

Don't kill the bee!

Legal insights to combat the biodiversity crisis

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Legal challenges to achieve a regulatory body that embraces an ecocentric and biocentric approach

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What does introducing an ecocentric perspective in Law mean? Is it compatible with a biocentric perspective? The focus of this speech is to examine this matter specifically within the realm of Criminal Law, with a strong emphasis on the European Union context. The primary objective is to identify key issues that serve as indicators of different approaches in regulation and application. This analysis aims to facilitate a critical evaluation of the current situation and compare it against recent legislative initiatives concerning Environmental Criminal Law within the European Union. A notable example highlighting divergent approaches within European Union institutions is the ongoing revision process of the Directive on environmental crimes. This serves as a suitable case study to understand how discrepancies in approach can emerge even within the same governing body. Furthermore, it is essential to delve beyond Environmental Criminal Law and examine the development of Animal Criminal Law. This analysis allows for exploring the gradual incorporation of a biocentric perspective into Criminal Law. This examination involves an assessment of its current weaknesses and the challenges that sometimes arise from the intersection with Environmental Criminal Law.