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**Turkish Immigrants’ Perception of Integration in Russia: The Role of Religiosity**

The research question is how integration is perceived and experienced by Turkish immigrants in Moscow. The sub questions are: What role does religion play in their integration process? What are ways of integrating experienced by Turkish immigrants, socio- economic, cultural or both? This study follows the Grounded Theory, the researcher used in-depth interviews based on open ended questions. This is the most appropriate way to understand informant’s immigration stories and give more space to express themselves freely. We need diversity in the sample, Moscow is the chosen to collect data.

The final sample includes 7 males and 6 females of ages from 22 to 47, less and more religious people. All but one female are housewives while all males are employed. The minimum period of residency in Russia is 3 years; the maximum is 19 years. The sample is limited to middle-class Turkish immigrants.

One important result is that religiosity is not experienced as a hindrance for integration. It seems that religiosity does not play a strong factor for Turkish immigrants, since immigrants experience Russia as a multiethnic and multi-confessional country.

Another result is that socio-economic integration does not need to result in cultural integration in the perception of immigrants. Cultural integration may be understood in two different ways: integration into the Slavic culture or integration into a multiethnic and multi-confessional country that supports religious freedom. Obviously the second way is perceived as successful, as most of the participants praise Russia for its tolerance. 