

**INTO**»

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# MARKET NEWS BULLETIN

3 November – 16 November 2017

Compiled by Nastja Pusic

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## Summary of Global HE News

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### Office for Students regulatory framework consultation (3 November)

By: Universities UK staff: Universities UK: 3 November 2017

The first stage of Universities UK's response to the Office for Students (OfS) regulatory framework consultation, and an initial assessment of priority areas.

This paper identifies a need for more clarity on how the OfS will ensure that its regulatory judgements and wider approach to market regulation will be transparent, accountable and independent.

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### National drive to double study abroad numbers launched (4 November)

By: Brendan O'Malley: University World News: 4 November 2017

Universities UK International has launched a three-year campaign to increase the number of United Kingdom students studying, working and volunteering abroad for two or more weeks as part of their studies.

The push, titled 'Go International: Stand Out', is an attempt to address the low proportion of UK students studying abroad compared to other countries. Currently just 6.6% of students complete a placement of this kind. The campaign calls for universities to commit to taking concrete action to support the growth of outward mobility at their institution.

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### Research reveals direct flights between the North and Beijing are delivering a "China Dividend" (6 November)

By: MAG Manchester Airport staff: MAG Manchester Airport: 6 November 2017

- Two years since visit of Chinese President, trade and tourism between the North and China has boomed thanks to direct flight service
- Benefits set to multiply as UK-China relationship is further strengthened and increasing numbers of Chinese visitors begin and end their 'UK tour' in the North
- Study launched as Ministerial delegation heads to Shanghai to participate in 'Northern Powerhouse Day' at China International Industry Fair
- Report calls for the prioritisation of further direct links to China and other key growth markets so as to drive Northern prosperity and balance the UK economy.

Key Report Findings:

- UK export values from Northern Hub soar 265% to £200m per month
- Visitor spend of £140m – double expected value
- 40% more people in the North now travelling to China than prior to commencement of the route
- Passenger volumes 15% higher than predicted
- Inward investment pipeline doubles in 12 months
- International student numbers grow at twice national average

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## **Amber Rudd urges removal of students from net migration data (8 November)**

By: George Parker & Helen Warrell: FT: 8 November 2017

Home secretary on collision course with Theresa May over immigration policy.

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## **International students foot the bill for UK research (9 November)**

By: Patrick Attack: The Pie News: 9 November 2017

A shortfall in the UK research budget has led to international students footing the bill with their fees, according to a [new report](#) by think tank, [Higher Education Policy Institute](#).

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## **UK: Special investigation exposes student loans ‘fraud’ (14 November)**

By: Kerrie Kennedy: The Pie News: 14 November 2017

A [BBC Panorama](#) investigation into student [loan fraud at private colleges](#) has highlighted malpractices that could be costing the UK millions of pounds each year. Rogue agents were secretly filmed supplying fake documents to undercover students and assisting them to fraudulently gain access to student loans when they had no intent to study.

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### US: F-1 visa guidance wording tightened (7 November)

By: Elaina Loveland: The Pie News: 7 November 2017

The official direction for consular officers considering F-1 visa issuance to students applying to study in the US has been tightened – in terms of the language used around establishing ties abroad.

This has led to some concerns that it may translate into less fluid visa application into the world's biggest international student market.

To be admitted with F-1 nonimmigrant status, “a foreign national must show that they have a foreign residence which they do not intend on abandoning”.

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### Report finds fewer new international students on U.S. college campuses (13 November)

By: Nick Anderson: The Washington Post: 13 November 2017

The flow of new international students entering U.S. colleges and universities shrank last year and has continued to decline this fall on many campuses, breaking a recent trend of growth, a nonprofit group said Monday.

The data from the Institute of International Education are likely to fuel questions about how the divisive 2016 presidential campaign and U.S. policy shifts since President Trump took office have influenced the global academic market.

Higher education leaders have been on alert for signs that the Trump administration's efforts to ban travelers from certain majority-Muslim countries and heightened scrutiny of foreign visitors are deterring international students.

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Read the full report [here](#)

### Number of Indian students in Canada crosses 100,000 (5 November)

By: Anirudh Bhattacharyya: HindustanTimes: 5 November 2017

Part of the reason for the surge in Indian students opting for higher education in Canada is the somewhat immigrant-unfriendly signals from the Donald Trump administration in the US.

The cumulative total of the number of Indian students attending Canadian colleges and universities over the last year has crossed 100,000 for the first time, even as those admitted in 2017 could make for a record high.

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## Canada urged to fund program to send students abroad (8 November)

By: Della Rollins: The Globe and Mail: 8 November 2017

Canada should launch an ambitious new program to send college and university students abroad in an effort to prepare tomorrow's work force to drive trade and economic relations with emerging markets, a new report says.

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## International Enrollments Increase in Canada (16 November)

By: Elizabeth Redden: Inside Higher Ed: 16 November 2017

International student enrollment increased by 10.7 percent at Canadian universities this fall compared to last fall, Universities Canada said. The biggest increase was in British Columbia, where international enrollments increased 15.6 percent.

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## International

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## Finland to open doors to 150,000 international students (3 November)

By: Bernama: The Straits Times: 3 November 2017

The Finnish government is opening its doors to 150,000 international students to study in Finland by year 2020.

Finnish Ambassador to Malaysia Petri Puhakka said students could study in various fields conducted in English including forestry, information and communication technology (ICT), green technology, teaching as well medicine.

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## **Egypt seeks to attract international branch campuses (3 November)**

By: Ellie Bothwell: THE: 3 November 2017

Minister for higher education says proposed new law will help foreign universities set up outposts in the country.

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## **BRIC economies return to growth in 2017 (7 November)**

By: ICEF Monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 7 November 2017

- After a turbulent period beginning about 2014, some of the key emerging economies in the world are showing new signs of strength this year
- Indeed, for the first time in nearly three years the four BRIC economies – Brazil, Russia, India, and China – have all grown through the first half of 2017
- This growth trajectory will in turn drive some of the key indicators, including income growth and the expansion of the middle class, that play an important role in shaping study abroad demand

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## **Officials look to expand international recruitment in underrepresented countries (8 November)**

By: Cayla Harris & Liz Konneker: The GW Hatchet: 8 November 2017

As the international student population continues to swell, top officials want to attract students from more places around the world.

A group of officials and faculty conducting a broad [self-study](#) of the University found that while GW had made “significant strides” in enrolling international students in recent years, the “population of international students is not as geographically diversified as hoped.” The group published the recommendations from the self study late last month.

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## **Global investment in student housing reaches new heights (8 November)**

By: ICEF Monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 8 November 2017

- *The availability of suitable student housing looms large for many study destinations*
- *The sector is now drawing significant private sector investment*
- *Large investors and/or multinational housing providers are moving quickly to address the opportunity of the undersupply in student housing*

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## **2017 Agent Barometer survey links student and agent perceptions with destination attractiveness (8 November)**

By: ICEF Monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 8 November 2017

- The 2017 Agent Barometer gathered responses from 1,456 agents in 107 countries
- The survey reflects some important shifts in the appeal of major destinations, along with a growing concern among students with respect to safety and security issues
- It also underscores the importance of robust support services in relation to overall student satisfaction, including settlement, accommodations, academic advising, and personal counselling supports

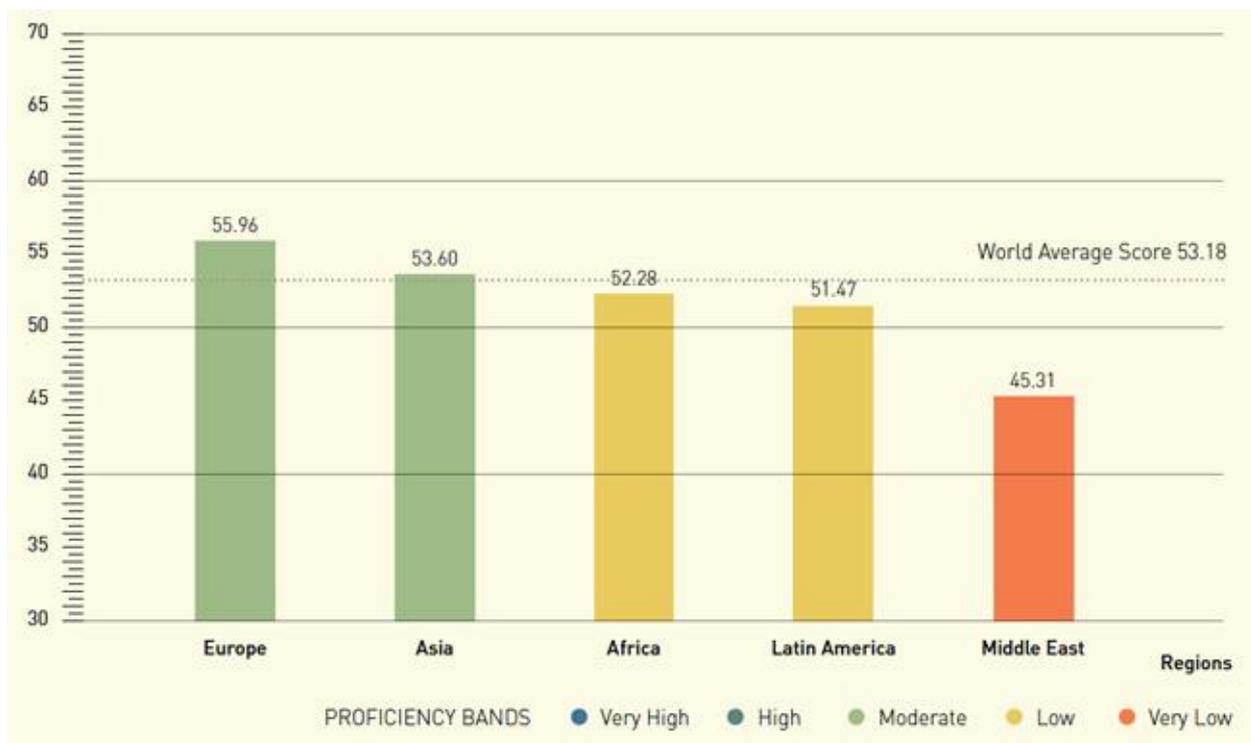
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## **Global survey highlights regional trends for English proficiency (15 November)**

By: ICEF Monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 15 November 2017

- The 7th annual EF English Proficiency Index ranks the English skills of 80 countries around the world
- On a regional level, Europe remains at the top of the table again this year, with Asia close behind, Africa and Latin America in the middle of the pack, and the Middle East lagging well below global averages
- As in earlier editions of the index, EF finds strong correlations between English proficiency and a range of important economic and social indicators

*A high-level summary of test scores yields the relative proficiency ranking of five global regions for 2017*



Source: EF

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## Asia

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### Students encouraged to benefit from Chinese scholarship scheme (5 November)

By: Imran Adnan: The Express Tribune: 5 November 2017

The Chinese government is offering higher education scholarships for Pakistani students, besides other member states of its One Belt and One Road (OBOR) initiative. Students from all OBOR-countries, especially from Pakistan, are encouraged to get benefit from this preferential scholarship scheme, said Sias International University (SIU) President Dr Sikun Chen on Saturday.

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### Chinese students still drawn to US universities, but growth rate slowing (14 November)

By: Alice Shen: South China Morning Post: 14 November 2017

China continued to provide the lion's share of foreign students to US universities in the 2016-17 academic year, but their number grew at a slower rate than previously, a study has shown.

Education consultants suggested the slowdown might have been triggered by an increase in the number of options available to young people as well as growing safety concerns among their parents.

Of the more than 1 million foreign students who enrolled at universities in the United States in the period, 350,755, or about 35 per cent, were Chinese, the Open Doors study by the Institute of International Education, a non-profit organisation supported by the US government, said.

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## Australia and New Zealand

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### Record number of international students in Australia leads to \$30b boost to economy (10 November)

By: Jonathan Pearlman: The Straits Times: 10 November 2017

Australia's international student sector is booming, with a record of more than 700,000 students enrolled at universities and other education facilities this year.

The growth of the sector has delivered a boost to the economy. But it has also prompted concerns about the experience of the students outside campuses, including their tendency to cluster in inner city "ghettos".

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### NZ to review offshore education agent regulation (9 November)

By: Anton Crace: The Pie News: 9 November 2017

The New Zealand government will undergo a review of offshore education agents, with a potential introduction of regulatory measures in the future, according to Labour minister, Priyanca Radhakrishnan.

Speaking at a rally organised by the Migrant Worker Association, Unite Union and Auckland Unitarian Church, Radhakrishnan said the Labour-led coalition government wanted to prevent fraudulent behaviour of agents.

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