

12.8.2024

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Title

Do too many rights make a wrong? : a qualitative study of the experience of a sample of Malaysian and Singapore private higher education providers in transnational quality assurance

Publication year

2010

Source/Footnote

In: Quality in higher education. - 16 (2010) 3, S. 211 - 222

Inventory number

29061

Keywords

Ausland : Malaysia : einzelne Hochschulen ; Ausland : Singapur : einzelne Hochschulen ; Qualitätssicherung ; Hochschule : Privathochschule ; Internationalität

Abstract

Assuring the quality of transnational education has been an endeavour of increasing importance in the internationalisation of higher education but is also increasingly challenging given the involvement of many stakeholders. This paper focuses on the experiences of and challenges faced by private tertiary education providers in Malaysia and Singapore, which are major importers of Australian degrees, in coping with the varied and increasingly demanding requirements of different quality assurance goals, emphases and systems. Interviews with staff from private providers of tertiary education in both countries revealed that the existence of a large number of different requirements based on varied standards leads to counter-productive and ineffective outcomes such as the diversion of resources. The experiences of Malaysia and Singapore provide valuable lessons for emerging economies, including China and India, both of which will likely be major educational providers in the coming decades. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)