

ECOCIDE ALLIANCE

INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY ALLIANCE
FOR THE RECOGNITION OF ECOCIDE

ECOCIDE : The International Alliance of Parliamentarians for the recognition of ecocide commits to support and defend the international definition of ecocide in their countries and at international level

A panel of highly qualified experts, brought together by the Stop Ecocide Foundation and chaired by Philippe Sands and Dior Fall Sow, has just published an international definition of ecocide.

The Members of the [International Parliamentary Alliance for the recognition of ecocide](#) welcome this crucial work and commit to push, within their Parliaments and their States, for the recognition of ecocide under this definition of close national declinaisons, and to support the proposed amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

According to the Ecocide Alliance, “This is a crucial step for the international movement for the recognition of ecocide. As parliament members, it is now our duty to support this definition in our Parliaments. Several States, and the European Parliament, have already expressed their support for the recognition of ecocide in the Rome Statute. With this definition, we now have a shared understanding of what ecocide is, and we can all push in the same direction. We have no choice: we have to condemn those crimes that are committed in one place but put at risk the survival of the entire humanity and of many ecosystems. Only with this recognition will we be able to ensure a livable climate and planet. You can count on the Ecocide Alliance to make sure that this definition will be discussed in Parliaments all around the world.”

The definition by the expert panel :

Proposed definition of ECOCIDE

as a fifth crime under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

Independent Expert Panel for the Legal Definition of Ecocide

A. Addition of a preambular paragraph 2 bis

Concerned that the environment is daily threatened by severe destruction and deterioration, gravely endangering natural and human systems worldwide,

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B. Addition to Article 5(1)

(e) The crime of ecocide.

C. Addition of Article 8 ter

Article 8 ter **Ecocide**

1. *For the purpose of this Statute, “ecocide” means 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 being caused by those acts.*

2. *For the purpose of paragraph 1:*

a. *“Wanton” means with reckless disregard for damage which would be clearly excessive in relation to the social and economic benefits anticipated;*

b. *“Severe” means damage which involves very serious adverse changes, disruption or harm to any element of the environment, including grave impacts on human life or natural, cultural or economic resources;*

c. *“Widespread” means damage which extends beyond a limited geographic area, crosses state boundaries, or is suffered by an entire ecosystem or species or a large number of human beings;*

d. *“Long-term” means damage which is irreversible or which cannot be redressed through natural recovery within a reasonable period of time;*

e. *“Environment” means the earth, its biosphere, cryosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere, as well as outer space.*

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