

Panel 2: The national/international interface in context of “polycrisis” and the prospect of post-neoliberal higher education

Chair: Vincent Carpentier (UCL IOE) and Yann Lebeau (University of East Anglia)

This panel will consider contemporary challenges of higher education (HE) from the perspective of the relationship between the process of expansion and the international dimension of HE systems. A historical, multiscalar and pluriversal perspective will be offered to consider this changing relation and the possible emergence of a post-neoliberal global HE landscape beyond the current concerns about de-internationalisation, forced internationalisation, welfare nationalism, and lacking sustainable and inclusive internationalisation.

The historical perspective seeks to situate and understand those higher education issues as part of wider dynamics of transformations and tensions reflecting a long and unresolved process of transition to address a multifaceted crisis of globalization. The multiscalar approach considers internationalisation and its regulation from the perspective of institutions, states, regional actors and global agencies. It explores the relationship between those agendas and their impact on the public mission of HE. The pluriversal perspective challenges dominant conceptualizations of the global HE fields and related discourses and initiatives. It considers national and regional and global rationales for internationalization from contrasting paradigms and ways of meaning making.

Contributions

- Vincent Carpentier examines the historical connections between the massification of the French and British higher education systems and their trajectories of internationalisation and discusses the tensions between the political economy of HE and the development of a cosmopolitan and inclusive higher education system.
- Mario Azevedo focuses on the internationalisation of higher education within the Global South from regional governance and sustainability perspectives
- Yann Lebeau and Abass Isiaka explore the possibility of a regulatory regime for the post-market internationalization by examining the UNESCO Convention within the growing imperative for inclusive and sustainable mobility
- Hanne Tange and Kirsten Jaeger consider the response of nation states and trends towards de-internationalizing (welfare nationalism, political influence...)