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КАФЕДРА ІНОЗЕМНИХ МОВ ТА ЛІНГВОДИДАКТИКИ
ЛІНГВІСТИЧНИЙ НАВЧАЛЬНО-МЕТОДИЧНИЙ ЦЕНТР

МАТЕРІАЛИ

XVIII ВСЕУКРАЇНСЬКОЇ НАУКОВО-ПРАКТИЧНОЇ КОНФЕРЕНЦІЇ СТУДЕНТІВ, АСПІРАНТІВ ТА ВИКЛАДАЧІВ ЛІНГВІСТИЧНОГО НАВЧАЛЬНО-МЕТОДИЧНОГО ЦЕНТРУ КАФЕДРИ ІНОЗЕМНИХ МОВ ТА ЛІНГВОДИДАКТИКИ

«TO MAKE THE WORLD SMARTER AND SAFER»

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SUMY STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND
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"TO MAKE THE WORLD SMARTER AND SAFER"

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To Make the World Smarter and Safer: Матеріали XVIII всеукраїнської науково-практичної конференції студентів, аспірантів та викладачів Лінгвістичного навчально-методичного центру кафедри іноземних мов та лінгводидактики СумДУ (25-26 квітня 2024 р.) / за заг. ред. професора Таценко Н.В. – Суми : СумДУ, 2024. – 168 с.

У матеріалах подані тези XVIII Всеукраїнської науково-практичної конференції студентів, аспірантів та викладачів Лінгвістичного навчально-методичного центру кафедри іноземних мов та лінгводидактики СумДУ. До збірника ввійшли наукові дослідження, присвячені актуальним проблемам сучасних інноваційних технологій та процесів у науці, техніці та різних сферах людської діяльності.

Для молодих науковців, викладачів і студентів усіх факультетів.

Редакційна колегія:

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***За зміст статей і правильність цитування
відповідальність несе автор***

Advantages:

- High accuracy and sensitivity.
- Ability to measure changes over a wide concentration range.

Disadvantages:

- Requires expensive and potentially challenging-to-use devices.
- Requires special preparation of water samples.

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ON THE ISSUE OF LEGAL REGULATION OF ECOCIDE
AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

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The struggle to recognize ecocide as a crime at the international level and to bring the perpetrators to justice has been going on for decades. Actions that lead to the destruction of entire

ecosystems remain unpunished, which gives rise to lawlessness and new crimes. Wars, industrial pollution, and other negative environmental impacts cause irreparable damage that has no borders and is devastating for the entire planet.

Creating a system to counteract ecocide is one of the key tasks facing humanity, the relevance of which is obvious in the context of current environmental challenges and climate change. Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine has actualized the problem of determining the responsibility of states for ecocide as a crime against human security. Despite certain steps in this direction, the issue of ecocide remains unresolved at the international level.

The term "ecocide" comes from the Greek "*olikos*" meaning "*house*" and the Latin "*caedo*" meaning "*to demolish*" or "*to kill*". According to the Merriam-Webster International Dictionary, the word "ecocide" means the destruction of large areas of the natural environment as a result of human activity in peacetime or wartime [1].

The term "ecocide" was first coined in 1970 by Professor Arthur W. Galston from Yale University who first used the term "ecocide" at a conference in Washington. This happened against the background of the large-scale use of herbicides and defoliants by the United States during the Vietnam War, which caused irreparable damage to the Vietnamese environment, and Prof. Galston called for the criminalization of actions aimed at the mass destruction of ecosystems [2]. Following this claim, in 1972, Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme called the Vietnam War an ecocide at the UN Stockholm Conference. In 1973, Princeton University Professor Richard Falk published an article calling for the adoption of an international convention on ecocide [3].

In 1985, the Whitaker Report, presented to the UN Commission on Human Rights, recommended that ecocide should be recognized as a separate international crime, along with genocide, ethnocide and cultural genocide. Between 1991 and 1996, under the influence of the UN International Law Commission, efforts were focused on solving the problem of criminalizing ecocide. Thus, in 1991, Article 26 of the Code of Crimes against the Peace and

Security of Mankind stipulated that "a person who intentionally causes or orders damage to the environment, if found guilty, shall be punished." This wording, although indirect, still pointed to the criminal nature of ecocide. However, already in 1995, after many legal discussions, this article was excluded, which in turn made it impossible to bring certain subjects to international legal responsibility under the article of ecocide [4, p. 323].

Meanwhile, efforts to include ecocide in the jurisdiction of the ICC do not stop. The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court mentions the environment only once in the context of war crimes and in situations legally qualified as armed conflicts. However, in addition to war crimes, crimes against humanity are another mechanism for environmental protection under the jurisdiction of the ICC, but this category is purely anthropocentric and consists of the destruction of the environment by "committing a massive or systematic attack" against civilians [5].

In 2017, Stop Ecocide International Ltd (SEI) was founded, a company whose main goal is to promote the recognition of ecocide as an international crime. In June 2021, the Independent Expert Panel (IEP), which was established at the initiative of Stop Ecocide International, presented a definition of ecocide for an amendment to the Rome Statute: "unlawful and unjustified acts committed with the knowledge that they may cause serious widespread or long-term damage to the environment" [6]. In this respect, it should be noted that the recognition of ecocide as a crime by amending the Rome Statute will allow for the criminalization of the people responsible for actions or decisions that have led to serious environmental damage.

The process of introducing such amendments to the Rome Statute is complicated and lengthy. A member state must formally propose an amendment, which must then be approved by a two-thirds majority of all member states. However, constant public pressure and public discourse should influence the consciousness and push member states to adopt such changes. For example, in February 2024, the Belgian Federal Parliament voted in favor of a new version of the Criminal Code, which for the first time in Europe includes the

recognition of the crime of ecocide at both the national and international levels, applying the definition proposed in 2021 by the Independent Expert Panel (IEP) [7].

The day before, on March 29, 2023, the European Parliament officially proposed to include "ecocide" in the EU Directive on Environmental Crimes. On November 17, 2023, the EU reached an agreement on the final text of the new document, which includes acts that "cause destruction, irreversible, widespread and significant damage, or long-term, significant and widespread damage to the ecosystem." Although the wording of this provision does not explicitly mention "ecocide," the definition proposed in 2021 by the Independent Expert Panel (IEP) is applied. This is the first time such a definition has been included in EU legislation. On February 27, 2024, the EU Parliament voted in favor of the new directive on environmental crimes, and the European Council is scheduled to vote in March 2024. After both governing bodies vote, EU member states will have 24 months to align their national legislation with the directive. Since the EU represents almost a quarter of the states in the International Criminal Court, this would be a big step towards international recognition of "ecocide" as a crime [8].

Considering the recent events in Ukraine, the following fact should be highlighted: on March 14, 2024, the Supreme Court of Ukraine found Russia guilty of war crimes and crimes against the environment committed during the invasion of Ukraine. This was the first precedent for recognizing ecocide as a crime at the national level. Further, on April 21, 2024, the International Criminal Court launched an investigation into possible crimes of ecocide committed by Russia in Ukraine.

As for public initiatives, in 2024, the international coalition of non-governmental organizations *Stop Ecocide* launched a campaign to collect 1 million signatures under a petition to recognize ecocide as a crime. At the same time, protests were held in 20 countries around the world to demand that ecocide be recognized as a crime.

In terms of scientific research, in 2023, a study published in *Nature* magazine showed that human activity had led to the death of the 6th mass extinction of species on Earth. This emphasizes the

urgent need to recognize ecocide as a crime. In turn, in 2024, a group of scientists from Oxford University developed a new methodology for assessing environmental damage. This methodology can be used to collect evidence in cases of ecocide. Such changes at the level of the European Union indicate the eco-centric development of EU law and, in particular, the movement of legal regulation towards the recognition of ecocide as a crime at the EU level [9].

Undoubtedly, the inclusion of ecocide, along with crimes against humanity, in the Rome Statute is an extremely important step, but it is only part of the process of realizing the place of humans in the environment, their inextricable link and interdependence. Humanity still faces many challenges related to this issue. Changes in legislation concerning ecocide at the national level are urgent, as countries must adopt laws criminalizing ecocide and other crimes against the environment. Law enforcement agencies need to be strengthened, namely, resources are needed to investigate and prosecute crimes against the environment. Also, a change in consciousness is crucial, i.e., awareness of the importance of environmental protection and environmental responsibility needs to be raised. All available tools, including legal, political, economic, and other instruments, are important to achieve a change in consciousness and environmental protection.

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PEDAGOGICAL APPROACH TO TACKLING STREET TRASH PROBLEM

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Addressing the issue of street trash requires a multifaceted approach that not only involves community initiatives and policy interventions but also emphasizes pedagogical strategies to instill a sense of environmental responsibility from a young age.

Educators play a pivotal role in shaping the attitudes and behaviors of future generations towards the environment, street trash problem in particular. Incorporating environmental studies into school and university curricula enables students to develop a deep understanding of the consequences of littering and the importance of waste management.