

• STOP ECOCIDE FOUNDATION •

invites you to a

PRESS CONFERENCE - SAVE THE DATE

26th October 2022 - 09h00 CEST - **online**

[\[zoom meeting link\]](#)

[Deutsch](#) / [Español](#) / [Français](#) / [Nederlands](#) / [Português](#) / [Italiano](#)

Call for recognition of “ecocide” in revised EU environmental crime directive: 100s of organisations back position paper

Jojo Mehta	Chair, Stop Ecocide Foundation
Marie Toussaint MEP	Greens/EFA, Founder, EcocideAlliance.org
Sirpa Pietikäinen MEP	European People's Party, Rapporteur for the ENVI Committee
Patrizia Heidegger	Director for Global Policies & Sustainability, EEB

Will the EU take the opportunity to criminalise the worst harms to ecosystems - “ecocide” - a key root cause of climate and ecological breakdown? Over 200 organisations have endorsed a [position paper](#) calling for inclusion of a crime of ecocide in the revised EU *Directive on protection of the environment through criminal law*.

The paper, submitted to EU agencies by the [Stop Ecocide Foundation](#), proposes inclusion of a standalone article in the Directive setting out an offence of **ecocide** to cover “severe and either widespread or long-term damage to the environment”. If adopted into the revised directive, this could enable member states to prosecute the worst environmental harms which are not specifically addressed as serious crimes in any EU member state at present.

The EU’s economic and social committee [has endorsed the move](#) and other committees may do so too.

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