

Elements for a European accreditation of international Joint Programmes"

Josep Grifoll

ENQA Board member

Head of the QA Department in AQU Catalunya

The European scenario (2 main ideas)

National authorities have full competences in the regulation of education.

Regulations about the structure and quality of the HE study programmes,
awarding powers / recognition.

EU promotes the establishment and development of common frameworks.

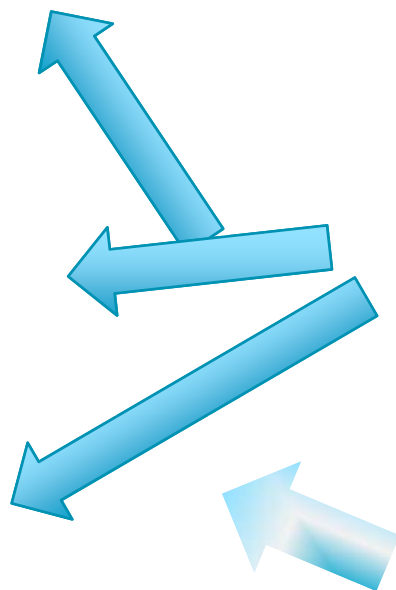
- Directives + projects + funds

The quality in the European HE Area

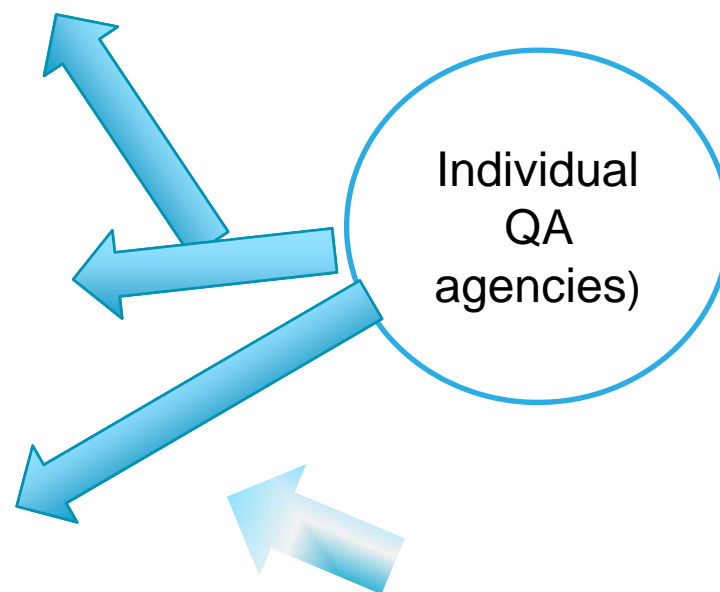
The Bologna Process means the establishment of the EHEA.

- Compatible structure of degrees (bachelor + Master + PhD)
- Academic infrastructure (similar schemes for programme description: ECTS)
- Quality assurance scheme for the European universities (ESG)

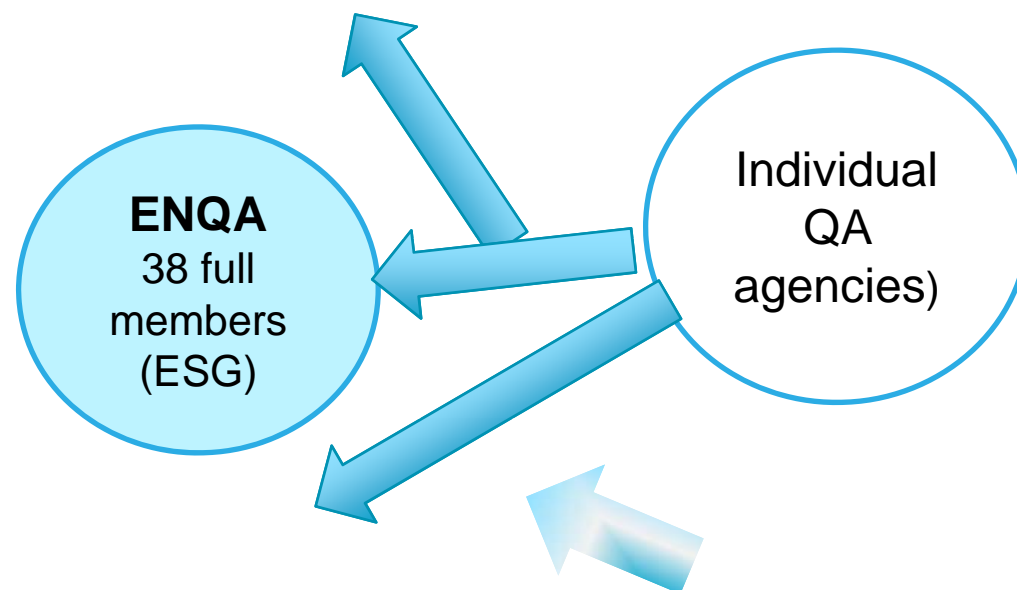
The main actors for external QA



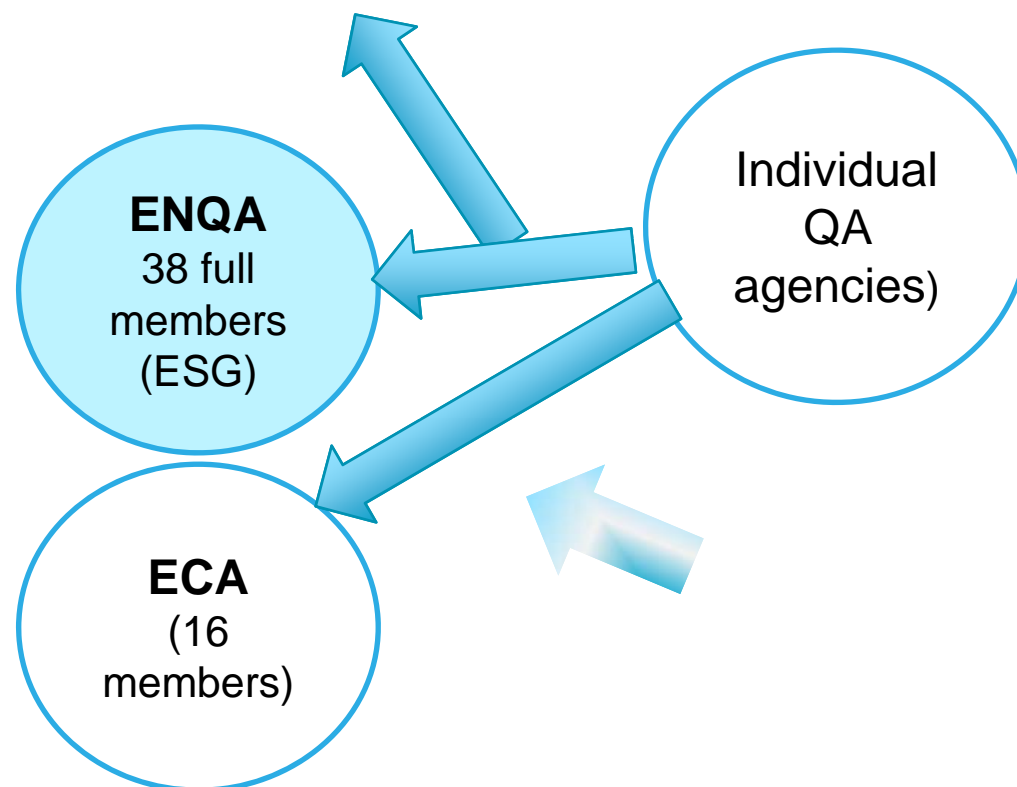
The main actors for external QA



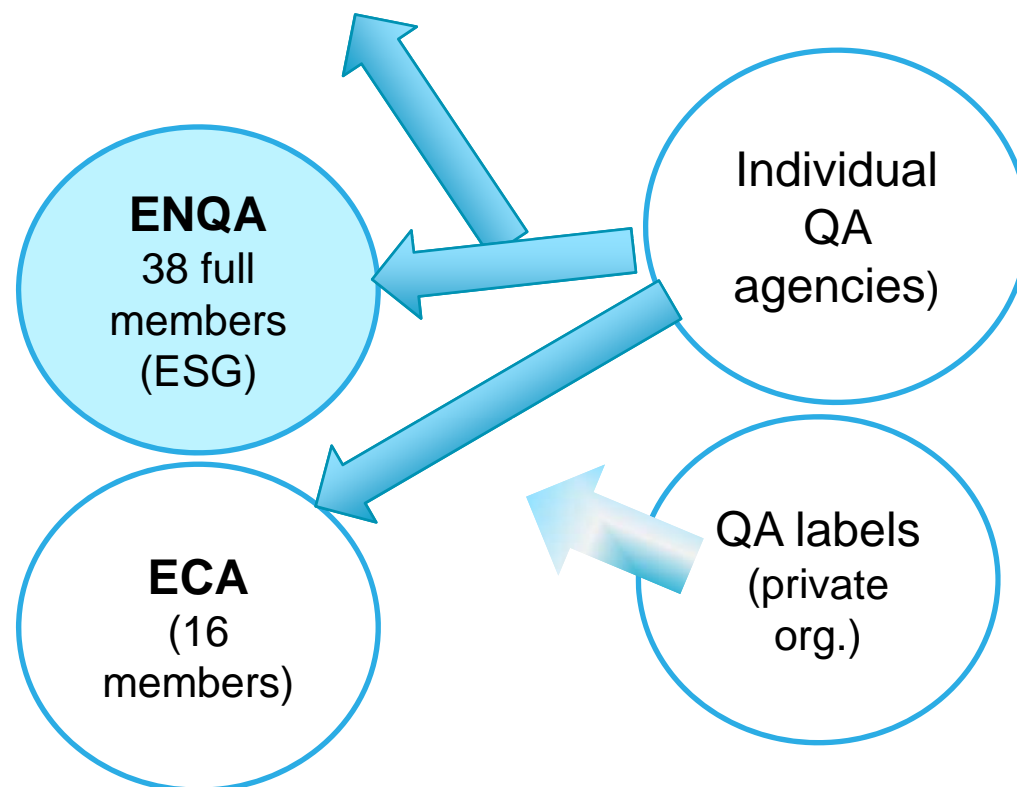
The main actors for external QA



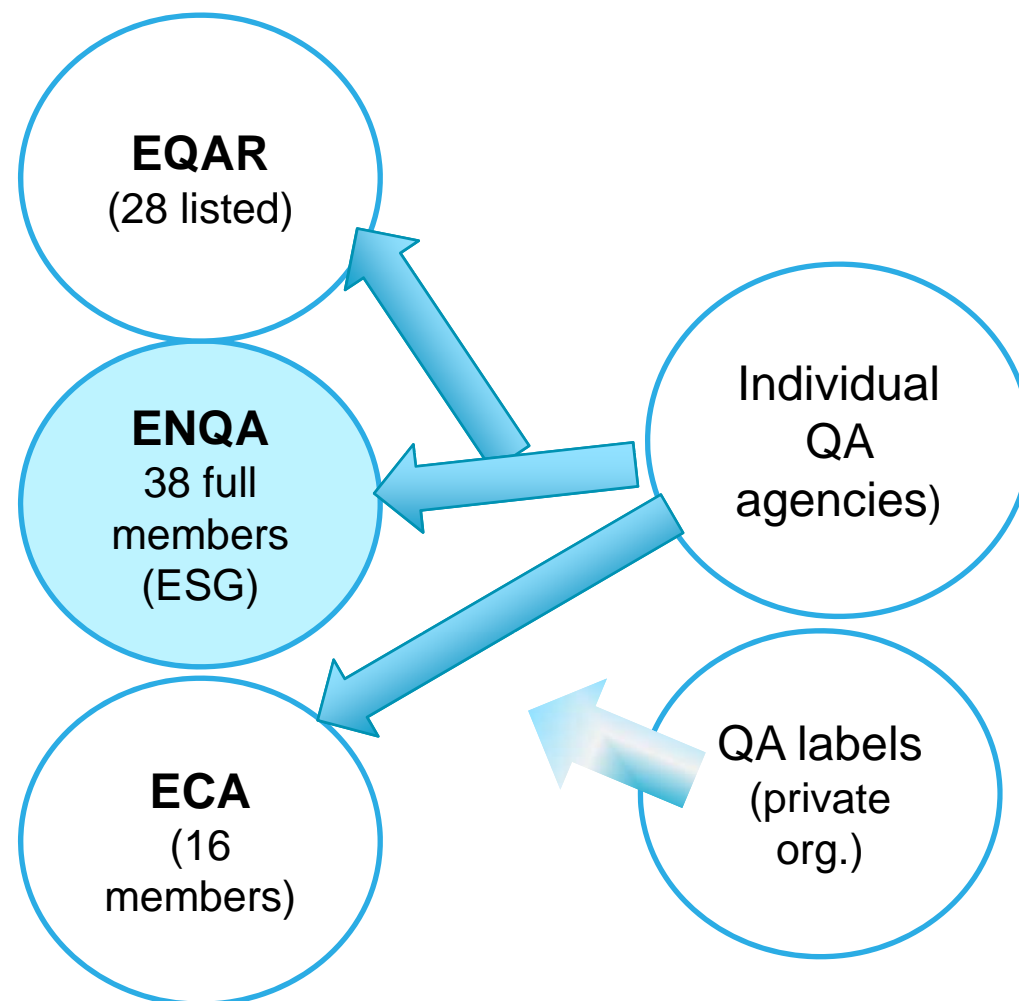
The main actors for external QA



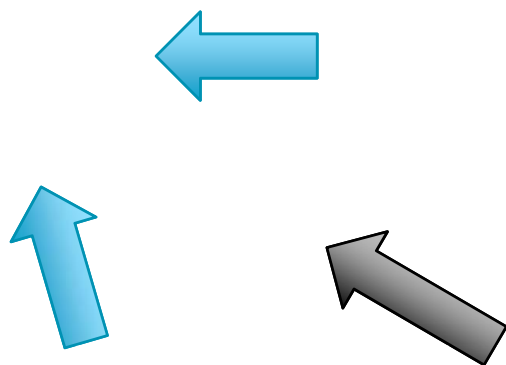
The main actors for external QA



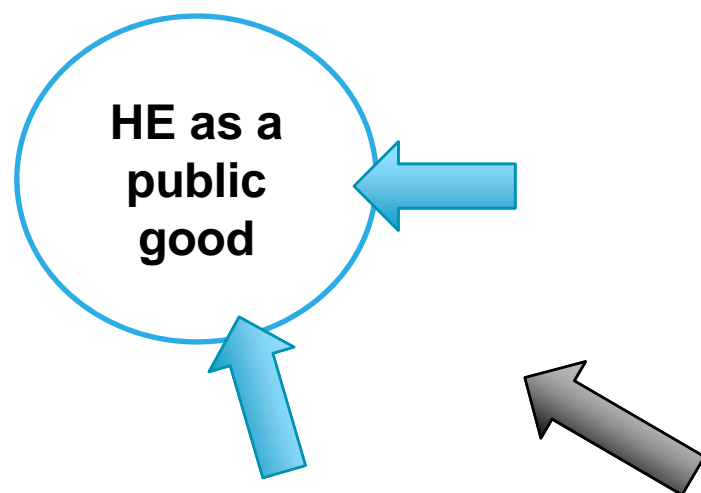
The main actors for external QA



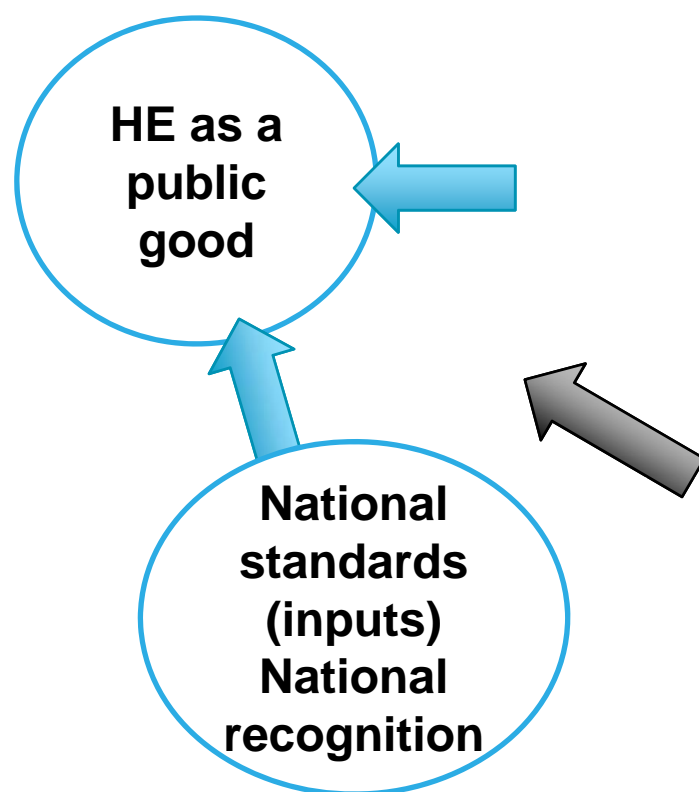
Quality: public and private interests



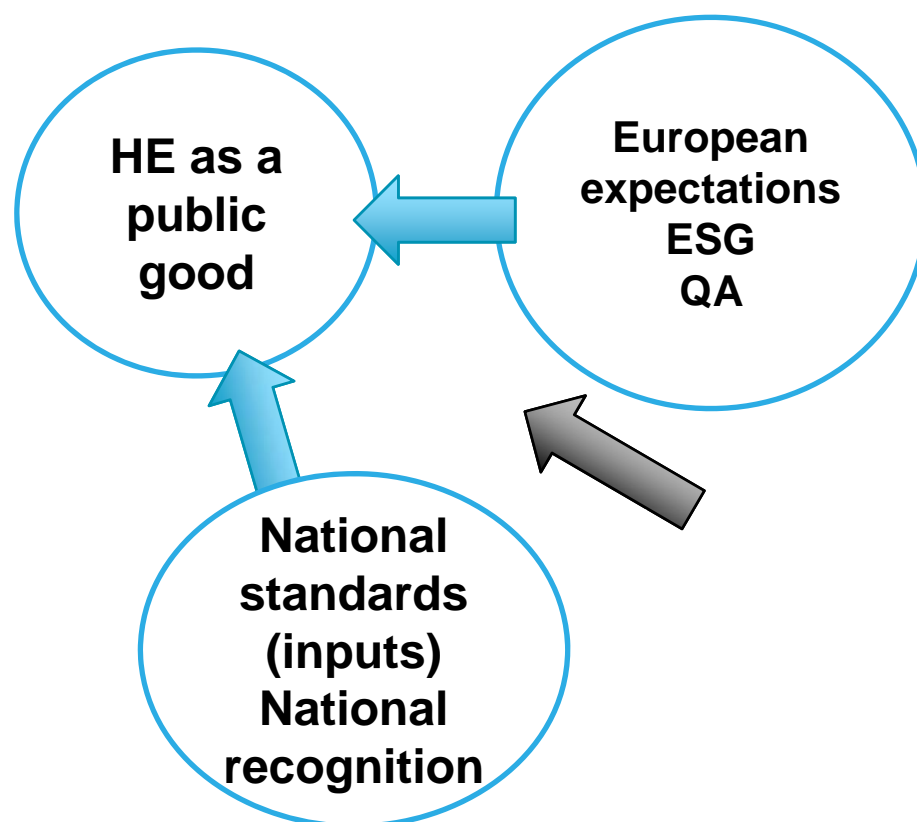
Quality: public and private interests



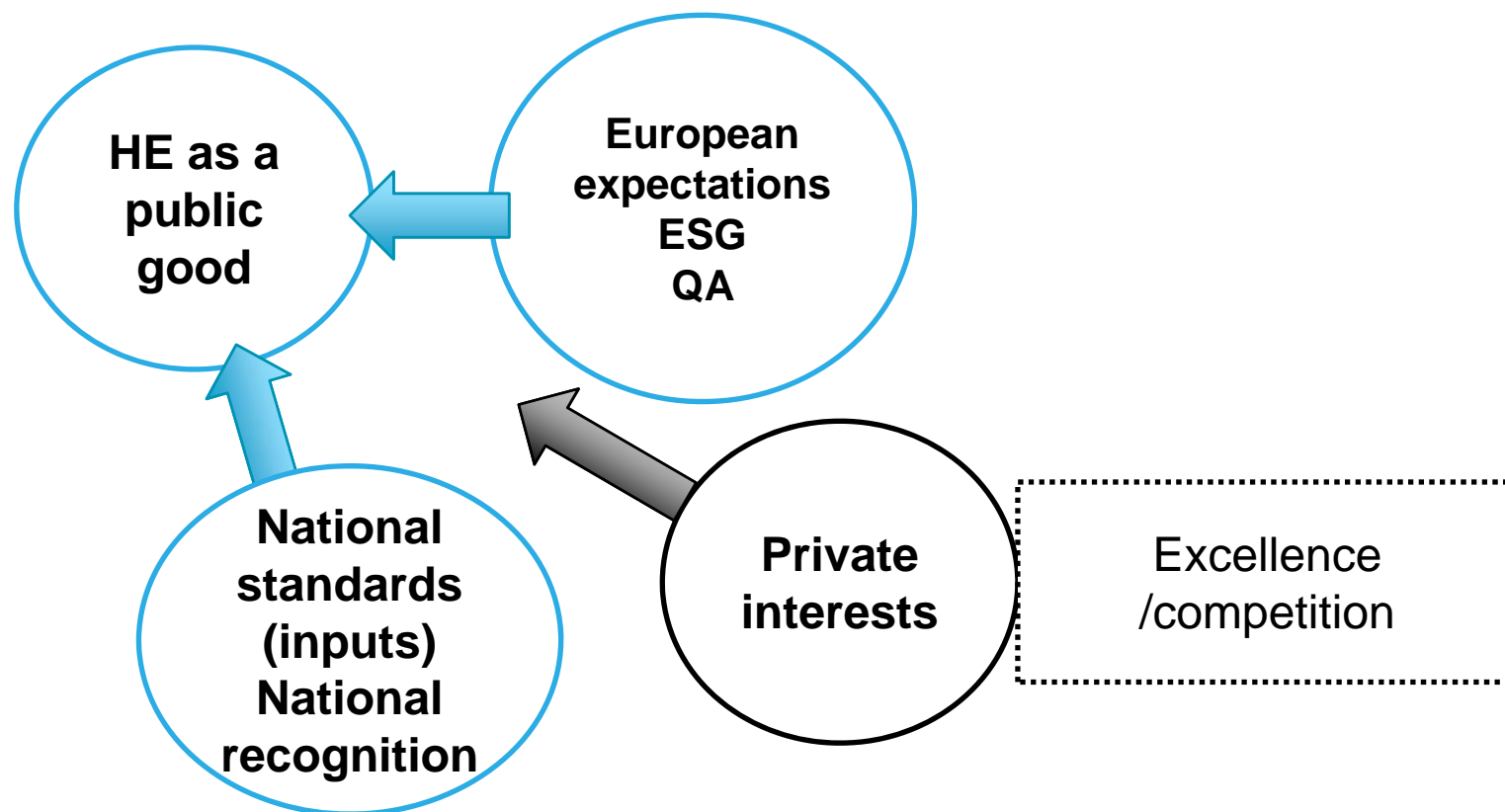
Quality: public and private interests



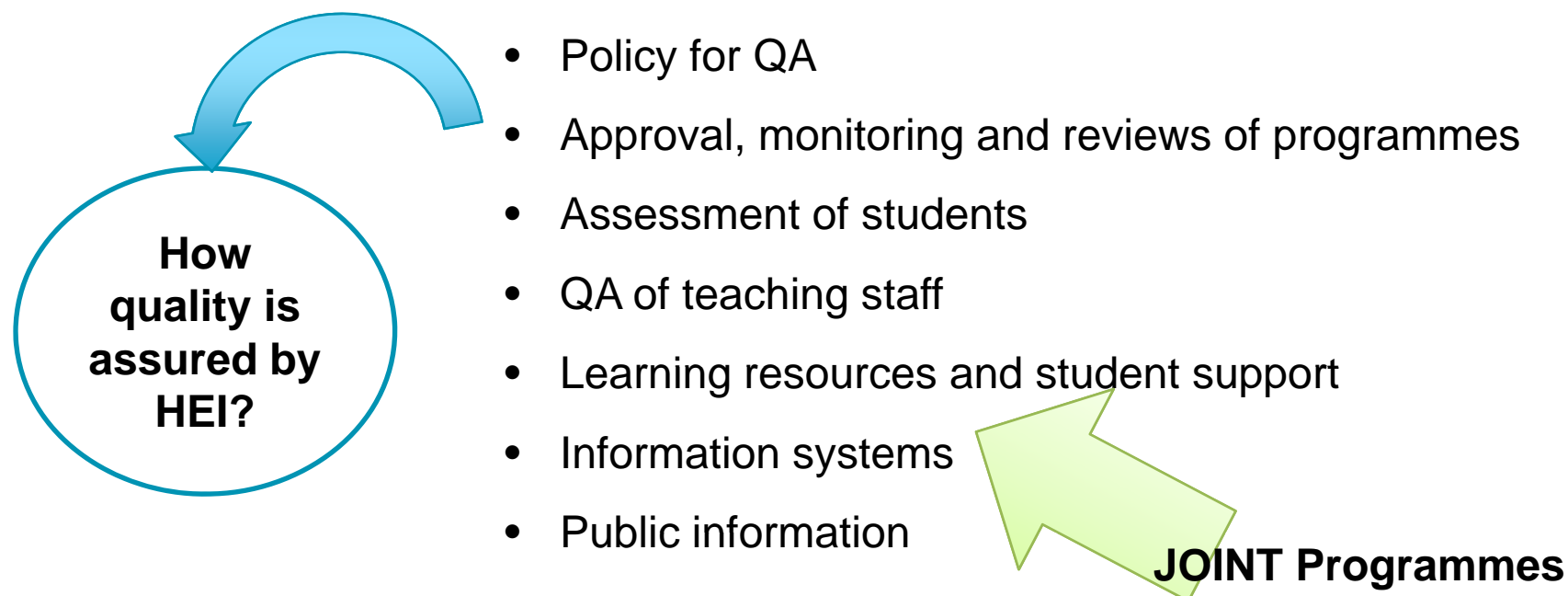
Quality: public and private interests



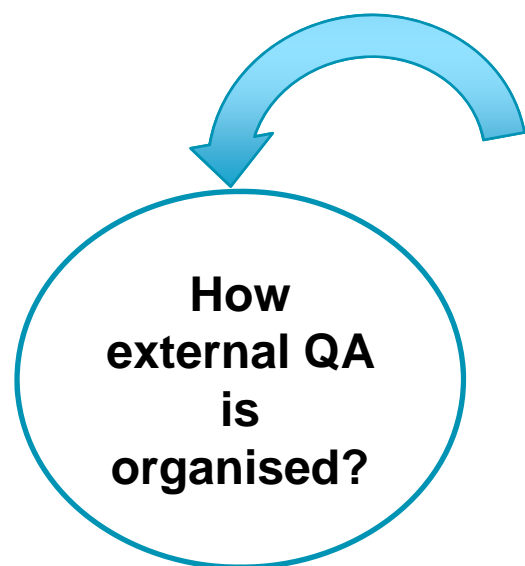
Quality: public and private interests



The ESG (shared responsibilities)



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- Effectiveness of internal QA
- Aims and objectives for external QA determined before
- Criteria for decisions be explicit and published
- Designed to ensure their fitness for purpose
- Reports to be published
- Follow up procedures
- Periodic reviews
- System-wide analysis

European QA for joint programmes

- Common guidelines for transnational evaluations (shared criteria).
- Focused on QA (possible application to all disciplines)
- International review teams
- Students involved in external reviews
- Public reports
- Evaluation with qualitative statements

European QA for joint programmes (limitations)

- Cost of the process (different site visits for one single programme).
- Pilot experiences with no accreditation purposes
- Accreditation (QA agencies) is not equivalent to recognition (Ministries)
- Ex ante QA not sufficiently developed
- Differences in quality standards between countries (some contradictions)
- Differences in quality assurance schemes (e.g. validity of accreditations)

The JOQAR project




Cross-border quality assurance of joint programmes

- Development of multilateral mutual recognition agreements
- Establishment of a European Coordination point for external QA and accreditation of joint programmes

Recognition of degrees awarded by joint programmes

- Awareness-raising about ENIC-NARICs' expectations regarding joint programmes, the design of the degree they award and the content of the diploma supplement
- Establishment of a common ground among ENIC-NARICs regarding the recognition of degrees awarded by joint programmes.
- Transparent information provision regarding Erasmus Mundus programmes via Crossroads

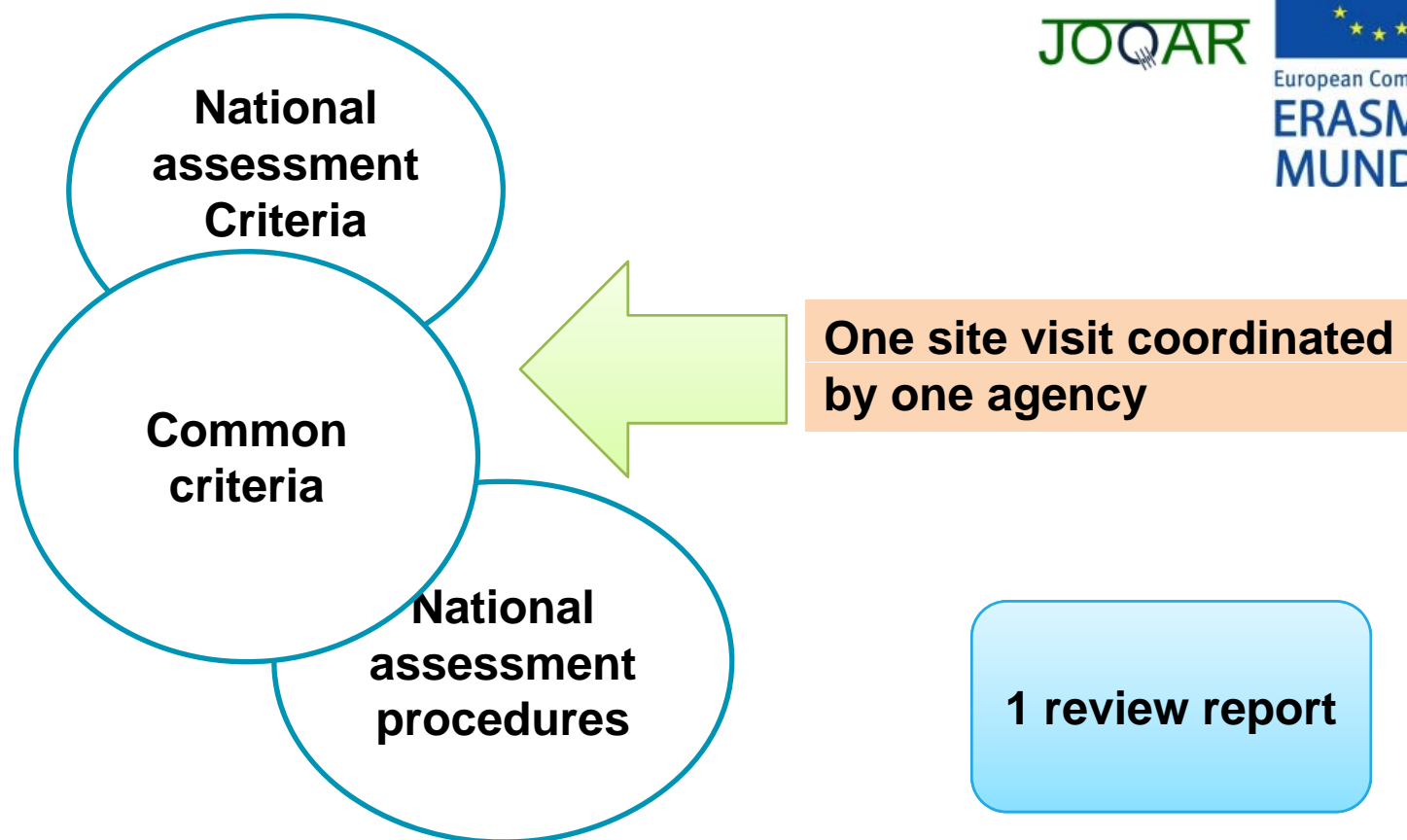
The JOQAR partners



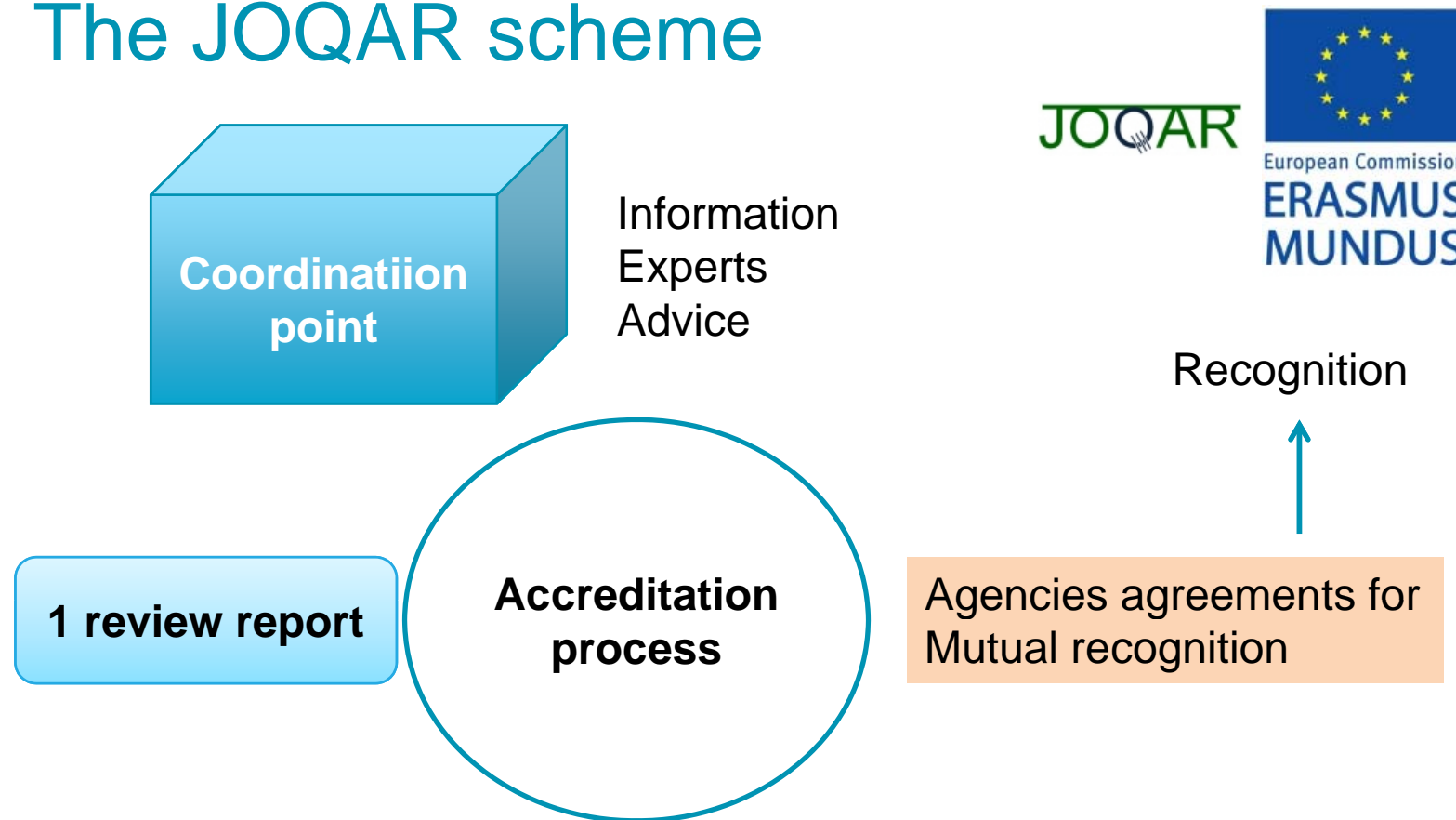

European Commission
ERASMUS
MUNDUS

QA agencies	Ministries / ENIC NARIC
NVAO (The Netherlands)	Poland (Ministry)
Austria QA agency	NUFFIC (The Netherlands)
SQAA (Slovenia)	NARIC (UK)
AQAS (Germany)	IU (Denmark)
ANECA (Spain)	
OAQ (Switzerland)	
AQU Catalunya (Spain)	
FIBAA (Germany)	
NAAC (India)	
CNA (Colombia)	

The JOQAR scheme



The JOQAR scheme



Core criteria

- **Standard 1 General conditions**
 - Recognition (legal framework)
 - Cooperation agreement
 - Added value
- **Standard 2 Intended learning outcomes**
 - Shared
 - Level (qualification frameworks)
 - Subject /discipline
- **Standard 3 Programme**
 - Admission
 - Structure (curriculum content)
 - Credits (distribution)

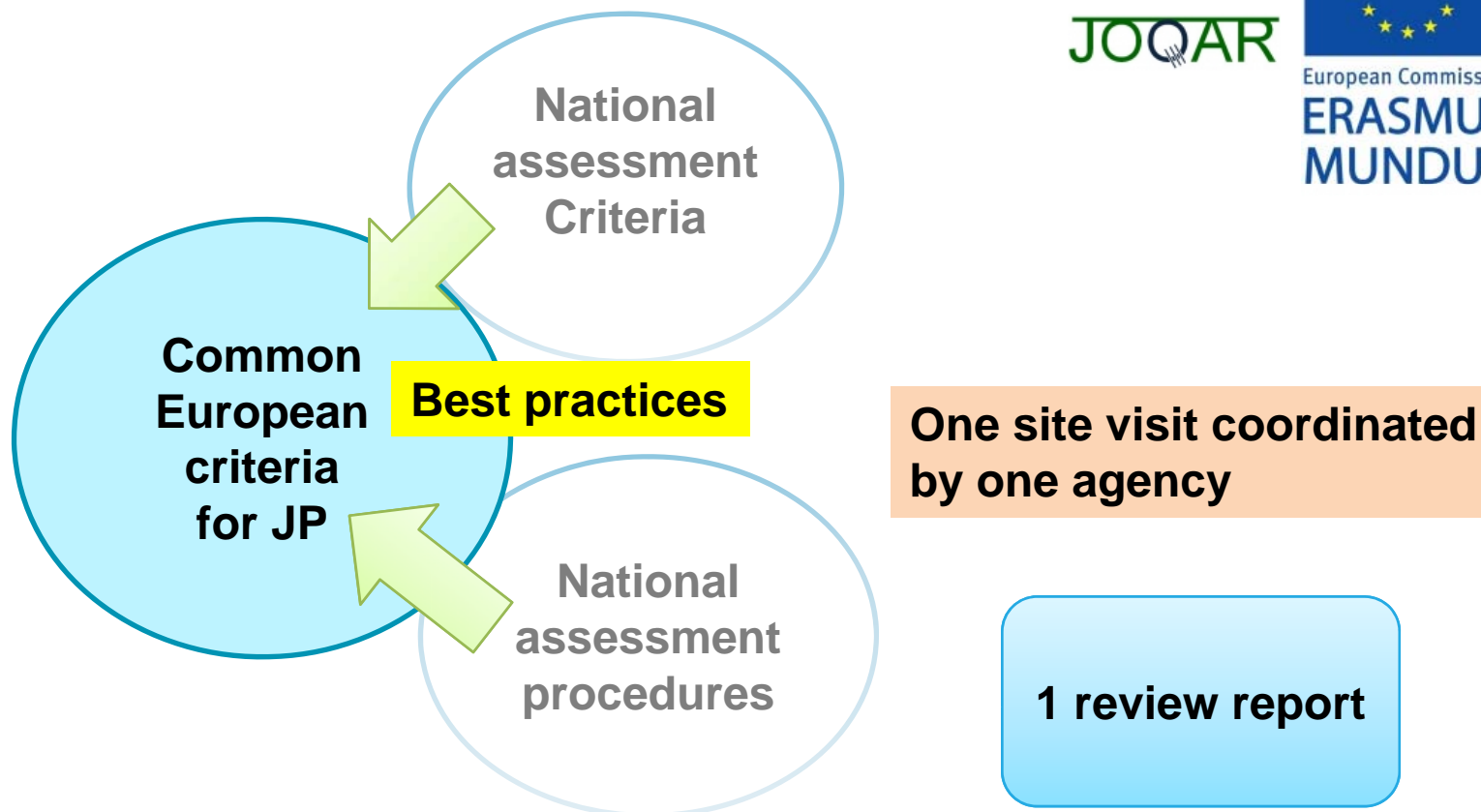
Core criteria

- **Standard 4 Internal Quality assurance**
 - Common understanding (shared)
 - Stakeholders involvement
 - Continuous improvement
- **Standard 5 Facilities and student support**
 - Facilities
 - Support (student support)
 - Services (housing, visa issues....)
- **Standard 6 Teaching and learning**
 - Staff
 - Assessment of students
 - Achievement (learning outcomes)

Examples of national criteria

- **On national assessment criteria:**
 - The Master's dissertation should range from 15 to 30 ECTS credits.
- **On national procedure criteria:**
 - The assessment panel needs to come to a general conclusion regarding the joint programme. This general conclusion is either unsatisfactory, satisfactory, good or excellent and needs to be weighted and substantiated.

Beyond JOQAR?





Thank you!

