

**THE ESSENCE AND DISTINCTIVE FEATURES OF THE CONCEPT OF  
ENSURING SAFE TOURISM****Gulyamov Kahramon Davronovich,**

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This article analyzes the concept of ensuring safe tourism and its distinctive features. It examines the role of state bodies in organizing safe tourism, the legal and organizational mechanisms, and key directions for ensuring safety. Additionally, the safety standards in tourism activities and their relation to national and international regulations are discussed.

**Keywords:** safe tourism, safety standards, state bodies, legal mechanisms, organizational mechanisms.

В статье анализируется сущность понятия безопасного туризма и его характерные особенности. Рассматривается роль государственных органов в организации безопасного туризма, правовые и организационные механизмы, а также ключевые направления обеспечения безопасности. Кроме того, обсуждаются стандарты безопасности в туристической деятельности и их связь с национальными и международными нормами.

*Ключевые слова:* безопасный туризм, стандарты безопасности, государственные органы, правовые механизмы, организационные механизмы.

Globally, security is one of the main conditions necessary for the sustainable development of tourism. Lack of security can have negative consequences not only for tourists but also for the tourism industry. Safety is considered one of the main factors influencing the choice of a tourist when choosing a destination for travel, and it is of decisive importance in increasing the attractiveness of tourism and its sustainable development.

Recently, issues of ensuring tourism safety have been the focus of attention of state authorities and the business tourism community. Safe tourism is a set of measures and policies to create and maintain a secure environment for tourists and residents. Factors such as low crime rate in tourist destinations, compliance with sanitary and hygienic standards, quick and effective provision of medical aid, and preparation for and response to natural disasters are important.

For example, in European countries, the safety of tourists is ensured at the level of state policy. Countries like France, Spain, and Italy have high-level security infrastructure and law enforcement agencies.

At the same time, in Uzbekistan, security is recognized as one of the important factors for the development of tourism, and in this regard, several measures are being implemented to ensure security in the development of the tourism sector. For example, to increase the tourism potential of Uzbekistan, the government is strengthening the legal base, developing the security infrastructure, and carrying out safety information campaigns among residents and tourists. According to the report of the World Economic Forum (WEF), Uzbekistan took the 78th place in the overall rating of 2024. Since 2019, the country has risen 16 places. A total of 119 countries were included in the rating. JEF experts analyzed data on environment, policy, infrastructure and services, resources, and sustainable development for 2019-2024<sup>1</sup>.

One of the main principles of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Tourism" dated July 18, 2019 is "the priority of protecting the rights, freedoms, legal interests and safety of tourists, excursionists and tourism industry entities".<sup>2</sup> The fact that it has been strengthened as such is proof of the relevance of the researched topic.

In the 2023 report of the Safety Perception Index, Uzbekistan is listed as the safest country for international tourists. Uzbekistan, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Norway are recognized as the safest countries in this rating. These four countries have a "green" rating, indicating that the level of risk to the lives and travel of citizens is minimal. The Safety Perception Index focuses on five main factors in assessing safety: food and water supplies, violent crime, inclement weather, mental health, and workplace safety. These factors play an important role in determining the country's place in the security rating.

According to the source, in recent years in Central Asia, especially in Uzbekistan, law and police control has been strengthened, and crime and social risks have decreased due to economic growth and government measures.<sup>3</sup>

However, in order to assess the extent to which these activities are being carried out, it is necessary to pay attention to several important aspects. First of all, it is necessary to determine to what extent and in what order the strengthening of the legal framework is carried out, and if laws are adopted, information is needed on how their implementation and implementation mechanisms are established. In order for legal measures to be effective in practice, it is important to regularly monitor their implementation and make corrections in cases deemed necessary.

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<sup>1</sup> [Ўзбекистон туризмни фаол ривожлантираётган мамлакатлар рейтингида биринчи ўринни эгаллади \(batafsil.uz\)](http://batafsil.uz)

<sup>2</sup> Қонун ҳужжатлари маълумотлари миллий базаси, 19.07.2019 й., 03/19/549/3446-сон; Қонунчилик маълумотлари миллий базаси, 21.04.2021 й., 03/21/683/0375-сон, 12.10.2021 й., 03/21/721/0952-сон; 07.06.2022 й., 03/22/775/0477-сон; 29.11.2023 й., 03/23/880/0905-сон; 14.05.2024 й., 03/24/926/0344-сон

<sup>3</sup> [Safety Perception Index Ўзбекистонни хорижий сайёҳлар учун энг хавфсиз мамлакат деб эълон қилди — Дарё Янгиликлари \(daryo.uz\)](http://daryo.uz)

Secondly, activities on the development of security infrastructure, for example, security services in tourist areas, video surveillance systems, it is necessary to determine how emergency assistance services are established and how they are used in practice. It is important that any infrastructure elements work efficiently not only on paper, but also in practice.

Thirdly, it is necessary to analyze the effectiveness of safety information promotion among local residents and tourists. Information about the practical results of these works, how effective the promotion work is being carried out, and the extent to which the safety of tourists is ensured as a result is very important.

In general, the relevance of the research topic is related to the need to ensure the safety of tourists, which is one of the main factors for the successful development of tourism in any country, including Uzbekistan.

The tourism industry is one of the most dynamic sectors in the world economy and is developing rapidly. Tourism is one of the three largest export industries after oil production and the automotive industry. Currently, tourism is the most profitable industry in the world economy<sup>4</sup>.

Tourism and security should be noted as interrelated and complementary phenomena. The Seoul Declaration "Peace and Tourism", adopted by the World Tourism Organization on September 27, 2001, states that the safety and protection of tourists should be a priority in every World Tourism Organization member country<sup>5</sup>.

In the explanatory dictionary of the Uzbek language, "safety is the absence of danger; non-threatening condition"<sup>6</sup> defined as, in the explanatory dictionary of the big Russian language, the term "safe" means "not dangerous, free from threats"<sup>7</sup>.

According to the Law of the Russian Federation "On the Basics of Tourist Activity", tourism safety means ensuring the safety of tourists and their property, protecting the environment, material and spiritual wealth of society, and state security during trips. includes non-harm<sup>8</sup>. This norm aims to protect not only the personal safety of tourists, but also the environment around them and the general interests of society. According to the law of the Kyrgyz Republic, "Safe tourism means the personal safety of tourists and the safety of their property during travel"<sup>9</sup>. Here, the emphasis is on the personal safety of tourists and the protection of their property, and not much

<sup>4</sup> [Главные факторы влияющие на развития туризма — Туристический бизнес \(tourfaq.net\)](http://tourfaq.net)

<sup>5</sup> См.: Сеульская декларация «Мир и туризм». Официальный сайт Всемирной туристской организации ООН. URL: <http://www.unwto.or>

<sup>6</sup> [O'zbek tilining izohli lug'ati - X.pdf \(ziyouz.com\)](http://ziyouz.com)

<sup>7</sup> См: Большой толковый словарь русского языка. - СПб., 1998. С. 67.

<sup>8</sup> [Статья 14. Обеспечение безопасности туризма \ КонсультантПлюс \(consultant.ru\)](http://consultant.ru)

<sup>9</sup> Закон Кыргызской Республики от 25 марта 1999 года № 34 О туризме (В редакции Законов КР от 21 октября 2003 года № 218, 5 декабря 2013 года № 211, 10 мая 2017 года № 79) <http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/201>

attention is paid to the environment and national security. The law of the Republic of Belarus also states that "the concept of safety in the field of tourism is the protection of life, health and property of tourists and excursionists, the prevention of damage to the environment during tourist trips, the provision of information to participants and subjects of tourism activities, and the rights and freedoms of participants and means protection of legal interests<sup>10</sup>. This law envisages a multifaceted approach to ensure safe tourism in Belarus.

Considering this, the concept of tourism security can be interpreted differently in different countries. In the laws of Russia and Belarus, the concept of security is comprehensive, and in addition to the personal security of tourists, special attention is paid to the environment and state security. In the Kyrgyz law, the main emphasis is placed on the personal safety of tourists and the protection of their property.

As stated by M.B. Sharueva, tourism safety means ensuring the safety of those participating in legal relations in the field of tourism, that is, tour operators (travel agents), citizens of the Russian Federation, foreign citizens, and stateless persons in exercising their right to rest. This approach emphasizes the importance of protecting the rights and interests of various participants in the tourism process, legal regulation, and protecting the rights of tourists.

According to Ye. L. Pisarevskii, tourism security is a dynamic state of protection of the tourism sector from internal and external threats, which ensures its reliable existence and sustainable development<sup>11</sup>. This definition emphasizes the wider context of security, including the economic, social, and political aspects that may affect the tourism sector.

In her research, S.R. Tursunova defines safe tourism as the safety of life, health, and property of tourists, as well as the damage that can be caused to the moral, material, and national values of society, the environment, and the security of society and the state during the trip. understood as a state of prevention and elimination<sup>12</sup>. This approach emphasizes the need for a comprehensive approach to security that covers various aspects of tourism activities.

These three definitions emphasize different aspects of tourism security and they complement each other. M. B. Sharueva emphasizes legal aspects, Ye. L. Pisarevskiy emphasizes protection from threats and sustainable development, and S. R. Tursunova emphasizes comprehensive protection of tourists and society's safety. Together, these approaches create a

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<sup>10</sup> [Закон Республики Беларусь от 11.11.2021 г. № 129-3 «О туризме» – Pravo.by](#)

<sup>11</sup> Писаревский Е.Л. Административно-правовое обеспечение безопасности туризма в Российской Федерации // Дисс.док.юрид.наук. – 2011, 49б.

<sup>12</sup> Турсунова С.Р. Хавфсиз туризмни таъминлашнинг маъмурий-ҳуқуқий чораларини такомиллаштириш // Юрид.фан.фал.док (PhD) дисс.- Тошкент, 2023. – 165 бет

comprehensive understanding of tourism security that can be taken into account when developing strategies and policies in this area.

The historical aspects of tourists' attention to the safety issue were studied in detail by the lawyer S.R.Tursunova in her dissertation entitled "Improving administrative and legal measures to ensure safe tourism". Various paid services are offered by porters, guides and tour guides. First of all, they ensured the safety of individuals and groups of tourists<sup>13</sup> Moreover, helping tourists, protecting their life and health from illegal attacks, as well as ensuring the safety of their property, providing temporary housing and overnight accommodation are widely accepted in the traditions of various nations. spread out. Thus, the first procedures for ensuring the safety of tourists go back to the history of Roman law<sup>14</sup>.

It is important to ensure the personal safety of tourists in the initial stages of the trip. Because during this period, tourists experience a period of adaptation to the new socio-psychological environment, geographical conditions and hydrometeorological characteristics of the temporary country (place)<sup>15</sup>.

Tourism safety is an important factor for the successful development of the tourism sector and can allow to achieve the following:

- Attraction of tourists: tourists choose destinations where they feel safe;
- increase tourist satisfaction: security increases the convenience and joy of travel, which encourages positive opinions and recommendations;
- strengthening the image of the country: security is an important factor in forming a positive image of the country as a tourist destination;
- investment promotion: security attracts investors, who are ready to spend money for the development of tourism infrastructure;
- preservation of tourism resources: security helps to preserve natural and cultural resources, which is an important factor for the sustainable development of tourism.

Various factors affect the development of tourism. Among them are competition, information technology, air transportation, tour operator services, the political and social situation in the country, and an increase in general security level. However, it is worth noting that tourist

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<sup>13</sup> Дулов А.Н., Дюхова К.А., Юрчак Д.В.. История путешествий и туризма: монография /– Витебск: УО «ВГУ им. П.М. Машерова», 2011. С - 50.

<sup>14</sup> Турсунова С.Р. Хавфсиз туризмни таъминлашнинг маъмурий-ҳуқуқий чораларини такомиллаштириш // Юрид.фан.фал.док (PhD) дисс.- Тошкент, 2023. – 165 бет

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organizations cannot independently solve security issues related to their activities without the help of the state<sup>16</sup>.

The main factors affecting the safety of tourists during travel include:

- geographical and natural features of the tourist destination (sea, mountain, desert regions, climate, presence of unique animals and insects, etc.);
- cultural and social environment of the place of temporary stay, uniqueness of local food, language, cultural, religious and ethnic traditions, etc.;
- peculiarities of types of tourism (extreme tourism, sports-health tourism, etc.);
- the level of quality and safety of the provided services;
- tourists (excursionists) must comply with personal safety rules, including the laws, rules, and traditions (cultural, religious, etc.) of the country (place) of temporary stay, sanitary-epidemiological norms, and special instructions, state bodies, Emergency special services of the Ministry of Situations, instructions of guides and guide-instructors, and use of personal protective equipment.

The safety of tourists (excursionists) is ensured by the implementation of a complex of organizational-technical, diplomatic, financial, law enforcement, and other measures, these measures are aimed at reducing risks to an acceptable level and dividing the tasks of all participants in the process of providing tourism services and implementation and compliance with personal safety requirements by tourists.

According to T.V. Ukhin and A.G. Fedorov, the organizational and legal provision of tourism safety is primarily aimed at organizing the personal safety of tourists, ensuring the preservation of their property, and protecting the ecological and natural environment in the provision of tourist services<sup>17</sup>. In addition to these, it is worth noting that crime prevention is an important part of tourism security. First, it is necessary to strengthen the legal framework for protection against crimes. Countries should review their legislation and increase penalties for crimes committed against tourists. It is necessary to strengthen the supervision of the tourism police and improve emergency assistance services in places where tourists walk a lot.

Secondly, it is necessary to take preventive measures for the safety of tourists. In this regard, it is important to educate the local population and tourism service staff, to inform them about crime prevention and safety rules.

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<sup>16</sup> Писаревский Е.Л. Актуальные вопросы совершенствования законодательства в области обеспечения личной безопасности туристов // Вестник СПбГУ. Сер. 14. 2011. Вып. 1. С.31-42

<sup>17</sup> Ухина Т.В., Федоров А.Г. Безопасность в туризме: вопросы правового регулирования и перспективы развития в условиях возникновения системных рисков // SERVICE plus SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL 2021, 15(3), 20–28

Thirdly, international cooperation in combating crimes should be strengthened. It is necessary to exchange information and conduct joint measures between countries, and cooperate in finding criminals and bringing them to justice.

Taking this into account, *ensuring safe tourism means creating and maintaining a safe environment for tourists and local residents during travel, reducing the level of crime, observing sanitary and hygienic norms, providing medical assistance quickly and efficiently, and it is necessary to understand the set of measures that should be implemented at the level of state policy in order to prepare for natural disasters.*

Based on the above analysis, we believe that the following principles should serve as a basis for the implementation of safe tourism:

- risk assessment and management: Conduct careful risk assessments to identify potential threats to tourists, such as crime, natural disasters, health hazards, and political instability. Develop effective strategies to minimize or eliminate identified risks. This may include security measures, emergency plans, and public awareness campaigns.

- provision of information and education to tourists: providing tourists with full information about potential risks and precautions before the trip. Individualize information for specific destinations, emphasizing local customs, laws, and security issues. Ensuring clear and understandable safety rules in tourist facilities, accommodation, and vehicles.

- security measures and emergency response: Provide adequate round-the-clock security personnel and infrastructure, including video surveillance systems and rapid response teams. Work closely with local law enforcement and emergency services to effectively manage crime and respond to incidents.

- responsible tourism practices: Encouraging tourists to be respectful of local customs, traditions, and the environment. Promote sustainable tourism practices, such as responsible waste management and conservation measures. Educate tourists on ethical travel opportunities, such as supporting local businesses and avoiding harmful activities.

We believe that the effective implementation of these principles not only ensures the safety of tourists but also makes their travel experience more pleasant and safe. At the same time, they help protect local communities and the environment, which promotes the development of sustainable and responsible tourism.

In several literature, scientists divide the sources of high risk that can be committed against tourists into the following categories: 1) machines, mechanisms, tools, technological processes, energy and other devices, and other technical devices created by people to meet their material and spiritual needs. Tools; 2) natural phenomena of nature - fires, earthquakes, hurricanes, and other

phenomena that appear independently of the will and consciousness of people; 3) substances and objects subject to the permit system - weapons, ammunition, toxic, explosive, and radioactive substances; 4) actions and inactions that pose a real threat to the life and health of individuals, material and spiritual wealth, for example, using weapons and operating faulty vehicles<sup>18</sup>.

I.A. Andreevsky distinguished three types of these risk groups:

- a) threats to citizens, society and the state;
- b) threats to the government;
- c) dangers threatening an individual citizen.

Among the risks that threaten citizens, risks that threaten the life, health, freedom and property of a person, including risks arising from accidents and diseases, pets, personal carelessness, oral word, writing, press and listed the risks that may arise from others<sup>19</sup>.

The division of risks into different categories is based on different methods and theories by different scientists and experts, which serves to describe the essence of the problem holistically and clearly. However, each classification has its strengths and weaknesses. For example, in the classification given by the early scientists, the definitions such as machines, mechanisms, and natural phenomena are clear and multifaceted. This classification can be useful in the analysis of risks for tourists, as it takes into account technical, natural, and social factors.

I.A. Andreevsky's classification divides risks into three big categories and sees them from the point of view of citizens, society, and the state. This approach is of great help in studying the social and political significance of risks, but it takes less into account the multifaceted nature of technical and natural risks. For example, due to the complexity of classifying natural phenomena into specific categories, it can be difficult to assess their impact on people's lives.

Both classifications are important, and using them together can help to better understand risks and improve prevention. Studying technical and natural risks together with social and political threats is an effective approach to security.

Ye. L. Pisarevskii proposed the classification of tourism safety as follows:

- on the elements included in the field of tourism: safety of subjects of the field of tourism (safety of tourists, safety of entrepreneurs, safety of tourism industry employees, safety of residents of tourist areas); security of tourism facilities (preservation of tourist resources, security of tourism infrastructure, security of tourism industry facilities, security of automated information systems, security of personal data of tourism industry subjects, etc.);

<sup>18</sup> См: Кардашова И.Б. Об общественной безопасности // Административное право и процесс. 2008. № 2.

<sup>19</sup> См.: Андреевский И.А. Полицейское право. Том I. С.-Петербург: типография Эд. Праца, 1871// ИПС «Гарант».



- according to types and types of trips: international tourism security (incoming tourism security, outgoing tourism security); domestic tourism safety, social tourism safety, ecological tourism safety, etc.;

- according to the objects of national security: they can be affected by negative factors and conditions that appear in the field of tourism - public safety, state safety, environmental safety and sanitary-epidemiological condition of the local population, legal safety and state management in the field of tourism security;

- according to the nature of the security measures used in the field of tourism: tourism security is different (hotel, tourist services security, catering services security, security of entertainment facilities for tourists, etc.) and functional (technical security, fire safety, information security in the field of tourism, etc.);

- according to the location of sources of danger and the direction of security measures in the field of tourism: tourism security can be internal and external;

- according to the form (method) of tourism organization: organized tourism security and unorganized (in its activity) tourism security<sup>20</sup>.

Although Ye. L. Pisarevskii's wide-ranging classification of tourism security is clear and perfect, there are many difficulties in implementing this classification. Inadequate legislation and legal frameworks for ensuring security in the field of tourism often cause problems in practice. Also, ensuring the safety of tourism requires the cooperation of all interested parties, which is also a challenge. Special attention should be paid to technical and information security in ensuring the security of tourism entities and objects, but this requires the use of modern technologies and data protection tools. Therefore, even if Pisarevsky's classification is clear and complete, its implementation requires a complex and integrated approach.

In addition to the above, in our opinion, the following specific threats can be listed:

- threats to the personal safety of tourists - types of crime, fraud, violence, and situations that may endanger their health. For example, cases of theft, robbery, theft of personal information, and personal injury;

- threats to the security of business activities in the tourism sector - may include opposition to business, violation of competition rules, corruption, and improper application of licensing requirements. These threats complicate business and can lead to financial losses;

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<sup>20</sup> Писаревский Е.Л. Административно-правовое обеспечение безопасности туризма в Российской Федерации // Дисс. док. юрид. наук. – 2011, 496.

— threats to labor safety in the field of tourism can include deterioration of working conditions, industrial injuries, occupational diseases, and violations of labor legislation by employers. These threats seriously affect the health and safety of employees;

— security threats for the local population, including its sanitary-epidemiological condition - tourism may cause deterioration of the sanitary-epidemiological condition for the local population. Diseases brought by tourists increase in trash and waste, and damage to water and food sources is likely. These threats can seriously endanger the health of the local population;

— threats to environmental, public, and state security in the field of tourism - excessive consumption of natural resources, damage to the environment, and destruction of ecosystems are possible. Threats to public safety include disruption of public order, conflicts between tourists and residents, and pollution. Threats to state security may include threats to external and internal security of the country, including terrorism.

In general, as a result of the analysis of the concept and essence of tourism security, the following conclusions can be reached:

*First*, safe tourism is important for the sustainable development of tourism worldwide, and the lack of safety hurts the tourism industry. Ensuring security is not only convenient for tourists but also protection of their lives and health. This is one of the main conditions for the sustainable and successful development of tourism;

*secondly*, to define the concept of safe tourism in the legislation of the republic, an author's definition was developed, that is, safe tourism means ensuring the personal safety of tourists and their property, protecting the environment, material and spiritual wealth of society during trips means a set of measures aimed at preventing harm, reducing the level of crime, as well as providing information to tourists and entities operating in the field of tourism and protecting their rights, freedoms and legal interests;

*thirdly*, providing safe tourism means creating and maintaining a safe environment for tourists and residents during travel, reducing the level of crime, observing sanitary and hygienic standards, providing quick and effective medical assistance, and preparing for natural disasters. to see, it is necessary to understand the set of measures that should be implemented at the level of state policy.

*Fourthly*, the classification of tourism security according to several characteristics is important in ensuring security in the tourism sector, and each type has its characteristics in taking protective measures. This classification helps in the planning and implementation of protective measures related to tourism safety. Appropriate approaches are required to identify and eliminate risks for each type.

*Fifth*, the social nature of security can be expressed in at least three aspects: a) dynamic state of protection of the individual, society, state, and environment (hereinafter referred to as security objects) from internal and external security threats, which ensures their reliable existence and stable implies development;

b) feature of security objects not to harm other environmental objects during their operation and development and (or) not to create a threat of harm;

c) human activities aimed at protecting the rights and legal interests of citizens, combating security threats, eliminating the consequences of their manifestation, and compensating the victims of security threats (the process of ensuring security).