



TOWARZYSTWO DOKTORANTÓW  
UNIwersYTETU JAGIELLOŃSKIEGO

Kraków, 10.11.2022

**Prof. dr hab. Armen Edigarian**  
**Vice-rector for didactics**  
**Jagiellonian University**

Respected Sir,

**Subject: Increase of the doctoral scholarship at Jagiellonian University**

We, the PhD student council of the Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences like to thank the Rector of the Jagiellonian University and directors of the Doctoral schools for their immense support and providing better research working conditions and opportunities for the doctoral students.

Having said, the current basic amount of doctoral scholarship of the doctoral school students is set at:

1. 37% of the professor's remuneration - up to the month in which the mid-term evaluation was carried out, i.e., PLN 2,104.64 PLN net (2,371.70 gross minus the compulsory pension and disability pension contribution). For students with disabilities, the amount is PLN 2,736.03 net (3,083.21 gross minus the compulsory pension and disability pension contribution).
2. 57% of the professor's remuneration - after the month in which the mid-term evaluation was carried out, i.e., PLN 3,242.29 (3,653.70 gross minus the compulsory pension and disability pension contribution). For students with disabilities, the amount is PLN 4,214.98 net (4,749.81 gross minus the compulsory pension and disability pension contribution).

The amount of the minimum basic salary for a professor at a public university specified in the regulation is PLN 6,410.00.

As you might be aware, the ongoing war caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine combined with the economic recession during pandemic and post-pandemic has caused an unprecedented price rise in the housing, transportation, food, and energy sectors. The inflation rate in Poland [Figure-1] is currently at its highest 17.2 % as of September 2022 compared to previous years. As a result, we the PhD students of the Jagiellonian University are no longer able to afford the cost of living in Krakow (Table-1) with the basic scholarship still being the same amount for the past few years. The basic scholarship amount has not changed since the establishment of the doctoral school i.e., 2019 and the amount is below the national minimum salary (PLN 3010 gross) in Poland [Figure-2]. Moreover, the Government of Poland has decided to increase the minimum wage on an employment contract to PLN 2709 (gross PLN 3490) from January 1, 2023, and PLN 2784 (gross PLN 3600) from July 07, 2023. The above announcement was posted by the *Chancellery of the Prime Minister* [1], and it was "....determined based on the forecasts set out in the draft budget act for 2023, adopted by the Council of Ministers on August 30". This in-turn severely affected and continue to affect the productivity of the research work and the livelihood of doctoral students. This year, a place in the



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Jagiellonian University's student house has become more expensive, from 675 to 870 PLN. Additionally, foreign students need to face the problem that they cannot afford to visit their families in their home countries. Therefore, doctoral students are not able to fully focus on their research and studies. Below we presented a table that shows the minimum living cost per student in Kraków. The listed expenses might be significantly higher, considering individual situations (i.e., health problems, raising a child). This in-turn severely affected and continue to affect the productivity of the research work and the livelihood of doctoral students, in particular the international students. Therefore, the doctoral students are not able to fully focus on their research and studies.

Monthly expenses	Cost (PLN)
Rent (student dormitory/shared apartment)	560 - 1500
Public transportation	75 - 150
Health insurance, private medical care (e.g., dental treatment)	58 - 150
Phone, internet, and study materials	80 - 150
Groceries	700 - 900
Personal care, leisure, medications	150 - 300
Clothing, small household items	200 - 400
Travel to family (Poland and International)	400 - 1000
<b>Average total expenses</b>	<b>3020</b>

Table-1: Average living expenses for students in a touristic city like Krakow [2,3].

We fully understand that the basic scholarship is set by the Ministry of Higher Education, of the Government of Poland. Recently an ordinance [4] was issued by the Rector of the Jagiellonian University related to the increase in the salary of the employees of the Jagiellonian University. Such an ordinance could be implemented for doctoral students as well.

Moreover, we would like to point out that there exist multiple ways to increase the doctoral scholarship to doctoral students as implemented by few of the well-known universities (like Warsaw University of Technology, Gdansk University of Technology) in Poland. Suggestions for ways of increasing the doctoral scholarship are listed below.

1. One-off financial aid for doctoral students admitted to doctoral schools at JU
2. Basic scholarship + grant for all doctoral student at JU
3. Rector decree
4. Achievement bonus - paying bonuses for achievements in form of competition, such as publications or presentations or posters at conferences (e.g., once a year 6000 PLN net for author/co-authorship in publication for at least 70 points).
5. Paying bonuses for progress in preparing a dissertation based on evaluation done by supervisors after each semester.
6. Co-financing the costs of doctoral student accommodation [Figure-3].





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For example, Gdansk University of Technology has increased the amount of scholarship to all years of doctoral school studies for the academic year 2022/2023 under rector decree as shown below [5].

Due to Rector's Decree of Gdańsk University of Technology no 41/2022 of May 27, 2022 on introducing in the academic year 2022/2023 the increase of the doctoral scholarship for PhD students at Gdansk University of Technology, the amount of the increase for PhD students, valid for the academic year 2022/2023, is:

- 1) PLN 237,17 gross for first year PhD Students,
- 2) PLN 474,34 zł gross for second year PhD Students,
- 3) PLN 365,37 zł gross for third year PhD Students,
- 4) PLN 548,06 zł gross for fourth year PhD Students.

Our intention is to bring this issue to you and help solve the problem faced by the doctoral student at the Jagiellonian University, since we are the representatives of the PhD students at the Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences. Income that allows us to live in Krakow at least at a minimum level, without being forced to take on additional work, will allow us to focus on our research work and preparing our doctoral dissertation. This in turn will pay off by increasing the quality of our research, the quality of our publications and, in the long run, by increasing the reputation of the Jagiellonian University as a place where talented young scientists should begin their careers by completing doctoral studies.

Therefore, on behalf of PhD students of the four doctoral schools of the Jagiellonian University, we would like to kindly ask a suitable increase of the amount of PhD students' scholarship of Jagiellonian University.

Sincerely,

*Saravanan Sengottuvel*

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Chairman, The PhD Student Council of the Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences,  
Jagiellonian University

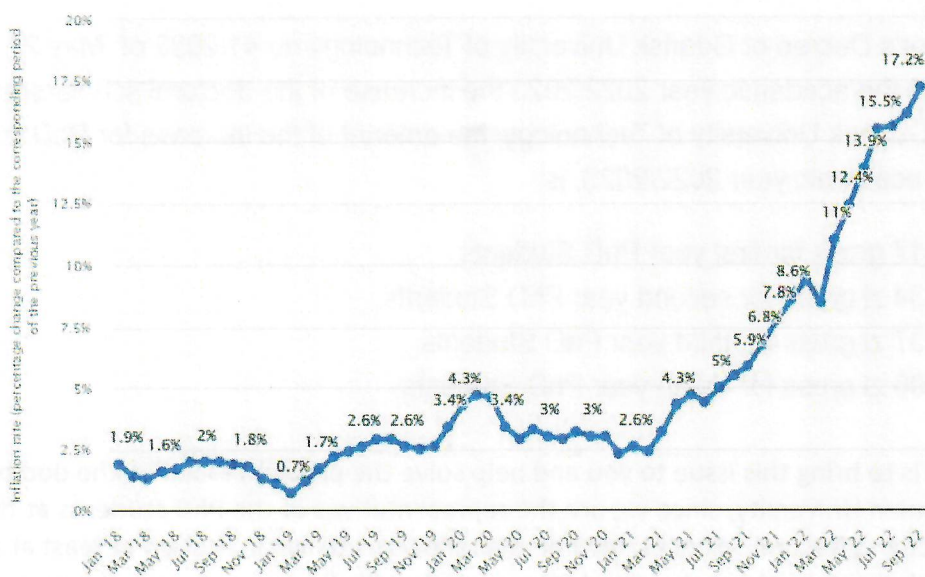
References:

- [1] <https://www.gov.pl/web/family/the-minimum-salary-in-2023-is-higher-than-previously-proposed-the-government-adopted-the-regulation>
- [2] <https://study.gov.pl/>
- [3] <https://wsb.edu.pl/en/student/your-stay-in-poland/living-costs>
- [4] [https://cso.uj.edu.pl/documents/54627/149620683/zarz\\_23\\_2022+-regulamin+wynagradzania.pdf/6057064b-1ec2-4871-b08f-ddc89b606eb5](https://cso.uj.edu.pl/documents/54627/149620683/zarz_23_2022+-regulamin+wynagradzania.pdf/6057064b-1ec2-4871-b08f-ddc89b606eb5)
- [5] <https://pg.edu.pl/en/doctoral-school/phd-students/scholarships-phd-students/doctoral-scholarships>



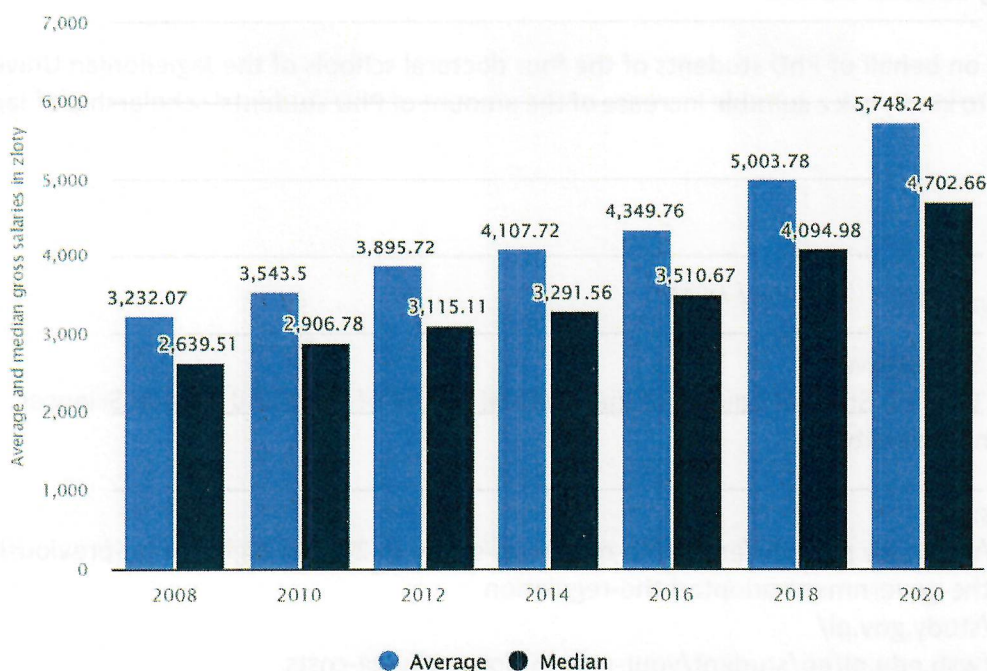
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### Attachments:



**Figure -1: Monthly inflation rate of Poland from 2018 to 2022**

(Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1086390/poland-monthly-inflation-rate/>)



**Figure -2: Average and median total gross salaries in Poland from 2008 to 2020**

(Source: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1073686/poland-average-and-median-gross-salaries/>)





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UNIwersytetu Jagiellońskiego



Politechnika  
Śląska

## Monitor Prawny Politechniki Śląskiej

poz. 188

ZARZĄDZENIE NR 30/2020  
REKTORA POLITECHNIKI ŚLĄSKIEJ  
z dnia 4 marca 2020 r.

**w sprawie grantu dla doktorantów z zagranicy  
w ramach programu Inicjatywa Doskonałości – Uczelnia Badawcza**

Działając na podstawie art. 23 ust. 1 ustawy z dnia 20 lipca 2018 r. – Prawo o szkolnictwie wyższym i nauce (j.t. Dz. U. z 2020 r. poz. 85), a także w związku z udziałem Politechniki Śląskiej w programie Inicjatywa Doskonałości – Uczelnia Badawcza (umowa nr 08/IDUB/2019/94 z dnia 16 grudnia 2019 r.), zarządza się, co następuje:

### § 1

1. Program obejmuje doktorantów z zagranicy kształcących się we Wspólnej Szkole Doktorskiej.
2. Rektor, na wniosek doktoranta złożony w sekretariacie Szkoły Doktorów, może przyznać grant w ramach dostępnych środków w wysokości do 1000 zł brutto miesięcznie przeznaczony na dofinansowanie kosztów zakwaterowania.

**Figure-3: Rector's order on a grant for PhD students, Silesian University of Technology.**

Copy to:

**dr hab. Roman Skibiński, JU Prof.**

Director of the Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences

**Dr hab. Sebastian Kołodziejczyk, prof. UJ**

Director of Doctoral School in the Humanities

**dr hab. Anna Zachorowska-Mazurkiewicz**

Director of the Doctoral School of Social Sciences

**prof. dr hab. Katarzyna Stolarz-Skrzypek**

Director of the Doctoral School of Medical and Health Sciences

