



FINNISH NATIONAL  
AGENCY FOR EDUCATION

# Trends in International Student Migration and Integration in Finland

Anni Kallio, EDUFI

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# Emphasis on recruiting international students and researchers to Finland

- Policy focus in attracting talents and ensuring national competitiveness in higher education
- Ministry of Education and Culture: [Policies to promote internationalisation in Finnish higher education and research 2017–2025](#)

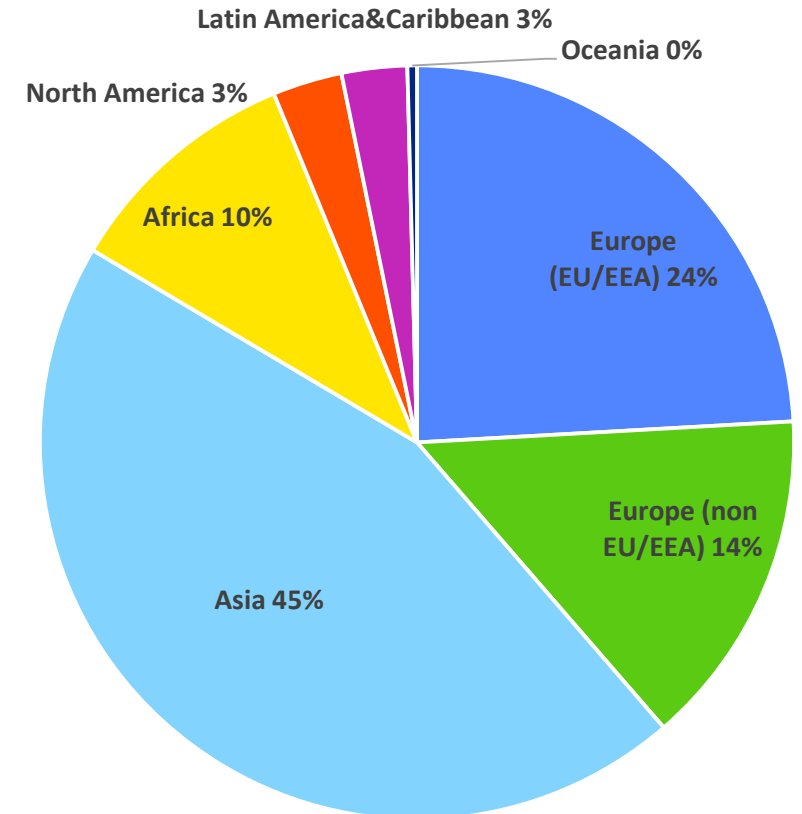
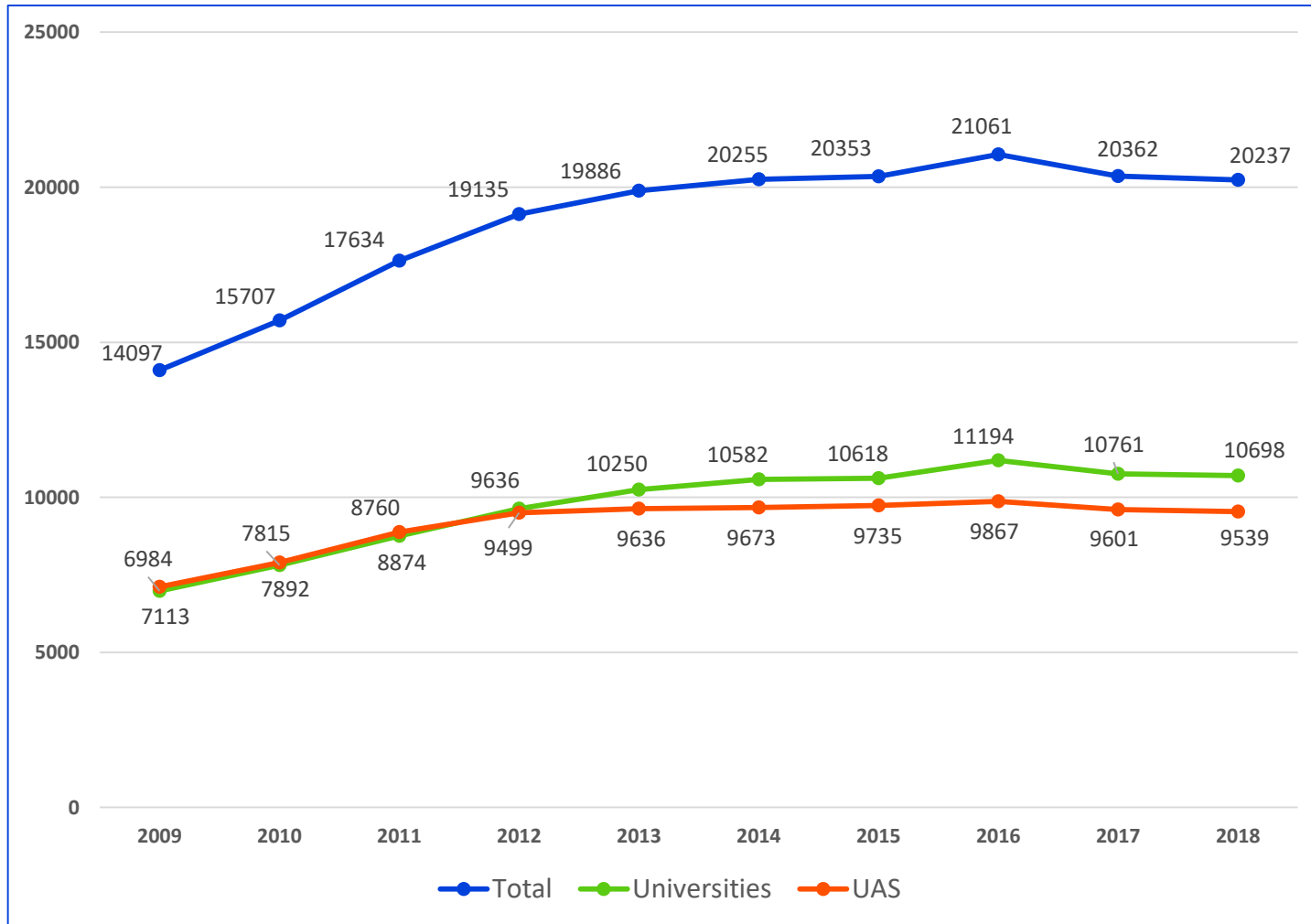
*“A warm welcome to Finland”*

- Talent Boost – joint cross-sectoral programme for the Government aiming to make Finland more attractive to international talents
  - [What is Talent Boost?](#) (2 min video)
- Finnish Government programme 2019: [Inclusive and competent Finland](#)

# Tuition fees for non-EU/EEA students in HE

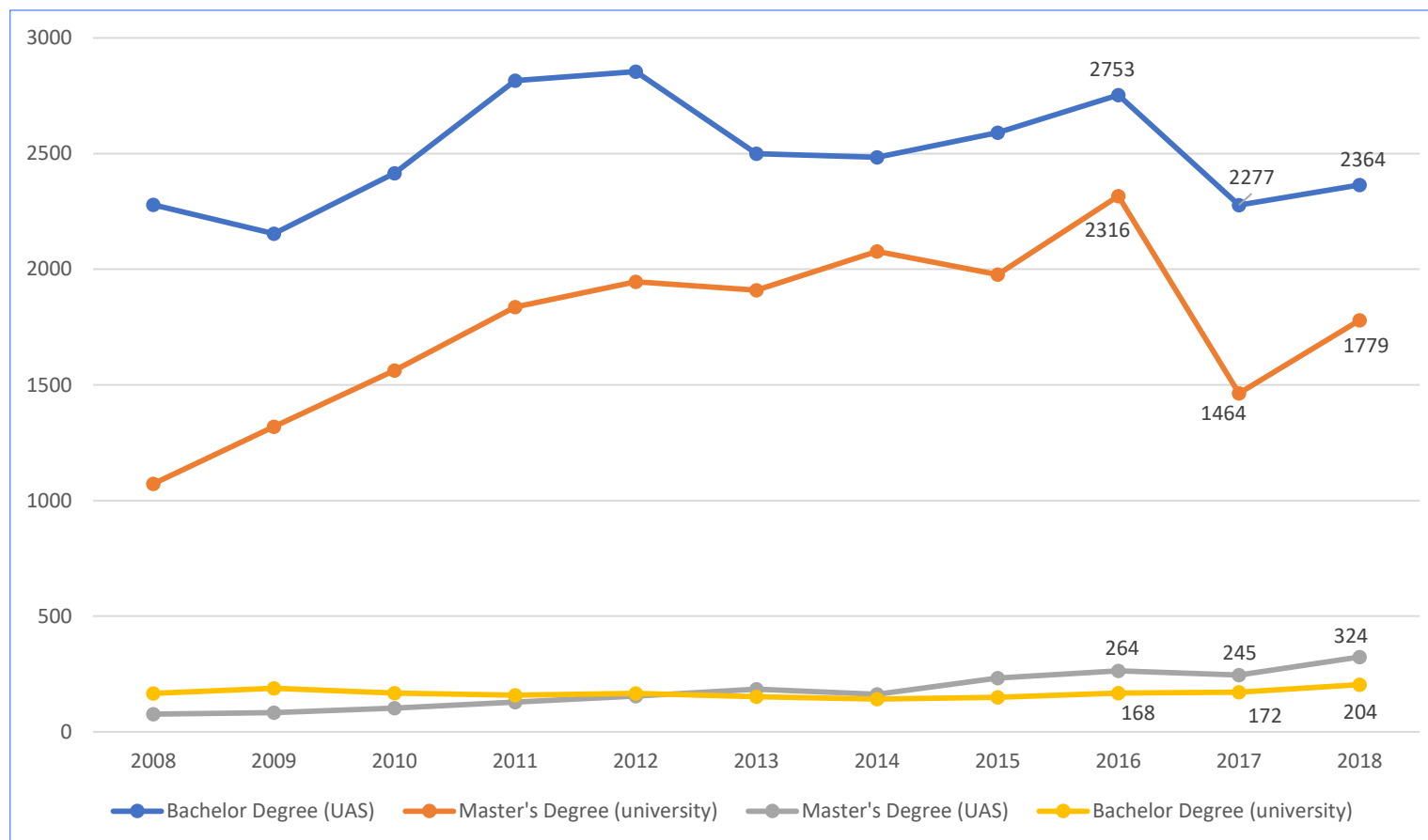
- Tuition fees for non-EU/EEA students were introduced in 2017
  - Minimum tuition fee 1500 EUR per year. HEIs to determine the fees they apply for each study programme.
  - The fees vary between 2 000 – 18 000 EUR
- Scholarship programmes are mandatory. Typically scholarships in form of fee waivers (partial or full)

# Foreign full degree students in Finnish higher education institutions



# Effects of introducing tuition fees to non-EU/EEA students

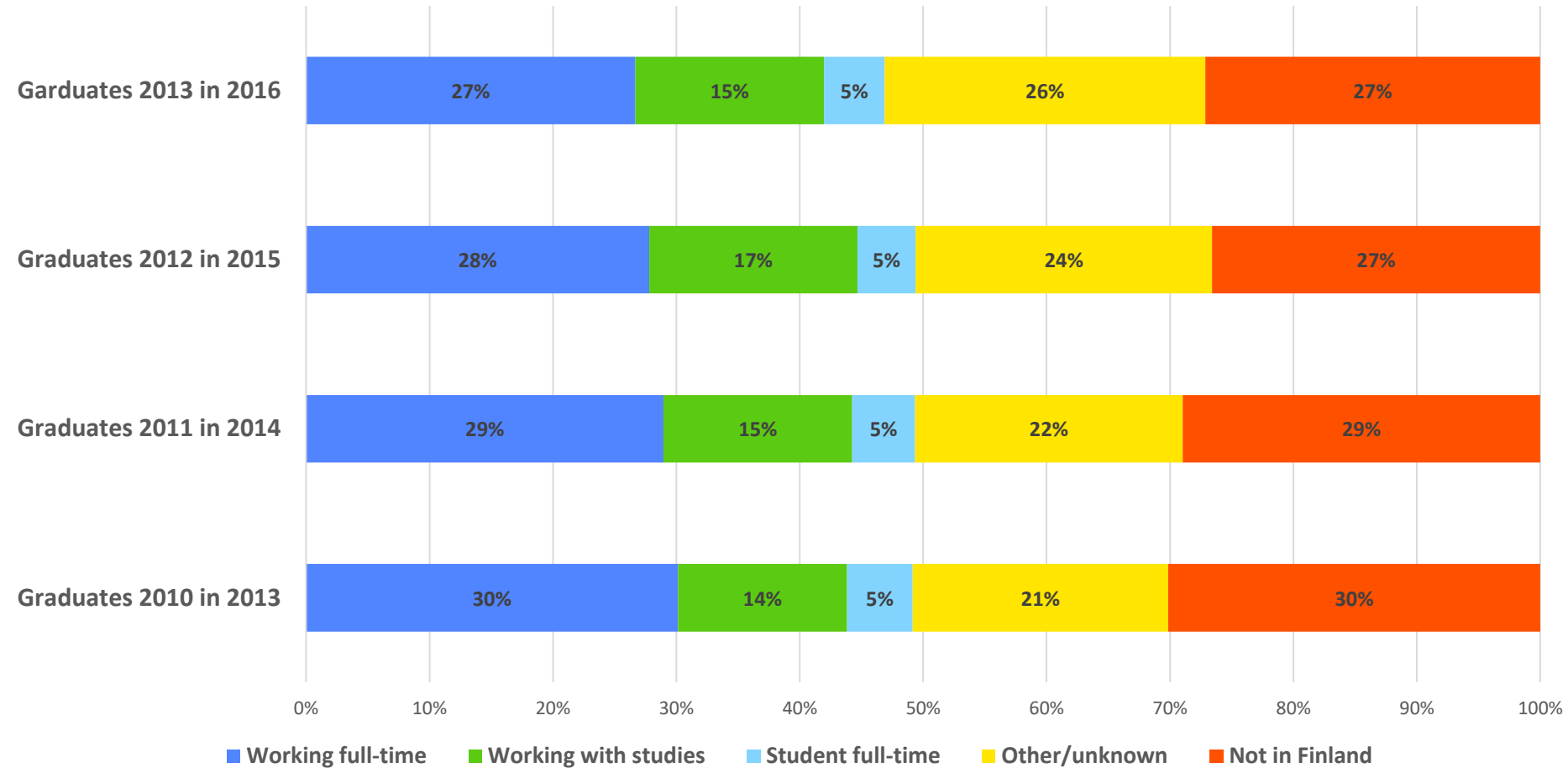
Newly enrolled foreign students in Finnish HEIs



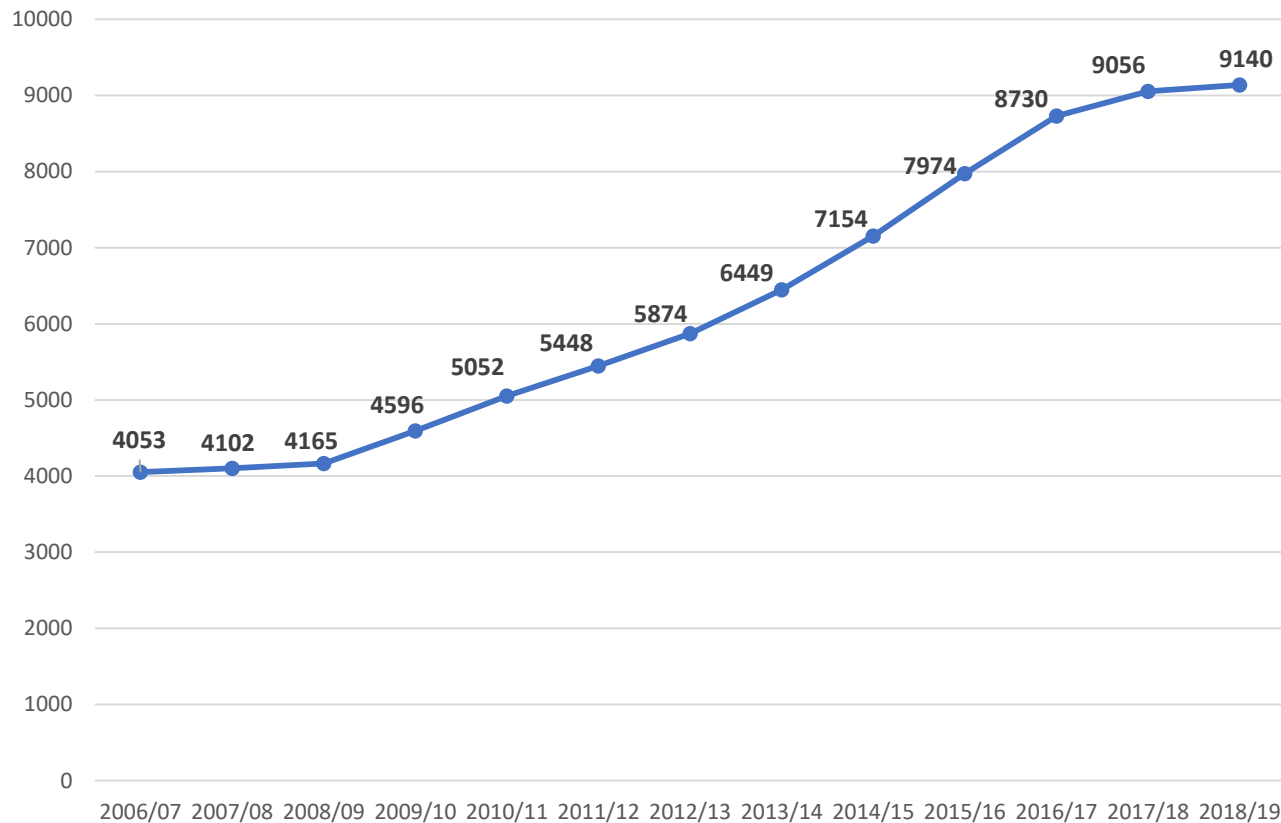
Between 2016 – 2017,  
number of new non-  
EU/EEA students  
dropped by 35 %

Number of new EU/EEA  
students increased by  
30 %

# Employment of foreign students after graduation



# Finnish full degree students abroad – growing but not well known

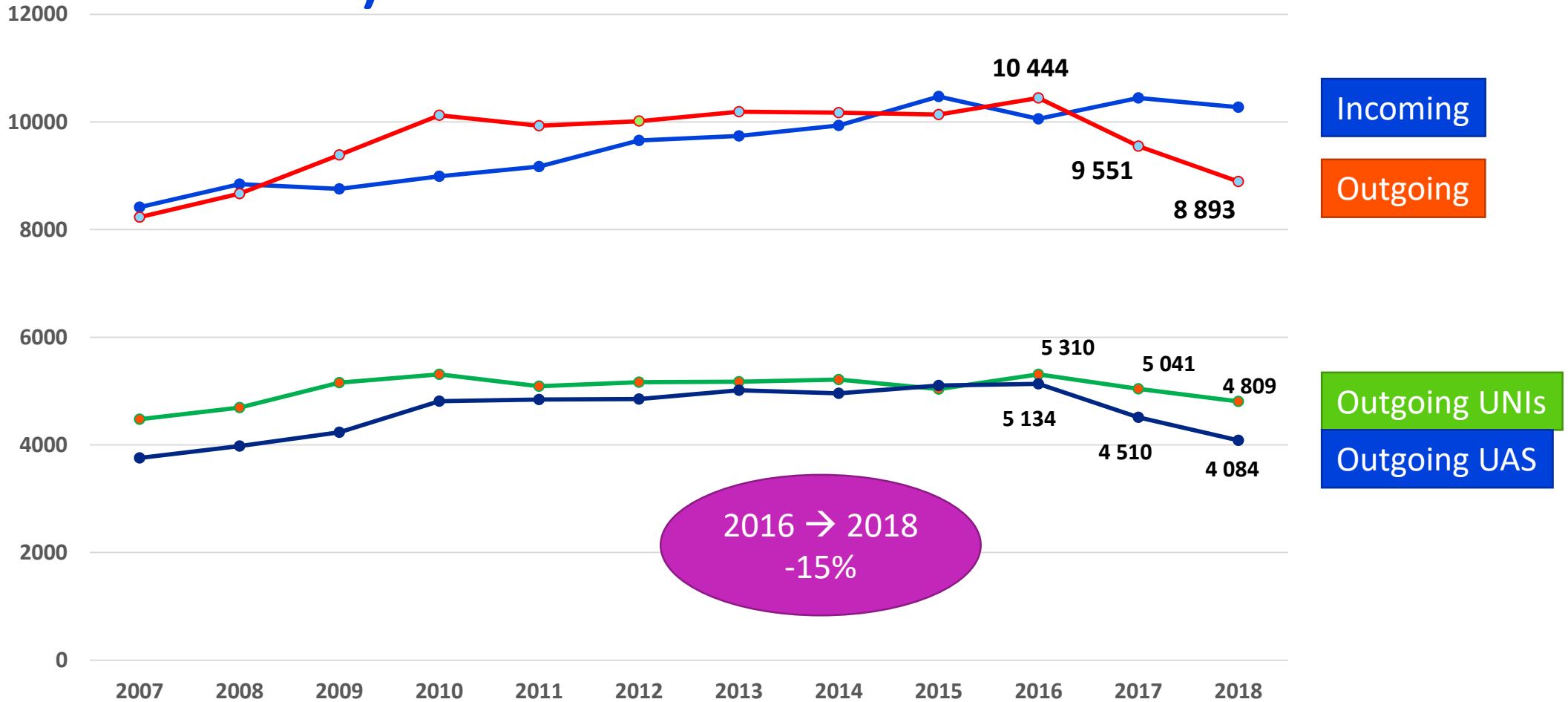


Business,  
Humanities  
Medicine,  
Social Sciences

UK, Sweden,  
Estonia,  
Netherlands,  
US, Germany

57 % come back  
to Finland in 1-5  
years after  
graduation  
(survey 2008)

# Credit mobility of higher education students from/to Finland (over 3 months)





# Various reasons behind declining student mobility

Cuts in HEI resources  
and staff

No mobility windows in  
the majority of degree  
programmes

New funding model of  
HEIs will not reward from  
credit mobility

Focus of international  
activities elsewhere  
(student recruitment  
and educational export)

Lack of resources for  
counselling of  
potential mobile  
students

Cuts in students  
financial aid,  
economic  
constraints

Demography:  
1/3 of new HEI students  
over 24-years of age,  
16 % have children,  
over 50 % work

Pressure to  
graduate fast

Many ways to gain  
international  
experience

# Additional material

- EMN Study 4 / 2018: Attracting and retaining international students in the EU – National Report of Finland  
[http://www.emn.fi/files/1981/EMN\\_student\\_study\\_2018\\_EN\\_FI.pdf](http://www.emn.fi/files/1981/EMN_student_study_2018_EN_FI.pdf)
- Vipunen – Education statistics in Finland: <https://vipunen.fi/en-gb/>



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# Thank you!

[anni.kallio@oph.fi](mailto:anni.kallio@oph.fi)

