

Minutes No. 4

Minutes of the meeting of the selection committee for the award of seven Doctoral Research Grants—of the “in-country” or “mixed” type—under the OpenEU initiative, launched via Call for Applications Ref. No. 01/BD-OpenEU.

On September 14, 2026, at 4:00 PM, the selection committee for the award of seven Doctoral Research Grants—of the “in-country” or “mixed” type—under the OpenEU initiative, launched via Call for Applications Ref. No. 01/BD-OpenEU, met via videoconference.

The following committee members participated in the meeting:

President: Sandra Caeiro (Universidade Aberta - UAb)

Vice-President: Paulo Osório (Universidade Aberta - UAb)

Members:

- Angeles Sanchez-Elvira Paniagua (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distância - UNED, Espanha)
- António Carrizo Moreira (Universidade Aberta - UAb)
- Carmen Pagès Serra (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya - UOC, Espanha)
- Cristina Vieira (Universidade Aberta - UAb)
- Diogo Casa Nova (Universidade Aberta - UAb)
- Fátima Alves (Universidade Aberta - UAb)
- Frederico Branco (Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro - UTAD)
- Inés Gil Jaurena (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia - UNED, Espanha)
- Isabel Barros Dias (Universidade Aberta - UAb)
- Isabel Huet e Silva (Universidade Aberta - UAb)
- João Simão (Universidade Aberta - UAb)
- José Cravino (Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro - UTAD)
- José Eduardo Franco (Universidade Aberta - UAb)
- Marcus Specht (FernUniversität in Hagen, Alemanha)
- Maria Adelina Castelo (Universidade Aberta - UAb)
- Mario Bessa (Universidade Aberta - UAb)
- Paulo Nunes da Silva (Universidade Aberta - UAb)
- Petra C. de Weerd-Nederhof (Open Universiteit – OU, Países Baixos)
- Petru Curseu (Open Universiteit - OU, Países Baixos)
- Susana Henriques (Universidade Aberta - UAb)
- Vítor Rocio (Universidade Aberta - UAb)

The meeting was convened with the following agenda:

- Single item: review of the withdrawal notifications submitted by two candidates and the consequent assessment of the possibility of awarding the scholarships to the candidates ranked next on the final ranking list approved by the Jury, in accordance with the conditions set out in Public Notice Ref. 01/BD-OpenEU.

At the start of the proceedings, the Chairperson informed the other jury members that candidates Joana Filipa da Silva Santos and Diogo Filipe Lemos Bugarim Fernandes had communicated their withdrawal from the selection process via email on August 4, 2026, and August 5, 2026, respectively.

The notices of withdrawal are attached to these minutes as Annexes I and II, forming an integral part thereof.

Following said withdrawals—and considering the final ranking list approved at the meeting held on July 21, 2026 (which is hereby incorporated in full for all legal purposes)—the Jury reviewed the candidates positioned next on the list. The objective was to verify, in each case, whether they met the eligibility criteria for the award of a scholarship—prerequisites for potential selection to fill the newly available scholarships—while adhering to the established ranking order.

Based on this review, the Jury determined that candidate Susana Maria dos Santos Rocha Fouto da Silva, ranked 8th on the final ranking list, met the conditions set forth in the selection process for the award of a scholarship.

Thus, considering her position on the final ranking list, her fulfillment of eligibility criteria, and other requirements applicable to the granting of the scholarship, the Jury unanimously resolved that candidate Susana Maria dos Santos Rocha Fouto da Silva met the conditions for the award of a Doctoral Research Scholarship—replacing a candidate who had withdrawn—taking into account her position on the consolidated final ranking list and her compliance with the conditions governing the scholarship award.

Regarding the candidate ranked 9th, Cristiane Lopes Miguel Neto dos Santos, the Jury determined that the condition concerning admission to the doctoral study program for which she had applied had not been met.

Indeed, as shown in the final list of candidates for the aforementioned study cycle, the candidate was not admitted to the doctoral program to which she applied, and consequently, one of the conditions necessary for the awarding of the scholarship within the scope of this competitive procedure, available at (https://portal.uab.pt/dcet/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2026/07/DCeT_DSD_Lista_-definitiva_-de_candidatos_2026-27.pdf), is not met.

Consequently, the candidate does not meet the necessary conditions for the award of the scholarship under this call for applications.

Regarding the candidate ranked 10th, S M Abul Kalam Azad, the Selection Committee noted that he obtained a final score of 2.667, which is below the minimum score required for eligibility.

Indeed, in accordance with the provisions of Public Notice Ref. 01/BD-OpenEU: "Candidates whose applications receive a final score of less than 3 points—out of a total of 5 points—are not eligible for the award of the scholarship."

Consequently, the candidate does not meet the eligibility requirements for the award of a Doctoral Research Scholarship under this call for applications.

In light of the situations described above, the Jury concluded that, among the candidates ranked in the subsequent positions on the consolidated final ranking list, only candidate Susana Maria dos Santos Rocha Fouto da Silva meets the necessary conditions for the award of one of the scholarships that became available following the withdrawals.

Thus, taking into account the two reported withdrawals, the consolidated final ranking list approved by the Jury at the meeting held on July 21, 2026, the eligibility criteria established in Public Notice Ref. 01/BD-OpenEU, and the number of scholarships allocated for this selection process, the Jury unanimously resolved that only six candidates met the conditions for the award of the Doctoral Research Scholarships:

- João Gabriel Thomaz Moura Morais;
- Sílvia Cristina Fontes Jesus Serrado Cópio;
- Joaquim Gomes André Chitata;
- Zacarias Augusto Rungo;
- Ana Isabel Rodrigues Simões Casinhas Sacavém;
- Susana Maria dos Santos Rocha Fouto da Silva.

With no further business to discuss, the jury meeting was concluded at 5:00 PM.

This set of minutes was read and unanimously approved by all jury members.

Given that some members are abroad and/or unable to physically sign the document, these minutes are signed by the Jury Chair, who declares, under her own responsibility, that the content faithfully reflects the decisions made and the consensus of all members; evidence of the approval of these minutes by the other jury members via electronic communication is filed with the case records.

The Jury President

Sandra Caeiro (Universidade Aberta - UAb)