Keynote Speech

Protection of Nature and the Necessary Ethical-Political Democratic Revolution

Donato BERGANDI is Professor in Philosophy of Ecology at the Muséum national d' Histoire Naturelle, Paris. His interests concern the philosophy of biology and the philosophy of ecology (methodology in particular), biodiversity studies, environmental ethics, environmental philosophy, and the social, economic, environmental and ethical-political aspects of sustainable development.

ABSTRACT

Environmental public policies are suffering the harmful effects of a tacit agreement between political and economical elites. Heedless of philosophical-political references, an international politico-economical oligarchic caste is largely united around dealing with environmental issues based on the sustainable development model, which is an expression of a utilitarian, anthropocentric perspective. Moreover, for this model biodiversity is in the main merely a reservoir of natural resources for human use. A dual transition - both ethical and political - is thus urgently needed to preserve the integrity of natural systems and support the development of truly human societies.