

PHD
PROGRAMME
IN DESIGN
POLITECNICO
DI MILANO

VIV DOTTORATO
DI RICERCA
IN DESIGN

POLITECNICO DI MILANO
DIPARTIMENTO DI DESIGN



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863

DIPARTIMENTO DI DESIGN

FIRST THINGS FIRST



OUR ID

**CONTEXT
ANALYSIS**

**CURRENT
TRANSFORMATION**

**NETWORK
& SYNERGIES**

OUR HISTORY

POLITECNICO
DI MILANO
FOUNDATION

1863

PHD
STARTED

1984

PHD IN DESIGN
FOUNDATION

1990

PHD SCHOOL
FOUNDATION

2001



OUR NUMBERS

1

PHD SCHOOL WITHIN
POLITECNICO DI MILANO

1300

CANDIDATES IN POLITECNICO
IN A 3Y PROGRAMME

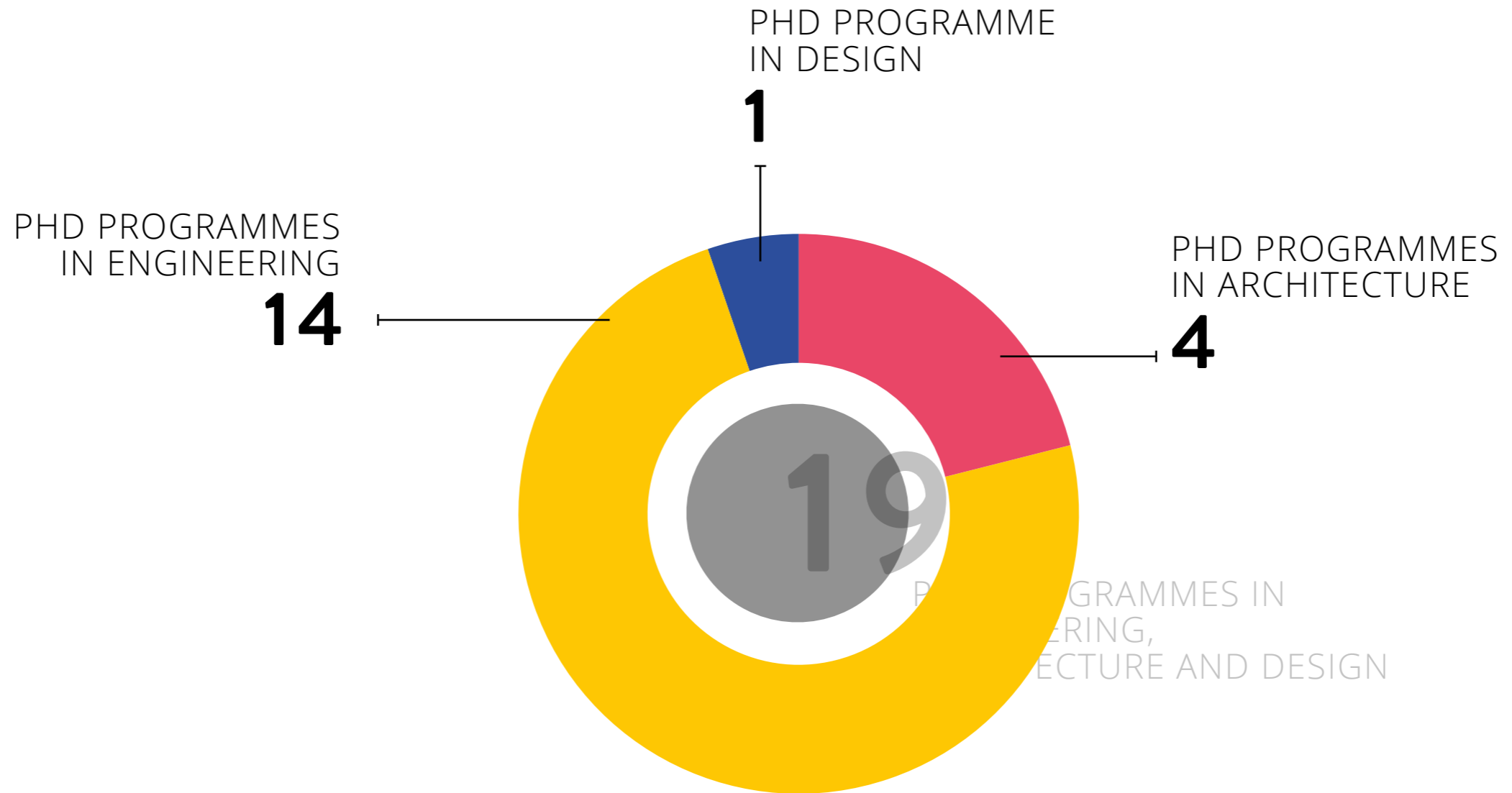
19

PHD PROGRAMMES IN
ENGINEERING,
ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN



PHD PROGRAMMES

AT POLITECNICO DI MILANO



OUR HISTORY

POLITECNICO
DI MILANO
FOUNDATION

1863

PHD
STARTED

1984

PHD IN DESIGN
FOUNDATION

1990

PHD SCHOOL
FOUNDATION

2001



OUR NUMBERS

PHD IN DESIGN
FOUNDATION

1990

PHD SCHOOL
FOUNDATION

2001

100

DESIGN DEPARTMENT
FACULTY

28

PHD DEDICATED
FACULTY BOARD

60

CANDIDATES IN DESIGN
IN A 3Y PROGRAMME

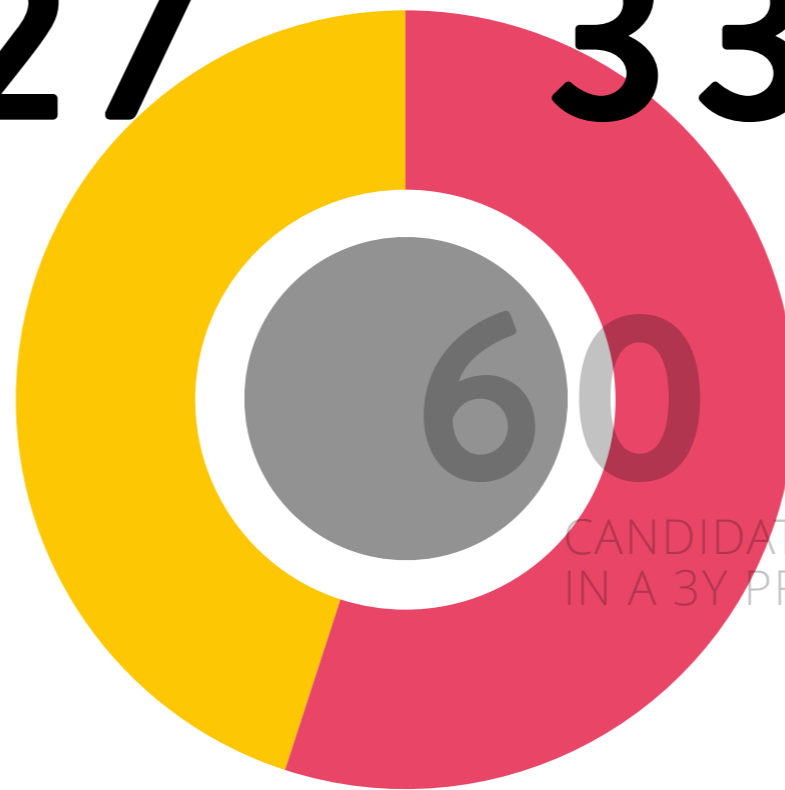
OUR CANDIDATES NATIONALITY

REST OF THE WORLD

27

ITALIANS

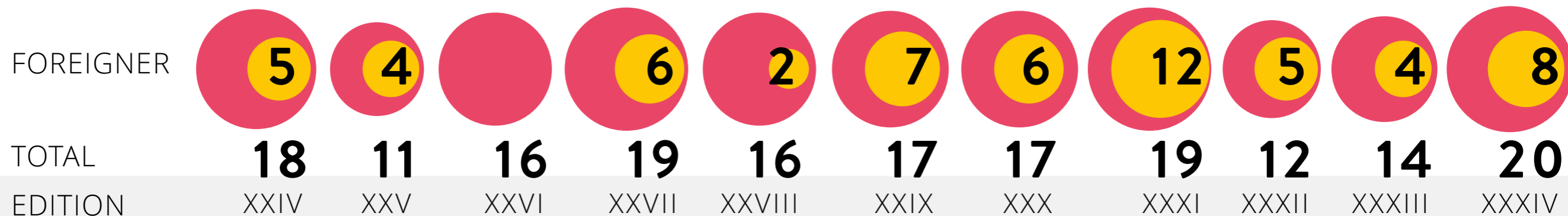
33



CANDIDATES IN DESIGN
IN A 3Y PROGRAMME

OUR CANDIDATES

NATIONALITY



TO SUM UP
THE LAST
10 EDITIONS

STUDENTS FOR EDITION ~ **16**

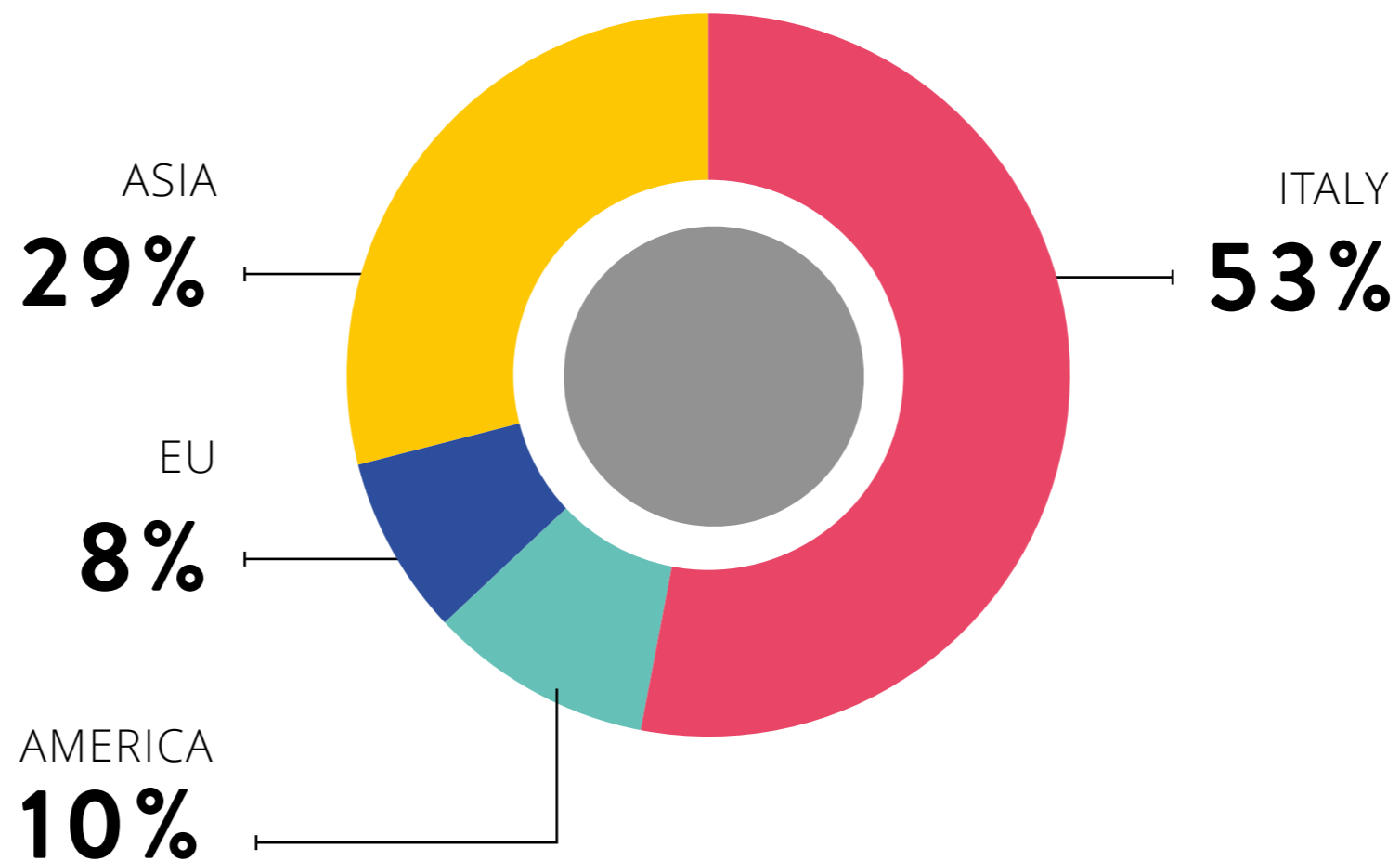
FOREIGNERS FOR EDITION ~ **5**

AVERAGE FOREIGNERS IN THE LAST 10 EDITIONS **34%**

AVERAGE FOREIGNERS IN THE LAST 5 EDITIONS **42%**

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

MAINLY FROM DESIGN STUDIES; ALSO ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING, HUMANITIES



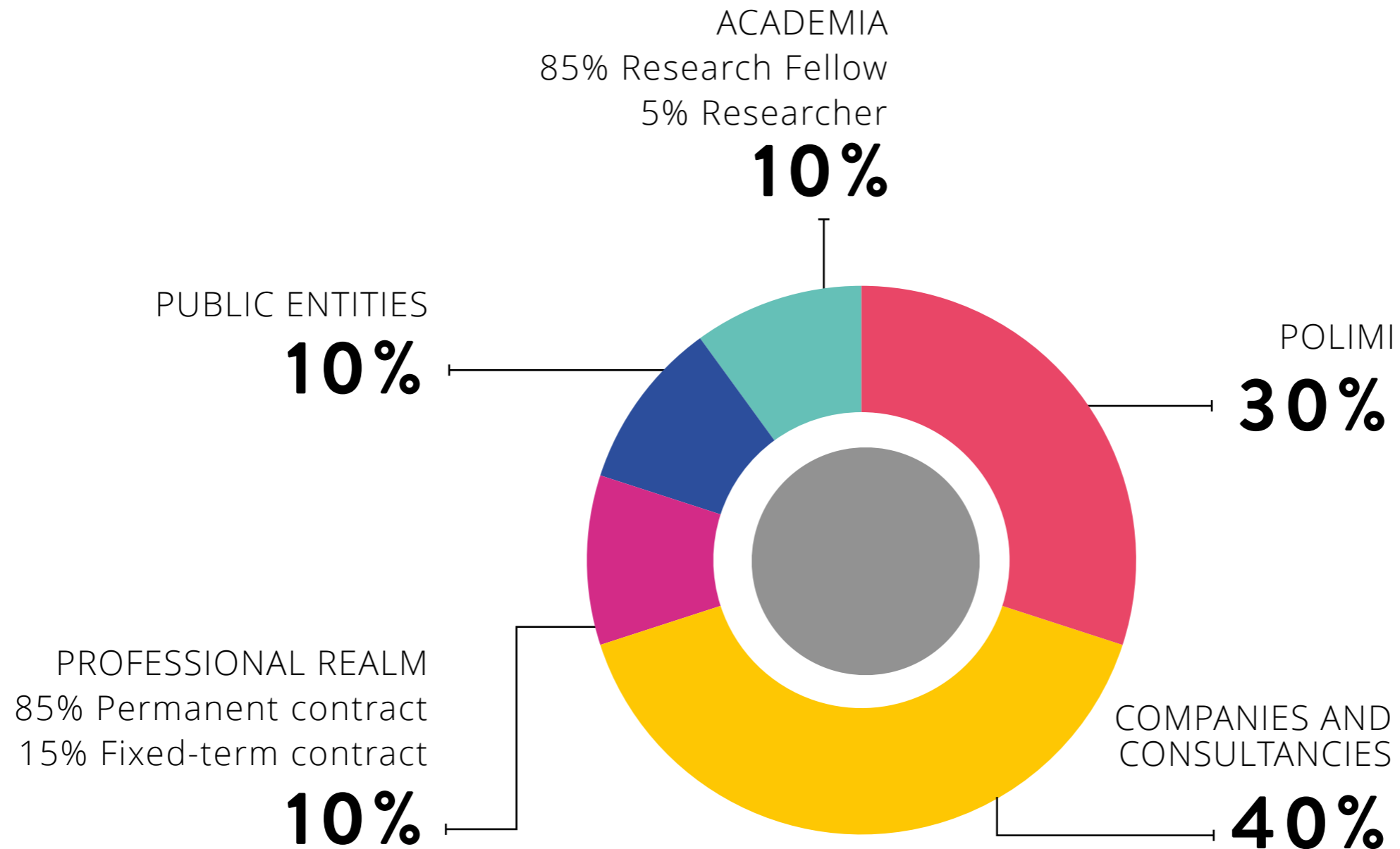
SURVEY: DECEMBER 2017

INTERVIEWEE: 2015/2016 POLIMI DOCTORS

BY: CAREER SERVICE, STUDY SERVICE, ALUMNI POLIMI, SWG (EXTERNAL PROVIDER)

PLACEMENT

ONE YEAR AFTER GRADUATION



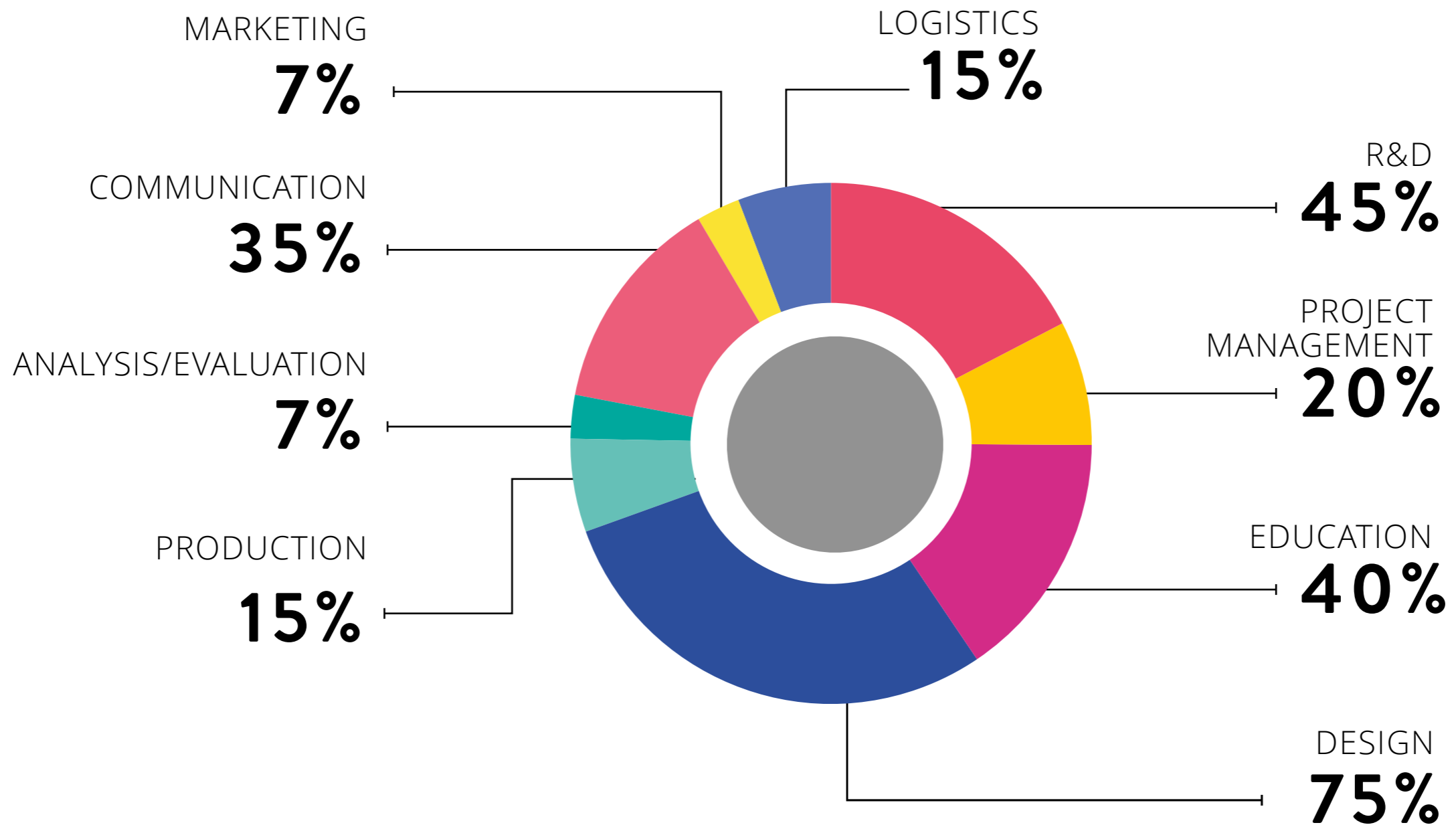
SURVEY: DECEMBER 2017

INTERVIEWEE: 2015/2016 POLIMI DOCTORS

BY: CAREER SERVICE, STUDY SERVICE, ALUMNI POLIMI, SWG (EXTERNAL PROVIDER)

AREAS

AREAS OF EXPERTISE IN WHICH THEY ARE MAINLY INVOLVED



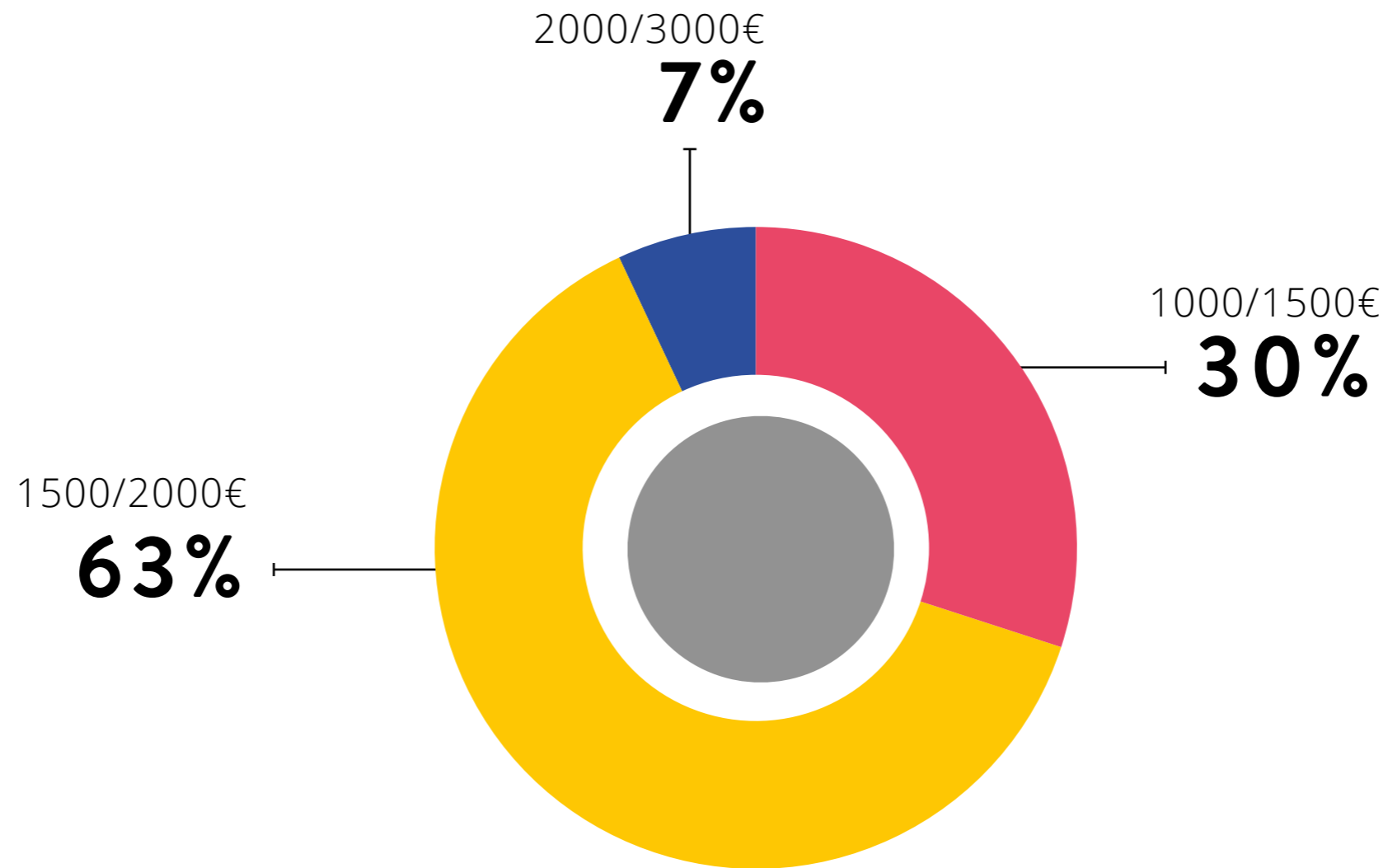
SURVEY: DECEMBER 2017

INTERVIEWEE: 2015/2016 POLIMI DOCTORS

BY: CAREER SERVICE, STUDY SERVICE, ALUMNI POLIMI, SWG (EXTERNAL PROVIDER)

MONTHLY SALARY

ONE YEAR AFTER GRADUATION



SURVEY: DECEMBER 2017

INTERVIEWEE: 2015/2016 POLIMI DOCTORS

BY: CAREER SERVICE, STUDY SERVICE, ALUMNI POLIMI, SWG (EXTERNAL PROVIDER)

EMPLOYMENT

ONE YEAR AFTER GRADUATION

EMPLOYMENT RATE

87%

EMPLOYED AT THE TIME OF TITLE ACHIEVEMENT

70%

EMPLOYED IN ITALY

80%

25%

50%

75%

100%

SURVEY: DECEMBER 2017

INTERVIEWEE: 2015/2016 POLIMI DOCTORS

BY: CAREER SERVICE, STUDY SERVICE, ALUMNI POLIMI, SWG (EXTERNAL PROVIDER)

RESEARCH TOPICS



OUR ID

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GOVERNMENT POLICIES & DEPARTMENTS OF EXCELLENCE

GUIDELINES

Integrate the various activities envisaged is therefore important: recruitment, highly qualified teaching (second and third level), investment in research infrastructures.

USE OF RESOURCES

HIGHLY QUALIFIED TEACHING ACTIVITIES

These are resources which can only be used as examples, and which can be used for doctoral or post-doctoral scholarships, research grants, teaching assignments, visiting professors, student assignments, etc.

EU POLICIES & NEARBY POSSIBILITIES

EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES

- Erasmus Plus: mobility, strategic partnerships, knowledge alliances
- Erasmus Mundus: scholarships and Joint Doctorates

INTERNAL OPPORTUNITIES

- The PhD School and the transformation of the teaching structure (co-financed by international teachers), Interdepartmental grants, Idea League (Delft University of Technology (Netherlands), ETH Zürich (Switzerland), and RWTH Aachen University (Germany), Politecnico di Milano (Italy): summer school, doctoral school
- Executive PhD (eg. Innovhub project)

PHD IN DESIGN
**NETWORK
OF EXCELLENCE**
SURVEY DATA

SURVEY: SEPTEMBER 2018

DATA COLLECTED THROUGH THE COORDINATORS OF THE PHD PROGRAMMES

NETWORK OF EXCELLENCE

TU DELFT + POLIMI + AALTO + IIT + CMU + IMPERIAL

PhD in Design Engineering
Dyson School of Design Engineering
IMPERIAL COLLEGE

Doctoral Programme of Aalto
School of Art, Design and Architecture
AALTO UNIVERSITY

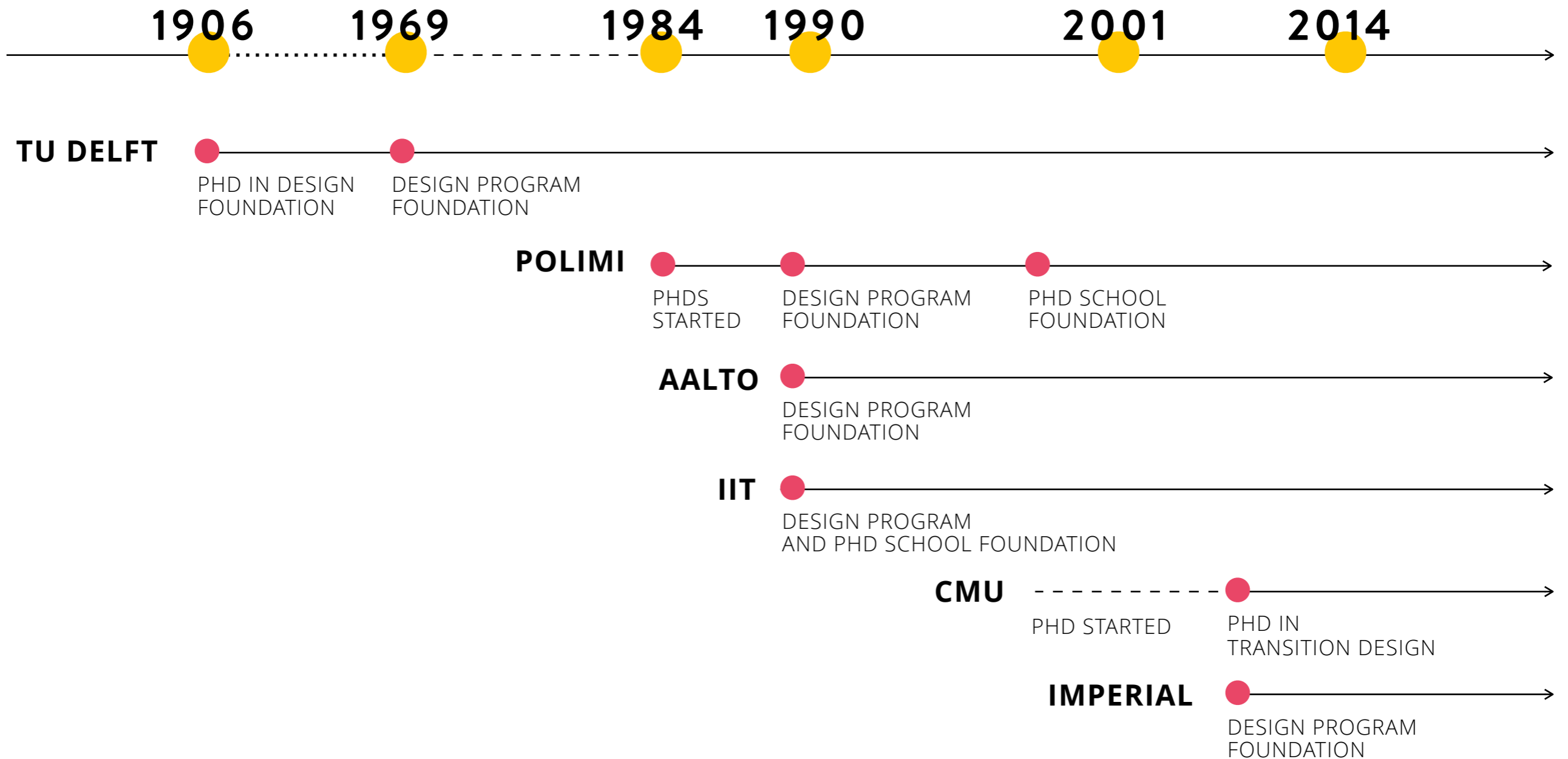
PhD in Design, Institute of Design
**ILLINOIS INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY**

Graduate School
Faculty of Industrial Design Engineering
TU DELFT

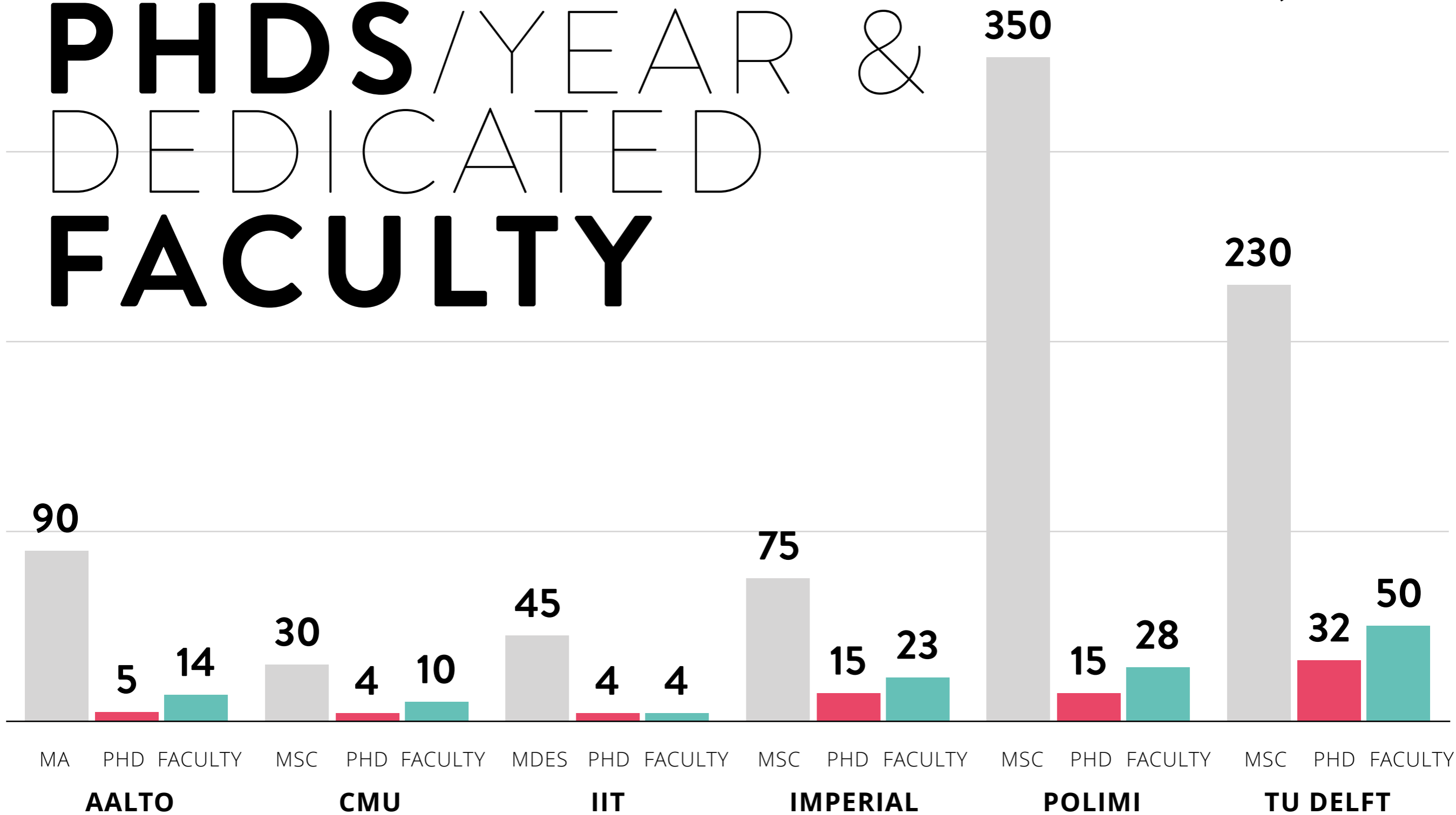
PhD in Transition Design
CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY

PhD programme in Design
POLITECNICO DI MILANO

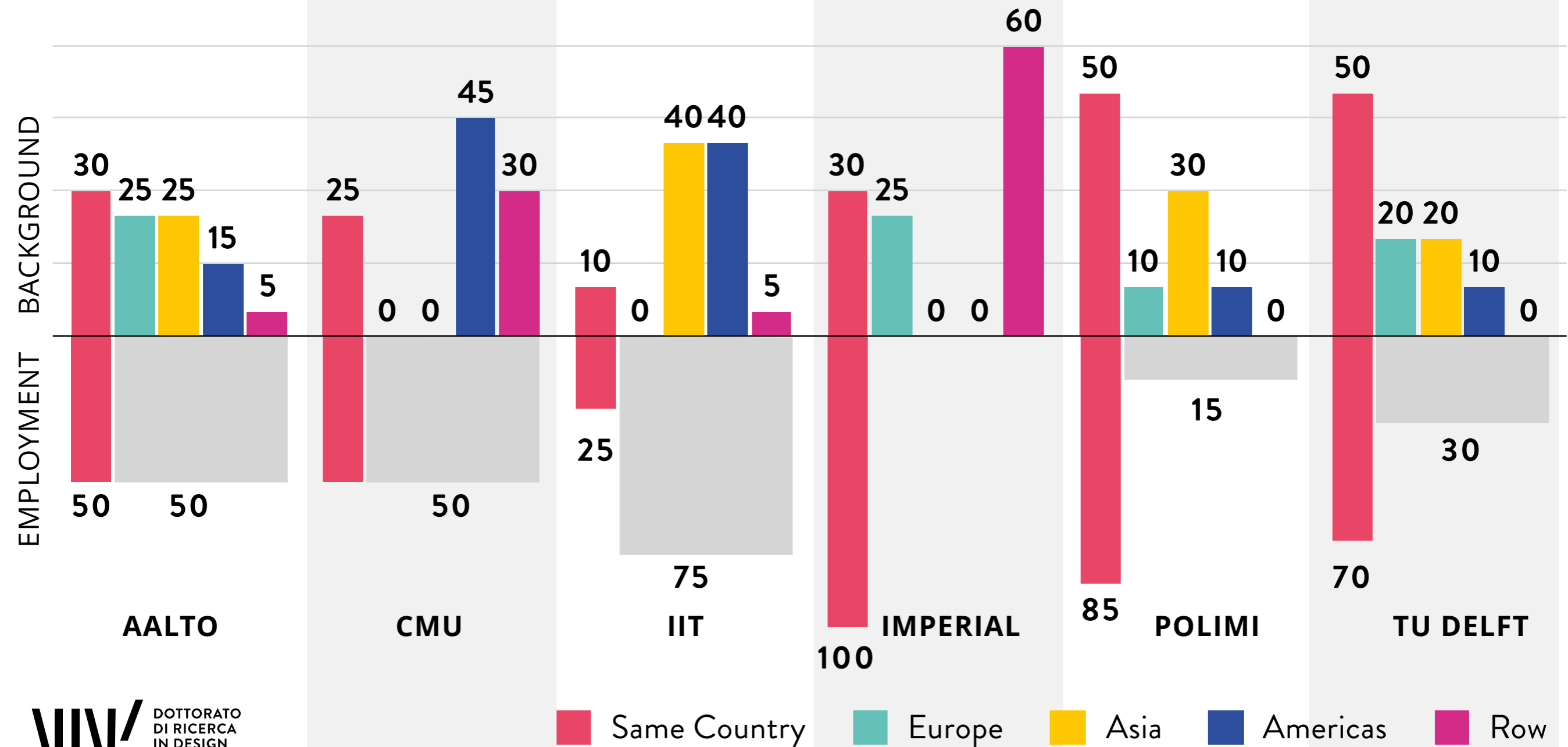
HISTORY OF THE PHD PROGRAMS



GRADUATES/YEAR, PHDS/YEAR & DEDICATED FACULTY



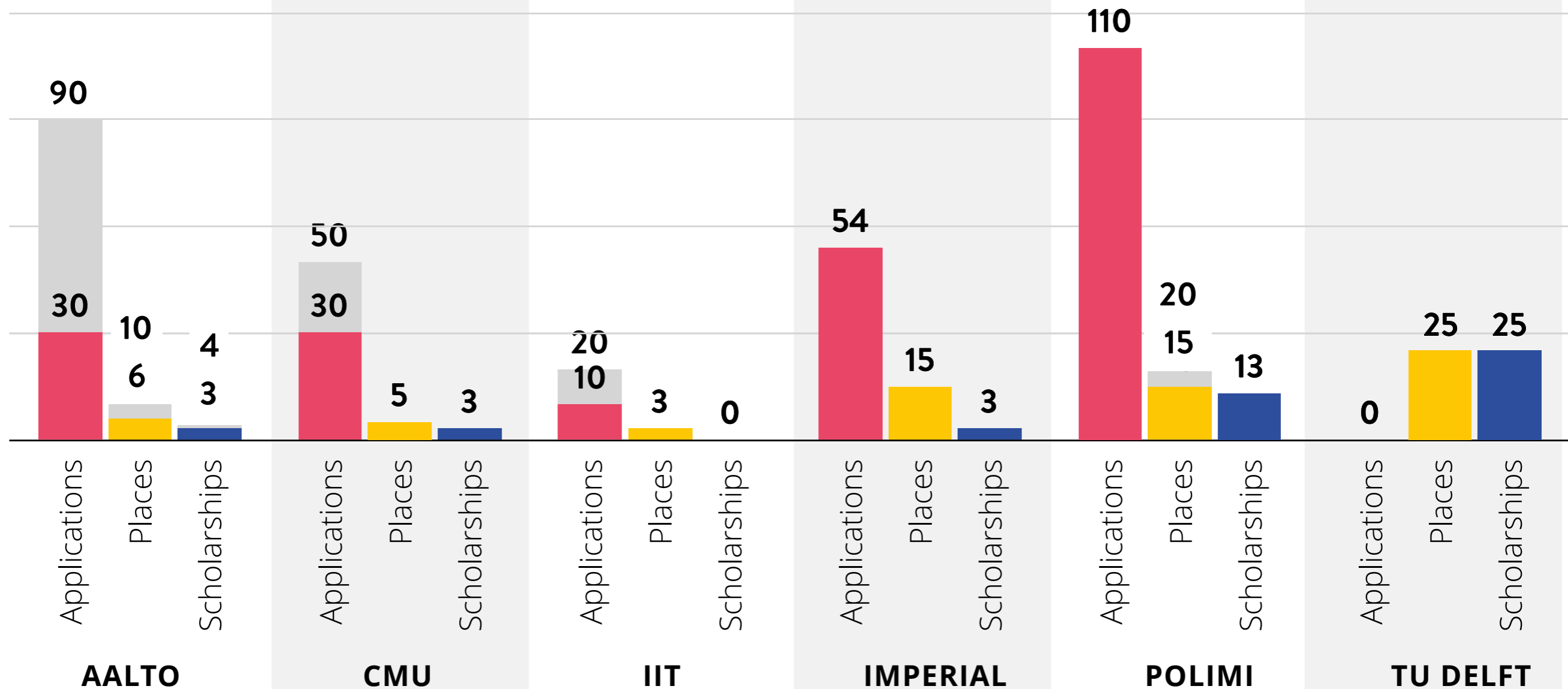
PHDS BACKGROUND & EMPLOYMENT COUNTRY



APPLICATIONS

AVAILABLE PLACES

SCHOLARSHIPS



TOPIC OF THE COURSES

DESIGN RESEARCH	●	●	●	●	●	●
METHODOLOGY	●	●	●	●	●	●
SOFT SKILLS	●				●	●
WRITING	●	●	●	●	●	●
TEACHING ACTIVITIES	yes with limits	yes with limits	yes with limits	yes with limits	yes with limits	yes with limits
COMMUNITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • winter school • topical school • seminars • parties • gettogethers • intro course 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • annual 2-day activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 hours events at the end of every semester 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • university-wide activities • weekly seminar series • tbd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • light welcome day • welcome day of the Doctoral school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some informal ones • group seminars
TEAM BUILDING, PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDED	yes	yes	no	yes	"Unique Guarantee Committee" (CUG)	yes HR support, and varieties of courses and training
VINVA DOTTORATO DI RICERCA IN DESIGN	AALTO	CMU	IIT	IMPERIAL	POLIMI	TU DELFT

PHD THESES

TYPOLGY

MONOGRAPHS	●	MIXED	●	●	●	●
BY ARTICLE	●					●
BY PROJECT	●					
EXTERNAL EXAMINERS	1 + 2 pre-examiners	1	review committee of 3/4 members	1+ 1 internal	2	4
DISSEMINATION	paper journal article monograph exhibition workshop	paper journal article monograph exhibition workshop	paper journal article monograph transfer of design tools and methods to industry and design education	paper journal article monograph	paper journal article monograph	paper journal article monograph
	AALTO	CMU	IIT	IMPERIAL	POLIMI	TU DELFT



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CURRENT TRANSFORMATION OF POLIMI PHD

THE RECENT PAST OF THE PHD IN DESIGN
OF THE POLITECNICO DI MILANO

- + A structure that has remained unchanged over the course of a decade characterized by profound changes in the context and status of the discipline, especially at the international level.
- + A didactic offer that results from an additive process operated for "micro-transformations".
- + The increasingly heterogeneous pool of candidates with a growing international component.
- + A progressive "specialization" of the theses developed and a consequent specialization of the tutoring and evaluation processes

CURRENT TRANSFORMATION OF POLIMI PHD

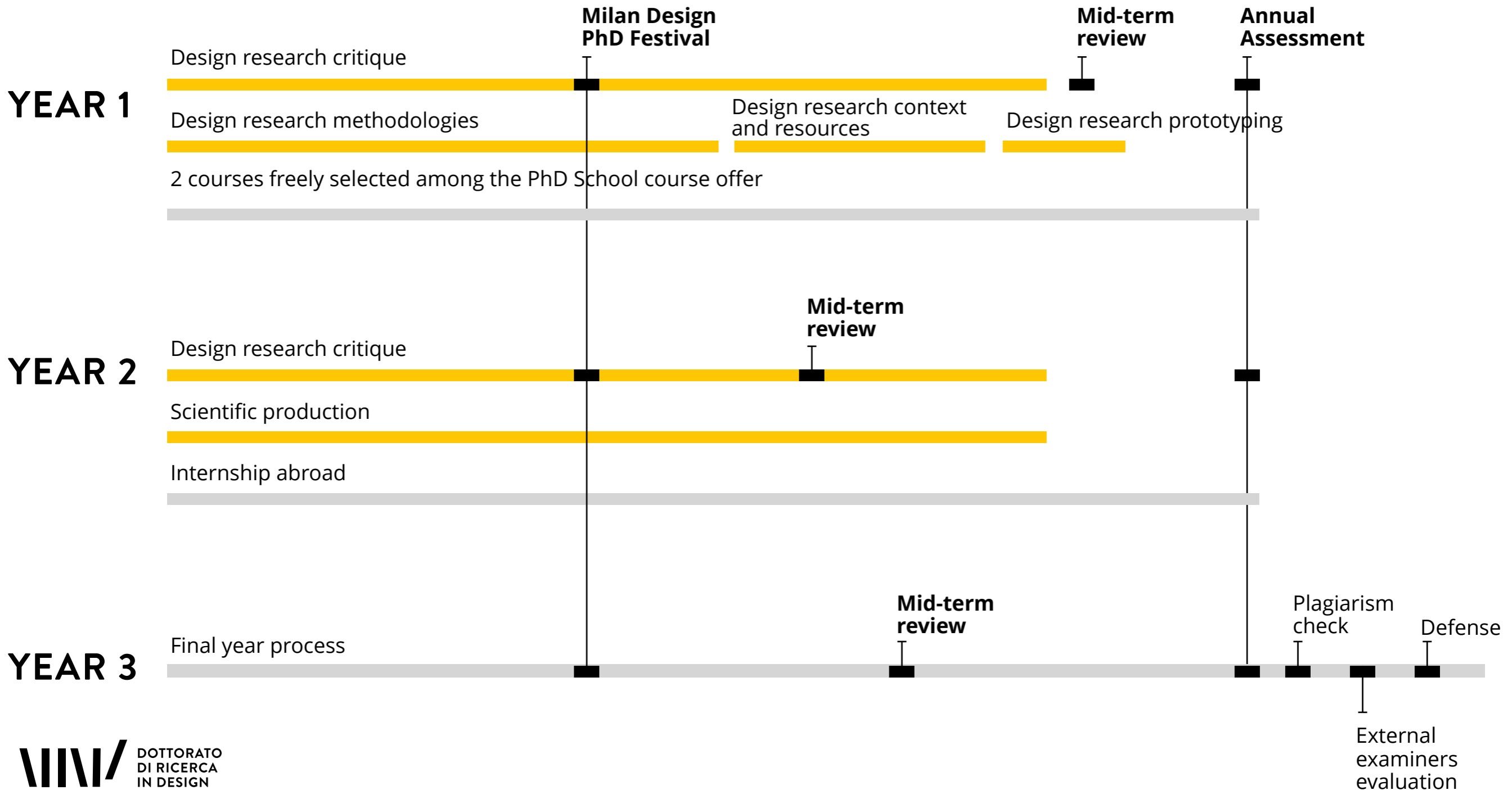
THE REVIEW PROCESS IN BRIEF

- + Meetings with students
- + Analysis and elaboration of didactic evaluation questionnaires
- + Analysis of the international context and of the training offer (10 PhDs analysed)
- + Working table group on didactics

OBJECTIVES

- + Simplification of the offer
- + Greater possibility of customization
- + Increased interaction between students of different cycles
- + Development of immersive/residential educational activities
- + Exploration of the laboratory model applied to research and strengthening of the identity of our doctorate

EDUCATIONAL FRAMEWORK



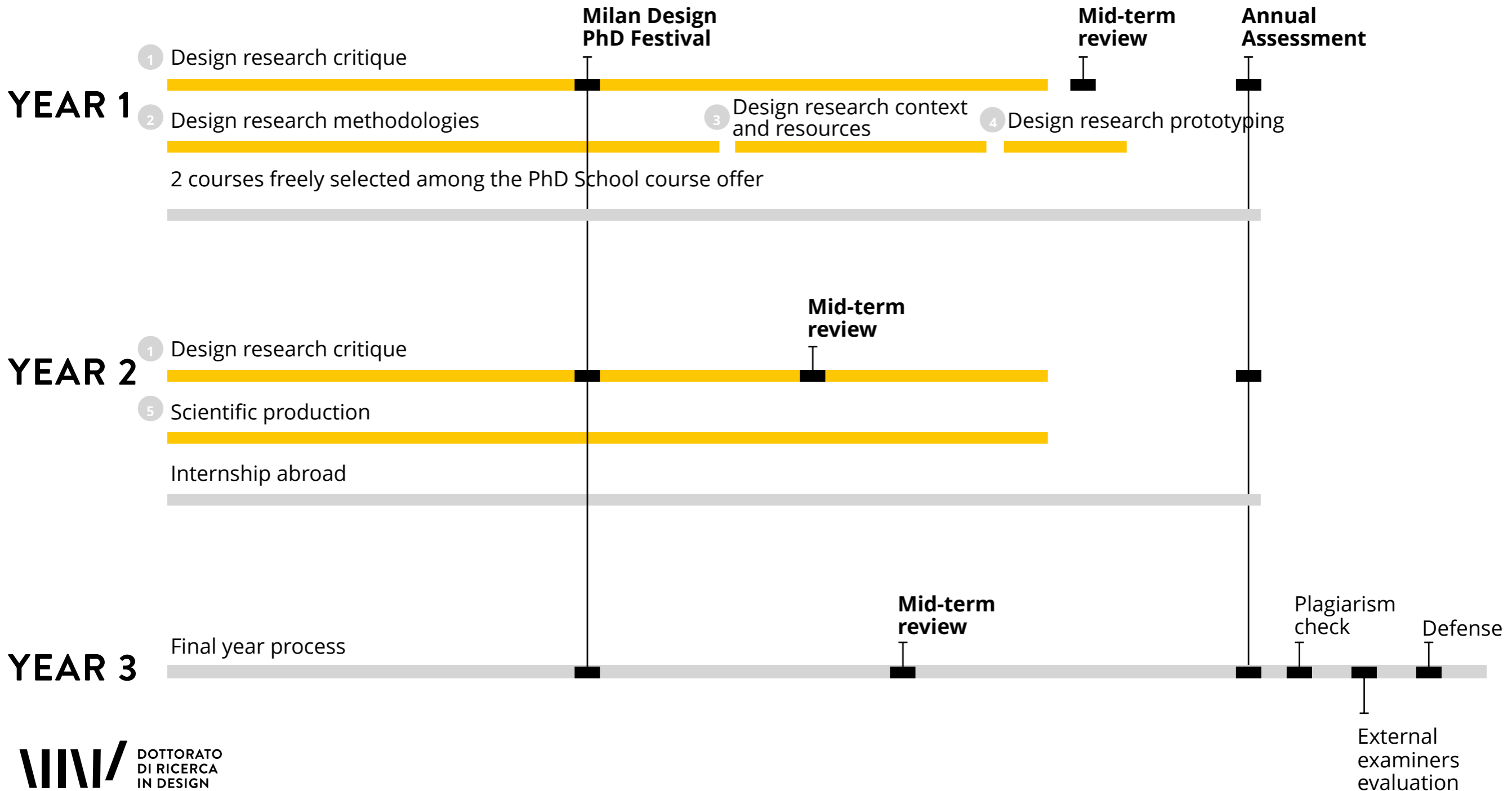
1 Design research critique
 The course introduces to the notion of “criticism” and on the “act of critiquing” intended as a systematic attitude to adopt when positioning, interpreting, conceptualizing, analyzing, contextualizing, synthesizing, evaluating and communicating knowledge and research results.

2 Design research methodologies
 The course is designed to offer a comprehensive immersion in the cultural background, operative milieu and essential features of scholarly design research, through the lens of research methodologies.

3 Design research context and resources
 The course trains skills to identify funding sources and to define the topic for a research proposal by evaluating different grant possibilities.

4 Design research prototyping
 The course invites to explore the boundaries of research through design, the potentialities of design practice to produce original, generalizable and codified knowledge in forms that are not exclusively textual.

5 Scientific production
 The course supports candidates in the academic publication process.





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NETWORKS & SYNERGIES

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER RESOURCES

- + Access to Ministerial Grants and facilities for out-of-region housing
- + Exploration of possible mechanisms of co-protection of doctoral students
- + Access to external resources to the Italian system (European funding sources)

SYNERGIES ON DIDACTIC OFFER

- + Participation in intensive educational activities: PhD Design Lecture (Design Research Critique), Design Research Prototyping (Design experiments. Exploring and materializing the boundaries of knowledge)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE

- + Increased enhancement of existing initiatives to make them also opportunities for cultural and scientific comparison (Milano Design PhD Festival)
- + Provision of resources and documents and sharing of good practices (mapping of international models, research grant outcome on "Models for higher education in design")

GRAZIE!

phd.design.polimi.it