

Comparing Russian and Turkish speaking migrant minorities and the local population in Germany: Do they differ in their pro-environmental behavior, attitudes, and ecological impact?

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The new social-ecological problems caused by the ongoing climate change forces society to rethink its behavior. This rethinking is mainly about the implementation of the idea of sustainability among the population. That needs the commitment and knowledge of those who are dedicated to the realization of this idea from one side and (state) support from the other. Almost one fifth (18.7%) of the population in Germany has a migration background. But the dedication to environmental and climate protection from the side of migrants living in Germany has rarely been focused on. Thus, there is a lack of reliable empirical data about the environmental attitudes, environmental behavior or activism, and the ecological impact. The existing data, however, shows that the migrant's environmental knowledge and commitment to environmental or climate protection are less distinctive than among the local population. For the implementation of the idea of sustainability it is important to investigate and find out if there is an untouched potential in this part of the society. Furthermore, participation of migrants in climate protection could play a significant role in their integration in the German society.

The necessity of existing data and well-grounded theoretical reasoning requires the investigation of the actual situation.

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climate protection' project, sponsored by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research/FONA Social-Ecological Research.

The current study is the first part of the three consecutive work packages. The aim of the first package is to analyze and compare the attitudes and pro-environmental behavior of migrant minority and the majority of the population in three different environmentally relevant fields. Therefore, a representative sample of Russian (N = 200) and Turkish (N = 200) speaking migrants, and a sample of the local (German native speakers, N = 400) population were interviewed about their specific attitudes with relation to the environmentally relevant fields mobility, nutrition and energy consumption and their pro-environmental behavior relating to the same environmentally relevant fields. Furthermore, for the purposes of a better understanding of the coherencies between actual personal behavior and its impact on the climate, the individual carbon footprint will be calculated as well. The analysis will be separately conducted for each environmentally relevant field (mobility, nutrition and energy consumption) to keep a corresponding level of specificity and the socio-economical differences will also be considered. The obtained data and the first results of the comparative analysis will be presented and discussed.