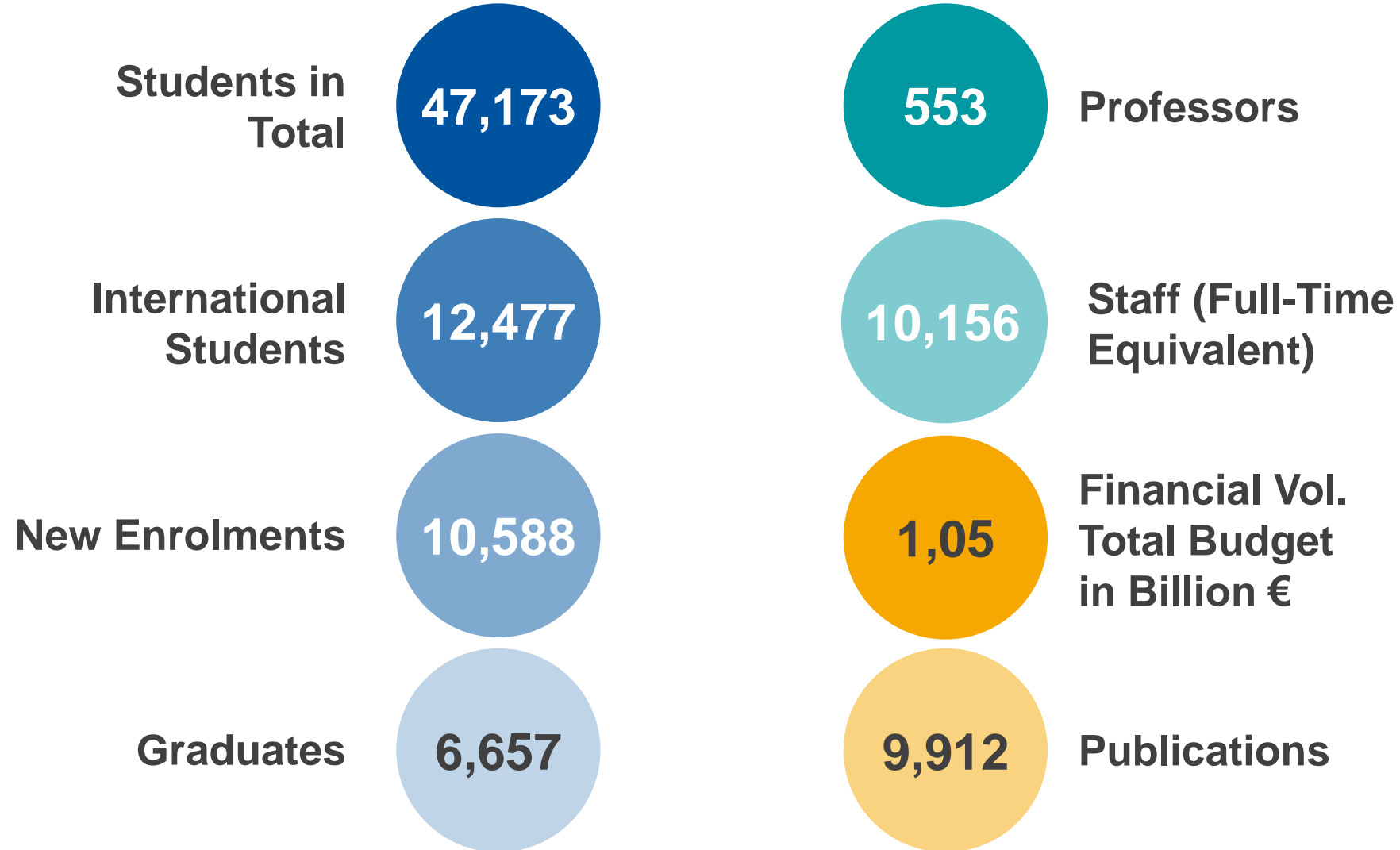




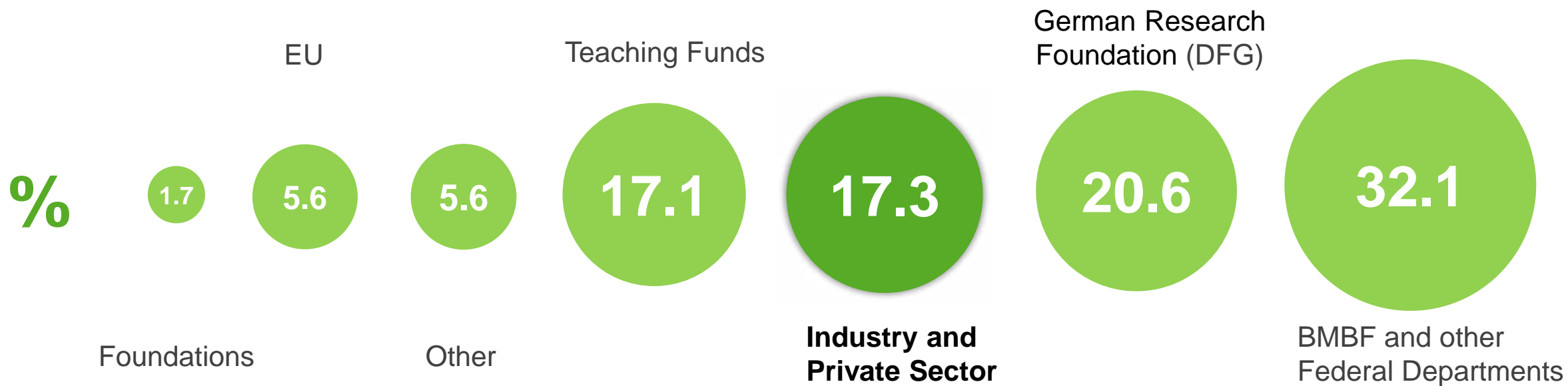
# Internationalization of Higher Education Institutions in a changing world

**EUA webinar series: A new world? Universities in changing international relations**  
**7 October 2021**

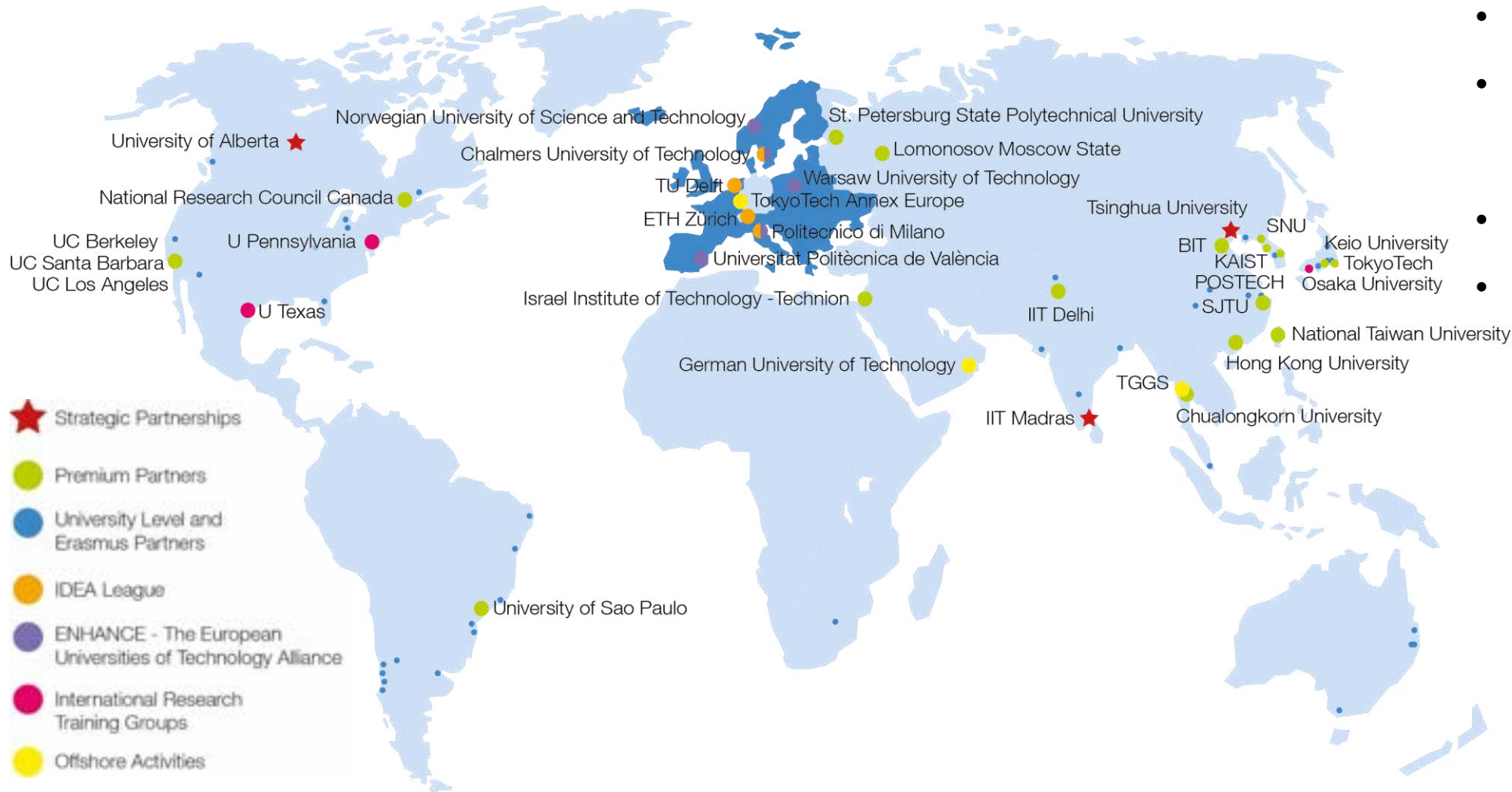


# RWTH Aachen University

## Source of Grants and Funding

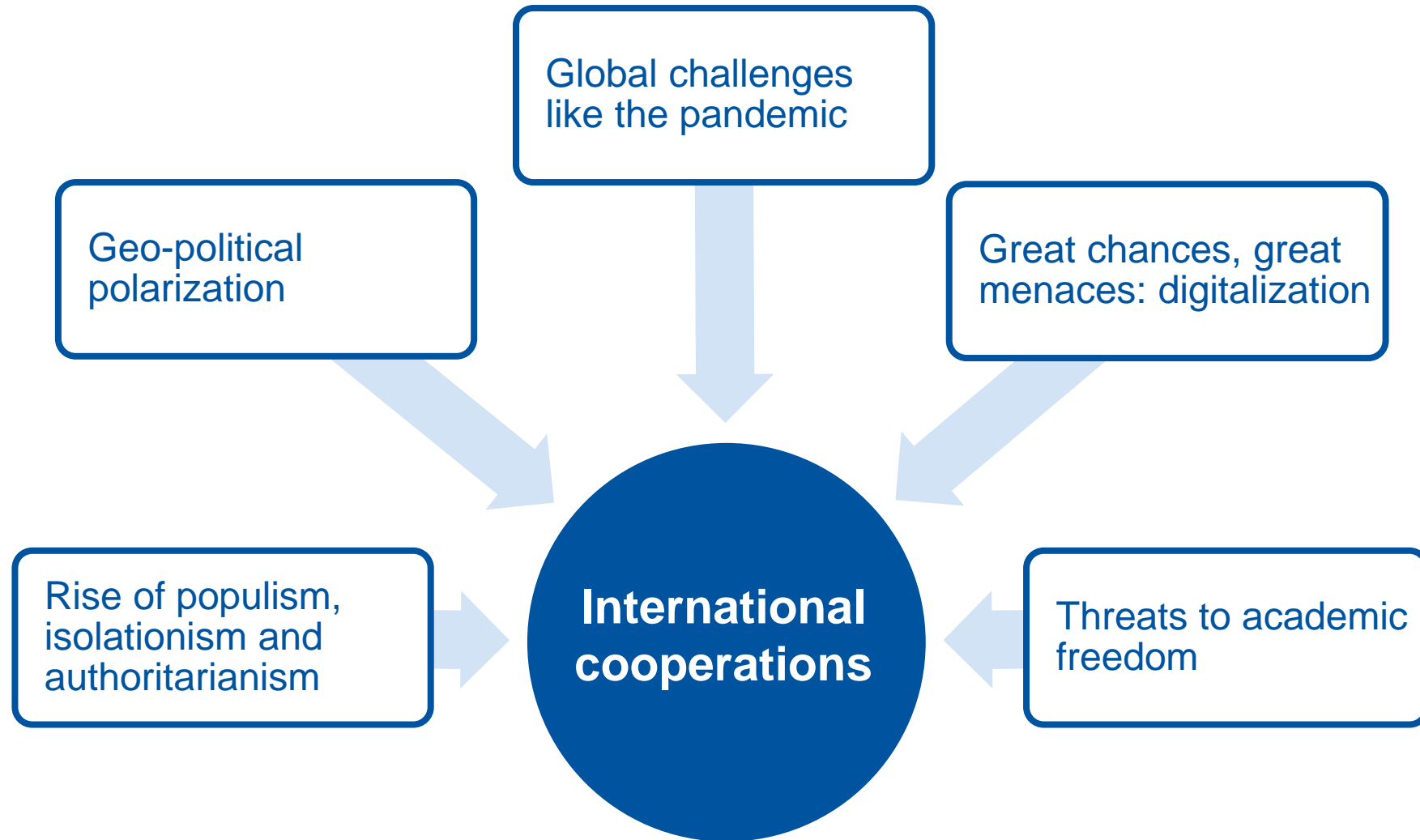


# RWTH Aachen University's Approach to Partnerships and Networks

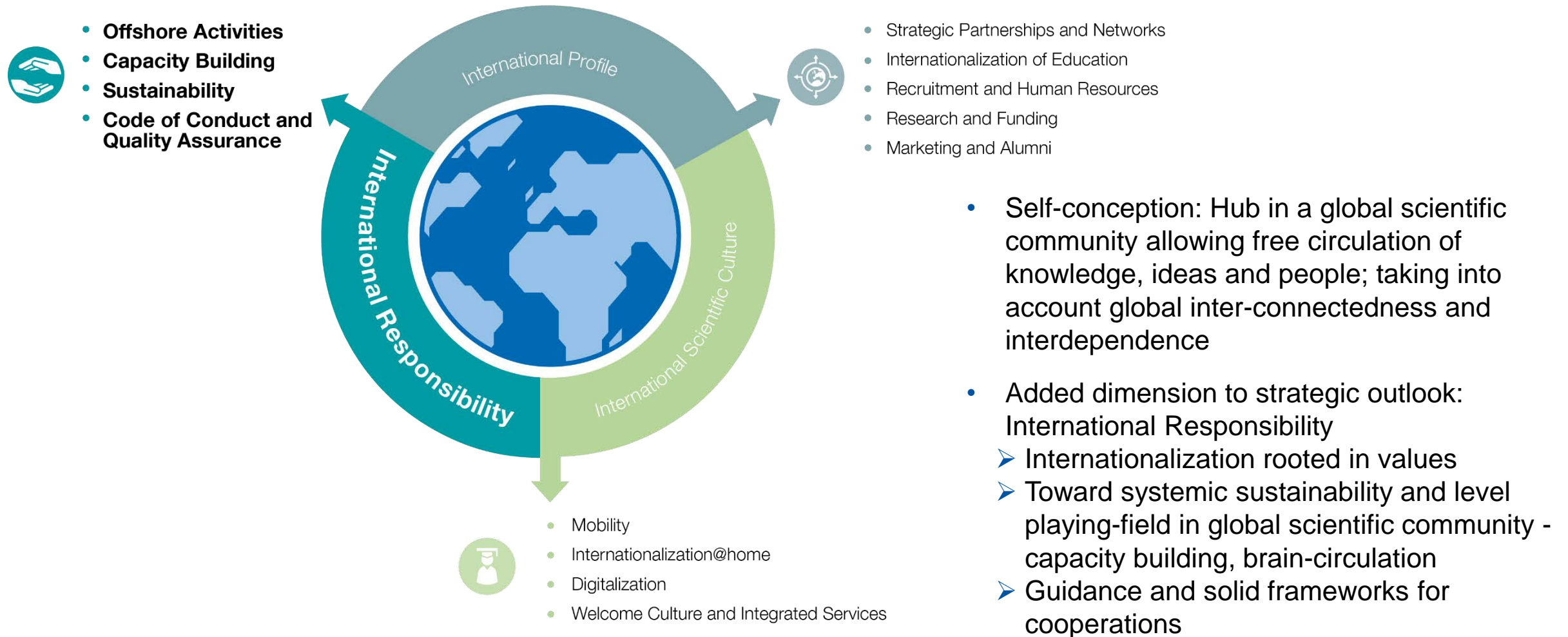


- Bottom-up approach
- Strategic scaling up to university-level
- Rooted in values
- Regions of Strategic Interest and Rector's Delegates

# Internationalization of Higher Education in a changing world



# Internationalization Strategy development at RWTH Aachen University



# Response to a changing world: Developing frameworks for international cooperations

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## Hindrances and pitfalls in international cooperations

- Lighthouse project turns problem case: RWTH - U Tsinghua Joint Laboratory in Laser Technology



- Retroactive declaration of joint research as military collaboration



Cover image of ASPI Policy brief Report No. 23/2019  
Joske, Alex: The China Defence Universities Tracker.  
Exploring the military and security links of China's universities.  
Illustration by Badiucaio/<https://www.badiucaio.com>



# Increased risks of unfavourable media coverage

STERN EXKLUSIV RÜSTUNGSKONZERN RHEINMETALL

## Deutsche Uni an Planung für Panzerfabrik in Türkei beteiligt



Der Prototyp des Akay-Panzers.  
Foto: © 2008/Photo: M. K.

von Hans-Martin Tillack  
30.08.2017, 09:03 Uhr

Interne Pläne zeigen, wie der Rheinmetall-Konzern trotz aller Dementis am Bau einer Rüstungsfabrik in der Türkei arbeitet. Recherchen von stern und Correctiv offenbaren zudem: Auch eine renommierte deutsche Hochschule war involviert.

Die renommierte Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule (RWTH) in Aachen hat eine Machbarkeitsstudie für die umstrittene Panzerfabrik in der Türkei erstellt, die dort auch dank deutscher Beteiligung entstehen soll. Nach Recherchen

<https://www.stern.de/politik/ausland/rheinmetall--deutsche-uni-an-planung-fuer-panzerfabrik-in-tuerkei-beteiligt-7597932.html>

US-Forschungsförderung

## Millionen vom Pentagon für deutsche Unis

Nicht-militärische Forschung - dazu bekennen sich die meisten deutschen Hochschulen. Trotzdem haben etliche in den vergangenen Jahren Geld vom US-Verteidigungsministerium kassiert.

Von Armin Himmelrath und Holger Dambeck  
22.06.2019, 14:06 Uhr



Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule in Aachen. Mehr als 1,2 Millionen US-Dollar vom Pentagon. Foto: HEIMANN / KIMPHLETZ/AP

<https://www.spiegel.de/lebenundlernen/uni/us-militaerforschung-an-deutschen-unis-21-millionen-dollar-in-zehn-jahren-a-1273282.html>

Renowned RWTH Aachen University did a feasibility study for controversial tank factory in Turkey [...]

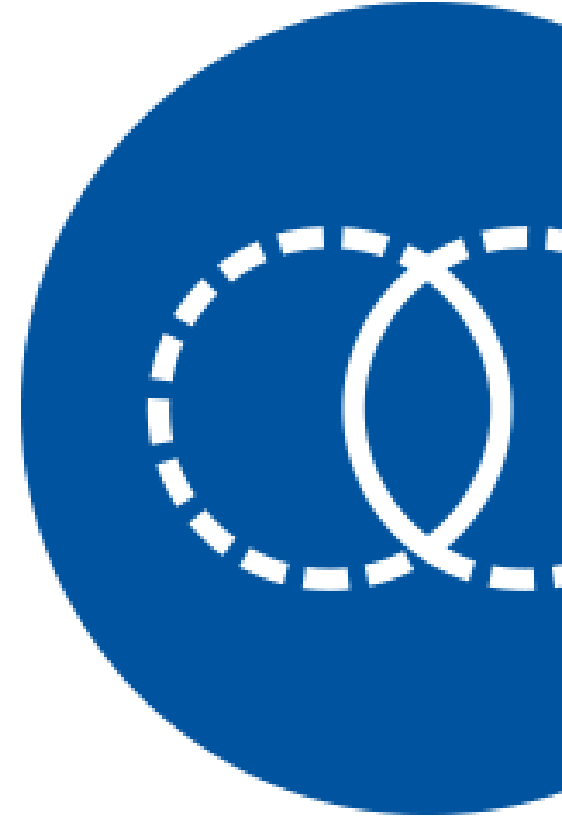
RWTH Aachen University: More than 1.2 mio US-Dollars from Pentagon

## Example: Relations with Chinese Partners

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### RWTH Aachen University - China

- 29 agreements at university or faculty level
- Long-standing Strategic Partnership with UTsinghua, incl. largest Sino-German double degree program
- Largest international community at RWTH (students and all scientific career levels)
- At least 50 chairs maintain regular relations with colleagues in China
- Liaison Office in Beijing since 2007
- Cooperation in online education (Global MOOC Alliance)
- Joint research labs (1st established 2014 – both a „popular model“ as well as problematic)
- Average of 400 co-publications, close to 300 business trips, and a good 100 exchange students to China per year



## Example: Relations with Chinese Partners

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### Measures at RWTH Aachen University

- Secure sufficient expertise within the institution, continuously observe relevant developments in China
- Shape transparent processes in the administration of cooperations, provide clear guidelines
- Join forces with German and European partners to exchange best practices and gain critical mass vis-a-vis policy makers



## Support needed from policy makers

- Further harmonization of legal regulations within the EU
- Establishment of a central contact-point pooling knowledge and resources: European Office of HEI Cooperation with third countries
- Events, trainings, networking opportunities and awareness-raising activities
- Substantial funding programs for academic cooperation which take specific difficulties into account
- Recognition of the importance of global scientific cooperation as an effective form of diplomacy



**Thank you**