

Introduction:

For this activity, participants will refer to the Hofstede Insights [website](https://www.hofstede-insights.com/country-comparison/) (full hyperlink here: <https://www.hofstede-insights.com/country-comparison/>) and explore the cultural proclivities of their own cultures as well as compare them with others' cultures, understanding that these are generalizations. Participants will examine the generalizations presented on the website and reflect on the complex nuances that are excluded from these over-simplified categories.

Activity Instructions:

1. Go to the Hofstede Insights [website](https://www.hofstede-insights.com/country-comparison/) (full hyperlink here: <https://www.hofstede-insights.com/country-comparison/>) and select your country in the dropdown menu to see the value for the six dimensions: Power Distance, Individualism, Masculinity, Uncertainty Avoidance, Long Term Orientation, and Indulgence. Then take ten minutes to read the descriptions of the six dimensions. Note: You may not find your country listed. In this case, choose a country you feel shares some similarities with your own.
2. Small group discussion:
 - In what ways did you and others align with the categories?
 - In what ways did you and others differ from the categories?
 - How did/would you feel if you didn't find your country listed?
3. Now type in a different country and read the description of the 6 dimensions for that country. Discuss:
 - What stereotypes or negative perceptions might come up when looking at the description of another country?
 - What are the potential dangers of using a website like this? When can it be beneficial?
 - What can you do to mitigate the risks of stereotyping?
4. Consider the usefulness of gaining a bird's eye view of multiple countries. Type in both countries at the same time (if you haven't already) and review the dimension comparisons. Discuss:
 - How does comparing two countries change what stereotypes or negative perceptions come up?
 - When might it be useful to compare two or more countries?
 - What other sources of information can you use to supplement this generalized bird's eye view?
5. Whole class debrief. Discuss your experience of using the Hofstede Insights website.