Violation of the Rights of Nature and Transgenics

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Extent of GMO cultivation: 170 million hectares in 28 countries

- USA (69.5 million hectares)
- Brasil (36.6 million hectares)
- Argentina (23.9 million hectares)
- Canadá (11.6 million hectares)
- India (10.8 million hectares)
- Paraguay (3.4 million hectares)
Transgenics alter the structure of DNA
Field Release of GMOs
Impact on the forms of life
90% of the transgenics are tolerant of glyphosate (weed killers)
The glyphosates interfere with the nutrients of the soil
Consumption
Constitution of Ecuador

• Article 401 - Declares Ecuador free of crops and transgenic seeds. Genetically modified seeds and crops may be introduced exceptionally and only if duly informed of national interest by the Office of the President and approved by the National Assembly.

• Namely, first entering transgenic crops and seeds are prohibited, and secondly, the possibility that the Executive's approval for reasons of national interest is opened.
National Interests

- Sumak Kawsay – “buen vivir”/ “good life”
- Food sovereignty
- Plurinational and intercultural
Other Related Articles

• Art.15 development, production, possession, sale, import, transport, storage and use is prohibited ....

• experimental technologies and harmful biological agents and genetically modified organisms harmful to human health or that threaten food sovereignty or ecosystems.

• Additionally, Article 401 adds that: The application of risky or experimental biotechnology is prohibited.

• The Article 73 reinforces the protection of nature against these (and other agencies) harmful as follows:

• The introduction of organisms and organic and inorganic material that can alter in a definitive way the national genetic patrimony is prohibited.
The Constitution prohibits transgenics that...

• Are harmful to human health
• Threaten food sovereignty
• Threaten ecosystems
• May permanently alter the national genetic heritage
• Are experimental, harmful or hazardous
Actions taken (National Level)

- The Ministry of Environment is actively promoting GMOs
- The Plan for the productive change matrix:
  - 50,000 Ha with soybeans (Coast)
  - 20,000 Ha canole (Andes)
- National Plan for Good Living also includes GMO crops and genetic manipulation
International Level

- Monsanto controls 90% of the cultivation of transgenics in the world, through its patented seeds
- The national governments where the plants are cultivated
- UNDP which promotes a fast track model for the rapid approval of transgenics around the world, including in Ecuador where transgenics are prohibited
Our demands

• The Constitution of Ecuador be respected in reference to transgenic organisms.

• The possibility of the introduction of transgenic organisms in Ecuador be removed from all public policy

• Administrative, legal and policy measures are implemented to keep in Ecuador as a country free of GMOs, and an accountability system is established if these measures are not met.
At the International level

1. The integral restoration and remediation of the contaminated ecosystems: this process are is to be done with the full participation and satisfaction of victims and a guarantee of non-recurrence.

2. A comprehensive assessment of the impacts of transgenic crops is done in all areas of culture

3. That until this assessment has not been completed, the expansion of the agricultural frontier of GM crops is suspended.

4. That the introduction of new GMO ban as resistant to stronger glyphosate herbicides such as 2,4 D, dicamba, glufosinate ammonium.

5. The expansion of GM soy will slow and reverse the process starts soy plantations for other crops