

Functioning of the EEA and Role of the EFTA Secretariat

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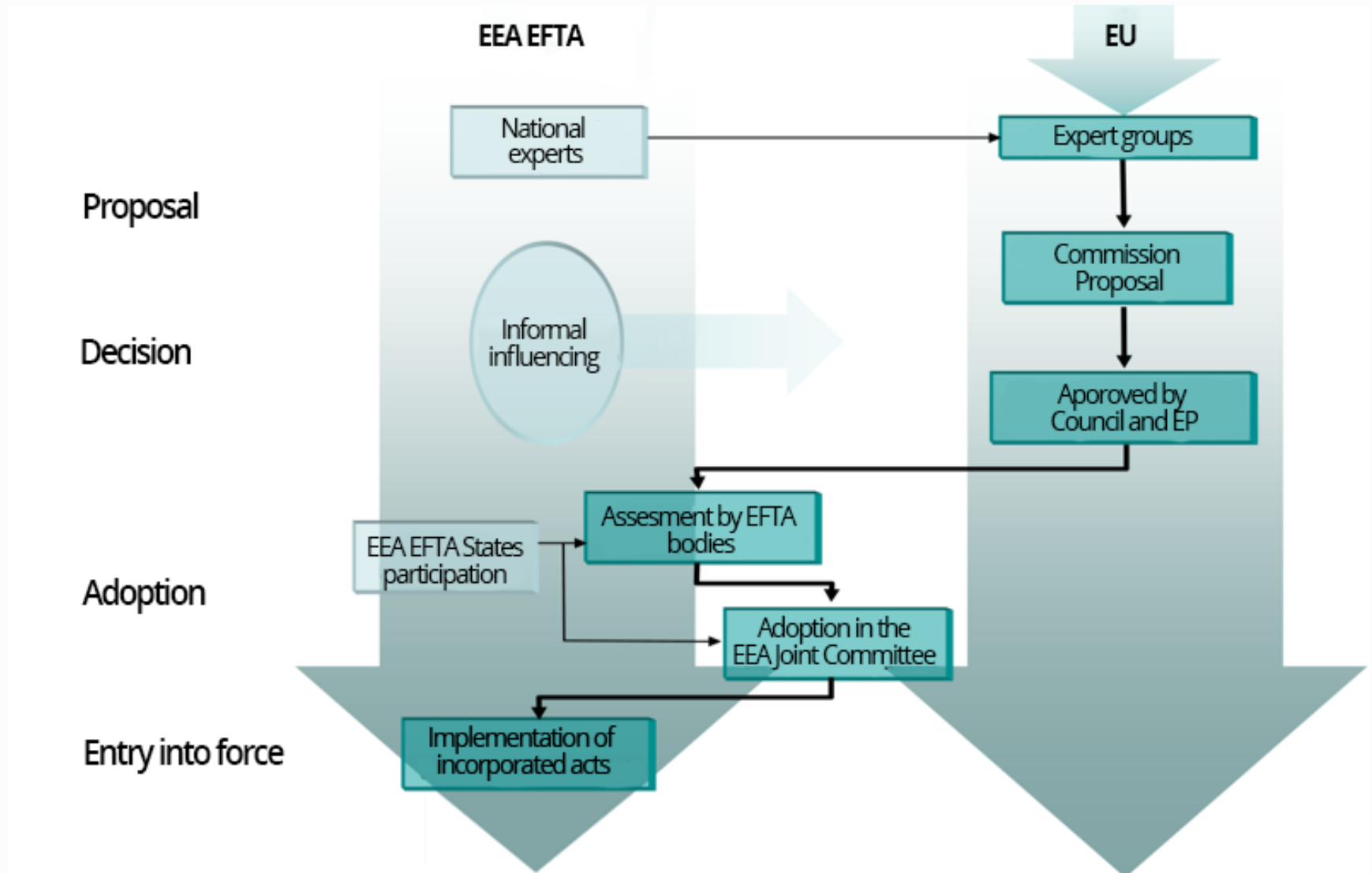
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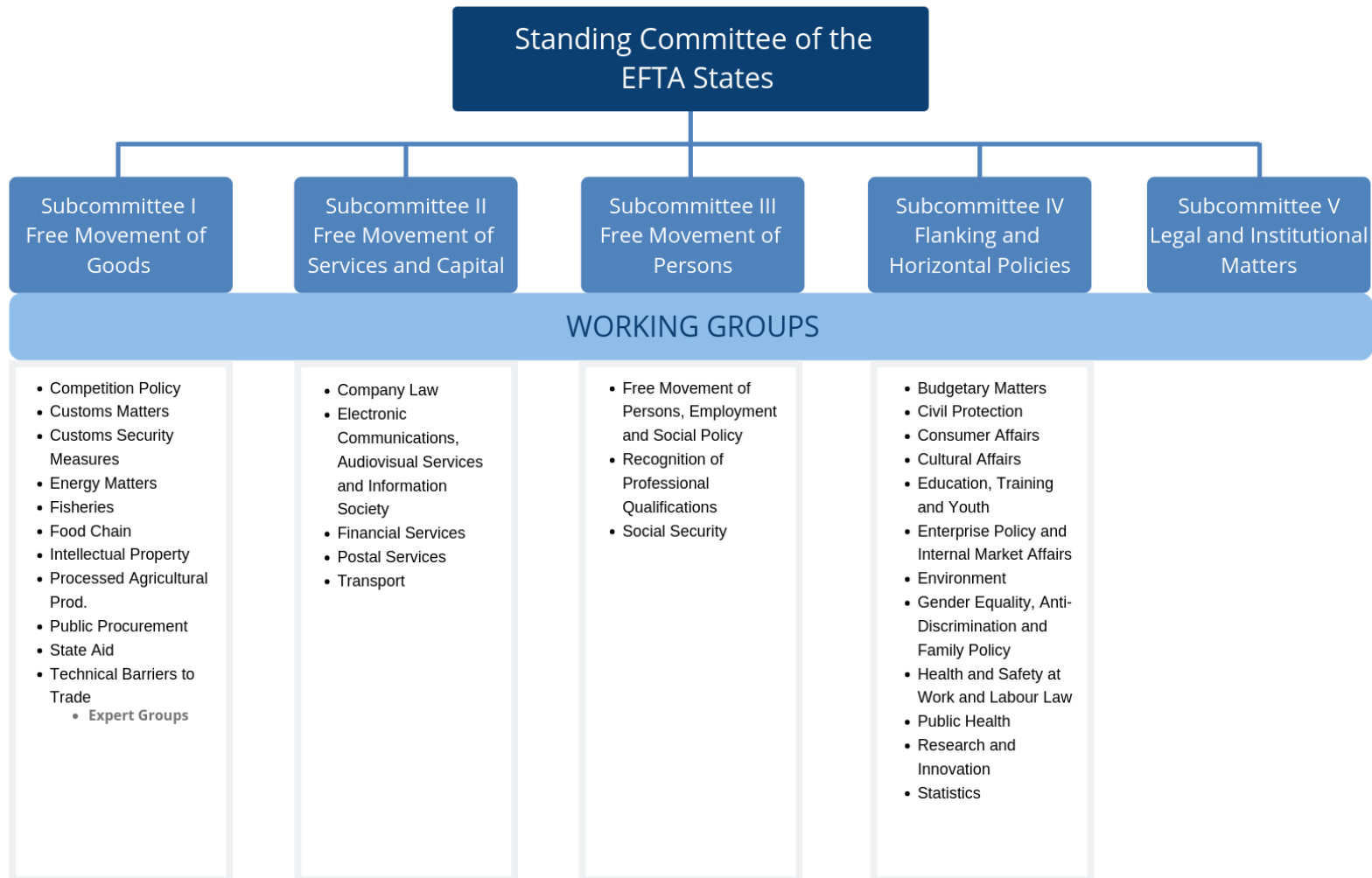
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The EEA Process



The EFTA Secretariat assists the Standing Committee



Two main strands of the EEA work

- Decision shaping – Influencing EU legislation before EU adoption
- Decision making – Incorporation into the EEA Agreement of an adopted EU EEA Relevant legislative act



Decision shaping

EEA channels for influence

- > EEA EFTA experts formal participation in Commission expert groups and committees – without the right to vote
- > Assessment by EEA EFTA experts of EEA challenges in EU proposals – dialogue between EFTA Working Groups and EU officials to ensure that the necessary provisions for EEA incorporation and participation are foreseen in the final EU legislation.
- > EFTA-Comments
- > Seconded National experts in the Commission
- > Informal contact with European Council and Parliament



Decision making

incorporation of EU legal acts

Number of legal acts incorporated into the EEA Agreement

- At the time of signing in 1992: 1.875 acts
 - Incorporated since the signing: ca 11 500 acts . If we include simplified procedure more than 13 000 acts have been incorporated.
 - Acts in force today: ca 6 000 acts
- > More than 13 000 EU acts have been incorporated into the Agreement since its signing in 1992



The EEA – Static and Dynamic

Static in scope

- Only covers matters related to the Internal Market – scope unchanged since 1992

Dynamic in character

- Updated continuously by incorporating new EU legislation in areas defined by the Agreement
- Aim to ensure homogeneity within the EEA

Challenge

- Need for timely incorporation vs complex legal solutions and at times lengthy processes.



“New” EU structure for EU Financial Supervision



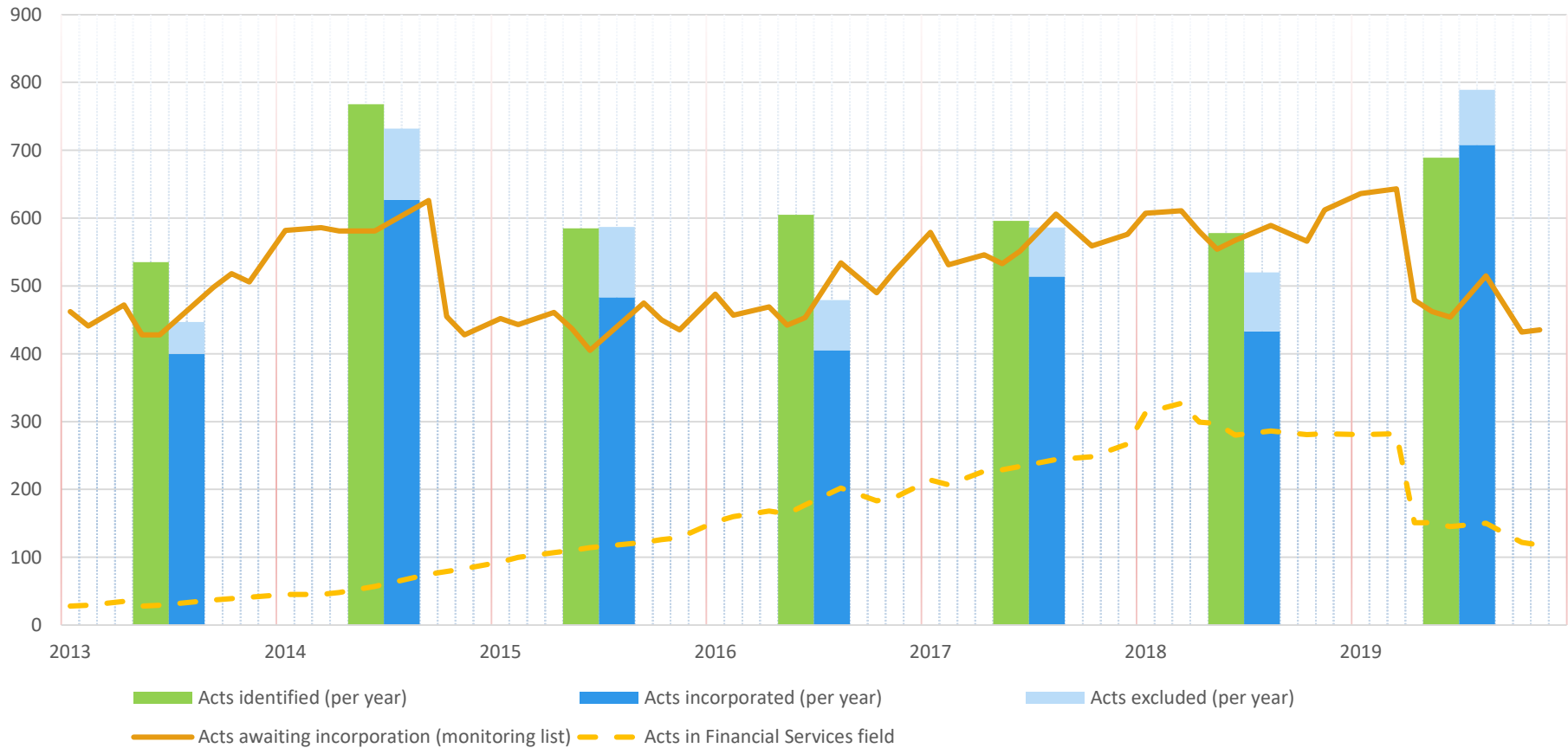
Example of an EEA Challenge

- Adoption in the EU in 2010
- Incorporated into the EEA Agreement in 2016
- Review of the «EU ESAs» Regulations ongoing



EEA relevant EU acts adopted vs incorporated into the EEA per year

Evolution of the number of EU acts in force in the EU but awaiting incorporation into the EEA Agreement



How EU Law
becomes

EEA Law



How EU law becomes EEA law

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SIlgo24kWqU&t=9s>