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Becoming globally minded: Examining the lived experiences of cosmopolitan educational scholars

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A globalized world requires globally minded people, but how do people become globally minded? My research takes a somewhat unconventional approach to answer this question by looking at the life stories of exemplary scholars in global education.

While technological advances in transportation and telecommunication facilitate global mobility, the humanity is also facing challenges that go beyond the national borders. To take advantage of globalization and cope with global issues, international organizations and governments have proposed their visions and strategies of global education.

In my research, I use the term global mindedness to refer to characteristics of ideal global citizens, people who represent what global education aims to achieve. To understand what constitutes global mindedness, and what kind of experiences may contribute to its development, I have interviewed six cosmopolitan education scholars. A thorough analysis of their life stories can also provide implications to the pedagogical design of global education.