

Manuscript No.: IJAR-59368

Title: BRIDGING THE GAP: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF HIGHER EDUCATION CHALLENGES IN SOUTH KOREA AND ENGLAND.

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity	✓			
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Dr. Mithilesh kumar shukla

Reviewer's Comment for Publication:

This paper compares higher education challenges in South Korea and England. South Korea faces intense academic competition, skills mismatches, and declining student numbers due to low fertility rates, prompting internationalization. England struggles with high tuition fees, Brexit's impact on EU student flows, and funding sustainability. Both countries emphasize global rankings and graduate employability through initiatives like Brain Korea 21 and the Teaching Excellence Framework. The analysis highlights common pressures—aligning education with labor market needs—and unique obstacles, suggesting each system can learn from the other to improve access, equity, and competitiveness.

Recommendation: Accept after minor revision.

Detailed Reviewer's Report

STRENGTHS:

- 1- The paper systematically compares South Korea and England across multiple dimensions (funding, access, policy, quality),
- 2- It covers a wide range of topics: university hierarchies, funding models, tuition fees, government policies, equity initiatives, employability, rankings, and demographic challenges.
- 3- The paper Presents both strengths and weaknesses of each country's system rather than favoring one, offering an objective analysis.
- 4- It Addresses current issues like Brexit's impact, low fertility rates, internationalization, and post-pandemic educational shifts
- 5- It Examines specific initiatives (Brain Korea 21, Teaching Excellence Framework) and their measurable impacts on rankings and research.
- 6- Attention to Equity and Access .

WEAKNESSES:

- 1- Several sections cite Wikipedia and websites like BridgeU,
- 2- Limited Empirical Data and Statistics.
- 3- No Clear Research Methodology.