Model European Parliament
2nd Mediterranean Regional Session Athens 5-10 October 2018

Committee on Transport and Tourism (TRAN)

Honourable delegates,

Welcome to the Committee on Transport and Tourism.

Tourism is one of the main revenue sources for Europe and especially for the Mediterranean countries. As Europe's economy grows, the international arrivals increase every year and tourism has an enormous impact both on the environment and society. Polluted sea coasts as well as the increased prices at the local shops have led the people in some areas to protest against mass tourism. However, these are just two of the many negative effects tourism has on EU Member States.

In our committee, we would like you to focus on how the EU can achieve a better future for the environment and the society bearing in mind the economic needs of each country. The goal of this committee is to find how sustainable development and green energy can be implemented and how tourists can discover different parts of Europe in a more mindful and environmentally friendly way.

Please do inform yourselves beyond the links provided in this preparation module. A curious mind is going to be rewarded!

As a last step in your preparation for the session, you are strongly advised to compose a position paper (1-2 pages in a word document) which will be presented during the first committee meeting. It will include:

- Your country's position on the issue
- Some of your proposed solutions
- Some key facts from your research

We very much look forward to seeing you in Athens this October and wish you all the best with your research!

Your CPs,

Kostas Tripolitsiotis,
Lea Giglmayr,
Ilias Sfetsos

Useful Links

Commissioner Vella`s speech at the 5th Mediterranean Tourism Forum:
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2014-2019/vella/announcements/commissioner-vellas-speech-5th-mediterranean-tourism-forum-malta-2-march-2018_en

Articles about the impact of mass tourism in EU countries:
(Venice, Italy) https://www.thelocal.it/20170718/mass-tourism-killing-crowded-venice-survival-authentic-travel-local

(Barcelona, Spain) http://www.euronews.com/2017/08/08/barcelonas-tourism-battle

(Palma, Spain) http://www.euronews.com/2018/04/24/palma-bans-apartment-owners-from-renting-to-tourists

Article about anti-tourism marches across Europe:
https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2017/aug/10/anti-tourism-marches-spread-across-europe-venice-barcelona

Article about sustainable transnational tourists programme:
https://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/tourism/offer/sustainable/transnational-products_en

Article about accessible tourism:
https://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/tourism/offer/accessible_en

SMEs promoting travelling in a different part of Europe:
https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/news/discovering-rural-europe

https://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/news/europes-own-surfing-route-one-best-world

UNWTO Tourism Highlights 2017 (This page contains information about tourism in an international level, please focus on the information about Europe):
https://www.e-unwto.org/doi/pdf/10.18111/9789284419029

European Tourism Labelling:
https://research4committees.blog/2018/03/07/european-tourism-labelling/

Environment and Tourism:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/archives/action-programme/env-act5/chapt1-5.htm

Sustainable use of land and nature-based solutions in cities:
https://ec.europa.eu/info/eu-regional-and-urban-development/topics/cities-and-urban-development/priority-themes/sustainable-use-land-and-nature-based-solutions-cities_en

Health tourism in the EU:
https://research4committees.blog/2017/10/30/health-tourism-in-the-eu-a-general-investigation/

European tourism, Number of Arrivals:
https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/ST.INT.ARVL?end=2016&locations=EU&start=1995&view=chart

This link will direct you to the official news website of the TRAN committee. If you are interested in one of the articles that are listed just click on "READ MORE":
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20170301IPR64554/latest-news-from-tran
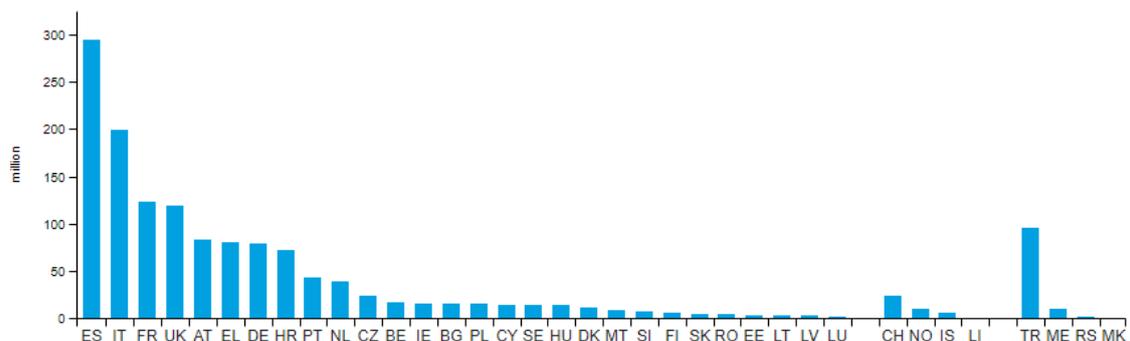
Videos:

Video "The Destructive Nature of Mass Tourism":
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4OqH2mhTbk

Video "Croatian city of Dubrovnik overwhelmed by mass tourism"
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kWNxNnON-L4

Graphs

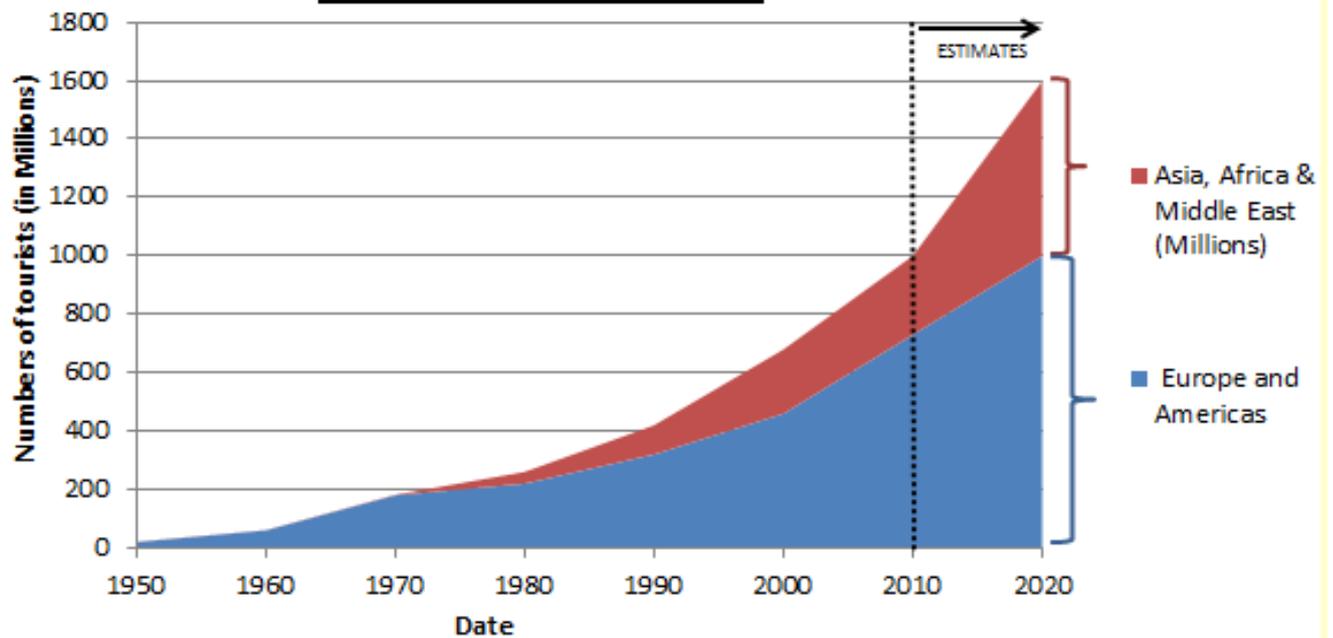Tourism destinations - nights spent at tourist accommodation establishments by non-residents, 2016

United Kingdom: estimated using monthly data.

Turkey and Serbia: 2015 data

eurostat

http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Tourism_statistics

A graph revealing approximate tourist arrivals in millions