### Concluding remarks

Globalization of science provides a new perspective on the scientific landscape, which in many respects deepens what we know from standard bibliometrics.

The traditional science powerhouses in the North and West remain strong and at the core of the global system; highly interconnected and globalized as ever.

In many countries of the former Soviet block, the low globalization of science is symptomatic of a systemic failure; of science that is out of sync with the rest of the world, inefficient and small-minded.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall, it was understandable that science in transition countries needs time to catch-up. In many disciplines, new infrastructure had to be built from scratch. But three decades onwards, there is no excuse.

China shows that where is a will there is way. In little more than one decade, Chinese science moved from a relative isolation to the front pages of global journals amid enormously expanding in size; this is quite remarkable.

So far not much has been said about other developing countries, many of which steer increasing resources to science; they too are in the risk of creating ecosystems of local publishing or worse such as falling for predatory journals.

Globalization of science that is pervasively lower than in similar countries should be a cause for concern that the science system has drifted astray and a call for thinking again about incentives in the evaluation and funding framework.

Science does not happen in a vacuum. Not only historical but also current political reasons are in play. Social sciences are particularly in the fray, precisely because global and independent research in this field tends to provide feedback on governance, which may not always be appreciated by those in power.

More research is needed to better understand globalization of science, including the measurement and indicators. Does globalization of the national science system go hand in hand with quality and impact? Are there broader spillovers outside of the realm of science? And what can be done about it?

Tip: Spend more time with the interactive app to explore the position of country and discipline of your interest.