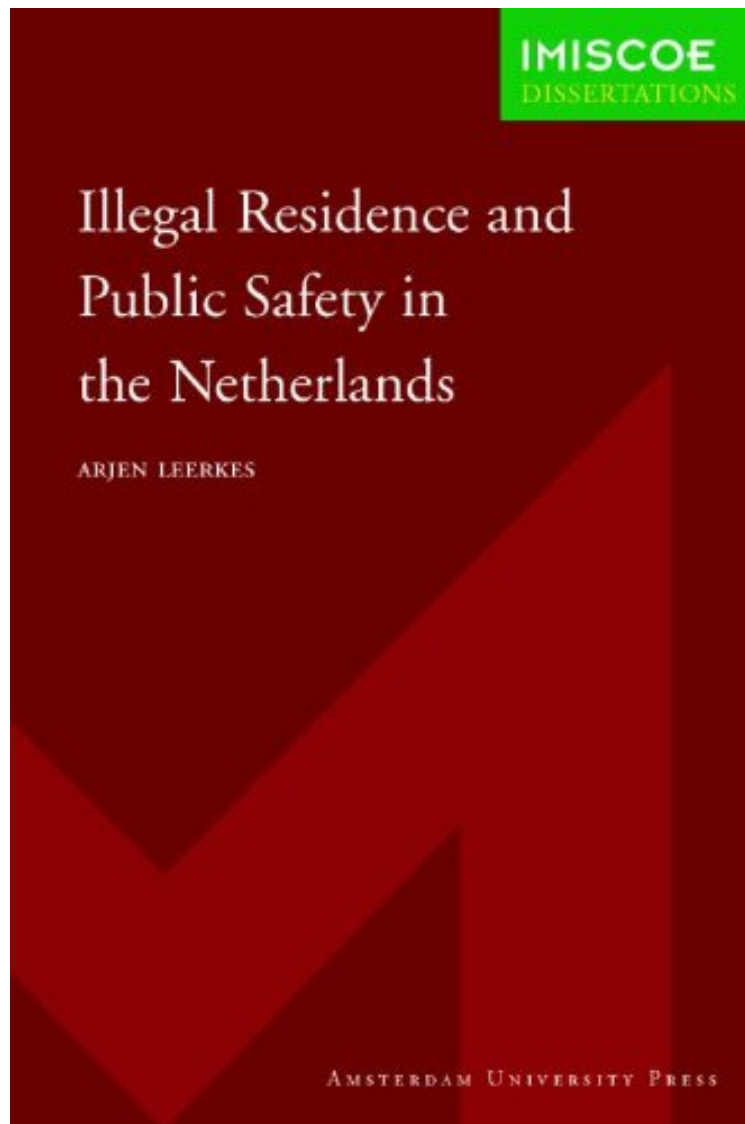


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Illegal Residence and Public Safety in the Netherlands (IMISCOE Dissertations)

Arjen Leerkes

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Making illegal residence unattractive is a way for Western governments to limit migration from non-Western countries. Focusing on Dutch neighbourhoods with substantial levels of unauthorised migrants, *Illegal Residence and Public Safety in the Netherlands* examines how restrictive immigration policy influences immigrant crime and perceived neighborhood security. Salient questions arise. To what extent, and under which conditions, do illegal residence and illegal migration impact public safety? Does having illegal residence status influence how people observe or break the law and other social rules? Do their ties with established groups, such as legal migrants, employers and partners, have any sway? Answers to these issues begin surfacing in this rich combination of quantitative information, comprising police figures and surveys on victimisation, and qualitative sources, including interviews at the Dutch Aliens Custody and urban field research.

-Most illegal migrants observe most rules, but some ignore some rules. Leerkes tells us why. He also shows how laws and practices in international migration have brought the return of a poor relief long considered a relic of the past. A well-written, highly relevant study that draws and deserves wide attention.[-]Abram de Swaan, Emeritus University Professor of Social Science, University of Amsterdam[-]A comprehensive book on the relation between crime and illegal residence. Very useful for all scholars interested in irregular migration and public safety issues.[-]Dita Vogel, Senior Migration Researcher[-]Hamburg Institute of International EconomicsAbout the AuthorArjen Leerkes is Assistant Professor in Sociology at Erasmus University Rotterdam and Researcher at the Research and Documentation Centre of the Dutch Ministry of Justice.