

Equity in School Education:

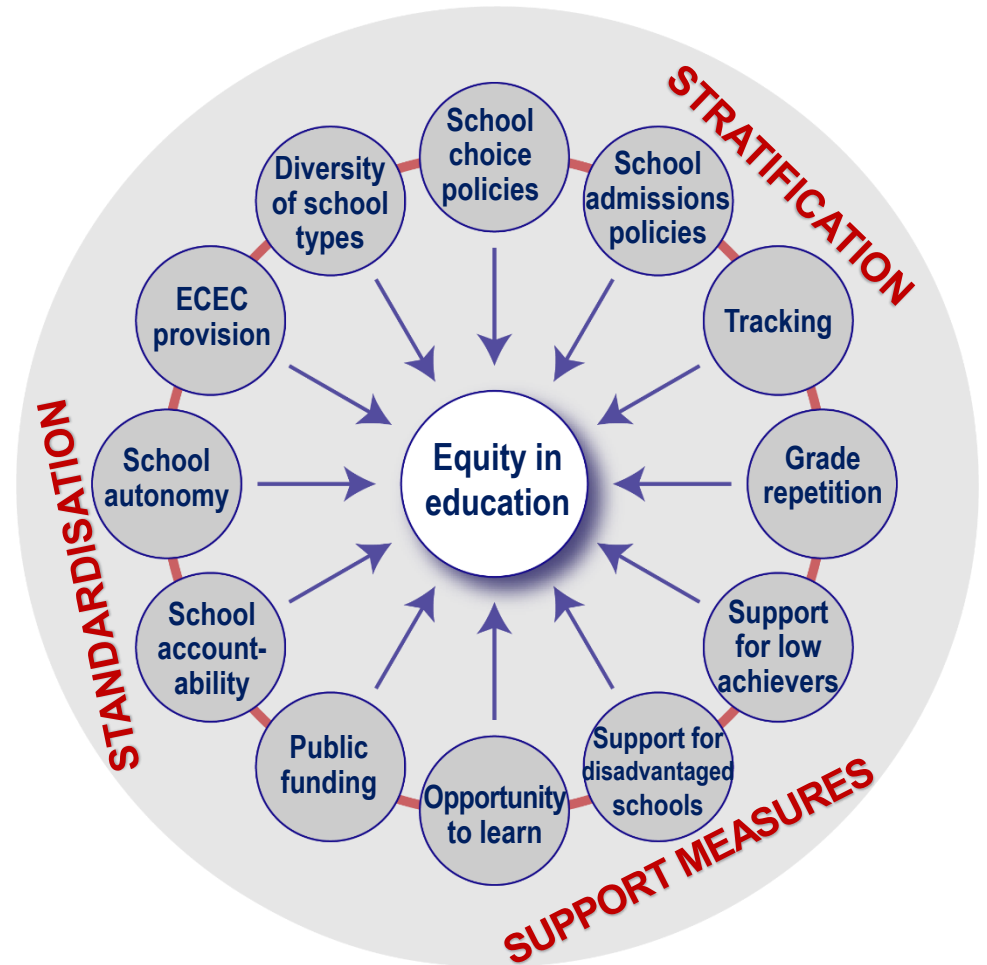
Structures, Policies and Student Performance

Eurydice lunchtime conference
25 March 2021

**EACEA A6 Erasmus+ Education and
Youth Policy Analysis**

Objectives of the report

- Comprehensive mapping of education policies and structures that may influence equity in student performance
- Quantitative analysis to determine which of these policies and structures influence equity, in what way and to what extent



Scope of the report

- Focus on socio-economic disadvantage
- Academic performance as main outcome indicator
- ISCED levels 1-3
- Public and government-dependent private schools
- Reference year: 2018/19
- 42 education systems in 37 European countries



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Structure of the report

Part I. Concepts and indicators of equity in education

Part II. Education system features (qualitative analysis)

Part III. Education system features and equity (quantitative analysis)



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What is equity in school education?

Inclusion

when all students receive at least a minimum amount of good quality education

Fairness

when student performance is largely independent of socio-economic background



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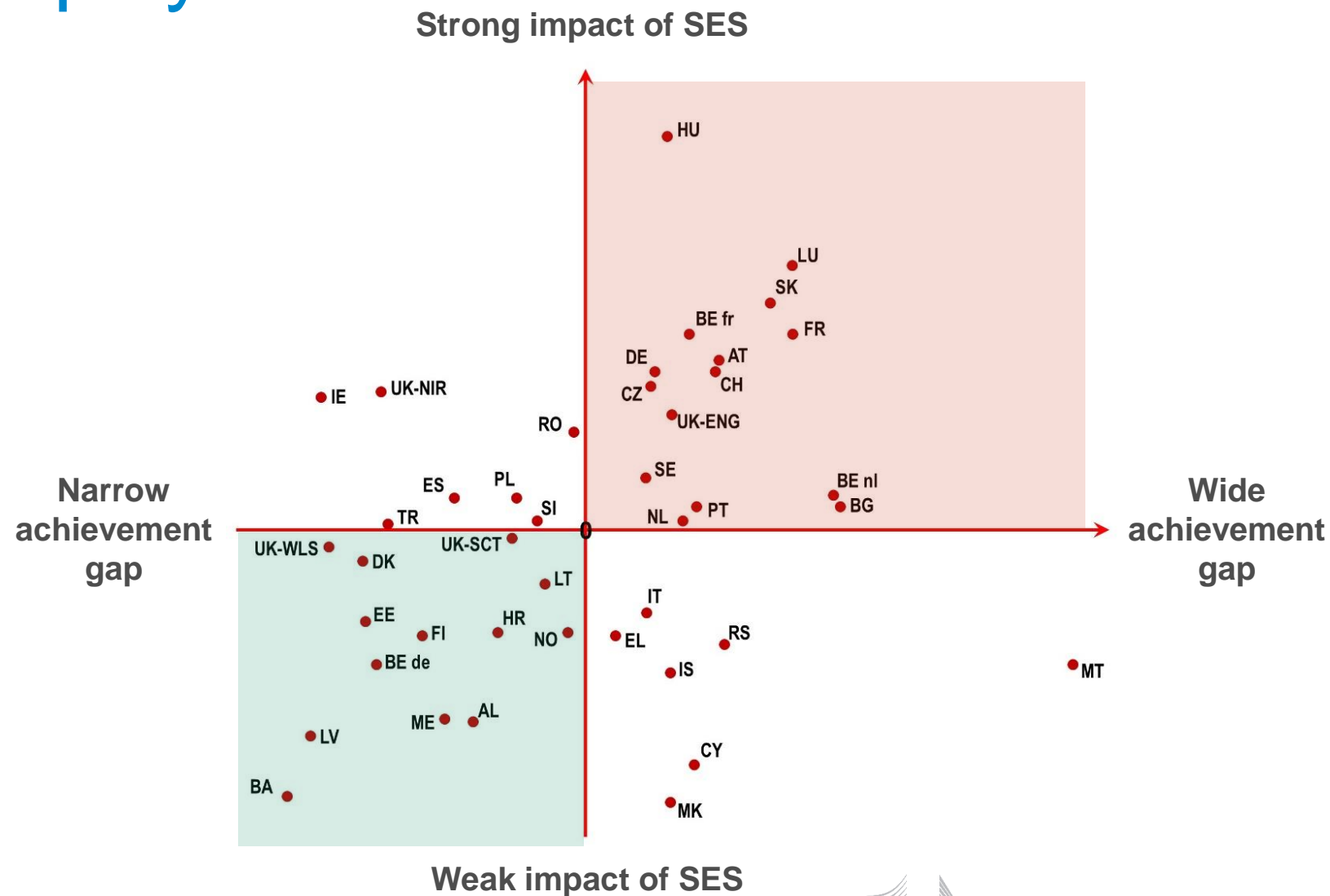
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How can equity be measured?

Inclusion in primary education	Achievement gap between low (P10) and high (P90) achievers in grade 4
Inclusion in secondary education	Achievement gap between low (P10) and high (P90) achievers among 15-year-olds
Fairness	Correlation between the number of books at home and student performance, primary and secondary education combined



Levels of equity



Source: Eurydice, based on PISA, TIMSS and PIRLS databases.

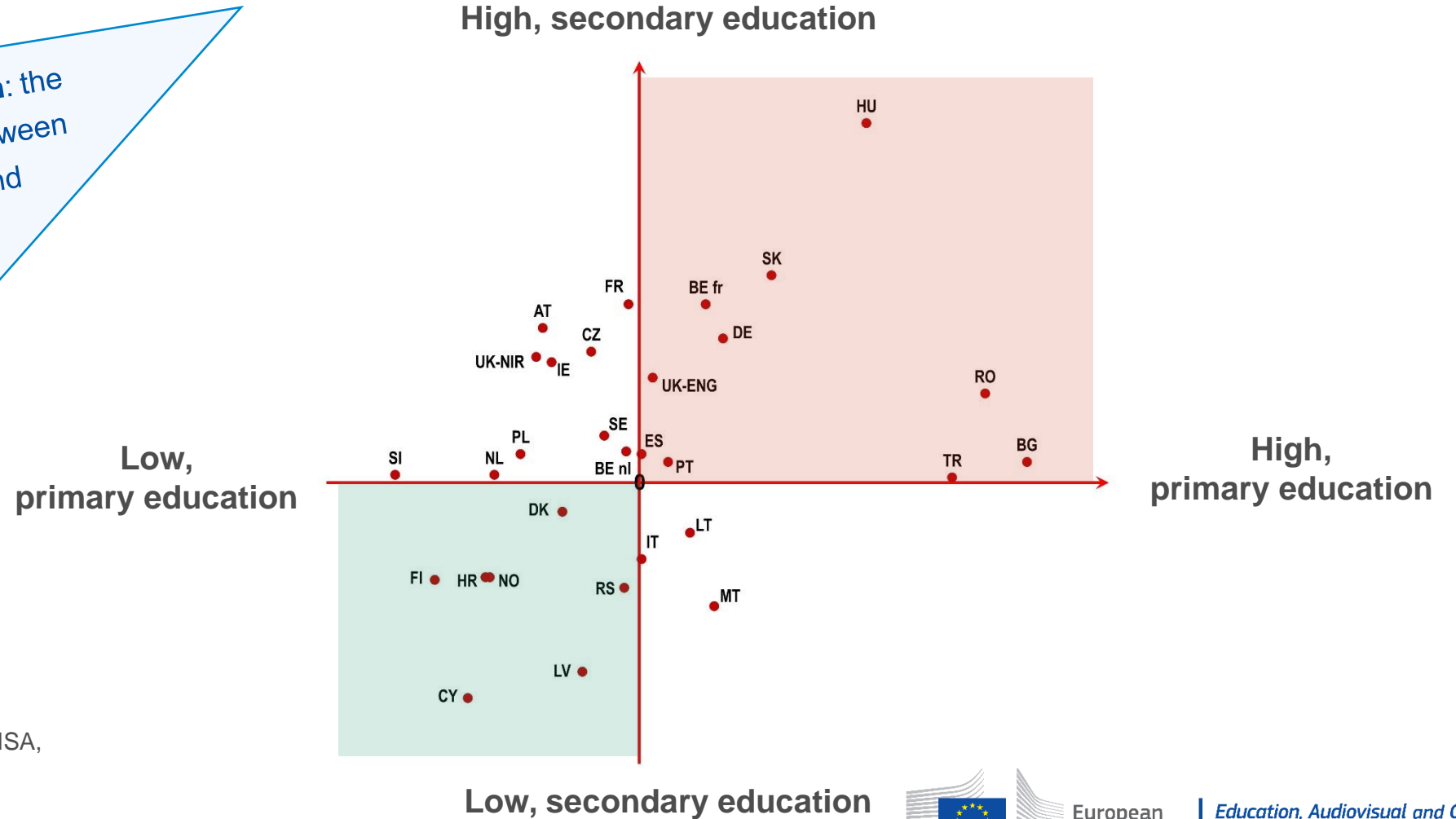


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Levels of academic segregation

Academic segregation: the uneven distribution between schools of high- and low-performing students.



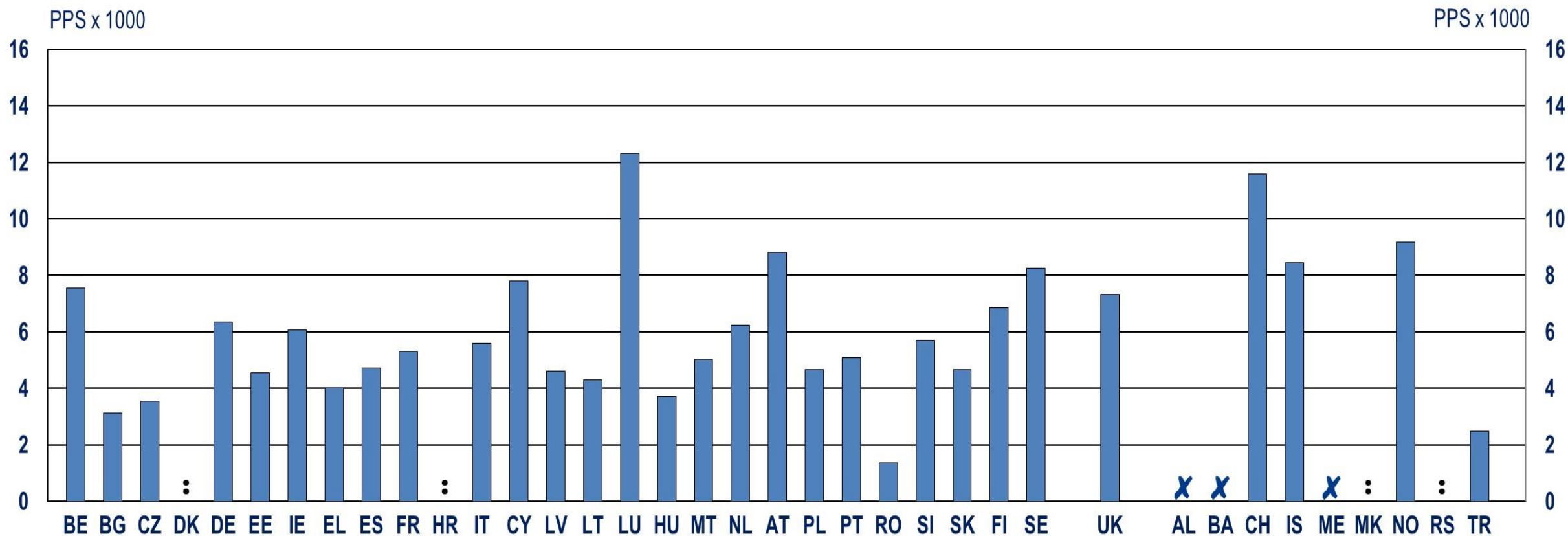
Source: Eurydice, based on PISA, TIMSS and PIRLS databases.



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Public funding per pupil (ISCED 1, PPS)



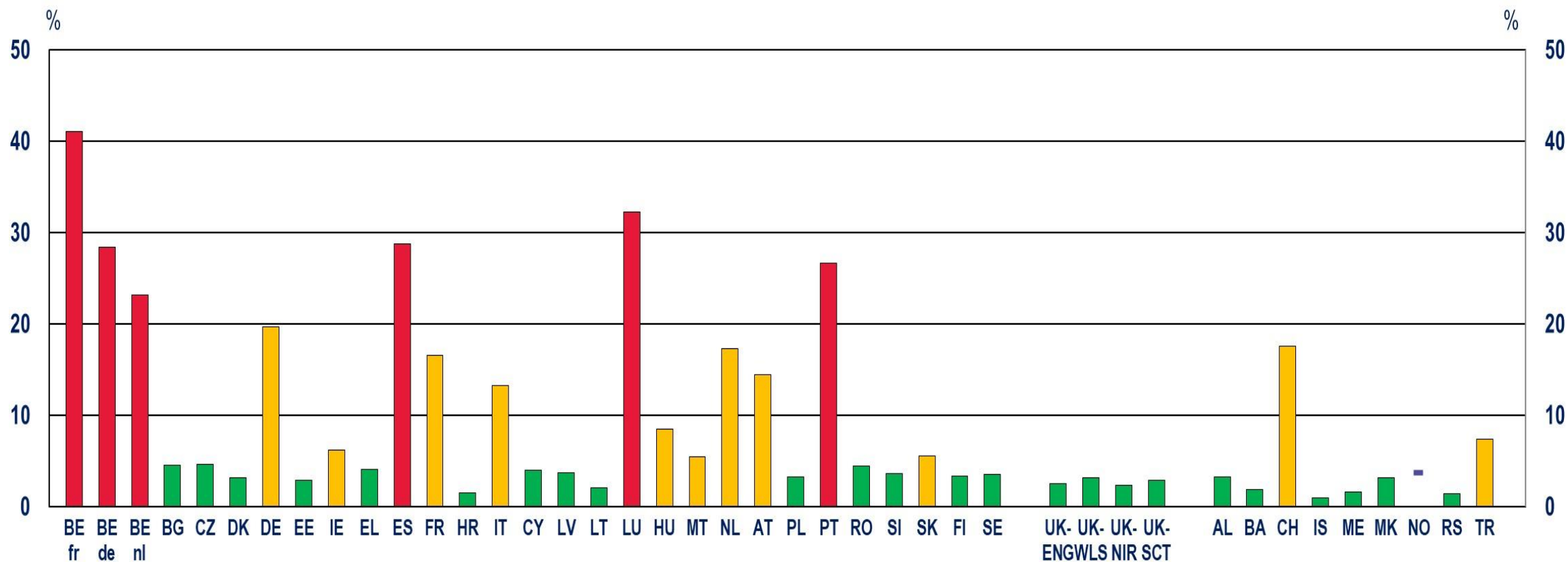
Source: Eurostat, 2016.



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Grade repetition % (15-year olds)



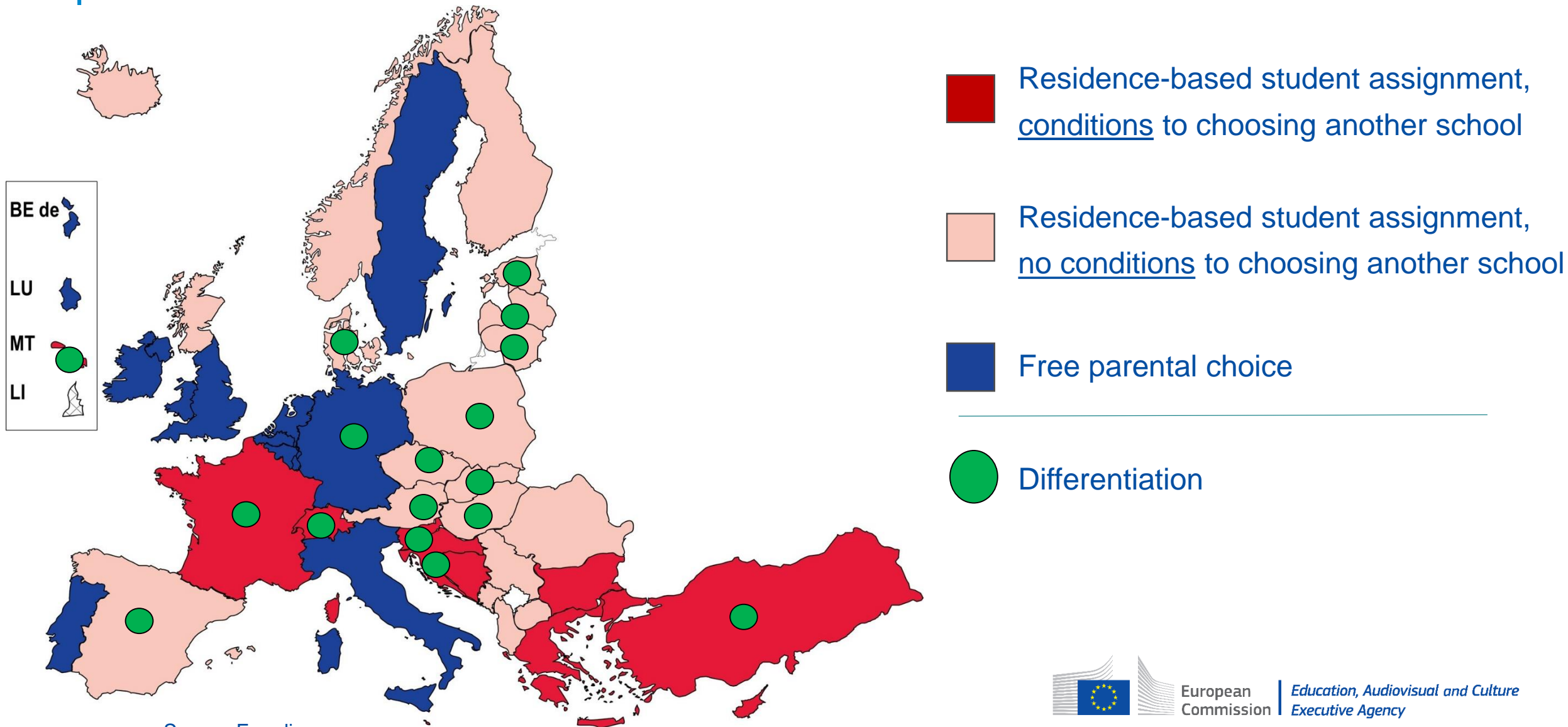
Source: OECD, PISA 2018 database.



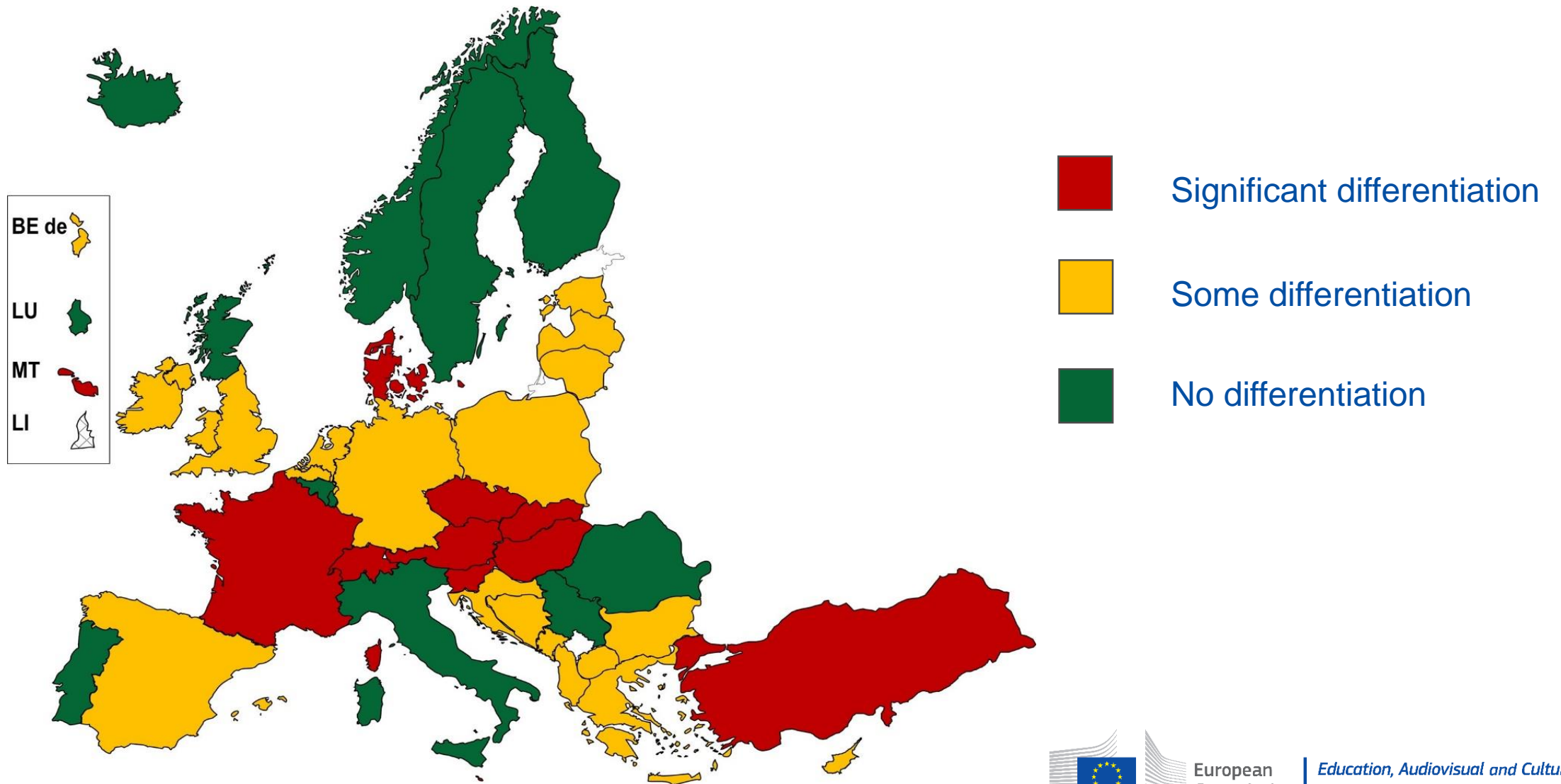
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School choice policies (ISCED 1-2)



Differentiation in school choice and admissions policies (ISCED 1-3)



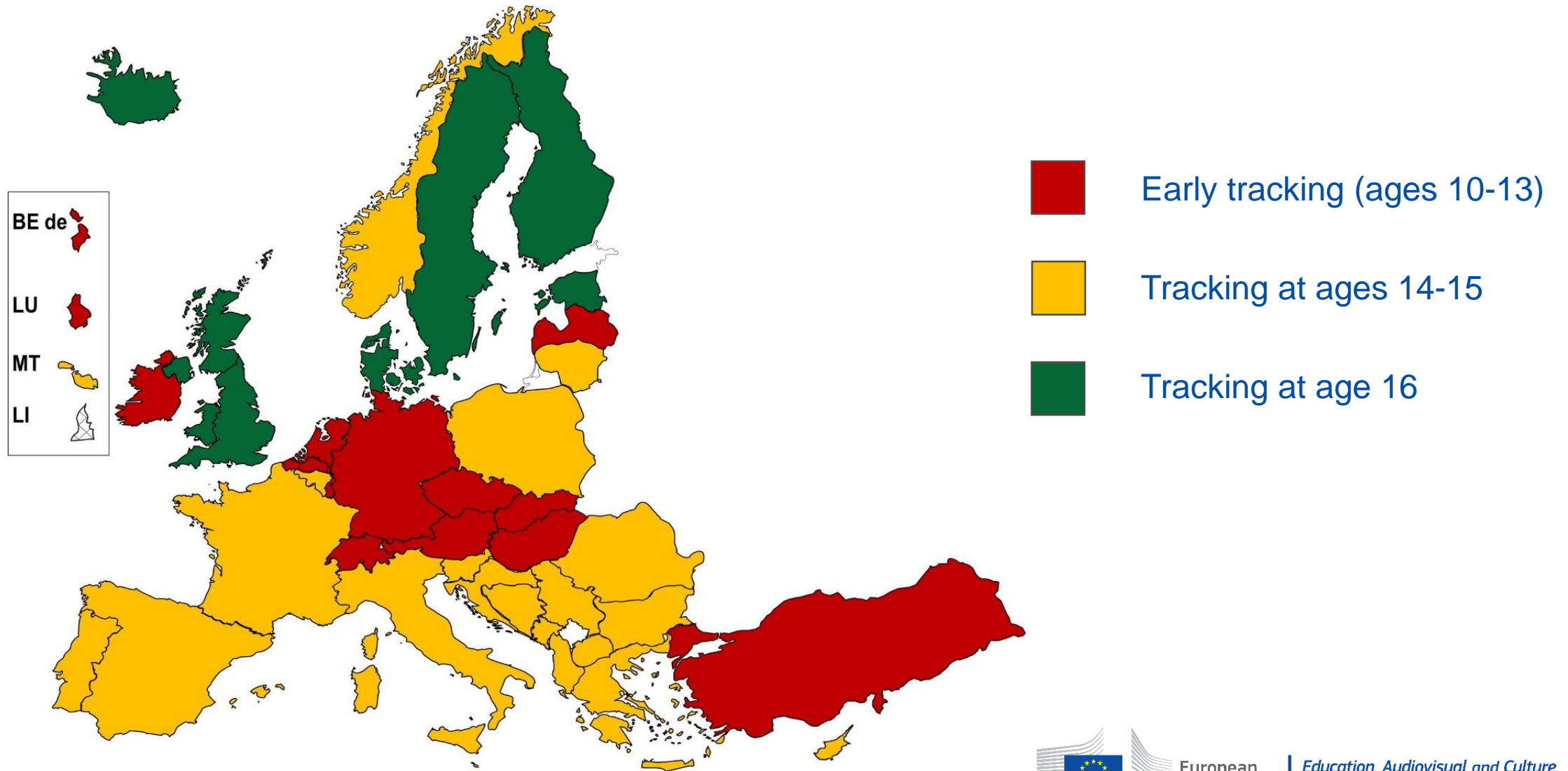
Source: Eurydice.



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Tracking



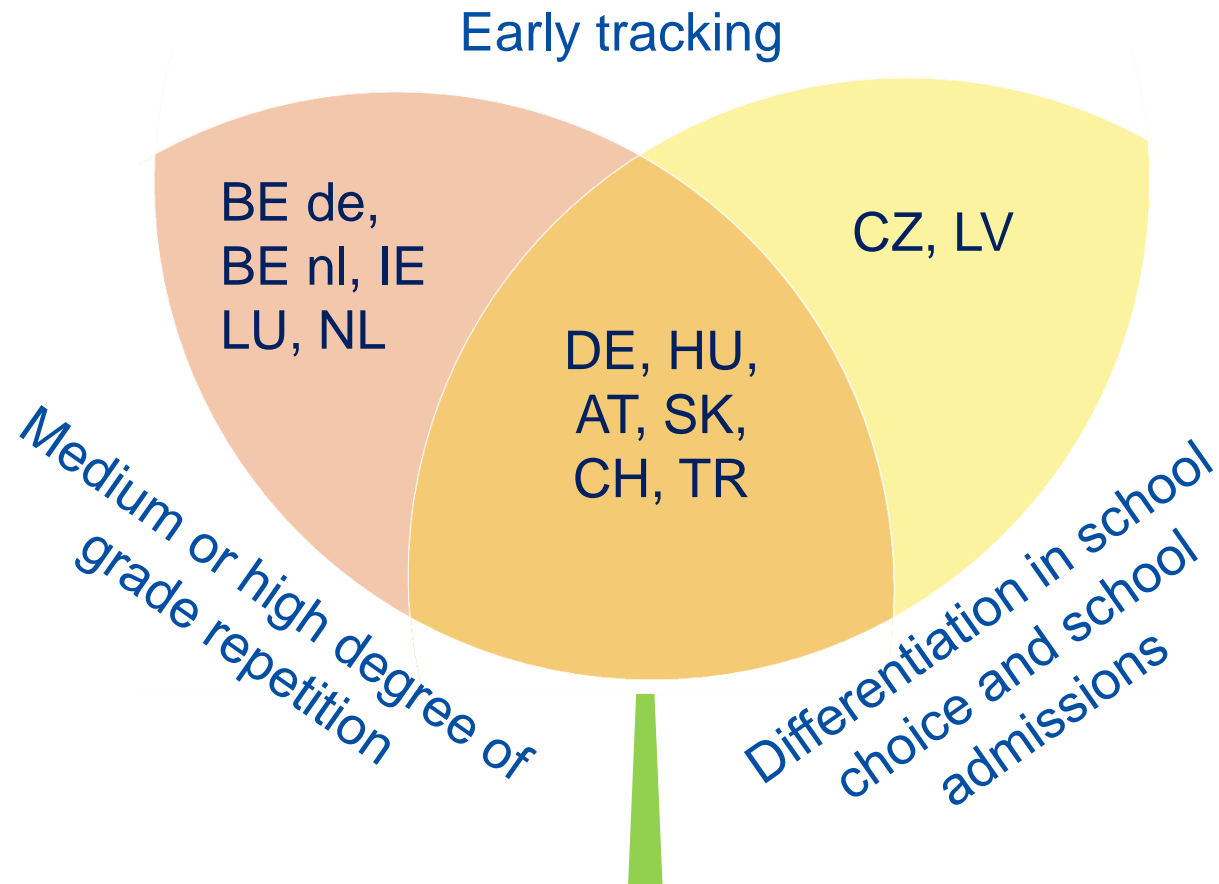
Source: Eurydice.



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Combination of early tracking and other stratification policies



Source: Eurydice.



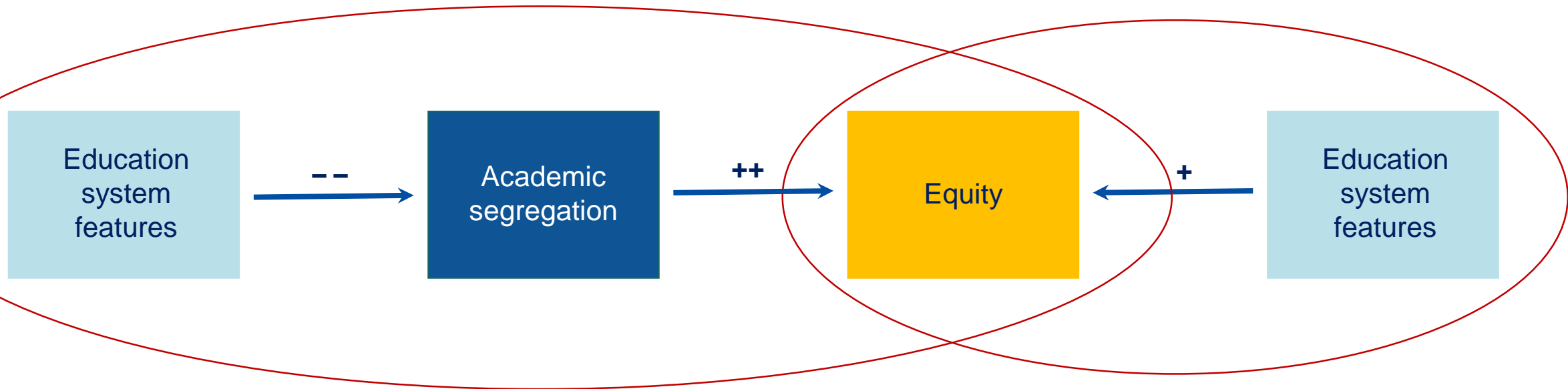
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How do education policies and structures influence equity?

Three models, one for each indicator of equity

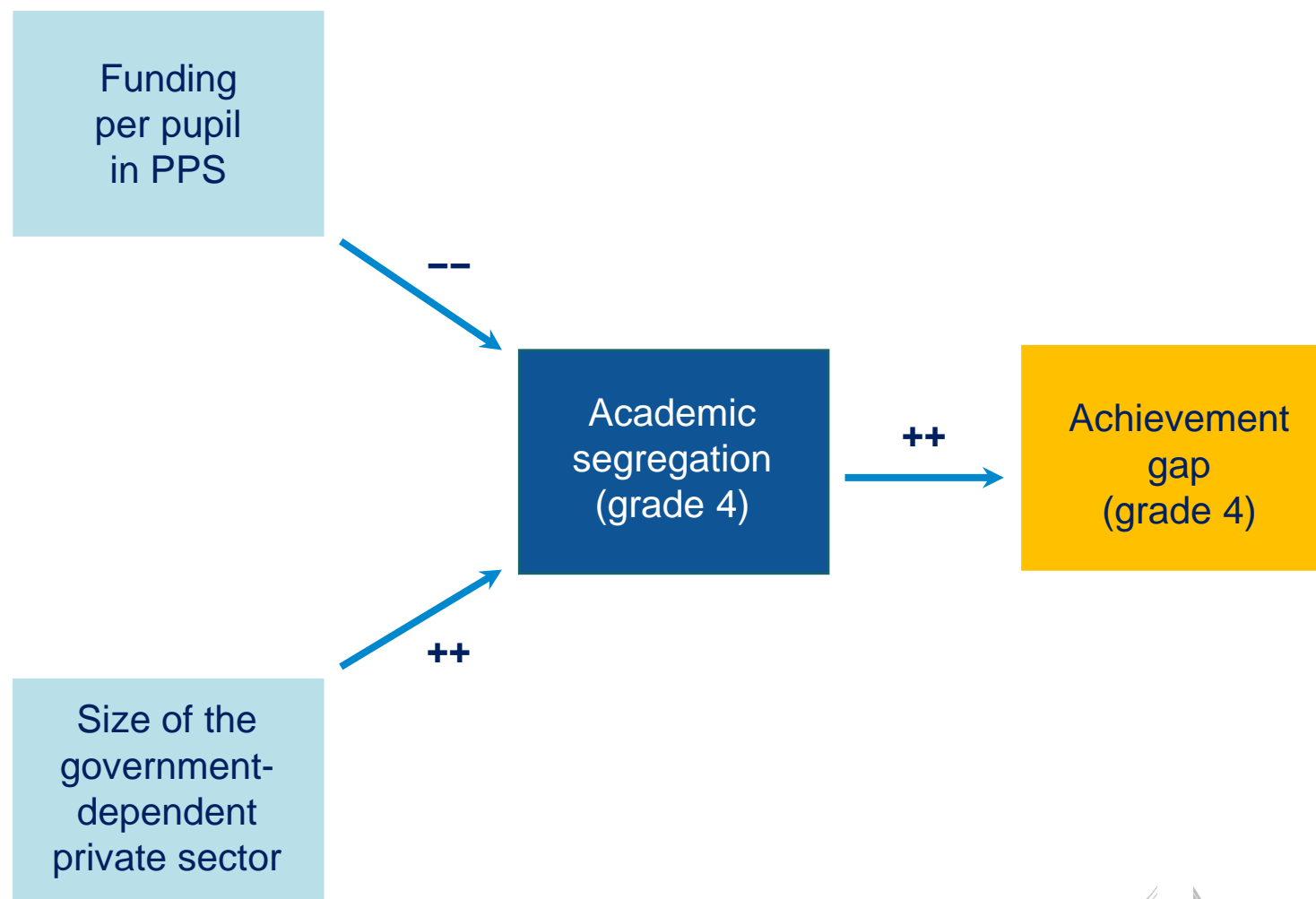
- Direct relationships between education system features & equity
- Indirect relationships between education system features & equity : through academic segregation



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Inclusion in primary education



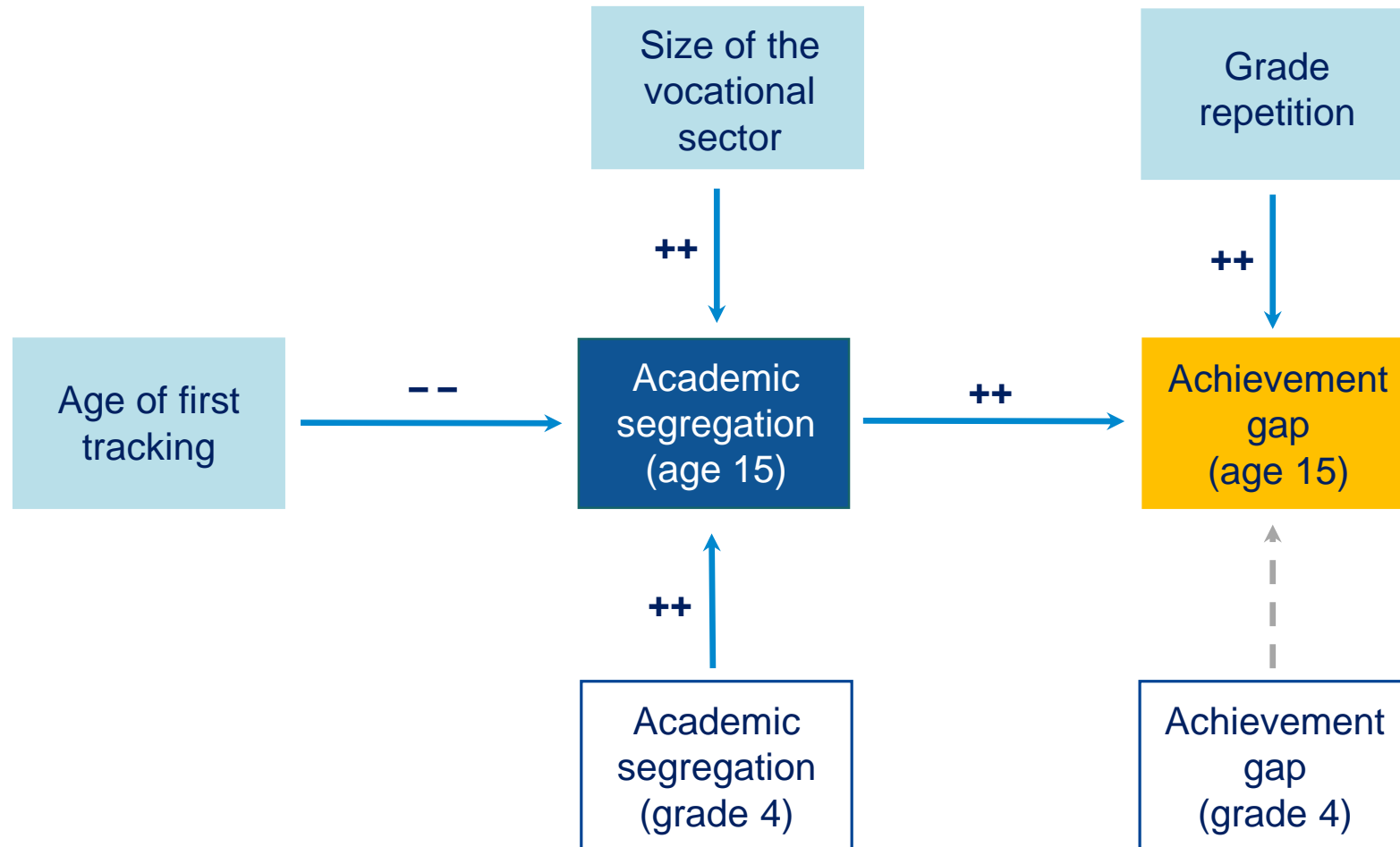
Source: Eurydice.



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Inclusion in secondary education



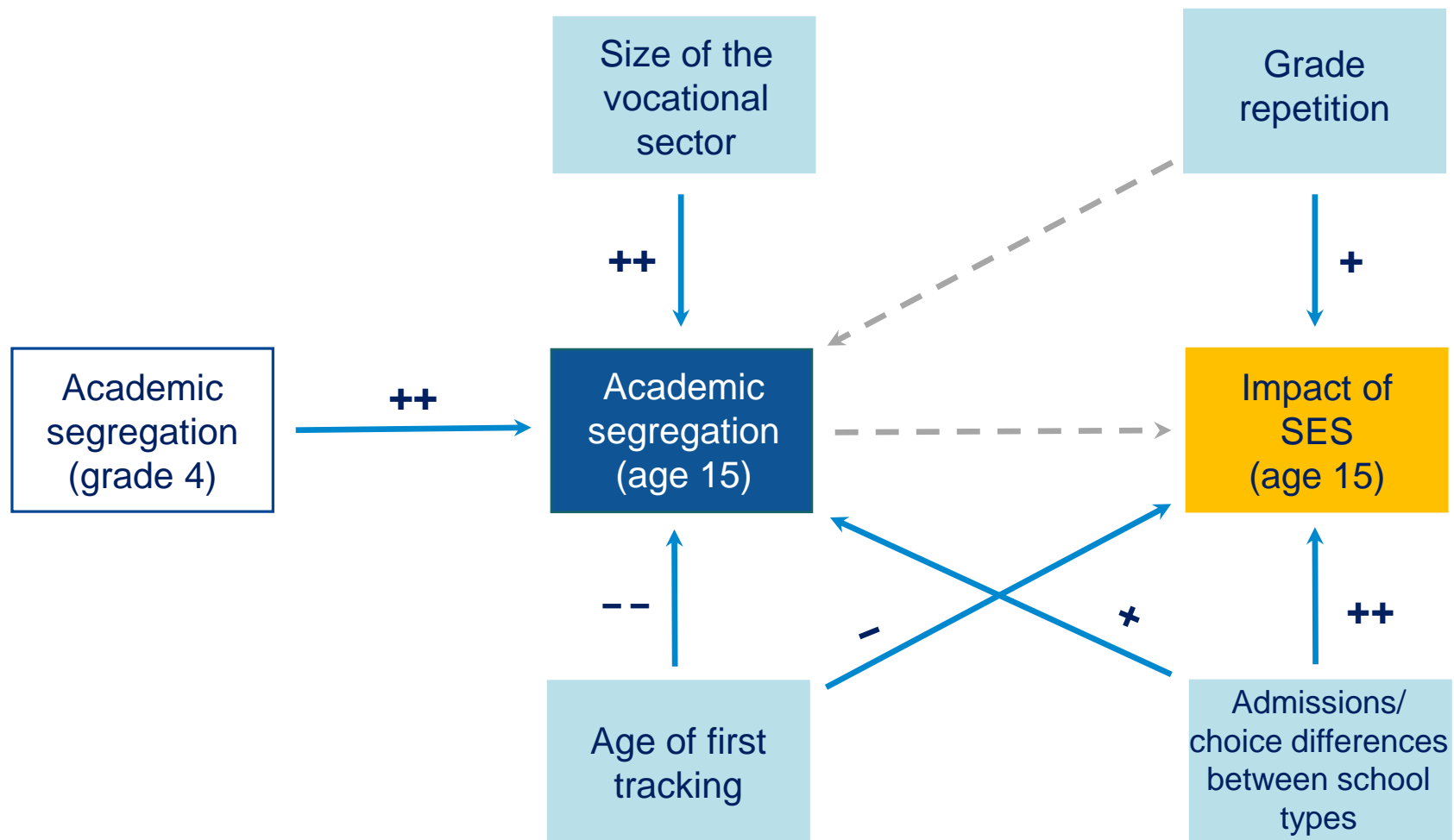
Source: Eurydice.



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Fairness



Source: Eurydice.



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Conclusions

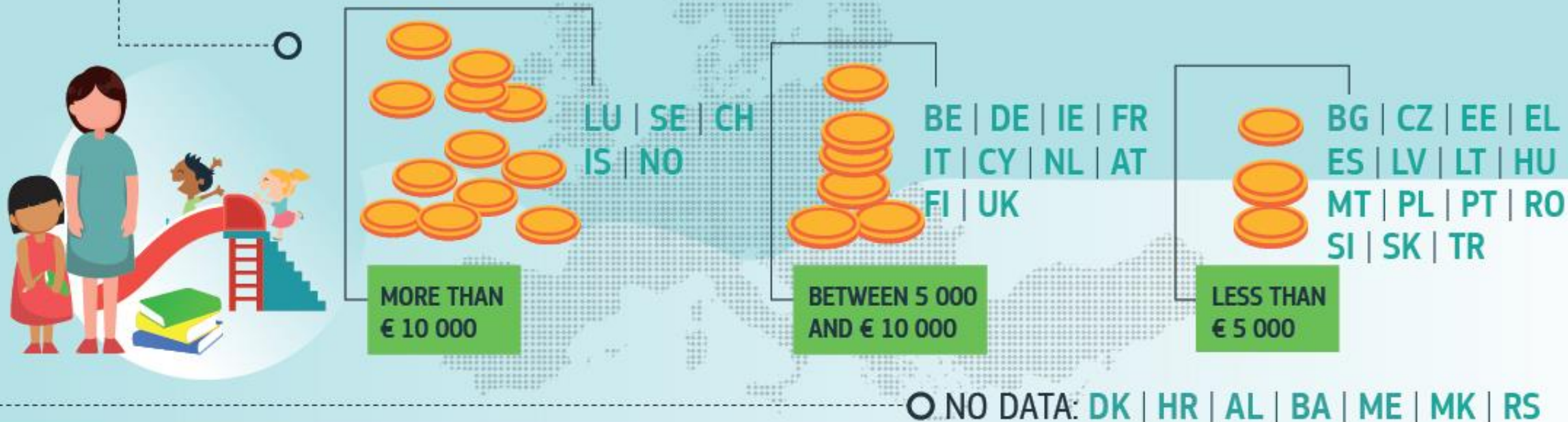
- **Highly stratified systems have lower levels of equity**, especially at secondary level.
- **Policies intended to counterbalance systemic stratification** (school autonomy and accountability, support to disadvantaged schools and low-achieving students, and additional opportunity to learn) **cannot**, on their own, **offset the impact of stratification**.



Equity in School Education in Europe: Structures, Policies and Student Performance

Which education systems features help increase equity?

HIGHER PUBLIC SPENDING PER STUDENT IN PRIMARY EDUCATION



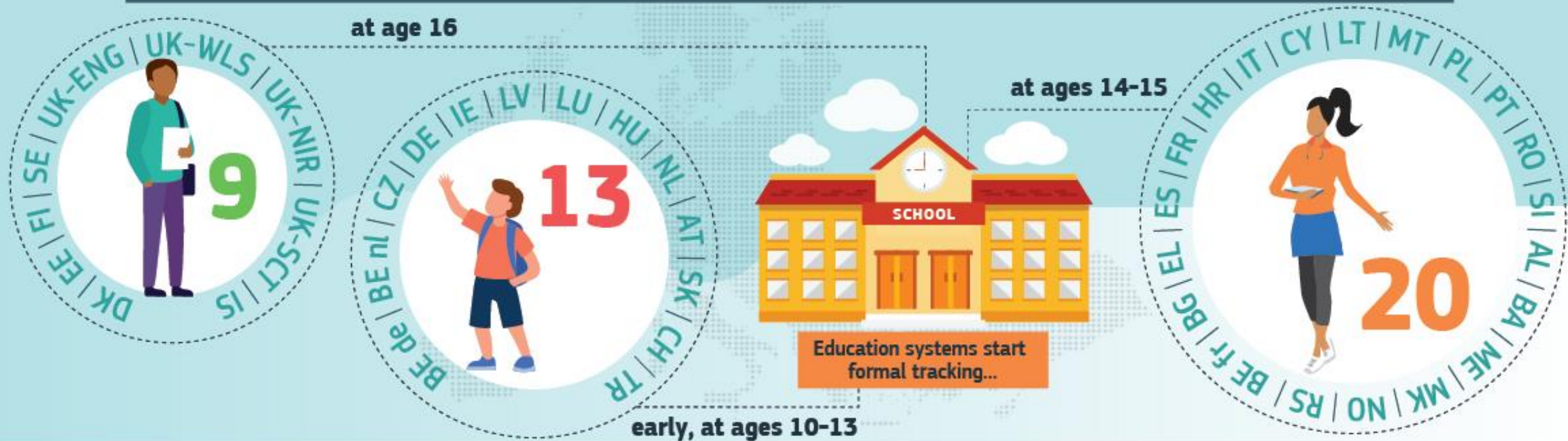
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Equity in School Education in Europe: Structures, Policies and Student Performance

Which education systems features help increase equity?

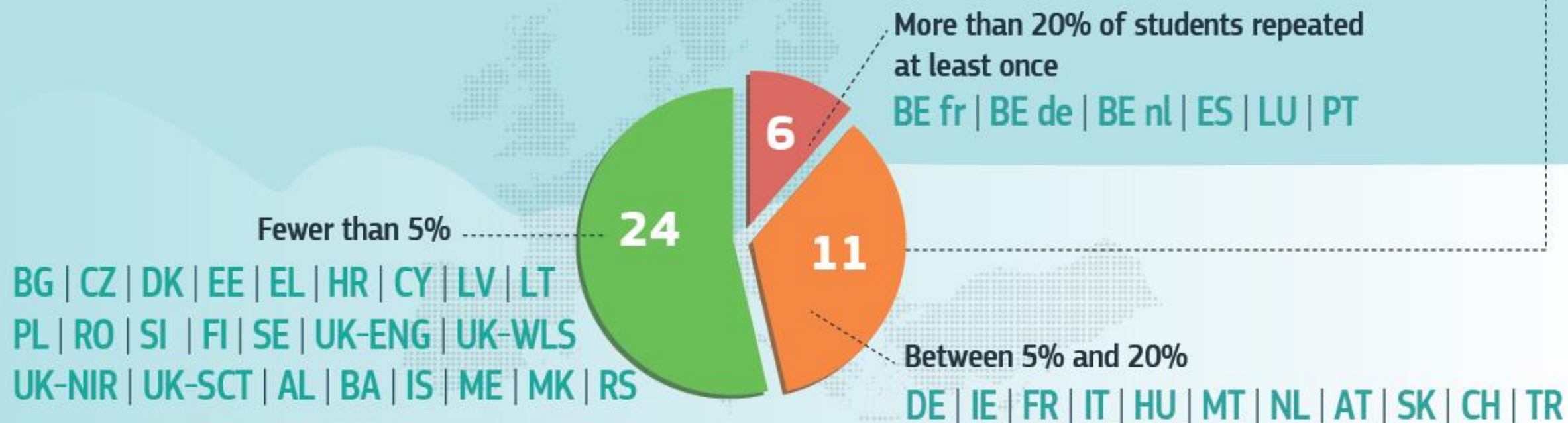
ASSIGNING STUDENTS TO DIFFERENT STUDY PROGRAMMES AT A LATER STAGE



Equity in School Education in Europe: Structures, Policies and Student Performance

Which education systems features help increase equity?

KEEPING GRADE REPETITION RATES LOW



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Equity in School Education in Europe: Structures, Policies and Student Performance

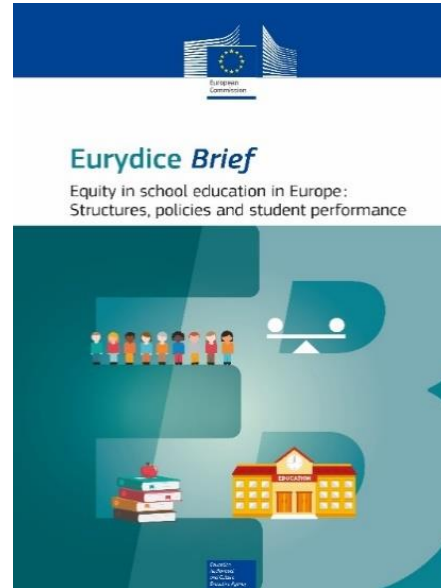
Which education systems features help increase equity?

NO DIFFERENCES IN SCHOOL CHOICE AND ADMISSIONS POLICIES ACROSS SCHOOLS



Links to the report

Eurydice brief



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Full report



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Thank you



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