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Perspective

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Ecocide and its effects on environment

Xin Ceh*

Department of Ecology, Université de Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada.

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DESCRIPTION

The destruction of all ecosystems by humans has been called ecocide, or the destruction of the environment.

Ecocide refers to the process of environmental degradation, either in the form of nature or human activity.

A few tribes have included ecocide as a crime. Activities that may involve ecocide in these countries include harming or destroying natural resources or endangering the health and well-being of a particular species, including people.

The term literally means 'killing the environment', which is a violation of the principles of environmental justice. Proponents of its case have been working to make the actual transcript of this statement available online. Examples of these crimes include deep sea bottom fishing, oil spills, overfishing, deep ocean mines, deforestation, and land and water pollution.

However, ecocide is not yet a global crime as recognized by the United Nations (UN). It is not under the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court (ICC), established by the Rome Statute. The Rome Statute states that people can be prosecuted for only four crimes: genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and violent crimes.

The term Ecocide was coined in 1970 at the National Conference on War and Responsibility in Washington DC. Arthur Galston, a biologist, has proposed a new ecocide ban agreement as he sees the damage to the environment caused by Agent Orange, a herbicide used by US troops as part of a weed control program. In 1972, at the Stockholm Convention on Human Environment, Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme stated that the events leading up to the Vietnam War were acts of genocide. At the event, Palme and a member of the Indian National Congress and leader of the Chinese Delegation.

In 1973, Professor Richard Falk became one of the first to define the word ecocide and proposed the International Convention on the Crime of Ecocide. The UN Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities recommended that the word ecocide be added to the 1978 Genocide Convention.

In modern times, environmental activists, such as Greta Thunberg, have played a major role in making ecocide a global crime. For example, Thunberg has issued an open letter to European Union leaders urging them to treat climate change as a disaster and to support the establishment of ecocide as an international. The book has received a great deal of public support, including celebrities such as Leonardo DiCaprio and meteorologists such as Hans Joachim Schnellnhuber. The letter also received more than 3,000 signatories from 50 countries.

Additionally, Stop Ecocide International is a major contributor to the problem of making ecocide an international crime. Thousands of people, organizations, groups, nongovernmental organizations, and businesses have approved the campaign. World leaders such as Pope Francis and the President of France, Emmanuel Macron, also support the campaign. Pope Francis has proposed that the ecocide be made "a sin against nature" and added to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Criminalising ecocide means its victims will be able to receive reparations, helping to rebuild destroyed ecosystems and communities.

^{*}Corresponding author. Xin Ceh, E-mail: cotich@hotmail.ca.