Law No.2004/42

ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Assembly of Kosova,

Pursuant to UNMIK Regulation nr. 2001/9, on Constitutional Framework of Provisional Institutions of Self Government of Kosova, Chapters 5.1. (e), 9.1.26 (a), and for the purpose of:

• Having continuous advance of scientific research activities in different scientific fields;

• Advancing general material goods by increasing their quality, in accordance with the development of new processes;

• Creating respective conditions and regulations in different fields of science;

• Having accessibility to scientific research results for providers of new technologies and those to lead and impact in social – economic developments in Kosova;

• Functioning of scientific-research work and its development according to overall European and international standards,

Adopts:

LAW ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ACTIVITY

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Goal

Article 1

By this law are regulated: establishment, activity, organizing, governance and termination of public juridical persons in scientific-research activity field; the rights and liabilities of scientific personnel; status of National Council; approval and implementation of science - Program of National Council; financing; and other issues related to scientific-research activity in Kosova.
Article 2

2.1. Scientific-research activity is a specific public and national interest activity.

2.2. Scientific-research activity presents systematic creative work, with goal researching and developing new acknowledgments, using and implementing them in practice.

2.3. Scientific-research activity includes scientific and development research, publishing of results, training of personnel and maintaining and building infrastructure, which helps on economic prosperity of the country.

Article 3

3.1. Scientific research includes fundamental, applicative and development research.

3.2. Fundamental research includes deep theoretical research, experimental or combined, undertaken to achieve new acknowledgments, or to research new fields of researching, aiming clearing the occurrences and physical models in long-term interest on their implementation.

3.3. Applicative researches present creative work, backed on results from fundamental researching, undertaken to solve the appointed practical issues.

3.4 Development research includes creative work backed on results of base and applicative researching, with goal applying new processes, or perfecting those existing.

Article 4

Training of personnel for scientific-research work has to do with inclusion in new methodology and work techniques for post-graduated students, on preparing on defending thesis of Master Degree and PhD in further science perfection within the country or in the world.

Article 5

Scientific infrastructure includes: objects, equipment and necessary services for scientific-research activity as are labs, libraries, information services, publishing etc.).

Article 6

Scientific-research activity backs on principle of:

(a) freedom of scientific research and creativity;
(b) public work;
(c) protection of intellectual rights ownership;
(d) program and science project competition;
(e) invulnerability and security of human capacity and dignity;
(f) ethic and scientific worker responsibility for consequences of his work;
(g) human environmental protection;
(h) correlation of scientific research and higher education;
(i) inclusion on international scientific activity.
Article 7
For the purpose of fulfilling the necessary conditions and providing the means, up to 0.7% shall be allocated from the Budget of Kosova. These means are used to finance:

(a) regular scientific-research activity;
(b) development and extension of scientific results;
(c) increase the capacity and quality of scientific-research activity;
(d) publishing science achievements;
(e) implementing the results of scientific research;
(f) Support and encourage workers to deal with scientific work.

Article 8
Scientific-research activity is exercised by public and private juridical persons and others who have a recognized respective status, in accordance with law.

Article 9
Scientific-research activity is exercised by science workers and researchers who have respective titles, and other persons, based on conditions appointed with provisions of this law.

Article 10
Tools for realizing the National Scientific Program are appointed by Kosova’s Budget.

CHAPTER II
SCIENTIFIC-RESEARCH JURIDICAL PUBLIC PERSONS

1. Exercising the scientific-research activity

Article 11
11.1. Scientific-research activity is exercised by science institutions as juridical scientific persons.

11.2. Scientific-research juridical persons are:

(a) Kosova Science and Art Academy;
(b) Scientific-research Institutes, the Albanological Institute and the History Institute;
(c) Universities.

11.3. Other juridical persons can deal with scientific-research activity if they fulfill conditions appointed by this law.
2. Establishment of Scientific-Research Institutions

Article 12
Scientific-research institutions are established as a science institutions and private science institutions.

Article 13
Scientific-research institutes are independent science institutes, and those institutes established within the institutions of higher education are science-research institutions as part of these Institutions.

Article 14
Besides duties appointed on Article 19 of this law, with goal better cooperation between scientific-research institutions and higher education institutions, of interconnection of science-research work with higher education, development of a part of practical works can be trusted to scientific-research institutes.

Article 15
Institute can be established by juridical or physical person, based on conditions foreseen in Article 21 of this law.

Article 16
For fulfilling activities in scientific-research field, the Ministry of Educations Science and Technology shall establish public science institutes.

Article 17
17.1. Scientific Institute is established by Law.
17.2. Private Institute is established by establisher decision, in accordance with Law.

Article 18
Faculties, who are part of universities, can establish institutes or other scientific-research units.
Article 19

Scientific-research Institutes:

(a) exercises scientific-research and educational scientific activity,
(b) considerate new generation for scientific-research activity,
(c) develop mutual and joint cooperation on advancing and training a new personnel on scientific-research work,
(d) Organizes and advance activity on documentation and information field,
(e) Cooperates with national and international scientific-research institutions.

Article 20

The National Council of Science from Article 54 of this law gives the opinion for need of establishing the public and private institution.

Article 21

21.1. Scientific-research Institution can exercise his work if fulfils these conditions:

(a) To have long-term program for scientific-research activity;
(b) To have at least 5 scientific and research employees in permanent working relations, from those at least 2 of them to have science titles;
(c) To assure facility and equipment;
(d) To have science-informing documentation;
(e) To fulfill other conditions appointed by law.

21.2. Based on Ministry information related to conditions from paragraph 1 of this Article, National Council of Science gives the opinion regarding the fulfillment of the standards for organizing and developing scientific-research activity.

21.3 In accordance with paragraph 2 of this Article, National Council of Science is obligated to give its opinion to the Ministry of Education Science and Technology within 2 months period of time from date of issuance.

Article 22

22.1. In extraordinary situations of occupation, direct threat from war, scientific institutions activities can be developed in other conditions from paragraph 1 of Article 21 of this Law.

22.2. Government sets conditions from paragraph 1 of this Article.
Article 23

23.1. To Scientific Institutes that fulfils conditions from paragraph 1 of Article 21 of this law, the Ministry gives the license to start and continue their activity and registers them into Register of Scientific-Research Institutes.

23.2. Ministry sets the procedure for registration.

Article 24

Private institutes that obtained the license for their scientific activity must attach the mark on their name “with public right”.

Article 25

Scientific public and private institutes can start working from the moment of their Registration.

3. Organizing and Governance

Article 26

26.1. Internal organizing of the institute in accordance with law is appointed by statute.

26.2. Measures for governing and administering of a scientific-research institution are appointed by approved statute from Management Committee, with previous approval by Ministry.

26.3. The Statute presented to the Ministry based on dispositions of this law, is approved if fulfils conditions appointed by the Law. Ministry’s refusal on approving a statute for modifications can be opposed through the appeal presented to the Government.

Article 27

Governmental Organisms of institute are the following:

(a) Management Committee;
(b) Director

Management Committee

Article 28

28.1. Management Committee is collegial organ of institute governance. The Committee is composed by special unit leaders of institute and lead by Director of Institute.

28.2. Number of members, its structure and competencies are closely appointed with public statute of institute.

28.3. Issues statute and acts for organizing and making conditions to develop scientific-research activity
Science Council  
Article 29

29.1. Science Council is a professional body of institute:
   (a) Reviews and decides for scientific and professional issues;
   (b) appoints candidates for institute director;
   (c) develops procedure of selection in science and research titles;
   (d) fulfils other duties, in accordance with institute statute and with its decision for its establishment;

29.2. Number of members, its structure and competencies are appointed closely with statute.

29.3. Members of Science Council can be also scientific workers, which are not institute employees, but are engaged in realizing scientific projects. The way of their selection is appointed by statute.

29.4. Statute of institute appoints a person who can exercise duty of president of the science council of the institute.

Director  
Article 30

30.1. Director is individual organ of the institute governance.

30.2. Director of Institute can be appointed any person who fulfills conditions for selection, at least a senior associate of science.

30.3. He is named based on public vacancy announcement advertised by the Science Council.

30.4. Science Council in agreement with Ministry appoints professional-science Committee to implement procedure of naming the Director. Committee has a duty to ascertain the overall and special conditions fulfilled by candidates who applied for Director, in accordance with Law and institute statute.

30.5. Committee composes from at least five members, from whom three of them are appointed by scientific workers of the institute and two others are appointed from Ministry.

30.6. After reviewing candidate documentation, Committee presents to Science Council the science and professional evaluation for each candidate and gives proposal on candidate to be selected for Institute Director.

30.7. Based on this evaluation, Science Council of the Institute proposes to Ministry of Education, Science and Technology candidates for Institute Director.

30.8. Institute director who acts within the Institutions of the Higher Education, in accordance with conditions and procedure appointed by statute, is named and dismissed by establisher.

30.9. Directors mandate is appointed in accordance with Law on Civil Service.
Article 31
31.1. Director leads, represents and is responsible for legality of institute activity.

31.2. Director chairs science council, if appointed by institute statute.

31.3. Except duties from paragraph 1 and 2 of this Article, director:

(a) organizes work and institute activity;
(b) issues act for structuring working positions, with proposal of science council;
(c) signs working contracts with institute employees;
(d) fulfills other duties, appointed by law and institute statute.

Article 32
32.1. The Director, for his work, reports to the directing council and to the MEST, in accordance with provisions of this law and provisions of the statute of the Institute.

32.2. At least once a year, Director presents working report to science council.

Article 33
Provisions of this law for directing public institutes are implemented in private institutes also, except provisions for the way of selection, composing and for the mandate of leading organs and their leaders.

Article 34
Ministry appoints one third of the members in directing council of public institutes.

4. Loss of respective scientific-research statute of institute or of other juridical person

Article 35
35.1. If Ministry ascertain that institute, or other juridical person, does not fulfill conditions from Article 21 of this law, Ministry will start and implement procedure for erasing Him from the Register, for losing respective scientific statute of institute, or for other juridical person.

35.2. In this procedure are implemented same provisions as for registration in Register.

35.3. Against such decision, complaint can be presented to the Government.

35.4. For such decision, Ministry notifies the establisher and other organs for implementing respective procedures.
CHAPTER III
SCIENTIFIC WORKERS AND RESEARCHERS

Article 36

36.1. From the Article 11 of this law, in scientific institutions the scientific-research work is exercised by scientific workers with science titles, according to provisions of this law.

36.2. Except science workers, scientific-research duties can be exercised also by researchers that fulfill conditions to be selected in science titles, in accordance with provisions of this law.

36.3. Except science workers and researchers, scientific work in university and in Science and Art Academy of Kosova, according to provisions of special law, exercise selected teachers in science-education titles.

1. Science and research titles

Article 37

37.1. Science titles are: science co-worker, higher science co-worker and science adviser are equivalent with those in the university.

37.2. Research titles are: researcher and independent researcher.

37.3. Science co-worker title – is equivalent with science-educative title professor assistant, higher science co-worker title – is equivalent with science-educative title associative professor, science adviser title – is equivalent with science-educative title ordinary professor.

37.4. Title Researcher is equivalent with title of new assistant; title- independent researcher is equivalent with title – assistant.

2. Selection in science titles and researcher

Article 38

38.1. Science co-worker, in duration from five years, can be selected the person that has science doctorate level, who published at least one scientific-piece, and published science articles in magazines and known publication inside and outside the country.

38.2. Higher science co-worker, in duration from five years, is selected the person who achieved science level of doctorate, who published at least two science-pieces, one of them after last selection, who published important science articles in magazines and other publication known inside and outside the country, who has recently new science works, published after his selection in previous title.

38.3. Science advisor, is selected the person who obtained title - doctor of science, who published at least three science-pieces, one of them after last selection, who has big number of science works (articles) in magazines and publications known inside and
outside the country, that had impact on scientific development and participated successfully in organizing the scientific activity, and also to have new works published after his selection in previous title.

38.4. Title - Science adviser is permanent.

Article 39

39.1. Researcher, in duration from three years, is selected the person with respective core studies with average mark above 8; and who registered after-graduate scientific studies, or higher artistic university studies; who is not above age 27 and who published professional or science publications.

39.2. Independent researcher, in duration from three years, is selected the person with academic level of science master degree and who has published works in science magazines.

39.3. Researcher from paragraph 1 of this Article can be selected once more in the same title.

Article 40

40.1. Scientific workers and researchers are selected only in the following science title or researcher without passing science titles or researcher.

40.2. In exception, from paragraph 1 of this Article, passing the science and research titles can happen in extraordinary cases and for extraordinary science results.

40.3. Institute statute appoints which achieved science results are considered as extraordinary, and the procedure of its selection in such case.

Article 41

Selection of scientific workers and researchers is made based on public advertisement.

Article 42

42.1. Idea that candidate fulfills conditions for selection in science or in research title is given by review comity named from science council of institute, who implements advertisement procedure.

42.2. Professional review comity, paragraph 1 of this law, is compiled from at least three members, two of them from tight professional filed, and they can’t have lowest titles for which are writing the review.
Article 43

43.1. Text of review comity contains: biographical and bibliographic data’s of candidate, his scientific evaluation work, and proposal for selection.

43.2. Text from paragraph 1 of this law is given in public discussion as peer seated way by institute act, of at least thirty days before taking the decision.

Article 44

44.1. Science council of institute that implements procedure based on idea of review comity makes decision for selection of the proposed one, in respective science or research title.

44.2. Selection procedure according to advertisement should end within deadline from six months.

Article 45

By institute statute, in accordance with provisions of this law, is closely seated the procedure of selection of scientific worker and researcher.

Article 46

46.1. Scientific work is considered only the work published in science magazine and other publication’s that fulfills international scientific criteria’s and that are registered in international index.

46.2. Ministry, based on respective science council proposal, with special provisions will set bases of evaluation and register of magazines and publications which fulfills international science criteria’s.

3. Register maintenance of scientific workers and researchers

Article 47

47.1. Register of scientific workers and researchers is in maintenance of Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.

47.2. In Register, from paragraph 1 of this Article, except scientific workers and researchers, are registered persons with science-educative titles that are part or fulfillment of scientific projects and other projects.

47.3. Ministry, from paragraph 1 of this Article, sets content, form and the way of maintaining the Register, and procedure of registration and erasing from Register.
4. Employment and termination of working relation

Article 48
Scientific workers and researchers have working contract with institute or other juridical scientific person, in accordance with Law on Civil Service.

Article 49
Working contract between employer and institute or other scientific juridical person can be terminated:

(a) if scientific worker or researcher looses status of scientific worker because hi/she is not selected in overseen title;
(b) if on bases of public advertisement is chose another person;
(c) with request of scientific worker or researcher;
(d) if worker abuses (brakes) his/her duties or when his/her habit have negative impact to institute authority;
(e) in cases appointed by law.

5. Scientific-research training and perfection

Article 50
50.1. Aiming their preparedness, training and inclusion in scientific work, Institute can accept improvers.

50.2. Improver can be selected person with finished studies on respective filed, with average grade above 8, and has not more than age 27.

50.3. Improver is selected in duration for 3 years.

50.4. Statute of institute sets conditions for improver-trainee selection.

50.5. Government will set special rules for scientific training of improvers-trainees, of students in after-graduating studies and their inclusion in scientific work (by scholarships, for the way of creating working relation, working with masters and doctorates during the time of preparedness of master-degree or PhD, that are engaged in scientific projects etc).
CHAPTER IV
NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC-RESEARCH PROGRAM

Article 51

By National Scientific-Research Program are set:

(a) scientific fields that should develop in special way
(b) Scientific fields, that should develop in systematic way, because of being behind in development;
(c) Advances in scientific-research activity;
(d) Advancement of investments of juridical scientific-research persons;
(e) Program of participation in international scientific-research projects;
(f) Program of purchasing and using the equipment;
(g) Systematic education program of the scientific and research workers
(h) Program of scientific information development and of publishing of achieved scientific-research work results;
(i) Necessary means for fulfillment of National Scientific Program.

Article 52

52.1. National Scientific-Research Program, who is based on professional and scientific evaluation of researching circumstances in Kosova, on the needs and real opportunities for its fulfillment, is approved by Kosova’s Assembly, based on proposal of Kosova’s Government.

52.2. National Scientific-Research Program is approved for five year period of time, and its fulfillment or modification goes through the same procedure.

52.3. Kosova’s Government every two years presents to Kosova’s Assembly report for implementation on National Scientific-Research Program, and report for general condition in scientific-research activity in Kosova.

52.4. Kosova’s Assembly sets the fund for realization of National Scientific-Research Program as proposed by government.

CHAPTER V
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENCE

Article 53

National Council of Science establishes with goal to maintain development of scientific-research activity of Kosova.
Article 54

National Council of Science:

(a) Presents to Government of Kosova proposal of National Scientific-Research Program;

(b) Evaluates, in the meaning of comparing, situation in scientific-research activity, its position and development in national and international level;

(c) Gives opinion for the need of establishing of scientific-research institutes;

(d) Proposes and encourages measures for advancing the scientific-research activity;

(e) Reviews and gives opinion for other important issues for general development of Kosova, as requested from Kosova’s Assembly.

Article 55

55.1 National Council of Science has 15 members;

55.2. President of the National Council of Science is president of Kosova Academy of Science and Arts.

55.3. Other members of National Council of Science are nominated by Kosova’s Assembly, based on proposal of Kosova’s Government, in duration from 4 years.

Article 56


56.2. Institutions which give proposals for members of National Council of Science should represent general science and professional activity for every proposed candidate.

56.3. Ministry composes list of candidates for members of National Science of Council, having in mind representation of all scientific fields and science and professional authority of each candidate.

56.4. Ministry can propose to Kosova Government also any other candidate who was not proposed by scientific institutions of Kosova, in accordance with paragraph 1 and 3 of this law.

Article 57

57.1. The member of national council of science can be dismissed before his mandate expires, in this case:

   a) with the request of his own desire;
   b) if he does not fulfill the member’s duties;
   c) if he loose the ability of the exercises duties
   d) if his behaviors offend the dignity of function in which he works.
57.2. Request for the member dismissal can be done by the president, or at least five of the members of council.

57.3. After taking request from the paragraph 2 of this Article, the council establish the commission from the range of the member, based on the report of this commission, the Assembly of Kosova will take the decision for the dismissal or not-dismissal of the member council.

Scientific Council
Article 58

58.1. Government establishes the scientific council and counsels for the corresponding scientific fields, on purpose to implement the National Scientific Program research.

   a) Scientific Council evaluates the implement success of the scientific research projects.
   b) orients developing of scientific fields according to the determined orientation with the National Scientific Program research.
   c) supports drafting annual financial plan.
   d) propose means delivering for scientific research activity from state budget.

58.2. The members of the Scientific Council are appointed by government with the proposal of the science institutions from the range of the known scientific workers, having in mind the respective representation of the scientific fields.

Article 59

59.1. Ministry establish councils of scientific fields (humanitarian science, nature science, medical science etc), whose members are nominated for four years.

59.2. Councils of the scientific fields:

   a) makes professional evaluation of projects
   b) propose means delivering for projects
   c) gives ideas to fulfill the minimal scientific criteria in the procedure to select scientific workers.

59.3. Scientific fields are appointed by Minister, based on the proposal of Scientific Council of Government.

Article 60

60.1. Ministry announces the advertisement for corresponding projects.

60.2. Projects can be presented as:

   a) projects of scientific research
   b) developing projects
   c) projects of developing the infrastructure.
Article 61

61.1. Projects are presented by scientific institution according to paragraph 2 Articles 11 of this law, or scientific worker, agreeing also from the institution where project will be realized.

61.2. Projects executors may be scientific workers from Article 36, paragraph 1, 2, 3 of this law.

61.3. Projects executers may also be individuals, who are not employed in the scientific institution, that realize the project.

Article 62

General Criteria for the acceptance and project evaluation are:

a) Project importance for development of Kosova.
b) Science value and international measures of project.
c) Scientific achievement, known at the international grade, of project provider.
d) Rationality of organization and projects execution.
e) Ecological adequacy of project.

Article 63

63.1. Based on the project evaluation, Ministry takes the decision to accept the project and appoints the responsible provider of the project.

63.2. Decision of Ministry for approval of the project is in decree form.

Article 64

64.1. Responsible leader of the scientific research project can be person:

a) Who is PhD.
b) who has published scientific works, that evidences ability of the project realization.

64.2. Responsible leaders of other projects from the Article 58, paragraph 1, 2, sub Article a, b, c, d of this law, can be experts who does not fulfill conditions from the paragraph 1, sub Article (a) and (b) of this Article, but who are working in research and developing duties, who have registered patent and innovations, or who have sufficient experience in using the existing infrastructure, or in the installation of the new infrastructure.

Article 65

65.1. Ministry makes an agreement for the realization of the project with the responsible leader of the project, and also with the scientific-research institution where the leader of the project works.

65.2. Ministry appoints the content elements of the contract.
CHAPTER VII
FINANCING

Article 66

The means for the fulfillment of the scientific-research activity of institution are insured:

a) from the budget of Kosova which are destined for the institution work and scientific-research activity.
b) from the funds, foundations and donation.
c) from other means realized by scientific-research institution.
d) from other legal sources.

Article 67

The means from the Article 66.1, sub Article a, b, c, of this law, are utilized:

a) for the realization of the scientific-researcher projects, developing projects and the construction of infrastructure;
b) for the salaries and compensation of the scientific workers, researchers, leading staff, professional staff, technical and assistance of institutions;
c) for the maintenance means and material maintaining of the scientific-research material;
d) From other legal sources;
e) funds for scholarships, professional awarding, supporting and also students and improvers involving in the scientific researching work;
f) international scientific relationship;
g) for the results publication of the scientific research (monographies, magazines, working summaries, etc);
h) buying scientific magazines and other publication form the world;
i) for the organization of the scientific meetings;
j) for other scientific activities.

Article 68

68.1. Ministry establishes Financing Comity, as a counselor organ for material support for scientific-research institutions.

68.2. Ministry can issue special regulation in order of financing scientific institutions.
CHAPTER VIII
TRANSITIVE AND FINAL PROVISION

Article 69

69.1. On the day this law enters into effect, institutes established based on the law for scientific-research work (Official Gazette of KSAK nr.24/78) and based on the Law Decree of scientific-research activity of Kosova dated 17.04.1998 shall cease to exist.

69.2. Scientific institutions, which are established with special law, continue to work as independent public scientific institutions:

a). Kosova Science and Art Academy,
b). History Institute,
c). Albanological Institute.

Article 70

70.1. Individual juridical persons from the Article 69.2 of this law are obliged to harmonize their statutes with this law during the time of three months from the day of entrance into force of this law.

70.2. Until issuing the statute from paragraph 1 of this Article, scientific-research institutions implement their general acts into force, if they don’t object this law.

Article 71

Supervision of implementation of provisions of this law and issued provisions based on law is done by the Ministry of Education Science and Technology of Kosova.

Article 72

72.1. National council of science is named within the time of three months from the entering into force of this law.

72.2. National council of science has duty that within a year time from the nomination day, to develop the evaluation procedure of the conditions in existing institutes and based on its evaluation Ministry of Education Science and Technology will propose to Assembly of Kosova to take the decision for the transformation of the institutes, and for termination of institutes who does not fulfill defined conditions appointed by this law.

Article 73

Members of the Ministry Scientific Council and the councils of scientific fields are appointed by Ministry within three months deadline.
Article 74
Ministry, within the time frame of three months, after the approbation of this law, will determine the evaluation basis, the magazines’ register, and publications that fulfill the international scientific criteria.

Article 75
75.1. Scientific institutions are obliged that within a year, after the approbation of this law, to harmonize the titles of science and research in assigned criteria with this law and other provision appointed by Ministry.

75.2. Scientific workers and researchers who are older than 60 years old possess the awarded title regardless if they fulfill or not the assigned criteria with this law.

Article 76
Procedure of selection in scientific title that has begun before entering in force of this law ends according to the assigned procedure with the previous provision, but it can also end in commensurate with this law.

Article 77
Scientific workers and selected researchers in the scientific-research titles and researchers are re-selected according to provisions of this law, but not before expiring date which they are selected according to previous provision.

Article 78
Ministry will issue corresponding provision for implementation of this law, within the time frame of three months.

Article 79
By entering into force of this law, are terminated all legal provisions related with research and scientific activities.

Article 80
The present law shall enter into force after adoption by the Assembly of Kosova on the date of its promulgation by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General.

Law No.2004/42
27 September 2004

President of the Assembly

Academic Nexhat Daci