



USING SCIENCE DIPLOMACY
FOR ADDRESSING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Science diplomacy needs assessment

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The idea

There is limited systematic knowledge on the **practices, challenges and needs** of those working at the interface of science and foreign policy. This knowledge is needed, however, in order to make our work relevant and suitable to the envisaged beneficiaries (especially when it comes to training and knowledge resources). We chose a survey-based approach (plus a small number of interviews) for our needs assessment.

SURVEY DESIGN

- Widely spread (in order to avoid making the scope too narrow too soon)..
- anonymous survey (in order to reduce „polished“ answers and allow for openness in referring to challenges).
- The survey focuses on practices first. Only at the end is the label of science diplomacy at the center of the questions.

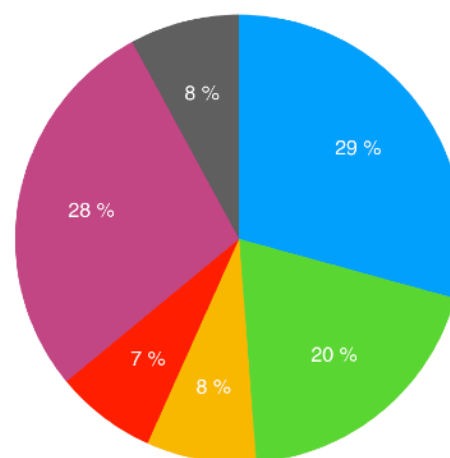
The return

As per 5 June, 117 full responses.

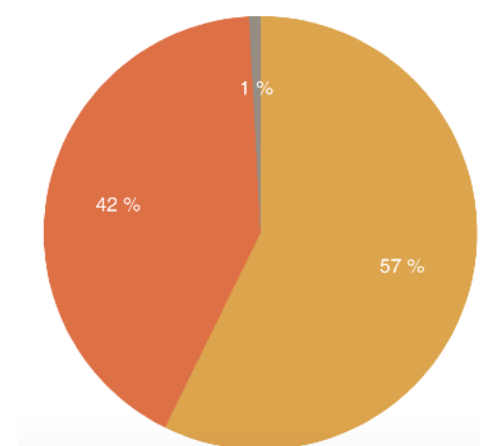
The respondents

- Mean age: 44.5y
- Highest degree: 54% PhD or similar
- Respondent home countries
 - Spain: 12
 - Czech Republic: 10
 - France: 9
 - USA: 5
 - Germany: 4
- Deployed in another country: 29%
- Respondent institutions
 - National (Ministry, etc): 74
 - Intergovernmental/supranational: 10
 - Civil society: 33

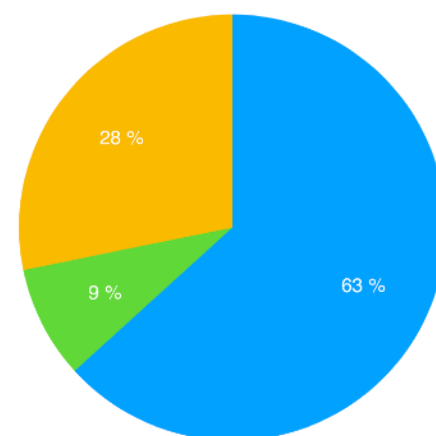
● Natural sciences
 ● Engineering and technology
 ● Medical and health sciences
 ● Agricultural sciences
 ● Social sciences
 ● Humanities



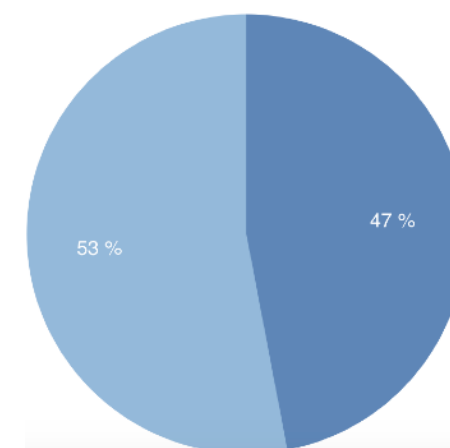
● Male
 ● Female
 ● ND



● National
 ● Intergov
 ● Civil soc.



● EU
 ● non-EU



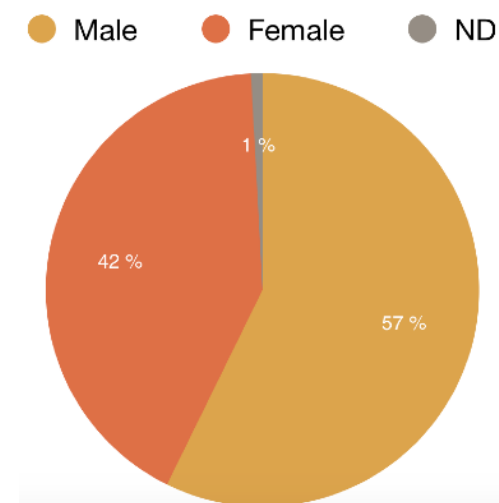
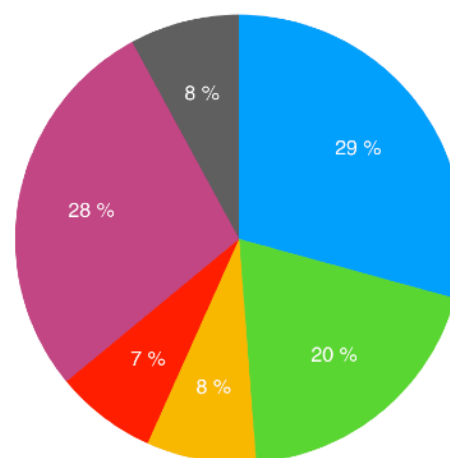
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	Civil soc.	Intergov.	National
non-EU	21	5	36
EU	12	5	38

The answers: practices - goals

	all	EU	nonEU	national	intergov	civil
Improving international science collaboration	5	5	5	5	4	5
Strengthening competitiveness of my country	4	5	4	5	3	4
Developing partnerships for global challenges	4	4	5	4	4,5	5
Strengthening intercultural dialogue	4	3	4	3	4	4
Improving diplomatic relationships	4	3	4	3,5	3	4
Extending the frontiers of knowledge	4	4	5	4	4	5
Enhancing R&I capacities of develop./emerging countries	3	2	4	3	3	4
Developing the ERA	3	3	2,5	3	2	3
Integrating developing/emerging countries into the ERA	2,5	2	3	3	1,5	3

The answers: practices - tasks

	all	EU	nonEU	national	intergov	civil
Representing my country/institution in my host country	4,5	5	3,5	5	5	3
Screening developments in the S&T sector in my host country	4	4	3,5	4	3	3,5
Joint programming	3	2	3	3	3	2
Organising science delegation visits	3	3	3	3,5	3	2
Organising scientific advice: consulting scientific sources	3	3	4	4	2,5	3
Organising scientific advice: convening expert groups	3	3	3	3	3	3
Organising scientific advice: identifying experts	3	3	3	3	3	3
Organising scientific advice: monitoring a scient. field	3	3	3	3	3	3
Organising scientific adv.: writing policy briefs on scient. issues	3	3	4	3	3	4
Representing my country/institution on EU level	3	3	3	3	3	2,5
S&T-related dialogue at policy level	3	3	3	3	4,5	3
S&T-related dialogue at programme level	3	3	3	3	2	3
Screening developments in the S&T sector in my home country	3	3	3	3	1,5	3
Setting up research programmes	3	2	3	3	2	3
Supporting science cooperation	3	3	3	3	3	3
Monitoring compliance with scientific standards	2	2	3	3	1	2
Negotiating S&T-related conflicts between different actors	2	2	2	2	3	1

The answers: practices - challenges

	all	EU	nonEU	national	intergov	civil
Creating opportunities to get my messages across	4	3	4	4	3	4
Keeping track of recent ST developments	4	3	4	4	3	3
Raising awareness for the relevance of ST-related policies/activities	4	3	4	4	3,5	4
Understanding different ST-related perspectives and needs in my host country	4	4	3,5	2,5	4	4
Finding the right persons to contact on the academic side	3	3	3	3	3	3
Finding the right persons to contact on the public administration side	3	3	3	3	4	3
Getting access to relevant contacts on the academic side	3	2,5	3	3	3	2,5
Getting access to relevant contacts on the public administration side	3	3	4	3	4	2,5
Identifying relevant scientific information	3	3	4	3	4	3
Negotiating different ST-related perspectives and needs	3	3	3	3	3	3
Negotiating different ST-related perspectives and needs in my host country	3	3	2,5	3	4	3
Understanding different ST-related perspectives and needs	3	3	4	3	3,5	3,5
Understanding different ST-related... between my host and home country	3	3	3	3	4	2,5
Understanding different ST-related... between scientists and administrators	3	3	2	2	3	3
Negotiating different ST-related... between my host and home country	2,5	3	2	2	4	2,5
Negotiating different ST-related... between scientists and administrators	2	2,5	2	2	3	2

The answers: practices - challenges

Other challenges

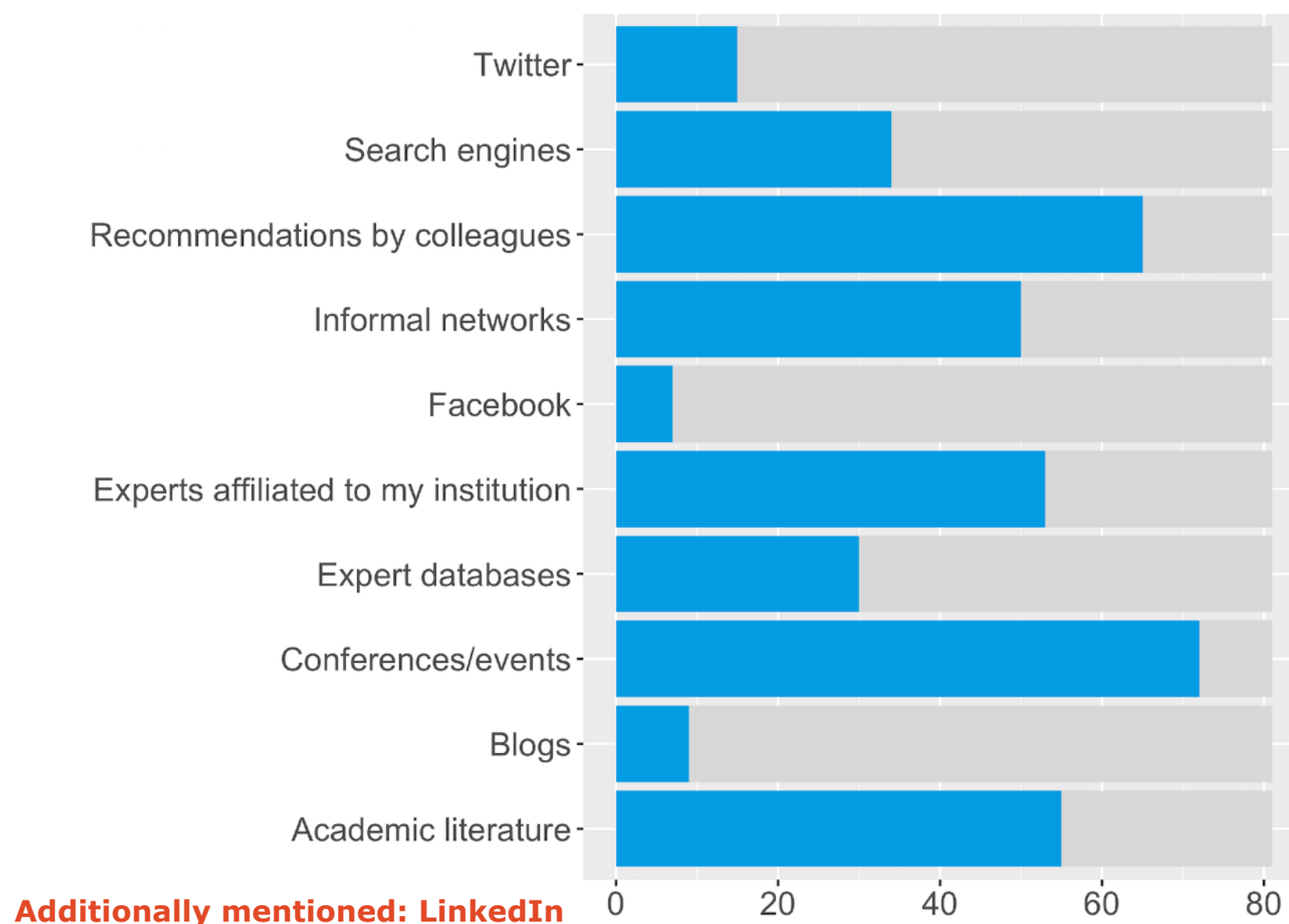
- „Engaging other areas inside the organization, who are needed to implement the cooperation, in supporting international activities“
- Funding to support international cooperation
- „Poor coordination of S&T activities in the country; poor S&T awareness and the aloofness of the policymakers to the actual scientists“
- „Far too little human resources for the potential of our work“
- „It can be hard to identify the proper decision-making level to make priorities“

What makes your position unique?

- „My office is link to four different national ministries“

The answers: practices

If you consult scientists in your work, where do you find them?



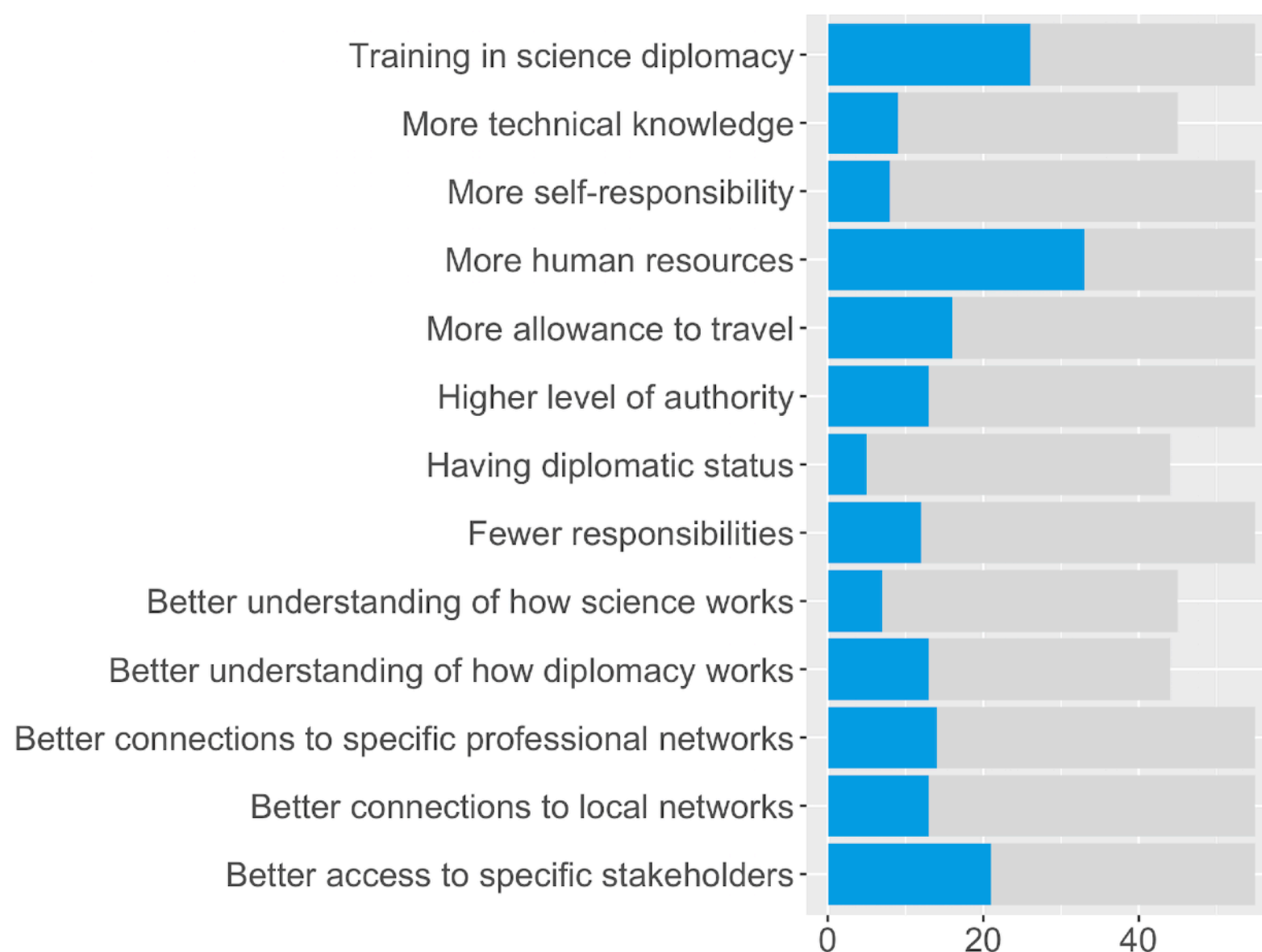
The answers: needs

Would any of the following help you to better fulfill your professional responsibilities?



The answers: needs - EU only

Would any of the following help you to better fulfill your professional responsibilities?



Some preliminary conclusions

The survey is still open and the analysis is ongoing. However, we can draw a few **preliminary conclusions**.



- Science diplomacy trainings are in demand
- Preferred forms: workshops, community networking, fellowships
- Most acute information needs:
 - learning about stakeholder landscapes
 - information about formal STI agreements,
 - host country information
- Technical knowledge is not the problem
- Conference visits and academic journals (together with networks) still play a role in obtaining scientific advice)

Next steps

The survey is

- still open until 20 June (longer if needed).
- The analysis is planned for the summer.
 - Update numbers with final set of respondents
 - Do some more analysis differentiating small/large and weak/strong (in terms of GERD/GDP) countries
 - Do some more cross tabs / chi-square tests
- Deliverable deadline: end of August.
- Results to be presented at Center for Science Diplomacy conference in Washington in September.

Some **open questions** remain:

- WP2 team to decide on a few additional exploratory interviews (beginning of summer)
- Is it still possible and worthwhile to increase coverage here and there (particularly: UK)?

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