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**Level 6 – 5th December, 2020**

## **Ecocide could become an international crime**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

There could be a new law on the international statute books. Lawyers across the globe are drafting regulations to make ecocide a crime. Ecocide is the destruction of the world's ecosystems. Lawyers want to make it a legally enforceable crime, much like crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide. The initiative is being led by a professor from University College London (UCL) and a former judge at the International Criminal Court. It has attracted support from several European countries, notably France and Belgium. Island nations at risk from rising sea levels, such as Vanuatu and the Maldives, have voiced their support. A politician in the UK has called for ecocide to be incorporated into law.

Professor Philippe Sands of UCL spoke about why there is a need for ecocide to be made illegal. He said: "The time is right to harness the power of international criminal law to protect our global environment." He wants the law to hold governments and multi-national corporations accountable for the environmental damage they cause. The Stop Ecocide Foundation said: "In most cases ecocide is likely to be a corporate crime." It outlined the scale of destruction that would require an ecocide law being used. It said: "It would have to involve mass, systematic or widespread destruction. We are probably talking about Amazon deforestation on a huge scale, deep sea-bottom trawling or oil spills."

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/law/2020/nov/30/international-lawyers-draft-plan-to-criminalise-ecosystem-destruction>  
<https://www.commondreams.org/news/2020/11/30/end-impunity-deliberate-destruction-planet-international-lawyers-drafting-plan>  
<https://www.republicworld.com/world-news/rest-of-the-world-news/international-lawyers-draft-law-against-environmental-destruction-to-criminalise-ecocide.html>

# WARM-UPS

**1. ECOCID:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about ecocide. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

law / international / statute / globe / destruction / ecosystem / at risk / sea levels / ecocide / power / criminal / corporations / corporate / Amazon / deforestation / oil

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. CRIME:** Students A **strongly** believe ecocide should be made a highly punishable crime; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. INTERNATIONAL CRIMES:** How serious are these international crimes? How can we stop them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How Serious?	How Can We Stop Them?
Ecocide		
Genocide		
War crimes		
Crimes against humanity		
Terrorism		
Cybercrime		

**5. LAW:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "law". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Deforestation
- Overfishing
- Oil spills
- Acid rain
- Loss of biodiversity
- Water pollution
- Desertification
- Climate change

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 1. statute     | a. A written law passed by a legislative body.  |
| 2. drafting    | b. An act or strategy intended to resolve a difficulty or improve a situation; a fresh approach to something.   |
| 3. regulation  | c. Preparing a preliminary version of a text, report, law, etc.   |
| 4. destruction | d. About a law, rule, or obligation being able to be imposed so that it must be complied with.                  |
| 5. enforceable | e. A rule or directive made and maintained by an authority.   |
| 6. initiative  | f. The action or process of causing so much damage to something that it no longer exists or cannot be repaired. |
| 7. voiced      | g. Expressed an attitude or opinion.  |

## Paragraph 2

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 8. harness     | h. Relating to, done by, or affecting large numbers of people or things.  |
| 9. accountable | i. The full range of different levels of people or things, from the lowest to the highest.                      |
| 10. corporate  | j. Control and make use of natural resources, especially to produce energy.                                     |
| 11. scale      | k. An act of fishing in a boat with a very large net.   |
| 12. mass       | l. Of a person, organization, or institution required or expected to justify actions or decisions; responsible. |
| 13. trawling   | m. Instances of liquids (e.g. oil) coming out of something and going into a river, sea or other place.          |
| 14. spills     | n. Relating to a corporation, especially a large company or group.  |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. A new law on the environment has been passed into the statute books. **T / F**
- b. Lawyers want ecocide to be a crime like genocide. **T / F**
- c. The ecocide initiative is being led by a group of environmentalists. **T / F**
- d. Vanuatu and the Maldives backed the new ecocide law. **T / F**
- e. A professor said now was not the time to incorporate ecocide into law. **T / F**
- f. The professor wants to hold governments accountable for ecocide. **T / F**
- g. An ecocide foundation said most ecocide is caused by corporations. **T / F**
- h. The foundation highlighted oil spills and deep-sea trawling. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- |                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. <b>statute</b>     | a. proposal    |
| 2. <b>globe</b>       | b. won over    |
| 3. <b>initiative</b>  | c. responsible |
| 4. <b>attracted</b>   | d. law         |
| 5. <b>voiced</b>      | e. devastation |
| 6. <b>harness</b>     | f. extent      |
| 7. <b>accountable</b> | g. expressed   |
| 8. <b>outlined</b>    | h. exploit     |
| 9. <b>destruction</b> | i. defined     |
| 10. <b>scale</b>      | j. planet      |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. There could be a new law on the international    | a. a huge scale         |
| 2. Lawyers across the globe are                     | b. enforceable crime    |
| 3. Ecocide is the destruction of the                | c. accountable          |
| 4. Lawyers want to make it a legally                | d. world's ecosystems   |
| 5. Island nations at risk from                      | e. the power            |
| 6. The time is right to harness                     | f. destruction          |
| 7. hold governments and multi-national corporations | g. statute books        |
| 8. In most cases ecocide is likely to be a          | h. rising sea levels    |
| 9. mass, systematic or widespread                   | i. corporate crime      |
| 10. Amazon deforestation on                         | j. drafting regulations |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

There could be a new law on the international  
(1) \_\_\_\_\_ books. Lawyers across the globe are  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_ regulations to make ecocide a crime.  
Ecocide is the destruction of the world's ecosystems. Lawyers  
want to make it a legally (3) \_\_\_\_\_ crime, much like  
crimes against humanity, war crimes and (4) \_\_\_\_\_.  
The initiative is being led by a professor from University College  
London (UCL) and a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ judge at the  
International Criminal Court. It has attracted support from  
(6) \_\_\_\_\_ European countries, notably France and  
Belgium. Island nations at (7) \_\_\_\_\_ from rising sea  
levels, such as Vanuatu and the Maldives, have  
(8) \_\_\_\_\_ their support. A politician in the UK has  
called for ecocide to be incorporated into law.

*enforceable*

*former*

*risk*

*statute*

*drafting*

*voiced*

*genocide*

*several*

Professor Philippe Sands of UCL spoke about why there is a need  
for ecocide to be made (9) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "The time  
is right to harness the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of international  
criminal law to protect our global environment." He wants the law  
to (11) \_\_\_\_\_ governments and multi-national  
corporations (12) \_\_\_\_\_ for the environmental  
damage they cause. The Stop Ecocide Foundation said: "In most  
cases ecocide is likely to be a (13) \_\_\_\_\_ crime." It  
outlined the scale of destruction that would  
(14) \_\_\_\_\_ an ecocide law being used. It said: "It  
would have to involve (15) \_\_\_\_\_, systematic or  
widespread destruction. We are probably talking about Amazon  
deforestation on a huge scale, deep sea-bottom  
(16) \_\_\_\_\_ or oil spills."

*hold*

*corporate*

*mass*

*power*

*trawling*

*accountable*

*illegal*

*require*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

- 1) There could be a new law on the international \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. statue books
  - b. statute books
  - c. stature books
  - d. stat you books
- 2) Lawyers want to make it a legally \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in force able crime
  - b. in fours cable crime
  - c. enforceable crime
  - d. info cable crime
- 3) attracted support from several European countries, \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. note ably France
  - b. note a bee France
  - c. no table France
  - d. notably France
- 4) rising sea levels, such as Vanuatu and the Maldives, have \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. voiced their support
  - b. voices their support
  - c. voicing their support
  - d. voice their support
- 5) A politician in the UK has called for ecocide to be \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. incorporate it into law
  - b. incorporated into law
  - c. incorporate into law
  - d. incorporates into law
- 6) to be made illegal. He said: "The time is right to \_\_\_\_\_."
  - a. finesse the power
  - b. harness the power
  - c. largesse the power
  - d. harvest the power
- 7) The Stop Ecocide Foundation said: "In most cases ecocide is likely to be \_\_\_\_\_."
  - a. a call pirate crime
  - b. a core pirate crime
  - c. acre pirate crime
  - d. a corporate crime
- 8) It outlined the scale of destruction that would \_\_\_\_\_ law
  - a. require an ecocide
  - b. requires an ecocide
  - c. required an ecocide
  - d. requiring an ecocide
- 9) It would have to involve mass, systematic or \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. widely spread destruction
  - b. width spread destruction
  - c. widen spread destruction
  - d. widespread destruction
- 10) Amazon deforestation on a huge scale, deep sea-bottom trawling \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. or all spills
  - b. or roil spills
  - c. or oil spills
  - d. or ail spills

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

There could be a new law on the (1) \_\_\_\_\_. Lawyers across the globe are drafting regulations to make ecocide a crime. Ecocide is the destruction of the world's ecosystems. Lawyers want to make it (2) \_\_\_\_\_ crime, much like crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide. The (3) \_\_\_\_\_ led by a professor from University College London (UCL) and a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the International Criminal Court. It has attracted support from several European countries, notably France and Belgium. Island nations at risk from rising sea levels, such as Vanuatu and the Maldives, have (5) \_\_\_\_\_. A politician in the UK has called for ecocide to be (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Professor Philippe Sands of UCL spoke about why there is a need for ecocide to be made illegal. He said: "The time is (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the power of international criminal law to protect our global environment." He wants the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ governments and multi-national corporations accountable for the environmental damage they cause. The Stop Ecocide Foundation said: "(9) \_\_\_\_\_ ecocide is likely to be a corporate crime." It (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of destruction that would require an ecocide law being used. It said: "It would have (11) \_\_\_\_\_, systematic or widespread destruction. We are probably talking about Amazon deforestation on a huge scale, deep sea-bottom (12) \_\_\_\_\_ spills."



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

1. What kind of books might the new law be on?
2. What does the article say lawyers are drafting?
3. Where did the judge behind the initiative used to work?
4. Which two island nations have backed the initiative?
5. Who called for ecocide to be incorporated into law?
6. What did a professor say was right to harness the power of criminal law?
7. Who does the professor want to hold accountable besides governments?
8. What kind of crime did a foundation say ecocide was most of the time?
9. What kind of destruction did the foundation say ecocide involved?
10. What did the foundation say would take place on a large scale?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

- 1) What kind of books might the new law be on?
  - a) encyclopaedia
  - b) online books
  - c) the statute books
  - d) hardback books
- 2) What does the article say lawyers are drafting?
  - a) regulations
  - b) draughts
  - c) punishments
  - d) fines
- 3) Where did the judge behind the initiative used to work?
  - a) McDonald's
  - b) Greenpeace
  - c) the WHO
  - d) the International Criminal Court
- 4) Which two island nations have backed the initiative?
  - a) the UK and Fiji
  - b) Vanuatu and the Maldives
  - c) Japan and Sri Lanka
  - d) Madagascar and the Seychelles
- 5) Who called for ecocide to be incorporated into law?
  - a) a Hollywood actor
  - b) an environmentalist
  - c) A UK politician
  - d) a multi-national CEO
- 6) What did a professor say was right to harness the power of criminal law?
  - a) duty
  - b) time
  - c) history
  - d) the conditions
- 7) Who does the professor want to hold accountable besides governments?
  - a) loggers
  - b) all of us
  - c) the fishing industry
  - d) multi-national corporations
- 8) What kind of crime did a foundation say ecocide was most of the time?
  - a) a crime against humanity
  - b) a corporate crime
  - c) a heinous crime
  - d) a petty crime
- 9) What kind of destruction did the foundation say ecocide involved?
  - a) mass, systematic or widespread destruction
  - b) minor destruction
  - c) lasting and irreversible destruction
  - d) destruction to the biosphere
- 10) What did the foundation say would take place on a large scale?
  - a) logging
  - b) desertification
  - c) overfishing
  - d) Amazon deforestation

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

## **Role A – Deforestation**

You think deforestation is the biggest threat to the environment. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their threats aren't as serious. Also, tell the others which is the least serious of these (and why): overfishing, water pollution or biodiversity loss.

## **Role B – Overfishing**

You think overfishing is the biggest threat to the environment. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their threats aren't as serious. Also, tell the others which is the least serious of these (and why): deforestation, water pollution or biodiversity loss.

## **Role C – Water Pollution**

You think water pollution is the biggest threat to the environment. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their threats aren't as serious. Also, tell the others which is the least serious of these (and why): overfishing, deforestation or biodiversity loss.

## **Role D – Biodiversity Loss**

You think biodiversity loss is the biggest threat to the environment. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their threats aren't as serious. Also, tell the others which is the least serious of these (and why): overfishing, water pollution or deforestation.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'crime' and 'ecosystem'.

<b>crime</b>	<b>ecosystem</b>
--------------	------------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• statute</li><li>• drafting</li><li>• war</li><li>• judge</li><li>• notably</li><li>• voiced</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• need</li><li>• power</li><li>• hold</li><li>• likely</li><li>• mass</li><li>• deep</li></ul>
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# ECOCIDE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

Write five GOOD questions about ecocide in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# ECOCIDE DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'crime'?
3. How worried are you about our planet's environment?
4. What do you think of ecocide becoming a crime?
5. Who are those most responsible for ecocide?
6. How does ecocide compare to crimes against humanity?
7. What environmental destruction most concerns you?
8. Should ecocide be made into law?
9. In what way has the environment in your country been destroyed?
10. Why isn't ecocide already a crime?

*Ecocide could become an international crime – 5th December, 2020*  
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# ECOCIDE DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'ecosystem'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How successful do you think an ecocide law would be?
15. What do you want to see done about environmental protection?
16. What punishments should countries receive for ecocide?
17. Should we boycott companies that are guilty of ecocide?
18. How damaging is deforestation?
19. What do you know about deep-sea trawling?
20. What questions would you like to ask the lawyers?

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

There could be a new law (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the international statute books. Lawyers across the globe are (2) \_\_\_\_\_ regulations to make ecocide a crime. Ecocide is the destruction of the world's ecosystems. Lawyers want to (3) \_\_\_\_\_ it a legally enforceable crime, much like crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide. The initiative is being led by a professor from University College London (UCL) and a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ judge at the International Criminal Court. It has attracted support from several European countries, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ France and Belgium. Island nations at risk from rising sea levels, such as Vanuatu and the Maldives, have (6) \_\_\_\_\_ their support. A politician in the UK has called for ecocide to be incorporated into law.

Professor Philippe Sands of UCL spoke about why there is a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ for ecocide to be made illegal. He said: "The time is right to (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the power of international criminal law to protect our global environment." He wants the law to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ governments and multi-national corporations accountable for the environmental damage they cause. The Stop Ecocide Foundation said: "In most cases ecocide is (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to be a corporate crime." It outlined the scale of destruction that would require an ecocide law being used. It said: "It would have to involve (11) \_\_\_\_\_, systematic or widespread destruction. We are probably talking about Amazon deforestation on a huge scale, deep sea-bottom (12) \_\_\_\_\_ or oil spills."

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |               |              |                 |                |
|-----|---------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) on        | (b) at       | (c) as          | (d) to         |
| 2.  | (a) draughty  | (b) drifting | (c) drafting    | (d) rafting    |
| 3.  | (a) have      | (b) do       | (c) make        | (d) legal      |
| 4.  | (a) framer    | (b) firmer   | (c) farmer      | (d) former     |
| 5.  | (a) notably   | (b) rightly  | (c) regrettably | (d) simply     |
| 6.  | (a) shouted   | (b) voiced   | (c) whispered   | (d) foretold   |
| 7.  | (a) needing   | (b) needy    | (c) necessary   | (d) need       |
| 8.  | (a) finesse   | (b) harness  | (c) largesse    | (d) digress    |
| 9.  | (a) grasp     | (b) hold     | (c) clutch      | (d) take       |
| 10. | (a) likely    | (b) liked    | (c) liking      | (d) likelihood |
| 11. | (a) massively | (b) massing  | (c) amass       | (d) mass       |
| 12. | (a) brawling  | (b) trawling | (c) drawling    | (d) crawling   |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. the international tatuste books
2. a legally noreceafibe crime
3. war crimes and ngcoeide
4. The niiitative is being led by a professor
5. otanlby France and Belgium
6. ecocide to be oiorprntaced into law

## Paragraph 2

7. nraehss the power
8. coutnaaclbe for the environmental damage
9. rcropaote crime
10. It ulonited the scale
11. systematic or widespread ustdetcrion
12. deep sea-bottom rawlitng

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) crime." It outlined the scale of destruction that would require an ecocide law being
- ( ) ecosystems. Lawyers want to make it a legally enforceable crime, much like crimes against humanity, war
- ( ) illegal. He said: "The time is right to harness the power of international criminal law to protect our global
- ( ) used. It said: "It would have to involve mass, systematic or widespread destruction. We are probably talking
- ( ) regulations to make ecocide a crime. Ecocide is the destruction of the world's
- ( ) judge at the International Criminal Court. It has attracted support from several European countries,
- ( ) Professor Philippe Sands of UCL spoke about why there is a need for ecocide to be made
- ( ) notably France and Belgium. Island nations at risk from rising sea levels, such as Vanuatu and the Maldives, have voiced
- ( ) their support. A politician in the UK has called for ecocide to be incorporated into law.
- ( **1** ) There could be a new law on the international statute books. Lawyers across the globe are drafting
- ( ) about Amazon deforestation on a huge scale, deep sea-bottom trawling or oil spills."
- ( ) cause. The Stop Ecocide Foundation said: "In most cases ecocide is likely to be a corporate
- ( ) crimes and genocide. The initiative is being led by a professor from University College London (UCL) and a former
- ( ) environment." He wants the law to hold governments and multi-national corporations accountable for the environmental damage they

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

1. international A on law the new statute books .
2. across globe the Lawyers are drafting regulations .
3. want make to Lawyers it legally enforceable .
4. has attracted support from several It European countries .
5. for to Called incorporated be ecocide into law .
6. need to ecocide for be A made illegal .
7. law the He to wants governments hold accountable .
8. likely Ecocide be to is a corporate crime .
9. that would require Destruction ecocide an law .
10. probably We about talking are Amazon deforestation .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

There could be a new *law / legal* on the international statute books. Lawyers across the globe are *draughty / drafting* regulations to make ecocide a crime. Ecocide is the destruction of the world's ecosystems. Lawyers want to make it a *legally / legalised* enforceable crime, much like crimes against humanity, war crimes and *genocidal / genocide*. The initiative is being *led / bled* by a professor from University College London (UCL) and a *former / firmer* judge at the International Criminal Court. It has *detracted / attracted* support from several European countries, *notably / regrettably* France and Belgium. Island nations *to / at* risk from rising sea levels, such as Vanuatu and the Maldives, have voiced their support. A politician in the UK has called for ecocide to be incorporated *into / onto* law.

Professor Philippe Sands of UCL spoke about *what / why* there is a need for ecocide to be *made / done* illegal. He said: "The time is *rightly / right* to harness the power of international criminal law *for / to* protect our global environment." He wants the law to *hold / grasp* governments and multinational corporations accountable for the environmental damage they *clause / cause*. The Stop Ecocide Foundation said: "In most cases ecocide is likely to be a corporate crime." It *inlined / outlined* the scale of destruction that would require an ecocide law being *uses / used*. It said: "It would have to involve *mass / massed*, systematic or widespread destruction. We are probably talking about Amazon deforestation on a huge scale, deep sea-bottom trawling or oil *spill / spills*."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

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Th\_r\_ c\_\_ld b\_ \_ n\_w l\_w \_n th\_ \_nt\_rn\_t\_\_n\_l  
st\_t\_t\_ b\_\_ks. L\_wy\_rs \_cr\_ss th\_ gl\_b\_ \_r\_ dr\_ft\_ng  
r\_g\_l\_t\_\_ns t\_ m\_k\_ \_c\_c\_d\_ \_ cr\_m\_. \_c\_c\_d\_ \_s th\_  
d\_str\_ct\_\_n \_f th\_ w\_rld's \_c\_syst\_ms. L\_wy\_rs w\_nt t\_  
m\_k\_ \_t \_ l\_g\_lly \_nf\_rc\_\_bl\_ cr\_m\_, m\_ch l\_k\_  
cr\_m\_s \_g\_\_nst h\_m\_n\_ty, w\_r cr\_m\_s \_nd g\_n\_c\_d\_.  
Th\_ \_n\_t\_\_t\_v\_ \_s b\_\_ng l\_d by \_ pr\_f\_ss\_r fr\_m  
\_n\_v\_rs\_ty C\_ll\_g\_ L\_nd\_n (\_CL) \_nd \_ f\_rm\_r j\_dg\_  
\_t th\_ \_nt\_rn\_t\_\_n\_l Cr\_m\_n\_l C\_\_rt. \_t h\_s \_ttr\_ct\_d  
s\_pp\_rt fr\_m s\_v\_r\_l \_\_r\_p\_\_n c\_\_ntr\_\_s, n\_t\_bly  
Fr\_nc\_ \_nd B\_lg\_\_m. \_sl\_nd n\_t\_\_ns \_t r\_sk fr\_m  
r\_s\_ng s\_\_ l\_v\_ls, s\_ch \_s V\_n\_\_t\_ \_nd th\_ M\_ld\_v\_s,  
h\_v\_ v\_\_c\_d th\_\_r s\_pp\_rt. \_ p\_l\_t\_c\_\_n \_n th\_ \_K  
h\_s c\_ll\_d f\_r \_c\_c\_d\_ t\_ b\_ \_nc\_r\_p\_r\_t\_d \_nt\_ l\_w.

Pr\_f\_ss\_r Ph\_l\_pp\_ S\_nds \_f \_CL sp\_k\_ \_b\_\_t why  
th\_r\_ \_s \_ n\_\_d f\_r \_c\_c\_d\_ t\_ b\_ m\_d\_ \_ll\_g\_l. H\_  
s\_\_d: "Th\_ t\_m\_ \_s r\_gh\_t t\_ h\_rn\_ss th\_ p\_w\_r \_f  
\_nt\_rn\_t\_\_n\_l cr\_m\_n\_l l\_w t\_ pr\_t\_ct \_\_r gl\_b\_l  
\_nv\_r\_nm\_nt." H\_ w\_nts th\_ l\_w t\_ h\_ld g\_v\_rnm\_nts  
\_nd m\_l\_t\_\_n\_t\_\_n\_l c\_r\_p\_r\_t\_\_ns \_cc\_\_nt\_b\_l\_ f\_r th\_  
\_nv\_r\_nm\_nt\_l d\_m\_g\_ th\_y c\_\_s\_. Th\_ St\_p \_c\_c\_d\_  
F\_\_nd\_t\_\_n s\_\_d: "\_n m\_st c\_s\_s \_c\_c\_d\_ \_s l\_k\_ly t\_  
b\_ \_ c\_r\_p\_r\_t\_ cr\_m\_." \_t \_\_tl\_n\_d th\_ sc\_l\_ \_f  
d\_str\_ct\_\_n th\_t w\_\_ld r\_q\_\_r\_ \_n \_c\_c\_d\_ l\_w b\_\_ng  
\_s\_d. \_t s\_\_d: "\_t w\_\_ld h\_v\_ t\_ \_nv\_lv\_ m\_ss,  
syst\_m\_t\_c \_r w\_d\_spr\_\_d d\_str\_ct\_\_n. W\_ \_r\_ pr\_b\_bly  
t\_lk\_ng \_b\_\_t \_m\_z\_n d\_f\_r\_st\_t\_\_n \_n \_ h\_g\_ sc\_l\_,  
d\_\_p s\_\_ b\_\_tt\_m tr\_wl\_ng \_r \_\_l sp\_lls."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

there could be a new law on the international statute books. lawyers across the globe are drafting regulations to make ecocide a crime. ecocide is the destruction of the world's ecosystems. lawyers want to make it a legally enforceable crime, much like crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide. the initiative is being led by a professor from university college london (ucl) and a former judge at the international criminal court. it has attracted support from several european countries, notably france and belgium. island nations at risk from rising sea levels, such as vanuatu and the maldives, have voiced their support. a politician in the uk has called for ecocide to be incorporated into law.

professor philippe sands of ucl spoke about why there is a need for ecocide to be made illegal. he said: "the time is right to harness the power of international criminal law to protect our global environment." he wants the law to hold governments and multi-national corporations accountable for the environmental damage they cause. the stop ecocide foundation said: "in most cases ecocide is likely to be a corporate crime." it outlined the scale of destruction that would require an ecocide law being used. it said: "it would have to involve mass, systematic or widespread destruction. we are probably talking about amazon deforestation on a huge scale, deep sea-bottom trawling or oil spills

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide.html>

There could be a new law on the international statute books. Lawyers across the globe are drafting regulations to make ecocide a crime. Ecocide is the destruction of the world's ecosystems. Lawyers want to make it a legally enforceable crime, much like crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide. The initiative is being led by a professor from University College London (UCL) and a former judge at the International Criminal Court. It has attracted support from several European countries, notably France and Belgium. Island nations at risk from rising sea levels, such as Vanuatu and the Maldives, have voiced their support. A politician in the UK has called for ecocide to be incorporated into law. Professor Philippe Sands of UCL spoke about why there is a need for ecocide to be made illegal. He said: "The time is right to harness the power of international criminal law to protect our global environment." He wants the law to hold governments and multinational corporations accountable for the environmental damage they cause. The Stop Ecocide Foundation said: "In most cases ecocide is likely to be a corporate crime." It outlined the scale of destruction that would require an ecocide law being used. It said: "It would have to involve mass, systematic or widespread destruction. We are probably talking about Amazon deforestation on a huge scale, deep sea-bottom trawling or oil spills."







# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. ECOCIDE:** Make a poster about ecocide. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. PUNISHMENT:** Write a magazine article about there being extremely harsh punishments for government and corporate leaders committing ecocide. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on ecocide. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on making ecocide an international crime. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. a    2. c    3. e    4. f    5. d    6. b    7. g  
8. j    9. l    10. n    11. i    12. h    13. k    14. m

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a F    b T    c F    d T    e F    f T    g T    h T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. d	2. j	3. a	4. b	5. g
6. h	7. c	8. i	9. e	10. f

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. The statute books
2. Regulations
3. The International Criminal Court
4. Vanuatu and the Maldives
5. A UK politician
6. Time
7. Multi-national corporations
8. A corporate crime
9. Mass, systematic or widespread destruction
10. Amazon deforestation

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. A new law on the international statute books.
2. Lawyers across the globe are drafting regulations.
3. Lawyers want to make it legally enforceable.
4. It has attracted support from several European countries.
5. Called for ecocide to be incorporated into law.
6. A need for ecocide to be made illegal.
7. He wants the law to hold governments accountable.
8. Ecocide is likely to be a corporate crime.
9. Destruction that would require an ecocide law.
10. We are probably talking about Amazon deforestation.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c    2. a    3. d    4. b    5. c    6. d    7. b    8. d    9. a    10. d

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)