

HUMANE SEMINAR
Effects of the world financial crisis towards
universities

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A deceiving financial peace among contradictory
protests

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A deceiving financial peace in a contradictory context

What is characteristic of the french situation ?

1 : Many reforms in HEI since five years

2 : huge protests against reforms with strikes and so on

Now, I would want to demonstrate that it is :

I - Not a financial crisis

II - But a social (or moral) crisis

III - And that there are some questions about consequences

French universities don't know the financial crisis

A peace, (even it is a deceiving peace)

A legal priority for universities

A financial priority for universities

Has financial autonomy really begin ?

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A deceiving financial peace among contradictory claims

Legal priority for universities

- The Liberty and Responsibility Law (after LOLF and LOPRI)
- Priority to universities (and not grandes ecoles)
- The « campus plan » as a tool for mergers and excellence

Financial priority for universities

- Budget as a sanctuary
- A revival plan ... which give more to universities
- A new and generous financial model

Financial autonomy is not effective

- What is the structure of a french university budget ?
- LRU for to-morrow : salaries, foundations, financial in-puts
- It is the first year for 18 universities (9 great universities)

A financial priority : french universities are not crisis victims

I - High education budget is a financial priority :

+ 1,8 Milliards € (+6,9% in 2009, +18% on the period 2009-2011)

there is not only no decrease in any university budget, but each university budget is increasing of 10% as a minimum.

few civil servant employment withdrawn, only in 2009

A financial priority : French universities are not crisis victims

I I- The revival plan benefits to universities :

France created a special ministry for economic revival (« relance »)

fundings for universities increase in this plan

(total : 11 milliards €, high education and research : 580 millions, universities : 400 millions)

Three priorities : students housing, buildings security, government/regions contracts

A financial priority : French universities are not crisis victims

III - French universities are less financially endangered than others

French university's budgets largely depend on national or public subsidies (own resources = 1/3 of universities resources ; financial resources are rather minimal)

It's only the first steps for competences enlargement

1 januar 2009 : 18 universities

1 januar 2010 : 20 to 25 universities

New possibilities (public foundations, call to alumni's) have not a great extend (SUPELEC example)

What is a french university budget ?

Takings : public fundings may represent 60 to 75% of takings (basic funding, four-year contract, specific subsidys)
tuition fees represent 10% (scientific universities) to 25% (arts and humanities)
own resources 10% to 40%
financial resources Less than 5%

What is a french university budget ?

My own university : 15000 students, 80000 m², 1100 permanent staff (600 academics, 470 non academics), to-day, a budget of 25 Millions €.

Financial resources represent 70000 euros !!

When Paul Valéry Montpellier 3 will be authorised to pass to autonomy (in 2011 ?) which mean the payment of all salaries, this budget will increase unto 75 Millions €

When the three universities of Montpellier will merge (at the end of 2011), the total budget will represent at least 600 millions euros

I hope that financial resources will have a same increase

What is a french university budget ?
SUPELEC school example

SUPELEC : an engineering school + an association status

A present budget with 50% from two government departments, and 50% on own resources

The creation of a capital foundation which in some years could change the tracking structure in 40%-40%-20% from the foundation

II A social more than legal protest

1 - Many reforms in HEI since five years

LMD

LOLF (financial organic law)

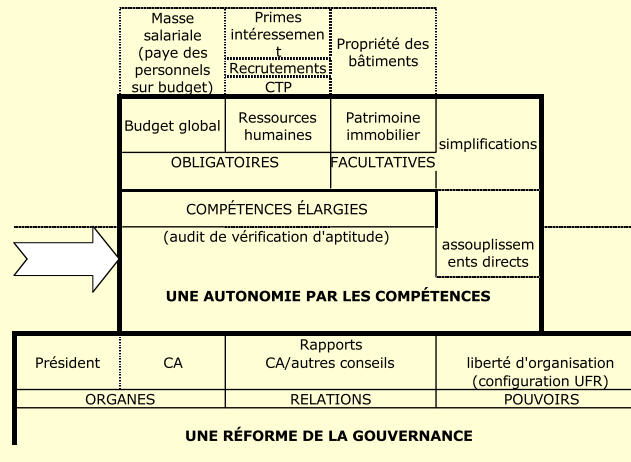
LOPRI april 2006 (financial and programmatic law about research and innovation) => changes in evaluation and common structures towards cooperation ... or merges.

LRU august 2007 (autonomy law)

A campus plan for excellence 2008 (and idea of merges)

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What is the Loi n°2007-1199 du 10 août 2007 according to « libertés et responsabilités des universités » ?



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The way to autonomy : the LRU

- 1 - A governance reform
- 2 - A competences enlargement
- 3 - A soft setting in governance (from april to october 2008)
- 4 - A progressive way to competences enlargement
- 5 - New tools acquisition : foundations and alumnis

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A reform, a protest

In my own university, we had three large strikes in four years : against LMD (2005), against CPE (2007), against reforms (2008-2009)

It is the same thing in other humanities faculties

We can remark that these strikes reasons come nearer to the university management

A reform, a protest

2005 : against LMD : a pedagogical protest

2007 : against CPE : a youth unemployment protest

What was the CPE (first employment contract) ?
An employment with less worker's rights

At the same time, there was a big protest against
the « LOPRI » (law about research), especially against
new ways of evaluation, and fundings methods

2009 : against reforms : a convergence of protests

A reform, a protest

2005 : against LMD : a pedagogical protest

2007 : against CPE : a youth unemployment protest

2009 : against reforms : a convergence of protests

from searchers against the evaluation changes

from leftists students against the great capitalism
entry in university (a change in funding universities)

from academics against the new president
powers, and changes in their job conditions

from non scientific faculties against the others
one

from candidates to teaching jobs against training
and recruitment changes

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I think the opposition is an ideological one :

On one side, we have what I call « french values » :
scientific altruism
equality to access to universities
equality between academics and disciplines, even
if some are economically profitable and others not

On the other side, we have the suspicion that reforms
are the « Troyes horse » of merchandising
university

We are not out of crisis !!

And that there are some questions about

consequences

1 - On recruitment

french students :

wishes of future students are decreasing
for universities

foreign students :

for the second year, decrease of future chooses for
universities

since two years, there is a

slight decrease

2 - On relations between university and economy

Crisis impact

- 1 - On french policy : Do the priority given to universities instead of high schools will remain ?
- 2 - On our own situation as general secretaries (What do HoAs become in this context ?)
 - a symbolic change : The general secretary should become a services general director
 - it would be a change in title, not in recruitment process

Thank you for your attention