

University of Groningen

Goal pursuit and acculturation

Tòth, Agnes

DOI:
[10.33612/diss.101330951](https://doi.org/10.33612/diss.101330951)

IMPORTANT NOTE: You are advised to consult the publisher's version (publisher's PDF) if you wish to cite from it. Please check the document version below.

Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Publication date:
2019

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

Citation for published version (APA):
Tòth, A. (2019). *Goal pursuit and acculturation: a fruitful novel approach to understand migration success*. University of Groningen. <https://doi.org/10.33612/diss.101330951>

Copyright

Other than for strictly personal use, it is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

The publication may also be distributed here under the terms of Article 25fa of the Dutch Copyright Act, indicated by the "Taverne" license. More information can be found on the University of Groningen website: <https://www.rug.nl/library/open-access/self-archiving-pure/taverne-amendment>.

Take-down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

Downloaded from the University of Groningen/UMCG research database (Pure): <http://www.rug.nl/research/portal>. For technical reasons the number of authors shown on this cover page is limited to 10 maximum.

Acknowledgements

Throughout the process of working on the Phd, many people supported me, for which I am tremendously grateful. Their support did not only help me to get over obstacles and work effectively, but I also felt grounded in life. Knowing that I have so many people around me who I can rely on in various spheres of my life makes me feel very lucky.

First of all, I am outmost grateful for my wonderful supervisors, Barbara Wisse and Klára Faragó, who stood behind me and supported me with my research, my writing and also balancing life and work. Beyond the tremendous work that they invested in me, providing guidance and feedback on my work, they formed my identity as a person. They made me feel I am capable of anything, continuously setting high bars and motivating me when I felt I'm failing. They provided me a sense of meaning and purpose, making me feel that I have place in the academic world. They have supported me in different roles in my life: As a researcher, as a student, as a teacher, and as a woman professional. I could never ask for better bosses than they have been to me. I truly wish people to be able to work with leaders as they are.

Tanárnő, you set me off to this journey, and you gave me a helping hand that came at the best possible time in my life. Working with you opened doors to me that I have never thought it would be possible. You always provided me a hinterland that I could rely on, which made me feel safe. At the same time, you empowered me, and supported me in those not so straight-forward situations, such as establishing a double degree abroad. From my master's years onwards, you improved my writing, my presentation and any work that I have done. You've always supported me as a young psychologist, as well as a teacher. Thank you for always willing to share experiences, and always listening open heartedly. Your office and your house have been open for your students and colleagues, which made me (and I think all of us) feel appreciated. Working with you on any projects was always an honor. Thank you for standing behind me and guiding me on this path.

Barbara, you are one of the most empowering persons in my life. You have done so much to make me who I am today. You challenged me continuously for the better, and even on my weak spots, you accepted no compromises. You made me walk the talk, and by giving me a chance, (and then a 1000 other ones), I felt as a successful 'migrant' who is able to make it abroad. By giving me a work and a fantastic work environment in Groningen, The Netherlands became home to me. Thank you for making me feel that I have something to offer. I have always been amazed by

your knowledge and your ability to see through complex situations very quickly. I learned so much from you, things that make me a better professional and a more confident person. I want to believe that by now, I am able to think before I speak, and understand that less is sometimes more. It is a very valuable gift that all the things I learned from you and learned by working close to you, will escort me in any jobs I'll be doing. Thank you so much for giving me a chance and taking me on board.

Thank you both for taking me seriously and be so incredibly responsive to any subjects I turned to you with.

Mom, Dad, thank you for the unconditional support I got from you during the time of my PhD. I am beyond grateful for your help with Flóra. I'm quite sure she often had a lot more fun time with you than with anyone else. Mom, you took time off from your own job, so I can go back to work, and you took care of Flóra in the unknown. Hardly any parent would take such sacrifice abroad and still being able to be the best grandmother. I really don't know how to thank you for this. Thinking back to this time, I realize what a great experience this was to me; I felt very safe and happy. Dad, thank you so much for letting this happen, and come on board any time we needed your support, being perfectly flexible and understanding.

Thanks to my parents-in-law to support Flóra and me on our travels, devoting their time and energy taking care of us and make sure we were safe and comfortable. Thank you very much for making us feel at home every time we are in the Netherlands. Going to you always brings certainty in any hectic schedule.

Friso, you are the basis why I could take on such a project. Thank you for your support! Difficult to summarize what role you played in me getting here.... You are the cornerstone of it, yet you never expected a 'thank you'. You think it is natural that you support me in any work I do, the weird times I'm sometimes working at, and to bear my stress occasionally. Well, I am incredibly grateful to you and thank you for all your support. It is also very empowering to feel that you have had absolutely no doubt whatsoever that I can do this...and more. It makes me confident every day.

I am tremendously grateful for Ajna Uatkán – who from the beginning – helped me gain the statistical knowledge I needed to get here. I believe you know it very well that without your teaching and patient explanations I would hardly have the

skills what I have now. Thank you so much for your time and genuine help that I don't even know how to return.

Thanks to my colleague and friend, Luca, to be with me in the ups and downs of being a PhD student, and also in the quest of how to be a 'good' mom while delivering results at work. I am grateful to this PhD journey because it gave me a friend like you.

Thanks to my best friends, Ditti, Zizi, Meli and Virág to be there for me any time. You have been there when I needed to vent, or I was stressed ("massaging my spiritual Achilles"), or even unresponsive. You always give me emotional support and never ask anything in return. Thank you for keeping me sane in any given time. Having you through this work, made me feel like an athlete who has the best and loudest supporters, just as in my dream when I was 6.

Special thanks to Joni and Tjitsche, my very best Dutch friends, to be there for me any time (and accept it when I couldn't). I cherish every memory of chatting over a beer/cake/movie (literally chatting over it). It always recharged me, giving me the strength to get going.

Thanks to my friends and colleagues from the university, Darya, Kiryaki, Elissa, Stacey, Jesus, Ben, Kiki, Friederike, being delightful people to work with. You were always a good reason to go in to work. Always open for a coffee and a chat, helping me in case doubting about a project or a result. Thank you, Erik, Pontus, Suzanne, José and Anita, to provide me guidance whenever I got hung up on something and needed professional advice. This department makes me aware of what place I would like to work at, and what people I would like to be surrounded with.

Thank you, Barbara, Anita and Charissa to organize everything so smoothly and be so responsive to any little questions. You made the workflow smooth.

Thanks to my friends in Brunei who have been very supportive and patient, giving me a call, even at times when I was hiding in my office for good. A special thanks to you Rachel Laramee for your friendship and obviously for all your suggestions regarding my English, and your helpful comments to improve my writing (and thinking).

Again, thank you all for your support on this journey; without you, I surely would not have come so far.