

Integration and Pluralism in Societies of Immigration

International Workshop
Jerusalem, Israel
19-23 March 1995

Edited by

Yitzhak Berman
Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs,
State of Israel, Jerusalem

European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research

Integration and Pluralism in Societies of Immigration

How do societies of immigration cope with the tasks of integration under conditions of increasing cultural diversity? This question was discussed in a comparative and theoretical perspective during a four-day conference organized jointly by the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna, and the Israeli Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. The meeting brought together experts from twelve countries and four continents. This issue of Eurosocial Report features an extensive summary of the papers and discussions by the conference's rapporteur, Yitzhak Berman. The second part presents a collection of several individual papers. These papers report on policy developments at European and national levels. Long Litt Woon opens this section with an analysis of initiatives against racism taken by the Council of Europe, the European Union, and the Norwegian government. Both Gila Noam and Tamar Horowitz focus mainly on the integration of the recent wave of immigrants from the former Soviet Union in Israel. Noam's contribution reports the immigrants' own assessment of this process whereas Horowitz analyses the changing attitudes of Israeli society and policies towards cultural diversity. Yulia Yanovskaya and Alexander Tkachenko present data on the large-scale migration of ethnic Russians since the breakup of the Soviet Union and on the situation of ethnic minorities in Russia. The two final reports deal with integration policies in Austria. Bernhard Perchinig and Karin König analyse legal and social obstacles to the integration of immigrants and the efforts of their organization, the Vienna Integration Fund, to remove some of them. Elfie Fleck outlines integration programmes for children of migrant origin in Austrian public schools and some of the remaining deficits in their educational achievements.

Table of Contents

	page
List of Tables and Figures	6
Preface	7
Chapter 1: Integration and Pluralism in Societies of Immigration. Conference Report <i>Yitzhak Berman</i>	11
Chapter 2: Anti-Racism: Opportunities for Government Action? <i>Long Litt Woon</i>	45
Chapter 3: The Social Integration of Immigrants in Israel <i>Gila Noam</i>	61
Chapter 4: The Absorption of Immigrants from the Former Soviet Union in Israel: Integration or Separatism? <i>Tamar Horowitz</i>	75
Chapter 5: Policy Towards Minorities and Indigenous Peoples and the Problems of Social Integration and Migrants in the Russian Federation <i>Aleksander A. Tkachenko / Yulya M. Yanovskaya</i>	97
Chapter 6: The Social and Economic Situation and the Legal Framework for the Integration of Immigrants in Austria, particularly Vienna <i>Bernhard Perchinig / Karin König</i>	115
Chapter 7: Intercultural Education in Austria <i>Elfie Fleck</i>	129
Annex: List of Participants	137
Abstracts: English / French / German	141

List of Tables and Figures

	page
Table 3.1: Dimensions of Social Integration of Immigrants	65
Table 3.2: Ethiopian Immigrants Who Can Conduct a Simple Conversation in Hebrew by Age, Sex, and Length of Residence in Israel (in %)	68
Table 3.3: Lack of Information in Selected Areas: FSU Immigrants by Length of Residence in Israel (in %)	69
Table 3.4: Evaluation of Attitudes of Veteran Israelis Towards Immigrants by Working-Age FSU Immigrants (in %)	70
Table 3.5: Working-Age FSU Immigrants by Extent of Social Ties with Veteran Israelis and Length of Residence (in %)	70
Table 3.6: Percentage of FSU Immigrants Who Can Turn to a Veteran Israeli for Help with a Personal Problem by Age and Length of Residence	71
Table 3.7: FSU Immigrant Youth: "How Many of Your Close Friends Are Veteran Israelis?" (in %)	71
Table 3.8: Responses of FSU Immigrant Youth on Social Ties with Veteran Israeli Youth	72
Table 3.9: Working-Age FSU Immigrants by "Feeling at Home in Israel", and Length of Residence in Israel (in %)	72
Table 3.10: FSU Immigrant Youth's Responses to Questions on Identity (in %)	73
Table 5.1: Exit of Russian Citizens and Entrance of Foreign Citizens, 1987-1994	97
Table 5.2: The Dynamics of Net Migration between the Russian Federation and former Soviet Republics, 1989-1994 (in thousands)	99
Table 5.3: Migration Flows between the Russian Federation and Former Soviet Republics, 1994	101
Table 5.4: Numbers of Refugees and Forced Migrants, 1993-1995	102
Table 6.1: Net Migration of Persons without Austrian Citizenship (Austria, Vienna and Vorarlberg), Estimates	116
Table 7.1: Pupils Whose Mother Tongue is not German (Migrant and Refugee Children): Statistics	130
Figure 3.1: The Ability to Conduct a Simple Conversation in Hebrew among Immigrants from the Former Soviet Union, by Age (in %)	66
Figure 3.2: Proficiency in Hebrew as an Obstacle to Finding Employment among Immigrants from the Former Soviet Union, by Sex and Length of Residence in Israel (in %)	67