ART. 1
(Definitions)

1. For the purpose of this decree, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

a) Minister and Ministry shall mean: the Minister and Ministry for Education, Universities and Research (MIUR);

b) ANVUR shall mean: Agenzia nazionale di valutazione del sistema universitario e della ricerca (National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes);

c) CUN shall mean: Consiglio universitario nazionale (National University Board);

d) CEPR shall mean: Comitato degli esperti per le politiche della ricerca (Committee of experts on research policies);

e) Law shall mean: Law 30 December 2010, no. 240;

f) Regulation shall mean: Presidential Decree 14 September 2011, no. 222 regulating the procedure to award the National Scientific Qualification for first-level and second-level professors in Italian universities;

  g) Qualification shall mean: the National Scientific Qualification as per article 16, par. 1, of the Law;

  h) Committee shall mean: the Committee for the National Scientific Qualification as per article 16, par. 3, letter f), of the Law;

  i) Competition macro sectors, competition sectors and scientific-disciplinary sectors shall mean: competition macro sectors, competition sectors and scientific-disciplinary sectors as per article 15, par. 1, of the Law;

  l) Disciplinary Areas shall mean: the disciplinary areas as per article 16, par. 3, letter b), of the Law, as set out in article 1, par. 1, letter a) of Law 16 January 2006, no. 18 on the reorganisation of CUN;

m) Criteria shall mean: the elements which can make the object of a qualitative evaluation;

n) Parameters shall mean: the elements which can make the object of a quantitative evaluation and can, therefore, be numerically evaluated;

o) Indicators shall mean: the operational tools that allow to quantify and, therefore, measure parameters;

p) Median shall mean: the value of an indicator, or other selected method to order a list of subjects, which divides the same list into two equal parts;

q) Academic Age shall mean: the period of time since the date of the first scientific publication relevant to a specific competition sector, taking into account maternity leaves, other leaves of absence provided by existing legislation other than study leaves, or any interruption in the scientific activity due to sound reasons which shall be evaluated in relation to the candidate’s curriculum vitae;
r) Hirsch’s h-index shall mean: the h-index, as defined by Jorge E. Hirsch (California University, San Diego - USA);

s) ISSN shall mean: the International Standard Serial Number, i.e. the unique international number allocated to any serial publication, or other periodicals, presented in a specific physical format and assigned by the ISSN network, in compliance with ISO standard 3297:2007, adopted in Italy by the UNI in 2010 as UNI ISO standard 3297;


ART. 2
(Object)

1. In compliance with art. 16, par. 3, letter a), b) and c) of the Law and articles 4 and 6, paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Regulation, this regulation sets out:

   a) the criteria, parameters and indicators of scientific activity to be used for the purpose of evaluating candidates who applied for the Qualification;

   b) the maximum number of publications, distinguished by level and area, that each candidate may submit in the Qualification evaluation process;

   c) methods to assess whether the criteria, parameters and indicators of scientific record for potential committee members are consistent with those required in order to evaluate candidates who applied for the first level Qualification.

ART. 3
(Evaluation of academic titles and publications in the selection procedure to award the national scientific qualification for first-level and second-level professors)

1. In the selection procedures to award the national scientific qualification for first-level and second-level professors, the Committee shall issue a sound judgment on the scientific record of each candidate based on the analytical evaluation of titles and publications submitted. The evaluation is based on the criteria and parameters mentioned in articles 4 and 5 for first and second level professors respectively.

2. When evaluating the applicants’ titles and publications, the Committee shall follow the general principle whereby the Qualification is awarded to candidates who achieved significant scientific results, taking into account the international relevance of said results, though to a different extent for first-level and second level qualifications.

3. The Committee shall decide in advance on eligible publications, on how to weigh each criterion and parameter (included in articles 4 and 5), as well as on the inclusion of additional and more restrictive criteria and parameters to evaluate titles and publications,
by adopting a substantiated document to be published on the websites of the Ministry and of the relevant University where the procedure is taking place. Criteria and parameters shall be weighed in a balanced and substantiated way.

ART. 4

(Criteria and parameters for the evaluation of academic titles and scientific publications to award the national scientific qualification for first-level and second-level professors)

1. In the selection procedures to award the national scientific qualification for first-level professors, the evaluation of academic titles and scientific publications is aimed at assessing the full scientific maturity of candidates, certified by the relevance of the scientific issues they addressed and the achievement of unique and high-quality results granting them a fully recognized position in the national and international research scenario. Additional evaluation criteria include the ability to lead a research team with the potential involvement of international collaborators, the experience gained as supervisor of PhD students, the ability to attract competitive funding as a project leader, especially at the international level, and the ability to promote technology transfer. In relation to the distinctiveness of each sector of the competitive examination, the Committee may decide - in compliance with art. 3, par. 3 - not to use one or more such additional criteria.

2. When evaluating the scientific publications submitted by candidates under art. 7, par. 1, and Annexe C, the Committee shall consider the following criteria:

a) consistency with the topics of the competition sector or relevant cross-disciplinary topics;

b) personal contribution to research teamwork;

c) quality of scientific production, assessed against the international research scenario, based on its uniqueness, methodological rigour and innovative nature, according to the ranking of publications by status in Annexe D;

d) publication of scientific works with publishers, in collections or national and international journals which rely on transparent peer-review procedures to assess the quality of products for publication.

3. When evaluating the scientific publications submitted by candidates under art. 7, par. 1, and Annexe C, the Committee shall consider the following parameters:

a) number and type of publications submitted and their distribution in time, in particular in the five consecutive years prior to the date of publication of the Decree as per art. 3, par. 1 of the Regulation. To this end, maternity leaves, or other leaves of absence provided by existing legislation other than study leaves, shall be taken into account;

b) the impact of publications within the specific sector of the competitive examination. To this end, the academic age and, if necessary, the distinctive features of a part of the sector or disciplinary-scientific sector or of a subgroup thereof shall be taken into account.
4. When evaluating the titles submitted by candidates, the Committee shall consider the following parameters relating to the sector of the competitive examination:

   a) impact of overall scientific production assessed by means of the indicators listed in art. 6 and Annexes A and B;

   b) scientific responsibility for national and international research projects which received funding through competitive calls based on peer-review;

   c) experience as chief director of highly-reputed journals, collections, encyclopaedias and treatises;

   d) participation in editorial boards of highly-reputed journals, collections, encyclopaedias and treatises;

   e) research or teaching fellowships in highly-qualified foreign or international universities or research institutes;

   f) head of highly-qualified international research agencies or institutes;

   g) participation in prestigious academies in the sector;

   h) prizes and awards received by candidates for their scientific activity;

   i) if applicable to the relevant sector of the competitive examination, results achieved in the field of technology transfer including the establishments of new businesses (spin-offs), development, use and commercialization of patents;

   l) other titles, as pre-established by the Committee under art. 3, par. 3, which help better outline the applicant’s scientific profile.

ART. 5

(Criteria and parameters for the evaluation of academic titles and scientific publications to award the national scientific qualification for second-level professors)

1. In the selection procedures to award the national scientific qualification for second-level professors, the evaluation of academic titles and scientific publications is aimed at assessing the full scientific maturity of candidates, meaning the achievement of high quality and unique results in their research work which grants them a fully recognized position in the research landscape, at least on a national scale. Additional evaluation criteria include the ability to coordinate or lead a research team, the ability to attract competitive funding as a local project leader and the ability to promote technology transfer. In relation to the distinctiveness of each sector of the competitive examination, the Committee may decide - in compliance with art. 3, par. 3 - not to use one or more such additional criteria.

2. When evaluating the scientific publications submitted by candidates under art. 7, par. 1, and Annexe E, the Committee shall consider the following criteria:
a) consistency with the topics of the competition sector or relevant cross-disciplinary topics;

b) personal contribution to research teamwork;

c) quality of scientific production, assessed against the international research scenario, based on its uniqueness, methodological rigour and innovative nature, using, where available, the ranking of publications by status in Annexe D;

d) publication of scientific products with publishers, in collections or national and international journals which rely on transparent peer-review procedures to assess the quality of products for publication.

3. When evaluating the scientific publications submitted by candidates under art. 7, par. 1, and Annexe E, the Committee shall consider the following parameters:

a) number and type of publications submitted and their distribution in time, in particular in the five consecutive years prior to the date of publication of the Decree as per art. 3, par. 1 of the Regulation. To this end, maternity leaves, or other leaves of absence provided by existing legislation other than study leaves, shall be taken into account;

b) the impact of publications within the specific sector of the competitive examination. To this end, the academic age and, if necessary, the distinctive features of a part of the sector or disciplinary-scientific sector or of a subgroup thereof shall be taken into account.

4. When evaluating the titles submitted by candidates, the Committee shall consider the following parameters relating to the sector of the competitive examination:

a) impact of the overall scientific production assessed by means of the indicators listed in art. 6 and Annexes A and B;

b) scientific participation in national and international research projects which received funding through competitive calls based on peer-review;

c) participation in editorial boards of highly-reputed journals, collections, encyclopaedias and treatises;

d) official research or teaching fellowships in highly-qualified foreign or international research institutes and universities;

e) participation in highly-qualified foreign or international research agencies and institutes;

f) prizes and awards received by candidates for their scientific activity;

g) if applicable to the relevant sectors of the competitive examination, the results achieved in the field of technology transfer including the establishment of new businesses (spin offs), development, use and commercialization of patents;

h) other titles, as pre-established by the Committee under art. 3, par. 3, which help better outline the applicant’s scientific profile.
ART. 6
(Indicators of scientific activity)

1. In the first-level Qualification procedure, in relation to the sectors included in Annexe A, the Committee shall use the bibliometric indicators listed in the abovementioned Annexe to measure the impact of overall scientific production as per art. 4, par. 4, letter a), following the principle whereby the Qualification shall only be awarded to candidates:

a) who were judged positively against the criteria and parameters included in art. 4, paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4, letters b), c), d), e), f), g), h), i) and l);

b) whose indicators of the impact of their overall scientific production achieve the values required for the first level Qualification, based on the rules of application under Annexe A, number 3, letter b).

2. In the second-level Qualification procedure, in relation to the sectors included in Annexe A, the Committee shall use the bibliometric indicators listed in the abovementioned Annexe to measure the impact of the overall scientific production as per art. 5, par. 4, letter a), following the principle whereby the Qualification shall only be awarded to candidates:

a) who were judged positively against the criteria and parameters included in art. 5, paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4, letters b), c), d), e), f), g) and h);

b) whose indicators of the impact of their overall scientific production achieve the values required for the second level Qualification, based on the rules of application under Annexe A, number 3, letter b).

3. In the first-level Qualification procedure, in relation to the sectors included in Annexe B, the Committee shall use the indicators listed in the abovementioned Annexe to measure the impact of the overall scientific production as per art. 4, par. 4, letter a), following the principle whereby the Qualification shall only be awarded to candidates:

a) who were judged positively against the criteria and parameters included in art. 4, paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4, letters b), c), d), e), f), g), h), i) and l);

b) whose indicators of the impact and relevance of their overall scientific production achieve the values required for the first level Qualification, based on the rules of application under Annexe B, number 4, letter b).

4. In the second-level Qualification procedure, in relation to the sectors included in Annexe B, the Committee shall use the bibliometric indicators listed in the abovementioned Annexe to measure the impact of the overall scientific production as per art. 5, par. 4, letter a), following the principle whereby the Qualification shall only be awarded to candidates:

a) who were judged positively against the criteria and parameters included in art. 5, paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4, letters b), c), d), e), f), g) and h);
b) whose indicators of the impact of their overall scientific production achieve the values required for the second level Qualification, based on the rules of application under Annexe B, number 4, letter b).

5. Should the Committee decide not to apply the previously mentioned criteria, it shall motivate its decision both in advance and when drafting the final judgement, following the procedure established in art. 3, par. 3.

6. Within sixty days from this Regulation coming into force, the ANVUR shall publish on its website and send to the Ministry the values of the medians of the indicators listed in Annexes A and B, as well as the ranking of journals included in Annexe B, in compliance with the procedures decided by the Committee itself.

ART. 7
(Publications submitted by candidates)

1. Annexe C lists the maximum number of publications a candidate may submit for each disciplinary area in the first-level Qualification procedure.

2. Annexe E lists the maximum number of publications a candidate may submit for each disciplinary area in the second-level Qualification procedure.

3. For the purpose of paragraphs 1 and 2, candidates shall submit their publications in digital format and shall not exceed the maximum number prescribed, under penalty of exclusion.

ART. 8
(Eligibility requirements of potential committee members)

1. In compliance with art. 16, par. 3, letter h), second period of the Law, and art. 6, paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of the Regulation, only full professors (professori ordinari) whose scientific record is in line with the criteria and parameters envisaged in this regulation - without prejudice to the positive evaluation provided by art. 6, par. 7, of the Law – and who have made their curriculum vitae available on the Ministry’s website, may be included in the list from which committee members are drawn.

2. The curriculum vitae, drawn up in the format provided in Annexe F, shall place emphasis on the activities carried out in the past five years and, along with its attachments, shall certify the following:

   a) the continuity of scientific production, with special focus on the five consecutive years prior to the date of publication of the Decree, as per art. 6, par. 1 of the Regulation, taking into account maternity leaves, or other leaves of absence provided by existing legislation other than study leaves;

   b) consistency of the potential committee member’s scientific record with the scientific record required to obtain the first-level qualification in the relevant competition sector.
3. Compliance of the scientific record as per letter b), par. 2 with the parameters listed in art. 4, par. 4, letters b), c), d), e), f), g), h), i) and l) is ensured by a potential committee member’s academic position as first-level professor and by the positive evaluation received as per art. 6, par. 7, of the Law. As to the parameter mentioned in art. 4, par. 4, letter a), consistency with the competition sectors under Annexe A is ensured on the basis of the bibliometric indicators and rules of application therein, while, for the competition sectors under Annexe B, consistency is ensured on the basis of the indicators and rules of application therein. If a professor included in the list from which Committee members are drawn, as per art. Art. 6, par. 6 of the Regulation, belongs to a competition sector different from the one for which the Qualification procedure is being organised, his/her scientific record shall be assessed in relation to the competition sector he/she belongs to.

4. Within ten days from the deadline for submitting applications, the Director General for Universities, Student Affairs and Student Support, hereinafter referred to as the Director General shall:

a) verify that potential committee members belong to the same competition sector as the one they applied for;

b) verify that they have made their curriculum vitae publicly available on the web, drawn up following the provisions contained in art. 2;

c) verify that potential committee members obtained a positive evaluation from their University in compliance with art. 6, par. 7, of the Law;

d) draft the list of potential committee members who meet the requirements under letters a), b) and c) and forward it to the ANVUR.

5. Within thirty days from receiving the list, the ANVUR shall verify that the requirements under paragraphs 2 and 3 have been met.

6. If the ANVUR considers that, based on the curriculum vitae and documents included in the application, the requirements under paragraphs 2 and 3 have not been met, it shall inform the Director General who shall have ten days to notify the potential committee member providing a detailed explanation of the reasons why they were unable to accept the application. Within ten days from being notified, potential committee members may submit their objections in writing and include additional documents and a written report. Should this occur, the ANVUR, upon request of the Director General, shall deliver a decision within the following ten days. If the objections are not accepted, the Director General shall inform the potential committee member by issuing a formal document containing the reasons for the decision.

7. Within ten days from the end of the assessment procedure, the Director General shall draw up, for each competition sector, a list of names as per art. 6, par. 2 of the Regulation, of full professors (professori ordinari) who applied to be included in said list.

8. For the first-round of implementation, the requirement of a positive evaluation as per art. 6, par. 7 of the Law, shall not be taken into account.
ART. 9  
*(Reviewing criteria and parameters)*

1. Every five years, the Ministry, having heard the ANVUR, the CUN and the CEPR, shall evaluate the adequacy and relevance of the criteria and parameters set in articles 4 and 5 and of the maximum number of publications as per art. 7 and relevant Annexes of this Regulation. It shall also take into account the assessment of recruiting policies under art. 5, par. 5, of the Law and best international practices, and may determine to review them by issuing an *ad hoc* Decree.

2. At the end of the second round of the Qualification procedure – and on a three-year basis once the system becomes fully operational – the Minister, having heard the ANVUR, the CUN and the CEPR, shall evaluate the adequacy and relevance of the indicators mentioned in Annexes A and B of this regulation, and may determine to review them by issuing an *ad hoc* Decree.

ART. 10  
*(Financial and final provisions)*

1. The implementation of this regulation shall not entail new or additional costs on public finances.

2. The ANVUR shall carry out the activities under this regulation within the scope of its competence as provided by Presidential Decree 1 February 2010, no. 76, and within the budget available under existing legislation.

3. Annexes A, B, C, D, E and F are an integral part of this Decree.

This Decree, bearing the Seal of the State, shall be included in the Official Collection of Regulatory Acts of the Italian Republic. It must be obeyed and enforced by any person to whom it applies.

Rome, 7 June 2012

THE MINISTER

Francesco Profumo
Annexe A.
Bibliometric indicators and competition sectors to which they apply.

1. Bibliometric indicators are applied to the following public competition sectors:

   a) competition sectors included in disciplinary areas 1 to 9, with the exception of competition sectors 08/C1: Design e progettazione tecnologica dell'architettura, (Design and Technological planning of), 08/D1: Progettazione architettonica, (Architectural design), 08/E1: Disegno (Drawing), 08/E2: Restauro e storia dell'architettura (Architectural restoration and history), 08/F1: Pianificazione e progettazione urbanistica e territoriale (Urban and landscape planning and design);

   b) competition sectors included in macro sector 11/E: Psicologia (Psychology).

2. The following are the bibliometric indicators which shall be used in the selection procedures to award the national scientific qualification for first-level and second-level professors:

   a) number of articles in journals listed in leading international databases published in the 10 consecutive years prior to the date of publication of the decree mentioned in article 3, par. 1 of the Regulation. For this indicator normalization per academic age applies only if said age is under ten years;

   b) total number of citations received by the overall scientific production normalized per academic age;

   c) Hirsch's h-index normalized per academic age.

3. Indicators described above in point 2 are used as follows:

   a) for each indicator mentioned in letters a), b) and c), the median of the distribution is calculated separately for first-level and second-level professors and for each individual competition sector, or, in the case of multimodal distributions, for each disciplinary-scientific sector or homogeneous subgroup thereof;

   b) candidates receive a positive judgment on the relevance and impact of their overall scientific production when the indicators exceed the median for at least two of the indicators mentioned in letters a), b) and c), point 2.

4. The distributions of indicators and related medians are calculated by the ANVUR and shall be published on the websites of the ANVUR and of the Ministry.

5. The following are the bibliometric indicators to evaluate applications from potential committee members:

   a) number of articles in journals listed in leading international databases published in the 10 consecutive years prior to the date of publication of the decree mentioned in article 6, par. 1 of the Regulation;
6. Indicators described above in point 5 are used as follows:

   a) for each of the three indicators, the distribution median for full professors (professori ordinari) is calculated for each individual competition sector, or, in the case of multimodal distributions, for each disciplinary-scientific sector or homogeneous subgroup thereof;

   b) potential committee members receive a positive judgment on the relevance and impact of their overall scientific production when the indicators exceed the median for at least two of the indicators mentioned in letters a), b) e c), point 5.

7. The distributions of indicators and their medians are calculated by the ANVUR and results shall be published on the websites of the ANVUR and of the Ministry.
Annexe B.

Non-bibliometric indicators of scientific activity and competition sectors to which they apply.

1. The competition sectors to which non-bibliometric indicators for scientific activity apply are the following: competition sectors included in disciplinary areas 10 to 14 with the exception of all competition sectors in macro sector 11/E: Psicologia (Psychology) and competition sectors 08/C1: Design e progettazione tecnologica dell'architettura, (Design and Technological planning of), 08/D1: Progettazione architettonica, (Architectural design), 08/E1: Disegno (Drawing), 08/E2: Restauro e storia dell'architettura (Architectural restoration and history), 08/F1: Pianificazione e progettazione urbanistica e territoriale (Urban and landscape planning and design).

2. For each competition sector mentioned in point 1, the ANVUR - supported as needed by groups of experts in VQR (Evaluation of the Quality of Research) and from national scientific societies - shall rank journals in which Italian researchers have published their works in three classes based on status:

   a) Class A journals are journals with an ISSN, internationally recognized for their excellence in terms of rigorous review procedures, dissemination, status and impact on the community of researchers for their specific field, as further confirmed by the inclusion of said journals in leading national and international databases;

   b) Class B journals are journals with an ISSN number which have a good reputation within the scientific community for their specific field and are disseminated nationally or beyond;

   c) all other scientific journals are included in Class C.

3. The following are non-bibliometric indicators which shall be used in the selection procedures to award the national scientific qualification to first-level and second-level professors:

   a) number of books, number of articles in journals and book chapters carrying an ISBN number published in the 10 consecutive years prior to the date of publication of the decree mentioned in article 3, par. 1 of the Regulation. For these indicators normalization per academic age applies only if said age is under ten years;

   b) number of articles in Class A journals as per point 2, published in the 10 consecutive years prior to the date of publication of the decree mentioned in article 3, par. 1 of the Regulation, normalised per academic age.

4. Indicators described above in point 3 are used as follows:

   a) for each indicator the median of the distribution is calculated separately for first-level and second-level professors and for each individual competition sector, or, in the case of multimodal distributions, for each disciplinary-scientific sector or homogeneous subgroup thereof;
b) candidates receive a positive judgment on the relevance and impact of their overall scientific production when the indicators exceed the median for at least 1 of the indicators described in letters a) and b), point 3.

5. The ranking of journals and calculation of the distributions of indicators and related medians are carried out by the ANVUR and shall be published on the websites of ANVUR and of the Ministry.

6. Non bibliometric indicators of scientific activity to evaluate applications from potential committee member are:

   a) number of books, number of articles in journals and book chapters carrying an ISBN number published in the 10 consecutive years prior to the date of publication of the decree mentioned in article 6, par. 1 of the Regulation;

   b) number of articles in Class A journals as per point 2, published in the 10 consecutive years prior to the date of publication of the decree mentioned in article 6, par. 1 of the Regulation.

7. Indicators described above in point 6 are used as follows:

   a) for each indicator the median of the distribution for full professors (professori ordinari) is calculated for each individual competition sector, or, in the case of multimodal distributions, for each disciplinary-scientific sector or homogeneous subgroup thereof;

   b) potential committee members receive a positive judgment on the relevance and impact of their overall scientific production when the indicators exceed the median for at least 1 of the indicators described in letters a) and b), point 6.

8. The ranking of journals and calculation of the distributions of indicators and related medians are carried out by the ANVUR and shall be published on the websites of ANVUR and of the Ministry.
Annexe C

Maximum number of publications each candidate may submit in the selection procedure awarding the national scientific qualification for first level professors, as per article 7.

1. Mathematics: 20
2. Physics: 20
3. Chemistry: 20
4. Earth sciences: 20
5. Biological sciences: 20
6. Medical sciences: 20
7. Agricultural and veterinary sciences: 20
8. Civil engineering and architecture: 16
9. Industrial and information engineering: 20
10. Sciences of antiquity, philology, literary studies, art history: 18
11. History, philosophy, pedagogy and psychology: 18
12. Juridical sciences: 18
13. Economics and statistics: 18
14. Political and social sciences: 18
Annexe D

Ranking of publications by status

1. Publications ranked excellent are publications internationally recognised for their excellence in terms of uniqueness, methodological rigour and interpretative relevance; or journals which have significantly innovated the relevant field of research on a national level.

2. Publications ranked good are publications of international and national relevance recognised for the uniqueness of results and their methodological rigour.

3. Publications ranked acceptable are publications distributed internationally or nationally which have in some way accrued knowledge in their specific field of research.

4. Publications ranked limited are publications distributed nationally or locally, or internationally with limited relevance, which have provided a modest contribution to knowledge in their field of research.
Annexe E

Maximum number of publications each candidate may submit in the selection procedure awarding the national scientific qualification for second level professors, as per article 7.

1. Mathematics: 12
2. Physics: 12
3. Chemistry: 12
4. Earth sciences: 12
5. Biological sciences: 12
6. Medical sciences: 14
7. Agricultural and veterinary sciences: 14
8. Civil engineering and architecture: 12
9. Industrial and information engineering: 14
10. Sciences of antiquity, philology, literary studies, art history: 12
11. History, philosophy, pedagogy and psychology: 12
12. Juridical sciences: 12
13. Economics and statistics: 12
14. Political and social sciences: 12