

The Contribution of Higher Education to Social-economic Development: Experiences from Asia

**15th Annual Meeting and Conference of
Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA)**

17th July, 2024

Juba , South Sudan

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Topics

- **Education in South Korea - statistics & facts**
- **Higher Education in Development: Trends and Challenges**
 - **Employability and Quality**
 - **Autonomy**
 - **Private provision of Higher Education**
 - **Internationalization**
 - **Student Mobility**
 - **Academic Platform /Curriculum with Specializations**
 - **Academic Collaboration Center Worldwide**
- **Higher Education and Development in Asia**
- **Higher Education Policy and Leadership in Asia**

■ **Early childhood education and care enrolment common at age 2 or 3**

- **High-quality early childhood education and care helps to give all children an equitable start in life and is especially vital for the most disadvantaged children.**
- **The enrolment at this age exceeds 90% in Korea (OECD, 2023).**

■ High Tertiary Enrollment

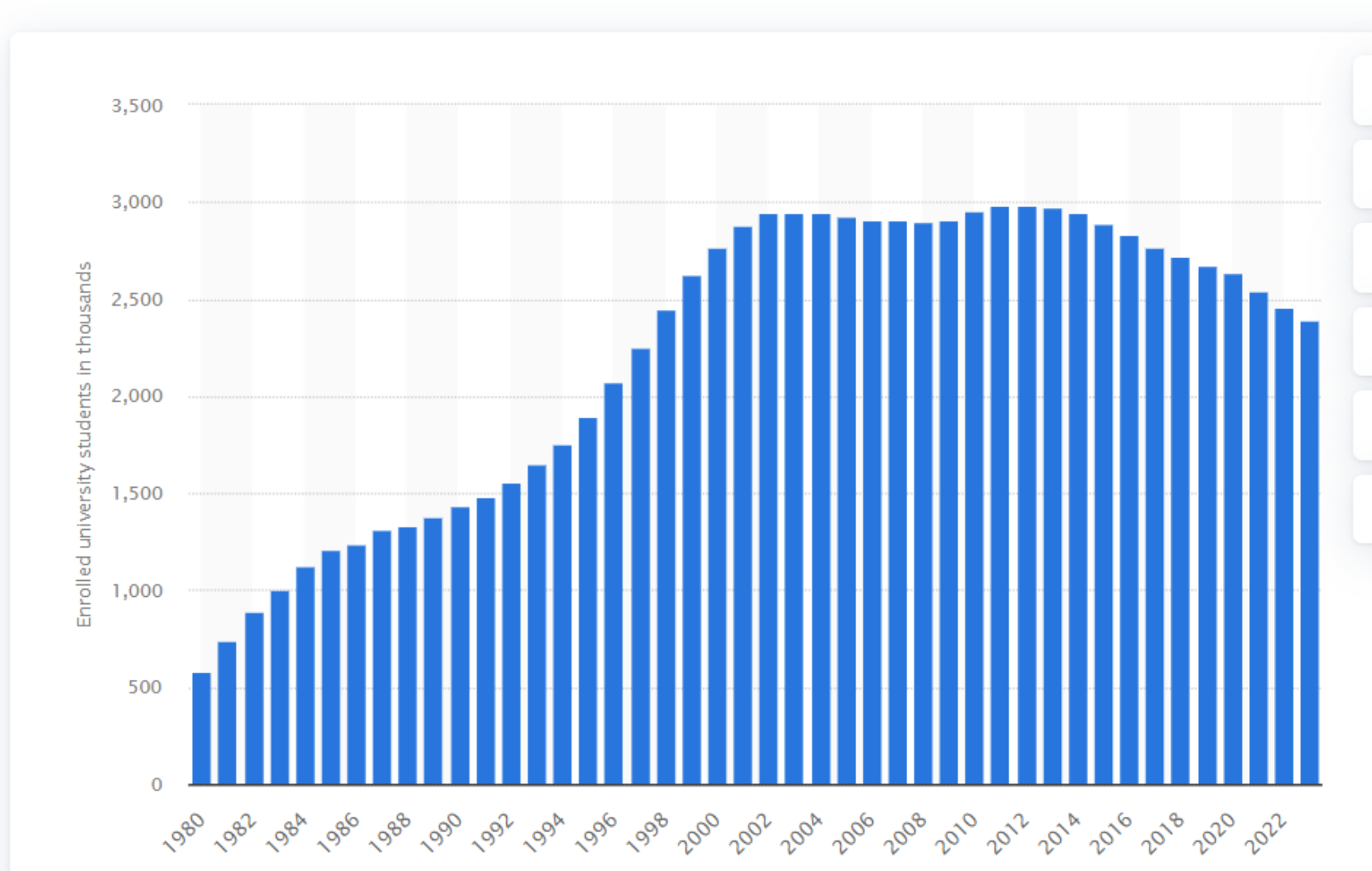
- In South Korea, compulsory education covers six years of primary education and three years of lower secondary education.
- Most citizens continue to study in upper secondary schools and pursue higher education degrees afterward.
- South Korea had the highest percentage of tertiary education graduates among OECD countries.
- In 2022, with almost 70 percent of its population aged between 25 and 34 having attained tertiary education (Statista)

Education in South Korea - statistics & facts

■ Development of Higher Education in the Republic of Korea (ROK)

- The current college enrollment rate, the ratio of high school graduates to college freshmen stands at 80%, which is among the highest in the world.
- The expansion of higher education opportunities led to the development of individuals and the achievement of nation's political, social, economic, and arts and cultural development.
- However, unlike many other Western countries, where the governments took the initiative in establishing and providing supports for universities, private schools played a leading role in the development of higher education in the Republic of Korea.

Number of students enrolled in higher education South Korea 1980-2023



HIGHER EDUCATION IN DEVELOPMENT

Trends and Challenges

- **Employability and Quality**
- **The Private provision of Higher Education**
- **Autonomy**
- **Internalization**

HIGHER EDUCATION IN DEVELOPMENT: Trends and Challenges

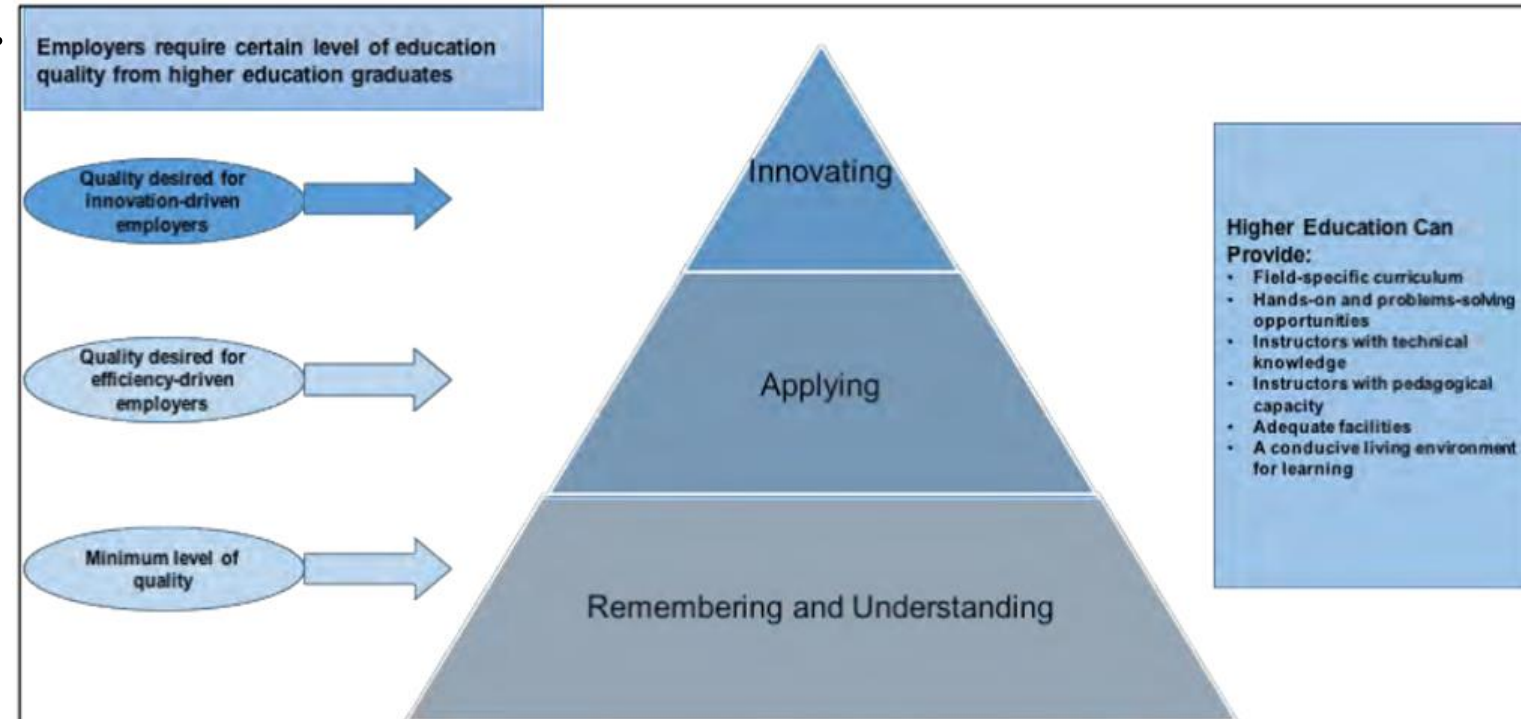
▪ **Employability and Quality**

- **People with a quality post-secondary education are more employable, earn higher wages, and cope better with economic shocks.**
- **Higher education benefits both individuals and society.**
- **Economic returns for college graduates are the highest in the entire educational system—an average 17 percent increase in earnings per year of schooling as compared with 10 percent for primary school.**
- **A highly skilled workforce comprised of workers who have a solid post-secondary education is a prerequisite for a country's ability to innovate and for its healthy long-term growth.**
- **We cannot predict what jobs will be available in the future, but we know that higher education must embrace change to meet future needs.**

HIGHER EDUCATION IN DEVELOPMENT: Trends and Challenges

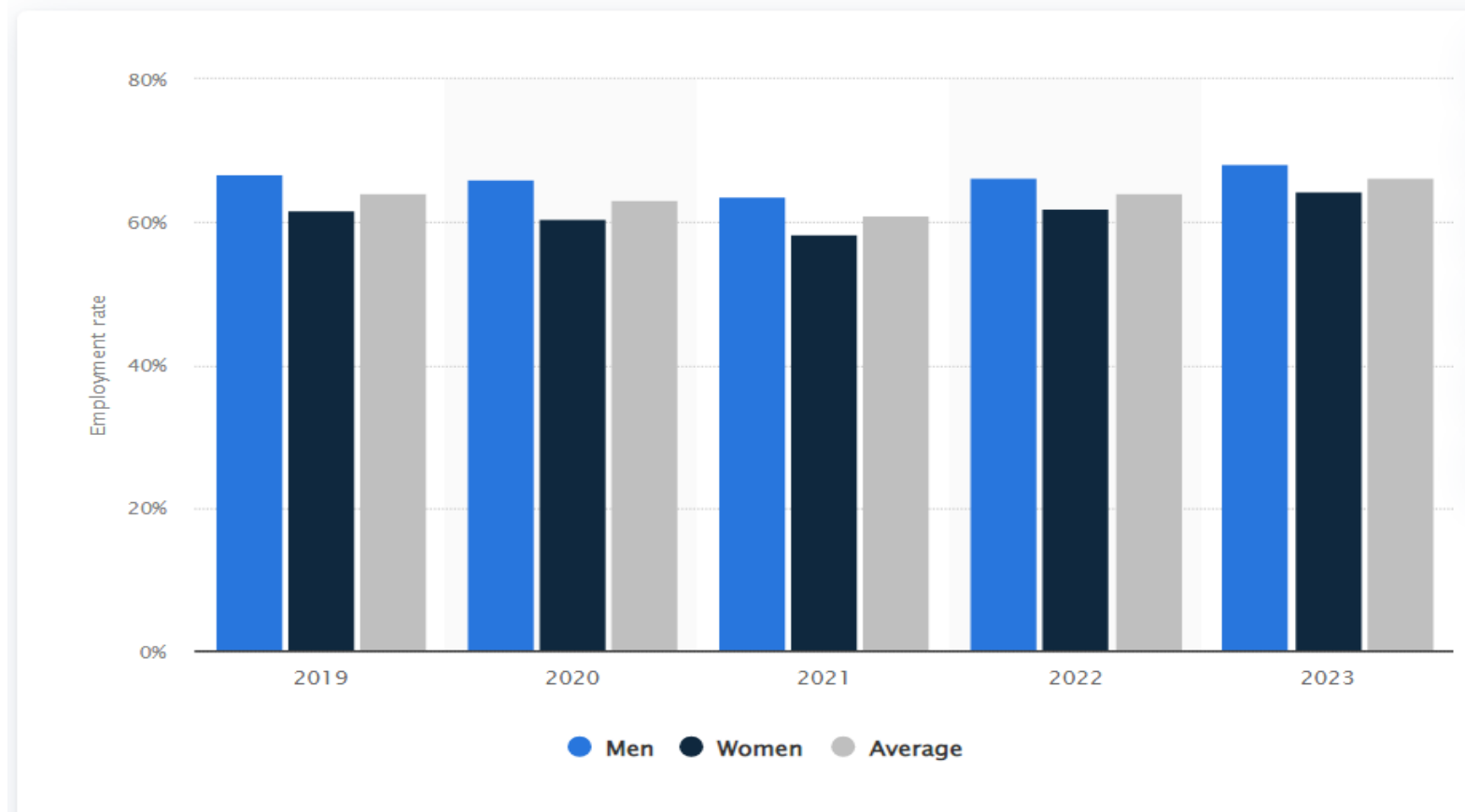
Employability and Quality

- Although many factors contribute to youth unemployment, the quality and relevance of education is a major factor.
- Graduates must have relevant technical, cognitive, and noncognitive skills to match the demands of their employer.



HIGHER EDUCATION IN DEVELOPMENT: Trends and Challenges

Employment rate of four-year university graduates in South Korea from 2019 to 2023, by gender



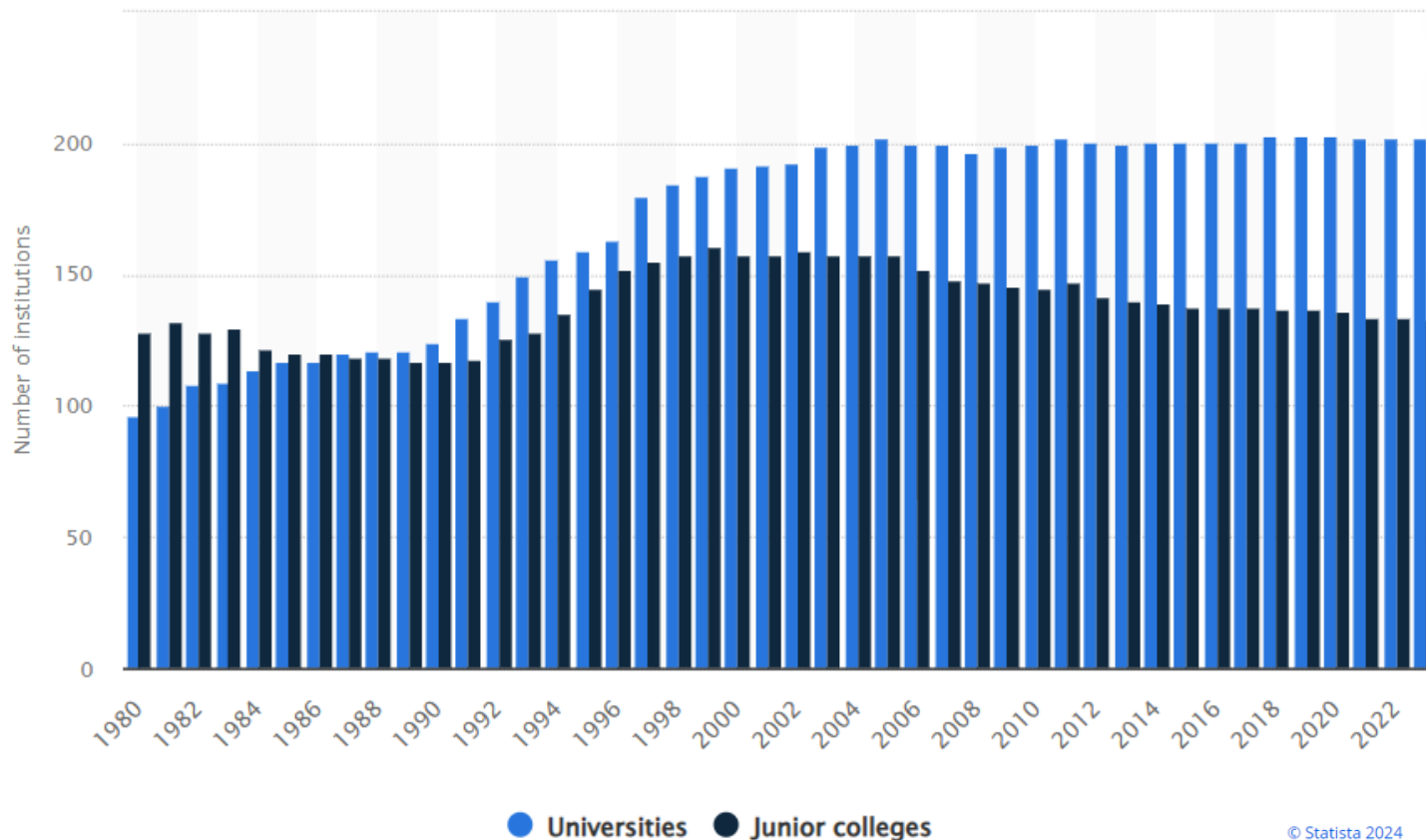
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In 2023, the employment rate of four-year university graduates in South Korea stood at 66.3 percent. Male graduates had a consistently higher employment rate than female graduates.

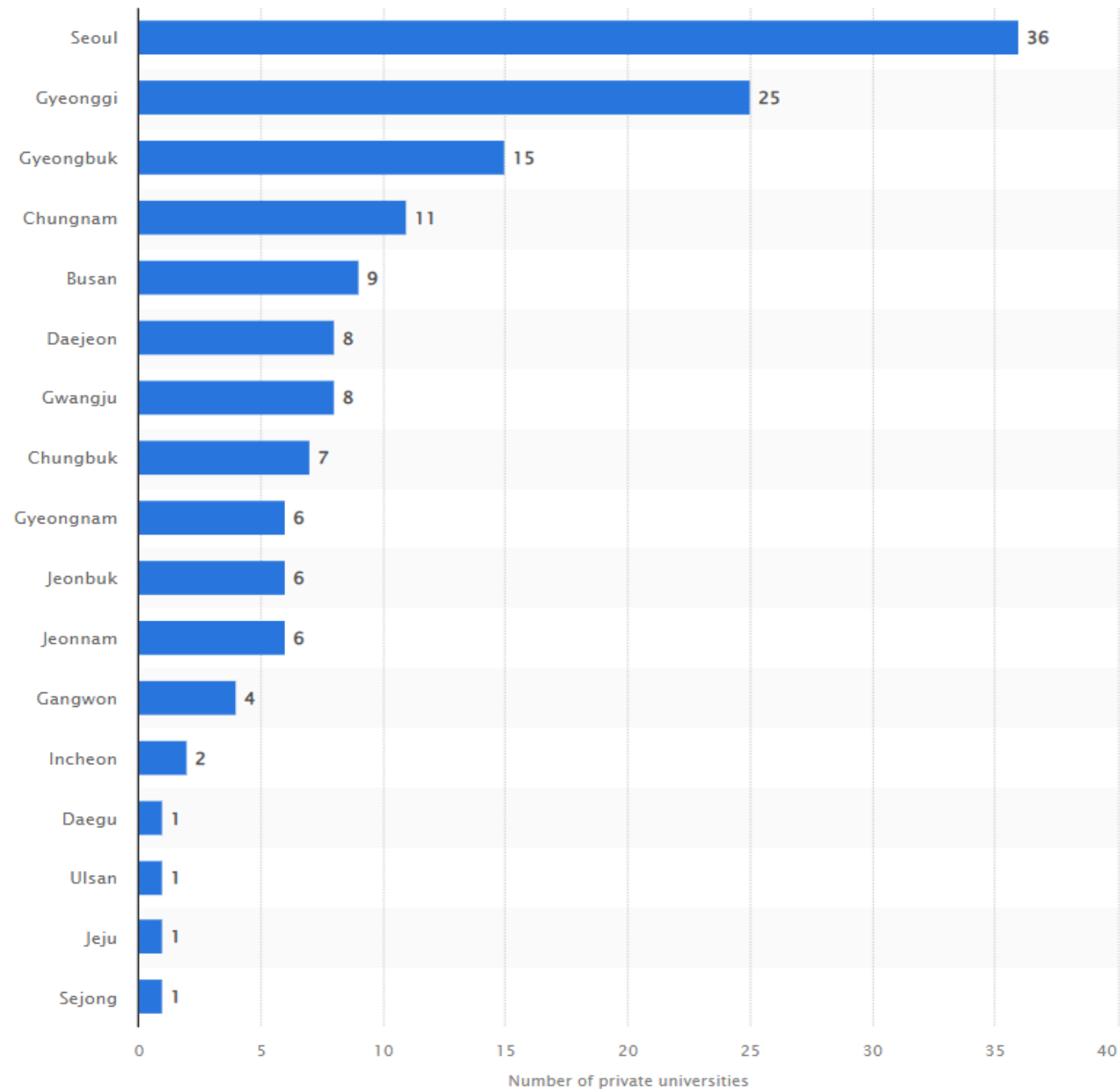
HIGHER EDUCATION IN DEVELOPMENT: Trends and Challenges

■ The Private provision of Higher Education

- Growing demand for higher education and changing economic needs have led to a remarkable increase in the share of private enrollment in higher education.



Number of private universities in South Korea in 2022, by province



HIGHER EDUCATION IN DEVELOPMENT: Trends and Challenges

■ **Autonomy**

- **There has been a wide range in the degree of autonomy among higher education providers.**
- **This push for autonomy , combined with growing demand for enrollment and increasing costs, has led many public institutions to rely more on tuition and partnerships with the private sector.**

HIGHER EDUCATION IN DEVELOPMENT: Trends and Challenges

■ Internalization

- There has been an increase in number of higher education students studying abroad.
- According to UNESCO statistics, the number of internationally mobile students has more than doubled, from 4 million in 2018. This number is expected to further increase to as many as 8 million by 2025.
- No ideal case for truly globalization
- Multiple degrees
- Global opportunities
- Sacrifice of previous studies during credit transfer and the process is lengthy and tedious
- Less developed countries to developed countries?

HIGHER EDUCATION IN DEVELOPMENT: Trends and Challenges

■ Internationalization by English-Medium Instruction

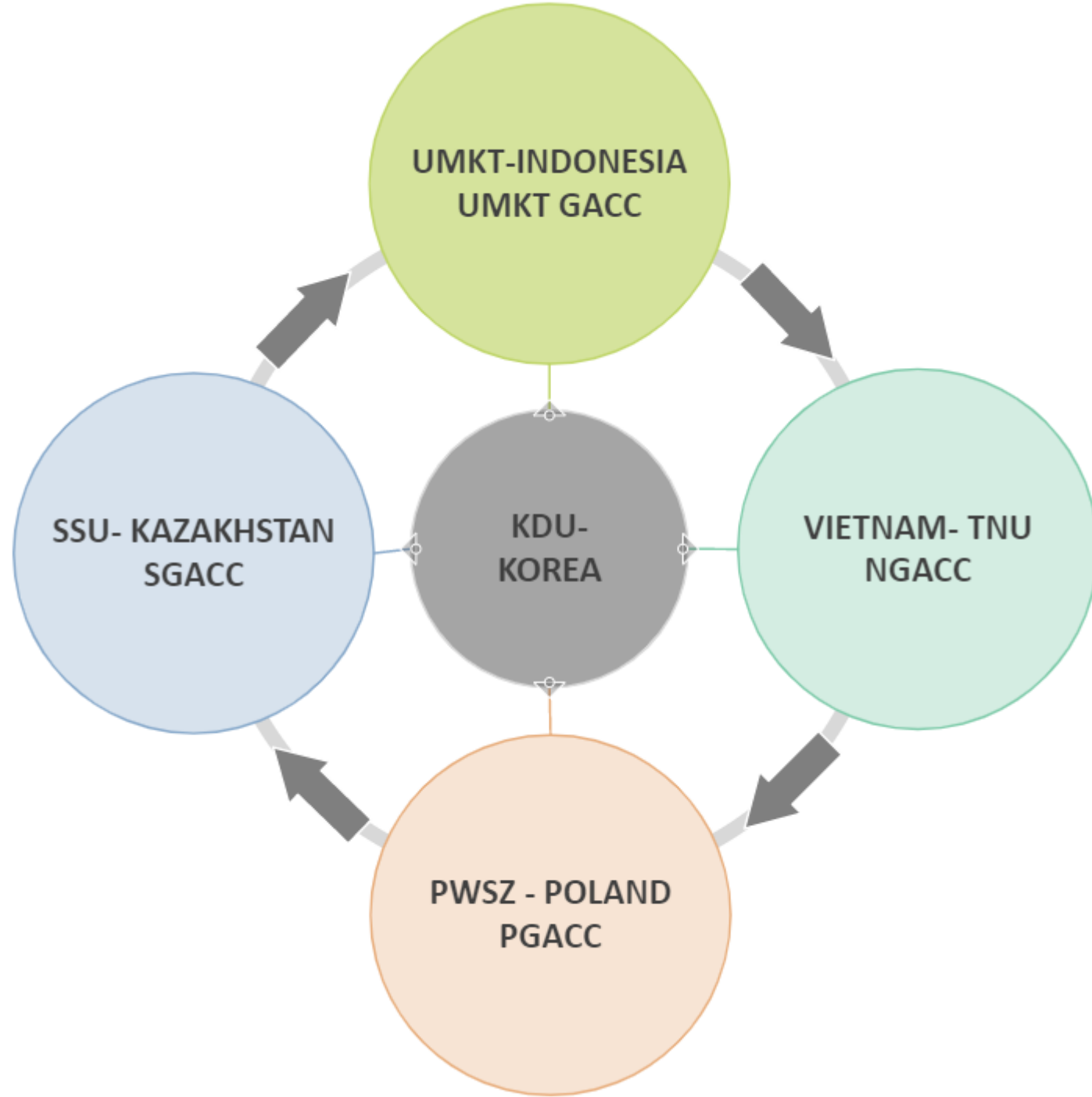
- In many non-English speaking countries, English-medium instruction (EMI) in higher education has become a new policy trend to accommodate and facilitate the growing inflow of international students.
- In the East Asian region, including China, Japan, and South Korea, governments have pushed higher education institutions to adopt and increase EMI through various measures.
- In **China**, the Ministry of Education included the number of EMI courses in evaluating higher education institutions.
- In **Japan**, the Top Global University Project by the Ministry of Education emphasized the importance of EMI in Japanese higher education.
- In **Korea**, the Ministry of Education used the proportion of EMI courses as the indicator for internationalization for its major funding programs.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN DEVELOPMENT: Trends and Challenges

- **Internalization: Curriculum**
 - **Specializations**
 - **Implementation Technology**
 - **On-going revisions with the members**
 - **Industry demand (eg., Samsung & Hyundai)**
 - **Internationally competitive**

■ Internalization: Academic Collaboration Center

- **Eliminate Government interference**
- **Insufficient financial resources**
- **Truly Globalization**
- **Common Academic Platforms or closer**
- **Members to complement each other**
- **Online forum/classroom**
- **Industry to be involved for technology implementation**
- **Compete in the global education as a group**
- **Visa restrictions**



HIGHER EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA

- **Factors determined the development of education and economy in South Korea, China, and Singapore were mainly due to:**
 - **Upraising VET (Vocation Education and Training) connected with STEM & Hi-tech education courses**
 - **Supplying expenditure of budget on education and higher education**
 - **Providing tremendous ICT courses for students' learning**
 - **Establishing various R&D institutes for education**

- **Singapore, which was based on an agricultural society. The main product was natural rubber.**
- **Education in Singapore had been a significant factor to develop systems and economy growth.**
- **Higher education related to vocational education in Singapore played a role of supplying labor force to high technic industries.**

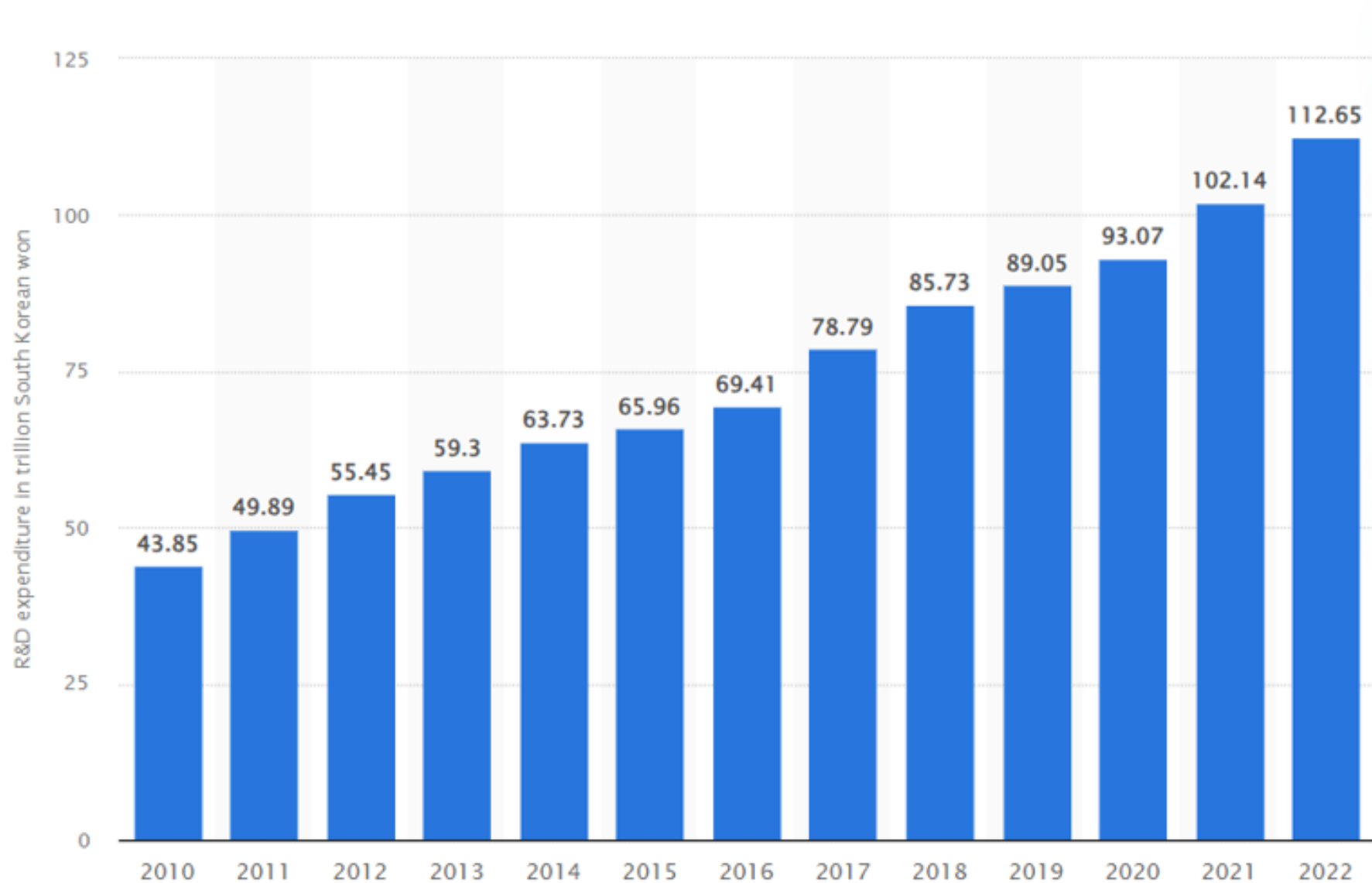
- **Korea is a country with almost no natural resources.**
- **Thanks to the education, Korea is currently recognized as an IT, shipbuilding, and automobile manufacturing powerhouse. Samsung and LG are dominating the global smartphone and TV markets and Hyundai is a global leader in the shipbuilding and automobile industries.**
- **Korea is, however, not resting on its efforts , and dreaming of another leap forward through a creative economy.**

- **Japanese Top Global University Project (2014–2023) Includes two plans:**
 - **Plan A strives for high positions in the world university rankings.**
 - **Plan B aims to introduce Japanese society to the globalization process.**

Key criteria in terms of the program include institutional reforms in terms of leadership, management, structure, curriculum, and student recruitment.

- **Korea's BK21 PLUS program (21 programs for large universities and students) is focused on updating the research potential of universities and training world-class specialists.**
- **Very professional scientific activity.**
- **The country also has world-class university projects.**
- **The point is trying to create economic value through promotion.**

Total amount of expenditure on research and development (R&D) in South Korea from 2010 to 2022 *(in trillion South Korean won)*



- **Korea Global Leading Digital Transformation of Education**
- **The Ministry of Education has set a vision of “a dynamic innovative growth led by digital talents” to cultivate one-million-strong digital talents by 2026 through the cooperation of the public and the private sectors.**
- **To achieve this goal, policies will be initiated to support universities through easing regulations that were preventing higher education institutions to nurture talents and foster leading digital universities, and cultivate manpower of research and development through expanding Brain Korea 21.**
- **In addition, the Ministry of Education will continue its efforts to expand the base of digital talents by increasing the number of class hours on ICT education and launching the Digital Education Sprout Camps.**

- **Korea's Innovating Higher Education by Breaking Barriers**
- **Redesigning Regional Innovation System and Education (RISE) and Nurturing Glocal Colleges.**
- **The Ministry of Education intends to establish the Regional Innovation System & Education (RISE) to foster a regional ecosystem that promotes innovation led by local universities.**
- **RISE is a pan-governmental platform with an aim to delegate greater authority to local governments over higher education support, thereby empowering them to facilitate shared growth of the region and higher education institutions.**
- **The Ministry of Education will select seven pilot RISE regions to develop a respective model, and proliferate it all across the country in 2025.**



2010



2020



**In just 10 years, both cameraman
and pilot lost their jobs.**

JOBS

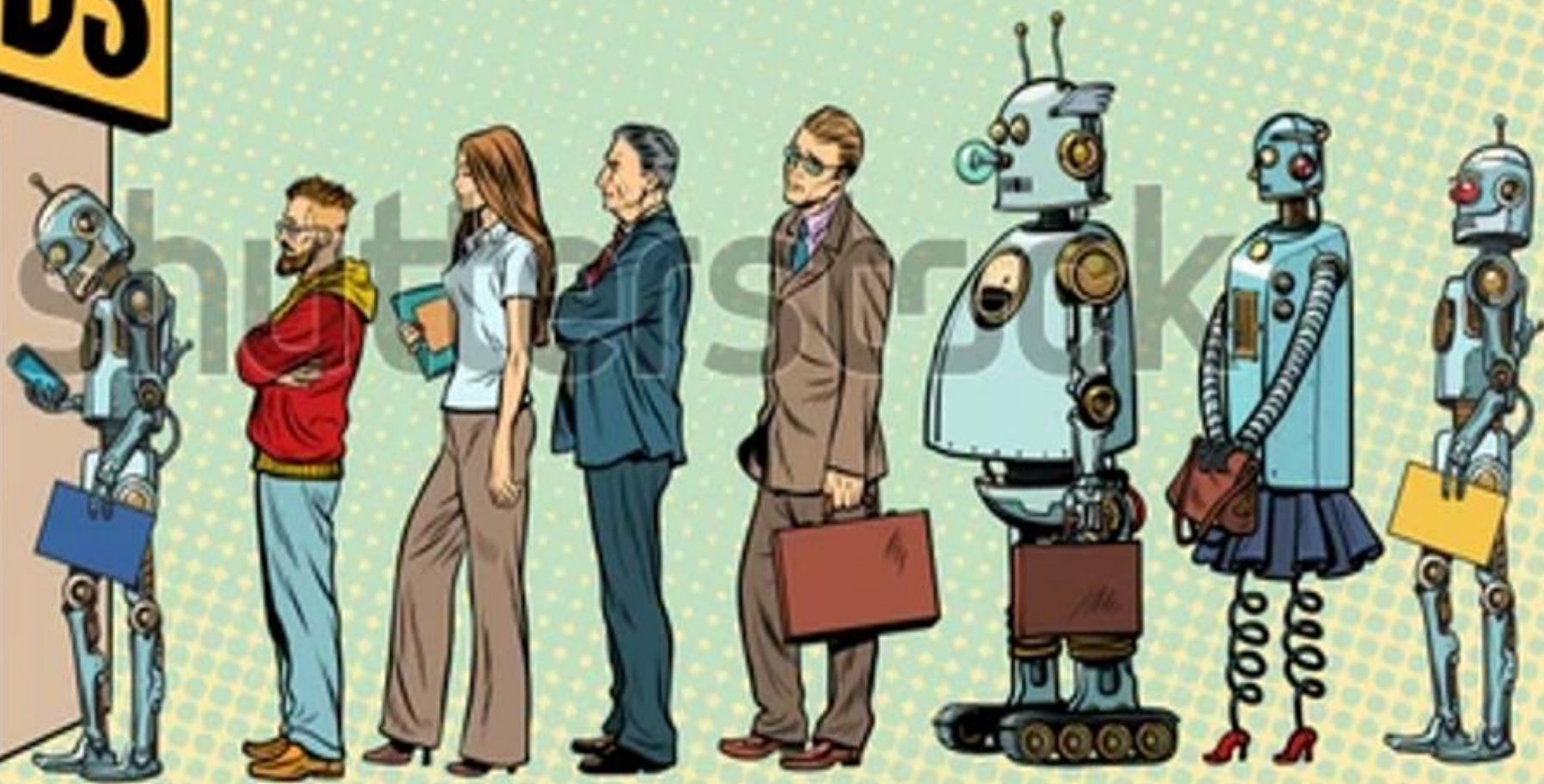




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Thank you

