

“The effect of tourism on crime in Italy: a dynamic panel approach”

ANSWER TO REFEREE 1

We thank the referee for the useful comments. Following the critics of the second referee the section 3.3 is now changed introducing new specification (equation 8, p.15) and models (columns 4-8 of Table 5). In these new models, the dependent variable is crime in level and the independent variables of interests are the so-called equivalent tourists (total night in a year divided by 365), resident population, and area of the province (in square kilometres). The elasticity of crime with respect to the change in the number of residents is higher than the change in the number of tourists. The difference between the two coefficients is now significantly different from zero. This result remains in line with our previous hypothesis about the role of agglomeration that in this new version is measured by the variable “area” (see Table 5 columns 4-8). Further developments need information about the victimization and reporting rate of tourists and residents that would allow to estimate which sub group of population is mainly affected by this negative externality.