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**Title**

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**Abstract**

This article focuses on a significant group of postgraduate international students overlooked by institutions and policymakers, namely those with accompanying partners and children. The economic importance of international students to Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America is highlighted. It is argued that an outdated construction of the international student as young and carefree contributes to the pattern of invisibility apparent in data collection systems and in the research literature. Drawing on the NAFSA formula, estimates are calculated for numbers of accompanying family members for five selected countries, and then immigration, education, and health policies pertaining to family members are examined. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)