

# The State, Public Universities and Public Goods: Time for a New Settlement-The Case of Chile

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[Ver número de ResearcherID y ORCID de Web of Science](#)

## HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY

DOI: 10.1057/s41307-020-00216-8



Acceso anticipado: OCT 2020

Tipo de documento: Article; Early Access

[Ver impacto de la revista](#)

## Abstract

In Chile, higher education is characterised by a constellation of features that make 'public' a multiplicitous idea. In the present study, academics in two public universities are seen to hold strong views in favour of public universities playing public roles and they identify several public goods that they value. These academics also hold ambivalent perceptions of the relationships between the state and the market. On the one hand, the market and the state's role in it are accorded a limited legitimacy. On the other hand, it is felt that the state does not sufficiently enable its public universities to realise their potential. The paper proceeds to argue that in this ambivalence can be detected four juxtapositions. It is suggested that these juxtapositions together open a space for a new settlement between the state and its public universities such that Chilean public universities might more fully realise their public possibilities.

## Palabras clave

**Palabras clave de autor:** [public goods](#); [public universities](#); [Chile](#); [market](#); [state](#); [public sphere](#)

**KeyWords Plus:** [HIGHER-EDUCATION](#); [NEOLIBERALISM](#)

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## Financiación

Entidad financiadora	Número de concesión
PIA-CONICYT Basal Funds for Centers of Excellence Project	FB0003
Vicerrectoria de Investigación y Desarrollo (VID) de la Universidad de Chile	AYV028/01-19
Economic and Social Research Council [Centre for Global Higher Education]	ES/M010082/1

[Ver texto de financiación](#)

## Editorial

PALGRAVE MACMILLAN LTD, BRUNEL RD BLDG, HOUNDMILLS, BASINGSTOKE RG21 6XS, HANTS, ENGLAND

## Información de la revista

- **Impact Factor:** [Journal Citation Reports](#)

## Categorías / Clasificación

**Áreas de investigación:** Education & Educational Research

**Categorías de Web of Science:** Education & Educational Research

## Información del documento

**Idioma:** English

**Número de acceso:** WOS:000584991700001

**ISSN:** 0952-8733

**eISSN:** 1740-3863