

## **INTERNATIONALIZATION OF RESEARCH: THREAT OR OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITIES?**

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World University Rankings (WUR) are growing in prominence in the eyes of governments and universities around the world. Often times this encourages the introduction of state- or institution-wide policies and regulations that put academics and graduate students under performative pressure to publish in international, peer-reviewed journals with high impact factor (e.g. Scopus or Web of Science indexed journals).

These developments pertaining to internationalization of research are perceived in variety of ways across different contexts. For instance, predominantly English speaking, Western-based academe generally views it as part of global neoliberal turn in higher education and research that carry a threat of corporatism overtaking academic domain. Non-English speaking scientific communities, on the other hand, may regard the issue as neo-colonialism since most of the aforementioned high-impact, international journals are published in English, thus put non-Anglophone scholars in disadvantaged position.

We argue that looking at internationalization of research through the prism of neo-liberalism and neo-colonialism is one-dimensional. This study views WUR-driven internationalization process as a double-edged sword in that it may potentially provoke both negative and positive reactions from local scientific communities. This paper aims to explore and understand the responses from Kazakhstani academia to internationalization of research.

**Keywords:** publish or perish, internationalization, academic integrity, scientific community

**Category:** Research work in progress (include your proposed research methods)

**Conference theme:** Academic Integrity and Strategic Internationalization