

Acculturation Orientations of Naturalized Immigrants in Germany

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Naturalization in Germany

Requirements to become a German citizen as of 2008

- Residence permit or EU-citizenship
- 8 years of legal residence in Germany
- Income independent of social welfare or unemployment benefit
- Sufficient command of the German language
- Knowledge of German legal and social order and living circumstances
- No serious criminal offences
- Allegiance to the German constitution
- Renounce previous nationality

Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior



Naturalization in Germany: Distribution

Composition of German population in 2006		
Germany	N	%
Naturalized population	124,566	0.15
Foreign population	7,255,949	8.81
No foreign background	74,934,391	91.03
Total population in Germany	82,314,906	100.00

Source: Results of current population & naturalizations statistics

Very few naturalized immigrants in Germany

Naturalization in Germany: Age

Age	N	%
0-15	18,864	15.14
15-20	13,676	10.98
20-25	13,597	10.92
25-35	32,841	26.36
35-45	27,773	22.30
45-55	11,116	8.92
55-65	4,539	3.64
65-75	1,761	1.41
over 75	399	0.32
Total	124,566	100.00

Most naturalized persons are between 25 and 45 years old

Source: Naturalizations statistics

Naturalization in Germany: Country of origin

Country of origin	N	%
Turkey	33,388	26.80
Former Yugoslavia	17,366	13.94
Poland	6,907	5.54
Russian Federation	4,679	3.76
Ukraine	4,536	3.64
Israel	4,313	3.46
Iraq	3,693	2.96
Iran	3,662	2.94
Morocco	3,546	2.85
Kazakhstan	3,207	2.57
Afghanistan	3,063	2.46
Lebanon	2,030	1.63
Sri Lanka	1,765	1.42
Viet Nam	1,382	1.11
Romania	1,379	1.11
Pakistan	1,116	0.90
China	1,036	0.83
Tunisia	917	0.74
Philippines	745	0.60
Total of the above countries	97,556	78.32
Other	27,010	21.68

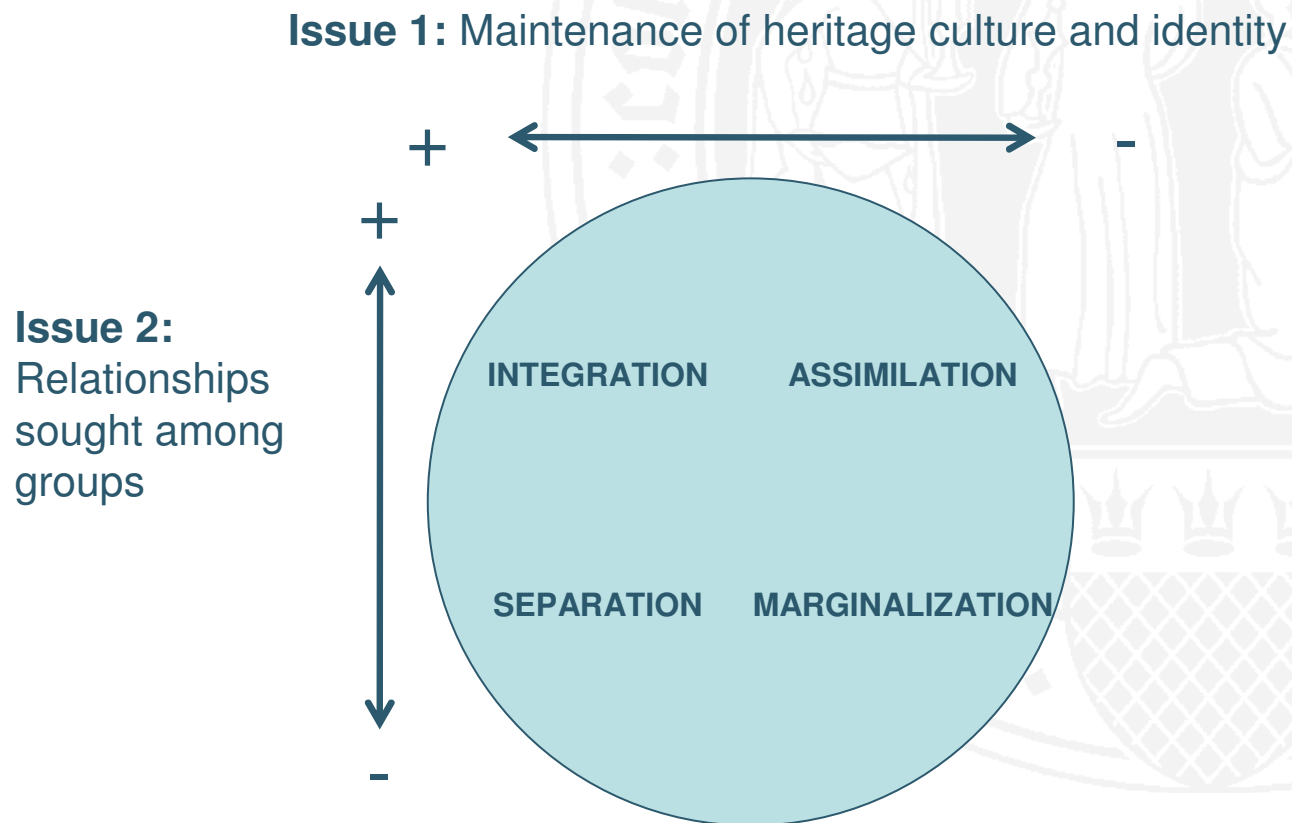
Source: Naturalizations statistics

Most naturalized persons stem from Turkey and Former Yugoslavia – these countries also account for most foreign individuals in Germany

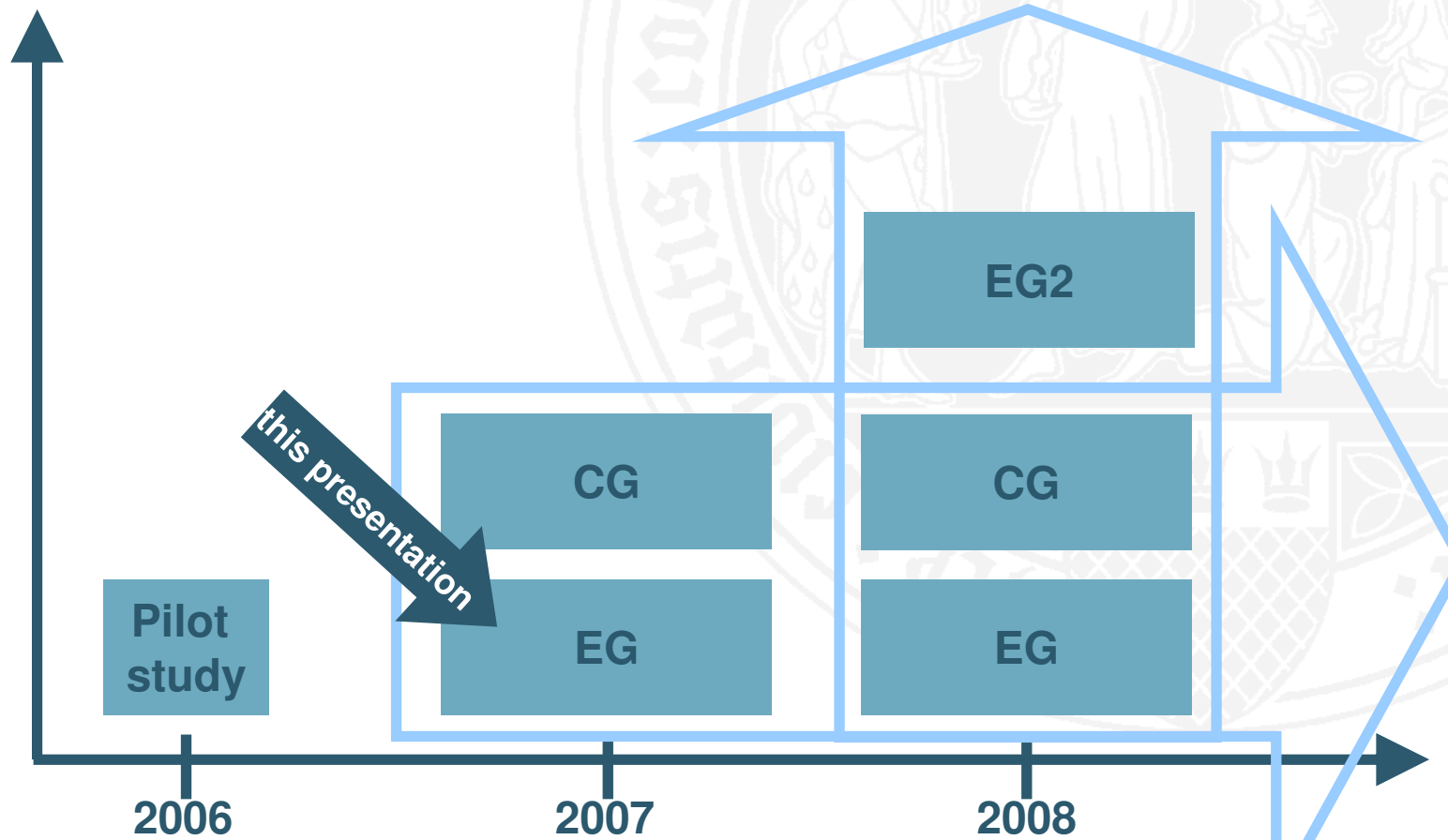
Acculturation

- **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)
 - Well known taxonomy established by Berry et al. (1984)

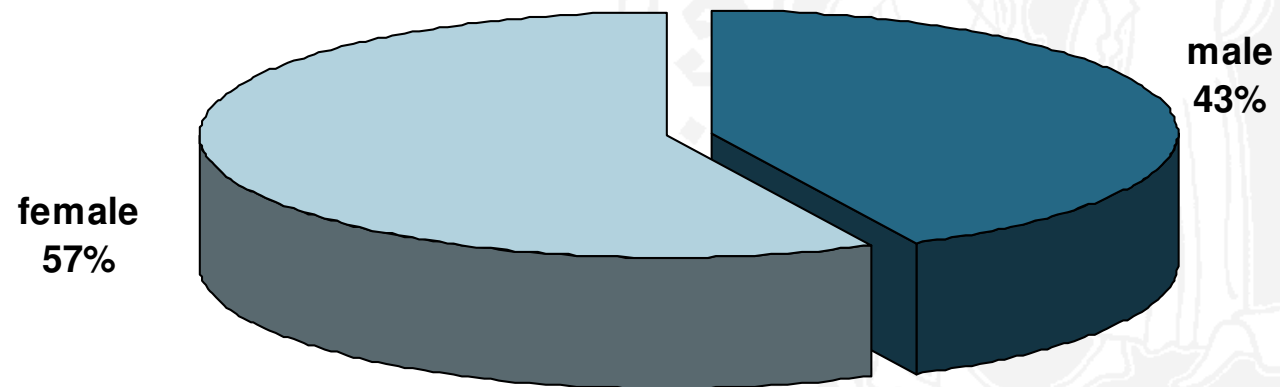
Acculturation typology by Berry



Project overview:

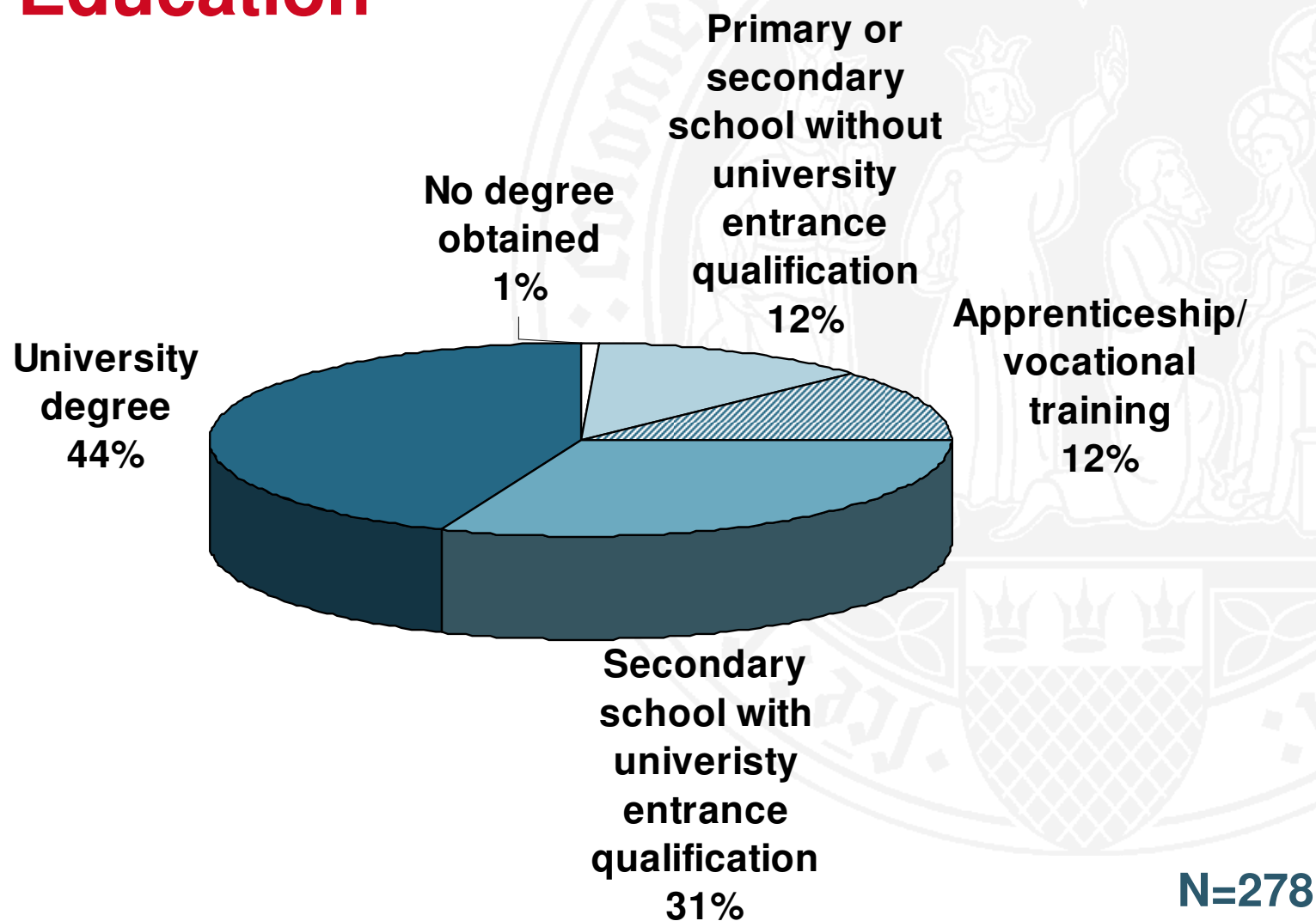


Sex

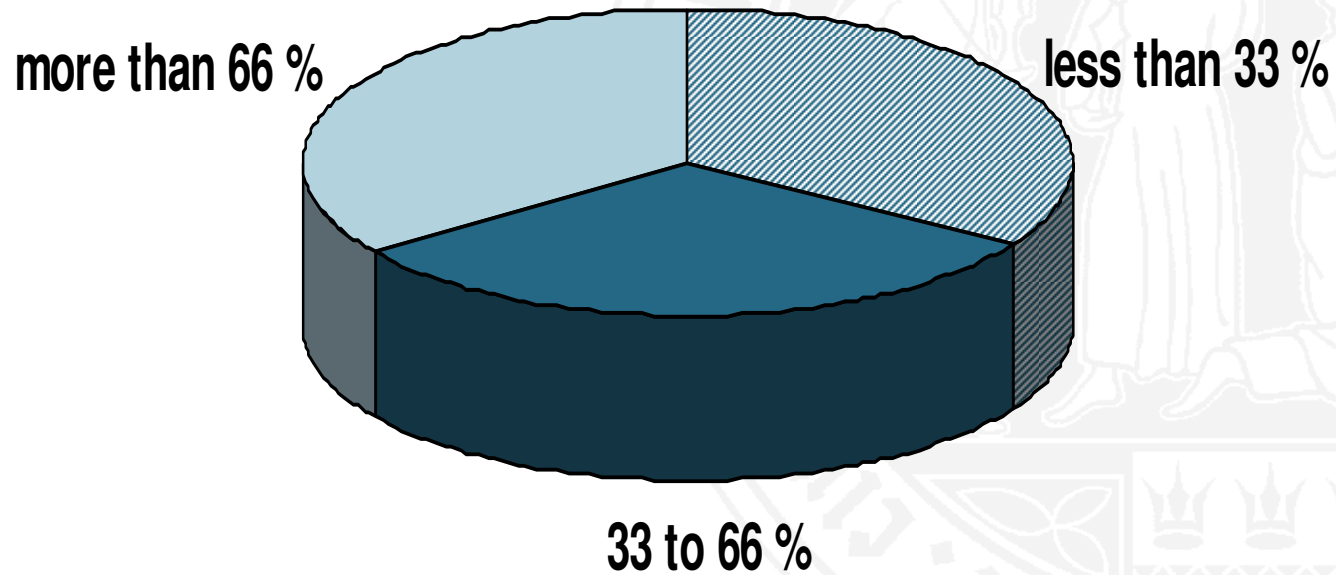


N=278

Education

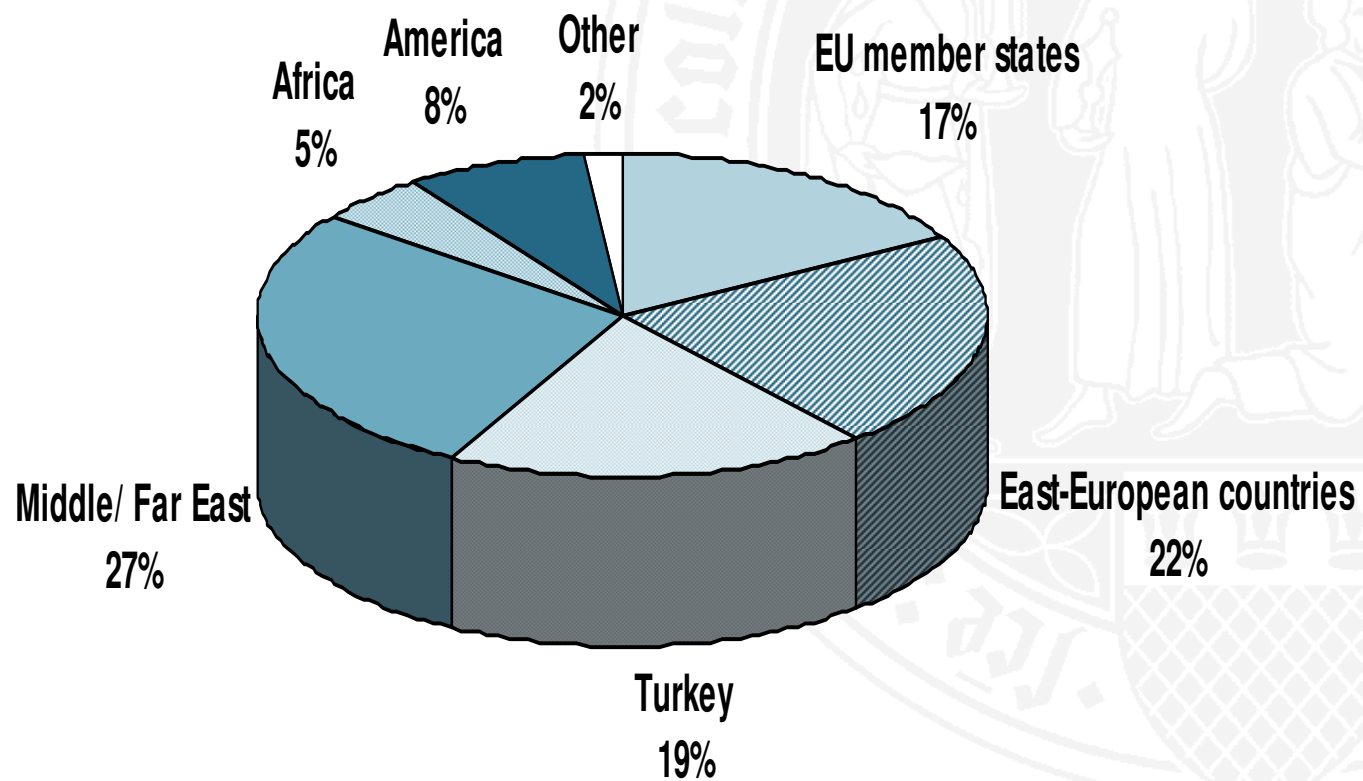


Proportion of lifetime spent in Germany



N=278

Country of origin



N=278

Research Question I

Which acculturation orientations can be identified for the sample of “new Germans”?



Empirical findings

- **Assumption: Naturalization as a condition for and affected by integration**
(e.g. Esser, 2001; Green, 1999; Gusy, 1999; Joppke, 1999; Riegler, 2000; Wunderlich, 2005)

Longitudinal studies are required!

- **Assumption and evidence: Naturalization as an outcome of cultural and economic integration**
(e.g. Esser, 2001; Yang, 1994; Nassehi & Schroer, 1999; Diehl & Blohm, 2003; Salentin & Wilkening, 2003; Wunderlich, 2005)

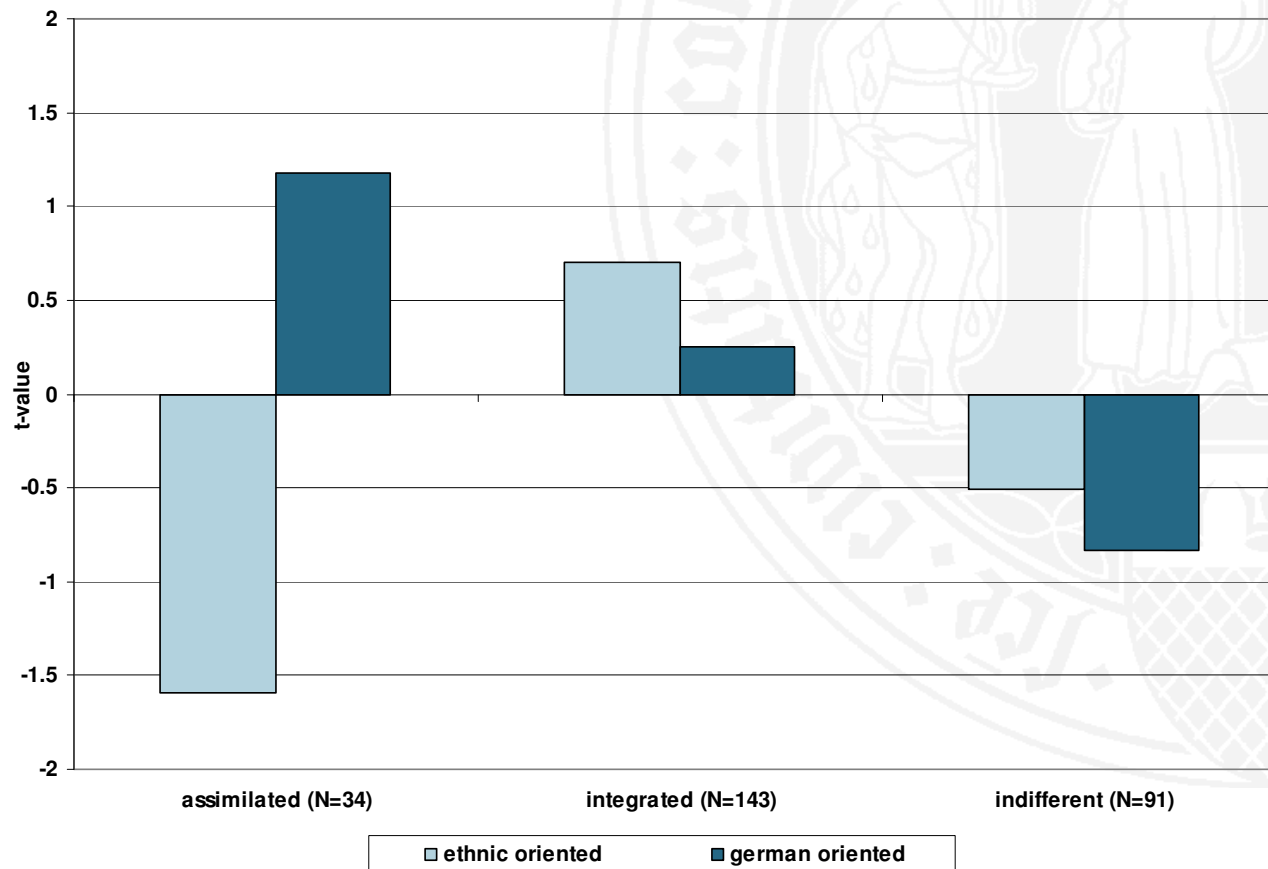
- **Orientation of German immigrants: Integration as preferred orientation, but also separation or the diffuse profile**
(e.g. Zagefka & Brown, 2002; Jasinskaja-Lahti, Liebkind, Horenczyk & Schmitz, 2003; Jaeger, 2005; Neto, Barros & Schmitz, 2005; Pfafferott & Brown, 2006; Rohmann, Florack & Piontkowski, 2006; Sam & Berry, 2006)

Comparability: Different surveys and methods are used!?

Variables

- **Two-statement measurement method: Vancouver Index of Acculturation (VIA)**
- **Variables: „Heritage Culture“ ($\alpha=.853$) & „Mainstream Culture“ ($\alpha=.729$)**
- **Altogether 20 Items, for example:**
 - “I often behave in ways that are ‘typical’ of my heritage culture.”
 - “I often behave in ways that are ‘typically’ German.”
- **Procedure: Cluster-analysis to classify acculturation orientations**

Results: Acculturation orientations



Main effects:

$(F(4,530)=168.240,$
 $p<.000, \eta^2= .559)$

Ethnic

orientation:

$(F(2,265)=269.367,$
 $p<.000, \eta^2= .277)$

German

orientation:

$(F(2,265)=106.930,$
 $p<.000, \eta^2 =.447)$

Research Question II

Do individuals with different acculturation orientations differ in terms of socio-demographic background, motives for naturalization, and identification?



Empirical findings

- **Role of socio-demographic variables**

(e.g. Nesdale & Mak, 2000; Smith, Stewart & Winter, 2004; Ait-Ourasse & Van de Vijver, 2005; Benet-Martinez & Haritatos, 2005; Neto, Barros & Schmitz, 2005; Berry, Phinney, Sam & Vedder, 2006; Bornstein & Cote, 2006; Pfafferott & Brown, 2006)

Inconsistent results

- **Relation between identity and acculturation orientation**

(e.g. Hutnik, 1986; Nesdale & Mak, 2000; Sam, 2000; Snauwaert, Soenens, Vanbeselaere & Boen, 2003; Berry, Phinney, Sam & Vedder, 2006; Ward, 2006)

- **Relationship between naturalization motives and acculturation orientations**

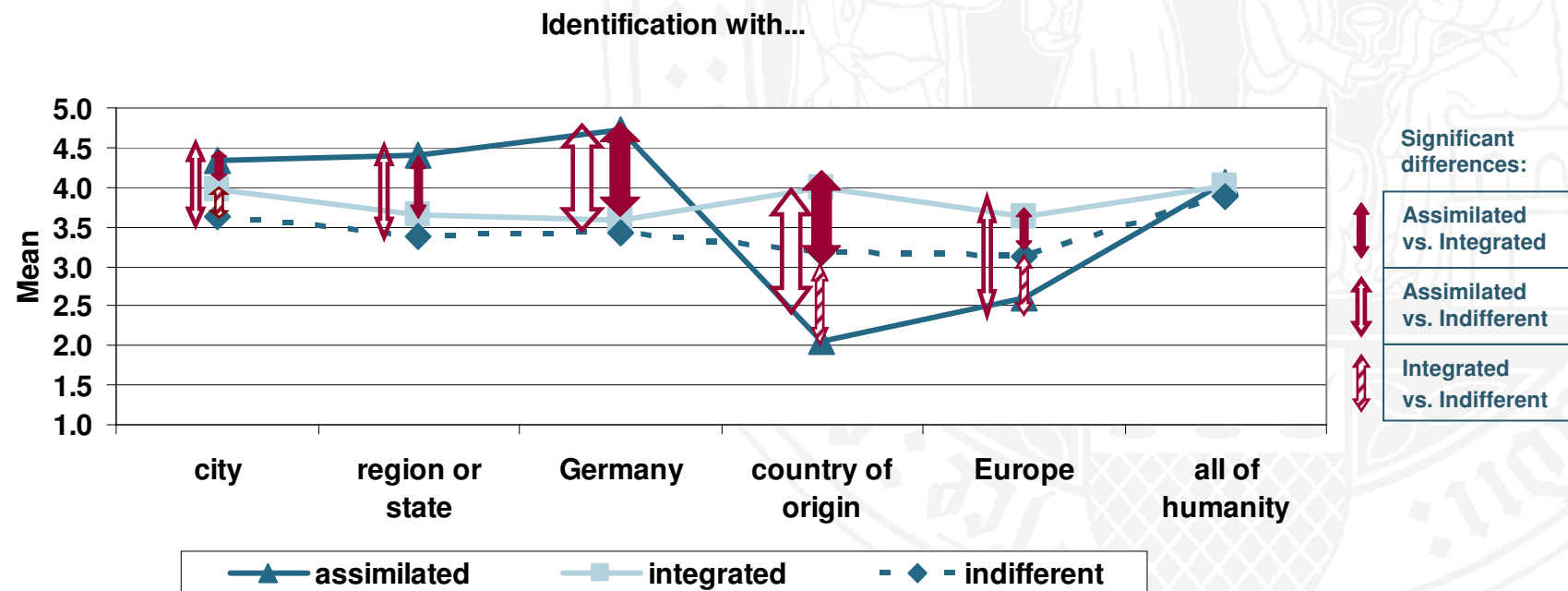
No evidence

Acculturation orientations & socio-demographic variables

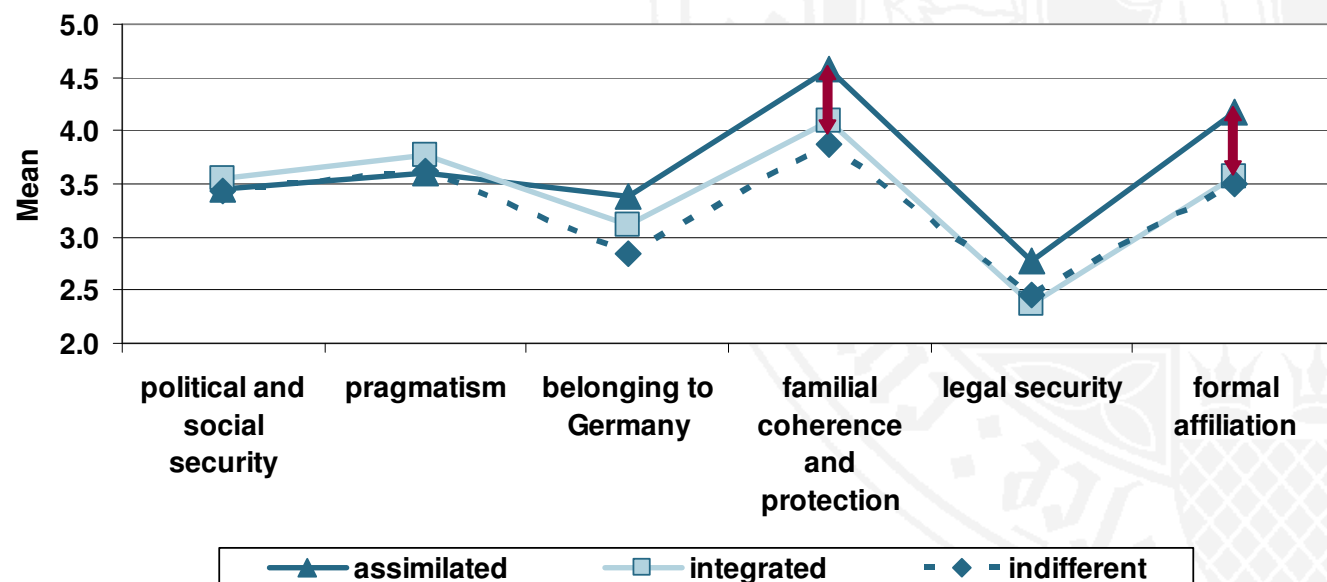
- **Age**
($F(2, 260)=0.74, p<.480, \eta^2= .006$)
- **Length of residence**
($F(2, 254)=0.47, p<.622, \eta^2= .004$)
- **Education**
($X^2=9.80, p=.133$)
- **Age at Immigration**
($F(2, 254)=0.43, p<.649, \eta^2= .003$)
- **Language**
(German: $F(2, 264)=4.396, p<.013, \eta^2= .032$;
Ethnic: $U=1817.50, n.s., r=-.14; U=1193.50, n.s, r=-.14$;
 $U=6324.50, n.s, r=-.02$)

Groups show only minor differences

Acculturation orientations & identification



Acculturation orientations & motives for naturalization



Main effect:

$(F(12, 486)=3.561, p<.000, \eta^2= .081)$

Familial coherence and protection:
 $(F(2, 247)=13.683, p<.000, \eta^2= .100)$

Formal Affiliation:
 $(F(2, 247)=4.927, p<.008, \eta^2= .038)$

Main results

- **Acculturation orientations** | ▶ **Three groups, integration as preferred**
- **Demographic background** | ▶ **Little or no differences between groups**
- **Naturalization motives** | ▶ **Little or no differences between groups**
- **Identification with Germany and the culture of origin** | ▶ **Substantial differences between groups**

Discussion

Group “indifferent”?

- Individualistic persons (Bourhis et al., 1997)
- Wish to be a member of the German society but feel rejected (Maehler et al., 2007)
- Indifferent orientation as a temporary status (Utler et al., 2002)
- Member of subculture (Rudmin & Ahmadzadeh, 2001; Barret et al., 2007)

More
information
in second
wave of
data
collection

**Thank You for Your
Attention!**



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