

Professions in a globalizing world: towards a transnational sociology of the professions?

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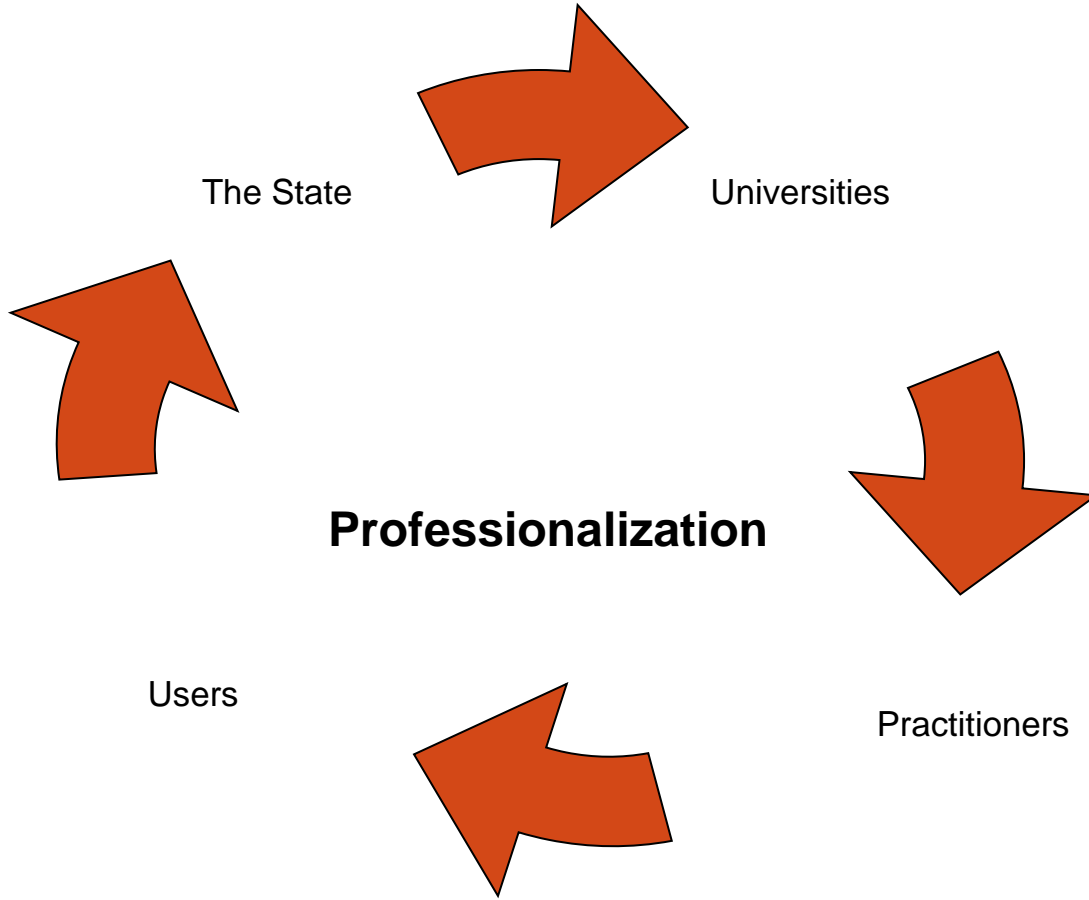


Outline

1. The sociology of the professions: from universal to national to transnational
2. Transnational governance and the professions
3. New transnational actors: the global professional service firm
4. Conclusions: revised sociologies of the professions

The Sociology of the Professions: From globally universal to nationally contingent

- The Anglo-American (universal) focus...to a national focus
 - The regulation of the production of producers (closure)
 - The regulation of production by producers (standards)



Towards a transnational focus?

Professions in a globalizing world I: The rescaling and emergence of transnational governance

Production of producers and by producers regulated at the transnational scale

- Transnational re-regulation
 - The European Service Directive/Directive on Professional Qualifications
 - The 'Spanish route'
 - World Trade Organization's General Agreement on Trade in Services article VI:4
 - Trans-national Institutions such as IAASB and IOSCO

Professions in a globalizing world I: The rescaling and emergence of transnational governance

The involvement of the professions

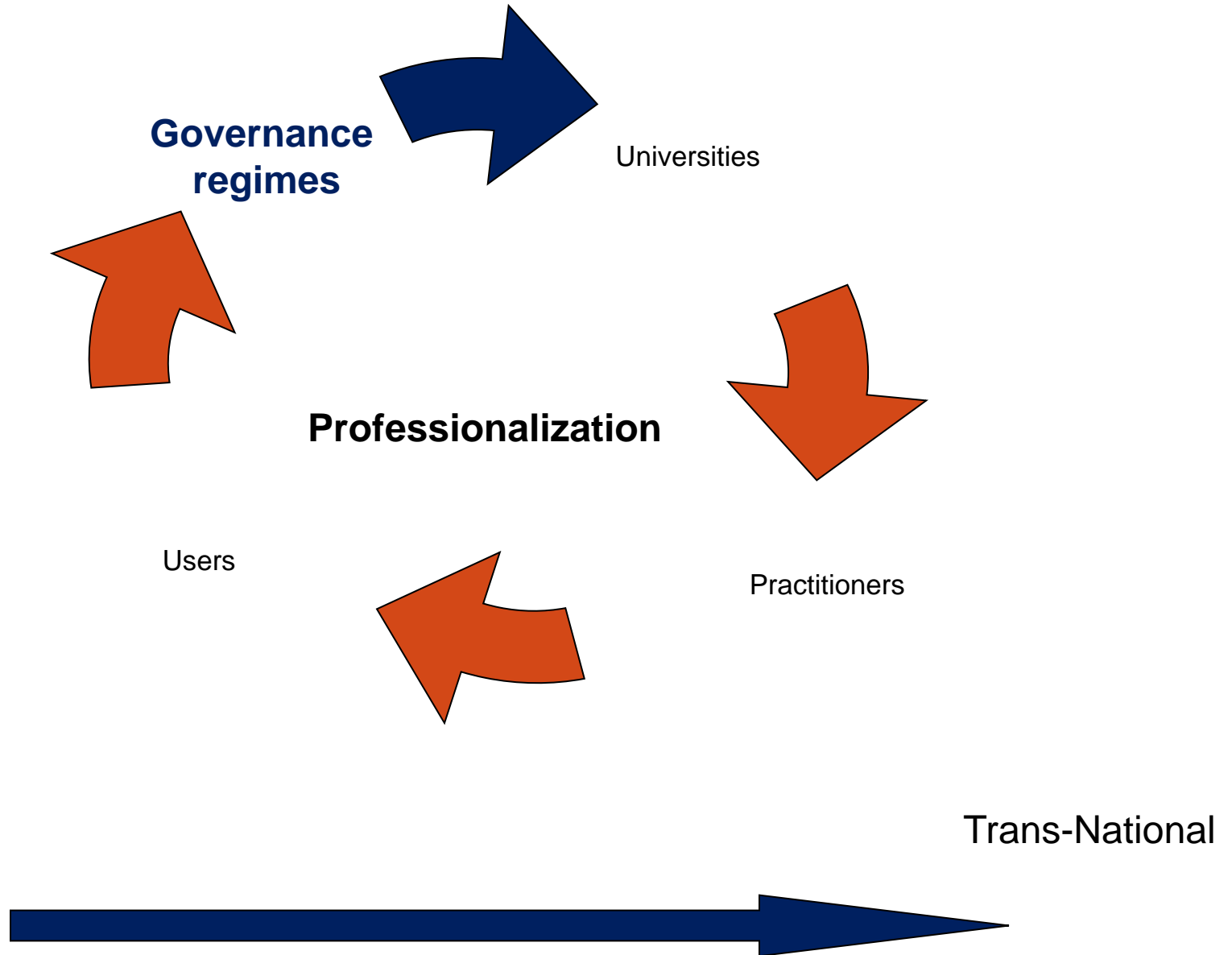
- Resistance and participation
- Professions and professional firms as institutional entrepreneurs
- Meta-bargaining and the development of new markets

Professions in a globalizing world I: The rescaling and emergence of transnational governance

The reaction of the professions

- The creation of transnational professional associations
 - European Federation of National Engineering Associations (FEANI)
 - the International Bar Association
 - the World Medical Association,
 - Association of International Accountants (AIA)
 - the International Union of Architects
 - The Association of Project Managers and Project Management Institute
 - The International Council of Management Consultancy Institutes

The need to account for transnational governance regimes



Professions in a globalizing world II: Organizations as significant actors

Production by producers regulated at the transnational scale

- Emergence of Transnational | Professional Services Firms
- Firms as increasingly important sites of identity formation and regulation

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Professions in a globalizing world II: Organizations as significant actors

Production by producers regulated at the transnational scale

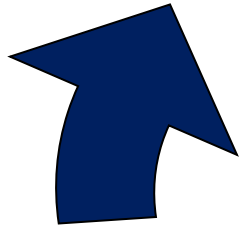
- Education: short-circuiting national systems
 - Recruitment
 - Training

National

Trans-National



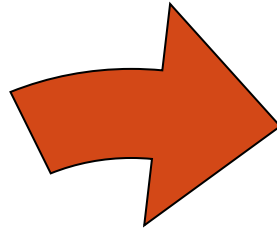
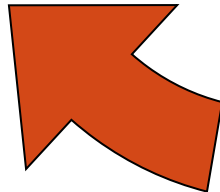
**Employing
Organizations**



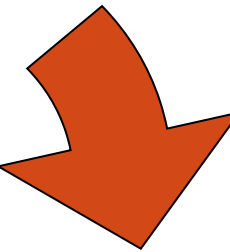
Governance
Regimes

Professionalization

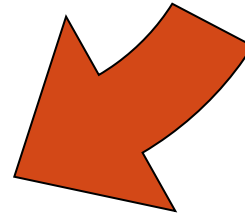
Users



Universities



Practitioners



Conclusions

- The need to re-scale sociologies of the professions
- Recalibration and the introduction of new actors
- Implications for the regulation of the production of and by producers
- New questions
 - The effectiveness of transnational regulation of the production of and by producers
 - The ‘sites’ of professional allegiance: national or transnational?
 - The implications for consumers