



OPETUSHALLITUS  
UTBILDNINGSSTYRELSEN

# Hidden Competences

- *is society and working life able to identify and utilise the learning outcomes from international experiences?*

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## EDUFI in a nutshell

- From the beginning of 2017 Finnish National Board of Education and Centre for International Mobility CIMO merged to form the **Finnish National Agency for Education (EDUFI)**
- We are the national development agency for **education and training, early childhood education and lifelong learning and for promoting internationalisation** in Finland
- Independent legally under Ministry of Education and Culture
- Personnel 370 + 50 in two separate sub-agencies
- Director General Olli-Pekka Heinonen

*we create  
trust through  
openness*

*we reinvent  
ourselves for the  
benefit of the  
learner*

*we design  
solutions  
together*

*we walk the talk*



Our vision

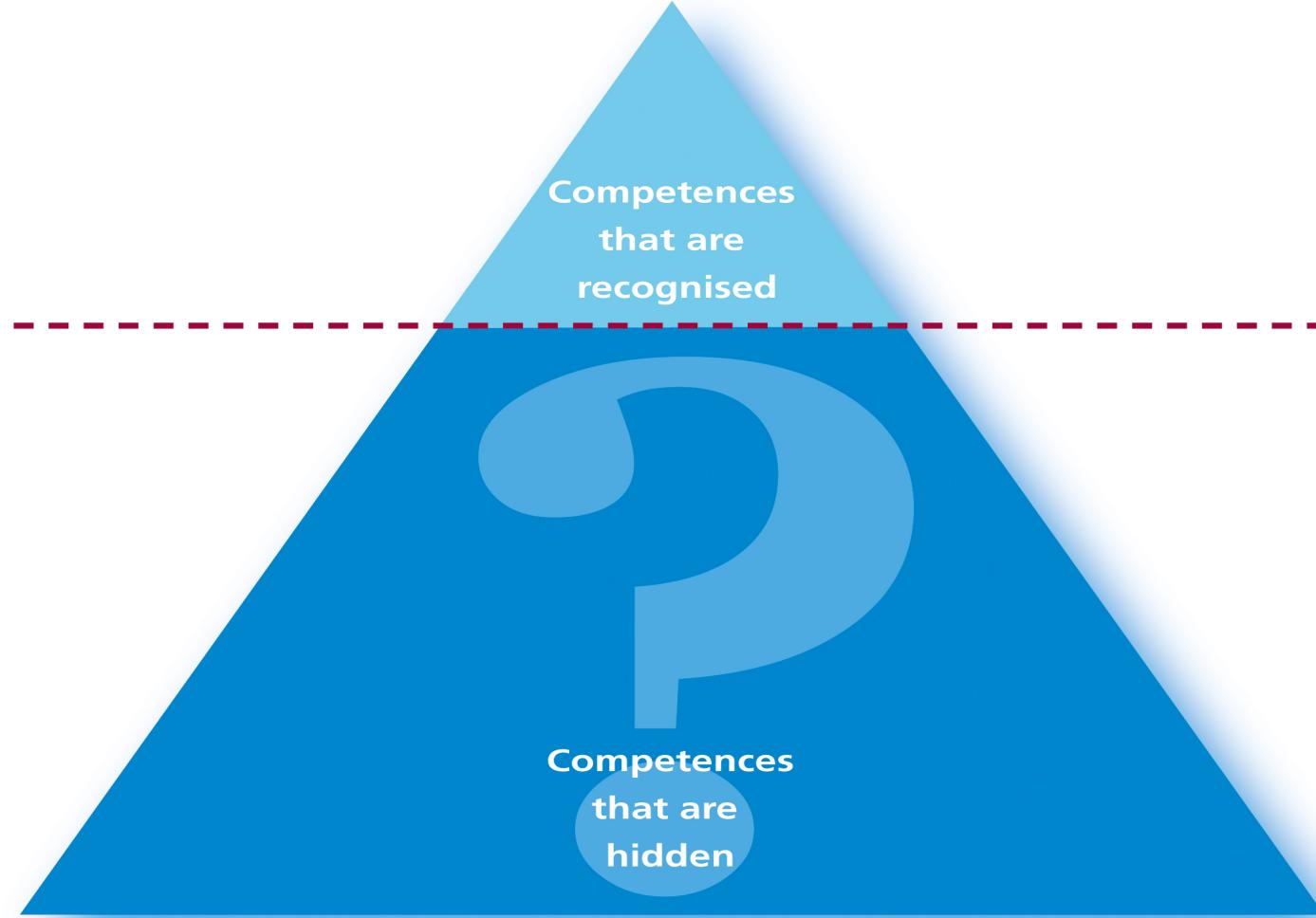
**Everyone can grow to their  
full potential**

# The Hidden Competence -study

- A joint research project between CIMO (since 2017 EDUFI) and DEMOS Helsinki (a Finnish think-tank) in 2012-2013
- Investigating the importance of international experiences to a changing society and the future of working life
- The project comprised:
  - Expert and gatekeeper workshops
  - Expert interviews
  - A survey for students and employers  
(283 Finnish employers and 1770 students took part)
- Final report "Hidden Competences" in spring 2013 → an English version was published in summer 2014,  
see [www.cimo.fi/hiddencompetences](http://www.cimo.fi/hiddencompetences)

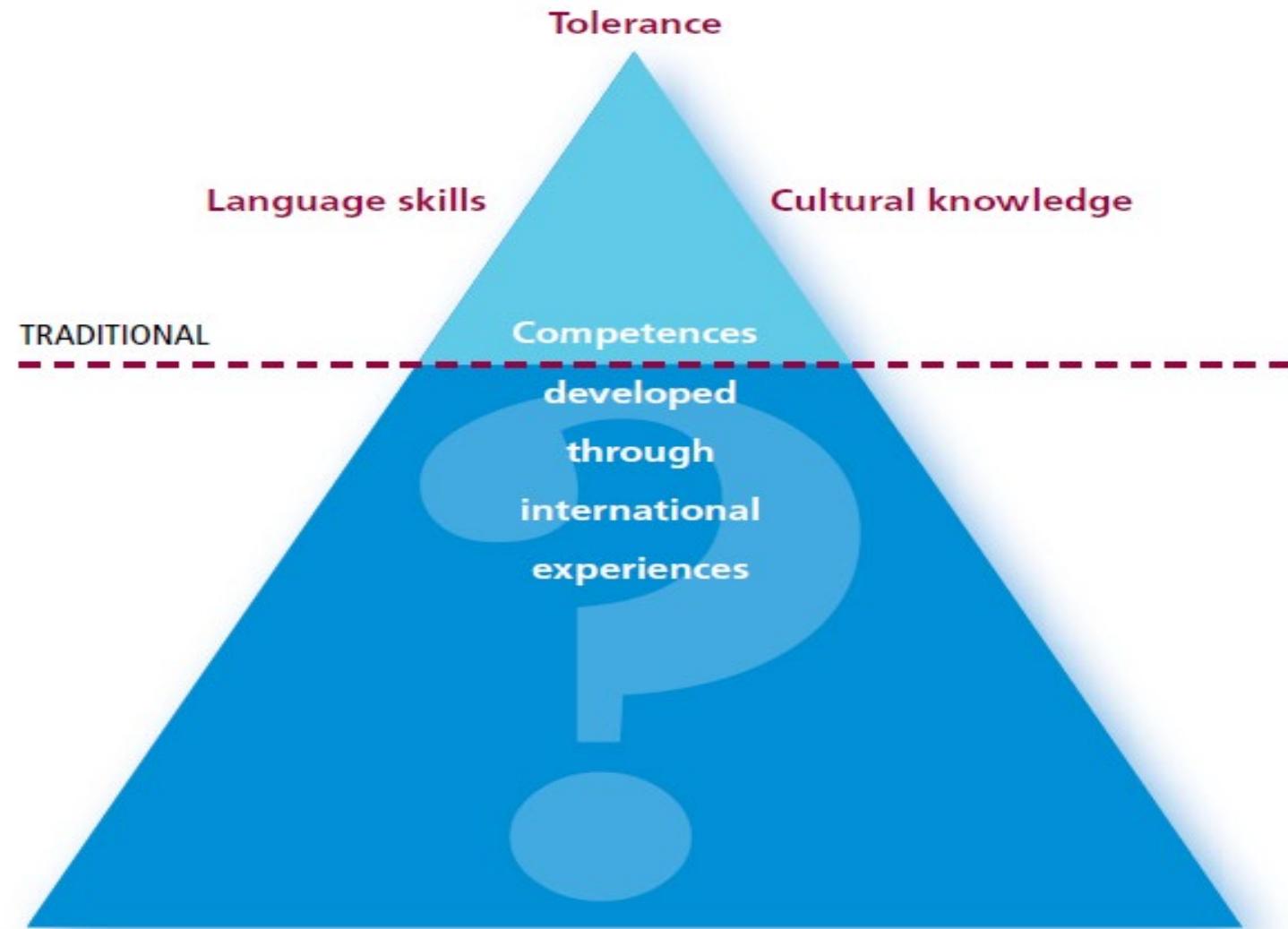
# Why?

- For Finland, international cooperation has always been a possibility, as well as a necessity.
- The Finnish society is far more international now than it was 30 years ago.
- The global world requires a new type of know-how that is, by default, global in its fundamental set-up.
- Skills, traits and attributes developed through international experiences are not yet recognised by employers in a comprehensive way.



Only a small portion of international competences  
are currently recognised.

# **What are international competences?**





UNITED NATIONS  
CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE  
**COP19/CMP9**  
**WARSAW 2013**



UNITED NATIONS  
CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE  
**COP19/CMP9**  
**WARSAW 2013**



# GLOBAL MEGATRENDS

Scarce resources

Changing  
demographics

Technological  
planetarism

Interlinked  
economies

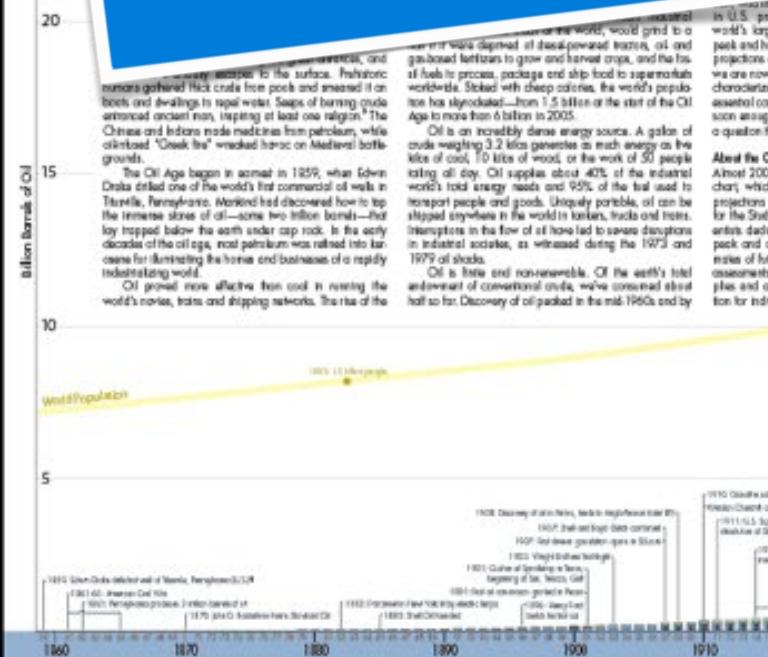
2014

2030

2050



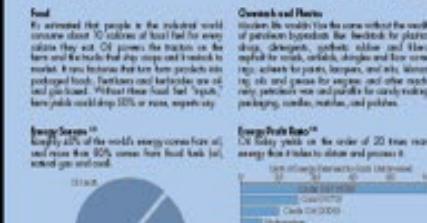
# Scarce resources



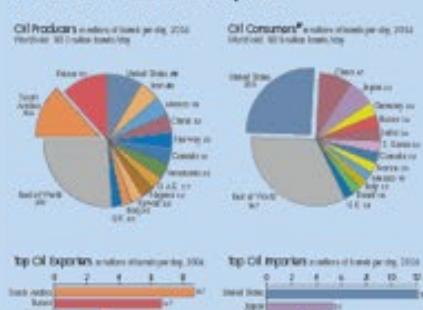
The Power of Oil

14-10777

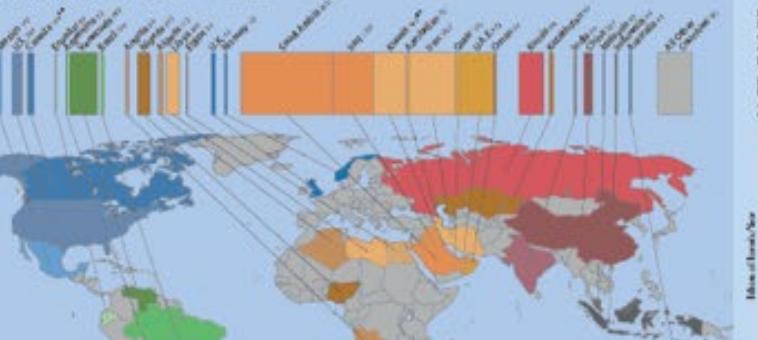
Though Italy by energy supply roughly 70% of its world electrical power from local hydroelectricity, about 15% of GNL, natural gas (LNG) and some 30%+ with nuclear and hydroelectricity round up to nearly 100% of total power generation. Considering such as long-term energy source, GNL is considered as a reliable energy source, especially in Europe where there is no real water hydroelectricity sources, and changes in the North Sea will be still 20% of homes are heated by oil.



## Production and Consumption<sup>1</sup>

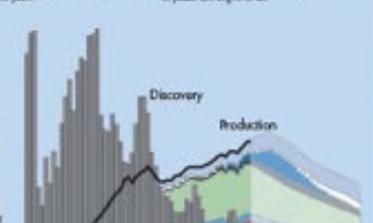


#### **World Oil Reserves\***



#### **Growing Gap"**

In 2006, century-old pipelines decreased from 100,000 miles to 95,000 miles. Could the 1920s of losses in Texas plateau again? Will pipeline operators prove more efficient? The answer is not clear.



### Oil's Cousins: Coal and Natural Gas

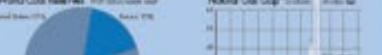
processes of the Oil Age could be complete without causing the other four land features—salt and sand. Use of these hydrocarbons was one of the sources of plants and animals millions of years ago.

you found were applied as a clean-burning oil to oil and coal.

Methanol is a very important industrial fuel because it burns more cleanly.<sup>10</sup> This means the fuel of choice for new power plants and industrial operations such as the great plants that take Coal ash to generate oil.

It is estimated that about 900 billion tonnes of reserves exist worldwide, though experts say we've only exploited most of the easily mined, high-

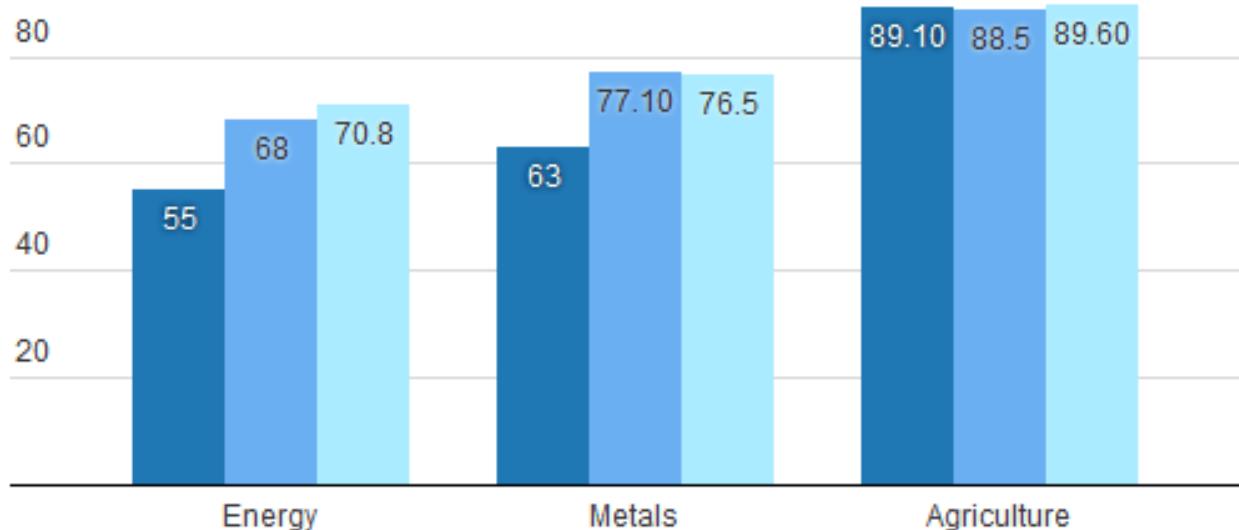
With your help, we can make a difference now. To learn more about how you can help, visit [www.thesolarfoundation.org](http://www.thesolarfoundation.org).





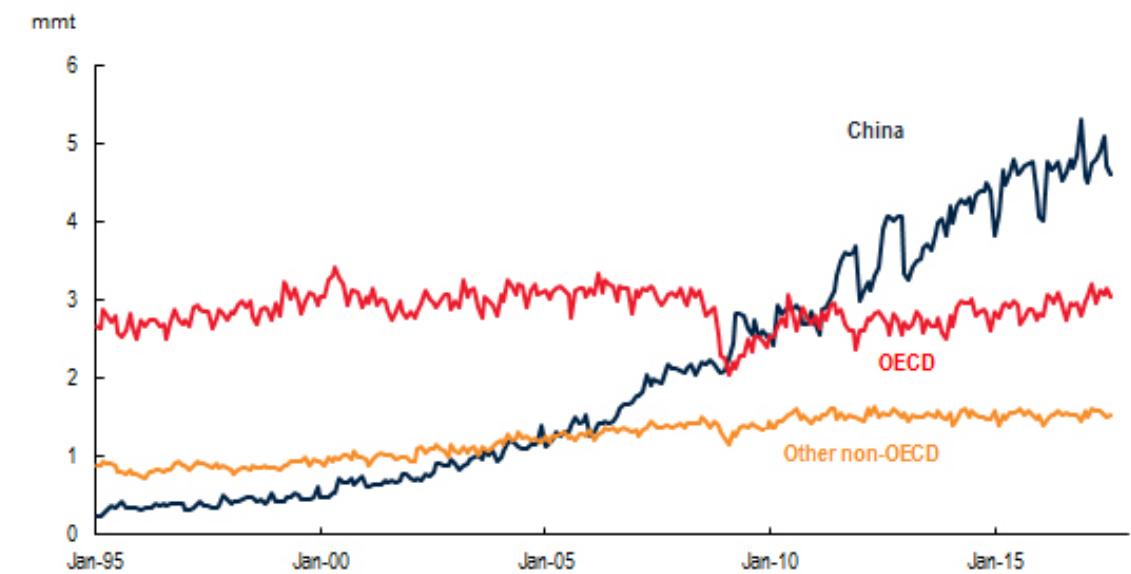
Commodity prices are expected to stabilize in 2018.

■ 2016 ■ 2017 (Forecast) ■ 2018 (Forecast)



Source: World Bank

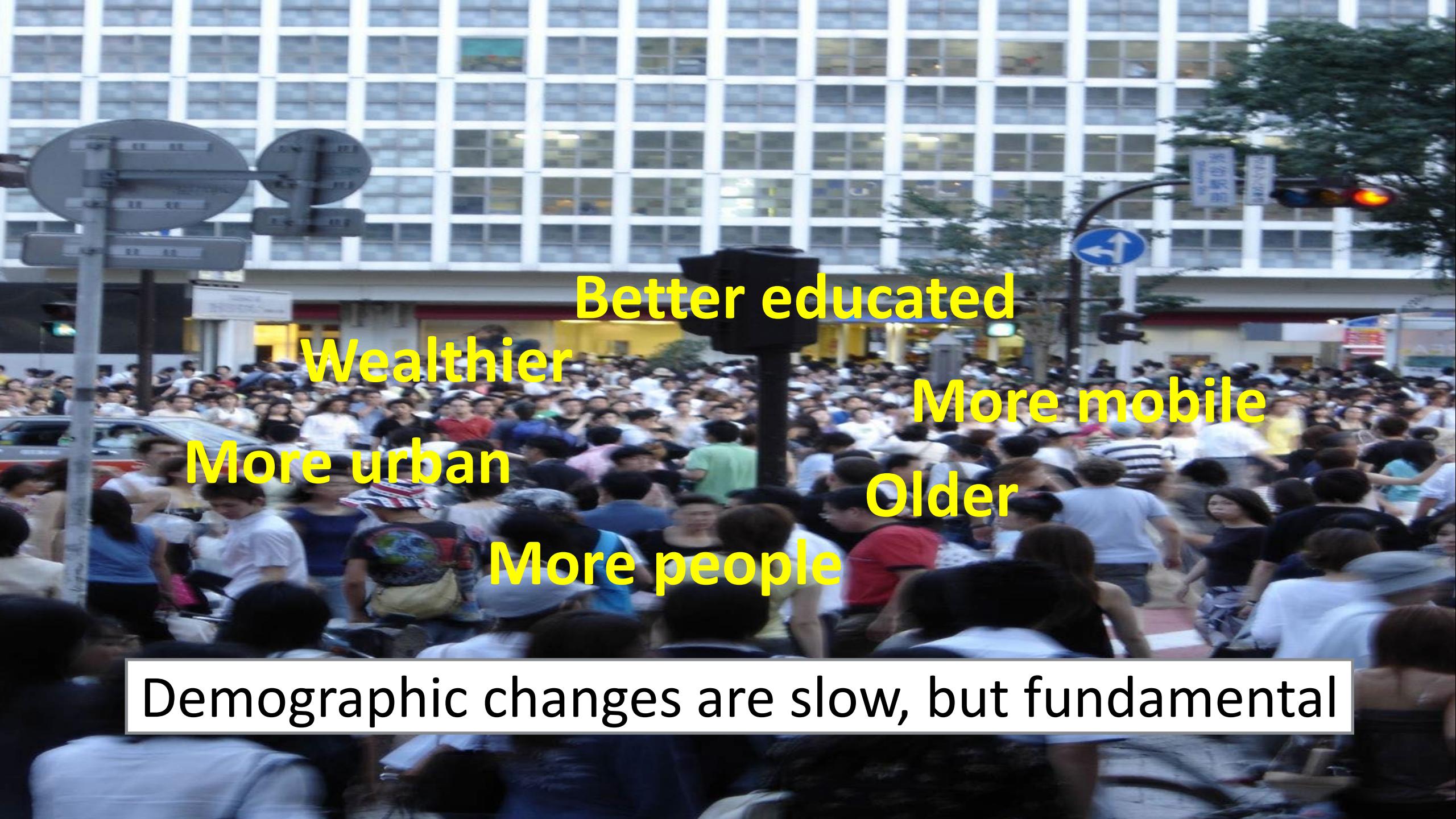
**China has become the world's predominant metals consumer**



Source: World Bureau of Metal Statistics.



Changing  
demographics



Better educated  
Wealthier  
More urban  
More people  
More mobile  
Older

Demographic changes are slow, but fundamental

Technological  
planetarism



# Disruption and exponential growth

Time until 50 million users:



Phone  
75 years



Car  
62 years



Television  
14 years



Internet



Spotify  
8 years



Netflix  
7 years



Twitter  
19 months



Pokemon Go  
19 days

# Interlinked economy





# As China's Economic Picture Turns Uglier, Beijing Applies Airbrush

Edward Wong and Neil Gough

Thursday, 25 Feb 2016 | 11:12 AM ET

*The New York Times*





## Traditional understanding of international experience



- Language skills
- Wide networks within one's field
- Understanding of international business
- Ability to work with multiple people
- Having lived or studied abroad

## Extended understanding of international experience



- Ability to think outside one's sphere of experience
- Broad networks also in different fields
- New abilities and skills during free time
- Works with diverse groups of people regardless of language or location
- Follows global media



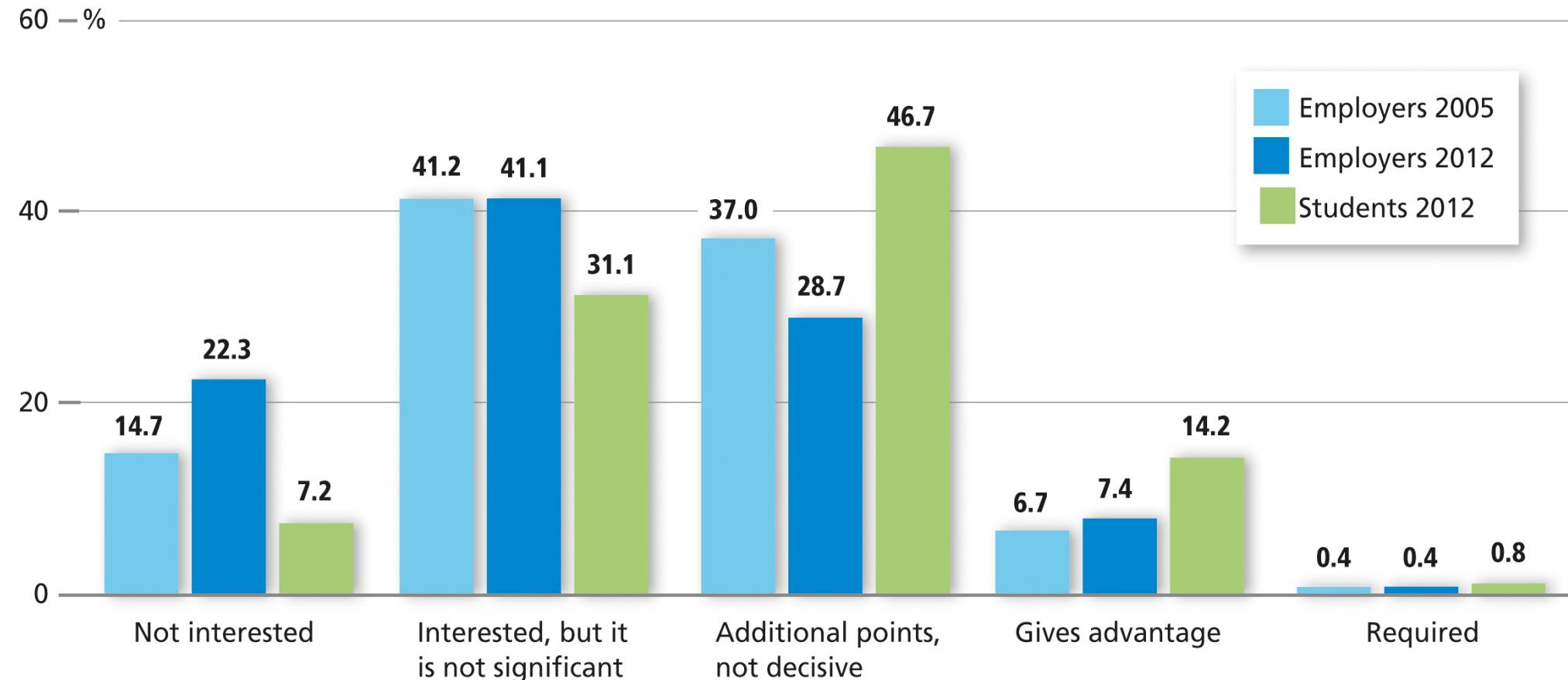
# The survey results: a brief overview

- Total of 2056 responses
  - Nationally representative
  - Also adequate regional coverage in Finland
- 
- Students from secondary-level VET and higher education
  - Employers from a great variety of sectors

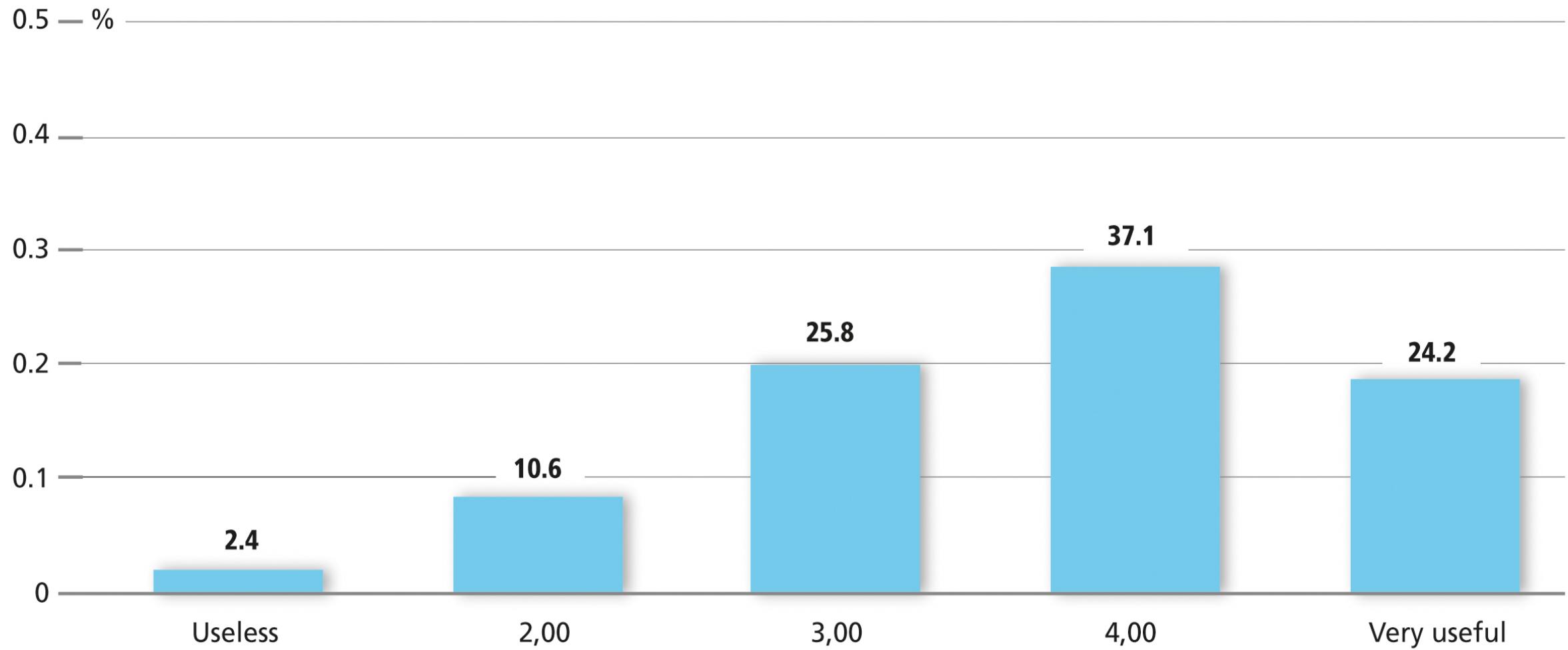
Over 80 % of both students  
and employers feel that  
being international is a positive outlook.

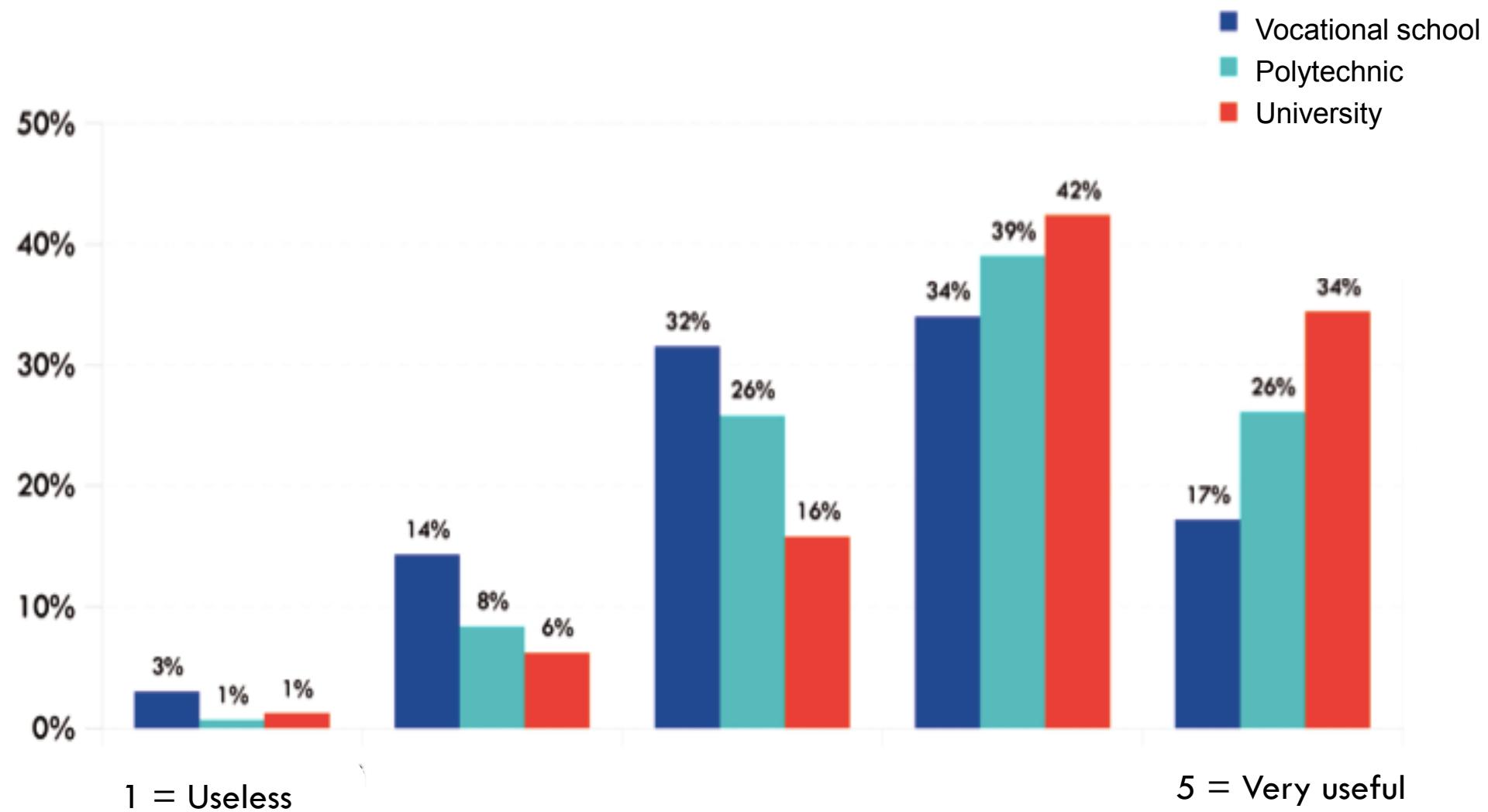
# However, it matters little when recruiting...

How international expertise matters in recruitment, %

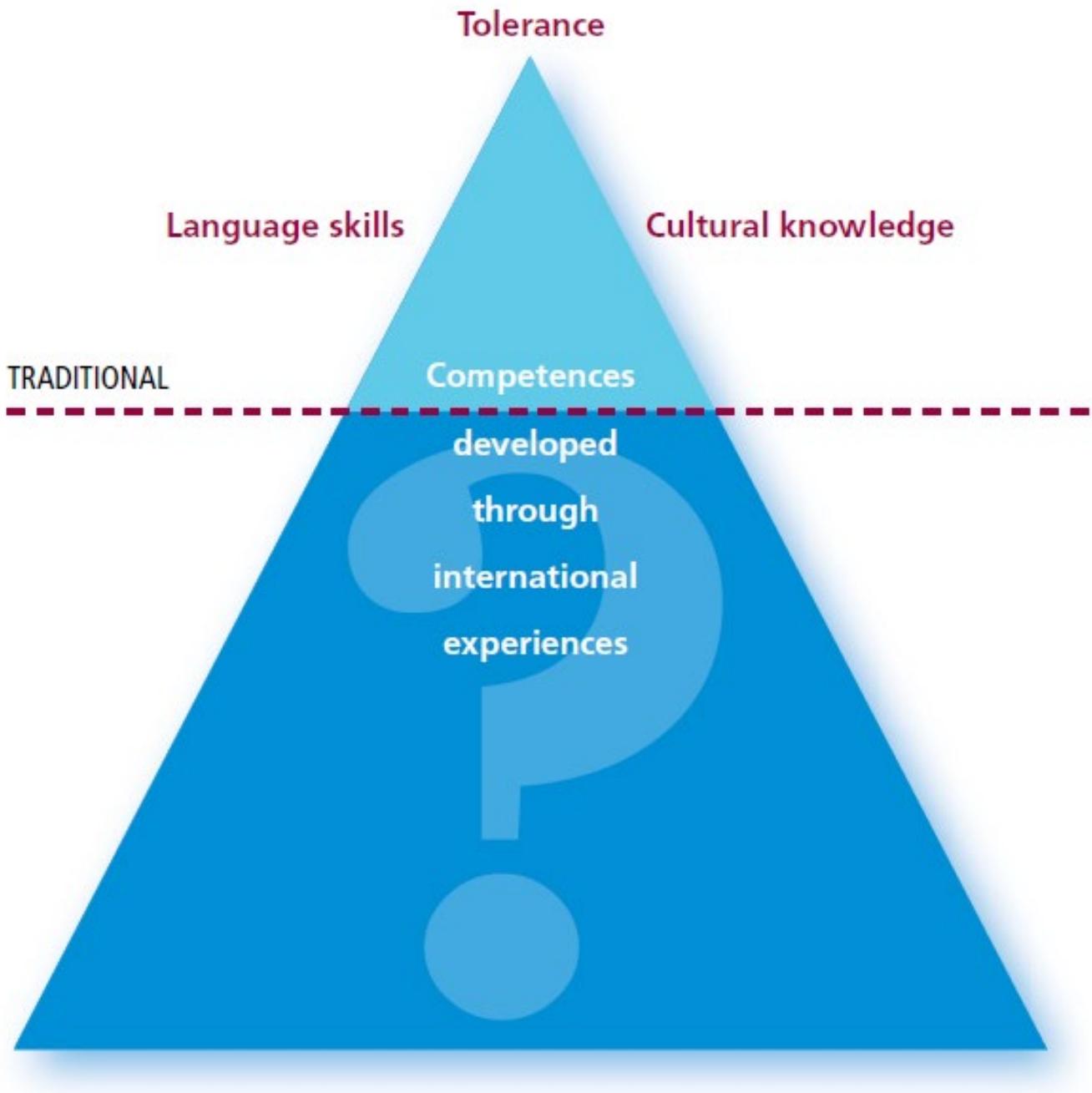


## How students estimate the usefulness of international expertise in future working life, %

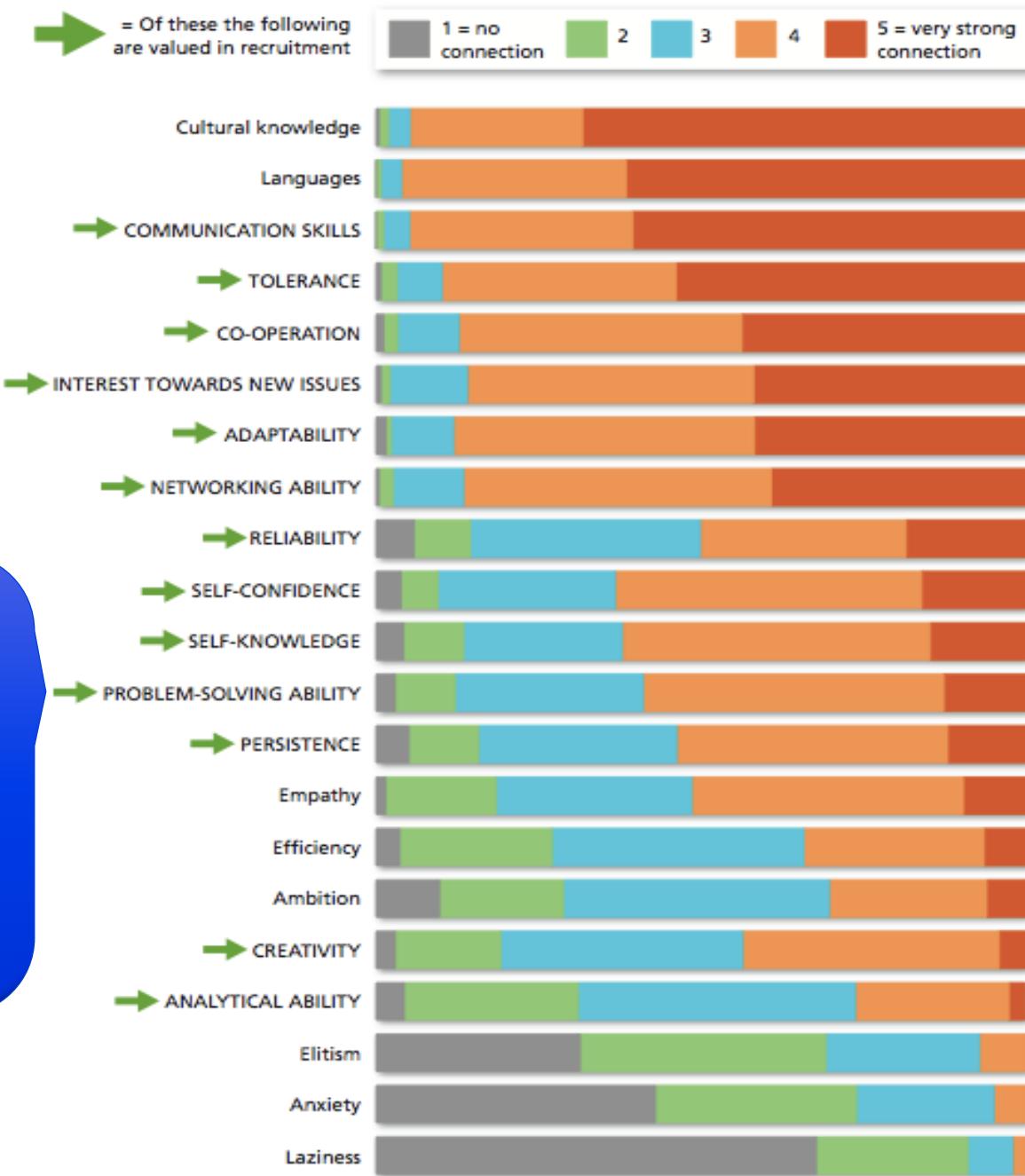




How students estimate the usefulness of international expertise based on level of education.



What  
competences  
employers  
value in  
recruitment?



What attributes employers link to international competences?

Could international competences  
actually work as an indicator  
to recognise a wider set  
of skills and competences?

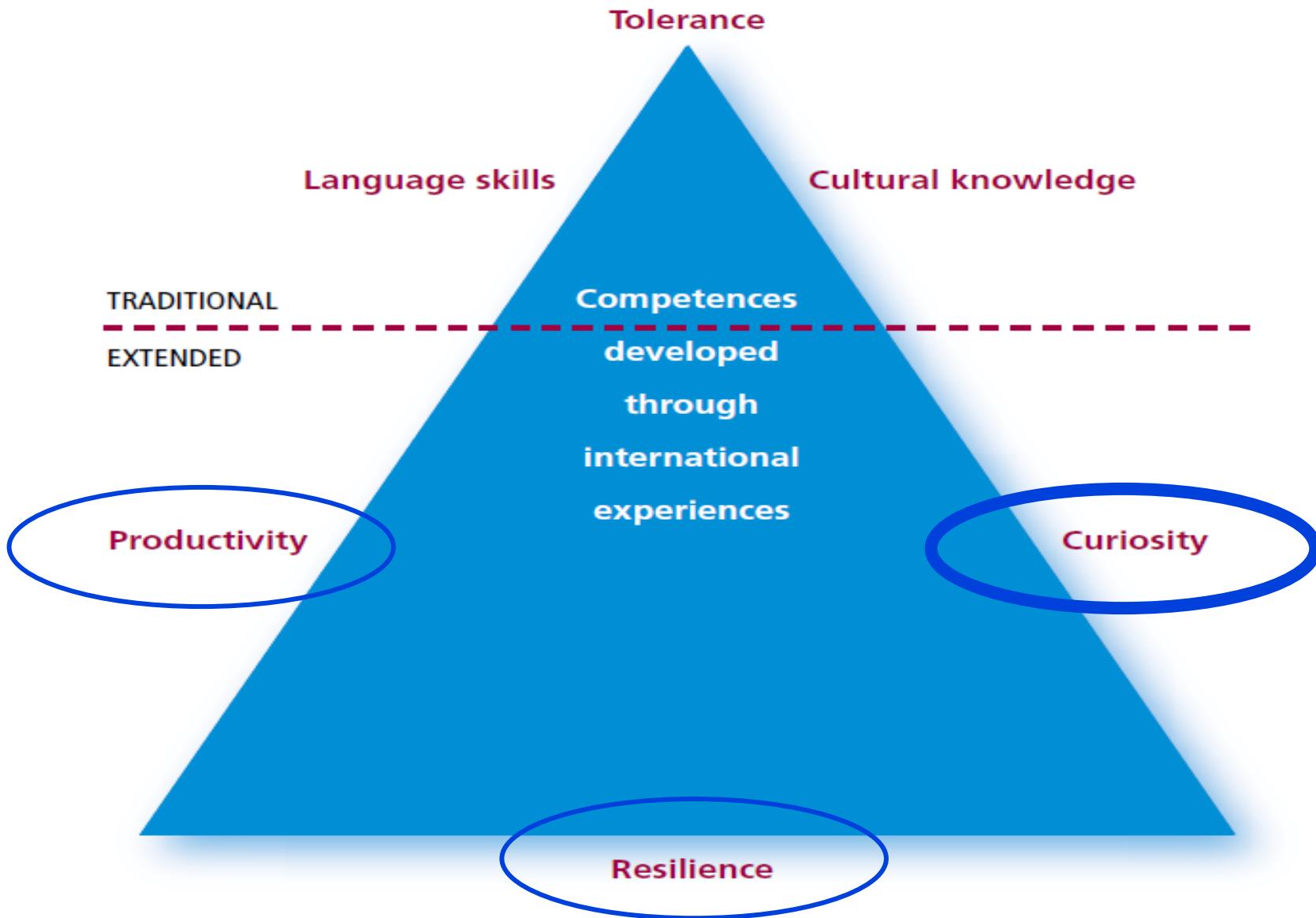
# **Three ways of understanding international expertise**

# New approach:

## Factor analysis of the recruitment criteria and how they are linked to international competences

 = very strong

	Productivity	Curiosity	Resilience
Efficiency	<b>0.77</b>	0.03	0.08
Analytical ability	<b>0.67</b>	0.08	0.20
Problem-solving ability	<b>0.58</b>	0.31	0.22
Reliability	<b>0.57</b>	0.13	0.32
Creativity	<b>0.35</b>	0.31	0.28
Tolerance	0.15	<b>0.66</b>	0.09
Interest towards new issues	0.20	<b>0.60</b>	0.45
Cultural knowledge	-0.07	<b>0.53</b>	0.06
Co-operation	<b>0.47</b>	0.52	0.22
Adabtability	<b>0.32</b>	0.51	0.38
Networking ability	0.14	<b>0.47</b>	0.17
Communication skills	<b>0.33</b>	0.45	0.24
Languages	0.05	<b>0.40</b>	0.02
Self-awareness	<b>0.30</b>	0.20	0.84
Persistence	<b>0.53</b>	0.20	0.54
Self-confidence	<b>0.37</b>	0.24	0.43
Empathy	0.23	<b>0.31</b>	0.34
Anxiety	-0.07	-0.11	0.05
Elitism	<b>0.28</b>	-0.02	-0.11
Ambition	<b>0.34</b>	0.11	0.12
Laziness	-0.16	-0.17	0.03



# From Hidden to Visible Competencies

Conclusions for Students / Institutions / Employers:

- ❖ Better understanding of transversal skills and competences
- ❖ The key role of international experiences in developing those competences
- ❖ Better articulation and communication of these competences
- ❖ A revision of learning outcomes based on an extended understanding of international competence

# A new era of skills

# A rapidly changing world

*"By one popular estimate,  
65 % of children entering  
primary school today will  
ultimately end up working in  
completely new job types  
that don't yet exist"*

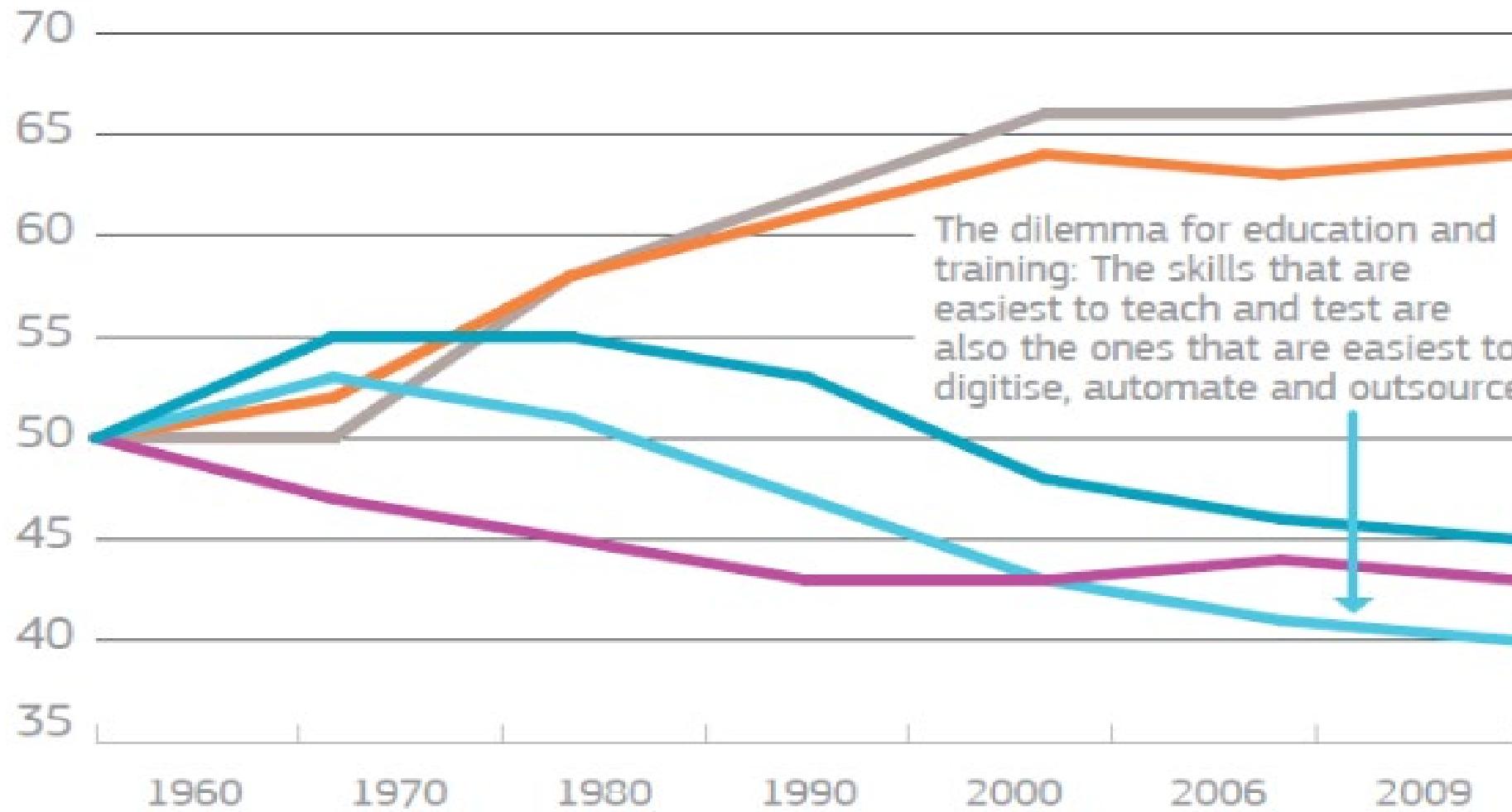


Source: World Economic Forum 2016. The Future of Jobs. Employment, Skills and Workforce Strategy for the Fourth Industrial Revolution

# Digitalisation and automation



■ Routine manual ■ Non-routine manual ■ Routine cognitive  
■ Non-routine analytic ■ Non-routine interpersonal



The dilemma for education and training: The skills that are easiest to teach and test are also the ones that are easiest to digitise, automate and outsource

Trends in Routine and Non-Routine Tasks in Occupations, United States

Image: OECD Skills Outlook 2013, OECD

## Competitiveness in the late 1990s



What is the competition about?

What type of expertise  
is needed?

Which actors are essential for  
competitiveness?

How do companies relate to  
well-being?

How is the appeal of areas  
and locations born?

Efficiency, innovations

Ability to multiply and scale models

Creative class

Financing state economy and spreading  
material well-being in the societies

Technology, tolerance and  
skilled people

## Competitiveness in the late 2010s



Problem solving, innovations

Ability to understand systemic change  
and design scalable solutions

Curious class

Solving wicked problems

Trust, curiosity and skilled people

# In society, curiosity...

- Helps bring hidden competences to use
- Makes transitions between different industries and jobs descriptions easier
- Helps connect global megatrends to one's life and work
- Highlights diverse motivations
- Supports life-long learning

International experience and related competence seems to be a way for identifying curious, productive and resilient people

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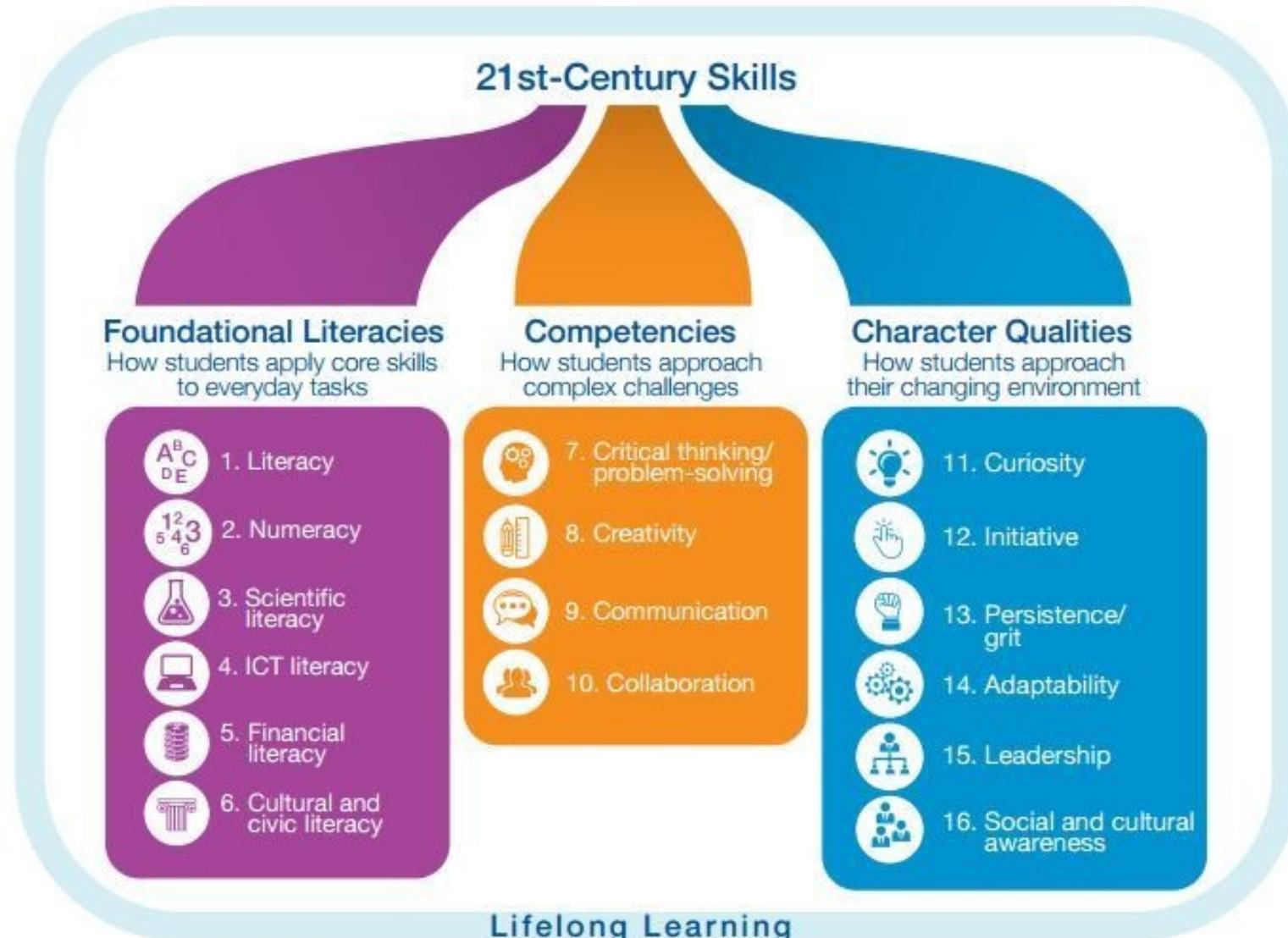
those who are **interested in the world** and have **capabilities to improve our well-being and economies.**

# Steps towards a curious society

- Individual motivation and inspiration utilised in education and work life – gatekeepers for motivation-based learning
- Instead of one-track to international experiences, many younger people are international by default.
- In the world full of information, the significance of curiosity emerges – individual and collective initiatives need support.
- Collaboration is the surest way to bring hidden competences to use.
- Connecting solving global challenges and peoples' skills and motivations is the key to the well-being of individuals and also our societies of tomorrow.

# Also others have now picked up on future skills?

Exhibit 1: Students require 16 skills for the 21st century



Note: ICT stands for information and communications technology.

Source: World Economic Forum, New Vision for Education (2015)

# What have we done in Finland?

Other materials in Finnish and English (some parts):

- The website **www.cimo.fi/hiddencompetences**
- A brief, fun **Facebook-test** to raise awareness and spread the message
- **An Instagram account** for marketing
- **Help and tools for students** in secondary schools, vocational schools and universities on how to describe their competences, produce more informative CVs and do better in interviews
- **Materials for guidance practitioners** on how to work with international competences
- **Seminars and lectures for employers**, followed by an information campaign
- In 2016-17 a further **study on 'international talents' and SMEs**  
<http://www.cimo.fi/newcompetence>



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# Thank you!

[www.cimo.fi/hiddencompetences](http://www.cimo.fi/hiddencompetences)

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