



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF HUMAN RIGHTS LAW REVIEW

Volume 3 | Issue 4

Art. 9

2024

Importance of Association between Environmental Laws and Human Rights

Farhat Sultana and Sunil L Kalagi

Recommended Citation

Farhat Sultana and Sunil L Kalagi, *Importance of Association between Environmental Laws and Human Rights*, 3 IJHRLR 132-151 (2024).
Available at www.humanrightlawreview.in/archives/.

This Art. is brought to you for free and open access by the International Journal of Human Rights Law Review by an authorized Lex Assisto Media and Publications administrator. For more information, please contact info@humanrightlawreview.in.

Importance of Association between Environmental Laws and Human Rights

Farhat Sultana* and Sunil L Kalagi**

*Advocate, District Court, Kalaburgi, Karnataka

** Advocate and LLM Student at Kalinga University Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh

ABSTRACT

This study aims to observe the critical intersection between rules of law regulating Environment and Human beings, emphasizing how environmental degradation undermines fundamental human rights and well-being. It outlines the evolution of environmental law, highlighting its emergence in response to industrialization and environmental challenges, and discusses key international agreements that have shaped this legal framework. The article findings highlight that the deterioration of naturally available resources like water, land minerals and air, poses threatening health risks, particularly to the populations which are vulnerable, thus raising the importance of integration of human rights into environmental law. The article also examines some of the legal cases illustrating how human rights are violated when environment is harmed, such as access to clean air, water and cultural identity for Indigenous peoples. Furthermore, the article aims to evaluate the roles of Global organizations participation in enforcing environmental rights and also the need of national legal frameworks that incorporate human rights considerations into environmental impact assessments. It also addresses the challenges and limitations in implementing environmental laws, including enforcement issues and the need for greater accountability. The study advocates for recognizing the need for enforcing right to a healthy environment as integral to attaining human rights and sustainable development, urging an integrated approach that integrates both environmental laws and rights related to humans.

KEYWORDS

Environmental Law, Human Rights, Sustainable Development, United Nations

INTRODUCTION

Environmental Law objective is to safeguard and fortify the Environment by addressing the issues related to pollution, deforestation and

preservation of healthy life thereby availing the individual's quality of life.¹ It sets guidelines and regulations for human activities to achieve development sustainably which should be beneficial for both current and later generations. While environmental law primarily focuses on ecological concerns, it is increasingly being viewed from a human rights perspective.

Environmental Law emerged in response to the escalating environmental challenges faced by societies worldwide. As industrialization progressed, Environmental degradation became more evident leading to inimical effects on the health of human, livelihoods, and overall affecting welfare of humans. Recognizing the need to safeguard the environment, governments and international bodies started developing legal mechanisms to regulate human actions impacting nature.

The inter-link between these two laws arises from the recognition that environmental degradation undermines the fundamental rights of humans and welfare of people and communities. In India the right to a clean environment is encompassed by the Supreme Court's interpretation of the rights to life and personal liberty arising out of Article 21. The degradation of air, water, and soil quality can pose severe health risks, particularly to vulnerable populations. Additionally, environmental changes, such as deforestation and climate change, can disrupt ecosystems, and increased vulnerability to natural disasters.²

The integration of these two laws seeks to address these interconnected issues. By recognizing the deprivation of a clean environment sources and healthy environment, individuals are empowered with awareness to protect their well-being and preserve ecosystems. Moreover, these laws provide avenues for individuals and communities to set right to fix

¹ United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). (2021). Environmental Rule of Law: First Global Report. Retrieved from <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/environmental-rule-law-first-global-report>.

² United Nations Human Rights Council. (2018). Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council on 1 March 2018: Human rights and the environment. Retrieved from <https://undocs.org/A/HRC/37/L.8>.

environmental harm, ensuring access to justice and promoting accountability for environmental violations.

THE EVOLUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The Laws related to Environment has evolved notably over the years as the population has recognized the urgency of maintaining healthy environment and mitigating human impact on natural resources. Since ancient civilizations some societies implemented regulations to preserve forests and water sources. However, modern Laws related to Environment emerged during the 20th century largely due to concerns about industrialization, pollution, and the damages to natural resources.

The Earlier and past Development of Environmental Law gained momentum in the middle of the twentieth (20th) century with the emergence of Movements related to Environment and also Increasing awareness of Environmental Degradation. The Land of Liberty America country has a crucial role in this evolution of establishing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in 1970, which recommended mandatory impact assessments of environment for major projects. This paved the way for subsequent laws relating to 'Clean Air Act' and also the 'Clean Water Act'.³

Globally the United Nations Conference which was held in Stockholm in the year of 1972 marked a significant milestone for addressing issues related to the Human Environment. This conference made formation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) which made the members of the UN to abide for treaties and agreements.⁴ These International environmental conventions played a vital role in shaping environmental law globally. The 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) designed and formulated a framework for international

³ Carson, R. (1962). *Silent Spring*. Houghton Mifflin.

⁴ Sands, P. (2003). *Principles of International Environmental Law*. Cambridge University Press.

cooperation to fight against drastic climate change. Next the Immediate convention Kyoto protocol 1997 held in Japan set stricter emission laws for developed countries.

The European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) has been interpreted to include the right to a healthy environment. The United Nations Human Rights Council adopted the Resolution related to rights of the humans and the Environment in 2018, affirming the importance of a eco-friendly environment for the enjoyment of human rights.⁵

THE CONVERGENCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS: INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Human Rights and Environmental protection are two interconnected and mutually reinforcing fields. Human Rights addresses the issues of healthy living of all individuals and make liable for any deprivation of environmental sources.

The Right to a healthy environment is a core objective of the United Nations (UN) and also various International and regional Human Rights Instruments.⁶ They include such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.⁷ These Instruments are evident of association between Environmental Quality and the Enjoyment of Human Rights as shown in the following illustrative flowchart.

⁵ Shelton, D. (2011). *The Oxford Handbook of International Environmental Law*. Oxford University Press.

⁶ Martin-Ortega, O.; Dehbi, F.; Nelson, V.; Pillay, R. *Towards a Business, Human Rights and the Environment Framework*. *Sustainability* 2022, 14, 6596.

⁷ UNEP, <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/environmental-law/environmental-law-instruments>. United Nations Environment Programme. (n.d.). *Environmental Law Instruments*.



Figure 1: Inter-relationship between Environmental Laws and Human Rights

Environment related conferences and gatherings are held at international level and some of the key events or meetings are held to address issues related to Environment and achieve Sustainable development.⁸ In 1972 Stockholm Conference was held which highlighted the need for safeguarding Natural resources and Environmental policies. Later Brundtland Commission from 1984 to 1987 helped nations across globe to achieve sustainable development. In 1992 Rio Earth Summit (Agenda 21) placed important issues on sustainable development and provided new blue-print for international co-operation. Later Johannesburg Summit 2002 and Rio+ 20 or Earth Summit (2012) was held to achieve sustainable development for calling greener, safer and equitable pathways for Sustainable development.⁹

⁸ Universal Declaration of Human Rights. (1948). United Nations General Assembly. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>.

⁹ LR, Environmental Law Human Rights (Legal Vidhya) <https://legalvidhiya.com/environmental-law-human-rights-perspective/>

Numerous case studies emphasized the impact of Environmental degradation and its effect on Human Rights. For instance, the pollution of water sources by industrial activities can lead to the denial of the right to clean water for nearby communities, impacting their health and well-being. Deforestation can result in the displacement of Indigenous peoples from their ancestral lands, violating their right to property and cultural identity. Climate change-induced extreme weather events can lead to the loss of life, destruction of property, and displacement of communities, jeopardizing the livelihood and thereby hurting the principles of 'Right to Life'.¹⁰

The legal recognition of environmental rights as human rights has gained momentum for seeking remedies and imposing policies to adhere and achieve compassion development. Courts and tribunals worldwide are increasingly interpreting existing human rights provisions. They include the environmental concerns. For example, the Human Rights Inter-American Court has ruled in cases involving indigenous communities that damages to environment can violate the basic human rights like life, health, and cultural identity.¹¹

Many countries have enacted provisions for right to a healthy environment into their constitutions. These legislations are specific for protecting ecological systems and human rights. Ecuador's Constitution recognizes the right to live in a non-pollution habitat and grants individuals the right to avail legal redress to stop environmental harm. These legal developments highlight the evolving understanding of environmental rights as a fundamental aspect of human rights.¹²

¹⁰ International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. (1966). United Nations General Assembly. Retrieved from <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/ccpr.aspx>

¹¹ Shelton, D. (2011). Human rights and the environment: advancing the corpus juris. *Environmental Law Reporter*, 41(5), 10398-10409.

¹² Inter-American Court of Human Rights. (1999). Case of the Saramaka People v. Suriname. Retrieved from

International Environmental Law is a complex and evolving legal framework that seeks to address Environmental challenges on a global scale. It encompasses a wide range of treaties, conventions, protocols, and agreements to address transboundary environmental issues. This legal framework recognizes the link of the global environment and the need for collective action to preserve it for all generations.

In 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment was held in Stockholm. This conference made formation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). This paved the way for foundation of International Environmental law. UNEP has an important role in coordinating and promoting international efforts to address environmental issues. Since then, numerous international legal instruments have been developed to tackle specific environmental challenges.¹³

One of the main upright and support for International environmental law is the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which was formed in 1992. The object is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the eco-system thereby preventing harmful interference between human and climate system. It sets out general principles and commitments for countries to address climate change.¹⁴ It recommends differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. The UNFCCC establishes an annual Conference of the Parties (COP) to overview the agendas of the convention and negotiate additional measures for implementation. ¹⁵The Paris Agreement in 2015 was the notable outcome of these agreements, which fulfills the UNFCCC goals and sets more progressive goals for combating climate change.

https://www.corteidh.or.cr/docs/casos/articulos/seriec_172_ing.pdf

¹³ UNEP, <https://www.unep.org/> United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP),

¹⁴ UNDP, Helping countries reach their climate goals

https://climatepromise.undp.org/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIOK-u7KDL_wIVzAorCh1v6wivEAAYBCAAEgKQ3PD_BwE

¹⁵ UNEP, <https://www.unep.org/resources/making-peace-nature>, accessed June 9, 2023.

The Paris Agreement is one of the landmark International law relating to Environmental laws and its objective is to limit global warming below two (2) degrees Celsius. Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) from the respective countries should submit policies combating the pollutants for achieving the objective of Paris agreement.¹⁶

Other organizations, such as the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the International Maritime Organization (IMO), also contribute to the enforcement of environmental rights through their respective mandates.¹⁷

It's important that Regional bodies and judicial courts shall play an important part in enforcing environmental rights at the domestic and federal level. For example, the European Union has established the 'European Court of Justice',¹⁸ which has jurisdiction over environmental cases within the EU and the USA has the Inter-American Court of Human Rights for the Americans to recognize the right to a healthy environment as a fundamental human right.¹⁹

NATIONAL APPROACHES TO ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Environmental protection and the promotion of human rights are two crucial global concerns that are interconnected in various ways. National approaches to these two laws play a pivotal role in updating and adapting policies. These regulations aim to address environmental challenges while upholding human rights principles. There are three important aspects in

¹⁶ https://climateoutreach.org/loss-damage-young-people/?gclid=EAlaIqobChMI_4TFg571_wIVwkYrCh3sXgYoEAAYAyAAEgIPFvD_BwE
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), "The Paris Agreement," accessed June 9, 2023.

¹⁷ Environment and Health, WHO, <https://www.who.int/health-topics/environmental-health>

¹⁸ European Court of Justice, <https://www.icj-cij.org/court>.

¹⁹ Inter-American Court of Human Rights, <https://www.corteidh.or.cr/index.cfm?lang=en>.

this field: a comparative analysis of environmental laws in different countries, the appreciation of human rights in environmental impact assessments, and legal remedies for environmental harm that ensure access to justice for affected individuals.

Environmental laws vary across nations due to differences in legal systems, cultural values, and socio-economic conditions. A comparative analysis of these laws helps identify best practices and areas for improvement. For example, some countries may have comprehensive legislation that covers a wide range of environmental issues, while others may have fragmented laws focusing on specific aspects. By examining and learning from each other's approaches, countries can develop more effective environmental regulations.

International agreements and conventions provide a framework for global cooperation in environmental protection. However, it is the responsibility of individual nations to implement these agreements through their national laws. By comparing their legal frameworks, countries can identify gaps and adopt measures to strengthen their environmental protection efforts.

For instance, some countries may have strong legislation for the protection of endangered species and ecosystems but lack effective regulations to address air or water pollution. By studying the approaches of countries that have successfully addressed these issues, policymakers can strengthen their legal frameworks accordingly. Additionally, sharing experiences and best practices can foster international collaboration in addressing transboundary environmental challenges.

Environmental impact assessments (EIAs) are crucial tools in decision-making processes for projects with potential environmental implications. These assessments provide crucial insights of environmental and social effects of proposed projects, enabling decision-makers to make informed

choices. However, it is essential to consider human rights alongside environmental concerns during the EIA process.²⁰

Human rights considerations in EIAs involve assessing the potential impacts of a project on affected communities, including indigenous peoples, marginalized groups, and vulnerable populations. This includes evaluating the potential effects on their rights to life, health, clean water, food, and cultural heritage. By integrating human rights into the EIA process, policymakers can ensure that projects do not disproportionately harm vulnerable communities and uphold the principles of environmental justice.

By adopting a holistic approach that integrates environmental and human rights considerations into EIAs, countries can better protect their citizens and minimize adverse impacts on communities and individuals. Legal remedies for environmental harm are crucial in ensuring access to justice for affected individuals and communities. When Environmental damage occurs, those affected should have the means to seek redress and hold responsible parties accountable. Accessible and effective legal mechanisms empower individuals and communities to defend their rights and protect the environment.

Countries differ in the legal remedies available for environmental harm, ranging from administrative remedies to civil lawsuits and criminal prosecutions. Some countries have established specialized Environmental courts or tribunals to handle environmental disputes, while others incorporate Environmental concerns within existing judicial systems.

To ensure access to justice, it is important for legal frameworks to be transparent, inclusive, and easily accessible. This includes providing legal aid or assistance to marginalized communities who may lack the resources

²⁰ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): <https://unfccc.int/>.

to pursue legal action independently. Additionally, mechanisms such as public interest litigation allow non-governmental organizations and civil society groups to advocate on behalf of affected communities and address environmental violations.

CHALLENGES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW FROM A HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE

The Biggest Challenges in the implementation of laws related to Environment is the enforcement and compliance issues. Environmental laws are often complex and require robust mechanisms for enforcement. However, many countries struggle to effectively enforce these laws due to various factors.

Firstly, limited resources and capacity hinder the enforcement of environmental regulations. Many developing countries face financial and technological constraints, making it harder to observe and enable compliancy with environmental laws. Insufficient funding for environmental agencies, lack of personnel, and outdated technology further exacerbate the problem.

Secondly, corruption and lack of political will pose significant challenges. Environmental violations are often linked to powerful industries or individuals who may exert influence and engage in corrupt practices to evade legal consequences. This hinders the implementation of environmental laws and compromises the protection of human rights linked to a flourishing and full of life environment.

Thirdly, inadequate coordination and cooperation among different stakeholders impede effective enforcement. Environmental protection requires the collaboration of government agencies, NGOs, communities, and businesses. However, the lack of coordination and information-sharing among these entities hinders the enforcement process.

To address these enforcement and compliance issues, it is crucial to strengthen the capacity of environmental agencies through increased funding, training, and technological support. Additionally, promoting transparency, accountability, and good governance practices can help combat corruption and ensure the best execution of laws relating to eco system.

Maintaining equilibrium between environmental preservation and economic development is a fundamental problem when implementing environmental law from a human rights perspective. Economic development is necessary to raise living conditions and combat poverty, but it frequently comes at the expense of environmental deterioration, which can have bad effects on individual rights.

The task of developing policies that uphold human rights, preserve the environment, and advance sustainable development falls on governments. It takes careful consideration of the all three parameters of Sustainable development to strike a balance. But long-term environmental sustainability is sometimes overshadowed by conflicting interests and short-term financial rewards. Certain industries may advocate for lax environmental rules, which would result in diminished safeguards and adverse effects on human rights. However, governments should make sure that economic operations are in line with sustainable practices where the overall Happiness index of Human life should be improved as depicted in the following figure 2.

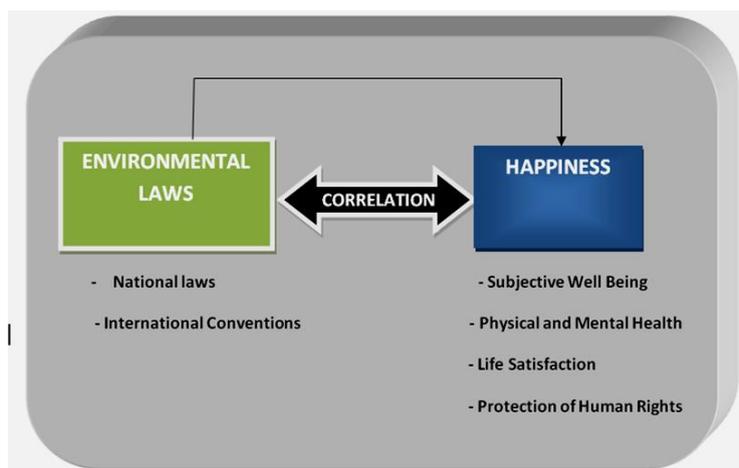


Figure 2: The relationship between Green Environment and Happiness

These effects disproportionately harm underprivileged communities, exacerbating existing social inequities. The enjoyment of cultural rights is also threatened by climate change, which jeopardizes the traditional lands of indigenous peoples and their capacity to carry out environmentally based cultural practices. At the national level, countries must establish and execute climate change policies that take human rights into account. This includes completing human rights impact assessments on climate policy, ensuring impacted communities' participation, and providing persons with access to remedies if their rights are infringed because of changes in weather.

STRENGTHENING THE LINK BETWEEN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Human rights violations and environmental deterioration are two interrelated worldwide issues that call for comprehensive solutions. An increasing focus has been placed on enhancing the affinity between these two factors, acknowledging the basic bond between the quality of life and a healthy environment. This approach acknowledges that protecting the environment is not only essential for the well-being of ecosystems but also for the preservation of human dignity and well-being. In this context welfare societies and other Organizations which are non-governmental

play a crucial role in promoting environmental justice and equity, while innovations in legal frameworks offer opportunities for more effective environmental protection.²¹

In order to close the gap between environmental law and human rights, civil society and NGOs are essential. These groups frequently take on the role of watchdogs, monitoring the environment and promoting human rights while also acting as advocates. Strategic litigation is one method that NGOs and civil society use to reinforce the connection between environmental legislation and human rights. These organizations can hold accountable anyone responsible for environmental harm—individuals, corporations, or even governments—by bringing legal action against them. In addition to trying to undo the harm that has been done, these legal efforts also hope to set precedents that will strengthen the link between environmental preservation and human rights. Additionally, NGOs and civil society run public awareness campaigns and inspire communities to support

One of the key Objectives of strengthening the link between Environmental Law and Human Rights is to promote environmental justice and equity as shown in the figure 3. Environmental justice recognizes that vulnerable and marginalized communities often bear the brunt of environmental degradation and its associated health and social impacts. These communities include indigenous peoples, low-income populations, and marginalized ethnic groups.

The strengthening of the link between Environmental Law and Human Rights also necessitates innovations in Legal frameworks for Environmental Protection.²² Traditional legal approaches, focused solely

²¹ *Juliana v. United States*, 947 F. 3d 1159.

²² Fernández-Llamazares Á, Garteizgogeoasca M, Basu N, Brondizio ES, Cabeza M, Martínez-Alier J, McElwee P, Reyes-García V. A State-of-the-Art Review of Indigenous Peoples and Environmental Pollution. *Integr Environ Assess Manag*. 2020 May;16(3):324-341. doi: 10.1002/ieam.4239. Epub 2020 Mar 4. PMID: 31863549; PMCID: PMC7187223.

on environmental conservation, are often insufficient to address the complex interplay between environmental issues and Human Rights Violations.²³ One innovative approach is the recognition of the right to a healthy environment within national constitutions and international legal instruments as shown in the following figure 3.

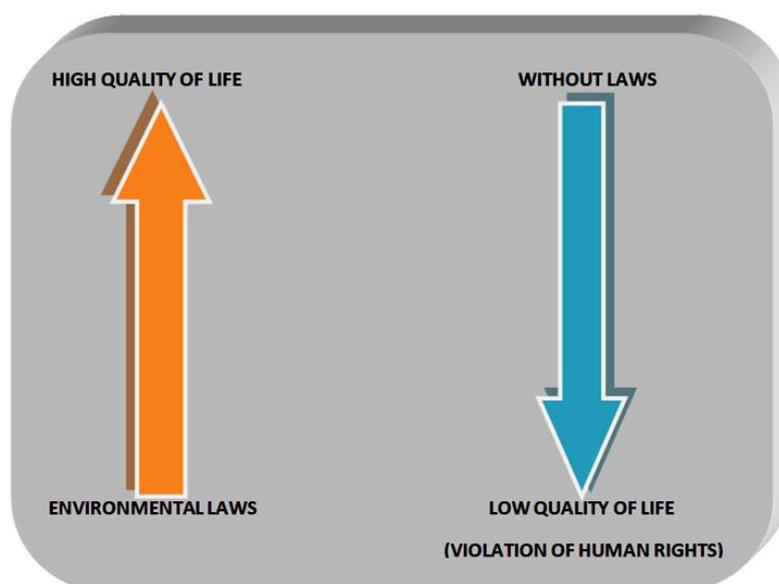


Figure 3: Association of Quality of Life and Environmental Laws.

Legal systems offer a strong basis for the inclusion of environmental issues in the formulation of policies and decision-making procedures by clearly recognizing these rights. The realization of the right to a healthy environment gives people and communities the ability to hold businesses and governments responsible for any activities that may have a detrimental effect on the environment or the health of the public.

As a result, it guarantees that environmental laws effectively safeguard both the environment and human rights by granting access to justice. Legal assistance programs, specialist environmental courts, and alternative dispute resolution procedures are examples of innovations that

²³ Social Dimensions of Climate Change, (World Bank)
<https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/social-dimensions-of-climate-change>

can improve access to justice and offer prompt and efficient remedies for environmental complaints.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) adopted the Aarhus Convention, which promotes environmental justice and data access to people thereby involving in decision making. These procedures ensure that impacted individuals and communities have an effective way to seek restitution for environmental damage and human rights violations.

On July 28, 2022 the UN General Assembly (UNGA) pledged that every human being on the earth has a right to a clean and quality environment.²⁴ Many stakeholders are adhered to step up efforts to guarantee a healthy environment for everybody. It is based on a almost same agreement that the Human Rights Council endorsed in 2021.

LANDMARK JUDGMENTS

In order to address the urgent problem of environmental protection, environmental legislation has experienced substantial change over time. Courts are beginning to handle environmental issues from a human rights perspective as the connection between the environment and human rights is more recognized. Globally significant decisions have made it easier to recognize and uphold these two important laws and rights. The following list of significant decisions has highlighted the importance of inter relation of these laws.

The Apex Court of India affirmed in 2010 the close relationship between the right to life, guaranteed by Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, and environmental conservation. The court held that the right to a clean and healthy environment is a fundamental component of the right to life. Also many cases involving *M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India* gave judgements

²⁴ United Nations Development Programme <https://www.undp.org/blog/historic-un-resolution-recognizes-healthy-environment-human-right>

towards protecting Environment and thereby securing Human Rights.²⁵

In the 2011 case of *Álvarez Máynez v. Mexico*, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights rendered a noteworthy decision, reaffirming the human right to water.²⁶ The court ordered the state to protect water sources from pollution and to guarantee that people have avenues to pure water. This ruling emphasized the need to preserve this essential resource for all generations by highlighting the critical link between water, health, and human dignity.

In the 2019 case of *Urgenda Foundation v. The Netherlands* case, the Dutch Supreme Court decided that the local government is legally required to lower greenhouse gas emissions in order to protect its residents from the negative impacts of climate change.²⁷ The court came to the conclusion that the state's failure to sufficiently address climate change violated people's rights to life, privacy, and family life. It applied the Human Rights and tort law principles enacted in the European Convention.

In a landmark decision in the 2020 case of *Ogoniland v. Shell*, the High Court of England and Wales found that the Ogoni people's rights were infringed and that the actions of Shell Petroleum Company in Nigeria caused serious environmental damage.²⁸

These important decisions shed light on how environmental rights are becoming more widely acknowledged as essential human rights. Globally, courts are increasingly viewing environmental challenges through the prism of human rights, emphasizing how important environmental

²⁵ MC Mehta v. Union of India 1996 SCC (4) 75

²⁶ CAMBRIDGE PRESS Celorio RM. The Inter-American Court of Human Rights: Case of González (“Cotton Field”) v. Mexico. *International Legal Materials*. 2010;49(3):637-761. doi:10.5305/intelegamate.49.3.0637

²⁷ Climate Change Litigation Databases, <https://climatecasechart.com/non-us-case/urgenda-foundation-v-kingdom-of-the-netherlands/>

²⁸ Sandra Laville, Shell faces UK supreme court case over Niger delta pollution (*The Guardian*) <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/jun/23/shell-faces-uk-supreme-court-case-over-niger-delta-pollution>.

conservation is to the dignity and welfare of both the present and future generations.

Hence, these judgments and pronouncements have laid the groundwork for the development of environmental laws that incorporate human rights concepts, establishing a standard for upcoming court cases and spurring changes in international policy.

CONCLUSION

For sustainable development, it is imperative to recognize and strengthen the interactions between environmental law and human rights. To achieve 'Sustainable Development' and protect the environment as well as fundamental rights, it is imperative to acknowledge and uphold the interdependence of environmental law and human rights. With critical global issues like pollution, deforestation, and climate change, the intricate relationship between these two domains is becoming more and more apparent.

Enforcing environmental rights and guaranteeing adherence to international environmental law are critical functions of international organizations. These groups provide forums for international collaboration, coordination, and capacity-building. They aid in the application of environmental laws and regulations. It also allow the sharing of good practices and knowledge, and present technological help. In order to comply with these international treaties, national policies and legislation at the national level should provide tools such as "Environment Impact Assessment" which should be adhered before the project approval.

By incorporating a human rights viewpoint into environmental law, we can guarantee the protection of people's rights and minimizing environmental degradation. Vulnerable groups are disproportionately affected by environmental dangers, which exacerbate social inequality and violate fundamental human rights. By identifying these interrelated challenges,

we may address the underlying causes of environmental difficulties and work toward comprehensive solutions.

It is impossible to accomplish "sustainable development" without protecting human rights and the environment. The promotion of justice, equality, and dignity for all people depends on the integration of environmental law and human rights in addition to the preservation of our world. It is a call to action for everyone to acknowledge the unbreakable connection between environmental sustainability and the enjoyment of human rights, including legislators, attorneys, members of civil society, and everyday people. Let's work together to create a more equitable and sustainable future for future generations.