COMMISSION UPDATE

This newsletter looks back at this year’s IGU Commission seminar on the Political Economy of Tourism in São Paulo, Brazil. At the same time it looks forward to a couple of events during 2020, which also mark the final effort of the current commission.

The 34th International Geographical Congress organized in Istanbul is a major event for geographers from all over the world and often the occasion of an IGC has been used to gather for a pre-conference event nearby.

Several colleagues noted that the commission does not offer any pre-event this time. The reason is twofold; The commission lacks active members in Turkey who could shoulder the assignment of organizing an event in the tradition set previously; and in fact the political situation in the region during the last year implies some uncertainty whether such an event could be conducted successfully.

However, the commission will be involved in other events that hopefully are more than just a compensation.

34TH IGC
ISTANBUL 2020

Geography: Bridging the Continents
17-21 August 2020

IGU THEMATIC CONFERENCE

Heritage Geographies: Politics, Uses and Governance of the Past
29-31 May 2020, Lecce, Italy

COMMISSION MEETING

Tourism sustainability: over-tourism vs under-tourism
5-9 October 2020
Barcelona and Menorca, Spain
THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF TOURISM
São Paulo, Brazil, October 26th - 31st, 2019

The international conference "The Political Economy of Tourism" gathered together tourism geographers from not least Latin America, but also from North America, Europe and Africa. In focus for the academic discussions and presentations were questions related to the economic geography of tourism and the production of space, not least in a setting of developing countries.

Several speakers pointed at the power of tourism to shape places and to influence community development in various ways. In a global south setting this turns out to imply challenges related to social justice and inclusion of the less privileged parts of society.

Furthermore, the conference offered very nice field trips to São Paulo and surroundings offering further insights into the geographies of tourism, urban change, and environmental protection in Brazil.

34th International Geographical Congress (IGC)

Besides organizing a great number of sessions during this event, the commission will conduct its business meeting during the conference.

IGC tourism sessions

- Big data in tourism geographies
- Economic geographies of tourism
- Evolving geographies of Chinese outbound tourism
- Overtourism
- Peer-to-peer accommodation and tourism destinations beyond metropolitan areas
- Tourism and climate interrelationships
- Tourism and the sustainable development goals
- Tourism shaping places
- International tourism and residential mobility

Abstract should be submitted until 13 January 2020 through the conference online system available at www.igc2020.org
IGU THEMATIC CONFERENCE: HERITAGE GEOGRAPHIES: POLITICS, USES AND GOVERNANCE OF THE PAST

Lecce (Italy), May 29-31 2020 + Post conference excursion 31 May - 2 June

As an opportunity to improve cooperation between different commissions the IGU has started to offer so called thematic conferences focusing more specific topics for geographical inquiry. The tourism commission is involved in this event together with the commissions on Political Geography, History of Geography, Toponymy, and Governance.

The commission offers a session titled Heritage Geographies of Tourism: Challenges and Prospects shared by commission member Velvet Nelson and honoray member Jarkko Saarinen. The conference program offers even several other sessions with relevance for tourism and thus, it will be an interesting event for tourism geographers with particular interest in heritage issues.

Deadline for abstracts: 31 December 2019
Conference web page: www.heritagegeographies.it

Important abstract submission deadlines

- 31 December 2019: IGU Thematic conference Heritage Geographies, Lecce, Italy
- 13 January 2020: IGC Istanbul, Turkey
- 20 January 2020: AGE-IGU Symposium Tourism Sustainability: Overtourism vs Undertourism, Barcelona & Menorca, Spain

www.igutourism.org

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