

# Research and Innovation Dimension of the European University on Responsible Consumption and Production

## European Research and Open Science Collaboration

**“Interdisciplinarity is an approach of collaboration, which sets high standards for the integration of disciplinary perspectives.”**

Dr Anna Claus (Psychologist, RTWH Aachen)

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11612-021-00578-6>

### Attitudes to interdisciplinarity and intercultural collaboration within the RE-EURECA-PRO team:

**Some individuals are team players and can suppress their personal ego for the good of the project and team, while others tend to be more inflexible and this would lead to conflict. Conflict is good as long as its solved diplomatic and leads to positive results.**

**Different mentality is not a problem if there is a wish for understanding through discussions and reasoning. Individualistic attitude is a problem, as it cannot be handled by reasoning**

**Because of the various approaches sometimes people cannot find an area of agreement. However, those conflicts can also be very impactful for creativity.**

**Different mentalities have different kinds of work-behaviour and different emphasises in their work-styles (for example the importance of personal meetings differs in each country or even company, depending where you have worked before). Also, the professional behaviour towards colleagues differs in each country or even company, so that it might lead to inconveniences at first. But especially that makes different mentalities in a team very important: to gain intercultural competence, to have more understanding and to expand your own point of view, and even to learn new working-styles, which might work better/more efficient.**

**In any team there is conflict because there are human relationships.**

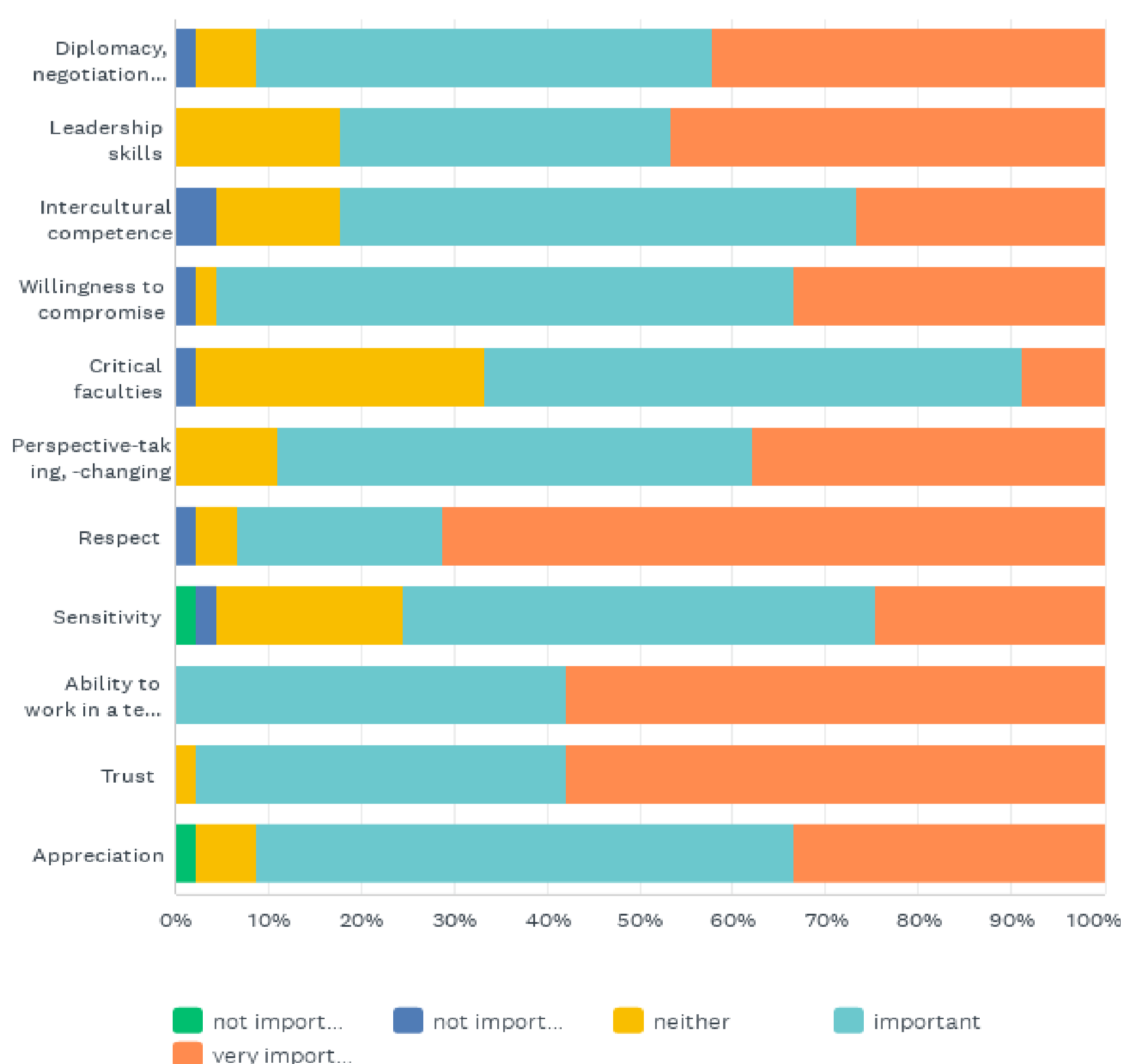
**In my experience, setting a 'common ground' at the beginning is extremely important (before starting talking about research/projects etc). Conflicts can appear in many ways and normally they are hidden until the project is quite advanced. In my experience, we had a 'coach' that was external to one international/interdisc. project, and it was an asset! People were much more open to new ideas, to listen to each other, to build knowledge.**

**If the team forming stage is not complete, there will be issues because there is a lack of connection.**

**People from different nationalities may have different temper, sometimes also language is a serious barrier.**

**Different mentalities and individualistic points of view are beneficial if they are viewed through a perspective of openness and inquiry, in order to understand a broader picture. If people are holding to these beliefs, putting everybody as an 'opposite', then there will be conflicts.**

F22 How important are the cooperative skills listed below to you for interdisciplinary collaboration?



Report on interdisciplinarity and collaboration mindsets:



Article: **“Complexity in Action: Inter- and Transdisciplinarity in EURECA-PRO”**  
 Authors: Karoline Gritzner & Sarah Kollnig  
 In: *BHM – Berg- und Hüttenmännische Monatshefte* (2024) Vol. 169 (2): 81–85

