

Questions for panellists

* Please TICK the questions you would like to answer. Please indicate your preferred question (P).

* Please feel free to **ADD YOUR OWN QUESTIONS** you would like to answer at the end of the following list

*	1	Q U E S T I O N S
<i>please tick</i>		
		GENERAL
	1	What was your most positive cross-cultural understanding experience?
	2	What was your most painful or difficult cross-cultural understanding experience?
	3	Do you have customs of your own culture you have left behind you?
		PROFESSIONAL LIFE
	4	Have you already solved a challenging cross-cultural problem in your professional career? How did you obtain success?
	5	Have you experienced a professional situation where a cross-cultural issue could not be solved . What was the barrier?
	6	Cultures manage issues like reliability, following guidelines, accuracy, planning, time management very differently. Have you experienced such cultural differences at your workplace and if so, how did you deal with them?
	7	Have you ever quit a job because the corporate culture didn't fit your expectations anymore? What was the corporate culture that you refused to share?
	8	In professional life it can happen that we have to submit ourselves to rules of foreign cultures which do not suit traditional society . How do you manage such situations?
		CHILDHOOD, FAMILY
	9	Do you remember a cultural value you were taught as a child which you modified or dropped later on? What were the reasons for the changes?
	10	How do you deal with family contacts and/or traditions ? Do you fit the expectations of your family or do you shape the contacts along your own decision?
	11	Have you grown up in a family with parents coming from two diverse cultures and speaking different languages ? How have these facts influenced your cross-cultural capability?
		PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS
	12	In the specialist literature true respect towards others is mentioned as the key ability for cross-cultural understanding. What are your experiences with true respect? How do you develop your true respect toward others?

13	Have you experienced meetings with persons from foreign cultures where after an open exchange aggression or fear turn into relaxed and friendly feelings?
14	Truly listening to people offers the opportunity to obtain new insights. The 'Cairo International Women's Conference' provides BPW an excellent opportunity to listen to women coming from different cultures. Have you already an example that shows true listening works?
15	In cross-cultural meetings like in other meetings it is important to be able to say no if personal limits are transgressed. Are you able to say no, do you have examples?
16	Do you know of an example where an " either – or " decision blocked a position and an " as well as " solution enabled a way out of a tricky situation?
17	Hierarchies unfortunately also exists between cultures. Showing a personal culture in a good light and putting down others is unfortunately highly connected with hierarchies. Do you have a personal example?
LANGUAGES, COMMUNICATION	
18	It is well known that learning a new language brings a new insight which translators or translations cannot provide. From your personal experience can you give good advice on how to learn a new language successfully?
19	Do you remember a mistake or embarrassing misunderstanding in context with intercultural communication? How did you save the situation?
20	Do you remember a successful or a failed nonverbal communication in context with intercultural communication?
DIFFERENT TOPICS	
21	Do you know stereotypes, clichés or generalizations of other cultures which you found not confirmed.
22	Cultures handle body contacts very differently like shaking hands, bowing, hugging or having eye contact. Have you had surprising experiences with other cultures?
23	Have you ever eaten unknown food in foreign countries or cultures? What was the reason and what was the result?
24	Have you ever provoked a critical situation in a foreign country by your clothing ? How could that happen?

The moderator uses these questions as a "backbone", spontaneous questions will be possible too.