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THE STRUCTURE AND MOTIVATIONS OF THE VOLUNTEERS WORKING FOR A LARGE TRAVEL FESTIVAL

Исследуются мотивация волонтеров и структура волонтерских групп, работающих на Большом туристском фестивале в Лодзи, посвященном путешествиям и приключенческому туризму. Данная работа находится на границе двух исследовательских направлений: географии туризма и событийных исследований. Анализируются научная литература, посвященная методике изучения фестивалей и приключенческого туризма; структура волонтеров, оказывающих помощь в организации Большого туристского фестиваля, а также их главные стимулы в волонтерской работе по результатам анкетирования.

Ключевые слова: Большой туристский фестиваль в Лодзи; приключенческий туризм; волонтеры; структура волонтерских групп; мотивация.

The article concerns the motivation of volunteers and structure of volunteers groups working for the Explorers Festival – a large event held in Lodz and dedicated to travel, exploration and adventure tourism. This study is located at the border of two research trends: tourism geography and event studies. The article presents the basic issues of festivals and adventure tourism in the light of the scientific literature. The authors present the basic information regarding festivals, adventure tourism and voluntary work. Next, they describe the results of the survey conducted among the Explorers Festival volunteers.

Key words: Explorers Festival in Lodz; adventure tourism; volunteers; structure of volunteers groups; motivation.

Introduction

The analysis conducted for the purpose of this article concerns the Explorers Festival – a large festival devoted to travel and adventure tourism, held in Lodz. The authors analysed the volunteers who took part in the preparation and realization of this event. The main aim of the work was to present their structure and motivations, i.e. to answer the question who the volunteers were and why they participated in the event. That allowed the authors to draw some conclusions regarding the main functions of the festival, as well as the reasons why people become voluntarily involved in its organization. The conclusions have a practical significance, too, as they show the organizers of this type of events how they may find large numbers of enthusiastic volunteers.

After the Second World War, the interest in non-material culture rapidly increased, as a result of the changes in the amount of free time, the level of social incomes and the attitude to different dimensions of culture. In the context of this article, it is significant that one of the indications of cultural development has been the development of various festivals, particularly strong in the last few decades. Recently, this phenomenon, often referred to as festivalisation, has also occurred in Central and East-European countries, including Poland [1].

As a result of different approaches to the study of festivals, literature offers a variety of their definitions. Sometimes they are presented as events related to entertainment, fun and leisure time. In this sense, they include art-related events, street parades, holidays and religious festivities, some events related to rural and folk culture (called rural festivals), as well as small occasions spent with family and friends. On the other hand, Polish authors see festivals first of all as regular, free time events, involving the presentation of various arts (art festivals) [2, 3]. According to Kopalinski's dictionary definition, a festival is «a periodic festivity, consisting of art events (often competitions) and meetings, which enable the participants arriving from different places to make cultural contacts» [4].

To sum up, the authors of this article assumed that a festival is an organized event, focusing on a given theme. It may take the form of a competition or presentation of some pieces of art. It is surrounded by the aura of exceptionality, extraordinariness, or even festiveness, felt by both the organizers and the participants. It may be regular or one-off event, usually lasting for at least two days.

The Explorers Festival, analyzed in this article, was preceded by the High Mountaineering Club Competition of Mountain Films, held in Lodz, in 1995–1998. In 1999, the name of the event was changed to «The Mountain Festival». At that point, its organizers were supported by the Lodz Trekking Club, the Technical University of Lodz and the Lodz City Council. In 2002, the scope of the festival was enlarged by presentations and films regarding all extreme sports and travel experience, connected not only with the mountains. In 2002, the name of the event was changed again, to the Explorers Festival [5]. It is held annually, on 16–20th November in Lodz – one of the biggest Polish cities. So far the event has hosted many renowned travelers, who presented their experiences of traveling, extreme sports, and travel film making.

The festival features films and multimedia presentations about mountain climbing, trekking, extreme skiing, paragliding, traveling, mountain biking, kayaking and other extreme sports. The greatest discoverers and travelers, as well as the authors of the best works about exploration and extreme sports are presented with the World Explorer and Camera Extreme Awards every year. Among the attractions of the festival are meetings with famous climbers, travelers, representatives of the world of adventure tourism, exploration, film and photography. A part of the festival is the Great Geography Lesson, co-organized by the Geographical Sciences Department, University of Lodz, during which lectures and presentations are given to school students from the whole region (The Explorers Festival – world-famous individualities).

This article is based on two basic research methods, i.e. survey questionnaire and participant observation. The questionnaire technique was used with the Explorers Festival volunteers. A detailed description of the questionnaire is presented further in the article. Following the other method, the researchers attended the event personally and directly observed the volunteers' work.

The article consists of five parts, the first of which is the introduction. The second one presents the research problems concerning festivals and adventure tourism in the light of literature. In the third part of the article the authors present, in detail, the research methods and the structure of the studied group of volunteers. In the next part, they present the results of the study as regards the motivations of the volunteers participating in the Explorers Festival. The article ends with a discussion, containing the main conclusions.

The research problems in the light of literature

Festivals are currently a popular research object. Civilizational development, higher incomes, growing traveling opportunities, as well as greater interest in culture cause the phenomenon of festivals to grow rapidly. It is reflected in the structure of festival studies. Due to the significant social and cultural roles played by festivals, they are an object of study in sociology and anthropology. Moreover, festivals serve the purpose of developing tourism and promoting cities and regions, so they are also studied in economy as well as urban and tourism geography. The expanding event sector, which includes festivals, is becoming an increasingly important part of services. The number of firms and jobs related to event organization is constantly growing. As a result, the world research regarding different kinds of events (including festivals) formed a separate scientific discipline, called event studies.

For years, festivals have been an object of geographers' interest [6–10]. The researchers who are particularly interested in festivals are cultural geographers, whose work follows the new cultural geography trend. It started to form at the turn of the 1980's and 1990's. Apart from the change of the study object, the new research paradigm included a change in the approach to man as a study subject [11]. In the traditional school of cultural geography, known as the Berkley school, man was regarded as being determined by the cultural patterns in which he was born and functioned. In the new cultural geography, man was regarded as a creator of cultural phenomena. The researchers started to explore human behaviours, tradition, language and how they are reflected in human culture. This change of the cultural geography paradigm led to an increase in the geographers' interest in festivals, which started to be perceived as an emanation of human behaviours, an element of culture resulting from human activity.

Geographical analyses of festivals usually concerned their role in the development of non-material culture. Researchers presented the possible ways of using them for the cultivation of local and regional customs, language, local dialect or handicraft. Festivals were often described as places where various arts, such as music, theatre or film, were presented and experienced.

Moreover, the analysis included the role festivals play in the economic growth, as well as in restructuring and improving the image of urban areas. The latest research trend, followed in urban or tourism geography, seems to be the result of developing an approach referred to as cultural economy. In this particular approach, observed in human geography studies, the focus is on the growing role of culture-related services in generating income and promoting regions. In recent decades, people have become increasingly interested in culture. They travel, take advantage of tourist cultural assets, are often interested in art and entertainment offered by both the high and the popular culture. The response to this growing demand is the development of cultural and entertainment services, including those connected with festival organization. Due to the higher demand and the growth of the cultural and entertainment services sector, its role in generating income and in the employment structure is increasing.

Treated as tourist assets and products, festivals are also often studied by tourism geographers [12]. Tourism may be defined as a «spatial, socio-cultural and economic phenomenon, based on a voluntary, temporary change of the place of residence, for recreational and cognitive purposes, as well as in order to gain intellectual and emotional experience» [13]. According to this definition, a part of tourism is traveling in order to gain intellectual and emotional experience, which is provided by festivals (festival tourism).

In the 20th c., tourism became one of the most dynamic sectors of global economy, which had resulted from the technological and civilizational progress, rapid economic development, and growth of international integration and co-operation [14]. According to T. Fedortsova [15] (using the example of transit tourism), tourism has great economic and social significance for the development of the visited regions, enhancing the development of infrastructure and intensifying the cultural exchange among nations. This opinion is shared by R. Rouba [16], who quotes after Dziegieć four basic types of impacts tourism has on the surroundings: economic, spatial-physiognomic, demographic-vocational and socio-cultural.

Festivals also have an influence on the tourist traffic, promoting tourism and affecting tourist space, so consequently they are an object of study in tourism geography. Tourism geography, in turn, is defined as a geographical sub-discipline «comprising the studies of the spatial diversification of the socio-cultural, economic, legal-political and natural conditions of tourism and tourist infrastructure, as well as analyzing the course and consequences of tourist traffic for the natural environment and the socio-cultural, political and economic structures and processes» [17]. In this sense, also festival events as socio-cultural conditions of tourism development, and the related tourist traffic are the study objects in tourism geography.

The article refers to a festival devoted to broadly understood exploration and adventure tourism. Therefore, its authors decided to describe the latter. According to D. Fennell [18], adventure tourism is active recreation in the open air, which takes place in an unusual, exotic, distant or wild area. The concept is described in a similar way by S. J. Page and R. K. Downling [19], who claim that it is a kind of tourism involving activity in the natural environment and stress that it is based on the contact with nature, involves physical challenge, but also includes educational elements [20].

Adventure is naturally linked to exploration. According to A. H. Walle [21], the desire to discover and learn is the basis of adventure tourism. Discovering unknown, faraway places in order to explore them and to extend one's knowledge is an important motive in this type of tourism [22]. There are many festivals devoted to adventure tourism held in Poland and all over the world. One of the major Polish events of this type is the Explorers Festival. It is an event which gathers travelers and promotes the idea of exploration and adventure tourism.

In the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, festivals have been studied less than in Western Europe, the United States or Australia, where the majority of basic geographical works concerning festivals were produced. Although there are examples of such studies conducted in Central and Eastern European countries, e.g. in the field of cultural tourism [23] or geography [24, 25], they are still quite rare.

As regards this article, it is a part of the geographical studies concerning festivals, conducted at the University of Lodz. So far, a number of articles referring to various aspects of this phenomenon have been written as a part of the studies conducted by a team of researchers supervised by Dr Waldemar Cudny. Using the example of Lodz, a large post-socialist and post-industrial city, they have been analyzing festivals devoted to film [26], religion [27], adventure tourism [28], theatre and multicultural activities [29], as well as music [30]. The analyses conducted at the University of Lodz in co-operation with Slovakian geographers included a comprehensive study of the perception of Lodz festivals by the city inhabitants [31].

In this article, the authors combine several research themes presented earlier. The studied festival is an

element satisfying the needs related to the contact with people involved in travel, exploration and adventure tourism. It is a place where this type of tourism is promoted; it helps popularize the geographical knowledge of the world [32]. At the Explorers Festival, the audience and the volunteers become familiar with the principles of exploration. The event is also a place where social contacts are made among the amateurs of this type of tourism. Finally, apart from the residents of Lodz, the festival attracts tourists as well, therefore it is treated as a tourist asset. In 2011, the festival was attended by about 3800 visitors. The event organizers estimate that over 50 % of the overall number of visitors were tourists who arrived at the festival from outside Lodz. From this point of view, the study carried out for the purpose of this article, is a tourism geography analysis.

On the other hand, the study of festival volunteers was conducted as a part of event studies [33–35]. It is the event studies that deal with the analysis of the main factors motivating volunteers to participate in festival events: the desire to help others, follow one's own interests, and help the local community. Event studies comprise the problem of the event organizers choosing the right people to do the voluntary work and motivating them.

The article combines two approaches: geographical and related to event studies. On the one hand, it presents the festival as a tourist asset and a place where one has access to the knowledge about tourism and geography. On the other hand, it describes in detail the structure and motivations of a group of volunteers.

The research method and the structure of the studied group of volunteers

Volunteers are extremely important in the organization of the Explorers Festival. The organizers often use their help because they are unable to attend to everything themselves, as regards the event organization and service. Moreover, accepting volunteers lowers the cost of organizing the event. On the other hand, volunteers are interested in participating in the festival, because it allows them to develop their own interests and gain interesting experience.

The term «voluntary work» comes from the Latin word *voluntarius*, which means «of one's own free will», «willing». In the 19th c., the term «voluntary» referred to the voluntary service in the army. Later it was used to refer to doctor's unpaid hospital training [36].

The variety of the meanings of this term is reflected by the array of definitions used by different authors. A. Zych [37] points out that voluntary work is a social activity. It is voluntary and done of one's own free will, in order to help others. However, it is not a part of the volunteer's commitments. P. Jordan and M. Ochman [38] give the following definition: «Being a volunteer involves free, conscious and willing activity for the benefit of others, who are not family or friends. Anybody can be a volunteer, in any area of social life, wherever such help is needed, but not every volunteer is the right person for every type of work». M. Załuska [39] describes voluntary work as «the activity of people who undertake work without being paid, who are driven by their interest in the profession, want to help others and act in the name of achieving their goals. Volunteers devote their time, energy and expertise to others, resigning from rest and money».

Voluntary work in Poland takes different forms and we may differentiate between its various types, depending on the adopted criterion. We may talk about individual or team voluntary work. Taking into consideration the duration criterion, voluntary work may be long- or short-term [40]. The difference between them is not definite; the period of up to one month has been assumed as the measure of short-term voluntary work. The volunteers working for up to one month are short-time action volunteers, while those working for longer than one month are long-term volunteers [41].

In the study of the volunteers working at the festival, conducted for the purpose of this article, the authors used the methods of direct observation and questionnaire survey. Observation is one of the most popular research methods in geography. It is a precise and clearly focused registration of a given phenomenon, process or object. We differentiate between direct and indirect observation. In the indirect one, the researcher uses the materials collected during the observation by other people or institutions. In the direct one, the researcher personally participates in the studied phenomenon or process [42]. The authors observed the activity of the Explorers Festival volunteers while the event lasted. They observed their behaviour and the tasks they were allocated, made notes and supplemented them with short conversations with the volunteers.

The other method used in the study was the survey, in which the questioner provides the respondents with questionnaires, they write down their answers and return them to the researcher [43]. The questionnaire used in this article was divided into two parts. The first one contained the respondent's personal details and some general questions, while the other one – questions regarding the motivations to be a volunteer at the Explorers Festival.

The questions were presented to 21 volunteers. The survey was voluntary and anonymous, conducted during the festival, i.e. on 16–20th November 2011, and approved by the organizers. It took place in Lodz, at the festival venues, i.e. in the performance hall of the Technical Polytechnic of Lodz and the Lecture Hall of the Law and Administration Department, University of Lodz. The questions in the first part of the questionnaire

concerned the respondents' gender, age, education level, the place of permanent residence and occupation. The questionnaire also included a number of general questions, regarding the volunteers' participation in the festival, the tasks they were performing, the desire to do this kind of work again in the future, etc.

The volunteers working for the Explorers Festival should be treated as a team of short-term volunteers, because they work for the festival in a group for a period shorter than one month. The group of respondents was dominated by women (61.0 %), while men constituted 39 %. All the respondents were 19 to 25 years of age. The majority of them had completed higher (52.4 %) and secondary (42.8 %) education, 4.8 % had post-graduate secondary education. As regards the place of residence, 85.7 % of the respondents came from the Lodz voivodeship, with 52.4 % of them inhabiting the city of Lodz. The remaining 14.3 % came from outside the Lodz voivodeship.

As for their occupation, the majority of the respondents were university and school students, making 81 % of the group. The respondents usually claimed that they had taken part in an event as volunteers for the first or second time – 23.8 % (both), respectively. Others said that it had been their fifth or fourth time – 19 % (both), respectively. For 9.6 % it was the sixth time and for 4.8 % – the third. The study showed that the main sources of information about the event were friends (46.4 %) and the Internet (21.4 %). Over 90 % of the respondents declared that they would or probably would take part in the festival as volunteers in the future. 85.7 % of the respondents confirmed that participating in the Explorers Festival as volunteers had met their expectations.

As regarded the question about the range of the volunteers' duties, they pointed to the following tasks:

- distributing festival promotional materials and the organizers' leaflets;
- working in the cloakrooms;
- guarding the doors to the festival guests' rooms;
- guarding the VIP seats;
- working at the entrance and attending to the audience in the show hall;
- selling tickets;
- coordinating the work of other volunteers;
- distributing prizes;
- helping with the organization of the Great Geography Lesson;
- attending to the needs of the invited festival guests;
- helping with the preparation of the festival venue;
- working at the information point;
- preparing plans and schedules of the event.

The motivations of the Explorers Festival volunteers – the study results

The volunteers' motivations can be divided into two groups. The first one includes altruistic motivations, arising from an unselfish desire to help others. The other group includes egoistic motivations, oriented towards the fulfillment of one's own needs. In the case of festivals, the egoistic motivations prevail [44]. The volunteers are usually young people who come to festival organizers, wanting to develop their private, research or occupational interests. They are usually individual, short-term volunteers; their work may sometimes be of practical significance for them, provided it is related to, e.g., the subject they are studying (student practice).

Volunteers often choose a festival for professional reasons. They want to gain experience in team working and organizing thematic mass events. Major motivations include making contacts with a group of people of similar interests or personal development [45]. Another quite frequent motivation in voluntary work is the local patriotism and the desire to support a cultural or sports event, important for the town/city or region where a given volunteer lives. Motivations of this type are particularly important for volunteers coming from the place where the given festival or another event is organized [46–48].

The survey questionnaire presented the motivations to become a volunteer, divided into six groups, depending on the reasons why a person became involved in working for the Explorers Festival. The motivation groups are related to the following:

1. *exploration (adventure, tourism)*: in order to be in touch with the world of exploration, develop one's knowledge, learn about a given region of the world;
2. *professional life*: in order to learn the details of organizing a large event, add an interesting entry to one's CV, show a potential employer one's wide range of interests;
3. *the distinctiveness, novelty of the festival*: out of curiosity, in order to become familiar with a new festival event, to find something enriching one's personality;
4. *escape from the everyday routine*: in order to escape from the dreary routine of everyday life, unwind and slow down;
5. *the attraction of the event*: for the festival atmosphere, in order to see new, interesting things and presentations, to participate in the widely understood festival life;
6. *social contacts during the festival*: in order to meet new, interesting people, to contact people of similar interests, to spend time with friends, who are also volunteers.

The volunteers were also asked about other motivations, which were not included in the closed questions in the questionnaire.

The respondents marked their answers in each group of motivations, pointing to their importance on the five-grade Likert's scale, often used in surveys. Respondents define the importance of a given phenomenon, from insignificant to very significant (Table). If a given motivation is considered to be insignificant, it is allocated 1 point, not very significant – 2 points, fairly significant – 3 points, significant – 4 points and very significant – 5 points.

The average rating of individual groups of motivations to become a volunteer

Group of motivations	Average rating on five-grade Likert's scale
Related to the attraction of the event	4.71
Related to professional life	4.47
Related to exploration	4.13
Related to the distinctiveness and novelty of the festival	3.84
Related to the escape from the everyday routine	3.25
Related to social contacts	2.96

Source. Authors' compilation based on questionnaire survey.

Taking into consideration the averaged values, the most significant group of motivations were those related to the attraction of the event (4.71 points) (Table). The most important motivations in this group referred to the possibility to see interesting presentations given by festival guests, enjoy the atmosphere of the event and take part in the festival life.

The second position was occupied by the motivations related to the professional life, with 4.47 points on Likert's scale, on average. The most important motivations here were related to gaining an interesting entry in one's CV, as well as becoming familiar with the details of organizing a large festival event.

The third was the group of motivations related to a widely understood exploration, with 4.13 points, which shows that it is quite significant. In this case, the main motivations were connected with the desire to be in touch with the world of exploration. Other important motivations included those connected with developing one's knowledge of exploration, thanks to the presentations by famous explorers.

A relatively important group of motivations included those connected with distinctiveness and novelty, with the average of 3.84 points. In this case, the most significant were the motivations connected with curiosity and looking for something to enrich one's personality.

Further positions were occupied by groups of motivations related to the escape from everyday routine, with the average of 3.25 points, as well as to the social contacts made during the event – 2.96 points (Table). As regards other response variants, not included in the questions, the respondents pointed to: *the opportunity to obtain the autographs of famous travelers*, and *the opportunity to co-create the festival which they have attended since childhood*.

The results presented above show that the volunteers' most significant motivations to work for the Explorers Festival are related to the event itself. The festival is very interesting for them and the opportunity to take part in it as co-organizers is an extremely strong motivation. Being volunteers enables them to see the festival «from the backstage», to fully participate in the special festival atmosphere, and make contacts with the guests and organizers. As we can see, egoistic motivations, i.e. those connected with the volunteer himself, predominate [49]. This group also includes the second most significant motivations, i.e. those related to professional life. Other important motivations are those connected with exploration, i.e. a widely understood contact with travel and travelers, as well as the possibility to watch educational festival presentations. Motivations related to local patriotism or supporting local community practically did not occur in additional responses (gathered through open question regarding other motivations). This probably resulted from the character of the festival, which is not based on the local culture, but on the guests from outside the region. Besides, the event presents extreme expeditions, usually abroad, which means that they are not related to the Lodz region.

Discussion

The Explorers Festival is one of the most important Polish festivals devoted to exploration and adventure tourism. Its major function is the promotion of this type of tourism, presentation of geographical knowledge and exploration, as well as the integration of travelers. Presentations are given by famous Polish and foreign travelers and explorers, who attract visitors from Lodz and from outside the region to the festival.

Every year, the Explorers Festival is supported by volunteers, which facilitates the preparatory stage and the realization of the festival, as well as lowers the costs. The authors decided to examine who the volunteers were

and why they wanted to work for the event. They were people working in a team for a period shorter than one month, i.e. short-term volunteers. The group of 21 volunteers included in the study was dominated by young, well-educated people, mainly women. They were mostly students and pupils from the Lodz region.

The key to good cooperation with a volunteer is his/her involvement in the mission of organizing our festival event. The volunteers are mobilized to work by the importance of the problems which arise during the event and the values established by the organizers [50]. It is hard to imagine people working voluntarily for a longer period of time if they cannot see sense in what they are doing. Here, this sense is given by the purpose the Explorers Festival serves, which is mainly the popularization of exploration tourism and extreme sports.

The observation shows that volunteers are strongly involved in the organization of the festival and conscientiously perform the tasks they were given. The questionnaire survey shows that over 76 % of the volunteers had participated in the event before. Over 90 % declared that they wanted to take part in it again. It is significant that the festival met the expectations of over 85 % of the respondents. These results show that volunteers are emotionally involved in the event and happy to have participated in it. This means that the group of volunteers was properly composed by the organizers, as well as that the festival met the expectations which made them participate in the event.

Voluntary work may become a real development opportunity. Firstly, one may specialize or raise their professional qualifications (popular attitude). Secondly, the most important aspect is self-development. Voluntary work allows us to satisfy completely different needs from those which appear when we have to earn the living. We can look for values which are often ignored in our lives: true contact with another person and the sense of doing something socially useful. Moreover, voluntary work gives you a chance to go out instead of locking yourself up at home. Therefore, by being a volunteer, we may both practice the skills needed for our future job and develop as individuals, which is particularly important [51].

The results presented in the article show that the volunteers' most significant motivations are related to self-development. The event is interesting to them, enables them to become familiar with the principles of organizing a large festival, co-create it and enjoy the festival atmosphere. The volunteers appreciate the professional aspects as well, e.g. enriching their CVs, or gaining organizational experience. The significant motivations also include those related to the desire to have contact with the world of travel and exploration, as well as to broaden one's horizons. In this sense, the festival performs promotional functions connected with popularizing the idea of traveling and geographical knowledge, also among the volunteers. This function of the Explorers Festival is confirmed by other research concerning festivals [52]. As the conversations with the volunteers and festival organizers show, the volunteers often do extreme sports themselves and are active travelers. They want to participate in the festival in order to watch presentations about journeys made by others and to gain more knowledge about exploration. In the future, festival organizers should continue the present tactics for finding volunteers. They should be young people interested in tourism, who want to expand their interests and professional experience in organizing events.

The study confirms the assumption that an important function of the Explorers Festival is the promotion of adventure tourism and exploration. Becoming involved in them and extending one's knowledge about them is an important motivation to take part in the event, not only on the part of the guests, but also among the volunteers. As regards voluntary workers, the festival also plays some functions related to personal development, development of interests and professional skills. It should be accepted that these elements are another significant function of the event, as regards the volunteers.

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РЕГИОНАЛЬНЫЕ ОСОБЕННОСТИ РАЗВИТИЯ АВТОМОБИЛЬНОГО ТРАНСПОРТА БЕЛАРУСИ

На основе ретроспективного анализа факторов разработана периодизация развития автомобильного транспорта Беларуси с середины XX в. по настоящее время с выделением шести этапов. С использованием корреляционного анализа определена степень влияния экономических, демографических и территориальных показателей в республиканском и региональном территориальном разрезах на показатели грузооборота и пассажирооборота автомобильного транспорта. С использованием факторного анализа выявлена специфика структуры и динамики групповых факторов (экономико-демографического, инфраструктурно-коммуникационного, пространственного), влияющих на развитие автотранспортной системы Беларуси за 2003–2011 гг.

Ключевые слова: транспортные системы; грузооборот; пассажирооборот; регионализация; автомобильный транспорт; корреляционный анализ.

Based on the retrospective analysis of factors the periodization of road transport evolution in Belarus from the mid-XX century so far has been developed with six stages (periods) being marked out. Implementation of correlation analysis enabled us to determine the impact of economic, demographic and territorial indicators on cargo and passenger turnover of road transport at national and regional