



What Drives Soft Deportation? Understanding the Rise in Assisted Voluntary Return in the Netherlands

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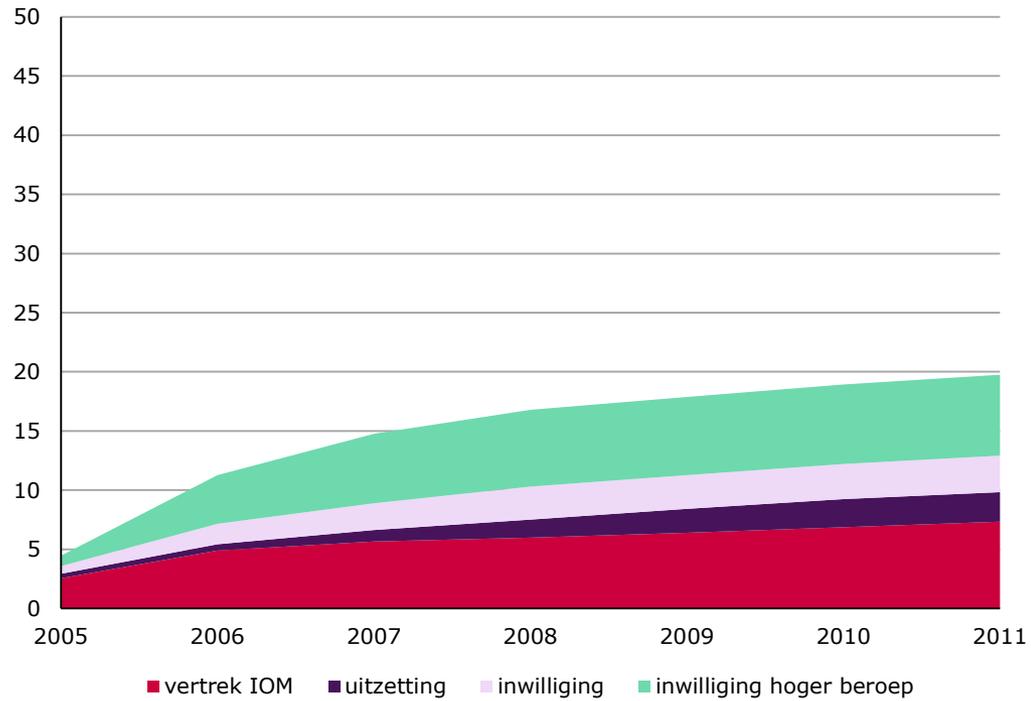
Eline Boersema



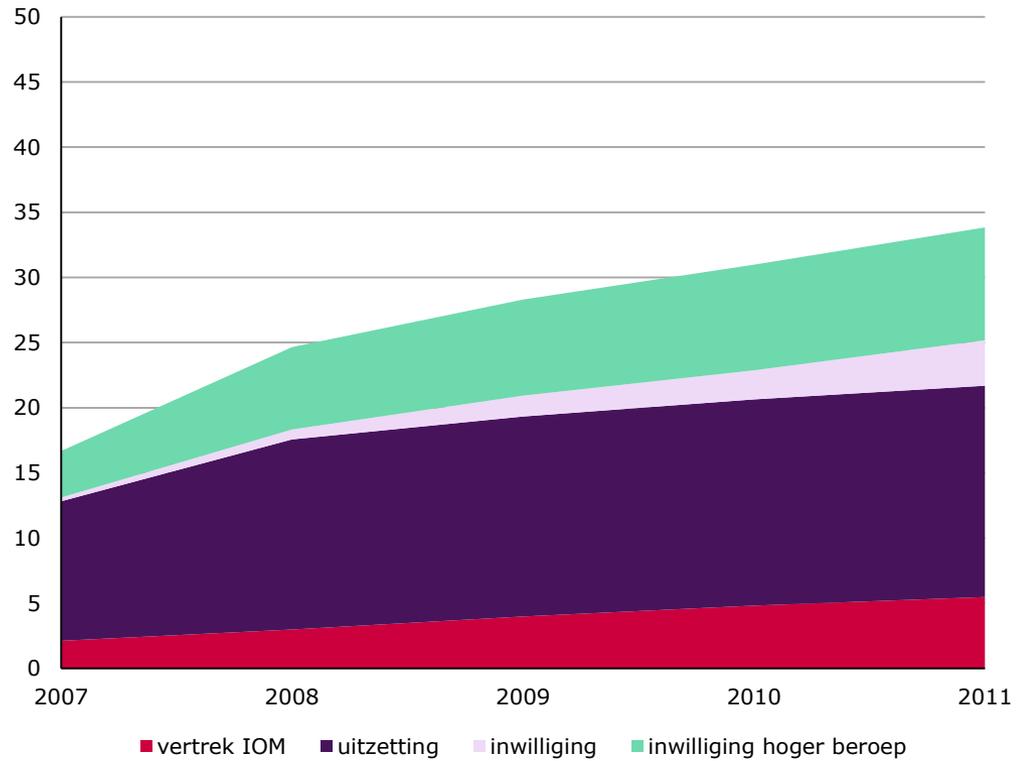
The 'problem of return'



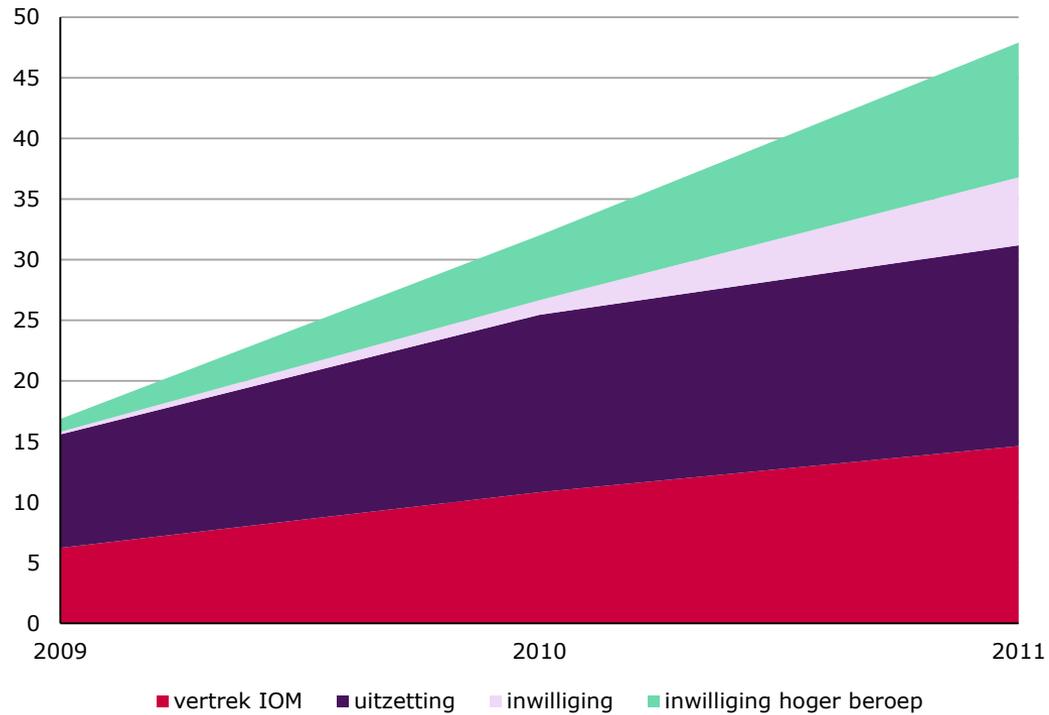
Return rates 2005 cohort



Return rates 2007 cohort



Return rates 2009 cohort





Research problem

- What explains the increase in AVR-involvement in the period 2005-2011 among six year-cohorts of asylum seekers rejected in the Netherlands in the period 2005-2010?
- Relevance:
 - Policy factors underresearched, especially regarding return migration
 - Few studies pay attention to *positive sanctions* and *normative aspects of compliance*

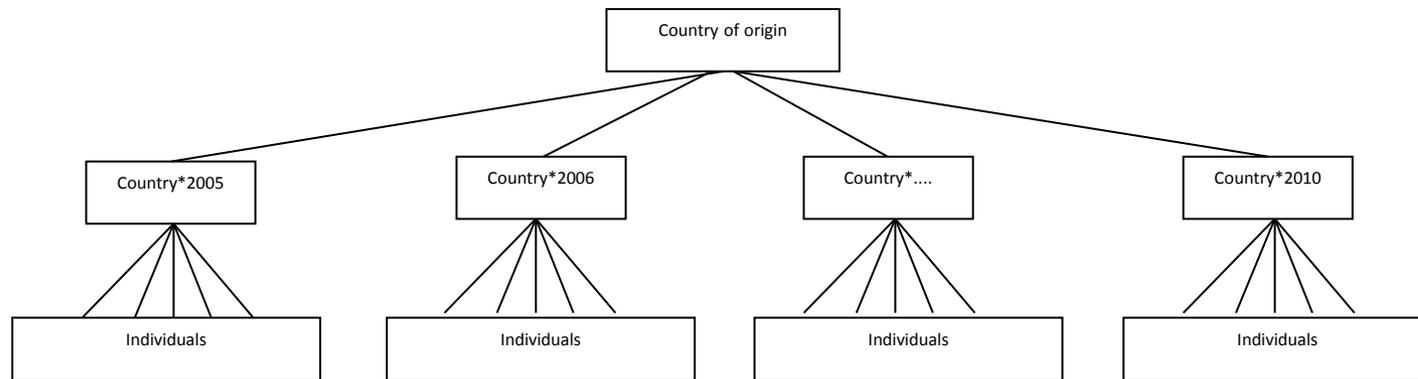


Data and Method I

- Individual-level administrative data linked to IOM data
- Country-year data from NGOs (Amnesty Int., Freedom House) and World Bank
- Hierarchical multiple logistic regression:
 - 1: returned with IOM in year of rejection or subsequent calendar year
 - 0: did not return with IOM in year of rejection or subsequent year



Data and Method II



Level 1: N=15.958; Level 2: N=396; Level 3: N=66



Theoretical framework and indicators I

Societal conditions country of origin

Indicators:

- Terror Index
- Freedom House on civil liberty
- GDP PPP per capita



Theoretical framework and indicators II

Social attachments

Indicators:

- Age
- Sex
- Family status
 1. Unaccompanied applicant, married
 2. Unaccompanied applicant, marital status unknown
 3. Unaccompanied applicant, unmarried
 4. Childless couple
 5. Applicant (single or in couple) with all children of non-school age
 6. Applicant (single or in couple) with at least one school-age child



Theoretical framework and indicators III

Policy factors: instrumental and normative models of compliance

Indicators:

- Being from Macedonia, Georgia or Belarus
- 'Irrico' availability
- Deportation risks
- Native counselor availability
- Status determination time



Results: descriptives for three cohorts

	2005	2008	2010
<i>Dependent variable:</i>			
AVR participation in year of rejection or subsequent calendar year	5.2%	13.2%	18.3%
<i>Independent variables:</i>			
Civil unfreedom	7.5	8.8	7.6
Political terror	3.8	4.1	3.5
GDP PPP per capita	\$4,076	\$4,867	\$4,640
Native counsellor availability	4.6%	51.1%	22.7%
IRriCO availability	0.0%	53.4%	58.5%
Status determination time (in months)	1.5	5.2	5.2
% deportations within 2 yr in the country-cohort	0.9	22.3	25.0
Is from Georgia, Macedonia or Belarus	9.2%	2.2%	20.5%
Average age at time of rejection	30.6	30.7	30.8
% Females	22.6%	20.1%	26.6%
Unaccompanied applicant, married	11.9%	7.0%	3.7%
Unaccompanied applicant, marital status unknown	52.7%	72.7%	73.2%
Unaccompanied applicant, unmarried	23.9%	11.8%	3.4%
Childless couple	1.7%	1.4%	3.2%
Applicant (single or in couple) with all children of non-school age	4.1%	3.8%	6.8%
Applicant (single or in couple) with at least one school-age child	5.6%	3.2%	9.7%



Results: Odds ratio's

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 6	Model 7
<i>Cohort:</i>					
2005 (ref)	1	1	1	1	1
2008	1.95**	1.81**	1.65*	3.20**	1.55
2010	2.94**	2.64**	2.16**	4.51**	2.08~
<i>'Non-policy variables':</i>					
Civil unfreedom		0.93~	0.92*		0.87~
Political terror		0.84	0.87		0.87
Living standard		1.60**	1.49**		1.57*
Age		1.02**	1.02**		1.03**
Sex (female=1)		0.67**	0.68**		0.63**
Unaccompanied applicant, married (ref)	1	1		1	
Unaccompanied applicant, marital status unknown		1.06	1.05		0.95
Unaccompanied applicant, unmarried		1.32*	1.33*		1.28~.
Childless couple		1.13	1.12		0.85
Applicant (alone or with partner) with all children of non-school age		1.02	1.00		0.86
Applicant (alone or with partner) with at least one school-age child		0.78~	0.77~		0.64*
<i>'Policy variables':</i>					
Native counsellor			1.90*		2.17*
IRRI CO			1.11		1.19
Status determination time			1.02~		0.99
Status determination time squared /100			0.84**		0.90
Macedonia / Belarus / Georgia			3.28*		2.94
Macedonia / Belarus / Georgia * 2010			2.54*		1.44
Deportation risk					1.03*



Conclusion

- Rise in AVR seems mostly policy related
- Different policy mechanisms drive AVR-involvement



Discussion

- How should *we* call AVR? Soft deportation?
- Ethical dilemmas in deportation research



Thank you for your attention!

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