



Key Commitments: Recognition Indicators from BPIR

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Key Commitments:

Structural reforms underpinning EHEA

- 3 cycle degree structure
- **Recognition**
- Quality Assurance

Why is there a key commitment on recognition?

If recognition does not work properly across the EHEA...the Bologna degree system, joint degrees, mobility of students and academics, integrating lifelong learning into higher education and others will become just lip service."

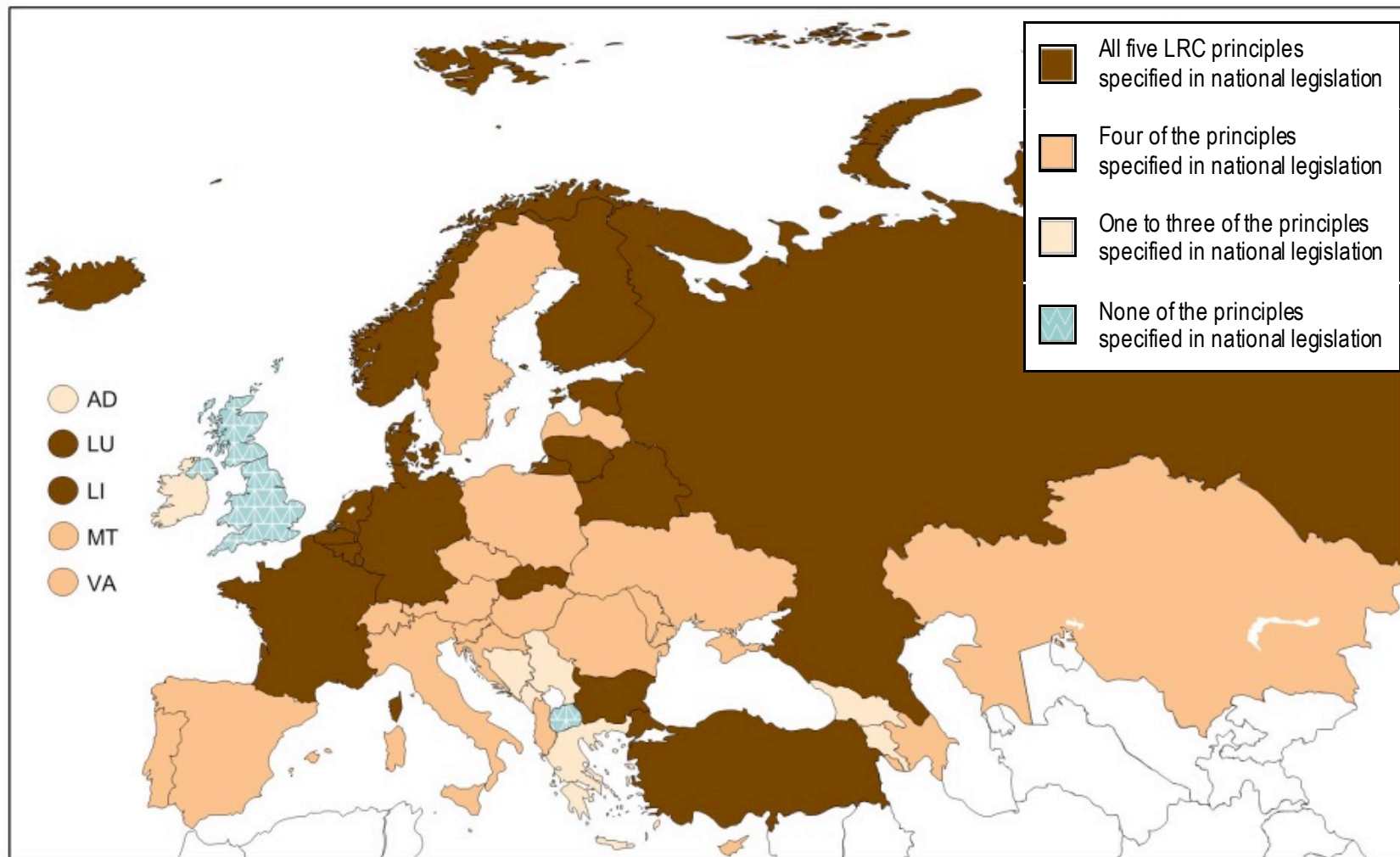
(2012 BFUG WG Recognition report)

What is the key commitment?

Implement main principles of the LRC:

- *Applicants have a right to fair assessment*
- *Recognition if no substantial differences can be proven*
- *Compare learning outcomes and not programme content*
- *Negative decisions provide proof of substantial difference*
- *Right to appeal*

Principles of LRC in legislation



What action is needed?

- ***Review** national legislation which obliges HEIs to primarily apply formal and quantifiable criteria (length of studies/number of credits) in recognition processes;*
- *Modify legislation in case it violates the principles of the LRC; and seek to **simplify** national regulation surrounding recognition practices*

Recommendation of EAR-HEI Manual



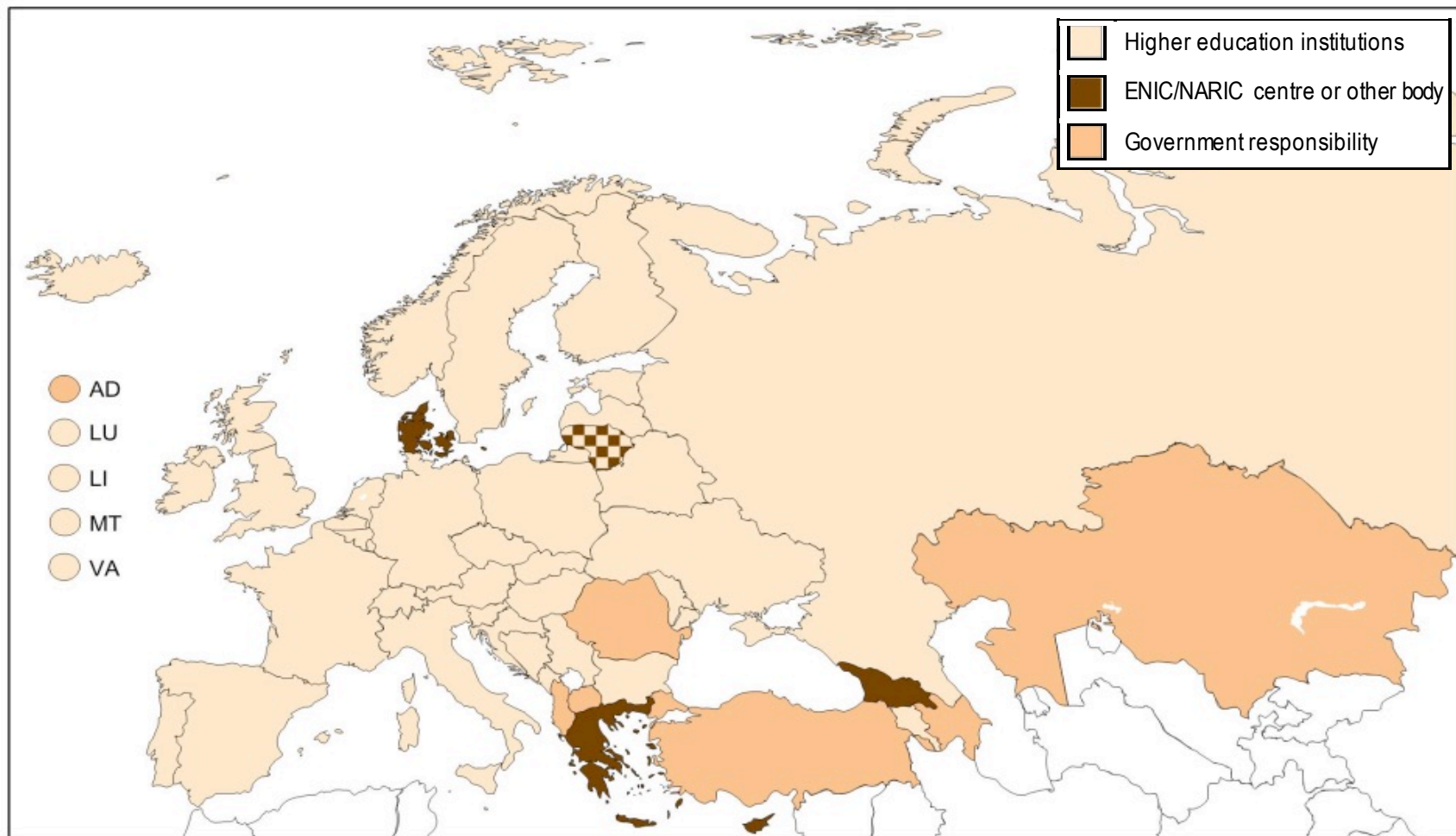
But recognition is more than legislation...

- How to ensure that legislation is **implemented**?

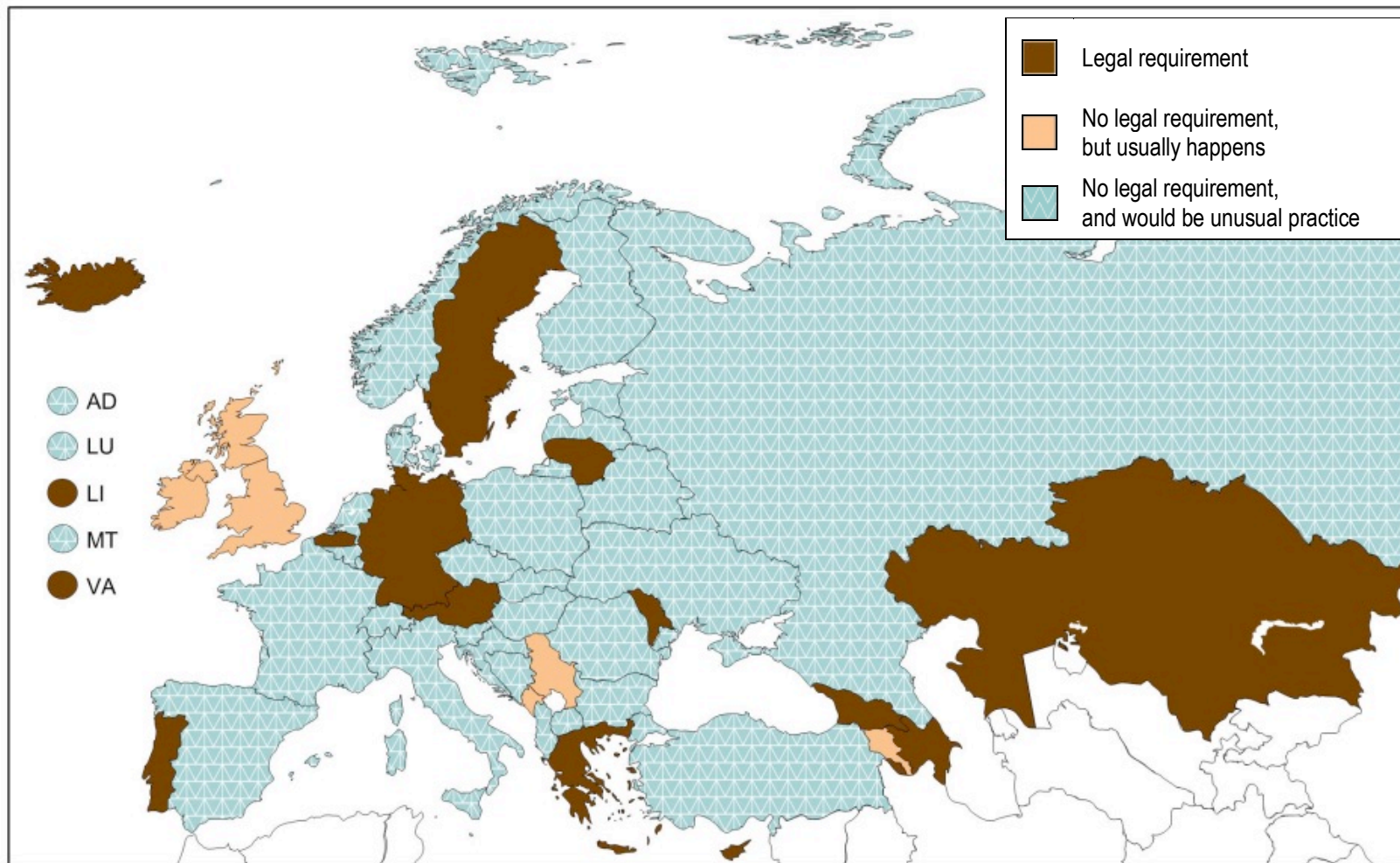
*It is often far from certain if the principles of the Lisbon Recognition Convention are correctly applied by credential evaluators in **higher education institutions** across the European Higher Education Area (EHEA)..*

(PfG Report 2015)

Responsibility for recognition



Recognition monitored by external QA?



Issues for peer group

- 1 *How to support reviews of legislation (in some countries) using European expertise*
- 2 *Should responsibility for system level recognition (not admission) continue to lie with HEIs?*
- 3 *How can we ensure that credential evaluators work on full understanding of LRC principles?*
- 4 *What should be the role of QA in recognition practice?*

Final point

- Key Commitment (LRC) does not amount to Automatic Recognition
- However, improving practice in line with the key commitment will take us a long way towards Automatic Recognition in the EHEA



**Thank you
for your attention
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System level "automatic" recognition

