



## **The Right to Environmental Information as a Pillar for Consolidating the Participatory Environmental Approach**

**Mellah HAFSI**

University of batna 01 - Algeria

[mellah.hafsi2017@gmail.com](mailto:mellah.hafsi2017@gmail.com)

### **Abstract:**

*Information dissemination constitutes one of the fundamental pillars in the preservation of the environment, as the development of environmental awareness and the acquisition of the knowledge necessary to alter attitudes and intentions towards environmental issues depend on the transmission of information and on the public's own willingness to serve as an instrument for raising awareness, promoting new values, or advocating the abandonment of existing behaviours. To entrench participatory environmental democracy, the Algerian legislature has elaborated in detail the right to environmental information, dedicating an entire chapter to it in Law No. 03--10 on the Protection of the Environment within the Framework of Sustainable Development.*

**Keywords:** *Environmental information, environmental awareness, sustainable development.*

## **Le droit à l'information environnementale, pilier de la consolidation de l'approche environnementale participative**

### **Résumé :**

*La diffusion de l'information constitue l'un des piliers fondamentaux de la préservation de l'environnement, car le développement de la conscience environnementale et l'acquisition des connaissances nécessaires pour modifier les attitudes et les intentions à l'égard des questions environnementales*

*dépendent de la transmission de l'information et de la volonté du public lui-même de servir d'instrument pour sensibiliser, promouvoir de nouvelles valeurs ou préconiser l'abandon des comportements existants. Afin de consolider la démocratie environnementale participative, le législateur algérien a élaboré en détail le droit à l'information environnementale, lui consacrant un chapitre entier dans la loi n° 03-10 relative à la protection de l'environnement dans le cadre du développement durable.*

**Mots clés :** *Information environnementale, conscience environnementale, développement durable.*



## **Introduction:**

Information dissemination occupies a prominent position as one of the most important platforms advocating for environmental protection and as the most effective means of reaching all segments of society and encouraging them to take the initiative to safeguard the environment and curb pollution. It is therefore highly important that various media devote broad attention to environmental issues, cultivate public awareness of the necessity of preserving the integrity of the environment against the dangers of pollution, and ensure that the environment remains a sound refuge for humankind.

Accordingly, it is incumbent upon us to address the concept of the right to environmental information (Section One), then to turn to the applications of the right to environmental information (Section Two), followed by the mechanisms for exercising the right to environmental information (Section Three), and finally, the limits or constraints placed upon the right to environmental information (Section Four).

### **1. Concept of the Right to Environmental Information**

Information dissemination, or the right to access information, is regarded as a fundamental human right and an integral part of freedom of opinion and expression. It was first recognised by the United Nations General Assembly in 1946 and outlined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; its essential contours were subsequently articulated in Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and

Political Rights, which delineates the exceptions upon which public authorities may rely when imposing restrictions.<sup>i</sup>

Furthermore, defining the right to environmental information requires, first, its conceptual definition (Subsection One) and, second, the identification of the role of environmental information in developing public awareness (Subsection Two).

### **1.1. Definition of the Right to Environmental Information**

There is no precise definition of the right to environmental information in either legal doctrine or the 1998 Aarhus Convention. Similarly, the Algerian legislature has not expressly defined this right; however, it has been referenced in several environmental laws and regulations. At the same time, the legislature has elaborated this right in considerable detail, devoting an entire chapter to it in Law Nos. 03--10 on the Protection of the Environment within the Framework of Sustainable Development.

Accordingly, the right to environmental information or the right to access environmental information may be defined as:

“The legal right of individuals to obtain environmental information from the relevant entities in possession of such information, regardless of its form or nature, for the purpose of environmental protection in a manner that positively affects human life and sustainable development.”<sup>ii</sup>

It is also defined as:

“The right to obtain information held by public administrations, public economic enterprises, and private entities engaged in economic activities with an environmental impact, to make such information



Soumission : 15/03/2024 Acceptation : 05/06/2025 Publication : 15/08/2025

accessible to citizens, and to simplify the means of access to and retrieval of this information.”<sup>iii</sup>

The right to environmental information takes two principal forms:

1. **Active Disclosure (Publicité Active):** This refers to the state’s voluntary provision of environmental information without individuals having to request it.
2. **Passive Disclosure (Publicité Passive):** This refers to the provision of environmental information by the administration upon the request of individuals.

## 1.2. Role of Environmental Information in Developing Environmental Awareness

Environmental awareness is one of the most effective ways to address the diverse environmental contexts encountered by any society. This awareness is cultivated through the media – radio, television, and the press – which play crucial roles in increasing citizens' consciousness and instilling correct environmental concepts among individuals, industrial institutions, and other actors in the environment. It also highlights various types of damage and pollution, warning that increased pollution may lead to health, economic, and social disasters.<sup>iv</sup>

The importance of information dissemination is likewise considered an essential element in fostering environmental awareness and promoting sustainable development. It plays a significant role in preserving urban health, ensuring citizens' well-being, and providing clean air; as the saying goes, a clean environment means clean air and, consequently, a healthy investment. Researchers in the field of environmental information have traditionally focused

their studies on environmental awareness, understood as individuals' recognition of their role in helping social groups and individuals understand the environment and its challenges.

These researchers have also emphasised that environmental information plays a fundamental role in shaping behavioural education and environmental socialisation, equipping individuals with knowledge of environmental concepts to shape public opinion, foster environmental culture, inform them about climate change, and enable adaptation to environmental surroundings in light of these transformations.<sup>v</sup>

Thus, one of the principal objectives of environmental information is to cultivate awareness and enhance environmental sensitivity among all recipients of environmental information messages, enabling them to become genuinely active citizens and agents of continuous sustainable development through their commitment to protecting the environment. In other words, environmental information aims to foster and safeguard environmental capacities in a manner consistent with sound social and biological functional adaptation among citizens. This, in turn, leads to the rationalisation of environmental behaviour in human interaction with the surrounding environment and encourages participation in projects for environmental protection and resource conservation. The mission of environmental information, therefore, lies in employing all forms of media to raise awareness, provide information that guides behaviour, and elevate individuals to a level of responsibility that ensures the spontaneous preservation of the environment and the development of its resilience.<sup>vi</sup>



**Soumission : 15/03/2024**    **Acceptation : 05/06/2025**    **Publication : 15/08/2025**

Accordingly, the crucial role of environmental information is to disseminate environmental culture and advance environmental awareness through various media, such as print, audio, and visual media, to protect the environment and explore ways to mitigate current environmental challenges. An individual who lacks the knowledge and awareness to interact appropriately with their environment ultimately contributes to its degradation and, consequently, to its own harm. Here, the role of environmental information emerges in alerting individuals to the dangers surrounding their environment, raising their awareness of how to confront and reduce these threats, and guiding them towards optimal interaction with their surroundings. This includes both undertaking simple, beneficial actions for the environment and refraining from seemingly minor yet harmful practices of which they may have been unaware.<sup>vii</sup>

Moreover, the significance of environmental information lies not solely in its role as a key element in building environmental awareness and promoting the concept of sustainable development. Its importance now also resides in disseminating a culture of disaster preparedness and awareness and in developing human adaptive capacities to confront such crises rationally. With ongoing climatic changes, no state is immune to natural disasters.<sup>viii</sup>

## **2. Applications of the Right to Environmental Information**

Decree No. 88--131, which regulates the relationship between the administration and the citizen,<sup>ix</sup> represents one of the earliest legal foundations to have embraced the principle of administrative information in Algerian

legislation. Legal scholars have since viewed this decree as establishing the public's right to access all administrative documents.<sup>x</sup>The introduction of specific provisions on the right to environmental information in various environmental legal texts followed this approach.

### **2.1. The Right of Access to Data Relating to Classified Installations**

Article 13 of Executive Decree No. 98-339, which governs the regulatory framework applicable to classified installations and sets out their list,<sup>xi</sup> Provides that any natural or legal person may, at the wilaya level and, as the case may be, consult the applicant's response memorandum for the classified installation, as well as the reasoned conclusions of the investigating delegate at the end of the investigation. However, this decree does not expressly set out a general right of access; rather, Article 14 merely obliges the seller of land on which a classified installation is or has been operated to inform the buyer in writing of all information concerning the risks and impacts arising from such operations, whether they relate to the land itself or to the installation.<sup>xii</sup>

### **2.2. The Right to Environmental Information in Environmental Law**

Law No. 03--10 on the Protection of the Environment within the Framework of Sustainable Development provides, in Article 6, the establishment of a comprehensive environmental information system, which includes the following:



**Soumission : 15/03/2024**    **Acceptation : 05/06/2025**    **Publication : 15/08/2025**

- Networks for collecting environmental information from bodies or persons subject to public or private law.
- The modalities for organising these networks and the conditions for collecting environmental information.
- The procedures and methods for processing and verifying the accuracy of the environmental data.
- Databases containing general, scientific, technical, statistical, financial, and environmental information of verified accuracy.
- All of these elements of information relate to various environmental aspects at both the national and international levels.
- Procedures for processing requests for access to information.

The legislature divided the right to environmental information into a general right and a specific right. The general right to environmental information is regulated by Article 7 of the Environmental Protection Law, which grants any natural or legal person the right to request information from competent authorities on the state of the environment, as well as the right to obtain it. This information may pertain to any available data, in any form, relating to the state of the environment, as well as to regulations, measures, and procedures aimed at ensuring its protection and management.<sup>xiii</sup>

The specific right to environmental information is outlined in Article 8 of the same law, which requires any natural or legal person holding information concerning environmental elements that may have a direct or indirect impact on public health to communicate such information to

the local authorities and/or the authorities responsible for environmental matters.<sup>xiv</sup>

### **2.3. Right to Information under the Waste Management Law**

Article 2 of Law No. 01--19 on the Management, Control, and Elimination of Waste provides, under its fifth principle, the following:

“Informing and raising public awareness of the risks arising from waste and its effects on health and the environment, as well as the measures adopted to prevent, mitigate, or offset these risks.”<sup>xv</sup>

Furthermore, Article 34 of the same law establishes a permanent mechanism to inform and sensitise the population about the harmful effects of waste on public health and the environment and measures aimed at preventing such effects.<sup>xvi</sup>

### **2.4. The Right to Environmental Information under the Consumer Protection Law**

Law No. 09--03 on Consumer Protection and the Suppression of Fraud, through Article 17, requires every operator to inform the consumer of all the information related to the product offered for consumption.<sup>xvii</sup>

### **2.5. Right to Environmental Information in the Laws Governing the Wilaya and the Commune**

Chapter III of Law Nos. 11--10 on the Commune, entitled “*Citizen Participation in the Management of Municipal Affairs*,” implicitly affirms citizens' rights to environmental information and to participate in environmental protection. Article 11 of this law states the following:



**Soumission : 15/03/2024    Acceptation : 05/06/2025    Publication : 15/08/2025**

“... The Municipal People’s Council shall take all measures to inform citizens about public affairs and to consult them on options and priorities for economic, social, and cultural development, under the conditions set forth in this law.”<sup>xviii</sup>

The Municipal People's Council may also present its annual activity report to citizens, thereby recognising their right to access information and to participate in environmental protection.

Under Law No. 12-07 on the Wilaya, the Wilaya People’s Council, alongside its other competences, exercises this role through deliberations, contributing to the preparation of Wilaya’s land-use plan and overseeing its implementation in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.<sup>xix</sup>

The Algerian legislature has further required that the public be informed of the deliberation agenda in advance by posting it in designated public spaces.<sup>xx</sup> This enables interested stakeholders to prepare for and review the environmental issues scheduled for discussion, thereby preventing the element of surprise in environmental decision-making processes.

Additionally, the legislator has mandated the publication of an extract from the minutes of the Wilaya People's Council's deliberations in publicly accessible locations within 8 days of the council's session. Wali is personally responsible for ensuring the dissemination of these deliberations.<sup>xxi</sup>

## **2.6. Environmental Impact Assessment as a Mechanism for Environmental Information**

The Algerian legislature has also recognised the public's right to environmental information through Executive Decree No. 07--145, which concerns the scope of application, content, and procedures for the approval of environmental impact studies and summaries. This decree provides for the issuance of a decision opening a public inquiry by posting notices at the wilaya headquarters and the concerned communes, as well as at the project site, and by publishing them in two national daily newspapers. The purpose of this procedure is to invite natural and legal persons to submit their observations and comments regarding proposed projects and their anticipated environmental impacts.<sup>xxii</sup>

## **2.7. The Right to Environmental Information through the Law on Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development**

Article 34 of Law No. 01--20 on spatial planning and sustainable development concerns the master plan for services and infrastructure related to transportation and telecommunications, ensuring the provision of these services across the entire territory. This contributes to the territory's economic development and guarantees equitable access to information, culture, and technology for all.<sup>xxiii</sup>

## **3. Mechanisms for Exercising the Right to Environmental Information**

Although the Algerian legislature has recognised and enshrined the right to environmental information and access law, ambiguities and shortcomings persist. Laws No. 03--10 on Environmental Protection and its implementing texts do



not specify the procedures or mechanisms for the practical exercise of this right, particularly regarding requests for access to environmental information (Subsection One) and the administration's duty to inform the public, even unilaterally, of all environmental information (Subsection Two).

### **3.1. Requesting Access to Environmental Information**

The Algerian legislature enshrined this right in Article 7 of Law No. 03--10, which provides the following:

“Every natural or legal person has the right to request and obtain from the competent authorities information relating to the environment...,”

Thus, recognising it as part of the general right to environmental information and expanding the circle of persons entitled to request environmental information.<sup>xxiv</sup>

In contrast, with respect to the specific right to environmental information, Article 9 of the same law limits this right to citizens, excluding foreigners, concerning technological and natural risks to which specific regions of the national territory may be exposed, as well as the protection measures to which they are subject.<sup>xxv</sup>

However, regarding the competent authority to which requests for environmental information should be directed, the Algerian legislature has not provided any specific designation. Article 9 of the aforementioned law states:

“... shall be requested from the competent authorities...,”

With reference to future regulatory provisions,<sup>xxvi</sup> this leaves all procedures and standards for implementing the right to environmental information or to obtain environmental data suspended pending the issuance of the

relevant regulations, thereby increasing practical difficulties in exercising this right.

In this context, it is strongly recommended that legislators expedite the promulgation of the legal texts necessary to operationalise the mechanisms for exercising the right to environmental information.

### **3.2. Public Disclosure and Dissemination of Environmental Information**

The mechanism of automatic dissemination of environmental information constitutes a shift from a passive obligation to an active obligation on the part of the state to proactively publish information to affect the right to access environmental information.<sup>xxvii</sup>

For example, the Algerian legislature has regulated the principle of publicising administrative actions in Executive Decree No. 15--19, which sets out the procedures for preparing and issuing urban planning permits, particularly building permits.<sup>xxviii</sup> Article 55 of this decree provides that a copy of the decision granting and endorsing the building permit shall be made available to the public. This decision is posted at the headquarters of the relevant Municipal People's Council, thereby enabling the public to consult the documents in the building permit file for a period of 1 year and 1 month.<sup>xxix</sup>

Public disclosure procedures are also applied in the context of public inquiries, where the decision to open the inquiry is posted at the headquarters of the relevant wilayas and communes, at the project site, and published in two national daily newspapers. This enables citizens to express their opinions on the proposed project and its expected effects on environmental balance.<sup>xxx</sup>



**Soumission : 15/03/2024    Acceptation : 05/06/2025    Publication : 15/08/2025**

In this context, the implementation of this comprehensive environmental information system remains frozen pending the issuance of the necessary executive decrees. This situation reflects a broader challenge that continues to hinder the effective enforcement of many legal provisions in Algeria.

#### **4. Limits and Restrictions on the Right to Environmental Information**

Despite the legal enshrinement of the right to environmental information, its implementation within a participatory environmental approach remains limited due to several obstacles and constraints that impede citizens' access to it. These constraints stem partly from the intrinsic nature of the right to information itself (Subsection One) and partly from the structural characteristics of existing participatory mechanisms, which, in themselves, create objective barriers to the practical realisation of this right within the context of environmental democracy (Subsection Two).

##### **4.1. Constraints Related to the Right to Environmental Information: "Subjective Limitations"**

The following section outlines the main restrictions associated with the right to environmental information and the difficulties in operationalising it under the current participatory approach in Algeria.

#### *4.1.1. Administrative Secrecy as a Constraint on the Principle of Environmental Information*

Administrative secrecy constitutes one of the most significant constraints on the principles of environmental information and access to environmental data. Public authorities often invoke the pretext of administrative confidentiality and the duty of professional secrecy to withhold information or deny access to administrative documents and data. In doing so, they view the sharing of information with citizens and associations as an act of power sharing. Consequently, the right to information is perceived as infringing upon the principle of administrative secrecy, leading to a general refusal to grant access, except where the law explicitly provides for it.<sup>xxxix</sup>

Furthermore, access to administrative documents related to environmental matters is subject to explicit exceptions of a strictly security-related nature. This includes procedures for classified installations under the authority of the Ministry of National Defence, which are governed by special rules for authorisation, investigation, and control under the supervision of the Minister of Defence.<sup>xxxix</sup>In addition, access to documents concerning cases of radioactive pollution, also known as "nuclear secrecy," is prohibited and falls under the advisory jurisdiction of the High Commission for Research.<sup>xxxix</sup>

Notably, Law No. 03--10 does not address the circumstances in which the administration may refuse to provide data or the possibility of appealing such refusals.



#### ***4.1.2. The Absence of a Defined Concept of Environmental Information***

The Environmental Protection Law does not provide a precise definition of the concept or nature of environmental information subject to the right to access and inspection. The principle of information disclosure remains vague and ill defined, particularly given the broad scope of environmental information, which cannot be adequately captured by the brief definitions in Articles 7 and 9 of Laws No. 03--10. Furthermore, the contemporary understanding of "information" extends beyond paper-based documentation, as electronic means are now widely used to collect, store, and verify environmental data.

Although Article 6 of Law No. 03--10 provides for the establishment of an environmental information system intended to collect environmental data held by the public and private sectors, it processes and verifies their accuracy and establishes procedures for accessing and consulting such data, thus helping to define the scope of environmental information and create a comprehensive environmental database, its implementation remains contingent upon the issuance of the relevant regulatory text. This text, however, has not yet been promulgated.

#### ***4.1.3. Absence of a Specific Legal Mechanism Governing Access to Environmental Information***

Individuals face a significant obstacle in accessing environmental information because of the absence of a specific legal mechanism that directly regulates the conditions and modalities of access to environmental data. Except for Decree No. 16--190, which establishes procedures

for consulting municipal council deliberation records,<sup>xxxiv</sup> whose scope is limited to access to municipal decisions and deliberation extracts at the municipal level, the current legal framework for environmental protection lacks any specific mechanism governing access to environmental documents and data.

The legislature has not detailed the procedures for exercising the right to environmental information, the means by which stakeholders may benefit from it, or the methods and modalities required to implement it effectively. Consequently, there remains a lack of explicit guarantees ensuring free access to environmental information and activities.

This is even though Law No. 03--10 on Environmental Protection refers to the implementation of Articles 6, 7, and 9, about the right to environmental information and access to environmental data, within regulatory measures. However, these provisions have remained merely on paper, with no implementing regulations issued to date.

#### **4.2. Constraints Related to Participation Mechanisms in the Environmental Field: "Objective Limitations"**

In addition to the subjective limitations inherent in the right to environmental information, there are also objective constraints that impede its practical implementation within the framework of environmental democracy. These constraints are linked to the nature of the legal mechanisms designed to affect environmental partnerships in national practice.



#### ***4.2.1. The Non-Mandatory Nature of Environmental Participation Mechanisms***

Although legislators have recognised the right of citizens and civil society actors to participate in environmental democracy, in practice, the mechanisms for such participation often remain merely formalistic and largely ineffective. This stems from their nonbinding character for the councils and bodies responsible for management, such as local authorities and administrations. These entities retain considerable discretion over whether to involve the public, benefiting from the fact that the legislator has imposed no binding obligations on them except in a limited number of specific cases.<sup>xxxv</sup>

As a result, the relevant administrative bodies can easily circumvent the principle of citizen participation in environmental protection outside these exceptional situations. Moreover, consultations with citizens or civil society organisations on matters of environmental protection do not entail any legal obligation to comply with their opinions or to automatically adopt their outcomes, given the consultative and optional nature of these mechanisms (such as public consultations and the principle of dialogue).

#### ***4.2.2. Limited Scope of Environmental Participation Mechanisms***

In addition to the nonmandatory character of most environmental participation frameworks, practical experience reveals a marked limitation in participation mechanisms. The consultation and dialogue procedures established by the legislature are drafted in broad, general terms, not specifically confined to the environmental field,

and lack detailed provisions for their implementation and operational procedures. Most of these mechanisms merely refer to future regulatory texts. Except for a few specific instruments, such as environmental impact assessments and public inquiry procedures, for which implementing regulations have been clearly issued,<sup>xxxvi</sup> the majority of mechanisms enabling citizen participation in environmental protection remain inoperative, pending the promulgation of executive regulations that clarify the modalities for their application.<sup>xxxvii</sup>

Notably, the legislature has prepared a draft law on participatory democracy aimed at strengthening existing participation mechanisms and introducing new instruments to integrate public and civil society actors into local governance strategies. Such a law would provide a significant impetus to enhance citizen participation in environmental protection management.

#### ***4.2.3. The Absence of Bodies and Instruments for Participating in Environmental Governance***

In addition to the lack of effective mechanisms for public participation in environmental protection, such as petitions, the right of proposal, objection procedures, and referenda, individuals currently lack any real means to exercise their right to information within the existing environmental governance framework.

For example, when citizens or civil society organisations attend sessions of local council deliberations, they are not granted the right to intervene or to make proposals, whether concerning environmental protection or other matters related to public affairs management. This is despite the legislature having established the principle of open sessions



**Soumission : 15/03/2024    Acceptation : 05/06/2025    Publication : 15/08/2025**

and the requirement to inform the public about council deliberations and agendas.<sup>xxxviii</sup>

However, this does not automatically guarantee citizens or civil society organisations the effective right to participate by submitting recommendations or proposals that align with their fields of activity or with the nature of the projects scheduled for discussion and voting, such as local development and spatial planning projects, which are inherently and integrally linked to environmental protection.

## **Conclusion:**

The right to environmental information and access represents one of the most essential pillars for realising genuine partnerships with public and civil society actors, thereby strengthening environmental governance. Accordingly, this study has examined the concept of the right to environmental information, explored its practical applications, addressed the mechanisms for its exercise, and finally analysed the limits and constraints that hinder its effective implementation and the achievement of meaningful environmental partnerships under current practices.

## Endnotes:

---

- <sup>i</sup> Belfadl, Mohamed, and Soufi Ben Daoud. "The Role of Environmental Media in Achieving Environmental Security." *Al-Bahith Journal of Academic Studies* 7, no. 1 (2020): 66. University of Batna.
- <sup>ii</sup> Ali Issa Abdelkader. *Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development: Prospects and Challenges between Arab and International Legislation*. Alexandria: Dar Al Fikr Al Jamii, 2016, 129.
- <sup>iii</sup> Fares and Kour. *Protecting the Right to a Clean Environment between Legislation and Implementation*. Baghdad: Baghdadi Publications, (2015), 154.
- <sup>iv</sup> Hussein Abdelhamid Ahmed Rashwan. *Environment and Society*. Egypt: Al-Maktab Al-Jamei Al-Hadith, 2006, 180.
- <sup>v</sup> Sanaa Mohamed Al-Jabour. *Environmental Media*. Jordan: Osama Publishing and Distribution, (2011), 106–7.
- <sup>vi</sup> Karam Ali Hafez. *Media and Environmental Issues*. Amman, Jordan: Al-Janadriyah Publishing and Distribution, 2017, 18.
- <sup>vii</sup> Arabiya Fadila and Khaled Hamed. "The Role of Environmental Media in Protecting and Strengthening Environmental Protection." *Al-Risala Journal of Human Studies and Research* 4, no. 3 (October 2019): 114.
- <sup>viii</sup> Zouhair Abdel Latif Abed and Ahmed Al-Abed Abu Saad. *Media and the Environment between Theory and Practice*. 1st ed. Amman, Jordan: Al-Yazouri Publishing, (2014), 32.
- <sup>ix</sup> Executive Decree No. 88-131 of 4 July 1988, Regulating Relations between the Administration and the Citizen, Official Gazette No. 27.
- <sup>x</sup> Nassima Ben Mehara. "Environmental Media and Its Role in Environmental Preservation." *Al-Mi'yar Journal* 8 (December 2013): 102. Tissemsilt University Centre, Algeria.
- <sup>xi</sup> See Article 13 of Executive Decree No. 98-339 of 3 November 1998, Regulating the Framework Applicable to Classified



- Installations and Establishing Their List, Official Gazette No. 78.
- xii See Article 14 of Executive Decree No. 98-339, cited above.
- xiii See Article 7 of Law No. 03-10 of 19 July 2003 on Environmental Protection within the Framework of Sustainable Development, Official Gazette No. 43.
- xiv See Article 8 of Law No. 03-10 on Environmental Protection within the Framework of Sustainable Development, cited above.
- xv See Article 2 of Law No. 01-19 of 12 December 2001 on Waste Management, Control, and Disposal, Official Gazette No. 77.
- xvi See Article 34 of Law No. 01-19 on Waste Management, Control, and Disposal, cited above.
- xvii See Article 17 of Law No. 09-03 of 25 February 2009 on Consumer Protection and the Suppression of Fraud, Official Gazette No. 15.
- xviii See Article 8 of Law No. 11-10 of 22 June 2011 on the Commune, Official Gazette No. 36.
- xix See Article 78 of Law No. 12-07 of 21 February 2012 on the Wilaya, Official Gazette No. 17.
- xx See Article 18 of Law No. 12-07 on the Wilaya, cited above.
- xxi See Article 102 of Law No. 12-07 on the Wilaya, cited above.
- xxii See Article 11 of Executive Decree No. 07-145 of 19 May 2007, Defining the Scope of Application, Content, and Procedures for the Approval of Environmental Impact Studies and Summaries, Official Gazette No. 34.
- xxiii See Article 34 of Law No. 01-20 of 12 December 2001 on Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development, Official Gazette No. 77.
- xxiv See Article 7 of Law No. 03-10 on Environmental Protection within the Framework of Sustainable Development, cited above.

- 
- <sup>xxv</sup> See Article 9 of Law No. 03-10 on Environmental Protection within the Framework of Sustainable Development, cited above.
- <sup>xxvi</sup> See Article 9 of Law No. 03-10 on Environmental Protection within the Framework of Sustainable Development, *ibid.*
- <sup>xxvii</sup> Ilham Kherchi. “Enabling the Right of Access to Environmental Information: Mechanisms of Implementation and Limitations.” *Jabal Human Rights Journal*, a peer-reviewed international scientific journal issued monthly by the Jil Scientific Research Centre, Special Issue on Environment and Development, no. 15 (January 2017): 128. Tripoli, Lebanon.
- <sup>xxviii</sup> Executive Decree No. 15-19 of 12 February 2015, Defining the Procedures for Preparing and Issuing Urban Planning Contracts, Official Gazette No. 07.
- <sup>xxix</sup> See Article 55 of Executive Decree No. 15-19, Defining the Procedures for Preparing and Issuing Urban Planning Contracts, cited above.
- <sup>xxx</sup> See Article 9 of Executive Decree No. 07-145, Defining the Scope of Application, Content, and Procedures for the Approval of Environmental Impact Studies and Summaries, cited above.
- <sup>xxxi</sup> Abdelhafidh Ossoukine. *La Transparence Administrative*. Dar El Gharb 2002, 18.
- <sup>xxxii</sup> See Articles 19 and 20 of Law No. 03-10 on Environmental Protection within the Framework of Sustainable Development, cited above.
- <sup>xxxiii</sup> Law No. 86-72 of 8 April 1986 Establishing the High Commission for Research, Official Gazette No. 15.
- <sup>xxxiv</sup> Executive Decree No. 16-190 of 30 June 2016, Defining the Procedures for Consulting Municipal Council Deliberation Extracts and Municipal Decisions, Official Gazette No. 41.
- <sup>xxxv</sup> See Articles 15, 21, and 22 of Law No. 03-10 on Environmental Protection within the Framework of Sustainable Development, cited above.



...

<sup>xxxvi</sup> See Article 10 of Executive Decree No. 07-145, Defining the Scope of Application, Content, and Procedures for the Approval of Environmental Impact Studies and Summaries, cited above.

<sup>xxxvii</sup> See Article 21 of Law No. 06-06 of 20 February 2006, Containing the City Orientation Law, Official Gazette No. 15.

<sup>xxxviii</sup> See Article 26 of Law No. 11-10 on the Commune, cited above.