



Launching a CAREER in International Affairs

CURRENT JOB GROWTH AREAS

HOW GRADUATE PROGRAMS ARE HELPING

*Photo: University of
Notre Dame's Keough
School of Global Affairs
students*

In a world in flux, certain economic sectors and hot-button issues offer a consistent supply of jobs for today's international affairs graduates.

Growing employment areas include climate policy, renewable energy, cybersecurity, gender analysis, and impact investing, plus nontraditional issues such as illicit finance and human trafficking. Many international relations graduate programs are enhancing their course offerings in these high-demand areas.

The graduate programs described here also offer practical ways for their students to prepare for their career. For instance, students can:

- Prepare a gap analysis of the job description requirements in fields of interest, to reveal what knowledge and skills they lack.
- Take workshops in practical skills, such as advanced Microsoft Excel, data visualization, writing policy memos, and leveraging social media for professional objectives.
- Go on group visits to employers in their target industry, in cities ranging from Hong Kong to Houston.
- Undergo a mock job interview that is a graded assignment.

In the 2020 FP Guide to *Launching a Career in International Affairs*, you will find more details about how some of these master's degree programs are positioning their graduates for successful careers.

Energy, Sustainability Studies Fuel Job Opportunities for Grads



“Our goal is for our students to leave the school and work in a field they are really passionate about.”

—Julie Nussdorfer, Associate Director of Global Careers, School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University

Graduates of **Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies** have been branching out into employment sectors beyond their traditional targets. In addition to filling positions in government and at foreign policy-related think tanks, Johns Hopkins SAIS graduates are increasingly drawn to the energy and sustainability sectors.

“There is more diversity in this field than there was a few years ago,” says Julie Nussdorfer, associate director of global careers at Johns Hopkins SAIS. “Energy resources, the environment, electricity markets—it is a big field right now. There are a lot more options in the renewable energy industry than there were two years ago, as renewables become more financially viable and people are looking for more sustainable options. At the same time, the oil-and-gas space continues to grow.”

The Energy, Resources, and Environment career track at Johns Hopkins SAIS prepares students to address complex issues in the energy sector, from decarbonization to increased energy demand to urban sustainability. And SAIS offers various other career tracks as well—for those interested in economics and finance, conflict management, strategic studies, energy, and international

development, for example—to give students an edge in the job market. According to Nussdorfer, employers seek out candidates with specialized knowledge and expertise who are “engaged in cutting-edge research.”

The school’s main campus is in Washington, DC, but students are exposed to potential employers and industries around the country and internationally through Johns Hopkins SAIS’s global career “treks.” During the treks, groups of students visit employers in their target industry, in cities such as Hong Kong, San Francisco, Houston, London, and Rome.

A solid alumni network also prepares students for their careers, by mentoring them one-on-one, connecting them with accomplished colleagues across sectors, and helping them come up with their perfect elevator pitch.

Johns Hopkins SAIS uses the Life Designing Model, implemented throughout the university, to guide students’ career exploration. Pioneered at Stanford University, the model makes career planning an integral part of the school, so that it is not confined to a career counseling office. “With this model, we are helping students find jobs that really inspire them,” Nussdorfer says. “Our goal is for our students to leave the school and work in a field they are really passionate about.”

The majority of Johns Hopkins SAIS students pursue its Master of Arts degree, and 92 percent of 2019 MA graduates were employed or pursuing further studies six months after graduation. Forty-six percent work in the private sector, 19 percent in the public sector, and 18 percent at nonprofits.



AVERAGE STARTING SALARY FOR 2019 GRADS, BY SECTOR



PRIVATE: **\$68,011**
PUBLIC: **\$58,207**
NONPROFIT: **\$55,525**
MULTILATERAL: **\$54,081**

KEY SKILLS

THAT HELP GRADS FIND JOBS

- Public speaking
- Economics and quantitative analysis
- Research
- Policy analysis
- Writing
- Telling the story that accompanies the data
- Asking the right questions of the right person

Career Services

JHU SAIS Global Careers

<https://sais.jhu.edu/student-experience/career-services>
202-663-5710

Contact

Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies:

<https://sais.jhu.edu/admissions-aid>

SAIS Washington, DC: sais.dc.careers@jhu.edu

SAIS Europe: sais.eu.careers@jhu.edu

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YALE UNIVERSITY, JACKSON INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Grads Land Jobs from Capitol Hill to Tokyo



"In terms of career skills, the students are directing what they want the program to look like, beyond the core three classes."

—Elizabeth Gill,
Director of the Career
Development Office,
Jackson Institute for
Global Affairs,
Yale University

From a perch in the US House Intelligence Committee to a seat as a principal at Boston Consulting Group in Tokyo, the 2019 graduates of **Yale University's Jackson Institute for Global Affairs** have pursued a broad range of professional opportunities.

Alumni from earlier classes work at the World Bank Group in Washington, DC, and the Ford Foundation in New York, in embassies for the United States and Singapore, and in nonprofit humanitarian organizations such as Catholic Relief Services in Mali, among many other high-level positions across the globe.

It's a notable record for a program that is small by design, graduating only about three dozen students a year. That allows each of them significant time with faculty, visiting lecturers, and influential alumni. That network is extensive—the institute will celebrate its 10th anniversary this fall.

Among 2019 graduates, the largest share went into the nonprofit sector, with the private sector a close second, says Elizabeth Gill, director of the institute's Career Development Office.

"The biggest change we've seen over the last three to four years has been the shift from the US public sector to the nonprofit sector and also the private sector," she says. That's due in part



to shifts in government hiring and to students' evolving career goals.

The Jackson Institute prepares its students by requiring only three core courses—statistics, economics, and history—and then encouraging a range of classes that build skills such as quantitative analysis, project management, writing budgets, and leadership. The career office offers full-day workshops in topics including political risk, writing policy memos, and leveraging social media for professional objectives.

"In terms of career skills, the students are directing what they want the program to look like, beyond the core three classes," Gill says. They can take courses



across Yale's campus—for example, at the School of Management, the Law School, the School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, and the School of Public Health.

Through practicums, students gain experience producing real work solutions for partners in projects that can involve trips to locations such as Kenya, Ethiopia, and Armenia. The institute offers as much as \$5,000 for unfunded or underfunded summer internships or research projects in the United States and abroad, on top of the financial awards provided to assist with attendance costs.

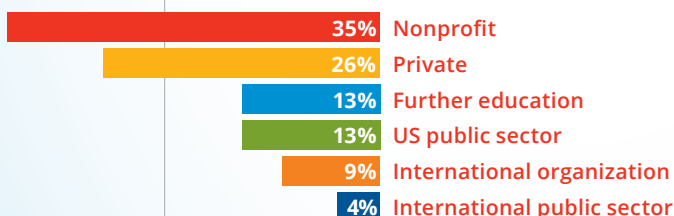
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<https://jackson.yale.edu/beyond-jackson/jobs-after-jackson/overview>

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JOBS AFTER JACKSON: 2019 GRADS



Define your path to global leadership.



START HERE

Yale JACKSON INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL AFFAIRS

CHENYUE YANG, M.A. '20:

"I like the freedom of curriculum selection since we can choose whatever courses at Yale besides the three mandatory courses. I took a Yale College seminar on Tibet, which offered quite a different perspective and helped me understand China's position in the world and how the international institutions work."

THE FREEDOM TO EXPLORE

The Jackson Institute's M.A. in Global Affairs prepares students to impact the global community through an academically rigorous, yet flexible interdisciplinary program. Our M.A. program in Global Affairs allows you to design your own path through an individualized course of study. This intellectually demanding and diverse program will provide you with the theoretical foundations, analytical skills, and professional training needed to work within the complexity of today's public, nonprofit, and private sectors worldwide.

Our students take courses in Yale's world-class professional schools, including:

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YALE SCHOOL OF FORESTRY AND
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YALE LAW SCHOOL

YALE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Every student builds a tailored curriculum to suit their interests and career ambitions.

LEARN FROM OUTSTANDING SCHOLARS AND DISTINGUISHED PRACTITIONERS



Jackson students have access to some of the world's preeminent global affairs experts, including interdisciplinary faculty members from across Yale as well as outstanding practitioners, including retired U.S. ambassadors, former elected officials, journalists, policy advisors, business and nonprofit leaders, and retired military personnel.

jackson.admissions@yale.edu

jackson.yale.edu

Revitalized Public Policy Program Marries Local and Global



"It's not enough to just understand what's happening in Denver. We want students to understand what's happening elsewhere in the world. The world is connected."

—Frederick "Fritz" Mayer, Dean, Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver

The Master of Public Policy Program (MPP) at the **University of Denver's Josef Korbel School of International Studies** aims to produce graduates who understand the best solutions around the globe to problems such as economic inequality and lack of sustainability.

"It's not enough to just understand what's happening in Denver," says Dean Frederick "Fritz" Mayer. "We want students to understand what's happening elsewhere in the world. The world is connected. You can't just think locally."

The Korbel School now offers a public policy program. The new Scrivner Institute of Public Policy is part of sweeping changes to the MPP program.

The Korbel School also has reduced its price and, in addition to a traditional program, is offering an accelerated MPP option, enabling those who want to finish faster to jump back into the workforce, Mayer says. "We don't want our students leaving with enormous debt. We want our students to pursue the careers they want."



The MPP program changes, which will debut this fall, include a new focus on skills and experiential learning. For example, the school is adding for-credit workshops in relevant topics such as advanced Microsoft Excel, data visualization, and Python coding. "We are really thinking



hard in the curriculum about practical skills that will serve a student well over a lifetime, over a career," Mayer says.

New courses include an ethics class and experiential learning opportunities, such as a laboratory class where students work in teams with a client to solve a problem, Mayer says. "This is great practical experience for the students—having to understand the messiness of problems in the world and balancing the client's interests against their own sense of what the client needs."

In addition to helping with résumés and interview techniques, the career services staff connects students with alumni in the fields they are interested in pursuing. The school is small enough to make that a tailored experience, Mayer says.

The school also focuses on areas with growing job demand, such as working for local governments (both in the United States and abroad), consulting for national governments, and public-private interfaces such as impact investing and corporate social responsibility.

The new graduates will be ready to take on the world. "They are clear thinkers," Mayer says. "They are creative about how they approach a problem."

Of the school's 2018 graduates, 93 percent were either employed, in school, or in the military or another service-oriented organization, such as the Peace Corps, within 12 months of graduation.

Career Services

<https://korbel.du.edu/careers-alumni/career-services>

Contact

Josef Korbel School Admissions:
<https://korbel.du.edu/admission>
korbeladm@du.edu
303-871-2324



FAMOUS ALUMNI

Former US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile Heraldo Muñoz, former Chief of Staff of the US Army Gen. George W. Casey Jr.

JOSEF KORBEL SCHOOL ALUMNI AND GRADS

SUCCESSFUL GRADS

2019: \$57,802 average salary of those polled

2019: 3 Fulbright awardees

2018: 93 percent employed, in school, or in the military or another service organization within 12 months



Inclusive Economic
Growth

Security

Social Justice

Sustainability

Democracy

Find your cause.

At the Josef Korbel School of International Studies,
we are taking on the great challenges of our time.

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School in the Multicultural City of Miami Prepares Students for Global Careers



"Our students come from all over the hemisphere, and many have overcome multiple challenges. They have come to make something of themselves, and there is a fire in their belly."

—John F. Stack Jr.,
Founding Dean,
Steven J. Green School
of International
& Public Affairs,
Florida International
University

Students at **Florida International University's Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs** have the kind of big career aspirations that match their location in a large, global city.

"There is a determination to do well here," says John F. Stack Jr., the school's founding dean. "Our students come from all over the hemisphere, and many have overcome multiple challenges. They have come to make something of themselves, and there is a fire in their belly."

Students can take advantage of the services of the Green School's Career and Talent Development Office, which include practical career-building skills, self-branding, and preparing a standout résumé. A mock job interview in the first semester is a graded assignment, and students are dispatched to interview professionals in their chosen field of work about how they forged their career path. Students gain important job skills through internships, fellowships, study abroad, volunteer work, leadership roles in clubs and service organizations, and shadow programs with employers. In addition, the career office organizes professional development seminars each semester. In one seminar, the US State

IN THE WORLD



"Most, if not all, of what was covered in FIU's Global Affairs program is relevant to my current work with the FBI. I have no doubt that the experience with [the program] has only made me a more skilled professional."

—Donald Dinehart, Green School
2016, Skyline Ultd Inc.

Department Diplomat in Residence described career opportunities at the State Department and gave students tips for strengthening their writing skills.

The school benefits from its location in the multi-lingual, multinational city of Miami. Thirty-one percent of students come from outside the United States.

Specialized Green School academic programs include African and African Diaspora Studies, Asian Studies, Holocaust and Genocide Studies, the Mohsin and Fauzia Jaffer Center for Muslim World Studies and the Václav Havel Program on Human Rights and Diplomacy, one of the few programs of its kind in the United States. The Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy and the Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center are among the best in the country for their specialties.



Accelerated programs allow students to graduate faster with two degrees in the same field, and joint programs allow students to earn two degrees in related fields.

These specialized programs develop ties with employers in Washington, DC, and the school cultivates a DC-based alumni association with 3,000 members, Stack says. In addition to heading the Green School, he is a professor of politics and international relations and law at Florida International University.

"We want our students to be well-rounded," Stack says. "They have grit and determination and continue to push themselves once they graduate and pursue their careers."

Graduates have found jobs in cities such as Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and Washington, DC, as well as around the world, working in federal and municipal governments, international organizations, the private sector, and nonprofit organizations.

Career Services

<https://sipa.fiu.edu/academics/careers/index.html>

Contact

neleon@fiu.edu, 305-348-7911

abuendia@fiu.edu, 305-348-4888

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a black blazer over a light-colored top, stands with her arms crossed, looking up at a modern building with a glass and steel facade. The building has a large, intricate glass and steel structure on top. The scene is set in an urban environment with other buildings and palm trees visible in the background.

Preparing Global Leaders of Tomorrow

As senior analyst at Guidepost Solutions in downtown Miami, Johana Ravelo '16 investigates money laundering, corruption and asset tracing around the U.S. and Latin America.

"The Green School helped me develop the professional skills I use in the field every day. Speaking at an international conference, interning in D.C., and completing a capstone project with the U.S. State Department all made this graduate school experience unforgettable."

Johana Ravelo, Global Affairs '16
Guidepost Solutions

FIU

**Steven J. Green
School of International
& Public Affairs**

At a time when the challenges facing our world are increasingly complex, the work being done at FIU's Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs is more critical than ever.

Our graduates combine what they have learned in the classroom with immersive experiences like study abroad, internships and fellowships, and secure top positions at major public, private and non-profit organizations in the U.S. and around the world.

The university's location in Miami – the gateway to the Americas and a vibrant global city – combined with its fresh entrepreneurial approach, make studying global affairs at the Green School a unique experience.

Set your future in motion by applying to Miami's Top 50 public university*

sipa.fiu.edu

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*FIU has more than 45 programs in the top 50 among public universities in U.S. News & World Report's 2019 rankings.

Public Policy School Takes the Long View of International Affairs



“Work in the field of international security requires a strategic outlook. There are so many issues out there that will require long-term investment in knowledge.”

–Ellen Laipson, Director, Master’s in International Security, Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University

While the new coronavirus and its international ramifications top today’s headlines, **George Mason University’s Schar School of Policy and Government** is teaching its students to have a longer-term perspective about global affairs—to be ready for competition in the job market.

“Work in the field of international security requires a strategic outlook. Our government is going to need expertise in China, Russia, globalization and global supply chains, and transnational threats. There are so many issues out there that will require long-term investment in knowledge,” says Ellen Laipson, director of the Schar School’s Master’s in International Security. Laipson has 25 years of government experience and was president of the Stimson Center.

Schar School faculty members are internationally recognized for their scholarship, practical experience, and advisory roles in the public and private sectors. Notable faculty members include:

- General (Ret.) Michael Hayden, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and National Security Agency (NSA)
- Retired Ambassador Richard Kauzlarich, who served in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Azerbaijan
- Gregory Koblentz, a member of the Scientists Working Group on Biological and Chemical Security and director of the Schar School’s Master’s in Biodefense program

In addition to knowledge about threats from potential geopolitical competitors—such as China and Russia—and the powerful global impact of climate change, future jobs in international affairs also will demand expertise in issues where economics and security intersect, such as drugs, illicit finance, and human trafficking. These topics are the focus of the



Schar School’s Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption Center (TraCCC), run by Professor Louise Shelley.

“The nontraditional issues also will define the winners and the losers in the world,” says Laipson. “There will be a demand for very diverse areas of expertise in the field of international security.”

EMPLOYERS OF SCHAR SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL SECURITY GRADS

TOP
6

- Central Intelligence Agency
- US Department of State
- US Department of Defense
- US Department of Homeland Security
- US Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- Deloitte

As a public policy hub in the Washington, DC, area, the Schar School aims to produce graduates who are prepared for a wide range of careers in public and private institutions. All of its programs require some training in data, Laipson says. “We are training students to use data analytic tools and to work in integrated, cross-disciplinary teams.”

Among recent Master’s in International Security graduates, two-thirds work in the US federal government and one-third in the private sector, primarily with consulting firms.

Students searching for internships and jobs can access the Schar School’s network of more than 16,000 alumni and the George Mason network of 168,000 alumni, 63 percent of whom live in the Washington, DC, area.

Career Services

<https://schar.gmu.edu/career>

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Schar School Admissions:
<https://schar.gmu.edu/contact-admissions>
schar@gmu.edu, 703-993-8099



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INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
OR BIODEFENSE**

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TOMORROW'S
THREAT TODAY**



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New Master's Program to Focus on Character-Driven Leadership



"It's a master's that puts you in line for working in either the US government or a nongovernmental organization, because it's about serving a cause greater than yourself."

—Retired Ambassador Edward O'Donnell, Program Director, MA in International Affairs and Leadership, School of Politics and Global Studies, Arizona State University

Access to a prominent brain trust of senior foreign policy and national security professionals will be the linchpin of a new master's degree program in the center of Washington, DC, to be launched in the fall of 2020 by [Arizona State University's \(ASU\) School of Politics and Global Studies](#), in partnership with the [McCain Institute](#).

The Master of Arts in International Affairs and Leadership aims to prepare students for an international affairs career as character-driven leaders, in the model of the late Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John McCain. Like the eight-year-old McCain Institute, the degree will focus on five key areas that were a hallmark of McCain's career in the US Navy and in politics: leadership, national security, human rights, foreign policy, and global economics.

"It's a master's degree that puts you in line for working in either the US government or a nongovernmental organization, because it's about serving a cause greater than yourself," says Program Director and retired Ambassador Edward O'Donnell. As part of the program, he will lead an advanced version of a course that he has taught for five years to ASU undergraduates spending a semester in Washington, DC.

O'Donnell's course, "Diplomacy in Action: The Embassy Country Team," will explore the details of working in a US embassy. It will be one of the classes offered for the 21 elective credit hours of the degree. The three core courses will be: "Principles of Character-Driven Leadership," "The Making of US National Security Policy," and "Applied International Leadership: Case Studies." An internship and a capstone project will round out the requirements.

The two core leadership courses will be taught by Army Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Benjamin Freakley, who



led the 10th Mountain Division in Afghanistan and serves as a professor of practice, teaching leadership, for ASU.

"He will challenge the students to be successful in areas where maybe they are new and outside their comfort level," O'Donnell explains.

WHERE THEY WORK NOW

Undergraduate alumni of the ASU and McCain Institute Washington Policy Design Studio have landed jobs in Washington, DC, at:

- Treasury Department
- House Foreign Affairs Committee
- State Department's Pickering Fellowship
- Defense Department's Boren Fellowship

One of the electives, "The Modern Global Economy," will be taught by former Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Catherine Novelli.

The capstone projects will be led by retired Ambassador Michael Polt, who led embassies in Estonia and what was then Serbia and Montenegro. A capstone project could cover, for example, the fight against human trafficking, an area of focus for the McCain Institute via Board Chairman Cindy McCain and under the purview of Senior Director Kristen Leanderson Abrams, a longtime expert in the field.

The program is recruiting an initial cohort of 20 master's degree candidates to begin classes in August 2020.

Career Services

<https://career.asu.edu>

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McCain Institute/ASU Admissions:
www.mccaininstitute.org/maprogram or
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School Gives Students Broad-Based Skills to Tackle Global Problems



"At the end of the day, no matter what, this world is interconnected through media, through telecommunications, even viruses. We cannot escape that. It's the reality we live in."

—Retired Ambassador Susan D. Page, Visiting Professor of the Practice, Keough School of Global Affairs, University of Notre Dame

In a world lurching from crisis to crisis, the **University of Notre Dame's Keough School of Global Affairs** welds the work of several disciplines into a seamless program designed to give graduates the ability to confront global problems.

Retired Ambassador Susan D. Page embodies that approach. The first US ambassador to the world's newest country, the Republic of South Sudan, Page is now a visiting professor of the practice at the Keough School. During a break while serving as an international observer of the 2020 elections in Guyana for The Carter Center, she explains that modern international affairs professionals require broad-based skills.

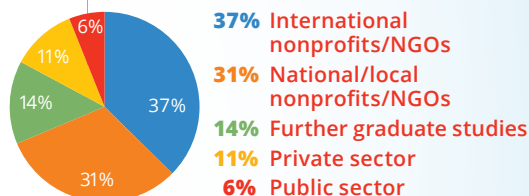
"Communication skills are essential, both written and oral," Page says. "You need to listen and have empathy. Certainly, conflict resolution is one skill—not necessarily on a big scale, like ending a war, but you have to contend with lots of little fires everywhere."

To develop these skills, Keough School students are trained to know more than how to be a political or economic officer for the US State Department. "We need people with a broad understanding of the reasons people go into conflict," Page says. "Things like land resources or water resources—all those kinds of specialties that I don't think people used to have real expertise in. There is more need for cross-fertilization. There is more need for people with an understanding of sociology and anthropology, plus political science—not just theory, but practice."

The Keough School practices what Page preaches, as students gain experience through the Keough School Integration Lab's interdisciplinary engagements worldwide. Students have gone overseas for fieldwork on a range of projects, from helping to improve housing markets in India and Mexico to enhancing school performance in Chile. "It's one way of getting practical experience on the ground in another country," Page explains. "It's very cool."

Students interested in an international affairs career should not be dissuaded by the US government's recent retreat from the world stage, Page says. "At the end of the day, no matter what, this world is interconnected through media, through telecommunications, even viruses," she says. "We cannot escape that."

WHERE KEOUGH GRADS GO*



* Percentages of employed grads

Within six months of graduation, nearly all of the Keough School's 2019 Master of Global Affairs graduates had found employment, in various sectors. Slightly more than one-third work for nonprofits or nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) that operate internationally, and another one-third work for nonprofits/NGOs that operate at the national or local level. About 14 percent are continuing their graduate studies, and the remainder work in the private or public sector.



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GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS | CAREER SERVICES

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University of Denver, Josef Korbel School of International Studies <https://korbel.du.edu>

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Arizona State University, School of Politics and Global Studies and McCain Institute <https://www.mccaininstitute.org/maprogram>

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<http://bit.ly/38lpEAX>

Contact

<https://keough.nd.edu/master-of-global-affairs/apply>, keough-admissions@nd.edu, 574-631-3426

See these schools and more at <https://fpguide.foreignpolicy.com/2020-career>

- Syracuse University, Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs
- Tufts University, The Fletcher School