

FP GUIDE



GRADUATE
EDUCATION

6
JOB
GROWTH
AREAS

11
PROMISING
LOCATIONS

TIPS FROM
CAREER
SERVICES
DIRECTORS

Launching a Career in International Affairs

**DIPLOMACY. INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. PEACEKEEPING.
NEW YORK. WASHINGTON, D.C. LONDON. BRUSSELS.**



Those are some of the longstanding pursuits and places for careers in international affairs.

Now, opportunities are also growing in a wide range of employment sectors and locations that are not the most obvious choices for a global career, from Kenya to Colorado, and from renewable energy to mobile health technology.

Where and how will the next international affairs professionals find their way in today's challenging and exciting employment markets?

Launching a Career in International Affairs

Continued from page 1



Helen Liu, a 2016 graduate of the UC San Diego School of Global Policy and Strategy, did her summer internship at the American Chamber of Commerce in China.

In a period marked by widespread uncertainties, how can newly minted international affairs graduates start their career on a strong foot? We asked career services directors at leading graduate schools of international affairs where the opportunities will be and how students are preparing to reach their goals.

Jean-Amiel Jourdan, director of Global Careers at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), compares launching a career in global affairs with sailing a boat: “On a sunny day, you can expect to go farther and faster. But when a storm is approaching, it’s time to draw on your resources and sharpen your skills.” Now, the prospect of budget cuts in the public sector and new visa restrictions limiting employment options for international students are beginning to cloud the horizon. “You start to see how deep your career network is and how deep your connections are,” says Jourdan.

Intelligence and security expertise are clearly in high demand, but where else are the most promising prospects? For one thing, Jourdan points to demand for highly trained international affairs professionals in parts of Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Gulf.

Erica Mason, associate director of New York University’s Wasserman Center for Career Development at the NYU School of Professional Studies, sees growing opportunities in fields such as transnational security and corporate social responsibility.

David Robertson, director of career services at the University of California San Diego School of Global Policy and Strategy, expects continued strong demand in the technology sector for expertise in data analysis, business, economics, and global policy. He also sees opportunities in renewable energy and in state and local government, especially in the West, and particularly in California.

But even in areas facing cutbacks, federal government employment might not be out of the question. “We see people really doubling down to get coveted spots in the public sector and also casting their nets a little farther,” says Anne Steen, director of the Graduate Career Center at Georgetown University’s Walsh School of Foreign Service. One strategy, she says, might be to start out in a domestically oriented position and gain experience that could eventually lead to more globally oriented opportunities.

11

EMERGING EMPLOYMENT LOCATIONS

FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS*



AFRICA:

Morocco
Nigeria
Kenya

GULF REGION:

Qatar
United Arab Emirates (UAE)

SOUTHEAST ASIA:

Malaysia
Indonesia
Vietnam
Cambodia

UNITED STATES:

California
Colorado

6

JOB GROWTH AREAS



IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS*

- 1 Transnational Security
- 2 Sustainable Development
- 3 Global Intelligence
- 4 Global Health Policy
- 5 Human Migration and Human Trafficking
- 6 Program Design and Evaluation

* Based on input from career services directors at leading schools of international affairs. Not intended as a comprehensive survey.



How will you change the world?

Since its founding in 1919, SFS has been preparing young people to be global leaders in business, tech, development, security, and—of course—government.

Join the legacy, change the world.

SFS | *GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY*
Walsh School of Foreign Service

[SFS.GEORGETOWN.EDU](https://sfs.georgetown.edu)

Graduate and Undergraduate Degrees
in International Affairs



Georgetown University, Walsh School of Foreign Service



"IN ADDITION TO A 'PLAN A' AND A 'PLAN B,' YOU PROBABLY NEED TO LOOK AT HAVING A 'PLAN C.'"

—Anne Steen,
Director, Graduate
Career Center,
Walsh School of
Foreign Service
(SFS), Georgetown
University

Anne Steen, director of the Graduate Career Center at Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service (SFS), has long encouraged students to have a backup career plan. But starting this year, job searches may require casting a wider net. "In addition to a Plan A and a Plan B, you probably need to look at having a Plan C," she says.

Having a Plan C may be especially important for those who aspire to traditional international relations roles in public service. Of the 97 percent of SFS class of 2016 graduates who are now employed full time, 39 percent are working in the public sector. This includes graduates interested in joining the U.S. Foreign Service, who typically account for 4 percent to 5 percent of each year's SFS graduating class.

A student who aspires to work in, say, international development or refugee resettlement might have a Plan A focusing on U.S. government employment and a Plan B targeting nonprofit organizations funded by government grants. Since grant funding has been decreasing for some nonprofits, a strategic Plan C might focus on the private sector. "Many consulting firms concentrate on emerging markets and engage in development work focused on helping local governments abroad," says Steen. Jobs are sometimes based overseas.

One key to obtaining public sector employment is to find out who is getting funded. "Students need to follow the funding," says Steen. "Our office now needs to follow that more closely than ever, whether the jobs are in security, immigration, or elsewhere. We will have a staffer monitoring funding trends on a weekly basis."

Federal contracts with consulting firms often call for expertise in management strategy to deal with a challenge such as an infrastructure problem. To identify firms receiving government contracts, Steen suggests reading a local business publication, such as the *Washington Business Journal*.

SFS is also monitoring developments that could lead to more restrictive visa policies affecting U.S. employment prospects for international students. "International students are a very important part of our community here at Georgetown, but it is also incumbent on us to give them realistic information regarding employment opportunities," says Steen. "An international student's Plan A might be to work in the U.S. after graduation. Plan B might be to return to his or her home country. For Plan C, we might ask, 'Where else do you have work authorization?'"



Georgetown University

SFS students may meet individually with a career coach as often as they wish. In fact, alumni may do so as well. "Twenty-five percent of those who walk in our door are alumni," says Steen. "For example, someone who is retiring from the State Department may be seeking an encore career." Thanks to recent increases in SFS Graduate Career Center staff, coaches will have increased time for one-on-one counseling and to support programs that have led to a 65 percent increase in employer visits to campus this year.

New York University School of Professional Studies, Center for Global Affairs

MS in Global Affairs students at the NYU School of Professional Studies (NYUSPS) Center for Global Affairs (CGA) have the opportunity to meet with a career coach as often as they wish, throughout their program of study.

"We begin working with students on day one of their first semester," says Erica Mason, associate director of the NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development at NYUSPS. "We encourage them to meet with one of our coaches every four to six weeks to create and refine their career action plan."

Wasserman Center career coaches help students assess their interests and skills, develop goals and strategies, identify career options, and refine their skills in areas such as writing an effective résumé and interviewing for a job. Coaches also help students develop and refine a professional brand and create a strategic job search.

To help develop and maintain a professional network, NYUSPS students have access to numerous workshops on using LinkedIn. "It's important that people understand who you are and what you do," says Jeannie Liakaris, assistant dean of the Wasserman Center at NYUSPS. "It matters how you position your brand and use tools like Twitter and LinkedIn."

GLOBAL



CITIZEN



TO UNDERSTAND GLOBAL ISSUES, YOU MUST BECOME PART OF THEM.

The growing influence of new world powers, emerging states and non-state actors, socioeconomic transformation, and cross-border crises have reshaped the field of global affairs. Those pursuing careers in this area must study the issues and be deeply involved in them. The **MS in Global Affairs**, offered by the **NYU School of Professional Studies Center for Global Affairs**, positions you in the heart of the international community of NYC, providing you with the contextual perspectives you need to become an effective problem solver and innovator. Global field intensives and skills development in peacebuilding, mediation, and conflict assessment; exposure to renowned expert practitioners who advise governments, military, and private sector institutions on meeting today's security challenges; and projects that sharpen your predictive capacity and analysis of emerging threats, form the basis of an education that allows you to live what you learn—anticipating the next global challenge.

MS in Global Affairs

CONCENTRATIONS:

- Environment/Energy Policy
- Global Gender Studies
- Human Rights and International Law
- International Development and Humanitarian Assistance
- International Relations/Global Futures
- Peacebuilding
- Private Sector
- Transnational Security

VISIT: sps.nyu.edu/msga1a **CALL:** 212-998-7100

REQUEST INFORMATION: sps.nyu.edu/gradinfo12a **APPLY TODAY:** sps.nyu.edu/applygrad



NYU

SCHOOL OF
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

**FIND YOUR
FUTURE SELF**

"WE ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO MEET WITH ONE OF OUR COACHES EVERY FOUR TO SIX WEEKS TO CREATE AND REFINE THEIR CAREER ACTION PLAN."

–Erica Mason, Associate Director, NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development at NYUSPS



"IT'S IMPORTANT THAT PEOPLE UNDERSTAND WHO YOU ARE AND WHAT YOU DO. IT MATTERS HOW YOU POSITION YOUR BRAND AND USE TOOLS LIKE TWITTER AND LINKEDIN."

–Jeannie Liakaris, Assistant Dean, NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development at NYUSPS



Such initiatives complement the practical, applied, and interdisciplinary nature of the MS in Global Affairs program. In addition to providing job listings, on-campus recruiting, and career fairs, the Wasserman Center at NYUSPS works with faculty members to take full advantage of their connections with industry—and their expertise.

"Among employers, we see fluctuations in where the interest is," notes Vera Jelinek, who directs the MS in Global Affairs program at NYUSPS as divisional dean of CGA. "Opportunities in the energy sector are moving toward an emphasis on renewable energy and sustainable development," she says. Jelinek also sees transnational security as a major growth area in which employers will increasingly require expertise in such areas as terrorism, transnational crime, resource security, and political risk analysis.



Erica Mason working with students at the NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development at NYUSPS

"In addition to writing and analytical skills such as data interpretation, employers seek an understanding of the issues," says Jelinek. "In cybersecurity, employers increasingly need people with a combination of technology skills and an international relations background."

International affairs professionals can expect to adjust their careers as employment markets evolve. "In the MS in Global Affairs program, you don't prepare for just one career," says Jelinek. "Many of the skills and understanding that you develop are interchangeable and interconnected."

NYUSPS graduates continue to have access to services at the Wasserman Center at NYUSPS throughout their careers—in person and via Skype.

"Your career strategy shouldn't stop once you start a job," says Liakaris. "It really is continual. It's not only about building a professional brand, but about how to keep that brand fresh while keeping your network up to date."



UCSD GPS alumni employed by Qualcomm in San Diego

University of California San Diego, School of Global Policy and Strategy

Good news: Employment rates for the UC San Diego School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS) class of 2016 are the highest seen in at least a decade: Ninety-six percent of graduates have found relevant employment, reports David Robertson, director of career services.

Such success is no surprise, given students' strong analytical skills and understanding of public policy, management, and international interactions. But now, students are preparing for new challenges from budget cutbacks at the U.S. State Department, USAID, the Environmental Protection Agency, and other federal agencies, as well as potential visa restrictions for international students.

The school's long-established Master of International Affairs (MIA) program focuses on the Americas and Asia and attracts students from the U.S. and around the world. In searching for internships and jobs, students can draw on an alumni network spanning more than 80 countries.

The Master of Public Policy (MPP) program focuses on U.S. policymaking within a global context. Thus it goes beyond the U.S.-centric view while providing rigorous training and analysis of public policy. Graduates are well positioned for careers in state, local, and federal government as well as the private and nonprofit sectors. Specialization options are tied with areas of growing demand, such as environmental policy, business, health, and security.

"Best-practice approaches to public policy problems now require analysis through a global lens," says Peter F. Cowhey, interim executive vice chancellor for academic affairs at UC San Diego.

GPS graduates find employment opportunities in state, county, and local government—mostly in the West, especially in California, and particularly in positions involving renewable energy or environmental policy.



"ANYTHING HAVING TO DO WITH DATA ANALYSIS IS GOING TO SEE CONTINUED DEMAND NO MATTER WHAT ELSE HAPPENS IN EMPLOYMENT MARKETS."

—David Robertson, Director of Career Services, School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS), UC San Diego

Students who seek public sector careers in international development increasingly look to government contractors in the private sector. Booz Allen Hamilton, for example, is one of several consulting companies that hire GPS graduates.

But technology remains the largest sector for hiring of GPS graduates, thanks to the school's West Coast location. Openings range from business to economics to policy positions, but opportunities are strongest for jobs involving data analysis.

"Anything having to do with data analysis is going to see continued demand no matter what else happens in employment markets," says Robertson. He also foresees growing demand for expertise in global health, including biotechnology as well as mobile health. From remote areas in Africa to Indian reservations in the United States, mobile broadband technologies can provide access to information, connect people with their health care providers, and help lower health care costs.

Students take advantage of the 3,000-plus network of GPS alumni by contacting them for informational interviews and by building ongoing relationships with members of the school's Alumni Mentor Program. In the school's Alumni-in-Residence program, selected alumni spend an academic quarter on campus and keep office hours so that students can meet regularly with alumni working in their area of interest.

GPS leads visits to Southern California-based organizations and offers annual student trips to San Francisco; New York City; Washington, D.C.; Sacramento, Calif.; and other cities, where alumni often host group visits with their employers.



**ADVANCING YOUR CAREER,
ADVANCING OUR WORLD**
Solution driven. Pacific focused. Global results.

The School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS) at UC San Diego attracts recent college graduates and accomplished professionals with its world-renowned expertise in the Pacific region and innovative science and technology policy research.

UC San Diego GPS:
Where change happens.

Degree Programs

- Ph.D. in Political Science and International Affairs
- Master of International Affairs
- Master of Public Policy
- Master of Chinese Economic and Political Affairs
- Master of Advanced Studies in International Affairs (Executive Degree)

gps.ucsd.edu

UC San Diego



Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies



“ONE OF OUR KEY JOBS AS CAREER COUNSELORS IS TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ACCESS TO A STRONG NETWORK OF EMPLOYERS.”

—Jean-Amiel Jourdan, Director, Global Careers, School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University

An impressive 96 percent of graduates in the class of 2016 at the Johns Hopkins University (JHU) School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) found relevant employment within six months of graduation or were pursuing further studies, and they were hired by 220 different employers. As the next graduating classes face uncertainties in public sector hiring and a tightening of visa restrictions around the world, the job of finding a job could get tougher.

“One of our key jobs as career counselors is to make sure you have access to a strong network of employers,” says Jean-Amiel Jourdan, director of Global Careers at SAIS.

About 50 percent of 2016 graduates from SAIS are working in the private sector, and another 30 percent are employed by multilateral organizations or NGOs. Only 20 percent or so took jobs in the public sector, where budget cuts could put a damper on future hiring. However, more half of the 20 percent of those in the public sector are employed either in the intelligence community or in the Presidential Management Fellows Program. Those areas, along with Defense Department hiring, are unlikely to face cutbacks.

“The CIA recruits a critical mass of SAIS students each year and comes to campus 10 times a year. SAIS is one of their target schools,” says Jourdan.

The SAIS Office of Global Careers hosts an annual Career Fair at the Washington, DC campus.



Career fair at SAIS

But what if your goal is to work for the U.S. government helping with development projects, such as building an electricity grid in a developing country? “If there is a lack of opportunities with USAID or with private contractors working for USAID, we will help you find other stakeholders,” says Jourdan. “For example, one opportunity might be with a for-profit energy consultancy in the Gulf.”

Each year, the SAIS Office of Global Careers polls students and monitors job market trends to identify what skills courses to offer to enhance students’ competitiveness. For example, courses have covered geographic information systems (GIS), Tableau, and social network analysis (SNA).

To help students connect with prospective employers, SAIS offers Global Career Treks around the world and to U.S. cities such as New York; Washington, D.C.; San Francisco; and Houston. This year, the Office of Global Careers also took a group of students to Denver to explore growing opportunities in renewable energy.

While international students at U.S. schools face increasing visa restrictions on post-graduation employment in the United States, Jourdan points to countries with rising demand for professionals with a strong skill set in economics, finance, cultural and regional knowledge, and local language fluency: In Africa (Morocco, Nigeria, and Kenya); in the Gulf (Qatar and the United Arab Emirates); and in Southeast Asia (Malaysia and Indonesia).

SAIS Global Careers does employer outreach from alumni worldwide and from three SAIS campuses: Washington, D.C.; SAIS Europe in Bologna, Italy; and the Hopkins-Nanjing Center in China.

“We are poised to see the strength of emerging global opportunities,” says Jourdan.

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER THIS SUMMER IN WASHINGTON DC

ENROLL IN COURSES

in economics, development, international relations, regional studies, and more

EARN A CERTIFICATE

in International Studies, International Development, or International Economics

LEARN A LANGUAGE

through the study of Arabic, Chinese, or Russian



JOHNS HOPKINS
SCHOOL of ADVANCED
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Courses meet in the evenings over a
condensed eight-week term,
June 5–July 27, 2017

sais-jhu.edu/summer-fp

PROGRAM DIRECTORY

SCHOOL	CAREER SERVICES CENTER	CONTACT
Georgetown University, Walsh School of Foreign Service (SFS) http://sfs.georgetown.edu	SFS Graduate Career Center http://sfgcc.georgetown.edu	SFS Graduate Admissions sfscontact@georgetown.edu 202-687-5696 http://sfs.georgetown.edu/graduate/graduate-admissions
Johns Hopkins University (JHU), School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) www.sais-jhu.edu/admissions/fp	JHU SAIS Global Careers www.sais-jhu.edu/career-services	SAIS Washington sais.dc.careers@jhu.edu SAIS Europe sais.eu.careers@jhu.edu Hopkins-Nanjing Center hncareerservices@hnc.nju.edu.cn
New York University School of Professional Studies (NYUSPS), Center for Global Affairs (CGA) www.sps.nyu.edu/cga	NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development at NYUSPS www.sps.nyu.edu/career	Cynthia Perez, Director of Admissions sps.gradadmissions@nyu.edu 212-998-7100
UC San Diego, School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS) https://gps.ucsd.edu	Career Services http://gps.ucsd.edu/students-careers/career-services	GPS Admissions gps-apply@ucsd.edu 858-534-5914 http://gps.ucsd.edu/academics

The copy in this report was prepared by **Nancy Henderson**, an independent education writer based in Washington, D.C., in connection with the business department of *FOREIGN POLICY*, and did not involve the editorial staff of this magazine.

Designer: **Cinda Debbink**, Design Partners
Copy Editor: **Rachel McVeary**
Director, Education Advertising: **Keith Arends**, 646-517-0540;
Keith.Arends@foreignpolicy.com