

# Cultural identity and integration



## Identity

Refers to different aspects of the personality that are seen as genuine and pure by the person itself and that corresponds with persons own reality. This means that personality is grounded on several dimensions of identity e.g. ethnic background, sexual identity, gender, interests etc.

### Speaking of identity

there is a sociological as well as psychological dimension that deals with topics like collective identity, identity crisis and the identity loss

### Identity crisis

the current state of the doubts respectively the loss of the knowledge about the own personal means

### Identity loss

losing the inner unity and the connection of the person

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Numerous empirical studies show

that Turkish and other migrant teenagers seem to extract only little development out of their lives of their intercultural environments in the FRG

- And therefore suffer increases e.g. from psychological disturbances
- These teenagers can show bad performances in the education system
- Possible consequences are less chances at the integration into the society, at professional trainings and therefore on the labour market

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„Go back to where you came from!“ – “What shall I do in Dortmund?”

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different studies that refer to the life experience of teenagers with migration background and their psychosocial situation show that

- teenagers with migration background can take many impulses by their migration experience for their personal development and
- are able through this to build up a stable personality

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**This would mean that with migration**

- Living in a different cultural environment as well as life in the multi-cultural context do not only contain risks
- it can also lead to an additional positive development and to the stabilization of the personality
- as well as additional social competences

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**The EU states have different concepts**

**for example**

Republicanism (France)

Multiculturalism (Netherlands – till 2004)

Indirect assimilation (Federal Republic of Germany)

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## Results of the concepts

Formal equalisation and negation of the -cultural- differences

Unconditional acceptance of -cultural- peculiarities without check of their compability with the values and norms of the -majority- society

Formal liberty for the -cultural- differences without respect and aid of the same

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## Cultural Diversity means

- Everyday culture
- Language
- Religion
- Customs and traditions
- Multidimensional aspect of identity

All cultures enjoy equal rights

Cultural Diversity is formally linked to the human rights



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## **Cultural Diversity is reality**

Cultural Diversity is a benefit for each society and a human right

## **Promoting cultural Diversity**

leads to more integration, participation and equal opportunities

increases the chances of the individuals and the economy in a globalised world

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## **Demands EU:**

- Promotion cultural diversity as an EU value
- Implementation of programmes that promote cultural diversity
- Promotion of intense intercultural exchange
- Check out EU norms towards the respect and recognition of cultural diversity