



Western Norway  
University of  
Applied Sciences

## **Guidelines for implementation of public defense**

Adopted by the Central PhD committee 16.2.2023

Regulation for the degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) at Western Norway University of Applied Sciences Section 5-17 states rules for public defense of the thesis. The guidelines in this document are supplementary to the Regulations, as well as to procedures for public defense adopted by the Central PhD Committee.

### **1. Public defense as a physical event**

- a) As a general rule, the public defense shall be arranged as a physical event with the doctoral candidate, the chair of the defense, and the committee are physically present.
- b) It is possible for one or both opponents to participate digitally. If the committee wants digital participation from one or both opponents, the persons(s) administering the public defense should be notified at the same time as the tentative date for the public defense is proposed.
- c) In exceptional cases, public defenses can be arranged as fully digital events. This should be decided by the Dean of the PhD program's host faculty. The decision must be made in consultation with the PhD candidate and the committee.

### **2. Campus**

Public defense should normally be arranged at the candidate's campus, at HVL's premises.

### **3. Streaming**

All public defenses must be streamed and the link to the streaming should be publicly available. Anyone who wants to comment ex. auditorio must be present at the defense venue.