



Please save the date for our upcoming CCC Breaks. All dates are online [here](#).

CCC-Break 4: 8th of May 2020, How can we apply storytelling in the intercultural programs for leaders?

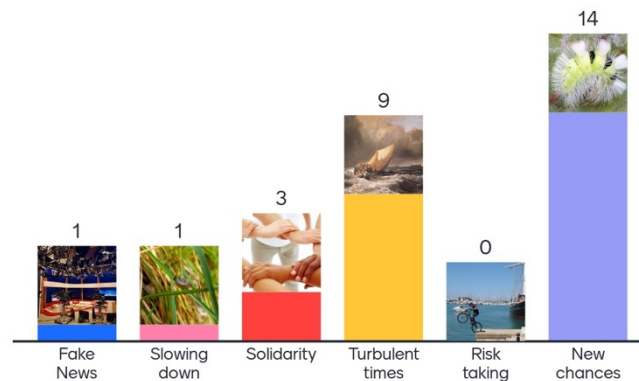


Storytelling is what makes us human. Throughout our human history we have used stories to share knowledge and wisdom, to pass the experience as well as for meaning making. All these areas of working with stories are very important for leaders. Additionally, leaders can tell stories as well as encourage sharing stories to:

- welcome cultural diversity and address inclusion,
- create shared understanding,
- foster empathy,
- encourage self-responsibility,
- motivate and inspire,
- co-create shared vision.

Working with stories in the leadership context varies across cultures, though. Therefore, Joanna Sell proposed the theme „How can we apply storytelling in the intercultural programs for leaders?“ The Cross-cultural coffee break with this focus attracted almost fifty participants and hence we decided to experiment and invite them to „small coffee shops“ and arranged the breakout rooms. After a short introduction and an interactive session on the perception of the current situation as well as the need for telling stories in the leadership context, Joanna asked people to share the moment when they turned up as leaders in the COVID-19 times in small groups. A vivid discussion followed, and the participants focused on good leadership for uncertain times and cultural differences in leadership.

What picture do you associate with the current situation?



What do you associate with good leadership?



Barbara, who facilitated the discussion, skillfully arranged the breakout rooms, so that the idea of an informal exchange during the cross-cultural coffee break took place in small groups. Some of the participants comments after sharing stories in the breakout rooms:

“Great stories tap into universal experiences (emotions, challenges) that let people see themselves in the story”.

“Sharing stories allowed us to feel closer and create instantly empathy despite our different cultures”.

"In our group it meant supporting others".

Ideas for further reading:

SIETAR Europa Cross Cultural Coffee Breaks

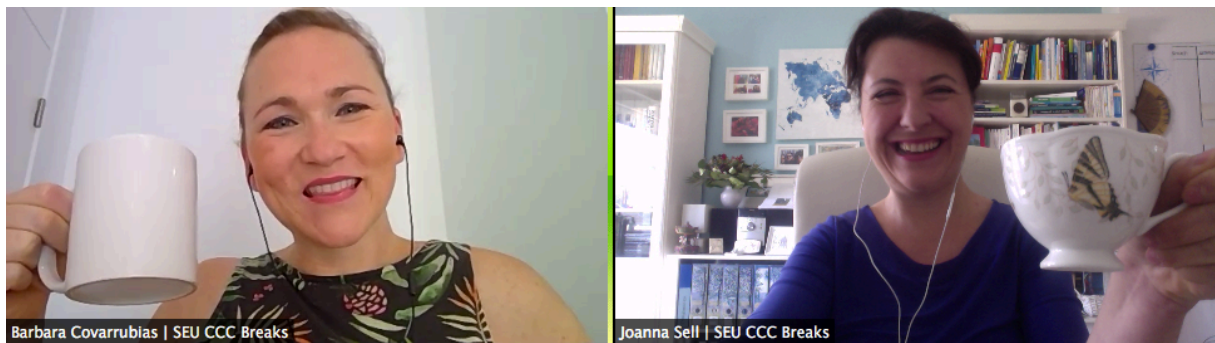
Summary

Stephen Denning, The Leader's guide to Storytelling

Rachel Naomi Remen, Kitchen Table Wisdom - Stories That Heal

Jacques Chlopczyk, Beyond Storytelling

Thanks for this summary of our CCC Break discussion to Joanna Sell and Barbara Covarrubias Venegas:

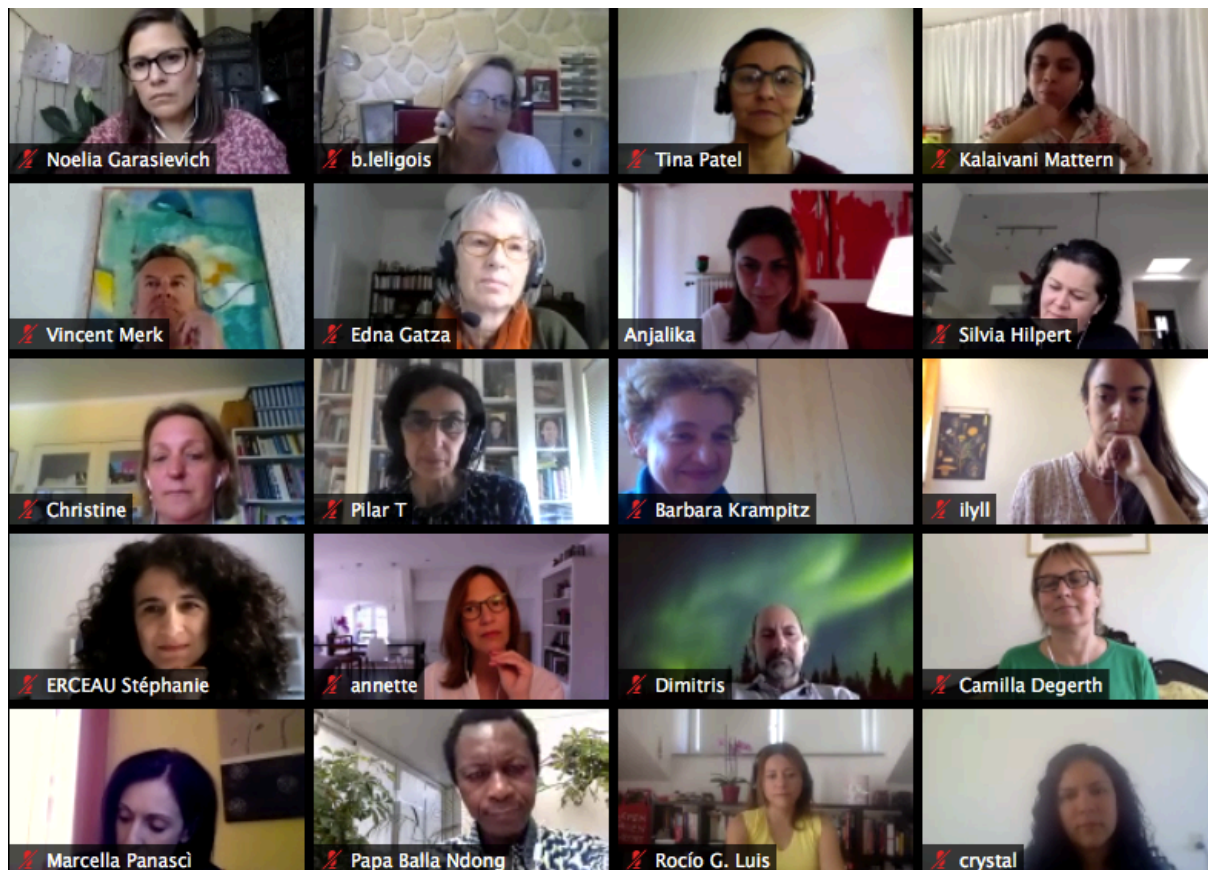


Thanks for intriguing discussions to all our participants:



SIETAR Europa Cross Cultural Coffee Breaks

Summary



For any further questions, remarks, even more pieces of advice, feel free to contact us:

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SEU Moderator: Barbara Covarrubias Venegas, barbara@barbaracv.com [Barbara Covarrubias Venegas](#)