EUROPEAN FOREST INSTITUTE
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Are *international agreements* really effective?

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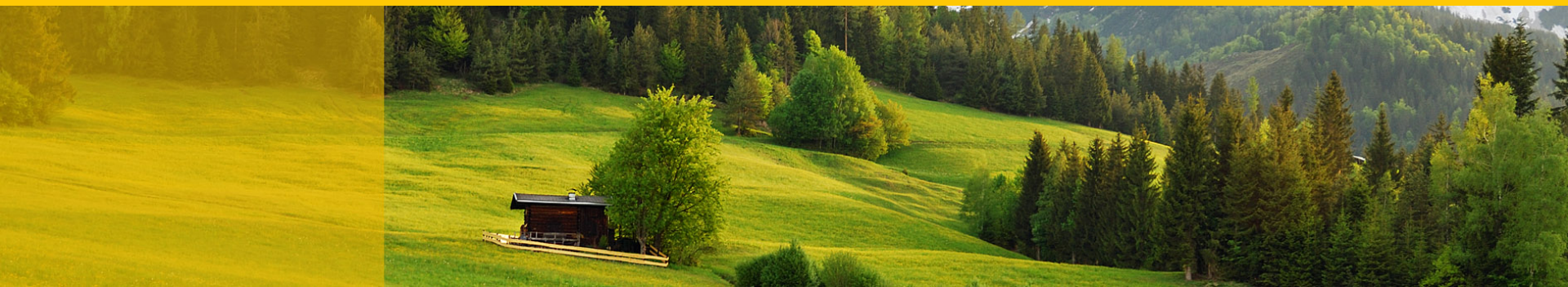
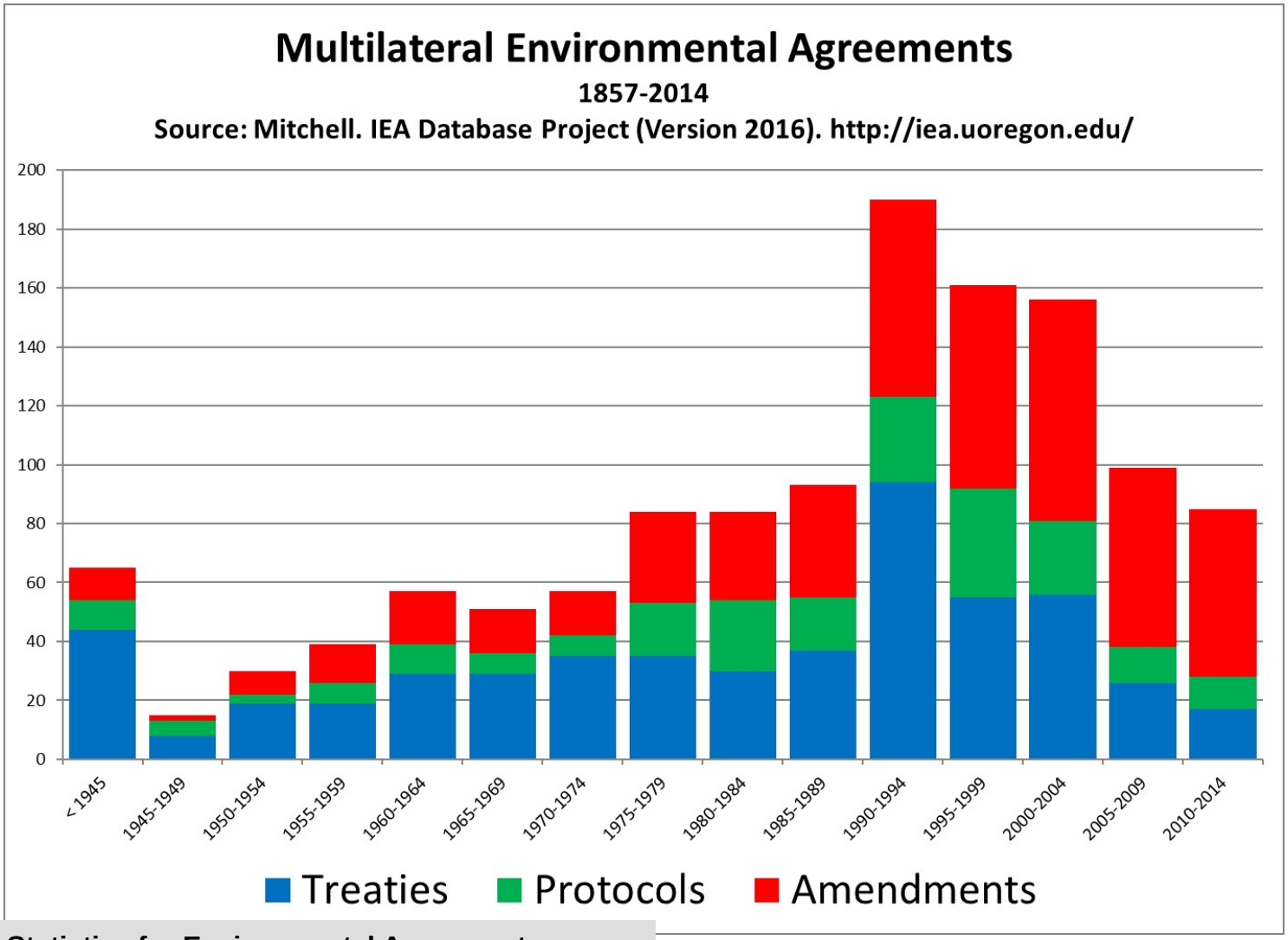


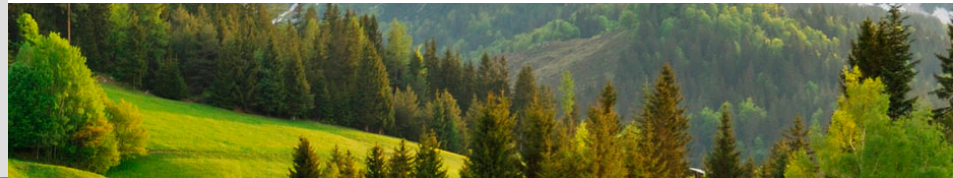


Summary Statistics for Environmental Agreements

1598 BEA - Bilateral Environmental Agreements

1265 MEA - Multilateral Environmental Agreements

249 Other (non-multi, non-bi) Environmental Agreements



International regime theorists

=> Assume “top-down” dynamic of international politics

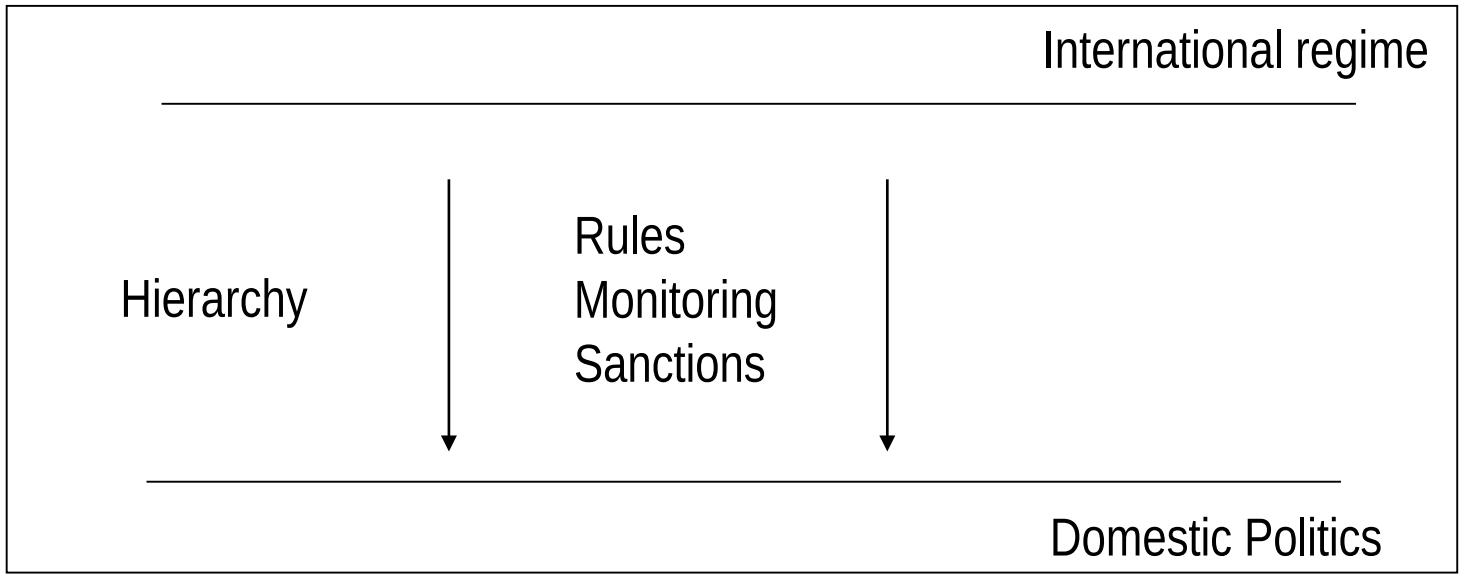
=> international rules steer behaviour of countries

➔Hierarchical

Regime effectiveness dependent on

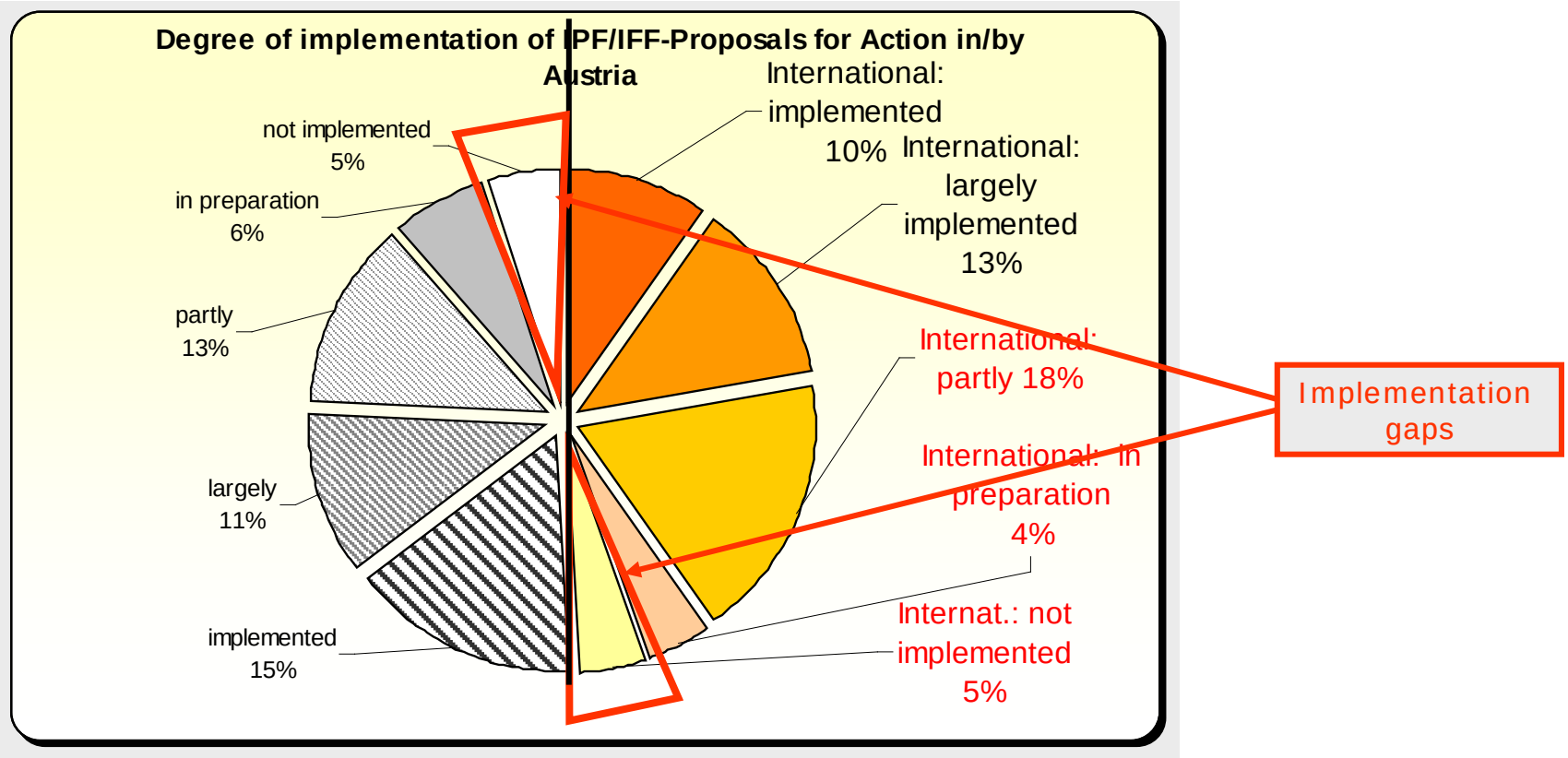
=> good design, address “right problem” & various interests,

=> address power and authorities + capacities, knowledge etc.



Arts, Kleinschmit und Pülzl 2016:211

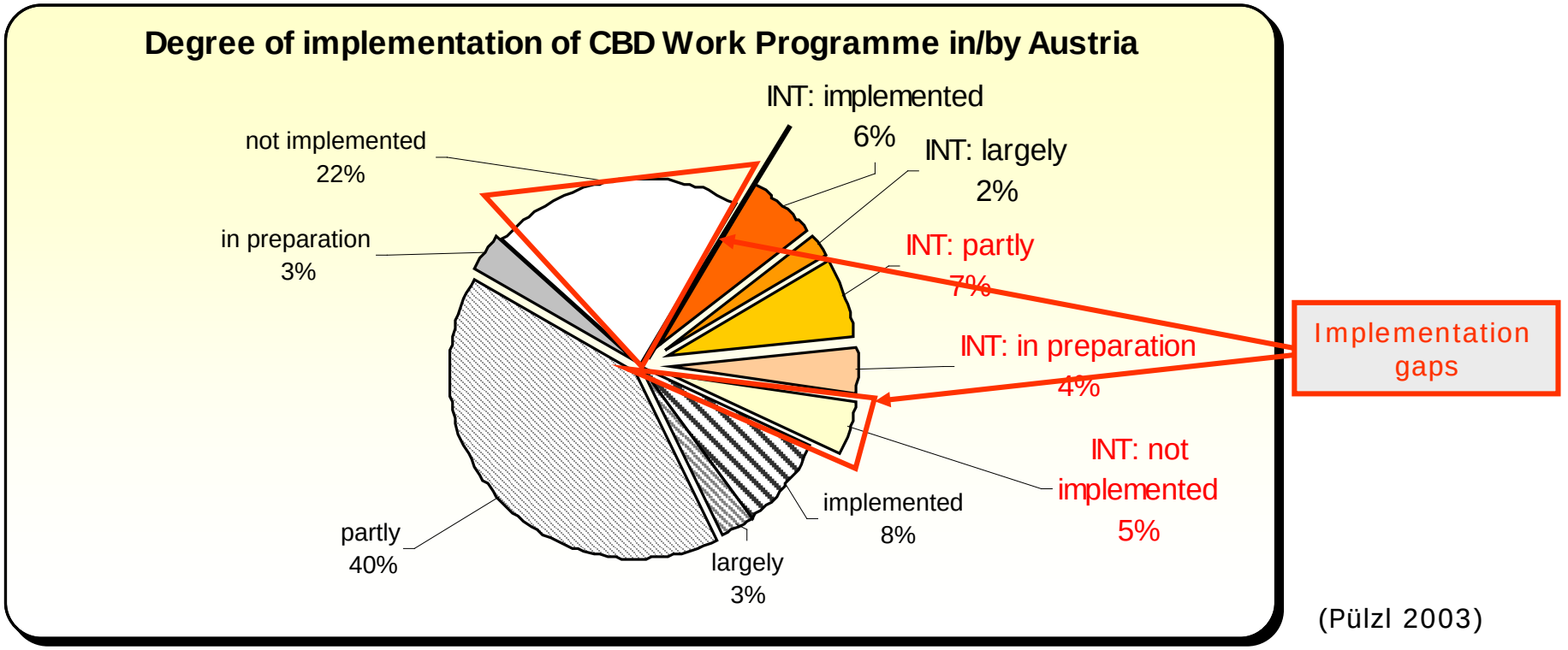
Example forest policy: national implementation of global commitments



(Pülzl 2002, Pülzl and Rametsteiner 2004)

Example forest policy 2: national implementation of global commitments

Forest Work Programme of the Convention of Biological Diversity



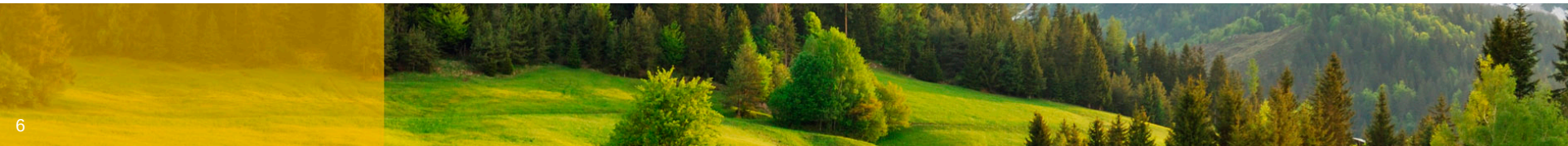
(Pülzl 2003)

National implementation of global forest commitments

- implementation gap of IPF/IFF PfAs smaller than for CBD commitments => *'non-legal' commitments better implemented than the ones of the "legal" regime (CBD) – more effective??*

- assumption that legally binding global commitments should ***not be*** dropped

- No assessment of as regards its legal/non-legal form



Ideas, norms and rules travel
‚Translation‘ of global commitments?

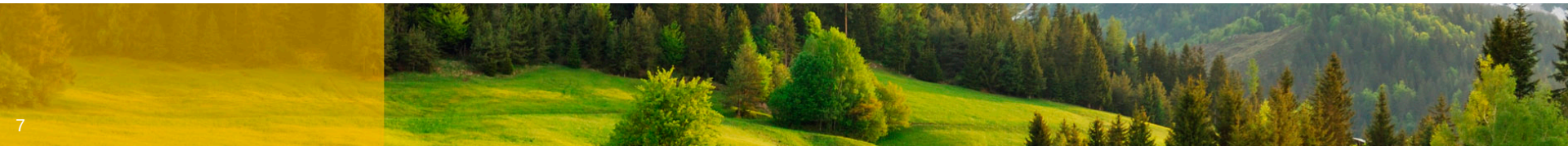
Further examples – change of practices

- Dialog forum for national forest policy - National Forest programmes => Year 2010 up to 75% of all forests in the world covered (FAO 2010, xxiii)

- Bologna Accords – Three Tier Degree system (BA, MA, PhD)

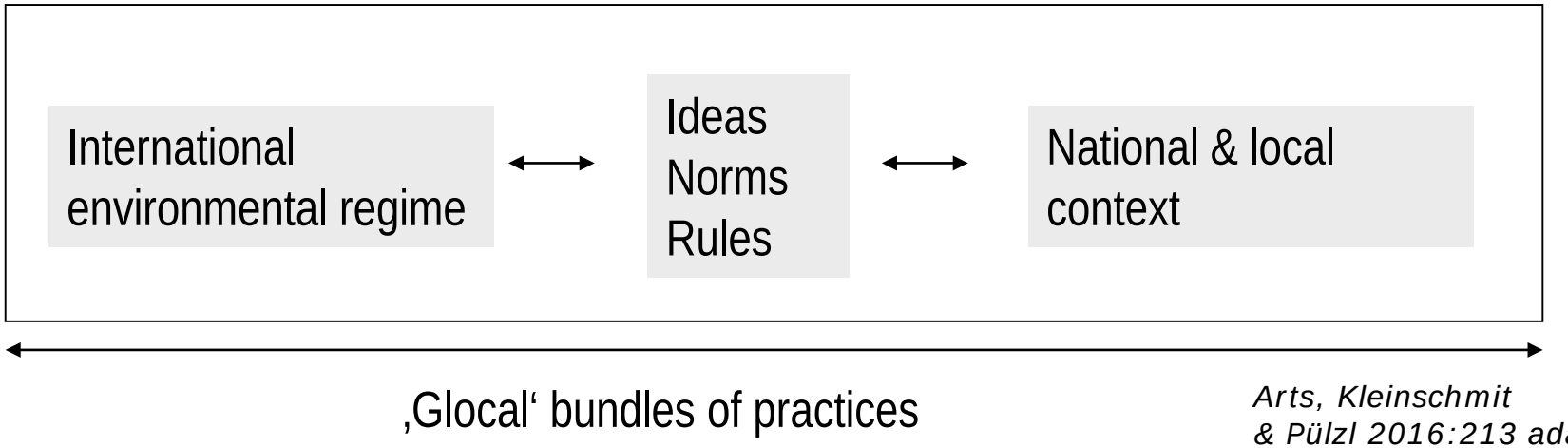
Critique on regime theory:

- overstates enforceability of international rules & norms
- undervalues room for manoeuvre for national and local actors



Concluding words

- **ideas, norms and rules travel** over the globe
- **need for 'flat ontology'** to assess effectiveness of international regimes



Arts, Kleinschmit & Pülzl 2016:213 adapted

Thank you for your attention !