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MARKET NEWS BULLETIN

24 February – 9 March 2017

Compiled by Nastja Pusic

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UK

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International students worth more than £25bn to UK economy (6 March)

By: Beckie Smith: Pie News: 6 March 2017

Spending by international students generated £25.8bn in gross output for the UK's economy in 2014/15, new research from [Universities UK](#) has shown. Universities, meanwhile, earned £13.1bn in export receipts in the same year.

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UK-India relationship 'at risk' as student numbers slide (28 February)

By: Jack Grove: THE: 28 February 2017

Top diplomat says the collapse in Indian student numbers in the UK could destroy traditionally strong links between the two countries.

The UK risks losing its traditionally strong relationship with India if the number of students from the subcontinent entering British universities continues to fall, a senior diplomat has said.

In a stark warning about the UK's waning "soft power", Dinesh Patnaik, India's deputy high commissioner in London, said that the halving of the number of Indians enrolling to study in the UK since 2010 could jeopardise political and economic ties between the two countries.

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UK government plans to change how international students are counted (2 March)

By: Study International Staff: Study International: 2 March 2017

The United Kingdom's Office for National Statistics (ONS) plans to revamp the system used to count the number of international students coming in and out of the U.K., the independent agency announced.

Currently, the government uses data from the International Passenger Survey that monitors the number of foreign students entering and leaving the U.K. The survey has been widely criticised as unreliable, particularly so in recent months as the system was used as a basis to suggest thousands of international students had overstayed their visa upon graduation.

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US: New travel ban the latest change in immigration policy (7 March)

By: ICEF Monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 7 March 2017

- *The White House has issued a new executive order that aims to reinstate a travel ban on several Muslim-majority countries*
- *Due to come into effect on 16 March, the order will trigger a 90-day ban on new visas for citizens of Iran, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen, Syria, and Libya*
- *The announcement occurs against the backdrop of proposed reforms for another important visa programme: the H-1B working visa*
- *The US government has recently suspended expedited processing of H-1B visas and legislation is pending that could lead to substantial changes in how working visas are allocated*

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Survey finds travel ban influencing agents' view of US (8 March)

By: ICEF Monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 8 March 2017

- *In a global survey of education agents, one in ten report their view of the US as a study destination has been permanently and negatively affected by the Trump administration's travel ban*
- *Another 40% of respondents say that they are less likely to recommend the US during the period of the travel ban, but that they would resume normal levels of US referrals following the ban*
- *As these observations suggest, one of the overarching findings of the survey is that the impact of the US travel ban extends well beyond the Muslim-majority countries that are subject to the ban*

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US educators re-evaluate global education in Trump era (9 February)

By: Sara Custer: Pie News: 24 February

International educators in the US are taking another look at how they promote and prioritise a global education in an ever more nationalistic political environment. At the 35th annual [Association of International Education Administrators](#) conference in Washington DC this week, concerns were high as stakeholders reevaluated student mobility and international partnerships.

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Canada: campaign launches to spur #LearningAbroad (24 February)

By: Beckie Smith: Pie News: 24 February 2017

The Canadian Bureau for International Education has rolled out a nationwide communications campaign, Learning Beyond Borders, to encourage students to study abroad.

The campaign aims to kickstart an uptick in the proportion of Canadian students spending time studying overseas. [Just 2.3%](#) of university students studied abroad in 2014/15, the association's latest figures show.

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Canada: Optimistic outlook for foreign enrolment in 2017 (1 March)

By: ICEF Monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 1 March

- *Industry analysts and trade officials are projecting a strengthened competitive position for Canada in international education markets*
- *This forecast arises from stable or improving performance in visa processing, relative currency values, and other environmental factors that are expected to further boost Canada's attractiveness to international students this year*

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International

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Free tuition in Germany not attractive for all foreigners (24 February)

By: Helena Kaschel: DW: 24 February 2017

A new study says Germany is an exception with its free higher education. But while free tuition brings lots of foreign students here, it's also keeping some of them away.

"Only Germany still offers university tuition with no fees," reported many media outlets on Thursday. Given that 2017 is an election year, such a statement has the potential to reignite a long-standing debate about tuition fees in Germany.

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Russia to simplify visas, boost international student quota to 200,000 (1 March)

By: Beckie Smith: Pie News: 1 March 2017

The Russian government has upped its international student quota for universities by a third to 200,000 for this year and put in place plans to simplify visas for students completing a foundation year. The plans, announced by the deputy education minister, are part of an ongoing drive to boost the global profile of Russian higher education and increase the country's soft power.

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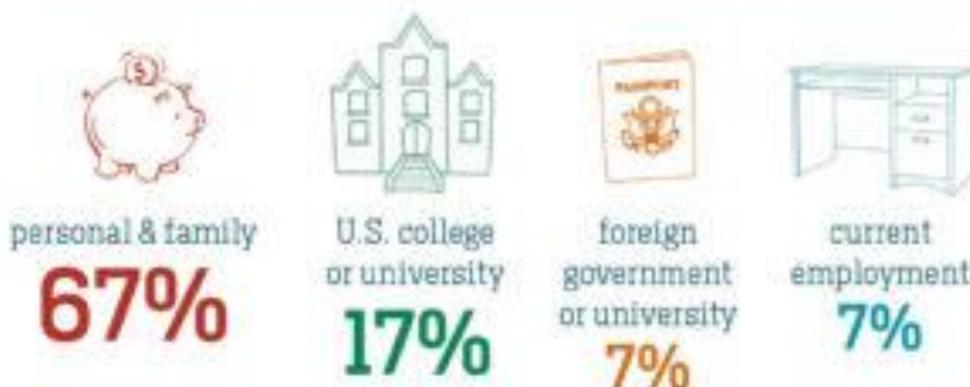
67% of International Students Pay Out of Pocket (2 March)

By: Shadi Nasab: Voa News: 2 March 2017

While tuition costs spiral upward for all students, the United States continues to be the most sought-after nation for international students.

Nearly 67 percent of international students pay for tuition out of pocket from personal or family sources, says the [Institute of International Education](#) (IIE). Among international students, 17 percent receive funding from the university they attend. Seven percent receive funding from the governments of their home country, and another 7 percent get funding from private sponsors, like current employer.

PRIMARY SOURCE OF FUNDING FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN THE U.S.



\$35.8 billion was contributed to the U.S. economy by international students in 2014/15. (Source: U.S. Department of Commerce)

Open Doors is conducted by the Institute of International Education with the support of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State. Online at: www.iie.org/opendoors

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Finland: project to attract 100,000 int'l students (8 March)

By: Natalie Marsh: Pie News: 8 March 2017

A new project out of Finland has set an ambitious target of attracting 100,000 international students to study at Finnish universities – more than triple the current number – in an attempt to boost the country's international profile.

Created by study search platform, [Study Advisory](#), in collaboration with its sister company, [Asia Exchange](#), FinEd Hub will seek to attract primarily Asian students to the Nordic nation.

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Asia

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Vietnamese student numbers growing in the US (28 February)

By: Vietnam net staff: Vietnam net: 28 February 2017

There are currently 1.2 million international students studying in the US, nearly 75% of whom are enrolled in bachelor, masters or doctoral programs, according to SEVIS by the Numbers.

California, New York and Texas enrol 36% of all students. Some 919,484 of them, or 77% of the total, are from Asia. Compared to July 2015, the total number of active international students studying in the US increased 13.3%.

Unlike the Institute of International Education's Open Doors statistics, which include higher education enrolment only, SEVIS data encompass all levels of the educational system.

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Taiwan seeking to woo more foreign students (5 March)

By: Business Standards staff: Business standard: 5 March 2017

Under a new foreign policy it adopted last year, [Taiwan](#) is seeking to woo more foreign students, including from India, to study in its institutes of higher learning.

"The central focus of our New Southbound policy is to strengthen ties with Southeast Asia and India," Rebecca Lan, Deputy Director General at the Department of International and Cross-Strait Education in Taiwan's Ministry of Education, said during an interaction with a group of visiting journalists from the region here.

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China Seeks Tighter Ideological Control of Its Top Universities (1 March)

By: Yojana Sharma: The Chronicle of Higher Education: 1 March 2017

The announcement of new inspections to be conducted of the party committees of 29 top universities in China as part of the country's anti-corruption campaign is not just about rooting out malpractice but is also the latest move by the government to tighten ideological control of universities, experts say.

The Communist Party Central Committee's discipline authority announced the new inspections on Wednesday – the 12th round of such [disciplinary inspections of universities](#) and other government organisations in the past four years.

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440,000 foreign students studied in China last year (2 March)

By: Alex Linder: Shanghai ist: 2 March 2017

In 2016, there were some 440,000 foreign students studying in the land of Confucius. That's a 35% increase from 2012 and ranks as the most of any country in Asia.

The countries with the most students in China were South Korea, the US and Thailand, followed by Pakistan, India, Russia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Japan and Vietnam, according to [data](#) from China's Ministry of Education.

Out of those 440,000 students, 210,000 are there for their bachelor's degrees, 64,000 for their master's or doctorate, and 130,000 are enrolled in Chinese kindergartens, primary and middle schools.

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Foreign students can help raise China's global profile (6 March)

By: Feng Shuang: Chinadaily.com: 6 March 2017

Foreign students with working experience in China can play a big role as the country goes global, said Yan Chengzhong, an expert on foreign language and a national legislator. [\[Special coverage\]](#) "Many of my students from foreign nations went back to their country, only to find that the knowledge they had gained in China did not fit in well with the realities of their countries," said Yan, a professor with Donghua University in Shanghai.

"But if these students stay in China for a longer period after their graduation, they will get a better understanding of the country while making their contributions to its globalization drive," he said.

Yan cited Shanghai, a city that granted the most permanent residence to expatriates in 2016, as an example.

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Private schools go to China to lure \$40,000 fee-paying students (3 March)

By: Agnus Grigg: Financial Review: 3 March 2017

If you're wondering why 54 private schools are on a recruitment drive in China this weekend – when most have long waiting lists and places are hard to come by – perhaps you need to look at the lucrative margins.

Principals and international directors of schools, including Kincoppal-Rose Bay, Knox Grammar and Geelong College, have been on a five-city roadshow in China's eastern provinces over the past two weeks. This weekend they will be in Guangzhou and Hong Kong after previously visiting Harbin, Beijing and Shanghai.

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More Chinese set to study overseas (8 March)

By: Luo Wangshu: Asia One: 8 March 2017

Despite already being the leading source of international students for foreign universities and colleges, China is set to see even more of its young people go abroad to study in the next five years, according to an education policy adviser.

Yu Minhong, founder and CEO of the New Oriental Education and Technology Group and a member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference's National Committee, estimates that the number of Chinese studying abroad each year will peak at between 700,000 to 800,000.

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Australia and New Zealand

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International Students Complete Programs at High Rates in Australia (3 March)

By: Alyssa Walker: Masterstudies.com: 3 March

A recent [report from the Department of Education and Training](#) underscores [Australia's strong performance on the global higher education stage](#).

It shows that the number of international students who complete their studies at Australian universities and non-university higher education institutions (NUHEIs) remains high.

The report examined the percentage of students who finish their studies after four and nine years at traditional universities, and those who finished after four and six years at a NUHEI.

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New destination: Indian students flock to Australia for higher studies (23 February)

By: Paritosh Parasher: The Economic Times: 23 February 2017

The Australian government's campaign to lure Indian students for higher studies is bearing fruit as nearly 80,000 of them enrolled in various education and training courses in 2016. Overall, Australian universities and vocational training institutes have experienced another bumper year with more than half a million international students choosing to study Down Under.

The numbers are likely to increase exponentially in the coming months as, according to some media reports, international students are beginning to shun the US because of the anti-immigrant policies of President Donald Trump.

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Continued growth for New Zealand (1 March)

By: Matthew Knott: Study Travel Magazine: 1 March 2017

New Zealand's international education sector experienced a nine per cent increase in international student numbers in the first eight months of 2016, with growth in all sectors, according to statistics released by Education New Zealand (ENZ).

The January-to-August 2016 report by [ENZ](#) covers student-visa-holding students, and shows an additional 9,812 students, compared with the same period of the previous year. 2015 was a [record full year](#) for New Zealand's international education sector.

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