Long-term vs short-term orientation

What do these terms mean to you?

Hofstede says:

Long-term orientation deals with how people think about change in the world.

In a long-term-oriented culture, people feel that the world is <u>in flux</u>. Preparing for the future is always needed.

In a short-term-oriented culture, the world is does not change much. The world is <u>essentially</u> as it was created. The past provides a <u>moral</u> <u>compass</u>. We must always follow that compass.

- 1. What do you think of those definitions? Do they make sense to you?
- 2. Would you describe your national culture as short-term or long-term oriented? Can you give examples?
- 3. How does this relate to:
 - a. How people think about life
 - b. How religious people are
 - **c.** Beliefs about the importance of education?

Hofstede's map: do you agree?

Short-term orientation (Monumentalism) – Long-term orientation (Flexhumility) World map (based on WVS)

