What happens to MCTS graduates when they grow up?
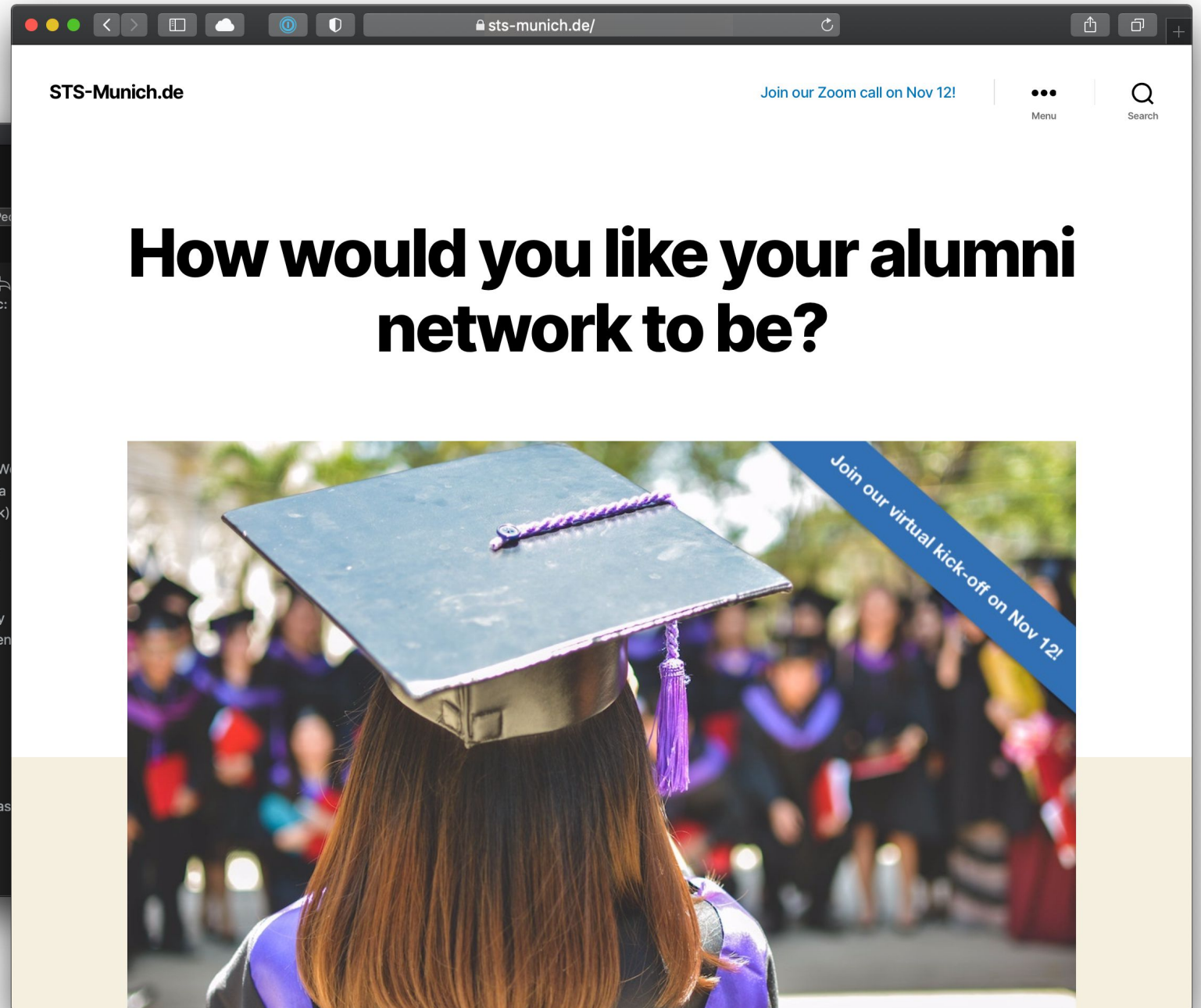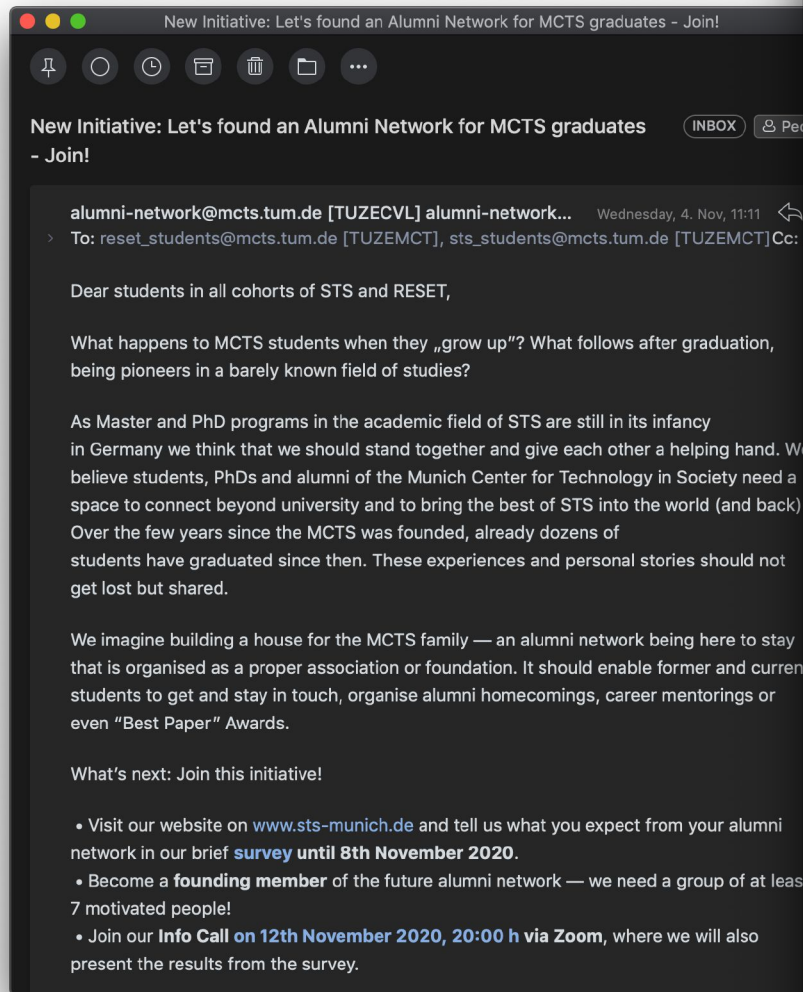
Alumni Network

For students, PhDs and alumni from MCTS

Fabian Kuntz, Dominik Wedber & Matthias Meller

November 12, 2020

New Initiative: Let's found an Alumni Network for MCTS graduates - Join!   INBOX   Pe...

alumni-network@mcts.tum.de [TUZECVL] alumni-network...   Wednesday, 4. Nov, 11:11
To: reset_students@mcts.tum.de [TUZEMCT], sts_students@mcts.tum.de [TUZEMCT] Cc:

Dear students in all cohorts of STS and RESET,

What happens to MCTS students when they „grow up"? What follows after graduation, being pioneers in a barely known field of studies?

As Master and PhD programs in the academic field of STS are still in its infancy in Germany we think that we should stand together and give each other a helping hand. We believe students, PhDs and alumni of the Munich Center for Technology in Society need a space to connect beyond university and to bring the best of STS into the world (and back). Over the few years since the MCTS was founded, already dozens of students have graduated since then. These experiences and personal stories should not get lost but shared.

We imagine building a house for the MCTS family — an alumni network being here to stay that is organised as a proper association or foundation. It should enable former and current students to get and stay in touch, organise alumni homecomings, career mentorings or even "Best Paper" Awards.

What's next: Join this initiative!

• Visit our website on www.sts-munich.de and tell us what you expect from your alumni network in our brief **survey** until 8th November 2020.
• Become a **founding member** of the future alumni network — we need a group of at least 7 motivated people!
• Join our **Info Call on 12th November 2020, 20:00 h via Zoom**, where we will also present the results from the survey.

STS-Munich.de

Join our Zoom call on Nov 12!

Menu   Search

How would you like your alumni network to be?

Join our virtual kick-off on Nov 12!

1 Assembling a **founding team**

2 Forming a team to analyse survey and organise **strategy workshop**

3 Plan our first **public event**

Vision

We believe students and PhDs at Munich Center for Technology in Society, whether past or present, need a space to connect beyond university. That's why we started this initiative for an alumni network.

Mission

We like to build up a legal association ("eingetragener Verein") to ensure students and PhDs at Munich Center for Technology in Society stay connected to ensure:

Career Orientation

Peer-to-Peer Networking

Living the MCTS Spirit

Possible Activities

- **Alumni Homecoming**
- **Career Mentoring**
- **Job Market**
- **Essential Readings in STS**
- **Networking**
- **Newsletter**
- **…**

Timeline

- **Phase 0 | recently**
  Preparation (Legal, Stakeholder Involvement, …) + kick-off today!

- **Phase 1 | Late 2020 or early 2021**
  Foundation of Legal Association ("e.V.")

- **Phase 2 | 2021 onwards:**
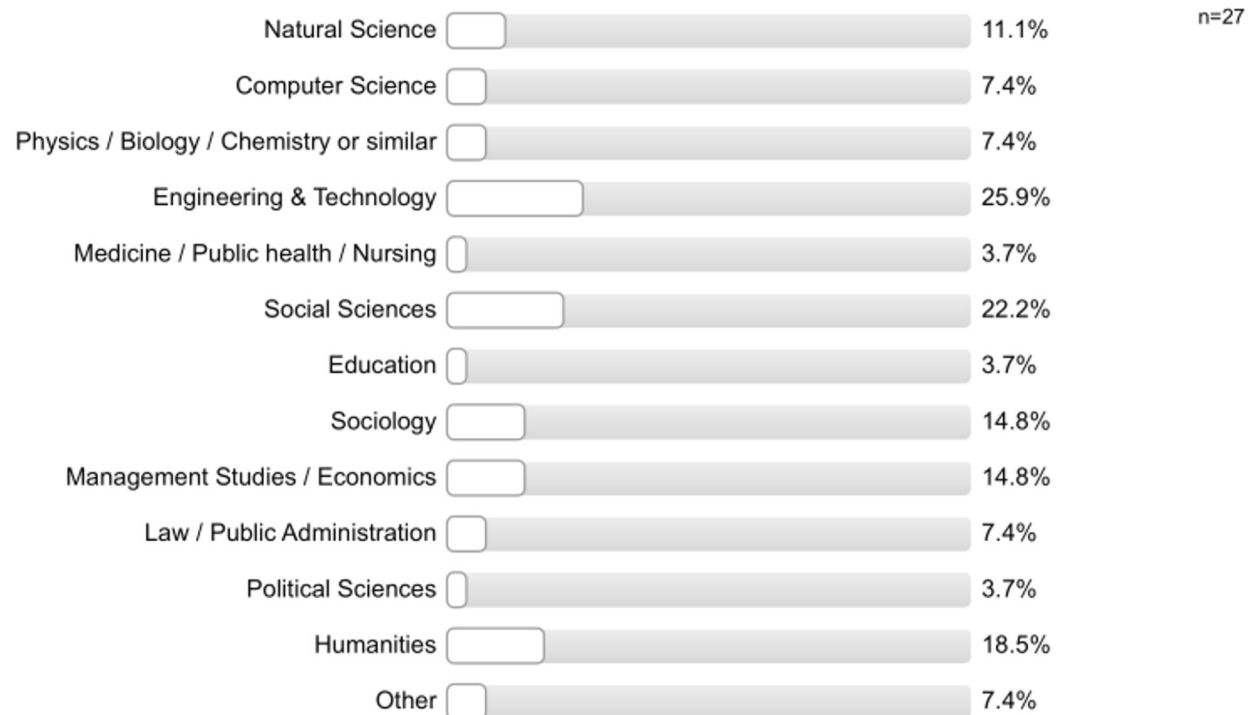 The Alumni Network in Action

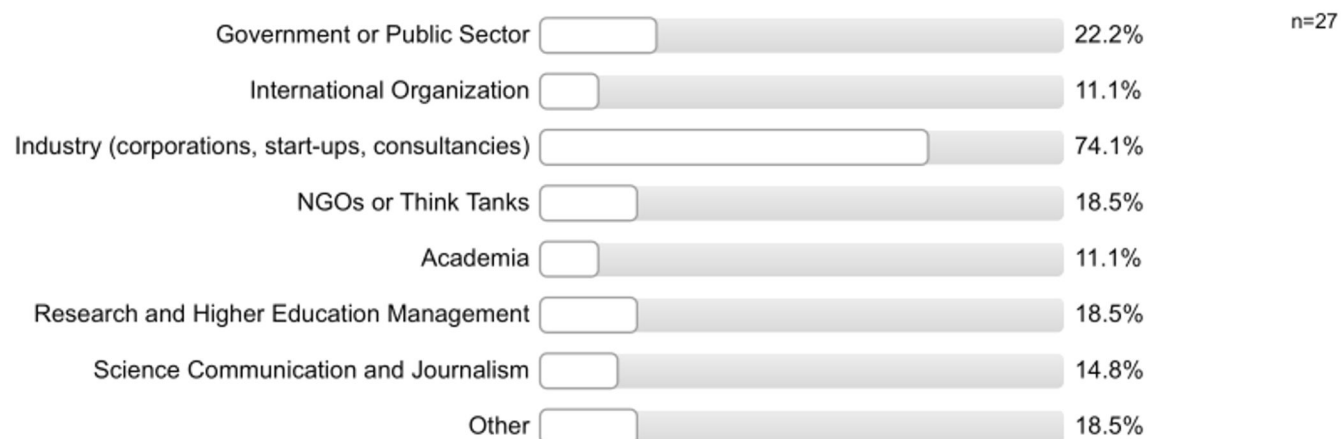# Survey: A quick overview

Are you... (*)

currently enrolled as a M.A. student?	████████████████	85.2%
a PhD student?	▌	3.7%
MCTS alumni?	██	11.1%

n=27

Study program (*)

STS	██████	37%
RESET	██████████	59.3%
PhD Student	▌	3.7%
WTphil / other		0%

n=27
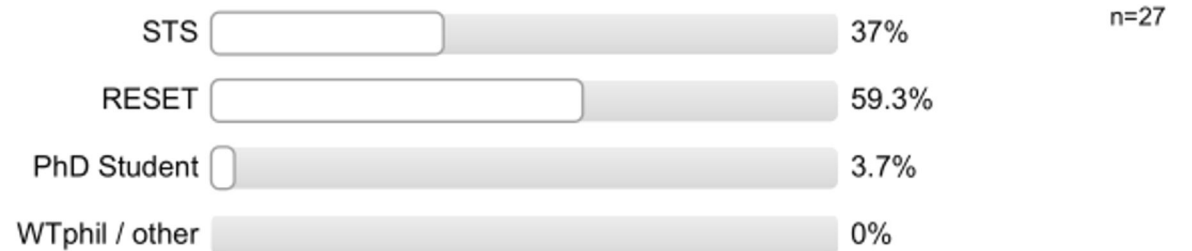
In which field did you graduate before coming to MCTS? [several answers possible] (*)

n=27

Field	Percentage
Natural Science	11.1%
Computer Science	7.4%
Physics / Biology / Chemistry or similar	7.4%
Engineering & Technology	25.9%
Medicine / Public health / Nursing	3.7%
Social Sciences	22.2%
Education	3.7%
Sociology	14.8%
Management Studies / Economics	14.8%
Law / Public Administration	7.4%
Political Sciences	3.7%
Humanities	18.5%
Other	7.4%

Do you have work experience (> 1 year)? [several answers possible]

n=27

Sector	Percentage
Government or Public Sector	22.2%
International Organization	11.1%
Industry (corporations, start-ups, consultancies)	74.1%
NGOs or Think Tanks	18.5%
Academia	11.1%
Research and Higher Education Management	18.5%
Science Communication and Journalism	14.8%
Other	18.5%

How would you like your alumni network to be?

Expectations towards a future MCTS Alumni Network

In which field would you like to work or are you already working in? [several answers possible]

n=27

Field	Percentage
Government or Public Sector	48.1%
International Organization	70.4%
Industry (corporations, start-ups, consultancies)	70.4%
NGOs or Think Tanks	51.9%
Academia	33.3%
Research and Higher Education Management	33.3%
Science Communication and Journalism	33.3%
Other	0%
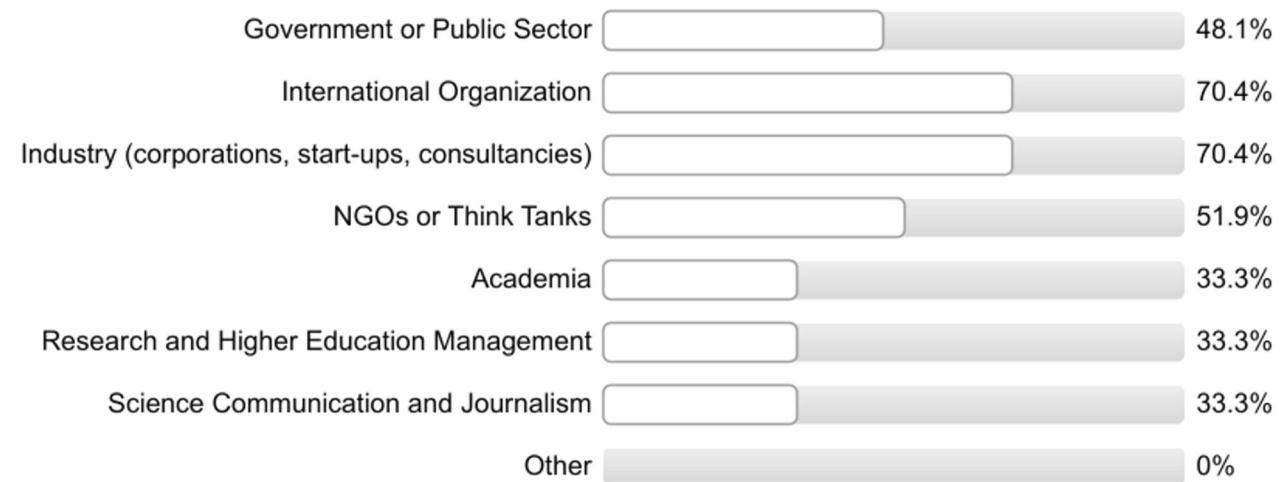
Main challenges after graduating (exemplary)

"to know what are the options as the opportunities seem endless (according to the website and description of the program)"

"Explaining to employers what STS is and why its insights could be valuable to their organisation. In plain English: Explaining to them that what I learned in my RESET master is actually something important IN PRACTICE."

"Finding jobs that are perfectly set for your skills, as opposed to just finding any opportunities."

"To decide if I'm going to do my PhD and if yes, where will I go to do it."

Possible Alumni Network activities (exemplary)

"Meet-ups/events with graduates to learn about the various career paths they pursued."

"Getting to know what concerns the current students and supporting current students as well as being on board about things that go on into the STS field (conferences, jobs, calls, …)"

"Stammtisch, Forums, visiting companies, getting updates from MCTS"

1 Assembling a **founding team**

2 Forming a team to analyse survey and organise **strategy workshop**

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STS-Munich.de 🎓

WhatsApp group

Scan or upload this QR code using the
WhatsApp camera to join this group