Superdiversity & intangible cultural heritage

Challenges for musea

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Rotterdam, Intangible Cultural Heritage & Museums Project (IMP)

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Superdiversity in the heart of Europe

Made in Antwerp.
Ontdek **ANTWERPEN VANDAAG** van 19 tot 28 mei.
03 22 11 333

▶ In 2017 two out of three children in Brussel & Antwerpen, Rotterdam & Amsterdam have a migration background

▶ This lecture:

  ▶ What is superdiversity & how can we understand the transition towards superdiversity?

  ▶ What are the challenges for Intangible Cultural Heritage & Museums?

1. The lense of superdiversity

Dirk Geldof

SUPER DIVERSITY IN THE HEART OF EUROPE

How migration changes our society

acco

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

Diversification and 'diversity': configurations, representations and encounters: A Guest Lecture by

PROFESSOR STEVEN VERTOVEC
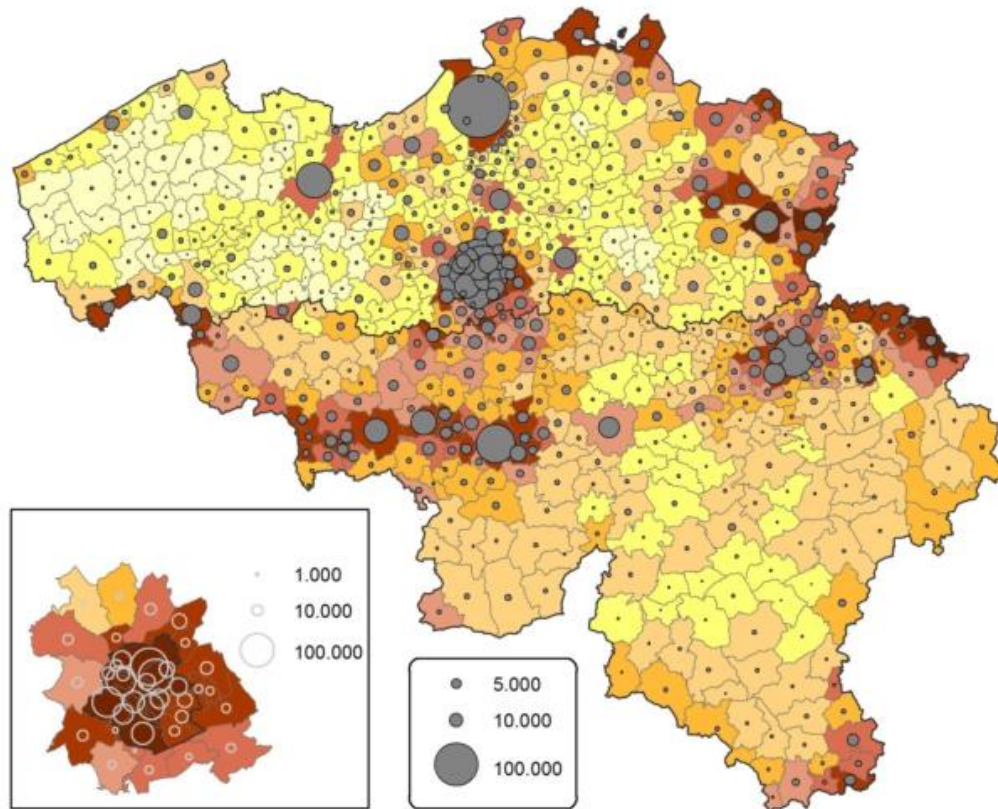
24 October 2012
5.30 pm
Room G15 Main Lecture Theatre, MHT

▶ A relatively new concept
▶ First coined by Steven Vertovec 2005/2007
  ▶ Complexity of & diversity in London

▶ Superdiversity
  ▶ Not just a synonym for (ethnic) 'diversity' or 'multicultural society'
  ▶ A new period in migration & a profound demographic and social transition.

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The concept of superdiversity: work in progress

The Age of Superdiversity

rethinking a rapidly changing society

- ▶ A new concept with a broad range of interpretations
  - ▶ See Meissner & Vertovec 2015
  - ▶ & lecture New York Steven Vertovec 2016
  - ▶ Descriptive, methodological & practical

- ▶ Superdiversity has (at least) three dimensions
  - ▶ Quantitative transition/context
    - ▶ Majority-minority cities
  - ▶ Qualitative transition
    - ▶ Processes of (migration driven) diversification
  - ▶ (contested) normalisation of diversity
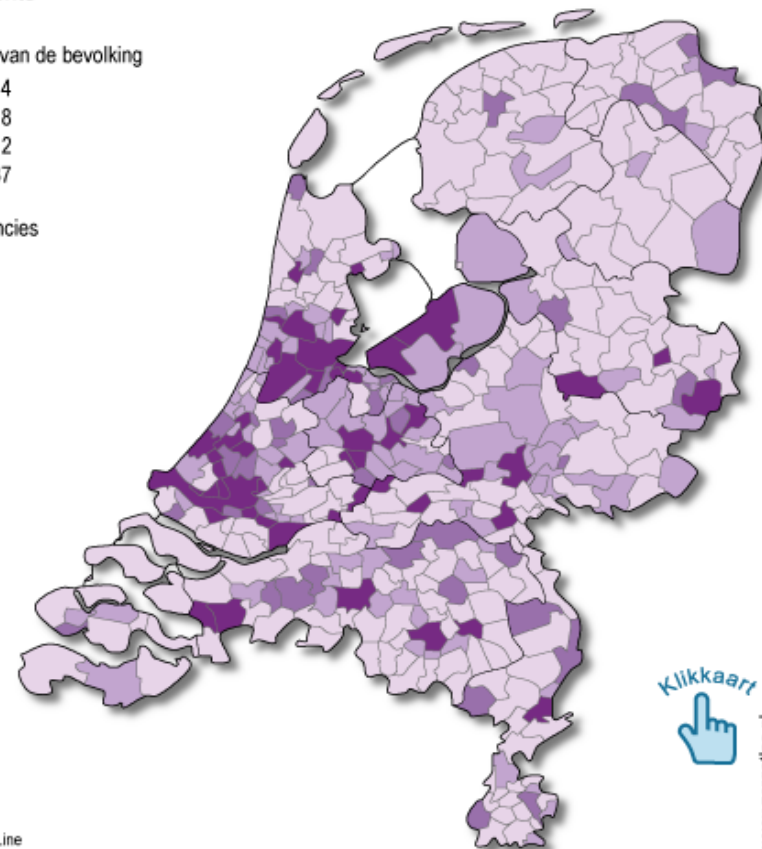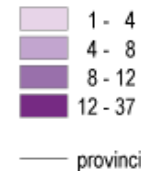   - ▶ Demographic normalisation, commonplace diversity (Wessendorf), conviviality

1. Quantitative transition: diversity increases everywhere, but the most in urban areas

| >=50,0% | 25,0 - 33,3% | 15,0 - 19,9% | 5,0 - 9,9% |
| 33,4 - 49,9% | 20,0 - 24,9% | 10,0 - 14,9% | 0,0 - 4,9% |

1.000
10.000
100.000

• 5.000
• 10.000
• 100.000

Niet-westerse allochtonen 2013
per gemeente

Percentage van de bevolking
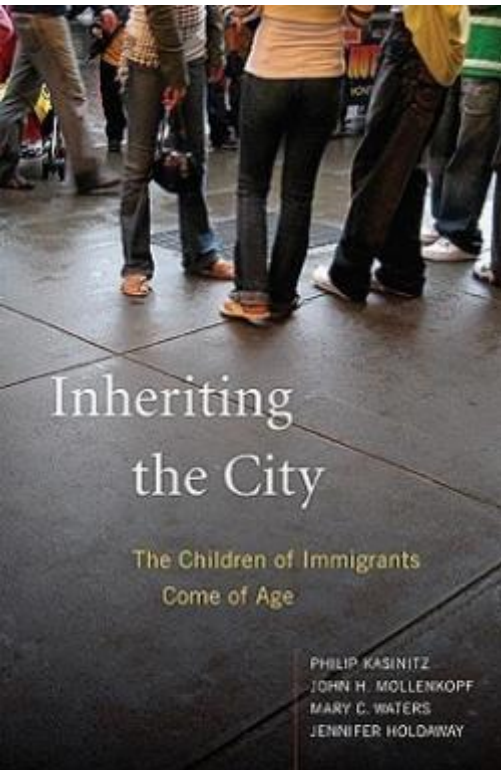1 - 4
4 - 8
8 - 12
12 - 37

— provincies

Bron: CBS-StatLine

Klikkaart

www.zorgatlas.nl

Part of the quantitative transition is the transition towards majority-minority cities

- '*majority-minority cities*' (Crul et al):
  - Cities with a majority of different minorities
- In global cities such as New York, Sao Paolo, Toronto of Sydney
  - E.g. Kasinitz et al on New York
- Recently in European cities as well:
  - Brussels, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Den Hague
  - Tomorrow in Antwerp, Frankfurt and many other (large) European cities
- Two cases: new demographic data on Brussels (2015) & Antwerp (2017)

Inheriting the City

The Children of Immigrants Come of Age

PHILIP KASINITZ
JOHN H. MOLLENKOPF
MARY C. WATERS
JENNIFER HOLDAWAY

Brussel metropolitan region: one of the world's most diverse cities

Brussels Gewest: % personen van buitenlandse herkomst per gemeente, begin 2015 (eigen verwerking op basis van SVR & DWH AM&SB KSZ)
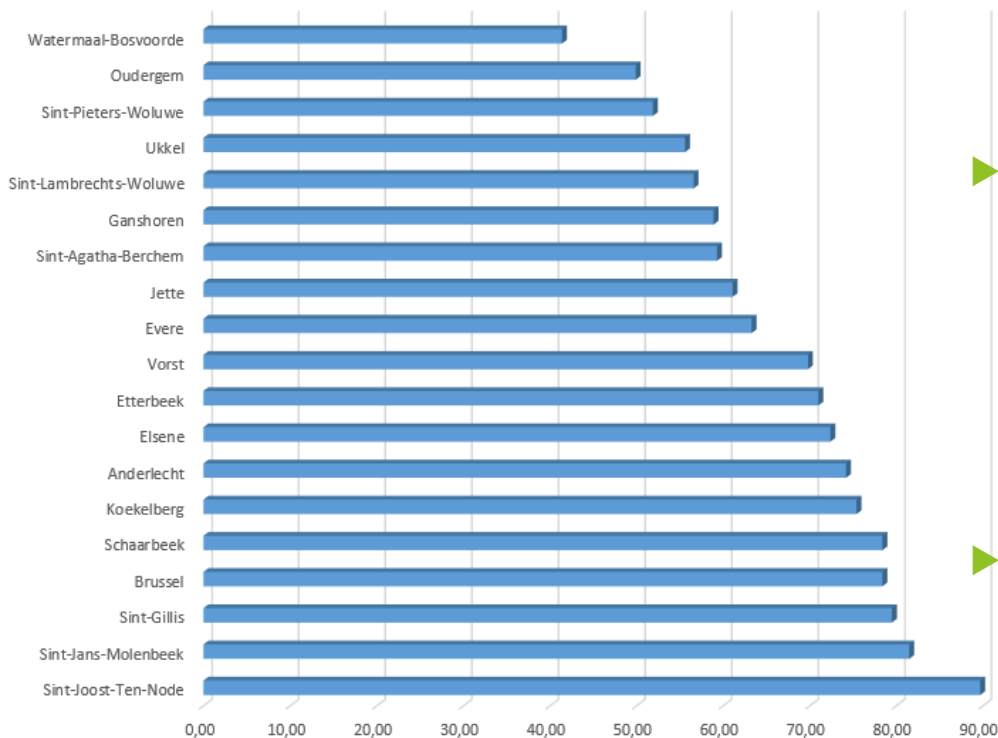

- ▶ 70,4% of all citizens of foreign origin
  - ▶ Other nationality
  - ▶ Other nationality at the moment of birth
  - ▶ Father or mother having anther nationality at the moment of birth
- ▶ Large differences within Brussels
  - ▶ In absolute numbers and %
  - ▶ But also according to other characteristics
    - ▶ Poor/rich (e.g. diplomats & eurocrats)
    - ▶ Countries of origine
    - ▶ Housing & employment
- ▶ Demographic dynamic is crucial
  - ▶ Less diversity among elderly citizens
  - ▶ Almost all kids & youngsters have migration backgrounds

Antwerp at the tipping point to become a majority-minority city in 2018-2019

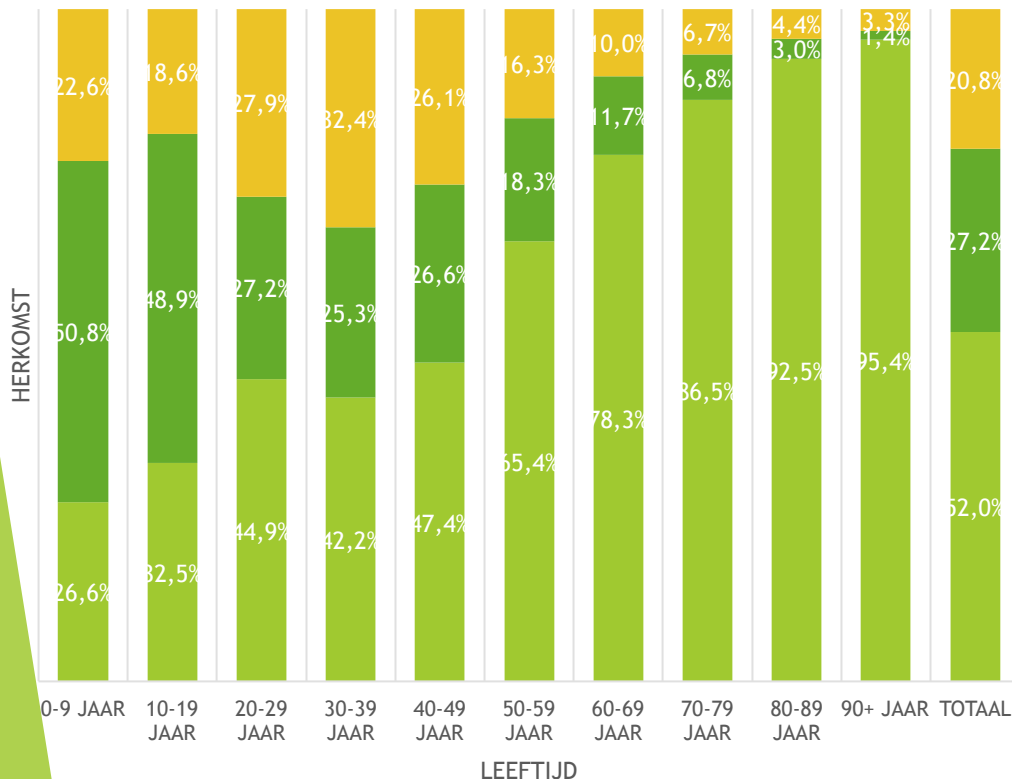

Bron: Stad Antwerpen, Districts- en loketwerking
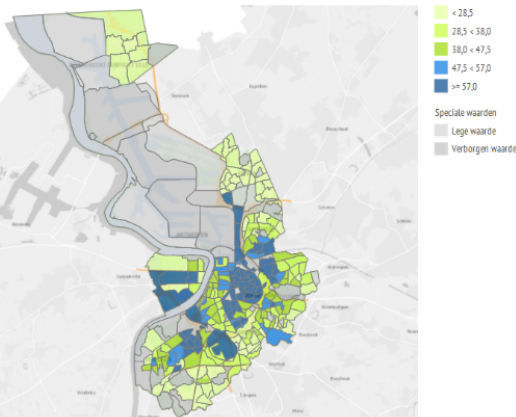
- ▶ 521.946 inhabitants
- ▶ 20,5% non-Belgian citizens
- ▶ In global 48% of inhabitants rooted in migration
  - ▶ including country of origin of parents

- ▶ Strong population increase
  - ▶ From 445,000 citizens in 2000
  - ▶ To 522.000 today
  - ▶ 600.000 expected in 2030

- ▶ Due to
  - ▶ More children born
  - ▶ Internal migration
  - ▶ Antwerp as arrival city

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Antwerp at the tipping point to become a majority-minority city in 2018 or 2019

STAD ANTWERPEN, VERDELING INWONERS VOLGENS LEEFTIJD EN HERKOMST, 1/1/2017

Legend: ■ autochtone Belg ■ Belg uit migratie ■ vreemdeling

LEEFTIJD	autochtone Belg	Belg uit migratie	vreemdeling
0-9 JAAR	26,6%	50,8%	22,6%
10-19 JAAR	32,5%	48,9%	18,6%
20-29 JAAR	44,9%	27,2%	27,9%
30-39 JAAR	42,2%	25,3%	32,4%
40-49 JAAR	47,4%	26,6%	26,1%
50-59 JAAR	65,4%	18,3%	16,3%
60-69 JAAR	78,3%	11,7%	10,0%
70-79 JAAR	86,5%	6,8%	6,7%
80-89 JAAR	92,5%	3,0%	4,4%
90+ JAAR	95,4%	1,4%	3,3%
TOTAAL	52,0%	27,2%	20,8%

Y-axis: HERKOMST
X-axis: LEEFTIJD

- Strong differences according to age & ethnicity
  - Less then 10% amongst oldest inhabitants
  - > 50% among -50-ers
  - > 70% among kids

▶ Even without further migration Antwerp becomes a majority-minority-city in the next years
▶ + yearly arrival of 4000-6000 new migrants

The concept of majority-minority cities…

- Helps to understand demographic transitions
  - Superdiversity is not (only) about new migration, but about the actual population dynamics
  - Spread, speed & scale (Meissner & Vertovec, 2015)
- Contributes to 'normalisation'
  - See the city as it is
    - And not as it was…
- Gives recognition to ethnic minorities
  - It is 'our' city as well
- Includes transitions in intangible cultural heritage

- **Picture: parade of the giants in Borgerhout (folklore, Reuzenstoet), first Muslim giant in 2013 participating**

However, the concept of majority-minority cities…

- ▶ Frightens some people
- ▶ Neglects power relations
  - ▶ A 'demographic' majority of minorities hides huge power and socio-economic inequalities
- ▶ Might hinder our understanding of superdiversity, if used in a simplified way
- ▶ Differences within groups are becoming larger & more important compared to differences between groups
  - ▶ First, second, third, fourth generation
  - ▶ Rich/poor
  - ▶ High/low educated
  - ▶ Religious/non-religious
  - ▶ Dutch speaking/multilingual/non-Dutch-speaking
  - ▶ …
- ▶ **Picture: ceremony at the end of the integration course for newcomers at the townhall of Antwerp**

# 2. Superdiversity as a qualitative transition: increasing diversity within diversity
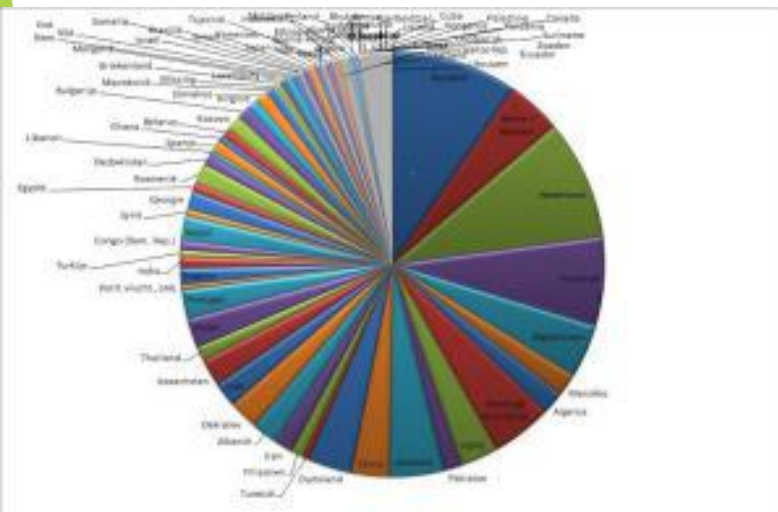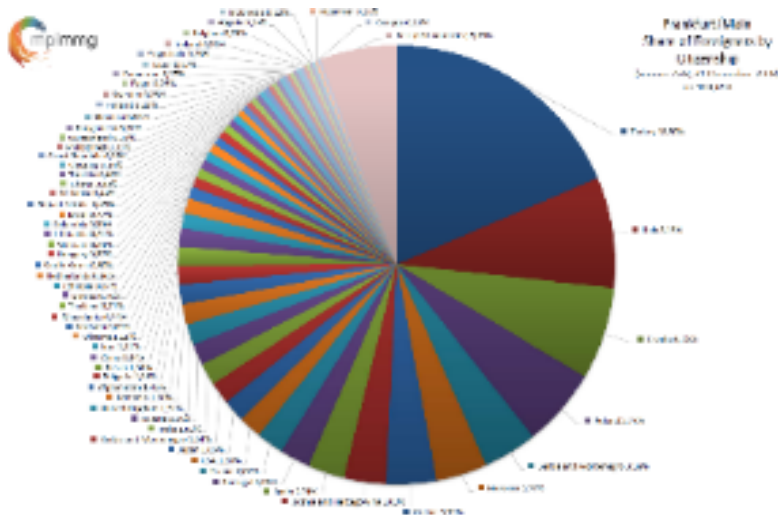
▶ **'the diversification of diversity'**,

▶ 'the dynamic interplay of […] new, small & scattered, multiple-origin, transnationally connected, socio-economically differentiated & legally stratified immigrants'

　　▶ (Steven Vertovec)

▶ Graphs: different nationalities living in

　　▶ Frankfurt (Germany)

　　▶ Ostend (Belgium)

Superdiversity as a qualitative transition: increasing diversity within diversity

RED ★ STAR ★ LINE

The Red Star Liner S. S. Belgenland in the River Scheldt

This ship, of 27,000 tons register, the Queen of the Red Star Line fleet, is the largest steamer entering the port of Antwerp, and one of the finest in trans-Atlantic service.

▶ The basic pattern of migration has changed

  ▶ 1950's-1980's: people from a limited number of countries of origin towards a limited number of destination countries

  ▶ 1990's-today: people from a much more countries of origin moving towards a higher number of destination countries

=> Increasing diversity within diversity
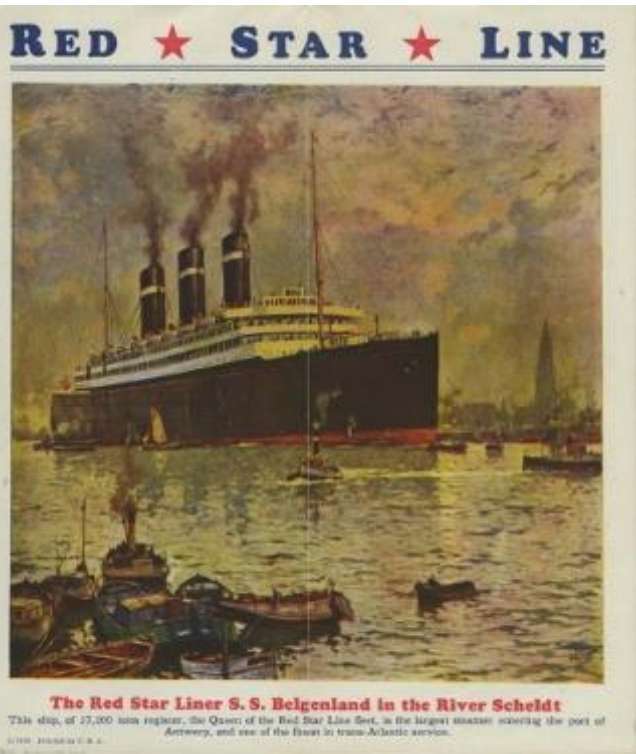
Superdiversity is about increasing diversity within diversity

▶ An increasing hybridity in & complexity of our society, especially in cities

▶ interaction between
- ⇒ More nationalities
- ⇒ More different languages
- ⇒ Increasing religious diversity
- ⇒ Diversity in motivations to migrate
- ⇒ Diversity in legal statusses
- ⇒ Diversity in socio-economic positions
- ⇒ Diversity in and between different communities
- ⇒ Increasing transnational lifestyles and transmigration
- ⇒ …

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3. Superdiversity as a (contested) process of normalisation of diversity

'Vlaanderen evolueert naar superdiversiteit'
06/01/2016 om 13:07 door trvd | Bron: Belga

- ▶ Beyond dominant majority-thinking
- ▶ Beyond thé minority as an exception
- ▶ Superdiversity as the 'new normal'
- ▶ Susanne Wessendorf: '*Commonplace diversity*'
  - ▶ Also in profesional settings
    - ▶ Social work, education, health care, policy, public administration, business, …

- ▶ However, not without conflicts or tensions
  - ▶ A politically contested process
 - ▶ with steps forward & backward
  - ▶ driven by demography

=> **Superdiversity as a reality & a challenge in the 21ˢᵗ century**

- ► Our society changes faster as our way of thinking, analyzing or governing

- ► Need for new frameworks for research and policy

- ► Beyond methodological nationalism

  - ► Wimmer & Glick Schiller, Beck, ...

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Exploring challenges in contexts of superdiversity

Dirk Geldof
SUPER DIVERSITY IN THE HEART OF EUROPE
How migration changes our society
acco
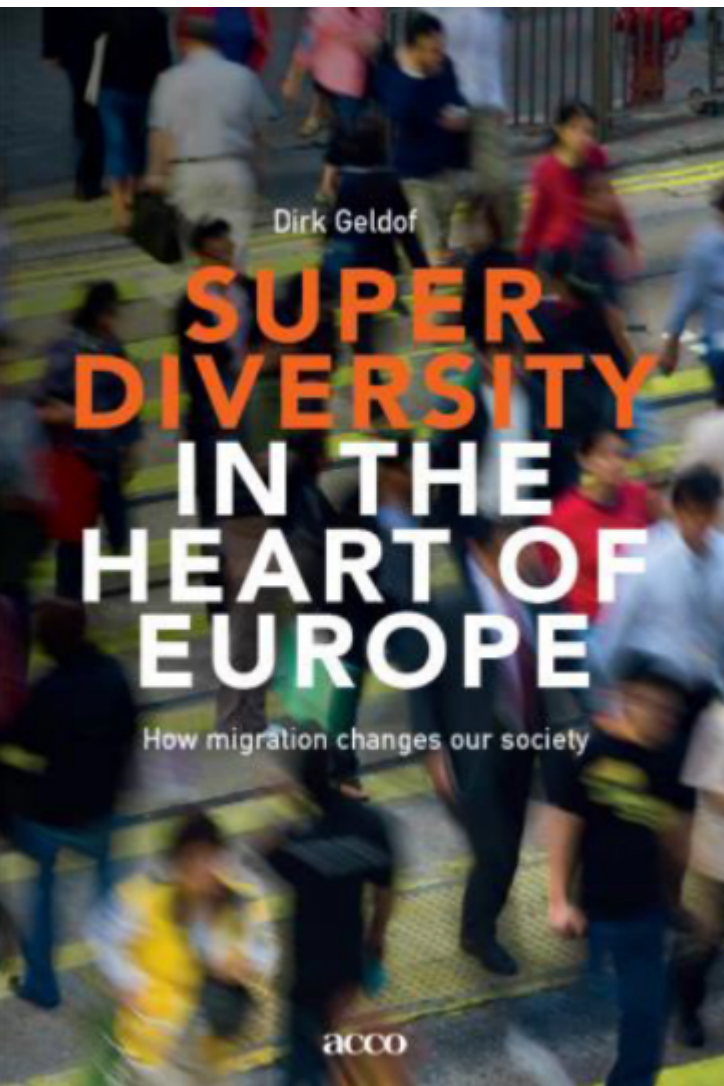
- Beyond 'us versus them'
- Combatting urban poverty is increasingly combatting poverty among ethnic minorites
- Undocumented migrants in cities
- Transmigration and temporality
- Different visions on integration in superdiversity
- Redistribution versus recognition

- See book

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Are we able to think beyond us-and-them?

- We keep on thinking about diversity in terms of 'us-and-them'
- Reality has become more complex
- Beyond us-and-them:
  - From an 'either/or' logic
  - Towards an 'and-and'-logic
  - Recognising multiple identities
    - Thinking (and measuring) beyond nationality
    - Recognising ambivalence

Interculturalisation of organisations & professions
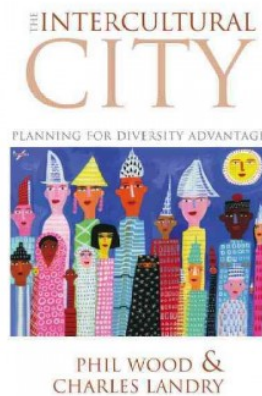
- ▶ 21st century will become more diverse
- ▶ Urgent need for interculturalisation
  - ▶ intercultural communication
  - ▶ intercultural services and care
  - ▶ Interculturalisation of education
    - ▶ Students and teachers!
- ▶ The most urgent in front-line professions
  - ▶ social work, education, health care, …
- ▶ developing empowering & divers-sensitive ways of working
  - ▶ also in the cultural sector
  - ▶ Also within the UNESCO

The challenge of superdiversity in the 21st century

- ▶ Moving from musea (or other cultural organisations) with 'some special attention' for diversity

- ▶ Towards musea where superdiversity is part of the core of the organisation & of their policies

Zinneke, in een notedop...

(1) Een stadsproject
(2) via een artistiek evenement
(3) opgebouwd i.s.m. bewoners van diverse Brusselse wijken
(4) i.s.m. een lokaal netwerk van groepen en organisaties
(5) doorheen een intensief proces van 1,5 jaar ontmoeting, uitwisseling en creatie met kunstenaars
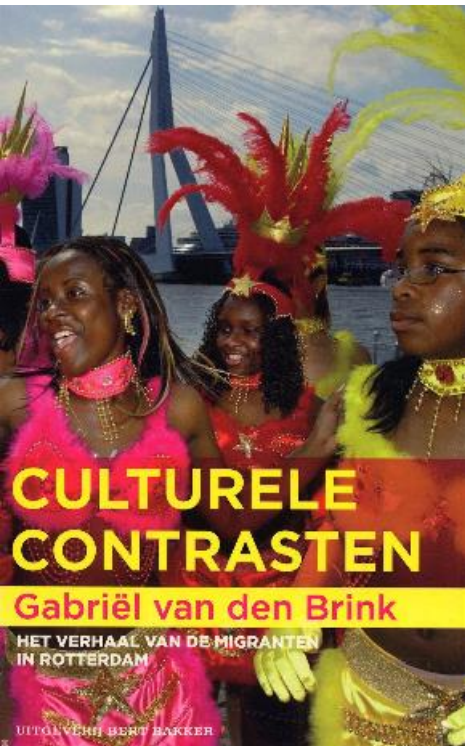(6) met een Parade in de publieke ruimte als resultaat

The Age of Superdiversity

rethinking a rapidly changing society

Divers or cultural-sensitive working in times of superdiversity

- Moving beyond etnocentrism
  - As our societies are becoming superdivers,
  - our history, culture & cultural heritage will become superdiverse as well
- Moving beyond us-and-them
  - Recognising multiple identities
  - Recognising hybridity & ambivalence
- Moving beyond static & essentialising (or essentalistic) approaches of culture
  - Culture & intangible cultural heritage as dynamic
  - A stronger emphasis on superdiversity, hybridity, mixity in the UNESCO-framework?
- Co-creation, including dialogue & debate, within intercultural teams

The paradox of superdiversity?
less *and* more attention for ethnic diversity

▶ The 'normalisation' of superdiversity implies leaving the 'ethnic lense' behind us

- ▶ Less attention for ethnicity
- ▶ Just one of many differences
- ▶ Paying attention to processes of differentiation
- ▶ Intersectionality: gender, age, class, education, religion, ...

▶ However, in the transition towards normalisation, we need to pay more attention to processes of inter-culturalisation & divers-sensitivity today.

Concluding. Scenarios for the future
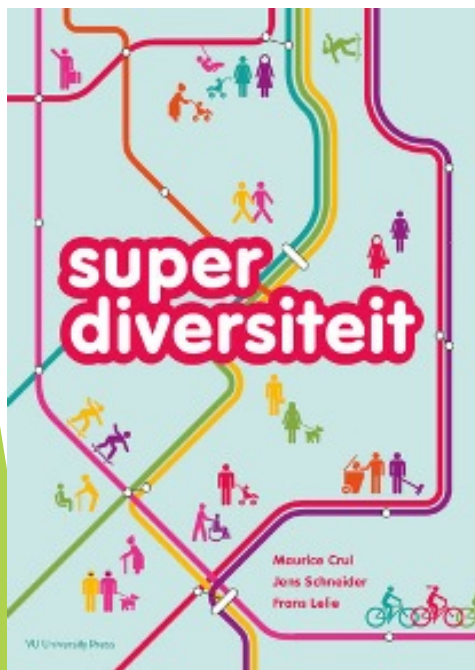
▶ Superdiversity is

  ▶ An sociological & empirical concept

  ▶ Not an ideological frame

  ▶ not good or bad as such

  ▶ it depends how we deal with this transition

▶ Maurice Crul analyses two possible scenarios for the future

A scenario of fear, humiliation, polarization & distrust

PARIS
13 NOVEMBRE 2015

- ▶ us-versus-them discours, based upon (mutual) distrust
- ▶ Increasing poverty, unemployment, school drop-out, … amongst migrants
- ▶ Polarisation from both sides
  - ▶ Head-scarf-debates
  - ▶ Racism is a 'relative'
  - ▶ 'Pegida' versus 'fundamentalism first'
- ▶ Refugees as a threat
- ▶ Superdiversity can/will become explosive

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Or a scenario of hope & empowerment

- ▶ Superdiversity becomes an evident reality
- ▶ Recognition of multiple identities
- ▶ With a perspective for emancipation and upward social mobility
  - ▶ An enabling and supportive policy
  - ▶ Stimulating and enabling emancipation within communities
- ▶ Active pluralism in practice
- ▶ Where uncertainty becomes mutual trust

working towards a scenario of hope & empowerment

www.alamy.com - CPJMBT

… because the future of our cities is not based upon (further) polarization & distrust,

but requires the mobilisation of the social capital of all citizens today

Picture: Zinneke parade Brussels

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Time for questions & discussion

Feedback? dirk.geldof@kdg.be

Books available after the session

Transmigration (English edition) is only available a e-book