

Socialization became more challenging than dealing with the German bureaucracy

International students in Germany are attracted to tuition-free universities. However, socialization hurdles increased.

BERLIN, GERMANY, March 4, 2022

[/EINPresswire.com/](https://EINPresswire.com/) -- Most

international students living in Germany had not considered any other study destination before choosing the country. The main reason for such is the country's tuition-free public universities (45%). However, respondents also considered employment opportunities (18%) and the German economy (8%) as a way of reaching their final decision. Those are some of the main findings of a survey conducted by Expatrio, a solution supporting international students in Germany, in partnership with [DEGIS](#) (Deutsche Gesellschaft internationaler Studierender

“

A diverse and inclusive society increases the population's quality of life. Policymakers should minimize bureaucratic hurdles and language barriers while fostering digitization within the authorities.”

Tim Meyer, co-founder

g GmbH) with almost 2,000 respondents from over 90 nationalities. The survey aimed at gaining insight into the challenges faced by internationals when relocating to Germany.

Compared to the previous survey conducted in 2020, there has been a shift in the difficulties international students face in Germany. Even though the main challenge remained the language barrier (29%), making friends in Germany amidst the pandemic became as troublesome as finding accommodation. Both factors were mentioned by 25% of survey respondents. This change of challenges removed dealing with the German bureaucracy from the

top three difficulties international students face when moving to the country. Subsequent to their relocation, most international students aim at remaining in Germany after completing their studies. The majority (54%) of the respondents did not feel like going back to

KEY FINDINGS

Relocation Preparation Study Destination

45% of the respondents did not consider any other study destination besides Germany. The top two alternative destinations initially considered were the USA (17%) and Canada (16%).

All nationalities mainly chose Germany because of no tuition fees. The exceptions were Mexicans and Brazilians, who were drawn primarily to employment opportunities in Germany.

More than half (55%) of the respondents' main source of funds was from family. The funds mostly covered accommodation in Germany and full tuition costs.

Relocation Preparation Visa Process

The biggest challenge during the visa process was getting a visa appointment. Compared to 2020, waiting periods have become longer, with 31% more respondents waiting for more than two months.

In 2021, respondents waited longer for their visa appointment and collection. 5% more respondents waited for more than two months compared to the 2020 survey result.

No other nationality had respondents who waited for over six months except for South Korean, Taiwanese, Chinese, Turkish, Indian and Mexican respondents.

Life in Germany & Outlook Challenges, Finances, Outlook

The language barrier and finding accommodation remain the top two challenges respondents face after arriving in Germany. In 2021, finding new friends amid the pandemic became one of the top challenges.

2% fewer respondents in 2021 felt that the amount set by the government is enough to cover monthly living expenses. Most of those living in Kaiserslautern (100%), Ingolstadt (97%), and Dresden (97%) felt that it is sufficient.

57% of the respondents plan to stay in Germany after completing their current activity. The nationality with the biggest share of respondents who have felt like going back to their home country was the Chinese (70%).

expatrio DEGIS // 2021

Key findings based on nearly 2000 international students of 93 nationalities

their home country. Enabling internationals with a German degree to stay in the country is highly relevant for Germany's economy, as it mitigates the current skilled workers' shortage. Tim Meyer, the co-founder of Expatrio, said: "We are glad that Germany is increasingly popular among international students worldwide and that Expatrio is a part of an ecosystem supporting them. A diverse and inclusive society increases the population's quality of life. Policymakers should minimize bureaucratic hurdles and language barriers while fostering digitization within the authorities."

Other key survey findings in 2021:

- Compared to 2020, 10% more respondents did not plan on going back to their home countries after finishing their studies in Germany.

- The primary source of funding for students from the US (71%), Brazil (58%), and Hong Kong (53%) was their savings. This trend contrasts with most respondents (55%) choosing family funds as their main financial source.

- Visa processing times shifted from two to four weeks in 2020 to four to eight weeks in 2021.
- 87% of the respondents stated that the €861 monthly amount set by the German government is enough to finance their living expenses in Germany. The number is 2% lower than the past survey in 2020.

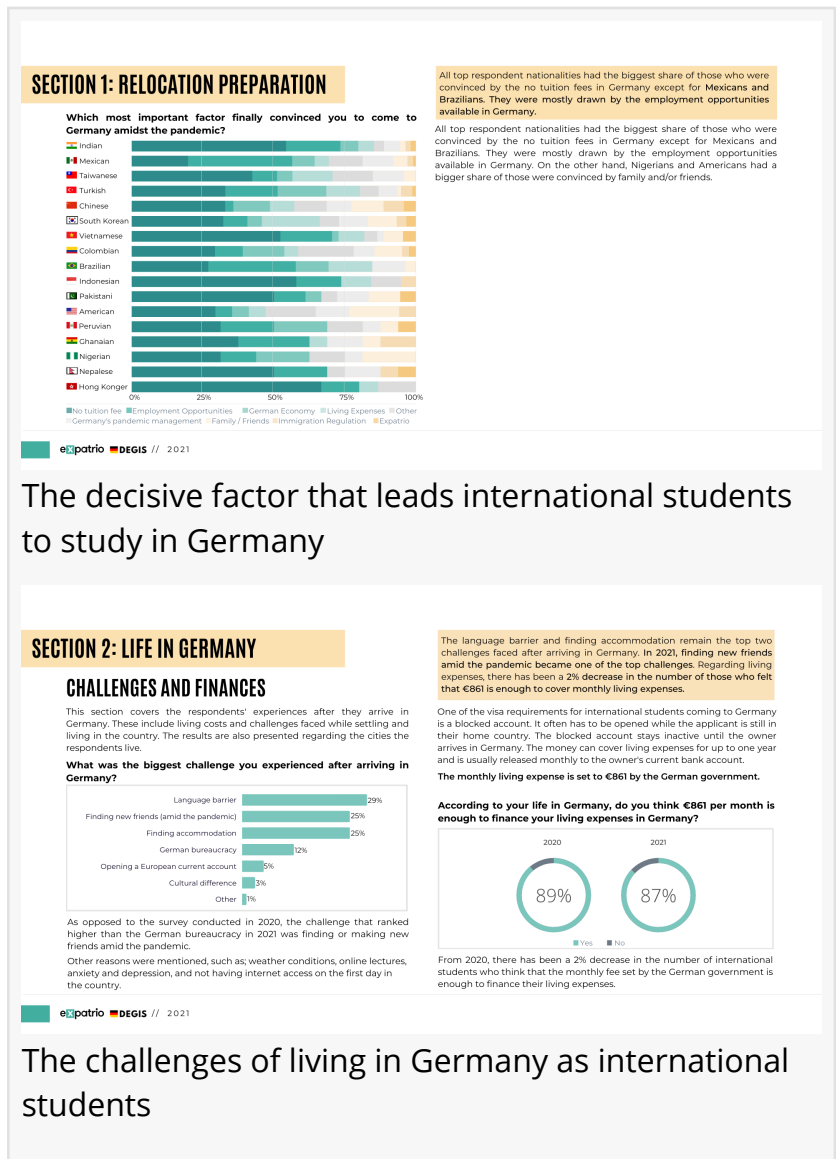
[Download the full survey report.](#)

Marina Dindorf
 Expatrio Global Services GmbH
 +49 176 87853675

marina@expatrio.com

Visit us on social media:

[Facebook](#)
[LinkedIn](#)



Other

This press release can be viewed online at: <https://www.einpresswire.com/article/564669283>

EIN Presswire's priority is source transparency. We do not allow opaque clients, and our editors try to be careful about weeding out false and misleading content. As a user, if you see something we have missed, please do bring it to our attention. Your help is welcome. EIN Presswire, Everyone's Internet News Presswire™, tries to define some of the boundaries that are reasonable in today's world. Please see our Editorial Guidelines for more information.

© 1995-2022 IPD Group, Inc. All Right Reserved.