

Distributed 70 paper Qaires, returned 48 – 68% response rate.

Respondents: 28 males / 20 females in age range 19-33, from 11 European (AT, BE, DE, ES, FI, FR, GR, IT, PT, RU, SE) + 1 Central American countries (Costa Rica).

**A4. Mother tongue:** 4 Catalan, 2 Dutch, 8 FI, 8 FR, 7 DE, 2 GR, 2 IT, 5 PT, 5 RU, 4 ES, 1 SW (4 bilingual)

**A5. study subjects:** medicine, nursing, occupational therapy, education, economics, biology, geology, architecture, computer science, engineering (civil, mechanical, electrical), television +multimedia, physics, food science, political science, environmental science, management, Czech language

**Schools:**

*Charles University* – total 24 (1<sup>st</sup> + 3<sup>rd</sup> Medical Faculties 12, Faculty of Social Sciences 2, Faculty of Education 5, Faculty of Natural Science 5)

*CVUT (Technical University)* - total 22 (Faculties of Architecture, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering)

*CZU (Agricultural University)* – total 2

**A6+7. How long have you been staying / are you going to stay in the host country?**

<b>A6 at survey time</b>	<b>length of stay</b>	<b>A7 remaining</b>
	<i>0 months</i>	3 students
13 students	<i>2 months</i>	6
4	<i>2,5</i>	0
26	<i>3</i>	7
4	<i>4</i>	4
1	<i>5</i>	7
	<i>6</i>	7
	<i>8</i>	3
	<i>9</i>	4
	<i>10</i>	6
	<i>11</i>	1

Of 14 stays longer than 6 months, 7 were medical students, 2 were natural science students, 5 were technical students.

I am not sure that answers in A7 reflect the real length of remaining stay. I tend to think that the data express rather the total length of stay (esp. where figures are higher than 6 months).

**A8. Why did you want to become an exchange student?**

- to study major subject – solely 4, combined with other interests 19
- to study minor subject – solely 2, combined with other interests 7
- to study Czech language – solely 0, combined with other interests 30
- other reasons – solely 9, combined with other interests 25

cultural exchange 14  
learn/improve English 7  
study abroad 6  
meet new people 5  
know different country 3

get new experience 2  
have fun 2  
have a good CV 1  
do research project 1  
do practical work abroad 1

explore different things 3

compare educational systems 1

**A9. Exchange programme:** 44 Erasmus, 2 other, 2 NA.

**A10. Why did you decide to come to the host country as an exchange student?**

to see Prague 12  
to see Czech Republic 12  
to learn atypical language 10  
important for the field of study 7  
want to know centre of Europe 6  
good opportunity to live abroad 6  
to meet new culture 6  
sounded interesting 5  
cheap place to live 5  
friends recommended 5  
school offer 4

to know people from all over the world 3  
to see East Europe 3  
to improve English 3  
classes given in English 2  
to learn differences in profession 2  
born here 1  
last chance to study abroad 1  
to discover educational system 1  
just for fun 1  
cheap beer 1

**A11. What has surprised you most about the host country?**

beauty of cities 6  
rich culture 4  
people don't speak much English 4  
non-English speaking staff in dorm 2  
low cost of living 2  
no fish in supermarket 2  
Czech people very friendly 2  
Czech people very cold 2  
bad manners of Cz people 2  
feeling of communism 2  
integration of old +new in Prague 2  
cold weather  
no snow in November  
non-violence  
nice Czech girls  
interesting Cz history  
Cz people very attentive  
everything is different

high rate of smoking pot  
bureaucracy  
non-stop public transport  
shops open on Sundays  
had to arrange courses myself  
omnipresent signs of capitalism  
lower quality of life than at home  
unfriendly attitude to Russians  
all signs only in Cz  
everything uncomplicated  
country is developing  
good beer  
similarity to Portuguese people  
good organization  
feeling of being Central Europe  
people in tourist places speak German  
so many foreign students  
not different from any other European country

**A12. What have you enjoyed most about the host country?**

city of Prague 24  
knowing new people 13  
nice Czech people 11  
travels around CR 9  
parties +nightlife 7  
low prices 5  
food 5  
CZ education 4  
beer 4  
girls 4  
travel to other countries 1

language 3  
culture 3  
reception by teachers at schools 2  
halls of residence  
buses on time  
shopping  
safety  
seeing other work system  
weather  
ISC organization

**A13. What have you enjoyed least about the host country?**

negative attitude to foreigners 7  
unkindness of CZ people 5  
food in menza 5

non-safety (tram, city)  
can't borrow books from library  
poor accommodation

harsh climate 4  
 long distance dorm -school 3  
 so many tourists 3  
 bureaucracy if long stay 3  
 Hostivař dorm staff 2  
 language difficulty 2  
 different handling of things 2

troubles with subjects at school  
 CR not in Schengen zone-visa for RU  
 chaos at university  
 dirt  
 poor sport offer at university  
 NO complaints 11

## B Familiarity with the culture and proficiency in the language of the host country

### B1. Evaluate your language proficiency on your arrival in the host country:

fluent 1 good 0 fair/satisfactory 4 (very) poor 9 none 33

### B2. To what extent do you have difficulties in the following areas? (0 = none, 1 = a little, 2 = moderate, 3 = a lot, 4 = very much)

	0	1	2	3	4	NA	problems (1+2+3+4)
a. understanding the speech of teachers and room mates (fast, inarticulate, dialectal speech)	16	12	6	4	10	0	32
b. understanding complex sentences (the word order differs from that in your mother tongue)	12	10	2	12	10	2	34
c. understanding the content (too little advance information)	9	15	10	6	6	2	37
d. understanding the connecting thought (difficulties in understanding the structure of a lecture/ conversation)	11	14	8	7	6	2	35
e. participating in a discussion (conversational conventions differ from those in a mother tongue, insufficiency of the vocabulary)	10	9	6	8	13	2	36

### B3. In which situations have you had communicative problems? (0 = none, 1 = a little, 2 = moderate, 3 = a lot, 4 = very much)

	0	1	2	3	4	NA	problems (1+2+3+4)
in shops	8	19	13	8	0	0	40
at the railway/bus station	7	24	8	6	2	1	40
at the cafeteria/in the restaurant	9	25	10	3	1	0	39
in following media (radio, TV, newspapers)	3	2	5	8	21	9	36
at the post office	14	10	11	6	4	3	31
finding/renting a flat	19	11	6	4	4	4	25
at the bank	13	10	12	3	0	10	25
at the museum	25	12	6	3	0	2	21
at the theatre/movie theatre/in concert	25	9	7	4	0	3	20
at the swimming pool	15	8	9	3	0	13	20
at the hairdresser	18	4	6	3	4	13	17
when renting equipment (bike, ski etc.)	16	10	6	1	0	15	17
at the doctor/dentist	18	4	6	3	1	16	14
at the travel agency	23	4	7	2	0	12	13
in any other situations? Which?	5	4	2	0	1	36	7

### B4. Describe the problems

no/poor En spoken in above places 14  
 poor En of faculty staff 5  
 finding things in supermarkets 3  
 Strahov koleje staff  
 finding way in the city

Internet connection in dorm  
 CZ youth speaks fast +slang  
 not possible to learn Cz in 3 months  
 people speak immediately EN/DE - no chance to practice CZ  
 couldn't send letter, buy student transport ticket, communicate well with doctor

**B5.+6. Have you had any difficulties in dealing with practical matters or getting to know the university?**

troubles		
acknowledged	25	getting sports facilities
registration	13	everything in kolej Hostivař
computer services	12	with my coordinator
library	10	swimming hall, residence permit
meals	8	subjects
getting around		
campus	7	everything has to be organized by ourselves, nobody knows anything
housing	4	very poor organization, no introduction/orientation week
bank services	2	to find tutor for my diploma/thesis
health care	2	getting courses

**B7. What are, in your opinion, the most important needs to know the language of your host country?**

getting food (shopping, resto)	12	healthcare	2
move around city	9	renting a place	2
communication w/ people in CZ			
countryside	7	make friends	2
travel (city, outside)	5	follow media	2
studies	4		
shopping in general	4		
understand local way of life/thinking	4		
speak in all situations	4		

**B8. What do you find most difficult about the language of the host country?**

pronunciation	12	verbs	2
declinations	11	prefixes	1
vocabulary	8	spelling	1
grammar as whole	8	Ř	1
close relation to RU	3		

**C. Questions about studying**

**C1. What language do you study in?**

CZ 8      CZ+EN 10      EN 28      CZ+FR 1      EN+FR 1

**C2. What forms of academic activity are you involved in at your host university?**

lectures	39	other	stage au lycée française
seminars	26		final project
practical work	25		teaching FR to students
lab	11		thesis 2
written examination	31		meetings w/ CZ students
oral examination	26		radio
lang. course	39		
CZ	30		
CZ+EN	3		

CZ+FR	1
EN+ES	1
NA	4

### C3.+4. different forms of study

all different	3	whole system in CR
some	26	worse equipment here than in FI
none	18	difficulty to study in EN
NA	1	subjects easier, more superficial
non-specific		more lab work
		no oral exams at home ES
		lots of homework in CR
		obligatory attendance of seminars, pract./lab work
PrF		EN lectures organized only for Erasmus students - Cz students don't attend
medicine		more subjects in one day in FR, DE
		no study blocks as at 1LF UK
		CZ needed for efficient practical training
nursing +occup.		
Th		training in different places for short time
		change every week-several places during one term unlike in FI

### D. Social life and leisure

#### D1. What language do you use to communicate with local students?

EN	CZ	EN+CZ	EN+DE	EN+ES	EN+FR	EN+RU	EN+FI
25	2	12	4	3	3	1	1

#### D2. What language do you use to communicate with foreign students?

EN	EN+DE	EN+ES	EN+FR	EN+PT	EN+NL	EN+CZ	EN+SW	EN+FI
28	7	8	9	2	2	2	1	2

#### D3. What leisure activities do you participate in?

sports	19	concerts	7	local sport team	2
trips	19	city walks	6	teaching language	1
party	12	museums	5	radio	1
ISC club	10	opera/ theatre	4	exhibitions	1
cinema	9	reading	2	dance	1
going out	9	film club	2	student congregation	1

#### D4. Is it necessary to know CZ in order to obtain information about these activities or to participate in them? Why?

NO 26	YES 14	NA 8
EN is enough	students/teachers speak poor EN	
everybody in city speaks EN/DE	websites only in EN	
	all signs/info only in CZ-impossible to participate in Strahov activities	
ISC writes emails in EN	some people speak only CZ-hospital patients	
EN websites		

#### D5. Have you ever found yourself in a situation in the host country that was funny or embarrassing because you broke a cultural convention?

YES 8	NO 37	NA 3
meeting a girl - hand shaking in CR (no kissing unless a very good friend)		
clapping/knocking on desks after lecture not common in CR (unlike DE)		

## E1-10 Important/essential vocabulary

greetings + good bye	thanks +please				
meeting others	nice to meet you	how are you	What's ur name	Where r u from	How old r u
directions	Where is	How can I find the way to	How do I get to	Fastest way to my dorm	
numbers	prices	How much is	to je drahé		
	time	what time is it	when does bus/train come	Repeat please	Write it down
days +months	weather				
politeness	excuse me	let me pass, please	Can you help me	Sorry to be late	can u do me a favour
communication	I don't speak CZ	Do you speak EN or	I don't understand CZ	I am a foreigner	Speak slowly
signs	toilets	entrance/exit			
Who is it	What is it	Where do u go	What do u do	I study	I am from
ordering food +drinks	names of food +drink	I'd like the menu	Bill, please	Bon appetite	I am hungry/thirsty
changing money	getting coins for tickets	announcements in metro/tram	timetables	getting a taxi	
sending mail	making phone calls	getting SIM card			
care of clothes	washroom	drying room	dry cleaner's		
getting around school					