



A severe weather event in Romania during winter – a case study

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During winter, cold strong wind associated with snow falls are not unusual for the south and southern Romania. The episode of 2-4th of January 2008 was less usual due to its intensity and persistency. It happened after a long period (autumn 2006-autumn 2007) of mainly southerly circulations inducing warm weather, when absolute record of maximum temperature were registered. The important snow falls and snowdrifts, leading to a consistent snow layer (up to 100 cm), produced serious transport and electricity supply perturbations. The paper contains an analysis of the different stages of cyclone that played an important role in the event evolution. The key elements leading to each of these stages and the way they are represented by operational/research global and limited area models used at National Meteorological Administration are presented. A special attention is paid to precipitation forecast, including the analysis of ensemble prediction system data.