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**Abstract**

This article gives an overview of some of the main global trends in doctoral education. Based on a project looking at Europe, East Asia, Southern Africa and Latin America, the article identifies three common trends 1) a common discourse of knowledge and society, 2) growth in the number of doctoral candidates, 3) growing interest in strategic collaborations. The article identifies some of the main drivers for these trends and gives a number of examples. It also presents a scenario where competition for talent will increase globally, requiring more and better access for research training worldwide. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)