

## **Challenges Faced by International Students in Turkey\***

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**ABSTRACT** Nowadays, due to the high development and good quality of education in Turkey the number of international students from different countries is increasing from year to year, despite the different challenges of being in a foreign environment away from their home countries. The purpose of this paper was to investigate challenges faced by international students who study at Sakarya University in Turkey. A phenomenological model was used for this study. The data were collected using the qualitative research method. A semi-structured interview was conducted with the sample, which comprised thirty seven international students from different countries who study at Sakarya University. The response frequencies were analysed. The results show that many responses accepted to have challenges in communication, at the language center, accommodation, the environment, cultural issues, health, and social interaction activities, and that there should be an increased focus on minimizing all the challenges facing them with long and short-term strategies.