

## Current Ecocide Laws

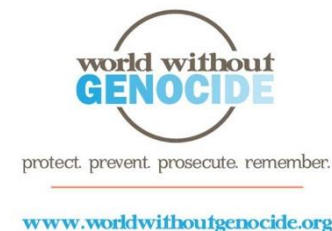
Country	Year	Punishment
<b>Belgium</b> <a href="#">Crim. Code, art. 96</a>	2024	Individuals: imprisonment up to 20 years; corporations: fines up to €1.6m
<b>European Parliament</b> <a href="#">Env. Crime Directive</a>	2023	Member states: 2 yrs. to align domestic legislation with new directive
<b>Chile</b> <a href="#">Law 21.595</a>	2023	Imprisonment up to 10 yrs.
<b>France</b> <a href="#">Climate &amp; Resilience Act</a>	2021	Imprisonment up to 10 yrs.
<b>Ecuador*</b> <a href="#">Penal code, art. 245</a>	2014	Legal entities: fines; precautionary measures to protect env., incl. sanctions or instruction to fix damages
<b>Armenia</b> <a href="#">Crim. Code, art. 394</a>	2003	Imprisonment, 10 - 15 yrs.
<b>Republic of Moldova</b> <a href="#">Penal Code, art. 136</a>	2002	Imprisonment, 10 - 15 yrs.
<b>Ukraine</b> <a href="#">Crim. Code, art. 441</a>	2001	Imprisonment, 8 - 15 yrs.
<b>Georgia</b> <a href="#">Crim. Code, art. 409</a>	1999	Imprisonment, 12 - 20 to yrs.; during armed conflict: imprisonment, 14 - 20 yrs. or life
<b>Belarus</b> <a href="#">Crim. Code, art. 131</a>	1999	Imprisonment, 10 - 15 yrs.
<b>Tajikistan</b> Crim. Code, art. 400	1998	Imprisonment, 15 - 20 yrs.
<b>Kazakhstan</b> <a href="#">Penal Code, art. 161</a>	1997	Imprisonment, 10 - 15 yrs.
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>	1997	Deprivation of liberty, 12 - 20 yrs.
<b>Russia</b> <a href="#">Crim. Code, art. 358</a>	1996	Deprivation of liberty, 12 - 20 yrs.

\*In 2008, Ecuador approved a new [constitution](#) which includes 'Rights of Nature' in the preamble. The preamble "celebrates" Pachamama, the Andean Indigenous concept of nature, and aims to build "a new form of public coexistence, in diversity and in harmony with nature, to achieve the good way of living, the sumak kawsay."

## Proposed Ecocide Laws\*

Country	Year
<b>Brazil</b> Constitutional amendment	2024
<b>Brazil</b> Bill no 2933/2023	2023
<b>Italy</b>	2023
<b>Mexico</b> New article to penal code	2023
<b>The Netherlands</b>	2023
<b>Scotland</b>	2023
<b>United Kingdom</b> "Ecocide Bill"	2023

\*These bills are pending as of September 2024.



## Unsuccessful Ecocide Laws

Country	Year
<b>France</b> <a href="#">Constitutional amendment</a>	Rejected 2021
<b>Vietnam</b> <a href="#">Criminal Code, art. 342</a>	Passed 2000. Overturned 2015
Penal Code of 1990, art. 278	Passed 1990. Overturned 2015
<b>Uzbekistan</b> <a href="#">Criminal Code, Sec. 4, arts. 196, 198</a>	Passed 1994. Overturned 2003

[Eco Jurisprudence Monitor](#) tracks advancements in ecological jurisprudence by country.

Updates are [here](#).

[Ecocide Law](#) tracks country-specific efforts to codify ecocide.

## Selected Legal Developments Related to the Environment

Country	Year	Entity	Status	Issue	Resolution
USA, OR <a href="#">link</a>	2024	Oregon Federal Ct.	Pending	County sued fossil fuel companies liable for climate change damages	N/A - in process
Colombia <a href="#">link</a>	2024	Congress of Colombia	Law passed	Rights of rivers	The Rancheria River has been granted legal rights
Ecuador <a href="#">link</a>	2024	Quito ct.	Completed	Indigenous group sued Municipality of Quito for breaching rights of Machángara River, failure to treat wastewater	The Machángara River is subject of legal rights because it is alive
India <a href="#">link</a>	2024	India Supreme Ct.	Completed	Plaintiff sued state for interfering with purchase of a protected forest	Court ruled in favor of protecting a forest
Azerbaijan <a href="#">link</a>	2023	Bern Conv. Arbitration	Pending	Azerbaijan sued Armenia for environmental destruction during occupation of Nagorno-Karabakh	N/A - in process
USA, HI <a href="#">link</a>	2022	First Circuit	Settled	Youths sued Hawaii for fossil fuels violating constitutional right “to a clean and healthful environment”	State to decarbonize transportation system by 2044
The Netherlands <a href="#">link</a>	2021	District Ct., The Hague	In appeal	Lawsuit against Shell for violating climate protections	On appeal, court ruled in favor of Shell
USA, MN <a href="#">link</a>	2020	Minnesota State Ct.	In process	State of MN alleges fossil fuel companies defrauded and deceived Minnesotans about role in climate change	SCOTUS ruled in 2024 that lawsuit can proceed in state ct.
USA, HI <a href="#">link</a>	2020	Hawaii Supreme Ct.	In process	City and County of Honolulu allege Sunoco caused impacts associated with climate change	Remand order issued; referred to Hawaii Supreme Court; may go to SCOTUS
USA, MT <a href="#">link</a>	2020	Trial Ct.; Montana Supreme Ct.	Completed	Youths sued Montana, claiming fossil fuel industry affects climate crisis, therefore harming their lives	Youths won; Montana Supreme Court upheld decision
Chile <a href="#">link</a>	2019	Citizen's tribunal	Completed	5 cases regarding lithium mining, water issues, and fracking	Citizen’s tribunal has no enforcement authority
USA, MA <a href="#">link</a>	2019	Suffolk Superior Ct.	In process	MA AG sued Exxon for violating consumer protection laws	Suit pending
Ecuador <a href="#">link</a>	2018	Constitutional Ct.	Completed after 25 yrs.	30,000 individuals sued Chevron for toxic oil waste	Chevron to pay \$9.5B to repair social/environmental damage
Germany <a href="#">link</a>	2015	Regional Ct., Germany	Dismissed	Peruvian farmer sued German electricity provider for failure to protect from flooding	Plaintiff will re-file suit