



Mapping the State of IR Around the Globe

Work-in-Progress

07 September 2016 | 12:15 - 12:40 | Dipl.-Vw. Stefan M. Buettner



Setting the Scene





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- 2010 in Chicago, the White-Paper-Discussion group on ‘Going Global: Institutional Research Studies Abroad’ called for an *IR peacecorps*,
 - 2011 in Toronto we established the *Network of International Institutional Researchers (NIIR)*.
 - In discussions with practitioners across the globe some questions arose:
 - a) How can we find out how IR is developing elsewhere?
 - b) Which elements of it are done?
 - c) Who is doing them?
 - d) Does this differ within an educational system?
 - e) Can a global evaluation help to find these answers and lift ‘home-IR’ to the next level?

This discussion will address multinational insights in IR and learn about an innovative definition for ‘IR’.



Status Quo

- 2011 marks roughly 50 years of institutional research.
- Today there are many ‚daughter‘ organisations in Northern America but also in various regions of the world. (e.g. HEIR, MENAIR, AAIR...)
- Understanding of meaning varies a lot across the world.
- In many countries it remains a niche field,
- In some its tasks are done by other bodies or not at all.



Part 2 – Prohibitors I

Even though Institutional Research exists for quite some decades and is spread widely across the Northern American continent, there are some prohibitors for growth beyond.



Why not?

Some possible reasons / tackling points

- Principals, presidents and deans do not know about existence and portfolio
- National Higher Education Research bodies do not know or want to know since too operational
- State or Federal Education departments do not know about it either.



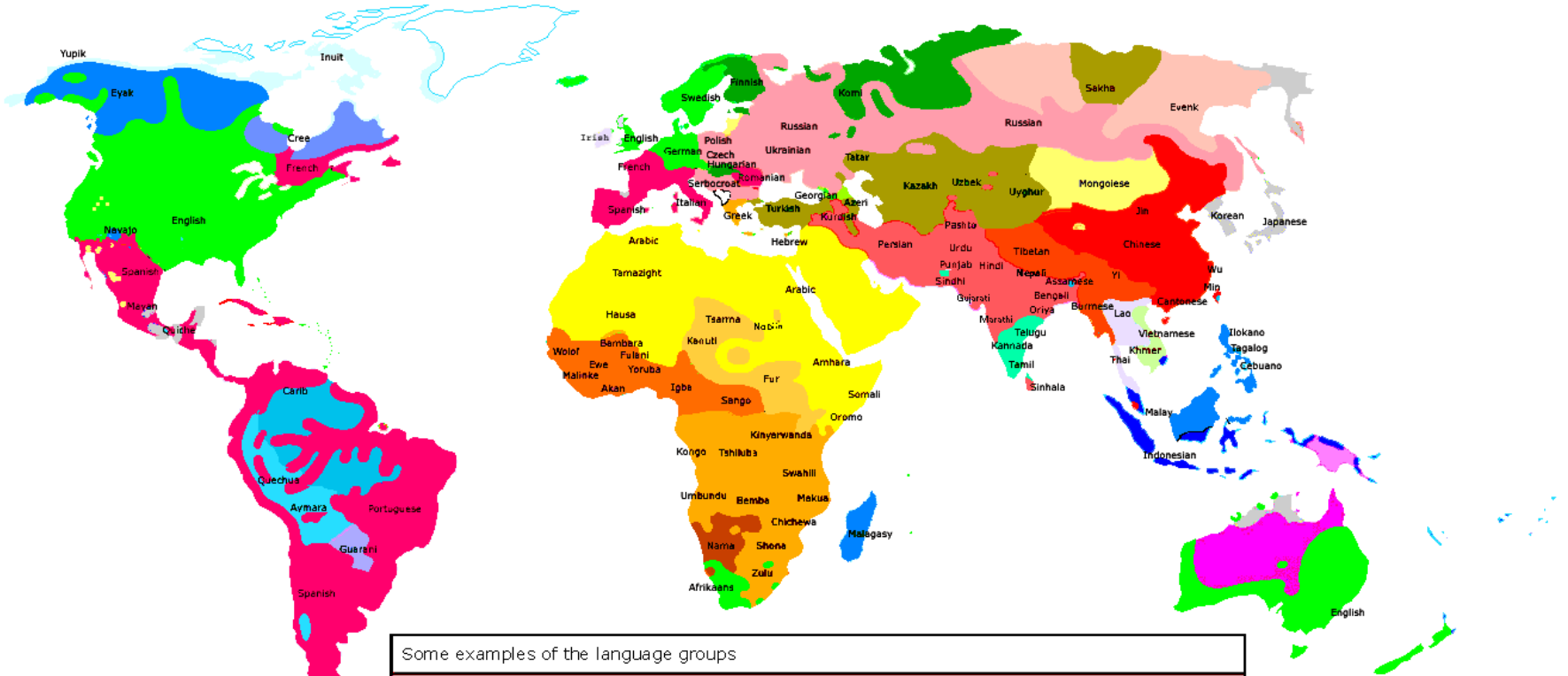
Why not?

Some possible reasons / tackling points

- Tasks are *covered* by others already
- The national *critical mass* is not yet achieved (IR at very few institutions)
- Still in some regions/areas *no points of contact* existing to coordinate action
- In some regions contact bodies *drifted away from IR focus* or are too hard to get in action with to undertake active promotion



But that is not all....



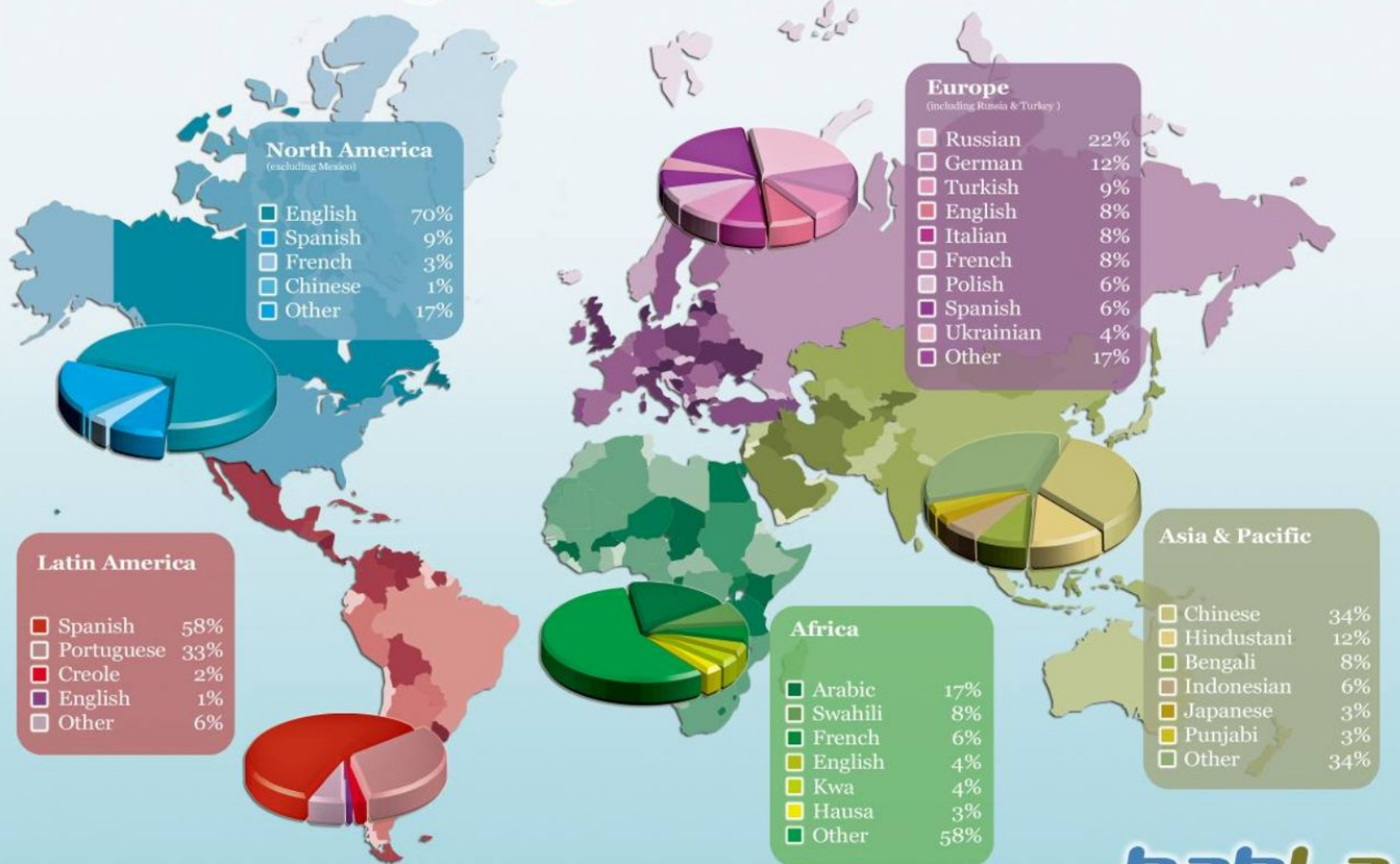
Some examples of the language groups

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Afro-Asiatic ■ Niger-Congo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Bantu ■ Nilo-Saharan ■ Khoisan ■ Indo-European <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Germanic ■ Albanic ■ Romance ■ Slavic ■ Indo-Iranian ■ Baltic ■ Caucasian 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Altaic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Turkic ■ Mongolic ■ East Siberian languages ■ Uralic ■ Dravidian ■ Sino-Tibetan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Chinese ■ Burmese-Tibetan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Austro-Asiatic ■ Austronesian ■ Borneo-Philippines/Formosan ■ Nuclear Malayo-Polynesian ■ Papuan ■ Pama-Ngyungan ■ Tai-Kadai ■ Isolate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Na-Déne ■ Esklmo-Aleut ■ American Indian ■ Algic ■ Uto-Aztecan ■ Mayan ■ Andean ■ Tupian ■ Brasilian indigenous
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Source: <http://images.fanpop.com>



Languages of the World



Bilingual Dictionaries | Vocabulary Lessons | Language Quizzes | Language Games | www.bab.la





Other forms of language issues:

Institutional Research

White Space

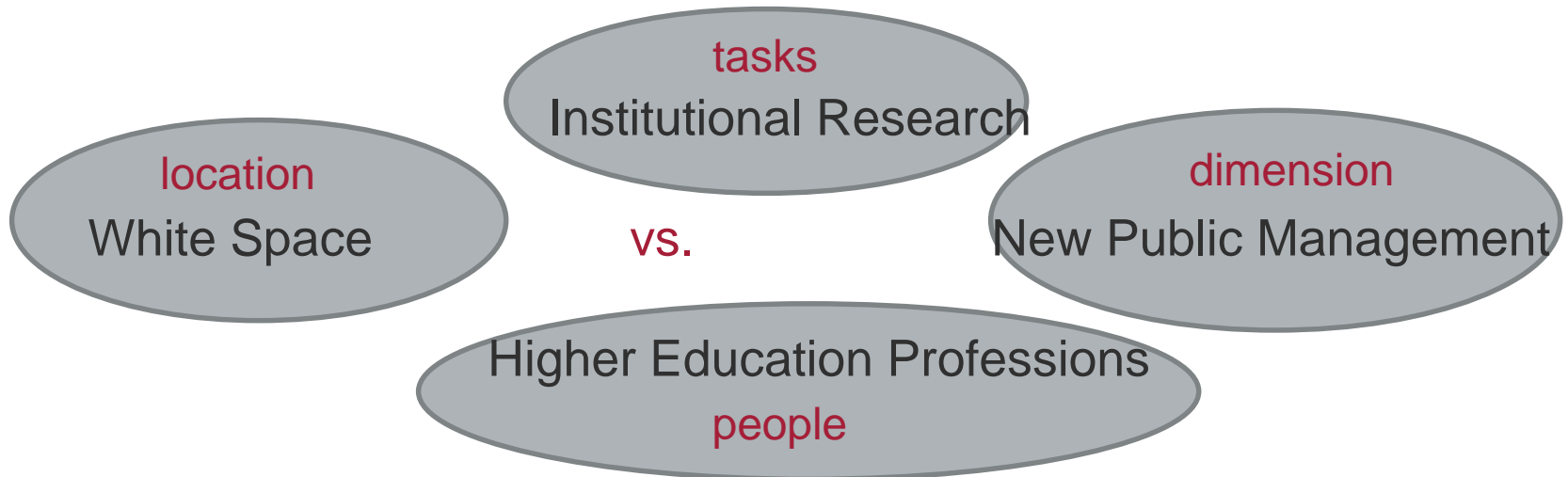
vs.

New Public Management

Higher Education Professions



Other forms of language issues:

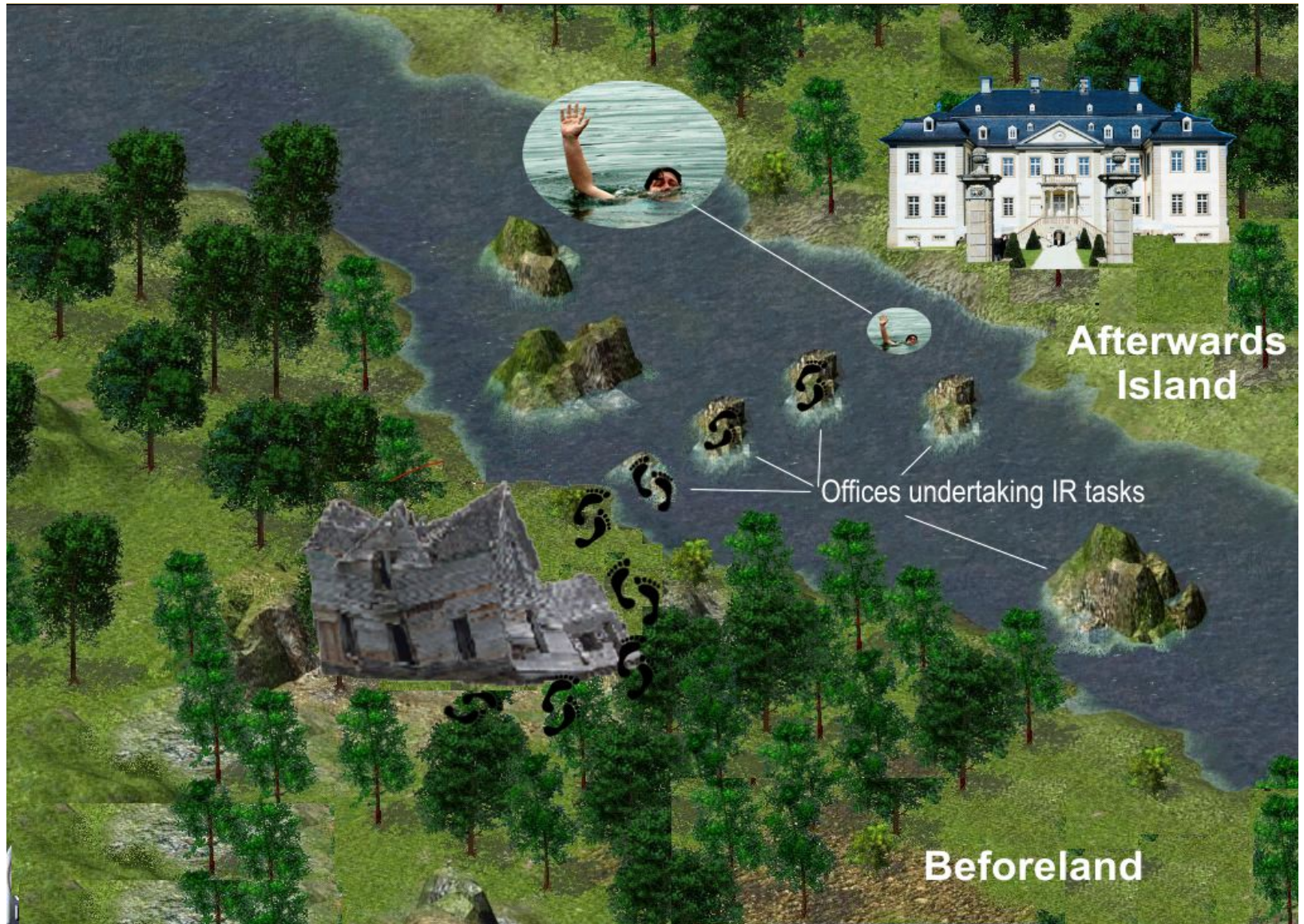




IR as an umbrella term/discipline? *(inclusive)*









Institutional Research is the substance that is filling the gaps and building the bridges between the stepping stones (offices doing IR tasks) in a wide river of data to allow for a safe, dry and speedy crossing over. And no matter what and how many stepping stones exist at an institutions' river crossing, Institutional Research can always link them up and bridge the gaps.





Part 3 – Engage!

Please be invited to join the
**„Network of International Institutional
Researchers”, NIIR**
(List is on its way around)



Some Remarks from previous conversations

At the Chicago Forum someone was calling for establishing a “AIR peace corps”. What could that be?

Could regional “IR ambassadors” be a way to foster the international development? Who could these be and how should they act?

Do we need a short brochure on IR in multiple languages to help promoting IR? What would it need to include?

Would it be worth the cost to invite decision makers of ministries and universities to show them how exemplary IR offices work and what benefits that has? Which aspects are most important?

Establishing International, National and Regional Groups
What other measures can you think of promoting IR and support it being applied and embraced abroad?



Part 4 – Next steps

Accessible – Understandable – No threat



What are next steps?

- Overcoming the language barrier (make IR more accessible)
- Explain the concept (make IR more understandable)
- Adapt this to local context (make people aware IR is not *(necessarily)* a threat to existing structures)
- Intensify global exchange, spread the word and find out what stage IR is at there:
 - ✓ *IR Ambassadors: in May 2012, AIR introduced **pilot IR ambassadors** for five (language) regions.*
 - ✓ *International Exchange: in May 2011 the **Network of International Institutional Researchers** (NIIR) has been established, aiming at knowledge and solutions exchange on all issues of IR, particularly introducing it.*
 - ✓ ***Global Study** on the use of IR is about to start*



Part 5 – Discussion

How to proceed to map the State of IR around the
Globe?

Are you interested to join?

How to fund a wider multinational study?



Discussion:
what solutions do you see?

**What should or needs to be done to successfully
map (and to spread) IR and globally?**

**... to make their members understood and accepted
... and IR as a discipline applied?**





Thank you.

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