Dear Colleague,

Austerity has taken its toll and disturbed research cycles across Europe. Particularly affected are scientists from Southern Europe. Find out first-hand how scientists confronted to austerity deal with it in Greece, Spain, Italy and Portugal, in a new Special Issue of the Euroscientist. It is the journal of Euroscience, the European grassroots organisation of scientists across disciplines and countries.

The Euroscientist is the first pan-European magazine for scientists and by scientists. This means that it will give you a voice to share your own solutions to the situation we, as scientists, find ourselves in.

In this issue, we analyse the situation of how many of our colleagues in the labs, who were forced to emigrate, and we also have the stories of those who decided to stay. You will hear from researchers sharing their experience of navigating the troubled waters of recession, when it comes to maintaining a seemingly steady research career path.

Problems identified in Spain, Italy, Portugal and Greece underlined the vital need for a public debate, beyond Southern European borders. This is the goal of this special issue: to focus the wider European science community’s attention on how to solve research issues across Europe.

So, please, join in and take part to this citizen initiative. Tell us your opinion as a practising scientist. Where does the system need to be fixed? Do we need to revisit the fundamental basis of research in Europe? Its objectives? Its funding schemes? Or even to find new ways of ring-fencing scientists’ time for research?

If you want decision makers hear what you have to say, then speak your mind, don’t be shy. Share your views by e-mailing editor@euroscience.org.

Sabine Louët
Editor
The Euroscientist

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