

Global Regionalisms and Higher Education: from projects to politics and theory

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Global Regionalisms and Higher Education

PROJECTS, PROCESSES, POLITICS



Outline

- Projects
- Terminology
- Theorising regions
- Cases
- When regions theory meets HE and back again
- Final words (Brexit and all that....)



Africa is also moving steadily towards regional integration through the instrumentation of the African Union (AU). The process of regional economic cooperation and integration and the focus on higher education is underlined in meetings of the AU and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). There is also increasing focus on higher education as a catalyst for high-level human resource development on the continent.³ This context sets the scene for the strategy presented in this document.

Raising Awareness: Exploring the Creating Higher Education Commo in Southeast Asia

A Conference Proceeding

6-7 November 2008, Bangkok, Thailand

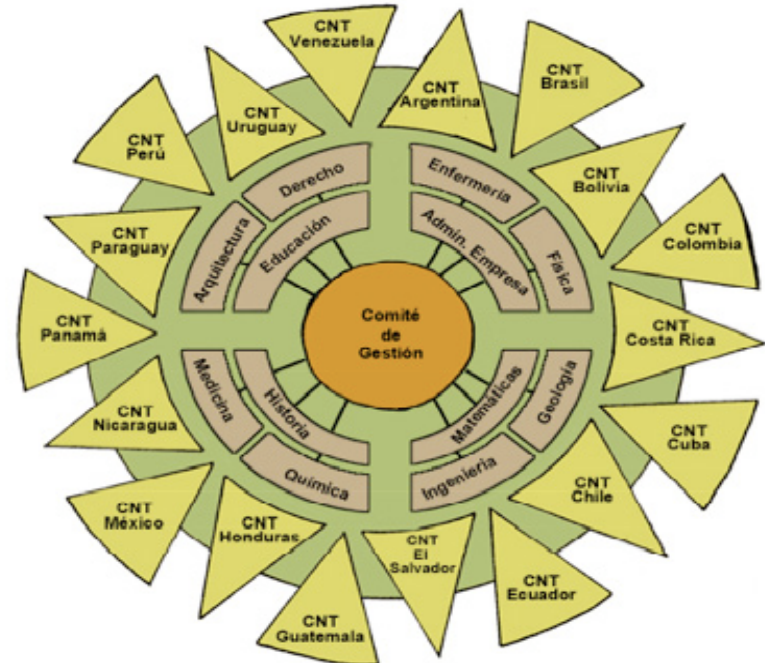
Pavel Zgaga

Looking out: The Bologna Process in a Global Setting

On the "External Dimension" of the Bologna Process



The Brisbane Communiqué



Terminology

- Regions
- Regionalising
- Inter-regionalism
- Trans-regionalism
- Hybrid-inter-regionalism...



Theorising regions

- “A minefield” (Hettne, 2005) as a result of different academic specialisms, paradigms, the tendency toward regionalist ideology (fitting the case to theory rather than the other way around (Cammack, 2015), and how we want to think about the nature of the state (Jayasuriya and Hamieri, 2013).



Regions as Functional Units of Governing

Much of this work emerged in the 1950s, largely focused on Europe, and tends toward neo-functionalism; institutions that are created and spillover-effects drive regional integration; multi-level governance (Haas, 1958)



EUROPEAN MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE

Contrasting Images in National Research

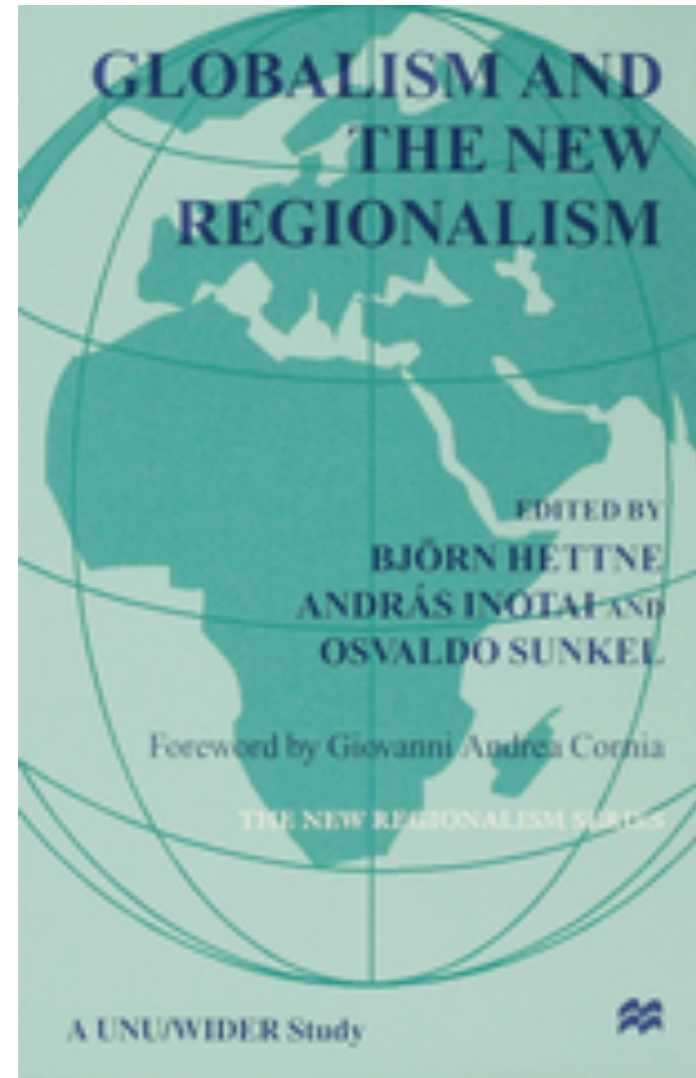


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BEATE KOHLER-KOCH and FABRICE LARAT

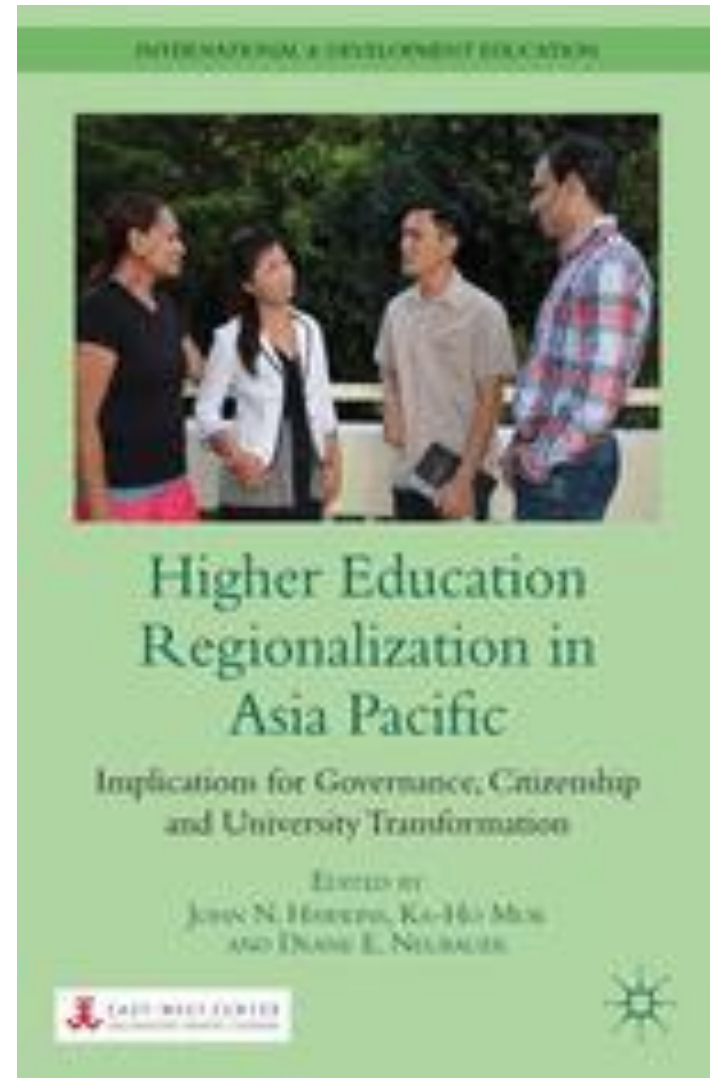
Regions as Governing Blocs

New regionalism emerged in the 1990s to explain the rise of a new round of region building in the context of neoliberal globalisation, the shift to governance, and the rise of a multi-polar world (Hettne, 2005)



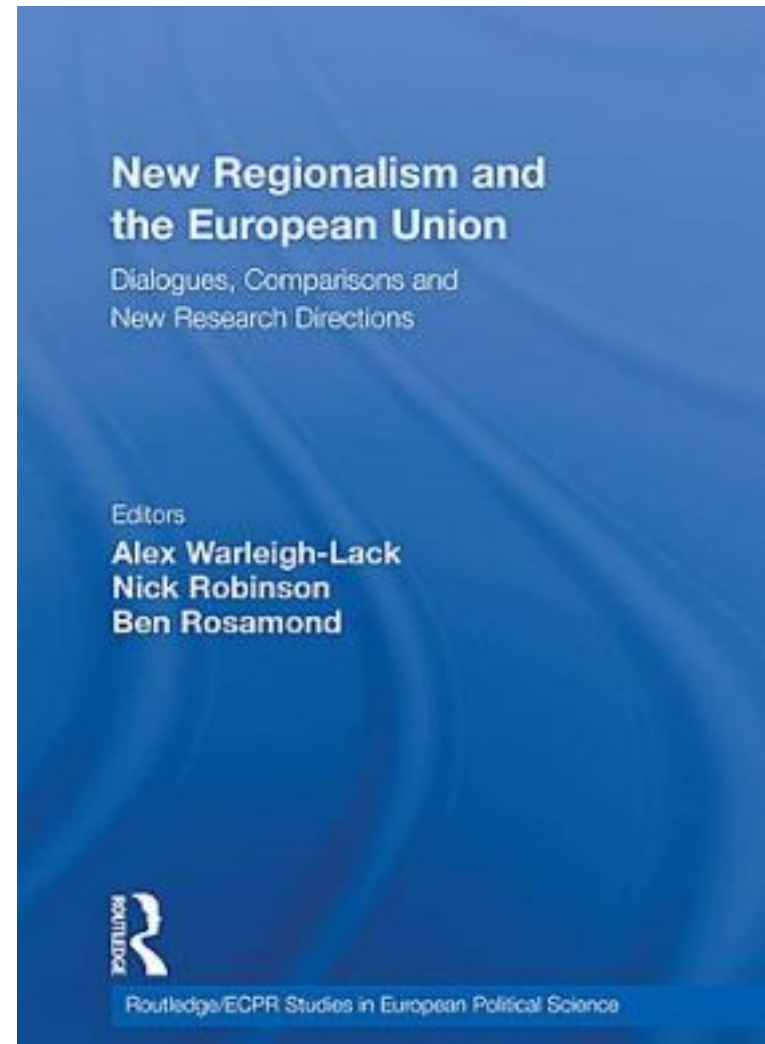
Regions as spatial frontiers

Regions emerge out of efforts to resolve problems of governing; these spatial projects embody particular constellations of power and interests within the context of domestic projects (Jayasuriya, 2009)



Regions as socially constructed

This body of work looks at the social production, and thus construction, of regional spaces by actors/institutions; they focus on region-building as a process which creates norms, identities, and arena for persuasion (Rosamund, 2006)





The Chapters

Robertson et al - EU and the CPE of regionalism

Melo – different regionalisms, one EHEA

Dale – Erasmus Mundus

Charlier et al – EU Africa

Sirat et al – Harmonisation of SE Asian Regionalism

Chao – Shifting Discourses of ASEAN region

Dang – ASEM Hybrid Regionalism

Welch – Ir-regular regionalisms – China/ASEAN

Sundit – Barent Region – Good Friends/Faceless Partners

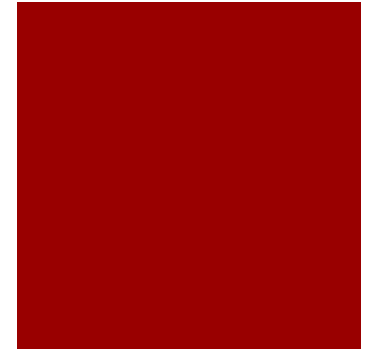
Perrotta – MERCOSUR – Regulatory Regionalism

Muhr – South-South Cooperation Latin
America/Caribbean/Brazil/Venezuela

Motter et al - UNILA and Latin America

Aljafari – Symbolic Regionalism and the Gulf Cooperation Council

Conceptualising HE sectoral regionalism



- Regions are constituted out of cultural, political and economic dynamics (ontological claim)
- Regionalisms are variegated (epistemological claim) even when policy frames and programmes are moved from one regional space to another
- Regional frontiers are the outcomes of spatial projects aimed at - managing the crisis tendencies of capitalism; territory making; governing populations, nation-building...
- HE sector's regional geometry and cultural political economy has its own dynamics distinct from other sectors, and not always a response to or constitutive of, capitalist dynamics and market making

Thankyou...

