

Internationalization of External Quality Assurance



43 Higher Education Institutions

~ 1700 study programmes

~130 000 students

3 mln population



At least once every 6 years:

- Institutional Review and accreditation
- Study programme evaluation and accreditation

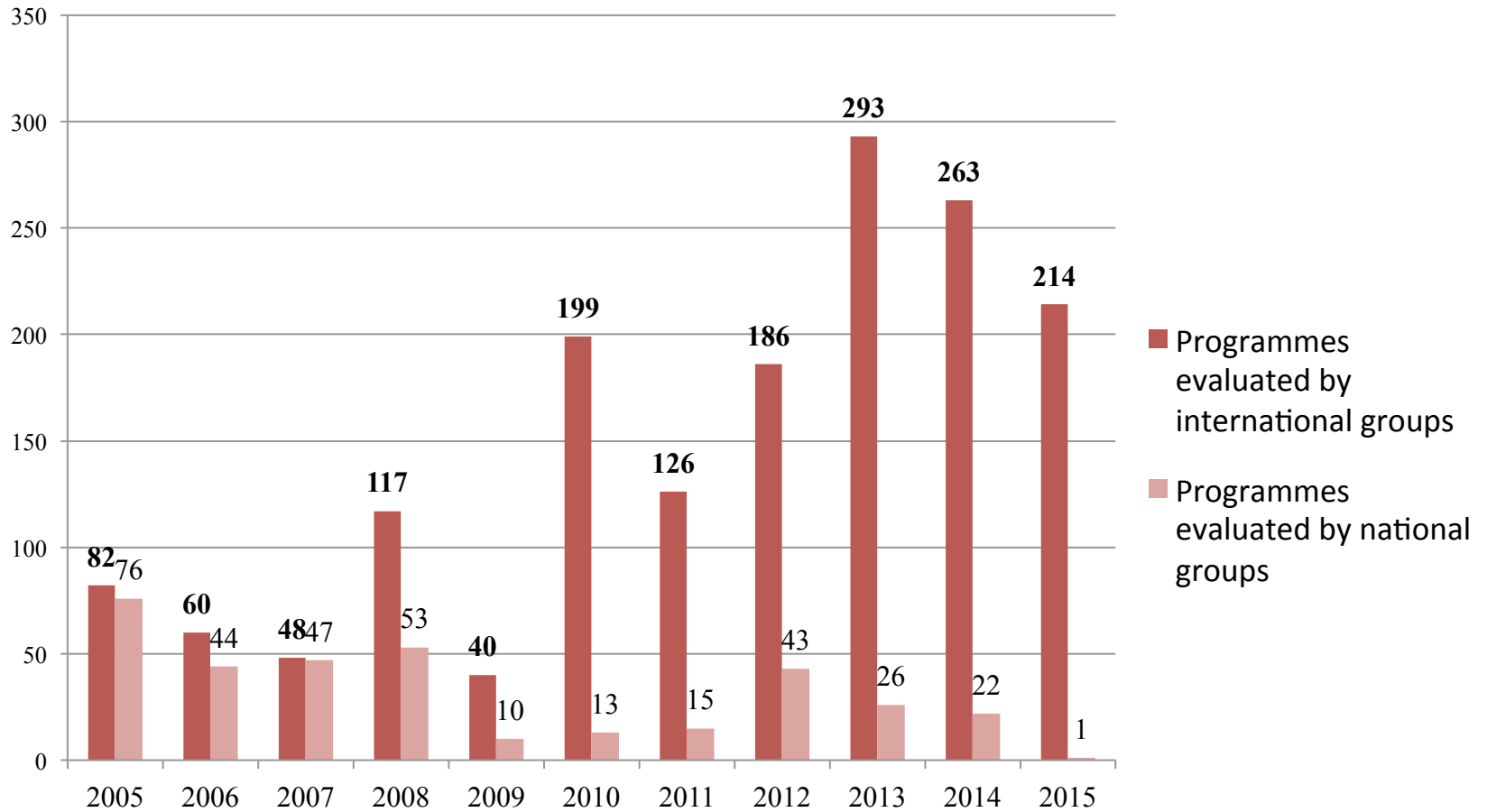
Study programme evaluation (from 1998):

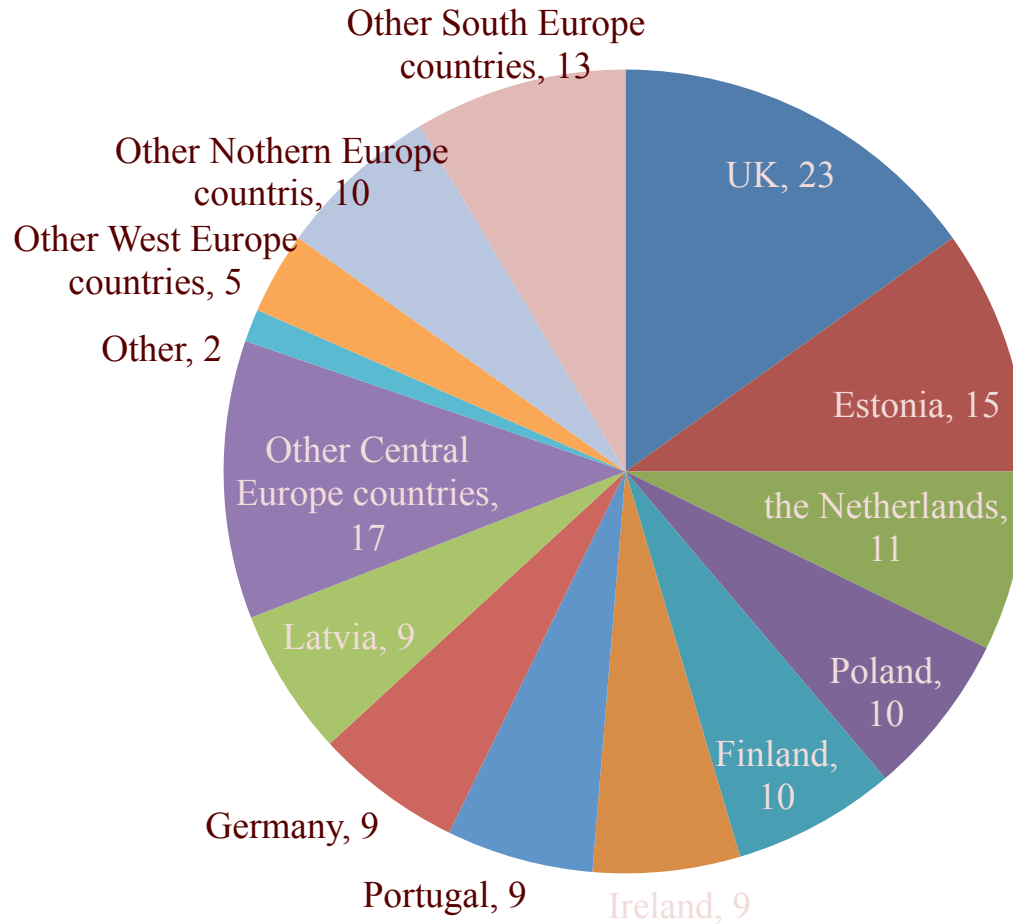
- International experts - from 2002

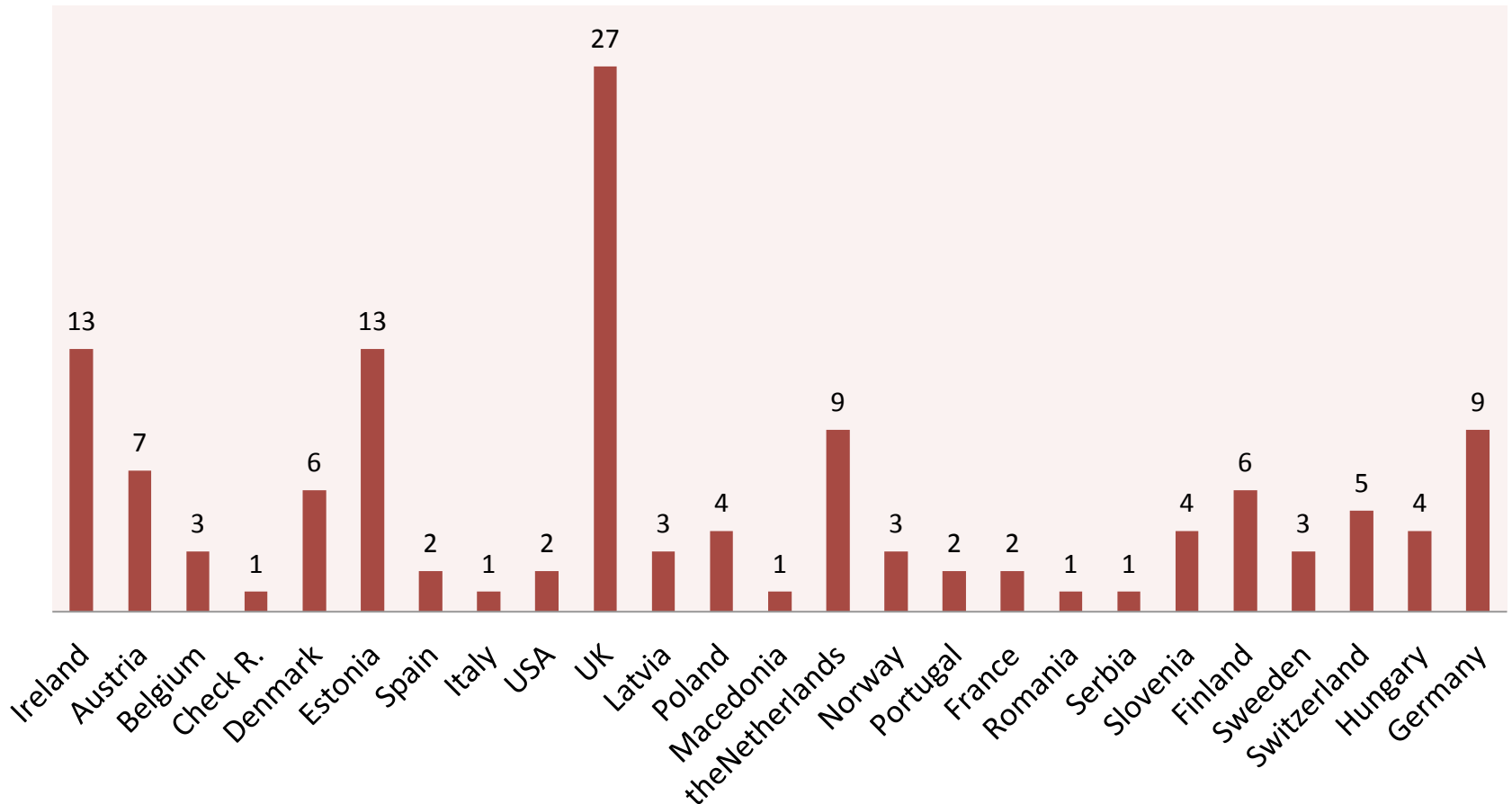
Institutional review (from 2011):

- International experts - from beginning

Number of evaluations by international/national experts' groups







- Avoiding conflicts of interests – increased objectivity of the process
- Evaluation with the European perspective
- Possibility to find experts of specific areas
- High quality of experts
- Especially important for joint study programmes
- Recommendations for improvement of national external quality assurance framework

- Experts – lecturers for trainings, presenters at the conferences and seminars
- Advices for improvement of procedures
- Advices on political issues (general overview and recommendations to national authorities; meetings at the ministry)

- Valuable recommendations for improvement
- Open perspectives through the discovery of means and solutions used in other European countries
- Useful contacts
- Evaluation by SKVC – funded by the state

- Lack of knowledge of national HE system
- Cultural differences
- Translation – time and quality
- High financial costs
- Trainings only on the first day of the visit
- Organization of the visit – more complicated
- Burden for HEIs – all documentation in ENG

Law on Research and Higher Education (2009):

External **evaluation** of study programmes can be performed by:

- SKVC
- another agency for quality assurance in higher education, which is included in the EQAR

Study programmes shall be **accredited** only by SKVC

Institutional **review** and **accreditation** shall be performed only by SKVC

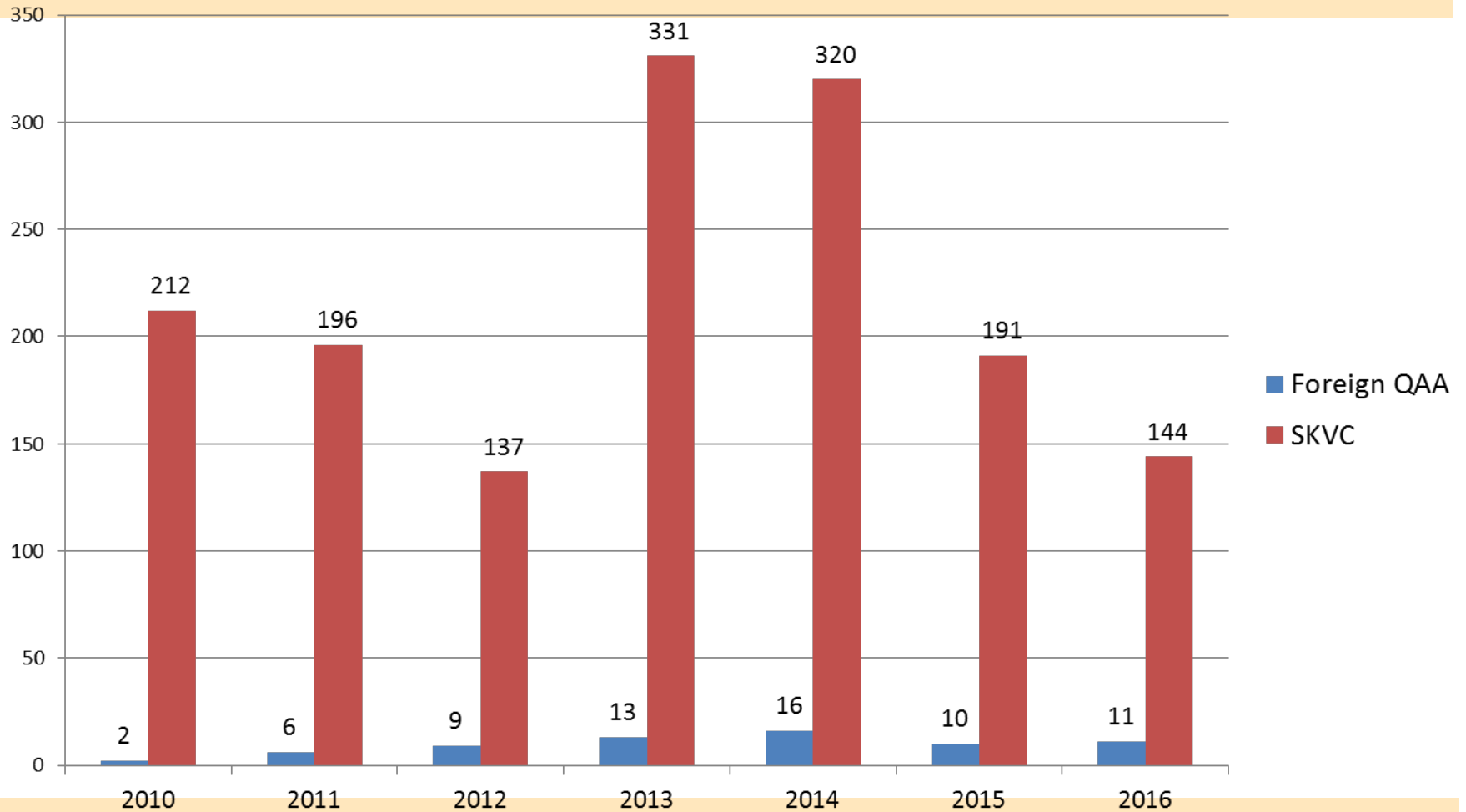
- branches of foreign HEI's may carry out only those study programmes which have been evaluated and accredited according to the procedure of evaluation and accreditation **of that country** and which have been **positively evaluated** according to the procedure of external evaluation and accreditation of study programmes (LT)

- QA Agency must be listed in EQAR
- Evaluation report produced not later than 2 years ago
- The agency shall carry out the external assessment on the basis of the assessment criteria and procedures established by the Agency but there must be equivalence to 6 evaluation areas and each area must be evaluated in 4-point scale
- Programme meets legal requirements

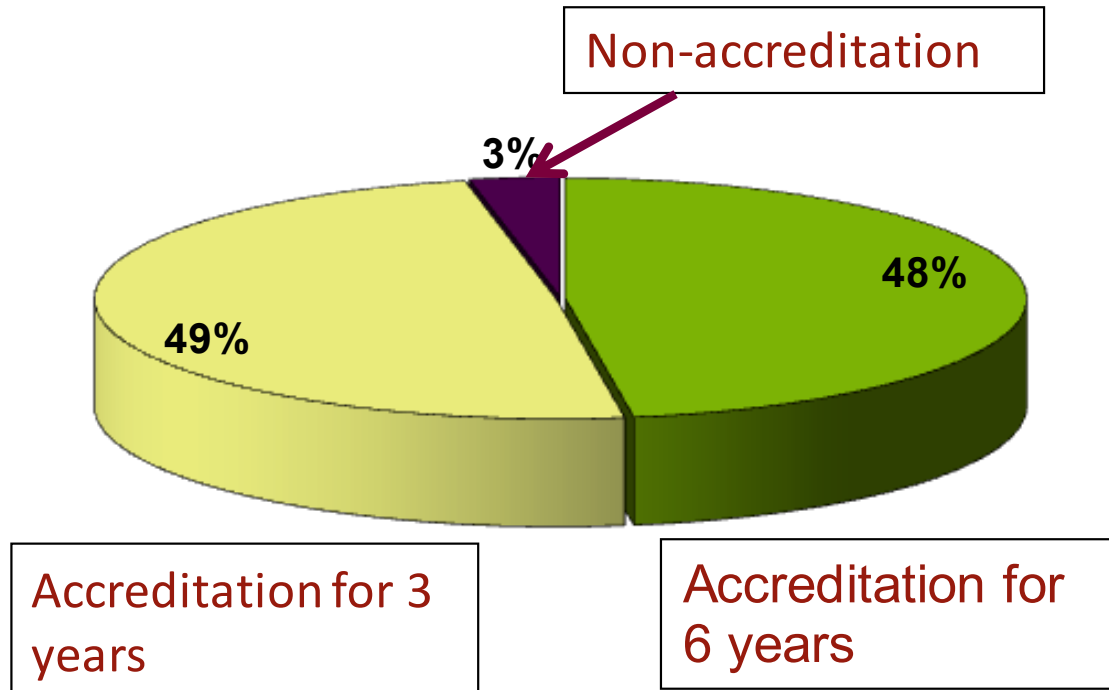
- Evaluation of study programmes at branch of Bialystok University in Vilnius with Polish Accreditation Commission
- Evaluation of Theology and Religion study programmes with AVEPRO
- Evaluation of joint study programmes (JOQAR project & scheduled evaluations by SKVC)
- Accreditation of study programmes evaluated by foreign agency in one of state universities



Part of evaluations by foreign QA Agencies



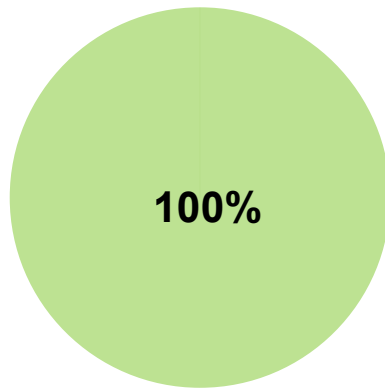
Results of evaluation by SKVC





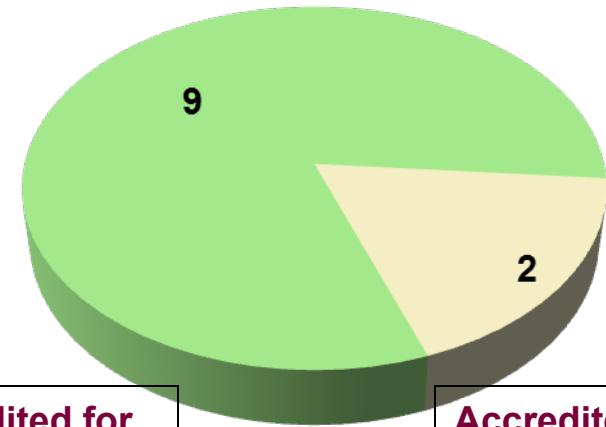
Accreditation decisions

Results of evaluations by foreign Agencies (2010-2015)



Accredited for 6 years (56)

Results of evaluations by foreign Agencies (2016)



Accredited for 6 years

Accredited for 3 years

External evaluation by foreign QAA in 2011	External evaluation by SKVC in 2016
9 study programmes	6 study programmes
2 general recommendations to the HEI	3 general recommendations to the HEI
3 recommendations for all 9 study programmes	4-7 recommendations for each study programme

Score of evaluation in 2011	Score of evaluation in 2016
20	18
24	18
22	18
24	16
19	16
23	15



- HEIs are free to choose any QAA registered in EQAR;
- Foreign QAA can work according to its own methodology and criteria;
- All reports from evaluations organized by SKVC are reviewed by advisory commission.

„The programmes subject to the present procedure were last evaluated in 2011 and found to fulfil all necessary requirements. The experts had access to the Evaluation Reports produced by the Agency and found them to be superficial and short on specific recommendations suitable for providing guidance to HEIs as it seeks to continuously improve its structures and programmes.“

- All the reports (produces by foreign agency or SKVC) should be scrutinized by the same advisory commission;
- Any QA agency operating in the country should use the same methodology;
- Foreign QA agency should get a permission to operate in the country;
- ???



Your questions!

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