

# Multicultural Housing

Graduation Report

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# Colofon

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## 1.1 Studio topic & focus

### The migrant crisis as a societal issue

Migration is an ongoing process which brings with it various social challenges both on the short- and long term, of which the latter can be seen from my own background. My grandparents came in the 1970s to The Netherlands, followed by my parents and other family members a few years later. The reason for the arrival was the good work supply due to the increasing prosperity and industrialization, which led to a labor shortage and required cheap labor. European countries including the Netherlands and Germany decided to recruit temporary and cheap workers from the east, including Turkey.<sup>1</sup> In a short period of time, many migrant neighborhoods were built to accommodate the large number of migrants. Most of the migrants intended to retreat to their homeland after emigration. However, due to the continued delay in returning to Turkey, many have called off the return. This changed the shape of the built environment by adapting it to the cultural needs of their home countries.<sup>2</sup> However, to date little has been documented about the impact of migration on the built environment and housing. This while it is still an ongoing topic due to the rising number of migrants, which for example has doubled in the last 20 years.<sup>3</sup>



Figure 1 – Migration as a societal issue (source: tbd)

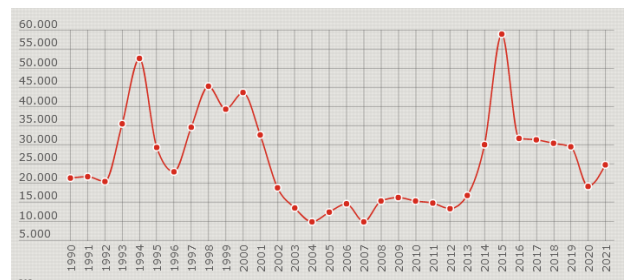
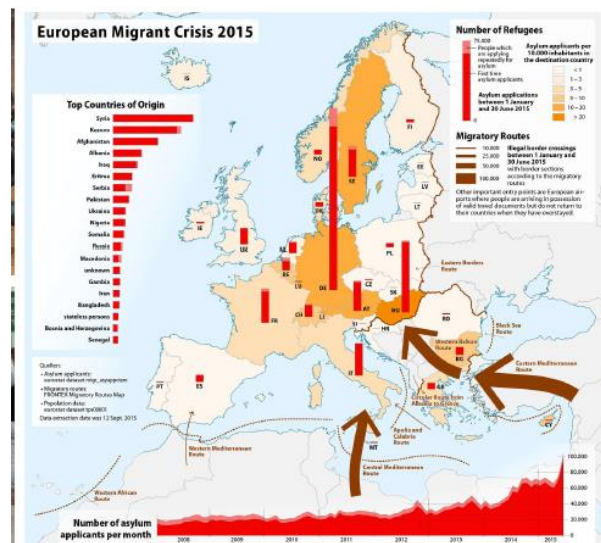


Figure 2 – Migration waves (source: Vluchtelingenwerk)

Figure 3 – Migration flows (source: tbd)



### The Housing Crisis

The case with the housing crisis is that there is not only a lack of housing, but most annual new residents for the housing in The Netherlands are migrants. These are both short- and long stays and can be both political and economic in nature. The short stays come temporarily and mostly leave within a few years. These include international students, expats and labor migrants. Most of them return to their country of birth within a few years, for instance after completing their studies or after finding a new job. However, asylum seekers and refugees in particular settle in the long term. The influx of these different types of migrants has been steadily increasing for several years. Last year alone, the migration balance (migration minus emigration) increased by approximately 110,000. In comparison, this is considerably larger than the increase in the annual natural increase in the Dutch

population (7,700).<sup>4</sup> However, the current housing market is not prepared for these numbers, with the annual influx of migrants outweighing the annual increase in housing (70,000 by 2021).<sup>5</sup>

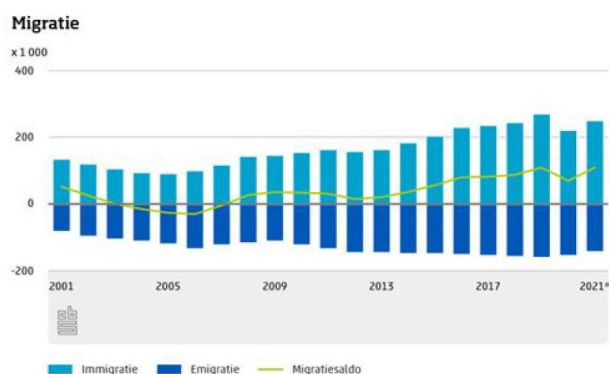


Figure 4 – Migration saldo (source: CBS)

In view of the current and past migrant crises, especially due to the long-term refugees, integration is again an important topic within the built environment and Dutch society. Currently this can be seen with the Russian-Ukrainian war, where there is a chance that many refugees will stay. It is uncertain how long the war will continue, and the ruined cities will return to their old levels. At the time of writing, more than 30,000 Ukrainian refugees have already been accommodated in the Netherlands out of the 3.3 million that have fled, which is growing by the day.<sup>6</sup> This follows not very long after the Syrian refugee crisis in 2015, in which 1.3 million Syrians had fled to Europe. Of these, over 100,000 had been received in the Netherlands over a period of ten years. As a result of the large influx of refugees, not only is the current housing market with shortage of housing under even more pressure, but the refugees also need to be integrated into society, which has also been seen in previous refugee crises. This happened, for example, with the Bosnians during the Balkan War where Holland received 25,000 people and most stayed while they first had the intent to stay temporarily.<sup>7</sup> The problem it arises is that such large groups of migrants over time bring nuisance and discord, as was seen with the Belgians during World War I, who started to complain about their accommodation and care.<sup>8</sup>



Figure 5

## Urban Densification

The migrant crisis is also affecting the composition of today's cities, with urbanization playing a major role particularly in the major cities. The push for about 1 million new homes in the next 10-15 years corresponds to the massive urban expansions of the last century, including the post-war cauliflower and Vinex districts. The increase in population growth and changes in the life pattern of the population through migration results in the expansion of these densely populated areas. Migrants (and starters) settle especially in the big cities and are also economically important there because there is enough work to be found. At the same time, however, there is the problem that this causes many migrants to live in concentrated communities with the consequences that this entails, including a segregated environment due to language barriers and social separations between residents.

## 1.2 Problem statement

What follows is that not only migrants represent most of the growing population in The Netherlands, but they also need to be housed and integrated into the existing neighborhoods. The existing neighborhoods are however currently not set up for this, causing a problem for the living environment, such as segregation between groups, individualism and nuisance.

this not only creates a problem for the current residents, but the migrants themselves also do not feel at home and integrate because the housing and neighbourhoods are not designed for these target groups

## 1.3 Goal and research question

To solve the current and future problems of migrant integration with the housing crisis and urban densification, the following goal has been set: The aim of the research is to find tools to densify the post-war neighborhood, using Groot-IJsselmonde as a case study, in an inclusive way, to stimulate the social and functional integration of long-term migrants and to give them a sense of belonging. In doing so, the following research question has been formulated with the subsequent four sub-questions:

How can the post-war neighborhood be densified in an inclusive way (3), so that the social and functional integration (2) of long-term migrants (1) is promoted and it can give them an (enhanced) sense of belonging (4).

1. Who are the migrants in the Netherlands and how is their housing in post-war neighborhood handled now?
2. What are the spatial and functional architectural and urban design ingredients that can promote social and functional integration of immigrants?

3. How to create an architectural and densified urban environment that engages both migrants and local residents?
4. What are the spatial and functional architectural and urban design ingredients related to the home and the neighbourhood, which can enhance the sense of belonging for migrants?

## 1.4 Literature Review & Theoretical Framework

The literature review examines what has already been written on the sub-question topics, establishing a theoretical framework for my position therein and the gap in research.

### Subquestion 1

This question finds out who the migrants are and how their situation is currently taking place in the post-war neighborhood, to gain an understanding of the different backgrounds of migrants and how they currently perceive their living situation. As mentioned in the introduction, there are different types of migrants. This research will delineate in the long-term migrants, who will integrate into the neighborhoods. Several literatures can be found in the field of migration on a sociological level that depict the statistics and their position in society. In addition, sources can be found on how migrants experience moving to another country.<sup>9 / 4</sup> However, very little is known about the influence of migration on the residential environment, in particular post-war neighborhoods, and how their housing is handled in it. Sources that do describe this focus primarily on Turkish guest workers but leave out other cultures. Literatures of projects designed to be more responsive to the needs of Turkish migrants are for example the Punt en Komma by Nelson Mota and Kreuzberg Berlin by Esra Akcan. However, it may be interesting to see if there are differences or similarities with other cultures. To do this, literatures written on the subject can be reviewed for what has already been

researched and how they can then be applied to post-war neighborhoods.

### **Subquestions 2 and 3**

Subquestion 2 explores the spatial and functional architectural and urban design ingredients that can promote both the social and functional integration of migrants. In addition, sub question 3 investigates how to realize an architectural and densified urban environment that encourages mutual integration, so that migrants and non-migrants can adapt to each other and live together. This will ensure that current residents are not neglected. There are several regulations and literatures that write about the integration of migrants into society, but this is hardly applied to the built environment. Here it is important to consider what integration means. Different sources categorize integration into different aspects. Integration can be divided into social and functional, where the latter stimulates the use of various facilities and their accessibility. Integration primarily involves measures such as language, education, labour market and social counselling of migrants.<sup>10</sup> Here, however, there is a gap in how these facilities can be implemented in the built environment in a way that both migrants and non-migrants can use them.

Thereby integration is also socially important for promoting social contacts to participate with Dutch residents. In practice, this is already being experimented with, for example, mixed housing projects. Mixed housing projects are projects in which different groups of people deliberately live together, maintain contact and undertake joint activities. These projects are often developed not only to meet the need for housing for these groups, but also to promote social goals, including participation and integration of status holders. This includes aspects such as stimulating social contacts, language development, building a social network and increasing the social acceptance of status holders.<sup>11</sup> However, there are questions about whether these projects work well, particularly because they are temporary in nature and not specifically designed to engage with ordinary

citizens. For this, there are literatures on designing for promoting social interaction, but these have not been applied in the actual design. For example, Edward Steinfield describes that there are aspects that promote social interaction such as spatial proximity, which can be divided into physical and functional.<sup>12</sup> In addition, Jen Jack Gieseeking describes how people engage the environment in multiple and diverse ways such as the intimacy of one's environment and how this influences their comfort zone.<sup>13</sup>

### **Subquestion 4**

This question identifies what the spatial and functional architectural and urban design ingredients are related to the house and neighborhood to promote a sense of home for migrants. Literatures on the housing needs of immigrants have been written, but these are mainly limited to a limited selection of cultures. For this purpose, the literature of Matthieu is cited, in which he claims that in the case of the residential environment and home can be distinguished into three different meanings, namely the functional, social and expressive meanings. In the functional aspect with respect to the dwelling, each household has several requirements with respect to the functionality of the dwelling. For example, it must have a minimum certain size, be equipped with bathroom and toilet. The size of the dwelling is also relevant because it is often used as a space to accommodate guests. The degree of size and how the home is used on this can then differ by culture, in which, for example, the Turkish culture often uses the entrance as, among other things, a meeting place. Functional requirements about the living environment concern the presence of facilities, proximity to work and the absence of nuisance. The social aspect asks to what extent the neighborhood still functions as a community and people have contact with each other. In addition to the neighborhood, the home also has a social significance as a meeting place. In the house, not only do the residents have contact with each other, but also with the outside world from the garden or

the window of the house. Finally, the expressive aspect can contribute to the feeling of being at home because the residents often use it as a means of communication to express their own identity.<sup>14</sup>

## 1.5 Methodology

*The research will consist of a group and individual part, with the group product looking at the characteristics of the post-war neighborhood of Groot-Ijsselmonde. This will ultimately provide input into the context in which the multicultural neighborhood will be designed. To answer the sub-questions for this purpose, appropriate methods have been identified below.*

### Subquestion 1

This research question will be answered by desk and field research. First, there will be a literature review of the different backgrounds of migrants (types, cultures, compositions) with an emphasis on long-term migrants to understand the targeted audience for this. Then, historical and literature research will be conducted to learn from past and current migrant events on how they experienced

Subquestion	What are the spatial and functional architectural and urban design ingredients that can promote social and functional integration of immigrants?
Methods and Measurability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Literature review (spatial and functional architectural and urban design ingredients for social and functional integration)</li> <li>- Case study analysis (mixed housing projects on functional architectural and urban design ingredients)</li> </ul>
Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Matthieu Permentier &amp; Gideon Bolt</li> <li>- Jen Jack Giesecking &amp; William Mangold (People, place, space)</li> <li>- Edward Steinfeld (Inclusive Design) (Interventies voor integratie)</li> </ul>

integrating into another country. This will provide insight and guidance into what mistakes were made in the past so that this can be considered for the future. In addition, interviews will be held with municipalities to gain insight into the housing regarding current migrants. Subsequently, interviews will be held with residents to gain insight into experiences with the neighborhood and migration. This will also be reinforced from my own background by interviewing my family. How did they experience moving to the Netherlands and integrate into Dutch society and neighborhoods? Are there aspects they have felt missing in terms of facilities and social integration?

Subquestion	Who are the migrants in the Netherlands and how is their housing in post-war neighborhood handled now?
Methods and Measurability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Literature review (different backgrounds migrants)</li> <li>- Historical research (past integration of migrants)</li> <li>- Interviews (residents Groot-Ijsselmonde, municipalities such as Rotterdam in terms of current housing for migrants)</li> <li>- Auto-ethnography (experience from own background including my family)</li> </ul>
Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Esra Akcan</li> <li>- Nelson Mota</li> </ul>

### Subquestion 2

This research question will be answered by desk and field research. First, a literature review is conducted on the spatial and functional architectural and urban planning ingredients that can promote the social and functional integration of migrants. It also looks at how social and functional integration have been achieved in current projects and what we can take from them so as to come up with a plan in the design to encourage integration.

### Subquestion 3

This research question will be answered by desk and field research. First, a literature review will be conducted into which facilities and facilities ensure the engagement between migrants and local residents. Subsequently, case studies will be examined of mixed housing projects showing ways of mutual interaction.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Interviews (residents migrants, own family)</li><li>- Case studies (multicultural housing)</li></ul>
Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- F &amp; Gideon Bolt</li><li>- Jen Jack Giesecking &amp; William Mangold</li><li>- Edward Steinfeld</li></ul>

Subquestion	How to create an architectural and densified urban environment that engages both migrants and local residents?
Methods and Measurability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Literature review (facilities and amenities for architectural and urban engagement)</li><li>- Case studies (mixed housing projects on architectural and urban engagement)</li></ul>
Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Jen Jack Giesecking &amp; William Mangold (People, place, space)</li><li>- Edward Steinfeld (Inclusive Design)</li></ul>

### Subquestion 4

This research question will be answered by desk and field research. To investigate the spatial and functional architectural and urban design ingredients related to the residential and neighborhood environment, literature review will be conducted describing these ingredients.

Subquestion	What are the spatial and functional architectural and urban design ingredients related to the home and the neighbourhood, which can enhance the sense of belonging for migrants?
Methods and Measurability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Literature review (spatial and functional architectural and urban design ingredients)</li></ul>

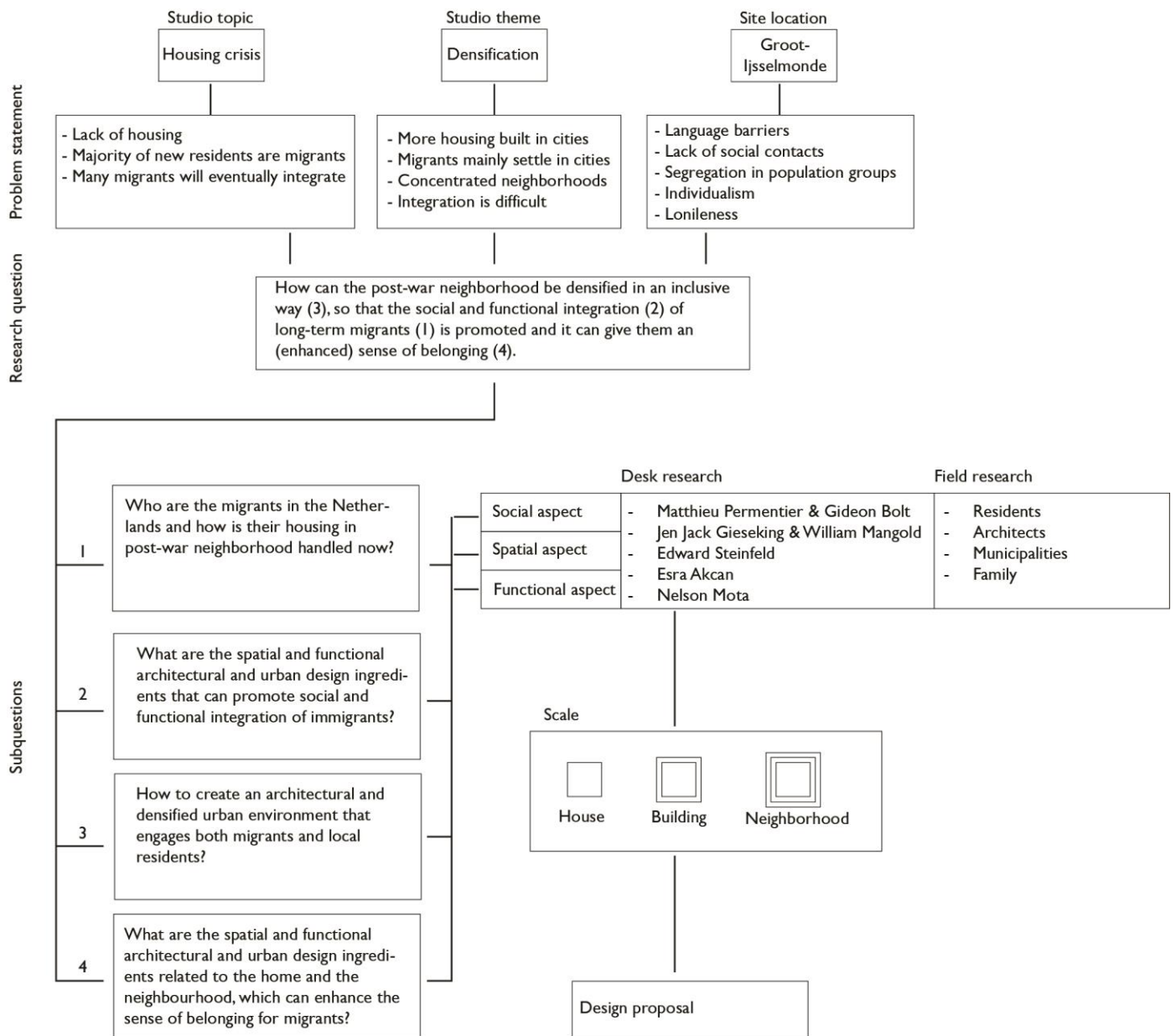






Figure 6 - Location Tuinenhoven in Groot-IJsselmonde (by author)



**FUNCTION**



**HEIGHT**



**TYPE**

**BUILDING TYPES**

- rowhouse
- apartment block
- flat
- semi-detached
- detached
- bungalow
- church
- school
- sportshall

**BUILDING HEIGHTS**

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10(+)

**BUILDING FUNCTIONS**

- residential
- residential/shops
- residential/business
- shops and amenities
- sports/leisure
- (aged)care
- churches
- schools
- business
- industrial



**URBAN GREEN**



**PUBLIC GREEN**



**URBAN STRUCTURE**

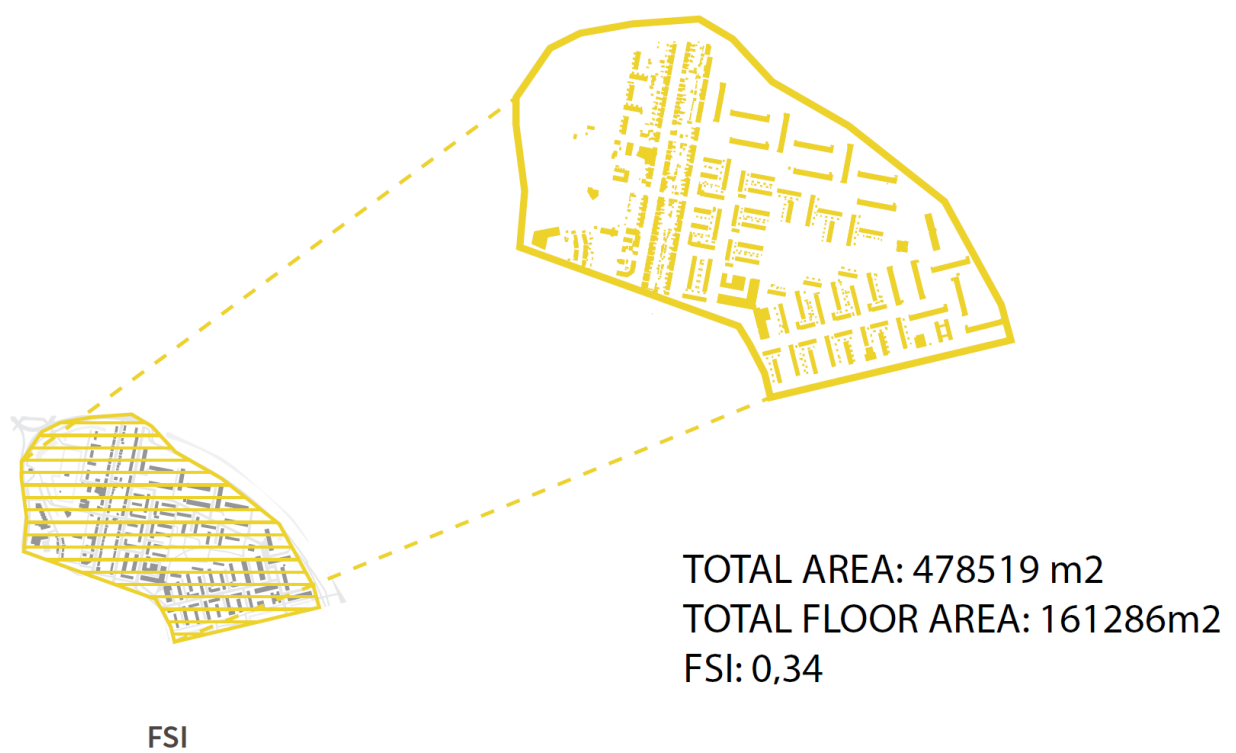


Figure 7 - FSI (by author)

### 3. Part One: The Migrants (& Non- Migrants)

Subquestion 1: Who are the migrants in the Netherlands and how is their housing in post-war neighborhood handled now?

	Migrant type	Migration to reason	Composition	Background	Housing settlement
20%	Regular labor migrant	Labour (mostly temporary)	Mainly single (80%) Men (64%) Women (36%) 60% low-income	Mainly Polish, followed by Romanian and Bulgarian	Initially shared place, later moving to independent place
	Guestworker	Labour (initially temporary, later permanent)	Mainly single, later reunifications	Mainly Turkish and Moroccan	Initially shared place, later moving to independent place
	Expat	Labour (temporary, max. 3 years)	Mainly single	International	Individual, large place
	Knowledge migrant	Labour (temporary, (max 4/5 year)	Mainly single	International	Individual, large place
21%	Refugee / asylum seeker / statusholder	Asylum residence permit	Both single and families  Mainly men Exception: Ukrainian	Mainly Syrian and Ukrainian, followed by Afghan, Yemen and Eritrea	Initially institutional, later moving to independent place
17%	International student	Study	Mainly single	West-EU East-EU Other	Individual, small place
42%	Returnees	Family reunification or formation	Family	All	Large place for families

Figure 8 - First generation migrant types in The Netherlands (by author, sources in Bibliography)

### 3.1 Migrant types in The Netherlands

In order to get a picture of who the migrants are who are coming to the Netherlands, for whom the vast majority of housing needs to be realized, the background and typology of this target group is examined. On the previous page is an overview of the different migrants and their terminologies. Here, the migrants are divided into four main categories based on CBS' table on permit application by reason. It is important to identify the types of migrants who are currently in the Netherlands and who are still new to it in order to eventually have a picture of their differences, needs and motivations in society. Literature review shows that migration is often cataloged based on their motives for applying to the Netherlands, such as asylum, employment or family reunification. The summary of definitions and differences of the various types is included with the Definitions section at the end of the report as well as other terminologies often used in terms of migration. Migrants are also often clustered according to their origin in order to more easily distinguish between labor migrants, who are often from the EU, and other types of migrants, for example, asylum seekers from outside the EU. However, this delineation is not always accurate as asylum seekers today also come from the EU, for example, as recently the Ukrainians. The figure therefore shows the migrant types that have been and are coming to the Netherlands, which are divided into subtypes to distinguish between different backgrounds. It is then important to consider who integration applies to among these immigrants and how they differ from one another.

Who integration applies to can be traced initially by looking at how long and which migrants stay or leave again within a certain period of time. When looking at the proportion of migrants who left within a few years, it appears that refugees stay the longest, followed by migrants who come for family reunification and formation. Labor migrants come relatively often for the short term, although these statistics may be outdated. In particular, asylum migrants and migrants for family formation or reunification leave the Netherlands the least,

meaning these three groups are the most likely to integrate into society. The percentage of labor migrants leaves the most within 10 years.

In addition, previous refugee crises have shown that refugees often stay for the long term despite the intention to go back after war, such as the Belgians and Bosnians.

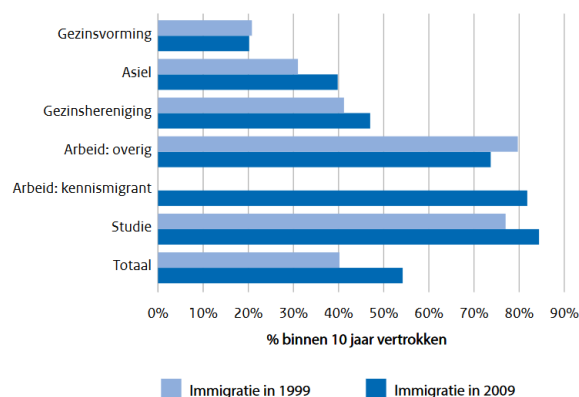


Figure 9 - Migrants from outside the EU who leave The Netherlands (source: CBS)

#### Asylum migrants

To first clearly distinguish what types of migrants there are and how they differ from one another, it is important to identify the definitions. Asylum migrants can be divided into refugees, asylum seekers and status holders.

**Refugee:** Definition according to the United Nations Refugee Convention: A refugee is someone who is on the run and 'has a well-founded fear in their home country of persecution on the basis of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a particular ethnic or social group, and who does not receive protection in their own country.'

**Asylum seeker:** Not every asylum seeker in the Netherlands is a refugee. An asylum seeker is someone who asks another country for protection by submitting a request for asylum. The country where asylum is requested then investigates whether the asylum seeker falls under the United Nations Refugee Convention and therefore needs protection. This investigation occurs in the asylum procedure. So a person is first a refugee when

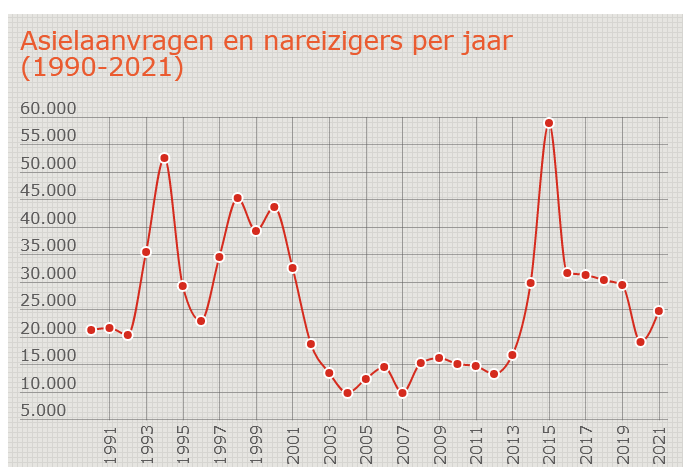
fleeing and then an asylum seeker when seeking asylum in the country of arrival.<sup>15</sup>

Refugees can also be divided into political- and economic refugees. Economic refugees flee not for political reasons (such as war, violence, etc.) but to find a better standard of living. In practice, however, it is difficult to distinguish between the two because they are often closely related in the flight motive. The economic need or desire to flee, such as because of lack of work, income and education, often stems from political circumstances.<sup>16</sup>

**Status holder:** refugee with a residence permit

## Background and composition

Asylum applications from last year were mainly from Asian countries Syria, Afghanistan and Turkey. These three make up of 56% of the refugees last year.<sup>17</sup> Among asylum migrants, the age group up to 15 is common, indicating that asylum migrants often come to the Netherlands as families with children. Generally, refugees are made up of men.<sup>18</sup> This is because the men with families leave their wives and children behind so as not to endanger them during the journey, which often consist of boats in poor conditions. In addition, it is expensive to pay for an entire family to the human trafficker and the refugee camps often consist of poor conditions. From Europe, the men then try to bring their wives and/or children over. An exception are refugees where the men have to fight along during the war, such as in Ukraine. There, the men stay behind and only the women with children flee.<sup>19</sup>



Asylum migrants often consist of families. Right after arrival in the Netherlands, this group often lives institutionally, which is usually an asylum seekers' center. Many licensed asylum migrants later move on to housing from the asylum seekers' center. Migrants from other immigration groups often share housing after coming to the Netherlands and then later move on to independent housing.

## Living situation and housing preferences

A status holder who is assigned housing usually lives in social housing. Single refugees are usually accommodated in social housing in the form of studios or shared housing projects, such as Startblok Riekerhaven or Stek Noord. Refugees consisting of families are usually accommodated in social rental housing in the form of single-family homes.

Each municipality must house refugees, with the Ministry of Interior determining how many refugees each municipality must accommodate. This depends on the number of inhabitants in a municipality. The municipality informs the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA) which houses are available in the municipality, with COA then searching for and nominating refugees for whom these houses are suitable. COA does not take personal wishes into account, but it does consider the following factors: work, studies, first-degree relatives and medical conditions. The refugee must prove this through, for example, an employment contract, a doctor's statement or enrollment in a study. Based on these factors, a particular municipality is sought to provide housing.<sup>20</sup> Sometimes refugees need housing counseling because some are traumatized by war. Social organizations such as Refugee Council then offer support in this regard.

Asylum migrants are only allowed to work after a number of years, which means they are out of work until then. This does not apply to Ukrainian refugees because they are within the EU.

## Labour migrants

Spanish and Italian workers came here to work in textiles as early as the late 1950s. Later, Turkish and Moroccan personnel also reported at the gates of the weaving and sewing workshops. The demand for labor was high and the textile companies were able to keep running thanks to 'outside help'.<sup>21</sup>

**Labor migrant:** someone who migrates to find work or better paid work

**Guest worker:** employee from abroad

**Expat:** Someone who works for an international organization and settles in another country for an extended period. This can be someone from either within or outside the EU. For example, large companies such as Shell, ASML and Tata Steel regularly send their employees to work in a foreign office for a longer period of time in order to acquire certain knowledge and skills for a (difficult) project.<sup>22</sup>

**Knowledge migrant:** a highly educated immigrant. For example, a (guest) teacher, a (scientific) researcher or a doctor in training.<sup>23</sup> The difference with the expat is that the highly skilled migrant will be working for a completely new employer. In order to work as a highly skilled migrant, the company must first be recognized by the IND as a sponsor (a person or organization that has an interest in the stay of a person from abroad in the Netherlands). If they are not yet, this procedure can take 1 to 3 months.

## Background and composition

Nowadays, labor migrants consist mainly of Middle and Eastern Europe. Work is mainly in agriculture, followed by staffing industry and professional services.<sup>24</sup> The age peak among migrant workers is men and women between the ages of 25 and 30. These are mostly young adults who come to the Netherlands to work here and do not have children at that time.

## Living situation and housing preferences

Migrant workers' housing needs differ depending on their periods of stay:<sup>25</sup>

Migrant workers often come with the intention of staying for a short period of time. The stay is often extended, however. Workers should be encouraged in time to become more knowledgeable about the Dutch language and society. Moving into independent rental housing, having the family come over from the country of origin or entering into a permanent employment contract are key moments that indicate long-term residence. At these moments, employers and municipalities provide additional incentives for migrant workers to participate in integration programs. Research on the housing needs of migrant workers and employers reveals the following:<sup>26</sup>

- **Short-stays (50%):** labor migrants staying here for up to 12 months.

Housing type: Shared rooming houses with shared facilities (which can also be suitable for students)

- **Mid-stays (25%):** Migrant workers who stay here for 12 months or more but do not yet know whether they want to settle here permanently or who have already decided they want to settle here but have not yet found regular housing. They need more quality and privacy than short stay and also want to integrate into society.

Housing type: More privacy and personal freedom = single-person households

- **Long-stays (25%):** Migrant workers who settle here permanently. They have the need to integrate and participate in Dutch society and find their way to housing in village centers or neighborhoods through the regular housing market.

Housing type: Family houses

Labor migrants sometimes settle in poorly maintained housing and some landlords house migrant workers in properties where this is not officially allowed. Early this year, for example, this was in the news that the housing conditions of migrant workers would be in poor condition. Actively offered information, practical help and care would remedy this. These migrant workers are

mainly from Central and Eastern Europe. It has long been known that the uncertain and often miserable living and working conditions lead to stress among this target group.<sup>27</sup>

### 3.2 Migrants in Groot-IJsselmonde

In the location Groot-IJsselmonde in Rotterdam, which will be studied as an example for a post-war neighborhood, it emerged after several interviews with residents and visitors that migration has been a problem (see Appendix 1). Groot-IJsselmonde was largely built up of single-family social housing (51%) by housing cheap laborer's after the Second World War, including some migrants from Turkey and Morocco. Many of these residents who had aged moved away to the edges of the neighborhoods, with many migrants taking their place. At its peak there were more than a hundred different cultures.<sup>28</sup> This has created language barriers, causing residents to live alongside each other and have less social contact with each other, even though the neighborhoods were built with the aim of forming a community. The residents who have lived there the longest often only have occasional contact with neighbors they have known from the beginning. The constantly changing society within the neighborhood also results in residents having more difficulty building up their social contacts. This reinforces the already individualized society, whereby the current residents do not often go outside anymore, while the needs for more social contact are there. There are currently activities in the neighborhood, such as a neighborhood association, but residents often don't know they exist or they are located too far from their homes.

The large concentration of migrants in Groot-IJsselmonde gives rise to various problems, including individualization, loneliness, and lack of social contacts, which will worsen with the future densification of cities and the increasing pressure caused by the migration crisis if not acted upon. Here, the goal is to look at integration in long-term housing. After all, people who come from a war zone initially need peace and space to recover, where they are offered professional help as is now

the case in emergency shelters, but sometimes they are being housed by other Dutch residents. Here the expectation is that the refugees will not be able to return home soon. The intention is that they will move on from the emergency shelters to a long-term reception location.<sup>29</sup> In doing so, newcomers find it difficult to connect with the society they are entering and to expand their social network.

What follows from the site visits and introduction is that not only migrants represent most of the



Figuur 1 - (by author)

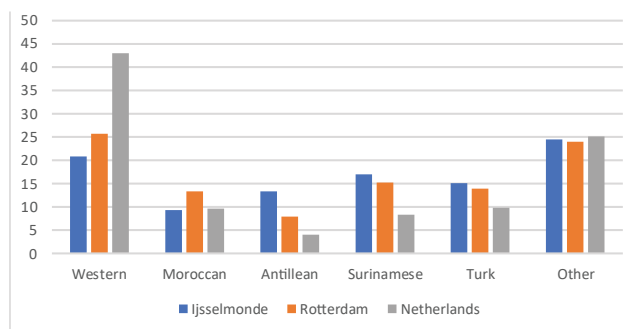
growing population in The Netherlands, but they also create a problem for the living environment of the current and future home if not acted upon. This creates a problem for current residents, but the migrants themselves also do not feel at home because the housing and neighborhoods are not designed for these target groups. According to Marja Elsinga this is partly due to the historical development in the housing market, which caused that the welfare of the population has been neglected. Market thinking became dominant, which means that social housing has moved from "investment in society" mainly to "source of income", and therefore the welfare of society is forgotten.<sup>30</sup>

According to Dick van Gameren, it is also important not only to build a lot of extra housing, but also to look at the needs of the current population.<sup>31</sup> Furthermore, the densification of cities has a negative impact on personal well-being. However, when the focus is placed on social encounters, this well-being is positively influenced.<sup>32</sup>

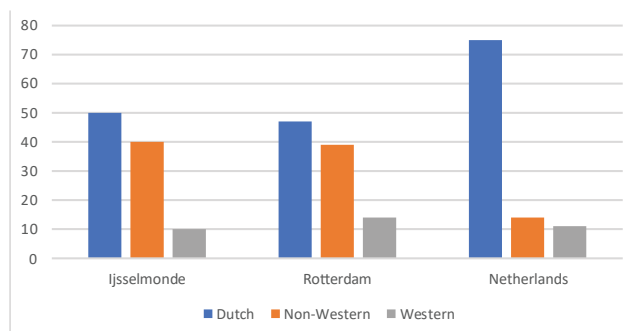
## The migrant & resident composition in Groot-IJsselmonde

Statistics frame migrant backgrounds by non-Western and Western migrants. Among non-western migrants, the four largest groups are Moroccans, Antilleans, Surinamese and Turks. Other non-Western migrants include migrants from Africa, Latin America and Asia (except Indonesia and Japan). Western migrants include the latter two countries and Europe, North America and Oceania. These migrants also consist of different compositions, with single-person migrants occupying the vast majority, followed by families with children and then starters. The Dutch / migrant ratio is similar between Groot-IJsselmonde and Rotterdam, which is approximately 50/50. Compared to The Netherlands this is quite high, where the latter has a ratio of 25% migrants and 75% Dutch.

The majority of the backgrounds of migrants in Groot-IJsselmonde are non-Western (79%), among of which the biggest groups here are Moroccan (9%), Antillean (13%), Surinamese (17%) and Turkish (15%). Other non-Western (25%) include Africa, Latin America and Asia. Groot-IJsselmonde has in ratio more Antillean, Surinamese and Turkish compared to Rotterdam and The Netherlands, but it has less Western migrants. These include migrants from Europe, North America, Oceania, Indonesia and Japan.



Figuur 3 - Migrants nationality in IJsselmonde, Rotterdam and The Netherlands (by author)



Figuur 2 - Migration ratio in IJsselmonde, Rotterdam and The Netherlands (source: by author, based on sources)

## Interviews

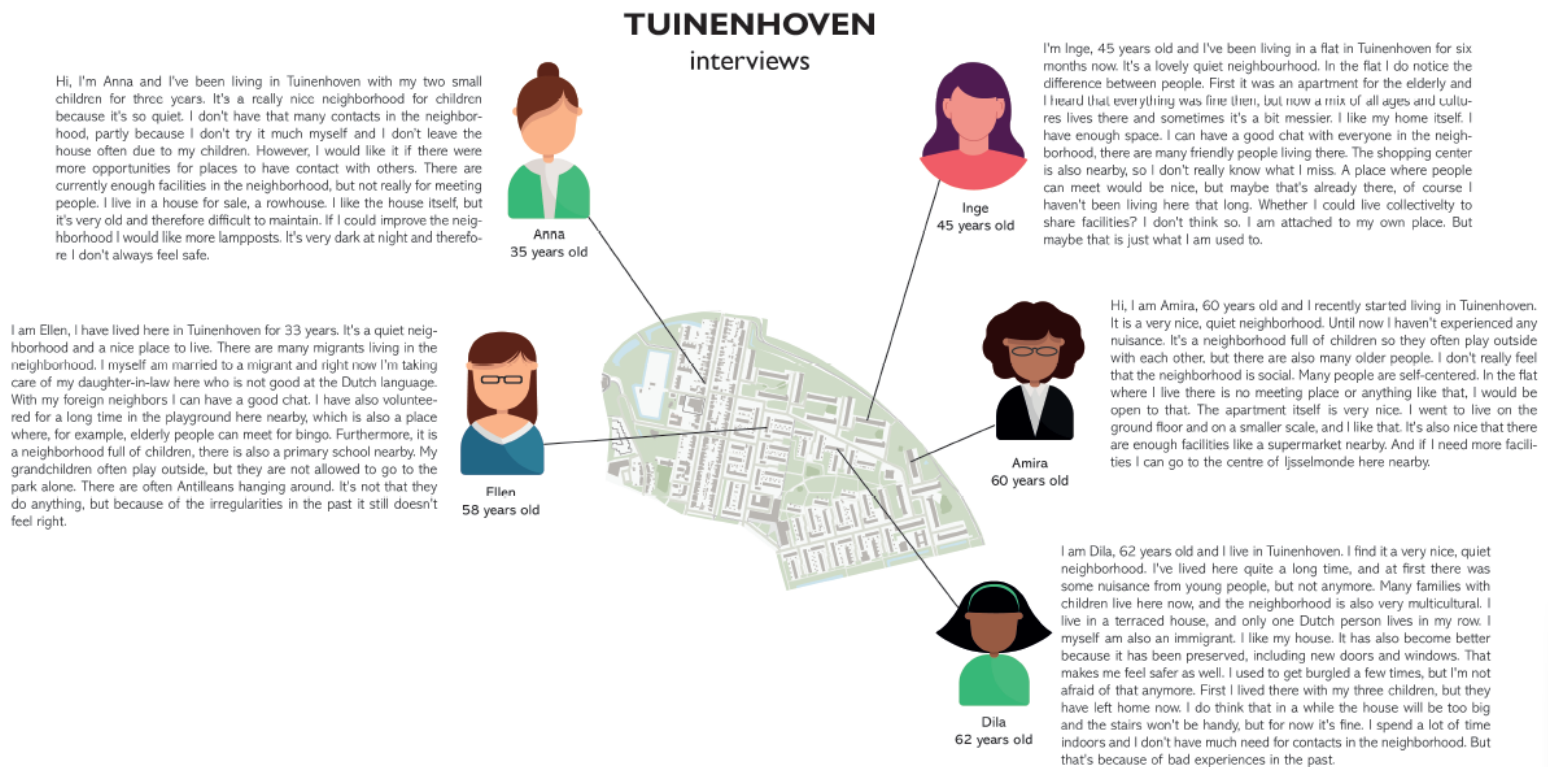


Figure 10 - Interviews Tuinenhoven (by author)

## REYEROORD interviews

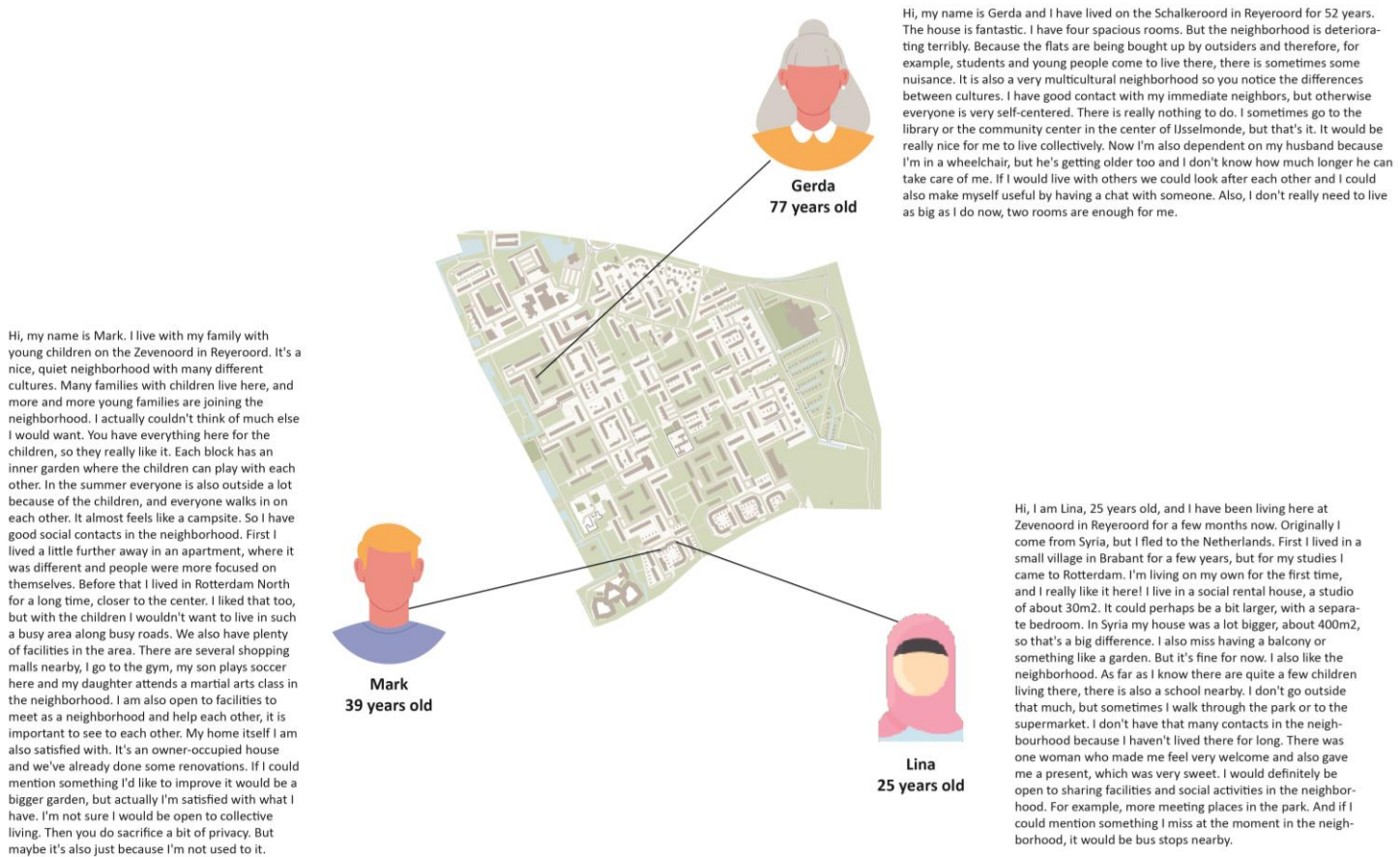


Figure 11 - Interviews Reyerwaard (by author)

### 3.3 Dutch migration and housing in History

#### Development of Multiculturality

This section discusses past multiculturalism in the Netherlands and Rotterdam with the aim of obtaining background information from a historical perspective of the influence of migration on Dutch society and neighborhoods. This may also be relevant to publicize the positive influence of migration for neighborhoods. Cultural society in the Netherlands looked very different in the past, with the Netherlands consisting mainly of Dutch people, and this has been changing more and more over the centuries. In the 17th century, many Huguenots from France and Jews from Portugal and Central and Eastern Europe fled to the Netherlands. Before WWI, many migrant workers came from our neighboring countries of Belgium and Germany. They had made an important contribution to Dutch prosperity by working in agriculture or building canals. After WWI, many migrants from China came to the Netherlands who then worked as seamen or stokers on coal ships. Around 1920, workers for heavy work in the mines came from Italy, Poland and Germany. Around 1940, many Jews fled to the Netherlands because of the war. Other important events, including recently the wars in Afghanistan, Syria and Ukraine as shown in the timeline below (see also appendix timeline) show that especially the supply of labor and fleeing wars cause migration to the Netherlands. Today there are as many as two hundred nationalities. This migration also brings a positive atmosphere to the Netherlands, including daily food which has become much more varied and with it restaurants and stores. One example is the Bazaar in Beverwijk which now serves as a major attraction spot.

#### Distribution of migrants in Rotterdam

The distribution and concentration of migrant groups can already be inferred from the end of the last century, with the strongest concentration of migrant households since then occurring in the Old and New West, Delfshaven and Feijenoord-Afrikaanderwijk. IJsselmonde had relatively fewer migrants compared to the Rotterdam average,

although the proportion of Surinamese and Antilleans have since been frequent in the suburbs including Groot-IJsselmonde. Moroccans had the highest concentration on the right bank of the Maas (north of the Maas), while Turks were on the left (south of the Maas).<sup>33</sup>

### 3.4 Conclusion

#### Housing settlement and preferences

In general, among immigrant groups, single-person households (singles) are more prevalent compared to couples (with or without) children. Therefore, the housing need is not so much for single-family houses, but rather for single-person households, such as apartments or rooming houses. However, many migrants later move on to another housing type through, for example, family reunification. The housing need thus partly depends on how migrant groups fare after arrival. This can then possibly be taken into account in advance.

# Timeline

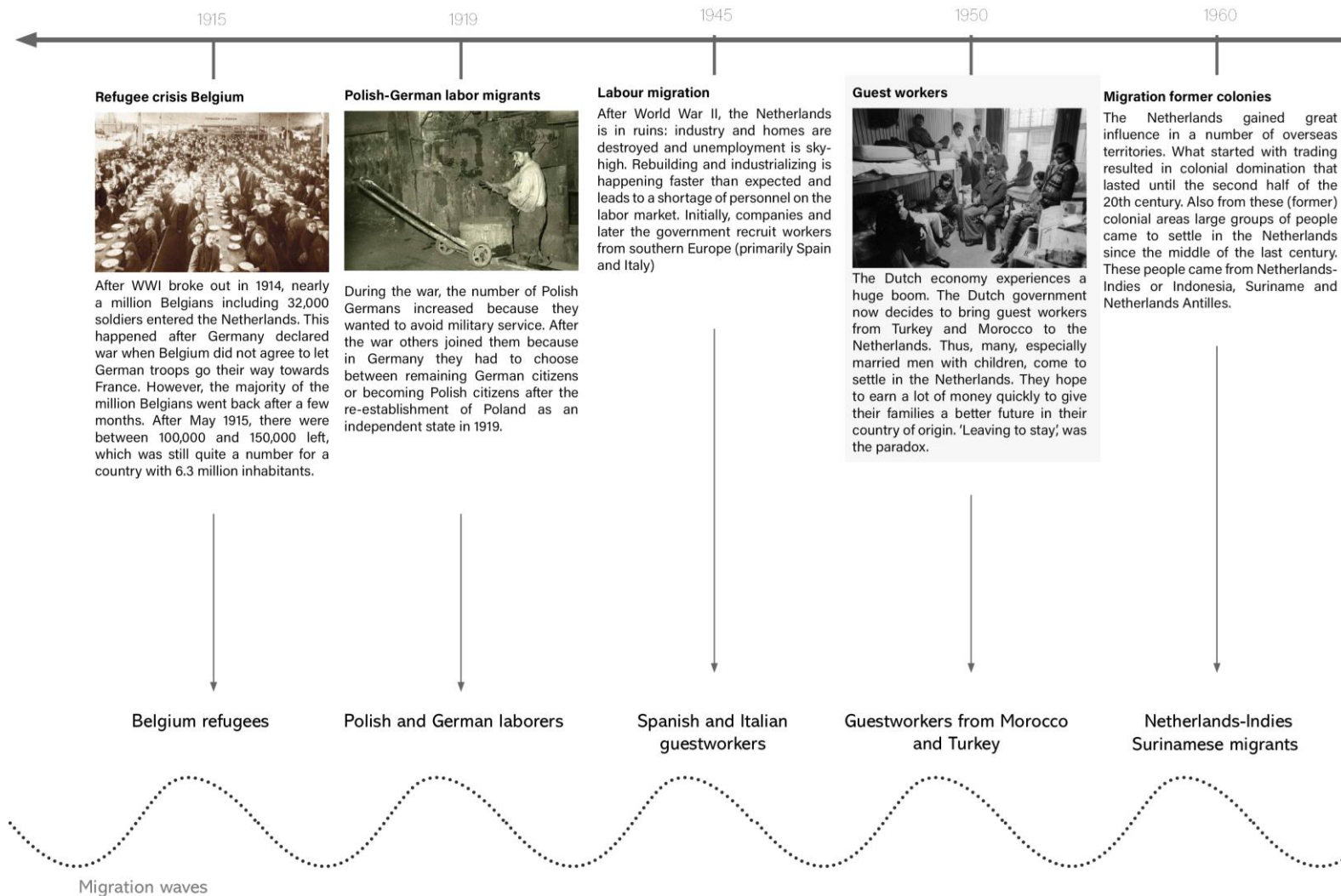
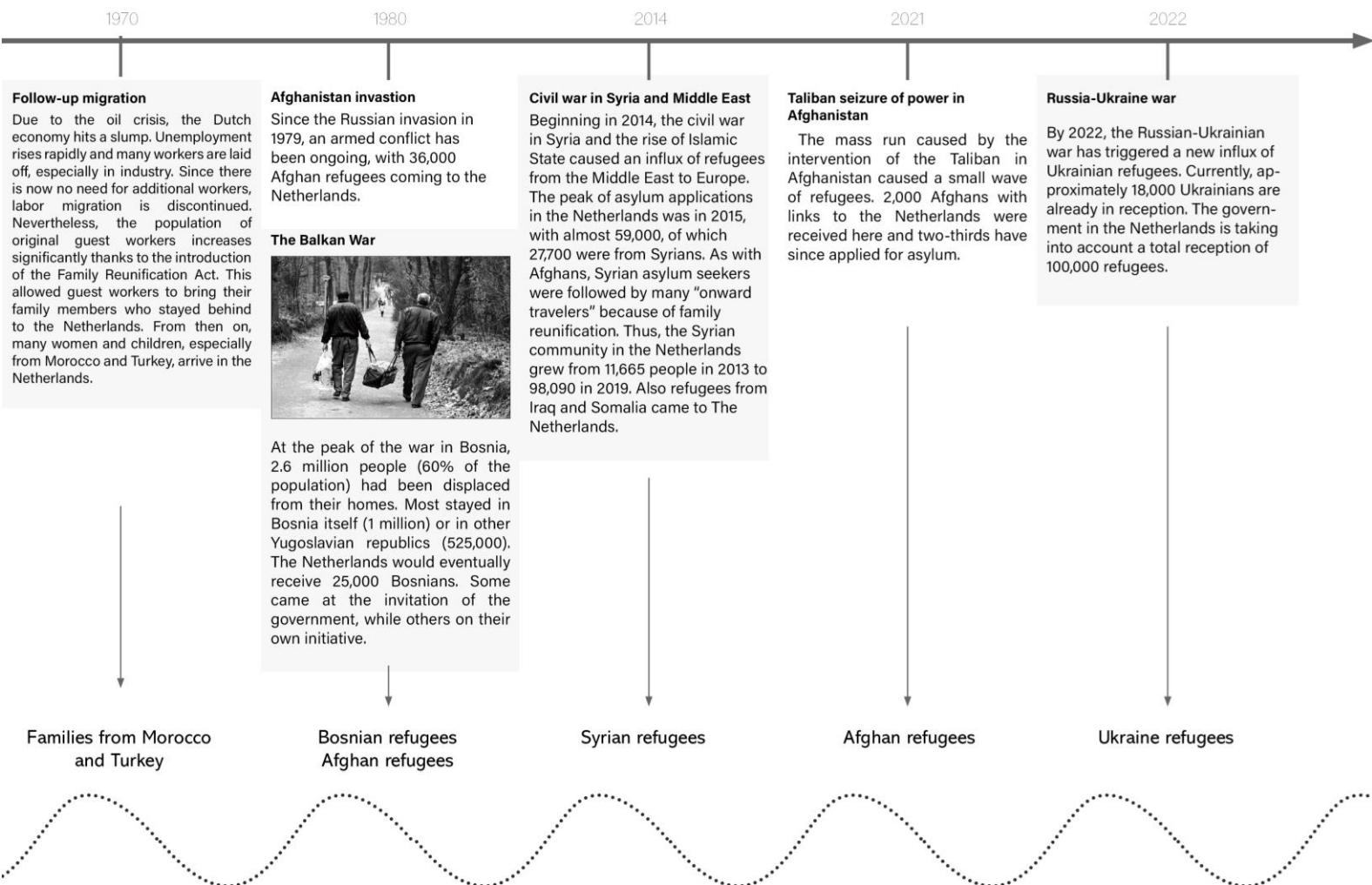


Figure 12 - Migration timeline (by author)



## 4. Part Two: Integration

Subquestion 2: What are the spatial and functional architectural and urban design ingredients that can promote social and functional integration of immigrants?

Subquestion 3: How to create an architectural and densified urban environment that engages both migrants and local residents?

Subquestion 4: What are the spatial and functional architectural and urban design ingredients related to the home and the neighborhood, which can enhance the sense of belonging for migrants?

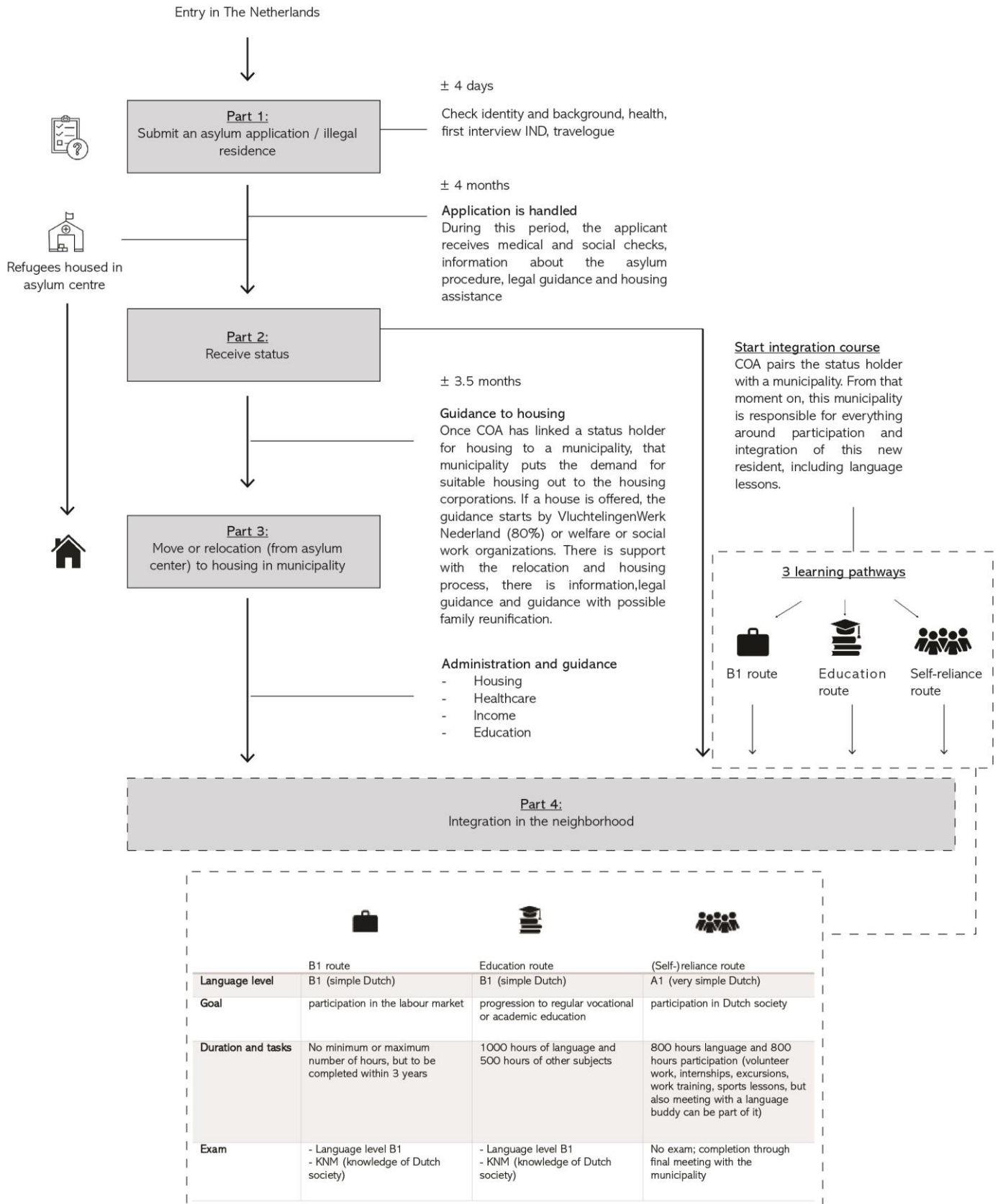


Figure 13 - Civic settling & Integration (scheme by author, based on sources, see bibliography)

## 4.1 What is (social & functional) integration?

### Settling (inburgering) & integration

When looking at the integration of immigrants, a distinction is readily made in practice between the civic settling (Dutch: inburgeren) and integration (integratie). Often these terms are mixed up, but there are clear differences between them. According to the government's immigration policy, it is not defined when someone is integrated, but some immigrant groups are required to settle.<sup>34</sup> This can be done by successfully completing the state NT2 exam or the settling exam and migrants are given a language package where they can learn the language at a limited level. Literature has shown that integration is a general concept that can be interpreted in different ways. In general, the goal here is for migrants to participate in society with as few obstacles or barriers as possible. To get a better idea of how architecture can contribute to fostering this integration, it is first important what the concept of integration means, what the obstacles of the migrants are and how we can then act upon it. Here it is relevant to first examine what is already being done for the immigrants in terms of civic settling in order to then go into what is needed to stimulate integration.

### Settling policy in The Netherlands

The way in which migrants integrate in the Netherlands is already partly determined by civic settling policy which was set up to help migrants on their way in society and the labor market as quickly as possible. In order to give refugees, family and other migrants a good start in Dutch society, the Civic Integration Act 2021 has started this year (2022), which has a number of changes from the previous Civic Integration Act of 2013. The purpose of the Civic Integration Act (Nieuwe Wet Inburgering) is to enable obligated persons to participate in society as soon as possible. This is done by learning the Dutch language, Dutch laws and regulations, society and by finding a job. The latter is also to ensure that the migrants become economically independent as quickly as possible. There are a number of parties who contribute to this and cooperate with each other, including

Divosa, VNG, IND, COA, DUO, SZW, language schools, reintegration companies, employers and civil society organizations.

The required integration is done on a migrant-by-migrant basis, with the municipality and organizations until the migrant's housing supports this. Every newcomer who is obliged to participate in civic integration is given a tailor-made civic integration through an intake interview. For asylum status holders, the government pays for integration. Municipalities also assist family migrants and other migrants. The municipality conducts a broad intake and thus determines the learning route to be followed. It can also advise on a possible suitable educational institution. People with a duty of civic integration learn the Dutch language at a level that allows them to manage well in the Netherlands. This allows them to participate more quickly in Dutch society and they have better opportunities on the Dutch labor market. A combination of learning the language and participating in Dutch society is an important part of the new integration system. Following an internship or (volunteer) work are examples of this.

Not everyone is obliged to integrate in the Netherlands, which depends on a number of factors. Within the civic integration program, there is a distinction between asylum status holders and family and other migrants (including, for example, labor migrants and international students). Both are obliged to integrate. The IND grants the residence permit, then DUO establishes the integration obligation.<sup>35</sup> However, not everyone is required to integrate, which depends on nationality, age and reason for migration, among other factors. Civic integration is not mandatory for a number of nationalities, including EU countries. In addition, civic integration is not mandatory for young people under the age of 18, over the retirement age or coming to the Netherlands temporarily for study or work, including expats, labor migrants and international students.<sup>36</sup>

The figure below shows the trajectory from arrival in the Netherlands to integration in the neighborhoods. The trajectory can be divided into four parts: from the moment of arrival in the

Netherlands to integration into neighborhoods. Both asylum migrants and (integration obligated) family and other migrants go through the process in a similar way, although there are some differences during the process. For example, asylum migrants are received in asylum seekers' centers. In addition, asylum migrants are obliged to follow the integration training with its three elective packages, while family and other migrants choose this themselves at their own expense. The latter group, however, must pass an integration exam before coming to the Netherlands. The integration training is provided from the moment asylum migrants obtain asylum status and the training then continues after obtaining housing, with the duration depending on the chosen package.

### Integration by Dutch institutions

Even though it is not defined by the Dutch government when someone is integrated, it is beneficial to take a vision to work towards stimulating the integration of migrants. For this, the first thing to consider is what visions are currently being used by Dutch institutions that promote the integration of immigrants. Institutions such as Vluchtelingenwerk, Kennisinstituut Integratie and OpenEmbassy who accompany migrants during their shelter and house, have taken similar approaches for their integration. As mentioned before compared to the settling policy, integration is a process in which the newcomer blends into Dutch society. At the same time there is room for the newcomer to maintain his or her own norms and customs.<sup>37</sup> Integration is based on the premise that newcomers can only build a future in a new country if both they and the receiving society are receptive.<sup>38</sup> This is also known as a two-way process, in which the commitment comes from both the society (citizens, institutions, companies and governments) and the refugee. In this two-way process, society accompanies the migrants in order to integrate the refugees as quickly as possible so that they can participate into society quicker.<sup>39</sup> What matters here is exactly what this two-way process or mutual integration entails and how it can be stimulated.

### Socio-cultural & structural integration

Mutual integration is highlighted in the literature in terms of the importance of the mutual interaction between the two domains of **socio-cultural integration** (the networks, cultural expressions and attitudes and forms of identification) and **structural integration** (labor market, education, housing and health). With respect to the position of migrants, a distinction is made between these two in that they both require different approaches. Within the socio-cultural domain a distinction is made between the **social**, **cultural** and **emotional** dimensions. These three dimensions and the two domains are closely related. The shape and size of social networks are namely related to how one feels connected to the group of origin, what views one holds, and how one views the Netherlands and the world. In addition, these dimensions are all important for social integration. Social contacts, value orientations and emotional ties can namely be decisive in important matters for refugees such as coping with psychological problems, learning the language or gaining knowledge of the Dutch education system or the Dutch labor market. To form a picture of what these dimensions entail and how they can be stimulated, these are elaborated as follows:<sup>40</sup>

1. **Social (networks):** *Migrants' social networks and the degree of social interaction between groups.*

Social networks provide flows of information, help, feelings of belonging and trust. Social networks are hereby divided into the following categories: social relationships with members of the host society arise through clubs and associations (social bridging), and institutions (social linking), or through people from their own group (social bonding). Here, social bridging in many cases has a positive effect on getting a job, learning the Dutch language and gaining knowledge about how Dutch society works and what is going on locally.

2. **Cultural (similarities and differences):** *the norms and values patterns of migrants*

*and the extent to which they match or differ from those of the receiving society* <sup>41</sup>

The culture of an individual or group consists of shared values, preferences, traditions or beliefs that emerge from shared socialization processes. By looking at the preferences, traditions, beliefs and value orientations of migrants (as well as non-migrants), this allows similarities and differences to be explored. Cultural similarities are seen in the literature as a means of social contact and make it easier to build and maintain social networks. Cultural differences, on the other hand, create barriers and reduce networking between members of different groups and hinder the cultural identification and attachment that migrants feel for other groups in the host society.

3. **Emotional (sense of connectedness or belonging):** *the extent to which they feel connected to the host society and origin group*

Feelings of belonging to a group or a particular social category can promote or hinder the formation of social networks and make certain value patterns accepted or rejected. According to literature, feeling connected to the host society has positive effects on labor market participation rates, educational achievement, contacts with members of other groups, sense of well-being, and political participation.

1. It is socially connected to all members of the local communities in which they are housed.
2. They achieve public outcomes such as work, housing, education and care, which are equivalent to the other members of society.
3. They have good language and cultural knowledge and a good sense of security and stability to participate confidently in society.

Ultimately, however, these points are not considered end-goals, as the degree of to what extent a person can integrate depends on a person-by-person basis and thus some have more difficulty. There the definition is suggested more as a goal to work toward for optimal integration outcomes. As mentioned earlier, part of it is public outcomes which is largely determined by the government, including housing and employment. Particularly important here is how the architect can contribute, which can be done particularly by facilitating functions for the migrants that provide language and culture, and design in terms of fostering social connections. Therefore these indicators will be developed further in the following paragraphs.

### **Social integration domains**

The three domains within the framework emphasize the importance of social relationships within the integration process and explain how immigrants themselves experience integration in their daily lives. These are as follows:

## **4.2 Stimulate integration: Functional ingredients**

### **Indicators of Framework**

A successful approach for the two-way process can be well guided from the Indicators of Framework, which the British government uses for refugee integration. This framework sees the two-way process of integration as containing social connections between all members of local communities. Here they claim that an individual or group is integrated within the society when:

1. **Social bridges:** establishing social connections with members of other national, ethnic or religious groups (mixing) is crucial to determine the two-way integration within the different meanings. Creating social bridges to other backgrounds promotes social cohesion and creates new opportunities for broadening cultural knowledge and employment,

2. **Social bonds:** establishing connections within the community defined by, for example, ethnic, national or religious identity is crucial to give refugees a sense of belonging. Without this sense of identification, integration risks being tantamount to assimilation (barely maintaining culture and rarely contact with one's own group). This area assesses the

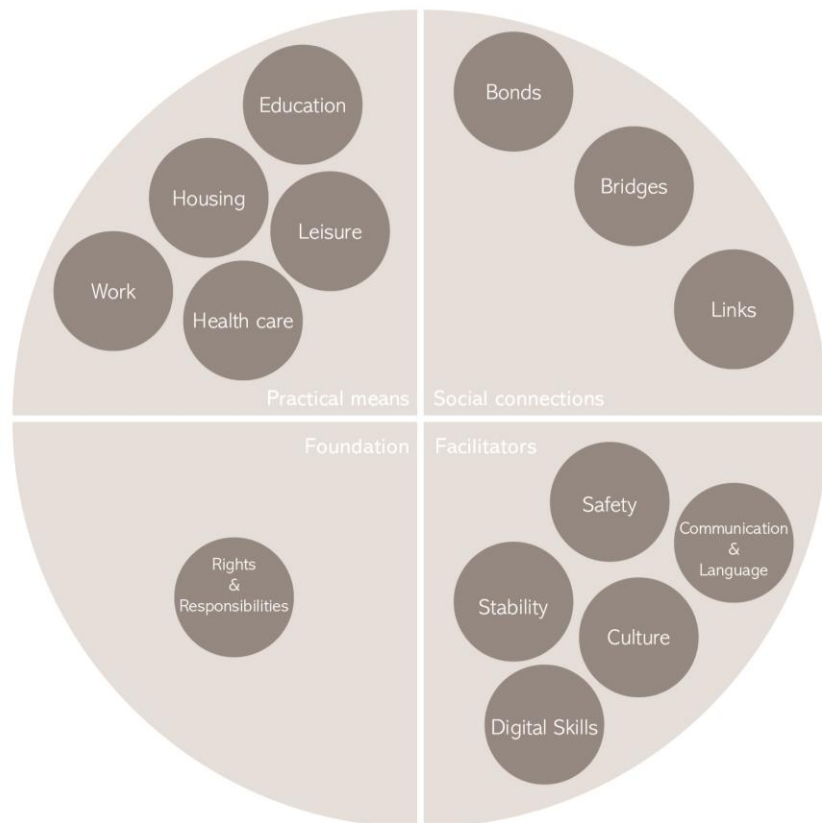


Figure 14 - Conditions for integration (by author)

among other things. Ways to encourage this is:

- Through actively mixing residents of different ethnic backgrounds in everyday situations.
- Interventions or activities related to ethnic diversity, including youth clubs (through a clubhouse), childcare facilities and sports clubs.
- Voluntary work
- Opportunities to express public opinions

ties that support such belonging. Ways to foster this sense of home include:

- Community arts events, cultural festivals, celebrating traditions of migrants' cultures or religions
- Places for religious worship or organizations
- Informal contacts with members from own group
- Feeling of home of the neighborhood, through eg. the layout

3. **Social links:** establishing connections with institutions and organizations that aim to support migrants is also important for integration, as mentioned earlier in the civic settling program. Despite the fact that this is largely organized by institutions, the architect can realize spaces to include offices from which these organizations can assist migrants. However, the architect is expected to have a lesser influence on this domain since it's mainly organized by the government. Stimulating social bridges and ties are the elements that the architect in particular can respond to. Here also social bridges is particularly crucial for stimulating social integration, making it relevant to emphasize and elaborate on this. Therefore the emphasis will be put on these two domains in the following chapter.

## Conditions for stimulating Interethnic Contact

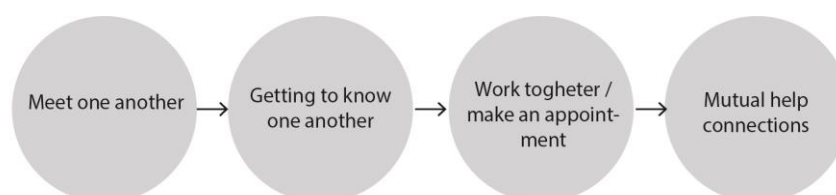


Figure 15 – The Binding ladder of Boonstra & Snel (by author)

As the framework has shown, fostering social bridges is crucial for social integration, in which the Knowledge Institute for Integration has drawn up a number of conditions and methods based on literature and its own research that are necessary for interethnic contact to be successful. This follows from the fact that encounters between members of different population groups in Dutch neighborhoods are often unconditioned and fleeting. It has namely been shown that fleeting contacts often lead to confirmation of existing (pre)judgments and stereotypes about the other background group. Therefore, according to critics, the effect of intergroup contact depends mainly on the circumstances under which that contact takes place. To this end, the following ingredients are

necessary as effective for stimulating interethnic contact: <sup>42</sup>

1. **Positivity and intensity of contact (Binding Ladder)**

The binding ladder is a model developed by the RMO (Raad voor Maatschappelijke Ontwikkeling; council for social development) to be able to promote interethnic bonding between groups and individuals in the Netherlands. The binding ladder has four steps which, for a given intervention or initiative, determines its impact on increasing connection between population groups and reducing prejudice, antagonism, mistrust, discrimination and polarization. In addition, the higher the steps, the greater the intensity and durability of interethnic contact or social bridging. This is important because the durability and intensity of the contact ensures the likelihood that the contact will remain. The four steps are defined as

follows:

**Step 1: Meeting one another (public familiarity & meeting is mating):** The goal here is to connect members of different ethnic groups with each other. The idea is that once people interact, they also get to know and appreciate each other (also known as 'meeting is mating'). In this case, there is often no meaningful communication yet, but it creates public familiarity. This public familiarity plays an important role in living together in neighborhoods between different backgrounds. Namely, neighborhood residents need to be aware of who are in the neighborhood in order to recognize and socially place them. If

residents do not know each other, it is more difficult to make contacts, make agreements or address each other about undesirable behavior. Public familiarity is crucial when it comes to preventing discomfort and tension between populations and stems from everyday or superficial encounters between residents. Ingredients to stimulate this are:

- street parties
- intercultural festivals
- places for spontaneous encounters (such as a market, library, park, playground or soccer field)

**Step 2: Getting to know one another:** The goal here is to promote mutual understanding and respect among diverse groups. Ingredients to stimulate this are:

- Intercultural dialogues, where neighbors are invited to join the conversation together on current and relevant topics (for example in the neighborhood)
- gatherings where various ethnic groups present food or clothing from their country of origin

**Step 3: Working together / make an appointment:** The goal here is to realize collective action. The idea behind this is that when neighborhood or schoolmates from different backgrounds actually have conversations with each other or do activities together, they discover that they are less different from each other than they initially thought and they turn out to share similar interests. Ingredients for this include:

- collaboration activities where agreements are made with each other about the course of events and (desired) manners in the neighborhood, in public spaces, at school and other places.

**Step 4: Mutual help connections:** The goal here is to realize mutual aid relationships across different ethnic backgrounds. Ingredients for this include:

- tutoring or mentoring (projects), where someone from a more stable background supports and helps the other person with certain tasks such as looking for work or running errands

## 2. Commonality and equality

The greatest opportunities for promoting positive and respectful coexistence among populations through social contact seem to be realized when people are addressed not by what separates them (their ethnicity, religion, culture) but rather by what binds them (such as their role as parents, neighborhood residents or athletes, common goals, interests and identities). According to studies, projects are especially effective that are based on shared interests. Examples of interventions of this include mentoring projects, playing sports together, making outdoor spaces cleaner and more livable together.<sup>43</sup> Other examples include community gardens where residents grow food together and schools where parents interact with each other when bringing their children, which was also shown in the ethnographic interview of one of the single mothers with her children in Tuinenhoven.

According to Startblok commonality can be achieved by choosing a relationship between migrants and non-migrants. Community housing like here places homogeneous groups who share the same values and goals. In many cases, these are then often residents who themselves choose to actively participate in a community and are often socially active. In addition, commonality can be created among other types of residents, as has been seen in housing for Turkish elderly. Here, the elderly reside with shared

backgrounds so the common living room functions well.

Naast gemeenschappelijkheid beschrijft de literatuur dat gelijkwaardigheid tussen migranten en lokale bewoners van belang is om het succes voor interethnisch contact te versterken. Dit wordt gedaan wanneer bewoners een gemeenschappelijk doel nastreven of taak uitvoeren. Daarnaast draagt een kleine groepsgrootte hieraan bij.

In addition to these ingredients, the literature describes the importance of increasing empathy toward the other group and reducing fear and feelings of threat. This is done by sincerely listening to the other person's story and empathizing with the other group so that negative feelings are reduced.

### Conclusion

What can be extracted from the model is that the more migrants cooperate with residents or are accompanied by residents, the more mutual integration takes place. However, some migrants are already accompanied by institutions where guidance takes place. What is more interesting is to look at the collaborations, but not all immigrants are expected to be open to working together, especially those who are traumatized. Because of this it is important to look at practical examples of projects where such interactions take place and see the effectiveness of the types of interactions. Furthermore, the literature describes that fleeting encounters generally constitute a negatively charged contact, but on the other hand, public familiarity is created which is positive. Therefore, setting up the neighborhood to stimulate fleeting encounters remains important to create a familiarity between residents so as not to isolate them and make them feel more at home. To then get them more involved with other residents, it is important to create activity spaces for this purpose. In addition, the types of activities that take place are particularly important, where the architect can facilitate in this by assigning spaces to them and seeing how many of these types of spaces are needed. It is therefore good to look at reference projects to see what is conducive to the social

integration of migrants. However, there are many different interventions used in practice that are conducive to integration. The position here is that there is not one specific method that is conducive to social integration, but that multiple interventions promote integration in different ways.

What ties in well with this is the research of my auto-ethnography, from which emerged that my grandparents also experienced the best contact with others who helped and with activities where they undertook things together, such as the sewing table. So the need is there to create places for this. In addition, this can be strengthened by placing residents together who show shared interests, such as my aunt and uncle with their children who easily chat with their other neighbors with children or the Pakistani as seen which has a similar background, so the social bonds will be felt more strongly.

## 4.3 Stimulate integration: Spatial ingredients

As shown in the previous chapter is that the first step of fostering interethnic contact is to provide encounter, which in addition to the functional ingredients (commonality, intensity of activities and equality), is also spatially important. Namely, by designing spatially to stimulate social encounters, fleeting contacts can be further stimulated which in turn gives a positive impetus to the public familiarity and therefore stimulates social integration. By creating places to meet, residents develop a network between neighbors who can support each other informally. By consciously designing to encourage encounters, this also creates a residential area that is appropriate and inclusive for all residents. When passive contacts between residents are present, there is a greater chance of developing friendships and active social interactions. In addition, these will encourage a sense of social control, communal feeling, safety or well-being. They will also encourage unexpected encounters and spontaneous interactions among residents.

## The variables of stimulating social interaction by physical design

Several studies identified variables that stimulate the influence of social interaction in cohousing communities. These communities are generally designed with these variables in mind. These are:

- 1) Opportunity for contact between residents
- 2) Proximity of apartments and the position towards each other: the closer the residents live together, the greater the chance that they will run into each other and thereby develop friendships and form social interaction.
- 3) The availability of appropriate space to interact
- 4) Buffer zones between private and communal space. Deze bufferzones bestaan uit geleidelijke overgangen waardoor tussengebieden of onbestemde ruimten worden gecreëerd. Bij woningen zorgt dit voor afgezonderde plekken zonder dat mensen zich verloren voelen en stimuleren mensen om zelf een invulling te geven.<sup>44</sup>
- 5) Position and quality of the common rooms: Common spaces (indoor and outdoor) provide opportunities for social interaction. If they are centrally positioned and accessible, more residents will use them. In addition, common areas should be flexible and of good quality.
- 6) Shared pathways

## The types of social interactions between residents

However, integrating these factors does not immediately mean that residents will have an active social life in the community. It is therefore important to examine how these interactions come about, including between migrants and non-migrants. Making contacts in a community are made in the following ways:

### 1. Passive / informal interactions with neighbors

Passive or informal interactions are the unexpected encounters between residents. This form of interaction creates a passive community formation, generating social control, common feelings of safety and social wellbeing. This social wellbeing is also fostered by the network of personal relationships and social interactions, which includes informal interactions. When these passive contacts between residents are frequent, the likelihood of the formation of friendships and active social interactions is greater. Formal meetings between residents are generally organized by, for example, the residents themselves.

### 2. Active / formal interactions with neighbors

Active interactions are intentional and can lead to active community building. Examples include sharing shared interests with other residents through common activities. These active interactions are the most important category in a cohousing community. These active interactions can then be divided into informal and formal interactions.

#### 1. Informal active interactions

Informal interactions are the personal relationships between residents or relationships within a group. These can then be divided into social bridges and social ties due to the presence of migrants. Here, social ties are the ties that migrants have with each other and social bridges are the ties that migrants have with Dutch residents.

#### 2. Formal active interactions

Formal interactions are those that take place between residents and organizations. These are also called social links in other literature.

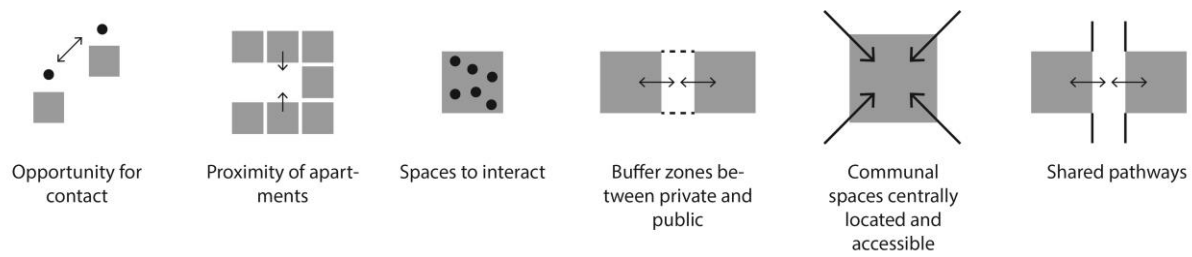


Figure 16 - The variables of stimulation social interaction by physical design (by author)

Based on research, the main way to connect with other residents was through shared activities, followed by meetings in the hallways and waiting for the elevator.

Besides the previously mentioned variables for stimulating social interaction in a community, there are also, according to the literature, a number of ingredients that contribute to formal and informal meetings within a community. Designing for encounters with spatial design is seen as promoting a community in order to bring people together and make them meet. Informal encounters or passive interactions are hereby stimulated by open spaces. Indeed, these open spaces encourage dialogues and actions between individuals. Such open spaces are: <sup>45</sup>

2. Open stairwells or courtyards
3. Seating areas and spots with expansive views.

Formal meetings or active interactions are designed with a focus on forming a community, as well as for ensuring a flexible layout through the variation of use and communication. Location and accessibility play a particularly important role here. Namely, they should be inviting, accessible to all, and ideally centrally positioned and easily visible. The communal activities that take place here can stimulate a sense of community in this regard, and thus a sense of home. This can be done by establishing clear access points. In addition, spaces for practicing daily living activities encourage encounters.

1. Atriums,

## Spatial ingredients by auto-ethnography (see appendix)

Spatial and functional ingredients	Dwelling	Block	Neighborhood
- Placing residents with similar interests or audiences in close proximity of each other (e.g., families with children together)		X	X
- Place residents of similar backgrounds in close proximity of each other (e.g. migrant families together)		X	X
- Place residents of similar social class in close proximity of each other (rich or poor)		X	X
- Not concentrating migrants in one place causing separation from the rest of the population, but rather allowing mixed living		X	X
- Provide a community center where people such as elderly and families can go for activities such as sewing courses, tea afternoons, sports activities and craft workshops. Religious activities can also take place here such as iftar (Ramadan), Christmas and Easter meals. These are set up by residents or volunteers with possible help from the congregation. Especially Christmas and Easter meals are organized here to a lesser extent, which should happen more and can help for integration.		X	X
- Provide sports facilities or places in the neighborhood where residents can go for sports activities			X
- Spacious kitchen where migrant families especially from Eastern countries can serve as a place for meeting besides cooking. In addition, it can serve a place of retreat among the other family members, for example men in the living room.	X	X	
- Spacious home and spaces similar to the spacious country houses on apartment buildings in Turkey	X	X	
- The desire to have a spacious garden for families where, for example, the children or dogs can play. In addition, this also matches the country houses in the country of origin.	X	X	
- Separate spaces between men and women which not only connects to the Islamic religion, but also to for example the Turkish and other Eastern culture	X		
- Places to walk outside when, for example, there are visitors and the men or women want to retreat for a while			X
- Park where the children can play and where the parents can be with them to look after			X
- Traditional aspects of the houses that evoke memories of traditional or historic rural homes. Examples include materials such as stone and wood.	X	X	X

Figure 17 - Spatial and functional ingredients from the Auto-ethnography research (by author)

## 5. Part three: Case studies

## 5.1 Introduction

Based on the theoretical literature review, it was found that there are a variety of spatial and functional ingredients that stimulate social integration. However, these ingredients remain superficial through the literature without having a picture of how it actually works in practice. Therefore, it is important to examine separately the projects that manage to stimulate social integration at the mentioned ingredients. For this purpose, a number of focus points have been established on which the case studies will be examined. The focus points are as follows:

1. **Urban context:** Here the densification strategy is studied within the urban context looking at which densification strategy was applied.
2. **Spatial programme:** This involves examining the layout of the building with its spatial and functional ingredients in order to get a better idea of what type of functions work for stimulating social integration and a sense of home.
3. **Circulation:** This involves studying routing through the building and its relationship to formal and informal social integration and sense of home.
4. **Spatial and functional ingredients:** These will be the spatial and functional ingredients in terms of creating social integration and sense of home
5. **Dwelling typology:** This involves studying the typologies that influence social integration and sense of belonging.
6. **Interviews and site visits:** Projects will be visited if possible and interviews conducted to find out the experiences in terms of social integration and sense of home from residents at different housing scales.

The case studies chosen involve projects that are relevant in terms of promoting social integration and a sense of home. Based on this, four case studies have been chosen which are on the

aforementioned focus points and these projects will also be visited to get a clear picture. The case studies will consider the ingredients that have been implemented to encourage social contact. These could be places or spaces that have been realised where people can come together or meet. The case studies with associated rationale are as follows:

### 1. Startblok Wormerveerstraat

Startblok is known as the innovative model that allows the combination of starters and status holders to promote social integration. It has been the starting point for several mixed housing projects in the Netherlands where these target groups are combined where they share certain facilities. It is relevant here to examine how social integration works in this process for these target groups. Startblok Wormerveerstraat follows the first project of Startblok Riekerhaven which the latter consists of temporary containers.

### 2. Huisvesting Turkse Ouderen

This project was originally realized for housing Turkish elderly people with consideration of their cultural needs. Based on this, the house plan was modified and features were incorporated into the design that promote a sense of home and social integration.

### 3. Little C

This project is known for an innovative densification system, namely with a very high FSI. Through spatial and functional ingredients, a pleasant living environment has been created despite the high density. It is relevant here to consider how these ingredients provide this.

### 4. Le Medi

This project is known for its Mediterranean architecture as well as its collective courtyard garden. It can be seen as a combination of gated community and Dutch courtyard.

## 5.2 Startblok Wormerveerstraat



Figure 18 - Startblok Wormerveerstraat (source: KENK architecten)

### Project info & relevance

The Startblok Wormerveerstraat is the first permanent starting block after the earlier similar temporary Startblok projects were realized in Riekerhaven and Elzenhagen.<sup>46</sup> What is relevant about this project is that it has the characteristics of Startblok Riekerhaven, which was the starting point of the mixed housing model, but Wormerveerstraat is in a permanent building where more attention has been paid to the spatial design for encouraging social encounters. The principle does remain the same as Riekerhaven that there are pacesetters (gangmakers in Dutch) who support the statusholders for a couple of hours in the week in exchange for a fee for their rent.

Location:	Amsterdam (Wormerveerstraat), The Netherlands
Year built:	2022
Architect:	KENK architecten
FSI:	2,8
Apartments:	98
Target groups:	Statusholders and starters

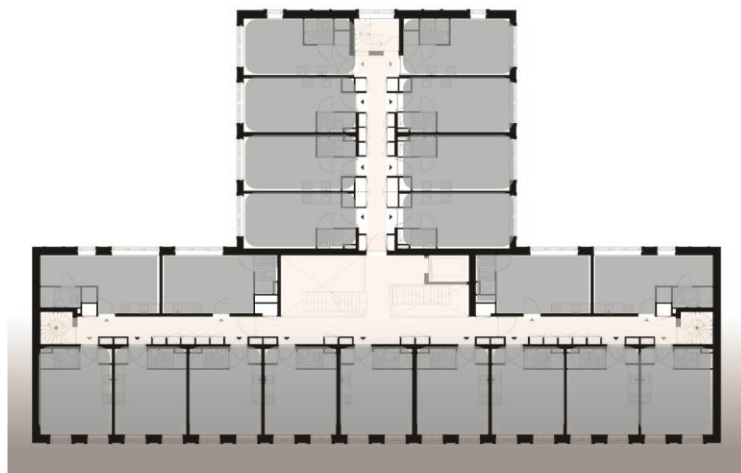


## Urban context

The block consists of 50 housing units for starters and 50 for status holders. The first floor contains a communal living room, a lounge room, bicycle storage. On the rear facade there are two shared gardens which contain a greenhouse where residents can grow their own food. Space for meeting has been an important theme in the development of the design. In order to create this space while renovating the existing building, a search was made for the most efficient possible building volume, where the corridors are compact and the dwellings are 24 m<sup>2</sup>. This creates additional space on the first floor and in the main stairwell for meeting and communal activities. The communal living room is directly adjacent to the spacious hall with lounge room that also gives access to the south-facing garden. The communal living room is also meant for local residents, although it's quite

hidden in the building and there is no direct access to the room from the street. The common areas offer many opportunities for collective use such as communal cooking and eating, reading the newspaper at the reading table, talking, studying, gaming and making music. This is important for the newcomers to get to know each other and encourage each other in their development.<sup>47</sup>

## Spatial programme



Floors 1 - 4



Ground floor

- common room
- apartment
- terrace
- storage
- traffic space
- hobby room
- bicycle parking
- public bathroom
- shared washing room

Figure 19 - Spatial programme (by author)

Dwelling	 <p>in-between space between dwelling and traffic space</p>
Block	<div>  <p>community garden</p> </div> <div>  <p>Extra high ground floor hieght (2,95m)</p> </div> <div>  <p>spacious and central traffic space</p> </div> <div>  <p>communal lounge room</p> </div>
Neighborhood	 <p>communal living room</p>

Figure 20 - Functional and spatial ingredients (by author)

## Circulation

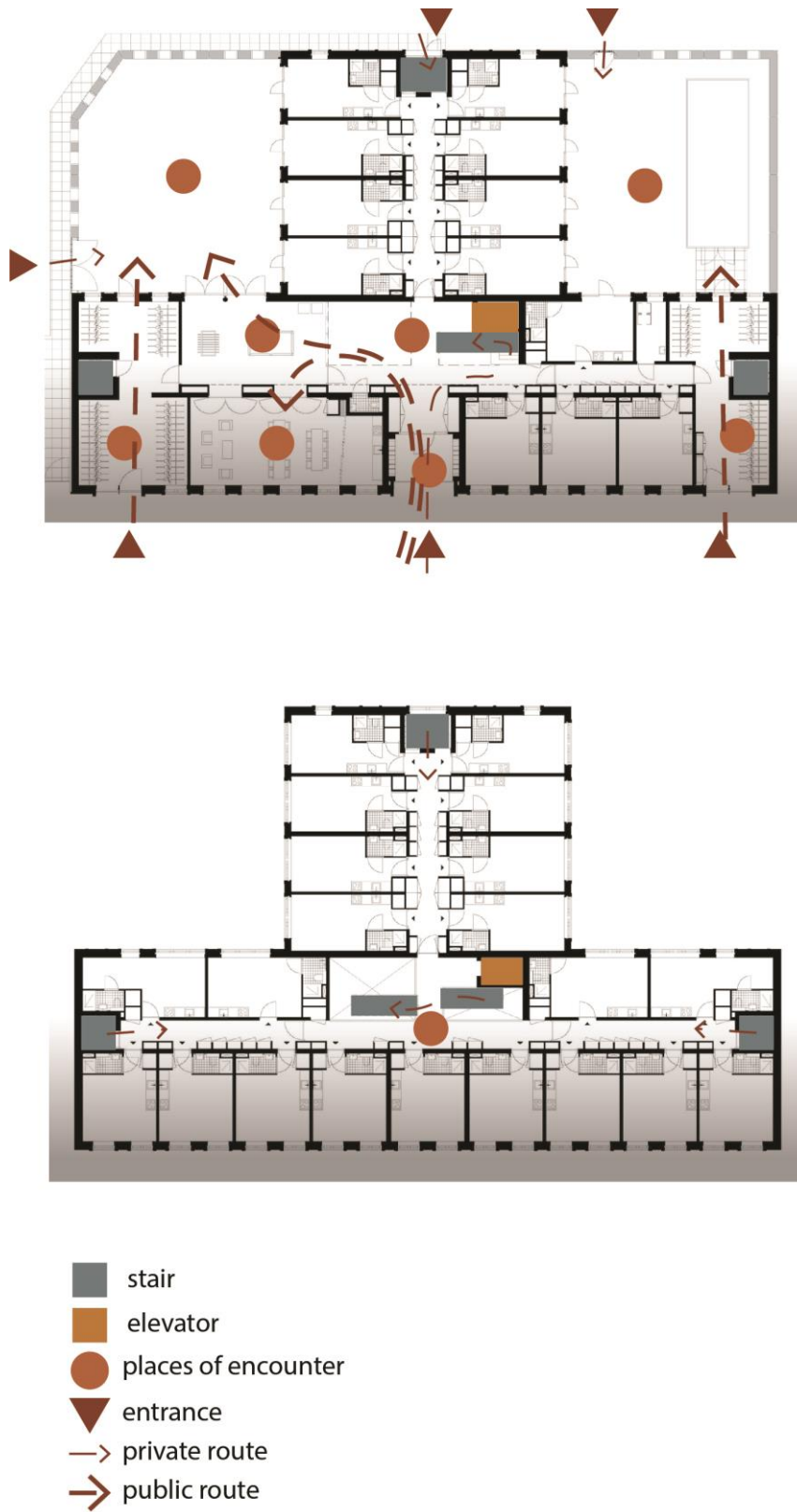


Figure 21 - Circulation (by author)

## 5.3 Housing Turkish Elderly



Figure 22 - Housing Turkish elderly entrance (photo: by author)

### Project info & relevance

The housing for Turkish elderly in the Europawijk in Haarlem consists of apartments initially intended for Turkish elderly. What is special about this project is that the apartments and layout of the building have been tailored to this target group by working with a number of people from this target group to look at their way of life and their housing requirements. From this, a home emerged that is somewhat different from the usual Dutch floor plan, including flexibility and organization in floor plan and common functions, as well as spatial elements such as a veranda and transparent living room.

In addition to the spatial and functional ingredients, this project was important for my research to get to know the background of the Turkish elderly and what aspects they find important for feeling at home in a Dutch neighborhood. For this, I visited the project where a resident showed me around the building and allowed me to be interviewed.

Location:	Haarlem (Brusselstraat), The Netherlands
Year built:	2007
Architect:	DP6
FSI:	1,65 (3500m <sup>2</sup> GFA / 2115m <sup>2</sup> terrain)
Apartments:	30
Target groups:	(Turkish) Elderly and starter families

## Urban context

The Housing for the Turkish elderly is located in the Europa neighborhood in Haarlem, which is known as a spacious neighborhood from the 1970s with wide street profiles, a relatively large amount of greenery, large residential apartment buildings and two- or three-story row houses in a strip layout. Light and air give the surroundings quality, but because of the many storerooms and rear sides of gardens at ground level, there is little life in the streets. The design therefore takes this into account by situating the houses around the storerooms. In addition, a terrace is included on the second floor between the two-story and five-story residential towers. However, this terrace is only accessible to the residents themselves. Furthermore, the greenery around the building forms a transition between private and public, between the Turkish elderly and the rest of the neighborhood.<sup>48</sup>

## Spatial programme (including project visit)

An important aspect is the flexibility in the house plan, as well as the separation of the kitchen from the living room, which also separates the more private part from the public part (where the guests come).<sup>49</sup> Furthermore, facilities are included at the building block level, including the common living room where residents can meet each other any time of the day. Attached to this living room is also an outdoor terrace where the residents, especially in nice weather, can, for example, barbecue together or hang out the laundry. This also ties in with the more individual way of living together of this target group, where they are more involved with each other, despite not separating themselves from the rest of the population.



Figure 23 - Urban context with Housing Turkish Elderly in red (source: by author, using Google Earth)

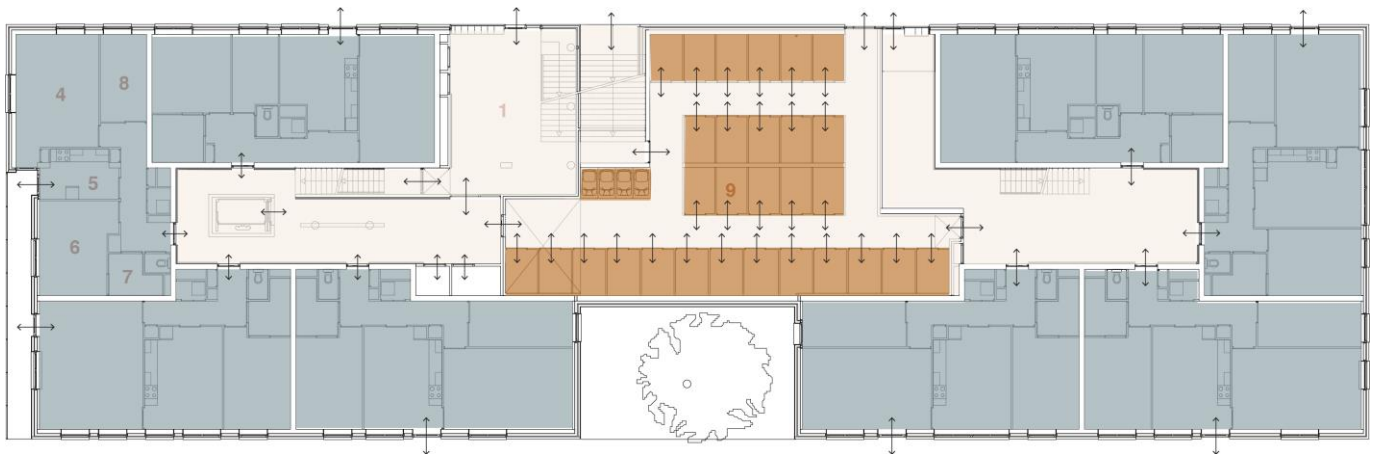
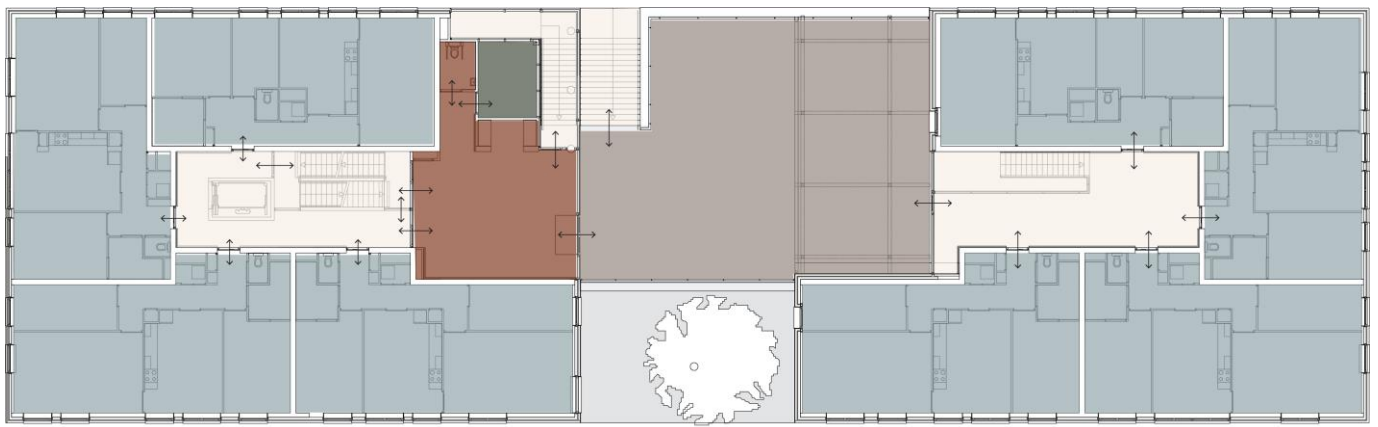


Figure 26 - Ground floor (by author)



**Legend**

- common room
- apartment
- terrace
- storage
- traffic space
- consulting room

Figure 25 - First floor (by author)

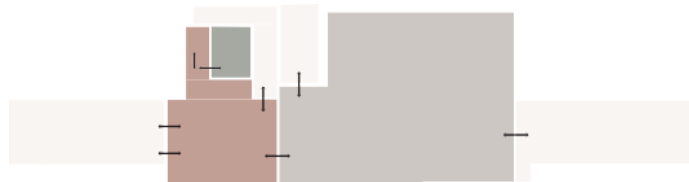


Figure 24 - Public facilities centrally located, stimulates accessibility (by author)

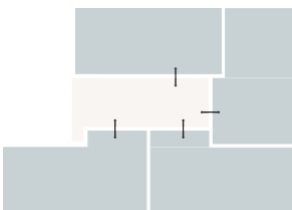


Figure 28 - apartments in proximity with each other, stimulating encounters between residents (by author)

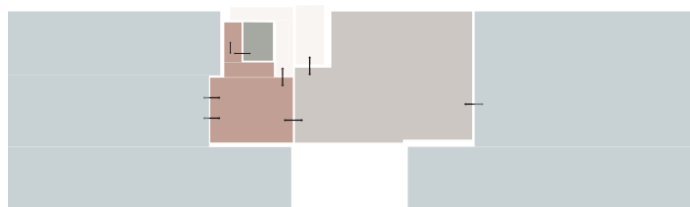


Figure 27 - Common rooms close to entrance and traffic space, stimulating encounters by bypassers (by author)

## Spatial and functional ingredients












Dwelling	 <p>separate spacious kitchen</p>  <p>private front garden</p>
Block	 <p>communal terrace</p>  <p>communal hallway</p>  <p>communal kitchen</p>  <p>communal hallway</p>  <p>communal garden (only for four residents)</p>  <p>Communal living room</p>  <p>spacious and transparent entrance, separate route towards the communal living room</p>
Neighborhood	 <p>street &amp; entrance</p>  <p>meeting space at the front facade</p>

Figure 29 - Communal, private and public functions overview (photos and scheme by author)

## Circulation

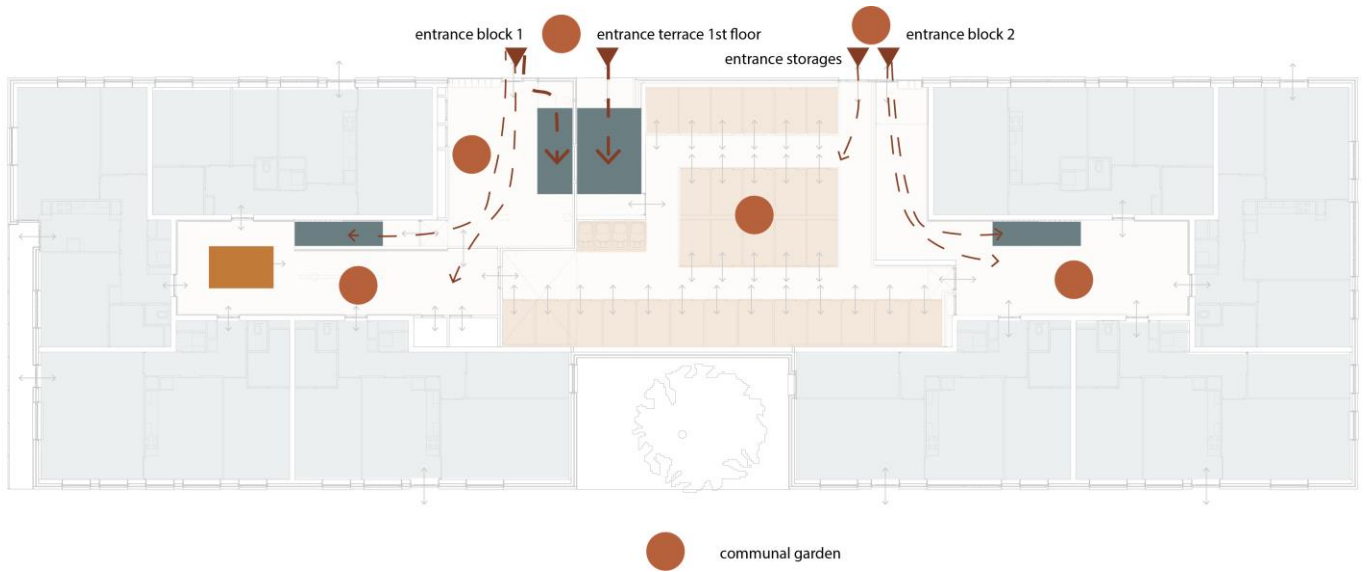


Figure 30 - Ground floor circulation (by author)

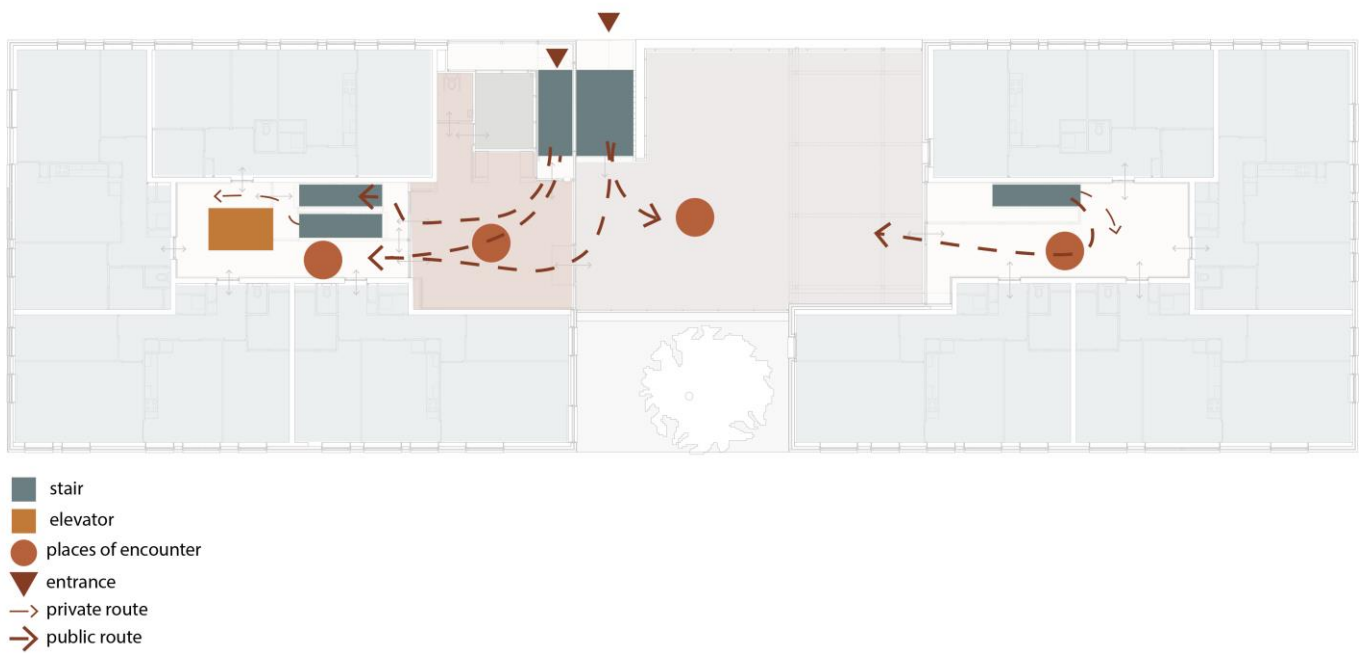
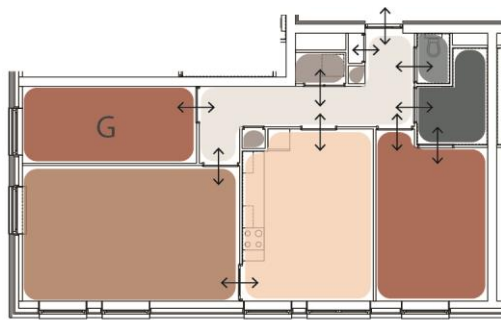
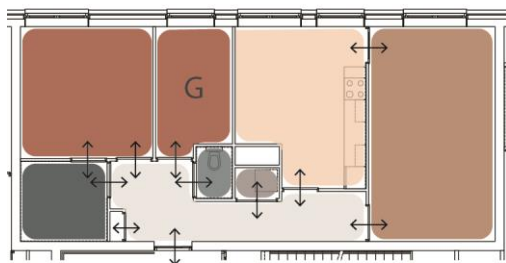


Figure 31 - 1st floor circulation (by author)

## Dwelling division



type A



type B

### Legend

- living room
- kitchen
- G bedroom (guest)
- bedroom
- hallway
- bathroom
- toilet
- storages
- ←→ doors / passages

Figure 32 - Dwelling division (by author)

One of the residents' wishes was that the kitchen should be large enough to accommodate a dining table. In this regard, they had no objection that this would make the living room smaller. In addition, there was a need for some zoning within the home to prevent visitors from interacting with the most private rooms, such as the bedrooms and bathroom. In addition, residents were enthusiastic about merging all outdoor spaces, which resulted in a communal roof terrace with a large pergola on the second floor. Subsequent interviews, however, revealed that balconies are lacking, also because it is common in Turkish culture to sit on the balcony alone or with visitors. <sup>50</sup>

## Interview with resident

On 19/06 I visited the housing Turkish elderly in the Europawijk in Haarlem. Here resident Ayşe showed me around her home, through the home of her two immediate neighbors, through the home of her friend on the 4th floor of the adjacent higher building and through the terrace, shared living room, storerooms and hallways.

### Hospitable reception through openness to the outside

To begin at Ayşe's residence. She is a parent of about 70 years old and has lived in the housing project since the beginning of the project, which was completed in 2006. When I walked up to the building, the welcome was immediately pleasant. Ayşe was standing in front of her home talking to a neighbor, which happened more often when I was having coffee with her due to passing neighbors because her door is always open in the nice weather. "I only close the door when I go to sleep" said Ayşe.

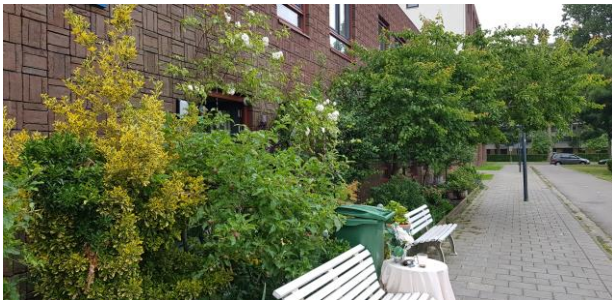


Figure 34 – Ayşe's front garden with extensive plantings (by author)

### Homes adapted to store lots of stuff

She lives comfortably with her son in a fairly spacious home, although in her opinion it could be a bit more spacious. The latter stood out right away because of the amount of stuff she has in her home and what also stood out about the other three homes she showed me. All four homes had a lot of stuff in them. The Turkish elderly had turned the passage from the living room to hallway into an extra storage closet, and they also frequently used the meter cupboard and washing machine room as extra storage. These are then often goods and items from the kitchen including items from Turkey

that they often bring with them, but there are also books and many other types of items.

The spacious kitchen room pleases all the residents, but the standard kitchen block that is in there now is a bit on the small side. Ayşe, for example, had a cabinet removed to make her stove from 60 to 90cm wide because she cooks a lot for visitors. The kitchen fits a spacious dining table just fine. What they noticed is



Figure 33 - Small hallway occupied with excessive stuff (by author)

that they don't care if they have to go from the living room through the kitchen to the hallway/entrance or toilet. The same goes the other way around: from the hallway/entrance through the kitchen to the living room. In fact, they utilized the extra passage from living room to hallway by extra storage closet, which they need much more. This is one of the points where flexibility in the floor plan is utilized, as well as the second door to the toilet, which now has a closet in front of it.



Figure 35 - Ayşe's spacious kitchen (by author)

### Own private garden

Ayşe has a garden in front and next to her home which the latter she applied to the municipality to own, as the garden land first belonged to the municipality. After the municipality agreed to this, she used this garden for growing vegetables and



Figure 37 - Ayşe's private garden (by author)

fruits, just like they do in Turkey. Her neighbor has a large piece of land attached to the backyard, but only uses a small area in front of his house to sit occasionally.

### Joint terrace and living room

Of the 30 residents living in the residential complex, about 5 elderly use the communal living room. They meet every evening to catch up or do activities together. In the beginning, more elderly people were involved and also used the terrace. As the Turkish elderly left, elderly from other cultures or Dutch people came in their place. Language barrier does not necessarily seem to be the cause of the lack of gatherings between residents, but more because the residents are not from each other's background. Even within Turkey, there are differences between origins, depending on which city someone comes from. A person generally has an easier relationship with the one who comes from the same city, but this does vary from person to



Figure 39 - View of the terrace from the communal living room (by author)

person. For example, Ayşe whom I interviewed is well-integrated and knows the Dutch language pretty well so she gets along well with her Dutch neighbors. On the fourth floor, there is also an additional space in the corridor where daily breakfasts used to be held between the Turkish



Figure 36 - Communal space in the hallway on the 4th floor where dinners between neighbors take place (by author)

residents of the same floor. However, this became less as other cultures arrived.

The outdoor area is still being in use occasionally for a barbecue and is generally nice to have as a common outdoor space. The position of the common living room next to the terrace is convenient in that it allows the elderly to sit inside when it is cold outside. When Ayşe led me through the building one parent sat inside by herself in the common living room because she was bothered by his son who causes nuisance. She then finds it nice to be alone for a while in a separate living room where she also has a chance to meet others walking by. The position of the common living room is situated so that it is in open connection with the adjacent rooms, so that encounters take place more easily. For example, it is directly connected to the entrance hall, making it easier for residents passing by to have a chat. Furthermore, there is still a separate corridor and stairs so that visitors can get

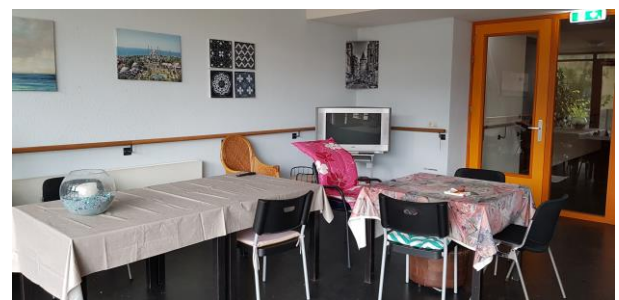


Figure 38 - Communal living room in the building's center area (by author)

to their homes undetected from possibly the elevator. All in all, shared spaces are much appreciated and especially when they are centrally located in a place that is easily accessible and visible.

## 5.4 Little C



Figure 40 - Little C top view from a residents' apartment, looking onto the collective rooftop spaces (by author)

### Project info & relevance

Het idee achter Little C is dat de verdichting zorgt voor energie, rust en ruimte. De loftwoningen en industrieel karakter is geïnspireerd door 'Little Village' in New York. Het idee achter de verdichting is 'Urban living, intimate feeling', waarbij de stadse architectuur wordt afgewisseld met een groen park en pleinen. De blokken bevatten onder andere terrassen met uitzicht over de Coolhaven en Waterfront Park.

Het idee achter het project was dat mensen met elkaar leven waarin ze elkaar overal tegenkomen: waaronder in de stegen, op de pleinen, op de bruggen, op de gemeenschappelijke dakterrassen en aan de waterkant. Dit idee kwam voort door het gevoel dat veel van de stedelijke verdichting in Nederland nu plaatsvindt door woontorens te bouwen waarin mensen met de rug naar elkaar toeleeft.<sup>51</sup>

<b>Location:</b>	Rotterdam, The Netherlands
<b>Year built:</b>	2021
<b>Architect:</b>	Inbo
<b>FSI:</b>	4
<b>Apartments:</b>	320 lofts and apartments
<b>Target groups:</b>	Diverse range of target groups due to apartments of different sizes and types (social rent, rent and sale)

## Urban context

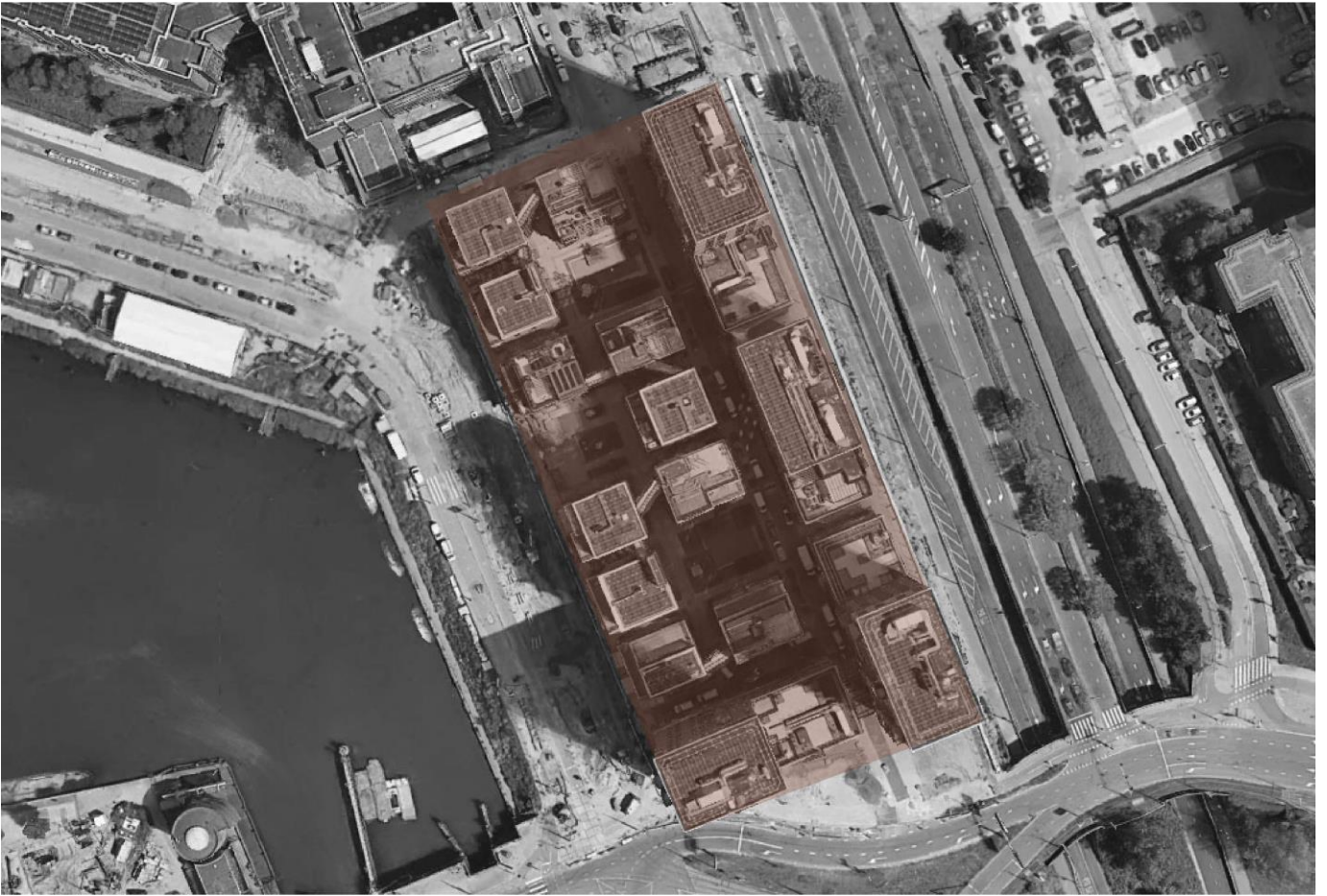


Figure 41 - Urban context with Little C in red (by author, using Google Earth)

## Spatial programme & Circulation

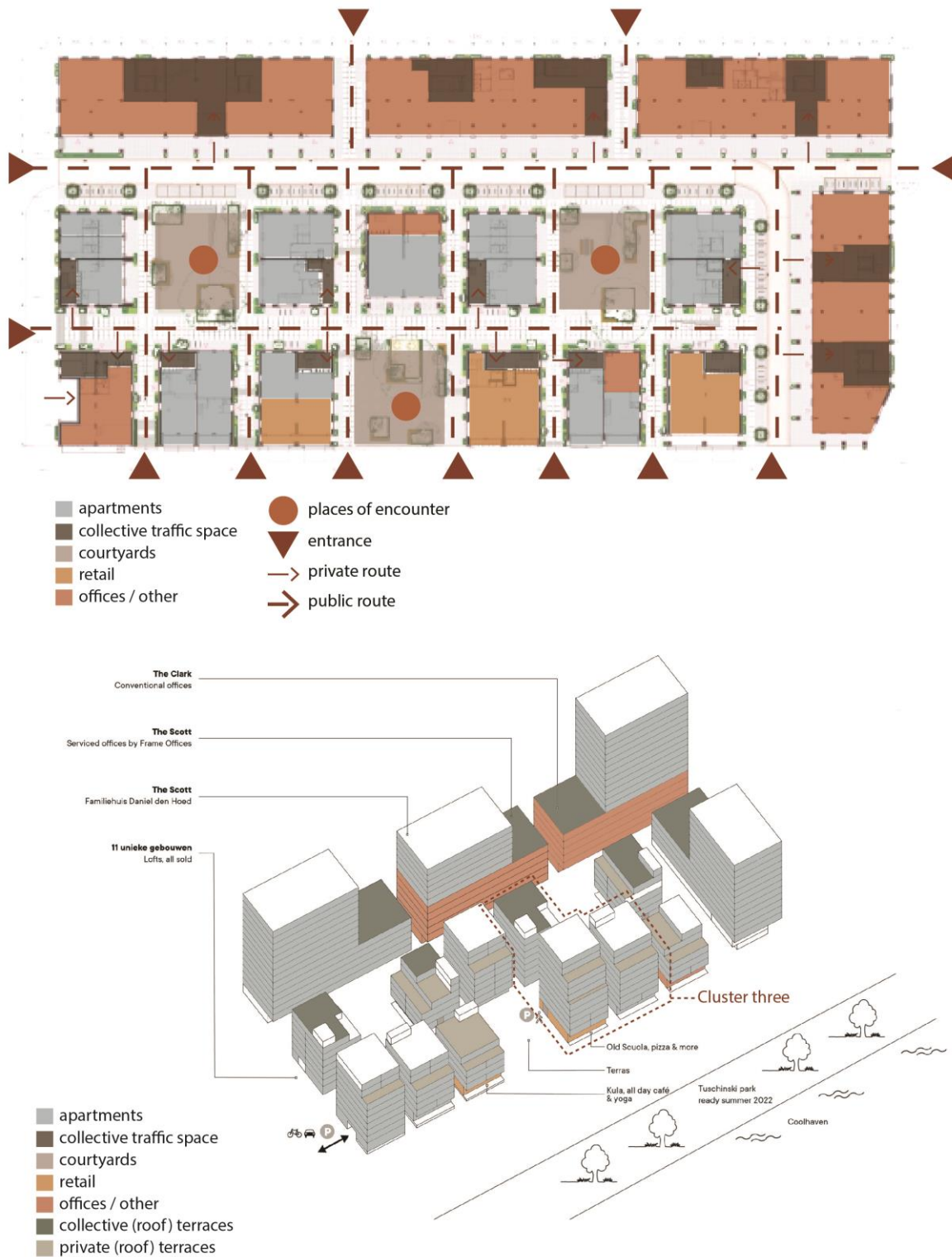


Figure 42 - Spatial programme and circulation (by author)

## Spatial and functional ingredients

<p>Dwelling</p>	<div data-bbox="371 344 735 521"> <p>private front garden</p> </div> <div data-bbox="735 344 1102 521"> </div> <div data-bbox="1102 344 1469 521"> <p>private balcony</p> </div> <div data-bbox="371 562 735 739"> <p>private terrace</p> </div>
<p>Block</p>	<div data-bbox="371 913 735 1090"> </div> <div data-bbox="735 913 1102 1090"> <p>rooftop meeting spaces with seating facilities and greenery</p> </div> <div data-bbox="371 1090 735 1267"> <p>rooftop meeting spaces with verandas, greenery, seating spaces and connected living rooms</p> </div>
<p>Neighborhood</p>	<div data-bbox="371 1400 735 1576"> <p>restaurant terrace with setback</p> </div> <div data-bbox="735 1400 1102 1576"> <p>inner courtyard with greenery, seating spaces and square</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1102 1400 1469 1576"> <p>inner street with entrances to apartment blocks (by bridges) and houses</p> </div>

Figure 43 - Communal, private and public functions overview (photos and drawings by author)

## Dwelling division (apartments)

Type K1 and K2 (apartment): 145 m<sup>2</sup>



Type L (apartment): 151 m<sup>2</sup>



Type C1 and C2 (apartment): 44 m<sup>2</sup>



### Legend

- living room
- kitchen
- bedroom (guest)
- bedroom
- hallway
- bathroom
- toilet
- storages
- hobby room
- office room
- terrace / balcony
- collective spaces

Type M1 and M2 (apartment): 156 m<sup>2</sup>

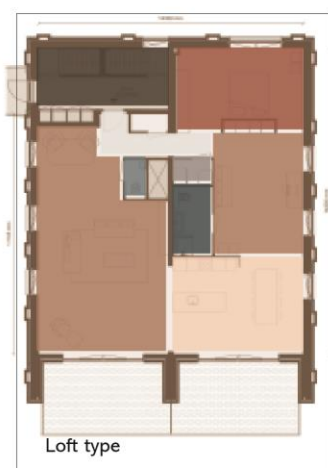


Figure 44 - Apartments of Cluster three (by author)

## Dwelling division (apartments)

Type N1 and N2 (apartment): 160 m<sup>2</sup>



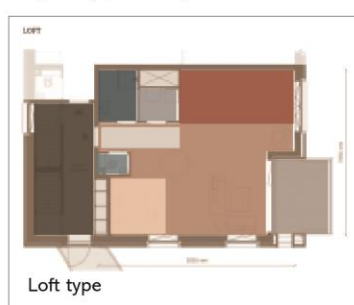
Type E1 and E2 (apartment): 96 m<sup>2</sup>



Type B1 and B2 (apartment): 61 m<sup>2</sup>



Type A (apartment): 65 m<sup>2</sup>



### Legend

- living room
- kitchen
- bedroom (guest)
- bedroom
- hallway
- bathroom
- toilet
- storages
- hobby room
- office room
- terrace / balcony
- collective spaces

Figure 45 - Apartments of Cluster three (by author)

## Dwelling division (maisonnettes)



Figure 46 – Maisonettes of Cluster three (by author)

## 5.5 Le Medi



Figure 47 - Le Medi (by author)

Location:	Rotterdam Bospolder
Year built:	2008
Architect:	Geurst & Schulze Architecten
FSI:	0,99
Apartments:	93
Target groups:	Singles, (starter) families and elderly

## Urban context



Figure 48 - Le Medi in the urban context (by author)

Le Medi is a project anchoring in the structure of the existing neighbourhood in Rotterdam Bospolder. Here, the outer edge acts as a city wall, referring to a patio (a walled garden or courtyard where seclusion and private character are important). Within this walled edge of the block, there is a vibrant Mediterranean world consisting of a succession of apartments of different size and character. Behind the striking arched entrance gates are the short streets with colourful facades leading to a central courtyard. This square features a fountain and water line inspired by the Alhambra (palace in Spain). Most houses are accessible from two sides and have patios and balconies. The gates here are open during the day and closed at night, creating a combination between a gated community and Dutch courtyard.<sup>52</sup>

The architecture consists of a diversity of materials and colours. On the outside of the block, the façades consist of light brick that is enlivened with decorative brickwork referring to the Mediterranean world. The windows are also framed by natural stone and the positioning is varied, creating a varied image. Within the block, the façades are colourfully warm through the use of keim coated brickwork. In practice, the Mediterranean atmosphere not only appeals to immigrants, but to people from all walks of life. The project thus shows that multiculturalism can bring positive meaning to the city and its residents.<sup>53</sup>

## Spatial programme & Circulation



Figure 49 - Spatial programme and circulation (by author)

## Dwelling type

Important to type A is the spacious 'entrance room' that takes up the entire width of the house and can be used as a reception room, living room, workspace, studio, dining kitchen, or study room. This layout eliminates the need for specifically Islamic floor plans with separate circuits. The idea here was to avoid the typical Dutch corridor, as well as the narrow beech (smalle beuk in Dutch). Also characteristic of type A is the kitchen in the middle, which separates two living rooms. This is different from type B, where the kitchen is separated on the ground floor from the living room on the first floor. This type is similar to the courtyard apartments, the difference being that the rear facade is closed by being adjacent to another apartment.



Figure 50 - Two typical floorplans of Le Medi (by author)

<p>Dwelling</p>	<div data-bbox="355 297 868 544" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="887 297 1102 734" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="355 544 793 757" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="351 770 834 869" data-label="Text"> <p>light and mediterrean materials at the court- yards such as natural stone plinth, white concrete columns and white bricks</p> </div> <div data-bbox="882 734 1166 833" data-label="Text"> <p>Front gardens and french balconies with integrated planters boxes</p> </div>
<p>Block</p>	<div data-bbox="355 900 571 1337" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="584 900 798 1337" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="874 909 1393 1160" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="865 1162 1380 1229" data-label="Text"> <p>spacious streets with private front gardens and colorful facade materials</p> </div> <div data-bbox="351 1337 588 1402" data-label="Text"> <p>veranda with balcony on the 1st floor</p> </div>
<p>Neighborhood</p>	<div data-bbox="355 1402 545 1787" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="351 1787 617 1856" data-label="Text"> <p>gateway to a semi-closed community</p> </div> <div data-bbox="874 1240 1393 1489" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="874 1489 1393 1740" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="865 1744 1402 1814" data-label="Text"> <p>collective/public courtyard with fountain, green- ery and seating spaces</p> </div>

Figure 51 - Spatial and functional ingredients (photos and scheme by author)

## Interview and site visit

On 21/02, I visited Le Medi, interviewing resident Jaina, who also guided me through her home. In doing so, a number of aspects stood out regarding living in a semi-enclosed neighbourhood with a collective and semi-public courtyard garden, as well as the spatial layout of her home. In terms of personality, Jaina is sociable, where she likes to interact with neighbours. At the time I visited Jaina, her home had already been almost completely vacated due to her moving, but nevertheless, she gave a good picture in her use of the home and neighbourhood. The reason she is moving is mainly because her current owner-occupied house has surplus value which she is keen to utilise by buying a more spacious house nearby. She deliberately bought a house not far from here because she still has occasional contact with the current residents, whom she knows well from her 15-year stay.



Figure 52 - Jaina's house (corner) with on the right the kitchen and on the left the entrance hall (by author)

### The kitchen and front garden facing the square

Interestingly, Jaina reports that she is most often in the kitchen on the ground floor and does not often use the living room on the first floor. This is firstly because she is much occupied with food, often cooking and having breakfast, lunch or dinner. She finds it convenient to eat right in the kitchen at the dining table. She therefore finds it hard to walk from the kitchen to the living room on the floor above. She also likes to sit in the front garden on the courtyard side, especially in the spring and summer months. This is also for practical reasons that this way she has enough supervision over her child who she then lets play in the courtyard. In addition, she likes sitting there because she likes to have surveillance of the surroundings in order to maintain

social contact with neighbours or people walking by from time to time. This makes the location of her home well suited, which is in the corner of the square and also the passageway to the square. However, she also finds that she occasionally needs privacy, making the courtyard garden less suitable for that at times. However, she does not need, for example, a backyard where she would have more privacy because she is socially inclined, but does know, for example, her opposite neighbours who do make more use of their backyard.

### Separate living room

Despite the difficulty of having the living room on the first floor, the separation between kitchen and living room is appreciated. This is due to the fact that when she receives visitors, the visitors can separate for a while in the kitchen or living room over the two floors, allowing them to isolate themselves from the others. This creating of two groups during visits is nice in case of crowds during house parties she sometimes organizes. However, since the living room and kitchen are separated over two floors, this also brings disadvantages. As mentioned before, the reason she is mainly on the ground floor is because she often uses the kitchen, the front garden and the square, which especially this combination makes for that. She would therefore also not move the kitchen to the first floor, which some of her neighbors have done. She often finds it boring to stay in the living room, which is partly due to her social character, where she finds that the living room is separated from the neighbourhood and she also has no supervision of her child on the square. Furthermore, she hardly uses the balcony as it is positioned on the north side, so it often feels cold and she also has little social contact with the neighbours on the balcony. However, she understands that the balcony is in this position because the houses are positioned around the collective courtyard. If Jaina were to change anything about the house, it would mainly be even more space and a balcony on the south facade.

## The collective courtyard garden

The courtyard itself is most used by children and sometimes parents stand by their children to supervise, allowing parents to meet each other. According to Jaina, the square is ideal for children to play in because it is a semi-enclosed area where no cars drive. As a result, she does not have to look around to make sure her child is safe. which even often causes a nuisance. The neighbours sometimes have to remind the children or parents not to make too much noise, which causes the parents to call the children on it or take them to a nearby park or football field so they can burn off their energy. That the square causes so much noise pollution from children surprises most new residents who are under the assumption that it is a quiet square, which it is outside the summer months. In the winter months, the square is hardly used because everyone has seen enough of each other in the summer months and most like to sit inside then. Furthermore, the square is also occasionally visited by the public outside Le Medi, especially tourists or people who do take a walk together, sometimes on behalf of the physiotherapist, for example.

Furthermore, the square helps to connect with neighbours as residents often like to sit on the side of the square. Also, the front doors at some homes are positioned on the side of the square, with the other side of the facade serving as the front door for another home. These houses are the smallest at 103 m<sup>2</sup>, and herewith have a kitchen, storeroom and toilet on the ground floor, the living room on the first floor and a large and small bedroom as well as a bering and bathroom on the second floor.



Figure 53 - Front garden facing the courtyard (by author)

## Background and the neighbourhood

Jaina herself has a Hindustani background, but says her background did not necessarily play a role in choosing the house. The choice of her home was mainly because it looked nice. Jaina came to live here as a single person without a child, where at first she had hardly any contact with neighbours. What contact there was was often fleeting by, for instance, a greeting on the street while walking by. When she became pregnant, she noticed that she started having much more in-depth contact with her neighbours, whom she normally never really spoke to, for example. This can be explained by the fact that it gave her shared interests with the neighbours, who consisted of families with children.

Le Medi is mostly home to parents with children. There are also elderly and single people, but there are not many of them. She says there are many migrants, especially Turkish residents, who often visit each other and organise things. Apart from that, activities do not often take place in the neighbourhood, except that Halloween and Christmas are celebrated and a Christmas tree is decorated on the square, for example. Residents also sometimes organise birthday parties in the neighbourhood and barbecues, but these are often between groups, for example Turkish residents. She would have no further need for a communal living room. She also further notices that she now also has hardly any contact with other single people living there.

## Conclusion

What stands out from the interview are some aspects regarding the use of the home and neighborhood in relation to Jaina's target group (parent with child) and social character. Because Jaina is socially inclined, she feels the need to be located in the kitchen by the square and its front garden to have a good view of the square and easy contact with neighbors or passers-by. Having a child also reinforces this to have easy supervision this way when they play in the square. The living room on the floor above is less frequently used for these reasons. So there is a need to have a living

space located on the square. The need is also to separate the kitchen and living room so that when people visit, they can retreat to one of the two spaces. Furthermore, the function of the square is ideal for families with children, with the enclosed area from cars providing a pleasant place for this target group. Having neighbors with a similar target group, namely also families with children, also played an important role in having a pleasant living environment and deep social contact. It is also notable that groups of residents with similar backgrounds have formed, such as the Turkish residents who seek each other out. This was also seen earlier with Turkish elderly people in the Housing for Turkish Elderly project in Haarlem. Despite these clusters of backgrounds, Le Medi as a whole makes for a collective neighborhood where residents easily come into contact with each other. This is also largely due to the fact that, in general, the front doors are positioned on the same side, namely on the side of the courtyard garden. Furthermore, there is not so much of a need to approach residents outside the target group or area of interest, also because everyone leads their own lives, which they themselves had experienced in the beginning.

## 5.6 Katendrecht, Deliplein (neighborhood)



Figure 54 - Deliplein with few markets during the weekly Friday market (by author)

As part of the research on creating the right mix between migrants and non-migrants and realizing the kind of neighborhood atmosphere for encouraging mutual integration, I visited two different neighborhoods in Rotterdam (outside Groot-IJsselmonde) as case studies. These are Katendrecht and the Afrikaanderbuurt. These two neighborhoods differ greatly from each other in contrast, with Katendrecht being more the neighborhood for the so-called yuppies (young professional working people), and the Afrikaanderbuurt containing many more migrants. The reason for visiting Katendrecht was further because it has recently undergone a major transformation from a migrant neighborhood to a fairly modernized neighborhood. Here it was interesting to find out what influence this has had on the neighborhood and whether this is perceived positively or negatively for mutual integration. The

same goes for the Afrikaanderbuurt which is 95% migrant. At these two locations I conducted interviews which I have summarized in this part of the research.

The findings here are that Katendrecht has become a fairly quiet neighborhood with almost nothing going on. The streets largely consist of terraced houses or flats with a café or restaurant here and there. At the entrance of the area there are hotspots such as the Deliplein, supermarkets and the Felix which in the future will become a cultural hotspot including a food court. The Deli Square has recently been experimenting with a pilot where an open market is held every Friday. However, this has not gone down well, with visitor numbers being disappointing. The neighborhood has been perceived as very individualistic, which is not very conducive to mutual integration. There are missing

places to do activities together.



Figure 55 - Other side of the Deliplein with restaurant seating spaces on the left, and pathway seatings on the right (by author)

The Cape Market is a one-year pilot, with the intention of experimenting with the Deli Square. This stems in part from residents' desire that something be done with the Deli Square because it had no function. The pilot is not going as expected, which is partly because it began in March when corona was still current. Also the summer vacation is not playing well now. In the beginning there were many more entrepreneurs involved, but most of them dropped out because there was little enthusiasm for it. As a result, there are only 4 of us here now.

The reason Katendrecht is in such good shape now is largely because of gentrification. This has changed the neighborhood considerably. Where before there was mainly social housing there is now a great mix between social housing, rental and owner-occupied housing. I think gentrification has given this neighborhood a positive boost, but I also worry that it will go too far, turning it into a wealthy neighborhood with only highly educated people and rich people.

In terms of amenities, it's fine, although I do miss places to go out in this neighborhood, such as bars or restaurants. The only ones there are actually here at Deli Square, and maybe in the future at the Felix Factory. There will also be a migrant museum and library here. I also find that most amenities are quite relatively far. The Kruidvat or Etos, for example, is a 10-minute bike ride, but these days with the convenience of ordering, I find that's already too much. Because of this, I often choose convenience to just order it. Furthermore, my husband finds that the culture (which may have less to do with the

neighborhood) is quite pragmatic. I notice compared to my Venezuelan background culture that the Dutch are mostly focused on their studies and work, which is of course very positive, but therefore also lacks a bit of the nightlife culture. This will probably also affect the amenities around here, as there are now many working people living there. However, this is a lack in my opinion. Compared to the neighborhoods next door, it is therefore also quite a contrast to Katendrecht as the more quiet neighborhood.



Figure 56 - Deliplein restaurant seatings with canopy (by author)

Other than that, I don't use my neighborhood much, except for the supermarket around the corner. In fact, I myself work at home with my husband, where we work together on the products of this stall. Occasionally I do go to the center for the bigger groceries. I also know that at the beginning of Katendrecht there is a living room at the apartment complex, which is mainly used by the elderly. However, I believe it is also accessible to the neighborhood. Furthermore, it is the Delipark and a community center nearby.

## 5.7 Afrikaanderplein, Afrikaanderwijk (neighbourhood)



Figure 57 - Afrikaanderplein (by author)

On 19/08 I went to Katendrecht and the Afrikaanderbuurt in Rotterdam. Walking through the park, a number of things stand out. Groups of people have formed in the park, including a group of elderly people, a group of Surinamese or Antillean migrants, and there are individual migrants of Moroccan descent sitting on the bench resting for a moment before going about their day. One of the Moroccan women I interviewed.

I was born and raised in Rotterdam, so I know this neighborhood pretty well by now. It is a neighborhood where a lot goes on, unfortunately often the wrong things in my opinion. There is regular nuisance from young people on the streets, including those who race by on scooters or harass others in the street. This may have to do with the fact that there are few facilities for these young people in the neighborhood. The ratio of migrants to non-migrants is out of balance because there are many more migrants than Dutch people. In fact, there are almost no Dutch in this neighborhood. However, this does not benefit the integration and upbringing of the youth, which can also be seen in the nuisance. The problem is particularly among the newer generation of young people. Their spoken language is not too good. However, in my opinion, it is mainly down to how you are raised. Often parents do not control their children or do not know what they are doing, but it also varies on the character of the person. For example, I myself have no Dutch friends, but I am very well integrated. I have nothing against it, but also don't necessarily have a need to seek out Dutch people. I find that contact with other migrants is also easier, perhaps because we tend to seek out people with similar backgrounds.

The nuisance may be due to the greater concentration of lower social classes in this neighborhood. However, it varies from person to person, among both migrants and Dutch there are good and bad people. Although the ratio of migrants to non-migrants may have an influence on this.



Figure 59 - (by author)



Figure 60 - (by author)

I think it is going in the right direction with the development in the neighborhood due to gentrification, but I also worry about the residents who already live there. After all, soon it will no longer be affordable for them to live somewhere else when they are evicted. Indeed, it may well be heading in that direction. The prices here are rising tremendously also because properties are being bought up by property owners and then reselling it again to individuals for higher amounts.

I don't necessarily miss amenities related to my culture. I do feel reasonably at home here, of course not as at home as I would feel in Morocco, but I am fine with it. Nevertheless, again, I don't see my future here in a busy city. I am much more of a quiet person and would therefore rather live in a quieter neighborhood.



Figure 58 - (by author)

## 6. Bibliography & Definitions

## 6.1 Definitions

### Migrant type definitions <sup>54</sup>

Migrant: someone moving to another region or country

Immigrant: someone who settles permanently in a certain country from another country (contrast: emigrant)

Emigrant: someone who moves to another country (contrast: immigrant)

Remigrant / returnee: a person who, after having resided in another country for some time, decides to return to the country of origin <sup>55</sup>

### Refugee / asylum seeker / statusholder

Refugee: someone who is on the run

Political refugee: someone who flees his or her country for political reasons

Economic refugee: migrant who leaves his or her homeland to get a better life elsewhere

Asylum seeker: someone who seeks political asylum outside his own country

Status holder: refugee with a residence permit

### Labor migrant / guestworker / expat / Knowledge migrant

Labor migrant: someone who migrates to find work or better paid work

Guest worker: employee from abroad

Expatriate: Someone who works for an international organization and settles in another country for an extended period. This can be someone from either within or outside the EU. For example, large companies such as Shell, ASML and Tata Steel regularly send their employees to work in a foreign office for a longer period of time in order to acquire certain knowledge and skills for a (difficult) project.

<sup>56</sup>

Knowledge migrant: a highly educated immigrant. For example, a (guest) teacher, a (scientific) researcher or a doctor in training. <sup>57</sup> The difference with the expatriate is that the highly skilled migrant will be working for a completely new employer. In order to work as a highly skilled migrant, the company must first be recognized by the IND as a sponsor (a person or organization that has an interest in the stay of a person from abroad in the Netherlands). If they are not yet, this procedure can take 1 to 3 months.

International student: student coming from other countries for educational purposes

Family reunification / formation: reunification of a foreign family in the Netherlands usually after a member of that family has obtained a valid residence permit in the Netherlands

### Migration background definitions: <sup>58</sup>

First generation: Someone born abroad

Second generation: Someone born in the Netherlands whose at least one parent was born abroad

Third generation: Someone born in the Netherlands, of whom both parents were also born in the Netherlands, but of whom at least one of the grandparents was born abroad. Someone with the third generation is not considered a migration background anymore, but rather a Dutch background.

Western migration background: Person whose migration background is one of the countries in Europe (excluding Turkey), North America and Oceania, and Indonesia and Japan. <sup>59</sup>

Non-Western migration background: Person whose migration background is one of the countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia (excluding Indonesia and Japan) or Turkey. <sup>60</sup>

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