- Knowledge of IC allows us to:
 - 1. Understand how people from different cultural backgrounds://
 - a) behave;
 - b) communicate;
 - c) express feelings;
 - d) perceive the world.

- Knowledge of IC allows us to:
 - 2. Understand the basic cultural differences affecting intercultural communication, such as:
 - a) language (misunderstanding);
 - b) religion (other priorities and values);
 - c) historical development of cultures (war conflicts, political development, economic development);
 - d) technological development of cultures;;
 - e) daily routine (work activity at different times);
 - f) feeding (different length of feeing, different form of feeding).

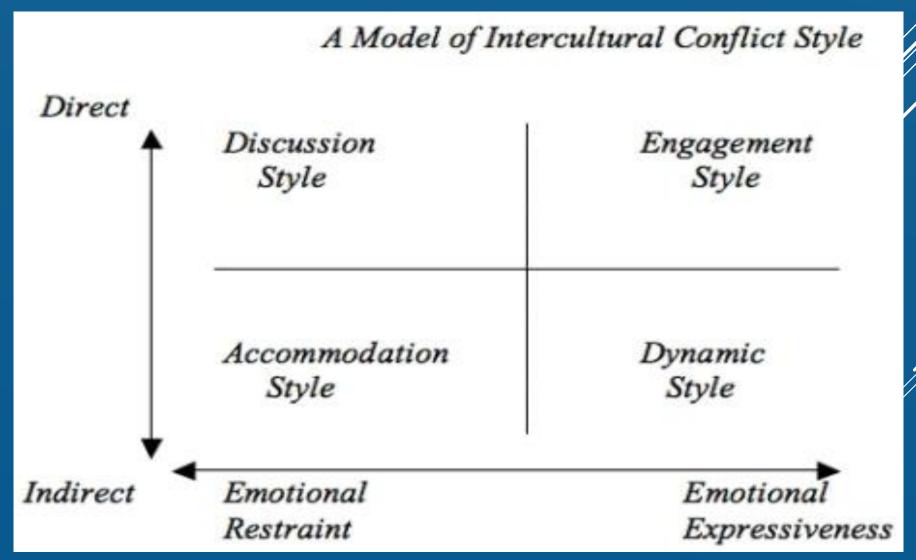
- Knowledge of IC allows us to:
 - 3. Identify different forms and means of intercultural communication and how to manage them.
 - 4. Understand the principles and conditions of effective intercultural communication.
 - 5. Avoid cultural conflicts related with communication caused mainly by:
 - a) language misunderstanding;
 - b) misunderstanding the context of communication;
 - c) using different accompanying signs of communication (gesticulation, facial expressions, etc.).

- The main benefits of managing IC:
 - 1. personal growth through increased tolerance (in general);
 - 2. willingness to accept differences (reduced feeling of anxiety in contacts with members of other cultures, learning about customs and habitual behaviours of members of other cultures);
 - 3. better skills related to dialogue and cooperation (improving verbal and nonverbal communication, improving abilities related with intercultural conflict resolution, becoming better in recognizing and undertaking communication behaviours.
 - 4. development of a positive attitude towards otherness;
 - 5. better adaptation to a new environment;
 - 6. better understanding of one's own culture and finding one's place in a society

Conflict:

- expressed struggle between interdependent parties with incomplete goals or unmet emotional needs;
- the process in which one party perceives that its interests are being opposed or negatively affected by another party;
- in an intercultural context, it is the explicit of implicit emotional struggle of frustrations between people from different cultures over perceived incompatible goals, norms, and values.

- Model proposed by Mitchell Hammer:
 - the theoretical model;
 - allows to understand how people manage intercultural gonfligts;
 - this model is based on two core dimensions:
 - a) the directness of approach to conflict solving
 - b) emotionality;
 - from this perspective there are four main intercultural conflict resolution styles,
 see figure below.





DISCUSSION

- Confronts problems; Elaborates arguments with logical reasoning; Maintains calm
- Weaknesses perceived by other styles: Blind to nuance; Logical but unfeeling; Condescending

RESTRAINED

ACCOMMODATION

- Considers multiple/alternate meanings; diplomatic; Selfpossessed; Sensitive to feelings of others
- Weaknesses perceived by other styles: Ambiguous; Uncommitted /dishonest; Hesitant / timid

ENGAGEMENT

- Provides detailed explanations; Expresses opinion clearly; Shows feelings
- Weaknesses perceived by other styles: Blind to nuance; Dominating / rude; Over-confident

EXPRESSIVE

DYNAMIC

- Considers multiple/alternate meanings; Use of 3rd parties to gather info/mediate; Skilled at noting non-verbal behavior
- Weaknesses perceived by other styles: Ambiguous; Unreasonable / devious; Brash

INDIRECT

- This theory states that:
 - people need to understand and recognise that there are differences in conflict styles across cultural communities,
 - with that awareness people must learn how to understand from each other and how to face and resolve intercultural conflicts.

- The four main conflict resolution styles are:
 - 1. discussion style,
 - 2. engagement style,
 - 3. accomodation style,
 - 4. dynamic style.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION