

The effect of instructions on the ratings of Russian national stereotypes

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A proposition was tested that differences in instructions used in two studies by Terracciano et al. (2005) and Allik et al. (2009) might lead to discrepancies between Russian national stereotypes collected from students at Dubna University. In this study 56 participants from University of Dubna described personality traits of a typical Russian twice first instructed to describe a typical Russian in general and second to describe a typical Russian living in this region. Personality traits were rated on the National Character Survey (NCS) which evaluates 30 traits on the Big Five personality dimensions. It was confirmed that general and regional stereotypes explain but do not exhaust all observed differences.

Key words: Russian national stereotypes, personality ratings of a typical Russian, personality ratings of a typical Russian living in specific region, National Character Survey (NCS), the Personality Profiles of Cultures (PPOC), the Russian Character and Personality Survey (RCPS).