

Acculturation orientations of adult immigrants in Germany – A function of the conceptualization

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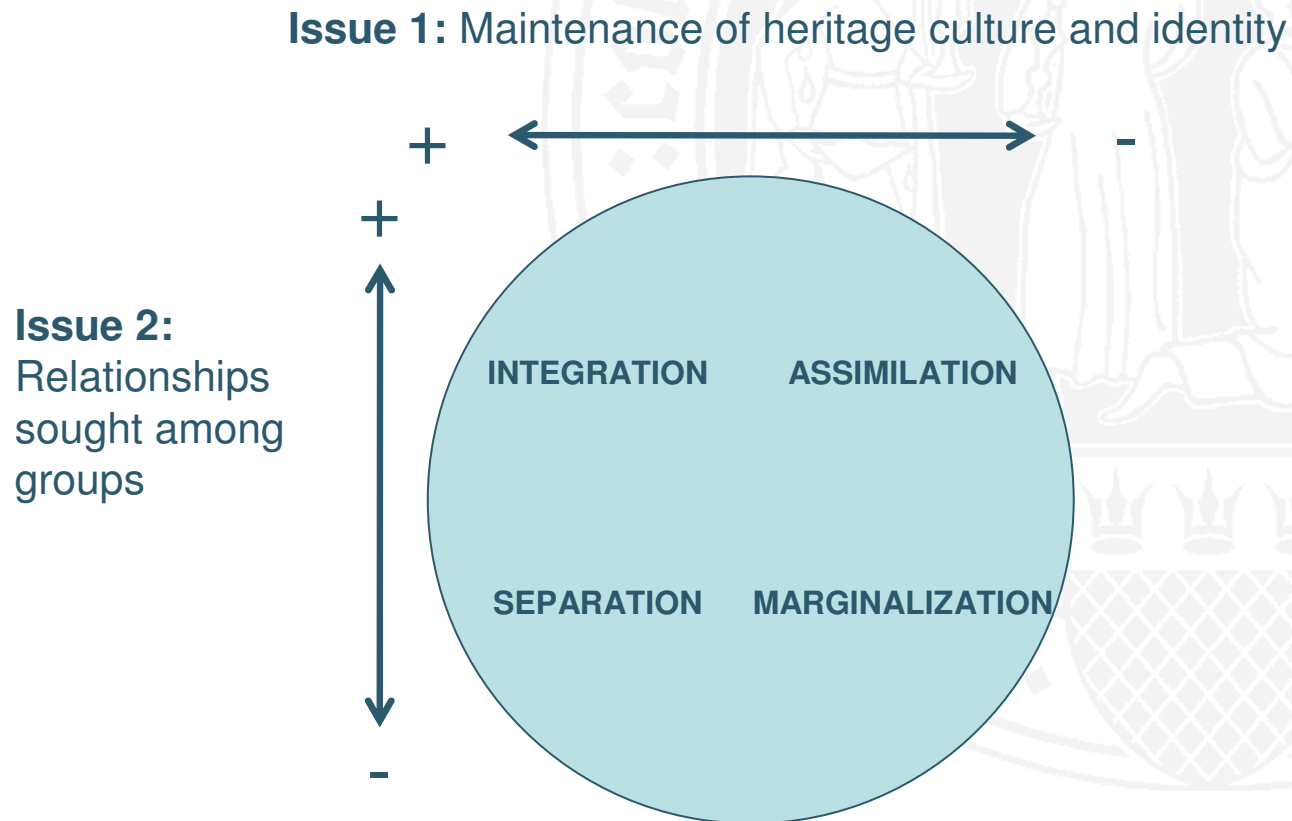


Acculturation

- **Definition of acculturation:**
„Acculturation comprehends those phenomena which result when groups of individuals having different cultures come into continuous first-hand contact, with subsequent changes in the original culture patterns of either or both groups.“
(Redfield, Linton & Herskovits, 1936)
- **Acculturation typologies**
 - First psychological theory of acculturation: Thomas and Znaniecki (1918)
 - Rudmin (2003) identified 126 taxonomies (1918-2003)
 - Berry et al. (1984) established taxonomy



Acculturation typology by Berry



Different conceptualizations of acculturation

- **Snauwaert, Soenens & Boen (2003):** Different conceptualizations of acculturation orientations lead to different classifications
 - ▶ Compared identification, adoption of mainstream culture, and contact of immigrants in Belgium
- **Liebkind (2001):** The concepts of identity and acculturation are used interchangeably
 - ▶ More research needed to elucidate the relation between the two concepts
- **Rudmin (2003):** List includes different typologies
 - ▶ Typologies are based on different operational definitions

Research Question I

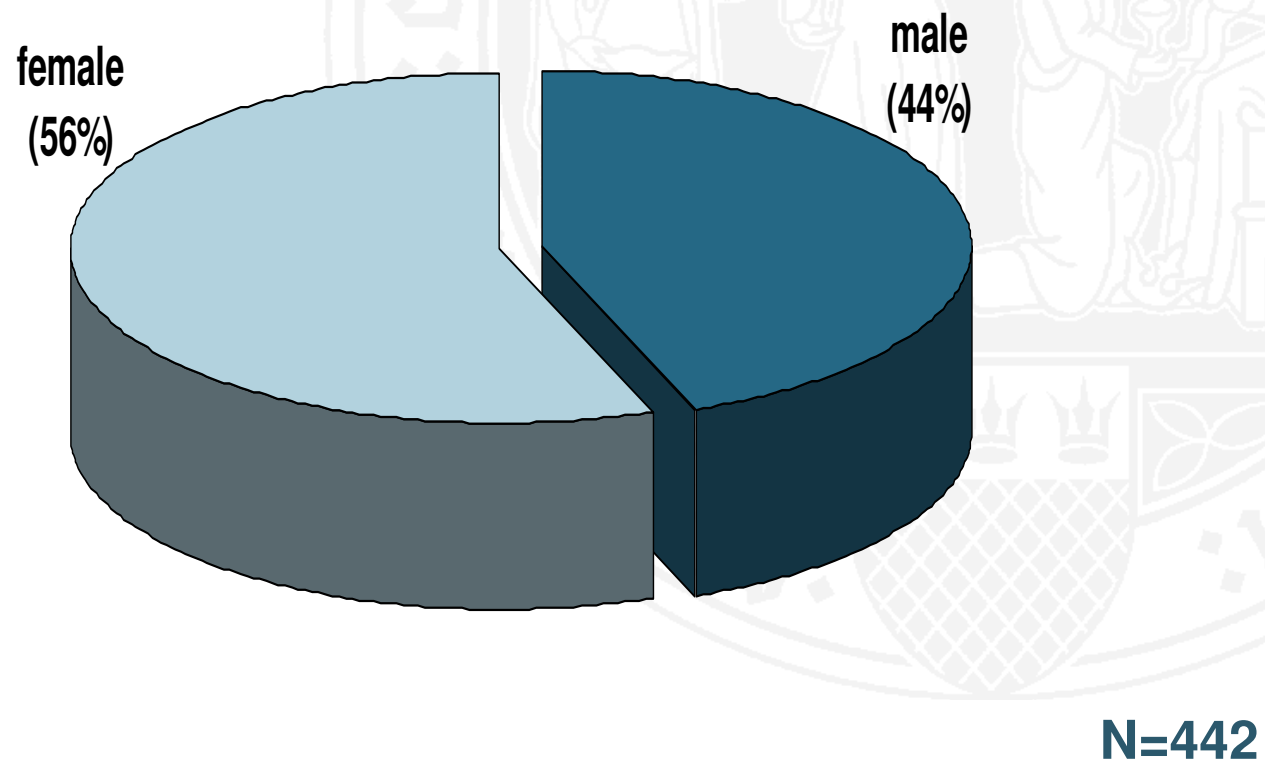
Which acculturation typologies can be identified on the basis of

- **attitudes**
- **identification**
- **command of language**
- **contact**

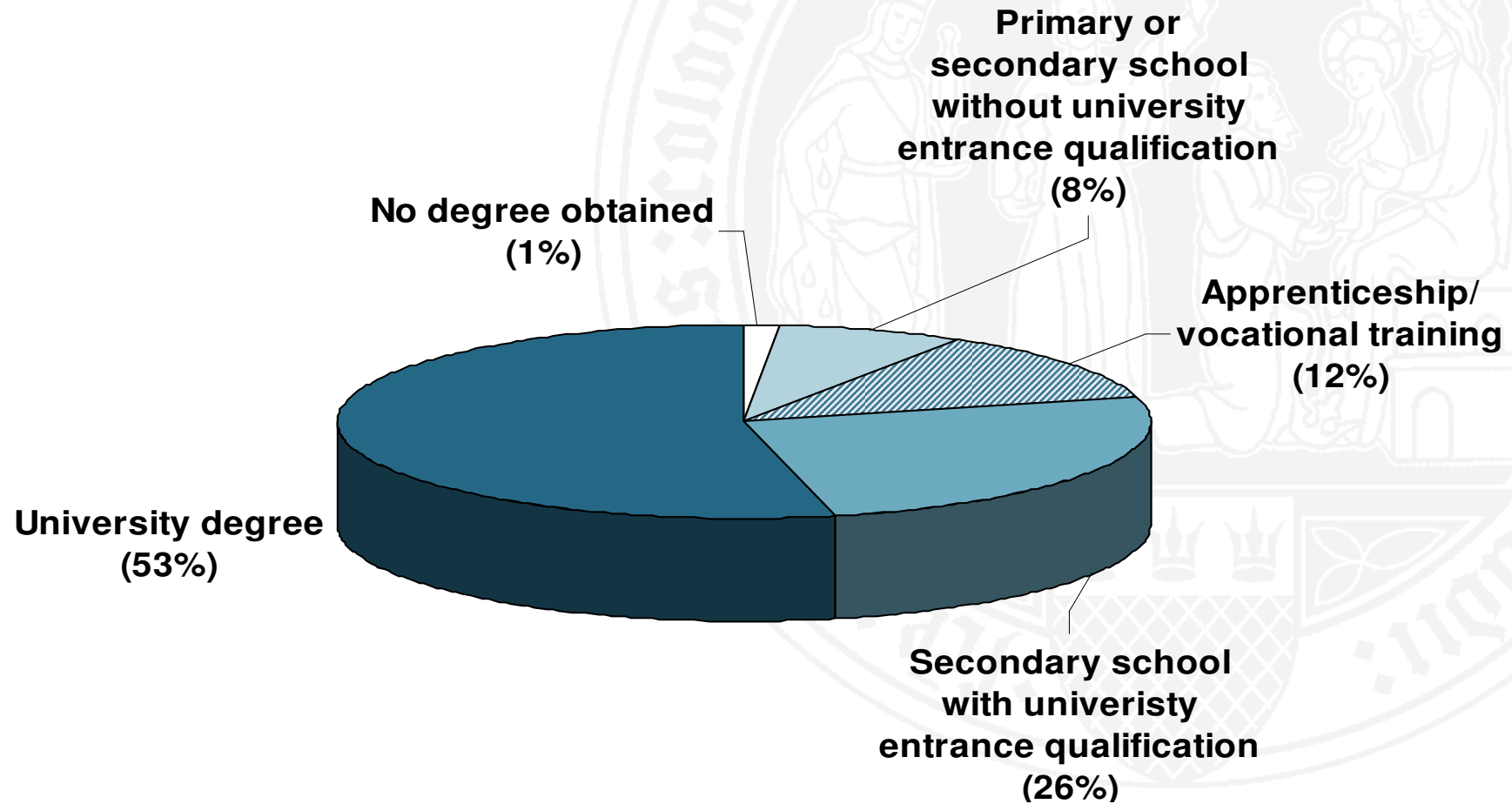
of adult immigrants in Germany?



Sex



Education

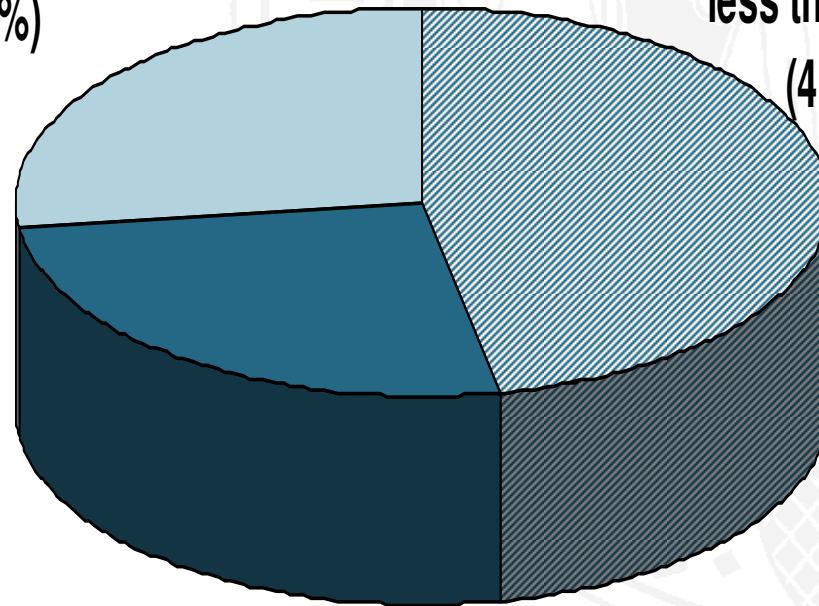


N=439

Proportion of lifetime spent in Germany

more than 66 %
(27%)

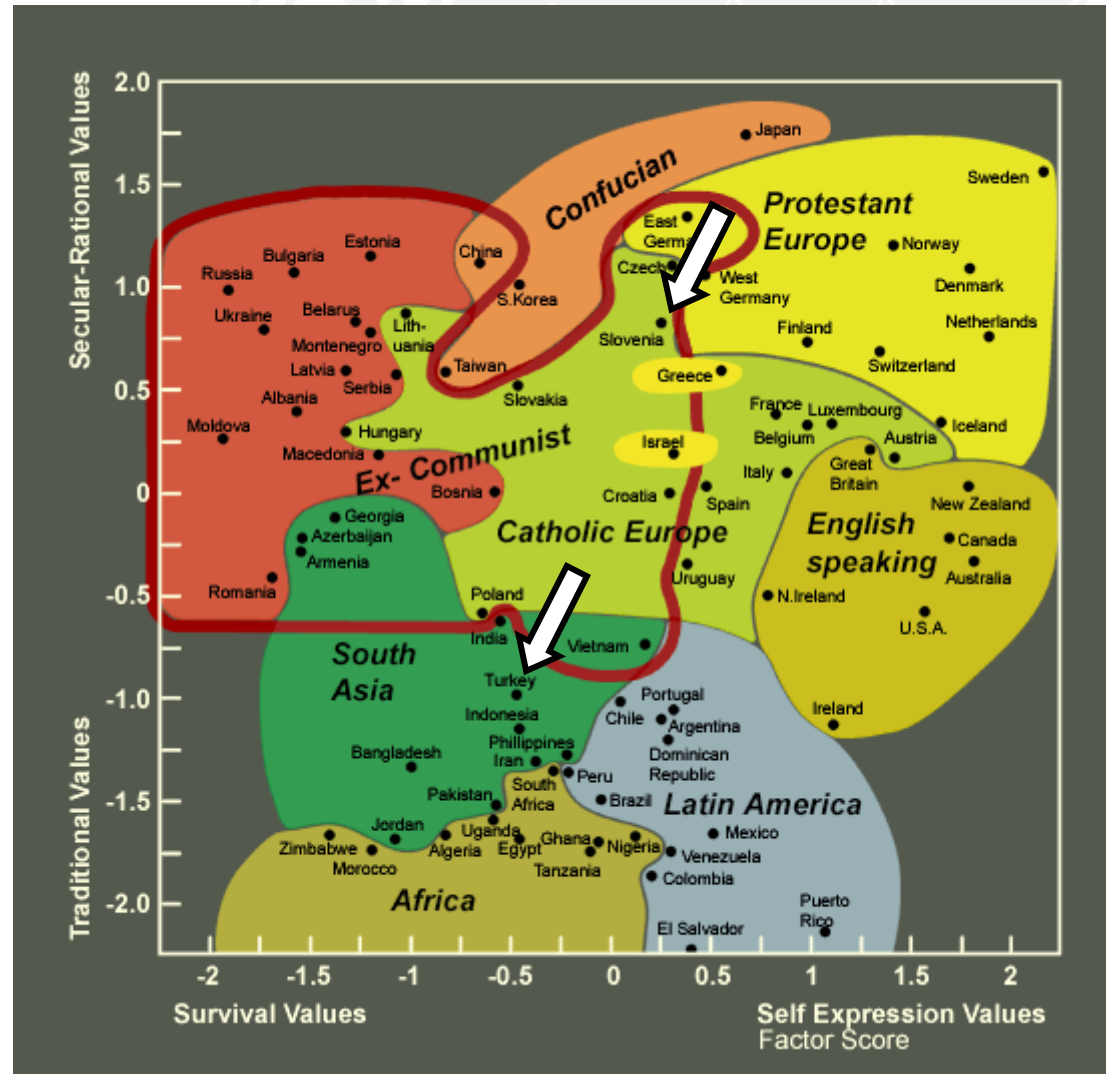
less than 33 %
(47%)



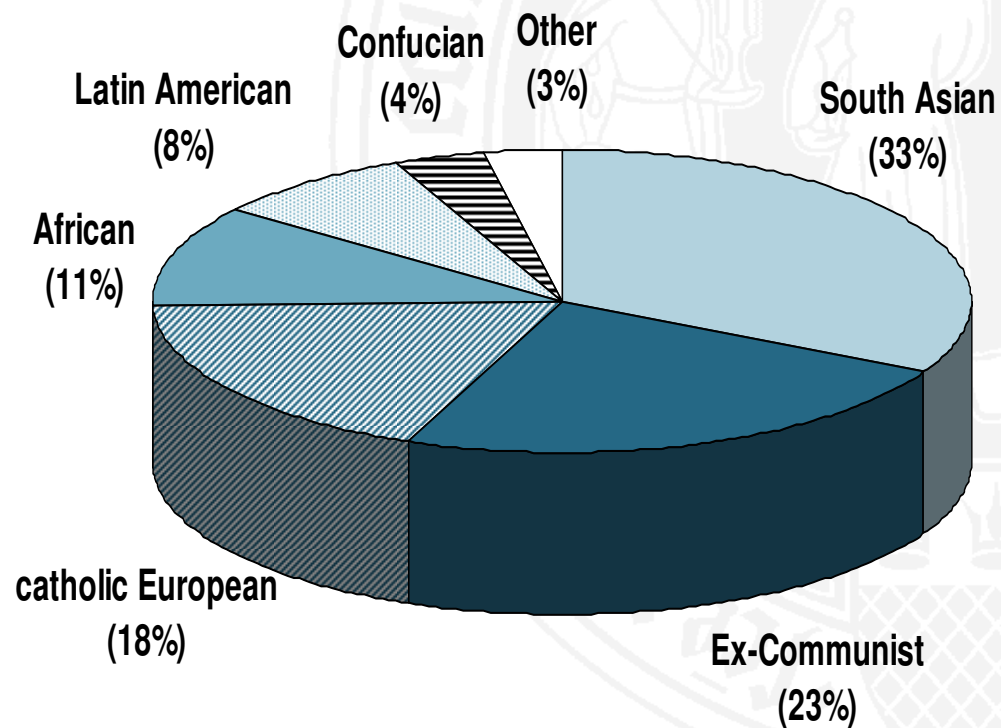
33 to 66 %
(26%)

N=418

Inglehart-Welzel Cultural Map of the World (2005):



Culture of origin



N=439

Conceptualizations of acculturation



Comparison of different cluster analyses

Results

	integrated	assimilated	separated	indifferent
Attitude	50%	17%	8%	25%
Identity	44%	15%	25%	16%
Language	73%	13%	14%	0%
Contact	12%	18%	0%	70%

No correlation

Distribution of individuals across different conceptualizations



Comparison of results shows little convergence between different conceptualizations

Research Question II

Do the proportions of individuals from different ethnic backgrounds across the different types of acculturation differ as a function of the underlying conceptualization of acculturation?



Results: Attitude & Culture

	integrated	assimilated	separated	indifferent	Total
South Asia	27.2 (-1.5)	30.1 (-0.5)	41.2 (0.8)	44.5 (2.0)	33.4 (N=140)
Ex-Communist	24.8 (-0.0)	24.7 (-0.0)	26.5 (0.2)	24.5 (-0.1)	24.8 (N=104)
Catholic Europe	23.3 (1.4)	21.9 (0.6)	14.7 (-0.6)	10.9 (-2.0)	19.1 (N=80)
Africa	11.9 (0.5)	13.7 (0.8)	8.8 (-0.3)	7.3 (-1.1)	10.7 (N=45)
Latin American	10.4 (1.1)	6.8 (-0.4)	0.0 (-1.7)	7.3 (-0.3)	8.1 (N=34)
Confucian	2.5 (-1.0)	2.7 (-0.5)	8.8 (1.5)	5.5 (0.9)	3.8 (N=16)
Total	100.0 (N=202)	100.0 (N=73)	100.0 (N=34)	100.0 (N=110)	100.0 (N=419)

($\chi^2=24.293$, $p= n.s.$)

Frequency in %



Results: Identification & Culture

	integrated	assimilated	separated	indifferent	Total
South Asia	26.2 (-1.8)	38.1 (0.6)	33.0 (-0.2)	51.4 (2.5)	33.9 (N=142)
Ex-Communist	25.1 (0.2)	31.7 (1.1)	26.2 (0.3)	14.3 (-1.7)	24.6 (N=103)
Catholic Europe	21.9 (0.9)	12.7 (-1.2)	17.5 (-0.4)	20.0 (0.2)	19.1 (N=80)
Africa	13.1(1.1)	9.5 (-0.2)	9.7 (-0.2)	5.7 (-1.2)	10.5 (N=44)
Latin American	10.4 (1.1)	4.8 (-0.9)	6.8 (-0.5)	7.1 (-0.3)	8.1 (N=34)
Confucian	3.3 (-0.4)	3.2 (-0.3)	6.8 (1.5)	1.4 (-1.0)	3.8 (N=16)
Total	100.0 (N=183)	100.0 (N=63)	100.0 (N=103)	100.0 (N=70)	100.0 (N=419)

($\chi^2=25.414$, $p=.045$)

Frequency in %

Results: Language & Culture

	integrated	assimilated	separated	Total
South Asia	31.6 (-0.4)	56.6 (3.0)	19.0 (-1.9)	33.1 (N=134)
Ex-Communist	25.2 (0.3)	15.1 (-1.4)	29.3 (0.7)	24.4 (N=99)
Catholic Europe	20.1 (0.3)	15.1 (-0.7)	19.0 (-0.1)	19.3 (N=78)
Africa	10.9 (-0.1)	9.4 (-0.4)	13.8 (0.6)	11.1 (N=45)
Latin American	9.5 (0.8)	0.0 (-2.1)	8.6 (0.1)	8.1 (N=33)
Confucian	2.7 (-1.1)	3.8 (-0.1)	10.3 (2.5)	4.0 (N=16)
Total	100.0 (N=294)	100.0 (N=53)	100.0 (N=58)	100.0 (N=405)

($\chi^2=28.315, p=.002$)

Frequency in %

Results: Contact & Culture

	integrated	assimilated	indifferent	Total
South Asia	34.9 (0.4)	36.4 (0.7)	29.6 (-0.5)	31.4 (N=116)
Ex-Communist	9.3 (-2.0)	24.2 (-0.0)	26.9 (0.8)	24.4 (N=90)
Catholic Europe	27.9 (1.3)	15.2 (-0.7)	18.5 (-0.2)	19.0 (N=70)
Africa	14.0 (0.4)	10.6 (-0.3)	11.9 (-0.0)	11.9 (N=44)
Latin American	9.3 (0.1)	7.6 (-0.4)	9.2 (0.2)	8.9 (N=33)
Confucian	4.7 (0.1)	6.1 (0.7)	3.8 (-0.4)	4.3 (N=16)
Total	100.0 (N=43)	100.0 (N=66)	100.0 (N=260)	100.0 (N=369)

($\chi^2=9.017$, $p= n.s.$)

Frequency in %



Main results

Different conceptualizations of acculturation lead to different distributions of the typologies

Different cultures of origin show different patterns of acculturation dependent on the conceptualization

Conceptualizations should be taken into account in research and political decisions

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