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CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS

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Wikimedia events attract people from all kinds of cultures and backgrounds.

It's important to remember that people react differently to different actions. Those can range from self-praise, eating habits, confrontation levels, and self-disclosure all the way to photography, greeting styles, and humor.

Photography at events is great, but be sure to keep others' privacy concerns in mind.

When attending an event with other community members, try to balance these two values.

Some attendees will not want photographs of themselves taken in the first place.

Some may be okay with photos being taken, but they may not want them posted online. They may have preferences about where they can be shared.

Please be careful to respect others' wishes about photos. Badges or lanyards for the event should indicate a person's comfort level with photography—but be aware that at social events, people may not be wearing their badges.

If you want to take a photograph of someone, it's safest to ask their permission beforehand.

Conferences and meetups can be great bonding experiences, and humor is a big part of getting to know each other.

However, we should be careful that our jokes don't focus on sensitive or controversial topics.

This can include things like languages, politics, clothing, names, gender, sexual topics, or other cultural practices in a way that makes people feel judged, belittled, ridiculed, or alienated.

Do not make jokes about any groups of people—even if you yourself are part of this group. Sometimes language and cultural differences can be a barrier in fully understanding jokes.

When having fun, remember to be conscious of others' cultural values. It will help everyone have a better time!

There are many different ways of greeting others and showing friendship.

We like to appreciate each other, but we should be careful about how we make physical contact. Something is common to you may not be appreciated by others. If you're not sure how to greet someone, consider a wave and a "hello"!

In general, you should avoid touching others unless they say you can. Ultimately, people should feel comfortable at events, so always be aware of situations where you may need to adjust your behavior to suit the context.



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