

If the goal is to promote integration and keep the Netherlands attractive for highly skilled migrants, the naturalization period **should remain five years**, but the **language requirement could be raised to B2**.

Stronger language skills lead to deeper integration — they enable expats to communicate with Dutch people, join neighborhood activities, and genuinely feel part of society. Extending the naturalization period to ten years may instead discourage integration. Living longer in a country doesn't guarantee participation, but speaking the language well truly does.

Employers could also be encouraged to provide time or flexibility for employees to study Dutch at B2 level. I have lived in the Netherlands for two years and completed A2, but progressing further requires dedicated study time, which is difficult to manage alongside work.