

RQDA – *Rivista Quadrimestrale di Diritto dell’Ambiente* intends to launch a Call for Papers on the topic of “**Regeneration, Environment, Consumption**” for the issue no. 2/2023.

The effects on the environment of consumerism “which dazzles and paralyses” (Pope Francis in his homily on 21 November 2021) still remain quite uncovered by legal scholars, although the phenomenon is commonly observed.

For instance, while the amount of water available is not infinite, its consumption is increasing at an uncontrolled rate: it has doubled since 1960 and is expected to increase by 50 per cent by 2025 (Fausta Speranza, *Il senso della sete*, Ed. Infinito, 2021). Consumerism appears to be growing ever further and it is concentrated in certain areas of the world where advertising and marketing strategies often tend to artificially create new and ephemeral needs by exciting demand, rather than satisfying basic needs by promoting supply. Consumerism, as a degeneration of consumption, associates happiness not so much with the satisfaction of needs, but rather with the constant and unlimited growth in the quantity and intensity of desires (Zygmunt Bauman, *Consuming Life*, Polity press, 2007).

The conclusions to be drawn are obvious. Rather than merely aimed only at reducing damage, environmental policies should tackle the problem of consumerism.

It is not necessary to theorise degrowth in order to advocate more sober lifestyles. The value at stake lies not in the quantity of consumption but in the quality of life. As far as the current economy still implicitly assumes an unlimited consumption, a paradigm shift based on limiting consumption within the limits of what is necessary and sufficient could entail, especially in the short term, risks of contraction of some productive sectors, including in terms of employment. Such circumstance raises the issue of a fair transition accompanied by possible compensatory measures.

If we do not want to be satisfied with reducing environmental deterioration, we must first of all place at the centre of the analysis the concept of “regeneration”, which is not to be confused or totally identified with that of “sustainable development”.

Taking steps from these reflections, outlined by Director Prof. Giampaolo Rossi (and available [here](#) on the RIDIAM Blog), RQDA intends to solicit an open, critical and plural scientific debate on the relationship between regeneration, environment and consumption.

Contributions may approach the topic from different perspectives. In particular, RQDA invites the submission of:

- a) general contributions on the concept of regeneration, in relation to the environment, and put it in relation to the problems of consumption. Investigations can be carried out from the point of view of different knowledge and take different angles of observation (comparative perspective, international, European, national, etc.);
- b) more specific contributions, dealing with the relationship between regeneration, environment and consumption from a sectoral perspective (for example: brownfields, circular economy, renewable energies, critical raw materials, agriculture and food, etc.).

Participation is open to scholars of all legal subjects, as well as, consistently with RQDA’s interdisciplinary character, to scholars of other sciences related to environmental issues, such as natural, life and earth sciences, social, economic, political and human sciences, ethics and environmental philosophy.

Proposals will be submitted to the peer review procedure of the Journal (available [here](#), in Italian, and [here](#), in English).

The Journal promotes multilingualism as far as possible and respects the different doctrinal traditions also in terms of layout and citation style. Authors may submit their contributions in Italian, English, Spanish, French or Portuguese.

Proposals, to be drafted in accordance with the RQDA Editorial Guidelines (available [here](#), for Italian authors, and [here](#), for foreign authors) should be sent to rqda.redazione@gmail.com, vera.parisio@unibs.it and eugenio.fidelbo@uniroma1.it, indicating in the subject line “Call Regeneration”, **by 10 June 2023**.