

Äänitiedosto

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Tallenne

00:00:06 Puhuja 1

Welcome to the International House Turku Podcast, your guide to living, working and studying in Turku.

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We are your hosts, Jonathan Murphy and Rosa Pamborcian.

00:00:15 Puhuja 2

Hello.

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Hi.

00:00:17 Puhuja 2

This week we're talking about one of our favorite topics, international students in Finland and in Turku.

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So what challenges do they face and where can they turn to get some support and advice?

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And then later in the episode, we will welcome the hosts of the upcoming Study and Stay in Turco event here in the studio.

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Sounds great.

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Let's get started.

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Let's go.

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Welcome to another episode of the International House Turku podcast.

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Rosa, nice to see you again.

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Nice to see you, Jonathan, a former international student in Turku.

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Yes, and happy to see you former international student.

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Do you ever take that hat off or does it stay on forever?

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Well, in my heart it stays on forever, of course.

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I would agree.

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That said, I do feel, even though I think of myself as a sort of contemporary to many of our students, it has been many years since I was studying at the University of Turku like a scary.

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Once a student, always a student.

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Exactly, And so maybe that's why international students are always on our minds.

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Absolutely.

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And actually it's interesting because we are one of those who came to study and we stayed.

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So I've always been pondering what is that breaking point or when do international students actually consider?

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When do they start thinking seriously about staying, about building a career?

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Did you have that kind of tipping moment?

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I think it was maybe in my kind of

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Second year, of course, I was kind of open to staying, but it wasn't really until the second year of my studies where those kind of pathways started opening up.

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And again, that was through kind of events and networking and thinking about things maybe beyond just the classroom.

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I find the studies are kind of like...

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a roller coaster.

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You just have so many classes and you keep doing the next thing, but it's good to take a wider perspective, which is what we talk about today in today's episode.

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That's true, but in a way I'm thinking that maybe again, you and me, because of our position, why we came to Finland was again different and we were a bit privileged of leaving it to a later stage of thinking, do we want to stay or what not, because we also were spouses both, right?

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But for international students, I feel like

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there are so many things they have to beforehand consider if they want to stay, including one of the biggest things, the permits and whatnot.

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What's your idea about this?

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Yeah, and again, I think it's kind of one of the reasons why we wanted to bring up this topic again, even though, you know, I think as you mentioned in the intro, we've covered a few aspects and different perspectives of being an international student here in Turku, but the permits and the kind of changing legislation, you know, I think makes this still a very contemporary issue.

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at the time of recording, there are proposals to change, maybe we can say charitably, change, tighten restrictions regarding the international student permits and in effect making it perhaps more difficult to study and stay in Turku than when we were here or when we came to Finland a few years ago.

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Definitely these do affect and I think it creates that kind of feeling of uncertainty or adds that anxiety or worry.

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And also there are other actually things that have affected the number of students that are applying, isn't it?

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Absolutely.

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And I think, for a number of reasons, whether it's the international application fee, whether it's the

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the sort of lessening the use of international agents.

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Of course, international agents have been a hot topic here in Finland for the last year or so.

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Or just the fact that maybe reputationally Finland is now, or maybe losing some of its shine when people are realizing about the unemployment rate here.

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It does mean that actually the application numbers, I think Ule

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news reported that we have had 48,000 less of the 48,000 fewer applications this year from international students to Finland, which is quite staggering actually.

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Yeah, that's a huge number.

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And of course, there are a number of reasons that might have affected it.

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For example, the same introduction of the fee when applying for a degree in here, undergrad or masters and so on.

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But of course, a bunch of things, because we also do know that a lot of our international students

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have families, they have spouses, and they also want to bring families.

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So we also have some news, though they are not confirmed, that this is also going to be tighter.

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What do you think about it?

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Yeah, and again, so at the time of recording, this has not been fully confirmed, but it has been proposed, the current Finnish government has proposed a change in the legislation that would mean that students could not bring their family members until the second year of their studies, which

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I think if you're only coming for a two-year program and you can't actually apply to bring your family until the second year, I think that's extremely difficult and would really put a lot of pressure on that particular student.

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Of course, things can change and might change, but I think as international students, maybe we have a responsibility to be aware of these changes because they could affect you, which is maybe the most important thing.

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Yeah, absolutely.

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But as I mentioned again, it feels like this atmosphere of uncertainty is 1 big factor that also makes our international students not able to focus as much also on the weather future career where maybe you at the same time are thinking about, okay, what happens to my family or you're uncertain whether your permit will get approved or whatnot.

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So what would you recommend?

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What can students do in this atmosphere or with these

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Is there something that they can actually practically prepare for?

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Because you're right, it is extremely difficult.

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And I remember even in our own study days, of course, you feel like you're juggling lots of different things, right?

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You're juggling your studies, you're juggling your master's thesis, you're juggling maybe your Finnish language or Swedish language programs as well.

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You're juggling your hobbies and free time, you're juggling internship applications and even thinking about what to do afterwards.

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And of course, now you will also be potentially juggling

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permit changes and legislation changes.

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So I think in terms of practical advice, of course, as I mentioned, finding out what is happening is maybe like educating yourself and not

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putting your head in the sand.

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if you hear that new changes are coming for international students, I know it's difficult to sort of consider and it's a lot of mentally a lot of pressure, but actually finding out the reality about those changes, the reality beyond just the headlines, because you can go to social media or to LinkedIn and maybe get a different picture of what those law changes actually are.

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And I think a good example, which we covered on a previous podcast was about employment and the three month, six month rule, you know, which again was

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a difficult piece of legislation but actually the reality of it maybe was slightly different to many of the headlines and it's the same mostly with the student legislation as well I would say would you agree?

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Yeah, absolutely.

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I think staying informed, ahead of time in a way, and also if you're not sure, rather than checking just some social media posts, maybe checking more official sources, or that's why again, there are a lot of advisory services official.

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The cities, for example, for internationals, it's the international house, they could ask our advisors, but staying, yeah, staying informed and maybe like

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having several plans just in case if this scenario happens, then I would act like that.

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I guess that's your favorite topic, isn't it?

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I wasn't going to mention scenarios.

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So now you brought them up, you know, as Peter Schwartz and the maybe American scenario thinkers would talk about, yes, it's always good to have different scenarios and think about, you know, particularly, I mean, if you are an applicant, if you're thinking about applying to Finland next year, of course, you know, you need to know this information.

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You can't just assume that you can arrive here paying the same fees

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with the same permit and the same application documents and with your full family in the way that it has been working for the last two or three years.

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whether you get the information from Migri or International House or the university's own admission services, then as long as you get it from some kind of official source, then I think you are moving in the right direction there, definitely.

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And thinking about, you know, what other alternatives you could do if your first choice plans don't pan out.

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Yeah, that's very true.

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And also once you already arrive here, and then if you're planning your future career here as well, staying informed and active, participating in events, which actually we have one upcoming event, particularly for international students related to their career.

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We do.

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We do indeed.

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And we'll be hearing a little bit more about that.

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The study and stay in Torco events

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And really, I guess this time of year, halfway, roughly halfway through the autumn semester, there are a lot of different recruitment events, careers events, development events, workshops.

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We have study and stay, but we can also have, if you go to the, for example, if you go to the International House social media pages, or if you go to the Tuku employment region event calendar, then we do actually have a number of

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of jobs fairs, particularly for different industries as well.

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So again, it's a good time of year to sort of start your, kind of again mapping out what kind of services are available to you.

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Yes, that's very important particularly.

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Of course, doing your studies at the same time, you already mentioned that you have a lot on your plate, but at the same time actively checking that what could suit my needs currently or what could feed into that decision making or moving towards that future career planning.

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Definitely, and starting earlier as well.

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So again, you know, if you are a first year student, like I mentioned to me, I didn't really

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the pathway to becoming or to be staying here for my career emerged in the second year of my studies, but of course in the first year, I tried to kind of plant those seeds earlier.

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Like I think it's very difficult if you just leave all of your career planning to the second year of your master's studies or the third year of your bachelor's degree.

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So that the more earlier you can kind of

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start this process, the better, even if it's okay if you don't know exactly right now, you might not want to stay here.

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Like that's totally fine, but if you do want to stay on, if there's any chance of you staying, the earlier you start the networking and start.

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the language learning, for example, the better.

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Absolutely.

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Also, I recall when I was first year, I participated in a lot of career advice courses that the university was providing.

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And for example, I made sure that my CV, for example, was according to what at that point the labor market was expecting it to be, whether it's the formatting, whether it's

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the content, whatever it is, but just making sure that if an opportunity turns up, you have things kind of ready in a way that you don't have to always start from scratch.

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Yeah, definitely.

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And maybe the final thing to mention before we return to the study and stay event in particular is, you know, students, you can, as students, you can make your voice heard.

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You know, I think that

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It's ideally it should not be the case that you are sort of passively following the rules, whether that's the university or the Finnish.

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Local authorities, ideally you can also kind of give your opinion.

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There are lots of...

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surveys, there's lots of kind of research that university wants to hear from students.

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Actually, pretty soon at the time of recording, we will be launching a student forum event where representatives from the student body will come and speak to decision makers at the city and other stakeholders again to hear the challenges that international students face.

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And we hope to go a little bit deeper than yes, there's the language is difficult and it's difficult to find a job, but we want to kind of go slightly beyond that.

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And again, if you are an international student and you have strong opinions, then

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then please share them, either through these channels or through LinkedIn, for example.

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Absolutely, that's a very good advice there.

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But for now, I think maybe we should hear from some others.

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So when we come back after the break, we will have some guests in the studio.

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And we look forward to seeing them.

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Welcome back to the International House Tourco podcast and we are delighted to have some guests in the studio, right Rosa?

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Yes, so we have a guest, Clara and Hafsa, who are the hosts of the Study and Stay event this year in November.

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A very warm welcome to you.

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Yes, thank you very much for joining us.

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Thank you.

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How is it going?

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It's going really good, yeah.

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And from the weather, everything is great.

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That's true.

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We should say we are recording in somewhat torrential rain conditions.

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If you can hear the rain in the background, then it's raining quite hard outside.

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That's why it's also so romantic in the studio, isn't it?

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Exactly.

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But yeah, guys, maybe you could introduce yourselves briefly then.

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So where are you from?

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What are you studying?

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Do you want to start?

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Sure.

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I'm Hafsa.

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and I'm from Pakistan and I'm studying at the University of Turku, a master's in ICT, specifically in the data analysis track.

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And it's my second year, so I think I've experienced Turku quite a lot in this first year.

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And I'm Clara.

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I'm studying Finnish and Finno-Greek languages in University of Turku.

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And yeah, I haven't been so long here yet because this is my first year.

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I've been here for like 3 months or so.

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So getting started with it.

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Okay.

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And so you guys are going to host this year the Study and Stay in Dohru event, which has been happening for a few, several years already now.

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But there are still people who are not really familiar with this event.

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Could you a little bit open up, disclose what it is about and what to expect?

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Basically, if you look at the study and stay in Turku, like just the name, I think it suggests like what it is about, so people who are actually thinking about studying or actually staying in Turku for people for students who are already studying here.

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what do they want to do after the graduation?

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They don't have anything lined up in their mind yet.

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Like what to do, they haven't think about their career yet.

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So this event is actually really good for them because they get to meet career experts and some of the guests who have actually been in their position.

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They have studied here, they have built a future here.

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So I think it's really best to just get to know them, hear their speech, and if they have any questions, they can ask them.

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It's basically that we have some guests that have been in our place before and they share their experiences, what they have done from the beginning, what they are doing now, what are the chances of staying here and some tips and everything.

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Sounds really good and we're always happy to hear that the event is continuing.

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As Rosa said, it's been something of a long-standing tradition here in Turku.

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I'm not just saying that because you know some others at this table have been involved in various capacities, although I think it's been so long since I was involved in studying Turku that the YouTube video is expiring at this point.

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Yeah, but I think it's a great event, actually.

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I was also like one of the guest speakers in the event last year, and it was particularly what you mentioned also, Hafsa, like it's a chance to go meet also people there.

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So it's great to talk, find out what others are doing.

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Well, you have been here already for two years, so you're a bit more familiar.

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You, Clara, on the other hand, are new, but then you're familiar with the language.

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That's also very interesting.

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So we can maybe confidently say that you're more or less acquainted with the culture and language here.

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I think we should say, again, for those that are unaware that the event is hybrid, right?

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So we have an in-person event with the networking, as you mentioned.

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But even if you are not into a call or you are thinking about applying here, then actually you can.

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And I guess you can just register online.

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Yeah.

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And there's also an option of attending online.

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So people who can't attend in person, they can also attend online and they can also like ask the questions in chat.

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So we'll be monitoring the questions.

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in person there.

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We also pay attention to people asking questions online so they can also ask people that on site.

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That sounds really good.

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And obviously we encourage everyone to join the live stream.

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And again, I think as well you can check out on the website all of the other, the previous years if you want to see Rosa in action.

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expert.

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But hosting then, I mean, can I ask, do either of you have hosting experience before?

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How are you feeling about hosting such a big event?

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I myself have never hosted any event before in my life.

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I'm more of a social media kind of a person.

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So this is my first time hosting.

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And when I like,

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saw this opportunity actually I was attending as an attendee as an audience last year and I just thought why not just be on the opposite side this year.

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So it is actually fun to challenge myself in some ways and also it's a good opportunity to just connect with different people and it's a great networking opportunity as well.

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So yeah, this was like my thought.

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Yeah, I mean, same for me.

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I haven't ever hosted anything like this before.

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No experience of talking in front of someone

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so many people were doing online events or anything, but when I saw it, I was like, okay, I study in Turku and I'm thinking about staying in Turku, so maybe this place is for me, so why not apply for it and let's see.

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Yeah.

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That's really cool.

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And like, for example, did you know each other before you both were appointed?

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No, we met during the first.

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Yeah.

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Hopefully it went well.

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Yeah, it did.

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It did, yeah.

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It is a fun event though, and again, you know, like I

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have hosted it before.

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And I think it's really nice actually that students get the opportunity.

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They don't just bring in some kind of professional host who has no personal connection to the event or the target group, but actually they give students the platform to maybe try out this new experience.

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Yeah.

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And.

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I guess it's one of the things that we also previously discussed that while you're studying here, maybe starting considering if

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a very that kind of cliché word nowadays like networking already at that stage but which is already kind of important kind of figuring out what your future plans are one of those.

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Right.

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And I guess we also would want to ask, you kind of already mentioned that for you also it's a new experience and new learning, but what other advice do you have for new international students, those who are maybe who are going to watch it online this year, those who are new who are going to join, anything that you would want to have them in mind already when they join the event?

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Oh my God, if I like talk about this, I think this whole podcast is going to be asking.

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I think the thing that I want to tell them is the thing that I also experienced myself as a student during the first year is that just don't immerse yourself in the studies and lectures.

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Just don't bound yourself to the university and home.

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Go to the student events.

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The first thing that I would like to say that Turku is a student city and they have a lot of student events.

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I really like this about Turku that they have a lot of student events that you can go to meet new people, meet different kind of people.

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And just, I think again, networking opportunity, this is a good city to do that.

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And just be aware of the weather as well.

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It can depress you, but you can cope up with this by just attending these events and stuff.

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Yeah, I think I'm going to go a little bit different here, but I think the best advice for me would be don't be afraid to make mistakes.

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I mean, they are going to come.

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It doesn't matter how hard you try not to be wrong.

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They're going to be there.

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So just don't be afraid of making mistakes.

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Don't be afraid of trying things and being over sometimes.

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Just

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go do it.

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If it goes wrong, it will be fine.

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So just do it and we'll see.

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Did you guys have anybody have this advice before you arrived to Tulkul?

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Did somebody tell you that, hey, be active, go out there, or don't be afraid to make mistakes?

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Did you manage to talk to anyone or did you learn it as you arrived here?

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Actually, for me, I learned it as I arrived here and also during the orientation, I think there are a lot of programs that they tell you that just attend these events.

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There are a lot of

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activities for students so I learned it through experience but I also kind of knew about this but again I didn't really pay attention to it that it would really happen.

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For me, I learn it here too.

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But I think her advice, because I haven't been here for so long, so now I would take that advice because I think I've been studying so much.

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So now I would take that advice and try to go out and try different things, not only like studying, studying, studying, just try to enjoy the experience itself, like all of it.

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I think that's understandable in your case, because you are studying the Finnish language.

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I'm the hardest possible.

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It is.

00:22:23 Puhuja 1

How did you first get interested in Finnish then?

00:22:25 Puhuja 4

Well, it was a little bit of just because I studied translation and interpreting back in Madrid.

00:22:32 Puhuja 4

I think I didn't say it before, but I'm from Spain.

00:22:34 Puhuja 4

And we could choose a new language.

00:22:37 Puhuja 4

And I thought, why not choosing just some weird language just because I don't know if it's going to take me

00:22:45 Puhuja 4

somewhere, but just for fun, let's take it.

00:22:47 Puhuja 4

And the moment I started, I realized that it's really difficult, but it's really, really nice too.

00:22:53 Puhuja 4

And I also got to start learning about the culture and the people.

00:22:58 Puhuja 4

And then I had the opportunity to come here and see the country like itself in the country.

00:23:04 Puhuja 4

And I just fell in love with it.

00:23:06 Puhuja 4

I think it's so different from where I'm from, but also so lovely.

00:23:12 Puhuja 4

Yeah.

00:23:14 Puhuja 1

And what, when you applied to the master's program in Finnish, roughly what level did you have to be to apply to that program?

00:23:20 Puhuja 1

Did you have to be in a B1 or...

00:23:24 Puhuja 4

From B2, it's fine, but from my experience, I would say try to be a little bit...

00:23:32 Puhuja 4

higher than that because it's going to be difficult.

00:23:35 Puhuja 4

Also it depends because for me, I did study it in the university, but not so much.

00:23:41 Puhuja 4

It was a little bit of a corner course.

00:23:45 Puhuja 4

So try to be ready for lectures and everything.

00:23:50 Puhuja 4

Be ready for writing and finish.

00:23:52 Puhuja 4

Be ready to understand all the lectures and all that.

00:23:56 Puhuja 4

A little bit more professional things maybe.

00:23:59 Puhuja 1

Okay, that's good.

00:24:00 Puhuja 1

And I'm sure we can link to the application.

00:24:02 Puhuja 1

vacation page if anyone's interested in applying to that course.

00:24:04 Puhuja 1

But maybe after as well, have you found the language in the 18 months that you've been here?

00:24:09 Puhuja 3

Oh my God, I've been here for one year and because my studies is not directly related to the language, it's data analysis of course, but we have to do like some Finnish courses.

00:24:20 Puhuja 3

But I don't think even my language is at the A1 level right now, I'm really immature in this.

00:24:26 Puhuja 3

So I hope I had time to invest in the language because I really would like to understand people and just not talk in English all the time whenever I go there.

00:24:36 Puhuja 3

But unfortunately I didn't really have the time because my course and my program takes a lot of time.

00:24:47 Puhuja 1

I think that's understandable.

00:24:48 Puhuja 1

And we've been through this experience of jubilees.

00:24:51 Puhuja 2

Yeah, exactly.

00:24:52 Puhuja 2

And every time, actually, I found it quite controversial where at the same time when you're doing a degree, you are advised to, get out there, meet people and participate in events and all that.

00:25:04 Puhuja 2

And at the same time, the programs are quite demanding and you are not just sitting there not doing anything and planning the next party, basically, which again, the idea of some people is that, oh, those students who live at the student village, they just party in that.

00:25:16 Puhuja 2

That's all.

00:25:17 Puhuja 2

But that is not necessarily true.

00:25:19 Puhuja 2

At least a data analyst and a Finnish language learner can confirm that it's not the case.

00:25:25 Puhuja 2

But I guess it's just finding that balance and trying to do both.

00:25:29 Puhuja 2

And like you said, not being afraid or I don't know, just being out there.

00:25:36 Puhuja 4

Also about Finnish language, I would like to say that it's really hard to get to a pretty high level, but the basics are not that hard to learn and it's really paying when you meet Finnish people because the moment you start talking a little bit, they really get interested about yourself and yeah, it's a key thing to be here, I think.

00:25:59 Puhuja 4

It doesn't have to be perfect, just try and it will start coming.

00:26:05 Puhuja 1

Good inspiration then.

00:26:06 Puhuja 1

if you're doing a master's thesis and you find yourself bored and have time on your hands, then you can also learn Finnish.

00:26:12 Puhuja 3

Yeah, actually, because I've completed most of the courses in the first year and I was talking to Claire about this the other day that I have a lot of time this year.

00:26:20 Puhuja 3

Apart from my thesis, I don't really have anything.

00:26:21 Puhuja 3

So I think this is a good inspiration that I would just focus on my language this year.

00:26:27 Puhuja 1

Yeah, if you have time, you can go back and listen to our podcast episode about the Tuuku dialect.

00:26:32 Puhuja 1

It's of course language.

00:26:33 Puhuja 1

You found this

00:26:36 Puhuja 1

the dialect here is maybe not quite the same.

00:26:39 Puhuja 4

I know about them, but they are really hard for people from outside, I would say.

00:26:45 Puhuja 1

Yeah, that's challenging.

00:26:47 Puhuja 1

Mark was going over just because Mark was our resident local southwest Finland colleagues.

00:26:53 Puhuja 2

Yeah.

00:26:55 Puhuja 2

but I guess for our listeners, if they want to find out more concrete career advice, then they can visit the event.

00:27:02 Puhuja 2

And can you again, guys, tell us one more time when it is, at what time, how they can register, find it, whether online or in place?

00:27:11 Puhuja 3

Yes, so the event is on November 3rd from 4.30 till 6.

00:27:15 Puhuja 3

And after the 6th,

00:27:17 Puhuja 3

6 to 8 P.m.

00:27:18 Puhuja 3

there is like a networking event for those people who are in person there and the venue is Astra Bonfire.

00:27:24 Puhuja 3

And I think they can register through the link they got that in their emails, I believe.

00:27:30 Puhuja 4

Yeah, and also in the web.

00:27:32 Puhuja 3

Oh yeah, there is a web.

00:27:32 Puhuja 3

In the newsletter as well.

00:27:33 Puhuja 3

Yeah.

00:27:35 Puhuja 2

Okay, so make sure you register.

00:27:37 Puhuja 2

Hopefully it's not full already.

00:27:40 Puhuja 2

And then find, like I said, very in like practical that kind of advice about

00:27:46 Puhuja 2

or maybe things maybe already a lot, but you might find out still things that are new.

00:27:51 Puhuja 1

And I think again, the challenge with all of these kind of events is kind of what is networking?

00:27:56 Puhuja 1

Like we've talked a lot on this podcast so many times about networking.

00:27:59 Puhuja 1

And I think, you have this opportunity, especially if you go to the event in person, that you can actually speak to the people afterwards.

00:28:07 Puhuja 1

networking does not mean that you will be offered a job immediately during that event.

00:28:11 Puhuja 1

But of course, you have to sort of start to make those connections and build those bridges.

00:28:17 Puhuja 1

And it is a perfect opportunity, particularly if you are in one of the fields from, for example, the keynote speaker, which I think is Megumi Hayashi this year.

00:28:26 Puhuja 1

Megumi is a great friend of the podcast and of International House.

00:28:30 Puhuja 1

And I'm looking forward to her speech.

00:28:32 Puhuja 1

But you know, everyone has their own

00:28:34 Puhuja 1

story, usually internationals especially, have their own story of how their careers got started here.

00:28:39 Puhuja 2

That's good to hear.

00:28:40 Puhuja 2

And also, I think for me, reflecting back as an international student also, I think the whole point of networking for me also has been finding out where I feel comfortable, how I feel comfortable networking and how not.

00:28:54 Puhuja 2

So for example, I think during the Corona time also, the study and stay in Turku was online.

00:29:00 Puhuja 2

And I kind of found out for myself that I'm not a fan of online networking and that kind of chatting.

00:29:05 Puhuja 2

I'd rather be in person.

00:29:07 Puhuja 2

So I think this is one chance for new students international to practice and see what works for them.

00:29:13 Puhuja 2

Because even that kind of networking and socializing are practiceable skills that you should think of developing as you're studying.

00:29:24 Puhuja 1

Good.

00:29:25 Puhuja 1

Is there anything else we'd like to add?

00:29:27 Puhuja 1

I think we're sort of running out.

00:29:28 Puhuja 1

We'd love to have you on all day, but as you know, we are kind of running slightly out of time here.

00:29:33 Puhuja 1

But is.

00:29:33 Puhuja 3

There anything else you'd like to add one thing to what Shroda said about the networking thing last year?

00:29:40 Puhuja 3

Like I was also thinking about my thesis at that time and I was really confused as to like what I should do and whether it should, whether it can relate to my career.

00:29:50 Puhuja 3

And I talked to the guest speaker, which was like Hassan, at that time.

00:29:54 Puhuja 3

time and he really helped me in just thinking like what it can be and what options do I have so if someone is confused about that so I think it's a really good opportunity to just talk to the career experts there and just like find out like how many options do we have and what can your career go into like in which ways so that's a good thing.

00:30:16 Puhuja 4

Yeah, well as you said for me like in my life in general

00:30:21 Puhuja 4

I would say that I discovered that it's easier to find out what you don't like rather what you like.

00:30:27 Puhuja 4

So it's also a good opportunity to go, meet people, know what they do, know what they've been through and try to decide at least what you don't like and choose the other path.

00:30:38 Puhuja 4

Yeah.

00:30:39 Puhuja 2

Yes.

00:30:39 Puhuja 1

I mean, do you have any advice, Rose?

00:30:41 Puhuja 1

Of course, you were on the expert panel last year and people did network with you, I assume, afterwards.

00:30:45 Puhuja 1

I remember you had a huge queue out the door of people at your table, but what would you recommend as someone who, you know, people came to looking for networks and connections?

00:30:56 Puhuja 2

Yeah, it's again, like I mentioned earlier, it would take a whole another episode probably talking about it.

00:31:01 Puhuja 2

I was creating 10 words for less.

00:31:04 Puhuja 2

But I guess again, just being open and also not to go with a certain expectation that I'm going to get this and try to get it with all possible costs, because a lot of times it's just numeric data people are trying to get, for example, oh, I'm going to get 10 new contacts.

00:31:21 Puhuja 2

But I think it's good to think of like where these contacts are going to take you.

00:31:26 Puhuja 2

you or also considering other people's schedules because I've also had people who connect and then they're very active which is plausible that's very good but at the same time considering that other people might have other schedules but I guess one thing just being very genuine and trying to figure out what is it that you want and whether you can also contribute I guess like networking does not only mean like going to take

00:31:55 Puhuja 2

Something I don't know if you guys agree or not, but like it's a two-way communication, basically.

00:32:01 Puhuja 2

Please add something better.

00:32:04 Puhuja 2

Any ideas?

00:32:08 Puhuja 3

Yeah, I think.

00:32:09 Puhuja 3

most of the things that I wanted to say you add, like you added that it's a two-way communication.

00:32:15 Puhuja 3

You're not just going there to like find a job opportunity.

00:32:19 Puhuja 3

Just don't go there with that kind of mindset.

00:32:22 Puhuja 3

Just go there like if you have any questions or if you just generally want to connect with people in your field or just people in general, that's a good opportunity.

00:32:31 Puhuja 4

Yeah, you were saying like careers are not just one meter long.

00:32:36 Puhuja 4

It's like something you have to shape each day

00:32:39 Puhuja 4

basically.

00:32:40 Puhuja 4

So it's not about finding one answer to it.

00:32:42 Puhuja 4

It's just finding little answers that would get you to where you want to be.

00:32:47 Puhuja 2

Absolutely.

00:32:48 Puhuja 2

And I think make sure that it's enjoyable because you don't want to force it.

00:32:52 Puhuja 1

Definitely.

00:32:53 Puhuja 1

And this is good advice for you guys when you are celebrities in a couple of weeks.

00:32:56 Puhuja 1

When you're on the bus that's like, hey, isn't the host of Steady and Sterling?

00:33:01 Puhuja 4

Yeah, it would be harder for us to be here then.

00:33:04 Puhuja 1

Yeah, we'll have to pay you next time.

00:33:05 Puhuja 1

I guess you'll have some agents, you know, or some agency fee.

00:33:08 Puhuja 1

But both of you, thank you so much for coming on the International House Tool Podcast, and best of luck with Study and Stay in Tool.

00:33:16 Puhuja 4

Thank you.

00:33:16 Puhuja 2

See you on 3rd of November.

00:33:18 Puhuja 4

See you.

00:33:32 Puhuja 1

Rosa, another episode of the International House Podcast.

00:33:35 Puhuja 1

Thank you for being here.

00:33:36 Puhuja 1

And we'll normally ask you what we've learned, but I always feel that maybe one day I should say what we've learned.

00:33:43 Puhuja 2

As myself as a former teacher and you as a former student, let's now play that role of me asking you, well, Jonathan, what did we learn during this episode?

00:33:51 Puhuja 1

Well, we have learned that the Study and Stay in Turku event is taking place on the 3rd of November, and you can register online to either visit in person or watch the

00:34:02 Puhuja 1

And we have also learned that it is a very good idea, particularly if you are thinking about staying into a call, to start that networking as soon as possible and be active as our guests have said.

00:34:15 Puhuja 1

We've also learned, you know, we've talked a little bit about taking responsibility for your status here, whether that's you're coming here to study or you're currently studying or you want to stay or you're a job seeker, you know, finding out the key information for yourself and finding out the most relevant

00:34:31 Puhuja 1

news articles to you and kind of mapping out different scenarios is very important as well.

00:34:37 Puhuja 1

How is that?

00:34:38 Puhuja 1

Would you give me a 10 out of 10 or a 5 out of five as they say?

00:34:41 Puhuja 2

We will leave it to the listeners.

00:34:44 Puhuja 1

Exactly.

00:34:45 Puhuja 2

I can't say that scenarios are your favorite thing, definitely.

00:34:48 Puhuja 1

And of course, again, from you as the listeners, if we have international students listening who are facing these challenges, whether it's networking or job hunting or residence permit issues, please do let us know.

00:34:58 Puhuja 1

We want to hear from you and your experiences.

00:35:00 Puhuja 1

We would love to share them on a future episode of the podcast.

00:35:04 Puhuja 2

Yes, but also we have a lot of events coming up that support in a way or other career or that kind of just general development or networking.

00:35:14 Puhuja 2

What few could you mention at this point?

00:35:17 Puhuja 1

Sure.

00:35:17 Puhuja 1

So again, I think in November, there's actually quite a few things happening here in Tuoku.

00:35:22 Puhuja 1

Of course, we have Study and Stay on the 3rd, but I believe for any IT professionals, we have the Root Expo, which I believe is mid-November again.

00:35:30 Puhuja 1

Again, it has panel discussions and companies will be participating as well.

00:35:35 Puhuja 1

And I believe it's the day after the talk of AI Summit, which again is not a specifically student event and specifically recruitment event exactly, but if you have an interest in AI, and I feel we really need to do an episode on AI, particularly related to job seeking.

00:35:50 Puhuja 1

But that will be happening in November as well.

00:35:52 Puhuja 1

If you are a student and you are following the Unicom Plus, our dear partner project,

00:35:58 Puhuja 1

at the university and University of Applied Sciences.

00:36:01 Puhuja 1

Then they also have, I think, a Find Your Future thesis fair at the end of this month.

00:36:07 Puhuja 1

And there is also different workshops again to design to help with job hunting and internship applications.

00:36:13 Puhuja 2

Quite a lot of things going on and at the same time also keeping in mind that the employment region also has its own calendar of ongoing events.

00:36:21 Puhuja 2

Of course, most might be in Finnish, but there are also more and more English events coming up.

00:36:26 Puhuja 2

So if you're planning your career or thinking of just generally feeling around what the job market is about at the moment, then it's good to participate in those as well.

00:36:37 Puhuja 1

Definitely.

00:36:37 Puhuja 1

And you know, as Hafsa and Clara mentioned, you know, you have to be brave and you have to make mistakes.

00:36:43 Puhuja 1

And if you go to an event that's not designed for you, that's okay.

00:36:46 Puhuja 1

No one's going to, no one's going to tell you what.

00:36:51 Puhuja 2

The beauty of things in Finland, I believe that a lot of events and communication and networking generally is very low threshold.

00:36:59 Puhuja 2

So you don't have to particularly have any preparation or, of course, some events are invitation based, but other than that, a lot of events are free and open for everyone.

00:37:10 Puhuja 1

Very true.

00:37:11 Puhuja 1

Very true.

00:37:11 Puhuja 1

But Rosa, maybe to end the episode on a slightly lighter note.

00:37:15 Puhuja 1

Of course, as you mentioned, the weather here is terrible.

00:37:17 Puhuja 1

Oh, that's a very positive note.

00:37:20 Puhuja 1

Of course, it reminds me of being at home as a British person.

00:37:23 Puhuja 1

I love the rain.

00:37:23 Puhuja 1

But it's getting darker outside and it's getting kind of spooky as well.

00:37:26 Puhuja 1

And of course, we are approaching Halloween, which, you know, in Finland, it's not always been the biggest sort of holiday, but I feel.

00:37:33 Puhuja 2

It's a little strange to the local culture, isn't it?

00:37:36 Puhuja 1

But do you have plans for Halloween?

00:37:38 Puhuja 1

Do you enjoy the season?

00:37:39 Puhuja 2

Not necessarily, but I always do keep a bowl of chocolate and candies just in case the neighborhood kids might stroll around and find their way so that

00:37:50 Puhuja 2

I have something for them, but not anything, maybe just a cozy family thing, some masks or some Halloween movies.

00:37:58 Puhuja 2

Something like that.

00:37:58 Puhuja 2

How about yourself?

00:37:59 Puhuja 2

Nothing big in any case.

00:38:01 Puhuja 1

Well, we were the same actually, and I have been unprepared in previous years for, you know, not only the smaller kids, but like, you know, four teenagers in kind of

00:38:10 Puhuja 1

Frankenstein masks all at my door demanding candy.

00:38:13 Puhuja 1

And I'm thinking, am I going to get robbed here?

00:38:15 Puhuja 1

I remember it's Finland and everyone is very polite.

00:38:19 Puhuja 1

Actually, my daughter's birthday is around the Halloween season.

00:38:22 Puhuja 1

So we always have some kind of spooky party.

00:38:24 Puhuja 1

I really want to get dressed up, but I'm afraid she'll be so embarrassed of me as some kind of dad who's more into it and the costumes and everything else.

00:38:32 Puhuja 1

Because in England, actually, Halloween's pretty big.

00:38:33 Puhuja 1

I always liked dressing up.

00:38:35 Puhuja 1

I was about to say when I was younger, but even when I was a student, then student Halloween parties were a big thing.

00:38:41 Puhuja 2

But I guess not as much as Finland.

00:38:43 Puhuja 2

In a way, though, I like it that you're not pressured also to spend monetarily or time-wise a lot of effort to, keep up to par with the neighbours or whatever, but it's very chill.

00:38:56 Puhuja 2

But of course, there are a lot of things happening, and especially again, if you're an international student, definitely there are.

00:39:03 Puhuja 2

parties or that kind of get house parties.

00:39:06 Puhuja 1

I'm sure it will be.

00:39:09 Puhuja 1

So, but enjoy it.

00:39:10 Puhuja 1

And again, have a great spooky season.

00:39:13 Puhuja 1

Yes.

00:39:14 Puhuja 2

And if you want, you can even share some pictures with us on our social media.

00:39:18 Puhuja 1

Absolutely.

00:39:19 Puhuja 1

So again, you can follow the International House Tuku podcast on all of our social media channels, Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram.

00:39:25 Puhuja 1

You can e-mail talent.advisor at Tuku.fi if you have any feedback or questions or comments or anything you'd like to share with us on the podcast.

00:39:33 Puhuja 1

Or if you'd like to be on a future episode and you have an idea, then we'd love to hear those pictures as well.

00:39:39 Puhuja 2

Okay, so have a nice, romantic, rainy weather moment and see you next episode.

00:39:47 Puhuja 1

Thanks, Rosa.

00:39:47 Puhuja 1

See you next time.