

**04.7.2025****Author**

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**Title**

The dimensions of social dynamics in comparative studies on higher education / Jussi Välimaa ; Terhi Nokkala

**Publication year**

2014

**Source/Footnote**

In: Higher education. - 67 (2014) 4, S. 423 - 437

**Inventory number**

36278

**Keywords**

Hochschulreform : allgemein ; Hochschule und Staat : allgemein ; Hochschule : Verwaltung allgemein ; Wissenschaft : Hochschulforschung (Forschung über Hochschulen)

**Abstract**

This article discusses social dynamics of higher education which is one of the most crucial but neglected perspectives in comparative studies of higher education. We pay attention to the importance of time, space and contexts?both geographical and socio-cultural ones?to reveal how they influence on different social dynamics in various systems of higher education. The article focuses on the national higher education system level. Theoretically we approach higher education systems from a relational perspective paying attention to dynamics created by changing relationships between different actors in cultural, geographical and historical contexts. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)

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