International Student Security

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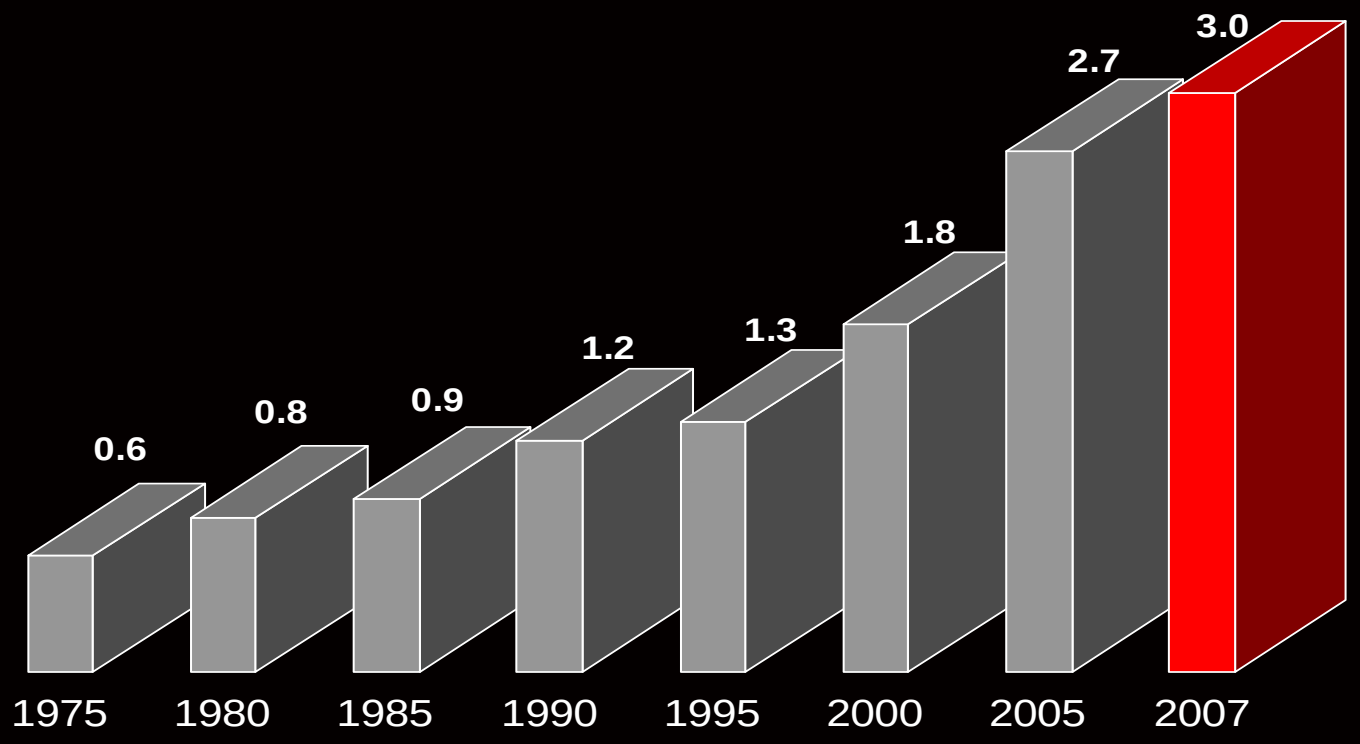
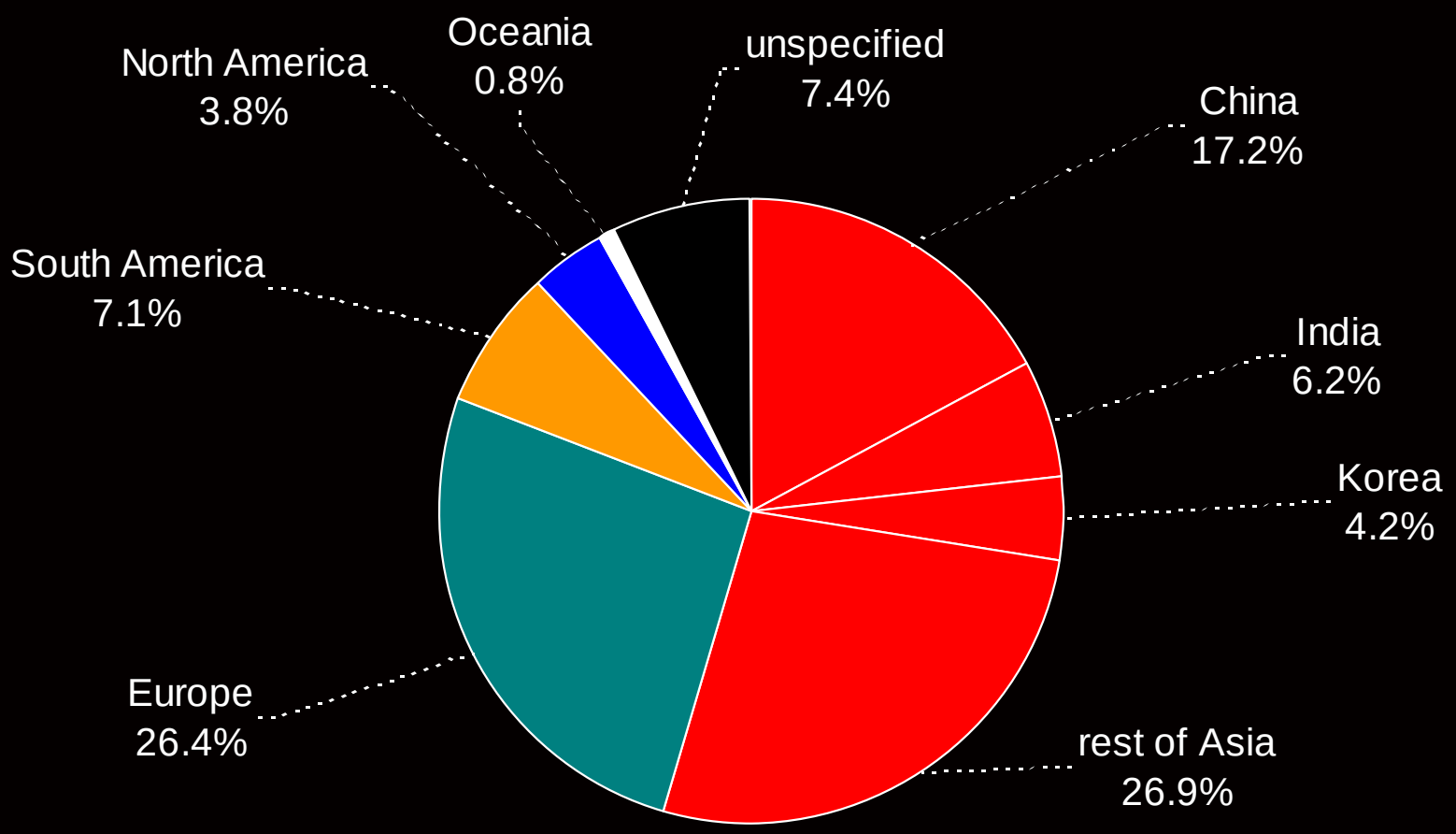
Centre for the Study of Higher Education
University of Melbourne, Australia

Strangers in a foreign land: or citizens of the world
Going Global 4, London, 26 March 2010

Students outside country of citizenship (millions), 1975-2007 OECD data



Education imports by region, 2007 **OECD data**



International education is…

COMPAQ

May the Workforce be with you

DEAN

….. or is it?

'Please help me, I'm dying'

By **PAUL MILLAR**

NITIN Garg staggered into Hungry Jack's, his torso sliced open by a massive knife wound, knowing he was going to die.

As he pleaded with co-workers at the fast-food outlet to help him, his lips turned blue. He passed out and died later in hospital.

The 21-year-old Indian had studied accountancy in Australia and had plenty to look forward to before he was attacked as he walked through Cruickshank Park, in Melbourne's west, on his way to work on Saturday night.

His housemates, Sandeep Sandeep and Parminder Singh, raced to the Royal Melbourne Hospital but they did not see him alive again.

Mr Sandeep said the eight Indians living together in a house in Newport were like family and Mr Garg was like a brother to him. He made a heartbreaking call to his friend's brother in India to tell him of the stabbing. "He just would not believe me when I told [him] Nitin was no more and asked to speak to the doctor."

Police are reluctant to draw a racial link to the murder, even though Mr Garg was not robbed and his belongings were left scattered across the park where he was murdered.

Mr Singh, who was close to the Punjab native, could accept, for the moment, that there was

▶ Continued **PAGE 2**

ALIAN, TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2010
tralian.com.au

Indians to seek crisis meeting

LAUREN WILSON
ROWAN CALLICK

INDIAN diplomats are expected to meet their Australian counterparts today for crisis talks in Canberra following the murder of an Indian migrant in Melbourne.

The murder of accounting graduate Nitin Garg, 21, in a Yarraville park on Saturday night, was yesterday condemned by politicians in India and Australia.

Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard, whose home in Melbourne's inner-west is near where the stabbing took place, unreservedly condemned the attack.

"We are an accepting, tolerant, multicultural nation" she said.

Indian External Affairs Minister S.M. Krishna said it was a "heinous crime on humanity" and "an uncivilised brutal attack on innocent Indians".

Mr Krishna said attacks on Indians in Melbourne was causing "deep anger" and the latest killing "certainly will have some bearing on the bilateral ties between our two countries".

He said Australian authorities must act quickly to arrest those responsible and stem the violence against Indians or New Delhi would take action — which could include issuing a cautionary travel advisory for Melbourne or even Australia.

The Indian deputy high commissioner in Canberra, V.K. Sharma, said that high commissioner Sujatha Singh would seek a meeting with senior Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade officials to "apprise them of our concerns". He said the meeting with DFAT officials would probably take place today, but she would await a report from the Indian consulate in Melbourne.

After a spate of attacks on Indians living in Melbourne last year, Tourism Australia has already forecast that 4000 fewer Indian students will study in Australia this year, at a cost of about $78 million to the economy.

At Central Queensland University, where Garg recently graduated with a bachelor of accounting, Indian enrolments are down about 20 per cent for the next two terms, says campus director Darry

Deputy Police Com Kieran Walshe der bourne was a hotbed violence. "I don't be there has been any real racist motives around Indian people in the pa

EDITORIAL P13

ONLINE: Do you think students are being targ because of their race? theaustralian.com.au

Murder in the park changes landscape

CHIP LE GRAND

I WAS putting the kids to bed on Saturday night when there was a murder in my backyard.

Along the same concrete path I've walked countless times, usually with a pram, always with the dog and often late at night, Nitin Garg took his final steps.

Next to the same creek where grinning kids soak their shoes and panting dogs muddy their coats, a 21-year-old university graduate was stabbed in the stomach and began bleeding to death.

Police say a single wound was all it took. Residents, whose paling fences line the crime scene, say they didn't hear a thing.

Yesterday, the community of Cruickshank Park, a tree-clumped sanctuary from Yarraville's heavy industry and truck-laden arterials in Melbourne's inner west, was trying to make sense of death on our doorstep.

Deb Little, a professional dog walker who has been coming to the park for 10 years, said she was bewildered by the attack.

"It is an incredible social place and there are never any dramas," she said, shaking her head. "There are never any threatening people here so it is a shock to the whole community."

Nathalie Ednie, a 25-year-old textile designer who lived most of her life in Paris, said she had always felt comfortable walking her dogs in the park at night. "Compared to Paris, Melbourne is so safe," she said. "It is a really good park, there are always kids around."

Even my neighbour Jack, the son of a farrier who watched the 1950s weatherboards in our street go up one by one and hasn't missed a beat since, could recall nothing of this sort happening before.

There was a time when Cruickshank Park was a dangerous place, but that was 30 years ago, when it was a disused bluestone quarry crawling with rats and tiger snakes.

Before then, its only notoriety was a historical footnote. In 1848, a local stumbled across the body of convict Matthew Lucke, whose throat had been cut. For a brief time, the stream that runs through the park was known as "Murderer's Creek".

Since we've been living there, the worst of it has been the occasional car dumped in the park or shopping trolley liberated from the local Coles.

All that separates our home from the dark open spaces is a row of weathered palings and we couldn't feel safer.

Evan Theme and Samantha Hatzis, whose two-storey house overlooks the murder scene, say loitering youths and graffiti have become nuisances in the past six months. They were out there yesterday, scouring away at the stubborn, spray-painted tags.

one who lives near Cruic thinks Garg was foolhard walking its paths after dar

"It has come out of th said Victoria Police Deput missioner Ken Jones, wh yesterday in the park ques residents.

"This is a nice park, neighbourhood. But the dom events have always explanation. Somebody o knows something, which we are talking to everyone ing through."

Yarraville has seen its s the street violence that ha trated police and guaran

Victoria Police officers in the Melbourne park where Indi

Stabbing death shocks Indian commu

The victim: Nitin Garg

By PAUL MILLAR

MELBOURNE'S Indian community has been gripped by fear and grief after a man was fatally stabbed on his way to work at a fast-food outlet in West Footscray on Saturday night.

A bloodied 21-year-old Nitin Garg staggered 300 metres into Hungry Jack's at about 9.30pm after being stabbed as he walked through Cruickshank Park on his way to work.

The wounded man, from Newport, had a police escort in the ambulance as they ferried him to the Royal Melbourne Hospital, where he died a short time later.

Police were yesterday contacting his family in the Punjab region of north-west India.

The stabbing follows a series of attacks on Indian students last year that prompted Premier John Brumby to travel to India to promote Melbourne as a safe city.

Representatives of the Indian community have accused police and the State Government of failing to do enough to protect students and others from racially motivated violence.

It was not the first time Mr Garg had been attacked. His housemate, Sandeep Sandeep, said he had been beaten and threatened with a knife by a gang at Newport train station just over a year ago.

Mr Sandeep had offered to drive him to work on Saturday night but Mr Garg declined.

"I saw him 15 minutes before it happened. He through the park to Hungry Jack's. a great guy," he s

Mr Garg wa accountant, but Hungry Jack's.

Police believe the park on his catching a train t have been dark a ing in the area.

A line search park yesterday took over Hungr some of the dead the park, but no

Workers at Hu had been warne

18 Max 32
16 Max 25
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PAGE 17

WATER

MELBOURNE DAMS: 37.5%
THIS TIME LAST YEAR: 34.9%

ODD SPOT

Crews responding to a fire in southern Utah had to contend with 19 pet pythons in a trailer at a park for recreational vehicles. One of the snakes was 5.5 metres. Fire captain Jason Whipple said the accidental fire started with a heat lamp in one of the snakes' cages.

INDEX

CLASSIFIEDS BUSINESSDAY 12
CROSSWORDS PAGE 16
COMMENT & DEBATE PAGE 11
EDITORIALS, LETTERS PAGE 10
FOR YOUR INFORMATION PAGE 16
MINDGA
OBITUA
SUMME
TV & W
WORLD

THE AUSTR

Racism call over fatal stabbin

Nitin Garg

RICK WALLACE

THE furore over attacks on Indians in Australia is set to ignite again after a young Indian man was stabbed to death on his way to work in Melbourne's western suburbs on Saturday night.

Nitin Garg, 21, a masters graduate who was about to embark on a career in accounting, was stabbed to death as he walked through a park on the way to work.

Mr Garg, originally from Punjab in northern India, was set upon about 10pm on Saturday as he crossed Cruickshank Park in West Footscray.

He staggered into a nearby Hungry Jacks where he worked and pleaded for help before he collapsed.

Ambulance officers took him to the Royal Melbourne Hospital, but he died.

Federation of Indian Students spokesman Gautam Gupta said Mr Garg's friends had told him they believed it was purely a racial attack.

"His mobile phone and his wallet were still there," he said.

"From their point of view, there can be no other motivation than race. Everyone I have spoken to says there's a lot of fear and a lot of anger about it.

"There's a lot of frustration because of the question of racism. What we have to see is how this anger is manifested."

Mr Gupta said student leaders were considering holding a protest and he predicted a frenzied reaction once news of the killing hit the Indian media.

One of Mr Garg's housemates, Pawan Kumar, said he enjoyed cricket and other sports as well as spending time with his friends and

'His mobile phone and his wallet were still there'

GAUTAM GUPTA
FEDERATION OF INDIAN STUDENTS SPOKESMAN

was excited to be starting his career. "He was a very ambitious boy and he just finished his masters of accounting," he said.

"He was about to leave his current job and begin his career."

Mr Kumar said he and Mr Garg lived with four other friends from India, and his death had left them

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The Australian Financial Review
Tuesday 5 January 2010 • www.afr.com

Fatal stabbing hits Indian student hopes

Rachel Lebihan

The tertiary education sector's hopes of a recovery in Indian enrolments this year has been dashed with the fatal stabbing of a young Indian man in Melbourne at the weekend.

Accounting graduate Nitin Garg, 21, originally from the Punjab in northern India, died on Saturday after being stabbed in West Footscray. He staggered to a nearby Hungry Jack's restaurant, where he worked, before collapsing. Ambulance officers were unable to save him.

It is the latest in a series of attacks on Indians — many of them students — in Australia, mostly in Melbourne, which have been widely condemned in India. The backlash is expected to cost the national economy as much as $78 million this year as young Indians avoid Australia, according to recent data from the Tourism Forecasting Committee.

Universities Australia chief executive Glenn Withers said the attack should be "deplored and condemned". It would have extra implications for the tertiary sector this year, given that tensions have been building since last May over alleged racial attacks on young Indians.

Mr Withers stood by earlier UA forecasts that Indian enrolments would fall by about 30 per cent this semester, and said a potential recovery in demand for university places from Indian students was now unlikely.

"As best we can judge from applications and early advice from agents, it's still down 30 per cent; it was looking like recovering, maybe to 20 per cent, but this sort of incident will potentially set that backwards again," Mr Withers said.

India is the largest source of foreign students to Australia. But the series of attacks and concerns about substandard colleges that have left many foreign students stranded midway through courses led to a significant slide in Indian enrolments in the second semester of last year.

Mr Withers said the university sector had worked hard in the past six months to improve its profile as a study destination for international students, particular on matters related to foreign student safety.

"Things like campus safety: we have in all universities in Australia now 24-hour security presence with our own security services; we have now fully implemented across campuses campus safety education and safety facilities such as alarm systems, full lighting, regular patrols of campus, the provision of security transport outside of regular hours from libraries and residences," he said.

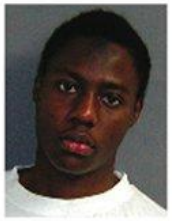
"It's a great pity given that progress that another incident puts a cloud of tragedy over what for the sector is substantial change and improvement." He said the UA was working with employers and the Australian Chamber of Commerce to develop protocols and advice for international students about safety and other employment entitlements and rights.

Education Minister Julia Gillard, who visited India late last year in the aftermath of the violence, said: "We unreservedly condemn this kind of violence against anyone.

"On the question of international students in this country more generally, I would reiterate what I was saying last year; this is a nation that welcomes international students."

with AAP

High-class suspect



Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, who attempted to blow up a Detroit-bound airplane on Christmas Day, had a wealthy upbringing.

FAMILY – Son of a prominent Nigerian banker; became estranged as an adult

EDUCATION – Attended British International School in West Africa and University College London, where he studied engineering and business finance

RELIGIOUS BELIEFS – Devoutly religious; nicknamed "The Pope"

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Cape York
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Kakadu NP
Katherine
Great Barrier Reef
Coral Sea
INDIAN OCEAN
Gulf of Carpentaria
The Kimberley
Broome
Cairns
NORTHERN TERRITORY
Townsville
Airlie Beach
SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN
Karratha
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Exmouth
Alice Springs
QUEENSLAND
Rockhampton
Bundaberg
Uluru (Ayers Rock)
Noosa Heads
SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Toowoomba
Brisbane
Geraldton
Kalgoorlie-Boulder
Flinders Ranges
Nullarbor Plain
NEW SOUTH WALES
Port Macquarie
Perth
Newcastle
Barossa Valley
Sydney
Busselton
Esperance
Adelaide
ACT
Canberra
Albany
Great Australian Bight
VICTORIA
Snowy Mountains
Melbourne
Great Ocean Road
Bass Strait
SOUTHERN OCEAN
TASMANIA
Tasman Sea
Hobart
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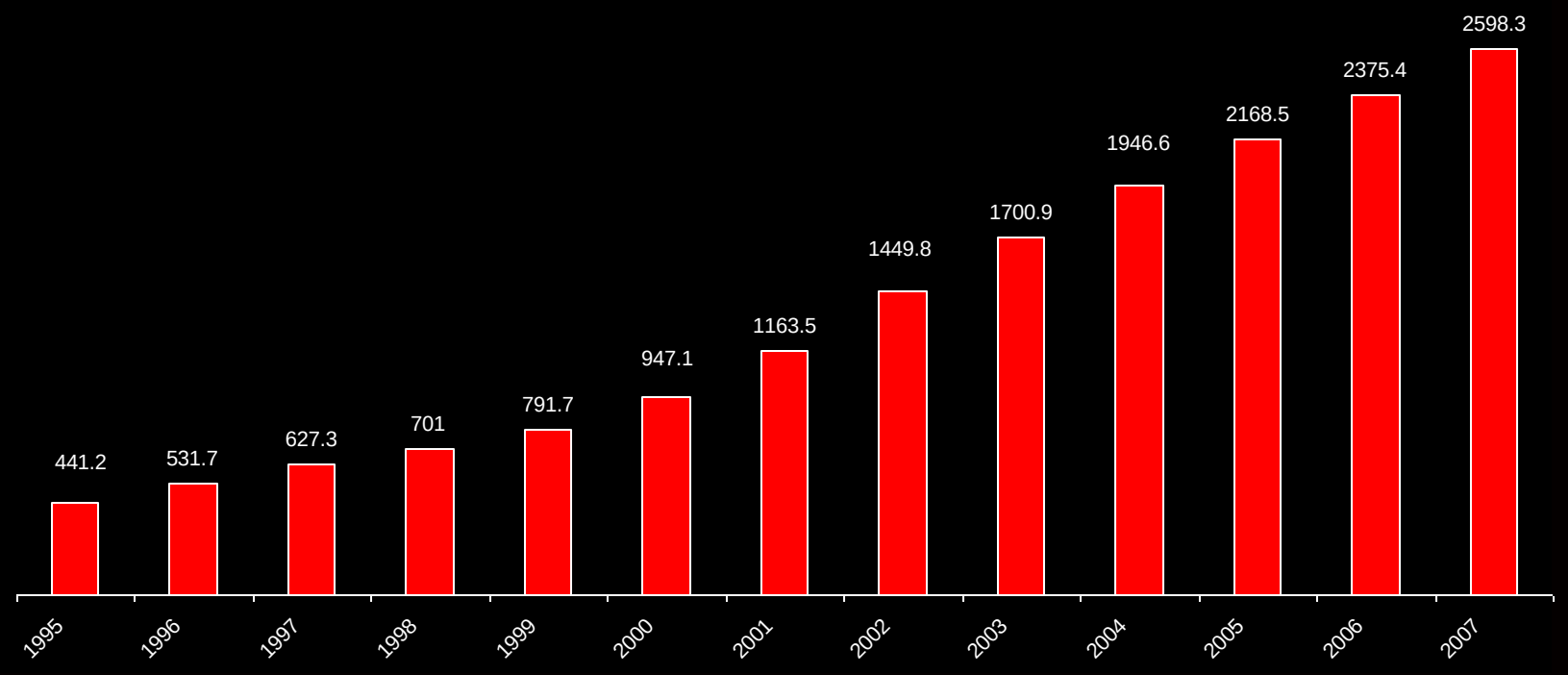
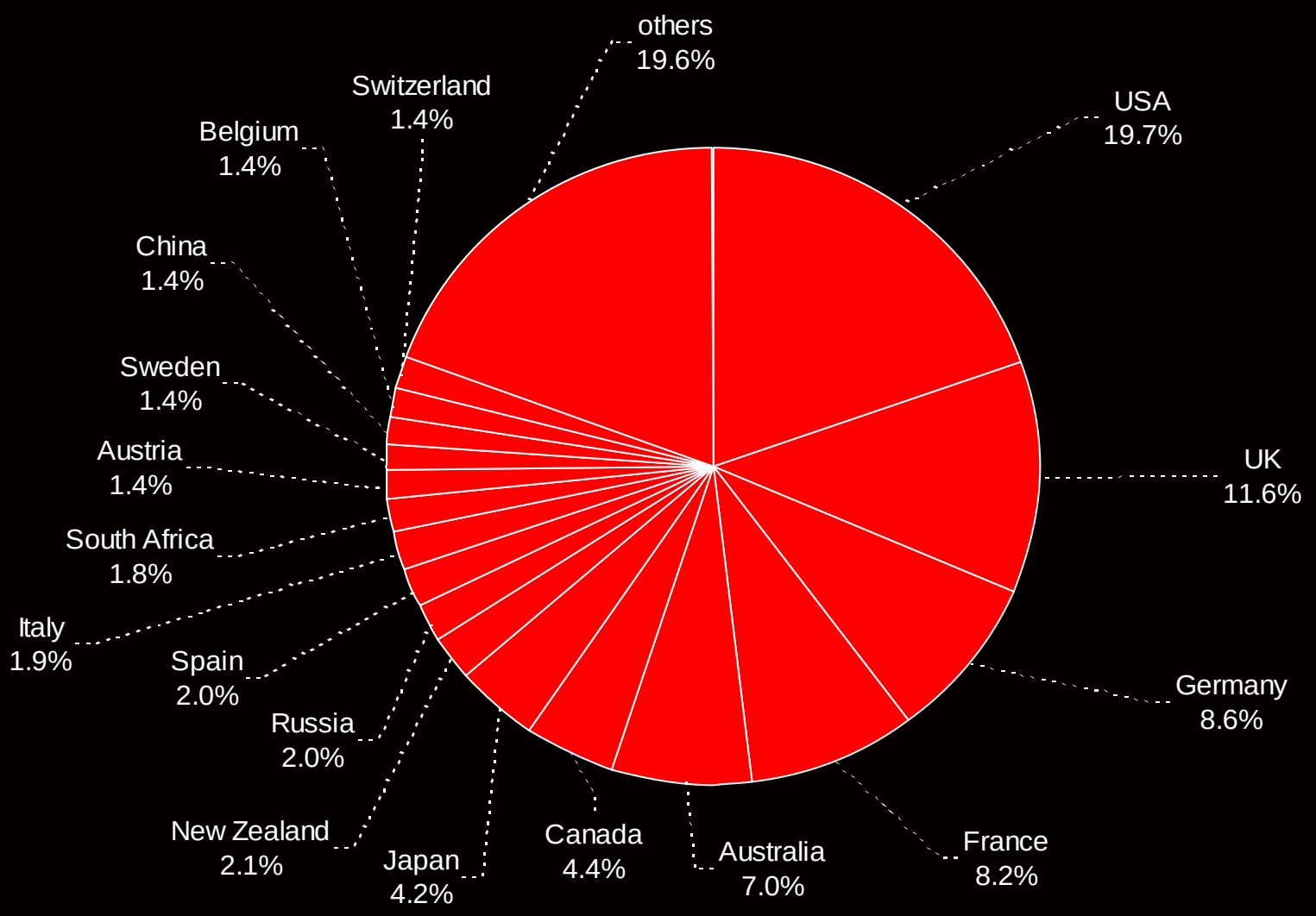
0 500 km
0 300 miles

International student fee revenue, Australia, higher education, 1995-2007

AUD $s million, DEEWR data



Education export nations, 2007 OECD



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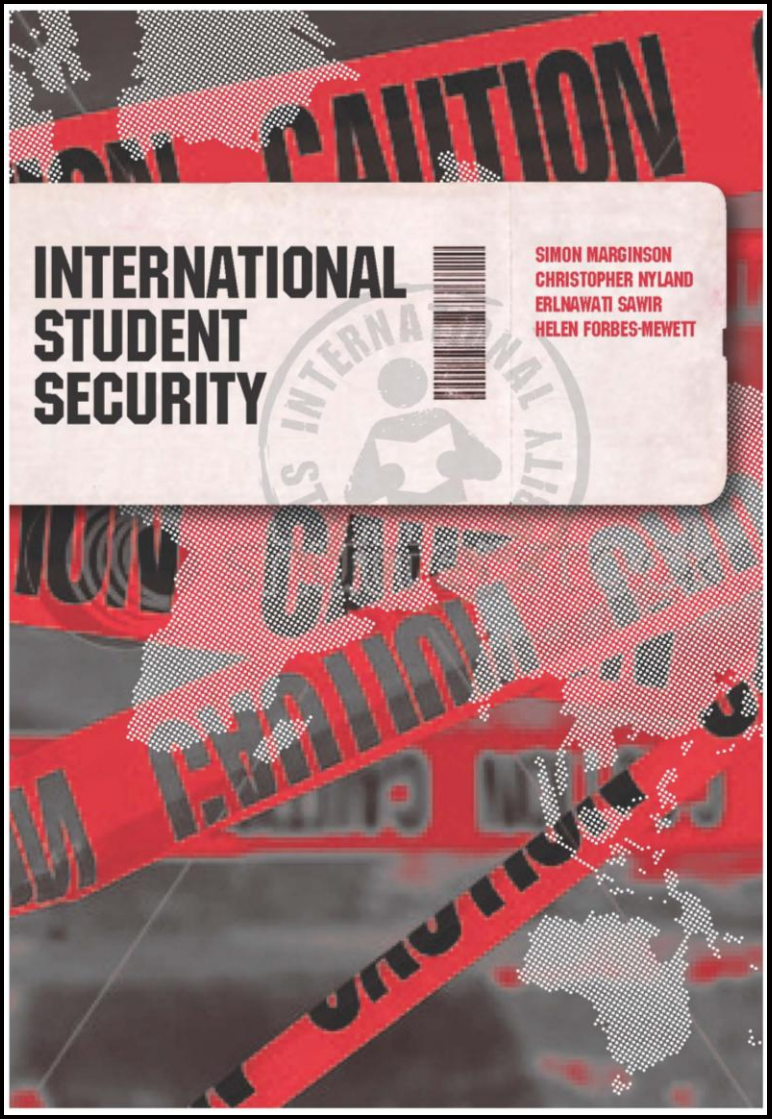


International student security

… includes issues such as personal safety, financial issues and work experiences, housing, health and welfare services.

It is also shaped by matters generally seen as in the private domain, such communication problems, students' personal and social networks including family, community and affinity groups, and students' experiences in dealing with government and university authorities.

International student security in Australia

- We lack comprehensive data about the 632,000 international students in Australia (2009), e.g. income and expenditure, accommodation, working life and problems, social networks/ loneliness, intercultural experiences, gender issues
- There is a limited rationale for differences of treatment between local and international students - but a marked asymmetry of treatment
- The Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act is predominantly a consumer protection act. It has relatively little to say about most other areas of international student security (e.g. on campus student safety, need for strong language foundations, problems of loneliness/social support)
- Beyond the ESOS framework there is no legal and policy framework for managing international student security in the general community (e.g. safety, accommodation, abuse and discrimination). State and local government need to be brought into the picture

International student security issues are common to all the English language provider nations

Definition of ‘international student security’

For students who cross national borders for education, international student security is the maintenance of a stable capacity for self-determining agency

~ Simon Marginson. Chris Nyland, Erlenawati Sawir & Helen Forbes-Mewett.
International Student Security, Cambridge University Press, May/June 2010

International students are not ‘weak’ or ‘in deficit’. They should be understood as relatively strong human agents, able to manage a complex personal transformation, engaged in self-formation through education and global mobility and making their own choices

A human rights issue

- International student security is much more than a consumer protection issue. It is an issue of human rights.
- International students should be seen as rights-bearers with the fullest possible set of human, legal, civil, industrial, political and educational rights

When students cross borders for education they forgo their normal rights and protections as national citizens, but lack citizen entitlements in the country of education. A nation-state world does not adequately provide for the human rights of the global mobile. We need to change national governance to encompass mobility.

Extending universal humanism

International student security requires freedoms *and* protections—as does the human security of local citizens

To provide international student security we must extend the humanist compact from national citizens to also include a category of non-citizens (temporary migrants)

Charles Taylor argues that it is ‘utterly wrong and unfounded to draw the boundaries’ of our respect and concern for people ‘any narrower than the whole human race’

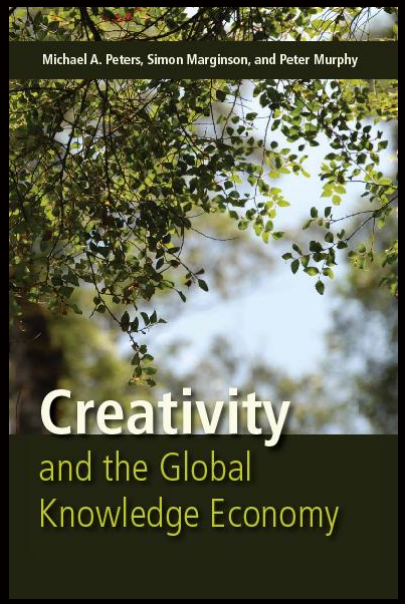
~ (1988) *Sources of the Self: The making of modern identity*, pp. 6-7. Harvard UP, Cambridge MA

Moving international student security up the public policy agenda

- International student security is affected by government in the country of origin *and* government in the country of education
- It would be more effectively managed by a global protocol—but is yet to be taken up effectively by any global agency or become the subject of multilateral negotiations
- It is an issue we need to move up the public policy agenda

http://www.cshe.unimelb.edu.au/people/staff_pages/Marginson/Marginson.html

Look out for these books on the global knowledge economy ~



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