

# Crime in Tourism: A Systematic Literature Review and Bibliometric Analysis

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## ABSTRACT

Tourism is closely related to social factors. This situation also leads to a relationship between tourism and crime. The increase in tourist movements increases the population of destinations, and the increasing population creates a suitable environment for criminal activities. Social, economic, cultural differences, environmental conditions, and inadequate security measures affect the crime activities observed within tourism. From this perspective, crime in tourism is a multi-dimensional problem that needs to be addressed in detail. It is also essential to evaluate crime patterns within the tourism phenomenon. This study evaluated 273 articles indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection by a systematic literature review and bibliometric analysis. The articles were subjected to structured content analysis, and a literature review was conducted within the scope of the study. Various variables such as author, citation, and publication were examined using bibliometric techniques such as co-occurrence, network, and co-citation analysis. According to the results, it was seen that multi-dimensional collaborations should be carried out to solve the problems arising within the scope of crime in tourism. Among these, international, interdisciplinary, and inter-institutional collaborations are at the forefront. In addition, long-term studies should be conducted to collect real-time data, and preventive measures and policies should be developed. Interdisciplinary studies should be encouraged to create a safer environment for tourists and hosts in destinations.

**Keywords:** Crime, tourism, systematic literature review, bibliometric analysis

## Introduction

Tourism cannot exist isolated from society because it is inherently connected to and dependent on societal factors. Tourism is also related to crimes committed in tourist destinations because it is deeply ingrained in society<sup>1</sup>. However, it should be noted that this relationship varies depending on the destination<sup>2</sup> and tourist type<sup>3</sup>.

In terms of crimes committed, tourists are seen as attractive targets and constitute a high-risk group<sup>4</sup>. Tourists carry significant amounts of money or other portable goods with them. They also go to entertainment venues late into the night, drink alcohol or take drugs, visit distant and unfamiliar places, cannot distinguish between safe and unsafe areas, and are perceived as insensitive to local norms and customs<sup>5</sup>. Indeed, some tourists participate in this mobility to consume excessive alcohol or engage in antisocial behaviors<sup>6</sup>. In this context, their unfamiliarity with the local language and culture also emerges as a factor<sup>7</sup>. Tourists are also widely perceived as easy targets for crimes<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> D. Botterill, S. R. D. C. Seixas, and J. L. Hoeffel, 'Tourism and Transgression: Resort Development, Crime and the Drug Economy' (2014) 11 *Tourism Planning & Development* 27, 39.

<sup>2</sup> R. I. Mawby and others, 'Addressing the Security Concerns of Locals and Visitors for the Sustainable Development of Tourist Destinations' (2016) 8 *Sustainability* 524.

<sup>3</sup> I. Adam and C. A. Adongo, 'Do Backpackers Suffer Crime? Empirical Investigation of Crime Perpetrated against Backpackers in Ghana' (2016) 27 *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management* 60, 60.

<sup>4</sup> R. I. Mawby, 'Responding to Tourist Victims of Crime: Lessons the UK Can Learn' (2014) 16 *Crime Prevention & Community Safety* 294, 299.

<sup>5</sup> A. Pizam, P. E. Tarlow and J. Bloom, 'Making Tourists Feel Safe: Whose Responsibility Is It?' (1997) 36 *Journal of Travel Research* 23, 23–24 <<https://doi.org/10.1177/004728759703600104>>.

<sup>6</sup> S. Hodgkinson and N. Tilley, 'Travel-to-Crime: Homing in on The Victim' (2007) 14 *International Review of Victimology* 281, 287.

<sup>7</sup> M. Kathrada, C. J. S. C. Burger, and M. Dohnal, 'Holistic Tourism-Crime Modelling' (1999) 20 *Tourism Management* 115.

<sup>8</sup> A. Lepp, and H. Gibson, 'Tourist Roles, Perceived Risk and International Tourism' (2003) 30 *Annals of Tourism Research* 606, 608.

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Although there are victimology studies, a limited number of them have been conducted on the victimization of tourists. However, in tourism research, researchers are interested in the effects of crime on the tourism industry rather than victimization or other issues. In summary, the tourist, as a victim of crime, is not adequately addressed in both disciplines<sup>9</sup>.

The tourism industry increases the population in a destination, provides a suitable environment for crime, and characterizes the crimes committed<sup>10</sup>. Tourists create a temporary community in the destination, affecting all aspects of the environment. This also affects the recording of alleged crimes and leads to an isolation effect that increases victimization rates<sup>11</sup>. There, tourism has an impact that increases crime in a destination<sup>12</sup>. However, considering the positive economic impacts of the tourism industry, such as foreign currency inflows and job growth, it is impossible to discuss determining a strategy such as reducing the number of tourists to prevent crimes<sup>13</sup>.

Crime in tourism is the main subject of this study. Both crime and tourism are social phenomena underpinned by complex social and psychological motivations and relationships. Social, cultural, and economic systems create both. Both are action patterns of escape behavior. Both are mechanisms of escape from the status quo. However, social acceptability constitutes their main difference<sup>14</sup>.

The main objective of this research article is to investigate the occurrence of crime in the tourism industry through a bibliometric analysis and systematic literature review. By using these methods, we systematically identify, analyze, and synthesize existing scholarly literature on crime in tourism. Our research seeks to uncover patterns, trends, and gaps in the academic discourse to provide a comprehensive understanding of current knowledge on crime in tourism. Furthermore, through bibliometric analysis, we aim to map the intellectual structure of the field by identifying key authors, seminal works, and the evolution of research themes over time. Ultimately, this research provides valuable insights for future studies, policy development, and practical strategies for reducing crime in tourist destinations.

The first problem in such studies is to define the field boundaries. Bibliometric methods can make it easier to identify interdisciplinary research fields that do not have clear boundaries and cannot be considered research fields in their own right. For this reason, the study began with bibliometric analyses to define and define the field. Therefore, the first research question is RQ 1. What is the scientific structure of studies related to crime in tourism? The fundamental research questions to be answered within the scope of the study are as follows:

- RQ2. Is tourism solely responsible for crime in tourism destinations?
- RQ3. Is there a proportional relationship between tourist mobility and crime frequency?
- RQ4. Do tourist destinations' characteristics affect crime?
- RQ5. What is the scope of the relationship between tourism and the criminal justice system?
- RQ6. What is the impact of fear of crime on tourist mobility?
- RQ7. How do specialized law enforcement units affect crime in tourist destinations?
- RQ8. What do the victim and criminal roles of a tourist include?
- RQ9. What is the relationship between organized crime and tourism?
- RQ10. What are the other effects of crime in tourism that extend beyond the aforementioned questions?

<sup>9</sup> R. I. Mawby and M. Ozascilar, 'Tourists' Safety in the Risk Society: Explaining Perceptions of Safety Regarding Future Vacations' [2023] *International Criminal Justice Review* 12–13.

<sup>10</sup> M. Barker and S. J. Page, 'Visitor Safety in Urban Tourism Environments: The Case of Auckland, New Zealand' (2002) 19 *Cities* 273, 275.

<sup>11</sup> E. T. Fujii, and J. Mak, 'Tourism and Crime - Implications For Regional Development Policy' (1980) 14 *Regional Studies* 27, 28.

<sup>12</sup> P. Brunt, R. I. Mawby, and Z. Hambly, 'Tourist Victimization and the Fear of Crime on Holiday' (2000) 21 *Tourism Management* 417, 417; E. I. Eja, 'Exploring Spatial Pattern of Crime Dynamics and Vulnerability within Tourism Infrastructure in Calabar, Nigeria' (2023) 31 *Spatial Information Research* 381, 381; S. Mehmood, Z. Ahmad, and A. A. Khan, 'Dynamic Relationships between Tourist Arrivals, Immigrants, and Crimes in the United States' (2016) 54 *Tourism Management* 383, 390; V. Recher, and I. Rubil, 'More Tourism, More Crime: Evidence from Croatia' (2020) 147 *Social Indicators Research* 651, 1; P. Routledge, 'Consuming Goa - Tourist Site as Dispensable Space' (2000) 35 *Economic and Political Weekly* 2647, 2648.

<sup>13</sup> C. F. Tang, 'An Exploration of Dynamic Relationship between Tourist Arrivals, Inflation, Unemployment and Crime Rates in Malaysia' (2011) 38 *International Journal of Social Economics* 50, 65.

<sup>14</sup> C. Ryan, 'Crime, Violence, Terrorism and Tourism: An Accidental or Intrinsic Relationship?' (1993) 14 *Tourism Management* 173, 181–182 <<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/026151779390018G>>.

## Materials and Methods

Triangulation is the most prominent issue during the planning phase of such research. In its simplest definition, the triangulation metaphor in scientific research is ‘the combination of methodologies<sup>15</sup>’ to ‘enable confirmation or corroboration<sup>16</sup>.’ In other words, triangulation is the combination of multiple investigators, data sources, methodologic approaches, theoretical perspectives, or analytical methods within a study<sup>17</sup>. Therefore, we can mention four types of triangulation<sup>18</sup>: (1) methodological, (2) data, (3) investigator, and (4) theory. In addition, some researchers, such as Kimchi et al.<sup>19</sup>, have mentioned analytical triangulation, which combines different analysis techniques. Perhaps this definition may be helpful, especially in the medical sciences. In this study, we do not make such a distinction; rather, we subsume analytical triangulation under methodological triangulation. We did not mention the theoretical triangulation because this study is a literature review. Because there are many theories in different fields, we thought that opening a discussion on this issue would go beyond the purpose of the study. Therefore, we considered methodological, data, and investigator triangulation.

### *Methodological Triangulation*

As mentioned before, the relationship between crime and tourism is the main subject of this research. We define the research questions presented in the introduction to concretize this topic. The next step is to determine how to achieve the research objective. At this point, we conclude that a literature review is an appropriate method. A systematic literature review is a rigorous and structured mixed approach to gathering, critically assessing, and synthesizing existing research evidence on a specific topic or research question. However, due to the breadth of the research area determined in terms of the relationship between crime and tourism and the multidisciplinary nature of this field, we decided that quantitative evaluations should be conducted before proceeding to qualitative analysis. Conducting a bibliometric analysis to outline the areas under review of the systematic literature review is appropriate. Therefore, we may define this study as mixed methods research using bibliometric analysis and a systematic narrative review to ensure methodological triangulation. In this context, we explain the procedures, protocols, and methods used in the present study.

### *Systematic literature review*

A systematic literature review is a structured approach to reviewing and synthesizing existing research on a specific topic or research question. This involves a systematic process for critically evaluating relevant studies from the selected literature. The goal of this study is to provide an overview of the existing evidence, identify gaps in knowledge and draw meaningful conclusions to inform future research<sup>20</sup>. The critical steps in conducting a systematic literature review include defining the research question, developing inclusion and exclusion criteria, systematic ways of searching for relevant studies, screening and selecting studies based on predefined criteria, extracting data from included studies, and synthesizing the findings through narration and/or quantitative approaches such as bibliometrics<sup>21</sup>.

In the first step of the review, a coder reviewed all 273 selected documents and identified the codes. This process was executed twice (times of coding). This procedure increases trustworthiness via intra-coder reliability<sup>22</sup>. All identified codes were imported into NVivo, a qualitative data analysis software, to facilitate systematic literature review processes and visualization of relationships. NVivo allowed us to organize, code, and analyze the literature efficiently, ensuring transparency and reproducibility in our review methodology<sup>23</sup>. This study conducted methodological triangulation by performing a narrative review guided by research questions and bibliometric analyses based on quantitative data. In this context, the study is a mixed methods research.

<sup>15</sup> N. K. Denzin, *The Research Act: A Theoretical Introduction to Sociological Methods* (1st edn, Routledge 2017) 291.

<sup>16</sup> B. Tran, ‘The Nature of Research Methodologies: Terms and Usage within Quantitative, Qualitative, and Mixed Methods’ in M. L. Baran, and J. E. Jones (eds), *Advances in Knowledge Acquisition, Transfer, and Management* (IGI Global 2016).

<sup>17</sup> V. A. Thurmond, ‘The Point of Triangulation’ (2001) 33 *Journal of Nursing Scholarship* 253, 253 <<https://sigmapubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1547-5069.2001.00253.x>> accessed 1 April 2024.

<sup>18</sup> B. Tran, ‘Triangulation in Organizational Research: Validating Knowledge in Human Competence at Work’ in A. Takhar-Lail, and A. Ghorbani (eds), *Market Research Methodologies: Multi-Method and Qualitative Approaches* (IGI Global 2015) 95.

<sup>19</sup> J. Kimchi, B. Polivka, and J. S. Stevenson, ‘Triangulation: Operational Definitions’ (1991) 40 *Nursing Research* 364.

<sup>20</sup> A. C. Tricco and others, ‘PRISMA Extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-ScR): Checklist and Explanation’ (2018) 169 *Annals of Internal Medicine* 467.

<sup>21</sup> S. Green and others, ‘Introduction’ in J. P. Higgins and S. Green (eds), *Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions* (Wiley-Blackwell 2014).

<sup>22</sup> E. Bayraktaroğlu, and N. Kozak, ‘Intrinsic and Extrinsic Values of Destinations’ (2022) 31 *European Journal of Tourism Research* 3104, 6.

<sup>23</sup> G. R. Gibbs, ‘Different Approaches to Coding’ (2012) 42 *Sociological Methodology* 82.

### Bibliometric analysis

Bibliometric analysis is a quantitative method for examining scientific literature on a particular research topic or area. This approach analyzes bibliographic data. Consequently, these analyses help identify research trends and the networks of scientific relationships<sup>24</sup>. The critical components of bibliometric analysis include citation, co-authorship, and keyword analysis. Citation analysis provides insights into the impact of researchers, papers, and institutions within related academic communities<sup>25</sup>. Co-authorship analysis explores the collaboration patterns of authors, institutions, or countries<sup>26</sup>. Keyword analysis involves identifying and analyzing terms or phrases commonly used in the analyzed publications. Keyword analysis also aims to identify thematic trends and evolution of research topics<sup>27</sup>. Through the citation, author, and word analyses, it is possible to determine the authors, publishers, institutions, and countries that are influential in the relevant topic or research area, leading articles, and the changes in research topics over time<sup>28</sup>. Bibliometric analysis provides valuable quantitative insights that support qualitative assessments of scientific contributions<sup>29</sup>. The VOSviewer<sup>30</sup> and Bibliometrix R v4.3.2 package<sup>31</sup> were used for bibliometric analysis and visualizations.

### Data Triangulation

The first step in conducting such a study is to identify the relevant data collection databases. We primarily focus on citation indexes such as the Web of Science Core Collection (WoS), Scopus, and Google Scholar. These platforms provide comprehensive coverage of scholarly publications from various disciplines. We consider Google Scholar inappropriate because it is too broad in scope, contains too many publications, and is more difficult to extract data from than other databases. After comparing WoS and Scopus, we concluded that both systems had sufficient publication quality. However, extracting data from WoS is easier. As a result, we infer that the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCI-Exp), Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI), Arts & Humanities Citation Index (A&HCI), and Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) of WoS meet research purposes. After selecting databases, developing an effective search strategy to retrieve relevant literature is crucial. For this purpose, we used the keywords 'crime' and 'tourism,' the most general keywords related to the subject, to conduct the broadest search. The Boolean string used in WoS Search is expressed as follows: ((TS=(crim\*)) AND (TS=(touris\*))).

We then used filters to narrow the search by the variables listed in Table 1. This filtering is also the first data extraction that we define as quantitative data extraction. After quantitative data extraction, 645 documents were left.

**Table 1.** Data Extraction Steps

Filters	Selected Variables	Total Documents Before Exclusion	Number of Extracted Documents
Publication Years	All (1980-2023)	948	-
Document Type	Article	948	184
Language	English	764	94
WoS Index	SCI-Exp, SSCI, A&HCI, and ESCI	670	25

In the second data extraction, which we would like to define as qualitative data extraction, two researchers performed a parallel blind selection procedure. In the first stage of the procedure, we reviewed the document summaries. We took articles containing crime and affinitive terms (such as criminal, criminalization, victim, victimization, etc.) and tourism and affinitive terms (such as tour, tourist, travel, visitor, etc.) to the second stage. In the second stage of the procedure, both researchers separately excluded documents that they considered duplication or incompatible with the purposes of the study. Then, we combined the selections and selected 273 papers for further analysis. The PRISMA diagram<sup>32</sup> used for data preparation is shown in Figure 1. We used Zotero

<sup>24</sup> A. Pritchard, 'Statistical Bibliography or Bibliometrics' (1969) 25 *Journal of Documentation* 348; H. Small, 'Co-citation in the Scientific Literature: A New Measure of the Relationship between Two Documents' (1973) 24 *Journal of the American Society for information Science* 265.

<sup>25</sup> L. Bornmann, and D. Hans-Dieter, 'What Do Citation Counts Measure? A Review of Studies on Citing Behavior' (2008) 64 *Journal of Documentation* 45.

<sup>26</sup> N. J. van Eck, and L. Waltman, 'Software Survey: VOSviewer, a Computer Program for Bibliometric Mapping' (2010) 84 *Scientometrics* 523.

<sup>27</sup> C. Chen, 'CiteSpace II: Detecting and Visualizing Emerging Trends and Transient Patterns in Scientific Literature' (2006) 57 *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology* 359 <<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/asi.20317>> accessed 1 April 2024.

<sup>28</sup> A. van Raan, 'Scientometrics: State-of-the-Art' (1997) 38 *Scientometrics* 205 <<https://doi.org/10.1007/BF02461131>>; A. van Raan, 'The Use of Bibliometric Analysis in Research Performance Assessment and Monitoring of Interdisciplinary Scientific Developments' (2003) 12 *TATuP-Journal for Technology Assessment in Theory and Practice* 20.

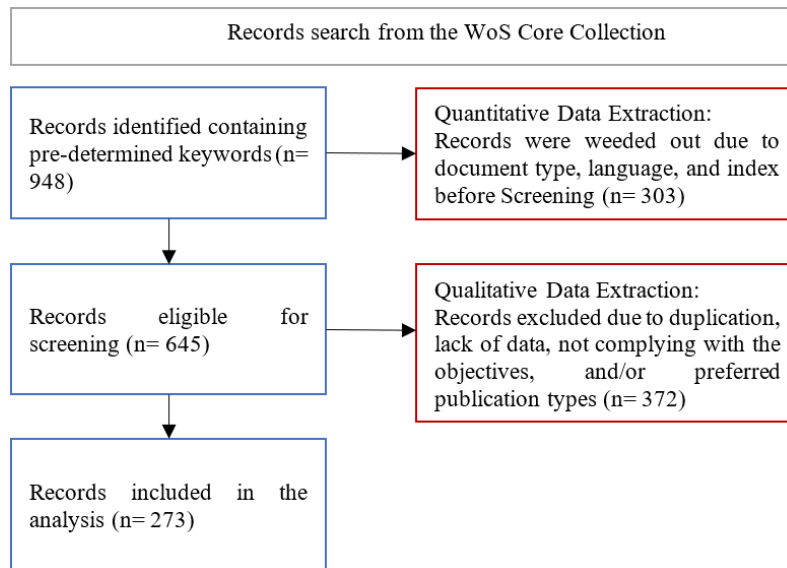
<sup>29</sup> L. Egghe and R. Russo, *Introduction to Informetrics. Quantitative Methods in Library, Documentation and Information Science* (Elsevier Science Publishers 1990).

<sup>30</sup> van Eck and Waltman (n 26).

<sup>31</sup> M. Aria and C. Cuccurullo, 'Bibliometrix: An R-Tool for Comprehensive Science Mapping Analysis' (2017) 11 *Journal of Informetrics* 959.

<sup>32</sup> Tricco and others (n 20); M. J. Page and others, 'The PRISMA 2020 Statement: An Updated Guideline for Reporting Systematic Reviews' (2021) 372 *BMJ* n71 <<http://www.bmj.com/content/372/bmj.n71.abstract>>.

reference management software to organize and manage the bibliographic data. This software assisted in deduplicating records and maintaining a structured database of references.



**Figure 1.** PRISMA diagram of the selection process of the included publications

### *Investigator Triangulation*

Investigator triangulation increases research findings' reliability, trustworthiness, and credibility by having multiple researchers from different research fields or perspectives work together<sup>33</sup>. This approach is also important in correctly structuring the research design while examining crime in tourism within the scope of the study.

In this study, two researchers collaborated on criminology and tourismology. One contributes through knowledge about the perpetrator, victim, and structure of criminal acts, while the other provides knowledge about the tourism phenomenon and industry. This collaboration allows an interdisciplinary examination of crime in tourism.

Issues such as biases, limitations, and prejudices can arise from the narrow perspective of a single researcher. This study aimed to reduce these concerns using investigator triangulation. The topic of crime in tourism was examined in detail, incorporating insights from researchers from both fields. This collaborative effort allows the cross-validation of data analysis and the interpretation of findings. As a result, this approach enhances the study's reliability, trustworthiness, and credibility.

## **Results**

### *Bibliometric Analysis Results*

#### *Profile of data*

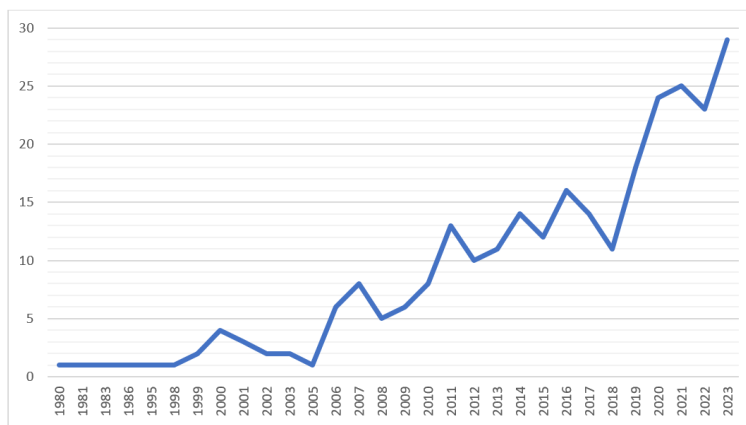
Because of data extraction, the 273 articles published by the 170 publishers we analyzed spanned between 1980 and 2023. Eighty-eight of these articles had a single author, with an average of two authors per article being approximately two. The average age of the articles is eight years, indicating that we are working with relatively young literature (Table 2).

<sup>33</sup> M. M. Archibald, 'Investigator Triangulation: A Collaborative Strategy with Potential for Mixed Methods Research' (2016) 10 Journal of Mixed Methods Research 228 <<https://doi.org/10.1177/1558689815570092>> accessed 17 December 2024.

**Table 2.** Profile of Data

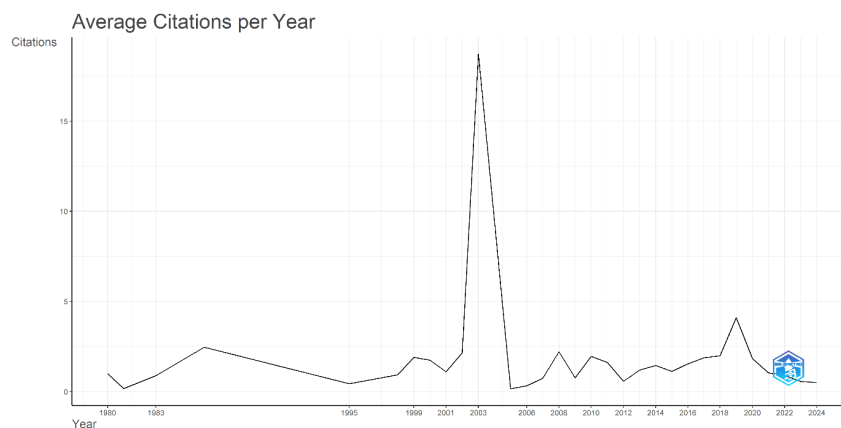
Timespan 1980:2023	Sources 170	Documents 273	Annual growth rate 1.59%
Authors 541	Single-authored docs 88	International Co-authorship 21.61%	Co-authors per doc 2.19
Author's Keywords 921	References 11664	Document average age 8.47	Average citation per doc 15.82

Article production by years was low until the mid-2000s. The data show that eight articles were produced up to 2000. There was an upward break in article production as of 2006; the pick for 2023, with 29 articles (Figure 2).



**Figure 2.** Annual Scientific Production

2003 is the selection point in the citations received by the articles comprising the dataset. At this point, it should be underlined that the two most cited articles by Lepp and Gibson<sup>34</sup> and George<sup>35</sup> were published in the same year. In other years, approximately three citations were received annually is approximately three (Figure 3).



**Figure 3.** Average number of article Citations per Year (R Bibliometrix)

<sup>34</sup> Lepp and Gibson (n 8).

<sup>35</sup> R. George, 'Tourist's Perceptions of Safety and Security While Visiting Cape Town' (2003) 24 Tourism Management 575.

In the ongoing analysis, we used two terms: local and global. With the term local, we expressed the documents included in this study’s dataset and the references to these documents within the dataset. The term global expresses all authors’ scientific outputs and the citations they received.

*Co-authorship analysis*

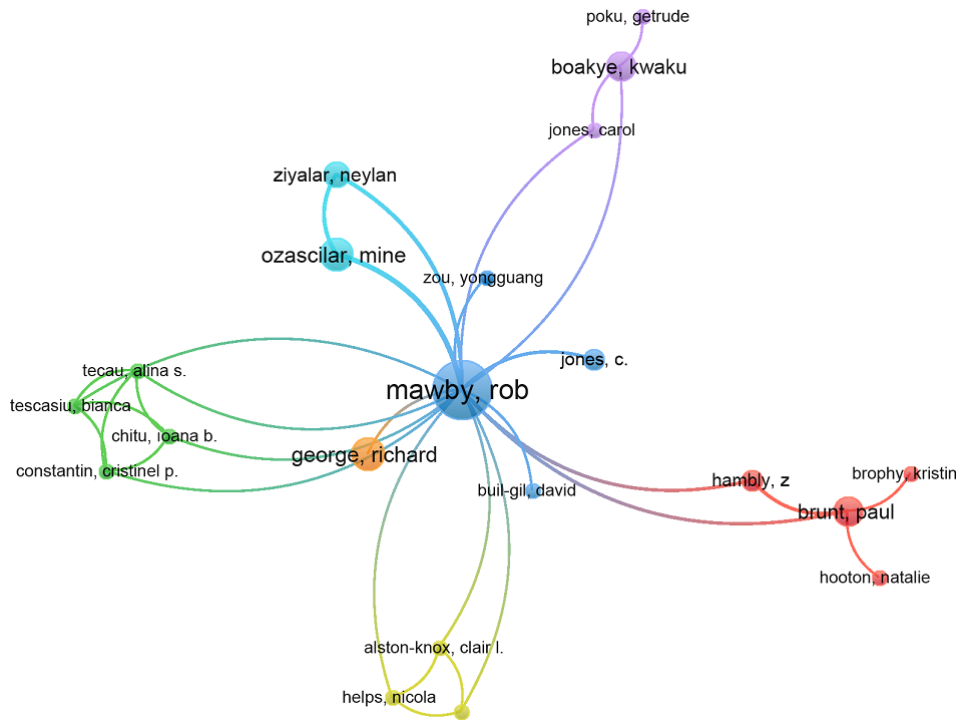
In previous analyses, 88 documents had a single author, and 541 authors wrote 273 articles. In this case, the dataset is diverse regarding the authors (Table 2). The results of the co-authorship analysis conducted via VosViewer also support the findings. The analyses have a complex structure, and currently, 218 clusters, of which 14 are relatively significant, make inference difficult.

**Table 3.** Most Productive Authors

Rank	Authors	NoLD*	LDC**	TC**
1	Rob I. Mawby	16	242	302
2	Mine Özaşçılar	5	30	101
3	Richard George	5	338	529
4	Paul Brunt	4	158	613
5	Kwaku Boakye	4	97	281

\*NoLD = number of local documents  
 \*\*LDC = WoS Citations in Local Documents  
 \*\*\*TC = WoS total citations

Considering the contribution frequencies of authors, Rob I. Mawby contributed 16 articles in the dataset (Table 3). The most meaningful network of co-authorship analysis emerges from the four other authors in the top five, Mine Özaşçılar, Richard George, Paul Brunt, and Kwaku Boakye, also published together with Rob I. Mawby (Figure 4).



**Figure 4.** Coauthorship Network of the Largest Cluster (Vosviewer)

Sources Analysis

The sources where the documents are published also have the same diversity as the authors. Similar to the diversity of authors, 273 papers were published in 170 different sources. In addition, 133 journals contributed only 1 article to the dataset, 17 journals contributed two articles each, and 20 journals contributed more than two.

Table 4. Most Productive Journals

Rank	Sources	NoLD*	LDC**
1	Annals of Tourism Research	11	1097
2	Tourism Management	10	615
3	Crime Prevention and Community Safety	8	57
4	Journal of Travel Research	7	173
	Crime & Delinquency	6	45
	Tourism Economics	6	24
5	Current Issues in Tourism	6	95
	Worldwide Hospitality and Tourism Themes	6	21

\*NoLD = number of local documents

\*\*LDC = WoS Citations in Local Documents

According to the results of the sources analysis, the most productive journals in the dataset are mainly focused on tourism, travel, and leisure sciences (Table 4). In addition, 6 of the top 20 productive journals concentrate on law and one on public security.

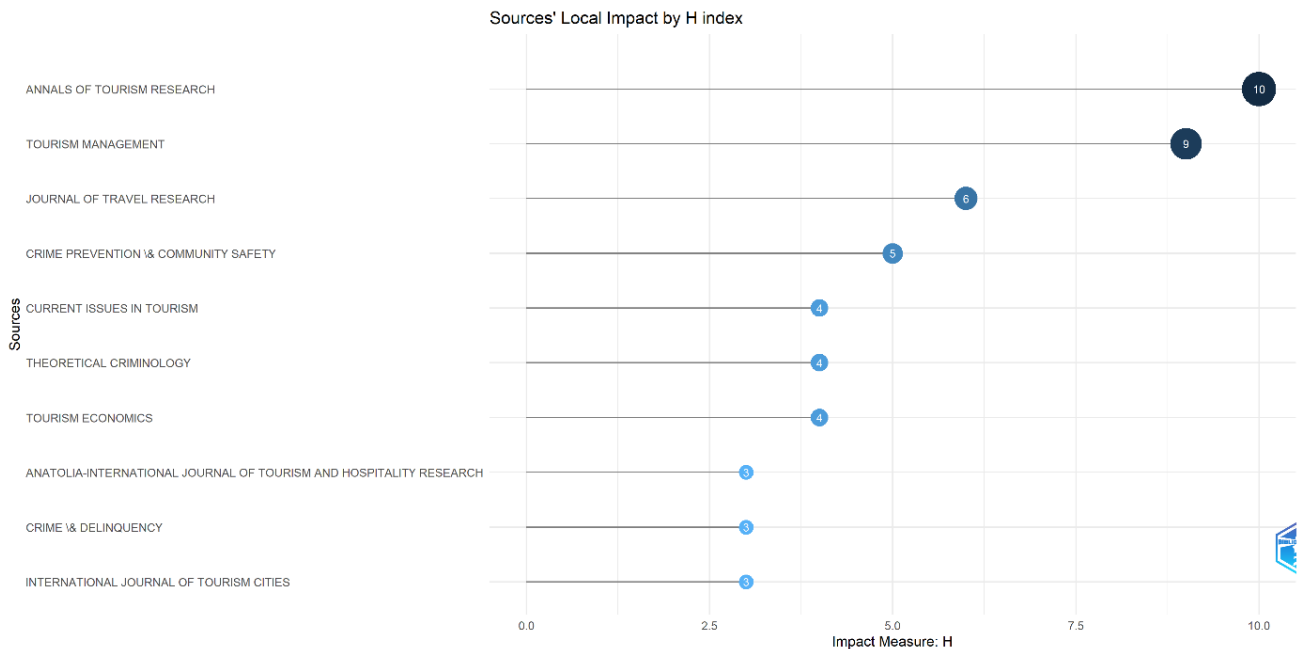


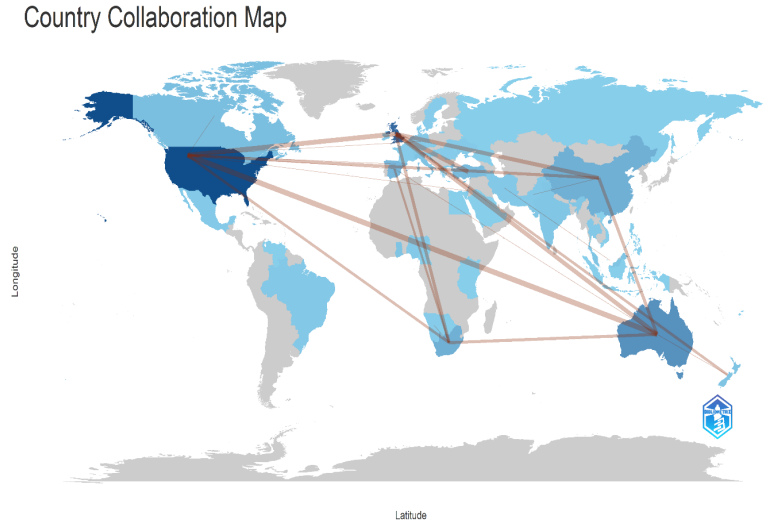
Figure 5. The Local Impact of Sources by H Index (R Bibliometrix)

H indexes regarding the citations received from the local dataset are also higher in journals focusing on tourism, travel, and leisure sciences (Figure 5). The first three journals ranked in this local dataset were the same, considering WoS data on citations, impact factors, and h-indexes in tourism, travel, and leisure sciences.



*World collaboration network*

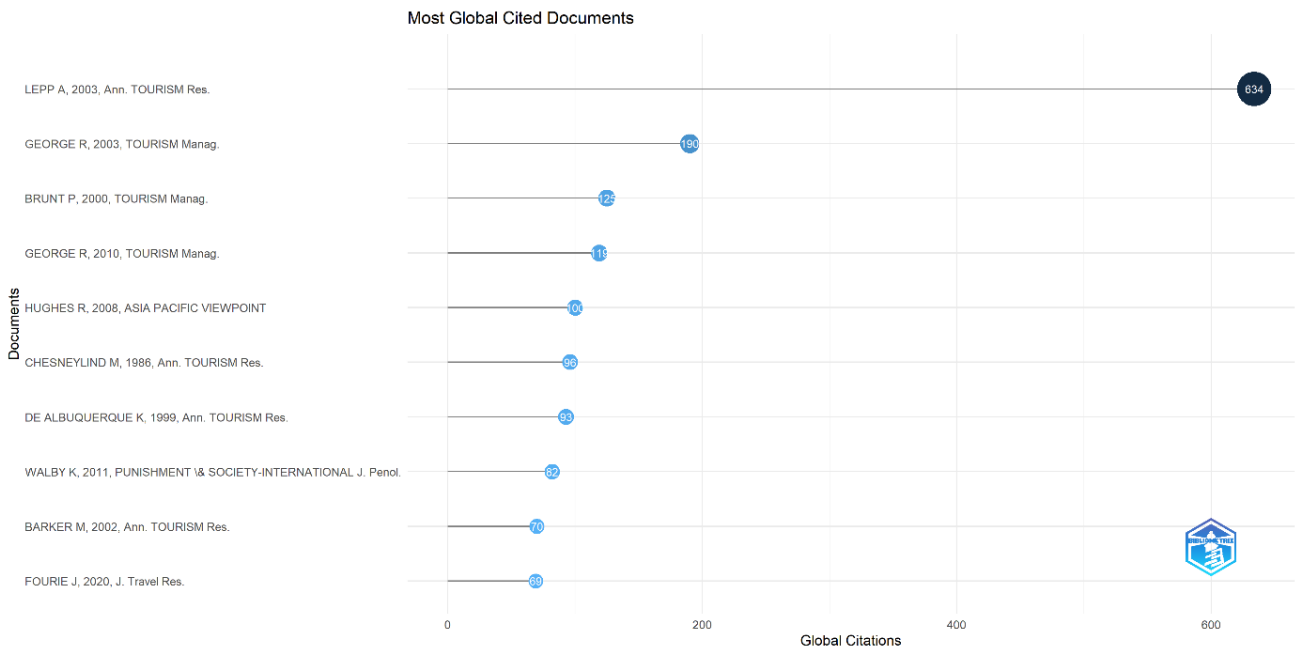
Regarding production, the United States had 69, the United Kingdom had 50, Australia had 33, and South Africa had 17 publications. According to Figure 6, these countries are also at the forefront of collaboration hubs in the context of research on crime in tourism. The destination countries mentioned in the literature review also overlap with the productive countries that stand out.



**Figure 6.** World Collaboration Map (R Bibliometrix–Blues are Productive Countries)

*Citation and co-citation analysis*

The citation analysis showed that the five most cited publications received over 100 citations. All of these publications were published before 2010 (Figure 7). Six publications with more than 50 citations were published in 2015 and later. While 77 publications received between one and five citations, 45 received none. The publication year of 8 publications that have not been cited is 2020 or earlier.



**Figure 7.** Most globally cited articles (R Bibliometrix)

Lepp & Gibson<sup>36</sup>, which received the most citations at the global level, did not enter the top 10 in terms of local citations to publications in the dataset. The local citation analysis showed that all top ten publications were produced before 2005 and received at least 25 citations (Figure 8).

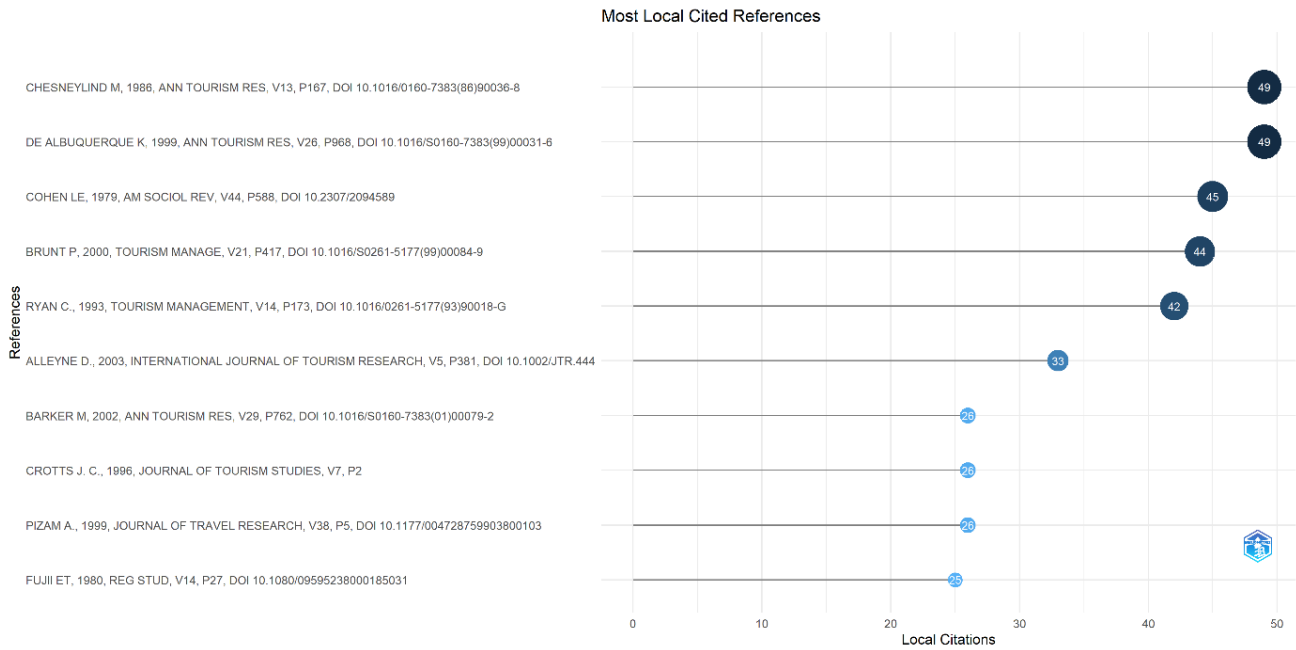


Figure 8. Most Locally Cited Articles (R Bibliometrix)

Co-citation network analyses indicated that Chesneylind & Lind<sup>37</sup> and de Albuquerque & McElroy<sup>38</sup> were the most co-cited local documents by other documents in the dataset. These two publications also hub two large co-citation clusters. This indicates that both articles are among the core publications that are heavily cited in the literature. (Figure 9).

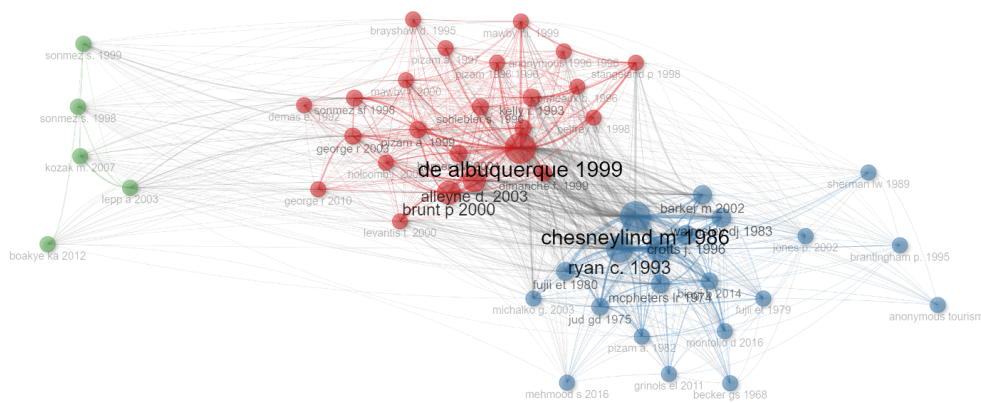


Figure 9. Co-citation Network (R Bibliometrix)

<sup>36</sup> Lepp and Gibson (n 8).

<sup>37</sup> M. Chesneylind, and I. Y. Lind, 'Visitors as Victims - Crimes Against Tourists in Hawaii' (1986) 13 Annals of Tourism Research 167.

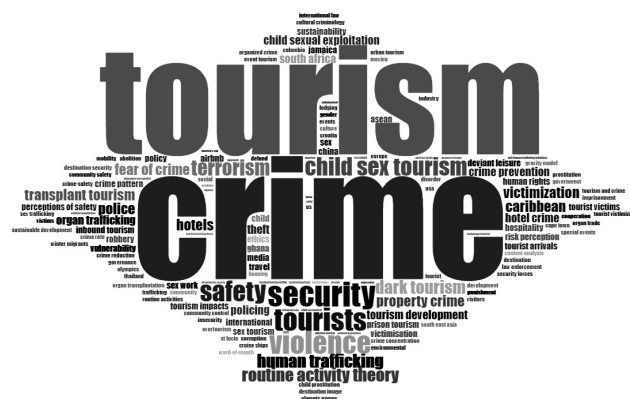
<sup>38</sup> K. de Albuquerque, and J. McElroy, 'Tourism and Crime in the Caribbean' (1999) 26 Annals of Tourism Research 968.

### Keywords and co-word analysis

Eight hundred seventy different keywords were identified in the word analysis. One hundred twenty-one keywords (13.90%) appeared in more than one publication, and 13 appeared six or more times. The total link strength is the frequency of the occurrence of keywords together. A high value indicates that the relevant keyword is used with others more frequently. The total link strength of keywords is also compatible with their occurrence frequencies. The ones with higher occurrence frequencies are more likely to be used with different keywords. Hence, the keyword that makes a difference here is child sex tourism. Although its frequency was high, the total link strength was relatively low (Table 5). The word cloud in Figure 10 also gives an idea of the use of authors' keywords.

**Table 5.** Keywords co-occurrence

Keywords	Occurrences	Total Link Strength
crime	50	221
tourism	46	204
tourist	12	50
security	10	48
safety	9	40
violence	8	36
child sex tourism	8	31
terrorism	7	33
victimization	7	30
dark tourism	6	27
human trafficking	6	26
transplant tourism	6	25
routine activity theory	6	19



**Figure 10.** Word Cloud of Author Keywords (R Bibliometrix)

In the co-occurrence analysis of the words in the article summaries, scattered relationships can be observed throughout the subject (Figure 11). In the clusters formed around crime and tourism, which constitute the topic title, the frequency of the use of the words together decreases as you move away from the center. Despite this, the orange, purple, and pink clusters were concentrated on the organized crime and human trafficking axis on the network's right side, indicating intensively studied subjects.

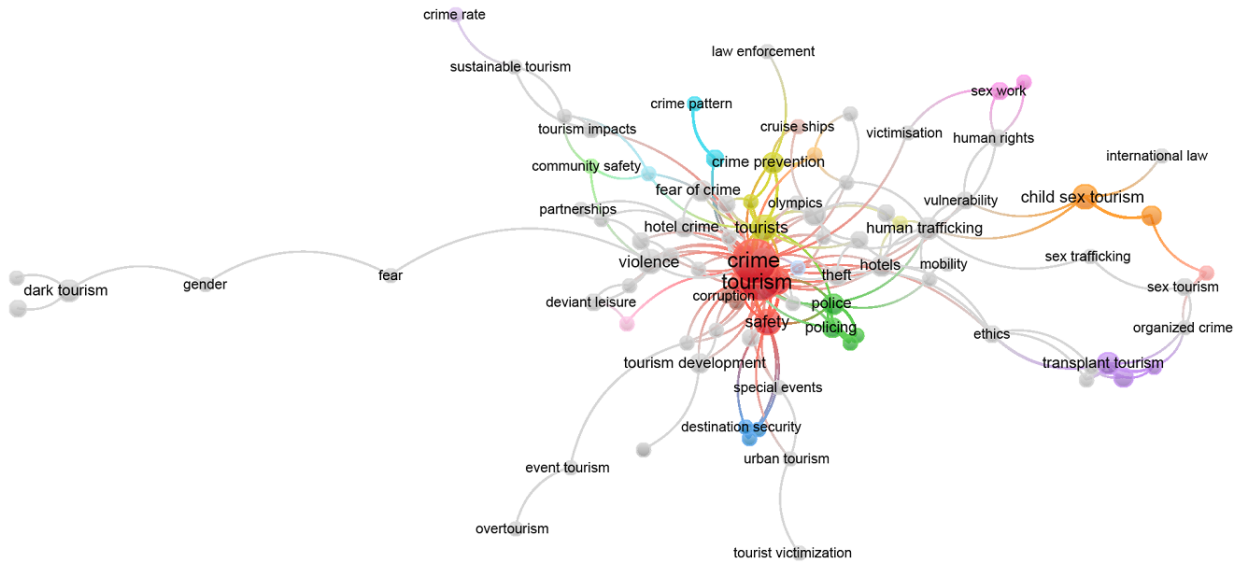


Figure 11. Co-occurrence Analysis of Article Abstracts (Vosviewer)

Figure 12 illustrates the theme of the studies via a timeline-based co-occurrence of the keywords. Therefore, between 1980 and 2000, the pivotal theme of the literature, which has not yet had many publications, was crime. Although the literature has become slightly more prosperous between 2001 and 2010, the pivotal themes are crime and tourism. The theme of child sex tourism, which emerged after 2011, is currently the most studied specific topic under this heading. Organ transplantation, which emerged after 2016, later in the form of organ trafficking, and human trafficking constitute two themes that are currently being focused on.

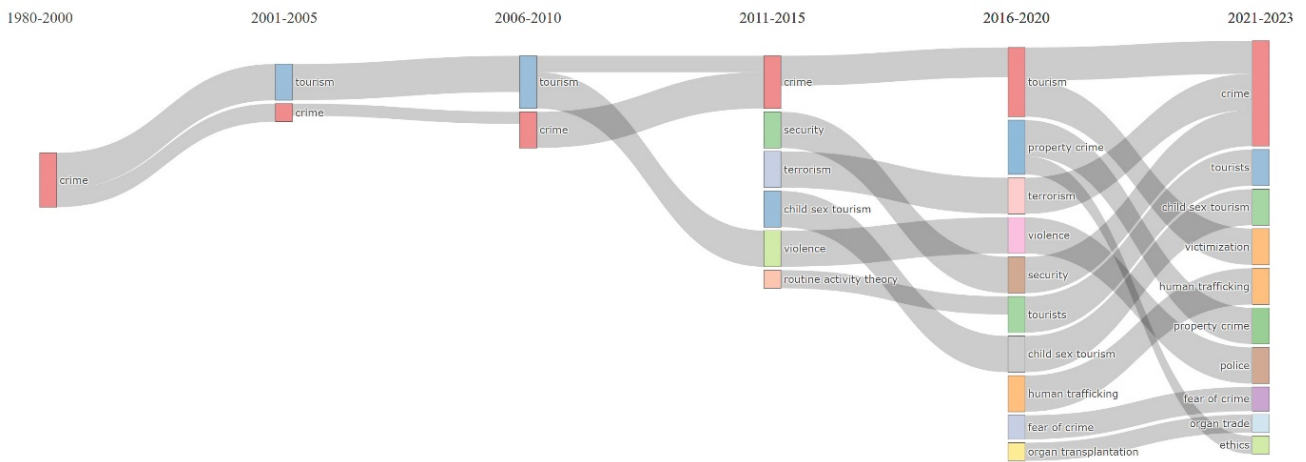


Figure 12. Thematic Evolution (R Bibliometrix)

### Results of coding

The findings presented in this section were based on visualizing the coding of the articles using NVivo. The maps created in this context visualize tourist destinations, tourism niches, crime types, and identified forms of organized crime mentioned in the examined literature, of course, in qualitative terms. Therefore, the first map includes the tourist destinations mentioned in the literature. In this context, these countries are naturally where the mentioned crimes are observed (Figure 13). Various relationships between tourism niches and crime types exist in these countries. These relationships are examined in detail in the following discussion.

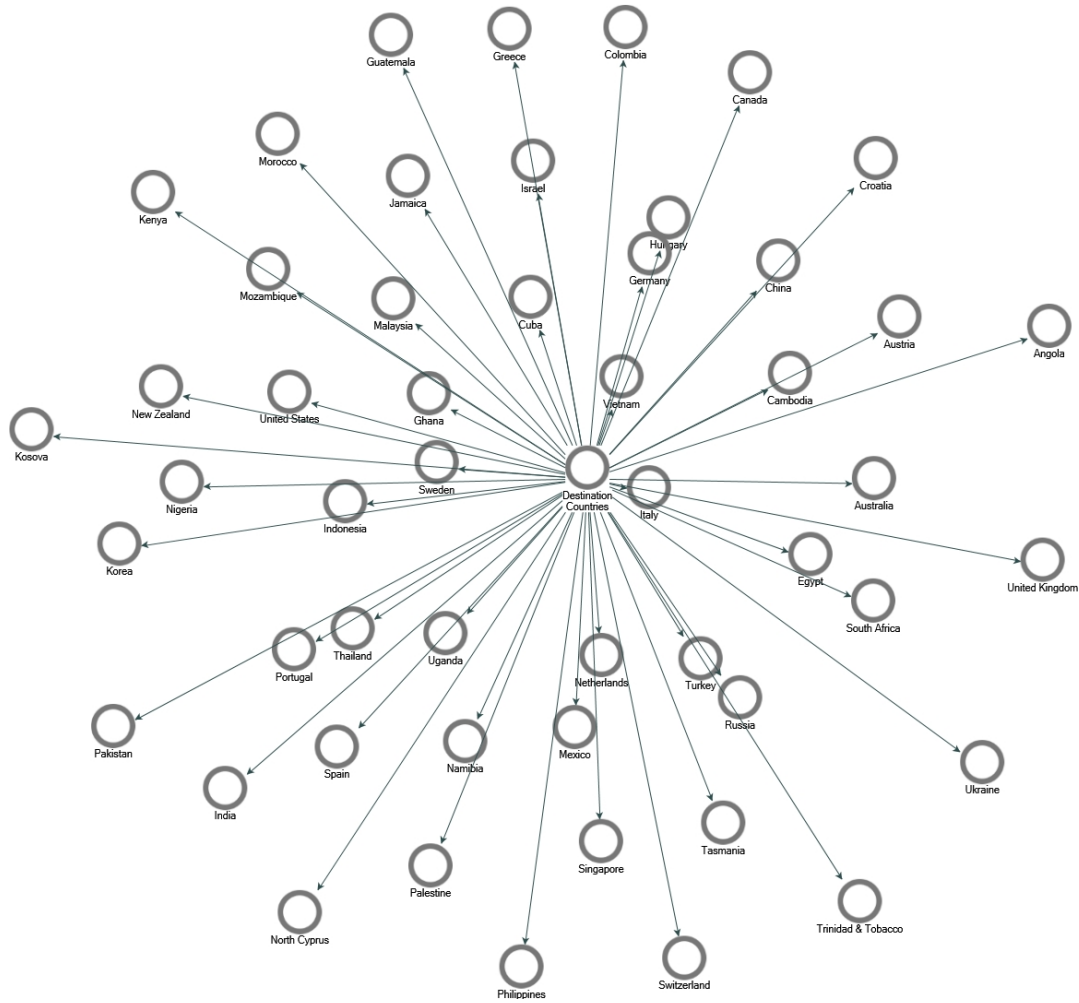


Figure 13. Mentioned Destination Countries

Figure 14 includes the tourism niches explicitly mentioned in the literature. In this context, we cannot conclude that crimes do not occur in other tourism niches; however, we can conclude that these niches are explicitly examined in the literature. There are also niches, such as dark tourism and prison tourism, where previously committed crimes are used as attractions. In addition, there are niches, such as responsible tourism, that initially evoke a positive connotation. However, the niches mainly mentioned are those related to organized crime, which is examined in detail in the discussion.

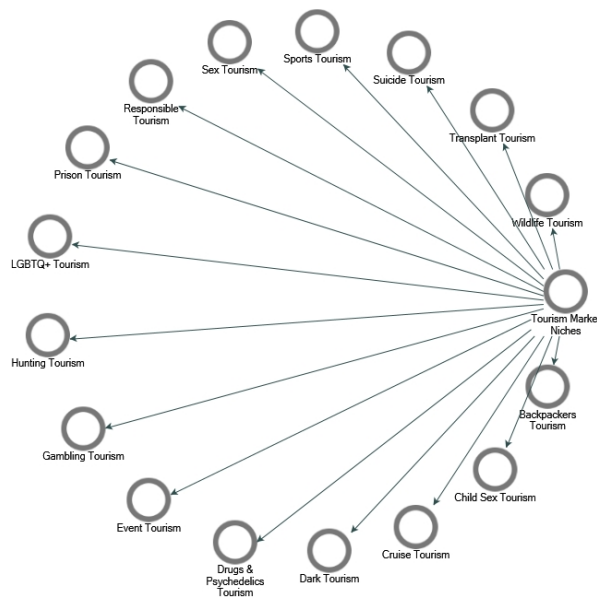


Figure 14. Mentioned Tourism Niches

Figure 15 shows specific crime types mentioned in the literature. In this context, a categorization has been made on the types of crimes mentioned under different names. Crimes are themed under four main categories: (1) offenses against individuals, (2) offenses against the public, (3) offenses against the state, and (4) international offenses. Figure 16 classifies the types of organized crime mentioned in the literature. Nine main types of organized crime are identified. These issues were also examined in detail in the discussion.

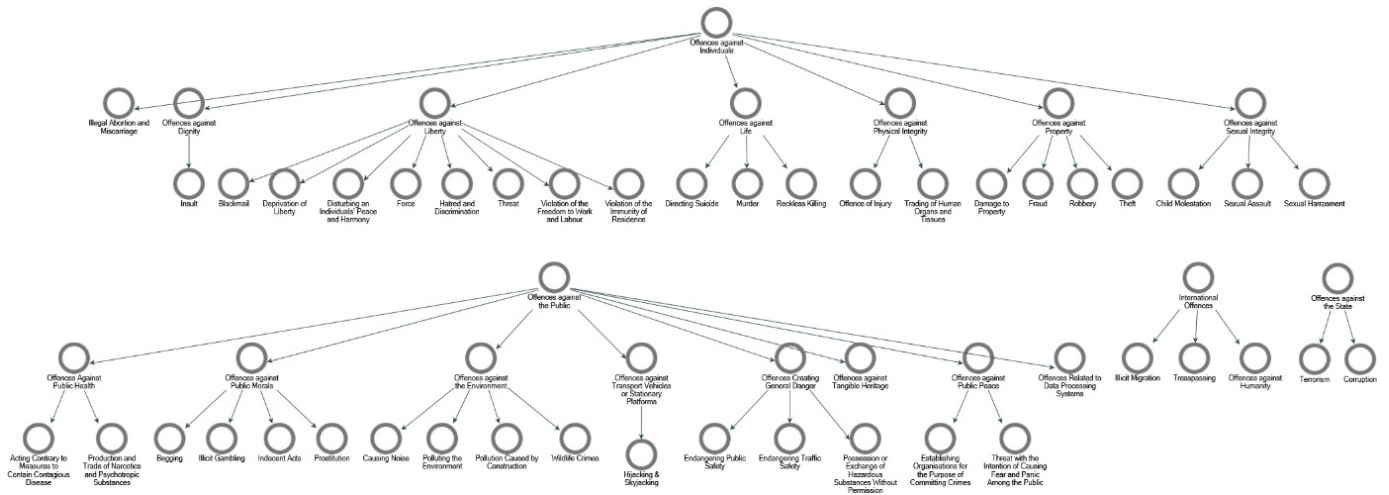


Figure 15. Mentioned Types of Crime in Tourism

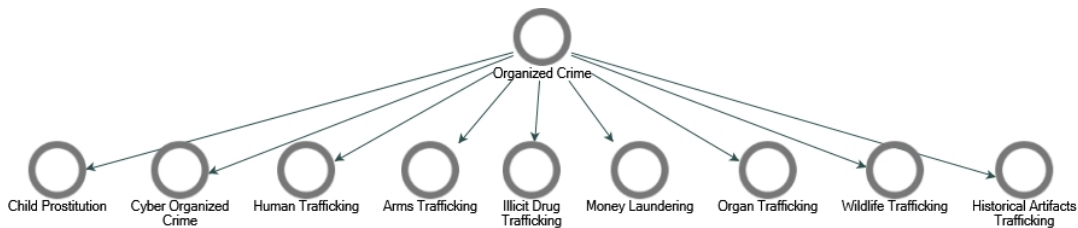


Figure 16. Mentioned Organized Crime in Tourism

## Discussion

### RQ1: What is the Scientific Structure of Studies on Crime in Tourism?

The literature discussed covers the 43 years from 1980 to 2023. This period is significant in the interdisciplinary research field of crime in tourism because a considerable volume of literature was produced during this period. A review of the 273 articles examined in the WoS core collection indicates a noticeable advancement in the field's scholarly output, especially during the 2000s.

The increase in published works indicates progress made in research, and technological advancements have aided scientific publishing. The most significant development was a sharp rise in references to works published in 2003, which can be attributed to the fact that the two most cited articles in the dataset were also published in that year. Scholarly articles typically receive half of their citations within the first five years after publication<sup>39</sup>.

The authors' evaluation revealed a significant variety in tourism, travel, and leisure sciences, making it challenging to create cohesive networks. The diversity in this field stems from its interdisciplinary nature, but it also indicates the richness of scientific knowledge. Further evidence shows that tourism, travel, and leisure science periodicals dominate this subject, and two notable observations are made. First, researchers in the interdisciplinary field of tourism, travel, and leisure sciences show more interest

<sup>39</sup> S. Rovira-Esteva, J. F. Aixelá, and C. Olalla-Soler, 'Citation Patterns in Translation Studies: A Format-Dependent Bibliometric Analysis' (2019) 11 The International Journal of Translation and Interpreting Research 147.

in this subject than criminologists<sup>40</sup>. Second, publishing interdisciplinary studies could be more manageable in tourism, travel, and leisure science journals, despite the need for comprehensive exploration by criminologists, victimologists, and penologists, particularly regarding the internal aspects of crime in tourism.

An analysis of productivity at the national level revealed a positive correlation between intense tourism activity and heightened scholarly output. This observation suggests that scientific orientation is harmonized with national policies. Further analysis of citations reveals a preference for tourism, travel, and leisure science journals and their articles. This preference can be partially attributed to the higher number of articles published in those journals.

When delving into the predominant themes within the dataset, organized crime emerges prominently, which aligns with the international nature of this type of crime in tourism. Noteworthy issues include child sexual exploitation and child sex tourism, revealing a conscientious focus on acts universally deemed illicit. Studies in these areas predominantly assume a descriptive nature, aimed at comprehending the intricate dynamics of the subjects, with organ trafficking and human trafficking also prominently featured in this analytical landscape.

### ***RQ2: Is tourism solely responsible for crime in tourism destinations?***

According to certain studies, tourism has been considered a crime generator<sup>41</sup>. However, the level of crime can negatively impact tourism by creating a sense of insecurity and making potential visitors hesitant to visit the area<sup>42</sup>. Of course, tourism is not the only reason for offenses committed in a tourist destination; it is necessary to think multi-dimensionally about this issue. Other industries in the target destination may also impact this. However, tourism is much more open to criticism. In a sense, the blame is placed on others, causing other issues underlying the commission of the crime to be ignored, such as migrant workers.

The basis for this is that tourism-related crimes significantly impact the public, and the reason for the criminal act in question is that it is a tourism activity. There are also findings that arrest rates are higher in gambling tourism destinations than in other tourist destinations because of the large number of law enforcement units. When it comes to special events, for example, the crimes committed in South Africa during the 2010 World Cup, no significant relationship could be found, indicating that the Olympics increased the number of crimes. However, an increase in the number of law enforcement units in the destinations where the Olympics are held is also considered effective<sup>43</sup>. In this context, there are also criticisms that it would not be healthy to generalize the relationship between crime and tourism as if tourism were the only reason for crimes occurring in tourist destinations<sup>44</sup>.

### ***RQ3: Is There a Proportional Relationship Between Tourist Mobility and Crime Frequency?***

The demand for illegal goods and services in tourist destinations exemplifies the directly proportional relationship between tourism and crime<sup>45</sup> or, one step further, child sex tourism. The term ‘child sex tourism’ is well-established in doctrine and practice and has given its name to a sector of tourism, which may lead to the normalization of an act that should perhaps be considered a crime against humanity. In particular, child sex tourism, or the sexual exploitation of children in the context of travel and tourism<sup>46</sup>, has become a global problem because of the intensive use of the internet and new media<sup>47</sup>. It is reported that Southeast Asia is a significant hub for the supply side of child sex tourism, which is a transnational crime by its very nature; for example, in Thailand, approximately 200,000 children under the age of 14 are engaged in prostitution, and 64% of girls are directed to prostitution by their parents<sup>48</sup>. As a transnational crime, international judicial cooperation is necessary to draw up an international normative framework and implement a tackle. In this context, both tourist-generating and tourist-hosting countries should take steps to investigate and prosecute these crimes<sup>49</sup>.

<sup>40</sup> R. I. Mawby, P. Brunt, and Z. Hambly, ‘Fear of Crime among British Holidaymakers’ (2000) 40 *British Journal of Criminology* 468, 468.

<sup>41</sup> R. Mawby and C. Jones, ‘Attempting to Reduce Hotel Burglary: Implementation Failure in A Multi-Agency Context’ (2007) 9 *Crime Prevention & Community Safety* 145, 164.

<sup>42</sup> D Barrett, ‘An Opportunity or Liability?’ *London 2012 and Security* (2011) 10 *Safer Communities* 41, 42.

<sup>43</sup> R. George, ‘Responsible Tourism as a Strategic Marketing Tool for Improving the Negative Image of South Africa’ (2017) 9 *Worldwide Hospitality and Tourism Themes* 543, 577.

<sup>44</sup> N. M. Cowell, H. McDavid, and T. S. Saunders, ‘Managing Guest Security in a High-Violence Society The Case of the Jamaican Hospitality Industry’ (2012) 4 *Worldwide Hospitality and Tourism Themes* 32, 32.

<sup>45</sup> E. Çakmakçı, ‘Turizm ve Suç Arasındaki İlişki ve Suçun Önlenmesine Yönelik Teoriler’ (2015) 2 *Turizm Akademik Dergisi* 49, 51 <<https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/pub/touraj/issue/16605/173157>> accessed 1 January 2015.

<sup>46</sup> A. Koning, ‘Public Perceptions of Child Sexual Exploitation Abroad: A Vignette Experiment on the Influence of Social Distance’ [2021] *Crime & Delinquency* 1.

<sup>47</sup> A. M. da Silva, ‘Little Adults: Child and Teenage Commercial Sexual Exploitation in Contemporary Brazilian Cinema’ (2016) 99 *Hispania*-a journal devoted to the teaching of Spanish and Portuguese 212, 217.

<sup>48</sup> T. Demirbaş, *Kriminoloji* (Seçkin 2020) 271.

<sup>49</sup> A. K. Johnson, ‘Protecting Children’s Rights in Asian Tourism *Reflecting on Progress and the Way Forward*’ (2014) 22 *International Journal of Childrens Rights* 581, 611.

Another reason why child sex tourism has not been sufficiently combated is that the locals' (at least some of them) acquiescence to it and their understanding of the concept of childhood differs from international law<sup>50</sup>. In addition, the approach of adopting criminal liability for tourism businesses that organize or facilitate child sex tourism is being embraced by an increasing number of states<sup>51</sup>.

Child sex tourism differs from individual sexual exploitation of children. The exploitation of children for commercial and sexual purposes is also widespread<sup>52</sup>. Again, note that data limitations are relatively high in this field<sup>53</sup>. It is predicted that virtual child prostitution via webcams will also create future victims or perpetrators of sex tourism, and it is assumed that there is a link between the two<sup>54</sup>. On the other hand, some tourists do not prefer destinations where child sex tourism occurs<sup>55</sup>.

Recently, mobility, called orphanage tourism, has emerged, which refers to tourists meeting and visiting children under institutional care. This framework states that volunteerism, in which tourists undertake voluntary work in a particular institution or organization in a tourist destination, makes it more possible to reach vulnerable children, paving the way for violating children's rights<sup>56</sup>.

Acts of begging<sup>57</sup>, gambling, or prostitution, which are considered social consequences of the tourism industry, are defined as crimes in some destinations and may be associated with other crimes<sup>58</sup>. For these perpetrators, novelty and change are attractive. In this framework, they are categorized as adventurous perpetrators, incentivized to satisfy their curiosity and try when opportunities arise<sup>59</sup>.

Crimes such as intentional homicide, theft, fraud, drug abuse, prostitution, and terrorism have been linked to tourism development in many places, such as South Africa and Greece<sup>60</sup>. There is also a relationship between the commission of forest crimes and tourism. For example, forests closed to construction are burned to allocate land to the tourism industry<sup>61</sup>. In addition, in certain seasons or months, the carrying capacity of popular destinations is exceeded, resulting in high human density. The resulting over-tourism and high human density make it difficult to ensure security. As a result, these types of destinations are starting to be preferred for the motive of committing crimes<sup>62</sup>.

Green criminology also deals with tourism crimes. The pollution resulting from tourism enterprises not complying with their waste-related obligations and mixing their waste into water is within the scope of green criminology<sup>63</sup>. The decrease in the number of protected animal species due to poaching or hunting tourism is also an area of interest in green criminology<sup>64</sup>. Crimes against wildlife in South Africa, whose economy is based on wildlife tourism, such as rhino poaching for horns, lead to the extinction and violation of public interest<sup>65</sup>.

#### ***RQ4: Do tourist destinations' characteristics affect crime?***

Some crimes vary depending on the characteristics, type, and structure of a tourist destination; thus, they have a destination-specific feature<sup>66</sup>. In some cases, individuals visit other countries to perform illegal acts in their home country. Visits to destinations where surrogate motherhood, an example of medically assisted reproductive treatment, are examples of this type of mobility<sup>67</sup>. One of the more common examples in this regard is the relationship between boat gambling and crime. Some studies have shown

<sup>50</sup> D. Davy, 'Understanding the Complexities of Responding to Child Sex Trafficking in Thailand and Cambodia' (2014) 34 International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy 793.

<sup>51</sup> E. Härkönen, 'Corporate Liability and International Child Sex Tourism - with Special Reference to the Regulation in the Nordic Countries' (2016) 16 Scandinavian Journal of Hospitality and Tourism 315, 329.

<sup>52</sup> M. Fardin and others, 'Sexual Crimes against Immature People with an Emphasis on Sex Trafficking, Sex Tourism, Pornography and Sexual Slavery' (2018) 5 Revista Publicando 429, 432.

<sup>53</sup> M. Chemin and F. Mbiokop, 'Addressing Child Sex Tourism: The Indian Case' (2015) 38 European Journal of Political Economy 169, 177.

<sup>54</sup> K. V. Açar, 'Webcam Child Prostitution: An Exploration of Current and Futuristic Methods of Detection' (2017) 11 International Journal of Cyber Criminology 98, 98-99.

<sup>55</sup> J. Aston, J. Wen, and S. H. Yang, 'Tourists' Perceptions of and Reactions to Child Sex Tourism: An Exploratory Qualitative Investigation' (2023) 35 Asia Pacific Journal of Marketing and Logistics 1206, 1218.

<sup>56</sup> A. K. Johnson, 'International Child Sex Tourism: Enhancing the Legal Response in south-east Asia' (2011) 19 International Journal of Childrens Rights 55; Johnson (n 49) 611.

<sup>57</sup> G. Qiao, N. Chen, and B. Prideaux, 'Understanding Interactions between Beggars and International Tourists: The Case of China' (2017) 22 Asia Pacific Journal of Tourism Research 272, 2017.

<sup>58</sup> George, 'Tourist's Perceptions of Safety and Security While Visiting Cape Town' (n 35) 577.

<sup>59</sup> Demirbaş (n 48) 272.

<sup>60</sup> Barrett (n 42) 42.

<sup>61</sup> Demirbaş (n 48) 305-307.

<sup>62</sup> Çakmakçı (n 45) 50.

<sup>63</sup> R. Thomson, and T. Samuels-Jones, 'Toxic Colonialism in the Territorial Isles: A Geospatial Analysis of Environmental Crime Across US Territorial Islands 2013-2017' (2022) 66 International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology 470, 485.

<sup>64</sup> K. Eman and others, 'Environmental Crime and Green Criminology in South Eastern Europe-Practice and Research' (2013) 59 Crime Law and Social Change 341, 349.

<sup>65</sup> M. Griffiths, 'The Cultural Impact of Wildlife Crime in South Africa' [2017] South African Crime Quarterly-SACQ 45, 45.

<sup>66</sup> Barker and Page (n 10) 275.

<sup>67</sup> W. van Hoof, and G. Pennings, 'Extraterritoriality for Cross-Border Reproductive Care: Should States Act against Citizens Travelling Abroad for Illegal Infertility Treatment?' (2011) 23 Reproductive Biomedicine Online 546, 552-553.



that an increase in the number of crimes in a destination causes it to be less preferred by tourists<sup>68</sup>. Routine activities theory asserts that traditional gambling tourism can create criminal opportunities for tourists who choose to do so. The basis for this is the tourism-based increase in the population of the relevant destination<sup>69</sup>. For example, a study conducted in Barbados found that the increase in the number of tourists over time coincided with an increase in reported crimes<sup>70</sup>.

On the other hand, as with mega-events, the potential impact of crime on event tourism depends on changes in the status of the population and the opportunities for crime presented by seasonal increases in tourism activity<sup>71</sup>. On the contrary, it has been determined that gambling tourism does not have a significant difference in crime rates compared to different types of tourism. For example, when ski tourism destinations are compared with gambling tourism destinations, the number of crimes in ski tourism destinations is higher in terms of crimes against property. However, in the region where gambling tourism takes place, violent crimes are common. This shows a close relationship between tourist destination characteristics and crime type<sup>72</sup>. In another example, the increase in crime during the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, Canada, was examined. This example discusses the relationship between special events, which are more broadly defined as event tourism and crime<sup>73</sup>. Another study showed that the 1990 FIFA World Cup increased crime against property<sup>74</sup>. Another study focusing on the Florida Universal Studios theme park drew attention to the crime density in this area<sup>75</sup>.

It has been observed that the term “hotel crimes” is used in the doctrine for crimes committed in hotels<sup>76</sup>. The majority of hotel crimes are crimes against property, and in this context, especially theft<sup>77</sup>. In opposition to the claim that tourism mobility increases crime, there are also studies showing a direct proportion between employment in the accommodation sector and the decrease in crimes against property. Thus, with the development of tourism, crimes against property gradually decrease in such examples<sup>78</sup>. When the crime types of hotels are examined according to their classes, it is stated that crime against property is concentrated in high-class hotels, and prostitution and drug-related crimes are concentrated in low-class hotels<sup>79</sup>. In addition, pickpocketing and purse-snatching are types of theft that are frequently committed against tourists<sup>80</sup>. Fraud<sup>81</sup>, especially credit card fraud<sup>82</sup>, is among the crimes against tourists<sup>83</sup>.

#### ***RQ5: What is the Scope of the Relationship Between Tourism and the Criminal Justice System?***

The interaction between tourism and the criminal justice system is also under scrutiny. Tourism can prevent the realization of justice for both suspects and victims at specific times or places. Tourists may face second-class legal protection due to unidentified suspects or lack of effective enforcement in the destination. Conversely, in the case of a crime in which a tourist is victimized, a trial in the destination may result in a severe penalty to protect the destination’s reputation. For example, following the sexual assault and murder of British national Katherine Horton by two Thai fishermen on New Year’s Day 2006, tourist arrivals to Koh Samui Island dropped by 30% and the number of British tourists by almost a third. However, while ordinary murder trials in Thailand can last up to two years, in this case, the investigation was completed in nine days, and the trial lasted 45 minutes. Again, the appeal, which usually takes one year, took one day. Tourism mobility is affected by criminal procedure; however, tourism also affects the conduct of criminal procedures and sanctions imposed. However, this leads to a distortion of the criminal justice system and a dual system that offers more protection to tourists than citizens<sup>84</sup>.

Tourists are often relatively careless during their vacations, making them vulnerable. In addition, if they are victims of a crime, they are less likely to report the crime and create a statement against the suspect. This is because they are in a tourist destination

<sup>68</sup> D. T. Altindag, ‘Crime and International Tourism’ (2014) 35 Journal of Labor Research 1; Pizam, Tarlow and Bloom (n 5).

<sup>69</sup> Fujii and Mak (n 11); J. M. Wilson, ‘Riverboat Gambling and Crime in Indiana: An Empirical Investigation’ (2001) 47 Crime & delinquency 610, 635.

<sup>70</sup> W. C. Wallace, ‘Tourism and Crime in a Small Island Tourist Destination: The Case of Tobago’ (2009) 14 (2009) Caribbean Journal of Criminology and Public Safety 186.

<sup>71</sup> Barker and Page (n 10) 279.

<sup>72</sup> M. Park, and P. A. Stokowski, ‘Casino Gaming and Crime: Comparisons among Gaming Counties and Other Tourism Places’ (2011) 50 Journal of Travel Research, 289, 299.

<sup>73</sup> M. A. Andresen, and W. Tong, ‘The Impact of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games on Crime in Vancouver’ (2012) 54 Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice 333, 333.

<sup>74</sup> N. Campaniello, ‘Mega Events in Sports and Crime: Evidence From the 1990 Football World Cup’ (2013) 14 Journal of Sports Economics 148, 165–166.

<sup>75</sup> S. Han and others, ‘Crime Risks Increase in Areas Proximate to Theme Parks: A Case Study of Crime Concentration in Orlando’ (2021) 38 Justice Quarterly 1210, 1222–1223.

<sup>76</sup> X. Y. Leung, Y. Yang, and E. A. Dubin, ‘What Are Guests Scared of? Crime-Related Hotel Experiences and Fear of Crime’ (2018) 35 Journal of Travel & Tourism Marketing, 1071.

<sup>77</sup> T. P. Ho, J. L. Zhao, and B. Dooley, ‘Hotel Crimes: An Unexplored Victimization in the Hospitality Industry’ (2017) 30 Security Journal 1097, 1118–1121; Z. I. Vakhitova and others,

‘Tourism and Crime: An Exploratory Study of Burglary from Tourist Accommodation From the Criminal Opportunity Perspective’ (2023) 69 Crime & Delinquency 2164, 2170.

<sup>78</sup> G. Bianchi, and Y. Chen, ‘Testing Effects of Hospitality Employment on Property Crime in the United States’ (2022) 28 Tourism Economics 1545, 1560.

<sup>79</sup> Leung, Yang, and Dubin (n 76) 12.

<sup>80</sup> B. Biagi, and C. Detotto, ‘Crime as Tourism Externality’ (2014) 48 Regional Studies, 693, 704.

<sup>81</sup> J. Li, and P. Pearce, ‘Tourist Scams in the City: Challenges for Domestic Travellers in Urban China’ (2016) 2 International Journal of Tourism Cities 294, 296.

<sup>82</sup> E. Baş, *Banka veya Kredi Kartlarının Kötüye Kullanılması Suçu [The Crime of Abuse of Bank or Credit Cards]* (Yetkin 2015).

<sup>83</sup> R. W. Howard, ‘Risky Business?’ Asking Tourists What Hazards They Actually Encountered in Thailand’ (2009) 30 Tourism Management 359, 363.

<sup>84</sup> of the criminal justice system and a dual system that offers more protection to tourists than citizens .

for a limited period, and it is costly to make a statement and, in this context, to go to court in the prosecution phase<sup>85</sup>. This also prevents investigating and prosecuting crimes that cause relatively little harm or danger, such as theft and burglary<sup>86</sup>.

### ***RQ6: What is the Impact of Fear of Crime on Tourist Mobility?***

Fear of crime adversely affects destination choice<sup>87</sup>. The association of the destination with crime or even such a perception negatively affects tourists' satisfaction with the destination<sup>88</sup>. However, some studies have shown that even though the tourist destination is not considered safe by tourists, some still prefer it, recommend it to others, and want to revisit it. These studies indicate that factors such as age, nationality, visit purpose, and visit frequency also impact the results<sup>89</sup>.

The relationship between tourism and crime does not necessarily require tourists to be victims or perpetrators of crime. Crimes unrelated to tourists that harm or threaten tourism in a tourist destination can also be considered in this context. Examples include drug or stimulant trafficking, violent demonstrations, murders<sup>90</sup>, corruption<sup>91</sup>, war<sup>92</sup>, terrorism<sup>93</sup>, or ordinary crimes (theft, plundering, intentional injury) in which tourists are neither perpetrators nor victims, whether repeated or not crimes<sup>94</sup>.

An increase in the number of crimes in a tourist destination reduces the demand for tourists; in this context, it is almost a matter of action-response<sup>95</sup>. However, in their empirical study on US-born young adult tourists, Lepp and Gibson<sup>96</sup> found that more experienced respondents underestimated the threat of terrorism compared to less experienced respondents. In this framework, the frequency of participation in tourism mobility is also an essential risk perception variable.

Another study showed that while international terrorism harms average room rates, capacity, and tourism development in Jamaica, the risks associated with individual crimes do not affect the intention to revisit Jamaica among tourists who have already visited the destination<sup>97</sup>. For example, some Caribbean governments are uncomfortable with discussions of the relationship between tourism, terrorism, and crime and prefer to emphasize positive aspects. This may help avoid drawing the world's attention to failures at the local level<sup>98</sup>. This is a pragmatic marketing tactic based on the examples above.

Individual conditioning toward safety and the portrayed image of a destination influences perception of crime. Media also influence this perception<sup>99</sup>. In this framework, it should be stated that the perception of security is relative and presents a subjective reality to the individual<sup>100</sup>. Each tourist's experience of victimization is unique<sup>101</sup>. For example, studies on young tourists have revealed that the fear of crime levels vary according to gender<sup>102</sup>. Thomas and Mura<sup>103</sup> found that female solo tourists internalized, and normalized security issues related to India and did not find them problematic. Chaturuka et al.<sup>104</sup> asserted that the perception of crime in Cape Town does not prevent international leisure tourists from choosing this destination and that they do not encounter crimes that are worse than they expect during their visit.

Anxiety about being a victim of a crime<sup>105</sup>, or, in other words, fear of crime, is an essential issue in criminology studies. It is also a highly debated concept in tourism research. Potential tourists who have not yet been victims of any crime experience this fear based on their perception of a destination. Most people tend to change their behavior because of fear of crime; however, this change may also lead to increased crime. For example, if streets remain empty due to fear of crime, more crimes can be committed

<sup>85</sup> Fujii and Mak (n 11) 28.

<sup>86</sup> D. W. Harper, D. N. Khey, and G. M. Nolan, 'Spatial Patterns of Robbery at Tourism Sites: A Case Study of the Vieux Carre in New Orleans' (2013) 38 *American Journal of Criminal Justice* 589, 598.

<sup>87</sup> Z. Ghaderi, B. Saboori, and M. Khoshkam, 'Does Security Matter in Tourism Demand?' (2017) 20 *Current Issues in Tourism* 552, 552.

<sup>88</sup> P. Simpson, O. Cruz-Milán, O., and J. Gressel, 'Perceived Crime and Violence: Effects on Winter Migrants' (2014) 53 *Journal of Travel Research*, 597, 604–605.

<sup>89</sup> R. George, 'Visitor Perceptions of Crime-Safety and Attitudes towards Risk: The Case of Table Mountain National Park, Cape Town' (2010) 31 *Tourism Management* 806, 806, 814.

<sup>90</sup> S. A. Asongu, and J. Nwachukwu, 'Mitigating Externalities of Terrorism on Tourism: Global Evidence from Police, Security Officers and Armed Service Personnel' (2019) 22 *Current Issues in Tourism* 2466, 2466–2468.

<sup>91</sup> D. A. Cothran, and C. C. Cothran, 'Promise or Political Risk for Mexican Tourism' (1998) 25 *Annals of Tourism Research* 477, 477.

<sup>92</sup> Ryan (n 14) 173.

<sup>93</sup> E. Bayraktaroğlu and others, 'Geopolitical Risks and International Tourist Arrivals to Turkey: A Causality Study' (2021) 11 *Anais Brasileiros de Estudos Turísticos* <<https://periodicos.ufjf.br/index.php/abet/article/view/34237>> accessed November 22, 2024.

<sup>94</sup> Cothran and Cothran (n 91) 477; Lepp and Gibson (n 8) 608.

<sup>95</sup> T. Lorde and M. Jackman, 'Evaluating the Impact of Crime on Tourism in Barbados: A Transfer Function Approach' (2013) 18 *Tourism Analysis* 183, 183; B. Moyo and E. Ziramba, 'The Impact of Crime on Inbound Tourism to South Africa an Application of the Bounds Test' (2013) 22 *African Security Review* 4, 6.

<sup>96</sup> (n 8) 606.

<sup>97</sup> A. Hall, 'The Response of the Tourism Industry in Jamaica to Crime and the Threat of Terrorism' (2012) 4 *Worldwide Hospitality and Tourism Themes* 59, 59.

<sup>98</sup> A. Clayton and I. Boxill, 'Conclusions: Tourism, Crime and Terrorism: What Are the Risks, Challenges and Policy Options?' (2012) 4 *Worldwide Hospitality and Tourism Themes* 98, 100.

<sup>99</sup> E. Avraham, and E. Ketter, 'Will We Be Safe There?' Analysing Strategies for Altering Unsafe Place Images' (2008) 4 *Place Branding and Public Diplomacy* 196, 196.

<sup>100</sup> Barker and Page (n 10) 274.

<sup>101</sup> N. Marteacho, and A. Trinidad, 'Theft Victimization in Urban Settings: Comparison of Tourist and Resident Case Profiles' [2023] *Crime & Delinquency* 5.

<sup>102</sup> P. Mura, and C. Khoo-Lattimore, 'Young Tourists, Gender and Fear on Holiday' (2012) 15 *Current Issues in Tourism* 707, 707, 720.

<sup>103</sup> 'The 'Normality of Unsafety'- Foreign Solo Female Travellers in India' (2019) 44 *Tourism Recreation Research* 33, 38.

<sup>104</sup> 'Crime Perceptions among International Leisure Tourists in Cape Town' (2020) 19 *Safer Communities* 161.

<sup>105</sup> S. P. Chiu, and S. Y. Lin, 'Study on Risk Perceptions of International Tourists in India' (2011) 5 *African Journal of Business Management* 2742, 2742.

by taking advantage of such emptiness<sup>106</sup>. Fear of crime not only affects the decision-making processes of tourists but also hinders the development of the tourism industry in the destination<sup>107</sup>.

However, fear of crime may reduce crime by encouraging potential victims to protect themselves against crime. In the criminology literature, the measures taken by individuals to protect themselves due to fear of crime are examined in two dimensions: Dysfunctional, that is, those that reduce the quality of life, and functional, that is, those that do not reduce the quality of life.<sup>108</sup> However, this approach has not been found in studies that examined crime in tourism. In this context, this issue must also be discussed in-depth.

### ***RQ7: How Do Specialized Law Enforcement Units (Tourism Police) Affect Crime in Tourist Destinations?***

The relationship between crime and tourism also manifests in law enforcement. It is observed that special units have been created for protecting tourists, with staff trained to specifically deal with tourist issues<sup>109</sup>. The introduction of tourism police, or specialized tourist units of law enforcement, is a development in combating tourism-related crime in states whose economies rely on tourism<sup>110</sup>. To reduce the direct correlation between tourism and crime, it would be beneficial to deploy specialized police officers.<sup>111</sup> Implementing special law enforcement units is essential for tourists and the tourism industry<sup>112</sup>. International tourists were found to be less likely than local tourists to report crimes of which they were victims. In 2003, Jamaica hosted 2482 million tourists, but only four per thousand were recorded as crime victims<sup>113</sup>. The solution is to make it easier for tourists to report crimes or to learn how to report crimes via specialized teams<sup>114</sup>.

### ***RQ8: What do the victim and criminal roles of a tourist include?***

#### *RQ8.1: Tourists as victims*

Crimes against tourists are considered severe offenses in countries where tourists come from<sup>115</sup>. Occasionally, there is no increase in the number of crimes committed against tourists in the destination; the fact that a crime committed against a tourist is highly emphasized and publicized by the media also affects this result<sup>116</sup>. This attitude of the media affects potential tourists who will visit that destination<sup>117</sup>. Government travel advisories on crime influence tourists' destination choices and decisions<sup>118</sup>. In another perspective, local authorities also perceive attitudes or allegations that the destination is a center of international crime as a threat to tourism<sup>119</sup>. With the addition of social media, communication networks expand more efficiently, thus intensifying their impact. For example, tourists may prefer tourist destinations because of safety and security concerns, and they can get their first impression from social media. It is not possible to determine in advance the perception of insecurity that a crime will create based on the damage or danger it causes in society<sup>120</sup>.

There may also be crimes in which tourists are not targeted as victims and are committed in a tourist destination, regardless of whether they are locals or tourists living there. The term for this situation refers to tourists who are accidentally victimized. However, in this case, the place of crime is still a tourist destination<sup>121</sup>.

<sup>106</sup> Brunt, Mawby, and Hambly (n 12) 468–470.

<sup>107</sup> Chiu and Lin (n 105).

<sup>108</sup> E. Gray, J. Jackson, and S. Farrall, 'Feelings and Functions in the Fear of Crime: Applying a New Approach to Victimisation Insecurity' (2011) 51 *The British Journal of Criminology* 75 <<https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azq066>> accessed 17 December 2024.

<sup>109</sup> Pizam, Tarlow, and Bloom (n 5) 23.

<sup>110</sup> R. I. Mawby, K. Boakye, and C. Jones, 'Policing Tourism: The Emergence of Specialist Units' (2015) 25 *Policing & Society* 378, 378.

<sup>111</sup> V. Konyakhin, and A. Petrovskiy, 'Crime and Crime Prevention at Krasnodar Krai Tourist Resorts: A Study of Crime, Fear of Crime and Crime Prevention' (2016) 67 *Revija za kriminalistiko in kriminologijo* 339, 345; W. C. Wallace, 'Policing Tourism: Findings from an Evaluation of a Tourism-Oriented Policing Training Program in the Caribbean' (2020) 9 *International Journal for Crime Justice and Social Democracy* 169.

<sup>112</sup> R. I. Mawby, M. Ozascilar, and N. Ziyalar, 'Risk, Safety and Security among Visitors to Istanbul' (2021) 21 *Tourism and Hospitality Research* 61.

<sup>113</sup> A. Harriott, 'Risk Perceptions and Fear of Criminal Victimization Among Visitors to Jamaica: Bringing Perceptions in Line with Reality' (2007) 5 *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice* 93, 98–99.

<sup>114</sup> D. Buil-Gil and R. I. Mawby, 'Do Tourists Report Crime to the Police? An Exploratory Analysis in Barcelona' (2023) 26 *Current Issues in Tourism* 2931, 2931.

<sup>115</sup> M. E. Korstanje, 'Pursuing the Ethics of Hospitality: The Case of Lola Chomnalez' (2015) 4 *Turismo-Estudios e Praticas* 72, 72.

<sup>116</sup> J. Venditto, and J. Mouzos, 'The Murder of Overseas Visitors in Australia' [2006] *Trends and Issues in Crime and Criminal Justice* 1.

<sup>117</sup> D. Botterill and others, 'Violence, Backpackers, Security and Critical Realism' (2013) 42 *Annals of Tourism Research* 311; V. Peel, and A. Steen, 'Victims, Hooligans and Cash-Cows: Media Representations of the International Backpacker in Australia' (2007) 28 *Tourism Management* 1057; Pizam, Tarlow and Bloom (n 5).

<sup>118</sup> A. Schroeder, and L. Pennington-Gray, 'Perceptions of Crime at the Olympic Games: What Role Does Media, Travel Advisories, and Social Media Play?' (2014) 20 *Journal of Vacation Marketing* 225, 235.

<sup>119</sup> P. Knepper, and J. Azzopardi, 'International Crime in the Interwar Period: A View from the Edge' (2011) 56 *Crime Law and Social Change* 407, 417.

<sup>120</sup> Demirbaş (n 48) 40.

<sup>121</sup> Ryan (n 14) 174–175.

There is also evidence that regarding crime, there is no significant difference between whether a tourist is domestic or international<sup>122</sup>. Another study investigated the effects of citizenship, age, and accommodation choice on crime victimhood in Slovenia. On the contrary, it was observed that international tourists faced more crimes against property than domestic tourists. Among international tourists, the third age group was the most victimized, and most of the crimes occurred in accommodation places. On the other hand, domestic tourists were primarily targeted in restaurants, bars, and houses where they stayed<sup>123</sup>. Whether domestic or international, a tourist is a tourist. The data show that crimes committed against tourists in the destination are higher than those committed against residents<sup>124</sup>.

In this framework, although they bear similarities to the victimization of other tourists, LGBTQ+ individuals are also subjected to crimes stemming from homophobia. These crimes are victim-type crimes that distinguish LGBTQ+ individuals from other types of tourists<sup>125</sup>. The perpetrators of homophobic crimes are also likely to be tourists, and the life choices of gay men directly affect victimization. Studies in criminology and victimology have shown that LGBTQ+ individuals are victims of hate or discrimination crimes. It is also stated that these individuals experience secondary victimization in some destinations, such as Jamaica, the Caribbean, and Malaysia; if they report hate crimes, they have suffered as tourists. In the literature, LGBTQ+ tourists stated that they were mostly exposed to discrimination, intentional injury, harassment, theft, and threat crimes<sup>126</sup>.

In the age of technology, tourists have also become victims of fraud through online contracts. Personal data is captured, and fake offers are offered to tourists through fraudulent companies<sup>127</sup>.

### *RQ8.2: Tourists as criminals*

The relationship between tourism and crime is essential because of their impact on sustainability<sup>128</sup>. When crime in tourism is studied, the crimes committed against tourists and those committed by tourists are included in this scope<sup>129</sup>. The relationship between tourism and crime is complex<sup>130</sup> and multifaceted<sup>131</sup>. For example, tourists can be thieves by stealing belongings from hotels or airplanes where they stay or travel<sup>132</sup>. Individuals may be tempted to bypass codes of conduct and laws in leisure time and tourism<sup>133</sup>.

As a manifestation of sovereignty, the definition of crime varies from state to state. In this context, an act that is crime in one state may not be a crime in another state<sup>134</sup>. This situation also affects crime in tourism. For example, an individual can choose a tourist destination where this act is not regulated as a crime to commit an act that is a crime in the state where the individual lives. In this framework, the individual's motivation to commit the act that constitutes a crime in the state of being a citizen may be questioned<sup>135</sup>. For example, according to the territoriality principle in Turkey, if an act committed in Turkey does not constitute a crime according to Turkish law, even if it does constitute a crime according to the laws of another country, Turkish laws cannot be applied to these foreign tourists due to the nature of the act committed<sup>136</sup>.

One of the most common examples of criminal tourists is those who participate in child sex tourism. In these examples, tourists visit places to conduct an act that is not a crime in the destination but is accepted as a crime in their home country<sup>137</sup>. Another example is crimes against nature, such as hunting, poaching, and wildlife trafficking. In crimes against nature, many of which can be considered organized crimes, the criminals may be tourists acting with local collaborators<sup>138</sup>. Some studies have considered citizenship ties, for example, the arrival of Russians in Austria's tourism industry and perceptions of Russian stereotypes in the

<sup>122</sup> Barker and Page (n 10) 779.

<sup>123</sup> D. Paliska and others, 'Theft Crimes against Tourists and Visitors in Slovenia' (2020) 26 *Tourism and Hospitality Management-Croatia* 15.

<sup>124</sup> Mawby, Brunt, and Hambly (n 40) 468–470.

<sup>125</sup> see A. Wahab, "'The Darker the Fruit'?: Homonationalism, Racialized Homophobia, and Neoliberal Tourism in the St Lucian-US Contact Zone' (2021) 23 *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 80.

<sup>126</sup> P. Brunt and K. Brophy, 'Gay Tourist Victimization' (2006) 13 *International Review of Victimology* 275.

<sup>127</sup> M. Belen, 'The Online Tourist Fraud: The New Measures of Technological Investigation in Spain' (2017) 6 *Adcaij-Advances in Distributed Computing and Artificial Intelligence Journal* 85, 85–86.

<sup>128</sup> J. Zhang and G. P. Xiang, 'Revisiting the Relationship Between Tourism and Crime Based on a Dynamic Spatial Durbin Model' (2022) 68 *Crime & Delinquency* 2146, 2146–2147.

<sup>129</sup> Çakmakçı (n 45) 50.

<sup>130</sup> Tang (n 13) 52.

<sup>131</sup> Zhang and Xiang (n 128) 2167.

<sup>132</sup> S. Pratt, 'Tourists "Stealing" Stuff' (2022) 28 *Tourism Economics* 495.

<sup>133</sup> O. Smith, and T. Raymen, 'Deviant Leisure: A Criminological Perspective' (2018) 22 *Theoretical Criminology* 63, 63.

<sup>134</sup> E. Baş, *Ceza Hukukunda Fail ve Mağdur [Offender and Victim in Criminal Law]* (Seçkin 2021).

<sup>135</sup> Ryan (n 14) 174.

<sup>136</sup> E. Baş, 'Enforcement of Territoriality Principle in the Crimes Committed by Foreign Tourists in Turkey' (2021) 3 *Journal of Tourism Leisure and Hospitality* 26

<<https://doi.org/10.48119/toleho.884426>> accessed 1 January 2021.

<sup>137</sup> Johnson (n 56); Chemin and Mbiekop (n 53); Härkönen (n 51); Koning (n 46).

<sup>138</sup> Griffiths (n 65); D. Gonçalves, 'A Whole-of-Society Approach to Wildlife Crime in South Africa' [2017] *South African Crime Quarterly-SACQ* 9; S. Duensing, M. C. Schleper, and C. Busse, 'Wildlife Trafficking as a Societal Supply Chain Risk: Removing the Parasite without Damaging the Host?' (2023) 59 *Journal of Supply Chain Management* 3.

context of crime<sup>139</sup>. There are only a few studies on criminal tourists in the literature, and no classification specifically made on criminal tourists has been found.

### ***RQ9: What is the relationship between organized crime and tourism?***

Organized crime in tourism occurs over a wide range. One of the leading trends is health tourism. Within the scope of health tourism, organ transplantation tourism, which can be defined as patients engaged in tourism activities for organ transplantation, has an important place<sup>140</sup>. The situation in which potential organ recipients cross national borders to receive organ transplants is called organ transplant tourism<sup>141</sup>. In this context, we are faced with organ trafficking<sup>142</sup>. International organ trafficking is a transnational organized crime that<sup>143</sup> often requires the participation of healthcare professionals. Illegal organ transplantation, which is considered within the scope of white-collar crimes<sup>144</sup>, is closely related to organ transplant tourism<sup>145</sup> and the organ trade<sup>146</sup>; in the states where the organ trade occurs, a significant portion of recipient groups are transplant tourists<sup>147</sup>.

Another example of organized crime in tourism is child sex tourism, and at its core lies in human trafficking<sup>148</sup>. Tourism facilitates human trafficking, a growing type of crime<sup>149</sup>. In addition, the accommodation sector is especially vulnerable to prostitution and sexual exploitation.<sup>150</sup> It is stated that labor smuggling, human trafficking, and prostitution observed in some destinations are also related to tourism<sup>151</sup>. By its very nature, sex tourism refers to the combination of human trafficking<sup>152</sup>, sexual exploitation of children, prostitution, and illegal economy<sup>153</sup>.

### ***RQ10: What are the other effects of crime in tourism that extend beyond the aforementioned questions?***

The inverse relationship between tourism and crime affects many other phenomena. For example, it leads to non-visitation, isolation, xenophobia and the cessation of intercultural relations in the destination where the crime is committed<sup>154</sup>. In 1993, following the murder of British tourist Gary Colley in a robbery attempt in Florida, the British Foreign Office advised caution when traveling to Florida, which harmed tourism and hotel businesses<sup>155</sup>. This can undermine the socioeconomic structure of the host tourist destination<sup>156</sup>, especially in regions whose economies rely heavily on tourism<sup>157</sup>. Examples in this context include an increase in the budget allocated for law enforcement to ensure tourist safety or, conversely, an increase in tax evasion. In summary, sociological, moral, economic, and spiritual effects exist<sup>158</sup>. However, tourism is a highly flexible industry. Demand can decline sharply due to terrorism or crime. However, it can also recover rapidly<sup>159</sup>. Because firms in the tourism sector may demand higher insurance premiums to cover the cost of possible crime incidents, increasing crime increases costs<sup>160</sup>.

<sup>139</sup> H. Henderson, 'The Russians Are Coming New Crimes, Old Fears, and Intercultural Alliances' (2012) 20 *Studia Austriaca* 25.

<sup>140</sup> F. Ambagtsheer, D. Zaitch, and W. Weimar, 'The Battle for Human Organs: Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism in a Global Context' (2013) 14 *Global Crime* 1, 1.

<sup>141</sup> L. P. Francis, and J. G. Francis, 'Stateless Crimes, Legitimacy, and International Criminal Law: The Case of Organ Trafficking' (2010) 4 *Criminal Law and Philosophy* 283, 285.

<sup>142</sup> S. Quader, and S. A. Khan, 'Organ Trafficking and the Legal Framework in India: A Critical Analysis of the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, 1994' [2022] *Cardiometry* 403, 403.

<sup>143</sup> M. O'Brien, 'Problematic Provisions: Trafficking in Persons for Organ Removal under Australian Commonwealth Criminal Law' (2015) 39 *Criminal Law Journal* 101.

<sup>144</sup> S. McGuinness, and J. V. McHale, 'Transnational Crimes Related to Health: How Should the Law Respond to the Illicit Organ Tourism?' (2014) 34 *Legal Studies* 682, 683–684, 698.

<sup>145</sup> F. Ambagtsheer and others, 'Cross-Border Quest: The Reality and Legality of Transplant Tourism' (2012) 2012 *Journal of Transplantation*.

<sup>146</sup> A. Bagheri, 'Child Organ Trafficking: Global Reality and Inadequate International Response' (2016) 19 *Medicine Health Care and Philosophy* 239, 244; M. M. Islam and others, 'Assessing the Potential Impact of the Declaration of Istanbul 2008 on Internet Reporting of Human Organ Transplantation-Related Crimes Using Interrupted Time Series Analysis and Meta-Analysis Approaches' (2020) 52 *Transplantation Proceedings* 12, 18.

<sup>147</sup> M. D. Kosuri and E. L. Jeglic, 'Child Sex Tourism: American Perceptions of Foreign Victims' (2017) 23 *Journal of Sexual Aggression* 207.

<sup>148</sup> Kosuri and Jeglic (n 147) 2; T. Kyriazi, 'The Private Sector against Human Trafficking in Tourism' (2023) 34 *Anatolia: International Journal of Tourism and Hospitality Research* 30, 30–44.

<sup>149</sup> A. Paraskevas and M. Brookes, 'Nodes, Guardians and Signs: Raising Barriers to Human Trafficking in the Tourism Industry' (2018) 67 *Tourism Management* 147, 147.

<sup>150</sup> Zhang and Xiang (n 128) 2146–2148.

<sup>151</sup> R. Pati, 'Trading in Humans: A New Haven Perspective' (2012) 20 *Asia Pacific Law Review* 135, 135.

<sup>152</sup> M. John, 'A Critical Approach to Understanding Human Trafficking in the Caribbean' (2020), 24 *International Journal of Human Rights* 1666, 1671; O. Nguyen and T. Le, 'Perceptions of Governmental and Nongovernmental Actors of Human Trafficking Victims: The Case of Vietnam' (2021), 10 *International Journal for Crime Justice and Social Democracy* 127, 127–129.

<sup>153</sup> A. R. Tanielian and T. Brooks-Green, 'Cultural Change as a Long-Term Solution for Human Trafficking' (2018) 6 *International Journal of Human Rights and Constitutional Studies* 51, 54.

<sup>154</sup> Pizam, Tarlow, and Bloom (n 5) 24.

<sup>155</sup> Ho, Zhao and Dooley (n 77) 22.

<sup>156</sup> M. J. Muehsam and P. E. Tarlow, 'Involving the Police in Tourism' (1995) 16 *Tourism Management* 9, 9.

<sup>157</sup> T. M. Fullerton and A. G. Walke, 'Homicides, Exchange Rates, and Northern Border Retail Activity in Mexico' (2014) 53 *Annals of Regional Science* 631, 634.

<sup>158</sup> Pizam, Tarlow, and Bloom (n 5) 24.

<sup>159</sup> Clayton and Boxill (n 98) 99.

<sup>160</sup> G. Gozgor and others, 'The Effectiveness of the Legal System and Inbound Tourism' (2019) 76 *Annals of Tourism Research* 24, 33.

## Conclusion

Although studies on crime in tourism are limited, research shows that there is sometimes a direct and occasionally an inverse relationship between these two phenomena. Tourism, which emerges as an individual's activity, shows sensitivity to crime and responds to crime in this context.

There are hypotheses that tourism growth will increase crime against people and property. For example, a correlation was found between the increase in the number of tourists in Hawaii between 1961 and 1975 and the number of theft and sexual assault crimes<sup>161</sup>. In this context, there is a direct relationship between tourism seasonality and crime committed in the destination<sup>162</sup>. However, this relationship is two-way. Tourists can be perpetrators and victims. Tourists can steal the facility's belongings in the hotel room where they stay or items on flights.<sup>163</sup> Again, in Australia, when destinations that host a high number of tourists are compared with destinations that host a relatively low number of tourists, it has been reported that the crime rate is higher and that this excess coincides with school holiday periods<sup>164</sup>. In this context, an increase in the number of tourists is deemed an incentive to commit crime. However, a study on national park visits covering every region in the United States between 1979 and 1998 yielded results that did not support this proposition. The number of visits did not increase the number of violent crimes or crimes against property.<sup>165</sup> This may also be related to the type of tourists visiting national parks.

It is helpful to mention environmental criminology (or spatial criminology in other terms) to understand one aspect of crime in tourism. Environmental criminology focuses on the intersection of perpetrators and victims in time and space<sup>166</sup>. In this context, tourism crimes are also mentioned in the doctrine. The studies carried out on the victimization of tourists benefit from the hotspot theory and routine activities theory, which are referred to in victimology. According to the hotspot theory, crime against tourists occurs in spaces where tourists are concentrated. As a matter of fact, according to this theory, certain physical locations can pave the way for crimes against property. Environmental factors affect tourism crimes rather than individual tourist behavior. This causes tourists' vulnerability to crime and affects the occurrence of tourism crimes. For this reason, it is expected that tourism crimes will be committed intensively in tourist spaces where tourists attract intense attention, and it is also seen that the expression criminogenic space is used to express this. Within the scope of this theory, it is also stated that criminogenic spaces make tourists more vulnerable to crime. Therefore, if the crime rate in a tourist destination is low, the rate of tourism crimes will also be low.

On the other hand, routine activities theory proposes that a crime occurs under the influence of three interacting elements: (1) a suitable target, that is, the victim, (2) a motivated perpetrator, and (3) the absence or inadequacy of capable guardians to prevent the interaction between the victim and the perpetrator. The presence of one of these three elements is sufficient to encourage committing a crime<sup>167</sup>. Some tourists accept that language differences make them more vulnerable to crime<sup>168</sup>. The victimized tourists' desperation and inability to find an interlocutor other than the police make tourists attractive targets in terms of crimes occurring in tourist destinations<sup>169</sup>. It is possible to predict that tourist victims who are exposed to a crime committed by a perpetrator outside of their everyday life and who they are unlikely to encounter again will be less psychologically affected by the crime. However, compared with non-tourist victims, the impact may be more significant because these victims are distant from informal support networks and unfamiliar with formal ones. The effect of crime on tourists is ambiguous and may vary depending on the situation. This uncertainty can be overcome by increasing the number of studies on tourist victims<sup>170</sup>.

Cruise ships are one of these spots within the framework of hotspot theory. Due to their nature, the absence of a safety mechanism on a cruise ship creates a tourist attraction that no tourist would want<sup>171</sup>. Studies on legislative initiatives in this field have attracted considerable attention. These legislative initiatives realize tourists' interests in providing crime-free travel<sup>172</sup>.

It is also stated that studies have examined the relationship between island tourism and crime. However, a more reasonable approach would be to consider the relationship between island mobility and crime<sup>173</sup>. The research on Saint Lucia, covering the period between 1996 and 2004, shows a strong relationship between crime against property and tourist mobilities. Recent studies

<sup>161</sup> Fujii and Mak (n 11) 27–28, 34.

<sup>162</sup> P. Brunt and N. Hooton, 'Community Responses to Tourism and Crime' (2010) 12 *Crime Prevention & Community Safety* 42, 42.

<sup>163</sup> Pratt (n 132).

<sup>164</sup> D. J. Walmsley, R. M. Boskovic, and J. J. Pigram, 'Tourism and Crime: An Australian Perspective' (1983) 15 *Journal of Leisure Research* 136.

<sup>165</sup> E. L. Grinols, D. B. Mustard and M. Staha, 'How Do Visitors Affect Crime?' (2011) 27 *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* 363, 377–378.

<sup>166</sup> Hodgkinson and Tilley (n 6) 281.

<sup>167</sup> K. A. Boakye, 'The Concept of Capable Guardianship: Exploring Police Views on Tourist Protection in Ghana' (2009) 11 *Crime Prevention & Community Safety* 104.

<sup>168</sup> Lepp and Gibson (n 8) 610.

<sup>169</sup> E. Cohen, 'Robbed: A Serial Autoethnography of a Tourism Researcher as a Robbery Victim' (2019) 44 *Tourism Recreation Research* 507, 514.

<sup>170</sup> M. Ozascilar and R.I. Mawby, 'The Impact of Crime on Tourists and the Need for Greater Support for Tourist Victims' (2023) 29 *International Review of Victimology* 3, 12–13.

<sup>171</sup> L. C. Harris and A. Pressey, 'Dirty Work or Working Dirty?' Deceiving Cruise Tourists' (2021) 88 *Annals of Tourism Research* 9.

<sup>172</sup> T. R. Panko, B. P. George, and T. L. Henthorne, 'Cruise Crimes: Economic-Legal Issues and Current Debates' (2009) 11 *Amfiteatru Economic* 585.

<sup>173</sup> J. Scott, and Z. Staines, 'Charting the Place of Islands in Criminology: On Isolation, Integration and Insularity' (2021) 25 *Theoretical Criminology* 578, 595.

have found a slight correlation between violent crimes and tourism. The increase in crime was proportionally lower than the increase in tourist mobility<sup>174</sup>.

Another area of interest is the relationship between crime and the Airbnb sharing economy<sup>175</sup>. For example, the relationship between Airbnb and crime became a national problem in the United States after a firearm attack occurred in a house rented through Airbnb on Halloween in 2019<sup>176</sup>. Another study suggests that room sharing has a positive relationship with violence and property crimes when comparing those who rent a whole house to Airbnb<sup>177</sup>.

Research on crimes committed in forest areas is quite limited, but there is a need for studies on the effects of such crimes on recreational activities<sup>178</sup>. There is also the possibility that crimes in which tourists are victims remain a black number. Tourists face various difficulties in reporting crimes to competent authorities. They are unwilling to do so because of their limited time in the destination where they are victimized<sup>179</sup>. Although there have been studies by tourism researchers on crime in tourism, it has been observed that the subject has yet to be studied extensively by criminologists<sup>180</sup>.

In summary, this literature review provides an overview of the extensive research on crime in tourism. By bringing together diverse perspectives, theories, and empirical studies, we have gained valuable insights into the complex nature of crime within tourism. Numerous studies have shown that various factors influence criminal activities. These factors include socioeconomic disparities, cultural nuances, environmental conditions, and inadequate security measures. Crime in tourism is not a simple problem but a complicated web of interactions that requires detailed understanding for effective intervention.

Several important themes emerged, highlighting the significance of conducting analyses specific to the context, promoting stakeholder collaboration, and developing preventive strategies tailored to the situation. In addition, the importance of the role of local communities, law enforcement, and tourism sector actors in reducing crime has not been emphasized enough in the literature. Community involvement, education, and the establishment of effective communication channels between all stakeholders are critical components of successful crime prevention initiatives. This literature review also highlighted the gaps and challenges that still exist. Future research should address these gaps by exploring under-researched regions, incorporating emerging technologies, and using innovative methodologies to improve our understanding of the subject. Continual reassessment of crime patterns and trends in tourism is necessary; longitudinal studies and real-time data collection can contribute significantly to refining preventive measures and policy development.

In conclusion, after reviewing the existing literature on crime in tourism, it is evident that this issue requires informed and collaborative intervention. Moving forward, building on current research and promoting interdisciplinary collaboration while adopting evolving methodologies to create a more secure and resilient environment for tourists globally is crucial. This literature review serves as a foundation for a comprehensive understanding of crime in tourism, paving the way for future investigations and evidence-based interventions.

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<sup>174</sup> L. Johnny and L. A. Jordan, 'Tourism and Crime in the Caribbean: A Case Study of St Lucia' (2007) 10 Annals of Leisure Research 475, 475, 479.

<sup>175</sup> D. J. Maldonado-Guzman, 'Airbnb and Crime in Barcelona (Spain): Testing the Relationship Using a Geographically Weighted Regression' (2022) 28 Annals of GIS 147, 147–160.

<sup>176</sup> E. J. van Holm and J. Monaghan, 'The Relationship of Airbnb to Neighborhood Calls for Service in Three Cities' (2021) 116 Cities.

<sup>177</sup> Y. H. Xu, L. Pennington-Gray, and J. Kim, 'Spatial Effect of Crime on Peer-to-Peer Lodging Performance' (2022) 61 Journal of Travel Research 855, 565.

<sup>178</sup> J. F. Tynon and D. J. Chavez, 'Crime in National Forests: A Call for Research' (2006) 104 Journal of Forestry 154, 154–157.

<sup>179</sup> Çakmakçı (n 45) 53.

<sup>180</sup> Mawby, Brunt, and Hambly (n 40) 468.

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