1. Under the Doctorate Regulations of Radboud University, a doctoral thesis may consist of an academic treatise in the form of a collection of separate articles (Article 13, paragraph 1 under b). The Regulation requires that each thesis be accompanied by a general introduction which has never before been published, and a summary of contents (Article 13, paragraph 4). A thesis may have multiple authors. In this case, the PhD candidate’s independent input and contribution must be demonstrated (Article 13, paragraph 3). The Faculty of Law specifies articles to mean academic treatises suitable for publication in a journal (peer-reviewed is not a requirement) and academic treatises published in any other form (preliminary reports, case notes, contributions to a collection of books or articles, academic reports).

2. The Faculty of Law expressly welcomes article-based theses. Completing the PhD trajectory in this manner shall be of equal value as writing a monograph. It is not always easy to make a clear distinction between an article-based thesis and a monograph written as a coherent whole. During the PhD trajectory it is furthermore possible to switch from writing a book to preparing a collection of articles, and vice versa. Writing an article-based thesis makes it possible to publish in stages about relevant and manageable subtopics. This approach allows the PhD candidate to participate in phases of academic debate. Commentary obtained on the basis of such debate can deepen his or her knowledge and understanding. The PhD candidate can update the article afterwards, but it is not an obligation. The choice whether or not to update, and the different ways in which this can be done, is a decision that the PhD candidate can make for each article. Theses consisting of articles may lower the bar for writing a thesis, in particular for ‘external PhD candidates’ (buitenpromovendi) who combine the PhD trajectory with a job outside the faculty.

3. The Faculty of Law of Radboud University applies the following Guidelines for article-based theses:
   - The thesis consists, in principle, of five or more articles submitted to the editors of journals, or consists of a combination of chapters and two or more articles submitted to the editors of a journal;
   - The thesis may consist of previously unpublished articles;
   - The thesis may, in principle, comprise articles that have not yet been accepted by the editors of a journal if at least two or more articles have been accepted by the editors of a journal;
   - The thesis should demonstrate connection in terms of content between the different parts, and include at least a previously unpublished general introduction containing the problem statement and a conclusion in which this connection is explained;
   - The thesis may include articles by multiple authors; in this case, the PhD candidate must be able to demonstrate his or her independent input and contribution;
   - The articles can be updated, but it is not an obligation;
   - The thesis may not contain articles published more than five years before the PhD candidate requested the relevant professor for the first time to act as supervisor, unless dispensation has been granted by the supervisor and the faculty board.