

This project is part of the *research consortium* "Migration and societal Integration" which studies acculturation and its consequences for the psychosocial adjustment of Diaspora migrants in Israel and Germany. The focus of this project is on positive development during biographical transitions from childhood to early adulthood.

Background

This project examines the importance of regulating formal and informal *developmental transitions* in childhood and adolescence for immigrants and minorities compared to the native population in Germany and Israel. Formal (kindergarten & school entry) and informal transitions (first romantic relationships & marriage) are included. These transitions require adjustment and as such pose challenges for all social groups. However, they also offer opportunities for gaining competence, and, as they occur early in life, may be important in setting directions for long-term developmental processes. Individual and familial strategies of dealing with the transitions are a special and innovative focus in this project.

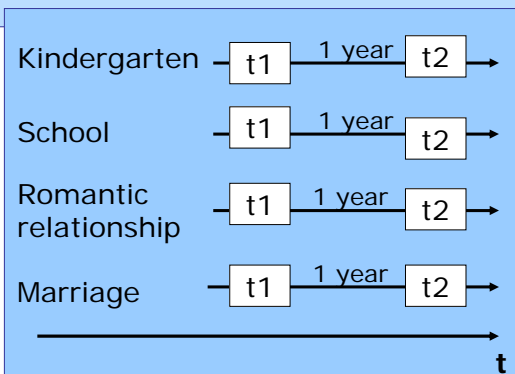
Variables	Measures
Demands	Developmental transitions
Control processes	Control strategies
Preacculturative moderators	Sociodemography Motivation for immigration, cultural distance, (religion, language), self-efficacy expectation, personality variables
Acculturative moderators	Length of time in the host country, acculturation strategies, social capital, discrimination, coping strategies
Target variables	Positive development: "Five C's" (Competence, Confidence, Caring, Character, Connection)

Design

Children, adolescents and their parents take part in *standardized interviews in two annual waves*. The general aim is to study how the different ethnic groups deal with the biographical transitions in question. Theoretically, our hypotheses are based on process-orientated models of acculturation (Berry, 1997) and integrate findings from former projects of our research group. A particular strength of the project is the focus on positive development, i.e., the study of factors leading to a better adjustment of migrant and native groups.

Two waves:

- T1: Initial phase shortly after the transition
- T2: Settlement phase, 1 year later



Sample

	Germany	Israel
Reference group	Natives (N = 100)	Natives (N = 100)
Diaspora immigrants	Ethnic Germans (N = 100)	Russian Jews (N = 100)
Jewish immigrants from FSU	Russian Jews (N = 100)	
Ethnic minority	Turks (N = 100)	Israeli Arabs (N = 100)

N = 700 per transition; altogether N = 2.800

A *comparison between different migrant groups* in Israel and Germany, together with a native group in each context allows us to disentangle individual resources, and group-specific and context-specific factors in dealing with the challenges of the respective transition. It also enables us to study the relevance of these different factors for the acculturation process among immigrants. Altogether 2.800 participants take part at the study.

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