

Testimony of a former laureate of the International Competition of Master's Degree Theses - Marion DUPIRE-DECLERCK



1) *Name, Current Position, Company, Career path.*

Marion Dupire-Declerck, Reseracher, Vlerick Centre for Financial Services, PhD in Finance

2) *What year did you take part in the Competition? What prize did you win?*

2009, prize of Paris Europlace

3) *Were you still a student when you joined the Competition or did you just finish your studies? Where were you studying at the time?*

I was finishing my studies in the IESEG School of Management

4) *How did you hear about our Competition?*

By my Master's Degree masters

5) *Why did you participate?*

I followed the recommendations of my Master's Degree masters.

6) *In concrete terms, was your award a plus when you entered the labor market?*

Yes, definitively. It has been an important argument for the next steps in my career, particularly when I entered my theses (seeking of my thesis's master, applying for a PhD contract at the Ministry of Higher Education and Research

7) *Several years after your participation, do you still mention your prize in professional contexts (on your resume, etc)? Globally, do you find that people know the Competition or that they have never heard about it?*

Yes, definitively.

8) *Are you still in contact with people that you met thanks to the Competition (awarding associations, fellow, candidates, etc.) ?*

Not really.

9) *What advices could you give to the participants of the 30th edition?*

Keep on contributing to financial and economic knowledge, on giving sense to these contributions and on making them the most visible possible

10) What assessment of this participation to that Competition do you have?

A stepping stone toward the PhD thesis, a signal of excellence on the resume

11) What are the benefits of that Competition? What can be improved? What did you think of the organization of the Ceremony and of logistics in general?

A very positive assessment. About the improvements, it could be interesting to explain to the laureates, a couple of days before the Ceremony, the details of the sequence: preparation of a short oral presentation of the main results of the Master's Degree, clothes, visiting card, list of the people