

Can science led law-making be applied to Kosovan and UK air pollution modulation?

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Abstract

This study examines how science-led law making can be applied to air pollution regulation and utilizes the latest scientific air pollution data to establish the potential ramifications if not addressed. A comparative analysis of the current air pollution laws and policies in Kosovo and the UK are discussed, two countries with marked differences in income level and development of air pollution policy and law. This research aims to compare and explore the current air pollution laws and policies in Kosovo and the UK to determine if the attainment of a healthy environment and human health has been reached. Air pollution is an insidious silent killer responsible for around 1 in 9 deaths globally, leading to it being termed a silent public health emergency. It is estimated to kill 7,000,000 people every year, making the most serious environment threat in comparison to the other forms of pollution. The aim of the study is to identify the weakness and gaps in the current Kosovan legal and policy framework and to propose workable solutions to these that demonstrate the fulfillment of the binding obligations required by the EU. Analysis of the legal and policy framework in the UK will be used to identify strengths and weaknesses, which will provide evidence for effective and ineffective measures. Results from the study will be of use for other middle income countries.

Received: January 07, 2022; **Accepted:** January 14, 2022; **Published:** January 21, 2022

Biography

Rie Watanabe is a part-time Lecturer and PhD Candidate at Bournemouth University and Researcher at Bournemouth Universities Environment & Threats Strategic Research Group. Her research is a comparative analysis of the current legal regimes for air pollution regulation in the UK and Kosovo and

the impact it has on human and environmental health. Her interests are connecting the dots between complex legal and scientific concepts and exploring how the nexus between science and law could be further developed and applied to legal regimes. Her research objectives are identifying the implications of poor air quality across generations and finding practical solutions that could be applied in environmental law and policy.