

## **EU Project Managers – diplomatic chameleons caught between two stools?**

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The management of international multi-partner projects, their administrative implementation and its supervision is a challenge. Managers not only have to deal with the general project administration, several types and levels of communication, problem-solving, leadership and context knowledge. They also have to guide and instruct the project partners. They have to motivate scientists – which want to do science - to deliver administrative work but also have to account it towards the EU. They are mostly employed by the coordinator, but have to make sure that also the coordinator is fulfilling her or his tasks. These aspects could – possibly but not necessarily – lead to conflicts of interest, which might jeopardize the project.

This presentation will discuss the position and perception of project managers within a project, occurring problems and possible mitigation strategies.