

## **SCIENTIFIC IMPERIALISM IN THE GLOBAL EDUCATIONAL SPACE**

**Iuliia Gudova**

Ms., Ural Federal University, Russia, [jgudova@mail.ru](mailto:jgudova@mail.ru)

### **Abstract**

In the modern world, countries are fighting for primacy in the international arena in the field of culture, including the field of science. One of the important aspects of this process is the competition of scientific discoveries and the quality of education. Dominance in the field of science is called scientific imperialism by researchers. It consists of formulating the development's vectors of science and education by scientific and educational centers. They carry out meaningful scientific research, set trends in the periphery and science — they are the vanguard of modern science. Such centers can be situated in the countries where the concentration of leading in the international universities rankings ones is much higher than in other countries. This fact characterizes the situation of external imperialism in the international arena. Within the framework of internal imperialism, separate university centers can be distinguished in the territory of a certain country that performs leading functions.

In the education system, there are a number of factors that determine the credibility of the university. Along with scientific schools and traditions, the conversion of scientific discoveries into grants and awards, and polyculturalism and multilingualism are important factors in the dominance of universities. Polycultural and the multilingual environment are created by attracting foreign students and teachers. The higher the quality of research and educational programs at the university, the more attractive it is for foreign citizens. If a significant number of citizens of other countries choose not their local universities, but a foreign university, we can assume that this educational institution is authoritative in the scientific and educational environment and has established itself as a significant scientific and educational center that dominates in a certain area and accumulates the best scientists and applicants. The greater the number of foreign students in a university, the higher it is in the ranking of universities. Consequently, the university's level of development in multilingualism and polyculturalism is closely connected with the degree of its internationalization, as well as the level of dominance in the system of scientific (cultural) imperialism.

Thus, a university can become a Center for Scientific Dominance, provided that it defines educational standards and offers unique educational programs, many citizens of other states want to study at this university, it determines promising scientific topics.

The reported study was funded by RFBR according to the research project № 17-29-09136.

**Keywords:** scientific imperialism, cultural imperialism, polyculturalism, multilingualism, scientific and educational center, university.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

In the modern world, the phenomenon of imperialism is reactivated. One must understand the dominant position of one territory (country, region, culture) over another. G. Munkler identifies four types of imperialism: military, political, economic and cultural (Munkler, 2015, p.68). In the 21st century, one of the most common types of imperialism is cultural imperialism. Johan Galtung distinguishes subspecies of cultural imperialism, for example, communication imperialism, scientific imperialism.

## **2 METHODOLOGY**

In the aspect of scientific imperialism, countries are fighting for supremacy in the international sphere of science, including dominating science and education. One of the important aspects of this process is the competition of scientific achievements and the quality of university education. As G. Munkler notes, countries compete with each other in terms of the number of Nobel Prizes, significant scientific discoveries, etc. Scientific imperialism consists in formulating the vectors of the development of science and education by scientific and educational centers. According to the theory of J. Galtung, in the situation of scientific imperialism, there is a clear distribution of labor between "teachers" and "students" in the socio-cultural geographical space (Galtung, 1971, p. 97). Scientific and educational centers act as "teachers" and carry out significant scientific research and set trends in science — they are the vanguard of modern science. Such centers can be countries where the concentration of universities leading international rankings is much higher than in other countries. Peripherals act as "students" who conduct their scientific activities in accordance with the trends of the "teachers". In addition, research centers can use the periphery as objects of study. This characterizes the situation of external imperialism in the international arena. Within the framework of internal imperialism, separate university centers can be distinguished in the territory of a certain country that performs leading functions.

## **3 RESULTS**

In the system of higher education, there are a number of factors that determine the authority of the university. Along with scientific schools and traditions, the conversion of scientific discoveries into grants and awards, and polyculturalism and multilingualism are important factors in the dominance of universities. Polycultural and the multilingual environment are created by attracting foreign students and teachers. The greater the number of foreign students in a university, the higher it is in international university rankings. University rankings take into account various parameters, for example, the number of frequently cited publications of teachers in scientific journals, credibility in the field of scientific research, the Hirsch index, the percentage of foreign students, etc. There are several ratings that are most known and important for universities in the Russian Federation. The first one is the QS World University Rankings. Within this rating, universities are rated according to six criteria: academic reputation, reputation among employers, student-teacher ratio, citation index per teacher, attracting foreign teachers, attracting foreign students (Education index). The number of international students is based on the Times Higher Education and U.S. News Rankings.

## **4 CONCLUSION**

Thus, a university can become a Center for Scientific Dominance, provided that it defines educational standards and offers unique educational programs, many citizens of other states want to study at this university, classes are conducted in the languages of international scientific communication. Due to this, the university attracts not only foreign students but also reputable and avant-garde scientists, who by their scientific achievements and research programs and scientific reputation determine the status of the university in the world system of scientific dominance. Consequently, the levels of development of multilingualism and polyculturalism of the university determine the degree of its internationalization, and involvement in the system of scientific imperialism.

## **REFERENCE LIST**

- Galtung J., 1971. A Structural Theory of Imperialism. *Journal of Peace Research*. Vol. 8, 2.
- Munkler, G. (2015). *Empires. Logic of domination over the world: from Ancient Rome to the USA*. Education index [Electronic resours] // <https://www.educationindex.ru/articles/university-rankings/qs/>