Tourism path development and institutional entrepreneurship in Eilat and the Southern Negev

Dr. Maximilian Benner
Department of Geography and Regional Research
University of Vienna, Austria
maximilian.benner@univie.ac.at

In economic geography, the regional path development approach focuses on different ways new sectors emerge or existing ones transform. In regional paths, critical junctures are of particular importance as they provide opportunities for institutional entrepreneurs to shape the course of evolution. The tourism industry provides an illustrative case for institutional entrepreneurship during critical junctures, as the long-term development of tourism in Eilat and the Southern Negev in the wake of EU alignment through the "Open Sky" aviation agreement demonstrates. These cases serve to highlight institutional and evolutionary patterns in tourism path development.

Dr. Maximilian Benner is an economist and economic geographer. As a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Vienna (Austria), he focuses on innovation-based regional development. He currently analyzes innovation-based regional development in Israel in the framework of the research project "Industrial-institutional co-evolution in regional economies" funded by the Austrian Science Fund FWF (grant number : M-2992).