

Environmental Law

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Manifesto!

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Conference of Youth

#COY11 - PARIS 2015

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# Environmental Law 1/2

## Position :

Environmental law as a tool to protect the environment.

We recognize that environmental law is a tool to protect the environment and biodiversity. It is an instrument to recognize people's well-being and to ensure that natural resources are used in a sustainable way. We consider that climate policies should consist of three interconnected pillars: mitigation, adaptation and loss and damages.

We believe that environmental law should be founded on reasonable scientific evidences that should be the basis of political decisions.

We are convinced that the international society should involve different cultures, races and genders in the development of new environmental decisions.

Our role in environmental law :

We believe that present generations have a moral obligation to "meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (Brundtland report, 1987).

We demand that the international society give youth a chance to be involved in the environmental decision-making process at the local, national and international level to achieve intergenerational equity.

## Recommendations and actions :

We urge our governments to implement their future pledges in accordance with international goals as defined in the climate environmental treaty, which we hope, will be agreed during COP21.

We require all parties to raise the legal authority of the international climate regime. We require the establishment of a World Climate Change Organization to efficiently regulate the actions of the parties to the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change).

We require that all the funds dedicated to climate projects are more efficiently monitored by independent institutions such as the UN.

## Environmental Law 2/2

We remind governments of their fundamental obligation to protect their citizens on their sovereign territory from any threats including climate change which is a long-term threat.

We require that governments implement a better legal framework for multinational companies to reduce their impact on the environment. It would be fair if companies mitigated and compensated their possible past negative effects on the environment. Thereby they would increase their reputation in the eyes of consumers and serve as supporters and initiators for local communities and governments to take climate change seriously in a bottom-up approach.

We expect more policy instruments and regulations from authorities to protect our environment in order to maintain it for future generations. The successful implementation of environmental law leading to environmental justice will only be achieved when everyone enjoys the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to the decision-making process, which will result in a healthy, sustainable and safe environment in which to live.

We recognize the role of environmental justice and support its application, which should involve all people regardless of race, color, national origin, gender or belief, working towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals. In order to make the decision-making process fair, we suggest that actors actively involve possible vulnerable groups in the decision-making process.

It is necessary to reach a consensus within the civil society and support their involvement at the international level to develop inclusive environmental law tools.

We believe it is the role of the State to support and to protect young entrepreneurs and their ideas in order to develop more efficient, competitive and environment-friendly technologies.

We consider that the decision-making bodies need to be more transparent and provide information accessible to everyone, which should be promoted in order to contribute to a better decision-making process.

We ask governments to provide incentives for a more environment-friendly economy. Furthermore, we expect that international trade agreements take into consideration their environmental impact by adding clauses on their climate impacts and by including preventive measures to protect the environment.