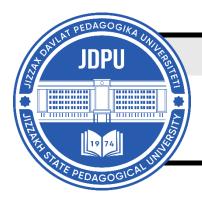
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ECONOMIC ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL TOURISM

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ABOUT ARTICLE

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Abstract: The study is based on data from international reports of organizations, primarily the UN World Tourism Organization UNWT, the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), the World Tourism Barometer (UNWTO World Tourism Barometer), as well as developments and articles related to issues development of international tourism. Tourism has become a significant source of employment, contributes income, to the diversification of the economy, creating industries that serve this industry.

INTRODUCTION

Since the beginning of the 21st century, international tourism has become the most dynamically developing, cost-effective and profitable sector of the world economy.

Impressive investments in the tourism industry have a stimulating effect on the development of various sectors of the economy, primarily on the development of agriculture, the food industry, the hotel and restaurant business, transport, the development of infrastructure in general, employment, being a source of foreign exchange inflow. The development of international tourism leads to the establishment of ties in various fields, increases the mobility of the population, which is accompanied by the construction of roads, hotels, restaurants, the creation of recreation areas, treatment, the study and restoration of historical and cultural attractions, etc.

Therefore, on a global scale, so much attention is paid to the implementation of comprehensive measures to develop tourism as one of the strategic sectors of the economy, which ensures its

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diversification and accelerated development, the creation of new jobs, an increase in incomes and the quality of life of the population.

Tourism is turning into the fastest growing sector of the world economy.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Globalization contributes to the mass development of tourism, contributing to the expansion of political, economic, scientific and cultural ties between states and peoples, fundamental changes in the nature of social production, the development of air travel, communications, urbanization of the population, and an increase in free time. The emergence and rapid development of new tourism services, the widespread introduction of innovations, the ongoing technological transformation of the entire industry, online services for a wide range of needs of modern tourists, teleconferencing, smart cards and various tools for electronic money transfer create more and more comfortable conditions for tourists. An ever-increasing role in this is also played by the decline in prices for fuels and lubricants, the emergence of relatively cheap air transportation on this basis, the trend towards urbanization of the population, an increase in the amount of free time, etc. As a result, the number of international tourist arrivals in the world has increased by more than 45 times. : from 25 million people in 1950 to 1.135 billion people. in 2014. At the same time, the volume of foreign exchange earnings from international tourism increased from 2 billion dollars. in 1950 to 1.245 trillion. USD in 2014 (an increase of more than 622 times). [1b]. According to the annual report of the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), in 2017, the global travel and tourism sector for the seventh consecutive year developed ahead of global growth rates, amounting to 4.6%, 1.5 times higher than the growth of the global economy as a whole. In 2017, the tourism market was the fastest growing industry worldwide, overtaking manufacturing (4.2%), retail and wholesale (3.4%), agriculture, forestry and fisheries (2.6%) and financial services (2.5%) [8]. Experts note that in 2017 the travel and tourism sector accounted for 10.4% of global GDP, the industry employed 313 million people, which accounted for 9.9% of total employment in 2016. In 2017, one of the most powerful GDP growth in the last decade was recorded, which led to an increase in consumer spending around the world [1].

According to the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), in 2017 international tourist arrivals reached 1.235 billion people. Foreign trips were made by 300 million more tourists than in the pre-crisis year of 2008. The Asia-Pacific region became the leader in the growth of the incoming flow of tourists, where the increase was plus 8% compared to 2016 [7].

The number of international arrivals in Europe rose to 620 million, 12 million more than in 2016. In the countries of the Middle East, 54 million tourist arrivals were recorded [5]. In 2017, tourism and travel (including indirect and induced impacts in other sectors) generated \$8.3 trillion or 10.4% of global GDP) [9].

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The World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) in a large-scale study "Global Economic Impact and Issues-2018" after analyzing the global impact of the tourism industry as one of the largest sectors of the world economy in 185 countries and 25 regions of the world [1] found that the industry in 2018 provided 319 million jobs, and the amount of funds in the industry amounted to 8.8 trillion dollars [7]. The number of international tourist arrivals in 2018 was 1.4 billion, 6% more than in 2017. The leaders in the number of tourist arrivals were the Middle East (growth by 10%, to 64 million people), Africa (+7%, to 67 million people), as well as Europe and the Asia-Pacific region (+6% each, to 713 million and 343 million people, respectively) [6]. According to the report Report on World Tourism Economy Trends, published by the World Tourism Cities Federation and the Center for Tourism Research of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in 2018, the United States ranked first for the seventh year in a row in terms of tourism income . The 20 largest tourist centers in the world received more than 80% of global tourism revenue in a year. The highest income from tourism in 2018 had:1. USA, 2. China, 3. Germany, 4. Japan, 5. Great Britain, 6. India, 7. France, 8. Italy, 9. Mexico, 10. Spain [6].

According to the UNWTO, 1.5 billion international tourist trips were registered worldwide in 2019, representing a four percent increase compared to 2018. The fastest growing region in international tourist travel in 2019 was the Middle East, nearly doubling the global average (+8%). The growth in the number of international trips in the Asia-Pacific region was 5%. In 2019, 743 million foreign tourists visited Europe, which accounted for 51% of the global market [3]. In 2019, international tourism revenues rose to US\$1,487 billion[2]. France remains the most visited country in the world according to the World Tourism Organization. In 2018, it received 89.4 million tourists, in second place is Spain, which was visited by 83.5 million tourists in 2019, in third place is the United States, where 79.3 travelers visited in 2019, followed by China (65. 7 million) and Italy (64.5 million) [4].

In 2020, global tourism experienced its worst year in history due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with international tourist arrivals down 74%, with 1 billion fewer tourists worldwide compared to the previous year due to an unprecedented drop in demand and massive restrictions Worldwide. According to the latest data from the UNWTO World Tourism Barometer, the collapse of international tourism has resulted in a loss of \$1.3 trillion in export earnings, 11 times the loss recorded during the 2009 global economic crisis. The pandemic has threatened the loss of between 100 and 120 million direct tourism jobs, many of them in small and medium-sized businesses [11]. According to the UNWTO, at the end of 2020, world tourism was thrown back 30 years back, to the level of 1990 [8].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Although global tourism in 2021 grew by 4% compared to 2020, the number of travelers was still 72% lower than in 2019, which preceded the pandemic. The most active tourist destinations in 2021 were the Caribbean countries, where international tourism increased by 63% compared to 2020, the territories of the South Mediterranean (+57% by 2020) and the states of Central America (+54%), North America (+17%), as well as Central and Eastern Europe (+18%)[4]. In 2022, the number of international tourists was 963 million, which is 111% more than in 2021, but -34.3% less than in 2019 [2]. Most World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) experts now predict that international travel industry performance will only return to 2019 levels in 2024 or later[4].

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UNWTO researchers report that export earnings from international tourism exceeded \$700 billion in 2021, a slight improvement over 2020 due to higher travel spending, but less than half of the \$1.7 trillion recorded in 2019. In Africa, the increase in international arrivals in 2021 was 12% compared to 2020. In the Middle East, it fell by 24% compared to 2020 and by 74% compared to 2019. In the Asia-Pacific region, the backlog from 2020 was 65%, and from 2019 - 94%, as in this region many destinations remained completely closed [7]. It is estimated that in 2022, the contribution of Paris to the economy through tourism reached \$35.65 billion. Beijing is in second place with \$32.62 billion, and Orlando closes the top three with \$31.1 billion. Shanghai also entered the top ten (\$29, 69 billion), Las Vegas (\$22.99 billion), New York (\$21.09 billion), Tokyo (\$17.97 billion), Mexico City (\$16.76 billion), London (\$14.92 billion) and Guangzhou (\$13.15 billion) [2a].

According to the results of the first quarter of 2023, twice as many tourists traveled around the world as compared to the same period in 2022 (235 million). The Southern Mediterranean and North Africa have fully returned to pre-pandemic levels. Western and Northern Europe, Central America and the Caribbean came close to the figures for January-March 2019[12]. According to the results of the first half of 2023, the city of Dubai ranked first among all world tourist destinations. In six months, nine million tourists visited Dubai [1a].

CONCLUSION

According to the forecast of international experts, the resumption and further growth of the tourism industry will be largely associated with the improvement of such innovative technologies as artificial intelligence, IoT, big data or 5G, that is, with the implementation of the concept of "smart tourism". This will improve management efficiency resources, maximize competitiveness and increase sustainability through the use of innovative technologies [10]. Smart tourism will play an increasing role in the development of Smart cities, as its tourist attraction initiatives can lead to an optimal solution to the quality of life of its residents, as well as to the creation of more sustainable jobs and, as a result, to provide benefits from tourism. spheres.

Smart city infrastructure includes: access to free Wi-Fi in the street and in public places, electric mobility as an alternative to traditional transport, promotion of more sustainable ecotourism, personalization of services, better access to real-time information, high-quality cultural and interactive entertainment, etc. .The world's first smart island was El Hierro in Spain, achieving energy self-sufficiency by reducing pollution by generating electricity from waste or replacing bricks with volcanic stone in construction. Tequila in the Mexican state of Jalisco offers free wi-fi in its historic center, has an application containing information about goods and services in the area. In the Spanish city of Malaga, LED street lighting has been installed and numerous kilometers of bike paths and bike rental stations have been created [10]. There are more and more such examples, because the demand for them is growing.

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