Research on the Layout and Path of China's Education Development Under the Background of the Belt and Road Initiative

Runze Yao *

Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

* Corresponding author: yrz2000@student.ubc.ca

Abstract. According to research, China's effect on global academic education is already changing the way things are done around the world. 2020 BRI's key tenet is higher education. China is working hard to develop higher education levels at home and abroad and is committed to improving the international reputation of domestic universities and attracting and cultivating more research-oriented and professional talents. In this article, we introduce the achievements and development plans of education development regarding the Belt and Road Initiative. There are two main aspects: one is cultural education, and the other is cultivating specific technical talents for partner countries and enterprises that cooperate in the BRI. Not only that, the article also summarizes the difficulties and challenges of China's educational development in the context of the Belt and Road Initiative, and the author also puts forward corresponding suggestions. The author underlines that because China's educational system is still in its infancy, generalizations are challenging. However, through the educational development efforts of China and partner countries, we can see that one fact that can define the development trend of global higher education is that China's significance lies in supporting a huge multi-polar system.

Keywords: Belt and Road Initiative, Higher education, Layout, Education development, Development difficulties, Challenges.

1. Introduction

Since 2013 BRI started, Education has always been the key and cornerstone in the development of the Belt and Road Initiative. Among the five cornerstones of the Belt and Road Initiative, people-to-people bonds are the most easily overlooked and the most difficult to achieve. More than any other diplomatic tool, education can transcend national, ethnic, racial, cultural, religious and regional barriers in achieving this goal. The "Promoting the Joint Construction of the "Belt and Road" Educational Action" was published by the Ministry of Education in 2016 and has had a significant impact on China and the nations that are part of the route. The plan also reflects the determination of China and partner countries to deepen educational cooperation and exchanges, expand people-to-people bonds and cultural exchanges, strengthen cooperation in personnel training, and jointly create a better future for education. As for why we should put more effort into education development along the BRI, the reasons are obvious and multi-dimensional. First, we must strengthen intercultural and interpersonal ties so that BRI beneficiaries can comprehend its development and take part in it. Second, develop professional skills for the Belt and Road Initiative's construction [1].

The Belt and Road policy is a major strategy put forward by China, which aims to promote economic cooperation and connectivity among countries along the Belt and Road in Asia, Europe, Africa and other countries. Education plays an important role in the the Belt and Road policy, which is mainly reflected in the following aspects: promoting cultural exchanges and understanding: There are different cultures, histories and educational systems among countries along the the Belt and Road. Education can help to enhance exchanges and understanding between them, promote cultural exchanges, and help to form an international community of mutual respect, coexistence and common prosperity; Cultivating talents and humanistic quality: there are differences in the economic development level and education quality of countries along the the Belt and Road. Through education cooperation, we can train professional talents of countries along the Belt and Road, improve their

skills, and promote economic cooperation and development. In addition, education can also cultivate students' humanistic qualities, emphasize cooperation and mutual assistance awareness, and enhance international cooperation capabilities; promoting scientific and technological innovation and development: Education is closely related to scientific and technological innovation. In the Belt and Road policy, educational cooperation can promote exchanges and cooperation in scientific and technological innovation and promote the development of countries along the line in the field of science and technology. At the same time, education can also cultivate innovative talents and provide intellectual support for the construction of the Belt and Road; breaking down poverty and inequality: There are problems of poverty and inequality in countries along the the Belt and Road. Through the cooperation and support of education, it can help solve the problem of unbalanced educational resources, improve the educational conditions of countries along the Belt and Road, reduce the educational gap, break down poverty and inequality, and promote common development. Therefore, the importance of education in the Belt and Road policy is reflected in promoting cultural exchange and understanding, cultivating talents and humanistic quality, promoting scientific and technological innovation and development, and breaking poverty and inequality. Cooperation and exchanges in education can provide strong support for the common development of countries along the Belt and Road [2-4].

In the following paper, this study will analyze the layout and development path of China’s education development in the context of BRI. First, this article will introduce relevant data on the development of education along the BRI, then introduce the layout of the development of the BRI in the cultural field, and then introduce China's efforts and attempts to develop education in the professional and technical fields. Finally, relevant inspirations and suggestions will be given.

2. Education in the cultural field

In 2016, the Ministry of Education issued the "Promoting the Joint Construction of the "Belt and Road" Educational Action", which has an important impact on China and countries along the route. The plan also reflects the determination of China and countries along the Silk Road to deepen educational cooperation and exchanges, expand people-to-people bonds and cultural exchanges, strengthen cooperation in personnel training, and jointly create a better future for education. The national education system of China has undergone constant modification during the past 30 years. Public spending on education climbed 50 times between 1992 and 2018 'Magnet institutions' for BRI developing nations are Chinese universities. China is now the nation with the greatest number of international students and the most sought-after travel destination in Asia [5]. China maintains educational partnerships with 188 nations and areas and has collaborated and exchanged educational ideas with 46 significant international organizations. With 47 nations and areas, agreements on the mutual recognition of academic degrees have been negotiated.

China is developing rapidly in the field of cultural communication, especially in the field of higher education. As of right now, China has signed agreements with 47 nations along the BRI regarding the mutual recognition of higher education degrees. 317,000 students from nations along the Silk Road came to study in China in total in 2017, making up around 64% of all foreign students studying there. Science, technology, and the growth of international cooperation all contribute significantly to China's economic success. China has recently integrated its policies to enhance its higher education, research, and technology agenda closely with those that benefit the whole economy [6]. China's development goals in the field of culture and education have appeared in China's policy documents very early. However, China's higher education and research and technology endeavors now have fresh chances and support thanks to the BRI. China has produced positive outcomes over the last few decades by making ongoing investments and building educational institutions. In terms of international patent applications and scientific article production, China has overtaken all other countries, and its best universities have rapidly risen in global university rankings [7,8]. Soon after the BRI was proposed, relevant cooperation with international higher education and scientific and

technological cooperation was established. The first detailed "Belt and Road" policy document - The "Vision and Actions to Promote the Joint Construction of the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road" specifically emphasizes the importance of academic exchanges as part of promoting the joint building of the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road. The document mentions giving huge scholarships to students from partner countries and urges steps to strengthen China's capacity for innovation in science and technology, including promoting exchanges of scientific and technological personnel, expanding joint laboratory cooperation, and establishing research centers and international technology centers. China has great determination and perseverance in investing in culture and education. For example, China's commitment and investment in education and human resources development have far exceeded the commitment to investment in education made at the sixth session of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation [9].

3. Education in the professional and technical fields

In the field of professional technology, China is committed to customizing talents for the BRI. Focusing on the construction needs of the BRI, it also meets the industrial needs of the country where it is located. China promotes high-quality education and product technology to partner countries, To provide technical personnel support for the industry to go abroad. In this field, China is committed to developing vocational and technical colleges at home and abroad. It not only establishes vocational and technical colleges domestically to attract students from partner countries along the BRI to enter China to learn the latest professional technologies but also develops foreign aid training in partner countries to provide local enterprises with Tailor-made training for relevant technical personnel. Since 2007, Ningbo Vocational College has taken foreign aid training as the key work of the school. Foreign-related projects have been involved in core industries such as automobiles, aviation, and manufacturing, and have provided support for Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Egypt, etc. The countries along the Silk Road have trained 1,618 industry and education officials and school teachers, established contact with many partner countries along the BRI, and established a China-Africa (Benin) Vocational and Technical Education Training Institute in Benin. Not only that, in the current new environment, international students from partner countries are attracted by scholarships and are admitted to Chinese universities one after another, reshaping education in Asia and influencing higher education around the world. The number of students enrolled in Belt and Road partner nations increased by 12% just last year. The axis of higher education has been moving to China in the modern age as Chinese colleges have emerged as attractive institutions for growing Asia. China not only has a central policy framework but also has specific plans decentralized to local governments. For example, the central government provides a development vision and basic development framework, and each region, city and educational institution can formulate its education development plan [5].

4. Difficulties and Challenges

But at the same time, there are many difficulties and challenges to be overcome in the advancement of education along the Belt and Road. China's education system is currently still unable to keep up with the world's rapid progress. The reason is that first, the training goal is narrow, and the talents trained are mainly employed and started businesses in China. Second, educational exchanges are mainly to send students abroad, and the output of human resources and innovative technologies is extremely limited. The third is a serious lack of understanding of the international teaching system, and the teaching quality has not reached the international standard.

Despite having surpassed the United States in terms of the volume of scientific papers produced, China is ranked third in the world for publishing academic articles that are the result of international collaboration. China continues to lag behind the US in terms of citations. As a result, the BRI's promotion of education is crucial to China's standing in the world of academia. By encouraging both

"indigenous innovation" and "re-innovation" of foreign technology, we still need to work to lessen our reliance on others in the technological realm.

China has a vast landmass, too. Depending on several criteria such as location, resource endowment, and development foundation, China's opening to the outside world generally follows a pattern that is swift in the East and slow in the West, strong in the ocean, and weak on land. Therefore, China needs to begin a new pattern of opening up to the outside world and quickening the pace of developing education westward. Questions like how to set up a long-term mechanism for talent and human resource gathering, how to strengthen and adjust the educational structure and school layout in the western border areas, and how to promote education in various regions need to be addressed. These are the outstanding issues on the road of education promotion along the BRI.

In order to enhance the attraction of international students and expand the influence of Chinese higher education in the world, more effective strategies and policies need to be implemented at the national level, such as improving infrastructure, providing jobs for international students after graduation, reducing tariffs, and improving the academic level of universities., develop cooperation between local education and local enterprises [10]. In terms of global aspects, we need to gain a deeper understanding of the specific conditions of partner countries and cultivate more targeted professional talents. At the same time, we should focus on nations that cooperate little or not at all and create higher education that appeals to them. Additionally, it will close the internationalization gap between domestic universities and give more resources to universities in the central and western areas. Finally, we must continue to create world-class universities, recruit top researchers, and offer both local and international academics a welcoming, dependable research environment.

5. Conclusion

In the end, although there are still many difficulties and challenges in promoting the development of education in the partner countries, the achievements achieved so far cannot be ignored. At present, the connection and development between education, science and technology and BRI is still in the first stage, so it is difficult to draw far-reaching conclusions, but, through the education development efforts of China and partner countries, we can define trends in global higher education development is that China's importance rests in supporting a sizable multipolar system, where Chinese higher education might be crucial in establishing a new international order. Future research can be started from specific higher education policies or cases, such as studying the development of educational institutions in partner countries or combining education and enterprises to study, which can give more development opinions in more practical situations.

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