

## **Green Criminology from Past to Present**

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At first criminology was incredibly slow in responding to the problems of threatening the environment and environmental crime. The required reorganization within its research and redirection from conventional to new forms of criminality, such as crimes against the environment, was discovered rather late. The first beginnings of the development of green criminology originate from the beginning of 1970s, and in spite of almost four decades long development and forming of a new branch of criminology, criminologists are facing the lack of clearly defined terms, definitions and suitable criminological theories. Through history three directions of green criminology developed the most: radical-critical, sociological-theoretical and sociological-philosophical, which later combined under today well known green criminology. The analysis of green criminology shows that one is still facing the development of this new branch of criminology. Also, the review of the development and forming of green criminology through history reveals different influences of other sciences (e.g., environmental sociology, critical criminology). Obstacles, which green criminologists are still facing today, are related to lack of unified definition of green criminology, slowly increasing number of conducted studies in the field of environmental issues that offer the necessary research results for explanation of the studied environmental crime. Despite the fact that in every country the development of green criminology went its own way, the main objective of green criminology remains the same; study of the deviance against the environment on a regional, national or global level. Therefore, green criminology needs to reappraise its traditional notions of criminality and to come closer to the environment as victim and human as perpetrator of the environmental crime. With other words, green criminology has to examine the role that society plays in generating environmental degradation. One of the possibilities, to extend the scientific methodological approaches in criminological studies of environmental crime, is close connection and cooperation between the green criminology and other sociological and natural sciences, providing wider field of knowledge and experiences with environmental crime.