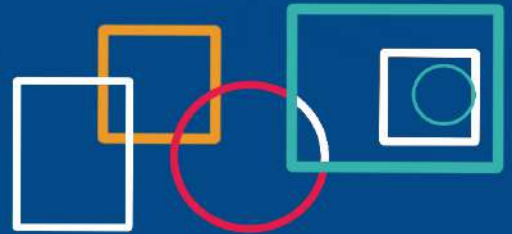


# STEREO-TYPE



## Goals

- Intercultural learning
- Acknowledging stereotypes and prejudice
- Group work
- Collective reflection

## Target group

10 years old and above

## Number of participants

Minimum 8 participants

## Equipment

- + Paper and markers to prepare the silhouettes;
- + a computer to share the screen and make break-out rooms;
- + a basic photo editing software.

## Technicalities

In several moments of the activity it will be necessary for teamers to share their screen, including in break-out rooms. You will need 2 teamers with the ability to share their screen for this activity. At least one teamer should also be able to create and manage break-out rooms.

### 1. Introduction of the activity:

In the main room, a teamer shares their screen to show a full silhouette and the task is explained.

Participants will be divided in break-out rooms according to their official language groups. For instance, the French group in break-out room 1, and the German group in break-out room 2.

The aim will be to fill in one silhouette per

country with everything that comes to our mind when we think of this country. To make this interesting, each silhouette has been divided in half, so each group will have 10 minutes to work on half of the other's silhouette, then 10 minutes to work on half of their own silhouette.

Afterwards the silhouettes will be reassembled with the two separate halves, and we will observe and reflect on the result. It is important to be very clear about the fact that this is not a knowledge test, it is more of a mind map. Therefore there are no right or wrong answers and it is neither about historical accuracy nor about political correctness: if it went through your mind, it should be on the silhouette. It isn't necessary to have a consensus in the group before writing something down: again, the idea is to have as thorough a mind-map as possible.

After checking if the instructions were understood, the groups are sent to break-out rooms according to their official language. There should be at least one teamer per break-out room. It is also possible to go to the break-out rooms and for each teamer to explain the task there instead of doing it in the main room.

### 2. Break-out rooms: filling in the silhouettes

The teamer shares their screen to show the left half of the silhouette. The first thing to do is to write in the top left corner who is writing about who. For instance, in the case of a French-German exchange, in the French break-out room: "F about D".

Then the group can start. Using the "Annotate" tool, they can draw or write anything that comes to their mind when they think of the partner country. They are encouraged to talk with each other in the process. The teamer's role is to support the technical aspect if necessary, and to stimulate the group with questions if they get stuck. However the teamer should aspire to be as invisible as possible and in no case should express censorship or judgement. If the group is writing in a language different than the other group's, it is a good idea to translate as you go, directly on the silhouette and using a colour code. After 10 minutes, the annotation stops and the teamer makes a screenshot of the silhouette.

The silhouette is hidden, drawings and words erased, and the right side of the second silhouette is shown. Once again, the first step is to write in the top right corner who is writing about who, for instance "F about F".

The process is repeated, this time about the group's own country. After 10 minutes, the teamer makes a screenshot and the group returns to the main room.

### 3. Break / Assembling the silhouettes

At this point we recommend you to give the group a 10 minute break, to give the team time to assemble the silhouettes. One teamer should be sent the halves from the other break-out room and using a basic photo editing software, edits the halves together to create whole filled-in silhouettes for each country.

It is also good for the participants to have a break to process what they have just experienced and come back ready to focus for the reflection.

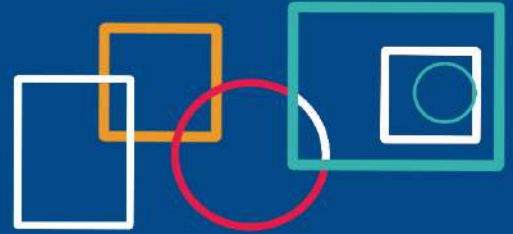
### 4. Collective reflection

This is the most important part. If you don't have time to do a full collective reflection, we advise you either to not do this activity at all, or to come back to it at the beginning of the following session.

You can start by introducing the principles

of the collective reflection: the idea is not to go into a debate, it is to express and listen. Participants should refrain from commenting on what others said, except if they want to ask a question about what has been said.

# STEREO-TYPE



## Exercise description

You can start with a first feedback round on how the experience in the break-out rooms was (this can also be useful if the teamer who is editing and translating the silhouettes needs more time, while the others facilitate!)

Here are some examples of useful questions:

How was it for you? How are you feeling now?

What was difficult? Was it more difficult to write about your own country/region or about the other country/region? Why?

After this, a teamer will share their screen to show one full silhouette, then the other. Participants have time to observe and can ask questions for their own understanding, but should refrain from commenting or reacting.

Once everyone has had a chance to see both silhouettes, the screenshare stops and the second part of the reflection starts. Useful questions for this part are:

- How are you feeling? What are you thinking about?
- What strikes you? Do you feel strongly about something that was written? What and why?
- What do we learn from this? Based on these images, what are clichés, stereotypes, prejudices? Why?

Once again, it is important to create an atmosphere where there is no “right” or “wrong” and where participants feel safe to express themselves, make mistakes, and think out loud. The spirit is one of a diversity of opinions and perspectives, and of asking questions rather than emitting judgement.

This activity is complex and can be challenging to facilitate, though it is often very rewarding. To ensure it goes the best way possible, we advise you to be mindful of the following elements:

- this activity requires the group to already be quite comfortable with each other, and you should build up to it;
- as it opens many questions, it is also not suitable to a group that you will have only one session with; it is an activity designed to be built upon during the following sessions;
- the activity is likely to open sensitive topics and emotionality will be high, conflicting opinions might arise; this is all normal and healthy, and it will need to be worked on: teamers should be prepared for uncomfortable topics and high emotionality (including in themselves);
- as it is intense and emotional, it is not a good idea to close directly after this activity as it could abruptly leave participants to deal alone with complex emotions; we recommend you follow the activity with a pleasant collective closing or transition moment to recreate a sense of togetherness after this exercise that can accentuate the differences.

Our final advice is for the team to experience the activity before facilitating, in order to have a better idea what to expect and to understand how participants are feeling.

You can adapt the activity to many topics and / or identities that you wish to work on with your group. Working on “countries” is only one of many options!

If you have more than two countries / topics you want to work on, you can either:

- separate the silhouettes in more than 2 pieces, and take more time for each group to fill in a part of all silhouettes; or
- have each group work on half of their own silhouette and one half of another silhouette, then all groups come together to observe and reflect on all the silhouettes; for example, if you have groups A, B, C, and D, group A will work on A and B, B on B and C, C on C and D, and D on D and A.

## Other versions

