

published by the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. A free, open access, expedited, peer-reviewed journal of the population sciences, published regularly on the web since July 1999.

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# Timing of first union among second-generation Turks in Europe The role of parents, peers and institutional context

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VOLUME 22 - ARTICLE 16

PAGES 473 - 504

Date Received: 1 Sep 2009

Date Published: 19 Mar 2010

http://www.demographic-research.org/volumes/vol22/16/

doi: 10.4054/DemRes. 2010. 22.16



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#### **Abstract**

This study examines the influence of parents and peers on first union timing among the Turkish second generation in Europe using pooled data from the TIES survey. Cross-national differences in union formation are assessed by comparing countries with different integration policies and welfare regimes. Analyses show that both parents and peers are relevant predictors of entry into union: More modern parental characteristics and contact with non-coethnic peers result in postponement of union entry. Furthermore, parental and peer influences are found to be rather similar in all seven countries despite a variety of integration policies. Actual timing differences between countries may be caused by welfare state provisions directed at young adults.

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#### Keywords

Europe, integration, parents, peer's influence, second generation, union formation, welfare state policies

Word count (Main text) 7650

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