

Abstract:

This paper analyses the responses of Portuguese higher education institutions to internationalisation, in order to identify which factors foster and which factors impede the development of international activities at the organisational level in the Portuguese higher education system. The empirical data was collected from Portuguese higher education institutions selected to ensure diversity of geographical location, legal status (public or private) and sub-system (university or polytechnic). Special attention was paid to disciplinary differentiation, as major differences in the nature of knowledge and disciplinary culture might lead to different internationalisation approaches. The data collected included relevant documentary information on the institutions' internationalisation activities and transcriptions of interviews with key players.