

**MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND INNOVATION PROF BONGINKOSI  
EMMANUEL "BLADE" NZIMANDE**

**PROFILE**

Prof Bonginkosi Emmanuel "Blade" Nzimande was appointed as Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation on 30 May 2019.

He was awarded an Honorary Professorship by the Beijing Jiaotong University in China. The award of the honorary professorship is, amongst others, in recognition of his role as an educationalist as well as his contribution in strengthening and deepening relations between South Africa and China.

He was Minister of Transport from 27 February 2018 to 25 May 2019. He was the Minister of Higher Education and Training from 26 May 2014 until 17 October 2017.

He is the Chairperson of the South African Communist Party (SACP); the former chairperson of the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Education; former deputy chair of the Central Committee of the South African Communist Party; and former chairperson of the Financial Sector Campaign Coalition.

**Academic Qualifications**

Prof Nzimande holds a Doctorate in Philosophy specialising in Sociology from the University of Natal.

**Career/Positions/Memberships/Other Activities**

Prof Nzimande has lectured at the University of Zululand in 1985, and was a lecturer in Industrial Psychology at the University of Natal in 1987.

He was a Council member at the University of South Africa; a member of the National Deployment Committee of the ANC; chairperson of the board of trustees at the Centre for Educational Policy Development; a council member at the University of Transkei; a council member at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, and chairperson of the African National Congress Parliamentary Study Group on Education.

Prof Nzimande has published: Unsocial Science Indicator SA Vol. 11, No. 2; Schooling in the context of violence in SA: the challenges of change, edited by V Maphai, published by Harare SAPES Books; Schooling in the context of violence, Durban: Education Policy Unit; Civil Society and the role of the National Education Coordination Committee (NECC), Durban: Education Policy Unit; Civics are the National Democratic Revolution, Mayibuye No. 5; Political violence and the struggle for control in Pietermaritzburg, Journal of Southern African Studies Vol. 15. No. 3; and Civics and Civil Society: a reply to M Mayekiso, work in progress co-author with M. Sikhosana.

Prof Nzimande has also written a book titled Children of wars: the impact of violence on schooling in Natal Durban: Education Policy Unit

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