HRK MODUS

Enhancing student mobility
across educational boundaries through recognition

Challenges and Solutions for Recognition in Turkish Higher Education

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November, 2021

Online

Presentation Outline

- Turkish Higher Education System with figures
- Impact of Bologna Process and EHEA on THE
- Literature on Recognition
- Purpose of the Study
- Methodology
- Findings and Discussion
- Conclusion

TURKEY

- Population: 82 Million
- Balanced gender distribution
- **%68** : between the ages of **15-64**, that is, at **working ages**
- **%23,4** : lower than **15**
- **%9** : over **65**
- Mean age of Turkey is: **32**

Demographic Window of Opportunity :
A suitable and potential population for economic development…

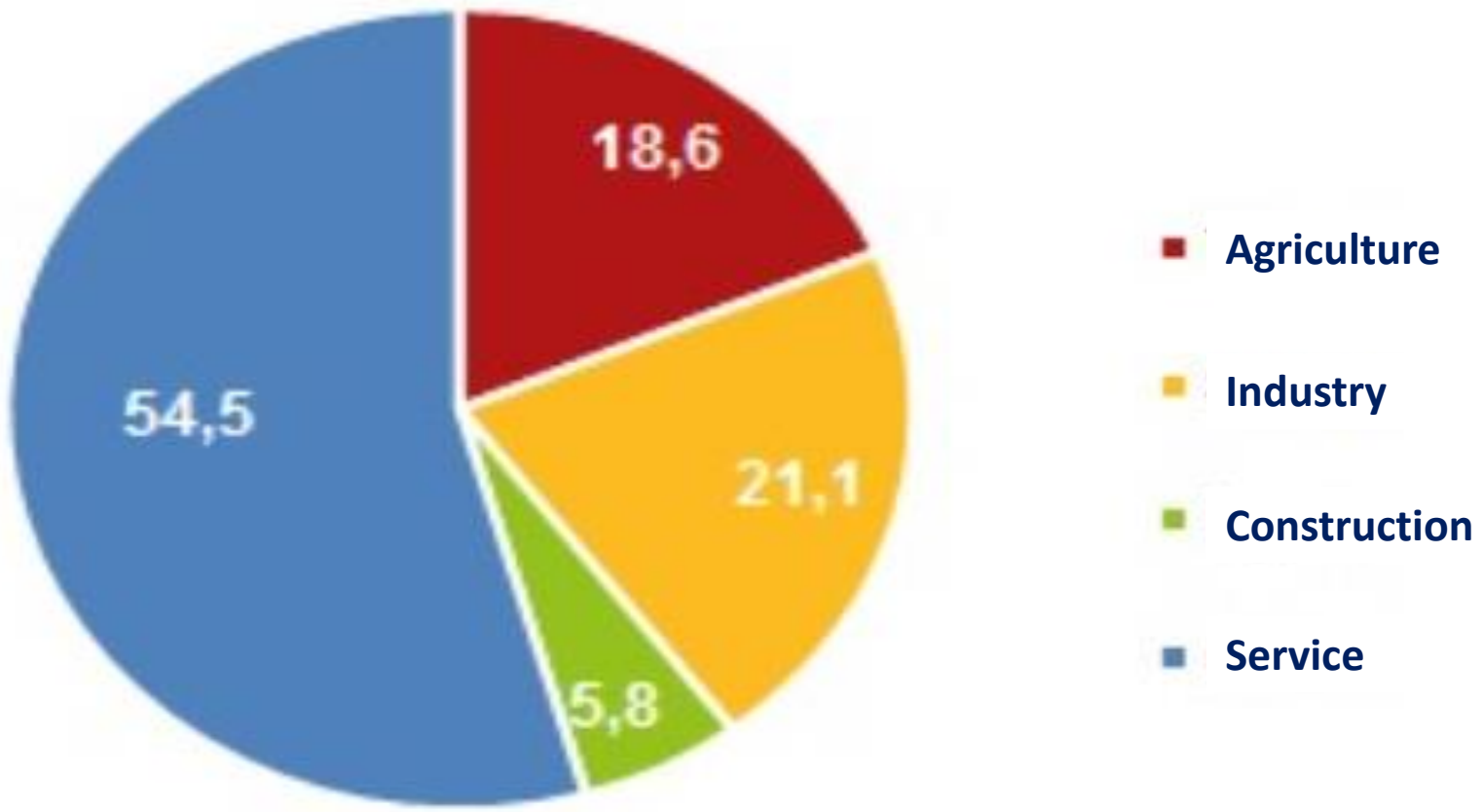
Turkey: just at this point…

Population issues during previous century: dramatic increase

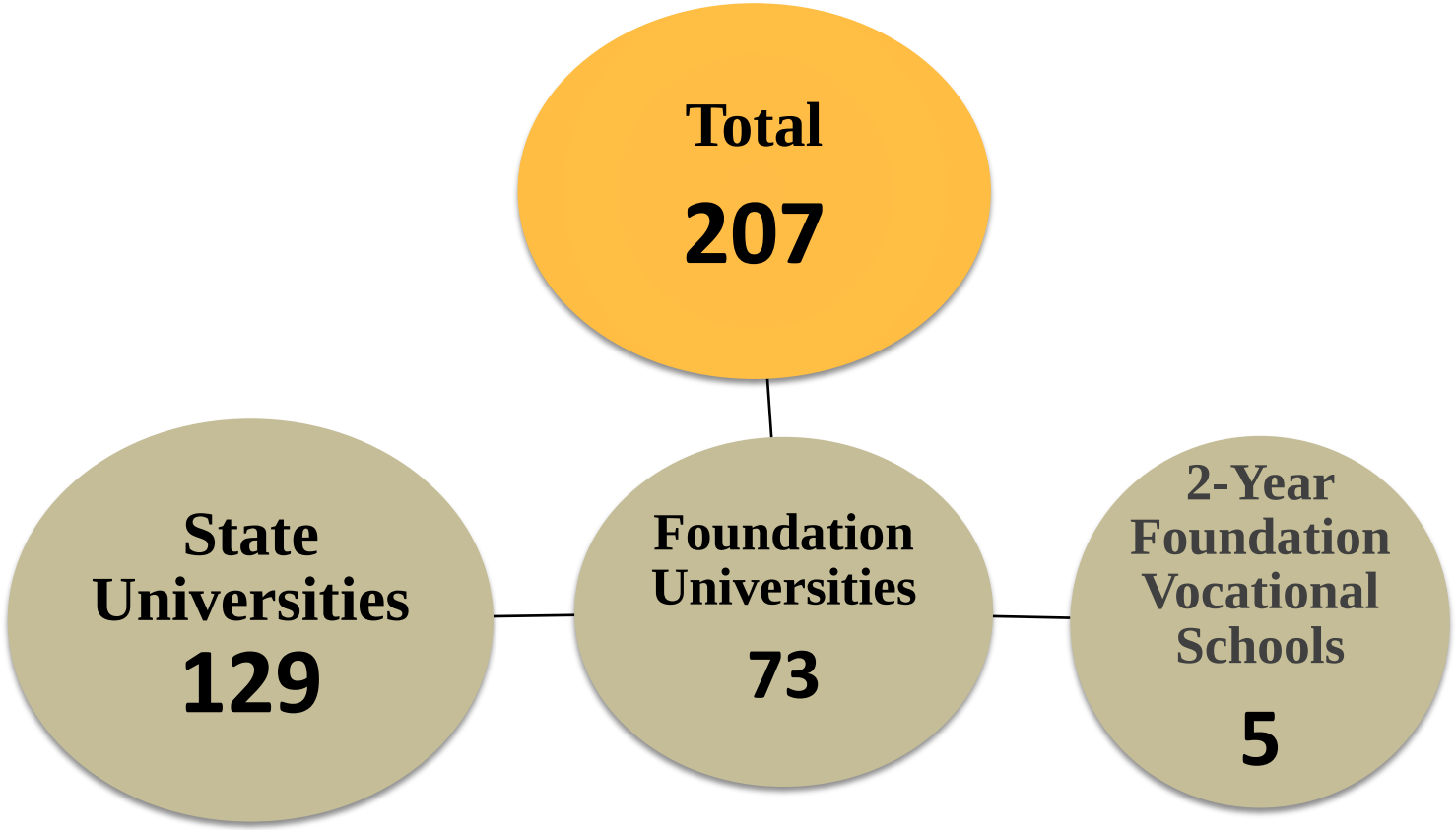
Population issues during this century:

- Distributed in different age groups,
- Age characteristics differing in regions and cities,
- Extension of life span,
- Change in the structure and composition of family,
- Immigration

Distribution of Employment by Sector (%), January 2021



Numbers of Higher Education Institutions



TURKISH HIGHER EDUCATION
NUMBERS OF THE STUDENTS - 2021

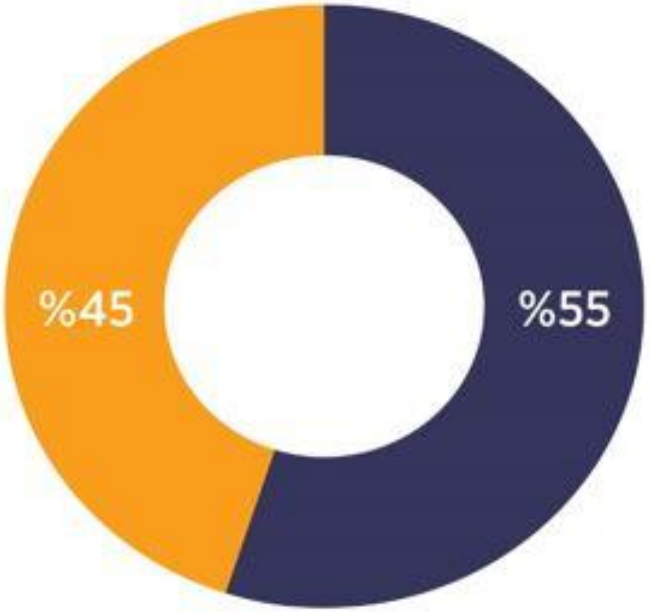
Overview		
FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
%48.12	%51,87	8.076.615

Based on Degree			
Doctorate Degree	Master's Level	Bachelor's Degree	Associate's Degree
106.148	343.569	4.676.657	3.114.623

TURKISH HIGHER EDUCATION

NUMBERS OF THE ACADEMIC STAFF - 2021

Total Number of Academic Staff



Male
98.404

Female
81.661

Total
180.065

Professor

Male
20.748

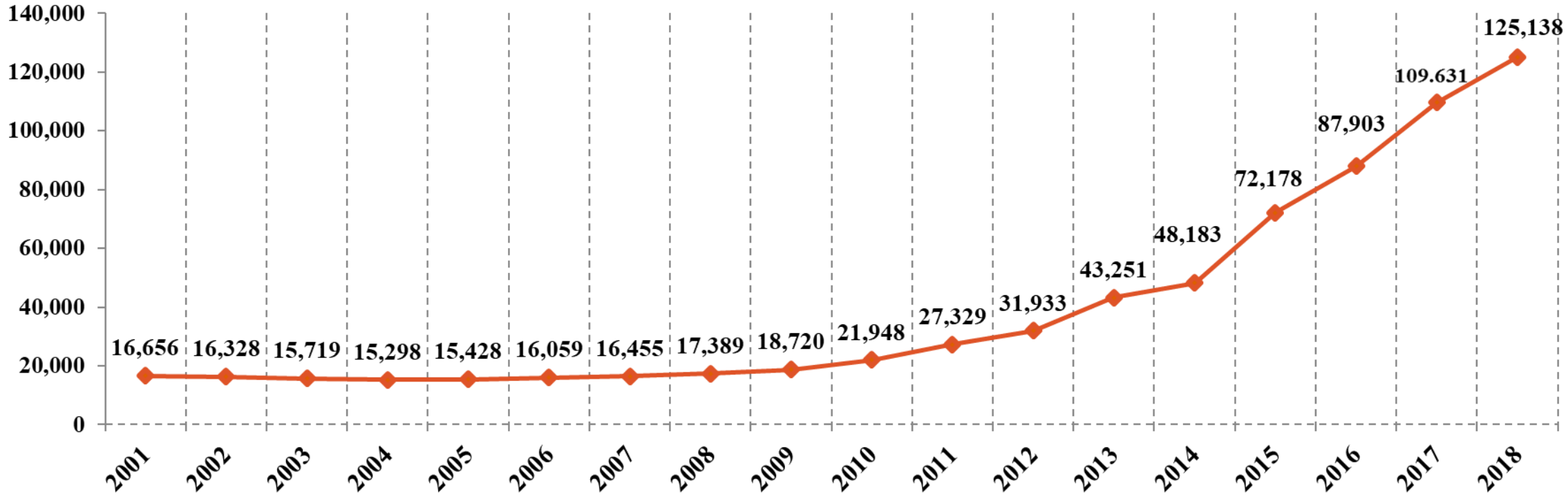
Female
10.011

Total
30.759

International Students by Year

2001 – 2018

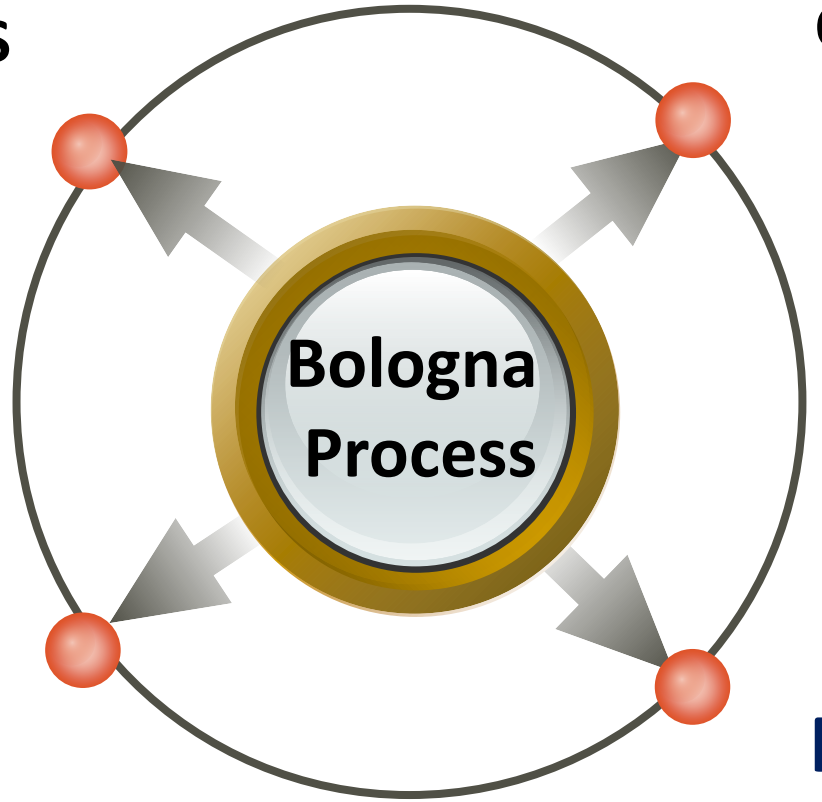
2021
240 thousands



The number of international students, which was around 48 thousands in 2014, has exceeded 240 thousands in 2021.

ECTS and DS Suplements

Qualifications Framework



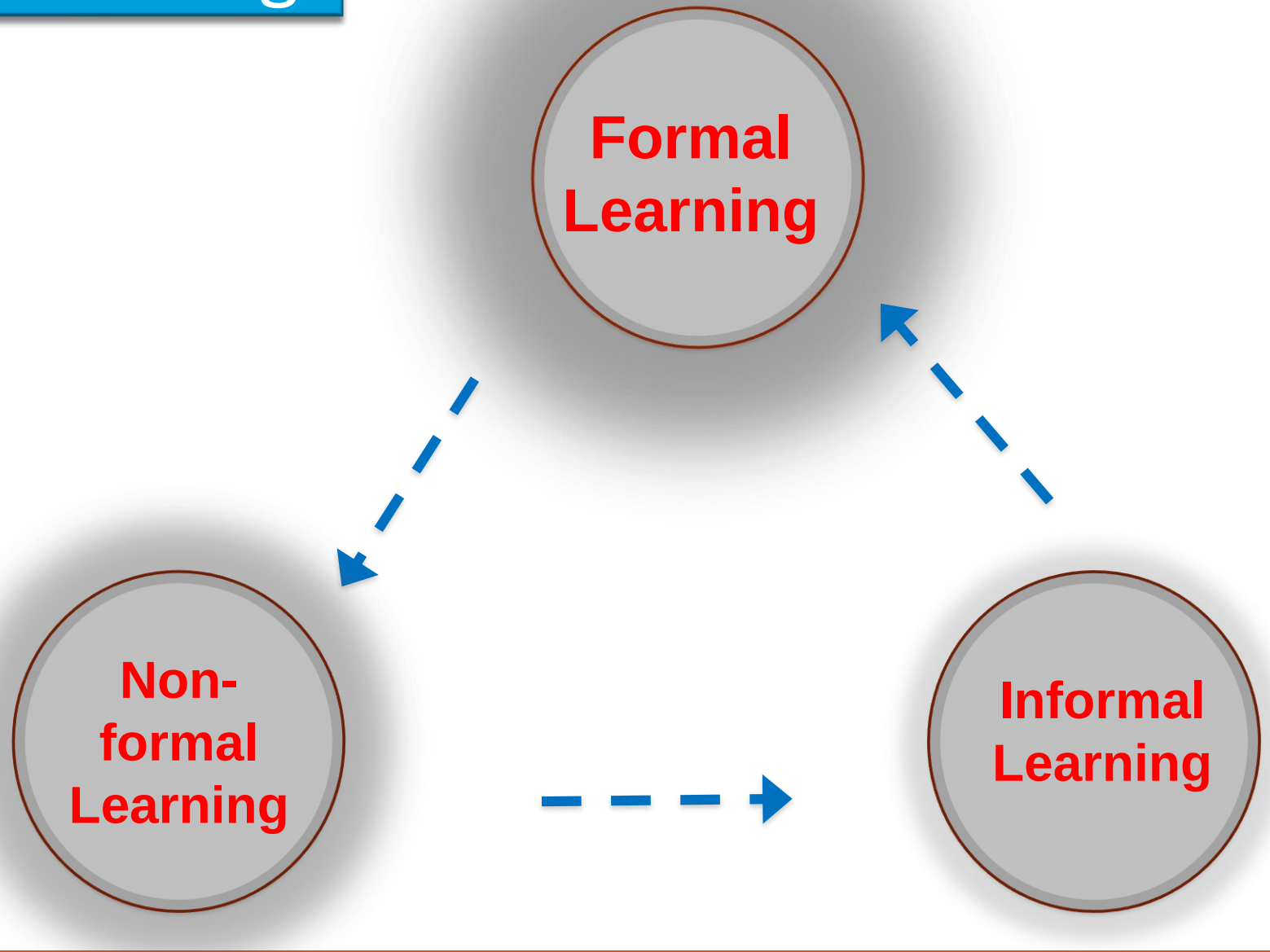
Quality Assurance

Recognition of Qualifications

What is RPL?

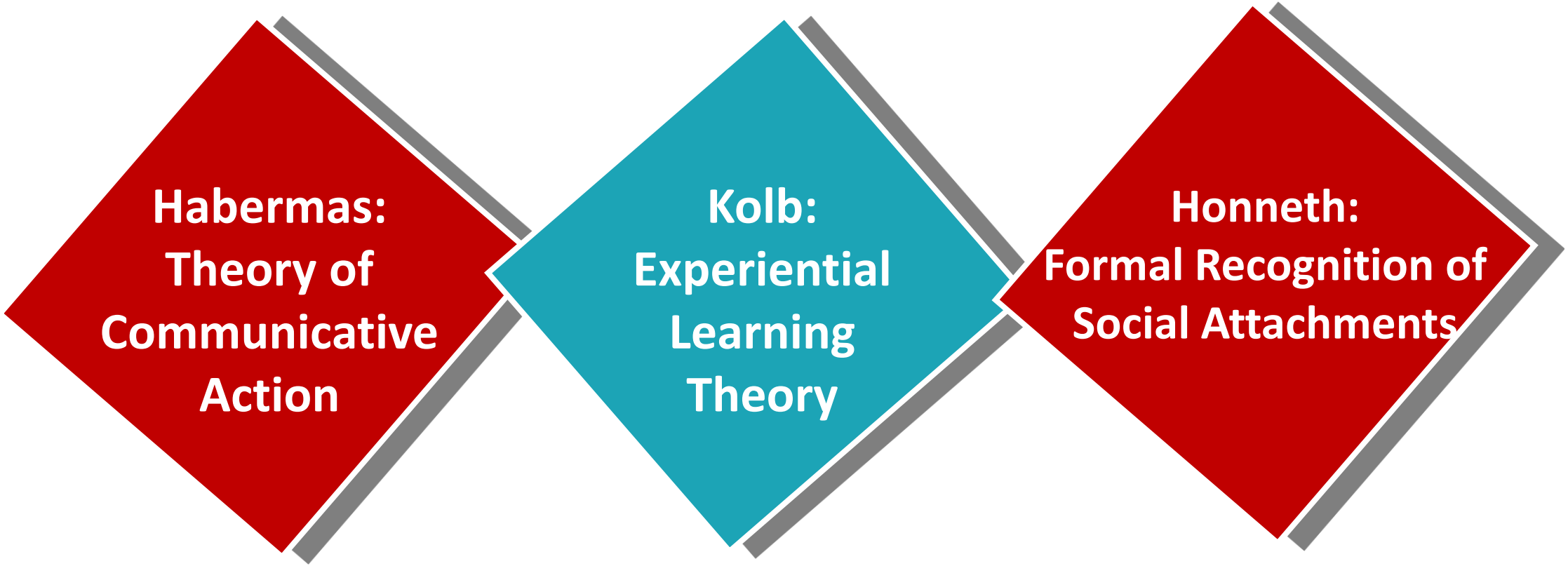
- Recognition of prior learning (RPL) is a process by which both formal learning for recognised awards, informal learning from experience and non-formal learning for uncertificated but planned learning is given academic recognition.
- RPL is a cornerstone of the lifelong learning policies.

Types of Learning



Credit Transfer Model	Developmental Model	Transformational Model
Individual learner oriented; learning is acquisition	Individual learner oriented; process learning	learner oriented; social-oriented process; potential for change in learning
Neutral and universal	Subjective and experimental	Includes cultural and social environments
Credits received from an authority insitution is recognised	Experince is important	Selfknowledge and autonomy
Technical	Humanistic	Radical

Theories on RPL



Studies on RPL

- ✓ Venter (1999): A model for recognition of prior learning in higher education institutions in South Africa

- ✓ Sutherland (2006): Challenges and opportunities for implementing Recognition of Prior Learning

- ✓ De Graaf, Frederika Hilde (2010): Assessing knowledge claims through the recognition of prior learning (RPL)

Thinking Higher and Beyond
Perspectives on the Futures of Higher Education to 2050

unesco
Instituto Internacional para la Educación Superior en América Latina y el Caribe

Through cross-border internationalization initiatives

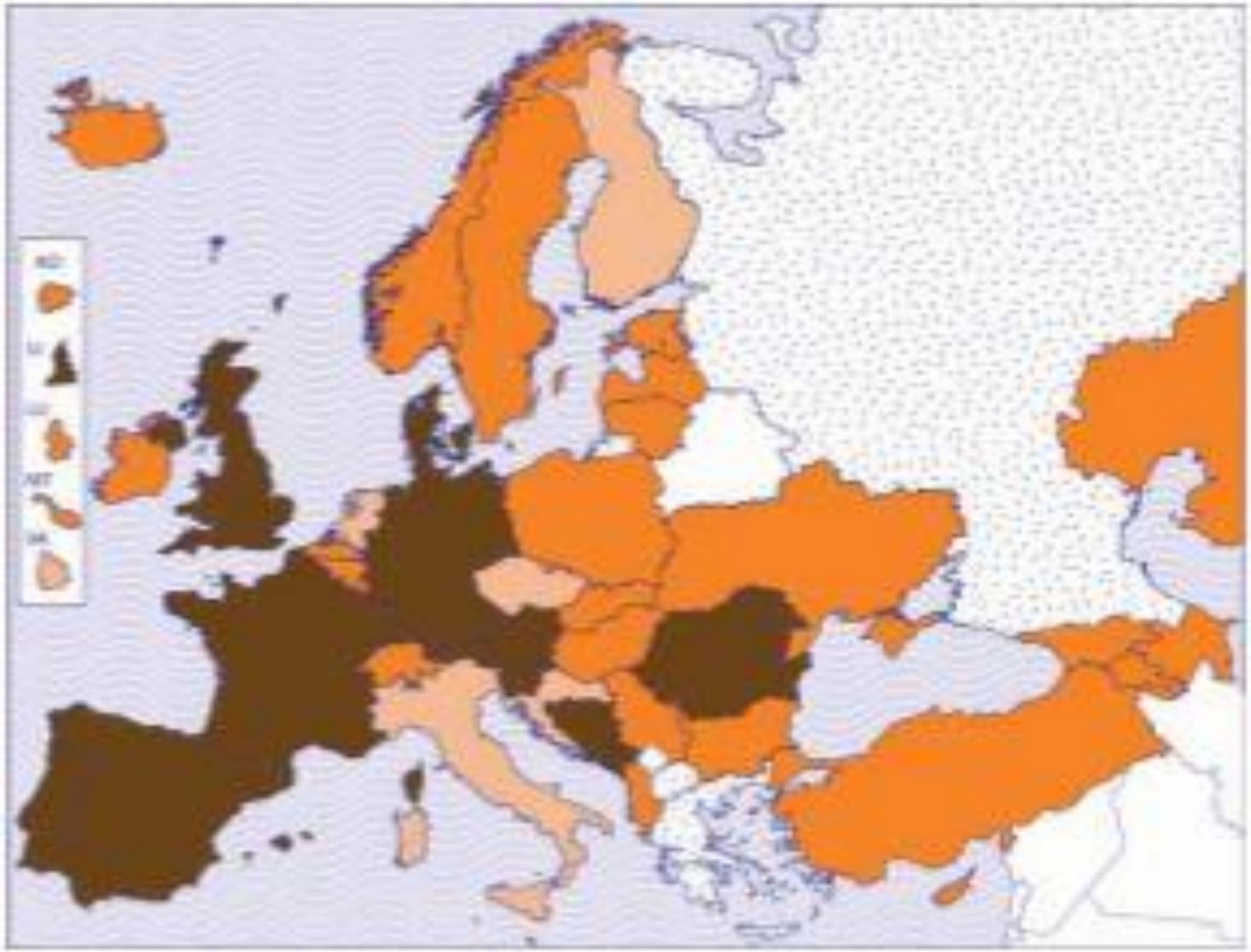
Mutual recognition of academic and professional qualifications…

Recognition in Turkey

*Formal education

Non-formal and Informal Education

BIR 2012



Institutional recognition policies **are evaluated**

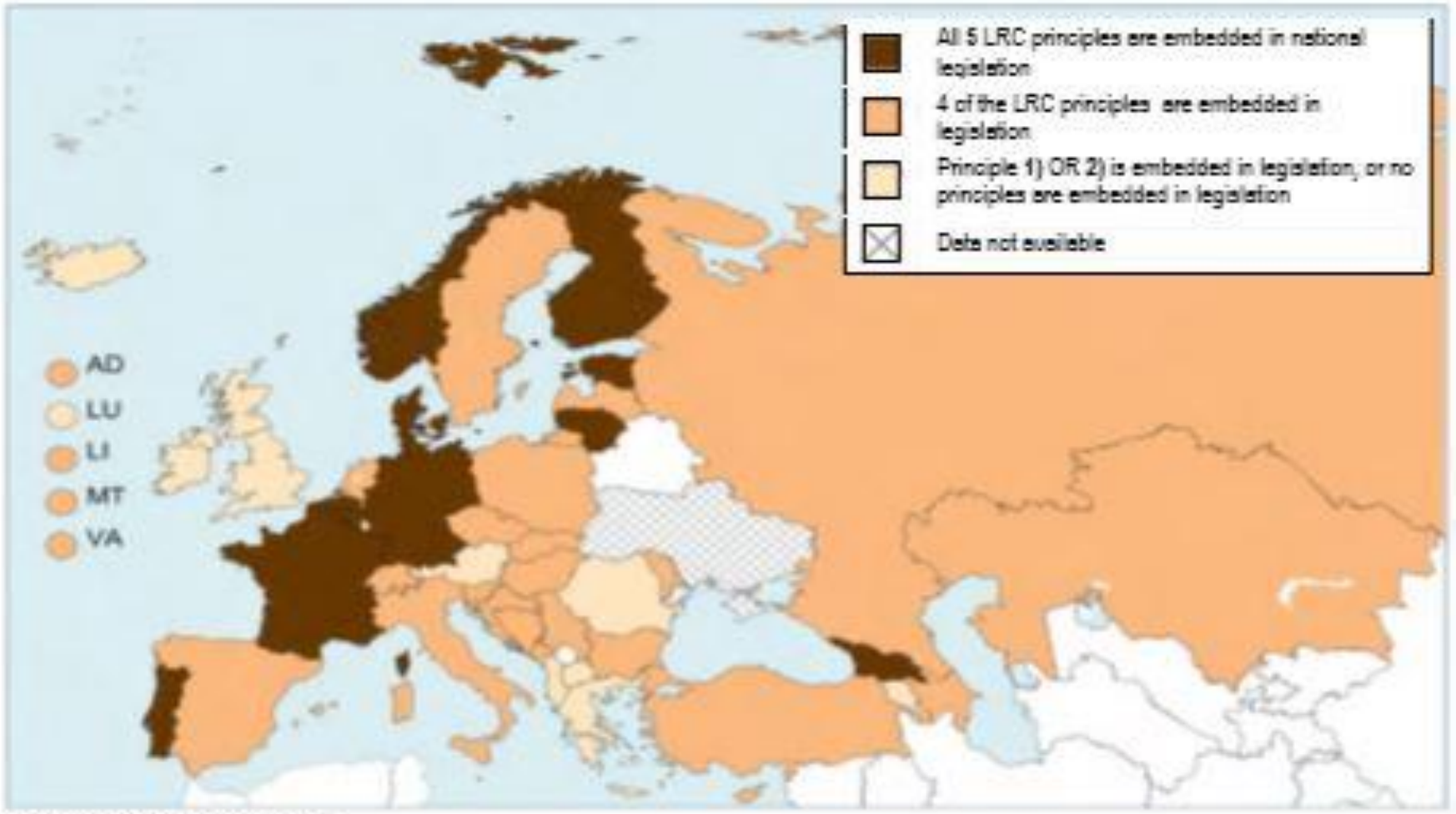
Institutional recognition policies **are not evaluated**

Institutional recognition policies **are evaluated sometimes**

Data not available

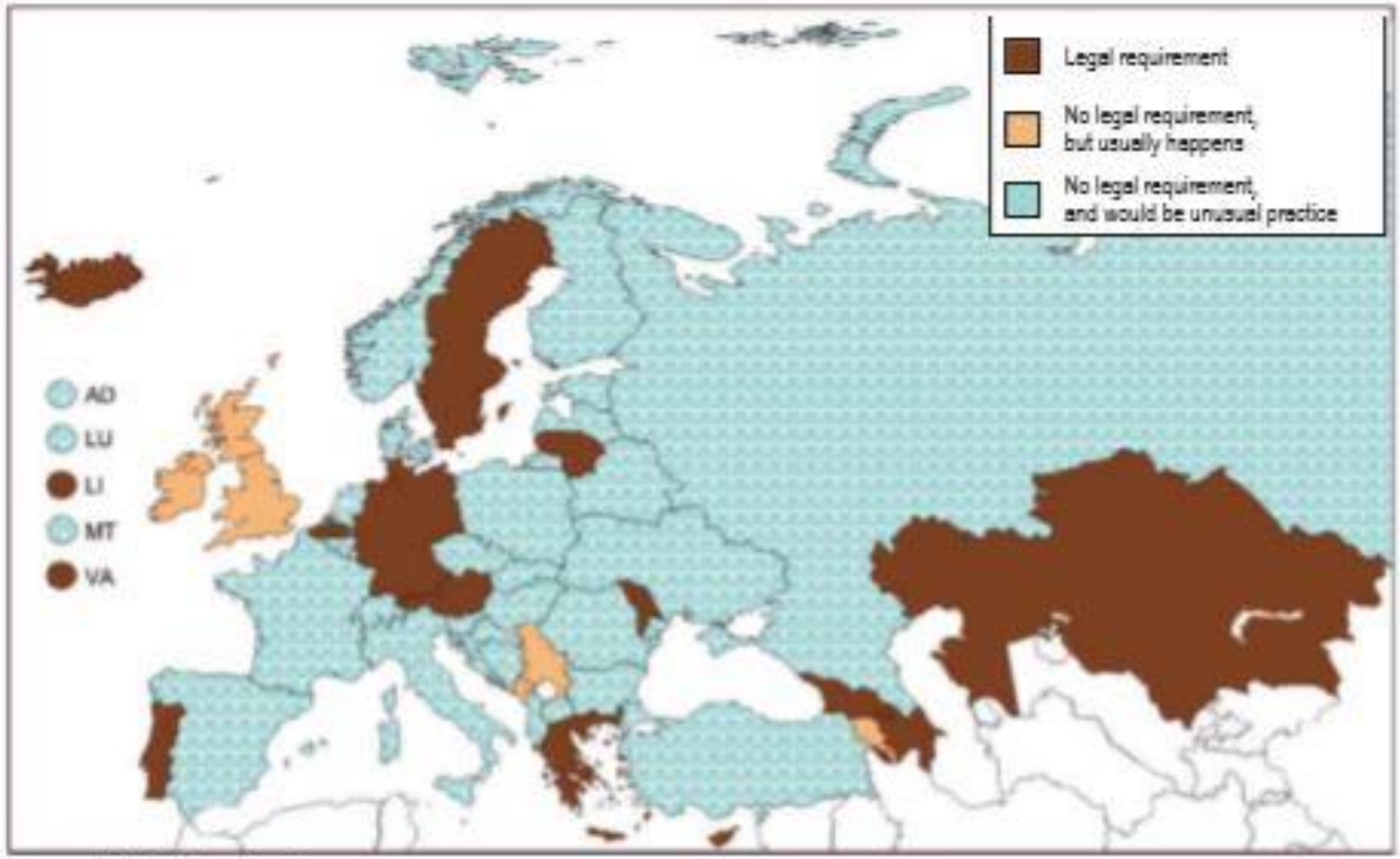
Source: BFUG questionnaire.

BIR 2015



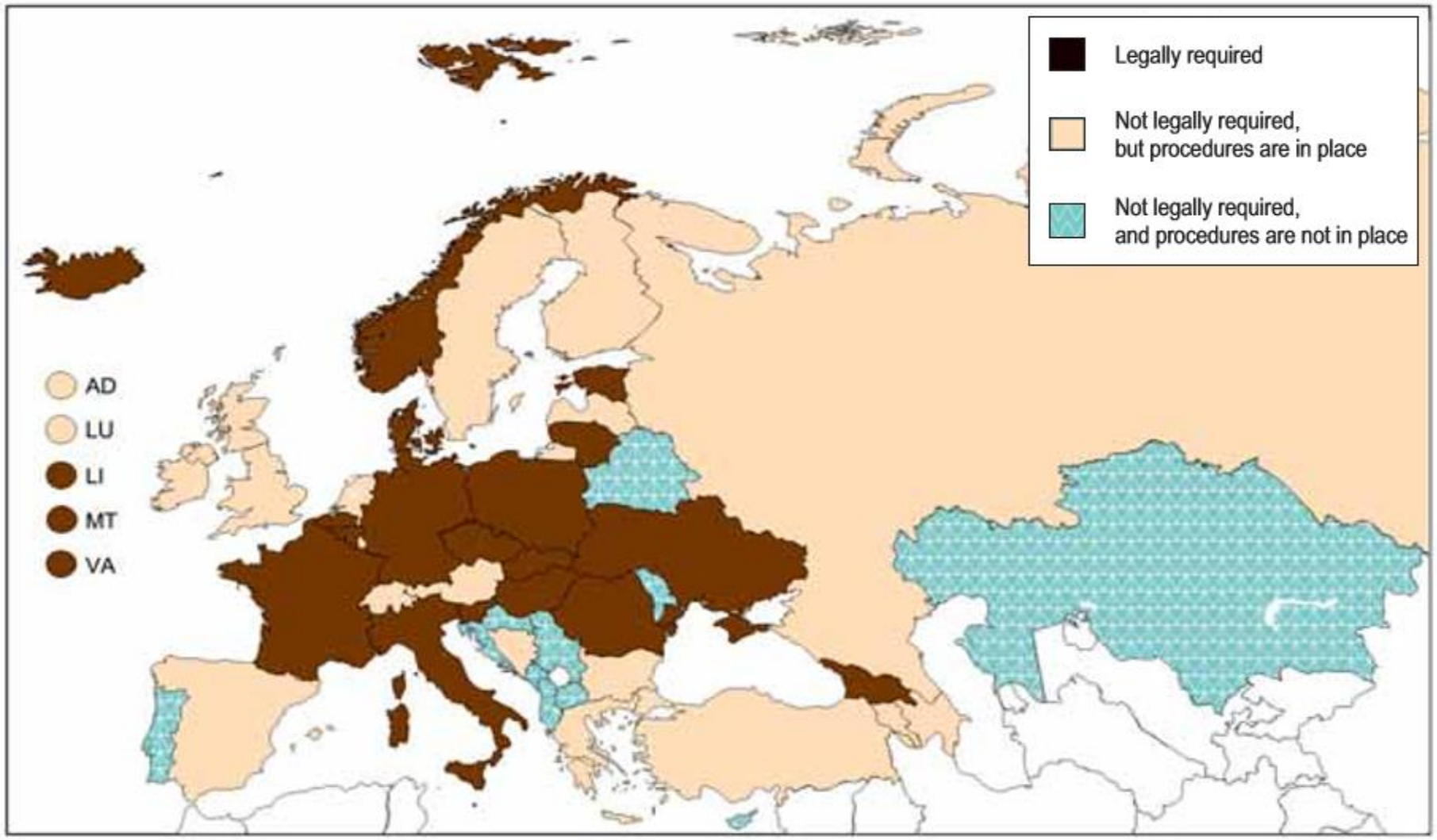
Source: BFUG questionnaire.

BIR 2018



Source: BFUG data collection.

BIR 2020



Source: BFUG data collection.

Developments in Turkey

Bologna Projects:

Bologna National Experts

workshops, seminars, focus group meetings in different regions

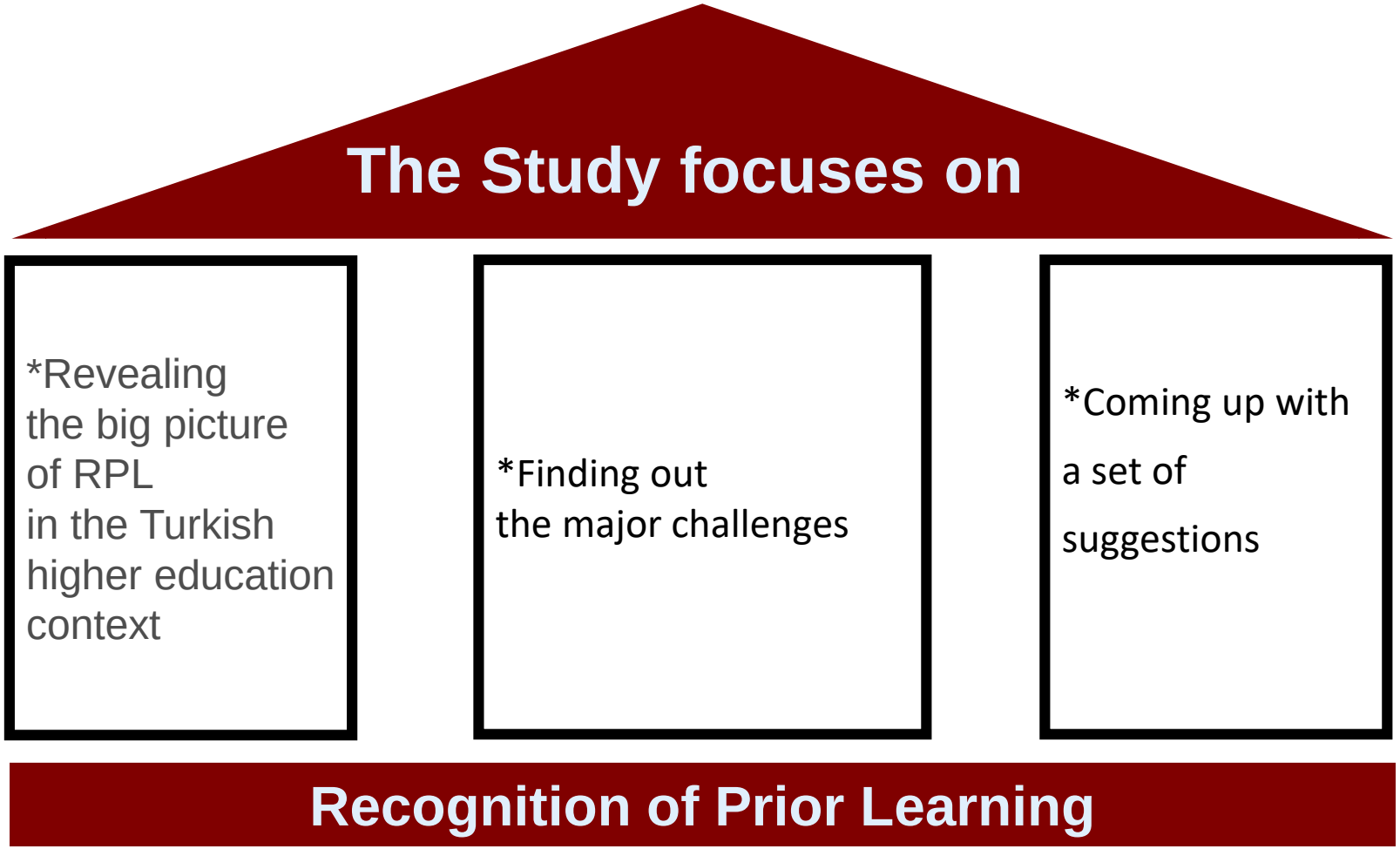
TURQUAS:

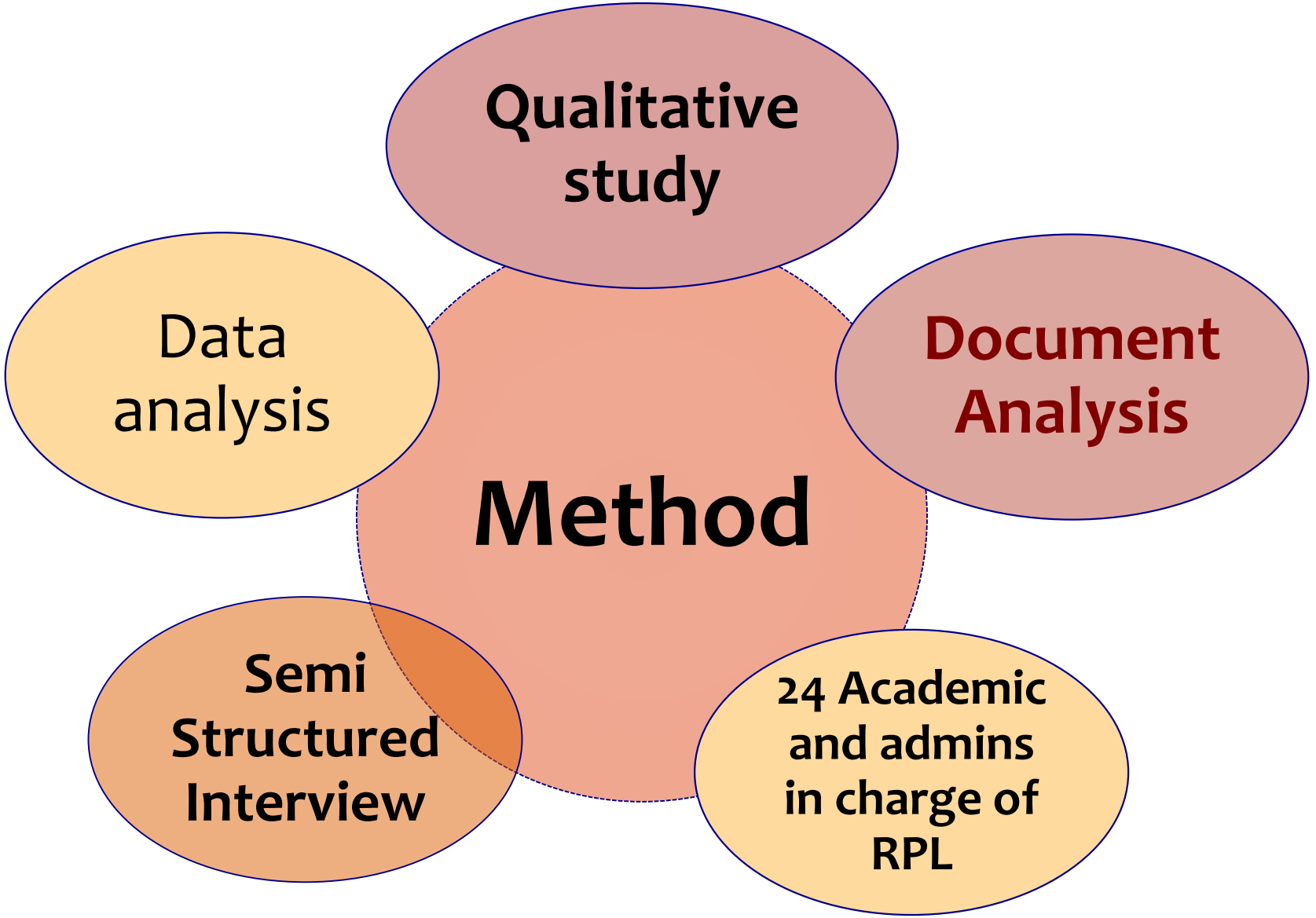
Site-visits to some universities

Translation of Manual

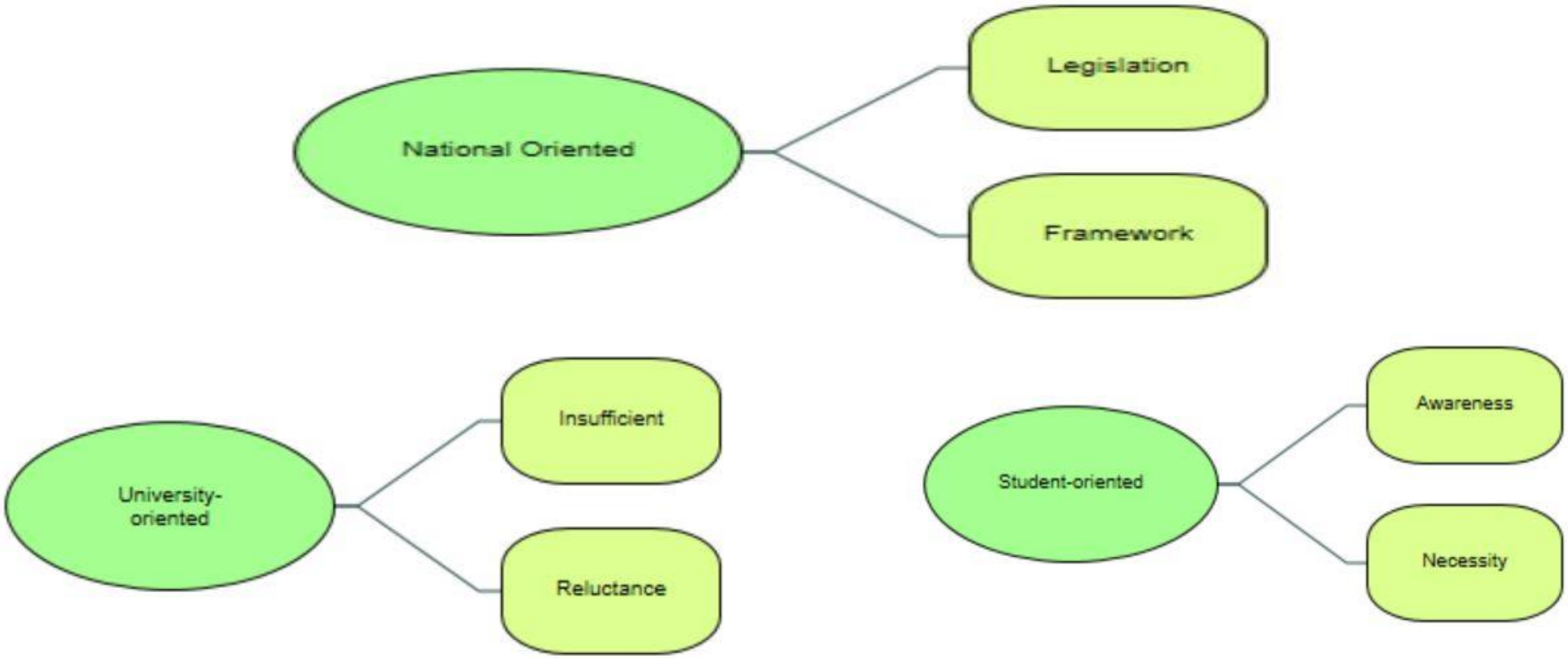
Qualification Frameworks:

Referencing of TQF to EQF


The Study focuses on
*Revealing the big picture of RPL in the Turkish higher education context
*Finding out the major challenges
*Coming up with a set of suggestions
Recognition of Prior Learning


Qualitative study
Data analysis
Document Analysis
Method
Semi Structured Interview
24 Academic and admins in charge of RPL

Results


National Oriented
Legislation
Framework
University-oriented
Insufficient
Reluctance
Student-oriented
Awareness
Necessity

Conclusion

- New Project on RPL
- Legislative steps
- Establishment of a unit at universities and national bodies
- Further research with students
- Beyond awareness

Thank you very much…

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