

## ABSTRACT

This work deals with the analysis of the "Environmental interest", understood as legal protection of the Environment, in its unitary conception, characterized by a homogeneous system of rules; public powers; centers of interest; legal situations that can be protected and the role, more and more relevant, which it has assumed in the complex system of European Union's public procurements.

For that purpose, a historical examination of the evolution of the European and national legislation was carried out, focused on the environmental interest's role gradually assumed in terms of tenders with public evidence, up to prevail over the economic one and its own normative variations (e.g. the principle of competition) which until recently were considered Grundnorm of the European legal order.

Then it was analyzed in detail the European and national *Green Public Procurement* and the regulation of EU GPP criteria (so-called Criteri Ambientali Minimi) which, due to their relevance, have assumed a role fundamental within the wide range of tools put in place by the EU, in order to guarantee to the environmental interest a leading role in public tenders.

Finally, the importance that the principle of sustainable development has assumed at the national level was highlighted union in the public procurement sector and which, thanks to the GPP (of which the CAMs are a practical application), came out considerably strengthened with the already highlighted consequence that it is now to be considered transversal to every policy of the European Union.