The Impact of Terrorism on Tourism in the EU

This paper argues that little research has been made on the possible impacts that terrorism has on tourism. It mainly deals with and present possible ways to overcome the effects of a crisis in order to ensure a sustainable recovery strategy. To fill the gap between 'crisis and 'recovery', the present thesis provides a theoretical framework and will then emphasize its practical use through case studies based on the terror attacks which took place in Paris back in November 2015 and Brussels in March 2016.

This paper will first discuss the terminology and history of the notion of 'terrorism', moving forward to the role of terrorist groups. It will also provide an insight into the Islamic State responsible for the investigated case studies. Then it will offer an overview of the effects on tourism illustrating several example and will finally elaborate on crisis recovery strategies by bringing into discussion possible frameworks and guidelines to deal with during an attack. Their practical use will be reflected in the two case studies and the reactions associated to them (on a national and international level).