Supervisory convergence and banking culture

Professor René Smits Panel on Regulatory Reform and Transaction Banking, BAFT, Amsterdam, 20 January 2015



Disclosure & disclaimer

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- Strict confidentiality in respect of ABoR & BCA functions



Supervisory practices: towards a European supervisory culture

- ☐ Reminder: 'what is banking union'?
- SSM= ECB + NCAs
- Recovery & resolution: second 'leg' of banking union
- ☐ Third 'leg': deposit insurance
- ☐ Based on 'single rulebook' (CRR, CRD IV, BRRD, etc.)
- ☐ Three elements considered necessary to break vicious circle between banks & sovereigns in EU



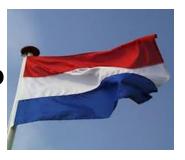


- Joint Supervisory Teams, as a rule headed by a nonnational, largely NCA-composed
- Diminishing national exemptions limiting use of national options
- Intersection issues and 'mixed' competences (e.g., testing fit & proper management and shareholders, testing integrity of business)
- EU versus Euro Area (EBA versus ECB), so new divisions alongside harmonisation
- Importance of uniform standards and approaches (Trans-Atlantic and globally)





Higher capital requirements?



- Dutch authorities' intention to make use of option to impose higher leverage ratio – Art. 429-430, 499 & 511 CRR (575/2013) & Art. 87 CRD IV
- Macro-prudential national 'add-on' systemic risk buffer Art. 134 CRD IV (2013/36) vs. Art. 5 SSM Regulation (1024/2013): ECB option
- ➤ Further capital strengthening ahead: TLAC FSB consultative paper, November 2014 (*G-SIBs*) EU's BRRD requirement: Minimum Requirement on own funds and Eligible Liabilities (MREL) to be applied to *all licensed credit institutions* in EU pursuant to the EU's BRRD (2014/59) in context 'bail-in tool' effective 1 January 2016 ['bail-in' tool one of four resolution tools under BRRD]



Developments in banking culture

- Quasi-universal call for change: becoming client-focused and servant to society – restoring trust
- Resistance to bank lobby against tsunami of regulation will regulation & compliance work?
 - E.g., critique that similar risk methods applied globally reinforce systemic risk ('box ticking' exercises; Professor Lex Hoogduin: 'perverse banking', i.e. banks are heeding supervisors' needs rather than engaging in autonomous risk taking)
 - Critique that regulation fails to allow for human wisdom: Barry Schwartz
- Dutch specialties: bank oath, professional rules, bonus cap, higher leverage ratio
- Compliance function versus 'real change'







Statutorily compulsory for managers, voluntarily applied to all bank staff:

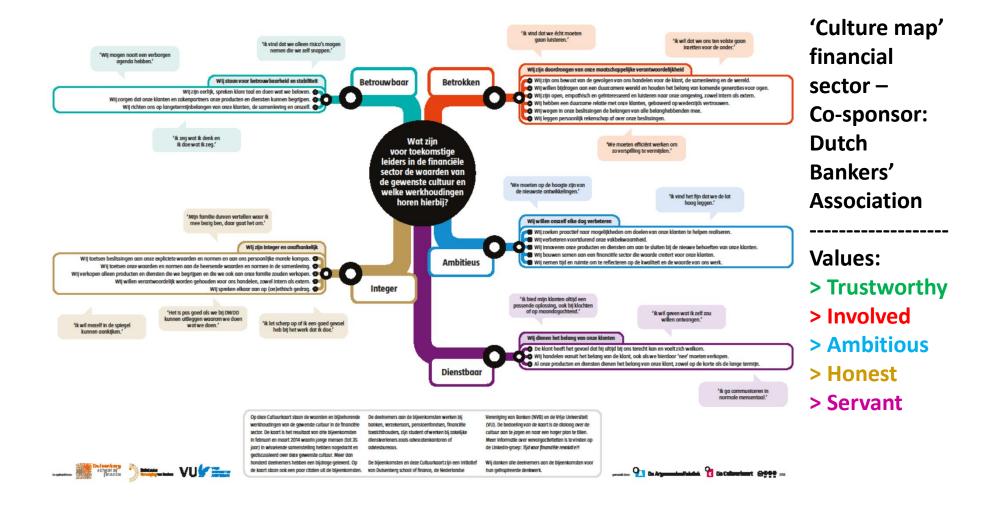
I swear/promise within the limits of my role that I perform at any moment in the banking sector:

- " that I will perform my duties with integrity and care;
- " that I will carefully consider all the interests involved in company, i.e. those of the
- " clients, the shareholders, the employees and the society in which the company
- ″operates;
- "that in this consideration, I will give paramount importance to the client's interests;
- "that I will comply with the laws, regulations and codes of conduct applicable to me;
- " that I will observe confidentiality in respect of matters entrusted to me;
- " that I will not abuse my knowledge;
- "that I will act in an open and assessable manner and I know my responsibility towards society;
- " that I will endeavour to maintain and promote confidence in the financial sector.

So help me God/This I declare and promise.



Cultuurkaart Financiële Sector

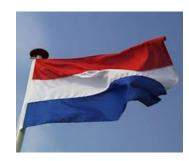




Even a children's council, for out-of-the box input into banking industry's development

What use for outside input, from clients/stakeholders, in bank affairs?





Dutch Princess Laurentien and children, assembled in an advisory council by Dutch Banking Association, December 2014



Critical assessment and concluding remarks

- ■Supervisory and banking culture challenges
- □ Local specificities (Dutch examples) and EU banking market balkanisation thwart internal market and are challenges for effective EU-(EA-) wide supervision

