



**THE WAYS TO INCREASE THE IMPACT OF EDUCATIONAL TOURISM  
DEVELOPMENT IN UZBEKISTAN ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF  
THE COUNTRY**

Ibragimova Madina Ismoilovna

Researcher, Samarkand institute of Economics and Service, Uzbekistan

tel:+99897777-26-77, e-mail: m.ibragimovauzb@gmail.com

**Annotation**

This article describes the scientific views on improving the quality of education through the development of educational tourism in our country, strengthening its position in the national economy. There are also scientific and methodological recommendations for further expansion of this area.

**Keywords:** tourism, educational tourism, pandemic, quality of education, international division of labor

**Introduction**

The tourism industry plays a leading role in the development of the economy of the country and its regions. In Uzbekistan it has been created sufficient opportunities and conditions, on the one hand, for the rapid development of tourism and strengthening its position in the national economy, on the other hand, to radically improve the quality of education through education tourism reform, and this process continues today. Even during the severe crisis in the world economy caused by the pandemic, Uzbekistan is taking measures to restore and develop tourism. In particular, the Orders of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PF-5969 of March 19, 2020 "On priority measures to mitigate the negative impact of the coronavirus pandemic and the global crisis on the economy", PF-6002 of May 28, 2020 "On the negative impact of the coronavirus pandemic The Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated February 9, 2021 No. PF-6165 "On measures to further develop domestic and pilgrimage tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan" are clear proof of our opinion.

At present, under the direct influence of the macroeconomic policy pursued by the state in Uzbekistan, positive changes are taking place in the field of tourism, its volume is expanding and the quality of services providing to tourists is improving. But the economic crisis in the world economy caused by the coronavirus pandemic has had a huge negative impact on the development of industries and sectors, leading to the breakdown of economic ties formed over the years, in many cases, recession processes. Tourism is at the forefront of the list of industries that have suffered the most from the global economic crisis.

According to the World Tourism Organization, the negative impact of the coronavirus in the first quarter of 2020 was reflected in a 67 million decrease in international tourist flows and an export loss of \$ 80 billion. In Italy, their total amount has exceeded 20 billion euros.



There is observed a decline of foreign and domestic tourism due to the pandemic in our country too. As a result, more than 1,500 tour operators and about 1,200 hotels were closed. The negative impact of this has damaged the incomes of more than 250,000 people working in the system.

Nevertheless, in the context of the pandemic, one of the most pressing issues today is a comprehensive approach to tourism development in our country, improving the structure of tourism, the formation of modern tourism infrastructure, full and effective usage existing potential in the regions.

The analysis showed that in 2019, the growth rate in the tourism sector in most countries, including Uzbekistan, would be higher than the GDP growth rate. However, it became clear that tourism in Uzbekistan lags far behind other countries in terms of GDP and the share of the employed population (Table 1).

**Table 1 Comparative analysis of tourism development in the world and in Uzbekistan**

##	Country name	Growth rates across the country (2019 compared to 2018),%		The share of tourism services field in the country's macroeconomic indicators, % (2019)		Export of tourist services (2019)	
		GDP volume	including tourism services field	The composition of GDP	In part of the population employed in the economy	export of services, bln. USD	share in total exports, %
1.	United States	2,3	2,3	8,6	10,7	256,1	10,1
2.	China	6,1	9,3	11,3	10,3	40,4	1,5
3.	Japan	0,9	1,6	7,0	8,0	45,3	4,9
4.	Germany	0,6	1,8	9,1	12,5	60,3	3,2
5.	Italy	0,1	2,2	13,0	14,9	51,6	7,9
6.	United Kingdom	1,3	1,3	9,0	11,0	48,5	5,5
7.	France	1,2	1,9	8,5	9,4	73,1	8,0
8.	Turkey	0,1	10,1	11,3	9,4	37,1	15,6
9.	Spain	2,0	1,8	14,3	14,6	81,3	16,3
10.	Thailand	2,3	1,8	19,7	21,4	65,2	19,9
11.	Philippines	5,9	8,6	25,3	24,1	9,7	10,8
12.	Australia	1,8	0,8	10,8	12,8	47,3	14,5
13.	Russia	1,1	0,6	5,0	5,6	18,7	3,7
14.	Uzbekistan	5,7	12,3	4,5	4,6	1,3	9,3
	<b>Worldwide</b>	<b>2,5</b>	<b>3,5</b>	<b>10,3</b>	<b>7,5</b>	<b>1313,0</b>	<b>7,0</b>

The data in the table show that tourism in Uzbekistan is significantly lower than the level achieved by the world economy in terms of critical macroeconomic indicators, ie GDP and the number of people employed in the economy. For example, if the share of tourism in GDP in the world economy was 10.3%, the share of the population employed in the economy was 7.5%, in Uzbekistan these figures were 4.5% and 4.6%, respectively. The share of tourism services in Uzbekistan in the country's GDP is almost 3 times lower than in Italy, 3.2 times lower than in Spain, 4.3 times lower than in Thailand and 5.6 times lower than in the Philippines. The same situation can be observed in the structure of tourism services



in the economy. These figures show that Uzbekistan, with its huge tourism potential, is not able to effectively use the opportunities to realize it and turn it into one of the main sources of national income. Therefore, it is important to put forward scientifically based, realistic views, suggestions and recommendations on the future of educational tourism in our country, the prospects for its development.

In our opinion, given these rapid processes in world tourism, two very important trends must be taken into account in shaping the state's economic policy in relation to educational tourism in our country. First, the tourism sector is developing at a faster pace than all other sectors and industries of the economy in accordance with the objectives set out in the Development Strategy. Second, consumer's demand for educational tourism services is growing faster than all other types of tourism.

In our view, the future of educational tourism and the prospects for its development should be based on scientific views on the ongoing and growing processes of globalization in the world economy.

The processes of globalization have posed very complex but consistent challenges to the educational system, including educational tourism. Failure to solve these problems, to delay them unreasonably - is tantamount to lagging behind the world's development, to remain among the economically backward countries. Processes of globalization inevitably lead to the intensification of international competition in the world market, the competitiveness of goods and services offered for sale in foreign markets (including the domestic market) on an innovative basis using modern technologies and advanced techniques, high quality and relatively low cost, attractive to consumers leads to an increase in demand. In the context of accelerating globalization, there are objective reasons for the growing role of educational tourism services. In the research process, we tried to justify them. On the basis of logical and methodological thinking, we have included the following among such reasons:

- The deepening of the international division of labor and the strengthening of international economic integration will lead to an explosion in the number of specialists and workers specializing in foreign economic relations.
- The need for qualified vacation of educational tourism services will increase as a result of the growing role of human's capital in expanded reproduction. The number of tourists visiting the developed countries (advanced science and education, modern innovative technologies are widespread, exemplary in the production of innovative products) is growing, especially from economically backward and developing countries to receive quality vocational education. For example, China spends \$ 289 billion annually to train its students, graduate students and interns abroad Russia spends \$ 6.4 billion, Uzbekistan 10.05 mln. dollars.

One of the most pressing and acute problems in the future is the transformation of educational tourism in Uzbekistan into a rapidly developing industry. A definitive solution to these problems is a necessary condition for the successful implementation of the tasks set out in the Development Strategy. Our conclusion on the need to accelerate the development of educational tourism in Uzbekistan in the future is explained by:

- Accelerated development of educational tourism will bring significant economic benefits by making a worthy contribution to increasing GDP;



- Educational tourism has a significant positive impact on social life, serves to increase the country's international prestige;
- Educational tourism provides practical assistance in strengthening the country's position in the international division of labor and increasing its participation in economic integration;
- Educational tourism is an effective tool for establishing and strengthening international cultural ties;
- Educational tourism is the most valuable resource of the process of expanded reproduction - an important factor in the development of human capital and increasing the competitiveness of the national economy in the world market.

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