HRK Hochschulrektorenkonferenz

Die Stimme der Hochschulen

11.1.2025

Author

WINTERHAGER, Nicolas (KRÜCKEN, Georg)

Title

The local "war of talent" - recruitment of recent tertiary education graduates from a regional perspective : some evidence from the German case / Nicolas Winterhager and Georg Krücken

Publication year

2015

Source/Footnote

In: European journal of higher education. - 5 (2015) 2, S. 127 - 140

Inventory number

38211

Keywords

Wissenschaftlicher Nachwuchs: allgemein; Hochschule und Region

Abstract

We analyse recruitment of recent tertiary education graduates drawing on a rich set of interviews with human resource managers of 46 large- and medium-sized firms in different regions across Germany. Specifically, we address the question of which higher education institutions' managers choose for campus recruiting and which criteria managers use to select recruitment institutions. We find that a substantial share of institutions is located close to the firm seeking to recruit and that the major criterion for selection is geographic proximity to campus. Notably, quality- and performance-related criteria are hardly mentioned. This result is robust for firms in different regional settings, of different size and popularity. We further elaborate on the reasons behind this finding and conclude that the firms' regional orientation is driven by the interplay between three major factors: enhancing recruitment success and retention probability of graduates, avoiding competition with other employers and dealing with imperfect information. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)