



## Measuring the Social Impact of Tourism in the European Union

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### Abstract

The tourism sector has demonstrated significant resilience to external shocks in recent years, achieving a remarkable recovery that resulted in a record number of overnight stays in the European Union in 2023. Nevertheless, the high volume of tourism can also lead to negative externalities in certain locations and during specific periods. As one of the EU's 14 strategic industrial ecosystems, the European Commission identified tourism as one of the crucial to be monitored for a sustainable development, which requires attention to its economic, environmental, and social dimensions.

The session aims to explore the social impact of tourism and the interactions among tourists, residents, and workers within a sustainable tourism ecosystem. The focus is on identifying and measuring indicators and tools to assess the impacts across these three categories. We encourage research that examines how tourism affects local communities, cultural identity, the workforce, and broader social dynamics within the European context. Research topics may include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

#### 1. Residents

- The effects of tourism on the quality of life and social well-being of local communities.
- The socio-cultural effect of tourism, including issues such as changes in service provision and local identity.
- The impact of tourism on housing use and prices.

#### 2. Tourists

- The role of tourism in shaping tourists cultural identity.
- The influence of tourism experiences on social behavior and values of tourists.

### 3. Workers in the tourism sector

- The impact of tourism on employment and job satisfaction.
- Skills and career development opportunities for workers in the tourism sector.

We welcome original research, case studies, and theoretical contributions that address the social impacts of tourism from various disciplinary perspectives, with a preference for studies proposing indicators or tools quantifying and measuring the social impacts of tourism.