

Dear student,

We are investigating how individuals experience studying abroad. Studying abroad experiences range from wholly positive to also challenging episodes, and we are interested in how who you are affects how you perceive such experiences.

*Who are we?*

We are Jitka Taušová (Palacký University, [jitka.tausova@gmail.com](mailto:jitka.tausova@gmail.com)), and Michael Bender (Tilburg University, [m.bender@uvt.nl](mailto:m.bender@uvt.nl)), and we study the importance of culture and intercultural contact in our daily lives. Both of us have plenty of experiences ourselves with stays abroad, so we have not only a scientific but also an intrinsic interest in understanding what happens during these times.

*What are we asking?*

For the above purpose, we would like to ask you questions about your experience with living in the Czech Republic, and also what you find important in life, and how you would describe yourself and others. Getting to know you and your experiences better can help us in coming up with recommendations for future exchange and international students.

We are particularly interested in understanding what has changed during your stay abroad; so we want to ask you questions when **you have just arrived, and in half a year again**.

We understand that this requires commitment, and we want to make this as easy and as rewarding as possible. We therefore offer you a chance at a nice gift, as well as a better understanding of the answers that you provided us with.

*What will you get out of this?*

We will have a lottery at the end of the study among everyone who has fully participated. For every 50 participants, there will be an **Amazon gift voucher**. The gift voucher will be sent to you via email.

Also, you can contact us to inquire about our findings, and particularly how your scores have contributed to the findings. With this **personalized feedback**, you can find out how you compare with a large group of international students, and whether your experiences are similar.

We of course make our findings available to international offices at the universities that we are collecting data as well.

Participation in the study is voluntary and your answers will remain **anonymous and private**. Any information provided (including of course email addresses used for sending out questionnaires) will be deleted upon conclusion of the study. This also means – to be clear – that nobody but the two involved researchers will see the individual responses.

Please provide your consent to participate in this study by clicking on the link below. Thank you.

[https://tilburgss.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_7PAhty3khZJVrdX](https://tilburgss.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_7PAhty3khZJVrdX)