The Bologna Process as Trojan Horse: the case of German teacher education



TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DARMSTADT



#### Homepage: https://www.politikwissenschaft.tu-darmstadt.de/index.php?id=3563 BRC: https://www.eu-global-dialogue.eu/bologna-resource-center/

Prof. Dr. Michèle Knodt knodt@pg.tu-darmstadt.de

**Johannes Schmees** johannes.schmees@uni-vechta.de

### **Overview**



#### **Basics**

- Teacher education
- Bologna process

#### Analysis

- Questions
- Methods

#### Results

- Teacher education as a special field
- Bologna as a tool for change

### **Bologna Process**



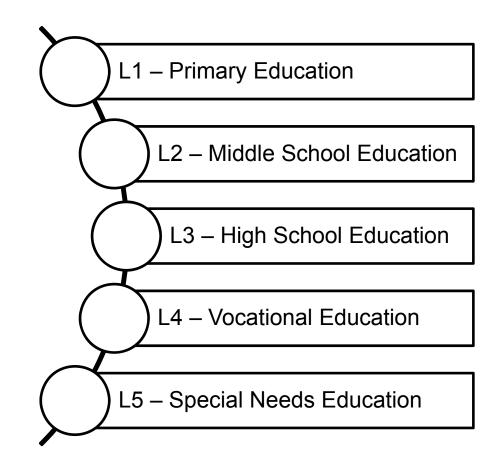
- The Bologna Declaration was signed 1999 by 29 states
  - 2 Cycles
  - ECTS
  - Modules
- The Bologna Process is an intergovernmental declaration
  - Voluntariness
  - Does not belong to the European Union



### **Teacher education in Germany**

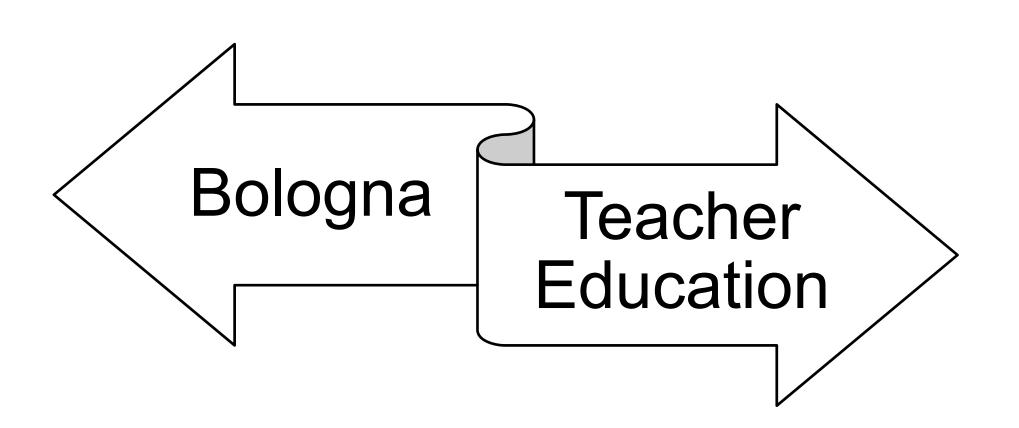


- Education policy in Germany is ruled in the federated states (education federalism)
- Teacher education is regional due to the
  - State examination like in Medicine and Law
  - University courses
  - School types (L1 to L5)
  - Combination of the two subjects



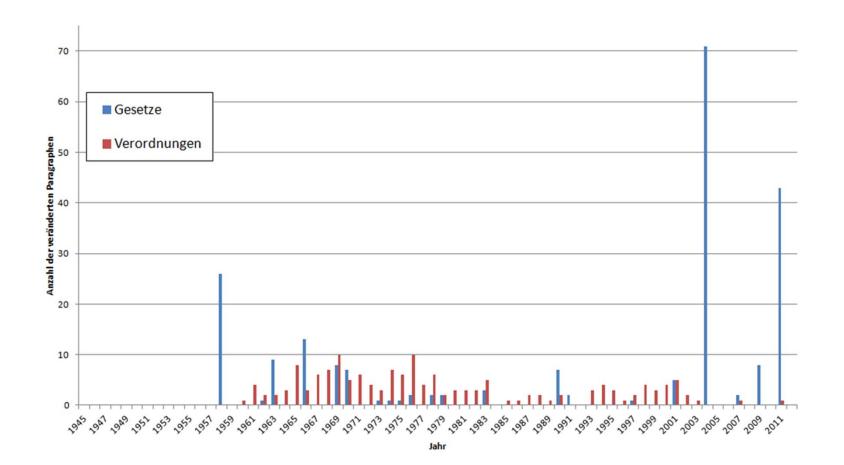
Research Question: why Bologna was implemented?





### Changes in teacher education in the federal state of Hesse





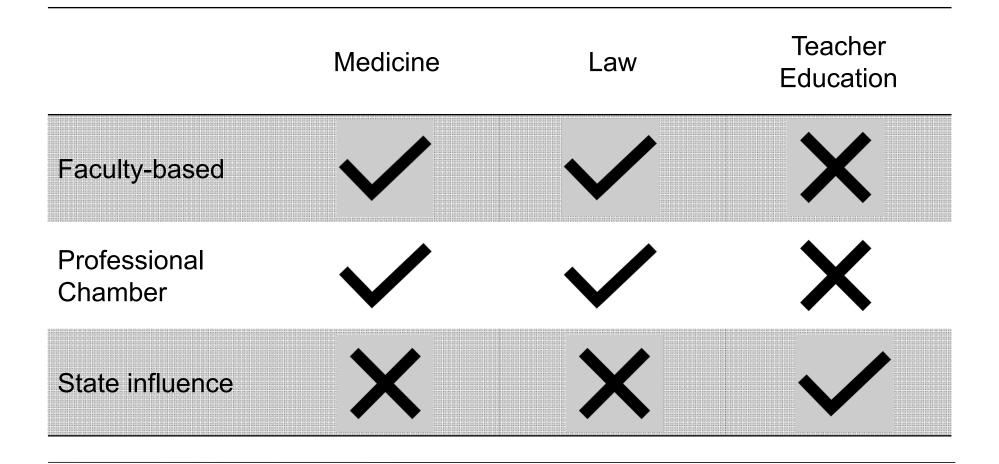
# Overview of the research questions and methods



- (1) Why ECTS and Modularization were implemented in all federated states?
  - → Comparison with other state examinations (medicine and law) that did not implement it in combination with a secondary analysis of reasons for implementing ECTS and Modularization
- (2) Why some federated states decided to implement the Bologna degree structure while others did not?
  - → Content analysis of plenary debates (1999 to 2013)

### Teacher Education as a special field within the (former) German state examination

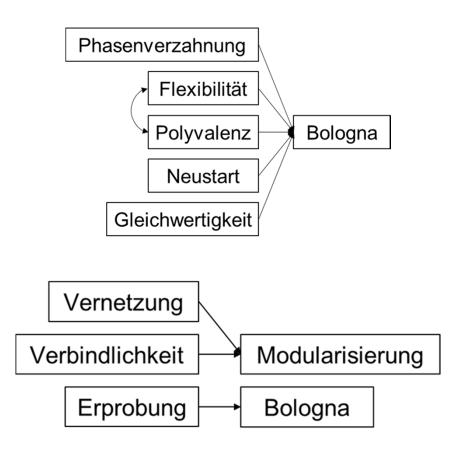




# Content analysis of plenary debats (example: NRW, 2009 and Hesse, 2004)



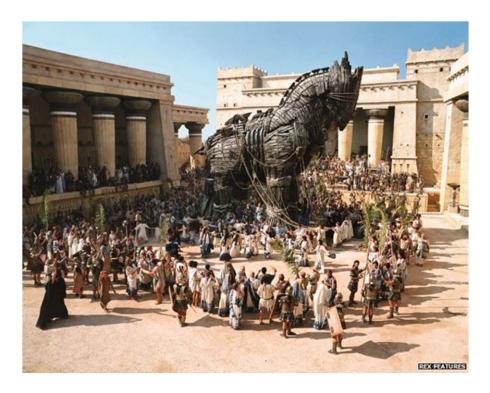
- Bologna as a re-start for teacher education (in NRW – Bologna degrees in teacher education) vs. an iterative improvement through modularization (in Hesse – no Bologna degrees in teacher education)
- Bologna, and particularly the implementation of Bachelor/Master programs, opened a *window of opportunity* for changing teacher education as a whole



### Conclusion



- The connection of teacher education with other disciplines lead to an need for implementing at least the modularization and the ECTS
- These necessary reforms opened up a window of opportunity for reforms of the study course (and the teacher education degree hierarchy)
- To sum up: the Bologna Process is the Trojan Horse for the case of Teacher Education



### Literature



[Slide 03] **European Higher Education Area** (2014): Bologna process – European Higher Education Area. Members. Heruntergeladen am 23. März 2015 unter http://www.ehea.info/members.aspx

### **Pictures and Tables**



- [Slide 03] Member States of the Bologna Process, http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bologna-Prozess#/media/File:Bologna\_zone.svg
- [Slide 04] Different Teacher Trainings in Germany
- [Slide 05] Bologna and Teacher Education as opponents
- [Slide 06] Frequency analysis of the paragraph changes in teacher education laws in Hesse
- [Slide 08] Comparison of the (former) three main state examinations in Germany
- [Slide 09] Arugument map of two plenary debates, NRW, 2009, and Hesse, 2004
- [Folie 10] **Trojan Horse**, https://ichef-1.bbci.co.uk/news/660/media/images/71406000/jpg/\_71406331\_trojan-horse.jpg



### Thank you for your attention!

Prof. Dr. Michèle Knodt Johannes Schmees