

EDMS directives for the composition of the candidacy exam committee

Usual composition (at least 4 members):

- 1) President:** An actual or past member of the EDMS program Commission (tenured EPFL professor) must act as president. There are 2 past members of the committee: Prof. Gisou van der Goot & Prof. Bruno Lemaitre.
- 2) Thesis director (co-director if applicable):** EPFL-accredited professor or MER (Ordinance Art.10)
- 3) One expert from within EPFL/ETHZ:** typically from ISREC/GHI
- 4) External expert:** must be from outside of EPFL. An ETHZ professor can act as internal or external expert.
- 5) Eventual additional external expert:** if wanted and if available, must be from outside of EPFL. An ETHZ professor can act as internal or external expert.

The candidacy exam committee must be composed by experts who are not members of the same family. If an expert is post-doc, she/he must be a post-doc since min. 5 years.

Only needed if the thesis director is not an EPFL-accredited professor:

Co-director : must be an EPFL-accredited professor

Other requirements/information:

- President must be impartial and not involved in project.
- EPFL-accredited professors include assistant professors.
- EPFL PhD program representative (mentor) may act simultaneously as president and co-director but should not be involved in thesis project.
- PhD program representative (mentor) typically may act as 'internal expert' if he is not nominated as president.
- All members of the committee should be entitled to direct a thesis.
- At least two committee members should not be scientific collaborators on the thesis project.
- Maximally two experts from outside EPFL are allowed (exceptions can be requested in case of interdisciplinary projects).
- Note that the size of the committee is limited to five people (Ordonnance Art. 14), except if a co-director is present! As a consequence the PhD program representative and/or the 'expert within EPFL' typically take on several functions.