

The general agreement on trade in services (or GATS) means that a country cannot prevent international trade agencies and global hotel giants moving in and taking money out of the local economy. This presents the problem of leakage as previously stated. The problem cannot be prevented by the destination country's government so they have to work harder to coax tourists into the area surrounding the resorts and hotels.

There is also a problem with the environment that is created by tourism. There is often an increase in pollution and damage to the natural environment. In the Lake District (UK) there have been countless arguments over the damage done to local ecosystems and habitats, caused by tourists making excessive amounts of noise pollution and litter. We must also consider damage to the non- natural environment. In Menorca some of the earliest hotels which were built did not fit in with the local landscape and contrast dramatically against the beauty of the natural coastline.

It is obvious therefore that there will be conflicts between local culture and foreigners; again, in Menorca the local culture has suffered some 'erosion' as changes have been made to meet the demands of tourists. If we look at Doxey's model of irritation we can see the effect of tourists on the locals attitude as tourism develops in the area. At first tourism does not disrupt local culture and there is a feeling of Euphoria as tourism opens up opportunities for local participation. However, as tourism develops through time, it takes over the local culture and problems and conflicts develop over issues such as mis treatment of property and litter pollution. This develops into a stage of antagonism. We have seen this occur in countries such as Jamaica where tourists must remain within the resorts for their own safety.

In conclusion, it is clear that the advantages that tourism provides in both MEDCs and LEDCs are great but also that the disadvantages are vast in their number and will lead to the downfall of the tourist industry if we cannot learn to travel sustainably.

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Page 4 of 4