2a. ⁽⁶⁾ In the event of a merger of academic units of a higher education institution where at least one unit is authorised to award degrees, the resultant merged unit shall inherit such

powers. The newly established academic unit shall notify the Committee about this fact within seven days of the date of the merger.

3. The Committee shall make a decision regarding the granting of the authorisation referred to in section 1 within six months of the date of receipt of such request.

Article 6

1. ⁽⁷⁾ The authorisation for awarding the degree of *doktor* may be given to academic units with at least eight full-time staff holding the academic title of *profesor* or the degree of *doktor habilitowany* or an equivalent degree, pursuant to the provisions of Article 21a, and for whom the unit constitutes their primary place of employment, within the meaning of the Act of 27 July, 2005, the Law on Higher Education (*Dziennik Ustaw* No. 164, item 1365, as amended), while representing those areas of science or the arts for which the unit requests authorisation.

2. ⁽⁸⁾ The authorisation for awarding the degree of *doktor habilitowany* may be given to academic units with at least twelve full-time staff holding the title of *profesor* or the degree of *doktor habilitowany* or an equivalent degree, pursuant to Article 21a, including the minimum of three holders of the title of *profesor*, and for whom the unit constitutes their primary place of employment, within the meaning of the Act of 27 July 27, 2005, the Law on Higher Education (*Dziennik Ustaw*, No. 164 item 1365, as amended), while representing those areas of science or the arts for which the unit requests authorization.

3. ⁽⁹⁾ The authorisation for awarding the degree of *doktor* and *doktor habilitowany* may be given only for those scientific and artistic disciplines which in a given academic unit are represented by at least five full-time staff members holding the title of *profesor* or the degree of *doktor habilitowany* or its equivalent, pursuant to the provisions of Article 21a.

4. ⁽¹⁰⁾ Persons holding the title of *profesor* or the degree of *doktor habilitowany* or equivalent degree, pursuant to the provisions of Article 21a, may be included in the minimum staffing requirement, referred to in sections 1 to 3, comprising staff members employed in a single academic unit, provided the period of employment therein is not less than one year.

5. ⁽¹¹⁾ In justified cases, persons representing related areas of science and the arts, including related scientific and artistic disciplines may be considered by the Committee as complying with the requirements specified in sections 1 to 3.

Article 7

1. The minister competent for higher education shall lay down, by regulation, the procedure for submitting requests for the degree awarding authorisation of the degrees of *doktor* and *doktor habilitowany*, including in particular a specimen request as well as the following documentation:

- 1) a report on scientific and research activity or artistic output of the applicant unit for a period of three years directly preceding the submission of the request;
 - 2)⁽¹²⁾ a register of staff members holding the title of *profesor* or the degree of *doktor habilitowany* or equivalent degree, pursuant to the provisions of Article 21a, employed in the unit;
 - 3) the composition of the board of the unit with a list of the members thereof;
 - 4) a description of scientific and teaching achievements of the persons referred to in subsections 2 and 3;
 - 5) a description of the research base and facilities of the unit concerned;
 - 6)⁽¹³⁾ an opinion given by the Polish Accreditation Committee on the quality of teaching provided by the unit, if such activity is conducted.
2. A register of academic units authorised to award the degree of *doktor* and *doktor habilitowany* together with the title of the awarded degrees shall be published by the Degrees and Titles Committee in the Official Journal of the Republic of Poland “*Monitor Polski*”.

Article 8

1. Academic units shall notify the Degrees and Titles Committee forthwith of any changes in the level of employment which may affect the degree awarding authorisation for the degrees of *doktor* and *doktor habilitowany*.
2. The authorisation for awarding the degrees of *doktor* and *doktor habilitowany* shall be suspended, by virtue of law, from the date the number of staff members employed in the unit concerned falls below the required minimum laid down Article 6. The Committee shall specify the period, not longer than two years, for meeting the requirements necessary for the suspended degree awarding authorisation to be revoked.
3. Unless the academic unit meets the requirements referred to in section 2 within the specified period of time, the authorisation shall be withdrawn by the Committee
4. ⁽¹⁴⁾ The Committee shall determine the conditions for the continuation of any doctoral and habilitation assessment processes initiated prior to the date of suspension of the authorisation, referred to in section 2, or shall indicate another academic unit for the assessment processes to be continued therein.
5. ⁽¹⁵⁾ Any habilitation assessment process initiated prior to the date of the suspension of the authorisation referred to in section 2 shall be continued by a commission appointed pursuant to the provisions of Article 18a, section 5. The Committee shall indicate an academic unit, pursuant to Article 18a section 11, which shall adopt a resolution awarding or declining the degree of *doktor habilitowany*.

Article 9

1.⁽¹⁶⁾ The Degrees and Titles Committee shall carry out a periodic evaluation of the compliance of academic units with the requirements necessary for awarding the degree of *doktor* and *doktor habilitowany*, the execution of the awarding process, as well as the substantiation of the resolutions regarding the award of degrees, referred to in Article 14 section 2, subsection 5 and Article 18a, section 11, adopted by the units.

2.⁽¹⁷⁾ Should a negative evaluation, referred to in section 1, be given, the Committee may:

1) limit the degree-awarding authorisation by obliging the academic unit concerned to submit each of its resolutions regarding the award of the academic degree of *doktor* to the Committee for its approval;

2) suspend the degree-awarding authorisation for a specified period of time, not exceeding the period of three years;

3) withdraw the degree-awarding authorisation.

3.⁽¹⁸⁾ In cases of suspension or withdrawal of the degree-awarding authorisation, actions regarding the completion of the doctoral or habilitation assessment process shall be performed in compliance with the provisions laid down in Article 8 sections 4 and 5.

4. The restoration of the degree-awarding authorisation following its withdrawal, the revocation of the suspension of the degree-awarding authorisation before the expiry of a specified period of time or the reversal of the limitation of the authorization, shall be conducted in compliance with the procedure and regulations in force at the time of the authorisation being granted.

5.⁽¹⁹⁾ (repealed)

6.⁽²⁰⁾ The resolutions of the Committee on the matters, referred to in section 2, subsections 2 and 3, and sections 4, shall be published by the Committee in the Official Journal of the Republic of Poland, *Monitor Polski*.

Article 10⁽²¹⁾

In the absence of a domestic academic unit competent to conduct a given doctoral or habilitation assessment process, the Committee, acting at the request of an academic unit or ex - officio, shall indicate an academic unit and order it to supplement the composition of its board by persons who are not its members. These persons shall enjoy the rights of membership of a given board with regard to all matters related to this doctoral or habilitation process.

Article 11 ⁽²²⁾

1. A degree of *doktor* shall be awarded following a doctoral assessment process and a degree of *doktor habilitowany* following completion of a habilitation assessment process which shall be initiated upon the request of a candidate applying for the award of the degree concerned.

2. The commencement of a doctoral assessment process shall be conditional upon on a scientific paper having been already published, or accepted for publication in a book form, or the minimum of one scientific publication in a peer reviewed scientific journal of national or international standing , as specified by the minister competent for science, pursuant to regulations on the funding of science, or a publication in peer reviewed international conference papers or in the case of a work of art, a public presentation.

Article 12 ⁽²³⁾

1. A degree of *doktor* shall be awarded to persons who:

1) hold a degree of *magister*, *magister inżynier*, or *lekarz* or equivalent degree, or have been awarded a diploma referred to in Article 191a, section 3 and 4 of the Law on Higher Education of 27 July, 2005;

2) have successfully passed doctoral examinations in compliance with the requirements regarding the scope of knowledge as determined by the board of an academic unit concerned;

3) have presented and defended a doctoral thesis.

4) have passed a modern foreign language exam or hold a certificate confirming their linguistic abilities in a modern foreign language as laid down in the regulations pursuant to Article 31, subsection 5.

2. Doctoral examinations shall be conducted within the scope of the following:

1) the basic discipline corresponding to the subject matter of the doctoral thesis concerned,

2) a supplementary discipline,

3) a modern foreign language, in the case of a candidate not holding a language certificate mentioned in section 1 subsection 4.

Article 13 ⁽²⁴⁾

1. Any doctoral thesis prepared under the guidance of a sole supervisor or supervisor and subsidiary supervisor, referred to in Article 20, section 7, shall constitute an original solution to a scientific problem or an artistic achievement, as well as providing evidence of the

candidate's general theoretical knowledge and understanding of a given discipline of science or the arts as well as the ability to conduct independent scientific or artistic work.

2. A doctoral thesis may take the form of a book manuscript, a whole or a coherent fundamental part of a published book or a mono-thematic series of articles, either already published or accepted for publication by a scientific journal, as specified by the minister competent for science, pursuant to the regulations on the financing of science, provided such work complies with the conditions laid down in section 1.

3. A doctoral thesis may also take the form of a design, construction, technological or artistic project, provided that it complies the requirements laid down to in section 1.

4. An independently elaborated section of a collective work may also constitute a doctoral thesis provided it demonstrates the candidate's individual contribution towards a fundamental concept, involvement in the experimental phase and the drafting and interpreting of research results, in compliance with the requirements defined in section 1.

5. A doctoral thesis may be presented in a language other than Polish, subject to the permission of the board of the unit conducting the doctoral assessment.

6. A doctoral thesis should be provided with an English language summary, and a thesis in a foreign language should have a Polish summary. In cases when the thesis is not presented in a written form, it should be submitted together with an outline in both Polish and English languages.

7. The summary of the doctoral thesis and its reviews shall be published on the internet webpage of the higher education institution or academic unit conducting the doctoral assessment. The summary of the thesis shall be published on the date the board of the unit council adopts the resolution on the acceptance of the doctoral thesis while the reviews shall be published on the date of the delivery thereof by the reviewers. The summary and reviews shall be displayed on the internet webpage at least until the date the degree of *doktor* is conferred. The requirement of publication on a webpage of the summary and its reviews shall not apply to any such thesis whose subject matter falls under the protection of any relevant official secrets act.

8. The reviews to be published on an internet webpage, following their submission, shall be forwarded forthwith to the Committee for the purpose of publication in the official Public Information Bulletin (*Biuletyn Informacji Publicznej*).

Article 13a⁽²⁵⁾

1. In exceptional cases, justified by the highest quality scientific achievement, the degree of *doktor* can be conferred upon persons holding the minimum of the degree of *licencjat*, *inżynier* or equivalent and who have been in receipt of the Diamond Grant (*Diamentowy Grant*) awarded within the programme established by the minister competent for science, and

who fulfilled the requirements laid down in Article 12, section 1, subsections 2 to 4, and section 2 as well as in Article 13.

2. The entitlement referred to in section 1, shall not prejudice the recipients from the conferment of a degree of *magister*, *magister inżynier*, or *lekarz* or equivalent during the period a Diamond Grant research project is in progress.

Article 14

1. A doctoral assessment process shall be conducted and a degree of *doktor* shall be awarded:

- 1) in a higher education institution – by the faculty boards or boards of academic units;
- 2) ⁽²⁶⁾ in other organizational units – by their scientific councils.

2. Each stage of a doctoral assessment process shall be concluded with the adoption by the board of the unit of a resolution regarding:

- 1) ⁽²⁷⁾ the initiation of a doctoral assessment process and appointment of a supervisor and subsidiary supervisor if such participation is envisaged;
- 2) the appointment of reviewers;
- 3) the acceptance of a doctoral thesis and its admission to an open defense (*viva*);
- 4) the acceptance of the open defense (*viva*) of the doctoral thesis;
- 5) the award of the academic degree of *doktor*.

3. A doctoral thesis which has failed to gain acceptance may not support a request for a doctoral award in other academic units.

4. Should a doctoral candidate fail to enter for doctoral examinations or to present a doctoral thesis within the specified period of time, the board of the unit may adopt a resolution on the termination of such doctoral assessment process.

Article 14a⁽²⁸⁾

1. Upon agreement, doctoral assessment processes may be conducted jointly by boards of academic units of higher education institutions or other, including foreign, organisational units, provided they are authorised to award the degree of *doktor*.

2. In the case of a higher education institution, the party to an agreement referred to in section 1, shall be a higher education institution with academic units having the authority to award the degree of *doktor*.

3. If the case of a doctoral assessment process being conducted jointly with another higher education institution or organisational unit, including a foreign unit, the parts of a doctoral assessment process referred to in Article 14, section 2, subsection 1, 2 and 5 shall be concluded with the adoption of relevant resolutions in compliance with procedure specified in the agreement, without prejudice to Article 14, section 2, subsection 4.

4. In the case referred to in section 3, the power to adopt resolutions mentioned in Article 14, section 2, subsection 3 and 4, rests with the commission appointed by the boards of the units conducting the doctoral assessment process.

5. A joint doctoral diploma shall be issued to the persons awarded the degree of *doktor* in compliance with the specimen defined in the agreement and including the obligatory elements specified in the regulations pursuant to Article 3, section 7.

Article 15

1. A resolution on the award of a degree of *doktor* shall become valid upon its adoption.

2. The resolution on the award of a degree of *doktor* adopted by the board of the academic unit who had the doctoral awarding authority limited, pursuant to Article 9, section 2, subsection 1, shall become valid upon its approval by the Degrees and Titles Committee. The resolution together with the records of the given doctoral assessment process shall be submitted to the Committee within one month of the date of adoption. The Committee shall make a decision regarding the approval of the resolution within six months of the date of receipt.

3. In the case of a resolution regarding the award of a doctoral degree failing to receive approval, the board of the academic unit or the doctoral applicant may, within three months from the date of receipt of the decision, submit to the Committee a request for the decision to be reconsidered.

4. The Committee shall consider the request referred to in section 3 within four months from the date of receipt.

5. The assessment process referred to in section 4 may involve reviewers appointed for a doctoral assessment process.

Article 16²⁹⁾

1. A person who holds a doctoral degree and demonstrates scientific or artistic achievements representing a significant contribution to the advancement of a given scientific or artistic discipline, made after the award of the doctoral degree, and who is meaningfully engaged in scientific or artistic activity may be admitted to a habilitation assessment process.

2. Achievements mentioned in section 1, may constitute:

- 1) a published body of work in its entirety, its fundamental part, or as a mono-thematic series of papers;
 - 2) executed design, construction, technological or artistic projects of original merit;
 - 3) a part of any co-authored work, provided the contribution regarding self-contained matter has been individually authored by the doctoral candidate concerned
3. Achievements concerning matters which fall under any relevant official secrets act shall be exempt from obligatory publication.
4. The minister competent for higher education shall lay down, by regulation, the criteria for the assessment of the relevant achievements of the candidate for a degree of *doktor habilitowany*, considering any scientific and research achievements in the fields of science and the arts or areas of knowledge as well as international co-operation, teaching accomplishments and popularisation of science as well as any awards.

Article 17 ⁽³⁰⁾ (repealed)

Article 18 ⁽³¹⁾

1. A degree of *doktor habilitowany* shall be conferred:

- 1) in a higher education institution – by the faculty board or the board of another academic unit of the institution concerned;
- 2) in another organizational unit – by its scientific council.

Article 18 a ⁽³²⁾

- 1 The habilitation assessment process shall be initiated at the request of a candidate for the award of a degree of *doktor habilitowany* and submitted to the Committee together with the summary of the candidate's doctoral thesis.
2. The candidate for the award of a *doktor habilitowany* degree shall indicate in the request the academic unit, authorised to grant the *doktor habilitowany* degree, selected by the candidate for the conduct of the habilitation process. The date of the commencement of the process shall be the date of the receipt of the request by the Committee.
3. Should the board of the academic unit decline to conduct the habilitation assessment process, the habilitation process shall be conducted by an academic unit appointed by the Committee and authorised to award the degree of *doktor habilitowany*.
4. The Committee shall formally examine the request within the period of seven days. In the event of finding the request incomplete or non-compliant with the regulations of the law, the

Committee shall require the request to be completed correctly, indicating the manner and date for submission.

5. The Committee, shall appoint a habilitation commission for the conduct of the habilitation assessment process within six days from the receipt of a fully-compliant habilitation request. This commission shall comprise:

1) four members of recognized international scientific or artistic renown, including the chairperson and two reviewers appointed by the Committee who shall be external to the academic unit referred to in section 2 or 3;

2) three members of recognized international scientific or artistic renown, including the secretary and a reviewer appointed from within the unit referred to in section 2 or 3.

6. The Committee shall forward the documents referred to in section 1 to the habilitation commission on the date of the appointment thereof.

7. Within a period no longer than six weeks from the date of the appointment of the habilitation commission, the reviewers referred to in section 5 shall assess the compliance of the candidate's scientific achievements with the criteria laid down in Article 16, and shall prepare reports on the thesis.

8. Upon the presentation of the thesis reports and the reading of the habilitation thesis summary, the members of the habilitation commission shall, following an open vote, adopt a resolution recommending or declining the conferment of a degree of *doktor habilitowany*.

9. Upon the request of the habilitation candidate, the voting referred to in section 8 shall be by secret ballot.

10. In exceptional cases, when the habilitation commission holds justified concerns regarding the documentation of scientific achievements, the commission may summon the candidate for an interview concerning the matter of the candidate's scientific achievements and future research plans.

11. Within twenty one days of receipt of the habilitation report, the habilitation commission shall submit to the board of the academic unit a resolution with the recommendation on conferring or declining a habilitation degree, referred to in section 8, together with the complete records of the habilitation assessment process, including reports on the candidate's scientific achievements. Upon this recommendation the board of the unit shall adopt a resolution on the conferring or declining of a *doktor habilitowany* degree within a period of one month.

12. The candidate's request for the award of a *doktor habilitowany* degree together with the summary of the habilitation thesis, information on the habilitation committee membership, habilitation process timetable, as well as the text of the resolution on the conferring or

declining of the degree, with the supporting recommendation, shall be made available by the board of the unit concerned on an internet webpage.

13. Any disparities arising between the habilitation committee recommendations and the resolutions of the board of the unit, subject to any prior investigative proceeding, as may have been conducted by the Committee, may constitute a prerequisite for the involvement of the Committee as referred to in Article 9 sections 1 to 3.

Article 19 ⁽³³⁾

A resolution on the award of the degree of *doktor habilitowany* shall become valid upon its adoption.

Article 20 ⁽³⁴⁾

1. The resolutions referred to in Article 14 section 2 and Article 18 section 11 shall be adopted by secret ballot by an absolute majority of the votes cast, with at least half of the total number of the persons entitled to vote being present.

2. The members of the board of a competent academic unit who hold the title of *profesor* or the degree of *doktor habilitowany* or equivalent, pursuant to Article 21a, shall be entitled to vote, as specified in section 1.

3. The entitlement, referred to in section 2, shall also apply to persons listed in Article 10, and within the habilitation assessment process this shall apply also to the reviewers and the supervisor participating in the habilitation process.

4. In a doctoral assessment process conducted within the framework of international co-operation, a subsidiary supervisor may be appointed, as referred to in Article 14a, section 1.

5. For a doctoral assessment processes, at least two reviewers shall be appointed who are staff members of a higher education institution or academic unit external to that of the applicants' own place of employment and who concurrently are not members of the board of the unit conducting this process.

6. Supervisors in a doctoral assessment process or reviewers of a doctoral thesis or members of a habilitation commission may be persons who hold the title of *profesor* or a degree of *doktor habilitowany* or equivalent in a given or related discipline of science or the arts, pursuant to the provisions of Article 21a, and who continue to be involved in research or academic teaching in a given or related discipline of science or the arts.

7. Subsidiary supervisors with a key role relating in particular to the candidate's guidance and research planning, as well as research implementation and outcome evaluation in the course of the doctoral process, may be persons who hold the degree of *doktor* of a given or related discipline of science or the arts and who do not qualify to undertake the role of principal supervisor in a doctoral assessment process.

8. Supervisors in a doctoral assessment process or members of a habilitation commission may be persons who are staff members of a foreign higher education or scientific institution who do not comply with the requirements laid down in section 6, provided the board of the academic unit conducting the doctoral assessment, or in the case of a habilitation process, the board of the academic unit, referred to in Article 18a, section 2 or 3, or the Committee, recognizes such persons as eminent experts in the field which is the subject of the doctoral or habilitation process concerned.

Article 21

- ⁽³⁵⁾ Doctoral and habilitation candidates may, through the competent board, lodge appeals to the Committee against resolutions regarding non-conferment decisions, referred to in Article 14, section 2 and Article 18a, section 11, within one month of delivery of the resolution with its substantiation. The board shall forward the appeals to the Committee, together with its opinions and records, within three months of date of the submission of appeals.
- Having considered an appeal, within a period not longer than six months, the Committee shall either uphold the appealed resolution, or if the resolution is repealed, shall forward the case for reconsideration by the board of the same or another academic unit.
- ⁽³⁶⁾ In the case of the resolution being upheld, the *doktor habilitowany* candidate may request for a renewed initiation of the habilitation assessment process after a period of three years. This period may be reduced to twelve months if evidence of the candidate's considerable subsequent development in scientific research or artistic output can be demonstrated.

Article 21a⁽³⁷⁾

- Persons who received the award of *doktor* in the Republic of Poland or abroad, and who, during employment in another country for a minimum five years, were independent leaders of research teams and who also can demonstrate significant scientific output and achievements, when employed in positions of *professor nadzwyczajny* or *professor wizytujący* shall acquire rights equal to those of *doktor habilitowany*, by a decision of the rector. The rector shall notify the Committee about any such decision.
- The rector of a higher education institution shall forward to the Degrees and Titles Committee the notifications and decisions referred to in section 1, complete with a description of the career development and list of publications of any person referred to in section 1.
- Decisions of the rector shall become valid three months from the date of notification to the Committee. Within this period, the Commission may, by administrative decision, raise an objection and overrule the rector's decision regarding the acquisition of rights equivalent to those of *doktor habilitowany*.

4. The rector shall be entitled to lodge a complaint with the competent administrative court within a period of thirty days from the date of receipt of the decision.

Article 22⁽³⁸⁾

1. Persons who have had their doctoral assessment process initiated may be awarded scholarships.

2. The minister competent for higher education shall lay down, by regulation, the conditions for awarding scholarships referred to in section 1, including the following:

1) the procedure and criteria for the award of scholarships, conditional upon the progress made in the the doctoral assessment process;

2) the procedure and criteria for the revocation and repayment of scholarships, in the case of insufficient scholarly progress being made;

3) a competent body for making decisions referred to in subsection 1 and 2;

4) the maximum period of time for which a scholarship may be awarded;

5) the amount of doctoral scholarships in relation to the minimum rate of the basic pay regulated in the provisions on the remuneration of academic staff.

Article 23⁽³⁹⁾

1. Employed persons preparing a doctoral thesis who are not members of academic or research staff shall be entitled, on application and at a time mutually agreed with the employer, to twenty eight working days of leave of absence, calculated as working days under the provisions of separate regulations, for the purpose of preparing and conducting the defence (*viva*) of his or her doctoral thesis.

2. Employed persons who are not members of academic or research staff and who have successfully requested the initiation of the assessment process for the award of *doktor habilitowany* degree shall be entitled, on application, to leave of absence from work in order to attend the interview, referred to in Article 18a, section 10.

3. For the duration of the periods of absence referred to in sections 1 and 2, employees shall be entitled to remuneration calculated as equivalent to that classified as annual holiday leave.

Article 24⁽⁴⁰⁾

1. An academic title or a title in the arts conferred by recognised institutions authorised to award the title and operating in member states of the European Union or the Organization

for the European Cooperation and Development (OECD) or member states of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) – party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, shall be equivalent to the academic title or title in the arts referred to in this Act..

2. A register of institutions referred to in section 1 shall be maintained by the minister competent for higher education or by an authorised unit supervised by minister.

3. An academic title and a title in the arts conferred by institutions other than the institution referred to in section 1 may be recognized as equivalent to the relevant Polish academic title or a title in the arts on the basis of an international agreement, and in the absence of such an agreement, through the procedure of recognition of qualifications.

4. A degree of doctor (PhD) awarded by the European University Institute, in compliance with the Convention establishing this Institute, agreed in Florence on 19 April 1972 (*Dziennik Ustaw* 2005, No.150, item 1236), shall be recognized as equivalent to the Polish degree of *doktor*.

5. The minister competent for higher education shall determine, by regulation, the following:

1) a register of academic units authorised to conduct the procedure of the recognition of qualifications and the framework of responsibilities of their bodies,

2) the procedure and time framework for the conduct of the recognition of academic degrees and degrees in the arts awarded abroad, while allowing for a partial or full exemption from the recognition procedure;

3) types of documents to be submitted in support of applications for the recognition of academic degrees and degrees in the arts,

4) conditions for charging fees for the conduct of the recognition procedure, allowing for the reduction or exemption from fee, and the manner for making payments;

5) a sample certificate to be issued upon completion of the recognition procedure

- with due regard given to the efficiency and transparency of the process.

Chapter 3

Academic Title and Title in the Arts

Article 25⁽⁴¹⁾

The title of *profesor* shall be conferred by the President of the Republic of Poland upon a request of the Degrees and Titles Committee, referred to in Article 28, section 4.

Article 26⁽⁴²⁾

1. The title of *profesor* may be conferred on a person who holds the degree of *doktor habilitowany* or equivalent degree, under the provisions of Article 21a, and who can demonstrate the following:

- 1) scientific achievements considerably exceeding the requirements for the habilitation process;
- 2) proven leadership skills in the management of research teams, financed through national and international research grant competitions;
- 3) research guidance, with a minimum of three supervisory or subsidiary roles within a doctoral assessment process, including two reviewer roles in a doctoral or habilitation process, subject to section 2 and 3;
- 4) participated in fellowship programmes and conducted advanced research in scientific institutes at home or abroad.

2. In the arts, the title of *profesor* may be awarded to holders of a *doktor habilitowany* or equivalent degree, pursuant to Article 21a, who can demonstrate the following:

- 1) artistic achievements considerably exceeding the requirements of the habilitation process;
- 2) accomplishments regarding the development of academic staff.

3. In exceptional cases, at the request of the board of a relevant academic unit authorised to award a *doktor habilitowany* degree, the Degrees and Titles Committee may give permission for the initiation of the professorial process to persons holding the degree of a *doktor* who can demonstrate outstanding scientific or artistic achievements.

4. Scientific achievement shall also mean executed outstanding design, construction or technological projects while artistic achievements shall also mean executed outstanding artistic projects.

Article 27⁽⁴³⁾

1. The assessment process for the conferment of the title of *profesor* shall be conducted, upon the request of the candidate concerned, by the boards of academic units authorised to award the degree of *doktor habilitowany* in a given discipline of science or the arts. The provisions of Article 10 shall apply accordingly.

2. Each stage of the assessment process for the conferment of the title of *profesor* shall be concluded with the adoption by the board of resolutions regarding the following:

- 1) the initiation of the professorial assessment process;

- 2) the nomination of candidates for reviewers in the process;
- 3) the support of the request for the conferment of the title of *profesor*.

3. The board of the unit shall submit to the Committee a list of a minimum of ten candidates for reviewers selected from staff members of a higher education institution or an academic unit external to the professorial candidate's own place of employment and who are not included in the membership of the board conducting the process.

4. Five reviewers of international renown selected from the candidates recommended by the board of the academic unit concerned or from among other persons shall be appointed by the Committee to act in the professorial process.

5. Reviewers in the process for the conferment of the title of *profesor* may be persons holding the title of *profesor* in a given or related field of science or the arts, or persons holding a doctoral degree who were employed in a position of professor in a foreign higher education or research institution for a minimum of five years, were independent leaders of research teams and supervisors in a minimum of two successful doctoral assessment processes and who demonstrate a significant scientific output.

Article 28⁽⁴⁴⁾

1. Upon the adoption of a resolution in support of a request for the conferment of the title of *profesor* the board of the unit concerned, shall forward the relevant request complete with the records of the process to the Committee within one month of the adoption of the resolution.

2. The Committee shall adopt a resolution on proposing or declining to propose a candidate for the title of *profesor* within the period of six months of the date of the receipt of such resolution.

3. The Committee shall submit a request for the conferment of the title of *profesor* to the President of the Republic of Poland within one month of the adoption of the resolution proposing the candidate for the title.

4. Should the Committee adopt a resolution declining to propose the candidate for the title of *profesor*, the board of the unit concerned or the candidate for the title may, within three months of the date of the receipt of the decision, submit a request to the Degrees and Titles Committee for the matter to be re-considered.

5. The Committee shall consider the request referred to in section 4 within six months from the date of receipt.

6. The process referred to in section 5 may involve reviewers appointed for the assessment process leading to the conferment of the title of *profesor*.

Chapter 4

Common provisions

Article 29

- ⁽⁴⁵⁾ Award assessment processes for the degree of *doktor* and *doktor habilitowany* and the title of *profesor*, as well as the granting, limiting, suspending or withdrawing of authorisation for awarding these degrees and title, shall be subject to the provisions of the Code of Administrative Procedure, whenever unregulated by this Act. Appeals against decisions taken in the course of award processes shall be subject to regulations concerning appeals against administrative decisions to an administrative court of law.
- Disclosure of any circumstances other than the circumstances laid down in the Code of Administrative Procedure, indicating that the degrees of *doktor* or *doktor habilitowany* or the title of *profesor* have been awarded with the support of output created in infringement of the law, including that of copyright or accepted rules of good conduct in science, may constitute a prerequisite for instituting *de novo* the assessment process for the award of these degrees and titles.
- In the case of the prerequisites being established for instituting *de novo* the doctoral, habilitation or professorial assessment, the Degrees and Titles Committee shall be the authority to make a decision regarding the re-institution of the processes concerned.

Article 29a⁽⁴⁶⁾

- The board of the relevant academic unit, or respectively, the Committee, shall by decision render invalid any assessment process for the conferment of a title or degree, whenever output presented in support of such a process, in its essential part or sections or research findings, has been wrongfully ascribed by the candidate as of his or her own authorship.
- Decisions referred to in section 1 shall not preclude disciplinary, criminal or civil liability.

Article 30⁽⁴⁷⁾

- Academic and research staff members shall be required to accept the role of a supervisor, subsidiary supervisor or a member of an examination commission within a doctoral, habilitation or professorial assessment process, and to prepare reports at the request of the Degrees and Titles Committee.
- Academic units conducting a doctoral, habilitation or professorial assessment process shall enter into agreements with reviewers, specifying, in particular, the time framework for preparing reviews, not shorter than indicated in Article 18a, section 7, remuneration due and any penalty arising from the breach of an agreement.

3. The minister competent for higher education shall lay down, by regulation, the rate and terms of payment of the remuneration due to supervisors as well as remuneration for reports and reviews referred to in section 1, while allowing for:

- 1) the rate of remuneration to be established in relation to the minimum rate of basic pay of a *professor zwyczajny*, as regulated in the provisions on the remuneration of academic staff;
- 2) remuneration to be paid through the academic unit conducting the doctoral, habilitation or professorial assessment process and allowing units to make payments to supervisors who are staff members thereof.

Article 31⁽⁴⁸⁾

The minister competent for higher education, upon consultation with the Committee, shall lay down by regulation detailed procedures and requirements for the conduct of the doctoral and habilitation assessment process, and the process for the conferment of the title of *profesor*, and in particular, the following:

- 1) documents to be presented by a candidate in support of the request for the commencement of a doctoral, habilitation or professorial process;
- 2) a specimen evaluation form of the candidate's scientific or artistic achievements when applying for the award of the title of *profesor*, with consideration given to the various disciplines of science and the arts;
- 3) the composition and the rules of procedure for commissions and teams appointed by boards of academic units for the conduct of the doctoral assessment process or for the conferment of the title of *profesor*, while allowing for the appointment to such commissions and teams of persons holding the title of *profesor* or degree of *doktor habilitowany* or equivalent degree, pursuant to the provisions of Article 21a, and in the case of the professorial process, only persons who hold the title of a *profesor*.
- 4) eligibility and conditions for re-admittance to doctoral examinations;
- 5) a register of certificates confirming foreign language abilities;
- 6) the manner of presentation and assessment of doctoral theses, including collectively authored theses, with consideration given to natural differences inherent in various disciplines of science and the arts, as well as the manner for the adoption of resolutions regarding the award of the degree of *doktor and doktor habilitowany* ;
- 7) obligatory elements of the doctoral and habilitation diplomas, with consideration given to the principle that a doctoral diploma shall have affixed a seal with the emblem of a higher education institution or another academic unit concerned and shall bear the signatures of the rector or director of another academic unit, the chairperson of the

board and the supervisor, while a habilitation diploma shall have affixed a seal with the emblem of a higher education institution or another academic unit concerned and shall bear the signatures of the rector or director of another academic unit, the chairperson of the board and of the habilitation commission;

8) fees charged for the issuance of doctoral and habilitation diplomas as well as their English language duplicates and certified copies, which are not to exceed the cost of issue of the originals;

9) a sample notification regarding the doctoral or habilitation award to be submitted to the minister competent for higher education and the Committee as well as the manner for the names of the awarded persons to be made publicly available;

10) the manner for the reviewer reports prepared in the course of doctoral, habilitation and professorial processes to be published by the Committee in the official Public Information Bulletin (*Biuletyn Informacji Publicznej*) as well as the rules and manner for the forwarding of doctoral reports by higher education institutions and other academic units.

Article 32

1.⁽⁴⁹⁾ Outstanding doctoral theses and scientific works which served to support the award of the degree of *doktor habilitowany*, as well as scientific, technological and artistic achievements, may receive recognition from the President of the Council of Ministers through awards, hereinafter referred to as ‘the awards’.

2. The President of the Council of Ministers shall lay down, by regulation, the number and the amount of, as well as the criteria and procedure for granting the awards, referred to in section 1, and in particular the following:

1) the composition and responsibilities of the awards committee, hereinafter referred to as ‘the committee’;

2) the term of office of the committee;

3) the level of remuneration and conditions for the reimbursement of travelling expenses to the committee members and persons appointed to provide evaluation of recommended candidates;

4) the manner by which the committee is to be financed and receive administrative support;

5) academic units authorised to submit candidate recommendations for the awards;

6) the register of obligatory documentation and the manner and time framework for forwarding such documentation;

- 7) the date for the conferment of the awards.
3. ⁽⁵⁰⁾ The President of the Council of Ministers may confer a special award for a contribution of conspicuous scientific merit to the State, outside the remit of the provisions of section 2.
 4. ⁽⁵¹⁾ The minister competent for higher education may confer awards for scientific achievement as well as for the achievement in scientific and methodological supervision and mentoring.
 5. ⁽⁵²⁾ The minister competent for higher education shall determine, by regulation, the number and the amount of, as well as terms and criteria for granting the awards under the provision of section 4, and in particular the following:
 - 1) the composition and responsibilities of the awards committee;
 - 2) the term of office of the committee;
 - 3) the level of remuneration and conditions for the reimbursement of travelling expenses to the committee members and persons appointed to provide evaluation of recommended candidates;
 - 4) academic units authorised to submit candidate recommendations for the awards;
 - 5) the register of obligatory documentation and the manner and time framework for forwarding such documentation.
 - 7) the date for the conferment of the awards.

Chapter 5

The Degrees and Titles Committee

Article 33

1. The Degrees and Titles Committee shall exercise its functions within the structure of the Office of the President of the Council of Ministers, and shall be a governmental decision-making authority within the remit of its powers.

1a. ⁽⁵³⁾ The Committee shall ensure the harmonious development of the scientific community in compliance with the highest standards in research as is required for the award of academic degrees and titles.

1b. ⁽⁵⁴⁾ All Committee activities shall be governed by the principles of fairness, impartiality and transparency and shall be guided by the principle of the balanced participation of women and men.

2. ⁽⁵⁵⁾ The Committee shall evaluate draft legislation regarding the conferment of the degree of *doktor*, *doktor habilitowany* and the title of *profesor*, and shall provide opinions on the employment in the position of *profesor nadzwyczajny* in higher education institutions of persons who do not hold the degree of *doktor habilitowany* with the exception of persons referred to in Article 21a. The time limit for giving opinions on the employment in the position of *profesor nadzwyczajny* of persons who do not hold the degree of *doktor habilitowany* shall be three months from the date of receipt of a relevant request.
3. The chairperson of the Committee shall be appointed by the President of the Council of Ministers from two candidates nominated by the Commission from its membership.
- 3a. ⁽⁵⁶⁾ The funding necessary for the functioning of the Committee shall be provided from that part of the State budget which is administered by the minister competent for higher education.
4. ⁽⁵⁷⁾ The Committee shall have its administrative support provided by a bureau of the Committee. Employees of the Bureau shall be subject to the provisions of the regulations applicable to State office employees .
5. ⁽⁵⁸⁾ The President of the Council of Ministers, upon consultation with the Committee, shall lay down by regulation the rate of remuneration and conditions for the reimbursement of travelling expenses to the members of the Commission and any appointed reviewers, with the provision that the rate of the remuneration shall be determined in relation to the minimum rate of the basic pay of a *profesor zwyczajny*, as regulated in the provisions on the remuneration of academic staff members.
6. ⁽⁵⁹⁾ The Bureau of the Committee shall be a State-budget unit financed from that part of the State budget which is administered by the minister competent for higher education.
7. ⁽⁶⁰⁾ The director of the Bureau shall be appointed or dismissed by the chairperson of the Committee. Support staff shall be recruited by the director of the Bureau.
8. ⁽⁶¹⁾ The range of activities of the Bureau and its organizational arrangements shall be laid down in administrative regulations to be provided by the chairperson of the Degrees and Titles Committee.

Article 34

1. The term of office of the Committee shall be four years and shall commence on 1 January.
2. ⁽⁶²⁾ A member of the Degrees and Titles Committee shall be a person who is a Polish citizen holding the title of *profesor* and who has published original scientific work within the last five years. Persons holding the title of *profesor* who are recognized as leading figures in a given field may also be members of the Committee.
3. ⁽⁶³⁾ A person may not serve as a Committee member for more than two consecutive terms of office.

4. ⁽⁶⁴⁾ The Committee membership may not be combined with the membership of any of the following: the General Council for Science and Higher Education (*Rada Główna Nauki i Szkolnictwa Wyższego*), the Polish Accreditation Committee (*Polska Komisja Akredytacyjna*), the Research Institutes Council (*Rada Główna Instytutów Badawczych*), the Research Unit Evaluation Committee (*Komitet Ewaluacji Jednostek Naukowych*), the Council of the National Science Centre (*Narodowe Centrum Nauki*) and the Council of the National Centre of Research and Development (*Narodowego Centrum Badań i Rozwoju*), and shall not be combined with the function of a rector, vice-rector, manager of an academic unit in a higher education institution or the position of President or Deputy President of the Polish Academy of Sciences (*Polska Akademia Nauk*) or the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (*Polska Akademia Umiejętności*) or of a research unit single-person authority.

5. ⁽⁶⁵⁾ (repealed)

6. ⁽⁶⁶⁾ Persons elected to be members of the Committee shall, by virtue of law, cease to be members of the General Council for Science and Higher Education, the Polish Accreditation Committee, the Research Institutes Council, the Research Unit Evaluation Committee, the Council of the National Science Centre and the Council of the National Centre of Research and Development, on the date the term of office of the Commission commences.

Article 34a⁽⁶⁷⁾

1. Members of the Committee shall be elected by persons who hold the title of *profesor*. Candidates for membership shall be nominated by the boards of academic units authorised to award the degree of *doktor*. Candidates for membership of the Committee may not be more than seventy years of age.

2. The Committee shall be composed of three representatives of each discipline of the sciences and of the arts at a minimum, as laid down by the regulations pursuant to Article 3, section 1.

3. President of the Council of Ministers, upon consultation with the Committee, shall lay down by regulation the number of the Commission members and the manner and procedure for election, including in particular:

1) the number of members representing individual fields of the sciences and the arts as well as scientific and artistic disciplines;

2) the number of candidates nominated for each scientific and artistic discipline for which authorisation was granted to the academic units referred to in section 1;

3) cases when the electoral commission may specify particular academic units to nominate supplementary candidates in the event of the number of presented candidates falling below that required by the Committee to represent a given field of science or the arts and scientific or artistic discipline.

4) the composition and rules of procedure for the electoral commission appointed by the President of the Council of Ministers;

5) the manner for the adoption of resolutions regarding nominations of candidates and the validity of votes cast during elections.

Article 34b⁽⁶⁸⁾

Members of the Committee shall be subject to the provisions of Article 24 of the Code of Administrative Procedure.

Article 34c⁽⁶⁹⁾

1. The Committee chairperson shall pronounce the mandate of a Committee member to have expired in the following cases:

- 1) the death of the member;
- 2) the tendering of a resignation;
- 3) the failure to comply with any of the requirements specified in Article 34 sections 2 to 4;
- 4) the failure to participate in the activities of the Committee for a period exceeding six months;
- 5) the member being convicted of an intentional or fiscal offence by a court judgement having the force of *res judicata*.

2. In the case of the mandate of a Committee member or members expiring before completion of the term of office, for the remainder of the term, a new member or members shall be appointed from those persons representing individual fields and disciplines of science or fields and disciplines of the arts who received the highest number of valid votes in the last election. In the event of equal numbers of votes being received, the order for nominations shall be determined by a ballot to be held by the electoral commission. Serving an incomplete term of office shall not count towards the period referred to in Article 34, section 3.

Article 35

1. The Committee shall exercise its functions through plenary sessions and through its bodies.

2. There shall be the following bodies of the Committee:

- 1) the chairperson of the Committee;
 - 2) the presidium of the Committee;
 - 3) the boards of the Committee.
3. ⁽⁷⁰⁾ The Committee shall adopt resolutions upon consultation with at least one reviewer. Resolutions regarding any resolution declining the conferment of a degree or presentation of a professorial candidate, referred to in Article 15 section 2 and Article 28 section 4, may be adopted after consultation with a minimum two reviewers, including at least one who is not a member of the Committee.
4. ⁽⁷¹⁾ The Committee shall adopt resolutions on matters referred to in Article 15, section 3, and Article 19, section 2, upon consultation with at least one reviewer.
5. The powers of the bodies of the Committee, rules concerning the election of its presidium, its organizational arrangements and the manner of exercising its functions as well as the method for the appointment of reviewers shall be laid down in the statutes to be adopted by the Committee.
6. ⁽⁷²⁾ The statutes of the Committee shall be approved, by order, by the President of the Council of Ministers.

Article 36⁽⁷³⁾

1. The Committee shall maintain a regularly updated internet webpage where it shall publish the following:
- 1) information on the academic units authorised to confer degrees and a register of degrees;
 - 2) information on the academic units providing doctoral programmes;
 - 3) a register of persons holding the degree of *doktor habilitowany* or equivalent degree, pursuant to Article 21a, who are thereby authorised to prepare reports and reviews for doctoral and habilitation assessment processes in given disciplines of the sciences and of the arts;
 - 4) a register of persons holding the title of *profesor*, who are thereby authorised to prepare reports and reviews for the award process of a professorial title in given fields of the sciences and of the arts;
 - 5) information on doctoral and professorial assessment processes currently in progress;
 - 6) reports submitted in the course of processing awards of the degree of *doktor* or *doktor habilitowany* or the title of *profesor*.

Chapter 6⁽⁷⁴⁾ (repealed)

Doctoral studies in Research Institutions

Article 37 (repealed)

Article 38 (repealed)

Article 39 (repealed)

Article 40 (repealed)

Article 41 (repealed)

Article 41a (repealed)

Chapter 7

Changes to the provisions in force, transitory and final provisions

Article 42

In the Act concerning remuneration of persons holding high State offices, of 31 July 1981 (*Dziennik Ustaw* No. 20, item 101, with further amendments ²⁾ in Article 4, section 1, for the words: "the academic title of *profesor* or degree of *doktor habilitowany*" there is substituted: "the academic title of *profesor* or title of *profesor sztuki*, degree of *doktor habilitowany* or academic degree of *doktor habilitowany sztuki*".

Article 43

In the Act on Higher Education, of 12 September 1990 (*Dziennik Ustaw*, No. 65, item 385, with further amendments ³⁾) the following changes shall be introduced:

1) In Article 2, section 2 there is inserted:

“ 2. Throughout this Act:

1) ‘science’ and ‘research’ shall also mean respectively ‘the arts’ and ‘artistic work’ ”,

2) ‘the academic degree of *doktor*’ and ‘the academic degree of *doktor habilitowany*’ shall also mean respectively ‘the degree of *doktor sztuki*’ and ‘the degree of *doktor habilitowany sztuki*’,

3) ‘the academic title of *profesor*’ shall also mean respectively ‘the title of *profesor sztuki*’”,

2) in Article 5 the second sentence is omitted .

Article 44

The Act of 26 July 1991 on Personal Income Tax (*Dziennik Ustaw* 2000, No. 14, item 176, as amended by subsequent legislation ¹⁶⁾) shall be amended as follows:

1. Article 21, section 1 shall be amended as follows:

1) in subsection 39 for the words "issued by the minister competent for doctoral studies and academic scholarships" there is substituted "on the degrees and academic title and on the degrees and academic title in the arts";

2) in subsection 40 the words "on the academic title and degrees" there is substituted "on the degrees and academic title and on the degrees and academic title in the arts".

Article 45

The Act of 26 June 1997 on Schools of Higher Vocational Education (*Dziennik Ustaw* No. 96, item 590, as amended by subsequent legislation⁵⁾) shall be amended as follows:

5) in Article 2 after section 2 there is added section 3:

"3. The terms used in the Act shall mean the following:

1) research shall also respectively mean artistic work ,

2) the academic degree of *doktor* and *doctor habilitowany* shall also respectively mean the degree of *doktor sztuki* and the degree of *doktor habilitowany sztuki*,”.

3) the academic title of professor shall also respectively mean the title of professor sztuki.”.

Article 46

In the Act of 4 September 1997 on The Competencies of Governmental Administration (*Dziennik Ustaw* 1999, No. 82, item 928, as amendmended ⁶⁾) in Article 26, section 1 the words “supervision over awarding of academic titles” are omitted.

Article 47

In the Act of 13 October 1998 on The Social Insurance System (*Dziennik Ustaw*, No.137, item 887 as amended⁷) section 4 of Article 7 is to be read as follows:

"4) for students and doctoral students, provided other provisions regarding pension and incapacity benefit do not apply".

Article 48

In the Act of 20 July 2000 on The Publication of Legislative Acts and other Acts of Law (*Dziennik Ustaw*, No. 62, item 718 of 2001, No. 46, item 499, and of 2002 No. 74 item 676 and No. 113, item 984) in subsection 4 of section 2 of Article 10 (j) after the word "profesor" there is added "and the title of *professor sztuki*".

Article 49

1. Academic units authorised to award degrees pursuant to the regulations laid down in the legislation hitherto in force, shall retain the validity of the authorisation concerned, provided that given units comply with the requirements laid down in this Act.
2. The authorisation granted to academic units for the conduct of the first and second degree qualification procedures (*przewód kwalifikacyjny I i II stopnia*) in the arts and artistic disciplines, pursuant to the rules hitherto in force, shall become the authorisation for the conferment of degrees in the arts, provided that given academic units comply with the requirements laid down in Article 6.
3. Academic units authorised to conduct the first and second degree qualification procedures (*przewód kwalifikacyjny I i II stopnia*) in the arts and artistic disciplines failing to comply with the staffing requirements laid down in Article 6. shall retain the authorisation referred to in section 2 for the period of one year from date of entry into force of this Act. If within the specified period of time, an academic unit fails to fulfill the requirements laid down in this Act, any such authorisation shall become invalid. The provisions of Article 8, section 3, shall apply accordingly.
4. Any requests concerning the granting of authorisation to conduct the first and second degree qualification procedures (*przewód kwalifikacyjny I i II stopnia*) in the arts and artistic disciplines which were submitted but not yet considered by the date of entry into force of this Act shall be considered in compliance with regulations laid down in this Act..

Article 50

1. Persons who have been awarded the first or second degree qualifications (*kwalifikacje I i II stopnia*) pursuant to the regulations laid down in the legislation hitherto in force shall have the rights equivalent to the rights conferred by the degree of *doktor sztuki* or *doktor habilitowany sztuki*, respectively.
2. Persons who have been awarded the second degree qualifications (*kwalifikacje II stopnia*) pursuant to the legislation hitherto in force shall be entitled for consideration for the staffing requirement referred to in Article 6 and may also be supervisors or reviewers in doctoral and habilitation assessment processes in the field of the arts.
3. The academic title of *profesor* of a given field of the arts conferred pursuant to the legislation hitherto in force shall become the title of *profesor sztuki*, as defined in this Act, with the provision that persons holding the academic title of *profesor* of a given field of the arts shall retain the right to use the original title.

Article 51

1. Doctoral and habilitation assessment processes commenced and not yet concluded before the date of entry into force of this Act shall be conducted pursuant to the regulations laid down in the legislation hitherto in force.
2. The first and second degree qualification procedures (*przewód kwalifikacyjny I i II stopnia*) in the field of the arts and artistic disciplines commenced and not yet concluded before the date of entry into force of this Act, shall be conducted pursuant to the regulations laid down in the legislation hitherto in force, however these procedures shall lead to the award respectively of the degree of *doktor sztuki* and *doktor habilitowany sztuki*.
3. Procedures for the conferment of an academic title in a given field of the arts commenced but not yet concluded before the date of entry into force of this Act shall be conducted pursuant to the regulations laid down in the legislation hitherto in force, however these procedures shall lead to the conferment of the title of *profesor sztuki*.

Article 52

As of the day of entry into force of this Act the Central Commission for Academic Title and Degrees (*Centralna Komisja do Spraw Tytułu Naukowego i Stopni Naukowych*) shall become the Degrees and Titles Committee (*Centralna Komisja do Spraw Stopni i Tytułów*), within the meaning of this Act. The term of office of the Central Commission shall expire on 31 December 2006.

Article 53

The implementing regulations hitherto in force shall remain in force until the entry into force of implementing regulations to be adopted on the basis of this Act, provided they are not incompatible with the provisions of this Act.

Article 54

The Act of 12 September 1990 on Academic Title and Academic Degrees (*Dziennik Ustaw* No. 65 item 386 of 1997, No. 43 item 272 and of 2000 No. 120 item 1268) shall be repealed.

Article 55

This Act shall enter into force fourteen days from the date of its promulgation, except that Article 24 section 4, subsection 5, shall enter into force upon the date of the Republic of Poland becoming a Member State of the European Union.

¹⁾ Amendments to the consolidated text of the Act were published in: *Dziennik Ustaw* 1996, No. 118, item 561, No. 139, item 647 and No. 147, item 686, ;1997, No. 82, item 518 and No.121, item.770, 1998, No 75, item 486 and No.113, item 717 and 2002, No 135, item 1146.

²⁾ Amendments to the Act were published in *Dziennik Ustaw* 1982, No. 31, item 214; 1985, No. 22, item 98 and No. 50, item 262; 1987, No 21, item 123;1989, No. 34, item 178;1991, No. 100, item 443; 1993, No.1, item 1;1995, No. 34, item 163 and No 142, item 701; 1996, No. 73, item 350, No. 89, item 402, No. 106, item 496 and No. 139,item 647;1997, No. 75, item 469 and No. 133, item 883; 1998, No. 155, item 1016 and No. 160, item 1065; 1999, No.110, item 1255;2000; No. 6, item 69 and No. 48, item 552; 2001, No. 154, item 1784 and 1800; 2002, No. 214, item 1805 and No. 240, item. 2052 and 2003, No. 45, item 391.

³⁾ Amendments to the Act were published in *DziennikUstaw* 1991, No.104, item 450;1992, No. 54, item 254 and No. 63, item 314, 1994, No. 1, item 3, No. 43, item 163, No. 105, iyem 509 and No. 121, item 591; 1996, No. 5, item. 34, No. 24, item 110;1997,No. 28, item 153, No. 96, item 590, No. 104, item 661, No. 121, item 770 and No. 141, item 943;1998, No. 50, item 310, No. 106, item 668 and No. 162, item 1115 and 1118; 2000, No. 120, item 1268 and No. 122, item 1314; 2001, No. 85, item 924, No. 103, item 1129, No. 111, item 1193 and 1194 and No. 126, item 1383 and 2002, No. 4, item 33and 34, No. 150, item 1239, No. 153, item 1271 and No. 200, item 1683.

⁴⁾ Amendments to the consolidated text of the Act were published in: *DziennikUstaw* 2000, No. 22, item. 270, No. 60, item 703, No. 70, item 816, No. 104, item 1104, No. 117, item 1228 and No. 122, item 1324, 2001, No. 4, item 27, No. 8, item 64, No. 52, item 539, No. 73, item 764, No.74, item 784, No. 88, item 961, No. 89, item 968, No. 102, item 1117, No. 106, item 1150, No. 110, item 1190, No. 125, item 1363 and 1370 and Nr 134, item 1509;2002, No. 25, item 253, No. 74, item 676, No. 89, item 804, No. 135, item 1146, No. 141, item 1182, No.169, item 1384, No. 181, item 1515, No.200, item 1679 i No. 240, item 2058 and 2003, No.7, item 79 and No. 45, item 391.

⁵⁾ Amendments to the Act were published in *Dziennik Ustaw*1998, No. 106, item 668, 2000, No. 120, item 1268 and No. 122, item 1314; 2001, No. 85, item 924 and No. 111, item 1194 and 2002, No. 4, item 33 and No. 150,item 1239.

⁶⁾ Amendments to the consolidated text of the Act were published in *DziennikUstaw* 2000, No. 12, item 136, No. 43, item 489, No. 48, item 550, No. 62, item 718, No. 70, item 816, No. 73, item 852, No. 109, item. 1158 and No. 122, item 1314 and 1321;2001, No. 3, item 18, No. 5, item 43 and 44, No. 42, item 475, No. 63, item 634, No. 73, item 761, No. 76, item 811, No. 87, item 954, No. 102, item 1116, No. 113, item 1207, No. 115, item 1229, No. 123, item 1353, No. 125, item 1371, No. 126, item 1382, No. 129, item 1441, No. 130, item 1450 and No. 154, item 1800;2002,. No. 25, item 253, No. 41, item 365, No. 71, item 655, No. 74, item 676, No. 89, item 804, No. 93,item 820, No. 130, item 1112 i No. 135, item 1145 and 2003, No. 52, item 450 and No. 64, item 592.

⁷⁾ Amendments to the Act were published in *DziennikUstaw* 1998, No. 162, item 1118 and 1126; 1999, No. 26, item 228, No. 60, item 636, No. 72, item 802, No. 78, item 875 and No. 110, item 1256; 2000, No. 9, item 118, No. 95, item 1041, No. 104, item 1104 and No. 119, item 1249;2001, No. 8, item 64, No. 27, item 298, No. 39, item 459, No. 72, item 748, No. 100, item 1080, No. 110, item 1189, No. 111, item 1194, No. 130, item 1452 and No. 154, item 1792;2002, No. 25, item 253, No. 41, item 365, No. 74, item 676, No. 155, item 1287, No. 169, item 1387, No. 199, item 1673, No. 200, item 1679 and No. 241, item 2074 and 2003, No. 56, item 498.