

ISEM End of Summer
Workshop
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International student mobility:
Hypothesizing for the future

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1. ***The future is unknown***

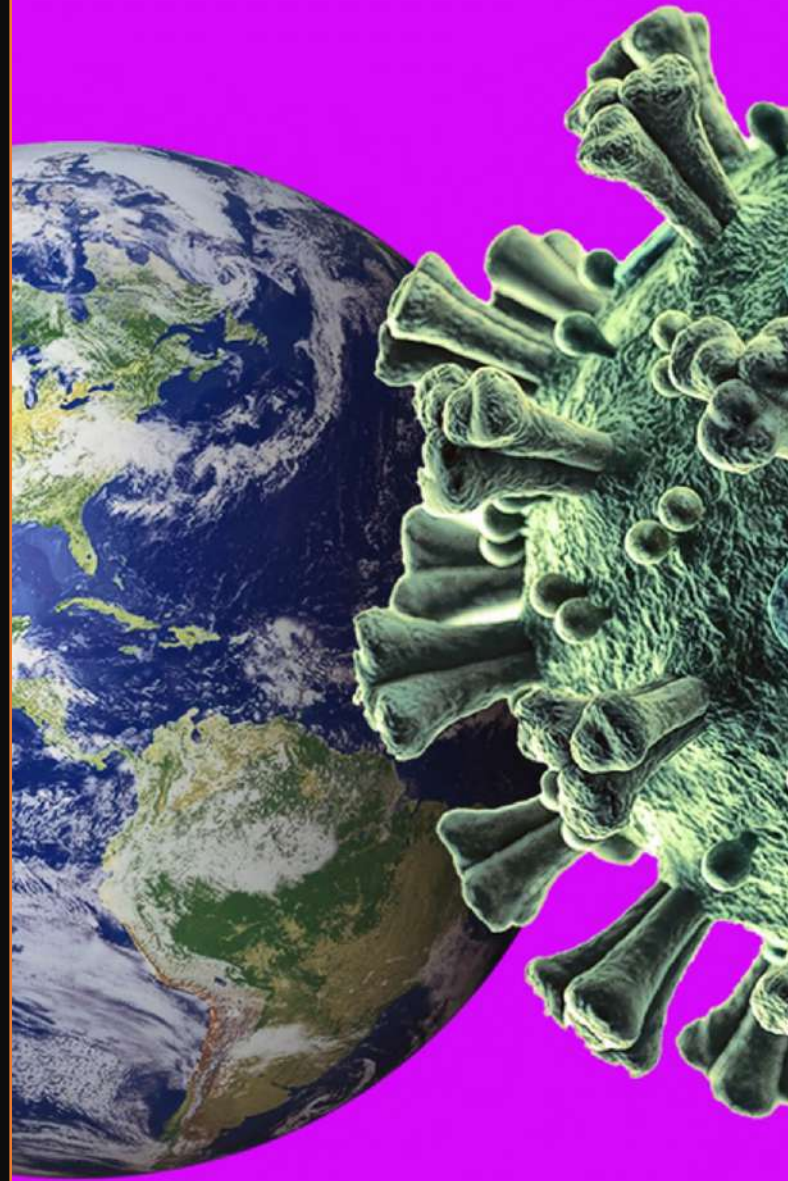
2. But demand for face to face higher education is likely to keep growing
3. Demand side of mobility is robust, supply side is more variable
4. Countries now need to live with the pandemic
5. The rise of Asia
6. Despite multi-polar world traditional US and UK providers retain their long lead in international education



1. The future is unknown

‘Whoever cannot seek the unforeseen, sees nothing. The known way is an impasse.’

~ *Attributed to Heraclitus of Ephesus (544-484 BCE)*





2. Main demand is for face-to-face higher education, the fully formative experience

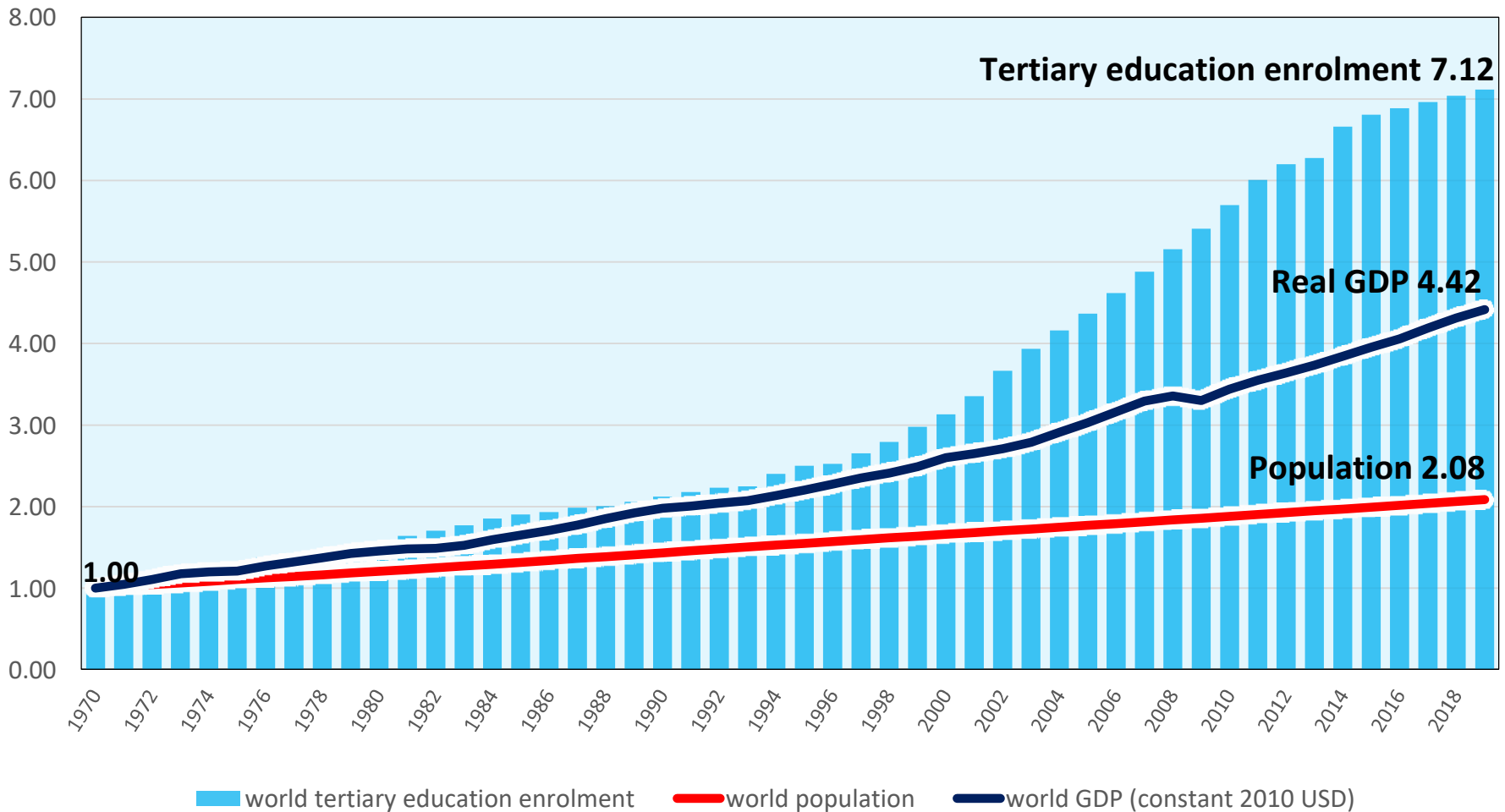
Research finds that people with tertiary education, on average ...

- Have a larger range of employment options
- Are more likely to be in good health, as are their families
- Have more advanced levels of skill in the use of information and communications technology
- Are more geographically mobile, independent of income level (greater personal confidence and agency freedom)
- Report higher levels of inter-personal trust (also = greater personal agency)
- Are more likely to state that they have a say in government (also = greater personal agency)
- Are more positive about migration and cultural diversity

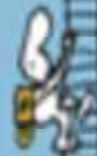


During and after the pandemic the long-term pattern of growth of participation will continue

World growth of tertiary enrolment: 1970-2019 compared to changes in world population and GDP at constant prices *1970 = 1.00*



Onwards and upwards...



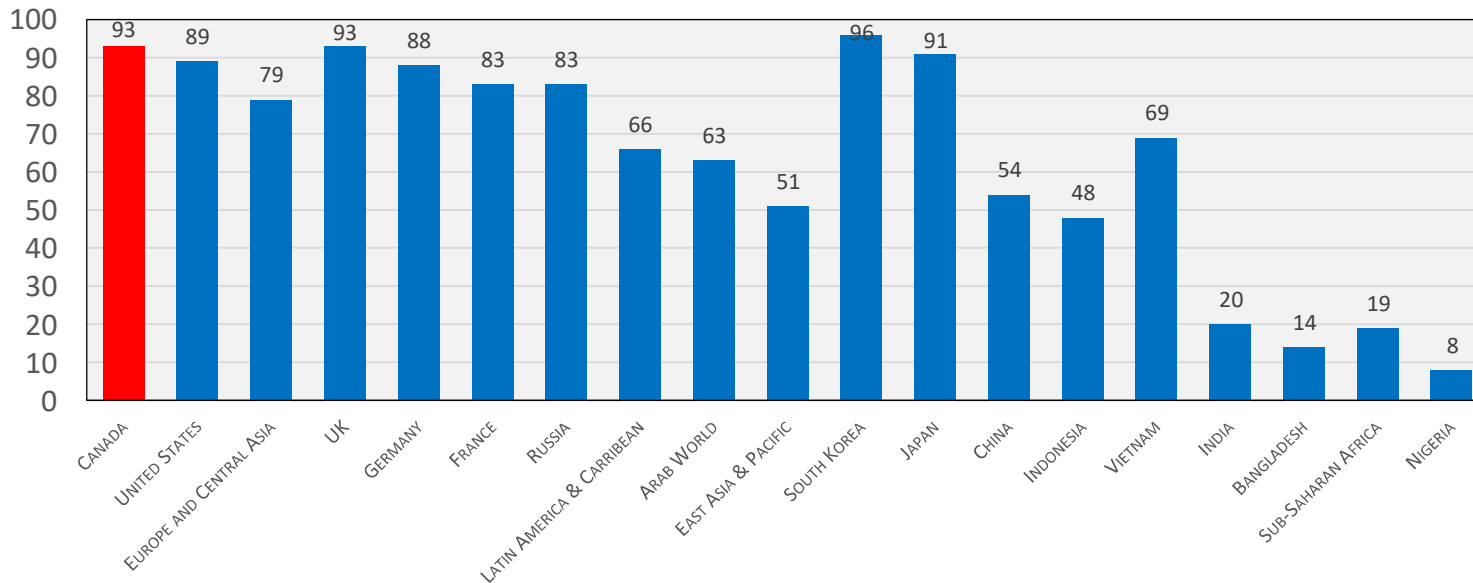
**Regional Gross Enrolment Ratios
(%): 1970, 1990, 2010 and 2018**

	1970 (%)	1990 (%)	2010 (%)	2018 (%)
World	10.1	13.6	29.4	38.0
Central and Eastern Europe	30.2	34.2	69.1	82.4
North America/ W. Europe	30.6	48.8	76.7	78.7
Latin America & Caribbean	6.9	16.8	40.6	51.8
East Asia and Pacific	3.1	7.4	27.9	45.8
Arab States	6.1	11.3	25.5	33.4
Central Asia	n.a.	25.4	24.9	27.6
South and West Asia	4.3	5.8	21.2	25.8
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.9	3.0	7.5	9.1

Online education is taking a bigger role but it is not the solution to financing mass participation

- The pandemic period has led to reassertion of sociability in learning
- Potentials and limitations of MOOCs – but there are lasting benefits from evolution of better online education during pandemic
- Problems of an online education only approach – **digital divide**

Proportion (%) of population with access to Internet, 2019 or nearest year

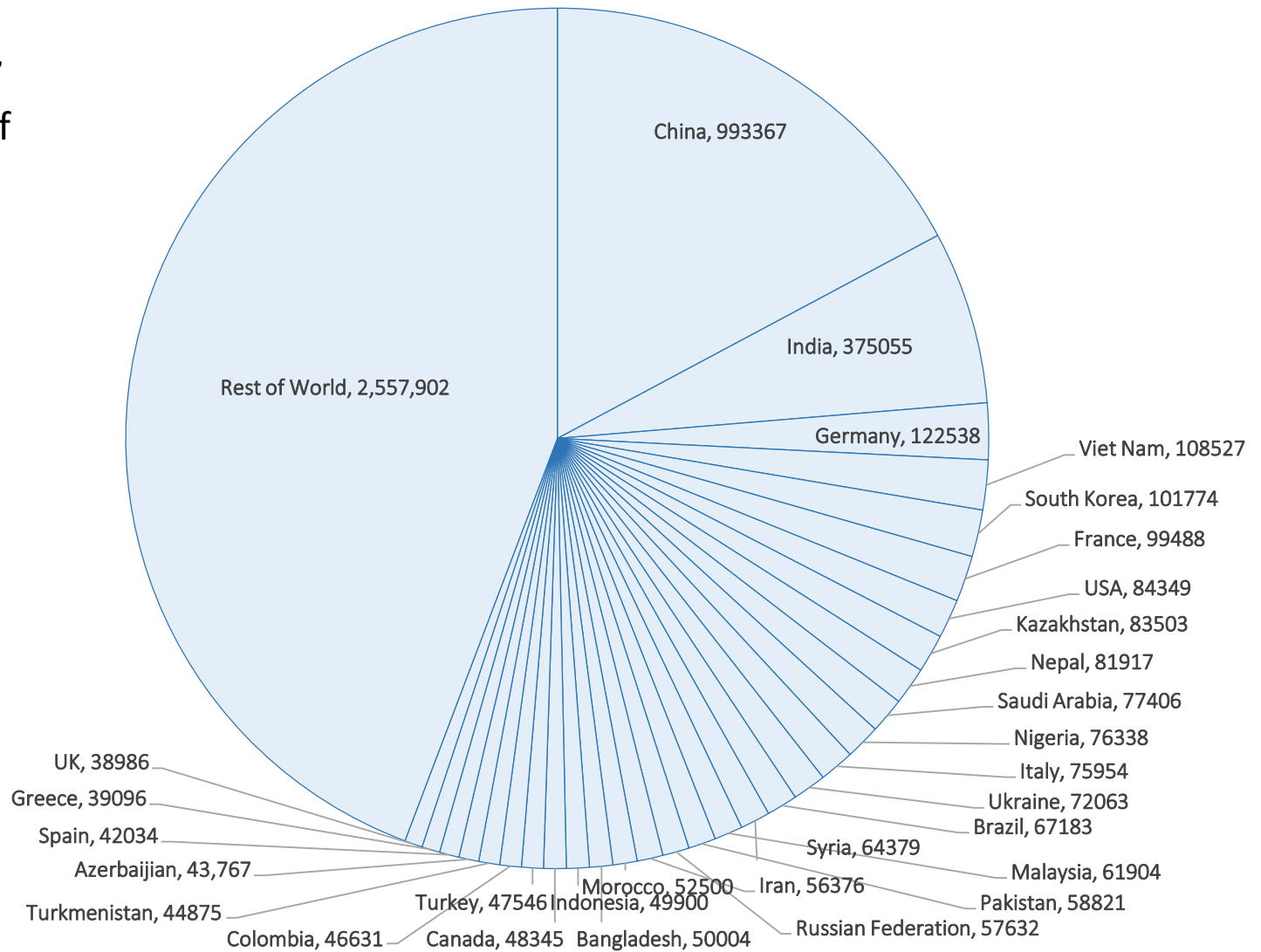




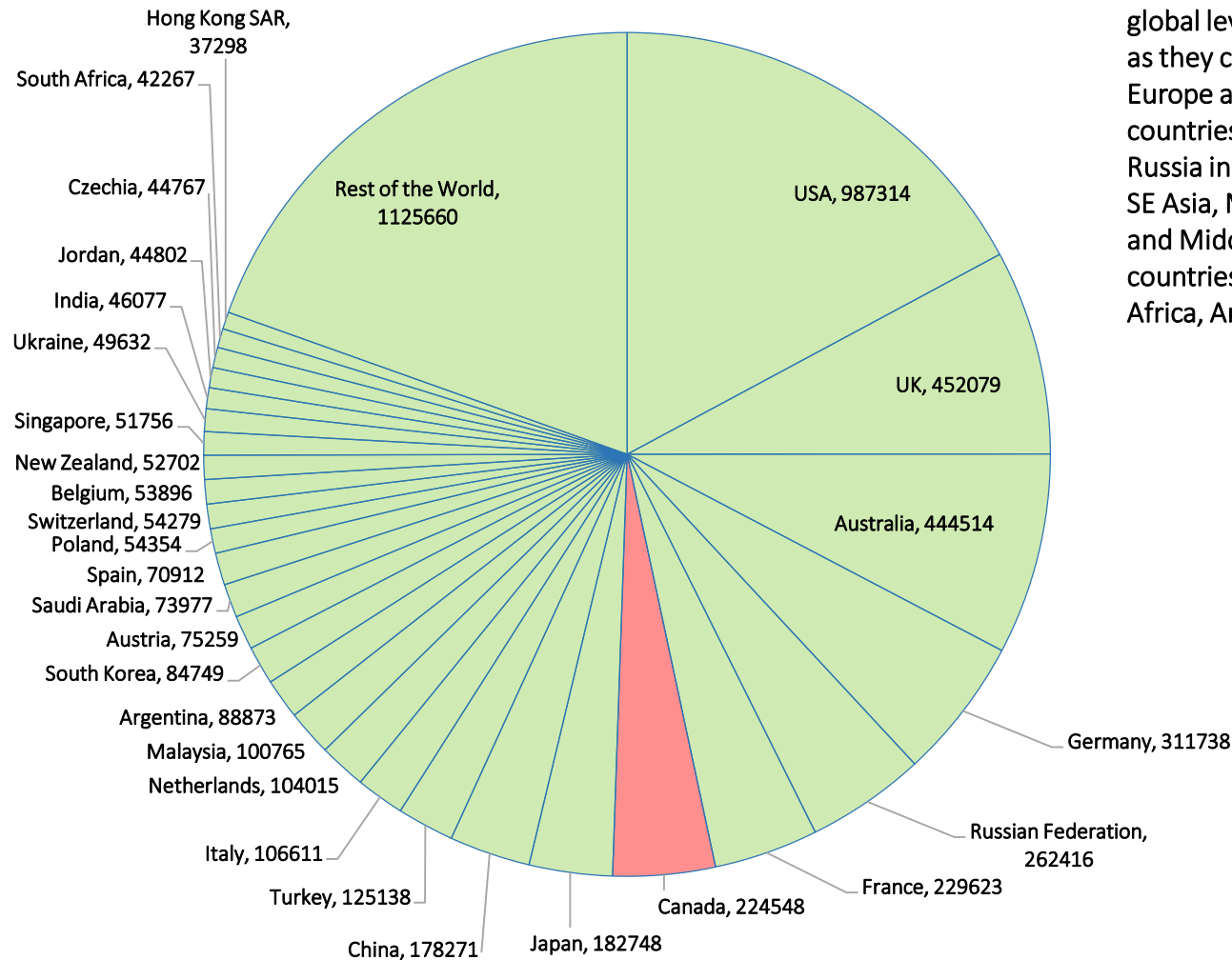
3. Mobility is robust,
supply is variable

Outgoing students 2018 (UNESCO data)

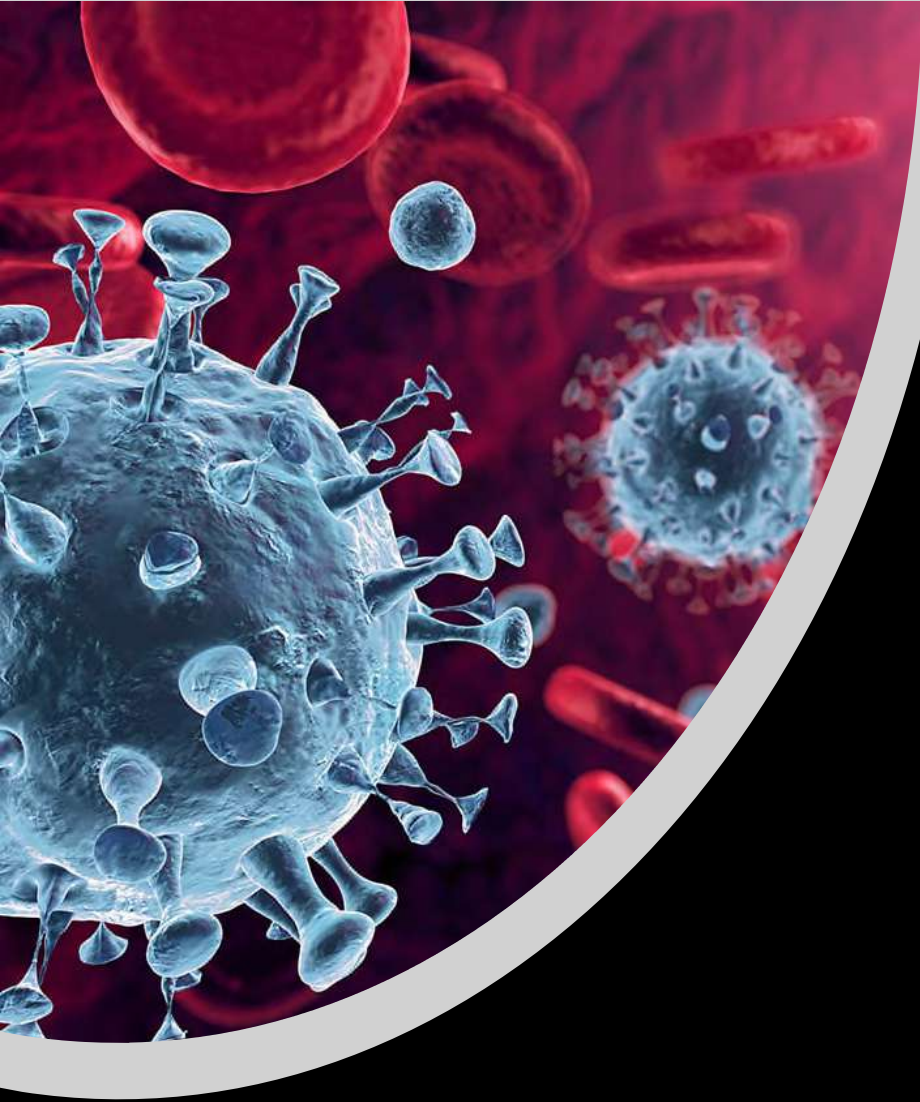
In most 'sending' countries 2-4% of tertiary students are mobile but it is 0.45% in USA, 1.09% in India, while 13.21% in Kazakhstan and 20.24% in Nepal.



The 2018 market shares of the pie: expect accessible providers to improve their position in 2021-22



English language countries dominate at global level, accepting as many students as they choose, but China and Western Europe are also 'magnets'. Some countries function as regional hubs – Russia in Central Asia, Japan in East and SE Asia, Malaysia in Muslim South Asia and Middle East, Saudi Arabia in Arab countries, South Africa in Sub-Saharan Africa, Argentina in Latin America



4. Countries need to live with the pandemic

- Strategies of complete eradication and shielding only work when the border is sealed off – so China and Australia/New Zealand approaches are unsustainable in long term
- Contagious delta variant has shown that in Australia virus cannot be contained
- Countries that have blundered though with high death tolls but vaccinated well (e.g. UK) are better placed in international education. US and parts of Western Europe are also relatively well placed
- Road to new normal is 80% domestic vaccination, requirements that inward travellers vaccinate, and open borders

5. The rise of Asia

- East Asian PPP GDP exceeds Europe, China is larger than US economy, and total East SE and South Asia will overwhelmingly exceed Anglo-Europe ('the West')
- The East is also rising in higher education and science
- Intra-East Asian mobility is expanding and China and Malaysia are global players



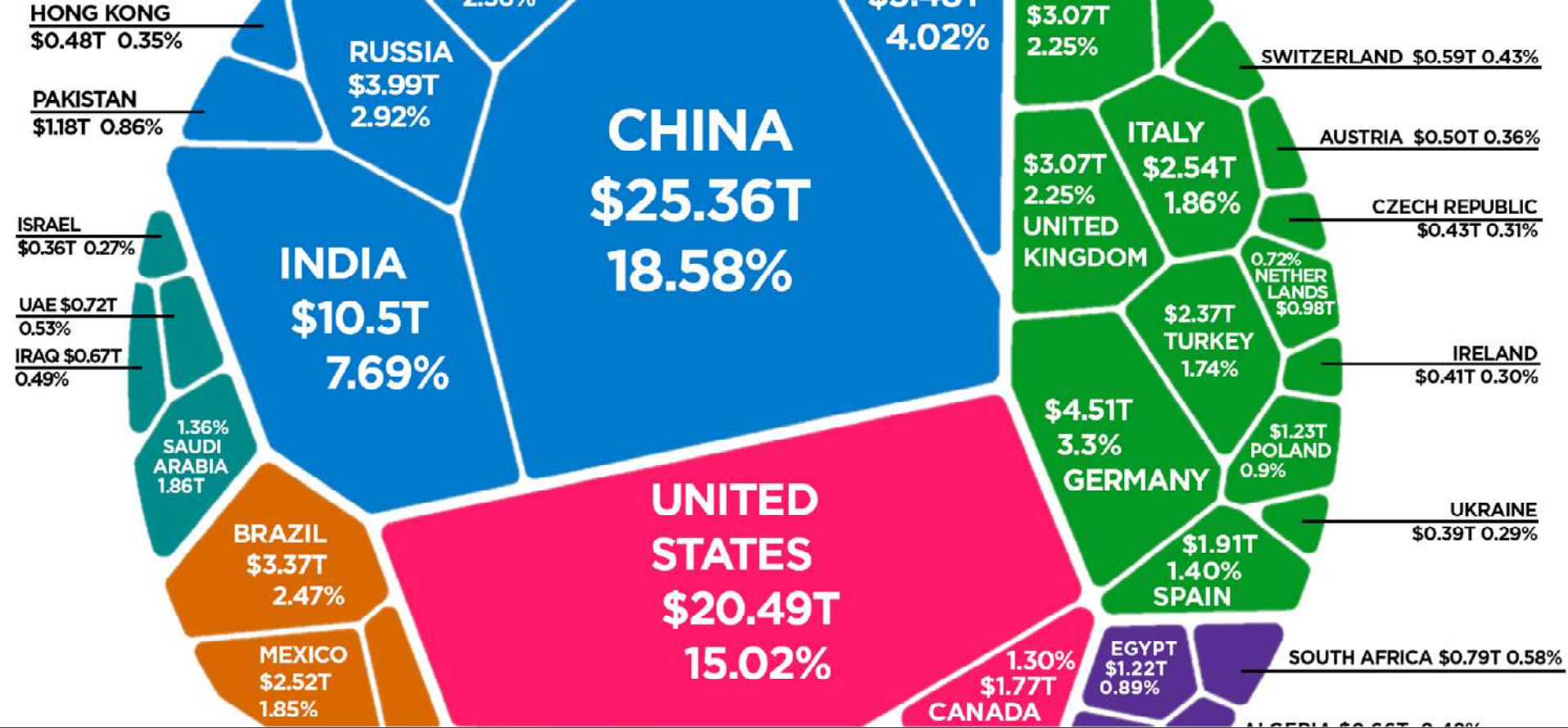
We are moving rapidly into a multipolar era at global level

- United States is militarily supreme and the global cultural leader but no longer hegemonic in all spheres
- Rise of China is unstoppable and there is Japan and a range of growing middle powers outside the Euro-American bloc – India, Iran, Korea, Brazil, perhaps Indonesia, Nigeria, etc

‘The new swing of the pendulum ... is going to lead to a world where no one will be dominant... What is different about our time is that globalization forces us to live all jumbled together and yet we have very different visions of what this common world should look like. [Political scientist] Charles Kupchan writes: “The next world will hardly be the first one in which the different great powers operate according to different conceptions of order. But, due to the onset of global interdependence, it will be the first time that such a diverse set of orders intensely and continuously interact with each other.”’

- Bruno Macaes, *The Rise of Eurasia*, Penguin, 2018, p. 2.





US attempt to contain China will not undo the reality of China's growing economic and political-cultural power

PISA comparison 2018, top ten countries in each discipline

The Confucian educational culture is the strongest in the world

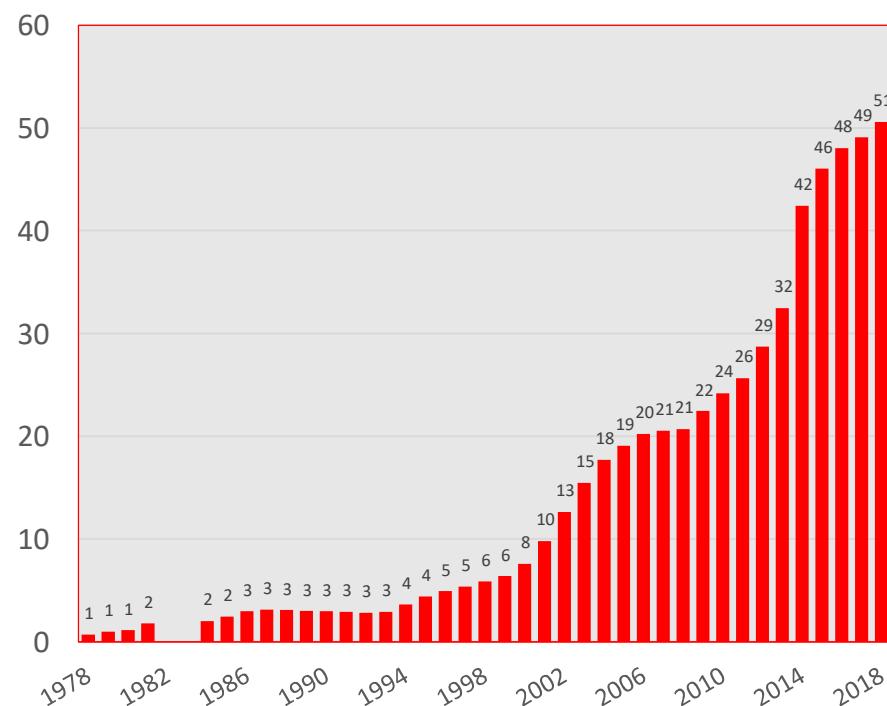
Mathematics		Science		Reading	
China (four provinces)	591	China (four provinces)	590	China (four provinces)	555
Singapore	569	Singapore	551	Singapore	549
Macau SAR	558	Macau SAR	544	Macau SAR	525
Hong Kong SAR	551	Estonia	530	Hong Kong SAR	524
Taiwan	531	Japan	529	Estonia	523
Japan	527	Finland	522	Canada	520
South Korea	526	South Korea	519	Finland	520
Estonia	523	Canada	518	Ireland	518
Netherlands	519	Hong Kong SAR	517	South Korea	514
Poland	516	Taiwan	516	Poland	512
Switzerland	510	Ireland	511	Sweden	506

Higher education expansion in China

China is also a growing education exporter, partly scholarship driven, especially in Africa and other Belt and Road countries: incentive is soft power not revenues

	1998	2018	Comparison
Population	1.247 billion	1.395 billion	1.11 times
Number of universities	1022	2663	2.6 times
Students taking national college entrance exam	3.20 million	9.75 million	3 times
New students enrolled	1.08 million	7.91 million	7 times
Acceptance rate	34%	81%	2.38 times
Students in higher education (total)	4.13 million	28.31 million	7 times

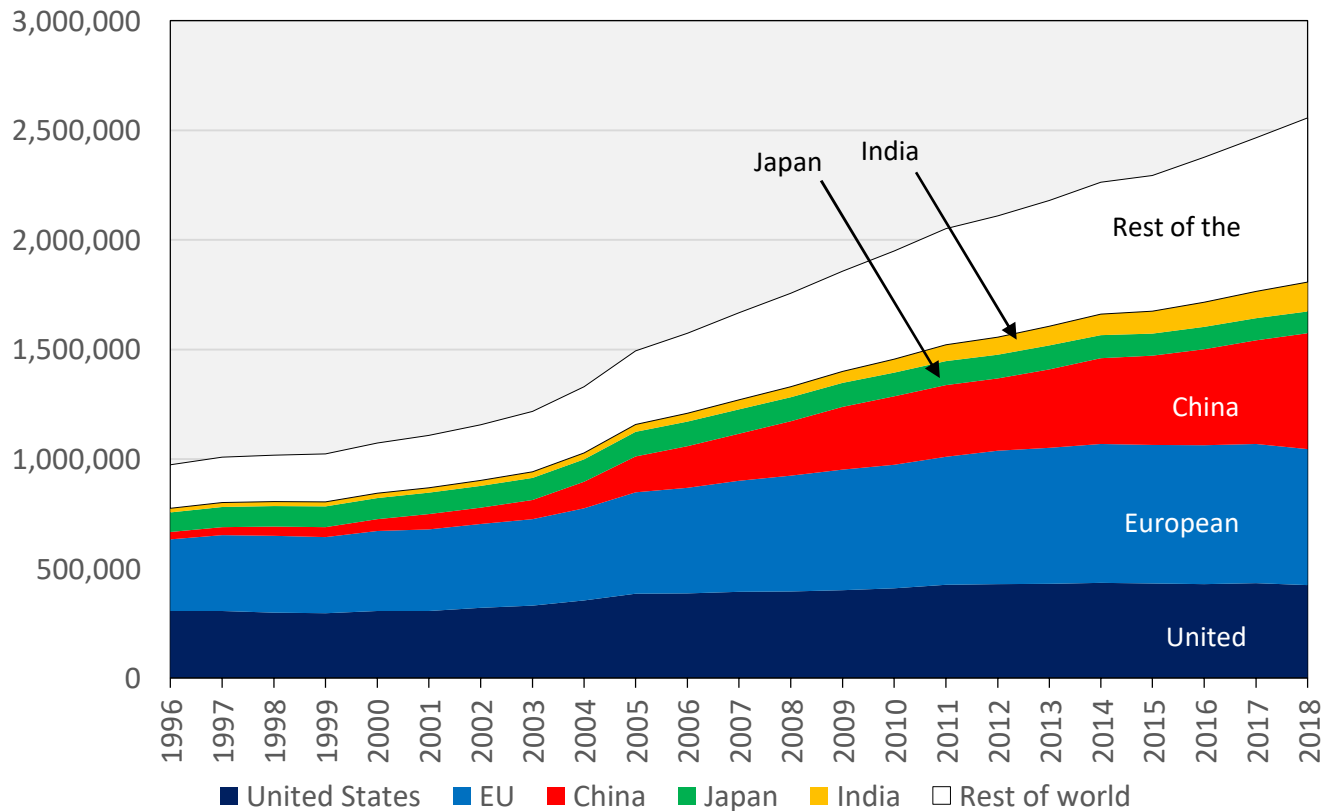
Gross Tertiary Enrolment Ratio China: 1978-2018



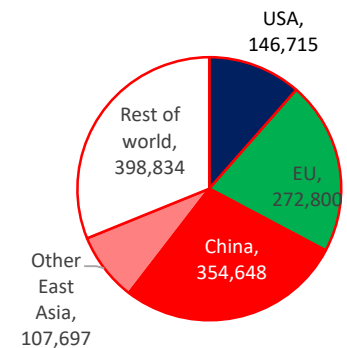
National Bureau of Statistics of China; Ministry of Education of China.

China is now the world's largest producer of scientific papers, especially in STEM fields

Number of science papers in Scopus by large world region: 1996-2018



Physical sciences STEM papers 2018



Top universities in STEM research

(1) physical sciences and engineering, and (2) mathematics and complex computing, Papers in top 5 per cent of their field by citation rate, World: 2016-2019 (*Leiden ranking*)

University	System	Physical sciences & engineering
Tsinghua U	CHINA	909
MIT	USA	683
Zhejiang U	CHINA	622
Nanyang TU	SINGAPORE	566
U Science & T.	CHINA	556
Harbin IT	CHINA	545
Stanford U	USA	541
Shanghai JT U	CHINA	513
Xi'an Jiaotong U	CHINA	512
Huazhong U S&T	CHINA	502
Harvard U	USA	487
National U	SINGAPORE	455
U Calif., Berkeley	USA	449
Peking U	CHINA	444

University	System	Maths & computing
Tsinghua U	CHINA	292
U Electronic S&T	CHINA	275
Harbin IT	CHINA	269
Huazhong U S&T	CHINA	231
Xidian U	CHINA	221
Beihang U	CHINA	215
MIT	USA	205
Zhejiang U	CHINA	194
Southeastern U	CHINA	193
Nanyang TU	SINGAPORE	187
Shanghai JT U	CHINA	178
Northwestern P. U	CHINA	164
Wuhan U	CHINA	161
Beijing IT	CHINA	159



Economic power

Power in
education
and science

Global
cultural
authority?

There are lags between power in political economy, power in education and science, and cultural power



6. International demand for the traditional leaders (US and UK) remains very robust

Despite emerging multi-polarity, still the educational and cultural ideal, reflecting 200 years of the world domination of white English-speaking Anglo-American countries