

## Ecological destruction is ‘sacrilegious’, says



Ecumenical

Patriarch Bartholomeos I, seen by many of the world's Orthodox Christians as their spiritual leader, has called the destruction of the environment a "sacrilegious and sinful" act.

"The ecological crisis, and particularly the reality of climate change, constitutes the greatest threat for every form of life in our world," Bartholomeos said in a statement issued to mark World Environment Day on 5 June.

"With the opening of this third millennium, environmental issues already evident since the 20th century acquired a new intensity, coming to the forefront of daily attention," said Bartholomeos, who is sometimes called the Green Patriarch because of his public support for the environmental cause. ([περισσότερα...](#))