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Teaching and Learning in Portuguese HE: External Pressures, Institutional Initiatives and Perceptions

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Systemic and Institutional Changes

- Concern with Efficiency and Effectiveness;
- Strengthening of Regulatory and Accountability Mechanisms;
- Rise of QA and Accreditation;
- Funding systems (output orientation);
- Responsiveness to Society;
- Governance changes - Institutional autonomy & centralization;



Higher Education in Europe

Context – Portuguese HE

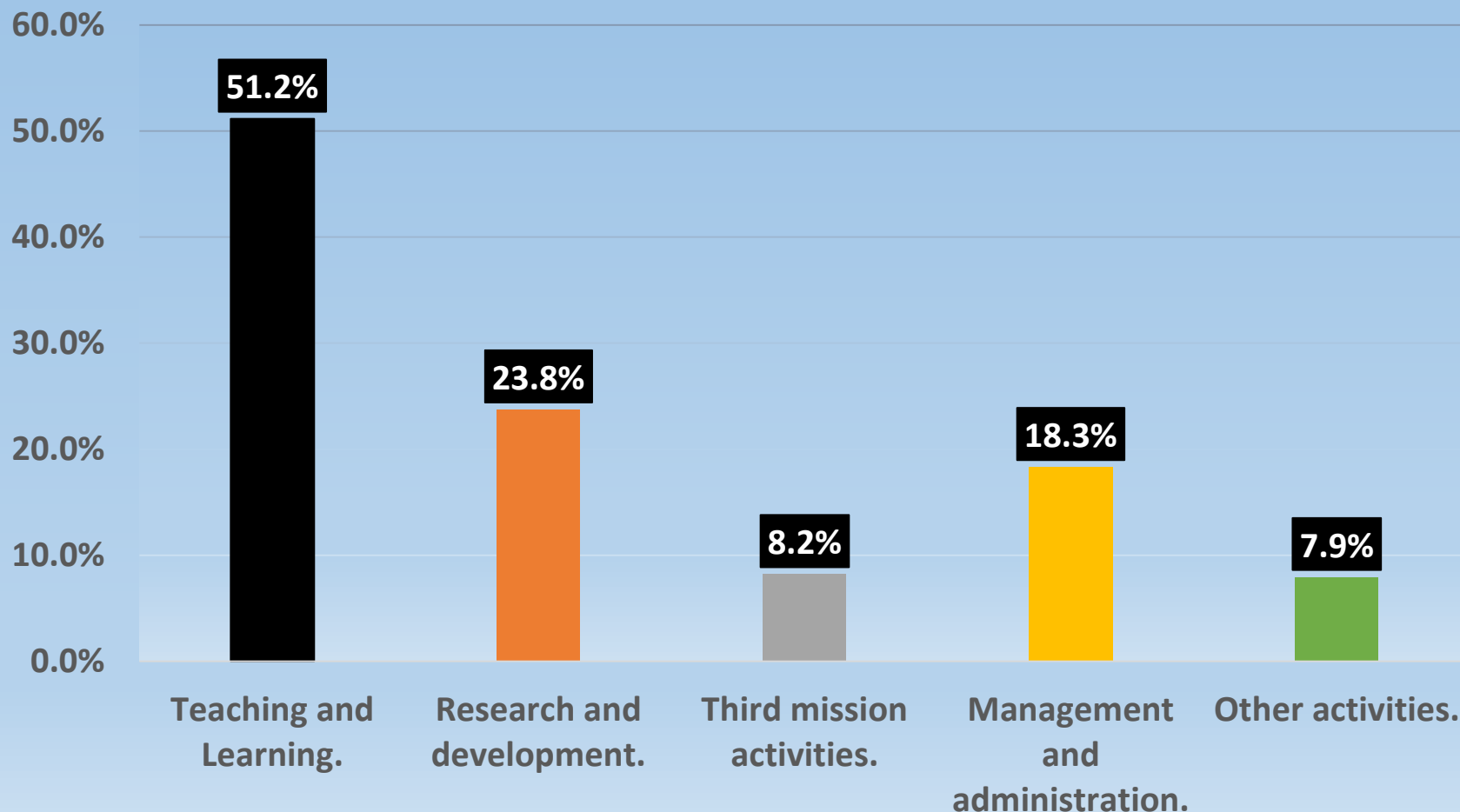
- Rapid growth and diversification (1980s-2000s).
- Strengthening of Research emphasis and Internationalization.
- Greater political and social expectations regarding the contribution of HE.
- Major reforms in Governance (institutional autonomy and centralization) and in QA (Accreditation).



How are HEIs responding to these pressures?

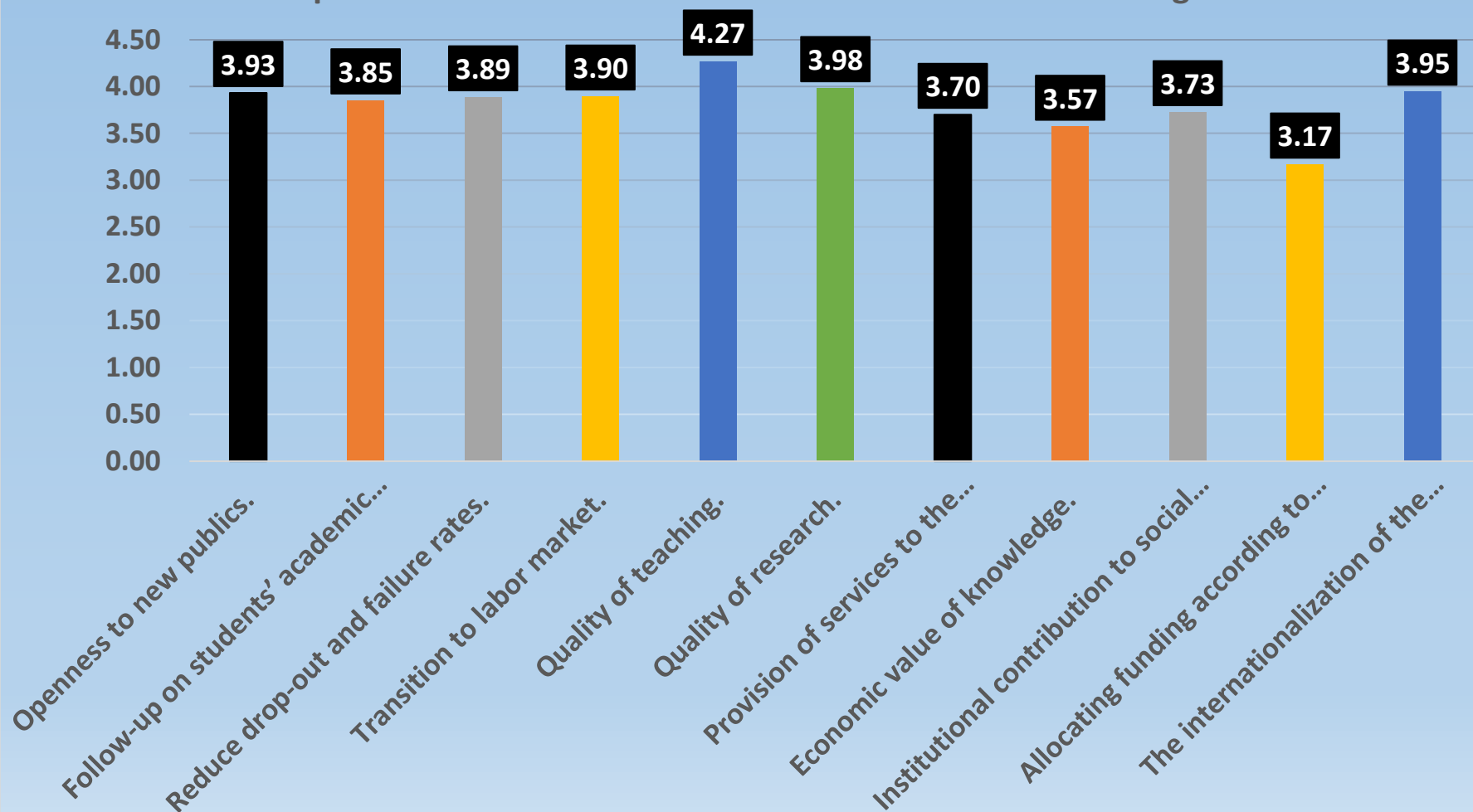
Importance of Teaching Activities for Academics

Percentage of time dedicated in a usual week to these activities



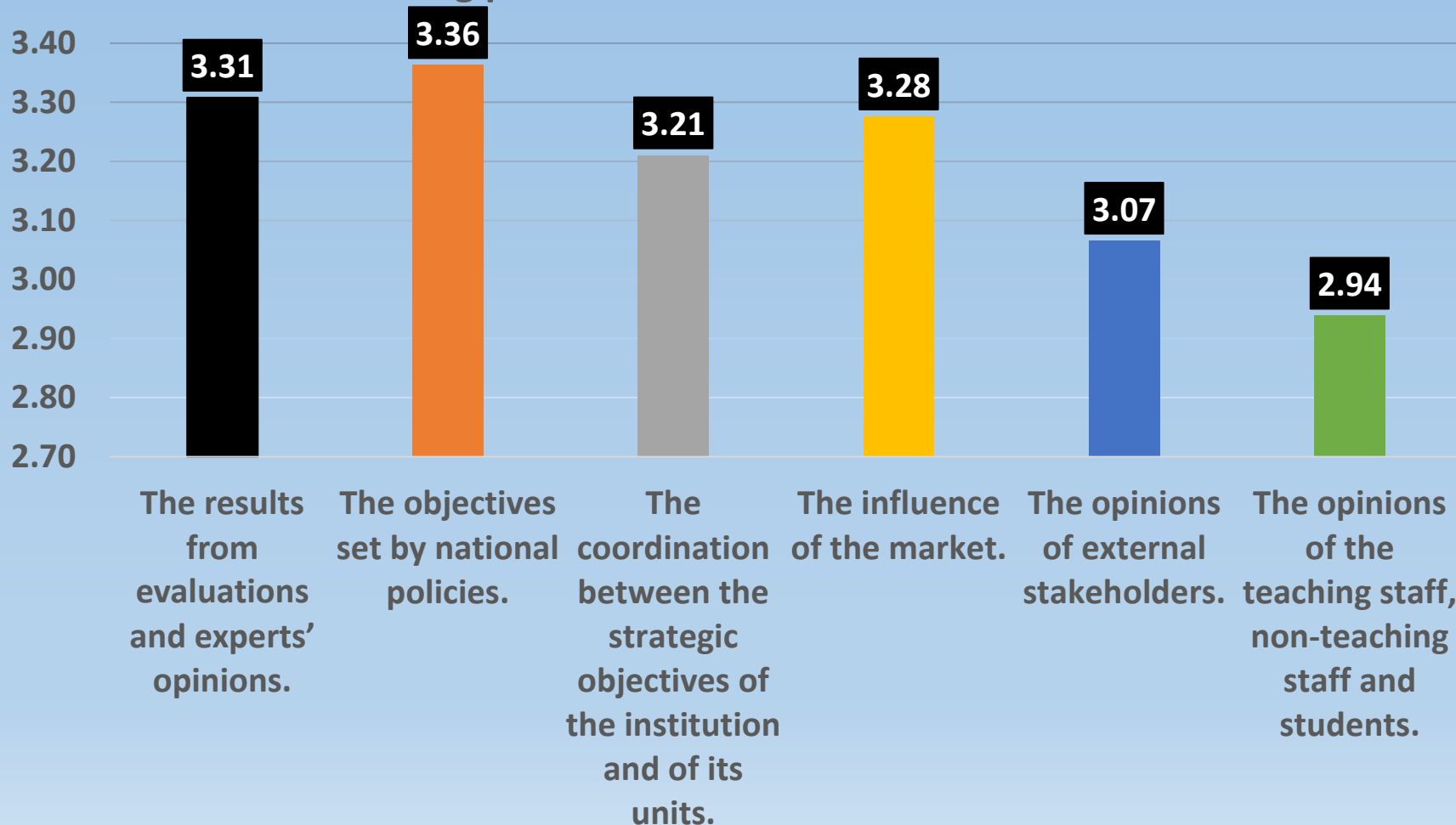
Priorities in Institutional Strategies

Importance of issues in the definition of institutional strategies



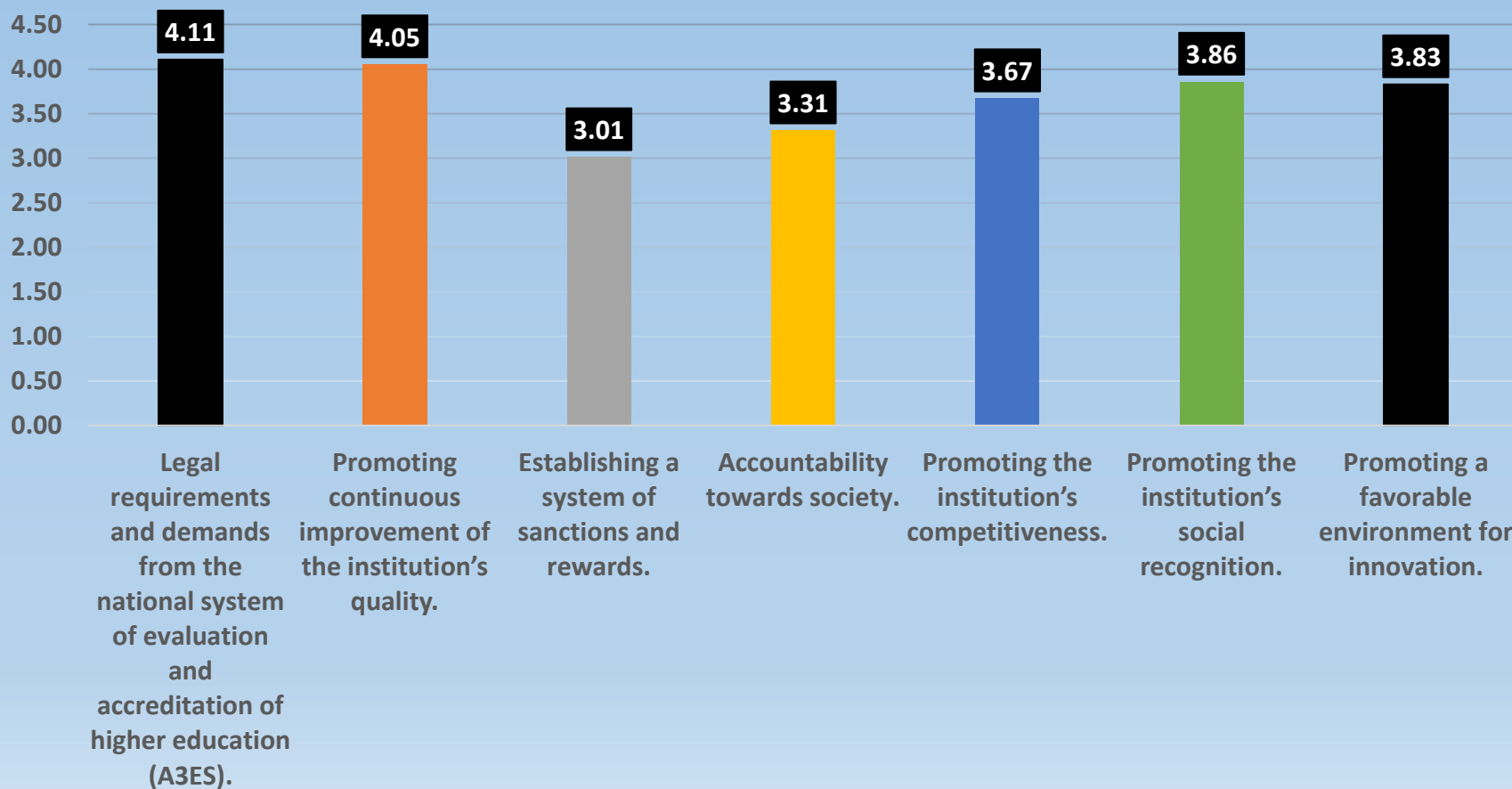
Who influences the decisions of HEIs?

Decision-making processes at the institution take into account:



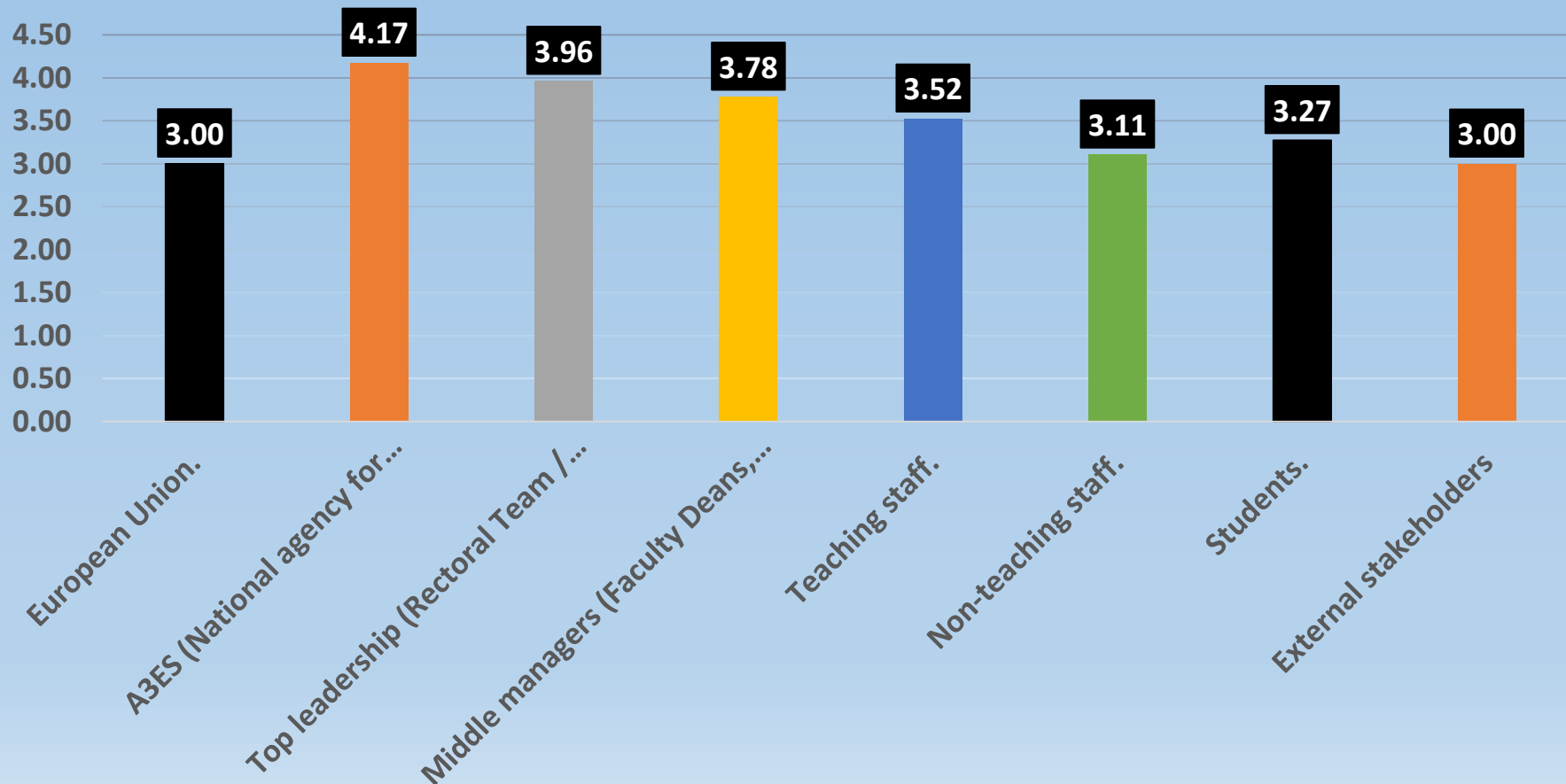
Accountability or Enhancement?

Importance of these factors for the creation and development of internal quality assurance practices at the institution

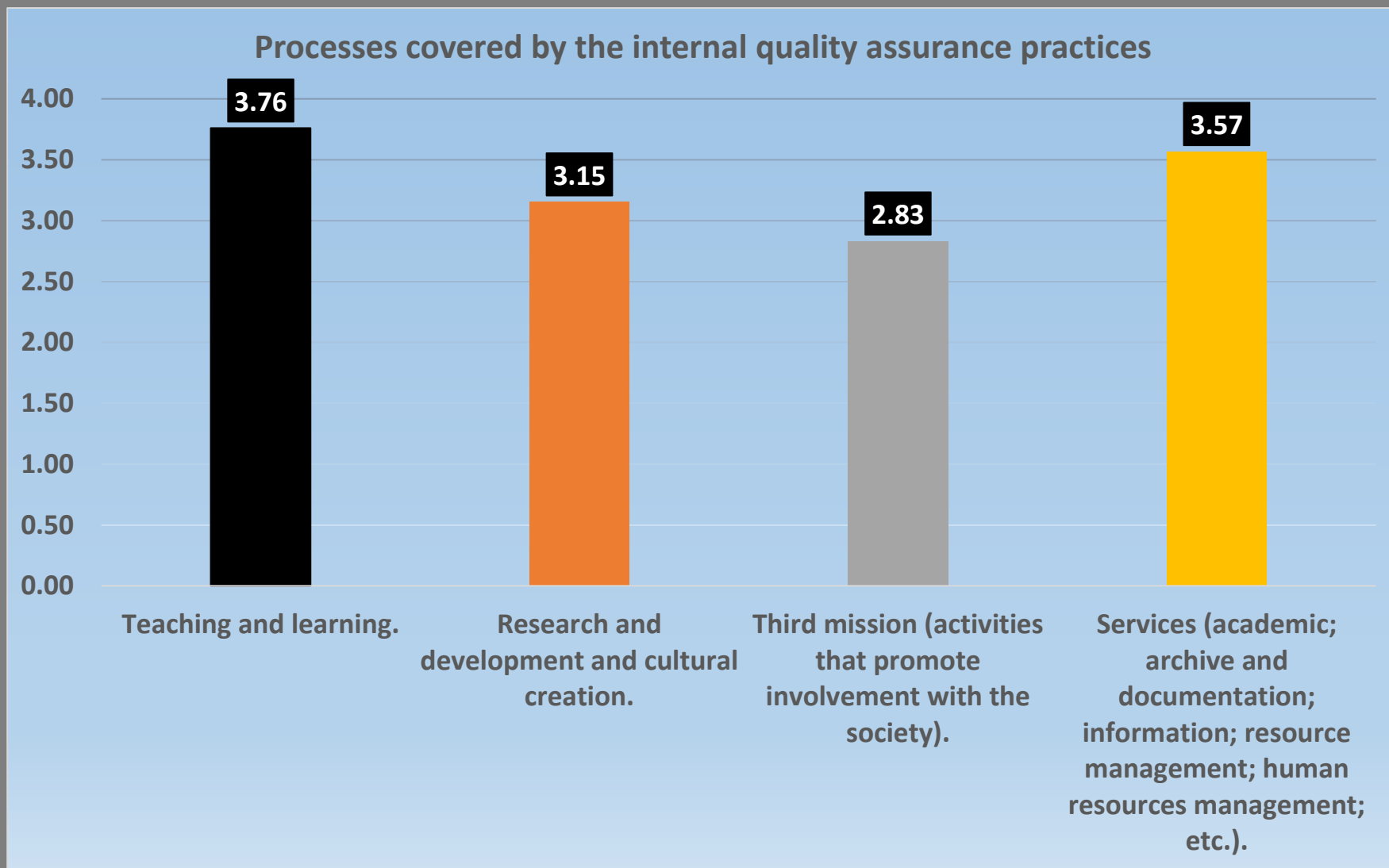


Who drives the development of Internal QA?

Importance of these actors for the development of the internal quality assurance practices in place at the institution

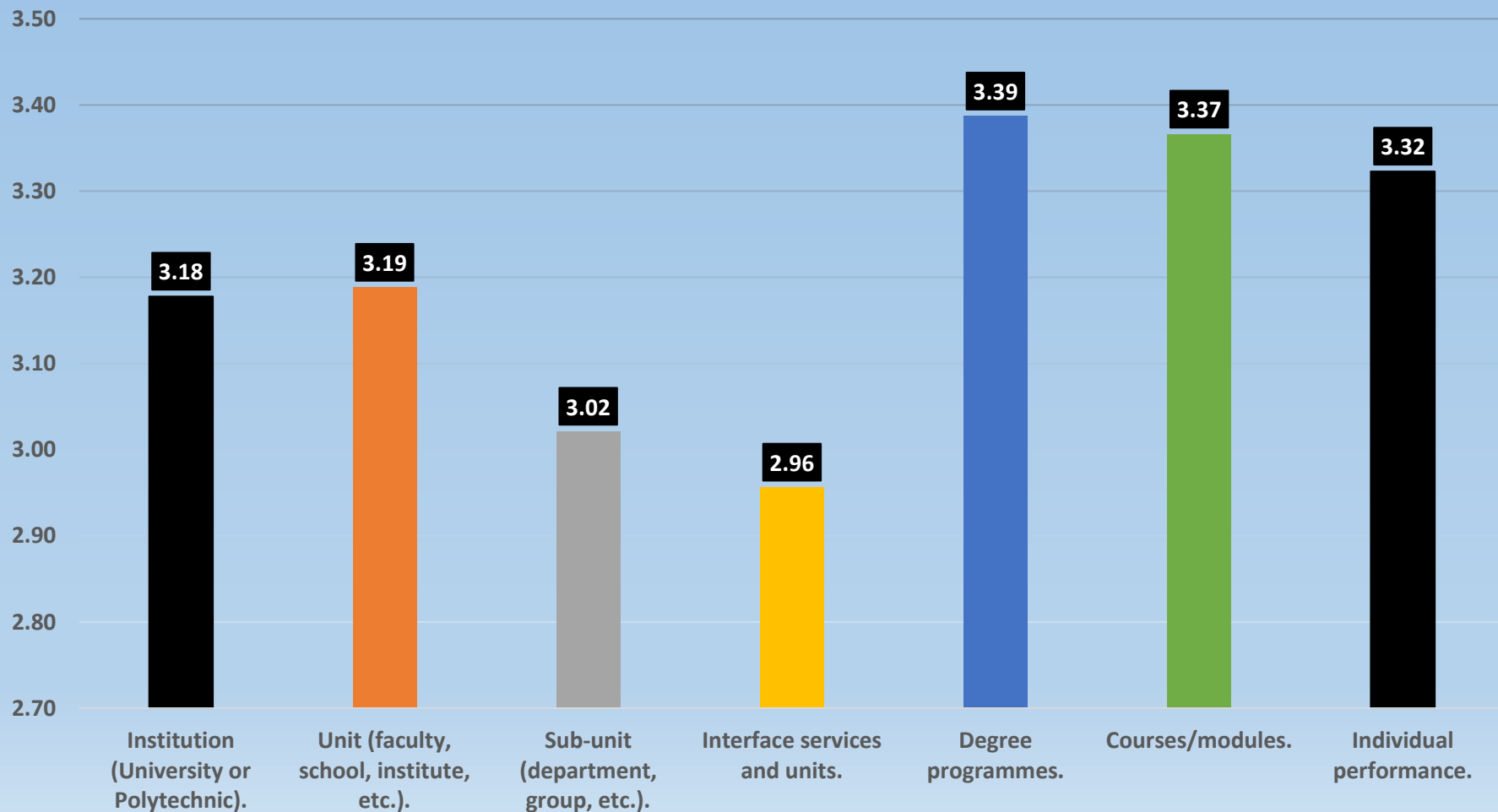


Coverage of Internal QA Systems



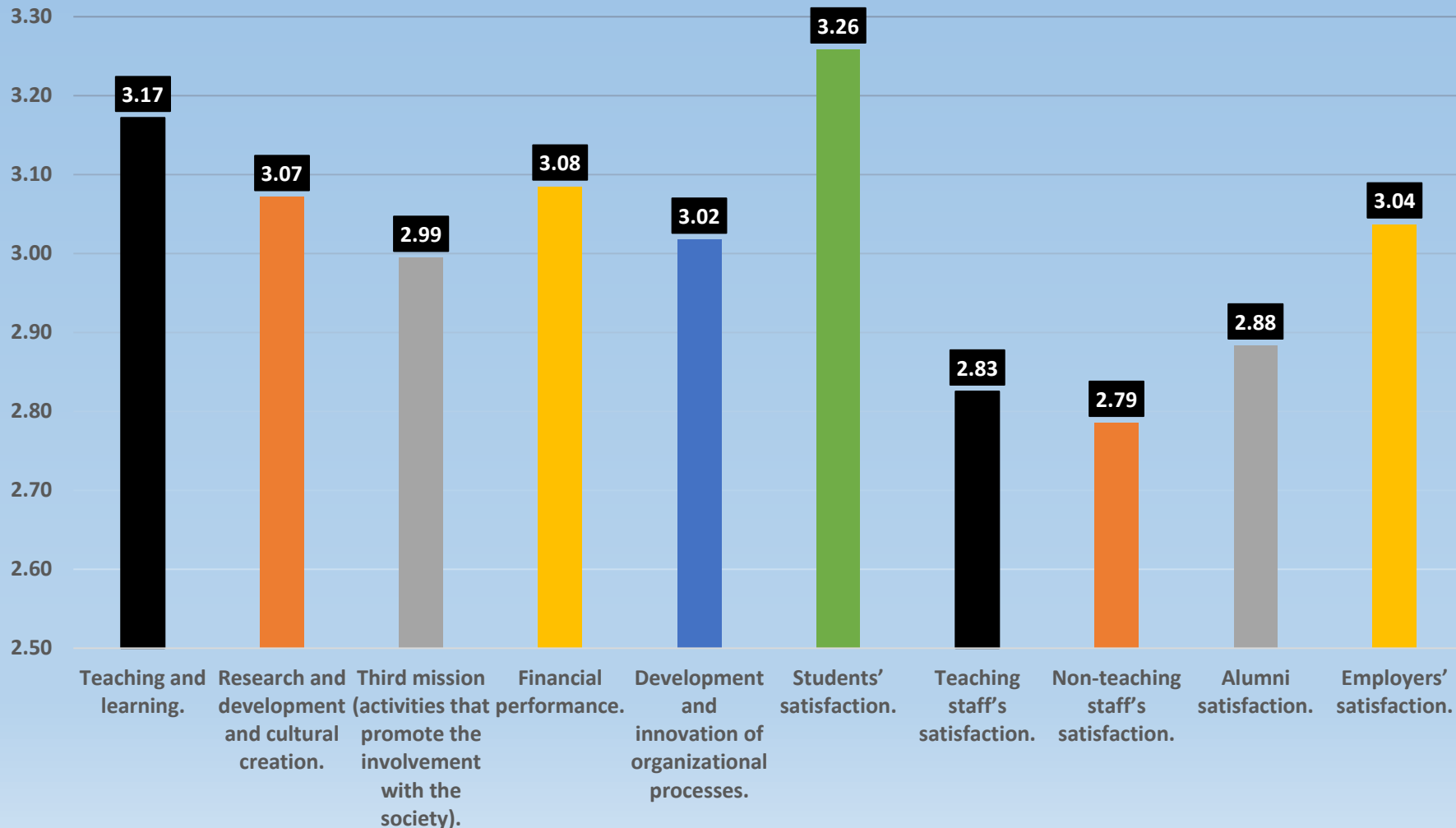
Levels of Performance Assessment

How would you describe the degree to which performance is measured?



Ways of monitoring Performance

How do you evaluate the way information on organizational performance is used?



Final Comments

Final Remarks

- Importance of Teaching in Individual and Institutional Priorities – Role of External Forces;
- Greater formalization of procedures and awareness;
- T&L is the area better covered by Internal QA, though with limited follow-up;
- Fragmented monitoring and focus at the micro level;
- Gap between institutional strategies and micro monitoring – how to integrate?
- Link between assessment and rewards?
- Growth of bureaucracy and risk of fatigue?

Thanks you! Obrigado!

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