

## **Gender and Environmental Law. Challenges and opportunities for promoting the role of gender in environmental justice**

V Tarragona International Environmental Law Colloquium (TIEC)  
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### **PANEL 3. New and critical developments of Ecofeminism. Intersectionality and multiple discriminations. Environmental and gender-critical theories. Gender mechanisms, methodologies and strategies for the protection, promotion and defense of environmental defenders.**

#### **Gender equality in the Anthropocene context.**

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The term Anthropocene defines a new geological era as the result of anthropic action. In this context, the so-called patriarchal capitalism has emerged as a specific form of patriarchy that extols the male/female and human/non-human hierarchies. So... How should the Anthropocene narrative fit into contemporary feminism? But also, what should the feminist discourse be like, in the Anthropocene era, to overcome the hierarchical and unequal structures and to move towards a more sustainable and equitable world? Indeed, feminism can offer alternatives to think about this new paradigm. Consequently, it should be explored not only what the Anthropocene might mean for feminism, but also the contributions that the feminist theory may have in the understanding of Anthropocene.

In this sense, it will be necessary to reveal the patriarchal aspects we find in the current formulation of Human Rights and fundamental institutional texts. Some of the strategic proposals go through a reconsideration of the way in which law configures access to resources and property, the conception of the individual towards the community, as well as the prevailing economic systems. Nevertheless, not only legal but also cultural changes and the evolution of social practices are necessary. One of the proposals that can substantially contribute to overcoming the Anthropocene are intersectional and constructivist ecofeminist theories, conceived as an option to overcome the shortcomings of environmentalism and feminism, from a critical and multidimensional view.

In short, the purpose is to incorporate the gender perspective in the challenges that law and society have to face in the context of the transition to the Anthropocene, to ensure that the discussions of global ecological change include several voices. Not only for reasons of social justice, but also for the sake of institutional effectiveness, so as to address the crisis of sustainability and equity that humanity is experiencing today.