

Interrelations of the State (and education funding) and expectations on contributions of higher education



On the White II Kandinsky 1923

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Expected contributions from higher education are directly related to resources (and their structure) invested in the sector

OR

Higher education has the own logics determined by historical pathways and large-scale transformations (e.g. expansion)

Simplification

The governments which invest the most in higher education would also expect the most from the sector

The ideological “composition” of the state itself should, in theory, also influence the scale, scope and structure (public vs private) of spending on higher education

Economic theory's pressure

The influence of (1) human capital theory (Becker 1962) + (2) endogenous growth theory (Romer, 1990)

State bureaucrats: economic benefits in terms of economic growth —> higher productivity of labor + satisfaction of individual expectations of financial prosperity

Changes in funding and the launch of reforms:
What are the segments of higher education that are considered more «productive»?

STEM, graduates from elite universities, entrepreneurial corporations...

Partisan theory

the role of higher education is in mainly serving
the children of **higher income families and
elite expectations**

more conservative governments could be expected to spend more on higher education as it
redistributes tax money from the general public to higher income families*

But in the condition of **high participation systems of
higher education**

a progressive government would be expected
to spend more public monies on higher
education to provide more equal access

a conservative government might push
for less public support and expanded
private education and tuition fees **

*Fernandez, R., & Rogerson, R. (1995). On the political economy of education subsidies. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 62(2), 249-262.

** Ansell, B. W. (2010). *From the ballot to the blackboard: The redistributive political economy of education*. Cambridge University Press.

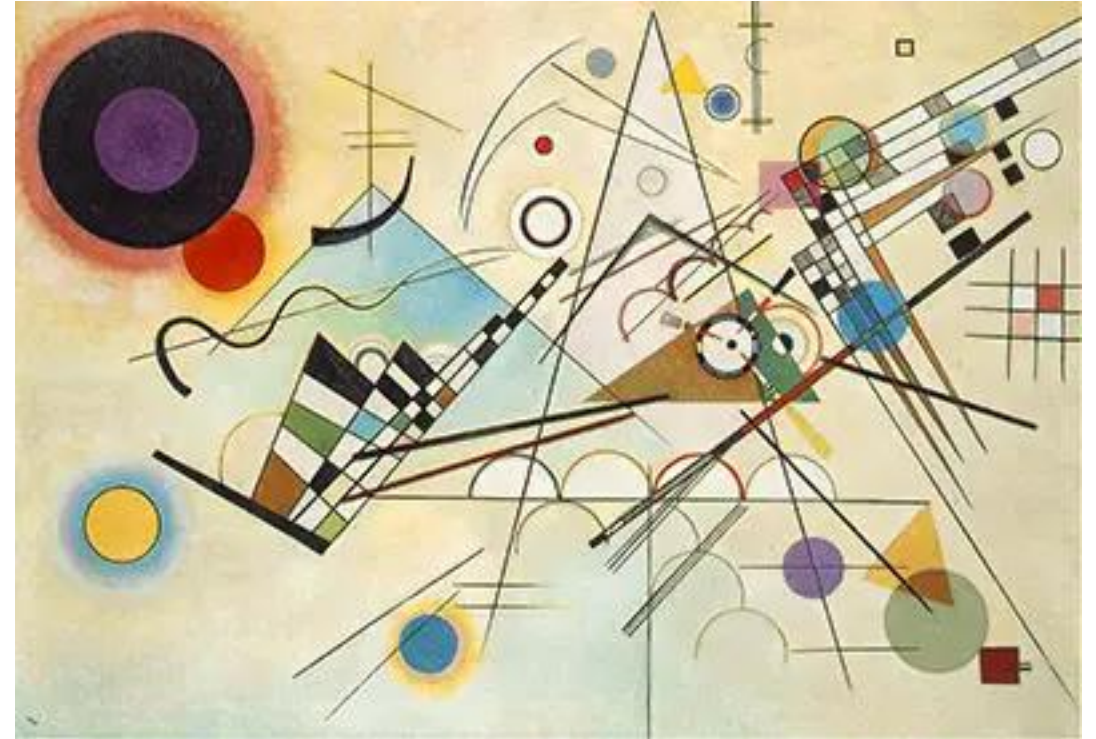
Structuring the movements through reforms analysis

State policy shifts

The layers of history

Bureaucratic techniques

University inertia



Composition 8 Kandinsky