Annual Report 2020
Thinking globally in Barcelona

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A community of just over 200 students, in which there is a real possibility to forge lasting friendships and professional contacts.

Training professionals in the areas of international relations and diplomacy, global governance, development and international security, as well as related public policy topics, has been a goal of IBEI since its creation.
This year 2020 has been exceptional for a very basic reason: the COVID-19 pandemic that has strongly impacted on our lives and professional activities in many respects. The COVID-19 pandemic has been an event with dramatic global consequences, which few could have foreseen. The entire IBEI community was committed to fighting it, and expressed its solidarity with all those who fell ill or who lost loved ones.

In spite of the circumstances, at IBEI, day-to-day activities continued as normally as possible, even during the hardest times of lockdown, thanks to a radical and immediate move to digital. Students made a great effort to persist in their studies in the face of the difficulties they experienced, and in some cases, in the less-than-ideal conditions of quarantine, whether it was in Barcelona or in their countries of origin. From the IBEI faculty and management, we did everything to make study plans more flexible and adapt them to the new circumstances, by introducing a series of measures that allowed each student to find the customized solution that met their needs and expectations best.

Fortunately, we were prepared: in late February 2020, we started moving all IBEI activities to virtual platforms and formats, implementing the necessary software, preparing the corresponding handbooks and making all kinds of adjustments to the organization of study and work. This allowed us to make a comparatively quick, seamless transition to e-learning, with students and teachers committed to continue the semester with the digital tools we made available to them. Even though it was an emergency situation, we managed to respond quickly and adapt syllabi, especially assessment criteria, to the new circumstances, with all the flexibility required.

In this respect, all faculty and students – with very few exceptions – continued to work relatively normally, while adjusting to and experimenting with the new digital environment. Their dedication and involvement were admirable and indicative of IBEI’s commitment to complete the master’s programmes with all the guarantees of quality, despite all the restrictions we were experiencing. Research activities and projects at IBEI were also profoundly affected by the pandemic. There was a great deal of uncertainty with regard to COVID-19, and it was therefore very difficult to make forecasts at that time, and in many cases, projects requested extensions to reduce such uncertainty, while many activities moved to digital environments and formats, from research seminars to personal interviews in field research. However, distortions were inevitable and researchers made great efforts under the extremely difficult circumstances resulting from the pandemic.

In short, this has been a very special and difficult year for everybody, including IBEI, but we rose to the challenge and new students continued to arrive at IBEI in the autumn for our new courses and programmes. New research projects were launched throughout the year, as the first ERC Consolidator Grant obtained by IBEI, in October 2020. This is why we warmly thank the entire IBEI community for their enthusiasm and hard work during this extremely trying year 2020.
Graduate Programmes
5 Master Programmes

The Master’s degrees are accredited by the Spanish Ministry of Education and are awarded by renowned Barcelona universities:

- Master’s in International Development
- Master’s in International Relations
- Master’s in International Security
- Research Master’s in International Studies
- Erasmus Mundus Master’s in Public Policy (Mundus MAPP)

Students by origin

- 14% from Spain
- 23% from USA
- 43% from Germany, Italy, Netherlands & UK
- 8% from other countries

234 Total master students 2020

New intake students

- 24 Master’s in International Development
- 53 Master’s in International Relations Full Time
- 17 Master’s in International Relations Part Time 1st year
- 23 Master’s in International Security
- 4 Research Master’s in International Studies
- 17 Erasmus Mundus Master’s in Public Policy (Mundus MAPP)

Previous year students

- 27 Master’s in International Development
- 41 Master’s in International Relations Full Time
- 20 Master’s in International Relations Part Time 2nd year
- 8 Master’s in International Security

Student profile 2020-21 (intake)

- Average age: 25 years
- Nationalities: 43
- Gender: 60% female, 40% male
- Most represented countries: Spain, USA, Germany, Italy, Netherlands & UK
### Student profile by masters programme (intake)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Average age</th>
<th>Gender</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master's in International Development</td>
<td>25 years</td>
<td>67% female, 33% male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master's in International Relations</td>
<td>24 years</td>
<td>58% female, 42% male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master's in International Security</td>
<td>24 years</td>
<td>61% female, 35% male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Master's in International Studies</td>
<td>24 years</td>
<td>50% female, 50% male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erasmus Mundus Master's in Public Policy (Mundus MAPP)</td>
<td>25 years</td>
<td>76% female, 24% male</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IBEI organizes several workshops and lectures as part of the Internship Programme. The aim of these activities is to improve your professional skills and to give you an insight into different job profiles of the International Relations, International Security, International Development, and International Studies sectors.

IBEI Internship Programme
Career Skills Workshops · March 2020

IBEI Annual Report 2020
Student Highlights

1  
IBEI student Julián Andrés Villarreal Solano obtains the REEDES Award to the Best Master’s Final Dissertation on Development Studies

For the third year in a row, the 2020 REEDES (Spanish Network of Development Studies) Award to the Best Master’s Final Dissertation in Development Studies was adjudged to an IBEI student. The student Julián Andrés Villarreal Solano was awarded for his project ‘Citizen visible audits on the execution of development projects in Colombia: Do they make a difference?’ in the framework of the IBEI Master’s in International Development during the course 2018-19.

The dissertation evaluates the impact of citizen audits in Colombia between 2012 and 2020, seeking to investigate whether the mechanism favors the provision of services, and, consequently, produces a positive effect on the execution of development projects. It is a work with a micro, empirical orientation, and focused on a middle income country and that highlights the importance of local particularities and institutional capacities as determining factors in the execution of projects. The methodological solidity of the work and the good writing are also highlighted.

2  
IBEI student Andréane Williams wins the third place in the IEMed Aula Mediterrània Best Master’s Thesis Awards

Andréane Williams, student of the Master's in International Relations, was awarded the third prize for her work “Micro-level motivations of combatants in inter-communal conflicts. A look into the cases of Jabal Mohsen and Bab al Tabbaneh”.

In the work, Williams studies community violence between these two neighborhoods in the Lebanese city of Tripoli based on interviews with 13 ex-combatants. It is of special interest, according to the jury, “for its analysis of the factors that generate conflicts between groups in the same place” and because “it constitutes an in-depth exploration of the circumstances that condition personal involvement in conflicts of this kind.” The Awards are part of the Aula Mediterrània interuniversity programme, which the IEMed has been co-organizing with different master’s degrees from Catalan universities that are dedicated to the study of different disciplines of the Mediterranean environment.
IBEI, in collaboration with other institutions, offers the possibility to apply for scholarships that partially or completely cover the tuition fees for the master’s programmes.
Other Programmes
4 Executive courses

Taught under the framework of the Barcelona’gov academic network:

3 online courses in collaboration with Escuela de Gobierno y Políticas Públicas de la Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP)

1 face-to-face course in collaboration with Universidad de la República Uruguay (Udelar)

1 Winter School

POLNET Barcelona. Advanced Social Network Analysis

Jointly organized with the Universität Konstanz

1 Summer School

12th Euro-Asia Online Summer School:
The Sustainable Development Goals after the COVID pandemic. European and Asian Perspectives on Global Governance.

Organized by the Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies in association with Hitotsubashi University (Japan), Seoul National University (South Korea), the KDI School of Public Policy and Management (South Korea) and IBEI (Spain).
1 Online Course

International Relations, Geopolitics and Global Governance

Jointly offered by IBEI and Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC)

Student Profile 2020-21

38 students

42% Female

58% Male

14 Nationalities

USA 16%

Brazil 3%

Peru 3%

Spain 45%

Germany 8%

Andorra 3%

Switzerland 3%

Brazil 3%

Portugal 3%

France 3%

Liberia 3%

China 3%
Alumni
As of September 2020, IBEI launched a new programme, the #IBEIalumni Cafés, a new initiative aimed at getting insights of the alumni professional paths among IBEI graduates.

On a regular basis, IBEI alumni offer a virtual coffee talk to share professional experiences with graduate peers in order to get insights on the global job market, post questions, learn, exchange ideas and debate.

#IBEIalumni Cafés in 2020

26 November 2020 | There is no map: the need to reinvent in a career in international relations with Cyntia Oliveira (MIR 2010), Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow at the German Research Foundation.

12 November 2020 | Discovering the Equality Field with Sarah Cooke O’Dowd (MIR 2010), Currently working as Communication Officer at EQUINET (European Network of Equality Bodies).

15 October 2020 | Higher Education and International Relations: a perspective from an IR graduate with Felipe Ochoa Mogrovejo (MIR 2018), Currently working as Coordinator for the Directorate General of Students - Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador.

1 October 2020 | IR Careers in Multilateral Institutions. Profiles and trends for a new Development Landscape with Fernando Ledo (MIR 2006), Currently working as Senior Consultant. Agribusiness Development Division at the African Development Group, Côte d’Ivoire.

17 September 2020 | How to make a Career in the Environmental Field with Mariona Oliva (MIR 2019), Currently working as Vice President-Environmental and Social Studies - WSP, Colombia.

3 September 2020 | The many Paths to Cybersecurity with Alejandro Fernández-Cernuda (MIR 2012), Currently working as Director of Communications and Marketing at Global Cyber Alliance, Brussels-Belgium.
Alumni Professional Stories

Federica Genna
Master's in International Security 2015-16
Junior Consultant Security & Justice at Ecorys
Rotterdam (Netherlands)

"The knowledge I acquired during my Master’s degree served as a useful basis to build on as I started working in the field of international security. The Master’s helped me strengthen my analytical, writing and public presentation skills, and the courses I took inspired me to continue pursuing a career in this area. But perhaps most importantly, IBEI gave me the opportunity to learn how to live and work in a multicultural environment."

Sanja Bauer-Mitranic
Master’s in International Relations 2013-2014
Policy Officer at the Austrian Ministry of the Interior
Vienna (Austria)

“I miss receiving high quality education and meeting ambitious people from around the world while at the same time living in a Mediterranean city that gives you positive energy for pursuing your dreams. Even now, 5 years after graduation, I am convinced that it was the best choice for me to study at IBEI."

Ana García Juanatey
Master’s in International Relations 2006-2007
Professor at CEI International Affairs
Barcelona (Spain)

“I chose IBEI Master because it had great professors and was interdisciplinary and research-oriented; in addition to that, it was based in Barcelona, a city I wanted to live in. I do have great memories, but I must admit it was an intense year as we had to work a lot. The quality of the teaching was excellent, as I expected, so I enjoyed the courses very much, as well as the international environment."

Mina Popović
Master’s in International Relations 2013-2014
Programme Assistant at The South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons/UNDP
Belgrade (Serbia)

“My experience at IBEI was definitely beyond my expectations. IBEI’s course of study enabled me to gain a great deal of both theoretical and practical knowledge in the realm of international relations. The courses prepared me for my future working career and instilled added passion to my already interest in this field. I learned so much in just one year! My professors were outstanding and I particularly enjoyed the fact that they came from diverse backgrounds."

Juan Masullo
Master’s in International Relations 2010-11
Lecturer at the Department of Politics and International Relations of the University of Oxford
Oxford (United Kingdom)

“My research (and teaching) falls at the intersection of international relations and comparative politics. IBEI’s program gave me opportunity to devote almost a full year to strengthen my conceptual and theoretical foundations in the field of international relations – something that ended opening some doors down the road. At IBEI I also meet faculty members that gave me great advice and inspired me."

Raimon Puigjaner
Master’s in International Relations 2006-2007
Co-founder & Partner at Roots for Sustainability and President at B Lab Spain
Barcelona (Spain)

“I assume that all IBEI students have an interest and are motivated to address global challenges. Thus, I would encourage them to think out of the box and use the knowledge they gain in unconventional manners. Because we are experiencing a systemic change, and the world needs innovative responses for challenging uncertainties."

Manuel Herrera
Master’s in International Security 2017-2018
Intelligence Analyst at Accenture
Lisbon (Portugal)

“My experience at IBEI can only be described as extremely positive. Both at the level of studies/knowledge and at the level of human relations, my feeling is one of general satisfaction. Not only does IBEI have a staff of great teachers with recognized national and international prestige, but they are also empathetic and professional enough to accompany and help the student throughout the entire intellectual formation process. Likewise, at the student level, I have met some really extraordinary people and I have kept many friends from my time at the centre."

Mariona Oliva Escudé
Master’s in International Relations 2018-19
Head of the Department of Environmental and Social Studies at WSP Colombia
Bogotá (Colombia)

“I think the master helped me to better understand many of the problems the existing problems in Latin America and the EMEA region, and particularly the reasons why it is so difficult to progress in the infrastructures field. I also prepared me to understand the social aspects of the Environmental problems and how to deal with different cultures, backgrounds, etc.”

Lara Sampaio
Master’s in Public Policy (Mundus MAPP) 2014-2016
Researcher and Public Policy Specialist at the Brazilian Ministry of Economics
Brasilia (Brazil)

“A key benefit from the master course was the advancement of my knowledge in research theory and methods. I followed different courses, both at CEU and at IBEI, that gave me a solid understanding of the possibilities and limitations of doing research in the social field. Additionally, the courses that discussed poverty reduction and development put me in contact with recent discussions on these topics.”

IBEI Annual Report 2020
At the end of 2019, IBEI created a digital platform to facilitate the gathering of its alumni. Currently the IBEI Alumni network consists of almost fifteen hundred graduates from all over the world who have completed the IBEI Masters programmes.

With this initiative, IBEI pretends to extend its full potential in terms of its graduates, their professional careers, as well as to encourage their encounter all over the world.
Faculty & Research
### Faculty & Research

- **Total Faculty & Researchers:** 50
- **Male:** 54%
- **Female:** 46%
- **Nationalities:** 20+

### Researchers 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University Associated &amp; Full Professors</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professors</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenure-track Professors</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Fellows &amp; Senior Research Fellows</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postdoctoral Fellows</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Assistants &amp; PhD trainees</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### New Research Fellows

- **Alfredo Hernández Sánchez:** Teaching Fellow
- **Jeffrey Michaels:** IEN Senior Fellow
- **Gabriel Garroum Pla:** King’s College London (UK)
- **Niko Krisch:** The Graduate Institute (Switzerland)
- **Sharon Lecocq:** KU Leuven (Belgium)

### 2020 Visiting Researchers & Professors

- **Gabriel Garroum Pla:** King’s College London (UK)
- **Niko Krisch:** The Graduate Institute (Switzerland)
- **Sharon Lecocq:** KU Leuven (Belgium)
### Training & Scientific events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Research Seminars</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>International Speakers</td>
<td>39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshops</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online events</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Publications 2020

#### Papers published in high impact peer-reviewed journals (Q1-Q2)
- 22 papers

#### Papers published in high impact peer-reviewed journals
- 11 papers

#### Books and monographs
- 3 books

#### Book chapters
- 13 book chapters

#### Books reviews
- 2 book reviews

### Ongoing research projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Commission</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Research Agency (AEI)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency for Management of Universities and Research Grants (AGAUR)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute for Self-Government Studies (IEA)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Scientific Council

Jacint Jordana  
Director, IBEI  
Professor, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Pere Vilanova  
Professor, Universitat de Barcelona

Caterina Garcia  
Professor, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Juan Jesús Pérez  
Professor, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

Ana Sofia Cardenal  
Professor, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

Martin Shaw  
Research Professor, IBEI  
Emeritus Professor, University of Sussex

Laura Chaqués Bonafont  
Senior Research Associate, IBEI  
Professor, Universitat de Barcelona

Juan Diez Medrano  
Senior Research Fellow, IBEI  
Professor, Universidad Carlos III Madrid

Esther Barbé  
Senior Research Fellow, IBEI  
Professor, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Robert Kissack  
Head of Studies & Associate Professor, IBEI

Matthias vom Hau  
Research Coordinator & Associate Professor, IBEI

Research Funding Sponsors

International Academic Council

Javier Solana  
ESADE Center for Global Economy and Geopolitics (ESADEgeo)

Carles Boix  
Princeton University

Susana Borràs  
Copenhagen Business School

John Braithwaite  
Australian National University

Jean Grugel  
University of York

Christopher Hill  
University of Cambridge

Knud Erik Jørgensen  
Aarhus University

Mary Kaldor  
London School of Economics and Political Science

Stathis Kalyvas  
University of Oxford

Nico Krisch  
Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies Geneva

José María Maravall  
St Antony’s College (Oxford), Universidad Complutense de Madrid

José Antonio Ocampo  
Columbia University

Michael Zürn  
Berlin Social Science Center (WZB), Freie University Berlin
About IBEI
Economic Data

3,5 budget
(in millions €)

Expenditure 2019-20

Total expenditure 3,617,783,93 €

- Structure: 9.86%, 356,567,15 €
- Research Activities: 9.65%, 349,184,12 €
- Training Programmes: 28.70%, 1,038,218,36 €
- Faculty and Administration Staff: 51.79%, 1,873,814,30 €

Income 2019-20

Total income 3,540,162,57 €

- Other Income: 0%, 97,44 €
- Research Projects: 24.93%, 882,491,91 €
- Training Activities: 58.44%, 2,068,906,56 €
- Board of Patrons: 16.63%, 588,666,66 €
Total number of Staff

![Diagram showing the breakdown of staff members into Total members, Faculty & Researchers, and Administration Staff, with gender distribution.]

Social Media & Web (December 2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Media</th>
<th>Followers</th>
<th>Video reproductions on YouTube during 2020</th>
<th>People who visited the web in 2020</th>
<th>Visits</th>
<th>Pages per visit on average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>4.081</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>4.548</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linkedin</td>
<td>3.402</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YouTube</td>
<td>5.723</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Visits</td>
<td>133,828</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pages per visit on average</td>
<td>226,973</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Board of patrons

INSTITUTIONAL BOARD MEMBERS

Fundació Cercle d’Economia
Representative: Narcís Serra Serra (President)

President of Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB)
Antoni Segura Mas

Chancellor of Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Margarita Arboix Arzo

Chancellor of Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Jaume Casals Pons

Chancellor of Universitat de Barcelona
Joan Elias Garcia

Chancellor of Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
Josep A. Planells i Estany

Chancellor of Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya
Francesc Torres Torres

Ajuntament de Barcelona
Representative: Miquel Rodríguez Planas

Diputació de Barcelona
Representative: Pilar Díaz Romero

Generalitat de Catalunya
Representative: Elisabet Nebreda Vila

Àrea Metropolitana de Barcelona (AMB)
Representative: Ernest Maragall Mira

"la Caixa" Foundation
Representative: Antoni Vila Bertrán

Societat Econòmica Barcelonesa d’Amics del País (SEBAP)
Representative: Miquel Roca Junyent

DESIGNATED BOARD MEMBERS

Eduard Sagarra Trias
Designated by the United Nations Association of Spain (ANUE)

Francisco Andrés Pérez
Designated by the IBEI Alumni Association (ALIBEI)

Joaquim Coello Brufau
Designated by the Barcelona Global Association

Stefania Paola Ludovica Panebianco
Designated by the European International Studies Association (EISA)

Francisco Javier Solana Madariaga
Designated by the Amics de l’IBEI Association

Jose Ignacio Torreblanca Payá
Designated by the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)

Judit Carrera Escudé
Designated by board members outside the public sector as a relevant professional in the cultural, social and/or scientific field

Carles Maria Casajuana Palet
Designated by board members outside the public sector as a relevant professional in the cultural, social and/or scientific field

Carme Colomina Saló
Designated by board members outside the public sector as a relevant professional in the cultural, social and/or scientific field

Jordi Vaquer Fanés
Designated by board members outside the public sector as a relevant professional in the cultural, social and/or scientific field

NON-BOARD MEMBER SECRETARY

Yolanda Puiggròs Jiménez de Anta
Highlights
1. In 2020 IBEI started a long demanding evaluation process by the Institution of Research Centres of Catalonia (CERCA) in order to be incorporated into their system, which culminated favourably. At the beginning of 2021 IBEI received the recognition as a CERCA centre.

The CERCA Institution is a public sector entity of the Generalitat de Catalunya for the monitoring, support and facilitation of the activity of research centres. Recognition as a CERCA centre will allow IBEI to improve the visibility and impact of its research, maximize synergies, as well as consolidate its standards of excellence, among others.

2. Within the framework of the accreditation process for IBEI degrees, the Master’s in International Security, the Master’s in International Relations and the Master’s in International Development obtained the qualification “accredited in progress of excellence” by the Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (AQU Catalunya). The three master’s degrees passed the external evaluations of the AQU Catalunya with the maximum qualification. In July 2020, during the external visit of the evaluators, the IBEI scheduled meetings with students, graduates, teachers and management.

3. The Institut d’Estudis Nord-americans (IEN) and the IBEI launched a program on American politics and international security in October 2020.

The program aims to promote the city of Barcelona as a relevant meeting place for American studies, attracting the best international experts and academics as a place for reflection and debate, with special attention to the implications of US foreign policy in the European and Mediterranean framework. Professor Jeffrey Michaels is the academic coordinator of the program. Michaels was selected from more than 50 applicants in a high-level international public call announced in February 2020.
4 Where are the ECDC and the EU-wide responses in the COVID-19 pandemic? This analysis on the role of the European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC) during the COVID-19 pandemic, by IBEI director Jacint Jordana & IBEI researcher Juan Carlos Triviño-Salazar, was published in May 2020 in the The Lancet journal, one of the world’s leading general medical journals.

Researchers have found that only when key actors in the EU polity agree on a common response that is less politically costly than disagreement can European-wide public health mechanisms such as the ECDC adopt a more active role.

5 Aina Gallego, Associate Professor at Institut de Barcelona d’Estudis Internacionals (IBEI) and senior Research Associate at Institute of Political Economy and Governance (IPEG), and Katharina A. Janezic, PhD candidate in Economics at Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF) and the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics (BGSE), published in 2020 the article Eliciting preferences for truth-telling in a survey of politicians in the prestigious journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) in which they investigate for the first time the propensity to lie or be honest among politicians. The study suggests dishonesty may help politicians survive in office.

6 In January 2020, began the project “Trust in Governance and Regulation in Europe (TiGRE)”, participated by IBEI.

Funded by the European Commission’s Horizon 2020 research programme, the project will explore over the next 3.5 years trust relationships in three high value sectors: Finance, Food Safety and Communication & Data Protection. It will analyse the conditions under which their regulatory regimes are trusted at different levels of governance such as regional, national and European.

This interdisciplinary project benefits from the expertise of 9 partner universities and research centres from 9 different countries.
Two projects participated by IBEI researchers were awarded a grant by the **European NORFACE network** within the research programme 'Democratic governance in a turbulent age'. A total of fourteen transnational research projects were selected for funding for a period of 2 years (2020-2022). With the “Democratic governance in a turbulent age” research programme, NORFACE offers a timely investigation of the precise nature of the turbulence, but also of how European states can negotiate this turbulence and develop strategies to enhance the quality of democratic politics and governance.

Charles Roger, Assistant Professor and Research Fellow Beatriu de Pinós at IBEI, published in 2020 his new book “*The Origins of Informality*” (Oxford University Press). The book offers a new way of thinking about informal organizations, presents new data revealing their extraordinary growth over time and across regions, and advances a novel theory to explain these patterns.

ETHNICGOODS research project, funded by a European Research Council (ERC) Consolidator Grant, started in October 2020. The main goal of the project, led by Matthias vom Hau, Associate Professor at IBEI, is to challenge the notion that ethnic diversity dampens public goods such as healthcare or education. The project’s main goal is to test if considering the historical processes of formation of modern nation-states would prove this negative association as spurious and thus, likely to be incorrect. This would provide new evidence to refute the exclusionary claims advanced by nativist movements.
2020 the year of the COVID-19 pandemic
Since the beginning of the health alert by COVID-19 in mid-March 2020, IBEI did an effort to adapt all its face-to-face activities (research, master programmes and all academic activities) into an online format. IBEI community did not stopped during the quarantine. During this time, as a result of a collaborative and collective effort, all IBEI researchers, faculty, staff and students were able to continue working and learning from home.

In March 2020 IBEI launched the #IBElatHome initiative, aimed to give visibility to all this effort.
Distance learning

Classroom teaching at IBEI was suspended from Friday 13 March. IBEI moved all teaching across onto an online synchronous platform through the Virtual Campus (with live interaction with the faculty and the rest of the class) which implied a certain training to all faculty and students, in order to adapt the new situation.

All teachers, staff and students continued to work relatively normally, while adjusting to and experimenting with the new digital environment. Their dedication and involvement were admirable and indicative of IBEI’s commitment to complete of the master’s programmes with all the guarantees of quality, despite all the restrictions we are experiencing.

At the end of the semester all students were grateful and satisfied with the results.

Academic Office and all masters’ programmes coordinators were available remotely to make sure everything run as smoothly as possible.

At the beginning of new academic year 2020-21 some courses were are also offered in a hybrid way.

Action Protocol & Statement from the Director

Facing the activation of the health alert by COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2), IBEI created an action protocol, posted general recommendations and enabled a specific email for queries.

Besides, IBEI’s Director Jacint Jordana made a statement for all IBEI community, in order to reassure IBEI’s efforts and commitment given the situation.
Official information on IBEI coronavirus response regarding all the activities & events was updated daily.

Information and webinars for prospective students were available on IBEI’s website in order to solve doubts on how COVID-19 could affect the admissions process and/or the next academic year.

Webinars for each master’s programme were hosted and recorded, in order to have them available at applicants’ convenience.

FAQ around COVID-19 situation, in order to reassure prospective students that the IBEI Admissions team was still available while working remotely and to find some of the answers to the most frequent questions derived from the COVID-19 situation.

Virtual meetings were arranged at prospective students’ convenience, with Admissions Team or with one of IBEI Masters’ Coordinators.
Online seminars, workshops & other activities (webinars)

Since March 2020, IBEI hosted more than 40 webinars which a huge participation from people around the world:

“Barcelona Workshop on Global Governance 2020” coorganized with EsadeGeoCenter for Global Economy and Geopolitics – hosted in January 2020 face to face.

From March 2020, all IBEI Research Seminars were done online. Some of them coorganized with the Interdisciplinary Research Group on Immigration-Universitat Pompeu Fabra (GRITIM-UPF).

New Research on Trade Policy Webinar Series, in the framework of the Observatori de Política Exterior Europea (European Foreign Policy Observatory), 3 papers were presented, addressing various aspects of trade policy.

GLOBE webinars participated by IBEI researchers, included discussion around new books.

“Confronting the Climate Crisis: Prospects for the 2021 UN Climate Summit in Glasgow. A contribution from Metropolitan Governments” and “Servicios digitales y gobernanza metropolitana Servicios digitales y gobernanza metropolitana” coorganized with Àrea Metropolitana de Barcelona (AMB).


“A Dialogue on COVID-19 and Inequality” with Joan Benach (UPF) and Branko Milanovic (CUNY).

“Human Security in a Time of Covid-19” online session with Mary Kaldor coorganized with Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB).

New seminar series on the US Foreign Policy coorganized with Institut d’Estudis Nord-americans (IEN).

Contributing to research on the COVID-19 pandemic

IBEI researchers contributed to research and to analyse the COVID-19 pandemic through several articles and posts available on IBEI’s website.

Given the health emergency around the world, IBEI Assistant Professor and Beatriu de Pinós Research Fellow Charles Roger reoriented his research on informality and global governance to respond more effectively to the new situation.

The IBEI’s YouTube channel has had a total of 5723 video reproductions during 2020. All recorded events can be watched here: https://www.youtube.com/user/ibeibcn