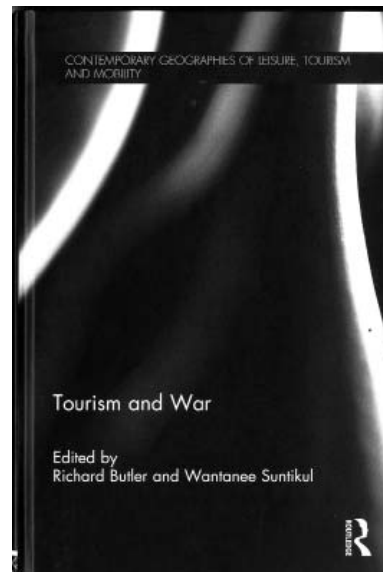# book review
Tourism and War

The prominent publisher *Routledge* published its newest book, actually a proceedings, titled *Tourism and War* spreading over 297 pages. The book is edited by Richard Butler of the University of Glasgow (UK), and Wantansee Suntikul from the Institute of Tourism Studies in Macau (China). They collected valuable articles from 33 researchers from thirteen countries classifying their contributions into five major sections. The introduction consists out of three articles, while the conclusion is made out of two. The book is enriched with numerous diagrams, tables and maps.

The first part of the book, titled "Historic Links", provides an overview of connections between tourism and war in history by mentioning the Crusades, the impact of some of the orders of knighthood generated /emerged at the time, the English tourists over centuries in relation to war, as well as the situation in the 19th and 20 century. *The second part* of the book, titled "Tourism Before and During War", describes the characteristics of tourism before and during the war in the Vietnam and the consequences of the war to the receptive countries in the immediate neighborhood of similar armed conflicts, such as Thailand or neutral Switzerland. *The third section,* titled "Tourism Under Threat of War", examines the condition after the Korean War, rather, the ceasefire, and in the Palestinian occupied territories. *The fourth chapter,* "Tourism War and Aftermath", deals with the consequences of the ended armed conflicts in connection with tourism confirming their claims with series of quantitative indicators. This part of the book also contains analysis of the harmful effects of war in respect to tourism, but also indications of its recovery.

Finally, the last, *fifth part* of the book, "Tourism and War Remembrance", illustrates the possibilities of using the war as a starting point for the phenomenon of, what is tentatively called, *war tourism*. For example, visiting the sites of past wars, which today are sites of historical memories, celebrations, monuments and souvenirs on the subject. Good examples of this are the front lines in Belgium, Normandy, and the territories engaged in Napoleonic wars as well.

This book is a valuable contribution not only to political deliberation about the relationship between tourism and war, but the social, economic, and environmental aspects of these complex relationships as well. While the classic tourist doctrine denied the very possibility of coexistence of incompatible, namely peaceful tourism and armed conflict, the practice has proved that tourism is almost never fully extinguished, even when harshest conflicts erupt. It recovers rapidly but, of course, differently in different environments as documented by many examples around the world. This book puts tourism in the context of civil wars (Northern Ireland), the real threat of terrorism, and planetary conflicts, as the First and Second World War and postwar period with a series of local conflicts. Tourism is, moreover, already perceived as a *vital force for peace*. With its peaceful nature it directly contributes to peace, but when favorable conditions are gone, the tourist economy suffers considerable damage not only because of the destruction of the material base and infrastructure, but also because of the weakening destination's market image. Low personal safety of the visitors reflects in the decline of demand, and once lost reputation is hard to re-acquire. These and many other issues between tourism, war and peace are not only analyzed theoretically and in principle in this proceedings, but also in numerous contemporary and historical cases. Therefore, this book should be welcomed as a valuable contribution to the scientific literature on this interesting topic.

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