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CRIMINAL LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ECOCIDE: NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION

The article is devoted to the study of the peculiarities of the origin of the problem of protecting individual natural objects and animals both during and in Kievan Rus' and in subsequent centuries (XI – IX centuries). It is noted that in modern legal doctrine the term ecocide (from the Greek "olkoc" – house and Latin "caedo" – I kill) means the destruction of a house, dwelling, animal or plant life, poisoning of the atmosphere or water resources, as well as the commission of other actions that can cause an ecological disaster. It is stated that in international law the definition of ecocide includes facts of a negative targeted impact on the natural environment (biosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere and the Earth's atmosphere) in order to change its dynamics, composition or structure, impact on (or through) outer space, which can lead or has led to the mass destruction of the filling of the Earth's spheres, or other serious consequences, including during hostilities. The concepts of "ecocide" and "biocide" are distinguished. The authors draw attention to the signs of ecocide and the corresponding actions that contribute to it, dividing them into certain criteria. The criminal actions of the Russian Federation regarding ecocide are analyzed, starting from 2014 to the present. A criminal-legal characteristic of Art. 441 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine is given. A conclusion is drawn on the need for criminal liability for ecocide offenses and its implementation in international legal documents, otherwise it will significantly affect the fundamental basis of a healthy future human existence – the environment.

Keywords: history emergence and formation of the concepts of ecocide, biocide, criminal law characteristics, international agreements, UN conventions.

The purpose of the article is to study the features of the formation of criminal liability for ecocide. in the national and international dimension.

Problem statement. The study of the criminal offense of ecocide shows that this issue has been dealt with since ancient times. Thus, the first mentions date back to the 10th century, back to the times of Kyivan Rus, when measures to protect individual natural objects and animals began to be implemented. From the end of the 11th – beginning of the 12th century, the acts of the "Charter" and the first collections of legislative acts "Ruska Pravda", "Pravda Yaroslavychiv", "Rozshyrena Russka Pravda" and others were published [1]. Their analysis gives grounds to emphasize that from this time on, the princes' industrial lands began to be consolidated, the animal world was protected – "menageries and hunting grounds, game". In this case, we can speak (with some convention) about crimes in the field of environmental protection (ecocide). These are the first regulatory acts of legal protection of the animal world, natural and water objects and property of the princes (Oleg, Olga).

In the modern sense (XX–XXI centuries) the term ecocide (from the Greek "olkoc" – house and Latin "caedo" – I kill) means the destruction of a house, dwelling, animal or plant life, poisoning of the atmosphere or water resources, as well as the commission of other actions that can cause an ecological disaster that will irreversibly affect human health. Therefore, criminal liability for ecocide in both the international and national dimensions is of great importance.

Analysis of recent research and publications. In world practice, the term "ecocide" began to be actively used in the 70s of the 20th century after it was used, with certain features, in his speech by the American biologist Arthur Holston at the Conference on War and National Responsibility, held in Washington, DC, USA. Later, it was used by the Prime Minister of Sweden Olof Palme at the UN Conference on the Environment in Stockholm. Since then, the scientific community of the world has begun to more thoroughly study this term, objects of influence, consequences, methodology for determining the subject's commission and criminal-legal characteristics of crimes related to ecocide. In 1973, Richard A. Falk, Professor Emeritus of International Law at Princeton University, proposed a draft Convention on Ecocide. The preamble to this Convention states "that a person, knowingly or unknowingly, causes irreparable harm to the environment both in peacetime and in wartime" [2]. In modern domestic science, the works of Ya. Zhukorska, L. Dranchuk, R. Veresha V., O. Kuchynska, O. Kovtun, M. Yours truly and others.

Presentation of the main material. In international law, the definition of ecocide includes facts of negative targeted impact on the natural environment (biosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere of the Earth) with the aim of changing its dynamics, composition or structure, impact on (or through) outer space, which can lead or has led to the mass destruction of the filling of the Earth's spheres or other serious consequences, including during hostilities. The use of chemical weapons, which has led to a massive negative impact on nature, can also be qualified as an environmental offense. If there is no such impact, then in international law such actions are qualified as military, not environmental.

In order to prevent and counteract negative impacts on the environment, the world community concludes international agreements on its protection. They are a systemic mechanism

for cooperation between states and international organizations to prevent harm to nature and the safe existence of man and society. These include, in particular, the World Charter for Nature 1982, the Rio de Janeiro Declaration on Environment and Development 1992, and the Aarhus Convention 1998, which provide for public participation in decision-making and access to justice on issues related to the environment and ecocide.

According to scientific data, a particularly severe form of ecocide is military ecocide – the disruption of ecosystems in the human habitat as a result of hostilities that have a military and political goal. For example, it can be noted that during the Gulf War, the government forces of Iraq 1 200 oil wells, a number of oil depots and tankers were deliberately blown up. Combustion products entered the atmosphere, soil and the World Ocean. All this together caused environmental pollution and affected the health and safety of people [3; 4].

However, ecocide should be distinguished from biocide [5]. Biocide is the deliberate mass destruction of people and other living beings, wildlife, living organisms and the biosphere using weapons of mass destruction. The purpose of such actions is to achieve military superiority over the enemy and victory in an armed conflict. It is not directed against the environment, but directly against people and is carried out using weapons of mass destruction [6, p. 153].

Considering the above, I can agree with the opinion. IBO "Ecology-Law-Human" that ecocide can be qualified according to the following criteria:

Criterion 1. When committing an act, the entire population(s) of at least one endemic species of biota that existed within the phytoclimatic zone or subzone or altitudinal zone within the state completely disappears, or less than 10 % of individuals remain, which is insufficient for its(their) natural recovery, and annual monitoring does not confirm their recovery.

Criterion 2. When committing an act, unique biota groups (associations) that existed within the phytoclimatic zone or subzone or altitudinal belt within the state completely disappear, or no more than 10 % of their distribution area remains and annual monitoring of the species composition of existing cenopopulations does not confirm the restoration of the destroyed groups.

Criterion 3. When committing an act, unique biotopes that existed within the phytoclimatic zone or subzone or altitudinal belt within the state completely disappear, or no more than 10 % of their area remains and annual monitoring of the components of the destroyed biotope does not confirm its restoration.

Criterion 4. When committing the act, valuable biotopes included in the UNESCO World Natural Heritage or in Resolution 4 of the Bern Convention were destroyed or structural elements were destroyed over a large part of their area and annual monitoring of the destroyed biotope components does not confirm their restoration to their original state.

Criterion 5. The act results in the destruction of biotopes from which more than half of the country's population will not receive direct or indirect ecological services.

Criterion 6. The act results in contamination with radionuclides or destruction of a certain landscape, which has caused significant environmental and socio-economic damage and caused the displacement of more than half of the population of the area.

Criterion 7. When committing an act, there is a change in the characteristics of the environment, which can cause negative environmental consequences and cataclysms of a destructive nature” [7].

Some of the above criteria are also observed in modern Ukraine. Thus, after the full-scale military invasion of the Russian Federation against sovereign and independent Ukraine on February 24, 2022, on the grounds of ecocide, according to the data of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine, the following consequences were caused: 182,800 m² of soil were contaminated with harmful substances; 23,286 hectares of forest were burned by Russian shells and missiles; more than 6,000,000 farm animals died due to Russian aggression; about 50,000 dolphins died in the Black and Azov Seas; about 500 water treatment facilities were destroyed or damaged. And the commission of such a terrorist act of ecocide as the explosion of the Kakhovka HPP (June 6, 2023) caused the death of all animals in the "Kazkova Dibrova" zoo in Nova Kakhovka.

The first precedent of criminal prosecution for the crime of ecocide committed during the war was the criminal proceedings conducted by the Investigation Department of the Security Service of Ukraine in the Kharkiv region, under the procedural leadership of the Specialized Environmental Prosecutor's Office of the Kharkiv Regional Prosecutor's Office. According to it, on February 13, 2024, suspicion was reported to the commander of the Western Military District of the Russian Federation, Colonel General Zhuravlev O. O., who led the destruction of the Institute, the commander of the 6th Army of the Air Force and Air Defense, Major General Makovetsky O. V., the commander of the 6th General-Military Army, Lieutenant General Yershov V. M., the commander of the 45th High-Power Artillery Brigade, Colonel Pilyukov P. G. and the commander of the 79th Guards Rocket Artillery Novozybkiv Brigade, Colonel Gerashchenko E. Yu., for committing intentional actions with the aim of changing the boundaries of the territory and state border of Ukraine in violation of the order established by the Constitution of Ukraine, which led to grave consequences, in waging an aggressive war, in violation of the laws and customs of war and in committing actions that may cause an ecological catastrophe - ecocide, on the grounds of committing crimes provided for in Part 2 of Article 28, Part 2 of Article 437, Part 1 of Article 438, Article 441, Part 3 of Article 110 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

The criminal proceedings show that within six months – from the beginning of March to mid-September 2022 – The National Science Center “Kharkiv Institute of Physics and Technology”, including the nuclear subcritical facility “Neutron Source” and the nuclear materials storage facility, were subjected to 74 attacks by Russian troops.

The attacks were not random – it was a pre-planned operation with the development of a detailed plan for the fire destruction of the city of Kharkiv, including a civilian facility and a critical infrastructure facility – the nuclear subcritical installation "Neutron Source" and a nuclear materials storage facility, which operate on the basis of the Kharkiv Institute of Physics and Technology and are under special protection of both national and international humanitarian legislation.

The expert examination established that the destruction of the building where the installation was located could have led to damage or destruction of the elements of the core,

the release of radioactive particles into the air and caused an environmental disaster. In the worst case scenarios pollution as a result of such an emission, it could spread within a radius of 10 kilometers [8].

Also, during Russia's military operations against Ukraine in 2014–2015, pro-Russian terrorists targeted the Avdiivka Coke Plant (Donetsk region). This resulted in the destroyed infrastructure of the plant posing a significant threat to the release of hazardous chemical compounds into the environment. According to international law, such acts fall under the category of “military ecocide” [2; 9; 10].

As for the registered criminal offenses under Article 441 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, according to official statistics for 2013–2019, their number increased starting from 2016. Thus, in 2013 – registered – 0 PLN; 2014 – 0 PLN; 2015 – 0 PLN; 2016 – 1 PLN; 2017 – 3 PLN; 2018 – 2 PLN; 2019 – 8 PLN [11, p. 158].

According to the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, as of October 2023, more than 265 war crimes against the environment and 14 cases of ecocide have been recorded [12].

It should also be noted that there are different points of view of scientists on the events that occurred during this period of time [13]. In particular, ecologists are more inclined to consider the undermining of the Kakhovka hydroelectric power station as ecocide, while legal scholars emphasize the ambiguity of such a qualification, since this situation can be qualified as a war crime “Violation of the laws and customs of war” (Article 438 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine), or under the combination of articles “Ecocide” (Article 441 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine) and the article “Violation of the laws and customs of war” (Article 438 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine). The illegal activities of a sugar factory located in the village of Tyotkino, Russian Federation, regarding the discharge, in mid-August 2024, of organic substances into the Seim River, which flows into the Desna River (Ukraine), also require legal qualification. This led to the death of about 40 tons of fish, and the polluted water stretched for two and a half hundred kilometers in Sumy and Chernihiv regions. As a result, it was forbidden to fish, swim, and water livestock. According to ecologists, the environmental damage is estimated at half a billion hryvnias [14]. This indicates the need for further research on this issue.

It should be emphasized that the Russian Federation is violating fundamental principles of international law, the procedure for the settlement of international conflicts and the prohibition of the use of force and respect for state sovereignty. The actions of the Russian Federation cause damage to the natural environment and, therefore, fall under the ENMOD Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Means of Environmental Impact of 1977 [15] and Additional Protocol 1 to the Geneva Conventions for the Protection of War Victims of 1949. Thus, according to Article 55 of the Protocol, the use of military means of impact on the environment is prohibited and provides for the obligation of the state, when conducting military operations, to take care of “protection of the environment from significant, long-term and serious damage”. Also prohibited is the use of appropriate methods or means of warfare intended to cause damage to the environment, as well as the deliberate manipulation of “natural processes – the dynamics, composition or structure of the Earth, including its biological diversity, lithosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere, or outer space” (Article 2 of

the Convention) with the aim of causing damage to the enemy's armed forces, the civilian population of the enemy state, its cities, industry and agriculture, communication networks or natural resources.

It should be emphasized that the UN has repeatedly drawn attention to this, in particular, Article 194 of the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea; Article 3 of the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity; Article 2 of the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which states that, in accordance with the UN Charter and principle 21 of the 1972 Stockholm Declaration, it is the duty of states to ensure that activities carried out under their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other states or areas beyond national jurisdiction.

However, to date, ecocide has not found its place in international criminal law, that is, it is not recognized as a crime, neither in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC), nor in other international legal acts.

Taking this into account, it can be noted that although the term "ecocide" has not yet acquired recognized legal regulation at the international legal level and does not have proper use and, thus, does not have legal consolidation, some countries from the post-Soviet space have a definition of ecocide in their criminal laws. These are Georgia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Moldova, Armenia and others, including Ukraine, which have recognized ecocide as a criminally punishable act. The criminal codes criminalize the mass destruction of flora and fauna, as well as causing an ecological disaster.

Also, issues of ecocide are constantly raised in international negotiations around the world. This is due to significant climate changes on the planet and its impact on humans and society. All this stimulates states to modernize their criminal legislation and criminalize the crime of ecocide, in particular, such an intention was expressed by a senator of the Mexican Congress in 2021. He noted that, subject to appropriate amendments to the federal criminal law, Mexico will become the first Latin American country to recognize the crime of ecocide at the national level, and will also support the initiative to include it in the Rome Statute.

As for Ukraine, the state signed the Rome Statute of the ICC on January 20, 2000, and on August 21, 2024, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted the Law of Ukraine on Ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Registration No. 0285 of 15.08.2024). On its basis, from 01.01.2025, Ukraine became a state party to this international institution, which gives it the opportunity to apply to the ICC regarding war crimes committed as a result of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, including crimes against the environment and ecocide [9]. This is due to the fact that the Rome Statute contains a provision on war crimes that specifically protects the natural environment – Art. 8 (2) (b) (iv). Along with this, scientists and practitioners propose to make amendments and additions to Art. 8 of the Rome Statute, in particular, to set it out in a slightly different wording, namely to recognize the term "ecocide" as "unlawful or unreasonable acts committed with knowledge, and in connection with this, there is a significant probability of causing serious and widespread or long-term harm to the environment". Definition: "*serious*" is harm that involves adverse changes, disruption or damage to any element of the environment, including a serious impact on human life or natural, cultural or economic resources;

"*unjustified*" – unjustified disregard for harm that would be clearly excessive in relation to the expected social and economic benefits; "*large-scale*" – harm that extends beyond a limited geographical area, crosses state borders, affects entire ecosystems or certain species, a large number of people; "*long-term*" – harm that is irreversible or cannot be compensated for by natural recovery within a reasonable time; "*Environment*" is the Earth, its biosphere, cryosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and outer space.

In the Criminal Code of Ukraine, ecocide is recognized as a criminal offense in Article 441, which states that criminal liability for ecocide arises for: "mass destruction of flora or fauna, poisoning of the atmosphere or water resources, as well as committing other actions that may cause an ecological disaster" [16; 17, p. 79].

The social danger of this criminal offense lies in the fact that the above actions pose a certain threat to the natural environment as the basis for human habitation and existence.

The direct object of the criminal offense is the ecological safety of humanity - such a state of the natural environment, which ensures the prevention of deterioration of the ecological situation and the emergence of danger to the life and health of people (Article 50 of the Law of Ukraine "On Environmental Protection" dated June 25, 1991 No. 1264-XII).

The subject of a criminal offense is: flora, fauna, atmosphere, water resources. It can also be land, subsoil, other components of the ecosystem and outer space.

Mass destruction of wildlife – actions that caused the death of a large number of wild fauna, the destruction of a population or a certain species of wildlife in a particular area or body of water.

Mass destruction of the plant world is the destruction of the ecosystem of a certain region and is associated with the destruction of plant cover or at least a species or set of species and forms of plant communities.

Poisoning of the atmosphere or water resources is their saturation with a critical mass of substances (chemicals) harmful to humans, animals, or plants that can cause their illness or death (death).

Other actions that can be considered as potentially causing an environmental disaster are actions related to the use of any means of influencing the environment to change – through deliberate control of natural processes – the dynamics, composition or structure of the Earth (lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere and outer space). Such unlawful actions are provided for in Article 2 of the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Means of Environmental Modification of 18 May 1977.

Based on the provisions of Part 6 of Article 12 and the sanctions of Article 441 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, ecocide is recognized as a particularly serious crime. But the legislator did not lower the age of criminal responsibility for the commission of ecocide, that is, the subject of the commission of this criminal offense is a natural sane person who has reached the age of 16. Thus, the very norm of the Criminal Code of Ukraine has been violated, which, in our opinion, must be corrected in legislative order.

The subjective side of ecocide consists in the intentional form of guilt (in contrast to crimes against the environment). It is worth noting that direct intent is more characteristic of this criminal offense. Such a criminal offense is considered completed when any of the acts

specified in Art. 441 of the Criminal Code is committed, which could have caused an ecological disaster. This element of the crime has a special structure, which differs: 1) from typical formal elements by the need to practically establish, in addition to the act, the creation by this act in a specific case of a real danger of the occurrence of consequences in the form of an ecological disaster; 2) from typical material elements by the non-requirement of the occurrence of such consequences for the recognition of the crime as completed. Causing consequences in the form of mass destruction of flora or fauna, poisoning of the atmosphere or water resources, which in a specific case did not cause and could not cause an ecological disaster, is qualified as a criminal offense against the environment. For example, pollution of the sea, which caused mass death of objects of flora and fauna or other grave consequences, is qualified under Part 2 of Article 243 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

It should also be noted that the wording “was aware of the socially dangerous nature of his act (action or inaction)” (Part 2 of Article 24 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine) means that a person understands not only the factual circumstances relating to the object and the objective side of the composition of this crime, but also its social danger (consequences). A sane person who has reached a certain age, as a rule, is aware of the social danger of his act or inaction. Therefore, it can be emphasized that the provisions of Part 2 of Article 24 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine assume that the subject first realizes the socially dangerous nature of his act, and only then foresees the socially dangerous consequences of his actions (inaction). Foresight “is a mental experience that belongs to the future. It is impossible to foresee the present” [10, pp. 166–167]. Consequences do not exist without the socially dangerous properties of certain actual actions, which means understanding their social harmfulness. Consequences should be understood as a remote change in the external environment, which is related to the impact on physical phenomena (destruction, damage, destruction, etc.).

Action is the immediate change contained in the movement of a certain body, object.

Action – awareness of danger.

Consequences – a prediction of a possible outcome.

It should also be emphasized that the composition of the criminal offense "Ecocide" includes too many evaluative concepts that have not been reflected either in the current Criminal Code of Ukraine or in the legal positions of the Supreme Court of Ukraine. This applies, in particular, to the concepts of "mass destruction of flora or fauna". After all, it is not known at what stage of causing damage, according to the Criminal Code of Ukraine, flora or fauna can be considered destroyed. Also, no quantitative criterion is reflected that would constitute the mass of such destruction. This also applies to the concepts of "poisoning of the atmosphere or water resources".

The draft of the new Criminal Code of Ukraine (as of December 25, 2024) includes Section 11.5 Crimes against international security, which provides for Article 11.5.6 "Ecocide". "A person who, with the aim of causing long-term and large-scale damage, has used any means to change the dynamics, composition or structure of the environment, including the biosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere, or to change outer space, has committed a crime of the 5th degree" [18]. Thus, it can be emphasized that, according to scientists and

practitioners, "ecocide" is included in the crimes of the Criminal Code of Ukraine. In view of this, it is necessary to continue to study all its features not only within the framework of national legislation, but also by studying the experience of other states and international regulatory legal acts and agreements.

The current situation in Ukraine regarding ecocide requires prioritizing such cases in accordance with the document of the ICC Prosecutor's Office – Policy on Selection and Prioritization of Cases from 2017. At the same time, as M. Ya. Vashchyshyna notes, with which one cannot but agree, today "the existing organizational and institutional forms of international cooperation are unable to respond promptly and effectively to environmental threats from the military aggression of the Russian Federation" [19]. An example of this can be the ineffective activities of the IAEA in 2022–2024 after the start of Russia's war against Ukraine and the occupation of the Chernobyl and Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plants by the Russian Federation military [20].

However, it is necessary to take into account the fact that the Russian Federation has not ratified the Rome Statute and an attempt to prosecute it for the crime of aggression (ecocide) in the International Criminal Court is a difficult or even impossible task. A Special Tribunal is needed to try the perpetrators of this crime. This new organization should recognize ecocide as one of the main crimes committed by the Russian Federation in Ukraine, as well as by other states around the world.

Conclusions.

1. It should be noted that criminal law must protect the foundation for our healthy, safe future – the environment, otherwise we will continue to degrade the natural environment and a healthy lifestyle.

2. At the national and international levels, the necessary legal and systemic management mechanisms should be introduced to prevent and combat ecocide, environmental accidents and mass destruction of the environment. To this end, coordinate the efforts of states and public organizations. This will contribute to the awareness of aggressive states, businesses, and corrupt officials that ecocide is a serious crime for which criminal liability is provided.

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Ю. В. Нікітін, Д. Ю. Нікітін. КРИМІНАЛЬНО-ПРАВОВА ВІДПОВІДАЛЬНІСТЬ ЗА ЕКОЦИД: НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ ТА МІЖНАРОДНИЙ ВИМІР

У статті проаналізована кримінально-правова відповідальність за екоцид у національному та міжнародному вимірі на основі існуючого розмаїття думок у юридичній літературі, міжнародних документах, резолюціях ООН та національному законодавстві. Зазначається, що в сучасній правовій доктрині термін «екоцид» та його основоположні ознаки набувають узагальненого визначення та підпадають під факти негативного цілеспрямованого впливу на природне середовище (біосферу, літосферу та атмосферу Землі), а це спричинить небезпеку для існування людини та суспільства загалом світі. Одним із важливих питань у таких діях є криміналізації протиправних діянь які належать до екоциду. У зв'язку з цим запропоновано ряд критеріїв які відповідають екоциду. Проведено розмежування понять «екоцид» та «біоцид». Аргументація цього ґрунтується на аналізі кримінальних правопорушень за ст. 441 КК України за останнє десятиліття. Акцентовано увагу на необхідності співпраці із міжнародними інституціями і, зокрема, ООН, Римським статуттом Міжнародного кримінального суду (МКС) щодо визначення «екоцид» та притягнення винних до кримінальної відповідальності за цей злочин. Оновлення національного законодавства щодо ст. 441 КК України пропонується здійснювати також з урахуванням досвіду країн пострадянського простору, зокрема Грузії, Казахстану, Таджикистану, Вірменії, Молдови тощо. Прийняття міжнародних нормативно-правових актів у рамках дослідження злочину «екоцид» сприятиме уніфікації цього поняття та кримінально-правової характеристики. З урахуванням усього аспекту досліджуваної проблематики дано кримінально-правову характеристику ст. 441 КК України.

На основі проведеного аналізу зроблено висновок, що кримінальний закон має захищати основу для нашого здорового, безпечного майбутнього – довкілля, інакше ми і далі будемо погіршувати природне середовище та здоровий спосіб життя. На національному і міжнародному рівнях потрібно запровадити необхідні правові та системні управлінські механізми для запобігання і протидії екоциду, екологічним аваріям та масового знищення

довкілля. З цією метою скоординувати зусилля держав та громадських організацій. Це сприятиме усвідомлення агресивними державами, бізнесом, корумпованими чиновниками, що екоцид є тяжким злочином, за який передбачена кримінальна відповідальність.

Ключові слова: історія виникнення і формування поняття «екоцид», «біоцид», кримінально-правова характеристика, міжнародні угоди, конвенції ООН.

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