



Agència  
per a la Qualitat  
del Sistema Universitari  
de Catalunya

*Research Assessment Committee*

*Criteria for the issue of advanced  
research accreditations*

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## Field of Humanities

As a general criterion, the purpose of accreditation is to certify the achievement of a level of excellence in research within the applicant's field of specialisation. For the issue of advanced research accreditation, the Specific Committee for the Accreditation of Advanced Research in the Field of Humanities will assess the applicants' research activity carried out to date, their activity in research training, development, management and administration, and other merits in general. Consideration will be given to the temporality of the scientific task carried out and, especially, to the applicants' career in recent years. The basic assessment areas and the criteria for each one of them are as follows:

### Scientific career

Applicants shall demonstrate that they have a consolidated teaching and research career, in accordance with Section 46 of Act 1/2003, dated 19th February, on universities of Catalonia. With respect to their research career, applicants shall demonstrate, as a minimum, three years of post-doctoral research activity in order to be accredited.

### Publications and transfer of research results

Value will be placed equally and jointly on the publications and the transfer of research results.

#### In books and chapters of book

With respect to the publishing of books, value will be placed on those of original character (where the applicant is the author or co-author and/or the editor of a multi-author book) published by specialised publishing houses. Two assessment levels are defined for books:

1. Books published by international publishing houses of acknowledged prestige.
2. Books published by prestigious publishing houses of national scope with rigorous selection criteria.

Quality books may be assimilated to articles in specific fields.

With respect to the transfer of research results, value will be placed on those results for which either the fact that they are currently being used can be demonstrated by the applicant, or for which the process for the international protection of rights is sufficiently advanced in order that the Committee may assess the real interest of the application.

#### In journals

With respect to articles, value will be placed basically on publications in journals which have undergone a peer-review assessment process and which appear in citation indexes – such as those of Clarivate Analytics (and particularly the Social Sciences Citation Index and the Arts and

Humanities Citation Index) or Scopus – or in other specialised bibliographic databases of international prestige. In order to specify the effective repercussion of the research carried out by the applicant, consideration will be given whenever possible to the position of the journal in journal assessment repositories (which present rankings by impact index or by other assessment criteria) and to the number of citations received by each article. Assessment will also be made of the degree of creativity, thematic diversity and innovation of the applicant's research.

The AQU Catalunya assessment system establishes three categories of journals (A, B and C), according to the following classification:

- A) Journal of international scope, of the highest level of quality within its discipline, appearing in selective citation indexes and situated in journal assessment and classification repositories in the highest positions.
- B) Journal of international scope, appearing in selective citation indexes and situated in journal assessment and classification repositories in positions lower than those of group A.
- B) Journal of international scope not appearing in selective citation indexes but acknowledged to be of the highest level of quality within its field, with a rigorous system of assessment of originals and an international scientific committee.
- C) Journal of a good level of quality within its field, with a rigorous assessment system.

Applicants should have at least 20 articles of the categories described above, and at least 10 of them should be of Category A or B.<sup>1</sup>

Deficiencies relating to quantity may be compensated by merits of very high or exceptional quality in the form of publications in which the applicant is the principal and corresponding author. The quality should be duly justified and proven by indicators and by verified repercussion evidence<sup>2</sup> provided by the applicant.

## Research projects

Consideration will be given solely to the research projects financed within the frame of competitive grant programmes of both the public Administrations (International, European, State and Autonomous Regional) and the private sector (foundations, companies, etc.), assessing their results and their impact in the respective field. Value will be placed, particularly, depending on the area of specialisation, on the number and importance of the projects in which the applicant has participated. In this respect, it will be necessary for the applicant to have

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<sup>1</sup> These are not required absolute minimums but rather a general reference in the field of Humanities, which will be compared in each case with the average quality of the applicants' publications and the average productivity in the respective area.

<sup>2</sup> The term 'repercussion evidence' is considered more precise than the term 'impact' since it allows consideration of other elements aside from the impact of journals (citations, reviews, index of influence of journals or authors, etc.).

participated and contributed in at least one competitive research project. Value will also be placed on the degree of leadership and the initiative shown in generating new projects.

## Training activity

Value will be placed on applicants' capacity to form a research group or nucleus and on their having directed and/or currently directing doctoral theses. Value will also be placed on applicants' involvement in the teaching and/or co-ordination of post-graduate and Master's courses.

## Other merits

The Committee will assess all the other merits that the applicants submit, such as research prizes or awards, acknowledged stages of research, guest conferences at congresses or universities, research stays, positions of scientific responsibility (editorial committees, international and national scientific committees, organisation/chairing of congresses), reports issued by academics of acknowledged prestige, institutional activity in research promotion and management, etc. With respect to research stays, special value will be placed on the circumstance of their having been scientifically productive.

## Weighting of each area

The weighting of each area in the final score will be as follows:

Publications and transfer of research results	70%
Projects	15%
Training activity	7,5%
Other merits	7,5%

Each area of assessment is rated on a scale from 1 to 10 points.

## Field of Social Sciences

As a general criterion, the purpose of accreditation is to certify the achievement of a level of excellence in research within the applicant's field of specialisation. For the issue of advanced research accreditation, the Specific Committee for the Accreditation of Advanced Research in the Field of Social Sciences will assess the applicants' research activity carried out to date, their activity in research training, development, management and administration, and other merits in general. Consideration will be given to the temporality of the scientific task carried out and, especially, to the applicants' career in recent years. The basic assessment areas and the criteria for each one of them are as follows:

### Scientific career

Applicants shall demonstrate that they have a consolidated teaching and research career, in accordance with Section 46 of Act 1/2003, dated 19th February, on universities of Catalonia. With respect to their research career, applicants shall demonstrate, as a minimum, three years of post-doctoral research activity in order to be accredited.

### Publications and transfer of research results

Value will be placed equally and jointly on the publications and the transfer of research results.

#### In journals

With respect to articles, value will be placed basically on publications in journals which have undergone a peer-review assessment process and which appear in citation indexes – such as those of Clarivate Analytics (and particularly the Social Sciences Citation Index and in Arts and Humanities Citation Index) or Scopus – or in other specialised bibliographic databases of international prestige. In order to specify the effective repercussion of the research carried out by the applicant, consideration will be given whenever possible to the position of the journal in journal assessment repositories (which present rankings by impact index or by other assessment criteria) and to the number of citations received by each article. Assessment will also be made of the degree of creativity, thematic diversity and innovation of the applicant's research.

The Committee dealing with Social Sciences agreed on a classification of submissions by candidates based on three levels of quality, A, B, and C, which also correspond to specific quartiles<sup>3</sup> used by journals in which articles have been published, defined according to international citation reference databases.

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<sup>3</sup> When a journal has a Journal Impact Factor (JIF), or other analogous systems for indexing scientific impact, the value for the impact in the year of the article's publication takes precedence, whereas for articles published the same year it is

Level A:	For all fields of knowledge: JCR Q1, JCR Q2; Scopus Q1 (SJR) For Law: CARHUS Plus+ A
Level B:	For all fields of knowledge: JCR Q3; Scopus Q2 (SJR) For Law: CARHUS Plus+ B
Level C:	For all fields of knowledge: JCR Q4; Scopus Q3 (SJR) For Law: CARHUS Plus+ C

The Committee may, where it considers appropriate, adjust the levels of quality in relation to a candidate's contribution in the case of scientific articles, beyond the location of a journal in a given quartile, bearing in mind various additional aspects, such as: the number of citations (e.g. Google Scholar), the number of authors and signature order, as well as the inclusion of journals from other citation indexes, repertoires and specialised journal rankings<sup>4</sup>. The Committee dealing with Social Sciences has prescribed that the assessment of an article will take precedence over that of the journal in which it is published when determining the corresponding level of quality (A, B or C) of an article submitted by a contributor.

With regard to contributions in formats that are different to articles published in indexed journals, the committee assesses quality according to three levels (A, B, C) and, where applicable, taking into account the quality of the publishers through which monographs and book chapters are published, the number of citations, the number of authors and published reviews. The expert criteria of the reviewers, together with the information contained in listings and repertoires, such as Scholarly Publishers Indicators, SENSE and others of international standing, will also be taken into consideration.

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the value for the impact closest to the deadline of the call for applications to which the applicant has submitted a contribution. For the field of Law, use is made of CARHUS Plus latest edition.

<sup>4</sup> In this context, for example, in Economics and Business, other systematic and comprehensive classifications and repertoires used by peer-review journals may be considered, with special reference to: the classification of reviews in the CNRS's Économie et en Gestion (Comité National de la Recherche Scientifique, France); VHB-Jourqual<sup>3</sup>, produced by the Verband der Hochschullehrer für Betriebswirtschaft (VHB, Germany); and the Academic Journal Guide, produced by the Association of Business Schools (ABS, UK).

In this regard, the proposed minimum number of contributions required for an **accreditation of advanced research** to be issued is as follows:

High quality contributions	Level of quality		
	“A”	“B”	“C”
20 (all of types A, B and C), where:	Minimum 10		Maximum 5

In other words, twenty high quality contributions, with at least ten “A” contributions, and no more than five “C” contributions.

Deficiencies relating to quantity may be compensated by merits of very high or exceptional quality in the form of publications in which the applicant is the principal and corresponding author. The quality should be duly justified and proven by indicators and verified repercussion evidence provided by the applicant.

With respect to the transfer of research results, value will be placed on those results for which either the fact that they are currently being used can be demonstrated by the applicant, or for which the process for the international protection of rights is sufficiently advanced in order that the Committee may assess the real interest of the application.

## Research projects

Consideration will be given solely to the research projects financed within the frame of competitive grant programmes of both the public Administrations (International, European, State and Autonomous Regional) and the private sector (foundations, companies, etc.), assessing their results and their impact in the respective field. Value will be placed, particularly, depending on the area of specialisation, on the number and importance of the projects in which the applicant has participated. In this respect, applicants must have led at least one competitive research project, in particular projects funded under either national or international programmes. This requirement may only be waived in duly justified cases that demonstrate relevant merit. Value will also be placed on the degree of leadership and the initiative shown in generating new projects.

## Training activity

An assessment is made of an applicant’s skills in forming a group or nucleus of research and in directing or having directed doctoral theses. It is necessary for an applicant to have directed at least one doctoral thesis that has already been defended; this requirement may only be waived in exceptional and duly justified cases in which due merit is demonstrated. An assessment is also made of an applicant’s involvement in the teaching and/or co-ordination of post-graduate and Master’s courses.



## Other merits

The Committee will assess all the other merits that the applicants submit, such as research prizes or awards, acknowledged stages of research, guest conferences at congresses or universities, research stays, positions of scientific responsibility (editorial committees, international and national scientific committees, organisation/chairing of congresses), reports issued by academics of acknowledged prestige, institutional activity in research promotion and management, etc. With respect to research stays, special value will be placed on the circumstance of their having been scientifically productive.

## Weighting of each area

The weighting of each area in the final score will be as follows:

Publications and transfer of research results	70%
Projects	15%
Training activity	10%
Other merits	5%

Each area of assessment is rated on a scale from 1 to 10 points.

## Field of Sciences

For the issue of research accreditation, the Specific Committee for the Accreditation of Advanced Research in the Field of Sciences will assess the applicants' research activity carried out to date, their activity in research training, development, management and administration, and other merits in general. Consideration will be given to the temporality of the scientific task carried out and, especially, to the applicants' career in recent years. The basic assessment areas and the criteria for each one of them are as follows:

### Scientific career

Applicants shall demonstrate that they have a consolidated teaching and research career, in accordance with Section 46 of Act 1/2003, dated 19th February, on universities of Catalonia. With respect to their research career, applicants shall demonstrate, as a minimum, three years of post-doctoral research activity in order to be accredited.

### Publications and transfer of research results

Value will be placed equally and jointly on the publications and the transfer of research results.

With respect to articles, value will be placed basically on publications in journals which have undergone a peer-review assessment process and which appear in citation indexes such as the Science Citation Index Expanded. It is considered necessary that the total number of quality studies shall be about 30 or more.<sup>5</sup> As a general principle, quality (demonstrated by objective internationally accepted parameters) will prevail over quantity. Specifically, deficiencies relating to quantity may be compensated by merits of very high or exceptional quality in the form of publications in which the applicant is the principal and corresponding author. The quality should be duly justified and proven by indicators and verified repercussion evidence provided by the applicant. In order to specify the effective repercussion of the research carried out by the applicant, consideration will be given whenever possible to the position of the journal in journal assessment repositories (such as the Journal Citation Reports) which present rankings by impact index, and to the number of citations received for each article.

When a substantial fraction of the research activity of the applicant has been carried out into a collaborative research model, the applicant should provide objective indicators of his or her personal contributions.

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<sup>5</sup> These are not required absolute minimums but rather a general reference in the field of Sciences which will be compared in each case with the average quality of the applicants' publications and the average productivity in the respective area.

With respect to the publishing of books, special value will be placed on original books (where the applicant is the author and/or the editor of a multi-author book) published by specialised publishing houses of international prestige.

With respect to the transfer of research results, value will be placed on those results for which either the fact that they are currently being used can be demonstrated by the applicant, or for which the process for the international protection of rights is sufficiently advanced in order that the Committee may assess the real interest of the application.

## Research projects

Consideration will be given solely to the research projects financed within the frame of competitive grant programmes of both the public Administrations (International, European, State, Autonomous Regional) and the private sector (foundations, companies, etc.), assessing the volume of financing, results and impact in the respective field.

Value will be placed, particularly, depending on the area of specialisation, on the number and importance of the projects of which the applicant has been the principal investigator (PI).

Assessment will also be made of the capacity to obtain resources, the degree of leadership, and the initiative shown in generating new projects.

## Training activity

Value will be placed on applicants' capacity to form a research group or nucleus and on their having directed and/or currently directing doctoral theses. Value will be placed on applicants' involvement in the teaching and/or co-ordination of post-graduate and Master's courses.

## Other merits

The Committee will assess all the other merits that the applicants submit, such as research prizes or awards, acknowledged stages of research, guest conferences at congresses or universities, research stays, positions of scientific responsibility (editorial committees, international and national scientific committees, organisation/chairing of congresses), reports issued by academics of acknowledged prestige, institutional activity in research promotion and management, etc. With respect to research stays, special value will be placed on the circumstance of their having been scientifically productive.

## Weighting of each area

The weighting of each area in the final score will be as follows:

Publications and transfer of research results	65%
Projects	15%
Training activity	15%
Other merits	5%

Each area of assessment is rated on a scale from 1 to 10 points.

In order to obtain a favourable report, a score of 5 or above is required for “Publications and transfer of research results” and either one or other of the remaining main areas of assessment: “Projects” and “Learning activities”.

## Field of Life Sciences

For the issue of advanced research accreditation, the Specific Committee for the Accreditation of Advanced Research in the Field of Life Sciences will assess the applicants' research to date as well as other merits of research management and administration. Consideration will be given to the temporality of the scientific task carried out and, especially, to the applicants' career in recent years. The assessment criteria and areas are as follows:

### Scientific career

Applicants shall demonstrate that they have a consolidated teaching and research career, in accordance with Section 46 of Act 1/2003, dated 19th February, on universities of Catalonia. With respect to their research career, applicants shall demonstrate, as a minimum, three years of post-doctoral research activity in order to be accredited.

### Publications and transfer of research results

Value will be placed equally and jointly on the publications and the transfer of research results.

With respect to articles, value will be placed basically on publications in indexed journals, that is to say, publications that have undergone a peer review assessment process and that appear in citation indexes such as the Science Citation Index Expanded. The number required will be about 40 or more.<sup>6</sup>

Special value will be placed on the circumstance of about 20 of the publications belonging to the first quartile of the respective category of the Journal Citation Reports, and on the applicant's being the corresponding author or the first or last signatory of 50% of them (10).<sup>7</sup> Exceptionally, the Committee may place value on articles in other quartiles. As a general principle, the quality of the publications, demonstrated by objective internationally accepted parameters, will prevail over quantity, as long as the applicant is the first author, last author or corresponding author.

No consideration will be given to reviews, purely descriptive works and reiterations of previous work, except in cases where a significant contribution is/has been made to the consolidation and advancement of knowledge in the respective field.

In order to specify the effective repercussion of the research carried out by the applicant, consideration will be given whenever possible to the percentage of distribution by quartiles of the Journal Citation Reports in which the applicant's articles appear, and to the number of citations received for each article, as evidence of the repercussion of the applicant's research.

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<sup>6</sup> These numbers are not intended as required minimums, but rather as recommendations. In the event that the applicant does not reach this threshold, the rest of contributions will be considered.

<sup>7</sup> See Note 6.

Assessment will also be made of the degree of creativity, thematic diversity and innovation of the applicant's research.

With respect to the publishing of books, special value will be placed on those of original character (when the applicant is the author and/or the editor of a multi-author book) published by specialised publishing houses, placing greater value, if appropriate, on the books published by publishing houses of international prestige.

With respect to the transfer of research results, value will be placed on those results for which either the fact that they are currently being used can be demonstrated by the applicant, or for which the process for the international protection of rights is sufficiently advanced in order that the Committee may assess the real interest of the application.

## Research projects

Consideration will be given solely to the research projects financed within the frame of competitive grant programmes of both the public Administrations (International, European, State, Autonomous Regional) and the private sector (foundations, companies, etc.). Consequently, non-competitive grants, of contractual nature, are excluded. Value will be placed, particularly, depending on the area of specialisation, on the number and importance of the projects of which the applicant has been the principal investigator (PI).

In order to obtain accreditation for advanced research, the applicant should be or have been PI in three research projects, one of which is currently in progress. The number of projects may be less than three if one project is considered to be highly important (PI in an international project).

Assessment will also be made of the capacity to obtain resources, the degree of leadership, and the initiative shown in generating new projects.

## Training activity

Value will be placed on applicants' capacity to form a research group or nucleus.

In order to obtain accreditation for advanced research, an applicant should have directed at least three doctoral theses, the last having been defended preferably within the previous three years.

## Other merits

The Committee will assess all the other merits that the applicants submit, such as research prizes or awards, acknowledged stages of research, guest conferences at congresses or universities, research stays (at least 3 months), positions of scientific responsibility (editorial committees, international and national scientific committees, organisation/chairing of congresses), reports issued by professionals of acknowledged prestige, institutional activity in research promotion and management, etc. With respect to research stays, special value will be placed on the circumstance of their having been scientifically productive.

## Weighting of each area

The weighting of each area in the final score will be as follows:

Publications and transfer of research results	70%
Projects	15%
Training activity	10%
Other merits	5%

Each area of assessment is rated on a scale from 1 to 10 points.

## Field of Medical and Health Sciences

For the issue of advanced research accreditation, the Specific Committee for the Accreditation of Advanced Research in the Field of Medical and Health Sciences will assess the applicants' research to date as well as other merits of research management and administration. Consideration will be given to the temporality of the scientific task carried out and, especially, to the applicants' career in recent years. The assessment criteria and areas are as follows:

### Scientific career

Applicants shall demonstrate that they have a consolidated teaching and research career, in accordance with Section 46 of Act 1/2003, dated 19th February, on universities of Catalonia. With respect to their research career, applicants shall demonstrate, as a minimum, three years of post-doctoral research activity in order to be accredited.

### Publications and transfer of research results

Value will be placed equally and jointly on the publications and the transfer of research results.

With respect to articles, value will be placed basically on original articles in indexed journals, that is to say, articles that have undergone a peer review assessment process and that appear in citation indexes such as the Science Citation Index Expanded. The minimum number of publications should be about 40 or more.<sup>8</sup> Special value will be placed on the circumstance of about 20 of the publications belonging to the first quartile of the respective area and on the applicant's being the corresponding author or the first signatory of 10 articles of the first quartile.<sup>9</sup> In order to specify the effective repercussion of the research carried out by the applicant, consideration will be given whenever possible to the percentage of distribution by quartiles of the Journal Citation Reports in which the applicant's articles appear and to the number of citations received by each article as evidence of the repercussion of the applicant's research.

As a general principle, quality (demonstrated by objective internationally accepted parameters) will prevail over quantity, as long as the applicant is the first author, last author or corresponding author.

With respect to the publishing of books, special value will be placed on those of original character (when the applicant is the author and/or the editor of a multi-author book) published by specialised publishing houses, placing greater value, if appropriate, on the books published by publishing houses of international prestige.

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<sup>8</sup> These numbers are not intended as required minimums, but rather as recommendations. In the event that the applicant does not reach this threshold, the rest of contributions will be considered.

<sup>9</sup> See note 8.



With respect to the transfer of research results, value will be placed on those results for which either the fact that they are currently being used can be demonstrated by the applicant, or for which the process for the international protection of rights is sufficiently advanced in order that the Committee may assess the real interest of the application.

## Research projects

Consideration will be given solely to the research projects financed within the frame of competitive grant programmes of both the public Administrations (International, European, State, Autonomous Regional) and the private sector (foundations, companies, etc.). Consequently, non-competitive grants, of contractual nature, are excluded. Value will be placed, particularly, depending on the area of specialisation, on the number and importance of the projects of which the applicant has been the principal investigator (PI).

In order to obtain accreditation for advanced research, the applicant should be or have been PI in three research projects, one of which is currently in progress or which have ended in the last two years. The number of projects may be less than three if one project is considered to be highly important (PI in an international project).

Assessment will also be made of the capacity to obtain resources, the degree of leadership, and the initiative shown in generating new projects.

## Training activity

Value will be placed on applicants' capacity to form a research group or nucleus. In order to obtain accreditation for advanced research, an applicant should have directed at least three doctoral theses, the last having been defended preferably within the previous three years.

## Other merits

The Committee will assess all the other merits that the applicants submit, such as research prizes or awards, acknowledged stages of research, guest conferences at congresses or universities, research stays, positions of scientific responsibility (editorial committees, international and national scientific committees, organisation/chairing of congresses), reports issued by academics of acknowledged prestige, institutional activity in research promotion and management, etc. With respect to research stays, special value will be placed on the circumstance of their having been scientifically productive.

## Weighting of each area

The weighting of each area in the final score will be as follows:

Publications and transfer of research results	70%
Projects	15%
Training activity	10%
Other merits	5%

Each area of assessment is rated on a scale from 1 to 10 points.

## Field of Engineering and Architecture

For the issue of advanced research accreditation, the Specific Committee for the Accreditation of Advanced Research in the Field of Engineering and Architecture will assess the applicants' research to date as well as other merits of research management and administration. In the field of Architecture, assessment will also be made of the international recognitions of the applicants' work, their recognised prizes, the circumstance of their having been published, and the circumstance of their having acted as curators of exhibitions. Consideration will be given to the temporality of the scientific task carried out and, especially, to the applicants' career in recent years:

### Scientific career

Applicants shall demonstrate a consolidated teaching and research career, in accordance with Section 46 of Act 1/2003, dated 19th February, on universities of Catalonia. With respect to their research career, applicants shall demonstrate, as a minimum, three years of post-doctoral research activity in order to be accredited.

### Publications and transfer of research results

Value will be placed equally and jointly on the publications and the transfer of research results.

As an indicator of dissemination and impact of the publications in journals, it will be verified that they are indexed in thematic categories pertaining to the areas of Engineering and Architecture of the citation indexes Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE), Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) and Arts and Humanities Citation Index (AHCI). In the case of journals indexed in SCIE and SSCI, the information appearing in the Journal Citation Reports (JCR) allows classification of titles in quartiles according to their relative volume of citations, which is considered another quality indicator of the medium in which they are published.

In the areas of specialisation in which there are indicators admitted by the academic, scientific and professional community, such indicators will be used. Otherwise, consideration will be given to the criteria of originality, significance, quality and repercussion of the work.

In the assessment process, a guideline indicator of an acceptable level of scientific and technical publications is the authorship of twenty-four contributions of quality and articles published in journals of recognised standing. In the case of the latter (published articles), only articles appearing in relevant positions in the subject area listings for the applicant's specialised field of the JCR will be considered. This is not an absolute number but rather a general reference. The fact that more than half of an applicant's publications are in the first quartile of the respective subject area will be an advantage, in addition to their being the first signatory or principal investigator.

As a general principle, quality (demonstrated by objective internationally accepted parameters)

will prevail over quantity. Specifically, deficiencies relating to quantity may be compensated by merits of very high or exceptional quality in the form publications in which the applicant is the principal and corresponding author. The quality should be duly justified and proven by indicators and verified repercussion evidence provided by the applicant. Moreover, in order to specify the effective repercussion of the research carried out by the applicant, consideration will be given whenever possible to the number of citations received. Consideration may also be given to the patents in operation.

Congress proceedings published with ISSN will not be considered publications in journals, even if they are indexed in SCIE, SSCI or AHCI. Such congress proceedings and also those referenced in such databases as the Conference Proceedings Citation Index of Clarivate Analytics or similar ones, will have only a complementary consideration with respect to the publications in indexed journals.

With respect to the publication of books, value will be placed especially on those of original character (where the applicant is the author or co-author and/or the editor of a multi-author book, excluding the publication of proceedings of congresses) published by specialised publishing houses, placing greater value, if appropriate, on those published by publishing houses of international prestige.

## Research projects

Consideration will be given solely to the research projects financed within the frame of competitive grant programmes of both the public Administrations (International, European, State, Autonomous Regional) and the private sector (foundations, companies, etc.). In order to obtain accreditation for advanced research it will be necessary for the applicant to have directed, as a minimum, one research project approved in a public competitive grant programme, and especially one financed in a national or international programme. Only in special highly justified cases may this condition be compensated by others of significant merit. The importance of the projects will be assessed by their financial value and by the publications in journals and the patents that they have generated. Particular attention will be paid to the ability to mobilise resources, level of leadership and initiative in generating new projects.

## Training activity

Value will be placed on the applicant's ability to form a research group or nucleus and to contribute actively to the training of researchers. In order to obtain accreditation for advanced research it will be necessary for the applicant to have directed more than one doctoral thesis; only in exceptional highly justified cases may this condition be compensated by other merits. Value will be placed on applicants' involvement in the teaching and/or co-ordination of post-graduate and Master's courses.

## Other merits

The Committee will assess all the other merits that the applicants submit, such as research prizes or awards, acknowledged stages of research, guest conferences at congresses or universities, research stays, positions of scientific responsibility (editorial committees, international and national scientific committees, organisation/chairing of congresses, publication of proceedings of congresses), reports issued by academics of acknowledged prestige, institutional activity in research promotion and management, etc. Research stays at centres of international prestige will be assessed whenever they have been for a length of over six months and have entailed a significant contribution to the applicant's training and specialisation as a researcher or have helped to strengthen the international projection of his or her research team.

## Weighting of each area

The weighting of each area in the final score will be as follows:

Publications and transfer of research results	70%
Projects	15%
Training activity	10%
Other merits	5%

Each of the areas will be assessed on a scale of 10 points.

## Specific considerations for the field of Architecture

While the foregoing criteria are applicable, from the conceptual standpoint, in the field of Architecture, the following specific aspects will be taken into account because of the characteristics that distinguish Architecture from Engineering:

It must be understood that, with respect to **Publications**, measurement is made of the incidence of a researcher's activity on the experts in an area. In this respect, the closest parallel in the field of Architecture would be the capacity of a thoughtful professional to contribute, with his or her contributions, to the advance and shaping of knowledge. To the extent that these contributions sketch out some precise guidelines, are the object of a reflexive conceptualisation and have an influence on the evolution of the world of Architecture, they may be assessed as publications. The transfer of research results contributed by the applicant will also be assessed in this area.

Within the **Projects** area, measurement is made of the capacity to define objectives, establish the strategies necessary to achieve them, and mobilise the pertinent human resources. On the basis of this principle, the acceptance of projects may be broadened in the field of Architecture to include more diverse activities, as long as they present the three aforementioned aspects and are of an entity comparable to that described in the area of **Research Projects**.

The area of **Other Merits** may include significant aspects of the field of Architecture that are without parallel in other fields. In the absence of more objective measures, architects are

accustomed to, and find completely acceptable, assessment by all types of panels and juries. In the absence of more objective measures, architects are accustomed to, and find completely acceptable, assessment by all types of panels and juries. The placement of their effort in the hands of a group of prestigious professionals is the usual way of obtaining commissions, winning competitive biddings, participating in exhibitions or having their works published. For this reason, in this area, all these formulas of competition and jury must be included, with a change in the weightings set out above.

Consequently, in the field of Architecture, the following weighting of merits will be applied:

Publications and transfer of research results	50%
Projects	10%
Training activity	20%
Other merits	20%

Each area of assessment is rated on a scale from 1 to 10 points.