

ISSN: 2717-8676 **Volume:** 3 **Issue:** 1

Editorial: Higher Education Policies from Global Examples

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Article Type: Editorial

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Cite as: Kondakci, Y. (2022). Editorial: Higher Education Policies from Global Examples. *Higher Education Governance & Policy*, 3(1), i-i.

doi:10.55993/hegp.1138808

Access: https://doi.org/10.55993/hegp.1138808



Governance & Policy

Volume: 3

ISSN: 2717-8676

Editorial: Higher Education Policies from Global Examples

Research on higher education has been gaining wider grounds as the number and severity of the forces surrounding higher education organizations have been increasing. A successful response to the forces of change requires research-based knowledge as well as a practitioner and/or policy-maker perspective. In other words, an effective response to the forces of change surrounding higher education requires the perspective of policymakers. In this issue of Higher Education Governance and Policy, we present five articles that open space for policy analysis.

In the first article, Sabzalieva challenged the assumption that major upheavals risk the survival of higher education organizations. The author presented findings from faculty members in three ex-Soviet countries in times of crisis. The results indicate that higher education institutions respond to crises with a variety of methods and tools, which suggest that these organizations are highly adaptive entities. The second article of the issue by Polat and Çelik investigates the universities' websites as tools for attracting international students. Conducting a visual analysis of the websites of 25 Turkish universities, the authors revealed that news on research accomplishments, conveying the teaching atmosphere depicting the physical environment and building are the elements of the websites that contribute to building a first impression on the part of international students. In the third article of the issue, Jiang studied the financial security of international students in China. Although there is a wide literature on international students' satisfaction, this literature rarely elaborates on specific factors contributing to international students' satisfaction. Jiang's study urged governments to support international students from developing countries in China. In general, the study highlighted the need to focus more on the well-being and satisfaction of international students in the era of higher education internationalization. In the fourth article of this issue Durak, Uzan, and Rebolledo-Robert conducted a comparative study on the expansion of higher education in Turkey and Chile. The study documented different tracks of expansion followed in Turkey and Chile, which lead to different social implications in each country. According to the study, the Turkish expansion policy is a quantitative oriented one and opens up a space for students from lower socioeconomic status to access higher education while the Chilean expansion policy stands on neoliberal grounds and is mainly based on the privatization of higher education, which causes deeper segregation between lower and upper socioeconomic groups in the access into higher education in the country. The final article of the issue by Yaman elaborated on the legal basis of plagiarism, a growing ethical concern in the academic context. Analysing the content of five legal codes in the Turkish context, Yaman argued that legal code plurality does not equip higher education organizations better in battling against plagiarism. Rather, legal code plurality causes complexity in addressing ethical issues on legal grounds, which calls for a more unified and integrated legal base against plagiarism.

We expect that the articles in this issue will prove beneficial to international scholars and policymakers in higher education around the world.

Yasar Kondakci Editor