

Quo Vadis? Analysing the cross-border quality assurance of EQAR-registered agencies beyond EHEA

Presenter - Giorgi Munjishvili



**NATIONAL CENTER FOR
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ENHANCEMENT**

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Introduction



BOLOGNA PROCESS



Prague Communiqué 2001 - mutual trust and acceptance of quality assurance systems



Bucharest Communiqué 2012 - allowing to perform activities within EHEA while complied with national requirements



Yerevan Communiqué 2015 - HEIs were allowed to choose suitable EQAR-registered agency

Aims and Objectives

Delves into cross-border quality assurance through exploring the data from DEQAR to overview the current trends and draw conclusions on cross-border QA activities beyond EHEA.

Methodology

Study is based on data given in DEQAR using the full dataset from 2009 to 2021. For the analysis descriptive quantitative research approach was used to define data, find patterns and trends and make comparative analysis.

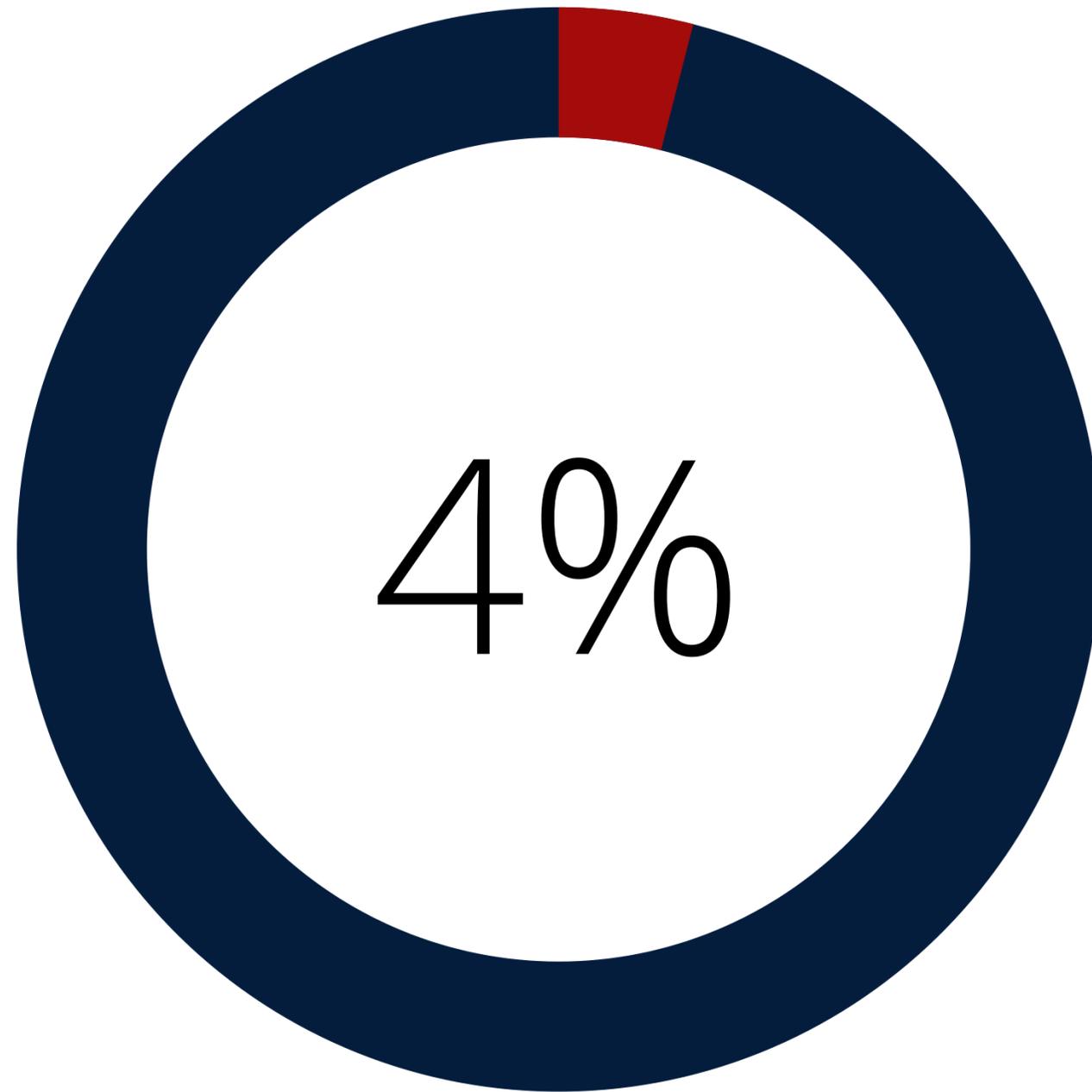


Figure 1. Share of cross-border external quality assurance activities in overall EQA activities

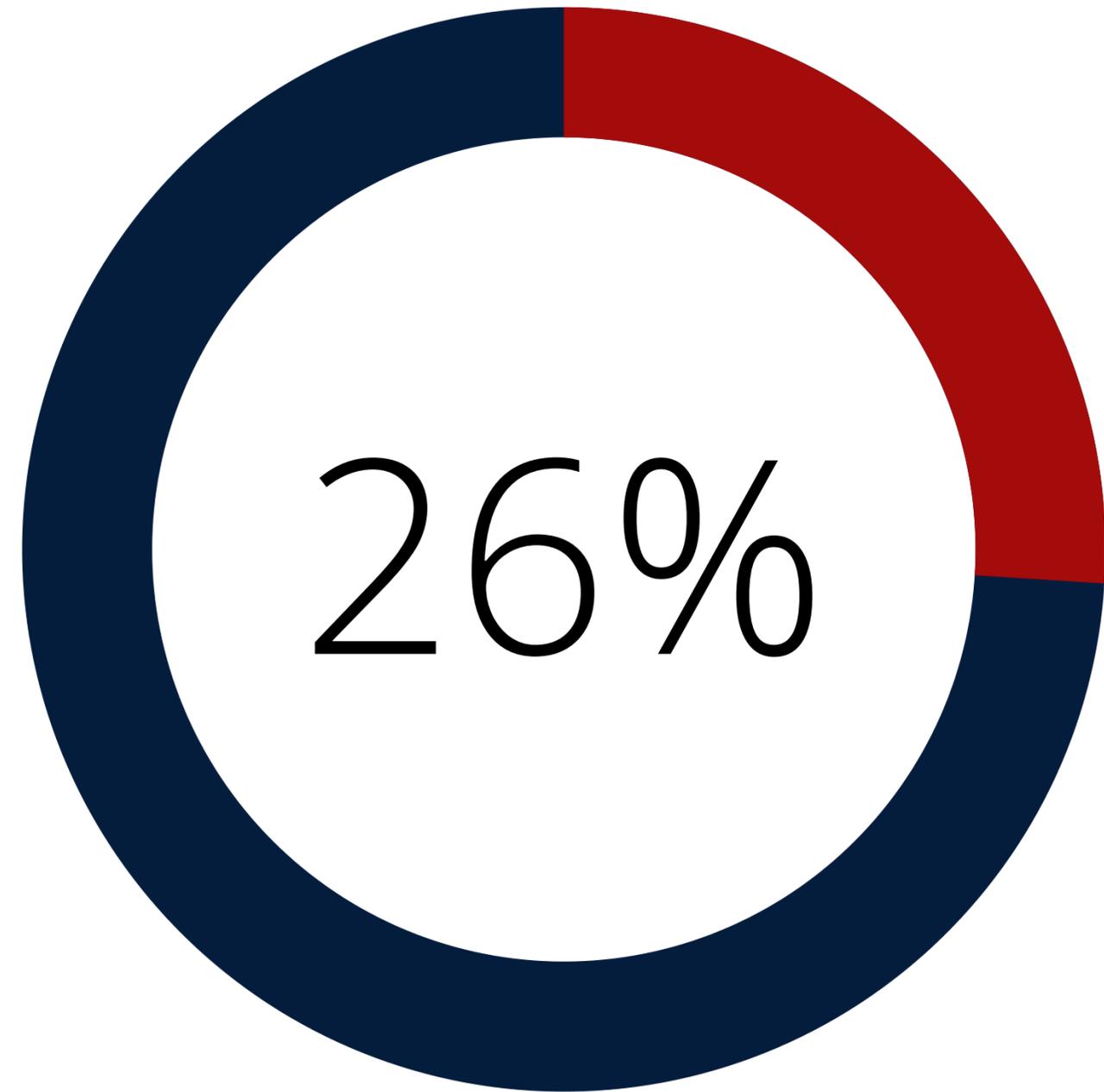
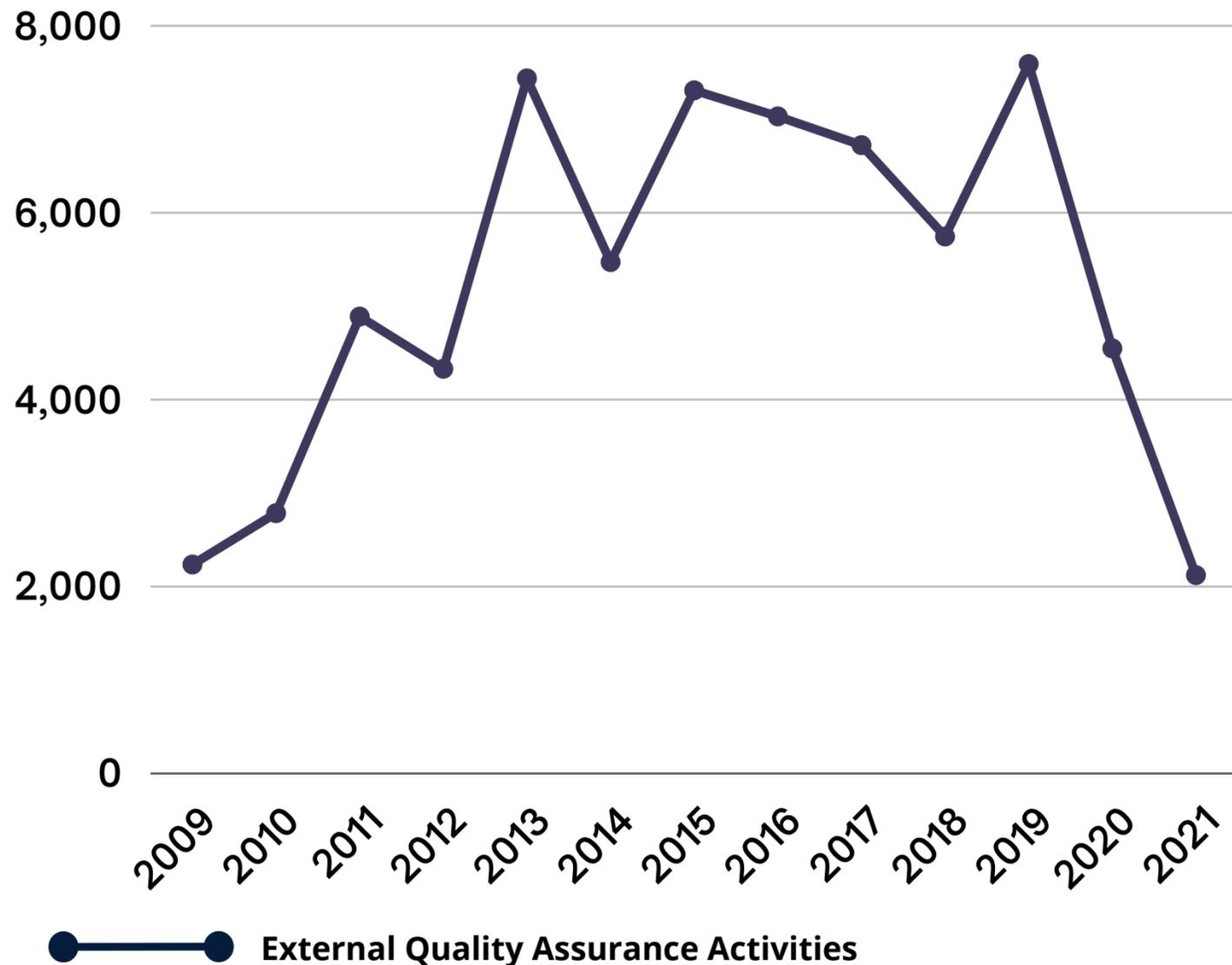
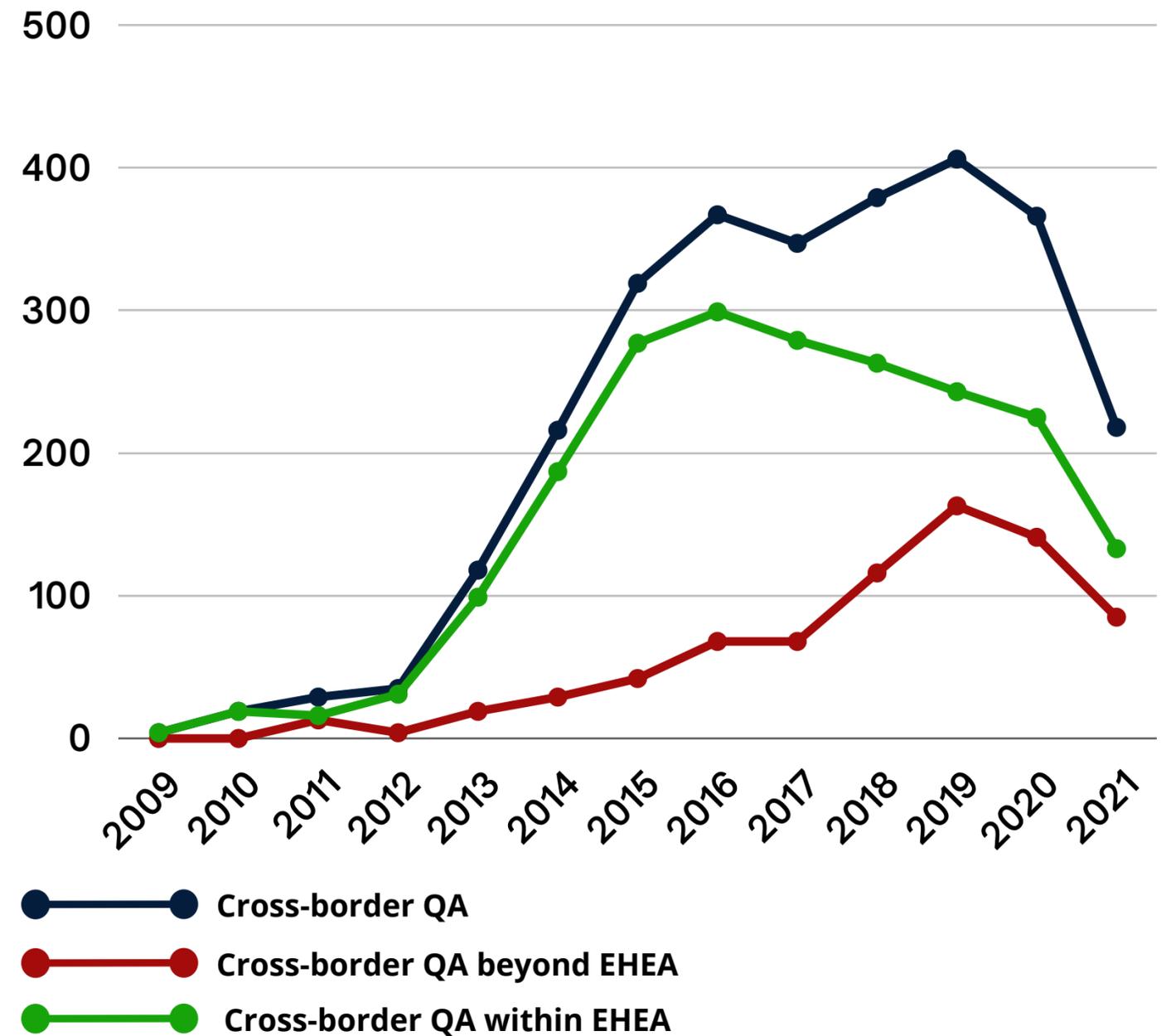


Figure 2. Share of cross-border external quality assurance activities beyond EHEA in overall cross-border EQA activities

Analysis and Results



● External Quality Assurance Activities
Number of cross-border external quality assurance activities



● Cross-border QA
 ● Cross-border QA beyond EHEA
 ● Cross-border QA within EHEA
Figure 3. Number of cross-border external quality assurance activities

Cross-border external quality assurance activities have a minor share of 4% (2823) in overall amount (70236). However it reached almost 7% in 2018, 6% in 2019, 8% in 2020 and 10% in 2021

Analysis and Results

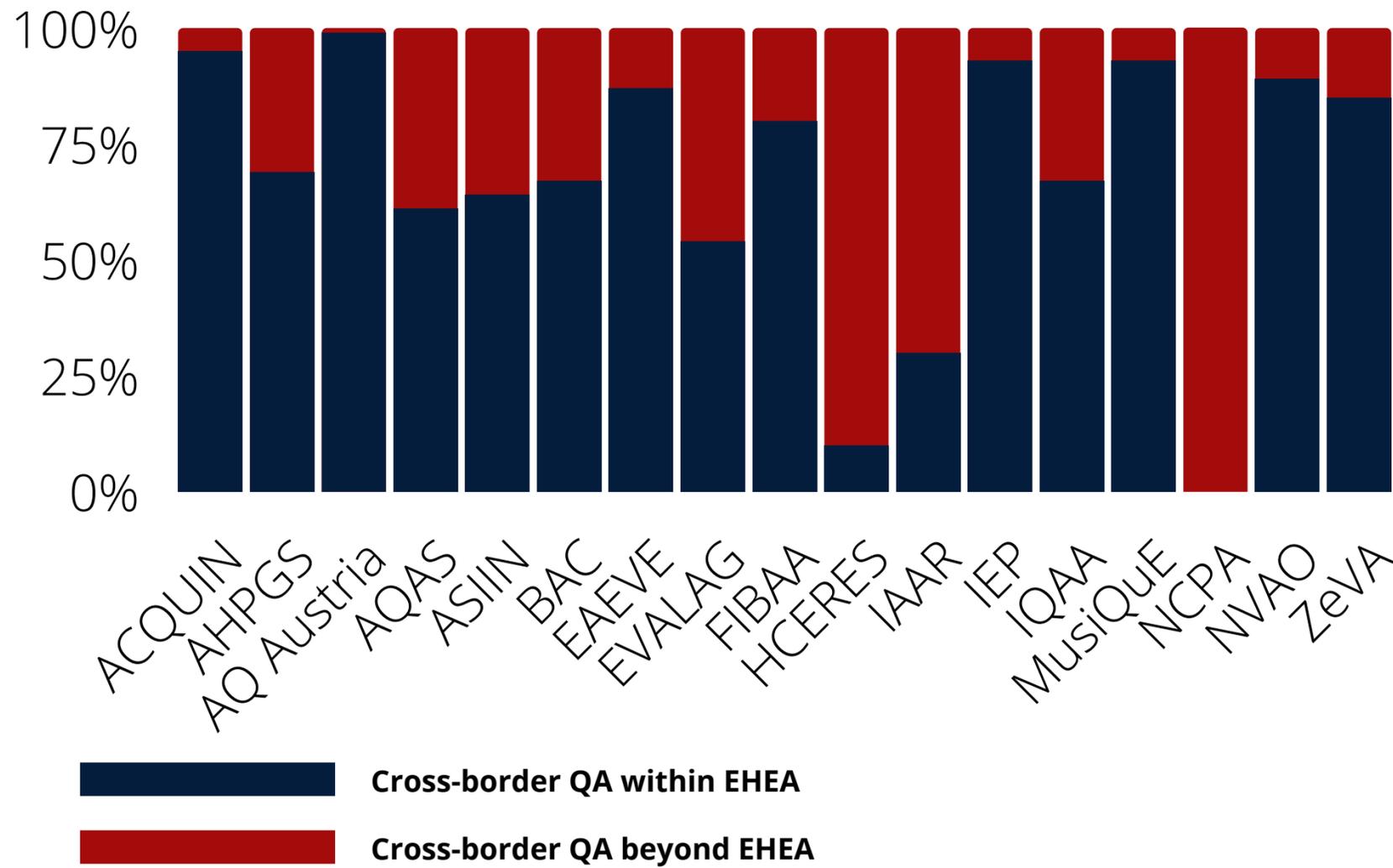
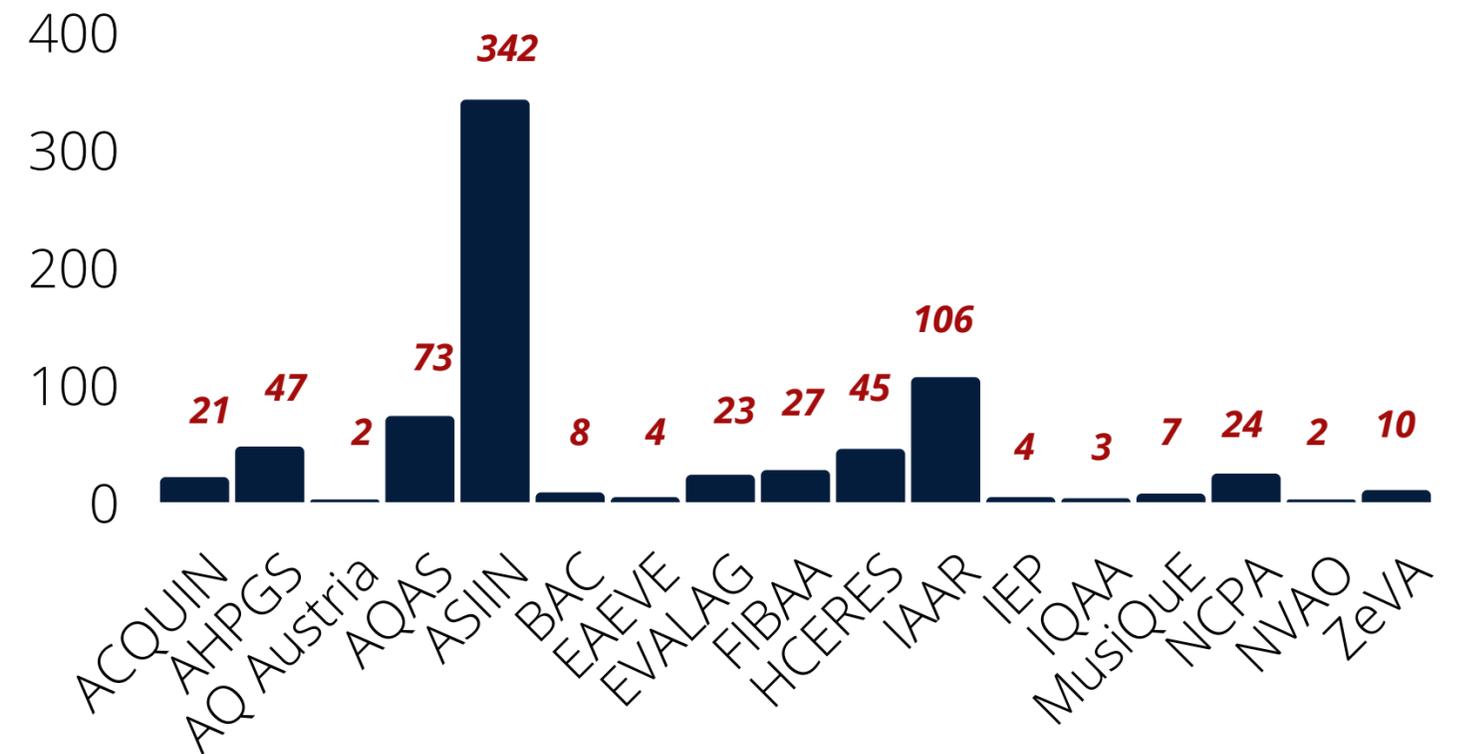


Figure 4. Percentage distribution of cross-border QA activities within and beyond EHEA

Figure 5. Amount of cross-border QA activities beyond EHEA



Analysis and Results

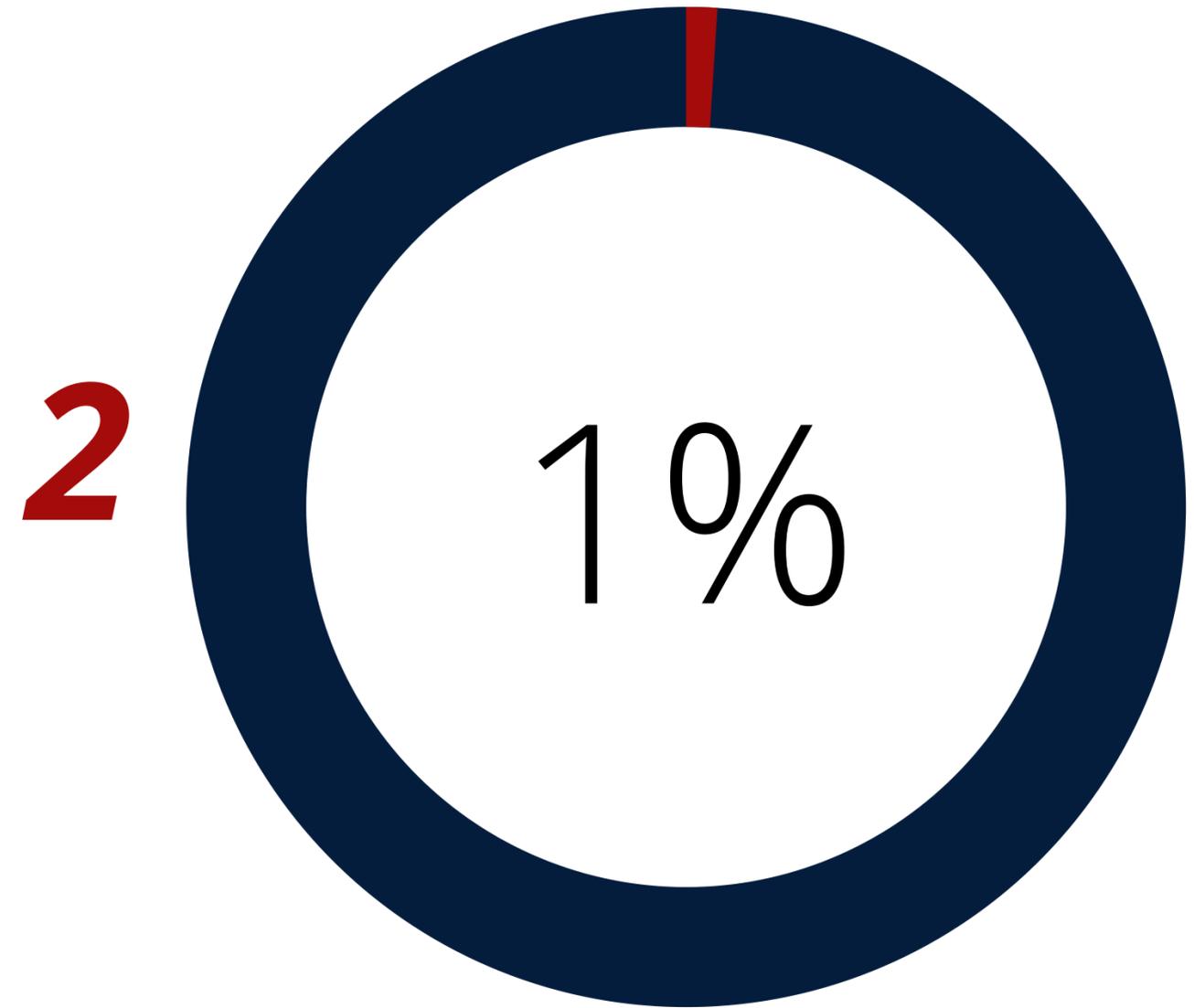
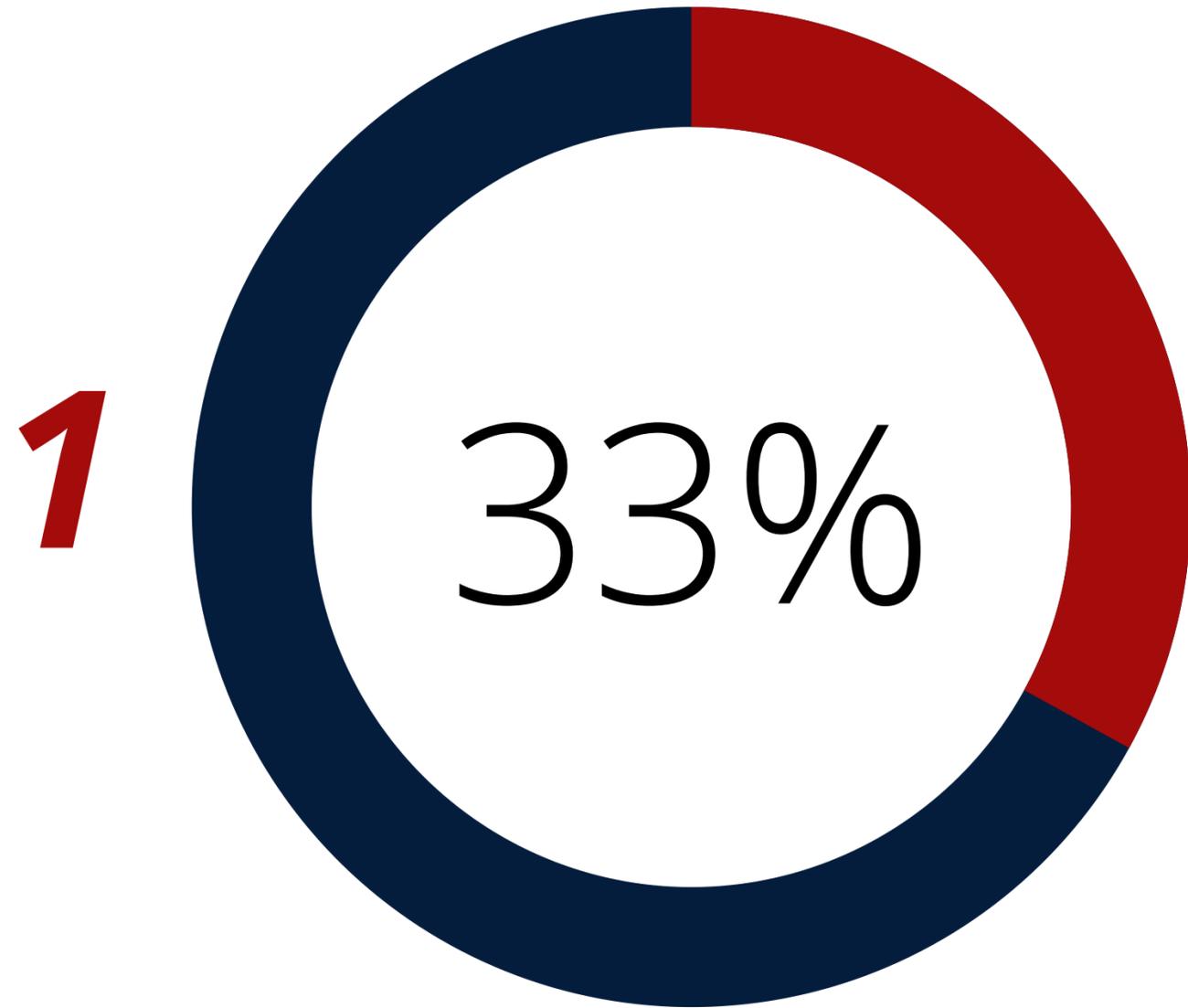
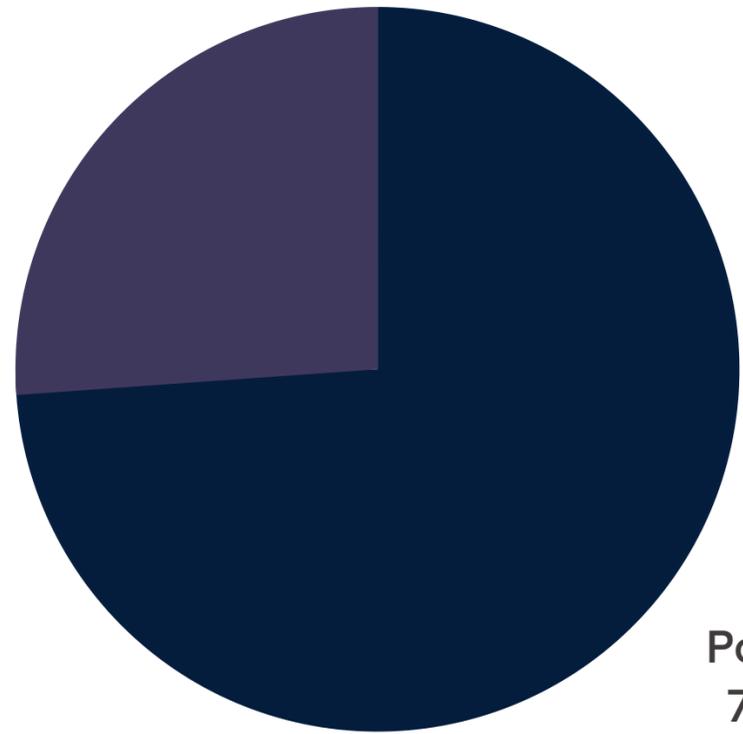


Figure 6. Share of "part of obligatory EQA system" cross-border activities in overall cross-border activities within (1) and beyond (2) EHEA

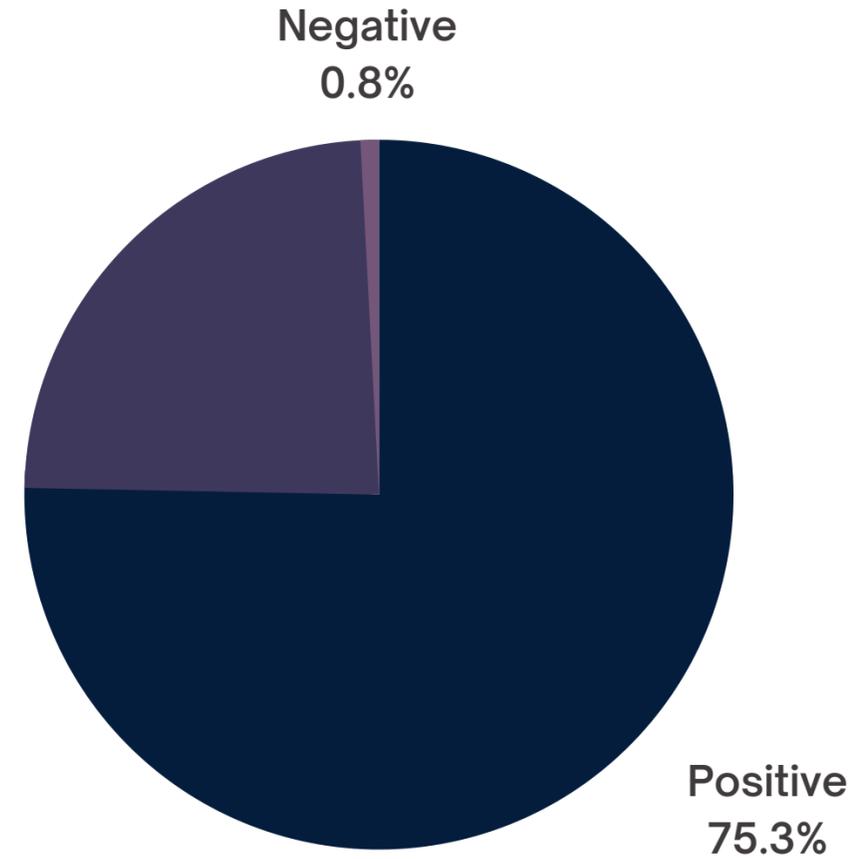
Analysis and Results

Positive with conditions
26.1%



1

Positive with conditions
23.9%



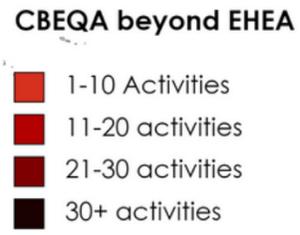
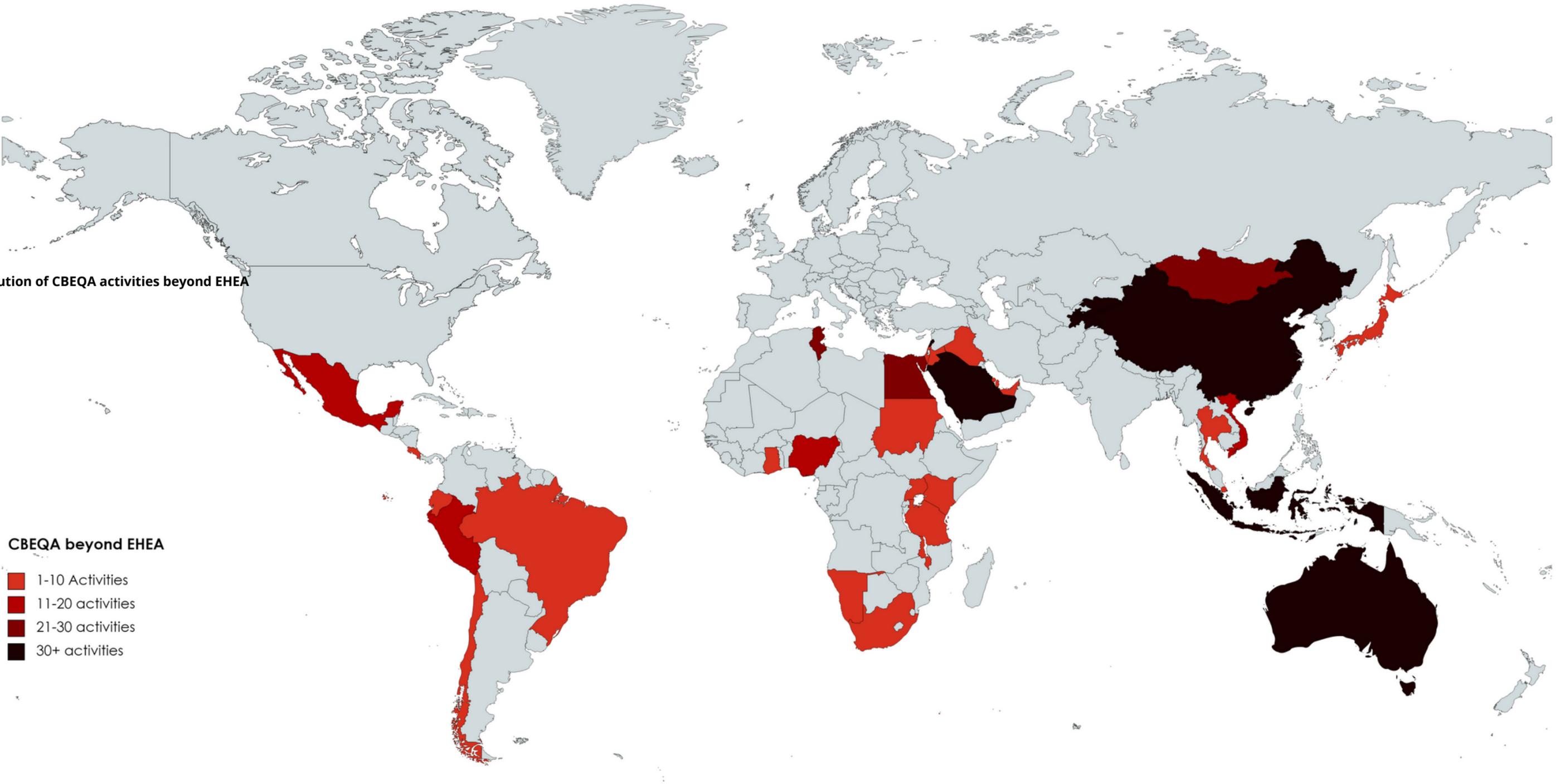
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Figure 7. Results of EQA activities in 1. EHEA and 2. Beyond EHEA

Comparative analysis of EQA decisions within and beyond EHEA shows slight difference

Analysis and Results

Map 1. Distribution of CBEQA activities beyond EHEA

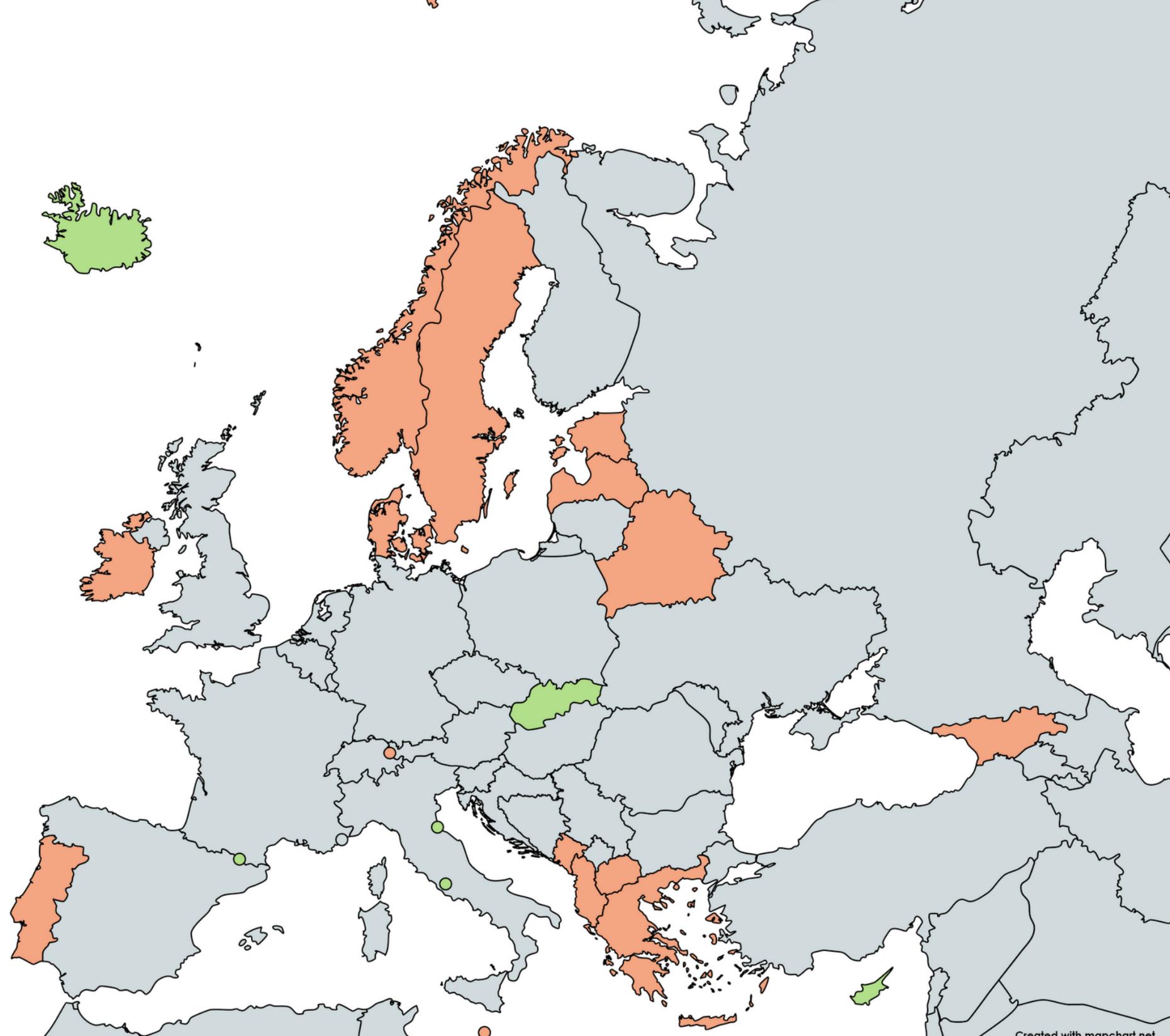


Map 1. Distribution of CBEQA activities beyond EHEA

Analysis and Results

Cross-border activities in EHEA

- 0 Activity
- 1-10 activities



Map 2. Countries in EHEA with few or no cross-border QA activities

Analysis and Results

Conclusion

Analysis of quantitative data from DEQAR shows, that cross-border accreditations take considerable share in overall cross-border and the trend is rising within cross-border activities. Some countries beyond EHEA are engaged more than 1/3 third of EHEA, where besides of encouraging policy, opportunities are used moderately or not at all.

Related Literature

- *Prague Communiqué (2001). TOWARDS THE EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA. Retrieved from http://www.ehea.info/media.ehea.info/file/2001_Prague/44/2/2001_Prague_Communique_English_553442.pdf 01.12.2021*
- *Bucharest Communiqué. (2012). Making the Most of Our Potential: Consolidating the European Higher Education Area. Retrieved from http://www.ehea.info/Upload/document/ministerial_declarations/Bucharest_Communique_2012_610673.pdf 01/12/2021*
- *Yerevan Communiqué. (2015). Retrieved from http://www.ehea.info/Upload/document/ministerial_declarations/YerevanCommuniqueFinal_613707.pdf 01/12/2021*
- *Database of External Quality Assurance Results. (2021), Retrieved from <https://www.eqar.eu/qa-results/download-data-sets/> 16/10/2021*
- *RIQAA Report (2014). Retrieved from https://www.eqar.eu/assets/uploads/2018/04/WP5_RIQAA_Report_final.pdf 01/12/2021*

Questions for Discussion



WHAT ARE THE DECISIVE FACTORS FOR EQAR-REGISTERED AGENCIES TO GO FOR EQA ACTIVITY IN THE COUNTRY BEYOND EHEA?

WHAT ROLE DOES CROSS-BORDER EQA ACTIVITIES PLAY SHAPING QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEMS AND HIGHER EDUCATION POLICIES IN HOST COUNTRIES BEYOND EHEA?

ARE BORDERS BEYOND EHEA OPENING FOR EQAR-REGISTERED AGENCIES, IS THIS PROCESS REALLY EXPANDING?

WHY SOME OF EHEA COUNTRIES ARE STILL MODERATELY ENGAGED IN PROCESS, WHEN OTHER COUNTRIES BEYOND EHEA ARE SO ACTIVE?

Thank you!

Giorgi Munjishvili

Deputy Head of Planning, Research, and International
Relations at NCEQE

Email Address: g.munjishvili@eqe.ge