

From everyone's good thing to a security risk

Where is international
education headed?

CSHE University of Melbourne
20 March 2024

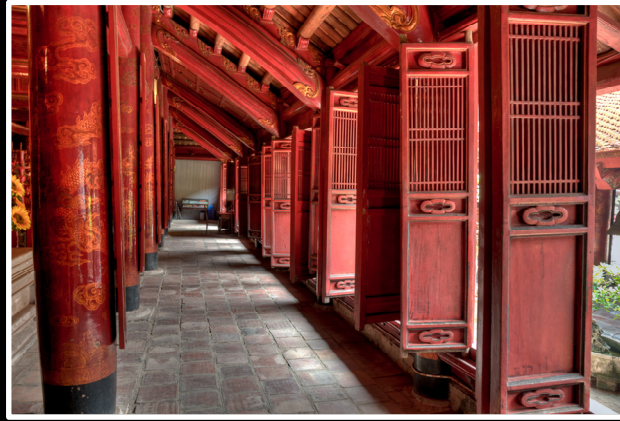
Simon Marginson
University of Oxford



- Mobility of people, ideas and knowledge has always been integral to higher education
- Post-1990 globalization
- Post 2010 deglobalization and the new geo-politics
- International education in UK
- Conclusions



Mobility of people,
ideas and
knowledge has
always been
integral to higher
education



Temple of Confucius, Hanoi, 1070 CE



University of Al-Qarawiyyin, Fez, 857 CE



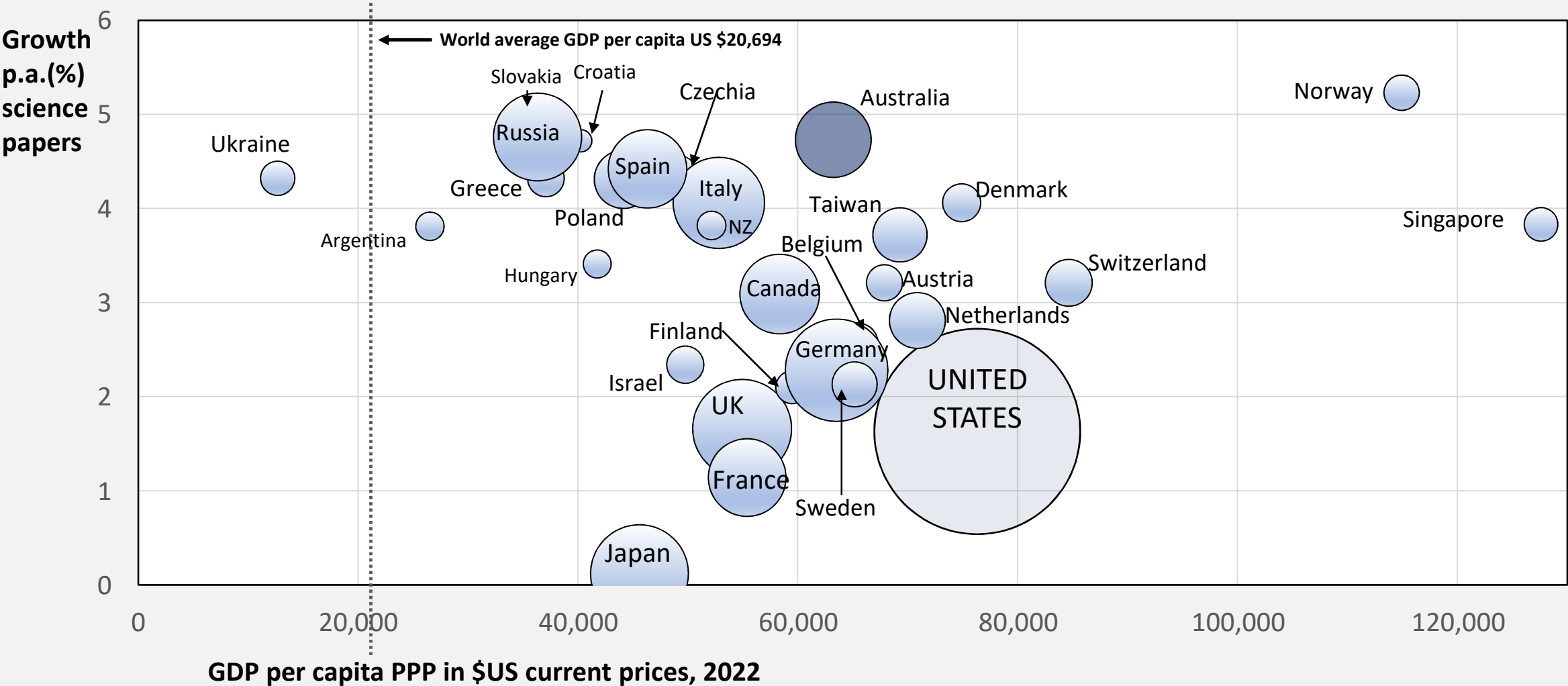
University of Paris, 1150 CE, in 16th century

Post 1990
globalization



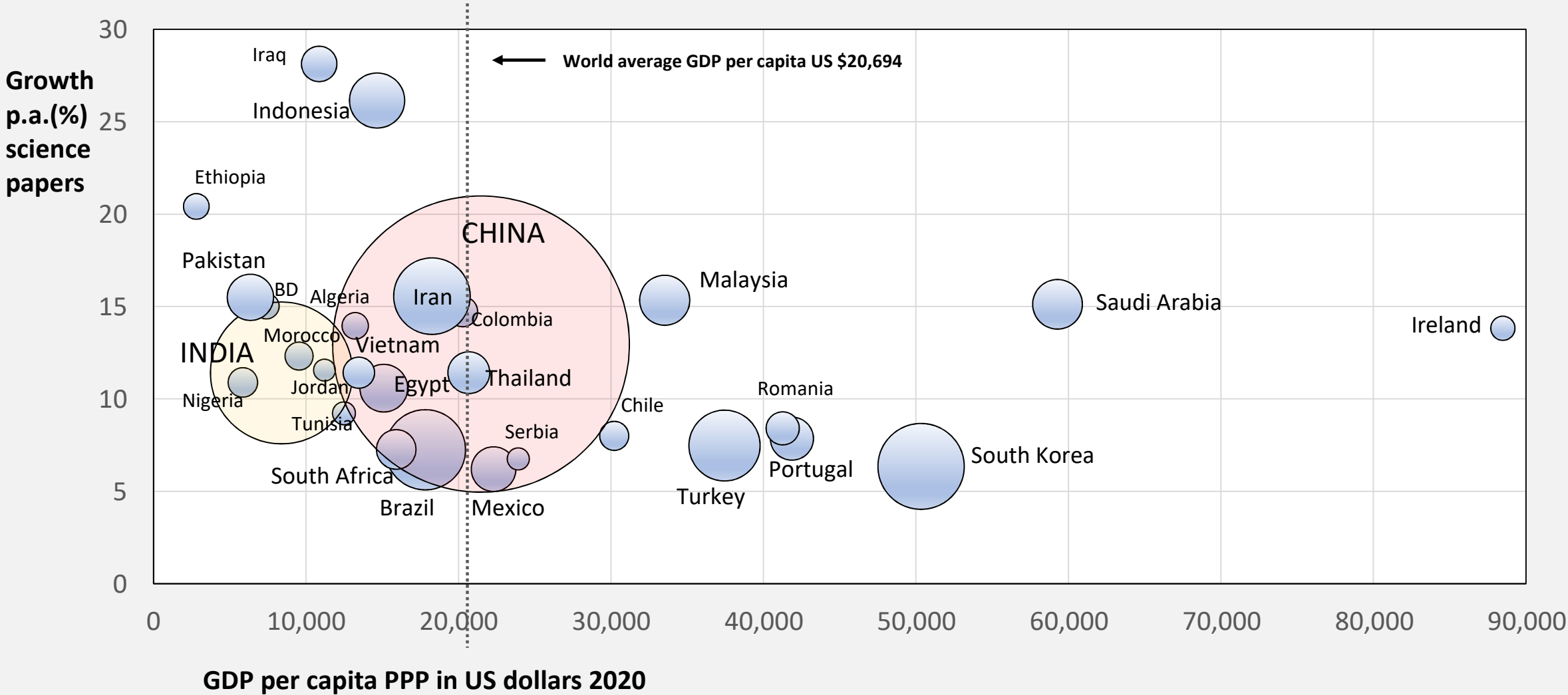
Science systems where *output grew slower* than the world average rate of 5.38% per year in 2003-2022, compared to world average GDP per capita PPP \$US 20,694 in 2022

Science systems with 5,000 papers or more in 2020. Scopus data,, fractional counting (NSB 2024). Current price GDP, PPP = purchasing power parity (World Bank 2024)
World Data Atlas for Taiwan. NZ = New Zealand.



Science systems where *output grew faster* than the world average rate of 5.38% per year in 2003-2022, compared to world average GDP per capita PPP \$US 20,694 in 2022

Science systems with 5,000 papers or more in 2020. Scopus data,, fractional counting (NSB 2024). Current price GDP, PPP = purchasing power parity (World Bank 2024) BD = Bangladesh



Top universities in STEM research, Leiden ranking

Papers in top 5% by citation rate, 2018-2021, In (1) physical sciences & engineering, (2) mathematics & computing:

University	System	(1) Physical sciences & Engineering
Tsinghua U	CHINA	1,054
Zhejiang U	CHINA	783
Shanghai JT U	CHINA	736
Harbin IT	CHINA	720
Huazhong U S&T	CHINA	687
U Science & Technol	CHINA	649
Tianjan U	CHINA	635
U Chinese Acad Sci	CHINA	621
MIT	USA	614
Xi'an Jiaotong U	CHINA	593
Hunan U	CHINA	582
Nanyang TU	SINGAPORE	557
Central Southern U	CHINA	551
National U Singapore	SINGAPORE	538

University	System	(2) Mathematics & Computing
Tsinghua U	CHINA	402
U Electron S&T	CHINA	402
Harbin IT	CHINA	265
Xidian U	CHINA	263
Huazhong U S&T	CHINA	259
Shanghai Jiao Tong U	CHINA	228
Zhejiang U	CHINA	228
Beihang U	CHINA	228
Southeastern U	CHINA	228
Nanyang TU	SINGAPORE	220
Northwestern Poly. U	CHINA	219
Wuhan U	CHINA	212
MIT	USA	193
Beijing IT	CHINA	190

Top universities in other science fields

Papers in top 5% by citation rate, 2018-2021, In (1) biomedicine & health sciences (2) life & earth sciences

University	System	(1) Biomedicine & Health Sciences
Harvard U	USA	3,027
U Toronto	CANADA	1,154
Johns Hopkins U	USA	1,104
Stanford U	USA	1,017
U Pennsylvania	USA	1,009
U Calif San Francisco	USA	921
U Oxford	UK	829
U College London	UK	816
U Michigan	USA	792
Yale U	USA	732
U Calif San Diego	USA	709
U Texas HSC Houston	USA	699
Cornell U	USA	692
U Washington Seattle	USA	675

University	System	(2) Life & Earth Sciences
China Agriculture U	CHINA	343
Zhejiang U	CHINA	335
U Chinese Acad Sci	CHINA	288
Wageningen U	NETHERLANDS	287
Northwest Agr. & For. U	CHINA	285
China U Geoscience	CHINA	261
Harvard U	USA	241
U Calif Davis	USA	236
Cornell U	USA	235
Nanjing Agricultural U	CHINA	233
ETH Zurich	SWITZERLAND	232
Tsinghua U	CHINA	224
U Florida	USA	217
U Oxford	UK	215

Post 2010
deglobalization
and the new geo-
politics



Hugh White on Australia-China in higher education

- ‘ANU’s Professor White said successive Australian governments had pressured universities to side with them in treating China as a menacing competitor to the US-led order. ‘We need to approach our future relations with China – and, for that matter, with India and...other powers – on the expectation that they will end up as significant players in a multipolar global order, and also significant players in what you might call the international academic enterprise.’
- ‘Professor White said Australian universities had a history of “pre-emptively complying” with anticipated government preferences around dealings with China. “Universities should be very careful about pre-emptively conceding such points,” he told *THE*. “They should...push back against unthinking government over-regulation.”’

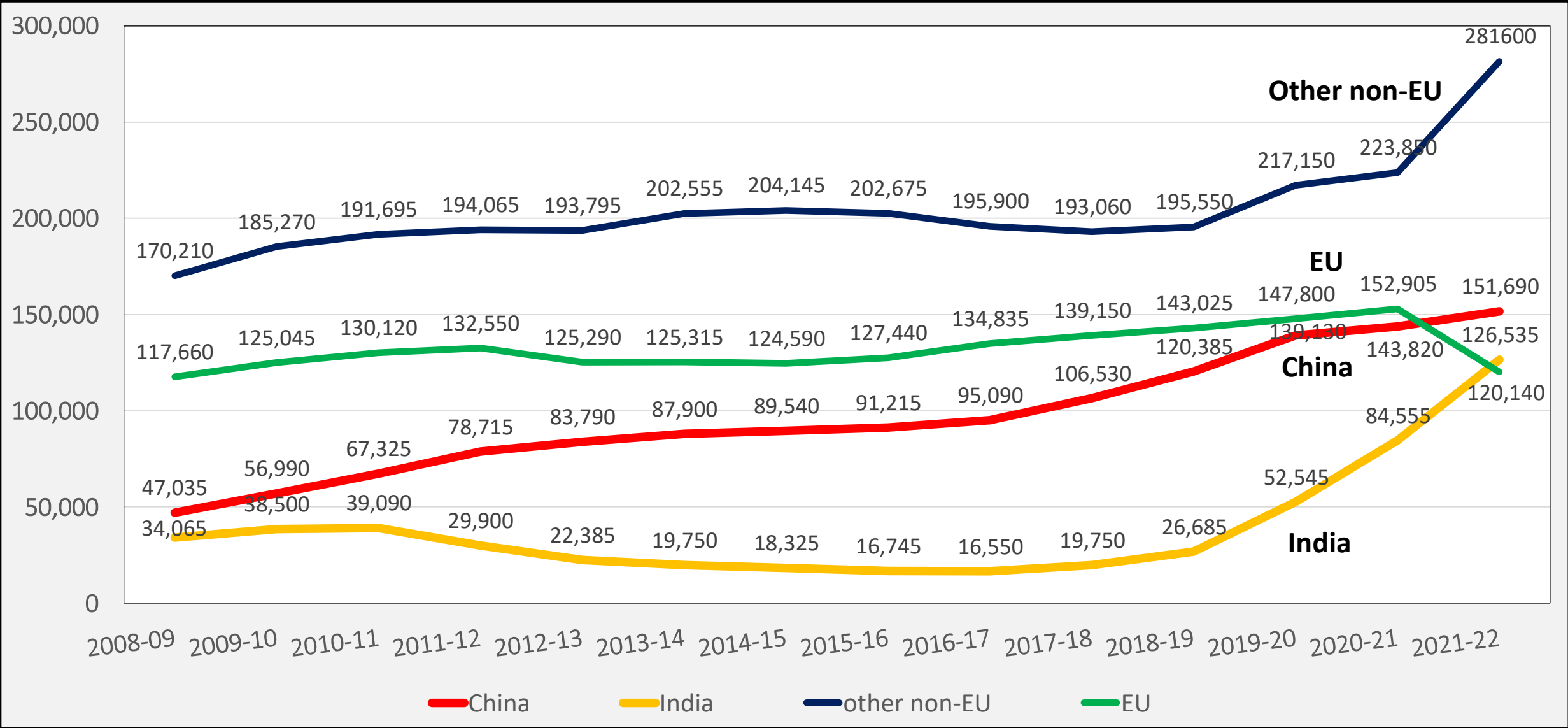
- John Ross, *Times Higher Education*, 12 March 2024



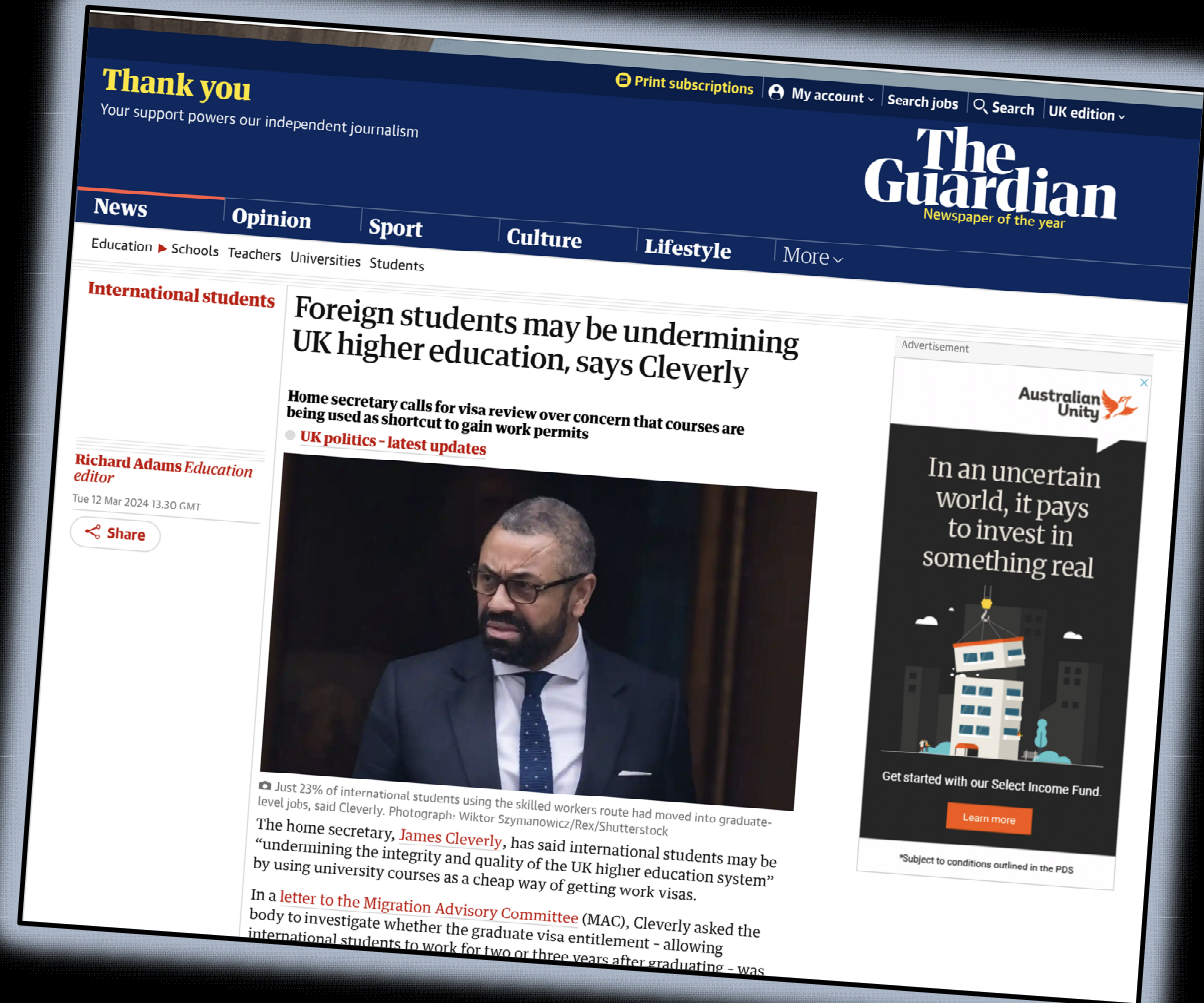
Constraints on
international
student mobility



International students in UK higher education: 2008-09 to 2021-22



No longer flavour of
the month in UK



The Guardian, 13 March 2024

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2024/mar/12/overseas-students-undermining-uk-higher-education-warns-cleverly>

Conclusions

Thank you for
your patience



Dickonsia Antarctica, Otways, Australia.
Photo: SM