

Refugee Integration: Local perspectives in contrasting European contexts

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“In a Europe without internal borders member States and the EU need to act on the basis of a common vision. This is a prerequisite for managing legal immigration and *integration*, fighting illegal immigration whilst upholding universal values such as protection of refugees, respect for human dignity and tolerance.”

Communication on ‘ A common immigration policy for Europe; principles, actions and tools’, June 2008.

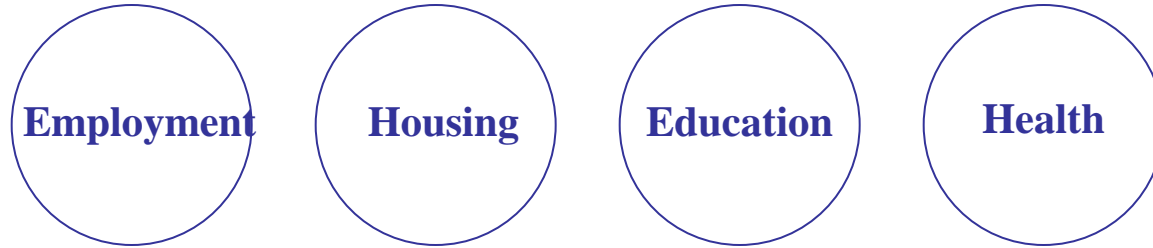


Defining 'Integration'....

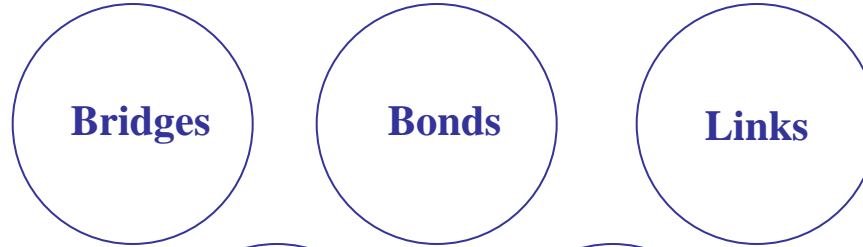
- **Contested**
(Robinson, 1998; Castles et al., 2001)
- **Culturally determined**
(Kuhlman, 1991)
- **Always in a process of change**
(Castles et al., 2003).



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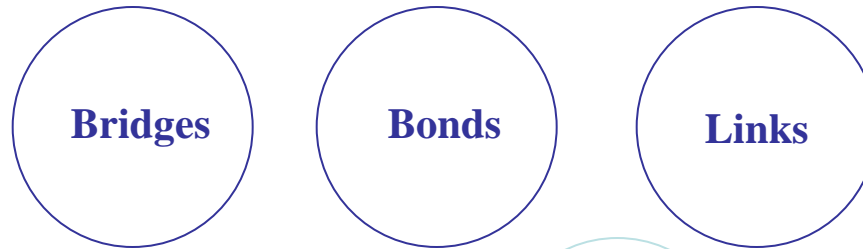
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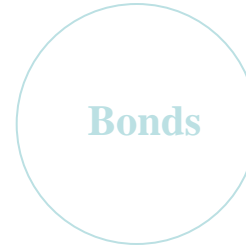
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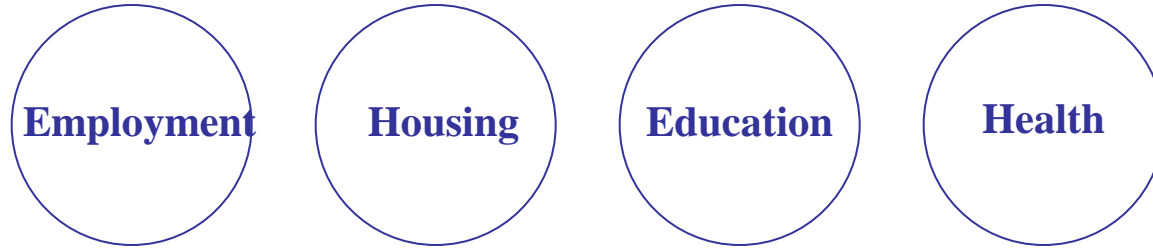
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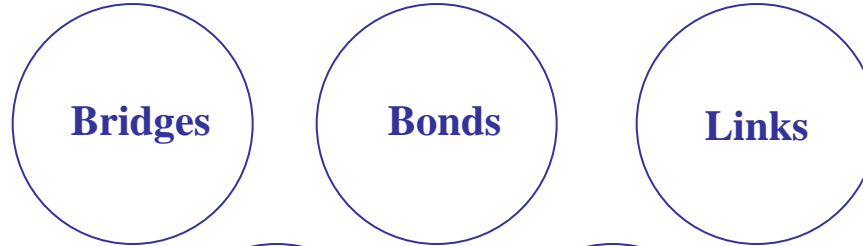
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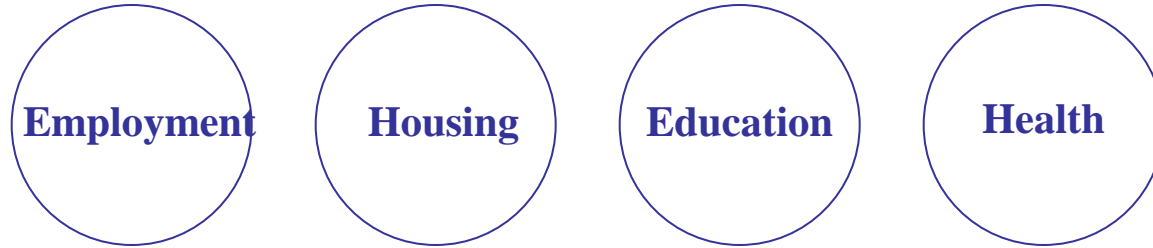


Rights valued by refugees:

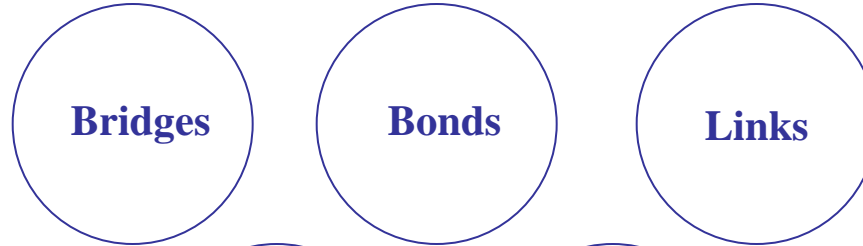
- *Permanent right of residence*
- *Family reunification*
- *Safety*
- *Human dignity*
- *Independence*



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Key References:

Ager, A & Strang, A (2008) Understanding integration: a conceptual framework. *Jnl Refugee Studies*, 21,2.

Losi, N & Strang, A (2008) *Local communities and refugees. Fostering social integration*. Final report of the *IntegraRef* project.
<http://psychosocial.iom.int/finalReport.pdf>

