BOOK REVIEW

Handbook of Globalisation and Tourism

Edited by Dallen J. Timothy


Handbook of Globalisation and Tourism, published by the Edward Elgar Publishing in 2019, was written by leading international researchers with reference to the mutual relations between globalisation and tourism.

The handbook is written in English language, comprises 342 pages and is structured in six sections with individual chapters. At the beginning of the book, a common table of contents, a list of tables and the description of each contributor are provided. At the end of each chapter references are listed. At the end of the book, index is provided.

The purpose of this handbook is to highlight the interconnectedness of tourism and globalization, two phenomena that are strongly intertwined in the 21st century. In 2020, an event at one end of the world is quickly reflected at the very other end of the world as a direct consequence of globalization. Tourism plays a specific role in this process given that it is simultaneously a force for globalization and a globalization product.

The first section of the handbook, Globalization: Meanings and Processes, is comprised of four chapters: Introduction to the Handbook of Globalisation and Tourism; Economic globalisation and tourism; Neoliberalism and global tourism; Globalisation, place-based development, and tourism. In this section, the authors address the interdependent forces of tourism and globalization, examine the role of multinational corporations in tourism and their relation with tourism, investigate the economic ideology of neoliberalism and its market-based values and examine the strengthening nexus of tourism and place-based local economic development (LED) planning inside the globalization context.

The second section of the handbook, Human Mobility, includes three chapters: The globalising force of human mobilities; Migration, tourism, and globalisation; How complex travel, tourism, and transportation networks influence infectious disease
movement in a borderless world. Due to the fact that mobility is essential feature of tourism, authors take transport to illustrate the way in which the forces of globalization influence the nature and impact of travelling and to connect tourism to other forms and notions of mobility. Likewise, this section discusses the fundamental determinants of the close interrelationships between migration and tourism and explores the role of the complex networks of travel, tourism and transportation in infectious disease movement.

The third section of the handbook, Geopolitics, Security, and Conflicts, is comprised of six chapters: Colonialism and its tourism legacies; Supranationalism and tourism: free trade, customs unions, and single markets in an era of geopolitical change; Biological invasion, biosecurity, tourism, and globalisation; Terrorism and the new security agenda; Tourism and war: global perspectives; Tourism, peace, and global stability. In this section, the special emphasis is put on the comprehension of colonialism’s legacies as a central fragment when the global processes and power relations in tourism are considered. Moreover, this section examines the phenomenon of supranationalism (free trade, customs unions and single markets) and its connection with tourism. In addition, the role of tourism in global environmental change due to its role biological invasion is observed. Likewise, this section also discusses noticeable issues related to terrorism and the impact of terrorism on the global tourism phenomenon and considers understanding of war tourism as special type of dark tourism. Particular emphasis is put on the potential role of tourism as a generator of peace in the world.

The fourth section of the handbook, The Exhausted Earth: Population and Environmental Challenges, consists of four chapters: Global population dynamics: implications for tourism and development; prepared for take-off? Anthropogenic climate change and the global challenge of twenty-first-century tourism; Tourism, globalisation, and natural disasters; Globalisation, tourism, and ecosystems management. In this section, the authors consider the sensitivity of tourism to the influence of global population dynamics, analyse the global population trends and introduce the extent to which tourism and air traffic contribute to anthropogenic climate change (ACC) with the focus on greenhouse gas emissions from the global aviation industry. Likewise, the authors observe the inter-relationships among tourism, natural disasters and globalisation with the focus on most vulnerable regions to natural disasters and analyse the drivers and outcomes of the global tourism industry on ecosystems management in destination areas.

The fifth section of the handbook, Innovation and Technology, consists of five chapters: Globalisation, innovation, and tourism; Globalisation and transportation innovation; Tourism and augmented reality: trends, implications, and future direction; The bright and the dark sides of social media in tourism experiences, tourists’ behaviour, and wellbeing; Smart cities, smart tourism, and smart mobilities. The chapters stress the interdependencies of globalisation and innovation in tourism emphasising the strong interlink between these two concepts. Authors also examine the relationship between transportation innovations and globalisation through the lenses of technology, commerce and policy and present the augmented reality (AR) trends as an ideal technology for tourism. Furthermore, the chapters provide an overview of both positive and negative impacts of social media (SM) on tourism at all stages of the tourism journey, discuss the key aspects of the mobilities paradigm and review researches done on smart cities and smart tourism.
The last section of the handbook, Cultural Issues and Contemporary Mobility Trend, consists of six chapters: Religion, spirituality, and pilgrimage in a globalising world; Globalisation, tourism and pop culture; The geopolitics of volunteer tourism; Medical mobility and tourism, Last chance tourism: a decade in review; Globalisation: the shrinking world of tourism. In these chapters, authors tackle various issues, i.e. they examine what the religion, spirituality and pilgrimage terms mean and how the globalisation influences religious, spiritual and pilgrimage practices and mobilities within the context of tourism. Moreover, the authors also attempt to untangle web/mesh/matrix in order to understand the manner in which pop culture is integral to globalisation. Additionally, authors consider how geopolitical discourses saturate the everyday activities of volunteer tourists, examine the rapid contemporary rise of medical tourism and widespread medical mobility, look at the evolution of last chance tourism during two time periods: 2010 to 2014 and 2015 to 2018 and finally examine some globalization issues that merit additional attention like transportation, technology, several perspectives on human mobility, cultural globalisation and the fluid meaning of place i.e. placeless spaces.

Throughout the chapters of this handbook, the reader will get acquainted with the most current trends and challenges that prevail in the intertwined field of globalization and tourism.

The value of the handbook lies primarily in a comprehensive overview of the interdependent forces of tourism and globalisation. In particular, it covers the main issues tackling the complex relationship between two phenomena and rising up the most up-to-date questions of 21st century such as migration, terrorism, global stability, biosecurity, climate change, natural disasters, dark tourism etcetera. Therefore, this handbook contribute to a better understanding of such complex questions in the globalization-tourism context. Because of its systematic approach and clear writing style, this handbook is appropriate for tourism and economic undergraduate, graduate and research students but also for researchers and professors who are keen to stay up-to-date in these fast-moving decades in front of us.

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