

Universities & Regions: from global-local pipelines to interwoven dilemmas

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Universities and Regional Development

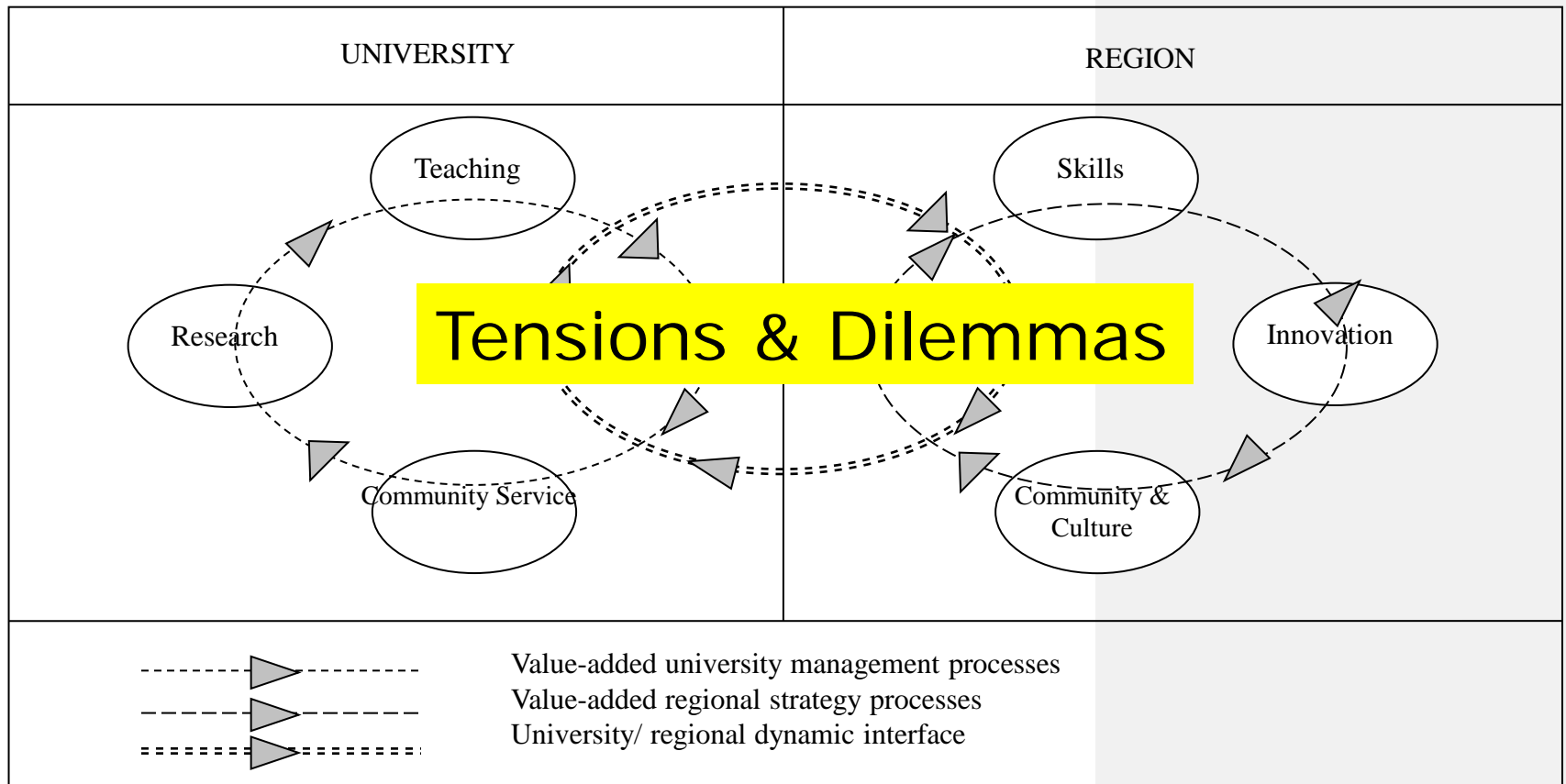
A Critical Assessment of
Tensions and Contradictions

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The 'prehistory' of universities and regional engagement

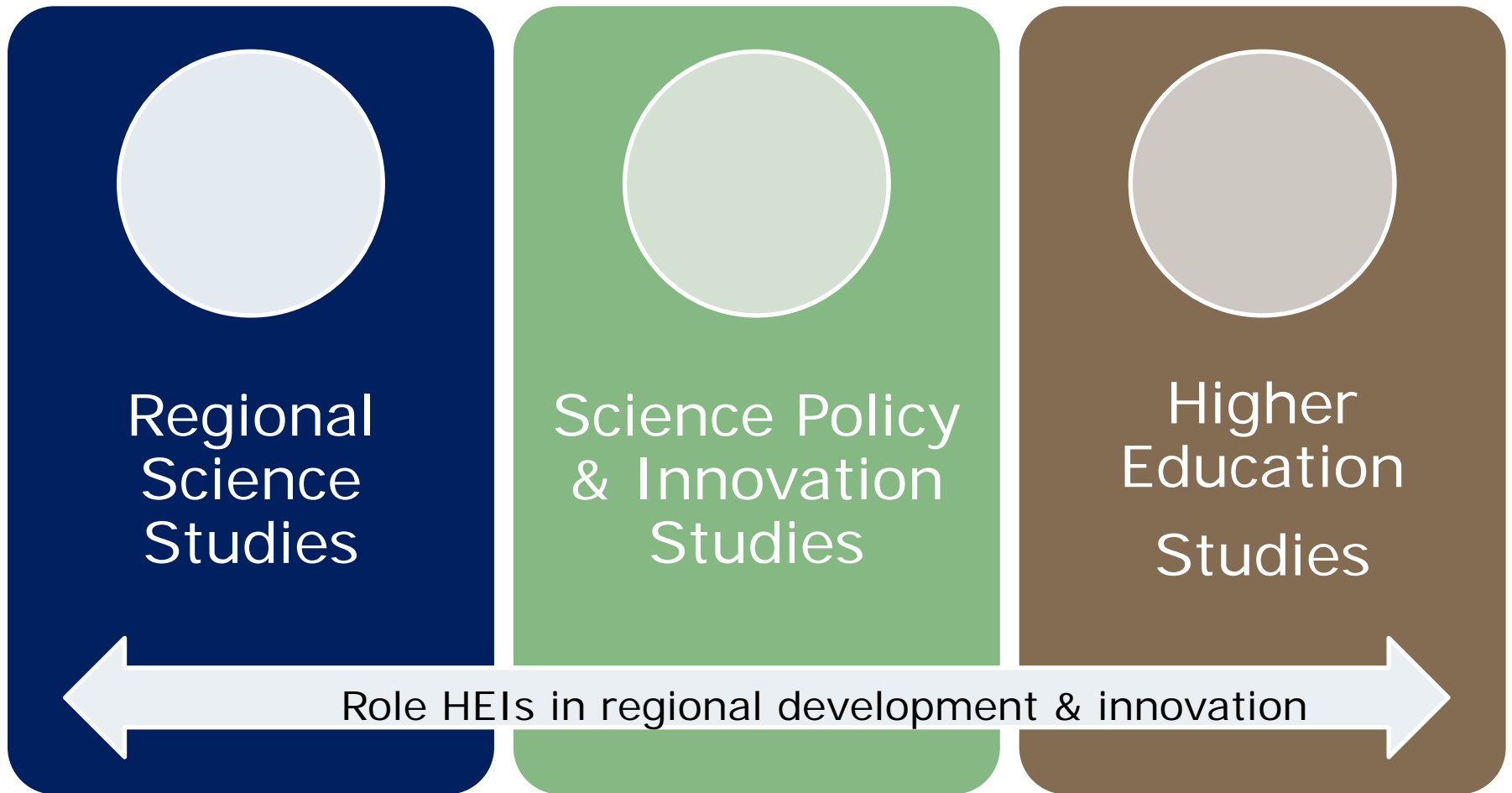
Social change	Sponsor urgent desire	'Idea' of a university
Agricultural revolution	Reproducing religious administrators	Cloister (11th C Italy)
Emergence of nobility	Educating loyal administrators for courtly life	Free cloister (12th C France)
Urbanisation	Educated administrative elite to manage trade	Catholic University of Leuven (15th C)
Sustaining national communities	Validating the state by imagining the nation	Newman's idea (from 17thC onwards)
Nation building	Creating a technical elite alongside the administrative elite	Humboldtian (19th C Germany)
Promoting Progress	Creating economically useful knowledge	Land Grant Universities (19th-20th C USA)
Supporting democracy	Creating elites for non-traditional societal groups	Dutch Catholic Unis (20th C NL)

The university/ regional value-added management process



Source: Goddard & Chatterton, 2003

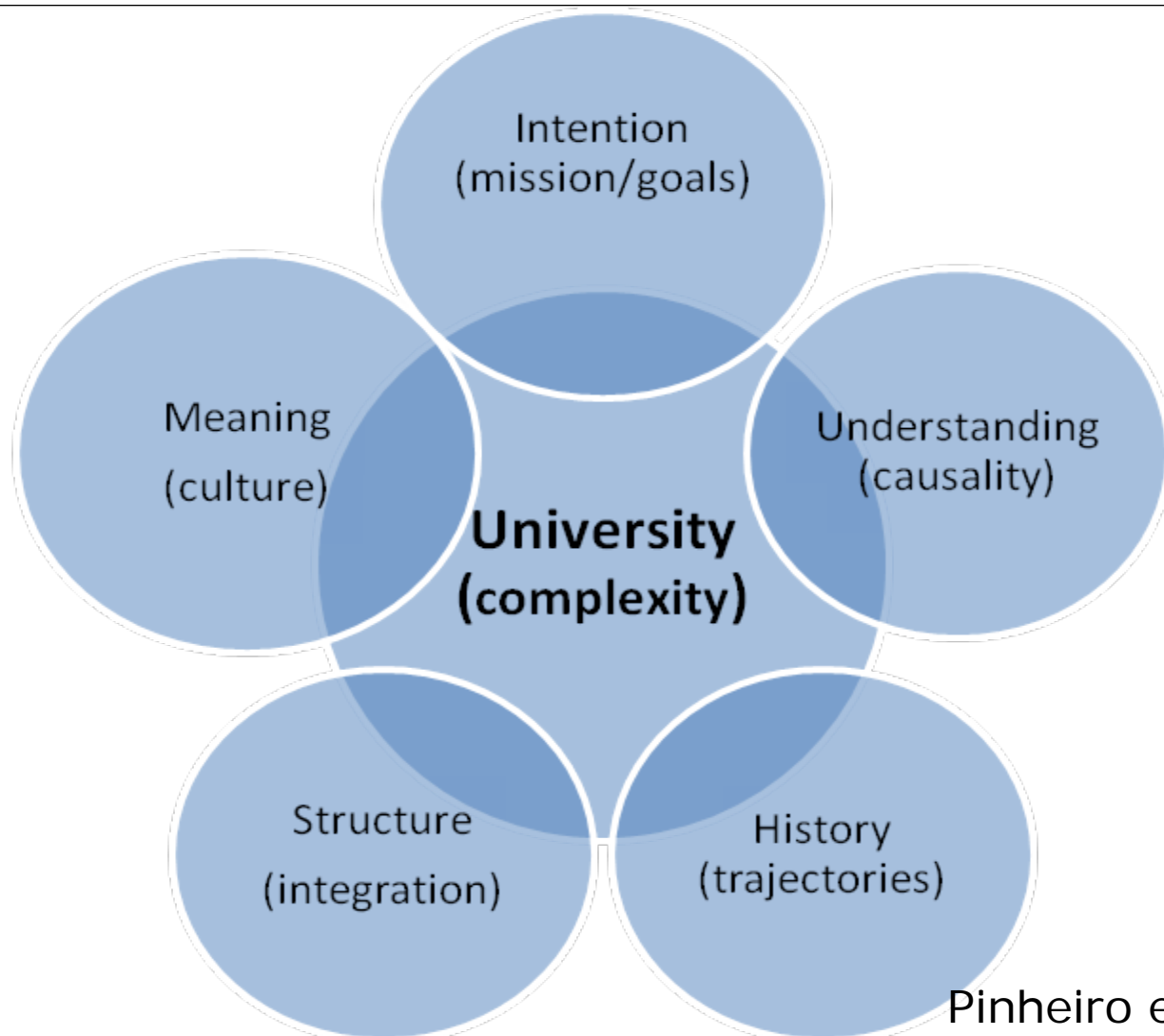
Disconnected agendas, parallel discourses



Questions that need to be addressed

- What characterises universities and regions?
- Under what circumstances do regions and universities interact, and why?
- What shapes those interactions' dynamics?
- How are local (micro) dynamics embedded in wider (global/macro) level processes?
- Can policy influence such processes, and how?

'Black-box' of the university: 5 ambiguities



Pinheiro et al. 2012

Universities - interwoven dilemmas



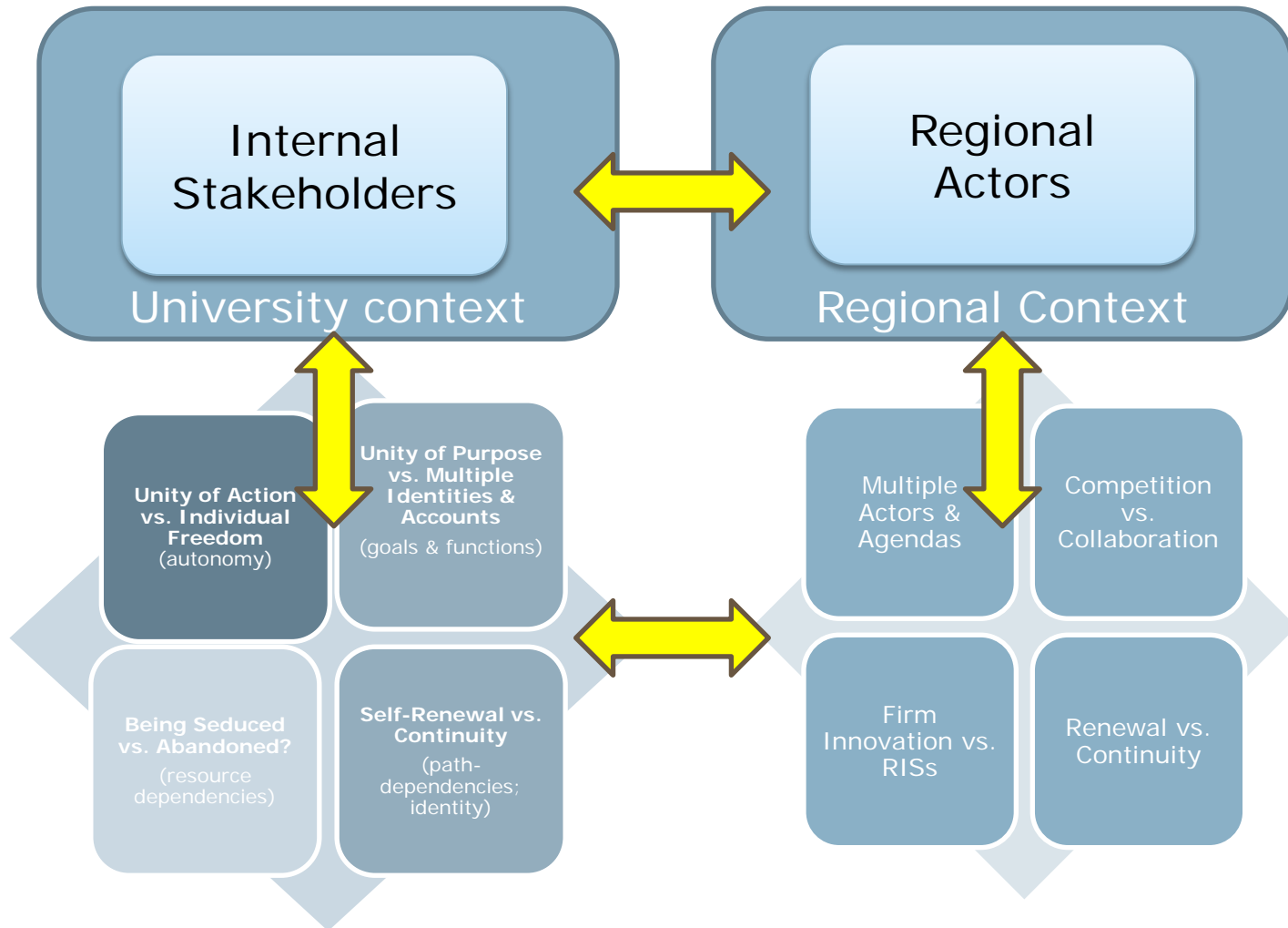
Tensions & Dilemmas - Region



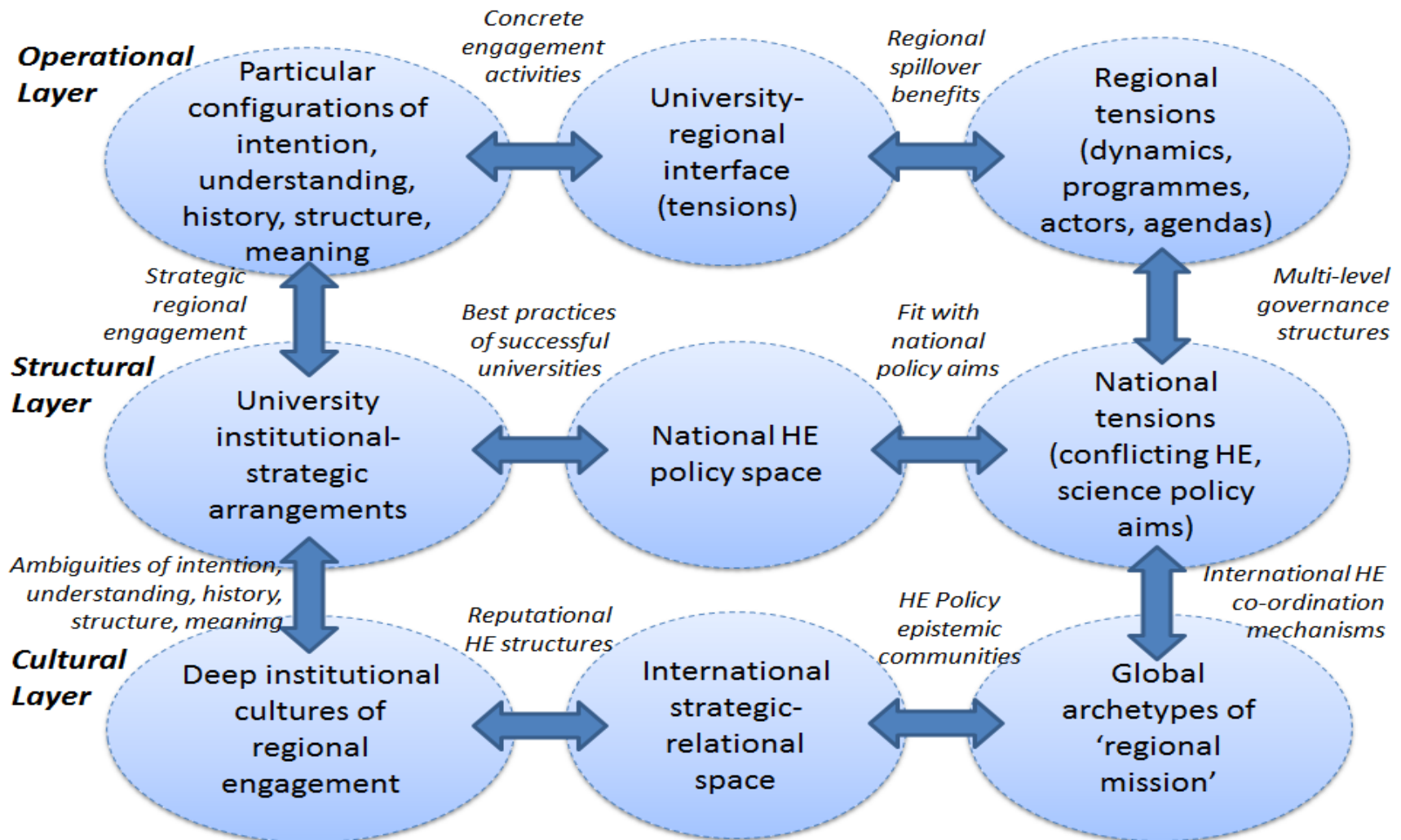


TOWARDS A DYNAMIC PERSPECTIVE ON UNIVERSITY-REGIONS INTERACTIONS

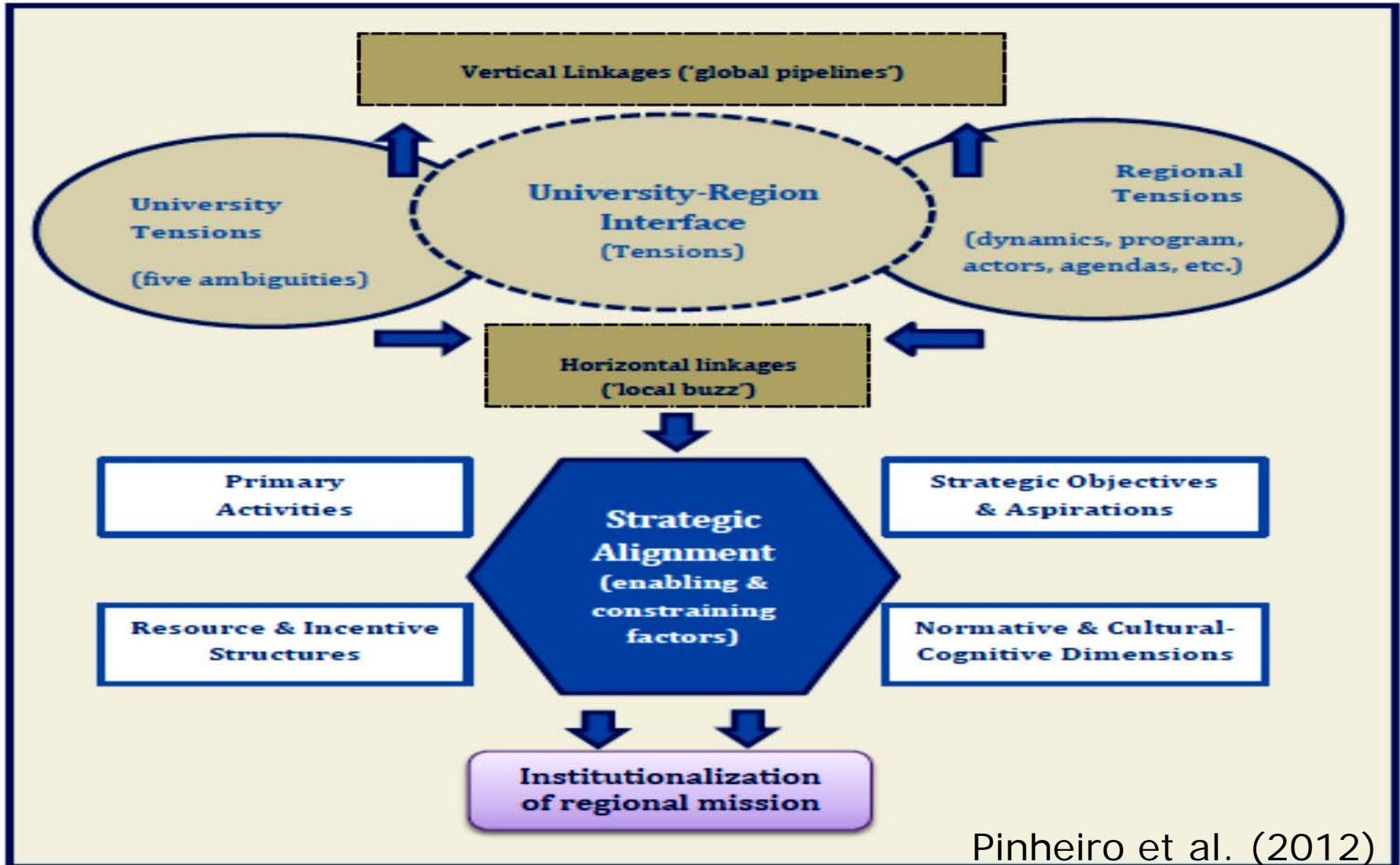
Step 1: Recognise the criticality of endogenous tensions



Step 2: From interwoven dilemmas to mutual, reinforcing strategic opportunities



Step 3: Institutionalization (work in progress)



Role of policy in help creating a supportive environment

1. Alignment of local, regional, national & supra-national (EU) policy frameworks – **multi-level governance or horizontalization**
2. Attention paid to **tensions & dilemmas** inherent universities & regions as open & closed systems
3. Policy mechanisms take **operational, structural & cultural conditions** (layers) into consideration
4. Resource-allocations & incentive systems aligned with systems' need to balance **continuity & renewal**

Thank you for your attention!

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