



University of Maribor

Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security



Requisite Holism and Interdependence between Tourism, Environment and National Security

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INTRODUCTION

TOURISM

- negative impacts of tourism on the environment (pollution, loss of green areas, threats to flora and fauna, environmental crime in tourism etc.)*
- on the other hand, tourism and the safety of tourist destinations strategic importance to the country's economy

ENVIRONMENT

- environmental factors are affecting safety in tourism (weather, climate, climate change etc.)*
- “environmental sources of risk and threats”

***negative impacts of tourism/tourists on national environment can reflect on**

NATIONAL SECURITY

“All the stakeholders in tourism development should safeguard the natural environment with a view to achieving sound, continuous and sustainable economic growth geared to satisfying equitably the needs and aspirations of present and future generations.”

(GLOBAL CODE OF ETHIC FOR TOURISM)



NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF TOURISM ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Environmental pressure, increased by tourism development, is caused principally by:

- the rise in quantities of drinking water consumption, waste water and solid waste,
- the burden on utilization of land intended for tourist facilities,
- gas emissions and other pressures arising from tourism-related transport operations,
- pressures on natural beauties caused by the tourism industry, especially in sensitive habitat types or areas where disturbance sensitive species breed.

(ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS IN SLOVENIA, SLOVENIAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY)

The interrelation between tourism and climate change. *(KAJFEŽ BOGATAJ, 2008)*

"Sustainable tourism development guidelines and management practices are applicable to all forms of tourism in all types of destinations, including mass tourism and the various niche tourism segments. Sustainability principles refer to the environmental, economic, and socio-cultural aspects of tourism development, and a suitable balance must be established between these three dimensions to guarantee its long-term sustainability. "

Sustainable tourism should:

"Make optimal use of environmental resources that constitute a key element in tourism development, maintaining essential ecological processes and helping to conserve natural heritage and biodiversity etc. "

(UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME [UNEP])



ECO-CRIME AND TOURISM

Eco-crime refers to intentional acts of harm against the natural environment including:

- Ecocide (destruction of the environment on a large scale);
- Geocide (destruction of the earth);
- Eco-terrorism (terrorism in support of ecological, environmental or animal rights causes).

(HECKENBERG, 2009)

Crimes against the environment, space and natural resources are defined in 16 environmental crime offenses in the **Penal Code of the Republic of Slovenia** (articles 332–347).

Can criminal law protect the environment? *(DU RÉES, 2009)*

The effectiveness of environmental law enforcement very much depends upon how environmental problems are conceptualised, how the nature and dynamics of harm are understood, and how resources are mobilised in response to specific environmental crimes. *(WHITE, 2009)*

Criminality in Slovenian Tourism; Eco-crime in Slovenian Tourism? We need more detailed data collection on criminal offences in the field of Slovenian tourism, including in the field of eco-crime in Slovenian tourism.



ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS AS AN ELEMENT OF SAFETY OF TOURIST DESTINATION AND TOURISTS

Environmental factors / environmental security – an element of national security and international security. Negative impacts of environment are reflecting on national security (safety and security of tourist destination).

Completely safe tourist destination? Various aspects and safety evaluations of tourist destination (estimates of tourists, media, tour operators and others). (PERGAR, 1999)

Safety of tourist destination can not be defined, it is not measurable. Opposite – sources of risk and threats of a tourist destination has a measurable dimensions. (CVIKL & ARTIČ, 2008)

Safety culture and security strategy based on long-term investment – to ensure greater safety in tourism. (AMBROŽ, 1999)

World Economic Forum [WEF] assessing the **competitiveness of the tourism industry** which includes an assessment of the safety of tourist destination, environmental sustainability and natural resources etc. **Tourism Competitiveness Index 2011:** Slovenia occupied the 33rd position of the 139 participating countries.



NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ON SAFETY IN TOURISM – ENVIRONMENTAL SOURCES OF RISK AND TREATHS

Tourism is part of the modern security environment (exposure to security problems).

Management of negative impacts of environment on the tourism. *(DOBOVŠEK, 2009)*

“Environmental Sources of Risk and Threats” – all negative impacts/influences/events in the environment due to natural circumstances and human activity (intentional and unintentional acts, omissions of acts) —→ negative impacts of weather and climate, climate change, natural disasters, environmental pollution, ecological disasters.

Environmental pollution and natural disasters are at the top of the list of security problems facing modern society. *(DOBOVŠEK, PRAČEK & PETROVIĆ, 2011)*

Natural disasters which pose greatest risks to the Republic of Slovenia are earthquakes, floods, storms, droughts, major wildfires, and massive outbreaks of infectious diseases in humans, animals and plants. The intensity and frequency of some natural disasters are increasing on account of **climate change** etc.

(RESOLUTION ON THE NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA, 2010)

Tourism and climate change – established tourist flows will change, which may affect the local economy to collapse, rising unemployment rates in tourism and other activities related to tourism (such as construction, agriculture, crafts). *(KAJFEŽ BOGATAJ, 2008)*



METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK OF RESEARCH

RESEARCH PROBLEM

- Slovenia tourism safety in relation to environmental factors;
- Impacts of environmental factors on safety in tourism and safety of tourists.

PURPOSE

- A wider review and analysis of the situation in the field of environmental impacts on Slovenia tourism safety;
- Define weaknesses in the identification of environmental sources of risk and threats in connection with Slovenia tourism;
- Solutions and suggestions for establishment balance between tourism and environmental protection in Slovenia.

RESEARCH METHOD

- focused interview
- 6 questions

SAMPLE

- 13 organizations

RESEARCH LIMITATIONS

- Interviewing (August 2010 – October 2010);
- Slovenia Tourism – Incoming Tourism and Domestic Tourism;
- Impacts of environmental factors on safety in tourism.



SAMPLE

Tourism Directorate (Ministry of the Economy) – interviewees: Marjan Hribar, MSc (Acting Director General) and Suzana Turk (Employee at the Tourism Directorate), (12. 8. 2010)

Festival Velenje – interviewee: Barbara Pokorny (Director), (19. 8. 2010)

General Police Directorate (Ministry of the Interior) – interviewee: Janko Goršek (Director General of the Police), (26. 8. 2010)

Rogatec Tourist Information Center – interviewee: Vili Bukšek (Director), (29. 9. 2010)

Tourist-information and promotion centre Velenje – (Municipality Velenje), interviewees: Alojz Hudarin (Manager) and Urška Gaberšek (Tourism Consultant), (31. 8. 2010)

Portorož Tourist Board – interviewee: Jadran Furlanič (Director), (17. 8. 2010)

Bled Tourist Board – interviewee: Eva Štravs Podlogar (Director), (6. 10. 2010)

Tourist Board Kranj – interviewee: Natalija Polenec (Director), (22. 9. 2010)

Turizem Kras d. d. – interviewee: Peter Štefin (Heading of Marketing), (27. 9. 2010)

Ljubljana Tourism – interviewee: Barbara Vajda (Director), (16. 8. 2010)

Celje Tourist Board – interviewee: Urša Dorn (Tourism Consultant), (5. 10. 2010)

Maribor Tourist Board – interviewee: Milan Razdevšek (Director), (11. 8. 2010)

Unior d. d. (destination Zreče and destination Rogla) – interviewee: Marija Deu Vrečer (Director of Hotel and Catering Terme Zreče), (28. 9. 2010)



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Most Important Conclusions - Impacts of Environmental Factors on Safety in Tourism

6 Questions:

Question 1: Providing and managing safety at the tourist destination

Question 2: Sources of risk in tourism at the destination Slovenia

Question 3: Content of safety information for tourists

Question 4: Problems of transport infrastructure at local and national level

Question 5: Scope of intelligence gathering and monitoring the development of tourism from abroad for the purpose of tourism development and the achievement of competitive advantages of tourist attractions in Slovenia

Question 6: Examples of good practices from abroad



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Most Important Conclusions - Impacts of Environmental Factors on Safety in Tourism

- Slovenia tourism safety is understood primarily as the achievement of legal norms.
- The safety of tourists in Slovenia is largely compromised by thefts, traffic dangers, self-harm, alcoholism and vandalism.
- Slovenia Tourism Management does not recognize global sources of risk and threats (terrorism, pandemics, organized crime and environmental sources of risk and threats) as a potential risk factors of safety of tourists in Slovenia.
- Lack of information about climate and weather for tourists in Slovenia.
- Transport infrastructure and transport policy in Slovenia are not in favour of the needs of Slovenia tourism. Tourism infrastructure should be designed in a way to protect the natural heritage composed of ecosystems and biodiversity and to preserve endangered species of wildlife.
- Slovenia Tourism Management – lack of good practice examples from abroad in the field of tourism safety.
- General Police Directorate – monitoring of (environmental) risk factors at national and global level, including in the field of tourism. Global sources of risks and threats are affecting the security of Slovenia – need to gain information from the global security environment (purpose: management of global sources of risks and threats).



CONCLUSION

TOURISM



ENVIRONMENT

balance and coexistence

MANAGEMENT OF NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF TOURISM ON THE ENVIRONMENT

- Ecological standards and environmental law;
- Green Tourism, Ecological Tourism;
- Tourism infrastructure should be designed and tourism activities programmed in a way to protect the natural heritage composed of ecosystems and biodiversity and to preserve endangered species of wildlife;
- Saving rare and precious resources;
- Distribution of holidays should be sought so as to reduce the pressure of tourism activity on the environment;
- etc.



MANAGEMENT OF NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF ENVIRONMENT ON THE TOURISM

- **Risk Management in Tourism**
- **Disaster Management in Tourism**
- **Crisis Management in Tourism**



PURPOSE:
Safety in Tourism

PURPOSE:
Sustainable Tourism Development



CONCLUSION

- **Requisite holism in searching for solutions for effective management and governance of tourism/tourist safety, environmental safety, green crime, and national security for domestic inhabitants.**
- **According to acquired opinions among authorities in the Slovenian tourist management, some new sources of threats have been revealed and some un-discussed interdependence between, tourism, environment and national security has arise. Requisite holism is unavoidable for success in such particularly sensitive area as tourism and security/safety actually are**



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NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC – CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE DESTINATION

SLOVENIA (among 133 Countries) took the **5th** place in preserving the balance between tourism and national cultural inheritance.

<http://24ur.com/novice/slovenija/> - 9th of September 2011)



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Thank you for your attention!