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**INSTITUT  
BARCELONA  
ESTUDIS  
INTERNACIONALS**

# **Results of the 2017 Survey on Career Development**

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Report on the employment market, professional conditions and the impact of training received at IBEI on career development. Graduates from 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

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# 1. Executive Summary

This report presents the results of the career development questionnaire for IBEI students who graduated in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. It is the third time that a career development survey has been carried out by IBEI, and the project aims to collect information systematically every two years on the employment situation of graduates answering the survey. The survey was conducted for the first time in 2013, and for the second time in 2015. This year's 2017 survey is the third time. The purpose of the survey is to interpret the current employment data of graduates, and the degree of satisfaction and usefulness of the programmes offered at IBEI, in terms of the employment market.

The universe of students (the total number of former students) is increasingly extensive but the response rate remained at around 30% for the previous two surveys. For this year's survey, it increased slightly (35%). The main highlights of the report are as follows:

- ☐ the majority of the graduates who responded are satisfied with the training obtained at IBEI,
- ☐ at a professional level, the vast majority are on track (found a job) within a relatively short period of time (less than one year)
- ☐ almost half the graduates are not working in their country of origin
- ☐ the tasks they carry out are not too dissimilar to the training received at IBEI
- ☐ the professional responsibilities vary among graduates, but they gain technically complex responsibilities over time (and this translates to a higher salary)
- ☐ the majority of graduates work in global, mostly private, institutions, but a significant number are also in the public sphere, and the percentage working in non-profit institutions is not negligible

The following sections present the data collected by means of the questionnaire, and outline the most relevant insights obtained.

## 2. Introduction

This survey was carried out during the summer of 2017. It was sent to all Master's graduates finishing in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016. The content of the survey is the same as in recent years. Only minor changes were made to the questions, where additional clarification was required. For example, when the graduates were asked about the scope of action of the company, in which they work (national, global, etc.), the 'transnational' option was deleted because of the existing 'international and global' option.

The survey was sent separately to 2013 and 2014 graduates, and to graduates of 2015 and 2016. The questions were the same for all year groups, but the number of questions varied. Graduates from the 2013 and 2014 year groups were asked fewer questions than subsequent year groups, because the 2013 and 2014 year groups had already answered the survey two years earlier, in 2015, and, therefore, specific information was obtained at that time. The questions not asked for the 2013 and 2014 graduates are the following:

- *How long did it take you to find a job after completing the Master's Programme?*
- *How did you find this job?*
- *Was the job related to your undergraduate studies?*
- *Was the job related to the Master's Programme?*

## 3. Overview of general data

The survey was sent to a total of 387 graduates, and 135 responded, representing almost 35%. The graphs below reflect, on one hand, the response rate of the 2013 and 2014 graduates, who were not asked the questions specified above, and, on the other hand, the graduates from 2015 and 2016, who answered the full survey. The response rate of each year group shows that graduates in 2015 responded most to the career development survey.

	Total nº of graduates surveyed	Number of respondents	Response rate %)
<b>Graduates 2013 &amp; 2014</b>	158	47	29,7
<b>Graduates 2015 &amp; 2016</b>	229	88	38,4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>34,9</b>
	Total nº of graduates surveyed	Number of respondents	Response rate %)
<b>Graduates 2013</b>	78	27	34,6
<b>Graduates 2014</b>	80	20	25,0
<b>Graduates 2015</b>	118	49	41,5
<b>Graduates 2016</b>	111	39	35,1

	Total nº of graduates surveyed	Number of respondents	Response rate (%)
<b>Graduates 2013</b>	78	27	34,6
MIR	64	21	32,8
MIS	5	1	20
Mundus Mapp	9	5	55,6
<b>Graduates 2014</b>	80	20	25
MIR	54	15	27,8
MIS	10	2	20
Mundus Mapp	16	3	18,8
<b>Graduates 2015</b>	118	49	41,4
MIR	95	38	40
MIS	12	7	58,3
Mundus Mapp	11	4	36,4
<b>Graduates 2016</b>	111	39	35,1
MIR	82	29	35,4
MIS	20	5	25
Mundus Mapp	9	5	55,6

The methodology used to carry out the study is based on an online questionnaire with 9 sections. The information requested was as follows (in all cases, it required closed responses except for the points specified). Section 3 was omitted for the 2013 and 2014 year groups. The questions are detailed below and Section 3 is marked with an asterisk.

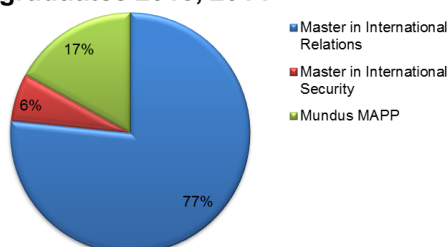
1. Personal Data
  - a. Gender
  - b. Age
  - c. Place of birth
  - d. Previous studies
  - e. Year group
  - f. Programme studied

2. Current employment information
  - a. Are you currently working?
  - b. Current employment sector
  - c. Size of the organisation
  - d. Area of action of the organisation
  - e. Responsibilities in the organisation
  - f. Type of contract
  - g. Salary information
  - h. Place of work (city and country). (OPEN QUESTION)
3. Employment Information\*
  - a. How long did it take you to find a job after completing the Master's?
  - b. How did you find the job?
  - c. Was the job related to your undergraduate studies?
  - d. Was the job related to what you learnt at IBEI?
4. Please assess the importance of the following factors for your current job
  - a. Academic knowledge acquired during the Master's
  - b. Practical skills acquired during the Master's
  - c. Language teaching / language knowledge
  - d. Personality, social skills, communication skills, etc.
  - e. Organisational capacity
  - f. Ability to work as part of a team
  - g. Name of organisation or company (OPEN QUESTION)
5. Please evaluate the training provided by the Master's in International Relations at IBEI
  - a. Theoretical training
  - b. Practical training
  - c. Speaking
  - d. Written skills
  - e. Critical thinking
  - f. Additional comments (OPEN QUESTION)
6. Would you recommend the Master's to a friend in the same position as you when you started the programme?
7. Are you generally satisfied to have studied the Master's in International Relations at IBEI? (from 1 to 5, with 5 as the highest)
8. How would you rate the influence of the Master's in International Relations on your professional development (from 1 to 5, with 5 as the highest)
9. In order to improve our programme, we would appreciate your comments and suggestions (OPEN QUESTION)

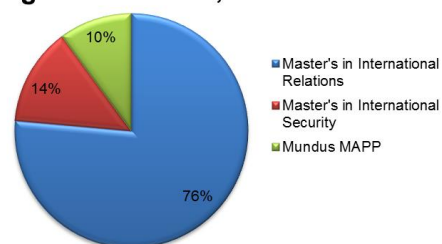
## 4. Profile of the graduates who answered the survey

According to the data obtained in the first question, we can observe the following characteristics of the profile of graduates who responded:

**Type of programme graduates 2013, 2014**

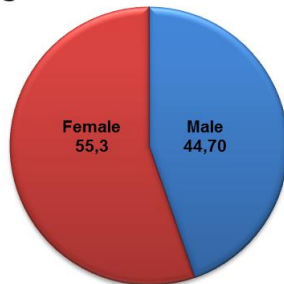


**Type of programme graduates 2015, 2016**

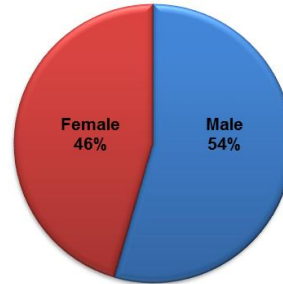


In the case of graduates from 2013 and 2014, most are students of the Master's degree in International Relations, and female, between 25 and 30 years old. In subsequent year groups, the majority of respondents answering the survey were men, also between 25 and 30 years old, and mainly graduates of the Master's Degree in International Relations.

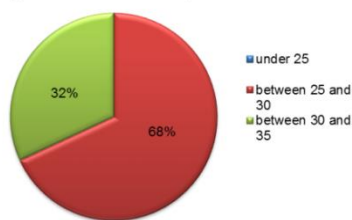
**Sex  
graduates 2013, 2014**



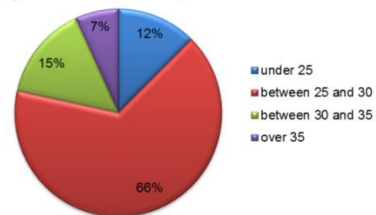
**Sex  
graduates 2015, 2016**



**Age  
graduates 2013, 2014**



**Age  
graduates 2015, 2016**



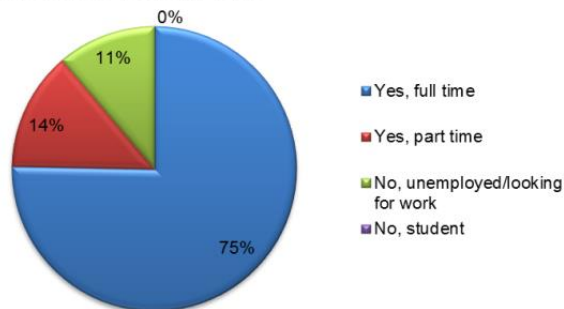
## 5. Current employment data

In the second section, on the graduates' employment situation, the questions asked were not mandatory. Therefore, a different level of response was obtained for each of them. The results (in percentages) are detailed in each case.

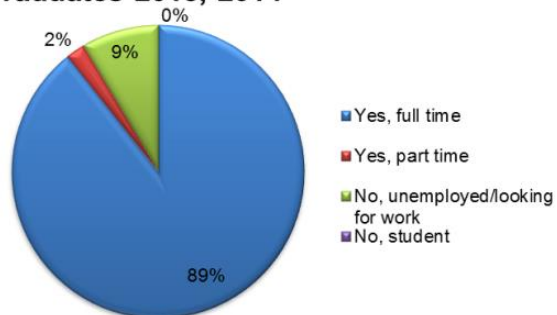
## Current employment situation

Of a total of 135 responses to this question, a majority of the respondents have jobs and work full-time. It should be noted, however, that approximately 10% of all year groups do not have a job or are currently looking for one. The data presented below are broken down according to year groups.

**Are you currently employed?  
Graduates 2015, 2016**

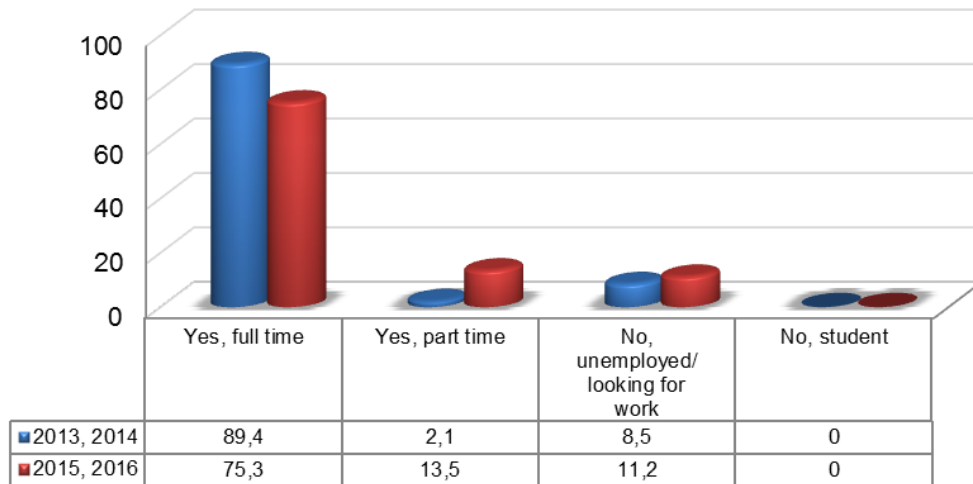


**Are you currently employed?  
Graduates 2013, 2014**

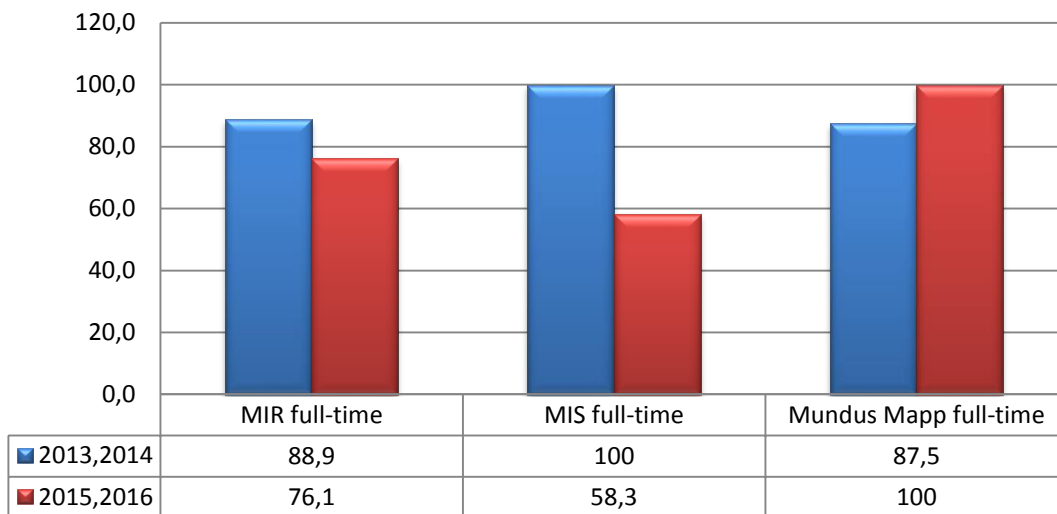




## Employment according to year of graduation (2013, 2014 & 2015, 2016) %



## Full-time employment according to Master's, 2013,2014 & 2015,2016 (%)



Analysing the answers to the question on the graduates' current employment situation, according to each year group, we find the following figures:

The older year groups (2013 and 2014) have a higher percentage of full-time employability. These year groups also have a lower percentage of graduates in search of work in comparison with the year groups that graduated later. The results are not surprising, given that these graduates have been on the employment market for longer. Similarly, it is worth noting the difference between part-time work in the different year groups. Although the previous year

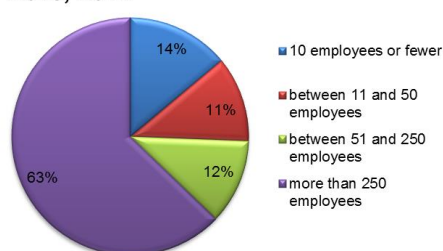
groups have a small percentage of graduates working part time (2%), the year groups that graduated later have a much higher percentage (13%).

On the other hand, the graph on employment according to the Master's degree studied shows that most of the respondents work full-time, and there are no substantial differences between the Master's degrees taken, but we do see that each Master's degree is represented.

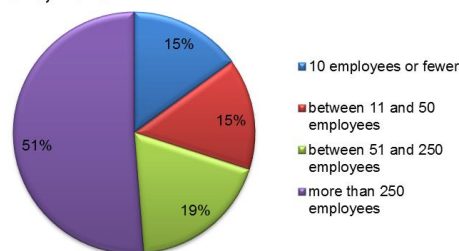
## Size of the organisation

The following graphs show that graduates who work do so in global or multinational organisations with more than 250 workers. The vast majority of graduates from 2015 and 2016 also work in very large organisations, although to a lesser extent than previous year groups.

**Size of the organization. Graduates 2013, 2014**



**Size of the organization. Graduates 2015, 2016**

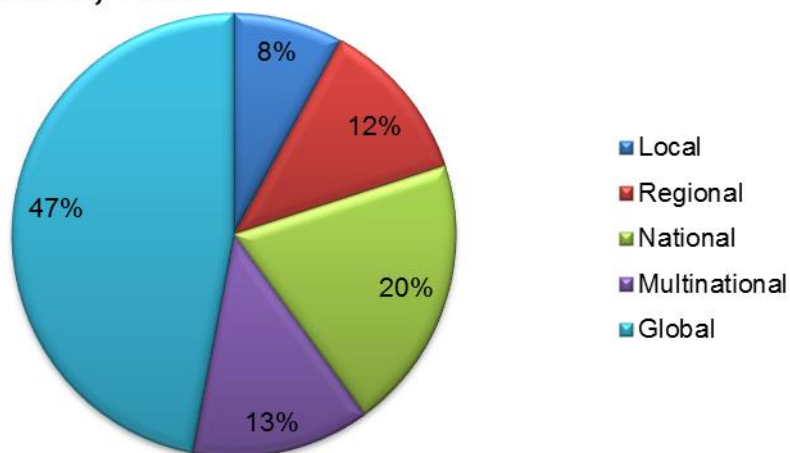


nº of workers	Graduates 2013, 2014		Graduates 2015, 2016		TOTAL	
	Nº of responses	%	Nº of responses	%	Nº of responses	%
Fewer than 10	6	14%	12	15%	18	15%
Between 11 and 50	5	12%	12	15%	17	14%
Between 51 and 250	5	12%	15	19%	20	16%
More than 250	27	63%	41	51%	68	55%
TOTAL	43	100%	80	100%	123	100%

## Scope of action

The scope of action is clearly international, as the graph shows that 60% of the graduates work in multinational and global companies. It is noteworthy that 20% of the respondents work in a national company.

## Area of Action. Graduates 2013, 2014 & 2015, 2016

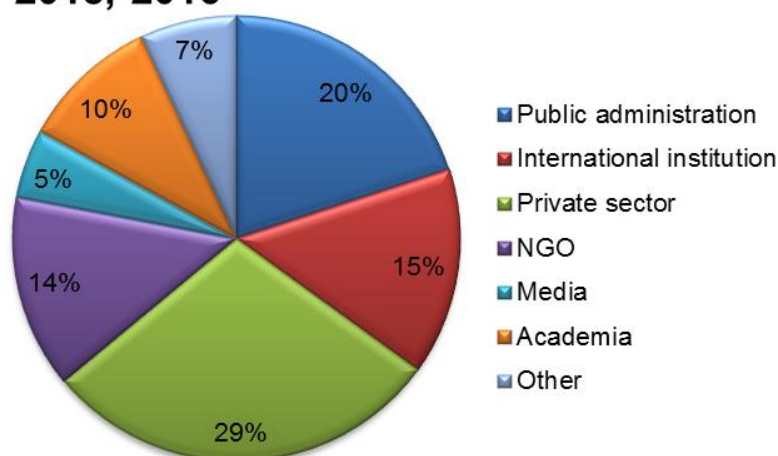


	Graduates 2013, 2014		Graduates 2015, 2016		TOTAL	
	Nº of responses	%	Nº of responses	%	Nº of responses	%
Local	3	7%	7	9%	10	8%
Regional	4	10%	10	13%	14	12%
National	8	19%	16	20%	24	20%
Multinational	6	14%	10	13%	16	13%
Global	21	38%	37	46%	58	47%
Total	42	100%	80	100%	122	100%

## Sector of the organisation

The majority of the graduates work in the private sector, although a significant number of the respondents work in public administration or in an international organisation. It should also be highlighted that 14% work in non-profit organisations.

## Sector. Graduates 2013, 2014 & 2015, 2016

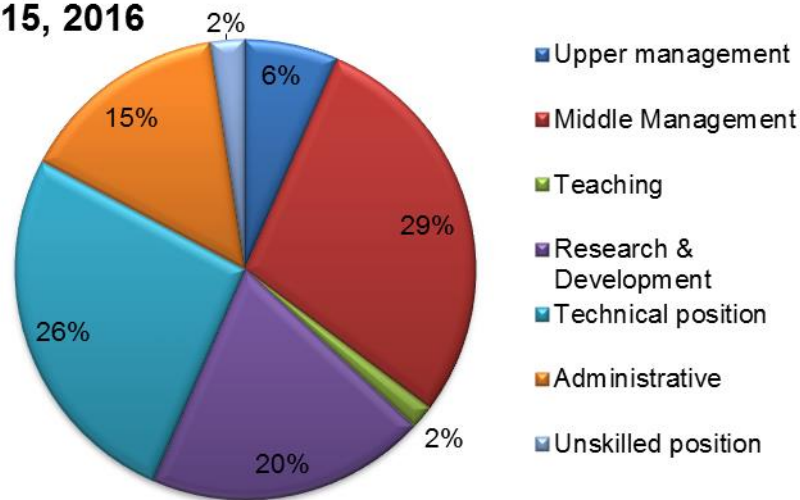


	Graduates 2013, 2014		Graduates 2015, 2016		TOTAL	
	Nº responses	%	Nº responses	%	Nº responses	%
Public Administration	8	19	19	25	27	20
International organisation	9	21	12	15	21	15
Private sector	10	29	19	24	39	29
NGO	4	9	15	19	19	14
Media	3	7	4	5	7	5
Academia	5	12	8	10	13	10
Other	4	9	4	5	9	7
Total	43	100	81	100	135	100

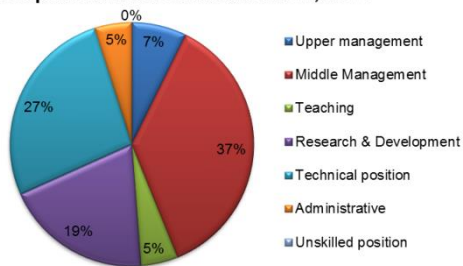
## Responsibilities in the organisation

The majority of respondents have middle management responsibilities. A significant number hold technical positions or are in research and development. On the other hand, if we break down the responsibilities by year group, there is a significance difference between the administrative positions, higher amongst the most recent graduates and also the middle management responsibilities, which are lower amongst the most recent graduates.

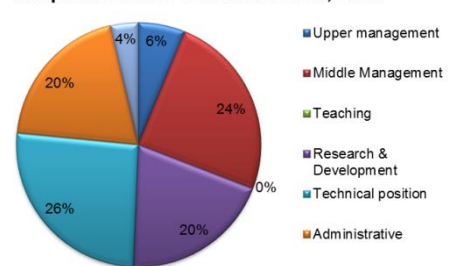
## Responsibilities. Graduates 2013, 2014 & 2015, 2016



Responsibilities. Graduates 2013, 2014



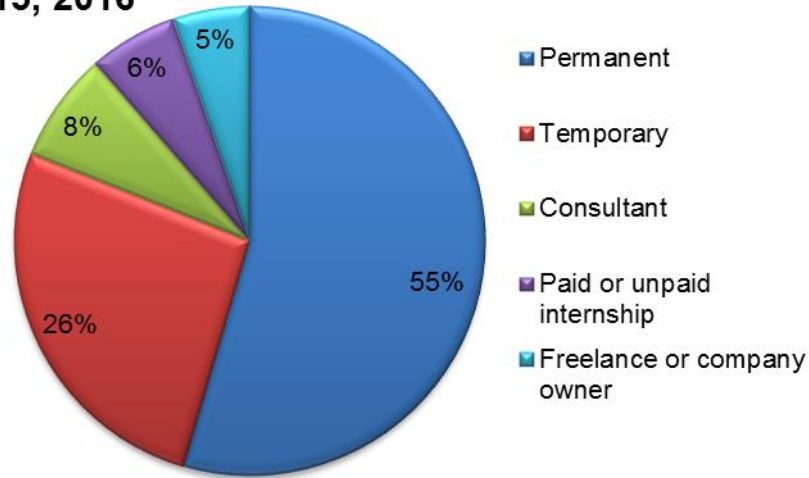
Responsibilities. Graduates 2015, 2016



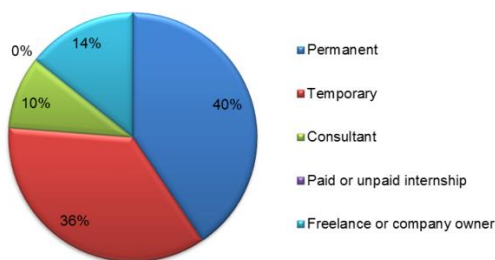
## Contract and salary information

More than half the respondents have a permanent contract. The most recent graduates have a significant percentage of permanent contracts (56%) and a low percentage of temporary contracts in comparison with previous year groups. The number of internships, on the other hand, are higher in the most recent year groups (10%), while no graduates from previous year groups are on internships.

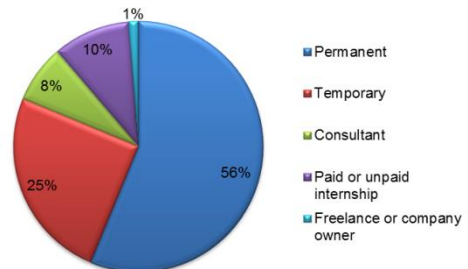
### Type of contract. Graduates 2013, 2014 & 2015, 2016



Type of Contract. Graduates 2013, 2014

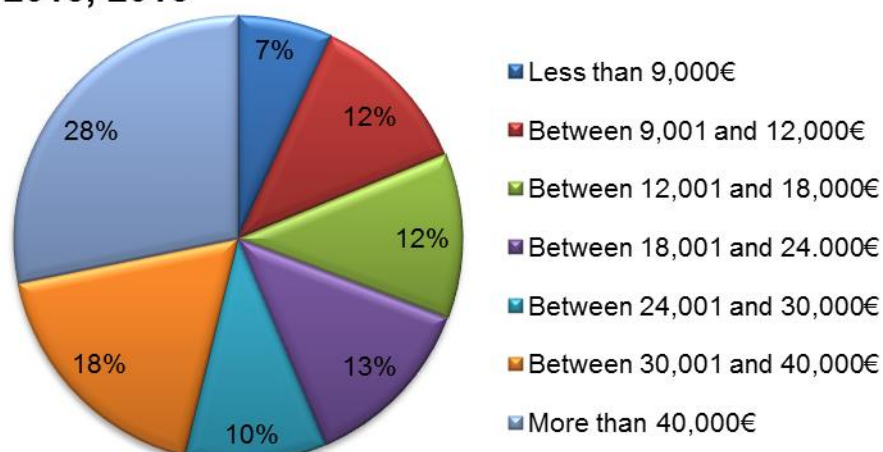


Type of Contract. Graduates 2015, 2016

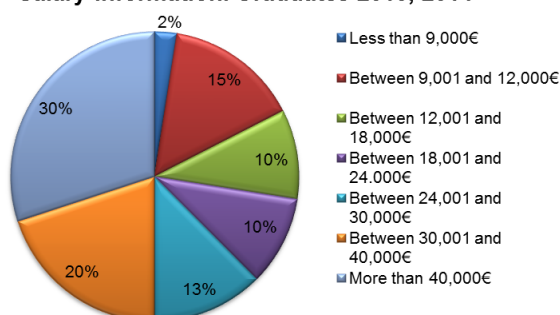


An overall analysis of salary level shows that almost 30% of respondents have a salary higher than €40,000 and almost 20% earn between €30,000 and €40,000. Although the difference is not significant, it is not surprising, as the percentage of graduates with a higher salary corresponds to those who graduated previously. The difference between the year groups lies mainly in the lower salaries, where the percentage of graduates who receive less than €9,000 is higher in the most recent year groups.

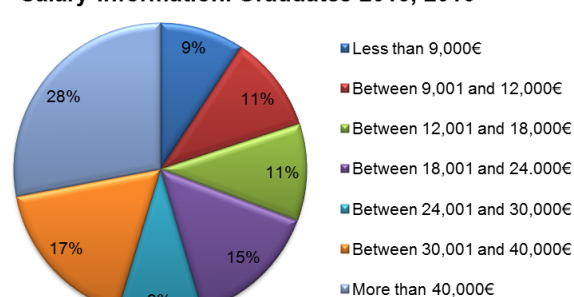
### Salaries. Graduates 2013, 2014 & 2015, 2016



#### Salary information. Graduates 2013, 2014



#### Salary information. Graduates 2015, 2016

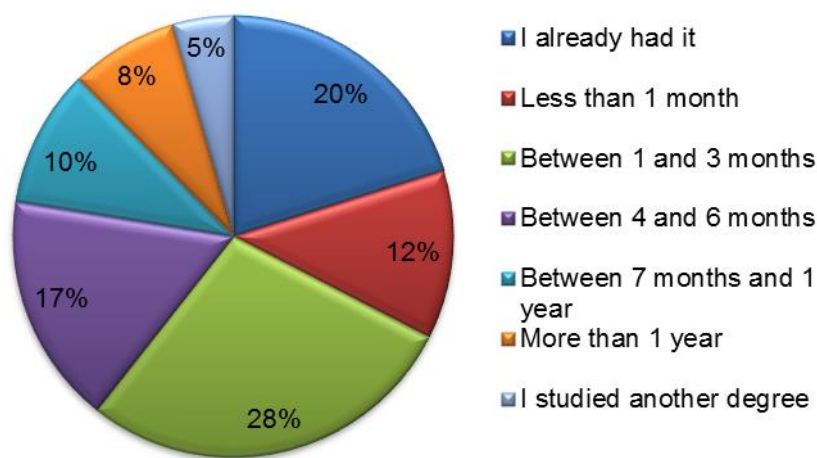


	Graduates 2013, 2014		Graduates 2015, 2016		TOTAL	
	Nº responses	%	Nº responses	%	Nº responses	%
Less than 9,000	1	2,5	7	9,3	8	7
9,000 to 12,000	6	15	8	10,7	14	12
12,000 to 18,000	4	10	8	10,7	14	12
18,000 to 24,000	4	10	11	14,7	15	23
24,000 to 30,000	5	12,5	7	9,3	12	10
30,000 to 40,000	8	20	13	17,3	21	18
More than 40,000	12	30	21	28	33	28
	40	100	75	100	117	100

## Time taken to find work and method used

This question was only asked to graduates of the 2015 and 2016 year groups. The graphs show that the average time to find a job is between 1 and 3 months (28%), which adds up to a fairly high percentage, and 20% already had a job. It is noteworthy that the majority of these graduates (57%) found work within 6 months of completing the Master's degrees

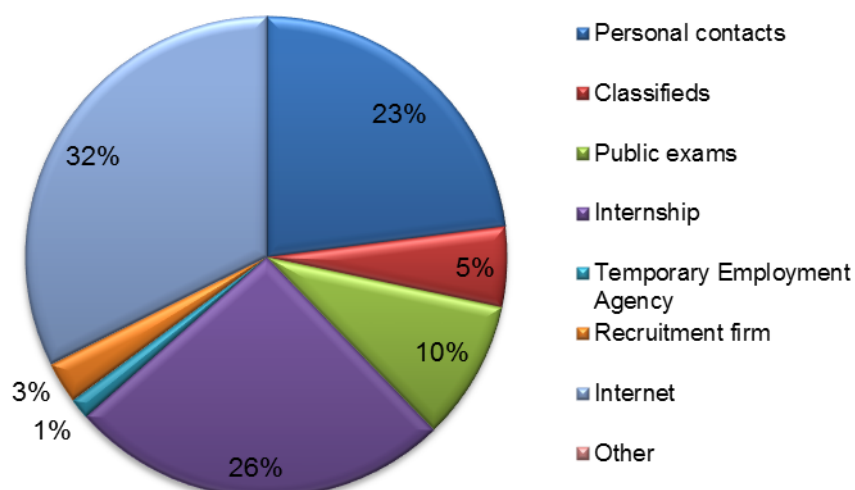
### How long did it take you to find a job after completing the Master's Programme?



The same respondents were asked how they had found their work and which method they had used to find it. The responses highlight that most graduates used the Internet (32%) and they often used internships to find their first job (26%). The fact that 23% found work through their own network of contacts is not negligible.



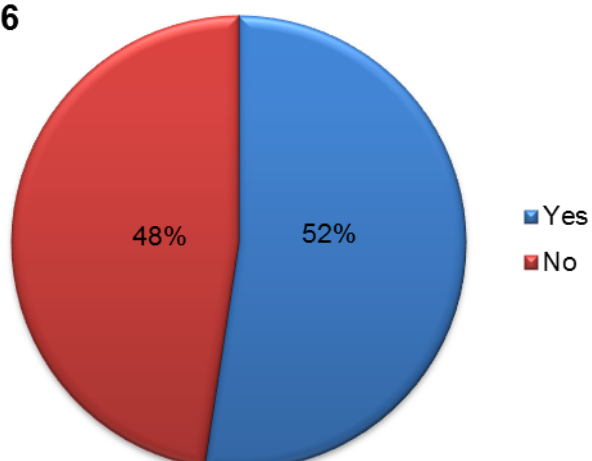
## How did you find this job?



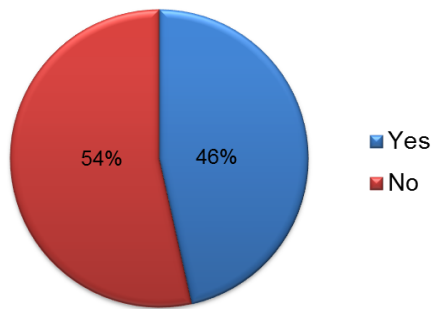
## Where do graduates work?

This question was added to this year's survey asking the graduates if they work in the same country in which they were born. The graphs show that almost half the graduates who answered the survey do not work in their country of origin and, if we look at the data based on year group, we see that graduates from 2013 and 2014 have a higher degree of professional internationalisation than more recent graduates from 2015 and 2017.

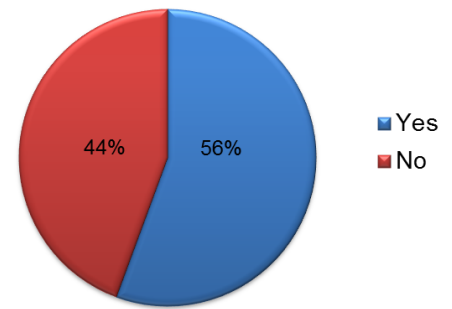
## Are you working in the same country where you were born? Graduates 2013, 2014 & 2015, 1016



**Are you working in the same country where you were born? Graduates 2013, 2014**

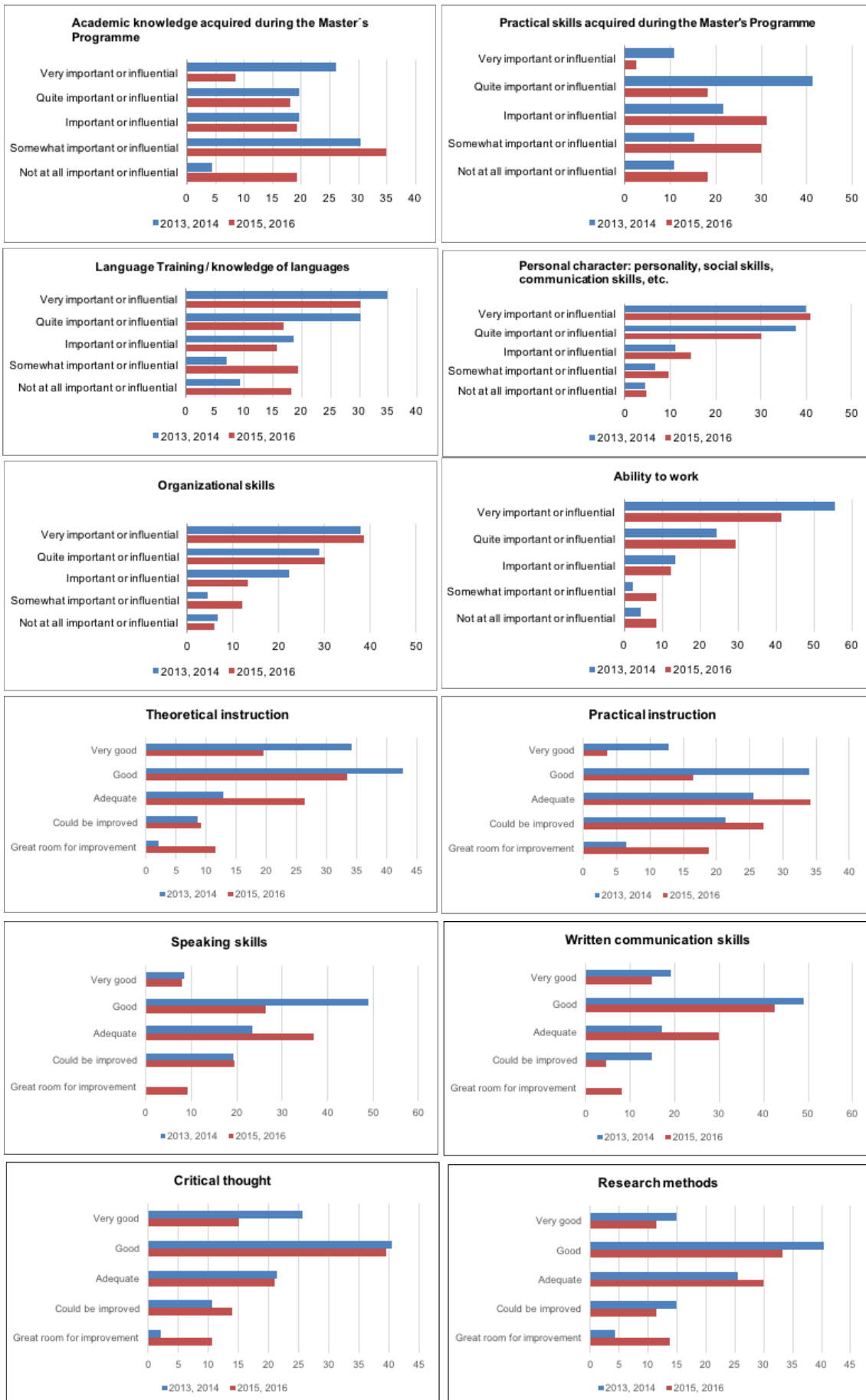


**Are you working in the same country where you were born? Graduates 2015, 2016**



### **Importance of the following factors for graduates' current job**

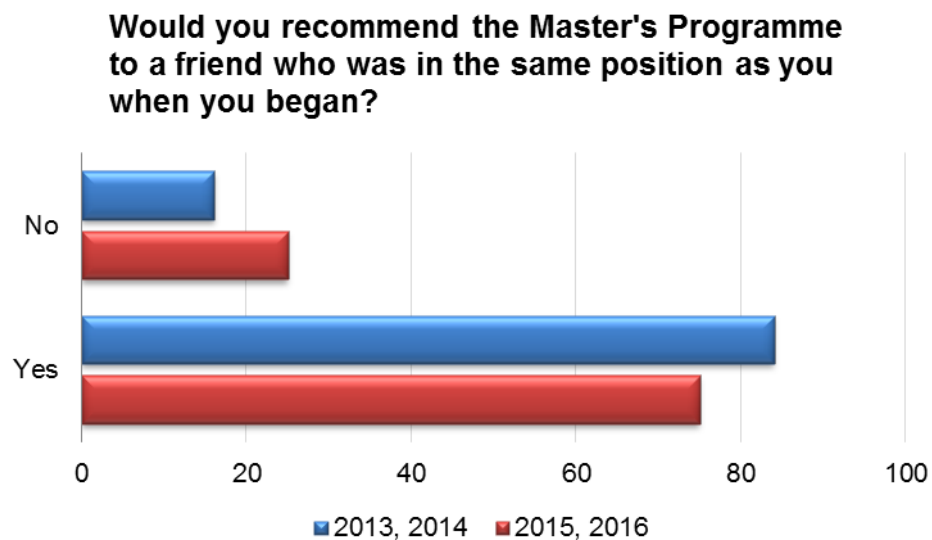
The programme has positively influenced the graduates' professional world. There are substantial differences in the level of year groups in terms of the academic knowledge acquired in the Master's degree and in the practical skills provided. The evaluation by 2015 and 2016 graduates is more negative. The academic aspect was well evaluated, although the most recent graduates value this section more negatively than in previous year groups.



## 6. Evaluation of the IBEI Master's in International Relations

### Recommendation of the Master's

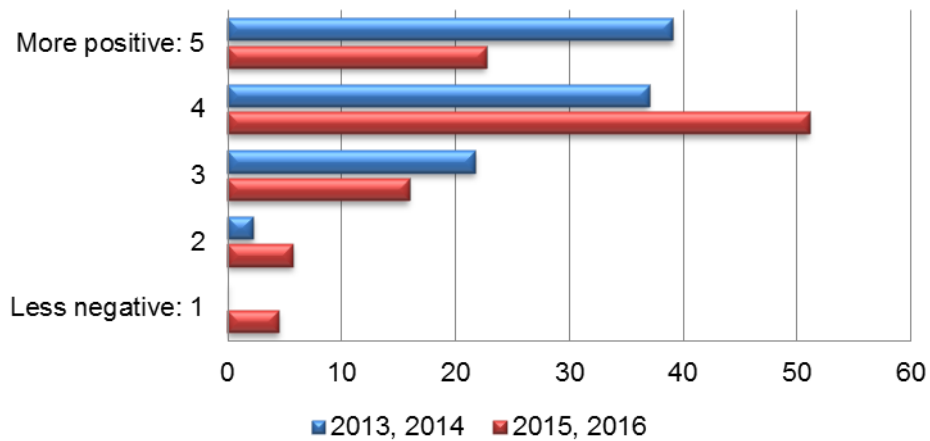
Clearly, the students surveyed recommend the IBEI Masters'. The previous year groups do so more strongly. This can possibly be explained by the employment market. Previous year groups have been in the employment market for longer, and may, therefore, find a stronger link between their training and their profession, and be more satisfied with their situation. Subsequent year groups are also very favourable when recommending the Master's, but to a lesser extent. This may be for the same reasons discussed above. The results are presented in percentages.



### Do you value positively having studied the Master's?

The majority of graduates, from both year groups, positively value having completed the Master's. Therefore, the graph highlights that the highest percentage of graduates assessed the programme as '4' or a '5', where '1' is the most negative assessment and '5' the most positive assessment. It is noted, however, that the 2015 and 2016 year groups are stricter in their assessment and give a greater variety of responses than previous year groups.

### Are you generally pleased to have done the Master's Programme at IBEI?



### How would you rate the influence of the Master's on your professional development?

On a scale of 1 to 5, ('1' being the lowest and '5' the highest), the majority of graduates completing the Master's Degree less than a year ago assess the programme's positive influence on their professional development as '3'. The year groups that finished it longer ago assess it mostly as '4'.

### How would you rank the influence the Master's Programme has had on your professional development?

