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Universities
for a world without borders
Parma, Italy - October 24th-28th 2016

Internationalisation in Crisis Scenarios



(creative)
Internationalization
of Higher Education:
Between Rhetoric, Reality and
Crisis

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Starting with:

- Terms, definitions and meanings
- Context
- What to do and how to do it

A conceptual understanding of internationalization and globalization is needed to make sense of the varied and complex ways they are affecting higher education in the worldwide.



Univers (ity)-Internationalization and globalization

Keywords

- Flow of goods, ideas
- Diminishing importance of boundaries of time and space
- Diminishing importance of nation-state
- Connections, interdependence



Flows

A possible punctuation: The light side of the moon

“...the closer integration of the countries and people of the world, which has been brought about by the enormous reduction in the costs of transportation and communication, and the breakdown of artificial barriers to the flows of goods, services, capital, knowledge, and (to a lesser extent) people across borders.”
(Stiglitz, 2002)



Interdependence

A possible punctuation: The light side of the moon

“...bringing all of humanity into a single ecosystem of embedded, overlapping networks. Borders, boundaries, delineations, and walls of any kind are slowly giving way to the compelling force of integration and interdependence.” (Jim Garrison, 38, 2004)



Internationalization

A possible punctuation: The light side of the moon

“...the complex of processes whose combined effect, whether planned or not, is to enhance the international dimension of the experience of higher education in universities and similar educational institutions.” (OECD)



Internationalization

A possible punctuation: One side of the moon

“The process of integrating an international, intercultural, or global dimension into the purpose, function, or delivery of postsecondary education.” (Knight 2003)



Globalization

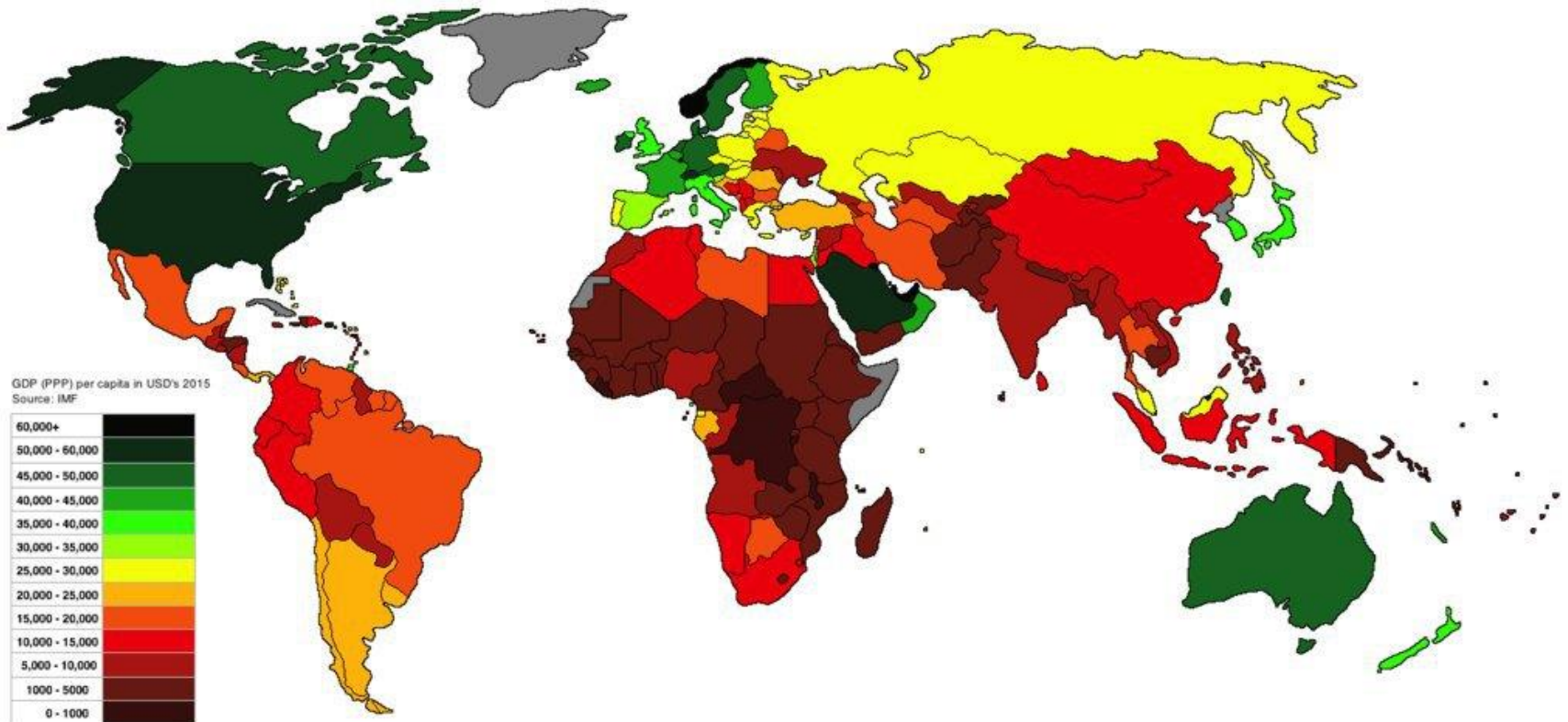
A possible punctuation: Another side of the moon

“We use the term globalization to represent neo-liberal economic ideology and its material strategies that aim to **increase profits and power** for transnational corporations, and similar strategies enabling government agencies to gain **economic advantages** and be **competitive.**” (Currie et al, 2003)



The context: A matter of imbalance

Mappa del PIL pro capite nel mondo in USD (PPP = a parità di potere d'acquisto) nel 2015, come da previsioni del FMI.





The context: A matter of imbalance

Top universities by region



Source: THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKING

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The context: A matter of imbalance

TOP
10

2015-16 Rank	Institution	Country
1	California Institute of Technology	United States
2	University of Oxford	United Kingdom
3	Stanford University	United States
4	University of Cambridge	United Kingdom
5	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States
6	Harvard University	United States
7	Princeton University	United States
8	Imperial College London	United Kingdom
9	ETH Zurich-Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich	Switzerland
10	University of Chicago	United States

Source: THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKING

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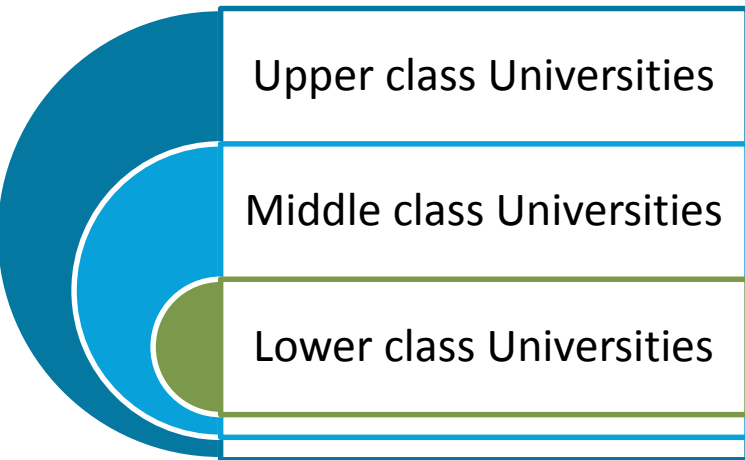
The question that still remains

How to achieve within this imbalanced context the integration of an international, intercultural, or global dimension into the purpose, function, or delivery of postsecondary education.” (Knight 2003)

Different hierarchical positions



- ➡ Different needs
- ➡ Different strategies



- Attractiveness for incoming students/staff
- Advantages for outgoing students/staff
- opportunity to access funds for research
- Opportunity- and usefulness- to publish in high impact journal



Different hierarchical positions



Different needs



Different strategies

- The IAU Internationalization Survey (Knight, 2015)

The top three risks associated with internationalization are

- commercialization and commodification of education programs
- the increase in the number of foreign “degree mills” and low-quality providers
- brain drain



Different hierarchical positions



Different needs



Different strategies

- 81% of the universities in Africa vs 58% of those in North America, indicated the importance and existence of risks related to Internationalization.
- Latin America attributes higher importance o brain drain, elitism, and loss of cultural identity.
- In the Middle East, the loss of cultural identity is definitely the number-one risk attached to the process of internationalization



Different hierarchical positions



Gap between developing and developed countries in terms of the importance attributed to the benefit of

➤ more internationally oriented students and staff.

1° benefit for developed countries

4° benefit for developing countries

➤ academic quality, research, and curriculum

1° benefit for developing countries



Internationalization and Corporate Social Responsibility

- initiatives to assess and take responsibility for the company's effects on environmental and social wellbeing.
- The term generally applies to efforts that go beyond what may be required by regulators of social wellbeing or environmental protection groups.
- CSR may also be referred to as "corporate citizenship" and can involve incurring short-term costs that do not provide an immediate financial benefit to the company, but instead promote positive social and environmental change.



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Lights and shadows

Stage for students in Senegal:

Stage for students in Tanzania: Overword program

*Teaching program for students and for trainers in
medicine and social/health workers courses*



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In progress

Congo

Incoming strategies for meritorious and poor students from Congo

Training of trainers for child care and protection

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- In progress

Ricerca internazionale sui temi della Medicalizzazione dell'Educazione

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