



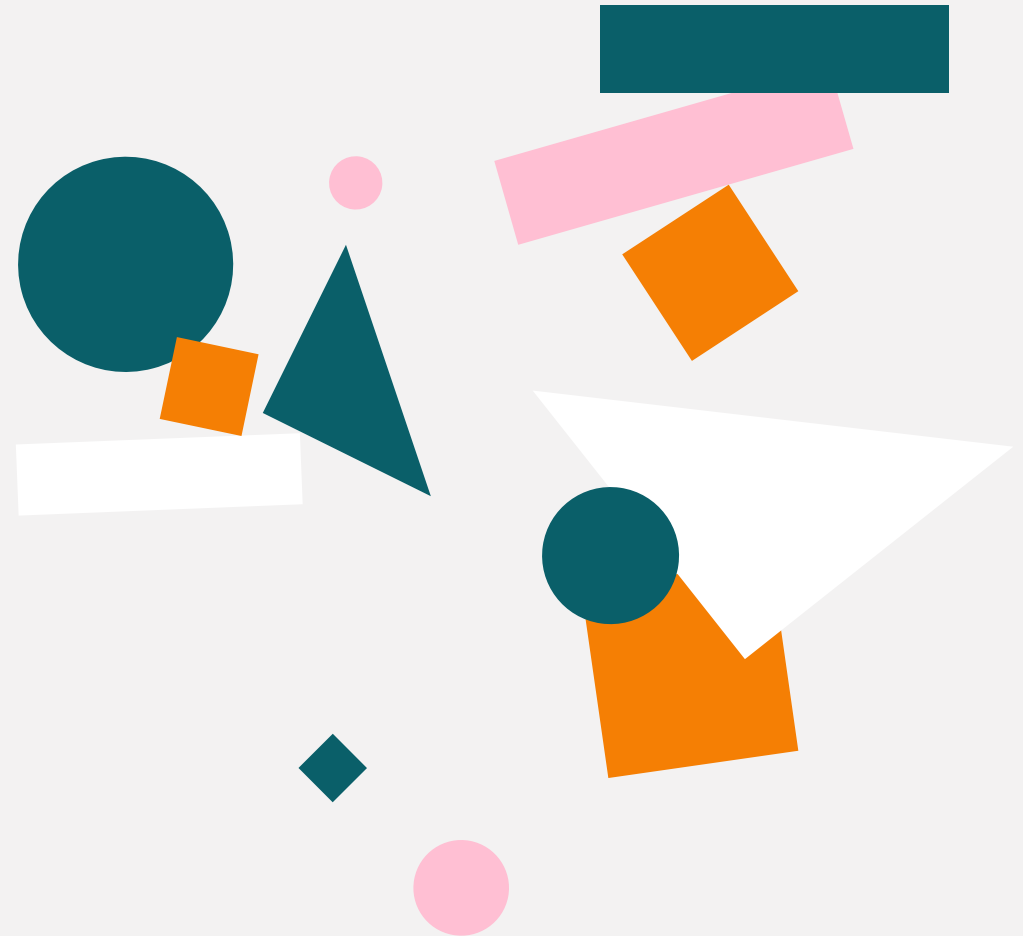
TIETEENTEKIJÄT
FORSKARFÖRBUNDET • FUURT

International early career researchers
in Finland: experiences and future
expectations

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FUURT survey for early career researchers

- The 2024 survey is FUURT's 4th survey for ECR (previous surveys 2012, 2017, 2021).
- Open for all who are currently doing their PhD in a Finnish university or have completed their PhD within the last 4 years.
- The 2024 survey is conducted in cooperation with Otus.
- Data collected 1.2.–12.3.2024.
- Respondents from all the Finnish universities.



Basic information on respondents (2024)

- In total 1138 respondents of whom
 - 66 % are women.
 - over half (54 %) are in their 30s.
 - 20 % are other than native Finnish/Swedish speakers.
 - majority (66 %) live with a spouse or with a spouse and children.
 - 77 % are currently conducting their PhD.



Field of science (top 5)

Of the respondents

22,5 % are from humanities

19,5 % from natural sciences

19,0 % from social sciences

8,6 % from business, administration and legal studies

8,2 % from educational sciences



The content of the survey

The survey asks general questions from all respondents related to e.g. PhD research and doctoral education, as well as career prospects.

Specific set of questions is asked based on the respondent's current work situation:

- employment related questions
- grant related questions
- questions regarding unemployment.

In 2024, we also asked new questions related to research integrity (HTK) and possible experiences of harassment in an academic context.

The full survey report will be published in September 2024.



In the following, we give a "sneak peek" at the survey results on international ECRs' career prospects and image of an academic career.



Career prospects:

Assess the future of your career over the next five years. How likely are the following statements?

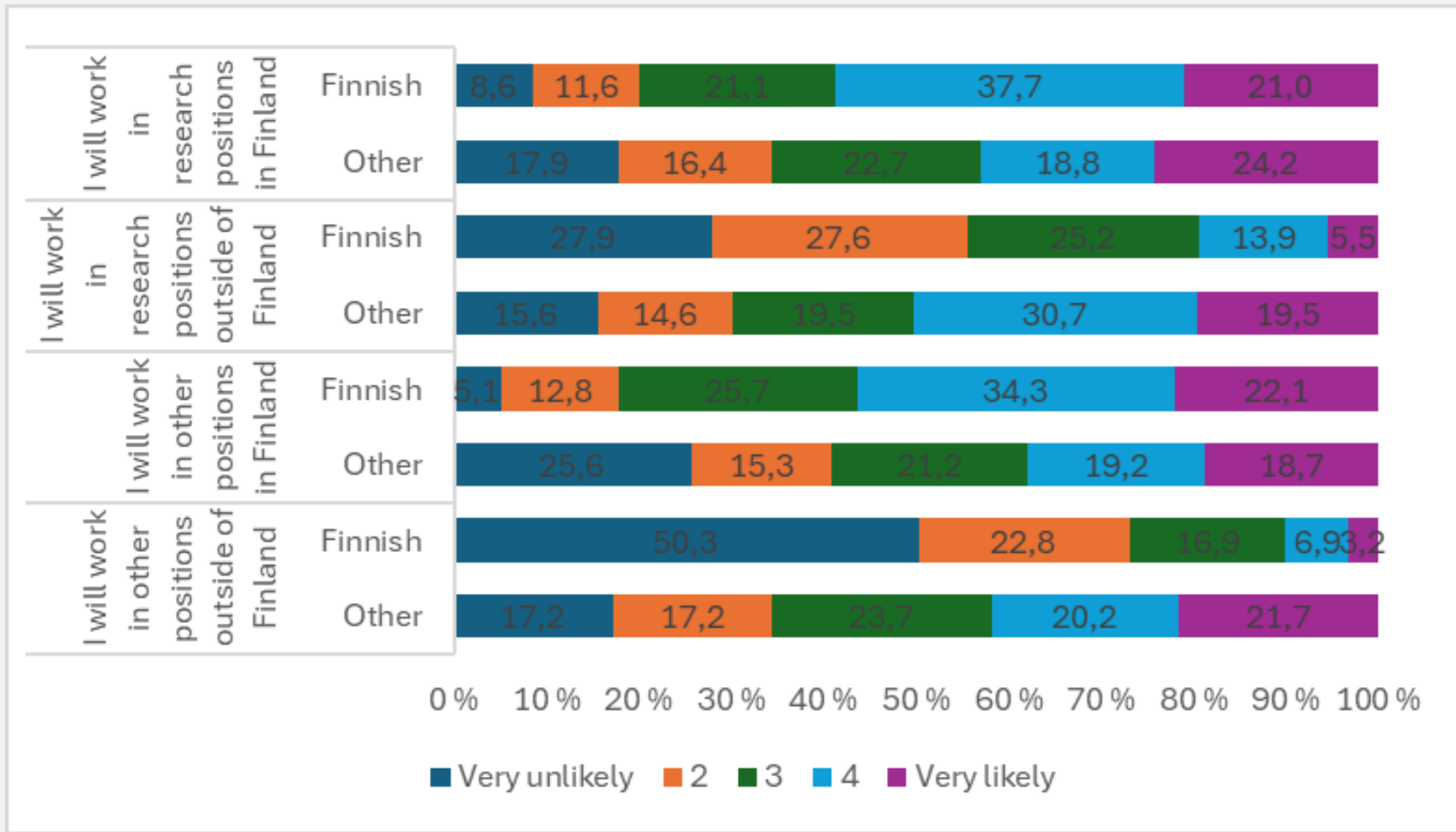


Image of an academic career 1/3: which factors increase vs. decrease the appeal of an academic career.

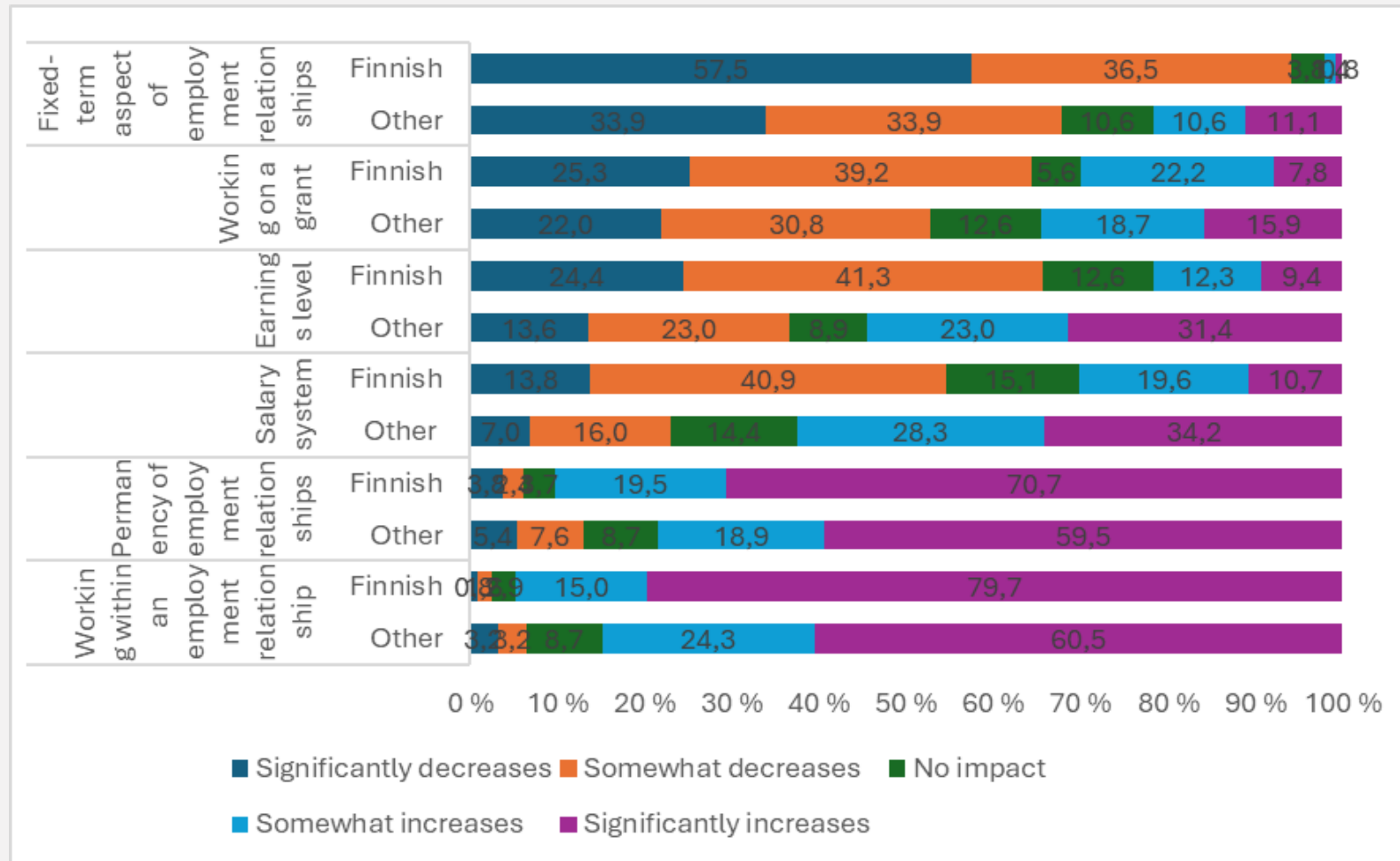


Image of an academic career 2/3: which factors increase vs. decrease the appeal of an academic career.

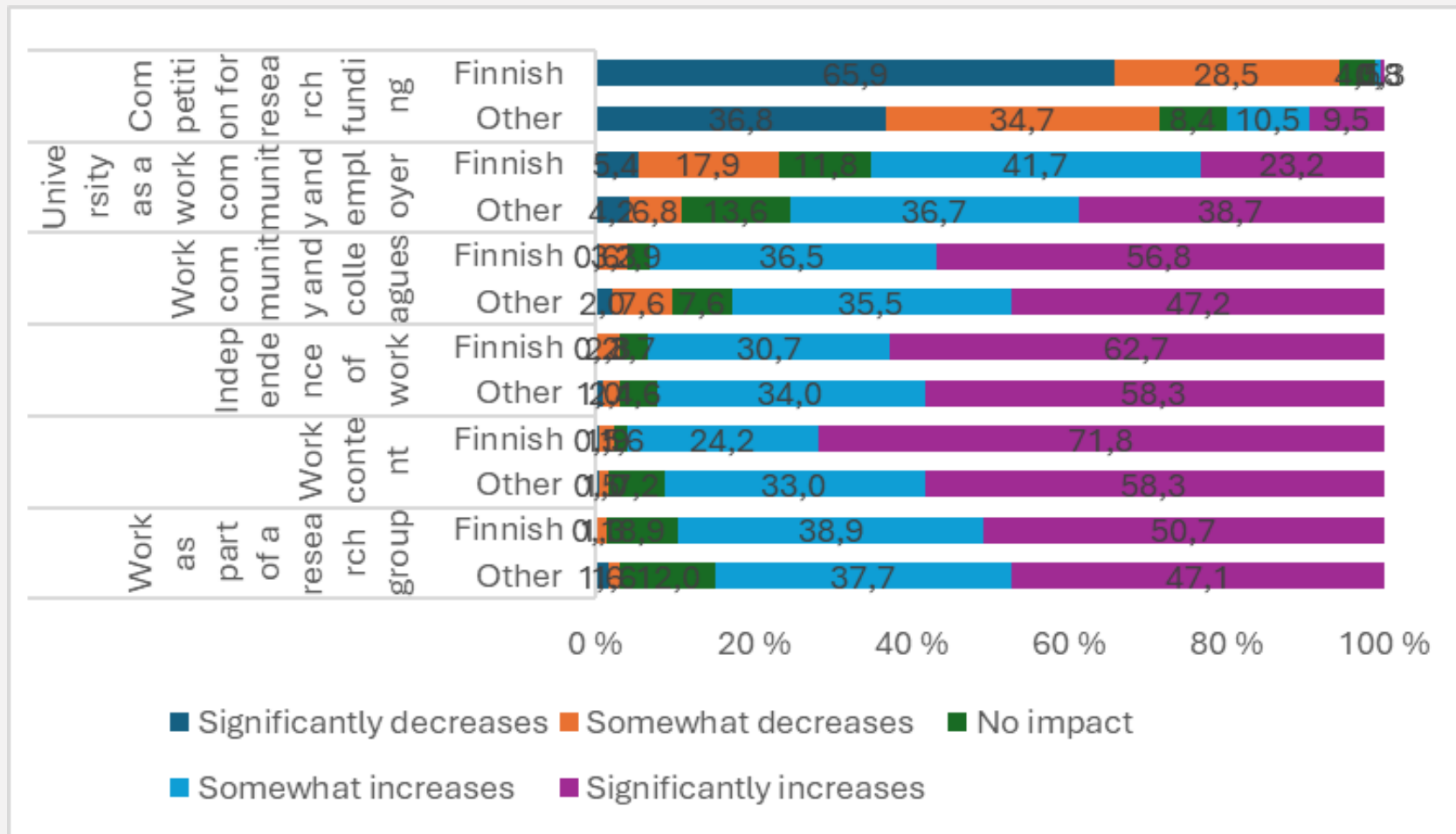
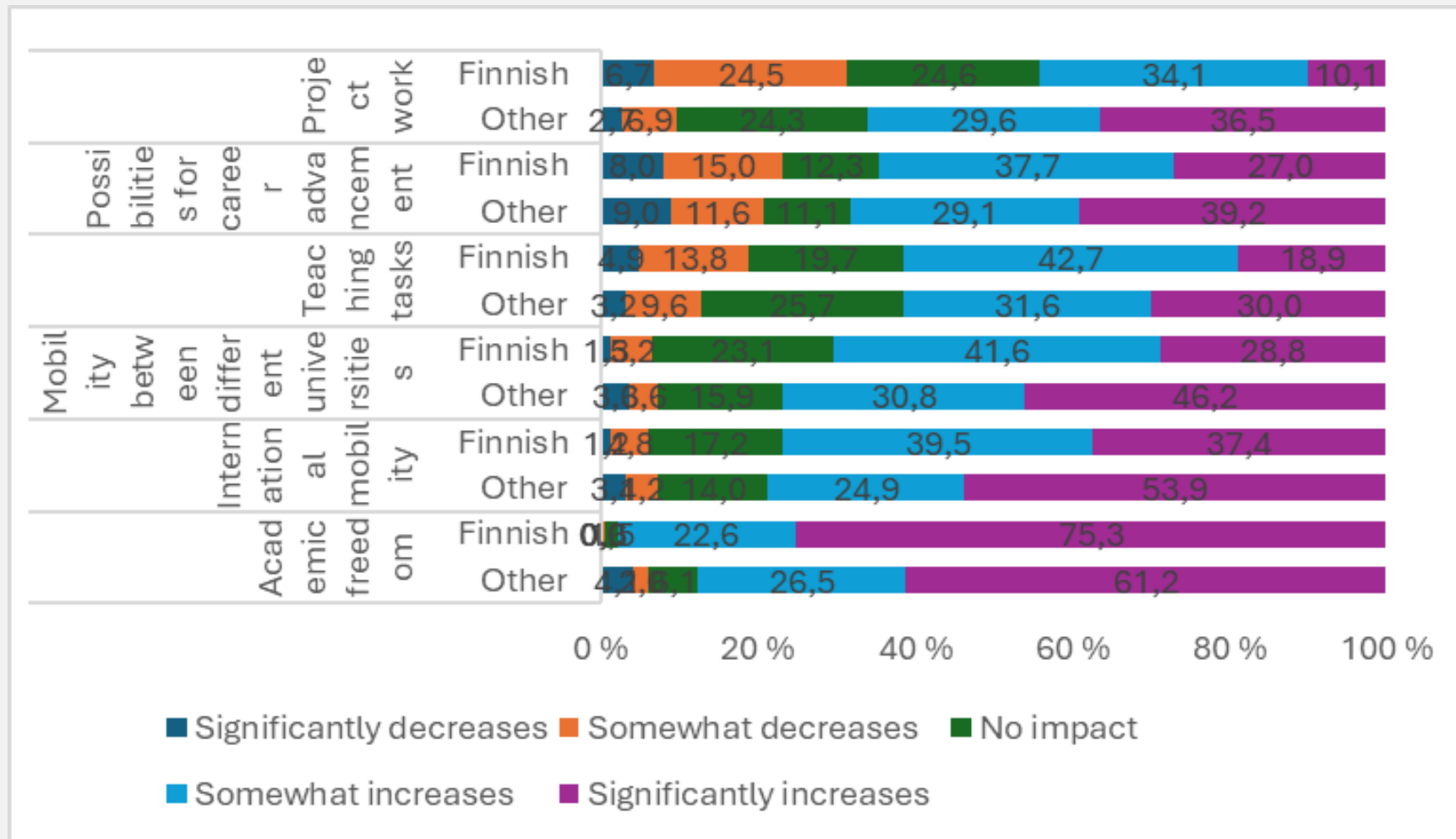


Image of an academic career 3/3: which factors increase vs. decrease the appeal of an academic career.



Career support during doctoral education (all respondents)

- **Discussions on future career plans with PhD thesis supervisor, 50 % of respondents (in 2021, 64 %).**
- Attending university's networking events, 16,5 % of respondents.
- Follow-up group (or similar) has included a person from another university or research organisation, 15,2 % of respondents.
- Use of manuals and other materials provided by the university, 12 % of respondents.
- Participation in a mentorin programme, 8,8 % of respondents.
- **No career support included in doctoral education, 32 % of respondents.**



Mobility and cooperation outside one's own university during doctoral education (all respondents)

- **Mobility to another university abroad, 22 % of respondents (in 2021, 39 %).**
- Mobility to another research organisation than a university in Finland or abroad, 7 % of respondents.
- Mobility to another university in Finland, 4 % of respondents.
- Mobility to another organisation than a research organisation in Finland or abroad, 3 % of respondents.
- **Other cooperation related to PhD research with actors outside the university, 30 % of respondents.**
- Something else, 10 % of respondents.
- **Doctoral education has not included mobility, 42 % of respondents.**



Panel discussion

Finnish higher education institutions as drivers in attraction and retention of international talents;

Career prospects of international talents in Finland.

Panellists:

University lecturer **Andrew Pattison**,
University of Oulu

PhD researcher **Rimsha Naeem**,
University of Vaasa

Academy research fellow **Derek Ruez**,
Tampere University



Thank you!

