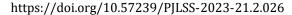


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RESEARCH ARTICLE

The Basic Law of the State Constitutionally Enshrines the Human Right to a Healthy Environment

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ABSTRACT

This study explores the constitutional enshrinement of the human right to a healthy environment, a critical nexus of law, human rights, and environmental sustainability. Employing an analytical methodology, it meticulously examines constitutional texts and legal frameworks, focusing on their intricate details and implications for environmental rights. A systematic collection of data from various sources was conducted. These sources encompass authoritative books, reputable magazines, and scholarly journal articles that provide insights into the constitutional framework, environmental law, and the interplay between legal provisions and environmental rights within the Sultanate of Oman. Additionally, the study involves an in-depth analysis of the Basic Statute of the Sultanate of Oman, established by Royal Decree No. 101/96, which serves as a key reference point for interpreting the constitutional inclusion of environmental rights in Oman. The primary findings highlight the environment as a shared global heritage, attracting considerable attention at both international and national levels. The study underscores the urgent need for collective action to combat environmental degradation and pollution. It reveals the complexities surrounding the human right to a healthy environment, necessitating strengthened legal frameworks and governance mechanisms for its practical preservation and promotion. Key recommendations include the explicit integration of the human right to a healthy environment into the Basic Law of the State, emphasizing the shared responsibility of both the state and individuals in preserving environmental balance for sustainable development. The study stresses the importance of the state's proactive role in environmental protection and individual awareness and commitment to preservation practices. It advocates for a comprehensive approach that involves legal, policy, and societal efforts to safeguard the environment. The study calls for robust legal provisions, active state engagement, international cooperation, and individual commitment to environmental preservation.

INTRODUCTION

The study of the constitutional enshrinement of the human right to a healthy environment is deeply rooted in the evolving landscape of human rights and environmental protection. This research begins by examining the historical context in which these concepts have developed, particularly in the Republic of Croatia. The pivotal moment came with the ratification of the decision to commence the procedure for adopting the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia by the recently formed parliament on July 25, 1990. This event marked a significant transition in Croatia's political and economic history, signalling a shift towards establishing a system firmly grounded in human rights, the rule of law, and a market economy (Ahmer, 2012).

The new Constitution of the Republic of Croatia, which the Croatian parliament adopted on December 22, 1990, established a legal framework that has undergone numerous amendments since then. Croatia's commitment to human rights principles is evident in the constitution, which is still in force today. Croatia's declaration of independence on October 8, 1991, and its eventual full membership in the European Union on July 1, 2013, further solidified this commitment.

A noteworthy aspect of Croatia's constitutional development is its recognition of the right to a healthy environment. This recognition was initially included in the 1974 Constitution during Croatia's time as a federal entity of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY). The provision stated that human beings have the right to a healthy living environment, emphasizing the community's role in providing and preserving this environment and the responsibility of every individual to protect natural resources (Lewis, 2012).

The right to a healthy environment was first recognized in Croatia's 1974 Constitution during its tenure as a federal entity of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY). This recognition entailed a commitment to provide an environment conducive to exercising this right, coupled with a collective responsibility to protect the natural world and its resources, cultural landmarks, and the prevention of environmental degradation (ICJ, 1999).

The constitutional enshrinement of the human right to a healthy environment represents a significant evolution in legal and societal values, reflecting a growing understanding of the complex interplay between environmental well-being and fundamental human rights. International agreements such as the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and the Aarhus Convention have significantly influenced this global discourse. The challenges posed by climate change, pollution, and other environmental issues have compelled nations to reassess and strengthen their commitment to environmental protection. This shift often manifests in constitutional amendments, acknowledging the right to a healthy environment and outlining governmental responsibilities in its preservation. Judicial activism has also played a role in reinforcing this right, with various courts interpreting and enforcing environmental provisions. This recognition signifies a paradigm shift towards a holistic view of human rights that includes the sustainability of the natural world (Knox, 2020; Jam et al., 2018).

The incorporation of the right to a healthy environment into constitutional law is crucial, intertwining legal principles, human rights, and environmental sustainability. Scholars like Sanchez-Ocampo et al. (2022) have discussed its integration into state law, emphasizing its significance in legal and environmental contexts. Varvastian (2019) examined climate change legislation and legal actions based on the right to a clean environment. Szromek et al.'s (2020) research explored the connections between eco-friendly logistics, environmental rights, and sustainable tourism. Nampewo et al. (2022) provided a detailed analysis of the legal consequences and frameworks related to the human right to wellbeing, offering a nuanced view of the legal landscape. Oksanen (2020) focused on the human-induced environmental crisis and the critical role of human rights in addressing biodiversity loss and climate change challenges. Research Gate also features studies on the evolution of legislation, emphasizing environmental rights, access to environmental information, and participatory decision-making.

The scholarly focus on integrating the human right to a healthy environment into constitutional frameworks is evident in recent academic literature. SanchezOcampo et al. (2022) highlighted the significance of embedding environmental rights in national legal structures, marking a shift towards a constitutional acknowledgement of these rights. Varvastian (2019) explored the rise of climate change litigation based on the right to a pollution-free environment, illuminating the evolving legal landscape. Grynchak et al. (2023) analyzed regulations related to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights, revealing the international aspects of environmental rights. McClymonds (1992) discussed the role of nation-states in tackling trans-boundary environmental issues, underscoring the necessity of international collaboration.

The inclusion of the human right to a healthy environment in national constitutions represents a significant evolution in international law, reflecting a burgeoning awareness and acknowledgment of environmental rights. By 2023, over 100 countries will have formally recognized this right within their constitutional frameworks, signifying a growing momentum in its global acceptance and importance. The study of the constitutional incorporation of the human right to a healthy environment is pivotal for several reasons, all of which underscore its increasing relevance in contemporary legal and environmental discourse.

Firstly, this research provides critical insights into the diverse interpretations and applications of this right across various nations. Such an analysis is instrumental in establishing best practices and identifying areas where further progress is crucial, thereby contributing to the global conversation on environmental governance. In light of the escalating threats posed by climate change and environmental degradation, understanding how different jurisdictions embrace and enforce the right to a healthy environment becomes increasingly vital. Secondly, exploring this constitutional right raises awareness of its fundamental importance, fostering public support and advocacy for its robust implementation. The constitutional acknowledgment of this right underpins the idea that access to a clean and healthy environment is a universal entitlement, transcending social and economic barriers. This is especially important at a time when environmental threats to human health and well-being have increased.

Additionally, this study lays the groundwork for the development of innovative legal and policy frameworks aimed at effectively safeguarding this right. While constitutional recognition is a significant step forward, more is needed. Effective mechanisms for enforcement and accountability are imperative to ensure that governments fulfill their environmental obligations.

The research also explores the implications of incorporating this right into the Basic Law of a State, highlighting the profound statement it makes about a state's commitment to environmental protection and citizen well-being. The Basic Law, as the supreme legal charter, outlines the core rights and freedoms of the populace, and its inclusion of environmental rights sends a strong message about the state's priorities.

This study stands out for its comprehensive examination of environmental rights, addressing complex issues at the national legislative level with urgency and precision. It gains relevance in the face of growing environmental pollution, a byproduct of industrial expansion and the exploitation of natural resources. The constitutionally enshrined right to a healthy environment is critical in combating the global pollution crisis that poses severe threats to human and ecological health.

Moreover, the research illuminates the symbiotic relationship between environmental and human rights, advocating for the constitutional recognition of environmental rights to ensure their integration into legal and regulatory frameworks. This approach promotes a balance between environmental conservation and other societal interests, fostering sustainable development.

The inclusion of various scholarly perspectives further enhances the study's uniqueness. For instance, Sanchez-Ocampo et al. (2022) focuses on the integration of environmental rights into foundational legal structures marks a significant shift towards constitutional recognition of these rights. Varvastian's (2019) exploration of climate change legislation and legal actions related to a pollution-free environment illuminates the evolving legal response to environmental challenges. Szromek et al.'s (2020) research on the connections between eco-friendly logistics, environmental rights, and sustainable

tourism adds a practical dimension to the discussion. Nampewo et al.'s (2022) in-depth analysis of legal consequences and regulatory frameworks concerning human well-being enriches the understanding of this complex issue. Oksanen's (2020) examination of human-induced environmental crises and the role of human rights in addressing biodiversity loss and climate challenges introduces an innovative angle to the discourse. The following are the main research questions of the study:

- 1. How effectively does the constitutional framework in Oman recognize and uphold the human right to a healthy environment?
- 2. To what extent and scope does environmental protection extend within this legal framework?
- 3. Does the absence of an explicit constitutional acknowledgment imply the non-existence of an individual's entitlement to a healthy environment?
- 4. How can the establishment of this right be assured in the absence of clear constitutional recognition?
- 5. What mechanisms can be instituted within the constitutional framework to ensure that lawmakers adhere to environmental regulations, considering the existence of environmental protection and pollution control laws established by Royal Decree No. 114/2001?

Is there an implicit intention by the constitutional legislators to decree environmental protection, discernible through a comprehensive interpretation of constitutional texts related to the state's social and economic objectives?

LITERATURE REVIEW

This thesis adopts an analytical methodology, initially focusing on the concept of 'opinion juris' to ascertain whether the right to a healthy environment is a customary rule in international law. It entails a detailed scrutiny of pertinent evidence, evaluating its significance, and interpreting the collective impact of this evidence on the development of this right. The analysis highlights the gradual, decentralized nature of customary international law formation, where practices adopted by individual states evolve into legally binding norms.

Key to this study are resolutions from intergovernmental conferences, which are crucial for validating the existence and substance of customary international law norms. The significance of such conferences in the context of the right to a healthy environment is paramount. The 1972 UN Conference on the Environment marked a historic moment, being the first global recognition of this right. The United Nations Economic and Social Council's 1968 proposal, which addressed the deteriorating human environment and paved the way for the Stockholm Declaration, a landmark document recognizing the rights of future generations to a sustainable environment, precipitated this milestone.

In exploring the constitutional recognition of environmental rights, this thesis draws upon contemporary scholarly works. Recent studies such as Ranasinghe (2023), which examines the integration of environmental rights within emerging constitutional frameworks, and the work of Franks (2020) on the enforcement of environmental rights in international law are considered. These studies delve into the practical and legal challenges of incorporating environmental rights into constitutional law, underscoring the interplay between legal principles and environmental sustainability.

The nexus between environmental rights and human rights, especially concerning sustainable development, has also been extensively studied. Building upon the foundational works of Boyle and Anderson (1996), this thesis incorporates recent contributions from authors like Greenfield et al. (2019), who investigate the role of international law in promoting environmental justice. Additionally, the existing literature work on the legal mechanisms for environmental protection in relation to human rights offers insightful perspectives on the evolving legal landscape. These authors collectively emphasize the critical importance of recognizing a healthy environment as essential to the realization of fundamental human rights and sustainable development. They provide a nuanced understanding of how legal frameworks can synergize environmental conservation with the overarching goals of societal progress and well-being.

METHODOLOGY

This research adopts a comprehensive and rigorous analytical methodology, focusing on the constitutional enshrinement of environmental rights. The methodology is multifaceted, involving a detailed examination of constitutional texts, specifically emphasizing their detailed provisions and implications for environmental rights. This indepth scrutiny extends to each constitutional clause related to environmental rights, ensuring a thorough and nuanced understanding of the legal framework. The Royal Decree No. 101/96, which established the Basic Statute of the Sultanate of Oman, is crucial to this analysis. This document serves as a cornerstone for interpreting and understanding the constitutional recognition and safeguarding of environmental rights within Oman. The research meticulously analyzes the specific language and clauses of the Basic Statute to ascertain the extent and manner in which environmental rights are embedded and protected in the nation's constitutional framework. In terms of data collection, the research employs a diverse array of information sources to support a well-rounded and robust analysis. The authoritative books were used, which included texts on constitutional law, environmental legislation, and specific works focusing on Oman's legal system.

Books provide a comprehensive background, historical context, and detailed analyses by experts in the field. Magazines, especially those focusing on legal and environmental issues, offer current perspectives and contemporary discussions on the topic. They serve as a source of up-to-date information and expert opinion. Academic articles from peer-reviewed journals are crucial for accessing the latest research findings, theoretical debates, and empirical studies related to environmental rights and constitutional law. These articles provide depth and rigour to the analysis, ensuring that the research is grounded in current academic discourse. The research also examines relevant legal documents, including statutes, treaties, and case rulings, particularly those pertaining to Oman and comparable jurisdictions. This helps in understanding how environmental rights are interpreted and applied in practice. By integrating these varied sources, the research aims to construct a comprehensive analytical framework. This approach

not only allows for a thorough exploration of the constitutional status of environmental rights in Oman but also situates the findings within a broader global and comparative context. The outcome is a detailed and well-supported conclusion that contributes significantly to the understanding of environmental rights within the constitutional paradigm.

RESULTS

Constitutions play an integral role in shaping a nation's legal landscape. As Dahrouge (2023) asserts, constitutions are paramount documents defining the state's organizational structure, power distribution, and citizens' rights and liberties. They are the bedrock of societal ideologies and trends, setting objectives across societal, economic, and political dimensions. According to Rahim (2006), the constitution embodies national sovereignty and serves as the fundamental framework for all legal actions taken within a state, including laws, rules, executive decisions, and individual behaviour. Constitutionalism, as Moosa (2017) highlights, places the constitution at the pinnacle of the legal hierarchy, imparting legitimacy to the legal order and establishing it as the guiding authority for governance.

This framework notably includes environmental rights, as evidenced by key international milestones like the Wang (1972). The constitution also acts as a safeguard, guiding legislative activities and ensuring adherence to constitutional values, thereby embodying both the state's organizational blueprint and its ethical compass.

Reasons for constitutionalizing environmental rights

Public international law has an impact on the push to enshrine environmental rights in constitutions (Al-Rawashdeh, 2017), which is a result of their connection to human rights. The works of Memari et al. (2022) echo this movement, which has received support from organizations like the United Nations. Constitutionalizing environmental rights highlights the intrinsic connection between a healthy environment and human well-being, offering a stable foundation for environmental policies (Helal et al., 2019). This recognition not only addresses environmental justice issues but also empowers citizens to hold governments accountable for

environmental stewardship.

The constitutional right to the environment

Delving into the right to the environment involves examining its legal nature and definitions:

Conceptualizing the right to the Environment: This right is closely tied to human safety, with the environment's condition directly affecting life quality and sustainability. Legal frameworks, as Sabbagh et al. (1992) notes, are crucial in establishing environmental protection guidelines.

Defining the environment as a constitutional right: Despite the absence of a universally accepted definition, as Elwan and Al-Mousa (2009) observes, the term "environment" is often subject to varying interpretations by scholars like J. Panatel, M. Prieur, and M. Despax, who highlight its complexity and ambiguity (Settin et al., 2005).

Linguistic and idiomatic definitions: The term "environment," with roots in historical terms Baa and Boaa, encompasses both natural and human-induced elements (Siwar et al., 2009).

Legal definitions: Environmental laws, such as the Omani Environmental Protection and Pollution Control Law (Royal Decree No. 114/2001) and Egypt's Environmental Protection Law No. 4/1994, define the environment as encompassing humans, animals, plants, air, water, soil, and human-made structures.

Elements of the environment according to the regional concept

The regional concept of environmental elements includes:

- 1. Land Element: This covers subterranean resources and geographical features. Soil pollution sources and their impacts are highlighted (Sabbagh et al., 1992).
- 2. Marine Element: Encompassing bodies of water, this section addresses water pollution and its health impacts (Siwar et al., 2009).
- 3. Air Element: Discussing the atmosphere and air pollution, this part considers state sovereignty and environmental implications.

The legal nature of the constitutional right to the environment

This section explores the characteristics of environmental rights, positioning them within the spectrum of human rights. As Al-Haf (1998) categorizes, human rights span three generations,

with environmental rights being part of the third generation, focused on solidarity rights. These rights emphasize intergenerational responsibility and justice, highlighting the duty to preserve the environment for future generations.

The right to the environment: An international perspective

The right to a healthy environment, recognized internationally, has evolved within the broader framework of human rights. Initially more prevalent in international discourse than at the domestic level, this right was often associated with public health and tranquillity (Al-Hasban, 2011; Giwanatara and Hendrawan, 2021). The global recognition of this right emerged from extensive discussions in the early 1970s, culminating in two perspectives: one advocating for an autonomous right to a clean and balanced environment and the other questioning its necessity as a separate entity from other fundamental human rights.

International declarations, especially the seminal Wang (1972), played a pivotal role in validating this right despite their non-binding nature (Alolaiwi, 2017; Damaryant et al., 2017). The Rio de Janeiro Declaration in 1992 further cemented its importance, linking environmental rights with other human rights and emphasizing the need for international cooperation in resource conservation and environmental protection (Alolaiwi, 2017).

The constitutional basis of environmental rights

In the legal hierarchy, the constitution supersedes other laws, forming the legal system's bedrock. All state actions must conform to its provisions (Feris, 2008). Thus, examining the constitutional basis of the right to a healthy environment is critical, particularly given the hierarchical nature of legal rules.

Organizing the right to the environment in constitutions

Constitutions approach the right to a healthy environment in two ways: explicitly or implicitly. Some, like those of Iraq, France, and Turkey, explicitly state this right (Alolaiwi, 2017). Others, such as Slovenia and Argentina, incorporate it within broader social and natural rights. A few, like Spain and Venezuela, integrate it with the responsibility of both the state and individuals (Nardon et al., 2021). However, there are concerns about the constitutional

articulation of this right, particularly in balancing legal interpretations and encompassing environmental risks.

In contrast, some constitutions, like those of Italy and Egypt (pre-2007 amendments), implicitly protect environmental rights, deriving implications from economic, social, or fundamental societal rights (Mohamed, 2017). While this indirect approach has merits, explicit constitutional incorporation is often advocated for clarity and consistency.

The basic statute of the Sultanate of Oman and environmental rights

The Basic Law of the Sultanate of Oman, established in 1996, aligns with other Arab nations in embedding environmental protection within its constitutional framework (The Basic Law of Governance in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 1992). Article 12 of the Basic Law of Oman emphasizes the state's commitment to public health and environmental preservation (Al-Hadi, 2007).

Decisions made by the Omani Administrative Judiciary regarding environmental permits for industrial activities serve as an example of how important a role it has played in enforcing environmental protection (Oman Administrative Judiciary Court, 2016).

While the Basic Law of Oman implicitly includes environmental rights, it does not explicitly enshrine them as a standalone provision, treating them as second-generation social rights. This classification impacts the enforcement and effectiveness of environmental rights.

Proposed text for the right to the environment in the basic law of Oman

Recognizing the efforts of Omani constitutional framers, it is recommended to include a specific provision in the Basic Law that explicitly acknowledges the right to a healthy environment. This new clause should highlight the shared responsibility of both the state and citizens for environmental preservation, aiming for comprehensive and sustainable development. Such an amendment would fortify the constitutional framework, ensuring the right to a healthy environment is unequivocally protected and prioritized.

DISCUSSION

The discussion below compares and contrasts various key points with earlier references to explore different dimensions of environmental rights. The integration of constitutional rights and responsibilities towards the environment, as highlighted in the text and by Werksman et al. (2014), reflects a common understanding of the dual nature of environmental rights. Both sources recognize the importance of balancing individual rights with state obligations.

The emphasis on human safety in relation to environmental threats, including pollution and industrial contamination (Mishra et al., 2019), aligns with the earlier references. This consensus underscores the notion that a healthy environment is fundamental to human well-being.

The categorization of environmental rights as both collective and individual rights (Mishra et al., 2019; Shelton, 2017) is echoed in earlier sources. This dual perspective reflects an understanding that environmental protection involves responsibilities at both individual and state levels.

Classifying environmental rights as third-generation rights that require collaborative enforcement (Werksman et al., 2014) is a point of agreement among sources. This classification aligns with the broader view that adequate environmental protection requires joint efforts from various stakeholders.

The focus on sustainable development as a primary goal, highlights the importance of preserving the environment for future generations, a common theme in environmental rights discourse.

The attention given to environmental rights at both international and national levels and the recognition of their global heritage status are recurring themes. However, the emphasis on national legislative efforts as the most efficient means of environmental protection suggests that while international guidelines are crucial, their practical implementation is often realized at the national level. The text and earlier references note the variability in constitutional approaches to environmental rights. This variability ranges from explicit codification to more implicit references, indicating a spectrum of recognition and highlighting the diversity in how nations address environmental rights.

The distinction drawn between explicit constitutional

provisions and implicit acknowledgment through interpretation is a critical point of discussion. This distinction resonates with earlier discussions, emphasizing the significance of how environmental rights are framed within constitutional contexts.

The discussion on Oman's constitutional commitment to environmental protection aligns with earlier references. It shows that embedding environmental protection within the national legal framework is a testament to the prioritization of environmental preservation in policy-making.

Theoretical and practical implications

This study contributes to the theoretical understanding of environmental rights bv categorizing them as a blend of collective and It reinforces the notion that individual rights. environmental protection is not only a collective responsibility but also an individual right, integrating civil and political dimensions. This perspective enriches the theoretical discourse on human rights, particularly third-generation rights, by emphasizing the need for collaborative efforts in environmental stewardship.

The research provides insights into the various ways constitutions around the world address environmental rights. By comparing explicit and implicit constitutional protections, it underscores the diversity in constitutional approaches to environmental protection. This has theoretical implications for constitutional law, especially in understanding how environmental rights are woven into the fabric of different legal systems.

The study's emphasis on sustainable development as a goal in environmental protection adds a theoretical dimension to the discourse on sustainable legal frameworks. It highlights the role of environmental rights in ensuring the well-being of future generations, thereby contributing to the evolving theory of sustainable development within legal scholarship.

The research bridges environmental law and human rights, adopting an interdisciplinary approach. This theoretical implication suggests that effective environmental protection requires understanding not just legal principles but also their intersection with human rights, public health, and sustainable development.

The findings of this study have significant implications

for policy formulation. Recognizing the right to a healthy environment as both a collective and individual right necessitates policies that address environmental protection at both the community and individual levels. This has practical implications for governments in formulating and implementing environmental policies.

The diverse constitutional approaches to environmental rights, as explored in the study, provide a practical basis for legislative reforms. Lawmakers can use these insights to draft or amend environmental laws, ensuring they align with constitutional provisions and effectively protect environmental rights.

The study's exploration of explicit and implicit constitutional recognition of environmental rights offers a practical guide for judicial interpretation. Courts can use these findings to interpret environmental laws and rights, especially in cases where environmental rights are implicitly embedded in the constitution.

The study underscores the importance of individual responsibility in environmental protection. This has practical implications for public awareness campaigns and educational programs, which can foster a sense of individual responsibility and encourage proactive engagement in environmental stewardship.

The emphasis on global efforts and the need for collaboration in environmental protection highlights the practical need for international standards and agreements. This study supports the argument for global cooperation in addressing environmental issues, reinforcing the importance of international environmental treaties and conventions.

Limitations and future directions

The study's focus on the Omani constitutional framework might limit its applicability to other legal systems with different constitutional structures and environmental legislation. This geographic focus could restrict the generalizability of the findings. The anticipation of future legislative changes, such as the inclusion of explicit provisions for environmental rights in the Omani Basic Law, is speculative. Such predictions are contingent on political will and legislative processes, which are inherently uncertain. While the study emphasizes the importance of public involvement and education in environmental protection, it may underestimate the challenges of

changing public behaviour and attitudes, especially in diverse socio-cultural contexts. The recommendation for enhanced state participation in international environmental efforts may need to be more balanced with the complexity of international negotiations and the challenges of aligning diverse national interests and policies. The study's emphasis on sustainable development and environmental integrity could underplay the economic challenges and tradeoffs involved in transitioning to green economies, especially in resource-dependent countries. The study primarily relies on theoretical and legal analysis, which may need to fully capture the practical and on-ground realities of implementing environmental policies and laws.

Future research could compare the Omani approach to environmental rights with other countries' models, providing a broader understanding of how different legal systems address environmental protection. Studies could assess the real-world impacts of incorporating environmental rights into constitutions, examining both successes and challenges in various countries. Research exploring how public awareness and educational initiatives actually translate into behavioural changes and societal transformation in environmental conservation would be valuable. Analyzing the economic implications of integrating environmental considerations into national development strategies would provide insights into the feasibility and effectiveness of such approaches. Investigating the role and potential of technological advancements and innovations in enhancing environmental protection and sustainability could offer practical solutions.

CONCLUSION

The study revealed the complexities inherent in actualizing the human right to a clean environment, highlighting both the challenges and opportunities in this arena. It became clear that a multifaceted approach, blending legal, policy, and societal efforts, is crucial for fostering a sustainable and healthy environment. The recommendation to embed the human right to a clean environment in the Omani Basic Law of the State emerged as a key strategy for fostering a sense of collective responsibility among both the state and its citizens.

The envisioned role of the state is proactive and integrative, combining international and national environmental initiatives into a cohesive strategy. Meanwhile, the study encourages individuals to heighten their environmental awareness and engagement, urging them to transform constitutional principles into lived realities and daily practices.

The study underlines the importance of legal reforms and policy innovations as foundational to a robust environmental protection framework. It calls for legal systems that are flexible, inclusive, and capable of addressing the evolving nature of environmental challenges. Policy innovations are identified as critical for translating legal principles into practical, effective, and sustainable actions.

Given the transboundary nature of environmental issues, the study underscores the urgency of global cooperation. It advocates for forming international alliances, sharing innovative solutions, and pooling resources to confront environmental challenges effectively. Such collaborative efforts are portrayed as vital for harmonizing global strategies and resources in the fight against environmental degradation.

The study also places significant emphasis on societal participation in environmental protection. It redefines the human right to a clean environment from a passive entitlement to an active, participatory commitment. It calls on individuals to transition from awareness to engagement, actively embodying legal and constitutional rights through concrete actions. Public education and heightened societal awareness are pinpointed as key drivers in this transformative journey towards a sustainable and healthy environment.

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