



(https://www.ssrn.com/)

Product
&
Services

Subscribe

Submit
a
paper

Browse

Rankings

Blog ↗

Contact



(https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/S

Download This Paper (Delivery.cfm/SSRN_ID4180860_code231025.pdf?abstractid=4180860&mirid=1)

Open PDF in Browser (Delivery.cfm/SSRN_ID4180860_code231025.pdf?abstractid=4180860&mirid=1&type=2)

Add Paper to My Library

Share:

Gated Citizenship

Citizenship Studies 26 (2022), 625-637

18 Pages

Posted: 6 Aug 2022

Ayelet Shachar (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per_id=231025)

University of Toronto - Faculty of Law; Max Planck Society for the Advancement of the Sciences - Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity

Date Written: August 3, 2022

Abstract

In *The Birthright Lottery*, I explored the multiple ways in which birthright access to citizenship operates as a distributor (or denier) of opportunity on a global scale. And what a significant distributor it is. Today, 97 percent of the global population gains access to citizenship solely by virtue of where or to whom they were born. In this article, I shift the gaze from the automatic transmission of citizenship, which I refer to as the initial allocation, to deciphering the code, or underlying logic, governing the secondary allocation: the process of naturalization. Counter to predictions of waning sovereignty, tremendous investment is placed on regulating mobility, migration, and access to membership. This article identifies three core sorting mechanisms that produce overt and covert inequalities in the acquisition of citizenship. We may refer to these as the trinity of the territorial, the cultural, and the economic. These intersecting yet analytically distinct dimensions allow governments to develop sophisticated sorting mechanisms to “filter” admission in reference to different target populations, placing a heavy burden on those seeking it. This contribution, which will appear in the 25th Anniversary Special Issue of *Citizenship Studies*, lays bare the mistaken assumption that we live in a world wherein mobility is purely chosen and easily available—irrespective of race, gender, class, power, and legal regulation. It further suggests ways of reinvigorating the political imagination for rewriting the rules governing access to membership.

Keywords: citizenship; initial allocation; membership acquisition; naturalization, mobility, borders; territory; culture; economic barriers[Suggested Citation](#) >[Show Contact Information](#) >

Download This Paper (Delivery.cfm/SSRN_ID4180860_code231025.pdf?abstractid=4180860&mirid=1)

Open PDF in Browser (Delivery.cfm/SSRN_ID4180860_code231025.pdf?abstractid=4180860&mirid=1&type=2)

20 References

1. J Agnew
The Territorial Trap: The Geographical Assumptions of International Relations Theory
Review of International Political Economy , volume 1 , issue 1 , p. 53 - 80 Posted: 1994
2. R Bauböck , S W Goodman
Naturalisation Posted: 2010
3. S Bonjour
The Transfer of Pre-departure Integration Requirements for Family Migrants Among Member States of the European Union
Comparative Migration Studies , volume 2 , issue 2 , p. 203 - 226 Posted: 2014
4. R Brubaker

Load more

0 Citations

Do you have a job opening that you would like to promote on SSRN?

Place Job Opening (<https://www.ssrn.com/index.cfm/en/Announcements-Jobs/>)

Paper statistics

DOWNLOADS	113
ABSTRACT VIEWS	514
RANK	386,664

20 References

PlumX Metrics



Related journals

Law & Humanities eJournal (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/JELJOUR_Results.cfm?form_name=journalBrowse&journal_id=420800)

Follow ⓘ

Comparative & Non-U.S. Constitutional Law eJournal (https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/JELJOUR_Results.cfm?form_name=journalBrowse&journal_id=945707)

Follow ⓘ

View more >

Feedback 🗨

Submit a Paper > (<https://hq.ssrn.com/submissions/CreateNewAbstract.cfm>)

SSRN Quick Links



SSRN Rankings



About SSRN



f (<https://www.facebook.com/SSRNcommunity/>)

in ([https://www.linkedin.com/company/493409?](https://www.linkedin.com/company/493409?trk=tyah&trkInfo=clickedVertical%3Acompany%2CentityType%3AentityHistoryName%2CclickedEntityId%3Acompany_493409)

[trk=tyah&trkInfo=clickedVertical%3Acompany%2CentityType%3AentityHistoryName%2CclickedEntityId%3Acompany_493409](https://www.linkedin.com/company/493409?trk=tyah&trkInfo=clickedVertical%3Acompany%2CentityType%3AentityHistoryName%2CclickedEntityId%3Acompany_493409)

t (<https://twitter.com/SSRN>)

(<http://www.elsevier.com/>)

Copyright (<https://www.ssrn.com/index.cfm/en/dmca-notice-policy/>)

Terms and Conditions (<https://www.ssrn.com/index.cfm/en/terms-of-use/>)

Privacy Policy (<https://www.elsevier.com/legal/privacy-policy>)

We use cookies to help provide and enhance our service and tailor content.



To learn more, visit [Cookie settings](#) | [Your Privacy Choices](#).

(<http://www.relx.com/>)

(<https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/updateInformationLog.cfm?process=true>)