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# The impact of environmental policies and institutional priorities in environmental protection in Kosovo

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**Abstract.** The purpose of this study is to study the role of environmental policies in the Republic of Kosovo and the Institutional commitments for the implementation of policies in the field of environment to achieve the environmental criteria of the EU. The study is based on the qualitative (qualitative) method, which consists in the collection and processing of data and analyzes focused on the institutional framework in Kosovo, and the directive of the European Union for the environment. Kosovo has a very new environmental legislation, which was drafted mainly during the last years. Environmental legislation is generally aligned with European Union standards, because it is based on the same goals that the European Union's environmental sector legislation is based on. The environmental policy of Kosovo aims to improve the quality of the environment, protect the health of the population, the careful and rational use of natural resources, the promotion of measures at the international level to overcome environmental problems. The environmental protection law harmonizes economic development and social welfare with the basic principles for environmental protection according to the concept of sustainable development. The purpose of this law is to promote the creation of a healthy environment for the population of Kosovo by gradually bringing the environmental standards of the European Union.

**Key words:** environmental policies, Institutional, Kosovo, European Union