

## **Bachelor thesis review (FHS UK 2023/2024)**

# **Social Adaptation of International Students in the Czech Republic**

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This bachelor thesis through the lens of quantitative research describes the Social Adaptation of International Students in the Czech Republic. Even though there are some positive points, there on the other hand lots of issues connected to the thesis.

Let's begin by highlighting the positives. The thesis is well-written, highly comprehensible, and easy to read. It is also very well-structured, which facilitates navigation through the document. I would suggest avoiding single-sentence or single-word paragraphs to improve flow. I greatly appreciate the high level of English demonstrated throughout the work and commend the student for working extensively with English-language literature. It is important to emphasize that writing a thesis is a challenging endeavor, and doing so in a foreign language adds another layer of complexity.

The theoretical section is comprehensive, with the student presenting numerous studies related to the topic in an accessible and generally readable manner. However, there are significant issues with citation management. While sources are mentioned, there are instances where page numbers are missing, publication years are not provided, or references are omitted entirely, despite the clear use of ideas from other works. These issues are particularly evident in the first three paragraphs of the chapter "Social Adaptation" (pp. 3-4) and in the chapter "Factors" (pp. 8). Additionally, some claims are not sufficiently supported by data or evidence, such as the assertion on page 12 that Czechia can be classified as a low-context culture. While this statement is valid, more supporting evidence should be provided, as seen later on page 13.

The methodology section is adequately described, though I would have expected more in-depth analysis and greater reference to academic literature on quantitative research methodologies.

The empirical section presents some intriguing data, particularly the recommendations for supporting international students, which could significantly improve their experience. However, even this section has room for improvement. Given that this is a bachelor's thesis, I would have expected more detailed data and stronger evidence. While 56 responses might be a limited sample size for a thesis of this nature, I acknowledge the challenges in gathering even that number of responses.

Additionally, it is debatable whether asking participants about burnout—a specialized psychological term—is appropriate, as there is a substantial difference between feeling overwhelmed and experiencing actual burnout. It is also unfortunate that the extensive theoretical section is not sufficiently integrated into the empirical analysis, with only one study (Arslan, Polat, 2023) explicitly referenced in the hypothesis.

In summary, the thesis shows potential that was not fully realized. More time for revisions would have been beneficial. While there are promising elements, the below-average handling of sources, the average methodology, and the minimalistic data interpretation lead me to evaluate this thesis as **good**. However, the final grade should be determined by the outcome of the thesis defense.

18<sup>th</sup> September

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