



Leonardo Partnership - 2009-1-DE2-LEO04-01694 1

“IBP – The immigrant’s business plan“

Participation in a meeting in Paris from the 13th till 15th of May 2010 at ITG Conseil

Learning diary – Kerstin Weertz, EU WAREHOUSE

From the 13th till 15th of May 2010 I had the possibility to attend a meeting in the framework of the Grundtvig learning partnership “Educational Landscapes” which took place in Paris and was hosted by our French partner ITG Conseil.

The main topics of the meeting were “different aspect of milieus (e.g. age, vocational status, gender) as well as strategies to restore motivation / develop learners interests. Further details of this project you can find on their website <http://www.education-landscapes.eu/index.htm>.

On the second day a visit to “La Vilette” was foreseen, an educational place in Paris dedicated to learning with regards to culture and science, coping with the integration policy of migrants from the “banlieue”.

Especially the aspects of milieus I found very interesting and important for our IBP – discussion, especially what kind of impact “milieu” has in the coaching process on the coach and / or the migrant receiving coaching.

In our first IBP - meeting we had – among other - addressed the ‘ethnic economies’ in the participating countries of the project.

For Belgium I would like to give you various quotes from a recent survey “[How tolerant are Belgians towards ethnic minorities?](#) from March 2009, which has been executed by Ipsos through the agency of Centre for Equal Opportunities and Opposition to Racism. The Centre for Equal Opportunities and Opposition to Racism wanted to conduct a study to measure the degree of tolerance of the Belgian population - that is to say, tolerance **specifically towards ethnicity**.

The survey is available in [NL](#), [FR](#) and [EN](#) – and apart from the aspects we are looking at in our project, it is a very read. You will also find the three versions on our website as well as a report on migration (only in NL and FR).

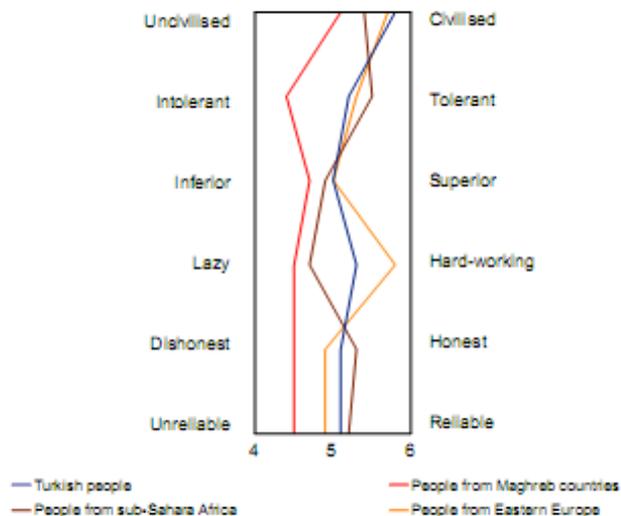
The ‘[Centre for Equal Opportunities and Opposition to Racism](#)’ is a public institution that aims to promote equal opportunities and that fights any type of exclusion, restriction or preferential treatment based on legally stipulated criteria. The Centre also oversees the respect of the fundamental rights of foreign nationals and observes the nature and scope of migration flows. Furthermore the Centre stimulates the fight against human trafficking. It is based in Brussels.

Relevant quotes from the Survey: “How tolerant are Belgians towards ethnic minorities?”:

Prejudice towards ethnic minorities (quoted from the survey, see pages 82ff.)

Negative attitudes towards ethnic minorities target those ethnic minorities which are seen to be minorities with characteristics and customs that are undesirable.

By means of a semantic differential we asked respondents to tribute specific characteristics to Turks, Maghreb people, sub-Sahara Africans and East Europeans. The object of these questions is to know which stereotypes and which prejudices are directly attributed to these groups.



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The table above shows that the characteristics that Belgians attribute to Turks, Maghreb people, sub-Sahara Africans and East Europeans differ little, although Maghreb people are systematically considered as being more vulgar, more inferior, more lazy, more dishonest and more unreliable compared with the other groups. The characteristics for which the ethnic minorities get the best scores are: civilization (Turks 5.8; East Europeans 5.7; Africans 5.4; Maghreb people 5.1) and perseverance at work; although this characteristic was attributed to a lesser degree to sub-Sahara Africans (4.7) and to Maghreb people (4.5). East Europeans are considered to be the hardest workers (5.8).

We note that Belgians **do not attribute very positive characteristics to minority ethnic groups**. The average scores are around 5.0, which indicates they do not have a

very strong opinion: ethnic minorities are considered to be neither well civilised, nor uncivilised, nor tolerant, nor intolerant etc.

The Turks are definitely considered to be more lazy by workers (5.0 versus 5.3), Flemish (5.0) and less qualified people (5.0). Maghreb people are also considered to be lazier by workers (4.5 versus 4.3) and Flemish (4.3 versus 4.5). Sub-Sahara Africans are seen as being more lazy by the over 55's (4.5 versus 4.7) and less qualified people (4.5). It is the Flemish (5.3 versus 5.8) that considers East Europeans to be less good workers. As far as the other characteristics are concerned, we see the same trends.