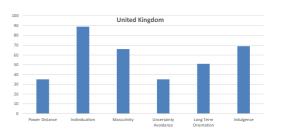
# Doing Business with the British





### Power distance (35/100):

- = inequalities should be minimized
- o conflicts with British class system
- importance of birth rank vs. equality of opportunity

### Individualism (89/100):

- = highly individualist & private people
- route to happiness through personal fulfillment
- o rise of rampant consumerism
- o strengthening of "me" culture

### Masculinity (66/100):

- = highly success-oriented & driven
- conflicts with British culture of modesty & understatement
- o live in order to work

#### **Uncertainty avoidance (35/100):**

- = "make it up as they go along"
- = "muddling through"

- change plans as new info comes to light
- comfortable in ambiguous situations ("muddling through")
- o planning not detail-oriented
- o processes kept fluid and flexible
- o short planning horizons

## Long Term Orientation (51/100):

= no dominant preference

### Indulgence (69/100):

- = classified as indulgent
- place more importance on leisure time
- more likely to voice opinions and give feedback
- more likely to leave organization if not happy in role

#### **Highly individualist + curious =**

- o high level of creativity
- o strong need for innovation
- → thrive in highly creative industries, e.g. advertising, marketing, financial engineering



# When Doing Business



#### In the business world

- individualistic but like to work in teams
- strong feeling of individual accountability
  - concept of "fair play"
  - expect decisions/results
  - do not generally use academic titles

### Meetings

- start & conclude on time
- generally informal in style
- begin & end with social conversation
- opinions encouraged & listened to
- advance papers may not have been read!

## Use of language

- ❖ avoid saying "no"
- use "softeners" and deliberate understatement
  - indirect communication
- humour used as defence mechanism
  - dislike "hard sell"