



THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PRINCIPLES OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW TO PROVIDE LEGAL EFFECTIVENESS TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

PRESENTATION OF THE BOOK: “PRINCIPIOS DE DERECHO AMBIENTAL Y AGENDA 2030”

25th of September, 2019

8:30am-noon

INTERCHURCH CENTER

475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE

NEW YORK CITY

The adoption of several international legal instruments, from the 1972 Stockholm Declaration to the 2015 Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda plus many environmental multilateral agreements, has made that the environmental protection progresses in the last decades. However, there is still much to be done to stop and revert the environmental degradation of our planet.

The UNGA Resolution 72/277 “*Towards a Global Pact for the Environment*”, 10th of May 2018, requested an *ad hoc* open-ended working group (OEWG) to assess the options contained in the report of the Secretary General on the most effective manner to address existing gaps in international environmental law and related instruments (report no. A/73/419, 30th of November 2018), so as to strengthen it and help achieve the sustainable development goals. The draft Global Pact for the Environment, under discussion at the UN, could help consolidate the principles of the Rio Declaration.

The OEWG acknowledges the importance of continuing the debates on the principles of environmental law and recommends the UNGA to take the opportunity of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of UNEP (Stockholm, 1972) to prepare a political declaration and to organize a UN high level event to strengthen the compliance with the international environmental law and governance.

Wherever there is clarity about the principles of environmental protection, the legal solutions to the specific environmental problems can be more effective. An agreement on a single “umbrella” text that gathered systematically the environmental principles that are commonly agreed upon would improve the applicability of environmental law. This would complete the system of the Covenants on civil and political rights, and economic, social and cultural rights that give binding legal force to the UN Declaration of Human Rights of 1948.

On 25th of September 2019, an event will take place to discuss on the importance of the principles of environmental law to reinforce its efficacy and to contribute to the sustainability of our planet. It will also be discussed whether the possibility of gathering these principles in an international agreement with ample consensus among countries would give binding legal force to the 2030 Agenda.

Program:

8:30-9:00 am	Credentials
9:00-9:30 am	Coffee
9:30-10:00 am	Introduction to the 2030 Agenda <i>Ms. Cristina Gallach. High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda, Government of Spain</i>
10:00-11:30 am	Panel of experts: The importance of the Principles of Environmental Law to give binding legal force to the 2030 Agenda. Presentation of the book titled: " <i>Principios de Derecho Ambiental y Agenda 2030</i> ", Tirant Lo Blanch, Valencia 2019 Presentation: Prof. Teresa Parejo <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mr. Carlos de Miguel- Moderator- Professor Nicholas Robinson- Ms. Emma Torres- Ms. María Antonia Tigre- Professor Borja Sánchez Barroso- Professor Xie Wei- Mr. Yann Aguila
11:30-noon	Closing remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Victor Tafur- Toni Oposa

Participants:

Dña. [Cristina Gallach](#), High Commissioner to the 2030 Agenda, Government of Spain.
D. [Carlos de Miguel](#), lawyer, partner at Uría & Menéndez (España), profesor at Pontificia de Comillas University, ICADE (Spain).
Professor [Nicholas Robinson](#), PACE University, Nueva York. Executive Governor of the International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL).
Dña. [Emma Torres](#), SDSN New York Office Director.
Dña. [María Antonia Tigre](#), SJD candidate PACE University, New York.
Professor Borja Sánchez Barroso, Pontificia de Comillas University, ICADE, Spain.
Professor [Xie Wei](#), Guangdong Finance & Economic University, China. Visiting Scholar at PACE University.
D. [Yann Aguila](#), President of the Environmental Commission, Le Club des Juristes, Paris, France.
Profesor [Victor Tafur](#), lawyer, Professor at PACE University, Associate Governor of ICEL.
[Antonio Oposa](#), lawyer, environmental activists, Phillippines.
Teresa Parejo, Carlos III de Madrid University, Spain, Associate Governor of ICEL, Director of ICEL's Secretariat, Madrid, SDSN Senior Advisor.

The event is free but registration is required with name, last name and affiliation, at:

teresa.parejo@unsdsn.org

Thank you and see you in September!