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PROFESSOR JUDr. Lucia Palšová, PhD. a doc. Ing. Mgr. Ondrej Beňuš, PhD.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SELECTED ASPECTS

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Authors: PROFESSOR JUDr. Lucia Palšová, PhD. (6.43 AQ)
Institute of Law, FESRD, SUA in Nitra

doc. Ing. Mgr. Ondrej Beňuš, PhD. (0.97 AQ)
Institute of Law, FESRD, SUA in Nitra

Reviewers: prof. JUDr. Anna Bandlerová, PhD.
Office of Foreign International Education Programs SUA in Nitra

doc. JUDr. Zuzana Ilková, PhD.

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Introduction

The environment shapes and influences the living space of every individual. The paradox is that the quality of the environment is declining as a result of increasing levels of socio-economic development, as the demand for natural resources rises. For this reason, it is essential to maintain a balance between environmental protection and societal development. One of the most effective tools for the state to regulate the behaviour of entities regarding environmental care is law. Therefore, there is an increasing emphasis on ensuring that entities understand their rights and obligations and can navigate the often-complex legal relationships.

For this reason, the mission and primary goal of teaching the subject "Environmental Law" at the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra is to provide students with an optimal level of knowledge about the law in terms of its regulatory function in social relationships, as well as to reinforce and deepen their legal awareness concerning environmental care. It is therefore essential that the study of law focuses on understanding the content of legal norms and their application in practice.

The presented university textbook aims to achieve this goal and provides students with fundamental knowledge of environmental law as a legal discipline. Since the university textbook is not primarily intended for law students, it offers in its introductory chapter general and comprehensive overview of law and its sources in the Slovak Republic and the European Union. It then defines general legal institutes of environmental law and specifies the entities involved in their care. In a special section dedicated to the legal regulation of specific components of the environment, the textbook particularly reflects on those components that are significant regarding the focus of the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra.

The textbook is intended for all study programmes at the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, as well as for anyone interested in the study of environmental law. It also serves as a fundamental teaching text for other legal disciplines provided and taught by the Institute of Law of the Faculty of European Studies and Regional Development at SUA in Nitra.

Authors

Table of Contents

1	Law and Sources of Law	7
1.1	Sources of Law in Slovakia	7
1.2	Sources of Law of the European Union.....	10
2	Environmental Law	13
2.1	Sources of Environmental Law	14
2.2	Constitutional Protection of the Environment	14
2.3	Legal Regulation of the Environment	20
2.3.1	Act on the Environment	21
2.4	Subjects of Environmental Law	22
2.4.1	The State as a Subject of Environmental Law	22
2.4.2	Territorial Self-Government as a Subject of Environmental Law	29
2.4.3	The Third Sector as a Subject of Environmental Law	31
2.4.4	Entrepreneurs as Subjects of Environmental Law	32
2.4.5	Individuals.....	32
3	Environmental Law Instruments	33
3.1	Direct Regulation Instruments.....	34
3.2	Indirect Regulation Instruments	35
3.3	Voluntary Instruments and Direct State Activities for Environmental Protection....	36
4	Responsibility in Environmental Law.....	36
4.1	Criminal Liability	36
4.2	Administrative Law Responsibility	37
4.3	Civil Law Responsibility	39
5	International and European Environmental Law	40
5.1	International Environmental Law	40
5.1.1	Development of International Environmental Policy and Legislation.....	40
5.1.2	Sources of International Environmental Law.....	46
5.1.3	Subjects of International Environmental Law.....	47
5.2	EU Environmental Law	49
5.2.1	Development of EU Environmental Policy and Legislation.....	50
5.2.2	Sources of EU Environmental Law.....	53
5.2.3	Principles of EU Environmental Law	56
5.2.4	Environmental Law Entities of the European Union	57
6	Legal Regulation of Soil Protection	59
6.1	Soil Protection in the EU	59
6.2	Legal Regulation of Soil Protection in Slovakia	63
6.2.1	Subject of Legal Regulation.....	63
6.2.2	Sources of Land Protection Law in Slovakia	65
6.2.3	Legal Regulation of Agricultural Land Protection.....	66
6.2.4	Legal Regulation of the Protection of Land Designated for Forest Functions.	72
7	Legal Framework for Water Protection	77

7.1	Legal Framework for Water Protection in the EU	77
7.2	Legal Framework for Water Protection in Slovakia.....	79
7.2.1	Water Act	80
8	Legal Regulation of Waste Management	83
8.1	Waste Management Administration	83
8.2	Legal Regulation of Waste Management in the EU	85
8.3	Legal Regulation of Waste Management in the Slovak Republic.....	87
9	Overview of Used Literature	92

List of Abbreviations

Art.	Article
EAP	Environmental Action Programme
EU	European Union
Par. (§)	Paragraph
NC SR	National Council of The Slovak Republic
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
SR	Slovak Republic
HTU	Higher Territorial Unit
Coll. (Zb.)	Collection of Laws (before 1 st January 1993)
TFEU	The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union
TEU	The Treaty on European Union
Coll. (Z.z.)	Collection of Laws (after 1 st January 1993)

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prof. JUDr. Lucia Palšová, PhD.
doc. Ing. Mgr. Ondrej Beňuš, PhD.

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