STATEMENT OF THE DOCTORAL COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
Regarding the Independent Creation and Lawfulness of Authorial Works

In connection with the requirements set out in Sections 74/A – 74/C of the Academic Regulations for Students (hereinafter: ARS) regarding the lawfulness of student works (and the sanctions associated with their breach), the Doctoral Council of the Faculty of Humanities hereby publishes the following statement.

1. For any academic work produced during the doctoral programme and the process of obtaining a doctoral degree (including research plans submitted during the admission procedure), the applicant, student, doctoral candidate, or doctoral aspirant is responsible for any errors in the text and must take full responsibility for the scientific soundness of its content and conclusions, for the accuracy of the text and the lawfulness of the material used.

2. The substantial part of the text must clearly be the result of independent work; concealing the fact that the author used generative artificial intelligence (hereinafter: AI) in the creation or drafting of the content is deemed an unacceptable research misconduct, and its sanction is equivalent to that of plagiarism (see below).

3. Although the use of AI in the process of scientific creation and source processing can lead to a significant decline in analytical and critical thinking, in certain cases (such as generating titles and ideas, searching for and summarizing literature, shortening and translating texts and source materials, structuring written materials, checking and correcting grammar and style, preparing graphics and slides) it can be helpful to authors. In these cases, the author must accurately document in their academic work the purpose and manner in which AI-based systems were used and indicate which parts of the content originated from such sources.

4. Since some AI-based systems use publications created by other human authors without proper citation, there is a possibility that generating text by AI could be considered an act of plagiarism. Hence, the Doctoral Council reiterates that the authors of submitted works bear sole responsibility for the soundness, accuracy, and lawfulness of the content.

5. For any course or assignment, the lecturer of the course or the topic supervisor of a doctoral candidate or doctoral aspirant may set stricter rules than those described above, which must be clearly communicated to the students at the start of the course/assignment.

6. Plagiarism—that is, the intentional or unintentional use of someone else's intellectual property, work, or idea without properly indicating the original source—is the most serious breach of academic ethics.

7. Plagiarism includes the following cases:

- Omission of quotation marks and failure to cite the original source in cases of word-for-word quotations.
- Failure to reference the original source when paraphrasing shorter or longer sections of a text.
- Reproduction of datasets, figures, or illustrations without citing the original source.
- Undocumented use of AI-based systems (see points 3 and 4).
- Republication of one's own prior academic works or parts of them (including translations into and reusing in another language) without proper citation (so-called "self-plagiarism")—taking into account the specifics of the academic field concerned.

8. Lecturers (including opponents), when evaluating academic works, shall place special emphasis on detecting undocumented AI usage and incidents of plagiarism. During their evaluations, they are authorized to use plagiarism detection software (such as Turnitin, a tool used by ELTE to detect plagiarism, check originality, and support writing). Reports generated by plagiarism detection software must always be thoroughly reviewed, and, in the event that plagiarism is detected, it must be verified (or refuted) on professional grounds.

9. The Doctoral Council of the Faculty of Humanities strongly urges topic supervisors to closely monitor the academic work of their supervisees, particularly regarding compliance with academic ethics and regulations. We recommend that academic works be checked with plagiarism detection software before submitting an official evaluation to identify potential issues in time.

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10. If the opponent of an academic work establishes that academic ethics has been breached (plagiarism), that is, the rules regarding the use of someone else's authorial work or the use of AI and the indication of such usage have been violated, the student's academic work must be deemed unacceptable. If it concerns a doctoral course (or consultation with the topic supervisor), the evaluation with a grade must be rejected and the disciplinary offence must be reported to the relevant faculty body (see paragraphs (1) and (2) of Section 74/C of ARS).

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