



When East meets the West: differences in approach and mentality between old and new EU member countries

Liviu Matenco

Utrecht University, Faculty of Geosciences, Department of Earth Sciences, Utrecht, Netherlands (liviu.matenco@uu.nl)

There are marked differences in the management and system of research across various EU member countries. While older member states have gradually learn their differences in research systems, approach and mentality, they generally know very little on marked differences with EU13 that have a very strong impact in the design, organisation, evaluation and implementation of collaborative or European programmes. Such differences result from the organisation of the national research system, funding agencies, supervision and methods of evaluation. In particular the latter impose a markedly different career management by the promotion of local or regional journals, institutes and faculty organisation, system of promotion and management of research. In this contribution, I share my experiences in crossing the east-west mentality border, in particular discussing pre-conceived mentalities, underlying differences and suggesting better ways of promoting integrated research across European systems.