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## National Standardization – what stays, what changes? (future) role in international standardization

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# Standardization

*"Third-class businesses make products;  
Second-class businesses develop technologies;  
First-class businesses set standards."*

(Chinese proverb)

# About NEN

NEN = Netherlands Standardization Institute (since 1916)  
Acknowledged as National Standardization Body

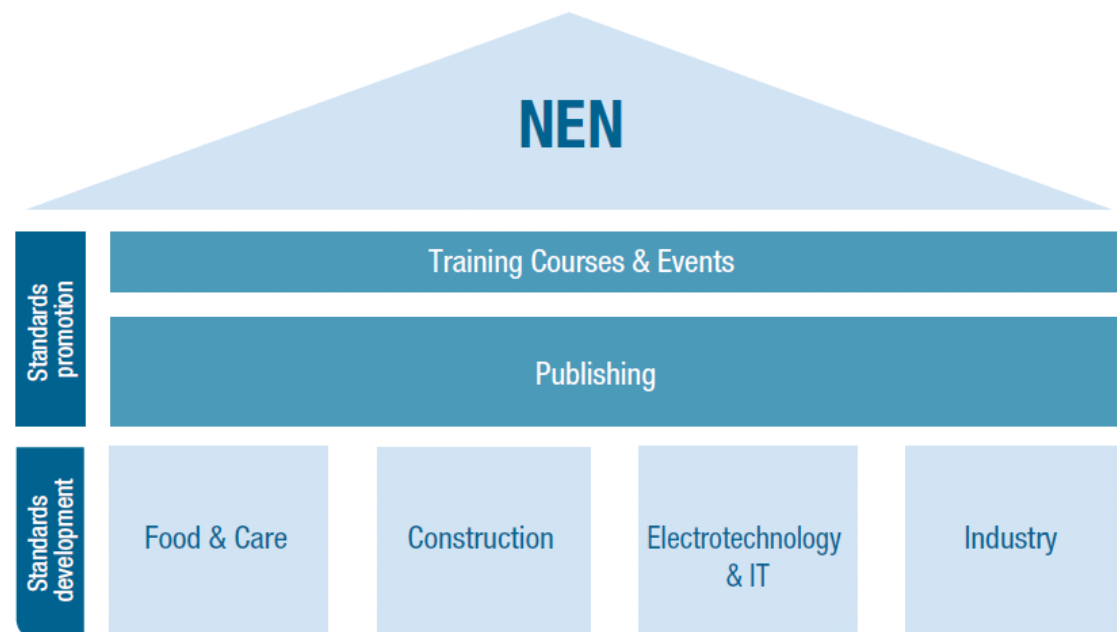
The Dutch platform of knowledge in the world of standards and regulations

Non-profit and non-governmental institution

€ 33 million turnover  
300 fte personnel  
> 800 committees  
> 8000 comm. members

>29.400 Standards in NL  
>18.500 ISO standards  
>13.000 EN standards

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# NEN and the gas sector

[Between square brackets secretariats by NEN, Chair Netherlands]

- natural gas [ISO/TC 193 and WGs]
- Gas infra [ISO/TC 234]
- Oil & gas exploration, transportation and analysis  
[ISO/TC 67 and WGs, ISO/TC 118/SC 1, ISO/TC 158, CEN/TC 234/WGs ]
- gaseous and liquid (bio)fuels [CEN/TC 19 and WGs, ISO/TC 28]
- LNG/CNG filling stations [ISO/PC 252]



- Why standards?
- Value of standards?
- Role of national standardization, what changes?
- Standards and national regulation?
- Future role of national standardization (bodies)?

# Why standards?

Safe and reliable gas infrastructure



Safe (off)loading of LNG!

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# Value of standards in the energy sector

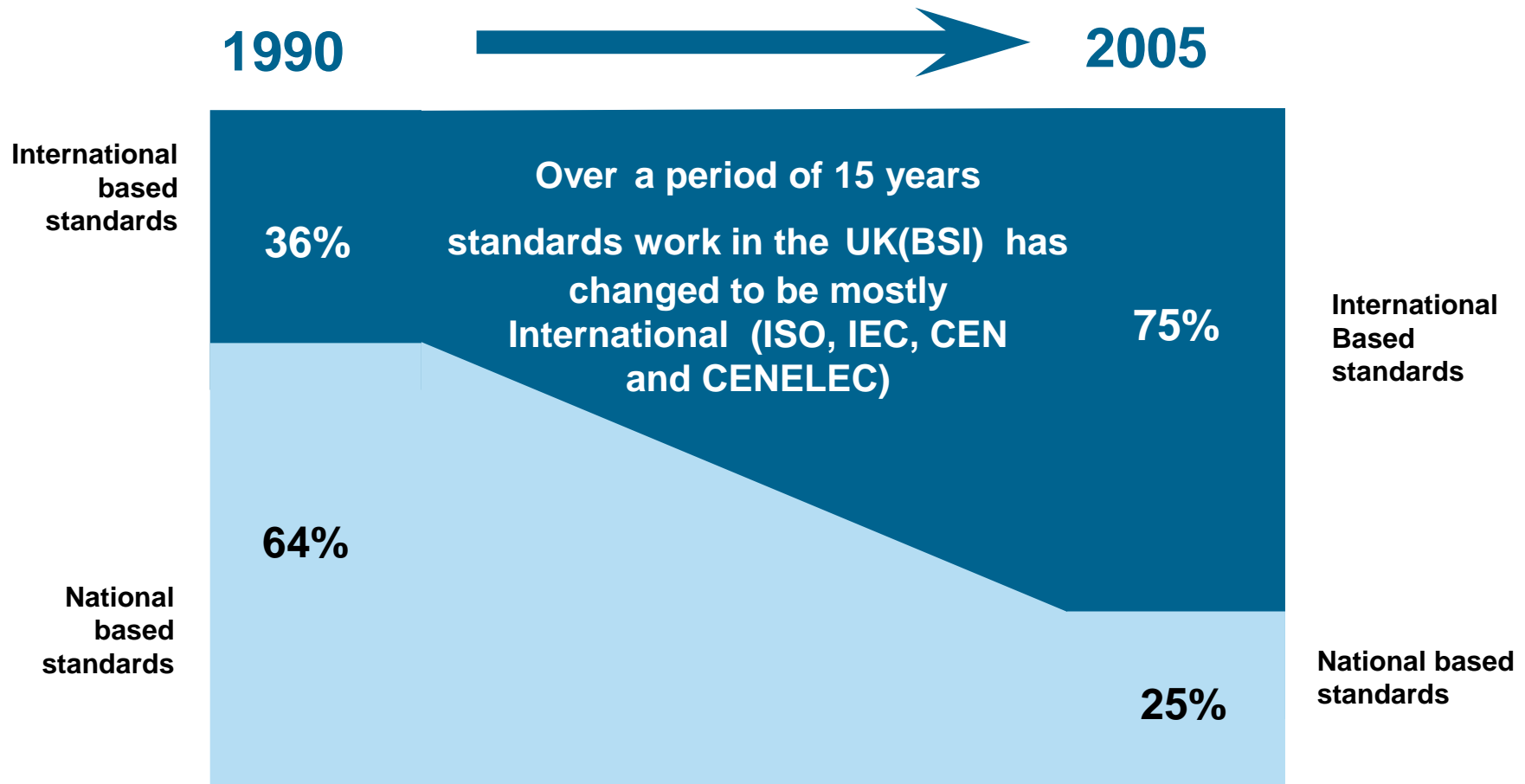
- Standards are the tools we use to organise our technical world
- Quality improvement
- Ensuring consistent and reliable engineering
- Robust standards and practices are critical to prevention of accidents
- Compatibility and efficiency (cost and time reduction)
- Global trade (promotes trading, facilitates partnership and international operation)
- Sharing and dissemination of the knowledge and experience
- Baseline for industry improvement

# National standardization, what changes?

- From a National to an **International** focus
- **Rapid** development processes - CWA, TS, PAS
- Coordination tasks (gateway to **CEN/ISO**)
- **Implementation** of European and int. Standards
- National standardization **strategies**



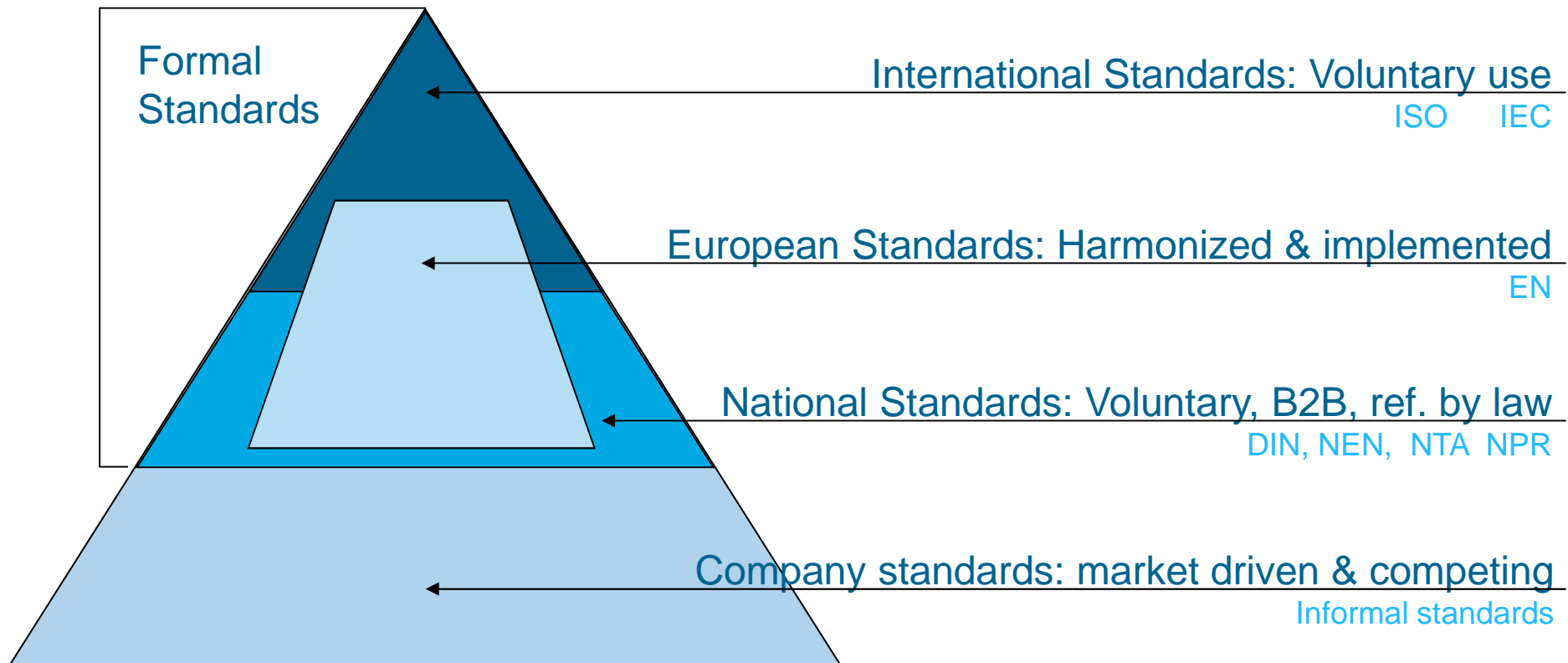
# National to International



Source: UK DTI Report The Empirical Economics of Standards, June 2005

# The standards pyramid

*Goal: One standard – one test – accepted worldwide*



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# Rapid development needed

## Fast Sector agreements, codes of conduct and covenants (NTA, CWA, ITA)

- Agreements within or between sectors
- Number of representation of interested parties varies
- Decision making process at the parties' discretion
- Public consultation optional



## Standards (NEN, EN and ISO)

- agreement based on requirements
- broad representation of interested parties
- achieved through consensus
- a period of public consultation (3 months)
- completion (1-3 years)

The result is a widely recognized and authoritative standard.

# Gateway to the world of Standardization

**CEN**

European Committee for Standardization

**CENELEC**

European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization

**ETSI**

European Telecommunications Standards Institute

**ISO**

International Organization for Standardization

**IEC**

International Electrotechnical Commission

**ITU**

International Telecommunication Union

- Point of contact in the Netherlands for standards committees (=market)
- Coordinates the Dutch contribution
- Inform the Dutch market about new standards development projects
- Promote active Dutch participation
- Enabling Dutch stakeholders to achieve their (international) objectives

*'NEN informs the Dutch market and provides opportunities through active participation in new international standards development projects.'*



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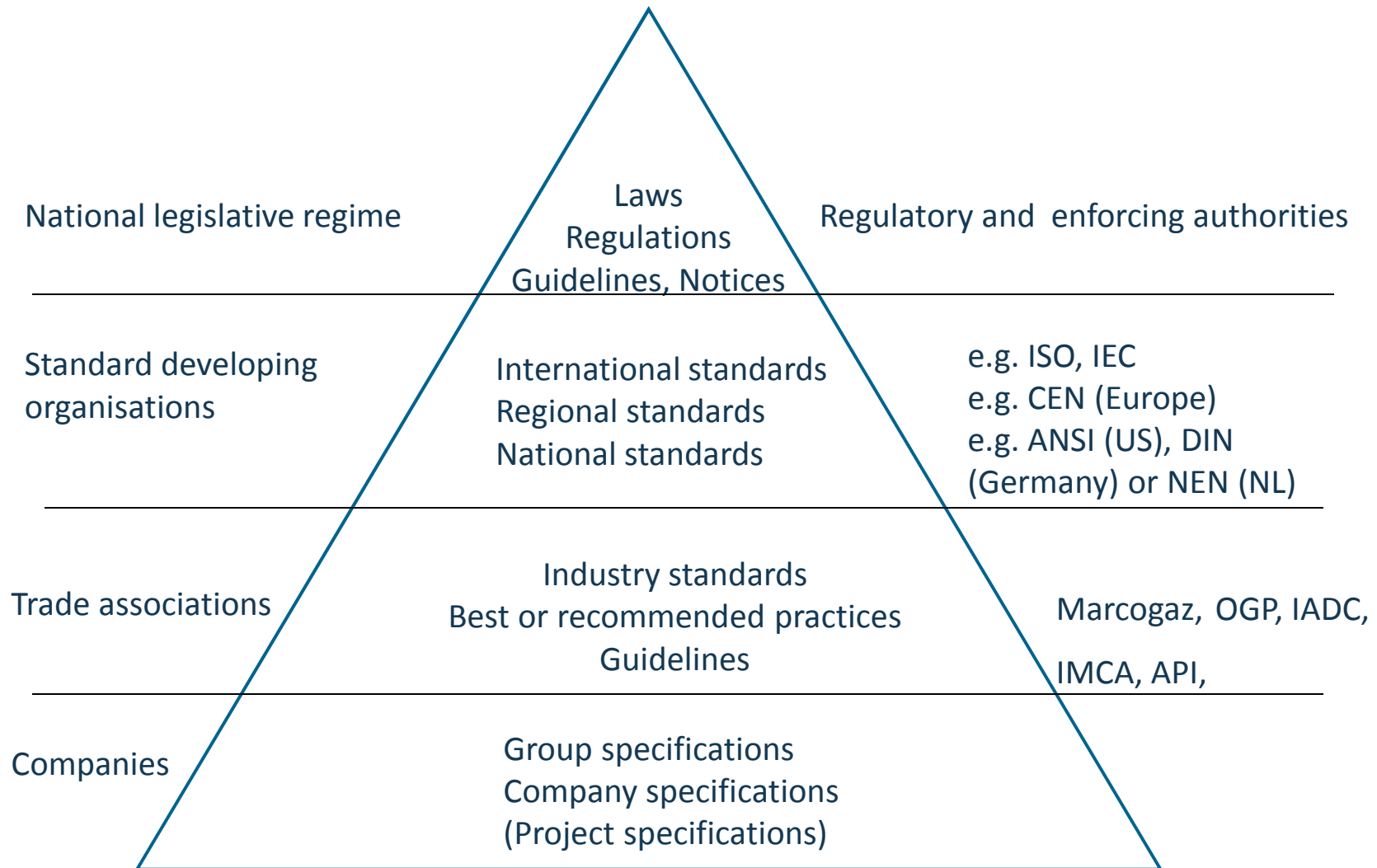
# National standardization, what changes?

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- Implementation of International Standards
- National standardization strategies

# Implementation role

- The role of the national mirror committees becomes more and more important in relation to the implementation of international standards.
- Complex system
  - From one level to Multilevel approach
  - Increasing number of standards
- Discuss the way of implementation
  - Avoid conflicts – barriers - overlap

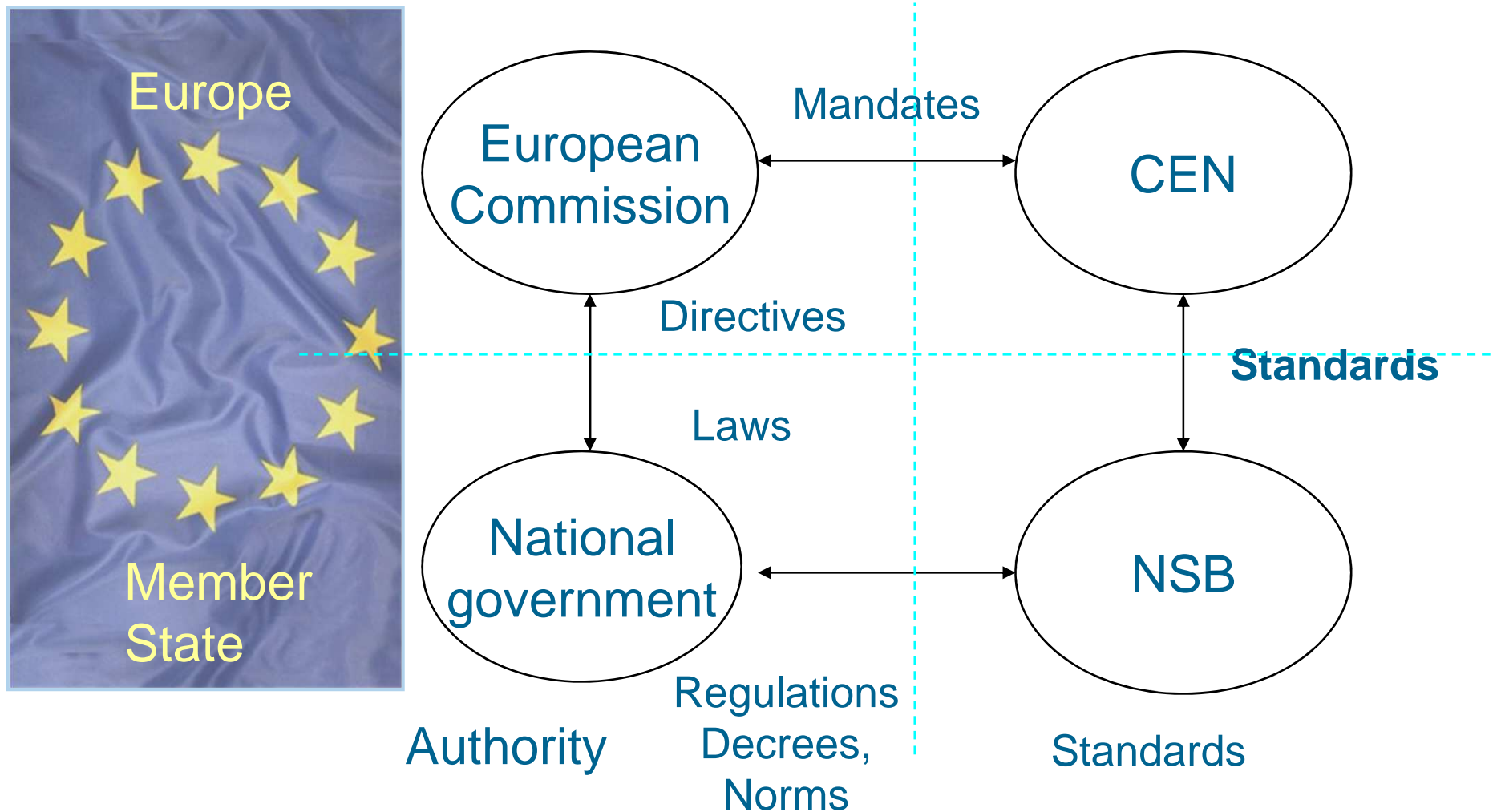
# 'The' pyramid - increase



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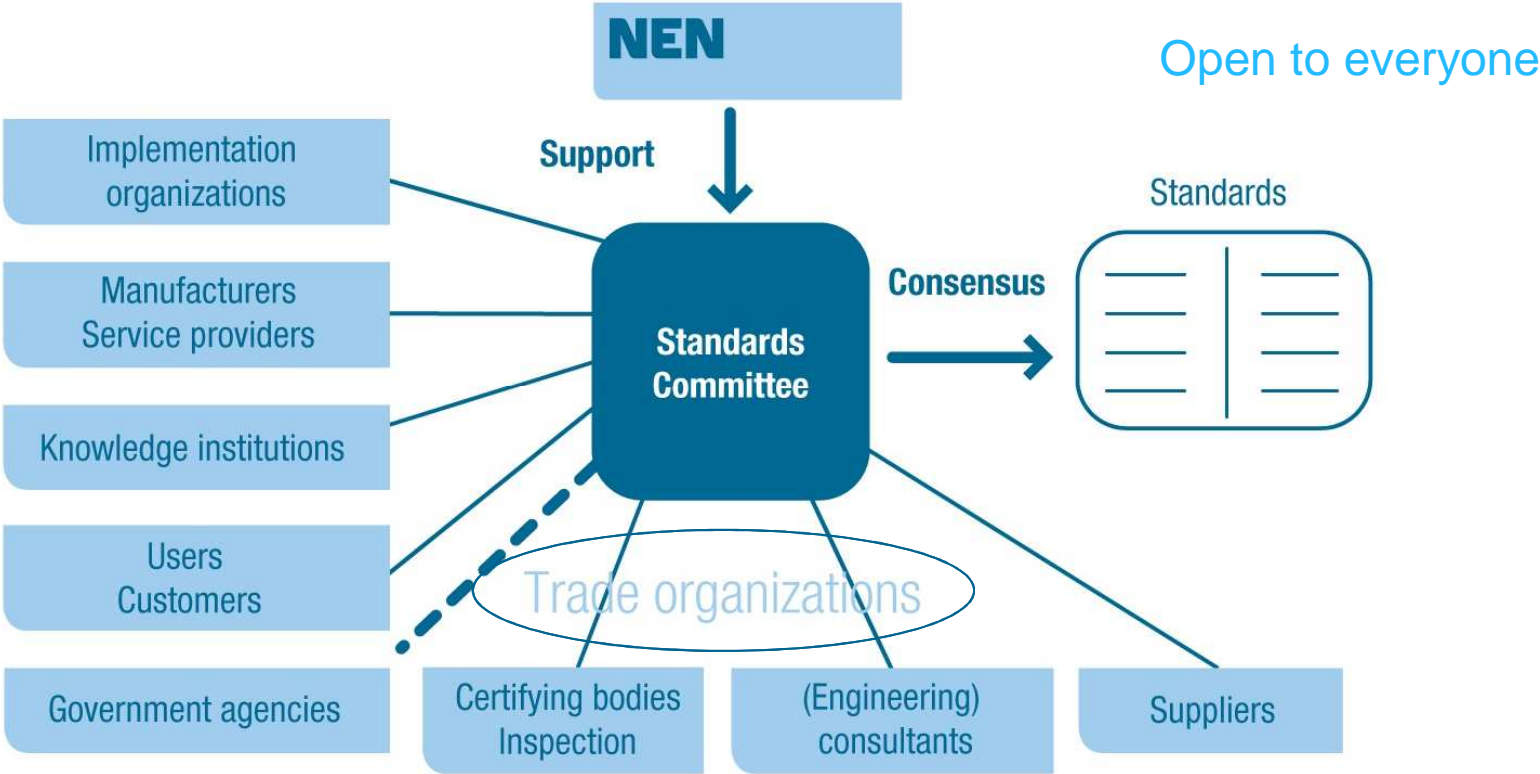
# Standards and EU - complex



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The (future) role of national standardization?

# Standardization a joint responsibility



**Democratic legitimation of standardization depends on the involvement of all stakeholders**

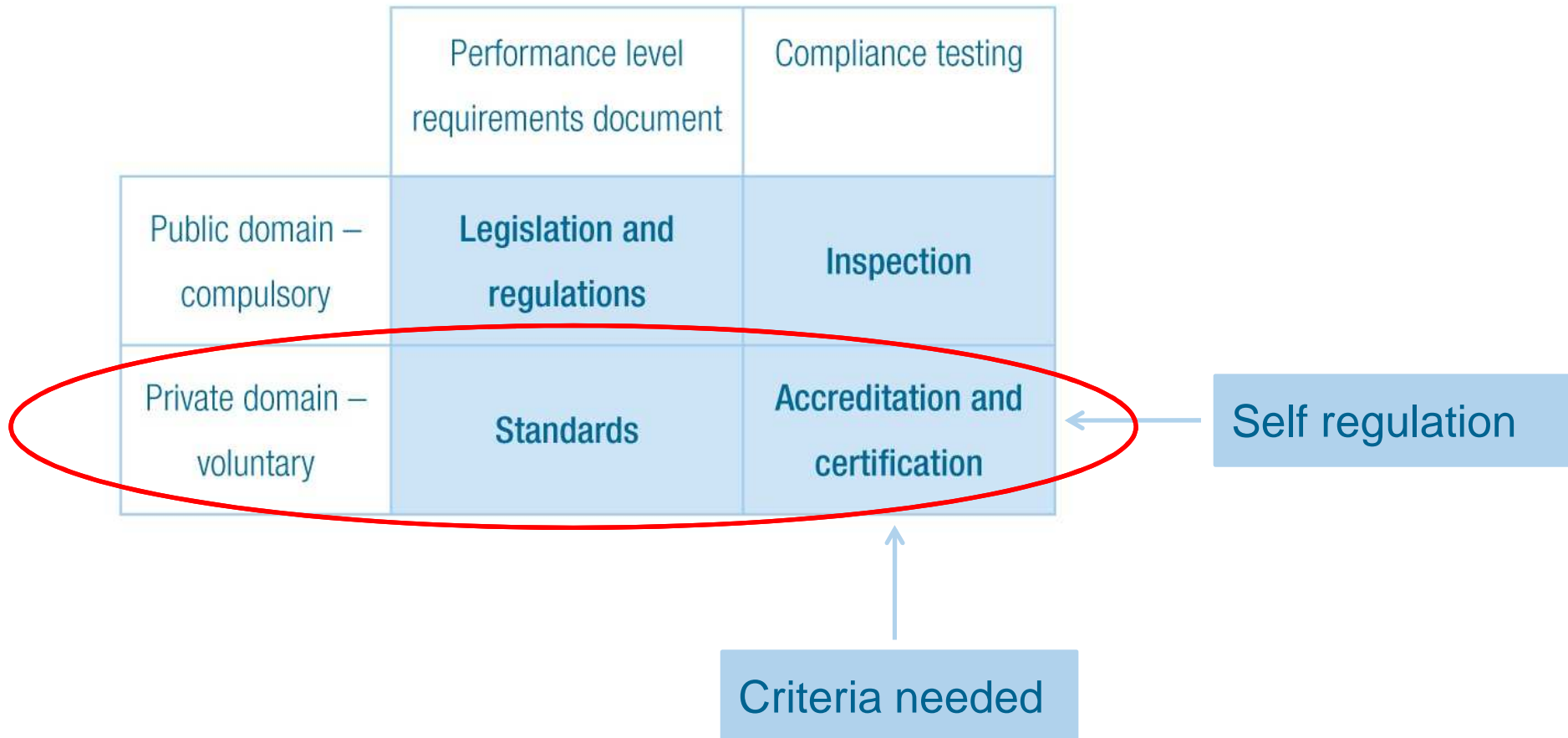
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# National Standardization Strategy

- Standardization secures Germany's position as a leading industrial nation
- Standardization as a strategic instrument supports a successful society and economy
- Standardization is an instrument of deregulation
- Standardization and standards bodies promote technological convergence
- Standards bodies provide efficient procedures and tools

# Voluntary and regulatory sector



# What stays, what changes?

- Consequences for national standardization?
- Future role of your National standards body in the international Standardization?

# National standardization in the future

- From a National to an International focus
  - National standards for specific cases
  - National standards as pre-standard for EN/ISO
- Rapid development processes - CWA, TS, PAS
- Coordination tasks (gateway to CEN/ISO)
- Multilevel – impact increases
- Implementation of European and int. Standards
- National standardization strategies

# National role in the future

- Continue development of international formal ‘consensus’ standards
- Facilitate national and international standards development through a transparent, balanced consensus-based system - multilevel approach – multiple products
- Manage stakeholder representation from industry, government and consumers for standardization in Europe & worldwide (ISO)
- Support stakeholders (government’s, Industry, NGOs) strategy
- New media - and web-based products
- Private standards service



# Standardization

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I am  
Sven from  
NEN, to  
inform and  
help you!



More information?  
Please contact us!

NEN Energy Resources

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# Standards are agreements that ...

- lead to the improvement of products, services and processes in terms of **safety, health, efficiency, quality and sustainability**
- reduce unnecessary diversity and harmonize (i.e. **increase the compatibility and interoperability**)
- boost the cutting edge and innovative capability of organizations
- standards have an important function in B2B agreements (**offering clarity and confidence**)
- give organizations access to national, European and global markets
- function as a source of information for users
- increasingly contribute to economic growth: economic benefit amounting to 1% of GNP (**making them as important as patents**)

# Standards – instrument of deregulation

A standard is a voluntary agreement between interested parties in respect of a product, service or process. (Use: Referred by Law, B2B)

Standardization is the formal recognised process leading to the establishment of a standard (ISO, CEN principles).

This process is open, transparent and focuses on achieving consensus.

The standardization process results in

- stable and reviewable
- broadly supported
- generally accepted
- coherent & non-conflicting
- reference documents with added value

**This makes standards and standardization powerful instruments for self-regulation and deregulation.**

