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Revista de Antropología, Ciencias de la Comunicación y de la Información, Filosofía,
Lingüística y Semiótica, Problemas del Desarrollo, la Ciencia y la Tecnología

Año 35, 2019, Especial N°

20

Revista de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales

ISSN 1012-1537/ ISSNe: 2477-9385

Depósito Legal pp 198402ZU45



Universidad del Zulia
Facultad Experimental de Ciencias
Departamento de Ciencias Humanas
Maracaibo - Venezuela

Criminal Discomfort in Tourist and Recreational Areas of the Crimea-Caucasus Coast of the Black Sea: Geographical Aspect

**N.Voronin, Denis A. Volkhin, Lyudmila A. Ozhegova, Kseniya Yu. Sikach,
Alexandra B. Shvets**

**V.I. Vernadsky Crimean Federal University, Taurida Academy, 4 Vernadsky Avenue,
Simferopol 295007, Russian Federation**

Abstrac

The article studies factors of formation of criminal phenomena that create an uncomfortable background of leisure activities in the areas of mass tourism and recreation on the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea. The regional specificity of criminal discomfort in the studied segment of the Black Sea region is defined, as well as the degree of manifestation of criminal behavior on the Crimean-Caucasian coast of the Black Sea is investigated. The article studies the influence of the mechanism of recreational function of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region on the process of antisocial phenomena formation within its territory, as well as reveals the possibilities of regulation of criminal behavior manifestation level in tourist and recreational areas of the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea. The article determines the role of mass media in the formation of criminal-image characteristics of the territory of the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea, influencing the preferences of potential tourists. The research methodology is applicable to other tourist and recreational areas. On its basis, it is possible to study the influence of urban, industrial, and rural functions of the territory on the formation of antisocial phenomena.

Keywords: geography, criminal phenomena, crime, resort cities, tourist and recreational region, Black Sea region, Crimea, Caucasus.

Malestar criminal en áreas turísticas y recreativas de la costa de Crimea-Cáucaso del Mar Negro: Aspecto geográfico

Resumen

El artículo estudia los factores de formación de fenómenos criminales que crean un ambiente incómodo de actividades de ocio en las áreas de turismo de masas y recreación en la costa de Crimea-Cáucaso del Mar Negro. Se define la especificidad regional de la incomodidad criminal en el segmento estudiado de la región del Mar Negro, así como también se investiga el grado de manifestación del comportamiento criminal en la costa de Crimea y el Cáucaso del Mar Negro. El artículo estudia la influencia del mecanismo de la función recreativa de la región de Crimea-Cáucaso en el Mar Negro en el proceso de formación de fenómenos antisociales dentro de su territorio, y revela las posibilidades de regulación del nivel de manifestación del comportamiento criminal en áreas turísticas y recreativas del Costa de Crimea-Cáucaso del Mar Negro. El artículo determina el papel de los medios de comunicación en la formación de características de imagen criminal del territorio de la costa de Crimea-Cáucaso del Mar Negro, influyendo en las preferencias de los posibles turistas. La metodología de investigación es aplicable a otras áreas turísticas y recreativas. Sobre esta base, es posible estudiar la influencia de las funciones urbanas, industriales y rurales del territorio en la formación de fenómenos antisociales.

Palabras clave: geografía, fenómenos criminales, delincuencia, ciudades turísticas, región turística y recreativa, región del Mar Negro, Crimea, Cáucaso.

1. Introduction

A geographical study of the regions of the contemporary globalized world involves the identification of positive and negative trends in their development. Crime is one of the strongest negative regional trends. The crime manifestations in the regions are many-sided. The task of geographers is to reveal their integral characteristics formed by many factors of natural and socio-cultural character.

The search for an integral characteristic of regional crime leads to the concept of comfort life of the population of the region under study. The territorial

aspect of the study of criminal discomfort involves the identification of conditions unique to each region, as well as the factors of its formation. Criminal discomfort is possible in all regions, such as industrial, rural, tourism and recreation, etc. Dissemination of criminal discomfort in a variety of territories performing different functions testifies to its deep rootedness in society. It seems necessary to attribute the category of criminal discomfort to the category of antisocial actualizing phenomena, which results in the destruction of the society's life, causes an imbalance of behavioral stereotypes, and chaotic social trends.

Tourist and recreational regions are a favorite place for the formation of antisocial phenomena. This type of region is characterized by a very mobile migration situation, which is influenced by a high degree of anonymity of human behavior. Tourist and recreational areas are marked by the fact that they lack importance of public opinion. There is a temptation to commit a crime in the region, where due to the constant change of population it is easy to disappear without punishment.

Contemporary socio-economic development of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region is focused on "effective functioning of the recreation and tourism sectors of the regional economy" (Reutov and Velgos, 2015). At the same time, the tourist and recreational industry of this region is influenced by antisocial processes, which are manifested here to varying degrees and form a breeding ground for criminal discomfort.

The existing strategies of socio-economic development of the Crimea-Caucasus do not take into account the specifics of the criminal discomfort risk formation in this territory. The development of a system of geographical recommendations to detect the antisocial processes formation factors in the life of the population in the tourist and recreational area will allow regional management to complement the system of strategic risks of its development at different spatial levels: from an individual populated locality to the region in general.

The aim of the present research was to conduct a comprehensive spatial study of the factors of criminal discomfort formation in the tourist and recreational areas of the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea to determine the possibility of regulating the level of manifestation of antisocial processes for areas with a pronounced recreational function.

When considering the geographical spread of crime in the last twenty years, the impact of antisocial phenomena on various forms of life organization, in particular, tourism and recreation, is studied actively. The relationship between crime and the tourism industry is studied on the example of different tourist

regions of the world, such as the Caribbean (De Albuquerque and McElroy, 1999), South Africa (Ferreira and Harmse, 2000), individual tourist and recreational centers in the USA (Baker and Stockton, 2014), Romania (Goschin, 2016), and other countries. Referring to the geographical study of crime in recreational areas of the post-Soviet space, the authors should note the thesis research by L.A. Zakalyapina (2014) on the criminological aspects of crime in the resort cities of the Caucasus Black Sea region. Some aspects of crime in recreational areas are reflected in the works by Ya.I. Gilinsky (2009), V.V. Luneev (2005), S.S. Ovchinsky (1975), E.L. Pisarevsky (2011) and others.

The study of the reasons forming criminal discomfort as an integral characteristic of different manifestations of crime in the Crimea-Caucasus tourist and recreational region is carried out by the authors of the present research for the first time. Mass media is an important source of popularizing the resort. Any information occasion with negative content creates a prerequisite for the formation of a negative information image of the territory uncomfortable for travel, recovery, and treatment. In this regard, when studying the antisocial processes in the Crimea-Caucasus tourist and recreational region, the authors pay special attention to the mechanism of the relationship of the information image of the territory and the actualization of information about the antisocial processes.

2. Methods

To achieve the goal of the present research, it was important to comprehend the fact that the main structural component of criminal discomfort is an antisocial phenomenon. The authors agree with N.M. Levchuk about understanding an antisocial phenomenon as a phenomenon of social relations, which does not carry out the social and demographic functions necessary for preservation and improvement of the quality of the population's life. It acts as a factor of violation of public health, which, in turn, leads to demographic losses (Levchuk, 2012).

In the present study, the authors were interested in antisocial phenomena in the resort cities, situated on the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea. This category of populated localities is characterized by a sharp seasonal increase in the population due to the reception of tourists and people coming for recovery purposes. In the holiday season, the population of coastal cities of the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea increases several times. With such a spontaneous manifestation of the "effect of a fast-growing city", social processes are accelerated, including the negative ones (Ruddel et al., 2017).

The research methodology for antisocial phenomena in the present work is based on a combination of general scientific and specific scientific approaches. To determine the manifestation degree of antisocial phenomena in the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea the authors used the methods of statistical analysis, which

allowed tracing the dynamics of manifestations of antisocial phenomena and grouping them according to types of crime in specific localities. The statistical research was based on the official data of the Prosecutor General of the Russian Federation and the reports of the heads of the Ministries of Internal Affairs of resort cities.

In the work, the authors use the calculated statistical indicator characterizing the level of crime and safety of the population in resort cities, namely the general crime rate (GCR).

The GCR was calculated as the ratio of the number of crimes committed per year (or another period of time) per 1000 people. Besides, the number of individual types of crimes was calculated per 1000 people (Ozhegova and Sikach, 2017).

To determine the manifestation degree of information concerning the antisocial processes in the resort areas of the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea, the authors conducted a content analysis of the Russian media sphere. This type of research was connected to the information and analytical resource of the media monitoring and effective analysis system of the Russian company "Medialogia" (Note 2) and the news aggregator "Yandex.News" (Note 3). In consequence, the data were obtained on the dynamics, tone of the text, and the geographical spread of references to specified keywords related to the study of antisocial phenomena in the concerned region. As part of the study, references to the resort cities of the Crimea were studied with respect to the "crime" context. The analyzed information flow about the antisocial phenomena was characterized by the following indicators:

- number of reports on antisocial phenomena, which shows the amount of information flow about the phenomenon under study;

- the proportion of the territory-related (city-related) antisocial reports in the total number of reports on asocial processes in the region (or among resort cities), which shows the ranking of the territory (city) in the system of information flows about antisocial phenomena;

- the coefficient of information presence concerning antisocial phenomena (I_{im}), which shows the comparative degree of information support of asocial phenomena of the city in relation to the actual number of such phenomena, and is calculated by the formula (2):

$$I_{im} = D_i / D_c \quad (2),$$

where I_{im} is the coefficient of information manifestation of antisocial phenomena; D_i is the proportion of the city-related reports in the total number of reports on crimes in the studied resort cities, %; D_c is the proportion of the individual city in terms of crimes in the total number of registered crimes in the studied resort cities, %.

If $I_{im}=1$, then the information revealing antisocial processes corresponds to the real situation in the city; if $I_{im}>1$, the city is characterized by a high degree of awareness concerning antisocial phenomena, which have received a resonant character in the media space and can become the basis for a negative tourist and recreational image; if $I_{im}<1$, then the antisocial processes of the concerned city are weakly reflected in the media space of the country and have a weak potential to create a negative image.

The obtained qualitative and quantitative data on the antisocial processes in the resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea were inserted into a spatially distributed database of geographic information systems (GIS), which made it possible to carry out cartographic interpretation of antisocial phenomena.

3. Results

3.1 Factors of antisocial processes formation in recreational areas of the Black Sea region

The spatial localization of antisocial behavior is influenced by a number of reasons, conditions and factors, which form criminal discomfort within a territorial unit.

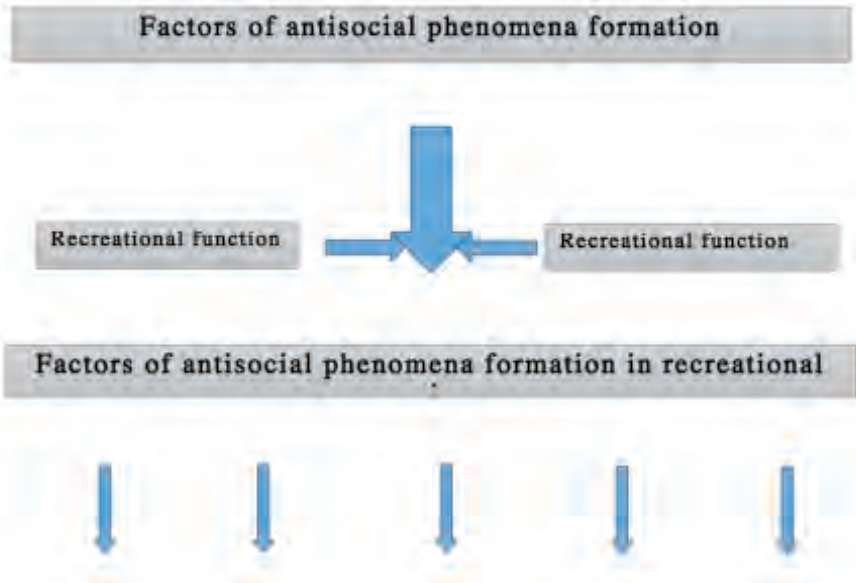
In geography, factors of crime should be considered as a combination of phenomena and processes in natural and social territorial systems of different levels, which directly or indirectly affect, or may affect the nature, structure, and dynamics of the formation and spread of offenses in a particular territory (Sikach, 2017).

In the tourist and recreational region, the mechanism of influence of crime formation factors as the main marker of criminal discomfort is significantly transformed (Figure 1). The essence of this transformation is that the whole range of causes, conditions, and factors of crime formation in recreational regions are manifested much stronger than in non-resort areas.

The influence of the geographical location of the territory acquires special characteristics. For the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region, the influence of this factor on crime is amplified by the transit nature of the region, the proximity of its territory (especially in the Caucasian segment) to the multi-ethnic North Caucasus and Transcaucasian regions, where the hotbeds of terrorist activity have not been eliminated to date.

The Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea is located at the intersection of various transport arteries, which create favorable conditions for the mobility of both tourists and intruders. The territory of the studied region is close to the Volga-Caspian waterway from Northern and Central Europe to the countries of Central, South-Western, and South Asia.

The Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region is characterized by a rapid turnover of the population during the holiday season. The region becomes especially attractive for those looking for easy profit, "visitant thieves" from other regions, fraudsters, and other categories of intruders. Rapid population turnover on the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea is contributed by the developed transport infrastructure. Transport industry in the resort cities of the tourist and recreational area of Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea coast is represented by all types of main transport (rail, water, road, and air). However, since 2014, the transport situation in the Crimean segment of the Black Sea region has changed. Rail and sea transport in the Crimea began to be used only for intraregional movement. From the standpoint of combating crime in the sphere of illicit trafficking in weapons and drugs, the deterioration of the transit and transport situation in the Crimean segment of the Black Sea region is quite beneficial. The state border regime in the North of the Crimean Peninsula has created a barrier for drug dealers and arms dealers from the territory of Ukraine. But the border between Kazakhstan and Russia is still open. This complicates the operation of law enforcement agencies devoted to stopping drug trafficking in the Caucasian segment of the Black Sea region (Aryamov, 2010).



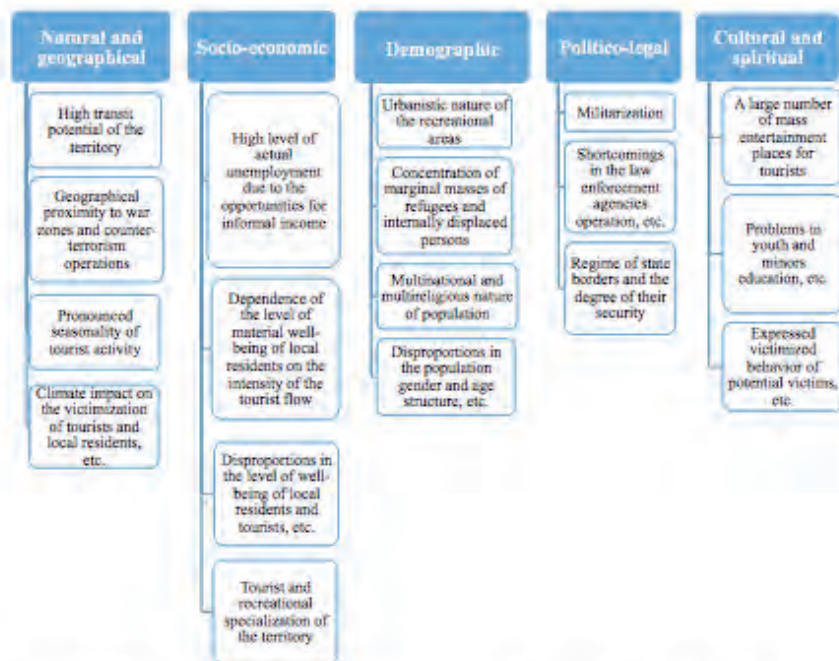


Figure 1. Transformation of antisocial phenomena formation factors in recreational areas

Surprisingly, even the climatic features of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea coastal area affect the emergence of antisocial phenomena. It is proved that with the increase in air temperature, the number of crimes against a person increases, as well as increases the victimization in the behavior of tourists and the local population (Falk, 1952). Crime in resort areas is highly seasonal in nature. It has been estimated that the average increase in crime in the holiday season (from June to September) in the Caucasian segment of the Black Sea region amounts to 37%, while the monthly increment in crime here increases by an average of 15%, decreasing by October (Kravchenko, 2015).

Due to the seasonal increase in the population in recreational areas, the shortage of law enforcement personnel during the holiday period became the problem of resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region (Note 2). The intensive mobility of the population in the resort cities leads to a mismatch in the pace of their social and economic development, which puts an additional burden on the urban infrastructure (Zakalyapina, 2014).

In the tourist and recreational areas of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region,

the rhythm of information flows about events in mass recreation places is of seasonal nature. A sharp increase in the interest of mass media structures towards the events in tourist centers and regions is always observed before the beginning of the holiday season (Volkhin and Sharko, 2017; Badov 2009).

Among the demographic factors that cause the emergence of asocial phenomena, the urbanization and migration processes occurring within recreational areas are the main ones. In resort areas, the urbanization of the territory depends on the degree of recreational function development within the concerned territory (Yakovenko and Voytekhovskiy, 2018). In recreational areas of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region, there is a direct correlation between the degree of urbanization of the territory and dissemination of crime (Kuznetsova, 1976).

Another important demographic factor in the growth of crime is linked to migration of the population (Dvoretzky and Avdeev, 2014). Migration gave rise to an excessive concentration of population in the resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus tourist and recreational coast of the Black Sea. The Caucasian segment of the Black Sea region is dominated by internal migrants from the North Caucasus republics and foreign migrants from Abkhazia, Georgia, Armenia, and the South-East of Ukraine. In the Crimean segment of the Black Sea region, the largest proportion of migrants are refugees from the territories of Donbas engaged in the military conflict. There is a specific migration flow of criminals-recidivists to the resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region. Therefore, the level of recidivism here is higher than in other regions of Crimea and the Caucasus.

The level of the crime manifestation in the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region is influenced by socio-economic factors. In particular, the researchers note the increased influence of the social differentiation factor and inequality in the contemporary post-Soviet society that generates a contradiction between the needs of people and the real possibilities of their satisfaction (Raska, 1987). Differences in the socio-economic situation of different groups of the local population, as well as the local population and vacationers, cause aggressiveness on the part of those who consider themselves deprived, which further exacerbates the dependence of the level of material well-being of inhabitants on the intensity of the tourist flow that is typical for resort cities (Gilinsky, 2009). Currently, unemployment is widespread in the resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region. Therefore, by force of old habit residents of the resort areas continue renting their homes during the holiday season without registration in the tax authorities. As a result, informal seasonal incomes of urban residents of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region are virtually

tax-free, which also adversely affects the development of territorial communities (Potashova, 2010).

The political and legal reasons for crime in the resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region include the foreign policy situation, which resulted in a fact that the resort cities came to a close proximity to the areas of high concentration of military units and formations of the Russian Ministry of Defense, the internal military forces of Interior Ministry of Russia and, accordingly, warehouses of weapons and ammunition (Minkovsky, 2004). As a rule, the militarization of the territory reduces its popularity among tourists.

The unsatisfactory organization of leisure of local residents and those who came to rest can be attributed to the cultural and spiritual conditions for the spread of crime in recreational areas. The presence in the resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region of a large number of tourists and mass entertainment places makes it an area of increased risk of illegal trafficking in drugs, psychotropic substances and their analogues. The problem is complicated by the gaps in family and school education, including the legal education of young people, the devaluation of traditional humanistic values, the low level of political and moral consciousness and solidarity of some segments of the population with criminal law prohibitions, the prevalence of ideas about the permissibility of violent actions and stereotypes of aggressive behavior in conflict situations, the formation of nihilistic, dismissive attitude to the law, duties, and discipline (Maisak, 2010).

3.2. Crime in the Crimea-Caucasus tourist and recreational area of the Black Sea coast as the most dangerous consequence of the influence of antisocial phenomena formation factors

The consequence of the combined influence of the above factors is the spread of crime, as one of the most striking manifestations of antisocial processes in resort areas. At the present stage of development, the general level of crime in the resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region slightly differs from the average level in Russia (Table 1).

Within the Republic of Crimea and the Krasnodar Territory, which encompass administrative borders of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region, the GCR was even lower than in the whole of the Russian Federation. In 2017, the maximum number of crimes per 100 thousand people was observed in the cities of Alushta, Feodosia, and Gelendzhik, where the crime rate exceeded the average Russian. High crime growth dynamics were observed in Feodosia and Gelendzhik. Until 2014, the crime rate in Feodosia was one of the highest in Ukraine, i.e. this resort city is still characterized by a negative trend in the crime rate. The GCR in Alushta is not stable. It varies from year to year. The GCR in the

resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region and in the Russian Federation, in general, tends to decrease gradually, has a positive effect on the attractiveness of the Black Sea resorts.

Table 1. The GCR in the resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea

Resort cities	General crime rate	
	2016	2017
Yalta	15.49	12.38
Alushta	13.66	20.51
Sudak	13.71	12.77
Feodosia	18.98	17.71
Yevpatoria	14.29	13.24
Saki	10.12	9.38
Sochi	15.75	14.56
Tuapse	14.60	14.79
Gelendzhik	17.52	18.73
Anapa	11.99	12.49
Republic of Crimea	10.03	9.23
Krasnodar Territory	12.83	12.14
Russian Federation	14.71	14.01

Compiled by the authors based on Note 4.

In the cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region, the proportion of crime committed in public places is extremely high. In Yevpatoria, this figure reaches 45% of the total number of crimes committed, while in other cities it is more than 20%, which increases the risks for tourists visiting the region. Theft, robbery, drug trafficking are the main types of crimes committed in public resort cities.

Note that the proportion of grave and particularly grave crimes in the total number of crimes committed in the resort cities of Black Sea region considerably differs. It is higher in those cities where the GCR is higher. These are Alushta (40%), Yalta (27%), Sudak (29%) and Sochi (27%) (Figure 2). In other cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region, the proportion of grave crimes almost corresponds to the average Russian level (21%). In terms of grave crimes, the Crimean sector of the Black Sea region exceeds the Caucasian sector.

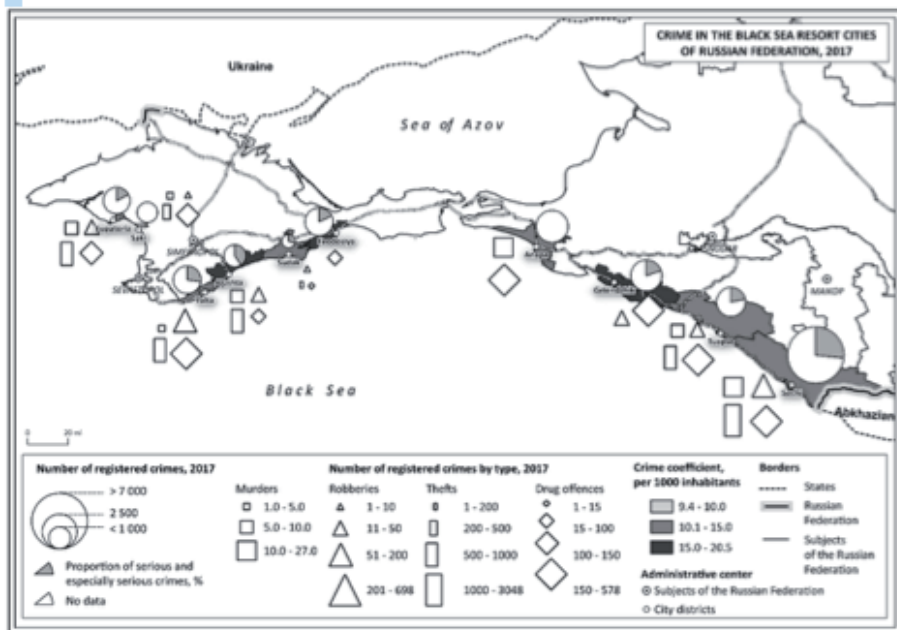


Figure 2. Crime in the resort cities of Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea, 2017

Developed by the authors according to the materials of the informational-analytical reports of the Department of Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs in the resort cities of the Republic of Crimea and the Krasnodar Territory (Note 4).

Crimes against property such as theft and robbery predominate in all cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region. In 2017, their proportion in the total number of crimes ranged from 42% in Sochi to 62% in Alushta. In the resorts of the Caucasian segment of the Black Sea region, the proportion of crimes against property was lower than that in the Republic of Crimea. In some cities of the Caucasus coast, namely Anapa and Gelendzhik, theft as a type of crime was completely absent in the statistics of 2017.

The most objective and unconcealed type of crime is murder. The greatest number of murders in 2017 was committed in the resorts of the Caucasian segment of the Black Sea region, in particular in the resort of Sochi. The maximum number of murders per thousand people was recorded in Alushta (0.11

murders).

In Sochi, as the most expensive and elite resort of the Caucasian segment of the Black Sea region, in 2017, the number of crimes related to drug trafficking amounted to 578. This is several times higher than the number of similar crimes in other cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region. Gelendzhik and Yalta became the leaders in drug crime per thousand people. The level of drug-related crime in these cities exceeded the national average. Note that the level of drug crimes was usually correlated with the level of murders. In other words, GCR can serve as a marker of the level of drug crimes, which is very secretive in nature and poorly reflected in the official statistics of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation.

The authors have revealed that the level of recidivism is high in all resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region. Repeat offenders make targeted visits to resorts. Mostly, their criminal acts are related to drug crime and crimes against property.

3.3. Information and image component of antisocial phenomena in the resorts of the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black sea

In the context of the modern information society, the behavior of potential tourists is increasingly influenced by the features of image constructs, which are formed by the mass media purposefully or spontaneously. In addition to the general level of crime and other antisocial phenomena, it is important to take into account the resonant crimes widely covered in the mass media. Since the territorial structure of the tourist flow of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region is dominated by the citizens of Russia (Note 1), it is advisable to study the manifestation of antisocial phenomena in the Russian information space.

As a result of the content analysis of news, more than 6,000 reports of antisocial phenomena in the Crimea in the period 2010-2017 were revealed. The dynamics of Russian regional and federal media reports about the antisocial processes in the Crimean segment of the Black Sea region ("drug addiction", "crime" and "risky sexual behavior") revealed a sharp increase (tenfold) in the number of antisocial phenomena from 2014 to 2017. The revealed situation indicates not a sharp increase in the number of antisocial actions of residents and immigrants of Crimea, but a sharp increase in the interest of Russian mass media to the Crimean events after the Crimea's entry into the system of the administrative structure of Russia (Volkhin, 2018). However, the proportion of identified reports on antisocial processes and phenomena in Crimea is less than 0.5% of the total volume of information flow about the region in the Russian media space. This means that the antisocial processes occurring in the Crimea

are poorly manifested in the information space of Russia and are not included in the semantic basis of the image of the Crimean Black Sea segment. On the other hand, the emergence of descriptions of negative social processes in the media space of Russia is a socially significant factor for potential tourists. In 2017, the leading cities of the Crimean segment of the Black Sea region in terms of the number of reports of various antisocial phenomena, in particular murders and drug crimes, were the cities of Yalta and Feodosia (Figure 3), which have concentrated more than 70% of such crime reports in comparison with six other resort cities of the Crimea. The Crimean cities of Alushta and Yevpatoria occupy an intermediate position in terms of the number of reports on antisocial phenomena while the cities of Saki and Sudak have received the least amount of information concerned various antisocial phenomena.

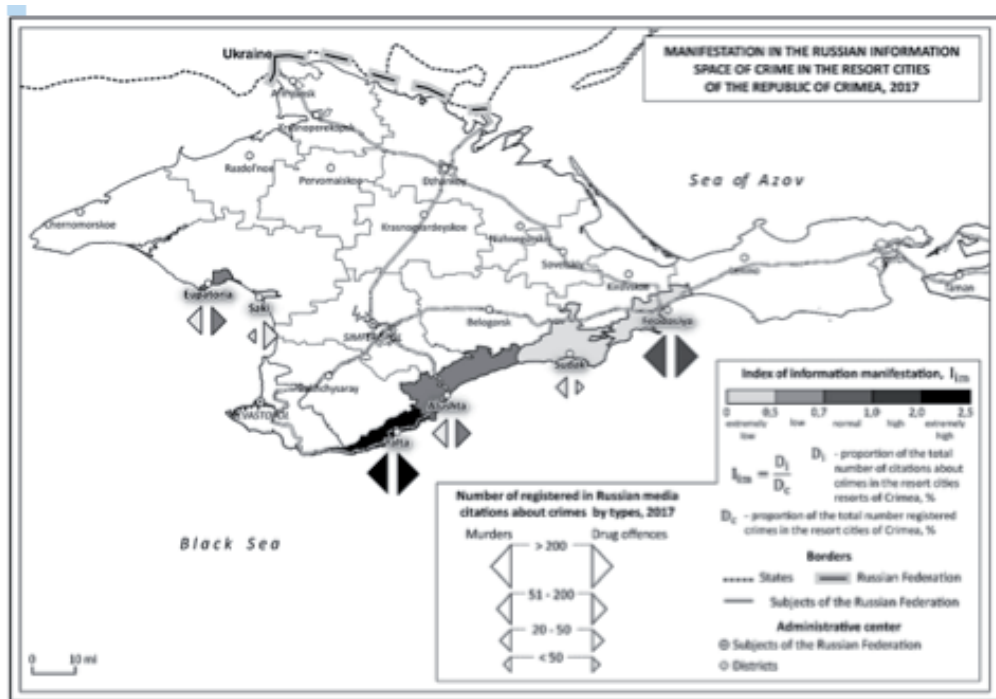


Figure 3. Information provision through reports on crime in the resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea in the information space of the Russian Federation, 2017

Developed by the authors according to the materials of the informational-analytical reports of the Department of Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs in the resort cities of the Republic of Crimea and the Krasnodar Territory (Note 4); "Medialogia"(Note 2), and "Yandex.News"(Note 3).

Thus, the spatial localization of real crime and its reflections in the information space of the resort cities of the Crimean segment of the Black Sea region generally coincide.

More objectively, the nature of the information manifestation of the considered antisocial phenomena is reflected by the coefficient of information manifestation of antisocial phenomena (Iim) (2). Its value for Yalta, more than twice exceeding the standard value, points to the extremely high information manifestation of crime that does not correspond to a real criminogenic situation in the city, which has one of the highest indicators of the criminal safety. The increased attention of the press to crime in Yalta is mainly due to the status of this city as the "resort capital" of the Crimea. Other resort cities of the Crimean segment of the Black Sea region have normal (the Iim coefficient is close to 1), low or very low (the value of the Iim coefficient approaches to 0) degree of crime manifestation in the information space of Russia. This situation creates a positive internal information and image tourism potential of the Crimean Black Sea segment.

The situation in the external, in relation to the Russian, information space is presented in a different way. The 2014 events in Ukraine, the new administrative and territorial status of Crimea and various, often negative, reactions to these events on the part of European countries and the United States, created an "uncertainty effect" in the development of the territories of the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol in the system of real international relations (Shvets and Voronin, 2017), as well as formed a contradictory external image of the Crimean Peninsula. The negative external image of the Crimean segment of the Black Sea region caused the appearance of reports in foreign media about Crimea as the region unsafe for tourists to visit (Note 5).

Against the background of the Crimean situation, the information and image component of resort activities in the Caucasian segment of the Black Sea region is devoid of such sharp contrasts between internal and external information spaces. The resorts of the Caucasian segment of the Black Sea region are

characterized by the dominance of positive image constructs over negative characteristics, including those associated with antisocial phenomena.

4. Discussion

The tourist flow to the Crimea-Caucasus tourist and recreational region of the Black Sea coast increases every year (Maksimova, 2016). Under the influence of external factors, the resort cities of this region, like any social system, are undergoing changes.

Cities of the Crimea-Caucasus tourist and recreational region have no significant differences in terms of the general level of crime and its structure compared to that in the territories, in which they are included according to the administrative-territorial principle (the Republic of Crimea and the Krasnodar Region). This means that the antisocial phenomena formation factors will be equally relevant for resort cities and other areas of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region, which do not have a pronounced recreational function.

However, the Crimean and Caucasian segments of the Black Sea region have fundamental differences in information support of antisocial phenomena on the part of internal and external media generators. This situation points to the need to develop a unique image policy for each region of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region.

For the resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region, no correlation was revealed between the number of tourists and the level of crime in these populated localities. On the contrary, in resort cities with fewer tourists and the local population, the crime rate may be higher or lower. The level of crime in resort cities correlates with the level of their socio-economic development and problems associated with law enforcement agencies activity. That is, the process of antisocial phenomena formation in resort cities is influenced not only by the development level of their recreational function but by the very presence of such function.

In the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region there is an upward trend in the proportion of grave crimes in the wake of rising of their total number per 1000 of the population.

The Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region with a high concentration of tourists is characterized by the increased criminalization of recreational areas during the holiday season, especially the active dissemination of crimes against property, as well as drug crimes. While considering the crime topography in the resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region, the most common types of crimes are theft, disorderly and insulting behavior, and fraud, which are recorded in public places of these populated localities.

An urgent problem in the regulation of the development level of antisocial

phenomena in the resort cities of the Crimea- Caucasus Black Sea region is the crime latency, which is higher than in other regions. The reasons for the latent nature of crime lie in the high mobility of the population in recreational regions. Law enforcement agencies play a leading role in the fight against the dissemination of antisocial phenomena, while the heads of subdivisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation note that there is a problem of seasonal shortage of law enforcement personnel in recreational areas. At the same time, the presence of a large number of law enforcement officers in resort cities can cause deterioration of

the psycho-emotional state in tourists, as well as criminal or another kind of discomfort (De Albuquerque and McElroy, 1999).

In the present study, the authors found it necessary to emphasize that the conditions for the emergence of criminal discomfort in people are present in all cities of the Crimea-Caucasus Black Sea region. Evidence of this is the presence of the entire spectrum of antisocial phenomena in almost every resort city of the Black Sea coast of Crimea and Caucasus.

4.1 Features of measures to prevent asocial phenomena in recreational regions
In many entities of the Russian Federation, and in particular, in the Krasnodar Region and its resort cities, the “Safe city” program has been implemented and is successfully operating. It is planned to complete gradual implementation of this program in the territory of the Republic of Crimea by 2020. The comprehensive "Safe city" system is designed to automate the most important tasks of modern cities.

Another popular solution to the problems associated with the safety of tourists in many countries is the creation of special local troops of the tourist police. Such structures exist in many major international tourist centers of the USA, Egypt, Thailand, UAE, and other countries. These structures operate as part of the law enforcement agencies or are created as independent units. In Russia, the practice of creating tourist police is of experimental nature, for example, in Moscow. The implementation of international experience in the creation of tourist police in the resort cities of the Russian Black Sea region requires their adaptation to regional managerial and cultural characteristics (including multi-ethnic and multi-confessional nature of the population).

An important system function for the formation of a safe local system of social relations for tourists belongs to the institutions of culture, education and upbringing, due to their ability to reproduce, preserve, and enrich the traditional values of the multiethnic space of the Russian Black Sea region.

The efforts of mass media generators and management structures at different territorial levels (federal, regional, and local) in solving the problems of antiso

cial processes manifestations should be aimed at creating operational, influential, attractive information content accessible to various social groups and tourists, as well as harmonious with the reality.

5. Conclusions

In the course of the study, the main hypothesis was confirmed that tourism and recreation territories of the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea are not anomalies in terms of the concentration of antisocial phenomena. They are characterized by the changed formation mechanism of antisocial phenomena and the extent of their involvement in the information field of the country and the world.

Existing regional strategies aimed at regulating antisocial processes require the introduction of the concept of "criminal discomfort", which is complex in nature. It allows determining the degree of protection of society based on the results of the territorial localization of antisocial phenomena.

The research method of antisocial phenomena in the resort cities of the Crimea-Caucasus coast of the Black Sea is applicable for other tourist and recreational areas, but the recreational function should be among the main ones in these regions, since the presence of other functions changes the structure of the determinants of asocial phenomena, their consequences, as well as information interpretation. In the future, it is planned to conduct similar studies for recreational areas of the entire Black Sea region.

Further research into the problem of criminal discomfort is possible in close cooperation with law enforcement agencies, criminologists, and the regional administration managers. An important issue though almost untouched in the present article is the geographical interpretation of regional peculiarities of victimization of tourists and the local population.

Acknowledgement

This work was partially supported by the V.I. Vernadsky Crimean Federal University Development Program for 2015–2024.

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Note 5. FAM International Security (<https://www.faminternational.com>).



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Revista de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales

Año 35, N° 20, (2019)

Esta revista fue editada en formato digital por el personal de la Oficina de Publicaciones Científicas de la Facultad Experimental de Ciencias, Universidad del Zulia.

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