



Governance or Partnership
in the EU's relations with
Eastern neighbours?

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‘Europeanising or Securitising the outsiders?
Assessing the EU’s partnership-building
approach with Eastern Europe’, 2008-2010
(RES-061-25-0001)

Methodology:

- ⦿ Surveys: published in EU and conducted in EE
- ⦿ Interviews (across the border): government officials, MPs, etc
- ⦿ Focus groups
- ⦿ School essays on Europe

For more information:

<http://www.aber.ac.uk/interpol/en/research/EKPproject/index.htm> or
www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/minisites/widereurope/index.html

Structure

- ⊙ The philosophy of *Partnership* in the ENP/EaP
- ⊙ The dominance of *Governance* in practice
- ⊙ Conceptual tensions:
 - Dis-incentivized tools
 - One-way (EU-centric) modality
 - Neglect for the boundaries of '*the other*'
- ⊙ The importance of '*othering*' in EU external relations

Partnership or Governance?

- ◎ The concept of partnership
- ◎ The rhetorical disjuncture:
 - Shared values
 - Joint ownership
 - Mutual interests
- ◎ The return of governance

Conceptual tensions

- ◎ Tensions:
 - Dis-incentivized tools (*conditionality* without *finalité*)
 - One-way (EU-centric) modality
 - Neglect for the boundaries of '*the other*': the importance of culture and geopolitics
- ◎ The East European response

Summary

- ⊙ From ENP to EaP: logistical changes but conceptual continuity
- ⊙ The problem of ‘partnership’ without ‘partners’: EU as ineffective and *ill*-legitimate ‘Force for Good’?