

## Young Scholars on the future research agenda

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"International Higher Education and Global Science  
– EU-China relations in a Changing World Order"

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## Internationalisation Challenged – Rethinking Global Higher Education

Utrecht Summer School  
16-20 August 2021

# Aim:

To inspire scholarly discussions, seeking new approaches and global orientations, to innovate and develop a renewed agenda for higher education's contribution to generating knowledge and educating new generations for a global future.

- Academic New Silk Road Project follow-up activity
- Building on the Young Scholars Workshop in November 2020

## THEMES

**Closing the knowledge gap**

**Sustaining the global common good, shared values, and open science**

**Rethink Internationalization**

**Engaged students**

**Regulatory and normative aspects of governance**



## Closing the knowledge gap

- Existence of knowledge gaps and different world views that shape thinking
- Importance of a common understanding of Higher Education and mutual understanding through Higher Education
- The human being is able to learn, unlearn and relearn

## Sustaining the global common good, shared values, and open science

- Higher Education's role in responding to and engaging in geopolitical changes
- Definitions and concepts are understood through the lens of a person's experiences and their surrounding

## Rethink Internationalization

- Models of internationalisation that go beyond the "Western industry / import model"
- The approaches of internationalisation vary across disciplines and Higher Education Institutions

## Engaged students

- A skill set of e.g. intellectual humility, understanding of the validity of other people's perspectives and empathy is needed - so students are able to find nuanced arguments and overcome value judgements
- Higher Education plays an important role in supporting the development of these skills

## Regulatory and normative aspects of governance

- Status quo and current trends in European and international law in respect to higher education collaboration
- Balanced approaches how to sustain collaboration under increasing security risks, without jeopardizing institutional autonomy, academic freedom, and human rights

**Lectures by eminent scholars from across the globe**  
**Group activities, workshops and Harvard ethics bowl**  
**Extensive list of curated materials for preparation**



Main reading: Marijk C. van der Wende, William C. Kirby, Nian Cai LIU, Simon Marginson (eds.) (2020). China and Europe on the New Silk Road: Connecting Universities across Eurasia.

# Outputs from the Summer School



Group activity: How do we look at the world and what defines (y)our world view?



Group activity: Common concepts or lost in conversation?



Group activity: What's going on in Budapest?



Workshop: Reimagining HE internationalisation



Workshop: What makes a student in a global world? Engaging higher education across cultures



**What next?**

# Group activity: How do we look at the world and what defines (y)our world view?

What is a worldview?

We think and live in our own bubbles

Transcending this is an evolving process of learning and unlearning  
and it is a privilege

**What role does HE play and what role can HE play?**



# Group activity: Common concepts or lost in conversation?



Civil Society



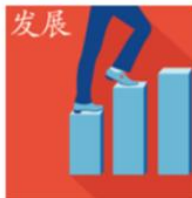
Cooperation



Culture



Democracy



Development



Freedom of Speech



Good Governance



Human Rights



Multilateralism

# Group activity: What's going on in Budapest?

Piecing together the story about the construction of the Fudan campus in Hungary

Connecting the story with the relocation of CEU

Reflecting on the instrumentalization of HE in political and geopolitical contexts

Comparing reports in media in Europe and China

# Workshop: Reimagining HE internationalisation




Future of Higher Education (a student's perspective) 😊  
*Hopes*

- hybrid classes  
(people from all around the world in one room physical & digital)
- travelling around the world & visiting different universities
- stipends if needed
- support for multilingualism
- free books!
- bridging departments & faculties

What would be my hope for how a student will experience future higher education?


...to be continued...

**Future proof internationalisation for everyone - including the deplorable!**



« Not just because we have to (the populists are at the gates! And it's taxpayers' money we are spending! They take the place of our students!)...don't believe for a second this sentiment has disappeared as Trump goes sailing quietly into the night.

But also because we are at a unique moment in time. International research just saved everybody's life ->



What does this all mean? For one thing, internationalisation in diversity should have strong regional roots or it's not sustainable. For example, every thesis in an international programme should have local aspects and generate connections.

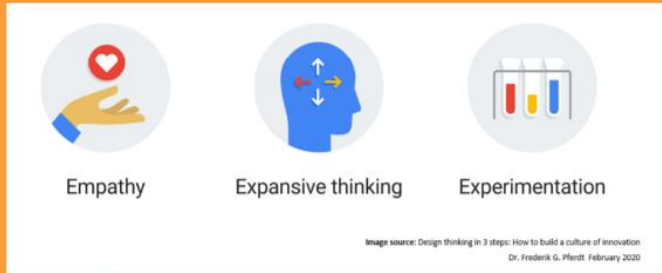


# Workshop: What makes a student in a global world?

## Engaging higher education across cultures

Comparing concepts of self-formation - Bildung and xiusheng

Design thinking

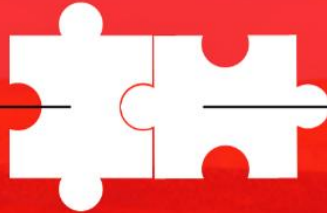


Empathy maps



# Takeaways and ToDos

Research



Practice



# Research

**Compare world views of those with international study experiences v.s. those without**

Study mobility along the new silk road

**Analyze perceptions and practices in different regions & disciplines:**

Professional ethics

Forms of international collaboration

Science diplomacy

**How to reorganize HE in line with the known internationalization**

Consultative and communicative

**Study HE internationalization in BRI partnership countries**

Talent recruitment

HE assessment/funding criteria

**Investigate policy environment & public discourse on international HE**

Supportive or antagonistic environment?

Popular rhetoric

**Towards balanced and coordinated internationalization**

North & South

Under-represented regions





# Policy and Practice

## Re-define HE internationalization

Ends and forms  
Collective narrative

## Sustain constructive & effective dialogues

Support for developing soft skills  
Support for mobility schemes

## Think deep and afar

Acknowledging the complexities  
Preparing both junior and senior

## Promote core principles for HE

Being open  
Being empathetic

## Balance benefits v.s. risks of collaborations

Engage diverse perspectives and voices  
Immediate v.s long-term outputs

## Value public transparency and media engagement

Communicate good practices  
Adapted to digital and instant media

# Next steps

**Take stock**  
of existing knowledge

**Collaborate  
and research**



**Define**  
research questions

**Apply in  
practice**