

Strategies of International Students, Intersecting Inequalities

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Research Domains

International contexts and perspectives (ICP)

Abstract

Despite of the global growth of student mobility, inequality structures in higher education institutions continue (Jungbauer-Gans & Gottburgsen 2021). Mobile students are more affected than domestic students by disproportional high drop-out rates as well as by mismatching study conditions in the STEM field at German universities (Kercher 2019). The paper reflects trajectories in international students' life cycles and includes transnational patterns of circular- and return mobility as well as transitions to the labour market in Germany. Yet, the transitions of international students are shaped by intersectional patterns of inequalities such as gender, class and world regional origin. The paper combines an intersectional approach (Yuval-Davis 2006) with Bourdieu's inequality theory (1986, 1988). Comparative empirical data on international STEM students from India is discussed. Since the majority of international students in Germany is from the Global South, a postcolonial perspective on international student migration (Mayblin & Turner 2021) is taken up.

Full paper

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