

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice



25
SSBL
MUN

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1. Welcome Letters

1.1. Letter from the Secretary General

Dear Delegates,

My name is Erol Erbil, and I am the Secretary General of SSBLMUN'25. It is my utmost pleasure to welcome you all to our conference. On behalf of the entire SSBLMUN'25 team, the whole team is honoured to host such talented and committed youthful leaders like yourselves, who are ready to leave an impact on the world by arguing for peace and diplomacy.

Over the past few months, we have worked willingly and wonderfully hard putting together a conference that you'll never forget. Model United Nations conferences are platforms for young leaders such as yourselves to come to try out ideas, to argue on the world stage and to train. I have every confidence that your energy, creativity, and commitment will make SSBLMUN'25 effective and unforgettable.

As you go through this year's sessions, I would advise you to engage each and every conversation with open-mindedness, respect and curiosity. Remember that MUN is not only a simulation of global relations but also a learning zone, a growth zone, and a platform for making lifelong friends. Do not get discouraged by little setbacks, but aim at growing as an individual and making your voice heard and appreciated through this meaningful experience that only happens once.

Our team has really gone the extra mile to make sure things have been going well. Should you have any questions or need my assistance prior to, during or after the conference, please feel free to contact me at erol55erbil@gmail.com.

Once again, welcome to SSBLMUN'25. I am truly looking forward to meeting all of you and witnessing the stimulating discussions and innovative ideas that are generated throughout the conference.

Best regards,
Erol Erbil
Secretary General

1.2. Letter from the Under Secretary General

Dear Delegates,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) at this year's conference. My name is Öznur Berre Torunoğlu, and I have the honor of serving as your Under-Secretary-General for this committee, together with my wonderful Assistant, Esma Mine Ersoy. We are both delighted to guide you throughout the sessions and ensure that you have a productive, engaging, and memorable experience.

This year, our committee will be addressing a highly relevant and rapidly developing issue: "Establishing International Legal Frameworks for Prosecuting Large-Scale Environmental Destruction as Ecocide." As environmental crises continue to intensify around the world, the question of whether severe and long-lasting damage to nature should be recognized as an international crime has become more urgent than ever. Delegates will have the opportunity to explore the legal, political, and ethical dimensions of this topic while working together to propose realistic, well-structured, and impactful solutions.

Throughout the sessions, I encourage you to approach discussions with an open mind, respect differing perspectives, and rely on evidence-based arguments. CCPCJ is a committee that thrives on cooperation, negotiation, and legal precision, so your ability to combine creativity with practicality will play a crucial role in shaping the outcome of our debate.

My Assistant and I are here to support you at every step, whether you need clarification on procedure, guidance on research, or assistance during crisis situations. We look forward to seeing your hard work, your diplomacy, and your passion reflected in the committee room.

I wish you all the best of luck and hope this conference becomes a valuable learning experience for each of you.

Warm regards,

Öznur Berre Torunoğlu
oznurtorunoglu0@gmail.com
Under-Secretary-General

2. Introduction of the Committee

2.1. History of the Committee

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) was established in 1992 by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) through resolution 1992/1, based on the recommendations of the General Assembly in resolution 46/152 (1991). It replaced the earlier Committee on Crime Prevention and Control, which had been functioning since 1971 as part of the United Nations' efforts to address crime-related issues at the international level.

The establishment of the CCPCJ was part of a broader restructuring process aimed at strengthening the UN's capacity to deal with increasing global concerns related to crime, justice, and international cooperation. During the late 20th century, challenges such as transnational organized crime, illicit drug trafficking, corruption, terrorism, and the need for more effective criminal justice systems pushed the United Nations to create a more dynamic and responsive body. The CCPCJ was formed as a functional commission of ECOSOC to lead policy development in these areas.

The CCPCJ provides guidance and input to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), which acts as the Secretariat of the commission. It is responsible for helping member states implement UN crime prevention standards and international conventions, and for monitoring the effectiveness of those policies in practice.

One of the key roles of the CCPCJ is to organize and oversee the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. This congress is the world's largest international gathering focused on crime and criminal justice matters and has been held every five years since 1955. Since the creation of the CCPCJ, the commission has been responsible for the preparatory work and follow-up actions related to the congress.

The commission also plays a central role in overseeing and supporting the implementation of international legal instruments such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) and the United Nations Convention against Corruption (2003). It monitors member states' compliance and promotes international cooperation in criminal matters.

The CCPCJ is composed of 40 member states elected by ECOSOC for three-year terms, based on equitable geographical distribution. These states meet annually in Vienna, Austria, to discuss policy issues, draft and adopt resolutions, and respond to emerging trends in crime and justice.

Since its establishment, the CCPCJ has expanded its focus to include newer and evolving threats such as cybercrime, trafficking in cultural property, environmental crime, and terrorism financing. At the same time, it continues to promote fundamental principles such as the rule of law, access to justice, protection of human rights in criminal proceedings, and crime prevention strategies.

2.2. Functions of the Committee

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) is the United Nations' primary policy making body in the area of crime prevention, criminal justice, and international cooperation in criminal matters. Its fundamental role is to assist the member states in the development of just and effective legal systems based on human rights.

The CCPCJ plays a central role in the development of international norms and in encouraging the application of UN conventions that are already established, mainly the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption. In doing so, it makes sure that international counter-crime responses are not only coordinated but also in conformity with international law.

Besides conventional crime-fighting, the Commission is also concerned with new kinds of crimes which are committed in cyberspace, human traffic, and illegal activities against nature. Through this the Commission enables the countries to find common ground to share their experiences, come up with wholesome solutions, and coordinate actions thus addressing the challenges efficiently.

Additionally, the CCPCJ disseminates the notion of justice as a comprehensive concept which comprises rehabilitation, justice access, and victim protection, apart from punishment solely. The CCPCJ highlights the importance of social reintegration and the security of the vulnerable populations in the justice systems.

It collaborates with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) which shall assist in carrying out its decisions through provision of necessary skills and training. It organizes the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention & Criminal Justice for five years; this serves as a global forum for having a conversation and creating new policies.

By its decisions and skilled talks, the CCPCJ helps make peace globally, good law practices, and reaching the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

3. Combatting Environmental Organized Crime

3.1. Introduction of the Agenda Item

The agenda item titled “Establishing International Legal Frameworks for Prosecuting Large-Scale Environmental Destruction as Ecocide” addresses the growing international concern and doubt over how large-scale harm to the environment should be handled from a legal perspective. Environmental destruction has increased on a large scale in recent years, and as a result, most ecosystems and climates have suffered damage that is difficult to repair. Despite the fact that large-scale destruction causes immense harm both to living beings and to the Earth, there is currently no provision specifically designed for this matter under international criminal law. While some instances of environmental destruction may be prosecuted (as long as they fall under crimes committed in wartime or against humanity), this still covers only a very narrow scope. This is because such crimes are typically large-scale crimes committed only by states, whereas large-scale environmental destruction can also be carried out by corporations.

Ecocide is a term used to describe activities that cause significant, widespread, and long-lasting environmental destruction. This term particularly covers large-scale industrial activities, deforestation, oil spills, the mixing of waste into waters, and activities that inflict irreversible damage to ecosystems in the long term. Currently, ecocide is not defined as an official crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC). The Rome Statute lists genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression as core crimes, and the idea of adding ecocide as the fifth core crime has increasingly gained support from both civil society organizations and states. Advocates of this view argue that considering the worsening climate change and the destruction of ecosystems, humanity and the Earth are evolving into a dire state, and therefore, a separate legal framework must be established.

Many civil society organizations, impartial legal experts, and countries heavily affected by climate change (mostly island nations) strongly argue that ecocide should be recognized as a crime. In particular, countries that have suffered severe harm from ecocide emphasize that global law is inadequate, and if this inadequacy continues, within a few decades their countries will become uninhabitable, as their main sources of livelihood -agriculture and tourism- will disappear due to climate change. By 2021, a group of impartial experts established the “Stop Ecocide Foundation” and proposed a preliminary definition of ecocide. This preliminary definition aimed to provide a legal basis for why ecocide should be recognized as the fifth core crime in the Rome Statute by the ICC and the ICJ. This proposal attracted the attention of both its supporters and opponents, sparking new global debates, and since international law must find a balance between these two sides, the process is being prolonged.

This agenda item invites member states to discuss the legal and political dimensions of prosecuting large-scale environmental destruction within the framework of international law. In particular, when a state or corporation engages in conduct that falls under the definition of ecocide, there is a very high possibility that other countries will also be negatively affected; therefore, the sovereignty rights of other states are undermined. Another aspect of this issue is

accountability. Whether or not state or corporate leaders should be held responsible for ecological damage (and if they should, to what extent) remains a matter of debate. As environmental crises deepen and no effective action is taken against them, ecological problems are becoming increasingly apparent, making it necessary to re-evaluate the role of international justice mechanisms.

3.2. Definitions

Ecocide: Ecocide refers to large-scale environmental destruction caused by deliberate actions or gross negligence of human activities. This destruction not only harms living beings but also severely damages nature, the climate, and even landforms. Oil spills, deforestation, nuclear accidents, and industrial waste are examples of this concept.

International Criminal Law: International Criminal Law is the branch of law that regulates the responsibility of individuals, groups, or states regarding the most serious crimes in the world. Genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the crime of aggression are evaluated within this scope. The purpose here is both to prevent impunity for individuals and states and to protect international peace and security.

Environmental Destruction: Environmental destruction refers to serious damage in ecosystems caused by human activities. Deforestation, water and air pollution, overconsumption of natural resources, and the destruction of habitats (in short, everything included under the concept of ecocide) are part of this. This destruction both reduces the chances of survival for living beings and causes economic losses for countries.

International Criminal Court (ICC): The International Criminal Court is a permanent international court established in 2002 with the Rome Statute. The ICC prosecutes individuals and states for the four main crimes listed in the Rome Statute. Therefore, only states that are parties to the Rome Statute can be prosecuted.

Sovereignty: Sovereignty represents the absolute and supreme authority a state holds over its own territory and its citizens. This right, which all independent states possess, prevents any intervention in their internal affairs. However, international crimes committed by states may restrict their sovereign rights.

Corporate Liability: Corporate liability means that companies can be held legally responsible for crimes committed by the people working within them. Environmental pollution, violations of labor rights, and environmental destruction are examples of this.

Widespread Damage: Widespread damage occurs when environmental destruction and degradation are not limited to a specific geography but also harm other regions and ecosystems. Such situations often result in international tensions. For example, after the Chernobyl nuclear power plant explosion in 1986, cancer cases increased in many regions.

Long-Term Damage: Long-term damage refers to environmental destruction that lasts for years and becomes permanent in ecosystems. Nuclear accidents, chemicals mixing into water and soil, or forest fires are examples of this.

Crime Against Humanity: Crimes against humanity are serious crimes committed against civilians on a widespread or systematic scale. Massacres, torture, forced migrations, and sexual exploitation are evaluated within this scope. Although these crimes are committed against individuals, they undermine international peace and security.

Environmental Justice: Environmental justice is a principle that advocates equal rights for all individuals in laws, provisions, or policies related to the environment. Its origin lies in the idea that poor and disadvantaged individuals are more affected by environmental destruction and that all people should have the right to live in a healthy environment.

3.3. Key Terminology

1. Genocide: Acts carried out with the intention of completely eliminating a certain nation, ethnicity, race, or religious group.

2. Rome Statutes: The law that established the ICC, defining its jurisdiction and the crimes under its scope.

3. War Crime: Acts that violate the conventions and laws applicable in armed conflicts.

4. Jurisdiction: The authority of courts to make and enforce rulings.

5. Climate Change: Permanent or long-term damage to ecosystems caused by human factors.

6. Crime of Aggression: Actions taken by a state's political or military authorities that violate the rules established by the United Nations.

7. Biodiversity Loss: The decrease in the number and variety of living beings as a result of species extinction or damage to ecosystems.

8. Transboundary Harm: A problem occurring within the borders of one state spreading into the territories of other states.

9. Corporate Accountability: The responsibility of companies to take ownership of the environmental and social impacts caused by their actions.

10. Treaty: An official and binding written agreement made by states or international organizations.

11. Legal Framework: A system created by specific issues or international agreements.

3.4. History of the Agenda Item

The concept of “ecocide” (the large-scale destruction of the environment) began to emerge alongside the globalization of the industrial revolution in the mid-20th century. The event that laid the foundation for the concept of ecocide was the environmental destruction caused by defoliants like Agent Orange used during the Vietnam War. However, an international legal framework to prosecute such acts had not been established at the time.

In the 1970s, Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme was the first to use the term “ecocide” at the international level in an attempt to raise awareness. Nevertheless, no concrete measures were taken regarding this concept during that period. In the 21st century, with the destruction of the Amazon rainforest, the melting of glaciers, and the loss of biodiversity, climate crises began to increase, and ecocide started to be considered an international crime.

By 2010, British lawyer Polly Higgins brought the ecocide concept back into focus by proposing that it be included in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC), alongside crimes such as genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the crime of aggression. This proposal gained significant international support and sparked movements of awareness, academic discussions, and legal initiatives.

A formal definition of ecocide was developed in 2021 by an impartial group of experts led by the "Stop Ecocide Foundation." "Unlawful or wanton acts committed with knowledge that there is a substantial likelihood of severe and either widespread or long-term damage to the environment" was the definition given. Strong support was given to this definition, especially from areas like Small Island Developing States (SIDS) that are directly impacted by climate change and global warming.

The shortcomings of the current legal systems are now increasingly obvious due to the rising frequency of incidents like oil spills, deforestation, and the contamination of clean water supplies. Environmental devastation may occasionally be regarded by international law as a war crime or a crime against humanity, but these applications are often restricted to times of conflict. Consequently, it is becoming more and more clear that ecocide ought to be classified as a separate international crime that is applicable during times of peace.

3.5. Past United Nations Actions

Although the United Nations has organized numerous summits, signed agreements, and made investments to protect the environment and nature, it has not officially recognized the concept of ecocide as an international crime. Since the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, the UN has been implementing and promoting sustainable and environmentally friendly practices. However, binding legal mechanisms to restrict environmental destruction remain weak.

One of the earliest programs to safeguard the environment and nature was the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), which was founded in 1972. The Rio Summit in 1992 came after this development. The approval of important papers like Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration was the most noteworthy feature of the Rio Summit. Sustainable practices and environmental initiatives were promoted by these documents.

The International Criminal Court's (ICC) Rome Statute was created by 1998. Article 8(2)(b)(iv) of the Rome Statute classifies “widespread, long-term and severe damage to the natural environment” perpetrated by armed conflict as a war crime. Nevertheless, environmental damage that takes place during times of peace is not covered by this clause.

In 2017, the International Law Commission (ILC) began examining the legal dimensions of environmental crimes. In 2021, the United Nations Human Rights Council recognized a sustainable environment as a human right. While this decision is not legally binding, it has elevated the importance of environmental issues within the international legal agenda.

The Paris Agreement (2015) encouraged countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their fight against climate change, indirectly providing legal support for environmental protection.

In 2022, the UN General Assembly adopted another resolution declaring a healthy environment a human right, further strengthening global awareness on the matter within legal frameworks.

Environmentally vulnerable countries, particularly Vanuatu and the Maldives, have called on the Assembly of States Parties to the ICC to recognize ecocide as an international crime. While these initiatives have not yet produced binding results, they have laid the groundwork for legal discussions and opened the door for intergovernmental negotiations.

In conclusion, although ecocide has not yet been officially defined as a crime by the UN, awareness in this field has increased, and debates have gained momentum through the efforts of various countries and civil society organizations. The UN continues to act as a facilitator in this process, providing platforms, supporting vulnerable states, and contributing to the development of international law in this direction.

3.6. Current Situation

Ecocide, in other words, the international recognition of environmental destruction in a wide area as a crime, has become an increasingly discussed issue in recent years. However, ecocide has still not been binding in any article in international law today. Ecocide, in other words, the international recognition of environmental destruction in a wide area as a crime, has become an increasingly discussed issue in recent years. However, ecocide has still not been binding in any article in international law today. For these reasons, it does not fall within the jurisdiction and decision area of the International Criminal Court. Because according to the Rome Statute, the ICC's jurisdiction has only been genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and crimes of aggression. For these reasons, ecocide committed by companies or states is not punished due to the legal and constitutional gap.

By 2021, independent experts gathered by the “Stop Ecocide Foundation” found an official definition for these reasons, ecocide committed by companies or states is not punished due to the legal and constitutional gap.

By 2021, independent experts gathered by the “Stop Ecocide Foundation” found an official definition for ecocide. This definition can be summarized as “unlawful actions that lead to serious, widespread or long-term environmental damage”. This definition has been supported by many states and non-governmental organizations and has played a role in creating a concrete basis for discussion in international law.

Together with this embodiment, small island states have become pioneers in the discussions that have been formed in international institutions and organizations. Vanuatu and the Maldives have been the leading countries in many studies on the international crime of ecocide. Together with this embodiment, small island states have become pioneers in the discussions that have been formed in international institutions and organizations. Vanuatu and the Maldives have been the leading countries in many studies on the international crime of ecocirculation. In these countries, ecocracy threatens not only the environment, but also the life of the local population, culture, labor sectors and even the existence of the state.

In Europe, France and Belgium have played a major role in recognizing ecocide as a crime in both national and international law. In Europe, France and Belgium have played a major role in recognizing ecocide as a crime in both national and international law. For example, France became one of the first countries to include ecocide in its domestic law by including it in its environmental laws, France and Belgium have played a major role in recognizing ecocide as a crime in both national and international law. For example, France became one of the first countries to include ecocide in its domestic law by including it in its environmental laws in 2021. Similarly, Belgium has drawn attention at the European level by discussing the inclusion of ecocide in its national laws. In line with this, the European Parliament has conducted extensive negotiations on stronger punishment for environmental damage.

Despite this situation, energy, mining, industrial companies and major economic powers have reduced and in some cases stopped their activities in these countries. Despite this situation,

energy, mining, industrial companies and major economic powers have reduced and in some cases stopped their activities in these countries. Since the recognition of ecocirculation as an international crime harms the economies and sovereign rights of states and large companies, these groups have started to lobby and put diplomatic pressure. Because of this, diplomatic processes are prolonged.

As a result, although many civil society organizations and states support the recognition of ecocide as a crime in international legal institutions and organizations, ecocide is still not binding in international law.s a result, although many civil society organizations and states support the recognition of ecocide as a crime in international legal institutions and organizations, ecocide is still not binding in international law. The issue is still the subject of intense discussions within the framework of the sovereign rights of states, the responsibilities of companies and the role of international justice systems in.

3.7. Major Parties Already In Place

French Republic

France became the first country in the European Union to include “ecocide” in its national legal system. In 2021, the French government introduced an “Ecocide Law,” which criminalizes severe and deliberate harm to the environment. Although the French law has been criticized by activists for being less ambitious than the international proposal, it still represents a groundbreaking step: ecocide became a legally recognized crime within a major EU country, setting a precedent for others.

Kingdom of Belgium

Belgium has been active both at the national and international level. In 2023, the Belgian Parliament passed legislation recognizing ecocide as a crime in its national criminal code. More importantly, Belgium also called for the recognition of ecocide within international law, particularly through the ICC. This dual approach (domestic and international) has made Belgium one of the most progressive countries on this issue in Europe.

Kingdom of Sweden

One of the main forces behind the movement to declare ecocide an international crime has been Sweden. The Swedish government formally declared in 2020 that it supported the inclusion of ecocide as a fifth core international crime under the International Criminal Court's (ICC) Rome Statute. The Independent Expert Panel's 2021 definition of ecocide was also drafted with input from Swedish lawmakers and legal specialists. Since Sweden was the first nation to openly support the concept on a global scale, its participation is particularly noteworthy.

Republic of Maldives

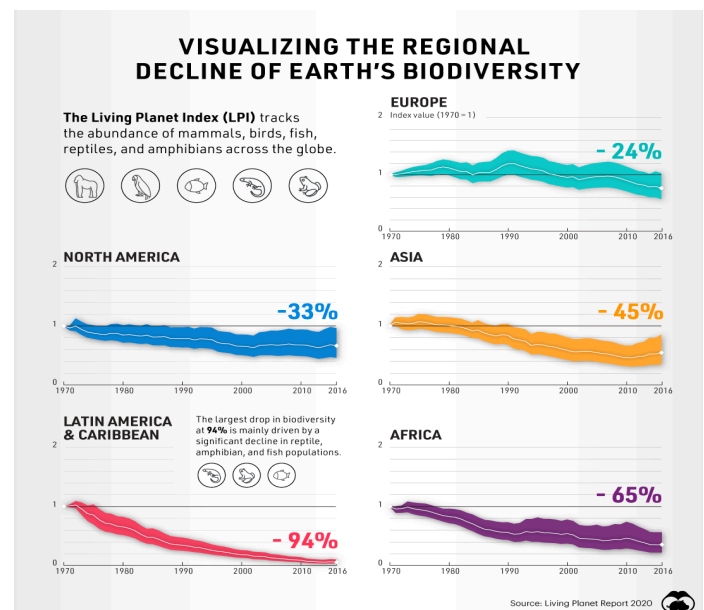
Similar to Vanuatu, the Maldives is among the small island countries that are most at risk from the impacts of climate change and has ardently supported the acknowledgment of ecocide. It has endeavored to enhance awareness in international platforms such as the United Nations, highlighting how rising sea levels and the destruction of ecosystems jeopardize the very survival of the nation.

Republic of Vanuatu

Among smaller nations, Vanuatu has assumed a disproportionately significant role. Since 2019, it has been one of the pioneering states to officially advocate for the recognition of ecocide as a new international crime under the Rome Statute. This position is particularly crucial considering that small island nations like Vanuatu are extremely susceptible to environmental degradation and climate change.

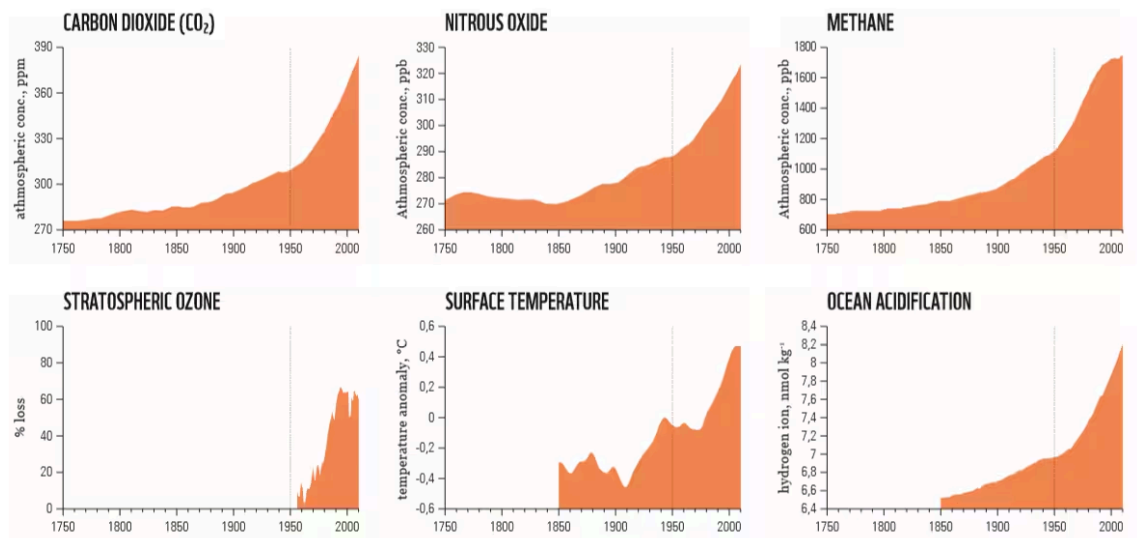
3.8 Global Data

Around the world, the impact of environmental destruction is becoming clearer every year, and the numbers show how serious the situation is. According to the United Nations, between 1970 and 2019, around 75% of the land surface of the Earth was significantly altered by human activity, including deforestation, mining, and urban expansion. The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) reports that global wildlife populations have declined by almost 70% since 1970, showing how ecosystems are collapsing under human pressure.



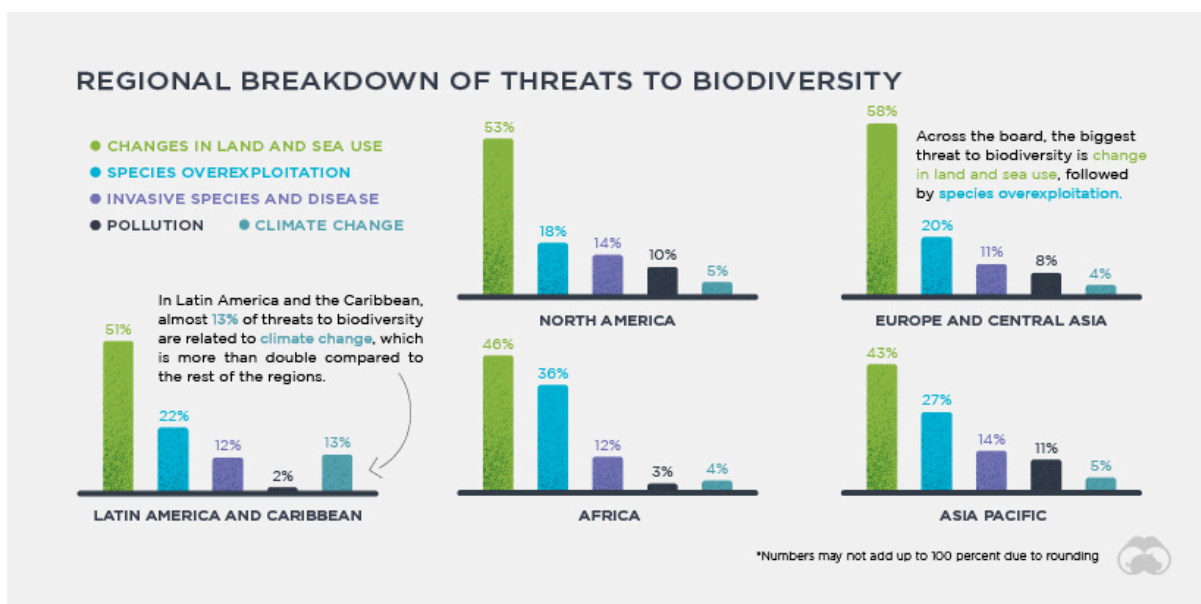
The number of disasters associated with climate change is likewise rising quickly. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) reports that during the past 50 years, the number of climate-related disasters has increased fivefold, resulting in nearly two million deaths and \$3.6 trillion in global economic losses. In 2022 alone, droughts in the Horn of Africa pushed entire regions to the brink of famine, and severe weather events like floods in Pakistan displaced millions of people. These examples show how human life and financial stability are impacted by environmental degradation in addition to the natural world.

EARTH SYSTEM TRENDS



One of the biggest issues is deforestation. The Amazon rainforest, sometimes known as the "lungs of the planet," has lost over 17% of its forest cover in the last 50 years. If deforestation reaches 20–25%, scientists say, the Amazon may reach a tipping point when it can no longer produce enough rainfall to sustain itself, turning large tracts of land into parched savannah. This would accelerate global warming by releasing massive amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

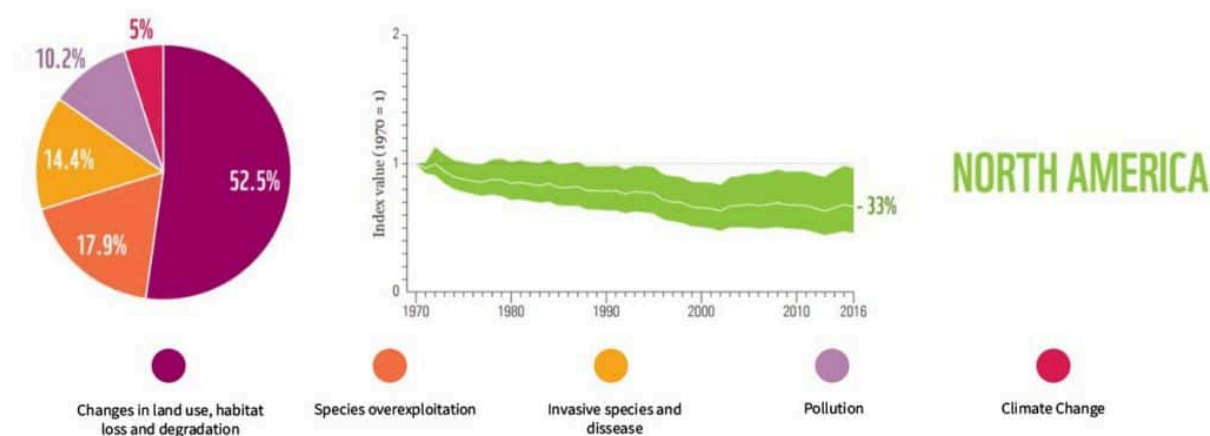
Another global problem is pollution. Every year, about 11 million tons of plastic debris endanger marine life and food chains by entering the oceans. Microplastics have now been found in human blood and lungs, proving that pollution has reached our bodies. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) estimates that if current trends continue, plastic pollution could quadruple by 2040.



Another worry is the decline in biodiversity. Currently, over 42,000 species are at risk of extinction, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Coral reefs, which support 25% of all marine life, are dying as a result of ocean warming and acidification. Scientists estimate that if global warming surpasses 2°C, 99 percent of coral reefs could disappear.

Finally, greenhouse gas emissions remain the main driver of climate change. The International Energy Agency (IEA) reported that global CO₂ emissions from energy reached 37.4 billion tons in 2023, one of the highest levels ever recorded. Even though renewable energy is growing, fossil fuels still make up around 80% of global energy consumption.

In summary, the global data highlights that environmental destruction is happening on a massive scale, with serious consequences for ecosystems, economies, and human life. Countries like Vanuatu and the Maldives are raising strong voices because they are already experiencing existential threats, while European countries like France and Belgium are pushing for stronger legal frameworks. These statistics show that ecocide is not an abstract concept but a real, measurable global crisis that requires urgent international legal action.



3.9. Possible Considerations for the Future

In the future, countries will face several key factors regarding the recognition and enforcement of ecocide as an international crime:

Establishing a Universal Definition of Ecocide

Although draft definitions exist today, a universally accepted definition of ecocide is still lacking. Countries will need to evaluate whether the definition should be broad or narrow to ensure legal certainty and effective environmental protection.

Integration into International Law

The inclusion of ecocide as the “fifth core crime” under the Rome Statute, which forms the basis of ICJ, ICC, and many UN member states’ laws, remains a topic for long-term discussion. If ecocide is added as the fifth core crime, states and certain UN bodies may be required to amend their constitutions. Therefore, this issue may not be feasible in the near future but could be possible in the long term.

State Sovereignty and Global Responsibilities

Many countries are concerned that ecocide laws may limit their use of natural resources, as natural resources remain the primary livelihood for most countries worldwide. In the future, the UN will need to implement these laws in a way that protects countries while not harming them.

Non-State Actors

Multinational corporations play a major role in environmental degradation. If the concept is not properly integrated into legal frameworks in the future, both these corporations, their tens of thousands of employees, and the countries involved may suffer economic losses.

Limited Capacities of Developing Countries

The countries most affected by ecocide are often small island states. These countries have limited economic and legal resources, making it difficult to implement new laws domestically. However, support from stronger states can help mitigate this issue.

Increasing Public and Political Awareness

The concept of ecocide is increasingly being taken seriously by both individuals and states. Growing protests, rights movements, and the declining revenues that states earn from natural resources have contributed to this rising awareness.

4. Questions to Further Asking

1. What kind of solutions need to be produced to stop or deter this situation in regions where organized environmental crimes (animal smuggling, release of waste materials into nature, intentional destruction of forests, etc.) are very common?
2. What should be done to prevent or eliminate the trade routes and methods used in organized environmental crimes?
3. How should international cooperation and intelligence transfer be increased to combat organized environmental crime?
4. How can common law mechanisms be provided internationally without restricting the sovereign rights of states?
5. What measures can be taken to reduce the economic and social effects of organized environmental crime on island countries and developing countries?

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