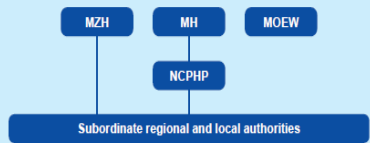


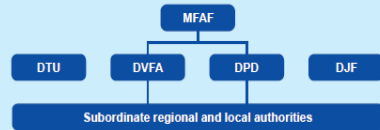
# **Introduction to the European Union's Food Safety System**

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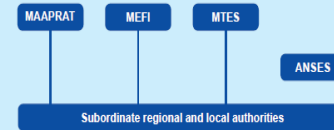
kai@kottenste.de



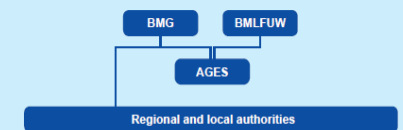
Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Bulgaria



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Denmark



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in France



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Austria



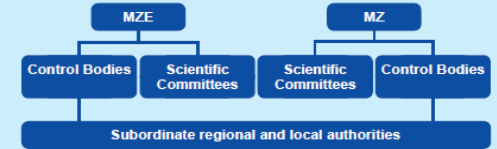
Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Ireland



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Spain



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Cyprus

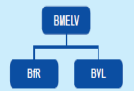


Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in the Czech Republic



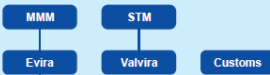
Simplified depiction of the organisation structure

# Introduction to the European Union's Food Safety System



Ministries and subordinate public authorities in the 16 federal states

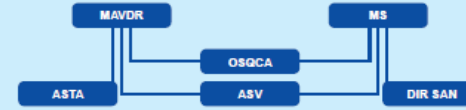
Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Germany



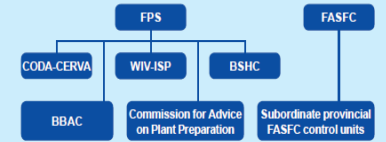
Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Finland



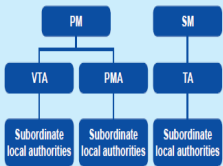
Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Hungary



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Luxembourg



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Belgium



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Estonia

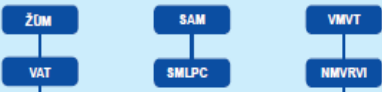


Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Sweden

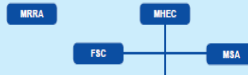
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Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Slovenia



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Lithuania



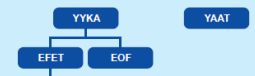
Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Malta



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in the UK



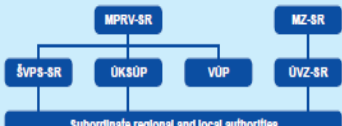
Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Portugal



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Greece



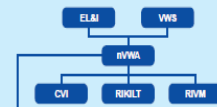
Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Italy



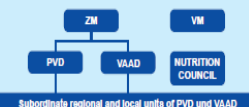
Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in the Slovak Republic



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Romania



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in the Netherlands



Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Latvia



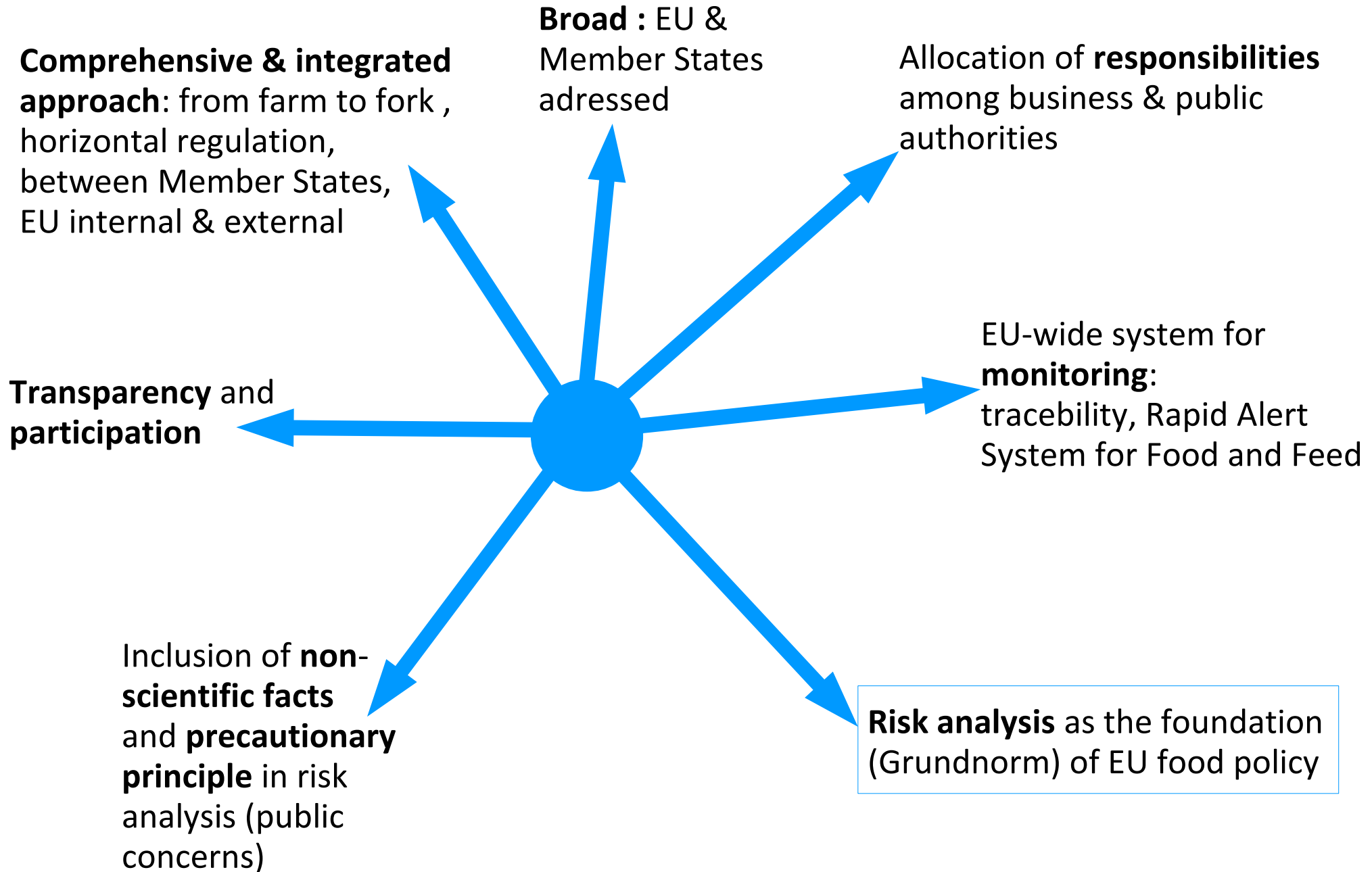
Simplified depiction of food safety authorities in Poland

# Roots: a system born out of crisis



(compiled by author based on Alemanno 2008)

# Features: expanded scope



# Features: separation to re-gain trust

1) Separation of controls/inspections from legislative responsibilities (DG SANCO, FVO)

2) Separation of scientific advice/assessment from legislation and from risk management (EU Commission, EFSA)



# Features: EFSA manifestation of separation and „cornerstone of the regime“ (Alemanno 2008)

- Objective: Integrity of science, transparency, accountability leading to trustworthiness
- enable “scientification of politics” and limit/avoid “politicization of science” (Weingart 2001)
- Institutional setup:
  - EFSA as independent scientific institution responsible for risk assessment and risk communication (“scientific point of reference”)
  - EFSA not superior to Member States risk assessment authorities
  - Risk assessments non-binding for risk management
- → double independence (scientific assessment and political process from each other)

# Features: Separation not the standard model on national level

*Table 1: Classification of risk governance regimes*

Bi-institutional, separate model	Structurally more integrated model		Fragmented (chaotic) model
<b>EU</b>	Belgium	Cyprus**	Bulgaria*
Austria	Greece	Czech Republic**	Hungary (until 2007)
Denmark	Ireland	Estonia*	Malta
Finland	Italy	Lithuania*	Luxembourg
France	Latvia	Slovenia**	
Germany	Portugal	Romania	
Hungary (today)	Spain		
Netherlands	Sweden		
Poland	UK		
Slovakia			

\* first signs of separation; \*\* = countries with no agency

(Abels/Kobusch 2010: 18/19)

# Challenges

## Separation of risk assessment and risk management

- Link/interaction between RA and RM necessary
- Politicization of science hard to avoid
  - Social construction of risk assessments (Alemanno 2008)
  - Science politics (Alemanno 2008)
  - EFSA focusses too much on scientific reputation, but science is contestable (Abels et al.)
- Approach for refinement: General framework of Safe Food Project

## Independence questioned

- EFSA's aim to “win public respect” (Randall 2006)
- Politicization of science (counter opinions) lead to suspicion of “industry-bias”
- 2012: EFSA and Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) under scrutiny (NGOs, media)
- Without trust in independence of EFSA, the concept of separation collapses



# Conclusion

## 1. A system maturing

„evolving sytem“ (Ely et al. 2006)

„dynamics of contestation“? (Ansell/Vogel 2006)

## 2. So much more to it

institutional design of EFSA - multi-level regulation - international dimension –  
precautionary principle – participation – regulatory network/state – EU integration - ...

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