



# Relations With Other Agencies

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# Motivation

- Fiscal councils need a lot of data
- Informal communication is necessary
- Effective management of conflicts is important

# Access to data (1)

- FCs need as strong legal backing as possible
- CBR's right to receive data is embedded in the constitutional act on fiscal responsibility. On the other hand the formulation is rather general.
- Our key principle 1: get access to all possible data sources directly (not via the ministry of finance)
- Key principle 2: build a strong micro dataset

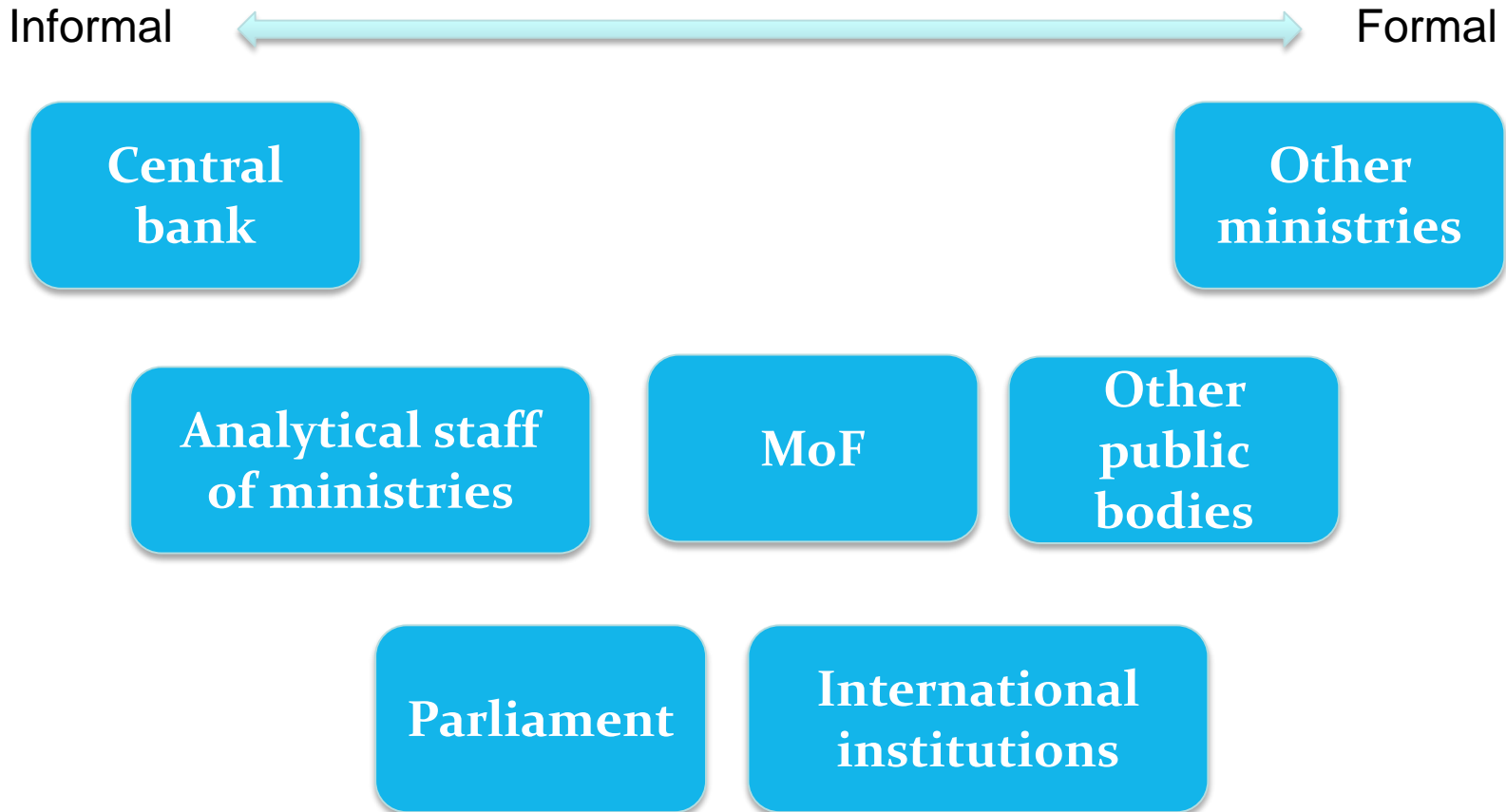
# Access to data (2)

- Important datasets:
  - Daily/monthly data on budget execution (State Treasury)
  - Budget information system (MoF)
  - Tax revenue and social security contributions (individual data)
  - National accounts data – public sector (individual data)
  - Pension database (individual data)
  - Health insurance database (individual data)
- Memoranda of Understanding:
  - Statistical office
  - National audit office

# Access to data (3)

- Formal agreement with the Institute of Financial Policy (IFP) and the central bank on exchange of information
- Access to the central bank's macro database
- Liquidity management data
- SK-SILC (individual)
- Private sector wage database (TREXIMA)
- CBR is involved also in shaping the data environment

# Formal and informal communication (1)



# Formal and informal communication (2)

- High degree of political consensus from the beginning: all relevant political parties involved
- Politicians hate surprises: access to CBR's documents at least 48 hours before release
- Mainly for fact-checking, no major wording suggestions accepted
- Frequent informal meetings between the chairman and the minister of finance
- Analytical hub: CBR, the central bank and the IFP<sub>7</sub>

# Formal and informal communication (3)

- Very detailed analysis of the budget for the EC, IMF and OECD
- Institutions responsible for data collection like if somebody uses their numbers; however they usually require formal links
- Informal EU IFI network
- Advisory Panel



# Conflict management (1)

- Conflicts are inevitable
- Try not to be too defensive from the beginning
- Bark loudly when the problem is big; do not bark with the same intensity every year (use also carrots not only sticks)
- Messages via international organizations can be very helpful (and they usually have to say something smart)
- Avoid normative comments

# Conflict management (2)

- Evaluate your own risk analysis ex-post (and communicate it)
- Never use the name of politicians in your answer to questions in the media
- Communicate a lot with the highest ranking technocrats informally
- Defense your position with data and state-of-the-art methodology only
- Do not comment on analytical work of the ministry; present your figures/approaches instead



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Thank you for Your attention!