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### АКТУАЛЬНЫЕ ВОПРОСЫ СОВРЕМЕННОЙ НАУКИ, ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ И ВОСПИТАНИЯ

ACTUAL PROBLEMS OF MODERN SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING





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# TOURISM IN UZBEKISTAN AND THE WORLD: THE EFFECT OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMY ON INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL TOURISM

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Abstract – This article discusses the impact of the pandemic on tourism around the world and in Uzbekistan. The travel and tourism industry is one of the largest industries in the world. Tourism stimulates economic growth, provides employment, creates new jobs, stimulates the development of the social sphere. The tourism industry plays a significant role in the economies of countries. According to the World Tourism Organization, exports of tourism services are the third largest in the world economy after the chemical and fuel industries.

**Key words:** tourism industry, economies of countries, economic growth, tourism stimulates, social sphere, exports of tourism services.

Аннотация — ушбу мақолада пандемиянинг бутун жахон ва Ўзбекистон туризмига таьсирлари ҳақида фикр юритилган. Саёҳат ва туризм саноати дунёда энг йирик саноат тармоқларидан бири ҳисобланади. Туризм иқтисодий ўсиш учун стимул беради, аҳолини иш билан таъминлайди, янги иш ўринларини яратади, ижтимоий соҳа ривожига туртки беради. Туризм саноати давлатлар иқтисодиётида салмоқли ҳиссани эгаллайди. Бутунжаҳон туризм ташкилоти маълумотларига кўра, туризм хизматлари экспорти дунё иқтисодиётида ўз ўрнига кўра кимё ва ёқилғи саноатидан кейин учинчи ўринни эгаллайди.

**Калит сўзлар:** туризм индустрияси, мамлакатлар иктисодиёти, иктисодий ўсиш, туризмни рағбатлантириш, ижтимоий соҳа, туризм хизматларининг экспорти.

Аннотация - В этой статье обсуждается влияние пандемии на туризм по всему миру и в Узбекистане. Индустрия путешествий и туризма является одной из крупнейших отраслей в мире. Туризм стимулирует экономический рост, обеспечивает занятость, создает новые рабочие места, стимулирует развитие социальной сферы. Индустрия туризма играет значительную роль в экономике стран. По данным Всемирной туристической организации, экспорт



туристических услуг является третьим по величине в мировой экономике после химической и топливной промышленности.

**Ключевые слова:** индустрия туризма, экономики стран, экономический рост, стимулирование туризма, социальная сфера, экспорт туристических услуг.

Introduction: The export turnover of tourism services in the XXI century has exceeded the turnover of the automotive and food industries. In countries such as Cambodia, Belize, St. Lucia, Croatia, Cape Verde, Fiji, Vanuatu, Seychelles, exports of tourism services account for 14% to 30% of the country's gross domestic product (GDP). In the Maldives, the figure is 30-40%.

In contrast to these countries, in Uzbekistan, where the tourism sector is underdeveloped, in 2019, exports of tourism services will account for 2.2% of GDP. However, in recent years, the tourism industry in Uzbekistan has made a big leap.

Literature review: According to the State Committee for Tourism Development, the number of tourists visiting the country in 2019 increased by 26.2% compared to 2018 and amounted to 6,748.0 thousand people. Exports of tourism services increased by 26.1% to 1,313.0 million. USD. [4] In 2019, according to the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), Uzbekistan was recognized as one of the fastest growing tourist destinations, ranking 4th in the world after Myanmar, Puerto Rico and Iran [1]. Of course, this information is enough to understand the hidden potential of tourism in Uzbekistan.

Indeed, the development trends of recent years have made the tourism industry an attractive sector for investors. The state support of investments in the tourism sector in Uzbekistan has also played an important role in ensuring this attractiveness. In 2019, in accordance with the Regulation No. 433, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, great opportunities were provided for investors wishing to invest in the tourism industry.

Research Methodology: According to the enactment, 40.0 million soums will be allocated from the state budget for each room of the newly built 3-star hotels. (number of rooms not less than 50), 65.0 mln. soums for each room of 4-star hotels. UZS (not less than 100 rooms)[2]. These funds are given on a non-refundable basis and provide an opportunity for the investor to recoup part of the amount spent. As a result, in 2019 alone, a total of 277 new hotels were built and launched in the country.

Based on the positive trends of 2019, the entities engaged in tourism in our country have formed their own business plans, taking into account the growth of tourist flows by at least 25% for 2020, and began to act accordingly. The newly built hotels offered highly qualified personnel. They did not spare funds for advertising services. But the coronavirus pandemic, which began to spread around the world in 2020, ensured that these business plans remained only a theory[3].



The tourism industry around the world felt the impact of the spread of coronavirus infection first and foremost. Under the unfavorable epidemiological situation, the development of the tourism business was under serious threat. In the first months of the pandemic, the demand for all tourist destinations in the world decreased by 20-25%. And after many states closed their borders completely, that demand dropped to almost zero. According to the World Tourism Organization, the global tourism industry is expected to reach almost \$ 1.2 trillion by 2020 due to the pandemic. U.S. dollars in damage. More than 100 million people working in this industry are at risk of unemployment[4].

These problems are not uncommon for the tourism industry of Uzbekistan. As a result of the pandemic, hotels, cafes and restaurants, as well as businesses providing transport services were severely damaged. These businesses were unable to cover their expenses and were forced to take vacations. These cases created a risk of losing experienced and qualified personnel. Individuals providing guide-interpreter services were unemployed in these circumstances. In general, the demand for this industry was high even before the pandemic. Also, the majority of tourists who visit Uzbekistan frequently and have a numerical advantage are older tourists. Older people are the best tourists. They usually move as a group and make more purchases. Under the influence of the coronavirus pandemic, the ability of this tourist layer to travel is at risk. Because older people are more likely to get coronavirus. Acting as a group increases the risk of contracting the virus[5].

In these difficult circumstances, there are several questions waiting to be answered by representatives of the tourism industry around the world. How will the tourism industry change during and after the pandemic? Can people travel again? Will the tourism industry lose or retain its investment appeal? How long will it take for the tourism industry to return to its 2019 level? Is tourism completely helpless in the face of a pandemic? These questions are currently on the agenda. The answers to these questions will determine the future of the tourism industry.

The world today is slowly adapting to operating in a pandemic environment. People are gaining the skills to work remotely. In turn, the countries of the world are gradually opening up to tourists. And people are planning their holidays, albeit with insecurity. The countries are preparing mutually interesting proposals to attract this layer and gradually revive the tourism industry. Below we have compiled a set of interesting benefits offered to tourists by countries around the world.

#### Mexico

In the Mexican resort city of Cancun, hotels have started operating. The city government is offering a number of great bonuses to tourists so that the hotels are not left empty. Those who travel to this resort town with children do not have to pay for them at the hotel. Tourists can also get discounts on hotel accommodation costs[1].



Tourists can stay at the hotel for two days free of charge after two days of paid overnight expenses. These discounts also apply to car rental service. If this experience proves itself, other regions of the country will begin to revive the tourism industry in the same way.

#### Greece

Airports in Greece began accepting tourists on June 15. Airports were opened primarily for 29 European countries. In Greece, tourists who fall ill during the holidays are provided with free medicines and medical care. These services are also available in Egypt and Cyprus[2].

### **Portugal**

The government of the Portuguese island of Madeira is offering free corona virus testing to all tourists flying to the island. The testing process has already been developed by the regional health department.

#### Luxembourg

In Luxembourg, 700.0 thousand vouchers are offered to tourists for hotel expenses. These vouchers will be distributed to residents of the country as well as visitors from neighboring countries. The vouchers cost 50 euros and can only be used for hotel accommodation[3].

#### Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan is introducing a sanitary-epidemiological security system "Uzbekistan - safe travel guaranteed", which will become a kind of "airbag" for foreign tourists. According to him, if foreign tourists become infected with the coronavirus during a trip to Uzbekistan, they will be compensated in the amount of 3,0 thousand US dollars [4]. But sooner or later the pandemic will end. The world will get out of quarantine, restore ties and lift travel restrictions.

Analysis and results: What will tourism be like after that. The general assumptions and assumptions can be as follows:

### - The tourism industry always recovers very quickly after crises.

It may be very strange, but historical experience shows that tourism has recovered very quickly after the crises. One of the most horrific conflicts in human history, World War I, has strangely given impetus to the development of tourism. During the war, millions of people from the front sent various postcards and photos to their families. After getting acquainted with the magic photos, people wanted to see these places with their own eyes after the war. All this has led to an increase in the number of tourists. These interests were supported by the gradual introduction of paid leave in the labor relations of European countries[5].

During the Great Recession, which began in the United States in 1929, luxury hotels in Europe, adapted for the reception of American aristocrats, were destroyed. Demand for cheap camping has increased. Seaside resorts offering summer vacations



have begun to open. These resorts have attracted wealthy tourists who are accustomed to spending their winter holidays in hot climates.

The global financial and economic situation in 2008 also gave some impetus to the development of tourism. The economical tour packages that began to emerge after the crisis attracted a large number of tourists [6].

# - People want to travel more than before after being forced to sit at home for longer periods of time.

Experts believe that people who are forced to sit in their apartments long and hard after quarantine want to travel immediately. With the opening of borders, there will be a huge delayed demand in the tourism industry. But a very topical question may arise. Can people's travel needs be met by their economic levels?

### - Due to economic problems, the demand for cheap species is growing.

Prolonged quarantine has a negative impact on people's savings. In this case, the savings are reduced or completely depleted. Therefore, tourists try to save the duration of the trip and use cheaper tours[7].

# - Fear formed as a complication of the pandemic will lead to a change in tourist destinations.

After the pandemic, the popularity of ecological routes, forest trips and similar recreational routes will increase.

The above represents the sum of our perceptions and assumptions about the global tourism industry after the pandemic. What changes does the tourism industry of Uzbekistan expect after the pandemic? Of course, given some of the risks involved, the following assumptions can be made.

### - The pandemic will stimulate the development of domestic tourism.

The need for rest is always maintained as long as a person is active. Taking advantage of this need, Uzbekistan can open new horizons for domestic tourism. This will require a lot of work to adapt the tourism services sector to domestic tourism. Generally, locals rarely use tourism services. The cost of tourism services also plays a key role[8].

For example, a 1-week vacation in Bostanlyk or Zaamin can be more expensive than a 1-week vacation in Antalya or Thailand. The growth of domestic tourism cannot exceed the growth of income. Therefore, studying the market situation, it would be expedient if the providers of tourism services offer economical types.

# - For the development of tourism, the issue of a 5-day working week should be on the agenda.

In this case, the State Committee for Tourism Development should make a proposal as a promoter of the 5-day working week. The 6-day work week, which is currently available in many organizations, allows residents to travel on consecutive weekends that are only given on holidays or public holidays. Sudden transition to a 5-



day work week is likely to be a painful transition. In the initial stage, the practice of assigning only a specific week of the month as a 5-day work week can be used. Of course, this would have given an unprecedented impetus to the development of domestic tourism.

### - In Uzbekistan, a pandemic can change the direction of tourism from historical monuments to ecotourism.

In the initial stage, tourists try to stay away from places where people gather in groups. This in itself leads to the popularity of eco-friendly and automotive tourism destinations among tourists. Tourists feel relatively safe in the bosom of nature or in their own cars[9].

# - After the pandemic, Uzbekistan will have to compete with other countries in the region for the flow of tourists.

Uzbekistan can easily compete with the countries of the region in terms of its tourism potential. They, in turn, are actively promoting their tourism services on the world market.

### - We need incentives for the development of domestic tourism.

Under the conditions of the pandemic, the flow of tourists from abroad will undoubtedly decrease. But it should be noted that the desire to travel around the country is not high. Of course, it should be noted that the role of propaganda and advocacy work is great. However, when the issue of support was financial, the effect was immediate. Under quarantine conditions, it is natural that people's financial opportunities prevent them from traveling. With this in mind, it would be good if the State Committee for Tourism Development offered discounted tour packages. Given that students are now on vacation, it would make sense to develop appropriate travel packages for them and to set up advocacy work properly. The government can also establish a system of distribution of vouchers for tourist services, studying the world experience, and distribute them in cooperation with trade unions and communities. We set the value of the vouchers at approximately \$ 10 and initially raised \$ 1.0 million. we propose to put the vouchers into practice. Vouchers can be used for overnight hotel expenses. 10 mln. The amount in US dollars would be an indirect contribution of the government to the development of domestic tourism[10].

Conclusion: First of all, the global tourism industry is experiencing a state of deep shock due to the pandemic. According to analysts, 1 job created in the tourism sector will lead to the creation of 5 jobs in related industries. Losses in the tourism sector pose serious risks in related areas as well. Secondly, government support for this sector is now more important than ever. In turn, representatives of the tourism industry should be prepared for the changes that will occur after the pandemic. Of course, tourism will change after the pandemic. Obviously, we should not immediately expect the active development of inbound and outbound tourism. As mentioned above, after



crises, people have always traveled more. In conclusion, if we approach in an optimistic spirit, the tourism industry will reach the level of 2019 in the next 2-3 years. Representatives of the industry are faced with the task of re-occupying the markets, which were left without owners during the pandemic.

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