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The economic consequences of immigration lie at the heart of both academic inquiry and policy considerations. This thesis explores the question whether immigrants depress wages in host countries. The degree of labour market competition between immigrant groups and native labour is examined by comparing the situation in three European countries: the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Norway. These countries differ both in terms of immigration history and the institutional setting of the labour market. Analyses are conducted from a labour demand perspective, considering three skill categories and alternatively gender. The second part of the thesis addresses the following three supply side related questions on immigration and gender in the Dutch labour market: Is there a double disadvantage in wages for women from various ethnic groups? What are the determinants of non-standard work? And finally, what are the gender and ethnic dimensions of selection into (un)employment in Amsterdam in the early and late 1990s?

Aslan Zorlu received an MA in economics from the University of Amsterdam in 1997. From October 1997 to December 2001, he was affiliated with the Tinbergen Institute and the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies, University of Amsterdam as a PhD student. He is currently engaged in post-doctoral research at NIMA, University of Minho in Portugal.

