A Plan to Standardize Theses and Dissertations at the Global Scale

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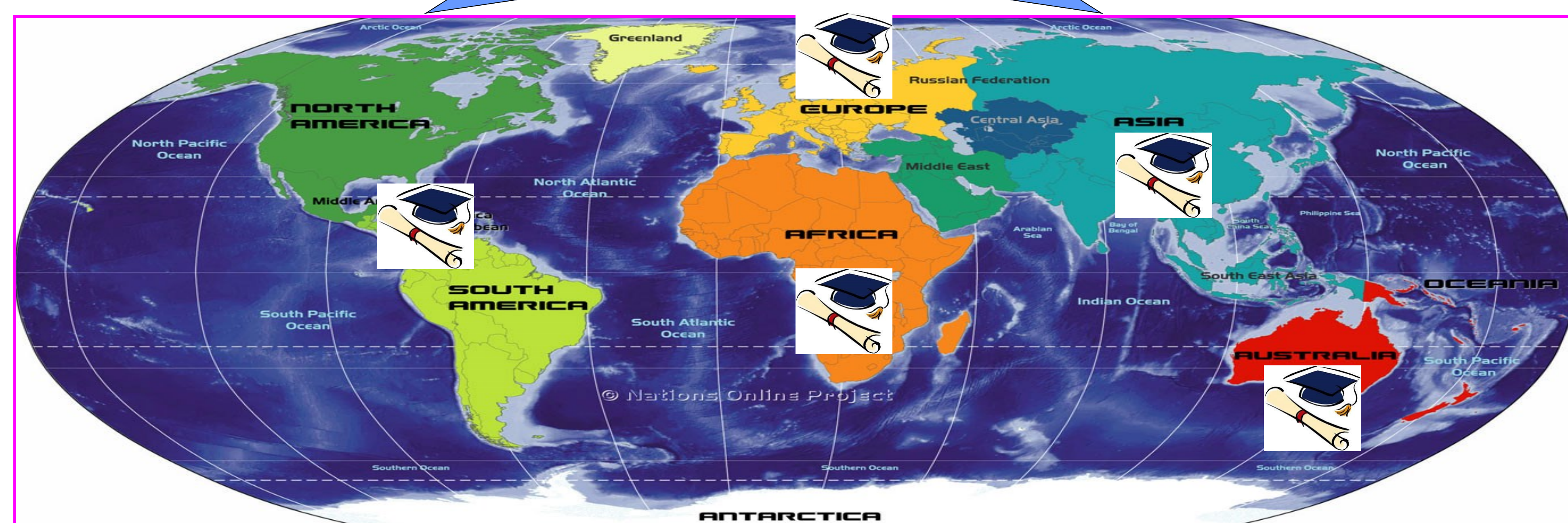Jafari.s@ut.ac.ir

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Introduction

. ETDs (Electronic Theses and Dissertations) are faced with many challenges around the world.

. One of the most important challenges is lack of an standard that can be applied on all ETDs globally.

. While NDLTD aims to conduct ETDs around the world, there are currently few coverage and standards than a global scale.

· This poster presents a solution divided in two parts: Infrastructure & Superstructure.

· While different , they are connected tightly and both necessary to establish global ETD center and regulations.

Infrastructure

ETD World Center

Superstructure

Benefits:

1. Harmonizing all kinds of dissertations and theses around the world

2. Preventing personal opinions in evaluating scientific works and replacing it with an universal standard

3. Acting as an efficient method to categorize and store theses and dissertations and to access and recover them later

Superstructure

Establishing Regional and Global Standards on ETDs

Issues:

1. Language:

⊖ Problem: Writing Theses and Dissertations in many languages other than English

⊖ Solution: Determining a language (likely English) by ETD World Center as standard

2. Copyright:

⊙ Problem: Possible dissatisfaction of large group of academic identities about publishing their works publicly

⊙ Solutions:

I. Buying all dissertations and theses by ETD World Center and offering them freely

II. Publishing abstracts of dissertations and theses by ETD World Center and letting individuals to decide how to publish them publicly

III. Developing a network of ETD members and letting them to share their dissertations and theses