

Special Session (SS11) on:
Sustainability, Risk Management, and Community Resilience in Tourism Hotspots: Challenges for Cities and Regions

Organizers:

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The aim and scope:

This special session aims to examine sustainability, risk management, community resilience, and internal security in tourism hotspots – destinations experiencing high and concentrated levels of tourist arrivals – through a multidimensional and integrated perspective. Cities and regions hosting tourism hotspots face intensified pressures, including environmental degradation, infrastructure overload, climate-related risks, public health emergencies, overcrowding, social conflicts, and heightened security concerns. These challenges can undermine residents' quality of life, destination governance, and long-term sustainability if not adequately addressed.

The session will explore how sustainable development strategies, proactive risk management, and community engagement can enhance resilience and internal security in tourism hotspots. Particular attention will be placed on urban and regional contexts where tourism concentration amplifies vulnerabilities and exposes systemic weaknesses in planning, governance, and service provision. The role of local communities, public authorities, and public–private cooperation will be central to the discussion, especially in relation to crisis prevention, visitor management, and social cohesion.

The session welcomes both theoretical and empirical contributions that provide innovative insights, methodologies, and case studies. The main research areas of this Special Session are the following topics:

1. Sustainability and Governance in Tourism Hotspots
2. Risk Identification and Management in High-Density Tourist Destinations
3. Overtourism, Social Carrying Capacity, and Community Well-Being
4. Community Resilience and Resident–Tourist Relations
5. Internal Security, Safety, and Crisis Management in Tourism Hotspots
6. Smart and Innovative Tools for Managing Tourism Concentration
7. Future Challenges and Policy Directions for Sustainable Tourism Hotspots

SUBMIT ABSTRACT