

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, The Netherlands

University of the 2nd semester: Palacky University Olomouc, Czech Republic

Name of Supervisor / University: Janet M. Fuller, University of Groningen

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 introduction clearly lays out what is to be investigated and why.

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

Yes, there is a clear focus on language use and integration, and a theoretically motivated definition of the latter.

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

Yes, the gap in research is shown, and the research questions specify how this gap will be filled with the results of this study.

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

Yes. The broader societal context has been addressed and how this research is relevant to policies and practices surrounding integration of intra-EU migrants.

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

The methodology included both quantitative and qualitative approaches using different data sets, providing a comprehensive view of the subject.

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

Yes. In one case an existing data set (survey) had been analysed quantitatively; for another, policies and interviews with stakeholders have been investigated to draw out themes which can be linked to the data from the survey.

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

Yes. While not all of the findings have clear implications, there are some strong findings which can be linked to the research questions.

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

Yes. In particular, the findings about the role of the language from the country of origin of migrants is an important contribution to the knowledge of researchers and policymakers.

2) Structure:

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

Yes, the structure is clear and logical.

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

The theoretical framework addresses the main concepts and they are applied in the analysis.

3) Sources (primary and secondary):

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

The literature review is up to date and draws on recent theory and concepts.

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

Yes, this is a complete list of references.

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)?

The level of English was high and in a good academic register, and carefully edited.

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

Footnotes consistently used throughout.

5) Format:

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

Formatting is nicely done and aesthetically pleasing.

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

All elements are included.

6) Quality of writing process:

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

Aziza has worked very efficiently and independently, but also discussed her ideas with us, responded well to feedback and provided drafts of the chapters in a timely fashion so we could offer comments for the final version.

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

Yes, she has responded well to requests for revision.

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

This has gone smoothly, especially for being done during a pandemic!

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

What policy recommendation would you make based on the findings about English and its role in integration?

(National) Grade: 8,5

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

Date and place: Groningen, 7 June 2021

Signature: