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I



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TERRORISM AS A CONTEMPORARY CRIMINOLOGY IMPACT FACTOR ON TOURIST EFFECTS

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Abstract

Terrorism as a destructive social phenomenon, and as a symbol of violence, fear and insecurity, generates negative implications in all spheres of social life, especially in the sphere of economy and the economy of modern states. Implicitly, terrorism produces a negative, multiplied impact on tourism and its overall effects, which has, in recent years, positioned itself as an ideally easy terrorist target. Tourist destinations and tourists themselves have become direct strategic and tactical targets of terrorist attacks aimed at achieving long-term political, ideological and religious goals, destabilizing the system of national and regional security. Although the causal connection between terrorism and tourism is specific, unbreakable and cannot be ignored, it is nevertheless very complex and difficult to quantify and accurately define the negative effects of the impact of terrorism on tourism, as statistical indicators and individual scientific research deny direct correlation and decline in tourism revenue at the national level. The aim of this paper is to analyze the impact of contemporary terrorist acts, and the amplitude of their impact on tourist effects.

Key Words: *terrorism, tourism, security, economy, terrorist attacks*

JEL classification: Z30, Z39

Introduction

There is no universal academic consensus on the definition of terrorism, however, each approach observed individually possesses a common note. It refers to the illegitimate use of force during the process of achieving goals, which may be of an ideological, political or religious character.

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These goals are easier to achieve if the opponent, i.e., the target, of a terrorist organization is economically or militarily weaker. Terrorist activities, depending on the prism of observation, are almost as old as the human race. However, the first more serious, organized forms of terrorist activity appeared at the beginning of the New Era, over the territory of present day Israel, when Jewish nationalists launched militant action aimed at expelling the Romans from the area of, what was then, Palestine.

Looking at current macroeconomic tendencies, one can notice that tourism is a significant factor in the formation of gross domestic product. Very often tourism is characterized as an invisible form of export. Moreover, taking into account the global character and phenomenology of tourist travels, the selection of tourist designations as one of the main targets of terrorist attacks is entirely logical and to be expected. It can be said that tourism, throughout its history, experienced the most dynamic growth in the post-World War II period. The conditions for organized travel were acquired with shorter work hours and longer leisure time, which came about as the result of cultural progress and the growth of workers' rights. Certain forms of liberalization, such as the reduction of administrative barriers to border crossings, also facilitated the birth of one of the most intensive modern economic branches. In reviewing a rather short period of time, namely the past twenty years, we will notice that there has been a doubling in the number of international travel trips. If we take into account a longer period of time, the aforementioned expansion is, as one would expect, significantly higher. In the period from the 90s until the present day, international tourism movements have been almost tripled (World Tourism Organization UNWTO). Based on research conducted by some relevant international organizations, international tourism will see an increase of 35% over the next ten years (Mapping the Future of Global Travel and Tourism).

Some of the main threats to the development of the tourism industry are of a sociological and security character. The expansion of certain tourist destinations is often accompanied by a rise in the crime rate of the destinations in question. However, the possibility of terrorist attacks is becoming the most significant risk factor for the global tourism industry. Taking into account scientific theories in the field of psychology, one notices that Maslow's hierarchy of needs places safety among the most important of human needs. Starting from the assumption that a tourist does not wish to think about his/her own safety while on vacation, places that are a potential target of tourist attacks will be bypassed by future

tourists. Destinations that have the reputation of being unsafe can easily be replaced by safer ones. Terrorist attacks affect the security reputation of tourist destinations and the sowing of fear among potential tourists. Fear of terrorist activity can, in a very serious way, impact economic trends in the area of supply and demand on the international tourist market. The mentioned tendencies, in the field of digression of tourist activities, have been noticed on more recent examples of well-known tourist destinations such as Turkey, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, where the so-called "Arab Spring", or the war for democracy, led to a change of the ruling parties and authoritarian regimes, the epilogue being long-term political instability, anarchy, chaos and civil wars, which in turn led to an even stronger, strengthening of Islam and those structures that advocate the application of the Sharia (Skakavac & Skakavac, 2017)

An important factor for establishing a mutual correlation between tourism and terrorism is the globalization process. Globalization contributes to the destruction of human barriers, but also facilitates the strategic and operational implementation of terrorist activities. One of the key events which marked the beginning of a new era in the fight against international terrorism is the attack on the World Trade Center in New York in 2001. This attack also greatly affected tourism movements within the United States. A similar situation occurred in France where the "doctrine of shelter" and neutral politics proved unsuccessful and counterproductive, as seen from the waves of related terrorist attacks that hit this country in early 2015 (Lečić, 2015).

Due to the political and security instability caused by terrorist attacks, tourist demand in these countries soon fell, and a restrictive security policy strongly affected the mobility of people, which was in turn restricted.

The concept of safety and risk in tourist travels

Simplified, risk can be defined as a level of exposure to certain forms of threat or danger. When choosing tourist destinations, tourists place a high value on their own security, that is, a lower level of risk from the escalation of unrest caused by various forms of political instability. Taking into account global tendencies, a significant level of influence by mass media, as well as the unavoidable social networks, is evident in the formation of a perception of instability, in countries with traditionally attractive tourist destinations. When analyzing the correlation between the

selection of tourist designations and the level of risk from potential terrorist activities, it is impossible to avoid the influence of the media factor. As a result of the above, a very different perception of risk, in relation to the actual situation on the field, is possible. From this follows that the risk, which is present during tourist trips, can be viewed as real risk and perceived risk, which exists depending on the reputation of the tourist destination and the preference of potential tourists.

Analyzing the mutual relationship and the level of influence of terrorist activities on tourism, it is of utmost importance to take into account the mentioned tourist preferences. Some scientific theories in the field of tourism define certain categories of tourists, i.e., they explain what certain types of tourists expect from their travels. One of the most famous is Cohen's typology, which talks about the interaction between tourists and global tourism institutions. However, the aforementioned study did not discuss the impact of risk factors on the selection of tourist trips and tourist behavior. Roehl and Fesenmaier classified tourists into the following three groups, depending on their perception of risk (Roehl & Fesenmaier, 1992):

- tourists who do not prefer risk,
- tourists who perceive functional (institutional) risk,
- tourists who are inclined to take risks.

The first group of tourists, which does not prefer risk, simply does not connect the existence of any kind of risk, on the one hand, with their own travel trips, on the other. Tourists who perceive a functional, that is, institutional risk, observe organizational aspects as the main generators of potential risks. The third group, tourists prone to taking risks, prefer the existence of any kind of risk within their travel destination. Although, no attempts have been made to link the two academic concepts within scientific circles, there is a certain degree of similarity. The theory pertaining to risk perception has managed to gain significance within cognitive psychology. However, only after the 2001 terrorist attacks on the US, did eminent scientists in the field of tourism pay more attention to this area. Most often, the identified risks associated with tourism are related to terrorist threats, crime rates, health epidemics or natural disasters. The Argentine author, Maximiliano Korstanje, devoted much of his writing to the sociological aspects of threats, hazards and risks (Korstanje, 2011). In the focus of his work is the issue of identifying threat and the relativity of the question of understanding risk. From the aspect of tourism risk analysis, it is necessary to make a distinction

between the concepts of risk and threat. It is necessary to, semantically, see the mutual relationship between the above terms. Threats imply the risk involved while risks generate threats. In this way, a symbiotic relationship between threats and risk can be established. Also, what is important to note is that there is no adequate academic consensus on what conditions generate potential risks. Security represents a level of protection against potential damage and negative resulting outcomes. Depending on the existence of different types of tourists, it is very difficult to measure their actual security at a particular location. The mentioned security aspect is a very relative concept and is highly correlated with fear. Tourists, depending on their affinities and preferences, have different perceptions of fears. Also, the level of fear present during a stay in a specific tourist destination is very often directly related to the possession of relevant information about the place itself. As already mentioned in this text, mass media and social networks play a very important role in these relations. These information tools can be a key factor in creating asymmetric information. Very often, at different times, they create a global atmosphere of fear which results in very few places in the world being considered safe. For the purpose of illustrating the above assertion, certain statistics cite an individual's chance of becoming a victim of terrorist attacks at a modest 0.002% (Ehrich, 2015). Very often, tourists' fears of potential terrorist attacks are unjustified. It can be said that terrorists, to a small degree, have achieved their goals when a tourist gives up on his/her planned trip, or arrives at the destination scared. This psychological moment of fear has been, in recent times, much more present in those parts of the world where terrorist activities are most intense. Primarily, the parts we refer to here are the Middle East and parts of the African continent. The media had a very significant impact in generating an atmosphere of fear. Due to the daily exposure to frightening information, tourists had the impression they would be placing themselves at high risk if they opted for a trip to one of the destinations mentioned. Tourists' fear, should they choose to go to a particular tourist destination, can be descriptively expressed in two ways. Tourists fear that they may be the victims of an organized terrorist attack during an international trip, if they visit a region hostile to their country of residence. On the other hand, they fear that they may be the victims of a terrorist attack simply by being in the wrong place at the wrong time, without prejudices regarding the relationship between the tourist destination and their domicile country. This distinction may hold a high level of importance because it can define the potential choice, in terms of choosing a future travel destination. In some countries such as Egypt and

Tunisia, tourist destinations are highly targeted by militant Islamic groups. These terrorist organizations especially favor attacks on those sites that are known for being visited by a large number of tourists from the NATO pact countries (especially those who participated in operations in Syria and Iraq). Attacks, and potential victims, are extremely publicized at the international level, which contributes to the publicity of the terrorist organization taking responsibility for the attack. After the terrorist attack itself, an extremely delicate issue imposes itself, whether the attack could have been prevented and the human casualties avoided. Often, some radical opinions can be heard such as that the tourists themselves were responsible for having chosen to travel to a politically unstable region. Generally speaking, the governments of the countries the tourists come from, and, above all, the host countries, are obliged to ensure the safety of tourists. However, in politically unstable countries and regions, states are not able to provide security even to their own people. In such situations a certain moral dilemma arises, whether the domestic population should enjoy primacy in security because, among other reasons, they pay taxes, or foreign tourists, who ultimately represent a generator of cash inflow. As regards the responsibility of the governments of domicile countries, it can be said that the foreign ministries of all NATO countries are extremely vigilant about issuing travel recommendations for those countries that are of a potentially dangerous and unsafe character. As it is to be expected, the US State Department is particularly active when issuing these recommendations and notifications. When providing information on travel safety, the date of recommendation is also of special importance. The date of the issuance of the recommendation is based on analytical, operational and security activities of the State Department. The above activities of countries fighting against terrorist acts are carried out in order to avoid civilian casualties. With the passage of time, new mechanisms, technologies and methodologies appear, on both sides, making the battle a bit fiercer. Taking into account the theoretical aspect, terrorist attacks were previously observed as the resulting outcome of activities carried out by individuals with certain psychopathological disorders. However, recent research has shown that terrorist delinquents are, in most cases, of sound reason and are aware of the consequences that result from their activities. They are also aware of the difficulty of their task, and for this reason they plan their operations carefully and analytically. It is precisely due to these reasons that the prevention of terrorist activities has become an extremely complex activity, because in *ex ante* security analysis, it is difficult to

make a distinction between a potential terrorist and an ordinary citizen or a tourist.

The link between terrorist activities and tourist movements

Modern international terrorism has a very low level of incorporated ethical values. Terrorists do not have any form of respect for institutions of a system. Generally speaking, fertile land for the creation of terrorist organizations are those regions with a high level of population dissatisfaction, primarily with economic conditions for normal life flows. Some phenomena such as globalization, modernization, wars and recessions create frameworks within social communities for the rise of dissident groups and support for the growth of radical ideas, which creates a basis for the recruitment of new dissidents from within the population (Lutz & Lutz, 2008). These tendencies could be seen in the latest conflicts in Syria and Iraq. From the scientific standpoint, it is difficult to identify the main causative factor for the spread of terrorist ideas and sparks. When speaking about the most well-known and active terrorist organization of today - ISIS, it is possible to identify the religious factor. However, as already mentioned, economic reasons represent, at the very least, an equally important basis for the intensification of terrorist aspirations. It can be said that a set of economic, religious, psychological, sociological and cultural phenomena has an impact on the development of terrorist ideas and operations. Terrorism can find its foothold among those groups of people who do not possess any other political method of action, that is, when they are unable to achieve their strategic goals by any other type of activity, apart from the militant. It is widely known, and has already been mentioned in this paper, that the expansion of terrorism is, in the narrowest context, related to globalization. The process of globalization has brought about economic inequality between nations and states. The mentioned inequality in acquired economic wealth can lead to a strong wave of dissatisfaction expressed through militant and aggressive actions. Similarly, as the accompanying phenomenon of globalization, certain transient processes appear in individual societies. In such processes, there is often the annulment of a previous and the establishment of a completely new value system. When this occurs, there is a possibility that a part of the social community will fail to find its place in the new system and thus become an easy target for recruitment by terrorist organizations. A specific example of this tendency is the wave of demonstrations, protests and rebellions in North Africa and the Middle East at the end of 2010, better known as the "Arab Spring". Observed

from today's perspective, it can be said that the aforementioned process of rebellion failed fundamentally, i.e., that its essential objectives in terms of social stability, freedom, equality and an enviable level of modernization, were not realized. Due to the stated reasons, the largest number of recruited terrorists are from the Middle East, and especially Northern and Central Africa, where the Boko Haram and ISIS terrorist organization are most present, which are fighting against so-called "Western values" with the aim of establishing the Shari'ah and the Islamic state, out of the same ideology (Skakavac, 2016).

Understanding the functioning, motives and goals of terrorist organizations can help to understand the interconnection between terrorism and tourism. By attacking tourists, terrorist organizations are able to achieve some of their goals, primarily seen through publicity and media attention. Very often, there are internal confrontations within the terrorist groups themselves, and in this way a particular fraction obtains an internal reputation. In addition, tourists have a certain symbolic value as representatives of the countries they come from, that is, an attack on tourists represents an attack on hostile governments. When viewed from this perspective, it can be said that there is an inseparable connection between international tourism and diplomatic ties. Tourists are seen by terrorist organizations as ambassadors of their countries (Richter & Waugh, 1986). Attacks on foreign tourists give terrorists guaranteed media attention. However, if the target of attacks have a purely domestic goal, domicile governments can, using censorship mechanisms, exclude publicity that is vital for terrorists. Theoretically, the goal of terrorist organizations can be represented through ideological, strategic and tactical objectives (Richter & Waugh, 1986). Ideological objectives are long-term, and, most often, involve national, class, or religious struggles. Tactical targets are short-term in character, they involve operational activities and are very often associated with daily criminal activities. Richter and Waugh emphasize that terrorist attacks on tourists are linked to the realization of the terrorists' strategic goals and, with their accomplishment, terrorists gain publicity and influence the weakening of the economy of the country in which the attack took place, through the reduction of tourism industry revenues. For the above reasons, terrorists gravitate towards international tourist centers which are usually visited by tourists from NATO member states. Terrorists are also able to infiltrate themselves into tourist groups without arousing much suspicion. Speaking about the direct links between terrorism and tourism, they are manifested through common characteristics of multinationalism, the crossing of

international borders, the use of modern communication technologies, and the like (Sönmez & Graefe, 1998). It can be said that the first terrorist attack associated with tourist activities was at the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich. Palestinian terrorists attacked Israeli athletes gaining publicity in the range of about 800 million people. After this event, international tourists began to think more intensively about the dangers arising from terrorist threats.

The impact of terrorist activities and political instability on the tourism industry in Turkey

In the light of the aforementioned, one can say that the most recent example of the causal relationship between terrorism and tourism is that of Turkey. First of all, Turkey is a country that represents a significant regional player, whose economic and political influence is undergoing a strong expansion. Tourism has a significant share in the Turkish economy. In addition, given its geostrategic position, the Middle Eastern conflicts, history, economy, complex confessional relations, the Kurdish issue and Turkey's European path, a fertile ground for terrorist aspirations has also been created. Taking into account all these factors, the most significant terrorist threat to the Turkish state is the unresolved position of the Kurds, who predominantly inhabit the southeastern part of the country. The political activity of the said ethnic group is largely implemented within the framework of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (better known by the Kurdish acronym - PKK), which also has its militant wing under the name of the People's Defense Force.

Table 1: *Review of the number of foreign tourist arrivals by year*

Year	Number of foreign tourist arrivals
1995	7,083,000
2000	9,586,000
2005	20,273,000
2010	31,364,000
2011	34,654,000
2012	35,698,000
2013	37,795,000
2014	39,811,000
2015	39,478,000
2016	30,289,000

Source: *The World Bank Open Data*

Terrorist activities in Turkey have taken on two forms: within the context of armed conflicts in the country's southeast region between government forces and formations controlled by the PKK, and attacks in the western parts of the country and large cities where a significant number of tourists are present. Attacks on tourist destinations are mainly carried out under the direction of Kurdish separatists. Taking into account the operational activities and terrorist activities of the PKK, at the end of the 20th and the beginning of the 21st century, it may be said that they were not aimed, for the most part, at those locations attractive to tourists. In the last decade of the 20th century, 6 bomb attacks were carried out on tourist destinations (Rodoplu-Arnold et al., 2003).

It can be said that thanks to the preservation of tourist destinations, and, of course, due to the positive measures of the Turkish state which related to tourism promotion and stimulation, this sector has become a very important one in building Turkish GDP. A particularly noteworthy result was achieved at the very beginning of the 21st century, between 2000 and 2005, when the number of foreign tourists increased from 8 to 21.2 million. Inclusive of 2005, the share of Turkey's tourism sector in total GDP was 13.5%. Speaking in absolute terms, tourism generated \$17.5 billion in revenue that year (The World Bank Open Data). A positive trend continued even after 2005, despite the global recession. In 2011, Turkey became the sixth most popular tourist destination in the world and the fourth most popular destination in Europe. In terms of tourism, it reached a zenith in 2014, with as many as 40 million foreign tourists. That year, tourism participation in the formation of Turkey's GDP was 13.8% (Knoema).

At the end of 2014 and the beginning of 2015, Turkey became actively involved in the conflict in Syria and Iraq, on the side of the NATO coalition led by the United States. Radical Islamic terrorists had a brutal response in the form of terrorist activities on the Turkish territory, with particular emphasis on attacks on tourist-attractive destinations. PKK conflicts were also intensive. Most often, terrorist attacks were carried out in Istanbul, directed against tourists. In June 2016, there was an attack on the Ataturk airport, in Turkey's largest city, for which the Islamic State took responsibility. As many as 45 people lost their lives in the attack and the attack resonated around the world. Attacks in the capital, Ankara, also claimed a large number of victims. After numerous terrorist attacks, Turkey lost the epithet of a safe tourist destination. These events had an almost devastating impact on the level of foreign visits. Based on the data

presented in Table 1, a decrease of almost 40% in 2016 compared to 2014, can be noticed. It should be noted that a decline in visits to Turkey was also the result of the cooling off of relations with Russia in 2016, due to a Russian aircraft being shot down by Turkish authorities. 2017 saw a relative stabilization, primarily political relations and situations, which led to a partial recovery of tourism and tourist indicators. According to incomplete data from the Turkish Tourism Ministry, it is estimated that the number of visits has increased by 28% compared to 2016.

Table 2: *Review of the victims of terrorist attacks during the period 2013-2017*

Year	Number of deaths due to terrorism
2013	82
2014	38
2015	452
2016	484
2017	46

Source: *PRI's The World*

Table 2 presents data on victims of terrorist attacks in Turkey. There is a clear correlation between the number of tourist visits and the number of victims. During the times when the number of victims was high, tourists did not prefer visiting Turkey. Naturally, researching the field of tourism and security, i.e., terrorism, is not the equivalent of studying natural phenomena. Certain exceptions and deviations from general tendencies exist, first of all with regard to enthusiasts who prefer risk exposure and those who are attracted by the lower price of tourist arrangements due to reduced demand.

Tourism in the Republic of Serbia

Globally and regionally, the Republic of Serbia cannot be ranked among those with a highly developed tourism branch. On the other hand though, this means that it possesses high potential, unused resources and room for expansion. Tourism may have a key role in the economic development of a country because it represents, as already mentioned, an immaterial form of export. Through tourism, it is possible to realize the inflow of fresh foreign currency which affects the strengthening, stabilization and an increased demand for domestic currency, and ultimately, better living and working conditions.

The basic planning framework, through which the adoption of institutional measures for the implementation of domestic tourism processes is carried out, is the Tourism Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia. The strategy is passed by the Government, i.e., the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications, based on the Law on Tourism. The strategy, currently in force, refers to the development of tourism between 2016 and 2025. It may be stipulated that one of the main preconditions for the development of the tourism sector in a given country is the existence of adequate infra-structural conditions, first of all in terms of a well-developed and well-maintained road network. If these issues were regulated in Serbia, it is likely that tourist demand would increase, and, subsequently, foreign tourist arrivals. The Tourism Development Strategy gives rural tourism a prominent position, especially the development of ecological tourist villages where emphasis is placed on organic food, clean air, an active holiday in nature and a healthy environment.

Table 3: *Number of total, domestic and foreign tourists in the Republic of Serbia in the period 2007-2016*

Year	Total number of arrivals	Domestic	Foreign
2007	2,306,558	1,610,513	696,045
2008	2,266,166	1,619,672	646,494
2009	2,021,166	1,375,865	645,301
2010	2,000,597	1,317,916	682,681
2011	2,068,610	1,304,443	764,167
2012	2,079,643	1,269,676	809,967
2013	2,192,435	1,270,667	921,768
2014	2,194,268	1,165,536	1,028,732
2015	2,437,165	1,304,944	1,132,221
2016	2,753,591	1,472,165	1,281,426

Source: *Republic Institute for Statistics*

Observing the data from Table 3, one can notice a negative tendency in the period from 2008 to 2010, when the number of total tourist visits decreased. These movements were primarily conditioned by the global recession and falling demand. Since 2011, there has been an increase in the number of arrivals, which has retained a steady tendency. In addition, there is a constant increase in the number of foreign tourist arrivals, during the observed period, which is especially important from the aspect of foreign currency inflows. When looking at foreign tourists, primacy is

held by tourists from neighboring countries, as well as from countries in the region. The most numerous are tourists from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Turkey and Montenegro (Republic Institute for Statistics). This is precisely the area that should be addressed when working on spreading the recognition of Serbia as a tourist destination, since such a consciousness still does not exist. On the global tourist plan, a growth tendency is noticeable for, thus far, underdeveloped destinations, which could be a development opportunity for Serbian tourism. As relates to the mentioned foreign currency inflow, according to data from the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications, an inflow of about one billion US dollars was realized in 2017. Proportionate to the increase in the number of tourist arrivals, is the growth of foreign currency inflow. The main holders of tourist activity in the Republic of Serbia are urban areas, mountains, spas and rural tourism. Urban tourism is mostly manifested through, first and foremost, Belgrade, as the largest and most important city, followed by Novi Sad, Niš and Subotica. The most important mountain tourist destinations are Zlatibor, Kopaonik, Tara and Divčibare. Mountains are attractive both during the summer and winter months and offer potential opportunities for different types of vacations. Spa tourism is also present in Serbia, although it is undergoing a big crisis as it has not managed to withstand modern trends and market demands. One part of the spas has failed to find an adequate way of restructuring and implementing a change in ownership. Observing modern global tourist requirements, a large number of tourists prefer short breaks and weekends in spa resorts (popularly called "spa centers"). Certainly, we should address modernizing spas and, in a more focused manner, attracting potential tourists. The three most popular spa destinations in Serbia are Vrnjačka Banja, Sokobanja and Bukovička Banja, given that Vrnjačka Banja has three times more visitors than the latter two. As far as rural tourism is concerned, it is still in expansion and in its infancy. The Republic of Serbia has a significant potential in this segment, which has also been recognized by the Government. There is also a recommendation from the World Tourism Organization for a more detailed development of rural tourism. The most famous ethnic and tourist villages are Drvengrad, Koštunići, Gostilje, Sirogojno and Sićevo. Strategically speaking, some of the stated strengths for the development of tourism in Serbia are a diversified tourist offer, a good geostrategic position, an expansion of air traffic, Belgrade's growing reputation as a city of entertainment, as well as the entry of global and regional hotel brands to the market. Opportunities and chances for the further development of tourism are seen in a correctly defined government policy for strengthening the public-private

partnership model. One of the significant opportunities for progress in this field is reflected in the desire of a certain number of tourists to visit, in the tourist sense, unexplored locations. Some weaknesses and aggravating circumstances for the development of tourism are reflected in an insufficiently developed awareness of its economic importance and a generally passive attitude towards it, as well as an insufficiently developed road, rail and river transportation network. Potential threats are reflected in the strengthening of neighboring countries' competitive activities, and relative instability in terms of political tensions in the Western Balkans (Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications of the Republic of Serbia).

Terrorism in the Republic of Serbia

Different forms of terrorist activity have existed throughout the history of the Republic of Serbia. Chronologically, one of the most significant events, which captured the attention of the world public, was the assassination of King Aleksandar Obrenović and his wife in May 1903. Taking into account the frequency of changes in royal families and regimes, in various state-forms, in the 20th century, it is difficult to identify specific groups that have the character of terrorist groups. Such a relative relationship arises from the fact that one organization represents a disruptive, unlawful and repulsive factor for one regime, while representing a liberator for another. After 1918 and the formation of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, the main carriers of terrorist activities were those groups that opposed the creation of a new state. Armed interventions by authorities were taken with the aim of destroying the insurgents. These interventions were primarily carried out over the territory of today's Kosovo and Metohija and parts of Macedonia and directed against Albanian separatists. After 1929 and the establishment of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, the main state enemies were the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, the Secret Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization (better known as VMRO) and Croatian separatists. Under the influence of the two latter organizations, King Aleksandar I Karađorđević was assassinated in Marseilles in 1934. After 1945 and the establishment of the Communist government, the main terrorist organizations were thought to be monarch sympathizers, as successors of the Ravna Gora movement from the Second World War, and members of the Ustaša movement. As a result of activities implemented by intelligence structures, first the Department for People's Protection and later the State Security Administration, a large number of internal

enemies and emigrants not in line with the new regime were eliminated. After the breakup of the SFRY and the establishment of the FRY, the main focus of terrorist activities was transferred to the territory of Kosovo and Metohija, that is onto Albanian separatists. The so-called "Kosovo Liberation Army" (KLA) committed a large number of terrorist attacks against official institutions of the Republic of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia between 1996 and 1999. The KLA was strongly associated with other different forms of criminal organization, including drug trafficking, human trafficking and illegal arms trafficking. KLA activities were also directed against Albanians who were loyal to the regime in Belgrade. After the end of the Kosovo conflict in 1999, Albanian terrorists tried to use favorable circumstances to escalate conflicts in Southern Serbia, in Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa. A large number of KLA veterans moved to the ranks of the so-called "Liberation Army of Bujanovac, Preševo and Medveđa" (OVBPM). Conflicts were intensified during 2000 and 2001, after which this terrorist formation was disbanded. Taking into account the current situation and the tendencies of terrorist activity in our country, it can be concluded that the situation is in line with global trends and that the greatest threat comes from Islamic extremism. Significant operational activities by domicile security services were carried out in 2007 in the village of Zabren, on Mount Ninaji, near Tutin. It was at that time that an illegal camp for training radical terrorists was discovered. A large quantity of weapons, plastic explosives and different caliber ammunition was also found. During a clash with police forces, a member of the Wahhabi movement lost his life. The mentioned terrorists represent a part of the Wahhabi movement. This movement draws its roots from the 18th century, from the area of present day Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran and Syria. Their essential belief is that all modern trends that have taken hold among the Muslims should be eradicated, and that they should return to the original, fundamental forms of Islam. They are considered to be the ideological creators of the holy war, that is, jihad, since they first began to use force against those with different beliefs in order for them to join Wahhabism. Members of the Wahhabi movement are recognized for their long beards and wide, ankle-length, pants. However, under modern conditions for carrying out security activities, members of the Wahhabi movement should be seen as a particular criminal group which is trying to realize its goals under a religious cloak. The informal Wahhabi headquarters in the Balkans is located in Priština, where the movement is the most numerous, and the village of Gornja Maoča on the border of the Tuzla Canton of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Brčko District. On the territory of the Republic of

Serbia, Wahhabism is most intensive in Novi Pazar, Priboj, Sjenica and the southern part of Kosovska Mitrovica. For now, Wahhabi activities have been directed at religious objects, that is mosques, where members of the Wahhabi movement try to impose their own interpretation of Islam onto other believers. It is believed that a number of these individuals are present in Belgrade itself. They are most often people from the surrounding area of Novi Pazar, Kosovo and Metohija and Bosnia and Herzegovina, but there is also a number of Serbs who have converted to Islam. There are no dangers from any major terrorist attacks, but the existence of any extreme, especially religious formations represents a certain risk factor that should be controlled. In terms of terrorism and tourism, attention should be paid to three main tourist sites in the Republic of Serbia: Belgrade, Zlatibor and Vrnjačka Banja. Belgrade, as the largest city and a cosmopolitan city, attracts a large number of foreign tourists. On the other hand, the tourist areas of Zlatibor and Vrnjačka Banja are territorially the closest to the Wahhabi strongholds.

Conclusion

While working with these facts, it is impossible not to notice an opposite proportional relationship between terrorism and tourism. Relevant statistics can be interpreted in such a way that the level of fear of terrorist attacks is not proportionate to the real risk level. It is quite natural and expected that during periods of a high level of risk from terrorist activities the economic branch of tourism experiences a falling trend. However, as already mentioned, both the field of terrorism and the field of tourism represent social science fields. In this field, exceptions and certain deviations from general legalities are always possible. In particular, it is possible to have some paradoxical contemporary trends in which tourists prefer visits to high-risk destinations, as well as those where great human tragedies took place. It is clear that national governments and security agencies have a leading role in this, their objective being to prevent the danger from potential terrorist attacks. More detailed cooperation and data exchange is necessary both at the internal and external levels. Some countries are developing mechanisms in the fight against terrorism reflected in stricter visa requirements for residents and citizens of countries located in unstable regions. However, many countries hesitate to introduce restrictive measures because this would hinder the free movement of goods, services and people. It is difficult to say that there is a universal recipe in the fight against terrorism, especially one that is connected with the economic branch of tourism. Each, individual attack is

extremely specific and is an individual case in itself. The only way to effectively prevent potential terrorist attacks on tourists is to identify potential risks and coordinating cooperation between security services with the aim of protecting the population and tourists. However, practice has shown that international cooperation in this area is effective only when all parties find an important common interest which is, at that given moment, more important than their specific objectives. Certain international law subjects will decide on a fight against terrorism only if it brings them more benefits than support for terrorism, which in essence relativizes anti-terrorist cooperation and struggle (Lečić, 2017).

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