

# **International Admission Systems. A comparative analysis**

Based on

Comisión de Trabajo Acceso Internacional, estudio comparativo

SGT Promoción Internacional

CRUE Internacionalización y Cooperación

# Agenda

1. Comparative analysis. International Admission Systems
2. Methodology
3. Some examples of HEIs Admission systems in several countries
4. Results and conclusions

# 1. Introduction

## Comparative Analysis. Admission Systems. Spain vs other OECD countries

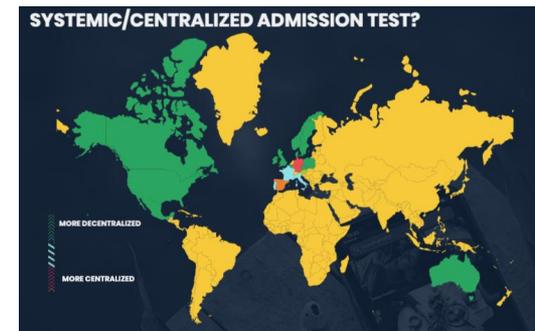
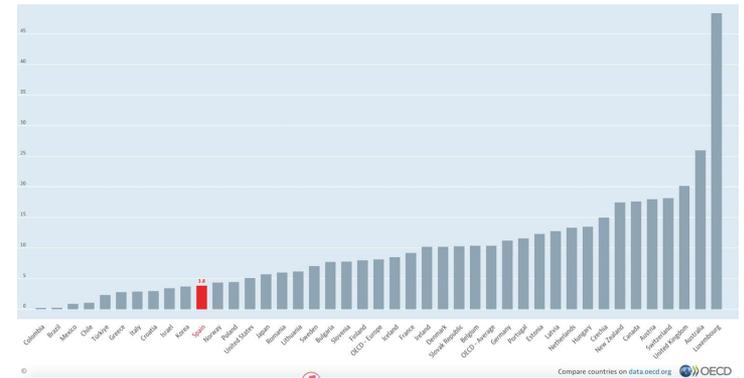
✓ Comparative analyses needed

✓ With European and non EU countries

✓ Centralized vs. Decentralized admission system

✓ Language admission tests

✓ Grants

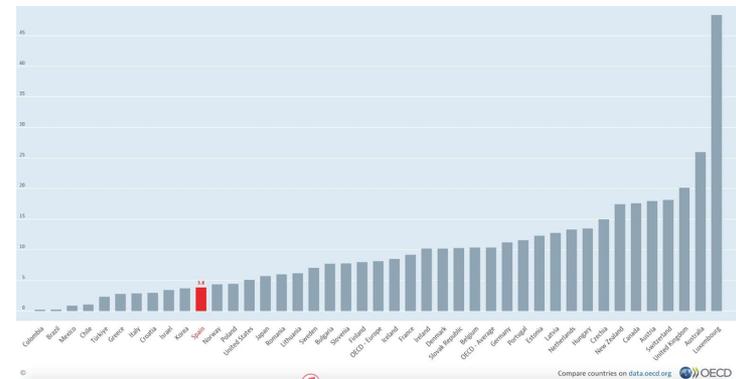


## Comparative Analysis. Admission Systems. Spain vs other OECD countries

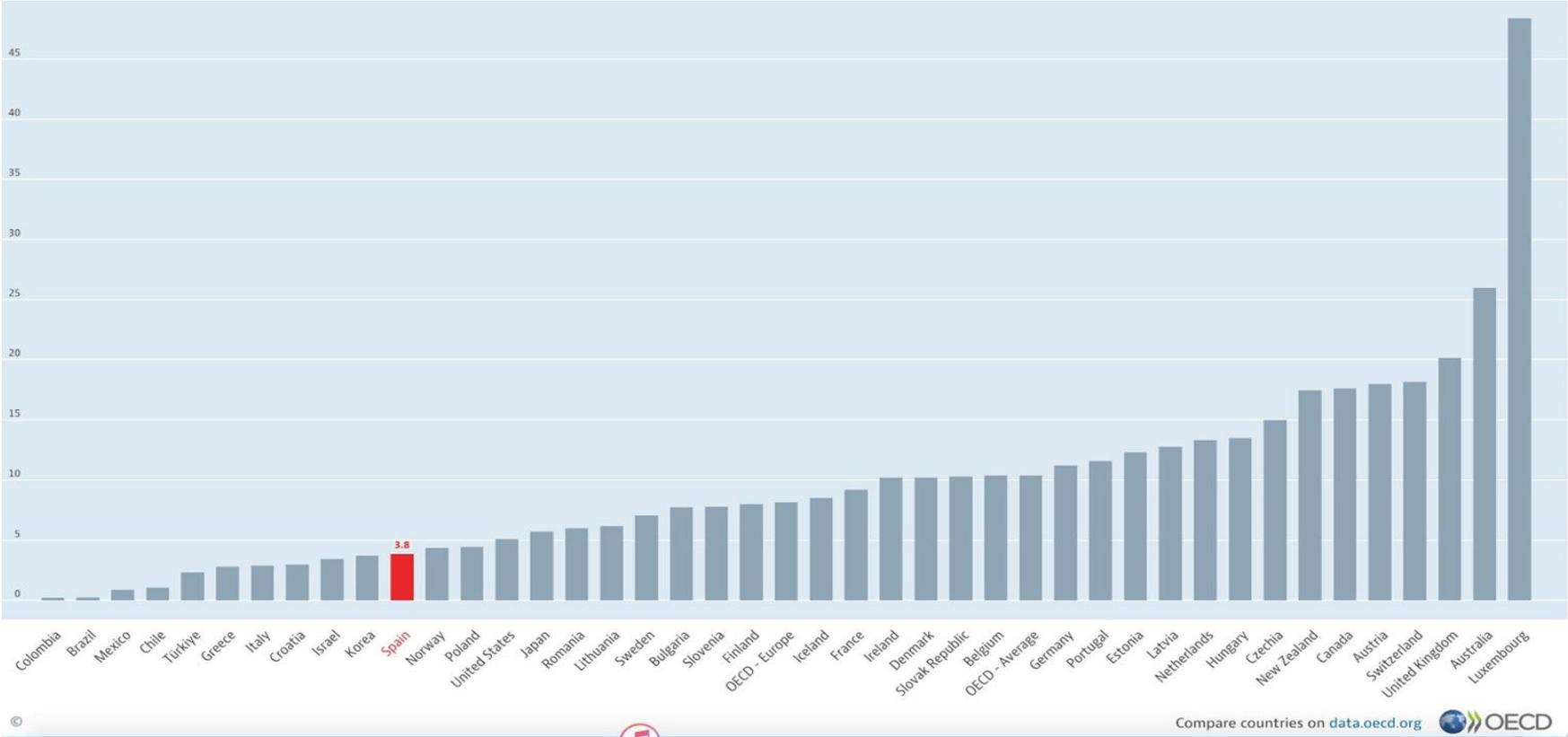
- ✓ Spain as a success story in credit mobility
- ✓ Way to go in cross-sectional internationalization
- ✓ Last positions in Int'l degree-seeking student percentage
- ✓ Existence of barriers to entry
- ✓ Nation-wide, centralized “access” system for Bachelor degree seekers

Starting point

Background



# Comparative Analysis. Admission Systems. Spain vs other OECD countries



% of International students on overall student population. Bachelor degrees

## 2. Methodology

## Method

✓ National admission system for HEIs. Comparative Analysis

✓ Variables in the analysis

✓ Research team:  
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National applicable regulations

Centralized vs. Decentralized,  
institutional wise system

“Access and Admission”  
requirements

Language tests

National admission portal

Grants

### 3. Admission system per country

# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

<b>links</b>	<a href="https://educationusa.state.gov/">https://educationusa.state.gov/</a>  Admission regulation: Title VI, Civil Rights Act 1964; Affirmative Action; Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; State Legislation; University Policies and Institutional Accreditation; Americans with Disabilities Act; State and Federal Financial Aid.
<b>ADMISSION TEST REQUIREMENT</b>	It is up to each university. The two most commonly used tests are: a) SAT Scholastic Assessment Test and b) ACT American College Testing. Other specific tests may be the SAT subject-specific tests or other alternative tests such as the CLT (Classic Learning Test).
<b>GRANTS</b>	Not public; it is possible per university and based on academic or athletic performance.
<b>DIFFERENTIATED FEES NATIONALS/INTERNATIONALS</b>	There is fee differentiation by state/outstate in state universities.
<b>LANGUAGE TEST</b>	In some cases TOEFL test is required.
<b>ADMISSION TEST SYSTEMIC/INSTITUTIONAL</b>	Institutional. Many colleges require specific test scores, such as SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test), ACT (American College Testing). Some may also require specific tests such as the SAT Subject Test.
<b>MODE OF TESTING (FACE-TO-FACE/VIRTUAL)</b>	Both options are possible, even hybrid

# UNITED KINGDOM

<b>LINKS</b>	<a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2017/29/contents/enacted">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2017/29/contents/enacted</a>
<b>ADMISSION TEST REQUIREMENT</b>	There is no general entrance exam, however some universities may require entrance exams for admission.
<b>GRANTS</b>	There are 3 types of grants which depend on the student's country of origin and qualifications.
<b>DIFFERENTIATED FEES NATIONALS/INTERNATIONALS</b>	Fees differ according to the type of studies and nationality, being different for local and EU students and those from third countries.
<b>LANGUAGE TEST</b>	Official IELTS exam with a score between 6.0 and 7.5 out of 9.
<b>ADMISSION TEST SYSTEMIC/INSTITUTIONAL</b>	Institutional tests dependant on each university. It may also depend on the study field, with some area-related tests as well
<b>MODE OF TESTING (FACE-TO-FACE/VIRTUAL)</b>	Normally, face to face tests
<b>OTHER REQUIREMENTS</b>	Personal statements and academic references normally needed

# FRANCE

<b>LINKS</b>	<a href="https://www.campusfrance.org/es/aplicacion-estudiante-no-europeo-residente-fuera-UE-sin-procedimiento-etudes-en-france">https://www.campusfrance.org/es/aplicacion-estudiante-no-europeo-residente-fuera-UE-sin-procedimiento-etudes-en-france</a>
<b>ADMISSION TEST REQUIREMENT</b>	There is no general entrance exam, however some universities may require entrance exams for admission.
<b>GRANTS</b>	Grants for international students on national or university basis. Based on academic records and economic situation.
<b>DIFFERENTIATED FEES NATIONALS/INTERNATIONALS</b>	Fees differ for national/EU students and non EU students.
<b>LANGUAGE TEST</b>	DELF/DALF. Other tests may be considered as well such as TCF/TEF/TCF DAP
<b>ADMISSION TEST SYSTEMIC/INSTITUTIONAL</b>	Systemic test just working for specific areas such as Health Sciences and Medicine at the end of the first year of a common degree in Sciences
<b>MODE OF TESTING (FACE-TO-FACE/VIRTUAL)</b>	Normally, face to face tests

# CANADA

<b>LINKS</b>	<a href="https://www.universitystudy.ca/plan-for-university/how-to-apply-to-canadian-universities/">https://www.universitystudy.ca/plan-for-university/how-to-apply-to-canadian-universities/</a>
<b>ADMISSION TEST REQUIREMENT</b>	There are no specific tests. Admission is based on high school transcripts, completion of prerequisite courses and language proficiency test for international students.
<b>GRANTS</b>	They depend on each university, but there is a range of scholarship options for international students: a) Merit-based scholarships, for international students with excellent academic merit; b) Country-specific scholarships, for students from certain countries under international or diplomatic agreements; c) Program-specific scholarships for students in specific programs, such as STEM studies; d) Sports scholarships, for students with specific athletic merit; e) Specific scholarships from NGOs, foundations or non-profit associations. In addition, international students usually have the ability to work part-time in Canada, which in practice provides additional financial aid to support their studies.
<b>DIFFERENTIATED FEES NATIONALS/INTERNATIONALS</b>	Starting fees are higher for international students as students from the province or territory usually receive tuition fee reductions.
<b>LANGUAGE TEST</b>	Universities may require English or French language proficiency tests. Among the most recognized English tests are IELTS, TOEFL, CAEL, Cambridge tests, Pearson Test of English. In French, TEF or DELF/DALF.
<b>ADMISSION TEST SYSTEMIC/INSTITUTIONAL</b>	Institutional
<b>MODE OF TESTING (FACE-TO-FACE/VIRTUAL)</b>	Online and face to face options

# ITALY

<b>LINKS</b>	<a href="https://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studentistranieri/">https://www.studiare-in-italia.it/studentistranieri/</a>
<b>ADMISSION TEST REQUIREMENT</b>	National entrance exams for Bachelor's Degrees in Medicine and Surgery (Italian or English), Dentistry and Dental Prosthetics, Veterinary Medicine, and for courses aimed at the training of architects. For courses with " scheduled admission", each university publishes a call for applications, usually requiring the submission of the results of a specific online test. Private universities usually have their own entrance tests or interviews.
<b>GRANTS</b>	no
<b>DIFFERENTIATED FEES NATIONALS/INTERNATIONALS</b>	no
<b>LANGUAGE TEST</b>	Usually included in the test, if there is no test, a certificate or previous studies in the language of the degree are requested.
<b>ADMISSION TEST SYSTEMIC/INSTITUTIONAL</b>	Mixed, depending on program
<b>MODE OF TESTING (FACE-TO-FACE/VIRTUAL)</b>	Depends on the degree: most programs are accessed through the score obtained in the "TOLC" tests. There are several types, depending on the specific course, and they can be taken throughout the year, online or on-site at the universities. Other programs (such as Medicine and Health Sciences) are entered through specific on-site tests.

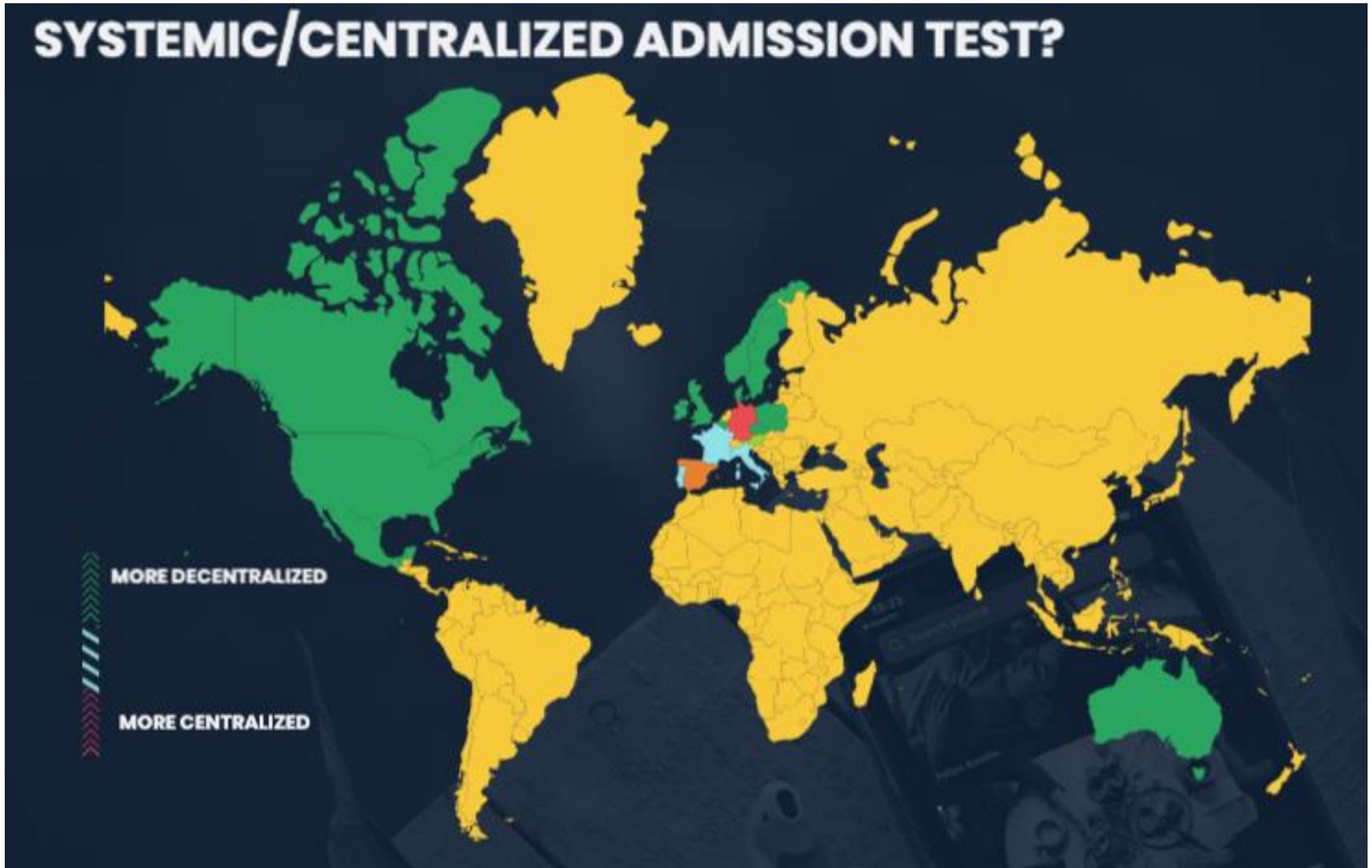
# GERMANY

<b>LINKS</b>	<a href="https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/plan-your-studies/admission-database/?ad-layer=4&amp;ad-layerId=252">https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/plan-your-studies/admission-database/?ad-layer=4&amp;ad-layerId=252</a>
<b>ADMISSION TEST REQUIREMENT</b>	Obligatory for International non EU students. The Feststellungsprüfung is taken a preparatory course and gives access to German universities.
<b>GRANTS</b>	There are several grant schedules at the national, regional or university level
<b>DIFFERENTIATED FEES NATIONALS/INTERNATIONALS</b>	University tuition is free for most of the states in Germany and for both national and international students
<b>LANGUAGE TEST</b>	German language tests for programs taught in German: TestDaF/DSH/Goethe Zertifikat. TOEFL or IELTS for programs taught in English
<b>ADMISSION TEST SYSTEMIC/INSTITUTIONAL</b>	Systemic
<b>MODE OF TESTING (FACE-TO-FACE/VIRTUAL)</b>	Face to face with written and oral parts, usually after a preparatory course

# Comparative Admission Table

Country	Systemic Admission Test	Grants	Differentiated Fees	Language Test (usually international standards)
Italy	Yes for some degrees	No	No	Yes
France	For some degrees (Health Sciences, Medicine)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Poland	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ireland	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Belgium	No	Yes	No	Yes
Czech Republic	No at a national level	Yes	No	Yes
Germany	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
UK	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Portugal	Yes (but can be validated)	Yes in some areas	Yes	Yes
Austria	For some study areas	Yes at different levels/areas	Yes	Yes
United States	No	Yes on specific academic/sports records	Yes/state level	Yes
Australia	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Denmark	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sweden	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Norway	No	No	Yes	Yes
Mexico	No	No	Yes	Yes

# An overview of admission systems in the world



## 4. Bottom lines

## Takeaways

- Most of the analysed countries do not include a systemic/centralized system for international students
- Some EU countries include a mixed system with systemic/centralized exams and courses for specific study areas or that can be validated for the students' national entry
- In very few cases the national centralized system is obligatory for all international students
- Other national barriers may exist such as full-cost tuition systems or national/regional languages proficiency exams

Gracias por vuestra atención!

Thanks!!