

# Policies and actions of accreditation and QA bodies to counter corruption in higher education

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- About the study + progress
- Interim results
- What's next?

# About the study, progress

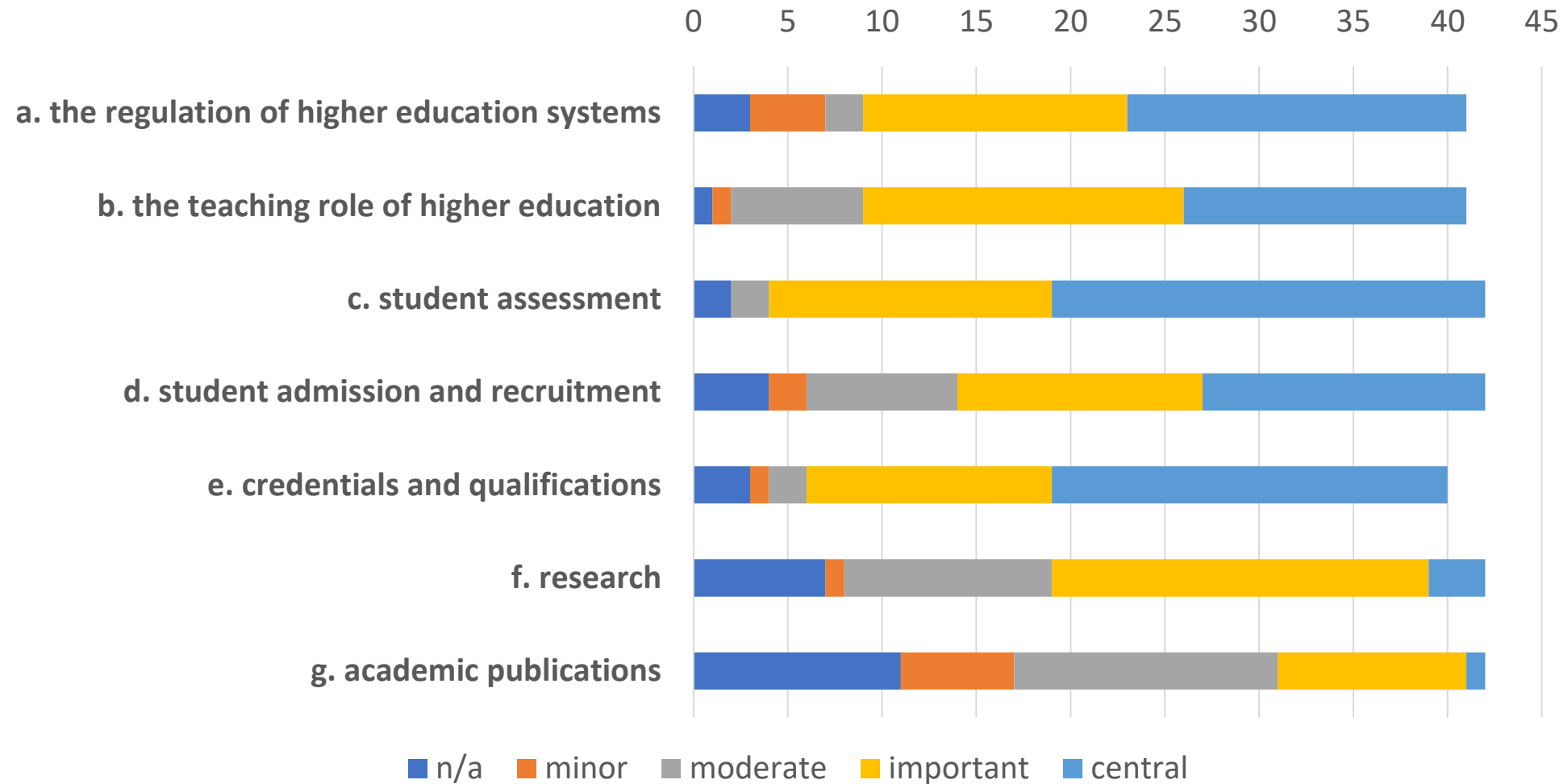
- Commissioned by CHEA / CIQG starting summer 2017
- Team from Coventry University (Irene, Stella, Andrew, Esmé)
- Building on Advisory Statement 2016 by Sir John Daniel
- Target participants ~320 AQABs and networks globally, NGOs
- Ethical approval; Literature review; Webinar Oct 2017
- Survey of AQABs: on-line questionnaire + interviews
- Analysis, interpretation, case studies, report: due Summer 2018

# Scope of research – AQAB actions and responses to corruption in

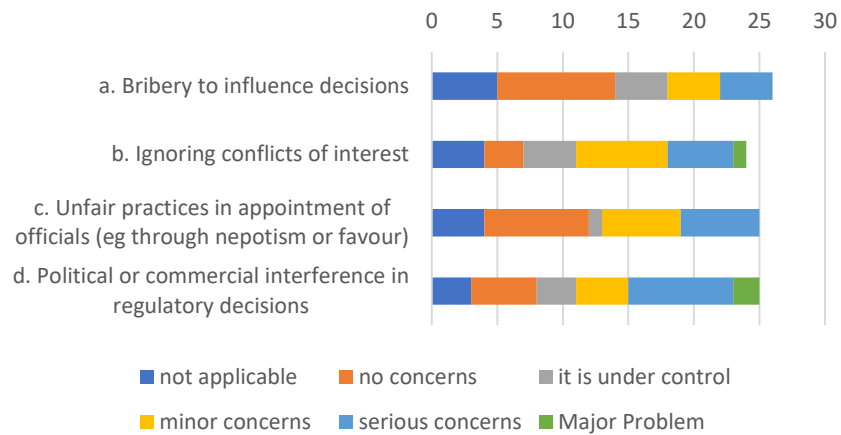
- regulation of higher education systems
- teaching role in higher education
- student admission and recruitment
- student assessment
- credentials and qualifications
- research and publications

(Daniel 2016)

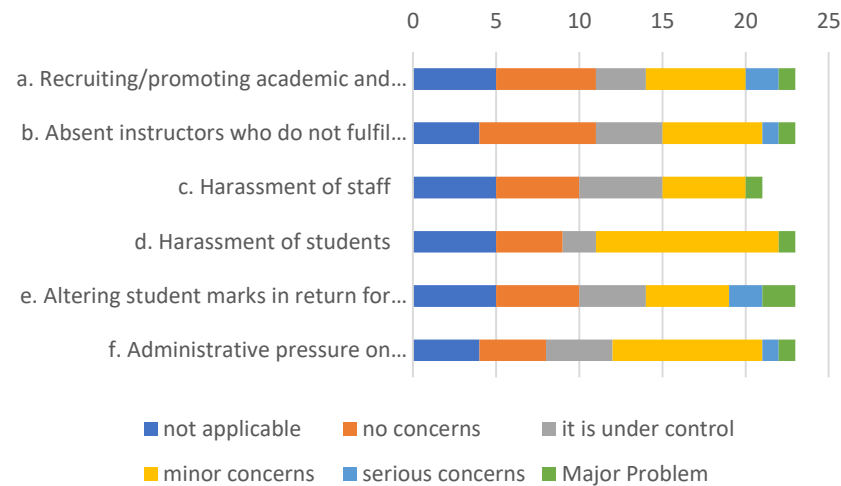
## Level of importance to AQAB



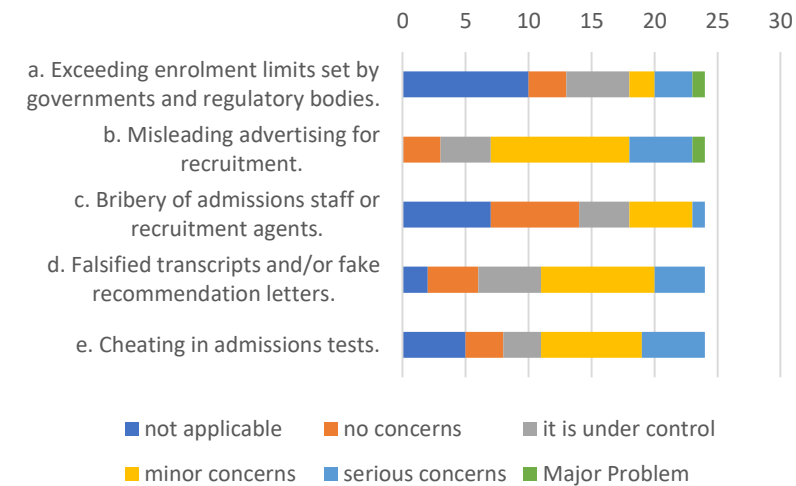
## Regulation of HE



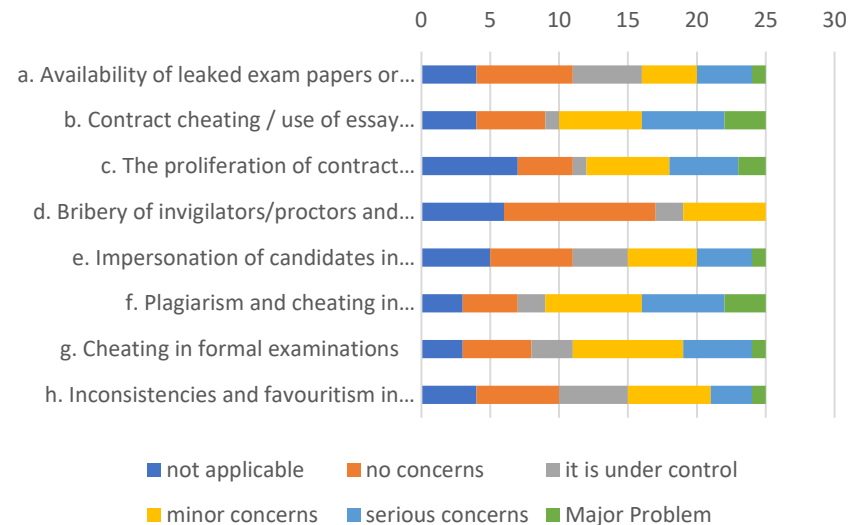
## Teaching Role in HE



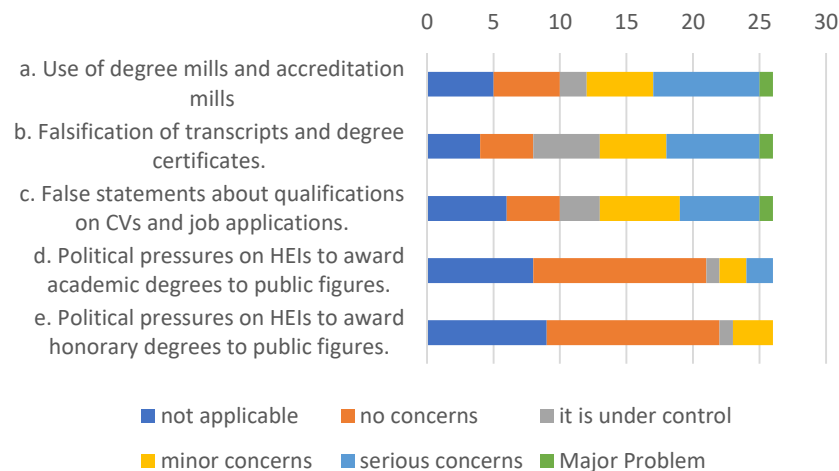
## Admissions and Recruitment



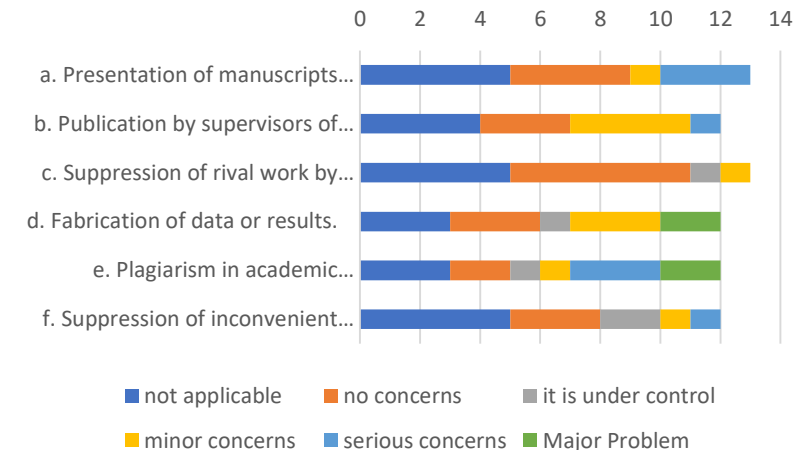
## Assessment



## Credentials and Qualifications



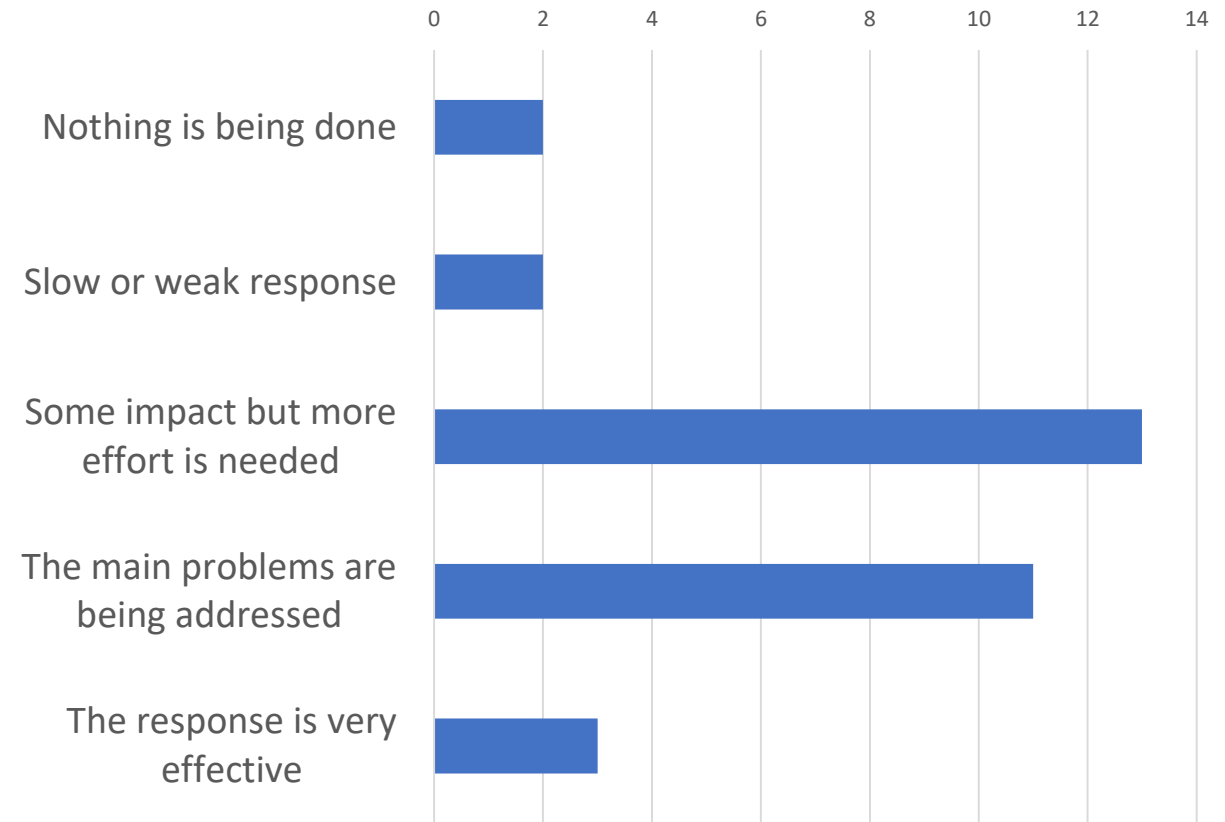
## Publications and Research



**Interim results January 2018 : AQAB views of different forms of corruption**

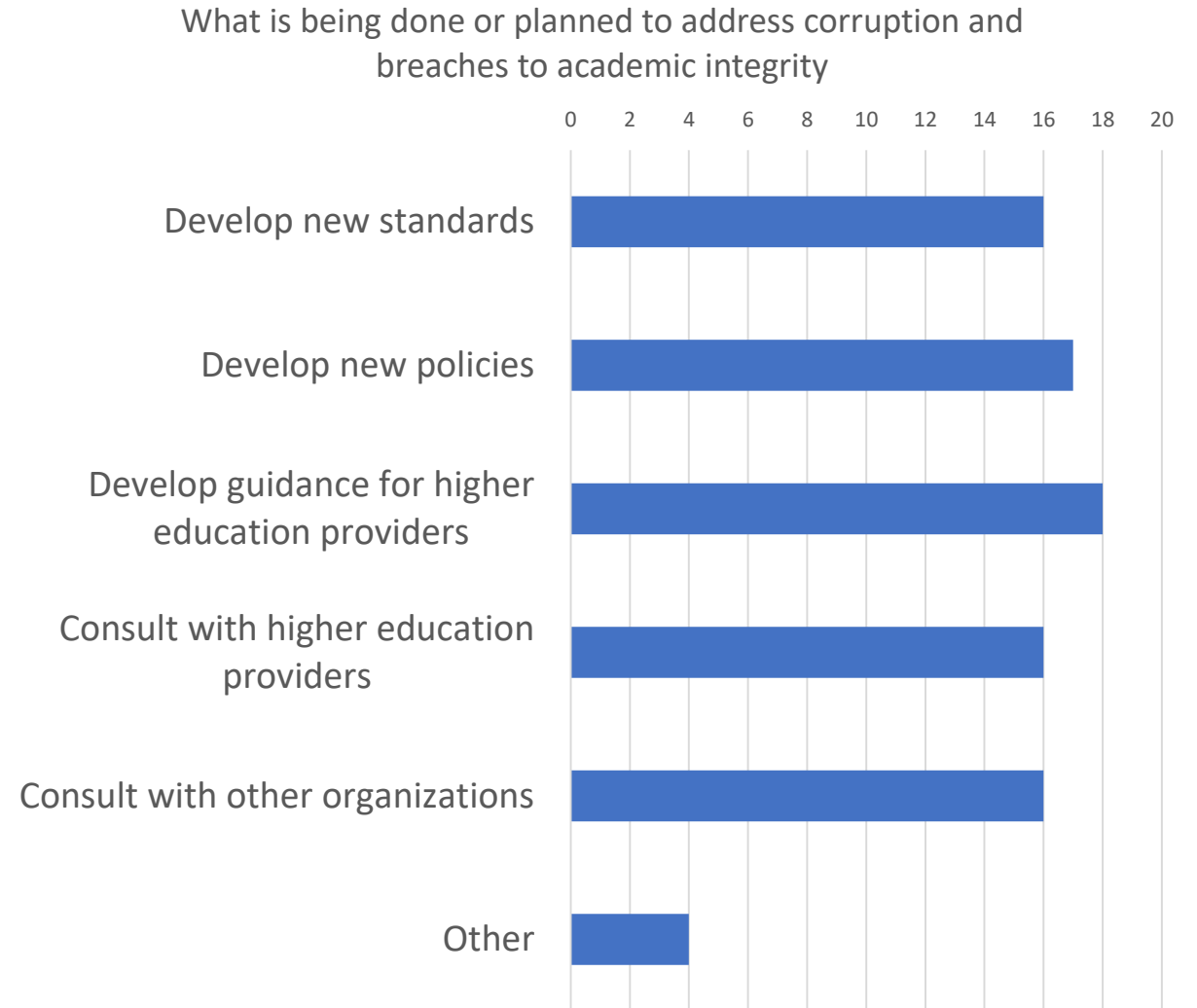
# Interim results

What is your organization's view on the overall situation relating to corruption and academic integrity breaches in higher education in your part of the world?



# Interim results

Please provide information about actions your organization is planning that will address different forms of corruption and breaches to academic integrity.





# Interim results: Suggestions from participants

- Establish a system of exchange information among QAAs
- Quality assurance agencies should establish the system of counter academic corruption.
- Public databases of certified degree diploma and of certified institutions
- Provide on-line list of "fake agencies and HEIs" in separate states.
- Continuous improvement of education standards and operational policies of accreditation agencies to respond to the changing educational environment
- Sensitization and advocacy
- Implement tougher actions, and more rigorous policies
- Scientific research needs to be funded by entities without a financial stake in the results.

# Interim results: Good practice examples

- Australia's TEQSA and UK's QAA have created guidance notes for HE providers on how to address contract cheating (TEQSA 2017, QAA 2017), in collaboration with HE providers, students and other stakeholders; New Zealand and several other countries / states have made Contract Cheating illegal.
- Anti-corruption agencies, NGOs and/or ombudsmen are supporting the work of AQABs in Hong Kong, Africa (Okebulola 2018), Lithuania, Slovenia, Kosovo and elsewhere.
- Secure digital repositories created and under development to authenticate student qualifications: China - <http://www.chsi.com.cn/en/>, Australia and New Zealand (<https://www.myequals.net/#/user/login>), Groningen Declaration.

# What's next?

- Need more questionnaire responses:
  - Geographical coverage – especially China, Africa, India, Russia, S. America, etc
  - Questionnaire open until 28<sup>th</sup> February, individual emails
- Ideas for case studies
  - Collaboration between AQABs and other bodies as exemplars
  - AQABs supporting the HE sector on countering Contract Cheating
  - Update on diploma mills and fake universities from AQAB perspective
  - AQABs views around tackling predatory journals, academic plagiarism
  - Varsity athletics and academic standards – what can AQABs do to help?

# Summary

- Publication of report summer 2018 including recommendations
- Scope for follow-up study to include capturing government responses to recommendations, opportunities for more detailed case studies
- Evidence about corrupt and good practices internationally
- Examples of how AQABs can influences changes in HE providers, prioritising where it is most needed
- Highlighting work of other organisations collaborating with AQABs and governments

# References

- Daniel, J (2016). *Advisory Statement for Effective International Practice Combatting Corruption and Enhancing Integrity: A Contemporary Challenge for the Quality and Credibility of Higher Education*. IIEP / UNESCO, CHEA, CIQG. Available online at: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002494/249460E.pdf>
- QAA (2017). Contracting to Cheat in Higher Education. <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Contracting-to-cheat-in-higher-education.pdf>
- TEQSA (2017) Good Practice Note. <https://www.teqsa.gov.au/latest-news/publications/good-practice-note-addressing-contract-cheating-safeguard-academic>