

ЕКОНОМІКО-СОЦІАЛЬНІ ВІДНОСИНИ В ГАЛУЗІ ФІЗИЧНОЇ КУЛЬТУРИ ТА СФЕРІ ОБСЛУГОВУВАННЯ

Тези доповідей
VI Міжнародної науково-практичної конференції
(9–10 травня 2024 року, м. Львів)

За загальною редакцією
Наталії ПАВЛЕНЧИК

Львів
ЛДУФК ім. Івана Боберського
2024

**PROBLEMS OF ACCESSIBLE TOURISM IN UKRAINE:
SOCIAL AND HUMANITARIAN ASPECT**

Pavlo Kucher

Candidate of Geographical Science

Ivan Boberskyi Lviv State University of Physical Culture (Ukraine)

Maryan Ostrovskyy

*Candidate of Science in Physical Education and Sports,
Associate professor*

Ivan Boberskyi Lviv State University of Physical Culture (Ukraine)

Taras Khudoba

Post-graduate student, tourism department

Ivan Boberskyi Lviv State University of Physical Culture (Ukraine)

People with disabilities constitute a significant part of a society. According to the data of the World Health Organization (WHO), there are more than 1.3 billion people in the world today, which is about 16% of the total population, who currently have various disability. The number of people with disabilities in Ukraine is constantly growing and already exceeds 3 million people, which is primarily caused by the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, which began on February 24, 2022 and unfortunately continues until now. Due to the war, a large number of the young population (especially young women and children) had to leave abroad, thus our country faced a rapid rate of aging of the population. Thus the numbers of the elderly people in our country has grown significantly. These and other challenges present an urgent issue of rehabilitation of such persons. Accessible tourism is a type of tourism that provides an opportunity to restore physical, emotional and mental strength through travel and recreation, with the availability of special infrastructure to organize an accessible environment for the people with disabilities and the elderly. The purpose of the research is to find problems of social and humanitarian nature of accessible tourism in Ukraine.

Many scientific works by both foreign and Ukrainian authors are devoted to the topic of accessible tourism [1–3]. A lot of publications that highlight the essence of the concept of tourism for people with disabilities use the work of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the European Network of Accessible Tourism (ENT), the European Institute of Design for All (EID), etc. Accessible

tourism concerns people with various physical and psychophysical disabilities, deaf, blind, elderly and people with other limitations. The literary the analysis of sources shows, there is no single definition of «accessible tourism». «Accessible Tourism» (also known as «Universal Tourism», «Inclusive Tourism» or «Barrier-Free Tourism») is tourism that is accessible to all people, with or without disabilities, including those with limited mobility, hearing, vision, cognitive, intellectual and psychosocial disabilities, elderly persons and persons with temporary loss of working capacity» (2009) [4].

Working with such people requires specially trained, qualified personnel who have knowledge and skills in working with people with disabilities, including the use of Braille, etc.

Accessible tourism is a tool for socialization and rehabilitation, as it helps people with disabilities feel like full members of society through a variety of trips and excursions. Such trips can be with cultural, cognitive, medical, health (recreational), religious, ecological and other purposes.

Despite the importance of accessible tourism for the preservation of the nation, there are many problems in Ukraine today, including: lack of favorable accessible conditions for persons with disabilities at railway, bus stations and airports (which, unfortunately, do not function due to military actions), lack of facilities adapted to persons with disabilities sufficient number of rooms in hotels, available space in restaurants, shops, toilets and public places of transfer facilities, lack of information about tourist services, attractions, equipment rental points, accessible facilities, and other services for persons with disabilities. Unfortunately, not all streets and transport are accessible to such persons. Travelling for people with disabilities can be challenging, as finding information about accessible services, checking luggage on the plane, booking a room to meet accessibility needs can often be difficult, expensive and time-consuming.

Accessible tourism can become a powerful tool for the recovery of Ukraine and the return of people with disabilities to a normal life. For the socialization and rehabilitation of such persons, the state is obliged to create opportunities and conditions for the development of accessible tourism by building special infrastructure, training professional qualified personnel, taking care of information provision of tourist services, etc. Thus, accessible tourism is an extremely important tool for the recovery of people with disabilities to normal life in Ukraine during and after the war.

References

1. Beydyk O., Topalova O. Adaptive tourism: prerequisites and prospects for development, leaders of Spirit and Will: teaching. manual Kherson: OLDI-RLYUS, 2020. 402 p.

2. Matviychuk L., Chepurda L. Formation of an accessible environment of inclusive tourism. *Economic Forum*. 2020. Vol. 2. P. 74–81.
3. Darcy S., McKercher B., Schweinsberg S. From tourism and disability to accessible tourism: A perspective article. *Tourism Review*. 2020. Vol. 75.1. P. 140 S144.
4. Takayama Declaration – Appendix, UNESCAP, 2009. URL: https://www.accessibletourism.org/resources/takayama_declaration_top-e-fin_171209.pdf (date of application: 8.03.2024).