

## Instruction prior to making a sworn statement

TUHH requires a sworn statement from you to establish the credibility of your statements in the context of your doctoral project. The sworn statement is a means of providing evidence, whereby statements of fact are made and their accuracy is specifically assured. It is possible – and also useful – to submit the statements of fact in writing. In addition, you must affirm the accuracy of the information you have provided in your sworn statement.

Since the legislator attaches particular importance to the sworn statement and it can have considerable consequences, the legislator has made the submission of a false sworn statement a punishable offence. If a false declaration is made intentionally (i.e. knowingly), a prison sentence of up to three (3) years or a fine may be imposed.

Making a negligent declaration – that is, making a declaration when you should have realised that the declaration did not match the facts – can result in a custodial sentence of up to one (1) year or a fine.

The corresponding penal provisions are dealt with in Section 156 of the Strafgesetzbuch (German Penal Code, StGB) (false sworn statements) and in Section 161 of the StGB (negligent false oath, negligent false sworn statement):

### Section 156 StGB

#### False sworn statement

Any person who makes such a statement before an authority competent to take sworn statements or who gives false evidence in connection with such a statement shall be liable to a custodial sentence not exceeding three (3) years or to a fine.

### Section 161 StGB

(1) If any of the acts specified in Sections 154 to 156 have been committed through negligence, the penalty shall be imprisonment for not more than one (1) year or a fine.

(2) Impunity shall apply if the offender corrects the false statement in due time. The provisions of Section 158, Para. 2 and 3 shall apply accordingly.

## SWORN STATEMENT

I hereby declare on oath that I have prepared this thesis independently and without unauthorised assistance from third parties and without the use of any aids other than those stated. Data and concepts taken directly or indirectly from other sources are referenced with the source.

I have not made use of paid assistance from placement or advisory services (PhD advisers or other persons) for this purpose. No one has received any monetary benefits from me, directly or indirectly, for work related to the content of the submitted dissertation.

The work has not yet been submitted to another examination authority in Germany or abroad in the same or a similar form.

I declare on oath that I have told the absolute truth to the best of my knowledge, and that I have not concealed anything.

Before making the above sworn statement, I read the information provided on the first page and I fully understand the importance of the sworn statement and the penal consequences of submitting an incorrect or incomplete sworn statement.

.....  
(Place, date) (Signature) .....

.....  
(Full name in BLOCK CAPITALS)