



EUROPEAN FORUM FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Connecting People to Restore Just Relations

WORKING GROUP ON RESTORATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

The **“Working Group on Restorative Environmental Justice”** wants to focus on the question of how restorative justice can be an opportunity to bridge the ineffectiveness of current environmental responses and the pressing need to correct existing harmful practices and prevent future environmental damage.

The principles that drive restorative justice such as relational definitions of harm, participation, harm reparation and healing, are principles that must be central in conceiving environmental justice. The term environmental restorative justice indicates both how an environmental agenda can contribute to restorative justice and how restorative justice can be used in the context of environmental harm.

At a philosophical level, restorative justice is better aligned with ecocentric and indigenous approaches in defining what constitutes environmental harm and what constitutes environmental justice. It is possible therefore in restorative processes for stakeholders to define themselves as victims of environmental harm even if they are not so legally defined by the criminal justice system. It is also possible to narrate of a type of harm that is not legally acknowledged.

At a practical level, restorative justice has its participatory and dialogic processes to offer which enable all the stakeholders to sit together at a horizontal and respectful level and express grief, anger, fear, explain, clarify, and eventually commit to make amends and move on with new creative and reparative actions. Restorative processes can be applied within harmed communities, between harmed communities and corporations, between state and activists, and possibly also between humans and other-than humans.

The Working Group:

- Produces a short document explaining the potential contribution of restorative justice in this domain;
- Works together to develop a specific training of the EFRJ;
- Supports and encourages research on the potential application of restorative justice in environmental harm situations;
- Commits to regular virtual meetings and exchange of emails.
- Can be consulted on this topic by EFRJ staff and members.
- Initiate project proposals on the topic

4–6 members will compose the core team of the Working Group and they will be selected based on their experience, profession, motivation to participate, and country representation.

The deadline for applications is **7 September 2020**. We invite interested members to fill this form including a short bio and a short motivation note.

— EUROPEAN FORUM FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE VZW

Hooverplein 10, 3000 Leuven, Belgium

—
0474 656 137 • RPR Leuven

www.euforumrj.org
info@euforumrj.org
Tel. +32 (0)16.373.598
Mob. +32 (0)466.20.91.12

Supported by the
Justice Programme
of the
European Union

