

Aspects of, and Threats to, Academic Autonomy

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Some Priors

- Universities and Society
- Collective and Individuals
- Related Parallels

Aspects and Threats

- Aspects of Autonomy
 - Academic
 - Administrative
 - Financial
- Threats to Autonomy
 - The State:
 - Government, Legislature, Judiciary and Polity
 - The Market:
 - Teaching, Research, Administration, Admissions and Milieu

From the Government

- Finances
- Appointments
- Governance
- Regulation

From the Legislature

- Overarching legislations
- Legislation for access
- Representation and intervention
- Overlap and intersection

From the Polity

- Universities as platforms
- Universities as nurseries or laboratories
- Universities as battle-grounds
- Universities for polemics and posturing

From the Judiciary

- Appointments
- Promotions
- Admissions
- Administration

Threats from the Market

- Teaching: courses and curricula, short-run versus long-term
- Research: finances and focus, unequal and asymmetrical
- Administration: objectives, practices and criteria, inappropriate
- Admissions: endowments rather than abilities, as means of differentiation
- Milieu: conduct, collegiality, motivation, and reputation

Some conclusions

- Generalizations are difficult but possible
- Relative importance of threats
 - from the state
 - from the market
- Steps to preserve autonomy
 - from within universities
 - from outside universities