

International Student Perspective UK

Appendix 1: Open-Text Responses

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International Student Perspective UK: Evaluating Experiences and Perceptions of Studying Abroad in the United Kingdom. Appendix 1: Open-Text Responses.

Published by: Erasmus Student Network United Kingdom

Authors: Christie Dear, Jude Waites

Graphic Design: Christie Dear

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Appendix 1: Open-Text Responses

For full data transparency, in this appendix, we present all qualitative responses received as they were given, with the exception of removing names of HEIs and cities.

To the question, 'Did you have any problems with your visa?', the 127 total responses received were:

- 'I did not.'
- 'no'
- 'No'
- 'I wanted to get a student visa so that I could work however [university] did not issue me the student identifier necessary for this visa due to only attending for one semester'
- 'The CAS took quite a while and I didn't receive it at first because my Email-address was saved wrong. Also happened to more Emails and several students.'
- 'no'
- 'CAS arrived very late'
- 'It was time consuming to get'
- 'Problem with CAS number from university : they gave it to us really late (beginning of august)'
- 'No problems'
- 'N/A '
- 'It was delayed for 15 days which made me change my flight ticket at a price'
- ' '
- 'No'
- 'no'
- 'The university stated that I required a visa for studies but when I got here I learned that I did not need a visa after all.'
- 'Took very long and because the university didnt send me the information I needed to process my visa until August, I had to pay for the express processing of the visa'
- '[University] told me to get a Visa, which is not necessary for 6 months. I had to pay for it, travel to [city] to give my fingerprint and leave them my passport. It took so long it didn't arrive in time.'
- 'No, I didn't need it'
- 'No issue'
- 'I paid it myself and it was extremely expensive'
- 'It just took a long time and i have to pay extra to get a fast visa to come here on time'
- 'N/A '
- 'No, I stayed in UK under 6 months, so I did not require a visa'
- 'No problems'
- 'No issues'
- 'No problem except the price'

- 'not at all'
- 'it was expensive'
- 'the home office sucks and made me pay for a student visa which they then did not issue for me. I did not get a refund.'
- 'No'
- 'It was confusing figuring out if I needed one or not'
- 'I did not have any problems with my visa'
- 'No'
- 'Yes. I was not informed by the school before applying that I needed a guardianship to receive my CAS number (as I as 17 at the time of the year starting), spent a month scrambling to find one with no help from the university at all, and got my CAS extremely late. Thus, I also finished the application for my visa very late and did not receive it until a few hours before my flight out to the UK. Communication between my university and I before my flight moved at a crawl; it would often be 5 to 7 days before I got a response to any visa questions, and they often did not answer the question I asked. I was also not informed by the university of the cost of a visa and was one of the lucky students who had enough students to cover it with scholarships (I heard some were unable to and were forced to drop out), as USA students do not receive student loans until after the start of term. The school also provided no information about the visa process, how soon to apply, what you needed... and so on.'
- 'It was a long process'
- 'It was expensive...'
- 'No'
- 'Don't have problems with it right now, but i am worried about the visa i have to apply afterwards. I mean, the work visa is hard to get and the length of graduate visa is in the wind and very much expensive.'
- 'No'
- 'The process was tedious and the company used to process the visa in the IS was atrocious. At one point I did not know if they had or had not sent me my passport and there was now way to contact them(they took 3 months to respond to my email, after classes had started in the UK)'
- 'Slow'
- 'I didn't require a visa (because I stayed no more than 6 months), but my host university kept telling me that I needed one, so I did apply for one and went trough the whole process only to be told later that I don't require one. So I had to cancel to application and wait a long time for the refunding. So there was a misunderstanding.'
- 'It took longer than they said beforehand so I had to pay extra to get it in time.'
- 'No.'
- 'No'
- 'N/A '
- 'No'
- 'No'
- 'N/A '
- 'BRP not coming in on time so I didn't have a bank or phone number for a long time'

- 'None'
- 'My visa was granted 1 day before my planned flight'
- 'Changed of duration that I did not ask and thus need to pay 200 additional £ for NSH'
- 'No'
- 'None'
- 'No'
- 'It took a while and I got stressed'
- 'The application process was frustrating on the United States' side, the visa company we had to go through was very disorganised and full of technical problems'
- 'They forgot it and I had to wait nearly 2 months before having it'
- 'N/A '
- 'I struggled to get my number verified, and had to call people working with imigrant visa sevral times to get my number verified'
- 'My sending university did not tell me I had to pay that much money for health insurance, so it was an unexpected expense.'
- 'None'
- 'No'
- 'No'
- 'None'
- 'None'
- 'Not that I could think of'
- 'Yes, I applied for the wrong visa because I had not received instructions from my host university, which they sent back with an apology. I had filled in a questionnaire on the government website to find out which visa I should apply for, but there was a confusion with the title of my master's degree (English Studies) which the government website used to refer not to English literature courses but to English courses outside the university...'
- 'Paying a massive NHS fee while I wasn't even able to use any of the medical the services.'
- 'N/A '
- 'No problem'
- 'Yes, I had prohlems with my visa. The first application got refused without a true reason and I applied again providing the same documents and it got approved.'
- 'Not really, but they said in the begining it would take about 3 weeks and by the end it said 6 weeks. However in the end it was 2 weeks.'
- 'I had to ask the university several times for my CAS so I could get a student visa and work part-time in the UK. They don't advise students to work and study while here, so I had to insist a lot (I wouldn't be able to come if I couldn't work here).'
- 'I did not'
- 'Nope'
- 'It took a long time but it was fine'
- 'No, I didn't'
- 'No'
- 'N/A '

- 'We couldn't work some part time work using visitor visa'
- 'No!'
- 'No'
- 'Very expensive'
- 'Someone hacked my telephone number when I applied, acted like someone working for the government and tried to know my bank details...'
- 'No'
- 'No'
- 'TB test'
- 'No'
- 'No'
- 'No'
- 'N/A '
- 'No'
- 'No problems'
- 'N/A '
- 'It was more expensive than I thought. Including IHS fee it was 1020Â£'
- 'My name was written wrong'
- 'the delay'
- 'No'
- 'Not enough support the university and too much money to pay'
- 'none'
- 'Took so long, unhelpful staff'
- 'Too expensive'
- 'It took fairly long'
- 'CAS letter landed in spam which I realised a little late. Nothing too problematic, just quite pricey when one is used to the EU.'
- 'The immigration Health Surcharge was too high and the questions being asked, even with the things that are already known about me felt insulting. That's for the application process.'
- 'Yes. My first application was refused and then I applied again for a UK Priority Visa with exactly the same documents and it got approved. Strange, but it looks like Home Office was in need of my money.'
- 'Application online was impossible because website didn't work properly, made appointment with TLScontact in Germany to resolve issues, very bad experience with unqualified personell there, they kept my passport for 4 months for processing my application without explaining how or why it could possibly take so long, no contact details or recognition of my emails, only received it back after pressing with legal charges, had to study the semester online and only was able to go to the UK after all classes were finished. Still had to pay for all costs of my visa application which was denied without proper explanation'
- 'Short notice on language tests'
- 'It took ages to be approved. And the TLS Center wasn't helpful at all.'

- 'the website kept on crashing so it took me one month to complete the scheme of appliance'
- 'Yes, there was no information on getting family visas along with student visas for older students'
- 'No'
- '20hours restriction'
- 'N/A'
- 'None'
- 'Took so long'
- 'Had to go to [city] specifically for this, very inconvenient'

To the question, 'Did you have any specific problems with your accommodation?', the 240 total responses received were:

- Roommates'
- 'Little feedback from the workers'
- 'Council tax exemption, very run down'
- 'Problems with the accommodation were dealt with significant delays'
- 'Yes, very difficult to find it. All was full. Many of the accommodations were compulsory to pay more months than the ones you want.'
- 'It was impossible to find an affordable accommodation for 6 months only and I had no support from the university'
- 'It was so difficult to find student accommodation for the second semester, every accommodation was full'
- 'The room was fine, the amenities worked, mostly it was the price that bothered me, as it was too much money for what they offered us.'
- 'It was difficult to find accommodation, only found it far from city centre, didn't know the housemates beforehand'
- 'there was an immense housing crisis so I ended up being confirmed to my accommodation 10 days before I left for my stay abroad'
- 'It was a great place but very expensive.'
- 'My flatmates were not great, they were very dirty and also very very private'
- 'The rent was very very high'
- 'Heating was often not sufficient because it's a rather old building. Some signs of mold as well.'
- 'Mold growing and workers constantly coming into flat and rooms'
- 'It's quite far away from the university'
- 'Agency ([name]) responded extremely late, and was very late fixing issues (broken door)'
- 'Had to live outside of [city] for quite some time, and since the public transport is horrible, it impacted my social life. Had to either go home at 10pm or get a hostel.'
- 'bad insulation and high heating costs'
- 'no'
- 'Not really'

- 'I had to stay in an Airbnb because I couldn't find any other accommodation as I only stayed for 3 months'
- 'Mouldy and damp room and very cold'
- 'Occasional noise issue, not in town centre, but both are quite minor complaints'
- 'No issues'
- 'Security'
- 'Expensive and old'
- 'It was dirty'
- 'Noisy, Bad location, expensive, far from uni'
- '[university] didn't tell us we had to find it ourselves and couldn't come if we did not have accommodation like three months before we got here'
- 'The sinks in every room had one access to boiling and one to cold water. Why wasn't it mixed? But at least there was water in the rooms.'
- 'yes I had to stay in an airbnb because no flats were available'
- 'Not able to get my deposit back for no valid reason'
- 'No issues!'
- 'It was very hard to find an accommodation and I didn't receive help at all from the university'
- 'My roommates were dirty'
- 'I had to rent the place for the entire year, although I stayed only for half. They promised me I could sublet but after the landlord changed they made subletting impossible. Also my flatmates were loud and dirty and when I asked to change to another apartment they denied that. In the end they threatened with high fees for trash left behind and as my flatmates didn't care I had to clean the entire place on my own.'
- 'Nothing in particular'
- 'loud, constant breakages, not enough heat'
- 'It was very small'
- 'Too many flatmates dirty kitchen'
- 'Yeah we need to get so many things repaired and eventually move out to fix the bathroom'
- 'Not clean'
- 'Cleanliness, appliances often not up to date, space, heating often not working in the middle of winter'
- 'No'
- 'No problems.'
- 'Boring housemates at first, shit shower'
- 'rough flatmates + dirty kitchen'
- 'Maintenance issues'
- 'I had trouble to find an accommodation and it was really more expensive than expected'
- 'it was really hard to find accommodation (shortage, high prices)'
- 'it was a flat.'
- 'No'
- 'A bit far from the center but everything else was perfect'
- 'Having to share a room'
- 'The flat was not clean at all'

- 'There was very little support for exchange students when it came to finding accommodation. I was promised accommodation at the [university] upon applying to their exchange program but within two months of my arrival they informed me that I would likely not be receiving accommodation on campus. This led to me and my family having to spend time and money on long distance calls and communicating with different housing companies overseas to ensure I had a place to stay in the UK. This was a very anxious time that impacted my mental health as I was unsure if I would be able to find a place to live during my exchange and I would have had to spend a large amount of money on hotels or take a semester off if I could not, which would delay my graduation and my future academic plans. Many of the friends I've met through ERASMUS from different countries have said the same. While I understand that there is a housing crisis in the UK, I would have appreciated my host university placing its exchange students at priority as they are most likely unable to defer their exchange term on short notice and need a place to stay more than many other students, being from a different country. This would have allowed me to have less stress and anxiety when it came to finding accommodation in [city] and raised my appreciation for [university] and its concern for its international students.'
- 'Not any specific issues'
- 'Leaking ceilings'
- 'The cleaning of the shared kitchen, always dirty (in each accommodation)'
- 'Flatmates'
- 'I secured private accommodation when I arrived at [city] and the day before I received an offer from the university, so I would have liked to either receive an offer or decline before arriving in [city]. It was also quite far out (30-40 mins from university using public transport) and really small.'
- 'The accommodation was way too expensive so my budget every month got difficult sometimes.'
- 'Finding accommodation for a 5 months stay. Most places only looked for people renting longer.'
- 'it was hard to find something available to rent for a short period (5 months)'
- 'Not really, but for me it was a little bit strange finding that the accommodation doesn't provide kitchen utensils nor bed sheets.'
- 'no white light bulbs, small mirrors, low storage space'
- 'Racism'
- 'There is some black mold on the shower curtains, nozzle, and back of one kitchen counter, but that is about it.'
- 'No'
- 'Mostly technical (electricity not working, kitchen tap malfunctioning) or furniture problems'
- 'Everything was nice. I chose [accommodation] because it is better and cheaper than the university's accommodation. It is also closer to the university. I have an ensuite room for 500 pounds a month approximately (I paid for 8 installments of 570 pounds for 10 months)'
- 'Noisy'

- 'noise'
- 'Some of the flatmates are not very friendly'
- 'Roomates nd cleanliness'
- 'It's too expensive but without proper service and equipment. For instance, the dish washer has been broken for a long time but havent been repaired.'
- 'Mold and small rooms'
- 'We had mice in the kitchen'
- 'The house is fairly old and kinda dirty, the landlord is living with us but doesn't do much in bettering the house / cleaning. Although in a big city context (which I'm used to) it is not at all far away from the center, in the city I'm in it sometimes feels like a long distance away.'
- 'Some of my flat mates trashed the common areas of the flat'
- 'Dirty, old, most things don't work, crowded, getting things fixed is extremely difficult...'
- 'black mould, rats, condensation'
- 'Far from LSE and kind of crap'
- 'No heating during the winter, because of broken heating system. But the landlord never came to fix it/ didn't feel responsible for it. Extremely dirty when I arrived (there were even old underwears in the room) And generally problems with the landlord, who was very difficult to reach, when we had urgent problems and didn't feel responsible for (leaking barthroom ceiling- he came after one week to fix it),.'
- 'No, I got lucky with the price as well but if I had to pay average [university] prices I would have had problems doing that.'
- 'loads of issues with the front door (wouldn't lock or get stuck), we had rats once, heating issues, cleanliness upon arrival.'
- 'Price'
- 'There was a lot of noise from a nearby construction site'
- 'N/A '
- 'Was extremely dirty + pests'
- 'Mold'
- '[city] has a housing crisis'
- 'No issues'
- 'Bad private landlord, poor response time'
- 'It is too far from university'
- 'N/A '
- 'heating, cost of bills'
- 'Lots of mould, bad landlord'
- 'Mould'
- 'poor shower facilities'
- 'The person living in my room before me was very smelly and I never got rid of the smell.'
- 'Leaking window fitting'
- 'No heating'
- 'Rats, no wifi, no hot water,'

- 'Yes it was my first time renting an accomodation and I got scamed, it was really stressful but fortunatly I was able to get a room in a university accomodation'
- 'The cost of gas'
- 'It is a bit expensive and a little bit far from the university'
- 'Issues with heating'
- 'Just too expensive'
- 'Uni accommodation was completely unaffordable, so I had to find something privately. In the end, I was quite lucky.'
- 'Mice'
- 'It was sooo freezing the first couple of months'
- 'My accommodation is great at its price as my room is a twin room, I think the other accommodations are quite pricy according to my friends with double of my price but moulded walls'
- 'No'
- 'Too expensive and very unsocial'
- 'Bathroom light doesn't work and my roommate is super weird'
- 'Heating, noise, cleanliness'
- 'too expensive for what it was'
- 'lots of things were broken (front door, back door, closet door were all broken, leak in the ceiling, issues with the heating etc)'
- 'Opening up the accommodation portal without letting students know and running out of housing options for international students'
- 'Dint get the room i asked for'
- 'Dirty, the people living there never cleaned, the window in the kitchen was broken, the Hoover disappeared'
- 'it was really expensive for me, I basically had to spend all my Erasmus fund on it'
- 'Flatmates'
- 'Issues in coming to [city] without having an accommodation, I had to stay with an acquaintance until I found my own flat. The University was of no help at all but recommended not to come without an accommodation'
- 'Problems in shared bathrooms, but otherwise none'
- 'Not really, just some bugs in my room'
- 'There was no help from the university at all. In fact, we were specifically instructed--- about a month before our mobility, if I'm not mistaken---not to send our applications if we have not had secured accommodation. This caused a great deal of stress, on top of the fact that searching for accommodation had been a nightmare in the first place, as many places demanded a personal viewing or were not responding at all.'
- 'No'
- 'Outdated facilities'
- 'None'
- 'The people I was living with didn't clean at all and were very shy, so I didn't get to know them very well.'
- 'Far away from central'
- 'Too expensive'

- 'Vermin, mould, leaking pipes'
- 'I had no problems'
- 'Not that I can think of'
- 'Very expensive, squirrels and mice'
- 'Quite far from university, bus always late'
- 'There are moisture problems in the house'
- 'Too expensive for my budget, but the only place I could find'
- 'General issues with the building and maintenance. My flat had issues with mice in the kitchen and mould in the bathrooms.'
- 'I was very dissatisfied with the accommodation allocation system at my host university. In an information session held last spring, we were told that it is very unlikely that students who are not guaranteed university accommodation (like me) will get an accommodation offer. However, we were encouraged to apply for university accommodation just in case. When I filled in the application form, it turned out that the accommodation situation at my host university was surprisingly good and they believed that they could also offer accommodation for students who were not guaranteed. I waited until the end of July before sending an email to my host university and asking about accommodation allocation. A university staff member answered me that they could not deal with my application before they had allocated accommodation for all students who were guaranteed. Nevertheless, they said that "it remained very likely" that I would get an offer. Hence, I did not start looking for other accommodation options, which later turned out to be a mistake. At the end of August, I had not yet heard anything about accommodation allocation, so I sent another email to my host university. First, they answered me that they were still allocating guaranteed students, which "should be finished soon". I waited one more week before sending a third email, and on the following day, I received an answer saying that they had no accommodation left. This happened a week before I left to the UK. As a consequence, I started panicking and typing messages fiercely on accommodation websites. On the next day, I decided to contact the Accommodation Allocation Team one last time through the chat on their website. Again, the answer was that they had no accommodation left. Nonetheless, in the same afternoon, I suddenly and luckily got an accommodation offer. I discussed the accommodation allocation system with other exchange students who were not guaranteed accommodation, and it turned out that most of them had had similar experiences to mine and unfortunately, many of them were not as lucky as I was. Apparently, exchange students who had sent their accommodation applications earlier had already got their offers in early summer. However, it also turned out that some students who had called the accommodation allocation team multiple times a day instead of sending emails had got offers. All in all, based on my experience, the accommodation allocation system was far from clear and transparent. The biggest disappointment to me was the email that I received at the end of July: in my opinion, university staff should be extremely cautious when giving that kind of statements or nearly promises.'
- 'Lack of social activities, mouse'
- 'Fire alarms'

- 'Not, it was very cold'
- 'It was a bit old and hence a bit cold in the winter and moldy in the bathroom. The carpet floor was a bit dirty and smelly.'
- 'It was a bit old and hence a bit cold in the winter and moldy in the bathroom. The carpet floor was a bit dirty and smelly.'
- 'The carpets seem to never have been changed in decades; every time I vacuum clean it it's disgusting and I get very bad allergies. I also got back aches from the bed (I can feel the springs in my mattress). The showers and toilets are very badly cleaned, despite having a cleaner come 2-3 times a week.'
- 'The contract was directly for 12 months and I had to pay in advance'
- 'My first one was too far away from the university'
- 'It's not in [city], so I need to travel to get to the city'
- 'Nope'
- 'Nothing in particular only that we weren't assured accommodation and we weren't told until very late if we were given a place'
- 'No, I didn't'
- 'Cleanliness of toilets, amount of noise in accomodation (catered accomodation of the uni)'
- 'Shared kitchen beeing a mess'
- 'Price of gas'
- 'The house is very old and smells mouldy, which is why I got sick a lot at the beginning. The landlord company didn't do anything about it.'
- 'My room is too small, full of spiders and other insects, the house is dirty all the time because nobody cleans, expecially dishes and bathrooms'
- 'Boring and terrible flatmates, old building and outdated building, always warm'
- 'Ventilation issues which caused some mold in the bathroom as well as a broken heater, making us unable to use the radiators on our floor.'
- 'No sufficient hot water supply and little to no Wi-Fi'
- 'No only finding it was very hard but I was happy with my place'
- 'plumbing, mould, gas & hot water issues, however the landlady was quick to help each time'
- 'No'
- 'It's very hard to find accommodation (housing crisis) and due to the cost of living crisis everything is very expensive. At the same time we didn't get lots of funding from our Universities and Erasmus'
- 'No'
- 'Too small kitchen and fridge/freezer. We were 12 people sharing a kitchen big enough for two people, and the fridge was a combined fridge/freezer half the size of a normal one.'
- 'No!'
- 'I didn't have any issues. I have family who lives there, so I could live at their place for free.'
- 'Strict rules, flatmates, untrustworthy landlords, temperature in the building etc.'
- 'Always getting emails about room inspections and notice of entries... was a bit invasive and makes you feel like you have no private life'

- 'No'
- 'Very small'
- 'It was very old'
- 'Hard to get'
- 'Hard to get'
- 'Expensive'
- 'The issue wasn't about the accommodation but about the people living in it, there were many young students and rarely open to talk to erasmus students, so the first days it wasn't pleasant staying there'
- 'No extension'
- 'kitchen shared with many people'
- 'No'
- 'Very small'
- 'Sometimes flatmates'
- 'Small house, dirty comunual areas'
- 'Very dirty, broken window. broken vacuum etc. small kitchen and far from city center'
- 'No'
- 'I actually had problems with one accommodation recommended by [name]. I stayed in a flat by Erasmus Living and when I tried to sign a contract for one semester, I was told it is not possible and was forced to sign 10 month contract. When my flatmate arrive, she said it was no problem to sign contract for just one semester, so I know I was lied to. But then when I was leaving flat, the provider helped me find a student to take over my room. However, I had several issues with the agency like not receiving my deposit back and they were in general unhelpful.'
- 'Broken oven, often no electricity'
- 'No'
- 'Too expensive for the quality of it'
- 'N/A '
- 'It was very noisy during the night. Most times I could just sleep with earplugs.'
- 'I did not find any accommodation and felt very left alone from my host university. Then last minute they provided me with a room.'
- 'room is too small and i hate the carpeted floors'
- 'lack of support and actions taken about issues reported to the team regarding accommodation'
- 'guarantor '
- 'No'
- 'No elevator even though the flat was on the fifth floor. No common area or reception in the building.'
- 'We were assured student accomodation, but it got canceled a month before we were supposed to arrive. Another opportunity arrived, but it was 30min away from campus, and without a kitchen.'
- 'none'
- 'No, it was only difficult to find a place in [city], so I ended up finding a student accommodation building in [city] so I felt a bit disconnected from [university] due to being away from campus.'

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- 'Unprofessional staff members, noise from drunk people at night on a daily basis'
- 'Flatmate'
- 'Not clean, unhelpful staff'
- 'The only issues where with my flatmates being too loud at night, being messy and taking and using some of my stuff without my permission.'
- 'Sounds from neighbouring rooms kept me awake at night, could be the rooms are completely not soundproof or my ears are just too sensitive. Sometimes could hear the water in the plumbing'
- 'Mould and insulation'
- 'Rats, leaks, no heating'
- 'Rats. Also heating didn't work for like three months in January, and there's water dripping through my ceiling.'
- 'House was in a rather bad condition, rat issues, mold'
- 'Was very hard to find one and there was no help from either the host or sending university on the matter.'
- 'Just wasn't as social as I would have liked it but in general not too problematic'
- 'Deposit back'
- 'The heating turns off since it's sensor based'
- 'It was outside of [city]'
- 'Roommates and broken lift'
- 'Very badly insulated so very cold in winter (ice inside the windows one time)'
- 'Mold in shower'
- 'no family accommodations in [city]'
- 'No'
- 'Shared bathrooms when I really needed my own because of personal issues. The flat was old and things were always breaking and there was mould in the showers. Radiator was making very loud clicking noises early in the mornings. There was carpet floors with stains but nothing to clean the carpets with except a very bad Hoover.'
- 'It was quite small but alright for the time being there'
- 'The bed was pretty uncomfortable, cause some back pain. cleanliness, my flatmates are incredibly messy and inconsiderate but i do understand this is more about who you end up with and not the university.'
- 'Not in a good condition'
- 'None'
- 'Too expensive'
- 'The accommodation was really great because a lot of exchange students were there. But sometimes, it was really dirty and people had no respect for the cleaning staff.'
- 'Mice and very badly insulated so window shook in winds and it got very cold'
- 'I had private accommodation I found on Facebook. The room was a bit small and old, but other than that I liked it and it was affordable.'
- 'They were very strict and rude'
- 'No'
- 'I had to live away from the city to get my accommodation'
- 'there were LOADS of mice (which they did little about), lots of WIFI outages'

- 'Cost of electricity to keep my flat at a livable temperature'
- 'Security problems - being harassed by my downstairs neighbour that was able to use his keys to let himself into my flat and harass me and my partner because of "noise" (although there was none)'
- 'The bathrooms were never cleaned and had mold in the showers'
- 'no'
- 'I had some technical issues with the kitchen (broken fridge) and in the bathroom (clogged pipe) because the flat was quite old. These proved to be an issue because I spent between 2 and 3 weeks without a fridge while waiting for it to be repaired'

To the question, 'If you are comfortable, please expand on how you experienced discrimination while in the UK', the 38 total responses received were:

- 'As a working-class person/ person from a non-academic background: The cost of living as well as participation in a lot of events was inaccessible to me quite often as I struggled making ends meet, and the university rarely extended a helping hand in making cost more manageable.'
- 'no'
- 'N/A'
- '/'
- 'Not really discrimination, but a lot of people would really make fun of where I am from. Like "all Americans are stupid". I remember playing heads up with some Scottish students and we played a game of heads up that involved the categories of Countries. Someone made an off hand comment about that we don't know what other countries are, calling us stupid when it came to countries. And I went on to do pretty well in the category game. Then that person said that I actually did pretty good. That's just one example but I've heard it all the time while here, backhand comments about the United States and Americans and that can be really hurtful. Like all countries, in America you will have people that know more than others but that doesn't mean you should stereotype and generalize. However, it tends to happen a lot here and I've never experienced that before coming here, although I have been to other countries before. Occasionally people would also stereotype and generalize my state, which all those stereotypes are not true and I am used to people making fun of that, but it is still hurtful.'
- 'N/A'
- 'Homophobia'
- 'no racism but local students usually avoid talking with international students, some bus drivers tend to be rude'
- 'Teachers' misogynistic comments'
- 'Sometimes I feel like not talking about the specific experience, as I think they probably won't recognize they because they are not properly educated and being ignorant which i can not change and not my duty to reeducate them.'
- 'N/A'

- 'The first night I was here I was called a chink by my new housemates. I've experienced racial assault, verbal abuse, and institutional discrimination. I've been approached on the street, had slurs yelled at me by strangers and by people in my own house, and even had a bin of glass bottles thrown at me and my POC friends.'
- 'I encountered racist locals'
- 'I didn't'
- 'Some people yelling at me when passing by me, especially kids'
- 'not more discrimination than in any other country'
- 'I experienced transphobia from younger people twice, even though im not trans, i was called "man looking" and " are you a man or a woman? I couldn't tell by your hair" in a mocking tone. Surgery's were also annoying as i was refused help sometimes because i dint have a british phone number''
- 'None'
- 'I did not'
- 'Discrimination for being differently abled and for being LGBT'
- 'Minor aggression and racist remarks from locals (both white and coloured individuals)'
- 'Homophobia'
- '-'
- 'Heaven night club'
- 'N/A '
- 'No'
- 'A stranger told me that the world wars were my fault (I was 21 by that time and therefore it makes really much sense; I am German)'
- 'N/A '
- 'I've heard from people that there is still a problem about racism in the UK but I've never experienced that'
- 'Not discrimination but it is just about trust'
- 'none'
- 'Racial micro aggressions and misconceptions about my country of origin, assuming I am wealthy when I am not, assuming people from my country are terrorists when they are not, shocked at my ability to speak the english language or growing up to the same ameircan/british media, assuming my country is so undeveloped that we live in straw houses and ride camels instead of cars'
- 'A stranger said 'nihao' to me on the street in a racist way'
- 'I was told some nasty comments near my accommodation once but I believe they were not related to my nationality nor anything particular.'
- 'did not experience discrimination.'
- 'I did not, it has been a great experience'
- 'No'
- 'Discrimination is clearly seen for the job applications.'

To the question, 'Are there any other specific problems you had when coming to the UK?', the 88 total responses received were:

- 'Funds, mental health problems.'
- 'no'
- 'No one gave us information about how to get around in the UK without a car. How the system works. Specifically, in the city/county you are studying. This led to some issues and avoidable stress for all of us.'
- 'no'
- '[University] said that accommodation would be easy to find but that is not at all true; there is massive demand for accommodation in Durham and I did not manage to secure accommodation until just a few weeks before I came over, which caused me significant stress over the summer'
- 'Stores close way too early'
- 'Currency, health insurance, getting settled in'
- 'Phone data'
- 'Not much! Everything mostly in the UK was easy, except for registering for classes that was a nightmare.'
- '[University] was overenrolled to the point that I could not get into Politics courses (my degree at home). Studying on campus was a hellhole as the main study buildings were essentially full by mid-morning. I am not over exaggerating when I say this has SEVERELY impacted my experience at [university].'
- 'Never felt at home culture clash'
- 'The main problem was finding an accommodation'
- 'I wish I had a personal tutor to ask questions, like other permanent students has.'
- 'No'
- 'Housing is really expensive'
- 'they lost my luggage at heathrow so i had to live without my stuff for 10 days'
- 'Getting used to the northern accent for a few weeks.'
- 'I would have loved to know more about ESN before I arrived, since I only found out a few days after I arrives'
- 'At first it was hard to understand the accent ([area] accent), as well as nurses/doctors' instructions and receipts, which I found either hard to understand or rude at some points of my appointment'
- 'It takes a very long time to get a bank account opened for Internationals in the UK; I would have liked some support from the university in having one opened before I arrived, as I spent the first few weeks of term struggling to pay for food because I had no cash and had trouble paying for things with my American card. Additionally, the cost of tuition for international students is still quite high, and I wish I had put in the effort to apply to other European schools with my major that cost less that I was afraid to apply to because of potential language barriers. (Additionally, I find the food here quite bland, but that's a minor issue)'
- 'No'

- 'Only COVID related'
- 'It's expensive and seems to have worst parts of the US and EU in one place'
- 'Finding an accomodation as an Erasmus student, especially when staying less than the whole year, as most of the accomodation offer only one-year contracts/ don't rent for Erasmus students (e.g college accomodations where open only for local students)'
- 'its a different culture'
- 'N/A '
- 'I couldn't get a bank account for a long time because I had no residence here, and so I had to survive on cash for the first six months of university which made life really frustrating.'
- 'None'
- 'Jokes about Nazis are hard to deal with but I guess that is the fate of a German'
- 'No'
- 'Language was a problem in my first semester and it was hard to adapt to a different academic system'
- 'Covid and Brexit'
- 'Different lifestyle'
- 'accommodation was a BIG issue!!!'
- 'Mostly getting proper help from Surgery, but after a while i managed to get it'
- 'None'
- 'No'
- 'No'
- 'None'
- 'No.'
- 'The transport system in the UK is difficult to navigate around and extremely expensive.'
- 'Some logistical problems: guarantor for accommodation...'
- 'I was sexually assaulted multiple times'
- 'N/A '
- 'Nothing at all'
- 'No, there aren't'
- 'The cold'
- 'Not being able to work due to not having a visa and thus having to live off loans'
- 'No'
- 'No'
- 'No!'
- 'The administrative process when enrolling is a joke. No information anywhere and when you ask people they have no idea. Lack of communication.'
- 'The access to healthcare can be difficult and expensive'
- 'Language'
- 'No'
- 'N/A '
- 'No'
- 'No'
- 'N/A '

- 'In addition to accommodation allocation, the course enrolment system at my host university was unclear and troublesome. Many of the courses offered to exchange students were so called high demand courses, which meant that it was extremely difficult to get enrolled on them due to their popularity. It was most difficult for exchange students with a university-wide agreement (like me) since they were the last ones who got to choose their courses. There was a separate enrolment for high demand courses, and we were told beforehand that they would become available by the end of July. However, the exact date and time were not announced, which meant that I had to keep checking my email all the time. When the course enrolment form was finally published on the last working day of July, it was first come first served. Thus, you had to fill in the form extremely fast if you wanted to get enrolled on your preferred courses. After that, it was still possible to change courses until the end of the second teaching week of the semester. Nevertheless, there was no waiting list for the courses. Instead, you had to fill in the same course change request form again and again and hope that someone who was enrolled in your preferred course had just changed their courses before you. Even though it was quite frustrating, I filled in the form dozens of times, but I was not lucky enough to get any of my courses changed. At the end of the orientation week, I realised that there was a clash in my timetable, so I had to change one of my courses. I had thought that the Visiting Student Office had checked my courses in case of possible timetable clashes since it had been said on their website that students could not be enrolled on courses that clashed with each other. There had been no information about exchange students' responsibility to check the course timetables before enrolment. Finally, when I really had to change one of my courses, I was able to do that, but it took them over a week to find me a spot on a suitable course. Thus, I missed the first lectures and tutorials of the course, and they did not even apologise for that. Again, when I discussed the course enrolment system with other exchange students, it turned out that many of them had had similar experiences to mine. Someone had even given up filling in the course change request form and asked a university staff member to choose the courses for them. In my opinion, the problem was not that I was not able to get enrolled on any of my preferred courses. On the contrary, I was very satisfied with the courses I ended up attending. Instead, the biggest disappointment to me was again the way things had been organised. Personally, I think that the course enrolment process was not fair and transparent enough.'
- 'Drinking culture, small talk culture'
- 'No'
- 'No'
- 'none'
- 'No, I absolutely adore the UK over my country and plan to stay if I am allowed to by the government. My hope is to become a British citizen one day.'
- 'Issues with socializing as most people want to go clubbing/partying/drinking alcohol, it is an extremely unhealthy culture and was a huge shock to me upon coming here'
- 'Local food specialities eww'
- 'The college help! I was struggling with finding accommodation and they didn't help in any aspect'

- 'I didnt have a bank account'
- 'suffered many colds! accomodation was way too cold in winter. was tight on budget, got my bike stolen.'
- 'No, where I am in the UK especially has been lovely.'
- 'The host university administration is very disorganized and did not fix my schedule- even after I showed up, called and emailed at least 8 times- until I was one month in. Which impacted my grades (that actually count for my university at home)'
- 'Just getting my kid's visas at the same time as mine, I am a single mom and my kids were 13 and 15 I had to come over for a month without them and it was very stressful.'
- 'No'
- 'No'
- 'No'
- 'banking was difficult, since i came on a visitor visa most banks would not accept me. i was able to figure it out after a month or so but it was stressful and definitely cost me more than i was hoping'
- 'The courses eligible for exchange students were published very late.'
- 'Maybe the strikes.'
- 'No'
- 'Insecurity on the continuation of the Erasmus+ programme whilst I was there (I came in September 2019 and the Brexit plans changed almost weekly. I wasn't sure if maybe I'd have had to abort due to Brexit at some point.)'
- 'Space is insufficient to provide the information'
- 'Mostly the fact that I came for one semester and that most people already knew each other. Because of the strikes, a lot of seminars were cancelled so I didn't get to know a lot of students'

To the question, 'Why? [Would you recommend/not recommend studying in the UK]', the 204 total responses received were:

- 'Great experience!'
- 'Improved my language skills. New experience. Very good university'
- 'The student culture is very active and fun'
- 'The quality of teaching as well as their resources are extremely high (sadly, the cost of attending university in England makes it extremely hard for the majority to even consider the brilliant education). The lecturers and professors always had the best in mind for their students, and made learning from them all the more enjoyable.'
- 'I had the best time, but I feel like the education given from my home university is on an higher level'
- 'I had so much fun!'
- 'the visa paperwork and mostly the cost of the visa is too much, so many people don't want to come since not everyone can afford it'
- 'Same as above :)'

- 'It is such a nice experience to live and study in a different culture and see how things work compared to home. From the very beginning there have been so many opportunities to grow and try out new things that maybe are not possible at home. Everyone I met has been very interested and welcoming too. There's just so many amazing things to explore.'
- 'Good social culture on uni. No language barrier. Proximity to mountains like the scottish highlands.'
- 'Good experience'
- 'The cost is too high for studying and living there. I can acquire the same amount of information while studying in countries that cost far less for the same degree. The system with there being societies is nice though. I liked to attend them to be able to focus on something different than my studies.'
- 'Because the student life is great and the education is nice'
- 'It was a wonderful experience and I learned a lot, both personally and academically.'
- 'To pass onto them the culture of being welcomed'
- 'It is definitely a good but challenging experience and it is worth experiencing'
- 'It is hard to live in UK'
- 'To get a bigger perspective on how the world works. To challenge yourself.'
- 'The quality of teaching is really good !'
- 'I would have recommended Scotland when it was part of the EU, but now I feel for full-time students it is too expensive (course fees) and quite complicated sadly.'
- 'So much fun, expensive though'
- 'It's fun, an experience'
- 'I feel like everything is so laid back here, I was hardly ever stressed with school (aside from one class) and the assignments were really doable. I love the idea of having 3 weeks of spring break, and overall I just really enjoy the structure of classes here. I would definitely recommend it depending on what your major is.'
- 'Because the experience is very enriching. They will meet a lot of new people and will be confronted to a new culture and language'
- 'It was a unique and very different experience'
- 'Because it is much easier to go to an EU country. One can get the same experience of British culture in Ireland much more convenient'
- 'Because it is a great opportunity to learn English, it is not far for those who live in Europe, and it is a great opportunity to fall in love with European culture for those who don't live in Europe'
- 'The structure of assessments are ineffective and stressful. Exams making up 80% of ones grade is ridiculous, especially when they are not comprehensive or poorly made (although the university may tout that it goes through a rigorous administrative process to make a "fair" exam, that is plain bullshit) - WAY WAY WAY too many students. On that note, many also do not contribute well to classes.'
- 'Because I did not enjoy the lifestyle'
- 'Friendly people'
- 'had a lot of fun, people very welcoming, language easy, university very supportive'

- 'Beautiful country with many opportunities and a lot of students there'
- 'Because of the culture, language and the options.'
- 'A lot of activities for internationals'
- 'I spent the whole year to work without being able to do some socials etc. Extreme pressure. Depression.'
- 'The people in the UK are so nice and it's a beautiful country.'
- 'University in UK provides a lot of opportunities (society, events, volunteering...), you can experience different things and learn about yourself and other cultures'
- 'the overall experience there was really worth it'
- 'expensive'
- 'It's a very welcoming country'
- 'The courses are nice and the teachers are very skilled and enthusiastic - the small scale setting makes studying very nice'
- 'Because of the quality of universities, the academic experience I lived and the enjoyable social life'
- 'The people are nice, the country offers many travel destinations'
- 'Because it's awesome!'
- 'Kind people, high quality teaching, very caring educational system ...'
- 'It's fun'
- 'There are a lot of travel opportunities and interesting places to visit within quite short distances, while also having a solid support system around you'
- 'Great uni life with associations and clubs'
- 'Interesting courses'
- 'Open minded people'
- 'People there are extremely kind and helpful and you will always find help should you need it. The city I was in ([city]) also felt way safer than back home in France:guys don't harass you in clubs or in the street for instance. The landscapes are beautiful and there are many things to visit. Also, the weather is not as bad as they say.'
- 'It is a great experience and the education system is awesome'
- 'employment opportunities, independent living experience, comparatively reasonable cost of study and PSW'
- 'Despite the difficulties (and outrageous cost international students are charged for study purely because "there is no limit by the government" on what can be charged, my university's words, not mine), I have enjoyed studying abroad, and the people I have met in the UK have been kind and welcoming.'
- 'culture, the people, universities, the societies...'
- 'It is a nice country'
- 'It is a one time experience to have. It is extremely different from my home country so people have to be able to adapt quickly but it is 100 % worth it.'
- 'They don't like critical thinking as much as we do in Spain'
- 'culture and social interactions'
- 'the landscape here is amazing.'
- 'bcs of my good experience'
- 'Great student community'

- 'It's been a really good experience and I feel welcomed by the locals and like basically everything here, I feel at home'
- 'The climate of a university town is really nice and there are lots of opportunities to join societies, get into sports etc. Moreover the university seems to be quite supportive of its students (even if I did not take full advantage of that support) and the system with more essays than exams makes students think and forces them to read more from different sources.'
- 'There's no such an intercultural, inclusive environment and high-level universities anywhere in the world'
- 'Studying as an international exchange student I would definitely recommend studying in the UK. You can get to experience a new and different educational system and meet new people. As a fulltime student I'm not sure though, it would depend on the financial situation and to possibilities to apply for a scholarship, not that the fees have also gone up. (But as I said also above, I don't know exactly the possibilities to get the costs covered, so maybe it's not such a big deal as it seems to me).'
- 'It was fun to experience something different and to travel.'
- 'The universities are often well equipped and the people are very nice. There is a lot of opportunities to get involved with anything.'
- 'It is a dinamo and proactive country'
- 'International environment, personal growth, quality teaching'
- 'I had a great experience there'
- 'It is good education, you get to live the university experience and it is fun'
- 'My experience has been very positive so far.'
- 'It was a great experience for meeting others from around the world and exploring a global network. As well, it's much easier to travel in the UK than in North America.'
- 'I think it takes a lot to assimilate and a lot of mental willpower. It's a lot easier said than done and people aren't necessarily the most open or welcoming to international students.'
- 'it depends on every person'
- 'A UK degree opens a world of opportunity'
- 'I really like the university culture here, and the teaching offers different perspectives to what I'm used to.'
- 'I can only highly (!!) recommend [city], other places I have no knowledge of, so no general recommendation for the UK'
- 'Good education and univeristy eperience (social events organized)'
- 'It's a great destination to choose'
- 'The education and the way of life is very student friendly'
- 'Good quality of education and great social life'
- 'High salaries'
- 'I didn't like the teaching style and the cost of living is quite high.'
- 'It is very expensive and it is nice to study somewhere else too. But I loved it'
- 'It has been one of the best experiences of my life'
- 'UK is a welcoming and encouraging place to study'
- 'Good university, good culture'

- 'Very easy to adapt to as a dane. Friendly people and the University is good. Next time I will probably go somewhere warmer though.'
- 'The people are lovely'
- 'campus life!'
- 'It was truly a fantastic experience'
- 'It's cheaper than my home country'
- 'Its fun! Its a new experience and you learn a lot, plus if you are from Norway its cheap'
- 'Because it has been fun being here, it is cheap and you can experience a lot of things while living here and see a lot of different things'
- 'the education and teaching is really good, some of the top universities in europe are here'
- 'The student life us really great. I appreciate the societies and the many events organised by the Union. I liked my courses generally. However I do not strongly agree since my learning was negatively influenced by the fact that the employers are not providing acceptable working conditions for their staff (resulting in strikes)'
- 'Lovely countries lovely people. Great food and architecture. Beautiful scenery. An incredible experience all around.'
- 'I had such a nice time'
- 'I believe the curriculum and the structure of the University I attended has many positives and offers different views compare dot my own, which is an excellent experience to have. At the same time, the country itself and the culture is vastly different, which can be both a good and bad thing. To visit another country means you gain a new appreciation for certain aspects of your birthplace, while at the same time pinpointing the flaws and finding examples of how they may be overcome. I believe everyone would benefit from something like that.'
- 'Have absolutely adored my time here and am eager to continue to visit and or remain here'
- 'Societies really make university a community and a much better time than staying in my home country. Job opportunities are amazing as well'
- 'People are very welcoming and the quality of education is pretty good'
- 'I wasn't completely happy with the level of teaching over here, but I did meet a lot of nice international students.'
- 'Good quality education, fun culture, many experiences to be had'
- 'Education is great in the UK and there are endless academic and professional opportunities'
- 'Because no matter the difficulties it was a good experience. It is worth visiting and making your own mind about it.'
- 'I love the social life with all the different societies'
- 'I think there are good internship opportunities and a good amount of career support.'
- 'You experience quite a lot since there are so many events, because of that you get to know a lot of people, the quality of the teaching was very good and the topics interesting'
- 'Because it is a great opportunity to learn about uk culture and there is a good student environment'

- 'I loved my experience there and even if the United Kingdom is our neighbour, the culture is really different, it's a great openness to live there, the culture is rich, the only difficulty is the Brexit which makes the procedures more complicated and the cost of living...'
- 'It's fantastic :) except for the cost of living of course'
- 'Studying in the UK has been a fantastic experience where I have met loads of great friends and travelled to many amazing places.'
- 'Of course, I cannot speak for other universities, but at least at my host university, the course options, the quality of teaching, the teaching and learning methods as well as student support are top-class. The student body and the staff of the university are also very international and diverse in other respects, which helps multiple different points of view to be presented. Additionally, leisure opportunities and student life in general are lively and multifaceted, and I really felt welcome and being a part of the wider student and university community during my exchange. I felt that I was able to be myself both in my studies and in my leisure time, and I did not feel like an outsider.'
- 'Quality of courses / good teachers / Good infrastructure'
- 'The people were nice, good organisation'
- 'I like the way it works, it's very social you get to meet a lot of different people and there are so many activities to do with your university'
- 'the education is really good'
- 'Because I felt surprisingly welcome and at home, and my English got a lot better.'
- 'It was a nice overall experience that was different to studying in Germany.'
- 'People are nice when they are not drunk'
- 'It's a great experience and you get to see how life is in the UK compared to stereotypical tv shows.'
- 'Amazing experience'
- 'You learn so much, it is very different to other cultures and it definitely will open your eyes'
- 'I think there are better options for living a year abroad'
- 'So many activities at uni'
- 'It's too expensive when not funded'
- 'Standard of living is bad. But the experience of an UK University (Societies, Colleges,...) in general is very nice and unique and worth experiencing.'
- 'Amazing student culture'
- 'Very open people and great for students'
- 'It was fun'
- 'A good experience is always worth it'
- 'university in the UK is just so much more social, i especially liked all the societies and i felt it was so easy to get to know people this way! i felt welcomed by the university from the beginning and enjoyed all my classes. although formatives, summative and studying for exams took up a lot of my time i liked being productive and the atmosphere of the library. on top of this, studying abroad here is just the best way to get an insight into UK culture, specifically northern English culture, which i think is super interesting.'

- 'The people are so nice and friendly, you can improve your english while studying in prestigious universities. There are so many opportunities to travel and beautiful landscapes to see (Scotland, Lake District, Wales etc). The british cities are amazing and you will always find something you like'
- 'I think there are better option out there studywise than just the UK'
- 'Can learn a lot of different things and get to see more of the world'
- 'I loved my time but it is extremely expensive living here at the moment which impacts the experience a lot'
- 'I really enjoyed studying there, but the cost for non-Erasmus students is fairly prohibitive.'
- 'It I one of the best places to study.'
- 'Very original people and culture. Student friendly and full of energy. Vibrant cities and youth culture (if you don't mind about the weather :)'
- 'Because the UK really offers good and fun student life's and also have good universities.'
- 'Student experience and the jobs it gives you after'
- 'It's great. A bit like home but at the same time not at all'
- 'It's an amazing experience'
- 'the people are nice and relax, the culture and the history are interesting, the education is very high quality. In [city]: lots of possibilities to travel: [nearby locations] - I definitely recommend'
- 'Because it was a good experience'
- 'Because it was a good experience'
- 'It was a good experience'
- 'Studying in the UK is really one of the best experience some students can do. University is well organized and professors don't pressure students, they help you learn and they are interested in your thoughts and skills. Moreover many cities have a lot for students to explore and conduct a very college life'
- 'Great experience'
- 'great opportunity'
- 'It was an amazing experience and the country is very nice'
- 'The teaching it self is pretty good, the life style os very good, clean and safe and people are nice!'
- 'Good experience, got to know people, good uni'
- 'Incredible experience'
- 'Very student experience'
- 'It is amazing'
- 'The culture is amazing, the people are friendly, I just loved my time there'
- 'It has been the greatest experience in my life.'
- 'Compared to Germany everything was more relaxed, more fun, more social connecting and less stress'
- 'Best quality of teaching and oppirtunities'
- 'It is a good experience to grow as an individual and become a lot more independent. But not an easy thing to do, will be met with a lot of hardships and fear but that's what comes with growth'

- 'Studying in England is a great experience and great headstart for any work you're interested in. Even though UK gets bad reputation for the weather and people, I fell in love with England. British people are incredibly welcoming, university will support you with any needs you have. If you put yourself out there and attend some events, you can meet friends for life. Or even your future partner like me. Studying and working in England improved my language so much and I know I can use it whenever I travel. And England some so many many beautiful national parks that people all around the world visit. Even if you come for just one semester, make sure to see other places than London because England is truly beautiful.'
- 'The international fee is way overcharged'
- 'great experience, met many people, good opportunity to get better in english,'
- 'It's warm and gives opportunity to all'
- 'People are very nice and friendly, there are many organisations you can join if you are passionate, and the facilities are very good.'
- 'The UK offers great universities, courses, and beautiful places to visit'
- 'i like the diversity and teaching style'
- 'I believe that is a safe place and that it's easy to find help'
- 'Studying is much less stressful than in France, many activities and social events, better studying relaxing balance'
- 'At least in my university there is diversity with the students&exchange students and that made the atmosphere in the university really open and I for example felt that my teachers here were really supportive of me. There is also so much activities and possibilities for you to mold the experience for your liking.'
- 'Despite the weather, much to do and visit'
- 'It is not far from where I come from and I had a great time. People are really welcoming'
- 'It was an extremely fun year, Uni culture here is great'
- 'People are very polite and helpfull, the university experience is so much more fun than in Germany, cause you have a feeling of belonging and the university is much more personal and supportive for you as an individual and your academic interests'
- 'different, fun style of uni education, great nature, very welcoming, extracurricular activities are amazing'
- 'You learn to adapt to a new system, you meet new people and learn about other perspectives that make you a better rounded individual'
- 'Tuition fees are extremely high compared to the amount of self study hours! Plus depending on where you're coming from uk visas require an additional investment which is not even ensuring that you'll be able to work there afterwards/extra costs for graduate visas'
- 'You can learn a lot about yourself. You grow a lot, make memories and experience a different system for education.'
- 'Helped me grow a lot as a perosn'
- 'One of the best experiences in my life'
- 'It has been an enjoyable learning environment and a great change of learning style.'
- 'I had a lot of fun'
- 'Student environment'
- 'Quality of education and experience of uk will enrich the skills in oneself'

- 'Firstly, my university was academically very good, and secondly, the nature in the UK is beautiful, there are many great cities and the mentality of the inhabitants is also great.'
- 'it's a great county and there is so much to do here. lots of places to travel and trains/buses are very accessible.'
- 'I enjoyed my Erasmus year so much'
- 'It was perfect.'
- 'Teaching and people'
- 'The University spaces are great and students are offered with many different types of support, however the education system is very different and might be difficult to fit in at first'
- 'It is easy to get around because of the language and there are many good universities. Also there is a place for everyone, from city life enthusiasts to nature lovers.'
- 'Awesome experience overall, and a very multiethnic city'
- 'To receive the highest standard of education'
- 'Interest'
- 'Brexit'
- 'No jobs for foreigners. Diversity, inclusive, equality is just for name sake (irrespective of how good a candidate is)'
- 'I had a great time'
- 'It's great education (if you can afford it - I fortunately still got the pre-brexit conditions for funding the degree) and few years abroad really force you to grow as a person. You get lots of contacts from abroad (which is also important) and you realise what you want/don't want from life.'
- 'Because I had a great experience. The people were really nice and I loved the culture. Also the variety of accents allows you to practice your English in a totally different way than at school at your home university. I think England is a great place to study, with lots of student facilities and discounts, and many international students as well because it is so popular.'
- 'it was a fun experience, the prices are pretty similar to those in France/Europe. I think the UK is really amazing landscape talking and you will definitely want to visit the entire place! however (but I guess it's the same everywhere), if you are an introvert and want to meet people I would recommend societies and the ESN for example ! you will meet amazing people and not be lonely haha'

To the question, 'Why? [Do you plan on staying in the UK after your study finishes]', the 77 total responses received were:

- 'To gain international work experience'
- 'I love living in [city] because it's so lively'
- 'I feel in love with the UK and its multicultural atmosphere'
- 'I loved the UK and I think there are so many great opportunities here'
- 'I love speaking in English, and I love the people, the culture and the rhythm/dynamic here !'
- 'I want to work here'

- 'I really like multicultural environment and that brings joy to me. Also UK is very good in the marine industry. And also even working part-time surprisingly allows me to earn my living expenses.'
- 'To continue discovering the country'
- 'I am interested in postgraduate opportunities, although probably in [city] rather than [city]'
- 'This has been my life's highlight'
- 'Very good post-graduate programmes'
- 'More opportunities'
- 'maybe for a master program'
- 'It is a possibility that I let myself. I'm not aiming to but if an opportunity comes up I would be glad to do it ;)'
- 'I don't know if I will yet, but maybe someday when I have finished my masters'
- 'I want to gain relevant work experience on the course I studied so that I don't have to start from scratch when I return back home'
- 'love the culture and wanna try to stay longer in the country'
- 'There are a lot of possibilities'
- 'I want to be a teacher and I think teaching is way more inclusive for children here than in France. Children here are happy to go to school... I had never seen that before.'
- 'on the long term I might come back for work'
- 'I love UK culture and the working atmosphere here. btw i'd like to keep a distance from my parents so UK can be a good choice as i am studying here right now.'
- 'PhD after my internship and amazing city'
- 'I loved my experience here and feel more at home than in my home country.'
- 'I want to keep living here'
- 'I love the atmosphere here and the whole culture just fits me'
- 'I love the culture and the performance/theatre industry.'
- 'International environment, broader spectrum of development opportunities'
- 'I like UK culture and the quality of education I received while I was there'
- 'Because i want to get a good education'
- 'My family have moved here now'
- 'I am eligible for an Ancestry visa and the legal market is quite strong.'
- 'I think there are more opportunities in the UK and Europe.'
- 'Because my boyfriend is British'
- 'I believe there are a lot of great opportunities here for my ideal career path'
- 'I liked it and I miss my friends'
- 'Feels like home'
- 'I don't want to go back to my home country'
- 'Because I think the UK has better options for a masters degree than my home country'
- 'I've met my partner while I was on Erasmus and I'd like to move in with him at some point here in the UK'
- 'I'm looking for a master so I'd love to go the UK but it is extremely expensive. And I would love to live in the UK, so working there as well'
- 'The UK is my home'

- 'Because I want to do a master's as well and want to continue it in the UK'
- 'Most security jobs are in [city], if I'm able to get a work visa and a job, I would love to spend more time in the UK'
- 'Because my degree largely focuses on literature from the UK, I think this is the best place to study it.'
- 'I would like to work in English-speaking environment and also my partner is British so I would like to live with him'
- 'Mainly because I really like the city and the international community that Bristol has. Also, the quality of life here is better than in Brazil and this includes the academic and work world.'
- 'I prefer this university system to the one at home, I feel it fits me better'
- 'The life here is chill and free'
- 'Because I have found my home and I would like to stay in [city] for as long as I possibly can so when I finish my degree I'll come back and work there.'
- 'I'm not quite sure yet if I want to stay in the UK for work or go back to Switzerland. It all really depends on the opportunities I'll have'
- 'I would really like to work and live in [city] after my studies are done. [city] is a place where everything happens and where you're never bored. It really feels like a 'hotspot' of the world.'
- 'Earn'
- 'I would like to try how working in a different country is, and UK is a well-working country for my point of view. Moreover my Erasmus made me like more the country, especially the cities in the north that I've never heard about before'
- 'I have a family here now.'
- 'I love living in [city] and have made really good friends and wish to live here for at least another year.'
- 'I love the British lifestyle and I really enjoyed my time here. Unfortunately I can't stay for my entire studies and have to go back, because studying in the UK would be too expensive. Still I would love to come back for work afterwards!'
- 'Best quality of teaching'
- 'Culture, salary, industry'
- 'I love the people and place. Their culture is so nice and they treat everyone so warmly'
- 'Being from the US, my country is very divided and their policies are becoming more and more aggressive and - in my opinion - are working against basic human rights. I want to stay in the UK because, while every country has its own challenges, I feel that the UK generally cares about the well-being of its citizens and I want to be part of a culture that emphasizes clean food, free healthcare for all, and lives with the environment as much as is possible in this day and age. To me, the UK does all of that and I hope to become a citizen in the future.'
- 'I like living in the UK and it feels more like home to me'
- 'Like the working culture'
- 'The British countryside, I just fell in love. I want to experience what it is like to live and work in a little and picturesque village'
- 'It has the best options when it comes to scientific research, with a lot of universities in the country leading the way in terms of global scientific research and development.'

- 'I love it here'
- 'I like the people, the Country and living in another language'
- 'I love it here and want to work with Peat'
- 'More opportunities there for film'
- 'In general, I would like to work abroad and can well imagine working in the UK after my stay abroad.'
- 'I prefer the study culture in the UK'
- 'I like uni there, but I miss France :)'
- 'Cause I found a gf in [city] haha'
- 'For money'
- 'To leverage my education'
- 'Only in my last year, I was able to build some sort of network, including friends and a partner who are British. Because of that, I've decided to stick around, otherwise I wouldn't.'
- 'work'
- 'If possible I would like to work in the UK because I truly enjoyed my time here as a student and I love the culture of this country so I would like to explore more and for a longer time because I only had the opportunity to study for one semester which seemed very short to me.'

To the question, 'Why? [Do you not want to stay in the UK after your study finishes]', the 107 total responses received were:

- 'I came here for a semester abroad not to move here permanently'
- 'Inter alia Classicism, cost of living, the inaccessibility for (mental) health needs if you're part of the NHS crowd'
- 'I have to finish my degree in my hime university'
- 'I want to get some experiences in my home country first'
- 'The culture is not something that appeals to me.'
- 'I'm just not at the point in my life Where I want to move to another country'
- 'I need to finish my degree back home'
- 'I want to continue studying at my home-university.'
- 'The stress level is too high, especially comparing to a Scandinavian country - where I'm living at right now'
- 'Living conditions are too bad and the cost of living is too much'
- 'With the Brexit now, it's not that interesting for me as an European.'
- 'I don't see my future in the UK, I prefer mainland Europe for my own convenience'
- 'Stuff going on back home'
- 'I want to finish my degree at home first and possibly come back at some point later to work'
- 'Because I want to be an English teacher to French people'
- 'I think the culture does not suit me'
- 'Because the EU are a very convenient system and I would prefer to work in a country I feel welcome'

- 'There should be a maybe option above, but after being here I realized that I like the warmth and the sunshine of where I am from, and unfortunately in the UK there is not enough of that. So I really miss the weather back home and I like being close to family. I would come and work in the UK again for a small amount of time, but as far as living here the rest of my life I probably would not want to, just because I like being close to family and I have no family here. Additionally, it is my dream to work for the Disney company, and I would love to live in the Orlando area or California first. If those don't work out and Disney has jobs available from [city], I would work in the UK.'
- 'I want to build a life and a career in my home country'
- 'I want like to explore other countries'
- 'Not specifically'
- 'This does not correspond to my career plan.'
- 'Today, i'd prefer work in my home country (France) after my degree'
- 'i don't know when my studies finish. that could be like 3-4 years away'
- 'I am not finished with my degree'
- 'I have to finish my degree back in Spain and I would like to possibly work somewhere else after I graduate'
- 'The salaries are too low'
- 'I have to write my final degree at home'
- 'I plan to work on entering a field related to wildlife conservation and rehabilitation, and I would like to explore my options in other locations with more prevalent conservation opportunities first.'
- 'I don't like the education system'
- 'Miss home'
- 'I don't know yet if i want to work here or just move a lot'
- 'I have plans to continue my studies elsewhere'
- 'I am not yet in my final year, I'm still undecided about what to do after my undergrad.'
- 'Family and other cement goals back home'
- 'I still have to finish my degree in my home country. But in general studying or working in the UK in the future is definitely an option for me'
- 'I didn't have any plans so I didn't exactly know what to do'
- 'Cost of living, don't want to build a life here, overall country seems to be going backward'
- 'Actually, I'm not sure whether I want to continue my study or finding a job in the UK.'
- 'I am going to finish my degree in Germany and I can't imagine living in the UK long term because of some social benefits that the UK lacks and because there is more of a class divide.'
- 'I do not want to leave my family and job at home.'
- 'I felt so isolated while I was here, I don't know if that will be sustainable for my mental health in the long-term'
- 'prefer to go home'
- 'No jobs'
- 'Too difficult and expensive because of Brexit'
- 'I think it will be troublesome now when the UK is not a part of the EU anymore'

- 'Want to make my master in Germany'
- 'Because I really like Denmark'
- 'I prefer my home country and all my friends will also be going back to theirs'
- 'I enjoy UK culture, but it's not something I'd like to experience for a very long time, UK time is enough'
- 'I have to go back home to finish my degree. I don't know about my job options in the UK and I imagine it to be stressful to get Workvisa etc'
- 'I have another one year of studies ahead of me. After that, I will most likely look for my first employment in my field in my own country.'
- 'I would like to take my master's degree at my home university'
- 'Moving back to Asia for PhD'
- 'I would like to work/study in Europe'
- 'I like work life in the UK, but I really don't like the lifestyle; however, this is a personal choice, because I am very Mediterranean'
- 'Because the cost of living is expensive and the cultural differences are too strong'
- 'I still need to finish my bachelor and want to do a master after but that's not affordable for me in the UK'
- 'Because I like to travel for a few years but not to stay and settle down, at least I feel too young to think about that.'
- 'I prefer studying and working in my home country, but not because I perceive my possibilities to study and work in the UK negatively but simply because I want to live my life in my home country.'
- 'There are more opportunities in other countries'
- 'Wanna do my master in my home country'
- 'I am happy home'
- 'The cost of living crisis and Brexit.'
- 'N/A'
- 'The English lifestyle has revealed to not be as I thought before moving to UK in September'
- 'I am mostly interested in travelling through the country, and in my 5 months I saw most of it.'
- 'Because the standard of living is very bad here. I would be afraid not to find a nice home. And I didn't have that much contact with local people so I am afraid that I would be lonely.'
- 'The Netherlands is better for me.'
- 'I am only in my bachelors and want to do my masters in another country'
- 'It's too cold'
- 'Because I'm studying Politics and I will have to finish my degree in my home country so it will be easier for me to find an internship and a job in France rather than the UK'
- 'I'd like to, but as a scientist I'm not sure the commercialised university system agrees with me'
- 'I have a job back in my home country. I wouldn't mind staying in the UK (and I can) but that option isn't available in your choices.'
- 'Honestly had enough and I miss good food. UK food is... not my cup of tea'

- 'I plan to do my Master degree in France, and then I would like to work in another European countries to discover something else'
- 'Because I want to live in Switzerland'
- 'To expensive cost of living'
- 'Life at home'
- 'More options in germany'
- 'Not the biggest fan of the culture here, very different from what I am used to'
- 'I'm applying for Masters in France, and studying in the UK is too expensive without the Erasmus program'
- 'difficult'
- 'It is something I haven't really thought of'
- 'I would like to stay in countries in the European Union'
- 'I really did enjoy the experience but I don't feel there is enough reasons (friends etc) for me to stay here. My whole life is still in my home country.'
- 'I like living in the UK but I also like my home town'
- 'Have you seen the cost of living and the state of your health system? And the weather? And the rats??? Who would stay here?'
- 'The system for my degree is not transferrable to the UK system and I will have greater opportunities back in my host university'
- 'finish degree back home'
- 'Because I have to finish my last year of Bachelor at home university.'
- 'Initially planned on staying here for work but reconsidered after a horrible experience with visa applications'
- 'I first want to finish my degree at my home university'
- 'I have better jobs in my home country'
- 'well i still have more school and i don't want to live here permanently. it's too far away from my family.'
- 'First I want to work in France, then move to the UK once I'm a little bit more experienced'
- 'Too little job'
- 'Because I chose the UK for an exchange year and it was perfect but I don't know if I would want to stay longer.'
- 'prefer to go home, pay worse in the UK than mainland Europe and worse benefits'
- 'I will pursue a Master's programme in the EU'
- 'I want to explore more places other than UK but im for sure coming back to visit.'
- 'Go back and work in my country. Finding legal jobs hae been extremely difficult'
- 'Brexit'
- 'I am in Accounting, so I need to finish my studies in America as the Accounting rules are different there.'
- 'I need to go back home for the next semester'
- 'I still have to study in France but even after that I think I will visit other countries.'

To the question, 'Why? [Do you want to stay in the UK after your study finishes, but don't plan to]', the 67 total responses received were:

- 'I have to finish my bachelor back home'
- 'I still have one year left at my home university to finish, so I cannot stay at the UK after my Erasmus stay'
- 'It's very expensive.'
- 'I still have to finish my studies in my home country, but I would love to come back someday, maybe to work or do my masters if I can finance that.'
- 'I have to finish a double degree back in France'
- 'I'll start another degree back home'
- 'I have a year left at home.'
- 'Brexit and visa'
- 'need to finish my degrees at my home university first'
- 'It's too expensive to come to the UK right after my studies end, but maybe in the future when I gain more money'
- 'I need to finish my degree back home, because I cannot afford to finish my degree in the UK'
- 'Cost'
- 'I'd like to stay in the UK but my family and my life is ultimately in Canada. I would like to return to complete a masters or a similar degree, however'
- 'I have to finish my studies first'
- 'Uni from chile does not allow it'
- 'I want to be close to my family'
- 'As an international student , it is hard for companies to provide a sponsorship'
- 'Cost'
- 'Visa'
- 'My Erasmus ends and I have to go back to finish my Bachelor.'
- 'I have to finish my Bachelors degree in my home University'
- 'Had to finish degree at home'
- 'Family issues, costs of living'
- 'Mostly because of the student fees and I don't know exactly how I can apply for a scholarship. Given the amount of student fees it would be nearly impossible to come to study.'
- 'I can't find a job'
- 'Need a visa'
- 'fees'
- 'have to finish studies'
- 'Too expensive'
- 'I'd like to do my master's here but the tuition fees are too high'
- 'After Brexit, migrating to the UK has become fairly complicated.'
- 'To expensive I need to find a job, take money and come back'
- 'I don't think I will be able to afford living where I want to in the UK ([city])'
- 'Because if brexit'

- 'I already have something in my home country'
- 'I need to finish my degree in Italy (I'm on a double degree programme).'
- 'I need to get my nursing degree in the US to qualify for jobs there. I would definitely consider taking a transfer exam to be a UK nurse in the future.'
- 'I might find it hard to have a job here'
- 'Haven't found a way yet. Have applied for PhDs though.'
- 'Bc of brexit'
- 'Not finished with my studies at home university'
- 'I might come back to the UK after a period of time in my home city as I cannot afford to stay over here'
- 'My visa ends a month after I finish my studies'
- 'Need visa sponsorship :('
- 'I want to a master degree but it's too expensive here'
- 'I wish I could stay longer but have to finish my studies back home.'
- 'Because I still need to graduate from my home university. Also, it is really hard/expensive to get a working visa as you need a sponsor/a stable job.'
- 'I first need to finish my degree back home and need to see if I can find a job that will allow me to pay all the costs of living in the uk'
- 'Visa, work in my home country, travelling'
- 'Not enough funds'
- 'My visa expires in summer'
- 'Need a visa but don't know if I will have a good enough reason to get one, also don't know if I'll have the money for living here as well as the visa costs'
- 'It's difficult to get a visa since Brexit'
- 'Finish degree at home university'
- 'Need to finish my studies back home'
- 'I need to finish one more year if bachelor in my home university'
- 'Had to finish my degree in Germany'
- 'family and getting a company from my parents'
- 'I have to finish my bachelor's in my main university, but want to come back for my masters'
- 'Bad GPA :('
- 'I have to go back to finish my degree'
- 'I had to finish my degree in Spain.'
- 'I still have to finish my degree in France but i hope to come back after that'
- 'It's too expensive, also I didn't manage to make enough contacts to find a job I'd be comfortable with'
- 'I have a contract in my sending university'
- 'I need to finish my degree back in my home University but I wouldn't mind to work in the UK in the future'

To the question, ‘Why? [Do you not want to study in the UK]’, the 12 total responses received were:

- 'I have only done a short research on the cost of livings and this is why I chose N/A for some of them.'
- 'Since Brexit, the UK seems even further away than before (because of money, distance, mentality...)'
- 'My studies are finished in a couple months and I already speak English'
- 'I wouldn't receive enough funding from my home University and it would require me to find a job in order to stay there because the cost of living is too high'
- 'Don't have the time'
- 'I'm close to the end of my studies so I wont study anywhere else.'
- 'I am almost done with my studies (:'
- 'UK seems like a great country, but I feel like it's kind of similar to the Netherlands. Plus weather is nog great'
- 'As Switzerland is also not a part of the Erasmus + programme, it does not make a difference anymore'
- 'I think the UK is a good place to study for people wanting to improve their English. Also social life at uni is well established and can aid with integrating foreign students. But money can be a large barrier'
- 'There are so many cities where you do get the Erasmus funding and alot of these cities are also really exciting to study. So my preference would definitely shift towards cities that do have the erasmus'
- 'I have never experienced more racism and less funding and this is coming from someone from the US where college puts citizens in debt and racism is a big problem too. The UK's racism is so much worse.'

To the question, ‘Why? [Has your opinion of the UK changed since it left the EU]’, the 170 total responses received were:

- 'I haven't changed my opinion about the people of UK, they just voted what they thought it was better for their country. I just feel like UK has become more "unwelcoming" towards the European Union's citizens. I went in Germany for an Erasmus semester and it was pretty hard in some levels, I can't even imagine how much harder, studying in UK might be.'
- 'I don't want to study in the UK because I'm already doing my master but before Brexit I was considering it. After Brexit the fees were and are really high so I looked for other options which were more affordable.'
- 'Leaving the Eu created more complications like the need for Visa etc.'
- 'It's not my opinion of the UK as a country that has changed since BREXIT, but mostly my prospects of living there. I have a few relatives living in the UK (in London and Manchester in particular), and I am aware that relocating there now is a difficult and red-tape filled task compared to the past.'

- 'It's mostly just about the finances. It's much harder to go to the UK now and study/live, and it's also super expensive anyway. Otherwise UK and specifically England is my dream.'
- 'The tuition fees are crazy expensive'
- 'It gives students the chance to have international benefits'
- 'I think it may be more difficult to work there long term - visa etc'
- 'It was a decision that directly affected all EU member states, and something that would make me not consider living in the UK in the future'
- 'It feels as if the UK has taken a step away from the rest of Europe and as such is less welcome to EU citizens.'
- 'My opinion on the country itself hasn't changed but because of the changes that occurred it's harder for me to try to consider UK as a suitable country for me to study at. For example, I'm not familiar with how exchanges work exactly but if I want to be a full time student it's enormously expensive for someone from my country of origin. Other than that UK stays a country that I would like to visit one day again :)'
- 'Brexit made it harder to work or study in the UK unfortunately.'
- 'I'm not sure it really changed my opinion about the UK in anyway. As a law student I studied the history of the EU including the part with the UK entrance into the EC at the time. So I know it was complicated at first, it was no surprise to me that the UK left the EU. I was already kind of neutral about the UK. I like the UK, so it's not really different to me except for visas to travelling there that are kind of annoying'
- 'I am a full time student from Germany and had to organize a 6-month internship in the UK all by myself. It was not only very complicated also because of the Brexit) but also really hard to find an accomodation. I would like to meet other stidents but as I can't afford living in town, it is hard to find the time during the week. All of this had me struggling for quite a while.'
- 'It gives me the impression that the country is not open to multiculturalism'
- 'Although I haven't studied abroad I have travelled a little bit (for my age, at least) and I have been to the UK. While I was there I saw myself working/studying there, I found it quite suited my style and since young, I have been following the UK culture through social media. During these 21 years, I have met many people from the UK and talked a lot about how life is for a student my age, usually, the response was positive which contributed to my interest in studying in the United Kingdom. Some of my friends currently study in the UK and my opinion hasn't changed since talking to them about their experience. Since the UK left the EU my opinion didn't change a lot, it did make it a bit harder to go there but in general, my opinion remained the same. Of course, the UK has its highs and lows, but everything does.'
- 'I believe the Brexit have a bad impact on the possibility for international students to move to the UK. More bureaucracy involved, and perhaps less opportunitys. It all becomes a little worse, once you consider that the UK is currently an expensive country to live in.'
- 'Specially due to its current prime minister'
- 'Visas are really difficult to get and very expensive'

- 'Many issues seem to be less manageable as demonstrated by the recent economic and political climate, among other things. As a student, I also find it a shame that we are unable to participate in the Erasmus exchange program and any similar inter-EU initiatives.'
- 'It's expensiver'
- 'I don't know much about the previous and current situation unfortunately but I have a feeling that after the UK left EU, it lost a lot by becoming less accessible to internationals and not being a part of the Erasmus+ programme.'
- 'Well, there are new things I would have to take into consideration if I were to study/work abroad, like the Visa. Although it hasn't changed much my mind about it, it's just an extra expense to have in mind.'
- 'UK should be in EU because it can bring a lot of help to the union. Also its a pity a nation like that to be isolated'
- 'Brexit has created a number of obstacles for UK students and EU-based students hoping to study in the UK.'
- 'I'd rather be in Scotland than England as I feel it is more aligned with my political and social values, although I know not all those in England are conservative. However I left the US because it was so divided and increasing embracing far right nationalism and I'm not keen to return to that sort of political environment.'
- 'Already during the Erasmus+ partnership times, Romanian universities had few to no opportunities for students to go for a semester abroad in UK, and it was not because Romanian universities were not willing and trying to establish those partnerships. For full time studies, UK was for quite a long period of time the dream and favourite destination for young Romanians finishing high-school - and the biggest pride of parents. However for those many that were going, be them on their own money or with great sacrifice through scholarship and loans, studying in the UK did not provide the expected experience, mostly on the integration and social side, and were eager to return to their country after finishing studies. It did not matter that they were finishing as the best students of their institutions. After Brexit the opportunities for students and youth in EU/Europe willing to go to UK are even lower and the costs even higher; from a political perspective it is unclear how welcoming to foreigners the country currently is.'
- 'The application process for e.g exchange semesters seems much more hassel than before'
- 'The economy in the UK is in serious problems'
- 'I think UK has become more distant to experiences like Erasmus programs'
- 'It has become very unfeasible to study or find entry-level work in the UK, due to visa requirements, tuition fees, and very high costs of living.'
- 'Because now there are less possibilities for italian students. I think now they're not so welcome'
- 'The visas take a lot of time to do'
- 'For me it feels like it is harder to go study or work in the UK with more rules. Not sure it is, never researched it. :)'
- 'I think the impact of UK leaving the EU is majorly on the import and exchange of services'

- 'The cost of universities in the UK is very high and since they left the EU I've heard that it increased. I don't know about any advantage for international students coming there and even my parents would require a passport to come visit me there.'
- 'More difficult to find a job if i want to stay. I have a feeling that i'm less secure than if i would be in a EU country'
- 'Basically, the reason why I wouldn't like to study or work in the UK anymore (it was my top destination before it left EU) is because of the financial difficulties, finances are much more higher than they were before brexit :('
- 'First of all, I consider studying in the UK expensive. For me as a working family child that's difficult.'
- 'Leaving the EU makes it harder to be part of European networks and mobility programs'
- 'My biggest fear I'd about the cost of living and the whether'
- 'Nothing really changed tbh'
- 'I've visited the UK 3 times and the more time i spend there the more I like it. I'd love to study in UK but it's difficult since they left the EU. Hopefully it will get better'
- 'I consider the UK to be more closed to foreigners now.'
- 'It has pushed away many people, students and workers alike. I nearly got a job in the UK but the visa process was so long and expensive that I had to give up and find somewhere else.'
- 'I feel like the UK got less accessible and more distant from Europe after brexit. Which is a shame'
- 'It currently appears to have a less prosperous future (including job prospects) than the rest of the EU'
- 'I think my possibilities to study or work in the UK are very limited and connected to a lot of effort and paper work which I am not yearning for'
- 'It feels like its harder to get there'
- 'I feel the UK has shown not to be interested in Europeans moving there by doing Brexit.'
- 'Please bring us back to Erasmus + (kisses from Switzerland)'
- 'M'
- 'Internationals are not welcome anymore'
- 'Y'all dumb'
- 'British people's voice have been heard, whether I like the result or not. In France, people's voice is either ignored or silenced. Brits voted for something and received what they voted for, I respect that !'
- 'From a fellow non-eu member I think it is just a different situation but not necessarily only negative'
- 'It's harder to study in the UK now'
- 'More expensive, harder to get erasmus grants'
- '-'
- 't's not that my opinion has changed, it's not that education and people have changed since the UK left the EU.'
- 'I would love to do an exchange programme in [city], but unfortunately my uni doesn't provide that option and I think that it is way harder after brexit'

- 'uk is no longer part of our community'
- 'I haven't changed my opinion of UK. I like it the same as before.'
- 'Opinion didn't change but it's definitely harder for me to learn about the opportunities in the UK than before and possibly also harder to get selected'
- 'Yes it has changed due to the fact that travelling there is a tad bit more difficult'
- 'Without being part of EU it makes it a bit more difficult for me as an EU citizen, since I no longer have the same freedom of not needing a visa for example or not getting an Erasmus scholarship.'
- 'The UK had their reasons to leave the EU, as far as I'm concerned I believe it's mostly about money. But with leaving the EU, the country made a clear statement against a truly united and international europe which could thrive in collaboration and diverse acceptance.'
- 'Too expensive for now and since they left the EU, costs of living have skyrocketed'
- 'I was considering to study in the UK for my master's but after they left the EU the tuition is not anymore affordable for me'
- 'I think it is now more difficult to come to UK for people of other countries.'
- 'It is becoming harder and harder to come to the UK and I am slowly abandoning the idea of coming to study there to avoid all the paper problems that I would face otherwise.'
- 'Because of brexit, the tuition fees + visa make it much more difficult to go to the uk to study...'
- 'I believe to study abroad, especially if it is in the Europe, you should be aware of local language. At least knowing the spoken language in basic level helps you to understand the culture and local people more and this is a great factor to fit in to that country. That's why countries like England, malta, Ireland are important location to be an exchange student for people know English as a second language. But there are two main problems. One of them is lack of student organisations like ESN. Because ESN in other countries are formed by student who uses English as a second language too. So language turns into a bridge rather than a barrier in those communities. Other problem is financial issues about learning the language. Because it is a sector in English spoken countries, It's not always possible to get educated about the language, while you're there for academic reasons also. But still, I believe UK is one of the most valuable locations in the Europe that has a big potential for Erasmus programme.'
- 'It has slightly made me question UKs laws and morals, especially if I planned to move there for work or for more than three months'
- 'I think this decision fully penalises both UK students (who will be limited in their mobility) and International students who will have an even harder time studying in the country.'
- 'It is mostly due to the prices'
- 'It hasn't changed'
- 'It has become a more painful process to get into the UK (border control), there's been also a notable increase in tuition fees for European citizens, and the politics of the country just portrays it as less stable'
- 'I would love to go the UK but the cost of living and studying is incredibly high in the university cities and even from a western european country it's a struggle'

- 'Since I'm a student from Switzerland with Brexit It's really hard for me to afford the tuition fees even though i would love to do a master's there'
- 'My opinion didn't changed so far. I mean is the same county, same people. Just a different way to enter in the country for EU citizens'
- 'Changed in the sense that it is more difficult to go there on exchange'
- 'I really like UK and I was considering doing my master there. However, for me as an EU citizen the necessity to get visa, inability to work and generally having to navigate all the new and changing immigration policies just makes the overall bureaucratic weight of studing there not worth it when in other European countries like Ireland, Netherlands, Belgium or Scandinavia I just don't have to worry about that. The fact that I am now treated there on the same basis as other international students also means that it's got much more expensive for me. I am still considering going to Scotland for exchange during my master but the fact that UK universities are not in Erasmus and generally do not have agreements with EU universities makes the navigating going there difficult. Also after Brexit it just feels that UK does not want us. The government didn't do anything to make us coming there any easier after Brexit. Just harder or close ti impossible.'
- 'Conservative government is a big obstacle for immigrants and internationals. It was easier to handle bureaucratic issues while the UK complied with the EU regulations, however, now it looks mostly senseless to start complicated visa process and get the document which would only be valid in one country. The EU residence permit gives me an opportunity to travel around the whole Europe and avoid additional visa issues for the period of my exchange program'
- 'I used to live in [city] as an Au Pair right before Brexit and seeing the political turbolances and issues whilst decision makers starting making international exchange with the European continent harder.. Just changed my view on the UK slightly to the negative'
- 'For me, the original plan was to study in the UK (at [university]) but with the Brexit the tuition fees were too expensive and i wouldn't be able to support my living there financially. That including tuition, rent, groceries, visa etc. I was offered some scholarships but still they weren't enough. And it's sad because the uk has some of the best universities for my field and it will be easier for me since I already speak English and I won't need to learn another language.'
- 'I find that Brexit was an all around messy ordeal, and one that mutually more harmful than it was beneficial. As someone interested in international relations, the UK's decision to leave the EU strikes me as a show of particular divisiveness in a global climate where cooperation is sorely needed. As a student, it is a shame that we have lost a great many opportunities to explore accessible exchange programs (most notably participation in Erasmus).'
- 'It is unfortunate, that there weren't enough young people that voted against it'
- 'It is just more difficult to travel to'
- 'visa issues'
- 'Insane costs of studying. I feel less safe in the cities than in mainland Europe. Economically, the country is a mess and Thatcher's effects are still noticeable'

- 'Limited the accessibility to travel from Europe, now need visas etc which makes it harder to choose when it is easier to stay within Europe'
- 'Since Switzerland is not part of the EU, I don't have a change of heart about the UK since it's their politics and I don't consider myself in the position to evaluate their decision concerning the EU, a Union my country is not part of.'
- 'Political reasons don't affect my opinion about a study destination'
- 'U.K. still have the best universities and this will not change for a political order.'
- 'I fear the fact that the advantages of the EU are lost'
- 'Because of the tragedy with the Monarchie'
- 'I feel that leaving the EU helped UK to keep its own identity in a good way and UK is no more attached to the negative parts of the EU.'
- 'More difficult to get accepted, more expensive'
- 'It seems more exclusive now and interested in controlling who can live/work/study in the country easily'
- 'I would like to study in the UK, however I could not afford the life and study expenses.'
- 'My opinion did not change overall.'
- 'I guess that the point is to make a research about the main problems students find when studying abroad, as well as the impressions that people that are not from the UK have about it.'
- 'I think the UK has become slightly disconnected from Europe and it strengthens the British culture, which can seem under the current government a bit privileged'
- 'It's more difficult to access now that UK left UE. Also the controls on the borders when changing the train in Paris. Also you need a passport now instead of ID to enter everything more difficult and less accessible for EU or Schengen people I guess'
- 'UK offers wider working possibilities in my field and interesting research is done, which is why I consider the country as destination for further studies. Also living in UK would not require learning another new language'
- 'Studying in the UK now is a lot more expensive than before Brexit. Also, it shows a bit of a lack of willingness to collaborate and a feeling of superiority.'
- 'Because it's more difficult to visit and study in the country and also because I'm pro EU'
- 'Only because everything that's happened since they left'
- 'The UK leaving the EU makes the process of moving there more complicated (e.g. having to apply for the EU settlement scheme, border traffic jams, etc.) when compared to when it was in the EU.'
- 'My opinion of the UK is still the same, it's a great country and with my degree I could work there easily'
- 'It is a lot harder for international student to study abroad because the prices increased'
- 'It's getting harder from European perspective to get there - less agreements'
- 'Brexit doesn't give us the same access to the UK'
- 'Because I have heard rumors saying that now it's more difficult for a non UK citizen to settle in UK without paying a visa. And also, I have heard that many locals don't want foreigners to work in UK. Also, I'm frustrated that we don't have the opportunity of Erasmus+ there... To sum up I think the locals are welcome but it's more difficult to adapt and find a job.'

- 'I don't think it was a well thought out decision, and that's more true with the negative effects starting to show.'
- 'I feel like it would be harder for me to study there since the brexit, because I have to get a visa for example'
- 'Losing the travel benefits of the EU makes me less likely to want to move there.'
- 'I think its rather soon to provide a fair analysis'
- 'The Brexit makes travelling to the UK more difficult and gives the europeans a less welcoming feeling.'
- 'Brexit or no Brexit, UK stays an amazing, attractive country but now as an European student I lost some advantages that I had before when the UK was part of Europe. It could be small things but even small things can bother a student quotidien'
- 'It makes travelling harder'
- 'Brexit makes traveling harder, for longer stays you will need an expensive visa, fruit and vegetables are available in a reduced amount and everything is pretty expensive.'
- 'There was a lot going on at the time'
- 'UK is about to enter a period of crisis after it left the EU, which might not be the best time to find a job there'
- 'I don't think I've changed opinion toward the country itself. It's just that now it will be much more complicated to do even a short period in the UK'
- 'I got the opportunity to meet a few students from the UK during my time as an exchange student in Switzerland. They did not feel the events of Brexit impacted them incredibly much, which affected my perspective on the situation.'
- 'EU is so close together in comparison to Australia everything influences everything yet still is seperate'
- 'My opinion hasn't really changed'
- 'It's more difficult to work/live there now'
- 'Even less support for nonEU students'
- 'It makes travelling there a little more complicated and tome consuming'
- 'Even before Brexit, the UK wasn't welcoming towards students from abroad, with only very few Erasmus+ places offered to exchange students compared to other countries. This has gotten worse due to Brexit, and the news coverage makes it clear that the UK's socio-economic situation has worsened exponentially on a general level as well.'
- 'While the economical and diplomatic impact on the EU as a whole is not to be scoffed at, I cannot say my opinion on the UK has changed in the slightest because I expected this change to happen. The UK contributed quite a lot to the budget of the EU and was a great "missing link" in the relations between the EU and the US, but it should be more than capable to sustain itself. The EU is definitely not all positives; I am saying this as a Romanian, and while the borders being open and the EU funding is absolutely great and we are making steps towards bettering ourselves, what holds us back is the labor mobility. Almost 3 million Romanians are working abroad (and most of them not in the best conditions/salaries) and this lack of workforce is undermining the country's ability to really compete with the rest of the EU countries. That being said, while adhering to EU is definitely great, I can see why a country that can easily sustain itself would not want to get involved.'

- 'One problem to study in the UK is that I must pay fee for the study. This is big issue for me and therefore I more consider universities in the EU'
- 'Harder bc everything that Erasmus offers it not available'
- 'If I would go study in the UK now that it has left the EU, I feel like there is more that I would have to take care of'
- 'Because it is way less easy accesable now. For example you can not get the erasmus scholarship'
- 'Less options for youth, it is way more expensive to study in the UK if you are from abroad'
- 'Country with a lot of ressources'
- 'It is more difficult to enter the Country because of the passaporto, the health insurance, etc...'
- 'Has not changed'
- 'It is harder to get to the UK than before'
- 'I think BREXIT brings a lot of negative side effects especially for people of low income and in the long term the UK definitely harmed itself by that decision'
- 'The difficulty of studying in the UK has risen ever since they left EU, meaning that expenses are skyhigh opposed to other countries and benefits in Europe. Insurance, accommodation and specifically universities are extremely expensive. In my experience, many of my friends wanted to study in the UK, but simply dropped it or had to work extremely hard to afford studying there.'
- 'Come uk'
- ' I am against Brexit'
- '- I needed a Visa to enter for my internship
- - It seems to me as if Great Britain feels better than the EU but the opposite is true: Great Britain is not as 'Great' as they think!'
- 'I think it became way more difficult and expensive to study in the UK as a European student. Also I don't see it as much as somewhere I would want to work now only because I am not sure there is as many opportunities there now that it's out of the EU and the paperwork to go are much more difficult. I would much rather go to a country further away to study/work in an English speaking environment than go to England, which would be less of a change of scenery and as much trouble for the paperwork, while i would have access to way less jobs. It's a shame really, but I'd see myself going there as a tourist now, not as a resident.'
- ' '
- 'Public opinion on brexit indicated that my alignment is with those that wanted to remain in the EU.'
- 'The process to be able to study in the UK became more complex than in used to be, due to Brexit.'
- 'Since brexit there are less contracts available for universities to offer exchanges to the UK to their students. I didn't even have the option to do my Erasmus there because my faculty doesn't have contracts with any UK university. Apart from that as an international I wouldn't feel so welcome knowing that a majority (even if mostly older people) in the UK doesn't want to be part of the EU.'

- 'I went a lot in the UK before. Now that they left the EU, I see my friends struggling a lot (no Erasmus scholarship)... and it's only for rich students who can afford the 1000 accomodation + 1000 visa/insurance'
- 'Due to the creation of barriers towards the rest of the continent'
- 'Everything is more expensive and it's much more difficult to get a place for studying in the UK'
- 'It is harder to move here to study here. Costs a lot of money'
- 'My opinion did not change, it is still an amazing country with the best accent there is :)'
- 'lack of togetherness and feeling of community'
- 'The biggest barrier for me is related to the universities fees for international students and the cost of living in the UK'
- 'I don't have much of an opinion on the UK as I've never lived there and have only visited for short amounts of time'
- 'I don't think that the UK really changed, but I might be wrong'
- 'it might make the burocracies a little more complicated'
- 'I don't think my opinion has changed much, but I find it harder to travel to the UK so it's not on top of my destinations as it was before.'
- 'More difficult to stay and get the residence there.'
- 'I'm very aware that the majority of people in the UK don't agree with Brexit (anymore), but as a country, I think I view the UK as a bit more hostile than before. This is not rooted in the behaviour of the people, but rather in the changing policies. For instance, I used to be able to visit the UK with only my ID card, but when I went to London last January I had to get a passport. I feel that the security procedure has become more strict. Furthermore, I will be moving to the UK as an Erasmus+ student for one semester starting this September and I feel that it has become a less appealing place to than a couple years back. I will not be able to get the Erasmus+ grant, for example, which would have saved me more than 1,500 euros. But that's really it: the formalities and the procedures have become more difficult, but the country itself (as far as I can judge) has remained pretty much the same.'
- 'Brexit and leadership has made UK more complicated and feels disorganized. There are some processes and requirement for non-UK students which may seem discriminatory plus funding support is not available all the time. For example, the IELTS requirement does not need to be required for students who study in English, or have qualifications in English from outside the UK.'
- 'The European Union stands as a remarkable triumph of the 21st century, representing a profound achievement in fostering unity and cooperation among European nations. Regrettably, the United Kingdom's actions have underscored the challenges of maintaining trust in international alliances, revealing a tendency to prioritize self-interest over steadfast alliance commitments. The intricate dynamics surrounding the Brexit referendum highlight the influence of misinformation, predominantly disseminated by certain factions within the United States, which played a significant role in swaying public opinion. The repercussions of this decision became apparent swiftly, as the consequences of leaving the EU became tangible and evident, leaving many with a poignant realization of what had been relinquished.'

- 'I don't feel welcome in a country where the most of the population voted to self isolate themselves. It made the UK less accessible for the Europeans, who share common values and historical background with it. Furthermore it made Europe even more fragmented and sensitive to the influence of more powerful countries (USA, Russia, China). I can't forgive this.'
- Lots more bureaucracy since Brexit, poor economics, high cost of living and inflation, generally less welcoming impression.'

About ESN and ESN UK

Erasmus Student Network (ESN) is the key volunteer student organisation in international Higher Education in Europe, with over 15,000 members in more than 1000 Higher Education Institutions in 44 countries across Europe and beyond. ESN supports the educational, social and cultural integration of international students and provides practical information about various exchange programmes for incoming and outgoing students. The mission of ESN is the enrichment of society through international students, and its activities comprise hundreds of projects developed at local, national, and international levels.

Erasmus Student Network United Kingdom (ESN UK) is the national branch of ESN in the UK, a registered Scottish charity (SC051188) operational across England, Scotland, and Wales. Active since 1991, our mission is to promote and support the internationalisation of Higher Education, fostering student mobility and internationalisation at home. We aim to provide opportunities for intercultural understanding and self-development under the principle of 'students helping students'.

ESN UK works in the interest of international students who are spending parts of or their entire formal education at a Higher Education Institution in the UK, UK students who spend parts of or their entire higher education at a Higher Education Institution abroad, and those who cannot access a period abroad. We are working on a volunteer basis in 15 Higher Education Institutions in the UK through our local associations ('sections'). All the sections of ESN UK together help over 10,000 exchange, full-degree international, and local students every academic year.

Contact Us

If you have any questions or would like to know more about International Student Perspective UK, please contact liaisonoffice@esnuk.org.

Otherwise, if you would like to know more about ESN UK, please contact hello@esnuk.org.

www.esnuk.org



Erasmus Student Network
United Kingdom