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**Autor:** Altbach Philip/ Balan Jorge

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Nations with strong research universities are better able to compete in the international marketplace of ideas and innovation. Any country -- especially in the developing world -- striving to participate in the global knowledge economy must recognize the power of such institutions to transform society. In World Class Worldwide, analysts from developing and middle-income countries in Asia and Latin America explore their countries' specific challenges in providing "world class" higher education.

Philip G. Altbach, Jorge Balán, and their contributors combine current scholarship and practical experience in presenting a comprehensive discussion of the significant issues facing research universities in Mexico, China, India, and elsewhere. They address the special challenges of establishing and maintaining these institutions; the role of information technology; how research universities train leaders and foster scientific innovation; and the extent to which the private sector can and should be involved in funding and development.