

Crimes against environment and landscape: public prosecutor offices data

Years 2006-2016

Over the last few years, the great attention to environmental issues resulted in a larger number of proceedings at the Public Prosecutor's Offices (Procure della Repubblica). They increased from 4,774 in 2007 (the Consolidated Environmental Law was launched in 2006) to 12,953 in 2014. In 2016, they fell to 10,320. These proceedings regards the decision of Public Prosecutor Offices in order to charge the persons investigated or archive their position

These data show a greater number of proceedings for environmental violations in the South and Islands area (47.7% of the criminal proceedings in 2016), in the North they amounted to 30%.

In 2016, most of the alleged violations concerned waste management (8,792 proceedings) and wastewater (1,636). There are 170 procedures for the unauthorized transport of waste and 164 for the organized waste traffic. Compared to 2013, criminal actions issued for organized waste traffic decreased in 2016 (from 105 to 58).

At the same time, the procedures for waste incineration are increasing. These violations were more numerous in the South, particularly in Campania, Sicilia and Calabria, but these were om the rise also in Lazio and, in the North, in Piemonte and Lombardia.

The duration of the proceedings' investigations by the Public Prosecutor's offices was very variable depending on the area. However, a general increase resulted in 2015: the average duration of the investigations was 457 days, an increase of almost 30% compared to 2010.

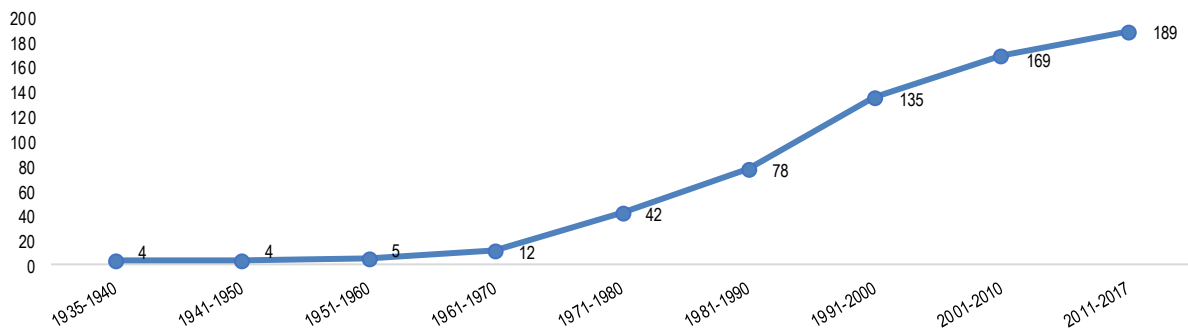
The overall number of building laws violations declined: -55.9% between 2006 and 2016 for the prosecuted persons (the proceedings against known authors for which criminal action began in 2016 were 10,277, and 23,323 in 2006). The number of proceedings for this type of violation was higher in Campania, Lazio, Sicilia, Puglia, Calabria.

The violations concerning the wastewater management and the landscape restrictions affected in particular coastal municipalities. 69.1% of coastal municipalities were involved compared to 14.8% of non-coastal municipalities. The most affected regions were Campania, Lazio and Basilicata with respectively 92%, 88% and 86% involved.

The number of cases reported for forest fires committed by unknown persons were still high (3,579 in 2015), while proceedings against known perpetrator were stable over time (500 in 2015).

The areas most heavily affected by forest fires over the last years are located in the surroundings of Roma, in the South Pontine area and in some areas of Liguria and Puglia.

CUMULATED DISTRIBUTION OF NATIONAL LAWS WITH TITLE REFERRED TO LANDSCAPE - NATURAL BEAUTIES (a), ENVIRONMENT, POLLUTION. Years 1935-2017



a) Until 1960, the laws were referred to the natural beauties to be preserved, and only to some of them in particular, and not to the landscape in a general sense.

For more details please refer to the Italian version

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