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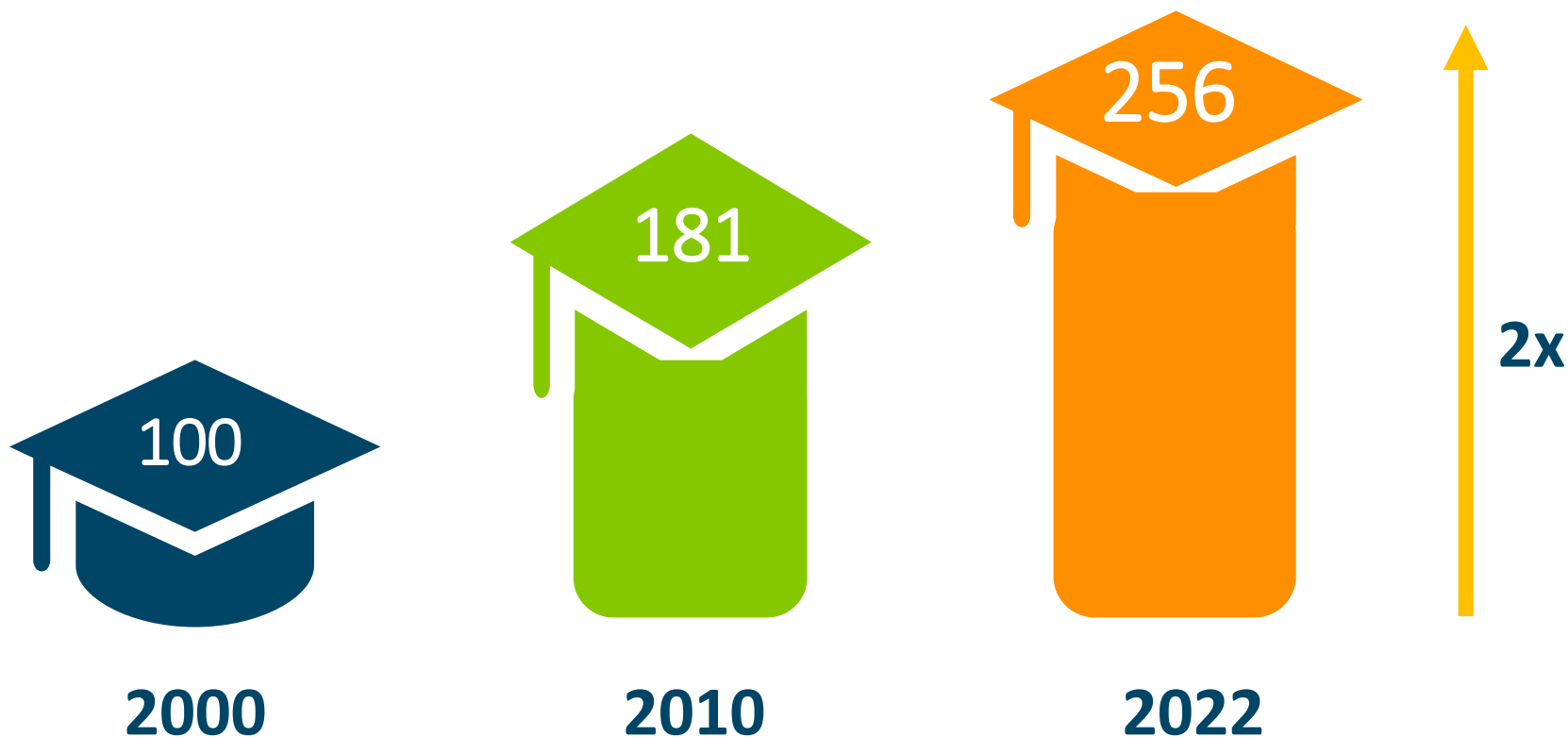
UNESCO Recognition Conventions

Vanja Gutović

Secretary to the Global Convention

Gross tertiary education enrolment

Globally, the number of students (in millions) has more than doubled in the last two decades.



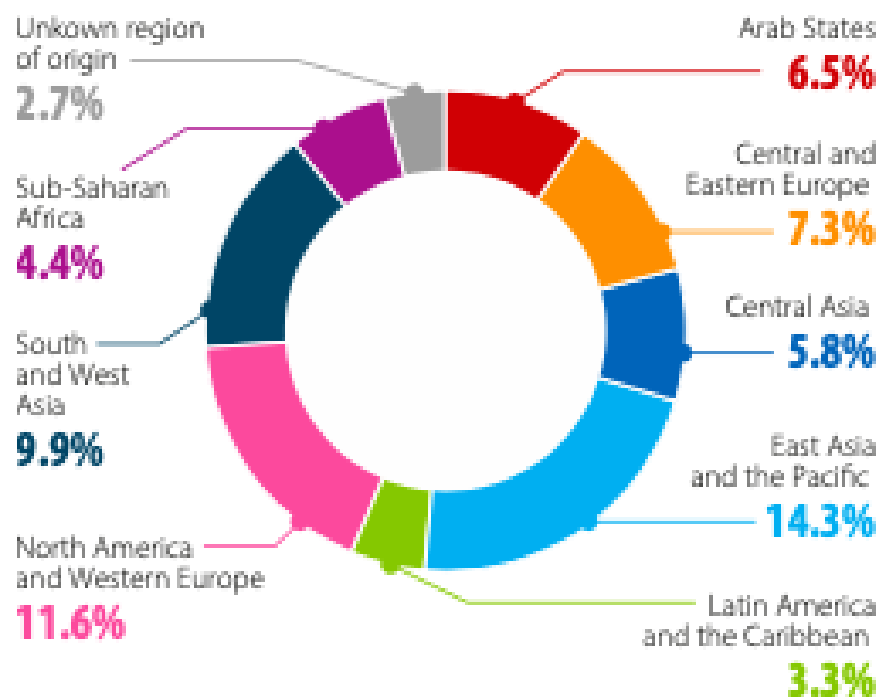
Source: UIS 2000-2022



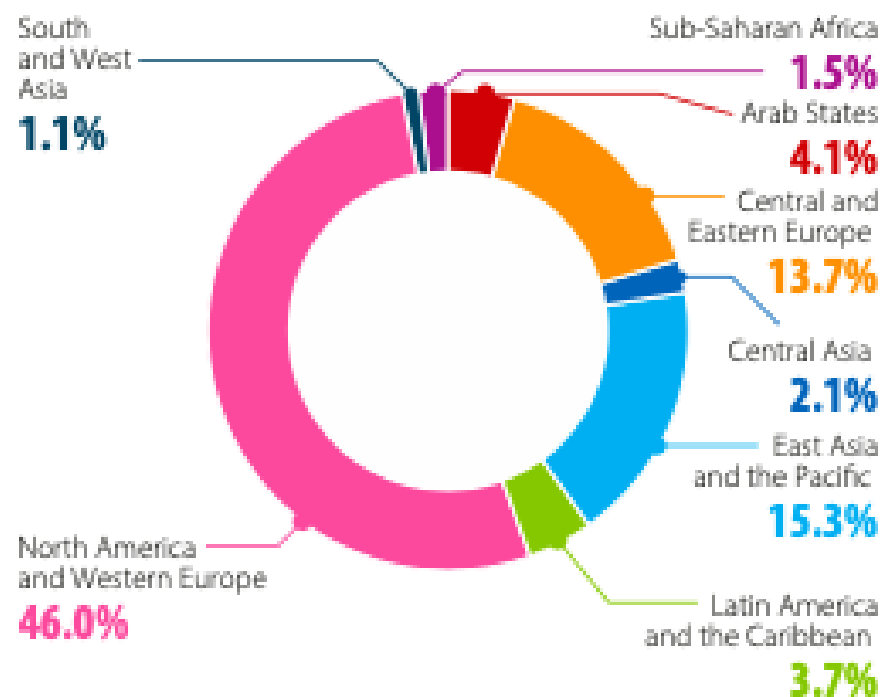
International student mobility (UIS – 2021)

The number of internationally mobile students tripled between 2000 to 2021, from 2.1 to 6.4 million worldwide. Internationally mobile students' share of total world enrolment rose from 2.1% in 2000 to 2.6% in 2021

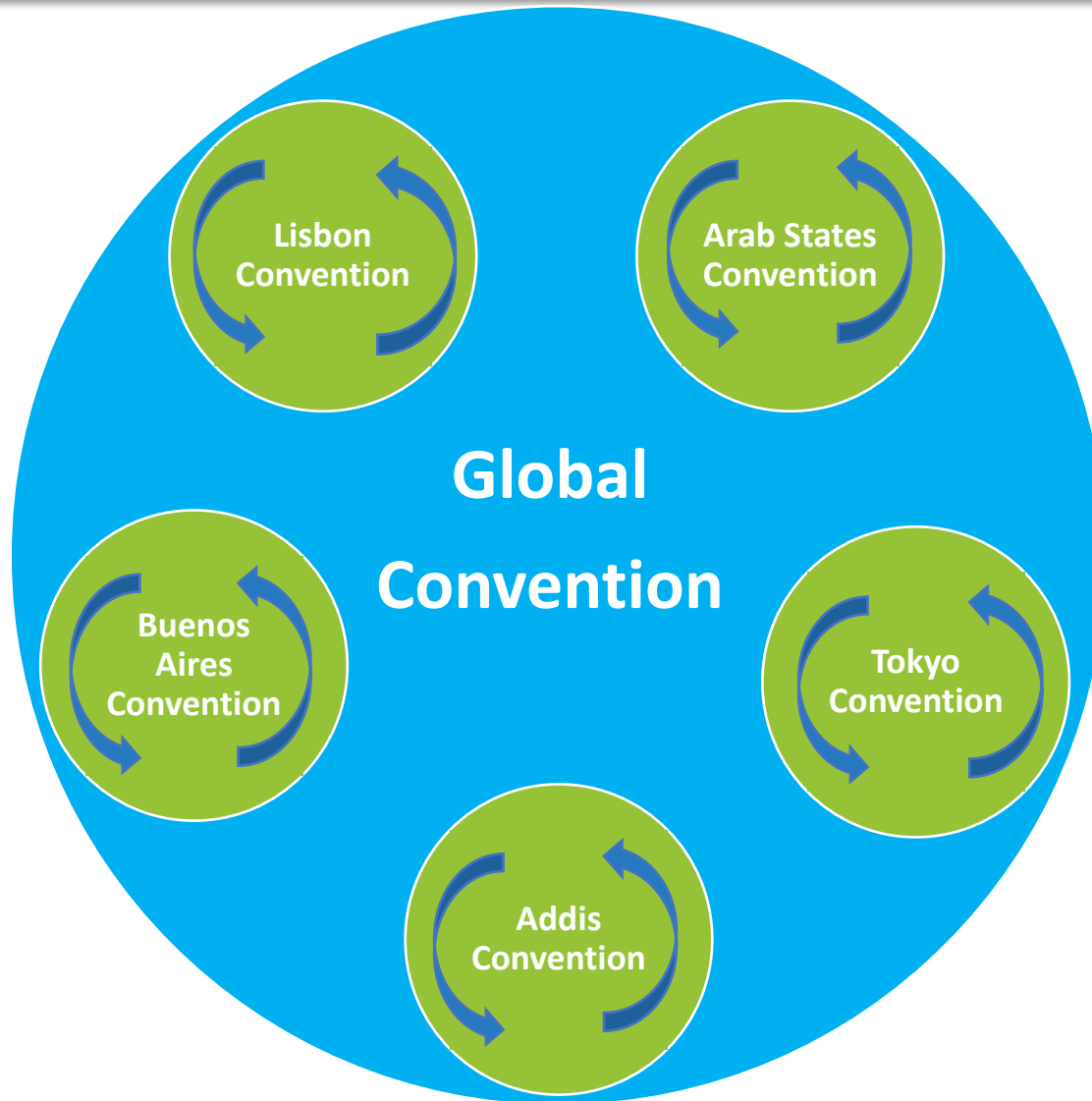
Percentage of international mobile students by region of origin, 2021



Percentage international mobile students, by host region, 2021



UNESCO's global ecosystem for the recognition of qualifications



Global Convention: Background and rationale



- Adopted in 2019 as the **first global treaty on higher education**
- **Entered into force** in March 2023
- Establishes **universal principles** for the recognition of qualifications
- Open to UNESCO Member States and the Holy See
- **2024-2045 workplan:** operational guidelines, subsidiary text on the relationship between the Global and regional conventions, research, capacity development, advocacy.

Global Convention: 30 States Parties

1.6+ million (25%)

of the world's 6.4 million mobile students are hosted by the States Parties



Major actors

in international education



30 Member States

Are reported to be well-advanced with ratification procedures, including countries in all UNESCO regions



Regional conventions

28 out of 30 countries that ratified the Global Convention are States Parties to one or more regional conventions



Andorra



Armenia



Australia



Cabo Verde



Côte d'Ivoire



Croatia



Cuba



Estonia



France



Finland



Georgia



Guinea



Holy See



Hungary



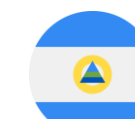
Iceland



Japan



Lithuania



Nicaragua



Norway



Rep. of Moldova



Romania



Palestine



Senegal



Slovakia



Sweden



Tunisia



UK

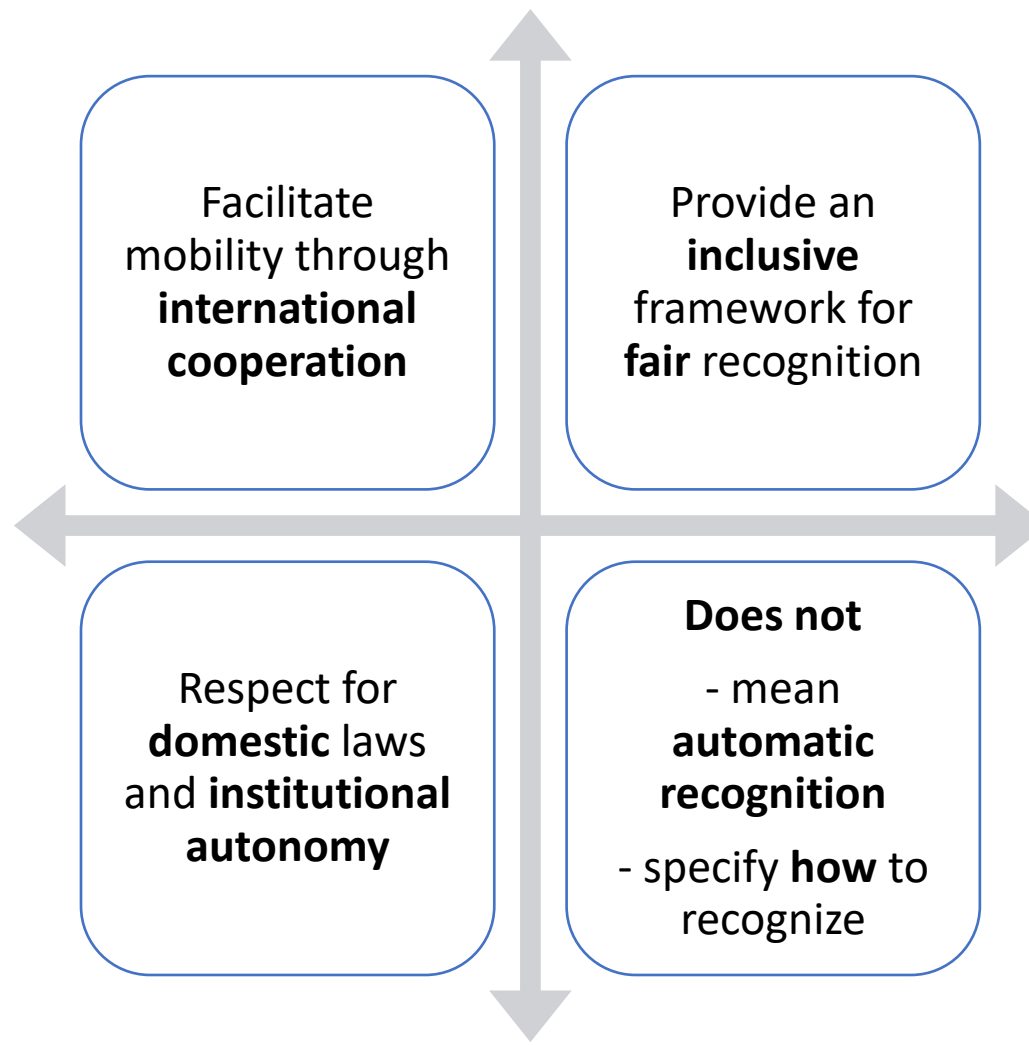


Uruguay



Yemen

Objectives of the Global Convention



Main Principles of the Global Convention

1 Timely and affordable assessment

States Parties shall recognize:

- qualifications giving access to higher education
- higher education qualifications
- partial studies
- prior learning
- non-traditional learning modes
- refugees/displaced persons, even in cases where documentation is lacking

...unless **substantial differences can be shown** that would **prevent** the applicant from succeeding with further studies or work

2 Individuals' right to assessment of their qualifications

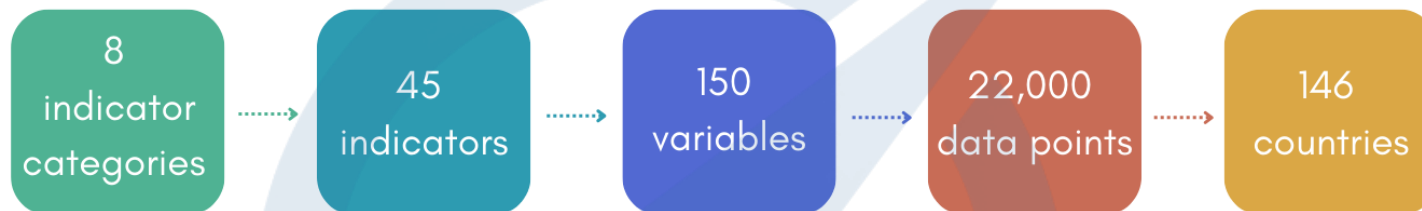
States Parties must **provide information** on:

- higher education system
- qualifications and QA mechanisms
- establish a national information centre

Implementation structures:

- National implementation structures
- Networks of national structures
- Organizations for accreditation, quality assurance, qualifications frameworks and recognition
- Intergovernmental Conference
- Committees of regional conventions

Online tool displaying information and data on HE policy and systems globally



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