

The Bologna Process: a View from the Outside

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NEAR-EU conference, 4 Nov 2016

Global Trends

- Increasing importance of HE since World War 2 (more so since the 1980s): HE moving away from the margins of policy in advanced political economies
- Increasing demands placed on HEIs

What has drawn outside attention to the Bologna Process?

Interesting features of EHEA:

- **Mobility features** (ECTS; Diploma Supplement)
- **Promotional features** (competitiveness; attractiveness)
- **Governance features** (Quality Assurance Frameworks; coordination, centralization and institutional autonomy)

Areas for cooperation

Mobility:

- ECTS
- Credential recognition (Degree cycles; Diploma Supplement; Integrated Qualification Frameworks)
- Research (ERA)

Areas of competition

Market Share of:

- [International student flows](#) (loss of market share?)
- Offshore educational services
- Brain Drain (competing for immigrants; filling labour market needs; researchers)

Opportunities for Learning

Governance:

- Quality Assurance (pedagogical/curricular reforms; transparency)
- Coordination challenges (degree of centralization; country-level implementation is uneven)
- Implementation challenges (degree of institutional autonomy)

Opportunities for reflection

Principles behind PSE

- Higher Education: liberal or neo-liberal?

Priorities in PSE

- Austerity effects

External Dimension to Bologna

Strategy: “The European Higher Education Area in a Global Setting”

Bologna Policy Forum:

- initiated 2009;
- 4th Forum in 2015

Global responses to Bologna: (Mobility issues)

USA

The core features of Bologna “have sufficient momentum to become the dominant global education model”

- Clifford Adelman, U.S. Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP)

100,000 Strong in the Americas (2016)

Global responses to Bologna: (Mobility Issues)

Australia:

- Brisbane Communiqué
- Bologna Ministerial Advisory Group (BMAG)
- the New Colombo Plan, and Federal Austerity



Global responses to Bologna: Diploma Supplement

USA (Lumina Foundation): proposed a Degree Qualifications Profile

Australia: Australian Higher Education Graduation Statement (AHEGS)

Global responses to Bologna: Quality Assurance Frameworks

International Organizations

UNESCO and Council of Europe: Lisbon Recognition Convention (1997)

Council of Europe: Steering Committee for Higher Education and Research (CDESR).

OECD: AHELO

EU: Tempus Programme (also see Erasmus, Erasmus Mundus, joint programs with USA, Canada going back to 1995, and now with Aus, NZ, Japan, S. Korea)



Global responses to Bologna: Quality Assurance Frameworks

Country Responses

USA (muted response)

Australia: TEQSA

New Zealand: NZQA

Latin America: 'Tuning' partnerships

Canadian perspective on HE: Federal gov't

Global Affairs Canada (formerly DFAIT): **HE as an economic driver through Innovation; Research and Development**

- ERA-Can (EU's Horizon 2020, not Bologna)
- Canadian Council on Learning (2002 – 2010) → advise on education synergies and Lifelong Learning

Canadian perspective on HE: Federal gov't (cont'd)

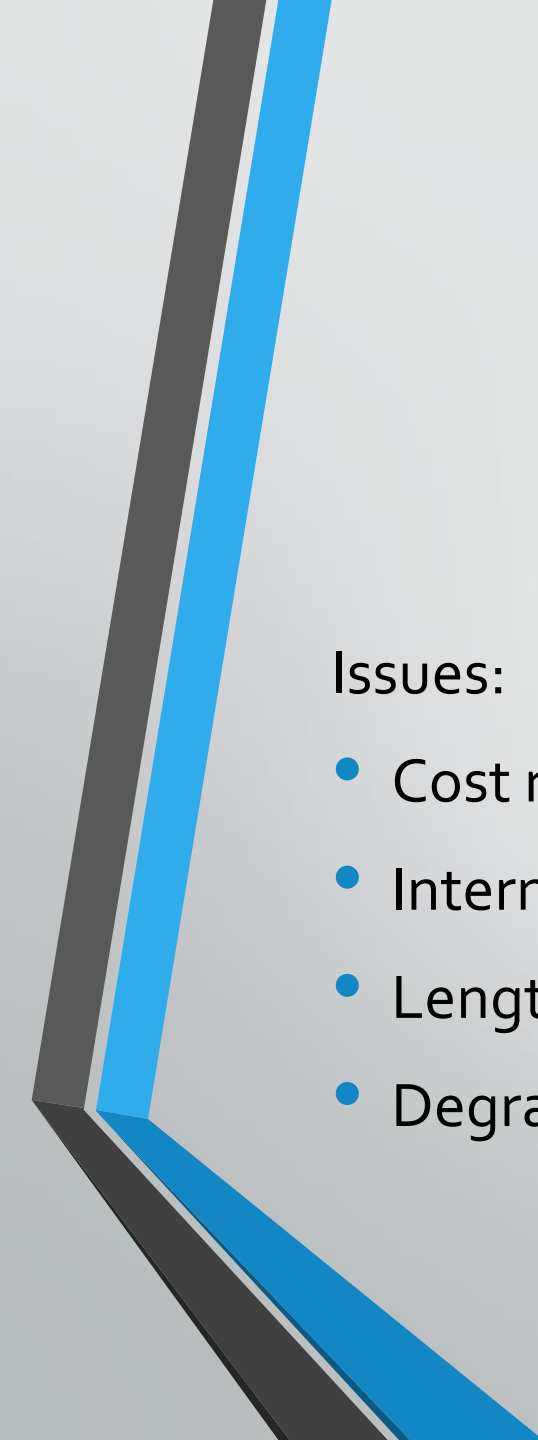
Educational Immigration: “Pipeline to the Labour market” and ‘Value Proposition’

- **2012:** [Advisory Panel on Canada’s International Education Strategy](#).
- **2014:** Comprehensive International Education Strategy
- **2016:** repealed 2015 changes to Bill C-24

Canadian perspective on HE: Provincial gov'ts

Major Issues: Inter-provincial mobility; Quality Assurance.

- QA done at institutional level (internal and external reviews)
- Overseen by Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC) and their credential agency (CICIC) → pan-Canadian mobility and QA framework
- Example of QA from British Columbia Ministry of Advanced Education: Education Quality Assurance (EQA) designation



Canadian perspective on HE: HE Institutions (admin and faculty)

Issues:

- Cost recovery mechanisms (international students)
- International experiences for their students
- Length of degrees
- Degradation of the educational experience

Canadian responses to Bologna: Federal gov't

Previously

- No national minister of education
- Minister of Foreign Affairs obtained observer status at the 2007 Bologna Ministerial meeting (London).

Currently (new government and new context)

- CETA, Brexit
- To be determined

Canadian responses to Bologna: Provinces

Navel-gazing?

- CMEC: adopted national degree framework in 2007 (relative uniformity of credentials in Canada → QA is the issue)
- CICIC: held the presidency or vice-presidency of the ENIC network from 2004 to 2008 and from 2013 to 2014.

Canadian responses to Bologna: HE Institutions

'Technical' Issues:

- Reconsider admissions criteria?
- Reconsider credits and transcripts
- Reconsider internationalization strategies

Individual HEIs:

- U of Victoria listing summer courses in ECTS
- U of Alberta held conference on 'Canadian Perspectives on the Bologna Process'



Thank you for your time!