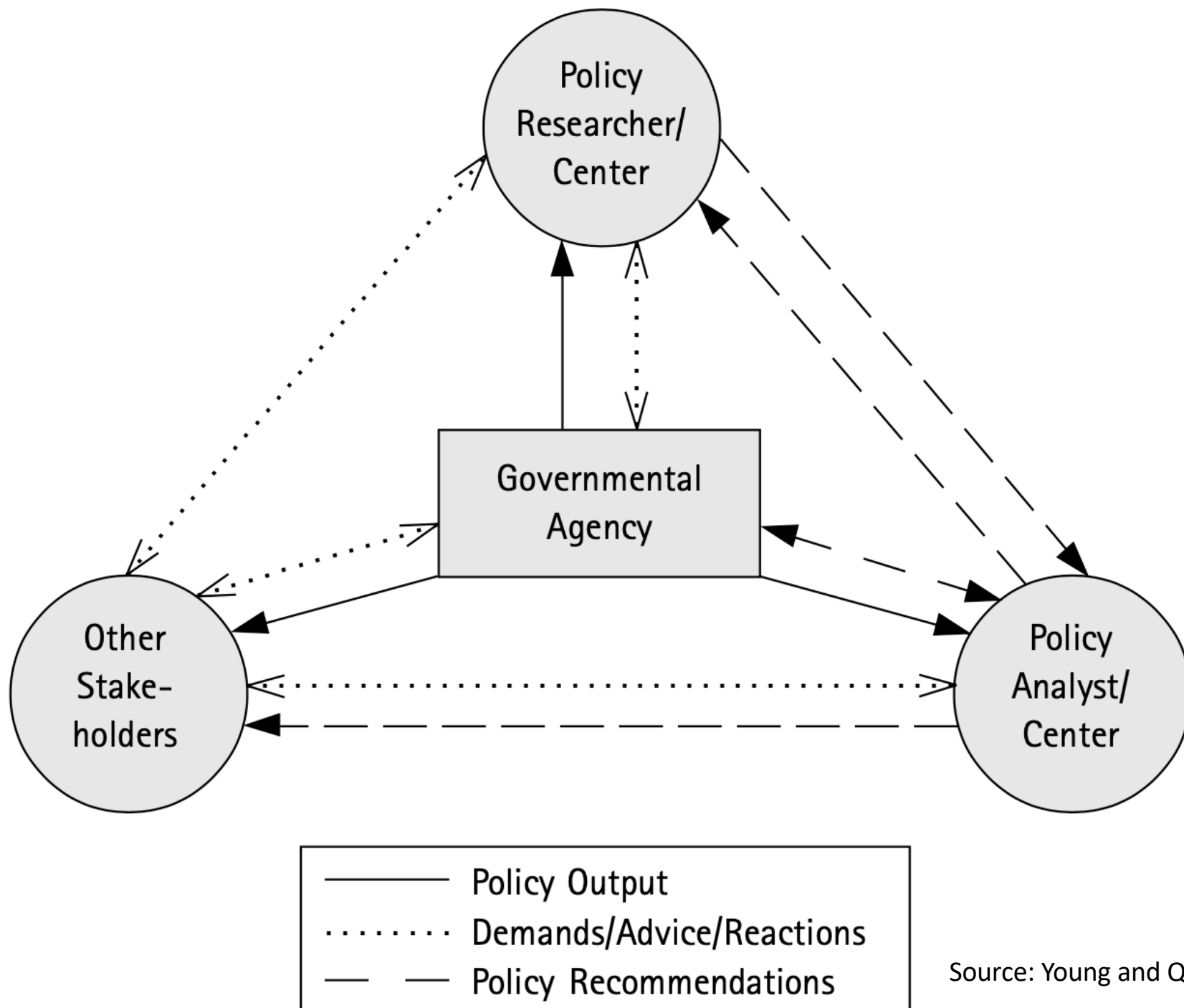


Why a policy paper?

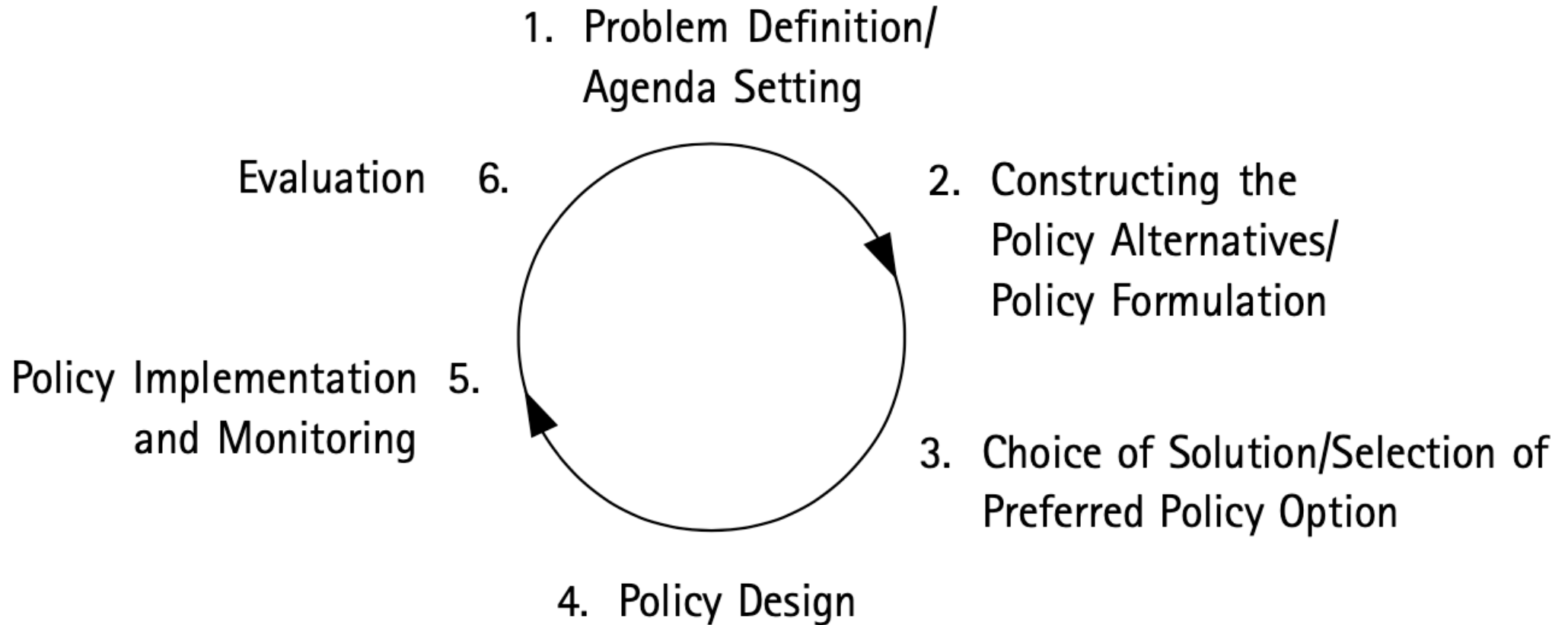
- Why do people write them?
- How do they differ from research papers?

Figure 2.1 The Public Policy Community from the Policy Adviser's Perspective



Source: Young and Quinn (2002)

Figure 3.1 The Policy Cycle



Such as Anderson (1994); Bardach (1996); Dye (1992); Howlett and Ramesch (1996).

This section draws upon Anderson (1994); Bardach (1996); Howlett and Ramesch (1996); Ohio University (1998); Open Society Institute (1999); Pal (2000); Smith (2000).

Source: Young and Quinn (2002)

A policy paper

- The goal is to:
 - demonstrate that the policy problem exists
 - present alternatives and discuss their merits
 - provide recommendations

Is this a topic for...

A policy paper? Or a research paper? Or both?

1. The role of Japan in the First World War
2. Civil rights in Washington D.C.
3. Implementation of the latest U.N. climate agreement in Czechia
4. Hybrid warfare: Clarifying a debate about conceptualization
5. EU's policy towards Central Asian republics
6. Media coverage of the 2019 European Parliament elections campaign

Structure of a policy paper

1. Abstract

- summarize: the problem, its significance, alternatives, recommendations

2. Introduction

- Introduce the problem, show relevance & urgency,
- preview the method, preview alternatives
- (I recommend) state your recommendations

Structure of a policy paper, cont.

3. Problem description

- describe the problem in detail
- provide convincing arguments for its relevance
- focus on the problem, not on general information
 - e.g. a whole history of the country is not needed
- support your argumentation with data and references

Structure of a policy paper, cont.

4. Policy options

- Preview the alternatives
- Present and defend the framework you will use to evaluate them
 - Effectiveness (which alternative is most likely to lead to the goal)
 - Cost Benefit Analysis – analysis of material (and non-material) costs and benefits
 - SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis
 - Scenario analysis – simulation of different developments (e.g. optimistic, realistic, pessimistic)

Structure of a policy paper, cont.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

- Summarize your findings
 - re-state the problem and its importance
 - briefly review the options and their evaluation
 - Clearly and **concisely** present your recommendations

Policy paper examples: Homework

1. What is the topic of the thesis and why is the topic worth our attention?
2. What is the author's research question?
3. How does the author go about answering the research question?
4. What are the solutions to the problem that are discussed in the thesis?
5. What solution does the author recommend and why?

Work on the assigned topic:

- Persuade us this is a problem we need to solve
 - What arguments? What data would you use?
- Suggest criteria you would use for evaluation of policy alternatives
 1. Racial discrimination against Roma people in Czechia
 2. Human rights in an authoritarian country (from the point of view of a foreign government)
 3. Gender equality in the workplace in Czechia
 4. e-government (electronic communication with gov. agencies, electronic document submission etc.)

- ppt presentation figures' source:

Young E. and Quinn L. 2002. Writing Effective Public Policy Papers: A Guide to Policy Advisers in Central and Eastern Europe. Open Society Institute: Budapest.

- Further resources for policy paper writing:

Young E. and Quinn L. 2002. Writing Effective Public Policy Papers: A Guide to Policy Advisers in Central and Eastern Europe. Open Society Institute: Budapest.

Rihoux, B., & Grimm, H. M. (2006). Innovative comparative methods for policy analysis: Beyond the quantitative-qualitative divide. New York: Springer.