

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

LESSON 1: Course Introduction. General concepts and overview. Human activity and the ecosystem.

LESSON 2: Sustainable development. The relation between economic growth, environmental protection and social equality. Is another type of development possible? From linear economy to circular economy.

LESSON 3: Climate change: actors, causes and consequences. From the Rio summit to the Paris agreement. Decision making in climate negotiations. Legal tools for environmental challenges. Industrial exploitation and the global ecological crisis.

LESSON 4: Global problems, global solutions? The tragedy of the commons. Environmental degradation and global governance.

LESSON 5: Actors in the environmental arena: states and non-state actors, international organizations, regional organizations, economic actors, individuals.

LESSON 6: Ozone depletion. Loss of biodiversity and endangered species.

LESSON 7: Urbanism, food and sustainability. Development and corporate responsibility. Ethics, regulations and environmental justice.

LESSON 8: Do international regimes and negotiations work? What are the main obstacles to international regimes? How can international decisions help to improve our environment?