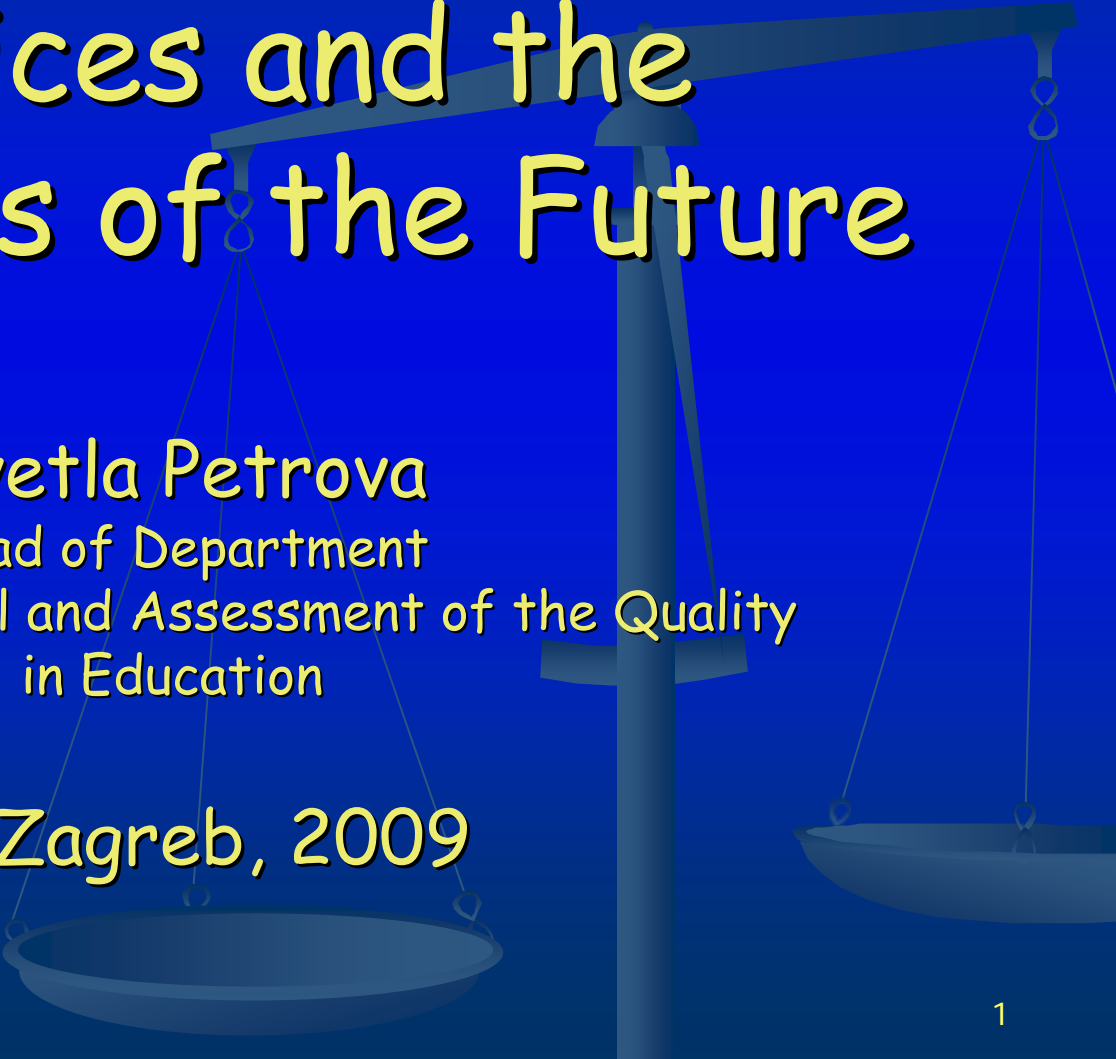


Assessment in Bulgaria - Practices and the Challenges of the Future



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Centre for Control and Assessment of the Quality
in Education

Zagreb, 2009

The presentation is about ...

... the present assessment practices in Bulgaria.

... some national outcomes from international assessment.

... the future of the assessment.

The Way



National
Programme for
Development of
the Education,
Science and
Youth Politics in
Bulgaria
(2009 - 2013)

Centre for Control and Assessment of the Quality in Education

... is a state scientific-informative section
of the Ministry of Education, Youth and
Science

responsible for developing of:

- models and mechanisms for school-based evaluation and assessment;
- systems for control of the quality in education;
- test instruments.

National Assessment Programme



- ... National monitoring of the education system
 - ... Administered to the full cohort of students
 - ... Tests are frequent: at 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th grades on major school subjects
- AND
- ... The State Matriculation Exams (introduced in 2008) - certified assessment

International Assessments

... Programme for International Student Assessment (OECD)

... International Civic and Citizenship Education Study (IEA)

... Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study and Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (IEA)

Bulgaria in PISA



Programme for International Student Assessment

OECD programme

with the aim of monitoring the extent to which students near the end of compulsory schooling have acquired the knowledge and skills essential for full participation in society;

in the areas of reading, mathematics and problem solving, and science.

What PISA provides

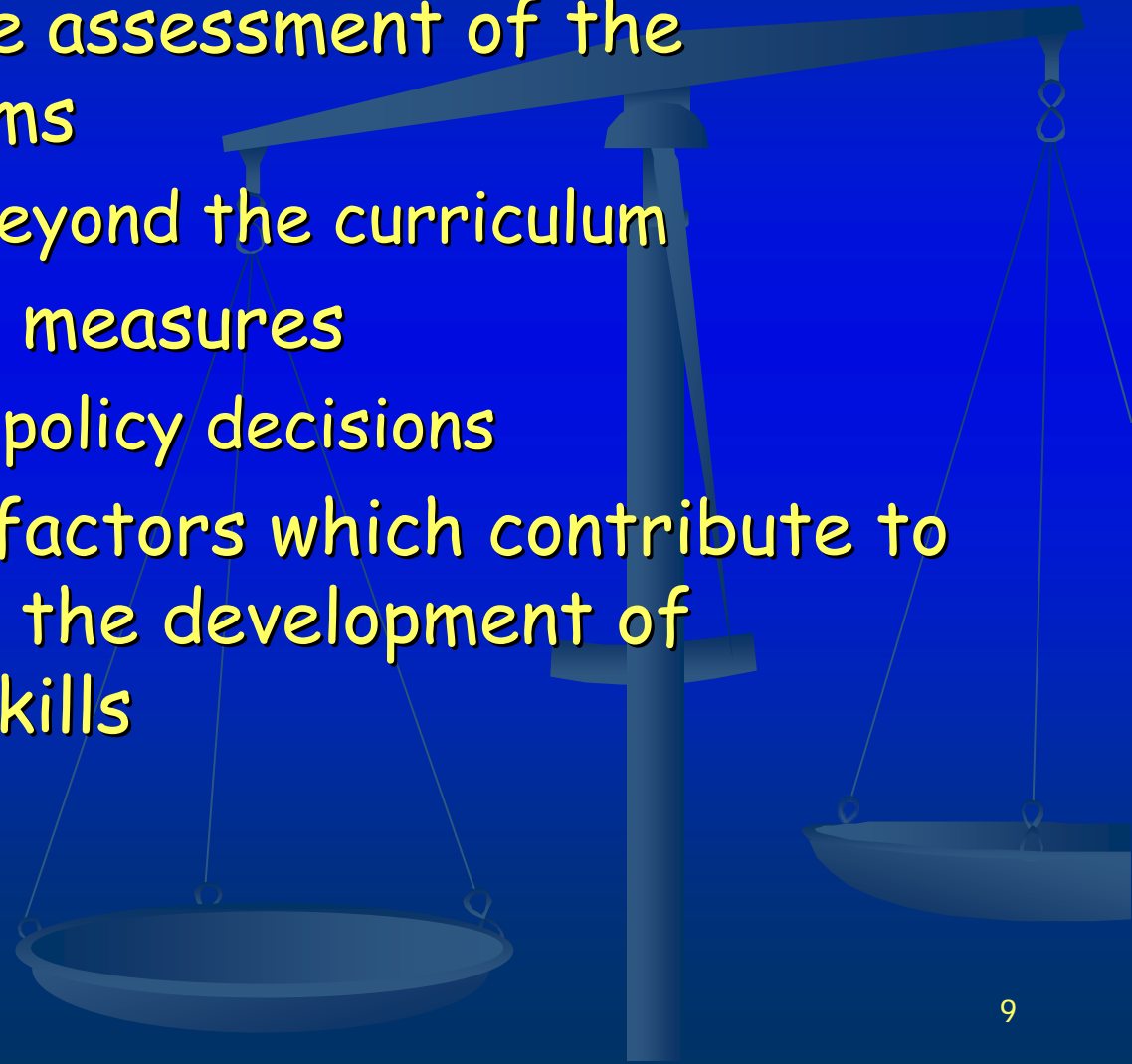
... A comprehensive assessment of the education systems

- including and beyond the curriculum

... Comparable skill measures

- that can guide policy decisions

... Analysis of the factors which contribute to and influence on the development of knowledge and skills



PISA 2000

PISA 2003

PISA 2006

PISA 2009

Reading
Math
Science

Reading
Math
Science

Reading
Math
Science

Reading
Math
Science

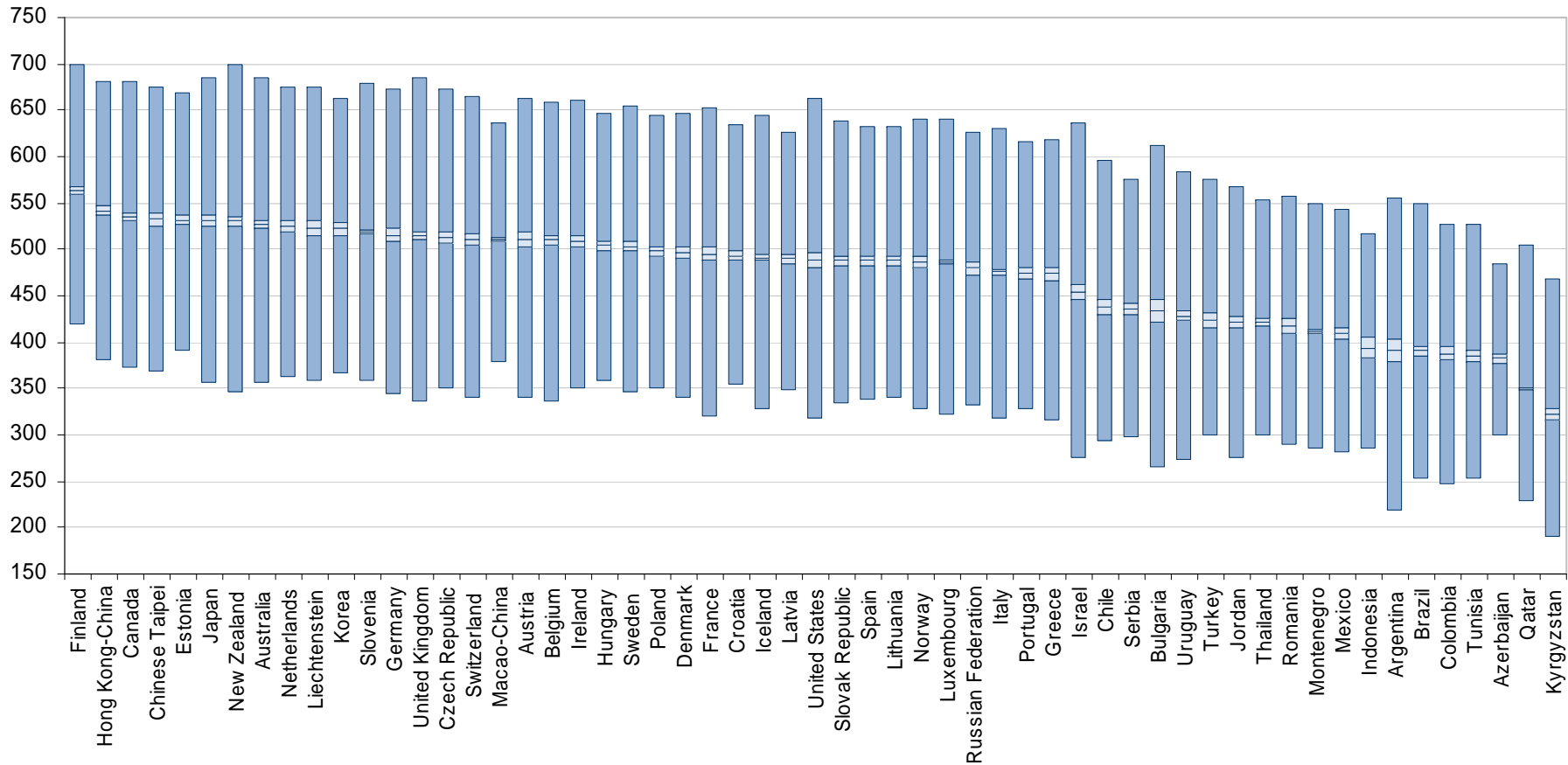


Key findings for Bulgarian education from PISA 2006

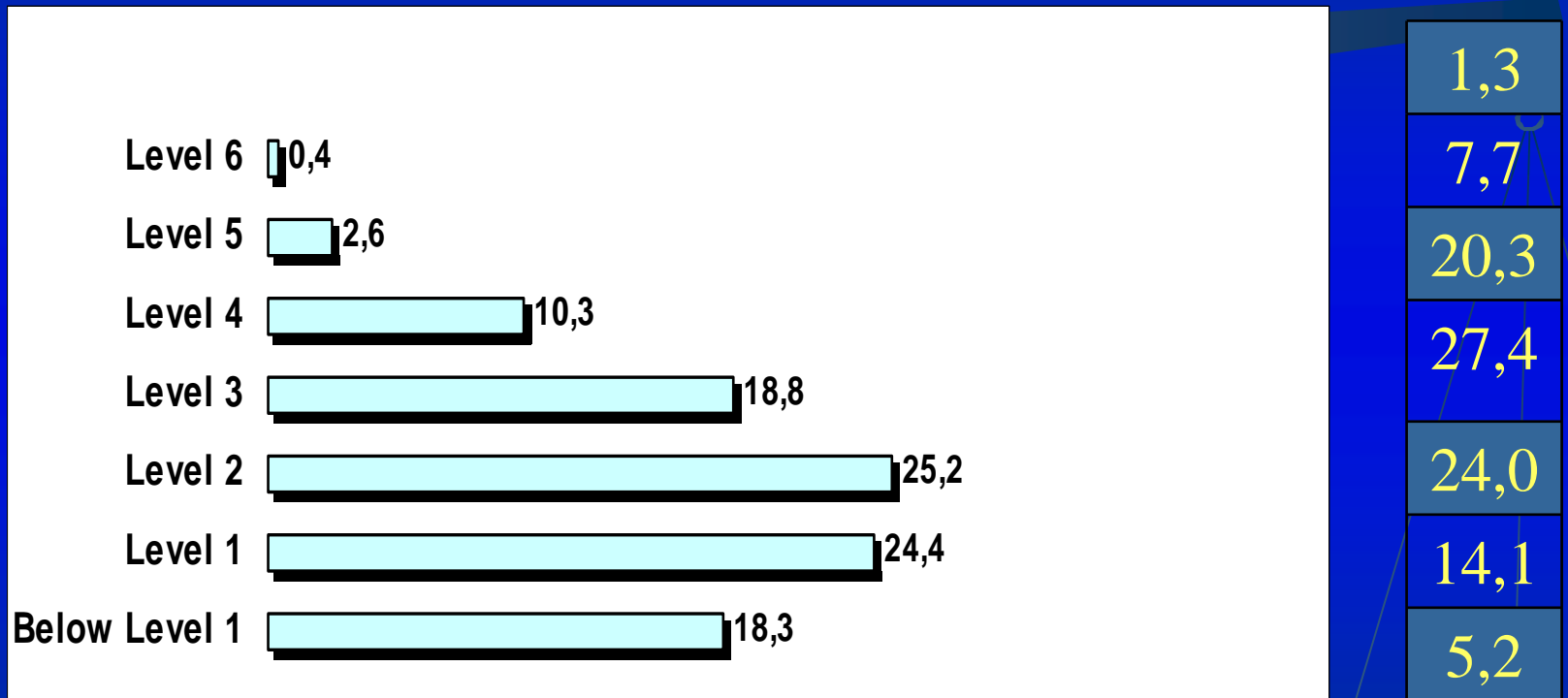


Where we are?

PISA 2006. Distribution of student performance on the science scale by countries



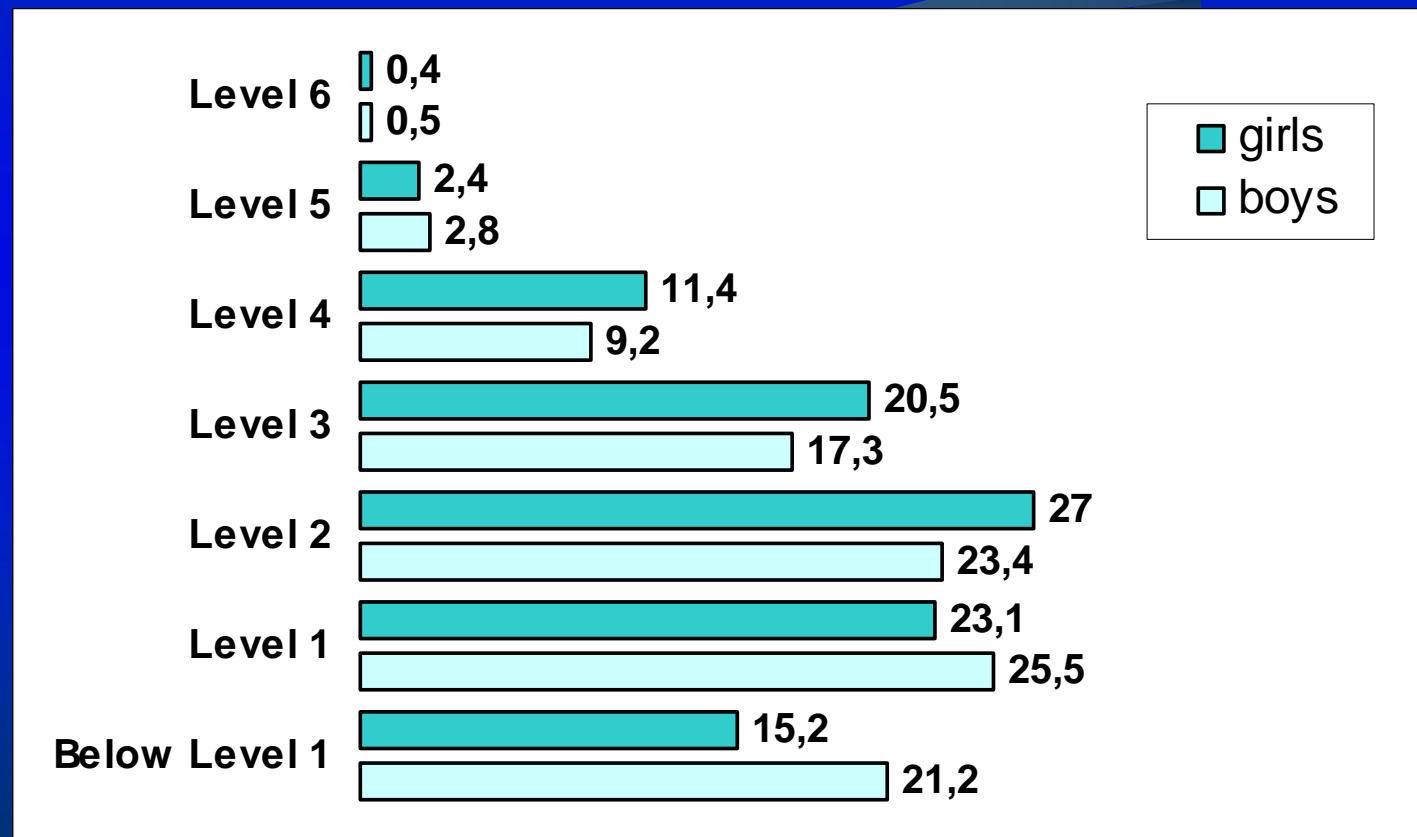
Bulgaria in PISA 2006. Student performance in science by levels



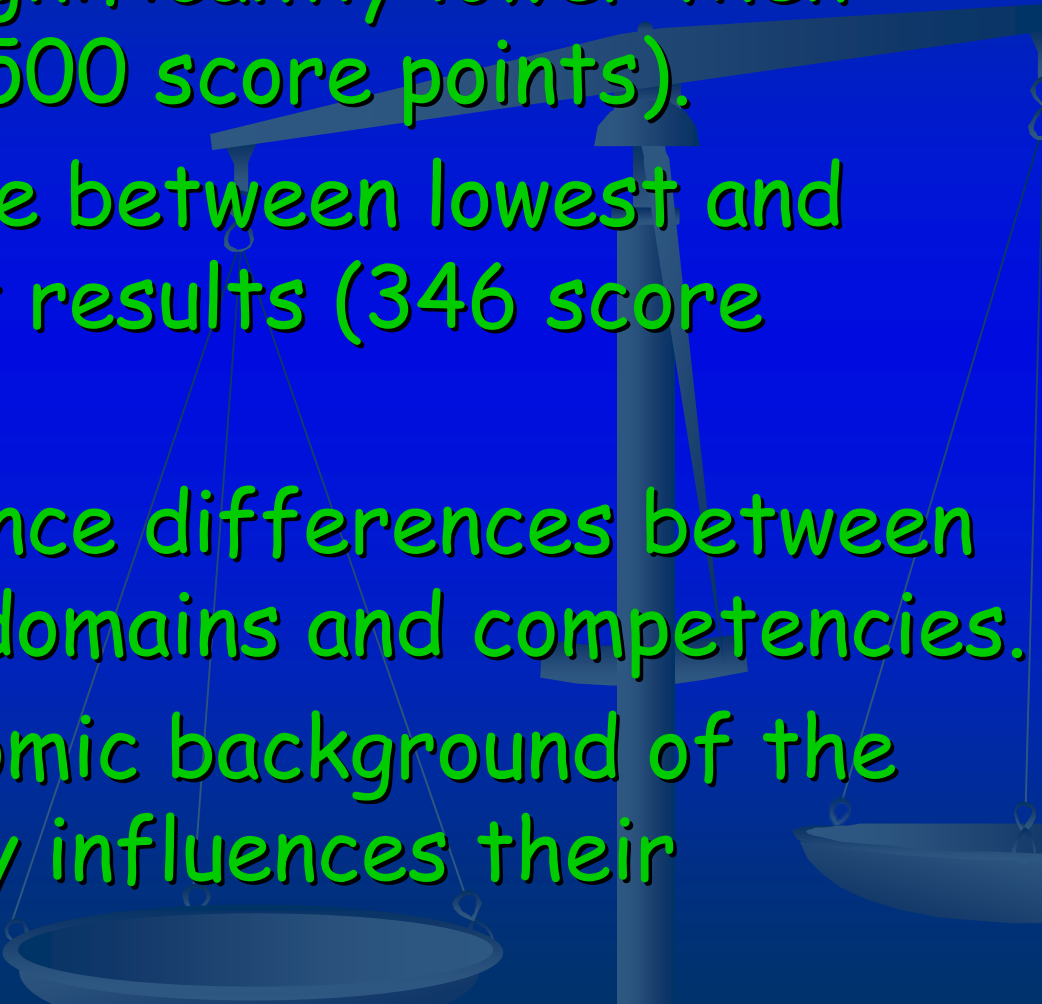
Percentage of Bulgarian students by levels on the combined science scale

(OECD, %)

Bulgaria in PISA 2006. Student performance by levels and by gender



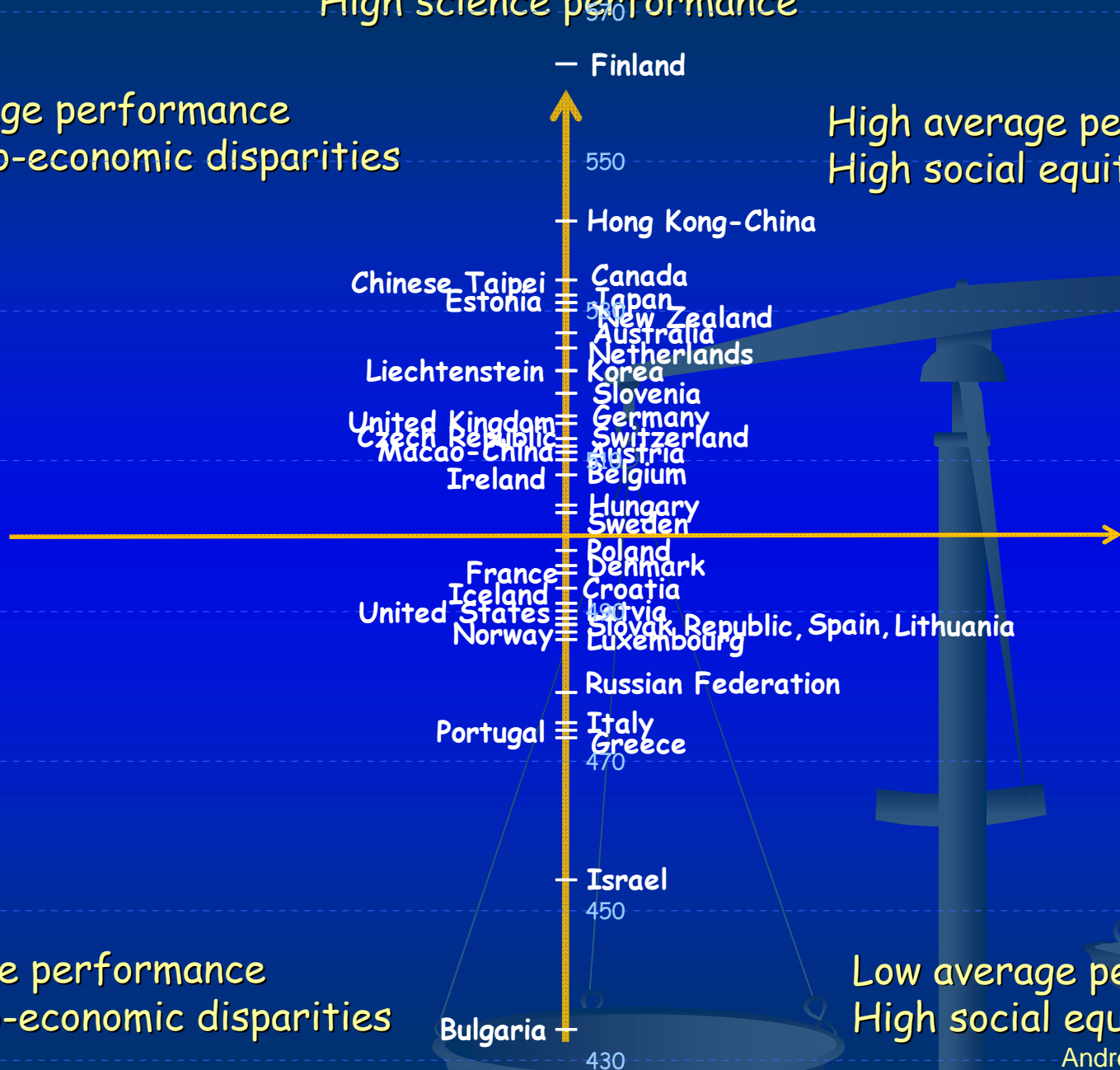
Key findings in science

- ... low mean score - an average of 434 score points (significantly lower than OECD mean of 500 score points).
 - ... large difference between lowest and highest student results (346 score points).
 - ... large performance differences between the knowledge domains and competencies.
 - ... the socio-economic background of the students heavily influences their performance.
- 

High science performance

High average performance
Large socio-economic disparities

High average performance
High social equity



Low average performance
Large socio-economic disparities

Low average performance
High social equity

Low science performance

Andreas Schlicher idea

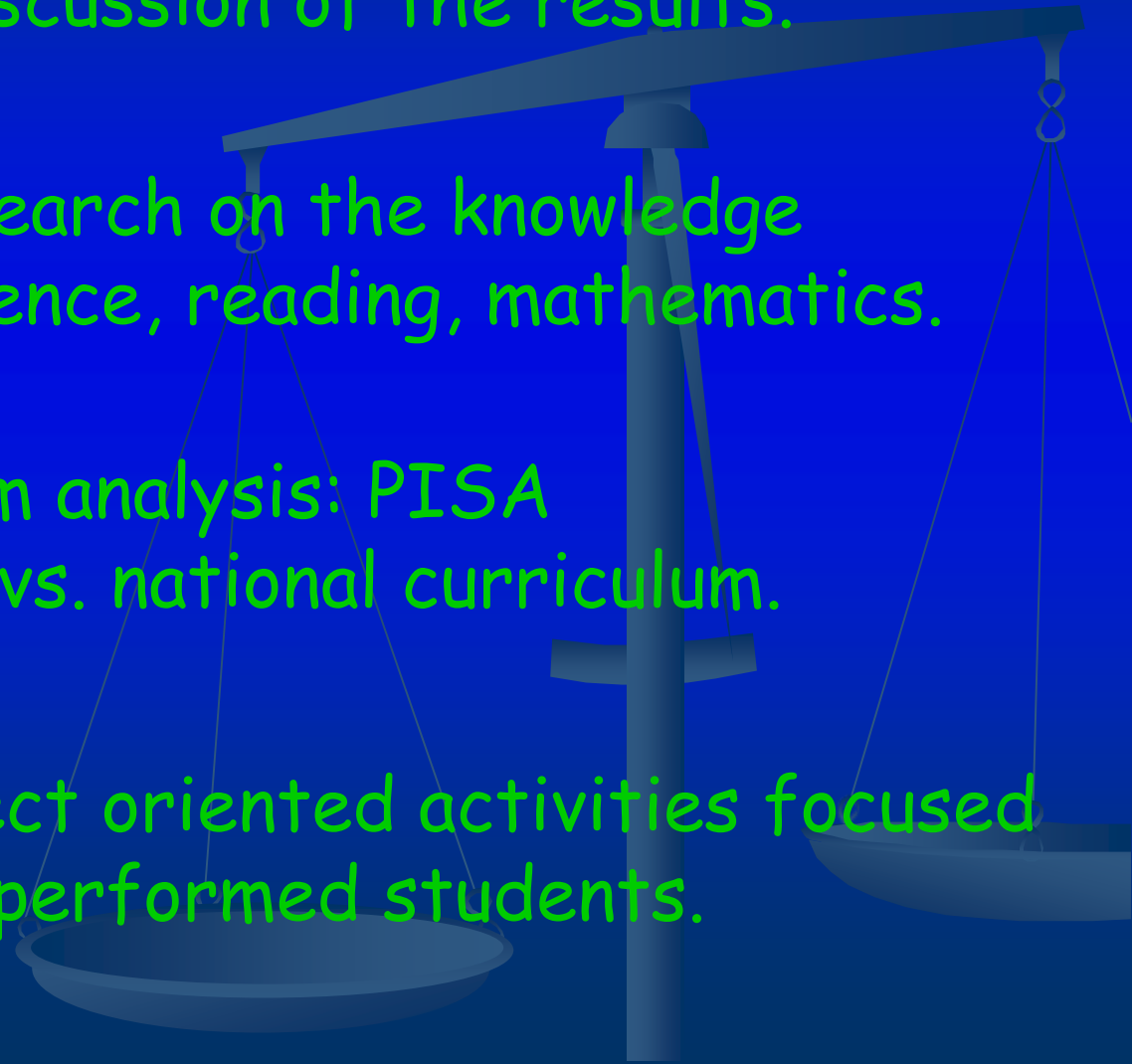
What was next ...

... reporting and discussion of the results.

... extensive research on the knowledge domains, i.e. science, reading, mathematics.

... curriculum analysis: PISA framework vs. national curriculum.

... project oriented activities focused on low-performed students.



Public education and Assessment in Bulgaria - the Future



Higher Education

State Matriculation Exam

12
grade

Profile

Profession

11
grade

National Assessment

10
grade

General courses in
profiled schools or classes

General courses in
vocational schools or classes

9 grade

8 grade

Bulgarian language, Math, Foreign languages, ICT

National Assessment

5 - 7
grades

Lower-secondary education

National Assessment

1 - 4
grades

Elementary education

Assessments

- at the end of the elementary school, ISCED1 (grade 4)
- at the end of lower-secondary school, ISCED2 (grade 7)
- at the end of compulsory upper-secondary school (grade 10)
- at the end of optional upper-secondary school, ISCED3 (grade 12) - State Matriculation Exam.

Thank you!
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