

Early Talent Development and Diversity & Inclusion: Can we be experts at both?

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Associate Professor at IE Business School



About me

Current roles and credentials:

- Chief University Partnerships Officer, JobTeaser (FR, DK, DE)
- Associate Professor, IE Business School & IE University (ES)
- Academic Collaborator, Esade Business School (ES)
- Co-Founder, Wigmore & Alvarez
- HR workshop facilitator worldwide
- Moderator of talent-related panels in 30+ countries
- PhD in Economics and Business Science
- Passionate DEI Champion - *“more than an ally”*

Prior Experience:

- Chief Talent Officer, HigherEd EFMD
- Program Director, Career Professionals Development Institute, EFMD
- Executive Director of Talent & Careers, IE
- Executive Fellow, Woxsen University (India)





Europe's largest
university talent network.

The Career Centre for
800 universities in **25** European countries.



5 Million Gen Z





GEN Z LAB

Europe's preeminent observatory on the
new generation.



Opening Audience Question

Early Talent Development and Diversity & Inclusion: Can we be experts at both?

Step 1: Connect to the Wifi

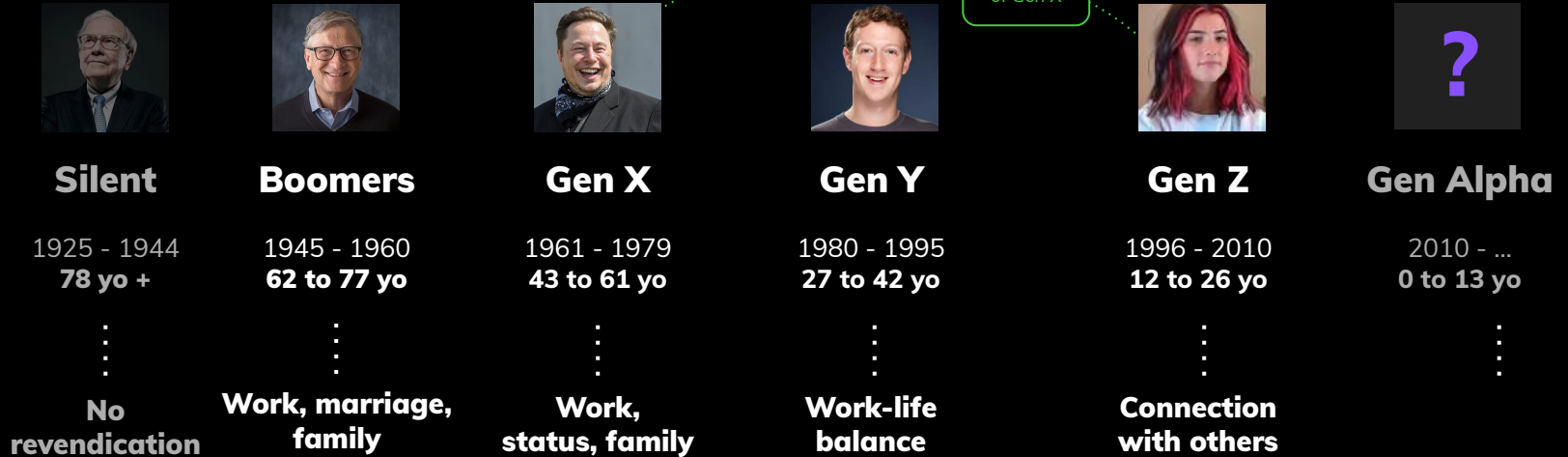
Wifi network: Broadway House Guest
Password: enjoyBH1!

Step 2: Scan the QR code or go to:

www.menti.com
Code: 1280 3633



Gen Z, the big shift.



Increasing uncertainty, personal priorities >>

<< Decreasing resources, sense of obligation



Why is **Gen Z** so unique?



WORRIES

Brought up in
a **troubled world**.



COMMUNICATION

The first complete
digital & social natives.



PRIORITIES

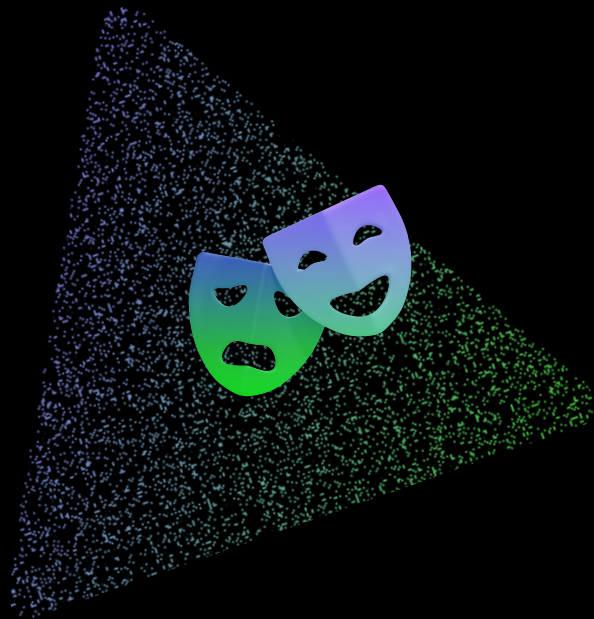
Priorities causes over
commerce.



Gen Z brought up in a troubled world.

A **worrying**
upbringing of
Scarcity, Crisis
Uncertainty

2x
mental health
challenges
than their parents



1 of 2
always feel
stressed



Hyperconnected - the first **digital and social native.**

→ **2x** mobile use

4 hours per day
vs 2 hours Gen X and Y

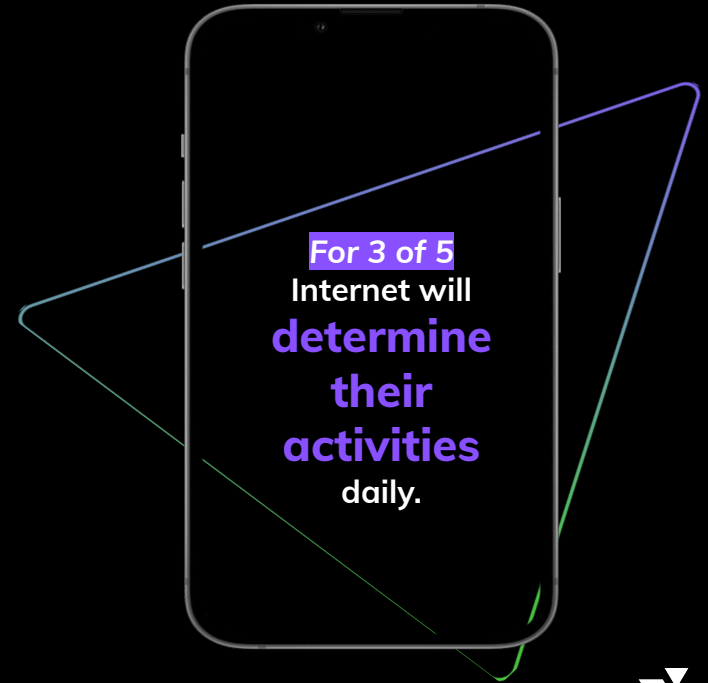
→ **65%** communicate

Communicate more online than in person

Most **uncomfortable** without

→ **12 hours** internet

access daily.



Hyperconnected Gen Z - they're **visual**.

Gen X & Y



Communication + Information

Communication, killing time, news,
customer service

Gen Z



Personal Development + Entertainment

Entertainment, education, inspiration,
pop culture

WHY

DIGITAL ADOPTERS

DIGITAL NATIVES

SOCIAL NATIVE

Textual & Visual

Facebook (81%), YouTube (74%),
Instagram (59%), Pinterest (44%), Twitter
(45%), Snapchat (67%), TikTok (68%)

HOW

Mainly Visual

YouTube (88%), Instagram (76%),
TikTok (68%), Snapchat (67%)

**2x VIDEO + 40% SEARCH
CONSUMPTION VIA VIDEO FIRST**

Gen Z embraces the AI future more willingly than their parents.



Up to 1.7x
More likely to
use AI at **work.**



Up to 1.4x
More likely to use
AI in **job search.**

**Their
Parents**



Gen Z

40%+
Perception of **AI use** by
recruiters/company.



Gen Z's are values driven.

1 in 2

would **refuse** jobs
without **values**
alignment.

+ equality
& inclusion
security, health and
wellbeing

CLIMATE
No. 1 concern
for Gen Z in
Europe

96%

believe that
companies must
address
social issues.

Gen Z at work

→ New generation, new reality, new expectations.

“Young people no longer fulfill themselves through work. It gives them the financial means to fulfill themselves elsewhere, in another community that they choose. For these young people,

“real life” is no longer in the company.”

- François Dupuy, academic advisor at the European Center for Continuing Education



The Gen Z scarcity.

Competition to capture Gen Z early

8 of 10

of European
recent graduates
are already hired.



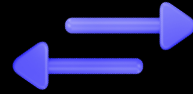
The employment rate for recent graduates in the EU was 82.4%.

**Pre-graduation
recruitment
initiatives are
key.**

→ **What does
Gen Z want in
work?**



Gen Z's priorities are **sense.**



Personal values reflecting in professional choice.

79%

Gen Z would **refuse**
a role without
meaning.

52%

would **refuse** jobs
without aligned
values.

60%

would **forgo** high
salary for work with
+ impact.



Gen Z's priorities are **human.**

48%

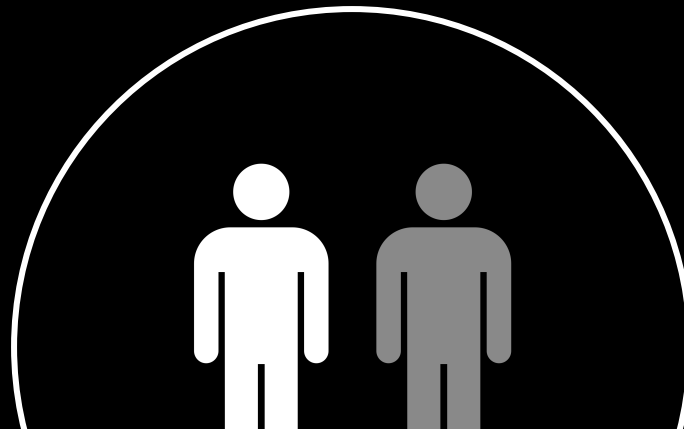
would **quit** if they cannot
enjoy life

61%

would **quit** without sense
of **belonging.**

45%

would **refuse jobs** w/o
flexible hours



Gen Z's priorities are flexibility.

JUST
1 IN 10

Want to stay in the same company long term

67%

Are interested in flexible work

1 in 4

Want to be entrepreneurs in 10 years

Why flexible work

- **Easy to find** contracts/clients
- Ideal **way of working** for a multitasking generation
- Flexible **location**, fewer constraints
- Higher **income**

?

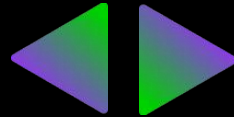
Can companies **match** these needs?

Gen Z prioritising **passion** + **progress.**

**Ongoing
Development**



**Career
Mobility**



**Aversion
to Boredom**



?

Can companies **match** these needs?



A generation in search of autonomy and flexibility

→ Giving Gen Z **autonomy** and **flexibility** is key to attracting and retaining them



65 %

of Gen Z prefers to work according to **objectives** rather than according to precise schedules.



73%

of Gen Z want to be able to **organise their working time** as they wish.

Gen Z perceive the company as a vector of social connection



More than half of Gen Z

is above all motivated by the **work environment** and exchanges with colleagues even before their interest in the position itself.



If D&I is in your mission, reflect that in the job offer

70%

of 18 - 25 year olds have already ended their application during the recruitment phase

(even though the recruiter has responded to them).

What reasons?

28% Recruitment process too long

26% Lack of information about salary and benefits

21% A discrepancy between the missions discussed in the interview and those included in the job offer



→
Where does
Gen Z want to
work ? 🤔



Big names no longer suffice.

→ Gen Z is starting to choose intimacy.

41% #1 Small Medium Enterprise

33% #2 Big Corporate

19% #3 Independent

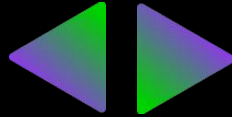


Why **Gen Z** are choosing smaller?

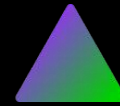
**Lower
Hierarchy**



**Higher
Agility**



**Greater
Opportunity**



?

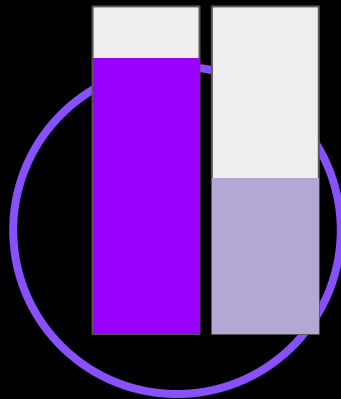
Can companies **match** these needs?



Employer brand is a top 3 Gen Z criteria.

8 of 10

Gen Z decide based on their employer perception



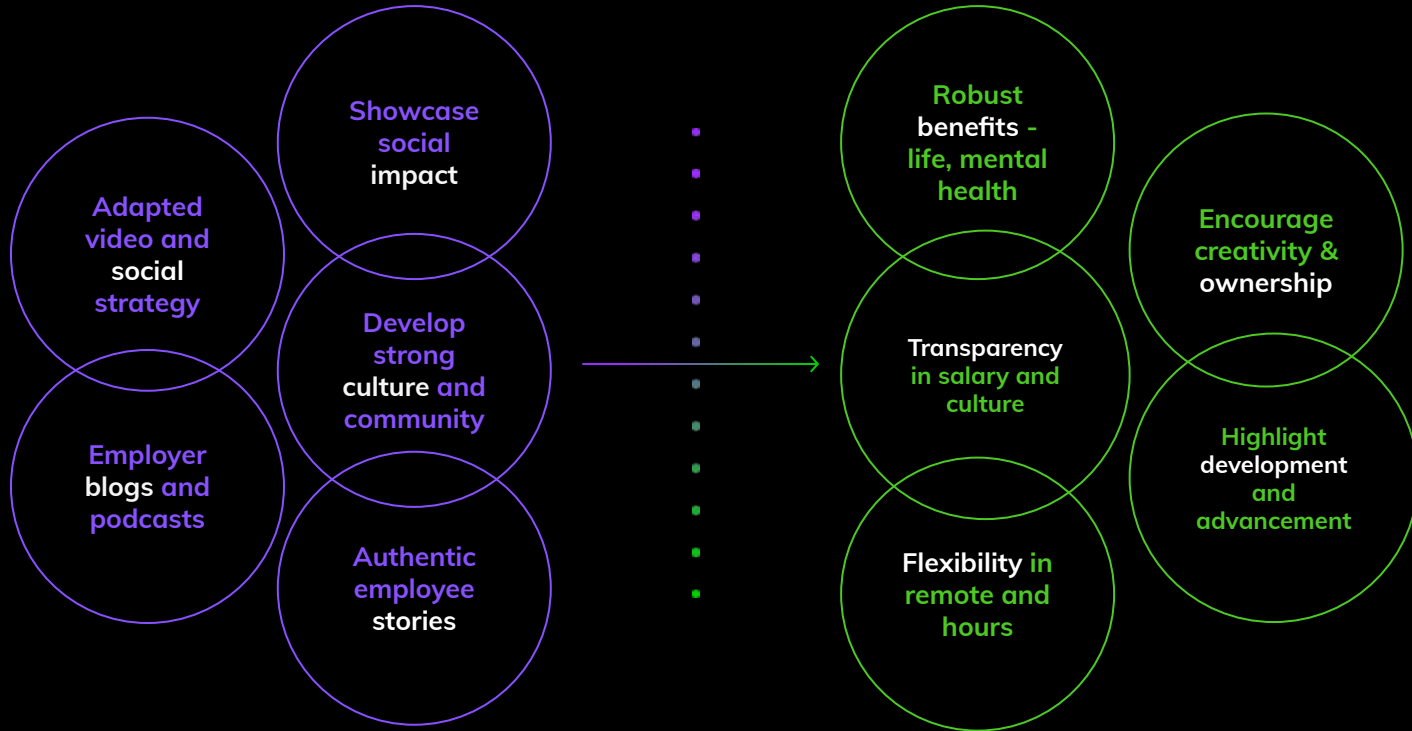
1 of 2

Employers not adapting their branding and EVP to match needs.

Diversity, sustainability, culture, brand value, and more.



Effective employer branding for Gen Z.



Employer branding your inbound recruiting.



The right fit

Adapt job offers to the needs and codes of Gen Z, publish them strategically.
Match their what and when.

The right process

High competition to attract Gen Z.
Quick and transparent recruitment process to match their expectations.

The right channel

Attract Gen Z where they are, in their language.

The right experience

Ensure an excellent recruitment process – Gen Z will become promoters. Even if not hired.



The Gen Z expectations

personal and professional

#1

Intimate is beautiful

Connection and proximity more important than big names.

#2

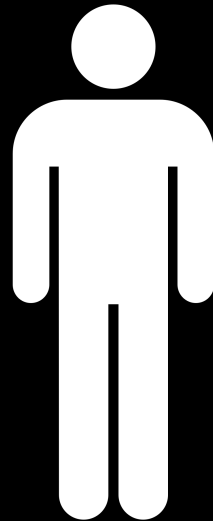
Values matter

Work must match their values for 8 out of 10 Gen Z.

#3

Authenticity and transparency

The "truth generation" expects the same from their employers.



#4

Horizontal management

Motivating, listening, and bringing together. The role of a manager is that of a **coach and partner**.

#5

Diversity and progress

Gen Z is the multi-hat generation. Capture **their interest** or lose them.

#6

More collaboration

A cooperative community approach across work, life, and communication. Engage them **as collaborators** and not just as workforce.





BONUS

Recruiting Gen Z

**5 TIPS &
INSIGHTS**



JOBTEASER

1. Gen Z job offers

The key points to address

Overall

- **Adding videos on page or offers** is definitely a must-have to catch Gen Z audience
- **Posting shorter announcements** as their attention is more limited than all previous generations
- **Using Emojis intelligently** could be a great way to easily grab their attention and more efficiently convey your message

Company Description

- **Highlight the purpose** of your company with concrete proofs of its impact. If not valuable enough, put in evidence the meaning of the missions in job description
- **Highlight the human size** of your company / department / team

Job Description

- **Put value on the responsibilities** and the contribution of the missions toward the company
- **Emphasize the management of proximity** and the feedback culture put in place
- **Enhance** the diversity proposed and the variety of people and profiles from which the recruited person will learn

What we will offer

- **Mention everything you make** to increase conviviality (events, activity, annual party,...)
- **Shows concrete proofs** of well-being (awards,..)



2. Gen Z skill-match

Attention to soft (human) skills are on the rise

Recruiters

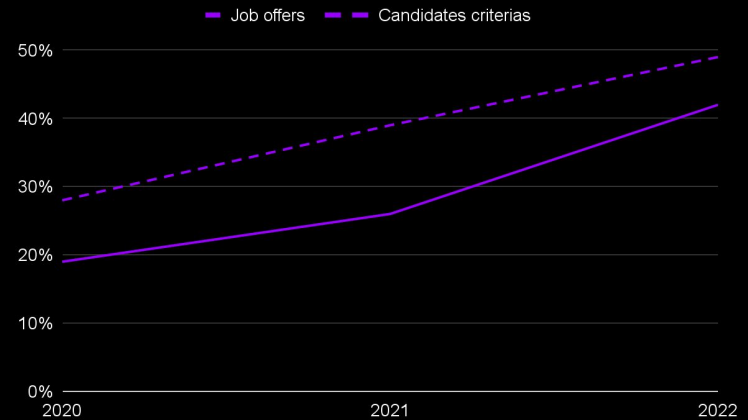
x 2.2
vs 2019

Students

x 1.8
vs 2019

Soft skills are increasing in demand by recruiters as well as prioritised by students (vs just hard skills)

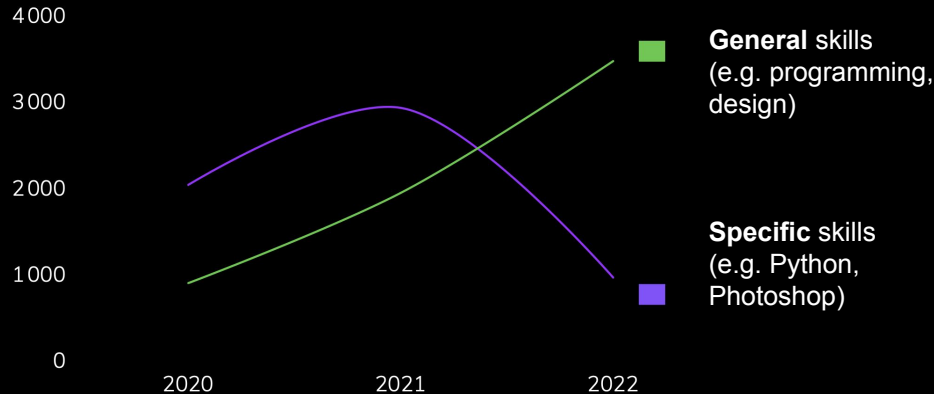
% of Soft skills in job offers / candidates' research



3. Gen Z profile match

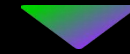
General skills over specific skills

Type of hard skills in Job ads



Distribution of skills picked by recruiters when posting a job on our platform.

The reasons?



Priority to generalist candidates vs experts

Emerging technologies, which require companies to adapt them and work across multiple systems

The rise of **low/no-code** platforms

Rise of **AI tools**



4. Gen Z needs-match

Enhance remote to boost your ROI

Remote work is not promoted
enough by recruiters



while it overperforms





The sum-up



WHO

A unique generation

- A generation of **crisis**
- A generation of **connectivity**
- A generation seeking **meaning**

Understand their position
to **relate**.

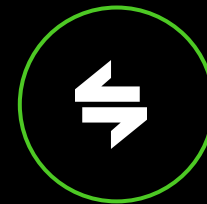


WHAT

With strong expectations

- Life before work - **flexibility** first
- Transparency** and authenticity
- Collaboration and **connection**

Respond to demands to
remain **attractive**.



HOW

To be recruited differently

- The **right** channel, offer, and timing
- A positive **employer brand** and image
- Optimized, **adapted** recruitment experience

Adapt the **how**, **where**, and **when**.



To go further...

Discover the latest results of Europe's largest Gen Z Career Barometer study

5,000 Gen Z interviewed across all Europe

- **Unveiling Gen Z's career insights:** Insights into their work attitudes, future plans, and needs.
- **Understanding Gen Z's priorities:** Key factors that influence their career decisions and aspirations.
- **Actionable guidance for effective recruitment:** Strategies to attract and engage Gen Z talent.

Download the full report



Workshop

The power of
inclusion: engaging
Gen Z through
diversity

Held on June 15, 2023



Key learnings from the workshop:

- Gen Z is more and more **comfortable with self-exploration** and **4% of Gen Z** identify as transgender
- A transgender person can be binary or non-binary
- Gender refers to a **sense of identity**, it has nothing to do with a person's biological sex
- It's important to distinguish between a person's gender and his or her appearance, which are obviously unrelated
- We speak of **misgendering** when the noun or pronoun (i.e. he/him, they/them, etc.) doesn't correspond to the identity of the person in front of us
- **Misgendering** situations are often the result of a "**misunderstanding**" of **cisgender people**, as they don't experience the same situations as transgender people
- "**Queer**" is a general word to designate a **community of people** whose gender, identity or sexual orientation doesn't correspond to the dominant model
- It's important to find out in each language how to pronounce the names / pronouns, etc. to avoid misgendering and best address Gen Z (leverage LinkedIn - name pronunciation feature and pronoun dropdown + custom pronouns)

Key learnings from the workshop:

- **Feedback from schools & universities:**
 - Green flags: The company promotes the actions it takes to fight against biases on its website or during the job interviews for example — HR or managers are able to answer quickly to questions on the subject during job interviews.
 - Red flags: The company asks questions about family plans (if a person wants to have a child soon, for example) — The company specifies gender in the job offer — The company doesn't talk about diversity during the job interview or on its website, for example.
- **Feedback from speakers:**
 - one of the biggest red flags is **vague answers** (lack of clarity) from HR or managers during the job interview.

Key learnings from the workshop:

- **Feedback from schools & universities:**
 - Ideas to give students to protect themselves:
 - Open dialogue with the company / manager — Set up discussions with HR — Tell students it's ok to quit and stop fighting if they don't feel good in their company — Train students to give and receive feedback
- **Feedback from speakers:**
 - Ideas to give students to protect themselves:
 - Find allies — Communicate — Never be loyal to a company — Talk to HR — Seek medical advice and take sick leave if necessary — Talk to a union — Know your rights (harassment policy for example) — Call a lawyer

Inclusive practices

Important: we cannot wait for someone to request an accessibility measure to put that measure in place. We should think about and implement inclusive practices **before** the practices are needed.

For example, don't wait until a wheelchair user enters to make ramps and elevators available. The same goes for gender inclusion.

Basic gender-inclusive practices:

- Everybody should introduce themselves in meetings, events, etc. with names and pronouns. "Hi, I am [name] and my pronouns are [pronouns]."
- Add badges and email signatures with names and pronouns. Make sure everybody can express their chosen name.

Put in place a zero-discrimination policy ready to use whenever an incident happens. Do not wait for incidents to happen.

Use gender neutral language in all documents, communication and public speeches.

Support the creation of LGBTQ+ collectives and allow them to thrive.

Advocate for gender-neutral facilities.



Stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination

WW and/or EU:

- Age
- The state of health
- Belonging or not to a so-called race
- Belonging or not to a nation
- Sex
- Gender identity
- Sexual orientation
- Pregnancy
- Disability
- Origin
- Religion
- Political opinions
- Philosophical opinions
- Union activities
- Ethnicity or not
- Genetic characteristics

Specific FR

- Physical appearance
- Bank domiciliation
- Family status
- Morals
- Name
- The place of residence
- Loss of autonomy
- The ability to express oneself in a language other than French
- Vulnerability resulting from economic situation
- Acting as a whistleblower

Questions to ask a potential employer

1. What is your commitment to diversity & inclusion: do you have internal policies?
2. Are employees encouraged to use gender-neutral language in all communication?
3. Are employees encouraged to display their pronouns on the website, email signatures, badges, etc.
4. Does your organization have gender-neutral facilities?
5. Does your organization provide regular DE&I training to all employees?
6. Do you provide **trans-inclusive healthcare**?
7. Are gender traits protected through an internal anti-discrimination policy? If so, how?
8. For trans and non-binary people: can I expect to be always addressed with the right name and pronouns?
9. Do you have practices in place to defend the right to privacy and non-disclosure for trans people's deadnames and gender characteristics?
10. Is there an internal LGBTQ+ ERG?

Closing Audience Question

Early Talent Development and Diversity & Inclusion: Can we be experts at both?

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Code: 1280 3633



My take

It should not be the minority pushing an agenda, or for initiatives or change, but rather there should be awareness and momentum coming from leadership.

Regardless of how a person identifies, your questions should be: What are the needs of my colleague? How do I make them feel welcome and valued in their identity?

Inclusive practices should be a given in today's workplaces.

By keeping these as your guiding principles, and continuously taking the pulse of your early talent, it's possible to develop expertise in both realms.



**What
questions
do you
have?**

Thank you

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Amber Wigmore Alvarez, PhD

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Business School & IE University, Former Chief Talent...

