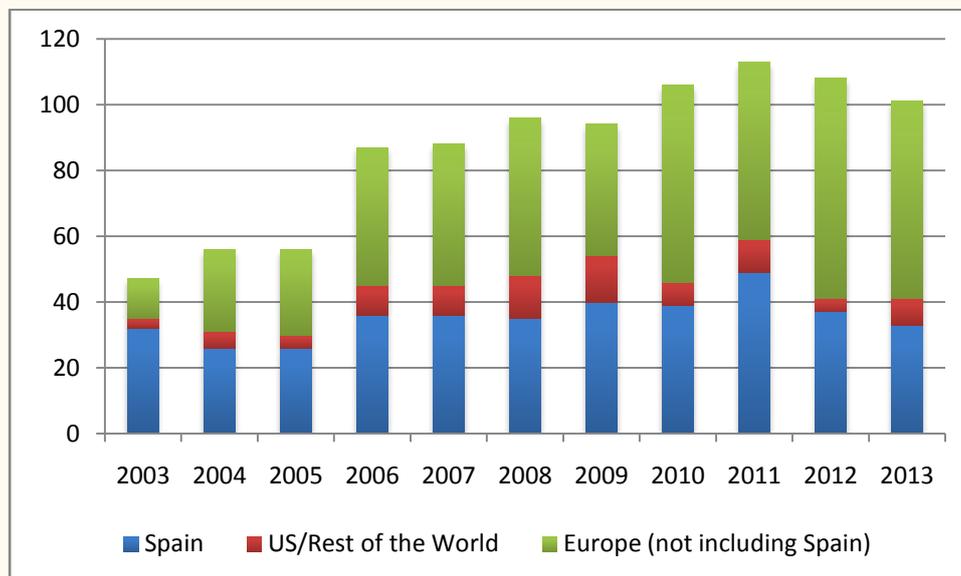


The SEA Job Market for Economists

The Spanish Economic Association (SEA) has run job-market meetings coinciding with the annual conference of the Association (the [Simposio de la Asociación Española de Economía](#)) for almost 40 years. Students who are close to completing their dissertation present their papers in the Job Market sessions of the Simposio. Academic and non-academic institutions wanting to hire in the job market attend candidate presentations and hold interviews with candidates.

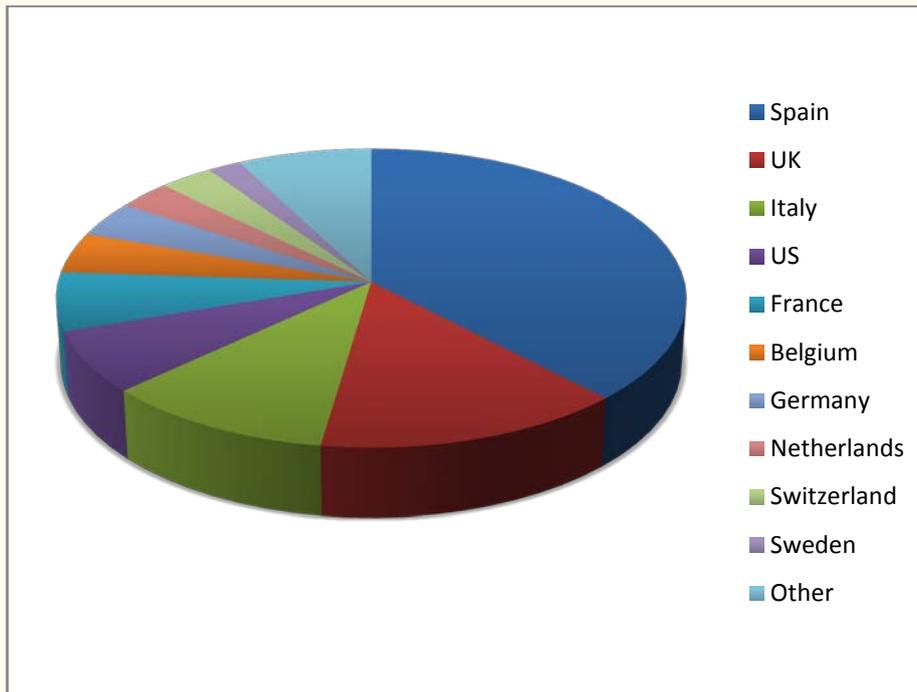
The [SEA Job Market](#) started out very small but has grown rapidly. Nowadays, every year more than 100 job market candidates participate in it. The event has not only become larger, but also more international. When it first started most candidates came from a Spanish university. In recent years, only one third of candidates were based in Spain. Most candidates come from other European countries (58%) and the US (8%).

Job market candidates – SEA job market 2003-2013



Apart from Spain, the countries with largest shares of candidates are the UK (14%), Italy (11%), the US (8%), France (6%), Belgium (4%), Germany (4%), the Netherlands (3%), Switzerland (3%), and Sweden (2%).

Country of origin of PhD candidates - SEA Job Market 2009-2013



Note: The table provides information for 522 candidates who presented their work at the Job Market sessions of the Annual Meeting of the Spanish Economic Association in years 2009-2013.

The international mix of the SEA Job Market reflects the increasing internationalization of the main European PhD programs. An increasing share of European PhD graduates considers the possibility of moving to a different country. The following table provides information about the universities where PhD candidates attending the SEA Job Market were based. The upper part of the list includes the top five Economics departments in Spain (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Universidad Carlos III, Universidad de Alicante and CEMFI) and some of the best known Economics departments in Europe: European University Institute, London School of Economics, Université Catholique de Louvain, Toulouse School of Economics, University of Warwick, Stockholm University, Università di Bologna, Bocconi University, and University College London.

Candidates' institution of origin – SEA Job Market 2009-2013

Institution	Country	Nº of candidates	Share
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	Spain	48	9%
Universidad Carlos III	Spain	44	8%
Universitat Pompeu Fabra	Spain	30	6%
Universidad de Alicante	Spain	22	4%
European University Institute	Italy	21	4%
London School of Economics	UK	19	4%
Université Catholique de Louvain	Belgium	15	3%
Toulouse School of Economics	France	14	3%
CEMFI	Spain	13	2%
University of Warwick	UK	12	2%
Stockholm University	Sweden	10	2%
Università di Bologna	Italy	10	2%
Bocconi University	Italy	9	2%
University College London	UK	8	2%
CERGE-EI	Czech Republic	7	1%
Goethe University Frankfurt	Germany	7	1%
Universidad del País Vasco	Spain	7	1%
Universitat Rovira i Virgili	Spain	7	1%
University of Cambridge	UK	7	1%
Boston University	US	6	1%
Graduate Institute, Geneva	Switzerland	6	1%
University of Oxford	UK	6	1%
University of Zurich	Switzerland	6	1%
Paris School of Economics	France	5	1%
Sciences Po Paris	France	5	1%
Tilburg University	Netherlands	5	1%
University of Vienna	Austria	5	1%
Other institutions		168	32%

Note: The table provides information for 522 candidates who presented their work at the Job Market sessions of the Annual Meeting of the Spanish Economic Association in years 2009-2013.

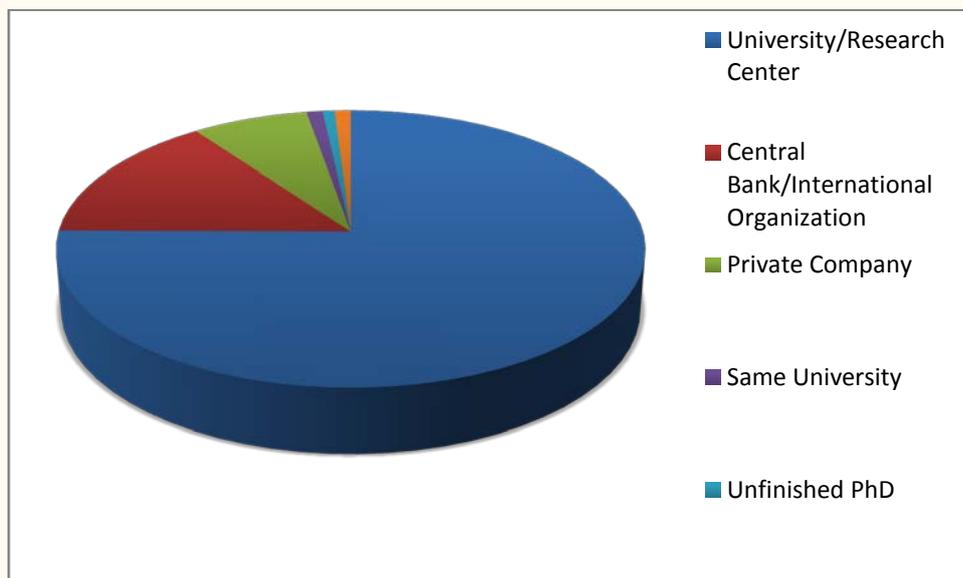
The SEA Job Market has become a key institution for the new cohorts of European PhD candidates looking for an academic job. However, on the demand side, it is still largely a national event. Out of the fourteen institutions that participated in the SEA Job Market in 2013, only five were not Spanish.

We now provide some information about the placement of candidates who participated in the SEA Job Market between 2009 and 2013.

Many job market candidates tend to be relatively pessimistic at the beginning of their job market year about the possibility of finding a job in academia. However, placement

information suggests that these fears tend to be unfounded: most candidates who participate in the SEA Job Market manage to land a job in academia. About 75% of them obtain a job in a university or a research center and 15% get a position in a central bank or an international organization. Only 7% of candidates decide to work in the private sector and less than 3% was unemployed or was still affiliated with the same institution where they undertook the PhD.

Placement – Candidates in the SEA Job Market (2009-2013)

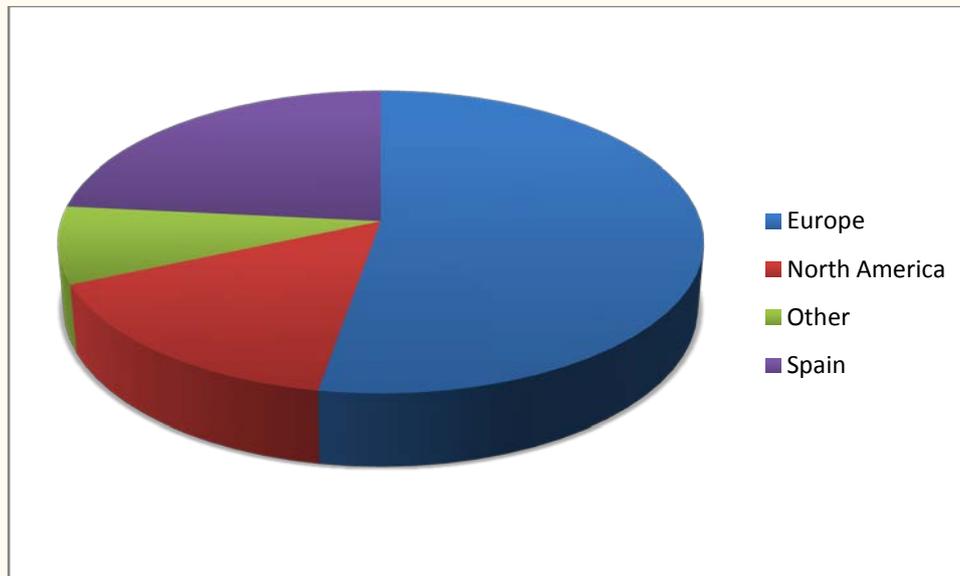


Note: The table provides information for 522 candidates who presented their work at the Job Market sessions of the Annual Meeting of the Spanish Economic Association in years 2009-2013. This information was collected from public sources, including personal web pages and linkedin.

Among those PhD candidates who remain in academia, the majority obtained a tenure-track Assistant Professor position (70%), while the remaining 30% obtained a non tenure-track fixed-term, typically as a Post-Doctoral fellowship.

Overall, 23% of job market candidates get a job in Spain. We do not have specific information about how they found this job, but it is very likely that the first contact took place in the SEA Job Market. Most candidates end up in a position in some other European country (53%) or in the US (16%). Interestingly, job market candidates are geographically very mobile. Less than a third of them end up in the same country where they did their PhD.

Area of placement - Candidates in the SEA Job Market (2009-2013)



Note: The table provides information for 522 candidates who presented their work at the Job Market sessions of the Annual Meeting of the Spanish Economic Association in years 2009-2013. This information was collected from public sources, including personal web pages and linkedin.

Many institutions that have participated in the SEA Job Market have pointed out that they value the option of meeting already in mid-December with candidates who are seriously considering working in Europe. Institutions that also interview at the ASSA meetings argue that the SEA Job Market allows them to distribute their interviews in a more balanced way between the two meetings. Beyond formal interviews, the scale of the SEA Job Market, *a misura d'uomo* as the Italians say, also facilitates interactions between candidates and institutions over the course of the conference.

In sum, the SEA Job Market attracts every year over a hundred highly employable candidates from the main Economics departments in Europe. Most of these candidates eventually land an academic position, typically as tenure-track Assistant Professors at a European institution.

The success of the SEA Job Market hints at the large extent of the opportunities to improve market allocations and social welfare if more European institutions participate in this initiative.