

CGP Alumni Survey 2011

The survey was conducted by the **Center for Global Politics (CGP)**. The survey was sent to 518 Alumni and had a response rate of over 40%.

The data is used to improve our programs/projects and to optimize our marketing towards specific target groups.

1. Definition of target group

Gender specific approaches:

58% of the participants are female

Our programs are very attractive to women. This result can be used to strategically approach potential female applicants esp. for the masters programs as they allow flexibility while staying on the job/family etc.

Age

IRO/EES target different age groups than other CGP programs

IR Online: 86% of students are between 20 to 40 years of age. This age group often

- keeps a household
- works
- is flexible in their professional goals
- looks for opportunities

We are looking for target groups within professional structures who want to change career paths or move up in their current job.

EES Online: The proportions are similar to IRO

Difference:

21% of students 40-49 year of age.

SeSc: Intensive short term seminars designed for **young master students:**

73% of participants are between 21-29 years of age.

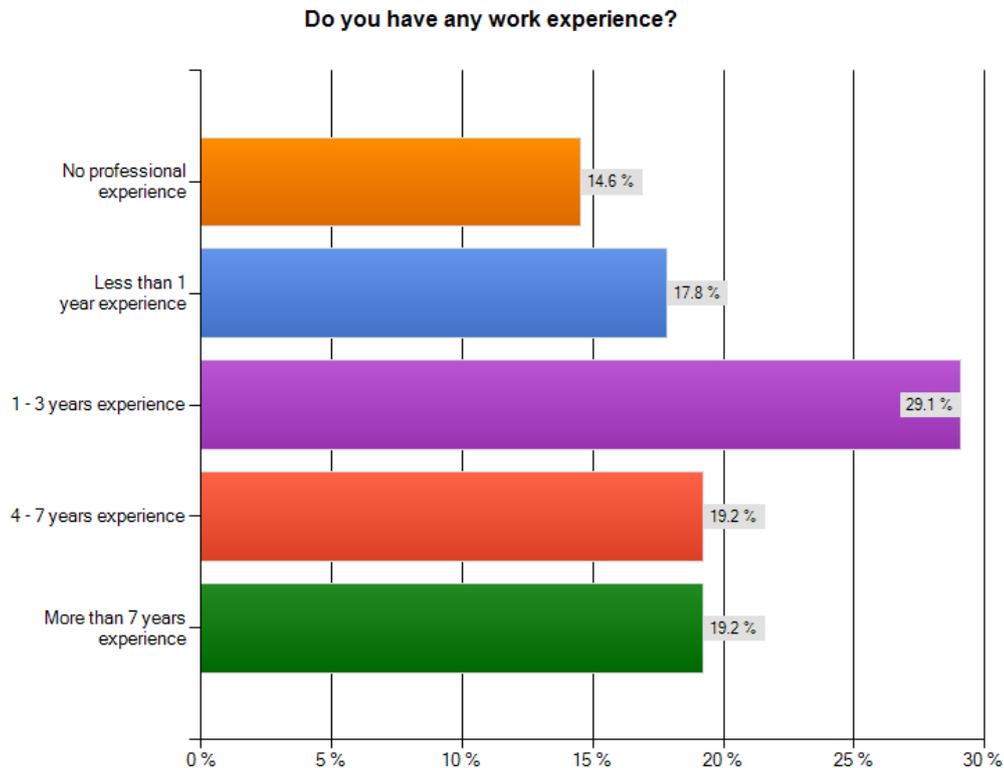
The program focuses on "young leaders".

Marketing for example at universities, hostels, bars, cafés, relevant magazines etc.

Nationality

Our students come from all over the world. Alumni with 36 different nationalities took part in this survey. Mainly Chinese (26%), German (15%), Cambodian (9%), Vietnamese (9%) and Greek (6%). All other nationalities make up a percentage of 35% divided between the other 31 nationalities.

Work Experience



IRO: 100% work experience

- 75% have 4-7 or more years work experience
- 25% has got 1-3 years work experience

EES: Almost 100% work experience

- 85% have 4-7 + years of work experience
- 9% have 1-3 years of experience
- 6% each have less than one year or no work experience

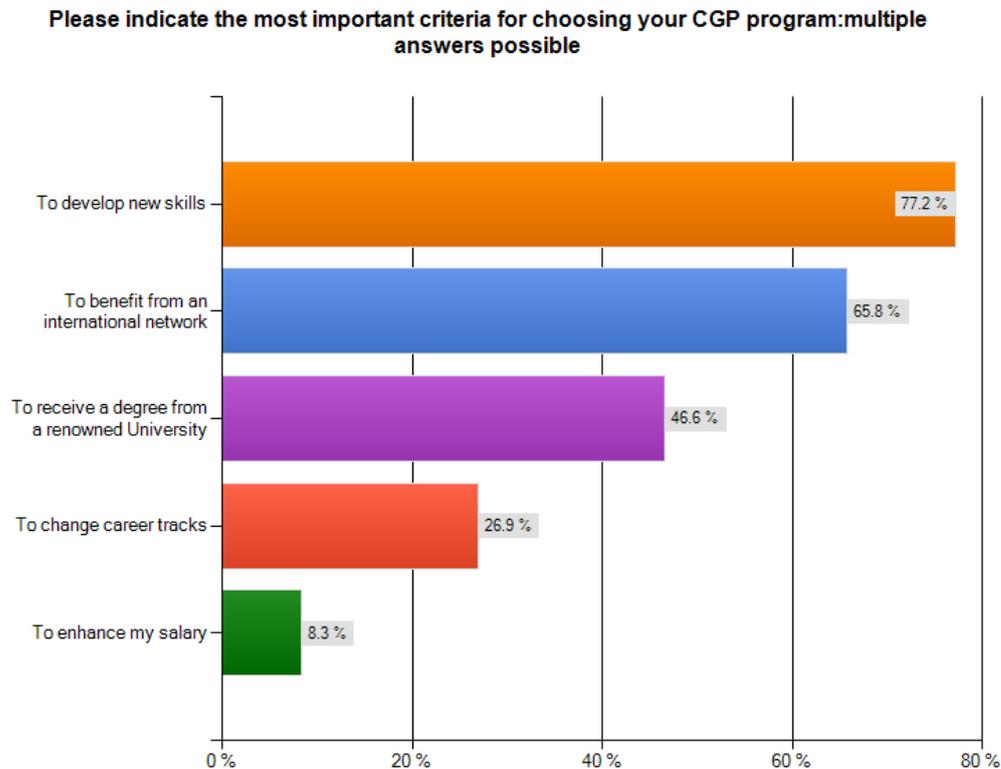
In our masters programs we thus have mainly students age 20 to 40 with extensive work experience.

SeSc:

- 21% have 4-7 + work experience
- 33% have 1-3 years work experience

Our Seasons School students are mainly master students who are still at university, they are mostly between 20 to 30 years of age and thus at the beginning of their career.

Criteria for choosing CGP program



Most alumni who participated in this survey chose to study in their CGP program in order “to develop new skills” (77%) and “To benefit from an international network” (66%). About 47% would like “to receive a degree from a renowned university” and 27% want “to change career tracks”. Only 8% try “to enhance their salary”.

2. Career

- 23% are not satisfied with or neutral towards their career at the point of entry into the MA programs.

Overall how did your program at CGP meet your career goals?

Most alumni give a positive feedback. They seem to be most satisfied with the Content (over 80% satisfied/ very satisfied), Analytical Skills (over 70%), Soft Skills (70%) and Networking (over 60%). A large number also kept their answer neutral. Negative feedback was generally very little (under 10% in all categories).

In comparison,

- 48% alumni are satisfied or very satisfied with how their current position corresponds with their expectations and more than half of the participants currently hold a job related to CGP content.

The CGP degree improves alumni's professional situation significantly.

Over 60% were able to change career after graduation compare to only about 40% in IR Online. Almost 60% of SeSc graduates changed employers.

Most **IRO** students stay in their employment sector/ with their employer, maybe on higher level.

Another important point is promotions:

40% of participating alumni have had one or more promotions since graduating from the CGP.

3. Employment and money

EES and IRO feature mostly middle management level:

M.A. International Relations: Top four employment areas:

- 35% Public Sector
- 19% International Governmental Organization
- 19% Political Sector
- 15% Media

M.A. East European Studies: Top four employment areas:

- 26% Private Sector
- 19% Public Sector
- 16% International Governmental Organization
- 16% Media/NGO's each

SeSc: Top four responses:

- 46% University
- 26.5% Research

Employment Situation

IRO: A majority of 75% is employed full-time. About 14% are seeking employment and 8% work part-time. None of them are currently studying full-time, but a minority of 4% either studies or works part-time.

EES: A majority of 62% is employed full-time. About 18% are self-employed, 15% are seeking employment and 12% work part-time. Few of them are currently full-time student (3%) or Part-time student (3%).

Summary master programs: both results show that alumni of the master programs are successful professionally. We have successful students which are even more successful after the CGP program.

The Seasonal Schools: 40% are full-time employed. About 32% are full-time students, about 15% are seeking employment and 13% work part-time. 11% are part-time student and 7% self-employed.

Professional Position Alumni

M.A. International Relations

- 58% middle management position
- 23% Analyst and/or entry level
- 19% senior management position.

There are no trainees/ no interns in this group.

M.A. East European Studies

- 57% Middle management position
- 27% Analyst and/or entry level
- 10% hold a top management position
- 6% senior management

There are no trainees or interns in this group.

Seasonal Schools

- 56% Entry Level/ Analysts (< 5 years)
- 15% middle management
- 11.5% Trainee position

Income

IRO:

- 46% earn \$50,000 or more
- 25% earn \$35,000
- 21% earn \$25,000

EES:

- 32% earn \$50,000 or more
- 14% earn up to \$50,000
- 19% earn up to \$25,000
- 35% earn up to \$15,000

Summary target group

Profile IRO students: They are usually in their 30s, earn high salaries, mostly in middle management structures. They choose IR Online often out of interest, but use the degree for receiving promotions in their respective work environments.

Profile EES students: They are usually in their 30s, earn mid-range to higher salaries, and work often in middle management structures. They choose EES Online in close relation with their work fields. Apparently they use their studies to sharpen their profiles and to change the employer/career track afterwards.

Part-time options very much in demand (39% are interested in one-year executive M.A. program).

4. Most useful modules for career

EES:

- Project Management
- Politics/Political Science
- Conflict Management

IRO:

- International Negotiations
- Intercultural Communication
- IR Theory

SeSc:

- New approaches to global politics/ global politics
- Soft skills
- Media and Politics

5. Our alumni

96% of all survey participants would recommend their CGP program to a friend.

Alumni from **36 nationalities** took part in this survey.

- 26% Chinese
- 15% German
- 9% Cambodian
- 9% Vietnamese
- 6% Greek
- 35% Other

IRO: Alumni from 10 nationalities

EES: Alumni from 17 nationalities

SeSc: Alumni from 11 nationalities:

- 43% Chinese
- 11 % Vietnamese
- 10% Cambodian and Greek each
- 6% German

This shows how international and globally active our alumni network is. Alumni from all over the world are happy to invest time into our network.

The CGP Alumni Network

96% are interested in the Alumni Network

Expected benefits from the CGP Alumni Network

- 81% Exchange of information and experience
- 52% Contact with alumni
- 45% Access to databases at the Free University
- 36% News about research at the CGP
- 34% Regional meeting
- 32% Alumni workshops
- 12% Alumni Email address
- 7% Premium editions of the Alumni Newsletter

Networking and access to databases as well as information about research are the most important benefits.

How to contribute to the Alumni Network

- 46% Networking group
- 42% Event working group
- 40% Newsletter articles
- 38% Scholarship group
- 3% supporting the Alumni Network financially

Would you like to join the "CGP Alumni Association e.V."?

- 78% Yes
- 13% No