

Universities and Democracy?

17 November 2022



00:39:20 Simon Marginson: Time to come forward with your statements and questions for John! Use the Chat!

00:42:02 Leesa Wheelahan: Thank you John for a very interesting presentation. Where does the notion of the public intellectual fit in, and how can universities support their development?

00:43:05 Pete Leihy: A nationalist and a populist, Steve Bannon got Donald Trump to define himself as. Not sure what it meant, but it did seem to be aimed at the eggheads?

00:43:09 Jonah Otto: How do you see the role of internationalization in this process? Are there ways that you believe it could be helpful or even instrumental?

00:45:26 Serap Emil: Hello this is Serap Emil from Turkey. My question is: What if universities, mostly the university leaders, act like they are the extension of the current political ideology? What if we do not need governments imposing oppression and limiting the academic freedom but it actually comes from those leaders and followers within the universities?

00:45:46 Milica POPOVIC: Thanks for the contribution! The claims on the endangerment of academic freedom, and rightly so, have wide support regarding the usual suspects - the so-called illiberal regimes, and we always hear the same countries being called out. I am interested in your analysis about illiberal infringements on academic freedom in so-called liberal democratic regimes - in the UK the ongoing debate on the proposed Freedom of Speech Bill, in France the attacks of the government under the guise of so-called "islamo-gauchisme" and similar phenomena? Could we actually claim that there is a common phenomenon of rising attacks on academic freedom and scholars in general, sadly enough, pretty much everywhere in the world?

00:45:57 Mokhidil Mamasolieva: Thank you for your presentation. What should universities (particularly those which are trying hard to recruit international students) do to promote political participation of international students? Should universities pay specific attention to international students' political culture development, who are restricted in taking part in formal politics due to their immigration and visa status?

00:45:59 Akiyoshi Yonezawa: Thank you for very important discussion. Could you elaborate more on the role of different academic fields, especially humanities and social sciences in different civilizations? Your mentioning of Ranking sounds like a stress of STEM, especially among non-English speaking countries, that may be interpreted as an attack to the democracy.

00:46:30 Ariadna Garza-Ortiz: Very interesting data. Thank you very much John and also organizers. I think major clues about the development of a healthy democratic culture in Universities can be detected by reviewing the history. In that sense, Is there an example of a good first step in developing a healthy democratic culture at Universities? What can we do as part of a University community?

01:09:41 CGHE Webinars: Thank you for joining us today. A recording of this session will be posted on the CGHE site: <https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/universities-and-democracy/>

01:09:59 CGHE Webinars: Our next webinar, 'Higher education in Ukraine: challenges and responses', will take place on Tuesday from 2pm (UK). You can register here: <https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/higher-education-in-ukraine-challenges-and-responses/>

01:10:45 Victorița Trif: Congratulations!

01:10:53 Milica POPOVIC: For everyone interested in academic freedom and in London tomorrow, please join us: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/challenges-to-academic-freedom-beyond-the-usual-suspects-tickets-465662598367?fbclid=IwAR3jXOCEYB7ZF2QLM8HvFRDxa0ZJg40be0coR4KIQdeU41cIVVpO45LR3kc>

01:11:10 Ian McNay: I am not asking a question, but want to add information to the complex picture that John has introduced so well. When I was at the OU we had a phone call from the DES demanding a right of reply to a programme on the 1988 Act with John Tomlinson - Chief Education Officer of Cheshire, and control by the BBC which resulted in an extreme right winger being imposed on a different programme instead of Rosemary DEEM, known to many of you, but who happened to be a local Labour Party councillor. Further afield, in China, much depends on relationships between the Rector and the Chair of the CP Campus Committee. I was told that the further you were from Beijing, the more relaxed controls were. I do worry about Hong Kong: the mainland government is pursuing a process of 'integration' to promote 'consistency' in the Great Bay area, which means adopting the mainland approach. Finally, some 20 years ago I learned that, in Thailand, if students protested, the Dean was responsible for their behaviour!

01:13:45 Ian McNay: PS on China. A research project on Chinese staff who do PhDs in UK, USA or European mainland countries returned with different ideas about research and more open practices in examining reality close up and reporting, so that may be one way universities can promote development.

01:15:35 Serap Emil: Thank you very much for the speech and for the answer John.

01:16:35 Victorița Trif: Thank you!

01:22:19 Serap Emil: 1940 - <https://www.aaup.org/report/1940-statement-principles-academic-freedom-and-tenure>

01:24:51 Jonah Otto: Thank you for this wonderful event!

01:24:55 Herminia Alonso: Thank you very much..

01:25:20 Milica POPOVIC: Thanks everyone! Inspiring talk.

01:25:34 Ariadna Garza-Ortiz: Thank you very much in a way there were several clues

01:25:38 Ariadna Garza-Ortiz: Bye