

INTERNATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION AND GLOBAL SCIENCE: EU-CHINA

[THE NEW SILK ROAD PROJECT]

Simon Marginson
University of Oxford
4 November 2021

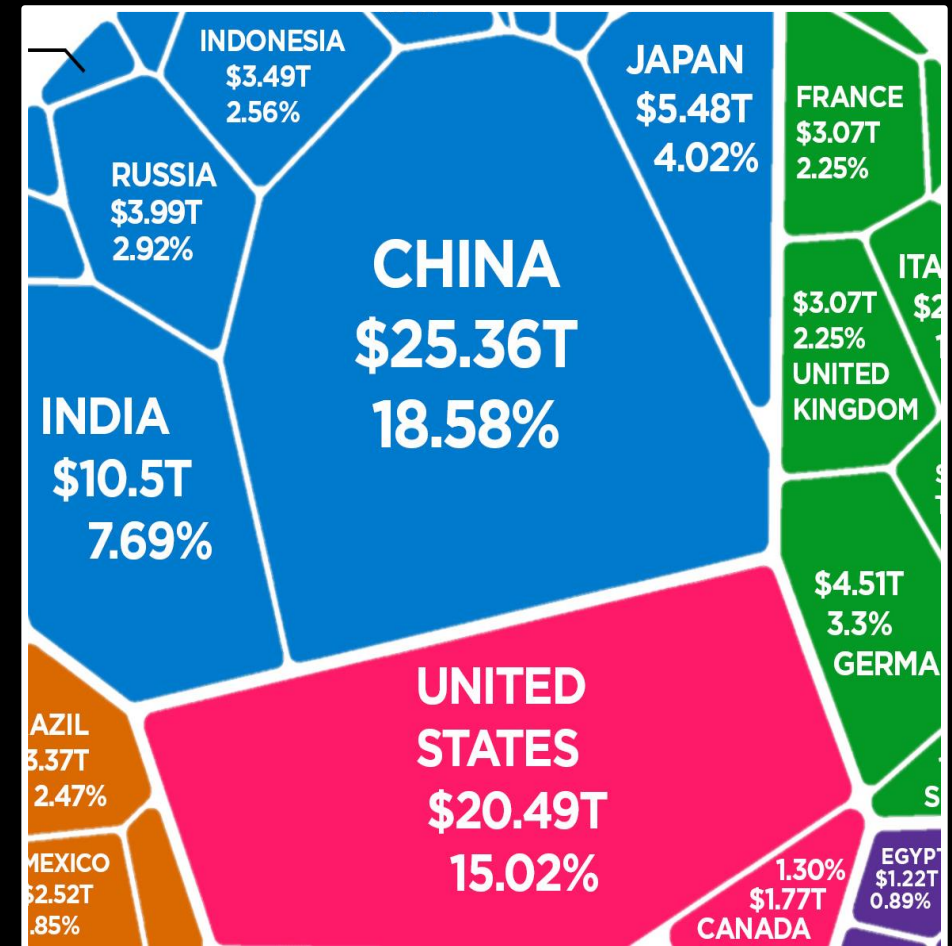




A WORLD OF CLOSER CONVERGENCE, DISPERSED AGENCY AND GREATER EXPRESSED DIFFERENCE

- ‘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.



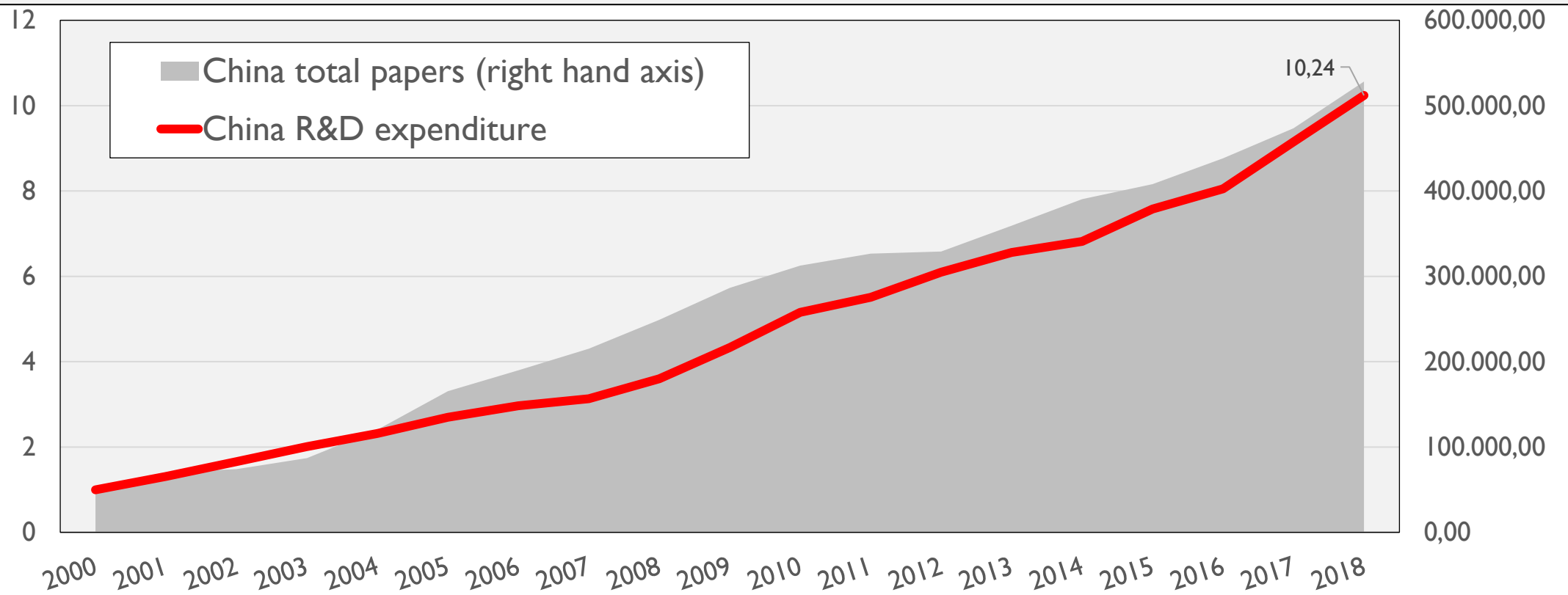
SOME LESSONS

- Higher education and science are as strong in China as in Europe
- Higher education in both China and Euro-America have partial autonomy but are never separated from the political culture
- The political cultures and associated higher education cultures are very different in important ways
- Euro-Americans operate in a cultural setting still blinkered by the colonial outlook with its sense of superiority
- Euro-America, including universities, have much to learn in and from China, traditional and modern



CHINA'S SCIENCE HAS EXPLODED THE EURO-AMERICAN PREJUDICE THAT THE WEST IS 'MORE CREATIVE'

Spending on R&D in higher education, constant prices, and science papers 2000-2018 (2000 = 1.00)



TOP UNIVERSITIES IN STEM RESEARCH

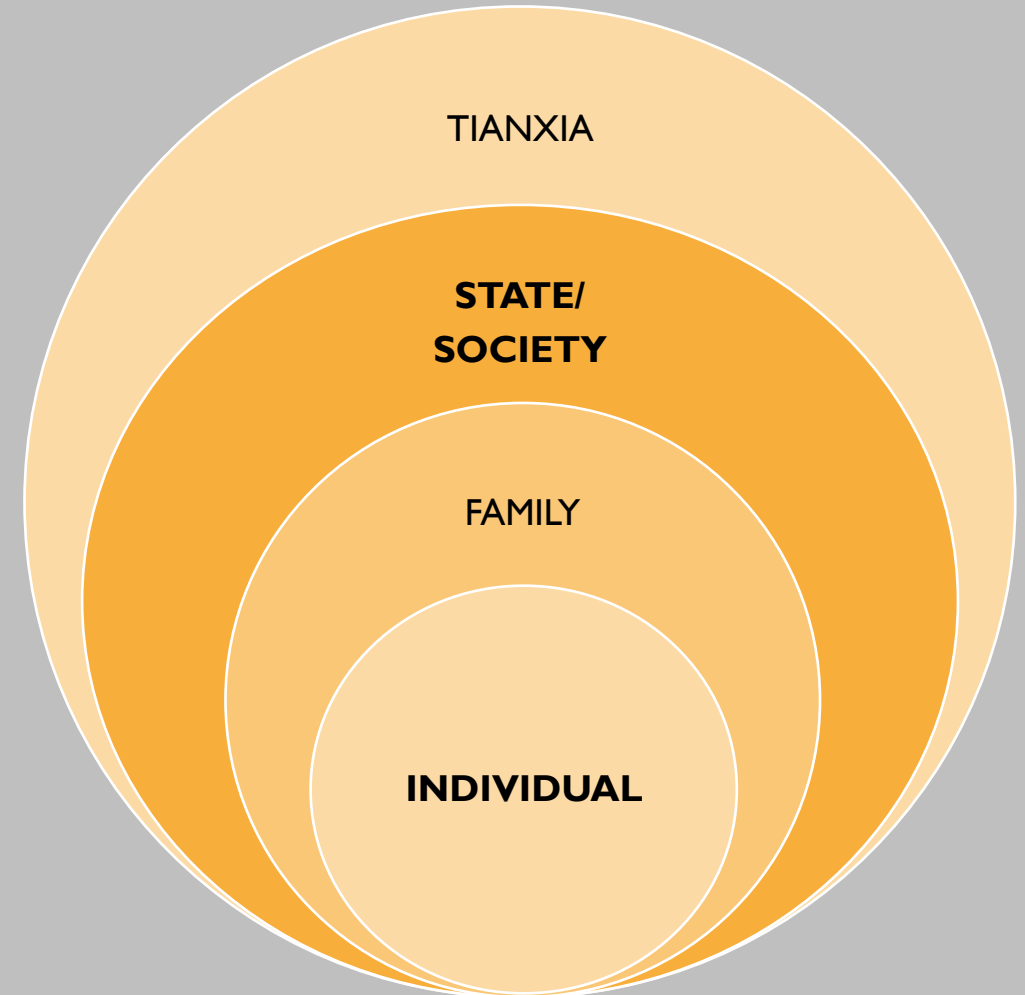
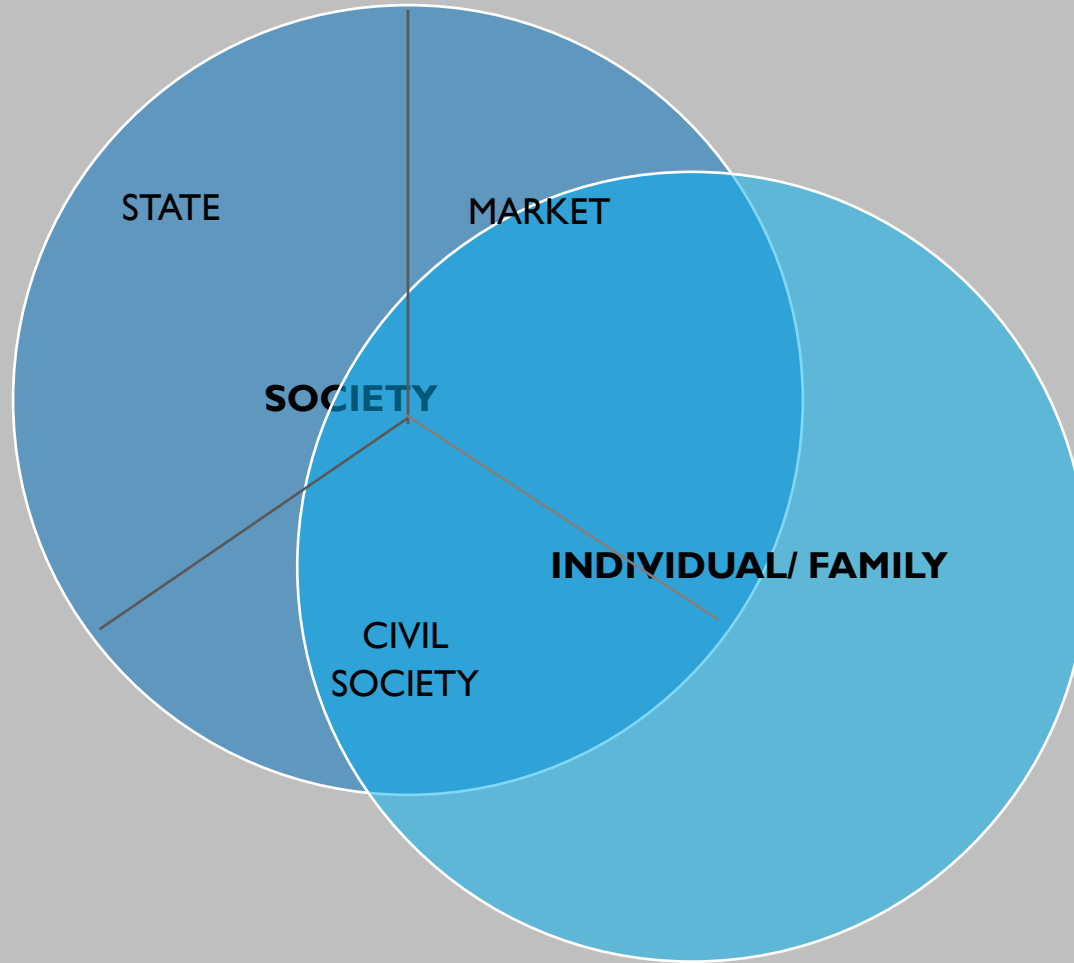
(1) physical sciences and engineering, and (2) mathematics and complex computing,
Papers in top 5 per cent of their field by citation rate, World: 2016-2019 (*Leiden ranking*)

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

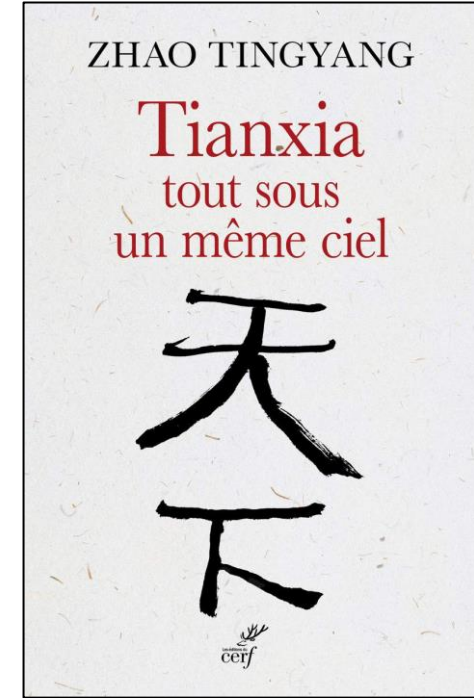
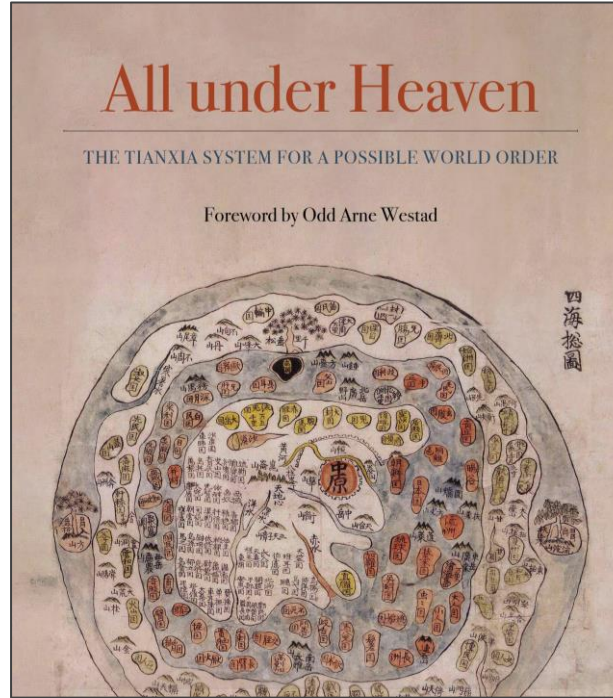


EURO-AMERICAN AND SINIC POLITICAL CULTURES









ZHAO TINGYANG ON TIANXIA AS A POSSIBLE WORLD ORDER

‘A RENEWED PROBLEM OF WORLD SOVEREIGNTY EMERGES’

‘Under conditions of globalization, international political theory can only shrink into a finite realm of a theory of conflict and is already clearly incapable of addressing the entire range of world political problems. ... International politics are powerless to address the new problems brought about by globalization and can’t even begin to address the problems of globalization itself. ... as our contemporary world becomes ever more intimate and interdependent among nation-states, a renewed problem of world sovereignty emerges. Therefore, outside of national and international politics, it becomes obvious that we need a third kind of political concept. We can call this “a planetary politics” or a “world politics”’

- Zhao Tingyang, *All Under Heaven*, UC Press 2021, pp. 13-14

