

# The forest rehabilitation problem in the legal reserved areas located inside familiar households in face of the Brazilian new forestry code\*

El drama de la recomposición forestal en las áreas de reserva legal ubicadas en las propiedades familiares frente al nuevo código forestal brasileño

*O drama da recomposição florestal nas áreas de reserva legal nas propriedades familiares em face ao novo código florestal Brasileiro*

Marcos Catalan<sup>1</sup>

Centro Universitario la Salle, Unilasalle, Brasil

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.21803%2Fpenamer.9.16.336>

## Abstract

The legal reserve is an important tool for allocating the density of land ownership, based on its social and environmental function. That's why this paper focuses on an analysis of Brazil's new Forestry Code. It is analyzed if owners and holders of small areas of family-based agriculture can enforce this new law without harming their own survival and their families'. This research is guided by the essential features of the post positivist theory of law.

**Key words:** Family farming, Legal Reserve areas, Constitutional protection of the environment, Public politics, Brazilian forestry code.

## Resumen

La reserva legal es un importante instrumento de atribución de densidad a la función socioambiental de la propiedad agraria. Basados en esa perspectiva y conscientes de la vigencia de un nuevo código forestal en Brasil, este estudio –tejido metodológicamente bajo las influencias de las corrientes post-positivistas del derecho– tiene como objetivo comprobar si es posible para los propietarios y poseedores de pequeñas áreas de agricultura familiar respetar (o no) las exigencias impuestas por la legislación recientemente aprobada, sin perjuicio de su supervivencia y la de sus familias.

**Palabras clave:** Agricultura familiar, Áreas de reserva legal, Tutela constitucional del medioambiente, Políticas públicas, Código forestal Brasileño.

## Resumo

A reserva legal é uma ferramenta importante de atribuição de densidade à função socioambiental da propriedade da terra. Com base nessa perspectiva e consciente da validade de um novo Código Florestal no Brasil, este estudo - tecido metodologicamente sob a influência das correntes pós-positivistas do direito - tem como objetivo comprovar se é possível para os proprietários de pequenas áreas de agricultura familiar respeitar (ou não) as exigências impostas pela legislação recentemente aprovada, não obstante a sua sobrevivência e de suas famílias.

**Palavras-chave:** Agricultura familiar, Áreas de Reserva Legal, Proteção constitucional do meio ambiente, Políticas públicas, Código Florestal Brasileiro.

**How to cite this article:** Catalán, M. (2016). El drama de la recomposición forestal en las áreas de reserva legal ubicadas en las propiedades familiares frente al nuevo código forestal brasileño. *Pensamiento Americano*, 9(16), 15-26. <http://dx.doi.org/10.21803%2Fpenamer.9.16.336>



*Received: August 28 de 2015 • Accepted: October 10 de 2015*

\* The article The forest rehabilitation problem in the legal reserved areas located inside familiar households in face of the Brazilian new forestry code was conceived for the IX International Congress of Agrarian Law, promoted by the Cuban Society of Agrarian Law of the National Union of Jurists Of Cuba, in Havana, in the year 2014.

1. Ph.D. summa cum laude in Civil Law by the Faculty of Law of Largo de San Francisco, University of San Pablo. Master in Law from the State University of Londrina. Professor of the Master's in Law and Society of Unilasalle, in the Course of Law of Unilasalle and in courses of Specialization of Brazil. [marcoscatalan@uol.com.br](mailto:marcoscatalan@uol.com.br)

## 1. Agro-environmental protection in constitutional hermeneutic complexity

Curtains open.

The scenario is known.

It is possible to recognize in it that the insertion of the concerns about the protection of the environment in the constitutional<sup>1</sup> charters has its genesis in a temporal moment lived a little more than 40 years ago and that this phenomenon was caused, among other reasons, by the perception of Earth not surviving much longer if the pace –increasing at the time<sup>2</sup>– of exploitation and degradation of its natural wealth was maintained.

It is also inferred that in Brazil it was necessary to wait a little longer: the constitutional protection of this third dimensional fundamental right was only achieved –at least as a text and context formally incorporated in the system<sup>3</sup>– in 1988, when it came to light the current Constitutional Charter.

More than that, maybe.

Despite being close to three decades of existence, Brazil's Constitution still deserves a place among the most elaborate normative constitutions –with its values, principles and rules– seeking the protection of environmental goods. A constitution that also reserves a specific<sup>4</sup> chapter to the protection of the environment, beyond being full of other innumerable moments<sup>5</sup> intimately connected –directly (or not)– to one of the most studied and debated issues in the contemporary world.

There are innumerable shades of green that jump into the eyes of the attentive spectator. Such a profusion of colors, however, does not allow us to ignore yet another –as a minimum–equally valuable finding. An insight that leads to note and, consequently, to maintain that any hermeneutic effort involving environmental problems will have to be magnetized by the foundations that make up Brazilian democracy and, consequently, by the utopian and tireless

1 The ecologically balanced environment - as a third-dimensional right - was elevated to the constitutional guarantee category for the first time in the Bulgarian Constitution of 1971. The example was followed five years later by Cuba and a year later - in 1977- it was also written in the Constitution of the Soviet Union. Note that the fact that the three countries whose economies were left wing regime oriented, in our opinion, gives more importance to the protection of the interests of the community - when it is necessary - to the detriment of the promotion of individual rights of freedom, apparently explaining why capitalist countries concerned (!?) later on environmental protection. In that same decade, environmental protection was incorporated into constitutions of countries like Portugal (1974), Spain (1978). It seems to us that this is in agreement with the need to issue new constitutions due to the rupture with existing dictatorial regimes at the time.

2 And it is not that reality has - necessarily - changed, mostly when you look at today.

3 Until then Law 6938/81 dealt with the national policy of the environment.

4 Federal Constitution. "Art. 225. Everyone has the right to an ecologically balanced environment, a common use of the people and essential for a healthy quality of life, imposing on the Government and the community the duty to defend and preserve it for present and future generations".

5 Among others, it's possible to remember (a) subsection LXXIII, of article 5 - which provides for popular action as a procedural instrument of access to environmental protection-, (b) section II, of article 20 - claiming to be owned by the Union, the indispensable lands for environmental protection, (C) Articles 23 and 24 - which outline environmental legislative competence -, (d) Section III, of article 129 - highlighting the legitimacy of the Public Prosecutor's Office for The protection of the environment and, for the time being, finally, (e) clause VI, of article 170, a rule that informs the exercise of the economic order, by conforming it to the environmental property.

pursuit of the goals marked by branding iron in the epidermis of the Brazilian Constitution<sup>6</sup>.

And so, despite the fact that the senses that –fortuitously and necessarily– have to be attributed to the values, principles and rules contained in the Constitution (Fachin, 2009, p.248) –and it does not matter here, if for a) Of the exercise of the legislative activity, b) of the teaching work, c) of the process of realization of right promoted by the Courts, d) of the unveiling of the police power or e) of the performance of any other activity that touches the environmental problematic– deserves to be (Benjamin, 2003, p.20), the complexity inherent in the veins of the Constitution of the Federative Republic of Brazil imposes the assurance that Brazilians are assured –and it is appropriate to remind, everyone of them– an adequate environment to satisfy their daily existential needs, thus promoting the effective exercise of material citizenship and social justice.

Thunders ring backstage.

They long to awaken the viewer's perception to the fact that it will be in a context permeated by conflicts of interest and imperiously complex –hence quite distant from the environments of fragmentation and simplification

6 Federal Constitution. "Art. 3. The following are fundamental objectives of the Federative Republic of Brazil: I - to establish a free, fair and solidary society; II - guarantee national development; III - eradicate poverty and marginalization and reduce social and regional inequalities; IV - promote the good of all, without preconceptions of origin, race, sex, color, age and any other form of discrimination".

disseminated by Cartesian thought over the last four centuries– that the reflections on the subject cut for the purposes of the investigation will be generated indelibly. A context in which the idea of sustainability must be (re) signified, leading to the constant exploration of ways that can promote the balance between the promised good life, the necessary agro-environmental protection and the expected socio-economic development of Brazil (Milaré, 2006, p.33).

Sustainability that, by its explicit normativity, must permeate political action by orienting the creation of instruments that effectively promote the *fixation of man to the land* through the stimulation of family agriculture<sup>7</sup>, thus mitigating part of the problems related, a) to disorganized occupation of cities (Figueiredo, 2004, p.221), b) to the announced food crisis, and c) the disregard for environmental legislation, issues that have been generated throughout the 500 years of Brazilian History.

Perhaps Fortune<sup>8</sup> may be able to rethink some of the itineraries that are to be shown on

7 Law 11.326 / 06. "Art. 3. For the purposes of this Law, a family farmer and rural family entrepreneur is considered to be one who practices activities in the rural environment, simultaneously meeting the following requirements: I – They do not hold, in any capacity, an area greater than 04 fiscal modules; II - predominantly use the labor force of the family itself in the economic activities of their establishment or enterprise; III - have a minimum percentage of family income originated from the economic activities of their establishment or enterprise, as defined by the Executive Power, IV - manage their establishment or enterprise with their family.

8 The allusion made here is to the goddess of Roman mythology, who has her Greek counterpart in Tique.

the stage, on which hunger and social inequality are, day after day, lived by flesh and blood beings, amidst nausea, anguish and endless instants of agony that cannot be understood from the juxtaposition of a few words –however well chosen– but which, perhaps, can be minimally apprehended in one of the fabrics of Edvard Munch, titled *The scream*.

From the sides of the stage, light begins to shine and show that the constant attempt to equalize the principles and / or values previously mentioned may help and / or accelerate the process of paving the tracks which, once again, perhaps, can lead many Brazilians to the constitutional promises with which they dream, at least when the despair that accompanies them does not prevent them from doing so.

At the same time, others indicate that both the protection of the environment and the need to mitigate some of the grief that has long plagued the lives of millions of Brazilians –who do not even have access to the existential minimum (Fachin 2001)– are ways to qualify the dignity of the human person, a value abstractly mapped in black and white on the Brazilian constitutional map.

Finally, and before this scenario comes to be occupied by the stories of characters who live the problem denounced in the title of this work, it is appropriate to mention that, the consecration of the right to an ecologically balanced environment, imposes on the *Pub-*

*lic Power* the duty to stimulate an adequate agri-environmental management (Mirra, 1999), a position that is harmonized with the creation of mechanisms that stimulate the fixation of man to the land and with the stimulus of practices –materially realizable– attributive of density to the agri-environmental function of the property, among which, certainly, are those that enable respect for the legal reserve, an issue that also gains importance in emphasizing that the entitlements in Brazil were all greened by the Constitution (Benjamin, 2010, pp.90-93); which must occur, however, without this being too serious for family farming.

Here is the box –methodologically inspired by the post-positivist currents of understanding of the juridical phenomenon– in which one will seek to reflect on the drama experienced by countless families who assumed the commitment to feed the Brazilian population, but who, paradoxically, have difficulties in observing duties related to the legal status of owner or holder when faced with Brazilian forest legislation of yesterday and today.

## **2. The areas of legal reserve and the formation of the exercise of the ownership title**

The serious voice of a messenger reminds the audience that the idea of ownership, in the *Civil Law* forged in *Modernity*, as a legal relationship of private law –excessively private– is “sacred character” (Monteiro, 2003, p.3) and their absolute character –understood here, from the meanings attributed to them in the

empire of the Liberal State (Penteado, 2012, pp.11-112)– are among the main factors of legitimation of the thesis that the use, enjoyment and disposition of the property can be exercised as the owner wants (Aronne, 1999).

It even narrates that the code Beviláqua –an indifferent code to the life projects of those who did not belong to the Brazilian aristocracy– was born in an ideological environment truly similar to that in which the codifications that preceded it in more than a century.

A code conceived with the same DNA as its historical predecessors.

Suddenly, eloquent silence.

The audience knows-even though many insist that they do not perceive it-that the paths opened by *Chronos* have since gradually allowed access to sites in which the dominions were merged into a plethora of latent duties in proprietary legal situations, many of them, also densified in the attribution of meanings to the socio-environmental function of property (Barroso, 2013, p.77).

It also knows that among these duties, respect for the legal reserve should be established as one of the first frameworks, and not as a limit, according to the imaginary common sense of Brazilian jurists, of the exercise of the dominating legal positions, a perception provoked by the overthrow of proprietary individualism

and by the rise of a legal system inspired by political, economic and social solidarity that must be magnetized by the challenge of promoting the tutelage of a myriad of Brazilians who dream of social justice.

But this was not always the case, says a second voice, when he recounts that the legal reserve areas were ignored by the forest code of 1934<sup>9</sup>, stressing at once that although the code that took its place three decades later<sup>10</sup> was pre-occupied with private domain forests, the expression legal reserve was only incorporated at the end of the 80<sup>11</sup>, and spread a decade later<sup>12</sup>, in the XXI century.

In a brief synthesis, it reports that the legal reserve was intended as a framework for territorial extension located in rural property or possession (Catalan, 2009) –and from it the spaces destined for permanent preservation are excluded– “necessary for the sustainable use of natural resources, to the conservation and rehabilitation of ecological processes, to the conservation of biodiversity and to the protection of native fauna and flora”<sup>13</sup>. And, still,

9 Created by Decree 23.793 / 34.

10 Law 4,771 / 65.

11 Law 7,803 / 89.

12 For the alteration promoted by Provisional Measure 2,166-67.

13 Law 4.771 / 65 with wording given by Provisional Measure 2.166-67 / 01. “Art. 1 ° Existing forests in the national territory and other forms of vegetation, recognized as useful to the lands they cover, are property of common interest to all inhabitants of the Country, exercising property rights, with the limitations that the legislation in General and especially this Law establishes. [...] § 2 For the purposes of this Code, it is understood as: [...] III - Legal reserve: an area located inside a rural property or possession, except

that such areas –in which a tree plant cover should imperiously exist– fluctuated between 20% and 80% of the property<sup>14</sup>, depending on a) geographical location, and b) the ecosystem in which they were located.

It also points out that the tree cover admitted administration, since the law barely barred root cutting (Borges, 2005, p.294), and that it should be located in spaces that would sublimate the positive effects of ecological processes, demanding (Oliveira, 2002, p. 314), and that –exceptionally– family farmers were allowed to shape legal reserve areas with exotic fruit trees –organic or industrial– simply by mixing them with the native species<sup>15</sup>.

The atmosphere is taken, once again, by the sepulchral silence.

Impossible to ignore –and this position is not to be rejected, although as a historical and cultural construction will necessarily act as one more element to be considered in the analysis

of the subject– that after 500 years of incentive to the predatory occupation of the field, the Brazilian law –in a copernican turn<sup>16</sup>– began to demand from owners and holders of areas with forest cover lower than the parameters reported, a) the restoration of the legal reserve which involved the requirement of planting, every three years, 10% of the area to be recovered, without prejudice to viability, b) natural regeneration of the legal reserve, subject to pecuniary fines of high values, duties whose observation presupposed access to economic resources not always available.

It is impossible not to notice that, even before the transposition of a temporal context in which family agriculture –influenced for centuries by a culture of weeding based on the devaluation attributed to native vegetation (Rocha, 2013, p.181) when the cost of preservation was compared to the economic possibilities linked to agricultural exploitation (Oliveira & Santos, 2008, p.16)<sup>17</sup>– is stunned by the drastic

---

for permanent preservation, necessary for the sustainable use of resources natural resources, the conservation and rehabilitation of ecological processes, the conservation of biodiversity and protection of native fauna and flora. “

14 Law 4.771 / 65 with wording given by Provisional Measure 2.166-67 / 01. “Art. 16. Forests and other forms of native vegetation [...] may be suppressed, provided that, as legal reserve, at least: I - [80%] are maintained on rural property located in a forest area located in the Legal Amazonia. II - [35%] in the rural property located in a closed area located in the Legal Amazon [...]. III - [25%] in rural property located in forest area or other forms of native vegetation located in other regions of the Country. IV - [20%] in rural property in an area of general fields located in any region of the Country”.

15 Law 4.771 / 65 with wording given by Provisional Measure n. 2,166-67 / 01. Art. 16, § 3.

16 Phenomenon stimulated, in our opinion, by a) greening of the constitutional text and, among other less relevant reasons, b) attribution to IBAMA of the once-owned role of the Ministry of Agriculture, to give effect to forestry and environmental legislation.

17 “Brazil opted for a model of development that dispensed with the deconcentration of the land, preserved the latifundia, and even incorporated it into the agribusiness model, it is now a decision for those who debate what model of development the country will adopt, if it wanted to join with sovereignty in the world context, preserving the environment and natural resources, beyond contributing decisively to the containment of the social and environmental tragedy that sweeps the planet. This tragedy was caused by a transnationalised development model that profoundly intensified the depletion of our natural resources [...] and prevented the expansion of jobs in the countryside by imposing an agricultural model based on latifundia, monoculture, precarious labor and an intensive technology matrix in capital use.”

change in the direction of Brazilian environmental policy<sup>18</sup> –and there are many *Brazils* in Brazil– under the sign of discord, Law 12.651 / 12 came to light, the result of a legislative process that can be described here –as a matter of course– as obscure (Rodrigues, 2013, pp.347-348) .

There is a new element on the stage.

A law that disregards historical achievements, a) restrict the minimum percentages of vegetation coverage until then in force<sup>19</sup>, b) to legitimize the past lightness in disfavor of the environmental heritage<sup>20</sup>, c) to allow the registration of legal reserve areas in the Rural Environmental Registry –which may induce (or not) to environmental fraud– d) to extend

the period for the reconstitution of the legal reserve<sup>21</sup> and, still, e) to grant still undefined numbers of environmental infractions and actions (Rodrigues, 2013, pp.349-356).

A law that has to generate much debate and many perplexities.

The messenger leaves the stage, but not before narrating that the discussions that involve the advent of Law 12.651 / 12 can only be adequately dimensioned when one has in mind that the data on the Brazilian agrarian structure reveals that 4,367,902 of family properties (or) 84% of the agrarian establishments –compressed in 24.3% of the area used by the agricultural activity in Brazil (Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics [IBGE], 2006)<sup>22</sup>– hardly have, on average, between 10% and 15% of its areas devoted to permanent preservation or legal reserve (Inter-Union Department of Statistics and Socioeconomic Studies [Dieese], 2011, pp.30-183)<sup>23</sup>.

18 It is said once: unquestionably positive change and that sought to attribute density and consistency to the Democratic and Environmental State of Brazilian Law.

19 Law 12.651 / 12. “Art. 15. The computation of the [APP] in the calculation of the percentage of the Legal Reserve of the property will be allowed, provided that: I - the benefit provided in this article does not imply the conservation of new areas for the alternative use of the land; II - the area to be computed is preserved or in the process of recovery and [...] III - the owner or holder has requested inclusion of the property in the Rural Environmental Registry - CAR, under the terms of this Law. Which, in our opinion, expands the problem referred to in item (a).

20 Law 12.651 / 12. “Art. 13. When indicated by the Ecological-Economic Zoning [...] the federal public power may: I - reduce, exclusively for purposes of regularization, by recomposition, regeneration or compensation of the legal reserve of properties with consolidated rural area, located in area of forest located in the Legal Amazon for up to 50% of the property, excluding priority areas for conservation of biodiversity and water resources and ecological corridors.” And, in our opinion, even greater irresponsibility - and dogmatically manifests unconstitutionality - identified in Art. 67: “In rural properties that have, on July 22, 2008, an area of up to 04 fiscal modules and possessing a residual of native vegetation in percentages lower than that provided for in Article 12, the Reserve Legal will be constituted with the area occupied with the native vegetation [of] July 22, 2008, new conversions for alternative use of the ground are forbidden”.

21 Law 12.651 / 12. “Art. 66. The owner or holder of the rural property that has, on July 22, 2008, a Legal Reserve area in an extension inferior to that established in Article 12, may regularize its situation, independently of the adhesion to the PRA, adopting the following Alternatives, isolated or jointly: I - recompose the Legal Reserve; II - to allow the natural regeneration of vegetation in the Legal Reserve area; III - compensate the Legal Reserve. [...] § 2 The recomposition referred to in section I of the caput must meet the criteria stipulated by the competent body of Sisnama and be completed in up to 20 (twenty) years ...”

22 Brazil owns 59 million hectares for tillage, 158 million for pasture, 90 million are hectares covered by forests, and another 80 million for agroforestry systems, an area that employs 16 million people.

23 It is also important to point out, on the basis of the same source, that the 4,367,902 agricultural establishments occupied by family agriculture in Brazil represent about 84% of the total property, occupying a little less than ¼ of the national territory destined to the agricultural activity.

### 3. A drama in three acts

The first act of the drama here confronted with uncertainty.

The actors report with a firm voice that in the validity of the forest code of 1965 the vegetation cover –in the areas of legal reserve– should occupy at least 20% of the total area of the property and, moreover, until recently there was no doubt about the impossibility of using, in this calculation, the areas of permanent preservation. Then, with voices raised by the anguish, they relate the uncertainties that permeate their daily lives, uncertainties contained in the innovations brought by the current forestry legislation.

An anguished chorus in front of the idea of banning environmental recession.

There are many desperate voices.

They are the voices of characters who can not foresee if the contempt for legislation once in force will be forgiven, especially when they know that the Judiciary in Brazil does not need votes from agribusiness.

These same characters advance on the stage in an attempt to show, still, the relevance of the discussion about the maintenance of the imposed pecuniary sanctions. It should be added that although the infraconstitutional juridical

outline of the consolidated areas prevails with respect to the rules and constitutional principles of the environment, it is difficult to accept and to explain, in a coherent way –that fines– imposed under the rule of incontestably binding rules, can be disregarded by law.

End of first act.

The second act exploits the intertextuality that pulsates in the data captured back lines and it's spread by the socioeconomic dimension of the drama experienced by the Brazilian family agriculture. Dynamically projected in the performance of actors that incessantly cross the box from side to side, it seeks to demonstrate that there could be many ways in which the stories it narrates are staged in the most remote corners scattered throughout Brazil.

With a firm voice, one of the actors reports that the value received by a large number of small farmers –values arising from the sale of the goods produced by them– is rarely enough for a) their food and that of their families, B) to pay production costs and, c) to comply with environmental legislation. At his side, another actor tells that the increase in the price of agricultural products is bad for society, and even worse for the less fortunate. A third character provokes the public by saying that the increase in the price of agricultural products is one of the factors that most stimulate the weeding



and irrational use of agricultural inputs (Carneiro & Rocha, 2006)<sup>24</sup>.

In unison, the three voices affirm that the lack of access to credit (Souza, 2013, p.30) makes the dramas of Brazilian family agriculture even more distressing. Then, after reporting the existence of lines of credit promoted by the National Program for Strengthening Family Farming, they affirm –in a low but clearly identifiable voice– that in their opinion, others are the concerns of those who should grant the money necessary for the recomposition of forest vegetation in the legal reserve areas<sup>25</sup>, while confirming that a) since 1992 the environmental issue is one of the demands of Brazilian family agriculture (Peraci & Bittencourt, 2010, pp.92-93)<sup>26</sup> and (b) that the volume of resources destined for it grew more than 500% in less than a decade of existence (Barroso, 2014).

Collective ecstasy!

At that exact moment, the audience can identify –in spite of the advances– the imperiousness of allowing those who live in the countryside –and countryside originals– to assume leadership in the conduct of their destinies, a position that imposes on the State the duty the necessary conditions for food production, income generation and environmental sustainability (Oliveira & Santos, 2008, p.16), and the undeniable need for the promotion of political actions –continuous and adequately articulated– aiming at: a) the reduction of the manifest social inequality that plagues Brazil through the fixation of man to land and, simultaneously, b) the promotion of environmental protection (Peraci & Bittencourt, 2010, p.220), issues that can not be cartesianly separated.

One of the last images of the recently concluded act is not long in dissolving in the air, projecting in the collective imagination the perception that the Democratic State of Law has the duty to adopt measures that stimulate education, encouraging and, when necessary, inhibiting behaviours that detract from the idea of permissible exercise of dominical legal positions compatible with the socio-environmental function of agrarian property, but also, making available the necessary resources for the compatibility of the densification of the aforementioned, without prejudice to the protection of interests of family farmers.

24 “Just as in Europe, where society contributes financially to achieving explicit objectives in the multifunctional concept of agriculture (producing good quality food at affordable prices, preserving the environment and contributing to the alleviation of social problems). In Brazil, family agriculture, in addition to recognition and existing government support, requires a more comprehensive project to make the fulfillment of the social function of property feasible and prevent that legal device, a historical achievement in the Federal Constitution, stay just in paper.”

25 The conditions for granting rural credit for the 2013/2014 harvest plan do not allow the identification - at least the clear identification - of the existence of resources specifically destined to the recomposition and maintenance of legal reserve areas.

26 From 1992 on, it is possible to note that family farmers incorporated in their agenda of issues inherent to the preservation of the environment - more precisely, the need to release resources for environmental management adequate to the normative demands-, however, these ended up being set aside in front of other, apparently, more relevant matters.

The third act exploits the lack of governmental policies that seek to promote environmental education –and not just in the formal sphere<sup>27</sup>– as a necessary practice for the family farmers to the socio-environmental values incorporated to the Democratic State of Law, policies influenced by the imperiousness of substituting the reigning punitive culture for promotional knowledge that give value to the human individual, their interpersonal relations and the intergenerational responsibility (Machado, 2004, p.229), an extremely abstruse issue, impossible to ignore, but that cannot be systematically neglected.

The curtains begin to close.

There is time, however, to hear the firm voice of an actor reflecting that, from the point of view of farmers, respect for the need for preservation of legal reserve areas is a threat to

their permanence in agricultural activity. And the other, in a melancholy tone, affirming that the protection of legal reserves is a palliative measure compared to other problems that devastate the Earth (Carneiro & Rocha, 2006).

United, they shout: *Injustice*, we pay, others benefit.

End of the third act.

Hoping that drama does not turn into tragedy.

### References

- Aronne, R. (1999). *Propriedade e domínio: re-exame sistemático das noções nucleares de direitos reais*. Rio de Janeiro: Renovar.
- Barroso, L. A. (2013). Brazil. In F. C. Dutilleul & J. P. Bugnicourt (Org.), *Legal dictionary of food security in the world*. Bruxelles: Lancier.
- Barroso, L. A. (2014). A agricultura familiar: experiência no Brasil. *Revista Brasileira de Direito do Agronegócio*, 7, 81-86.
- Benjamin, A. H. V. (2010). Constitucionalização do ambiente e ecologização da constituição brasileira. In J. J. G. Canotilho & J. R. M. Leite (Coord.), *Direito constitucional ambiental brasileiro* (3. ed). São Paulo: Saraiva.
- Benjamin, A. H. V. (2003). Introdução ao direito ambiental brasileiro. In J. Soares Junior & F. Galvão (Coord.), *Direito ambiental na visão da magistratura e do ministério público*. Belo Horizonte: Del Rey.

<sup>27</sup> Law 12.651 / 12 with the wording given to it by Law 12.727 / 12. "Art. 41. The Federal Executive Branch is authorized to institute, without prejudice to compliance with environmental legislation, support and incentive programs for the conservation of the environment, as well as for the adoption of technologies and good practices that reconcile agricultural and forestry productivity with reduction of environmental impacts as a form of promotion of ecologically sustainable development, always observing the criteria of progressivity, reaching the following categories and lines of action: I - payment or incentive to environmental services as remuneration for conservation and improvement activities of ecosystems and that generate environmental services, such as, isolated or cumulatively; [...] (h) maintenance of [...] Legal Reserve and restricted use; II - compensation for environmental conservation measures, [...] using the following instruments, among others: [...] (d) allocation of part of the resources collected with the collection for the use of [...] water for maintenance, recovery or recomposition of the Legal Reserve Areas [...]; (E) Financing lines to address initiatives for voluntary preservation of native [...] vegetation or recovery of degraded areas; (F) tax exemption for the main inputs and equipment [...] used among others for the recovery and maintenance processes of the Legal Reserve [...] and Restricted Use Areas.

- Borges, R. C. B. (2005). Função ambiental da propriedade rural. In L. A. Barroso, A. G. De Miranda & M. L. Q. Soares (Org.), *O direito agrário na constituição*. Rio de Janeiro: Forense.
- Carneiro, S. L. & Rocha, E. E. R. B. (2006). *Estudo prospectivo da implantação da reserva legal em propriedades rurais familiares na região de Londrina*. Recuperado em 13 fev, 2014, de [http://www.emater.pr.gov.br/arquivos/File/Biblioteca\\_Virtual/Premio\\_Extensao\\_Rural/2\\_Premio\\_ER/15\\_Est\\_Pro\\_Imp\\_Res\\_Leg.pdf](http://www.emater.pr.gov.br/arquivos/File/Biblioteca_Virtual/Premio_Extensao_Rural/2_Premio_ER/15_Est_Pro_Imp_Res_Leg.pdf)
- Catalan, M. (2009). As servidões florestais como instrumento de estímulo ao desenvolvimento agrário e à preservação ambiental. *Rivista di Diritto Agrario*, 88, 293-307.
- Departamento Intersindical de Estatística e Estudos Socioeconômicos (2011). *Estatísticas do meio rural 2010-2011* (4. ed). São Paulo: DIEESE/NEAD/MDA.
- Fachin, L. E. (2001). *Estatuto jurídico do patrimônio mínimo*. Rio de Janeiro: Renovar.
- Fachin, L. E. (2009). Los derechos fundamentales en la construcción del derecho privado contemporáneo brasileño a partir del derecho civil-constitucional. *Revista de Derecho Comparado*, 15, 243-272.
- Figueiredo, G. J. P. (2004). *A propriedade no direito ambiental*. Rio de Janeiro: AD-COAS.
- Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (2006). *Censo agropecuário*. Rio de Janeiro: IBGE.
- Machado, P. A. L. (2004). Meio ambiente e constituição federal. In G. J. P. Figueiredo (Coord.), *Direito ambiental em debate*. Rio de Janeiro: Esplanada.
- Milaré, É. (2006) Uma lei paradigmática: 6938/81. In G. G. Almeida & L. Z. Serafini (Org.), *Direito, política e meio ambiente: 25 anos da lei federal nº 6.938/1981*. Curitiba: Ordem dos Advogados do Brasil.
- Mirra, Á. L. V. (1999). O problema do controle judicial das omissões estatais lesivas ao meio ambiente. *Revista de Direito Ambiental*, 15, 61-80.
- Monteiro, W. B. (2003). *Curso de direito civil: direito das coisas* (vol. 3). São Paulo: Saraiva.
- Oliveira, C. J. & Santos, C. A. (2008). Educação na perspectiva de um novo modelo de desenvolvimento na reforma agrária. In B. M. Fernandes et al. (Org.), *Educação do Campo: campo –políticas públicas– educação*. Brasília: Inbra.
- Oliveira, S. A. G. (2002). Proposta: criação dos cadastros regionais das reservas legais e das matas ciliares. In W. P. Freitas (Org.), *Direito ambiental em evolução* (vol. 1). Curitiba: Juruá.
- Penteado, L. C. (2012). *Direito das coisas*. São Paulo: Revista dos Tribunais.
- Peraci, A. S. & Bittencourt, G. A. (2010). Agricultura familiar e os programas de garantia de preços no Brasil: o programa de aquisição de alimentos. In J. G. Silva, M. E. Del Grossi & C. G. França (Org.),

- Fome zero: a experiência brasileira.* Brasília: MDA.
- Rocha, I. (2013). Código florestal e exploração florestal. *Revista de Direito Ambiental*, 71, 175-216.
- Rodrigues, M. A. (2013). Áreas consolidadas no código florestal (lei 12.651/2012): uma vergonha sem precedentes. *Revista de Direito Ambiental*, (69), 345-356.
- Souza, P. G. (2013). *Fomento florestal em pequenas propriedades rurais no Brasil: estratégias e efetividade.* Tese (Doutoramento em Ciências Florestais) – UFPR: Curitiba.