

STUDY ABOUT THE EVOLUTION OF TOURIST FLOWS TO AND FROM ROMANIA DURING THE PERIOD 2000-2010

BĂLĂCESCU ANIELA

*LECTURER PHD, „CONSTANTIN BRANCUSI” UNIVERSITY OF TARGU JIU, FACULTY OF
ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, ROMANIA*

CIURLĂU LOREDANA

*LECTURER PHD, „CONSTANTIN BRANCUSI” UNIVERSITY OF TARGU JIU, FACULTY OF
ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, ROMANIA*

Abstract:

International tourist flows are key factors in economic development and welfare of local communities.

The purpose of this paper is to capture the evolution of international tourist traffic in Romania between 2000 - 2010 in statistical terms.

Keywords: *international traffic, incoming tourism, outgoing tourism, international tourist traffic dynamics*

Classification JEL: *L80, L83*

1. Introduction

Tourism, with the volume and variety of resources used and the effects it produces in social and economic environment presents a particularly importance. Thus, it has important significance the knowledge of trends in the evolution of domestic and international tourist traffic and tourist flows to change in orientation or motivation to travel.

Outgoing tourism (tourism passive reference) is that part of the international tourism which records the departures of citizens of countries (for travel) abroad and incoming tourism refers to non-residents traveling in that country.

Analysis of tourist flows between exporting and importing countries highlights their dependence on characteristics of those areas. If emitting areas, is the extent to which special socio-economic development influence the formation of their demand and reception areas for the way ensures a high level of attractiveness.

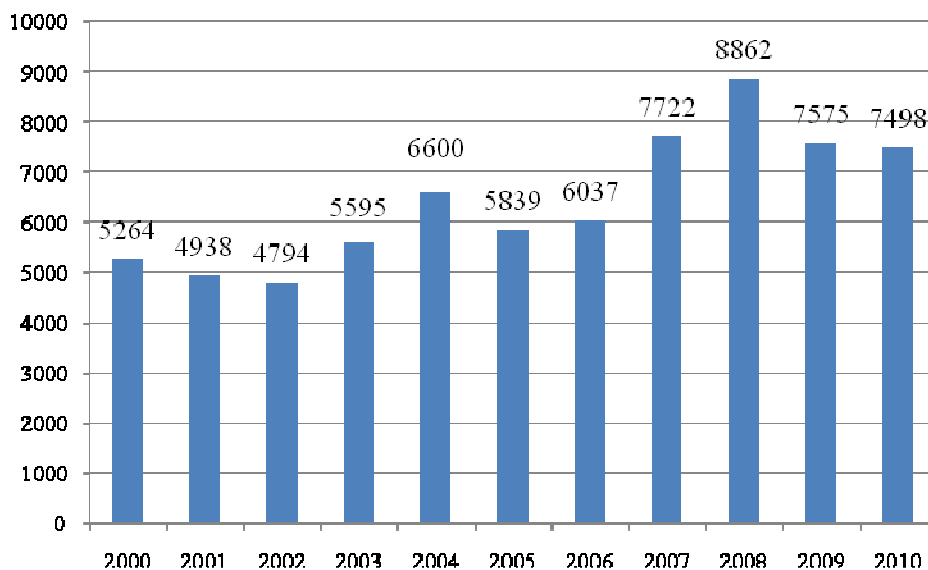
Determinant factors for training and guidance of tourist flows are multiple, but among the most important include: the demographics of the areas (population size, structure by sex, age, environment, socio-professional categories), level of economic and social development (employment unemployment rate, GDP per capita, inflation, urbanization, etc...), the existence of borders, language and cultural similarities, travel costs etc...

Between 1990-2010 Romania's international tourist flow was characterized by an evolution that reflects the transformation of economic, political and social period. Thus, simplification of customs clearance and removal of visa, EU integration in 2007 have contributed in an important measure to increase the number traveling abroad.

2. Incoming tourism indicators

Incoming tourism is a particularly important indicator for recipient country being a source of foreign exchange revenue especially important. This indicator recorded arrivals of foreigners in a country, they having permanent residence in the issuing country. In the figure below we surprised the evolution of arrivals of foreign visitors in Romania (thou arrivals) in period 2000 -2010.

Evolution of arrivals of foreign visitors in Romania (thou arrivals)



Source: The National Institute of Statistics. „Statistical Yearbook of Romania”, editions 2005-2011, I.S.S.N.: 1220 - 3246

Figure no.1

In the analysis period (2000-2010) the arrivals of foreign visitors in Romania have known a reciprocating evolution from one year to the next. Maximum level of arrivals of foreign visitors in Romania has recorded in 2008 with 8,8 million arrivals of tourists, which meant an additional 1.1 million tourists compared to the previous year. These oscillations are due to the evolution of the economic, political and social situation which marked Romania in that period. In the period 2000-2010 average of the arrivals of foreign visitors in Romania was 6, 4 million arrivals of tourists.

From the point of view of means of transport used by foreign visitors in Romania it is observed that the most common means of transport is the road (Figure No. 2).

The share of arrivals by means of transport used, in 2010

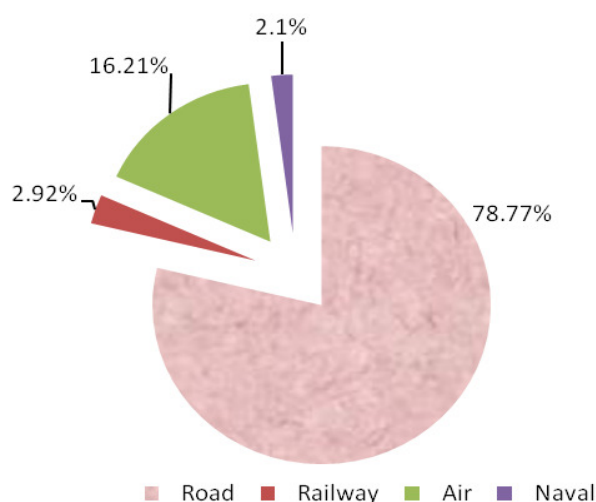


Figure no.2

In the table no. 1 we surprised evolution of arrivals of foreign visitors in Romania, by main origin continent

Table no. 1 Evolution of arrivals of foreign visitors in Romania, by main origin continent

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
	<i>Thou arrivals</i>										
Europe	5024	4696	4551	5344	6306	5522	5690	7289	8411	7203	7098
Africa	10	8	9	10	12	12	14	16	18	17	21
America	95	96	103	115	139	154	172	189	191	169	171
Asia	126	130	123	119	135	142	151	212	224	171	195
Australia and Oceania	7	6	6	6	7	8	9	14	16	14	13
Not specified countries	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	*
Total	5264	4938	4794	5595	6600	5839	6037	7722	8862	7575	7498

* Missing data

Source: The National Institute of Statistics. „Statistical Yearbook of Romania”, editions 2005-2011, I.S.S.N.: 1220 - 3246

As can be seen from the table no. 1 most tourists who visited Romania in the period 2000 to 2010 have been Europeans (in average 6103 thou arrivals), followed at a distance than Asians (in average 157 thou arrivals) and Americans (in average 145 thou arrivals).

Australia and Oceania is situated on the last place in the hierarchy (in average 10 thou arrivals).

**Evolution of arrivals of tourists in the establishments of touristic reception
with functions of touristic accommodation (thou tourists)**

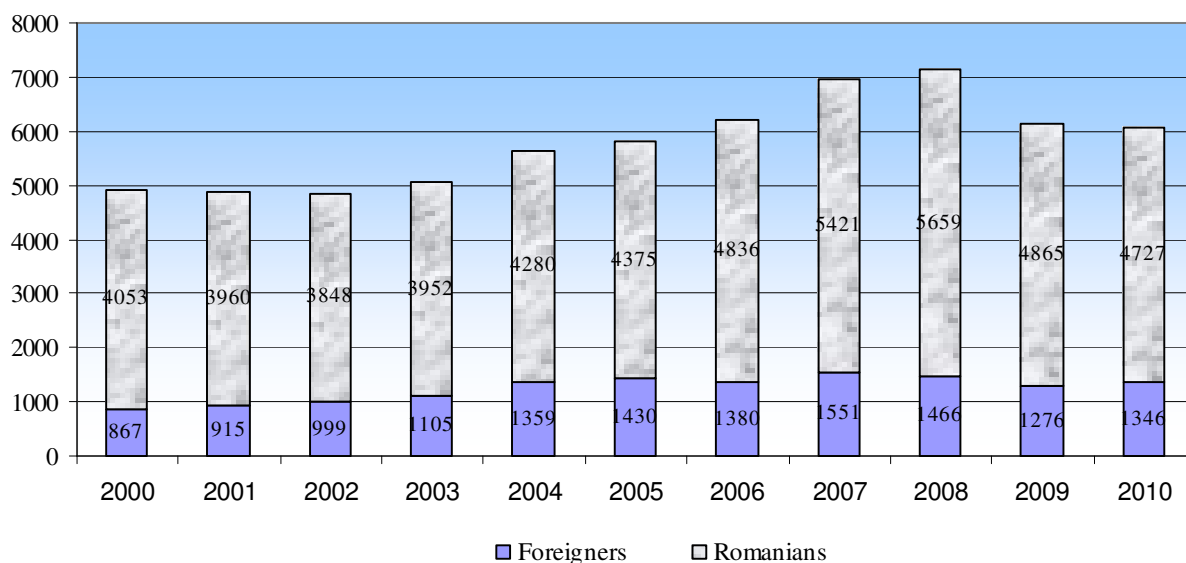


Figure no.3

As can be seen from the figure no.3, in 2000 from 4920 thou arrivals of tourists total, 17.62% were foreigners tourists. In 2005 from 5805 thou arrivals of tourists total, 24.63% were foreigners tourists, which means that 1 in 4 tourists who visited Romania was foreign. After 2008 we can see a slight decrease mainly due to the global financial crisis.

Analysis of incoming tourism indicators also requires knowledge of expenditure of Romanian tourists abroad. According to the statistical survey on "Travel expenses of nonresidents" in 2010 the total number of nonresidents accommodated in collective tourist accommodation in 2010 was 1343, 3 thousands and their expenses amounted to a total of 3723, 4 million lei. Nonresident tourists arrived in Romania on business have spent 2309 million lei. Nonresident tourists arrived in Romania for personal spent 1414, 4 million lei.

3. Outgoing tourism indicators

Outgoing tourism concept refers to the movement of residents of countries outside its borders as a tourist, with a stay of 24 hours.

Departures of Romanian visitors abroad (thou departures)

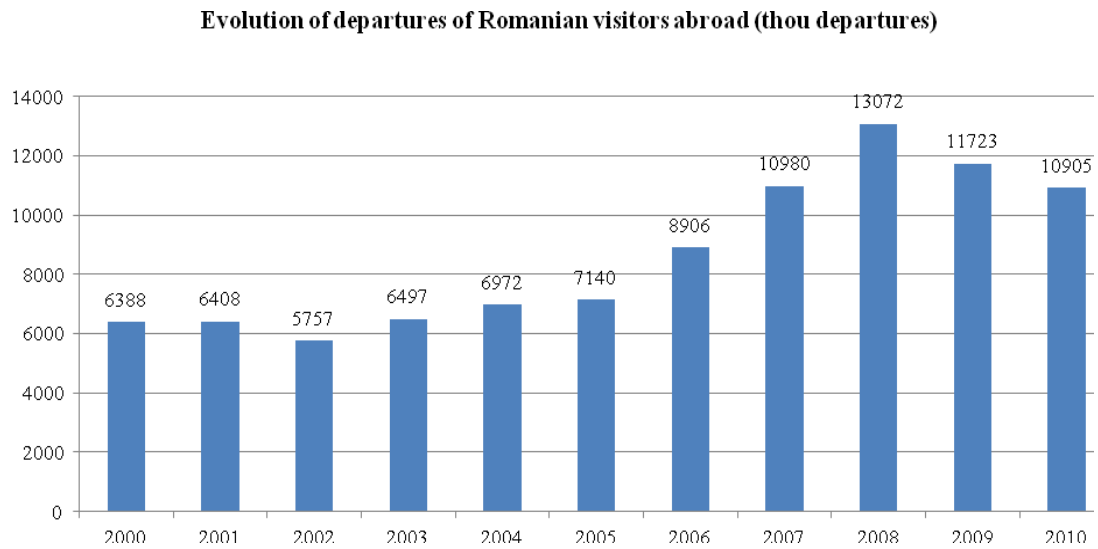
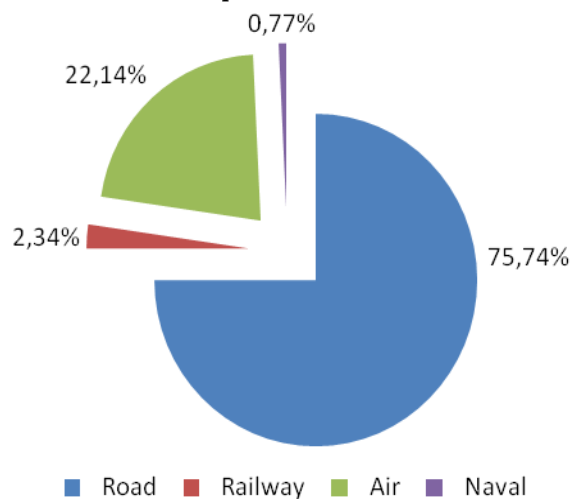


Figure no.4

From the point of view of means of transport used by Romanian visitors it is observed that the most common means of transport is the road (Figure No. 5).

The share of departures of Romanian visitors abroad by means of transport used in 2010



Source: The National Institute of Statistics. „Statistical Yearbook of Romania”, edition 2011, I.S.S.N.: 1220 - 3246

Figure no.5

Table no. 2 Evolution of departures of Romanian visitors abroad (thou departures), by main origin continent

	<i>Number</i>		
	2008	2009	2010
Europe	890298	844038	723065
Africa	10333	9636	2463
North America	10068	10198	5041
South America	1290	-	6795
Asia	5094	8547	4046
Australia and Oceania	-	3583	8313
Not specified countries	-	420	-
Total	917083	876422	749723

Source: The National Institute of Statistics. „Statistical Yearbook of Romania”, editions 2005-2011, I.S.S.N.: 1220 - 3246

As expected, most of Romanian tourists travel abroad have been directed towards the continent of Europe (96.44% in 2010), followed far away from America and Australia and Oceania.

In 2010, from European countries, Italy is dominant with 144,996 travels (20%), followed by Hungary with 105,532 travels (14.6%) and Bulgaria with 89,751 travels (12.4%) (Figure no. 6).

Travels abroad for holidays and business, by destination country from Europe in 2010

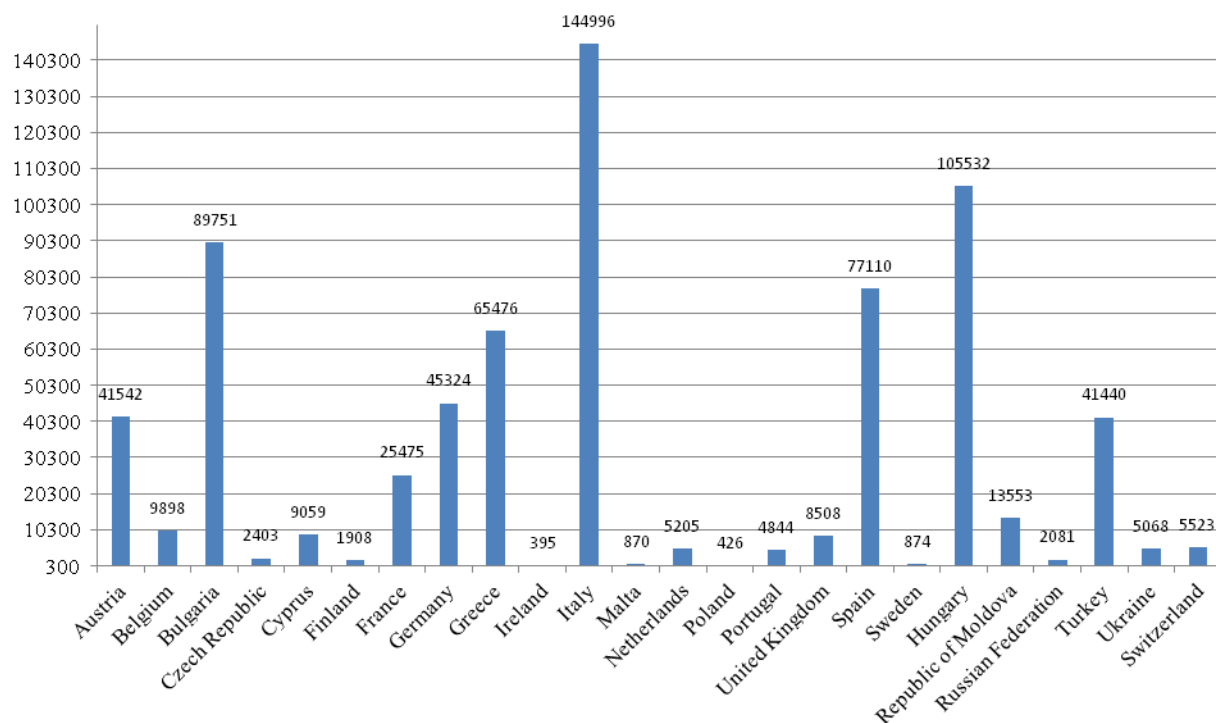


Figure no.6

3. Conclusions

The research allowed us to reach some conclusions.

A first conclusion is the favorable development of tourism activity overall during 2000 - 2008 followed by a period (2008-2010) when the Romanian tourism in overall, international tourism of Romania in particular, is marked by the global economic growth, which determined default crisis our international tourism.

Romanian international tourism is characterized by imbalance between the departures of Romanian tourists abroad (59.3%) and foreign tourist arrivals (40.7%). Thus in 2010 the number of foreign tourists arrivals in Romania was 7.498 thou arrivals and departures number of Romanian tourists abroad was 10.905 thou departures.

During the analysis period (2000-2010) the arrivals of foreign visitors in Romania have known a reciprocating evolution from one year to the next. If in 2000 were registered the 5264 thou arrivals of foreigners in in Romania, in 2010 were recorded for 7498 thou arrivals (an increase of 2234 thou arrivals).

In the analyzed period (2000 - 2010) we can see the spectacular increase in the number of departures abroad of Romanian tourists from 6388 thou in 2000 to 10.905 thou in 2010. As expected, most of Romanian tourists travels abroad have been directed towards the continent of Europe (96.44% in 2010).

4. Bibliography

- [1] Stănciulescu Gabriela, Micu Cristina “*Economie și gestiune în turism*”, Editura C.H. Beck, București, 2009, ISBN 978-973-115-487-9
- [2] Institutul Național de Statistică “*Anuarul statistic al României*” edițiile 2001-2011 , ISSN: 2066-2181
- [3] Institutul Național de Statistică “*Cheltuielile turistice ale nerezidenților, în anul 2010*”, ISSN 2065-8443
- [4] ***www.insse.ro