

# THE INTERSECTION OF INTERNATIONALISATION AND THE NATIONAL INTEREST: AN AUSTRALIAN PERSPECTIVE

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## What are HE institutions interested in?

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Comprehensive Internationalisation, including:

1. Overarching strategy and policy framework
2. International students on our campuses
3. The transnational program – taking education to students
4. L&T – internationalisation of curriculum – on and offshore – new modes of delivery and engagement
5. Partnerships and networks – deep and meaningful
6. Internationalisation of research
7. Student support and well-being, on and off campus
8. Cross-border mobility of domestic students
9. Support for and development of staff, staffing profile

Quality as an underlying principle

Context includes competition, funding challenges

## What are national governments interested in?

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1. Quality and ranking of HE systems and institutions
2. Integrity and purpose of the migration system
3. Protecting students' rights and ensuring their well-being
4. The country's place in the world and the role of higher education in positioning and supporting that place
5. Funding the education system
6. Economic and non-economic benefits of internationalisation
7. Foreign relations and soft diplomacy
8. Brain drain vs gain – competition for talent

## Australia since 2009

What's been done		What for?
Senate enquiry into the welfare of international students	>	Safety and security of international students
ESOS Act Review	>	Responsibilities and compliance of institutions
Strategic Review of the Student Visa Program	>	Integrity of the temporary migration program
Australia in the Asian Century <i>White Paper</i>	>	Focusing Australians on Asian engagement
International Education Advisory Council <i>Australia – Educating Globally</i>	>	Strategic engagement Whole of Government Sustainability Partnerships
Asia Bound New Colombo Plan	>	Mobility into Asia Soft diplomacy Strategic engagement in our region
Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency (TEQSA)	>	Oversight of quality and compliance

# Australia since 2009

What's been done		What outcomes?
Senate enquiry into the welfare of international students	>	COAG International Students Strategy Australia (ISSA)
ESOS Act Review	>	Tuition Protection Scheme
Strategic Review of the Student Visa Program	>	Streamlined Visa Processing for universities Post Study Work Rights
Australia in the Asian Century	>	???
International Education Advisory Council	>	???
Asia Bound New Colombo Plan	>	Asia Bound mobility commenced – former government action New Colombo – new government proposal
Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency (TEQSA)	>	Agency established, review of regulatory burden undertaken and changes proposed

# Has anything meaningful ensued?

What Government is interested in		Action/outcome
Quality and ranking of HE systems and institutions Registration and accreditation	✓	TEQSA <i>Real action pending</i>
Integrity and focus of the migration system	✓	Student Visa Program Review SVP, PSWR
Protecting students' rights	✓	ESOS Act Review, TPS, ISSA
The country's place in the world and the role of HE	?	Asian Century Report IEAC <i>Real action pending</i>
Funding the education system	?	Asian Century Report IEAC <i>Real action pending</i>
Economic and non-economic benefits	?	Asian Century Report IEAC <i>Real action pending</i>
Foreign relations and soft diplomacy benefits	✓	Asia Bound - commenced New Colombo - proposed
Competition for talent	?	IEAC <i>Real action pending</i>

# What it means for HE internationalisation

What HE institutions are interested in		Relevance of Government actions
Overarching strategy and policy framework	?	Compliance and reporting requirements, implications for governance, context of continued funding stress
The onshore program	☺	Greater certainty of visa and work rights settings
The transnational program	✓	Compliance - TEQSA
L&T – IoC – especially transnational	✓	Compliance– TEQSA
Partnerships and networks	?	???
Internationalisation of research	☺	Post Study Work Rights
Student support and well-being	✓	Compliance - ESOS and TEQSA
Cross-border mobility of domestic students	✓	Both sides of politics supporting, but focus on exchange, when growth is in short term programs
Support for and development of staff, staffing profile	?	Left to institutions and peak/professional bodies

# Does it matter what governments do?

What HE institutions are interested in	Does it matter?	How or why?
Overarching strategy and policy framework	<b>Yes</b>	Governance and compliance structures and mechanisms – someone needs to be responsible
The onshore program	<b>Yes</b>	Being able to attract international students
The transnational program	<b>Yes</b>	Compliance – TEQSA - reputation
L&T – IoC – especially transnational	<b>Yes</b>	Compliance– TEQSA – student outcomes
Partnerships and networks	<b>No</b>	Institutional wants and needs vary widely
Internationalisation of research	<b>Yes and No</b>	Keeping talent as researchers
Student support and well-being	<b>Yes</b>	The student experience is paramount – both governments and institutions are interested
Cross-border mobility of domestic students	<b>Yes and No</b>	Government support enhances institutional programs
Support for and development of staff, staffing profile	<b>Yes</b>	Attracting and keeping talent, converting research students to research staff