

QA FIT FOR THE FUTURE?

MAPPING OF ACTIVITIES AND PERSPECTIVES OF QA AGENCIES

ENQA MEMBERS' FORUM
TBILISI, 20 APRIL 2023

enqa.

TOPICS TO COVER

- Background
- Where do we start? Purpose of external QA
- How are we doing? Challenges and responses
- Where are we going? Implications for the ESG
- Next steps for QA-FIT and the ESG

BACKGROUND



- Mapping of state of play of internal & external QA in the EHEA
- Critical reflection on the ESG and the future of the European QA framework
- Activities funded by QA-FIT project, but anchored in broader policy context



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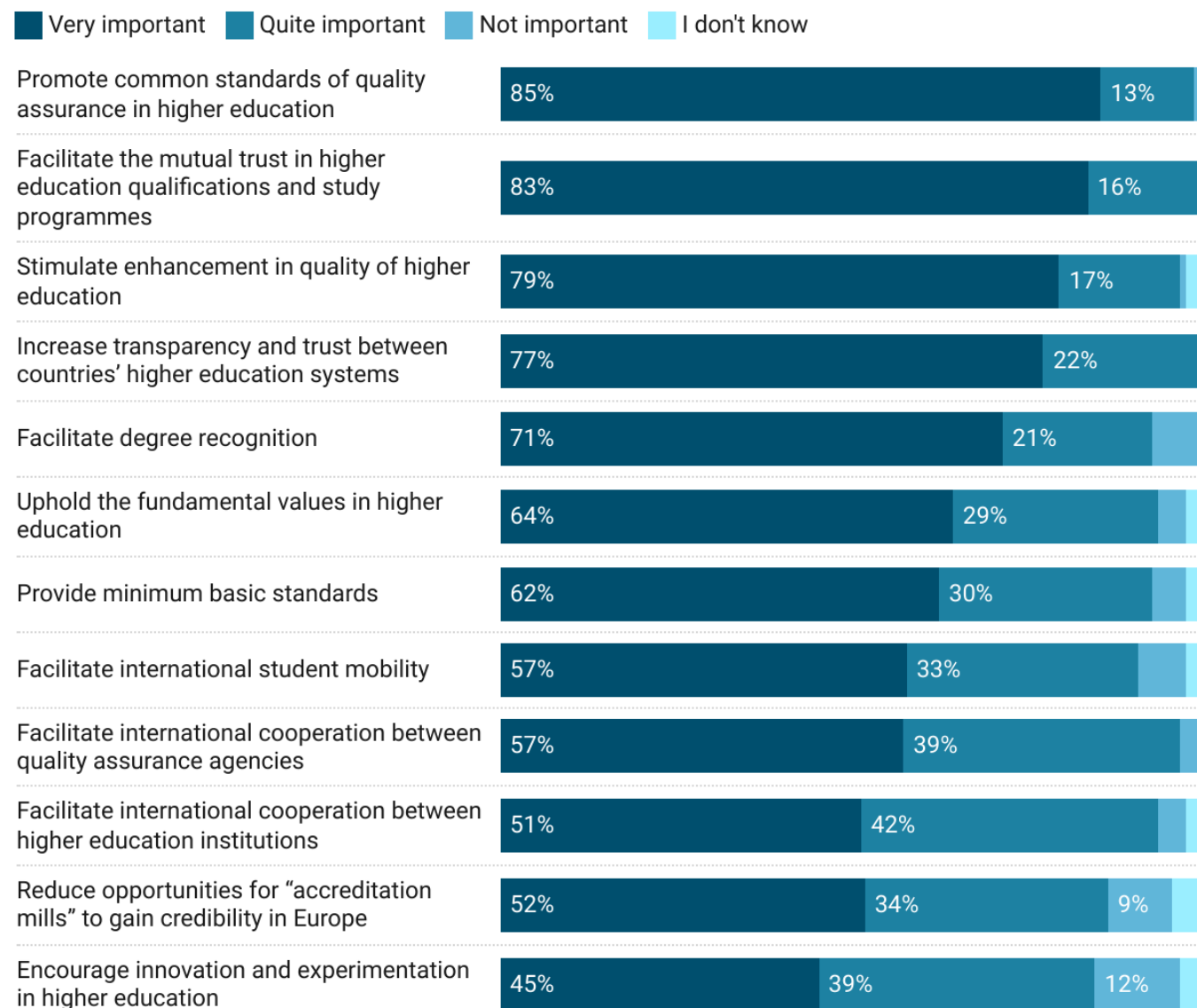
SURVEY TO QA AGENCIES

- Responses from 76 organisations, located in 45 countries
- ENQA members and affiliates
- Confirms the diversity of agencies
 - Type of QA activities
 - Areas covered (type and sector of education and aspects of HEI activity)
 - Other activities beyond external QA

WHERE DO WE START?

PURPOSE OF A EUROPEAN QA FRAMEWORK

According to your agency, how important are the following purposes of a European quality assurance framework?

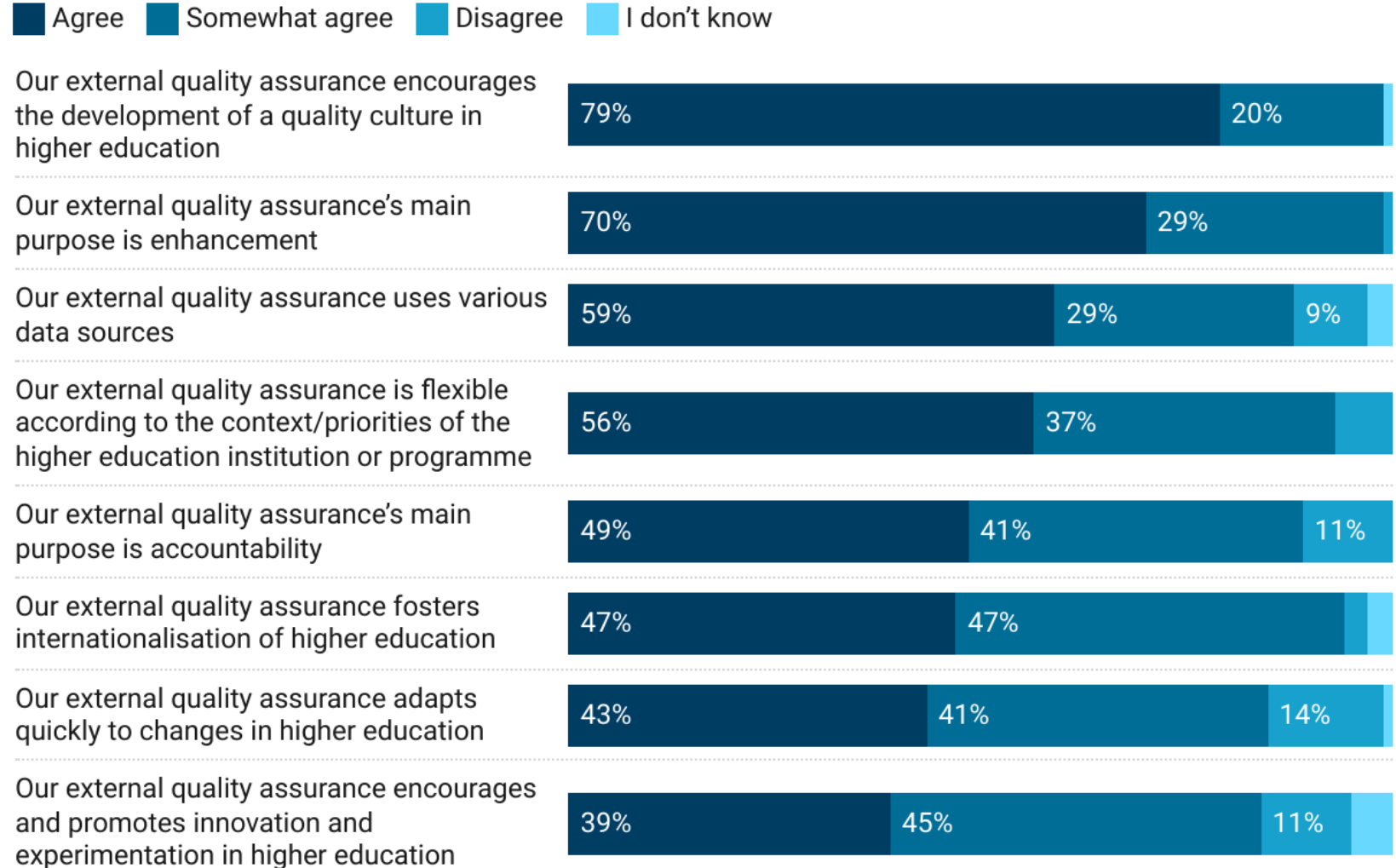


According to your agency, how important are the following purposes of a European Quality Assurance framework?

Chart: ENQA • Source: QA-FIT • Created with Datawrapper

PURPOSE OF EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE

To what extent to you agree with the following statement about your agency's external QA procedures?



To what extent do you agree with the following statements about your agency's external quality assurance procedures?

Chart: ENQA • Source: QA-FIT • Created with Datawrapper

AREAS OF INTERNAL QA COVERED BY EXTERNAL QA

Most covered

- Institutional management
- Participation of staff & student in HE governance
- Relevance of qualifications
- Cooperation with labour market

Least covered

- Micro-credentials
- Activities developed as part of the University Alliances

HOT TOPIC: UNIVERSITY ALLIANCES

■ Agree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Disagree ■ I don't know

The European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes should be used in the evaluation/accreditation of programmes offered by University Alliances



The evaluation of each University Alliance member is not sufficient and an evaluation at Alliance level is needed



The evaluation at Alliance level is sufficient and an evaluation of each University Alliance member is not needed



The evaluation of each University Alliance member is sufficient and no evaluation at Alliance level is needed



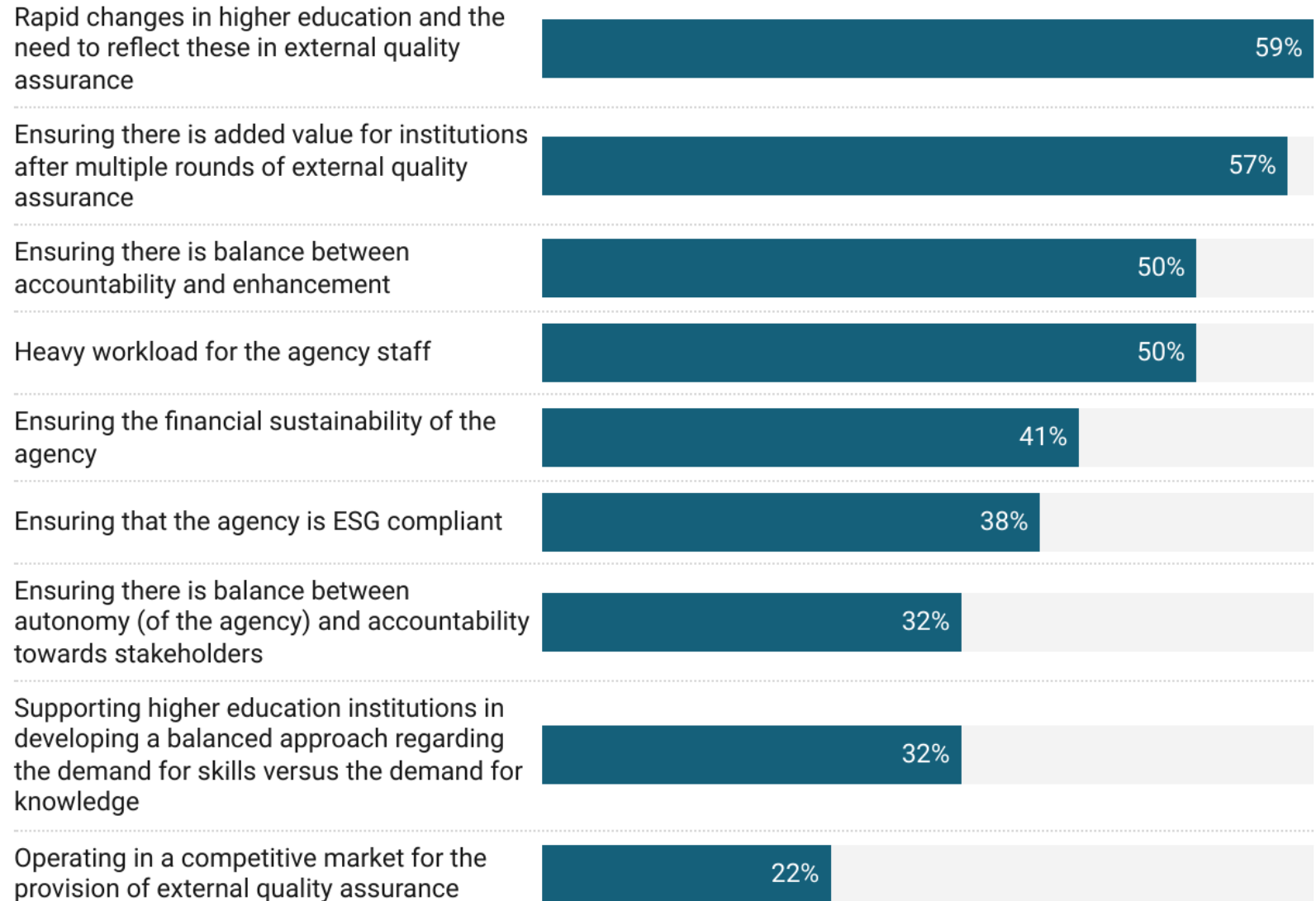
What is your agency's view on the following statements related to quality assurance of University Alliances?

Chart: ENQA • Source: QA-FIT • Created with Datawrapper

HOW ARE WE DOING?

CHALLENGING ISSUES FOR QA AGENCIES

Select 3-5 most challenging aspects for your agency



From the list below please select up to 3-5 most challenging aspects for your agency

Chart: ENQA • Source: QA-FIT • Created with Datawrapper

ENSURING RELEVANCE & ADDED-VALUE

Initiatives by agencies:

- Consultation with
- Updating the framework or criteria
- Shifting further towards enhancement approach
- Improvement of own procedures
- Simplification of processes
- Use of thematic analysis to identify potential improvements

WISH-LIST OF CHANGES

What would your agency do if it could change anything about its external quality assurance approach?



Simplification



Increase international activities



Changes to legal framework



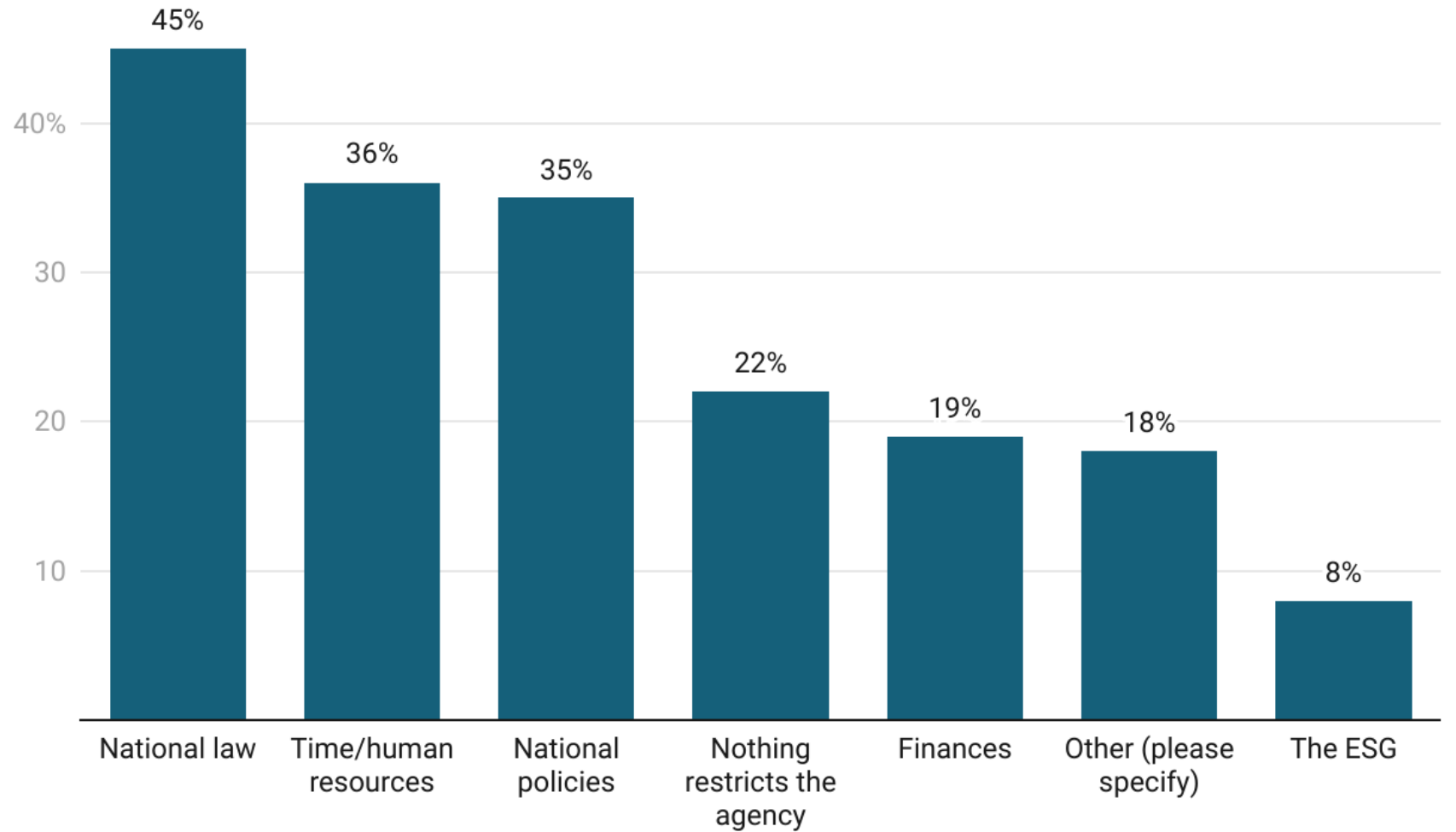
More focus on enhancement



Better use of data and digitalisation of QA processes

BARRIERS TO CHANGE

What restricts your agency from doing that?



What restricts your agency from doing that?

Chart: ENQA • Source: QA-FIT • Created with Datawrapper

WHERE ARE WE GOING? PERSPECTIVES ON THE ESG

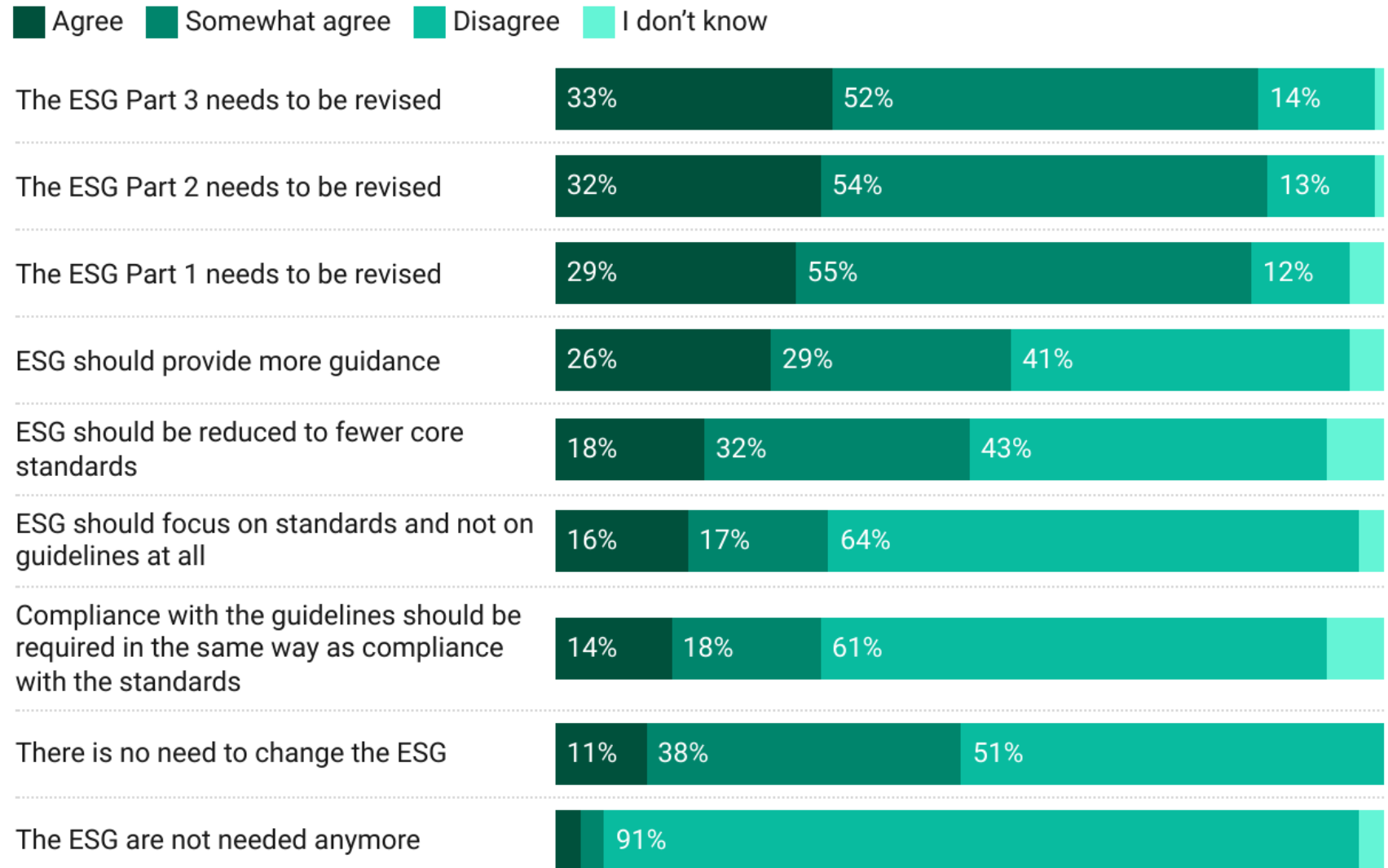
Agree

- The ESG support trust in HE qualifications
- The ESG as a common QA framework supports the development of L&T
- The ESG support recognition of qualifications

Disagree

- The ESG do not support and promote fundamental values in HE
- The scope of the ESG is too limited
- The ESG do not allow for diverse interpretation of standards into concrete practice

PERSPECTIVES ON ESG REVISION



Please indicate your agency's level of agreement regarding the following statements?

Chart: ENQA • Source: QA-FIT • Created with Datawrapper

TOPICS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Addressing the (contradictory?) conclusions:

- Expanding the topics covered
- Improve flexibility and responsiveness

Back to the starting point:

- Purpose of the European quality assurance framework?
- What needs regulating at European level?
- ESG as a guiding framework vs ESG as a set of criteria for compliance

NEXT STEPS

Analysis and presentation of data (paper and webinars)

A light blue downward-pointing arrow indicating the flow from the first step to the second.

Further consultations with stakeholders (focus groups)

A light blue downward-pointing arrow indicating the flow from the second step to the third.

Proposal for revision to feed into the 2024 Bologna Process Ministerial Communique

**WATCH
THIS
SPACE!**



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