New Integration Scheme
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Outline presentation New Integration Scheme

• Cabinet’s Outline Agreement
• 1\textsuperscript{st} step – Integration abroad
  • Examination Integration abroad
  • CEF levels
  • Knowledge of Dutch society
  • Consequences
• 2\textsuperscript{nd} step – Integration in the Netherlands
  • Examination Integration in the Netherlands
  • Enforcing the obligation to integrate – a mixture of incentives & disincentives
• Results
First some facts:

- Roughly 20% Dutch population non-Dutch origin
- Third generation still chooses a partner from their homeland
- Family re-unification or -forming main migration motive
- Integration issues
“Those wishing to live in our country on a long term basis must actively take part in society, master the Dutch language, and be aware of and live by Dutch values”

Integration Abroad Act (March 2006)
Integration Act (January 2007?)
FIRST step

- **Preparation** for integration into the Dutch society starts while people are still in their homeland
- **Demonstration** of skills: civic integration abroad examination
Examination Integration abroad

• Exam technique

• Content of the examination:
  - Dutch language exam
  - Knowledge of Dutch society exam
New Integration Scheme

CEF
Knowledge of Dutch society

• Broad subject range: incl. history, living and working, legislation/constitution and democracy, raising children and education....
Passing the examination is a requirement for obtaining a Authorisation for temporary stay (Mvv)
Second step:

Target group *(16 – 64 years old)*:
- All newcomers (who come to the Netherlands for a non-temporary purpose)
- All non-naturalised migrants settled migrants
- Spiritual councillors (supplementary programme)
Examination in the Netherlands

• Level: A2 (A1 in reading & writing for oldcomers) approximately 600 learning hours
• Three parts:
  • Language test by phone
  • Functional language in common practical situations
  • Knowledge of Dutch society
Enforcing the obligation to integrate – a mixture of incentives & disincentives

- **People**
  - have 3 ½ or 5 years to pass the exam, otherwise they risk facing civil penalties
  - are free to use the available lending facility
  - are also entitled to a capped compensation for incurred costs (if they pass within 3 years)

- Passing the exam is required in order to apply for a residence permit for continued stay & a permanent residence permit
Results

- As from March 15 immigrants are taking the examination
- New Integration Act will enter into force on the first of January 2007