

## **ABSTRACT SOCCULT DUBLIN**

Inclusion and Exclusion of Social Rights of Immigrants.  
How do immigrants fare compared to natives in Belgium?

**Gerlinde Verbist, Ninke Mussche and Vincent Corluy**

Centre for Social Policy, University of Antwerp

In this paper we examine the inclusion and exclusion of social rights of immigrants in Belgium. We define social rights as having access to social provisions, both in kind and in cash. Our focus will be on cash provisions. How do social rights for immigrants differ from those for natives? What is the impact of this inclusion or exclusion of social rights on the income position of immigrants? In order to tackle this issue, we first present an overview of the various social rights, and the extent to which the various categories of immigrants have access to these rights. We put the Belgian situation in perspective by comparing it with a selection of other European countries. In a second section, we draw up a socio-economic profile of immigrants (socio-economic characteristics, income sources, income inequality and poverty). Next, we investigate the migrant-specific explanation for the dependency on and the contribution to the social security system of immigrants. For this purpose we have applied a probit model, using the data of EU-SILC 2004. In a final section we put the Belgian results in an international perspective by performing a similar analysis for Ireland, Spain and Sweden.