

Observatorio Medioambiental

ISSN: 1139-1987

<http://dx.doi.org/10.5209/OBMD.93018>EDICIONES
COMPLUTENSE

Tourism, sustainability and environment: a sociological approach to the tourism management of the geographical space and the territory in Spain

María Sotelo Pérez¹

Recibido: 27 de diciembre del 2022 / Enviado a evaluar: 25 de enero del 2023 / Aceptado: 4 de diciembre del 2023

Abstract. The purpose of this study is to approach the sociological implications of territorial planning in Spain, addressing its implications in the field of Tourism, from an environmental perspective - from the field of sustainability-. In this way, it is based on the knowledge of the essential precepts of Territorial Planning, conceived as a technique, a public-social policy, focused around the processes of physical planning, the organization of economic activities - specifically, in our work, focused on tourism-, and in the territorial development, in its triple dimension, of the set of agents, elements and factors that define the tourism system, in our case in Spain, from the different scalar levels, the basis for the implementation of tourist activities.

Keywords: Tourism; Environment; Sustainability; Geographical space; territory; Spain.

[es] Turismo, sostenibilidad y medioambiente: una aproximación sociológica a la ordenación turística del espacio geográfico y del territorio en España

Resumen. El presente estudio tiene por objeto aproximarse a las implicaciones sociológicas de la ordenación del territorio en España, abordando sus implicaciones en el ámbito del Turismo, desde una perspectiva ambiental – desde el ámbito de la sostenibilidad-. De este modo, en se parte del conocimiento de los preceptos esenciales de la Ordenación del Territorio, concebida como una técnica, una política público-social, enfocada en torno a los procesos de planificación física, la ordenación de las actividades económicas –concretamente, en nuestro trabajo, enfocada en las turísticas-, y en el desarrollo territorial, en su triple dimensión, del conjunto de agentes, elementos y factores que definen el sistema turístico, en nuestro caso en España, a partir de los diferentes niveles escalares, base para la puesta en práctica de las actividades turísticas.

Palabras clave: Turismo; Medioambiente; Sostenibilidad; Espacio geográfico; territorio; España.

¹ Universidad Rey Juan Carlos (URJC).

Grupo de investigación consolidado “DITMA. Dimensiones Humanas, Jurídicas y Socioeconómicas de las Actividades Turísticas y del Medio Ambiente”. Universidad Rey Juan Carlos.

E-mail: maria.sotelo.perez@urjc.es

[fr] Tourisme, durabilité et environnement: une approche sociologique de l'organisation touristique de l'espace géographique et du territoire en Espagne

Résumé. Le but de cette étude est d'aborder les implications sociologiques de l'aménagement du territoire en Espagne, en abordant ses implications dans le domaine du tourisme, d'un point de vue environnemental - du domaine de la durabilité-. De cette manière, elle s'appuie sur la connaissance des préceptes essentiels de l'Aménagement du Territoire, conçu comme une technique, une politique publique-sociale, centrée autour des processus d'aménagement physique, d'organisation des activités économiques - spécifiquement, dans notre travail, centrée sur le tourisme et sur le développement territorial, dans sa triple dimension, de l'ensemble des agents, éléments et facteurs qui définissent le système touristique, dans notre cas en Espagne, à partir des différents niveaux scalaires, base de la mise en œuvre des activités touristiques.

Mots-clés: Tourisme; Environnement; Durabilité; Espace géographique; territoire; Espagne.

Cómo citar. Sotelo Pérez, M. (2023): Tourism, sustainability and environment: a sociological approach to the tourism management of the geographical space and the territory in Spain. *Observatorio Medioambiental*, 26, 9-21.

Sumario. 1. F First approach to the way of introduction. 2. Utopias and dystopia: geographical space vs. management of the territory of tourism and its tourism activities. 3. The territorial political model and the geographical space of territorial management, basis for tourism development. 4. As open conclusions. 5. References

1. First approach to the way of introduction

Barely eight years have passed since the creation of the so-called 2030 Agenda of the United Nations, with the so-called Environmental Sustainability starting to play a role of notable importance. From this perspective, and in order to analyze the institutional framework in which human relations are developed - and, more especially those related to leisure and recreation activities, in short, tourist activities -, it is essential to start from something fundamental, And the framework we are going to refer to is the direct and non-spontaneous result of a human collectivity that relates to each other as a community. A community that, as a collective entity, shares a feeling of belonging to a specific social group, as well as comprising a group of people who live together under collective interests governed by the same rules. These rules, also derived from society (the result of a determined social pact), refer to that institutional framework that, applied to our Spanish state reality (reality understood in terms of a politically organized social community), have made possible the current configuration of a geographical space, which depends on a human contractual relationship (nominally recognized as a Constitution), which, in social terms, has been the cause of the establishment of a political State structured through a specific territorial form (characterized by autonomies, the decentralization of functions and powers), and, it has been the cause of the current organization of the territory where the social community is based, as well as once this is organized (powers are distributed among the territorial institutional entities recognized by the community), they give rise to the

social organization of the territory, in which tourism, or rather, tourist activities, plays an increasingly important role.

In this sense, the planning of the territory, in general, and the planning of the tourist territory, in particular, is the result of an intellectual combination existing between society, and the relationships between them, resulting in human regulation (originally of the social community), which, regardless of the territory to which it is applied, has the essential objective of establishing a reference area in which the economic-social activity of the State is deployed (in its relationship between society and territory).

In this sense, the way in which human activity unfolds over geographical space is closely linked to the way in which the social contract that governs the State defines its territorial form. A tourist territorial form that, in the case of Spain, despite having been identified with the basic principle of political decentralization as the primary framework of the territorial organization of the State, However, in constitutional terms, this territorial form has been preferred to be left undefined, since far from the constituent adopting one of the traditional models of a federal State or opting for a regional State, another route was followed, essentially characterized by avoiding what would be the constitutional definition that would clarify the territorial form that the State was going to adopt, thus leaving open from a social and legal point of view an arduous and complicated process of concretizing our space. geographical and territorial organization of the Spanish State.

However, this arduous process of realization has been carried out throughout these forty-five years of existence of the social and democratic State of law in which we find ourselves, through three basic postulates that have finally given rise to the practical development of our state in its territorial, population, and governmental facets.

Firstly, the territorial form of the State has been specified through the ruling of the social pact according to which autonomy has been recognized as a right for “nationalities and regions”. In such a way that, the form that society has adopted for the Spanish territory, and its implications on tourist territorial development, is closely linked to the exercise of such right (supported by the so-called dispositive principle, not as an obligation, but as a possibility, as a right, which may or may not be exercised at the will of the bodies established for such an option, the “nationalities and regions”, which materialize it through the approval of basic institutional norms that They are the so-called Statutes of Autonomy).

Thus, the 1978 Constitution establishes that *«The Constitution is based on the i dissoluble unity of the Spanish Nation, the common and indivisible homeland of all Spaniards; it recognizes and guarantees the right to self-government of the nationalities and regions of which it is composed and the solidarity among them all»*. Recognition that pre-established that duality under which the state apparatus is sustained, aimed at integrating the unity that resides in the entire Spanish people. *«National sovereignty belongs to the Spanish people, from whom all state powers emanate.»*(article 1.2 of the Constitution); along with the right to autonomy, which entails nothing more than a capacity for self-government and self-organization,

recognized both for “nationalities and regions,” as well as for other entities that make up the State such as municipalities and provinces, such as as established in the Fundamental Text according to which it decides how *«The State is organized territorially into municipalities, provinces and the Self-governing Communities that may be constituted. All these bodies shall enjoy self-government for the management of their respective interests»* (article 137 of the Constitution).

Therefore, autonomy as a fundamental postulate to understand the territorial form of the State, is predicated for the different strata of territorial organization of the State - including its territorial implications in the field of Tourism and its associated activities-, although with unequal scope and nature, since the autonomy of “nationalities and regions” of purely political content can be distinguished, with which the Autonomous Communities would enjoy powers not exclusively legislative, but also regulatory; while the autonomy of local entities is predisposed to a lesser content, and therefore provinces and municipalities (without forgetting the two autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla, which are not properly Communities but autonomous cities), they are relegated as auxiliary elements of the definition of the territorial form of the State, the exclusively regulatory powers, and therefore an evidently administrative content.

These basic characteristics that autonomy entails, which are undoubtedly completed in the sense of understanding said autonomy as a limited right, of essentially political content, and not exclusively homogeneous (since the Autonomous Communities are not constrained to assume the same powers equally nor to the same degree), are removed as fundamental elements, which, converging in the capacity for autonomy, stand as an essential foundation (although not the only one) to materialize the territorial configuration of the State, and in essence the organization of the territory in its decentralized form of power; thus defining the reality of the Territorial Tourist System.

Secondly, the territorial form of the State has been concretized through the establishment by social contract of the process of political decentralization. This decentralization that the Magna Carta of 1978 was responsible for channeling, not so much as a final point of arrival of the autonomous State, but rather as an initial point of departure through which the practical functioning of the State would be developed, in line with the principles of unity and autonomy, in which the territorial scope of political and administrative self-government would find a place (with special mention to the planning process of territorial tourist systems and, more specifically, tourist activities). In such a way that the constitutional arrangement proposed by the constituent in order to transform the initial definition (given by the former Franco regime) of the centralist structuring of the State, towards a territorial organization of the State of an eminently decentralized nature, has been the cause that in At present, it can be affirmed that the current Fundamental Text has been the cause of “deconstitutionalizing” the territorial form of the State, incardinating the different territorially constituted powers of the state apparatus, the task of stabilizing (after a complex process of institutionalization), the definitive territorial constitution of the State.

A significant normative story for the political and social history of Spain, which highlights the unequivocal transformation that for the territory, and also for the entire political community, has meant that the different established powers (essentially those concerning with the Cortes Generales, the different territorial Parliaments, even reaching the highest interpreter of the constitutional text, which is the Constitutional Court), would have assumed the transcendental task of providing a general and peaceful solution (the result of collective will and social consensus), to the historical setback of knowing how to articulate the State territorially. Issue, which without a doubt was solved with the formalization of a characteristic and own model (the Spanish one), of political decentralization that has usually been recognized with the academic name of “State of Autonomies” (a name that, without a doubt, is not entirely precise in constitutional terms, since, as has been highlighted, the Spanish Constitution of 1978 does not make an exact or concrete definition of the form of State, meaning that more than “autonomous State”, or “State of Autonomies”, it is more correct for us to speak of the Spanish state model, as a “State with autonomy”).

Indeed, to find the origin of the political decentralization of the state apparatus, we have to analyze that historical claim that among us has been arranged in order to provide political autonomy to a set of very specific territories of the State.

This issue is that in overcoming the solution given by the Constitutional Text of 1931 (which would introduce the social expression of the integral State, in which the coexistence of disparate territorial organizations, would allow the establishment of a model in which certain areas Territorial entities enjoyed autonomy, a legislative and executive power of their own nature, in which the central institutional bodies of the State were related on equal terms with the powers of these recognized autonomies, in a similar way to the relationships that in the States of type federal, occur between the bodies of the federation and the member States), the current Constitution of 1978, on the contrary, instead of establishing a system of single autonomy, has followed a regime by which a so-called composite State is structured, in which the distribution of the political power of the State has been divided between states. central entities (which would make up what Professor Francisco Tomás y Valiente came to call the “whole”), and other entities that, by constitutional recognition, can assume limited political autonomy, giving way to the current territorial configuration of a State, the Spanish, made up of seventeen Autonomous Communities (with their own legislative and executive powers), and two Autonomous Cities (lacking any legislative power, but exclusively regulatory power).

System that, by adopting the principle of decentralization, has managed to organize the territory and the distribution of the powers of the state apparatus among the different territorial entities, and, with special mention, the Territorial Tourism reality, with the relational peculiarity that supposes that Once these powers have been socially and normatively distributed, and the territorial bodies have been configured, they have assumed the essential task of organizing the territory, a process that has allowed, at present, a constitutionally indefinite form of State like the Spanish one. , can be defined in its territorial variant.

Third and finally, the territorial form of the State in Spain has been specified through a public-social function recognized with the name of Territorial Planning. A technique that, as Professor Emilio Murcia Navarro would define, refers to “*a social practice aimed at facing the problems arising from the processes of occupation and use of space motivated by the conditions in which the industrialization and urbanization processes have been carried out*”². That is, a practice that has allowed the social group to not only face the different uses of the land predestined to sustain its activity, but also, as a politically organized community, has made it possible for society to define the territorial model that configures the State.

In this sense, territorial planning has been established in our land, as a function, as a singular public policy whose purpose is focused on achieving the achievement of a territory, structured, cohesive and balanced, socially, and economically. , understanding in this sense an instrumentation of a legal-administrative nature, which exceeds exclusively local areas, and covers the regional or subregional state limitations that entail social planning of the territory in its entirety, framing and giving coherence to a series of specific policies that are developed on the territory (policies of social, economic, environmental, cultural, or urban planning), including the tourist territorial system and its economic activities that derive from it.

Territorial Planning therefore refers to a set of norms, criteria, functions, and programs that serve to guide and regulate the set of interventions and processes of human action on the territory. Interventions that, when materialized in a practical manner on regional or subregional territorial delimitations, must be framed within the framework of the territorial political model followed by the State. A mechanism that directly and closely relates to the two principles and capacities that were previously described (decentralization and autonomy), and that, in their joint appreciation, give rise to and enable us to define the territorial form of the State, which *a priori*, and following the literality of the social pact (signed in the form of the Constitution), It is characterized by its lack of definition. Indeed, the principle and capacity of decentralization, autonomy and territorial planning allows, and makes it possible, to define a form of State, and even more so to specify a geographical space in which the social group develops, and, which define tourism planning.

In essence, the starting point of the structuring of this combination of factors tending to organize and order the entire Spanish territory in a balanced and comprehensive manner, originates in turn within the framework of a defining imprecision and absence that our social pact includes regarding to Territorial Planning. A lack of nominal specification, which is clarified and finds accommodation in the very configuration of our current Constitutional Text. In this sense, the game of distribution of powers developed in the Magna Carta, and by which, the competence

² Murcia Navarro, E. (1978). El paradigma Sistémico en Geografía y Ordenación del Territorio. Ciudad y Territorio. Revista de Ciencia Urbana. Editado por: Instituto de Estudios de Administración Local. Director: Fernando de Terán. Redacción: Centro de Estudios Urbanos.

is assigned to the different Autonomous Communities over the planning of the territory, in another sense attributing powers to the State that without directly hinting at the planning of the territory, if it has a certain impact on matters closely related to this social function, concretizes a state territorial regime that at first glance seems totally imprecise.

A context, autonomy, decentralization, and territorial planning, to which when applied the technical processes of the distribution of powers establish a fundamental aspect of our current Constitutional State of law in which we operate, and that is that, in the absence of specification of the form territorial authority of the State, the Autonomous Communities through their attribution of powers for territorial planning (developed through the principle and capacity of decentralization and autonomy), together with the powers attributable to the central State (among which, without including those specific to territorial planning, there are other issues that, although residual in nature, have a significant impact on the final territorial model of the given Autonomous Community), have been responsible for formalizing the organic definition of the model and the territorial form of the Spanish State.

In short, in the definitive configuration and articulation of the State, the organization and territorial planning that makes it possible is carried out through techniques (political decentralization, autonomy), and social and public functions (territorial planning), that specify the geographical spaces in which the activity of the entire socially and politically organized community is deployed.

2. Utopias and dystopia: geographical space vs. management of the territory of tourism and its tourism activities

Society specifies the geographical space in which it is based in order to adapt this habitable physical base, as well as the natural conditions assimilated to it, to those primary social needs that allow life in society to develop (relative needs). to the social, economic order, and in current environmental moments, such as those related to communications, housing, the use and enjoyment of natural resources, among others). However, this adaptation is not always simple, political changes, the legislation derived from them, or the temporal evolution of collective populations themselves, often cause territorial imbalances that cause or make impossible the structuring or equitable distribution of the different territorial spaces, in addition to the resources to these partners; In short, the unfeasibility of organizing the territory in an orderly, coherent and sustainable way today more than ever.

These purposes, cohesion, equity, structuring, and sustainability of the territory, are thus understandable as the fundamental objectives to be achieved by the public-social function of territorial planning, in general, and of Tourism, in particular, these purposes being essential for articulate in relation to the territorial geographical space, the social community that, as organized, aims to guide its socioeconomic policies towards the achievement of a model based on the principles of sustainable urban and territorial development. Indeed, the actions or areas of a regulated and normative

nature in which the different powers have the capacity to act to respond to those settlement processes on the territory, and which we recognize with the name “policies”, allow homogenization between the different scales. spatial, the different uses of land in their complex social, economic, environmental, institutional and also political dimensions; In short, the bases of tourism planning.

Consequently, the definitive configuration of the territorial model of the State is influenced by a collection of public policies, each of them linked to the described objectives (social, environmental, political and economic), which makes it necessary for them to be coordinated in order to achieve jointly integrate the territory of the community, the territorial entities of the State, and the state apparatus as a whole (thus moving on to elucidate the convenience of structuring and unifying the Spanish territorial space, either from a horizontal scope, aimed at sectoral and local planning, to later move towards the comprehensive planning of the territory as a whole; or from a vertical perspective, in which an action directed from the comprehensive planning of the territory is projected, to later descend to sectoral and local planning).

In this context, a fundamental aspect of society takes center stage in relation to the environment that surrounds it and on which it develops as a community body, which is the pretension of continuity; therefore acquiring prominence, in order to preserve for future generations an environment that is at least in the same conditions in which they have been inherited, that is, playing a fundamental role in the social configuration of the territory, the so-called principle of sustainability.

Thus, the sustainable planning of the territory is channeled as the most relevant action to achieve the territorial and urban development of the organized community, however, this public function that is territorial planning highlights a capacity that, if articulated in a precise, it may have (and so it has), very important consequences on the territory, and therefore, on the social group whose activity is deployed on it, and yet, until now, we cannot affirm that the policy of territorial planning has managed to establish itself in our State as a general framework in which a set of specific policies that are developed in the different territorial horizons are integrated. A fact that, perhaps due to the indefinite nature of its content, due to the recent appearance of its postulates, or perhaps due to the constant atmosphere of crisis in which it has to be applied, territorial planning is increasingly understandable as a reality that is more utopian than realistic, less pragmatic than theoretical, more like a purpose to be achieved than as an end to idealize, in short as a social practice that, although supported by a whole conglomerate of norms and programs, has not managed to guide in a way balanced actions, nor the processes of social settlement on the territory.

A fact that, since the planning of the territory is closely related to the regulatory bodies coming from the different instances of the State (both central and regional), in which the different actions on the territory are framed, and, in essence, because these regulatory bodies (abstract and general) must be specified and developed in certain geographical areas through the figure of planning; as far as Spain is concerned, it can be stated how the lack of planning in some cases, as well as the absence of inter-administrative coordination and cooperation, in others, are the main insights, by which it is affirmed as the social technique of planning, of the territory, in line with its

main objective of achieving sustainable urban and territorial development³, is understandable as a utopian aspect (which has serious repercussions on the ordering capacity of the environment that surrounds the social group, in general, tourist activities, and therefore, to the environment necessarily considered by them).

3. The territorial political model and the geographical space of territorial management, basis for tourism development

Macroeconomic tensions, the slowdown of some of the large economies, after COVID-19, and high interest rates are currently hindering the momentum of many tourist activities in Spain, underlining the importance of geographical space, in general, and Territorial Planning, in particular, in the analysis of different intellectual fields, these coming together in a single horizon of common action, which is the territorial space corresponding to the earth's surface (coinciding in the Spanish case, with the Iberian Peninsula). This geographically and socially considered terrestrial surface, as it is susceptible to organization, definition and identification by the previously established social community, entails a concretion that is identified with a normative regulation coming from the stately configured and organized instances of power.

In this sense, Territorial Planning, understood as a recently coined theoretical-practical public function, which seems to be built on simple and weak conceptual foundations, in the sense of not having a single doctrinal body sufficient to support a territorial organization that surpasses the local, even subregional, areas of a single territorially delimited State, finds its existential meaning in the postulates that the Sociological Theory of the State has been shaping throughout its historical needs.

³ In this sense, the European Charter for Territorial Planning, approved on May 20, 1983 in the Spanish city of Torremolinos, would establish as *Territorial Planning* has been defined in the 1983 European Charter as “the spatial expression of the economic, social, cultural and ecological policy of every society”, having as objectives: Balanced and sustainable socioeconomic development» (Explanation of Reasons). Likewise, the insight that this document makes about Territorial Planning is illustrative, defining it as follows: «*the spatial expression of the economic, social, cultural and ecological policy of every society, having as objectives: Balanced and sustainable socioeconomic development; improving the quality of life of the population, through their access to the use of public services and infrastructure and natural and cultural heritage; the responsible management of natural resources and the protection of the environment, in a manner compatible with the satisfaction of growing resource needs, as well as with respect for local peculiarities; and the rational and balanced use of the territory, through the definition of acceptable uses or to be promoted for each type of land, the creation of appropriate infrastructure networks and even the promotion of actions that best seek to strengthen the community spirit*» (Law 10/1998, of December 5, on Territorial Planning of the Community of Castilla y León).

In this way, the emergence of territorial planning can be observed with the appearance of industrialization in the 19th century, an issue that made it essential to form public policies aimed at organizing and planning said essentially economic process or phenomenon and, above all, social, which was going to take place around the city. In this order of needs, a set of regulatory instruments emerged that, without a doubt, were going to specify those geographical spaces that, at first, occupied an exclusively urban spatial area, and, however, with the conceptual expansion of the urban (responsible for its regulation by urban planning), with the territorial transfer of urban delimitations, and the greater concern for incorporating into these spatial delimitations the realities concerning the environment, the interrelationships between towns and cities understandable in its spatial set, were going to give rise to the appearance of the so-called territorial planning, and the need to organize space in its territorial appreciation.

In this way, the planning of the territory was gradually acquiring a conceptual body of possible practical materialization, in the sense of establishing itself as a necessity for the different social policies of a public nature, aimed at finding answers to a new reality, coming from a historical context. which would cover the beginning of the 20th century, with the implementation in some States such as Germany or Great Britain, of a series of planning techniques (known as Regional Planning), which referring to “regional planning” or “Territorial planning”, such as the examples in Europe of the “London County Plan of 1943”, or the “Plan for Greater London of 1944”, or in the United States of America also with the practice in 1909 of the so-called “Chicago Pla”, or the “New York Plan”, of 1929, were going to give rise to a global policy that was assimilated by the public powers (essentially in the periods after the Second World War, and more specifically during the fifties and sixties of the last century), They would consolidate a new practice aimed at fulfilling, for the sake of better organization of the institutionally organized territory, the essential objectives of balancing the territory, and distributing human activity, and the entire population that makes up the community, throughout the socially specified geographical space. by those power relations, and by those public functions that correspond respectively to the territorial organizations of the State, and to the policy of territorial planning.

The origin of territorial planning in Spain (hand in hand with the projects developed in the different regions, in the sense of understanding, as founded by the author Patrick Geddes, in his well-known work “Cities in evolution”, the region as the natural environment of planning, as well as the spatial scope that unifies rural and urban areas in the same territorial concept), it is therefore framed, and in line with this international experience previously mentioned, within the antecedent that occurred in the fifties of the last century, the so-called Transformation and Colonization Plan, better known as “the Badajoz Plan”, from the year 1952, formed by a series of planning actions aimed at regulating the flows of the Guadiana River, planning a series of constructions in the form of reservoirs that would allow the transformation of large parts of Extremadura's dry land into fertile irrigated areas (an issue that had already been certain way projected by the so-called “Gasset Plan”).

This type of “regional planning and management” initiatives were going to consolidate the trend around which the technique of territorial planning was going to be comprehensively developed on our soil.

The different assessments of territorial planning in Spain were going to be predisposed according to whether a conception of the territory predominated, understood in a sense of physical, economic planning or territorial development (that is, according to whether the structuring of a series of actions that concern to the set of social areas predisposed to be planned, in order to thus be able to order and distribute natural and human resources, essential in all human settlement processes). Hence, the concretion of the geographical space of territorial planning can be resolved through the processes of social development carried out through the action formulas of planning in its different facets, both physical, territorial, or economic.

In such a way that if territorial planning has been shaped around three concepts of basic planning (physical, economic, and territorial development), in Spain (although not in an absolute way), it is no less true that, traditionally, it has usually been associated with a physical planning model, however it seems to coincide more with the type of territorial development planning.

In such a way that we can differentiate, on the one hand, the organization focused on the physical planning of the territory, which is carried out within a regional or subregional scope (within the territorial limits of the Autonomous Community, and in local derivation of the municipality). It is a planning whose ordering horizon focuses, as Esther Rando Burgos shows us, on completing between the different territorial entities (of the administration), “a coordination of those territorial aspects of both sectoral policies and municipal urban planning”⁴. That is, planning focused on structuring the territory, therefore the uses of the land, and the different infrastructures present and to be carried out, and where the environmental component is only considered in accordance with the achievement of a higher quality of life (use, enjoyment, access and predisposition by society of environmental goods).

On the other hand, it can be discerned a territorial planning focused on economic and social planning. We are faced with planning in which regional development policy plays a fundamental role, and the rectification of the different economic and social imbalances of the territory (a type of planning that has been followed within our comparative environment, in countries such as the United Kingdom, with the regional planning, and, in France, with the so-called *aménagement du territoire*).

And, finally, we would find the tourist territorial development of a territorial planning, oriented towards overcoming the two previously mentioned approaches, towards the approach of territorial or regional and subregional coordination, with the local one (where it is considered part of the social whole to the environment, as an essential factor for the development and increase in the standard of living, the

⁴ Rando Burgos, E. (2019). *Legislación e instrumentos de la Ordenación del Territorio en España*. Publicado en Iustel. Pág.44. Madrid.

aforementioned factor playing a relevant role for the development - also economic - of the community).

In one way or another, and given the close connection in the emergence in Spain of Territorial Planning, in general, and the territorial planning of Tourism and its activities, in particular, in accordance with sociology, the preponderance of concern of physical planning, is associated with such a fact, giving room for a specificity in the geographical space of territorial planning (this fact seems to be one of the most logical explanations for a country like Spain).

4. As open conclusions

The achievement of the purposes of Territorial Planning on our soil has allowed the politically organized social community to be able to define what in the abstract our constitutional model of law does not do, which is the territorial form of the Spanish State, and on the other hand, has made it possible to abstract from the socially delimited geographical space a concretion of it, through the implementation of different territorial organizations that, in their adequate coordination, contribute to the implementation of policies aimed at structuring and coordinating the different economic, physical and social aspects present in the territory. at its different scales (national, regional, and local).

However, Territorial Planning is understood as a technique, as a public-social policy, which has not had a well-defined and specific conceptual appreciation, so its materialization in the territory has been carried out through rules, regulations, principles, and techniques, which have helped clarify its component and purpose, both theoretical and practical. Hence, the planning of the territory has been focused through three fundamental premises, which are that of physical planning, that of the planning of economic and social activities related to the planning of the infrastructures associated with them, and finally that of territorial development, whose horizon is aimed at overcoming separate sectoral conceptions, uniting in the same organizing and ordering purpose the social, economic and physical reality that the territory presents, which in our case is national, state, regional, and community, base for the implementation of tourist activities.

5. References

- Ávila Bercial, R., & Barrado Timón, D. A. (2005). Nuevas Tendencias en el desarrollo de destinos turísticos: marcos conceptuales y operativos para su planificación y gestión. *Cuadernos de Turismo*, 15(15), 27–44.
- Blázquez-Salom, M. (2001). Auditorías ambientales de destinos turísticos: diagnosis territorial para el desarrollo de Agendas 21 locales. *Cuadernos de turismo*, 8, 39–60.
- Bramwell, B., & Lane, B. (Eds.). (2014). *Tourism governance: critical perspectives on governance and sustainability*. London & New York: Routledge.

- Boes, K., Buhalis, D., & Inversini, A. (2015). Conceptualising Smart Tourism Destination Dimensions. In I. Tussyadiah & A. Inversini (Eds.), *Information and Communication Technologies in Tourism 2015* (pp. 391–403). Cham: Springer International Publishing. Retrieved from
- Consejo de Europa (1983). *Carta Europea de Ordenación del territorio*. Conferencia Europea de Ministros Responsables de la Ordenación del Territorio.
- Geddes, P. (1915). *Cities in evolution. An introduction to the town planning movement and to the study of civics*. Editorial Williams & Norgate.
- Hall, C. M., & Page, S. J. (2009). Progress in Tourism Management: From the geography of tourism to geographies of tourism – A review. *Tourism Management*, 30(1), 3–16.
- Murcia Navarro, E. (1978). El paradigma Sistémico en Geografía y Ordenación del Territorio. *Ciudad y Territorio. Revista de Ciencia Urbana*.
- Rando Burgos, E. (2019). *Legislación e instrumentos de la Ordenación del Territorio en España*. Publicado en Iustel, pp. 44. Madrid.
- Sotelo Perez, I. y Sotelo Navalpotro, J.A. (2022). Aspectos científicos del estudio del medio ambiente, en el contexto del espacio geográfico, desde el ámbito del Estado Constitucional de Derecho y el Estado Jurisprudencial de Derecho. *Observatorio medioambiental*, N° 25, págs. 65-90
- Sotelo Pérez, I. (2022). Groundwater in the Field of Water Policies, in Spain, en AA.VV. (2022) “Sustainable Policies and Practices in Energy, Environment and Health Research”, Editorial Springer.
- Sotelo Pérez, I. (2021). Una aproximación a los elementos jurídicos de la sostenibilidad territorial y el medio ambiente, en España, en AA.VV. (2021). “Planificación regional: paisaje y patrimonio”, Editorial Thomson Reuters Aranzadi.
- Sotelo Perez, I. y Sotelo Navalpotro, J.A. (2020). Aspectos generales de la Ordenación del Territorio y del Medio Ambiente. *M+A*, revista electrónica de medioambiente, Vol. 21, N°. 1, págs. 102-121
- Sotelo Pérez, M. (2018). Analysis and interpretation of environment: images commentary methodology. *Observatorio Medioambiental*, N°. 19, pp. 119-136.
- Vera Rebollo, J. F., & Rodríguez Sánchez, I. (Eds.). (2012). *Renovación y reestructuración de destinos turísticos en áreas costeras: marco de análisis, procesos, instrumentos y realidades*. València: Universidad de Valencia.