Science is International – Why Develop Cross Cultural Skills?

**Objective**

In our globalized society, effective communication and collaboration with people from diverse cultural backgrounds is increasingly critical. Intercultural sensitivity and cross-cultural skills are highly valued. This workshop will equip you with these essential skills, enabling you to work more effectively within international scientific collaborations and beyond.

- Become aware of your own values and cultural imprint
- Understand how culture shapes communication and behaviour
- Understand pitfalls of international project work and recognise risks and potentials of international teams
- Improve interactivity in cross-cultural teams and cooperations
- Know how to counteract your own biases
- Enhance your competitive positioning through the acquisition of cross-cultural skills
- Get tips for adaptation in intercultural environment

**Description**

Science is international and scientists often have a cross-cultural background or work in cross-cultural teams. Although some scientists believe that cultural differences do not pose a problem, others encounter difficulties in cross-cultural collaborations or in everyday situations, and may not know how to respond appropriately. Exploring our own cultural biases can aid our comprehension of the behaviours and values of others.

This workshop will examine various forms of diversity, including gender, age, educational backgrounds, and cultural issues. It will also explore potential conflicts that may arise in heterogeneous groups and how to resolve them. Additionally, the workshop will detail how diversity can be utilized as a valuable resource.

**Methodology**

- Brief presentations
- Individual and small group tasks
- Situational analyses
- Feedback
- Self-reflection and awareness

**Organizational Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language / Format</th>
<th>English / On campus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target group</td>
<td>Doctoral Candidates at all stages and Postdocs (R2/R3) from all faculties</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Friday, 21 June 2024, 9:00 – 17:00</td>
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<td>Registration</td>
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**Trainer**

Irmtraud Williams  
KEPOS, Mannheim  
After graduating from Heidelberg University in Translation Studies, Irmtraud pursued a career as a translator/copywriter and executive language teacher. She complemented her studies with a trainer qualification from PH Akademie Heidelberg and further training in marketing (CIM Cookham, UK) and project management. Her national and international experience in administration and marketing in industry and science provides her with strong communication and managerial skills. At KEPOS she is in charge of project management and gives trainings in presentation and intercultural communication.