

Thematic Collection Name:

Tourism and Degrowth

Collection Guest Editor:

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Brief description of thematic area

The problems accrued from growth in tourism, overtourism, COVID-19 and various catastrophic human activities have prompted some scholars to rethink the impacts of tourism and to search for alternatives beyond the sustainable growth discourse. The aim of these alternatives is to help to transform societies and economies through (re)building their tourism industry in a way where consumption, production and the exploitation of resources are minimal.

As a consequence, the degrowth approach emerged, as a part of philosophical debates, suggesting the idea of limited growth that will make it possible to reduce the worst effects of human-induced global issues and overcome the failure of past sustainable development initiatives (Andriotis, 2021). In fact, the main idea of degrowth is resistance to the homogenizing effects of economic and cultural globalization, which generates places that more or less seem to look alike (Mayer and Knox, 2009). Degrowth in tourism is the voluntary transition from one state to another that calls for (re)building destinations and local economies in a way in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of consumption and production, institutional changes and the orientation of technological development are minimal, controlled and in harmony with the environment. It involves people whose use of personal time enhances the richness of the experience through travelling less, more slowly and low carbon and who take the time to support the environment and the local economy and culture. Degrowth has as an end goal the equal distribute of the benefits of any tourism initiative within local communities in order to maximize human well-being for all stakeholders involved (Andriotis, 2018).

Despite the significant role degrowth can play in destination development and the fact that degrowth has a relatively old history and attracted a great deal of research interest by different established disciplines and traditional fields of study (mainly economics and ecology), it has only recently been examined from the perspective of tourism studies. Given the limited combined research on tourism and degrowth, it is the overall purpose of this thematic collection to share the knowledge and research results on the emergent and increasingly important research paradigm of degrowth by looking at it as an alternative to the classic models of development and by exploring and applying the concept of degrowth in a tourism context.

References:

- Andriotis, K. (2018) *Degrowth in Tourism: Conceptual, Theoretical and Philosophical Issues*. London: CABI.
- Andriotis, K. (2021) *Issues and Cases of Degrowth in Tourism*. London: CABI.
- Mayer, H. and Knox, P. L. (2009) Pace of life and quality of life: The slow city charter. *Community Quality of Life Indicators*, 1, 21-40.

The thematic collection will focus on the following topics:

- Degrowing Tourism

- Coronavirus crisis and degrowth
- Low Carbon Travel
- Limits to Growth
- Steady State Economy
- Social Movements
- Simple Living and Volunteer Simplicity
- Slow Tourism and Travel
- Reduced Consumption / Dematerialization
- Degrowth as a vehicle for Happiness, Improved Welfare and Quality of Life
- Transition to a Degrowth Society/Economy
- Transition Towns
- Alternative Lifestyles
- Antitourist Attitudes

QRT Thematic Collections

The Journal of Qualitative Research in Tourism furthers the frontiers of knowledge and understanding of tourism research and its applications by providing an interdisciplinary forum for qualitative research.

QRT's thematic collections focus on emerging and trending topics in the field of tourism and include articles written by scholars using qualitative approaches in their research practice. The goal of the thematic collections is to ensure readers stay up to date on important issues and contemporary research topics and garner a deeper understanding of key emerging areas of scholarship related to the advancement of qualitative research across the tourism domain.

Prospective authors should note that the qualitative methods focus of the thematic collection topic must be adequately developed and emphasised to meet the Journal's aims and scope.

Timeline and submission process

All papers should be submitted through the QRT online submission system available at: [Journal of Qualitative Research in Tourism](#)