

Collaboration with industry as learning opportunity during PhD education

Saeed Moghadam-Saman

PhD Candidate in Innovation Studies, Center for Innovation Research, UiS Business School, University of Stavanger, Norway

Contact: saeed.moghadamsaman@uis.no

Aim of the research project

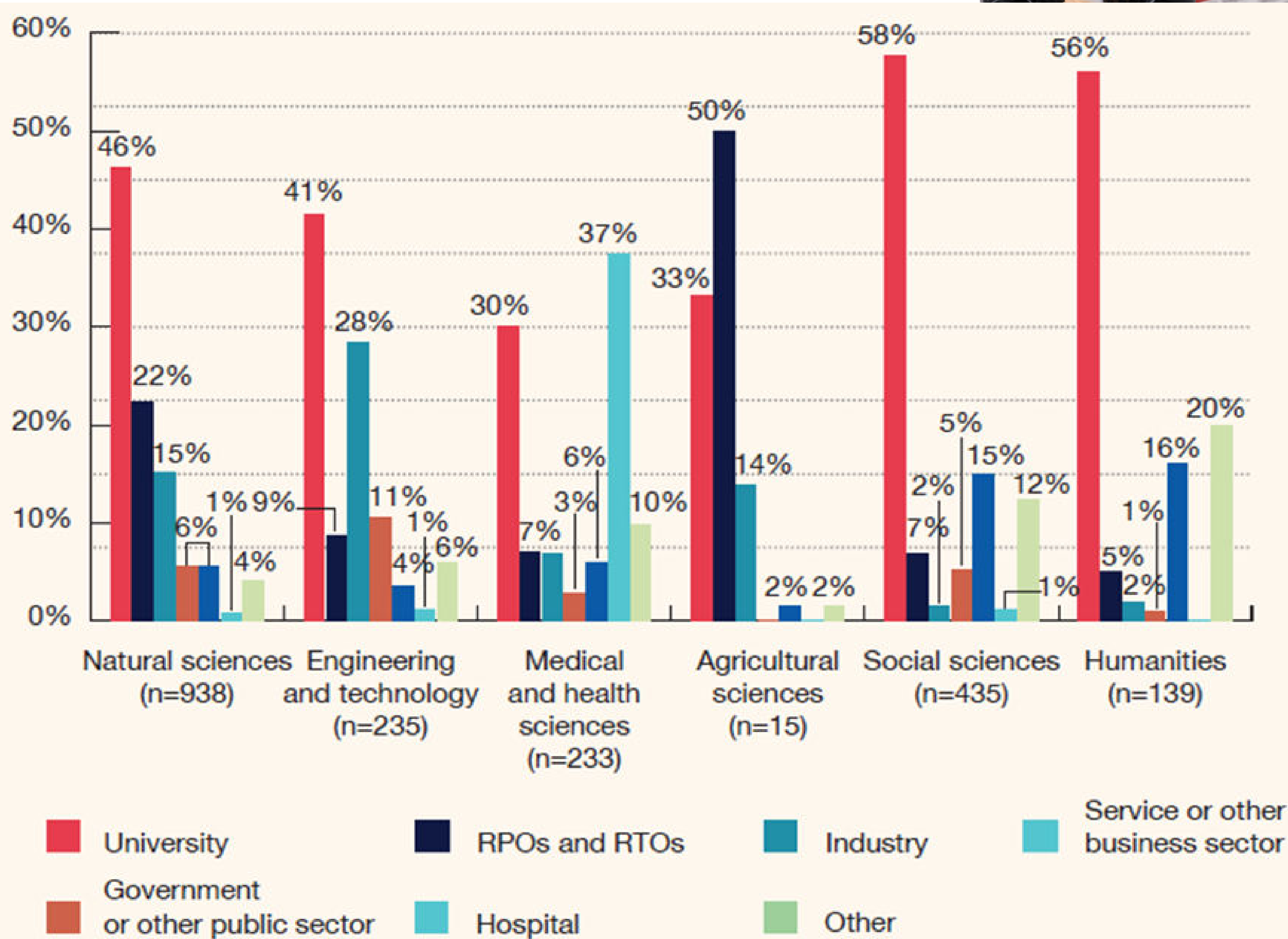
The aim of the project is to study the *prevalence of and experiences from collaboration with industry* as potential *learning opportunity* during PhD education. Policy recommendations regarding PhD education at both university and national levels will form an important result of this study.

Relevance of the research

Data about the careers of doctorate holders show that in advanced economies, less than 50% of doctorate holders are being employed in academic sector.



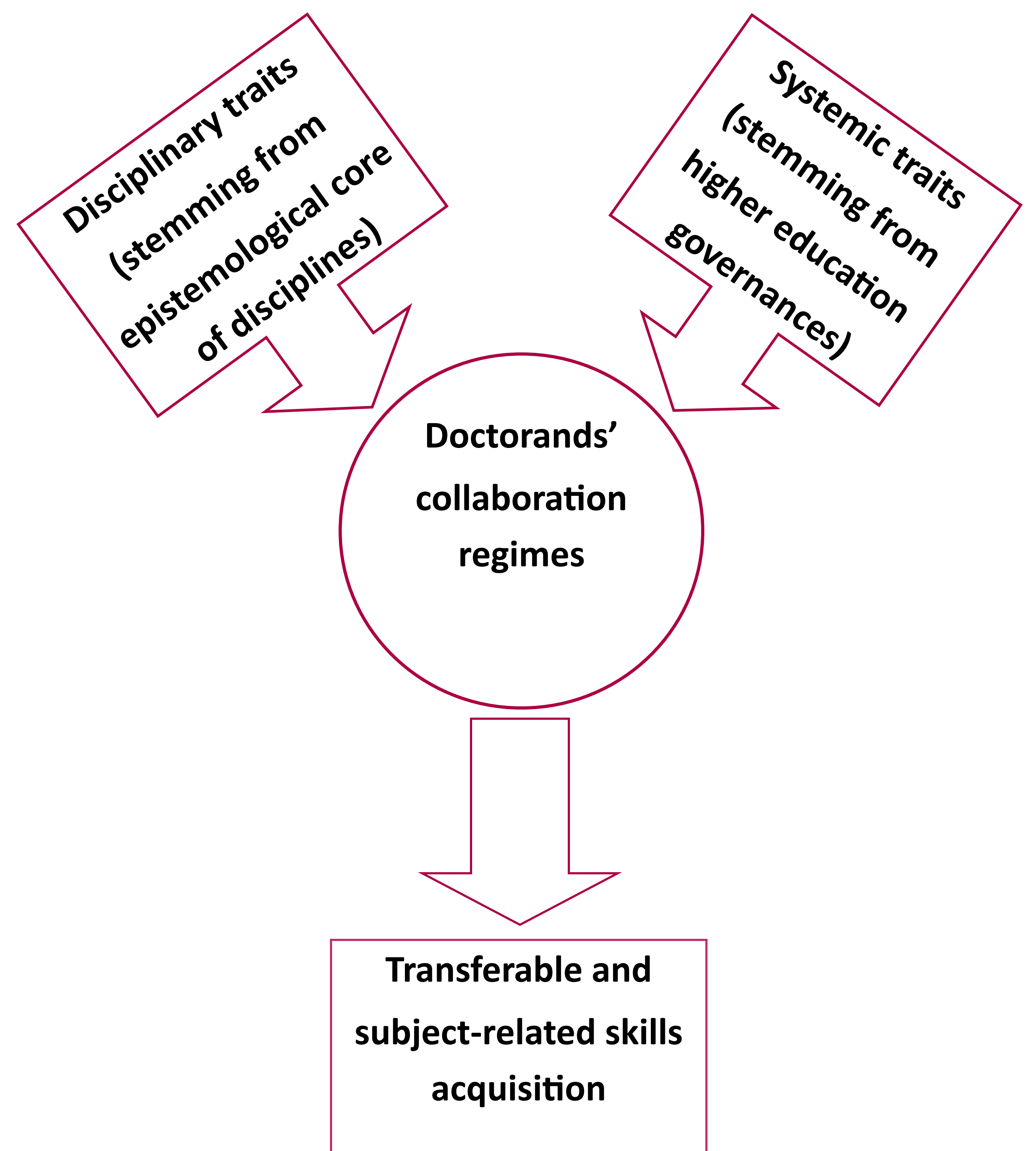
Sector of employment by doctorate field (Source: ESF Survey 2017)



Research questions

- RQ1: How can academic research policies help various academic disciplines in better exploitation of engagement opportunities for doctorands?
- RQ2: How extensively are collaboration schemes used by doctorands across different academic departments?
- RQ3: How do the combinations of *disciplinary* and *systemic* factors differentiate the actual learning experience of doctorands across academic departments?

Overall conceptual model:



Methodology: explanatory sequential mixed-methods

Quantitative

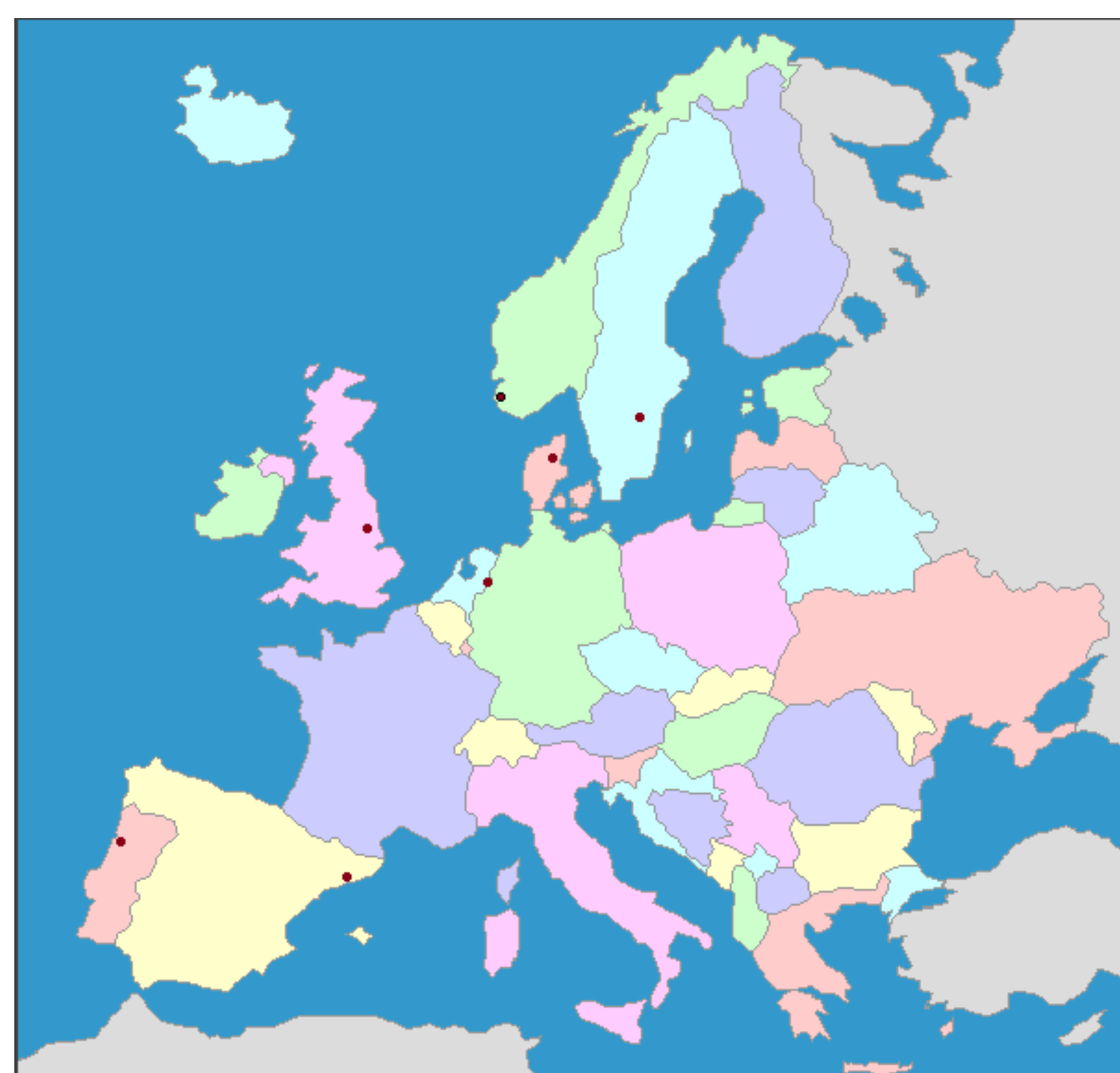
Prevalence of external engagement by doctorands through schemes for mobility to and collaboration with industry (across different academic departments).

Survey of PhD students using a survey questionnaire.

Qualitative

Experience of doctorands (across different departments) in terms of acquiring subject-related and transferable skills from external engagement.

In-depth interviews of PhD students who (have) use(d) collaboration schemes with industry.



- † Universities to be included in the survey (partners in the RUNIN project):
- University of Stavanger, Norway
 - University of Lincoln, United Kingdom
 - University of Twente, The Netherlands
 - Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain
 - Linköping University, Sweden
 - University of Aveiro, Portugal
 - Aalborg University, Denmark

Expected results from the research:

Harmonizing PhD education policy and innovation policy

- ... at national and university level, based on academic disciplinary traits.
- To seize the potential for inter-sectoral mobility and collaboration opportunities during PhD education.

