

EU CITIZENSHIP AND CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

Strengthening cooperation on cultural
heritage



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Agenda



CULTURAL DIVERSITY



GROUPS AND INTERGROUP
RELATIONSHIPS



STEREOTYPES, PREJUDICE
AND DISCRIMINATION



CULTURAL DIVERSITY



Cultural diversity in the EU

What is cultural diversity?

Diversity = an instance of being composed of differing elements or qualities

- Cultural Diversity is the existence of a variety of cultural groups within a society:
 - ❖ Recognizing that there are many cultures
 - ❖ Respecting cultural differences
 - ❖ Acknowledging that all cultural expressions are valid
 - ❖ Valuing what cultures have to bring to the table
 - ❖ Empowering diverse groups to contribute to debates, projects, activities
 - ❖ Celebrating differences, not just tolerating them



Cultural diversity in the EU

- Cultural diversity in different languages:

FR: diversité culturelle

PT: diversidade cultural

LT: kultūrinė įvairovė

TK: kültürel çeşitlilik

PL: różnorodność kulturowa

- Culture is an essential part of the EU vision of development cooperation.
- Culture contributes to several Sustainable Development Goals, such as:

SDG 4: Quality Education – Promotion of a **culture of peace and non-violence**, global citizenship and **appreciation of cultural diversity** and of culture's contribution to sustainable development;

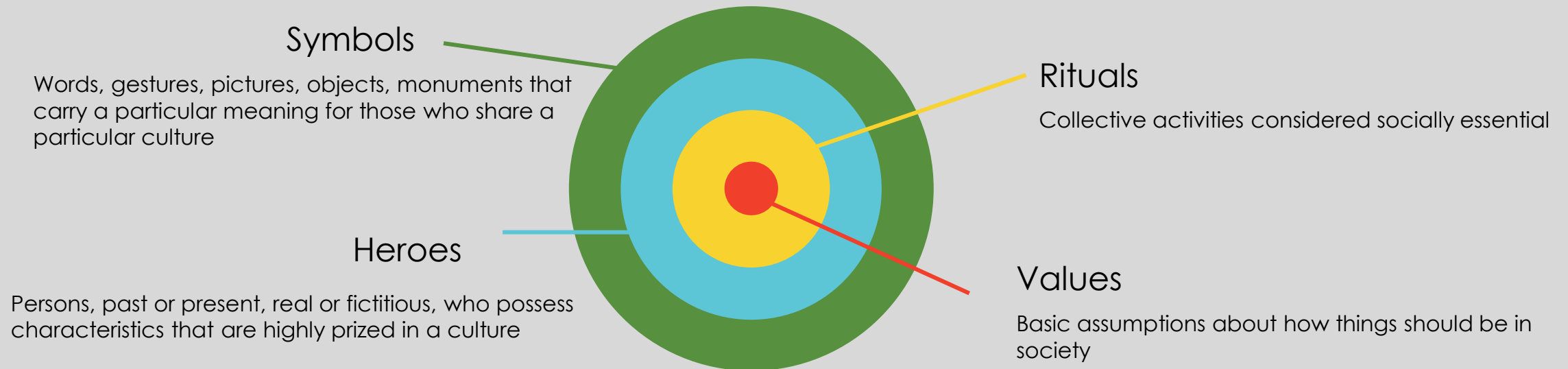
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth – Promotion of development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, **entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation**;

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities - Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard **the world's cultural and natural heritage**



Culture and cultural values

- Culture provides specific models for ways of behaving, feeling, thinking, and communicating.
- Culture draws boundaries and limits the individual's freedom (e.g., is it acceptable to behave in this way in this situation?).





Cultural values

- Cultural values refer to the core **principles** and **ideals** upon which an entire **community** exists and protect and rely upon for existence and harmonious relationship. Individuals learn them through education and socialization:
 - Family (the first agent of socialization);
 - Peer group;
 - School;
 - Other activities (e.g., playing sports, music,...)
 - Media;
 - Religion;
 - ...



Cultural values

Schwartz Value Survey (SVS):

- This scale asks respondents to rate the importance of 56 specific values as “*guiding principles in your life*”.
- The ten basic types of values are:
 1. POWER: Social status and prestige, control or dominance over people and resources
 2. ACHIEVEMENT: Personal success showing competence according to social standards
 3. HEDONISM: Pleasure and sensuous gratification for oneself
 4. STIMULATION: Excitement, novelty, and challenge in life
 5. SELF-DIRECTION: Independent thought and action-choosing, creating, exploring



Cultural values

Schwartz Value Survey (SVS):

- The ten basic types of values are (cont.):
 6. UNIVERSALISM: Understanding, appreciation, tolerance and protection for the welfare of all people and for nature
 7. BENEVOLENCE: Preservation and enhancement of the welfare of people with whom one is in frequent personal contact
 8. TRADITION: Respect, commitment and acceptance of the customs and ideas that traditional culture or religion provide the self
 9. CONFORMITY: Restraint of actions, inclinations, and impulses likely to upset or harm others and violate social expectations or norms.
 10. SECURITY: Safety, harmony and stability of society, of relationships, and of the self



Cultural values

Schwartz Value Survey (SVS):

(Some) Results across Europe (from the European Social Survey 2014):

| Country | CO | TR | SE | PO | AC | HE | ST | SD | UN | BE |
|-----------|------|-------------|-----|------------|------------|-----|------|------|-------------|-------------|
| Belgium | 5.8 | 3.8 | 1.6 | 0.3 | 1.3 | 3.2 | 11.5 | 20.5 | 18.7 | 32.9 |
| Lithuania | 11.2 | 12.4 | 8.5 | 1.4 | 2.1 | 8.4 | 4.3 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 6.9 |
| Poland | 19.9 | 11.7 | 1.9 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 7.8 | 26.5 |
| Portugal | 7.4 | 6.1 | 2.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 1.0 | 3.2 | 8.9 | 17.0 | 17.1 |

%

CO – Conformity
 TR – Tradition
 SE – Security
 PO – Power

AC – Achievement
 HE – Hedonism
 ST – Stimulation
 SD – Self-direction

UN – Universalism
 BE – Benevolence

Note: No data available for Turkey in this study.

Witte, Stanciu, & Boehnke, 2020



Cultural values



"I am not sure if I agree with these %..."

As we grew, we are socialized in different groups:
We *learn* from our parents/family,
our teachers and colleagues at school,
our peers in several activities (sports, scouts, music lessons, etc.),
our friends
...

Different groups, different values?



GROUPS AND INTERGROUP RELATIONSHIPS



Groups





Groups

Our personal identity derives, partially, from the groups of which we are members.

- *A group exists when:*
- *Two or more people define themselves as members of it and when its existence is recognized by at least one other;*
- *They interact with each other;*
- *They are interdependent.*

Our nationality can define one of the groups to which we belong!



Intergroup relationships

- Intergroup relations refers to the way in which people who belong to social groups perceive, think about, feel about, and act towards and interact with people in other groups.



WE vs. **THEY**

Beliefs about people of other nationalities

"I believe they are trustworthy."

"I think they are pretentious."

Feelings about people of other nationalities

"I feel nervous when I am around them."

Behaviors towards people of other nationalities

"I sit far away from them."



Intergroup relationships



US

vs.

THEM



ingroup

outgroup

- **Ethnocentrism** and ingroup bias: Extreme attachment to the ingroup
- The belief that one's own culture is superior to all others and is the standard by which all other cultures should be measured.
- Ingroup favoritism: The propensity to privilege *ingroupers* over *outgroupers*
- E.g., During the Olympic Games or the World Cup, we root for the professional athletes of our country (Ingroup nationalism).
- A lunch table where only some students sit together.



Intergroup relationships

STEREOTYPES



What **we think** about other people who belong to specific groups can influence how **we feel** about (e.g., hate, fear) them and how **we treat** them (e.g., exclude them from activities).



PREJUDICE



DISCRIMINATION



STEREOTYPES, PREJUDICE AND DISCRIMINATION



Stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination

- Stereotypes – A set of cognitive generalizations (e.g., beliefs, expectations) about the characteristics of the members of a group or social category
 - E.g., All Mexicans are lazy. All Asians are good at math.
- Prejudice – A negative attitude and feeling toward an individual based solely on one's membership in a particular social group.
 - E.g., Racism, Ageism, Sexism
- Discrimination – Differential treatment of the members of different ethnic, religious, national, or other groups. Discrimination is usually the behavioral manifestation of prejudice
 - E.g., Harassment, threats, psychological/physical violence



Intercultural diversity and dialogue

A challenge: Preserving every country's culture while promoting EU's shared cultural heritage

- “The Union's citizens are bound together by common values such as **freedom, tolerance, equality, solidarity** and **cultural diversity...**” (Millennium Declaration from the European Council in Helsinki, December 1999).
- The EU values are common to the EU countries in a society in which **inclusion, tolerance, justice, solidarity** and **non-discrimination prevail**. These values are an integral part of our European way of life: human dignity, freedom, pluralistic democracy, equality, rule of law, human rights (European Commission, 2020).
- **Intercultural dialogue** is a fundamental part of active European citizenship which is open to the world. It respects cultural diversity and is based on common values in the EU, as laid down in Article 6 of the EU Treaty and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU (European Commission, 2008).



Intercultural diversity and dialogue

The EU's values:

FREEDOM

TOLERANCE

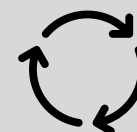
EQUALITY

SOLIDARITY

(RESPECT FOR) **CULTURAL DIVERSITY**



Intercultural dialogue



Our countries' values:
(some examples)

UNCERTAINTY AVOIDANCE

HOSPITALITY

INDIVIDUALISM

INDEPENDENCE

HONESTY

TIME ORIENTATION

HIERARCHY

Exercise in groups

Part 1 (15 minutes):

- 1) Join your colleagues from the same country and discuss the cultural values that characterize your country.
- 2) Are these values aligned with the EU's values?
- 3) Discuss some stereotypes that you might have about the cultural values of the other countries.

Part 2 (15 minutes):

The spokesperson share the group's ideas with everyone.

To reflect: After all groups sharing their ideas, *what did you learn about others' cultural values? How accurate were your stereotypes?*

**It's time to share
your culture!**

