

**Patricia Zambrana Moral, *La protección del medio ambiente: perspectiva histórico-jurídica*, Navarra: Thomson Reuters Aranzadi, 2022, 246 pp. [ISBN: 978-84-1124-045-1]**

The professor at the University of Malaga, Patricia Zambrana Moral, presents us in her new book with a very interesting theme, a research work about the legal-historical perspective of environmental protection and Environmental Law. The book has been realized as part of the Research Group SJI63- History of Legal Institutions and, partially, in the project “Multi-lingual and Multi-domain Adaptation for the Optimisation of the VIP system” of the Ministry of Science and Innovation (Spain), which has been published recently -in December 2022- by the Editorial Aranzadi.

The publication is in the Spanish Language and contains five chapters. It begins with an extensive “introduction”, where she summarizes the conceptual aspects, nature and content of Environmental Law; from a historical point of view, the author scrutinizes the environmental problems and Environmental Law. She notes that, before considering the historical perspective, the first obstacle is to conceptualize and specify the content when we’re talking about the environment or environmental law. In this regard, she provides the theories of jurists and experts, to explain the notion of the environment and Environmental Law. It also indicates the interdisciplinary nature and the protection of the environment in different sectors of law with its particular perspective. In the second part of this chapter, the Environmental Law is analysed from the historical-legal angle, the primary concerns for the protection of the environment, for example, the Code of Hammurabi, the Roman Legal system, the Quran and the determining factors in the history of Environmental Law.

From the second chapter to the last one, the author pays special attention to legal protection and the dispositions related to the damage and care of animals, hunting, fishing and conservation of species (Chapter 2); the flowers, mountains, forests and vegetation, the illegal felling or destruction of trees, the forest fires, the damage to mountains, forests, vineyards, harvests, orchards, plantations, cultivations and vegetation in general (Chapter 3); the study of water and air as basic elements of the environment, the salubrity and protection of water, the bad smells, the sewage and drainage systems (Chapter 4); and the linkage between the environment and the public health, the street cleaning and the spillage on the public roads and the disposal of waste (Chapter 5). In these four chapters, she analyses a representative selection of legal documents from different historical periods: Ancient Law, Roman Law, Visigothic Law, and Spanish Legal History of the Middle Age – Hispano-Muslim Law, Castilian Law, Catalan Law, Valencia, Aragonese and Navarrese Law-, the Modern Age – Castilian local law, Catalan Law, local ordinances, such as those of Granada and Malaga, etc.

In this book, the author examines numerous legislations, like the Hammurabi Code, the Law of Talion and the Bible of the Ancient Law; the Roman Legal System: the Laws of the XII Tables, the *Digest*, the *Lex Ursonensis* and the fragments of Roman Law; the famous *Liber Iudicioirum* of the Visigothic period; the particular emphasis on the Medieval Law: the local *Fueros* and Ordinances, the *Nueva Recopilación*, the *Siete Partidas*, the Catalan population and franchise letters, the *Costums de Tortosa*, the *Consuetudines llerdenses*, the *Costums d’Orta*, the *Recognoverunt Proceres*, the Royal Privileges conceded to the City of Barcelona, the *Ordinacions d’en Santacília*, the

*Ordinacions de Girona*, and the Quran, the Islamic tradition and Andalusian Law of the Hispano-Muslim period; in terms of the modern Age Law, except for the local *Fueros* and Ordinances, we also find the rules of the *Nueva* and the *Novísima Recopilación*, the *Cortes de Monzón* and *Barcelona*, the Regulations of Fishing and Navigation, the Chapters of Good Government of Lon and Brez, etc.

On the other hand, professor Zambrana supports a large part of her affirmations in the national and international legal literature, detailing the considerations on the History of European Law generally, that of Spanish Law specifically, and the History of Environment Law in concrete terms. She refers to many jurists and experts, not only cites their articles or paragraphs, but also assesses and comments on their reflections and relevant knowledge points.

We would like to conclude this book review with gratitude to the author for offering us a systematic and relevant research, which illustrates an area of Law in its different aspects and its historical development in a context that offers so many possibilities, such as the History of Environmental Law. Nowadays, the environment is considered to be an important issue for the whole human community, a major common good. From a historical-legal perspective, there were numerous laws, regulations, ordinances, etc., linked to the protection of the environment, as the author explains in her book.

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