

# Review of: "How can Ecological ethics assist in the progress of man? Towards a reflection on the Encyclical letter Laudato si'" data-bbox="57 104 926 184"/>

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The author is showing the view of the catholic church on the ecology. As the author says the Creator gave the man the nature in order that he uses it and protects it. The author sees the possibility to protect nature in changing the man way of thinking. Man should be more protective towards the nature and less using the nature only for his purposes. This is, as the author says by himself, a very anthropocentric point of view - putting always the man first. Would it not be better to put both the nature and mankind at the same level? Then we would not have a despotic man who can (if he/she wishes so) protect nature, but we would have to equal parties. I would rather introduce the concept of "nature" in our philosophical discourse. Doing so we do not look from the perspective of people and their economic interests. Using the concept of "nature" means personification of it. Here we look from the perspective of the nature and what will be the best for it. In the last years we can see a movement from the concept of "common heritage of mankind" towards the concept of "nature" one of the aspects of it is the environmental personhood.

What I was also missing in the article was mentioning of other cultures (beyond Judeo- Christians) which see the Rights of Mother Earth. We can find them in the ethics of indigenous peoples, especially from the Andean region of South America and the Māori people from New Zealand. In their understanding, the Earth and cosmos are alive. Humans are not superior towards nature; they coexist together with it and are merely one of its components. The division between living beings and non-living beings does not exist. The rights for Mother Earth can also come from the scientific stream, in which scientists understand the Earth system as consisting of the land, oceans, atmosphere and poles, and includes the planet's natural cycles – carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, phosphorus and sulphur – as well as deep Earth processes.