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TOURISM SECURITY AS AN OBJECT OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC RESEARCH

The analysis of modern approaches to the interpretation of the category of tourism security in Ukrainian and foreign science showed that there is neither common approach in this area of economic research, nor clear definition of the main concepts of interpretation of tourism security, its principles, factors, structural and functional features. Regional level of studies is undervalued as well. Obviously, in solution of these problems one of the priorities should be substantiation of theoretical and methodological foundations of tourism security provision in the region based on the analysis and synthesis of approaches in Ukrainian and foreign science.

Opinions of scholars on the structure and key features of tourism security as a complex, open and dynamic system are widely divergent. Some of them put emphasis on the security of a tourist as a central element of the system, while others emphasize the leading role of the concept of threat, which is seen as a destructive phenomenon (action) that may lead to amplification of regressive trends in tourism activities' development at all hierarchical levels and for all the subjects.

Given the provisions of the system and synergetic approach and based on the works of local scientists and economists on economic security of state and its regions, we consider tourism security as the state of operation of tourism sector of a specific region (state) for a specified period, characterized by the absence of threats and such a combination of tourism resources and infrastructure, which allow stable development of a specific territorial recreation system in the future.

Based on existing national and foreign scientific approaches we provide three components of tourism security:

- 1) security of the tourism business (economic tourism security);

2) security of tourist sites (places of destination);

3) security in tourism (safety of tourists).

It should be noted that so far comprehensive classification of tourism security by many key features is not developed. Given the existing approaches in Ukrainian and foreign science, in our view, along with the determination of the three components of security, it is appropriate to consider kinds of tourism security according to their content, including political, social, financial, environmental, information, health safeties, as well as safety of tourism services and safety of tourism facilities and equipment. According to the scale, it is also advisable to distinguish global, macro-regional, national, regional and local tourism safety.

Regional economic research of tourism security, in our opinion, can not be limited to descriptive and analytical approaches. Of course, each region, based on a specific set of factors and prerequisites of tourism security in its territory, is unique and requires special consideration while arranging tourist trips and for the operation of tourism businesses in general. However, taking into account regional differences of tourism security provision even within a single state, in our view, it is possible to emphasize certain patterns and features that may be the basis for the development of models, scenarios, organizational and economic mechanisms for ensuring tourism security, which, with some refinements, are suitable for application in other countries, macro-regions and on the global scale.

Thus, in our view, tourism safety is a universal category, which has economic, social, and environmental content, combines the interests of both producers and consumers of tourism services as well as other objects of tourist activity.

Important role in modern concepts of tourism security, in our opinion, must play the regional aspect, since in regional tourism security issues of tourism safety acquire particularly clear forms and, at the same time, are most amenable by state regulation and under the impact of social and economic regulators.

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