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## **Rules of preliminary defence**

### **University of Debrecen –Doctoral Regulations    September 21, 2017**

#### **17. § The dissertation**

1(5) Before finalising the dissertation, it shall be submitted to a preliminary defence in accordance with the quality insurance plan of the doctoral school. The preliminary defence shall be organised by the council of the doctoral school and a written record of the preliminary defence shall be drawn up. The chairperson and the members of the preliminary defence committee shall be appointed by the council of the doctoral school. The **defence committee shall consist of at least three members**, the chairperson, **two opponents** and additional members in accordance with the regulations of the doctoral school. All members of the committee shall have an academic degree. The chairperson of the committee shall be an accredited core member of a doctoral school of the disciplinary area at the University, preferably a member of the council of the given doctoral school. **At least one-third of the committee members shall be external members, not teachers of the given doctoral school.** Before the evaluation of the dissertation **the secretary of the doctoral school shall send the dissertation submitted for preliminary defence to the University and National Library for plagiarism check.** The Library shall issue the document about the results of the plagiarism check **within 3 working days** and the **secretary of the doctoral school shall forward it to the opponents.** In their opponents' report the opponents shall declare whether the dissertation – on the basis of the available data – meets the ethical requirements of scientific publications. The preliminary defence may also be held with the ethical objections of the opponents if the possible mistakes can be corrected in the final version of the dissertation without legal consequences. If the opponent of the preliminary defence has ethical objections the doctoral council of the disciplinary area shall be informed at the submission of the final dissertation. In this case the final version of the dissertation shall be checked for plagiarism again and the results of the repeated check shall be forwarded to the official opponents.