

Socioecological Challenges in the Global North and the Global South: From Solar Power Waste to Justice for Indigenous Peoples

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Access to Justice for Original Peoples in Colombia from an Intersectional Perspective on Territorial Dispossession

Juan Camilo Motaña Parra

How can we guarantee true material justice in contexts fractured by environmental degradation and historical violence? In the framework of the European project *Speak4Nature*, Juan Camilo Montaña Parra (PhD Candidate at the Universidad de Salamanca and Visiting Researcher at the Rachel Carson Center, LMU) presents an advance of his doctoral research. Through a collaborative lens with the national indigenous organization *Gobierno Mayor*, this study analyzes the structural and multidimensional barriers (geographic, linguistic, and socio-political) that hinder access to a culturally pertinent justice for Original Peoples in Colombia. By adopting a critical intersectional perspective, the research deconstructs the impact of territorial dispossession, illegal economies, and armed conflict, proposing a vital shift from traditional territorial justice toward a comprehensive ecological and restorative justice in the Global South.

Beyond Clean Energy: The Ecological Challenge of Solar Panel Waste

Johan Camilo Navarro Batista

The rapid expansion of solar photovoltaic technologies has positioned solar energy as one of the main drivers of the global energy transition. However, behind the environmental benefits associated with clean energy generation, an emerging challenge is becoming increasingly evident: the growing accumulation of photovoltaic waste at the end of solar panels' useful life.

This presentation explores the environmental, technical, and regulatory challenges associated with photovoltaic panel recycling from the perspective of circular economy and sustainable engineering. Particular attention is given to the recovery of strategic materials such as glass, aluminum, silicon, and silver, as well as to the environmental implications related to waste management and resource consumption.

The presentation also addresses current recycling limitations, the role of the European WEEE Directive (2012/19/EU), and recent eco-design initiatives such as the RESiLEX project, which aim to improve the circularity and recyclability of photovoltaic systems. Finally, the discussion highlights the importance of integrating circular economy principles, innovation, and responsible waste management into the energy transition in order to achieve truly sustainable renewable energy systems.