RECOGNITION FROM STUDENTS` PERSPECTIVE
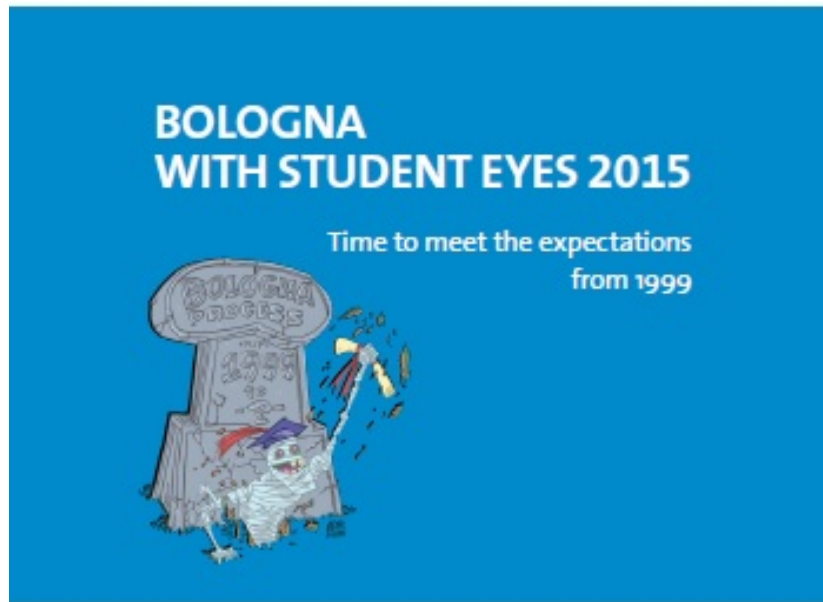

Urša Leban
Seminar on Substantial Differences
Bologna, Italy
26.6.2019
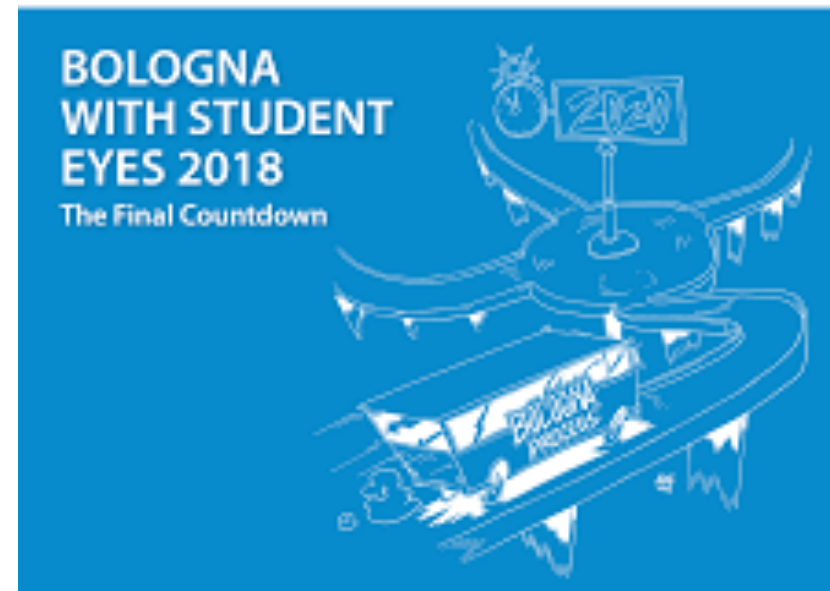
Bologna With Student Eyes

Who are we?

- **The European Students' Union (ESU) is** the umbrella organisation of **45** National Unions of Students (NUS) from **39** countries.

1. Recognition procedures

2015

- Seen as **non- discriminatory**
- 9 NUSs (24%) report procedures being transparent
- 27/38 unions report about having difficulties with recognition of **mobility credits**
- 14/38 NUSs report **no fixed time period** for a procedure to be finished

2018

- 42% of NUSs see it as a non-discriminatory, 16% do not
- 16 NUSs (37%) see it as a **transparent** procedure, 32% do not
- **one third** of the unions (13/43) reported having problems with recognition of mobility programmes
- 18/45 see it as a **complex procedure**

1. Recognition procedures

2015

- Procedures mostly done at ENIC/NARIC, 20/37 reported HEI to be involved and 12/37 at national governments
- foreign qualification and credits => HEI
- Final decision: 16/37 for ENIC/NARIC

2018

- Majority of credits and qualifications are being assessed by HEI (27/43) , ENIC/NARIC 37%, national governments 23%
- Final decision: in 14% done by ENIC/NARIC (they have more of a consultative role then making a final decision)

2. Automatic recognition

2015

- 14/38 NUSs reported having bilateral agreements
- 11/38 reported having recognition based on the implementation of Bologna tools
- 11/38 NUSs do not report of any form of AR

Main reasons for no AR named by NUSs:

- various implementation levels of Bologna Process reforms and tools (23/37)
- lack of trust between the EHEA countries (22/37)
- some concerns regarding regulated professions (20/38)

eSU
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2. Automatic recognition

2018

Does your country automatically recognize degrees from other EHEA countries?

Legend:
- Yes, from countries with Bologna tools in place (QA, ECTS, Dipolma Supplement etc)
- Yes, with bilateral agreements
- Yes, from neighbouring countries
- No, not at all
- I do not know
- Yes, using another criteria then mentioned above, please specify (please specify)
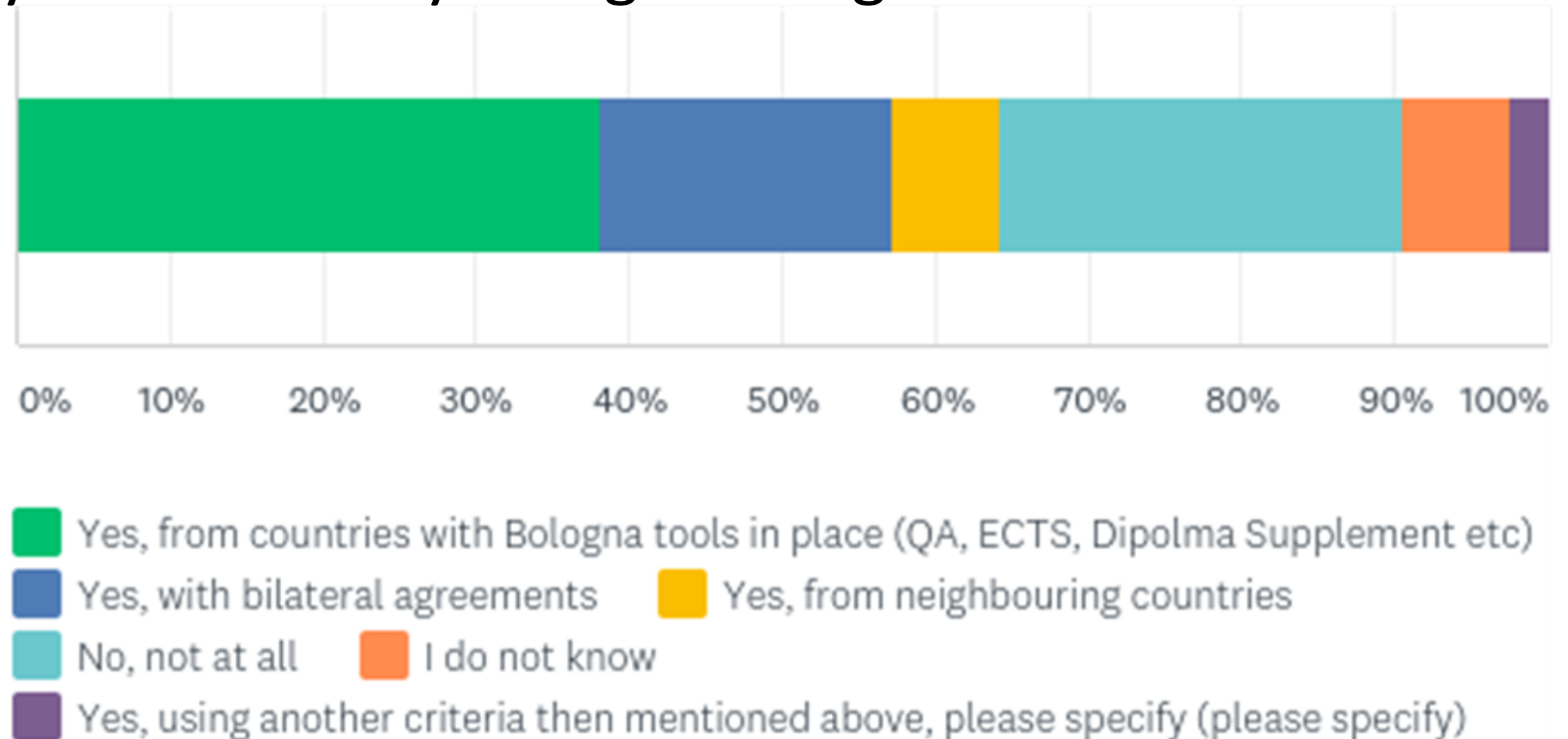
2. Automatic recognition

2018
What are the main barriers for having automatic recognition of degrees within EHEA?

Not all EHEA countries have consistent implementation of Bologna tools/reforms
22

Lack of interest by the governments in making this happen
18

Some concerns regarding regulated professions
13

Lack of trust between EHEA countries
19

Lack of transparency and information within EHEA
6

None, we do not understand why it is not in place yet
5

Cultural differences
5
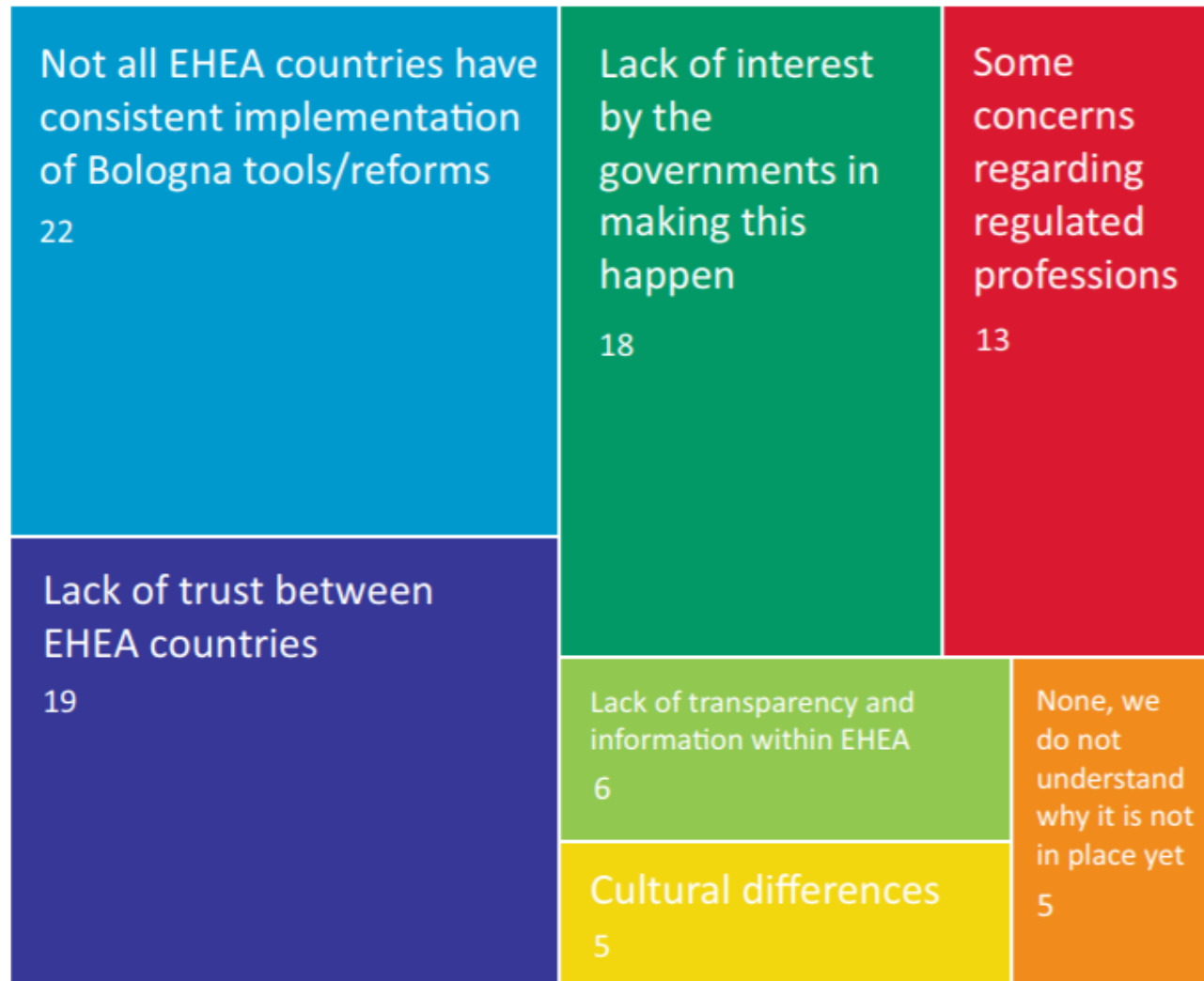
2. Automatic recognition: should it be a priority?

2015 *„ An overwhelming majority of unions responded that they support automatic recognition, and even 25 of 38 consider it a priority for EHEA.*"

2018 *„...almost all (93%) of the students' unions support automatic recognition fully or with only some concerns. In addition, around 47% (20 out of 43) of the unions consider automatic recognition a high or essential priority of the Bologna process.*"

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3. Recognition of prior learning

2015

- 14/38 NUSs reported having established systems
- 15/38 NUSs have some initiatives in place
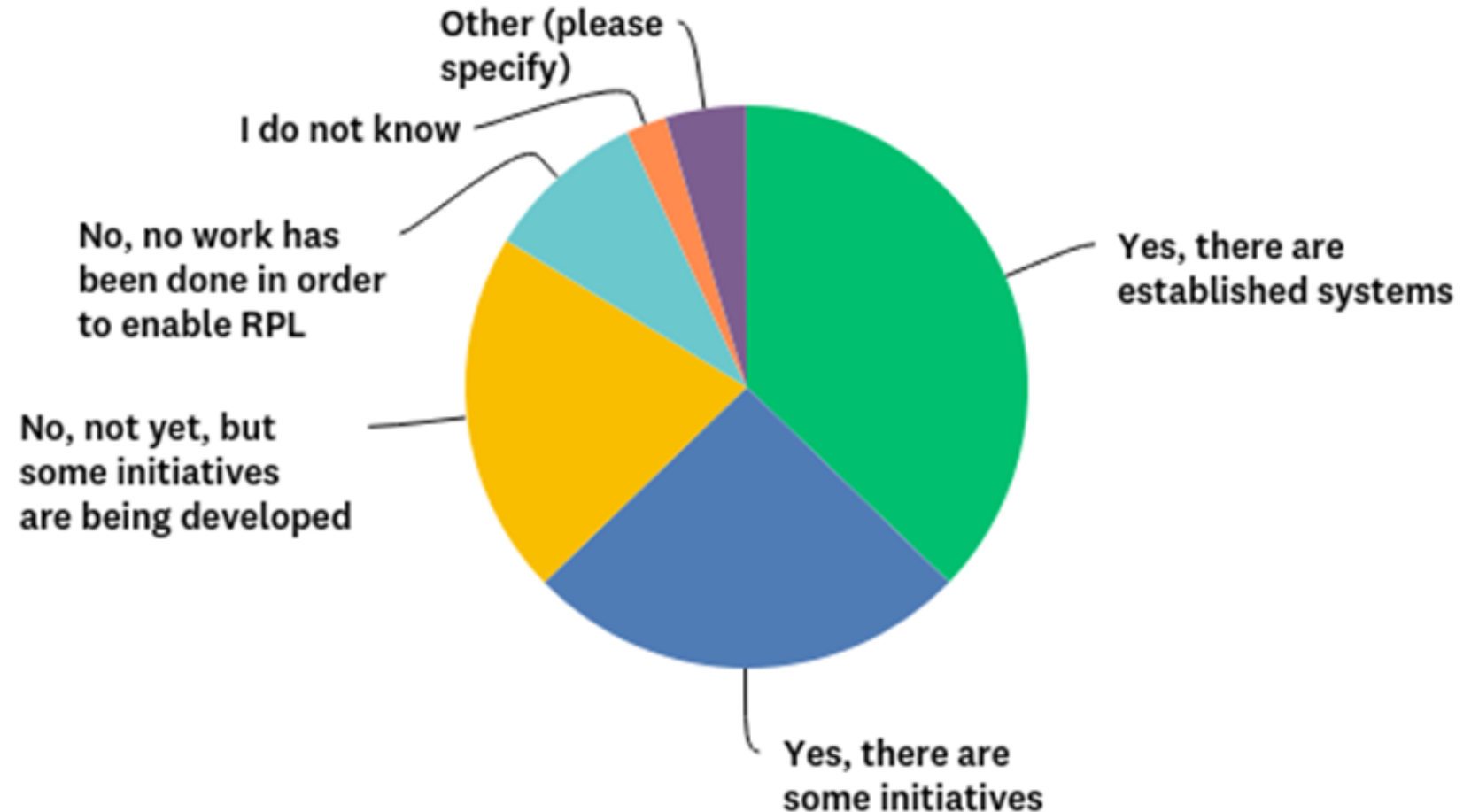- 4/38 NUSs report no RPL

2018

- 63% NUSs: established procedures for recognition of prior learning
- 40% NUSs: no procedures (yet)

3. Recognition of prior learning

2018

Is the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) possible in your country?

Pie chart segments labeled:
- Other (please specify)
- I do not know
- No, no work has been done in order to enable RPL
- No, not yet, but some initiatives are being developed
- Yes, there are established systems
- Yes, there are some initiatives

3. Recognition of prior learning

2015

The major barriers
- the lack of trust in the validation of qualifications (24/36)
- the limited information and a lack of trust among main stakeholders (20/36)
- the lack of National Qualification Frameworks (14/36)
- legislation limiting RPL (13/36)
- the lack of resources (11/36)
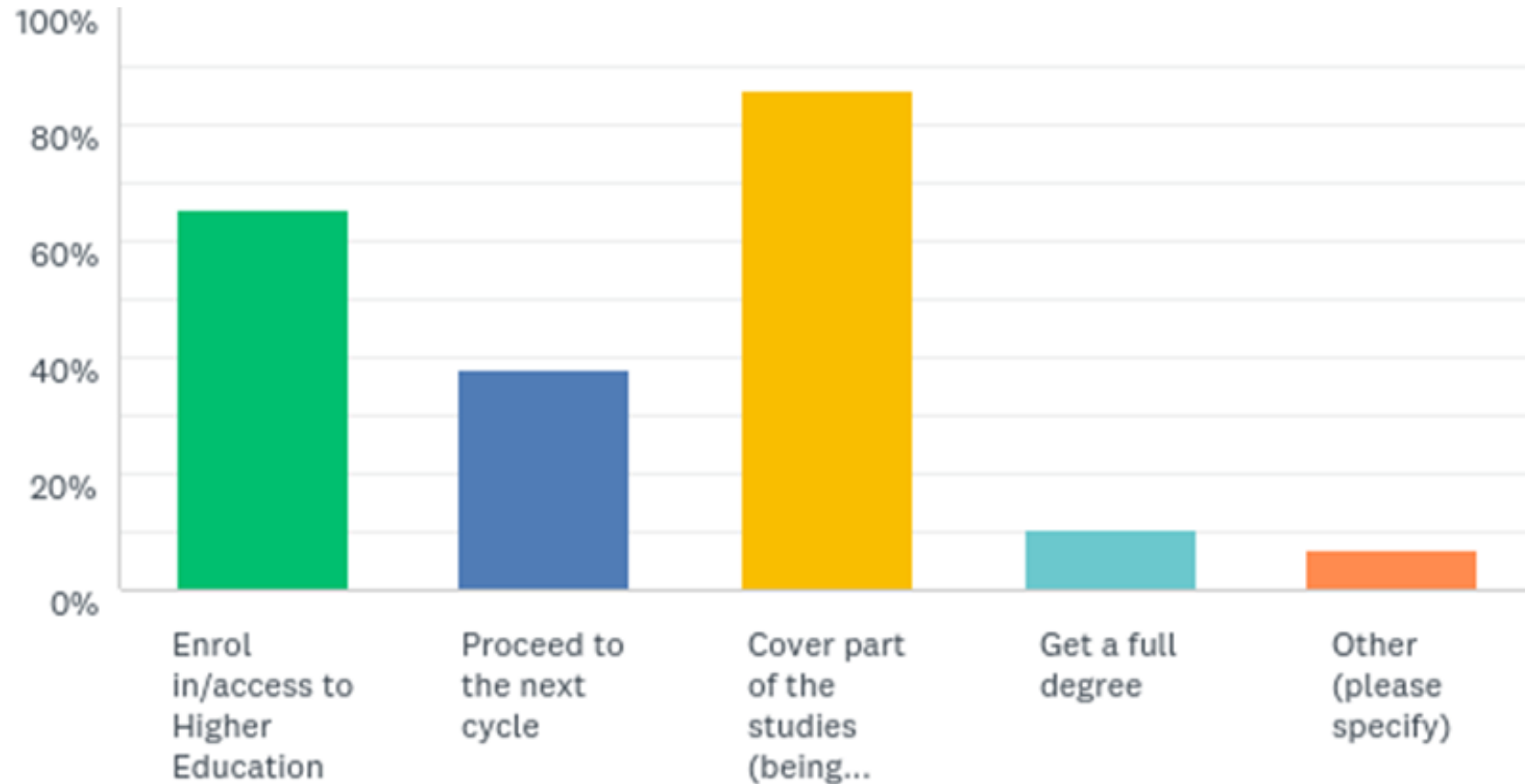
3. Recognition of prior learning

2018
Major barriers

Figure 7.3: Main barriers to recognition of prior learning

Barrier	Value
Lack of trust in the validation of qualifications	25
Limited information and a lack of trust among main stakeholders	22
Lack of resources / Cost of RPL	15
Lack of interest by the government in making this happen	12
Legislation limiting it or not allowing it	11
National Qualification Frameworks (NQF) have not been implemented nor their potential has been used fully for RPL	6
None, we do not understand why it is not in place yet	2

3. Recognition of prior learning

2018
What is RPL mostly used for?

Group work

Let`s look through the eyes of a student!

- How do these obstacles impact a student trying to enroll/already enrolled in HEI?
- What are the key points that need to be communicated with students? And how?
- Try to think practical!
- Create few key points/suggestions!