

# Polish external quality assurance system

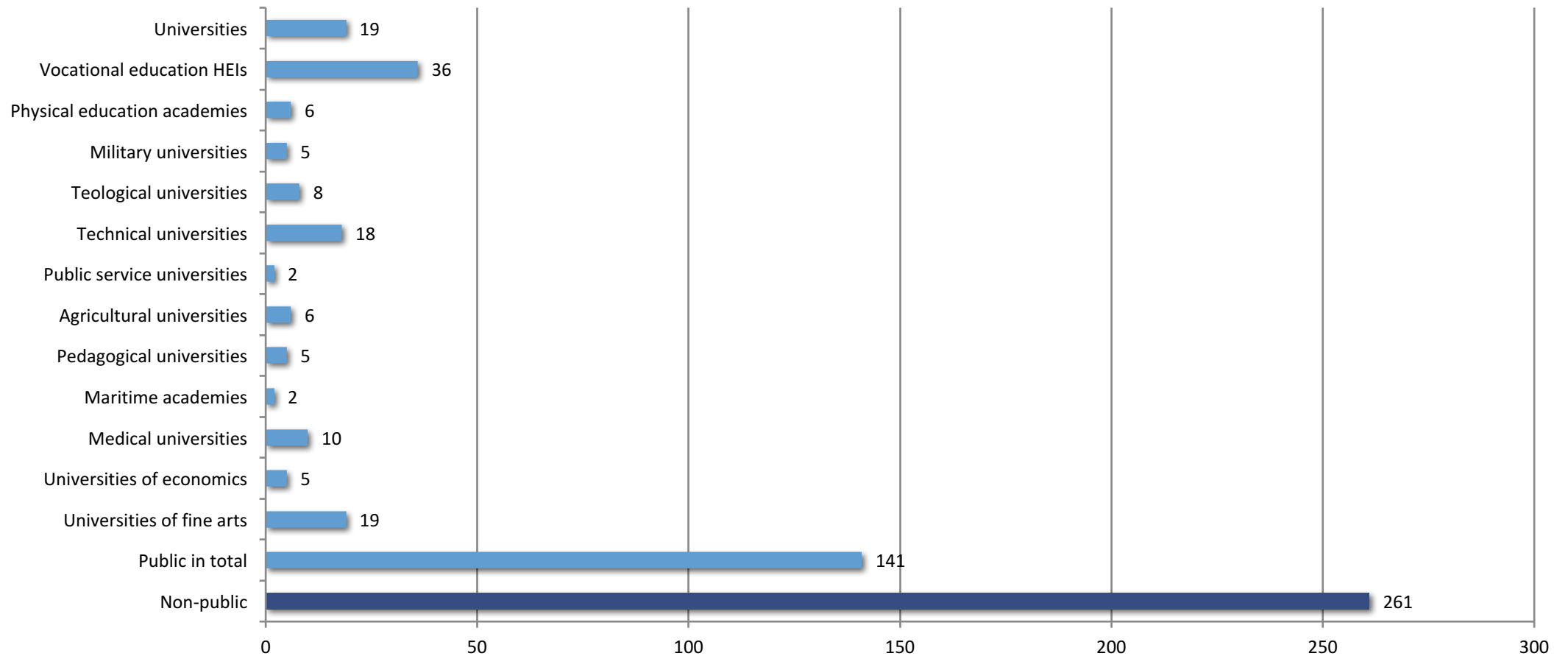
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MACIEJ MARKOWSKI

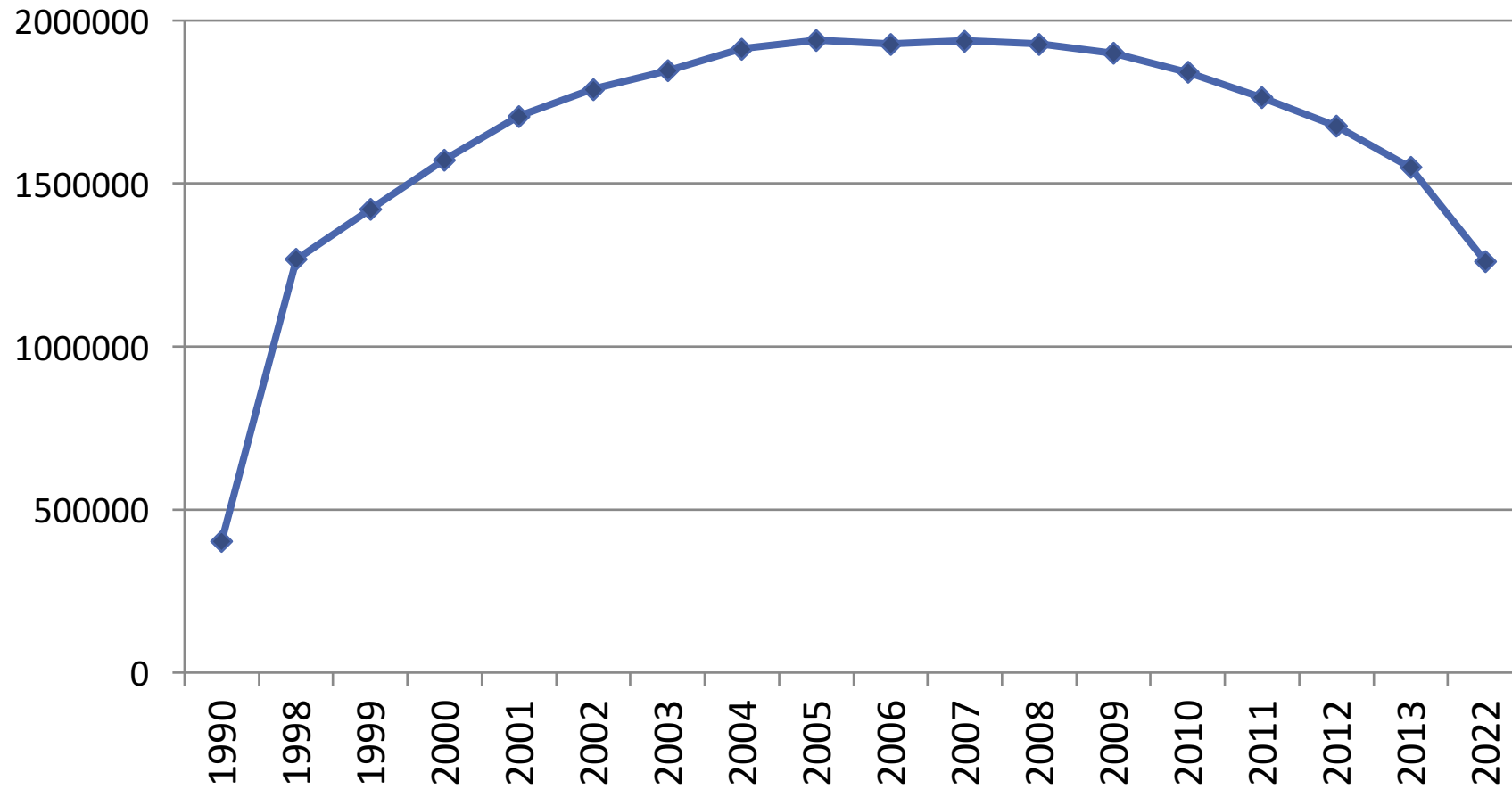
POLISH ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE  
(PKA)



# Higher education institutions

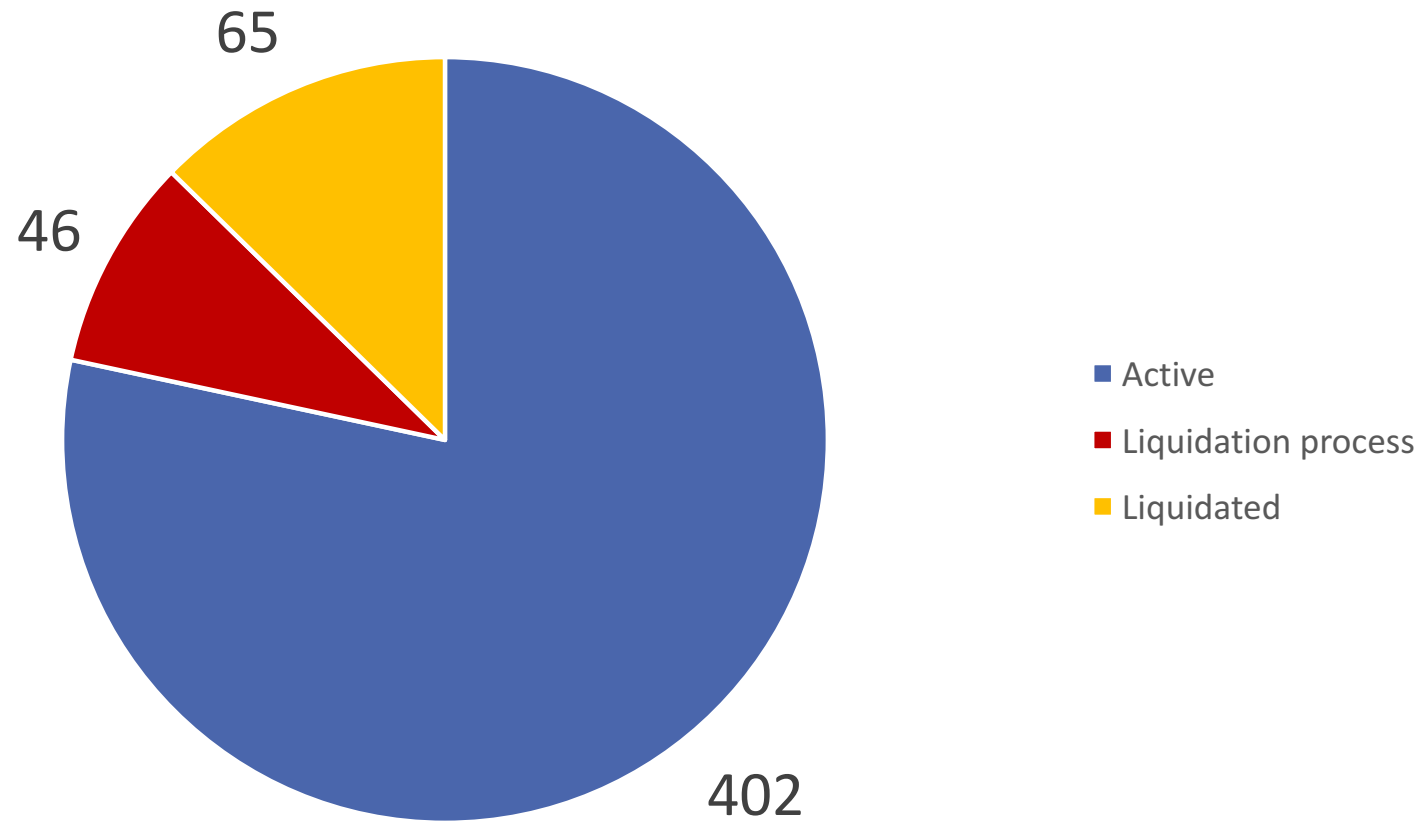


# Number of students



# Higher education system dynamics

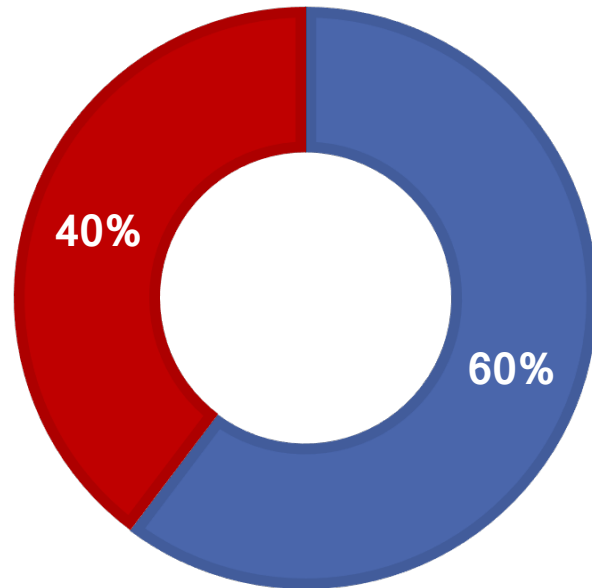
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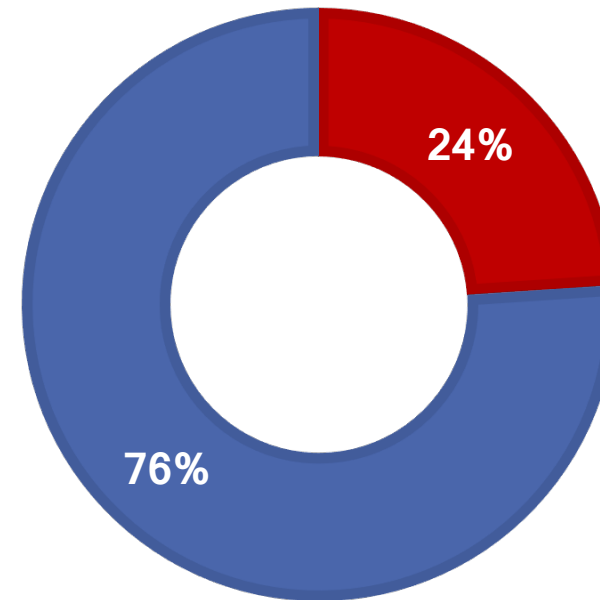
# Structure of study programmes

(in total approx. 8300)

■ Bachelor ■ Master



■ Practical ■ General academic



# Polish Accreditation Committee

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**The Polish Accreditation Committee (PKA)** was established under the name of the State Accreditation Committee on **1 January 2002**.

PKA is public entity financed from the state budget.

Terms of office is set to 4 years.

PKA operations are framed at the national legislation level (Law on Higher Education Act)

# Composition

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PKA is composed of 70 - 90 members appointed by the minister responsible for higher education from among candidates nominated by:

HEIs senates

Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland

Conference of Rectors of Non-University Higher Education Institutions in Poland

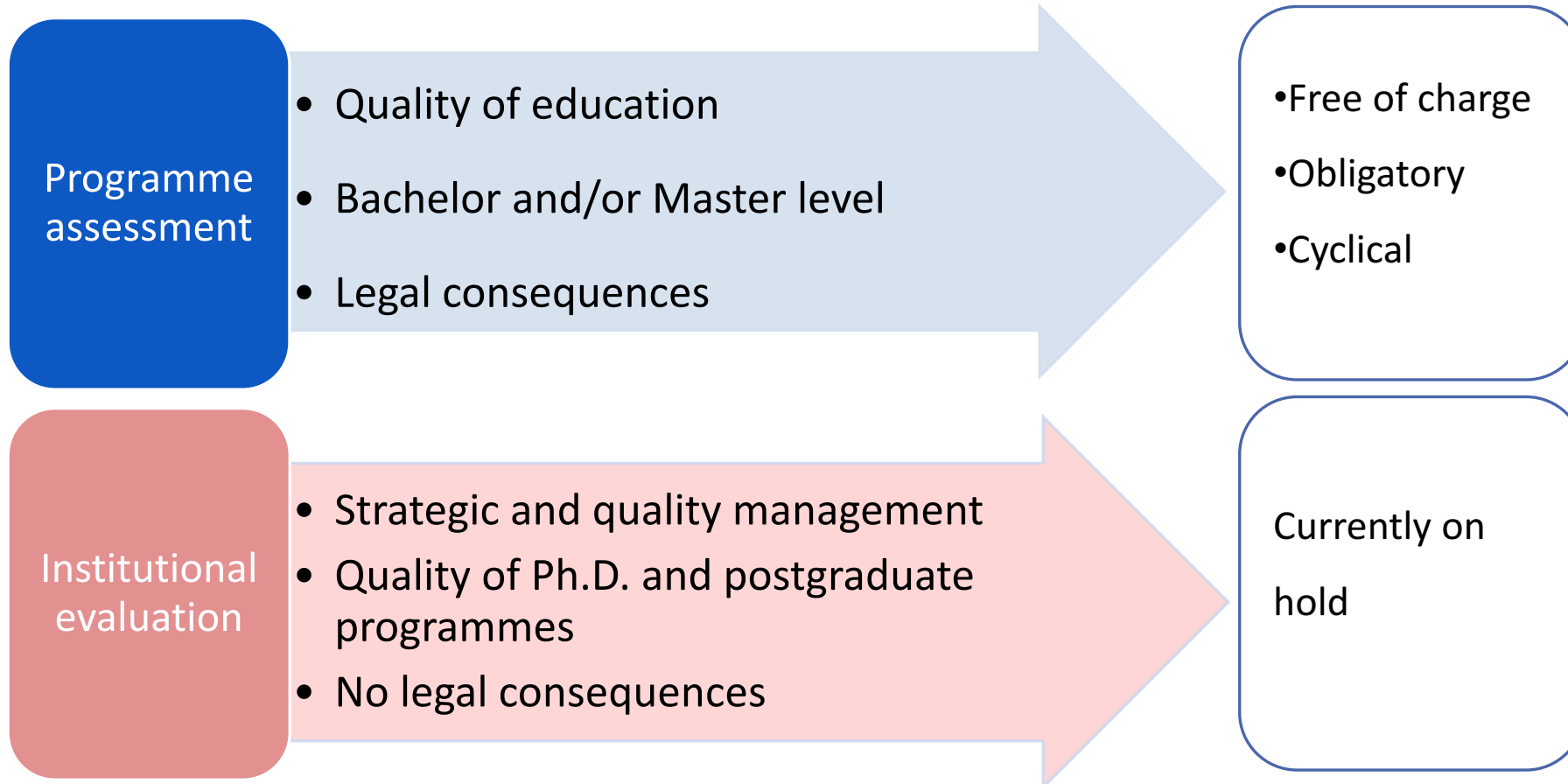
Students' Parliament of the Republic of Poland

national scientific associations

organisations of employers

# Types of ex-post procedures

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# Ex post assessments (programme)

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**Schedule** for a given academic year covers **programmes** for which the following statements are true:

- the expiration of previous evaluation is closing,
- the full cycle of education has finished,
- there are other reasons to conduct an evaluation,
- justified motion of the minister responsible for higher education has been submitted,
- PKA approved a motion of a HEI to conduct an evaluation.

# Criteria for programme assessment

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1. Programme's conception and its relevance for the HEI's mission and strategy
2. Curriculum and intended learning outcomes
3. Efficiency of an internal quality assurance system
4. Academic staff
5. Cooperation with external stakeholders
6. Internationalization
7. Infrastructure
8. Students support system



Outstanding

Fully

Satisfactory

Partially

Negative

# Scale of assessment

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- Outstanding (8 years)
- Positive (6 years)
- Conditional (1 year)
- Negative

# Institutional evaluations – on hold

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Schedule for a given academic year covers units for which the following statements are true:

- programme assessment has been conducted on majority of offered programmes and over the five years preceding the institutional evaluation,
- the unit has not obtained negative assessment as a result of the programme assessment,
  - in case of a conditional assessment, the grounds for it did not concern the internal quality assurance system;

# Institutional evaluation – on hold

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1. The unit acts in accordance with the **mission statement and development strategy** of the higher education institution.
2. The unit **operates and improves** an internal quality assurance system.
3. The unit operates an **efficient** staff policy.
4. The unit ensures that the **learning and scientific facilities** are developed in line with its development **strategy**.
5. The unit cooperates with the social, economic and cultural environments, and with national and international academic and scientific institutions.
6. The unit operates a system supporting students and doctoral students.
7. **Doctoral programmes' education quality.**
8. **Postgraduate programmes' education quality.**

# Lessons learnt

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## HEIs were not ready for institutional evaluations

- Bottom-up approach to programme design vs. NQF top-down approach
- Confusing concept of quality with concept of quality assurance
- Traditional approach to management of HEIs
- Weak strategy making, implementation and monitoring
- Very early stage of implementation of IQAS
- Over bureaucratic quality assurance systems

## PKA was also not ready for institutional evaluations

- No vacatio legis
- Very few trainings, benchmarks
- No pilots
- Institutional evaluation didn't include different management models of HEIs

BRD

Thank you!

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