

UNDERSTANDING “INTEGRATION”

The significance of evolving
European models at
national and local level

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Problems with “integration”

- Identity politics in Western European countries
- Contradiction: inclusion vs. exclusion
- Integration as “impossible” (nativism)
- The weight of national political traditions



Models of “integration”

- Axis 1 = National identity: political (France) vs. ethnic (Germany)
- Axis 2 = Rights: universal/individual (France) vs. group-based rights (UK, Netherlands)
- “Which model is the most efficient?”:
Multiculturalism (accommodation logics) vs.
Republicanism (assimilationist logics)

Definitional limits

- Misrecognizing group policies
- Policy rationales other than multiculturalism
- The risk of block-thinking (Charles Taylor)

Practical limits (quizz)

- In which country does the military Muslim chaplaincy organize every year the pilgrimage of Muslim soldiers to Mecca (*Hajj*)?
 - Netherlands
 - Britain
 - Canada
 - US
 - Sweden
 - France
 - Italy
 - Greece

Practical limits (answer)



Framing “integration”

- Production of equal members of societies
 - Society is integrated, not individuals (Durkheim)
 - Empowerment – “active” citizens
 - European integration and immigrant integration (postnational)
 - Local citizenship and pragmatism
- Roy Jenkins 1966: “not as a flattening process of assimilation but as equal opportunity, accompanied by cultural diversity, in an atmosphere of mutual tolerance”