

Annex One: Euroculture Master Thesis Assessment Form 2019-2021



Name of Student: Aziza Anna-Lee Zijlstra

Thesis Title: Language and Intra-EU Immigrant Integration in the Netherlands: Evaluating Dutch language-based integration policies and exploring the effects of language use on intra-EU immigrants' integration.

University of the 1st semester: University of Groningen

University of the 2nd semester: Palacky University in Olomouc

Name of Supervisor / University: Doc. PhDr. Daniel Topinka, PhD.

In this report, please consider the following, by answering the following questions. Please add a short explanation instead of simply answering 'yes', 'no' or 'partly':

1) Content: Problem statement, method and theory:

a) Is the topic of the thesis clearly presented and motivated?

Yes, the author concisely explains what is her topic and motivation. The explanation in the introduction is clear and justified. As the author writes, investigating this topic is highly relevant, both societally and scientifically. I agree with that.

b) Are the aims and objectives of the thesis clearly identified and explained?

Yes, the goal of the work is very precisely defined. The aim is how Dutch policies and educational practices aimed at using language to steer intra-EU immigrant integration.

c) Is there a well formulated problem statement and is it of sufficient complexity for an MA level? Briefly explain?

Yes, the problem is very well formulated. Thesis meets the requirements for MA level. The thesis is based on a deep understanding of the problem, which is academically defined. I appreciate the precision in defining the problem and the goal of the thesis.

d) Has the student convincingly explained the relevance of the research?

Yes, there can be no doubt about the relevance, the thesis is closely related to the broad social context as well as the context of public immigration policies. The thesis is very well placed in the current situation of immigration policy (e.g. Intra-EU Migration and Policies in the Netherlands), it presents the context very well and describes it.

e) Has a suitable methodology and theoretical frame been taken to solve the stated problems?

The methodology belongs to the strong point of the thesis, it is based on a quantitative and qualitative approach, it is elaborated very precisely and is well thought out.

f) In case where empirical research has been conducted: is there a suitable research design and has the research been conducted adequately?

Yes, the research design is well described, the whole research was done also very well. It is obvious that the author approached him very responsibly and honestly. It looks very credible. The quantitative part is based on surveys analysis. The qualitative part consisted of two elements: an analysis of Dutch language-based integration policies and related educational practices, and interviews with policy advisors and educators. Yes, conclusion provide convincing answers to the initial questions. I like the graphic and illustrative processing of the results.

g) Does the conclusion provide convincing answers/proof to the initial questions/hypotheses?

Yes, conclusion provide convincing answers to the initial questions. It is well structured, it also contains the limitations of the study.

h) Does the research constitute a contribution to knowledge in this field or domain?

Yes, without a doubt.

2) Structure:

a) Is the thesis coherently structured in chapters and sections?

Yes, the thesis is coherently structured, we read a very precise and logically structured text.

b) Are concepts clearly introduced and explained, and critically and consistently applied?

Yes, the thesis presents important theoretical concepts, the author chose the concepts well and proved that she can work well with them.

3) Sources (primary and secondary):

a) Has (enough) relevant (primary and secondary) literature been adequately interpreted and integrated into the thesis?

Yes, author chose appropriate literature. She has demonstrated the ability to work with literature in an academic way. She did a good review.

b) Is the bibliography/list of references complete and accurate?

Yes, the list of references is complete.

4) Stylistics:

a) Is the use of language (English) acceptable and of the required standard (i.e. no spelling mistakes and typos, range of vocabulary, grammar)?

Yes, the thesis has a good language level, the text is well edited.

b) Are references in the text given in a coherent and consistent manner (either in text or as footnotes)?

Yes, references are used correctly in the text, the author uses footnotes.

5) Format:

a) How is the thesis presented (i.e. consistency in lay-out, choice of fonts, headings, tables and graphs)?

Text formatting is well mastered. As a reader, I appreciate the processing of text and the use of graphic elements. Formally, the thesis is well mastered.

b) Does the thesis contain all required elements (title page, declaration, table of contents, bibliography, etc.)

Yes, all elements are included in the thesis.

6) Quality of writing process:

a) To what degree has the student been able to work independently?

Yes, she processed the text very independently. Her work was thoughtful, honestly processed. If necessary, she consulted individual chapters or proposals of her solutions.

b) Have recommended revisions been executed to a satisfying degree?

Yes, she included the recommendations.

c) Any other relevant comments (e.g on planning and commitment of the student).

Really great job. The thesis is at a great level. The author's approach was honest, and she managed everything on time and with great results. Despite the unfavourable conditions...

7) Possible questions for thesis defence (only if this thesis is to be defended Orally):

I have a question: how did the author manage to manage and combine both qualitative and quantitative parts? This is usually quite complicated in research practice. And if the author returned to the beginning (hypothetically), what would she do differently in methodology at present?

(National) Grade: A

*Suggestion for corresponding converted grade
according to the other university's (national) grading scheme:*

Date and place: June 13, 2021 in Olomouc

Signature: