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## Mimi - mind changer

## Proper greeting: Well begun is half done

This mind changer activity shall help interest in and reflect upon the different aspects of diversity and also see how HR managers / company owners may understand the situation in their social and professional life. It shall be an initiator to rethink cultural respect.

Mind changer implementation and follow-up - For VET providers

Step 01

#### **Prepare**

Introduction to the concept of Intercultural communication.

Step 02

#### **Implement**

The participants are divided into 2 groups (Guests & Hosts) and they receive a card with the instructions about the greeting rituals.

Step 03

#### **Develop**

The Guests perform the described ritual greeting and the Hosts try to guess their nationality. Step 04

#### Follow-up

Theoretical input is provided by the trainer and further discussion on the topic is encouraged.

#### Recommendations, Tips & Hints

Which greeting rituals made you feel (un)comfortable? Why?

Were there any greetings that were misunderstood (e.g., as hostile approaches or advances)? What feelings did unfamiliar forms of greeting engender? How would the participants have liked to react in some cases?

How should we react when faced with different customs? Which rules should apply?

#### Classroom resources

Instruction cards in several copies

#### **Duration**

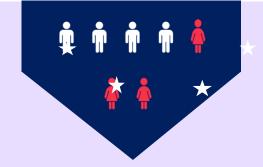
30' – 45' (It may vary depending on the participants' engagement level)



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# Proper greeting: Well begun is half done

#### Picture this:

You have arranged an interview with a promising, migrant young woman for the vacancy in your company. There comes that awkward moment when you are unsure how to greet her: lean in for the kiss, shake her hand or just say hello? Look into the story below.



#### About the tool

What you can benefit from this is the different aspects of diversity in your personal and professional life. It shall be an initiator to rethink cultural respect.

#### Food for thoughts

An HR manager must be prepared to interact with potential employees regardless of their origin. In this sense, they need to be educated in cultural understanding and respect in order to avoid any offensive behaviour.

Take notes & discuss with peers

### **Key words**

cultural respect, communication, greeting rituals

#### **Further material**

- Greetings and Customs Around the World
- Greetings Around the World | Cut
- 70 People Reveal How to Say Hello and Goodbye in Their Country | Condé Nast Traveler



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