

# Volunteering and Global Skills: A Young Engineers Perspective



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## What is EYE?



A network of young engineers, both students and professionals, working to develop **key skills for a globalised world**. We bring together Europe's leading engineering associations, enabling their young members to **share knowledge, experience and culture**.

60,000 individuals  
22 member associations  
15 different countries

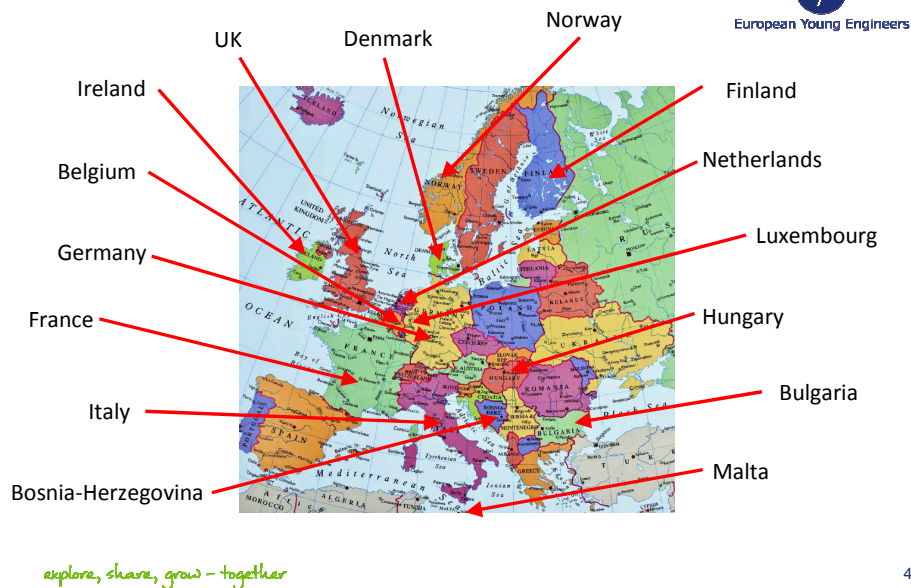
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## 22 Member Associations



3

## 15 Countries



4

## Employability of Engineering Graduates

## Employability

- 4 out of 5 students go to university to improve their job opportunities<sup>[1]</sup>
- 13.3% unemployment of engineering graduates in the UK during 2008-2009<sup>[2]</sup>
- Increasing need to be globally competitive

## What are Global Skills?



- Cultural awareness
- International experience
- Global perspective
- Adaptability, flexibility
- Confidence
- Self reflection and learning

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7

## Drivers for Global Skills in Engineers



Examples:

- Global application of emerging technologies (computing, energy, nano- and bio-science technologies)<sup>[3]</sup>
- Investment in oil, gas and mining \$600bn over next 10 years in Africa<sup>[3]</sup>
- Growth in private sector partnerships in public utilities<sup>[3]</sup>

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8

## Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities

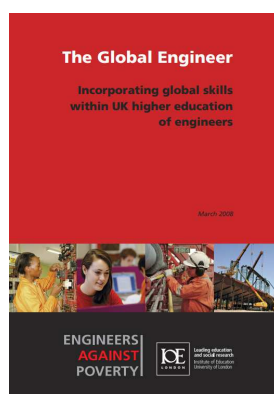


- Increasing need to be **globally** competitive
- Increased pressure on the curriculum
- Decreased graduate employment
- Increasing numbers of **international** (non-European) students

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9

## Global Skills in Engineering Education



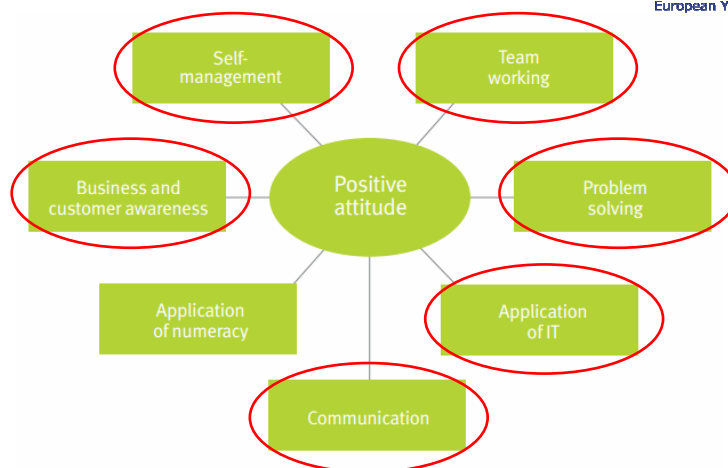
**Bourn & Neal  
(2008)**

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10

## Should we expect universities to give us all the skills needed to find employment?

## Employability Skills



Adapted from reference [1]

## Volunteering



- Employers regarded volunteering as evidence of 'wider perspective', 'get up and go' or 'something extra'<sup>[4]</sup>
- Some employers give more credit to activities based on an interest in Engineering<sup>[4]</sup>

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13

## Volunteering – Skills Development



A screenshot of the Engineers Ireland website. The header includes the Engineers Ireland logo and tagline 'The professional body for engineers and engineering in Ireland'. A navigation bar lists various sections like HOME, MEMBERSHIP, EVENTS, etc. The main content area is titled 'Young Engineers (YES)' with a 'JOIN THIS GROUP' button. To the left is a sidebar with a list of categories. To the right is a 'In this Section' menu. Below the title, there are three images: a group of people in a meeting, a group of people on a red carpet, and a group of young people in pink shirts holding white buckets.

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14

## Volunteering Internationally – Global Skills Development



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15

## Professional Development



- EYE Conferences
- EYE Contact
- EYE Network

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16



## EYE Conferences



- 2 per year
- €150
- Hosted by one of EYE's Member Associations

- Industrial visits
- Workshops
- Lectures
- Social events
- Cultural experiences



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17

## EYE Contact



### eye-catcher

#### Networking worldwide

This section allows us to highlight a specific topic. In this case, the name of the section is important. Keeping it neutral, this section could be used for any kind of topic, event, lecture, workshop or industrial visit. The content of this section should appear on the front cover of the issue.

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dolor  
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18

## EYE Network



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19

## EYE Embassy of Germany



Dean [REDACTED]  
Hi,

I'm currently studying electronic engineering in Ireland and I am looking into doing my 6 months of work placement in Germany next year. Does anyone have any advice on the matter in terms of how to go about finding opportunities (preferably Engineering related)? I'm a little worried about the language barrier as I don't speak German and I would appreciate any feedback!

Thanks 😊

Unlike · Comment · Share · Follow Post · November 27 at 10:28pm

You and Anna [REDACTED] like this. Seen by 29

Anna [REDACTED] Hi I was just as worried as you up to when I spoke to a german friend who reassured me and gave a few suggestions. The one that I am going to implement very soon and that might be of interest to you as well is this: "You can apply for an internship at Siemens Healthcare only online."

Therefore I would like to ask you, to use the Siemens job market: <https://jobsearch.siemens.biz/career?company=Siemens...>

You can search for individual job offers regarding internships by putting student into the field career level!

If you have any questions regarding the application process don't hesitate to contact our recruiting team (phone +49 9131-732308).

An internship (PRAKTIKUM) is only possible, if your university confirms, that according to your degree program, you have the obligation to do such an internship."

November 27 at 10:37pm · Edited · Like · 0 2

Anna [REDACTED] I can PM you the email address of the person that wrote this email to me. Good luck

November 27 at 10:38pm · Like

Dean [REDACTED] Thanks a million for your help, I really appreciate it! This seems like the perfect opportunity and I'll let you know how I get on 😊

Thanks again!



Verein Deutscher Ingenieure

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## Opportunities



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21

## Summary



- Young engineers can take **responsibility** for their own **employability**
- EYE offers a **unique opportunity** to develop **global skills**
- EYE provides an affordable and fun way to develop **global skills**

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22

## Contact details



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23

## References



- [1] Confederation of British Industry and National Union of Students (2011). *Working towards your future. Making the most of your time in higher education.*  
[http://www.nus.org.uk/Global/CBI\\_NUS\\_Employability%20report\\_May%202011.pdf](http://www.nus.org.uk/Global/CBI_NUS_Employability%20report_May%202011.pdf)
- [2] Higher Education Statistics Agency (2010). *Destinations of leavers from higher education institutions.* Cheltenham: Higher Education Statistics Agency
- [3] Bourn, D and Neal, I (2008). *The Global Engineer. Incorporating global skills within UK higher education of engineers.* Engineers Against Poverty and the Institute of Education, University of London. <http://eprints.ioe.ac.uk/839/1/Bourn2008Engineers.pdf>
- [4] Atkinson, H and Pennington, M (2012). *Unemployment of engineering graduates: the key issues.* Engineering Education, 7(2), pp. 7-15  
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24