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Mini-symposium: Migration & Identity

Academic mobility, migration and identity

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Plan of presentation

1. Academic mobility in the context of migration
2. Historical phases
3. Current flows of international staff (and students)
4. New patterns of academic mobility
5. Aspects of globalisation
6. Reflections & conclusions

Images of migration

The good...



The bad...



... and the ugly



1. Academic mobility in context

Modes of migration

- Geopolitical conflicts / famine / 'failed states' (refugees)
- Globalisation 1 (trans-national elites)
- Globalisation 2 ('economic migrants')
- Regional blocs, e.g. European Union (free movement of labour...)
- Short-term migration / extended visiting / tourism...

Scales of magnitude

- All migrants - 250 million (3.2% of world population)
- Refugees / asylum seekers - 22 million (many more displaced in their own countries)
- International students - 6 million (1.8 per cent of tertiary level enrolments)
- Erasmus students - 272,000

AND

- Tourists - 1.09 billion

2. Academic mobility in history

Phases / periods of academic mobility

- Myths - and realities - of the wandering scholar
- Impacts of empire: (i) 'settler' universities, e.g. Harvard; (ii) colonial universities; (iii) exporting the 'university'
- Persecution and migration (19th-century Russia, 20th-century Germany)
- Late- / post-imperial mobility (national liberation movements and aid / development agendas)
- The 'entrepreneurial' university: students / science as commodities

3. Current flows of international staff and students

Trends in international students

- Five million students studied outside of their home countries in 2015
- This total is more than three times greater than in 1990
- Demand from Asia (especially China) has been major driver - but new patterns are emerging
- The dominance of Anglophone countries is being challenged - growth of English-language programmes in non-Anglophone countries and more varied destinations
- Increasing demand for post-graduate and vocational training programmes

International staff: some examples

<u>University</u>	<u>All academic staff</u>	<u>International staff % (Number)</u>
Cambridge	5084	41 (2074)
ETH	2471	76 (1884)
Lund	3014	31 (948)
Leuven	2360	29 (680)
MIT	2980	56 (1674)
Harvard	4184	52 (2179)
NTU Singapore	4334	69 (3000)
Seoul National	3993	11 (457)

4. New patterns of academic mobility - and the internationalisation of higher education

Different modes...

- Refugee scholars / students
- Trans-national academics
 - Research 'stars'
 - Young researchers)
- Inward migration / international student recruitment
- Exchange programmes (staff and students)
- 'Free-movers' / mobile students

... and new patterns of mobility

- Increasing flows of staff (25% of staff in UK HE not born in UK) and students (50% increase by 2020)...
- ...but changing patterns (rise of east - and south? - Asia, decline of the 'West')
- Trans-national education: more complex patterns of mobility ('network' mobility)
- Virtual mobility (MOOCs, social networking...)

5. Aspects of globalisation

Many faces of globalisation

- The global economy
 - Knowledge society and its potentialities
 - Neoliberalism and 'markets'
 - Discontents / dis-locations
- Reconfiguring time and space - and the phenomenon of 'acceleration'
- Hybrid cultures, multiculturalism and cosmopolitanism

6. Conclusions & reflections

- Academic mobility in the context of migration - brain drain / gain / circulation, building global cultures....
- Universities - agents of state building (19th / 20th centuries), engines of globalisation / cosmopolitanism (21st century)?
- Academic mobility - hegemonic internationalisation or fluid globalisation?