

Subject: Objection to Proposed 10-Year Naturalisation Requirement

Dear [Ministry/Commission/To whom it may concern],

As a Dutch citizen, I wish to express my strong objection to the proposed extension of the naturalisation eligibility period from 5 to 10 years.

This proposal would have a direct and deeply personal impact on my life. My partner, who is a non-Dutch citizen, has made a long-term commitment to building a life here in the Netherlands—with me. We both contribute to this society in different but meaningful ways, and like so many couples in cross-cultural relationships, we're planning our future together in this country.

Doubling the waiting period before he can apply for citizenship would put our plans on hold and place an unnecessary burden on us as a couple. It would mean more years of uncertainty, more difficulty with travel and bureaucracy, and more emotional and legal distance in a place that is supposed to feel like home for both of us.

This change would not only affect individual expats, but also their families, partners, and communities—people like me, who are already Dutch citizens. It creates an arbitrary barrier that delays true inclusion and participation in our society. Five years is already a significant period and aligns with many international standards. Extending it to ten sends the wrong message to those who are committed, contributing, and invested in building a future here.

I strongly urge you to maintain the current five-year naturalisation requirement. Let us continue to be a country that welcomes those who choose to integrate, contribute, and belong—not one that keeps them in limbo for a decade. This decision affects real lives, real families, and the future of people who are already calling the Netherlands home.

Sincerely,

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