PERIPHERALITY AND KURIL ISLANDS TOURISM POTENTIAL

Summary

Peripherality and Kuril Islands tourism potential are presented in the article. Despite of an islands small area (15.6 thousand km²), they remain one of the most important Russian’s peripheral regions, due to their strategic location and natural resources. The main aim of the paper is to characterise the Kurils peripheral character and their tourism potential and to show the relationship between them. The second aim is to present the archipelago development possibility in relation to its unregulated status. The development prospects are examined in reference to the Kurils’ Development Programmes proposed at the beginning of the 1990s., which realisation seems to be limited by multiple barriers. The Programmes cover particular economy fields however, mainly tourism sector. Theses presented in the article also reveal the importance of sustainable development to be launched in the area under study.

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