

# Can the old-European tradition be dangerous? Petrification of the science system in Poland: a lesson for the future

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## Motivation<sup>[1]</sup>

*“We are a team of highly motivated young chemists trying to make a difference. We believe that Germany and Europe need a change in mentality: AUFBRUCHSTIMMUNG and OPTIMISM! Let's go for it!”*

Western scientists rarely understand how science works in Poland and some other Central and Eastern European countries.<sup>[2]</sup> Therefore, during this lecture some possible career paths available for young scientists in a field of experimental chemistry will be presented, based on the author's own experience. It is planned to give an impression how young scholars from Central and Eastern Europe think about our common future. It is hoped that the progressive integration of Central and Eastern European countries into the European Union will boost European science. However, multiple reforms of science and higher education in these countries are still required.<sup>[3]</sup> This cannot be made without establishing new UE programs and fellowships *targeted solely to young and creative scientists* in Central and Eastern Europe.<sup>[4]</sup>

## References:

- [1] Prof. Dr. Frank Glorius, C3-Professor at the University of Marburg (2006)  
<http://www.chemie.uni-marburg.de/~glorius/>
- [2] Cezary Wójcik, “Eastern Europe: progress stifled by the old guard” *Nature*, **427**, 196 (2004).
- [3] Quirin Schiermeier, “Poles apart, or together with Europe?” *Nature*, **421**, 471 (2003).
- [4] Juraj Gregan, “Eastern Europe nurtures talent for the West” *Nature*, **421**, 459 (2003);