

BREXIT AND BRITISH TOURISM TO SPAIN

- Tourism is an important sector for both British and Spanish economies. Tourism represents 11.1% of Spanish GDP. Regarding Britain let me focus on the tourism sector:
 - British Tourism Industry relies on Spanish destinations.
 - Spain is the first tourism destination for British travelers.
 - In 2016 the British Tourism Industry sent 17.8 million tourists to Spanish destinations.
 - British tourism to Spain's growth rate in 2016 was 12.4%. Figures for January 2017 show a growth of 10%.

- British Tourism in the near future will be affected by two kinds of factors: economics and Brexit negotiations' outcome.

- Economic factors are beyond tourism strategy:
 - The overall performance of the British economy
 - The exchange rate pound/euro.

- The Tourism Brexit agenda:
 - The first concern is that tourism risks being considered as marginal in the negotiations in regard of the financial, industrial, etc. issues.
 - Specific tourism issues are:
 - Air transport. Taking into account capital requirements and headquarters locations some air companies risk being considered as non-European, and then not allowed to serve European intra-routes.
 - British tourists visiting EU countries will not be covered by the European Health Insurance Card.
 - The Directives of Package travel and Tourism Insurance will not apply to the relationships between British TT.OO. and tourism providers (hoteliers, transport companies, Travel agencies) in EU tourism destinations.
 - Roaming tariffs for holidaymakers and business travelers alike

- The Spanish private industry (Mesa del Turismo) is preparing a paper identifying these issues affecting tourism and advancing possible solutions. This paper will be proposed to the Tourism Spanish Authority.
