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IBAR Identifying barriers in promoting European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance at institutional level PROJECT PARTNERS EVENTS RESULTS CONTACT

Project IBAR

About the project

Assuring quality of teaching and learning activities is the quintessential task that higher education institutions must face in an increasingly competitive national and international environment. Adoption of the [Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area \(ESG\)](#) in 2005 has added new momentum to research in the quality assurance policy domain.

So far, the corresponding research has centred on national (quality assurance agencies), not institutional level, and lacked the outreach to secondary education as well as the theoretical base. The project aims to fill in this gap in theoretical and empirical knowledge and to identify barriers to the ESG Part 1 implementation, and, based on that, to provide recommendations to modification of this document. The research will be done will be done on a sample of 28 HEIs in 7 European countries (CZ, GB, LV, PT, PL, SK, NL).

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Presentation on a new research project
CHER 24th Annual Conference
Reykjavik, 2011-06-23/26

OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO ACHIEVING QUALITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Project outline

- IBAR: 'Identifying barriers in promoting the European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance at institutional level and making recommendations as to how these might be addressed'
- Theme
 - i. Identify barriers [and drivers/enablers] to ESG implementation at institutional level
 - ii. give relevant recommendations for modification of ESG Part 1
 - iii. Investigate impact of ESG on relationship 2^{ary} – 3^{ary} education

Project's Work Packages

- WP 1-4 project management, etc.
- WP 5 Internal quality assurance policy
- WP 6 Quality and access
- WP 7 Students and quality
- WP 8 Quality and governance
- WP 9 Role of stakeholders in quality
- WP 10 Staff members and quality
- WP 11 Quality and information
- WP 12 Link with secondary education

Project partners

- Centre for Higher Education Studies, Prague, Czech Republic
- Strathclyde University, Glasgow, United Kingdom
- University of Latvia, Riga, Latvia
- Warsaw School of Economics, Warsaw, Poland
- Constantine the Philosopher University, Nitra, Slovakia
- Cipes, Porto, Portugal
- CHEPS, Enschede, the Netherlands

Project conditions

- Funding by EU life-long learning programme
- Start: 1-1-2011
- End: 31-12-2013
- Dissemination
 - Official report to EC
 - Main project book: 'Overcoming barriers to achieving quality in higher education'
 - Further options: to be decided

IBAR research problem

Three types of questions

- a. Where are the **barriers and drivers** found?
- b. Which elements of the ESG Part 1 are at stake at the barriers?
- c. What guides the behaviour of actors at the barriers?

Approaches

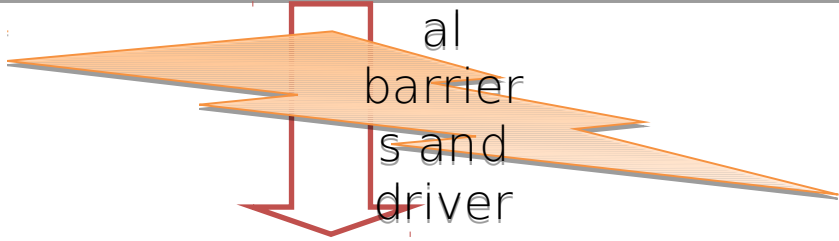
- a. **Implementation staircase**
- b. Work packages are cross-cutting across standards & guidelines
- c. Approaches
 - Instrument-context
 - Organisation theory (profession, power, innovation)
 - Bologna Process: authorities
 - Quality and Q.A.: stakeholders

Context



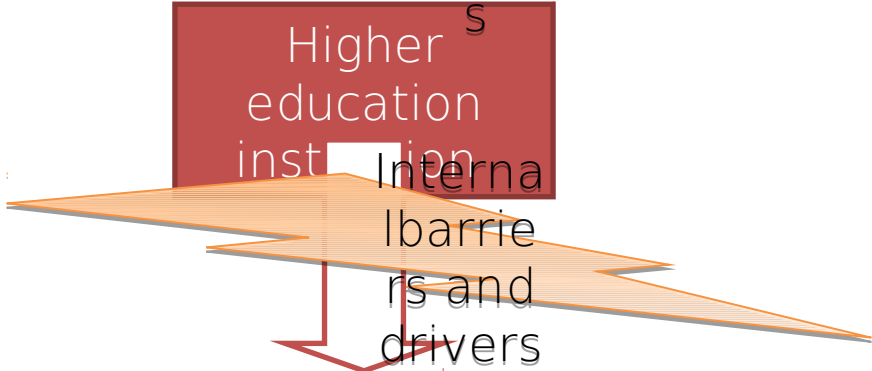
External

barriers and drivers

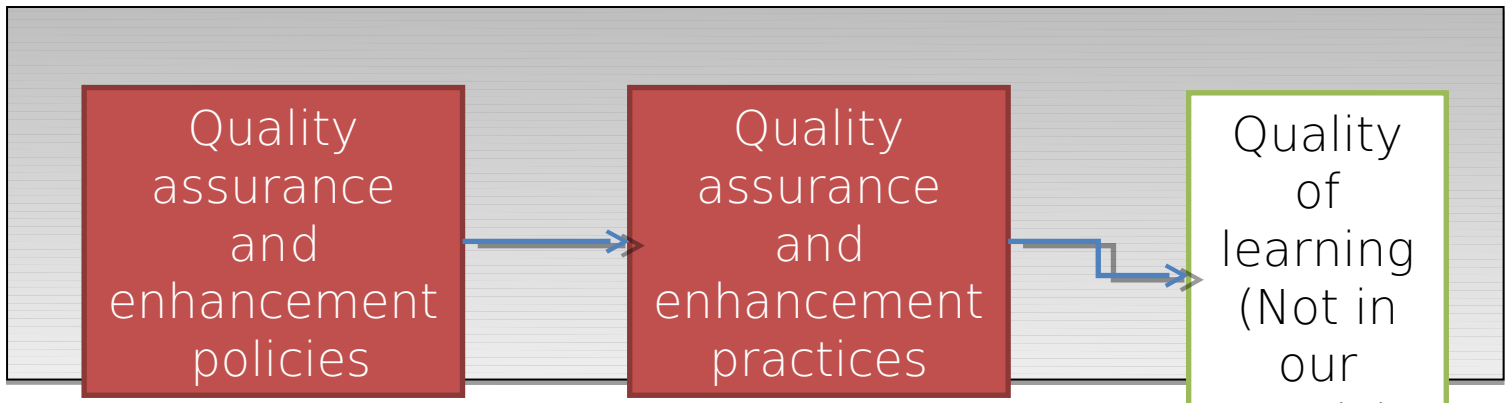


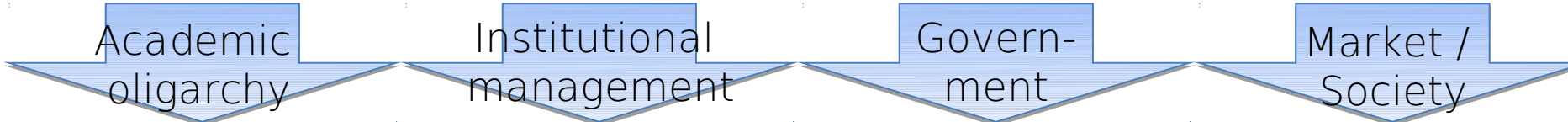
Higher education institution

Internal barriers and drivers



Education quality





Bologna Process actors

Academic side | Administrative side



National authorities



Higher Education institution

Academic side

Administrative side



Stakeholders:
Students,
alumni
2ary education

Employers,
professions,
etc.



Department / study programme

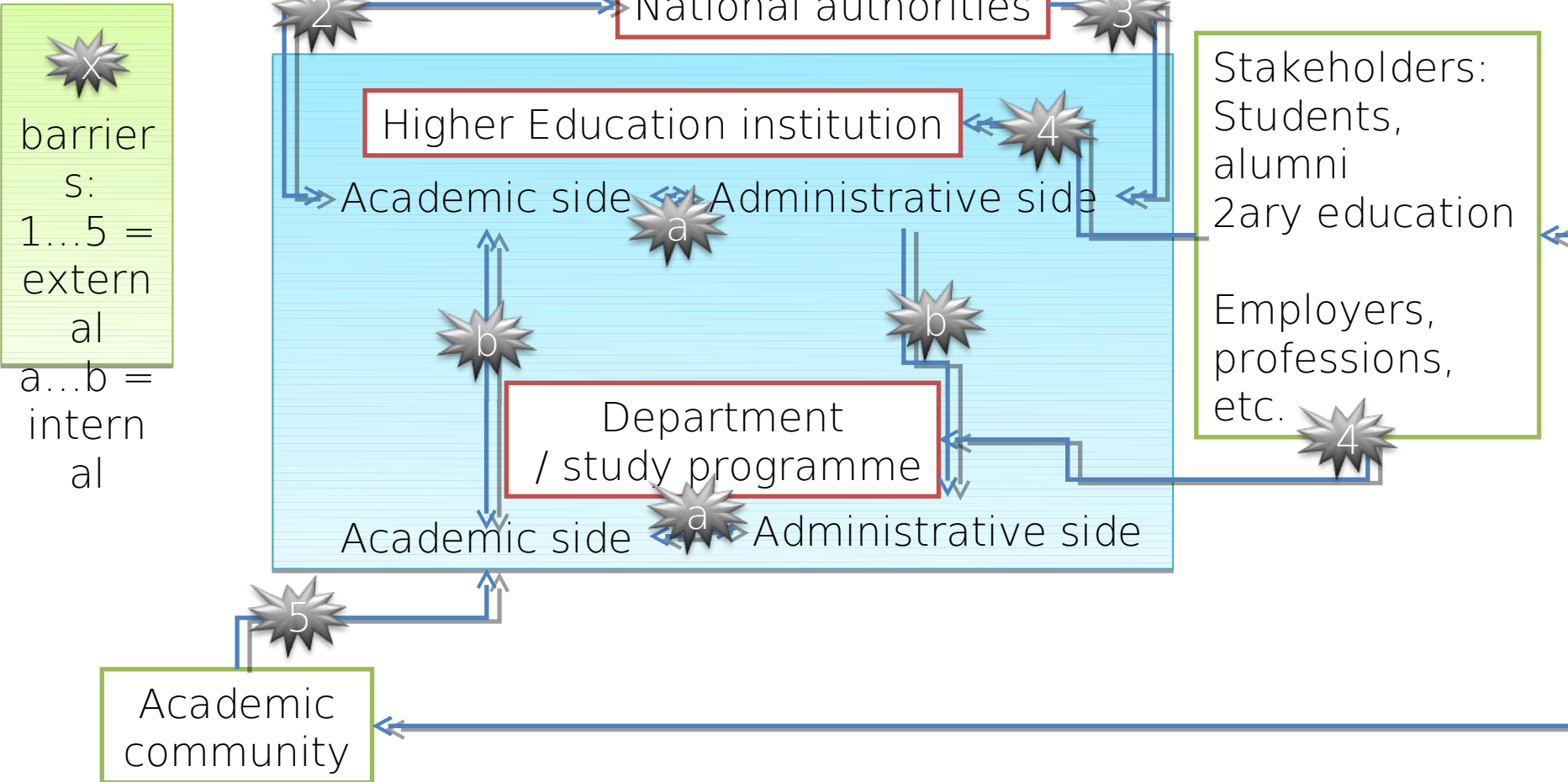
Academic side

Administrative side



star symbol
barriers:
1...5 = external
a...b = internal

Academic community



Project's Website

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IBAR

Identifying barriers in promoting European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance at institutional level

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