

IGU Commission (C16.14) on the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change Report 2021

MISSION

Continuing to expand its global reach and academic impact on the field of tourism geographies during 2021, the IGU Tourism Commission's objective is to examine the geographical nature of tourism, leisure and global change. Tourism and leisure are seen as deeply geographical phenomena that don't happen in a socio-spatial vacuum. They are understood as social and cultural activities occurring in space, place and time. Therefore, tourism and leisure are placed within wider societal contexts and human mobilities at local, regional, national and global scales. The current processes of globalization or global change in tourism geographies affecting communities and environments in different places are not seen as one dimensional but as interactional and interrelated; globalisation and related mobilities in tourism and leisure are also mediated by local and regional factors creating unique outcomes in different places. The overall objectives of the Commission will be pursued over the life of the Commission through a set of research tasks that are defined through discussions with members and modified as appropriate during Commission meetings and via collaborative publications and other activities.

2021 was a busy and dynamic year for the Commission, in spite of the various challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Encouragingly, 2022 looks to be an even busier year for us, with several cutting edge Commission events taking place once more in face-to-face format (in Wageningen, Paris and Cuenca). Our collaborations with other Commissions and other organisations also continue to build bridges between different parts of our global tourism geographies community, promoting collaborative ventures and research synergies to define possible geographical approaches to tourism challenges in a post-pandemic context.

1. MEMBERSHIP

1.A. Commission Steering Committee Members

In 2021 the Commission has maintained the same leadership and composition of the Steering Committee members. The committee lineup (listed below) comprises six women and five men and has representatives from Europe, Africa, North America, South America, Asia and Oceania. Moreover, between ordinary and honorary members, the Commission works in a diversity of languages (English, German, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Polish, Chinese, Afrikaans, Swedish, Greek, Icelandic, Dutch, Croatian, Japanese and Finnish).

- Associate Professor Julie Wilson, Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain (Chair) (jwilson2@uoc.edu)
- Professor Xu Honggang, School of Tourism and Management, Sun Yat-Sen University, China (Vice-chair) (xuhongg@mail.sysu.edu.cn)
- Professor Joseph M. Cheer, Center for Tourism Research, Wakayama University, Japan (imcheer@wakayama-u.ac.ip)
- Professor Velvet Nelson, Department of Geography and Geology, Sam Huston State University,
 USA (<u>vnelson@shsu.edu</u>)

- Professor Theano S. Terkenli, Department of Geography, University of the Aegean, Greece (terkenli@aegean.gr)
- Professor Gustav Visser, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies Stellenbosch University, South Africa (<u>gevisser@sun.ac.za</u>)
- Professor Rita de Cássia Ariza da Cruz, Department of Geography, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil (ritacruz@usp.br)
- Professor Dominic Lapointe*, Département d'études urbaines et touristiques, Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada (lapointe.dominic@ugam.ca)
- Professor Edward Huijbens*, Cultural Geography Group, Wageningen University and Research,
 The Netherlands (edward.huijbens@wur.nl)
- Senior lecturer Bernadette Quinn*, College of Arts and Tourism, Technological University Dublin, Ireland (bernadette.quinn@dit.ie)
- Professor Vuk Tvrtko Opačić*, Department of Geography, University of Zagreb, Croatia (<u>vtopacic@geog.pmf.hr</u>)

The commission also has a number of honorary members (previously full members):

- Prof. Alan A. Lew, Department of Geography, Planning & Recreation, Northern Arizona University, USA, <u>alan.lew@nau.edu</u>
- Prof. Sanette Ferreira Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Stellenbosch University, South Africa, slaf@sun.ac.za
- Prof. Carolin Funck, Department of Integrated Global Studies, Hiroshima University, Japan, funckc@hiroshima-u.ac.jp
- Prof. Jie Zhang, Department of Land Resource and Tourism, Nanjing University, China, jiezhang@nju.edu.cn
- Prof Alison Gill, Department of Geography, Simon Fraser University, Canada, agill@sfu.ca
- Assoc. Prof. Anne-Marie d'Hauteserre, Department of Geography, Tourism & Environmental Planning, University of Waikato, New Zealand, <u>adhautes@waikato.ac.nz</u>
- Prof. Jarkko Saarinen, Department of Geography, University of Oulu, Finland, jarkko.saarinen@oulu.fi
- Professor Dieter K. Müller, Department of Geography, Umeå University, Sweden, dieter.muller@umu.se
- Professor Maria Gravari-Barbas, Institut de Recherche et d'Études Supérieures du Tourisme, Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University, France, maria.gravari-barbas@wanadoo.fr
- Professor Marek Wieckowski, Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Warsaw, Poland, marekw@twarda.pan.pl
- Professor Tim Coles, University of Exeter Business School, UK, <u>T.E.Coles@exeter.ac.uk</u>

In response to the call for nominations for the **IGU Laureate d'Honneur 2022**, the Tourism Commission Board unanimously decided to present a nomination for one of our most esteemed and respected honorary members, **Emeritus Professor Alan A. Lew,** whose long-term contribution to both the IGU Tourism Commission and the subdiscipline of tourism geographies has left its indelible mark on our scholarly community. At the time of writing, the decision process is still underway.

1.B. Commission Corresponding Members

Since 2008 and until December 2020, the Commission corresponding member directory was based on the Commission IGUST -listserv: http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/ TourismGeography/, which substituted a manual listing. Unfortunately, the listserv information was unable to support country based member listing, as it is based on members' names and email addresses only. In 2013 a manual inventory was made

allowing to identify 631 individual addresses, of which 526 could be related to 67 countries. An update was made in 2018, with 730 corresponding members in 70 countries listed.

It is important to note that the GoogleGroups service (host platform for the Commission's listserv) ceased to operate in December 2020 and as such, the Commission decided not to depend on listservs, considering the reduced emphasis on listservs in academic communication more widely. In 2021, a new unidirectional mailing list has been created using the Weebly/ Square account that hosts our website and corresponding members can subscribe to the Commission list via this page:

https://www.igutourism.org/stay-in-touch.html. The Commission also has a dedicated email address (igucommissiontourism@gmail.com) for member enquiries.

In 2020 the Commission appointed Professor Joseph Cheer as communications manager and his efforts have been key in creating a strong social media presence for the Commission, including new handles on Twitter and Facebook for the dissemination of relevant material (see following section).

1.C. Commission Web Page and Social Media Handles

The Commission maintains a web page at: www.igutourism.org and is maintained by the Commission Chair, Dr Julie Wilson. The Commission's social media handles include:

- Twitter @igutourism (491 followers)
- Facebook new page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/295995097835187 (249 members) (we generally duplicate posts to both the new and old facebook handles in order to reach as many memers as possible).

The Commission's web page was fully renewed in 2021 and its content and structure have been considerably reconfigured, taking into account the increased social media presence of the Commission and the new steering committee's goals for 2021-2024. The possibility of creating a simple intranet function will be explored in the future, though via the increased use of Google Drive and related permissions/restrictions, this may not be required.

The website contains a direct widget to our Twitter feed, in order that the very latest news be fully accessible via our website, even for those corresponding members who do not use Twitter or Facebook.

2. MEETINGS

2.A. IGU Tourism Commission Meetings that took place in 2021

- AAG 2021, Online, 7th-11th April 2021 (AAG-RTS specialty group and tourism sessions)
- IGU Thematic Conference: <u>Heritage Geographies: Politics, Uses and Governance of the Past,</u> Lecce, Italy, 26th-28th May 2021. Several sessions were organised by the IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change:
 - 1) Traditional agricultural landscapes, between Heritagization, Commodification and Tourism Sustainability (Chair: Elena Dell'Agnese).
 - 9) Education 'on the move': Exploring the heritage-tourism nexus (Chairs: Chiara Rabbiosi & Alessia Mariotti).
 - 10) Heritage Geographies of Tourism: prospects and challenges (Chairs: Jarkko Saarinen & Velvet Nelson).
 - 17) Heritage, tourism & ICTs in rural/marginal areas. A critical perspective (Chairs: Valentina Albanese & Teresa Graziano).
 - (Mail: info@heritagegeographies.it www.heritagegeographies.it).
- 34th IGC, Istanbul (Online), August 2021 (rescheduled from 2020). The IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change co-organized a number of sessions at this online meeting, including:
 - o Big data and tourism (Chair: Dieter Müller / Tim Coles)
 - o Economic geographies of tourism (Chair: Dieter Müller / Tim Coles)
 - o Evolving geographies of Chinese outbound tourism (Chair: Joseph Cheer / Tim Coles)
 - P2P accommodation and tourism destinations beyond metropolitan areas (Chair: Czeslaw Adamiak)

- o Overtourism: A contemporary geography of excess and counterprotest (Chair: Joseph Cheer / Claudio Milano)
- o Tourism and climate interrelationships (Chair: O. Cenk Demiroglu / Daniel Scott / Michelle Rutty / David R. Perkin)
- o Tourism and the Sustainable Development Goals (Chair: Jarkko Saarinen)
- o Tourism shaping places (Chair: Velvet Nelson / Marek Wieckowski)

More info: IGU tourism sessions 2021 Istambul

Sponsored meetings (conference and session sponsorship)

 International webinar: Tourism, Space and the Body, 24th October 2021 (organised by Dr Maartje Roelofsen and Dr Julie Wilson, NOUTUR Research Group, Open University of Catalonia in collaboration with the IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change). Online event, free of charge. website:

https://symposium.uoc.edu/70507/detail/the-body-in-tourism-during-pandemic-times.html: Info: Maartie.Roelofsen@uoc.edu

2.B. Brief Summary of Activities

An important point of departure for the work plan is that tourism is inherently a geographical phenomenon with social, cultural, economic, political, and environmental significance. Tourism creates links between people and places, and connects different cultures and environments. Moreover, tourism is a major force for global change. It creates geographical imaginations, human mobilities and flows of culture, ideas, values, commodities, and capitals, and influences society far beyond the immediate tourism industry. At the same time tourism is embedded in other global processes creating constraints and opportunities for its development. Furthermore tourism is an important cause for global environmental change.

In a geographical tradition the commission addresses these issues with an integrated approach acknowledging the interrelationship of tourism to wider processes within society and environment. This is done at local, regional, national, and global scales demonstrating links between these scales as well as outcomes of global change for individuals, communities, and societies. Current processes of global change in tourism geographies affecting communities and environments in different places are also mediated by local and regional factors. This creates unique geographical outcomes and contributes to the transformation of place. The commission applies a truly global perspective highlighting development in different parts of the world and through that acknowledging tourism as a formative cause for societal and environmental change in an increasingly interconnected world.

These ambitions can be summarised in a number of objectives to be addressed in the period until the next IGC in 2022. In accordance a set of *research 'tasks'* were defined as result of the outcomes of previous conferences and these have been maintained for 2022;

- Task 1: Interpreting the role of tourism and leisure as an agent of and tool for regional change and community development in rural and urban environments, not least as response to global change
- Task 2: Examination of the tourism physical environment nexus, and particularly tourism's interrelationship with global climate change
- Task 3: Examination of the interrelationship between tourism, peace, violence, ideology, and political change
- Task 4: Understanding tourism's and leisure's role for sense of place, identity, culture, citizenship, and global awareness
- Task 5: Bridging the gap between tourism geography and other geographies
- Task 6: Contributing to relevant international research programmes such as the IYGU associated with the aims and objectives of the commission

These tasks will be discussed and examined during the whole Commission time span. The table below (covering major meetings with Commission involvement) outlines the comparative international studies

that have been undertaken through the various meeting activities outlined above in relation to the goals and objectives of the Commission. The table indicates the extent to which the Commission has embraced particular tasks (T1–T6) through its various meetings as well as ensuring that specific research outputs such as proceedings and other publications are clearly tied to the Commission's objectives and goals. The Commission intends to extend its collaboration with tourism-related interest groups of national geographical associations during the 2022-2024 period, via co-organisation of events but also via other bilateral initiatives.

	Major Meetings 2017–2022											
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	2017	2018	2018	2018	2019	2020	2021	2021	2022	2022	2022	
T1												
T2												
T3												
T4												
T5												
T6												

Preliminary Work Plan and proposed objectives, 2022-2023

An important point of departure for the commission's objectives is that tourism is inherently a geographical phenomenon with social, cultural, economic, political, and environmental significance. Tourism creates links between people and places, and connects different cultures and environments. Moreover, tourism is a major force for global change. It creates geographical imaginations, human mobilities and flows of culture, ideas, values, commodities, and capitals, and influences society far beyond the immediate tourism industry. At the same time tourism is embedded in other global processes creating constraints and opportunities for its development. Furthermore tourism is an important cause for global environmental change. In a geographical tradition the commission addresses these issues with an integrated approach acknowledging the interrelationship of tourism to wider processes within society and environment.

Against this background the Commission for the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change plans to focus particularly two interrelated topics during the period 2022-2024:

- 1. Recovery for Reformation: During the recent COVID19 pandemic tourism is among the most impacted sectors of society. The outbreak of the virus and its global dissemination entailed a situation where almost all tourism was paused on a global level. Pandemics, as for example the SARS-crisis, and other crisis have occurred earlier and research has assessed the impact of such events on tourism. However, the global dimension of the current crisis and its anticipated long-term impacts on the economy, imply that the topic will dominate the debate on tourism for the entire lifespan of the proposed commission. In this context the commission's objectives are:
 - Analyzing the impact of the pandemic and other crisis on tourism as an economic activity
 - Understanding community responses on tourism decline and develop models for a post-pandemic governance of tourism
 - Assessing the impact of the pandemic on individuals and their tourism practices
 - Analyzing the dissonance entailed by stakeholders interests for quick short-term recovery and long-term reformation of tourism, respectively
- 2. <u>Tourism and Agenda 2030</u>: Facing the global challenges to humanity, for example caused by climate change, the Commission will scrutinize how tourism geographies relate to the global sustainable

development goals (SDGs). Tourism geographies do not approach tourism as an industry only, but have a long tradition of highlighting other aspects of tourism, also acknowledging planetary boundaries. Hence, the relationship of tourism to economy, society and biosphere have all been addressed previously. Indeed tourism is related to all 17 SDGs and thus, achieving the ambitious goals requires an engagement with tourism geographies. However, the pertinent challenge for the upcoming years is to develop knowledge on how to take action in order to reform tourism and turn it into a positive force enabling the achievement of the SDGs. Hence, the objectives of the commission in relation to the Agenda 2030 are:

- Analyzing how tourism relates to the 17 SDGs and their sub-goals
- Developing and proposing new business and governance models for aligning tourism with the Agenda 2030 objectives and the SDGs
- Analyzing the interrelationship of tourism and parts of society, economy and the biosphere
- Bridging the gap between tourism geography and other geographies and sciences in order to contribute to a comprehensive understanding of complex challenges

This is a preliminary work plan. The new commission will develop a final version of the objectives and work plan to be implemented in the period 2021-2024.

2.C. Commission Meetings forthcoming in 2022

The Commission will organise, sponsor or co-sponsor the following meetings during 2022 and beyond;

- The 2022 IGU Tourism Commission Pre-Meeting immediately prior to the Paris IGC will take place in Wageningen, the Netherlands from 15th-17th July 2022, with the theme 'Time for Tourism Geographers', hosted by the <u>Cultural Geography Group of Wageningen University</u>. The pre-meeting will contain 22 presentations from 44 researchers. For more information: https://www.igutourism.org/wageningen-2022-pre-meeting.html Chair: Prof. Dr. Edward Hákon Huijbens: edward.huijbens [at] wur.nl
- The 2022 Paris IGC will include 19 sessions sponsored by the IGU Tourism Commission, following
 a brilliant response to our call for sessions via our social media handles and though our
 corresponding membership network. IGU Tourism Commission-sponsored sessions include A101414JI: Tourism Transitions

A101415JN: New Urban Tourism, Challenges For Practice, Policy And Theory
A101508DM: From Second Homes To Zoom-Towns: Changing Geographies Of Multilocal Living
A101544AC: The Multifaceted Relationship Between Festivals, Events And Public Space
(Co-sponsored by the FESTSPACE Project)

A101555AM: Tourism And Routing: Exploring The Economic, Cultural and Political Dimensions of Walking Routes

A101597JC: *Regenerative Development And Tourism Geographies: A Timely Turn?*A101601RR: *Temporary Urbanism: Fixing The City In Post-Pandemic Times?* (Co-sponsored between the IGU Commissions on Urban Geography and Tourism, Leisure and Global Change and the <u>T-Factor Project</u>).

A101635AB: From Overtourism To Undertourism...And Back Again? Confronting Post-Pandemic Tourism "Regrowth" With Postcapitalist Pathways

A101656BA: Stronger Together: Tourism, Communities, And Destination Resilience

A101701JS: Tourism And Community Resilience: Symbiosis And Conflicts In The Anthropocene

A101705RS: Tourism-Dependent Islands: Exploring Post-Pandemic Futures

A101721RC: Repenser Le Tourisme En Amérique Latine

A101507JW: Panel session for the forthcoming IGU Tourism Commission-led volume 'The New Routledge Handbook of Tourism Geographies' - Tourism Geographies: Reflections And Projections On A Decade Of Change

(Open session A101511VN #1) *Geographies of nature-based and rural tourism*(Open session A101511VN #2) *Tourism Geographies in Post-Pandemic Times*(Open session A101511VN #3) *Culture, Heritage and Tourism Geographies*(Open session A101511VN #4) *Contemporary Perspectives on Tourism and Regional Development*

(Open session A101511VN #5) *Tourism Geography Topics*(Open session A101511VN #6) *Tourism labour and gender perspectives*For more information: https://www.igutourism.org/paris-2022-main-congress.html

- The Lecture for the IGU Commissions Excellence Award within the Paris IGC 2022 will be delivered by Distinguished Professor C. Michael Hall, Canterbury University, New Zealand. The Excellence award was won by the IGU Tourism Commission in 2017/18, and finally the lecture will be able to go ahead in Paris in 2022. For more information: https://www.igutourism.org/paris-2022-main-congress.html
- 2024 IGU International Geographical Congress, Dublin, Ireland: The IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change will co-organize a number of sessions at this meeting, as well as a Commission pre-meeting (host / dates tbc).

3.B. Collaboration with other organizations

The Commission has co-organised meetings or sponsored sessions in cooperation with the following organizations, to take place in 2022:

- The IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change are proud to be collaborating with the Spanish Geographers Association (AGE) Group 10's Joint International Colloquium on the Geography of Tourism in Cuenca, Spain from 20th-22nd October 2022, entitled 'Between the recovery and transformation of tourism in a post-COVID world: perspectives from Geography'. More info: https://www.igutourism.org/cuenca-2022-age-grupo-10-igu-tourism-colloquium.html and https://www.age-geografia-turismo.com/ (Call for papers) Chair. Professor Josep Ivars josep.ivars [at] ua.es
- AAG Annual Meeting online, 24th February-2nd March 2022: co-sponsored sessions between the IGU Tourism Commission and the Recreation, Tourism and Sport Specialty Group of the AAG: https://www.igutourism.org/aag-igu-collaborations-nyc-2022.html
- The IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change are proud to be collaborating with
 the Center for Tourism Research (CTR), Wakayama University, on the International Tourism
 Research Salon: *Transforming Tourism Research: Reshape, Rethink, Reload, Renew, Regenerate, Restart* 8-9th March 2022 (online). More information:
 https://www.igutourism.org/ctr-international-tourism-research-salon-online.html
- Nordic Geographers Meeting 'Multiple Nordic Geographies' (rescheduled until June 2022),
 Joensuu Finland. https://www.ngm2021.fi/ The IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global
 Change will co-organise some sessions at this meeting, including "Tourism and Biopolitics"
 organised by Maartje Roelofsen, Joseph Cheer (Commission Board Member) and Ben Laquinto.

The Commission intends to extend its collaboration with tourism-related interest groups of national geographical associations during the 2021-2024 period, as reflected in the above work plan.

3. NETWORKING AND COMMUNICATION

3.A. Collaboration with other IGU Commissions

Special session during the IGC 2022 Paris, in collaboration with the IGU Urban Geography
Commission: A101601RR: *Temporary Urbanism: Fixing The City In Post-Pandemic Times?*(Co-sponsored between the IGU Commissions on Urban Geography and Tourism, Leisure and
Global Change and the <u>T-Factor Project</u>).

The IGU Tourism Commission has agreed to support fellow Commissions by collaborating on the following IGU events in 2022/2023 -

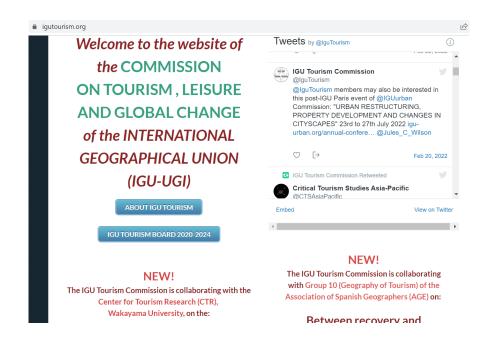
- IGU Thematic Conference on *Local Governance in a Time of Global Emergencies*, convened by the International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission on Geography of Governance, and organized in collaboration with the Metropolitan Autonomous University UAM and the National Autonomous University of Mexico UNAM, will be held in Mexico City, Mexico, on August 29-31, 2022, supported by the following commissions: C16.37: Commission on Urban Geography, C16.12: Commission on Geography of Governance, C16.14: Commission on Geography of Tourism, Leisure, and Global Change, C16.15: Commission on Geo-Heritage, C16.27: Commission on Latin American Studies, C16.33: Commission on Population Geography.
- IGU thematic conference on *Islands in Relations: Conflicts, Sustainability, and Peace,* proposed by the Japan National Committee for the IGU (JNC) in collaboration with IGU Commissions on: Geography of Tourism, Leisure, and Global Change (C20.17), Islands (C20.25), Latin American and Caribbean Studies (C20.30), Political Geography (C20.36), and Toponymy (C20.40) (contact Takashi Yamazaki yamataka@lit.osaka-cu.ac.ip Tentative date, March 2023, Osaka, Japan.

4. PUBLICATIONS

4.A. Regular Publications

The Commission is involved in the production of two regular publications and a coordinated social media campaign, with periodic newsletters by email.

- a) Tourism Geographies: The scientific journal Tourism Geographies was developed based on the IGU commission collaboration and the commission has a representative position in the editorial board. Former commission chair Alan A. Lew and commission member Joseph Cheer are Editors in chief. A position as consulting editor is reserved for the chair of the commission. Furthermore several commission members are resource editors for Tourism Geographies.
- b) Geographies of Tourism and Global Change: In 2016 several former commission members launched a new book series titled "Geographies of Tourism and Global Change" with Springer edited by commission chair Dieter K. Müller (Umeå University), former commission chair Jarkko Saarinen (University of Oulu) and former commission member Carolin Funck (University of Hiroshima). The series is published in cooperation with the IGU Commission of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change and additional members of the commission are represented on the advisory board of the book series.
- c) Commission Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change social media campaign and newsletter: The commission newsletter has been published online since 2012 with approximately one issue annually. It is also sent to all corresponding commission members. However, this newsletter is being consolidated within our social media content, which is seen as being a much more immediate way of keeping members informed as to the latest news from the Tourism Commission (see section on social media activities). The Commission's Twitter feed is also displayed via a highly visible widget on the Commission's website startpage:



4.B. Ad hoc Publications

Besides these regular publications of the commission a number of ad-hoc publications have been outcome of the events organized by the commission:

- Wilson, J. and Müller, D. (2022, forthcoming, eds.). The New Routledge Handbook of Tourism Geographies. London: Routledge. This new edition of the handbook will include chapters from several commission members and corresponding members and as such, it is envisaged as an important vehicular project for the Commission.
- Müller D.K. (ed.) (2019). A Research Agenda for Tourism Geographies. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.
- Koster, R. L., & Carson, D. A. (2019). Perspectives on Rural Tourism Geographies. Cham: Springer.
- Mayer, M., Zbaraszewski, W., Pieńkowski, D., Gach, G., & Gernert, J. (2019). Cross-Border Tourism in Protected Areas. Cham: Springer

Associate Professor Julie Wilson Chair, IGU Commission on Tourism, Leisure and Global Change 2021-2024 (jwilson2@uoc.edu) Barcelona, Spain February 2022