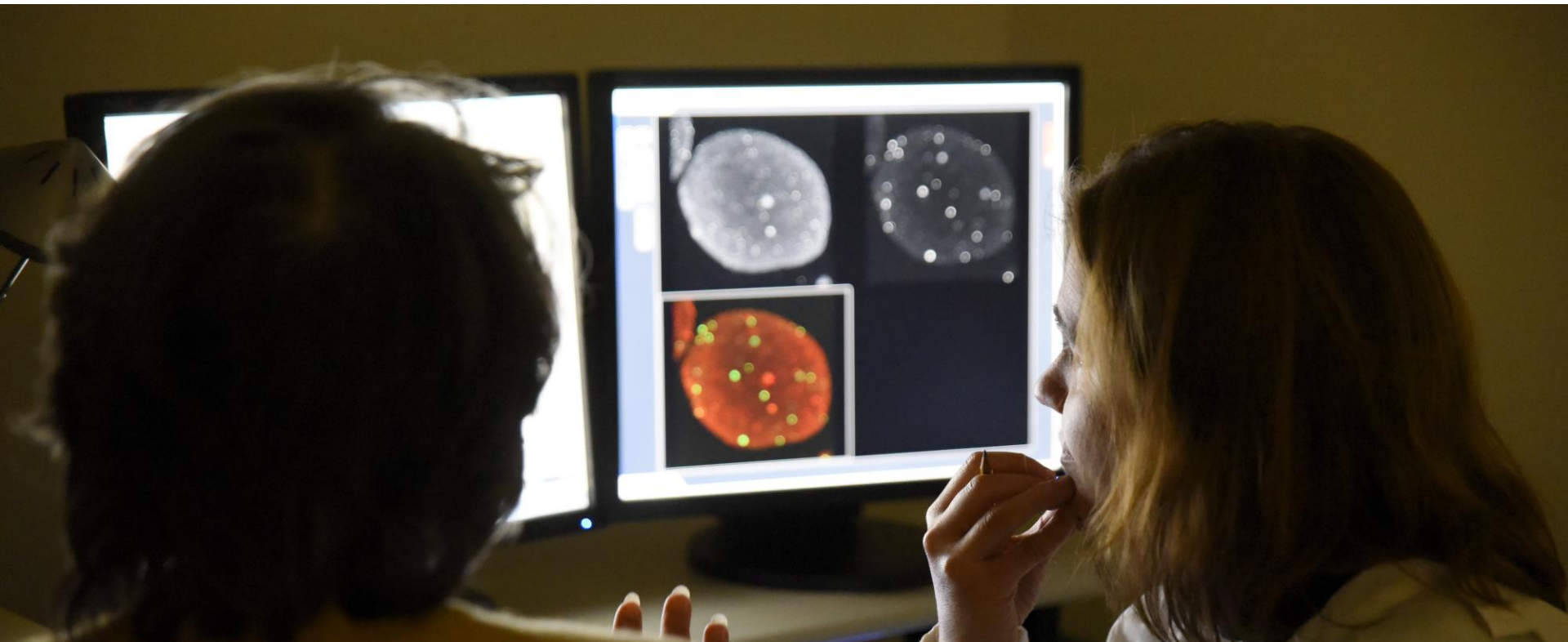


DOCTORAL EDUCATION and RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT: THE PERSPECTIVE OF UNIVERSITY OF PORTO

U.PORTO



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U.PORTO THIRD CYCLES IN THE PORTUGUESE CONTEXT

- Portugal: 14 public Universities; 14 public Politecnic Institutes; 1 Catholic University; >70 private HEI
- 2017-2018: 14% of all Portuguese PhDs were offered by the University of Porto (94 out of 670)
- 16.7% of PhD students in Portugal were U.Porto students (3.414 out of 20.450, including mobility (109 students))
- Half of the students were enrolled in Doctoral Programs in the areas of *Health and Social Protection, Sciences and Technology* (mainly *Engineering*), respectively 26.7% e 21.8% of total – 3414
- National legislation (third cycle - Decree-law of degrees and diploma - 2006)
- Level of qualification – EQF 8

DOCTORAL EDUCATION AT U.PORTO - FRAMEWORK

Diversity of doctoral organization: doctoral schools in some universities

At U.Porto:

- No doctoral school – an institutional decision 2014
- Doctoral programmes depending on the Schools (Faculdades)
 - Students enrollment, etc. – but, simultaneously:
- Research work – mainly in research centers
 - More and more: Students (also researchers) > must develop skills for independent work, for autonomy as researchers
 - R&D&I system - different research contexts (large – v.g. I3S, individual...). No common model, for diversity of situations

INTERNATIONALIZATION OF U.PORTO THIRD CYCLES

Strong emphasis on internationalization of programs and international cooperation

25.9% of PhD students of U.Porto have foreign nationality (3% from EU, 16.5% from Portuguese-speaking countries and 6.4% from other countries)

Between June of 2016 and January of 2019, 60 *cotutele* were signed. Currently, 40 are in preparation or discussion

21 European Doctorate Label

U.PORTO PHD MULTIDISCIPLINARITY

Several doctoral programs are “collaborative”:

- 22 are jointly offered by different schools of U.Porto;
- 24 are jointly offered in association with other Portuguese Universities, and
- 4 in association with foreign Universities (MIT, Carnegie-Mellon and Texas-Austin)

Besides these associations of doctoral programs, there are several agreements (learning and research) with a significant number of Universities in many countries (specially for mobility).

DOCTORAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTRALITY

U. Porto has:

- 49 research units (80% are classified as Very Good or Excellent) and 7 “associated laboratories”, larger and multidisciplinary organized, integrating senior and young researchers (including doctoral students). The quality of the programs and thesis is controlled
- Structured doctoral programs and “individual” doctorate (depending on the areas and number of students)
- Research training and more and more valuing of innovation – specially in the areas of Health and life Sciences, Science and Technologies

DOCTORAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH AT U.PORTO - INTERNAL QA

- Values:
 - Recruitment criteria
 - Quality of the training context
 - Strong research environment and supervision requirements
 - Importance of transversal skills and knowledge transfer
 - Ethics and code of conduct
 - Autonomy and critical thinking
- Internal quality assurance system:
- Each program: Regulation (general and specific), Coordinator, Scientific commission, “Comissão de acompanhamento” (which includes students)
- Significant number of programs have an annual meeting for discussion of individual projects

DOCTORAL EDUCATION AT U.PORTO - OUR POLITICS

- Supervision:
 - Programs define contact hours
- Co-supervision (allowed and recommended) – increasing recently, mainly in the areas of Health Sciences
- Supervision Team: allowed, depending on each program
- Structured programs, with seminars, course units for research, training of transferable skills
- Value of multidisciplinary and research environment (vg: I3S – Instituto de Investigação e Inovação em Saúde – Institute of Research and Innovation in Health)
- Large offer of conferences, seminars, workshops in all areas – open to different hD students

DOCTORAL EDUCATION - CHALLENGES

- Funding (through research and competitive projects, public and private, not only individual grants)
- International competitiveness
- Quality assurance of all programs and thesis and
- Quality assurance of joint/double degrees
- Employability
- Knowledge transfer and economic development – professional doctorates
- International cooperation at this level (doctoral students/researchers excluded of EU Alliances?)



Thank you for your attention!

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