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Internationalization of higher education under review: is it time for a new paradigm?

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International Association of Universities (IAU)



The global voice for Higher Education

- Created in 1950 under the auspices of UNESCO
- An independent international Non-Governmental Organization (INGO)
- An official partner of UNESCO and based at its headquarters in Paris
- A membership organisation comprising more than 650 universities and associations of universities from 120 countries
- More information online: www.iau-aiu.net





IAU thematic priorities 2016 – 2020

Leadership Promoting values-based leadership in higher education



Internationalization Supporting inclusive, fair and ethical internationalization of higher education



Sustainable Development Integrating sustainable development fully into higher education strategies

Technology

Using technology to increase access to knowledge and education for all



IAU Global Survey on the impact of COVID-19 on higher education around the world

- ✓ Online survey open from 25 March to 17 April 2020
- ✓ 424 unique replies from HEIs in 111 countries and territories
- ✓ Global and regional analysis in four regions:
 - ✓ Africa
 - ✓ Americas
 - ✓ Asia & Pacific
 - ✓ Europe

Trilingual survey:

- ✓ 65% of replies in EN
- ✓ 29% in FR
- ✓ 6% in ES

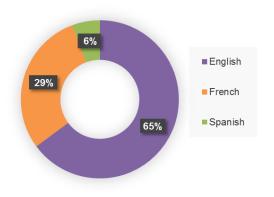
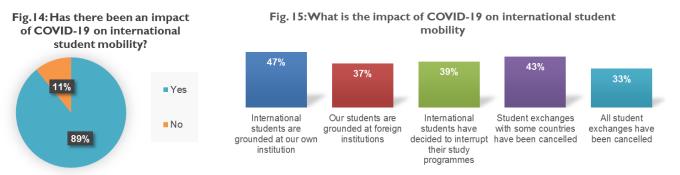


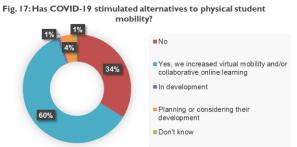
Fig. 4: Language of completion



Impact of COVID-19 on student mobility



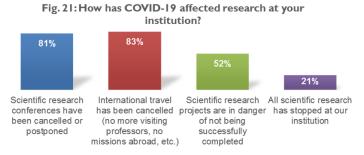
- Almost 90% of respondents reported an impact on student mobility.
- The type of impact is diverse and varies from institution to institution, but everywhere it has been negative
- At 60% of HEIs COVID-19 has increased virtual mobility and/or collaborative online learning as alternatives to physical student mobility





Impact of COVID-19 on research and collaboration

- Impact on scientific research is substantial (80% of HEIs impacted) and mainly negative
- At the same time, HE research and expertise is valued by governments and society (75% of HEIs contribute to public policy either through their institutional leadership or their researchers)
 - Impact on internationalization is negative overall but the one on cooperation (partnerships) is mixed:
 - Substantial regional differences (e.g. Africa 73% negative vs. Asia & Pacific 44% new opportunities)
 - Risk of inequality
 - Opportunity to innovate



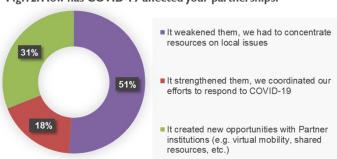


Fig.12: How has COVID-19 affected your partnerships?



COVID-19: a crisis opening up new opportunities?

- The COVID-19 crisis has deeply affected internationalization of higher education, which entered in an age of uncertainty
- COVID-19 disrupted mainly mobility
- Risks are:
 - Loss of economic rationale, less financial gains
 - Loss priority with respect to other institutional activities
 - Loss of concern and understanding of role of internationalisation
 - Need to re-position internationalization at the core of the institutional strategy: COVID-19 crisis is an opportunity to rethink internationalization and take a more holistic approach that goes beyond mobility
 - ✓ ___Why: Internationalization: a means to an end, not an end in itself
 - To what end : Internationalization: a means to improve the quality of teaching and learning, research and service to society for all

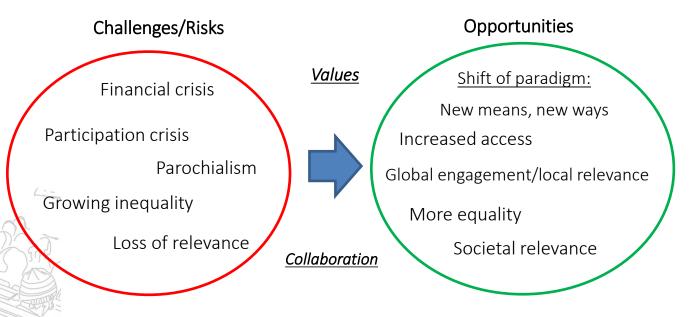
How: internationalization at home, internationalisation of research and of the curriculum





COVID-19: a crisis opening up new opportunities?

 Need to move from a crisis management situation to a medium/long term planning for a new normal: challenges and opportunities







IAU's actions related to COVID-19 emergency

Resources and information sharing, IAU webpages:

https://www.iau-aiu.net/Covid-19-Higher-Education-challenges-and-responses

✓ Webinar series on the Future of Higher Education:

https://iau-aiu.net/IAU-Webinar-Series-on-the-Future-of-Higher-Education-929

 Advocacy, position papers also in collaboration with other organisations (e.g. NIEA statement reaffirming the importance of international higher education and research)

https://iau-aiu.net/A-new-policy-statement-to-reaffirm-the-importance-of-international-Higher

- Writing papers on blogs, journals, book chapters, Books, etc.
- 1st IAU Global Survey on the impact of COVID19 on higher education around the world:

https://iau-aiu.net/IAU-releases-Global-Survey-Report-on-Impact-of-Covid-19-in-Higher-Education

Report on Regional & National Perspectives on the impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education

https://www.iau-aiu.net/IMG/pdf/iau_covid-19 regional perspectives on the impact of covid-19 on he july 2020 .pdf





Bundesministerium Bildung, Wissenschaft und Forschung



