



Ordine internazionale e diritti umani

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EDITORIALE
SCIENTIFICA

THE RIGHT TO A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT: AN AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

The article examines the right to a healthy environment from an African perspective, arguing that it constitutes a structural and forward-looking contribution to the development of international human rights law. The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (1981) was the first legally binding international instrument to recognise this right, embedding it within a collective and interdependent rights framework. African regional jurisprudence, notably in *SERAC v. Nigeria*, *Ogiek v. Kenya*, and *LIDHO v. Côte d'Ivoire*, reflects a holistic understanding of environmental rights as intrinsically linked to human dignity, culture, development, and social justice. The article further highlights persistent environmental inequalities and the challenges related to the implementation of regional judicial decisions. It concludes that the African perspective, grounded in solidarity and the principle of *ubuntu*, provides a crucial conceptual framework for strengthening environmental protection within the international legal order.