



Key Data on Early Childhood Education and Care in Europe (2014)



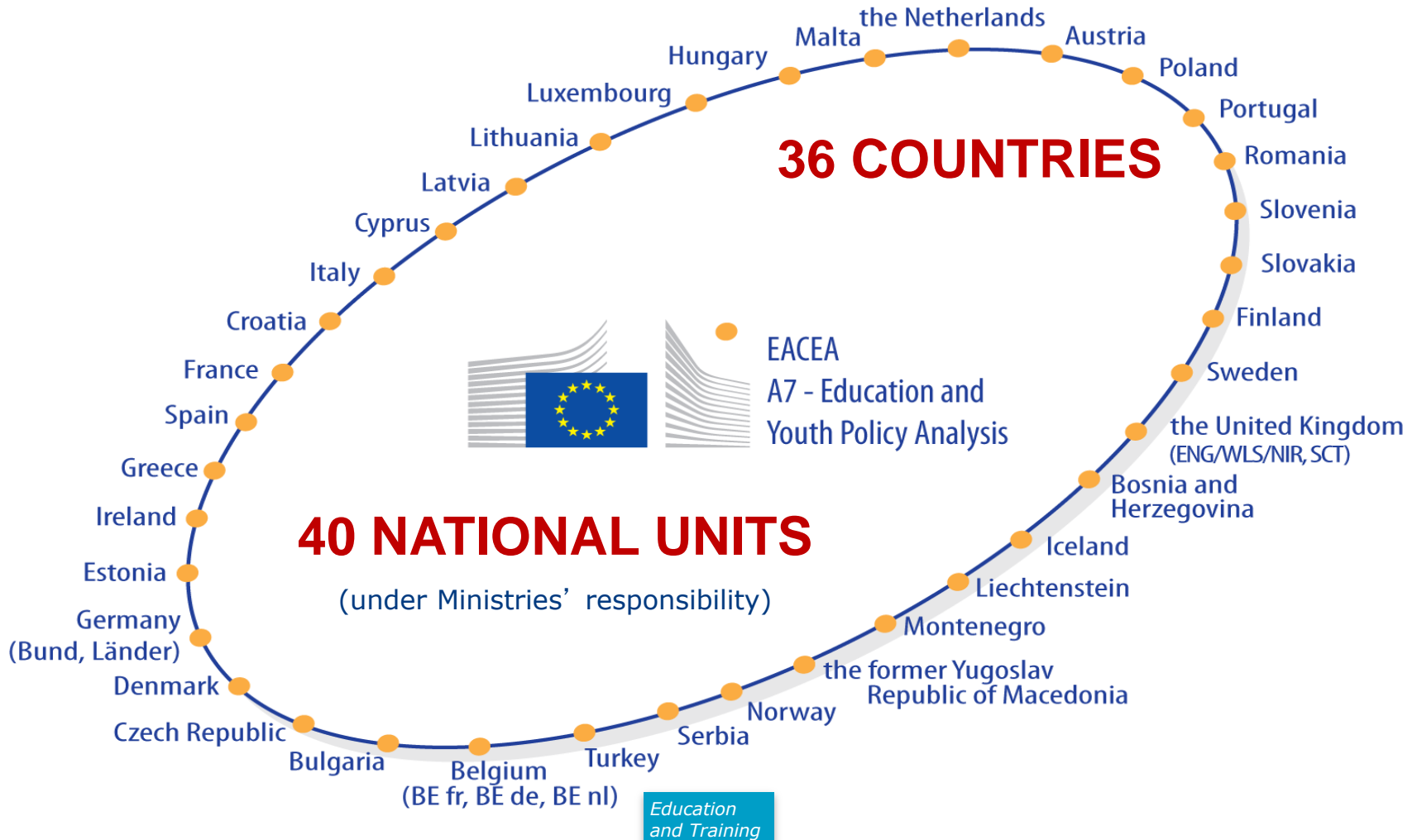
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**Education and Youth
Policy Analysis Unit
EACEA**

**Hungarian and European trends
in ECEC policies**

Budapest, 2 December 2014

The Eurydice Network in 2014



Eurydice mission

To provide those responsible for education systems and policies in Europe with European-level analyses and information, which will assist them in their decision making.



Key Data on ECEC: data sources

- **Eurydice National Units**
 - descriptive and comparable information on ECEC policy and practice
 - based on official central steering documents (laws, decrees, regulations and recommendations)
- **Eurostat** → statistical indicators
- **International student achievement surveys** (PISA and PIRLS)
 - connections between ECEC participation, student outcomes and student background

2nd Eurydice report on ECEC



Early Childhood Education and Care – Definition and Scope

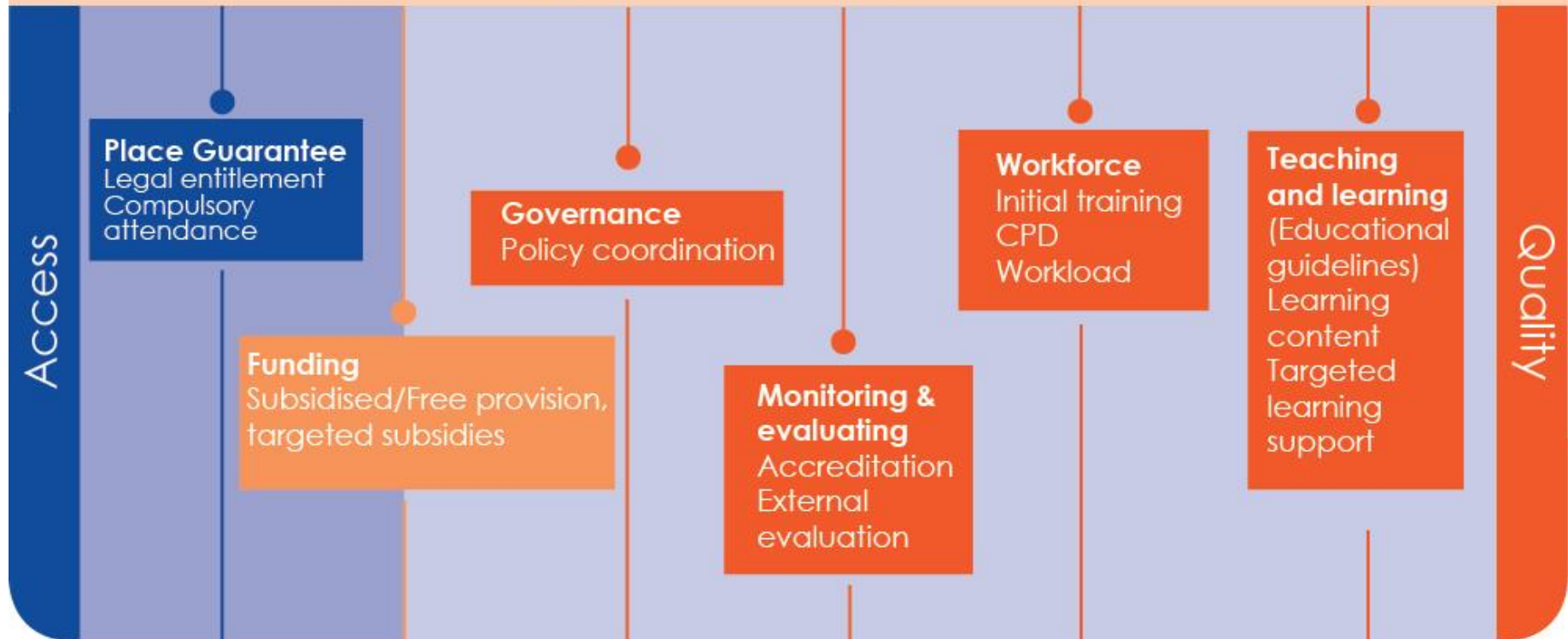
Provision for children from birth to primary education that falls within a national **regulatory framework**, i.e. it has to comply with a set of rules, minimum standards and/or undergo accreditation procedures.

It includes:

- Public, private and voluntary sectors
- Centre-based and home-based provision (in provider's home)



ECEC areas policy-makers may directly influence



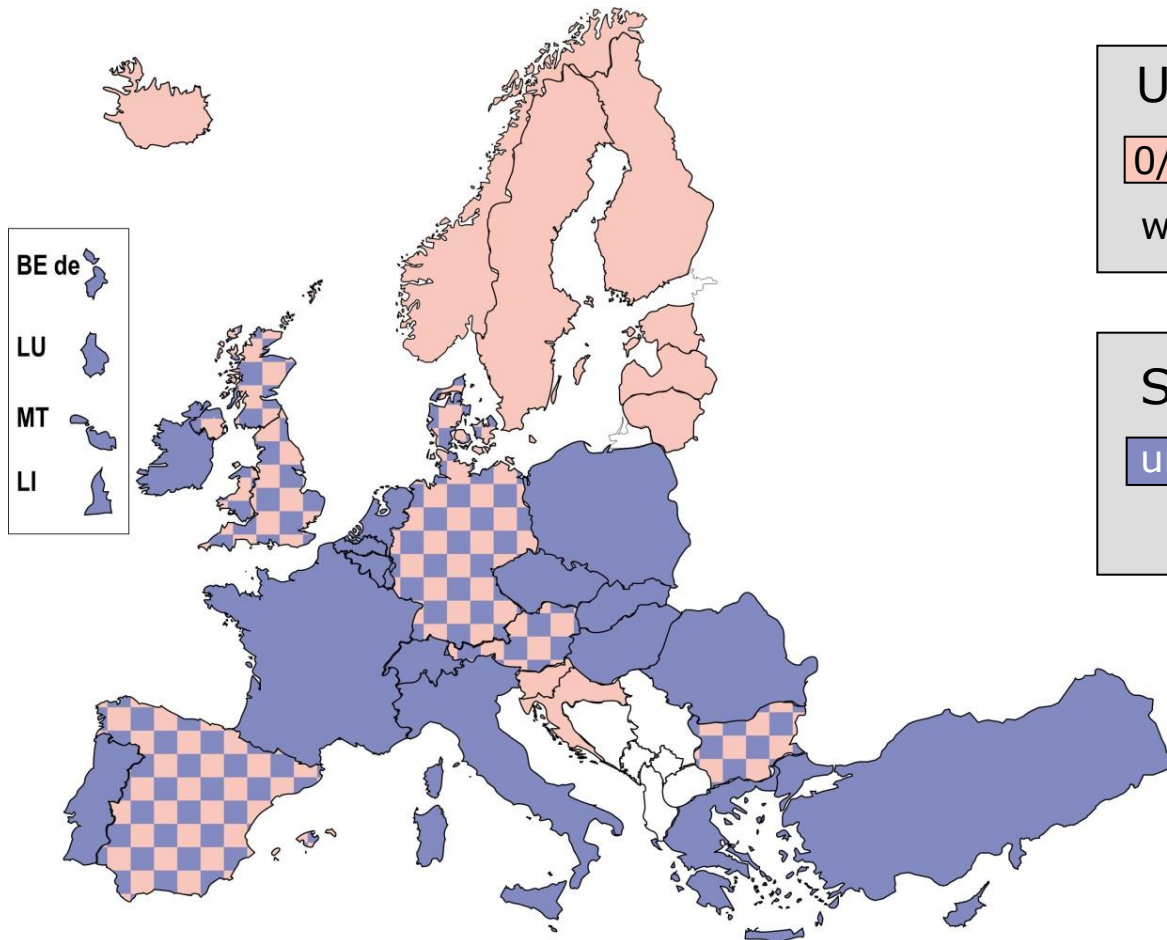
Greatest benefits for all children

- ✓ Safe and stimulating environment
- ✓ Supportive and encouraging staff
- ✓ Opportunities for intensive verbal and social interactions
- ✓ Appropriate experiences to promote children's cognitive and physical development

Issues covered:

- Models of ECEC systems
- Educational guidelines
- Transitions from ECEC to primary education
- Specific measures for children with additional needs

Organisation of centre-based ECEC, 2012/13



Unitary system

0/1 to 6/7 years

with or without pre-primary classes

Split system

under 3 years

3 years and more



'Childcare' (under 3 year olds)

- Ministry responsible for health, welfare or family affairs
- No educational guidelines
- Care staff with upper secondary qualifications
- No legal entitlement

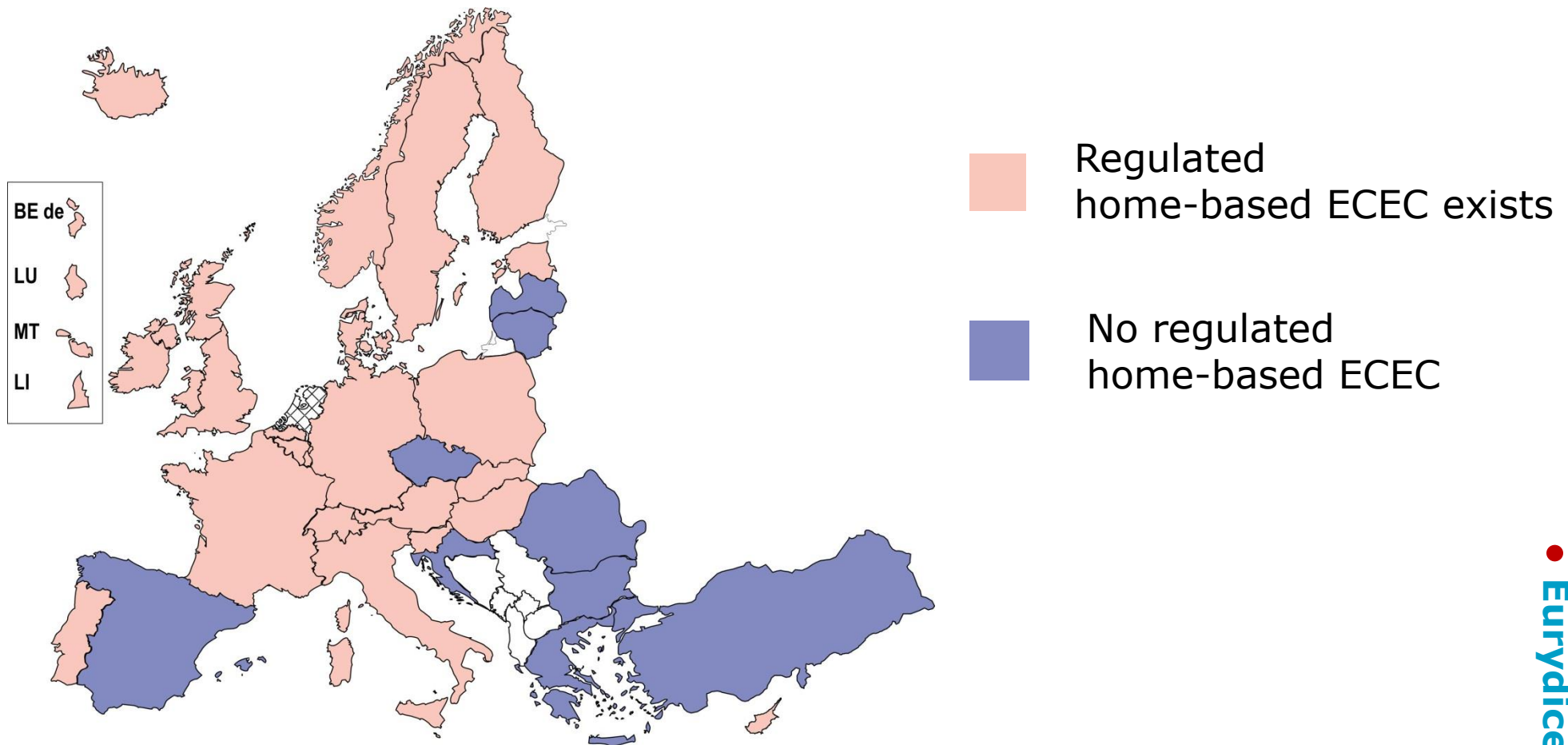
'Early education' (3 year olds +)

- Ministry of education
- Educational guidelines
- Educational staff with tertiary degrees
- Legal entitlement

'Early childhood education and care' (0/1-6/7 years)

- Ministry of education
- Educational guidelines
- Educational staff with tertiary degrees
- Legal entitlement

Regulated home-based ECEC, 2012/13



Educational guidelines

Official guidelines are issued on a range of matters to help ECEC providers offer a high-quality service.

Educational guidelines may cover:

- learning content
- objectives and attainment targets
- teaching approaches
- learning activities
- assessment methods, etc.

Forms of educational guidelines:

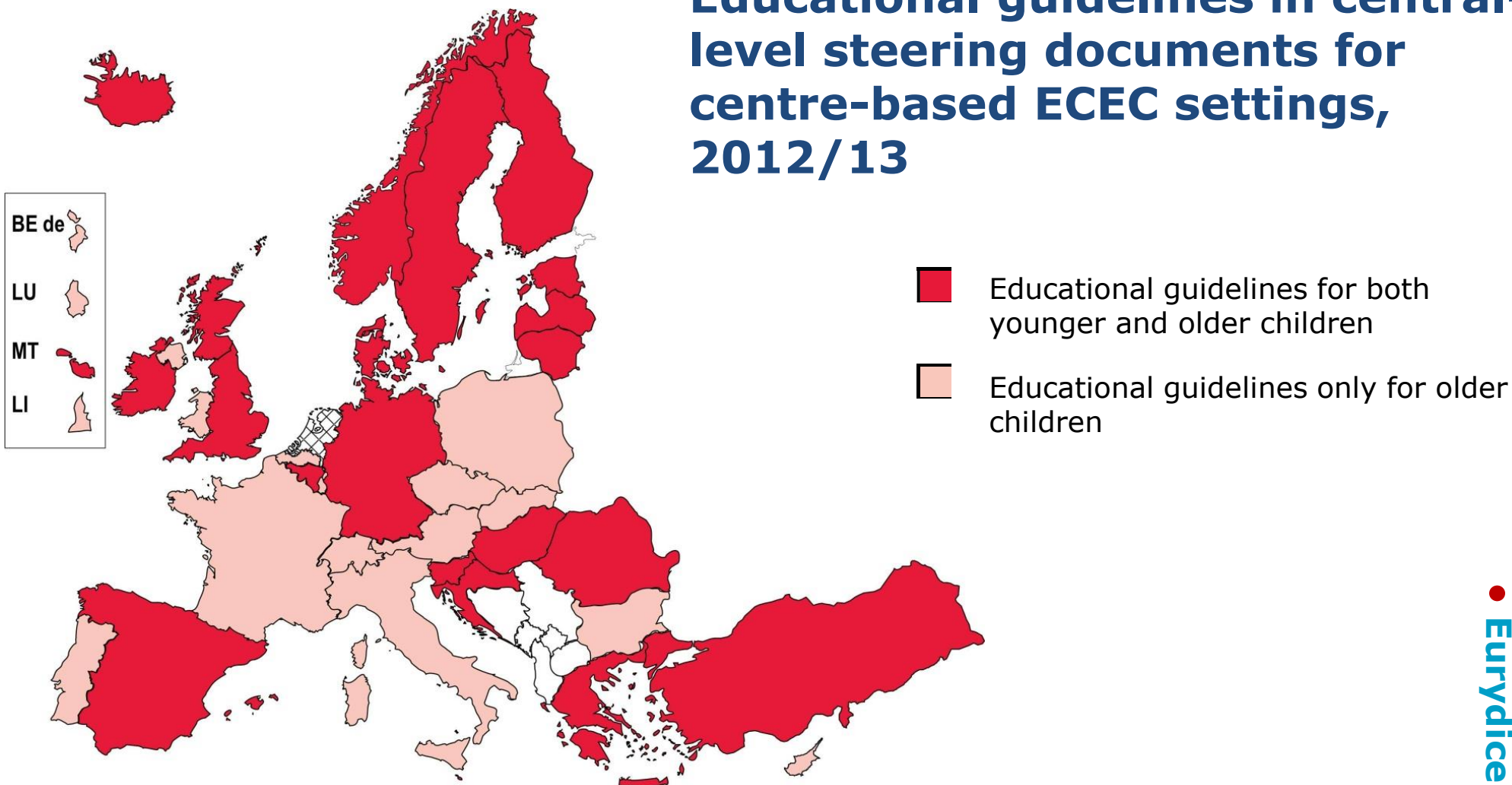
- Incorporated into legislation
- Reference framework of skills
- Care and education plans
- Educational standards
- Criteria for developing local curricula
- Practical guidelines for ECEC practitioners, etc .





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Educational guidelines in central-level steering documents for centre-based ECEC settings, 2012/13

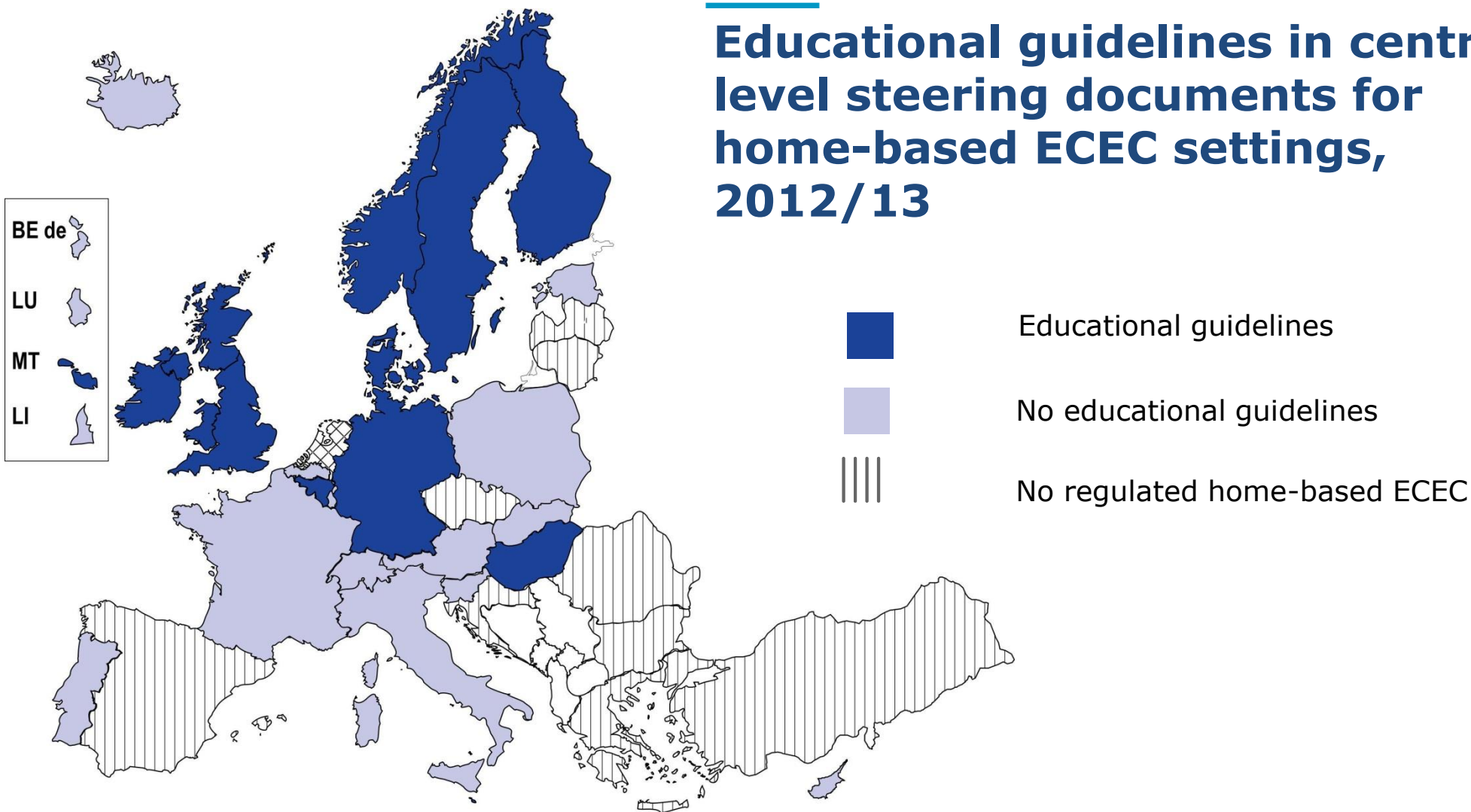


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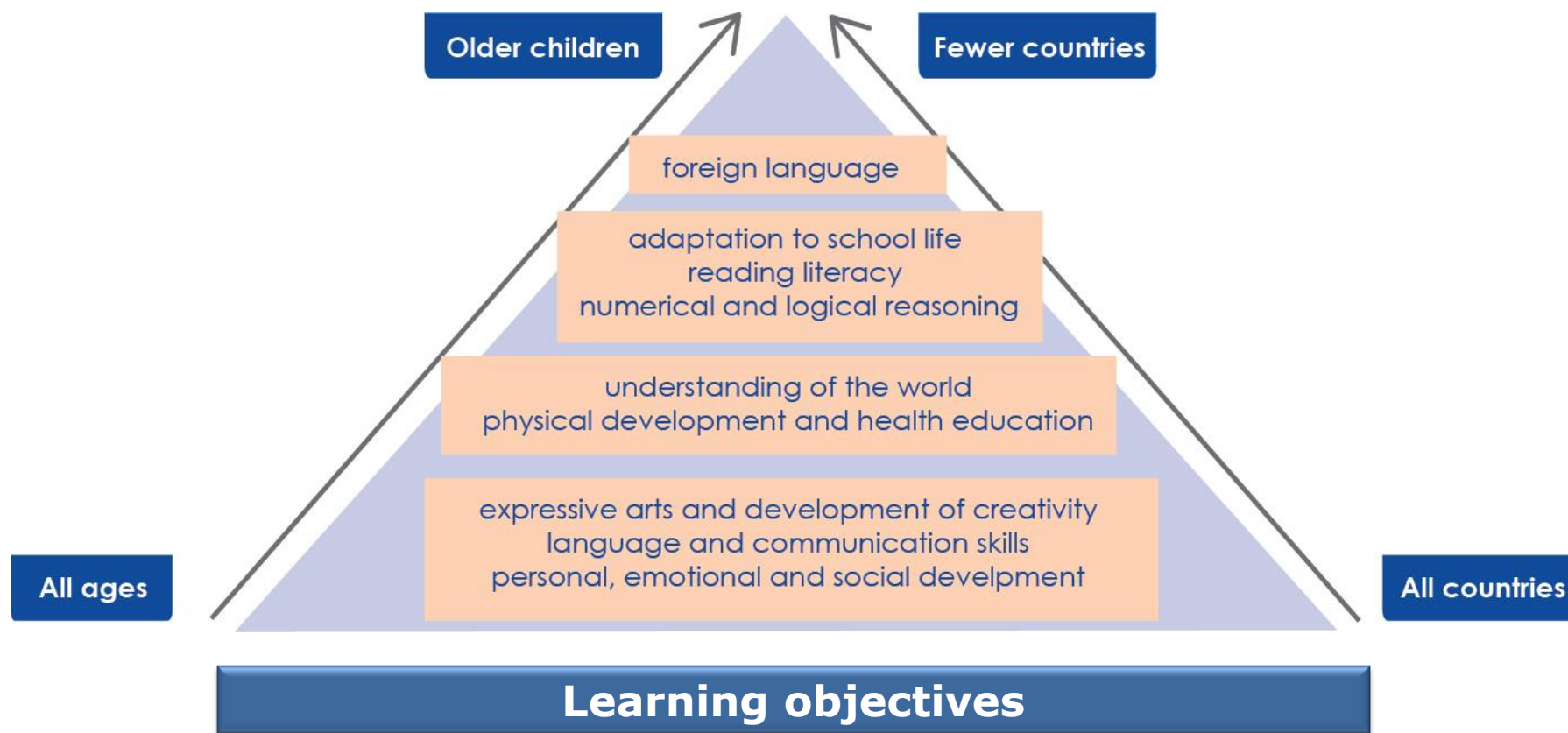
Educational guidelines in central-level steering documents for home-based ECEC settings, 2012/13





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Educational guidelines



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Educational guidelines

- **Balance between adult-led and children-initiated activities**
- **Alternation of individual and group activities**
- **Project-based learning**
- **Free play – 1/2 countries**

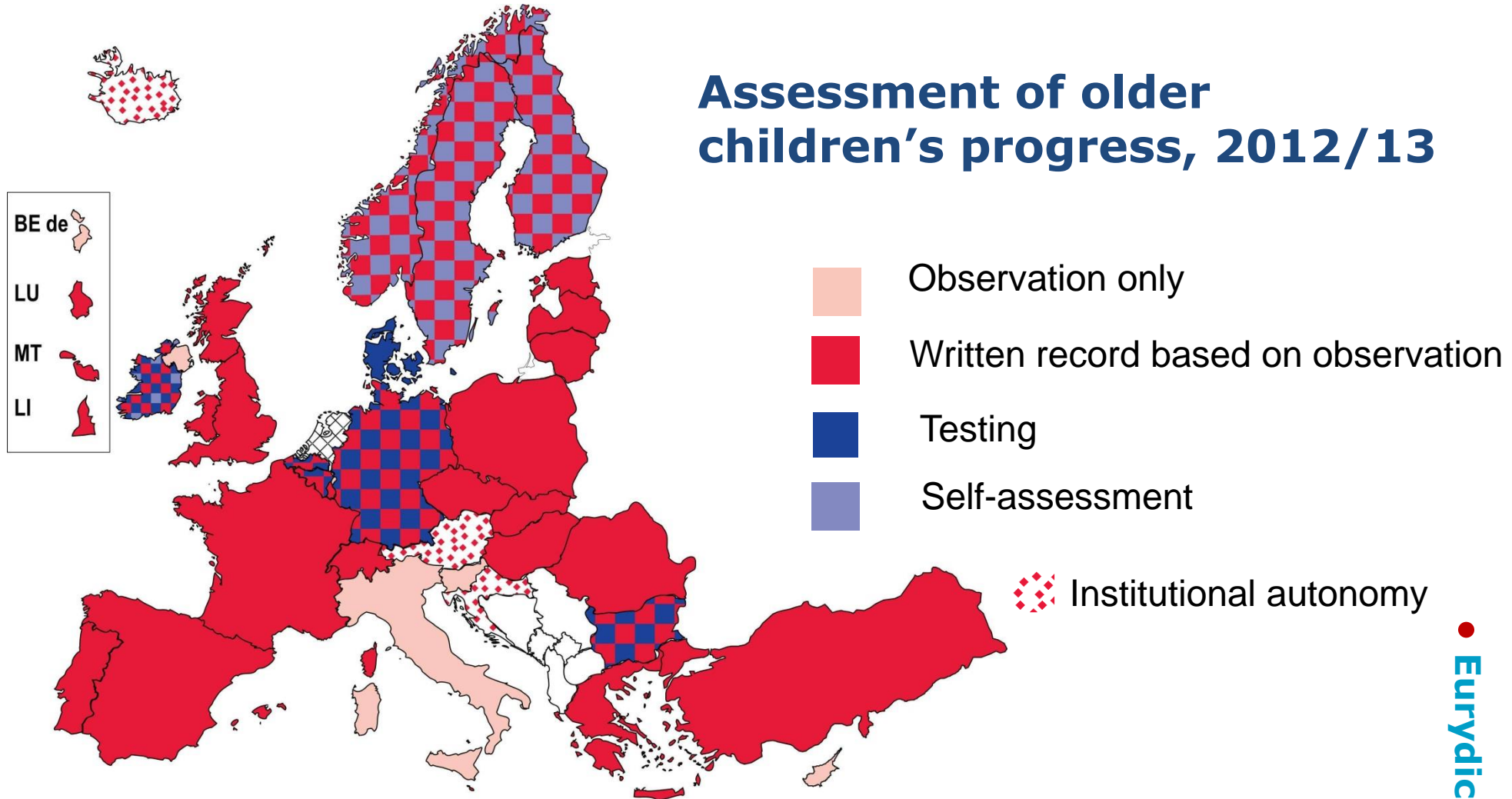
Learning approaches





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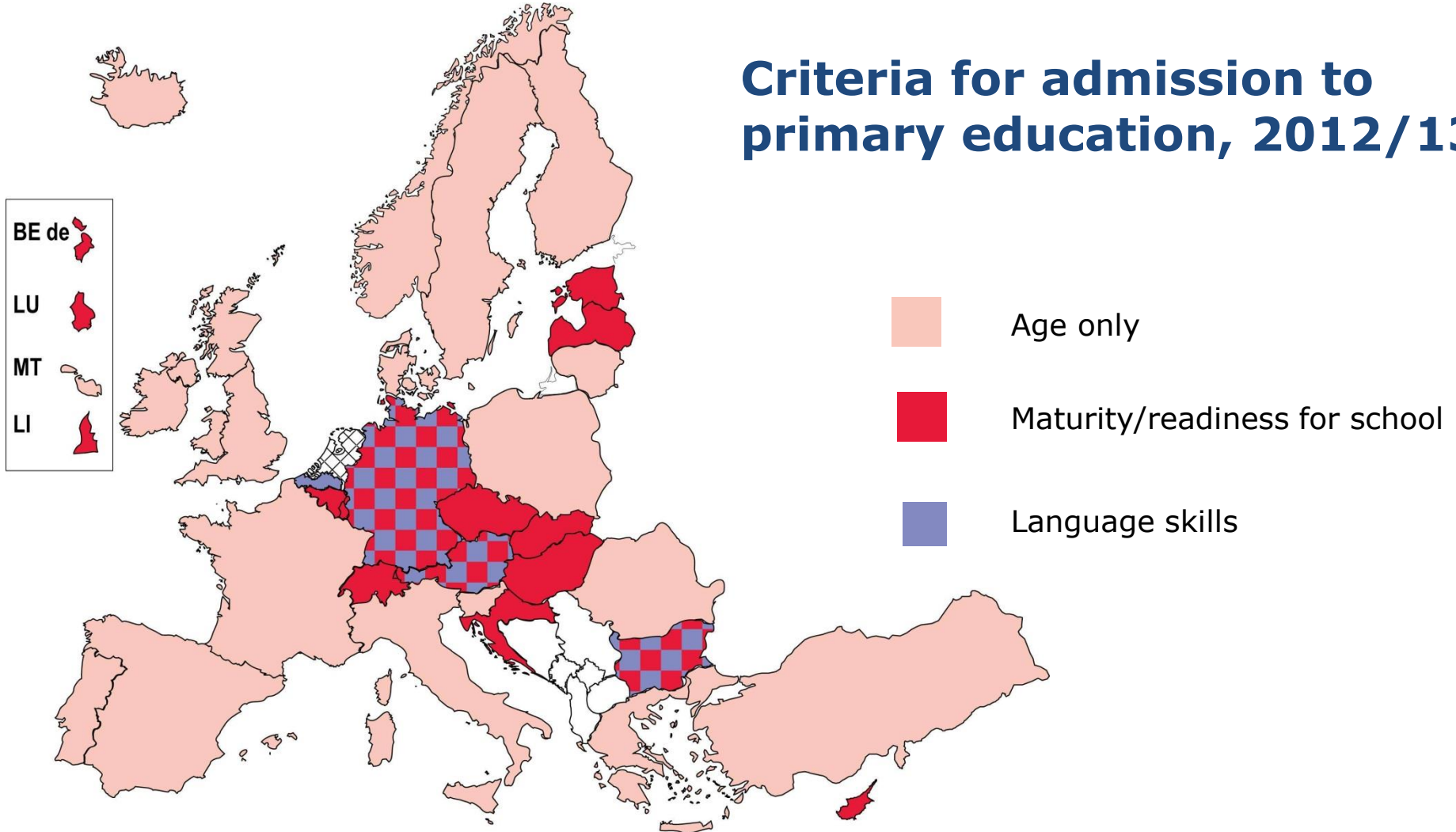
Assessment of older children's progress, 2012/13





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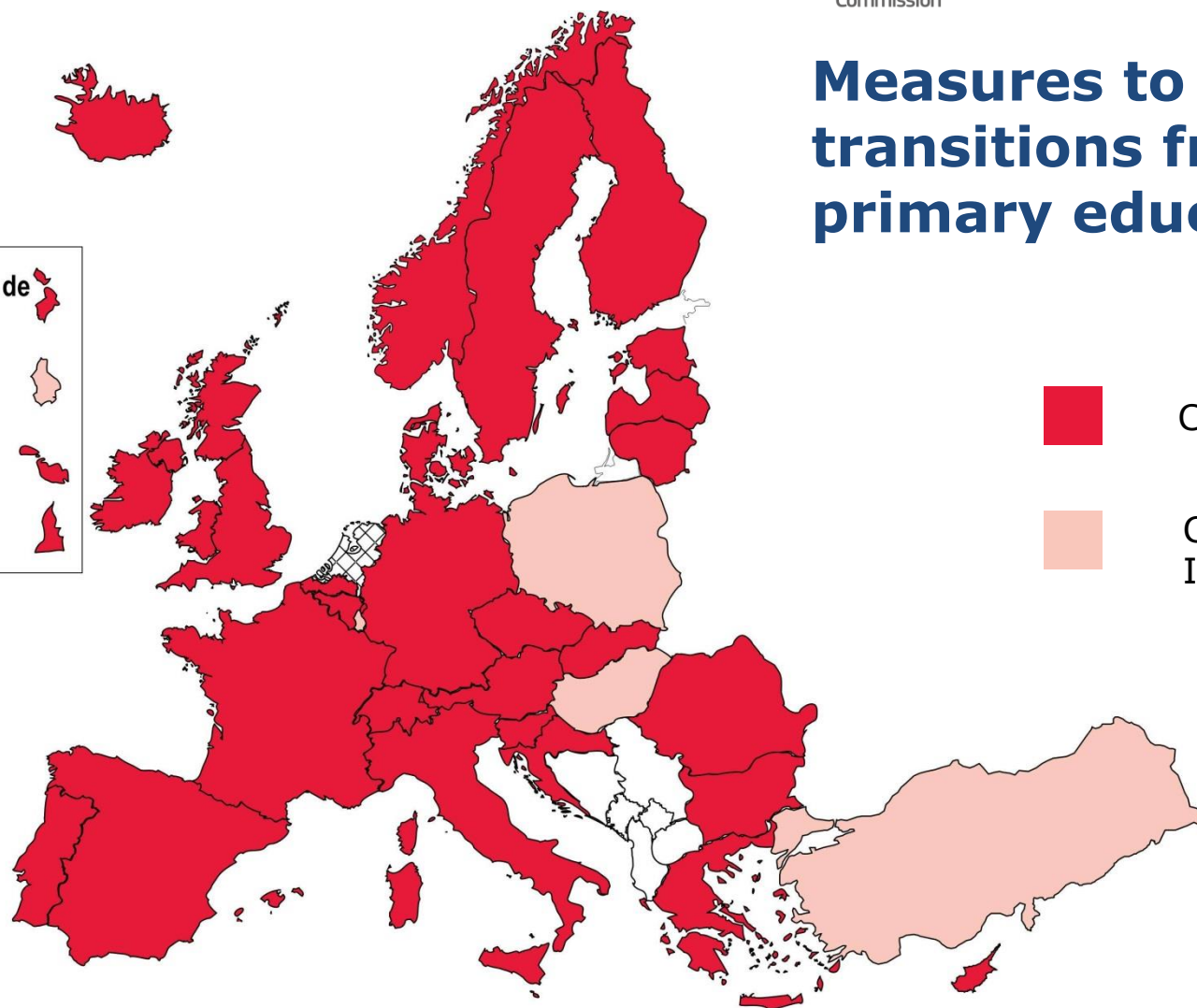
Criteria for admission to primary education, 2012/13





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Measures to facilitate children's transitions from ECEC to primary education, 2012/13

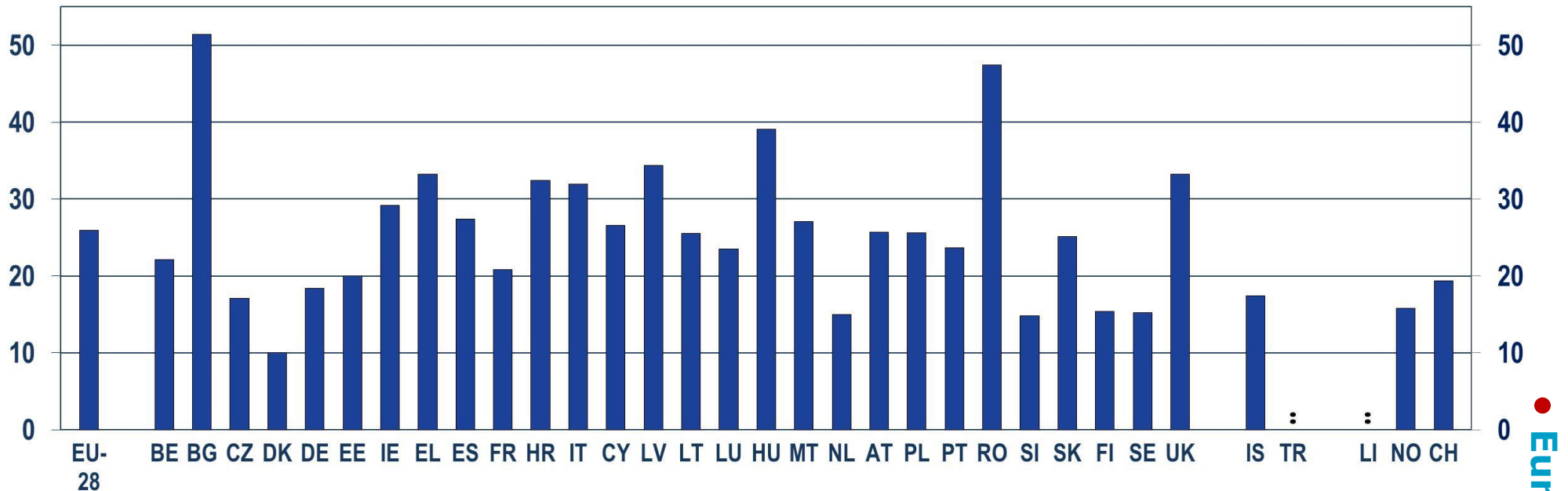


Central measures exist



Central measures do not exist /
Institutional autonomy

Percentage of children aged 0-5 at risk of poverty or social exclusion, 2012



Source: Eurostat

Measures to support disadvantaged children

Child learning and development

- Language support
- Other development/education support

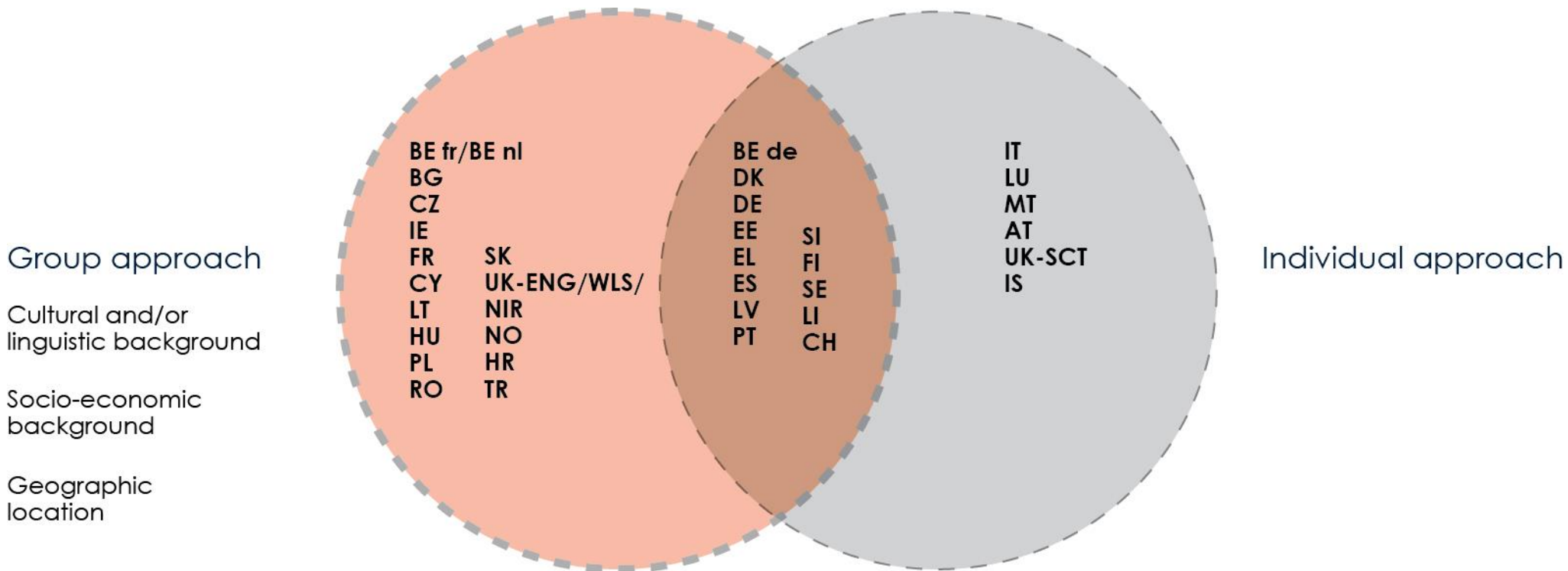
Staff

- Additional staff or specialist staff
- Specific CPD programmes
- Staff from a minority / migrant background
- Extra salary

Organisation and funding

- Smaller groups or lower child/staff ratio
- Equipment/facilities
- Additional budget/ lump sum for ECEC setting

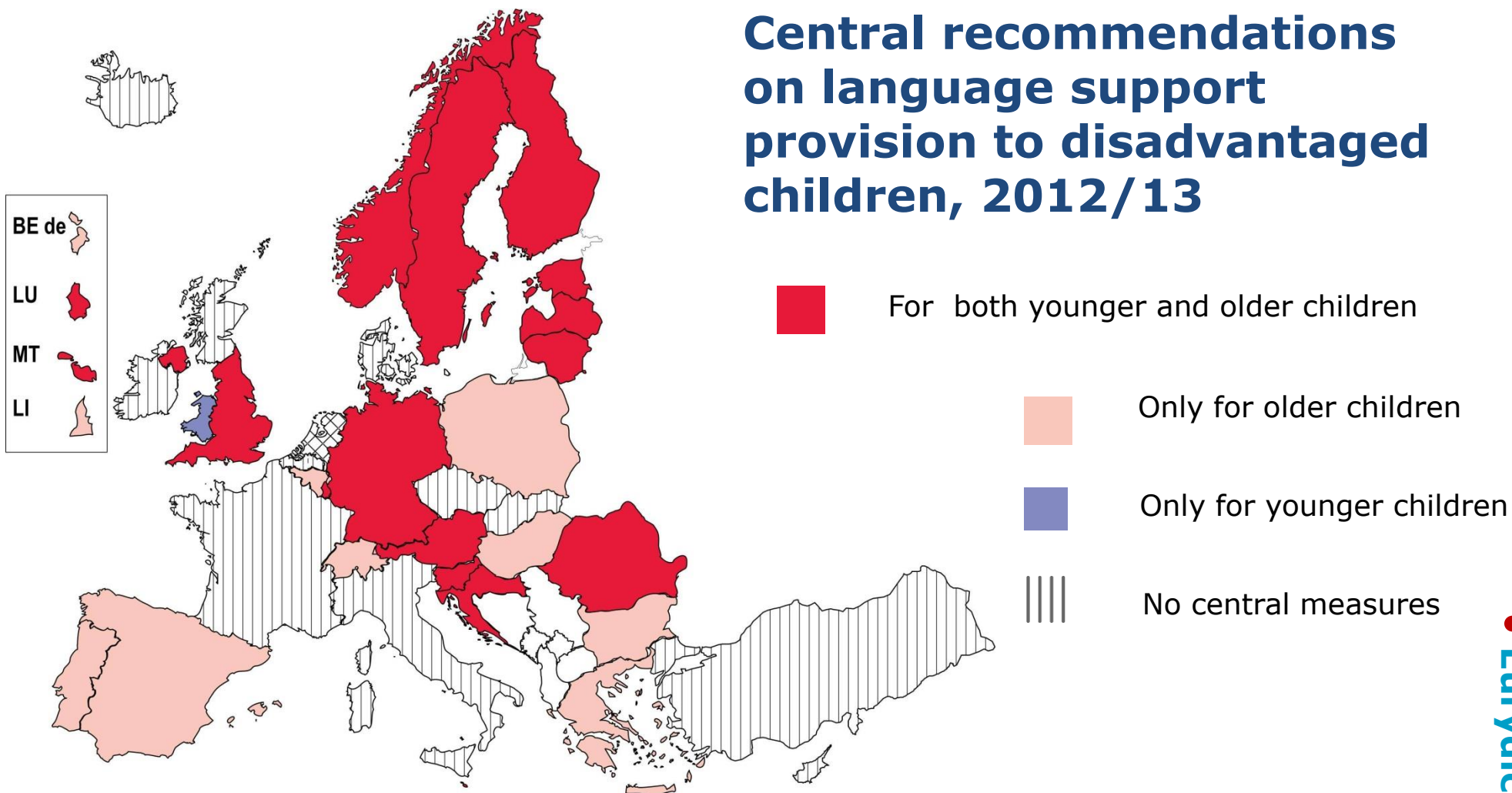
How is additional learning support provided?





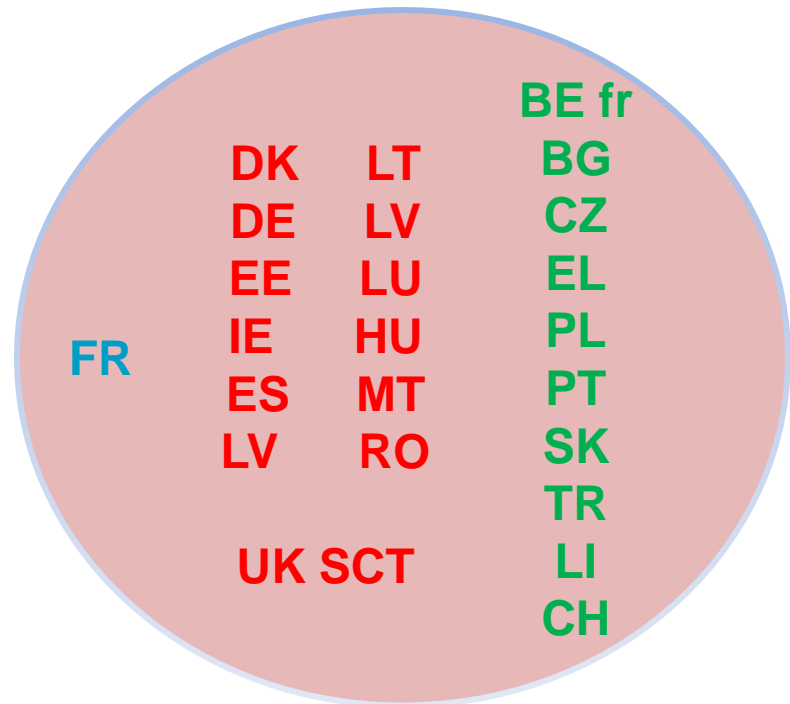
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Central recommendations on language support provision to disadvantaged children, 2012/13

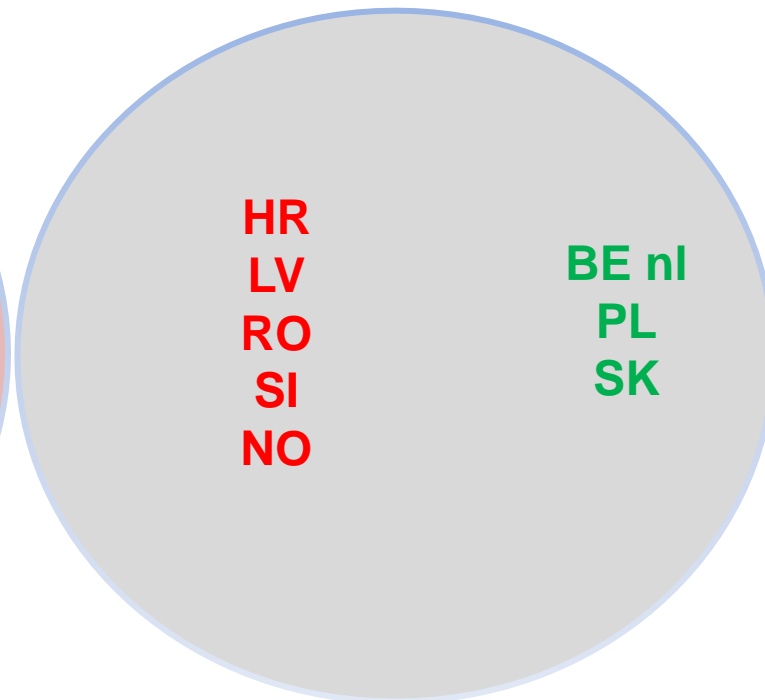


Staff involved to support language measures

Speech &
language
terapists



Only for younger children



For older and younger

Staff from a
minority or
migrant
background

Only for older children



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Bucharest, 2013



Education
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Full report:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/documents/key_data_series/166EN.pdf

Eurydice Policy Brief on ECEC:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/documents/thematic_reports/Eurydice_Policy_Brief_ECEC_EN.pdf

For more information: <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/>

