

## Nonsovereign Countries of The World as Tourist Destinations: Resource Assessment Experience

Oleg Evgenievich Afanasiev<sup>1\*</sup>

1. Russian State University of Tourism and Service (RSUTS), 99 Glavnaya Street, Cherkizovo, Pushkinsky District, Moscow Region, 141221, Russia.

\*Corresponding Author. Email: [afanasyev.oleg@inbox.ru](mailto:afanasyev.oleg@inbox.ru)

**Abstract:** The article presents the experience of scorecard assessment of socio-economic recreational and tourist resources of 30 nonsovereign (dependent, nonself-governing) countries and territories of the world. The choice of a peculiar category of countries, i.e. nonsovereign territories, is due to contemporary trends in the growth of demand for tourist services for unique, specific, and safe destinations meeting high standards. Such territories often have significant recreational potential, which, however, is little known or not known at all for average tourists, and therefore is not in demand. In the course of study, it has been revealed that almost all the analyzed nonsovereign countries of the world offer a wide range of tourist and entertainment services. Among these countries, Anguilla, Aruba, Bermuda Islands, Puerto Rico, and French Polynesia have a particularly developed infrastructure. To carry out comparative analysis and scorecard assessment of the socio-economic recreational and tourist resources of these countries, a scoring matrix was developed that included seven indicators. Each indicator was rated on a five-point scale. Based on the results of the integrated assessment of tourism and recreation resources, all the analyzed nonsovereign countries and territories were arranged into five groups: 1) countries with the lowest characteristics of providing recreational and tourist resources (Wallis and Futuna Islands, Niue, American Samoa, Pitcairn Tokelau, Saint Pierre and Miquelon, and the Falkland Islands); 2) countries having medium-low availability of recreational resources (Cook Islands, Anguilla, Montserrat, and Norfolk); 3) countries having medium availability of recreational resources (Gibraltar, Ceuta and Melilla, Saint Helens Islands, Turks and Caicos, and French Guiana); 4) countries having medium-high availability of resources (British and American Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Martinique Island, Reunion Island, French Polynesia, Guam Island, and New Caledonia); 5) countries with high availability of recreational and tourist resources (Bermuda Islands, the Netherlands Antilles, Aruba Island, Guadeloupe Island, and Islands of Puerto Rico). For more objective assessment of the recreational provision of nonsovereign countries and territories of the world with recreational and tourist resources, it is necessary to take into account other types and categories of such resources. Nevertheless, the results obtained provide a representative characteristic of the tourism sector's potential of the main nonsovereign countries and territories of the world, while the methodology itself is applicable for assessing other similar entities of the world political map.

**Keywords:** nonsovereign countries, territories of the world, recreational and tourist resources, scorecard method to assess tourism development resources.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The recent period of the tourism industry development in the world is characterized by high growth rates. Thus, the interest and demand of tourists for trips to distant corners of the globe, which are attractive in terms of their originality, exoticism, and uniqueness of natural landscapes, has grown significantly and become the trend of the last decade (Scheyvens, Momsen, 2008). Traditional destinations of mass tourism due to their significant congestion during high seasons, as well as due to the decreasing tendency of a certain fashion for them, give way to destinations characterized by fundamental uniqueness, originality, uncommon places, relative obscurity, but at the same time providing tourist services meeting high international standards and requirements. These new tourist territories include many of the currently existing nonsovereign (dependent, nonself-governing, partially self-governing) territories and countries on the planet. The tourist potential of such territories for the population of most countries around the world (except for their metropolises, under the sovereignty of which these countries and territories abide) is practically unknown and inaccessible in the travel services market. But potentially these territories can make a significant alternative to the banal mass destinations for the relatively sophisticated consumer of tourist services.

The object of the present research is the recreational and tourist resources (RTR) of nonsovereign countries of the world while the research subject is the peculiarities of using for this purpose the scorecard method of assessment.

### Methods

The main research method was the scorecard assessment of RTR of nonsovereign countries of the world. Methods of socio-economic analysis allowed justifying the assessment scales and identifying the types of indicators being assessed. A gradation of countries by categories and types was carried out based on the developed system of parameters for assessing socio-economic indicators of tourism development in the specified group of countries, determining the assessment scales, involving information and values from open-source data. Besides, political analysis methods were used in the article to justify the sample of the studied group of countries.

### Results

The contemporary political map of the world covers more than 250 countries and territories, of which, according to the UN classification at the beginning of 2020, there are 17 dependent and nonself-governing territories, and about 100 countries with other approaches to their classification (Afanasiev, 2017; The country of the world: ITAR-TASS electronic reference service, n.d.). They all have different official political statuses, forms of dependency and self-government, and different levels and bases of economic development. But, importantly, such territories often have significant recreational potential, offer comfortable conditions for recreation, and are distinguished by a guaranteed level of security. The latter is especially important in the current context of the aggravated foreign policy situation in the world. Today, when an increasing number of traditional tourist destinations are to a greater or lesser degree at the forefront of intercivilizational conflicts and contradictions, requirements from customers to ensure

personal safety while providing high standards of service are increasing significantly. And these conditions are met by many of the nonsovereign countries and territories that are small in size, do not play any significant foreign policy role in the world, are located in comfortable natural and climatic zones, and do not have armed terrorist groups that threaten the health and life of tourists. These, and several other factors, significantly increase the tourist and recreational attractiveness of nonsovereign countries, which deserve to find a wide representation in many national markets of tourist offers.

The basic component of the tourist business is the variety of RTR of the territory. In resource problematics that consider the nature and structure, strategy and tactics of using natural and socio-economic resources, not the last place is occupied by the issue of their identification, analysis, and assessment. Researchers A.Yu. Alexandrova, A.A. Beidyk, H.J. Blij, and P.O. Muller, et al. have systematized to some extent methodological bases and improved methods to assess RTR (Beidyk, 2001; Blij, Muller, 2013).

The RTR is understood as objects and phenomena of natural, natural-anthropogenic, and social origin used for tourism, treatment, and rehabilitation which affect the territorial organization of recreational activities, the formation of recreational areas (centers), their specialization, and economic efficiency; as well as a set of natural, natural-technical, socio-economic complexes and their elements that contribute to the restoration and development of physical and spiritual strength of a person, his ability to work in the conditions of both contemporary and promising structure of recreational needs, as well as technical and economic capabilities used for direct and indirect consumption, and provision of recreational-tourist and resort-curative care services (Beidyk, 2001).

There are various methods to assess both natural-geographical and socio-historical RTR. An assessment method that allows assessing each of the components on a factor-by-factor basis is one of the most interesting and most appropriate comprehensive recreational analyses of the territory. Two main components can be distinguished in the structure of recreational resources, namely, natural and socio-economic (natural, historical and cultural resources of recreational activities). Characteristics of recreational resources include information on the quality of natural conditions, the area (or volume) to which these qualities apply, the duration of the period during which certain qualities manifest their effect, etc.

RTR are inherent not only in independent states but also in nonsovereign territories of the world. But there is a big problem in defining and characterizing these resources in nonsovereign countries due to their low information availability. For example, in the Russian market of tourist offers, it is almost impossible to find tourist maps of such countries and territories, guides and reference books about them, and information concerning infrastructure facilities and tourist destinations. Thus, there is no stable image of such a country, the tourist brands represented by these countries, their environmental, historical, and cultural resources remain unknown (Afanasiev et al., 2018). Therefore, the authors offer their view on the principles, methods, and features of assessing and characterizing RTR of nonsovereign countries and territories. By assessing the natural and socio-historical resources of such countries componentwise, it is possible to get an integral scorecard assessment of their recreational potential.

To assess the RTR, the authors have selected 30 nonsovereign countries of the world: a) 16 countries to which the UN Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples is applied (Declaration of Decolonization of 14.12.1960), i.e. recognized by the UN as colonies (except Western Sahara, which is not included in

the analysis due to the almost complete absence of the tourism industry in this country); b) 14 countries and territories, regardless of their current official status (overseas territories, overseas departments, autonomous cities, self-governing communities, Freely Associated States, etc.), which are de facto classic fragments of colonial empires located at significant distances from their metropolitan countries.

The socio-economic factor is the most important in the development of recreational activities in nonsovereign countries. It specifies the availability of a wide range of tourist services and developed infrastructure in these countries. For example, nonsovereign territories of the Caribbean are one of the most attractive destinations for tourists (Douglas, 2006). The developed hotel fund, high level of service, variety of cultural, sports and entertainment events, and many other components of the socio-economic factor are typical for the majority of nonsovereign countries in this region (Mackay, Spencer, 2017). Also, most of the nonsovereign territories of the world have a very powerful cultural and historical ground, which, certainly, is attractive for tourists from all over the world.

Almost all the analyzed nonsovereign countries of the world offer a wide range of tourist and entertainment services (Table 1), which allows stating reasonably a high development level of offered active forms of tourism.

*Table 1. Range of active tourism services in resorts of nonsovereign territories of the world (according to The World Factbook Central Intelligence Agency, n.d.; World Data Bank: The World Bank, n.d.; World Heritage Centre of UNESCO, n.d.; World Travel and Tourism Council, n.d.)*

<b>Range of tourism services</b>  <b>Nonsovereign territory</b>	<b>Golf</b>	<b>Diving</b>	<b>Yacht tour</b>	<b>Snorkeling</b>	<b>Submarine diving</b>	<b>Gambling</b>	<b>Windsurfing</b>	<b>Kitesurfing</b>	<b>Sailing</b>	<b>Carnivals and festivals</b>
1. American Samoa (US)	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+
2. Anguilla (UK)	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+
3. Aruba (Netherlands)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+
4. Bermuda (UK)	-	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	+
5. British Virgin Islands (UK)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
6. Cayman Islands (UK)	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+
7. Ceuta (Spain)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Cook Islands (New Zealand)	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+
9. Falkland Islands (UK)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
10. French Guiana (France)	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-
11. French Polynesia (France)	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+
12. Gibraltar (UK)	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
13. Guadeloupe (France)	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+
14. Guam (US)	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-
15. Martinique (France)	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
16. Melilla (Spain)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17. Montserrat (UK)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
18. Netherlands Antilles (Curacao; Sint Maarten; Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, Saba) (Netherlands)	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+
19. New Caledonia (France)	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	+
20. Niue (New Zealand)	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
21. Norfolk Island (Australia)	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

22. Pitcairn Islands (UK)	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Puerto Rico (US)	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+
24. Reunion (France)	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
25. Saint Pierre and Miquelon (France)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26. Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha (UK)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27. Tokelau (New Zealand)	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
28. Turks and Caicos Islands (UK)	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
29. United States Virgin Islands (US)	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	+
30. Wallis and Futuna Islands (France)	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-

Many resorts of nonsovereign countries offer a huge range of services and entertainment for tourists; in particular, Anguilla, Aruba, Bermuda, Puerto Rico, and French Polynesia have particularly developed infrastructure. These island countries have a well-developed tourist infrastructure and are world-famous resorts. The most common tourist services in the analyzed nonsovereign territories are diving and carnival activities. This is due to both unique natural conditions and the inimitable cultural traditions of the residents.

Over the past few decades, a large number of first-class hotels have been built in most of the noted nonsovereign countries, and new tourist areas have been created. The popularity of a destination, the development level of its tourism industry can be estimated by the number of hotel complexes, the number of tourists visiting a particular country, the income from tourism received annually by each individual country, as well as the availability of its historical and cultural potential that is of interest to tourists. For comparative characteristics and evaluation of the designated RTR parameters of nonsovereign countries and territories, a scoring matrix was developed (Table 2) which is presented below.

Table 2. The RTR scoring matrix for nonsovereign countries and territories

Indicator and measurement units		Score terms				
		5	4	3	2	1
Main statistical indicators of the tourism sector development						
A	Hotel fund rating, Number of hotels	> 40	40-31	30-21	20-10	< 10
B	The number of tourists per year, thousand people	> 200	200-100	100-50	50-10	< 10
C	Tourism revenue, mln \$	> 500	500-100	100-50	50-10	< 10
Cultural and historical potential						
D	The total number of various museums, units	> 8	8-7	6-5	4-3	2-1
E	The number of buildings of religious architecture, units	> 13	13-10	9-7	6-4	3-1
F	The number of structures of military-historical architecture, units	> 4	4	3	2	1
G	The number of architectural monuments, (*) availability of UNESCO monuments, units	1*		2		1

The results of the score of the indicators shown in Table 2 are presented in Table 3. Comparison of all analyzed nonsovereign countries by the specified RTR parameters allows comparing clearly their socio-economic and cultural-historical prerequisites for tourism development.

Table 3. The assessment of RTR of nonsovereign countries and territories of the world

Nonsovereign countries and territories	Assessment of indicators, scores							Total scores $\Sigma$	Integral score <i>I</i>
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G		
1. American Samoa (US)	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	6	1
2. Anguilla (UK)	1	2	3	1	1	0	0	8	2
3. Aruba (Netherlands)	3	5	5	3	5	1	1	23	5
4. Bermuda (UK)	4	5	4	5	1	5	6	30	5
5. British Virgin Islands (UK)	2	5	4	1	1	3	0	16	4
6. Cayman Islands (UK)	2	5	5	1	1	2	0	16	4
7. Ceuta (Spain)	1	3	2	2	2	1	0	11	3
8. Cook Islands (New Zealand)	2	3	2	1	1	0	0	9	2
9. Falkland Islands (UK)	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	6	1
10. French Guiana (France)	1	3	2	2	1	2	0	11	3
11. French Polynesia (France)	3	4	4	3	3	0	1	18	4
12. Gibraltar (UK)	2	5	5	1	1	1	0	15	3
13. Guadeloupe (France)	4	5	5	4	2	4	0	24	5
14. Guam (US)	1	5	5	1	1	0	3	16	4
15. Martinique (France)	2	5	4	3	1	2	0	17	4
16. Melilla (Spain)	2	3	2	1	1	2	0	11	3
17. Montserrat (UK)	1	2	2	1	1	2	0	9	2
18. Netherlands Antilles (Curacao; Sint Maarten; Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, Saba) (Netherlands)	4	5	5	1	1	1	5	22	5
19. New Caledonia (France)	1	4	3	3	2	1	5	19	4
20. Niue (New Zealand)	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	5	1
21. Norfolk Island (Australia)	1	2	2	2	2	0	0	9	2
22. Pitcairn Islands (UK)	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	6	1
23. Puerto Rico (US)	5	5	5	2	3	2	5	27	5
24. Reunion (France)	2	5	4	1	1	0	6	19	4
25. Saint Pierre and Miquelon (France)	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	5	1
26. Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha (UK)	1	2	2	1	1	1	5	13	3
27. Tokelau (New Zealand)	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	6	1
28. Turks and Caicos Islands (UK)	2	4	4	1	1	0	1	13	3
29. United States Virgin Islands (US)	4	5	5	1	1	3	0	19	4
30. Wallis and Futuna Islands (France)	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	4	1

The largest number of hotels is available in Puerto Rico, while the lowest indicators were noted in Niue, Saint Helens, American Samoa, Wallis, and Futuna. The largest number of five-star hotels are located in Puerto Rico, French Polynesia, and Guadeloupe. This indicates a very high level of tourism infrastructure development in these nonsovereign countries. The Netherlands Antilles, Aruba, Bermuda, the US Virgin Islands, the British Virgin Islands, Gibraltar, Guadeloupe, Guam, the Cayman Islands, Martinique, Reunion, and Puerto Rico have the highest indicators in terms of the number of tourists. Almost the same countries are characterized by the highest income from the tourism sector. This confirms that these territories, along with favorable natural and climatic conditions, have a well-developed tourist infrastructure and services, and have already acquired a significant level of popularity among tourists worldwide. The lowest scores on these indicators were received by territories, such as Niue, Tokelau, Wallis, and Futuna. Despite significant natural RTR, these territories have not become yet well-known and popular tourist destinations.

The cultural and historical potential of countries is expressed primarily in their historical heritage because the presence of unique historical sites affords the opportunities for tourism development in the country. It is the familiarity with the history and historical sites that is the strongest incentive for tourists. Despite its political status, the nonsovereign territories under consideration have significant historical and cultural potential and are characterized by a high degree of attraction for tourists from all over the world.

According to A.A. Beidyk (2001), the structure of cultural and historical RTR includes six main types of architectural and town-planning structures, namely, public, industrial, religious, military architecture, garden and park art, architectural monuments, and sculptural monuments.

All six types of architectural structures are present in the concerned nonsovereign territories of the world. However, in this study, it was decided to assess the cultural and historical fund of the RTR of nonsovereign countries based on just three categories of monuments, namely, religious buildings, military architecture (castles, forts, fortresses), and architectural monuments. The choice of these types was stipulated by the fact that, in the authors' opinion, they caused the greatest interest among tourists, and were of great demand when conducting sightseeing and tours in the territory of the analyzed countries. Besides, the historical value of religious and military structures lies in their cognitive role as a source of historical and worldview information. Also, when studying the cultural and historical fund of nonsovereign territories, the availability of various museums was taken into account, since they are the main places of interest and are visited by the tourists as part of different sightseeing routes.

Architectural and natural objects included in the international list of UNESCO world heritage sites have certainly the greatest significance in the historical and cultural potential of nonsovereign territories (World Heritage Centre of UNESCO, n.d.). These objects attract not only ordinary tourists but also are valuable objects of researchers' interest. Four of the seven UNESCO monuments available in the analyzed nonsovereign countries are natural sites, while three are cultural and historical sites. These include the following: a) Gough and Inaccessible Islands in Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha Islands of the British Overseas Territory; b) Henderson Island of the Pitcairn Islands in the British Overseas Territory; c) Volcanic peaks, craters, and ramparts of Reunion Island in the Réunion French overseas Department; d) the tropical lagoons and coral reefs of New Caledonia which is the overseas administrative division of France; d) the castle and the old historical part of San Juan on the island of Puerto Rico in the territory of the Free Associated State of Puerto Rico in the USA; e) Inner city and harbor of Willemstad in the territory of the self-governing country Curacao within the Netherlands Antilles; g) The Historic Town of Saint George and Related Fortifications, which was the first capital of the Bermuda Islands of the British Overseas Territory.

The results of the conducted assessment show that nonsovereign territories of the world are most provided with religious architecture structures and Museum institutions which are available in almost all the countries studied. The structures of religious architecture are predominated by churches and cathedrals, while the structures of military architecture are represented mainly by forts. Architectural monuments can be found only in Aruba, Bermuda, Guam, Reunion, Turks, and Caicos, as well as in French Polynesia.

Thus, it can be stated that the cultural and historical fund of certain nonsovereign territories is insufficiently diverse and quite unrepresentative, which can potentially harm the intensity of tourist flows to these countries.

When determining the integral assessment of the RTR potential of nonsovereign territories of the world, it is proposed to use the method based on reduction of the total score assessment that allows displaying a visual difference in the favorableness of tourist and recreational resource fund of the specific nonsovereign territory in the total list of countries. In this case, the authors assume that: a) the total score of 4-6 points reflects the lowest characteristics of the RTR, which represent the first category of territories with an integral score of one point; b) total score of 7-9 points corresponds to the medium-low level of RTR potential which is the second category with an integrated score equal to two; c) total score of 10-15 points corresponds to the medium provision of RTR which makes up the third category of territories with integral assessment equal to three points; d) total score of 16-20 points reflects the medium-high level of RTR provision which corresponds to the fourth category of territories with an integral score of four points; d) and finally, the total score of 21-30 points reflects a high provision of RTR of territories constituting the fifth category of countries with an integral score of five points.

## Discussion

Thus, having assessed the nonsovereign territories of the world based on specific RTR indicators and summarizing them in the form of an integrated score, it was found that the most favorable conditions for the development of culture-related tourism were in the Bermuda Islands ( $\Sigma=30$ ,  $I=5$ ). Nonsovereign countries located in the Caribbean, such as the Netherlands Antilles, Aruba, Guadeloupe, Puerto Rico, have also received high total RTR scores and an integral score of five points. In addition to the considered resources, these countries also have beautiful beaches. This allows developing culture-related tourism, as well as bathing and beach tourism, and resort vacation. In particular, Bermuda has all the above-noted types of architectural and historical monuments, including UNESCO listed sites. The most diverse structures of military architecture and museums are in Bermuda. As for Aruba, it has the largest number of buildings of religious architecture and a broad variety of museums. In Guadeloupe, tourists are attracted by numerous military architectural structures and a significant selection of museums. Therefore, it is these territories that are the most favorable for the development of culture-related and educational tourism among the nonsovereign territories of the world. All these countries are already major world tourist destinations attracting a large number of tourists, primarily from the Metropolitan countries and the nearby United States, as well as are the centers of cruise tourism in the Caribbean.

These territories have a favorable geographical location (in particular, most of them are situated in the Caribbean Sea, which is one of the largest tourist destinations in the world). Geographical location results in excellent climatic conditions that allow visiting these countries throughout almost the entire year. This is a very convenient opportunity, especially for tourists from Europe and America. All considered countries are islands or archipelagos, which allows developing beach tourism in their territories.

The territories of the British and American Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, and the Island of Martinique in the Caribbean have quite favorable RTR, as well as Reunion in the Indian Ocean, and the Islands of French Polynesia, Guam, and New



Caledonia in Oceania. These nonsovereign countries received an integral score of four points. Almost all of them have a well-developed tourist industry. They attract tourists due to their climatic, socio-economic, and cultural-historical resources that contribute to the development of beach, health, and culture-related tourism.

The territories that received an integral score of three points also have development prospects for historical, cultural, educational, bathing, beach, and recreational tourism. These are the cities of Gibraltar, Ceuta and Melilla, the Islands of Saint Helens, Turks, and Caicos, as well as the French Guiana region. These territories are characterized by a certain gap in terms of some RTR parameters as compared with the leading groups of countries. Nevertheless, these gaps can be overcome within a fairly short time by developing the hotel base, creating artificial sites of attraction (museums, tourist centers), and promoting these territories more actively as places of interest to visit. Extreme tourism is a particularly promising direction for French Guiana and the St. Helen Island, as is Gibraltar, which has made significant progress in this tourism category over the past decade.

Cook Islands, Anguilla, Montserrat, and Norfolk have received low integral scores of two points. This is due to the undeveloped hospitality service, the lack of interesting attractions and historical monuments. Nevertheless, they are promising in terms of tourism development, especially Anguilla Island, located in the Caribbean Sea, and have the potential to develop a bathing and beach tourism. The territories of Norfolk, Montserrat, and the Cook Islands have a unique nature that is attractive to tourists.

Certain nonsovereign territories have received the lowest integral score of just one point when assessing their RTR. These are the Wallis and Futuna Islands, Niue, American Samoa, Pitcairn Tokelau in Oceania, as well as Saint Pierre and Miquelon, and the Falkland Islands in America. All of them are quite remote from the world's tourist flows and do not have the necessary transport and hotel infrastructure, as well as well-known attractions.

It is worth noting that the result obtained in the present study generally coincides with the results obtained for some of the territories by other authors, in particular, S. Sufrauj (2011), E.A. Mackay and A. Spencer (2017), M.V. Gushchina (2012); A.M. Sazykin and M.V. Gushchina (2015), C.H. Douglas (2006), and others. But it is in these territories that the original nature and primary natural and geographical conditions have been preserved. And it must be noted that in the future this may become the major factor of attraction of these territories for tourists from all over the world.

## Conclusion

Thus, based on the scorecard method of assessing the characteristics of the socio-economic potential of RTR of certain nonsovereign territories of the world, five groups of countries were identified in terms of the degree of favorability for the development and implementation of tourism activities. It is important to note that only the most basic socio-economic resources of nonsovereign territories of the world, which provide a direct opportunity for tourism and recreational services development, were taken for assessment. For a more objective assessment of the recreational provision of nonsovereign countries and territories of the world with RTR, it is necessary to take into account other socio-economic components of RTR. Nevertheless, the results obtained provide a representative characteristic of the tourism sector's potential of the main nonsovereign countries and territories of the world that makes the developed

methodology applicable for assessment of other similar entities of the world political map.

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