

2023 Global Summit Principles & Action Agenda



The 2023 Global Summit on Graduate Education, a convening of graduate leaders from fifteen countries made possible with the support of Educational Testing Service (ETS), met to build consensus around the principles of **ethical internationalization** in postgraduate education.

Summit participants agreed that internationalization needs a **student-centered framework** that moves beyond a focus on international student recruitment toward a more holistic approach. This framework should take the perspective of a **global university supporting an international community** of scholars to solve global grand challenges.

This global university approach should work with students and scholars from **groups and regions historically underrepresented or marginalized** from international graduate research.

Summit participants urged graduate leaders to continue to advocate for graduate student mobility and committed themselves to a **network-of-networks approach** to connect graduate education communities and promote best practices.



Principles

- A student-centered approach to international mobility that embraces international student agency and recognizes their contributions as knowledge producers.
- Openness to new paradigms and ways of thinking from groups historically excluded from graduate education, including those in the Global South and indigenous communities.
- Foregrounding sustainability, autonomy, and equity as central values in international research.
- Encouraging the use of new technologies to facilitate international exchange, particularly for students who may be place-bound.
- Advocating for “brain circulation”—the free movement of ideas and researchers—in opposition to a brain drain from Global South to Global North.
- Designing graduate education to create global citizens with a transnational outlook and interest in solving global grand challenges.
- Communicating the value of internationalization to local, regional, and global communities in solving urgent grand challenges.
- Deploying a network-of-networks approach to align university systems in different nations around core values of internationalization.

Action Agenda

- Work with university leadership and communications to advocate for the value to our universities and communities of international graduate students, to counter misinformation, and to ensure this messaging is calibrated for different stakeholders (students, faculty, alumni, local communities, employers, policy makers, etc).
- Activate networks and connect graduate education leaders from regions not represented at the Global Summit for inclusion in future Summits.
- Create resources to support international student success and recalibrate existing graduate student resources accounting for the international student experience.
- Facilitate relationships between domestic and international graduate students through networking and socialization activities.
- Reframe campus discussions and resources about international students and place recruitment in the context of goals for student success.
- Champion the importance of international experiences for domestic graduate students to promote brain circulation and create global citizens.
- Support connections between international students and local community members with ties (national, religious, ethnic, etc.) to those students as a way to make international students feel more at home and strengthen relationships between the university and community partners.