



UNITED CULTURES

A JOURNAL
THAT IS LOOKING AROUND THE WORLD

MARCH 2017

Integration from the migrants point of view

Rights - the cornerstones of social order

Michael Freeden



Being a world full of cultural diversity each society is having traditions history, personality, unique languages, habits, identity in order to bring people together, to connect through things that they commonly agreed on.

An important aspect is that each community is going through a learning process creating different education system, different methodology, putting accent on different characteristics from it.

In this process I believe that we gather knowledge about human rights principals, such as, social cohesion, tolerance, acceptance, respecting diversity etc. Each group has a level of understanding this knowledges and depends on individual if they will respect and include them them in their cultures.

I wish to analyze the integration process of migrants point of view and not based on all policies that exists, or are agreed and work better and better.

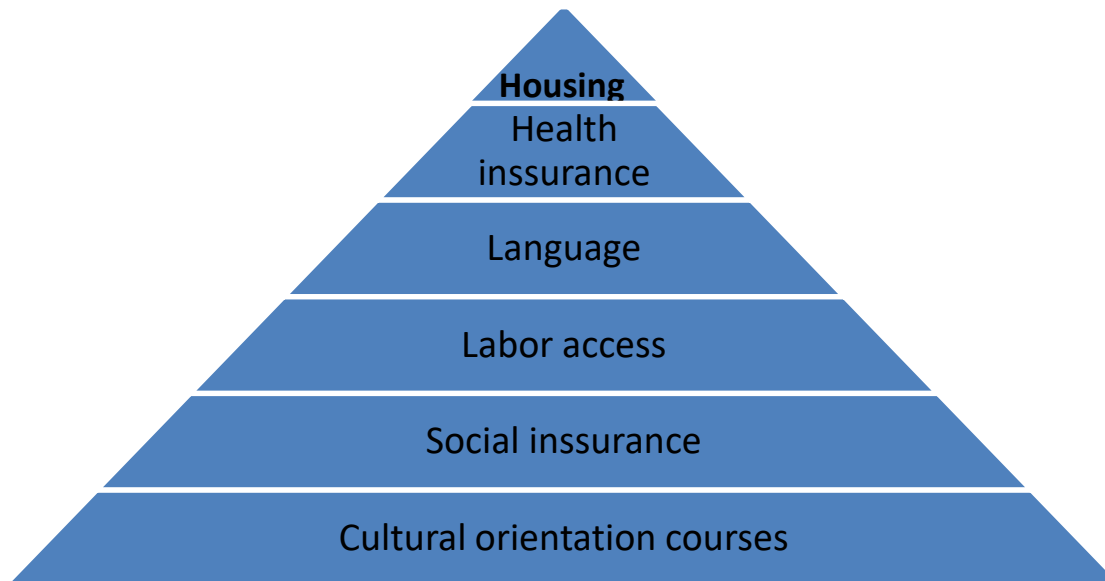
There exists correlation between the level of acknowledge and integration because our backgrounds will define our tolerance, or our wish to have a social cohesion, to understand and accept new values and new ways of thinking.

Proportional with the culture, appears the capacity to understand and integrate successfully.

Even if we are coming from a culture with the highest level of tolerance (which could be a utopic world), or even if we, as individuals, accept very easy new cultures, there still will exist

a cultural shock. A cultural shock because we are influenced by the environment in which we were born, grew and evolved.

As I am an NGO worker in ``The League for Defence of Human Rights``, Cluj Branch, Romania which is internationally affiliated to FIDH, together with the team we are implementing projects based on integration within migrants (third country nationals and beneficiary of protection) and conciliating migrants we established a structure for needs that we discovered they have based on Maslow Pyramid and updated in the current circumstances.



We implemented a system (as a respond to this needs) in order to implicate institutions with responsibilities in the field of migration.

We observed that even if we have policies created for a responsible integration and inclusion, migrants (generally term) have difficulties to communicate with the institutions, and vice-versa. Plus, the institutions have some problems to communicate with each other and to transmit the correct information to the migrants.

For example, the authority responsible with the unemployed migrants should communicate with the city hall in which exists the direction for social assistance.

Another example would be about access to education. In order to guarantee a suitable integration, through education, ministry of education should have a method to communicate with the asylum centers (which are 6 in Romania), with the NGO's who are having projects which includes migrants and as well they should think about a strategy about it, another plan, because the educational system is not working properly yet in this field.

Third country national have the right to access Romanian language and cultural orientation courses organized by Ministry of Education.

In the same time, asylum seekers, if they receive the refugee permit or subsidiary protection permit they are advised to register into the integration program which includes participation to Romanian language courses made by the Ministry of Education.

The problem begins with the fact that the national Romanian law (The Government Emergency Ordinance no. 44/2004 and The Minister's Order no. 5924) can be and are applied arbitrarily.

The number of participants should be minimum 10 and maximum 15 for one group to be formed with one exception: it is possible to organize a group for Romanian language with less then 10 participants.

Some cities accept to make the courses even with 3 participants but other consider that minimum as an exception should be 8.

This in just an example to realize that in this way migrants understand that actually integration is limited to some certain things which requires to be somehow lucky.

Another problem is that the courses are organized for just a period of one year and it is not specified the level of knowledge that should be riches, for example some European standards (A1,A2,B1,B2,C1,C2) or another method.

We do not have teacher specialized on the field of teaching Romanian language courses as a foreign language or even a methodology for. it.

But the most important fact that we are talking about migrants and refugees and we do not know a specific time that they will come in our country. The educational system totally forgot this problem and established that the registration to this free courses, which should be made by them it is just in August – September.

Let's imagine an example, I receive the official refugee status in January and I register also in the integration program, which is for 6 months (with the possibility to be extended for other 6 months with certain conditions). Officially the program will stop at the end of June and in that period of time I can not access the language courses and besides the fact that I will not receive financial support I will also have barriers in accessing the labor market.

In other words, for more than 3 years a lot of NGO's informed (and wrote proposals to modify the 2 laws that I mentioned before) the Ministry of Education about this problem and still is not possible to accept migrants and beneficiaries of protection during the year or to find a better solution.



After all, when we talk about the real integration in Romania, we definitely have to create, to modify aspects which influence a lot of lives with precious and limited time.

In this sense, in the part of North – West of Romania we created a system in which migrants can have access to their basic needs, but institutions working in the field of migration should communicate in order to implement

specific policies and to actually respond to third country nationals and beneficiary of protection.



Toth Anita
Romania

TRY TO IMAGINE THE WORLD WITHOUT RELIGIONS



The religion is everywhere, inside the culture, is the culture and it's permeated in all aspects.

It's visible in every country, town or villages, there is always a church, or mosque that stands out.

But how is born the religion?

In the easy way, we could say that is possible to find the beginning of it in the human prehistory and some philosopher tried to explain the origin. Muller, for example, said that the deity are personifications of natural, meteorological, cosmic and solar phenomena.

Let's take just an example: when the primitive spoke in third person about of the sunrise, or the sunset, so why the sun is born or is dying, it was easy to think about some unknown person. So the deity are the people's creations.

Also Crawley said something like that and putted the religion's origin in the animism, but this last concept born from the imagination. You can imagine thing and person also if they are not here. So the people's culture it was only religious from the beginning, only late was possible to take the distance from her and drafting another a secluded and the cultural activity is subjected to the point of view of objectivity criticism and this means that the culture became autonomous and the man would play their initiatives and would accrue as a self-creator of its.

But, it's important to say that if you want to have news about the population, you must to start from the religion that they have, to discover the habit, the gestures, rituals, prayers.

For one moment, try to imagine the world without religion. How it will be? Would be a better place?

From my point of view, totally atheist, I could say yes, better place, without war, discrimination, without strange convictions, without the fear of the deities, without terrorism and violent acts committed in the name of God; but eliminating the religions should be to attack the source of the populations, the cultures and very young children would be a lot less secure and cared, because some babies and toddlers are in childcare or preschool in a church, synagogue, or other place.

Without religion, those kids would go uncared for that day, or mam or dad would have to stay at home from work. We would experience a serious economic impact, because some 19 percent of higher education institution in the United States, for example, bear a religious affiliation and were faith itself to disappear for even a single day, the result could be economically catastrophic.

We would be a lot lonelier and more melancholy because without religion that one day, we would be more isolated and quite likely would be miserable and we would find millions of people going hungry, as well.

If there is no religion, there is not clergy, this would mean that the people beset by probing questions are left on their own without uplifting assistance from a person of spiritual authority.

Community volunteering would be cut in half and we would feel a lot worse about ourselves personally and more anxious too.

So, at the end, it will be easy to imagine the world without religion, but it will be better to consider our origins and consequences.

Letizia Gaetani

Would you live in a world without culture?



Culture is the characteristic and knowledge of particular groups of people to defined by everything from languages, religions, social habits, music, arts and architecture.

I am thinking this is very important for all of us because our backgrounds is building the identity.

I can not imagine, for example, to never taste again traditional delicious food from different societies.

Different cultures create a various and interesting mix in the world.

If you ask yourself and contemplate, can exist a society without culture, what you would say?

Finally, I suppose, the answer will be no because your habits, traditions, language is definittly part of you. Diversity of cultures makes us reach people.

We can compare ourselves with the diversity of plants and animals, which are in our world and as well to be creative and to manage to exist as a whole.

All of this makes us more human, more attached to each other, makes us better in everything we do, is connecting us, connects ideas, way of thinking in a way that we can evolve together in a fulfilled community

Silvia Cuklovicova

Slovakia

What is culture?



Check your knowledge

1. Human culture is

- A. partly inherited genetically
- B. entirely learned
- C. limited to relatively rich societies with sophisticated technologies
- D. all of the above

2. Which of the following statements is true of culture?

- A. Languages are cultures.
- B. Archaeologists dig up culture in their excavation.
- C. Culture is a powerful human tool for survival.
- D. all of the above

3. A is a regional, social, or ethnic group that is distinguishable from other groups in a society by the fact that its members share a common identity, food tradition, dialect or language, and other cultural traits come from their common ancestral background and experience.

- A. culture
- B. subculture
- C. multi-ethnic society

4. Which of the following things would be cultural universal?

- A. the language that you speak
- B. the kinds of clothes you wear
- C. the specific knowledge that you acquired in school
- D. none of the above

5. Culture is.....

- A. the same thing as society.
- B. limited to humans.
- C. possessed only by males.
- D. none of the above

6. Societies are.....

- A. groups of interacting organisms
- B. only found among humans
- C. created only by technologically sophisticated peoples such as those in the industrialized nations of the world
- D. none of the above

ANSWERS: 1. B (All human societies have cultures and those cultures are 100% learned. While humans are genetically programmed to learn a culture, newborn babies can learn any culture that they are exposed to); 2. C (Culture consists of learned patterns of behavior that allows us to be one of the most successful animals in the struggle for survival. However, culture is fragile, changing thing in that it consists of ideas, information, and any skills in our minds.); 3. B (Members of subcultures share a common identity that partially sets them apart from other groups that share the same national culture. Subcultures are most likely to exist in complex, diverse, societies such as USA); 4. D (The things that are listed in the other answers are cultures specific rather than universal. Language is a human cultural universal, but a specific language is not.); 5. D; 6. A (In the case of humans, societies are groups of people who directly or indirectly interact with each other. Culture is created and transmitted to others in a society. Cultures are not the product of lone individuals.)

Daniela Todorova,

Bulgaria

KULTURARK



Cyprus

Romania

Bulgaria

Belgium

Dive in the world of culture
with our cruise trough
Mediterranean Sea.

Slovakia

Turkey