

Course prepared under Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership Programme Nr 2020-1-RO01-KA226-HE-095411 "Implementation of Digitalization in Defence Higher Education-DDHE".



Lecture 9. Introduction to cross cultural communication

...a closed mind is like a closed book...

• <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xJ_hbD4TQA</u>



#WhatsYourCQ Funny, But True: Cultural Differences

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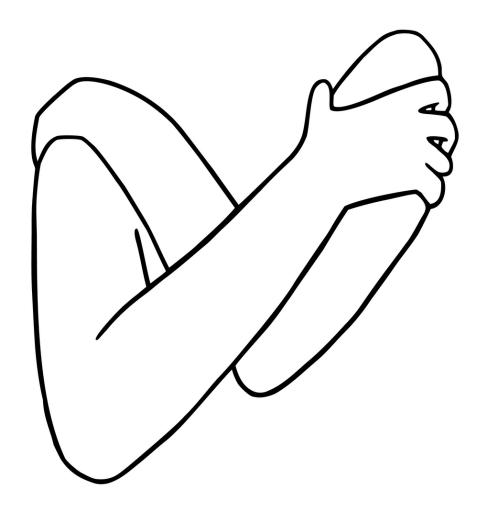
Induvidual or collective relations?

WE?

ME

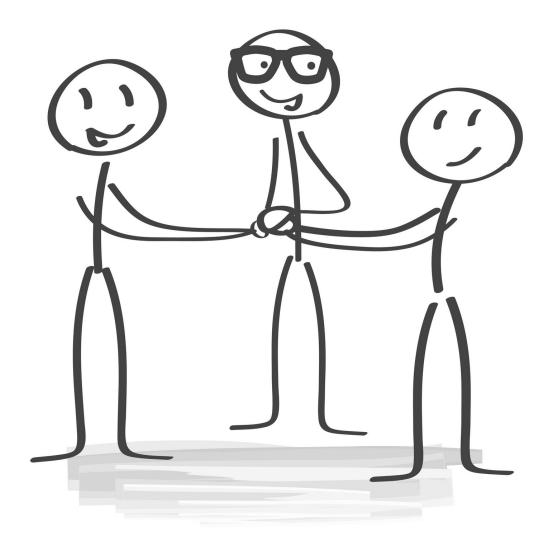
"ME"

- How do we see ourselves?
- Independent units, keeping for their fate?
- Independence?
- Taking risks?
- Assertiveness?
- Directness?
- Individual motivation for goals and rewards?



"ME"

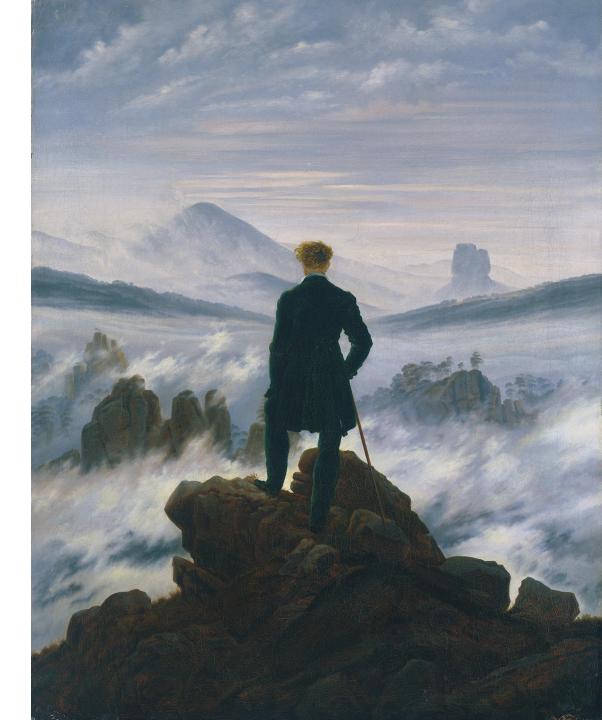
- Are interdependent units?
- Part of a larger group?
- Striving for harmonious contacts?
- Goals aimed at the welfare of the group?
- Sharing respect, rewards, good opinion?



... But cultures are rarely homogeneous. Ethnic groups in the US: African Americans, Caribbean Americans, live in large families, value common values.

Individual cultures

 "If you want something done right, do it yourself." - American proverb



North America. North and Western Europe. Australia New Zealand

- Independence, independence, individualism;
- Children taught to be autonomous, to think critically, to ask questions, to make choices, to be responsible for actions and decisions.
- The most important thing is the individual.
- Most cultures aim to educate individuals who can deal with problems on their own.

THE SWEDISH THEORY OF LOVE



Individualism

- Life decisions, e.g. choosing a profession, partner or way of bringing up children, made by individuals whose goal is independence.
- The identity of the individual over the group.
- The rights and needs of the individual are more important than the groups.
- Contracts can be broken? Interpersonal relationships as contracts can be terminated, and family ties can also be severed if they prevent the achievement of personal goals.

Personal space privacy: at home, in the office, in crowds

Business activities

SUCCESS

SVCCESS

RESULT

TEAM

GROUP

PROCCESS

community

PRODUC

- Based on competitiveness
- Achievements are the most important
- Results that can be measured ²⁰⁰⁰
- Competitiveness
- Separation of personal relationships from professional ones



Culture of collectivism. Collective relations

"Two is better than one and three is better than two. But the group is the best "

-afghan proverb



Asia, Africa, Middle East, Australia and Oceania

- "The protruding nail is driven in." (Japan)
- "The loud duck will be shot first" (China)
- "A sheep that separates itself from the herd is eaten by a wolf" (Turkey)

The group is the most important

- Members of collectivist cultures are dependent on others, part of a strong structure that provides protection for loyalty.
- Decisions made collectively, consulted, group interests are prioritized over private ones.
- Concentration on private interests selfishness and myopia.
- Collective values. WE over ME. Harmony, personal dignity, "saving face", respect for elders, loyalty of children to parents, equal distribution of rewards in the group, meeting the needs of others





- Private space is not as important as interpersonal relationships.
- Less need for personal space.
- The group is the most important there is no need to separate from it.
- Private space is not as important as interpersonal relationships
- Common space at home, in the office, in a crowd.



Intuitive, complex and variable communication

- Wildcard messages and hidden meanings
- The meaning hidden between the lines
- Problems communicated subtly
- Non-linear logic



Business activity is based on interpersonal relations and requires cooperation

- Subordination to interpersonal relations
- Relationships interpreting data
- Emphasis on long-term

Differences between the cultures of individualism and collectivism

Individualism	Colectivism
It is the conclusion of the transaction that counts (result)	People-to-people relationships matter
Short-term benefits	Long-term growth
What matters is the content (facts, figures)	Context matters (experiences, intuition, relationships)
Linear reasoning	Non-linear reasoning
Independence	Dependence
Competitiveness, decision making	Collaboration, Compliance
Direct communication, clear message	Hidden meanings, ambiguous message
Responsibility of the individual	Save face
Private rooms	Open spaces, open spaces
Linear time, impatience	Flexible time, patience

Social structures

igh and low context

Low and high level cultures in advertisements

- <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o6pkAriA7aI</u>
- <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j8PGzYwTsqM</u>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j45isnK7x8g



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O15dxrBNuAQ



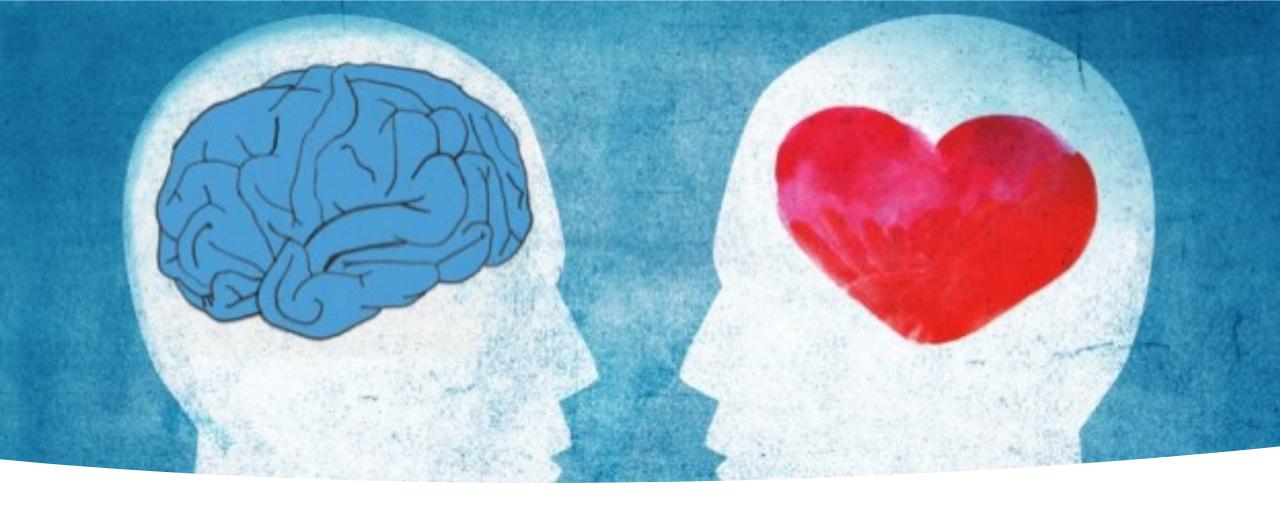
High level cultures

- Relying on Non-Verbal Communication - Japan Stamps
- Appreciating non-verbal communication (facial expressions, gestures, body language, eye contact)
- Subordinating actions to interpersonal relations (nepotism?)



• Valuing collective initiat decision making • "You will not build a raft from one bamboo stalk" (China) Employer-employee relations as personal (not impersonal) Mutual responsibility

"Family members"



- Rely more on intuition and trust than on facts and satisfaction
- Preferred style of indirect written and oral statements
- Non-linear thinking
- Following the spirit of the law

Differences between high and low level cultures

High level culture	Low-level culture
Communication by means of hidden meanings	Literal communication
Nonverbal communication	Verbal communication
Subordinating actions to interpersonal relations	Separation of work from interpersonal relationships
Value collective initiative and decision making	Valuing individual initiative and decision making
Perception of the employee-employer relationship as personal	Perception of the employer-employee relationship impersonally
Relying on intuition and trust	Relying on facts and statistics
Preference for indirect style in written and oral statements	Preference for direct style in written and oral statements
Following the spirit of the law Non-linear logic and reaching conclusions "around"	Following the letter of the law Linear logic
	Preference for direct style in written and oral statements

Thank you for attention

Dziękuję za uwagę

Vă mulțumesc pentru atenția

Благодаря Ви за вниманието

Σας ευχαριστώ για την προσοχή







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