

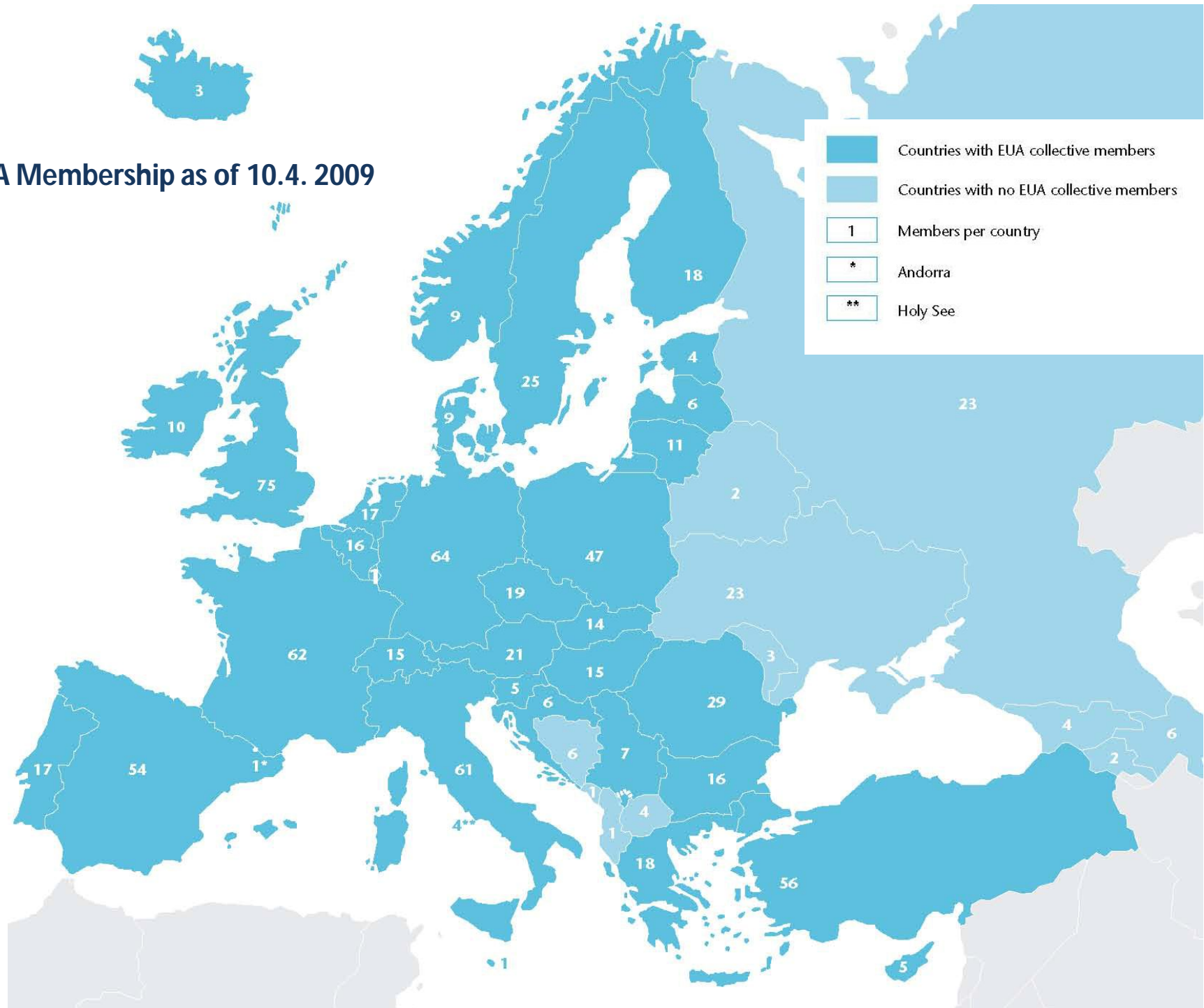
Recent developments in European higher education

Helena Maria Nazaré
Vice-President
European University Association
Europe-Africa Rectors' Dialogue
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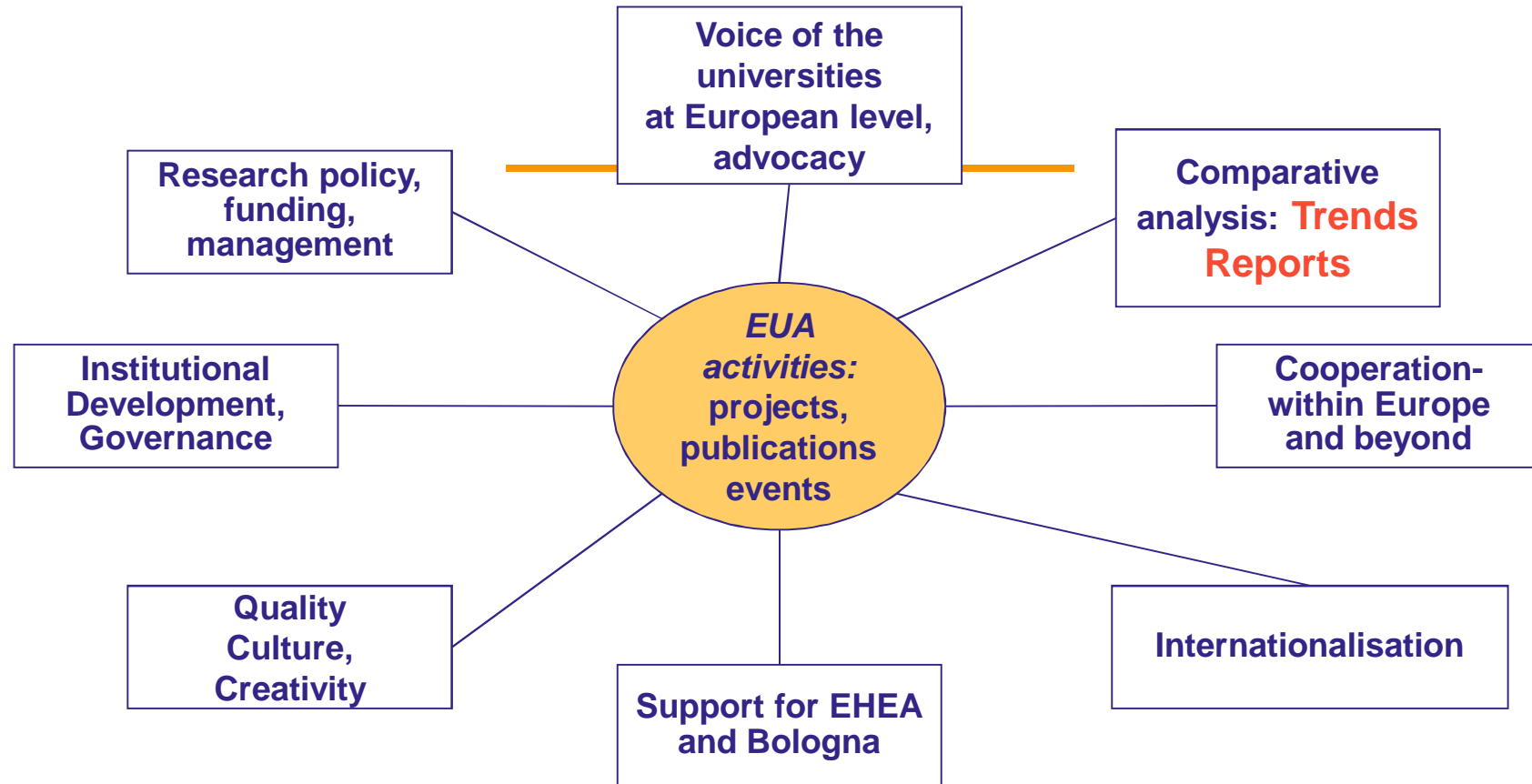
I. Introduction to EUA

- Membership organisation of nearly 800 members: universities and national rectors' conferences in 46 countries
- Mission: To ensure that universities have the means to fulfill their three-fold public mission (research, teaching and service to society)
- Activities: Policy development, projects, research and publication
- Active in EU and in a wider Europe: Unique overview of different processes that take place at different levels

EUA Membership as of 10.4. 2009



EUA Mission: Strengthen European Universities



**Serving the Interests of Members
i.e. European HEI in 46 countries**

Common challenges for Europe's universities

- Promoting excellence - while maintaining commitment to expanding access
- Driving social and economic change – while staying committed to fundamental research
- Implementing national reforms - while responding to global changes
- Developing common tools and instruments (Bologna) - while fostering creativity & creative institutions
- Engaging with local society and industry – and establishing international outreach
- All this with rising costs AND economic crisis

The Bologna Process

- Started 1998/99: Structural reform for establishing a European Higher Education Area (EHEA)
 - ✓ **Converging national systems**
 - ✓ **Mobility**
 - ✓ **International Attractiveness**
- An enormous reform process since 1999: 82% of HEIs have the 3 cycles in place compared to 53% in 2003 (Trends V)
- Over 74% of HEIs now say that they consider the EHEA **necessary & desirable**
- A unique '**stakeholder**' driven process (EUA, EURASHE (European colleges), European Student Union, Education International) structured via ministerial agreements (Communiqués)

Achievements of the Bologna Process

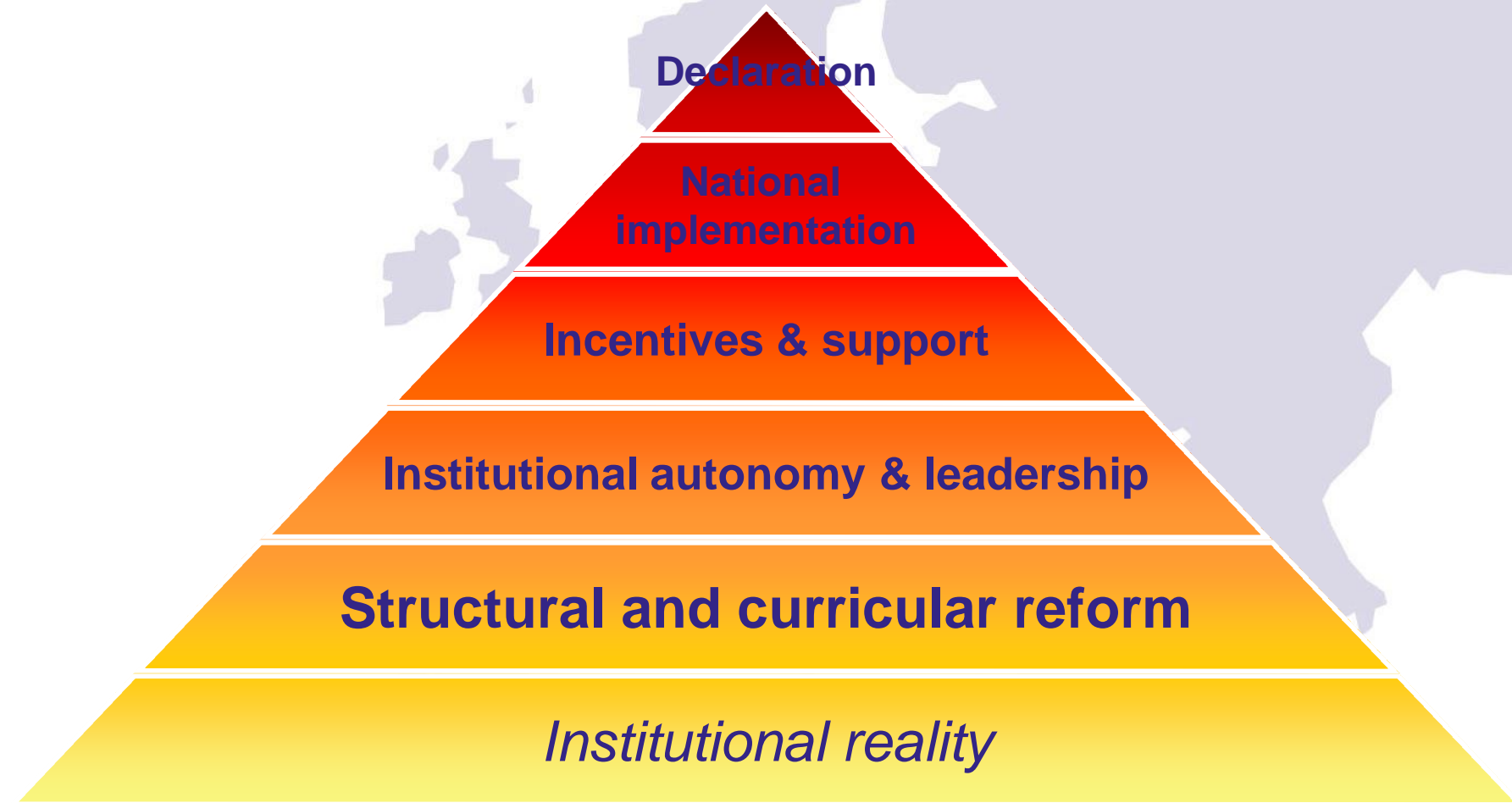
- Provided a common European framework for discussion and policy development
- Developed tools and a comparable degree structure
- Promoted European integration and mobility
- Provided a European dimension to the discussions on quality
- Gave Europe's HE a new face in the worlds



EUA

European University Association

From Declaration to institutional reality



Challenges for the next decade

Need for a Bologna 2.0 to improve the dynamics of the EHEA:

- 1) Consolidation, communication and optimisation of existing reforms
- 2) Strengthening the link between education and research
- 3) Providing more education to more people
- 4) Dealing with the impact of rankings
- 5) Redefining public responsibility
- 6) Fit to face global challenges

Bologna's response: Priorities for the Next Decade (Leuven Communiqué)

- 1) Equitable access and completion
- 2) Lifelong learning
- 3) Employability
- 4) The teaching mission of HE
- 5) Research and Innovation
- 6) International Openness
- 7) Mobility
- 8) Data Collection
- 9) 'Transparency tools'
- 10) Funding

Bologna's response: The Leuven/Louvain-la-Neuve Ministerial Summit

- « Faced with the challenge of an ageing population, Europe can only succeed in this endeavour if it maximizes the talents and capacities of all its citizens and fully engages in **lifelong learning** »
- « **Student centred learning** *and mobility* will help students develop the competencies they need in a changing labour market....' »
- « We consider **public investment in higher education** an utmost priority»

Bologna's response: The Leuven/Louvain-la-Neuve Ministerial Summit

- **Equitable access and completion:**

“The student body of higher education should reflect the diversity of Europe's populations.....Each country will set measurable targets for widening overall participation and increasing participation of underrepresented groups, to be reached by the end of the next decade”

The Leuven/Louvain-la-Neuve Ministerial Summit: Areas of tension

- Ranking and classification versus quality assurance
- Mobility benchmarks- by 2020, at least 20% of those graduating in the European Higher Education Area should have a study or training period abroad
- Explicitness of alternative funding
 - ✓ student protest and the fee debate
 - ✓ 'Greater attention should be paid to seeking new and diversified funding sources and methods'

International openness: The Ministerial Policy Forum

« Competition on a global scale will be complemented by enhanced policy dialogue and cooperation based on partnerships with other regions of the world, in particular through the organisation of Bologna Policy Fora »

- 16 non-European countries represented in Louvain
- Round table of statements on Bologna effects in these different countries
- Consensus to learn and share, ranging from US to Ethiopia to Japan

So what comes next?

- Bologna as usual.....same structure, same membership criteria, same bi-annual ministerial checks?
- Implementation is the challenge: how to ensure ministerial commitment, while working with the details?
- No need for further action lines: how to keep the momentum for European cooperation?

EUAs contribution: Studies & Reports

- Masters study
- Doc-Careers report
- Towards full costing in European Higher Education
- University autonomy in Europe (November 2009)
- Diversity study (November 2009)
- Trends 2010 (March 2010)

EUAs contribution: Projects & Activities

- Shaping Inclusive & Responsive University Strategies
- Autonomy scorecard
- Diversifying income streams: EUDIS
- Examining quality culture
- Doc-Careers II
- EUA Council for Doctoral Education
- Global dialogue events: Africa, Latin-America, North America and Asia

EUA and interregional dialogue

- Ten years ago, internationalisation meant 'Europeanisation' to us
- Gradually we see the need to communicate with partners in other world regions, reflect our HE reform processes on a global level
- Bologna is not the only reform model, and the EHEA can't exist in a vacuum
- EUA supports Europe-Africa dialogue, which is different than Germany-Africa, Denmark-Africa or France-Africa: added value of region-region cooperation

Bologna beyond Europe?

- Gradual acknowledgement that Europe's internal HE processes mean something to the rest of the world beyond European borders: 'Bologna in a Global Setting'
- Curiosity from other regions: Latin America, Australia.....North America
- Communicating Bologna to the rest of the world....
- Yet remaining humble about it's 'application' elsewhere and obstacles still ahead

EUA and Inter-regional policy dialogue: Action

- Asia-Europe Meetings (ASEM) rectors' conference, and establishing an 'ASEM University Platform'
- Biennial Transatlantic Dialogue with university leadership
- Cooperation with Latin American university associations and the 'EU-LAC higher education space'
- EUA Institutional Evaluations in non-European countries: a unique approach to quality evaluation
- Now: Europe-Africa Rectors' dialogue and project with the AAU/ European national partners