

The Flowers of Global Citizenship amidst the Thorns of Restrictive Regulations

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The flowers of global citizenship...

- Students working together on policy issues exercise a form of global citizenship.
- Global citizenship: mutual learning and exchange of cultural values with a plurality of cultures as a common stock.
- Examples and cases

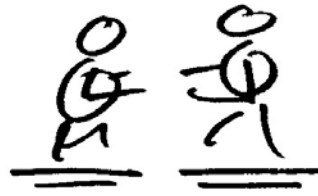


The flowers of...

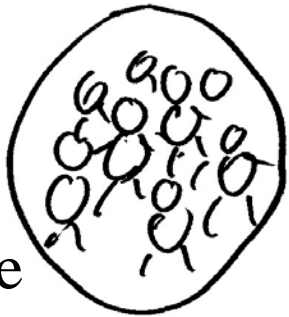
- Anecdote: Harmony and hierarchy versus confrontation in equality
- A common stock of values and cultural specializations/combinations/compositions
- In germ every human character trait present in one culture is also part of the repertoire of other cultures



For ways of
connecting and
grouping



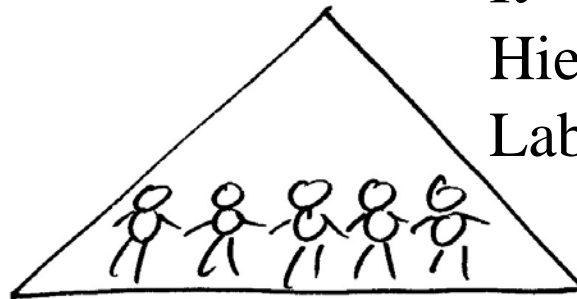
I-You
Egalitarianism



We
Participation
Belongingness



You!
Imperative/
Uniqueness
Loneliness

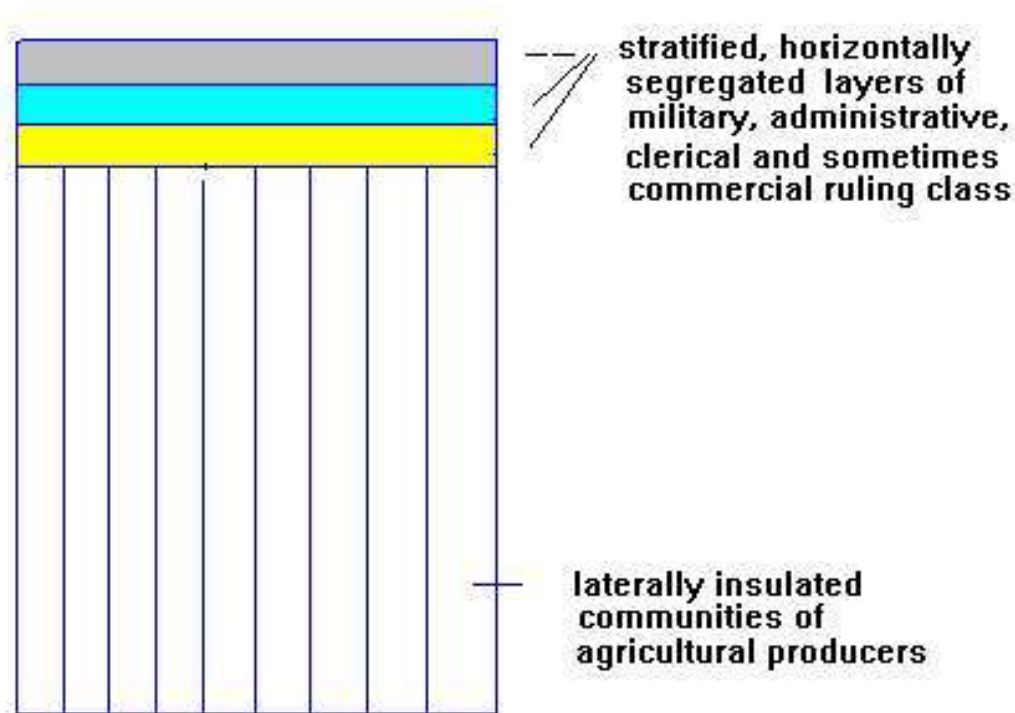


It
Hierarchical
Labor division

Cultural dimensions/characteristics

- Hierarchy and power distance: world outside
- Collectivism versus individualism and uncertainty avoidance: continuation of the past (fatalism)
- Universalistic rules and neutral roles: keep individualism in check
- Voluntarism: taking initiative in order to innovate (future oriented)
- Planning: bridging the gap between past and future: backcasting from the future
- Essential question: when? How much of each?

Agrarian society: democracy (if present) only at the top



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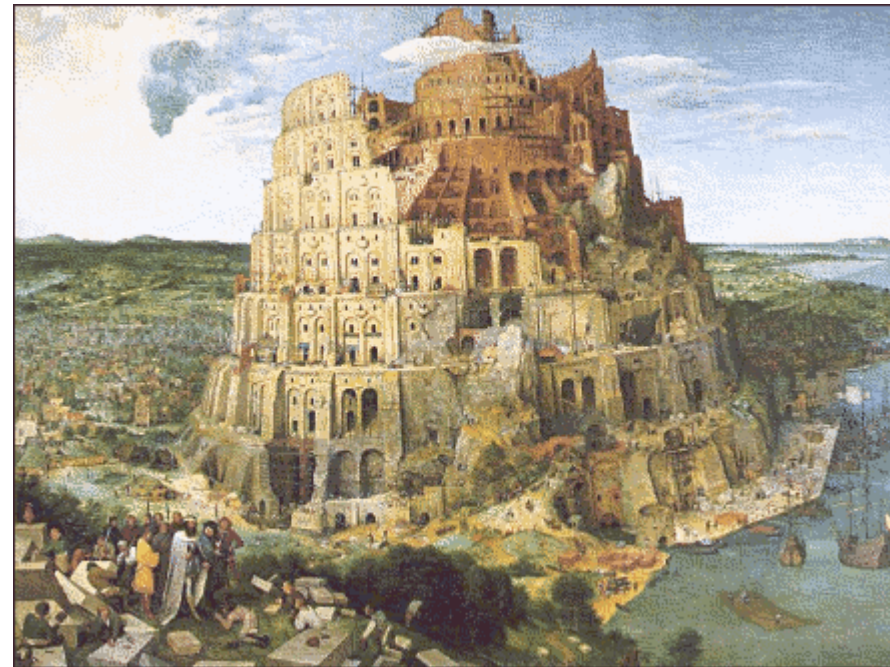
Engineering and Policy Analysis Master Program

- 15 different nationalities
- Not teacher centered, but interactive, group exercises
- Thereby integrating egalitarianism into hierarchical relationships
- For a lot of students a new experience in dealing with dialogue and uncertainty (as well as creativity)



Understanding culture and policy analysis

- Understanding of different cultural repertoires
- Putting into practice in policy analysis situations
- Trade-offs: hierarchical or egalitarian, status by birth or by work, alignment with the group or creative innovation
- These trade-offs eternal management problems in every culture



The flowers project

- Thousand euros for teachers to do an internationalization project
- 22 projects, mostly part of larger initiatives
- Group belongingness mostly not as academic group, but as nationality
- Create sense of global citizenship, academic and social integration



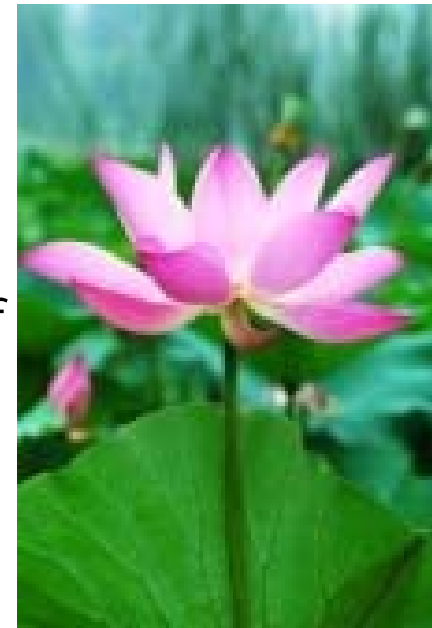
Two examples

Sports competition

- Initiative of one teacher, bringing together 40 to 60 students from 20 different countries
- However, depending on one enthusiastic man

“Sense Your World”

- Small movies made by international students of distant family members interpreting an ununderstandable technical device
- A creative effort in opening up between different cultures



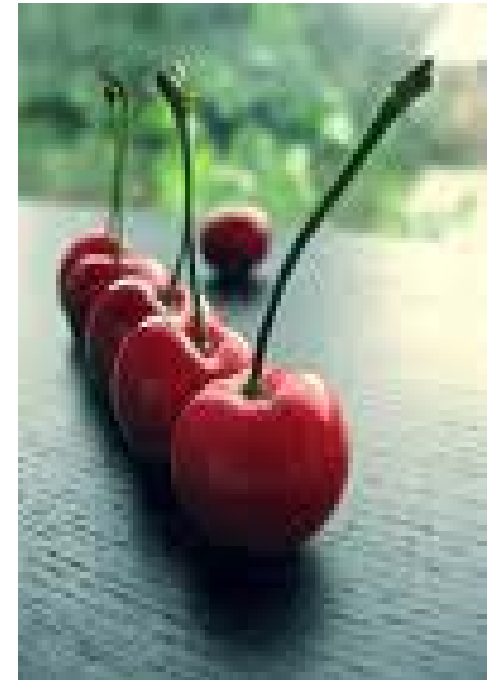
Internships in developing countries

- Nigeria project: electrification of a high school by solar
- Together with Nigerian students studying in Delft
- Acquired funding, support board
- Initiative to the Dutch student, e-mails unanswered, lack of cooperation, closed in-groups/stakeholders, lack of initiative, other commitments/jobs, no direct contact
- Dutch student became project owner and manager



Solar energy in Kenya

- Niche management research
- Each company on its own, no common initiative for advertisements or regulation
- Very little regulation by the government, relationships within the government bureaucracy indispensable
- Little maintenance contracts
- Closed groups and strong hierarchy, uncertainty avoidance and traditionalism, lack of universalistic rule and neutral roles
- Learning objective: how to deal with cultural transitions?



Global citizenship and rules of intercultural communication

- Communication failure is the start of real communication
- Each partner in intercultural communication needs to get somewhat loose from his or her background
- Establishing the rules of communication is part of intercultural communication
- Intercultural communication takes a special effort
- Global citizenship is intercultural communication on the base of a common stock of cultural achievements and characteristics, resulting in responsible management of cultural transitions

Global citizenship: solving the worlds problems on the basis of an intercultural management repertoire

