

# OECD Global Forum on Education

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## Session 5: Responding to challenges posed to education in a globalised world

### Introduction

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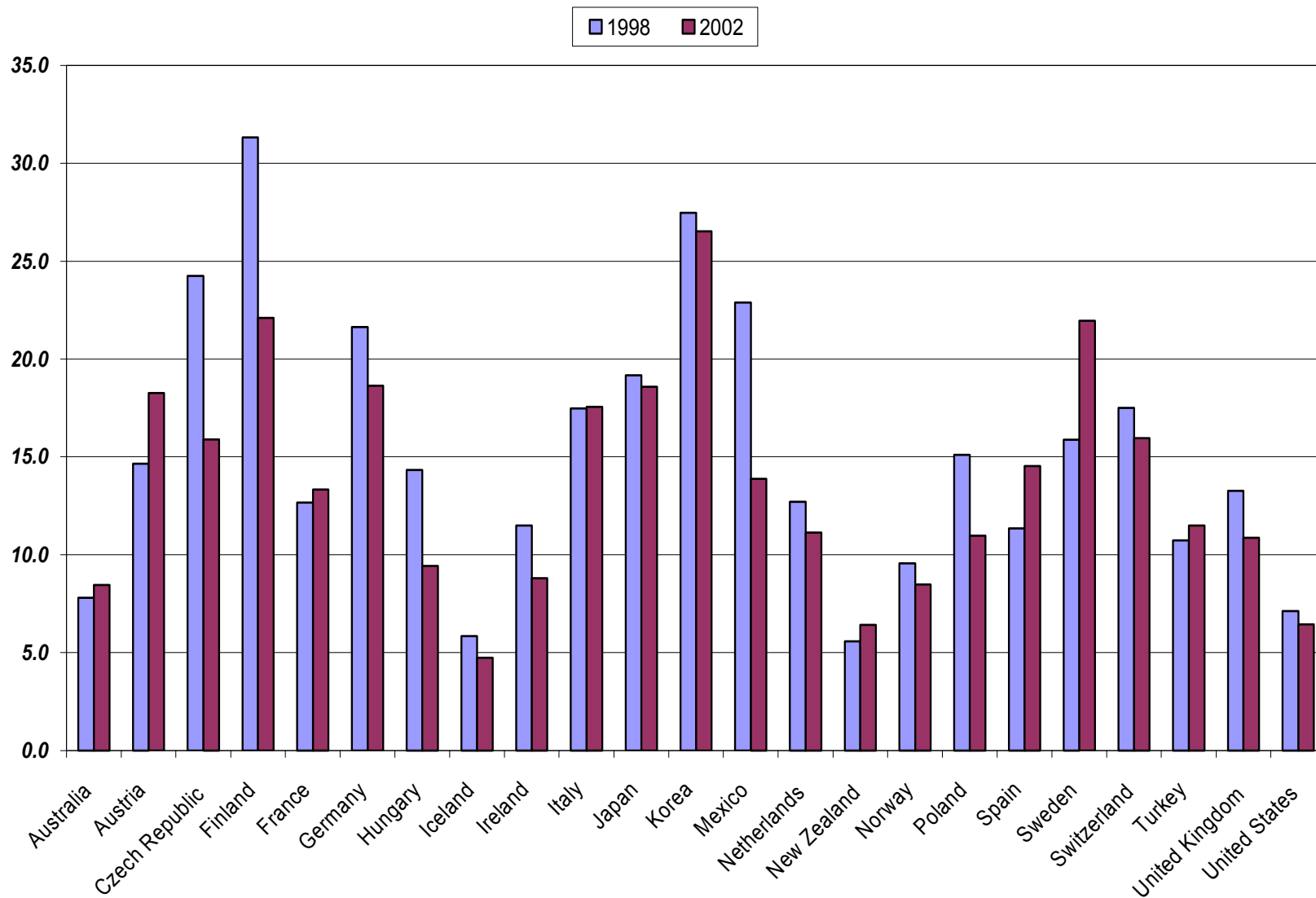
# Outline

1. Globalisation is posing five main challenges to education
2. Actions required at the national and international levels

# Globalisation is posing five main challenges to education

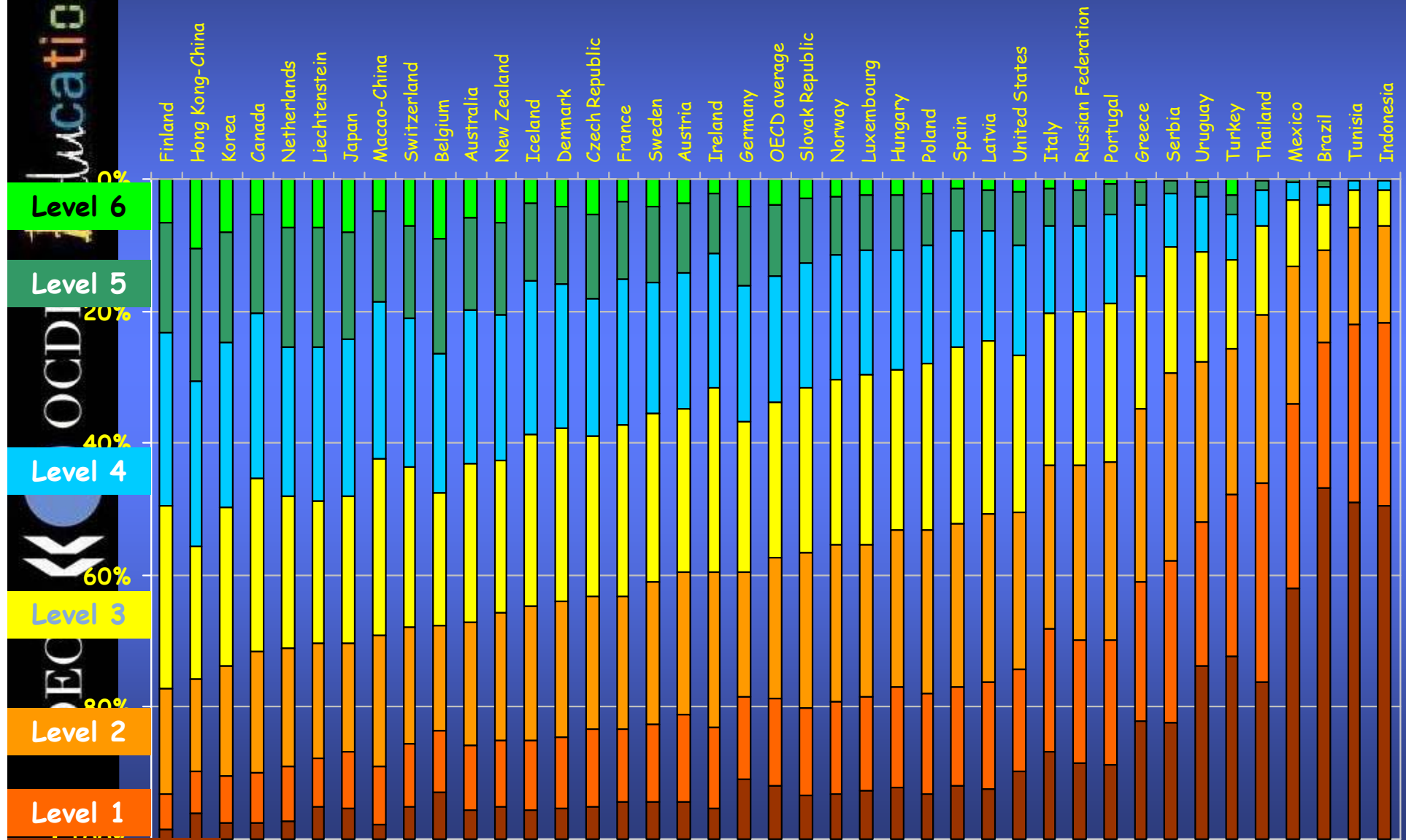
1. Globalisation enhances competition among countries and modifies the world distribution of labour.
  - Main consequences:
    - People need more often than before to acquire or update their knowledge and skills to respond to the requirements of the job market
    - Education attainment should be raised and lifelong learning should become a reality

Figure 1 Change in engineering graduates as a proportion to all tertiary graduates, 5A, 1998-2002



Source: OECD Education database 2004

# Percentage of students at each of the proficiency levels on the mathematics scale



OECD (2004), *Learning for tomorrow's world: First results from PISA 2003*, Table 2.5a, p.354.

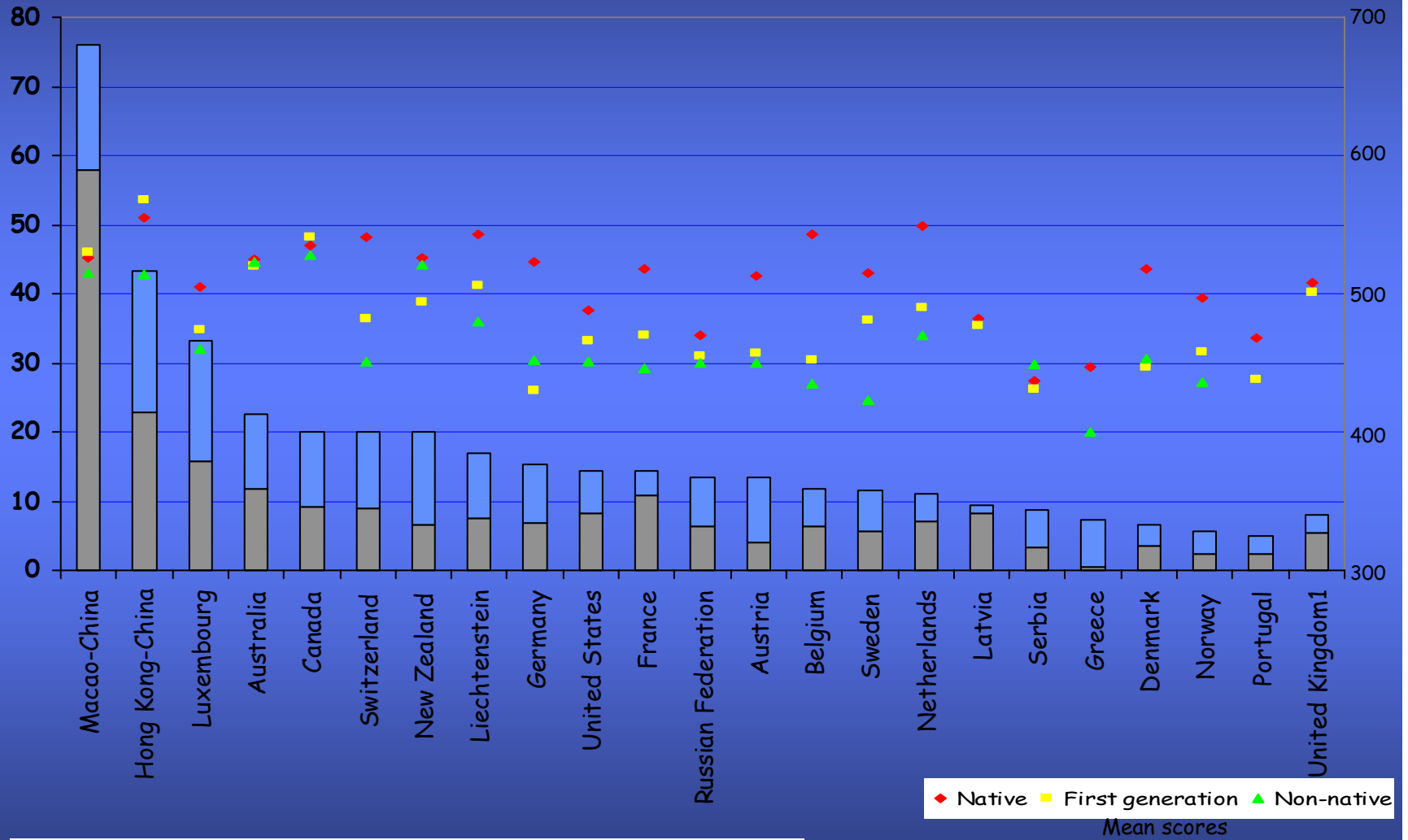
# The five challenges posed by globalisation to education

2. Globalisation leads to more economic and cultural exchanges between countries and to a higher heterogeneity of society (in terms of culture, ethnic group, language, religion).

□ **Main consequences:**

- There is a need for a more inclusive education where migrants could better realise their potential
- Social capital must be enhanced through the acquisition of intra-personal skills such as tolerance, cooperation, and solidarity

# Place of birth and student performance



# The five challenges posed by globalisation to education

3. Globalisation increases social and income disparities at the expense of social cohesion.

□ Main consequences:

- Equity of access for all to quality education is an absolute necessity
- Equity of education outcomes should be the next step

# High Mathematics performance



30

20

10

0 440

Low Performance

# The five challenges posed by globalisation to education

4. With globalisation some issues such as environment protection, poverty reduction, trafficking (drugs, arms, human beings...) and terrorism, are becoming and should be, the concern of every individual

□ **Main consequences:**

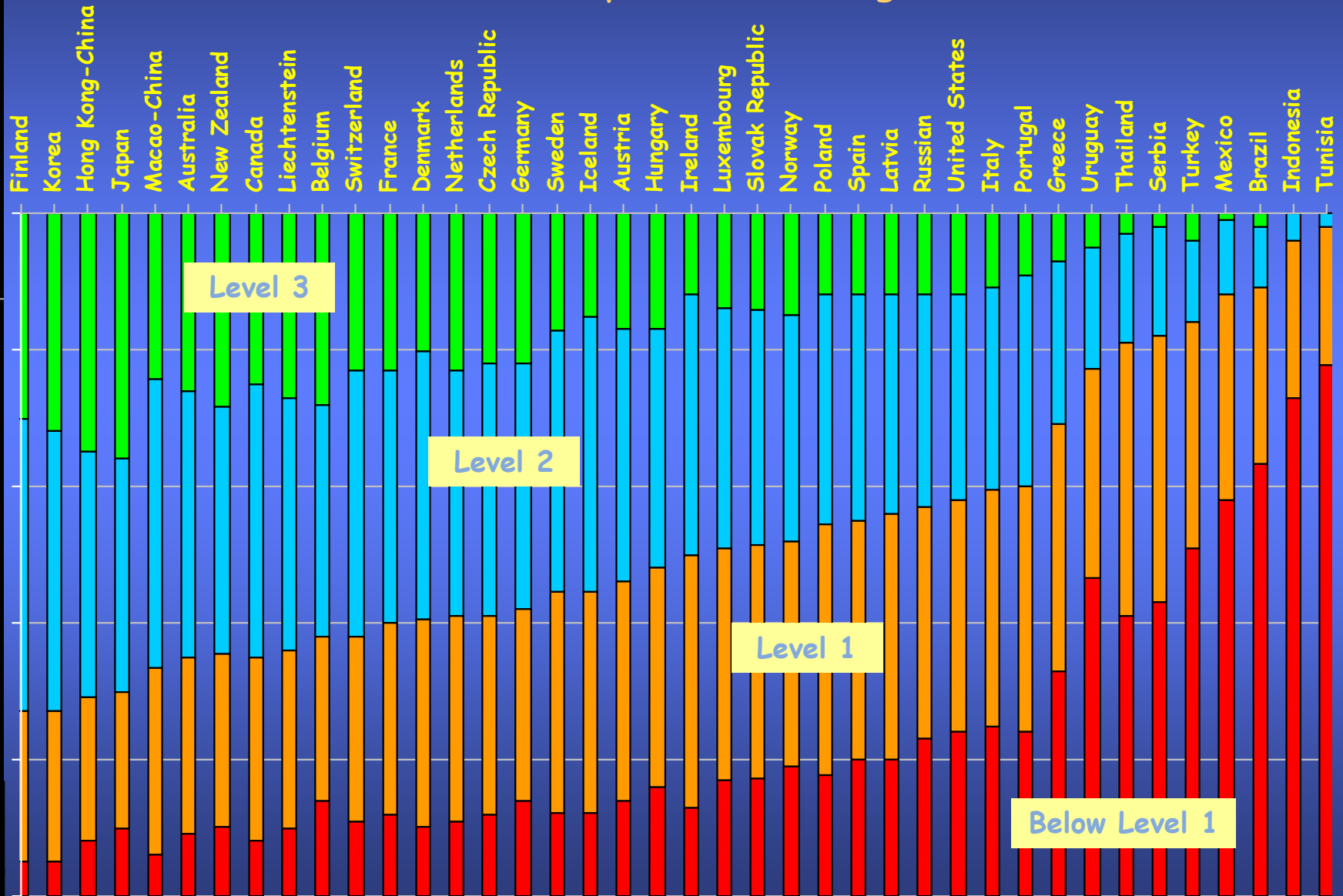
- People need to realise that they are no longer just citizens of a country, but also citizens of the world
- People should be better informed on these issues and their awareness of their responsibilities should be heightened.

# PISA: Percentage of students at each of the proficiency levels in problem solving

Education

OECD OCDE

19



OECD (2004), *Problem solving for tomorrow's world: First results from PISA 2003*.

# The five challenges posed by globalisation to education

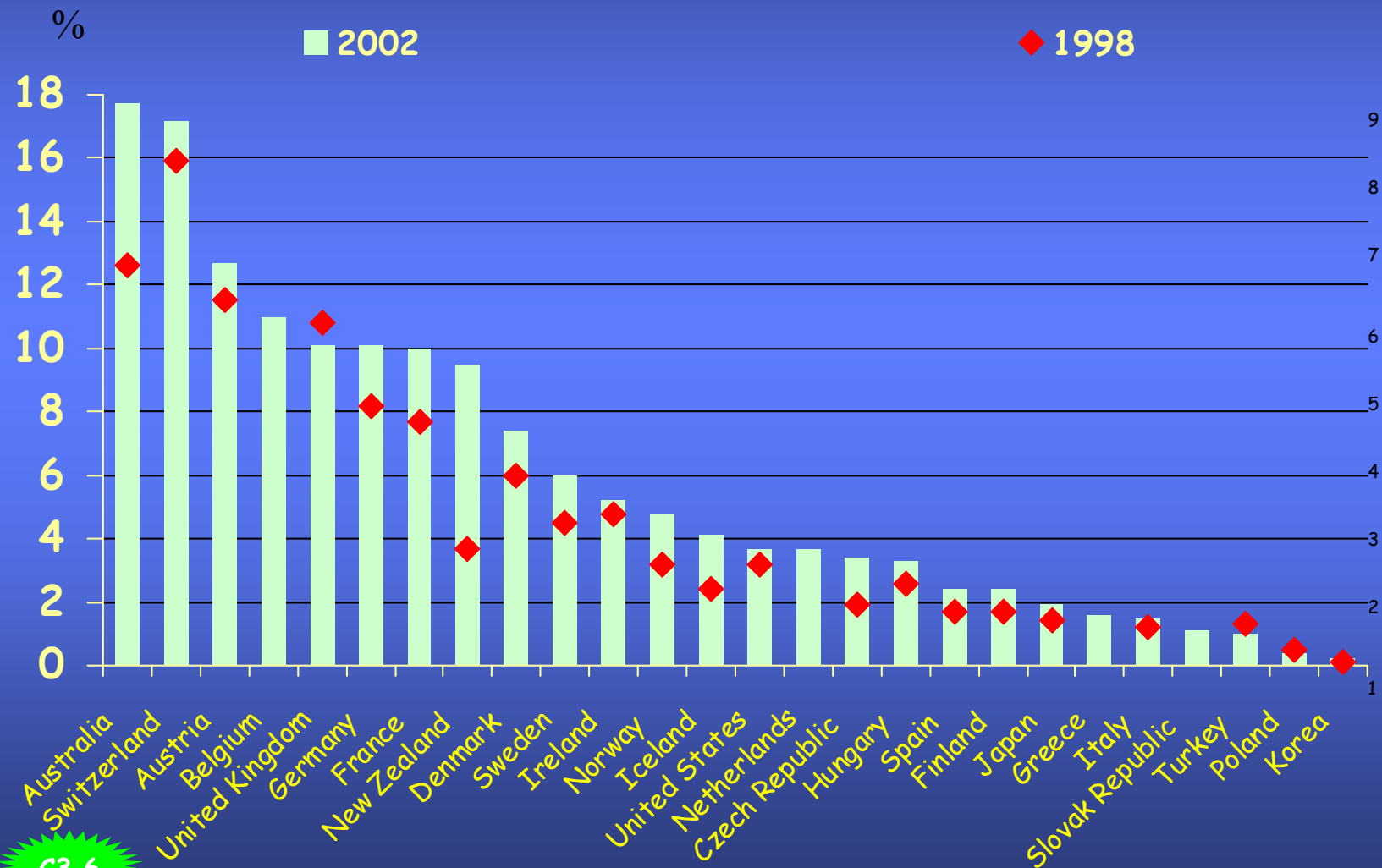
5. Globalisation is leading to the internationalisation of education, notably higher education which presents several risks for students and for developing countries.

□ **Main consequences:**

- Risks for students are increasing (rogue providers, degree mills, non recognised qualifications).
- Developing countries are facing major challenges: increasing education gap, low quality or non relevant programmes, brain drain, capacity building

# Foreign students in tertiary education (2002)

Percentage of foreign students to total enrolment in tertiary education



C3.6

## Actions required from countries to meet the challenges of globalisation for education... at the national level

- ❑ Changing curriculum to integrate the skills required by the knowledge economy
- ❑ Adjusting the educational systems to reflect that working relationships are increasingly based on networking, partnerships, autonomy and accountability and less on hierarchy, command and control
- ❑ Adjusting the labour force to the increasing economic interdependence and the competition of emerging economies such as India and China
- ❑ Improving the equity of education by limiting the impact socio-economic background can have on student performance
- ❑ Raising the interest of students in areas where there is an announced shortage of competencies, notably in science and technology

## Actions required from countries to meet the challenges of globalisation for education...at the national level

- ❑ Facilitating the cooperation of all ministries having a stake in education to ensure the implementation of a genuine lifelong learning policy
- ❑ Ensuring the financing of tertiary education and adult learning in view of the necessity to increase national education attainment and help individuals to change jobs
- ❑ Ensuring that adult training is benefiting first low-skilled workers, migrants and the unemployed
- ❑ Adjusting educational systems to the needs of an increasingly multicultural society
- ❑ Ensuring the compatibility between education and migration policies
- ❑ Enhancing the autonomy of higher education institutions and improving their governance.

Actions required from countries to meet the challenges of globalisation for education...at the international level

- ❑ Raising the consciousness of people on issues which are now of global concern and are therefore the responsibility of everyone (e.g. the environment)
- ❑ Strengthening international co-operation and networking to ensure a high level of quality in cross-border higher education and to limit brain drain
- ❑ Assisting developing countries in establishing institutions and regulations regarding quality assurance, accreditation and recognition of qualifications.

- Thank you
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