



EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATION
STRONG UNIVERSITIES FOR EUROPE

International conference
**„SINGLE ACCREDITATION OF JOINT PROGRAMMES
–
TURNING A BOLOGNA GUIDELINE INTO REALITY“**
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**University perspectives to
quality assurance of joint programmes**

Tia Loukkola
Director of Institutional Development
European University Association

Overview of the presentation

- Shortly on our work on joint programmes
- The need for a European Approach?
- The impact of the European Approach?

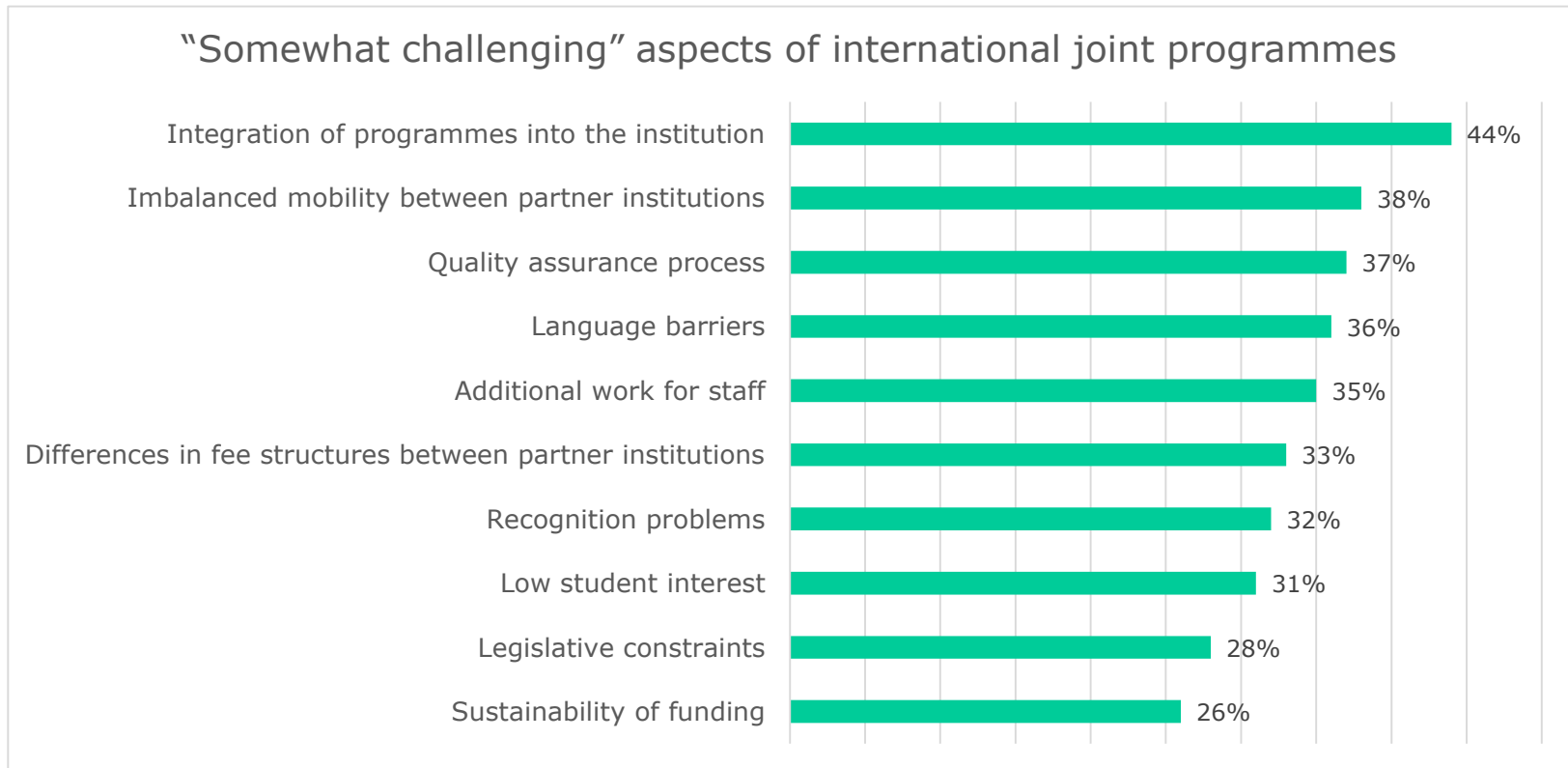
EUA's work on joint programmes

- EUA Joint Masters Project (2002 – 2004)
- EMNEM – European Masters New Evaluation Methodology 2006
 - ✓ Guidelines for Quality Enhancement in European Joint Masters Programmes
- EUA Surveys
 - ✓ Master Programme in Europe 2008 - 2009
 - ✓ Trends studies (most recent 2010 and 2015, next in 2018)
- Policy work
 - ✓ For example as regards to the external QA arrangements, recognition of qualifications

Some Trends 2015 findings I

- Institutions that offer joint programmes with higher education institutions in other countries
 - ✓ Bachelor, 37%
 - ✓ Master, 70%
 - ✓ Doctorate, 44%
 - ✓ Joint non-degree activities", 14%
 - ✓ 18% do not engage in any such undertakings

Trends 2015 findings II



- External QA focusing at institutional rather than programme level as a solution?

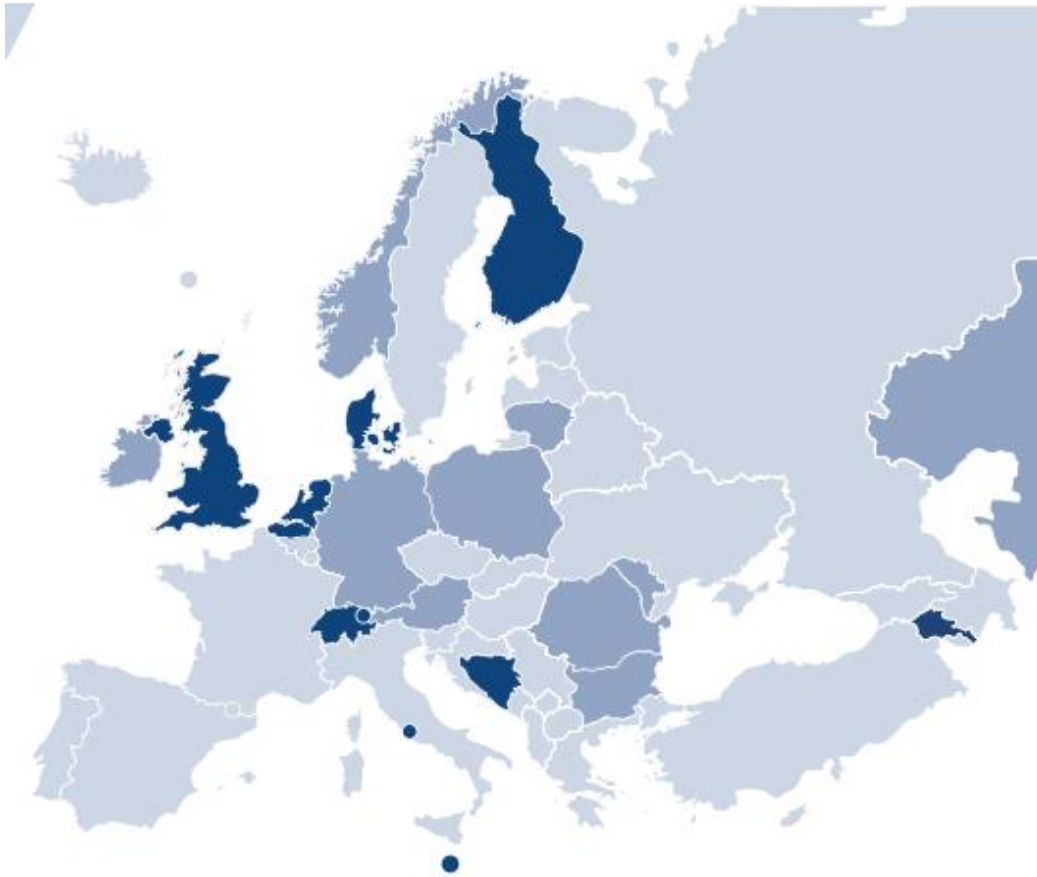
Pros and cons of the Approach - in theory

- Lighter bureaucracy
 - ✓ only one external QA procedure
 - ✓ Only one set of criteria to be judged against
- Possibility to choose a QA agency that is fit-for-purpose
- Emphasis on “jointness” – what is the value added of a joint programme vs. a regular programme?
- Will this add to the obligations of the HEIs operating on ‘self-accrediting basis’?
- Will using this procedure put in risk the recognition of qualifications awarded by the programme?

Some challenges identified

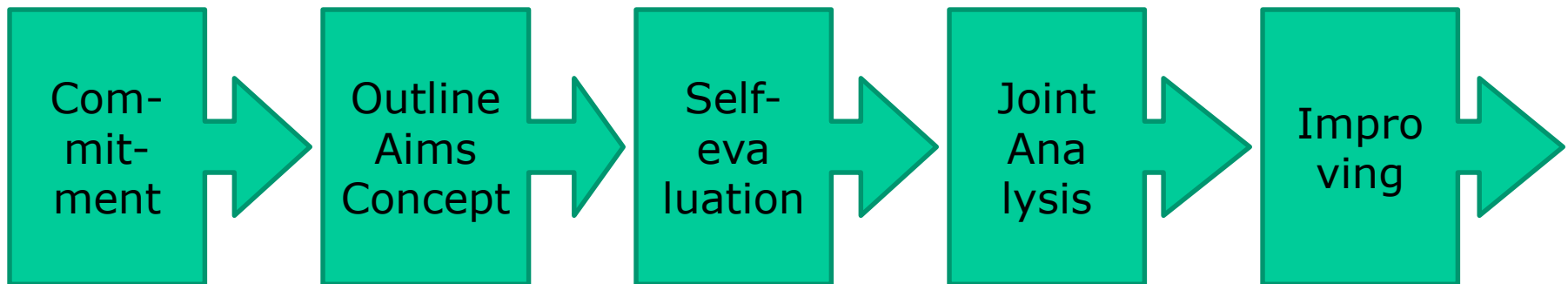
- Course coordination challenging, not less due to incongruent national legislations on
 - ✓ variable entry points
 - ✓ credit weighting
 - ✓ Workloads
 - ✓ learning outcomes

What's been the impact



- Only few procedures carried out
- We do not know... time will tell...

Internal QA of a joint programme



Conclusion

- Same principles as for regular provision
 - ✓ Main responsibility lies within HEI(s)
 - ✓ European Standards and Guidelines (ESG) apply
 - ✓ Primary goal of QA processes should be to enhance quality
 - ✓ But also to provide insurance to the stakeholders...