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ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF TOURISM

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INTRODUCTION

Ladies and gentlemen,

We would like to present you with the latest edition of Economic Tourism Problems, a journal which has been regularly published since 2002 (until 2015 it was Scientific Papers of the University of Szczecin, Economic Problems of Tourism). For many years it has been an important platform for the exchange of views among researchers dealing with tourism issues. “Economic Problems of Tourism” provided a presentation and dissemination of research results, discussion and integration of the scientific community and practitioners for whom issues related to a wide range of subjects directly and indirectly related to tourism were relevant. The journal was visited by representatives of various scientific disciplines: economy, geography, management, physical culture, law, sociology, finance, spatial management (and many others), which proved the interdisciplinarity of tourism and allowed all researchers to better understand its essence. The quality and significance of the journal on the Polish market was recognized by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education’s award of 13 points for 2013–2016, which resulted in the highest scores for the journal in the field of tourism in Poland. Unfortunately, as a result of changes introduced by the Act of 20 July 2018, The Law on Higher Education and Science, called the “Constitution for Science”, we are forced to stop publishing the journal. We would like to thank all those who have supported “Economic Tourism Problems” for many years – Scientific Council, Reviewers, Authors and Thematic Editors, Statistical Editors, Secretaries of the Editorial Office, Language and Technical Editors and, above all, Readers, wishing them further satisfactory research work and wide publishing possibilities.

Beata Meyer

ZASTOSOWANIE SYSTEMÓW KONWERSACYJNYCH W BIZNESIE TURYSTYCZNYM

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KODY JEL	033, M15, Z33
ŚŁOWA KLUCZOWE	chatboty, biznes turystyczny, nowoczesne technologie, systemy konwersacyjne
ABSTRAKT	Koncepcji dla zastosowań systemów konwersacyjnych jest wiele. Wartym uwagi obszarem, w którym można zastosować programy prowadzące dialog w języku naturalnym jest biznes turystyczny. Wysokie koszty prowadzenia kampanii marketingowych, utrzymania <i>call center</i> firmy oraz pracy ekspertów, a także ich ograniczona dostępność czy niedostateczna liczba to tylko niektóre czynniki, które mogą wpływać na zwiększone zainteresowanie systemami konwersacyjnymi i ilością ich implementacji. W artykule przedstawiono zagadnienia związane z zastosowaniem systemów konwersacyjnych w biznesie turystycznym oraz możliwe koszty i korzyści wynikające z takiego rozwiązania. Autorka analizuje zjawisko zastosowań systemów konwersacyjnych w informacji turystycznej, obsłudze klienta, w prowadzeniu kampanii marketingowych. Przeprowadzona analiza wskazuje na liczne korzyści jakie przedsiębiorcy branży turystycznej mogą uzyskać z implementacji takiego inteligentnego oprogramowania. Korzyści z użytkowania systemów konwersacyjnych mogą również czerpać klienci usług turystycznych na wszystkich etapach podróży. Przeprowadzona analiza wskazuje na interesującą perspektywę prowadzenia nowoczesnego biznesu turystycznego.

Wprowadzenie

Według World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC, 2019) w 2018 roku globalna gospodarka turystyczna, obejmująca wszelką działalność bezpośrednio i pośrednio związaną z turystyką, wytworzyła 10,4% światowego PKB, a jej udział w globalnym zatrudnieniu wyniósł 10%, co przekłada się na 319 mln miejsc pracy (w przybliżeniu co 10. zatrudniony pracuje w turystyce). W tym samym roku UNWTO odnotowała światowy rekord 1,4 mld podróży (UNWTO, 2019). Według

przewiduyań, liczba podróży zagranicznych przekroczy w 2030 roku 1,8 mld (UNWTO, 2011). Wartość globalnego rynku usług turystycznych (wliczając szerszy wpływ inwestycji, wpływła łańcucha dostaw i wpływy indukowane) wyniosła w 2018 roku 8,8 bln USD i oczekuje się, że w 2019 roku wzrośnie o 3,6% do 9,1 bln USD (WTTC, 2019, s. 3). Bez względu na przyjęte kryteria jest to potężna gałąź gospodarki. Wzrost liczby podróży i wydatków, jakie klienci przeznaczają na te cele zachęcił, a w wielu przypadkach wymógł na przedsiębiorstwach rozwijanie i ulepszanie oferty, tak aby sprostać wymaganiom podróżujących, którzy oczekują sprawnej (często natychmiastowej) obsługi i udogodnień.

Komunikowanie się klientów z przedsiębiorstwem turystycznym i odwrotnie wymaga sprawnego zarządzania wiedzą dla klienta, o kliencie i od klienta. W realizacji tego procesu nie sposób obejść się bez wykorzystywania technologii informacyjno-komunikacyjnych, w tym bez komputerowych baz wiedzy (BW). Właściwy dobór technologii i skuteczne ich zastosowanie warunkuje lojalność i zadowolenie dotychczasowych klientów oraz pozyskiwanie nowych (por. Janas, 2015). Relatywnie innowacyjnym i interaktywnym narzędziem wykorzystywanym w procesie komunikacji klientów z przedsiębiorstwami są systemy konwersacyjne (SK), które stanowią istotny instrument biznesowy wielu firm, również tych działających w branży turystycznej. Głównym celem artykułu jest identyfikacja potencjalnych korzyści i mankamentów związanych z zastosowaniem SK w branży turystycznej. Zaprezentowano w nim także przykładowe wdrożenia SK w przedsiębiorstwach turystycznych oraz ukazano perspektywy doskonalenia obsługi klienta przy wykorzystaniu omawianych systemów.

Systemy konwersacyjne i ich zastosowanie w turystyce

Tematyka dotycząca wykorzystania SK w biznesie stanowi obszar zainteresowania zarówno inżynierów, naukowców, jak i przedsiębiorców. System konwersacyjny (zwany często chatbotem, wirtualnym człowiekiem, rozmówcą czy asystentem) to program symulujący zachowanie człowieka w zakresie prowadzenia konwersacji. Zadaniem doskonałego SK jest symulowanie ludzkiego dialogu w taki sposób, aby odróżnienie systemu od realnego rozmówcy było zadaniem niełatwym, a w najlepszym przypadku – niemożliwym.

Systemów komunikujących się w języku naturalnym z roku na rok przybywa, a ich kompetencje związane z prowadzeniem dialogu są wciąż doskonalone. Wiele SK dostępnych jest na stronach WWW. Z wieloma SK porozmawiać można za pośrednictwem komunikatorów, które umożliwiają szybką wymianę komunikatów¹. Linie lotnicze, branża hotelarska, biura podróży a nawet firmy oferujące wynajem samochodów dostrzegają potrzebę zastosowania SK w komunikacji z klientami. Poniżej zaprezentowano wybrane wdrożenia SK w branży turystycznej.

W 2016 roku firma Expedia.com uruchomiła bota dla swoich klientów. Podróżni za pośrednictwem komunikatora Messenger przekazują swoje sugestie dot. wyjazdu, a bot w szybki

¹ Przykładowo jeden z najpopularniejszych komunikatorów – Messenger odnotował już ponad 1,3 mld użytkowników oraz ponad 300 tys. aktywnych botów. Każdego miesiąca osoby prywatne i firmy wymieniają między sobą przez Messengera ponad 20 mld wiadomości (Messenger Facts & Stats Resources, 2018).

i wygodny sposób wyświetla adekwatne do zapytania oferty hoteli oraz pomaga w procesie rezerwacji (Street, 2016).

Linia lotnicza KLM Royal Dutch Airlines również wdrożyła SK, który korzysta z wtyczki do checkboxa na Messengerze na stronie kas, dzięki czemu klienci mogą wyrazić zgodę na otrzymywanie potwierdzeń rezerwacji, powiadomień o odprawie, kartach pokładowych i aktualizacji statusu lotu za pośrednictwem komunikatora. W typowym tygodniu pracownicy firmy KLM muszą przeprowadzić 15 tys. rozmów z klientami w kilkunastu różnych językach. W związku z tym, firma zaczęła poszukiwać nowych sposobów na zapewnienie doskonałej, spersonalizowanej, ale jednocześnie szybkiej obsługi klienta i dlatego zdecydowano wdrożyć SK. W pierwszym miesiącu po wdrożeniu SK liczba klientów na Facebooku firmy KLM wzrosła o 40%, a ponad 500 tys. osób wysłało 1,7 mln wiadomości na Messenger. Obecnie SK firmy KLM może prowadzić rozmowy w 13 językach (Marques, 2018).

1 lipca 2018 roku firma Sabre Corporation – wiodący dostawca technologii dla branży turystycznej – uruchomiła pilotażowy SK, który za pośrednictwem Messenger ma stanowić pomoc dla klientów biur podróży. Pilotażowy program ma zbadać, w jaki sposób sztuczna inteligencja może wesprzeć biura podróży i udoskonalić obsługę podróżujących (zob. więcej Sabre, 2018).

W 2019 roku Port Lotniczy Wrocław uruchomił SK, który pomaga podróżnym w wyszukiwaniu połączeń lotniczych i miejsc parkingowych. Wysyła ponadto powiadomienia o statusie lotu, podpowiada, gdzie zrobić zakupy czy wypić kawę (zob. więcej Rzeczpospolita, 2019).

Skyscanner, Booking.com i wiele innych firm funkcjonujących w branży turystycznej uruchomiło SK w celu przyspieszenia i usprawnienia obsługi. Firma Amadeus również rozpoczęła testy z użyciem botów jako wsparcia dla podróżnych oraz firm, które ich obsługują. Firma Amadeus wskazuje na dużą potrzebę doskonalenia procesu komunikacji SK z ich użytkownikami, jest jednak przekonana, że właściwie skonstruowany SK usprawni proces obsługi podróżnych (por. Amadeus, 2017).

Podróże wiążą się z wieloma wyborami związanymi z lokalizacją, pakietem usług, dogodnym terminem czy odpowiednimi atrakcjami, a także są ściśle związane ze zmiennością warunków (opóźnienia lotu, korki na drodze, zmiana warunków pogodowych). Wszystko to sprawia, że klienci są zmuszeni do kontaktu z przedsiębiorstwem turystycznym, a natychmiastowe odpowiedzi na zadawane pytania są wyznacznikiem zasadniczego postępu w obsłudze klienta. Coraz więcej firm turystycznych dlatego stawia na SK, które już sprawdzają się jako doradcy podróży, ułatwiają pracę firmom transportowym, np. poprzez możliwość wyszukania trasy i zakupu biletów z poziomu komunikatora, oraz biurom podróży – błyskawicznie przedstawiają propozycję lokalizacji czy hotelu w zależności od potrzeb i upodobań użytkownika. Co ważne, SK coraz częściej są zintegrowane z systemami IT biur podróży, dzięki czemu mogą udzielać bardziej konkretnych informacji dotyczących oferty (por. Ciszewski, 2019).

Korzyści i problemy wykorzystania systemów konwersacyjnych w komunikacji przedsiębiorstw z klientami

Systemy konwersacyjne mogą wywarzyć istotny, dodatni wpływ na wszystkie aspekty relacji przedsiębiorstw z klientami, nawet jeśli sprzedaż nie jest dokonywana za pośrednictwem sieci. W dalszej części artykułu zaprezentowano wybrane korzyści, jakie mogą wyniknąć z zastosowania SK w branży turystycznej.

Wdrożenie SK może wpływać na zmniejszenie kosztów prowadzenia przedsiębiorstwa turystycznego. Według badań K. Kuligowskiej (2011, s. 6), SK mogą dostarczyć przedsiębiorstwom sporych oszczędności. Autorka zestawiła roczne koszty zatrudnienia czterech wykwalifikowanych pracowników z kosztem wdrożenia i rocznego utrzymania wysoko wyspecjalizowanego wirtualnego asystenta. Wykazała, że przy takim zestawieniu danych, oszczędności firmy wynoszą 95 tys. zł (stan na 2010 r.). Podkreśliła także, że SK nadal dysponuje potencjałem przeprowadzenia nieograniczonej liczby rozmów jednocześnie.

SK są dostępne 24 godziny na dobę, 7 dni w tygodniu, 365/366 dni w roku, co w przypadku międzynarodowej turystyki i różnic czasowych w poszczególnych krajach ma szczególne znaczenie. Klient o każdej porze dnia i nocy może zasypywać SK masą pytań, uzyskując natychmiastowe odpowiedzi. Dodatkowo SK może prowadzić wiele różnych tematycznie rozmów, z różnymi klientami w tym samym czasie. Do pracy tego rodzaju konieczne byłoby zatrudnienie całej „armii” pracowników. SK może to zadanie wykonać w pojedynkę.

Według badania, na które powołuje się w swym artykule M. Żmigrodzki „w przedsiębiorstwach 7–21% czasu pracowników poświęcane jest na odpowiadanie na powtarzające się pytania, 70% pytań o charakterze biznesowym powtarza się, a blisko 86,9% pytań można obsłużyć automatycznie. Jednocześnie 35% polskich firm wskazuje, że ponosi znaczące straty z powodu niepotrzebnego powtarzania tych samych czynności, a 37% z powodu utraty wiedzy po odejściu pracownika” (Żmigrodzki, 2011). Takich powtarzających się zapytań nie brakuje w branży turystycznej. SK znakomicie mogą sprawdzać się w odpowiadaniu na rutynowe pytania, przy czym za każdym razem będą to robić z pełnym zaangażowaniem i cierpliwością. Implementacja SK sprawi też, że utrata wiedzy po odejściu pracownika nie będzie już stanowiła problemów dla przedsiębiorców, gdyż cała wiedza SK zapisana jest w jego bazie wiedzy. Ponadto, o ile wiedza, w którą zostanie wyposażony SK jest zaimplementowana solidnie i przemyślanie, nie będzie popełniała błędów w trakcie konwersacji z użytkownikami (tj. nie będzie udzielał nieaktualnych i niepoprawnych odpowiedzi).

W międzynarodowej branży turystycznej dużą barierę w procesie komunikacji stanowi obsługa obcokrajowców. SK można przystosować do obsługi klientów obcojęzycznych – w ten sposób, można dotrzeć z ofertą do szerszego grona klientów, bez potrzeby zatrudniania wykwalifikowanych tłumaczy. SK mogą również automatycznie pozyskiwać informacje związane z turystyką, tworzyć oferty i ułatwiać ich przeglądanie.

Współczesne SK mają wbudowany syntezator mowy, dzięki czemu wypowiedź SK możemy nie tylko przeczytać na ekranie, ale również usłyszeć. Tworzone są również systemy rozpoznającej mowę. Takie rozwiązanie może być szczególnie istotne w przypadku osób niewidomych lub

niedowidzących oraz dla osób, które z różnych powodów nie mogą wprowadzić zapytania do systemu za pomocą klawiatury.

SK w trakcie rozmów mogą pozyskiwać i gromadzić wiedzę o kliencie oraz od klienta. W ten sposób, mogą stworzyć i zapamiętać indywidualny profil klienta i na podstawie danych zamieszczonych w BW dostosować ofertę do indywidualnych potrzeb.

Wysoka jakość obsługi podróżujących w czasach, kiedy przepływ informacji jest niemal natychmiastowy stanowi wyzwanie dla przedsiębiorstw turystycznych. Szczególnie ważny w tej branży wydaje się czynnik ludzki, który w obsłudze konsumentów ma obszar niepewności i ryzyka związanego z posiadaniem i umiejętnościami wykorzystania kompetencji w miejscu pracy. SK w odróżnieniu od ludzi nie męczą się i nie denerwują, są cierpliwe i za każdym razem z pełnym zaangażowaniem obsługują klientów. SK nie oczekują od konsumentów napiwków, by lepiej ich obsługiwać, nie wymagają przerw na posiłek czy kawę, nie potrzebują urlopów, nie zorganizują strajku. Są przez to wydajniejsze w działaniu (por. Janas, 2015; Janas, Kaleta, 2011).

Wymienia się dodatkowo następujące korzyści z implementacji SK (Wang, Baker, Wagner, Wakefield, 2007, s. 143–157): wzbudzanie pozytywnych reakcji wśród użytkowników, pobudzanie ciekawości, odczuwanie przyjemności przy korzystaniu z SK. Ponadto użytkownicy częściej poświęcają na interakcję z wirtualnymi postaciami więcej uwagi. Badania wykazują również, że po wdrożeniu SK odnotowano wzrost liczby odwiedzin serwisu, wzrost sprzedaży online i odciążenie pracowników z działu obsługi klienta (por. Kuligowska, 2011).

Współczesne SK mają też jednak spore ograniczenia, które w dużym stopniu wpływają na ich użyteczność. Przeprowadzona analiza (zob. Janas, 2015, rozdz. 2, pkt 2.5 i 2.6) wskazuje, że wiedza, w której wyposażone są SK jest często zdezaktualizowana oraz zawiera wiele błędów merytorycznych i językowych. SK udzielają ponadto wiele nieadekwatnych odpowiedzi do zapytań rozmówców, cechuje je brak konsekwencji w udzielanych odpowiedziach, a reakcje SK na wypowiedzi użytkowników często się powtarzają. Wskazane mankamenty wynikają m.in. ze złożoności języka naturalnego, problemów związanych z przetwarzaniem BW SK (spore rozmiary BW utrudniają inżynierom jej przeglądanie, analizowanie, aktualizowanie i doskonalenie), ograniczeń technologii informacyjno-komunikacyjnych czy problemów automatycznego doskonalenia BW SK. Dodatkową barierą zastosowania SK w biznesie (w tym również turystycznym) są koszty, jakie muszą ponieść przedsiębiorcy, by wdrożyć system. Na koszty wdrożenia SK wpływają m.in.: liczba faktów w BW, stopień trudności integracji z zewnętrznymi bazami danych czy koszty związane z wizerunkiem wirtualnego doradcy (por. Stanusch, 2019). Dodatkową kwestią wpływającą na liczbę wdrożeń SK jest czas, jaki personel firmy musi poświęcić na opracowanie potencjalnych pytań i odpowiedzi, które implementowane są do BW SK oraz czas związany z jej aktualizowaniem i doskonaleniem (chyba że system konwersacyjny wyposażony został w mechanizm automatycznego zasilania BW na podstawie danych uzyskanych zewnętrznych baz danych, systemu zarządzania przedsiębiorstwa, czy od rozmówców, co w ostatnim przypadku może skutkować zasileniem BW w tzw. śmieciowe fakty).

Zakończenie

Zastosowanie systemów konwersacyjnych w branży turystycznej nie jest już fantastyką. Stało się faktem i jest silnie związane z rozwojem internetu oraz wciąż rosnącymi potrzebami podróżnych (choć wciąż dla wielu podróżujących SK stanowią nowość). Coraz więcej firm turystycznych dostrzega pozytywne aspekty SK, co przekłada się na rosnącą liczbę implementacji tych programów, szczególnie w ostatnich latach. Komunikacja z wykorzystaniem SK jest użyteczna nie tylko dla przedsiębiorcy, ale i dla klienta. Pozwala bowiem na stosunkowo tanią łączność w czasie rzeczywistym bez angażowania dużej liczby pracowników, daje możliwość synchronicznej komunikacji oraz indywidualnego podejścia do każdego klienta, ale o masowym zasięgu (zob. szerzej Janas, 2015). Należy jednak podkreślić, że wdrożenie SK w firmie turystycznej zakończy się sukcesem pod warunkiem, że będą one wyposażone w aktualne, dobrze funkcjonujące bazy wiedzy, by były w stanie natychmiast „zrozumieć” pytania i udzielić kompetentnej odpowiedzi w zmiennym otoczeniu oraz będą dysponować spersonalizowanymi danymi podróżującego, wtedy SK przestaną być tylko zaawansowanymi narzędziami, a staną się inteligentnymi partnerami w podróży.

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THE APPLICATION OF CONVERSATIONAL SYSTEMS IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY

KEYWORDS

chatbots, conversational systems, modern technology, tourism industry

ABSTRACT

There are many notions for the use of conversational systems. A vital field to apply natural-language conversation software systems can be seen in the tourism industry. The high costs of running marketing campaigns, maintaining the company's call centre and the work of specialists as well as their limited availability or insufficient number are just some of the factors that may generate interest in conversational systems and their use in the tourism industry. The article takes aim at presenting issues related to the use of conversational systems in running a tourism business and presenting the possible costs and benefits resulting from a solution like this. The author studies the application of conversational systems in tourist information centres, customer service, in running a company's marketing campaigns, and more. The conducted analysis indicates numerous benefits that tourism industry entrepreneurs can derive from implementing this kind of intelligent software. Consumers of travel services can also enjoy the benefits of using conversational systems at all stages of travel. The conducted analysis puts an interesting perspective on running an up-to-date tourism business.

CONDO HOTELS IN POLAND – AN OUTLINE OF THE PHENOMENON AND RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

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ABSTRACT	The dynamic development of condo hotels in Poland has prompted the authors of this article to undertake an investigation into this phenomenon, which is new to the CEE region. The aim of the article is to present the general characteristics and factors of development of the current and prospective market of condo hotels in Poland, thereby filling in the knowledge gap located at the boundary between the studies of real estate market, investment market, geography of tourism and land management. Basing on an overview of the scientific literature, the desk research method and an analysis of the available offer, the authors present the hybrid condo hotel concept and the nature of the Polish market of condo-type tourism real estate – its size, geography, determinants and factors of investment risk. The authors have also outlined further research directions, in particular in the broad perspective of tourism studies, which so far has been neglected and is new to Poland.

Introduction

The real estate market in Poland is developing rapidly. We are also witnessing a growth of the interest in purchasing housing units as a means of money investment, with two perspectives of profit: purchasing and then leasing out or purchasing, restoring/renovating and selling with profit (house flipping). Investment in real estate is characterised by great stability and safety. At the same time, we are witnessing a constant growth of the number of tourists, mainly in cities and most attractive

tourist destinations. Such circumstances encourage the development of condo hotels, which have been operating in Poland for some ten years now and in the years 2016–2018 (as statistics show) entered a phase of rapid growth. This trend (located at the boundary between real estate, tourism and finance markets), which is relatively new to the Polish market of tourism real estate, has not been explored sufficiently, in particular from the perspective of tourism studies.

The aim of this article is to present the specifics and factors of the development of the current and prospective market of condo hotels in Poland, thereby filling in the knowledge gap located at the boundary between the studies of real estate market, investment market, tourism geography and land management. The research methods applied to achieve this aim included an overview of the available literature, research of the condo hotel offer in Poland as well as desk research analysis covering, among others, expert publications and comments as well as reports prepared by professional companies operating on the real estate market.

Condo hotels – history and specifics

The term “condo hotel” combines two words: condominium and hotel¹. In fact, this is a combination of the civil law institution of joint ownership with hotel services. The term “condominium” dates back to the ancient Roman law (Bucholc-Srogosz, 2016). It can be defined, after K. Chrąszcz (2014, p. 49), as a “large property complex divided into separate units the ownership of which is purchased by individual owners together with the right to common areas controlled by the board”. The contemporary market of condo-investment originated in the United States (for more, see Condominium Act) and the equivalent of the American “condominium” in the Polish reality is “wspólnota mieszkaniowa” (“housing community”). The condo system is employed both for residential buildings (detached house estates, blocks of flats) and non-residential buildings (offices, hotels, dormitories). The first condo hotels created in the USA were, among others, in Florida (Milewska, Włodarczyk, 2015). After the collapse of the idea at the end of the 80s, in early years of the twenty-first century, the condo concept reappeared on the market and spread across the USA, Western European countries, Australia, and, in recent years, also developing countries – in particular in areas with big demand for tourist accommodation (Pizam, 2006; Stoch-Parulok, 2014; Warnken, Guilding, 2014).

This market is located at the boundary between the markets of real estate, tourism and finances (Wróblewski, 2011), therefore, in order to understand it, one has to have at least a basic understanding of each of them (fig.1). In many countries, it is a common practice to leave the management of condo hotels to well identifiable hotel brands (Starwood's St. Regis and W. Marriott's, Ritz-Carlton, Hilton's Conrad, Mandarin Oriental, Le Meridien, Kempinski).

¹ In the English literature, the term “condotel” can also be encountered; it is used by Australian and Asian researchers, e.g. Warnken, Guilding (2009); Ha, Phong (2015).



Figure 1. Interconnections between the condo hotel market and other markets

Source: authors based on: Wróblewski, 2011.

From the perspective of a tourist (hotel guest), the operation of a condo hotel does not differ from a regular hotel establishment. For the guest, the main information about the expected standard is the category of the establishment (stars awarded). It should, however, be stressed that condo hotels differ from regular hotels on one significant point. As underlined by J. Highley (2005, p. 35), a condo hotel differs in that “the units – rooms or suites – are owned by individuals and then rented out on a daily basis to transient guests”. H. Stoch-Parulok (2014) defines them as a combination of time share system and traditional condominium and, at the same time, an attractive hybrid that hits the client’s needs. From the perspective of a potential buyer/investor, a condo hotel allows to own a hotel room (apartment) and use it in a specific period and for the rest of the time rent it and reap the profits from renting. As pointed out by A. Pizam (2006), in addition to the psychological satisfaction of owning a (luxury) hotel, one should also note the ability to take advantage of the hotel’s common facilities. The only limit is the “hotel regime”, imposed by the developer and the operator in respect of the furnishing of the object and the arrangement and equipment of rooms, which prevents the owner from introducing changes to their housing units (Bucholc-Srogosz, 2016). Furthermore, when the developer “maintains ownership of the common areas such as restaurants, bars, shops, etc., while the units are sold to individual investors, the allocation of expenses between the owners of the units and the owners of the common area can cause significant rifts between the two parties” (Pizam, 2006, p. 168).

In addition to condo hotels, in this segment of the hotel real estate market, there is a similar category of objects called “aparthotels”. In spite of a number of similarities and the common practice of using these terms interchangeably, these are in fact separate types of hotel property, in particular in terms of the nature and scope of their use and management (tab. 1). As stressed by J. Szreder (2014), clients of the both types become owners of hotel units without the possibility to check in for permanent stay. While in the case of aparthotels, the investor/unit (apartment) owner can conclude a lease agreement with the operator or use the apartment solely for their own needs,

in the case of condo hotels, the investor is obliged to conclude a lease agreement. In Poland, the majority of facilities of both types try to attract purchasers with amenities, such as concierge, wellness & spa, swimming pool, sauna, gastronomy or conference centre.

Table 1. Differences between condo hotel and aparthotel

Feature	Condo hotel	Aparthotel
Accommodation type	Furnished room/apartment in 4–5-star hotel	Studio unit (room with kitchenette) or bigger apartments with 1–2 bedroom(s) and kitchen
Option to use the unit by the owner after resignation from lease	Occasionally	Permanently
Settlement of running costs (including cleaning)	Running operator	Owner
Possibility to have additional services provided	Bigger scope	Smaller scope
Room furnishing	Homogeneous style and standard	Owner furnishes the room him/herself
Management	Object as a whole — one operator	Possibility of separate management

Source: authors based on: Chrząszcz (2014), Szreder (2014).

While in the Polish context, condo hotels and aparthotels are a new segment of the tourist (accommodation) market (Bednarska, Nawrot, 2014; Milewska, Włodarczyk, 2015), perceived as innovative, in many tourist regions of the world, e.g. Gold Coast in Australia, this is a mature market, which has overtaken hotels as the most popular form of tourist accommodation (Warnken, Russell, Faulkner, 2003; Warnken, Guilding, 2014).

Investing in condo hotel-type property

As M. Sitek (2017) emphasizes, condo hotels are a new phenomenon in the investment innovation market in Poland. Investing in condo systems is attractive in particular to developers (Radlińska, Szwajca, 2017). It allows them to minimize the significant risk connected with hotel investment, because usually it is split between numerous shareholders (Pizam, 2006; Radlińska, Szwajca, 2017). Investment in condo-type real estate should bring profit. The key idea behind the system is that the developer and the unit owners share the profit from sub-lease of the property (Bucholc-Srogosz, 2016). The following are two distinguished models allowing to reap profit from capital invested in this way (<http://www.propertynews.pl>):

1. Fixed return rate (occupancy of the condo hotel does not impact the profit).
2. Division of profits (dependent on the occupancy of the condo hotel).

In their offers, developers declare return on investment rates at the level of as much as 9% (<https://www.pb.pl/>). However, one should remember that such information is not always real (comment of Office of Competition and Consumer Protection – <https://www.uokik.gov.pl/>). This is connected, among others, with the fact that developers, in their offer calculations, fail to consider all the costs which the future owner will have to bear. When calculating the (ROI), one should also consider the costs of, for example: mobile equipment, garage, unit insurance, annual tax on real

estate, fees for sewage and refuse disposal, fees for provision of water and heating. Additional costs which can occur are monthly rent paid to the building community management, contribution for the renovation fund, marketing charge or security service charge.

Of course, even though detailed analyses can be made, such investment projects, as any other, are connected with a certain risk. At the beginning, the investor (the person who purchases the unit) typically has a fixed return rate guaranteed. However, after the lapse of this period, the profit depends on the occupancy and reputation of the condo hotel (Bucholc-Srogosz, 2016). These depend on proper management of the establishment, which after the completion of the investment becomes the responsibility of the developer or an external company (operator). For this reason, when making the decision about investing in a condo hotel, one should remember that this establishment is governed by the rights of the tourism industry – not construction. Thus, it is worthy of the effort to check how much experience the developer and the future/expected operator/manager have in this respect (<https://www.money.pl>; Wróblewski, 2011). As noted by A. Pizam (2006, p. 168), it is always important to remember “that these hotels cannot be developed just anywhere but must be in highly desirable tourist destinations that offer many recreational and cultural activities. Thus, those who try to build in less desirable tourist destinations will ultimately fail”.

The purchase of a condo real estate is a long-term decision. Agreements concerning the management of sub-lease and payment of profits are typically concluded for 5–10 years. Occasionally, developers offer longer agreements – 15 years or even perpetual. However, if the company managing the object does not achieve generating profit on the investment, it will not have the resources to pay it. For this reason, it is so important to verify the experience of an operator and to choose an establishment in an attractive location.

Condo-type real estate market in Poland

The first condo hotels appeared in Poland after 2008, e.g. in Jastarnia and Kołobrzeg (Milewska, Włodarczyk, 2015). In 2013, there were only eight such establishments operating. At present, establishments constructed in the condo system are located in eight provinces (voivodships) (tab. 2). The table includes the number of projects constructed in the condo system. The authors took into consideration objects marked with the label “Wypoczywaj i zarabiaj” (“Relax and earn”), to mark the fact that developers provided them with a guaranteed rate of return on the apartment lease. In addition, the developers responsible for these projects provided stakeholders with lease management programme offers or encouraged them to sub-lease the apartment to guests on their own. In such a situation, the opportunity to reap benefits by the client is much bigger. The data have been supplemented with information available in the report “Rynek hoteli oraz condohoteli w Polsce 2018” (“Hotel and condo hotel market in Poland 2018”), prepared by Emerson Evaluation. The data refer both to completed projects and to projects under construction.

Table 2. Location and number of condo hotels (existing and under construction) in Poland as of 2018 (forecast until 2020)

Province (Location)	No. of projects
West Pomerania (Mielno, Kołobrzeg, Świnoujście, Międzyzdroje, Dziwnów, Trzebiatów)	20
Pomerania (Władysławowo, Trójmiasto, Jastarnia)	8
Warmia-Masuria (Ostróda, Mikołajki, Olsztyn)	5
Masovia (Warszawa)	9
Lodzkie (Łódź)	2
Lesser Poland (Krynica-Zdrój, Zakopane, Kraków, Szczawnica)	9
Silesia (Wisła)	1
Lower Silesia (Karpacz, Kudowa Zdrój, Wrocław, Duszniki Zdrój, Podgórzyn)	12

Source: authors based on: www.inwestycjewkurortach.pl; www.renews.pl.

The collected results confirm the position which can be found in the literature (including Pizam, 2006; Bucholc-Srogosz, 2016) concerning attractive location of such investment projects. Condo hotels are constructed mainly in the coastal belt (the highest number in Kołobrzeg – altogether 50% of those already in operation) and in the mountain belt, usually in localities of well-established tourist renown, in the most attractive site available. Typically, they are large, multi-storey establishments with several hundred apartments. Experts in real estate market stress that on-going projects in the Polish resorts are dominated (approx. 70%) by the condo model (Reguski, 2018). In addition, metropolises are gaining popularity (fig. 2). The phase of rapid development of condo hotels in Poland in sites characterised by high tourist and business attractiveness which we are now witnessing is explained both by investors' desire to reap benefits and by the prestige connected with owning an apartment in a resort (Reguski, 2018). An overview of the available offers has also shown that the most popular option is a lease agreement for 10 years with possible extension and the guaranteed fixed income is typically between 6% and 8.7% annually (paid monthly). The purchase of a condo housing unit (full ownership of the unit recorded in the land and mortgage register) usually entails acquiring a share right to common areas of the condo hotel and a share ownership of the land. It should, however, be stressed that so-called owner's stay (usually 14 days a year) is in some instances only optional and results in the decrease of the return rate for the given year, e.g. by 1%.

It is worthy of notice that condo hotels start to appear also in smaller cities, such as Piła, where the investment and sale of condo units is carried out by the Polish chain Arche (developer and hotel operator). According to the available reports, the number of condo units in Poland (rooms and apartments with kitchenettes) increased from 3,713 in 2016 to 10,187 in 2018 ([InwestycjewKurortach.pl](http://www.inwestycjewkurortach.pl)). Forecasts predict that the dynamics of growth of the condo hotel market will be maintained in 2019 and 2020. According to the report by Emmerson Evaluation, the boom of this market segment has attracted many residential developers who are not experienced in condo hotel projects. At the same time, it can be noticed that some hotel chains which are well established in the CEE region are undertaking the management of condo hotels in Poland.

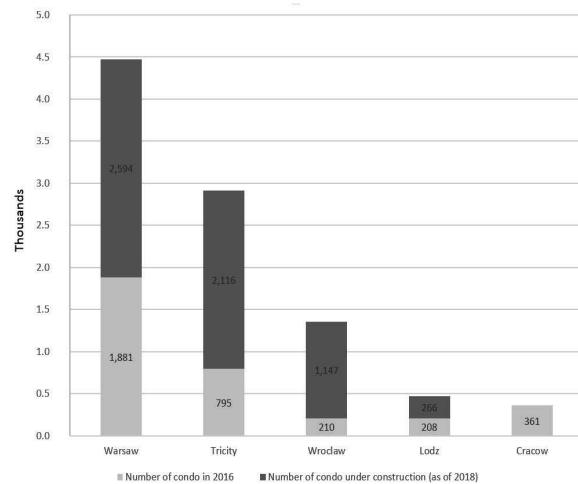


Figure 2. Number of condo units in 2016–2018 in selected metropolises

Source: authors based on: www.inwestycjewkurortach.pl.

In Poland, condo hotels enjoy 4- and 5-star status. Such projects are considered luxurious and sell out quickly. For people who purchase hotel rooms, it offers an alternative to conventional forms of locating money (stock exchange, deposit), which in the light of the current market trends appears to be outgrowing other financial instruments. The risk on the condo hotel investment market is connected with the shape of the tourism market, which is considered to be very good at the moment. Probably this is the main reason why the number of new condo hotel and apart-hotel investment projects is growing (Bucholc-Srogosz, 2016), which has been confirmed by the presented results. The significant growth of such investment projects observed in 2016–2018 in Poland and the published forecasts until 2020 justify the prediction that this outlined trend can be sustained for some time. The hotel industry underlines that “the condo market has recently been the trendiest trend in the hotel business” (*Hotelarz*, 2018). At the same time, awareness of turbulent, contemporary socio-economic reality does not allow (at this stage) to decide whether condo hotels are a safe and stable product which will keep growing or an experiment, new to Poland, which in the case of an economic slowdown will fail to keep the promises made to new tourism stakeholders, i.e. developers and individual investors.

Discussion and conclusions

The article characterises a phenomenon – the development of condo hotels – which is new to Poland and has been dynamically growing in recent years. The hybrid nature of the condo hotel concept hinders the investigation of development determinants and functionality (success) assessment alike. According to analysts of real estate and investment markets and authors who addressed this issue in the Polish academic literature (Chrząszcz, 2014; Szreder, 2014), this model (which is still not

sufficiently known and understood) has a large potential for development. However, as stressed by, among others, K.M. Radlińska and J. Szwajca (2017), each time success (profitability) is conditional upon skilful management. An important role is also played by the location. Furthermore, condo hotels offer an interesting research opportunity for tourism studies, in particular within the geographical approach. From the perspective of tourism geography, this type of premium tourism facilities can be treated as a new market/economic index of attractiveness of tourism space. Once can also follow the path of research tasks for hotel business geography indicated by A. Kowalczyk (2002) and investigate the location factors of this investment model, which is new to the Polish hotel industry. One particularly interesting question is whether and to what extent the location factors of condo hotels converge with the determinants for hotel chain investments in Poland described by D. Puciato (2016). Another direction worthy of consideration would be to extend the perspective and try out interpretation in relation to the consequences of development of this segment of hotel investment. Many of the discussed objects (typically large in size and located on attractive sites) are becoming dominants of tourism destination space. This clearly impacts the spatial transformations of the reception sites (e.g. Durydiwka, Duda-Gromada, 2014). Many questions arise, including: whether/to what extent does the pressure to build condo hotels in the most attractive sites co-create/reinforce the concentration of factors of tourism (and investment) pressure on areas which are appealing visually or in terms of the landscape?² What are the results (gains and costs) of the construction and operation of condo hotels for local economies, communities and natural environment – in particular, to what extent does the presented model of tourism investment fit in the expected and declared (sustainable) direction of development of desirable tourist destinations? The need for such discussion is proven by the example of one of the first condo hotels in Poland – Dom Zdrojowy in Jastarnia. This establishment (assessed extremely well from the perspective of tourism and investment markets), located on an area which is of special value in terms of natural environment, exerts a strong impact on the environment of the forest zone of the dune spit (Kistowski, Korwel-Lejkowska, Witkiewicz, 2005). According to these authors, the investment has created one of the most serious functional and spatial conflicts on the Hel Peninsula (in Poland), also in terms of the landscape, as the multi-storey establishment is visible from a far distance, protruding from the pines of the coastal forest. This example touches upon the issue of challenges and controversies connected with land management in the situation of investment pressure driven by tourism development (see Kowalczyk-Anioł, Włodarczyk, 2017), which is rarely undertaken inside tourism studies in the Polish context. At the same time, it belongs in the broader discussion concerning land management, spatial order and chaos in Poland (e.g. Śleszyński, Markowski, Kowalewski, 2018). It comes as a paradox that from the perspective of the real estate market and the development of tourism investment projects, such as the afore discussed condo hotels, spatial order, and in particular its aesthetic and visual aspects, have a strong impact on the economic value of the given area (including the shaping of property prices) (Meyer, 2004; Śleszyński et al., 2018). At the same time, as stated by J. Szreder (2014), for many developers, smooth cooperation with the local

² This pressure is identified, among others, by M. Kistowski and P. Śleszyński (2010).

government bodies in the coastal belt, including quick resolution of new local land use plans and construction of the necessary technical and accompanying infrastructure, are a significant factor affecting the decision to locate leisure investment in this region.

To summarise, in addition to describing the condition and directions of development of condo hotels in Poland from the perspective of investment, real estate and tourism/tourist accommodation markets, the article discusses the concept of condo hotel in the context of further research opportunities, which should be attractive for representatives of broadly understood tourism studies and land management.

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CONDOWHOTELS IN POLAND – THE STATE OF THE ART AND PERSPECTIVES OF STUDY

SŁOWA KLUCZOWE	condohotels, real estate, investments, tourism, management, studies on tourism
ABSTRAKT	Dynamyczny rozwój condohotelów w Polsce skłonił autorki do podjęcia studiów nad tym nowym w Europie Środkowej zjawiskiem. Celem artykułu jest przedstawienie ogólnej specyfiki oraz czynników rozwoju rynku condohotelów w Polsce, a tym samym wypełnienie luki poznawczej ulokowanej na pograniczu badań nad rynkiem nieruchomości, rynkiem inwestycyjnym, geografii turystyki i gospodarki przestrzennej. Wykorzystując kwerendę dostępnej literatury naukowej, analizę dostępnej oferty oraz metodę desk research przedstawiono hybrydowy charakter koncepcji condohotelów oraz charakter polskiego rynku nieruchomości turystycznych typu condo – jego wielkość, geografię, uwarunkowania i czynniki ryzyka inwestycyjnego. Określono również możliwości dalszych badań, zwłaszcza w szerokiej perspektywie <i>tourism studies</i> , które dotychczas pomijają to nowe w Polsce zjawisko.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONCEPT OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY OF THE KALININGRAD REGION

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KEYWORDS	geo-ecological problems of solid household waste, location of landfills, the waste management system
ABSTRACT	<p>The article presents an overview of the treatment of municipal solid waste in the tourism industry of the Kaliningrad region and the analysis of environmental problems of disposal. The aim of the article is to show the features of the modern state of the sphere of waste management and its impact on the tourist attractiveness of the region.</p> <p>The author reveals the material composition, the classes of hazard and the spatial distribution of household waste, and defines their relationship with the municipal districts and tourist centers of the region. In the article is shown the mechanism of solid waste management in the tourism industry of the Kaliningrad region based on the analysis of the environmental situation, finding ways for the use of external opportunities taking into account the nature of the location of tourist centers and situation of the region. The Kaliningrad region has an exclave position and is separated from the main territory of the country, which is a big problem in terms of disposal. Strategic waste management planning relies on a set of laws and procedures, the use of which will ensure a rapid response to the increase in the amount of waste, including plastic. To solve this problem, the author proposes to use a positive foreign experience, given domestic regulatory framework. The situation analysis of the mutual influence of tourism and the ecological status of municipal solid waste in the region allows us to formulate recommendations for the greening of tourism as a factor of regional development on the basis of trends in world practice of waste issues and requirements of modernity.</p>

Introduction

The rapid formation of large amounts of waste is a concern not only of the European Union. The interaction of tourism and environment is closely connected with the problem of sustainable development of the region. The main factors affecting the flow of solid waste are a permanent population and number of tourists. One of the main conditions of sustainable development of the concept of the United Nations is greening of all production types (including in services). European countries are

an example of the “principle of sustainable tourism”. The European Union believes that a clean environment is a basic condition of everything else and the basic condition of development of the tourism industry in the regions. All around the world there is exercised a practice to minimize the amount of waste sent to processing facilities and disposal, decided on the basis of inclusion in the scheme of solid waste management and allocation of resources, suitable for further use (Antmann, Celik, Shi, Dai, 2012). Legislative initiative for the creation of solid waste management systems in Russia are declarative.

Unlike European practice, Russia's approach is to improve waste management.

Solid waste disposal in the region does not take into account the criteria of resource saving and environmental safety. The region has no strategic approach to waste management, there is no scientifically based concept and strategy for solving the problem of solid waste, nor recycled materials used. Due to the difficult environmental situation in the landfills there is a need of transition to full recycling.

The aim of this work is to develop a regional concept of solid waste management in the tourist zone of the Kaliningrad region.

Objective: to develop optimal systems for their collection and disposal (transport).

Integrated solid waste management includes the organization of collection, removal (transportation), processing and disposal, and the implementation of measures to reduce the quantity of waste sent for recycling and disposal.

The basis of the proposed concept is:

- a) various approaches to the treatment of different components of household waste;
- b) integrated use of the regulators (legal, economic, organizational, managerial, technological and educational).

The object of research are methods of disposal of solid waste and the legal framework of waste management. Because of the difficult ecological situation of the landfills there is a need of transition to full recycling.

Research methods

The study is based on the complex of general scientific methods: abstract-logical, analysis, synthesis, systemic method. Methods of special branches of science have been used: comparative legal and statistical. The paper presents an attempt to develop a unified model that combines social, economic and environmental aspects of the research subject.

Integrated solid waste management includes the organization of their collection, removal, processing and disposal, and implementation of measures to reduce the amount of waste sent to recycling and disposal.

The concept is to apply various approaches to the management of different components of household waste and integrated use of the regulators (legal, economic, organizational, managerial, technological and educational).

The goal was achieved by studies in the evaluation literature on the subjects in the field of ecology, tourism, and Internet resources. Estimated was the total volume of waste production and consumption in the Kaliningrad region. As a source of information to estimate the volume of waste production and consumption patterns and their future changes various sources were used: data of the Federal Statistical Observation No. 2-TP (waste); details of regional cadastre of production and consumption waste in the Kaliningrad region; data of administrations of municipal entities and specialized organizations dealing with waste management in the Kaliningrad region; data from the Kaliningrad regional customs.

Analytical assessment of the recycling of solid waste in the tourism industry in the Kaliningrad region

Reduction of environmental comfort has a negative impact on tourist flow and the population of the region. The problem of concept development in the region is the lack of a unified approach in the definition of “municipal solid waste”, as well as compliance with normative legal acts operating in the field of waste management. It attracts attention of scientists and the public because of the negative impact on all spheres of activity and tourist attractiveness of the Kaliningrad region. The number of tourists in connection with the launch of e-visa mechanism for foreigners is expected to be not less than 8% in comparison with record levels in 2018 – 1.52 million people. The majority of tourists falls on the period from April to October. The maximum influx of tourists falls on the summer.

The problem of the organization of industrial processing is relevant in connection with necessity of reduction of volumes of burial in landfills. Unmanaged waste streams is a factor in the spread of countless diseases (Eurostat).

In each form of tourism, it is not tourism activities and developing tourism infrastructure that has a major impact on the natural environment. In the beautiful natural areas of pressing concern is the situation with waste, their removal and disposal. This is a problem especially for places with high tourist appeal. Solid waste adversely affects the tourist attractiveness of territories, water resources and shoreline. The waste management system, which operates in the region, does not serve the international and Russian regulations for the protection of the environment. In the region there is selective waste collection among the population. This is due to the lack of appropriate conditions and technical support. This is due to the lack of appropriate technical conditions and legislation.

The European experience shows that the main trend of solving the solid waste problem is a gradual transition from landfill to industrial processing (Nikogosov, 2010). The involvement of solid waste in the industrial processing largely removes the contradiction between a city with a large number of waste and the suburbs, where the waste must be placed (Antmann, Celik, Shi, Dai, 2012). By law, polygons are located outside of the city. The size of the sanitary protection zone from residential development to the boundaries of the landfill is 500 m. In addition, the size of the sanitary protection zone can be specified when calculating gaseous emissions into the atmosphere. The zone boundaries are set by isoline 1 of the MPC, if it goes beyond the limits of the regulatory

zone (SanPiN 2.1.7.1038-01 Hygienic requirements for the arrangement and maintenance of landfills for solid waste).

Technologies used for collection, storage and disposal of solid waste are outdated and inadequate given climatic conditions of the territory and recreational requirements (Nikogosov, 2010). To optimize the system of management of disposal of solid waste at the present time, it is necessary to apply advanced techniques and tools. In the Kaliningrad region, as in most other regions of Russia, there are no founding documents which can be used to control the system of waste management strategy and prospective scheme of waste disposal.

In the framework of the national project “Ecology” in 2019, the implementation of the Federal target program “Formation of an integrated system of municipal solid waste management” has started. The Kaliningrad Oblast, among 62 subjects of the Russian Federation, not only must proceed with its implementation, but also provide predictive estimates of the possible reduction of tariffs for the transportation of waste to the disposal site, disposal, processing, etc. According to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology of the Russian Federation, this reduction can reach 30% of the previously approved values. For more successful implementation of the new program, it is planned to concentrate all the necessary permissions (from local schemes to the restoration of objects of accumulated damage), placing them in the introduction of the Ministry of Natural Resources, including waste collection among consumers, delivering them to places, and introduction of new technologies. Sustainable development of any natural areas is inextricably linked to the development of a system of solid waste management in the tourist area. Tourism is the most profitable and intensively developing branch of world economy. Responsible waste management helps in making tourism development sustainable. The accumulation of waste affects the environment, including pollution of soil, water and air.

With technological progress comes a large amount of waste, together with the problem of their disposal, including the tourism industry. The situational analysis of the sphere of solid waste management in the Kaliningrad region showed that the greatest obstacle to the transition of the region towards sustainable development is not only a large number of landfills that are outdated, but the lack of infrastructure for waste recycling. The methodological basis of the work is devoted to problems of assessment of economic damage from environmental pollution with household waste. The problem that is associated with the waste exists and needs solving. As shown by the analysis of the works regarding aspects of recycling different types of waste, to use foreign models of recycling is currently not possible.

However, both central and regional ministries and agencies have noted the problems and risks that can meet regional artists. To them, the problem includes in particular poorly developed territorial plans for waste management, excessive rates, tightening of the transition to a new stage of reform, lack of logistics transport waste to disposal sites etc.

Assessment of solid waste landfills in the Kaliningrad region

At the moment there are no capabilities to maximize recycling of accumulated waste or optimal, environmentally friendly ways to remove them. Planned activities should become an effective tool for the local population, tourist organizations, which carry out their activities, public and private utility services.

The Kaliningrad region also had problems related to the implementation of the reform. Each year, the region is formed of 600 thousand tons of solid waste. About 85% of them are placed in municipal landfills.

In the Kaliningrad region, because of the pollution of municipal and industrial waste, there is a poor quality of drinking water and air, which adversely affects the health of the population. The main problem is obsolete and overloaded waste landfills (tab. 1).

Table 1. List of landfills/dumps of household waste in the Kaliningrad region (with the right collection, treatment, recycling, disposal of waste I–V hazard classes)

The name and location of the object	Name of legal entity	Year of inclusion in Rosreestr
Polygon in Barsukovka settlement, Neman district without waste sorting complex	SE CO «ESOO»	2014
Polygon Zhavoronkovo in Gusev urban district with a waste sorting complex	JSCMUP «Garbage Disposal» of the municipality «Gusev urban district»	2014
Polygon El'nyaky in Gvardeisk city district without the waste sorting complex	MUP «Rainbow»	2017
Polygon in Kruglovo settlement of Zelenograd city district without waste sorting complex	CO «ESOO»	2018

Source: own elaboration.

Was assessed the total volume of waste production and consumption in the Kaliningrad region. As a source of information to estimate the volume of waste production and consumption and their perspective changes, different sources were used:

1. Data of Federal statistical observation No. 2-TP (wastes).
2. The regional cadastre of waste production and consumption of the Kaliningrad region.
3. Data of administrations of municipal unions of the Kaliningrad region and specialized organizations carrying out activities on waste management on the territory of the Kaliningrad region.
4. Data of the Kaliningrad regional customs.

According to statistics, one person (tourist) per day, on average, leaves up to 3 kg of garbage. The lack of a civilized system of regular collection and removal of waste and the household waste disposal leads to the fact that the coast, beaches and vacation spots look like garbage site, which leads to irretrievable loss of tourist attractiveness. At the moment, there are 4 landfills (polygons) in the Kaliningrad region with the right to collect, process, utilize, dispose waste of I–V hazard classes and there is only one of them with a sorting complex, which is scheduled to be launched in 2020. Studies of morphological composition of solid waste carried out in the Kaliningrad region in

different periods showed some differences with the data used in the Russian Federation as reference. It marked the high content of plastics. The analysis of the situation showed that the normative-legal support of the waste management system is inefficient. It does not correspond to modern science on the rational use of raw and material resources. The increasing amount of solid waste statistics waste is not enough, or not done at all, and it does not take into account the norms of international law in the field of waste management, which is not considered positive law enforcement practice abroad. Because the landfill is farther removed from the city and infinitely the arm of the removal of solid waste could not be increased, it becomes highly relevant for industrial processing of household waste that addresses the combined issues of clearance, removal and disposal of solid waste, and represents a fundamental way of solving this problem.

On the map given in the article (fig. 1), we can see the placement of the MSW landfills in the Kaliningrad region. The assessment of the quantity of municipal solid waste coincides with the major municipalities – leaders on the volume of solid waste – which are simultaneously large tourist centers. These include Kaliningrad, Zelenogradsk, Chernyakhovsk, Gusev, Sovetsk (fig. 1). Due to the adverse environmental situation, the largest MSW landfill in the region was closed in the area of baltiyskoe highway (Kosmodemyanskaya settlement) of the municipal unitary enterprise "Chistota" and the landfill in the city of Mamonovo. The project documentation for reclamation was transferred for a state environmental expertise.

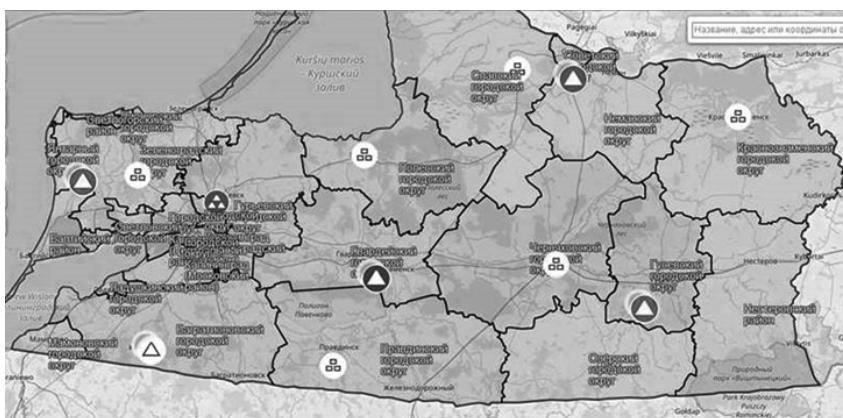


Figure 1. The location of the main landfills in the Kaliningrad region

Source: own elaboration.

After closing the landfill near the village, Kruglovo became the main site for the storage of solid waste. But since it started working in 1977, the accumulated waste has exceeded the allowable limit. Here are not met even the basic requirements of environmental safety, there are no fences, and no need of protection. Near the village of Sychevo is a site owned by the regional government, where it is possible to create a new landfill that meets all requirements. But it needs considerable

funds and the establishment of cluster for recycling in the village of Kornevo, where attracting investors is not yet possible.

On the ground “Zhavoronkova” functions a sorting line; the range “Barsukovo” was built relatively recently, consistent with modern environmental standards. The amount of waste there are relatively small. Analyzing data on utilization and neutralization of wastes leads to the conclusion that the proportion of neutralized waste was significantly reduced. In the region for 2018, 4 thousand tons of secondary raw materials were selected from waste, and 436,532 thousand tons of waste were placed in landfills. Less than 1% of the total amount was sent for recycling, and most of it is stored in landfills.

The draft territorial plans for waste management

In 2017, there was approved a procedure for collection of municipal solid wastes in the Kaliningrad region (State report “The status and environment of the Russian Federation in 2019”). For the period up to 2025, the project developed territorial plans for waste management (Territorial scheme of waste management in the Kaliningrad region) and created its e-model (“On approval of the procedure of collection of municipal solid waste”). Its purpose is to minimize the harmful effects of toxic waste. On the basis of mapping of the region, the support is located in a point of waste management system – the infrastructure associated with each other and visualizing the logistics of waste transport in the region.

The e-model allows to evaluate the economic efficiency of transportation of waste to justify the choice between their transportation and the construction of new facilities for the storage or processing of MSW, to systematize the material on the area of responsibility of the regional operator for the calculation of the tariff for transportation of MSW. The beginning of the reform for the first time in the history of the Russian Federation provides for separate collection, waste sorting and further recycling. However, the infrastructure of recycling in the regions is poorly developed. The organization for the collection, disposal and recycling certain types of waste is not sufficiently loaded. There is no centralized waste collection system. According to Kaliningrad Regional Environmental Prosecutor’s Office, illegal waste disposal stands for 30% of the total number of revealed violations of environmental legislation. There are about 5 thousand violations of the legislation of waste management and other environmental management standards (State report “On condition and protection of the environment in 2019”).

Environmental legislation of the Russian Federation is spread out over many laws and regulations. Separate provisions related to the treatment of solid wastes are contained in Land, Water, Forest, Criminal Codes of the Russian Federation and other federal laws. They were repeatedly amended in law No. 503-FZ – “On wastes of production and consumption”. Fragmented regulations define the authority of the RF subjects and local authorities in this sphere, the requirements for territorial schemes of the treatment of MSW and to the sites of waste accumulation.

Based on the latest edition of the law “On wastes of production and consumption in the Kaliningrad region”, (The law “On wastes of production and...”) the government of the region

approved the procedure for the collection of solid waste, including separating the garbage (The resolution of the Government of the Kaliningrad region). In the new version of the law appeared first clarified concepts such as “collection of waste”, “waste accumulation”, payment and spending of environmental fee. Clarified were the requirements for regional operators for dealing with MSW to the contracts, activities, operators, tariffs and investment programs. The law first sets out requirements in relation to the collection of various types of waste (bulky, electronic, mercury) in order to prevent their harmful effects and ensure the use of practical components contained in the waste. The law has also prohibited unauthorized placement of all types of wastes and their collection without special equipment and processing documents of the established sample. Separate collection should be implemented gradually in all localities with the installation of special containers. However, necessary adjustments and appropriate amendments of the federal law “On wastes of production and consumption” (version of 1998) must be made in order to eliminate ambiguity in terminology and strengthen the control over movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal. Instead of collecting and processing waste in the federal legislation, there is still proposed disposal by burial in landfills. This solution has not fixed the problem of the responsibility of producers for recycling their products at the end of life cycle. There is no differentiation in the regulation of waste management with regard to their impact on human health and natural ecosystems.

Conclusions

1. Based on the composition of waste and a large amount of plastic control schemes at all stages (including industrial processing), there is a need for a combination of technological operations of separation of wastes into individual fractions and components and their subsequent optimal processing methods.
2. It is necessary to minimize the amount of solid waste sent to landfills. Create waste sorting complexes based on separate collection in the residential and non-residential sectors of the city, taking into account the trends of reducing the amount of waste (sustainable consumption).

Original position concept identifies the goals and objectives:

1. Reduction of volume and mass of waste dumped with the prospect of transition to waste-free production.
2. Waste management (hygienic treatment, the elimination of harmful components, etc.).
3. Recycling of wastes (material and heat, with the possibility of obtaining and use of energy, production of new types of products).
4. The use of aerobic fermentation (the organic portion of the wastes by microorganisms).

The Kaliningrad region, in the light of European experience, is an opportunity to solve the issue. It is necessary to solve the problem of solid and liquid waste in all municipalities simultaneously. It requires an integrated approach at the scale of region, taking into account the specifics of each municipality. The greening of tourism plays an important role in ensuring the safety of tourist routes, improve the quality and competitiveness of tourism products and disclosure

of socio-economic potential of tourism in the region. The new concept of social development, which rely on the cooperation of states in dealing with the problems of household waste disposal, is required and will lead to the solution of intractable problems. Optimal solution to the problem may be connected with optimization of the system of collection and disposal of solid waste, construction of plants for complex processing with the use of advanced technologies (with a long-term strategy of transition from landfill to their industrial processing).

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KONCEPCJA GOSPODARKI ODPADAMI STAŁYMI W PRZEMYSŁE TURYSTYCZNYM W OBWODZIE KALININGRADZKIM

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gospodarka odpadami stałymi, przetwarzanie odpadów, przemysł turystyczny, ekologizacja turystyki, Obwód Kaliningradzki

ABSTRAKT

W artykule przedstawiono przegląd zagadnień związanych z przetwarzaniem komunalnych odpadów stałych w przemyśle turystycznym Obwodu Kaliningradzkiego oraz analizę problemów środowiskowych związanych z ich utylizacją. Celem artykułu jest ukazanie cech współczesnego stanu gospodarki odpadami i jej wpływu na atrakcyjność turystyczną regionu. Autor ujawnia skład materiałowy, klasy zagrożenia i przestrzenny rozkład odpadów z gospodarstw domowych oraz określa ich związek z dzielnicami miejskimi i ośrodkami turystycznymi regionu. W artykule przedstawiono mechanizm gospodarowania odpadami stałymi w branży turystycznej Obwodu Kaliningradzkiego na podstawie analizy sytuacji ekologicznej oraz możliwych sposobów wykorzystania możliwości zewnętrznych z uwzględnieniem charakteru lokalizacji ośrodków turystycznych i sytuacji regionu. Obwód Kaliningradzki ma pozycję eksklawy i jest oddzielony od głównego terytorium kraju, co stanowi duży problem pod względem usuwania odpadów.

Strategiczne planowanie gospodarki odpadami opiera się na zestawie przepisów i procedur, których stosowanie zapewni szybką reakcję na wzrost ilości odpadów, w tym tworzyw sztucznych. Aby rozwiązać ten problem, autor proponuje wykorzystanie pozytywnych doświadczeń zagranicznych, biorąc pod uwagę krajowe ramy regulacyjne. Analiza sytuacji w zakresie wzajemnego oddziaływania turystyki i stanu ekologicznego stałych odpadów komunalnych w regionie pozwala na sformułowanie rekomendacji dla ekologizacji turystyki jako czynnika rozwoju regionalnego w oparciu o trendy w światowej praktyce problematyki odpadów i wymogi nowoczesności.