



MANIFEST

FOR A NEW CONSTITUTION AND A CIVIL CODE THAT RECOGNIZES NON-HUMAN ANIMALS AS INDIVIDUALS ENDOWED WITH SENSITIVITY

On the one hand, it is clear that our current Constitution does not recognize or incorporate non-human animals among its provisions. On the other hand, our current Civil Code, which is the systematized set of private law norms that regulate the relationships of individuals, establishes that non-human animals are defined as “movable property”, that is, as appropriable things with respect to which people can exercise the right to property, as well as the right on a car, a book or a chair.

In principle, it is presumably expected that these changes will generate resistance and will not be easy to achieve. This either for practical issues, such as the delay in legislative processing; for cultural reasons, for the ingrained idea that we can dispose of animals in our opinion and protected by law; for economic reasons, since ceasing to consider non-human animals as objects is contrary to property status; and for ethical reasons, since many deny the possibility that non-human animals are considered as subjects of moral consideration.

However, today, and thanks to an increasingly extensive scientific information, we know that non-human animals can perceive and have subjective experiences, that is, have consciousness in the broad sense of the word; also that they unquestionably have the ability to experience pleasure and pain, fear and happiness, among many others, a matter that is also obvious to anyone who has lived with a non-human animal. That is why it is essential for us to fight to change this reality.



IN ORDER FOR NON-HUMAN ANIMALS TO HAVE A LEGAL REGIME ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN NATURE OF INDIVIDUALS ENDOWED WITH SENSITIVITY, WE HOPE THAT THE NEW CONSTITUTION WILL RECOGNIZE THEM AS SUCH AND THEN, OUR LEGISLATION, SPECIFICALLY THE CIVIL CODE, BE MODIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL REGULATION SO THAT THEY MAY ENJOY A DIGNIFIED AND EFFICIENT PROTECTION.

