

#### Fédération des Experts-comptables Européens Federation of European Accountants



#### The Future of Accounting and Role of Professional Organizations

PAO Regional Forum - Vienna 28 April 2016

**Petr Kriz** 

President



#### FEE: Voice of European Accountants, Auditors & Advisors



50 institutes



875,000 professionals



37 countries

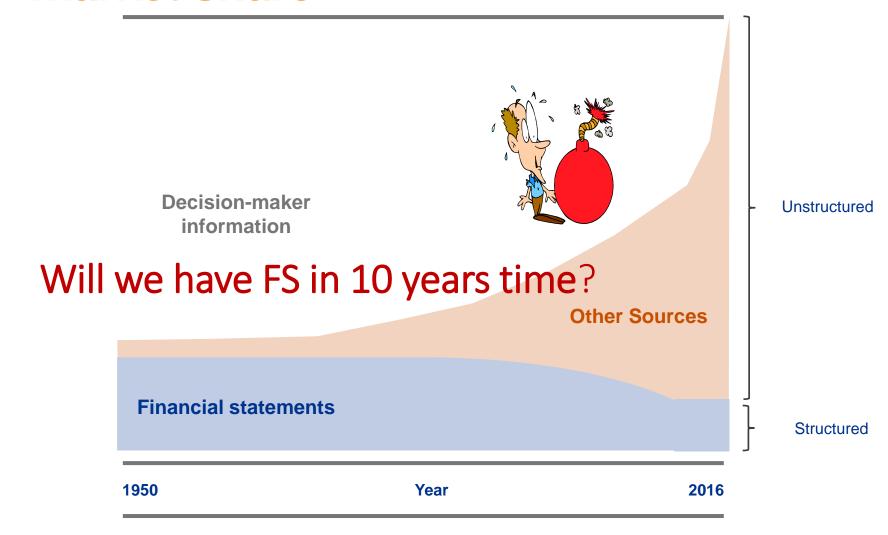


28 EU member states

# Structure of the Cogito Paper

- Introductory Section and 4 chapters
  - 1. Growing Audience
  - 2. Content: Financial and Non-financial reporting
  - 3. Core and More
  - 4. Approach to Policy Making and Innovation
- Focus on TECHNOLOGY as change driver & enabler

# Financial statements (FS) losing "market share"



# **Reporting TODAY**

- Paper based (80's/90's thinking)
- Long, detailed and complex reports
- Shareholder only view
- Not timely
- Mainly confirmatory



# **FUTURE of Corporate Reporting**

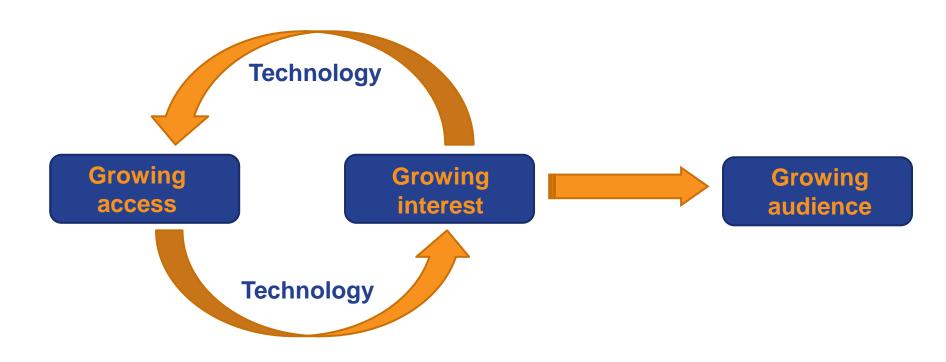
How do we get Annual Reports to drive share prices? How do we get youngsters to read Annual Reports?

Should reporting adjust to the new technologies?

## Technology (IT) as change driver & enabler

- At the heart of change
- Enables lively presentation
- Focus on relevant and material information
- Enhances readability on screen
- Enhances calculations, storage, processes, connectivity, cross-checking, references...

# **Chapter 1: Growing Audience**



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- Accountability to wider group of stakeholders
- Separate reports to each stakeholder group not sustainable
- Two way communication is essential

# **Chapter 2.1: Financial Information**

- Financial information
  - to be issued earlier (more timely)
  - to be less voluminous
- Do not think paper / PDF, think screen

# **Chapter 2.2: Non-Financial Information**

- Interconnection: financial & non-financial
- NFI is key to get complete picture
- Many new requirements/standards
- Move towards one universal principles based reporting framework

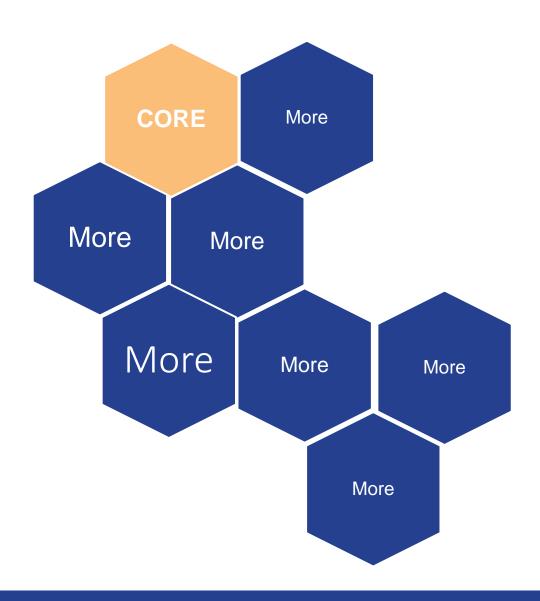
# **Chapter 3 CORE & MORE**

- Bring all together in one combined report
- Consisting of
  - One CORE (summary) report
  - MORE reports can be accessed via drilling vertically and horizontally
- Technology is key

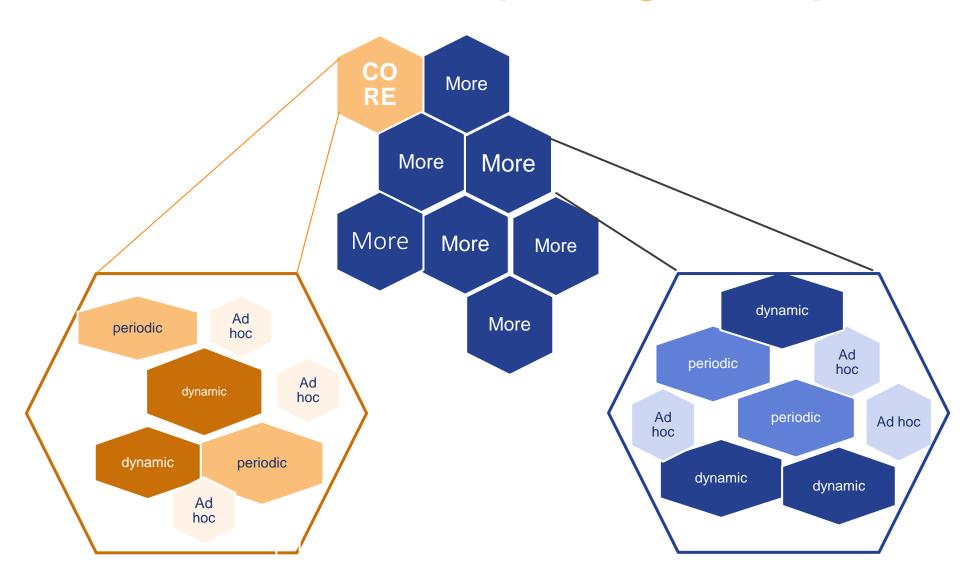
# **Chapter 3: CORE & MORE**



# **CORE and MORE: Structure of the Report**



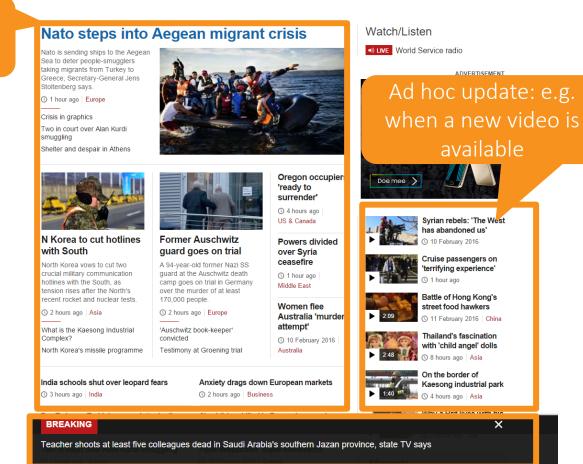
# **CORE and MORE: Updating the Report**



# **Chapter 3: CORE & MORE - Updating**

Periodic update: e.g. every hour





Dynamic update: Whenever something important happens

# Future of Corporate Reporting and (IR)



- Need for debate and experimentation
  - Is there agreement on the issues to be solved?
  - If yes, who should own the agenda?
- <IR> is the most developed & promising initiative
- FEE's Core & More idea is compatible with <IR>

## **Chapter 4: Policy Making and Innovation**

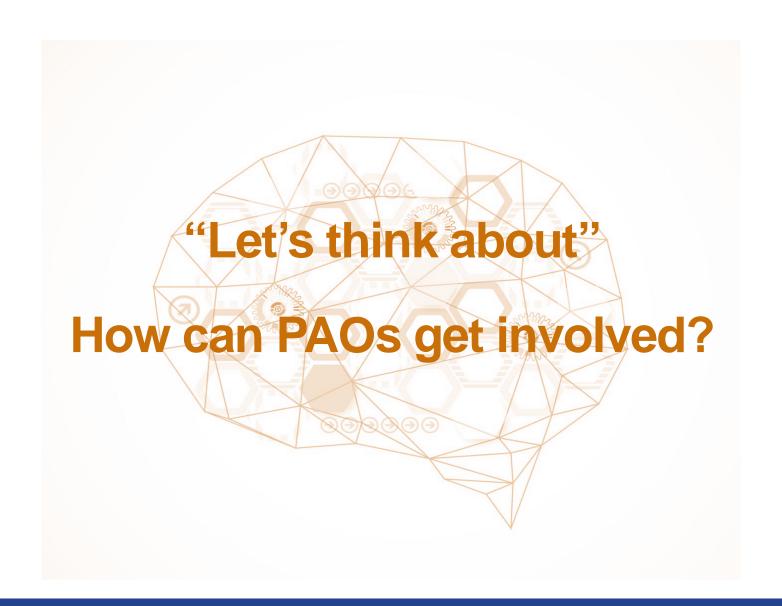
- Differing requirements lead to reporting duplication
- Revise the current checklist approach through:
  - More principles-based standards
  - Coordination in Europe & internationally
  - Enforcers & auditors to change attitude

## **Policy Making and Innovation:**

Allow parallel experimental reporting



- Allow Corporate Reporting to adapt to opportunities and challenges of emerging IT
- Policy makers work together to get necessary changes to happen
- Establish a group of key stakeholders



### Join the debate



- Discussion paper <a href="http://bit.ly/15futurecorprep">http://bit.ly/15futurecorprep</a>
- FEE welcomes responses by 30 June 2016
- For updates, follow #FutureCorporateReporting
- Join our LinkedIn group

https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8417453

# PAOs should be in the center of the strategic debate on the future of audit and assurance







### Follow-up projects on:

- Responding to changing stakeholders' needs
- ✓ IT and innovation
- ✓ Skillset of the future and rethink education

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