



## International Tourism Congress ITC2022 Tourism – Going Back/Forward to Sustainability

November (16)17-19, 2022, Łódź, Poland

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Organisers:



**FACULTY OF  
GEOGRAPHICAL SCIENCES**

University of Lodz



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CENTRE FOR TOURISM  
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT  
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Special session on sustainable spatial planning of tourism destinations is to disseminate the results of the project SPOT. Project SPOT was supported by the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Programme (2019-1-PL01-KA203-064946). The ITC2022 and the special session reflect only the position of the authors, and the European Commission and the National Agency are not responsible for the substantive content contained therein or for the use of the information contained therein. For more visit: <https://spot-erasmus.eu/>.

International Tourism Congress ITC2022

**TOURISM – GOING BACK/FORWARD TO SUSTAINABILITY**

November (16) 17-19, 2022

Łódź, Poland

Organised by

**Faculty of Geographical Sciences, University of Lodz (Poland)**

in cooperation with

**CiTUR Centre for Tourism Research, Development and Innovation.**

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- to understand if the concept of accessibility is being understood in its global structure by those producing events;
- to identify the dimensions of accessibility which may be less worked on in events' production;
- to raise awareness among students of event management and the event supply on the missing dimensions of accessibility.

**Originality:** As there are a lack of structured information about the discussed topics, results will be important to show gaps between theory and practice, it means, between complex concepts and narrow accessibility practice in events.

**Key words:** Events Tourism; Events Supply; Accessibility.

**References:**

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**2. HOW ACCESSIBLE IS PORTUGUESE TOURISM? – REFLECTIONS ON EXISTING GOOD PRACTICES**

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**Goal:** International legislation has regarded culture as a human right since the endorsement of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), a right of which no one should be deprived regardless of their personal traits. In the last decades, cultural heritage has awakened to new needs and demands: not only has it become a focus of interest for the tourism sector, but it has also been targeted for accessibility reasons. The United Nations (s.d., online) hold that accessible tourism (or tourism for all) is of the utmost importance, not only because it “is a central element for responsible and sustainable development policy”, but also since it provides a unique business opportunity – it is estimated that there are 1 billion people with disabilities, not to mention the 2 billion people that are family or caregivers of these persons. As such, accessible tourist offer should be directed to a broad and diverse group that aims at people with impairments, children, seniors, pregnant women, people with obesity, to name just a few.

For a number of reasons – commercial, cultural and legal – tourism must be gradually developed from the perspective of accessibility. Chazaud (1997) argued about the need to develop an interface between cultural spaces and visitors, where a number of services are included, from peripheral to more central ones. Similarly, Devile, Jesus & Cruz (2011) support the idea that a tourism product encompasses a set of tangible and intangible components, understood as a whole experience that comprises transport, accommodation, accessible activities, appropriate reception and information, human resources, among others. This approach put forth by these authors entail what we understand as tourism ecosystems.

I intend to present examples of good practices that may enhance accessible tourism in Portugal – two museums regarded as exemplary (i.e. Museum of the Council Community of Batalha and the National Museum of Tile), the AccesTUR project for the central region of Portugal, the programme Accessible Beach – Beach for ALL and the project “Culture for All Bragança” (European Social Fund NORTE-07-4230-FSE-000058). I wish to critically discuss them by putting forward the objectives, implementation context and resources created to promote inclusion for all as far as tourism is concerned.

**Findings:** This will be a review type of paper where the aim is to gather information on good practices, based on a non-probabilistic intentional sample, and through their analysis conclude on their added value for making tourism more accessible for everyone.

**Practical implications:** Reflecting about good practices in Portugal allows us to have a better understanding of the state of the country’s accessibility as far as tourism is concerned, thus, giving us a firm ground to overcome problems and improve.

**Originality:** Accessible tourism in Portugal needs to be further discussed and developed. Although it is not necessarily original in its goal, the paper wants to convey experience and knowledge gathered within the district of Bragança, by presenting the project “Culture for All Bragança”, as referred above.

**Key words:** Accessibility; accessible tourism; tourism ecosystem; good practices; Portuguese accessibility.

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### **3. THE ROLE OF SPATIAL PLANNING IN TOURISM DEVELOPMENT: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES**

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