

# Do Incorporation Policies Matter?

## Immigrants' Identity and Relationships with the Receiving Society

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**Abstract:** Are multiculturalism policies associated with a rejection of the receiving society's identity by immigrants? Is there a policy arrangement that makes identification with the receiving society more likely? This article addresses head-on whether there is a trade-off between identification with the ethnic group and relationships with the host society and whether this trade-off is associated with certain policy regimes. Looking at immigrants in ten Western democracies, the results show that despite the fact that comprehensive multiculturalism policies decrease identification with the majority, they do so while being associated with integrationist orientations. Immigrants in these countries value relationships with both the host and their own ethnic group to a greater extent. In addition, in countries with inclusive policies, a stronger ethnic identity is also associated with commitment to the larger society and, contrary to more restrictive regimes, is not associated with greater perceived discrimination. These findings are robust to additional models looking at Muslim immigrants.

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**D**espite statements from politicians and academics across Western countries declaring that multiculturalism has failed (Vertovec and Wessendorf, 2010), the actual impact of incorporation policies—policies whose aim is to incorporate immigrants in their new society—on immigrants remains unclear. Studies examining the effect of these policies on different socio-political outcomes have come to mixed conclusions (Koopmans, 2013; Dancygier and Laitin, 2014). For instance, some find that multiculturalism policies mixed with generous welfare state lead to poor job market integration (Koopmans, 2010) or argue that cultural assimilation measures might be necessary to promote socio-cultural integration (Ersanilli and Koopmans, 2010). Yet, others find that multiculturalism policies are associated with engagement and political inclusion (Wright and Bloemraad, 2012) and that citizenship access—at least in Switzerland—leads to more social integration (Hainmueller, Hangartner and Pietrantuono, 2017). These disparate, often contradictory, findings are in part a consequence of the disagreements over the theoretical and empirical value of different outcomes. They are also stemming from an important issue that researchers examining the effects of policies on immigrants in a comparative framework face: the lack of reliable data. Immigrants represent a constituency that can be hard to reach and there are often too few of them in nationally representative samples which limits the possibilities for statistical analysis.

Given the central role they play, it is crucial to evaluate comparatively whether incorporation policies are fulfilling their objectives or whether they are indeed failing. Critiques of multiculturalism often focus on questions of identity and of immigrants' attachment to their new society while stressing the necessity of creating a common "we" (e.g. Bissoondath, 1994; Miller, 1995; Barry, 2002). At the same time, proponents of these policies argue that they are necessary to ensure that newcomers engage with their new society and feel accepted (e.g. Kymlicka, 1995). In the end, the debates hinge on the role played by ethnic identification: critics of cultural recognition and inclusive policies see ethnic identity as leading to segregation and disengagement, whereas proponents of these policies see ethnic identity as a path to meaningful participation and sense of membership. Empirically however, it remains unclear whether policies are associated with identity choices and how these choices affect relationships between immigrants and the majority.

Therefore, this study asks: Are some policy arrangements associated with greater ethnic identification within immigrant populations? How do these identification processes reflect on larger attitudes towards language choice, cultural traditions, and perceived discrimination when comparing across policy regimes? Ultimately the question becomes whether there is a trade-off between identification with the ethnic group and relationships with the host society and whether certain policy regimes create this trade-off while others do not. To answer these questions, the analysis uses a dataset developed by social psychologists whose original goal was to study immigrant youth well-being, a survey that contains unique measures of identification and acculturation orientations in twelve countries (Berry et al., 2010). It then combines the individual-level data from ten of these countries with well-known country-level indices measuring two important incorporation policies: multiculturalism policies and citizenship policies.

The study offers three main results. First, in accordance with critiques of more inclusive policies, countries with extensive multiculturalism policies and more open access to citizenship do have immigrants with higher levels of ethnic identification that also identify less with the majority. Second, this higher level of ethnic identification does not lead immigrants in these countries to segregate or isolate themselves. On the contrary, in countries with more inclusive policies, ethnic identification is associated with a desire to engage both with the ethnic group and with the majority. Third, looking at perceived discrimination, the study shows that immigrants in restrictive countries are more likely to feel discriminated and that ethnic identification increases this perception. Strikingly, ethnic identification is not associated with perceived discrimination in countries with extensive multiculturalism policies and more open citizenship rules.

The study makes several contributions to the literature on incorporation policies and immigrants' attitudes as well as to the political debates surrounding these issues. First, it focuses on important outcomes that have been neglected in the political science literature on immigrants' integration. Investigating

identification, acculturation, and perceived discrimination allows for a direct test of the often-heard arguments against more inclusive policies made by some political theorists and politicians. Focusing on these outcomes means addressing head-on common worries about ethnic identification, commitment, and sense of belonging among immigrants, something that past studies have only been able to address in a limited way (e.g. [Wright and Bloemraad, 2012](#); [Hainmueller, Hangartner and Pietrantuono, 2017](#)). The results show that critics of policies who see them as a source of division are actually targeting policies that are associated with engagement and sense of belonging.

Second, from a methodological standpoint, the studies makes the argument that immigrants' identity choices and acculturation orientations represent more worthwhile outcomes than previously studied dependent variables such as segregation and criminality (e.g. [Koopmans, 2010](#)). The argument is not that segregation and criminality are not important but that in the context of correlational analysis of observational data, studying them means assuming a long causal mechanism and ignoring the possibility of omitted variable bias. The outcomes examined here are causally closer to incorporation policies and the mechanism linking them is more direct.

Third, the richness of the data allows for an investigation of Muslim immigrants, an important subgroup when it comes to debate over integration ([Koopmans, 2013](#)). Past comparative studies have either been unable to examine Muslims specifically due to lack of data ([Wright and Bloemraad, 2012](#)) or have had to use country of origin a proxy ([Hainmueller, Hangartner and Pietrantuono, 2017](#)). The study shows that patterns observed across regimes are robust to an analysis that concentrates solely on self-identified Muslims.

## **Incorporation policy regimes and immigrants: cultural accommodation and citizenship**

Cultural accommodation and access to citizenship have been the focus of most of the extant literature on the empirical consequences of policy regimes and for good reasons. The choices that countries make on these two dimensions are expected to have important consequences for immigrants' identity choices and ultimately for their incorporation in their new society. How easy should it be to become a citizen? How much should a country accommodate the different cultural practices of newcomers? The policies that serve as answers to these questions send a signal to immigrants about who is in and who is out, and about which identities are encouraged and accepted.

Cultural accommodation policies are often referred to as "multiculturalism policies". The term "multiculturalism" has taken on different related meanings, which can sometimes lead to confusion. For instance, it has been used to refer to a normative political theory on how societies should deal with ethnic diversity (e.g. [Kymlicka, 1995](#)) or to simply state a sociological fact (a *multi-cultural* country). In the context of the present study, multiculturalism takes on a third definition: a set of governmental policies aimed at recognizing and accommodating cultural diversity (multicultural policies or MCPs).

Access to citizenship has also been hypothesized as influencing immigrants' sense of membership and identity (for a recent example see [Hainmueller, Hangartner and Pietrantuono, 2017](#)). Citizenship here is understood in a limited sense, i.e. as a legal status. Access to citizenship matters because when laws governing citizenship are more open, they send a welcoming signal to newcomers and perhaps reinforce a sense of membership. Understood in that sense, citizenship is also distinct from MCPs, since granting citizenship does not necessarily come with a recognition of different cultural practices. Again, this distinction is made clear by recent trends where MCPs have been heavily criticized ([Vertovec and Wessendorf, 2010](#)) while citizenship laws have become less restrictive ([Howard, 2006](#)).

The recent empirical studies of the consequences of these policies for immigrant integration have

offered contradictory findings. This is due in part to scholars disagreeing on the outcome that should be studied. Bloemraad (2007), for example, argues that the aim of a policy like multiculturalism is the socio-political integration of immigrants in the form of citizenship and political inclusion rather than economic outcomes such as labor market integration. An opposing view is that of Koopmans (2010), who presents economic outcomes as valid and shows, for instance, that the combination of multicultural policies and a generous welfare state leads to poor labor market participation. Others have taken a more pragmatic view and have measured social integration with questions about club membership and newspaper consumption (Hainmueller, Hangartner and Pietrantuono, 2017).

In this study, I follow Bloemraad and argue that in many cases the outcomes of interest are too far removed from the policies to lend themselves to meaningful analysis. In cross-country analyses of complex policies of the types that immigration scholars study, the number of confounding variables rapidly becomes problematic, the possibility of omitted variable bias increases, and readers are often left trying to unpack the “blackbox” of causality. Koopmans (2010) does show that multiculturalism is associated with outcomes such as high level of segregation and a strong over-representation of immigrants within the convicted criminal population, but he does not investigate the causal mechanism that would lead from multiculturalism policies to criminality or to ethnic enclaves. Although he does hypothesize that these outcomes are due to multiculturalism not creating strong incentives for language acquisition and interethnic contacts, he never gets at this mechanism directly.

When confronted with survey data that only lends itself to correlational analysis, it is preferable to focus on more immediate outcomes. This research concentrates on three such outcomes: identity (national and ethnic), acculturation, and perceived discrimination. In addition to being causally closer to incorporation policies, these outcomes are also part of the mechanisms that are often proposed to explain more distant ones. The suggestion is not that the following analysis fully unpacks the causal mechanism linking policies to identification and acculturation, but that by looking at more immediate outcomes, the role of policies becomes more conceivable.

## Ethnic and national identity

Critics of multiculturalism view it as a vector of division, reinforcing ethnic identities to the detriment of a sense of belonging, or in the words of Schlesinger (1991) as a “disuniting” force. On the other side of the debate, political theorists argue that making these identities disappear would also mean making claims related to these identities impossible, create a less just society, and establish barriers to full participation in the public sphere (e.g Young, 1990; Taylor, 1994; Kymlicka, 1995).<sup>1</sup> In other words, both critics and supporters agree that multiculturalism should lead to more identification with the ethnic group, but they disagree on the consequence of this identification. One groups sees it as leading to segregation and disengagement, the other as a path to meaningful participation and sense of membership.

A preconception that often tints these theoretical debates is that identification with the host and identification with the ethnic group are mutually exclusive. National and ethnic identity are both multidimensional in nature (see Abdelal et al., 2008). One useful understanding of identity proposed by Citrin, Wong and Duff (2001) and applicable to both is of a concept that has three dimensions: cognitive (identification *as*), affective (identification *with*), and normative (accepted criteria for group membership) (see also Brubaker and Cooper, 2000; Brewer, 2001; Citrin and Sears, 2009). When studying identity choices, the focus is often on the first two. Clearly, however, it is the second dimension, identification *with*, that is seen as crucial for both critics and proponents of open incorporation policies.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Philosophical disagreements exist between these theorists of multiculturalism on a series of issues such as the theoretical basis for recognizing cultural diversity and the competing role of groups and individuals (see for example Joppke, 2004).

<sup>2</sup>The relationship between incorporation policies and the normative dimension of national identity is also a question of interest, see Wright (2011).

Research in social psychology sees the relation between national identity and ethnic identity in the context of immigration through a two-dimensional model that recognizes that preservation of one's culture and identification to the host society are conceptually distinct and vary independently (Berry et al., 2010; Phinney et al., 2001; Citrin and Sears, 2009). Choices as to the importance given to each will be influenced by individual characteristics but also by policies, such as cultural accommodation policies or citizenship access. Citrin and Sears (2009) write that these policies are likely to influence the distribution of identity choices, but because they only look at the ethnic and national identification in the US, they cannot isolate the role of policies. At the same time, these single-country or small-N studies do give us some information on minorities' identification choices. For instance, ethnic minorities do tend to have lower levels of attachment to the country compared with the majority (Elkins and Sides, 2007; Verkuyten and Martinovic, 2012). Canada, often given as an example of the successes of multiculturalism, does not seem to match this pattern. Wright and Bloemraad (2012) show that ethnic identification is more salient in Canada compared to the US and that this attachment to the ethnic group is not linked with a rejection of the host society. Their conclusion is quite to the contrary: immigrants in Canada feel more attachment to their new country than their American counterpart. In that case, a policy like multiculturalism seems to be encouraging a double identification. More easily attainable citizenship should also send a welcoming message to newcomers and incite identification with the host. However, Ersanilli and Koopmans (2010) find that it is not the case. Comparing France, the Netherlands, and Germany, they find that it is the former who is able to foster more national identification while Germany is the least capable of doing so. The country with the most open citizenship laws, the Netherlands, finds itself in the middle. Ersanilli and Koopmans do not account for cultural accommodation policies where these three countries also significantly differ. What if a country sends the welcoming message associated with open citizenship without the deleterious effects attributed to multiculturalism by its critics? One expectation then is that countries with open citizenship but without MCPs should see a stronger identification with the host society and a weaker one with the ethnic group.

The argument behind countries making citizenship harder to access while also rejecting cultural accommodation is that this should incite immigrants to assimilate to the host society. Accordingly, if this logic holds, we should see immigrants in these countries adopt the host society's identity to a greater extent. Conversely, scholars in the social identity theory tradition (e.g. Tajfel and Turner, 1979), argue that when group boundaries are considered impermeable, an individual will choose to solidify relationships with his ingroup, in this case the ethnic group. According to social identity theory then, rather than fostering assimilation, countries with closed boundaries in the form of restrictive citizenship and low MCPs should increase identification with the ethnic group.

Competing expectations are also present when it comes to countries with relatively open borders and important MCPs. Opponents of such policies argue that they reinforce particular identities and offer no incentive to identify with the larger group. If they are right, countries in that group should see higher identification with the ethnic group and lower identification with the host. On the other side of the debate, proponents argue that cultural accommodation policies encourage participation in the larger society and make it possible for ethnic minorities to recognize themselves in the larger group. Consequently, ethnic identity and national identity should both be strong in these countries.

## Acculturation

The assumption in most of the literature is that identification with the host is necessary for immigrants to want to engage with the majority. What if we were to look at more concrete attitudes that are directly linked to the relationships an immigrant wishes to have with his own ethnic group and with the host? Perhaps identification with a group is not a prerequisite for a desire to interact with it, learn its language or even get involve in relationships like friendship or marriage. It is these types of relationships and choices

made about them by immigrants that scholars in social psychology call acculturation orientations.

The concept of acculturation has seldom been used in political science and when it has, it is mostly as a synonym for assimilation. For instance, [Branton \(2007\)](#) writes: “Acculturation, or cultural assimilation, refers to the process whereby immigrants assume the cultural values and norms of mainstream U.S. society” (see also [Lien, 1994](#); [De la Garza, Falcon and Garcia, 1996](#)).<sup>3</sup> In other fields, its meaning is quite different. The concept was first developed in anthropology dating back to [Redfield, Linton and Herskovits \(1936\)](#) who define it as “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” (149).

This is also the understanding in social psychology, where most of the contemporary immigration-related work on acculturation is done. Although some conceptual ambiguity remains, scholars in social psychology have come to a consensus on its meaning and the processes behind it ([Sam, 2006](#)). For them, acculturation refers to the changes that occur at the individual level when an immigrant experiences intercultural contact with his or her new culture (e.g. [Berry et al., 2010](#)). According to the model of acculturation developed by Berry ([Berry, 1980](#)), immigrants face two “choices” when entering in intercultural contact: whether to maintain their ethnic culture and identity and whether relationships with the host should be pursued or avoided. Similar to identification, these choices about relationship with the host and with the ethnic group are considered to be independent of one another and may be conscious or not.<sup>4</sup>

The immigrant’s strategies on these two orthogonal dimensions will situate her in the realm of acculturation orientations. [Figure 1](#) maps the four possible acculturation orientations based on these choices. Viewed through this model, *assimilation* becomes one of the four acculturation orientations, one where an immigrant rejects her own ethnic culture while embracing the majority culture and seeking relationships with the host only. Conversely, an immigrant is *separating* herself from the host if he only seeks relationships with his own group. The third orientation, *integration*, occurs when an immigrant embraces relationships with both her ethnic group and with the majority. Finally, rejecting both the ethnic group and the host leads to *marginalization*.<sup>5</sup>

The case for acculturation as an outcome of interest partly rests on the argument that acculturation orientations can be conceived as measures of commitment and attachment to the host society that are distinct from a direct measure of identification. Most critics of multiculturalism stress the need for a strong common identity that will generate a commitment to the larger society and trust in co-nationals ([Miller, 1995](#); [Barry, 2002](#)). Perhaps it is possible to see commitment and attachment as distinct from identification, an argument made by [Mason \(2010\)](#). If identification with the host is not necessary to foster a desire to enter in relationship with the larger society, it is conceivable that some policy regimes are more conducive to such relationships.

In a revised model of Berry’s original acculturation model, [Bourhis et al. \(1997\)](#) suggest that these orientations do not emerge from a vacuum and they introduce policies as one of the explanatory factors driving acculturation orientations (373). Bourhis and his colleagues divide incorporation policies into an ideological continuum with four ideal-types of state ideologies (pluralist, civic, assimilation, and ethnist). However, they do not derive specific expectations about the effects of these different ideologies on acculturation orientations and do not ground them empirically. These ideologies are analogous to the early work in political science based on conception of national definition as civic or ethnic and suffer

<sup>3</sup>An important recent exception is [Schaefer and Simon \(2016\)](#).

<sup>4</sup>This particular model of acculturation orientation is not without criticism ([Rudmin, 2003](#)) but has also been partially vindicated ([Schwartz and Zamboanga, 2008](#)). See also [Schwartz et al. \(2010\)](#) for a review of the current debates.

<sup>5</sup>This latter category has been criticized because it does not apply to many individuals and because scales that attempt to measure it often have poor reliability and validity compared with scales for the other acculturation orientations ([Schwartz et al., 2010](#)). Consequently, the results for marginalization will be displayed but the observed patterns will not be discussed at length.

Figure 1: Acculturation orientations

		Values relationships with own ethnic group	
		Yes	No
Values relationships with the host society	Yes	INTEGRATION	ASSIMILATION
	No	SEPARATION	MARGINALIZATION

The figure is an adaptation of [Berry \(1980\)](#) and [Bourhis et al. \(1997\)](#). See [Bourhis et al. \(1997\)](#) for a revised model that refines the “Marginalization” orientation.

from the same shortcomings. What are the expectations for the relationship between policy regimes and acculturation orientations? First, we should observe more variation across policy regimes within each orientation than between them: integration should be the favoured orientation for all policy regimes and marginalization should be the least-favoured one ([Verkuyten and Martinovic, 2012](#)). When looking within orientation, expectations differ whether one adheres to the arguments of proponents of MCPs and open borders or with those of partisans of more restrictive policies. If the former are right, open policies should help minorities feel part of the larger society while encouraging the preservation of ethnic ties. Accordingly, these policies should increase integrationist attitudes. On the other hand, if partisans of more restrictive policies are right and open policies do not incentivize intergroup contact, we should see immigrants in these countries separate themselves from the larger society and opt to have relationships primarily with their ethnic group. Conversely, more restrictive countries should promote assimilation more than other types of regimes because they reinforce national identity and do not recognize ethnic groups’ cultural differences.

## The interplay between ethnic identity and acculturation

One possibility that has yet to be investigated is that some policy regimes might be able to create a sense of belonging and commitment among its minorities without it being necessarily coupled with a strong identification with the host. This is an important aspect of the relationship between ethnic group identification and attitudes toward the host society. If ethnic identification is strong but not coupled with a sense of commitment with the host, this could lead to backlash among the majority. A country that is able to help minorities preserve their identity while also fostering a sense of belonging and commitment to the host society might be able to make this resistance from the majority less severe.

What should we expect as identification with the ethnic group grows? The answer to that question is at the basis of much of the criticism directed at policies that recognize cultural diversity. In terms of acculturation orientations, an increase in ethnic identification can have two competing consequences. On the one hand, it can lead to an increase in the value given to relationships with the ethnic group and a rejection of the host, i.e. it can increase separation attitudes. On the other hand, it can increase the value given to relationships with both groups, i.e. it can increase integration attitudes.

Policies are likely to come in play in determining which of these two outcomes an increase in ethnic identity will lead to. More restrictive regimes, for example, are likely to make identification with the ethnic group and relationships with the host antithetical by not recognizing ethnic identities as legitimate in the

public sphere and by making it hard to gain legal membership. If proponents of MCPs are right, countries with more open policies should see ethnic identity being associated with integration. On the other hand, if it is the critics that are right, a heightened sense of ethnic identity should lead to separation.

Of course, this will depend on the effect that policies have on identification itself. If restrictive policies are able to foster national identification and lower levels of ethnic identification, the fact that ethnic identification leads to separation should not represent an issue—few immigrants would fall in that category. However, if all regimes are associated with similar levels of identification with the ethnic group, then how this identification feeds into acculturation orientations becomes crucial. Finally, an increase in ethnic identity should also lead to a decrease in assimilation and marginalization attitudes since both these acculturation orientations presuppose that less value is given to relationships with the ethnic group.

## Data and methods

### Measuring policy regimes

For multiculturalism policies, [Banting and Kymlicka \(2006\)](#) have built a comprehensive index composed of scores on eight different policy areas (MPI). These policy areas are: official affirmation of multiculturalism; presence of multiculturalism in schools curriculum; inclusion of ethnic representation in public media and licensing; exemption from dress code for minorities; funding of ethnic organizations to support cultural activities; funding of bilingual and mother-tongue instruction; affirmative action; and dual citizenship. A country receives zero point if it has not adopted a given policy, half a point if it has done so only partially and a full point if it has fully adopted it.

The Citizenship Policies Index (CPI) was elaborated by [Howard \(2009\)](#) and measures three aspects of citizenship policies : whether a country allows dual citizenship; whether it grants *jus soli* citizenship; and the minimum number of years of residency that are required to acquire citizenship. In a comparison of different indices measuring citizenship policies [Helbling and Bauböck \(2011\)](#) find that they are highly correlated even if they are based on different indicators and that Howard's measure is the simplest and most parsimonious.

In addition to these two policy areas, [Goodman \(2010\)](#) has also developed an index, CIVIX, that measures civic integration requirements in terms of country knowledge, language and culture. Goodman sees the CIVIX as complementary to a simple measure of access to citizenship like Howard's. Her data show that as of 2009, a series of European countries had adopted more restrictive requirements. However, earlier results from 1997 show almost no variation among the 14 countries she studies ([Goodman, 2010](#), 764). Because the individual data used here come from this earlier period and because Howard's measure of citizenship access has been recognized for its parsimony and validity ([Helbling and Bauböck, 2011](#)), the analysis concentrates on citizenship as legal status coupled with multiculturalism.

Once we plot immigration countries based on these two indices, the picture that emerges in [Figure 2](#) is one of three distinct groups of countries. One group with relatively low (or closed) citizenship policies as well as low MCPs (Low-Low), one with few MCPs but more open citizenship policies (Low-High), and finally a third group displaying both open citizenship policies and comparatively more MCPs (High-High).

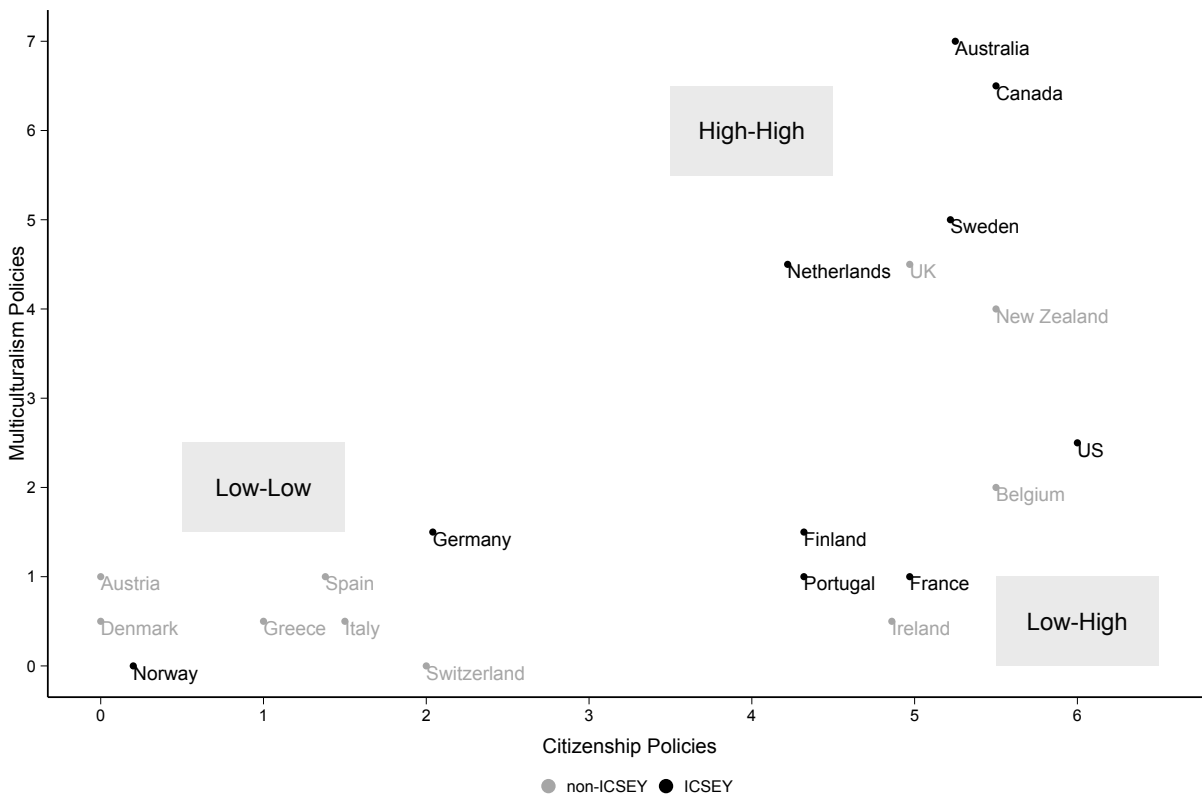
These three different policy regimes are at the basis of the empirical analysis and serve as the level-2 variable.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>Figure 2 plots more countries than present in the individual level data in order to better display the three-group pattern. Some modifications to the original policies datasets were necessary to produce this plot. First, I have recalculated values for all countries on the multiculturalism index and subtracted their score for dual citizenship, which is also accounted for in the CPI and is conceptually closer to the latter. Second, some countries with a multiculturalism score were not part of the original citizenship index, which only contains data for European countries. I followed Howard's methodology to assign a score to these added countries.



Figure 2: Incorporation policies across contexts:  
a typology



This graph plots a series of immigration countries according to their values on two policy indices, the MCP index ranging from 0 to 7 (Banting and Kymlicka, 2006) and the Citizenship index ranging from 0 to 6 (Howard, 2006). Both indices are explained in the text. Countries in black are countries present in the ICSEY dataset and used in the analysis.

This graph of policy regimes is similar to the one found in Wright and Bloemraad (2012) and based on a comparable strategy used by Koopmans et al. (2005). The fact that the ICSEY dataset only contains data for two countries in the Low-Low category—Norway and Germany—is less than ideal. However, these two countries represent a good range of values in this group with Germany being the upper boundary and Norway close to the lower one.

## The International Comparative Study of Ethnocultural Youth (ICSEY)

In addition to the country-level data, the analysis employs individual level data from a dataset that has yet to be used in political science. The International Comparative Study of Ethnocultural Youth (ICSEY) is a survey of 26 groups of immigrant youth (aged 13 to 18 years) in twelve countries and was conducted from the end of the 1990s to the early 2000s (for more details on the survey methodology see Berry et al., 2010). What makes this survey unique, in addition to its large sample of immigrants (N=5,366), is its focus on identity and different acculturation orientations among teenagers of immigrant background.

One issue when using cross-country immigrant data is that characteristics specific to a given immigrant group might influence the outcome. Ideally, a dataset would sample the same group in all countries

or all groups in the countries that are part of the studies. In sampling groups, the ICSEY dataset does a bit of both. It samples immigrants with a Vietnamese or Turkish background when possible — seven countries for the former, six for the latter — but also includes a large number of different groups to better reflect the immigrant composition of a given country. The only exception is the U.K. which only sampled immigrants of Indian origin. Consequently the country was dropped from the analysis.<sup>7</sup> Israel is also excluded because of its singular history. The analysis is consequently based on ten of the twelve countries contained in the original dataset.

The objective behind the ICSEY study was to look at the effect of identification and acculturation on a series of psychological and sociocultural adaptation measures. Here, instead of using these measures as explanatory factors, the study uses them as the outcome and evaluates how they vary according to incorporation policies contexts when controlling for other individual level factors.

**Identification.** The first two outcomes are additive measures of identification with the host society ( $\alpha = 0.90$ ) and identification with the respondent's own ethnic group ( $\alpha = 0.86$ ). Both are additive index (see the Supplementary Materials for descriptive statistics and question wording of the different index used in the analysis.) Conceptually, these identification measures are a mix of two of the three dimensions proposed by Citrin, Wong and Duff (2001). The first question—*I feel that I am part of...*—can be conceived as being about both the cognitive dimension of identity (identification *as*) and the affective dimension (identification *with*). All the other questions are measuring the affective dimension. It is possible that some of these questions are more likely to depend on context in ways that bias our results. For example, some might argue that it is less embarrassing and uncomfortable to be ethnic in High-High countries, and that as such, the embarrassed and uncomfortable people in these countries are different from the embarrassed and uncomfortable people in Low-Low countries. The results that follow are robust to versions of the dependent variables that exclude these more “context-dependent” questions.

**Acculturation.** Acculturation orientations measures consist of four additive indices assessing the extent to which respondents display attitudes in line with each of the four acculturation orientations outlined in Figure 1: assimilation ( $\alpha = 0.61$ ), integration ( $\alpha = 0.48$ ), separation ( $\alpha = 0.68$ ), and marginalization ( $\alpha = 0.59$ ). These orientations are measured based on respondents' preferences in five domains: cultural traditions, language, marriage, social activities, and friendship (Berry et al., 1989).

**Perceived Discrimination.** Finally, the index for perceived discrimination is composed of nine different questions measuring whether the respondents has been teased because of his or her ethnic background, whether his or her ethnic groups is treated unfairly, etc. ( $\alpha = 0.85$ ).

In addition to these measures, the dataset contains other socio-demographic variables such as religion. With Muslim immigration being the target of most of the backlash against cultural accommodation and open borders, the presence of respondents' religion in the dataset allows for a more targeted investigation of this group in particular. The fact that respondents are teenagers is arguably another strength of the dataset. Teenagers are in the midst of forming their identity and their choices will be influenced both by their family— thus reflecting their parents' orientations — and by educational programs, more likely to be affected by policies, especially multiculturalism.

## Analytical Strategy: Visualizing Multilevel Data

Analyzing the relationship between policies and individual attitudes across countries is inherently a multilevel proposition. Respondents are nested within countries and their respective policy contexts and

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<sup>7</sup>Because the U.K. sample only contains respondents from one ethnic group, it is impossible to untangle whether the observed relationship is due to British policies or to characteristics that are specific to this group.

the goal is to identify the impact of these policies once we control for individual-level predictors of the outcome. In the present case however, two important assumptions of multilevel modeling are problematic. First, the asymptotic properties of maximum likelihood estimators (MLE) on which multilevel models rely necessitate a good number of cases (Bowers and Drake, 2005).<sup>8</sup> With ten countries as the level-2 sample size, this is far from ideal (Maas and Hox, 2005; Stegmueller, 2013). Second, MLE also assumes that these level-2 cases are a representative random sample of a given population. The ten countries in the ICSEY cannot be considered a random sample of immigration countries. Rather, they are more akin to a convenience sample: they are the countries for which we have individual-level data.

Given these limitations, I follow the suggestions of Bowers and Drake (2005) and use graphical visualization of these multilevel data as the analytical strategy.<sup>9</sup> Variants of this ‘two-stage’ strategy are employed by Wright and Bloemraad (2012) and (Goodman and Wright, 2015) to study closely related topics to the one under investigation here and by Sides and Citrin (2007) to look at opposition to immigration in European countries. Like them, this study investigates the relationship between policy contexts at the country level and a series of dependent variables at the individual level. For this reason, the dependent variables are regressed on individual-level predictors when the data is pooled within policy contexts identified in Figure 2. The estimates and confidence intervals of the intercepts for each of the policy contexts are then graphed. The different individual level variables are coded such that the intercepts correspond to the predicted outcome for an immigrant who is 17 years old, has been in the country for 5 to 10 years, does not have citizenship and has parents whose training is in an unskilled profession.<sup>10</sup> The justification for using such a hypothetical immigrant is similar to Wright and Bloemraad’s: it is exactly the type of immigrant about which incorporation concerns are more prevalent. This type of immigrant — without citizenship, short residence in the country, lower education/unskilled— is also less likely to identify with the host, making it a harder case for double identification (e.g. Zimmermann, Zimmermann and Constant, 2007). When adding other covariates for further analysis, religion for instance, I specify it in the text.

One important point on which I diverge from Bloemraad and Wright’s empirical strategy is that they restrict their analysis to the models’ intercepts because they are not interested in the individual-level relationship between two variables and the variation in this relationship across level-2 units. Here however, one of the main objectives is to investigate how ethnic identity translates into different acculturation orientations and into perceived discrimination across contexts. To look at this relationship more specifically, I follow the procedure used by Bowers and Drake (2005) and also graph the slope coefficient for ethnic identity for each level-2 units. Again, this is similar to the ‘two-stage’ procedure used by Sides and Citrin (2007). In the first stage, I estimate an individual-level model for each policy regime. These models include the same covariates specified earlier but also add ethnic identity. I then extract the intercept and the ethnic identity coefficient to form a second ‘dataset’ where the unit of analysis becomes policy regimes. Finally, I plot these policy regimes’ intercepts and slopes for each acculturation orientation and for perceived discrimination.

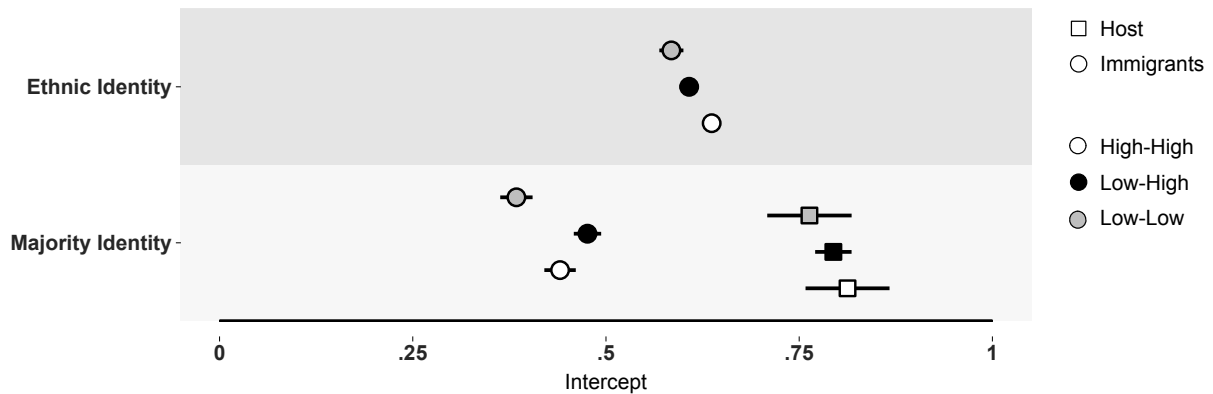
In the analysis, I address issues of missing data by generating six datasets through conditional multiple imputation (Su et al., 2011; Kropko et al., 2014). All estimates presented in the results section are consequently calculated by fitting a model to each imputed dataset, after which estimates and standard errors are calculated according to Rubin’s rules (Rubin, 1987).

<sup>8</sup>A similar point is made by Sides and Citrin (2007, 495). They also rightfully highlight the fact that Quillian (1995) finds ‘fragility’ in his estimates when using multilevel modeling with only 12 countries (603).

<sup>9</sup>I also estimated the following models through multilevel modelling. These models produced results that were similar to those displayed here. Based on the reasons outlined above, I only show results obtained via the simpler estimation procedure, but the estimates from multilevel models are available in the Online Supplementary Materials.

<sup>10</sup>As a reminder, the dataset is composed of teenagers and 17 years old is the mean. The parents’ skilled or unskilled job training variable can be seen as a proxy for parents’ education.

Figure 3: Identification with ethnic and majority identity by policy contexts



These estimates and their confidence intervals (95%) are intercept values when ethnic and majority identification are regressed within policy contexts on individual-level predictors (see text for details on these predictors). Identification measures are indices ranging from 0 to 1 where 1 represents the highest level of identification. Majority respondents are indicated by a square and are added for comparison.

## Results

### Ethnic and majority identity

Figure 3 plots the intercept values for identification with the majority and with the ethnic group when these identity measures are regressed within policy contexts. Throughout the analysis, all the dependent variables are continuous indices (from 0 to 1) and the estimator is an OLS regression.

The first thing that stands out when looking at Figure 3 is that across policy regimes, immigrants tend to identify more with their ethnic group (top panel) than with the majority group (bottom panel). This would indicate that no regime is able to foster a higher level of identification with the majority than with the ethnic group. Given that the hypothetical immigrant represented by this intercept does not have citizenship and has only been in the country for 5 to 10 years, this does not come as a surprise.

As Bowers and Drake (2005) point out, when plotting these intercepts, if the dots and their confidence intervals are clearly stacked on top of one another, we would then have to conclude that there is no variation across policy regimes. This is not what we observe for immigrants' identification. For both ethnic and majority identity there are difference across regimes, but these difference are small, especially in the case of ethnic identity with an intercept value of .64 for High-High countries and of .58 for Low-Low countries. This would indicate that more open policies are indeed associated with a higher level of ethnic identification but only slightly. Policies that are designed to decrease ethnic identification (Low-Low), do not appear to fulfill all their promises either. Moving to the second panel which plots intercepts for majority identification we see that these Low-Low countries are associated with less identification with the majority than the other two types of regimes. As hypothesized, when the welcoming message of open citizenship is coupled with few MCPs, countries are able to foster more identification with the host society, but this identification still goes hand in hand with a high level of ethnic identification. In other words, double identification is more likely in Low-High regimes than in the other two.

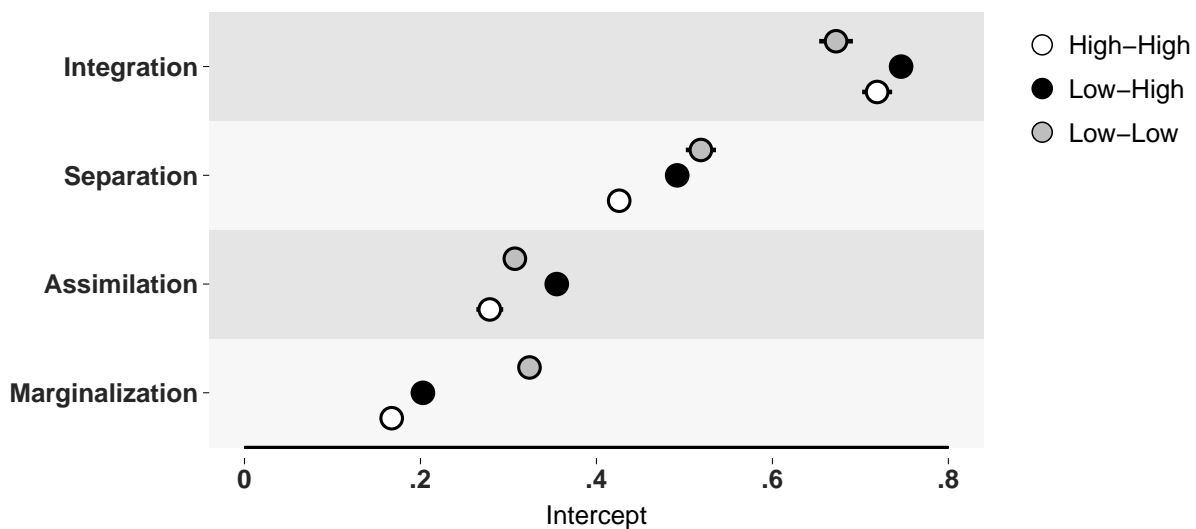
The ICSEY also contains a sample of majority youth that can be used in order to assess whether the pattern observed in identification with the majority among immigrants is just a reflection of how people generally identify with the majority group in the different regimes. These intercepts are represented by the

three squared dots that are lined up almost completely on top of each other to the right of the .75 mark. Clearly, the pattern observed among immigrants are not reflecting a more general pattern in their new societies. Unsurprisingly, majority respondents identify more with the majority than immigrants do, but there is no significant difference between policy regimes in the level to which youth majority members identify with their own group.<sup>11</sup>

## Acculturation orientations

Whereas identification was measured with questions about membership and pride, acculturation orientations are measured with a series of questions on marriage, cultural traditions, language, friendship, and social activities. Acculturation orientations are based on the importance given to relationships with the ethnic group and the majority. For example, an immigrant is displaying an integrationist orientation if marrying a co-ethnic or marrying a host are both seen favorably. It is also important to remember that these orientations are not necessarily mutually exclusive. In other words, it is possible for a given individual to see integration as the preferred orientation and to strongly agree with the questions on integration, but to also agree, albeit less strongly, with questions measuring separation.

Figure 4: Acculturation orientations by policy contexts



These estimates and their confidence intervals are intercept values when the different acculturation orientations are regressed within policy contexts on individual-level predictors (see text for details on these predictors). All four orientations are indices ranging from 0 to 1 where 1 represents the most positive value.

Figure 4 plots the intercept values for each acculturation orientation when these orientations are regressed within policy regimes. Here again we see that there is no difference across regimes in terms of the preferred acculturation orientation. For all regimes, immigrants are more likely to see both relationships with the majority and with the ethnic group as important. The second preferred orientation is separation—favoring relationships with the ethnic group over relationships with the majority—followed by assimilation and marginalization. The only exception to this pattern is in Low-Low countries where immigrants show similar levels of marginalization and assimilation orientations.

<sup>11</sup>For majority respondents, I only control for age and parents' formation as skilled or unskilled because the other control variables used for immigrants, citizenship status and time spent in country, do not apply.

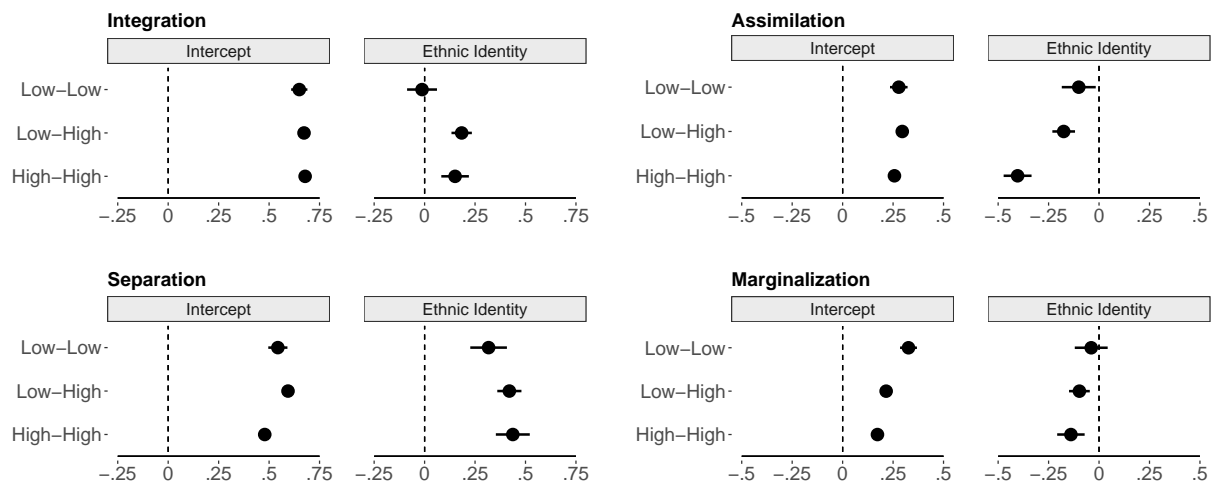
Where we see differences however is in the extent to which immigrants adopt each acculturation orientation across contexts. For instance, immigrants in Low-Low and Low-High regimes exhibit more separation attitudes than those in High-High regimes. In terms of assimilation, it is not surprising to see immigrants from High-High regimes being the least likely to favor this orientation given the importance of ethnic identification in these countries. Combining these two results together offers an interesting picture in light of the criticism against more open policies. The logic behind restrictive policies is to encourage assimilation into the larger society whereas one criticism against policies like multiculturalism is that it encourages ethnic segregation. Results displayed in [Figure 4](#) indicate that immigrants in High-High countries do in fact assimilate less than in other regimes but also separate themselves less. With the exception of marginalization, it is also in the Separation orientation that we find the largest gap between two regimes with a 10 percentage points difference between High-High countries and Low-Low countries. In sum, when we examine separation and assimilation orientations, open policies are not associated with a hunkering down effect among immigrants and more restrictive policies are not associated with more assimilation either. Looking at integration attitudes, it is in Low-High countries that this orientation is more important on average followed closely by High-High countries. This is somewhat surprising in light of the previous finding on identification. [Figure 3](#) showed that compared with immigrants in Low-High regimes, those living in High-High regimes identified less with the host society and more with their ethnic group, but these identification choices do not seem to be associated with a rejection of the host society given how important integrationist attitudes are in High-High regimes. Of course, integration is the preferred orientation across all policy contexts, which again represent an interesting finding when considering the negative consequences often attributed to multiculturalism. This high level of integration orientation across regimes is also interesting in light of what the data on identification showed—that immigrants in all regimes identify more with their ethnic group than with the majority. The lack of identification with the host does not seem to impede or diminish the importance given to relationships with the larger society and more open policy regimes do not seem to be reinforcing these boundaries even if they are in fact associated with more ethnic identification.

### **Ethnic identity, acculturation orientations, and perceived discrimination**

The main disagreement between proponents and opponents of more open incorporation policies is not whether it reinforces ethnic identity—there is agreement on this matter—but whether this focus on ethnic identification leads to negative consequences on intergroup attitudes. Critics of multiculturalism, for instance, argue that a reification of ethnic differences makes it impossible to foster a sense of membership with the host society and leads to ethnic segregation. Results presented thus far show that immigrants living in countries with open citizenship and a higher score on the MCP index tend to identify more with their ethnic group than immigrants in other policy regimes. Conversely, they also tend to identify less with the majority than immigrants in countries that do not couple open citizenship with multiculturalism. This could lead one to conclude that critics are vindicated in their fear that MCPs lead to a loss of a common sense of belonging or membership.

Perhaps however, some policy arrangements make it possible for ethnic identifiers to feel accepted as “members” of their new polity and to seek relationships with the majority even if they identify more with their ethnic group. If critics of open policies are right, these policies should, on the contrary, lead ethnic identifiers away from the majority and reinforce their desire to engage solely with their ethnic group. One way to understand the consequences of ethnic identification across policy regimes is to look at the relationship between ethnic identity and acculturation orientations and between ethnic identification and perceived discrimination.

Figure 5: Acculturation orientations and ethnic identification by policy contexts



These estimates and their confidence intervals are intercept and slope coefficients when the different acculturation orientations are regressed within policy contexts on individual-level predictors (see text for details on these predictors). The slope coefficients are for ethnic identity. The dashed line indicates 0.

## Acculturation

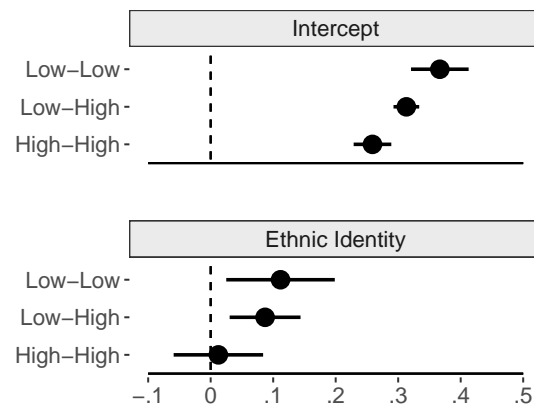
Like previous figures, [Figure 5](#) plots intercept values for each policy regime, but because the interest now lies in the effect of ethnic identity across policy regimes, it also plots the coefficient for ethnic identity. Recall that these values are coefficients when acculturation orientations are regressed within policy regimes on individual-level predictors. The other variables in the model are the same as those in previous sections. The ethnic identity index is centered at 0 (from  $-.5$  to  $.5$ ). Consequently, the intercept can be interpreted as the average level of a given acculturation orientation for a hypothetical immigrant at the mid-point of ethnic identification.

The results displayed [Figure 5](#) should alleviate the concerns that cultural accommodation policies, by reinforcing ethnic identity, will lead to a rejection of the host society. Looking at the top left panel we see that after adding ethnic identification to the model, integrationist orientations are still the most likely orientation across regimes with all three intercepts hovering around  $.75$ . It is when we turn to the ethnic identity coefficients that we see an interesting variation: ethnic identity is linked to more integrationist attitudes in Low-High and High-High regimes but not in Low-Low regimes.

But what about separation? Maybe ethnic identifiers are also more likely to want to prioritize relationships with their own group. Indeed this is what we observe in the Separation panel (top-right). Across all three regimes ethnic identity is associated with more separation attitudes and the coefficient increases as policies become more open—albeit only slightly. Looking at the intercepts, the patterns observed in [Figure 4](#) remain once we add ethnic identity: it is in High-High regimes that we see the lowest level of separation attitudes.

The results for assimilation are, to some extent, also in line with what was expected. We again see that on average, regimes do not differ significantly in the level of assimilation orientations displayed by immigrants. There are, however, differences in the impact of ethnic identification. A higher identification with one's own ethnic group decreases assimilation orientations—that is attitudes and behavior that are

Figure 6: Perceived discrimination and ethnic identification by policy contexts



These estimates and their confidence intervals are intercept and slope coefficients when perceived discrimination is regressed within policy contexts on individual-level predictors (see text for details on these predictors). The slope coefficients are for ethnic identity. The dashed line indicates 0.

favoring the host society and rejecting the ethnic group— but this relationship is weaker in Low-Low and Low-High countries than it is in High-High countries.

Finally, a stronger sense of ethnic identity is linked to lower levels of marginalization in High-High and Low-High regimes but not in Low-Low. Recall that marginalization orientations refer to an individual rejecting relationships with both her own ethnic group and with the host society. Immigrants from Low-Low countries also exhibit more marginalization attitudes on average. Another way of putting these results is to say that in regimes that combine low levels of multiculturalism policies with more restrictive citizenship policies, the only acculturation orientation that sees a gain when ethnic identification increases is separation, whereas High-High and Low-High countries also see an increase in integration attitudes.

In interpreting this finding, it is important to keep in mind the small differences in the average level of ethnic identification across regimes. In other words, high identifiers are not much more likely in High-High countries. What immigrants in these countries are more likely to do however, is to seek relationships with the host society in domains such as language, marriage and social activities.

### Perceived discrimination

Are more open incorporation policies undermining common membership? So far, the evidence points in the opposing direction. The last outcome under investigation considers perceived discrimination, an important measure of social inclusion that might also be affected by policy regimes (Wright and Bloemraad, 2012; Hainmueller, Hangartner and Pietrantuono, 2017). As the top panel of Figure 6 makes clear, perceived discrimination increases incrementally as policies become more restrictive. The index moves from .26 in High-High regimes to .31 in Low-High regimes and finally to .37 for countries with low scores on both citizenship and multiculturalism policies. This result is confirmation of the important but limited evidence offered by Wright and Bloemraad (2012) who also found a monotonic decrease in perceived discrimination across regimes.

More importantly, this pattern is also reflected in the coefficients for ethnic identity displayed in the bottom panel. That coefficient is not different from zero in High-High countries, meaning that ethnic identity is not associated with a higher perceived discrimination in these regimes. The other two regimes do however have a positive coefficient for ethnic identity. In sum, ethnic identifiers do not perceive more



discrimination in High-High countries but they do in more restrictive regimes where immigrants are also more likely to perceive discrimination.

## Muslims Immigrants

Given their singular position in immigration debates (Koopmans, 2013), Muslim are often seen as a group that is harder, even impossible, to integrate in the larger society (Modood, 2005).<sup>12</sup> Consequently, it is possible that Muslim immigrants explain some of the results above. Perhaps High-High countries are able to foster integrationist attitudes among ethnic identifiers because those countries' samples have fewer Muslim immigrants.

There is a total of 1057 Muslim respondents in the original dataset, but they are not equally distributed across policy regimes: 497 of these Muslims respondents are in High-High countries, 401 in Low-Low countries, and only 159 in Low-High countries.<sup>13</sup> In other words, they form a larger proportion of the sample in Low-Low regimes (50%), followed by High-High regimes (30%) and then Low-High regimes (9%). This imbalance, in itself, does not necessarily put into question the patterns presented earlier. One way in which the distribution of Muslim respondents would explain the differences across regimes would be if Muslims identify more with their ethnic identity and less with the majority, with such identification leading to more separation and less integration. If this pattern is observed across regimes, then the results in Low-Low countries compared to High-High countries could be explained by a larger Muslim share of the sample in Low-Low regimes. The case for policies as the explanation would be harder to make. To verify that variation in the religious composition of each regime type is not driving previous findings, the analysis is replicated on the Muslim subset.

In terms of identification with the majority and identification with the ethnic group, the patterns are similar to those observed in the full sample. Muslims immigrants in Low-High countries do identify even more with the majority but given the sample size, this identification is not different from the one seen in the full sample. In terms of acculturation orientations, there are no important differences across policy regimes and integration remains the favored orientation. Figures showing coefficients for identification and acculturation can be found in the Supplementary Materials.

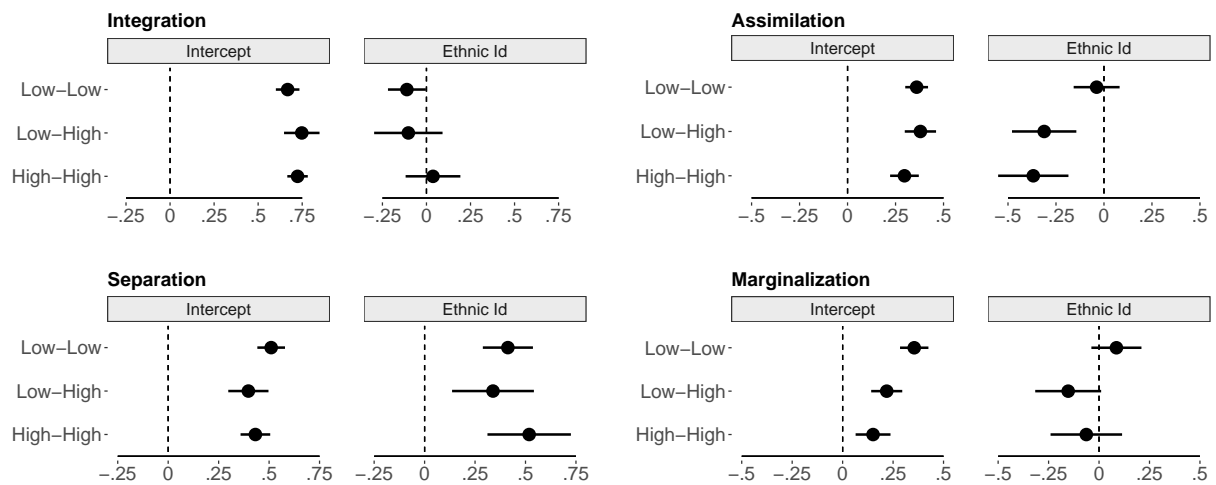
Looking at the relationship between ethnic identification and acculturation displayed in Figure 7, we see that ethnic identification does generate more separation than it did in the full sample. However, integration is still high—around .75—for the three regimes. In other words, based on this cursory glance at Muslim immigrants, they display the same attitudes across policy regimes and thus, cannot explain by themselves the differences found in previous sections. Muslim respondents do seem to differ from other immigrants in the effect that ethnic identity is having on acculturation orientation, on integration more specifically. We do not observe the same positive relationship between identification with the ethnic group and more integrationist attitudes in High-High countries. That being said, we do not observe a negative relationship either. In Low-High and High-High countries the slope is not different from 0. Low-Low countries do however have a slope different from 0, but a negative one, meaning that in these countries increasing ethnic identification leads to less integrationist attitudes for Muslim immigrants. In fact, when we look separately at non-Muslims and Muslims (see Supplementary Materials), ethnic identification is increasing integration among non-Muslims in High-High countries but having no effect among Muslims while in Low-Low countries, it is having no effect among non-Muslims and decreasing integration among Muslims.

In sum, Muslims do seem to be different from other immigrants in the effect that identification with the ethnic group is having on integrationist attitudes but there is also an important difference in this

<sup>12</sup>Empirically, the evidence for Muslim being “harder” to integrate has so far been mixed (e.g. Manning and Roy, 2010).

<sup>13</sup>Most of these Muslim respondents are Turks (60%), with the other two larger groups being Pakistanis (16%) and respondents from the Maghreb (10%).

Figure 7: Acculturation orientations and ethnic identification of Muslim respondents by policy contexts



These estimates and their confidence intervals are intercept values when the identity measures and the different acculturation orientations are regressed within policy contexts on individual-level predictors (see text for details on these predictors). The slope coefficients are for ethnic identity. The dashed line indicates 0.

difference across regimes. The pattern observed in Low-Low countries is not due to the fact that they have a larger proportion of Muslim immigrants, but rather that unlike other policy regimes, these countries seem to be unable to mitigate the effect of ethnic identification on integration.

## Discussion and Conclusion

Examples of politicians blaming policies that recognize cultural pluralism for a supposed decline in social cohesion abound (see [Koopmans, 2013](#)). What often follows from such statements is a call for measures that are more assimilationist in nature. The results from the present analysis show that contrary to many of those assertions, a strong common identity does not appear to be necessary to “bring together” immigrants and their host society. Many immigrants displayed integrationist attitudes — a desire to have relationships with both the host and their own ethnic group — while identifying more with their own ethnic group than with the majority. More importantly, the results also showed that if the main goal of incorporation policies is to foster these integrationist attitudes and socialize immigrants into the larger society, countries with open citizenship laws and extensive multiculturalism policies are the one best equipped to achieve it.

Focusing on identity and acculturation in three distinct policy regimes (High citizenship-High MCPs, High citizenship-Low MCPs, Low citizenship-Low MCPs), I find that these regimes do not differ significantly in the extent to which immigrants identify with their ethnic group. Where they do differ is in their identification with the host. In line with critiques of MCPs, countries with open citizenship policies that also have cultural accommodation policies were less likely to promote national identification among their immigrant population. Countries with a combination of open citizenship—perhaps sending a welcoming message to newcomers—and few MCPs were the one most able to foster identification with the majority among their immigrant population.

I then introduced acculturation orientation as a concept that can be conceived as the desire to cultivate relationships with the majority group and with one's own ethnic group. Considering four different acculturation orientations, I showed that High-High countries were the ones most able to foster integrationist attitudes. It is in these countries that immigrants were more likely to see relationships with both the host and their ethnic group as important. These relationships encompass a wide-ranging set of situations such as friendship, language choice and marriage. On the other hand, it was the Low-High countries that displayed the highest average of separation attitudes, i.e. immigrants choosing only their ethnic group and rejecting relationships with the host. This latter result should not obscure however the fact that integration was by far the favored orientations across all regimes.

The most striking finding is that High-High and High-Low countries were able to create an environment in which ethnic identification is associated with more integrationist attitudes. In the Low-Low regimes, the only acculturation orientation that saw an increase with higher ethnic identification was separation. These results should help put to rest the worry that ethnic identification precludes commitment to the larger society. Although the evidence presented here is only a first step in understanding the link between policies and these outcomes, it demonstrates that it is in fact the case that ethnic identity is associated with less commitment to the majority but not in countries with policy regimes that have open citizenship and extensive MCPs. When we combine these results with those of [Wright and Bloemraad \(2012\)](#), who find that immigrants from these same High-High countries were not less likely than their counterpart in Low-High or Low-Low countries to be engaged in their political community, we have a picture at odds with the recurrent rhetoric against cultural accommodation policies. These findings also contradict, to some extent, those of research such as [Koopmans \(2010\)](#) and [Ersanilli and Koopmans \(2011\)](#). In these studies the focus is on outcomes that are far removed from policies whose first goal is the socio-political integration of immigrants ([Bloemraad, 2007](#)). The mechanism that links incorporation policies to outcomes such as higher rates of incarceration or residential segregation is a complicated one and the possibility for omitted variable bias is high. This is why the findings about identification and acculturation orientations presented here are interesting: not only do they address directly the concerns about allegiances but these outcomes are also causally closer to the policies under investigation. These findings are also important for the immigrants themselves since the psychology literature shows that integrationist attitudes are associated with well-being and adaptation ([Phinney et al., 2001](#)).

Of course, it is possible that these results are due to a selection bias causing Low-Low countries to have to deal with immigrants that are different—i.e. more difficult to integrate—than High-High countries. To test for this possibility, an additional analysis was conducted with the sample restricted to Muslim respondents, a group that has been presented as a hard case for integration. Overall, these immigrants do not differ significantly from the rest of the sample in their identification and acculturation orientations.

The analysis is not without its limitations. For instance, the particular analytical strategy oversimplifies variation in terms of policies by grouping countries in three separate policy regimes. In addition, the data on which this analysis rests are from the late 1990s to the early 2000s and the patterns observed might have changed. For instance, new policies not encompassed by citizenship access or MCPs have been enacted and may have an impact on some of the relationships highlighted here. As mentioned earlier, one recent evolution of incorporation policies has been the introduction of a series of civic integration measures of the type studied by [Goodman \(2010\)](#)—for example, a stronger emphasis on language acquisition prior to arrival, citizenship ceremonies reinforcing identity elements, etc. Although some recent work suggests that these policies do not affect immigrant integration ([Goodman and Wright, 2015](#)), adding new policies to reflect the environment in which immigrants find themselves today is an important path for future research. On the other hand, data limitations are often not on the policy side but at the individual-level and efforts should be put into developing datasets that allow the comparative study of immigrants' attitudes.

The data used in this study made it possible to examine important outcomes to an extent that

previous studies had been unable to do. Yet, although it represents an improvement on previous work, the investigation was limited to immigrants from ten countries. As is often the case when large-N research is developing, the hope is that we will soon have more individual-level data to combine with the already existing country-level measures to further examine the relationships that the present work has highlighted. Given what is at stake and the importance of these empirical questions, this is an essential and necessary step.

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# Do Incorporation Policies Matter?

## Immigrants' Identity and Relationships with the Receiving Society

### Appendix

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#### Appendix A. Question Wording

##### Identity

Question: People can think of themselves in various ways. For example, they may feel that they are members of various ethnic groups, such as Vietnamese (etc.), and that they are part of the larger society, [host society]. These questions are about how you think of yourself in this respect.

Answers are all 5-point Likert scale (strongly disagree to strongly agree)

- Ethnic identity
  - I feel that I am part of [ethnic] culture
  - I am proud of being [ethnic]
  - I am happy to be [ethnic]
  - Being part of [ethnic] culture is embarrassing to me
  - Being [ethnic] is uncomfortable for me
  - Being part of [ethnic] culture makes me feel happy
  - Being [ethnic] makes me feel good
- Majority Identity
  - I feel that I am part of [national] culture
  - I am proud of being [national]
  - I am happy to be [national]

##### Acculturation attitudes

Question: Here are some statements about language, cultural traditions, friends etc. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each statement by checking the answer that applies best to you.

Answers are all 5-point Likert scale (strongly disagree to strongly agree)

- Separation
  - I would rather marry a [ethnic] than a [national]
  - I feel that [ethnic group] should maintain their own cultural traditions and not adapt to those of [national]
  - It is more important to me to be fluent in [ethnic] than in [national lang.]



- I prefer to have only [ethnic] friends
- I prefer social activities that involve [ethnic group members] only
  
- Marginalization
  - I feel that it is not important for [ethnic group] either to maintain their own cultural traditions or to adapt to those of [national]
  - I would not like to marry either a [national] or a [ethnic]
  - It is not important to me to be fluent either in [ethnic lang.] or [national lang.]
  - I don't want to attend either [national] or [ethnic] social activities
  - I don't want to have either [national] or [ethnic] friends
  
- Assimilation
  - I feel that [ethnic group] should adapt to [national] cultural traditions and not maintain those of their own
  - I would rather marry a [national] than a [ethnic]
  - It is more important to me to be fluent in [national lang.] than in [ethnic lang.]
  - I prefer to have only [national] friends
  - I prefer social activities that involve [nationals] only
  
- Integration
  - I feel that [ethnic group] should maintain their own cultural traditions but also adapt to those of [national]
  - I would be just as willing to marry a [national] as a [ethnic]
  - It is important to me to be fluent in both [national lang.] and in [ethnic lang.]
  - I prefer social activities that involve both [national members] and [ethnic members]
  - I prefer to have both [ethnic] and [national] friends

**Perceived discrimination**

When people with different backgrounds are together, one may sometimes feel unfairly treated. The following questions are about these kinds of experiences.

Answers are all 5-point Likert scale (strongly disagree to strongly agree)

- I think that others have behaved in an unfair or negative way towards my ethnic group
- I don't feel accepted by [national group]
- I feel [national group] has something against me
- I have been teased or insulted because of my ethnic background
- I have been threatened or attacked because of my ethnic background

How often do the following people treat you unfairly or negatively because of your ethnic background?

Answers are all 5-point Likert scale (Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Often, Very often)

- Teachers
- Other adults outside school
- Other students
- Other kids/teens outside school

## Appendix B. Summary Statistics

Table A1: Summary statistics of key socio-demographic variables - ICSEY Data

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
Age	4325	15.494	1.818	13	22
Gender (1=Female)	4313	.546	.498	0	1
Years in the Country	2684	9.397	4.884	0	21
Parents' occupation (1= Skilled)	2742	.595	.491	0	1
Ethnic lang. proficiency	4279	.653	.283	0	1
Majority lang. proficiency	4288	.857	.18	0	1
Citizenship (1=yes)	4054	.648	.477	0	1
Neighborhood comp. (1=Diverse)	4055	.366	.587	-1	1

Table A2: Summary statistics of dependent variables - ICSEY Data

Variable	Nbr. of Items	Mean	Std. Dev.	Cronbach's alpha
<i>Identity</i>				
Ethnic identity	7	.62	.14	.86
Majority identity	3	.54	.32	.90
<i>Acculturation</i>				
Assimilation	5	.30	.18	.61
Integration	5	.74	.17	.48
Separation	5	.39	.22	.68
Marginalization	5	.19	.17	.59
Perceived discrim.	9	.25	.18	.85

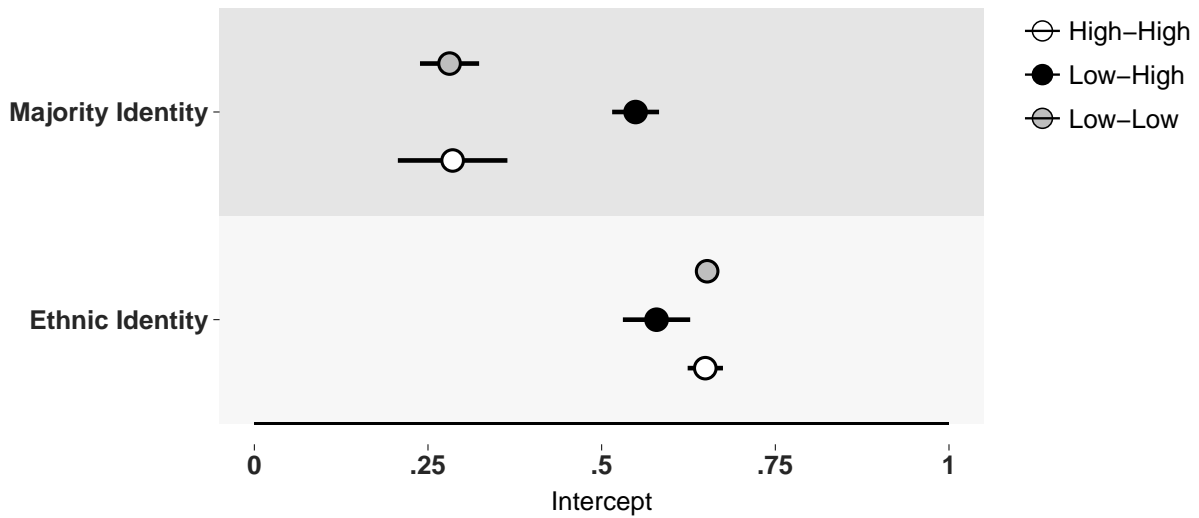
Dependent variables are all indices ranging from 0 to 1, where 1 is the most positive value.

Table A3: Socio-demographics variables — Country means (ICSEY)

<b>Country</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Years in Country</b>	<b>Citizenship</b> (1 = Citizen)	<b>Parents' training</b> (1 = Skilled)
Australia	273	15	8.5	.94	.82
Canada	294	16.4	10.7	.75	.85
Finland	442	15.6	5.4	.36	.45
France	304	16.1	13.3	.76	.92
Germany	331	17	13	.39	.65
Netherlands	339	14.9	12.4	.87	.61
Norway	467	15.4	9.2	.67	.46
Portugal	560	15.4	7	.7	.23
Sweden	848	15.3	9.4	.59	.49
US	467	14.6	8.3	.61	.76

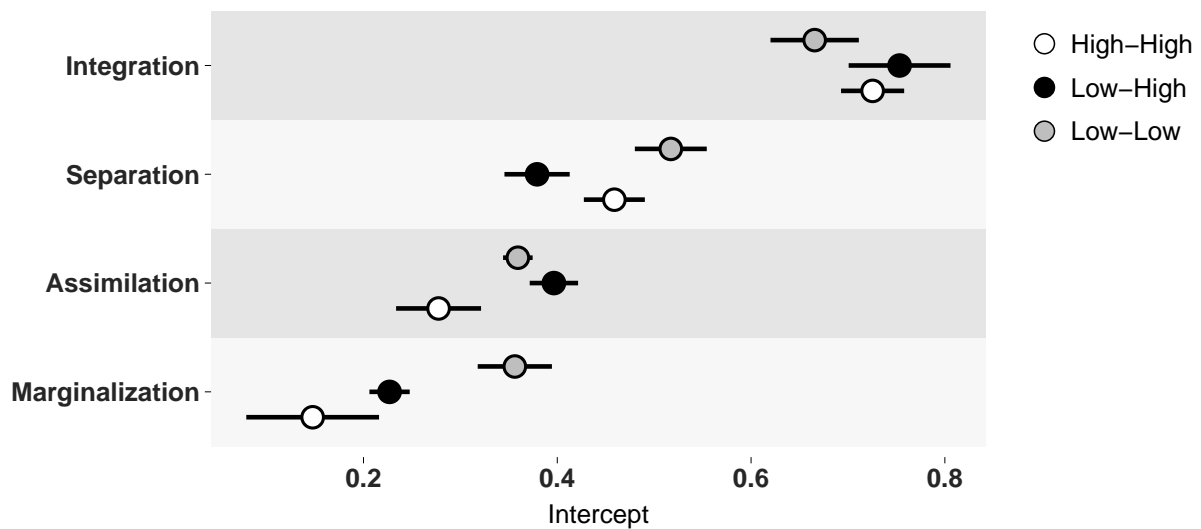
## Appendix C. Results for Muslims respondents with individual level controls

Figure A1: National and Ethnic Identification of Muslim respondents by policy contexts



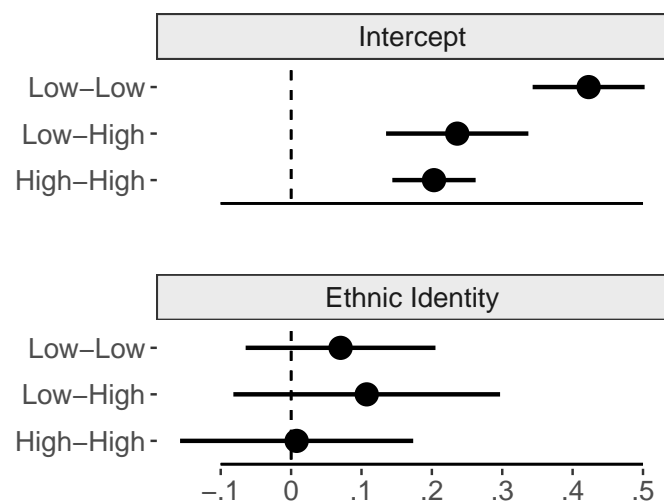
These estimates and their confidence intervals are intercept values when the identity measures are regressed within policy contexts on individual-level predictors (see text for details on these predictors).

Figure A2: Acculturation orientations of Muslim respondents by policy contexts



These estimates and their confidence intervals are intercept values when the four acculturation orientations are regressed within policy contexts on individual-level predictors (see text for details on these predictors).

Figure A3: Perceived discrimination and ethnic identity by policy contexts — Muslim respondents



These estimates and their confidence intervals are intercept values when perceived discrimination is regressed within policy contexts on individual-level predictors (see text for details on these predictors).

## Appendix D. Multilevel models

The main objective of this analysis is to isolate the role of policies on individual attitudes (identification and acculturation) across countries. As stated in the “Visualizing multilevel data” section, this requires paying attention to the nested nature of the data—respondents are nested within countries and their respective policy contexts. The best strategy when dealing with nested data is to take into account its hierarchical character and use multilevel modeling to obtain estimates. In the present case however, the data offer only ten countries at level-2, which makes two important assumptions of multilevel modeling are problematic: a large sample at that level is important for the asymptotic properties of maximum likelihood estimators (MLE) (Stoker and Bowers, 2002; Bowers and Drake, 2005; Maas and Hox, 2005; Stegmueller, 2013). In the main text, I follow Bowers and Drake (2005) and present results graphically to overcome issues with the sample while still taking into account the hierarchical nature of the question and data at hand. However, previous studies have used multilevel modeling with restricted level-2 samples. Quillian (1995) has only twelve countries in his study of immigration attitudes while Weldon (2006) looks at tolerance attitudes in 16 European countries. Consequently, this appendix presents multilevel models of key dependent variables. These models offer results that confirm those obtained through graphical display and presented in the main text.

Table A4: Multilevel model of ethnic identification

Variable	OLS	Country-level factors
Age	-0.008*** (0.002)	-0.005** (0.002)
<b>Citizenship</b>		
No Citizenship		
Citizenship	-0.016** (0.008)	-0.041*** (0.008)
<b>Parents' skills</b>		
Skilled		
Unskilled	-0.006 (0.007)	-0.010 (0.008)
<b>Years in Country</b>		
5-10 years		
5 or less	0.010 (0.010)	0.001 (0.010)
11-15 years	0.004 (0.009)	0.008 (0.009)
More than 15	-0.007 (0.011)	0.016 (0.012)
<b>Policies</b>		
Multiculturalism		0.008 (0.007)
Cship policies		0.003 (0.010)
Constant	0.617*** (0.009)	0.598*** (0.038)
N	1,528	1,528
R <sup>2</sup>	0.018	
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.014	

\* p < .1; \*\* p < .05; \*\*\* p < .01



Table A5: Multilevel model of majority identification

Variable	OLS	Country-level factors
Age	-0.006 (0.004)	0.001 (0.004)
<b>Citizenship</b>		
No Citizenship		
Citizenship	0.219*** (0.016)	0.206*** (0.015)
<b>Parents' skills</b>		
Skilled		
Unskilled	0.132*** (0.016)	0.049*** (0.016)
<b>Years in Country</b>		
5-10 years		
5 or less	0.017 (0.021)	-0.001 (0.020)
11-15 years	-0.021 (0.019)	-0.006 (0.018)
More than 15	-0.002 (0.024)	-0.007 (0.023)
<b>Policies</b>		
Multiculturalism		0.003 (0.023)
Cship policies		0.031 (0.031)
Constant	0.335*** (0.019)	0.265** (0.116)
N	1,520	1,520
R <sup>2</sup>	0.171	
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.168	

\* p < .1; \*\* p < .05; \*\*\* p < .01

Table A6: Multilevel model of integration attitudes

Variable	OLS	Country-level factors	Full Model
Ethnic identity	0.123*** (0.031)	0.127*** (0.032)	-0.043 (0.081)
Age	0.004 (0.003)	0.007*** (0.003)	0.007*** (0.003)
<b>Citizenship</b>			
No Citizenship			
Citizenship	-0.018* (0.009)	-0.015 (0.010)	-0.016* (0.010)
<b>Parents' skills</b>			
Skilled			
Unskilled	0.028*** (0.009)	0.028*** (0.010)	0.027*** (0.010)
<b>Years in Country</b>			
5-10 years			
5 or less	-0.024* (0.012)	-0.016 (0.012)	-0.017 (0.012)
11-15 years	-0.010 (0.011)	0.001 (0.011)	0.001 (0.011)
More than 15	-0.001 (0.014)	0.021 (0.015)	0.025* (0.015)
<b>Policies</b>			
Multiculturalism		0.002 (0.008)	-0.003 (0.008)
Cship policies		0.002 (0.011)	0.0002 (0.011)
<b>Cross level interactions</b>			
Ethnic ID X MC policies			0.038** (0.019)
Ethnic ID X Cship policies			0.019 (0.024)
Constant	0.733*** (0.012)	0.716*** (0.040)	0.734*** (0.042)
N	1,523	1,523	1,523
R <sup>2</sup>	0.021		
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.017		

\*p &lt; .1; \*\*p &lt; .05; \*\*\*p &lt; .01

Table A7: Multilevel model of separation attitudes

Variable	OLS	Country-level factors	Full Model
Ethnic identity	0.308*** (0.038)	0.379*** (0.039)	0.236** (0.097)
Age	0.002 (0.003)	-0.002 (0.003)	-0.003 (0.003)
<b>Citizenship</b>			
No Citizenship			
Citizenship	-0.003 (0.011)	0.015 (0.012)	0.012 (0.012)
<b>Parents' skills</b>			
Skilled			
Unskilled	-0.048*** (0.011)	-0.032*** (0.012)	-0.033*** (0.012)
<b>Years in Country</b>			
5-10 years			
5 or less	0.071*** (0.015)	0.063*** (0.015)	0.063*** (0.015)
11-15 years	-0.014 (0.014)	-0.019 (0.014)	-0.017 (0.014)
More than 15	-0.022 (0.017)	-0.047*** (0.018)	-0.044** (0.018)
<b>Policies</b>			
Multiculturalism		-0.007 (0.008)	0.001 (0.008)
Cship policies		-0.011 (0.011)	-0.020* (0.011)
<b>Cross level interactions</b>			
Ethnic ID X MC policies			-0.064*** (0.023)
Ethnic ID X Cship policies			0.078*** (0.029)
Constant	0.384*** (0.014)	0.420*** (0.043)	0.435*** (0.043)
N	1,522	1,522	1,522
R <sup>2</sup>	0.085		
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.081		

\*p &lt; .1; \*\*p &lt; .05; \*\*\*p &lt; .01

Table A8: Multilevel model of assimilation attitudes

Variable	OLS	Country-level factors	Full Model
Ethnic identity	-0.168*** (0.032)	-0.220*** (0.033)	-0.143* (0.083)
Age	-0.004 (0.003)	-0.002 (0.003)	-0.003 (0.003)
<b>Citizenship</b>			
No Citizenship			
Citizenship	0.052*** (0.010)	0.038*** (0.010)	0.038*** (0.010)
<b>Parents' skills</b>			
Skilled			
Unskilled	-0.019** (0.009)	-0.011 (0.010)	-0.010 (0.010)
<b>Years in Country</b>			
5-10 years			
5 or less	0.005 (0.013)	-0.009 (0.013)	-0.009 (0.013)
11-15 years	-0.027** (0.012)	-0.018 (0.012)	-0.017 (0.012)
More than 15	-0.040*** (0.014)	-0.022 (0.015)	-0.024 (0.015)
<b>Policies</b>			
Multiculturalism		-0.004 (0.009)	0.003 (0.009)
Cship policies		0.004 (0.012)	0.002 (0.012)
<b>Cross level interactions</b>			
Ethnic ID X MC policies			-0.050*** (0.019)
Ethnic ID X Cship policies			0.013 (0.025)
Constant	0.292*** (0.012)	0.301*** (0.045)	0.292*** (0.046)
N	1,526	1,526	1,526
R <sup>2</sup>	0.046		
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.041		

\*p &lt; .1; \*\*p &lt; .05; \*\*\*p &lt; .01

Table A9: Multilevel model of perceived discrimination

Variable	OLS	Country-level factors	Full Model
Ethnic identity	0.021 (0.033)	-0.005 (0.034)	0.066 (0.085)
Age	0.001 (0.003)	0.004 (0.003)	0.004 (0.003)
<b>Citizenship</b>			
No Citizenship			
Citizenship	-0.005 (0.010)	-0.007 (0.010)	-0.007 (0.010)
<b>Parents' skills</b>			
Skilled			
Unskilled	-0.021** (0.010)	-0.023** (0.011)	-0.023** (0.011)
<b>Years in country</b>			
5-10 years			
5 or less	0.051*** (0.013)	0.048*** (0.013)	0.049*** (0.013)
11-15 years	-0.013 (0.012)	-0.002 (0.012)	-0.002 (0.012)
More than 15	-0.010 (0.015)	0.007 (0.015)	0.006 (0.016)
<b>Policies</b>			
Multiculturalism		0.0001 (0.007)	0.004 (0.007)
Cship policies		0.002 (0.010)	0.002 (0.010)
<b>Cross level interactions</b>			
Ethnic ID X MC policies			-0.028 (0.020)
Ethnic ID X Cship policies			-0.0001 (0.025)
Constant	0.263*** (0.012)	0.260*** (0.037)	0.252*** (0.038)
N	1,509	1,509	1,509
R <sup>2</sup>	0.026		
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.021		

\*p &lt; .1; \*\*p &lt; .05; \*\*\*p &lt; .01

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