**OSNOVA - MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

1. **Define multiculturalism, why does it occur in nowadays society**

Multiculturalism is acceptance of multiple **ethnic** cultures. A multicultural society tries to maintain **the same status** to distinct ethnic and religious groups without promoting - preferring any specific ethnic, religious or cultural values as central. This society is composed of different cultural groups which create a “cultural mosaic”. Cultural groups living in a multicultural society try to preserve their unique cultures. Cultural differences are respected and tolerated, countries support dual citizenship, use of minority languages and support their cultures and religions.

Multicultural states: Canada, Australia, the UK

Reasons, why multiculturalism occurs in the society:

* people migrate for various reasons
* in the past: discrimination, exclusion of cultural groups. Multiculturalism is a way of compensation for the past situations.

1. **Define assimilation = „ melting pot“**

Assimilation = „melting pot“ is the opposite of multiculturalism. It mixes and integrates different cultural groups. These countries integrate immigrant groups into the national culture.

States: the USA is celebrated for its multicultural diversity, immigrants preserve their own culture while also become Americans. Ex. when a Greek comes to America he/she is expected to be American first. He can maintain the Greek culture but not at expense of being American. So the ethnic minority adopts the beliefs, languages and customs of the dominant community, gradually loses their own culture. This is called cultural assimilation. This process of assimilation can be forced or voluntary

1. **Why do people migrate?**

Reasons for migration: search of work/brain drain or better economic opportunities, to join family/bicultural marriages, to study, to escape conflict, persecution, terrorism, or human rights violations, because of the effects of climate change, natural disasters, or other environmental factors.

1. **Name people of different races, nationalities and religious beliefs who live in one country.**

Races: White, Black or African American, Asian, American Indian

Nationalities (Adjective): Slovak, Czech, English, German, Australian, Canadian, British, American, Vietnamese, Ukrainian, Swiss, Korean, Saudi, Russian, Greek

Regious groups: Catholics, Protestants, Muslims, Jews, Hindus, Buddhists

Ethnic minorities: in **Slovakia**: Roma, Hungarians, Ruthenians, Ukrainians; **the UK**: Irish Travellers, Asian, Pakistani, Chinese; **Germany**: Turkish

1. **How do people in Slovakia and abroad react to other cultures (mention mixed marriages, intolerance, racial/religious discrimination and violence)?**

-anti-immigrant protests across Europe: migrants/refugees/asylum seekers, trying to escape a war-torn country, arrived in the EU. Among them there were Islamic State militants (from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq) disguised as refugees or migrants.

-countries refused to take in refugees under the EU plan to deal with the migration crisis

-fear of terrorist attacks, which were the work of Islamic Extremists, who declared war on Western values

-intolerance: people don’t accept people from other minorities

-mixed marriages:

-violence: racist attacks on people

-discrimination: at work, schools, ex. France: burkas were not welcome in public places

-projects that help the integration of ethnic groups into society

-cultural exchanges: can change people’s lives and thinking

1. **Talk about customs and traditions in Slovakia and some English-speaking countries**
2. **What is your opinion on cultural values and life in united Europe**.

Cultural values: are unwritten norms and principles (passed from generation to generation), that make cultures unique. ex. wearing certain clothing, head covering, language, waiting in line, holidays, religion, food, architecture, beliefs