PRELIMINARY RESEARCH PLAN

*It is recommended to write the research plan in 8 pages maximum (Times New Roman, size 11, 1.5 line spacing)*

Submitted by under the supervision of

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| (Doctoral student) | (Supervisor/s) |
| Title:  *(less than 15 words)* | |

**“What” (“the research idea”)**

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| *The main objective of this investigation* *is* *… (MAIN OBJECTIVE)*  *The specific objectives of the research are … (or the research questions are …) (SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES)* ***(1/4 page)*** |
| *This research falls in the thematic field of* … *(FIELD OF STUDY)* ***(1/4 page)*** |

**“Why”**

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| *Justifying the above: Why does this research topic and objectives are of general interest, original, not yet covered in the literature. In which sense it is expected that covering such objectives will represent an advance in knowledge on the thematic field ... (PROBLEM STATEMENT, AND RESEARCH GAPS –CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE RESEARCH-).* ***(0.5-1 page)*** |

**“How”**

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| *The theoretical background: brief literature review on the topic, main preliminary hypotheses (or propositions). (CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK)* ***(2-3 pages)*** |
| *The methodological approach is … (quantitative, qualitative, …)*  *And then, data, description of variables, techniques of analysis, econometric models -if applicable-. (or constructs, …) (METHODOLOGY)* ***(1 page)*** |

**“When”**

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| *Activities and dates proposed in the doctoral thesis process and planned budget (TIMELINE AND BUDGET)* ***(0.5-1 page)*** |

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| *Please, give an example of the main academic articles (2 or 3) that are close to the type of research it is planned to undertake and to the expected results* ***(0.5 page)*** |

**Please include the list of references used in this Research Plan (less than 15) *(0.5-1 page)***

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| **Doctoral student**  Date: | **Supervisor/s**  Date: | Registration authorised  **Coordinator of the Programme**  Date: |