

UK higher education and China: the state of the relationship

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50 Chinese students leave UK in three years after spy chiefs' warning

MI5 chief says Chinese communist party targeting intellectual property across west

The Guardian

“In the past year, at least 60 academics, more than half from China, left the UK after Atas vetting identified security concerns, freedom of information requests to universities show.”

The autumn has seen controversies over research funding and partnerships, as well as the Academic Technology Approval Scheme, and Confucius Institutes.

We've also been thinking how student recruitment fits in to the picture.



There are 26 Confucius Institutes in Britain, including five in Scotland
ALAMY

Universities fight to keep Beijing 'spy institutes'

Minister vows to shut down 'propaganda vehicle'

THE TIMES

British university took £374,000 from sanctioned Chinese firms

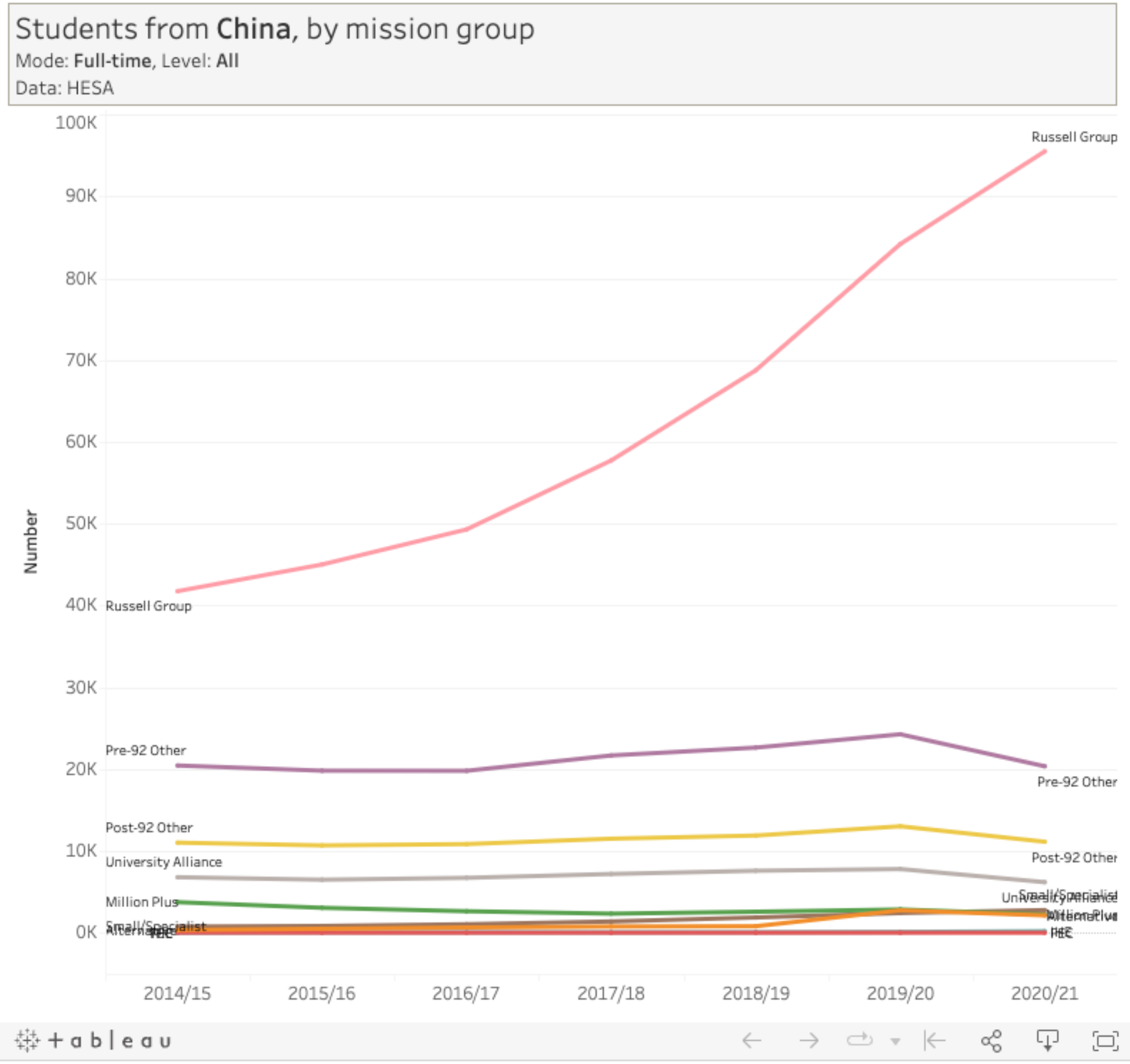


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The state of recruitment from China

Concerns about recruitment from China never seem to go away - David Kernohan plots the reality of one of the UK's largest markets for international recruitment



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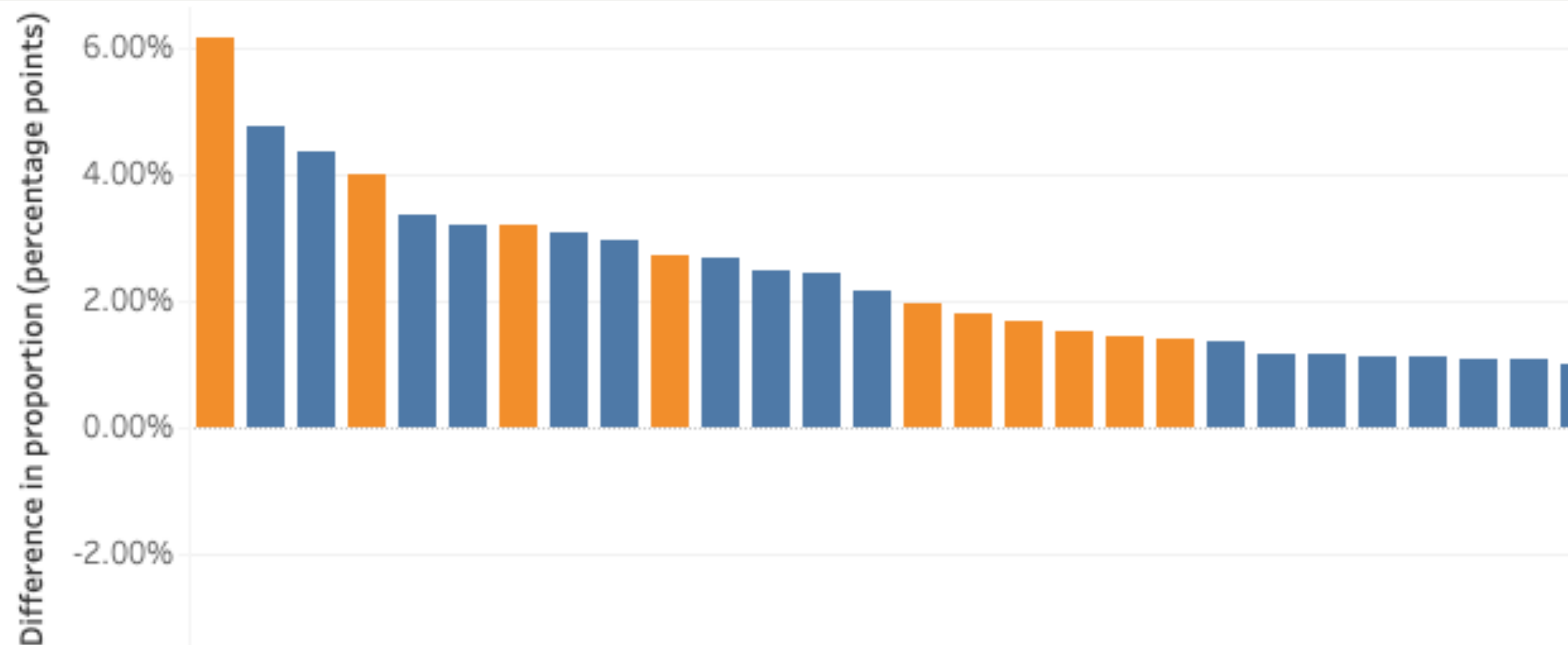
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Difference in proportion of all students from China, 2014-15 to 2020-21

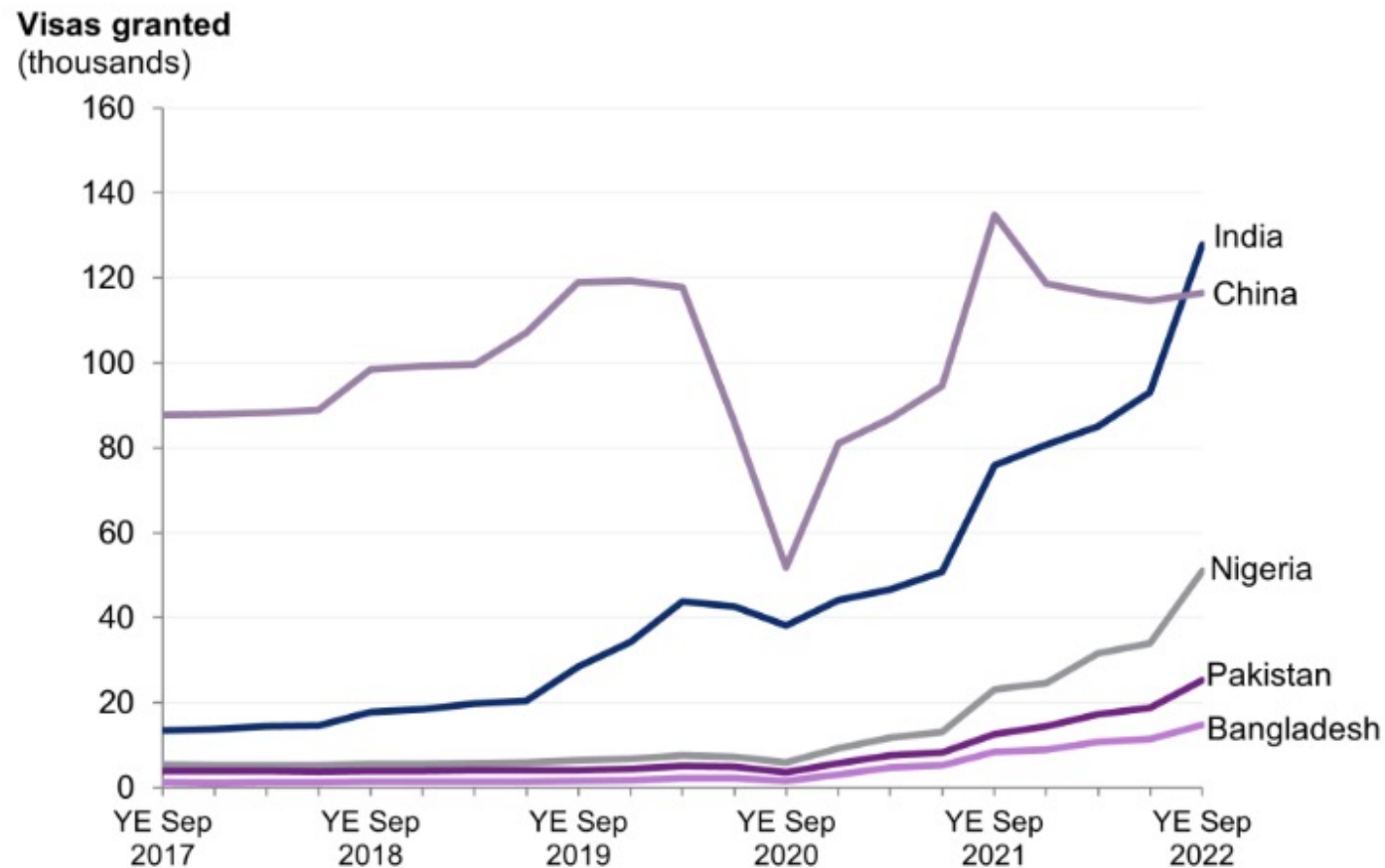
Full-time modes, All undergraduate level(s)

Data: HESA



Diversify... but not like that!

Figure 2: Sponsored study visas granted to main applicants, years ending September 2017 to 2022, top 5 nationalities



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The Telegraph

Universities pay to attract Indian students with 'bring your family' campaigns

The 161,000 recruits attracted to UK last year includes 33,240 dependents - more than a quarter of all foreign students

Migrants from Nigeria are bringing the highest number of relatives to the UK - and now face clampdown under Home Secretary Suella Braverman

- Migrants from Nigeria are bringing the highest number of relatives to the UK
- Nigerians accounted for 40% of dependants who accompanied foreign students
- By comparison, 114,837 Chinese students brought with them 401 dependants
- Home Secretary Suella Braverman is planning to cut net migration

MailOnline

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**If you look at the places
where students are most
ready to come without the
ability to bring dependants
– it's China.**

DfE permanent secretary Susan Acland-Hood

COMMENT | 28/11/22

Still the China question

A year on from their landmark report Jo Johnson, Jonathan Adams, and Jonathan Grant find that little has been done to mitigate the risk implicit in closer academic links between the UK and China



COMMENT | 28/11/22

China today, tomorrow, and forever?

When it comes to collaboration with China, universities are caught between economic imperatives and political hostilities. James Coe and Michael Salmon argue that if universities do not find their voice they will be drowned out in this debate



COMMENT | 6/12/22

Is collaboration between the UK and China getting more difficult for researchers?

Geopolitical friction is complicating research partnerships between the UK and China. Kexin (Casey) Yu has been looking at the facts on the ground



“Just as the Office for Students needs to focus on threats to institutional resilience and system-wide financial sustainability arising over-reliance on income from one country, UK Research & Innovation needs to step up the pace of its work on how to mitigate any potential damage to UK research capabilities from disorderly disengagement”

“In 2021, there were just 320 acceptances to course with Chinese and/or Mandarin in the title across the UK.”

Languages Learning in Higher Education: Granular Trends

Analysis of UCAS data on undergraduate courses in the UK, 2012-2021

Thank you

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