

How Europe's universities collaborate internationally

Selected results of the EUA survey from April 2020

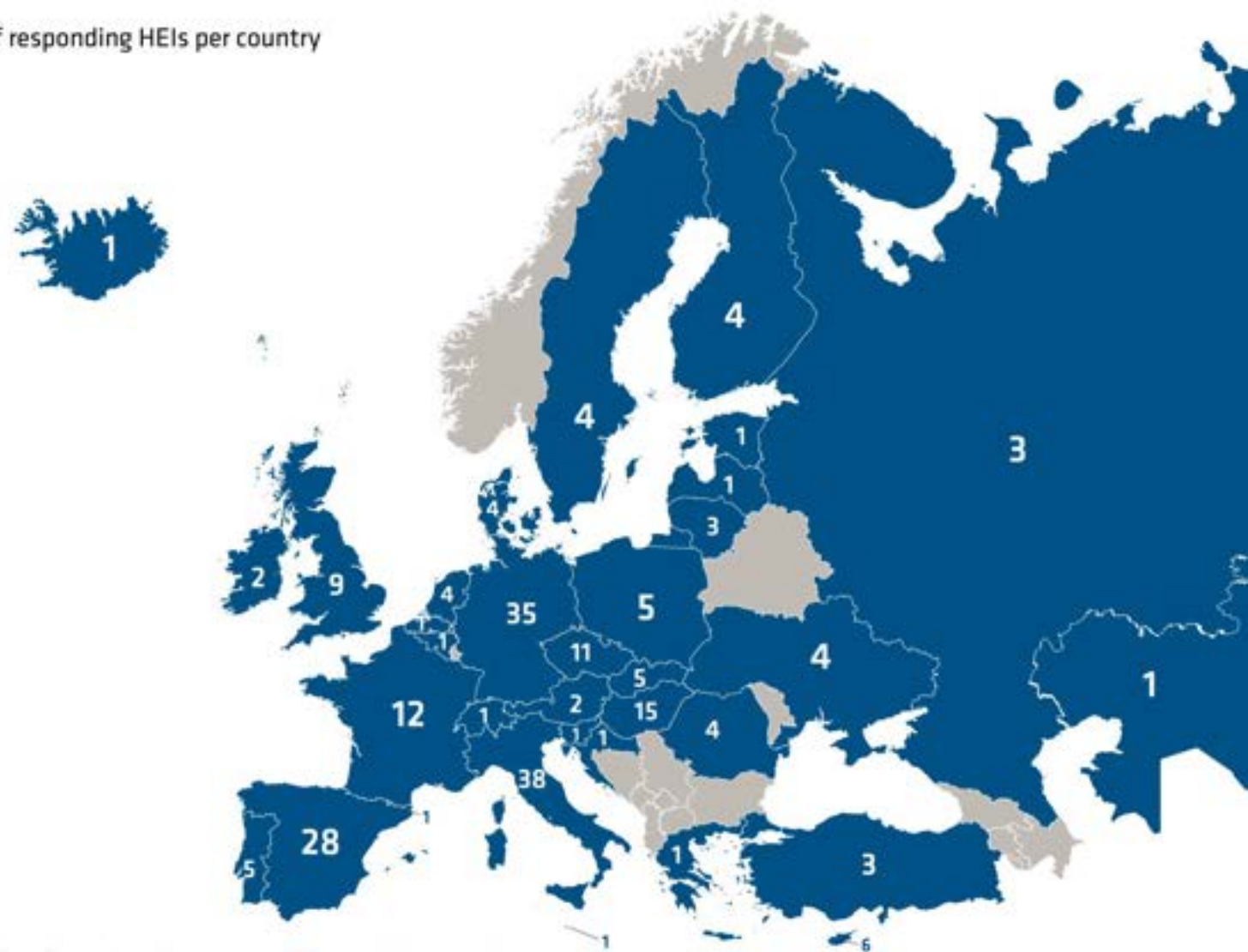
Anna-Lena Claeys-Kulik, Thomas E. Jørgensen, Henriette Stöber et al.

The sample

219 valid responses from higher education institutions from 34 systems across Europe were submitted.

The sample is uneven as the number of responses from some systems compared to their size is relatively low (e.g. France, Poland and Romania for instance), while others are highly represented (e.g. Italy, Germany, Hungary for instance). This has to be taken into account when looking at the results.

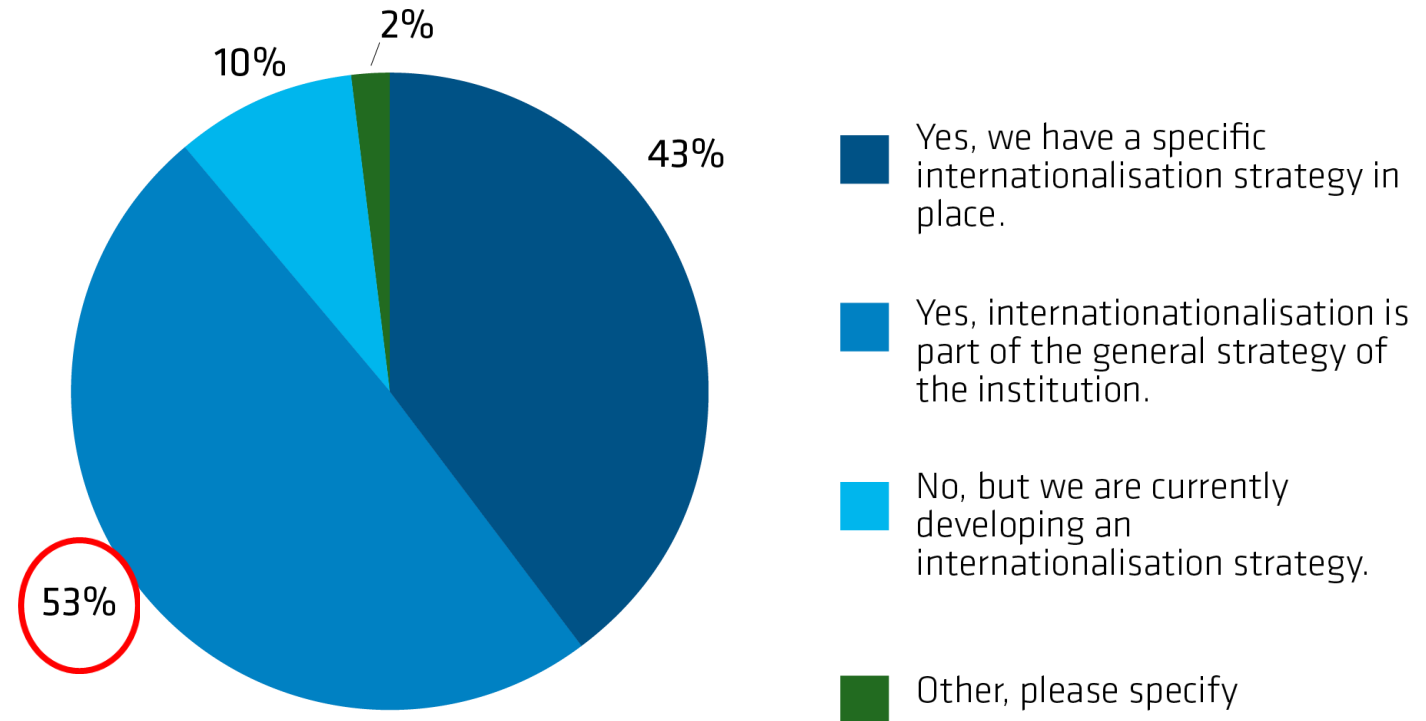
Number of responding HEIs per country



EUA Survey Q4 - Please select the country in which your higher education institution is located.
N=219

Internationalisation strategy

Internationalisation has been a strategic issue and an integral part of the activities at many institutions for quite a while, as also shown by the EUA Trends study. In this sample, 53% of respondents indicate that it is part of their general strategy, while 43% have a specific internationalisation strategy.

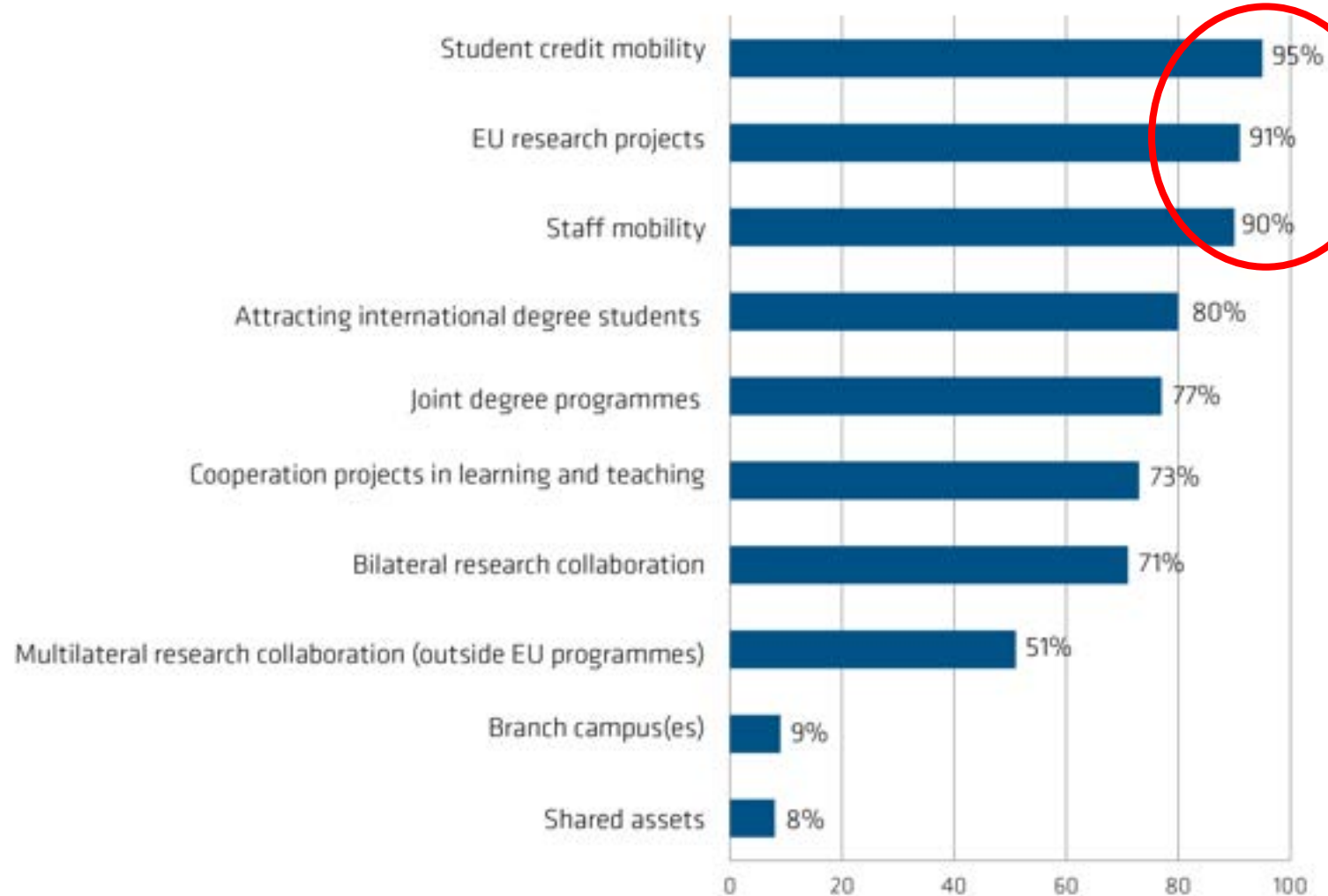


EUA Survey Q12: Do you have an internationalisation strategy in place at your institution?
N=238

With 90% are more of respondents citing student credit mobility, EU research projects and staff mobility, higher education institutions engage in a variety of international activities. 80% work on attracting international degree students and about four quarter of respondents collaborate on joint degree programmes, other learning and teaching projects and bilateral research activities.

Multilateral research collaboration outside EU programmes are mentioned by about half of respondents. Only a small number of institutions in the sample have branch campuses abroad or share assets with partners in other countries.

International activities

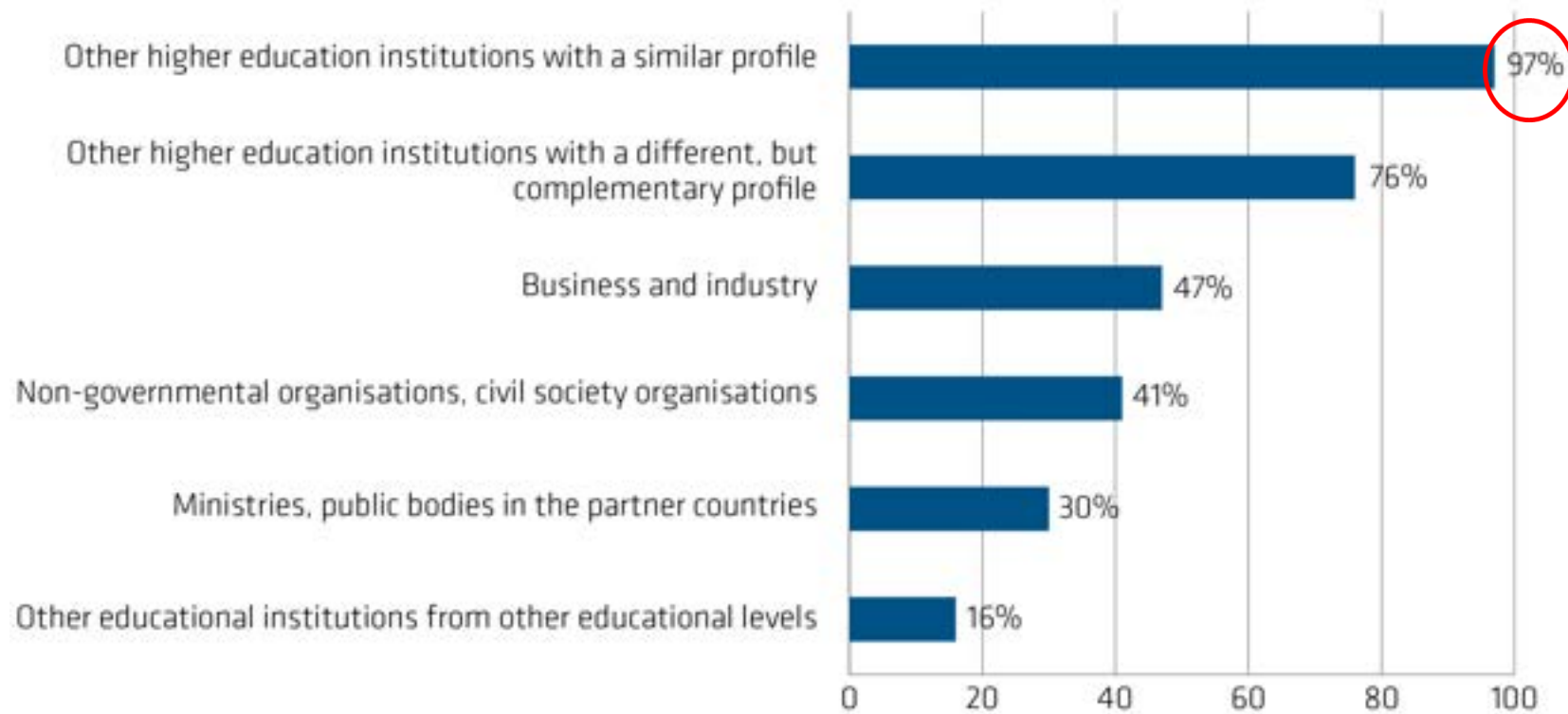


EUA Survey Q18: In which international activities is your higher education institution engaged?
N=219

Higher education institutions work with a variety of different partners abroad for different purposes and in different contexts. Most collaboration takes place between institutions with similar profile, followed by collaboration of institutions with different, but complementarity profiles.

Business and industry abroad are highest on the list for collaboration with non academic partners, followed by NGOs, ministries and public bodies, while only a small minority of institutions collaborates with foreign education institutions from other levels such as secondary schools.

Types of partners abroad



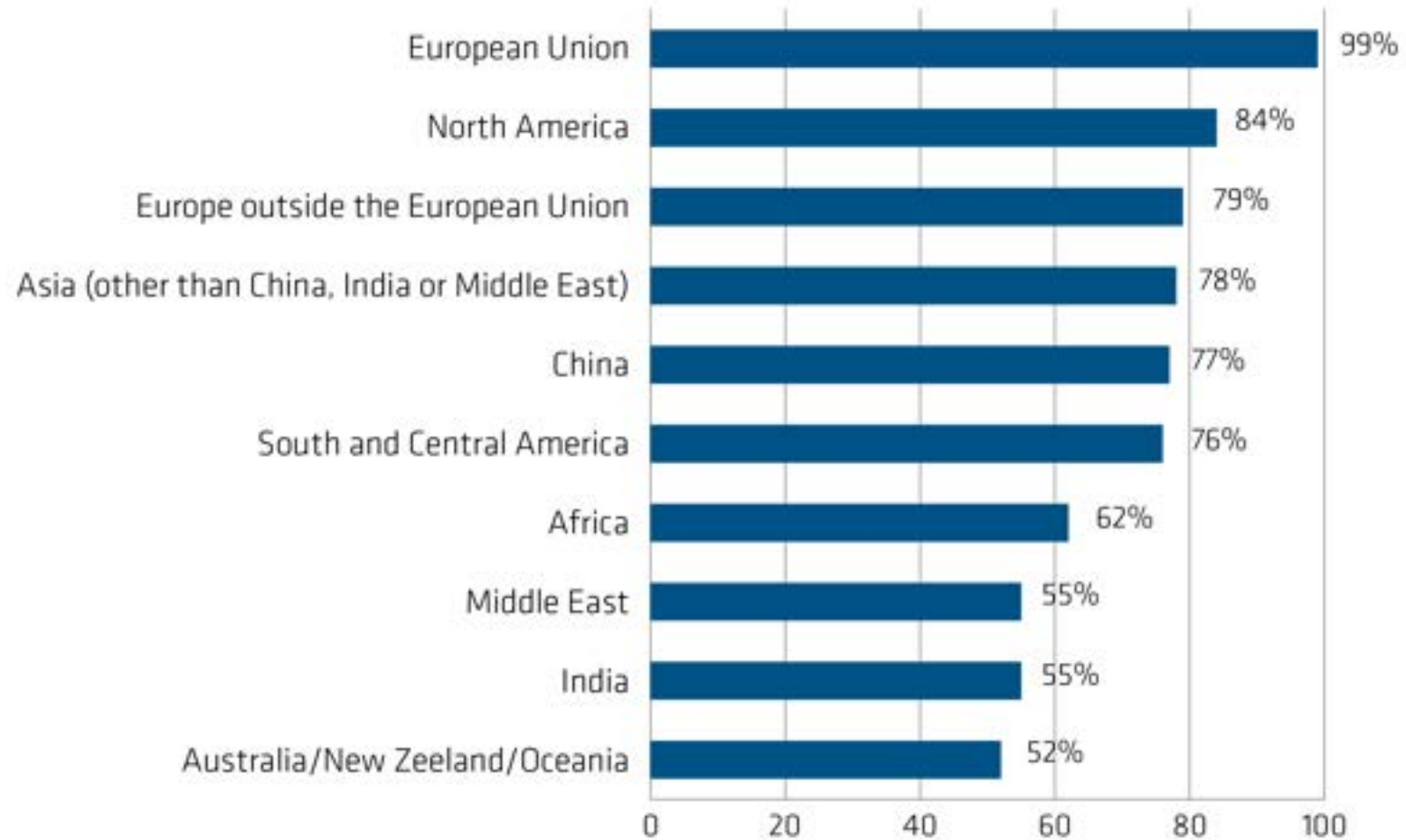
EUA Survey Q14: Who are your institution's partners abroad?
Please tick all applicable.

N=219

Universities work with partners around the world in different ways. Almost all institutions in the sample have partners in several other world regions beyond Europe, making them truly global actors.

Most collaboration takes place with partners in the EU, followed by North America. About three quarters collaborate with partners in Europe outside the EU, Asia (other than China, India or the Middle East), China and South and Central America. Close to two thirds work with Africa and more than half of respondents collaborate with the Middle East, India and Australia/New Zealand/Oceania.

International partners' location



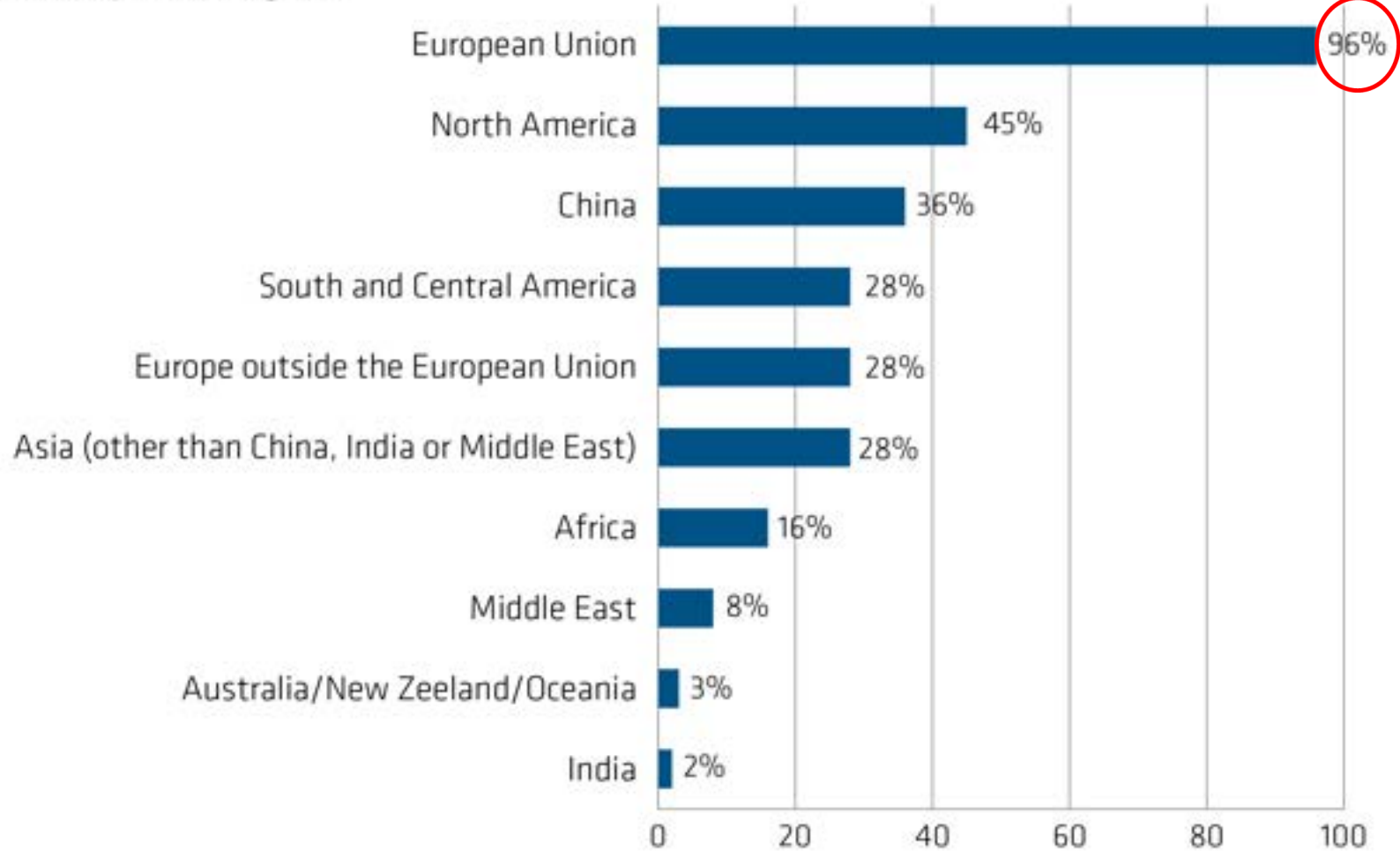
EUA Survey Q15: Where are your institution's partners located? Please tick all applicable.

N=219

When asked about their top three partner regions in the world, most higher education institutions in the sample put the EU first.

Almost half of respondents have North America among their top three partner regions and about one third indicates China among their three priority regions, followed by a bit less than one third mentioning Europe outside the EU, South and Central America and Asia other than China, India or the Middle East.

Top three partner regions



EUA Survey Q16: What are your three most important partner regions in the world for your institution?
Please tick three from the list below.

N=219

EU programmes such as Erasmus+ and Horizon 2020 are essential for university collaboration with partners abroad, far more than other frameworks. This shows the added value of EU programmes and their essential role in the internationalisation of higher education institutions in Europe.

Frameworks of international collaboration



EUA Survey Q19: What are the collaboration frameworks that you use for international collaboration?

N=219

Developing strategic partnerships with a selected number of higher education institutions abroad is among the top five priorities for internationalisation for almost two thirds of respondents right after enhancing the quality of learning and teaching and attracting students from abroad.

This is followed by the aim of enhancing the quality of research, which is mentioned by more than half of the respondents.

Top 5 priorities for internationalisation



EUA Survey Q13: What are the top priorities for internationalisation of your institution? Please tick the five most important priorities from the list below.

N=219

Want to know more?

Watch the video explaining the key results:
<https://youtu.be/xHnS9GeQk48>



Thank you for your attention !

Anna-Lena Claeys-Kulik, Policy Coordinator, EUA

Email: anna.lena.kulik@eua.eu

Twitter: @AnnaLenaKulik

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/anna-lena-claeys-kulik-09232735/>

