



MED13 NGO



Future in Our Hands  
Youth NGO



Erasmus+

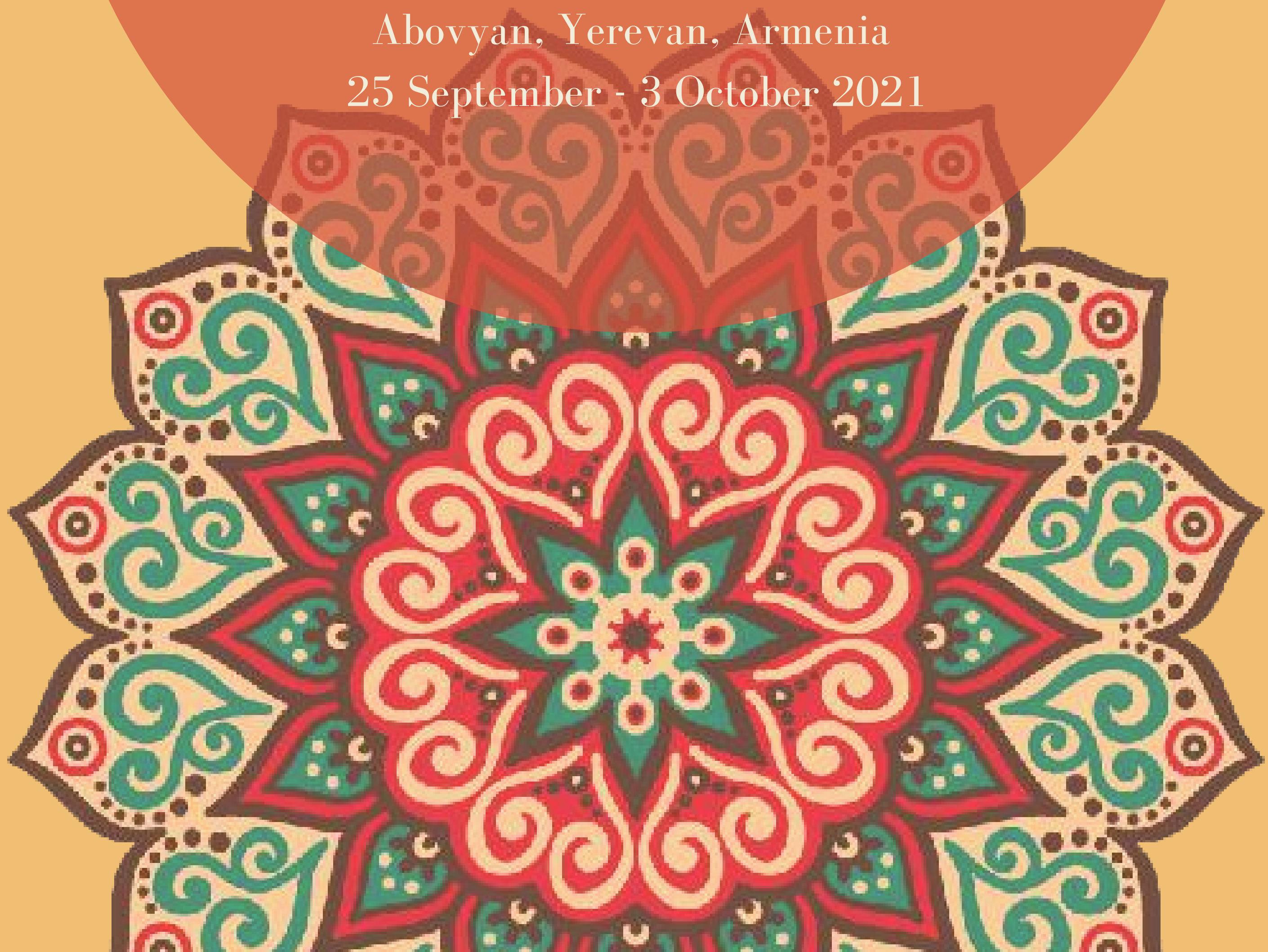
# CUL-EIDOSCOPE

## Cultural Kaleidoscope

Youth Exchange

Abovyan, Yerevan, Armenia

25 September - 3 October 2021



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# INTRO

*CUL-EIDOSCOPE* is an Erasmus+ Youth Exchange, in which we're discovering our cultures.

We all have a unique cultural background. But despite all the differences between such diverse cultures, we're all still human beings living in the same world and by this we are very similar. If to think about the interculturality more, on the very deep and basic level all of our cultures are built up on the same solid basis of the main humanistic values, core moral principles and ideas.

The main **objectives** of this project are:

- to explore the roots, patterns and core concepts of each culture and their influence on personality and identity;
- to provide methods for using ceremonies/rituals, fairytales and games as tools to address the cultural differences and similarities;
- to raise self, cultural and ethnic awareness through non-formal educational methods and peer education;
- to promote positive and respectful attitude towards various cultures, people and their specialty;
- to promote human and European values, to share cultural values and to promote the deeper understanding of other cultures;
- to elaborate the notion of interculturality as a similarity and uniformity of all the cultures on the basic core level of humanistic values, moral principles and ideas.



# WHO WE ARE

Armenians are one of the most beautiful and unique countries in the greater Middle East. We are hospitable, caring, and collective. Armenians come from ancient times and from then on they cherished their artistic traditions, which reflect a unique culture and landscape.

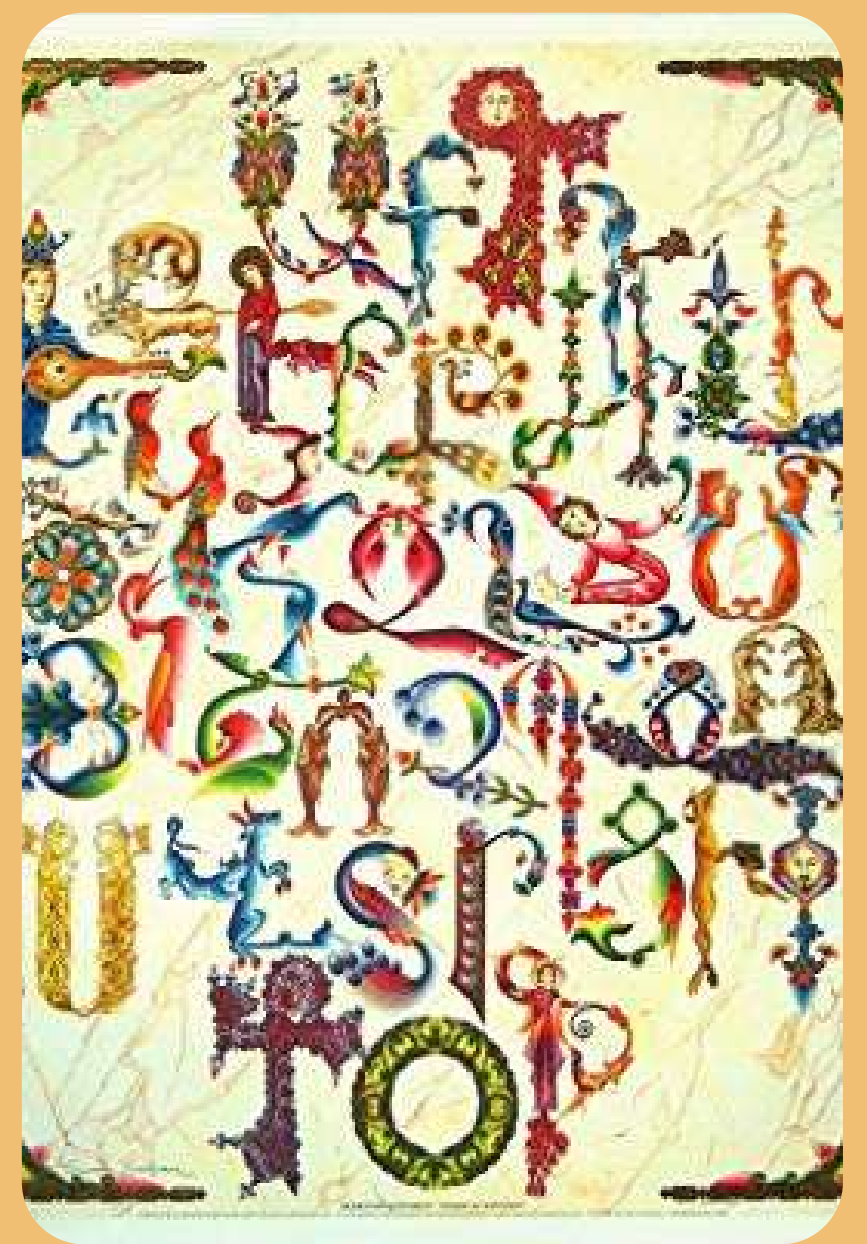
Armenia



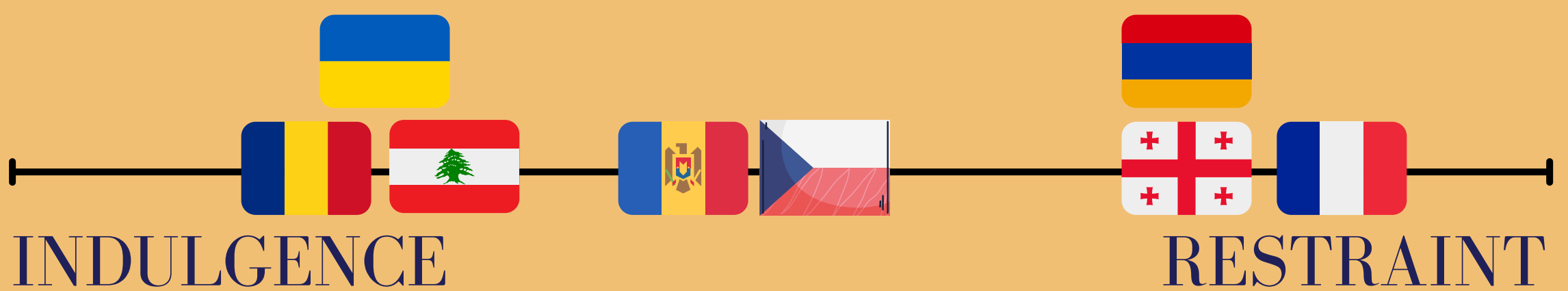
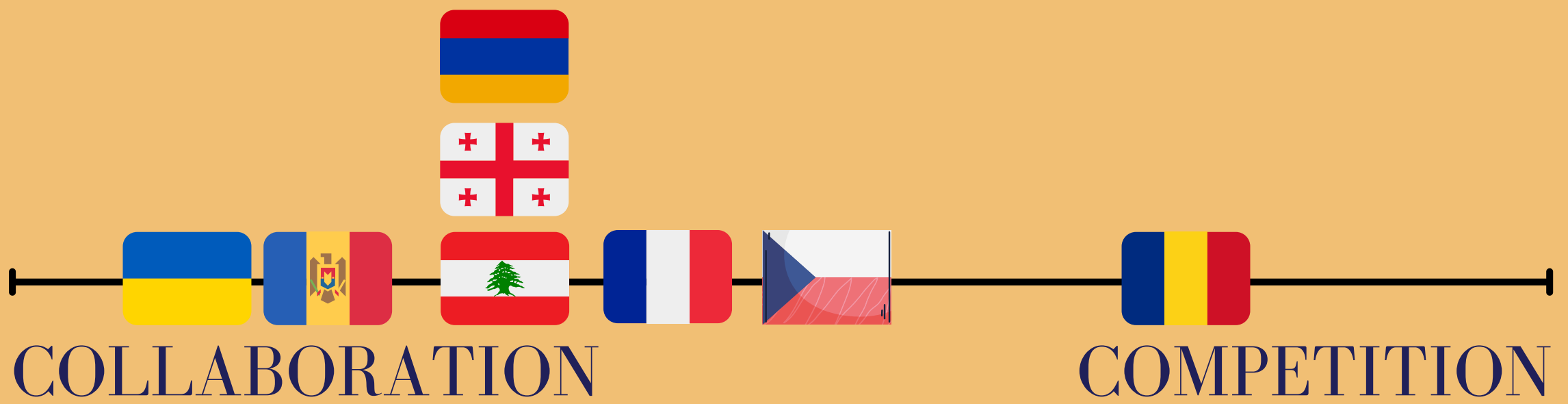
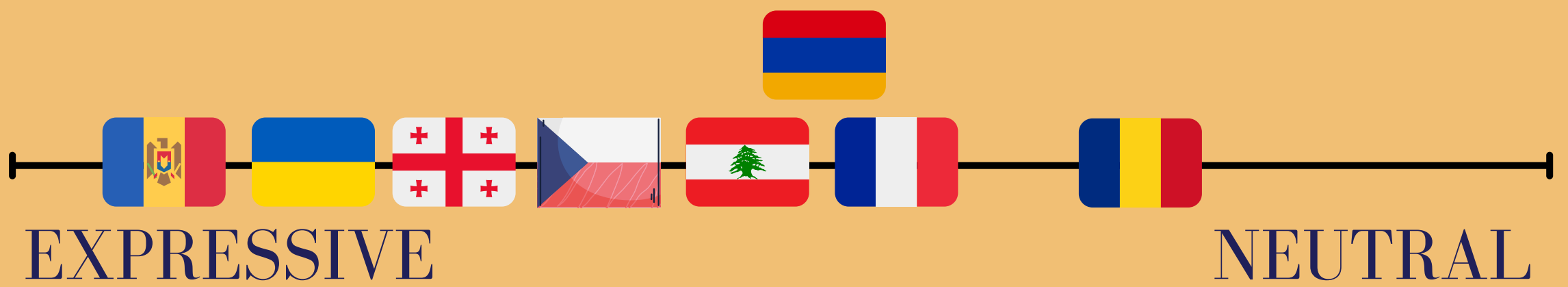
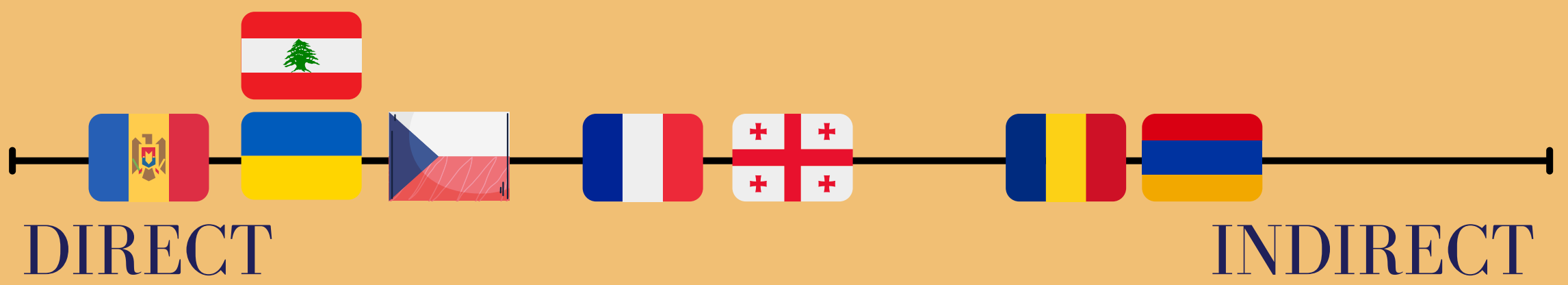
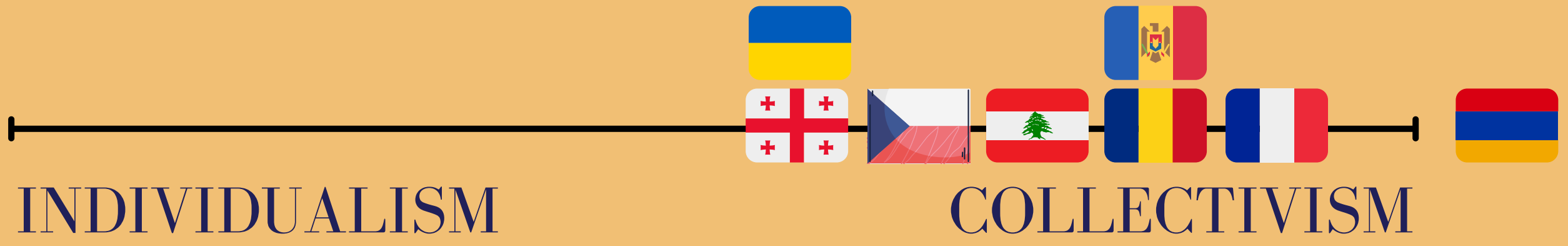
Armenians love music, and they have been creating exquisite compositions for centuries. Literature has always played a vital role in Armenia's cultural and national identity. Armenia is often referred to as an open-air museum.

To be Armenian means to be a persistent, warrior and survivor. We value traditions, family, and religion. Throughout history we passed through a lot and thus it made us value more the happy moments.

We want the world to know that even though Armenia is a small country it is rich in culture, traditions and historical places.



# DIMENSIONS OF OUR CULTURE



# OUR GAME

*Minimum 3-25 people*

*Equipment: 1 ball*

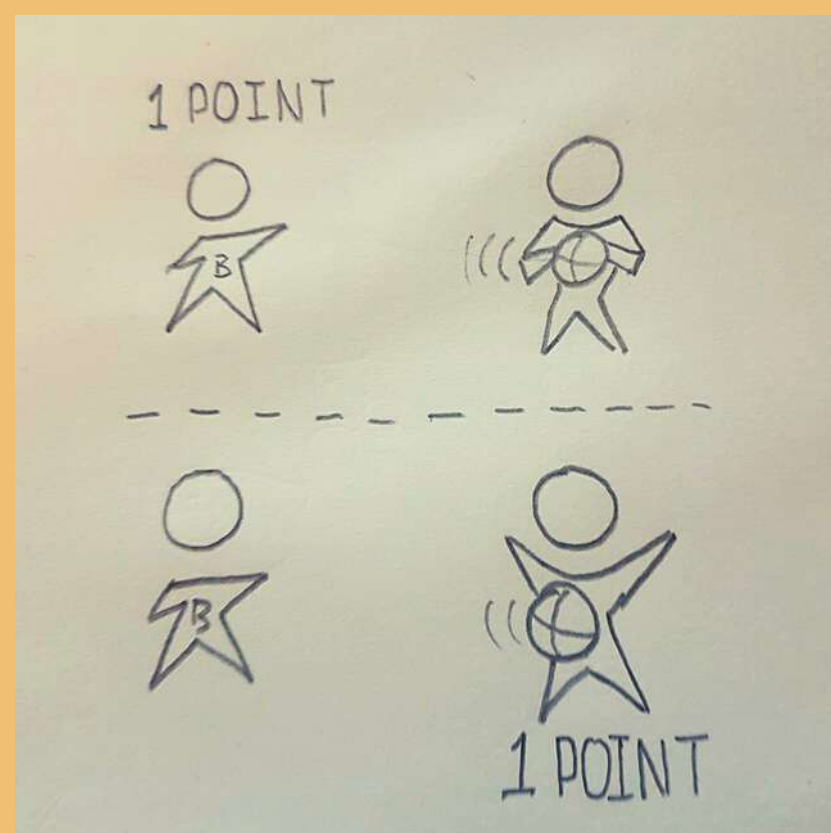
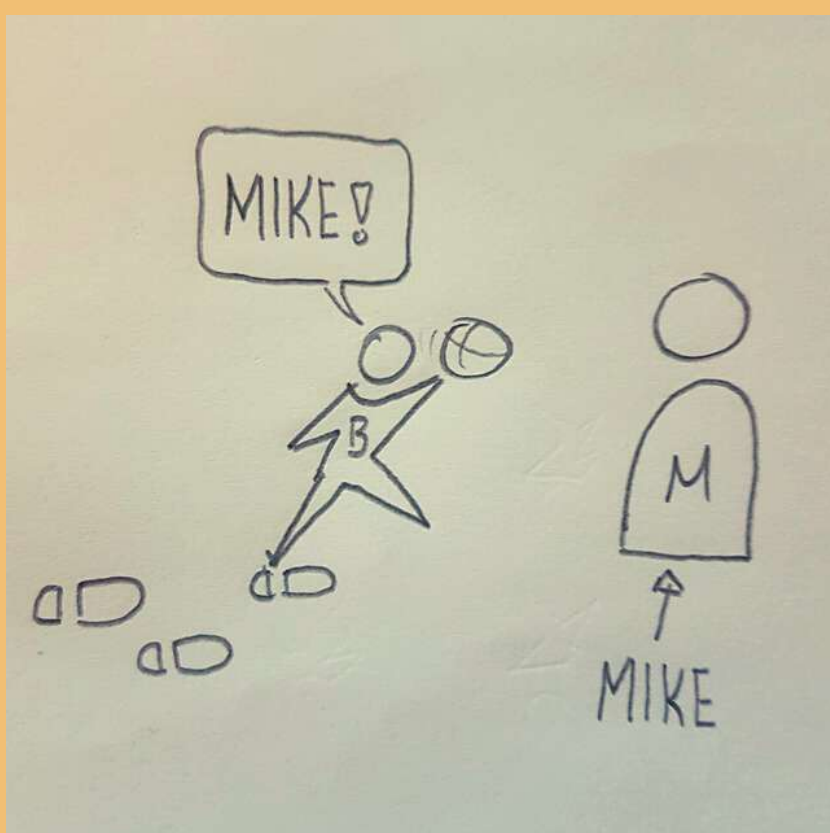
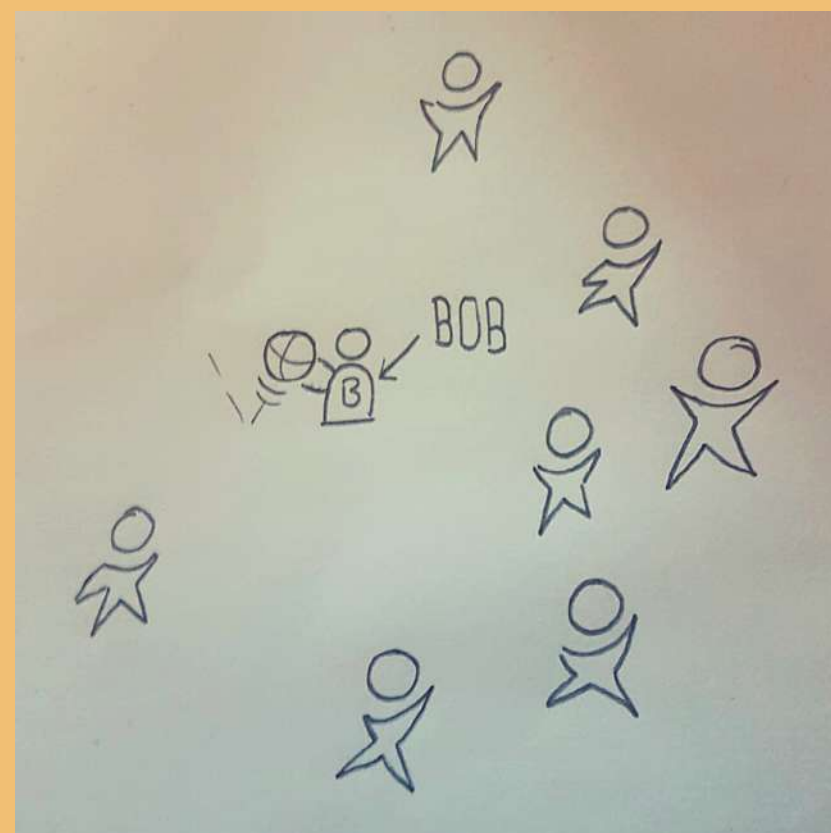
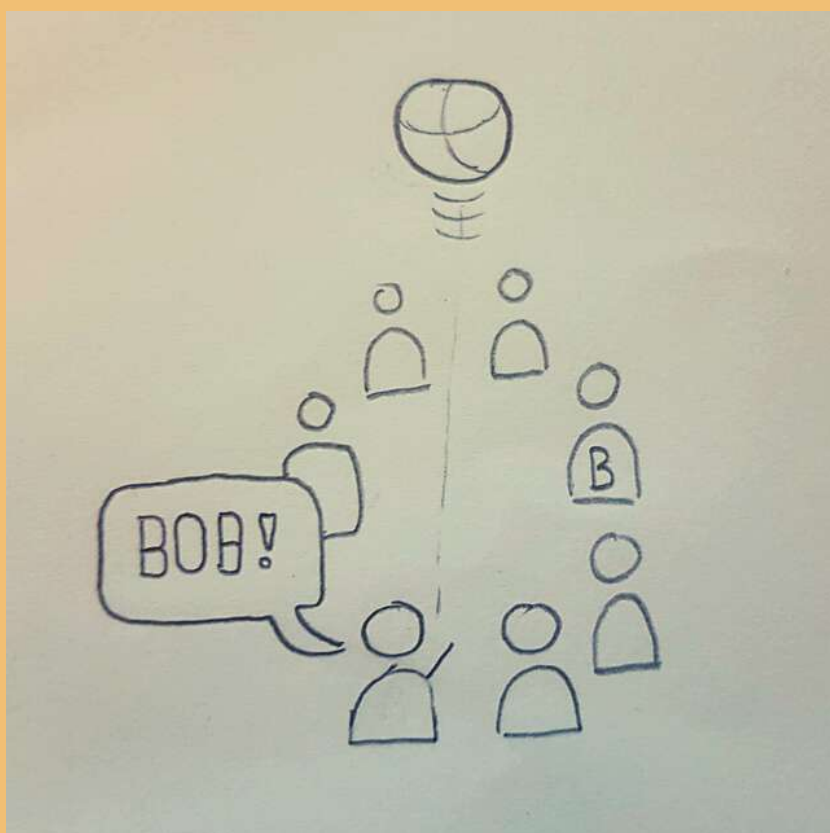
This is one of the most famous Armenian Traditional games. Kids and teenagers play it not only during every summer vacation, but whenever they have free time. The game is played in a circle. Someone throws the ball up in the air and shouts a name. That person should catch the ball, while the others run. When the ball is caught everybody freezes. Then the player should throw the ball.

The person who the ball is thrown at cannot move to dodge the ball, and if they are hit, they will get 1 point. Once a person has 2 points, the other members of the group choose a nickname.

Exceptions:

1) If during any round the ball is thrown in the air and the person whose name is called catches it before it hits the ground, they can legally throw the ball up in the air again and yell another name, without needing to mark someone and hitting them.

2) If the person has a nickname but someone throws the ball up and yells the wrong name (example instead of spiderman they say Bob), then the person who threw the ball up becomes the new spiderman and now Bob resets his nickname and becomes bob again.



# OUR RITUAL

## St Sargis Day



Centuries ago there were group of brave soldiers, which had a leader called Sargis. After many wins, Persian king was scared that one day the Sargis would come to invade him. So after next win when Sargis with his soldiers came back to home, the persian king send 14 girls to them as a prise. But he had command girls to kill them once they get drunk. So after party when girls had killed everyone the one of them couldn't do that, because she fall in love with Sargis, and she told Sargis about the plan. So they managed to escape and save their lives. That's why he is the sympbol of Love.

Nowdays the single girls and boys before sleeping eat salty cookie which made by widow. And the purpose to see in the dream their future partner who will give them water. It works when they come with water. Also they put a plate of flour nearby the door so if Sargis will visit them they would know and if in the plate there is a print of the horseshoe the love will visit to their house.





# OUR FAIRY-TALE

## The Stupid Man



Once upon a time, there was a poor man. No matter how hard he worked, no matter how much he suffered, he was still poor. One day he got up in despair and said that I should go and find God, see when I should get out of this poverty and ask for something for myself.

A wolf happened on the way.

"Good morning, brother-man, where are you going?"  
Asked the wolf.

"I am going to God," replied the poor man.

"Well, if you go to God," replied the wolf, "tell me there is a hungry wolf. If you have created, why do you not deliver food?"

"All right," said the man, and continued on his way.



On the way, he met a beautiful girl.

"Where are you going, brother?" The girl asked.

"I'm going to God."

"When you see God," begged the beautiful girl, "tell him there is a girl like this, young, healthy, rich, but she can not be happy." What will happen to her?

"I will say," promised the traveler and left.

And it came to pass, that a tree stood on the shore, but it was dry.

"Where are you going, traveler?" Asked the dry tree. -I go to God.

"Wait, let me say a few words," asked the dry tree. "Tell God, what is this?" I have grown on the shores of this clear water, but I stay dry in summer and winter. When should I go green?

The poor man heard this and continued on his way.



He went until he found God. Under a high rock, with his back to the tree, sat the god in the form of a man.

'Good day,' said the poor man, and stood before God.

"Welcome," replied the god, "what do you want?"

"I want you to listen to every person with equal eyes, not to plunder one, but to darken the other." I suffer so much, I work, I can no longer find bread with a full stomach, and many, who do not work as much as half of me, live rich and quiet.

"Go, you will get rich now, I gave you your luck, go and enjoy," said God. "I have something more to say, Lord," said the poor man, and told him the story of a hungry wolf, a beautiful girl, and a dry tree. God had responded to everyone's request. The poor man thanked him and left. On the way back, it met a dry tree.

"What did God say to me?" Asked the dry tree.

- He said, there is gold under you." Until the gold is removed so that your roots reach the ground, you will not be green," said the man. "Where else are you going?" Come and extract the gold, again, it will benefit both you and me, you will get rich, and I will grow green. "No, I do not have time, I'm in a hurry," replied the poor man. "God has given me luck. Then the beautiful girl happened to be in front of the traveler.

"What news have you brought me?"

- God said, you must find a close life partner for yourself, then you will not be sad, you will be happy.

"Well, come on, you will be the best friend of my life," the girl begged the traveler.

"No, I do not have time to accompany you, God has given me luck, I must go and find my luck, enjoy," said the poor man and left.

The hungry wolf was waiting on the road, and as soon as he saw the traveler in the distance, he ran ahead and cut him off.

"Oh, what did God say?"

"Brother, on my way to God, a beautiful girl and a dry tree came after."The girl wondered why she could not be happy, and the tree asked why it was dry in spring and summer. I told God, he said. "Tell the girl to find a life partner for herself, she will be lucky, and tell the tree, there is gold under you, they must extract that gold, your roots must reach the ground so that you turn green." I came and told them the words of God. The tree said, "Come on, take out the gold," and the girl said, "I choose you as my friend." I said. "No, brother, I cannot, God has given me luck, I have to go find my luck, enjoy."

"What did God say to me?" Asked the hungry wolf.

"He said to you, 'You will go hungry until you find a fool, you will eat, you will be satisfied.'

"Where can I find a fool more than you to eat?" Said the wolf, and ate the foolish poor man.



# CZECH REPUBLIC





# WHO WE ARE



We are citizens of the country in the heart of Europe. As every nation we have our pros and cons.

We love drinking beer so much that we are drinking it all day & all night.

Czech people are emotional and patriotic.

Especially when it comes to some national event like sport, Olympic Games that represents us.

Our national hobby is complaining to each other and waiting to see who is going to win with the biggest problem.

During this time there was a generation gap of opinions. The younger generation is more tolerant, talkative and open-minded.

## **WHAT IT MEANS FOR US TO BE?**

The meaning is hidden in our place. That means we belong somewhere and we have our folklore, culture, habits last but not least it is our home.

## **WHAT WE WANT OTHERS TO KNOW ABOUT US?**

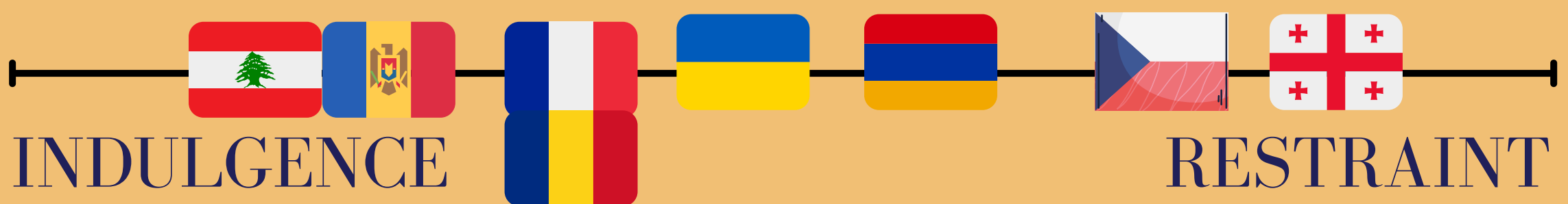
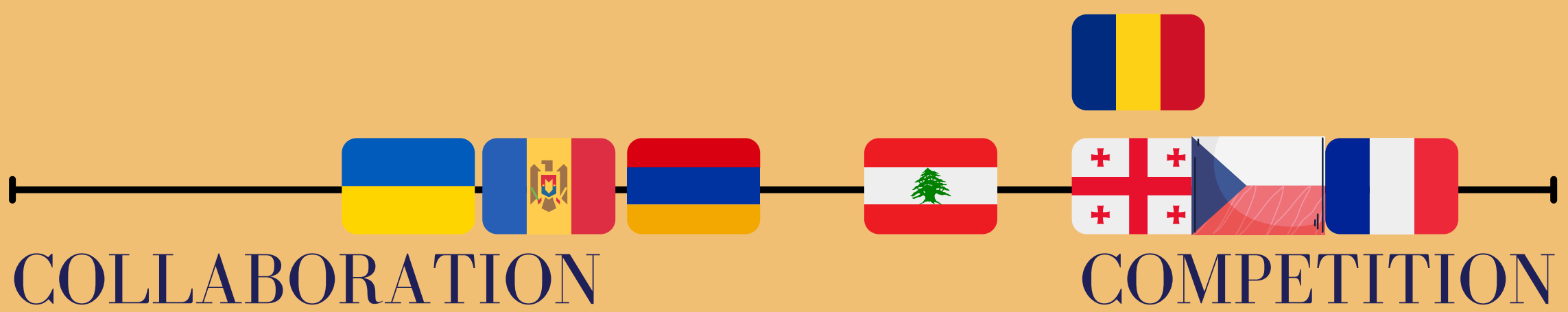
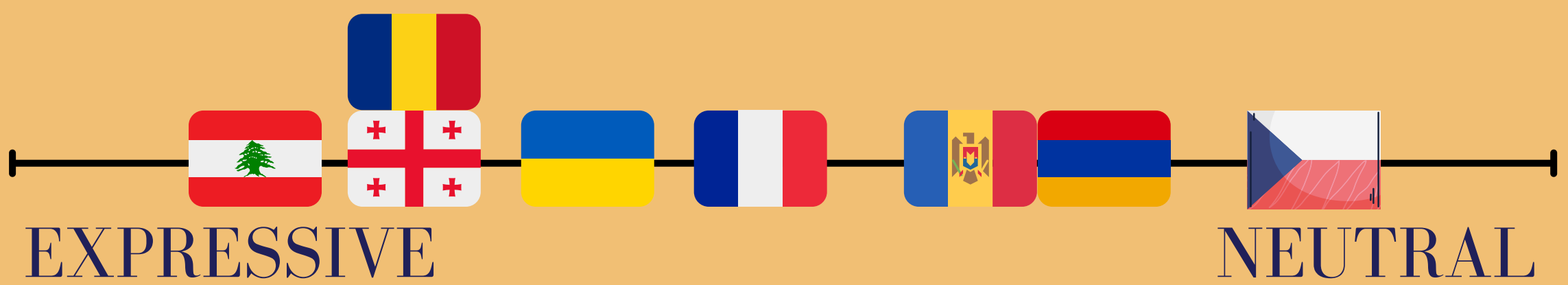
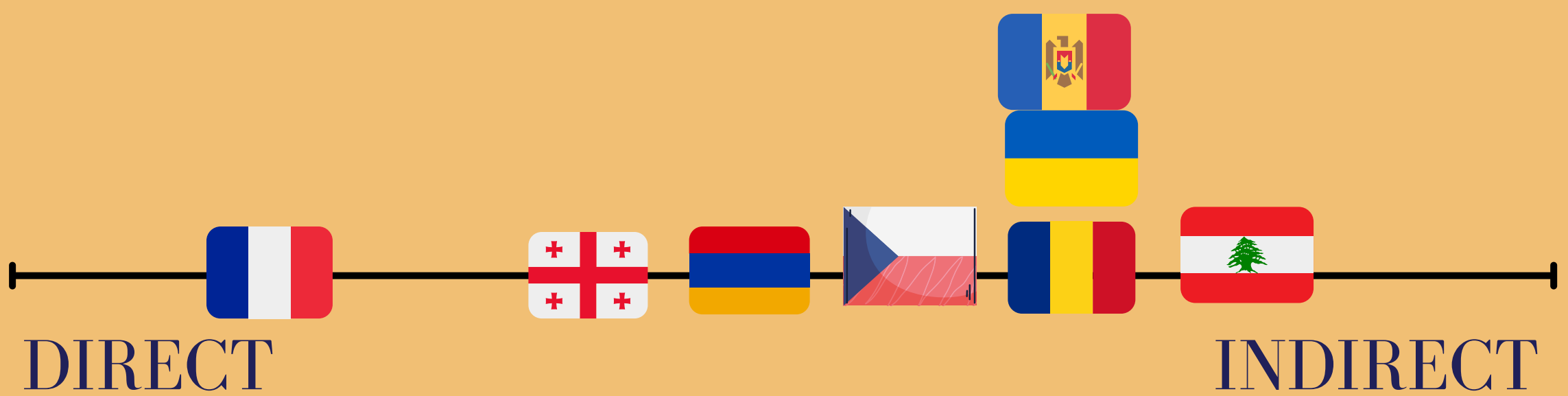
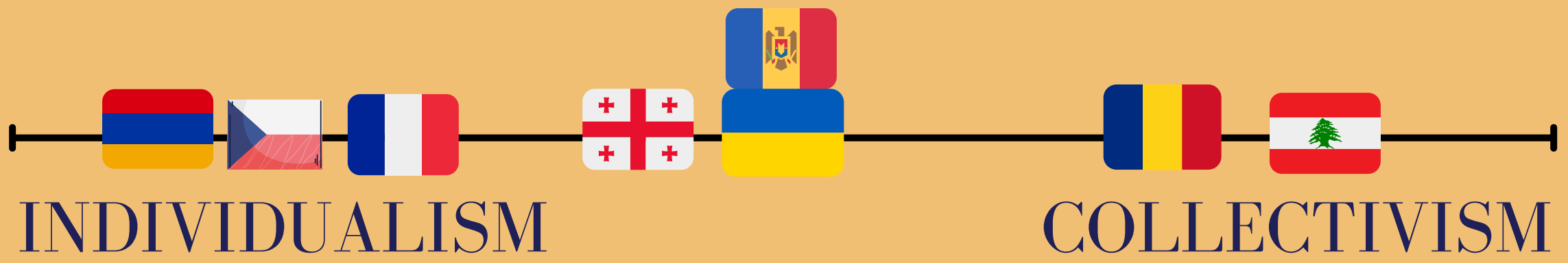
The first thing that you have to know about us is we are mostly phlegmatical.

(„Máme to na párku." or „Je nám to šumák.")

After ice-breaking and maybe a couple of beers we are the most friendly people in the world. Our habit is being dissatisfied with everything. Our magic is in the sense of humor and hanging together when it is necessary in tough situations so that we can unite and work together.

For example, during a pandemic, a collective cooperation was formed, e.g. in the production of homemade masks.

# DIMENSIONS OF OUR CULTURE



# OUR GAME

## BLINKING GAME



First of all you need to make two circles with the same amount of people. People of the first inner circle should be sitting or squatting, while people of the outer circle should be standing behind. On one of the chairs or spaces of the inner circle is empty, the person standing behind it is the **blinker**.



The outer participants are not allowed to look at the **blinker**, they should keep their eyes on the person they have in front. The **blinker** will **blink** at someone, in order to call him/her to run over the empty place. The person standing behind should try to catch the person in front before it runs away. In case he/she runs away, the person behind the empty space is the new **blinker**.





# OUR RITUAL

## TRADITION ON EASTER MONDAY



It is an Easter Monday ritual which comes from pagan origin. Girls and women are at home waiting for the boys. They are decorating their houses and preparing all the food and drinks, especially baking an Easter **beránek**, which is a cake in a shape of a lamb.

The days before they were also painting Easter eggs, very colorful, patterned and symbolic for this tradition. Men go door to door singing and telling Easter carols to women while whipping their buttocks and wishing them to be healthy, beautiful and fertile for the rest of the year. They use a special Easter whip called **pomlázka**, which are made from willow branches and braid together into whips.

After whipping, boys receive colorful ribbons for their whips, which represents every individual girl they had whipped that day. They are also rewarded with painted eggs, chocolate and shots of homemade alcohol.

Nowadays this tradition is starting to disappear especially in big cities, but it's still very popular in rural areas.

# OUR FAIRY-TALE

## FAIRY TALE ABOUT BIG BEETROOT

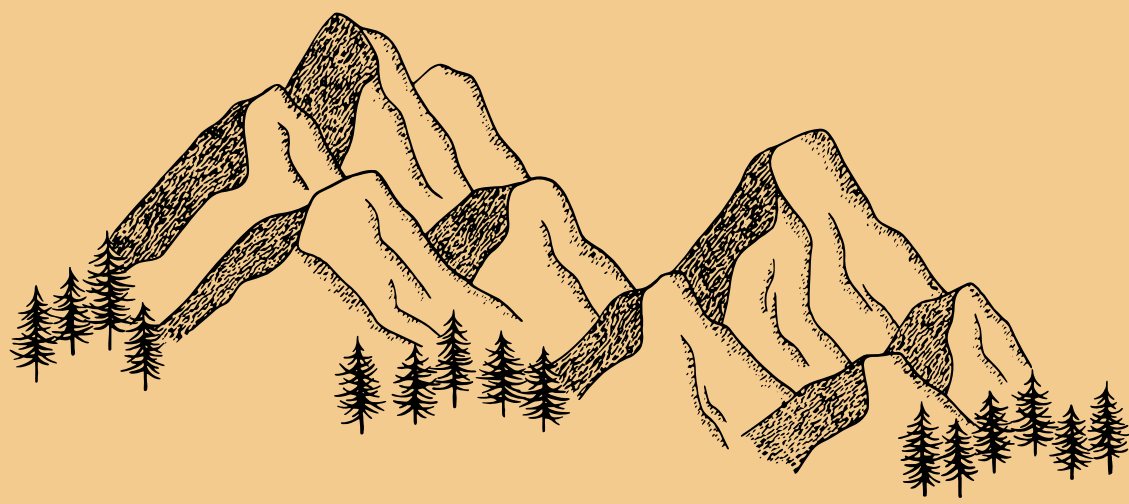
Grandmother and grandfather lived in the village. One day, grandfather planted a beetroot. Beet was growing and growing until it was very oversized. The grandfather tried to pull the beetroot out, but he couldn't do it alone. He called grandmother for help. Grandfather and grandmother pulled, but they couldn't pull that beet out. Whenever they couldn't pull out the beet, they called for help another household member: granddaughter, dog, cat. They could pull the beet only when the last member come - the mouse. The message behind this fairytale is about cooperation, teamwork and that also something small as mouse can be a part of something much more bigger and even little contribution could have a huge meaning.







# GEORGIA



# WHO WE ARE

We are from the country which is located on the crossroad of Europa and Asia, therefore we represent the culture with European and Asian elements. Our strategic georgraphic location is one of the primary reasons for our diverse and cultural features.



For us to be a Georgian means to have understanding and to value our freedom and peace. It means to be able to find the middle point between our traditions and modern life. Being a Georgian means to be honored to be a part of ancient history ,culture and amazing nature.

# WHAT WE WANT OTHERS TO KNOW ABOUT US

## US

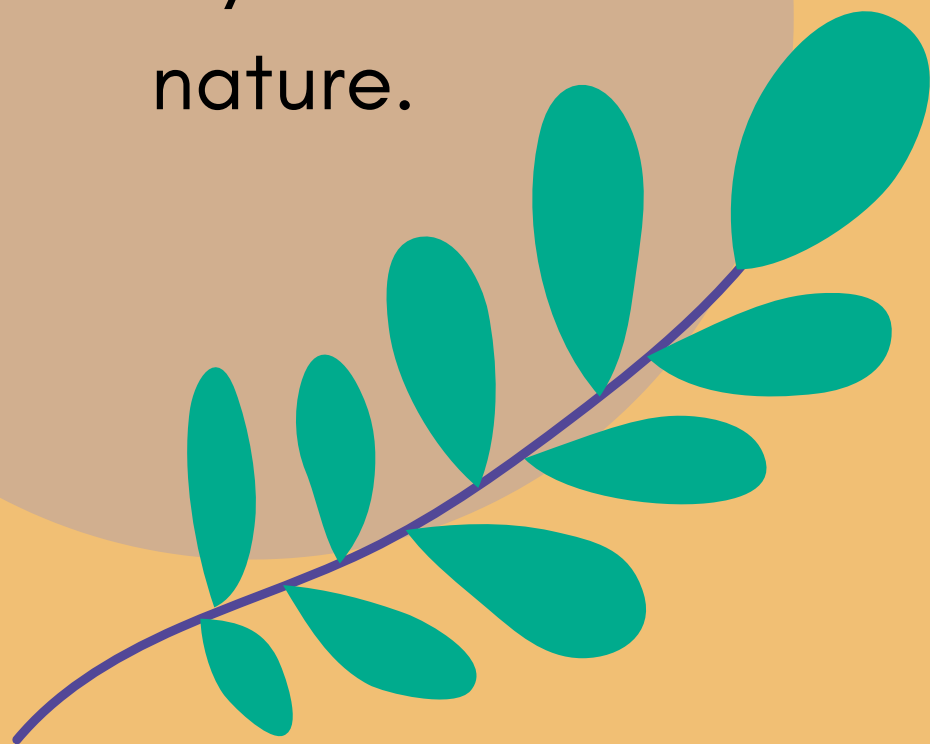
We want others to know that we aren't the state of USA



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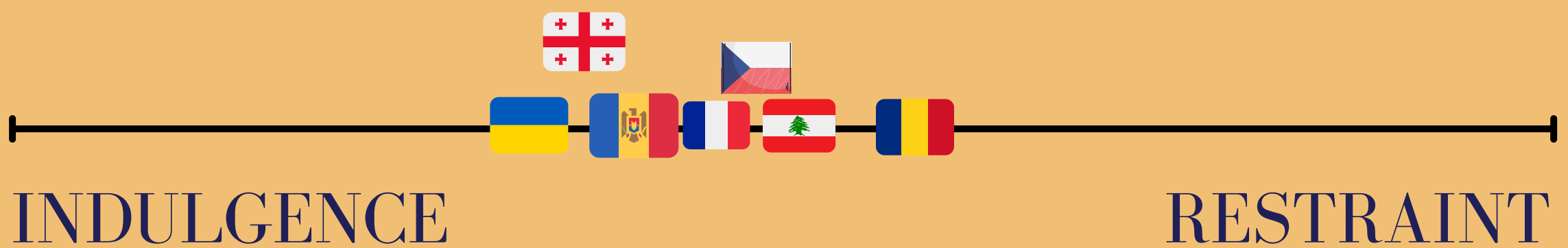
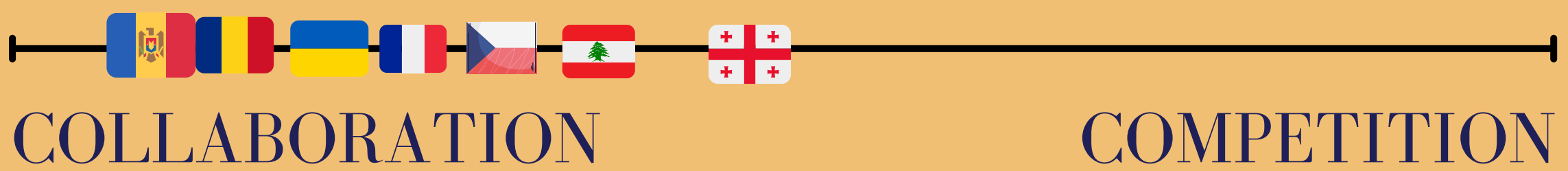
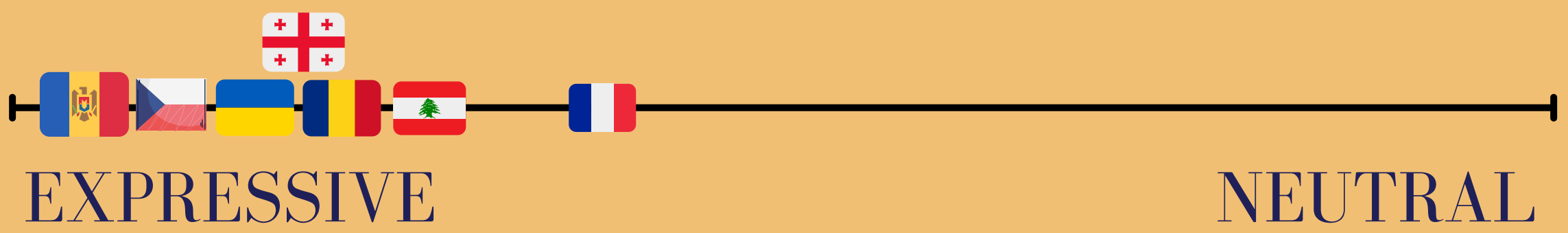
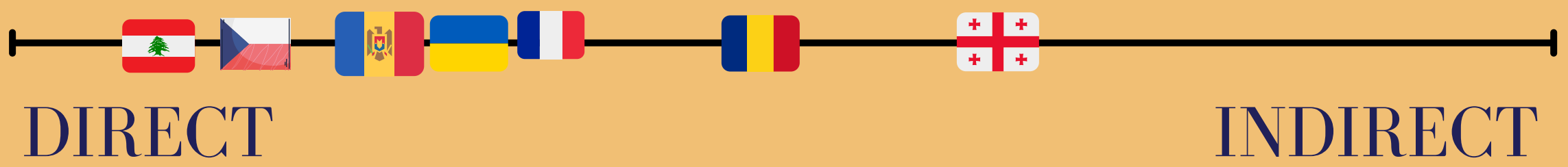
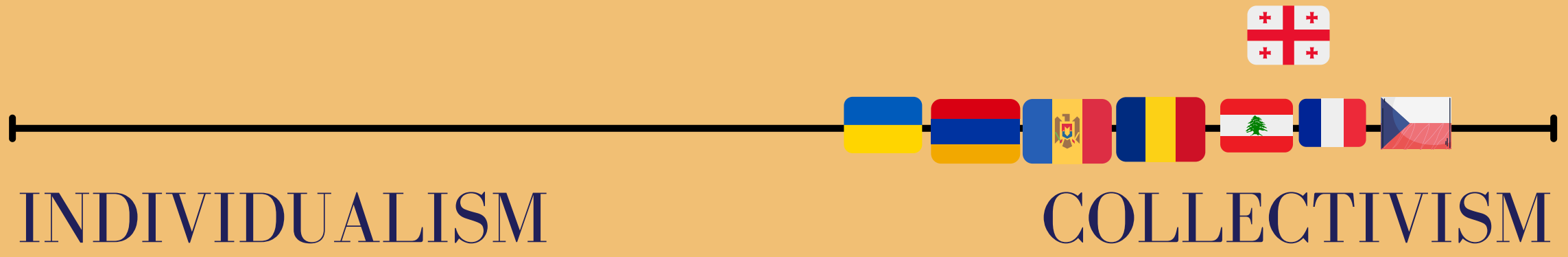
We have our own language and alphabet.

We have a very diverse and rich nature.



Our folclore is famouse for its polyphony, for example : "Chakrulo" by Hamlet Gonashvili was one of 29 musical compositions included on the Voyager Golden Records.

# DIMENSIONS OF OUR CULTURE



# OUR GAME

## THE BIRDS (STOCKS)

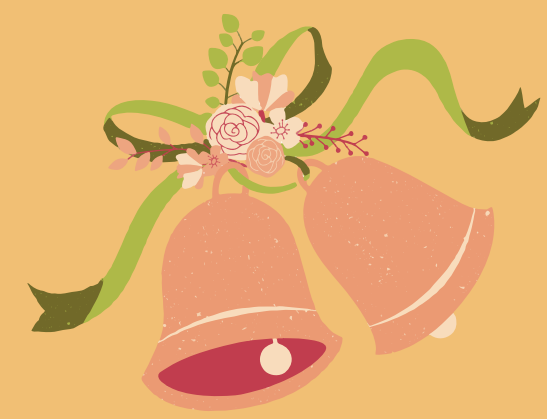


At first people make a circle and each of them reaches their hands to the sides and touches the right one on another's front and the left one on another's behind. Then players slapped each others hand one by one (whilest saying a part pf the phrase) :

- 1.The birds
- 2.Are Flying
- 3.where ?
- 4.Far away
- 5.How many
- 6.Number...

Than they start counting one by one and slapping to each others hands.The last number said must avoid the slap.





# OUR RITUAL

## THE WEDDING



Usually in Georgian weddings the couple enter the wedding hall through two rows of men holding and crossing the diggers above the couples heads.

### Dance

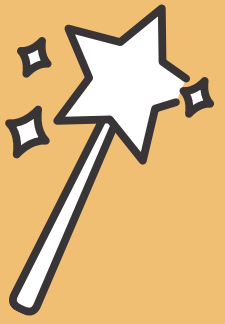
After entering the couple start dancing „Qartuli” (Georgian national dance)



### Tamada

You will certainly see „Tamada” in a typical Georgian wedding. He leads the feast „Supra” and there is a sequence of toasts in any „Supra” in Georgia and the first is about peace. It's a combination of western weddings with Georgian folklor





# OUR FAIRY-TALE



## TWO BROTHERS

Once upon a time in a tiny village there lived one poor couple. They had two sons. They lived in poverty, lacking bread and money.

The sons grew up. The older brother married and settled with his parents. There was not even any room left for the younger brother. So he settled at the end of the village.

The two brothers had their own small farms, which was the only income for them.

After a while the younger brother married and the life became even more difficult, but he did not give up, he worked hard and hoped for the future.

Nor did the older brother live better. He had his parents along with his wife and children to feed. But neither of these broke his beliefs, he worked hard and had the hope for the future.

After a while, there was a bad harvest for the year, the drought affected the fields.

The younger brother thought, that his brother would have a hard time that year, he lived in poverty, his mother and father were on his shoulders with his wife and children. So he decided to take some of his harvest secretly and add to his brother's.

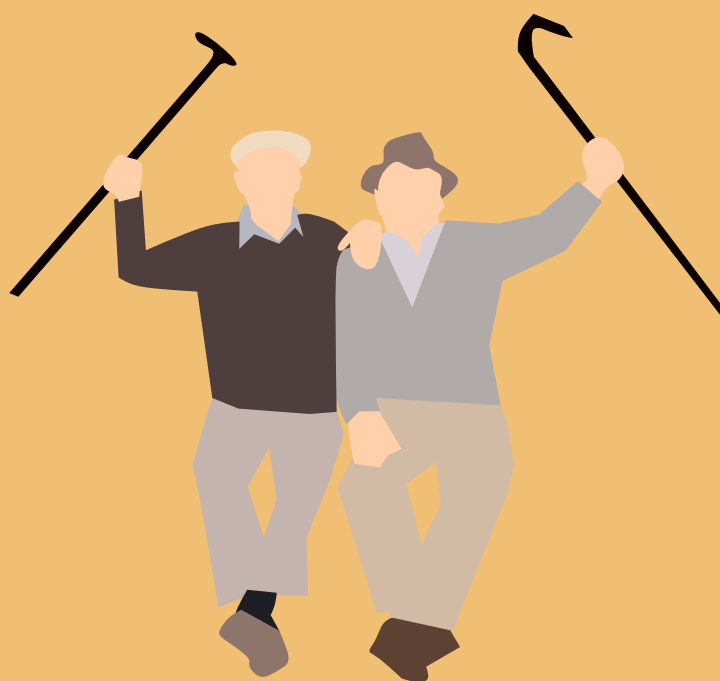
When it got dark, he took some of the harvest to his brother's home. The moon had not yet risen, but he saw a man on the road, he was carrying some harvest too.

When he got back to home his harvest was the same amount. He was confused.

He took the heavy load again and went back to his brother's.

In the middle of the way he came across the man who was carrying some load again and he recognised his brother.

The older brother also had thought the same. They talked the whole story to each other, hugged each other. Their hearts were melted. Such was their brotherhood, and they lived happily ever after.





FRANCE



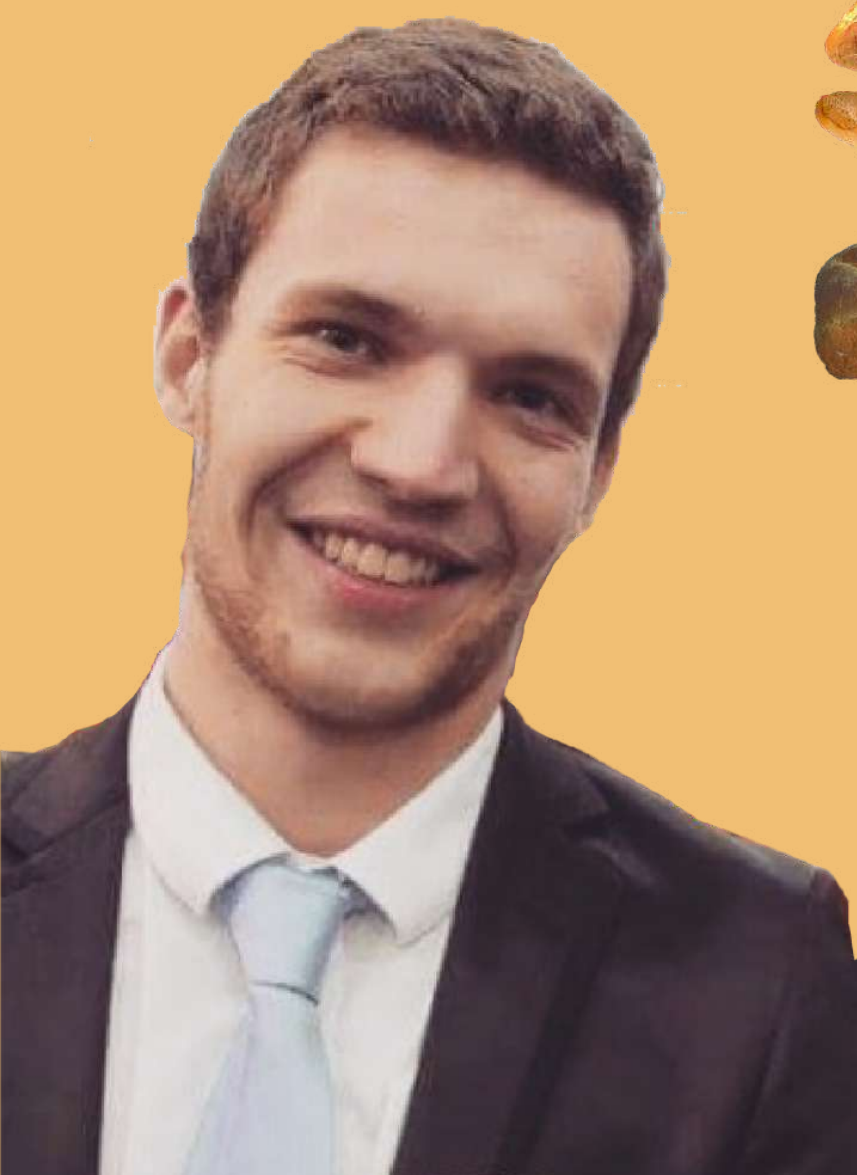




# WHO WE ARE

We put food and family at the center of our lives : it's really common to spend hours gathering and eating to get updated on each other' lives. We're not afraid to say out of loud what we think: regarding workload, politics or bad fashion.

To be French means knowing how to behave in society, how to enjoy proper wine, how to respect each others' opinion and eventually how to spend good and productive time with people. It's also true that we're never happy about what we have and always find something to complain about.



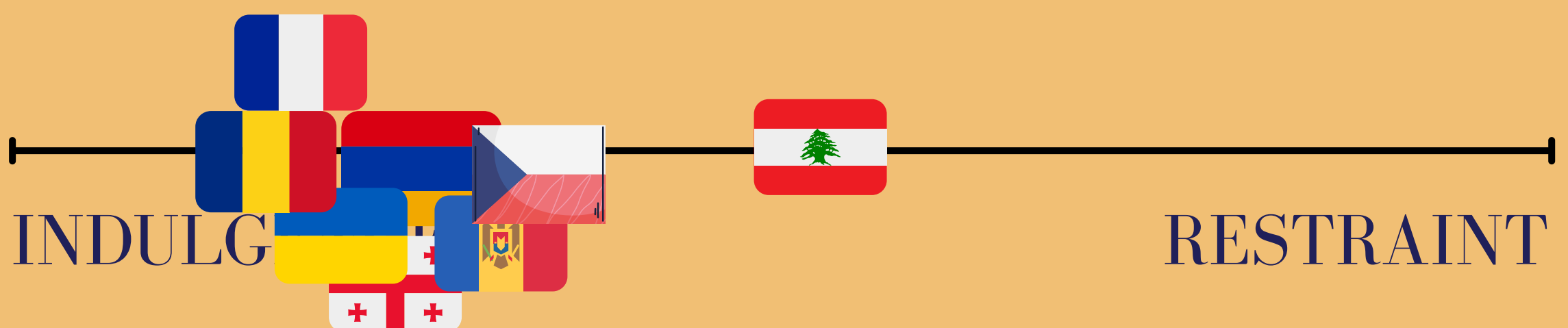
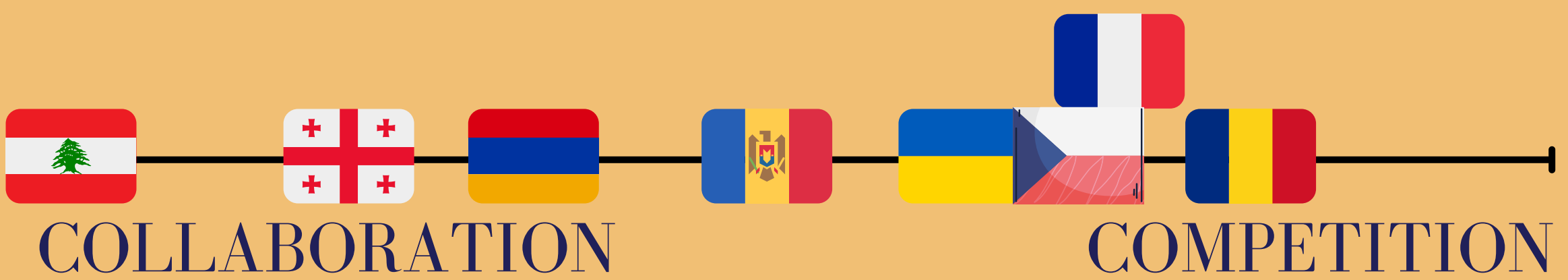
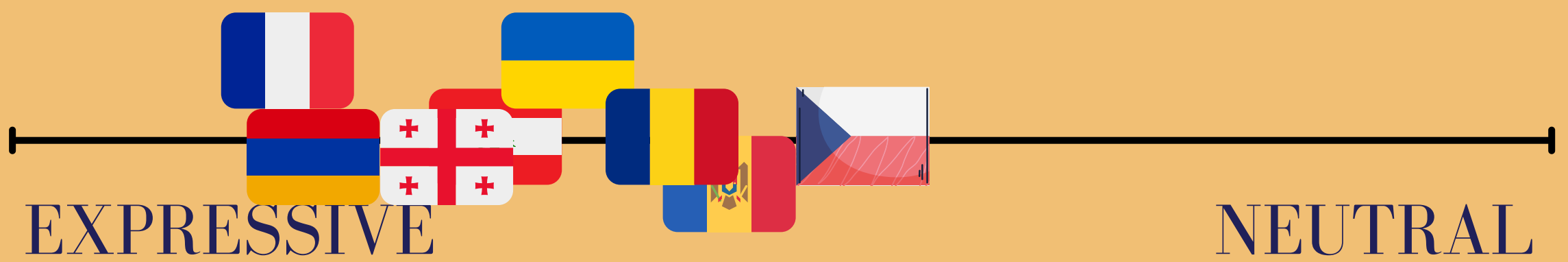
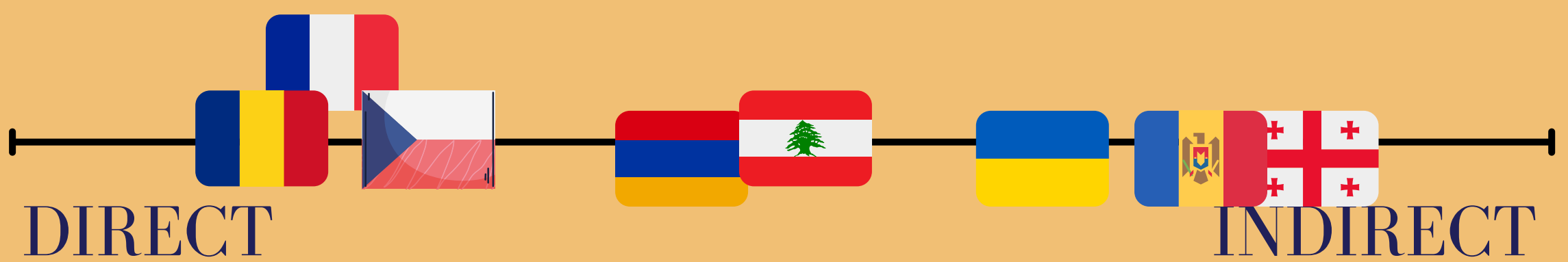
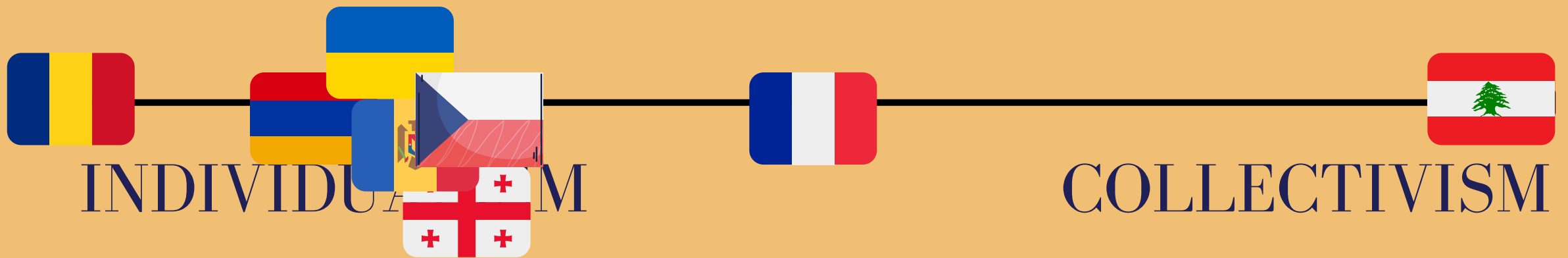
How do we wanna be seen by the others?  
We wanna be considered as welcoming and always up for adventures : we're lucky to have a country with many different natural landscapes and we want foreigners to enjoy it. Having a swim in the French Riviera, go on a hike in the Alps and finally enjoy the history of Versailles.



But most of all, it's all about apéro : have a baguette, some cheese and some saucisson, and spend the whole evening with friends / people either on the beach, by the river or in a parc.



# DIMENSIONS OF OUR CULTURE



# OUR GAME



One child is against a wall (for exemple, his name is Lucas). He looks at the wall. The other children are behind a starting line, which is 8 or 10 meters far from the wall. Lucas hits 3 times the wall, saying “1, 2, 3 soleil”. During that time, the other children walk or run. Lucas can’t see them. When Lucas says the word “soleil”, he turns over and the other children have to stop moving. They have to remain motionless. Lucas can see and check them. If someone moves, Lucas tells him to go back to the starting line. Then Lucas continues (he hits 3 times...) until one child touches the wall. This child is the winner. This is his turn to be against the wall (instead of Lucas)...



# OUR RITUAL

Galette des rois (King cake) The "Galette des Rois" is a cake traditionally shared at Epiphany, on 6 January. It is composed of a puff pastry cake, with a small charm hidden inside. The cake is generally filled with frangipane. To serve the cake, first of all the youngest child of the table has to hide under the table and tell whoever is cutting the cake who should get which piece. Whoever finds the charm, known as a "fève" in their slice (as long as they don't swallow it) becomes the king or the queen and names his Queen or her King. Of course, who gets the charm has to wear the golden paper crown and theoretically bosses the rest of the family around all day. This French ritual ceremony is to celebrate Christian holiday, Epiphany commemorating the arrival of the Magi, or three kings, to the birthplace of the Baby Jesus, which explains the other name for the holiday in French: "Fête Des Rois" – Feast of Kings. This embodies sharing.



# OUR FAIRY-TALE

Le chêne et le roseau

The oak and the reed



Nearby a lake, an oak and a reed where living. The oak was making fun of the reed everyday : for even a light breeze, the reed was folding while the oak was not even moving.

One day, a tremendous tempeste was raging. The reed was bending until the ground while the oak, slowly, got unrooted.

Sometimes being flexible is the key!



# THE FRENCH TEAM

## 🦉 🦉 LA ROYAUTE 🦉 🦉

Thank you!



Julien • Gabriella • Théo



The King



The Queen



The Princess



Supapradit  
(Nino)



Sedrak



MED13 NGO





LEBANON





# WHO WE ARE

We're from the country of **contradictions**, where you can find the veiled religious person talking to an atheist. A **Christian country with 18 sects**.

The country with the breathtaking nature, high mountains, ever ending **Cedar Forests**. The country where you find helpful and generous people everywhere ready to offer you any help regardless of their need or vulnerability.



Church next to a mosque in Beirut

We are from a country of limited opportunities for **talented** who immigrate for descent life.

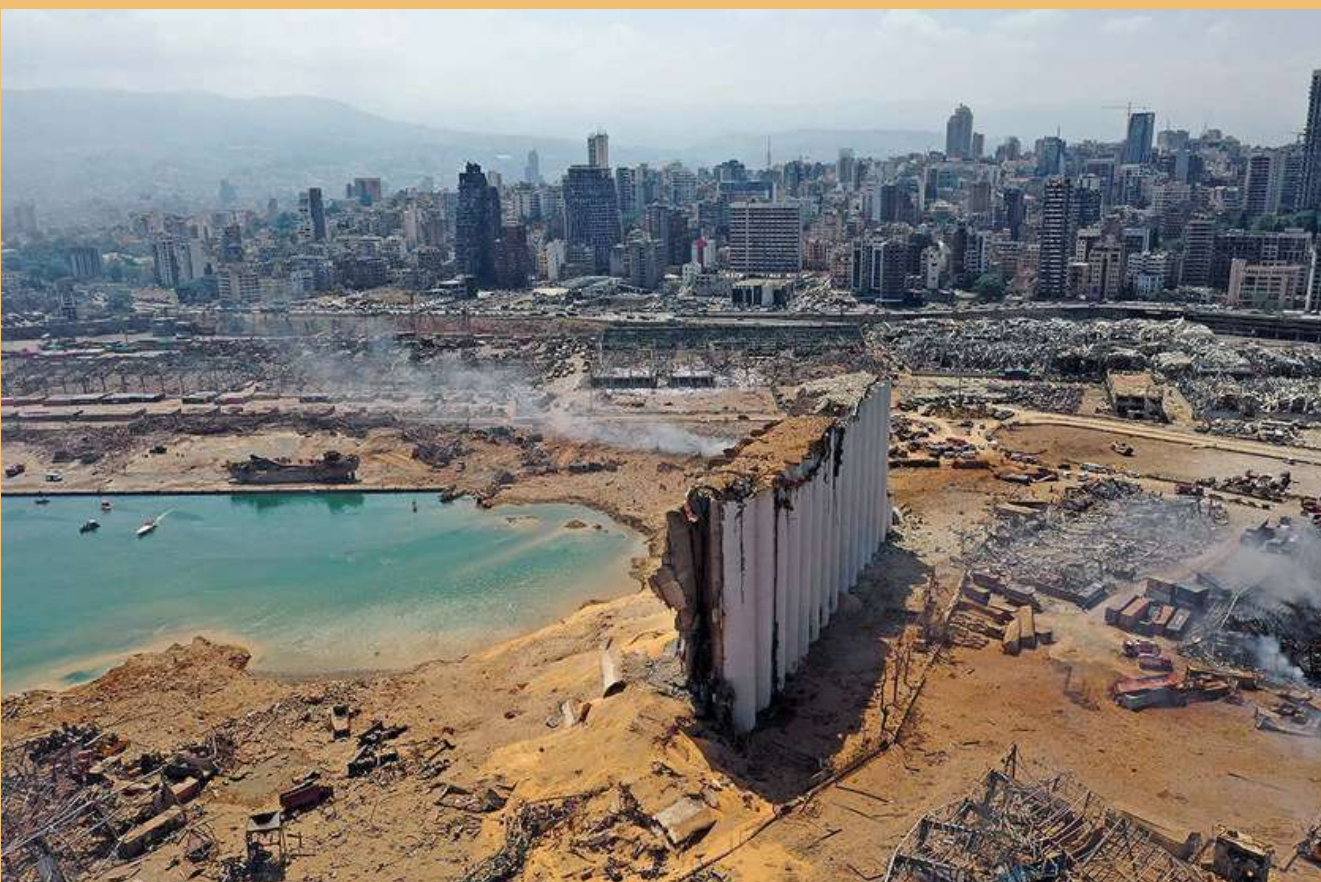
We ate the **happiest depressed people you would ever meet**

We're always on a survival mode hoping for a **better tomorrow**

Lebanon is still thriving to survive a blast the second after Hiroshima in August 2020 - known as **BEIRUTSHIMA!** A blast that was a spontaneous call that drove people without coordination nor planning to to take action, to be on the streets, cleaning and searching for what is still left from human beings. Everyone opened their homes for people they don't even know, everyone offered food and supplies, even all immigrants and NGOs have been helping in all ways possible!



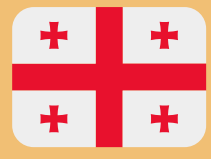
Lebanese revolution 2019



Maybe this is what makes us as Lebanese "special"! This is what Lebanese are known for: Generosity and support! And despite everything, still, Syrians, Palestinians, and Iraqis are welcomed in Lebanon!

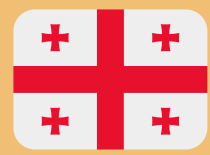


# DIMENSIONS OF OUR CULTURE



INDIVIDUALISM

COLLECTIVISM



DIRECT

INDIRECT



EXPRESSIVE

NEUTRAL



COLLABORATION

COMPETITION



INDULGENCE

RESTRAINT

# OUR GAME

## Ta2 Ta2 Ta2eye

- players sit on the ground in a circle
- one is chosen to revolve around the seated people, holding a hat or a handkerchief (ta2eye) in his hand and spinning a full circle repeating the game song.
- children who are seated are not allowed to turn or look back
- with a light of his hand and without anyone noticing it, he puts the "ta2eye" behind the back of someone he chooses, and speeds around until he gets away in anticipation of feeling its condition and catches him hitting him with it
- if the player sitting in the circle noticed when his colleague put the cap behind his back, he picks it up at once and quickly follows his colleague to hit him with it before he completes the circle around the circular ring
- if his colleague succeeds in reaching the place from which he got up and sits in his place before he catches him or hits him with a cap, he is considered a loser
- then the chosen player takes the role of his colleague by going around the boys sitting in the circle
- Either if he catches up with him and hits him with a trap, he is considered a winner and his colleague is killed - that is, out of the game - and he sits in the middle of the circle, and he becomes the owner of the role instead of his murdered colleague by going around the children sitting, and throwing the "ta2eye" behind one of them..



Ring, ring, bell Turn around and ride on the horse..  
Strength stamina..

**THE SONG**



# OUR RITUAL



Late night gathering at "BARBAR" ... After Party

COMPLAINING ABOUT LEBANON...  
BUT ATTACHED TO **LEBANON**

USING WORDS FROM THREE  
DIFFERENT LANGUAGES.



LEBANESE CUISINE



LISTENING  
TO FAIRUZ  
WITH THE  
MORNING  
COFFEE



Making  
jokes  
about any  
hardship



Lebanese Memes  
SOLUTIONS

Hi.. "Hiyayn"  
Bonjour...  
"Bonjourayn"

Making up words for any situation

'Habibi' = my love  
"Oyooni" = my eyes

Using Endearment  
when seriously arguing

*INSHALLAH (OR IF GOD WILLS IT)*

# OUR FAIRY-TALE

**“ONE THOUSAND NIGHTS AND ONE NIGHT,”** ARABIC TITLE OF THE WORLD-FAMOUS COLLECTION OF TALES KNOWN IN ENGLISH AS THE ARABIAN NIGHTS. THE FIRST PUBLISHED TRANSLATION, BY ANTOINE GALAND.

A Sasanian sovereign established in the islands of India and China has two sons who themselves are kings: Šāhzamān in Samarqand, and Šahrīār in India and China. The first, invited by his younger brother to visit him, forgets to bring with him a gift, returns to his palace, and finds his wife in the company of a black slave. After killing the guilty couple he starts off again and arrives at his brother's.

One day when the latter has gone off hunting Šāhzamān catches sight of the queen and her women behaving odiously with black slaves. Šahrīār finally extracts an account of the scene; having verified it, he invites Šāhzamān to travel in search of a companion in misfortune. They arrive on the seashore and are approached by a jinn carrying a trunk; once opened, it discloses a woman of marvelous beauty; while the jinn is asleep, she forces the two brothers to give in to her desires and tells them: “This jinn carried me off on my wedding night, locked me up in a box, put the box in a trunk with seven locks and set me down on the bottom of the sea. He did not know that anything we want, we women, we obtain.” The brothers return to Šahrīār's capital; the latter has the queen and her women and slaves beheaded and decides to take every night a virgin bride, whose head he will have cut off on the morrow.

The real frame-work of the story Thousand and One Nights, which serves to keep death at bay, must have introduced the Hazār afsān: At the end of three years Šahrīār's vizier is unable to find a young girl to bring to the king, for the town is depopulated. He returns home disheartened and uneasy about his own fate, but his daughter Šahrāzād offers herself and obtains permission from the king to bring with her her young sister Dīnārzād, whom she has instructed to ask her every night for a story. One thousand and one nights thus pass, at the end of which Šahrāzād is definitively saved.





Tripoli



Byblos



Baalbek

Jounieh

Beirut



Zahle



Sidon

Jezzine



Nabatiyeh

Tyre

LEBANON

# THE TEAM



[www.ydo-lb.com](http://www.ydo-lb.com)

insta: YDO ME



PARLAMENTUL REPUBLICII MOLDOVA

MOLDOVA

MOLDOVA

# WHO WE ARE



**As of being Moldovans, our people are very proud of that, even though they might have hard times living in our country. We love our culture, our nature, our language and our people, also we enjoy our wine, it being a symbol of Moldova.**

**1. We Moldovans are a nation living in the south eastern Europe, having a small country but a very rich culture and a lot of entertaining traditions. We are simple people. Talking about history, since the first centuries, our territory has been under the occupations of many big empires, such as Roman, Otoman and Russian Empires, we had a lot of wars, but we stood still. As a result , their culture left a mark on ours, we have architectural and cultural influences from them.**



**Moldovans usually don't show the bad side of their lives, for example, when we have guest, we try to make our best, we have very big tables and we spend a lot of money on "partying". So we want the others to know about us that we are hospitable, big-hearted, optimist and happy people, and mostly, so we are.**



# OUR TEAM



**Anatolie Baractari**



**Lilia Petriciuc**



**Revenco Alexandru**



**Lesco Mihai**



**Mocanu Ion**



**Vereteno Anatolie**



**Petcu Tatiana**

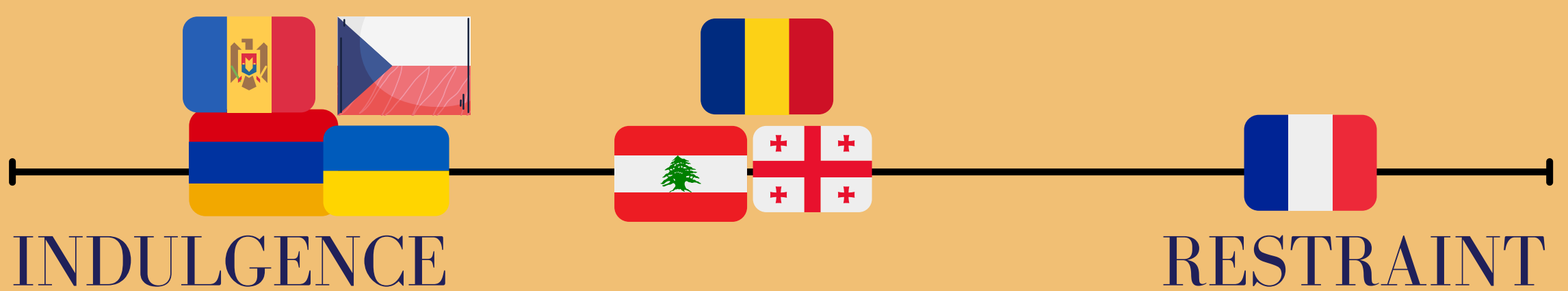
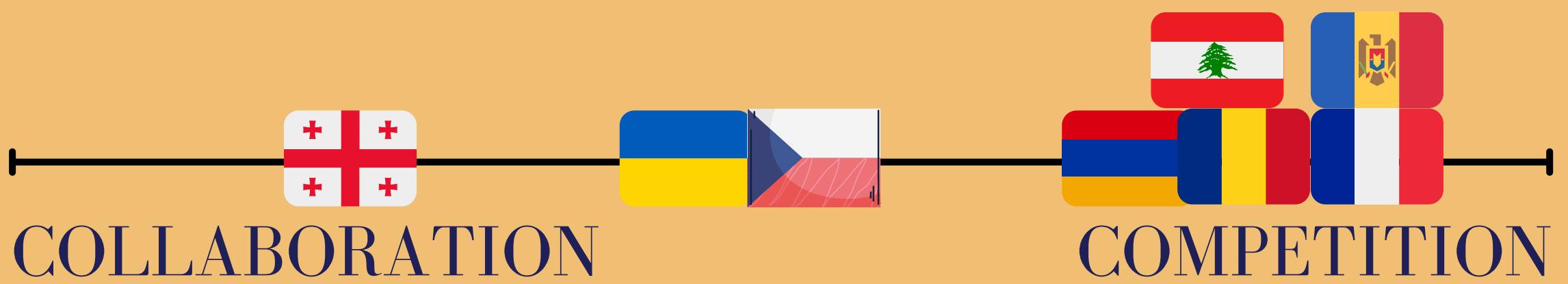
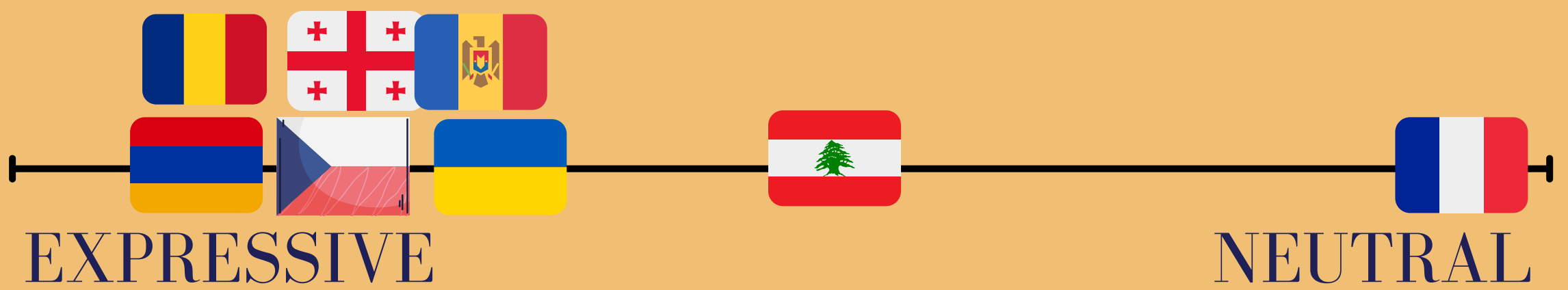
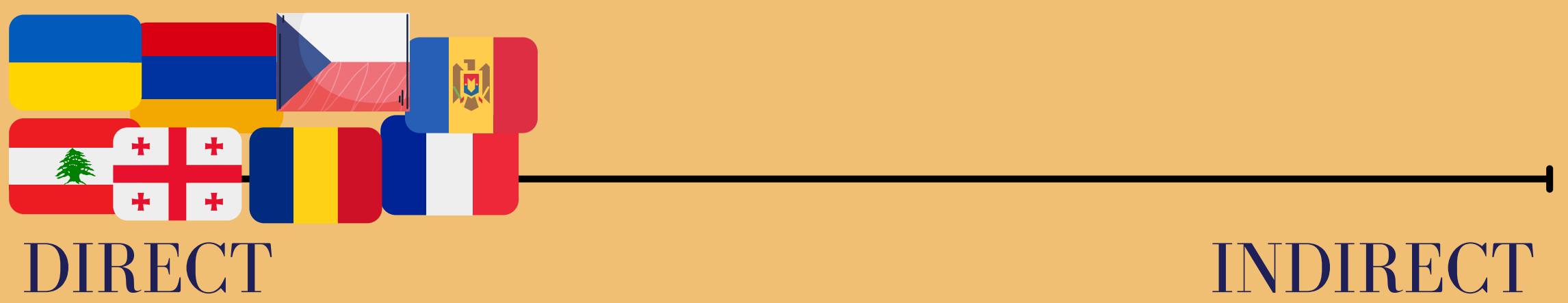
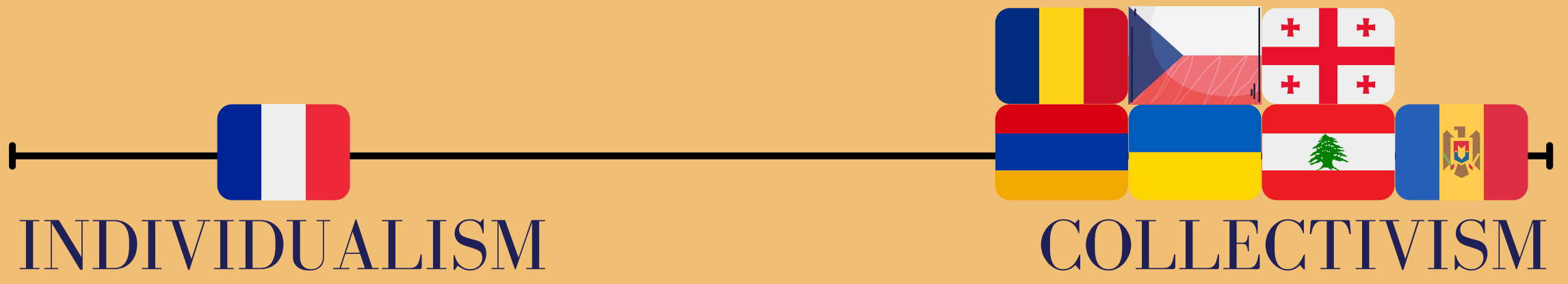


**Bencheci Madalina**



**Ana Sandrovskaja**

# DIMENSIONS OF OUR CULTURE



# OUR GAME

## CAPTAIN, CAPTAIN, GIVE US A SOLDIER



So, basically, the game consists of two rows of players, that have to hold hands, the rows have to be facing each other, just like you see in the video on the left side . The first group starts by saying:

"Captain, Captain, give us a soldier". The other group replies with: "Whom do you want?" Then the first group has to say the name of someone in the other group. The player named, has to run to the other row, trying to break the bond between two of the people

In case the runner breaks the handshake, he chooses one of the players who's bond he had broken, and takes him back to his team.

Otherwise, if the player couldn't break it, he has to stay in the opposite team,



The game ends when a team has only one member left.

# OUR RITUAL



*"Uratura" is a common ritual in Moldovan culture, which takes place on the 31st of December on New Years Eve. If you try to translate it into english, its something like "Wishes for well-being". It consists from a group of children going from door to door and singing a kind of a*

*poem. It has a specific manner that sounds like "shouting", but it's in fact a very beautiful tradition, with a lot of wishes for health, wealth, money, a good harvest for the villagers and prosperity.*

*After listening to the childrens chanting, the host offers them some sweets, cookies and money, as a gratitude for their warm-hearted wishes. This way all of the people wish their family and friends a prosper New Year.*



*The values that we share through this ritual, are love, family, well-being, respect, generosity, unity and patriotism. Even though it is an old tradition, it's still widely practiced nowadays. Youngsters enjoy this tradition very much and tend to develop and adapt it to the modern era.*

# OUR FAIRY-TALE

## The Goat and her three kids

by Ion Creanga

Once upon a time there was a goat with three kids. The little one was hardworking and always listening to his mother. But the older kids were looking for trouble all the time.

One day, the mother goat told her kids: – Dear kids, I have to go in the woods to bring food.

Please, keep the door locked after I'll leave and don't open it until you hear my voice. When I am back, you'll hear this little song:

Three kids, little kids

Open the door to your mommy

Mommy's bringing to you all

Fresh grass on the lips

Milk and salt on the back...

– Do you understand?

And all the three kids answered together:

– Yes, mama!



– So let me kiss you goodbye and I'll be back soon with lots of goodies!

Mother goat went in the woods, the little kid locked the door and they all started playing in the house.

Meanwhile, the bad wolf, having heard the conversation between the mother goat and the kids about the song, started singing the same song to the kids, hoping this way he would trick them and they would open the door to him.

Three kids, little kids

Open the door to your mommy

Mommy's bringing to you all

Fresh grass on the lips

Milk and salt on the back...

The oldest kid as soon as he heard the song jumped down to open the door, thinking that his mother was there!

But the little one cried:

– Don't open the door! It's not mother, she has a lovely voice, this one is rough and harsh!

When the wolf heard such things, he went to the blacksmith to ask him to sharp his voice!

Then he came back and started singing again:

Three kids, little kids

Open the door to your mommy

Mommy's bringing to you all

Fresh grass on the lips

Milk and salt on the back...

The oldest kid was very sure that now it was his mama.

– Who else could it be? I'll open the door, she must be tired and full of goodies.

– My brother! I feel it's not mama. Please, don't open! says the little one.



But the oldest kid didn't listen and opened the door! The middle kid hid under a blanket and the little one in the fireplace.

The oldest kid didn't open the door well and in a blink of an eye the wolf ate it greedily. He started searching the rest of the house, he was sure that other kids must be in the house.

– Well, well... It seems to me that I've heard more voices. I'll rest a little before leaving.

Then he laid on the blanket and felt something under the blanket. It was the poor middle kid!

The hungry wolf ate it too.

When the wolf left, the little kid went out of the fireplace, blocked the door and started crying inconsolably over its brothers.

Meanwhile, the mother goat came back home from the woods and she started to sing the

song:

Three kids, little kids  
Open door to your mommy  
Mommy's bringing to you all  
Fresh grass on my lips  
Milk and salt on my back...

The little kid jumped to open the door and fell in his mother arms, crying desperately and started to tell the sad story to his mother. Mother goat cried and cried until she decided to punish the bad wolf. She started cooking all kind of goodies, made a hole in the garden, covered it with woods, embers and brambles and made a table and a chair in wax.

When everything was ready, she went in the forest to look for the wolf to invite him to the mourning feast. The wolf was getting some rest in the shadow of an old oak.

"Good day to you, mother goat! What brings you here?"

"A tragedy happened when I was in the woods. Somebody ate all my kids and now I came to invite you to eat something for their memory and remembrance."

"Glad about your invitation!" said the wolf.

They went to the goats' house, and while mother goat was crying in pain, the wolf was pretending that he was very shocked by the news and tried all the time to blame the bear for what had happened. Back at the house, mother goat invited the wolf to seat on the wax chair, and started bringing him food

.- Bon Appetit, says the goat!

- Thank you, the wolf answered politely and, being very greedy, he was eating very fast all the tasteful food. While he was eating, the wax chair melted and the wolf fell in the fire hole!

- Get me out of here, screamed the wolf, I am burning alive!

- Burn there, wolf, like my heart burned of pain in my chest after my babies.

- Don't let me die! Have mercy! implored the wolf.

- Did you have mercy for my kids? asked the mother goat.

The news about the wolf's death soon travelled through the forest and were heard by all the goats. And all the goats were pleased with the well deserved end of the bad wolf.



# ROMANIA





# WHO WE ARE

We, as representatives of the Romanian people, can say we have a complex culture, with a colorful and rich heritage, dating back for thousands of years.



We consider ourselves a proud nation, sticking to our traditions, habits and cuisine while welcoming people with open arms.

When it comes to our geography, we are very lucky because we got every kind of land forms: from natural beauties like streams, mountains, cascades, beaches, to a continental temperature, which means we have 4 seasons, with warm and sunny summer days and cold, snowy winters.



For us, to be Romanian means we have a strong background and a clear family tree. Being a post-communist nation, we are more reserved than others; we value our personal space, freedom and our rights.

We consider it is important for others to know that Romania is a multicultural country, having several ethnicities living together.



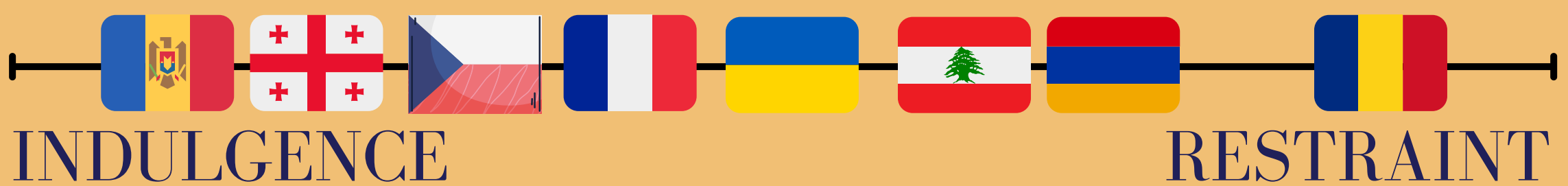
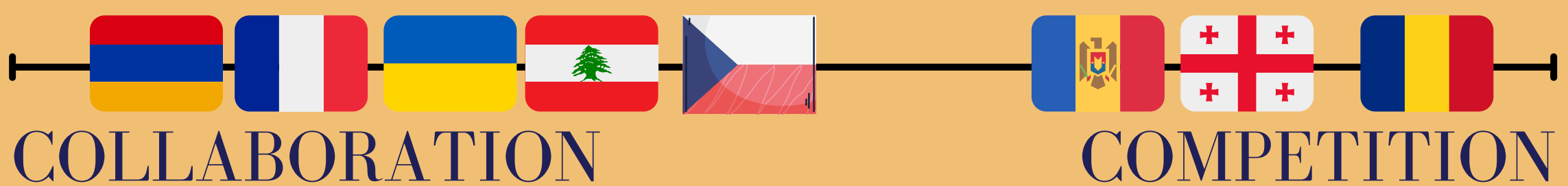
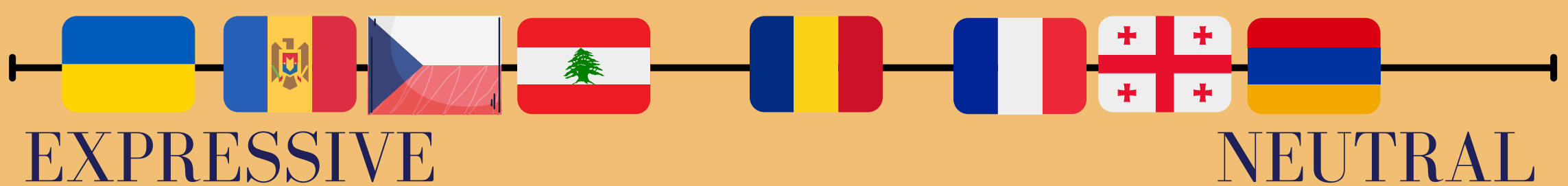
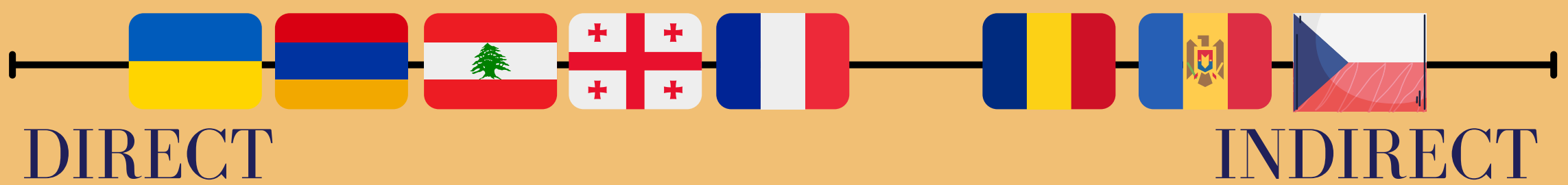
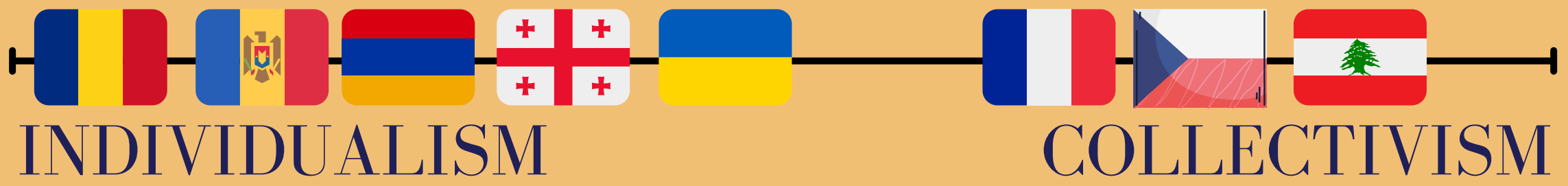
We have the biggest delta and the highest number of wild bears from Europe, more than 10.000 caves and the second biggest governmental building after the Pentagon.



Moreover, Romanians are familyists, they have high respect for the parents and the older ones, and they usually form strong and long lasting friendships.

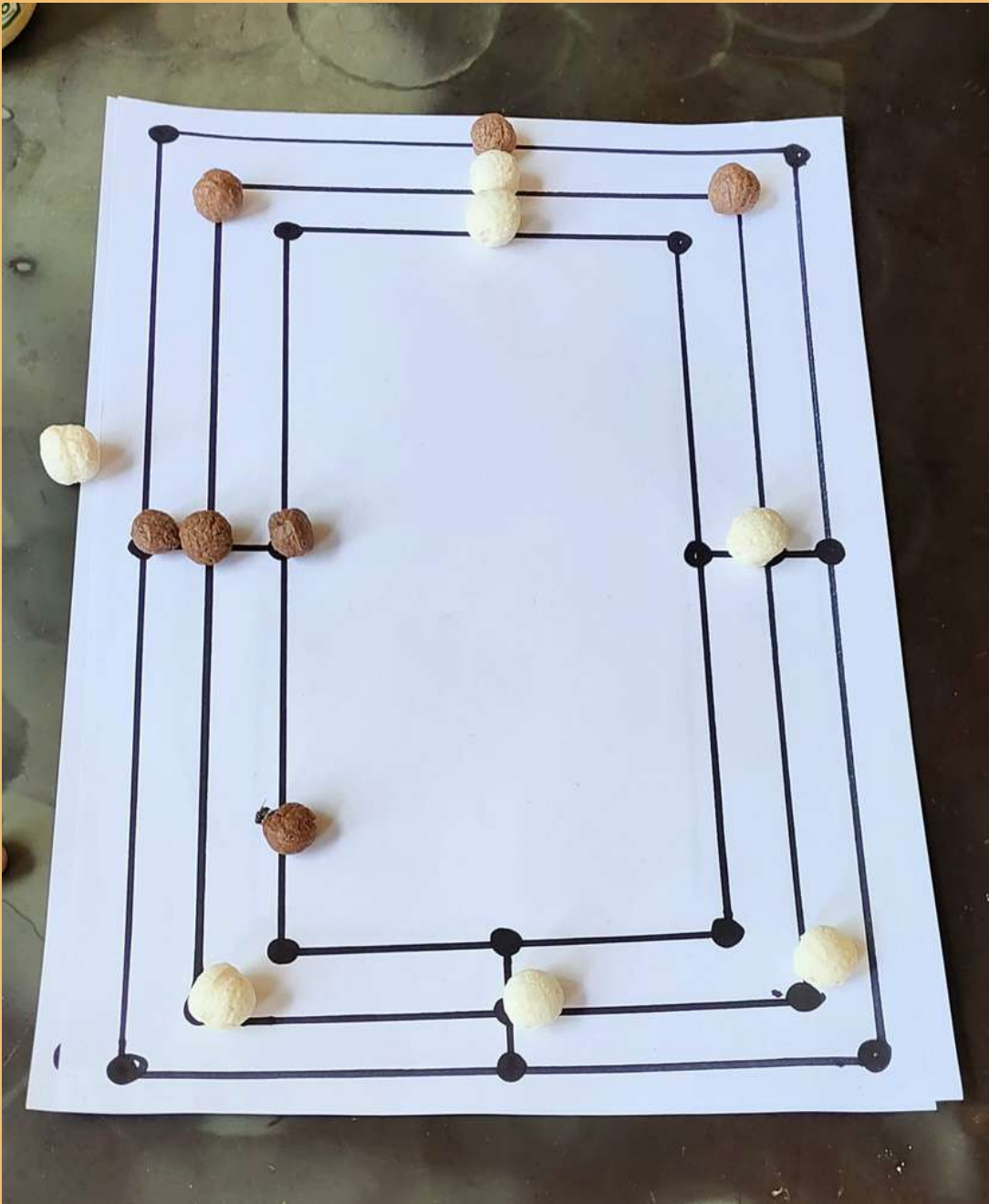


# DIMENSIONS OF OUR CULTURE



# OUR GAME

## Moară/Mills



A strategy game where you have to not let your oponent win while creating opportunities for your win.

Each player starts with 9 pieces with the goal of creating a straight line of 3 (a mill). When you have a line, you pick one of your oponent's pieces and take it out of the game.

You can not pick a piece from an existing mill unless no other option. The game ends when one player has only 2 pieces left hence they are unable to create a mill, so they lose.

During the first phase of the game, each player alternatively places their pieces. During the second phase, each player alternatively moves one piece to the nearby empty slot connected by a line.



# OUR RITUAL

## Cutting the lock

The hair of the baby is not cut until he/she is one year old, when only the godfather can cut their first lock of hair. The godparents have to be married, only orthodoxism as a religion is allowed.



The baby is provided with some objects on a silver tray, and he or she has to choose three of them, that will predict their future.

After that, a bath is made to the baby by his or her grandmother, and it differs from boys to girls. This tradition has not changed over the years but is kept only in a couple of regions. With the lock, the fears of the baby are also „cut“.



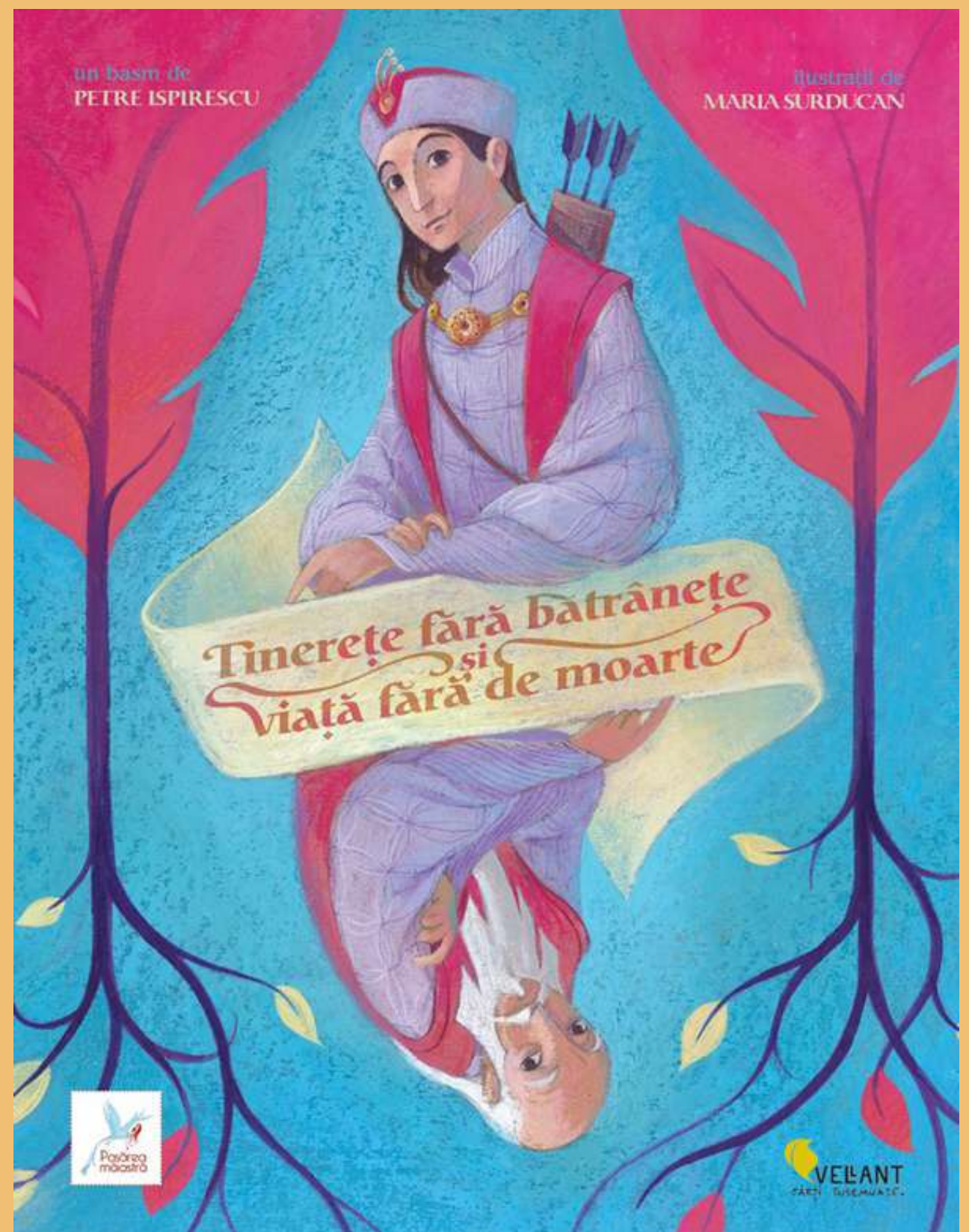
This performance represents at the same time a tradition and a religious ritual. Cutting the lock is a ceremony that is passed down from one generation to another.

# OUR FAIRY-TALE

## Youth without age and life without death

Once upon a time there was an emperor and an empress who could not have children. They heard of an old man who was skilled in medicine and payed him a visit. Soon the empress became pregnant.

When the time to give birth arrives, the baby cries unrelenting. The emperor makes all sorts of promises to the unborn baby, but without any success. Finally, the emperor promises to give him youth without old age and life without death. Hearing this, the child came into the world.



The handsome boy grew up and became the most skilled learner of his fathers' kingdom, but at the age of fifteen he asked for his birth promise. The emperor told him that it is an impossible request. Thus, the prince set out in search of it.

Firstly, he chose the weakest horse from the stable, who spoke to him and told him to take care of it for six weeks and to take the weapons and clothes from the emperor's youth. After six weeks, the horse turned into a young and strong horse with four wings, a magical and powerful creature that will assist the prince in his quest.

As he walked, the handsome boy came in the kingdom of Gheonoaia, a terrifying witch.

But with the help of the horse, the prince sticks an arrow in Gheonoaia's leg. Gheonoaia prays for him to spare her. The handsome boy returns her leg, while the powerful witch begs the prince to marry one of her beautiful daughters, but he goes on in his journey.

He arrives in the kingdom of Scorpio, the older sister of Gheonoaia. With the help of his horse, Handsome Boy shoots one of her three heads. She asks for mercy and the Handsome Boy returns her head and tells her about his quest.

Continuing his journey, Handsome Boy arrives in the realm of youth without old age and life without death, where all sorts of legions, which tried to kill the Handsome Boy and his horse. With the help of a good fairy, they escape again.

The fairy invites him to the palace where Handsome Boy meets her two older sisters. She asks him to stay with them, telling him that he can walk around the whole kingdom, but stay away from the Valley of Lamentation.

After several days, however, while hunting a rabbit, without realizing it, Handsome Boy arrives in the Valley of Lamentation and suddenly misses his parents terribly.

Thus, he decides to return despite the requests of the three fairies. Arriving in the kingdom of Scorpio, Handsome Boy discovers that there are cities instead of what he saw before, and that people had only heard of Scorpio from the stories of their ancestors. Then he realizes that his beard and hair have turned white.

When he also reached the kingdom of Gheonoaia where everything was changed as well, his beard was up to his waist, and his legs were shaking.

In the end, he finally reaches his parents' kingdom, where he finds nothing but ruin. With tears in his eyes, he looks back and forth as his beard reached his knees.

Death, standing on a throne in front of the prince, slaps him and immediately turns into dust

UKRAINE





# WHO WE ARE

Ukrainian people are very friendly and welcoming. We love our culture and our traditions, large groups and gatherings, always help each other, and consider all people around us to be our best friends.



“

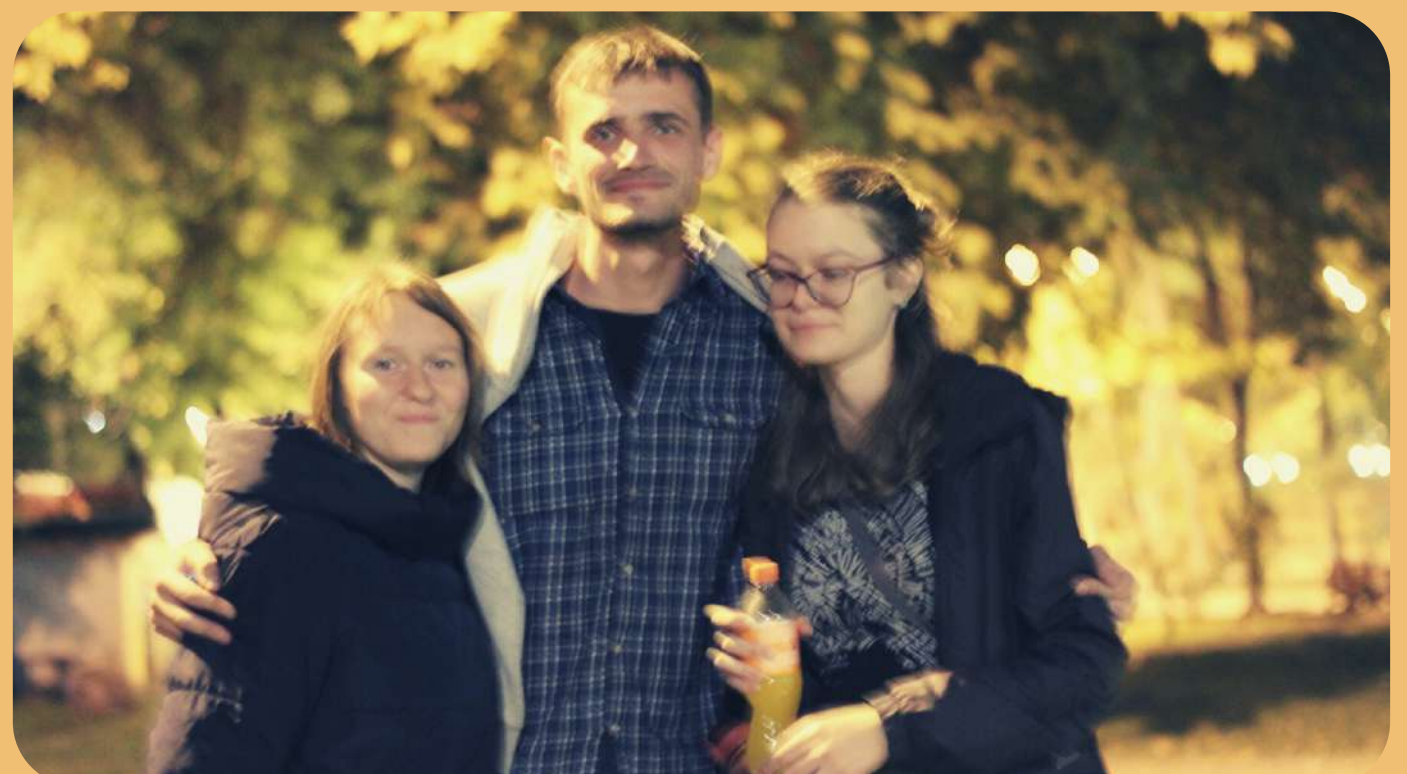
**Ekaterina:** *"I love my country very much! Our people are very welcoming and we`re always waiting for guests in Ukraine. You`re welcome!"*

**Yurij:** *"Ukraine has a beautiful culture, melodic language, and very rough history. The desire for freedom, closeness to nature (wide fields, majestic mountains and the shores of our country are washed by the Black sea) - that's what makes me an Ukrainian".*

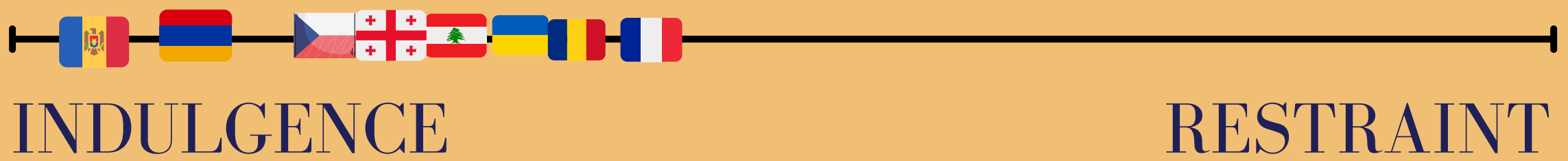
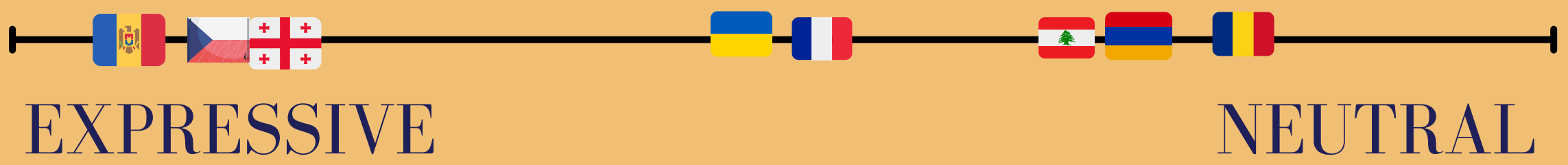
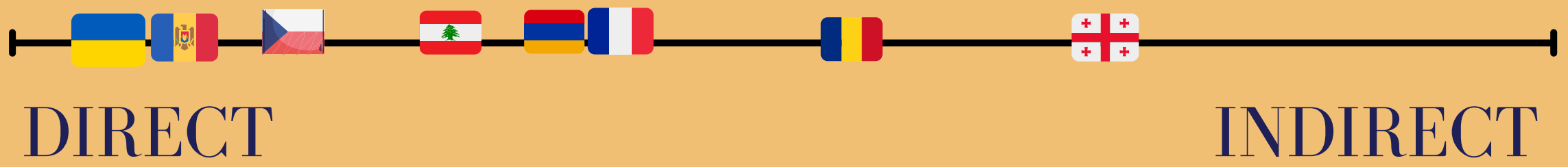
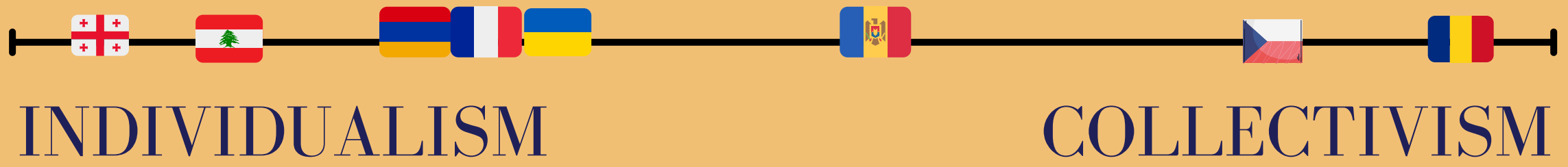


**Nastya:** *"I`m proud to be a daughter of the Ukrainian nation. I believe we will achieve harmony in our Ukrainian society".*

**Sophia:** *"I can see an Ukrainian spirit in all little details in landscape, in every spikelet, the blue sky and each smile of the beautiful Ukrainian people".*



# DIMENSIONS OF OUR CULTURE

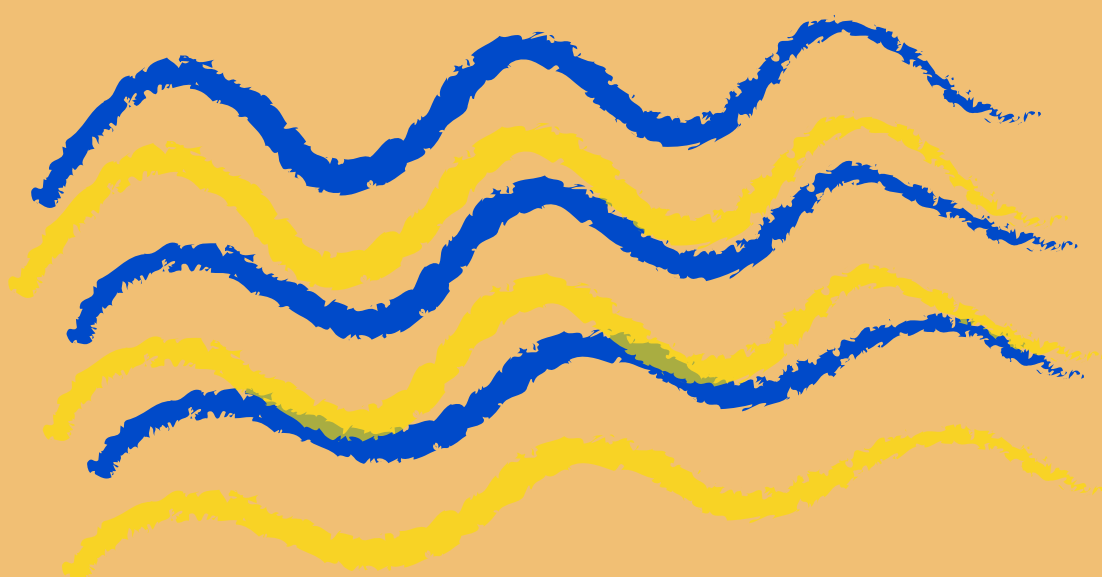


# OUR GAME



**In old days, young people could not imagine any holiday without the game “Rucheiosk” (The Flow)**

The game began with all the participants made pairs standing one after another and raised their hands up, thus forming a corridor. The player who was left without a pair had to go inside the corridor and break the pair, choosing a partner. Then a newly made pair had to go to the end of the corridor, but the one who was left alone had to go to inside the corridor and choose a new partner. The more people participated, the more fun it was.



# OUR RITUAL

## Kolyaduvannya in Ukraine

Kolyadka are traditional songs usually sung in Eastern Slavic, Central Europe and Eastern Europe countries during the Christmas holiday season.

Carolers, who are usually children, sing about the birth of Christ and wish the hosts happiness and prosperity at home, and receive sweets and money as gratitude. It is believed that the more carol singers visit your home, the more abundant will be the whole year that's to come.



Those songs were used with ritual purposes. First kolyadkas described ancient people's ideas about creation, natural phenomenons and structure of the world. With the advent of Christianity content of kolyadkas began to acquire the relevant religious meaning and features.

# OUR FAIRY-TALE

## Teremok (Little Hut)

Once upon a time, a little fly built a tower in the forest. A flea jumped by, saw the tower and knocked on the door:

"Who is it that lives in this nice tall tower?"

"I, the little fly, and who are you?"

"I am the buzzing mosquito. Come live with me!" And a little field mouse ran by and knocked on the door, "Who is it that lives in this nice tall tower?"

"I, the little fly."

"I, the buzzing mosquito, and who are you?"

"I am the little field mouse."

"Come live with us!" And a croaking frog hopped by and knocked on the door, "Who is it that lives in this nice tall tower?"

"I, the little fly."

"I, the buzzing mosquito."

"And I, the little field mouse, and who are you?"

"I am a croaking frog."

"Come live with us!" And a nervous rabbit bounced by and knocked on the door, "Who is it that lives in this nice tall tower?"

"I, the little fly."

"I, the buzzing mosquito."

"I, the little field mouse."

"And I, the croaking frog, and who are you?"

"I am a nervous rabbit."

"Come live with us!"



And a sly fox ran by and knocked on the door, "Who is it that lives in this nice tall tower?"

"I, the little fly."

"I, the buzzing mosquito."

"I, the little field mouse."

"I, the croaking frog."

"And I, the nervous rabbit, and who are you?"

"I am a sly fox."

"Come live with us!" And a gray wolf came by and knocked on the door, "Who is it that lives in this nice tall tower?"

"I, the little fly."

"I, the buzzing mosquito."

"I, the little field mouse."

"I, the croaking frog."

"I, the running rabbit."

"I, the sly fox, and who are you?"

"I am a gray wolf."

"Come live with us!" So they lived happily in the little tower.

Then a big bear came by and roared, "Who is it that lives in this nice tall tower?"

"I, the little fly."

"I, the buzzing mosquito."

"I, the little field mouse."

"I, the croaking frog."

"I, the running rabbit."

"I, the sly fox."

"I, the gray wolf, and who are you?"

"I am the big bear."

"Well, come on in!"

The bear tried to climb into the tower, but no matter how he tried, he just didn't fit.

"I think it would be better if I lived on the roof."

"You will squash us all!"

"No, I won't!" The bear sat down on the roof, and smashed the little tower. All of the other animals managed to jump out of the tower, and went back to the forest to live.

## Rucheek

In old days, young people could not imagine any holiday without the game "Rucheek". The game began with all the participants made pairs standing one after another and raised their hands up, thus forming a corridor. The player who was left without a pair had to go inside the corridor and break the pair, choosing a partner. Then a newly made pair had to go to the end of the corridor, but the one who was left alone had to go to inside the corridor and choose a new partner. The more people participated the more fun it was.

And a sly fox ran by and knocked on the door, "Who is it that lives in this nice tall tower?"  
"I, the little fly."  
"I, the buzzing mosquito."  
"I, the little field mouse."  
"I, the croaking frog."  
"And I, the nervous rabbit, and who are you?"  
"I am a sly fox."  
"Come live with us!" And a gray wolf came by and knocked on the door, "Who is it that lives in this nice tall tower?"  
"I, the little fly."  
"I, the buzzing mosquito."  
"I, the little field mouse."  
"I, the croaking frog."  
"I, the running rabbit."  
"I, the sly fox, and who are you?"  
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"I, the croaking frog."  
"I, the running rabbit."  
"I, the sly fox."  
"I, the gray wolf, and who are you?"  
"I am the big bear."  
"Well, come on in!"  
The bear tried to climb into the tower, but no matter how he tried, he just didn't fit.  
"I think it would be better if I lived on the roof."  
"You will squash us all!"  
"No, I won't!" The bear sat down on the roof, and smashed the little tower. All of the other animals managed to jump out of the tower, and went back to the forest to live.

**Кінець!**



**INTERNATIONAL  
FAIRYTALES**



# THE ABOVYAN BROTHERS

Created by Anatolie (Moldova), Alexandru (Moldova), Madalina (Moldova), Kati (Georgia), Iraqli (Georgia), Audrien (Romania), Nicoleta (Romania), Mariam (Armenia)

*Once upon a time in a distant land, called the Royal Kingdom of Abovyan, the King, the Queen and their three sons were living peacefully. The oldest one was the most handsome prince ever, but he was greedy, selfish and rigid. The middle one was a regular boy who didn't stand out with anything. He used to lay down and do nothing all day long. Whereas the youngest one, being the least good looking, was a very generous, sincere and kind-hearted man.*





One day, the king decided to test them in order to see who will follow the throne and which of them is able to rule the kingdom. Firstly, to prove their bravery and determination, they had to climb the Ararat Mountain. It was a truly hard challenge for the sons; nonetheless they all managed to do it. The second task was to enter a cave, where a magical key was hidden. The only obstacle was Balaur, monstrous beast which was protecting the cave. To get it out, they had to make the monster fall asleep. Balaur being a Moldovan creature, could be defeated by Moldovian songs. Luckily, two of the sons could speak Moldovan.



.... The brothers sing ...

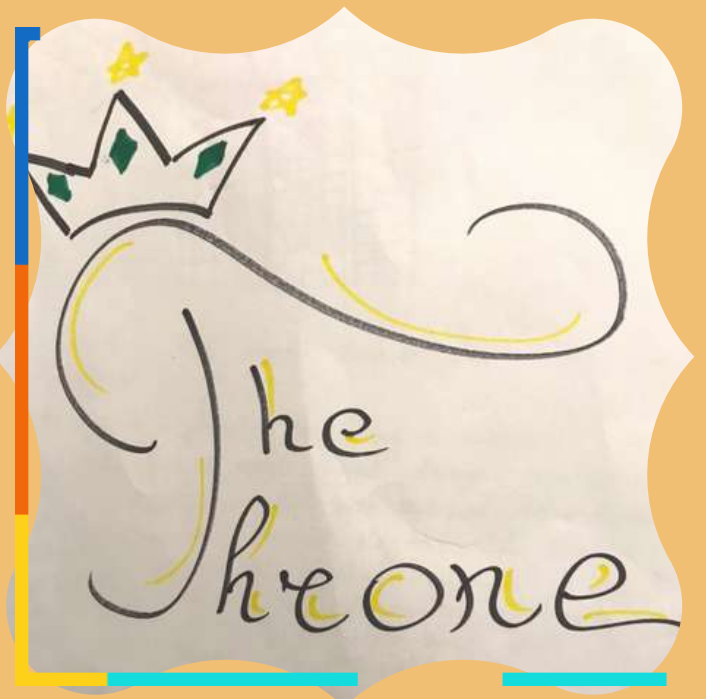
Using the key they found, they opened the door and received the next task.

Finally, they were given seven months to find their meaning in life. For that everyone received a thousand coins. The eldest one decided to take a trip to the biggest hidden treasure ever, having spent all the money on transport and food. After five months he returned home with tons of gold. The middle one was careless, and stayed in castle for the whole time, eating and drinking the best foods for the money received. Whilst the young prince took the decision to help the people in need. He planted all of the empty fields with wheat, corn, buckwheat and vegetables. He fed the whole kingdom, and taught them how to take care of the harvest, and have food for the whole year.





# THE THRONE



Once upon a time, in the place where the green was the color of emerald and mountains touched the sky there was the kingdom of Abovyan, where the king was old, wick and tired of ruling. The king's daughter, the most beautiful girl in the whole kingdom, wasq named Leila.

In the Nearby forest was living a wizard named Yabavon, with his best friend and loyal dragon who was human a long time ago, before he was cursed in unknown circumstances. The dragon was called Ragnar. The Wizard knew The king was sick and as he always wished to rule

Abovyan he decided to seduce his daughter and marry her. For that, he decided to play a trick and with the help of the dragon, to steal Leila. He thought after he would rescue Leila she would fall in love with him.

On one of the brightest days in the kingdom, when Leila was enjoying the sun and walking through the gardens, the dragon tried to kidnap her. But the bright light of the sun, reflecting in the emerald roofs, went into his eyes and didn't let him catch her.



The next day when Leila went to meet her friends in the town, Ragnar tried to catch her again but because of the busy crowd he lost her. For a few days he was following Leila trying to find the moment to catch her and day by day he was admiring her beauty and kindness, slowly falling in love.

When Leila was having a picnic in the garden and admiring the beauty of the flowers, she didn't notice the dragon coming, so he caught her, taking her to a secret place in the forest. Yabavon was very happy that Ragnar succeeded but at the same time he was sad as Leila was afraid of him. Ragnar asked Wizard to let her go but Yabavon was obsessed with the idea of becoming a king and didn't listen. He sent Ragnar to pick some herbs and stones for a potion he was going to make. Seeing Leila was not falling for him, he decided to use fear instead of love and threaten her. He told her she would transform her into a donkey if she doesn't marry him, just like he secretly transformed his best friend into a dragon, years ago. Hearing this, Leila feared him and agreed to marry him. She told him to go and tell her father, the king, they would marry on the 3rd night of full moon.



Yabavon was excited to see his plan going well so he put his best clothes and went to see the king.

Meanwhile, Ragnar returned with the herbs and found Leila crying. He tried to console her but she just kept crying. She told him about how Yabavon threatened to curse her just like he did with him. Ragnar was broken as he trusted his friend and stayed loyal all these years but he knew Yabavon had to pay for what he did.

Together with Leila, they decided to join forces and reveal the evil mind of the wizard, so they headed towards the castle. Yabavon was just telling the king how Leila agreed to marry him when she and Ragnar flew through a window. He confronted Yabavon with the truth but he showed no remorse. He threatened to turn him into an insect if he didn't go away. Unwilling to take any more orders from his ex-friend, he opened his mouth and fire came spitting out, turning Yabavon into ashes.

At that moment he started turning back into a human as the curse broke. Leila thanked him with a kiss on the cheek for saving her and invited him to stay for dinner. They had a feast and after dancing together all night, Leila told her father she wants to marry Ragnar, the one who saved her life. The king gave them his blessing and the two lovers lived happily ever after.

The End

CREATED BY :

Romania : Marius  
Armenia : Anna, David  
Georgia : Ana, Vika, Anni, Lika  
Moldova : Ana  
Lebanon : Mahmud, Joelle, Ola

# The Bitter Honey

Created by Katarina (Slovakia), Ineza (Georgia), Anatolie (Moldova), Anita (Czech Republic), Ion (Moldova), Mihai (Moldova), Carolina (Argentina), Mzia (Georgia), Gabi and Andrea (Romania)

ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A FARAWAY KINGDOM WHICH KING HAD 2 DOUGHTERS. FOR GETTING THEM MARRIED, THE KING DECIDED TO ORGANIZE A FESTIV FOR THE PEOPLE ALL ARROUND THE WORLD, FOR EVERYBODY, POOR AND WEALTHY AS WELL.

THERE WERE A LOT OF PREPARATIONS, THE KINGDOM WAS REALLY EXCITED TO SEE WHO WILL WIN THE PRINCESSES HANDS AND HEARTS. THE KING WANTED SOMEONE WORTHY FOR HIS DOUGHTERS, SO HE DECIDED TO ARRANGE A SECRET QUEST FOR THE PARTICIPANTS.

THEY PREPARED 2 TABLES FULL OF FOOD AND BEVERAGES. THE FIRST TABLE CONTAINED ALL THE SWEETS THAT YOU CAN IMAGINE, FROM CAKES, SWEETS, HONEY TO SWEET ALE AND THE FINEAST WINES. IN CONTRAST TO THIS TABLE, THE SECOND ONE HAD SIMPLE, MODEST FOOD, PREPARED WITH HONESTY AND KINDNESS BY THE VILLAGERS.



IN THE NIGHT OF THE EVENT, THERE WERE A LOTS OF PEOPLE, BETWEEN THEM ALSO TWO SHEPPERDS, CALLE MAŤKO AND KUBKO.

THESE SHEPPERDS, CAME FROM A FARAWAY LAND WITH THE PURPOSE OF TRYING THEIR LUCK, WIN THE PRINCESSES' HANDS IN MARRIAGE AND GET RICH.



WHEN THEY CAME TO THE TABLES AND SAW ALL OF THE SWEETS, THEY BECAME HIPNOTIZED BY THE RICHNESSES AND THEY STARTED TO EAT FROM THAT TABLE, NOT EVEN LOOKING TO THE OTHER ONE. THEY HAVA CHOSEN POORLY!

THIS CHOISE WASN'T ACCEPTED BY THE KING AND BECAUSE OF THIS THEY GOT INTO PRISON. AT THE KING'S ORDER, THEY WERE TOLD THAT IF THEY WANT TO BE FREE, THEY HAVE TO PASS 9 OBSTACLES. THEY ACCEPTED THIS CHALLENGE AND STARTED THE ADVENTURE.

AFTER WANDERING FOR SOME TIME, THEY MET A MOUSE AND FOUND OUT FROM IT THAT IN ORDER TO PASS THESE OBSTACLES, THEY NEEDED THE HELP OF A MAGICAL BULL, WHICH WAS ASLEEP FOR AGES. IN ORDER TO WAKE HIM UP THEY NEEDED THE SOUND PRODUCED OF A SALAMURI, AN ANCIENT GEORGIAN INSTRUMENT. BECAUSE THEY WERE NICE TO THE MOUSE, THE ANIMAL GAVE THEM THIS ITEM.



BY PLAYING THIS INSTRUMENT THEY SUCCEEDED AND WOKE UP THE BULL, WHICH, BEING MAD OF GETTING DISTURBED, IT HAD BROKEN ALL THE 9 DOORS. GOING THROUGH THE DOORS, MAŤKO AND KUBKO REALIZED THAT THEY HAVE CHOSEN THE WRONG TABLE AND THAT THEY DON'T DESERVE THE PRINCESSES' HANDS IN MARRIAGE.

AFTER-ESCAPING THE PRISON, THE SHEPPERDS HAVE DECIDED TO GO BACK HOME AND STICK TO THEIR SIMPLE LIFE.

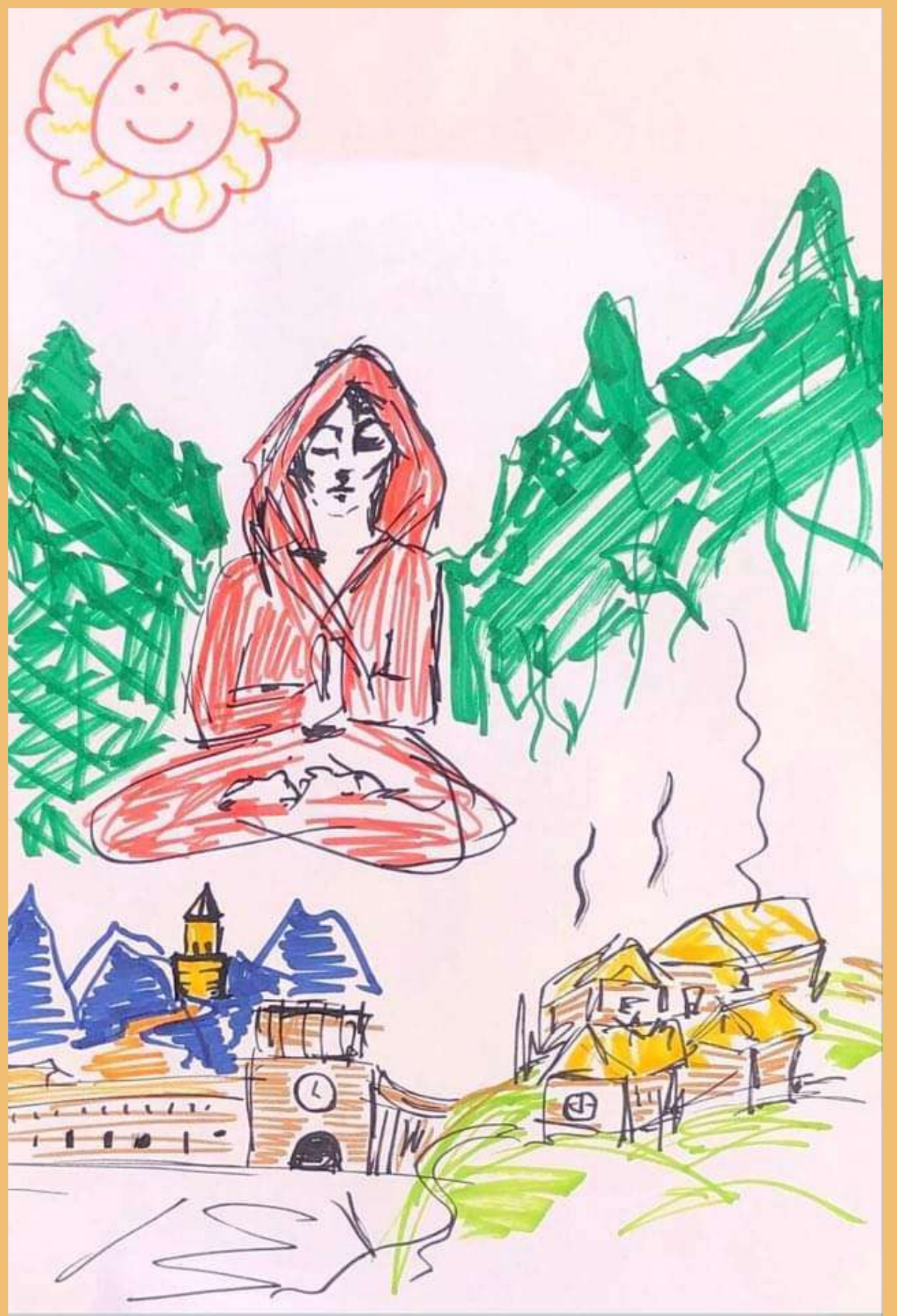
# THE NONE

Created by Noni (France), Akaki (Georgia), Štěpánka (Czech Republic), Yurij (Ukraine), Naira (Armenia), Nastya (Ukraine),  
Lucie (Czech Republic)



Once upon a time, there was a magical village in the top of the mountain. The people who lived there were immortal and they didn't have a language, so they spoke with each other using their thoughts. There was a guy living with them whose name was None. There was a tabu not to cross the lines of the village. Our hero was so curious about the world around the mountain, so he broke the rules and that's why were banished.

When he went down from the mountains, he appeared in a place which was different from his village. There was a dragon that wanted to kill the people living there to steal the gold under the ground. None decided to help them and after a hard fight, he killed the dragon. Then he made coniac from the dragon's blood and gave it to people. People were very thankful to None, they blessed him and gave him the name "Hovhannes".



Then he continued his way and come to another country.

Hero knocked on the door of a random home, a man opened it and invited him to his home. This man cooked some xinkali, chaxoxbili and bring wine. Also, he had some Georgian bread and cheese. Hero thought to put this cheese inside this bread. Man did it and put the cheese. Then they eat it and it was really delicious and Hero call it Xhachapuri.





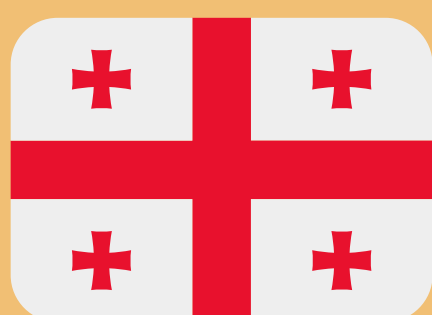
One day None came to the next country. There was a huge bear threatening the inhabitants. None used a spell and put the bear to sleep. Then he stole the bear's treasure. Beer and sirloin and gave it to the people living there. They were so grateful that None helped them from danger and they named him "Kozel".

And then the hero that named is None, crossed a lot of rivers, went through beautiful forests, and at last, he came to some unknown village. Some gorgeous voices and songs came from this village and the tastiest smell was there. It was so cold and so lonely, so None would like to know those people who left there and taste some food.

He knocked on the door of the first house he met. And the people there were too kind with him, and so hospitality, that None were started crying of happiness. He cried a lot, and some tears fall in a glass, and the owner of a house drank it. This drink was too warm, and people decided to know how to cook this drink. And None reveal a secret of his tears. That's how Gorilka appeared in Ukraine.

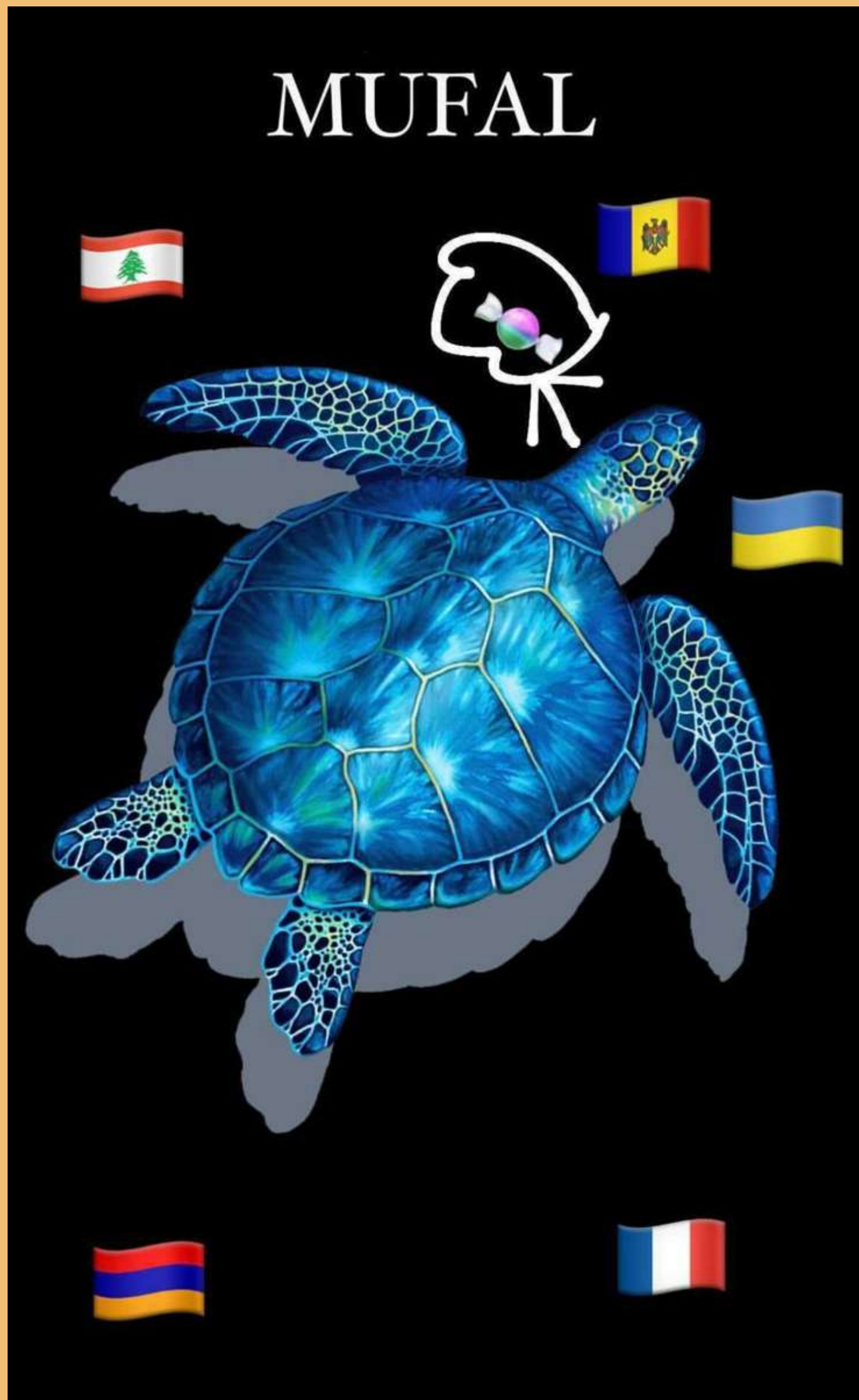


After the long adventurous journey, the hero finally arrives in Thailand. He was looking to fight with some bad guys but there are none. People live together in peace. When there is no flight, the hero has time for himself and starts to meditate with people there. The hero realizes that none of the power or magical things are needed to be happy. Since then he abandoned all the power and he truly understand the meaning of life. The hero becomes the Buddha and forwards this way of life from generation to generation.



# THE FLYING TURTLE

Created by Julien (France), Tanya (Moldova), Lilia (Moldova), Sedrak (France), Théo (France), Sophia (Ukraine), Kamal (Lebanon), Katya (Ukraine)



Once upon a time, there was a sad; lonely blue flying turtle who was making efforts to understand why the people are so different and why they behave in some weird ways: lots of existential questions she needed an answer to: For this reason she decided to start on a trip to a number of countries; hoping to find an answer to her torments: it was more like an experiment during which she was testing the validity of some stereotypes: for this she moved around from place to place asking for candy.



Her first destination was Moldova. A small country famous for her generous and hard working people.

Moldova indeed looked like a forgotten piece of paradise. With small houses and breathtaking landscapes. Our brave little blue flying turtle got so excited?

Optimistic and overfilled with great expectations and she knocked on the door of the first house she saw. / it was the house of a n old man who had two daughters. The first one came to the door .



All smiles and affectionate and. Though she had no candy at all. She willingly gave Mufal a slice of tale bread. The other daughter came out at once. Angry and verbally aggressive and chased poor Mufal away.

First bitter disappointment ; not all the things she used to know about Moldovans are true.

Shedding some tears. But still optimistic. Mufal decided to take the kind daughter and continued the trip together. They headed for France. Best known for tasty food and drinks. They landed in the mountains, at a monastery, where the monks did not have much to share but had a warm welcome and as a gift they received a hungry cat

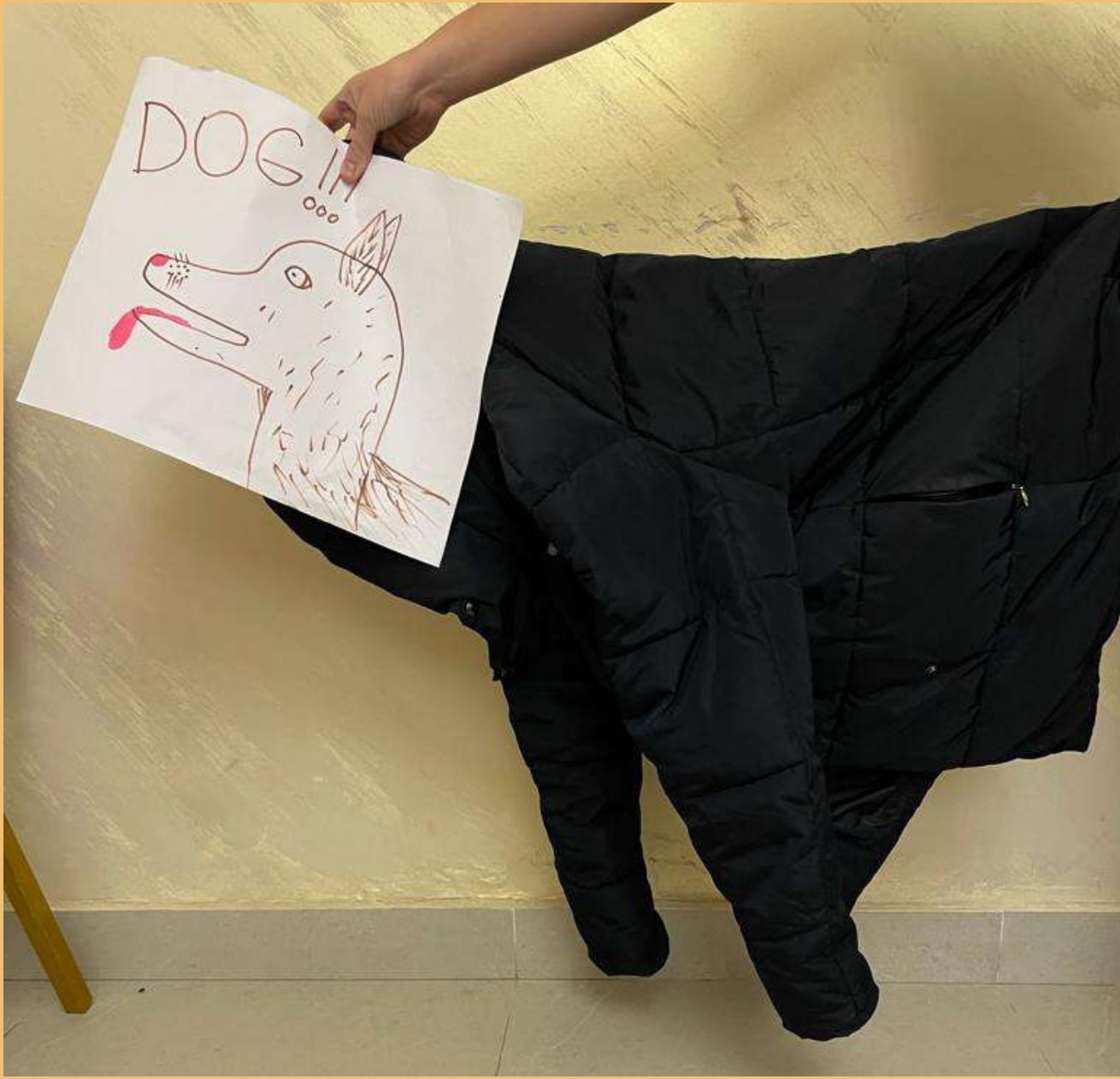


Now with a new companion, Mufal was happy to fly to Armenia.

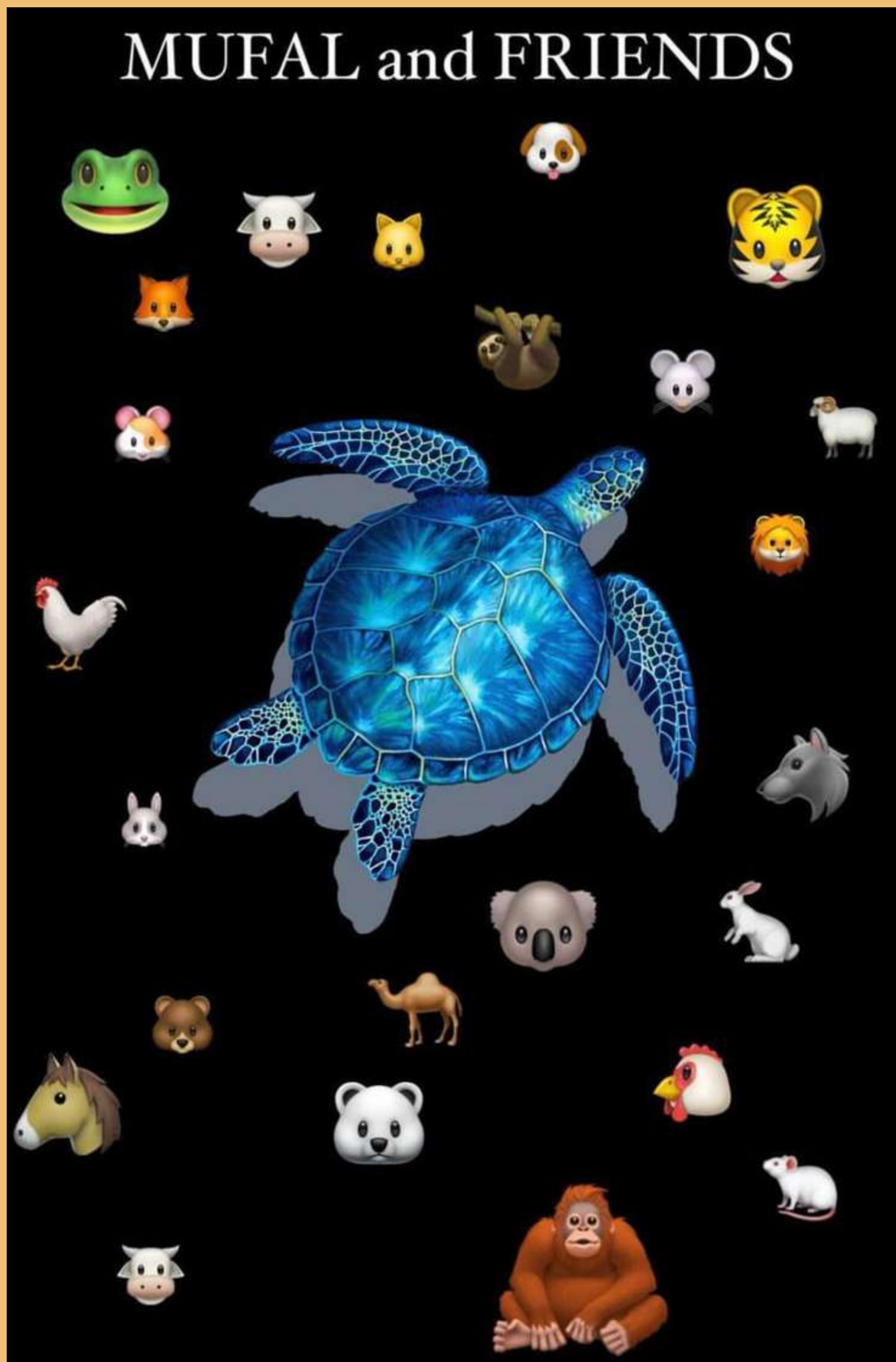
But she was so thirsty after her long trip, that she stopped on the way to Lebanon. The Prince Akhwat shanay was happy to meet a blue flying turtle and asked for water. Unfortunately, there's not enough water even for the people living in the country. The Prince Akhwat Shanay suggested to dig its height in the ground hopping to find some water. Since Mufal was small, she didn't find any water, but her friend the Cow gave her some milk. She then went back on way to Armenia.



Puzzled, Mufal took his companions to Armenia. She strongly believed she will get lots of candy from the kind people of Armenia. They went to the king whom nobody had a chance to lie to; Mufal told the king that he owned them lots of money. Initially the king got angry then. When he realized that was a lie had to keep his word. He refused to take the gold and chose a dog instead.



Along with the cat, dog, cow, girl, Mufal goes into a remote place on the Karpatience mountain in Ukraine to live a community life with her new friends putting respect and love at the center of their attention. They've been learning from one another since then.



*The story represents the need for companionship in life and most importantly, the dual character of everything in life: good-bad; kind-mean; stingy-generous etc. In fact, we attempted to emphasize universal truths and values: Our character, MUFAL (achronym from Moldova, Ukraine, France, Armenia, Lebanon) is taking a journey throughout these countries to understand if people are really different or very much alike. The characters he chooses as his companions have an important role: to teach him valuable lessons for life.*



# OUR INSIGHTS AND CONCLUSIONS



*We loved the improvisation, creativity and theater games. Fairytales were really amazing, we came up with stories we could have never imagined. Also, the Lebanese people are amazing!*

David, Malta

*No word can express enough the high appreciation and thankfulness of the moldovan team. We enjoyed every single minute of the project. It was truly a energizing and revigorating week, full of positive emotions and experiences that will stay with us forever. Special words of heartfelt gratitude to the organizers and facilitators, particularly to Vladimir for having us on board.*

Moldavian team



*It was wonderful! Really cool, we were able to meet different people from different countries and that's really interesting!*

Katya, Ukraine





*If most of the fairytales have the same value and most games are shared among the country, it means that they are not the best means to spot the uniqueness of culture, but It was worth trying!*

*People were great but unfortunately, we did not have enough time to have deeper conversations with everyone. It was a nice summer camp: We played, we danced and we laughed a lot.*

*Thank you everyone for being who you are!!!*

Julien, France

*Its a very interesting project. I like how they choose games, fairytales, games to represent our cultures. It's a very smart way to create a project. For me it is very interesting to see how similar we actually are. During my favorite activity of theatre improvisation I found out that when there's a connection between people in a group it's easier to achieve the goal.*

Noni, France/Thailand



*I enjoyed the cocktail of the different cultures!*

*I would prefer for the next time that everyone has to speak only in English and mix more between the countires!*

Marius, Romania

*It was really a wonderful experience we spent great time with everyone. The activities made us feel closer to each other and we found the similarities and differences between our cultures!*

Anna, Armenia

*When I heard about this project without much thought I decided to participate. I am happy to meet many people from different countries, make friends with them and spend some fun days together. Projects like this, in addition to meeting a lot of new people and making a lot of friends, are also good for improving yourself. Here you can get a great experience.*

Irakli, Georgia







*This project was very interesting and at the same time was challenging for me because it was my first Erasmus+ project. I really do love Erasmus+. I have learned some many things about culture and met so many amazing people that I will remember it all through my life. It was very great experience.*

*I am 100% sure that we are all same, we have unique culture and we are similar human beings. I strongly believe that it's going to be my journey in the world of interesting projects.*

*Akaki, Georgia*

*During this project I could see hidden edges of my personality. The fact of meeting new people and learning about their cultures has also helped me deepen knowledge about my own self and look at my own culture from a new perspective. Overall, I am extremely grateful for participating in “CUL- EIDOSCOPE” cultural exchange project. This is only the beginning.*



*Ineza, Georgia*

*The project has a huge potential about creating out of the box arts and learn interesting social theory, however the program was absolutely packed to the point that it was impossible to stop.*

*As I said, worthy of an intense experience.*

*#Zastav&Nepřežiješ*

*Anita, Czech Republic*



*“We simply enjoyed the vibes all over the project! Theatre, fairytales, games, and songs have been our escape from everything.. We have gained new skills, it has really been a life changing experience! We’ve got now new friends whom we hope to meet very soon*

*Lebanese team*



*It was a lot of fun to discover the diversity of different cultures while playing interesting games in the company of incredible people.*

Nicoleta, Romania



*I liked this project. I'm glad that I could make new friends from another countries. But the schedule was sometimes exhausting. And it's really good opportunity to learn English better.*

Stepanka Machova, CZ

*It was a great opportunity to come to Armenia and discover totally different cultures, meet a lot of great people, destroy borders and also prejudices. Not only we had so much fun, we also learnt about different traditions and rituals of others.*

Katarina Dobakova, CZ



*“This project was very special and unforgettable with its content and activities, I gathered plenty of sweet memories and emotions, experienced different culture, gained a lot of friends and that was the most important part of it. It was life-changing experience for all of us.*

Mzia Surmanidze, Georgia

# THIS IS NOT THE END

*"Cultural differences should not separate us from each other, but rather cultural diversity brings a collective strength that can benefit all of humanity".*

Robert Alan

Youth Exchange "CUL-eidoscope"  
Abovyan, Yerevan, Armenia  
25 September - 3 October 2021

