



International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation

American School Foundation of Monterrey



Economic and Social Council

Topic: Addressing how the coronavirus pandemic has affected the countries that rely heavily on tourism to sustain their economy.

Director: Raquel Valdes (MS) Sofi Cantu (6TH)

Moderator: Vale Saldaña (MS) Marifer Rodriguez (6TH)

I. Committee Background

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is one of the six primary organs of the United Nations (UN). Its main purpose is to coordinate the diverse economic, social, cultural, educational, and health programs of the UN. In order to do this, the council works with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), occasionally inviting them to their meetings in order to gain insight on pending problems occurring around the world.

The council consists of 54 member states, and the General Assembly selects 18 new members each year who serve 3-year terms. Additionally, in order to properly address all topics, this council divides itself into a series of commissions that specialize in specific areas of social development. Some of these include the commission on Human Rights, Sustainable Development, and Narcotic Drugs. Contrary to how many organs of the United Nations function, ECOSOC has no binding resolution; this means that resolutions are passed on to the General Assembly to be considered as recommendations for all countries to adopt. Member countries are elected to serve in three-year terms by the General Assembly and are chosen strategically to achieve full regional representation. The Council meets once a year, during a six-week-long session held in either Geneva or New York. During these meetings, voting procedures are done by a simple majority of votes—each state having a single one.

II. Introduction

Description and Definition of the Topic

Despite leaving most people with moderate symptoms and a relatively easy recovery, COVID-19 is a disease that can cause serious problems—and even death—to the more vulnerable populations. The coronavirus is notorious for its unique spreading abilities, which has resulted in millions of infections worldwide. The overflow of patients being admitted into hospitals has made this pandemic very dangerous, causing over 2 million deaths at the time of writing (worldometer, 2020).

Although the first cases of COVID-19 trail back to December 31st, 2019, the worldwide impacts on tourism began on January 30, 2020 when the World Health Organization declared the pandemic a global health emergency. The following day, U.S. President Trump banned all travel to China, but that did not stop the virus from spreading to other countries (Taylor, 2020). As the pandemic and the number of cases escalated, more and more countries banned traveling. As of today, the United States has banned all travel to and from 37 countries, with restrictions being placed on even more (CDC, 2020). Adding on, 57 countries, including Canada and Hong

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immuns.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

Kong, have implemented a global travel ban, and 47 other countries, including Australia, France, and Spain, have implemented a non-global travel ban (Shwartz, 2020).

With travel being so scarce, tourism is at an all-time low, preventing a lot of countries from generating income. Due to the amount of COVID-19 cases around the world, many countries have been forced to close their borders temporarily in order to reduce the number of people infected. However, while closing the borders and placing worldwide travel restrictions might reduce the number of cases, doing so has generated problems in multiple countries. Nations such as Mexico, Spain, and Italy depend on tourism seeing as it makes up more than 10% of their total GDP (Richter, 2020). To make matters worse, countries like Mexico and Australia had an economic recession in 2019, and recent events have only worsened their situations. Furthermore, in 2019, tourism accounted for around 10% of the global GDP, emphasizing the urgency and importance of finding a solution to the problem (Seiff, 2020).

Not only are countries' economies at risk, but thousands of people that work in the tourism industry have lost their jobs. Last year, the World Travel and Tourism Council found that around 330 million people around the world work in tourism, and now a significant number of these people have lost their jobs, creating a worsened economic condition worldwide (WTTC 2020). There is still no clear idea as to what can be a possible solution for countries to recover financially. It is almost impossible for countries that have been affected the most to recover their economic status, which is why the committee needs to find a solution promptly.

The Problem

Recent global travel restrictions have critically impacted the tourism industry, which has proven detrimental to countries in which tourism is a major source of employment, government revenue, and foreign exchange earnings. Therefore, countries like Italy, Spain, and Mexico are suffering from economic struggles due to their strong dependency on direct contributions from hotels, travel agents, airlines, and restaurants (Richter, 2020). According to the World Tourism Organization, international tourist numbers are expected to fall by about 60% to 80% when compared to last year. In 2019, the tourism economy contributed to 10% of the total global GDP (gross domestic product) with a worth of around 9 trillion dollars. This rapid decrease in the industry is not predicted to fully recover until 2024, leaving 120 million people unemployed (Constantin, Saxon, Yu, 2020).

By March, every country with travel destinations had established travel restrictions. According to the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), approximately 97 countries had closed off most of their borders to tourists. Another 65 destinations had stopped the arrival of international flights, and the remaining 39 countries allowed all international flights with few exceptions. This caused a great decrease in tourism percentages, especially those in Asia, where rates declined by 35% in the first quarter of the year. Even the region that had the least amount of decline in tourism, which was the Middle East, still dropped 11% (UNWTO, 2020). The considerable decrease in tourism is one of the reasons why the current global economy is not doing well. To fix it, tourism needs to recuperate. The Organisation for

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immun.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) predicts that domestic tourism will recover faster than international tourism in all of its member countries (Stacey, 2020). This is due to the fewer travel restrictions on national flights, which allow people to explore their home country, thus benefiting the economy.

As the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues, many businesses are reopening, shifting the focus to defining the steps that must be taken in order to restore the global economic sector. Some countries are considering removing travel restrictions while ensuring the safety of travelers. Countries that heavily rely on tourism are also starting to realize that the whole sector has to be re-planned for future success, as it opens opportunities for the renovation of businesses that could lean towards increased sustainability and digitization (Brock, 2020). Considering the rise of travel opportunities, tourists will be more interested in quality vacations than the quantity of them, in order to reduce the risk of infection.

III. History of the Topic

Chronological History of the Topic

On December 31st, 2019, the Wuhan Municipal Health Commission identified what was believed to be pneumonia as the new strain of a coronavirus which would later be known as 2019-nCoV or simply COVID-19 in reference to the year it was identified in. COVID-19 cases started escalating across China, which led to other countries imposing health precautions in an effort to prevent any further damage. Regardless of their efforts, the virus became international on the 14th of January 2020 when it reached Thailand (World Health Organization: WHO, 2020). Two weeks later, on the 30th of January, there were cases reported in 18 different countries. By then, the global spread of the virus was inevitable. Because of this, between March and April, the tourism industry shut down and the World Economic Forum even stated that the industry was set back by 20 years (Ritcher, 2020).

There are multiple countries that are economically dependant on travelers, and without them, businesses, travel agencies, airlines, hotels, and restaurants have been forced to close (“Tourism Policy Responses to the coronavirus (COVID-19),” 2020). The consequences of the pandemic were getting so severe that on May 19th, 51% of tourism-related jobs in the US were lost (Cooper, 2020). In addition, on July 1st, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development stated that the pandemic would cost a minimum of 1.2 trillion dollars to the World Tourism Sector (“Coronavirus will cost global tourism at least \$1.2 trillion | UNCTAD,” 2020).

In March 2020, many countries started closing their borders with the goal of slowing down the spread of the virus. This generated a decrease in tourism, resulting in the elimination of 100-120 million tourism-related jobs (COVID-19 AND TOURISM 7). Unemployment rates could keep growing if the virus continues spreading and if the borders do not open soon. Some countries have opened their doors, but are expected to reclose them as COVID infections and deaths increase. Due to its dependence on tourism, the flight industry is also facing multiple difficulties. In April 2020, there was an 80% drop in flights when compared to those reported in

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immuns.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

2019. Airlines are expected to lose an estimated amount of \$84.3 billion dollars in the months to come, and they may not recover until 2023-2024 (COVID-19 AND TOURISM 9).

Historical Case Studies

2002–2004 SARS outbreak

Representing 48% of total outbound tourism, Europe is the most visited continent in the world. For instance, Germany, Austria, and Switzerland alone had around 135 million tourists in 2018. This is a region that is heavily reliant on the tourism industry, which accounted for 5.1 trillion dollars of its GDP in 2018. Previous health crises like the outbreak of SARS in 2003 produced a devastating impact on tourism in the region. When cases began to rise, the epidemic forged fear among travelers due to the ease of transmission and the uncertainty of its effects. France, a country that “depends heavily on overseas travelers”, had already experienced a 20 percent decrease in bookings due to the SARS outbreak by mid 2003 (Baker). It has previously been said that the SARS epidemic “was the most influential disease in the tourism industry, as it affected international air travel for six months” (Kumudumali). It is still unclear whether or not this will change once COVID-19 is declared contained, nonetheless, many countries aside from those in Europe suffered from the repercussions of the SARS outbreak which goes to show that the impacts of health crises are usually much deeper than they seem.

2009 Swine Flu

H1N1 is a subtype of influenza that has caused the Spanish Flu pandemic, and more recently, the Swine Flu pandemic. The strain of H1N1 that caused the Swine Flu “mostly killed or severely affected younger people, regardless of their health” which was unusual seeing as most strains of influenza tend to affect the elderly (Gunter & Smeral 17). It was first reported in Mexico and about two weeks after the first cases were identified, a phase 4 pandemic alert was declared. Although the pandemic spread almost all over the world, infections and deaths were mostly centered around North America (Gunter & Smeral 18). In 2009 when the pandemic was at its prime, NPR noted that “tourism [was] Mexico's third largest source of revenue” which is why the Swine Flu drastically affected their economy and the nation as a whole (Beaubien). It is important to note that just a year before, when “Mexico's army was fighting a bloody war against the nation's drug cartels, the number of foreign visitors to Mexico grew in 2008 to a new record” (Beaubien). Despite this, in 2009 “Mexico lost [about] \$3.4 billion from touristic activities due to the pandemic” (Reynoso Brito). The Swine Flu pandemic had nowhere near the number of cases and deaths that have been reported due to COVID-19 yet it still took a big toll on Mexico's tourism industry back in 2009.

The Maldives

The Maldives is an island nation located in the Indian Ocean, with its nature attracting tourists from all over the world. Around 70% of the country's GDP depends on tourism, making

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immunus.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

it its main economic sector (Didi 2020). Events in the past like the global economic crisis of 2008 have damaged the tourism market, resulting in unemployment and economic hardships. Factors like natural disasters, terrorist attacks, economic crises, and pandemics have shown to have a strong correlation with a decrease in tourism (Podhorodecka, 2018). COVID-19 has harmed the Maldives the most when compared to other South Asian nations due to its great dependence on tourists. After the border lockdown was lifted, Maldives encountered a rapid increase of positive COVID cases, which reduced the number of visitors and arrivals to a greater extent. Because of this, the Maldivian government has been implementing more health measures in an effort to aid its main economic sector. In addition, the World Bank is building a program that will help the Maldives move towards economic stability by strengthening its other economic sectors, which, in turn, will reduce their dependence on tourism.

WOW Air Bankruptcy

In 2019, Iceland's economic growth rate decreased from 3.8% in 2018 to a staggering 1.9%. One of the reasons for the severe drop in the economy's growth occurred because of WOW, an Icelandic budget airline became bankrupt. WOW Airlines transported 33% of tourists that went to Iceland, consequently, traveler arrivals broke down, the unemployment rate grew, and the tourism sector of the country was weakened (*The economic context of Iceland - Economic and Political Overview - Nordea Trade Portal, 2020*). In that time, they were already handling a decrease in tourism, which was about one year before Covid Pandemic became fully international.

Iceland's economy is very prone to changes since it is largely dependent on travel, "8.63% of GDP comes from tourism" (Sinéad Baker, 2020). Around may there had been around a thousand cases, and luckily only ten deaths. Iceland is one of the few countries that have actually managed the situation well. From April 24th the country started implementing a mandatory quarantine for tourists that come from countries with high contagion rates. Ever since the 15th of June, the government has been paying for tourists COVID tests when they arrive internationally, and if the traveler decides to opt-out it has been enforced that they will serve a 14 day quarantine period to make sure the virus does not spread on their grounds (RTÉ News, 2020). Logically, the same two-week isolation will happen whenever the tourists test positive; if they are negative then they will be allowed to proceed to their hotel or temporary home.

In October 2020 there has been a surge in COVID cases which makes visitors less attracted to traveling there. Some reasons why Iceland has suffered so much in bringing tourists include; the tough measures they are implementing, and its isolated location may seem unimportant, however, they do heavily influence the number of tourists. Nevertheless, it is being said that the country is preparing for a recovery. The authorities have taken this issue seriously and have invested around \$12 million on infrastructure and \$9 million on a program that distributes free travel vouchers for Icelanders ("Iceland's tourism industry is preparing for a

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immuns.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

comeback.” 2020). Although the island nation has been through rough times, they are working towards a better tomorrow.

Past UN Actions

Considering that the COVID-19 pandemic has negatively affected worldwide tourism, the UN World Travel Organization (UNWTO) has begun to take action. In April of 2020, a virtual meeting was held by Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili in which key details regarding the reopening of borders and methods to ensure safety in travel were discussed. They predicted that the recovery of the tourism industry will help the world economy recuperate as well (Pugacheva, 2020). Additionally, Mr. Pololikashvili encouraged that donations, as well as political support, should be directed towards the tourism sector (Pugacheva, 2020). This is because the travel industry is one of the largest, and therefore its recovery will generate the greatest economic growth. The UNWTO has stated that the best way to lift travel restrictions and encourage people to travel again is by enforcing safety regulations and taking all necessary measures to avoid the spread of the virus. They decided to take the lead in demonstrating that the risk of traveling is not as big as people think by hosting hybrid meetings of 170 delegates in Spain, Saudi Arabia, the Canary Islands, and other member states (Pololikashvili, 2020). By encouraging people to continue traveling with health protocols, the global economy will undergo a faster recovery.

The United Nations is completely aware of the alarming effects that are currently plaguing the tourism industry. With the WHO’s cooperation, they have been finding ways to manage the pandemic and help the most vulnerable nations. During the fifth meeting with the UNWTO, a plan was made to restart the tourism sector in a safe yet ambitious manner (COVID-19: Putting people first, 2020). Furthermore, the United Nations Department of Global Communications (DGC) has expressed that the economy will continue to subside if there is not any effort to recover travel (United Nations, 2020). At the end of August, UN Secretary-General António Guterres shared a video in regards to a policy brief on tourism and COVID-19. In that message, he expressed 5 crucial steps that must be taken in order to rebuild the tourism sector, which are: relieving the financial effects of the emergency, strengthening the tourism sector as a whole, maximizing the utilization of technology, encouraging sustainability, and promoting alliances to facilitate the implementation of Sustainable Goals in travel and tourism (COVID-19 Tourism Sector Collapse Requires Green, Equitable Rebuilding, Secretary-General Says at Policy Brief Launch | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases, 2020).

IV. Key Players and Points of View

China

By now, China has almost completely overcome the relatively new COVID-19 virus. The country has been able to stop its spread by using a close and efficient coordination mechanism, rapid disposal, and a strong public health system. There are 6 vaccines undergoing medical trials in Chinese mainland that can begin to be applied as soon as this fall (Bo 8). Additionally, China has been very involved in research and investigations. It is currently involved in the

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immun.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

collaboration between the German Research Foundation and the National Natural Science Foundation of China. The country has been encouraging the scientific community to respond to Novel Coronavirus, a reliable COVID-19 information service for the general public (Hackmann 2). Overall, China's involvement has been very impactful in terms of finding useful information to finish the vaccine and to tackle the virus once and for all. The strict precautions taken by the government have played a crucial role in this country's tourism decline. For example, by April 3, 2020, 96 countries and territories implemented travel restrictions on China. On March 28 the country forcibly closed its borders only to reopen them on August 10th to 36 European countries.

Italy

COVID-19 cases in Italy have increased exponentially, and the country is currently facing a second wave. According to the health ministry data, Italy has a total of 1,028,424 infections, 42,953 fatalities, and 372,113 recoveries. Italy was the first country in the world that implemented the nationwide lockdown back in March. The lockdown took a toll on the Italian economy, but it was the only reasonable solution that worked (Fraser, 2020). The second wave began in summer when people began to travel from and to Italy, resulting in a massive increase in infections. Italians are now fined €3,000 if they are seen without a mask in public, prompting citizens to follow the established health protocols (Bedingfield, 2020). From an economic viewpoint, Italy has been one of the most affected countries. The increase in COVID cases has caused a larger economic crisis due to the lack of tourism. According to the World Travel & Tourism Council, Italy is expected to lose €36.7 billion, and the economy will suffer a shortfall of €100 million a day. The Italian government has handled the second wave much better than the first, but it is still possible for a second lockdown to occur in winter due to the increase in health protocol violations.

Mexico

Mexico is one of the countries that have been affected the most economically due to the closing of borders and limited tourism. In 2018, tourism contributed 8.7% of GDP, higher than the contribution from the construction, financial services and mining sectors (OECD Tourism Trends and Policies, 2021). Due to the current global pandemic and worldwide lockdown, the number of flights and ships reaching Mexico has declined exponentially, impacting the tourism industry. As the situation got worse, Mexico began losing more and more money. Throughout the summer, which is when the highest number of tourists visit Mexico, there was still a lot of global panic, which prevented people from traveling. In the first half of 2020, Mexico only made 6.5 billion dollars off of the tourism sector, which is around 25% of what they had earned in 2019 (Statista 1). Both Mexico and the United States agreed to only allow "essential crossing" until November 3; however, towards the end of the year, they have decided to allow more airlines to fly in and out of both countries (Mexperience 3). This has resulted in a slight increase in the number of people visiting Mexico, but it is still nowhere close to the number of tourists

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immuns.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

reported in 2019. In addition, the Mexican government decided to allow different states to implement their own restrictions based on the severity of their individual situations. Fortunately, there has not been a severe increase in cases, and this is allowing the tourism industry to get back on track.

United States

On January 9, 2020, COVID-19 became known to the public when the death of its first victim made its way into international headlines. On the 20th of January, the United States took action by screening for the virus in airports. However, the first case of COVID-19 was confirmed the following day (CDC, 2020). Back then, very little was known about the virus, which is why the United States began taking action two weeks later in February when it restricted travel to Australia, Germany, Italy, and New Zealand. A month later, President Trump officially declared COVID-19 as a national emergency on March 13, days after the World Health Organization declared it as a pandemic (Cucinotta, Vanelli, 2020). By then, Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, warned the government about the virus, saying that it was something he had never seen before, “capable of being very dangerous” (JN Learning, 2020). President Trump disregarded Dr. Fauci’s warnings, and two months later, COVID-19 had killed 100,000 people and had infected over two million the month after that (AJMC, 2020). The Trump administration is currently facing a lot of criticism due to their delayed response, especially considering Fauci’s warnings and all other information that was available at the time. All in all, the US has implemented multiple measures to prevent the spread of the disease, but it has not been as successful as other countries. The United States’ tourism industry has also taken a massive toll due to its travel restrictions, with international travel decreasing by 78%, leading to a potential loss of over 1 billion dollars, and putting over 100 million jobs at risk (UNWTO, 2020). Placing restrictions on travel is necessary to reduce the spread of the virus, but such actions also have a negative impact on tourism, and hence on the economy.

V. Possible Solutions

Creating a vaccine

The solution that would eradicate the pandemic once and for all and restore the tourism industry would be a COVID-19 vaccine. There are currently over 200 vaccine candidates that are currently being developed or going through trials. Some are even in phase 3, meaning it is not much longer until they reach completion. Traditionally, the vaccine would work by introducing a weakened form of the virus into the human body so its immune system builds a memory of the virus and a way to combat it. This way, once infected by the virus, the immune system will recognize it and fight back before it can actually come to effect. However, since the vaccine is needed as soon as possible, other options are being tested as well. Like RNA and DNA vaccines, which would give the human body the genetic code for its immune system to produce the

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immuns.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

antigen to beat the virus itself. (UNICEF, 2020). Although the vaccines are close to being ready, they are still in the process of development. UNICEF has been preparing by creating a stockpile of 520 million syringes, with the plan of having at least 1 billion syringes ready for use in 2021. This would help with the distribution of the vaccine worldwide, and assure the syringes arrive before the vaccine is ready. (Brown, 2020). Once they are ready they would have to be distributed and made accessible as fast as possible. UNICEF has already partnered with the PAHO Revolving Fund and the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility to try and create the world's largest and fastest procurement and supply of vaccines (UNICEF, 2020).

Stricter sanitary measures

A viable solution to address this issue is implementing strict sanitary measures in all tourist locations. This would also imply modifying the infrastructure of close spaces to fit these measures, and fit the needs of all tourists. By working together with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) to establish the necessary precautions, it would lead to “the speedy reactivation of the sector, the recovery of jobs and compensate the enormous financial losses” (CM Reservas, 2020). Some of the protocols that could make this happen include online check-ins, contactless payment options for tourists, and capacity limits in all restaurants, parking lots, or other crowded spaces. By implementing as many of these measures as possible and enforcing social distancing rules in all tourist locations, more people will feel confident to visit these places. As more tourists resume traveling, the economy itself can begin the process of restoration once again.

Encouraging local travel

Another possible solution to impulse the recovery of the tourism industry is to encourage local travel. Its possibilities for prosperity are predictably high for a couple of different reasons. Firstly, when traveling domestically, individuals experience fewer restrictions because of the global pandemic. National tourism is open and borderless in most countries. Another benefit that comes with local travel is that for the most part, people can move around without the need for air travel and the use of airports. This significantly reduces the probability of exposure for people. Additionally, installation in regards to housing is easier as well because when traveling nationally, people tend to stay with friends or family, unlike intercontinental traveling when individuals almost strictly stay in a hotel (Urs Binggeli et al., 2020). In order to encourage local travel, countries can implement social media strategies and attempt to advertise tourist destinations, activities, hotels, restaurants to influence viewers to book a trip. Finally, it is important for the locations that are being advertised to maintain protection, and they should remain clean so visitors will encourage their friends and families (*5 Strategic Steps to Promote Tourism*, 2020). It is up to each nation how they decide to promote their citizens to visit their country.

Increase tourism fees

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immuns.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

Another feasible yet unconventional solution would be to increase tourism fees. If this were to happen, the recovery of the money that was lost in a smaller time frame could become quicker and it would become easier to get back on track with the initial profit projections. Although, this also has a lot of repercussions. If a government decides to make certain aspects of tourism such as the hotel, food, museums more expensive, it is logical that fewer people will travel, and thus the risk of no profit at all becomes much more likely. Therefore, if the prices were to increase, the best way to approach would be to use a progressive increase in order to delay the notice of said price change. If cost were to increase exponentially at once, people would be much more reluctant. Additionally, more income can present the opportunity to allow tourism workers to keep their job and in the best case scenario certain countries or companies could also start making more profits. However, for this to work, there would need to be a lot of countries doing it at the same time. If just one country, for example Mexico, were to increase tourism fees, then people would simply stop visiting Mexico and choose to travel somewhere where it is still cheap. However, if the majority of countries were to do this, and people still want to travel, there may be a possibility of recuperating lost profits. Although it is a complicated plan, it would be a faster way to regain some of the money that has been lost.

VI. Current Status

Nearly a year after the first case of COVID-19 was detected in Wuhan, China, the pandemic has spread worldwide, causing over 58 million infections and 1.39 million deaths (worldometer, 2020). In order to hinder the spread and protect citizens, travel has been heavily restricted, with 57 countries implementing a global travel ban, and 47 other countries implementing a non-global travel ban (Shwartz, 2020). In an attempt to improve the situation, multiple corporations such as BioNTech are developing a vaccine which is expected to be ready by January 2021. Nonetheless, due to the time it takes to produce and globally distribute a vaccine, it may be a matter of months until the pandemic is brought to an end, which is why it is in countries' best interest to maintain current tourism restrictions despite their economical consequences (ITV, 2020). Regarding tourism, the closing of borders is inconsistent; while some countries are ready to reopen their borders, others have experienced an increase in infections and need to reclose them. The sooner each country gets the virus under control, the sooner the economy can regain its stability. When the vaccine becomes available to the public, the process of restoring the economy will begin, and the tourism industry can slowly start to recover. However, fear of the virus will still remain, and the world will still have to recuperate from the deaths, the increasing unemployment rates, and the economic hardships. Society is still far from recovering its former state, but it will eventually get there. Until then, it is of utmost importance to follow health guidelines to rid our world of this pandemic.

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immuns.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation

American School Foundation of Monterrey



VII. Bibliography

(2020). Nordeatrade.Com.

<https://www.nordeatrade.com/en/explore-new-market/iceland/economical-context>.

22, 2020, from Unctad.org website:

<https://unctad.org/news/coronavirus-will-cost-global-tourism-least-12-trillion>

5 Strategic Steps to Promote Tourism. (2020, August 27). Discover People \ Places.

<https://discoverplaces.travel/en/how-to-promote-tourism-in-5-strategic-steps-2/#:~:text=Use%20the%20web%2C%20promote%20tourism,visitors%20have%20and%20want%20satisfied>.

A Timeline of COVID-19 Developments in 2020. (n.d.). Retrieved from

<https://www.ajmc.com/view/a-timeline-of-covid19-developments-in-2020>

Armanious , D. M. (2017). Accelerating global actions for a world without poverty: Egypt

Baker, M. (2008, April 09). Europe: Tourism Industry Feeling The Impact of SARS, Iraq, And The Euro. Retrieved from <https://www.rferl.org/a/1104000.html>

Beaubien, J. (2009, May 14). Swine Flu Takes Toll On Mexico Tourism Industry. Retrieved from

<https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=104095754>

Bedingfield, W. (2020, October 07). The way Italy handled its second wave is a lesson for us all.

Retrieved from <https://www.wired.co.uk/article/italy-coronavirus-success>

Blog: International Science Council launches COVID-19 Global Science Portal .. Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform. Retrieved from

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?page=view&nr=1653&type=230&menu=2059>

Bo, Z. The COVID19 pandemic in China: From a Chinese perspective | ORF. Retrieved from

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/the-covid19-pandemic-in-china-from-a-chinese-perspective/>

Bo, Zhen. The COVID19 pandemic in China: From a Chinese perspective. Observer Research

Brock, S. (2020, October 5). Here are 8 ways travel will change after the pandemic. Retrieved from

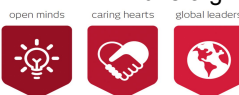
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/2020/10/heres-how-covid-is-changing-travel-according-to-the-experts/by-year-s-end>. UN News,<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/10/1075682>

CM Reservas. (2020). What sanitary measures should you implement in each department of your hotel to receive your guests. Retrieved from

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190

TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immun.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

<https://channelmanagerreservas.com/what-sanitary-measures-should-you-implement-in-each-department-of-your-hotel-to-receive-your-guests/>

Constantin, M., Saxon, S., & Yu, J. (2020, August 15). Reimagining the \$9 trillion tourism economy—what will it take?. Retrieved from <https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/travel-logistics-and-transport-infrastructure/our-insights/reimagining-the-9-trillion-tourism-economy-what-will-it-take#>

Cooper, M. (2020, May 19). Travel-Related Unemployment Hits 51% Just Ahead of Memorial Coronavirus Cases:. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

Coronavirus will cost global tourism at least \$1.2 trillion | UNCTAD. (2020). Retrieved October 2020 AND TOURISM, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, March

COVID-19 and Tourism. Retrieved from https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/ditcinf2020d3_en.pdf

COVID-19 Tourism Sector Collapse Requires Green, Equitable Rebuilding, Secretary-General COVID-19 Tourism Sector Collapse Requires Green, Secretary-General Says at Policy Brief Launch | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/press/en/2020/sgsm20218.doc.htm>

COVID-19 Update with NIAID's Anthony Fauci, MD; March 18, 2020. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://edhub.ama-assn.org/jn-learning/audio-player/18324686>

COVID-19: Putting people first. (2020). Unwto.org. <https://www.unwto.org/tourism-covid-19>.

Cucinotta, D., & Vanelli, M. (2020). WHO Declares COVID-19 a Pandemic. Acta bio-medica : Atenei Parmensis, 91(1), 157–160.

Cunningham, J. M. (2012). Egypt Uprising of 2011. Encyclopædia Britannica.

Day. Retrieved from <https://www.ustravel.org/press/travel-related-unemployment-hits-51-just-ahead-memorial-day-perspective/economy>.

Egypt Contribution of travel and tourism to GDP (% of GDP), 1995-2018. Knoema. (2013).

Egypt Uprising of 2011. Retrieved from <https://www.britannica.com/event/Egypt-Uprising-of-2011>.

Experiences .Foundation. Aug 21, 2020,G20 Recovery Plan | World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC). Retrieved from <https://wttc.org/COVID-19/G20-Recovery-Plan>

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immun.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

Gunter, U., & Smeral, E. (2017, June 11). Tourism providers' reactions to decreased demand following a crisis. Retrieved from <https://www.modul.ac.at/index.php?eID=dumpFile&t=f&f=9401&token=cf1b58d07b66538f121542b135d72e260be28aa8>

Hackmann, Heide. Blog:International Science Council launches COVID-19 Global Science

Iceland's tourism industry is preparing for a comeback. The New York

International tourism revenue in Mexico 2020 | Statista. (2020). Statista; Statista.

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/814622/mexico-tourism-revenue/#:~:text=Mexico%3A%20international%20tourism%20revenue%202016%2D2020&text=The%20revenue%20generated%20by%20international,the%20total%20revenue%20of%202019>.

ITV News. (2020, November 21). COVID-19 vaccine: When will it be ready and how can I get it?

Retrieved from

<https://www.itv.com/news/2020-11-20/covid-19-vaccine-when-will-it-be-ready-and-how-can-i-get-it>

Kiernan, S., & DeVita, M. Travel Restrictions on China due to COVID-19 | Think Global Health.

Retrieved from

<https://www.thinkglobalhealth.org/article/travel-restrictions-china-due-covid-19>

Kumudumali, S. (2020, September 10). Impact of COVID-19 on Tourism Industry: A Review.

Retrieved from https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/102834/1/MPRA_paper_102834.pdf

Kunkle, F. (2011, April 16). Tourists stay home after Egypt's revolution in blow to nation's.

Larsen, R. (2012, June 2020). Impacts of the world recession and economic crisis on tourism:

North America. Retrieved from

<https://journalistsresource.org/studies/economics/business/tourism-impacts-world-economic-crisis-north-america/>.

Mexico | OECD Tourism Trends and Policies 2020 | OECD iLibrary. Retrieved from

<https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/525e83e3-en/index.html?itemId=/content/component/525e83e3-en#:~:text=In%202018%2C%20tourism%20contributed%208.7,financial%20services%20and%20mining%20sectors.&text=During%202018%2C%20international%20tourism%20receipts,accounting%20for%2010.5%20million%20tourists>.

Mexico and the Coronavirus Covid-19 (Updated). (2020). Mexperience.

<https://www.mexperience.com/mexico-and-the-corona-virus-covid-19/>

Neufeld, D. (2020, May 22). Visualizing the Countries Most Reliant on Tourism. Visual Capitalist.

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190

TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immunus.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation

American School Foundation of Monterrey



<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/countries-reliant-tourism/on-to-GDP/Contribution-of-travel-and-tourism-to-GDP-percent-of-GDP>.

Patrick Brown (2020), COVID-19 vaccine: UNICEF to stockpile more than half a billion syringes

Pololikashvili, Z. (2020, September 27). Tourism Can Help Lead the World to Recovery

Retrieved from

<https://www.un.org/en/un-chronicle/tourism-can-help-lead-world-recovery>.

Portal. Sustainable development goals knowledge platform. April 14, 2020.

Pugacheva, K. (2020, April 17). Tough times for tourism, but UN travel organization predicts holiday traffic will return. Retrieved from

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1062022>.

Reynolds, E., Borghese, L., & Wojazer, B. (2020, November 06). Italian regions lock down and Paris tightens rules as Europe smashes virus records. Retrieved from

<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/11/05/europe/italy-lockdown-paris-covid-europe-intl/index.html>

Reynoso Brito, P. (2020, October 02). What Mexico's response to H1N1 can teach us about coronavirus and future pandemics. Retrieved from

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/what-mexicos-response-to-h1n1-can-teach-us-about-coronavirus-and-future-pandemics/>

Richter, F. (2020, July 27). COVID-19: These countries are most at risk from falling tourism. Retrieved from

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/07/coronavirus-covid19-travel-tourism-gdp-economics/>

RTE News. (2020). Iceland to offer airport virus test to avoid quarantine. RTE.Ie.

Salcedo, A., Yar, S., & Cherelus, G. (2020, March 15). Coronavirus Travel Restrictions, Across the Globe. Retrieved from

<https://www.nytimes.com/article/coronavirus-travel-restrictions.html>

Sariisik, M. (2011). Tourism Sector in Order to Recovering From the Recession: Comparison Analyses for Turkey. Retrieved from

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1877042811015989>.

Says at Policy Brief Launch | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases. (2020). Un.org.

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2020/sgsm20218.doc.htm>

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immun.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

Sieff, K. (2020, April 24). Coronavirus hits Mexico's economy where it hurts most: Oil, tourism, remittances and trade. Retrieved from https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/coronavirus-mexico-economy-oil-tourism-remittance-trade-amlo/2020/04/22/ed4b7532-7f68-11ea-84c2-0792d8591911_story.html

Sinéad Baker. (2020, June 22). Coronavirus: Countries, places relying most on tourism.

Stacey, J. (2020, June 2). Tourism Policy Responses to the coronavirus (COVID-19). Retrieved from <https://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/tourism-policy-responses-to-the-coronavirus-covid-19-6466aa20/>

Taylor, D. (2020, February 13). A Timeline of the Coronavirus Pandemic. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/article/coronavirus-timeline.html>

The economic context of Iceland - Economic and Political Overview - Nordea Trade Portal. Tourism - Egypt - knoema.com. Retrieved from <https://knoema.com/atlas/Egypt/topics/Tourism/Travel-and-Tourism-Total-Contributi>

Tourism Policy Responses to the coronavirus (COVID-19). (2020). Retrieved from <https://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/tourism-policy-responses-to-the-coronavirus-covid-19-6466aa20/#section-d1e810>

Travelers Prohibited from Entry to the United States. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/from-other-countries.html>

UN Global Pulse. (2011). Economic crisis, tourism decline and its impact on the poor. Retrieved from <https://www.unglobalpulse.org/project/economic-crisis-tourism-decline-and-its-impact-on-the-poor-2011/>.

UNICEF(2020), What you need to know about a COVID-19 vaccine

United Nations. (2020). United Nations helps travel industry reopen safely and responsibly <https://www.un.org/en/coronavirus/united-nations-helps-travel-industry-reopen-safely-and-responsibly>.

UNWTO. (2020, May). Impact Assessment Of The COVID-19 Outbreak On International Tourism. Retrieved from <https://www.unwto.org/impact-assessment-of-the-covid-19-outbreak-on-international-tourism>

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immuns.org





International Monterrey Model United Nations Simulation



American School Foundation of Monterrey

Urs Binggeli, Margaux Constantin, & Eliav Pollack. (2020, October 20). COVID-19 tourism spend recovery in numbers. McKinsey & Company; McKinsey & Company.
<https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/travel-logistics-and-transport-infrastructure/our-insights/covid-19-tourism-spend-recovery-in-numbers>

W. (n.d.). Economic Impact Reports. Retrieved from
<https://wtcc.org/Research/Economic-Impact>

What you need to know about a COVID-19 vaccine. Retrieved from
<https://www.unicef.org/coronavirus/what-you-need-to-know-covid-vaccine>

World Health Organization: WHO. (2020, April 27). Archived: WHO Timeline - COVID-19. Retrieved from Who.int website:
<https://www.who.int/news/item/27-04-2020-who-timeline---covid-19>

WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION. (2020, November 13). Retrieved from
<https://www.unwto.org/news/covid-19-international-tourist-numbers-could-fall-60-80-in-2020>

World Travel Tourism Council (2020), G20's Public & Private Sector Recovery Plan,

worst-hit - Business Insider. Business Insider; Business Insider.
<https://www.businessinsider.com/coronavirus-countries-that-rely-most-on-tourism-travel-2020-6?r=MX&IR=T>.

Written by Felix Richter, D. (2020, July 27). COVID-19: These countries are most at risk from falling tourism. Retrieved from
<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/07/coronavirus-covid19-travel-tourism-gdp-economics/>

Zhang, Z. China's Travel Restrictions due to COVID-19: An Explainer (Updated). Retrieved from
<https://www.china-briefing.com/news/chinas-travel-restrictions-due-to-covid-19-an-explainer/>

AVE. MORONES PRIETO 1500 • SANTA CATARINA, N.L. MÉXICO 66190
TELEPHONE: (81) 8288-4400 • FAX: (81) 8288-4455

www.immun.org

