

Criteria for an application to French HDR (1/2)

HDR stands for *Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches*, which is an Accreditation to supervise research. It is a French diploma.

Article 1 of the Ministerial Order of 23 November 1988 (amended in 1992, 1995 and 2002) makes explicit the skills to be evaluated in order to issue an *Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches* (HDR):

" *Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches* is a recognition of the high scientific level of the candidate, the original nature of her/his approach in a scientific field, her/his ability to master a research strategy in a scientific or technological field sufficiently wide and her/his capacity to mentor young researchers. It allows to be a candidate for a full professor position in French higher education and research institutions."

The preparation of an *Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches* involves a review by UTC Scientific Advisory Committee (CS - *conseil scientifique*) of this application, concluding with a decision of the UTC Director whether or not to allow registration at the Doctoral School. The authorization is given for a period of two years.

Applications in the form of a report are considered by UTC Scientific Advisory Committee, considering the criteria below which refer to the terms of the Ministerial Order:

1. Post-doctorate research activity

The applicant must demonstrate independent research experience established by both following points:

- High-level scientific output in the fields of specialties of the UTC Doctoral School, evidenced by publications in scientific journals, communications in conferences, invitations to seminars, etc. Patents are also taken into account in scientific production.
- Responsibility and participation in one or more research projects (regional, national, international, industrial, etc).

The following may enhance the quality of the applicant's file:

- Responsibility or participation in working groups or learned societies falling within the CNU (*Conseil National des Universités*) section of the applicant or her/his field of activity.
- Participation on expert committees for the evaluation of publications and research projects national and/or international research.
- Organizing workshops, colloquiums, seminars, etc.

2. The regularity, number and level of scientific publications

UTC Scientific Advisory Committee refers to the criteria required by the relevant [sections of the CNU](#) (*Conseil National des Universités*) for applications for qualification to university professorships, and by the [research sections of CNRS](#) (*Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique*). The applicant must indicate in his/her file his/her membership CNU section.

It is recommended to justify any interruption of scientific production for a long period of time.

For applicants from the industrial sector: UTC Scientific Advisory Committee will review the applications on a case-by-case basis.

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3. The quality of the research project

The application file submitted to UTC Scientific Advisory Committee must demonstrate the candidate's scientific maturity and ability to lead the research.

The demonstration of the quality of the research project must be made in the various documents of the file (summary report, description of the scientific project). The candidate must give a clear and concise account of all the steps of a scientific approach (state of the art, construction of a problem, handling of the main concepts, implementation of a methodological approach, analysis of the results, etc.).

4. The ability to mentor young researchers

The candidate must detail all her/his participation in the research frameworks (doctoral candidates, Master's students, post-doctoral researchers, etc.). The total of the co-supervision or co-direction percentages of the doctoral theses defended must be at least equal to 100% (i.e. one thesis at 100%, two theses at 50%, or three theses at 33%). Each thesis must have given rise to at least one high-level referenced publication, co-signed between the doctoral candidate and the co-supervisor, or to at least one patent, the doctoral candidate and the co-supervisor being co-inventors. Doctoral candidates' defences and supervising percentages must be attested by a document from the Doctoral School.

5. Other activities

The applicant must detail all of her/his activities, beyond her/his research activities, including: teaching, diffusion, scientific dissemination and animation, administrative tasks, involvement in the life of the laboratory or institution.

References:

- [The Ministerial Order of 23 November 1988 relating to the accreditation to supervise research \(HDR\)](#)
- Discussion by UTC Scientific Advisory Board in January 2023

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