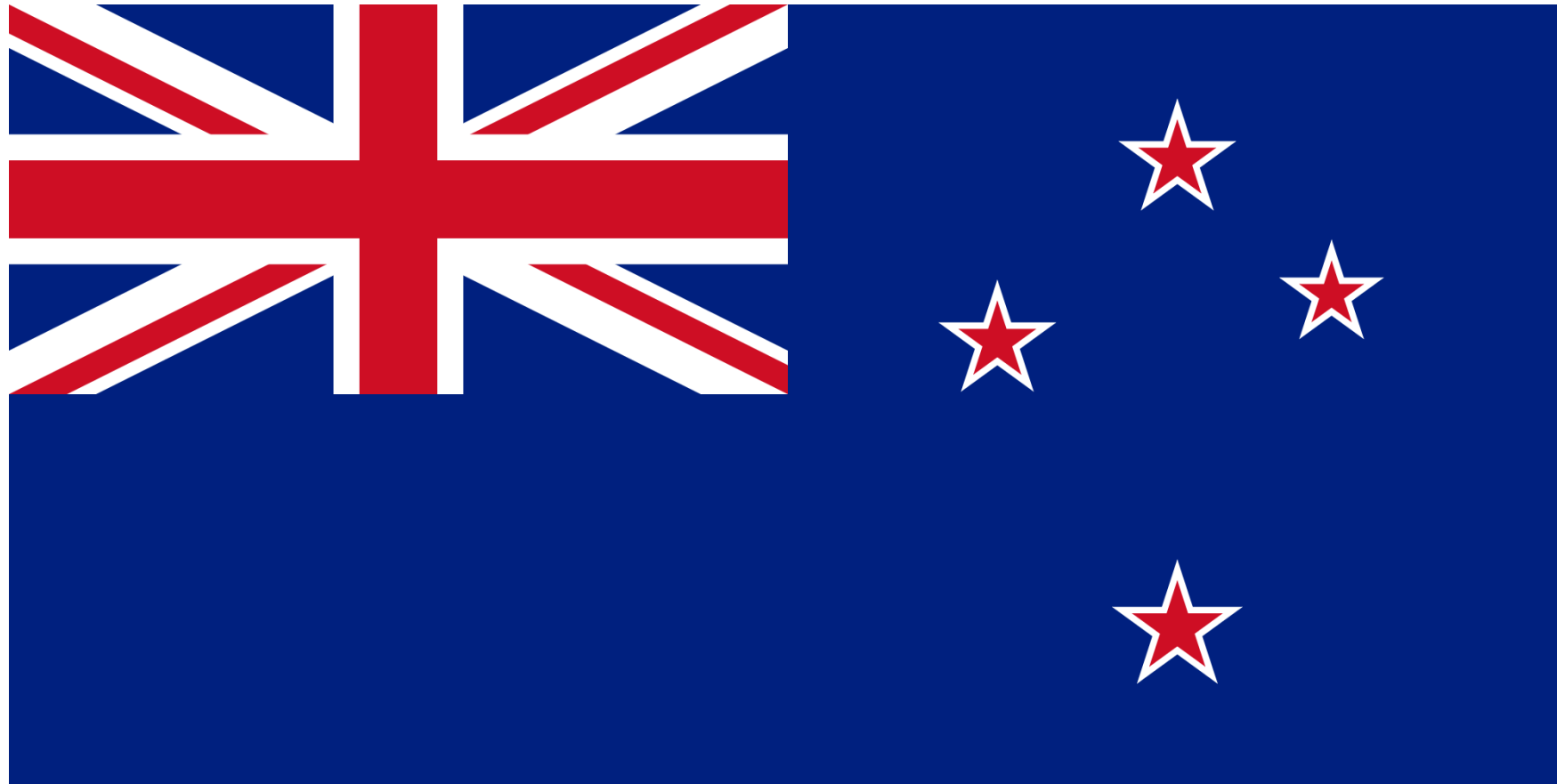


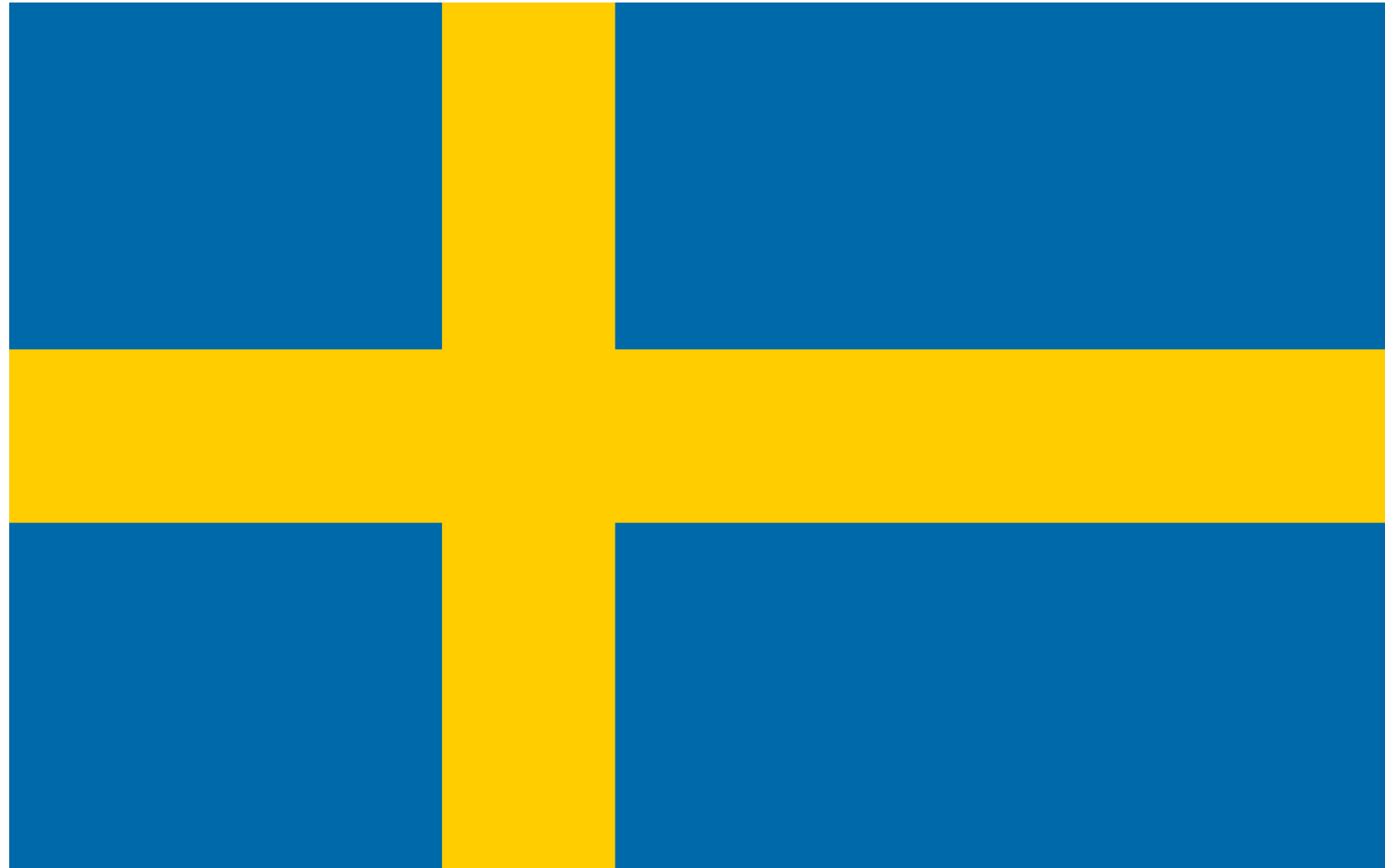


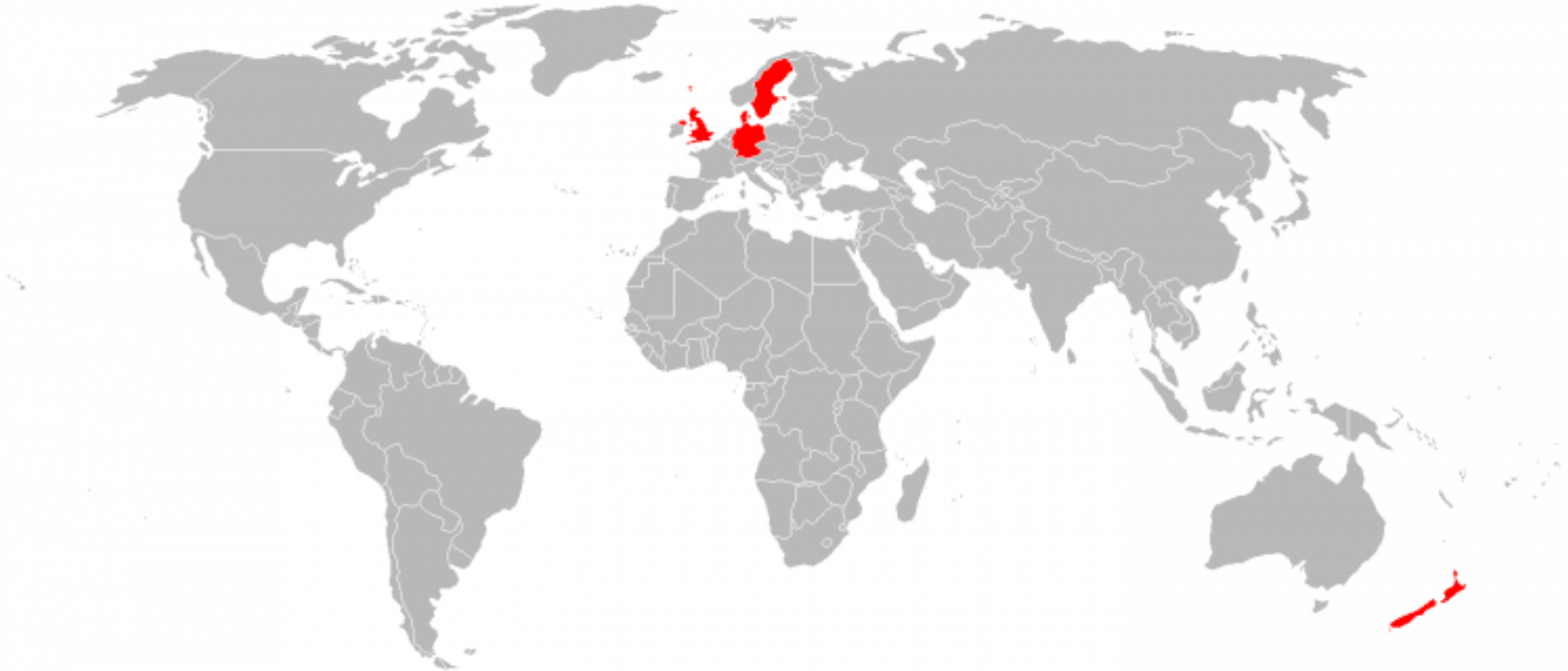
American Expats Share Their Stories

Elizabeth Sampat, To Be Announced
Tara J. Brannigan, Flaregames
Fred Zeleny, Ubisoft













- We're mostly talking about moving to Europe
- This is **American** Expats Tell Their Stories!
- Passport privilege is real, and we have it





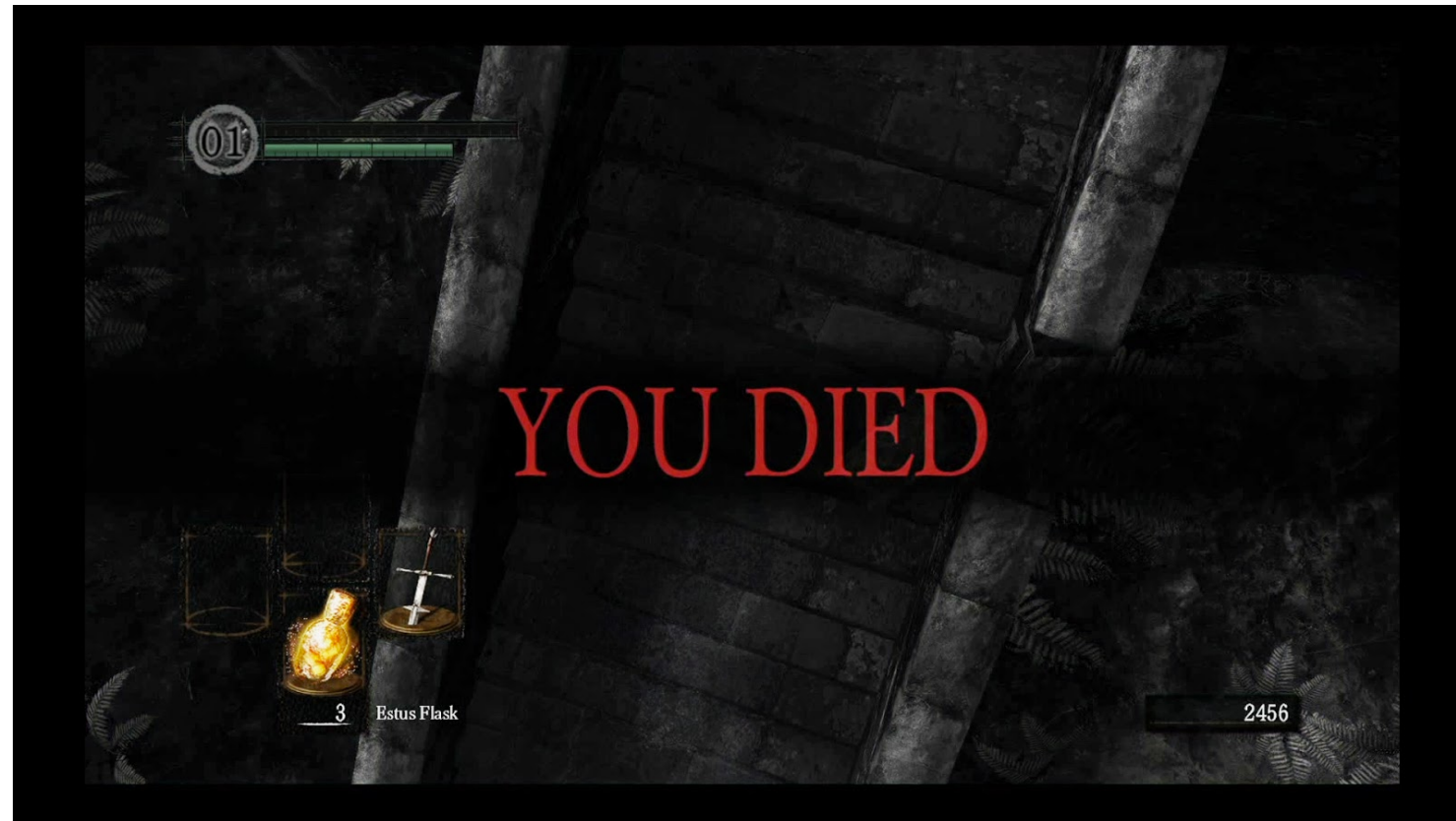
Number of countries that do not require a travel visa:

American Passport: 176

Kenyan Passport: 72

Lebanese Passport: 38









FLAREGAMES

Head of Community & Customer Support

Currently Karlsruhe, Germany
Previously Wellington, NZ and Seattle, WA
@kindofstrange





14%





So Why Move?





TLDR; It was time!





(Super fast) Advice for Aspiring Wanderers





Family





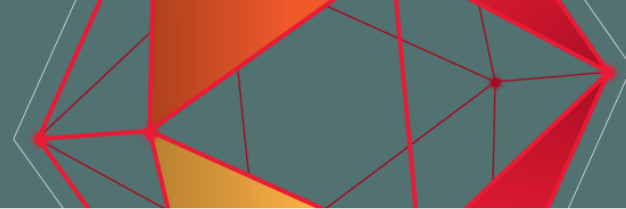
Understand the Requirements





Estimate Costs





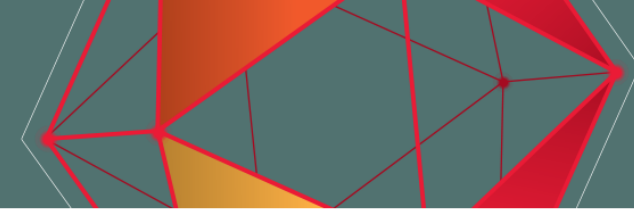
Moving Pets





Get ALL the Paperwork



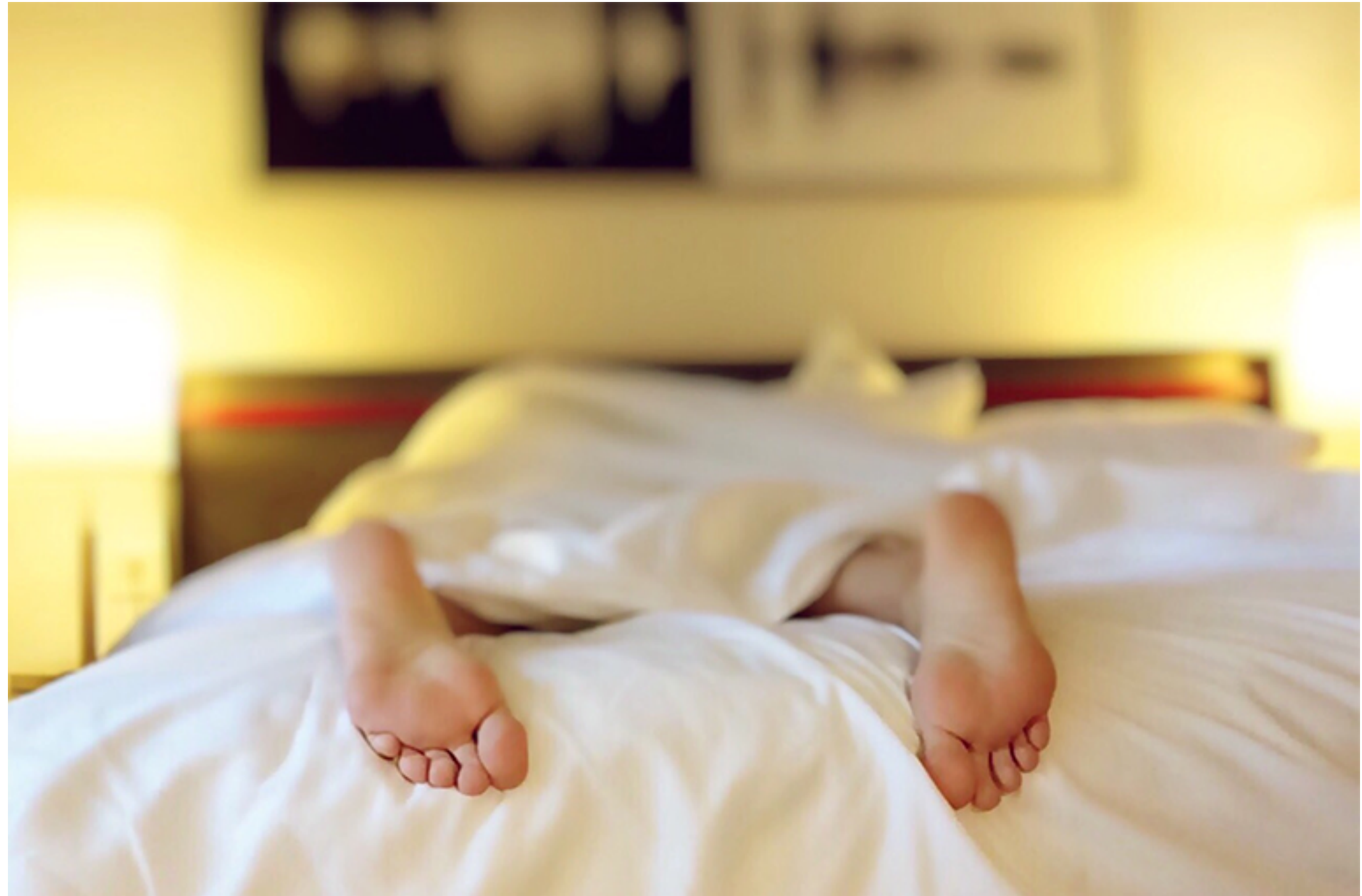


Get rid of ALL
the things!!!





Settling In

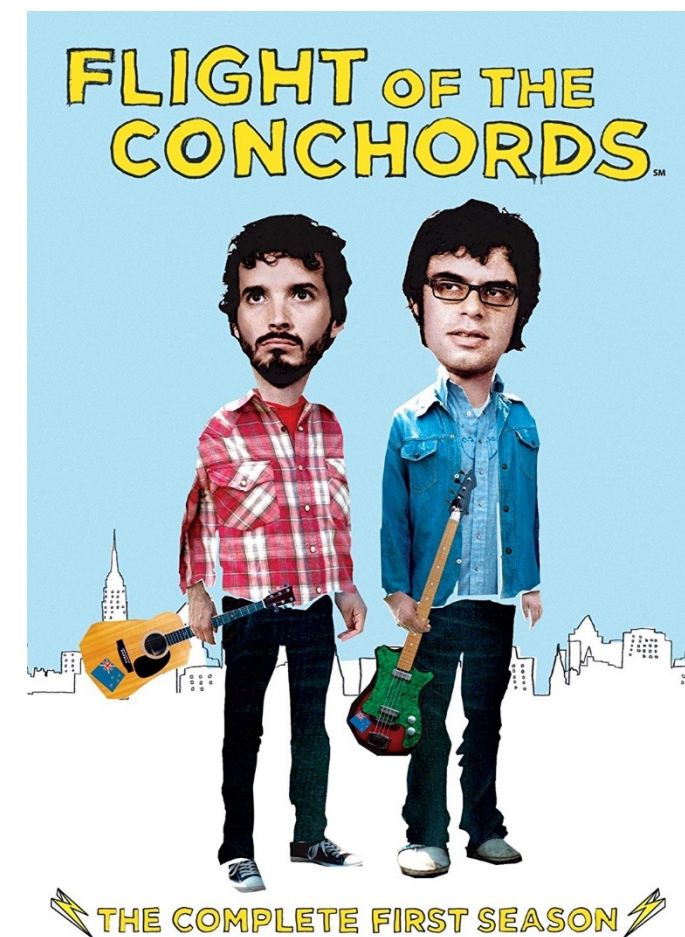


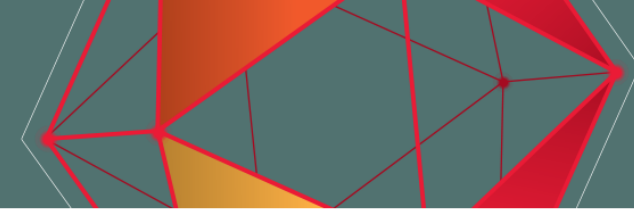


Stereotypes

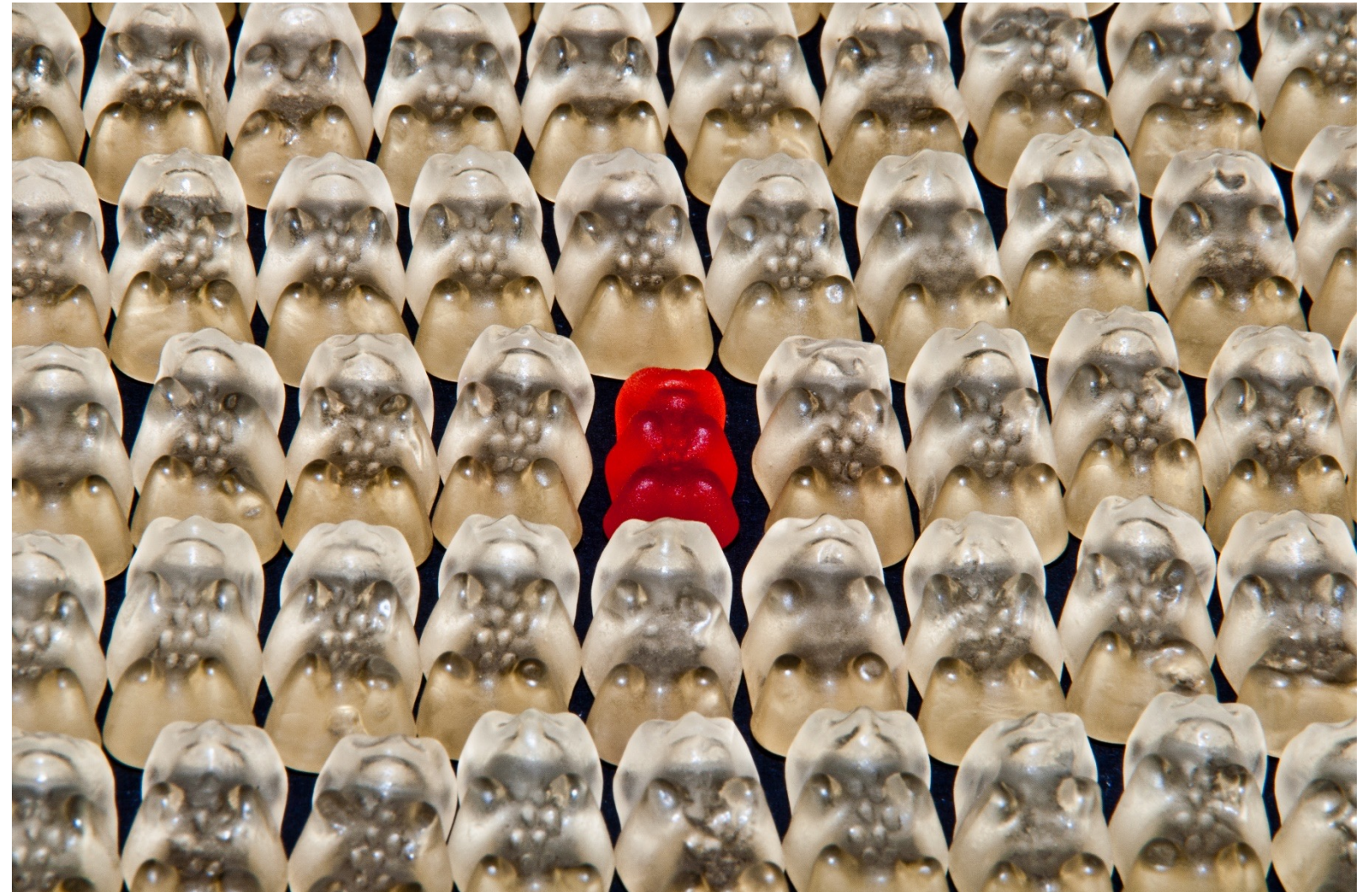


Source: not-Australia.co.nz





Hidden Differences





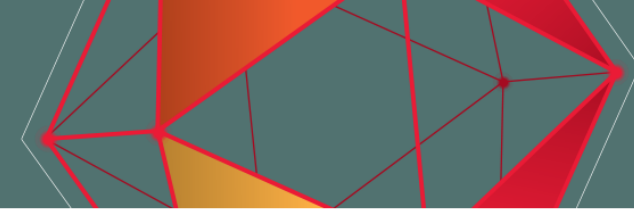
Perspective





Healthcare





Opportunity

Ihre Reise



Hinfahrt **Fr, 02.03.2018**

13:00 Karlsruhe Hbf

16:51 Paris Est

Rückfahrt **Sa, 03.03.2018**

17:55 Paris Est

20:25 Karlsruhe Hbf

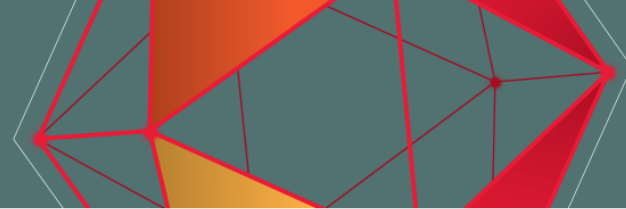




Vacation

28



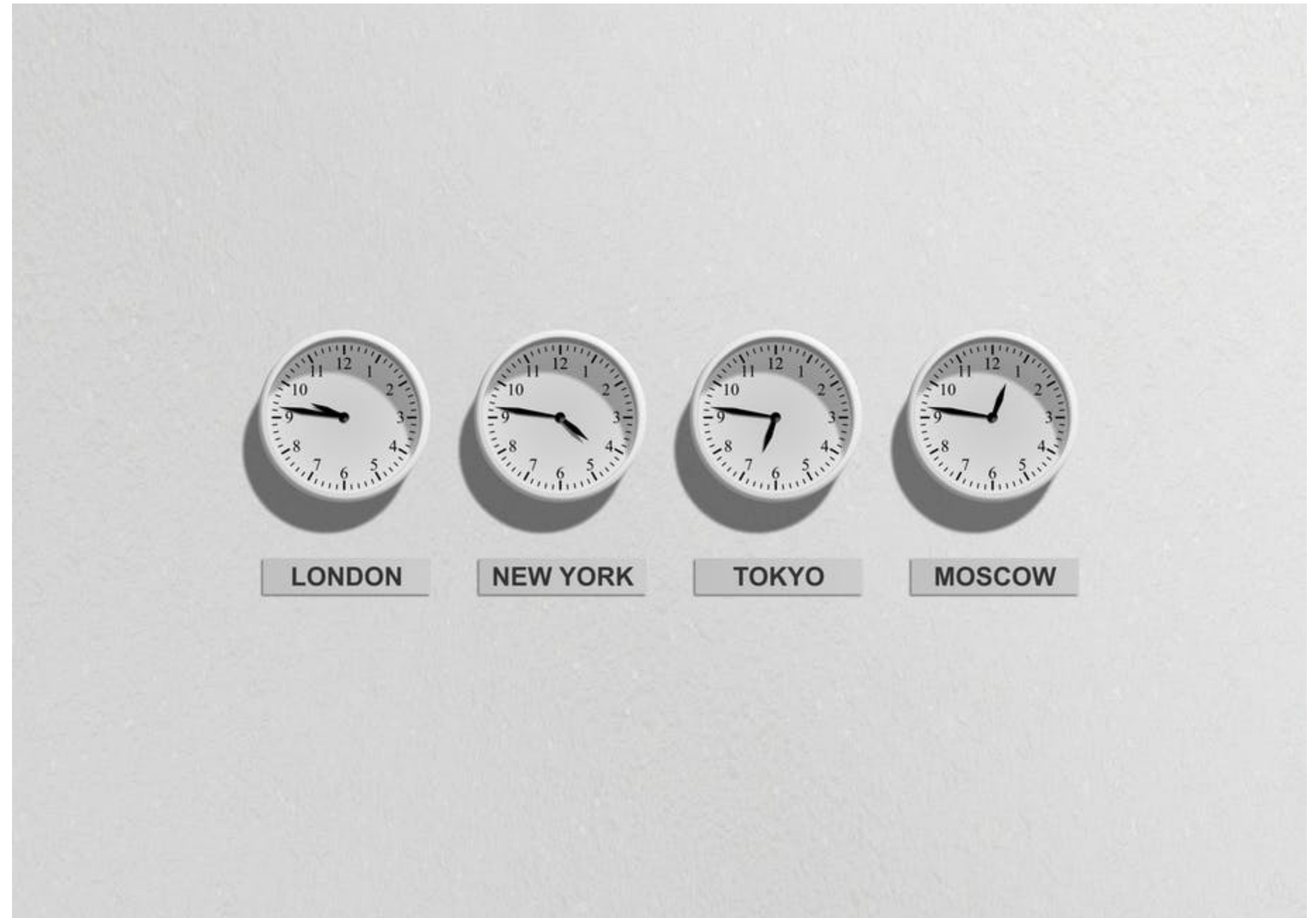


Keeping in Touch





Find Ways





It's not all on you





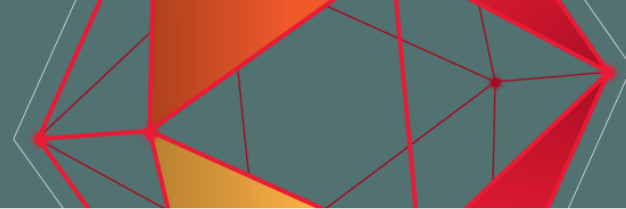
Connect with Others





Learn to Laugh at Yourself






Food!!!





Expat vs. immigrant

/ˈɪmɪgr(ə)nt/ 

noun

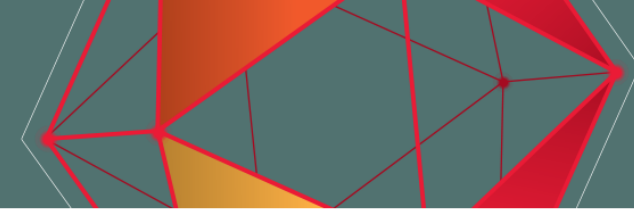
noun: **immigrant**; plural noun: **immigrants**

a person who comes to live permanently in a foreign country.

"they found it difficult to expel illegal immigrants"

synonyms: [newcomer](#), [settler](#), [incomer](#), new arrival, [migrant](#), [emigrant](#); [More](#)





It's an Adventure





Contact

tarabrannigan@flaregames.com

[linkedin.com/in/tarabrannigan/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/tarabrannigan/)

[@kindofstrange](#)





AAA IN EUROPE: HOW SWEDEN SAVED MY SANITY (AND MY NOSE)

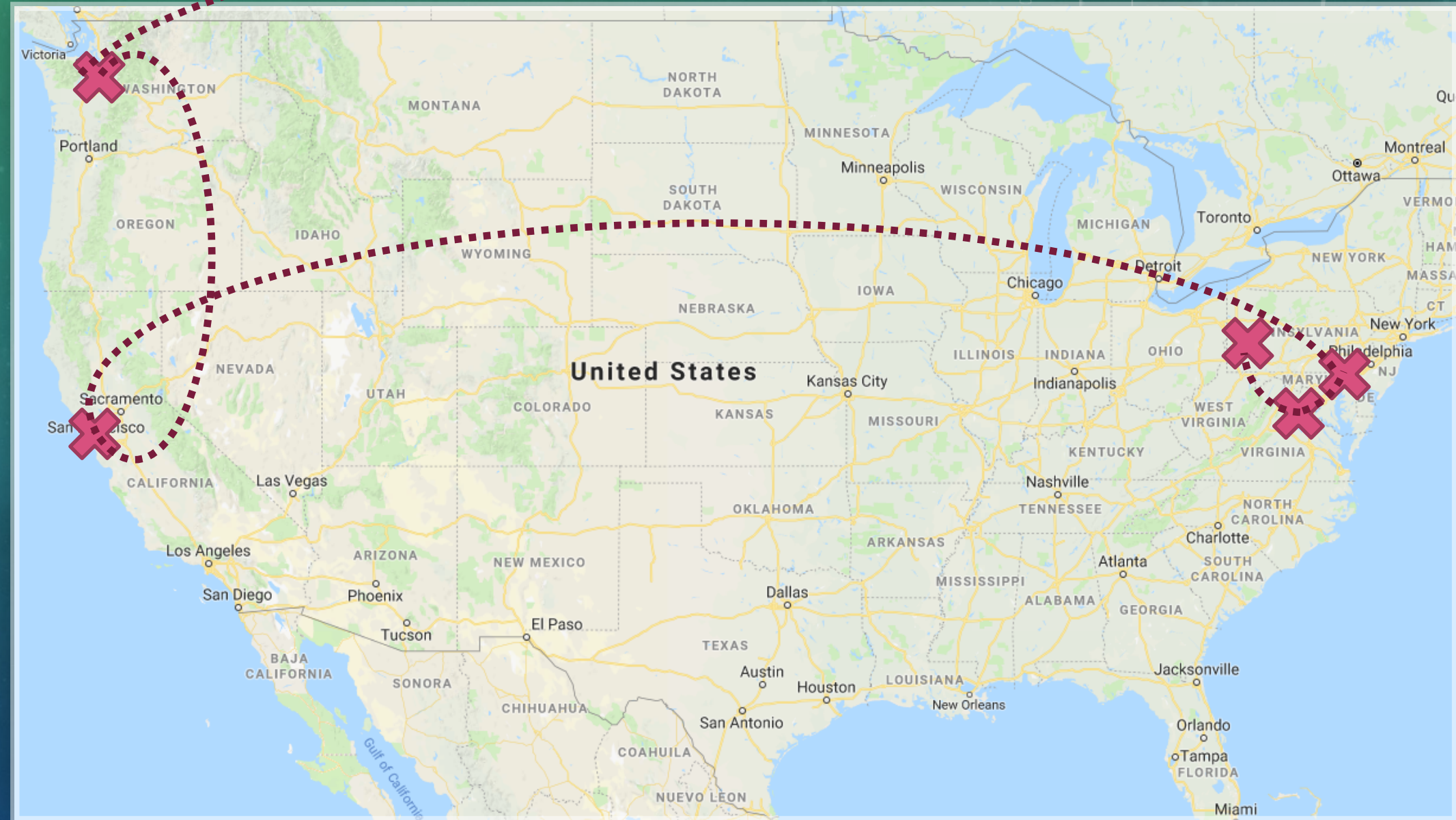
FRED ZELENY

SENIOR NARRATIVE DESIGNER

MASSIVE, UBISOFT

AAA NOMAD, NEWCOMER TO EUROPE

- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Washington, District of Columbia
- Baltimore, Maryland
- San Francisco, California
- Seattle, Washington
- Malmö, Sweden



INTRO TO EUROPE (FOR AMERICANS)



United States

- Quirky State Personalities and Accents
- Good Pizza
- Higher Salaries, Less Tax
(but waaay higher cost of living)
- ~~Legal Pot~~
“More Excitement”
- You Already Live Here

Europe (or at least Scandinavia)

- Quirky National Personalities and Languages
- Good Health Care
- Benefits of Functional Government and Unions
(lower crime, labor laws, parental leave, sick leave, vacations...)
- Everything Is Older Than Your Home Country
(a different sort of excitement)
- Life is Easier Here



NEW IN TOWN

Moving, Paperwork, and Making Friends

INTERCONTINENTAL RELOCATION

- Moving always sucks
- Store stuff or give it away?
- Measuring possessions in Hearts per Kilogram
- The Life Changing Power of Just BURNING EVERYTHING IN A PILE





PAPERWORK & BUREAUCRACY

- Have a valid passport now (before the interviews)
- Find a studio that'll help out
- Transferring all your accounts
- A whole new world (of service providers)
- Don't forget family!

WE'RE NOT TOURISTS WE'RE GUESTS

- Being welcomed to a country is an honor
- Learning a new language/country requires comfort with sounding stupid
- Be a good neighbor and bring your weirdness to your new home
- Go to events, make new friends





...BUT IT'S WORTH IT!

Stability, Opportunity, and Life



FOCUS ON THE JOB, NOT THE JOB SEARCH

- Social safety nets, lower costs - stable environment for creative risks
- Studios aim for long-term employment
- Long vacations, parental leave, and more
- Less overwork = less burnout for pros

GOOD FOR YOUNG DEVS

- America is a young dev's game - but it burns you out quick
- Working abroad is a fun adventure:
See the world, make some stories, grow a bit more
- But... unless you're a hotshot, no one's paying your relocation





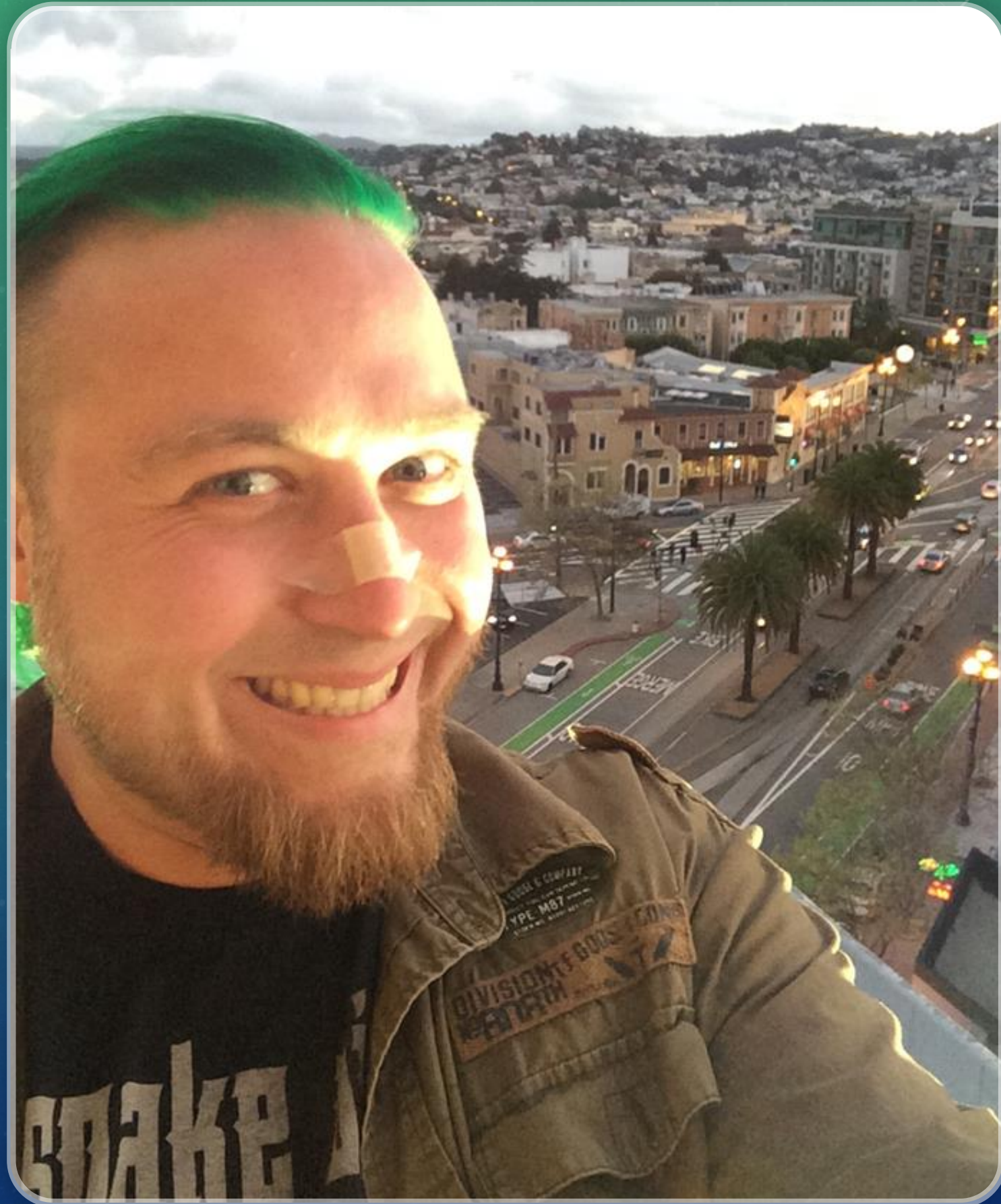
EVEN BETTER FOR MORE MATURE DEVS

- Europe offers a more sustainable pace for gamedev
- Parenthood is easier and cheaper
- More time to travel - or just to relax at home
- Worldly perspective improves your work
- But... moving a family is harder than relocating on your own

HOW MOVING TO SWEDEN SAVED MY LIFE

(or at least my nose)

TACK SÅ MYCKET!
(THANKS SO MUCH!)





You Can Get There From Here: Getting A Job In Europe (And Then Getting Another One) With 4 Quick Tips

Elizabeth Sampat
@twoscooters





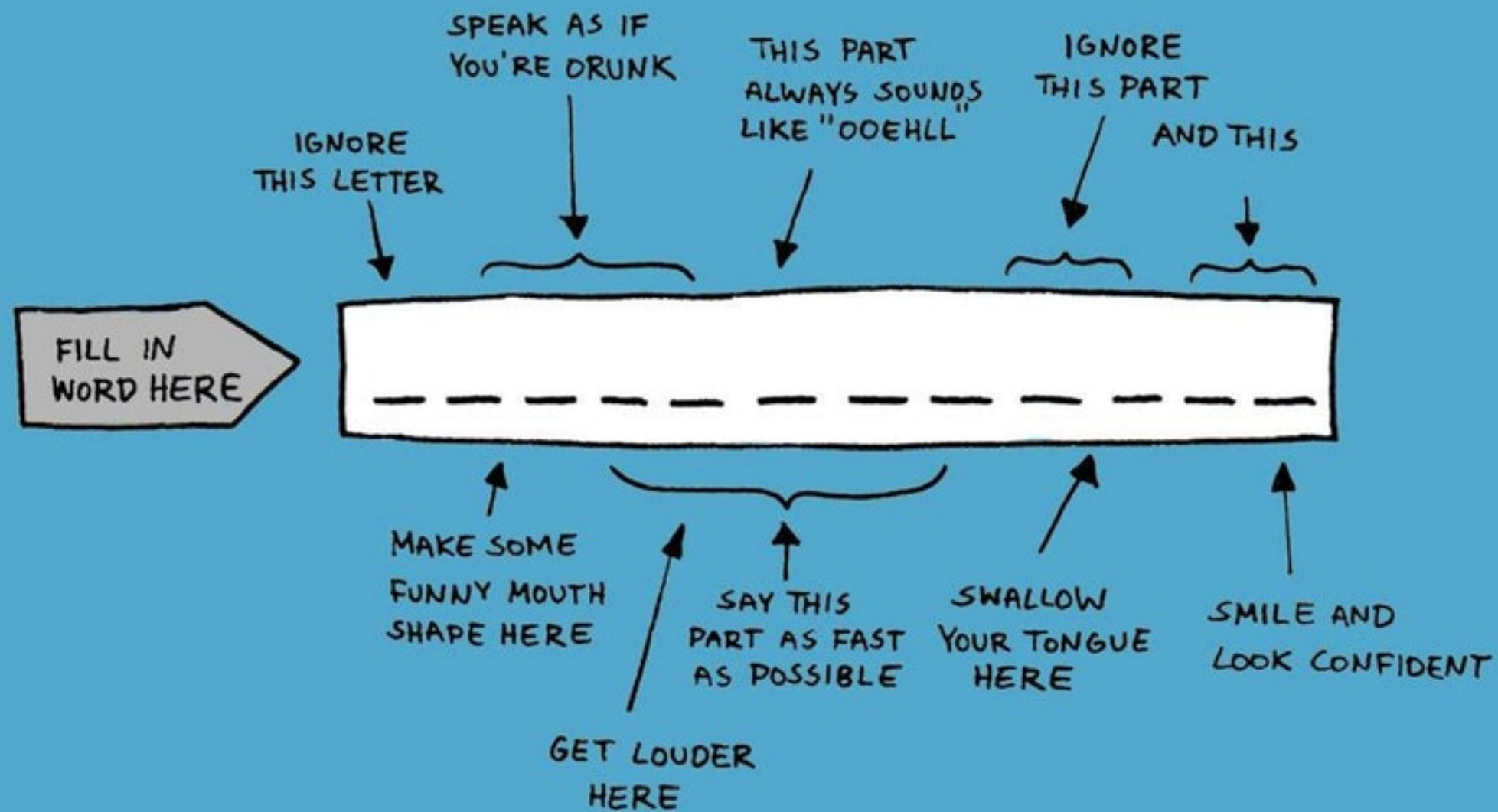






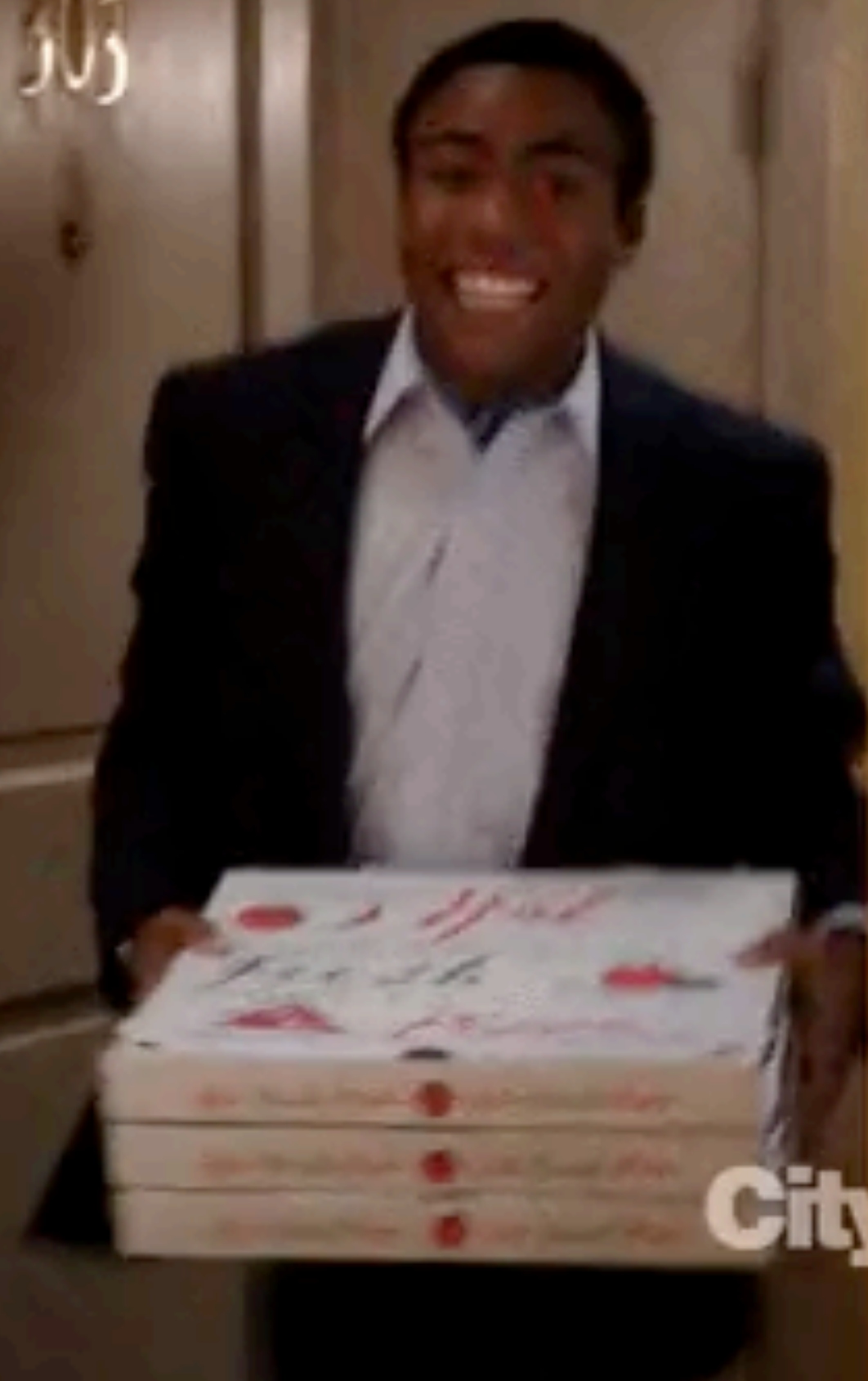
YOU'RE FIRED!

HOW TO PRONOUNCE ANY DANISH WORD





303



Citytv

Hopefully this is us soon!



Run Away
with me



Tip #1:

DON'T accept a job abroad
without an onsite interview.



24

26



GULDKORN

26⁹⁵

SPECIAL K

KELLOGG'S

31⁹⁵



L51563B602

Bendaflex 4210 1/2 GRA
Bendaflex 4210 1/2 GRA

ASSERTIVE COMMUNICATING
STYLE

INITECH CH
Mike Williams
Security Personnel
10/1/99

ROUTE
PV 15

Swingline

Choose a company
willing to invest in you



Tip #2:

Be REALISTIC
about your needs.



Me: “I have an interview in
Finland!”

My kids: “. . .”

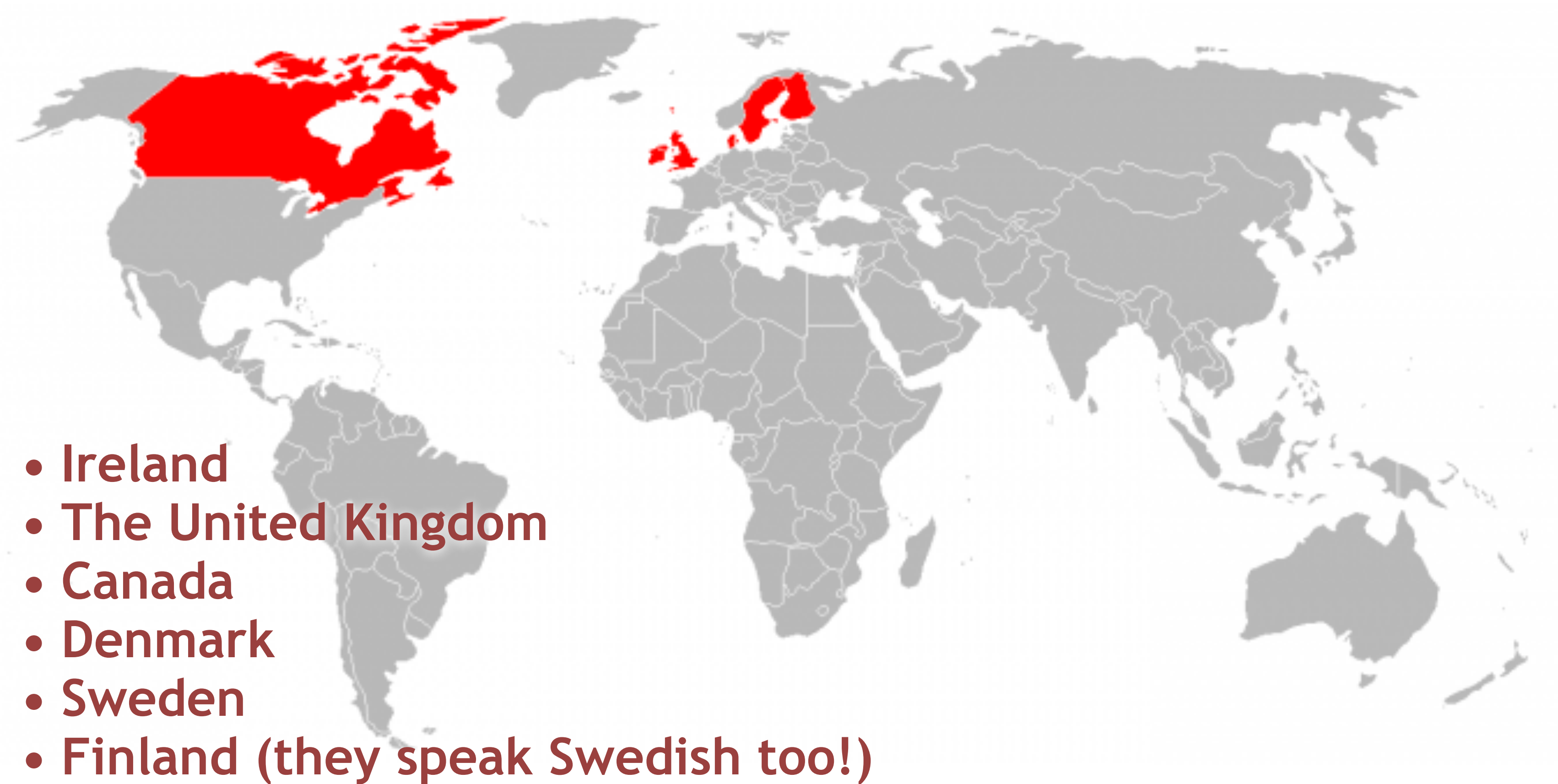
HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY

Finnish is a great language!

The spruce is on fire
The spruce returns
The number six is on fire
The number six returns
Six of them are on fire
Six of them return
Your moon is on fire
Your moon returns
Six pieces

*Kuusi palaa
Kuusi palaa
Kuusi palaa
Kuusi palaa
Kuusi palaa
Kuusi palaa
Kuusi palaa
Kuusi palaa
Kuusi palaa*

FINLAND



A world map with a light gray background. The landmasses are outlined in a darker gray. Canada is highlighted in a solid red color. In Europe, the British Isles, Ireland, and Scandinavia (Norway, Sweden, Finland) are also highlighted in red. The rest of the world's landmasses are in the standard light gray color.

Which meant declining interviews in:

- Bucharest
- Los Angeles
- Barcelona
- Paris
- Berlin

Tip #3:

Europe is tiny.

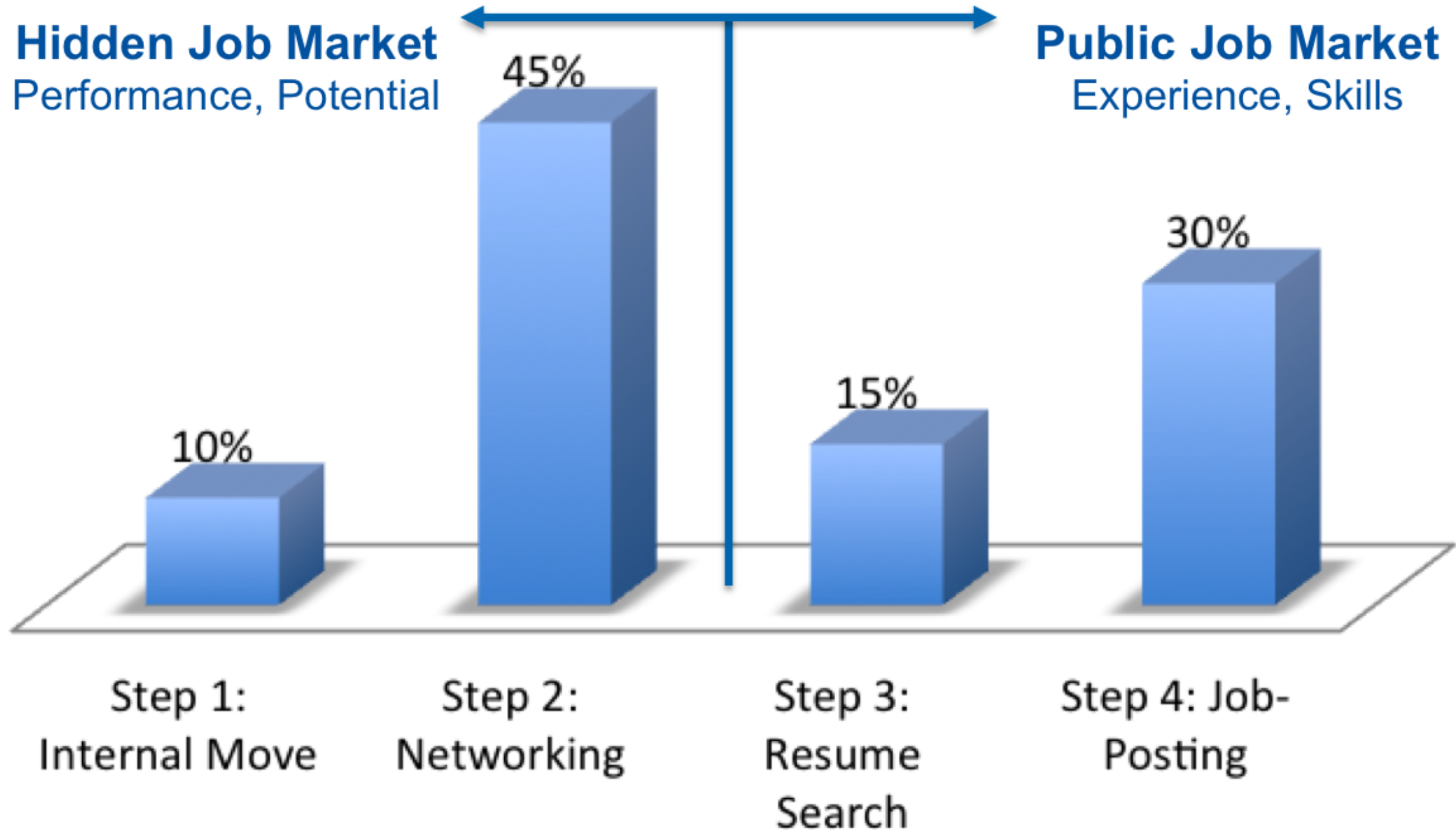
Network as much as possible.

Fun fact: Denmark is 4th
in global coffee consumption.

(behind Iceland, Norway, and Finland)

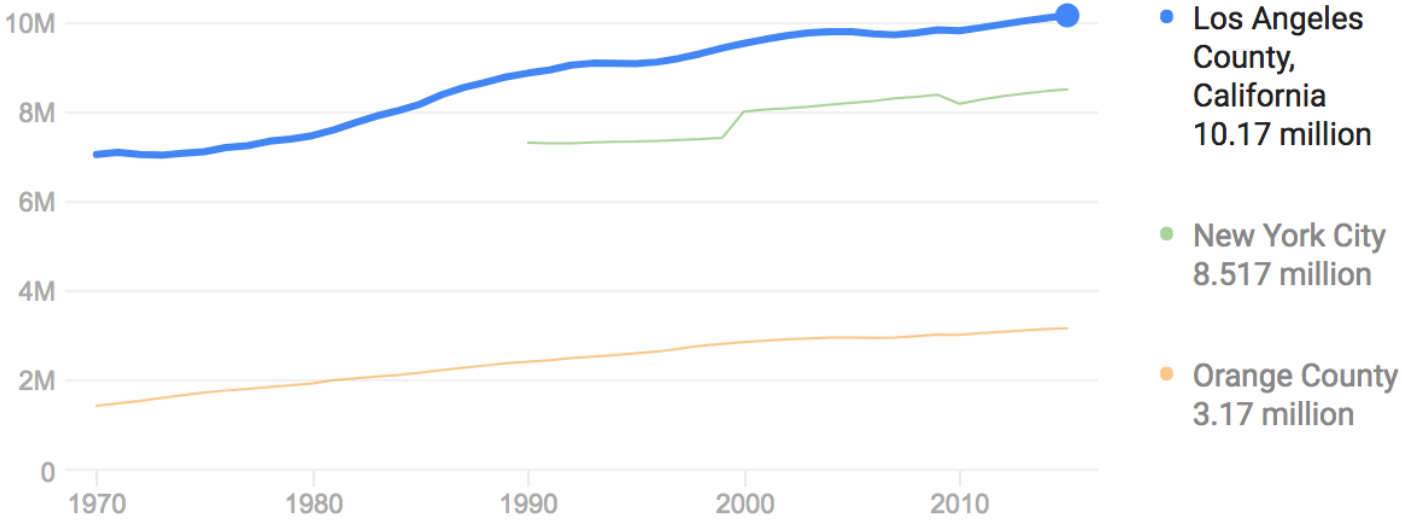
(My guess: it's all of the
networking coffee dates.)

How Companies Fill Jobs



Los Angeles County, California / Population

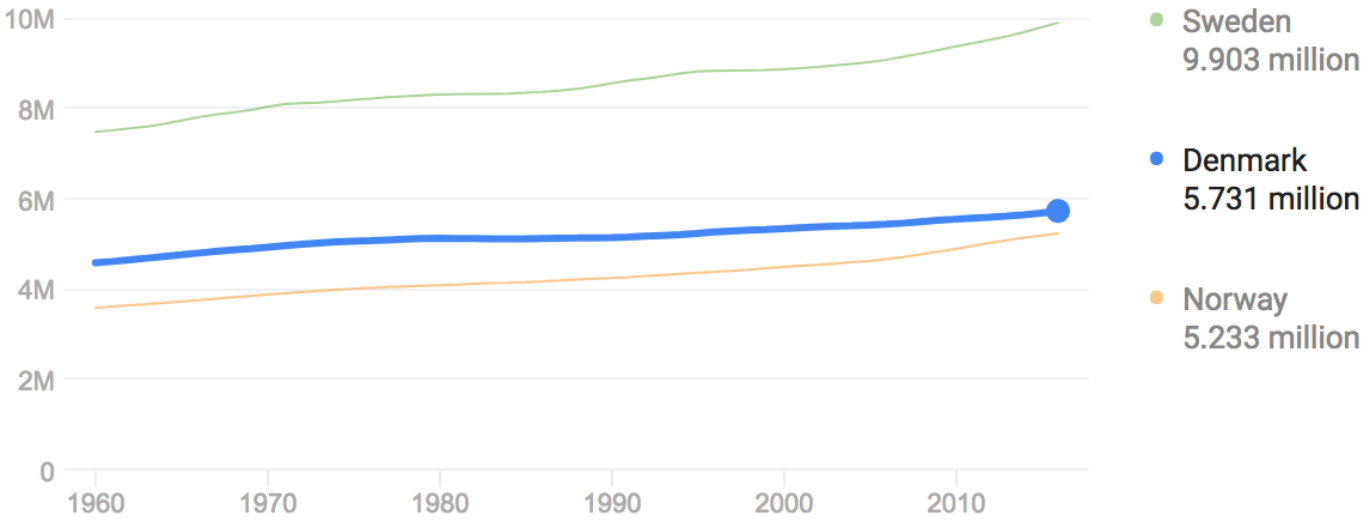
10.17 million (2015)



 Explore more

Denmark / Population

5.731 million (2016)



 Explore more

Tip #4:

If you don't have a network,
find a good recruiter.



Meet Alan.



why are recru|

why are recruiters so bad

why are recruiters so pushy

why are recruiters so rude

why are recruiters so stupid

why are recruitment agencies so bad

why are recruitment consultants so annoying





UK Border Controls



UK Border

UK Border



APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT
PRE-EMPLOYMENT
NAIRE

Top
Picks





Again, this is Alan.

Chat now with Local Alans!

Alan , 24



Alan

Hello?

Alan is typing...



start webcam



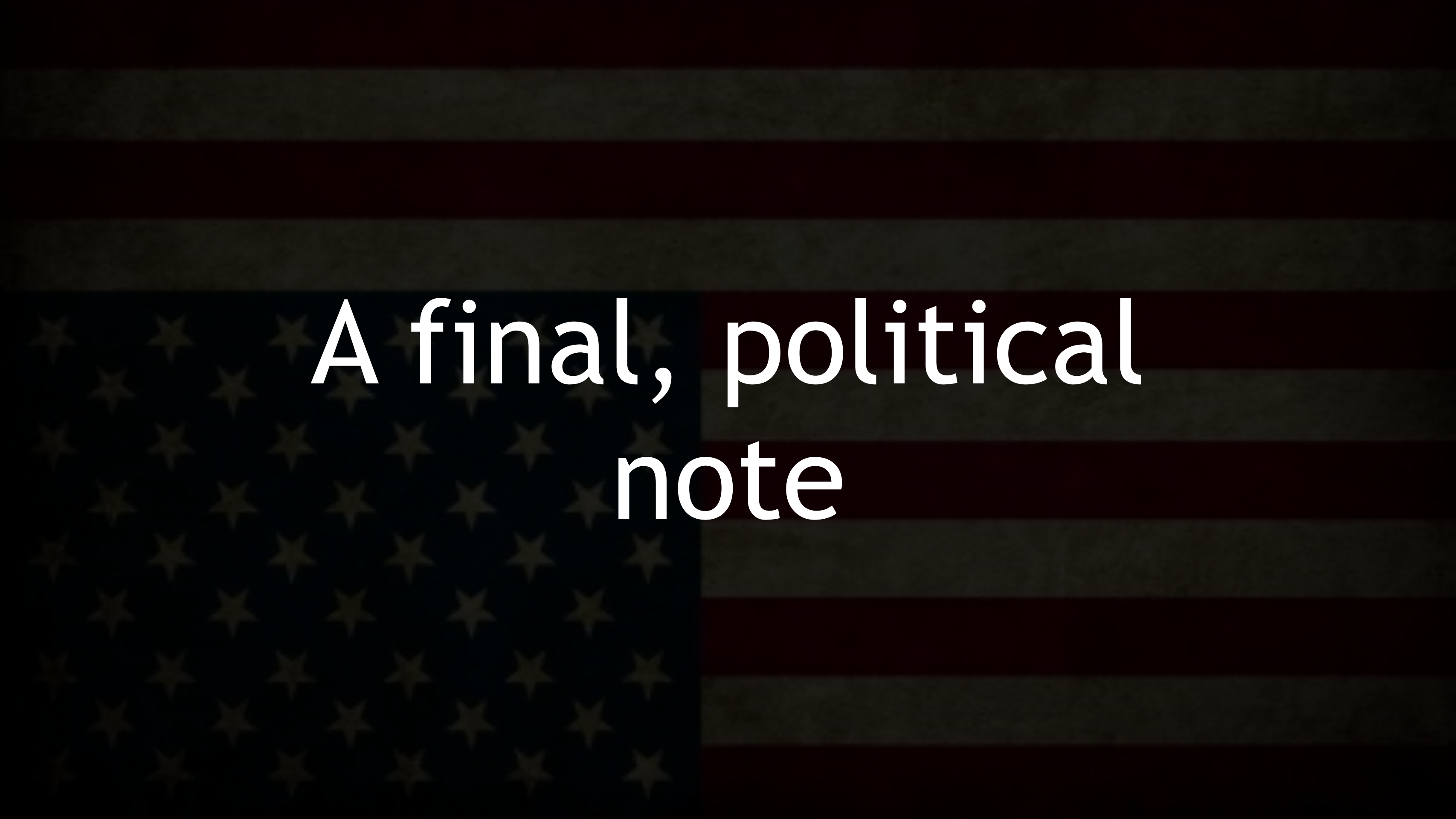
icebreaker



+1 Min

Start chat now »

Find your Alan.



A final, political
note



Immigration, a lexicon. You're a
'migrant' when you're very poor;
'immigrant' when you're not so poor;
and 'expat' when you're rich.

— *Laila Lalami* —

AZ QUOTES







How the Great Recession of 2008 affected Millennials' outlook

32%

It affected them
personally

46%

Made it more
difficult to get a job

21%

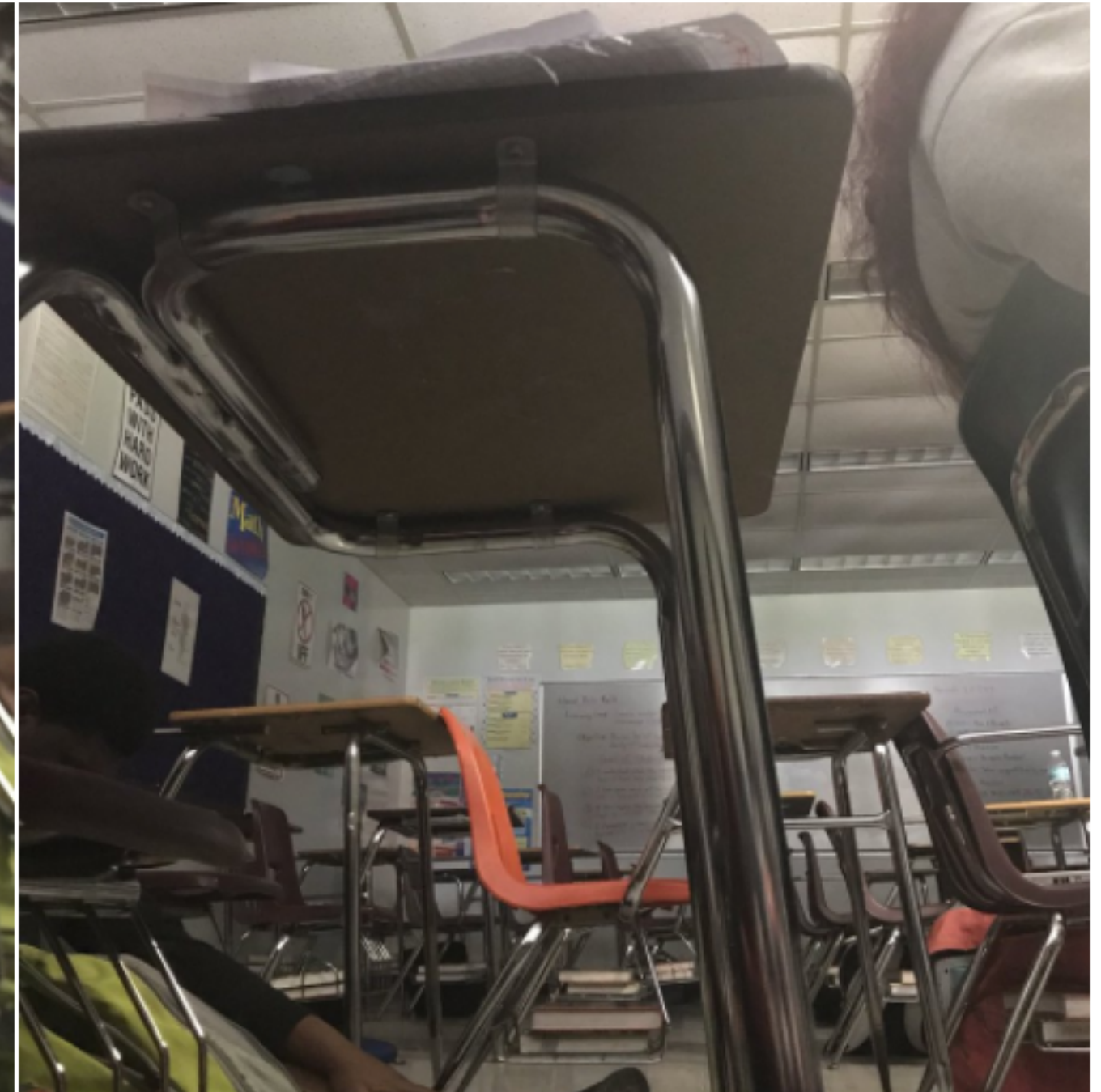
Made it impossible
to find a job



Aidan Minoff @TheCaptainAidan · Feb 14



My school is being shot up and I am locked inside. I'm fucking scared right now.



1.6K

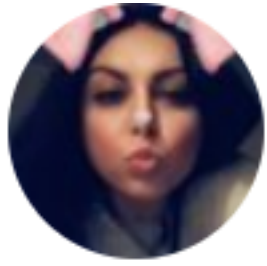


22K



38K





BB•Carter 🐝❤️🐱 the Network

@runs_w_wolves

Follow



Replying to [@TheCaptainAidan](#)

I've survived this. You're gonna be okay.
Hang in there sweetie. Stay quiet. Help
anyone who is hurt. Stay calm. It's going to
be okay. I promise baby you're going to be
okay

3:34 PM - 14 Feb 2018



**STOP
RACISM
NOW**

**#LET
THEM
STAY**





LIFE SAVERS
GUMMIES
TROPICAL MANGO

MORE
TASTING!
pop-
tarts
Cookies & Cream
8





The
MAD MENU

YOU'D ALMOST THINK
THE US OPENED UP A 51ST STATE
IN COPENHAGEN

BRINGING THE TRUE TASTE
OF AMERICA ACROSS THE POND
SINCE 2013

Vol. 1 COPENHAGEN DENMARK \$ 0

WHAT MAKES US TRULY MAD

WELCOME TO MAD - MODERN AMERICAN DINER. THE FIRST AND ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND IN TOWN OFFERING AUTHENTIC AMERICAN FOOD AND A WARM VIBE IN A PLACE WE HOPE YOU'LL CALL HOME

We've travelled the US sampling the best diner food around to bring this culinary icon to you. Indulge in a great meal with the family, drinks with your closest friends or a dangerously delicious dessert. MAD is where you can meet, eat, drink, hang out and chill out from dawn till dusk.

You can look forward to a range of all-time favorites made with authentic American ingredients and Black Angus beef of a very high grade. Brace yourself for BBQ short ribs, southern style awns and crab cake starters. Mouth-watering premium steaks. Massive burgers with your choice of toppings. Sandwiches made famous from New Orleans, Philadelphia and the Big Bad Apple. Add to that side dishes like sweet potato fries (they're addictive!).

We import some of the best meat in the world directly from the states. That's why tender and succulent steaks are always on the menu.

A long list of beers from the US, as well as our own home brews great wine and cocktails for before and after.

A breakfast available from morning till night. And to top it all off, our tempting desserts. We invite you to sit back, relax and enjoy delicious, down-home cooking American style, served with extra friendliness - absolutely free.

THE BEST BEEF DIRECT FROM THE US

If you're looking for the best from the US, you've just found it. Black Angus beef is one of the most tender, succulent beef you'll ever find, cut in-house to preserve its freshness. Check out the popular cuts, such as ribeye, strip loin. For serious meat lovers, try our T-bone steak or share a Porterhouse if available, or the melt-in-your-mouth wagyu burger.

FANTASTIC ORGANIC
**HIEFE
WEIZEN
BEER**

TRULY
AD
VERY
ITY BEER

**DID YOU
KNOW**

**OUR COCKTAILS
ARE MAD GOOD BOTH BEFORE
& AFTER DINNER**

